

2004 Notre Dame
Women's Soccer
(4-0-0)

August

27 Baylor W, 7-2
29 Eastern Illinois W, 3-0

September

Notre Dame Adidas Classic

5 Santa Clara 2, SMU 1
ND 1, #13 Stanford 0
7 SMU 2, Stanford 1
ND 5, #4 Santa Clara 2
10 at #11 Arizona State 7:00
12 at Texas Tech 1:00
17 at Connecticut* 7:00
19 at Syracuse* 1:00
24 Pittsburgh* 7:30
26 Wis.-Green Bay 1:00

October

1 West Virginia* 7:00
3 Providence* 1:00
8 Villanova* 4:00
10 Georgetown* 1:00
16 Boston College* 7:30
22 Rutgers* 7:30
24 Seton Hall* 1:00
28 at Michigan 3:00
30 BIG EAST Quarterfinals
(campus sites)

November

BIG EAST Champ. (@UConn)

5 Semifinals
7 Final
12 NCAA First Round
(campus sites)
14 NCAA Second Rd (1:00)
(campus sites)
19- NCAA Third Round TBA
21 (campus sites)
26- NCAA Quarterfinals TBA
28 (campus sites)

December

NCAA College Cup
(SAS Stadium; Cary, NC)

3 Semifinals
5 Final

* – BIG EAST Conf. Game

All times local to site

Rankings indicate NSCAA poll

NOTRE DAME WOMEN'S SOCCER

at Arizona State – Sept. 10, 2004

The Notre Dame women's soccer team (4-0-0) – ranked 2nd in all four national polls, behind defending champ UNC – will be on the road for its next four games, starting Friday, Sept. 10 at Arizona State (7:00 p.m. MST) ... note that Arizona and Indiana share the tricky time-zone shifts (Arizona currently is aligned with the west-coast time zone/PDT, meaning Friday's game starts at 7:00 in L.A., 9:00 in South Bend and 10:00 in New York) ... ASU (2-1) is ranked as high as 11th in the nation and was the only team to lead Notre Dame through the first 19 games of the 2003 season (albeit for just 7:18, with the Irish coming back for the 3-1 win) ... ASU has plans to provide live-stats of the game and a link to those stats will be placed on the main page of und.com ... the Irish now have been ranked 1st or 2nd in the NSCAA coaches poll during 10 of the past 12 seasons (all but '01 and '02; #1 in '94, '95, '96 and '00) ... the Irish are coming off a pair of impressive wins at the Notre Dame Adidas Classic (1-0 vs. #13 Stanford, 5-2 vs. #4 Santa Clara) ... senior forward and All-America candidate **Mary Boland** suffered a broken leg midway through the SCU game and will miss the rest of the season (she may have the possibility to apply for a 5th year of eligibility) ... junior forward **Katie Thorlakson** and the rest of the Irish overcame the loss of Boland to surge past SCU, with Thorlakson becoming the first Notre Dame women's soccer player ever to repeat as BIG EAST offensive player of the week (she also again was named to the *Soccer America* and *Soccer Buzz* national teams of the week) ... sixth-year Irish head coach **Randy Waldrum** is on the verge of his 100th win with the Irish (**98-19-4**.827) ... the Irish opened their season at home with wins over Baylor (7-2) and Eastern Illinois (3-0) ... Notre Dame will close this weekend at Texas Tech (Sept. 12, 1:00 CDT/1:00 in South Bend), with games next week at Connecticut (Sept. 17, 7:00) and Syracuse (Sept. 19, 1:00).

INFORMATION HIGHWAY – Gametracker live stats for all games at Alumni Field can be accessed via the main page at www.und.com ... live stats also will be available for this week's game at ASU (see link at und.com) ... **internet audio** broadcasts also will be provided for this weekend's Notre Dame games and select future games in the 2004 season ... the audio broadcasts are available to College Sports Pass subscribers (see the audio/video link on the und.com main page) ... game recaps continue to be available via the ND Sports **Hotline** at (574) 631-3000 (press "4" for soccer information and then "2" for women's soccer results).

SERIES NOTES – Notre Dame and ASU met for the first time last season, with the Irish overcoming an early deficit (the only time ND would trail until the 20th game of the '03 season) to win, 3-1 at the Notre Dame Classic on Sept. 5, 2003 ... the Irish still were experimenting with combinations in an injury-riddled defense and were lucky to be trailing just 1-0, after an early onslaught from the #13 Sun Devils (the ASU goal came in the 18th minute, with Courtney Crane assisting Stephanie Peel) ... Mary Boland scored the first two goals vs. ASU, setting an ND record for most goals in the first three games of a season (6) ... newcomer Jen Buczkowski turned in another strong display of ball control and playmaking, setting up a pair of goals with well-placed long balls ... the first found Boland for a lunging deflection at the right post (22:38) while her second-half ball sprung Amy Warner for a rightside crossing shot at 70:77 ... Boland's second goal of the night came five minutes after her first ... Amanda Guertin initiated the sequence by taking to the defensive and winning a 50-50 ball on the left flank before angling inside and sending a pass to the top of the box ... Boland ran onto the ball and maintained separation from her defender before looping a shot from the upper right corner of the box that sailed over chaging 'keeper Kelly Fitzgerald and ripped into the far left side of the net (22:38) ... Erika Bohn's four saves included a penalty-kick stop with the score still 2-1 in the second half ... Melissa Tancredi's breakaway tackle set up the PK but Patrice Fuelner struck the ball low and within reach of the 'keeper ... Bohn hesitated for a split-second and was able to extend for the diving stop to her left, preserving the lead (60:41) ... the Irish continued to play minus injured starters Candace Chapman, Randi Scheller and Gudrun Gunnarsdottir ... both teams finished with 11 shots and 4 corner kicks (ASU held a 5-4 edge in shots on goal (ND went on to allow just 2.2 SOG per game in '03) and had 15 fouls to ND's 8).

ND WOMEN'S SOCCER
BY THE NUMBERS

981:02

Erika Bohn's shutout streak in 2003 (5th in NCAA history)

.716 (26-10-1)

ND's all-time NCAA Tournament winning pct. (2nd in women's soccer history)

278-9-11 (.951)

ND's all-time record when holding opponent to 0-1 goals (82-3-4 since Sept. 9, 1999)

202-3-1 (.983)

ND's all-time record when scoring 3-plus goals (106-1-0 since Oct. 6, 1995)

98-19-4 (.827)

Randy Waldrum's record at Notre Dame

50

Home win streak vs. BIG EAST teams ('95-)

40-7

1st-half goalscoring edge in '03 (8-0 in '04)

28

All-Americans (since 1994)

25-11-3

ND vs. NSCAA top-25 teams, since 1999

24

ND-record streak w/out all. 2+ gls ('00 and '03)

22

Players who posted GPA of 3.0-plus in 2004 spring semester (13 with 3.4-plus)

17

Number of home states and provinces (plus Iceland and Finland) on 2004 ND roster

19-3-2

All-time record in home tournaments

16

ND's current unbeaten OT streak (12-0-4)

16

Team record for consecutive games without facing a deficit (2003)

12

Notre Dame alums in the WUSA ('01-'03)

13

Academic All-Americans (since 1995)

12

Notre Dame alums who played in the WUSA

8

Players with multiple-goal games in 2003

7

Mary Boland's points (3G-1A) in '03 opener vs. Hartford (most by ND player since '99)

5

National ranking for ND's 2003 freshman class

3.23

Team's cumulative GPA, as of '04 spring term

3

All-time postseason home losses (30 Ws)

2

National ranking for ND's 2004 freshman class

SCOUTING THE SUN DEVILS – Arizona State is 2-1 after opening at the Florida State tournament (2-3 vs. FSU, 4-0 vs. Rhode Island) and posting a 3-2 win at BYU ... ASU is ranked as high as 11th in the nation (per *Soccer Buzz*) ... top scorers in the young season include junior F Elizabeth Bogus (3G-2A), junior M Many Makoski (1G-3A), junior transfer Katie Leahy (3G), junior M Brittany Cooper (1G-1A) and sophomore M Katie Mahoney (1G) ... senior Kelly Fitzgerald has logged 191 minutes in the nets this season (2 GA, 8 SV) while sophomore Kim Bingham has 3 GA and 2 SV in 79 minutes vs. FSU (Bingham faced the Irish in 2003) ... ASU returned 18 of 23 letterwinners and 10 starters from its '03 team that went 13-5-3, finished 2nd in the Pac-10 (6-2-1) and lost at Santa Clara in the 2nd round of the NCAAs (1-0).

ARIZONA HOMECOMING – Notre Dame sophomore F **Molly Iarocci** hails from Carefree, Ariz. (Xavier Prep) and played on the Sereno Eagles club team with ASU's **Lauren Niblet** ... two other ASU players (**Levise Robertson** and **Alissa Oldenkamp**) also are products of the Sereno Eagles program (one year younger) ... Iarocci's father, Tony Iarocci, was a catcher with the ND baseball team in the mid-1970s ... junior M **Annie Schefter** also is a second-generation ND student-athlete, as her father captained the Irish tennis team in the mid-70s ... see the following link for a feature on the Iarocci and Schefter family tradition at Notre Dame:

<http://und.collegesports.com/sports/w-soccer/spec-rel/081804aaa.html>

FRIEND OR FOE? – In addition to Iarocci's connections to ASU players, several other ND and ASU players are former teammates ... ND senior F **Mary Boland** and junior M **Annie Schefter** are products of the U.S. Under-19 national-team program, as are ASU's **Brittant Cooper**, **Many Makoski**, **Kim Bingham** and **Stephanie Ebner** ... Schefter also played on the ODP Region IV team with ASU's **Haley Stein** and **Elizabeth Bogus** ... ND sophomore M **Jen Buczkowski** also is a U.S. Under-19 product and played during the summer of '04 alongside three ASU players (Bogus, **Stephanie Peel** and **Carolina Cooper**) with the W-League's Chicago Cobras ... ND sophomore D **Christie Shaner** has played alongside Makoski at U.S. Under-19 and U-21 training camps.

TOURNAMENT TOUGH – Notre Dame owns an 85-25-7 all-time record (.756) in tournament action, including 37-13-6 in regular-season tournaments (19-3-2 at home, with 61-23 scoring edge), 23-1-0 in conference tournaments and 25-11-1 in the NCAAs ... beginning with the 1994 season (which ended with an NCAA runner-up finish), Notre Dame owns a 25-6-3 record in regular-season tournaments – with 18 of those wins coming vs. NSCAA top-25 ranked teams ... since '94, the Irish have lost just six regular-season tournament games: vs. UNC twice (2-0 in '95, in Houston; 3-2 at the '99 KBC), vs. SCU in '96 and '02 (3-1 at Duke, 4-0 at ND), vs. SMU in 1999 (1-0; in Klein, Texas, minus star player [Anne Makinen](#)) and vs. Portland in '02 (1-0, at ND) – with ties vs. UNC (0-0 in '94, in St. Louis), Duke (2-2 in '95, in Houston), UNC again (2-2 at '97 LFC) and Stanford in '03 (0-0, at SCU) ... from 1997-2004, the Irish have gone 20-4-2 in regular-season tournaments.

FAR & WIDE – Notre Dame's 2004 roster includes players from 13 states, two Canadian provinces, Iceland and Finland ... the program's all-time roster canvasses 30 states and three foreign countries ... Notre Dame's student-athlete population in the '02-'03 academic year included nearly 800 individuals from 47 states (all but Idaho, Mississippi, Nevada) and 20 countries.

NOTRE DAME PLAYER QUICK-FACT SHEET

| Pos. | Player (Yr.; Hometown) | Notes |
|------|---|--|
| F | #7 Katie Thorlakson (Jr.; Langley, BC) | Tied ND record with 7 points in a half vs. Baylor (2G-3A), also SCU (3G-1A) |
| | '04 stats: 5G-6A (16 pts), 2 GWG, 4 GS | First ND player to score or assist on team's first 5 goals in a game (vs. both Baylor and SCU) |
| | '03 stats: 10G-11A (31 pts), 4 GWG, 24 GP/19 GS | First ND repeat BIG EAST Off. Player of the week |
| | career: 19G-20A (58 pts), 7 GWG, 47 GP/41 GS | BIG EAST player of the week (Aug. 30; 2G-3A vs. Baylor, set up 3G vs. EIU) |
| | | 8 pts vs. #4 SCU (3G-2A) most ever by ND player vs. top-25 tm (3rd ND player with hat trick vs. top-10 team) |
| F | #5 Amanda Cinalli (Fr.; Maple Hts, OH) | 6th ND freshmen to score opening goal; 6th ND player to score first 2 goals (Bay.) |
| | '04: 2G-2A (6 pts), 4 GS | 1A vs. BAY and EIU; prep All-America (37G-26A as sr. at Laurel HS), member of U.S. Under-17s |
| D/F | #8 Candace Chapman (Sr.; Ajax, ONT) | 2G vs. BAY, 1G vs. EIU/SCU ... Preseason All-American/Hermann watch list |
| | '04 stats: 4G (8 pts), 4 GP | '02 honors included NSCAA 2nd team All-American and BIG EAST Def. Player of Year |
| | '02 stats: 3G-5A (11 pts), GWG, 19 GS | Member of Canadian National Team (starting flank midfielder); led ND with 4G in Brazil |
| | Career (inj. in '03): 10G-7A (27 pts), 3 GWG, 44 GP/39 GS | Missed '03 season due to ACL knee injury while training w/ Canada |
| F | #13 Maggie Manning (Jr.; Lake Oswego, OR) | 2G in 2003 opener vs. Hartford |
| | '04 stats: 2 GP ... '03: 4G-2A (10 pts), 22 GP/3 GS | Played some M in '02, now part of regular F rotation |
| | career: 5G-4A (14 pts), 42 GP/6 GS | Oregon player of the year at Jesuit HS (90G in three prep seasons) |
| M | #9 Jen Buczkowski (So.; Elk Grove, IL) | All-Tournament at '04 ND Classic; 1G-2A vs. BAY, 1G vs. EIU, 1G-1A vs. SCU |
| | '04 stats: 3G-3A (9 pts), 4 GS | Preseason all-BIG EAST pick for 2004 ... '03 Freshman All-American (SA) |
| | '03 stats: 4G-6A (14 pts), 24 GP/23 GS | 2003 honors included ND Classic Offensive MVP (2G-3A; vs. ASU and Okla.) |
| | career: 7G-8A (22 pts), 28 GP/27 GS | 69G-52A in 3-yr HS career; rated #6 recruit in '03 (SA); prep All-American, U.S. U-19 team |
| M | #11 Annie Scheffer (Jr.; Yakima, WA) | GWG vs. EIU, STAN (PK); 1A vs. BAY/SCU; dad Rob was ND tennis player |
| | '04 stats: 2G-2A (6 pts), 2 GWG, 4 GS ... '03: 4G-5A (13 pts), GWG, 24 GP/19 GS | U.S. U-19 National Team ('02), #11 recruit (SA) |
| | career (inj. in '02): 6G-7A (19 pts), 2 GWG, 28 GP/23 GS | 47G-21A as senior at West Valley HS (Gatorade WA player of the year) |
| M | #12 Ashley Jones (Fr.; Westlake Village, CA) | ND's 3rd-leading scorer on Brazil trip (2G-3A) |
| | '04: 4 GP/1 GS (vs. EIU) | Won 2004 national titles with both state ODP (Cal-South) and club team (Southern Calif. United) |
| F/M | #3 Jannica Tjeder (Fr.; Espoo, Finland) | ND's 2nd-leading scorer on Brazil trip (3G-2A) |
| | '04: 1 GS (vs. Baylor) | Member of Finland's U-21, U-19 nat'l teams; MVP of '03 Finnish Women's Champ. league (9G-13A, 18 GP) |
| DM | #24 Jill Krivacek (So.; Geneva, IL) | All-Tournament at '04 ND Classic; 2nd-half GWG vs. Wake Forest in '03(3-0) |
| | '04 stats: 4 GP/2 GS ... '03: 2G-2A (6 pts), GWG, 23 GP/6 GS | 78 career goals at Rosary HS; strong def. mid. skills |
| M/F | #15 Lizzie Reed (So.; Franklin Lakes, NJ) | Scored in '03 win over UConn (as F); 126 career goals as a prep |
| | '04 stats: 4 GP/2 GS ... '03 stats: 2G-1A, 23 GP/8 GS | prep All-American; member of ODP national runner-up (NJ) |
| D | #18 Christie Shaner (So.; Ambler, PA) | 2nd Team all-BIG EAST/Co- Rookie of Year, SCU Classic Def. MVP (all '03) |
| | '04 stats: 4 GS ... '03 stats: 1G-3A (5 pts), 23 GP/20 GS | All-Tourn. '04 ND Classic; U.S. U-21 camps ('04); #22 recruit in '03 (SA) |
| | Career: 1G-3A (5 pts), 27 GP/24 GS | Prep All-American; member of national under-19 semifinalist (FC Bucks Challenge) |
| D/M | #4 Kim Lorenzen (So.; Naperville, IL) | ND Classic all-tournament ('03); versatile, has trained at F, M and D |
| | '04 stats: 1A (vs. BAY), 4 GS ... '03 stats: 25 GP/22 GS | Teamed with Buczkowski and Krivacek on 2003 ODP national champs (IL) |
| D | #17 Melissa Tancredi (Sr.; Ancaster, ONT) | 2003 All-American and BIG EAST Defensive Player of the Year |
| | '04: 1A (vs. BAY), 4 GS ... '03: 4G-5A (13 pts), GWG, 21 GP/20 GS | Starting central back with Canadian National Team |
| | career: 12G-9A (33 pts), 2 GWG, 59 GP/50 GS | Converted forward; 6 of 12G with ND have come on set-piece headers |
| D | #2 Gudrun Gunnarsdottir (Sr.; Seltjarnarnes, Iceland) | Member of Icelandic National Team |
| | '04: 4 GS ... '03: 18 GP/11 GS ... career: 46 GP/25 GS | Slowed by knee/ankle inj. in '02, broken arm in '03 (missed 4 games) |
| D | #20 Kate Tulisiak (Sr.; Medina, Ohio) | Strong offseason in 2004 spring and summer (W-League, Ohio Internationals) |
| | '04: 3 GP/1 GS (vs. SCU) ... '03: 2 GP (inj.) ... career: 24 GP/5 GS | Sister Kelly was a forward with the Irish from 1998-2001 |
| D/M | #14 Jenny Walz (Jr.; Bloomington, Illinois) | Named W-League all-star in summer of '04 (with Fort Wayne Fever) |
| | '04: 3 GP/1 GS ... '03: dnp (inj.) ... career: 1A, 20 GP/3 GS | Missed '03 due to ACL knee injury; prep M making move to outside back |
| D | #28 Miranda Ford (Jr.; Portola Valley, CA) | Versatile player who also has seen time in the midfield during her ND career |
| | '04: 2 GP ... '03: 8 GP ... career: 1G, 23 GP/4 GS | One of 20 California natives to play for the Notre Dame women's soccer |
| G | #1 Erika Bohn (Jr.; Brookfield, CT) | All-Tour. '04 ND Classic; 2nd Team Acad. All-American in '03 (3.63 GPA, design) |
| | '04 stats: 0.60 GAA, 7 SV, 2 GA, 4 GS (4-0-0) | set ND-record with 967-minute shutout streak in '03 (5th in NCAA history) |
| | '03 stats: 0.49 GAA, 35 SV, 11 GA, 24 GS (20-3-1), 11 solo ShO | Called into U.S. Under-21 training camps ('04) |
| | car.: 0.80 GA, 99 SV, 36 GA, 48 GP/47 GS (36-10-1), 16 solo ShO | 31-4-1 with 17 GA in last 36 starts for ND (5-0-0 spring '03) |
| G | #0 Nikki Westfall (So.; Waterville, OH) | Just 5 GA while playing entire '04 spring season (5-1-1); saved PK in Brazil |
| | '04 stats: 1 GP (vs. EIU), 0 GA, 14:10 ... '03: 0.56, 4 SV, 1 GA, 7 GP (116:24) | 0.76 GAA in '02 at Anthony Wayne HS (0.88 career) |

WALDRUM NEARING 100TH ND WIN – Sixth-year ND head coach Randy Waldrum posted his 200th career win as a Division I women's head coach in the 2-1 game vs. Miami on Nov. 2, 2003 ... he now owns a **205-69-16** mark (.735) in 15 combined seasons at Tulsa, Baylor and Notre Dame ... the Irish are **98-19-4** (.827) in the six-year Waldrum era, including 82-15-3 in the last 100 games (since losing 4-2 at SCU on Oct. 17, 1999) ... Waldrum repeated as BIG EAST coach of the year in 2000 and then became the first three-time BIG EAST women's soccer coach of the year (in '03) ... in '99, he became the only coach in the history of the NCAA women's soccer championship to lead a team to the title game in his first season as that team's head coach ... he was the fourth first-year coach to take his team to the NCAA semifinals, beating top-ranked and unbeaten Santa Clara in San Jose ... Waldrum's 24-year record as a **college head coach** (men's and women's) is **281-124-23** (.683) ... his women's soccer record includes 61-36-9 in six years at Tulsa, 46-14-3 in three seasons at Baylor ... Waldrum is ranked 8th among active women's coaches for career win pct. (min. 10 Div. I seasons).

SCOUTING THE IRISH – The 2004 Notre Dame squad features 23 former letterwinners and nine players with significant starting experience, among them senior D/F **Candace Chapman** (who missed the '03 season due to injury) ... the Irish spent most of the 2003 season ranked No. 2 in the nation and raced out to an 18-0-1 record before losing to Michigan in the regular-season finale (3-2), Boston College in the BIG EAST semifinals (2-1) and Michigan again in the second round of the NCAAs (1-0, with the Wolverines converting their only shot on goal) ... returning starters include senior **Mary Boland** (Academic All-American, 12G-4A in '03) and junior **Katie Thorlakson** (Canadian Under-19 National Team; 10G-11A in '03) at the forward positions, plus a pair of proven midfielders who are former U.S. Under-19 National Team standouts – junior **Annie Scheffter** (4G-5A in '03) and sophomore **Jen Buczkowski** (4G-6A in '03) – to go along with junior goalkeeper **Erika Bohn** (Academic All-American; 0.49 GAA and 967-minute shutout streak in '03) and three defenders: fifth-year **Melissa Tancredi** (All-American; 4G-5A in '03) and the sophomore duo of **Christie Shaner** ('03 BIG EAST rookie of the year, 1G-3A) and **Kim Lorenzen** (20 GS in '03) ... other top returners include senior D **Gudrun Gunnarsdottir** (Icelandic National Team), sophomore M/F **Lizzie Reed** (2G-1A in '03) and sophomore defensive M **Jill Krivacek** (2G-3A in '03) ... the four players lost from the 2003 senior class included frontrunners **Amy Warner** (All-American; 37G-25A career, 10G-12A in '03) and **Amanda Guertin** (48G-27A in career, 11G-6A in '03), attacking midfielder **Kimberly Carpenter** (6G-5A in '03) and left back **Vanessa Pruzinsky** (94 career GS) ... ND's domination in 2004 included 20 more goals scored (73) than opponent shots on goal (53) ... ND's freshman class is rated No. 2 by *Soccer Buzz* and 4th by *Soccer America* ... four of the freshmen had impressive debuts during the preseason training tour in Brazil: F **Amanda Cinalli** (prep All-American, U.S. Under-17 National Team), F/M **Jannica Tjeder** (Finland Under-21 National Team), M **Ashley Jones** and G **Lauren Karas** ... top scorers in the Brazil tour (5-0-1; 16-3 scoring edge) included Chapman (4G), Thorlakson (6A), Tjeder (3G-2A) and Jones (2G-3A) ... leading scorers after the opening wins over Baylor (7-2) and Eastern Illinois (3-0): Thorlakson (2G-4A), Chapman (3G), Buczkowski (2G-2A) and Cinalli (2G-2A).

TANCREDI, CHAPMAN TABBED FOR TOP NATIONAL HONORS – Two ND women's soccer players have received top preseason billing from various national organizations, as fifth-year central defender **Melissa Tancredi** (Ancaster, Ont.) and senior right back **Candace Chapman** (Ajax, Ont.) are among 12 players named to the *Soccer Buzz* preseason All-America squad while both also are among the 25 players named to the 2004 preseason watch list for the Missouri Athletic Club's Hermann Trophy national player-of-the-year award ... Tancredi also was one of 11 players named to *Soccer America*'s 2004 preseason All-America team ... Tancredi was a *Soccer Buzz* first team All-American in '03, also receiving second team All-America honors from the National Soccer Coaches Association of America ... Chapman – who also could play at forward or midfield in '04 – had been an NSCAA second team All-American in 2002 before missing the '03 season due to an ACL knee injury ... Tancredi – who like Chapman has starred for the Canadian National Team – could prove to be the nation's top defensive player in 2004, with Tennessee senior Keeley Dowling representing the only other defender on both the SA and SB preseason All-America teams ... Tancredi, Chapman, Dowling and Virginia's Becky Sauerbrunn are the only defenders on the MAC Hermann Trophy watch list ... Tancredi is one of nine players listed on both the SA and SB preseason All-America teams, with others including Dowling, midfielders Carli Lloyd (Rutgers), Lindsey Huie (Portland), Leslie Osborne (Santa Clara) and Lori Chalupny (North Carolina), Portland forward Christine Sinclair and the UNC forward tandem of Lindsay Tarpley and Heather O'Reilly ... ND joined UNC and Portland as teams with multiple players on the *Soccer Buzz* "Elite 12" preseason All-America team while the Irish were one of five teams with multiple players on the MAC Hermann Trophy watch list (as were UNC, Portland, Texas and Virginia) ... Chapman was on the 2003 watch list (prior to suffering her season-ending injury) while Tancredi and former ND forward Amy Warner later were included on the list of the final 15 candidates for the 2003 MAC Hermann Trophy.

IRISH PICKED TO WIN BIG EAST; TANCREDI, BUCZKOWSKI TAKE PRESEASON HONORS – The Notre Dame women's soccer team is the preseason favorite to win the 2004 BIG EAST Conference regular-season championship, with the Irish previously winning eight regular-season and seven tournament titles in nine BIG EAST seasons ... fifth-year All-America central defender **Melissa Tancredi** was picked to repeat as the BIG EAST defensive player of the year and was joined by sophomore midfielder **Jen Buczkowski** on the 11-player 2004 preseason all-BIG EAST team ... ND senior F **Mary Boland** was overlooked on the preseason all-BIG EAST team (as selected by the league's coaches), despite earning first team all-BIG EAST and NSCAA second-team all-region honors in 2003 ... sophomore D **Christie Shaner** – the league's co-rookie of the year and a second-team all-BIG EAST pick in '03 – also failed to crack the 2004 preseason list, which includes just two defenders (Tancredi and Villanova's Michelle Biehl) among the 11 players.

THORLAKSON NAMED BIG EAST PLAYER OF THE WEEK ... AGAIN – Notre Dame junior F Katie Thorlakson was named the BIG EAST Conference women's soccer offensive player of the week, after playing a role in eight of Notre Dame's 10 goals during wins over Baylor (7-2) and Eastern Illinois (3-0) ... she then became the first ND player ever to repeat that honor after a strong all-around game vs. Stanford (1-0) and an historic 3G-2A effort vs. #4 Santa Clara (5-2) ... her seven points in the first half of the Baylor game ranks as one of the top performances in Notre Dame's storied history and she then duplicated the seven points in a half vs. Santa Clara (3G-1A, in the 2nd half) ... Thorlakson also was one of 11 players named to *Soccer Buzz* "Elite Feet" national team of the week and the *Soccer America* team of the week (for both weeks) ... she is the only player to repeat on the SA list and joins three others (Auburn D Jean Walters, Nebraska M Brittany Timko and Hawaii F Natasha Kai) who just were named to both the SA and SB weekly teams ... Thorlakson tied an ND with seven points (3G-2A) in the first half of the Baylor game while becoming the first ND women's soccer player ever to score or assist on the team's first five goals in a game (she duplicated both marks vs. SCU) ... she also set up all three goals in the opening-week win over Eastern Illinois, including the primary assist on the game's first goal ... a standout with Canada's Under-19 National Team, Thorlakson earlier totaled a team-best six assists during Notre Dame's preseason training trip to Brazil.

RECORD-SETTING START – Here's a look at the historical significance behind Katie Thorlakson's early-season offensive fireworks:

- Her seven points vs. Baylor are tied for most by a ND player during the six-year Randy Waldrum era ... just two other Waldrum-era players have totaled seven points in a game (both with 3G-1A): Jenny Streiffer vs. Miami on Oct. 24, 1999, and current senior forward Mary Boland in the '03 opener vs. Hartford (Aug. 29, at the UConn Classic) ... the last time an ND player totaled more than seven points in a game was Anne Makinen's eight-point effort vs. Syracuse (3G-2A) on Nov. 1, 1998 ... Streiffer holds the Irish record for points in a game (9; 2G-5A), at Providence on Aug. 31, 1996.
- Thorlakson also is the first ND player to score or assist on five-plus goals during a game in six years, dating back to Makinen's eight-point game vs. Syracuse in '98 ... in between, the Irish had played 123 straight games without seeing an ND player factor into five-plus goals in the same game.
- It had been six years since an ND player racked up seven points in a half, as current University of Pittsburgh assistant coach Monica Gerardo (who was on campus this summer as an instructor at the ND Soccer Camps) scored goals 2-4 and assisted on the fifth (by Jenny Heft) as part of the 6-0 halftime lead at Providence on Oct. 11, 1998 (8-0) ... eight years earlier, Tasha Strawbridge had collected her seven points during the second half of a 12-1 win over Valparaiso (Sept. 14, 1990) ... Strawbridge scored the first goal of the half for a 7-1 lead, later assisting on the ninth goal (by Denise Chabot) before adding goals 10 and 11.
- No previous ND player had registered a point on the first five goals in a game before Thorlakson's dizzying display ... it had been five years since an ND player even had opened a game with points on the team's first four goals ... eight times previously, an ND player has scored or assisted on the first four goals of a game: Suzie Zilvitis vs. Alma on Oct. 13, 1989 (goal-goal-assist-assist; 6-0 final); Lester at Indiana on Sept. 14, 1993 (G-G-A-A for 4-0 lead; 5-1 final); Guerrero one week later (Sept. 17, 1993) versus Michigan State (A-A-G-G; 6-0); Lester again that season at Ohio State on Oct. 23, 1993 (G-G-A-G; 6-0); Michelle McCarthy with the eventual NCAA championship squad vs. St. John's on Sept. 3, 1995 (A-G-A-G; 9-0); Holly Manthei vs. Ohio State on Nov. 1, 1996 (A-A-G-A; 7-0), and again at Villanova on Sept. 28, 1997 (A-A-A-A; 4-0); and Meotis Erikson vs. Seton Hall, in the BIG EAST semifinals at Rutgers on Nov. 5, 1999 (A-G-G-A; 5-0).
- She then was an easy choice the next week for offensive MVP honors at the Notre Dame Adidas Classic, after a primetime effort vs. #4 Santa Clara (3G-2A) as she again factored into ND's first 5 goals (5-2 win) ... the 8 eight points vs. the Broncos (3G-2A) are the most ever by an Irish player vs. a team ranked in the top 25.
- Thorlakson now has scored or assisted on all seven goals that Notre Dame has scored vs. Santa Clara during the past two seasons, also setting up a Mary Boland goal and scoring the late gamewinner in the 2-1 win at SCU in '03.
- She registered the first hat trick of her career and added assists on the first and fourth Irish goals ... it marks just the ninth time in the program's storied history that a Notre Dame player has registered a hat trick vs. a top-25 opponent - and the first since [Jenny Heft](#) scored all the goals in a 1998 win over 25th-ranked Wake Forest (3-0) ... just two previous ND players have delivered a hat trick vs. a top-10 team: Rosella Guerrero at 5th-ranked North Carolina State in the 1992 opener (the Irish still lost, 4-3) and [Anne Makinen](#) vs. No. 4 Connecticut in the 1997 BIG EAST championship game (6-1, at Rutgers).
- Her offensive fireworks are all the more noteworthy due to the fact that the 2004 Irish squad was looking to replace a pair of top goalscorers in the graduated [Amy Warner](#) and [Amanda Guertin](#) while coping with the absence of two freshman frontrunners who were prep All-Americans ([Kerri Hanks](#) is training with the U.S. Under-19 National Team while [Susan Pinnick](#) was injured in a team van accident with her club team) ... yet another top rookie, Finnish national [Jannica Tjeder](#), has not played since injuring her ankle in the opener vs. Baylor while senior leader Boland was injured midway through the SCU game.

- With the above limits at forward, Thorlakson has taken it upon herself to factor into nearly every goal the Irish have scored this fall. She has totaled five goals, six official assists and two other plays where she directly set up the goal but did not qualify for the official assists - meaning she had played a lead role in 13 of the team's 16 goals (she did not even play the second half vs. Baylor, when two of the other three goals were scored, and also was taking a short breather when the late PK was scored vs. Stanford) ... that all shakes out to 13 goals scored by the Irish this fall with Thorlakson on the field ... and she has played a lead role in all 13 of them.

- Her eight points versus Santa Clara are the most by an Irish player in six years and ended up one shy of the Notre Dame record, shared by 1996 teammates [Jenny Streiffer](#) (2G-5A, vs. Providence, Aug. 31) and Monica Gerardo (4G-1A vs. Seton Hall, Oct. 27) ... ND players have combined for just seven other eight-point games in the program's 17-year history, with the last coming six seasons ago when Makinen had 3G-2A vs. Syracuse (Nov. 1, 1998).

- Seven of Thorlakson's eight points vs. SCU came in the second half (3G-1A), tying another Notre Dame record that she already had shared with two others (Thorlakson had her 2G-3A in the first half vs. Baylor).

- The other eight-point games in the program's history include: Stacia Masters vs. Loyola (3G-2A, 12-0, 10/20/93), Michelle McCarthy vs. St. John's (3G-2A, 9-0, 9/3/95), Gerardo's four-goal game at Indiana (7-0, 9/7/95), Streiffer in the game where Gerardo also had nine points vs. Seton Hall (3G-2A, 10-0, 10/27/96), Cindy Daws vs. Villanova (3G-2A, 10-1, 11/3/96), [Meotis Erikson](#) vs. SHU (3G-2A, 7-1, 10/24/97) and Streiffer's four-goal game at Georgetown (10/11/97).

TANCREDI TABBED FOR WEEKLY DEFENSIVE HONORS – Another leader of Notre Dame's Canadian connection, fifth-year D **Mellisa Tancredi**, picked up defensive MVP honors at the Adidas Classic (and BIG EAST defensive player of the week), after leading the way for an Irish squad that allowed just 2 goals, 11 shots, 6 shots on goal and 8 corner kicks in action vs. two of the nation's top teams ... she combined with fellow backline veterans [Gudrun Gunnarsdottir](#) and [Christie Shaner](#) and defensive midfielder [Jill Krivacek](#) in neutralizing Stanford All-America forward Marcie Ward before shutting out Santa Clara for the first 60 minutes and not allowing the second SCU goal until the 82nd minute.

NOTRE DAME FRESHMAN CLASS RATED SECOND IN NATION –The Notre Dame women's soccer program once again has added a recruiting class that ranks among the best in the nation ... the *Soccer Buzz* women's soccer website ranked ND's incoming class as the 2nd-best in the nation while *Soccer America* magazine placed the Irish 5th on its list of the nation's top 2004 classes ... the six Notre Dame letter-of-intent signees for the 2004 season include four highly-regarded forwards – **Amanda Cinalli** (Maple Heights, Ohio), **Kerri Hanks** (Allen, Texas), **Susan Pinnick** (South Bend, Ind.) and **Jannica Tjeder** (Espoo, Finland) – plus midfielder **Ashley Jones** (Westlake Village, Calif.) and goalkeeper **Lauren Karas** (Flower Mound, Texas) ... Hanks is the leading scorer for the U.S. Under-19 National Team while Cinalli and Pinnick have been members of the U.S. Under-17 National Team, with each of those three players earning high school All-America honors ... each of the five U.S. signees is a member of her respective Olympic Development Regional team, with Karas formerly a member of the U.S. Under-16 National Team player pool while Jones is a member of the Southern California United club program that won the national title (as did her ODP squad) ... Tjeder is one of the top young players in Finland, playing for her national under-21, u-19 and u-17 teams.

RECRUIT RANKINGS HISTORY – Notre Dame's 2004 roster is comprised of some of the top-ranked recruiting classes during each of the fast four seasons ... in fact, ND joins North Carolina and Virginia as the only teams to have their recruiting classes in the *Soccer Buzz* top 15 during each of the last four seasons (ND also was 14th in '01, 9th in '02 and 5th in '03; UNC was 2nd-1st-6th-3rd from '01-'04; and UVa 1st-3rd-11th-12th from '01-'04) ... ND and UNC are the only teams to be in the *Soccer Buzz* top-15 classes every year since 1998, the first year of the *SB* recruiting class rankings (ND also was 11th in '98, 4th in '99 and 9th in '00; UNC 2nd-1st-2nd from '98-'00) ... *Soccer America* has ranked the nation's top 10 classes since 2002, with ND and UNC being the only teams that have been in the *SA* top 10 every year from '02-'04 (ND's classes also were ranked 9th by *SA* in '02 and 5th in '03, UNC 1st in '02 and 6th in '03) ... Notre Dame and Texas (3rd in '03 and '04) are the only teams to attract *Soccer America* top-5 classes in each of the last two seasons ... *Soccer Buzz's* top-15 recruiting classes for 2004 are as follows: Texas A&M, ND, UNC, Penn State, Texas, Clemson, Portland, Maryland, Ohio State, California, Villanova, Virginia, Michigan, Illinois and Santa Clara ... *Soccer America's* top-10 list for '04 includes A&M, UNC, Texas, PSU, ND, Nebraska, OSU, Portland, Florida and California.

GONE, BUT NOT FORGOTTEN – Four members of the Notre Dame women's soccer team will not compete with the Irish in 2004 due to various reasons ... freshman F **Kerri Hanks** – rated by *Soccer America* as the nation's No. 4 signee in 2004 and part of the nation's No. 2-ranked freshman class (per *Soccer Buzz*, No. 4 class per *SA*) – is training with the U.S. for the Under-19 World Championship (Nov. 10-27 in Thailand) and will enroll at Notre Dame next spring ... three others – fifth-year M **Randi Scheller** (hip), freshman F **Susan Pinnick** (neck/back, suffered in club team van accident) and freshman M **Kelly Simon** (shoulder surgery) – are sidelined due to injuries ... Hanks, like her classmates Hanks and Amanda Cinalli, was a high school All-American (she also played alongside Pinnick on the U.S. Under-17 National Team) ... junior F **Katie Thorlakson** also will play in the Under-19 World Championship (with Canada) but is slated to play with the Irish for most of the season (all but those three weeks in November) ... sophomore M **Jen Buczkowski** was a starting D with the U.S. Under-19s but elected to return to Notre Dame for the 2004 fall season.

BALANCED DOMINANCE – The 2003 Notre Dame women's soccer team joined national champ UNC as the only teams in the top five of final NCAA leaders for scoring (3rd; 3.04 goals per game) and goals-against avg. (5th; 0.49).

GOALS-A-PLENTY – Stretching from '92-'04, the Irish have scored in 94.8% of their games (273 of 288) ... since '94, the Irish have scored in 232 of 244 (.951; three shutouts in NCAA title games) – with goals in 178 of 185 regular-season games (.962) during that 11-year stretch ... Notre Dame saw its 31-game scoring streak (3rd-best in Irish history) end in 2002.

PRIMETIME PLAYERS – Notre Dame had won 75 percent of its “big games” during the first five seasons of the Randy Waldrum era ('99-'04), posting a 39-12-3 record when facing an NSCAA top-25 or postseason opponent.

OPENING-DAY RECORD-BOOK RUMBLINGS – **Amanda Cinalli's** opening goal vs. Baylor made her just the 4th freshman ever to score ND's first goal of a season, with the others including Margaret Jarc ('89; 4-1 vs. St. Joseph's), Rosella Guerrero ('92; 3-4 vs. N.C. State) and current senior Mary Boland ('01; 2-1 vs. Penn State) ... Cinalli also became the 4th ND player ever to score the team's first two goals in a season, with the others including Alison Lester ('91; 2-0 vs. Mercyhurst) and Guerrero twice ('92; 3-4 vs. N.C. St. and then in 12-0 win over LaSalle in '93) ... **Katie Thorlakson's** 2G-3A vs. Baylor tied the ND record for points in a half (7) shared by Tasha Strawbridge (3G-1A vs. Valparaiso in '90) and Monica Gerardo (3G-1A at Providence in '98) ... no previous ND player had registered points on the first five goals in a game, with eight former ND players scoring/assisting on the first four goals in a game: Suzie Zilvitis vs. Alma in '89 (G-G-A-A; 6-0); Lester at Indiana (G-G-A-A; 5-1) and vs. Ohio State (G-G-A-G; 6-0) in '93; Guerrero vs. MSU in '93 (A-A-G-G; 6-0); Michelle McCarthy vs. in '95 (A-G-A-G; 9-0); Holly Manthei vs. OSU in '96 (A-A-G-A; 7-0), and at Villanova in '97 (A-A-A-A; 4-0); and Meotis Erikson vs. Seton Hall, in the '99 BIG EAST semifinals at Rutgers (A-G-G-A; 5-0) ... Boland failed to score in a season opener for the first time in her ND career (she and Guerrero share the ND record by scoring in three season openers).

VIVA BRAZIL! – Notre Dame's 2004 training trip in Campinas, Brazil (Aug. 10-19), featured a 5-0-1 record and 16-3 scoring edge vs. top semi-professional women's teams from the Sao Paulo area ... the games – which attracted many curious local spectators – included the traditional exchange of gifts and group photos ... the Irish also enjoyed great camaraderie at the wonderful five-star Vitoria Hotel and soaked in the atmosphere at first-division Brazilian men's professional games held at Ponta Preta and Guarani ... meals included Brazil's many exotic and tasty forms of pizza and the unique Brazilian steakhouses that featured table-top carvings of a variety of entrees ... leading scorers on the trip included senior D/F **Candace Chapman** (4G), junior F **Katie Thorlakson** (6A) and the freshman duo of **Jannica Tjeder** (3G-2A) and **Ashley Jones** (2G-3A).

GREAT GRADES – The Notre Dame women's soccer team consistently has performed at a high level on the field and in the classroom and that certainly was the case in 2003-04, with a 20-3-1 record followed by a 3.28 team GPA in the '03 fall semester and then a 3.32 GPA in the spring of '04 (when 22 of 25 players posted a GPA of 3.0 or better, with 13 at 3.4-plus). The 2004 team includes two Academic All-Americans – senior forward Mary Boland (3.90 cumulative GPA, psychology major) and junior goalkeeper Erika Bohn (3.63, design) – with other candidates for that honor in '04 including junior midfielder Annie Scheffer (3.73, pre-professional studies and psychology) and senior defender Gudrun Gunnarsdottir (3.31, finance).

FIRST-TIME VISITORS – Since 1993, Notre Dame opponents making their first visit to Alumni Field now have lost to the Irish 37 times, with just three wins for the opposition and one tie (37-3-1; .915 ... Notre Dame's all-time record in series openers is 67-25-2, including 34-5-0 since 1993 and 47-8-0 in all series openers played at home (21-3-0 since '93).

HOME SWEET HOME – The Irish own a 154-14-2 all-time record (.912) record at Alumni Field (130-10-2 in last 142) – with a 29-game home winning streak (5th NCAA history) from '99-'01 ... eight of ND's last 10 home losses have been by a single goal ... ND's all-time record at Alumni Field vs. teams not in the NSCAA top-25 poll is 109-4-1 (45-10-1 vs. ranked teams) ... junior F **Katie Thorlakson** has totaled 34 pts at Alumni Field the past two seasons ('03-'04; 12G-10A, 4 GWG) while junior M **Annie Scheffer** has scored all six of her career goals (4 GWG) at home (also 3 of her 5 assists) ... sophomore M **Jen Buczkowski** (7G-8A) has notched 22 of her 23 career points with ND in the confines of Alumni Field.

WINNING TRADITIONS – Several current ND women's soccer players led their clubs and state Olympic Development teams to elite status before becoming part of another winning tradition with the Irish women's soccer program ... seven members of the current sophomore class helped their teams post top national finishes in 2003 ... the current freshman class lived up to the standard set by their predecessors ... most notably, **Ashley Jones** completed the rare double of winning 2004 national titles with her California South state ODP team and her Southern California United club. Her classmate **Kerri Hanks** earlier won the Golden Boot Award as the tournament's top scorer with the '03 Dallas Texans national champs while **Lauren Karas** earned the Golden Glove Award with North Texas at the 2004 ODP nationals (her team lost to Jones and Cal-South, 1-0) ... finally, newcomer **Susan Pinnick** led the Carmel Commotion to a runner-up finish at the 2003 USYSA under-17 nationals while **Kelly Simon** was a member of the St. Louis-based Busch Soccer Club that was the 2001 and '02 national runner-up.

TURNAROUND SUCCESS – Notre Dame is **12-0** during the past two seasons ('03-'04) when playing a regular-season game two days after a previous game (36-4 scoring edge) ... the Irish were just 4-5 (18-16 scoring edge) in 2002 regular-season "bounceback" games ... the 2003 bounceback games included the big 2-1 win at Santa Clara.

HALF & HALF – The Irish have been **equally dominant in the first (48-7)** and **second half (39-9)** during the past two seasons ('03-'04), after managing just a 12-10 first-half scoring edge in '02.

NATIONAL TEAMS – Three former Notre Dame players – defender **Kate Sobrero Markgraf**, goalkeeper **LaKeysia Beene** and defensive midfielder **Shannon Boxx** – recently have been starters with the U.S. National Team, with Sobrero and Boxx starting for the 2003 World Cup and 2004 Olympic teams ... nine current members of the Notre Dame program have been active with various national-team programs ... those players include **Candace Chapman** and **Melissa Tancredi** (starters with Canada's full national team) and Chapman and **Katie Thorlakson** with Canada's Under-19 National Team. Four others – **Annie Schefter**, **Mary Boland**, **Jen Buczkowski** and **Kerri Hanks** – have been starters with the U.S. Under 19 National Team (Buczkowski elected not to compete in the upcoming Under-19 World Championship) while **Gudrun Gunnarsdottir** is a member of Iceland's national team and **Jannica Tjeder** has been a regular with Finland's Under-17, -19 and -21 national teams ... former Notre Dame defender **Monica Gonzalez** is a founding member of Mexico's women's national team and captained Mexico in its historic appearance at the 2004 Olympics (former Irish forward **Monica Gerardo** also was a founding member of the Mexican team).

GOAL PATROL – Notre Dame players have combined for **15 multiple-goal games** over the course of 28 games in the past two seasons ('03-'04; compared to just five in all of '02), by 10 different players: **Mary Boland** vs. Hartford (3) and ASU (2) in '03, **Maggie Manning** and **Amanda Guertin** vs. Hartford in '03 (both with 2, with Guertin doing so again vs. Georgetown), **Jen Buczkowski** vs. Oklahoma in '03(2), **Katie Thorlakson** and **Annie Schefter** vs. Western Kentucky in '03 (both with 2, then Thorlakson at Rutgers), **Melissa Tancredi** vs. North Texas in '03 (2), **Amy Warner** at Seton Hall in '03 (3) – and most recently three different players with two goals in the 2004 opener vs. Baylor: **Amanda Cinalli**, Thorlakson (who then had a hat trick vs. Santa Clara) and **Candace Chapman**.

20-SOMETHING – Notre Dame has posted 20-plus wins in eight of the previous 10 seasons ... the 1996 team posted an ND-record 24 wins, with 23 wins in 1994, '97 and '00, 21 wins in '95, '98 and '99, and 20 in 2003.

FRONTRUNNERS – Stanford holds the distinction of being one of just four teams to hold a lead on Notre Dame during the past 33 games (dating back to the final month of the 2002 season) ... since losing a 3-2 game to BYU on Oct. 19, 2002, Notre Dame has trailed in just five games for a total of 186:27 (or 6.2% of the time, spanning 3,009:29) ... the only teams to hold leads on the Irish during that span include: Stanford (for 9:02, in 2002 third-round game at Maloney Field, 1-0), Arizona State (lead 1-0 for 7:18, ND wins 3-1), Michigan (lead 1-0 for 1:01, then retake lead for final 58:17 and win 3-1), Boston College (2-1 Eagles win in BIG EAST semifinals, lead for 82:28) and Michigan again in the 2nd round of the '03 NCAAs (lead for 28:22 in 1-0 game) ... prior to the regular-season goal by Michigan in '03, ND **had not faced a deficit for nearly two months and 16-plus games**, the longest streak in the program's history ... Santa Clara and Miami (BIG EAST quarterfinal) were the only teams to come back and tie the Irish in '03 (ND retook the lead for good 12 minutes later vs. SCU) ... the previous team record for longest streak without facing a deficit was a 14-game stretch in 1997, starting with a 5-0 win over Duke (9/21, after trailing two days earlier in a 2-2 tie vs. UNC) ... the '97 streak continued through a 6-1 win over UConn in the BIG EAST title game (11/9) and ended one week later, when Cincinnati opened the scoring in a first-round NCAA Tournament game (ND dominated for a 7-1 win) ... the '97 team spent all season ranked No. 2 in the NSCAA poll ... ND's 2000 squad earned the top ranking after seven games and did not face a deficit for the first 13 games (BC scored first and led for 28 minutes, in a 3-1 ND win) ... that team added six more games without trailing before falling behind UNC in the 82nd minute of the NCAA semifinals (2-1 loss).

CLUTCH CANADIAN – Sophomore F **Katie Thorlakson** (Langley, B.C.) picked key times for all four of her game-winning goals in 2003 ... two of her GWGs in '03 came vs. top-15 teams (#10 Santa Clara and #15 Connecticut), plus the overtime goal vs. Villanova and the early strike at Rutgers (3-0) ... she also is the only current ND player with multiple career goals vs. UConn (her goal tied the '02 game, 1-1, in a 3-1 win) ... the '02 ND-UConn game proved to be a key turning point for the program, with current senior **Melissa Tancredi** making the full-time move from F to central D while Thorlakson shifted permanently from M to F ... since those **key shifts**, the Irish are **30-5-1** in their last 36 games.

PLAYING THE BEST – Notre Dame has played some of its best soccer vs. ranked opponents, going 25-11-3 vs. NSCAA ranked teams in the Randy Waldrum era (since '99) ... that trend held true in 2001 (5-1-0): 2-1 vs. Penn State, 2-0 vs. Hartford, 2-1 vs. West Virginia, 3-0 vs. Miami, 0-3 at UConn, 2-1 vs. Michigan ... the Irish posted 2002 wins over #25 Maryland (5-2), #8 UConn (3-1), #13 Michigan (1-0) and #14 Purdue (3-1) ... over the course of the '01-'04 seasons, Notre Dame has owned a 12-7-1 record vs. NSCAA top-25 teams (40-6-1 vs. unranked teams), including 2003 wins over #16 Santa Clara (2-1), #8 West Virginia (2-0) and #15 UConn (2-0) and a scoreless tie vs. #24 Stanford – plus last week's 5-2 win over Santa Clara.

QUICK-STRIKE ARTISTS – Notre Dame has scored in the first seven minutes of nine games during the past two seasons ('03-'04; total of 10 “quick-strike” goals in that 26-game span) ... **Mary Boland** is responsible for three of those early scores while seven others each have scored one quick goal in '03 or '04 ... the quickest goals in '03 came vs. West Virginia (1:24; Boland volley on long serve from Melissa Tancredi), at Seton Hall (1:30; **Amy Warner** near-post shot after taking pass from Jill Krivacek) and twice at Rutgers (2:44 by **Katie Thorlakson** from close range, after leftside pass from Warner; and at 3:53 on **Tancredi** header, via Thorlakson corner kick) – while the second game of the '04 season saw **Annie Scheffter** score vs. Eastern Illinois at 4:35 ... other quick-strike goals by ND in 2003 came vs. Hartford (6:32; **Boland** puts back own rebound, after classic 5-player combination sequence that includes right endline cross from Warner), vs. Oklahoma (5:58; **Jen Buczkowski** knocks in rebound after flurry in box), at Santa Clara (5:03; **Boland** on lunging poke after leftside service from Katie Thorlakson), vs. North Texas (4:28; **Amanda Guertin** shot from top of the box via short pass from Warner) and vs. Georgetown (5:39; **Kimberly Carpenter** redirects Vanessa Pruzinsky shot).

GOING THE DISTANCE – NE is unbeaten in its last 16 overtime games (12-0-4), since the 3-2, double-OT loss to UNC in the '99 opener ... that team went on to post a 2-1, double-OT win at UConn and played to a 1-1 tie at Nebraska in the NCAA quarter's (adv. on PKs) ... the 2000 team had OT wins over Stanford, at West Virginia and vs. Santa Clara in the NCAA quarter's (all 2-1), also playing to 0-0 at UConn ... '01 featured an unprecedented five OT games (2-1 vs. Indiana, Villanova, WVU and Michigan; 2-2 vs. Wisconsin) while the '02 team added 1-0 OT wins over Rutgers and BC ... the '03 team had a scoreless tie with Stanford (at SCU), plus OT wins over Villanova (1-0) and Miami (2-1, BIG EAST quarter's).

SHARING THE WEALTH IN OT – ND's 11 overtime wins in the six-year Randy Waldrum era include goals from seven players (own goal vs. Stanford in '00): **Anne Makinen** (vs. UConn in '99), **Amanda Guertin** (ND record 4; vs. WVU in '00, Michigan in '01, BC in '02 and Miami in '03), **Meotis Erikson** (vs. SCU in '00 NCAA quarter's), **Kelly Tulisiak** (vs. IU in '01), **Amy Warner** (2; vs. VU in '01, Rutgers in '02), **Mia Sarkesian** (vs. WVU in '01), **Katie Thorlakson** (vs. Vill. in '03).

GREAT STARTS – The 2003 season saw Notre Dame go unbeaten after 19 games for the fourth time in the program's history ... here's a look at the other longest season-opening unbeaten streaks in the ND record book:

| Year | Start (Scoring) | Notes |
|-------------|------------------------|---|
| 1994 | 24 games (104-11) | went 23-0-1 before losing to UNC in NCAA title game (5-0) |
| 1997 | 24 games (134-7) | again fashioned 23-0-1 record before losing to UConn in NCAA semifinals (2-1) |
| 2000 | 24 games (75-8) | another familiar record (23-0-1) precedes a 2-1 loss to UNC in the NCAA semifinals |
| 2003 | 19 games (63-5) | scoreless tie vs. Stanford only non-win during 18-0-1 start, before 3-2 loss to Michigan |
| 1996 | 13 games (66-6) | started 13-0-0 prior to 3-1 loss at Santa Clara |
| 1991 | 12 games | twice-tied team (10-0-2) drops 1-0 game at UMass |
| 1995 | 10 games | opened 9-0-1 before losing to UConn (5-4 in OT) |

CONFERENCE CALL – Notre Dame's all-time record in regular-season conference games is 95-7-2 (.923; 76-7-2/.906 in BIG EAST) ... the Irish are 52-1 in home games vs. BIG EAST teams, with 49 straight home wins over BIG EAST teams since a 5-4 OT loss to UConn in '95 (239-16 scoring edge, 36 shutouts, 13 with 1 GA) ... since '95, ND's overall record vs. BIG EAST teams now is 94-9-2 (.905; 1-1-0 vs. UConn in NAAs).

BOHN ON A ROLL – Junior G **Erika Bohn** is 35-4-1 in her last 40 starts with the Irish (34-3-1 last 38), allowing just 21 goals in that 40-game stretch (24 shutouts, 13 with 1 GA) ... that 40-game span includes a 4-1 mark to close the 2002 season, a 5-0 showing in the 2003 spring season, the 20-3-1 record in the fall of '03 and six wins this fall (two in Brazil) ... her only losses in that stretch: the 2002 season-ending loss at top-ranked Stanford, with the only goal coming in the 81st minute; the 3-2 loss to Michigan in the final game of the '03 regular season (UM's final two goals came on corner-kick breakdowns by the ND defense), a 2-1 loss to Boston College in the '03 BIG EAST semifinals and the 1-0 loss to Michigan in the '03 NAAs ... prior to the first loss to Michigan in '03, Bohn had logged 29 consecutive games with the Irish (24 fall, 5 spring) without allowing multiple goals (previously done by BYU on Oct. 19, 2002).

MAGIC NUMBERS – The 3-goal mark has been virtually an automatic win in ND history, with the Irish 202-3-1 all-time (.983) when scoring 3-plus, losing to N.C. State in the '92 opener (4-3), UConn in '95 (5-4, OT) and at Georgetown in '02 (4-3), plus a 3-3 tie vs. Vanderbilt in '91... the Irish had won 88 straight when scoring 3-plus, before the GU loss (now 106-1-0 since Oct. 6, 1995) ... ND is 278-9-11 (.951) in all-time games when holding the opponent to 0-1 goals, including tough 1-0 losses in '02 to eventual NCAA champ Portland and top-ranked Stanford ... prior to the UP loss, the Irish had been 56-0-3 in the previous 59 games when allowing 0-1 GA (dating back to 1-0 loss to SMU in '99, playing minus Finnish national teamer Anne Makinen) ... the program's 16-year history includes just 292 goals allowed in 368 games (0.79 GA per game) ... the Irish have allowed more than one goal in only 72 all-time games (20%) and have yielded 3-plus goals in just 33 all-time games (9%; including two 6-goal games by the opponent, four 5-goal and six 4-goal) ... 91% of ND's all-time games have seen the Irish hold the opponent to 0-2 goals (ND is just 4-28-1 all-time when allowing 3-plus).

FIRST-HALF FORTRESS – The Notre Dame defense has been particularly stingy in the first half the past four seasons, allowing just 22 goals in the first half of those 69 games (0.32/gm) ... the first half in '02 featured little scoring (12-10 ND edge), compared to a 40-7 first-half edge in 2003 (plus 8-0 in 2004).