



2002 NOTRE DAME VOLLEYBALL

Seven-Time BIG EAST Champions • 11 Consecutive NCAA Tournament Appearances

NCAA Championship Notes Package • Contact: Alan Wasielewski, Wasielewski.3@nd.edu

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2002 Schedule

Shamrock Invitational

Aug. 30	UW-Milwaukee	W, 3-0
Aug. 31	Cincinnati	W, 3-0
Sept. 1	Cal Poly	W, 3-0

Loyola Marymount Classic

Sept. 6	at LMU	L, 1-3
Sept. 7	vs. Colorado	L, 0-3
Sept. 7	vs. Saint Louis	W, 3-0
Sept. 10	at Valparaiso	W, 3-0

Golden Dome Invitational

Sept. 13	Northwestern	W, 3-0
Sept. 14	Loyola (Md.)	W, 3-0
Sept. 14	#10 Pepperdine	W, 3-2

Sept. 18	at Purdue	L, 2-3
Sept. 21	Michigan	W, 3-1
Sept. 27	Connecticut*	W, 3-1
Sept. 29	St. John's*	W, 3-1
Oct. 5	at Rutgers*	W, 3-0
Oct. 6	at Seton Hall*	W, 3-0
Oct. 12	at Georgetown*	W, 3-0
Oct. 13	at Villanova*	W, 3-1
Oct. 21	at #2 Hawai'i	L, 0-3
Oct. 22	at #2 Hawai'i	L, 0-3
Oct. 25	Pittsburgh*	W, 3-1
Oct. 27	West Virginia*	W, 3-1
Oct. 29	at Illinois State	W, 3-1
Nov. 1	Providence*	W, 3-0
Nov. 3	Boston College*	W, 3-0
Nov. 9	at Syracuse*	W, 3-0
Nov. 15	at Miami (Fla.)*	L, 2-3
Nov. 17	at Virginia Tech*	L, 0-3

BIG EAST Championship

Nov. 23	vs. Connecticut	W, 3-1
Nov. 24	vs. Miami (Fla.)	W, 3-1

NCAA Championship

Dec. 7	vs. Charleston	6 p.m.
Dec. 8	Second Round	4 p.m.

* - indicates BIG EAST Conference match.

bold - indicates home matches in the Joyce Center.

2002 NCAA Championship

Joyce Center • Notre Dame, Ind. • Dec. 7-8

Saturday, Dec. 7

Michigan State (19-11) vs. George Mason (22-7), 4 p.m.
Notre Dame (23-7) vs. College of Charleston (29-5), 6 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 8

Winners from Saturday, 4 p.m.

Internet broadcast: All matches involving Notre Dame will be broadcast on www.und.com. Lorne Oke will provide the play-by-play and Liz Muir will sit in for color commentary.

Notre Dame ready for NCAA action on its home court: The NCAA volleyball championship returns to the Joyce Center for the first time in six years as the University of Notre Dame plays host to the first and second round of the west regional on Dec. 7 and 8. The College of Charleston, George Mason, Michigan State and Notre Dame make up the four-team tournament. George Mason and Michigan State begin the action on Saturday, Dec. 7, at 4 p.m. – followed by the Charleston vs. Notre Dame contest at 6 p.m.

A quick look at Notre Dame history in the NCAA Championship: Notre Dame qualified for its first NCAA Championship appearance in 1988, defeating #20 Penn State in the Joyce Center before falling to #4 Illinois in Urbana, Ill. ... this is the 11th-straight season the Irish have appeared in the NCAA Tournament (1992 – 2002) ... Notre Dame is 10-11 (.476) in NCAA Tournament action ... the Irish are 5-1 (.833) in NCAA Championship play in the Joyce Center ... Notre Dame has faced a Big Ten team 11 times in NCAA tournament competition ... Notre Dame's last appearance was a first-round loss to Michigan State in Madison, Wis., last season.

Debbie Brown looking for 300th victory at Notre Dame this weekend: Debbie Brown has guided the program throughout the 90's and into the new century, developing the Irish into a volleyball power in the BIG EAST and one of the best programs in the nation. Brown is 299-101 (.748) and has earned numerous coach-of-the-year accolades throughout her 11 full years with the Irish, including the 2000 and 2001 BIG EAST Coach of the Year awards.

Brown also is closing in on her 300th victory with the Irish, needing just one more victory to reach that career milestone. Entering the 2002 season, Brown's 393-127 overall Division I coaching record placed her 26th on the winningest active coaches list and 34th on the all-time victory list.

Notre Dame grabs seventh BIG EAST title and 11th NCAA bid: The Irish finished off the 2002 season two weeks ago in the BIG EAST Championship, defeating Connecticut and Miami (Fla.) to win their seventh BIG EAST title since 1995. Notre Dame entered the tournament with the number one seed after finishing the conference regular season 11-2. Winning both matches by 3-1 scores, the Irish were led by tournament Most Outstanding Player Emily Loomis. Loomis hit .379 in the two matches with 35 kills, 17 digs and eight blocks. In the final match, she tallied a match-high 21 kills on .462 hitting.

The BIG EAST Championship earned Notre Dame an automatic berth in the NCAA Championship – assuring head coach Debbie Brown of

In this notes package...

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2002 Notre Dame Volleyball Roster

No.	Name	Year	Pos.	Ht.	Hometown	Notes
1	Emily Loomis*	So.	OH	6-1	Fort Wayne, IN	2002 BIG EAST Championship MVP
2	Leah Nedderman*	So.	OH	5-10	Grapevine, TX	Led the team in kills vs. Providence
3	Kelly Burrell	Fr.	S	5-11	Phoenix, AZ	Will appear in a two-setter offense
4	Meg Henican	Fr.	OH/L	5-11	New Orleans, LA	Has taken over as the starting libero
5	Jessica Kinder**	Jr.	OH	5-10	Fresno, CA	All around athlete who excels on defense
6	Lauren Kelbley	Fr.	MB	6-1	Bascom, OH	2002 BIG EAST Rookie of the Year
7	Kelly Corbett*	So.	MB	6-0	Mountain View, CA	Can provide a spark off the bench
8	Kristen Kinder**	Jr.	S	5-9	Fresno, CA	2002 second team all-BIG EAST selection
9	Carolyn Cooper	Fr.	MB	6-3	Houston, TX	Rookie middle is strong at the net
10	Kim Fletcher**	Jr.	MB/OPP	6-0	St. Louis, MO	Gives Irish a reliable force on the bench
11	Keara Coughlin***	Sr.	DS	5-8	Chicago, IL	Irish tri-captain third on team in digs
12	Lauren Brewster	Fr.	MB	6-3	Brentwood, TN	Has set the freshman record for blocks
13	Christa Moen**	Jr.	DS	5-4	San Antonio, TX	Used for her serve at key points in match
14	Janie Alderete***	Sr.	DS	5-2	Santa Clara, CA	Second on the team in digs
15	Katie Neff**	Jr.	MB/OPP	6-4	St. Louis, MO	Enjoying a career year at opposite
16	Lindsay Peterson	Fr.	OH	6-0	Mt. Carroll, IL	First career appearance came vs. Prov.

her 11th-straight NCAA tournament appearance.

Irish win 20 matches for the fourth season in a row: Notre Dame's 3-0 victory over Boston College on Sunday, Nov. 3, provided the Irish with their 20th victory of the season, marking the 2002 season as the fourth-straight in which head coach Debbie Brown's team has posted at least 20 victories. In fact, Brown's teams have reached 20 wins in all but one season since she took over the program in 1991.

Notre Dame won 20 matches in 1999, 20 in 2000 and 22 in 2001. The record for wins in the season is 33, reached in 1994 and 1986.

Debbie Brown receives NCAA Silver Anniversary Award: The NCAA Honors Committee announced six NCAA Silver Anniversary Award recipients for 2003 on Nov. 21, 2002. The Silver Anniversary Award recognizes former student-athletes who have distinguished themselves since completing their college athletic careers 25 years ago.

Notre Dame head coach **Debbie Brown** was among the six honorees this year. Brown has led her volleyball teams to 16 NCAA Championship appearances in the last 18 seasons, including the 2002 season which saw her Notre Dame team earn the 16th seed and play host to the first two rounds of the '02 NCAA Tournament. The Irish have been in the NCAA field for the last 11 seasons and have earned seven BIG EAST titles since 1995. A 2002 Olympic Torchbearer, she was NCAA District I Coach of the Year in 1997 and is a three-time BIG EAST coach of the year. She also was the AVCA Midwest Regional Coach of the Year in 1992-93.

Brown also has coached at Arizona State University, where she was the Pacific-10 Conference coach of the year in 1986. Brown has amassed a 416-184 career record and 299-101 record at Notre Dame. Also active in coaching on the national level, Brown was an assistant coach for the U.S. bronze medal team at the 1990 world championships and assisted the 1988 U.S. Olympic team.

The 1977 collegiate player of the year led Southern California to a 72-1 record during their career. A six-time USVBA All-American and a two-time collegiate All-American, she competed at the 1974 World Championship and was named captain of the 1980 U.S. Olympic team that did not compete due to the boycott.

More information on Debbie Brown's stellar career is available on pages 20-22 of the 2002 Notre Dame Volleyball Media Guide.

Irish finish unbeaten at home for the second straight season and just

Irish earn academic award: The University of Notre Dame volleyball team was one of 47 Division I programs honored with the American Volleyball Coaches Association/Molten Team Academic Award for the 2001-02 season. The award honors college and high school teams that displayed excellence in the classroom by maintaining at least a 3.30 cumulative team grade-point average on a 4.00 scale (or 4.10 on 5.0 scale) during the school year.

The Irish finished the 2001-02 school year with a 3.33 team grade-point average and were one of the 27 Division I teams honored by the AVCA to compete in the 2001 NCAA Tournament. Fellow BIG EAST Conference member Syracuse also was in the Division I list.

The AVCA/Molten award was distributed to a record 177 volleyball programs this year. The college ranks produced 120 schools (47 Division I, 20 Division II, 32 Division III, 12 NAIA and nine junior/community colleges). A total of 57 high school programs earned the distinction.



USA Today/AVCA Top 25 (Dec. 2, 2002)

Team	Pts.	Record
1. USC (59)	1614	25-1
2. Hawai'i (2)	1520	30-1
3. Stanford (2)	1505	27-4
4. Nebraska (2)	1456	28-1
5. Florida	1301	30-2
6. Northern Iowa	1297	32-2
7. UC Santa Barbara	1241	28-2
8. Pepperdine	1206	23-6
9. Long Beach State	1093	28-3
10. Minnesota	999	30-5
11. Washington State	982	21-7
12. Penn State	834	24-7
13. North Carolina	781	30-3
14. Santa Clara	736	24-6
15. Wisconsin	735	23-8
16. Arizona	638	17-11
17. Georgia Tech	538	32-5
18. E. Washington	409	29-2
19. Ohio State	408	19-10
20. Missouri	370	25-7
21. UCLA	305	19-13
22. Kansas State	297	20-8
23. Utah	285	25-8
24. South Carolina	181	21-6
25. San Diego	116	25-7

Other receiving votes and listed on two or more ballots: Washington (71), California (59), South Florida (25), Arkansas (24), Michigan State (17), Louisville (16), NOTRE DAME (13), Texas (10), **Northwestern** (10), Colorado State (9), Texas A&M (6), Arizona State (5), Fresno State (5).

bold - indicates 2002 Notre Dame opponents.
() - first-place votes.

the fourth time in school history: Two BIG EAST Conference victories over Providence and Boston College on Nov. 1 and 3 provided Notre Dame with its second consecutive undefeated regular season on the Joyce Center floor. The Irish will carry a 35-match win streak at home into the weekend.

The Irish posted a 12-0 record at home a year ago and improved that mark by one this season, finishing 13-0 in front of the Joyce Center crowd.

Notre Dame finished 17-0 at home in 1994 and 5-0 in 1982.

Irish home court win streak will be challenged this weekend: Notre Dame's impressive home court win streak will be tested in NCAA Championship action this weekend.

The Irish have won 35 consecutive matches on the Joyce Center floor, dating back to a three-game set back vs. #7 Colorado State on Sept. 23, 2000.

Since Notre Dame began BIG EAST play in 1995, they have not lost to a BIG EAST team on the Joyce Center floor. That winning streak stands at 49.

Brewster fifth in the nation in block average: An exceptional week of defense at the net, which enabled Lauren Brewster to earn the BIG EAST rookie of the week award on Oct. 28, also moved the middle blocker up the national rankings in block average. Brewster was 12th as of Oct. 21, but her output during four matches from Oct. 21-26 moved her average to 1.64, which was fourth in the country as of Oct. 28.

The rookie from Brentwood, Tenn., has settled in at fifth in the nation in the latest statistical release from the NCAA, with a 1.70 average. She is behind Arkansas-Little Rock's Ivana Kuzmic, Nebraska's Amber Holmquist, Cal Poly's Worthy Lien and Ana Schanze from Montana State.

Team gets back in the top 30 in the country for team hitting: Led by second-team all-BIG EAST setter Kristen Kinder, the Irish have been steadily moving up the list of top hitting teams in the country. Notre Dame broke into the top 30 in team hitting percentage three weeks ago and ranks 24th in the country with a .266 team percentage as of Nov. 24.

College of Charleston series history and notes: Notre Dame and the College of Charleston will be meeting for the first time on Saturday ... this is the first NCAA Championship appearance for the Cougars, who won the Southern Conference tournament this season ... Charleston is 29-5 and is riding a 22-match winning streak, the second-longest active streak in the nation behind Nebraska ... Charleston is led on offense by Stephanie Ballard with 465 kills this season (3.91 per game) on .318 hitting.

George Mason series history and notes: Should the Patriots and Irish win their first round matches, Sunday will be the second-ever meeting between the two teams ... Notre Dame and George Mason met in the Joyce Center on Nov. 9, 1996 ... the ninth-ranked Patriots came away with a five-game victory ... for George Mason and head coach Pat Kendrick, it is the fifth trip to the NCAA tournament and they received an automatic berth after winning the Colonial Athletic Association Championship over James Madison ... George Mason is on a seven-match win streak entering Saturday's match ... the Patriots are led by two-time CAA Player of the Year Aline Pereira, who led the conference with an impressive 6.64 kills per game (711 total).

Michigan State series history and notes: Should the Spartans and Irish win their first round matches, Sunday will be the ninth meeting between the two teams ... MSU leads the all-time series 5-3 ... the Spartans and Irish last met in the 2001 NCAA Championship in Madison, Wis., a 3-1 Michigan State victory ... Michigan State has won the last four meetings between the two schools ... MSU finished 19-11 this season and 11-9 in Big Ten competition ... sophomore outside hitter Kim Schram leads the Spartans with 414 kills this season (3.73 per game) ... MSU head coach Chuck Erbe was the head coach at USC when Irish head coach Debbie Brown played for the Trojans.

– Notes continue on page five –

2002 BIG EAST Final Standings

School	BIG EAST	%	Overall	%	outcome vs. ND
1. Notre Dame*	11-2	.846	23-7	.767	-
2. Virginia Tech^	10-3	.769	20-11	.645	L, 0-3
3. Miami^	10-3	.769	25-5	.833	L, 2-3, W, 3-1
4. Connecticut^	9-4	.692	14-15	.483	W, 3-1, W, 3-1
5. Pittsburgh	9-4	.692	20-9	.690	W, 3-1
6. Villanova	7-6	.538	18-16	.529	W, 3-1
7. Georgetown	7-6	.538	17-13	.567	W, 3-0
8. Rutgers	6-7	.462	17-11	.607	W, 3-0
9. St. John's	6-7	.462	17-16	.515	W, 3-1
10. Syracuse	5-8	.385	19-12	.613	W, 3-0
11. Seton Hall	5-8	.385	15-18	.455	W, 3-0
12. Boston College	3-10	.231	14-18	.438	W, 3-0
13. West Virginia	3-10	.231	9-19	.321	W, 3-1
14. Providence	0-13	.000	2-29	.065	W, 3-0

* - Clinched BIG EAST regular-season title and a spot in the BIG EAST Championship

^ - Clinched a spot in the BIG EAST Championship

BIG EAST Yearly Awards

Player of the Year - Valeria Tipiana, Miami

Setter of the Year - Mallorej James, Miami

Rookie of the Year - **Lauren Kelbley, Notre Dame**

Coach of the Year - Greg Smith, Virginia Tech

Championship Most Outstanding Player - **Emily Loomis, Notre Dame**

All-BIG EAST First Team

Marcella Gamarra, Sr., OH, Miami

Mallorej James, So., S, Miami

Christine Lambert, Sr., MH, Connecticut

Emily Loomis, So., OH, Notre Dame

Cheryl Stinson, Sr., MB, Virginia Tech

Valeria Tipiana, So., OH, Miami

All-BIG EAST Second Team

Shayla Bush, Jr., OH, Rutgers

Ana Lang, Sr., OH, Virginia Tech

Lauren Kelbley, Fr., MB, Notre Dame

Kristen Kinder, Jr., S, Notre Dame

Megan Miller, So., MB, Pittsburgh

Carrie Norris, Sr., S, Pittsburgh

All-BIG EAST Honorable Mention

Jackie Ahlers, Fr., MB, St. John's

Sara Albert, So., MB, Georgetown

Lauren Brewster, Fr., MB, Notre Dame

Wendy Hatlestad, Jr., OH, Pittsburgh

Lauren Warner, Sr., OH, Georgetown

Melissa Wooley, Sr., OH, Connecticut

**2002 Notre Dame Statistical Leaders****Kills**

E. Loomis 370

K. Neff 279

L. Kelbley 274

Attack %

L. Kelbley348

L. Brewster308

K. Neff278

Assists

K. Kinder 1,097

K. Burrell 169

J. Alderete 51

Digs

J. Kinder 278

K. Coughlin 264

J. Alderete 260

Blocks

L. Brewster 165

L. Kelbley 105

K. Neff 103

Solo Blocks

E. Loomis 26

K. Neff 19

J. Kinder 16

Aces

J. Kinder 49

E. Loomis 25

L. Brewster 21

Kills/Game

E. Loomis 3.66

K. Neff 2.85

L. Kelbley 2.80

J. Kinder 2.39

Notre Dame Sports Information:

Notre Dame volleyball information is readily available on the world wide web at www.und.com and by contacting Assistant Sports Information Director Alan Wasielewski at 574-631-7516.

A weekly release is usually available on Wednesday during the regular season, as well as other special releases when required. Complete meet recaps are posted on www.und.com.

If you are interested in receiving information on Notre Dame volleyball via e-mail, please let Wasielewski know at Wasielewski.3@nd.edu.

Player interviews and game credentials should be arranged through Wasielewski at least 24 hours in advance.

Notre Dame Match Highs

		<u>Individual</u>	
<u>Kills</u>	15	Loomis	vs. Saint Louis
	15	Kelbley	at Va. Tech
4G	21	Loomis	vs. Miami*
5G	22	Loomis	vs. Pepp.
<u>Blocks</u>	10	Brewster	vs. Cincinn
	12	Kelbley	vs. St. John's
	12	Brewster	vs. Miami*
5G	10	Brewster	vs. Pepp.
<u>Digs</u>	19	Alderete	vs. Cincinn
	19	Alderete	vs. Michigan
5G	22	J. Kinder	vs. Pepp.
<u>TA</u>	43	Loomis	at Va. Tech
	45	Loomis	vs. UConn
5G	64	Loomis	vs. Pepp.
<u>Hit %</u>	.643	Kelbley	at Syracuse
	.476	Brewster	at Illinois St.
5G	.481	Kelbley	at Miami
<u>Ass.</u>	44	K. Kinder	at Va. Tech
	58	K. Kinder	vs. Miami*
5G	67	K. Kinder	vs. Pepp.
<u>Aces</u>	4	Kelbley	vs. St. Louis
	4	J. Kinder	vs. Pitt
5G	4	J. Kinder	vs. Purdue
5G	4	J. Kinder	at Miami
		<u>Team</u>	
<u>Kills</u>	3G	55	at Va. Tech
	4G	69	vs. Miami*
	5G	88	vs. Pepperdine
<u>Blocks</u>	3G	16	at Syracuse
	4G	22	vs. St. John's
	5G	16	vs. Pepperdine
<u>Digs</u>	3G	72	vs. Cincinn
	4G	73	at Illinois St.
	5G	80	vs. Pepperdine
<u>TA</u>	3G	156	at Va. Tech
	4G	170	at LMU
	5G	222	vs. Pepperdine
<u>Hit %</u>	3G	.418	at Rutgers
	4G	.313	vs. UConn*
	5G	.304	vs. Purdue
<u>Ass.</u>	3G	48	vs. BC
	3G	48	at Va. Tech
	4G	63	vs. Miami*
	4G	63	vs. UConn*
	5G	76	vs. Pepperdine
<u>Aces</u>	3G	9	vs. Saint Louis
	4G	10	vs. St. John's
	5G	9	vs. Purdue

* - indicates BIG EAST Championship match

Irish set a new standard for consecutive home victories in memorable fashion: Notre Dame's victory over #10 Pepperdine extended the Irish home court winning streak to 28 matches. Notre Dame has moved that total to 35 with seven victories at home since their upset of the Waves. The 35-match streak is the longest in school history, eclipsing the previous mark of 27 matches from Sept. 9, 1993 through Sept. 2, 1995.

The Irish have not lost in the Joyce Center since a three-game setback to #7 Colorado State on Sept. 23, 2000.

During the Irish winning streak at home, they have dropped just 11 games while winning 25 matches 3-0. Notre Dame also has won four tournament titles during the streak, including the 2000 BIG EAST Championship, the 2001 and 2002 Shamrock Invitational titles and the 2002 Golden Dome Invitational.

Irish home attendance hits an all-time high in 2002: Bolstered by two matches played before Notre Dame football pep rallies and an overall increase in attendance, the Irish have broken into the top 30 in the country in attendance average this season. With a school-record 3,251 in attendance on Friday, Nov. 1, as the Irish took on Providence, Notre Dame pushed its average to 1,064 and moved into 27th in the country in attendance. The 3,251 crowd was the 48th-best in the country this season (as of Nov. 4).

Irish set school records during classic victory over #10 Pepperdine: The victory over the visiting Waves on Saturday, Sept. 14, was more than just Notre Dame's first victory over a top-10 opponent since 1995. The win stretched the Irish home court winning streak to a record 28 matches and provided Notre Dame its second home tournament title of the season (combined with the Shamrock Invitational).

The match against the Waves also set two team records. The 30-32, 30-24, 29-31, 30-25 and 15-10 game scores matched the team record for points in a match (134) from Notre Dame's five-game victory over Illinois State in 2001. The Notre Dame - Pepperdine match also is the longest in the Joyce Center under the new rally scoring rules, as the match ended two hours, 28 minutes after it began (surpassing the Illinois State match by six minutes).

Another team record was set earlier in the tournament, when Notre Dame defeated Loyola College 30-16, 30-16 and 30-14 to win by 44 points, the largest winning margin for the Irish under the new rally scoring method.

Pepperdine is currently ranked #8 in the nation.

Notre Dame utilizing its front row strength to dominate at the net: The 2001 Irish team posted a 3.42 blocks-per-game average, second to just the '85 (3.51) and '88 (3.57) teams.

Entering this weekend's match, the Irish are averaging 3.67 blocks per game this season.

Front row specialists Malinda Goralski, Kristy Kreher and Marcie Bomhack graduated last season, but a talented freshman class, combined with some experienced front line players, have shown the ability to improve the Irish defense at the net. In the during the 2002 regular season, Notre Dame dominated at the net to collect 388 team blocks and have failed to post 10 or more team blocks in just six matches this season (vs. Colorado, at St. John's, at Hawai'i-Oct. 22, at Illinois State, vs. Providence, nine vs. UConn in the BIG EAST Championship).

Try to hit through this record-setting front line: Notre Dame's blocking prowess has been well documented this season, but the Irish have some rotations that defy opposing teams to get a shot through. At certain times during a match, **Katie Neff** (6-5), **Lauren Brewster** (6-3) and **Lauren Kelbley** (6-2) are patrolling the net for the Irish defense. Add in 6-1 all-BIG EAST high jumper **Emily Loomis** and the Irish defensive wall becomes even more impressive.

Neff (103 blocks), Brewster (165), Kelbley (105) and Loomis (102) play a

2002 BIG EAST Weekly Awards

<u>Player(s) of the Week</u>	<u>Rookie(s) of the Week</u>
Sept. 2 Valeria Tipiana, Miami	Sept. 2 Lauren Kelbley, Notre Dame Julie Hockenson, West Virginia
Sept. 9 Anna Kleinsorge, G'Town Carrie Norris, Pittsburgh	Sept. 9 Sandra Nunner, Rutgers
Sept. 16.... Katie Neff, Notre Dame	Sept. 16..... Margie Young, Miami Melissa Markowski, Virginia Tech
Sept. 23..... Megan Miller, Pittsburgh	Sept. 23... Madelyn Egan, Pittsburgh
Sept. 30. Emily Loomis, Notre Dame Megan Miller, Pittsburgh	Sept. 30..... Karla Johnson, Miami Melissa Markowski, Virginia Tech
Oct. 7 Jamie Hadenfeldt, UConn Sara Albert, Georgetown	Oct. 7 Kristen Conway, Syracuse
Oct. 13 Cheryl Stinson, Va. Tech	Oct. 13 Lauren Kelbley, Notre Dame Karla Johnson, Miami
Oct. 21 Rachel Bach, B. College	Oct. 21 Sandra Nunner, Rutgers
Oct. 28 ... Lauren Venarchik, Rutgers	Oct. 28 . Lauren Brewster, Notre Dame
Nov. 1 Marcela Gamarra, Miami	Nov. 3..... Kristen Conway, Syracuse Celine Nguyen, Villanova
Nov. 11 Carrie Norris, Pittsburgh	Nov. 11 Megan Crawley, UConn Allison Scholl, Seton Hall

large role in Notre Dame's 3.69 blocks-per-game average that was ranked first in the nation as of Nov. 18 - and has been ranked first in the nation for several weeks this season.

In addition, the four-player combination of Loomis, Neff, Kelbley and Brewster mark the *first time in Notre Dame volleyball history that four players have recorded over 100 kills in a season*. Three Irish players accomplished the feat in 1986, 1987, 1988 and 2001. Marcie Bomhack ended up with 96 blocks a year ago - just missing out on making it two seasons in a row with four players over 100 kills.

Brewster enjoying one of the top rookie seasons in Notre Dame volleyball history: Freshman Lauren Brewster has been stacking up the blocks since she first stepped on the court against Wisconsin-Milwaukee on Aug. 30.

The rookie currently has 165 blocks (ranked fifth in the country as of Nov. 24), which is the best all-time in terms of blocks for an individual during their freshman season. Here are the top five freshman block totals in Notre Dame volleyball history:

Notre Dame freshman year block totals:

1. **Lauren Brewster ('02), 165**
2. Mary Leffers ('96), 160
3. Mary Kay Waller ('85), 144
4. Jaimie Lee ('94), 110
5. Jessica Fiebelkorn ('89), 107

Brewster's 2002 season total is not just the best rookie effort in team history, it currently ranks seventh all-time on the single-season block list.

Notre Dame single-season block top seven:

1. Mary Kay Waller ('88), 206

Irish double-doubles in '02

Lauren Brewster

14 kills, 10 blocks vs. Pepp.
11 kills, 11 blocks at Miami (Fla.)
15 kills, 12 blocks vs. Miami (Fla.)*

Kelly Burrell

35 assists, 10 digs vs. Providence

Meg Henican

13 kills, 18 digs vs. Providence

Jessica Kinder

10 kills, 11 digs vs. Cincinn.
12 kills, 10 digs at LMU
14 kills, 12 digs vs. Loyola
13 kills, 22 digs vs. Pepp.
14 kills, 10 digs vs. Pittsburgh
12 kills, 16 digs at Illinois State
15 kills, 13 digs vs. UConn*

Kristen Kinder

34 assists, 11 digs vs. Cincinn.
32 assists, 11 digs vs. Valpo
67 assists, 10 digs vs. Pepp.
39 assists, 11 digs vs. Michigan
45 assists, 12 digs vs. Pittsburgh
52 assists, 10 digs at Illinois State
55 assists, 14 digs at Miami (Fla.)
50 assists, 11 digs vs. UConn*

Emily Loomis

21 kills, 10 digs at Purdue
20 kills, 13 digs vs. UConn
20 kills, 10 digs vs. St. John's
16 kills, 15 digs at Villanova
10 kills, 13 digs vs. Pittsburgh
14 kills, 11 digs vs. UConn*

* - indicates BIG EAST Championship match

Notre Dame ...

... at home: 13-0
... away: 7-6
... on neutral courts: 3-1
... in three games: 13-4
... in four games: 9-1
... in five games: 1-2
... vs. ranked opponents: 1-2
... vs. BIG EAST opponents: 11-2
... vs. non-conference opp.: 10-5
... at night: 8-5
... during the day: 15-2
... in tournament play: 9-2

2002 University of Notre Dame Volleyball

Record: 23-7 (Home: 13-0, Away: 7-6, Neutral: 3-1, BIG EAST 11-2)

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Game Scores	Tournament	High Kills
Aug.						
30	Wisconsin-Milwaukee	W	3-0	30-26, 30-17, 30-26	Shamrock Invitational	Kelbley (12)
31	Cincinnati	W	3-0	30-19, 30-24, 30-23	Shamrock Invitational	Kelbley (12)
Sept.						
1	Cal Poly	W	3-0	30-26, 30-28, 30-23	Shamrock Invitational	Neff (11)
6	at Loyola Marymount	L	1-3	30-26, 16-30, 23-30, 24-30	LMU Classic	Neff, J. Kinder (12)
7	vs. Colorado	L	0-3	25-30, 24-30, 26-30	LMU Classic	Fletcher (10)
7	vs. Saint Louis	W	3-0	30-25, 30-13, 30-19	LMU Classic	Loomis (15)
10	at Valparaiso	W	3-0	30-22, 30-24, 30-18		Loomis (11)
13	Northwestern	W	3-0	30-28, 30-26, 30-21	Golden Dome Invitational	Loomis (12)
14	Loyola College	W	3-0	30-16, 30-16, 30-14	Golden Dome Invitational	J. Kinder (14)
14	#10 Pepperdine	W	3-2	30-32, 30-24, 29-31, 30-25, 15-10	Golden Dome Invitational	Loomis (22)
18	at Purdue	L	2-3	30-18, 31-29, 27-30, 26-30, 6-15		Loomis (21)
21	Michigan	W	3-1	30-22, 30-24, 23-30, 30-20		Loomis (15)
27	Connecticut*	W	3-1	28-30, 33-31, 30-18, 31-29		Loomis (20)
29	St. John's*	W	3-1	30-26, 25-30, 30-20, 31-29		Loomis (20)
Oct.						
5	at Rutgers*	W	3-0	30-16, 30-24, 30-19		Loomis (13)
6	at Seton Hall*	W	3-0	30-14, 30-19, 30-25		Loomis (14)
12	at Georgetown*	W	3-0	30-26, 31-29, 30-21		Kelbley, Neff (13)
13	at Villanova*	W	3-1	30-25, 28-30, 30-28, 30-17		Loomis (16)
21	at #2 Hawai'i	L	0-3	26-30, 23-30, 17-30		Neff (11)
22	at #2 Hawai'i	L	0-3	32-34, 18-30, 25-30		Loomis (13)
25	Pittsburgh	W	3-1	23-30, 30-28, 30-28, 30-13		J. Kinder (14)
27	West Virginia	W	3-1	30-23, 30-20, 28-30, 30-20		J. Kinder (14)
29	at Illinois State	W	3-1	18-30, 30-19, 30-22, 30-28		Kelbley (15)
Nov.						
1	Providence*	W	3-0	30-18, 30-17, 30-22		Nedderman (14)
3	Boston College*	W	3-0	30-21, 30-19, 30-19		Loomis (14)
9	at Syracuse*	W	3-0	30-26, 30-21, 30-26		Neff (13)
15	at Miami (Fla.)*	L	2-3	25-30, 28-30, 30-25, 30-22, 7-15		Loomis (18)
17	at Virginia Tech*	L	0-3	27-30, 35-37, 27-30		Kelbley (15)
23	vs. Connecticut	W	3-1	26-30, 30-17, 30-22, 30-18	BIG EAST Championship	J. Kinder & Kelbley (15)
24	vs. Miami (Fla.)	W	3-1	30-19, 31-29, 27-30, 30-19	BIG EAST Championship	Loomis (21)

*-indicates BIG EAST Conference match

2. Jessica Fiebelkorn ('91), 186
3. Mary Kay Waller ('87), 176
4. Mary Leffers ('99), 175
5. Mary Kay Waller ('86), 173
6. Malinda Goralski ('01), 171
7. **Lauren Brewster ('02), 165**

Libero: The NCAA Women's Volleyball Rules Committee has introduced another rule change that will have a large effect on how the game is played. After the introduction rally scoring in 2001, the 2002 season marks the beginning of the libero era in women's collegiate volleyball.

A libero (designated back row player) will be allowed in the lineup for the 2002 season. A defensive specialist that does not count toward the team's substitutions, the libero can freely replace any player that has rotated to the back row. Unlike traditional substitutions that are administered by the referee, the libero can enter the match any time there is a dead ball.

Since the libero is a defensive player, a certain restrictions have been established on the libero's offensive capabilities. A libero only plays in the back row and cannot serve or attempt to block a shot. The libero cannot attack the ball above the net, nor can the libero set the ball with an overhead finger pass in the attack zone.

Once the libero comes out of the match, the player must wait at least one point before reentering.



Notre Dame NCAA Championship History

Notre Dame has appeared in the NCAA Championship 12 times and currently boast an 11-year streak of tournament appearances. The Irish first qualified for the championship in 1988 and made an immediate impression, knocking off #20 Penn State in four games at the Joyce Center. Fourth-ranked Illinois defeated Notre Dame the next weekend.

The Irish returned to the NCAA Championship in 1992 and made the trip to Penn State for a first-round matchup. The Nittany Lions earned a bit of revenge from the 1988 meeting, sending Notre Dame home with a three-game loss. The two teams would meet again in 1993, after the Irish knocked off #8 Nebraska at home in the second round (the Irish received a first-round bye in the 48-team field) and then defeated Minnesota in Minneapolis in three games to move to the final eight. Penn State spoiled the Irish hopes once again with a three-game victory in Minneapolis.

Notre Dame hosted a second round match again in 1994, defeating future BIG EAST Conference mate Pittsburgh in four games. Penn State was waiting once again in the round of 16 and sent Notre Dame home again with a three-game loss.

The 1995 NCAA tournament saw Notre Dame receive yet another first round bye and face Iowa State in the second round in the Joyce Center. After Notre Dame defeated the Cyclones 3-0, they headed west to Palo Alto, Calif., where Oral Roberts eliminated them from the tournament in three games. The 1996 season was the fourth-straight season that Notre Dame played host the NCAA Championship before this year. The Irish defeated Hofstra in the first round but another Big Ten school knocked Notre Dame out in the second round as Ohio State handed ND its only NCAA postseason loss in the Joyce Center in five games.

With 64 teams now competing in 1997, Notre Dame made a run to the Round of 16 with victories over Liberty and Arkansas in Fayetteville, before Wisconsin eliminated the Irish in Madison. The 1998 season had Notre Dame in Stanford, Calif., where they defeated Eastern Washington in the first round before the host team knocked them out in three games.

Notre Dame headed west once again in 1999 to face Ohio State in Los Angeles. The Buckeyes eliminated the Irish in four games that season, setting up a rematch for the 2000 season. In Columbus, Notre Dame defeated Cincinnati in the first round before Ohio State stepped up to send the Irish home early once again in four games.

The most recent appearance for Notre Dame in the NAAs came in Madison last year. Michigan State, who is in the bracket with the Irish this weekend, defeated Notre Dame in four games in the first round.

Notre Dame Year-by-Year in the NCAA Tournament

1988
vs. #20 Penn State, W, 3-1
vs. #4 Illinois, L, 2-3
1992
vs. #9 Penn State, L, 0-3
1993
vs. #8 Nebraska, W, 3-0
vs. Minnesota, W, 3-2
vs. #7 Penn State, L, 0-3
1994
vs. Pittsburgh, W, 3-1
vs. #9 Penn State, L, 0-3
1995
vs. Iowa State, W, 3-0
vs. #19 Oral Roberts, L, 0-3
1996
vs. Hofstra, W, 3-0

vs. #12 Ohio State, L, 2-3
1997
vs. Liberty, W, 3-0
vs. #18 Arkansas, W, 3-1
vs. #4 Wisconsin, L, 1-3
1998
vs. Eastern Washington, W, 3-1
vs. #8 Stanford, L, 0-3
1999
vs. Ohio State, L, 1-3
2000
vs. Cincinnati, W, 3-0
vs. Ohio State, L, 2-3
2001
vs. Michigan State, L, 1-3

bold indicates matches in the Joyce Center

Notre Dame NCAA Records

Team Hitting Percentage

.422 (44-9-83) vs. Hofstra, 1996
.360 (74-30-204) vs. Liberty, 1997
.347 (58-15-124) vs. Iowa St., 1995

Team Service Aces

11 vs. Wisconsin, 1997
9 vs. Illinois, 1988
8 vs. Penn State, 1988

Team Blocks

30 vs. Penn State, 1988
29 vs. Ohio State, 1999
12 vs. Arkansas, 1997
12 vs. Illinois, 1988
12 vs. Pittsburgh, 1994

Low Opponent Hitting Percentage

.000 (18-18-83) vs. Hofstra, 1996
.104 (45-26-183) vs. Pittsburgh, 1994
.107 (29-18-103) vs. Liberty, 1997

Individual Hitting Percentage

(minimum four att. per game)

.625 (10-0-16) Marilyn Cragen
vs. Penn State, 1992
.607 (19-2-28) Angie Harris
vs. Iowa State, 1995
.583 (7-0-12) Julie Bremner
vs. Penn State, 1988
.545 (14-2-22) Nicole Coates
vs. Nebraska, 1993
.541 (24-4-37) Kristy Kreher
vs. Eastern Washington, 1998

Individual Kills

31 Jaimie Lee (vs. Wisconsin, '97)
27 Jaimie Lee (vs. OSU, '97)
26 Christy Peters (vs. PSU, '88)
25 Mary Kay Waller (vs. PSU, '88)
24 Kristy Kreher (vs. EWU, '98)
24 Kristy Kreher (vs. OSU, '99)

Individual Service Aces

4 Denise Boylan (vs. Wis., '97)
4 Angie Harris (vs. Ark., '97)
4 Angie Harris (vs. ISU, '95)
4 Julie Bremner (vs. Ill., '88)

Individual Blocks

14 Mary Kay Waller (vs. PSU, '88)
12 Mary Leffers (OSU, '96)
12 Zanette Bennett (vs. PSU, '88)

Individual Digs

26 Nicole Coates (vs. Minn., '93)
23 Angie Harris (vs. Wis., '97)
22 Lindsay Treadwell (vs. Wis., '97)
22 Christy Peters (vs. Pitt., '94)

NCAA Tournament

The last time...

... Notre Dame won – 2000, 3-0 vs. Cincinnati in Columbus, Ohio
 ... Notre Dame lost – 2001, 0-3 vs. Michigan State in Madison, Wis.
 ... Notre Dame advanced to the Sweet 16 – 1997, defeated Liberty and Arkansas before falling to Wisconsin
 ... Notre Dame advanced to the Final Eight – 1993, defeated Nebraska and Minnesota before falling to Penn State
 ... Notre Dame won in three games – 2000, 3-0 vs. Cincinnati
 ... Notre Dame won in four games – 1998, 3-1 vs. Eastern Washington
 ... Notre Dame won in five games – 1993, 3-2 vs. Minnesota
 ... Notre Dame lost in three games – 1998, 0-3 vs. Stanford
 ... Notre Dame lost in four games – 2001, 1-3 vs. Michigan State
 ... Notre Dame lost in five games – 2000, 2-3 vs. Ohio State
 ... Notre Dame lost the first game in a loss – 2000, vs. Ohio State
 ... Notre Dame lost the first game in a win – 1997, vs. Arkansas
 ... Notre Dame won the first game in a loss – 2001, vs. Michigan State
 ... Notre Dame won the first game in a win – 2000, vs. Cincinnati
 ... Notre Dame hosted NCAA Tournament matches – 1996, first & second rounds
 ... a Notre Dame player had 30 or more kills – 1997, vs. Wisconsin (L, 1-3), Jaimie Lee (31)
 ... a Notre Dame player had 20 or more kills – 1999, vs. Ohio State (L, 1-3), Kristy Kreher (24) and Christi Girton (20)
 ... a Notre Dame player had 15 or more kills – 2001, vs. Michigan State (L, 1-3), Kim Fletcher (16)
 ... a Notre Dame player had 20 or more digs – 1997, vs. Wisconsin (L, 1-3), Angie Harris (23) and Lindsay Treadwell (22)
 ... a Notre Dame player had 15 or more digs – 1998, vs. E. Washington (W, 3-1), Lindsay Treadwell (16)
 ... a Notre Dame player had 10 or more blocks – 2000, vs. Ohio State, (L, 2-3), Jo Jameyson (10)
 ... a Notre Dame player had three or more aces – 2000, vs. Cincinnati (W, 3-0), Janie Alderete (3)
 ... a Notre Dame player had more than three – 1997, vs. Wisconsin (L, 1-3), Denise Boylan (4)
 ... a Notre Dame player hit over .400 (min. avg. four attacks per game) – 2000, vs. Cincinnati, Kristy Kreher (.556)
 ... a Notre Dame player posted match high kills – 2001, vs. Michigan State (L, 1-3) Kim Fletcher (16)
 ... Notre Dame had four players with double-digit kills – 2000, vs. Ohio State (L, 1-3), Malinda Goralski (13), Kristy Kreher (17), Marcie Bomhack (13), Christi Girton (17)
 ... Notre Dame had five players with double-digit kills – 1993, vs. Minnesota (W, 3-2), Nicole Coates (14), Molly Stark (17), Jenny Birkner (14), Christy Peters (26), Julie Harris (13)
 ... Notre Dame hit over .300 as a team – 2000, vs. Cincinnati (W, 3-0), .347
 ... Notre Dame hit over .400 as a team – 1996, vs. Hofstra (W, 3-0) .422
 ... Notre Dame held an opponent under .100 team hitting – 1996, vs. Hofstra (W, 3-0), .000
 ... Notre Dame held an opponent under .200 team hitting – 1998, vs. E. Washington, (W, 3-1), .120
 ... Notre Dame hit less than .100 – 1998, vs. Stanford (L, 0-3), .033
 ... Notre Dame hit less than .200 – 2001, vs. Michigan State, (L, 1-3), .110

Notre Dame 2002 Bio Updates

#1 Emily Loomis

So. • OH • 6-1 • Ft. Wayne, Ind.

Season Highs -

Kills: 22 vs. #10 Pepperdine, 9-14

Digs: 15 at Villanova, 10-13

Blocks: 9 vs. UW-Milwaukee, 8-30

AT: 64 vs. #10 Pepperdine, 9-14

Hitting %:

3G - .636 (14-0-22) vs. BC, 11-3

4G - .462 (21-3-39) vs. Miami, 11-24

5G - .471 (21-5-34) at Purdue, 9-18

Aces: 3 vs. Michigan, 9-21

Career Highs -

Kills: same as season

Digs: same as season

Blocks: same as season

2002 BIG EAST Championship Most Outstanding Player ... 2002 all-BIG EAST first-team selection ... the only player in Notre Dame athletic history to earn all-conference honors in two distinctly different sports (excluding cross country and track and field) ... Loomis has been the main offensive threat for the Irish this season ... enjoyed a nine-match stretch of double digit kills, including four 20-kill matches over a five-match stretch ... recorded to the top vertical reach measurement in Irish volleyball history as a freshman and earned all-BIG EAST honors at the conference indoor and outdoor track and field meets in the high jump.

#2 Leah Nedderman

So. • OH • 5-10 • Grapevine, Texas

Season Highs -

Kills: 14 vs. Providence, 11-1

Digs: 3 vs. Loyola, 9-14

Blocks: 2 vs. Loyola, 9-14

AT: 33 vs. Providence, 11-1

Hitting %:

3G - .243 (14-6-33) vs. Prov., 11-1

4G - NA

5G - NA

Career Highs -

Kills: same as season

Digs: same as season

Blocks: same as season

Nedderman enjoyed a career day against Providence this season, earning her first start and leading the Irish with 14 kills in the match.

#3 Kelly Burrell

Fr. • S • 5-11 • Pheonix, Ariz.

Season Highs -

Kills: 3 vs. Loyola, 9-14
Digs: 10 vs. Providence, 11-1
Blocks: 5 vs. Connecticut, 9-27
AT: 6 three times
Assists: 39 vs. Loyola, 9-14

Burrell stepped in during a key stretch in the season when starting setter Kristen Kinder was sidelined with a knee injury ... Burrell started against Loyola, putting up 39 assists, seven digs and four blocks ... also started against Providence with 35 assists and 10 digs for her first career double-double.

#4 Meg Henican

Fr. • OH • 5-11 • New Orleans, La.

Season Highs -

Kills: 13 vs. Providence, 11-1
Digs: 18 vs. Providence, 11-1
Blocks: 3 vs. Providence, 11-1
AT: 30 vs. Connecticut, 9-27
Hitting %:
3G - .409 (13-4-22) vs. Prov., 11-1
4G - NA
5G - NA

Henican has been used at outside hitter and libero this season ... she came off the bench in a key performance against Connecticut this season with nine kills, 14 digs and two blocks ... posted first double-double of her career with 13 kills and 18 digs vs. Providence ... started at libero for Notre Dame in the BIG EAST Championship, posting 17 digs against UConn and 11 vs. Miami ... has six double-digit dig matches this season.

#5 Jessica Kinder

Jr. • OH • 5-10 • Fresno, Calif.

Season Highs -

Kills: 15 at Purdue, 9-18

15 vs. UConn, 11-23

Digs: 22 vs. #10 Pepperdine, 9-14

Blocks: 5 vs. Miami, 11-24

AT: 37 at Purdue, 9-18

Hitting %:

3G - .522 (14-2-23) vs. Loyola, 9-14

4G - .391 (14-5-23) vs. WVU, 10-27

5G - .265 (13-4-34) vs. Pepp., 9-14

Aces: 4 three times

Career Highs -

Kills: same as season
Digs: same as season
Blocks: same as season

Jessica Kinder is one of the best athletes on the team ... a superb passer who is capable of making spectacular digs ... her jump serve is one of the best weapons on the team ... leads the team with 49 aces and finished second in the BIG EAST in ace average ... enjoyed a great three-match stretch from 10-25 to 10-29, hitting for 14, 14 and 12 kills against Pittsburgh, West Virginia and Illinois State, respectively ... sometimes runs hot and cold on offense, but hits harder than any player on the team.

#6 Lauren Kelbley

Fr. • MB • 6-1 • Bascom, Ohio

Season Highs -

Kills: 15 four times, most recent vs. Miami, 11-24
Digs: 4 four times, most recent vs. UConn, 11-23
Blocks: 12 vs. St. John's, 9-29
AT: 33 vs. #10 Pepperdine, 9-14
33 vs. Miami, 11-24
Hitting %:
3G - .643 (10-1-14) at Syracuse, 11-9
4G - .462 (15-3-26) at ISU, 10-29
5G - .481 (13-0-27) at Miami, 11-15

2002 BIG EAST Rookie of the Year ... first Irish player to earn the Rookie of the Year award since Notre Dame joined the conference in 1995 ... has carried on the tradition of high-percentage hitting MBs for ND, raising her hitting average to .348 entering the NCAA Tournament ... currently on a five-match streak of double-digit kills (10, 13, 15, 15, 15) ... has also hit .643, .481, .609, .375 and

.303 in those five matches.

#7 Kelly Corbett

So. • MB • 6-0 • Mountain View, Calif.

Season Highs -

Kills: 5 twice, most recent vs. Prov.
Digs: 3 twice, most recent vs. Prov.
Blocks: 6 vs. Loyola, 9-14
AT: 11 vs. Loyola, 9-14
Hitting %:
3G - .500 (5-0-10) vs. Prov., 11-1
4G - NA
5G - NA

Career Highs -

Kills: same as season
Digs: same as season
Blocks: same as season

Corbett has seen limited playing time this season but has made the most of her opportunities, reaching career highs in all categories during the Loyola and Providence matches ... made her first career start vs. Providence.

#8 Kristen Kinder

Jr. • S • 5-9 • Fresno, Calif.

Season Highs -

Kills: 8 at Miami (Fla.), 11-15
Digs: 12 vs. Pittsburgh, 10-25
Blocks: 5 vs. West Virginia, 10-27
AT: 20 vs. Miami (Fla.), 11-15
Hitting %:
3G - .750 (6-0-8) at Valpo, 9-10
4G - .417 (6-1-12) vs. Pitt., 10-25
5G - .350 (8-1-20) at Miami, 11-15
Assists: 67 vs. #10 Pepperdine, 9-14

Career Highs -

Kills: same as season
Digs: 17 vs. Illinois State, 11-14-01
Blocks: 6 twice, most recent vs. #7 Florida, 11-24-01
Assists: same as season

Kristen Kinder has enjoyed another solid season leading the Irish offense ... Notre Dame has been ranked in the nation's top 30 for hitting percentage for the past three weeks of the season ... a vocal leader on the floor and one of the hardest workers on the team ... her all-around play is

invaluable to the Irish ... has the ability to provide offense if needed ... has eight double-doubles this season.

#9 Carolyn Cooper

Fr. • MB • 6-3 • Houston, Texas

Season Highs -

Kills: 4 vs. Loyola, 9-14

Digs: 5 vs. West Virginia, 10-27

Blocks: 9 vs. Loyola, 9-14

AT: 14 at Valparaiso, 9-10

Hitting %:

3G - .571 (4-0-7) vs. Loyola, 9-14

Cooper has seen limited playing time this season ... showed the ability to dominate at the net with a nine block performance against Loyola College.

#10 Kim Fletcher

Jr. • MB • 6-0 • St. Louis, Mo.

Season Highs -

Kills: 11 vs. Connecticut, 9-27

Digs: 5 vs. Providence, 11-1

Blocks: 5 vs. Connecticut, 9-27

AT: 20 vs. Connecticut, 9-27

Hitting%:

3G - .667 (5-1-6) vs. Loyola, 9-14

4G - .300 (11-5-20) vs. UConn, 9-27

Career Highs -

Kills: 16 vs. Michigan State, 11-30-01

Digs: 10 vs. Idaho, 9-1-01

Blocks: 10 vs. Gtown, 11-18-01

Fletcher has seen a drop in playing time this season, though she remains a reliable spark off the bench ... she played a key role in Notre Dame's four-game defeat of UConn during the regular season, with 11 kills and five blocks ... also played well vs. Colorado with 10 kills.

#11 Keara Coughlin

Sr. • DS/L • 5-8 • Chicago, Ill.

Season Highs -

Digs: 18 at Illinois State, 10-29

Career Highs -

Digs: same as season

Coughlin assumed the starting libero po-

sition in the middle of the season and came off the bench during the BIG EAST Championship ... has posted 14 double-digit dig matches ... dug a career-best 18 attacks at Illinois State.

#12 Lauren Brewster

Fr. • MB • 6-3 • Brentwood, Tenn.

Season Highs -

Kills: 15 vs. Miami (Fla.), 11-24

Digs: 6 at Illinois State, 10-29

Blocks: 12 vs. Miami (Fla.), 11-24

AT: 28 vs. #10 Pepperdine, 9-14

28 vs. Miami (Fla.), 11-24

Hitting % -

3G - .556 (10-0-18) vs. UW-Mil, 8-30

4G - .476 (13-3-21) at ISU, 10-29

5G - .393 (14-3-28) vs. Pepp., 9-14

Brewster has enjoyed a stellar rookie season, as the freshman has been ranked in the top five nationally in block average ... she also led the BIG EAST in block average for conference and non-conference games ... earned all-BIG EAST honorable mention honors after leading the conference in block average during the 2002 season ... is approaching the freshman record for blocks in a season (see Brewster blocking note in the previous section) ... has posted six matches with 10 or more blocks ... has three double-doubles this season, against #10 Pepperdine (14 kills, 10 blocks) Miami (11 kills, 11 blocks) during the regular season and Miami again (15 kills, 12 blocks) in the BIG EAST Championship match.

#13 Christa Moen

Jr. • DS • 5-4 • San Antonio, Texas

Season Highs -

Digs: 5 at Valparaiso, 9-10

Aces: 3 at Seton Hall, 10-6

Career Highs -

Digs: 13 vs. Illinois State, 11-14-01

Aces: same as season

Moen has been used off the bench this season to give the Irish a boost, using her serve to keep the opposing team off balance.

#14 Janie Alderete

Sr. • DS/L • 5-2 • Santa Clara, Calif.

Season Highs -

Digs: 20 vs. #10 Pepperdine, 9-14

Aces: 1 twice

Assists: 6 vs. Cincinnati, 8-31

Career Highs -

Digs: 26 vs. Illinois, 11-14-01

Aces: 4 three times

Alderete has seen time at both libero and defensive specialist this season ... has shown flashes of brilliance on defense, with 20 digs vs. Pepperdine and 19 against Cincinnati and Michigan.

#15 Katie Neff

Jr. • OPP • 6-4 • St. Louis, Mo.

Season Highs -

Kills: 21 vs. #10 Pepperdine, 9-14

Digs: 4 at Miami, 11-15

Blocks: 7 vs. Miami, 11-24

AT: 44 vs. #10 Pepperdine, 9-14

Hitting % -

3G - .529 (11-2-17) vs. STL, 9-7

4G - .370 (11-1-27) vs. UConn, 11-23

5G - .409 (21-3-44) vs. Pepp., 9-14

Career Highs -

Kills: same as season

Digs: same as season

Blocks: same as season

Neff's hard work over the summer turned into a starting spot for the one-time role player ... Neff is having a career year, hitting personal bests for all statistical categories ... is the primary offensive option at opposite ... has 17 double-digit kill matches this season.

#16 Lindsay Peterson

Fr. • OH • 6-0 • Mt. Carroll, Ill.

Season Highs -

Kills: 1 vs. Providence, 11-1

Digs: 1 vs. Providence, 11-1

Walk-on member of the Irish team ... enjoyed first career appearance vs. Providence, playing two games in the Irish victory.