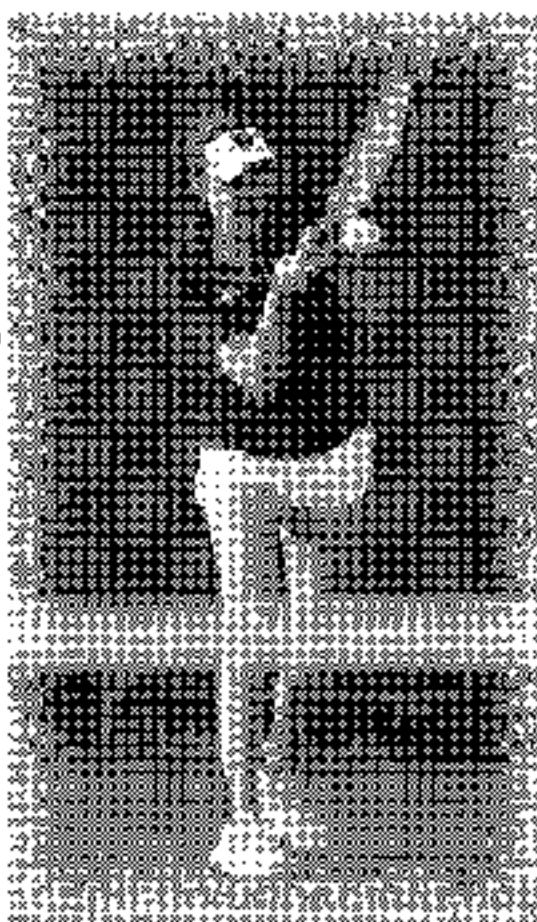


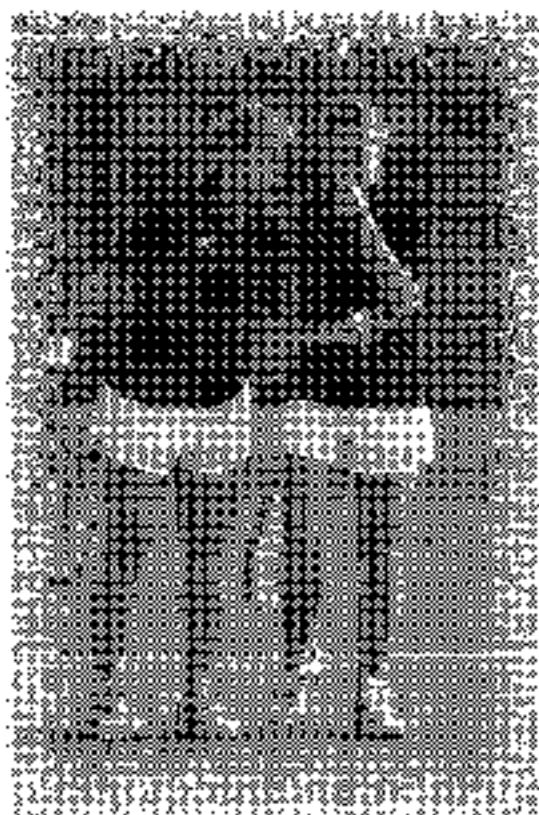
2004 NCAA  
Division I  
Women's  
Tennis Singles  
Championship



Alicia Salas  
Senior  
Two-Time NCAA  
Singles Championship  
Participant



May 24-29  
Athens, Ga.  
Dan Magill  
Tennis Complex



2004 NCAA  
Division I  
Women's  
Tennis Doubles  
Championship



Christian Thompson  
Freshman



Catrina Thompson  
Freshman



**Irish in the NCAA Division I Singles Championship**

**2005**

**Caylan Leslie (first round)**

1st. L. Candice Pickl (William & Mary) 6-4, 7-6, 6-0

**Alicia Salas (first round)**

2nd. L. Gabriela Green (Cornell) 7-5, 6-0

**2001**

**Nichelle Dasso [4] (semifinals)**

1st. L. Marlene Mejia (North Carolina) 6-2, 6-1

2nd. L. Sofia Zvereva (Webster State) 5-7, 6-3, 6-0

Rd. of 16. L. [9-16] Cristina Kravchenko (Washington) 6-7 (3-7), 7-6 (7-1), 6-4

Quarter: L. Keri Dascal (Ohio State) 6-3, 5-6, 7-5

Semi: L. [1] Lina Chiriac (Stanford) 6-2, 6-5

**2000**

**Nichelle Dasso (first round)**

1st. L. [9-16] David Johnston (UCLA) 7-6, 4-6 (7-2), 6-3

**1999**

**Nichelle Dasso [8] (first round)**

1st. L. Katarina Volkova (San Diego) 6-6, 7-5, 6-4

**Jennifer Hall (first round)**

1st. L. Francesca Iacono (California) 6-2, 6-2

**1997**

**Nichelle Dasso (first round)**

1st. L. Nichole O'Neil (Ohio & Mary) 6-6, 6-4, 6-4

**Jennifer Hall (first round)**

1st. L. Barbara Urbasiko (Wisconsin) 6-3, 6-0

**1997**

**Jennifer Hall (second round)**

1st. L. Lauren Nixious (William & Mary) 5-7 (7-2), 6-3, 7-6 (7-5)

1st. L. M.C. White (Florida) 6-2, 6-2

**1996**

**Jennifer Hall [9-16] (round of 16)**

1st. L. Karen Goldwin (Arizona State) 7-6, 6-3

2nd. L. Nichelle Anderson (Georgia) 6-4, 6-4

Rd. of 16. L. [4] J.R. Conway (Florida) 6-1, 6-1

**1995**

**Wendy Crabtree (second round)**

1st. L. Nina Kurus (Rhode) 7-6, 7-5, 7-0

2nd. L. [7] Kati Johnson (Arizona State) 6-3, 6-4

**1994**

**Holyn Lord (second round)**

1st. L. Jean Okada (UC Santa Barbara) 3-6, 6-4, 7-6 (7-6)

2nd. L. Jana Simadova (Syracuse) 6-3, 6-3

**Wendy Crabtree (first round)**

1st. L. Keri Phelps (UCLA) 6-3, 6-1

**1993**

**Wendy Crabtree (second round)**

1st. L. [9-16] Kim Smyke (Stanford) 6-7 (4-7), 7-6 (7-5), 6-4

2nd. L. Jackie Mae (Texas) 7-6 (7-5), 6-1

**1992**

**Alexissa Harris (first round)**

1st. L. [4] Eric de Souza (Harvard) 6-6, 6-4

**1991**

**Melissa Harris (second round)**

1st. L. Unjay Matthews (Northwestern) 6-4, 4-6, 6-2

2nd. L. [9-16] Andrea Parley (Florida) 6-0, 6-1

**Tracy Barton (first round)**

1st. L. [2] Dabala Graham (Stanford) 6-6, 6-2

**1990**

**Tracy Barton (first round)**

1st. L. Mercedes Vandrigger (Miami, Fla.) 1-6, 7-6, 6-3

**1989**

**Coco Cahill (first round)**

1st. L. Kati Tyle (Stanford) 7-6 (7-2), 6-3

**Irish in the NCAA Division I Doubles Championship**

**2002**

**Katie Cusack/Lindsay Green (first round)**

1st. L. [2] Janet Bergman/Debbie K. White (Cornell) 6-0, 6-0

**2001**

**Nichelle Dasso/Becky Varnum [3-8] (round of 16)**

1st. L. Nataly Cabrera/Alexandra Alvarado (Oklahoma) 6-0, 7-5

Rd. of 16. L. Kristy Dravich/Marissa Kison (Ohio State) 6-0, 6-4

**2000**

**Nichelle Dasso/Becky Varnum [1] (round of 16)**

1st. L. Yelena Mironova/Angela Group (Oklahoma) 6-1, 5-7, 7-6 (7-5)

Rd. of 16. L. Paola Palmicio/Leik Sengul (Pittsburgh) 6-3, 6-4

**1999**

**Nichelle Dasso/Jennifer Hall [2-8] (quarterfinals)**

1st. L. Katarina Prokopenko/Celine Esquivel (East Carolina) 6-1, 6-0

Rd. of 16. L. Kayla Mackay/Sandy Sarsavara (Texas) 7-5, 3-6

Quarter: L. [1] Emma Castellano/Marissa Gatta (Georgia) 6-3, 6-4

**1998**

**Tiffany Gates/Jennifer Hall (quarterfinals)**

1st. L. Alison Nash/Celine Esquivel (Arizona State) 2-6, 6-3, 6-3

Rd. of 16. L. Jennifer Green/Mary Beth Higgins (Rhode) 4-6, 6-4, 6-0

Quarter: L. [2] Vanessa Wozniak/Karen Golden (Duke) 6-1, 6-0

**1997**

**Tiffany Gates/Jennifer Hall (round of 16)**

1st. L. Kim Schell/Anna Messinger (Vanderbilt) 6-3, 6-6, 6-4

Rd. of 16. L. [3-8] Courtney Chapman/Agnes Szaszara (Mississippi State) 4-6, 6-2, 6-2

**1996**

**Wendy Crabtree/Holyn Lord (first round)**

1st. L. [1] Joan Barb/Stephanie Nefites (Florida) 6-1, 6-2

**1995**

**Wendy Crabtree/Holyn Lord (round of 16)**

1st. L. Allan Cohen/Jean-Fran (Virginia) 7-5, 6-4

Rd. of 16. L. [1] Ken Fishby/Susan Swaine (UCLA) 6-4, 6-3

**1994**

**Wendy Crabtree/Lisa Thelen (quarterfinals)**

1st. L. [8] Nichole Odell/Caku Verdur (Arizona) 6-2, 6-4

Rd. of 16. L. Jena Chyung/Hil (UCLA) 6-4, 2-6, 7-6 (7-5)

Quarter: L. Marianne Baugiel/Pascal Piquenet (Mississippi) 6-2, 6-3

**1993**

**Wendy Crabtree/Lisa Thelen (first round)**

1st. L. Marianne Baugiel/Pascal Piquenet (Mississippi) 4-6, 6-1, 7-5



# 2004 NOTRE DAME WOMEN'S TENNIS

31 Straight Top-30 Finishes • 11 NCAA Championships Since '82 • 17 Conference Titles • 13 All-Americans Since '94

NCAA Singles & Doubles Championships • May 24 - May 29 • O'Connell Center, Athens, Ga. • 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

NCAA Singles & Doubles Championships  
O'Connell Tennis Complex • Athens, Ga.

**Monday, May 24 • Singles First Round, 10 a.m.**

**Tuesday, May 25 • Singles Second Round/Doubles First Round, 10 a.m.**

**Wednesday, May 26 • Singles Round of 16/Doubles Round of 16, 10 a.m.**

**Thursday, May 27 • Singles Quarterfinals/Doubles Quarterfinals, 1 p.m.**

**Friday, May 28 • Singles Semifinals/Doubles Semifinals, 1 p.m.**

**Saturday, May 29 • Singles Final/Doubles Final, 1 p.m.**

**THREE IRISH PLAYERS HEAD TO GEORGIA FOR NCAA INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS:** Irish senior co-captain Alliea Salas (Englewood, Colo./Cherry Creek H.S.) will open play in the NCAA Division I Women's Tennis Singles Championship on Monday, while twins Christian Thompson (Las Vegas, Nev./Bishop Gorman H.S.) and Cathrine Thompson (Las Vegas, Nev./Bishop Gorman H.S.) are first all-freshman team to participate in the event since 1996, when she took part in the NCAA Doubles Championship when it commences a day later. Both tournaments will be conducted at the O'Connell Tennis Complex in Athens, Ga. It marks the 10th time in the last 12 years that Notre Dame has had at least two players in both NCAA individual championships.

**IRISH IN THE NCAA SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP:** The NCAA Singles Championship is a 64-player single-elimination tournament of the top players in the country. It begins on Monday, May 24 and proceeds with one round per day until the final, slated for May 29. The 16 seeded players, as well as any competitors that win two matches to reach the round of 16, automatically assure themselves of All-American honors. The top 20 in the final ITA rankings also are All-Americans.

This is the 14th time in the last 15 years that Notre Dame has had at least one player qualify for the NCAA Singles Championship. Cade Cahill was the first Irish player to qualify for the tournament, in 1989. Melissa Harris became the first Notre Dame player to win a match in the event, beating Northwestern's Lindsay Matthews in three sets in '91. Jennifer Hall reached the round of 16 in 1996, which stood as the best result by an Irish competitor before current assistant coach Michelle Dasso advanced to the semifinals in 2001 before losing to eventual national champion Laura Granville of Stanford, who is now ranked among the top 50 in the world. Alliea Salas (Englewood, Colo./Cherry Creek H.S.) is taking part in the NCAA singles for the second consecutive year, becoming the sixth Irish player to participate multiple times, joining Dasso, Hall, Harris, Wendy Crabtree, and Tracy Barton. Last year, Salas fell 7-5, 6-0 to Northwestern's Cristelle Oger in the first round, while Gaylen Leske (Newport Beach, Calif./Corona del Mar H.S.), who suffered a season-ending ankle injury last September but is expected to return for a fifth year of action, fell 4-1, 6-0 to Darline Fuchs of William & Mary. No Irish player has won a match in the event since Dasso's run in '01.

**IRISH IN THE NCAA DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP:** The NCAA Doubles Championship is a 32-team single-elimination tournament of the top duos in the country. It begins on Tuesday, May 25 and proceeds with one round per day until the final, slated for May 29. The eight seeded teams, as well as any pairs that win two matches to reach the quarterfinals, automatically assure themselves of All-American honors. The top 10 in the final ITA rankings also are All-Americans.

After not having a team participate for the first time in 11 years last season, Notre Dame will be represented once again in 2004 with twins Christian Thompson (Las Vegas, Nev./Bishop Gorman H.S.) and Cathrine Thompson (Las Vegas, Nev./Bishop Gorman H.S.) becoming the first all-freshman team since 1993 to earn a bid. The first Irish duo to participate was Wendy Crabtree and Lisa Thelen in 1993. Though they fell in the opening round, the same pair upset the eighth seed and reached the quarterfinals in 1994, in 1998. Tiffany Gates and Jennifer Hall duplicated that feat before losing to the tournament's second seed. Hall and current assistant coach Michelle Dasso advanced to the round of eight in '98 before losing to the top-seeded pair. The last Notre Dame team to participate was Katie Cunha and Lindsay Green, which lost to the second-seeded team in 2002. The last pair to win a match in the tournament was Dasso and Becky Vanrum, who reached the round of 16 in '01.

**THOMPSONS FIRST ALL-FRESHMAN TEAM IN NCAA DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP SINCE 1993:** Twins Christian Thompson (Las Vegas, Nev./Bishop Gorman H.S.) and Cathrine Thompson (Las Vegas, Nev./Bishop Gorman H.S.) comprise the first all-freshman doubles team to gain an invitation to the NCAA Doubles Championship since Marlene Nedelkova and Andrea Ondrisova of FSU in 1990. The Thompsons join Wendy Crabtree (four-time participant from 1993-98) as the lone Irish rookies to participate in the NCAA doubles tournament.

**SALAS EARNS SECOND CONSECUTIVE BID TO NCAA SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP:** Senior co-captain Alliea Salas (Englewood, Colo./Cherry Creek H.S.) earned a bid to the NCAA Singles Championship for the second consecutive season. She is the sixth Notre Dame player to earn multiple bids to the NCAA Singles Championship during her career, joining four-time qualifiers Michelle Dasso (1998-2001) and Jennifer Hall (1996-98), five-time participant Wendy Crabtree (1993-00), and Melissa Harris (1991-92) and Tracy Barton (1990-01), who both qualified twice.

**SALAS NAMED REGIONAL SENIOR PLAYER OF THE YEAR, WINS MIDWEST'S DISSE, LEARY SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD:** Irish senior co-captain Alliea Salas (Englewood, Colo./Cherry Creek H.S.) won two of the three intercollegiate Tennis Association regional awards she was eligible for when the honors were announced earlier this week. Salas was named the Midwest Region's ITA Senior Player of the Year, while also winning the ITA/Globe Leary Sportsmanship Award. The former honor recognizes the top senior in the region, which includes at least one (Midwest) or two Big Ten teams, as well as various other squads from Indiana, Ohio, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Iowa. The latter accolade recognizes a player who displays inspiring dedication and commitment to her team, which has enhanced her team's performance and exemplified the spirit of college tennis. Salas and the winners from each of the other seven regions are now eligible for the national awards, which will be presented May 29 in Athens, Ga. The other regional Senior Players of the Year were Ohio State's Nataly Cabrita, Duke's Amanda Johnson, Florida State's Anna Dumitrescu, Oklahoma's Anna Periano, Texas A&M's Jessica Rainoff, California's Raquel Kuz-Jones, and San Diego State's Katalina Romero. Other regional recipients of the Disse Leary award were Harvard's Susanna Lugan, Furman's Mary Nell Hagood, Miami's Megan Bradley, BYU's Li Gao, Rice's Karen Chao, California's Jody Shvedt, and Arizona State's Cindy Saraphong. Salas and Jonack were the only players to win two awards, as the Blue Devils was with the Senior Player of the Year and the winner of the ITA/Arthur Ashe Jr. Award for Leadership and Sportsmanship in the Southeast Region.

**SALAS IS THE THIRD NOTRE DAME STUDENT-ATHLETE (LAST SINCE 1957) TO BE NAMED THE MIDWEST REGION'S TOP SENIOR PLAYER,** joining Jennifer Hall (06) and current assistant coach Michelle Dasso (01), who also won the national honor. **Salas joins Kelly Zalunek (00)** as Notre Dame winners of the Oskia Luary Award.

**SALAS COMPLETES PARTICIPATION IN GRAND SLAM:** Senior co-captain Alicia Salas (Englewood, Colo./Cherry Creek H.S.), a qualifier in the first two legs of the collegiate grand slam last fall, became just the fourth player in men's history to qualify for each of the grand slam tournaments in a season. Both current assistant coach Michelle Dasso (1996-99 & 2000-01) and Wendy Crabtree (1965-64 & 1994-95) accomplished the feat by co- while Jennifer Hall did it in 1997-98. Salas won three qualifying matches to reach the main draw of the ITA/ITA American Championships in September and then gained entrance to the 32-player ITA National elite collegiate Indoor Championships via her runner-up result in the ITA Midwest Championships. She lost in the first round in a consolation match at the All-American.

**THOMPSONS BECOME JUST SECOND AND THIRD IRISH FRESHMEN TO PLAY IN NCAA DOUBLES:** Christian Thompson (Las Vegas, Nev./Bishop Gorman H.S.) and Catrina Thompson (Las Vegas, Nev./Bishop Gorman H.S.) are the first all-freshman Notre Dame doubles team to earn a bid to the NCAA Doubles Championship. Prior to this year, only one Irish rookie, Wendy Crabtree in 1990, had ever gained an invitation to the tournament.

**THOMPSONS FIRST ALL-FRESHMAN TEAM TO PLAY No. 1 FOR IRISH SINCE 1993:** Christian Thompson (Las Vegas, Nev./Bishop Gorman H.S.) and Catrina Thompson (Las Vegas, Nev./Bishop Gorman H.S.) played No. 1 doubles all spring, compiling a 12-11 record. It marked the first time two rookies last played No. 1 doubles for Notre Dame since Wendy Crabtree and Holly Lee did so in 1988, winning in their only appearance together at the position.

**CHRISTIAN THOMPSON FIRST ROOKIE IN TOP TWO OF SINGLES LINEUP SINCE 1998:** Christian Thompson (Las Vegas, Nev./Bishop Gorman H.S.) played No. 2 singles all spring, compiling a 13-0 record. It marks the first time a freshman had played in the top two singles positions for Notre Dame since current assistant coach Michelle Dasso was 2-1-0 at No. 2 as a rookie in 1995.

**SALAS vs. NCAA SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP FIELD:** Senior co-captain Alicia Salas (Englewood, Colo./Cherry Creek H.S.) has previously faced 17 other NCAA singles qualifiers in collegiate action, including 16 of them this season. In 2003-04, more than half of her matches -- 22 of 42 -- were against players that earned invitations or were named teammates to the NCAA Singles Championship. Salas was 9-13 in those contests this season. In her career, she holds a 14-17 mark against the field and opponents.

**THOMPSONS vs. NCAA DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP FIELD:** Freshman Christian Thompson (Las Vegas, Nev./Bishop Gorman H.S.) and Catrina Thompson (Las Vegas, Nev./Bishop Gorman H.S.) played nine matches this season against teams that earned bids to the NCAA Doubles Championship, winning twice. Additionally, the Thompsons faced five other teams featuring one player who is in the NCAA doubles tournament being victorious on three occasions.

**THOMPSONS HIGHEST-RANKED ALL-FRESHMAN DOUBLES TEAM IN NATION:** Freshman twins Christian Thompson (Las Vegas, Nev./Bishop Gorman H.S.) and Catrina Thompson (Las Vegas, Nev./Bishop Gorman H.S.) moved up 14 spots to 36th in the most recent Intercollegiate Tennis Association national doubles rankings, remaining the highest-ranked all-freshman team in the nation. Iowa freshmen Hilary Wittz and Meg Sabotta moved into the rankings at 65th to be the only other all-rookie team in the rankings. The Thompsons are 21-16 this season, including 12-11 at No. 1. The Thompsons have four wins over ranked ones, including a 3-0 (7-5) victory against the nation's second-ranked team of Cristelle Crier and Jessica Rush of Northwestern on April 15.

**THOMPSONS UPSET NATION'S #2 DOUBLES TEAM:** Freshman twins Christian Thompson (Las Vegas, Nev./Bishop Gorman H.S.) and Catrina Thompson (Las Vegas, Nev./Bishop Gorman H.S.) defeated the #2 doubles team of the nation, Cristelle Crier and Jessica Rush of Northwestern, in dual-match play at No. 1 on April 16 at the Courtney Tennis Center. The Thompsons were victorious 5-8 (7-5), winning in a de-breaker for the first time in five tries. The last time an Irish team upset one of the nation's top four doubles teams was Feb. 17, 2001, when current assistant coach Michelle Dasso and Becky Vernum, second year, best Pepperdine's top-ranked pair of Lori Sanchez and Maria Pazendis 3-5 at No. 4 in 6-1 Irish victory in consolation play of the USTA/ITA National Team Indoor Championships.

**SALAS, THOMPSONS EARN BIG EAST ALL-TOURNAMENT HONORS:** Senior co-captain Alicia Salas (Englewood, Colo./Cherry Creek H.S.) and freshman Christian Thompson (Las Vegas, Nev./Bishop Gorman H.S.) were both named to the BIG EAST Conference all-tournament team in singles, while Thompson and her twin sister, Catrina Thompson (Las Vegas, Nev./Bishop Gorman H.S.), gained mention in doubles, when the league awards were announced earlier this month. The teams were designated by voting of conference head coaches, who were prohibited from voting for their own players.

This is just the second year the BIG EAST has named an all-tournament team, and Salas is one of four players (also Miami's Megan Bradley, Mari Toro, and Melissa Appelbaum) to earn singles honors on both occasions. Christian Thompson is the lone freshman on this year's singles all-tournament squad, joining Miami's Melissa Appelbaum as the only rookies ever to be so honored. The Thompsons are the first all-freshman doubles team to earn all-BIG EAST Championship mention.

**BALAS NAMED TEAM MVP, ROCKNE STUDENT-ATHLETE:** Senior co-captain Alicia Salas (Englewood, Colo./Cherry Creek H.S.) swept the two major team awards, announced last month. For the second time in three seasons, she was named the Irish MVP, while also winning the Knute Rockne Student-Athlete Award for the second consecutive year. Salas, who is 24-17 and ranked 22nd nationally in singles, was voted the most valuable player by her teammates, while the latter award honors her as the squad's top student.

**SALAS, THOMPSONS ALL-AMERICA CANDIDATES:** Senior co-captain Alicia Salas (Englewood, Colo./Cherry Creek H.S.) and freshman twins Christian Thompson (Las Vegas, Nev./Bishop Gorman H.S.) and Catrina Thompson (Las Vegas, Nev./Bishop Gorman H.S.) all have opportunities to earn All-American accolades with strong performances at the NCAA's. Salas is a candidate in singles, where one must 1) earn one of the 16 seeds in the NCAA Singles Championship; 2) win two matches to reach the round of 16 in the NCAA Singles Championship; or 3) finish in the top 20 of the final ITA national rankings. It is unlikely Salas, currently ranked 23rd after being as high as 10th, will earn a spot in the NCAA singles tournament, so she will need to fulfill one of the two criteria. The Thompsons, ranked 36th and the only all-freshman team to gain entry to the NCAA Doubles Championship, figure to need to win a pair of matches to reach the quarterfinals of that event to gain All-America honors. It is unlikely that they have much chance of fulfilling either of the other two ways to become an All-American: earn one of the eight seeds in the NCAA Doubles tournament or finish among the top 10 in the ITA national doubles rankings.

Since moving up to the Division I level in 1985-86, Notre Dame student-athletes have earned singles All-America honors on five occasions, and doubles accolades four times. Most recently, current assistant coach Michelle Dasso was a double All-American in her final season, fulfilling of three criteria in singles and a pair in doubles, along with Becky Vernum (02).

**SALAS AN ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICA NOMINEE:** Senior co-captain Allie Salas (Englewood, Colo./Cherry Creek H.S.) was one of three Irish female student-athletes nominated as CoSIDA Academic All-America candidates this month in the college program. Each school is eligible to nominate a total of three male and three female student-athletes in the category, which encompasses athletes from 25 sports, including 12 Irish varsity programs: fencing (MW), golf (MW), ice hockey (M), lacrosse (MW), rowing (M), swimming & diving (MW), and tennis (MW). Other Notre Dame nominees were junior Alicia Kyzanski, hockey player Ron Gobie and Cory McCann, and two male players Stewart Crossland and Meredith Simon. After voting by members of the College Sports Information Directors of America in the district, the Academic All-District V team will be released on May 27, and those honorees will be sent on to the national ballot. The CoSIDA Academic All-America team will be announced June 17. Salas, who has been ranked as high as 10th in the national singles rankings, holds a 3.639 cumulative grade-point average for a pre-professional studies/biology major in the College of Arts & Letters. She is trying to join Wendy Grabtree (1993, third team) and Jennifer Hall (1995, third team) as Irish women's tennis Academic All-Americans.

**SALAS HONORED WITH BYRON V. KANALEY AWARD:** Senior co-captain Allie Salas (Englewood, Colo./Cherry Creek H.S.) was one of five Notre Dame seniors honored with the Byron V. Kanaley Award last month. The Kanaley Award, the most prestigious honor presented to student-athletes, has been given each year since 1937 to senior men's program athletes who have been most exemplary as both students and leaders. Chosen by the University's Faculty Board on Athletics, the awards are named in honor of Byron V. Kanaley, a 1904 Notre Dame graduate who was a member of the Irish basketball team as an undergraduate. Kanaley went on to a successful banking career in Chicago and earned the University an \$1 million trust for his death in 1960. Other 2004 recipients were women's golfer Shannon Byrne, men's tennis player Luke Hadcock, women's soccer standout Vanessa Prusinsky, and women's volleyball player Kristen Kinder. Salas is the sixth women's tennis player since 1995 - and third since '99 - to win the Kanaley award, marking the third by any sport during that span.

**SALAS HEADED TO CHINA WITH TA ALL-STAR TEAM:** Senior co-captain Allie Salas (Englewood, Colo./Cherry Creek H.S.) was one of 10 players (five women, five men) selected by the International Tennis Association to represent the United States on the 2004 American Express Collegiate All-Star Team in two exhibition team matches in China June 16-21. The trip is being hosted by the Chinese Tennis Association, and the U.S. squad will be competing against teams selected by the CIA, consisting of the best young players in China, ages 17-23. The team will make stops in Hong Kong, Tianjin, and Beijing, participating in several clinics and enjoying sightseeing excursions, in addition to the exhibition matches. The other women's players selected for the team were Zoëlle Goleponova of Armstrong Atlantic State (Ga.), Amanda Johnson of Duke, Jennifer Magley of Florida, and Jennifer McGaffigan of Illinois. Philozou's L. J. Gengler will serve as the women's coach, while tennis legend Steve Smith will be the honorary coach.

**SALAS ESTABLISHING HERSELF AS ONE OF NATION'S TOP PLAYERS:** Senior co-captain Allie Salas (Englewood, Colo./Cherry Creek H.S.), currently ranked 72nd after being a career-high 10th earlier this spring, has established herself as one of the elite players in college tennis this season. She stands 24-17 in singles, having defeated 15 ranked opponents. She has victories over #1 Amanda Johnson of Duke, #14 Jennifer McGaffigan of Illinois, #15 Lizzy Marquardt of USC, #24 Tamiya Enchi of Tennessee, #28 Clarissa Hollander of Arizona, #30 Dora Vasilev of Indiana, #35 Alicia Kyzanski of Columbia, #37 Elizabeth Exon of Michigan, #50 Megan Muth of Wake Forest & Mary, #42 Jessica Rush of Northwestern, #43 Barbara Zelenko of BYU, #68 Andrea Jung of Northeastern, #78 Shane McEry of Wisconsin, #85 Ashley Schaefer of Vanderbilt, and #110 Meg Rapke of Iowa. In addition, three more of Salas' victories were against players that were unranked at the time of the match but now carry national rankings. She posted a victory over Wisconsin's Katie McGaffigan (now 73rd), as well as wins vs. Exon (now #36) and Rapke (now #102) when they were unranked.

Last fall, she kept through qualifying to reach the main draw of the ITA All-American Championships in October and then gained entrance to the ITA national intercollegiate Indoor Champ on the following month due to her runner-up result in the ITA Midwest Championships. She is just the fourth Notre Dame player ever to take part in the final two legs of the collegiate grand slam, joining Melissa Hanks ('92), Wendy Grabtree ('96), Jennifer Hall ('99), and current Irish assistant Michelle Dasaro ('01). When she moved up to 10th in the ITA national singles rankings, Salas joined three other players as the only Notre Dame players listed among the top 10 players in college tennis since the Irish moved up to the Division I level in 1985-86.

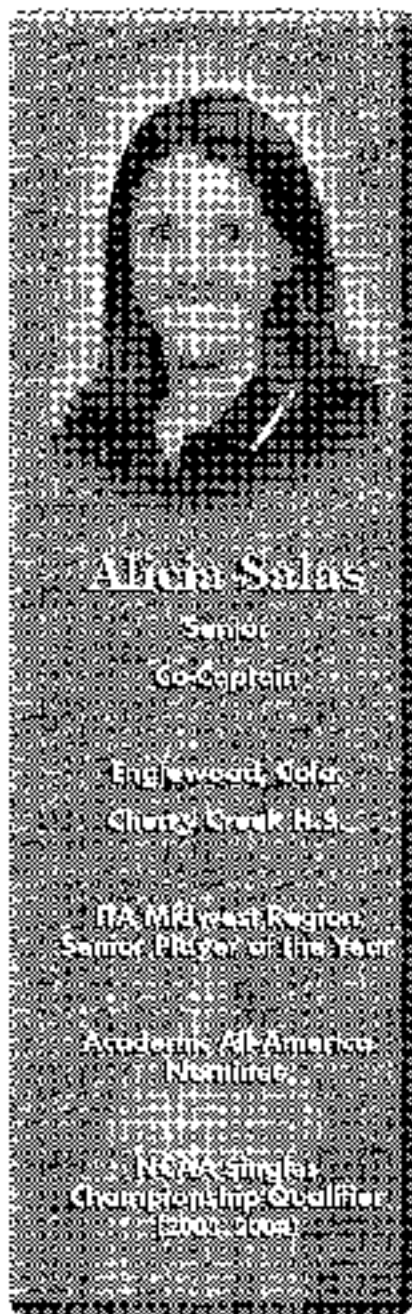
Salas has a career 95-42 (.691) record in singles and 64-38 (.629) mark in doubles. She is 12th on the Irish career singles victories list.

**IRISH HEAD COACH:** Jay Louderback is in his 15th season at Notre Dame with a 287-136 (.681) record and his 25th year as a collegiate coach with a 471-314 (.600) mark. He ranks fifth among active NCAA Division I coaches in career victories. Louderback's Irish have finished in the national top 30 in each of the last 21 seasons, have won 11 conference titles and registered 26 or more victories five times in the last eight campaigns. Since the preseason of the 1992-93 season, Louderback's teams have been ranked in the national top 30 in 185 of 187 sets of rankings. After taking over a program looking for its first NCAA tournament appearance, Louderback has helped Notre Dame to the NCAA's 16 times in the last 12 years, including five appearances in the round of 16 and a 1998 quarterfinal finish. Louderback, a four-time Midwest Region coach of the year, has been honored as his conference's top coach six straight seasons, including five times in rare years in the BIG EAST. In his time at Notre Dame, Louderback's players have earned All-America honors 13 times, won three national ITA awards, and earned 19 invitations to the NCAA singles championship and 16 to the NCAA doubles tournament. His players have dominated the University awards catalog; Louderback's teams, leading off space in both Byron V. Kanaley awards (six) and Francis Patrick O'Connor awards (five). His family was honored with the United States Tennis Association (USTA) Tennis Family of the Year Award for 2002. The Arkansas City, Kan., native, and 1976 graduate of Wichita State arrived at Notre Dame prior to the 1989-91 season after coaching for seven years at his alma mater and three years (men and women) at Iowa State.

**NCAA CHAMPIONSHIPS ON TV:** The 2004 NCAA Division I Women's Tennis Championships will receive more television coverage than ever before. The women's team final will air on a tape-delayed basis on ESPN2 on May 25 at 3 p.m. (ET) (2 p.m. in South Bend). The Tennis Channel will provide tape-delayed coverage of the final of the NCAA Singles and Doubles Championships, slated to premiere on June 4 at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. (ET) and re-air numerous times.

**SISTER ACT:** For the second straight season, Notre Dame has an unprecedented two girls' captains on its roster in 2003-04. In 2002-03, Liz Donchup (Las Vegas, Nev./Bishop Gorman H.S.) and Lauren Connolly (Oklahoma City, Okla./Bishop McGuinness H.S.) joined the Notre Dame squad as freshmen, combining with sisters Maggie Donchup and Sarah Jane Connolly (Oklahoma City, Okla./Bishop McGuinness H.S.) to mark the first time in school history that a team captured two sets of titles at the same time. Though Maggie Donchup graduated in '03, the Connollys are joined this season by freshman twins Catrina Thompson (Las Vegas, Nev./Bishop Gorman H.S.) and Christian Thompson (Las Vegas, Nev./Bishop Gorman H.S.) to give Notre Dame two sets of sisters once again. A total of six sets of sisters have earned invitations in women's tennis, by far the most of any of the 13 Irish women's sports.

**KEEPING UP WITH NOYRE DAME TENNIS:** For the fastest results of Notre Dame tennis matches, visit the Notre Dame sports hotline at (574) 631-3300 and check online. The hotline provides schedule and results information for varsity sports and serves as a supplement to the game reports and weekly releases provided on the official athletic website at [www.nd.edu](http://www.nd.edu). The hotline is the first medium updated with the results of each Notre Dame tennis match. In addition, media members and fans may be added to the sports information e-mail [info@nd.edu](mailto:info@nd.edu) by contacting Be Ruttenborn at [Ruttenborn2@nd.edu](mailto:Ruttenborn2@nd.edu), or Elsen Carroll at [ewcarroll@nd.edu](mailto:ewcarroll@nd.edu), who also can provide any information about the Irish tennis program.



# Alicia Salas

Senior  
Co-Captain

Englewood, Colo.  
Cherry Creek H.S.

ITA Midwest Region  
Senior Player of the Year

Academic All-American  
Nominee

NCAA Singles  
Championship Qualifier  
(2003, 2004)

Star Team, which will travel to China June 13-21 to play two exhibition matches ... recipient of Bryan V Kennedy Award, the most prestigious honor awarded to Notre Dame student-athletes who have been exemplary as both students and leaders ... two-time winner of Notre Dame Club of St. Joseph Valley Recre Student Athletic Award as top student on team ... served as team co-captain, along with Cayan Leslie ... carries 94-42 (.691) career singles record ... Finished career with 84-38 (.689) doubles mark ... in singles, was 39-9 (.813) at home, 47-5 (.758) against Midwest Region opponents, 84-5 (.944) when winning the first set, and 14-8 (.636) in three-set matches ... also rallied to win 11 times after losing first set ... in doubles, was 36-12 (.750) at home and 41-4 (.745) against regional teams.

**AS A SENIOR:** Became one of the top singles players in the nation, peaking at 10th in ITA national rankings ... named ITA Midwest Region Senior Player of the Year ... Academic All-American nominee ... won ITA/Cissie Leary Sportsmanship Award for the region for displaying inspiring dedication and commitment to her team, which has enhanced her team's performance and exemplified the spirit of college tennis ... qualified for NCAA Singles Championship for second straight year, capping a season in which she participated in all three grand slam events, becoming just the fourth Irish player to participate in every leg of the grand slam in a season ... earned spot on BIG EAST Championship all-tournament team in singles ... enters NCAA singles tournament ranked 22nd and with a 24-17 record, including 15-12 against ranked opponents (22-29 in her career) ... posted six wins against top-30 players ... was unbeaten in six matches against ranked players (all in top 50) from Jan. 29-March 27 ... runner-up in ITA Midwest Championships in the fall led to her being ranked second in the region heading into the spring ... has been listed in every set of national singles rankings since the end of the 2001-02 season (19 consecutive sets) ... combined with Lauran Connolly to be virtually automatic power at No. 2 doubles, finishing the season 24-7, including 10-5 in dual action and a nine-match winning streak to end the spring ... ranked as high as 36th nationally in doubles, including fifth in the region ... ended career with 41-16 record playing with Connolly ... finished 12-11 at No. 1 singles in 2004 to conclude career with 16-16 record at the position ... was 52-24 overall in dual matches, with a winning record at each of the three five singles slabs ... all but one of her defeats came to players currently in the national rankings ... opened spring with 10-2 mark at No. 1 ... faced five consecutive top-45 players from Feb. 20-March 13 and was victorious in every contest ... top win was against #5 Amanda

Johnson of Duke in three sets ... other top ranked wins throughout the season included against #14 Jennifer McCalligan of Hawaii, #18 Linao Magnani of USC, #24 Emily Beavers of Tennessee, #29 Dianna Hollands of Arizona, #38 Dong Wang of Indiana, #53 Alex Leighton of Oregon, #57 Elizabeth Exon of Michigan, #60, #63, #66, #68 Megan Muth of William & Mary, #82 Jessica Rush of Northwestern, and #43 Barbara Zahnova of BYU ... provided lone Irish points in matches vs. Duke and Tennessee ... clinched Notre Dame victories against #20 BYU and vs. Iowa in the first round of the NCAA tournament ... finished dual-match season with just two wins in 12 matches (one was abandoned) ... seven of nine losses during that span were to top-30 players ... posted 12-6 record in fall play, with all but five matches against ranked players ... defeated three ranked players to qualify for main draw of Riviera/ITA All-American Championships ... fell in first round, but then registered a win over Hollands in consolation play ... did not lose more than three games in a set in winning five matches to advance to the final of the ITA Midwest Championships, where she lost to Grier ... that result gained her an invitation to the 32-player ITA National Interscholastic Indoor Championships, where she lost in the first round to Florida's Alexis Gordon, who would go on to be #1 in the nation ... reached quarterfinals of "adi" flight of season-opening adidas Invitational before losing in three sets to Gordon ... topped Magnani in straight sets to clinch Notre Dame's 4-3 exhibition win over USC, which would be ranked as high as fifth during the season ... was 13-4 against regional opponents, with three losses coming to Grier ... was 8-2 at home and 22-2 when winning the first set ... paired with Connolly to be nearly unbeatable at No. 2 doubles ... started spring with seven consecutive wins, then lost four in a row, but followed up with 11 wins in final 12 matches ... after 8-6 loss at North Carolina on March 28 (did not lose the rest of the season) ... had four clinching wins ... clinched doubles point in 4-2 upset of #17 VCU that snapped the Rams' 40-match home winning streak and 38-match regular-season winning streak ... won tiebreaker in final match on court to win doubles point vs. Purdue ... clinched doubles point against Iowa in first round of NCAA tournament ... other top wins came against Michigan, #20 BYU, Wake Forest, #18/26 Miami (twice), William & Mary, #14 Texas and #11/19 Northwestern (twice) ... posted 12-3 mark against regional foes ... had 6-2 record in fall play ... reached quarterfinals of Midwest Championships before losing to #20 Schluker/Tran of Indiana ... advanced to semifinals of adidas Invitational before falling to #12 Magley/Reyes of Florida ... clinched doubles point

Outstanding all-around player has become one of the top singles players in the nation, peaking at 10th in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association national rankings ... ITA Midwest Region Senior Player of the Year, as well as winner of region's ITA/Cissie Leary Sportsmanship Award ... qualified for NCAA Singles Championship in 2003 and '04 ... Academic All-American nominee boasts 2.630 cumulative GPA as pre-professional studies (pre-med)/anthropology major ... one of most improved players on team was not in Irish lineup as a freshman ... named to BIG EAST Conference all-tournament team in singles in each of last two seasons (the inaugural years of the distinction), while copping doubles honors in '05 ... twice voted team MVP by her teammates (2001-02 and 2003-04) ... boasts exceptional control and has added some power to her groundstrokes ... adept at using opponent's power ... versatile player who can adjust her game to match her opponent ... can take balls out of the air and is very athletic ... one of 10 players selected by ITA for the American Express Collegiate All

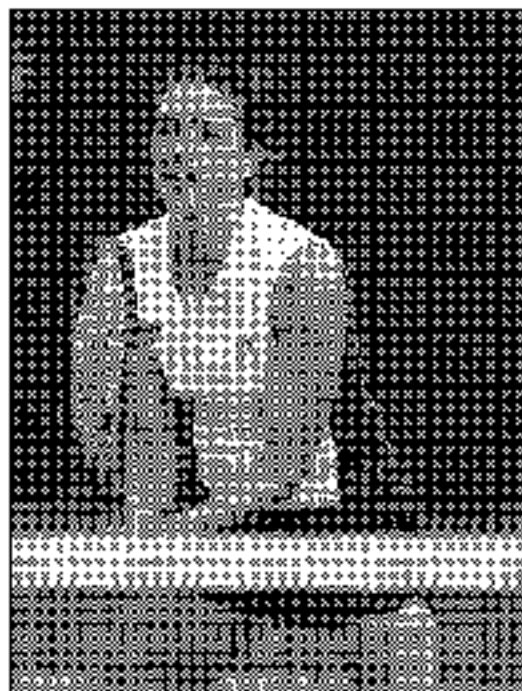
Singles				Doubles			
Year	Dual	Open	Overall	Year	Dual	Open	Overall
2000-01	3-0	13-2	16-4	2000-01	2-0	7-5	9-7
2001-02	24-3	7-3	31-6	2001-02	17-3	7-7	24-10
2002-03	13-11	11-8	24-19	2002-03	14-0	9-7	23-7
2003-04	12-11	12-4	24-17	2003-04	18-5	1-2	19-7
<b>Career</b>	<b>52-25</b>	<b>43-17</b>	<b>95-42</b>	<b>Career</b>	<b>51-23</b>	<b>19-18</b>	<b>70-41</b>

in 4-3 exhibition win against USC ... recipient of Notre Dame Club of St. Joseph Valley Rocks Student Athlete Award for second consecutive season.

**AS A JUNIOR:** Started the top of the lineup and excelled in 2002-03 ... started the spring of No. 1 singles, while the doubles team withdrew before playing No. 2 the remainder of the season, registering a 9-5 record ... with 2475 overall ... ranked as high as 63th in singles before finishing 98th ... was named to BIG EAST Championship all-tournament team in both singles and doubles ... ranked sixth in final Midwest Region rankings ... 12 of 15 losses overall and 10 of 11 in spring action came to ranked opponents ... hampered by a shoulder injury late in the season, which greatly affected her serve ... occupying the slot for the first time in her career, won first two matches at No. 1 ... had three-set win in 4-3 high victory against NYU ... took first set, but fell in three to Megan Murn of William & Mary in 4-3 Tribe victory ... notable dual-match victories included vs. Texas and Illinois ... won seven of last eight matches at No. 2 ... rallied from down a service break in the third set for a key 7-5, 4-6, 7-5 upset of #54 Melissa Applebaum of Miami in BIG EAST final to give Notre Dame a 3-2 lead ... was 11-4 in fall play, highlighted by runner-up finish in OSU/Prince Cup and blue flight championship in Eck Classic ... posed woe against Ohio State's #69 Eric Fisk and Northwestern's Cristelle Grier, who finished his season as the top-ranked player in the Midwest Region ... was 22-2 when winning the first set ... won four of five three-set matches ... in doubles, finished 22-1, including 14-8 in dual matches, playing mostly No. 2 ... played with Laurer Connelly in all but one dual match, filling the No. 2 slot during the regular season before moving up to No. 1 in the postseason ... the pair was 17-9 together, including 14-7 in the spring, and was 59th in the final national rankings ... listed 11th in Midwest

Region ... ended the season on a high note, upsetting a pair of top-15 teams in the NCAA team tournament ... dethroned Missouri's #15 Juric/Savikova in the first round before upsetting #3 Rise/Tsoubanos of Vanderbilt ... posted 5-1 record as final match on-court with the doubles pair still undecided, winning against Winona, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio State, and Missouri ... also had wins vs. Wake Forest, Texas, Arizona State, William & Mary, and Illinois ... did not lose in a midseason month-long span, winning seven in a row ... the pair was 3-2 in fall play, winning one match in the Midwest Championships and finishing fifth in the Eck Classic ... played with Caylan Leslie at No. 2 vs. Virginia Tech ... teamed with Kristina Stasny in first two fall tournaments, winning five of six matches, including the "dual" flight championship in the adidas Invitational ... also reached quarterfinals of OSU/Prince Cup ... earned ITA Scholar-Athlete award for maintaining a 3.50+ GPA for the year and winning a menogram ... recipient of Notre Dame Club of St. Joseph Valley Rocks Student Athlete Award ... also named BIG EAST Conference Academic All-Star.

**AS A SOPHOMORE:** Was nearly unbeatable in middle of Irish lineup in 2002 after not being a regular in '01 ... tied Notre Dame record for singles dual-match wins in a season with a 24-3 mark, playing mostly at No. 4 ... led team in both singles and doubles wins, registering 57 combined victories and earning team MVP honors ... compiled 31-4 overall singles record ... won 27 of her final 30 matches ... was 3-0 in spring against ranked opponents, including back-to-back wins over #81 Katie Martzoff of Wake Forest and 64th-ranked Saras Anas of Duke ... also knocked off 77th-ranked Agnes Wiski of Tennessee ... put together 14-match winning streak, which included first 10 matches of spring ... had 10-match winning streak snapped in NCAA first round ... earned best career national ranking in February and peaked at #123 in April ... advanced to round of 16 in Omni-Link Region IV Championships ... started spring with eight wins at No. 5 before moving to No. 4 spot on Feb. 16 ... won at No. 3 against Air Force ... provided victories in 4-3 wins against Illinois and Miami ... notched lone Irish points in four matches ... surrendered five or fewer games on 15 occasions ... won 25 matches in straight sets ... was 16-1 in the Eck Tennis Pavilion ... 26-1 when winning the first set ... playing with five different partners, was 26-12 overall in doubles, including 19-9 in dual matches, mostly at No. 3 ... from mid-February to the end of the season, played with Sarah Jane Connelly at No. 3, putting together a 14-6 mark ... won 10 of first 11 matches together ... in last month of season, clinched doubles point in last match on-court vs. #19 Northwestern, #14 William & Mary and Miami (BIG EAST final) ... helped Irish win doubles point in 4-3 regular-season victories over Illinois and Miami ... with Nina Vaughan, won first three matches of spring at No. 3, clinching doubles point in first two matches and upsetting 27th-ranked Kentucky team ... defeated Bernadette Bayani and Melissa Esmero of USC in USTA/ITA National Team Indoor Championships ... paired with Becky Varum for a win at No. 2 against Northern Iowa ... teamed with Emily Neighbours during most of fall season for a 5-3 record ... the pair lost in first round of Region IV Championships before winning a pair of consolation matches ... paired with

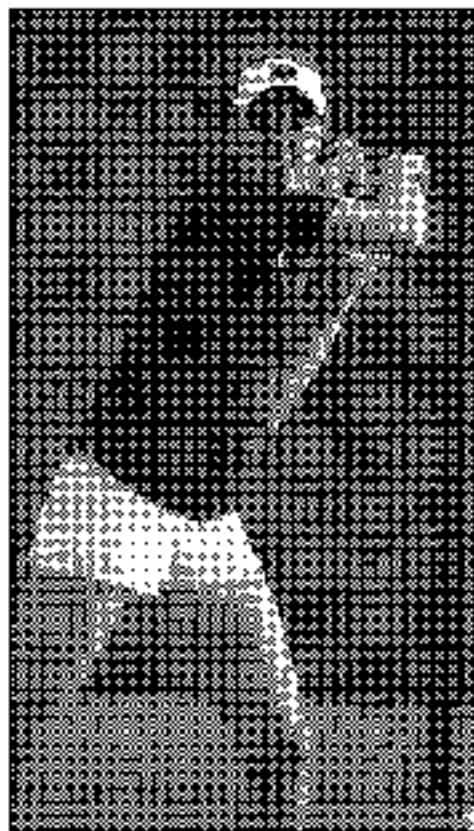


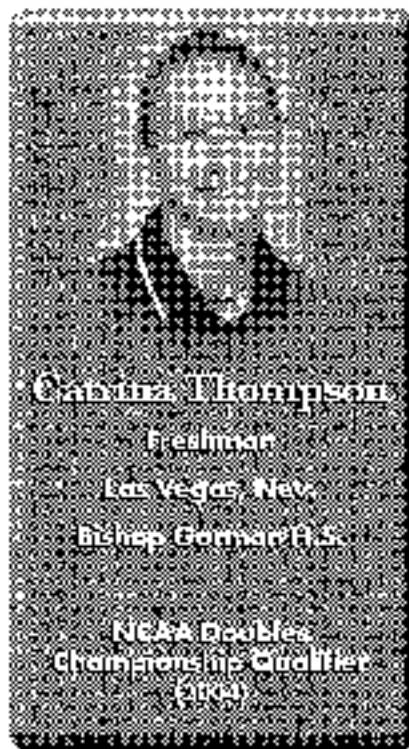
Lindsey Green for a win in the Eck Classic ... was 14-2 in the Eck Tennis Pavilion ... named BIG EAST Conference Academic All-Star.

**AS A FRESHMAN:** Showed great potential in '00 fall, finishing with 11-3 singles mark ... reached final at Maryland Invitational in first collegiate event ... filled in with wins at No. 5 vs. Illinois State and No. 6 vs. Western Michigan and West Virginia ... completed 11-8 doubles marks with five different partners ... reached third round of ITA Midwest doubles championship with Lindsey Green ... won at No. 2 doubles against Purdue with Kimberly Guy ... paired with Caylan Leslie for No. 3 doubles wins vs. Illinois State and West Virginia ... reached Eck Classic Right A final with Nina Vaughan ... named BIG EAST Conference Academic All-Star.

**IN NON-COLLEGIATE ACTION:** Teamed with Lauren Connelly to win doubles title in '03 ITA summer circuit event at Notre Dame ... reached quarterfinals in singles before losing in match tiebreaker ... reached quarterfinals at 2000 ITA summer circuit event at Notre Dame before falling to teammate Lindsey Green ... reached doubles semifinals with Nina Vaughan before losing to eventual champions Michelle Dasso and Becky Varum.

**HIGH SCHOOL AND PERSONAL DATA:** Four-time Colorado state singles champion at Cherry Creek High School ... first to win four 5A state titles after former Irish teammate Becky Varum ('02) won four of 4A ... went undefeated as a junior and senior ... concluded high school career with 78-2 record ... four-time MVP on four-time state championship team captained team as a senior ... from same area of Colorado as men's tennis junior Brent D'Amico and '03 graduate Jake Gray ... member of National Honor Society ... born June 29, 1992, in Denver, Colo. ... carries 3.630 cumulative GPA and has been named to Dean's list on six occasions ... a member of Notre Dame's Academic Honors Program for Student-Athletes ... enrolled in the College of Arts and Letters as a preprofessional studies/anthropology major.

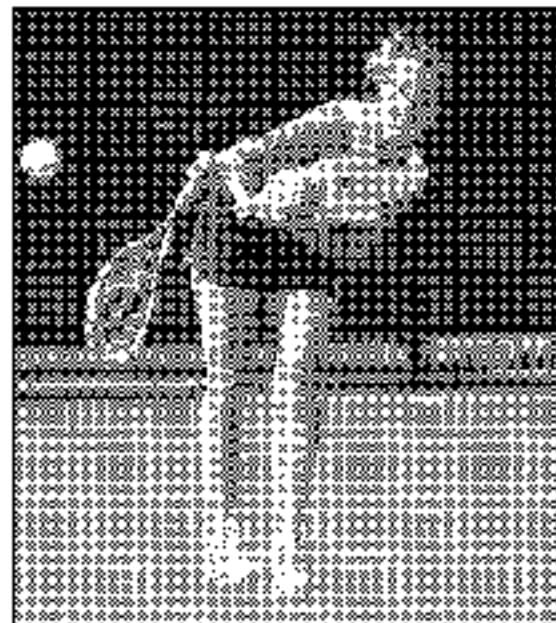




improved serve that gets her some free points.

**AS A FRESHMAN:** Combined with twin sister Christian to be first all-freshman duo since 1998 – and first-ever Irish all-freshman team – to gain a berth in the NCAA Doubles Championship ... ranked season high 36<sup>th</sup> heading into the event, highest among all-roukie pairs ... became first all-freshman team ever named to BIG EAST Championship all-tournament team ... first all-roukie duo to play No. 1 for the Irish since 1993 ... holds 21-16 mark, including four victories against ranked opponents ... also stepped into singles lineup at No. 3, going 12-10 in dual matches and 20-15 overall ... was ranked as high as 84<sup>th</sup> in singles and, at one point, was nationally-ranked in both singles and doubles ... listed 15<sup>th</sup> in singles and seventh in doubles in Midwest Region rankings after fall season ... played No. 1 doubles in every dual match, opening the spring 6-2 ... highlight of season was 9-8 (7-5) upset of second-ranked team in college tennis, Ofelia Grier and Jessica Rush of Northwestern, on April 15 ... it was the highest ranked team to fall victim to an Irish pair since 2001 ... also posted upsets of #37 Kinard/Lam of Virginia Tech and #22 Applebaum/Burley of Miami in single doubles points in Irish ... victory over Hurricanes duo was by 8-6 score in first match point ... also clinched doubles in 2001 NCAA tournament victory against #20 BYU in the BIG EAST semifinals vs. Fokies ... upset #45 Schlakabir/Tian of Indiana on Feb. 29 ... posted 9-5 mark in fall play ... reached quarterfinals of ITA Midwest Championships before losing to #31 Gauah/McGaffigan of Illinois ... won consolation title in blue flight of Kentucky Fall Classic ...

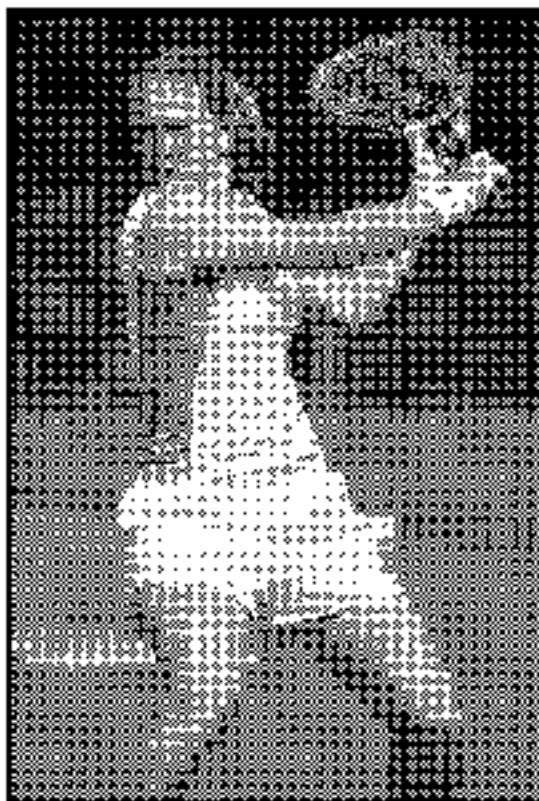
fall to #17 Gordon/Rotondi of Florida in quarters of adidas Invitational ... lost four of five tiebreakers throughout the season ... after losing in first career dual match in singles, won seven straight matches, clinching Irish victories on four occasions ... clinched 4-3 Irish upset of #14 VCU that snapped Rams' 40-match home winning streak and 38-match regular-season winning streak ... other notable wins came against BYU, Indiana, and Texas ... upset two players in going 8-5 in fall action ... defeated #69 Andrea Yung of Northwestern in first career tournament en route to semifinals of "cas" flight of adidas Invitational ... topped #39 Megan Muth of William & Mary in Kentucky Fall Classic ... reached final of that event before falling to Aibika Kalsarjeva of Kentucky ... played No. 2 in exhibition match against USC ... defeated Miami's Mari Iero and Illinois' Isabel Jarosz in



Midwest Blast ... was 10-3 when winning the first set and 10-5 against Midwest Region opponents.

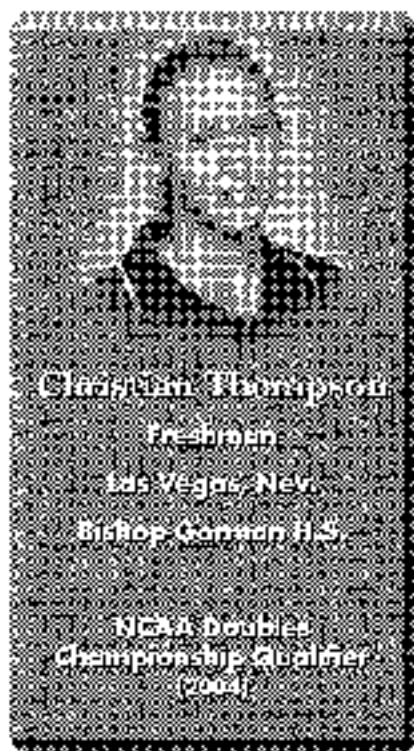
**IN NON-COLLEGIATE ACTION:** Had outstanding singles and doubles results in pro tournaments in summer of '03 ... in WTA world rankings, listed as high as 1,006<sup>th</sup> in singles and 573<sup>rd</sup> in doubles, with sister Christian.

**HIGH SCHOOL AND PERSONAL DATA:** One of top junior players in the country ... combined with twin sister Catrina to form the No. 1 doubles team in the nation in USTA Girls' 18s ... ranked 39<sup>th</sup> in singles and is the 16<sup>th</sup> highest ranked player entering college this fall ... won national doubles titles on all surfaces ... among notable 18s doubles titles, were the 2001 Super-National Winter Championship, the '01 National Clay Courts, '02 National Grass Court Championship, and Easter Bowl ... reached final of '02 National Clay Courts and semis in '01 National Hard Courts ... played in girls' doubles draw at U.S. Open ... earned All America honors all four years at Bishop Gorman High School, going undefeated throughout her career ... helped Bishop Gorman to the Nevada state championship and won doubles title ... three-time state champion and team MVP won conference and regional titles on four occasions ... one-half of second set of twins to play women's tennis at Notre Dame, joining Laura and Sheila Cronin ('79) ... co-valedictorian and Silver State Scholar also was active in National Honor Society ... was in same class as Irish women's basketball freshman Bronya Gray at Bishop Gorman ... cousin John Hudek ('01) also attended Notre Dame ... born September 13, 1984 in Las Vegas ... enrolled in the First Year of Studies.

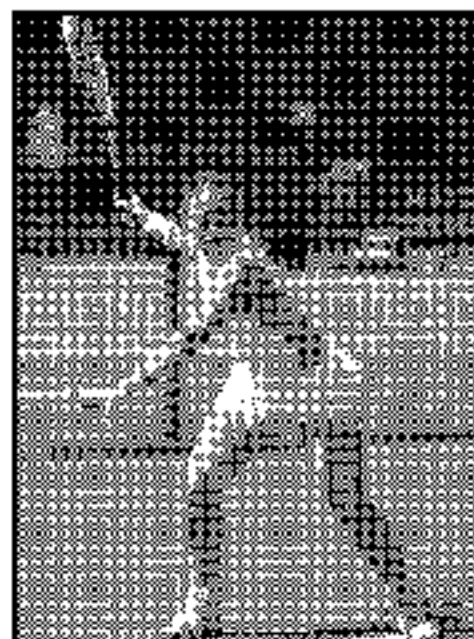


Single				Doubles			
Year	Dual	Open	Season	Year	Dual	Open	Season
2003-02	12-10	8-5	20-15	2003-01	2-11	0-2	2-12





birth in the NCAA Doubles Championship ... ranked season-high 36<sup>th</sup> heading into the event, highest among all-freshman pairs ... became first all-freshman team ever named to BIG EAST Championship all-tournament team ... also earned mention in singles ... first all-rookie duo to play No. 1 for the Irish since 1992 ... holds 21-16 mark, including four victories against ranked opponents ... also became first rookie since current assistant coach Michelle Dasso in 1998 to play in top two in Irish singles lineup, filling No. 2 position all season ... posted 13-8 mark in dual matches and led team in overall victories with 23-13 record ... earned first career singles national ranking in January (88<sup>th</sup>) ... listed 11<sup>th</sup> in singles and seventh in doubles in Midwest Region rankings after fall season ... played No. 1 doubles in every dual match, opening the spring 6-2 ... highlight of season was 9-8 (7-5) upset of second-ranked team in college tennis, Cristelle Grier and Jessica Rush of Northwestern, on April 15 ... it was the highest-ranked team to fall victim to an Irish pair since 2001 ... also posted upsets of #3/ Kimberly/Lam of Virginia Tech and #22 Applebaum/Bradley of Miami to clinch doubles points in Irish wins ... victory over Hurricane duo was by 3-6 score in last match on court ... also clinched doubles point in regular-season victory against BYU and in BIG EAST semifinals vs. Hokies ... upset #4/3 Subhakar/Tran of Indiana on Feb. 29 ... posted 9-5 mark in fall play ... reached quarterfinals of 1 A Midwest Championship before losing to #31 Cooper/Scott of Illinois ... won consolation title in 1 A Kentucky Fall Classic ... fell to #12 Gordon/Anderson of Florida in quarter of 1 A Midwest ... lost four of five tiebreakers throughout the season ... played No. 2 singles for Irish all spring, finishing season having won seven of last eight matches ... posted first career win over ranked opponent in 6-4, 6-0 upset of #109 Lena Sherbakov of William & Mary ... lost in three sets to #92 Michelle DeCosta of Michigan in first career dual match, but then won five of next six matches ... had three clinching victories ... defeated Melissa Applebaum in three sets to help Irish to 3-2 upset of #18 Miami ... saved last championship point against Applebaum in BIG EAST final, forcing a third set before match was abandoned ... won opening set and was ahead in third set when contest was abandoned against both Lee Bairos of North Carolina and #44 Jessica Rush of Northwestern ... had notable victories against #20 BYU and #14 Texas ... three team lead in fall singles victories with 12-5 record ... won six matches in advancing through qualifying and reaching quarterfinals of 1 A Midwest Championships before losing to eventual champion #4 Grier ... that snapped an eight-match winning streak ... beat Bernadette Bayan of USC at No. 5 in exhibition dual match ... lost to Kentucky's Sarah Fisher in three sets in finishing third in white flight at Kentucky Fall Classic ... topped Miami's Staci Stevens and fell in three sets to Tiffany Ekloy of Illinois in Midwest Blast ... won 21-2 when winning the opening set and 14-6 against Midwest Region



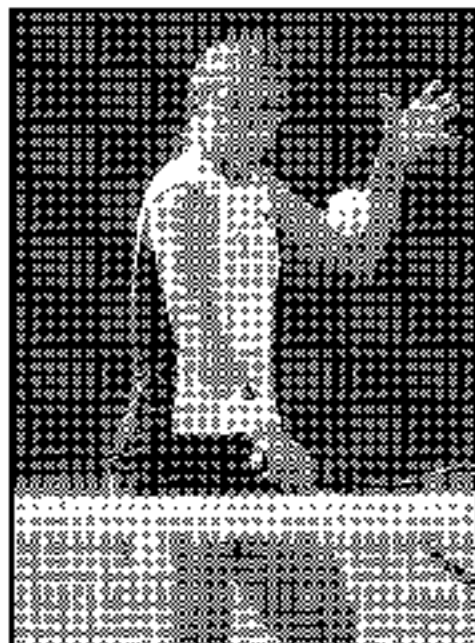
players ... only four losses came against players not currently in national rankings ... played 12 three-set matches (5-4-3 record) and two match tiebreakers (-1).

**IN NON-COLLEGIATE ACTION:** Had outstanding singles and doubles results in pro tournaments in summer of '03 ... in WTA world rankings, listed as high as 530<sup>th</sup> in singles and 570<sup>th</sup> in doubles, with sister Catrina.

**HIGH SCHOOL AND PERSONAL DATA:** One of top junior players in the country ... combined with twin sister Catrina to form the No. 1 double team in the nation in USA Girls' 18s ... ranked 11<sup>th</sup> in singles and is the fifth-highest ranked player entering college this fall ... won national doubles titles on all surfaces ... among notable 10s doubles titles, were the 2001 Super National Winter Championship, the '01 National Clay Courts, '02 National Grass Court Championship, and Easter Bowl ... reached final of '02 National Clay Courts and semis in '03 National Hard Courts ... played in girls' doubles draw at U.S. Open ... was undefeated in USA girls' 12s Challenge Cup to be ranked 1st in the nation ... earned All-America honors all four years at Bishop Gorman High School, going undefeated throughout her career ... helped prep team to the Nevada state championship and won doubles title ... three-time state champion and team MVP won regional titles on four occasions ... gained all-conference honors on four occasions, helping Bishop Gorman to four conference titles ... also earned varsity letter in track as a freshman ... one-half of second set of twins to play women's tennis at Notre Dame, joining Laura and Sheila Crerin (79) ... active in National Honor Society and named a Silver State Scholar ... was in same class at Irish women's basketball freshman Breona Gray at Bishop Gorman ... cousin John Hudek ('01) also attended Notre Dame ... born September 13, 1984 in Las Vegas ... enrollee in the First Year of Studies.

Impact freshman stepped immediately into Irish lineups at No. 2 singles and No. 1 doubles and excelled ... along with twin sister Catrina, became first all-freshman doubles team since VCU's Martina Nedelkova and Andrea Ondrisova in 1998 to earn a bid to the NCAA Doubles Championship ... Thompsons join Wendy Crabtree as the only Irish freshman ever to play in the event ... became first Irish rookie to play in the top two singles slots since current assistant coach Michelle Dasso in 1998 ... was one-half of the nation's top 18-and-under doubles team prior to arrival at Notre Dame ... solid all-around player with a big backhand ... has exceptional touch at the net ... needs to improve her serve to get some free points.

**AS A FRESHMAN:** Combined with twin sister Catrina to be first all-freshman duo since 1998 - and first-ever Irish all-freshman team - to gain a



Year	Career Record			Year	Career Record		
	Singles	Doubles	Overall		Singles	Doubles	Overall
2003-04	17-8	13-5	29-13	2003-04	1-0	4-3	5-3

## 2003-04 NOTRE DAME WOMEN'S TENNIS (12-12)

Sept. 25-28	Thurs.-Sun.	at adidas Invitational (Peachtree City, Ga.)	NTS
Oct. 3-5	Fri.-Sun.	at Kentucky Fall Classic (Lexington, Ky.)	NTS
Oct. 7-12	Tue.-Sun.	at Riviera/ITA All-American Championships (Pacific Palisades, Calif.)	NTS
Oct. 17	Fri.	<b>USC (exhibition)</b>	<b>W, 4-3</b>
Oct. 23-28	Thurs.-Tue.	at ITA Midwest Championships (Salamazoo, Mich.)	NTS
Nov. 6-9	Thurs.-Sun.	at ITA National Intercollegiate Indoor Championships (Ann Arbor, Mich.)	NTS
Nov. 7-9	Fri.-Sun.	at Midwest Blast (Champaign, Ill.)	NTS
Jan. 29	Thurs.	(21) at Michigan (34)	L, 3-4
Jan. 31	Sat.	(21) Ohio State (48)	W, 5-2
Feb. 1	Sun.	(21) Wisconsin (64)	W, 7-0
Feb. 13	Fri.	(26) at VCU (14)	W, 4-3
Feb. 14	Sat.	(26) vs. Boston College (Blacksburg, Va.)	W, 6-1
Feb. 15	Sun.	(26) at Virginia Tech (69)	W, 5-2
Feb. 20	Fri.	(26) BY: (20)	W, 6-1
Feb. 29	Sun.	(20) Indiana (26)	W, 5-2
March 4	Thurs.	(19) Illinois (17)	L, 2-5
March 10	Wed.	(18) vs. Duke (Wikaia, Hawaii) (6)	L, 1-6
March 13	Sat.	(18) vs. Tennessee (Wikaia, Hawaii) (36)	F., 1-6
March 18	Thurs.	(21) Iowa (47)	W, 6-1
March 27	Sat.	(23) at Wake Forest (33)	L, 0-7
March 28	Sun.	(23) at North Carolina (9)	L, 0-5
April 3	Sat.	(27) Marquette	W, 7-0
April 4	Sun.	(27) Miami (Fla.) (18)	W, 5-2
April 10	Sat.	(23) at William & Mary (43)	L, 3-4
April 12	Mon.	(23) at Texas (14)	L, 2-5
April 15	Thurs.	(24) Northwestern (11)	L, 3-4
April 21	Wed.	(27) at Purdue (61)	L, 3-4
April 30	Fri.	(28) vs. Virginia Tech (71) (BIG EAST semifinals, Coral Gables, Fla.)	W, 4-0
May 1	Sat.	(28) at Miami (26) (BIG EAST final)	L, 0-4
May 15	Sat.	(29) vs. Iowa (38) (NCAA first round, Evanston, Ill.)	W, 4-1
May 16	Sun.	(29) at Northwestern (9) (NCAA second round)	L, 1-7
May 21-29	Mon.-Sat.	(29) at NCAA Singles & Doubles Championships (Acheson, Ga.)	All day

Home matches in **bold** held at Courtney Tennis Center, weather permitting. Otherwise, home matches held in Eck Tennis Pavilion. All times are local to site.

### IRISH 2004 RECORD WHEN ...

playing BIG EAST teams: ..... 4-1	playing a lower-ranked team: ..... 9-5	winning at No. 1 doubles: ..... 9-3
playing Midwest Region teams: ... 6-5	winning the doubles point: ..... 12-3	winning at No. 2 doubles: ..... 10-8
playing at home: ..... 7-2	losing the doubles point: ..... 0-9	winning at No. 3 doubles: ..... 9-3
playing in the Eck Pavilion: ..... 7-1	the final score is 4-3: ..... 1-4	losing at No. 1 singles: ..... 3-8
playing at the Courtney Center: ... 0-1	match is decided by 3-setters: ..... 1-5	losing at No. 2 singles: ..... 2-3
playing on an opponents' court: ... 2-8	the match is tied, 3-3: ..... 0-2	losing at No. 3 singles: ..... 1-9
playing on neutral courts: ..... 3-2	winning at No. 1 singles: ..... 8-4	losing at No. 4 singles: ..... 2-3
playing indoors: ..... 12-3	winning at No. 2 singles: ..... 10-3	losing at No. 5 singles: ..... 4-11
playing outdoors: ..... 2-9	winning at No. 3 singles: ..... 10-2	losing at No. 6 singles: ..... 2-7
playing a ranked team: ..... 10-12	winning at No. 4 singles: ..... 8-4	losing at No. 1 doubles: ..... 2-3
playing a top-25 team: ..... 3-6	winning at No. 5 singles: ..... 7-2	losing at No. 2 doubles: ..... 1-4
playing a higher-ranked team: ..... 3-7	winning at No. 6 singles: ..... 8-3	losing at No. 3 doubles: ..... 2-9

# 2003-04 NOTRE DAME WOMEN'S TENNIS STATISTICS

## Singles

Player	Open	Dual	Overall	Career	Region	In 3 Sets	Match TB
Lauren Connolly	5-3	10-11	15-16	37-31	5-7	1-3	0-1
Sarah Jane Connolly	7-5	7-12	14-17	21-44	7-5	1-6	0-1
Liz Donohue	5-1	1-1	6-8	13-12	2-2	0-2	
Caylan Leslie	0-2		0-2	50-29	0-1		
Emily Neighbours	10-4		10-4	28-13	2-1	2-2	2-3
Kelly Nelson	9-5		9-5	23-12	4-1	3-4	
Alicia Salas	12-8	12-11	24-17	65-42	13-4	5-4	1-1
Jennifer Smith				10-11			
Kristina Stastny	4-3	12-11	15-19	34-35	11-3	5-4	0-2
Catrina Thompson	8-6	12-10	20-16	20-15	10-5	3-3	1-2
Christina Thompson	12-6	13-8	25-13	25-13	14-3	0-4	1-1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>72-50</b>	<b>67-64</b>	<b>139-114</b>	<b>395-257</b>	<b>68-37</b>	<b>26-28</b>	<b>5-6</b>

### ITA Rankings

**Caylan Leslie**  
 Position: 29  
 Feb 10\*

**Alicia Salas**  
 Position: 63  
 Feb 14  
 Spring 1: 17  
 Spring 2: 13  
 Spring 3: 10  
 Spring 4: 11  
 Spring 5: 19  
 Spring 6: 28  
 Spring 7: 22

**Catrina Thompson**  
 Spring 2: 44  
 Spring 3: 92

**Christina Thompson**  
 Feb: 23

**L. Connolly/Salas**  
 Position: 36  
 Feb: 35

**S.J. Connolly/Stastny**  
 Position: 43

**Thompson/Thompson**  
 Spring 1: 42  
 Spring 2: 37  
 Spring 4: 57  
 Spring 5: 44  
 Spring 6: 52  
 Spring 7: 58

\* - ITA indicates insufficient data which means individual was ranked in possession but did not play in the national dual record included in the Feb rankings.

Note: Freshmen dual matches and doubles teams were not eligible for position in ITA.

Player	Career						Dual	Climbing Wins	With Match Tied 3-3
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6			
Lauren Connolly				10-11			10-11	24-21	1
Sarah Jane Connolly					3-6	4-6	7-12	38-31	0-2
Liz Donohue						1-1	1-1	1-1	
Caylan Leslie								33-15	
Emily Neighbours								2-1	
Alicia Salas	12-11						12-11	52-25	2
Jennifer Smith								5-4	
Kristina Stastny					6-9	6-2	12-11	23-23	2
Catrina Thompson			12-10				12-10	12-10	4
Christina Thompson		13-8					13-8	13-8	3
<b>Totals</b>	<b>12-11</b>	<b>13-8</b>	<b>12-10</b>	<b>10-11</b>	<b>9-15</b>	<b>11-9</b>	<b>67-64</b>	<b>203-138</b>	<b>12</b>

## Doubles

Player	Open	Dual	Overall	Career	Dual	Region	Breakers
Lauren Connolly	9-3	18-5	26-8	47-26	33-12	12-4	1-3
Sarah Jane Connolly	5-8	11-9	16-15	56-49	36-28	9-6	1-2
Liz Donohue	5-2		5-4	11-8		1-2	
Caylan Leslie	1-1		1-1	27-10	14-5		
Emily Neighbours	1-3	5-6	6-9	23-17	5-6	4-3	0-1
Kelly Nelson	6-3		6-3	13-8		2-2	
Alicia Salas	6-2	18-5	24-7	63-38	54-23	12-3	1-0
Jennifer Smith				21-16	12-12		
Kristina Stastny	5-6	8-7	13-13	35-26	29-19	2-4	1-0
Catrina Thompson	8-5	12-11	21-16	21-16	12-11	11-6	1-4
Christina Thompson	8-5	12-11	21-16	21-16	12-11	11-6	1-4

Team	#1	#2	#3	Dual	Open	Overall	Career	Climbing Wins	As Last Match On-Court
L. Connolly/Neighbours					2-1	2-1	5-2		
L. Connolly/Salas		16-5		16-5	3-4	24-7	41-38	4	1-3
S.J. Connolly/Neighbours			4-4	4-4	4-4	4-4	4-4	2	0-1
S.J. Connolly/Stastny			7-5	7-5	5-3	12-11	17-14	4	
L. Donohue/Nelson					5-3	5-3	12-6		
L. Donohue/Neighbours					0-1	0-1	0-1		
Leslie/Neighbours					1-1	1-1	2-1		
Neighbours/Nelson					1-0	1-0	1-0		
Neighbours/Stastny			1-2	1-2		1-2	1-2	1	
Thompson/Thompson	12-11			12-11	9-5	21-16	21-16	4	1-4
<b>Totals</b>	<b>12-11</b>	<b>16-5</b>	<b>12-11</b>	<b>42-27</b>	<b>29-21</b>	<b>71-48</b>	<b>164-64</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2-5</b>

# 2003-04 NOTRE DAME WOMEN'S TENNIS MATCH-BY-MATCH RESULTS

## Alicia Salas (Sr.)

Date	W/L	Opponent	School	Score	Ranking	Event
9/26	W	(65) Kátia Cargill	Duke	6-2, 6-2	1-0	2003 Invitational "ad" flight, first round
9/26	W	(33) Ashley Roberts	Tennessee	6-4, 6-1	2-0	2003 Invitational "ad" flight, round of 16
9/27	L	(63) Alexis Goodou (8)	Florida	6-3, 3-6, 6-2	2-1	2003 Invitational "ad" flight, quarterfinals
10/1	W	(63) Ashley Scheiber (85)	Vanderbilt	6-4, 3-6, 6-0	3-1	Riviera/TIAA-American Championships qualifying, first round
10/1	W	(63) Alix Lacourie (33)	Georgia	6-1, 6-0	4-1	Riviera/TIAA-American Championships qualifying, second round
10/8	W	(63) Megan Mirin (99)	William & Mary	6-4, 6-3	5-1	Riviera/TIAA-American Championships qualifying, round
10/9	L	(63) Tereza Erzsina (27)	Tennessee	6-4, 6-0	5-2	Riviera/TIAA-American Championships, first round
10/10	W	(63) Zsuzsanna Hollósi (29)	Arizona	6-4, 6-3	6-2	Riviera/TIAA-American Championships, quarterfinal
10/10	L	(63) Daria Pasara (7)	Oregon	6-4, 7-5 (7-5)	6-3	Riviera/TIAA-American Championships, quarterfinal
10/17	W*	(63) Luana Maguani (15)	USC	6-3, 7-6 (7-4)	7-3	USC Invitational, No. 1
10/25	W	(63) Sarah Boly	Indiana	6-0, 6-1	8-3	TIA Midwest Championships, first round
10/25	W	(63) Angus Yang (68)	Northwestern	5-2, 6-3	9-3	TIA Midwest Championships, second round
10/26	W	(63) Spina McElroy (79)	Wisconsin	5-3, 6-3	10-3	TIA Midwest Championships, round of 16
10/27	W	(63) Elizabeth Hare	Michigan	6-1, 6-3	11-3	TIA Midwest Championships, quarterfinals
10/27	W	(63) Jessica Rush (22)	Northwestern	6-3, 6-3	12-3	TIA Midwest Championships, semifinals
10/28	L	(63) Cristela Oriani (3)	Northwestern	6-3, 6-2	12-4	TIA Midwest Championships, final
11/6	L	(63) Alexis Goodou (8)	Florida	6-2, 6-3	12-5	TIA National Invitational Championships, first round
11/7	L	(63) Sasha Padkova	California	7-6 (7-5), 6-3	13-5	TIA National Invitational Championships, quarterfinal
11/29	W	(14) Elizabeth Ham (37)	Michigan	6-2, 6-4	14-6	No. 1
11/31	W	(14) Lindsey Williams	Ohio State	7-5 (9-7), 6-0	14-6	No. 2
12/1	W	(14) Kelle McGaffigan	Wisconsin	7-6 (7-3), 6-3	15-6	No. 3
12/3	L	(14) Olga Borisova	VCU	7-6 (7-3), 6-3	15-7	No. 4
12/14	W	(14) Silvia Szegedi	Boston College	2-6, 6-4, 6-2	16-7	No. 5
12/15	L	(14) Anja Szazari	Virginia Tech	2-6, 6-2, 1-0 (11-9)	16-8	No. 1
12/20	W*	(14) Barbara Zhabova (63)	BYU	6-3, 6-3	17-8	No. 1
12/29	W	(17) Dora Votag (30)	Indiana	6-0, 6-2	18-8	No. 1
1/4	W	(17) Heather McGuffigan (14)	Illinois	6-2, 6-3	19-8	No. 1
1/10	W	(13) Amanda Johnson (5)	Duke	2-6, 6-1, 6-1	20-8	No. 1
1/13	W	(13) Danny Endara (24)	Tennessee	6-4, 4-6, 1-0 (11-9)	21-8	No. 1
1/18	W	(13) Meg Racette	Iowa	6-4, 6-1	22-8	No. 1
1/27	L	(10) Ashley Davis	Wake Forest	6-3, 6-1	22-9	No. 1
1/28	L	(10) Anisla Mojica (89)	North Carolina	6-4, 6-1	22-10	No. 1
1/31	W	(10) Veronica Garcia-Briseno	Norquette	6-4, 6-1	23-10	No. 3
1/31	L	(10) Maggie Bradley (9)	Miami	4-6, 1-6, 6-2	23-11	No. 2
1/10	L	(11) Megan Matsuda	William & Mary	2-6, 6-2, 6-3	23-12	No. 3
1/12	T*	(11) Petra Džuric (18)	Texas	7-6, 6-1	23-13	No. 3
1/15	L	(11) Cristela Greer (3)	Northwestern	6-3, 6-2	23-14	No. 1
1/21	L	(19) Hain Su	Purdue	6-2, 6-6, 6-3	23-15	No. 1
1/30	Abso.	(23) Ana Liszer (104)	Virginia Tech	1-6, 6-1, 1-2, abandoned	23-15	No. 1 (BIG EAST Championship semifinal)
1/31	L	(23) Megan Bradley (9)	Miami	6-0, 6-1	23-16	No. 1 (BIG EAST Championship final)
1/13	W*	(22) Meg Racette (110)	Iowa	7-5 (7-4), 6-4	24-16	No. 1 (NCAA Championship first round)
1/16	L	(22) Catalina Gier (3)	Northwestern	6-1, 5-1	24-17	No. 1 (NCAA Championship second round)

in dual matches: 12-11-1 in open tournaments: 12-6 at home: 6-2 on the road: 16-15-4 vs. ranked opponents: 15-12-4 in three-set matches: 5-4-1 (3-3)

\* indicates clinching victory; † indicates clinching victory in last match on court

Note: Numbers in parentheses before opponent's name are Salas' TIA national ranking at time of match; numbers in parentheses after opponent's name are her TIA national ranking at time of match. Ranked in parentheses after "in three-set matches" category in singles results is record in three-set matches in dual matches when the team result is undecided with only three sets left to be played.

## 2003-04 NOTRE DAME WOMEN'S TENNIS MATCH-BY-MATCH RESULTS

### Catrina Thompson (Fr.)/Christian Thompson (Fr.)

Date	W/L	Opponent	School	Score	Record	Tournament
9/25	W	Brown/Chase	Wisconsin	5-2	1-0	Indiana Invitational first round
9/26	W	Brown/Pierce	TCU	5-4	2-0	Indiana Invitational round of 16
9/27	L	Gordon/Rotundi (17)	Florida	6-7	2-1	Indiana Invitational quarterfinals
1/23	L	Nandi/Suzner	Muskegon	9-8 (7-5)	2-2	Kentucky Fall Classic five flight first round
1/24	W	Roznovsky/Williams	Ohio State	8-4	3-2	Kentucky Fall Classic five flight consolation
1/24	W	Boomerline/Sachnikov	William & Mary	9-7	4-2	Kentucky Fall Classic five flight consolation, consolation
10/17	L	Megnaei/Vicencio	USC	8-5	4-3	USC (exhibition), No. 1
10/24	W	Exton/Malan	McBryde	8-4	5-3	ITA Midwest Championships Round of 64
10/24	W	Griffin/Lam	Zeller	8-6	6-3	ITA Midwest Championships Round of 32
10/25	W	Milner/Szwarcik	Illinois State	8-6	7-3	ITA Midwest Championships Round of 16
10/26	L	Gardner/McCaffigan (52)	Illinois	8-2	7-4	ITA Midwest Championships quarterfinals
11/7	W	Zelinski/Szymon	Miami	8-1	8-4	Midwest Blast
11/8	L	Ekko/Devos	Illinois	9-8 (7-6)	8-5	Midwest Blast
11/9	W	Bradin/Fitz-Krackow	Virginia	8-3	9-5	Midwest Blast
1/29	L	DeCenzo/Rosenford (47)	Michigan	8-6	9-6	No. 1
1/31	W	Zisk/Lenkova	Ohio State	9-7	10-6	No. 1
2/1	W	Mannin/McGuffey	Wisconsin	2-5	11-6	No. 1
2/3	L	Bodisona/Orlikova	VCU	9-6	11-7	No. 1
2/14	W	Holthorn/Kawata	Boston College	8-6	12-7	No. 1
2/15	W*	Kimer/Lam (37)	Virginia Tech	9-2	13-7	No. 1
2/20	W*	Masfarkac/Zahova	BYU	8-5	14-7	No. 1
2/25	W	(43) Schulke/Sin/Lea (15)	Indiana	9-4	15-7	No. 1
3/4	L	(42) Gordon/McCaffigan (7)	Illinois	8-6	15-8	No. 1
3/10	W	(37) Smith/Zawacki	Duke	8-6	16-8	No. 1
3/12	L	(37) Bazina/Schuch	Tennessee	9-8 (7-5)	16-9	No. 1
3/18	L	(37) Morita/Ricente	Iowa	9-5 (7-5)	16-10	No. 1
3/27	L	Murphy/Davis	Wake Forest	8-6	16-11	No. 1
3/28	L	Olins/Mojica (21)	North Carolina	8-4	16-12	No. 1
4/3	W	Garcia/Brismacher/B	Idaho State	8-5	17-12	No. 1
4/14	W	Applebaum/Bradley (22)	Miami	8-6	18-12	No. 1
4/19	L	(57) Kimb/Wei (24)	William & Mary	8-2	18-13	No. 1
4/12	L*	(57) Buckler/Swanson	Iowa	8-3	18-14	No. 1
4/15	W	(57) Coen/Josh (2)	Northwestern	9-8 (7-5)	19-14	No. 1
4/21	W	(54) Hyman/Woods	Purdue	6-3	20-14	No. 1
4/30	W*	(58) Stewart/Lee	Virginia Tech	6-4	21-14	No. 1 (BIG EAST Championship semifinals)
5/1	L	(58) Applebaum/Bradley (26)	Miami	8-6	21-15	No. 1 (BIG EAST Championship final)
5/15	Abn	(56) Morita/Suzuki (68)	Iowa	6-4, abandoned	21-16	No. 1 (NIT 2nd Championship consolation)
5/16	L	(65) Green/Lea (1)	Northwestern	9-7	21-16	No. 1 (NIT 2nd Championship second round)

L: lost matches; 12-12-1: in open tournaments; 9-5: all-time; 2-1: on the road; 14-13-1: vs. ranked opponents; 4-8-1: vs. sidetracked; 1-4: vs. regional opponents; 11-6-1: vs. high ranked opponents; 1-4:

\* indicates comeback victory; \* indicates comeback victory in last match of court

Note: Numbers in parentheses before opponents' names are Thompsons' ITA national ranking at time of match; numbers in parentheses after opponents' names are their ITA national ranking at time of match.

# CAREER RESULTS VS. NCAA SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Alexis Salas Career Record vs. 2004 NCAA Singles Championship Participants: 14-17 (17 different opponents)

Alexis Salas Season Record vs. 2004 NCAA Singles Championship Participants: 5-13 (16 different opponents)

Salas vs. Megan Bradley (Miami) – Bradley leads 2-0

Date	Winner	Score	Salas Rank	Opp. Rank	Location/Surface	Position/Event	Notes
4/4/04	Bradley	6-3, 7-6, 6-2	16th	4th	Akron Campus/Indoor	No. 1	NU won 5-2
5/1/04	Bradley	6-4, 6-1	23rd	4th	Miami/Outdoor	No. 1	2004 EAST Championship final; NU won 4-0

Salas vs. Petra Dieder (Texas) – Dieder leads 1-0

Date	Winner	Score	Salas Rank	Opp. Rank	Location/Surface	Position/Event	Notes
4/12/04	Dieder	7-5, 6-4	11th	75th	Texas/Outdoor	No. 1	UT won 5-2

Salas vs. Terevy Ernieva (Tennessee) – Ernieva leads 1-1

Date	Winner	Score	Salas Rank	Opp. Rank	Location/Surface	Position/Event	Notes
10/30/03	Ernieva	6-4, 9-0	63rd	27th	Pacific Palisades/Outdoor	ITA All-American Championships	1st round
3/13/04	Salas	6-4, 4-3, 1-0 (10-7)	13th	24th	Wake, Hawaii/Outdoor	No. 1	UT won 6-1

Salas vs. Alexis Gordon (Florida) – Gordon leads 3-0

Date	Winner	Score	Salas Rank	Opp. Rank	Location/Surface	Position/Event	Notes
8/26/02	Gordon	6-2, 6-1	66th	85th	Atlanta/Indoor	adidas Invitational	Adidas Invitational
9/27/03	Gordon	6-2, 3-6, 6-2	63rd	8th	Atlanta/Indoor	adidas Invitational	2nd Adidas Invitational
1/13/03	Gordon	3-3, 6-3	69th	8th	Madison/Indoor	National Indoor Championships	1st round

Salas vs. Cristie Griar (Northwestern) – Griar leads 5-1

Date	Winner	Score	Salas Rank	Opp. Rank	Location/Surface	Position/Event	Notes
9/28/02	Salas	6-7, 6-4, 5-3	68th	93th	Atlanta/Outdoor	adidas Invitational	Adidas Invitational
10/20/03	Griar	6-1, 6-0	124th	16th	Northwestern/Indoor	No. 1	NU won 7-0
5/13/03	Griar	7-5, 6-3	94th	3th	Florida/Outdoor	NCAA Singles Championship	1st round
10/21/03	Griar	6-2, 6-7	63rd	4th	W. Michigan/Indoor	ITA Midwest Championships	5th
4/15/04	Griar	6-3, 6-2	17th	3rd	North Duxbury/Indoor	No. 1	NU won 4-3
6/16/04	Griar	6-1, 5-1	22nd	3rd	Northwestern/Outdoor	No. 1	NCAA Championship second round; NU won 4-1

Salas vs. Dierdra Hoflands (Arizona) – Salas leads 4-0

Date	Winner	Score	Salas Rank	Opp. Rank	Location/Surface	Position/Event	Notes
10/1/03	Salas	6-4, 6-3	65th	28th	Pacific Palisades/Outdoor	ITA All-American Championships	1st round

Salas vs. Azarada Johnson (Duke) – Salas leads 1-0

Date	Winner	Score	Salas Rank	Opp. Rank	Location/Surface	Position/Event	Notes
3/10/04	Salas	2-6, 6-1, 6-3	12th	9th	Wake Forest/Indoor	No. 1	Duke won 6-1

Salas vs. Luana Magaldi (USC) – Salas leads 1-0

Date	Winner	Score	Salas Rank	Opp. Rank	Location/Surface	Position/Event	Notes
10/17/03	Salas	6-3, 7-6 (7-4)	62nd	15th	North Duxbury/Indoor	No. 1	NU won 4-3 (retired match)

Salas vs. Jennifer McGuffigan (Illinois) – Salas leads 1-0

Date	Winner	Score	Salas Rank	Opp. Rank	Location/Surface	Position/Event	Notes
3/4/04	Salas	6-2, 6-3	17th	14th	North Duxbury/Indoor	No. 1	UT won 5-2

Salas vs. Katie McGuffigan (Wisconsin) – Salas leads 2-1

Date	Winner	Score	Salas Rank	Opp. Rank	Location/Surface	Position/Event	Notes
3/7/02	Salas	1-3, 6-2, 7-6 (7-2)	127th	-	North Duxbury/Indoor	No. 4	NU won 7-0
5/11/02	McGuffigan	3-4, 2-6, 6-2	-	-	Northwestern/Indoor	No. 4	NCAA Championship 1st round; Wisconsin won 4-2
2/1/04	Salas	7-6 (7-3), 6-3	14th	-	North Duxbury/Indoor	No. 1	NU won 7-6

## CAREER RESULTS VS. NCAA SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP PARTICIPANTS

### Salas vs. Aniela Mobje (North Carolina) – Ted leads 1-1

Date	Winner	Score	Salas Rank	Opp. Rank	Location/Surface	Position/Event	Notes
4/2/92	Salas	6-3, 7-6 (7-3)	-	-	North Carolina/Outdoor	No. 4	UNC won 6-1
3/25/94	Mobje	6-4, 6-7	19th	25th	North Carolina/Outdoor	No. 1	UNC won 5-0

### Salas vs. Megan Roth (WV Pan & Mary) – Mobje leads 2-1

Date	Winner	Score	Salas Rank	Opp. Rank	Location/Surface	Position/Event	Notes
3/24/93	Mobje	6-7, 6-3, 6-4	65th	23rd	North Carolina/Indoor	No. 2	WVSM won 4-3
10/1/93	Salas	6-4, 6-3	63rd	38th	Pacific Palisades/Outdoor	ITA All-American Championships	qualifying round
4/10/94	Mobje	2-6, 6-3, 5-2	11th	15th	William & Mary/Outdoor	No. 1	WVSM won 4-3

### Salas vs. Daria Panova (Oregon) – Panova leads 1-0

Date	Winner	Score	Salas Rank	Opp. Rank	Location/Surface	Position/Event	Notes
10/1/93	Panova	6-4, 7-6 (7-2)	63rd	7th	Pacific Palisades/Indoor	ITA All-American Championships	consolation quarterfinals

### Salas vs. Sasha Prokhorova (California) – Prokhorova leads 1-0

Date	Winner	Score	Salas Rank	Opp. Rank	Location/Surface	Position/Event	Notes
11/1/95	Prokhorova	7-6 (7-3), 6-3	33rd	-	Melrose/Indoor	National Indoor Championships	consolation

### Salas vs. Jessica Rush (Northwestern) – Salas leads 1-0

Date	Winner	Score	Salas Rank	Opp. Rank	Location/Surface	Position/Event	Notes
10/27/93	Salas	6-3, 6-3	63rd	42nd	W. Michigan/Indoor	ITA Midwest Championships	semifinals

### Salas vs. Barbara Zahrova (SUI) – Salas leads 1-0

Date	Winner	Score	Salas Rank	Opp. Rank	Location/Surface	Position/Event	Notes
2/25/94	Salas	6-3, 6-3	16th	23rd	North Carolina/Indoor	No. 1	MD won 6-1

### Salas vs. Dora Young (Indiana), alternate – Salas leads 1-0

Date	Winner	Score	Salas Rank	Opp. Rank	Location/Surface	Position/Event	Notes
2/25/94	Salas	6-0, 6-0	17th	30th	North Carolina/Indoor	No. 1	MD won 5-2

# CAREER RESULTS VS. NCAA DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Thompson/Thompson Record vs. 2004 NCAA Doubles Championship Participants: 2-7

Thompson/Thompson Record vs. Teams With One Player Earning a Bid to 2004 NCAA Doubles Championship: 3-2

Thompson/Thompson vs. Olga Borzova (VCU) -- Borzova leads 1-0 (Borzova and Gabriela Arribas earned NCAA Doubles Championship berth)

Date	Winner	Score	ND Rank	Opp. Rank	Location/Surface	U.S. Partner	Position/Event	Notes
2/23/04	Borzova/Ludova	9-5	-	-	VCU/Indoor	Sara Irigoyen	No. 1	ND won doubles point & match (4-3)

Thompson/Thompson vs. Kendall Chien/Aniefa Lopez (North Carolina) -- Chien/Lopez lead 1-0

Date	Winner	Score	ND Rank	Opp. Rank	Location/Surface	U.S. Partner	Position/Event	Notes
3/20/04	Chien/Lopez	8-4	-	2nd	North Carolina/Outdoor		No. 1	UNC won doubles point & match (5-0)

Thompson/Thompson vs. Michelle DeCosta (Michigan) -- DeCosta leads 1-1 (DeCosta & Kam Delicata earned NCAA Doubles Championship berth)

Date	Winner	Score	ND Rank	Opp. Rank	Location/Surface	U.S. Partner	Position/Event	Notes
1/23/04	DeCosta/Kelso	8-6	-	4th	Michigan/Indoor	Leanne Rutherford	No. 1	Michigan doubles point for UNC; UNC won match (4-3)

Thompson/Thompson vs. Alexei Gordon/Julia Ryzhenko (Florida) -- Gordon/Ryzhenko lead 1-0

Date	Winner	Score	ND Rank	Opp. Rank	Location/Surface	U.S. Partner	Position/Event	Notes
9/20/02	Gordon/Ryzhenko	8-3	-	7th	Atlanta/Outdoor		doubles for 1st time	qualified only

Thompson/Thompson vs. Cynthia Goulet/Jennifer McGuffigan (Illinois) -- Goulet/McGuffigan lead 2-0

Date	Winner	Score	ND Rank	Opp. Rank	Location/Surface	U.S. Partner	Position/Event	Notes
1/22/03	Goulet/McGuffigan	9-3	-	21st	W. Michigan/Indoor		ITA Midwest Championships	qualified only
3/4/04	Goulet/McGuffigan	9-5	42nd	7th	Alexis Jamco/Indoor		No. 1	UI won doubles point & match (5-2)

Thompson/Thompson vs. Cristelle Gien/Jessica Rush (Northwestern) -- Tied 1-1

Date	Winner	Score	ND Rank	Opp. Rank	Location/Surface	U.S. Partner	Position/Event	Notes
4/17/04	Thompson/Thompson	9-8 (7-5)	37th	2nd	North Campus/Outdoor		No. 1	ND won doubles point; ND won match (4-3)
5/15/04	Gien/Rush	9-7	38th	3rd	Northwestern/Outdoor		No. 1	NCAA Group 1st round; NU won doubles point & match (4-1)

Thompson/Thompson vs. Luana Magnanoli/Corina Vermorel (USC) -- Magnanoli/Vermorel lead 1-0

Date	Winner	Score	ND Rank	Opp. Rank	Location/Surface	U.S. Partner	Position/Event	Notes
1/21/03	Magnanoli/Vermorel	9-5	-	-	North Campus/Indoor		No. 1	ND won doubles point & match (4-0)

Thompson/Thompson vs. Lindsay Harris/Katie McGuffigan (Mississippi) -- Thompson/Thompson lead 1-0

Date	Winner	Score	ND Rank	Opp. Rank	Location/Surface	U.S. Partner	Position/Event	Notes
2/1/04	Thompson/Thompson	8-2	-	-	North Campus/Indoor		No. 1	ND won doubles point & match (7-0)

Thompson/Thompson vs. Megan Stahl/Amy Wei (William & Mary) -- Stahl/Wei lead 1-0

Date	Winner	Score	ND Rank	Opp. Rank	Location/Surface	U.S. Partner	Position/Event	Notes
4/15/04	Stahl/Wei	6-2	37th	24th	William & Mary/Outdoor		No. 1	ND won doubles point; W&M won match (4-3)

Thompson/Thompson vs. Kelsi Ruckert/Nendra Strohm (Texas) -- Ruckert/Strohm lead 1-0

Date	Winner	Score	ND Rank	Opp. Rank	Location/Surface	U.S. Partner	Position/Event	Notes
6/12/04	Ruckert/Strohm	8-3	37th	-	Texas/Outdoor		No. 1	Match played in doubles tent for ITT; UT won match (3-2)

Thompson/Thompson vs. Linda Tran (Indiana) -- Thompson/Thompson lead 1-0 (Tran and Sarah Britty earned NCAA Doubles Championship berth)

Date	Winner	Score	ND Rank	Opp. Rank	Location/Surface	U.S. Partner	Position/Event	Notes
2/28/04	Thompson/Thompson	8-4	42nd	46th	North Campus/Indoor	Kate Schaefer	No. 1	ND won doubles point & match (6-2)

Thompson/Thompson vs. Barbara Zahnova (BYU) -- Thompson/Thompson lead 1-0 (Zahnova and Sofia Holdes earned NCAA Doubles Championship berth)

Date	Winner	Score	ND Rank	Opp. Rank	Location/Surface	BYU Partner	Position/Event	Notes
2/20/04	Thompson/Thompson	5-1	-	-	North Campus/Indoor	Julie Martelloni	No. 1	Finished doubles point for ND; ND won match (6-1)

Thompson/Thompson vs. Tory Zawack (Duke) -- Thompson/Thompson lead 1-0 (Zawack and Amanda Johnson earned NCAA Doubles Championship berth)

Date	Winner	Score	ND Rank	Opp. Rank	Location/Surface	U.S. Partner	Position/Event	Notes
2/10/04	Thompson/Thompson	8-6	37th	-	Wiggins, Hawaii/Outdoor	Jana Smith	No. 1	DU won doubles point & match (3-1)



# NOYRE DAME WOMEN'S TENNIS INDIVIDUAL RANKING HISTORY

## Alicia Salas (Sr.)

### SINGLES

First Ranking: Spring 1, 2002 (107th)

Highest Ranking: 10th (Spring 3, 2004)

Current Ranking: 22nd

2002-03

Spring 1: 127

Spring 2: 41

Spring 3: -

Spring 4: -

Spring 5: 123

Spring 6: 118

Spring 7: -

Fall: 124

Present: 98

Fall: 125

Spring 1: 73

Spring 2: 65

Spring 3: 77

Spring 4: 87

Spring 6: 89

Spring 8: 84

Fall: 95

Consecutive Rankings (Best): 18 (Final 2002-present)

Consecutive Rankings (Current): 18

2003-04

Present: 93

Fall: 14

Spring 1: 17

Spring 2: 13

Spring 3: 15

Spring 4: 11

Spring 5: 19

Spring 8: 23

Spring 7: 22

### DOUBLES

First Ranking: Final 2003 (55th)

Highest Ranking: 36th (Preseason 2003)

Current Ranking: NR

2003-03 (w/Calvin Gonzalez)

Final: 58

2003-04 (w/Calvin Gonzalez)

Preseason: 38

Fall: 39

Consecutive Rankings (Best): 3 (Final 2003-Fall 2003)

Consecutive Rankings (Current): 0

## Catrina Thompson (Fr.)

### SINGLES

First Ranking: Spring 2, 2004 (84th)

Highest Ranking: 84th (Spring 2, 2004)

Current Ranking: NR

2003-04

Spring 2: 84

Spring 3: 82

Spring 4: 82

Spring 5: 82

Spring 6: 82

Spring 7: 82

Spring 8: 82

Spring 9: 82

Spring 10: 82

Spring 11: 82

Spring 12: 82

Spring 13: 82

Spring 14: 82

Spring 15: 82

Spring 16: 82

Spring 17: 82

Spring 18: 82

Spring 19: 82

Spring 20: 82

Spring 21: 82

Spring 22: 82

Spring 23: 82

Spring 24: 82

Spring 25: 82

Spring 26: 82

Spring 27: 82

Spring 28: 82

Spring 29: 82

Spring 30: 82

Spring 31: 82

Spring 32: 82

Spring 33: 82

Spring 34: 82

Spring 35: 82

Spring 36: 82

Consecutive Rankings (Best): 2 (Spring 2, 2004-Spring 3, 2004)

Consecutive Rankings (Current): 0

### DOUBLES

First Ranking: Spring 1, 2004 (42nd)

Highest Ranking: 36th (Spring 7, 2004)

Current Ranking: 36th

2004-04 (w/Christina Thompson)

Spring 1: 42

Spring 2: 37

Spring 4: 57

Spring 5: 44

Spring 6: 50

Spring 7: 36

Consecutive Rankings (Best): 3 (Spring 4, 2004-present)

Consecutive Rankings (Current): 3

## Christian Thompson (Fr.)

### SINGLES

First Ranking: Fall 2003 (88th)

Highest Ranking: 88th (Fall 2003)

Current Ranking: NR

2003-03

Fall: 88

Consecutive Rankings (Best): 1 (Fall 2003)

Consecutive Rankings (Current): 0

### DOUBLES

First Ranking: Spring 1, 2004 (42nd)

Highest Ranking: 36th (Spring 7, 2004)

Current Ranking: 36th

2003-04 (w/Calvin Gonzalez)

Spring 1: 42

Spring 2: 37

Spring 4: 57

Spring 5: 44

Spring 6: 50

Spring 7: 36

Consecutive Rankings (Best): 3 (Spring 4, 2004-present)

Consecutive Rankings (Current): 3

## 2003-04 NOTRE DAME WOMEN'S TENNIS RESULTS VS. RANKED PLAYERS

### Alicia Salas (Sr.)

Season vs. Ranked Players: 15-12-1 (Singles), 0-3 (Doubles)

Career vs. Ranked Players: 22-23-1 (Singles), 4-8 (Doubles)

9/27	L	#8 Alexis Gordon (Florida) 6-2, 3-6, 6-2 -- adidas Invitational "adi" High quarterfinals
10/7	W	#85 Ashley Schaffner (Vanderbilt) 6-4, 3-6, 6-0 -- Riviera/ITA All-American Championships qualifying first round
10/7	W	#33 Alex Macelario (Clemson) 6-1, 6-0 -- Riviera/ITA All-American Championships qualifying second round
10/8	W	#36 Megan Muth (William & Mary) 6-4, 6-3 -- Riviera/ITA All-American Championships qualifying round
10/9	L	#27 Tammy Encina (Tennessee) 6-4, 6-0 -- Riviera/ITA All-American Championships first round
10/10	W	#29 Dianne Hollands (Arizona) 6-4, 6-3 -- Riviera/ITA All-American Championships consolation
10/10	L	#7 Daria Panova (Oregon) 6-4, 7-6 (7-5) -- Riviera/ITA All-American Championships consolation quarterfinals
10/17	W	#15 Lucina Magnani (USC) 6-3, 7-6 (7-4) -- USC (exhibition), No. 1
10/25	W	#69 Andrea Young (Northwestern) 6-2, 6-3 -- ITA Midwest Championships second round
10/26	W	#79 Shana McElroy (Wisconsin) 6-3, 6-2 -- ITA Midwest Championships Round of 16
10/27	W	#42 Jessica Rush (Northwestern) 6-2, 6-3 -- ITA Midwest Championships semifinals
10/28	L	#4 Cristelle Grier (Northwestern) 6-2, 6-2 -- ITA Midwest Championships finals
11/7	L	#8 Alexis Gordon (Florida) 6-3, 9-3 -- ITA National Indoor Championships first round
1/29	W	#37 Elizabeth Exon (Michigan) 6-2, 6-4 -- No. 1
2/20	W	#43 Barbara Zahnova (BYU) 6-3, 6-2 -- No. 1
2/29	W	#30 Dora Vesig (Wisconsin) 6-0, 6-2 -- No. 1
3/4	W	#14 Jennifer McGaffigan (Illinois) 6-2, 6-3 -- No. 1
3/10	W	#5 Amanda Johnson (Duke) 2-6, 6-1, 6-3 -- No. 1
3/19	W	#24 Tammy Encina (Tennessee) 6-4, 4-6, 1-0 (10-7) -- No. 1
3/28	L	#29 Aniela Mojzis (North Carolina) 6-4, 9-1 -- No. 1
4/4	L	#4 Megan Bradley (Miami) 6-3, 1-6, 6-2 -- No. 1
4/10	L	#26 Megan Muth (William & Mary) 2-6, 6-3, 6-2 -- No. 1
4/12	L	#18 Petra Dzidar (Texas) 7-6, 6-4 -- No. 1
4/15	L	#9 Cristelle Grier (Northwestern) 6-3, 6-2 -- No. 1
4/30	Aban.	#106 Anat Elazari (Virginia Tech) 1-6, 6-1, 1-2, abandoned -- No. 1 (BIG EAST semifinals)
5/1	L	#4 Megan Bradley (Miami) 6-0, 6-1 -- No. 1 (BIG EAST final)
5/15	W	#110 Meg Racette (Iowa) 7-6 (7-4), 6-4 -- No. 1 (NCAA first round)
5/16	L	#2 Cristelle Grier (Northwestern) 6-1, 6-1 -- No. 1 (NCAA second round)

### Catrina Thompson (Fr.)/Christian Thompson (Fr.)

Season vs. Ranked Teams: 9-7

9/27	L	#17 Alexis Gordon/Julia Rotynski (Florida) 8-5 -- adidas Invitational quarterfinals
10/26	L	#31 Cynthia Goule/Jennifer McGaffigan (Illinois) 8-5 -- ITA Midwest Championships quarterfinals
1/29	L	#47 Michelle DeCossa/Leanne Rutherford (Michigan) 8-6 -- No. 1
2/15	W	#37 Ulises Kinard/Felicia Lam (Virginia Tech) 8-2 -- No. 1
2/29	W	#45 Kerie Sontukevic/Linda Tran (Indiana) 8-4 -- No. 1
3/4	L	#7 Cynthia Goule/Jennifer McGaffigan (Illinois) 8-6 -- No. 1
3/28	L	#23 Aniela Mojzis/Kendall Cline (North Carolina) 8-4 -- No. 1
4/4	W	#22 Melissa Applegate/Megan Bradley (Miami) 8-0 -- No. 1
4/10	L	#24 Megan Muth/Amy Wei (William & Mary) 8-2 -- No. 1
4/15	W	#2 Cristelle Grier/Jessica Rush (Northwestern) 6-3 (7-5) -- No. 1
5/1	L	#35 Melissa Applegate/Megan Bradley (Miami) 8-6 -- No. 1 (BIG EAST semifinals)
5/15	Aban.	#60 Hilary Mintz/Meg Racette (Iowa) -- No. 1 (NCAA first round)
5/16	L	#3 Cristelle Grier/Jessica Rush (Northwestern) 9-7 -- No. 1 (NCAA second round)

## NOTRE DAME WOMEN'S TENNIS CAREER WINS OVER RANKED PLAYERS

### Alicia Salas (Sr.)

Date	Opp. Rank	Opponent	School	Score	Event	ND Rank
2/4/01	84	Brigitte Zarazoa	Illinois State	6-1, 6-3	No. 5	--
2/16/02	77	Agnas Wisk	Tennessee	6-4, 7-5	No. 4	--
3/30/02	81	Katie Marzolf	Wake Forest	7-5, 7-6 (7-2)	No. 4	--
4/1/02	84	Saras Arasu	Duke	4-6, 6-1, 6-2	No. 4	--
6/22/02	69	Erica Fisk	Ohio State	5-1, 0-6, 1-0 (10-7)	OSU/Princo Cup semifinals	66
6/29/02	90	Christelle Gries	Northwestern	5-7, 6-4, 6-3	Alicia's Invitational consolation	66
4/27/03	54	Melissa Applebaums	Miami (Fla.)	7-5, 4-6, 7-5	No. 2	93
10/7/03	85	Ashley Schellhas	Vanderbilt	6-4, 3-6, 6-3	All-American Chps. qualifying	63
10/7/03	33	Alix Laczelaré	Gleason	6-1, 6-0	All-American Chps. qualifying	63
10/8/03	39	Megan Muth	William & Mary	6-4, 6-3	All-American Chps. qualifying	63
10/10/03	29	Dianne Hollands	Arizona	6-4, 6-3	All-American Chps. consolation	63
10/17/03	15	Luana Magnani	USD	6-3, 7-6 (7-4)	USD (exhibition), No. 1	63
10/25/03	69	Andrea Yung	Northwestern	6-2, 6-3	Midwest Chps. second round	63
10/26/03	79	Shana McElroy	Wisconsin	6-3, 6-2	Midwest Chps. Round of 16	63
10/27/03	42	Jessica Rush	Northwestern	6-3, 6-3	Midwest Chps. semifinals	63
1/29/04	37	Elizabeth Exon	Michigan	6-2, 6-4	No. 1	14
2/20/04	43	Barbara Zahnova	BYU	6-3, 6-3	No. 1	14
2/28/04	30	Dora Vaslag	Indiana	6-0, 6-2	No. 1	17
3/4/04	14	Jennifer McGalligan	Illinois	6-7, 6-3	No. 1	17
3/10/04	5	Amanda Johnson	Duke	2-6, 6-1, 6-3	No. 1	13
3/13/04	24	Taromy Enoma	Tennessee	6-4, 4-6, 1-0 (10-7)	No. 1	13
5/15/04	110	Mug Racello	Iowa	7-5 (7-4), 6-4	No. 1 (NCAA first round)	22

### Catrina Thompson (Fr.)/Christian Thompson (Fr.)

Date	Opp. Rank	Opponent	School	Score	Event	ND Rank
2/15/04	37	Kirave/Lam	Virginia Tech	6-2	No. 1	--
2/29/04	45	Schluebin/Tren	Indiana	2-4	No. 1	42
4/4/04	22	Applebaum/Hredley	Miami	6-5	No. 1	--
4/15/04	2	Grier/Rush	Northwestern	6-3 (7-5)	No. 1	57

## NOTRE DAME WOMEN'S TENNIS CAREER/SEASON RECORD BY POSITION

Note: Career records are listed first in each spot with 2002-04 records in parentheses (except for freshmen).

### Alicia Salas (Sr.)

Singles (52-24 career, 12-11 in '04)

No. 1: 16-16 (12-11) No. 2: 9-5 No. 3: 1-0 No. 4: 15-3 No. 5: 3-0 No. 6: 2-0

Doubles (64-25 career, 18-5 in '04)

No. 1: 2-1 No. 2: 32-14 (18-5) No. 3: 20-10

Climbing Wins

Singles: 4 (2) Doubles: 17 (4)

### Catrina Thompson (Fr.)

Singles (12-10)

No. 1: 0-0 No. 2: 0-0 No. 3: 12-10 No. 4: 0-0 No. 5: 0-0 No. 6: 0-0

Doubles (12-11)

No. 1: 12-11 No. 2: 6-0 No. 3: 0-0

Climbing Wins

Singles: 4 Doubles: 4

### Christian Thompson (Fr.)

Singles (10-8)

No. 1: 0-0 No. 2: 13-6 No. 3: 0-0 No. 4: 0-0 No. 5: 0-0 No. 6: 0-0

Doubles (12-11)

No. 1: 12-11 No. 2: 6-0 No. 3: 0-0

Climbing Wins

Singles: 3 Doubles: 4

# Queen of Aces

## CHRISMEKILL

In the span of her freshman year, Alicia Sales encountered something for the first time in her tennis career—a bench. Sales, a tennis star at Cherry Creek High School in Englewood, Colo., described her high school status as being “the big fish in the small pond.” However, reality struck Sales when she did not start for the Fighting Irish her first year. Highly motivated, Sales worked on all aspects of her game over the next three years, eventually gaining her current No. 14 ranking in the nation, and becoming one of the best tennis players in Notre Dame history. Despite her transitional freshman year, Sales showed great potential, compiling an 11-3 singles record and an 11-8 doubles record. Even in her college debut, Sales showed that she had the ability to be elite when she reached the final in the Maryland Invitational. Nonetheless, Sales was still not an everyday player, as she desired.

“I had never really sat out in my life, and not playing in the lineup really motivated me a lot,” Sales says. “I went home over the summer and worked on some things and came back and was so hungry to play I went into every practice saying, ‘I want to make the lineup, I want to play.’”

And play she did. Sales was remarkable in the middle of the Irish lineup during her sophomore year, compiling a 24-3 dual-match record—tying the Notre Dame record—as well as having a 31-6 overall singles record. Sales also led the team in doubles wins with 26. By February, Sales had broken into the national rankings, reaching No. 123. With a combined 57-18 record her sophomore year, Sales earned team MVP honors.

In her junior year, she moved to the top of the lineup, often starting in the No. 1 spot but finally settling in the No. 2. With a 24-15 record against tough opponents, Sales peaked at No. 65 before finishing ranked 98th in the nation and sixth in the Midwest. Sales’ junior season had a number of highlights, including a second place finish in the Ohio State Prince Cup and a blue-ribbon championship in the Eck Classic. Sales also competed well in doubles matches, pairing almost exclusively with then-freshman Lauren Connelly. The duo went 17-0 and notched two upsets in the NCAA A team tournament over the No. 15 and No. 3 doubles teams from Missouri and Vanderbilt, respectively.

“Junior year was again a transition year for me,” Sales reflects, “because I had played so well the previous year that there was a lot of pressure that I had to come out and be a consistent winner, and now I was playing at a higher level, in the No. 1 and 2 positions. I just had to get used to playing at an entirely different level.”

Coming into her senior year, Sales had a fall preseason rank of 64th in the nation in singles and 76th in doubles with Lauren Connelly. She was selected as co-captain of the Irish with senior Caylen Leslie. Sales also went into the fall season with the eighth highest singles winning percentage in Notre Dame history at .740 (71-25).

On Sept. 25, 2003, Sales opened her senior year at the Adidas Invitational in Peachtree, Ga. With wins over Kristin Cargill of Duke and Ashley Richards of Tennessee, Sales advanced to the semifinals. However, No. 8 Alexis Gordon of Florida was too much for Sales to handle, eliminating the Irish captain in three sets. Likewise, the Sales/Connelly tandem fell in the semifinals to Florida’s Jennifer Magley and Serena Reyes.

On Oct. 7, Sales returned to singles action at the Riviera Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) Women’s All-American Championship in Pacific Palisades, Calif. Beating No. 85 Ashley Scovelbas of Vanderbilt and No. 33 Ally Lavelle of Clemson, Sales advanced to face No. 39 Megan Muir of Williams & Mary. In only two sets, Sales defeated her ranked foe and advanced to the field of 32. However, Sales was topped by No. 27 Tammy Escoto of Tennessee. Nonetheless, Sales’ three wins in the tournament automatically qualified her for the All-American Championship, a goal she had set at the beginning of the season.

“Just making the All-American Championship was really special for me,” Sales says, “because it was something that I always aspired to do but never thought I’d have a chance at.”

Still the underdog in the All-American Championship, Sales continued to prevail, taking down No. 29 Dianne Flohards of Arizona in the first round. However, Sales did not advance past the second round where No. 7 Daria Panova of Creighton eliminated her from the tournament.

At the ITA Midwest Championship on Oct. 26, Sales made quick work of her first round opponent, beating her in straight sets. On the following day, Sales dropped both Elizabeth Exon of Michigan and No. 42 Jessica Rush of Northwestern to advance to the finals. However, No. 4

Christelle Girard of Northwestern simply outplayed Salas in the championship, beating her in two sets. Nonetheless, Salas qualified for the National Indoor Championship.

On Nov. 6, Salas had a first round rematch against No. 8 Alexis Gordon of Florida in the National Indoor Championship at the University of Michigan. Despite the change of venue, the result was the same with Gordon defeating Salas in a three-set battle. On the

next day, Salas fell to Sasha Pedjicuzins of California in the consolation bracket, ending Salas' fall season. Still, Salas' impressive 12-6 record in the No. 1 position on the team earned her a spring preseason singles rank of 14th, and helped elevate her team to 21st in the nation.

"I just have to go out there and keep playing the way I've been playing," Salas says about the upcoming spring schedule. "I've been pretty relaxed, and I'm just going to put everything out of my mind and have fun with it; that's what has been working so far. I haven't felt a whole lot of pressure or anxious or nervous because I am looking at it as my last season, and I want to go out and make the best of it because this is my last opportunity."

On Jan. 29, 2004, Salas was certainly able to clear her head in the Irish's season-opening dual match at No. 34 Michigan. Despite Notre Dame's ineffectiveness against the Wolverines, Salas played two great matches. In singles action, Salas defeated No. 37 Elizabeth Evon, as she had when they faced each other in the October ITA Midwest Championship.

Then, Salas and Connelly picked up where the autumn season left off, adding a doubles win for the Irish. Nevertheless, Notre Dame lost to Michigan, 6-7.

The Irish then went on to win

their next two home matches against No. 48 Ohio State and No. 64 Wisconsin. Salas remained undefeated during the spring season, winning a singles match against Ohio State as well as a singles and a doubles match against Wisconsin. Her win in a singles match against Wisconsin's Katie McGaffigan was payback for the last time the two met. In the 2002

NCAA Tournament, it was McGaffigan who ended Salas' dream season, during which she had posted a

school-record 24 wins.

On Feb. 13, 2004, multiple streaks ended at No. 14 Virginia Commonwealth. The Rams were handed their first home-court defeat in almost five years at the hands of the Fighting Irish. However, VCU's Olga Bernova ended Salas' undefeated streak this spring with a two set victory over the Irish co-captain. Salas did not exit empty-handed though, as she combined with partner Connelly to win a doubles match.

Although Salas lost for the first time this season in Richmond, Va., Notre Dame's winning streak continued. Over a two-week span, beginning on Valentine's Day, Notre Dame notched four more dual-match wins. The Irish topped Boston College, No. 69 Virginia Tech, No. 20 BYU, and No. 26 Indiana. Through these four games, Salas posted a 3-2 singles record, including a match-clinching victory over BYU's No. 13 Barbara Zakhova.

The Irish then went on their worst skid of the season at the beginning of March. In 10 days, the Irish lost three consecutive matches to No. 17 Illinois, No. 6 Duke, and No. 26 Tennessee. However, Salas gave a good effort in keeping the team motivated by playing her best all season. Salas defeated No. 14 Jennifer McGaffigan of Illinois, No. 5 Amanda Johnson of Duke, and No. 24 Tammy Encina of Tennessee.

Despite this rough patch, Salas looks at the positive side of the situation. "I think [these] were my best matches this season, against Amanda Johnson from Duke and Tammy Encina from Tennessee," Salas

says. "I had lost to Tammy Encina earlier in the fall, so it was nice to come back and win that match in the spring."

Recently, the Irish broke their three-game losing streak with a home win over No. 47 Iowa. Salas won both the singles match and the doubles match as the Irish went on to win, 6-1. This improved Salas to 22-8 on the combined fall and spring seasons, and it moved her to 13th in the national rankings. Salas looks to lead the No. 21 Fighting Irish throughout the rest of the dual season and into the postseason. With high hopes for the Big East Championship, Salas says: "It's an exciting environment; the fans really get into it. It can be hard at times, but also motivating at others. We have always been able to play well there and come through."

Salas is also looking forward to an exciting summer of tennis after she graduates. Salas was one of 10 collegiate tennis players selected to tour China as a member of the Intercollegiate Tennis Association All-Star team. In the fall, Salas will attend the University of Colorado Dental School, a fitting occupational choice for someone who has had so much to smile about during her impressive tennis career at Notre Dame. □

## Salas set to shine in final season with Irish

By Ann Loughery

Alicia Salas knew she didn't belong on the sidelines.

But as a freshman, the now nationally ranked senior didn't make the starting lineup of the Irish tennis team.

"I was always used to playing in high school, so not being able to compete my freshman year was frustrating," Salas recalled. "I was sick of sitting on the sidelines."

That was all the motivation she needed.

Over the summer following her freshman year, Salas played tournaments and honed her skills in preparation for an eventful sophomore season. Head coach Jay Louderback noted a significant change in her abilities.

"She was very consistent as a freshman, but she didn't have a whole lot of power," he said. "She didn't come to the net a lot. As a sophomore, she hit the ball with a lot more pace."

Playing the majority of the season at No. 4 her sophomore year, Salas posted a nearly flawless singles record for dual meets at 24-3 to lead the team in singles and doubles wins. In April of that year, she garnered her first career national ranking, placed at #23rd. Her success that year culminated in a combined total of 57 victories in singles and doubles, earning her the title of team MVP.

Salas saw similar success her junior year, starting the season at No. 1 singles before returning to the No. 2 spot after teammate Caylan Leslie returned from an injury. Despite a shoulder injury later in the season, Salas finished with a 9-5 dual meet singles record and a 17-9 overall doubles record with current doubles partner Lauren Connally. She finished the season ranked 98th, with a Big East Championship all-tournament team title to her name.

Now, as a senior, her coaches can't praise her enough.

"She has great control and placement; she can really put the ball anywhere she wants to," assistant coach Michelle Dasso said. "She can move the ball on a dime and makes very few errors. It's hard to beat her because of that."

Salas' success this fall bore witness to Dasso's observation. This fall, she earned a 12-6 record, claiming eight victories over ranked opponents. Four of her losses came at the hands of top-10 ranked competitors. She has started the spring season strong, remaining undefeated after matches against Big Ten schools Michigan, Wisconsin and Ohio State. This past weekend, she avenged her loss last season to Wisconsin's Katie McGaffigan, defeating her rival 7-6 (7-3), 6-3.

Both Dasso and Louderback are confident her winning ways will continue.

"I think she'll do well this season," Louderback said. "She'll probably go quite a ways in the NCAA tournament. She's competitive. She doesn't like to lose."

## For Salas, It's Life In The Fast Lane

*by Eileen Carroll*

Senior co-captain Alicia Salas has covered a lot of ground in her four years at Notre Dame. Ranked 14th nationally in singles, Salas has come a long way from the No. 8 position she occupied in the Irish line-up as a freshman.

Salas was 12-6 in the fall of '03, registering eight wins over ranked opponents. She knocked off three ranked foes to qualify for the Riviera/TTA All-American Championships, the first leg of the collegiate grand slam, in October and then reached the final in the IFA Midwest Championships.

As a freshman, Salas, a 2000 graduate of Cherry Creek High School in Englewood Colo., did not see much time on the courts. Head coach Jay Landerback notes that there were other players with more experience and that Salas had to work on a few things in her game.

"Coming from Denver, Alicia was used to playing in high altitude. She worked on hitting the ball deeper, hitting it harder and getting more pace on it. She worked on being more aggressive and we changed her volleys."

A solid work ethic and some playing time in summer tournaments allowed Salas to make her presence known as a sophomore. Playing mostly at the No. 4 position, Salas posted a 24-3 dual match record in singles, tying the Notre Dame record for wins in a season.

Landerback cites Salas' ability to adapt and make transitions as essential to her success. "Alicia is a great competitor. During her freshman year, she really wanted to be out playing. Each time she has moved up, her ability to compete well has helped her make those transitions."

For a competitor like Salas, who won four Colorado state titles watching the action from the sidelines is not much fun. However, she was able to use the lessons she learned as a freshman to her advantage.

"By my sophomore year I had learned what I needed to do in order to play in the lineup and the level I needed to compete at. By then I was excited and really motivated."

Despite her success as a sophomore, Salas was not content to settle in at the middle of the Irish lineup, she kept up the quick pace, making the transition from No. 4 to the top two positions in 2003. She had to adjust to tougher competition and facing the nation's best players on a daily basis.

Salas feels the experience of the move has allowed her to improve in responding to the competition.

"For Salas ..." (cont'd)

"I feel like I have learned a lot from playing at the top two positions last year," Salas says. "I've realized what kind of competitors I'll be facing, and I've learned how to play a different kind of game. I've built off those two transition years and I've learned a lot from them." The wide range of experiences throughout her Notre Dame career shaped Salas leadership skills as well as her game.

"She works really hard and is just a great example," Lunderback notes. "For the girls not in the lineup, all they need to do is look at what Alicia did. She did things the right way. It's given her a lot of credibility with everyone on the team because she has come so far."

Salas feels she can draw on the last three years in her role as a team captain.

"One of the things I've been able to do is relate to everyone on the team because I've been at most of those positions in my career. I've been through quite a range of emotions and through successes and failures in my four years, so as a captain, I can be understanding of the other players and what they are going through."

Salas hopes to continue on the same path in the upcoming dual-match season.

"I know it is my last season, so part of me is trying to put everything out of my head and just have fun with it. No matter what happens, I am going to go out and enjoy it because the experience has been so valuable to me that I want to end on a good note."

According to Lunderback, ending on a good note should not be too difficult for Salas. "This is my 25th year coaching, and she has improved more than anyone I've ever had. She came in playing No. 8 as a freshman, and now she has a chance to be an All-American, which would be an amazing feat, especially because she has done it so fast."



## Salas dominates singles court over spring break

By Ann Loughery

Salas won 10 matches against Duke's Amanda Johnson and Tennessee's Tammy Encina. All of the numbers say the same thing - Alicia Salas's opponents are simply overmatched against the No. 13 senior.

Over spring break, Salas upended No. 5 Amanda Johnson of Duke 2-6, 6-1, 6-3. She chased that success with a hard-fought win against No. 24 Tammy Encina of Tennessee 6-4, 4-6, 1-0 (10-7) in singles.

Encina and Salas had met twice earlier this year, with Encina winning both matches.

Each of Salas's last four wins pitted the senior against top-30 ranked players. Salas is 6-0 this year at No. 1 against ranked opponents and 9-2 overall.

"She's really played well all year," Irish coach Jay Louderback said. "She's a real competitor. We're just asking her to keep doing what she's doing and to stay aggressive by coming to the net when she can."

Salas's success came amidst tough losses to No. 5 Duke 6-1 and No. 36 Tennessee 6-1 in Hawaii.

"Going from indoor to outdoor courts was a lot to adjust to, I think," Louderback said. "You have to worry about the sun and wind and the balls don't travel as fast outside."

The No. 18 Irish, currently 7-4, took on Duke (7-1) first, where they faced tough matches at every position. At No. 3 doubles, junior Sarah Jane Connelly and sophomore Kristina Slastoy were first off the courts after a close 8-5 loss to Kristen Cargill and Jennifer Zika.

The No. 2 doubles team of Lauren Connelly and Salas lost 8-4 to Saras Arasu and Jonson.

At No. 1 doubles, freshmen Catrina and Christian Thompson, ranked No. 37 nationally, knocked off the tandem of Julia Smith and Tary Zawacki, 8-6. The Thompsons are 16-8 this season and have won five of their last six matches.

Salas followed up with the lone win in singles at No. 1 against Johnson 2-6, 6-1, 6-3.

"Duke is solid all the way down the lineup, but I think we played well. We had a solid chance at each position," Louderback said.

Against No. 36 Tennessee (9-8), Notre Dame faced tough opponents again, with four of the matches settled in tiebreakers. At No. 2 doubles, Sarah Jane Connelly and Slastoy outlasted Tennessee's Majen Imvink and Breanna Kray 9-8 (7-4).

Sabita Maharaj, ranked No. 73 in singles, and Ashley Roberts defeated Lauren Connelly and Salas 8-3 at No. 2. At No. 1, the Thompsons also met tough opponents in Encina and Melissa Schaub, falling short of a win 9-8 (7-5) in a tiebreaker.

"Our No. 1 and No. 3 doubles matches were really tight," Louderback said. "As a team overall, we didn't play with a lot of enthusiasm."

No. 84 Catrina Thompson's defeat against Roberts was also determined by a tiebreaking match at No. 3 4-6, 6-2, 1-0 (10-6).

Salas garnered the only singles win, edging out Encina 6-4, 4-6, 1-0 (10-7).

The Irish are set to host No. 44 Iowa on Thursday at 6 p.m.

## 40 Questions With The Thompson Twins

by Michael Neaylor

1. **Fullnames:** Christian Eleanor Thompson & Catrina Marion Thompson

2. **Birthdate:** September 13, 1984

3. **Hometown:** Las Vegas, NV

4. **Intended Major:**

**Catrina-** Business **Christian-** Business

5. **Favorite Class:**

**Christian-** Introduction to Philosophy with Professor Gitting **Catrina-** Foundations of Theology with Professor Driscoll

6. **Hardest Class:**

**Christian-** Math 108 (Calculus for Business) **Catrina-** Introduction to Philosophy

7. **Biggest reason that you chose to come to Notre Dame:**

**Christian-** We came on a recruiting visit to Notre Dame and we really just loved the team. We thought that Coach Louderback was really good and he also flew out to visit us at our home as well. He is such a nice guy. In the end, we fell in love with the campus and it was like nothing that we have never seen before.

**Catrina** Thompson plays No. 3 singles for the Irish.

**Catrina-** The tradition of Notre Dame was a huge factor. Our coaches, Jay Louderback and Michelle Dasso, are very supportive and enthusiastic. Our teammates are great and that played a large role in choosing Notre Dame. We had played junior tournaments with some of the girls, such as Akevia Safay, and we knew that the team was made up of some of the nicest people, and that it was going to be a fun team to be apart of.

"40 Questions ..." (cont'd, page 2)

**8. Talk about your adjustment as freshman, and what it means that both of you are here to help each other through the transition:**

**Catrina-** When we first started talking about colleges, we definitely knew that we wanted to end up together. It was a huge factor in deciding where we went to school because we have never really been apart for more than three or four days. It has been really nice to be together, and they allowed us to live in the same dorm, so when you do become homesick, you have someone to talk to. It is nice to always have my sister there.

**Christian-** For the most part, we have adjusted very well, and it has helped that we have had each other. I haven't been really homesick because for the most part because I have been so busy. The hardest part of adjusting was having to go to a tournament by myself without Catrina. Our parents also try to come up to visit, but so far everything seems to be going well and we are enjoying ourselves here.

**9. What has been your favorite part about being at Notre Dame and playing tennis for the Irish?**

**Catrina-** I was really looking forward to playing on a team. In junior tennis, we usually play singles or Christian and I would play doubles together. Being able to wear that Notre Dame warm-up and knowing that you play a sport at Notre Dame is just a really good feeling. Being on a team also has made our adjustment easier. When we first got here we had a team and friends to support us.

**Christian-** The football games were unbelievable! Being from Las Vegas, we haven't really been at football games until we came here. I would also agree with Catrina that playing on a team has really been so much fun and the girls on the team have been so nice to us.

**10. Describe yourselves first as tennis players and then as people:**

**Christian-** As a tennis player I am aggressive, or at least I try to be. I think that my movement is a key factor in my game and I know that my footwork is what pulls me through matches. I also think that I have pretty good volleys and a good return. As a person, I am extremely shy. Being a twin, it is harder to develop individually, but I feel that in being here I have been able to grow as an individual. I feel that I have opened up more and I have made some really good friends here. But I am still pretty shy!

**Catrina-** As a tennis player, I am a true baseliner and my forehand is my biggest weapon. I would prefer to play doubles over playing singles. As a person, I am the more shy of the two of us. I do mostly what Christian does and I kind of follow her around. I am also an animal lover and I can't live without my dog!

**11. It is easy to point out the similarities between the two of you, but how are you different from each other and how do people tell you apart?**

**Catrina-** Umpires always ask us how to tell each other apart and I don't know if they can see it much, but Christian has an earring at the top of her ear. Once you get to know us it is pretty easy to tell us apart. Christian has blonder hair than I do and she is much more outgoing than I am.

**Christian-** I am the one who wants to go out more and Catrina is the type of a person who stays in a bit more. Everyone always says that I am the older twin because I am a bit more outgoing even though Catrina is older. She is also more of a sports fan and usually knows what is going on in different games and such.

**12. Before you both came to Notre Dame you were the number-one-ranked under-18 doubles team in the country. Could you talk about that experience and what that distinction meant to you and also what it has taught you about the game and about yourselves?**

**Catrina-** It is a great honor to finish the season number one in the nation. The first tournament that we won was when we were 14, and just the feeling of beating other girls who were training and working five hours a day at a time when we were only playing for two hours a day was a great feeling. I think what made it even more special was sharing that honor with my sister. It would have been different not sharing that feeling together.

**Christian-** We have put in our hard work and to go through an entire season, and not just a few tournaments as number one, is relieving. It is nice when you see all of your hard work pay off. Being number one and finishing number one is a distinction that stays with you for the rest of your life. Just the experience of being number one is beneficial.

**13. Both of you have made an immediate impact since coming to Notre Dame. You are now the No. 1 doubles team, while playing the Nos. 2 and 3 singles positions, as well. You have also both been ranked nationally in singles and doubles. These are very notable accomplishments for any player and you hold these slots as freshman. Did you know that you were going to be able to make such an impact when you got here and what has the season meant to you so far?**

**Christian-** It is important to understand that our team is very deep. Our No. 6 player could easily play No. 1 for us. Conditioning has been a big factor in our transition here as well. Conditioning is very different between juniors and college and every day in practice, we are playing with the best. It is different than what we had in Las Vegas. I know that our confidence has grown because of our conditioning here and hopefully we can keep it up.

**Catrina-** Our team is very deep. We probably had a little bit of luck in the fall tournaments that helped us out a bit. Our team is just so deep and so talented. It is great to play at the Nos. 2 and 3 positions, but it is understandable that anyone could fill those slots. I think that one of the reasons that we play No. 1 doubles is that we have played together for so long. It is different and difficult to start playing with a new doubles partner. We have been playing together for so long that we know what each other is doing and we have moves that are able to set ourselves apart. It is fortunate that when we go to practice we get to play with some of the best players in the country.

**14. Notre Dame women's tennis team is unique in that it has two sets of sisters on the team, a distinction that had not happened on any Irish athletics team until women's tennis accomplished the feat a year ago. Describe the added dynamic that adds to the team atmosphere and what sort of positive impact that has on the team?**

**Christian-** When you watch Sarah Jane and Lauren Connelly in practice and on the court, you begin to notice the little things. In a way, they lighten up the mood in practice by just seeing their small fights where they are just joking around. We are very quiet in practice because we are the freshmen but those two are really funny. You can see the support that is involved within both Sarah Jane's and Lauren's relationship as well as within our relationship. We are all very supportive of each other and I think that the relationships of sisters bring the team closer together.

**Catrina-** We talk with Liz Donohue, who played with her sister for the last few years [until Maggie Donohue graduated], and she told us about how tough the adjustment has been not having her sister here this year. I don't think I could be here without Christian for an entire year. With sisters, you have the support of someone else out there, and you can really see that support in our relationships.

**15. How do you prepare for matches both mentally and physically?**

**Catrina-** Mentally, before matches I get a little nervous. To calm myself down I usually try to talk to my parents or listen to music. It really helps to talk with the team and it takes your mind off things when you are joking around. Physically, we usually just warm up with the team. We go for a jog and hit for about an hour before the match. We do a doubles drill which really gets me going because it is fun and it gets you into the mode to play.

**Christian-** Getting ready mentally is the hardest part about getting prepared. The team really helps you to get pumped up. We have a warm up tape that gets you going. The song "Here Come the Irish" is on the tape and that gets you going, knowing that you play for Notre Dame. Before the match when the team gets together to do a short "Irish" cheer, it gets you ready to compete. I guess there is no real way to prepare for matches except to keep your confidence up and to keep up your intensity level. Physically, some of the more fun drills in warm-ups really get you going as you are listening to music in the background. Right before a match you are as physically prepared as you are going to be, and it is important to stay intense.

**16. What is your sister's best attribute on and off the tennis court?**

**Catrina-** Christian may not show it all of the time, but she would do anything for me. She is always there for me. Because I am the shyier of the two of us, she acts as the older sister and will include me in things when she doesn't have to. On the tennis court, Christian's quickness and her footwork are admirable. She is very athletic and at times when I watch her play she comes up with shots that not many people could get.

**Christian-** I am sometimes pretty lazy and Catrina does a good job of getting me going. I would have to say that she acts more like the older sister. I ask for her advice in everything that I do. She is an extremely loving person and I would also have to say that she would do anything for me. I respect her and I really don't know what I would do without her. I think I would be lost. On the court, Catrina's desire to win along with her power is what really stands out.

**17. If you could pick a famous partnership to describe yourselves together whom would it be and why?**

**Catrina-** I would have to say Bob and Mike Bryan. They are the number-one-ranked doubles team in the world for men. We actually had a chance to meet them when we were 14. Ever since then, at least for me, they have been my role models. Being twins themselves, they have an understanding of what Christian and I go through. They have been so nice to us. We have kept in touch through e-mail and we have actually been able to hit with them. We have played doubles with them a few times. I just think that their relationship and what they have gone through is similar to what we have gone through. In a relationship such as ours, it is nice to know that someone knows what you are going through and that you always have a hitting partner and someone to support you.

**Christian-** I am going to say Venus and Serena Williams. When you see them, when they are down and out of it, as rare as that happens, you see something happen where they always seem to come back and win the match. Whether that is because they have played together so long or because they have such a bond, I don't know, but they have that great ability to comeback. The rivalry that they share is similar to what we had growing up. As of late, Serena has been the better of the two sisters, and we have been through periods where one of us has been the better out of the two. It is important to be able to leave those thoughts off of the court when you are playing doubles. We know that by playing with each other we make each other better and I know that is how Venus and Serena are. I don't think that we would be where we are now without each other.

**18. What is your most memorable athletic moment?**

"40 Questions ..." (cont'd, page 6)

**Christian-** It would be playing at the Junior U.S. Open. We actually played on the courts of the U.S. Open. Just the experience of that was unbelievable even though we lost. We were able to interact with the real players and we shared a locker room and lounge with the other players. All I wanted to do was sit there and watch all the players walk by. That was by far the highlight of my career so far. I really hope to be able to go back.

**Catrina-** The U.S. Open was a highlight, but a memorable moment for me was winning our first national doubles tournament together at the Easter Bowl in Palm Springs. The feeling of winning that first tournament and saying that you won a national championship was such an amazing moment. Sharing the title made it even more enjoyable.

**19. College tennis is unique in that it takes a very individual sport and incorporates it into a team setting. Individually, how are you able to feed off of each other in a singles setting and as a doubles team? Secondly, in a team setting how important is it for you to have the support of not only your sister, but also your teammates?**

**Catrina-** When we play singles matches here at home, Christian and I play on opposite sides of the court from each other and sometimes I find myself wondering what the score is. I think it has been good playing on different sides because I know that I have to concentrate on my match and not worry about if she is winning or losing. As a team, we definitely try to pump each other up. I look around to see the scores of other matches and whether or not someone is up or down in their match, you always try to help them to stay in the match.

**Christian-** The hardest part about playing for a team is that you want the team to win so badly. You know that winning your match will help the team, but it is also about supporting your teammates and helping them through their matches as well as getting through yours. There is a fine line between focusing on your match and seeing when your teammates need some support to get through their own matches. You have to be able to find a median between yourself and the team.

**20. If you were on an island and you could only have one meal, only listen to one song and spend your time with only one person for the rest of your life, what and who would you pick?**

**Catrina-** My meal would be candy orange slices. We basically live off junk food and probably do not have the best diets. It is not a meal but everyone that knows us, knows that we love candy. My song would be "Here Without You" by Three Doors Down. It makes me think of all of the people that I am missing. It is also the song that we shared with our older sister when we left home. The person I would spend my time with would have to be Christian. We have spent the most time together. We are just never apart, and I think that if we had to be apart it would never work. I don't think that I could live without her.

"40 Questions ..." (cont'd, page 7)

**Christian-** I think my meal would be chopped steak from the Waffle House. My nickname in the team is Chops because we went to a Waffle House at 3:00 a.m. once, and I ordered chopped steak. We don't have Waffle Houses where I live, so I didn't know you were supposed to order waffles. My song would be "You've Got the Music in You" because it would give us something to dance to on the island! My person would be Catrina. I would have said my parents but now that I am here at Notre Dame, I go to Catrina for everything.

**Bonus: What are you looking to accomplish, as athletes here at Notre Dame and what are your career goals in life outside of Notre Dame?**

**Catrina-** My top goal is to win the NCAA championship as a team and hopefully in doubles. Our goal in college is to add to the team as much as possible. I want to be all that I can be in a team setting. Career wise, I would like to try to play professionally. When I take that as far as I can go, I will still have a Notre Dame degree, and that is just as rewarding as professional tennis.

**Christian-** The biggest goal as a team is to win the NCAA championship. It is a tough goal but I think that with the depth and talent of our team it is possible. Winning the NCAA doubles title would be the icing on the cake but I want to be able to fill my role on the team as best I can. I want to be supportive of my team members and I want to be there for them on and off the court. Once we are done with college, I would like to play some professional tournaments. That has been our goal since we started playing. I want to try to succeed in everything that I do and to be the best person I can be.



# TALKING WITH... CATRINA & CHRISTIAN THOMPSON

August, 2003

CollegeTennisConnect.com

When I interview siblings, I always try to treat them as individuals. I find this to be more necessary with twins. **Catrina and Christian Thompson** are different. While they are definitely two individual people with different personalities, they have no problem with being "the Thompson twins."

I have been a fan of the **Thompson twins** since I first saw them play at the US Open Junior Championships. They are excellent players, they display wonderful sportsmanship and most of all they are nice girls. Players like to be on the court with them and tournament directors (like **Andrea Norman**, who gave the girls the **Hardcourts Sportsmanship Award**) find them a pleasure to have around.



**Catrina & Christian** have taken home national doubles titles from the Super National Hardcourts (3rd place 2003 & 2001), the Super National Claycourts (2nd place 2002; 1st place 2001), the International Grasscourts (1st place 2002), the Super National Winter Championships (1st place 2001; 2nd place 2000) and the Easter Bowl (1st 1998; 2nd place 2001). Though the only national singles title between them is **Christian's** win at the 1999 Penn Fiesta Bowl, they have each placed in enough tournaments to keep themselves in the top 100 of the singles rankings year after year.

I sat down with **Catrina & Christian Thompson** at what was their fourth consecutive Girls' 18 National Hardcourts appearance. They were a little disappointed about not winning the doubles tournament and the wildcard into the US Open main draw, but they were excited about going off to college.

by *Marcia Frosi*

**Q: What made you decide on Notre Dame?**

**Catrina:** We love the coach and it's a team we know. They have great statistics

# TALKING WITH... CATRINA & CHRISTIAN THOMPSON

August, 2003 *continued*



*continued from page one*  
and great players. They're the nicest girls. We grew up with some of them playing Challenge Cup. I may not like the weather, but we'll have to get used to that."

**Christian:** I agree with Catrina completely. Also the tradition of Notre Dame is what helped us to decide to go there. We liked everything about the school and it felt like a good fit.



**Q: Did you always plan to go to college together?**

**A (in unison):** "Yes."

**Christian:** "We've never been apart. We had all the same classes in high school -- we asked for it because we were away a lot at tournaments. I think it would be tough if we went to different colleges. It wasn't even an option."

**Q: What do you consider your best win?**

**Catrina:** "I would have to say the Easter Bowl we won. It felt great to finally get a gold ball, a national championship."

**Q: How about a singles win?**

**Catrina:** "The closest I probably got (to a singles trophy) was quarters."

**Christian:** "When you were little you beat Ashley Harkins."



**Christian:** "In doubles, winning the (International) Grasscourts was great. We had never played on grass before. We just went there last year to see what would happen and we ended up winning. I also beat Podkoshina and I beat Ashley Harkleroad once too."

**Q: What tournament did you have the most fun at?**

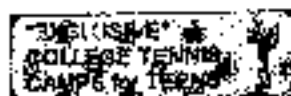
**Catrina:** "This tournament (the Super National Hardcourts). It's great. Andrea (Norman) and Jennifer (Pitman) are just the nicest tournament directors and it's just so well put together. The weather is perfect and they give you ball kids. We have a lot of relatives here too so we have a lot of support."

**Q: What tournament would you like to play that you haven't played yet?**

**Catrina:** "I'd have to say the US Open. We've played the juniors, but the main draw we were really hoping to get the wildcard to."

**Christian:** "It would have been a great experience."

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# TALKING WITH... CATRINA & CHRISTIAN THOMPSON

August, 2003 *continued*

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**Q: At what age did you start playing?**

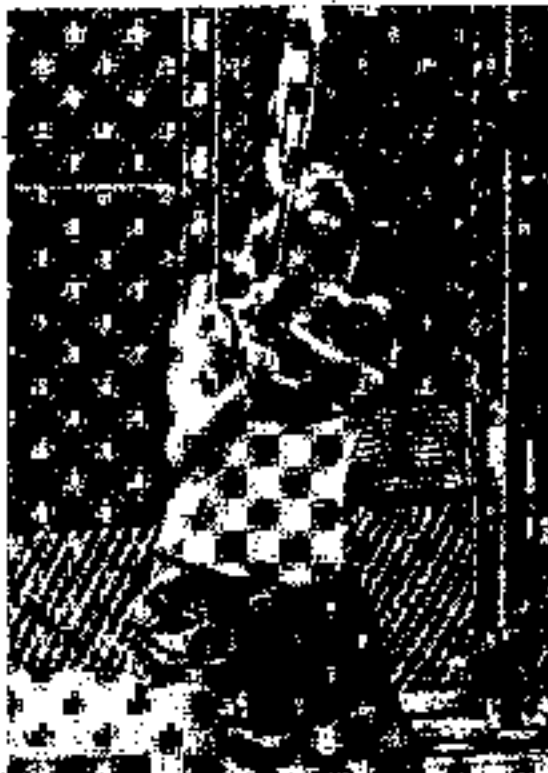
**Catrina:** "Six or seven. There was a free tennis camp at a park near our home and our dad took us over there."

**Q: Where do you train?**

**Catrina:** "We have a great coach at home, Ken, he's the professional at TTC (in Las Vegas) and he's worked with us for about four years. And we've worked with Rita Agassi and Craig Butcher. They were great too."

**Christian:** "We also play ourselves. We have courts in our complex."

**Q: Is there anything else you do in your spare time?**



**Christian:** "When we get home we're going to put our racquets down for about a week. We've been playing the whole summer -- going to \$10,000 tournaments to see how we do. We won some main draw doubles matches. We'll be hanging out with our friends and our (other) sister."

**Catrina:** We enjoy spending time with them and our parents before we go off to college.

**Christian:** "I would also like to spend time with my dog."

**Q: Are the two of you identical? (Throughout the tournament, Catrina wore a watch and a**

*necklace so everyone could tell them apart.)*

**Christian:** "They (video) recorded our match yesterday and from behind I couldn't tell the difference!"

**Catrina:** "That was just amazing."

**Q:** *I was telling your parents how twins have done well in the NCAAs, but not women yet. We're counting on you.*

**Catrina:** "We really look up to the Bryan brothers."

**Q:** *I would suggest you play mixed doubles with the Bryan brothers. (Remember, you heard it here first!)*

*right-Christian; left-Catrina*

\* \* \*

*back*

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