

NOTRE DAME BASEBALL - 2003 *Quick Facts* (as of Dec. 12)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Name of School: University of Notre Dame (Notre Dame, IN, 46556)
Founded (Enrollment): 1842 (10,301)
Nickname (School Colors): Fighting Irish (Gold and Blue)
Home field (Capacity, Year Opened): Frank Eck Stadium (2,500, 1994)
Surface, Dimensions: Grass, 331-381-401-381-331
Affiliation: NCAA Division I
Conference (Year Joined): BIG EAST Conference (1995-96)
President: Rev. Edward A. Malloy, C.S.C. (Notre Dame '63)
Athletic Director: Kevin White (St. Joseph's (Ind.) College '72)
Assistant A.D./Baseball Administrator: Bill Scholl
Athletic Department Phone: (574) 631-6107
Bill Scholl Phone: (574) 631-8219
Ticket Office Phone: (574) 631-7356

HISTORY

First Year of Baseball: 1892
Overall All-Time Record: 1,922 wins – 1,174 losses – 16 ties
Number of Years in CWS: 2 (1957, 2002)
Years in NCAAs: 17 (1949, '56-'59, '60, '63, '70, '89, '92-'94, '96, '99-'02)
NCAA Tournament Record: 35-36
Last Postseason Opponent: Stanford (L, 5-3, 2002 CWS)

SPORTS INFORMATION

Baseball SID: Pete LaFleur
Office Phone: (574) 631-7516
SID Fax: (574) 631-7941
E-mail: lafleur.4@nd.edu (for media relations correspondence)
Home Phone: (574) 231-0578
Mailing Address: 112 Joyce Center, Notre Dame, IN 46556
Website: www.und.com
ND Sports Hotline: (574) 631-3000

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach: [Paul Mainieri](#) (8th season at ND, 20th as head coach)
Alma Mater/Year: Florida International '80
Record at School (Years): 354-142-1 (8)
Career Record (Years): 686-421-1 (20)
Baseball Office Phone: (574) 631-6366
Associate Head Coach/Duties (Alma Mater): [Brian O'Connor](#) – pitching (Creighton '93)
Assistant Coach/Duties (Alma Mater): David Grewe – recruiting/catchers/outfielders/hitters (Dayton '98)
Volunteer Assistant Coach: Wally Widelski (Notre Dame '97)
Athletic Trainer: Mike Bean

TEAM INFORMATION

Overall Record in 2002: 50-18 (26-3 home, 10-7 away, 14-8 neutral)
Conference Record/Finish: 18-8/1st (10-3 home, 8-5 away)
Final 2002 Reg.-Season Rankings: 18th (*Collegiate Baseball* and *Baseball America*), 19th (*USA Today* coaches poll)
Lettermen Returning/Lost: 17/9
Position Starters Returning/Lost: 4/5 (does not include soph. SS Matt Macri, who missed most of '02 due to injury; also note that Javi Sanchez is likely starting C, after filling starting role as third-string SS in '02)
Total Pitchers Returning/Lost (Starters R/L): 12/2 (5/5) ... 9 LW pitchers returning/2 lost
Total Newcomers: 12 (11 freshmen; one junior walk-on)
Captains: Kris Billmaier (Sr., RF; Woodinville, WA), J.P. Gagne (Sr., RHP; Bloomington, MN), Steve Sollmann (Jr., 2B; Cincinnati, OH)
2003 Preseason Honors (as of Dec. 9):
Steve Sollmann – BIG EAST preseason player of the year and NCBWA preseason second team All-American
Grant Johnson – preseason first team all-BIG EAST and NCBWA preseason third team All-American

NOTRE DAME BASEBALL 2003 PLAYER INFORMATION

Position Players (Gr. Indicates graduates, Stavisky drafted as junior; listed in order of top returning and lost)

(Ret./Lost)	Pos.	Player	Ht./Wt.	Cl.	B/T	GP/GS	Avg.-HR-RBI	Other
(L)	CF	Steve Stanley	5-8/155	Gr.	L/L	68/68	.439-1-36	32 SB, 38 BB/11 K, 77 R, 1 E
(L)	LF	Brian Stavisky	6-3/220	(Jr.-dr.)	L/R	50/50	.394-9-57	14 2B, 5 3B, 23 BB/21 K, 1 E
(R)	2B	Steve Sollmann	5-10/190	Jr.	R/R	59-57	.362-2-47	8 2B, 4 3B, 22 BB/18 K, 6 SB
(L)	3B	Andrew Bushey	5-10/190	Gr.	L/R	63-63	.323-6-59	19 2B, 22 BB/22 K, 11 E
(L)	C	Paul O'Toole	6-2/205	Gr.	L/R	66-65	.281-11-50	12 2B, 4 3B, 11 SB, 33 BB/34 K
(R)	RF	Kris Billmaier	5-10/205	Sr.	R/R	65-62	.313-3-41	8 2B, 14 BB, 34 R, 11 SAC
(L)	DH	Matt Bok	5-10/190	Gr.	S/R	62-53	.311-3-36	14 2B, 2 3B, 17 BB
(R)	1B	Joe Thaman	6-4/215	Jr.	L/L	62-58	.272-6-33	6 2B, 24 BB, 13 SAC
(R)	SS	*Javi Sanchez	6-2/200	Jr.	R/R	66-65	.281-5-29	7 2B, 3 3B, 50 R, 24 BB
(R)	SS	*Matt Macri	6-2/195	So.	R/R	17-16	.206-1-13	3 2B, 7 BB (17 GP – injury)

*Note: Sanchez probable '03 starter at C, after starting at SS in '02 (due to injuries to Macri and Edwards)

2002 Honors – First Team All-American/Player of the Year finalist: Stanley (1st team BIG EAST, BE player of the year, CWS All-Tournament Team); Second Team All-BIG EAST: Sollmann, Stavisky (3rd team Academic All-American), O'Toole; Third Team All-BIG EAST: Bok, Bushey (2nd team Academic All-American)

'02 Draft Picks – Stanley (Oakland, Rd 2), Stavisky (Oak., Rd 6), Bushey (Colorado, Rd 15), O'Toole (Cubs, Rd 21)

Pitchers (all RHPs; listed in order of top returning and lost)

(Ret./Lost)	Pitcher	Ht./Wt.	Cl.	B/T	GP/GS	W-L (S)	IP	K/BB/H	OppAvg.	ERA
(R)	Grant Johnson	6-5/220	So.	R/R	18/14	9-5 (0)	101.1	86/44/94	.249	3.46
(R)	Chris Niesel	5-11/195	So.	R/R	14/11	4-0 (2)	72.1	62/18/68	.241	3.36
(R)	J.P. Gagne	6-0/205	Sr.	R/R	28/7	9-4 (6)	94.2	69/16/86	.245	3.14
(R)	Peter Ogilvie	6-3/220	Sr.	R/R	17/15	7-5 (0)	79.1	58/26/90	.295	4.65
(R)	John Axford	6-5/180	So.	R/R	17/12	5-2 (0)	70.2	64/59/59	.231	3.95
(R)	Ryan Kalita	6-2/210	Sr.	R/R	16/4	5-0 (0)	42.2	36/14/45	.278	3.16
(R)	Martin Vergara	6-0/185	So.	R/R	12/5	5-1 (0)	35.2	33/17/33	.236	3.79
(L)	Drew Duff	5-11/190	Gr.	R/R	9/0	2-0 (1)	22.2	21/7/25	.294	2.38
(R)	Brandon Viloria	5-11/210	Sr.	R/R	16/0	2-1 (3)	22.0	8/5/16	.203	2.45

2002 Honors – Gagne: 3rd team All-BIG EAST; Johnson: NCAA All-Regional Team (as were position players Sollmann, MVP, Billmaier, O'Toole, Stanley and Stavisky)

OTHER NOTEWORTHY RETURNEES/LOSSES

(Ret./Lost)	Pos.	Players	Ht./Wt.	Cl.	B/T	GP/GS	Avg.-HR-RBI	Other
(R)	IF	Matt Edwards	6-2/195	So.	R/R	9/8	.290-0-4	2B, 3 BB, SB, 3 R
(L)	DH	Ken Meyer	6-0/205	Gr.	R/R	43/32	.268-2-8	6 2B, 9 BB, 23 R
(R)	DH	Brent Weiss	6-1/205	So.	R/R	21/4	.200-2-9	3B, 2B, 4 BB, 7 R
(L)	OF	Matt Strickroth	6-4/230	Gr.	R/R	22/2	.240-1-4	2 2B, 6 BB, 8 R

Note: Weiss is expected to miss 2003 season after undergoing shoulder surgery (Dec., 2002)

(Ret./Lost)	Pitchers	Ht./Wt.	Cl.	B/T	GP/GS	W-L (S)	IP	K/BB/H	OppAvg.	ERA
(R)	Tyler Jones	6-4/210	So.	R/R	4/1	1-0 (1)	9.0	6/9/9	.243	4.00
(L)	Matt Buchmeier	6-0/190	Gr.	R/R	12/0	0-0 (3)	11.2	18/5/15	.319	3.09
(R)	Matt Laird	6-0/185	Sr.	R/R	12/0	0-0 (1)	11.0	9/9/14	.292	5.73

KEY FRESHMEN (listed in order of projected impact)

Players	Ht./Wt.	Pos.	B	Hometown/High School	2002 Stats/Honors
Craig Cooper	6-2/195	CF	R	Plainview, NY/Chaminade	.380, 6 HR, 20 RBI, 10 SB (leadoff)
Brennan Grogan	6-2/170	OF	L	Tequesta, FL/Benjamin	.423, 25 RBI, 25 SB
Cody Rizzo	6-1/180	C/3B/OF	R	Temecula, CA/Chaparral	.501, 6 HR, 29 RBI, 19 SB
					Inv. to U.S. Junior Nat'l Team Trials
					23G for nation's #5 soccer team
Greg Lopez	6-0/175	IF/DH	R	Upper Arlington, OH/Upper Arl.	Ohio Co-Player of the Year
					494, 5 HR, 32 RBI, 14 2B, 14 SB
Tom Thornton	6-6/205	LHP		Middleboro, MA/Middleboro	0.82, 8-1, 60 IP, 109 Ks, 18 BB, 26 H
Ryan Doherty	7-1/230	RHP		Toms River, NJ/Toms River East	Gatorade N.J. Player of the Year
					1.14, 5-4, 63 IP, 85 Ks, 19 BB
Matt Bransfield	6-1/195	IF/RHP	R	Englewood, CO/Cherry Creek	380, 6 HR, 34 RBI; 2.31, 10-1, 84 Ks
Steve Andres	5-11/205	DH/C	L	Napa, CA/Justin Siena	Earned spot via walk-on tryouts

PROBABLE LINEUP (listed in probable batting order)

Craig Cooper (CF, Fr.), Steve Sollmann (2B, Jr.), Matt Macri (SS, So.), Kris Billmaier (RF, Sr.), Matt Edwards (3B, So.), Javi Sanchez (C, Jr.), Joe Thaman (1B, Jr.), Greg Lopez/Steve Andres (DH, Fr.), Brennan Grogan/Cody Rizzo (LF, Fr.)