

NOTRE DAME 2007 WOMEN'S SOCCER

Gameday notes update and links to recent stories

(Dec. 7; NCAA semifinal vs. Florida State; College Station, Texas)

NOTRE DAME AGAIN TOP ALL-AROUND SOCCER SCHOOL – The University of Notre Dame steadily has been emerging as the nation's premier combined men's and women's soccer program, with that status gaining further momentum over the past two seasons:

- Notre Dame has the third-most combined soccer wins this season (33-8-7; 19-4-2 women and 14-4-5), with BIG EAST schools occupying three of the top-four spots (the ND men will play an NCAA quarterfinal at Wake Forest on Dec. 8):

Combined Women's and Men's Soccer Wins in 2007

| | | | |
|-------------------|---------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Furman | 35-10-1 | 16-6-1 women | 19-4-0 men |
| Connecticut | 34-8-3 | 14-6-2 women | 20-2-1 men |
| Notre Dame | 33-8-7 | 19-4-2 women | 14-4-5 men |
| West Virginia | 32-11-4 | 18-5-2 women | 14-6-2 men |
| Wake Forest | 32-9-5 | 13-7-3 | 19-2-2 |

Note: teams still alive include the UConn men, the ND women and men, and the Wake Forest men

- Notre Dame and UConn were the only team that sent both its women's and men's teams to the quarterfinal rounds of the respective 2007 NCAA Tournaments ... ND, UConn and Wake Forest were the only schools in the round-of-16 in both tournaments ... ND, West Virginia and WFU were the only schools with seeded teams (top-16) in both the men's and women's NCAA draws.

- Notre Dame is the only school with women's and men's players among the final-15 candidates (semifinals) for the respective 2007 M.A.C. Hermann Trophy awards ... ND has three players on the women's list (Kerri Hanks, Brittany Bock and Amanda Cinalli) while the men's squad is represented by senior forward Joe Lapira.

- Notre Dame is attempting to do something that only **six** previous schools have accomplished: sending both its **men's and women's soccer teams** on to the **NCAA semifinals in the same season** ... that feat has been accomplished a total of nine times (including three by Santa Clara and two by North Carolina), with UCLA (in 2006) the only team to do so since 2001 ... that 2001 season (by North Carolina) is the only time that a school has seen its men's and women's teams play in the NCAA title game during the same season (the UNC men won but the women lost) ...

- In the 25 previous seasons since the start of the NCAA women's soccer tournament (1982), there have been only nine times when a school had both its men's and women's teams advance to the semifinals (by six different schools): three times by Santa Clara (1989, '98 and '99), twice by UNC (1987 and 2001), plus Connecticut in 1982, Virginia in 1991, Portland in 1995 and UCLA in 2006 ... it has happened only twice since 1999 and the recent four-year "drought" (2002-05) of not having a school with its men's and women's teams in the semifinals matched the longest (1983-86).

- Last season ('06), Hanks and Lapira made Notre Dame the first school ever to sweep the women's and men's Hermann trophies.

- Notre Dame ran away with having the most combined women's/men's soccer wins in 2006 (**40-7-3**; women 25-1-1, men 15-6-2) ... SMU and Wake Forest were the only other school in '06 with both soccer programs owning 15-plus wins ... UNC had the second-most combined wins in '06 (38-7-3), followed by SMU (34-6-6), WFU (34-9-4) and UCLA (35-10-4).

- Notre Dame joined UCLA as the only schools with both its **men's and women's** soccer teams advancing to the 2006 NCAA **quarterfinals**

- In addition to sweeping the Hermann trophies, Hanks (66 points; 22G-22A) and Lapira (49 points; 22G-5A) finished as the national scoring leaders in 2006 ... that was the first time both ND soccer teams have featured a 20-goal scorer in the same season.

- One final parallel between the Notre Dame soccer programs is the distinction of the Irish men (with **Bobby and Jamie Clark**) and women (**Randy and Ben Waldrum**) both being led by highly-regarded father-and-son combinations on their coaching staffs.

WINDY-CITY TRIO, PART II. – The current Naperville trio of junior M/F **Brittany Bock**, sophomore defensive midfielder **Amanda Clark** and sophomore F **Michele Weissenhofer** actually is the second Chicago-area trio to star for the Irish in the past few years ... the 2006 senior class was led by All-America midfielder **Jen Buczkowski** (Elk Grove), defensive midfielder **Jill Krivacek** (Geneva) and center back **Kim Lorenzen** (Naperville) ... each of the Chicago-area trios referenced above had been teammates long before they joined the Notre Dame program, starring for club and state ODP teams that regularly were competing for (and winning) national titles ... Bock, Clark and Weissenhofer have even another layer of playing experience, after leading Neuqua Valley High School to the Illinois state title in the spring of 2005.

ACCOUNTING FOR THEIR FUTURE – Notre Dame senior accounting majors Ashley Jones and Susan Pinnick have been pursued by several of the nation's top accounting firms in recent weeks, with each of the star students recently decided to accept prestigious 10-week summer positions in New York with Price Waterhouse Coopers ... both players then will return to Notre Dame in the fall of 2008, to begin work on the accelerated one-year masters in accountancy program ... Jones will complete her college eligibility this weekend at the College Cup while Pinnick has the option to apply for a fifth year of play in 2008 ... Jones and Pinnick routinely have ranked 1-2 atop the Notre Dame accounting classes ... in fact, Jones carries a 3.98 cumulative GPA that includes 26 A grades and a pair of A-minuses among her 28 courses (she is a rare two-time CoSIDA Academic All-American) ... Pinnick's 3.86 cumulative GPA includes a 4.0 during the 2007 spring semester while Jones has posted four 4.0 GPAs ... Jones and Pinnick both received positive feedback from the accounting-firm recruiters, who were impressed with their competitiveness and high-pressure experience that goes along with being key members of one of the nation's top college soccer programs.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY – Notre Dame head coach **Randy Waldrum** will have plenty of family and friends in attendance Friday night ... Waldrum is a native of Irving, Texas, and has extensive ties to youth soccer in the North Texas region ... his parents E.K. and Janette will be in attendance Friday night, as will his brother Tommy and his wife Annette, and his sister Delena and her husband Randy (a Texas A&M grad) ... men with two initials are a common trend in Waldrum's family, as he also has uncles who go by E.H. and B.J. ... Waldrum's wife Diana (a fellow Texas native) also will be in attendance, as she has for several of the road games this season ... another interested observer will be SMU men's soccer coach Schellas Hyndman (**pronounced SHELL-us HIGHND-mun**), who actually gave Waldrum his start in coaching as an assistant on his staff back in 1984 (Hyndman's first season at SMU) ... Waldrum had been working that time as a coach at Irving's McArthur High School and has gone on to maintain a close friendship and professional relationship with Hyndman ... Hyndman recently served as president of the National Soccer Coaches Association while Waldrum currently is the second vice-president of the NSCAA and will serve as president in 2009 (the NSCAA is the nation's largest coaching association, with 18,000 members) ... Waldrum also retains close ties with Bob Black, president of the North Texas Soccer Association (which oversees 100,000 youth soccer players in one of the nation's elite soccer regions).

BUCZKOWSKI THE BRAVE – Current Notre Dame volunteer assistant coach **Jen Buczkowski** came close to ending her career with a national championship in 2006 ... Buczkowski, a three-time All-America midfielder, suffered a serious leg injury late in the 2006 NCAA semifinal win over Florida State but courageously returned to play through pain in the title game vs. UNC.

MISSING MIDFIELDERS – Two players who possibly are Notre Dame's most talented all-around midfielders are not even playing that position, due to their respective midseason shifts ... junior **Brittany Bock** was moved to forward starting with the Sept. 30 game vs. Cincinnati while freshman **Lauren Fowlkes** began tackling her new role as a starting center back nine days earlier vs. DePaul (Sept. 21) ... Fowlkes was the full-time answer as the replacement for injured sophomore Haley Ford while Bock's move was prompted by a series of nagging injuries that were affecting sophomore F Michele Weissenhofer and senior F/M Amanda Cinalli (plus the season-long absence of freshman F Taylor Knaack, who is rehabbing from ACL knee surgery) ... the typical starting midfield this postseason has consisted of senior **Amanda Cinalli** (who flipped spots with Bock) and sophomore **Courtney Rosen** in the attacking roles while sophomore **Amanda Clark** is the defensive/holding midfielder ... Cinalli often will make midgame shifts to forward while three others – senior **Ashley Jones**, junior **Becca Mendoza** and freshman **Rose Augustin** – have seen significant minutes this season as part of the "midfield by committee" (those three players also have been starters at times in 2007).

FETZER FIELD SUCCESS – North Carolina has won all but 12 of its home games at Fetzer Field (248-7-5; .964), during 26 seasons of NCAA-sponsored play (1982-2007) ... Notre Dame and Duke are the only teams ever to beat the Tar Heels twice on their home field ... ND topped UNC 1-0 in the 1995 NCAA semifinals and 3-2 in the 2007 NCAA round-of-16 (both at Fetzer Field) ... Florida State is one of five that have tied UNC at Fetzer (1-1, in the 2005 NCAA quarterfinals; FSU advanced on PKs) ... UNC's other five home losses have come vs. Duke ('94, '05), Penn State ('99), Santa Clara ('04) and South Carolina ('07) ... the other four ties have come against George Mason ('85), Central Florida ('86), Duke ('02) and Maryland ('02).

HOMETOWN HEROES – Notre Dame's 27-player roster includes players from 10 different states but many are clustered together ... five ND players are from the **Dallas** area: senior G Lauren Karas (Flower Mound), junior F Kerri Hanks (Allen), junior M Becca Mendoza (Garland), senior D Jennie Bireley (Plano) and sophomore D Ashley Galovic (Plano) ... the team's sixth Texas native, sophomore D Haley Ford, is from Midland but starred for several years for the Dallas Texans club team (with regular 10-hour round-trip commutes during that time) ... five others all are **Chicago**-area natives: the Naperville trio of junior M/F Brittany Bock, sophomore defensive midfielder Amanda Clark and sophomore F Michele Weissenhofer, plus junior left back Elise Weber (Elk Grove) and freshman F/M Erica Iantorno (Hinsdale) ... freshman M Brittany Johnson grew up in Chicago but her family recently moved to Pleasant Prairie, Wis. ... three others hail from the **Cleveland** area: senior F/M Amanda Cinalli (Maple Hts), sophomore M Courtney Rosen (Brecksville) and freshman F/M Rose Augustin (Silver Lake) ... junior center back Carrie Dew (Encinitas) and sophomore 'keeper Kelsey Lysander (San Diego) both are from the **San Diego** area while senior M/D Ashley Jones also is a southern California native.

POSITION SHIFT AGAIN PROVIDES SPARK – This marks the second straight season that Notre Dame's flip of **Amanda Cinalli** (from F to M) and **Brittany Bock** (from M to F) has sparked the team on a dominating stretch ... in 2006, the Irish were trailing West Virginia 1-0 at halftime when assistant coach Ben Waldrum suggested the switch ... the Irish made the move and Bock quickly assisted on Michele Weissenhofer's tying goal four minutes into the second half ... ND went on to win that game, 3-1, and ultimately rattled off 21 straight unanswered goals as part of five straight shutouts ... the Bock-Cinalli switch this season came heading into the Sept. 30 game vs. Cincinnati (6-1), the second game of the current 17-game unbeaten streak ... ND has outscored the opposition 49-10 since that switch.

A FAMILY THAT IS BIG (make that very BIG) ON TRADITION – Freshman right back **Julie Scheidler** is living out a dream while starting for the ND women's soccer program ... Scheidler's deep ties to Notre Dame include 12 direct relatives (a brother, a grandfather, seven uncles, two aunts and a cousin) who all are graduates of the University, plus eight more (her mother Colleen O'Brien Scheidler among them) who are graduates of nearby Saint Mary's College (located across the street from ND) ... Scheidler's 71 first cousins include 54 on her mother's side ... her grandparents Tom and Joan O'Brien have 14 children, the 55 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren ... there are no repeat first names among the 55 O'Brien grandchildren, although there is one Tom in three successive generations ... Tom O'Brien, the patriarch of the family, had all of his grandchildren on hand a few years back and a group photo of that family gathering was used in a promotion for his car dealership (O'Brien Chrysler/Toyota, in Indianapolis).

ACC TRIFECTA – Following wins at North Carolina (3-2; round-of-16) and at home vs. Duke (3-2; quarterfinals), Notre Dame now is set to face yet another team from the Atlantic Coast Conference in Florida State ... this marks the first time in 15 trips to the NCAA Tournament that the Irish have played three different teams from the same conference during the same NCAAAs ... it also is the first time ND ever has played three straight games (at any time in a season) vs. the ACC ... ND has played three ACC teams in the same season three times previously (not since 1998):

| | | | |
|-------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1993 | 3-0 win over N.C. St. (9/24) | 0-3 loss to UNC (10/15; in Houston) | 3-2 win over Duke (10/17; in Houston) |
| 1996* | 2-1 win over UNC (10/4; @Duke) | 2-0 win at Duke (10/5) | 2-0 win over Maryland (12/1; NCAA 2nd rd) |
| 1998 | 3-0 win over Duke (9/11; @UNC) | 1-5 loss at UNC (9/13) | 3-0 win over Wake Forest (9/27) |

*Note: the 1996 ND team also faced UNC in the NCAA final (losing 1-0, at Santa Clara on Dec. 8)

FUTURE TEAM USA STARS? – Several members of the Notre Dame women's soccer program could emerge as candidates for the U.S. full national team in coming years ... those players include senior F/M **Amanda Cinalli** (who has a "fallback" plan of attending medical school), junior F **Kerri Hanks**, junior M/F **Brittany Bock**, junior center back **Carrie Dew** and sophomore F **Michele Weissenhofer** ... recent Irish midfielder **Jen Buczkowski** ('07), now a volunteer assistant on the ND staff, also could be in the mix at upcoming U.S. national team camps.

Notre Dame Career Games Played

| | | | |
|----------|---------------------------------|---------------------|---|
| 1 | Ashley Jones (2004-07) | 104 (of 104) | (tied for second in D-I history) |
| 2 | Jen Buczkowski (2003-06) | 103 (of 103) | |
| 3 | Meotis Erikson (1997-2000) | 101 (of 101) | |
| | Shannon Boxx (1995-98) | 101 (of 100) | |
| 5 | Christie Shaner (2003-06) | 100 (of 103) | |
| | Jenny Streiffer (1996-99) | 100 (of 102) | |
| | Jen Grubb (1996-99) | 100 (of 102) | |
| | Holly Manthei (1994-97) | 100 (of 101) | |
| 9 | Amanda Cinalli (2004-07) | 99 (of 104) | |

RECAPPING THE 2006 NCAA SEMIFINAL (ND 2, FSU 1; Dec. 1 at SAS Stadium in Cary, N.C.) – Courtney Rosen and Jill Krivacek were the unlikely goalscorers, as Notre Dame outlasted 5th-ranked Florida State (2-1) and advanced to the NCAA title game for the sixth time (second-most of any team) ... the win made Randy Waldrum the third coach in Division I women's soccer history ever to take three or more of his teams to the NCAA championship game (also '99 and '04) ... shortly after checking into the game, Rosen pounced on a turnover near the upper right corner of the box and faked a defender before blasting a leftfooted shot into the near-right side of the goal (35:32) ... three minutes later, Kerri Hanks delivered a rightside corner-kick, with a double-header sequence off Brittany Bock and Krivacek sending the ball into the upper right corner ... FSU's India Trotter scored early in the second half but Lauren Karas made some big plays in goal the rest of the way to secure the 12th consecutive win ... it marked Notre Dame's 35th consecutive victory when scoring first and 249th straight win when claiming a 2-0 lead.

| | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| #5 Florida State | 0 | 1 | - | 1 |
| #1 Notre Dame | 2 | 0 | - | 2 |

ND 1. Courtney Rosen (-) 35:32; **ND 2.** Jill Krivacek (Brittany Bock, Kerri Hanks) 38:21; **FS 1.** India Trotter (Kelly Rowland) 51:22

Shots: FS 2-8 – 10, ND 9-6 – 15 **CK:** FS 5-3 – 8, ND 3-0 – 3 **Saves:** FS 8 (Ali Mims 7, Libby Gianeskis 1), ND 1 (Karas)
Fouls: FS 13, ND 23 **Offside:** FS 1, ND 3 **Yellow Cards:** Brittany Bock (ND), Rosen (ND)

BONUS VIDEO BONANZA – Notre Dame's official website und.com is offering bonus video throughout the College Cup weekend, chronicling each step of the team's preparation and activities leading up to (and after) the game action ... the free footage (part of Irish All-Access) includes full press conference video along with a variety of behind-the-scenes offerings.

COACHING EXCELLENCE – Notre Dame's **Randy Waldrum** (.774; 292-78-20) and UCLA's Jillian Ellis (.783; 192-50-9) have surged up the NCAA charts among the winningest coaches in Division I history ... Ellis now ranks third on that list (second among active coaches) while Waldrum is fourth overall and third on the active list (min. 10 years as D-I head coach) ... Waldrum also ranks ninth in career wins, only one behind William & Mary's John Daly ... in the past nine years (1999-2007; corresponding with Waldrum's tenure at ND), North Carolina has made six trips to the NCAA College Cup final weekend but Notre Dame and UCLA are right behind, with five trips each to at least the semifinals (during that nine-year span).

WINNINGEST ALL-TIME COACHES IN DIVISION I HISTORY (by pct.; updated prior to 2007 NCAA semifinals)
(Min. 10 years as a head coach at NCAA D-I schools; includes all victories as coach at a four-year institution.)

| Coach, Team(s) | Years | Won | Lost | Tied | Pct. |
|--|--------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1. *Anson Dorrance (North Carolina 1979-07) | 29 | 648 | 32 | 19 | .941 |
| 2. <i>Clive Charles (Portland 1989-02)</i> | 14 | 226 | 52 | 13 | .799 |
| 3. *Jillian Ellis (UCLA 1997-07) | 11 | 192 | 50 | 9 | .783 |
| 4. *Randy Waldrum (Tulsa 1989-94; Baylor 1996-98; ND 1999-07) | 18 | 292 | 78 | 20 | .774 |
| 5. *Jerry Smith (Santa Clara 1987-07) | 21 | 338 | 90 | 30 | .771 |
| *Becky Burleigh (Berry 1989-93; Florida 1995-07) | 18 | 311 | 83 | 26 | .771 |

WINNINGEST ALL-TIME COACHES IN DIVISION I HISTORY (by wins; updated prior to 2007 NCAA semifinals)
(Min. 10 years as a head coach at NCAA D-I schools; includes all victories as coach at a four-year institution.)

| Coach, Team(s) | Years | Won | Lost | Tied | Pct. |
|--|--------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1. *Anson Dorrance (North Carolina 1979-07) | 29 | 648 | 32 | 19 | .941 |
| 2. *Len Tsantiris (Connecticut 1981-07) | 27 | 456 | 128 | 35 | **.768 |
| 3. *Jerry Smith (Santa Clara 1987-07) | 21 | 338 | 90 | 30 | ***.777 |
| 4. *Becky Burleigh (Berry 1989-93; Florida 1995-07) | 18 | 311 | 83 | 26 | .771 |
| 5. *Jim Rudy (UCF 1981-87; Massachusetts 1988-07) | 27 | 307 | 151 | 25 | ***.664 |
| 6. *David Lombardo (Keene St. 1981-87; James Madison 1990-07) | 25 | 301 | 175 | 32 | .624 |
| 7. *Chris Petrucelli (Notre Dame 1990-98; Texas 1999-07) | 18 | 296 | 81 | 24 | .768 |
| 8. *John Daly (William & Mary 1987-07) | 21 | 293 | 116 | 36 | .699 |
| 9. *Randy Waldrum (Tulsa 1989-94; Baylor 1996-98; ND 1999-07) | 18 | 292 | 78 | 20 | .774 |

WAIT 'TILL NEXT YEAR ... – Notre Dame potentially could return a huge chunk of its current roster in 2008, as all but three of the scholarship players on the roster (and all but one of the walk-ons) have eligibility remaining ... the three scholarship seniors who will be departing the program are F/M Amanda Cinalli (a four-year starter), M/D Ashley Jones (104 GP/53 starts) and goalkeeper Lauren Karas (54-4-2 career record; two-year starter) ... senior F/M Susan Pinnick and junior F Kerri Hanks both are on pace to graduate in May of 2008 and each is leaning towards returning for the 2008 season ... both players signed with Notre Dame in February of 2004 (along with Cinalli, Jones and Karas) but they each did not play for the 2004 national-title team ... Pinnick suffered serious injuries during the summer of '04 in a van accident with her club team while Hanks delayed her enrollment to the 2005 spring semester, due to her participation (training/competition) with Team USA at the 2004 Under-19 World Championship in Thailand (a team that was coached by current FSU head coach Mark Krikorian) ... Hanks technically is a current second-semester junior ... Pinnick attended classes, practices and several roadtrips (including the College Cup) during that memorable 2004 season ... should Hanks Pinnick return in 2008, the Irish would be poised to welcome back a total of 23 players who have combined for 91% of the team's goals this season (58 of 64), 84% of the assists (57 of 68) and 88% of the total points (173 of 196) ... the other departing senior from the current team is first-year walk-on defender Jennie Bireley.

| | <u>By Departing Players</u> | <u>By Players Who Could Return in 2008</u> |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|---|
| ND Goals in 2007 | 6 | 58 (84%) |
| ND Assists in 2007 | 11 | 47 (84%) |
| ND Points in 2007 | 23 | 105 (88%) |

TWIN TOWERS – Notre Dame’s talented pair of starting center backs, 5-foot-9 junior **Carrie Dew** and 5-foot-11 freshman **Lauren Fowlkes**, have emerged as a dominating foe and have many similarities to their play due to dominating play in the air, an equal high level of skill on the ball, a clear physical presence and even a similar physical appearance (Dew were #19, Fowlkes #9 and each has long blonde hair) ... sophomore **Haley Ford**, who had a strong showing in place of an injured Dew during the 2006 postseason, suffered her own injury in the fourth game of the 2007 season ... Fowlkes – who had impressive stints at attacking midfielder, defensive midfielder and forward during the first month of the season – ultimately was shifted to center back alongside Dew, starting with the seventh game of the season (Sept. 21, vs. DePaul) ... the Irish are 17-1-1 since the Dew-Fowlkes pairing was established at center back, with the only loss coming 2-1 to Penn State (ND led that game 1-0) ... Fowlkes leads the team with 2,234 minutes played (89.4/gm and 97% of the total minutes) while Dew is second at 2,180 (87.2/gm; 94.7%) ... the pair has combined to log nearly 4,500 minutes of game time this season (4,414) ... since starting their dominant side-by-side play in mid-September, Dew and Fowlkes have been on the field nearly every minute for the Irish over the past 19 games ... in that span, Dew has logged 1,712 of the 1,734 minutes (90.1/gm; 98.7%) while Fowlkes has played 1,700 minutes at center back in that stretch (89.5/gm; 98%).

Notre Dame in the NCAA Semifinals

| Year | Opponent | Score | Shot Margin | SOG Margin | CK Margin | Foul Margin |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1994 | Portland | 0-5 | -1 (11-12) | 3-3 | -3 (5-8) | -9 (11-20) |
| 1995 | UNC | 1-0 | +12 (17-5) | 4-4 | -5 (2-7) | 17-17 |
| 1996 | Portland | 3-2 | +2 (12-10) | +3 (6-3) | +5 (8-3) | -11 (7-18) |
| 1997 | UConn | 1-2 | +22 (28-6) | +8 (10-2) | +10 (10-0) | -8 (11-19) |
| 1999 | Santa Clara | W, 1-0 | -14 (3-17) | -5 (2-7) | -6 (1-7) | +4 (16-12) |
| 2000 | UNC | L, 0-1 | -7 (4-11) | -4 (2-6) | -11 (3-14) | -7 (4-11) |
| 2004 | Santa Clara | W, 1-0 | +8 (11-3) | +2 (4-2) | -1 (5-6) | +7 (18-11) |
| 2006 | Florida State | W, 2-1 | +5 (15-10) | +8 (10-2) | -5 (3-8) | +10 (23-13) |
| Averages | | | 13-9 | 5-7 | 5-7 | 13-15 |
| Team with Shot Edge: 6-2 | | | Team with SOG Edge: 5-1 | | Team with CK Edge: 3-5 | |

HANKS AGAIN NEAR THE TOP – Notre Dame junior forward **Kerri Hanks** is on pace to finish among the nation’s top-five leaders in total points for the third straight season ... Hanks (28G-15A) and former teammate Katie Thorlakson (18G-35A) tied for second nationally with 71 points in the 2005 season, behind Portland’s Christine Sinclair (88; 39G-10A) ... Hanks then led the nation with 66 points in 2006 (22G-22A) and currently ranks fourth nationally with 48 points (14G-20A).

DIVISION I TOTAL POINT LEADERS

| | | | | | | |
|----|----------------------|-------------------|------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1 | Mami Yamaguchi | Florida State | Jr. | 63 points | 23 goals | 17 assists |
| 2 | Ashley Pistorius | Texas A&M | Sr. | 59 points | 25 goals | 9 assists |
| 3 | Lauren Cheney | UCLA | So. | 55 points | 22 goals | 11 assists |
| 4 | Kerri Hanks | Notre Dame | Jr. | 48 points | 14 goals | 20 assists |
| 7 | Sanna Talonen | Florida State | Fr. | 39 points | 17 goals | 5 assists |
| 12 | Daneshia Adams | UCLA | Sr. | 38 points | 15 goals | 8 assists |
| 16 | Brittany Bock | Notre Dame | Jr. | 36 points | 16 goals | 4 assists |

DIVISION I GOAL LEADERS

| | | | | |
|----|----------------------|-------------------|------------|-----------------|
| 1 | Ashley Pistorius | Texas A&M | Sr. | 25 goals |
| 2 | Mami Yamaguchi | Florida State | Jr. | 23 goals |
| 3 | Lauren Cheney | UCLA | So. | 22 goals |
| 4 | Naira Crimiel | Jackson St. | Fr. | 18 goals |
| 5 | Sanna Talonen | Florida State | Fr. | 17 goals |
| 11 | Brittany Bock | Notre Dame | Jr. | 16 goals |

DIVISION I ASSIST LEADERS

| | | | | |
|---|--------------------|-------------------|------------|-------------------|
| 1 | Kerri Hanks | Notre Dame | Jr. | 20 assists |
| 2 | Mami Yamaguchi | Florida State | Jr. | 17 assists |

PLAYERS WITH DOUBLE-DIGIT GOALS & ASSISTS

| | | | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Mami Yamaguchi | Florida State | Jr. | 63 points | 23 goals | 17 assists |
| Kerri Hanks | Notre Dame | Jr. | 48 points | 14 goals | 20 assists |
| Michelle Enyeart | Portland | So. | 39 points | 12 goals | 15 assists |
| Lauren Cheney | UCLA | So. | 55 points | 22 goals | 11 assists |
| Molly Cornwell | Toledo | So. | 41 points | 15 goals | 11 assists |
| Anna Betton | Furman | Sr. | 36 points | 13 goals | 10 assists |

Note: Yamaguchi and Hanks are the only D-I players with 13-plus goals and 13-plus assists

SENIOR CLASS CAREER STATS (2004-07) – Notre Dame’s senior class had a bumpy start to its final season, but those players still are on pace to complete an impressive four-year run with the Irish:

| | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2004-07 |
|----------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|
| Record | 25-1-1 | 22-3-0 | 25-1-1 | 19-4-2 | 91-9-4 (.894) |
| (Regular Season) | 17-0-1 | 16-2-0 | 17-0-1 | 13-4-1 | 63-6-3 |
| (Postseason) | 8-1-0 | 6-1-0 | 8-1-0 | 6-0-1 | 28-3-1 |
| Goals Per Game | 2.54 | 4.40 | 3.15 | 2.56 | 3.16 |
| Goals-Against Avg. | 0.51 | 0.60 | 0.40 | 0.98 | 0.62 |
| Goal Margin | 2.03 | 3.80 | 2.75 | 1.58 | 2.54 |
| Shots Per Game | 20.6 | 22.9 | 21.6 | 17.0 | 20.5 |
| Shots Allowed/Gm | 5.7 | 5.0 | 5.9 | 7.5 | 6.0 |
| Shot Margin | 14.9 | 17.9 | 15.7 | 9.5 | 14.5 |
| Shots On Goal/Gm | 12.3 | 12.3 | 8.5 | 8.2 | 10.6 |
| SOG Allowed/Gm | 2.2 | 2.2 | 2.1 | 2.8 | 2.3 |
| SOG Margin | 10.1 | 10.1 | 7.4 | 5.4 | 8.3 |
| Shooting Pct. | .126 | .192 | .146 | .151 | |
| Shots Per Goal | 8.0 | 5.2 | 6.9 | 6.6 | 6.7 |
| SOG Per Goal | 3.9 | 2.8 | 3.0 | 3.2 | 3.2 |
| Corner Kicks/Gm | 5.9 | 7.0 | 5.8 | 4.4 | 5.8 |
| CKs Allowed/Gm | 1.8 | 1.7 | 2.6 | 2.6 | 2.2 |
| CK Margin | 4.1 | 5.3 | 3.2 | 1.8 | 3.6 |
| Save Pct. | .803 | .722 | .807 | .643 | .744 |
| Shutouts | 16 | 17 | 19 | 12 | 64 |
| Games w/ 0-1 GA | 24 | 21 | 24 | 18 | 87 |
| Games w/ 2 GA | 3 | 2 | 3 | 6 | 14 |
| Games w/ 3-Plus GA | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 3 |
| Overtime Record | 1-0-1 | 1-0-0 | 0-0-1 | 1-2-2 | 3-2-3 |
| 1-Goal Game Record | 10-1 | 1-1 | 4-1 | 4-3 | 19-6 |
| Wins By 3-Plus Goals | 9 | 21 | 11 | 8 | 49 |
| Wins By 5-Plus Goals | 2 | 10 | 6 | 2 | 20 |
| Home Games | 14-0-1 | 13-0-0 | 13-0-0 | 11-2-1 | 48-2-2 |
| All Road Games | 11-1-0 | 9-3-0 | 12-1-1 | 8-2-1 | 40-7-2 |
| 1st-Half Scoring | 32-4 | 51-8 | 28-4 | 27-8 | 138-24 |
| 2nd-Half Scoring | 38-10 | 58-7 | 57-7 | 36-15 | 189-39 |
| Fouls Per Game | 12.3 | 11.2 | 14.8 | 13.2 | 12.9 |
| Yellow Cards (Red) | 17 (0) | 16 (0) | 23 (0) | 20 (0) | 76 (0) |

MEDIA DAY QUOTES (Dec. 6, 2007)

HEAD COACH RANDY WALDRUM

"We had a couple things going on early. We struggled with consistency with our goalkeeper. Lauren Karas was our returning goalkeeper and she started out the season not really playing sharp and so we were rotating goalkeepers between the three, Kelsey Lysander and our freshman Nikki Weiss. We were playing all three of those, trying to find one that would just seize the moment and earn the job. I think in the end that was a coaching mistake and I think in the end it ended up hurting all three. Instead of stepping up and taking the job and winning it outright, they all three started losing confidence. Every time there were mistakes, we were switching them out.

"I think the second thing, and probably the biggest thing was we graduated Kim Lorenzen and Christie Shaner from last year's team in the back. Carrie Dew, which was our BIG EAST defensive player of the year last year, was coming off an ACL injury. She had been out an entire year, so we really had a completely brand new back line. It took us a while to find a group of players that really were going to be the ones to get it done for us. We went through probably five or six different line-ups in that back line before we finally settled on what we have now.

"It's so much pressure obviously to get to the College Cup. I think teams like us, UCLA and North Carolina, some teams that are here on a more regular basis, it gets easier for the players that have gone through it. This is going to be an eye-opener still for our freshmen this year, but I think it gets easier in terms of adjusting to the magnitude of the event. I think that's what coaches have concern with at this point in the season, is just not getting overwhelmed with the atmosphere. But I think in some ways it gets harder because there are so many good teams now. You can look at the rankings this and you probably could've picked 15, maybe even 20 teams that could be here that wouldn't have surprised you. Whereas in years past it may have been a surprise if there weren't the same three or four teams in the College Cup.

"Hanks and Bock carried us through the early part of the season, when things weren't going well. You need players like that to get you through the rough times. The success that they have is not only at scoring goals, because that's something that all the media like to talk about and see because there is a stat there in front of it, but those two players do so much more for us than just score goals. The competitiveness that they bring to the team, the way they fight and defend for 90 minutes is unbelievable for forwards with what they do. Our first line of defense is our forwards and they both are tenacious out there. It's really hard to put in words. They really have the heart and soul of the team.

"Florida State is going to be a very well-coached team. I think Mark Krikorian does a fabulous job with organizing and assembling his players. I think it's something that we've got to take a look at a little bit at what we want to do and try to continue to do what we want to do, but you've got to be concerned with players like Yamaguchi, who's such a great, incredible little player on the ball and she's one you've always got to keep your eye on. The Finish girl up front is having a great run here in the NCAA tournament. Schmidt coming out of the back is a very solid player, so that roster is loaded. It's going to be one of those games where I don't really look at it like a rematch so to speak, because they have a little bit of a different team than last year and we certainly do to. I think you're just going to find two really good, solid teams playing each other.

"This team is different than others. We've always felt confident when we've gotten there in years past, but I think that we've taken a different path this time because we were 3-4-1 to start off. We got to a point in the year where we simply told the kids, sat them down and said you can't lose any more games. We just can't lose if we're going to get to where we want to be. Early on, when we had a couple of those early losses, we kept telling the team we still have a lot of big games, and then before we knew it we ran out of those big games left. At that moment, the team could've gone either way. We could've folded and really had an awful year, or we could've stepped up and done what they've done. They have become very resilient and the good thing is we played almost every top team in the country. We've seen it all. For us to go to Carolina and beat Carolina was a huge boost to the confidence as well. I like what this team's gone through. It's a little different than the teams we've had in the past.

MEDIA DAY QUOTES (Dec. 6, 2007; p. 2)

JUNIOR FORWARD KERRI HANKS

"We did come out with a rough start, but you look at the teams we played and every single team we played, at the time we lost to them, they were ranked. We had a preseason game against UNC, we tied 2-2. Then we played UVa, we won 3-1. We started off amazing and then I think maybe we got a little over-confident in how we were playing. We thought we were really good and we went out to Santa Clara and we got something handed to us. But that's how the game goes. It's the game of soccer. You're going to win some, you're going to lose some. It doesn't matter about the beginning of the season, it matters how you end up. I think we just showed everyone around the country that everyone has bad games and it just depends on how you end.

"The chance has been due to the fact of us going out there and practicing every day, giving it our all. Going out 110 percent all the time. After the fourth loss we knew we could not lose anymore. We were ruining our chance to be in the NCAA Tournament. I think all of us took this mentality of not losing again, we're going out there and giving 110% every single day whether it's practice, in our school work, on the field, whatever we're doing in life we're going to give our hardest. We just trusted each other and we came out and now we know each other so much more after going through such a hard time. It's amazing how we reacted to all those things and now it's just awesome that we're back here at the College Cup.

"Brittany is hard to describe. She's a fun girl both on and off the field. She's one of those players that when you get out on the field, you know what she can do and she knows what I can do. We combine really well off each other. We're just some of those players where we don't really have to talk to each other. We know where each is going and feed off each other. It helps out our team tremendously, whether it's just me and she or me and Wessenhofer.

"I think it's much easier coming back with us already being there. Last year we were so excited, we didn't really know what to expect. But I think we've done great with how we went into it last year, although we lost. It was a disappointing thing, but we're coming back here and we're so much more prepared. It's just another advantage that we can take control of.

"We're two different teams. We can't look back at how we played Florida State last year. It's not revenge. We're two totally different teams. It'll be a great game and we'll just see what happens.

"I've been asked lots of questions about this and about me winning the Hermann Award last year, but I would rather give it to both the UNC girls and then win the national championship. We're all here to win and it would be an amazing feeling. It would be a great way to end your season by winning.

"We always joke around about Texas and how many Texas girls we have and how it's the best place to be. It's awesome that we can come back, especially for the girls that live here. To play in front of our friends and family, we have so many Chicago girls and they always get to play in front of their friends and families, so it's nice getting back here, playing in front of all of our fans. Texas A&M has such a great crowd. I know a lot of us that live in Dallas, our friends go to school at A&M. It'll be nice to actually play in front of them and get out of the snow for a little while."

JUNIOR MIDFIELDER/FORWARD BRITTANY BOCK

"Our first game was an exhibition game against North Carolina and we tied them 2-2. It was a great game and we felt we were playing really strong. A few games later we were 3-4-1. We were struggling. I don't think we should've been losing those games, but it was a rough start. At that point, coach told us we can't afford to lose any more games. It was then we just turned it around and we've been undefeated since then. It was just a mindset of 'if we lose any more games, we're not going to get where we want to go.'

"Kerri is an amazing player. Last year I played up top with her and it was a little new for me because I'm used to midfield, but she's so easy to work with. She just makes runs where you know exactly where to play the ball and she has perfect service. I've read a lot of those balls and she just plays them right in the path. It puts me in easy position to score.

"It would mean everything to win a national title. Last year I feel like we just gave it away. We were right there. I think we're hungry this year. Everyone wants it so bad. It's been my dream since I was a little girl.

"I expect another tough game with Florida State. With the final-four teams, every team's going to be out hard to play because everyone wants to win it. I think we just need to come out, play our game and play with the intensity that we have been playing with lately. The whole season we've been focusing on what we need to do and I think that's the same thing for them. They're a great team, we have to give them respect, but we also want to come out and play how we know we can play.

"I think it makes it easier that we have been here before. Last year there were nerves in a few of the players, just because it's something new. It's huge, everything's on television, but now we're used to it. We just have to take it as if it's another game.

"Michele and I have played together since I was eight years old and she was seven. So we started out as young little tykes. And then with Amanda Clark, I played with her in high school all four years, as well as Michele. Who would know that we'd all be playing together on a college team and at Notre Dame. It's been a fun road. We have a bunch of memories from when we young and to bring those to the team and hopefully get a national championship together would just be amazing."

MEDIA DAY QUOTES (Dec. 6, 2007; p. 3)

SOPHOMORE FORWARD MICHELLE WEISSENHOFER

"The start of the season was very difficult just because we knew that we should've won some of those games and that we were better than the team that we were showing to be. It was difficult, but now looking back on it I'm actually glad that it happened because we realized what we had to do and we realized the mistakes that we made and we learned from it. At the time it was very difficult, but now looking back on it, coming into the tournament this is year is much different than last year. Last year we were expected to be in the finals against North Carolina and this year we had a lot of doubt. It really brought the team together and made us believe in one another. We just sat down and our coach said we can't lose any more games. Something just clicked and we told ourselves 'We have to do this. We can't lose. We haven't lost yet in regular play.'

"I'm sure it's going to be a great game. It's going to be a battle. It's really about who comes out and plays their game the best, who gives the most effort. I think if we keep playing how we have been in the NCAA tournament we'll have a good shot.

"Last year I tried to tell myself not to worry about the crowd or anything, but having the experience I'm so much more confident in the team and in myself this year. I'm really excited to start playing.

"It was at the practice field and coach just told us we're in trouble if we lose any more games. We went through the season and kept saying we pretty much need to win all of them and the BIG EAST tournament, which we lost in penalty kicks, but we didn't lose a game up to that point. I guess that was probably the turning point.

"Maybe it was more of a mindset. Before that I don't know if we had it in us that we can't lose. We took for granted the name across our jersey. We're the Irish, we're Notre Dame, we'll win. It just went to our head that that's not the case and we have to play. It's the moments that matter. We have to play every minute of every game, every second. I think that really affected us in saying this is what we have to do. It doesn't matter what the name across our chest is, we have to really give forth the effort.

"Brittany's a phenomenal player. Her presence in the air is outstanding and just the balls that she wins and the physical presence she gives. She's quick and she has a great shot. She's just such a great player. If you put her anywhere on the field, and we have the depth this year so we can put her up top, she'll win those balls for me and Kerri to run onto and for me and Kerri to finish. She's been doing a great job this year and it's from all the hard work she's put forth."

"Back when Brittany and I were a lot younger we played on the Pink Panthers. We had pink uniforms and soccer-ball shorts, so we were a very cute team for little kids. We were actually pretty good. We won pretty much every state cup there was to win and we won regionals a few times. I think we went to nationals once. It was just fun, when we were younger. I've known Brittany since I was about six, so our families are really close and our houses are like five minutes away from one another. We have a different chemistry than anybody else just because we've played together pretty much our entire life."

SENIOR GOALKEEPER LAUREN KARAS

"It was surprising that we started our season off like that. It was just frustrating because you come to a program like this where you've lost maybe four games in your whole career here and to start off the season with four losses is a shock. You just work at practice and encourage everyone, especially the younger players, and know that it's not usually like this and to keep pushing. It was interesting, definitely a struggle in the back with two freshmen and Carrie Dew coming off her ACL and even Elise Webber, a brand-new player for us since she's a transfer. Getting everyone comfortable was definitely the biggest problem early on.

"Coach sat us down after our fourth loss and said we can't lose anymore if we want to get to where we want at the end of the season. I think that hit home with everyone, especially our younger players. They didn't really know what it was like to be at the level that we are. We were just getting everyone focused and getting us all on the same page. I just didn't want to go out like this my senior season. I want to end this hopefully with a national championship, but you know I didn't want to end having the worst record in Notre Dame history."

"I think confidence is always an issue if you're getting pulled off. You have to try to just think of what you've done in the past for the team. I had a good year last year, so I try not to let it get the best of me, but that's to a certain extent. It affects you if you're not playing.

"Obviously I expect to win. They're a great team so it should be a great game. They have a lot of great international players, so it should be an interesting, good soccer game.

"I think it's just a comfort level of you know what expect. You know how the routine works. It's always comforting to not be in the unknown when you're at a high level like this.

"I love watching our great offensive players. It's such a comfort to know that I have a cushion, so hopefully I won't make mistakes. But we have two awesome players up front, and really the whole team, that are going to back me up if something happens.

"I would love to win the national championship when I'm on the field. It's a different feeling, not that it's any less important, but a different feeling if you win it when you're not playing. It would just mean everything.

"Carrie Dew is extremely important. She has a calming effect on the team and especially for me in the back when things are getting hectic, it's always nice to have her with the ball at her feet. She just relaxes with it and everyone can take a breath for a minute and know it's fine, Carrie has it and she's not going to lose it. It's always good to have her back there because she makes some unbelievable stops. Just standing back there, I'm thinking that I hope she gets this one because I don't know that if they get the shot off if I'll be able to get it.

HERE ARE LINKS TO STORIES ON THE NOTRE DAME WOMEN'S SOCCER TEAM FROM THE PAST FEW DAYS
(also link to 2006 feature story on Randy and Ben Waldrum)

(Observer story on the ND midfield)

<http://media.www.ndsmcobserver.com/media/storage/paper660/news/2007/12/07/IrishInsider/Womens.Soccer.Deep.Midfield.Keeps.Players.Fresh.And.Defenses.Guessing-3138920.shtml>

(Observer column on ND's all-around strength)

<http://media.www.ndsmcobserver.com/media/storage/paper660/news/2007/12/07/IrishInsider/Womens.Soccer.For.Opponents.Weaknesses.Are.Hard.To.Find-3138919.shtml>

(Observer feature on Amanda Cinalli)

<http://media.www.ndsmcobserver.com/media/storage/paper660/news/2007/12/07/IrishInsider/Womens.Soccer.Playing.With.Passion-3138921.shtml>

(Observer ND-FSU preview)

<http://media.www.ndsmcobserver.com/media/storage/paper660/news/2007/12/07/IrishInsider/Womens.Soccer.Irish.Face.Seminoles.In.Repeat.Of.2006.Semifinals-3138922.shtml>

(College Station Eagle preview)

http://www.theeagle.com/sports/UCLA_back_for_more_College_Cup__Bruins_face_Trojans_in_semifinal

(CS Eagle team capsules)

http://www.theeagle.com/sports/COLLEGE_CUP_CAPSULES

(hometown story on ND's Naperville trio)

http://www.suburbanchicagonews.com/napervillesun/sports/685580,6_2_NA07_SOCC_S1.article

(SB Tribune piece on ND's comeback season)

<http://www.southbendtribune.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20071206/SPORTS13/712060417/1021/Sports>

(feature on Carrie Dew)

<http://www.journalgazette.net/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20071207/SPORTS/712070358>

(feature on Naperville players Bock, Clark and Weissenhofer)

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/sports/chi-irishwom07dec07,0,510497.story>

(short piece on Cleveland-area natives Cinalli, Rosen and Augustin)

<http://www.cleveland.com/plaindealer/stories/index.ssf?/base/sports-0/1196933854315550.xml&coll=2>

(Glenn Davis column on the College Cup)

<http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/sports/davis/5355540.html>

(Graham Hays from the College Cup)

http://sports.espn.go.com/ncaa/columns/story?columnist=hays_graham&id=3144622

(Graham Hays early College Cup preview)

http://sports.espn.go.com/ncaa/columns/story?columnist=hays_graham&id=3139006

(Graham Hays pre-NCAA Tournament look)

http://sports.espn.go.com/ncaa/columns/story?columnist=hays_graham&id=3127868

(short piece on Julie Scheidler's ND family connections)

<http://www.indystar.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20071205/SPORTS06/712050483/1247/SPORTS>

(hometown story on Carrie Dew)

<http://www.signonsandiego.com/sports/soccer/20071205-9999-1s5socpage.html>

(hometown story on Ashley Jones)

<http://www.venturacountystar.com/news/2007/dec/05/jones-soccer-career-can-come-full-circle/>

(2006 feature on Randy and Ben Waldrum)

<http://und.cstv.com/sports/m-footbl/spec-rel/111706aax.html>