

Irish Boast Two Nationally Ranked Teams Heading to Pre Nationals

2001 Schedule

SEPTEMBER

7 Sat. Valparaiso Invitational M-1st
Valparaiso, Ind. W-2nd

21 Fri. National Catholic M-1st
Notre Dame, Ind. W-2nd

29 Sat. Central Collegiate M-1st
Kalamazoo, MI W-2nd

OCTOBER

5 Fri. Notre Dame Invitational M-1st
Notre Dame, Ind. W-1st

13 Sat. Pre-National Meet W - 10:45 a.m.
Greenville, SC M - 11:55 a.m.

26 Fri. BIG EAST Championships TBA
Van Cortland Park, NY

NOVEMBER

10 Sat. NCAA Great Lakes Region TBA
Terre Haute, Ind.

19 Mon. NCAA Championships TBA
Greenville, SC

All home meets run at the N.D. Golf Course
All times local to site



Irish ready to test their mettle at Pre-National meet:

With the newest national polls ranking the Notre Dame men's team fifth and

the women's team 24th in the nation, both squads have high expectations heading into the Pre-National Meet this weekend, October 13. The Irish men and women are coming off impressive team and individual victories at last weekend's Notre Dame Invitational.

The NCAA Pre-National Meet, slated to be run at the Furman Cross Country Course in Greenville, SC, will feature 37 teams in each race, including both the Notre Dame men's and women's teams.

It is an opportunity for all the participating teams to run on the same course on which the NCAA Championship will be held on Nov. 19.

The Irish will be competing against their toughest competition of the year, as many of the top ranked teams in both polls will head to Greenville this weekend.

Both Notre Dame teams have reason to feel confident heading into the Pre National meet, as both the men and women are coming off strong showings in the Notre Dame Invitational last weekend.

Taking four of the top five spots in the Blue Race, one of three race categories in the Invitational, the men's team took a decisive victory over the 18-team field. After resting most of the team's top runners in the Central Collegiate Championships (Sept. 29), the Irish entered their top eight runners for only the second time in 2001.

Senior **Luke Watson** was first across the line, taking the individual title in 24:06. **Watson** was followed closely by classmate **Ryan Shay**, second in 24:25 with sophomore **Todd Mobley** by his side (24:25).

Rounding out the top five Irish finishers, senior **Marc Striowski** in fifth place (24:28) and senior **Sean Zanderson** com-

pleted the scoring for the Irish, taking 17th overall (24:59).

Sophomore **David Alber** was the Irish sixth man, finishing 38th in the 146-man field, and running seventh was junior **John Keane**, 53rd place in 25:37.

In the women's race, the Irish were equally strong, as the top five Notre Dame runners finished in the top 25 of the 130 competitors. The team's strong showing in this and previous meets obviously impressed coaches across the nation, who voted the Irish into the polls for the first time this season.

Freshman **Lauren King** took the overall individual title in her first in her collegiate race, pulling away in the last portion of the course to win by six seconds. Next across the finish line for the Irish was junior **Jen Handley** in third (17:28), and sophomore **Megan Johnson** claimed a top-10 finish, completing the course in 17:54 to earn 10th place.

Also scoring for the women were freshman **Christi Arnerich**, who continues to

2001 MONDO Men's Cross Country Poll Oct. 9, 2001

Rank	Team	Region	Points	Prev.
1.	Colorado (14)	MT	397	1
2.	Stanford	W	379	2
3.	Arkansas (2)	SC	365	3
4.	Wisconsin	GL	347	4
5.	Notre Dame	GL	342	5
6.	Portland	W	308	6
7.	Providence	NE	292	7
8.	N. Arizona	MT	261	10
9.	N.C. State	SE	256	8
9.	Villanova	MA	256	9
11.	Colorado State	M	243	11
12.	Michigan	GL	229	12
13.	Duke	SE	209	13
14.	Wake Forest	SE	186	14
15.	Arizona State	W	152	15
16.	Michigan State	GL	135	16
17.	BYU	M	120	17
18.	Oregon	W	105	18
19.	E. Michigan	GL	95	19
20.	Weber State	M	80	20
21.	Alabama	S	71	21
22.	Georgetown	MA	68	22
23.	Utah State	M	64	--
24.	Arizona	W	49	--
25.	Iona	NE	40	23

2001 FinishLynx Women's Cross Country Poll Oct. 9, 2001

Rank	Team	Region	Points	Prev.
1.	Colorado (12)	MT	323	1
2.	Stanford (1)	W	311	2
3.	NC State	SE	294	3
4.	Brigham Young	MT	275	4
4.	Arizona State	W	275	4
6.	Boston College	NE	272	6
7.	Providence	NE	241	7
8.	North Carolina	SE	238	8
9.	Arizona	W	222	9
10.	Arkansas	SC	198	10
11.	Georgetown	MA	196	11
12.	Colorado State	MT	186	12
13.	Michigan State	GL	173	13
14.	Wisconsin	GL	154	14
15.	Virginia	SE	140	15
16.	Washington	W	121	16
17.	Boston Univ.	NE	108	17
18.	UCLA	W	103	18
19.	Marquette	GL	88	19
20.	Cornell	NE	72	20
21.	N. Arizona	MT	66	23
22.	Yale	NE	48	21
23.	James Madison	NE	46	21
24.	Notre Dame	GL	20	--
25.	Baylor	SC	15	24

perform well in her debut season for the Irish, as she finished 20th (18:15), and junior **Jennifer Fibuch**, 24th across the line in 18:18.

With such a large number of competitors at the Invitational, a Gold Race was held to allow all participating teams the chance to run most of their roster.

In the Gold Race, the Irish men proved just as dominant and demonstrated the team's great depth as the "B" team earned the victory. All five Irish scorers finished in the top 10, led by second place finisher **Mario Bird**.

Sophomore **Brian Kerwin** was next for the Irish, taking fourth in 25:12, followed by sophomore **Kevin Somok** and freshman **Ryan Johnson**, who crossed the line together in seventh and eighth place at 25:21 and 25:22, respectively. **Eric Morrison** was fifth for the men's team with a 12th place finish.

In the women's gold race, the Notre Dame runners performed well again, taking fourth out of the 14 competing teams.

The large race gave some of the younger Irish women the chance to run against a highly competitive field. Leading the Irish women was sophomore **Rachel Engress**, who took 13th, with classmate **Megan Peterson** next in 22nd.

Also contributing to the Irish Gold race team was junior **Emily Showman** in 29th, sophomore **Katie Wales** in 36th, **Keri McCarthy** in 50th, and 56th place finisher sophomore **Emily Webb**.

For this weekend's Pre-National meet, the 37 women and men teams will be divided into four races. There will be two races each for male and female teams, and each will be balanced with the Irish women in the silver race while the men will compete in the gold race (complete fields of the races involving the Irish teams follow this note).

Information and results will be available on the internet at the Furman website: www.furmanpaladins.com.

The competition will prove to be fierce, as 18 of the top 25 will be represented, including the number 1 and 2 ranked Colorado and Stanford.

The same holds true of the women's races, where 21 of the top 25 teams is scheduled to race.

Women's Silver Race Field *Current national rankings in parenthesis*

Baylor (25)
Boston College (6)
Brown
Bucknell
BYU (4)
UC-Santa Barbara
Colorado State (12)
Dartmouth (also receiving votes)
Florida State (also receiving votes)
Kentucky
Loyola (Chicago)
Marquette (19)
Miami (Ohio)
Minnesota (also receiving votes)
Nebraska
North Carolina State (3)
Northern Iowa
NOTRE DAME (24)
Oakland
Pittsburgh
Portland
Richmond
Samford
South Alabama
St. Francis (Pa.)
Stanford (2)
Tennessee
Texas Tech
Toledo
Villanova (also receiving votes)
Virginia (15)
Wake Forest
Washington (16)
Washington State
Weber State
West Virginia
Western Kentucky
Yale (22)

Men's Gold Race

Air Force (also receiving votes)
Appalachian State
Arizona (24)
Arizona State (15)
UC-Santa Barbara
Central Michigan
Cincinnati
Clemson
Colorado (1)
Columbia
Cornell
Creighton
Duke (13)
Eastern Michigan (19)
Florida

Top Ten Overall Finishers Notre Dame Invitational

Men's Blue Division

1. **Luke Watson** - Notre Dame
2. **Ryan Shay** - Notre Dame
3. **Todd Mobley** - Notre Dame
4. Mitch Zandel - Utah State
5. **Marc Striowski** - Notre Dame
6. Steve Prescott - Utah State
7. Balazas Csillag - Northern Iowa
8. Don Franzen - Loyola
9. Chad Andrews - IU
10. Brick Bergson - Utah State

Other Notre Dame finishes - 17. Sean Zanderson; 38. David Alber; 53. John Keane; 70. Pat Conway

Women's Blue Division

1. **Lauren King** - Notre Dame
2. Andrea Kremer - Miami (Ohio)
3. **Jennifer Handley** - Notre Dame
4. Stacia Beste - Illinois State
5. Katie Nowak - Ball State
6. Kristen Fryburg - Miami (Ohio)
7. Kristyne McGuinn - Loyola
8. Lindsey Gallo - Michigan
9. Alana Crisman - Loyola
10. **Megan Johnson** - Notre Dame

Other Notre Dame finishes - 20. Christi Arnerich; 50. Muffy Schmidt; 54. Julia Schmidt

Florida State (also receiving votes)
Georgia Tech
Indiana (also receiving votes)
Iowa
Kentucky
LaSalle
Liberty
Loyola
Marshall
Miami
North Carolina
UNC Asheville
NOTRE DAME (5)
Oakland
St. Francis (Pa.)
Texas
Villanova (9)
Virginia Tech
Wake Forest (14)
Washington State
Weber State (20)
Western Kentucky