

2006 SCHEDULE (32-8)

FEBRUARY			* – BIG EAST game
Thur.	23	vs. Indiana St. (Mill., TN)	W, 3-0
<i>Service Academies Classic (Millington, TN)</i>			
Fri.	24	vs. Air Force	W, 8-2
Sat.	25	vs. Memphis	L, 6-7 (10)
Sun.	26	vs. Oklahoma	L, 3-4
MARCH			
<i>Minnesota Dairy Queen Classic (Metrodome)</i>			
Fri.	3	vs. #4 Nebraska	L, 1-11
Sat.	4	vs. Minnesota	L, 0-8
Sun.	5	vs. Arizona	L, 0-2 (10)
<i>UTSA Express Classic (Wolff Stadium; San Antonio)</i>			
Fri.	10	vs. #15 Texas A&M	W, 5-4
Sat.	11	vs. Iowa	W, 16-2
Sun.	12	vs. Illinois	W, 4-2
Mon.	13	vs. Iowa	W, 6-2
<i>Irish Baseball Classic (Wolff Stadium; San Antonio)</i>			
Thur.	16	vs. Iowa	W, 7-5
Fri.	17	vs. Southern Illinois	W, 12-2
Fri.	17	vs. Iowa	L, 8-10
Sat.	18	vs. Southern Illinois	W, 4-0
Tues.	21	Wright State	L, 2-4
Wed.	22	Central Michigan	W, 11-9
<i>at Povich Field (Bethesda, MD)</i>			
Sat.	25	vs. Georgetown*	L, 3-8; W, 12-2
Sun.	26	vs. Georgetown*	W, 6-3
Tues.	28	Valparaiso	W, 12-0
Wed.	29	Western Michigan	W, 2-0
Fri.	31	Pittsburgh*	W, 6-1
APRIL			
Sat.	1	Pittsburgh*	W, 4-3
Sun.	2	Pittsburgh*	W, 9-8
Tues.	4	Chicago State	W, 6-4
Wed.	5	Ball State	W, 6-4
Fri.	7	at South Florida*	W, 9-5
Sat.	8	at South Florida*	W, 10-4
Sun.	9	at South Florida*	W, 10-1
Tues.	11	Oakland	W, 15-1
Wed.	12	Manchester	W, 8-2
Thur.	13	St. John's (DH)* (CSTV)	W, 9-2/13-7
Sat.	15	St. John's*	W, 7-5
Tues.	18	Toledo	W, 8-2
Wed.	19	IPFW (Comcast Local)	W, 4-3 (10)
Fri.	21	Rutgers*	W, 11-5
Sat.	22	Rutgers*	W, 15-3
Sun.	23	Rutgers*	W, 14-12
Tues.	25	Purdue (ESPN-U)	7:05 p.m.
Wed.	26	Bowling Green	5:05 p.m.
Sat.	29	at Connecticut (DH)*	noon
Sun.	30	at Connecticut*	11:00 a.m.
MAY			
Tues.	2	Cleveland State	5:05 p.m.
Fri.	5	Louisville*	6:05 p.m.
Sat.	6	Louisville*	1:05 p.m.
Sun.	7	Louisville*	12:05 p.m.
Sat.	13	at Seton Hall (DH)*	noon
Sun.	14	at Seton Hall*	noon
Tues.	16	vs. Michigan (Comcast Local)	7:00 p.m.
<i>(5th/3rd Park; Comstock Park, MI)</i>			
<i>at Villanova Ballpark (Plymouth Meeting, PA)</i>			
Thur.	18	vs. Villanova*	4:00 p.m.
Fri.	19	vs. Villanova*	4:00 p.m.
Sat.	20	vs. Villanova*	noon
Tues.-	23-	<i>BIG EAST Tour.</i> (final on ESPN-U)	
Sat.	27	Br. House Net. Field (Clearwater, FL)	
Fri.-	2-	<i>NCAA Regionals</i>	
Sun.	4	(Campus Sites)	
Fri.-	9-	<i>NCAA Super Regionals</i>	
Sun.	11	(Campus Sites)	
Fri.-	16-	<i>College World Series</i>	
Mon.	26	(Omaha, NE)	

2006 NOTRE DAME BASEBALL

(vs. Purdue ... April 25 ... Eck Stadium)

HOMESTAND ROLLS ON – Notre Dame is nearing the end of its current 12-game homestand and will look to extend the longest win streak in the program's 114-year history (22 games) with Tuesday night's game vs. Purdue (7:05 EDT; live on ESPN-U) ... please note that the game time was shifted back an hour due to the TV broadcast ... ND currently ranks 4th in the nation for win pct. (.800) and 7th in wins (32-8) ... hot-hitting senior 1B **Craig Cooper** has earned national player-of-the-week honors after batting 10-for-19 with 13 RBI and 4 home runs in five wins last week ... sophomore LHP **Wade Korpi** will look to maintain his midweek mastery as the starter vs. the Boilermakers.

TV, RADIO, LIVE-STATS, TEXT-MESSAGE UPDATES & HOTLINE – All of ND's 2006 regular-season and postseason games again will be broadcast by South Bend's ESPN Radio (now on 1490 AM) ... the broadcasts are available online at www.und.com (All-Access subscription) ... und.com provides links to livestats on the website's main page, for all home games and select road games ... a free text-message service, Irish Alert, now is available (see und.com for details) ... call the ND Sports Hotline at 574-631-3000 for schedule and results of all varsity sports (from main menu, select "4" and then select "1" for baseball information).

AROUND THE HORN

- **SILVER STREAK** – The 22-game win streak has bested the '91 team (18) for longest (single-season) and the 1906-07 teams (21) for best overall win streak at any time in ND history, also the longest in D-I this season ... ND owns a .359-.234 batting edge in the streak (2.94 ERA, .973 fielding/23 Es).
- **THREE-PRONGED ATTACK** – ND last week was ranked 26th nationally in batting avg. (.318, now .329), 13th in ERA (3.12, now 3.33) and 20th in fielding pct. (.970, now .972), with Nebraska being the only other team in the top-30 for all three categories.
- **WILY VETERANS** – ND's 10 regular position players include 5 seniors, 2 juniors, 2 sophomore and freshman Jeremy Barnes, with that group combining to start 1,175 career games (4,297 ABs; 1,325 hits; 795 RBI; .308 bat. avg.).
- **HOME BOYS** – The Irish lost their home opener on March 21 but have not lost at Eck Stadium in the past five weeks (18-1), batting .345 (16 HRs) with a 3.45 staff ERA (just 4 HR allowed) in the 19 home games.
- **LOTS-O-LINEUPS** – ND's first 40 games have featured 35 different batting orders, including 32 different orders in the first 32 games.
- **IN THE CLUTCH** – The Irish are batting .351 with runners in scor. pos. (.309 in '05), led by Lopez (.423), Dressman (.408) and Rizzo (.380).
- **QUICK STARTERS** – ND owns a +27 scoring margin in the 1st inning this season (48-21), outhitting the opponents .384-.305 in the opening frame.
- **BIG INNINGS** – Notre Dame totaled just four "big innings" (5-plus runs) in the first 28 games of the '06 but has scored 5-plus in seven of the past 12 games.
- **HBP ... PDQ** – The Irish lead the BIG EAST with 65 times hit-by-pitch (301 over the past three seasons) and feature five players among the top-12 on the ND career HBP charts: Cody Rizzo (1st, 77; 3rd NCAA history), Brett Lilley (2nd, 40), Alex Nettey (3rd, 38), Greg Lopez (7th, 32) and Craig Cooper (12th, 25).
- **NO-FLY ZONE** – The ND pitchers have allowed just 8 home runs all season (t4 at Eck Stadium) and had a 25-game stretch without an opp. HR (943 BF).
- **POWER SURGE** – The Irish managed just 10 home runs in the first 30 games of the season but have awoken for 15 HRs in the current homestand (10 GP).
- **LEADOFF LEADER** – Craig Cooper has reached base 23-of-31 times (74%) when leading off the game for the ND offense (4 HR, 6 2B) and is riding a 21-game hit streak.
- **KILLER B's** – The pattern of rotating heroes this season has included the likes of (Matt) Bransfield, (Ross) Brezovsky, (Jeremy) Barnes and Brett (Lilley).
- **SUPER AT SHORT** – Greg Lopez owns a 5-to-1 ratio of RBI (team-best) to errors (6), 3rd-best among shortstops from teams currently in the BA top-20.

IN-STATE BATTLES – After the season-opening win over Indiana State and the recent wins over Valparaiso, Ball State, Manchester and IPFW, Notre Dame now owns a 53-10 record (.841) vs. fellow Indiana-based schools during the Paul Mainieri era (since '95), with games versus: Valparaiso (11-1), Butler (7-0), Manchester (7-0), Purdue (6-2), IUPUI (5-0), Indiana Tech (4-1), Indiana (3-0), Indianapolis (2-0), IPFW (3-0), Indiana State (2-1), Ball State (3-4) and Evansville (1-1).

ECK-CELLENT – Notre Dame recently posted the program's 300th win in 13 seasons at Eck Stadium (now 307-66-1), winning better than 82% of the games in the home facility ... the only teams with more than three wins at Eck vs. ND: St. John's (5-10), West Virginia (5-8), Miami, Fla. (4-1), Ball State (4-3) and Rutgers (4-11).

FOUR-PEAT NO EASY FEAT – Oral Roberts (8) is the only team in the nation with a longer active streak of conference tournament titles than Notre Dame's four straight BIG EAST Tournament titles ... Rice won nine straight Western Athletic Conference automatic bids from 1997-2005 (the WAC does not sponsor a tournament and awards its bid to the regular-season champ) ... ORU and Rice are the only teams – among 30 Division I conferences – that are riding a streak of more than four consecutive conference automatic bids ... ND also owns the record for consecutive wins in BIG EAST tournament play (7, still active).

IRISH TAKING AIMEIGHTH STRAIGHT NCAA TRIP – Notre Dame, which bounced back from a 14-14 start to the 2005 season by going 22-8-1 in the second half, made its seventh straight appearance in the NCAAs and eighth of the Paul Mainieri era (since '95) during that 2005 season ... the Irish are part of an elite group of 12 teams that have appeared in the NCAAs every year since 1999, with others including: recent NCAA champions Miami, LSU, Texas, Rice and Cal State Fullerton, plus Florida State, Stanford, Clemson, Tulane, East Carolina and Oral Roberts ... ND is part of an even smaller list of seven teams that have advanced to at least the NCAA Regional final every year since 2000 (six straight), with the other five teams including LSU, Miami, Rice, South Carolina, Stanford and Texas.

THE SERIES – Notre Dame holds a 76-37-3 edge in a series vs. Purdue that dates back to 1894 (46-20-1 at ND, 5-1 at Eck Stadium) ... the Irish hold a 7-2 series edge in the Paul Mainieri era ... the series has included 20 one-run games (13 won by ND) and 14 shutouts (12 by ND).

RECAPPING THE LAST MEETING (ND 9, Purdue 7 in 12; at South Bend's Coveleski Stadium) – **Craig Cooper** battled back from an 0-2 count to launch a game-ending home run over the leftfield fence, as ND outlasted Purdue in a wild 12-inning game that marked the first action for the Irish at downtown Coveleski Stadium in more than a decade ... it had been nearly three years – dating back to Brian Stavisky's blast versus Rice at the 2002 College World Series – since ND had won an a game-ending home run ... the Irish had surged to a 7-6 lead after scoring three times in the 8th but Purdue tied the score in the 9th ... **Alex Nettey** entered the game mired in a 1-for-18 slump but went 4-for-6 from the leadoff spot with a solo home run that forged a 3-3 tie in the 3rd (he also scored as part of a productive 1st inning for the Irish) ... **Brett Lilley** hit 2-for-4 from the 2-hole (2 BB, 2 R) but the rest of the Irish batters combined for a sub-.200 night (6-for-31) ... 3-hole hitter Matt Edwards, and cleanup man Cooper had combined for an 0-for-9 night (one walk each) before Cooper's game-ending blast ... the bottom of the 12th included Lilley's full-count walk vs. LHP **Andrew Groves**, who then struck out Edwards and had an 0-2 count on Cooper – who took the next two pitches for balls before turning on fastball and sending it well over the leftfield fence ... Purdue's 17-hit attack included four players with three hits but the Boilermakers left 15 on base ... ND had 23 total baserunners but hit into five double plays ... **Tony Langford** inherited the go-ahead run on third base with one out in the 12th but came up with a clutch K and flyout to maintain the 6-6 score ... **Wade Korpi** endured an adventurous six innings that saw Purdue cash in 11 hits and one walk for six runs, just three earned (1 K, 58 of his 91 pitches for strikes) ... Purdue RHP **Dan Slater** (6 IP, 7 H, 4 R, 4 BB, 3 Ks) also had no-decision while Groves took the loss as Purdue's fourth reliever (2.1 IP, 2 H, 2 R, BB, 3 Ks) ... **Trae Dauby** entered the game in the 8th and lost **Steve Andres** on four pitches before **Ross Brezovsky** then went the other way on a 2-2 pitch, skipping a double down the leftfield line to plate Cooper for a 6-5 game ... **Sean Gaston** brought home the tying and go-ahead runs with an opposite-field strike that eluded the third baseman for a 7-6 lead ... Purdue tied the game vs. **Ryan Doherty**, after **Spencer Ingladson's** leadoff walk, a sac. bunt by **Neal Gorka** and **John Hunter's** 0-2 single up the middle.

ND PLAYER QUICK NOTES – Jeff **Samardzija** (40th) and Jeff **Manship** (41st) recently were upgraded to top-50 status on by *Baseball America's* list of top college prospects for the '06 MLB draft (UNC and Missouri are the only other teams with two starting pitchers among the top-50) ... Samardzija has overcome some bumpy early innings by allowing just 3 total runs in the 3rd-4th innings this season ... **Alex Nettey's** 2-run blast vs. St. John's (9-7) was ND's 12th game-ending home run in the Mainieri era (first at Eck Stadium since '01) ... **Greg Lopez** is 3rd on the team in batting (.374; team-best .423 with runners in scoring position) and has a 5.1-to-1 ratio of RBI (team-best 31) to errors (6) that is 2nd-best among shortstops from teams in the current BA top-25 poll ... ND has faced only two deficits longer than 3.5 innings in the win streak ... **Craig Cooper's** 22-game hit streak matches the longest in the Mainieri era (he has reached base 23-of-31 times when leading off a game for the ND offense) while his .445 career conference batting avg. is best ever by a BIG EAST player ... five pitchers combined for the 3-hit shutout of Valparaiso (12-0) while **Wade Korpi** went the distance in the 3-hitter vs. Western Michigan (career-best 11 Ks), ND's first back-to-back shutouts since '02 ... **Kyle Weiland** (10, in 11 chances) already has bested Aaron Heilman's ND record for saves by a freshman (9, in '98) ... **Cooper** and **Brett Lilley** both hit 9-for-13 in the sweep at USF ... **Cody Rizzo** is 3rd in NCAA history with 77 career HBPs ... top hitters in the win streak: **Cooper** (.500, 40-for-80, 27 RBI, 9 HR, 3B, 8 2B, 32 R, 12 BB, 6 SB), **Lopez** (.444, 32-for-72, 18 RBI, 17 R) and **Lilley** (.444, 28-for-63, 12 RBI, 14 BB).

IRISH TEAM NOTES – ND is riding the longest win streak (22) at any time in the program's 114-year history (the 1906-07 teams combined to win 21 straight) and owns the longest win streak by any Div.-I team this season ... the Irish also have won 14 straight BIG EAST games, matching the 2nd-longest league win streak by any team in 22 seasons of BIG EAST baseball (ND's 2001 team won 18 straight in the BIG EAST) ... ND's 14-1 start matches its best in 11 BIG EAST seasons (also '98) ... the Irish joined Nebraska as the only teams in the top-30 of last week's NCAA rankings for team batting avg. (26th), ERA (13th) and fielding pct. (20th) ... a win in the opener vs. RU placed ND at 30 wins (30-8) quicker than all but the '04 (30-5) and '01 (30-5-1) teams ... ND's 10 regular position players are a veteran group, combining for 1,175 career starts ... the Irish are out hitting opponents .359-.234 in the win streak (2.94 staff ERA, .973 fielding pct./23 Es) ... ND is 21-1 in its past 22 games vs. BIG EAST teams ... ND set an Eck Stadium record for tickets sold (3,052 and then 3,101) on both days of the SJU series (also in earlier game vs. Pitt/3,028), then 3,507 in the opener vs. Rutgers (plus more than 3,200 in the other games vs. RU) ... the Irish are 18-1 at home and riding a 30-3 overall extended streak this season ... ND had totaled just 11 HRs in its first 30 games but has 15 HRs in the current homestand (10 GP) ... the current 3.33 staff ERA would rank 2nd-best by an ND staff since '92 ... Paul Mainieri is 520-204-2 at ND, 851-483-3 overall in 24 seasons ... the Mainieri era has included an average of 44-plus wins per season, eight trips to the NAAs, eight conference titles, 43 players who have been drafted or signed as free-agents, 12 All-America seasons and nine Academic All-America honors (all 63 of his four-year players have graduated) ... the Irish staff has allowed just eight home runs all season and recently went 25 games (943 batters faced) without allowing a HR ... ND rapped out 49 hits in its sweep at USF, the most hits for the Irish in a BIG EAST series since 50 vs. Georgetown in '98 ... ND's 40 games this season have featured 35 different batting orders ... the Irish own a 48-21 scoring edge in the 1st inning this season, out hitting the opponents .384-.305 in the opening inning.

MILESTONE MARKERS – The following individuals are approaching (or recently reached) statistical milestones in their Notre Dame careers:

Jeff Samardzija	199.1 innings
Craig Cooper	198 GP, 44 SB, 44 2B, 94 BB
Sean Gaston	98 hits
Tom Thornton	48 GS, 188 Ks, 301.2 IP
Brett Lilley	97 GP
Alex Nettey	97 runs
Danny Dressman	97 hits
Greg Lopez	196 GS, 205 hits, 209 GP
Matt Bransfield	96 runs
Steve Andres	95 runs, 92 walks, 89 RBI
Wade Korpi	90 strikeouts
Cody Rizzo	190 GS, 180 hits
Ross Brezovsky	84 hits
Jeff Manship	81 strikeouts
Paul Mainieri	520 wins (at ND)

Here's a look at Notre Dame's record in various situations:

ND scores in 1st inning	18-4
Opponent scores in 1st inning	9-2
ND scores first	21-4
ND leads after 7th inning	29-1
ND hits a home run	16-1
Opponent hits a home run	5-3
ND does not make an error	10-1
ND outhits the opponent	27-3
ND is outhit by the opponent	3-5
When collecting double-digit hits	19-2
When allowing 0-5 runs	27-3
One-run games	4-2
Extra-inning games	1-2

AWESOME IN APRIL – ND has won just 67% of its pre-April games in the 12-year Paul Mainieri era (182-90-1/+92; .669) but now has won 82% of its April games in those 12 seasons (231-51-1/+180; .818).

MAINIERI'S MILESTONES – Notre Dame 12th-year head coach Paul Mainieri posted his 500th victory with the Irish in the 6-3 win over Georgetown ... his 700th overall career coaching win also came vs. Georgetown, on March 29, 2003, at Eck Stadium (13-3).

VETERAN UNIT – Notre Dame's 2006 opening-day lineup included six seniors, a junior and two sophomores ... it marks just the third time in the 12-year Paul Mainieri era (and only second time since his first season at ND, in '95) that the Irish have not featured at least one freshman position starter from the start (although freshman Jeremy Barnes has emerged as a starter at multiple positions in '06):

Notre Dame Freshman Starters in the Paul Mainieri Era

- '95 – no freshman starters
- '96 – Jeff Wagner (C) and Paul Turco (SS)
- '97 – Brant Ust (2B) and Jeff Felker (1B), Jeff Perconte (RF platoon)
- '98 – Alec Porzel (LF)
- '99 – Steve Stanley (CF), Paul O'Toole (C) and Andrew Bushey (3B)
- '00 – Brian Stavisky (RF)
- '01 – Steve Sollmann (2B)
- '02 – Matt Macri (SS, injured)
- '03 – Craig Cooper (LF), Cody Rizzo (RF), Greg Lopez (3B), Steve Andres (DH)
- '04 – none
- '05 – Brett Lilley (2B/3B), Ross Brezovsky (3B/2B)
- '06 – none (Jeremy Barnes now 28 GS)

LOPEZ JOINS WEEKLY DIARY STAFF FOR COLLEGE BASEBALL INSIDER

Notre Dame senior shortstop and second-year captain Greg Lopez is one of four players in all of Division I baseball who will be featured this season during a weekly diary feature on www.collegebaseballinsider.com ... check the CBI website and look for more on this diary series at und.com.

LANGFORD LOST FOR SEASON AFTER ELBOW SURGERY

Notre Dame sophomore Tony Langford – who was poised to be a valuable two-way player for the Irish in 2005 – will be lost for the season after undergoing reconstructive “Tommy John” elbow surgery on Feb. 22 ... Langford was in line to be on the top late-game righthanded relievers for the Irish and also figured heavily in the mix as a righthanded-hitting DH.

SCHEDULE CHANGES – There have been several minor changes to the Notre Dame 2006 baseball schedule, since its initial release on Dec. 10:

- Two home games have shifted their start times – April 22 vs. Rutgers at 3:05 and April 25 vs. Purdue at 7:05 (live ESPN-U telecast) – while the April 13 doubleheader vs. St. John’s was telecast live by CSTV (with live streaming on und.com).

- The BIG EAST also has announced that the eight-team conference tournament will be held in the new venue of Bright House Networks Field (Clearwater, Fla.), the Philadelphia Phillies spring-training site and home field for their single-A affiliate.

- Also of note is the fact that South Bend/Notre Dame now observes Eastern time (including DST) all year-round ... that’s a switch from past years when South Bend residents never changed their clocks (and were on EST year-round) ... thus, South Bend no longer will be on the equivalent of Central time from April through October, as it has been in recent years (South Bend’s time zone now will be aligned with the east coast all 12 months).

NEW FORMAT – Most BIG EAST series in 2006 have shifted to a three-day format (typically Fri.-Sat.-Sun.) ... all BIG EAST games will be nine innings, except in the instance where a doubleheader must be played on Sunday ... there also no longer is the option to use Monday as a makeup day for a weekend series.

ND BASEBALL AND ECK STADIUM FEATURED IN EA SPORTS GAME – The Notre Dame baseball program and Eck Stadium are prominent elements in the newly-released EA Sports home video game MVP 06 NCAA Baseball ... the revolutionary game features Notre Dame and 127 other Division I teams while Eck Stadium is one of 19 stadiums featured in the popular new release ... EA Sports – the makers of the highest-rated and top-selling baseball game of the past three years – has created a completely new baseball experience: MVP 06 NCAA® Baseball. Inspired by the spirit and emotion of collegiate athletics, MVP 06 NCAA Baseball is the first-ever college baseball game.

LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON – Six current Irish players are second-generation college baseball players: senior IF Eddie **Smith** (Ed Smith, Gonzaga), junior LHP/1B Mike **Dury** (John Dury, N.C. State), junior RHP Jeff **Manship** (John Manship, Arizona), freshman IF Evan **Sharp-ley** (Tom Sharp-ley, Spring Arbor) and freshman C **Mike Many** (Bob Many, Northern Illinois).

TAKE ME TO YOUR LEADOFF (MAN) – Senior 1B **Craig Cooper** shifted into the leadoff spot starting with the Texas A&M game (that opened the Spring Break trip) and responded with a nine-game hit streak that ended in an 0-for-1 game vs. Central Michigan (3 BB, SF) ... Cooper has reached base on 23-of-31 first-inning plate appearances since taking over the lead-off spot (8 singles, 6 doubles, 4 walks, 4 home runs, HBP) ... he also has reached on a team-best 62% of his overall plate appearances when leading off any inning (34-of-55) ... Cooper’s move to the leadoff spot has sparked ND’s 30-3 record during the past seven weeks.

BACK-TO-BACK BATTING TITLES FOR COOPER – Current senior 1B **Craig Cooper** ended up batting .403 in 2005 BIG EAST games, placing him 16 points ahead of second-place finishers Doug Nelms of West Virginia and Dan McDonald of Seton Hall (both hit .386) ... Cooper also led the league in batting as a sophomore (.470, in ’04) and joined former Boston College player Kevin Penwell (’95 and ’96) as the only repeat batting champions in the 21-year history of BIG EAST baseball ... he now is making a bid for an unprecedented third BIG EAST batting title, currently leading the conference with a .517 avg. in BIG EAST games (30-for-58).

ONE OF THE BEST THERE EVER WAS – Craig Cooper’s late-season surge in 2005 moved him into third place on the list for career batting average in BIG EAST games, entering 2006 at .420 (68-for-162) – now up to .445 (98-for-220, with a BIG EAST-leading .517/30-for-58 in ’06) ... the top career hitters players in BIG EAST history (currently in the record book) are former Seton Hall standout Marteese Robinson (.432, 93-for-192; ’85-’87) and Rutgers player Joe Cirone (.443, 51-for-115; ’97-’00) ... Cooper could join Cirone as the only players in the past 18 seasons to hit .420 or higher in their BIG EAST careers ... Robinson currently is the director of scouting for the St. Louis Cardinals.

Longest Single-Season Win Streaks in Notre Dame History

22	2006 (March 25 – present) ... overall record was 21 from 1906-07
18	1991 (April 7-28, 1991)
17	2003 (March 24 – April 14)
17	1907 (April 20 – May 21)
16	2002 (April 11 – May 4)
16	2001 (April 4-25)
16	1988 (April 24 – May 20)
15	1910 (May 4 – June 7)

SILVER STREAKS – Notre Dame now has totaled 11 double-digit win streaks in the Paul Mainieri era ... all but three (1997, 2000, ’05) of the 12 Mainieri-era seasons have featured at least one double-digit winning streak (with two in both ’98 and ’04) ... the current 22-game win streak began on March 25, within a day of the starting point in four of the 10 previous double-digit streaks (March 24 in ’96, ’03 and ’04; March 26 in ’98):

Double-Digit Win Streaks in the Mainieri Era

22	2006 (March 25 – present)
17	2003 (March 24 – April 14); 3rd-longest in ND history (18, in ’91)
16	2002 (April 11 – May 4); tied for 4th-longest in ND history
16	2001 (April 4-25); tied for 4th-longest in ND history
13	1998 (April 8-23)
12	2004 (April 29 – May-21)
11	2004 (March 24 – April 7) ... 1995 (April 13-23)
10	1999 (March 10-28) ... 1998 (March 26 – April 4) ... 1996 (March 24 – April 6)

VETERAN LINEUP	Avg	GP/GS	AB	R	H	2B/3B/HR	RBI	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	OB%	SH	SB	E
Cody Rizzo (Sr., RF/C)	.278	210/190	648	157	180	31/3/17	121	.414	49	77	118	.390	6	32-44	19
Greg Lopez (Sr., SS)	.306	209/196	670	116	205	27/2/4	125	.370	35	33	106	.362	30	7-15	57
Craig Cooper (Sr., 1B)	.355	198/169	642	162	228	44/5/26	151	.561	94	25	77	.453	10	44-61	8
Matt Bransfield (Sr., LF)	.320	161/137	510	96	163	36/4/17	116	.506	47	22	90	.393	8	5-9	4
Alex Nettey (Sr., CF)	.273	156/112	422	97	115	18/2/4	48	.353	29	38	56	.371	18	21-31	6
Danny Dressman (Jr., OF)	.315	117/72	308	65	97	15/3/0	56	.383	45	5	45	.408	20	8-16	2
Sean Gaston (Jr., C)	.303	108/84	323	56	98	14/2/2	60	.378	25	4	33	.353	10	10-12	6
Brett Lilley (So., 3B)	.353	97/97	334	80	118	9/0/0	46	.383	51	40	45	.487	17	13-25	19
Ross Brezovsky (So., 2B)	.276	90/87	304	58	84	14/4/4	47	.388	32	8	59	.354	9	5-7	20
Jeremy Barnes (Fr., IF)	.279	35/32	136	26	38	8/1/1	25	.375	20	3	20	.381	2	6-9	4
TOTALS	.308	1,381/1,175	4,297	913	1,325	216/26/76	795	.416	428	255	650	.393	130	151-229	147

OUTFIELD OLD-TIMERS – Notre Dame’s current four veteran outfielders – the senior trio of LF **Steve Andres**, CF **Alex Nettey** and RF **Cody Rizzo**, plus junior **Danny Dressman** – have combined to make 379 outfield starts in their Notre Dame careers ... that total does not include the 115 career outfield starts by senior Craig Cooper (who has shifted to first base in 2006) or the 30 LF starts this season by senior **Matt Bransfield**, who served mostly as a DH in 2003-06):

Career OF Starts	LF	CF	RF	Total
Cody Rizzo	13	33	105	151
Craig Cooper (1B in '06)	50	8	57	115
Alex Nettey	4	101	2	107
Steve Andres	60	0	2	62
Danny Dressman	10	31	18	59
Totals	137	173	184	494

IRISH QUICK NOTES – Craig Cooper and Brett Lilley both hit 9-for-13 in the 3-0 sweep at South Florida ... ND’s recent streak of nine straight games with double-digit hits is unmatched in the program’s recorded history ... the ND staff’s streak of not allowing a home run ended in the Sunday game at USF (first vs. the Irish in 25 games and 943 batters faced) ... ND rapped out 49 hits in the sweep at USF, the most hits for the Irish in a BIG EAST series since 50 vs. Georgetown in ‘98 ... ND outhit USF .409-.231 in the series ... ND matched the seventh-best 30-game start (22-8) in the 114-year history of the program ... ND recently had 15-plus hits in four straight games for the first time since 1988 ... the ND defense remains on pace to set the team record in fielding pct. (.972; 44 Es), with the 10 regular starters combining for just 30 Es at their normal positions (SS Greg Lopez has just 6 Es) ... the games at USF marked the eighth time that ND has swept a 3-game road series in 11 BIG EAST seasons ... ND has trailed just 14 times in the win streak, with seven of those deficits each lasting a half-inning, three lasting 1.5 (only two have gone longer than 3.5 innings, none longer than 4.5) ... ND is 21-1 in its past 22 overall games vs. the BIG EAST ... Kyle Weiland (10-of-11) already has bested Aaron Heilman’s ND record for saves by a freshman (9, in ‘98) ... ND sold an Eck Stadium record 3,028 tickets for the Friday-night game vs. Pittsburgh – then bested that with 3,052 for the St. John’s doubleheader and 3,101 for the third game of the SJU series (capped by 3,507 in the opener vs. Rutgers, then more than 3,200 in both the second and third games of that series) ... the opener vs. Pitt saw the ND staff’s shutout streak end at 22 innings (first earned run allowed in 33 IP) ... Paul Mainieri is 520-204-2 at ND, 851-483-3 overall in 24 seasons ... the 15-1 win over Oakland included 4 HRs (Matt Bransfield 2, Sean Gaston, Alex Nettey) and a 9-run bottom of the 4th that was ND’s most runs in an inning since scoring 10 in the 1st inning at UConn on May 10, 2004 (matched by a 9-run explosion in the 6th inning of game-2 vs. Rutgers ... ND recently matched its season-high hit total (17) in three straight games.

NOTRE DAME BASEBALL 2006 QUICK FACTS

Location	Notre Dame, IN 46556
Founded	1842
First Season of Baseball	1892
Undergraduate Enrollment	8,311
Nickname	Fighting Irish
Colors	Gold and Blue
Conference	BIG EAST
Athletic Director	Kevin White
Stadium (cap.)	Eck Stadium (2,500)
Surface, Dim.	Grass, 331-401--331
Head Coach	Paul Mainieri (Fla. Int'l '80)
Career Record	829-482-3 (24th season)
Record at ND	498-203-2 (12th season)
Asst. Coach	Terry Rooney (Radford '96)
Asst. Coach	Cliff Godwin (ECU '01)
Vol. Asst.	John Gumpf (CS San Bernadino '97)
Letterwinners Ret./Lost	21/7
Position Starters Ret./Lost	8/1
Letterwinning Pitchers Ret./Lost	10/5
Total Returners	21 (13 pos./10 pitchers)
Newcomers	11
2005 Record	38-24-1
2004 BIG EAST Record/Finish ..	14-9-1/3rd
Postseason	2-2 NCAA Gainesville Reg.
Baseball SID Contact	Pete LaFleur
Sports Information Office ...	(574) 631-7516
LaFleur’s E-mail	lafleur.4@nd.edu
Sports Information Fax	(574) 631-7941
ND Sports Hotline	(574) 631-3000
Website	www.und.com

NOTRE DAME BASEBALL 2006 ROSTER BREAKDOWN

Position Starters Returning (Avg/HR/RBI)

1B – Craig Cooper (Sr.; .325/7/58; 14 SB)
 3B – Brett Lilley* (So.; .355/0/28; 30 HBP)
 SS – Greg Lopez (Sr.; .274/2/34; 7 SAC)
 C – Sean Gaston* (Jr.; .293/1/28; 27 R)
 RF – Cody Rizzo (Sr.; .252/6/24; 17 SB)
 LF – Matt Bransfield (Sr.; .313/0/16; 6 2B)
 CF – Alex Nettey (Sr.; .288/2/24; 44 R)
 2B – Ross Brezovsky* (So.; .261/2/20; 35 R)
 DH/LF – Steve Andres* (Sr.; .232/5/25; 21 BB)

Position Starter Lost (Avg/HR/RBI)

1B – Matt Edwards (.353/14/68; 21 2B, 46 BB)

* Notes: stats for '05 season ... asterisks indicate lefthanded hitters ... no other position players lost from the 2005 team that had more than 5 at-bats ... Cooper started in the outfield during the 2003-05 seasons ... Bransfield was injured for part of '05 and previously has been a DH and reserve catcher with the Irish.

Top Returning Pitchers ('05 stats)

Tom Thornton* (Sr.; 4.69 ERA, 6-6, 40 Ks)
 Jeff Samardzija (Jr.; 3.89 ERA, 8-1, 56 Ks)
 Jeff Manship (Jr.; 3.97 ERA, 2-1, SV, 20 Ks)
 Mike Dury* (Jr.; 1.38 ERA, 1-0, 2 SV, 17 Ks)
 Wade Korpi* (So.; 5.47 ERA, 4-3, 32 Ks)

Top Pitcher Lost ('05 stats)

Ryan Doherty (3.79 ERA, 1-3, 7 SV, 44 Ks)

* Note: asterisks indicate LHPs

Key Freshmen (stats for 2005)

Kyle Weiland (RHP; Albuquerque, NM)
 First team all-state
 (5.20 ERA, 4-1, 2 SV, 53 Ks, 19 BB, 35 IP)

Jeremy Barnes (RHP/IF; Garland, TX)
 All-state shortstop
 (.430, 4 HR ... team-record 1.31 ERA in '04)

David Phelps (RHP; Hazelwood, MO)
 First team all-state
 (1.56 ERA, 6-2, 88 Ks, 18 BB, 25 H, 54 IP)

Sam Elam (LHP; Mesquite, TX)
 Led team to regional championship
 (2.50 ERA, 9-3, 72 Ks, 35 IP)

Eddy Mendiola (3B/C; Miami, FL)
 All-country honors
 (.390, 3 HR, 6 2B, 14 RBI, 20 BB, 14 SB)

HBP HIGHWAY RETURNS – The ND batters were hit-by-pitch just six times in the first seven games of the 2006 season but now are averaging nearly 1.6 HBPs per game (65 in 40 GP) ... senior CF **Alex Nettey** leads all BIG EAST players with 19 HBPs (5th in ND history; with his 38 career HBPs now 3rd all-time among ND players) ... senior RF/C **Cody Rizzo** (7 HBP in '06) ranks 3rd in NCAA history with 77 career HBPs ... sophomore 3B **Brett Lilley** (10 HBP in '06) already is 2nd in ND history with 40 career HBPs ... senior SS **Greg Lopez** (32) and senior 1B **Craig Cooper** (25) rank 7th and 12th on the ND career HBP list.

NCAA RECORD BOOK CAREER HIT-BY-PITCH

1. 92 – Tony Hurtado (San Fran.; '97-'00); 221 GP (2.40 gms/HBP)
2. 81 – Gabe Somarriba (FL Atlantic; '99-'02); 226 GP (2.79 gms/HBP)
3. **77* – Cody Rizzo (Notre Dame; '03-)**; 210 GP (2.73 gms/HBP)
4. 74 – Jeff Ontiveros (Texas; 1999-2002); 258 GP (3.49 gms/HBP)

NCAA RECORD BOOK PLAYER SEASON HIT-BY-PITCH

1. 33..... Andrew Slater (Richmond, '97)
2. 32..... Gary Morris (Elon, '05)
- 32..... Steve Dembrowski (F. Dickinson, '79)
4. **30..... Brett Lilley (Notre Dame, '05)**
5. 29..... Ryder Mathias (Wake Forest, '05)
- 29..... Chris Nelson (Southern Utah, '02)
- 29..... Jonah Martin (Arizona State, '00)
- 29..... Corky Miller (Nevada, '98)
10. **28 Cody Rizzo (Notre Dame, '03)**

Note: Lilley and Rizzo are the only players from the same school on the above top-10 list (28-plus HBPs in a season)

NCAA RECORD BOOK TEAM SEASON HIT-BY-PITCH

<u>Team</u>	<u>Yr.</u>	<u>Gms</u>	<u>HBP (per gm)</u>
1. Notre Dame	'05	63	130 (2.06)
2. Nevada	'97	60	125 (2.08)
3. Long Beach St.	'98	67	124 (1.85)
Coll. Charleston	'04	63	122 (1.94)
5. Cal St. Fullerton	'03	66	117 (1.77)
6. Arizona State	'00	59	115 (1.95)
Long Beach St.	'99	60	114 (1.90)
8. Notre Dame	'04	63	106 (1.68)
– Notre Dame	'06	40	65 (1.63)

Notes: ND is on pace for 104 HBPs this season (in 64 GP) ... the Irish have averaged 1.81 HBPs per game during the past three seasons (301, in 166 games from '04-'06) ... the 2005 Notre Dame team owns the 2nd-best HBP per game among teams on the above list ... ND (106 in '04; 130 in '05) and Long Beach State (124 in '98, 114 in '99) are the only teams ever to post 106-plus HBPs in multiple seasons.

Notre Dame Career Hit-By-Pitch

- 1. Cody Rizzo (2003-) 77**
- 2. Brett Lilley (2005-) 40**
- 3. Alex Nettey (2003-) 38**
 Craig DeSensi (1992-95)..... 38
5. Dan Bautch (1990-92) 36
 Greg Layson (1991-94) 36
- 7. Greg Lopez (2003-) 32**
 Ed Lund (1988-90) 32
 Eric Danapilis (1990-93)..... 32
10. Paul O'Toole (1999-2002) 28
11. Javi Sanchez (2001-04)..... 27
- 12. Craig Cooper (2003-) 25**

FAR & WIDE – Notre Dame’s nine position player starters hail from seven states, including two outfielders from **California** (senior LF/DH Steve Andres and RF Cody Rizzo) and two leftside infielders from **Ohio** (senior SS Greg Lopez and sophomore 3B Brett Lilley), plus one each from **New York** (senior 1B Craig Cooper), **Colorado** (senior LF/DH Matt Bransfield), **Indiana** (junior C Sean Gaston), **Florida** (sophomore 3B Ross Brezovsky) and **Illinois** (senior CF Alex Nettey)

STATE ROLL CALL – The Notre Dame list of all-time monogram winners includes players from 44 home states ... pitchers Brandon Vioria (Wailuku, Hawaii) in 2000 and Cody Wilkins (Hudson, N.C.) in 2004 became the first players from their respective states ever to monogram with the Irish baseball program ... the only states that have not produced ND baseball letterwinners include Alaska, Idaho, Nevada, New Hampshire, South Carolina and Vermont ... the 12-year Paul Mainieri era has featured players from 36 states, including 15 states on the 2006 roster (see list below):

Florida (4) – Ross Brezovsky (Naples), Wade Korpi (Lake Worth), Eddy Mendiola (Miami), Joey Williamson (Lantana)

Indiana (4) – Mike Dury (Indianapolis), Sean Gaston (Brownsburg), Jeff Samardzija (Valparaiso), John Seabaugh (Granger)

Texas (4) – Jeremy Barnes (Garland), Sam elam (Mesquite), Tony Langford (Fort Worth), Jeff Manship (San Antonio)

California (3) – Steve Andres (Napa), Danny Dressman (San Jose), Cody Rizzo (Temecula)

Illinois (3) – Brett Graffy (Homer Glen), Mike Many (Naperville), Alex Nettey (Dolton)

Michigan (2) – Dan Kapala (Royal Oak), Evan Sharpley (Marshall)

New York (2) – Ryan Connolly (Binghamton), Craig Cooper (Plainview)

Ohio (2) – Brett Lilley (North Canton), Greg Lopez (Upper Arlington)

Washington (2) – David Gruener (Gig Harbor), Eddie Smith (Olympia)

Colorado (1) – Matt Bransfield (Englewood)

Massachusetts (1) – Tom Thornton (Middleboro)

Missouri (1) – David Phelps (Hazelton)

New Jersey (1) – Chris Soriano (Randolph)

New Mexico (1) – Kyle Weiland (Albuquerque)

Virginia (1) – Jess Stewart (Manassas)

CLUTCH HITTING KEY COMPONENT – Three stats that measure clutch offensive production – leadoff on-base pct., batting with runners in scoring position and 2-out batting – show that clutch hitting can overcome a team’s dropoff in power numbers ... using a formula that combines those three situational hitting numbers, **Brett Lilley** was the 2005 team’s runaway team leader with a “clutch hitting” score of 1.402 ... that number can be skewed a bit by the on-base pct. (which has the benefit of including walks and HBPs and thus is higher than the batting avg. stats) ... using an adjustment whereby the leadoff on-base pct. is multiplied by 75%, Lilley still checked in as ND’s all-around leader in 2005 clutch hitting with a 1.273 score (.515 leadoff on-base/.386 adjusted, .448 RISP, .439 with 2-outs) ... Lilley led the ’05 team in 2-out batting and batting with RISP while ranking 3rd in leadoff OB (better than his overall team-leading .502 OB pct.) ... current senior 1B **Craig Cooper** was 2nd overall with a 1.117 clutch-hitting score in ’05 that included the team’s 2nd-best batting averages with 2 outs (.439) and with runners in scoring position (.448) ... as a team, the most consistent part of ND’s 2005 clutch offense was leadoff on-base pct. (.406/.311 adjusted), followed by batting with RISP (.309) while the 2-out batting lagged behind at .294 ... the 2005 team’s overall clutch-hitting score was 908 but the 2006 team has gone well beyond that, checking in at 983 thanks to a big jump in leadoff on-base pct. (.406 to .440) and batting with runners in scoring position (.309 to .351) ... junior OF **Danny Dressman** leads the team with a 1.178 clutch-hitting score – nearly double his 673 in ’05, with huge jumps in all three categories (up 247 points in leadoff OB, 122 in batting with RISP and 191 in 2-out hitting) ... Cooper’s CH score (1,116) is nearly identical to his ’05 number but he has made nearly a 200-point jump in leadoff OB (.419 to .618) ... senior SS **Greg Lopez** owns a 1,063 CH score that is 277 points higher than his 2005 mark, mostly due to a 181-point rise in his batting with RISP (team-best .423).

CLUTCH-HITTING CHART (pre-IPFW; team rank in parentheses)

	<i>Leadoff On-Base Pct.</i>	<i>Batting w/ RISP</i>	<i>2-Out Batting</i>	<i>Clutch Hit Tot.</i>
Danny Dressman (4)	.429 (.329 adjusted)	(2) .408	(1) .441	1,178
(2005)	(13) .182 (.137)	(8) .286	(9) .250	673
Craig Cooper	(1) .618 (.468)	.342	.306	1,116
(2005)	(5) .419 (.314)	(2) .434	(2) .369	1,117
Greg Lopez	.424 (.289)	(1) .423	(3) .351	1,063
(2005)	(8) .353 (.265)	(10) .242	(7) .279	786
Brett Lilley	(5) .423 (.317)	.350	(2) .394	1,061
(2005)	(3) .515 (.386)	(1) .448	(1) .439	1,273
Matt Bransfield	.382 (.292)	(5) .357	(4) .333	982
(2005)	(2) .542 (.407)	(6) .314	(6) .286	1,007
Cody Rizzo	.375 (.273)	(3) .380	.279	932
(2005)	(4) .436 (.327)	(12) .190	(10) .246	763
Sean Gaston	(5) .429 (.318)	.306	.286	910
(2005)	(7) .357 (.268)	(4) .322	(5) .302	892
Jeremy Barnes	(3) .438 (.334)	(4) .368	.208	910
Ross Brezovsky	.364 (.268)	.298	(5) .324	890
(2005)	(10) .298 (.224)	(7) .288	(10) .246	758
Alex Nettey	.417 (.287)	.313	.268	868
(2005)	(6) .418 (.314)	(9) .273	(12) .219	806
Steve Andres	(2) .500 (.375)	.105	.111	597
(2005)	(11) .286 (.215)	(11) .220	(8) .275	710
TEAM	.440 (.330)	.351	.302	983
(2005)	.406 (.311)	.309	.294	908

LORDS OF DISCIPLINE – The 2006 Notre Dame offense owns a +57 plate-discipline ratio (walks + hit-by-pitch - strikeouts) that is more than triple the 2005 team's PDR (+17) and is on pace for +91 over 64 games ... the Irish batters have boosted their walks (3.5/gm in '05 to 4.1/gm in '06) while hitting at a .329 clip (34 points higher than in '05) ... the ND offense also is averaging nearly one fewer K per game this season (4.3) than in 2005 (5.2) ... the biggest improvements in PDR have been seen by junior OF Danny **Dressman** (up 25; from -6 to +19), sophomore 2B Ross **Brezovsky** (22; from -20 to +2), senior SS Greg **Lopez** (19; from -17 to +2), senior CF Alex **Nettey** (16; from -2 to +14) and junior C Sean **Gaston** (15; from -7 to +8) ... Dressman is on pace to finish at +40 (well above Brett Lilley's team-best +29 in 2005) while Brezovsky (+35), Lopez (+30), Nettey (+26) and Gaston (+24) also are one pace for impressive final PDR numbers:

PLATE-DISCIPLINE CHART

<i>Player</i>	<i>Walks</i>	<i>Hit-By-Pitch</i>	<i>Strikeouts</i>	<i>Plate Discipline (BB+HBP-Ks)</i>
Danny Dressman ('06)	23	4	8	+19
<i>(2005)</i>	5	1	12	-6
Craig Cooper ('06)	21	5	10	+16
<i>(2005)</i>	32	14	22	+24
Brett Lilley ('06)	17	10	12	+15
<i>(2005)</i>	34	27	32	+29
Alex Nettey ('06)	8	19	13	+14
<i>(2005)</i>	13	14	29	-2
Sean Gaston ('06)	15	0	7	+8
<i>(2005)</i>	5	4	16	-7
Jeremy Barnes ('06)	20	3	20	+3
Ross Brezovsky ('06)	15	4	17	+2
<i>(2005)</i>	16	4	40	-20
Greg Lopez ('06)	6	4	8	+2
<i>(2005)</i>	10	16	43	-17
Steve Andres ('06)	8	2	13	-3
<i>(2005)</i>	21	6	20	+7
Cody Rizzo ('06)	12	7	20	-1
<i>(2005)</i>	22	21	35	+8
Matt Bransfield ('06)	12	3	24	-9
<i>(2005)</i>	10	7	14	+3
TEAM TOTALS	165	65	173	+57
<i>(2005)</i>	220	125	328	+17

* Lilley, Cooper and Matt Edwards (+17) were a combined +70 in '05 (rest of team -53)

IRISH POST 500th WIN OF MAINIERI ERA – The 6-3 win over Georgetown on March 26 was Paul Mainieri's 500th victory in 11-plus seasons at ND (now 520-204-2/7.18; 851-483-3/6.38 in 24 overall seasons) ... the Mainieri era has included an average of 44-plus wins per season, eight trips to the NAAs, eight conference titles, 43 players who have been drafted or signed as free-agents, 12 All-America seasons and nine Academic All-America honors (all 63 of his four-year players have graduated and 11 who signed professionally as juniors have returned to complete or near completion of their undergraduate requirements).

Double-Digit Hit Streaks in the Paul Mainieri era (since '95)

21 – CRAIG COOPER (2006; Sr., 1B)

21 – Mike Amhein (1997; Sr., C)

18 – Jeff Felker (1999; Jr., 1B)

16 – Steve Stanley (2000; So., CF)

15 – Alex Nettey (2005; Jr., CF)

15 – Steve Sollmann (2003; Jr., 2B)

15 – Jeff Wagner (1997; Sr., C/DH)

15 – Brant Ust (1997; Fr., 2B/SS)

14 – Steve Andres (2004; So., LF)

14 – Brian Stavisky (2000; Fr., RF)

14 – Matt Nussbaum (1999; Jr., LF)

13 – Craig Cooper (2005; Jr., LF)

13 – Steve Sollmann (2003; Jr., 2B)

13 – Steve Stanley (2002; Sr., CF)

13 – Andrew Bushey (2001; Jr., 3B)

13 – Allen Greene (1997; So., LF)

12 – Javi Sanchez (2002; SS, So.)

12 – Steve Stanley (1999; CF, Fr.)

12 – Jeff Wagner (1998; Jr., C)

11 – Danny Dressman (2006; Jr., OF)

11 – Ross Brezovsky (2006; So., 2B)

11 – Steve Stanley (2002; CF, Sr.)

11 – Brian Stavisky (2002; Jr., LF)

11 – Allen Greene (1998; Jr., CF)

11 – Scott Sollmann (1996; Jr., CF)

10 – Matt Edwards (2005; Sr., 1B)

10 – Matt Macri (2004; Jr., 3B)

10 – Matt Edwards (2004; Jr., 1B)

10 – Matt Edwards (2003; So., 3B)

10 – Steve Stanley (2002; Sr., CF)

10 – Steve Sollmann (2002; So., 2B)

10 – Steve Stanley (2001; Jr., CF)

10 – Ken Meyer (2001; Jr., DH)

10 – Steve Sollmann (2001; Fr., 2B)

10 – Steve Stanley (2000; So., CF)

10 – Brian Stavisky (2000; Fr., RF)

10 – Steve Stanley (1999; Fr., CF)

10 – Brant Ust (1998; So., 3B)

10 – J.J. Brock (1997; Sr., 3B)

10 – Randall Brooks (1996; Jr., 2B)

10 – J.J. Brock (1996; Jr., 3B)

Most Double-Digit Hit Streaks in the Mainieri Era

8 – Steve Stanley

4 – Steve Sollmann

3 – Brian Stavisky, Matt Edwards

2 – Brant Ust, Allen Greene,

Jeff Wagner, J.J. Brock, Craig Cooper

Note: Craig Cooper's earlier 9-game hitting streak ended this season after going 0-for-1 with 3 walks and a sac. fly vs. Central Michigan on March 22.

NOTRE DAME BASEBALL 2006 STARTS – By Batting Order

Opp.	Leadoff	2-hole	3-hole	Cleanup	5-hole	6-hole	7-hole	8-hole	9-hole
Ind.St.	Lilley	Gaston	Cooper	Andres	Lopez	Bransfield	Brezovsky	Nettey	Rizzo
AFA	Barnes	Dressman	Cooper	Andres	Lopez	Bransfield	Brezovsky	Dury	Rizzo
MEM	Nettey	Lilley	Cooper	Bransfield	Lopez	Gaston	Barnes	Brezovsky	Rizzo
OKLA	Nettey	Lilley	Andres	Bransfield	Gaston	Lopez	Brezovsky	Dury	Rizzo
NEB	Nettey	Lilley	Andres	Bransfield	Gaston	Lopez	Brezovsky	Rizzo	Dressman
MINN	Lilley	Dressman	Gaston	Bransfield	Andres	Dury	Brezovsky	Lopez	Nettey
ARIZ	Lilley	Dressman	Bransfield	Nettey	Barnes	Mendiola	Brezovsky	Lopez	Rizzo
A&M	Cooper	Dressman	Lilley	Gaston	Barnes	Bransfield	Brezovsky	Nettey	Lopez
IOWA	Cooper	Dressman	Lilley	Bransfield	Barnes	Andres	Nettey	Lopez	Rizzo
ILL	Cooper	Dressman	Lilley	Gaston	Barnes	Andres	Brezovsky	Nettey	Rizzo
IOWA	Cooper	Dressman	Lilley	Gaston	Barnes	Bransfield	Brezovsky	Lopez	Rizzo
IOWA	Cooper	Dressman	Lilley	Barnes	Gaston	Bransfield	Nettey	Lopez	Rizzo
SIU	Cooper	Dressman	Barnes	Bransfield	Gaston	Nettey	Brezovsky	Lopez	Rizzo
IOWA	Cooper	Dressman	Lilley	Bransfield	Brezovsky	Nettey	Sharpley	Lopez	Rizzo
SIU	Cooper	Dressman	Lilley	Bransfield	Gaston	Brezovsky	Nettey	Lopez	Rizzo
Wr.St.	Cooper	Dressman	Gaston	Bransfield	Brezovsky	Nettey	Lilley	Lopez	Rizzo
CMU	Cooper	Lilley	Barnes	Gaston	Bransfield	Nettey	Brezovsky	Lopez	Rizzo
GU	Cooper	Lilley	Dressman	Gaston	Bransfield	Brezovsky	Nettey	Lopez	Rizzo
GU	Barnes	Lilley	Barnes	Gaston	Bransfield	Nettey	Brezovsky	Lopez	Rizzo
GU	Cooper	Lilley	Dressman	Barnes	Bransfield	Gaston	Brezovsky	Lopez	Rizzo
VALPO	Lilley	Dressman	Barnes	Bransfield	Brezovsky	Nettey	Dury	Lopez	Rizzo
WMU	Cooper	Lilley	Barnes	Dressman	Brezovsky	Bransfield	Gaston	Lopez	Rizzo
PITT	Cooper	Lilley	Barnes	Bransfield	Dressman	Nettey	Gaston	Lopez	Rizzo
PITT	Cooper	Lilley	Barnes	Dressman	Brezovsky	Bransfield	Gaston	Lopez	Nettey
PITT	Cooper	Dressman	Barnes	Bransfield	Brezovsky	Gaston	Lilley	Lopez	Nettey
Chi St.	Cooper	Dressman	Barnes	Gaston	Brezovsky	Andres	Nettey	Mendiola	Rizzo
BSU	Cooper	Dressman	Barnes	Bransfield	Brezovsky	Nettey	Lilley	Lopez	Rizzo
USF	Cooper	Lilley	Dressman	Barnes	Brezovsky	Bransfield	Gaston	Lopez	Nettey
USF	Cooper	Lilley	Dressman	Barnes	Brezovsky	Bransfield	Gaston	Lopez	Rizzo
USF	Cooper	Lilley	Dressman	Barnes	Bransfield	Brezovsky	Nettey	Lopez	Rizzo
OAK	Cooper	Dressman	Barnes	Brezovsky	Bransfield	Gaston	Nettey	Lopez	Rizzo
MAN	Cooper	Lilley	Dressman	Barnes	Brezovsky	Andres	Dury	Nettey	Rizzo
SJU	Cooper	Lilley	Dressman	Barnes	Brezovsky	Bransfield	Gaston	Lopez	Nettey
SJU	Cooper	Lilley	Dressman	Barnes	Bransfield	Gaston	Nettey	Lopez	Rizzo
SJU	Cooper	Lilley	Dressman	Barnes	Bransfield	Brezovsky	Nettey	Lopez	Rizzo
TOL	Cooper	Dressman	Barnes	Brezovsky	Bransfield	Gaston	Nettey	Lopez	Rizzo
IPFW	Cooper	Dressman	Barnes	Bransfield	Lopez	Gaston	Nettey	Mendiola	Rizzo
RU	Cooper	Lilley	Dressman	Barnes	Brezovsky	Bransfield	Gaston	Lopez	Nettey
RU	Cooper	Lilley	Dressman	Barnes	Bransfield	Brezovsky	Nettey	Lopez	Rizzo
RU	Cooper	Lilley	Dressman	Barnes	Gaston	Bransfield	Nettey	Lopez	Rizzo

Batting Order and Position Combination Notes

- The first 32 games featured **32 different batting orders** (now 35 in 40) ... ND is 28-3 with Cooper at leadoff spot (4-5 with others).
- The top four spots thus far have included:
four different **leadoff** batters (Brett Lilley, Jeremy Barnes, Alex Nettey and Craig Cooper)
three players in the **2-hole** (Sean Gaston, Danny Dressman and Lilley)
seven in the ever-important **#3 spot** (Cooper, Steve Andres, Gaston, Matt Bransfield, Lilley, Barnes, Dressman)
and **seven cleanup** batters as well (Andres, Bransfield, Nettey, Gaston, Barnes, Dressman and Ross Brezovsky)
... for comparison, ND's entire '05 season featured five leadoff batters, five in the 2-hole, just three who batted 3rd and seven at cleanup
- The first 32 games featured **25 different position combinations** (excluding pitchers).
- 11 different ND players have hit as the DH this season: Steve Andres, Mike Dury, Jeremy Barnes, Eddy Mendiola, Brett Lilley, Sean Gaston, Danny Dressman, Evan Sharpley, Ross Brezovsky, Matt Bransfield and Greg Lopez.
- The Irish are **30-2 when Barnes has started**, including a 19-0 combined record when he has started in the middle infield (10-0 at 2B, 4-0 at SS) or at third base (5-0), plus 2-1 with him at first base and 7-1 as the DH ... ND is **12-2 when Rizzo has started at catcher**.

NOTRE DAME BASEBALL 2006 STARTS – By Position

Opp.	Catcher	1st Base	2nd Base	Shortstop	3rd Base	Left Field	Center Field	Right Field	DH	Pitcher
Ind.St.	Gaston	Cooper	Brezovsky	Lopez	Lilley	Bransfield	Nettey	Rizzo	Andres	Thornton
AFA	Rizzo	Cooper	Brezovsky	Lopez	Barnes	Bransfield	Dressman	Andres	Dury	Samardzija
MEM	Gaston	Cooper	Brezovsky	Lopez	Lilley	Bransfield	Nettey	Rizzo	Barnes	Korpi
OKLA	Gaston	Dury	Brezovsky	Lopez	Lilley	Bransfield	Nettey	Rizzo	Andres	Manship
NEB	Gaston	Bransfield	Brezovsky	Lopez	Lilley	Dressman	Nettey	Rizzo	Andres	Thornton
MINN	Gaston	Bransfield	Brezovsky	Lopez	Lilley	Dressman	Nettey	Andres	Dury	Samardzija
ARIZ	Rizzo	Barnes	Brezovsky	Lopez	Lilley	Bransfield	Nettey	Dressman	Mendiola	Manship
A&M	<i>Gaston</i>	<i>Cooper</i>	<i>Brezovsky</i>	<i>Lopez</i>	<i>Lilley</i>	<i>Bransfield</i>	<i>Nettey</i>	<i>Dressman</i>	<i>Barnes</i>	Samardzija
IOWA	Rizzo	Cooper	Barnes	Lopez	Lilley	Bransfield	Nettey	Dressman	Andres	Manship
ILL	Gaston	Cooper	Brezovsky	Barnes	Lilley	Dressman	Nettey	Rizzo	Andres	Thornton
IOWA	Gaston	Cooper	Brezovsky	Lopez	Barnes	Bransfield	Dressman	Rizzo	Lilley	Korpi
IOWA	Rizzo	Cooper	Barnes	Lopez	Lilley	Bransfield	Nettey	Dressman	Gaston	Samardzija
SIU	Gaston	Cooper	Brezovsky	Lopez	Barnes	Bransfield	Nettey	Rizzo	Dressman	Manship
IOWA	Rizzo	Cooper	Brezovsky	Lopez	Lilley	Bransfield	Nettey	Dressman	Sharpley	Phelps
SIU	Gaston	Cooper	Brezovsky	Lopez	Lilley	Bransfield	Nettey	Rizzo	Dressman	Thornton
Wr.St.	Gaston	Cooper	Brezovsky	Lopez	Lilley	Bransfield	Nettey	Rizzo	Dressman	Korpi
CMU	Gaston	Cooper	Brezovsky	Lopez	Lilley	Bransfield	Nettey	Rizzo	Barnes	Phelps
GU	Gaston	Cooper	Brezovsky	Lopez	Lilley	Bransfield	Nettey	Rizzo	Dressman	Manship
GU	Rizzo	Barnes	Brezovsky	Lopez	Lilley	Bransfield	Nettey	Dressman	Andres	Samardzija
GU	Gaston	Cooper	Brezovsky	Lopez	Lilley	Bransfield	Rizzo	Dressman	Barnes	Thornton
VALPO	Rizzo	Barnes	Brezovsky	Lopez	Lilley	Bransfield	Nettey	Dressman	Dury	Gruener
WMU	Gaston	Cooper	Barnes	Lopez	Lilley	Bransfield	Rizzo	Dressman	Brezovsky	Thornton
PITT	Gaston	Cooper	Barnes	Lopez	Lilley	Dressman	Nettey	Rizzo	Bransfield	Samardzija
<i>PITT</i>	<i>Gaston</i>	<i>Cooper</i>	<i>Brezovsky</i>	<i>Lopez</i>	<i>Lilley</i>	<i>Bransfield</i>	<i>Nettey</i>	<i>Dressman</i>	<i>Barnes</i>	Manship
<i>PITT</i>	<i>Gaston</i>	<i>Cooper</i>	<i>Brezovsky</i>	<i>Lopez</i>	<i>Lilley</i>	<i>Bransfield</i>	<i>Nettey</i>	<i>Dressman</i>	<i>Barnes</i>	Thornton
Chi St.	Rizzo	Cooper	Brezovsky	Barnes	Mendiola	Andres	Nettey	Dressman	Gaston	Gruener
BSU	Rizzo	Cooper	Brezovsky	Lopez	Lilley	Bransfield	Nettey	Dressman	Barnes	Korpi
USF	<i>Gaston</i>	<i>Cooper</i>	<i>Brezovsky</i>	<i>Lopez</i>	<i>Lilley</i>	<i>Bransfield</i>	<i>Nettey</i>	<i>Dressman</i>	<i>Barnes</i>	Samardzija
USF	Gaston	Cooper	Barnes	Lopez	Lilley	Bransfield	Rizzo	Dressman	Brezovsky	Thornton
USF	Rizzo	Cooper	Brezovsky	Barnes	Lilley	Bransfield	Nettey	Dressman	Lopez	Manship
OAK	Gaston	Cooper	Brezovsky	Lopez	Barnes	Dressman	Nettey	Rizzo	Bransfield	Korpi
MAN	Rizzo	Cooper	Brezovsky	Barnes	Lilley	Andres	Nettey	Dressman	Dury	Phelps
SJU	Gaston	Cooper	Barnes	Lopez	Lilley	Bransfield	Nettey	Dressman	Brezovsky	Samardzija
SJU	Gaston	Cooper	Barnes	Lopez	Lilley	Dressman	Nettey	Rizzo	Bransfield	Thornton
SJU	Rizzo	Cooper	Brezovsky	Lopez	Lilley	Bransfield	Nettey	Dressman	Barnes	Manship
TOL	Gaston	Cooper	Brezovsky	Lopez	Barnes	Dressman	Nettey	Rizzo	Bransfield	Korpi
IPFW	Rizzo	Cooper	Barnes	Lopez	Mendiola	Bransfield	Nettey	Dressman	Gaston	Gruener
RU	Gaston	Cooper	Barnes	Lopez	Lilley	Bransfield	Nettey	Dressman	Brezovsky	Samardzija
RU	Rizzo	Cooper	Brezovsky	Lopez	Lilley	Bransfield	Nettey	Dressman	Barnes	Manship
RU	Gaston	Cooper	Barnes	Lopez	Lilley	Dressman	Nettey	Rizzo	Bransfield	Thornton

Player	GS	p	c	1b	2b	3b	ss	lf	cf	rf	of	dh	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th
4 Greg Lopez.....	37	.	.	.	.	.	36	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	4	2	.	30	1
12 Matt Bransfield..	37	.	.	2	.	.	.	30	.	.	.	5	.	.	1	14	10	10	.	.	.
6 Danny Dressman...	36	.	.	.	.	.	.	8	2	22	.	4	.	19	13	2	1	.	.	.	1
16 Alex Nettey.....	35	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	35	.	.	.	3	.	.	1	.	7	14	4	6
7 Ross Brezovsky...	34	.	.	.	30	.	.	.	.	.	4	.	.	.	.	2	13	5	12	1	.
9 Craig Cooper.....	34	.	.	34	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	31	.	3	.	.	.	.	.	.
2 Brett Lilley.....	34	.	.	.	.	33	.	.	.	.	1	4	20	7	.	.	.	.	3	.	.
17 Cody Rizzo.....	33	.	14	.	.	.	.	.	3	16	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	32
20 Jeremy Barnes....	32	.	.	3	10	5	4	.	.	.	10	2	.	12	12	5	.	1	.	.	.
11 Sean Gaston.....	29	.	26	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	3	.	1	2	6	6	6	7	.	.	.
36 Steve Andres.....	10	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	.	2	6	.	.	2	3	1	4	.	.	.	.
44 Mike Dury.....	5	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	4	.	.	.	.	.	1	2	2	.	.
14 Eddy Mendiola....	3	.	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	2	.	.

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

- The Notre Dame baseball team traditionally has matched its stellar play on the field with strong performances in the classroom and that continued to be the case in the 2005 fall semester – as the 32 players combined for a 3.17 team GPA during the semester.
- The NCAA's recently-released Graduation Success Rate (GSR) data also reinforced the Notre Dame baseball program's elite academic standing, as the Irish were one of 17 teams among 268 in Division I – but one of only two teams from that group that also currently are in the national top-25 polls – to compile a 100% graduation rate, during a four-year sample of classes entering from 1995-98.
- The Irish also own a 100% graduation rate (63-of-63) among four-year players throughout the tenure of head coach Paul Mainieri ('95-present), with 12 others who signed professionally prior to their senior season returning to complete or near completion of their degree requirements.
- Twenty-one of the ND baseball players posted a GPA of 3.0-plus during the 2005 fall semester, with 11 checking in at 3.4 or higher ... the ND players also have combined for an impressive 3.10 cumulative team GPA over the course of their college careers.
- Notre Dame boasts several strong Academic All-America candidates in 2006, most notably: senior LHP **Tom Thornton** (3.54 cumulative GPA; double major in anthropology and film-television-and-theater), sophomore 3B **Brett Lilley** (3.64; accounting), senior SS **Greg Lopez** (3.39; pre-professional studies and anthropology), senior LF/DH **Matt Bransfield** (3.36; sociology), junior catcher **Sean Gaston** (3.36; political science and history) and sophomore 2B **Ross Brezovsky** (3.26; economics) ... Notre Dame's unmatched Academic All-America history includes 20 honorees since 1992.
- The senior class led the way for the Irish during the 2005 fall semester, averaging a 3.54 semester GPA that included seven players above a 3.4 and all eight posting a semester GPA of 3.05 or higher.

HOMESTAND #1 STATS – ND hit .341 in the 7-0 homestand from March 28-April 5, outscoring the opponents 45-20 (2 HR, 2 3B, 14 2B, 26 BB, 6 HBP, 23 Ks, 11 SB) ... top hitters in that first homestand included:

Danny **Dressman**565, 13-for-23, 2 RBI, 8 R, 2B, 5 BB, K, 2 SAC, 2 SB
Craig **Cooper**500, 12-for-24, 4 RBI, 8 R, HR, 4 2B, 3 BB, 2 Ks, SB
Ross **Brezovsky**421, 8-for-19, 7 RBI, 5 R, HR, 3B, 2B, 3 BB, K, SF, SB
Greg **Lopez**350, 7-for-20, 6 RBI, 3 R, 3B, HBO, 3 Ks, SAC, 2 SB

... the ND staff turned in a 2.86 ERA during the first 7-0 homestand (63 Ks, 18 BB, 45 H/.220, 6 HB, 4 WP in 63 IP) while the defense registered a .978 team fielding pct. (8 Es).

ND Baseball 2006 Summer-League Commitments (others TBA)

Brett Lilley (3B, So.) – Cape Cod League (Cotuit Kettleers)
Joey Williamson (RHP, So.) – Alaska League (Anchorage Glacier Pilots)
David Phelps (RHP, Fr.) – Alaska League (Mat-Su Miners; Palmer, AK)
David Gruener (LHP, So.) – Alaska League (Mat-Su Miners; Palmer, AK)
Ross Brezovsky (2B, So.) – Jayhawk League (Hays, KS, Larks)
Sam Elam (LHP, Fr.) – Jayhawk League (Hays, KS, Larks)
Wade Korpi – Valley League (Staunton, VA, Braves)
Kyle Weiland (RHP, Fr.) – Great Lakes League (Delaware, OH, Cows)
Jeremy Barnes (IF/RHP, Fr.) – Great Lakes League (Delaware, OH, Cows)
Danny Dressman (OF, Jr.) – Northwoods League (Madison, WI, Mallards)
Jess Stewart (RHP, Jr.) – Coastal Plains League (Wilson, NC, Tobs)
Brett Graffy (RHP, Fr.) – Central Illinois League (DuPage Dragons)
Eddy Mendiola (3B/C, Fr.) – Florida Collegiate League
Ryan Connolly (OF, Fr.) – New York Collegiate League

Notre Dame Baseball 2005 Summer-League Statistics

Sean Gaston (Cotuit Kettleers; Cape Cod League) – named to league all-star team, also named first team all-league and team MVP ... hit .298 with 12 RBI and .328 on-base pct. (4 extra-base hits)
Jeff Manship (Cotuit Kettleers; Cape Cod League) – his win in final week clinched playoff spot (3-3, 2.88 ERA, 45 Ks, 15 BB, 44 H, 50 IP, 9 GS)
Craig Cooper (Brewster Whitecaps; Cape Cod League) – hit .217 with 11 R, 6 2B, 17 BB, 4 SB
Matt Bransfield (Mat-Su Miners; Alaska League) – named to league all-star team while leading team in slugging (.469) and doubles (12), ranking 2nd in RBI (23), and 3rd in both batting (.312) and on-base pct. (.409)
Cody Rizzo (Mat-Su Miners; Alaska League) – 2nd on team with 9 times hit-by-pitch (hit .188, 6 BB, HR, 12 R, 5 RBI)
Alex Netzey (Fayetteville, NC, Swampdogs; Coastal Plains League) – hit .236 as starting CF (3 BB, 9 HB, 8 R, 12 RBI, 8 SB)
Danny Dressman (Madison, WI Mallards; Northwoods League) – team's top defensive outfielder, making just one error in 54 GP (hit .297, 18 R, 17 RBI, 3 2B, 12 BB, 6 SB)
Ross Brezovsky (Hays, KS Larks; Jayhawk League) – hit .256 with 18 runs scored (8 RBI, 3 2B, 15 BB, 12 K, 31 G)
David Gruener (Hays, KS Larks; Jayhawk League) – had 9 starts in 11 appearances (5-2, 59 Ks, 23 BB, 44 H, 52 IP)
Wade Korpi (Staunton, VA, Braves; Valley League) – went 3-3 with 4.67 ERA in 12 appearances (46 Ks, 34.2 IP, 4 GS, 18 BB, 36 H, .265 opp. avg.)
Joey Williamson (Luray, VA, Wranglers; Valley League) – posted 2.06 ERA, 3-0 record (9 GP/6 GS, 42 Ks, 20 BB, 26 H)
Eddie Smith (DuPage Dragons; Central Illinois Collegiate League) – stole 4 bases on 5 attempts (.156, 8 R, 5 RBI, .315 OBP, .938 FLD)

BULLPEN BOOST – Notre Dame lost two of its top relief pitchers (junior RHP Dan Kapala/shoulder and sophomore RHP Tony Langford/elbow) before the 2006 season even began but the Irish relievers have responded with a solid season that now includes a 3.52 bullpen ERA, a .249 opponent batting avg., a 2-to-1 K-to-walk ratio (101/50) and 10 more innings pitched (122.2) than hits allowed (113) ... the relievers have allowed nearly one-half (27-of-65; 37%) of inherited baserunners to score and have struggled vs. first batters faced, allowing a .343 batting avg. (24-for-70) with 15 runs scored, 6 walks and 4 hit-batters among those 88 first batters (14 Ks):

BULLPEN CHART (IRS indicates inherited runners scored; FB is first batter faced)

Player	ERA	W-L	APP	SV	IP	H	R/ER	BB	SO	2B	3B	HR	AB	B/Avg	WP	HB	IRS	FB (H-AB)
Gruener....	2.25	0-0	7	0	8.0	5	2/2	3	6	1	1	0	29	.172	1	0	0-2	2-6, BB
Phelps.....	2.45	1-0	5	0	7.1	6	6/5	5	9	1	0	0	28	.214	1	2	2-3	2-4, BB, R, K
Graffy.....	2.61	1-0	5	0	10.1	9	3/3	2	3	1	1	0	36	.250	0	0	0-2	2-5, R
Elam.....	2.70	0-0	8	0	10.0	6	4/3	6	15	1	0	0	36	.167	0	3	1-4	2-6, BB, HB, 3 R, K
Dury.....	2.76	2-0	15	0	16.1	11	6/5	4	10	3	0	0	57	.193	1	2	5-17	2-10, BB, R, 4K, SAC, SF
Stewart....	3.00	4-1	14	1-1	30.0	34	15/10	8	18	5	1	1	119	.286	1	2	9-19	4-10, 2R, 2 SAC, SF
Weiland....	3.04	2-3	18	10-11	26.2	24	11/9	14	23	1	1	1	95	.253	4	4	6-7	7-16, BB, HB, 4R, 2K
Williamson.	7.82	0-0	15	0	12.2	15	16/11	6	15	2	0	1	48	.313	1	4	3-11	2-12, BB, 2HB, 3R, 6K
Korpi.....	20.25	0-0	1	0	1.1	3	3/3	2	2	1	0	0	6	.500	1	0	1-1	1-1
Totals.....	3.52	10-4	88	11-12	122.2	113	65/48	50	101	16	4	3	454	.249	10	19	27-65	24-70/.343, 15 R (42%) 6 BB, 4 HB, 14 K

IRS Pct.: Dury 29%, Stewart 47%, Weiland 86%, Williamson 27%
 First Batter Batting Avg.: Weiland .438, Williamson .167

GIVING BACK THE INHERITANCE – Junior RHP **Joey Williamson** has taken the mound with 11 batters on base this season and has allowed just three of them to score (27%) ... Williamson has been particularly strong versus his first batters faced, allowing just 2-for-12 batting with six strikeouts in those situations (BB, 2 HBP, 3 R).

SUPER SAVER – Closer **Kyle Weiland** saved three straight games two weeks ago and already has bested Aaron Heilman's ND record for saves by a freshman (9, in '98) ... Weiland converted each of his first nine save chances (now 10-of-11) and ranks fourth on the ND season saves list, behind J.P. Gagne (13, in '03), Ryan Doherty (12, in '04) and John Corbin (11, in '00) ... he typically has done better at the end of his outings, allowing 6-of-7 inherited runners to score while first batters faced are hitting 7-for-16 (.438) vs. him (BB, HBP, 4 R, 2 Ks) ... after the first batters in his outings, Weiland has held opposing hitters to a combined .215 batting avg. (17-for-79).

DURY DOES IT – Junior LHP **Mike Dury** was the third of four Irish relievers and retired five of the six batters he faced in the recent win over Ball State (K) while improving to 5-0 in his Irish career ... Dury took the mound with two outs and two runners on base in the top of the seventh, inducing a rightside popup off the bat of Kyle Dygert to keep the deficit at 4-3 ... his 2006 season stats include a 2.76 ERA in 15 appearances and 16.1 innings (11 H/.193 opp. avg., 10 Ks, 4 BB), with a 1.91 career ERA in 56.2 IP (37 Ks, 15 BB, 50 H/.239) ... he is close to reaching the minimum innings pitched (60) required for inclusion on the ND career ERA list and ultimately could break a record that has stood for 45 years (All-American Nick Palihnich's 2.36 career ERA, from 1959-61).

FOR OPENERS – Following the 3-0 win over Indiana State, ND now is 8-1 in its past nine season openers, with five straight wins (29-9 margin in the past three openers).

PLAYING THE FIELD – Notre Dame faced three Big 12 Conference teams earlier this season (Oklahoma, Nebraska and Texas A&M), continuing a long trend that has seen the Irish face teams from all over the nation ... Big 12 team Oklahoma State is one of just a handful of teams from the nation's top conferences that Notre Dame never has faced (as are Kansas, also of the Big 12, and ACC team Maryland) ... ND baseball has faced 285 opponents in its 115-year history, including 177 of 283 teams (63%) that played on the Div. I level in 2005 (many of the teams ND has not faced are from the smaller conferences) ... other teams of note that ND has yet to face include emerging programs such as the College of Charleston, Virginia Commonwealth, Coastal Carolina, Louisiana-Lafayette, East Carolina and Southern Mississippi – plus west-coast teams such as Cal Poly, San Jose State, UNLV and Utah.

SCORING STREAK ENDS AT 215 – The second-longest scoring streak in Notre Dame baseball history (215 games, dating back to 2002) ended in the early-season loss to the host team Minnesota at the Dairy Queen Classic (8-0; followed by a 2-0 loss to Arizona) ... a 2002 shutout loss to Rutgers ended ND's record scoring streak (231) but the Irish then scored in 215 straight before the loss to the Gophers ... ND now has been shut out just eight times in the 12-year Paul Mainieri era (never more than twice in the same season).