



Sports Information Office  
University of Notre Dame  
112 Joyce Center  
Notre Dame, IN 46556  
www.und.com  
219-631-7516  
219-631-7941 FAX

# NOTRE DAME

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

### 2001-02 Irish Schedule/Results

#### November

6	Tues.	OGBM Legends (exh.)	7 p.m.
13	Tues.	Christian Brothers (exh.)	7 p.m.
18	Sun.	Valparaiso	1 p.m.
21	Wed.	at Colorado State	7 p.m.
24	Sat.	at Arizona (FSN)	5 p.m.
26	Mon.	Army	7 p.m.

#### December

2	Sun.	(1) vs. Michigan	3 p.m.
6	Thurs.	at Purdue	7 p.m.
9	Sun.	USC	1 p.m.
12	Wed.	Western Michigan	7 p.m.
22	Sat.	Marquette	1 p.m.
28	Fri.	at Rice	7 p.m.
31	Mon.	DePaul	1 p.m.

#### January

2	Wed.	at Miami*	7 p.m.
5	Sat.	Providence*	1 p.m.
9	Wed.	Seton Hall*	7 p.m.
12	Sat.	at Villanova* (BETV)	Noon
19	Sat.	at Providence*	2 p.m.
21	Mon.	(2) at Connecticut* (ESPN)	3 p.m.
26	Sat.	Virginia Tech* (BETV)	6 p.m.
29	Tues.	Syracuse*	7 p.m.

#### February

2	Sat.	at Seton Hall*	2 p.m.
5	Tues.	at Pittsburgh*	7 p.m.
10	Sun.	Boston College*	1 p.m.
13	Wed.	St. John's*	7 p.m.
16	Sat.	at Rutgers* (BETV)	8 p.m.
19	Wed.	West Virginia*	7 p.m.
23	Sat.	at Georgetown	4 p.m.
26	Tues.	Villanova*	7 p.m.

#### March

2-	Sat.-	at BIG EAST Championship
5	Tues.	(Piscataway, N.J.)
15-	Fri.-	NCAA First and Second Rounds
18	Mon.	(campus sites)
23-	Sat.-	NCAA Regionals (Raleigh;
25	Mon.	Milwaukee; Ames, Iowa; Boise)
29-	Fri.-	NCAA Final Four
31	Sun.	(San Antonio, Texas)

\* indicates BIG EAST Conference game

(1) Women's College Basketball Showcase, Grand Rapids, Mich.

(2) Game to be played at Hartford Civic Center

(ESPN) Game to be televised live on ESPN

(FSN) Game to be televised live on Fox Sports Net

(BETV) Game to be televised as part of BIG EAST TV package

**Bold** indicates home game // All times local and subject to change

**Upcoming Promotion:** Next Tuesday's second exhibition game vs. Christian Brothers (7 p.m. EST) will be Schedule Magnet Night. Several clowns also will be present throughout the Joyce Center, painting faces and creating balloon hats.

# Ex.

(#14 ESPN/USA Today) *Notre Dame Fighting Irish*  
vs. *Ohio Girls' Basketball Magazine Legends*

**The Date and Time:** Tuesday, Nov. 6, 2001, at 7:00 p.m. EST.

**The Site:** Joyce Center (11,418) in Notre Dame, Ind.

**The Radio Plans:** All Notre Dame games are broadcast on WHLY-AM (1620 in South Bend) with Sean Stires (play-by-play). These live broadcasts also are available through the Notre Dame athletic department website at [www.und.com](http://www.und.com).

**Websites:** Notre Dame ([www.und.com](http://www.und.com)).

### IRISH OPEN EXHIBITION SEASON AGAINST OHIO GIRLS' BASKETBALL MAGAZINE

Less than eight months after completing a magical run to the 2001 NCAA championship, the Notre Dame women's basketball team returns to action Tuesday at 7 p.m. (EST), playing its first exhibition game against the Ohio Girls' Basketball Magazine Legends at the Joyce Center. The Irish posted a 34-2 record last season, including a 15-0 mark at home, en route to its first national championship. Notre Dame kicks off its 25th anniversary season in 2001-02 with seven returning monogram winners and a bumper crop of six talented freshmen to help uphold the program's tradition of excellence.

Head coach **Muffet McGraw** enters her 15th year at Notre Dame with a 322-117 (.733) record and has led the Irish to six straight NCAA Tournament appearances and eight overall. She was a near-unanimous choice as national coach of the year in 2000-01, winning top honors from the Atlanta Tipoff Club (Naismith Award), Associated Press, Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA), and Sports Illustrated for Women. She also was named the BIG EAST Coach of the Year, marking the third different conference to recognize McGraw as its top skipper since she took the reins at Notre Dame in 1987.

Both of Notre Dame's returning starters have already been honored by the BIG EAST coaches in their preseason balloting. Senior guard/forward **Ericka Haney** (11.0 ppg., 5.7 rpg.) was a second team preseason all-conference pick and brings explosive quickness and versatility to the Irish lineup, along with veteran leadership. As Notre Dame's only captain, she will be called upon to assume a greater mantle of responsibility in '01-02. Junior guard **Alicia Ratay** (12.9 ppg., 5.1 rpg.) was a first team preseason all-BIG EAST choice and is one of 30 finalists for the Naismith Award after setting an NCAA record for three-point percentage (.547) last season.

Joining Ratay in the backcourt will be sophomore **Le'Tania Severe** (1.9 ppg.), who fills the large shoes left by third-team All-American Niele Ivey, now with the WNBA's Indiana Fever. Severe was hampered by injuries last season, appearing in just 22 games, but she has confidently taken control of the Irish offense in preseason workouts and will look to make great strides this season. Juniors **Monique Hernandez** (2.6 ppg.) and walk-on **Karen Swanson**, along with sophomore **Jeneka Joyce** (5.2 ppg.) will give McGraw tremendous flexibility in her guard rotation. Additionally, freshmen **Allison Bustamante**, **Jill Krause** and **Kelsey Wicks** provide the Irish with solid ballhandling and perimeter shooting depth.

A pair of freshmen (and former Parade All-Americans) are poised to make an immediate impact on the Notre Dame front line, as **Jacqueline Batteast** and **Teresa Borton** will both get the starting nod Tuesday night. Batteast was named the 2001-02 preseason BIG EAST Rookie of the Year and her combination of speed, athleticism and perimeter shooting ability already make her a valuable weapon in the Irish arsenal. At 6-3, Borton is a smooth and versatile post player with excellent mobility and a solid defensive presence. Junior **Amanda Barksdale** (1.4 ppg., 1.7 bpg.) was one of the nation's top shot blockers last season, while freshman **Katy Flecky** was a two-time Miss Colorado Basketball and offers the Irish an extremely physical presence in the post.

Comprised mostly of former high school, college or pro players from the state of Ohio, the OGBM Legends are 2-2 on their current 15-game, 15-day exhibition tour of the Midwest, entering their Monday night game at Illinois. Former Purdue standout **Jannon Roland** has paced the Legends during the early part of their tour, averaging 15.3 ppg. and 5.8 rpg. during their first four games.



**BIG EAST COACHES' PRESEASON POLL**

1. Connecticut (11)	167
<b>2. NOTRE DAME (2)</b>	<b>155</b>
3. Rutgers	143
4. Boston College	125
5. Villanova (1)	112
6. Virginia Tech	111
7. Georgetown	102
8. Miami	86
9. Seton Hall	75
10. Syracuse	59
11. Providence	56
12. Pittsburgh	41
13. St. John's	23
14. West Virginia	19

**2001-02 Preseason Player of the Year**

Sue Bird, Sr., G, 5-9, Connecticut

**2001-02 Preseason Rookie of the Year**

Jacqueline Batteast, Fr., F, 6-1, Notre Dame

**Preseason All-BIG EAST First Team**

\*Sue Bird, Connecticut, G, Sr.  
 Rebekkah Brunson, Georgetown, F, So.  
 Swin Cash, Connecticut, F, Sr.  
 Becky Gottstein, Boston College, F, Sr.  
 Trish Juhline, Villanova, G, Jr.  
**Alicia Ratay, Notre Dame, G, Jr.**

**Preseason All-BIG EAST Second Team**

Chanivia Broussard, Miami, F, So.  
 Davalyn Cunningham, Rutgers, F, Sr.  
 Ericka Haney, Notre Dame, G/F, Sr.  
 Asjha Jones, Connecticut, F, Sr.  
 Diana Taurasi, Connecticut, G, So.

\* - unanimous selection

**RATAY NAMED NAISMITH CANDIDATE FOR SECOND CONSECUTIVE YEAR**

Notre Dame junior guard **Alicia Ratay** has been selected as a preseason candidate for the 2001-02 Naismith College Basketball Player of the Year Award. It marks the second time in as many seasons that Ratay has been named to the 30-player preseason Naismith watch list.

Ratay averaged 12.9 points and 5.1 rebounds per game last season, and set an NCAA record for three-point percentage (54.7 percent) on the way to third-team all-BIG EAST Conference honors — she was the only sophomore to make any of the three all-league squads. Ratay also is a former BIG EAST Rookie of the Year and was named an honorable mention All-American by the *Associated Press* in 2000. She will be looking to follow in the footsteps of her former teammate, **Ruth Riley**, who won the 2000-01 Naismith Award, becoming the first Notre Dame women's basketball player to be so recognized.

The Naismith Awards, in their 34th year, are given in honor of the inventor of the game of basketball — Dr. James Naismith. The awards program was founded by the Atlanta Tipoff Club, an organization dedicated to recognizing the achievements of student-athletes in basketball. The Awards, including Men's and Women's College Player of the Year, Men's and Women's Coach of the Year, Male and Female Prep Player of the Year and Men's and Women's Official of the Year, are determined by a vote of the Naismith Board of Selectors. In addition, the Board of Selectors, comprised of a select group of leading basketball coaches, journalists and administrators, honors a Men's and Women's Outstanding Contributor to Basketball. The 2001-02 Naismith Award will be presented April 5, 2002 in Atlanta.

**EXHIBITION EXCELLENCE FOR IRISH**

Notre Dame has been nearly unbeatable in exhibition games over the last eight seasons. Since the 1993-94 campaign, the Irish are 14-1 (.933) in this preseason tilts and own an active nine-game exhibition winning streak. During that time, Notre Dame has outscored its preseason opponents by a count of 90-66. The last squad to defeat the Irish in exhibition play was the Lithuanian National Team, which edged Notre Dame, 94-89 in 1996-97. But the Irish were not fazed by that loss — they went on to reach their first-ever NCAA Final Four that year. Here's a look at how Notre Dame has fared in exhibition games since 1993-94:

2000-01	W, 98-53 vs. Finnish Select Team
	W, 91-56 vs. Ohio All-Stars
1999-2000	W, 76-51 vs. EOS Malbas
	W, 94-85 vs. Premier All-Stars
1998-99	W, 88-37 vs. Estonia
	W, 111-82 vs. Visby-Sweden
1997-98	W, 66-34 vs. Slavyanka (Russia)
	W, 103-92 (3OT) vs. Brisbane (Australia) Blazers
1996-97	W, 74-54 vs. Dutch National Team
	L, 89-94 vs. Lithuanian National Team
1995-96	W, 90-83 (OT) vs. Hoosier All-Stars
	W, 93-85 vs. Sopron-Hungary
1994-95	W, 80-63 vs. Athletes in Action
	W, 84-65 vs. Australian Institute for Sport
1993-94	W, 109-59 vs. BK Strakonice

**POLL POSITION**

Notre Dame is ranked 14th in the ESPN/USA Today preseason Top 25 poll released Monday. It marks the 57th consecutive week in which the Irish have appeared in the coaches' poll, extending a school-record streak which dates back to the beginning of the 1998-99 season. This string was highlighted by their six-week stay atop the rankings last season and their year-end finish at No. 1. Notre Dame has also spent 55 straight weeks in the Associated Press Top 25 poll, a streak they are expected to keep intact when the first media poll is released on Tuesday.

**NOW THAT'S A HOME COURT ADVANTAGE**

Notre Dame will be looking to extend some impressive streaks in 2001-02. The Irish have won a school-record 38 consecutive games at home, the second-longest active streak in the nation behind Kent State's 43-game run. In fact, the Irish have not lost at home in nearly three years, dating back to a loss to top-ranked Connecticut on Dec. 8, 1998. Notre Dame also has a 49-3 (.942) record in BIG EAST games at the Joyce Center, with Connecticut the only league team to solve the Irish at home.

Notre Dame also sports a four-year, 23-game non-conference winning streak at the Joyce Center — a streak that includes victories over a trio of sixth-ranked teams (UCLA and Duke in 1998-99 and

## JOYCE CENTER • NOTRE DAME, IND.

### NOTRE DAME'S PROBABLE STARTING LINEUP

No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	PPG*	RPG*	Other*	Notes
21	Jacqueline Batteast	F	6-1	Fr.	—	—	—	'01-02 preseason BIG EAST Rookie of the Year
3	Ericka Haney	G/F	6-0	Sr.	11.0	5.7	1.6 apg	'01-02 preseason second team all-BIG EAST
12	Teresa Borton	C	6-3	Fr.	—	—	—	One of two freshmen to crack starting lineup
22	Alicia Ratay	G	6-0	Jr.	12.9	5.1	.547 3FG%	'01-02 Naismith Award and All-America candidate
4	Le'Tania Severe	G	5-8	So.	1.9	1.8	1.6 apg	Sophomore takes over point guard duties

### OFF THE BENCH FOR THE IRISH

No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	PPG*	RPG*	Other*	Notes
5	Jeneka Joyce	G	5-9	So.	5.2	1.2	1.2 apg	Posted assist/TO ratio of better than 2:1 last year
10	Jill Krause	G	5-8	Fr.	—	—	—	Third-team all-state selection as prep senior
11	Karen Swanson	G	5-8	Jr.	1.2	0.5	.909 FT%	Third-year walk-on appeared in 23 games last yr.
23	Monique Hernandez	G	5-9	Jr.	2.6	1.1	0.7 apg	Averaged 11 minutes per game in '00-01
24	Kelsey Wicks	G	6-2	Fr.	—	—	—	Miss Wyoming Basketball and prep All-American
31	Amanda Barksdale	C	6-3	Jr.	1.4	2.2	1.7 bpg	Shot-blocking specialist hampered by leg injury
33	Katy Flecky	F	6-2	Fr.	—	—	—	Two-time Miss Colorado Basketball selection
44	Allison Bustamante	G	6-0	Fr.	—	—	—	Three-time all-state pick in high school

\*final statistics from 2000-01 season for returning players only

Purdue in 2000-01), as well as 25th-ranked Illinois in '98-99. Notre Dame's last non-conference loss at the Joyce Center came way back on Dec. 9, 1996, when 19th-ranked Wisconsin toppled the Irish, 81-69. Overall, the Irish are 63-2 (.969) at the Joyce Center in their last 65 home games, with the only losses coming to Connecticut.

Since its inaugural season in 1977-78, Notre Dame has played all of its games at the Joyce Center. The Irish own a 226-65 mark for a .777 winning percentage since that first season. Last year, the Irish were a perfect 15-0 for the second year in a row. The 15 victories are a school record for home wins in a season and the first time Notre Dame teams have been undefeated at home during the regular season. During the last five-plus seasons, **Muffet McGraw's** squad is 76-4 (.950) at the Joyce Center.

#### SEASON TICKET SALES REACH ALL-TIME HIGH FOR IRISH

Attendance at Notre Dame women's basketball games in 2000-01 increased nearly 88 percent compared to the previous season — and early indications suggest another significant jump is in order for the 2001-02 campaign. Coming off the 2001 NCAA championship, there already have been more than 6,700 season tickets sold to the general public and University faculty and staff for the '01-'02 women's basketball season. That's compared to 2,700 a year ago and 940 in 1999-2000.

The sale of season tickets for 2001-02 actually began midway through Notre Dame's 2001 championship season. All seats will be reserved for Irish women's games for the first time in 2001-02 — all seating in previous years had been general admission.

The Irish ranked 10th nationally in attendance last year at 6,376 fans per game, compared to 3,392 in 1999-2000. Notre Dame also recorded the first two women's basketball sellouts in school history, as 11,418 fans packed the Joyce Center for victories over Connecticut and Georgetown.

#### NOTRE DAME FACES TOUGH SCHEDULE IN 2001-02

Notre Dame will play 10 teams which reached the postseason as part of a rugged schedule this year. The Irish will battle seven NCAA Tournament squads, including Final Four participants Purdue and Connecticut, both of whom were ranked in the top 10 in the recently-released ESPN/USA Today pre-season poll. Other ranked foes on this year's docket include No. 20 Michigan, 23rd-ranked Rutgers and No. 25 Colorado State. Seven other opponents are receiving votes in the initial coaches poll.

The Irish will get a good deal of face time in 2001-02, playing on television five times, including nationally-televised contests against Connecticut (Jan. 21 on ESPN) and Arizona (Nov. 24 on Fox Sports Net). In addition, Notre Dame will appear three times as part of the BIG EAST regular-season television package. The BIG EAST tournament semifinals will also be aired on the league's TV network, while the conference championship game will be broadcast live on ESPN2.

### '01-02 PRESEASON HONORS

#### **Jacqueline Batteast (Fr., South Bend, Ind.)**

BIG EAST Rookie of the Year  
Freshman All-America (*WBB News Service*)  
Top 21 New Players of Impact (Women's College Hoops.com)

#### **Ericka Haney (Sr., Toledo, Ohio)**

All-BIG EAST Second Team

#### **Alicia Ratay (Jr., Lake Zurich, Ill.)**

Naismith Award Watch List  
All-BIG EAST First Team

### KEVIN WHITE RADIO SHOW

A weekly half-hour show featuring Notre Dame athletics director **Kevin White** began Sept. 9 on Chicago's ESPN Radio 1000. "The Kevin White Show" is scheduled to air from 10:00-10:30 p.m. central time for 30 consecutive Sundays on ESPN radio (1000 AM in Chicago, [www.espnradio1000.com](http://www.espnradio1000.com)). The show also can be heard in 35 states. White welcomes to the show a series of guests and prominent figures associated with college athletics, including administrators, coaches and media members.