



2002 NOTRE DAME VOLLEYBALL

Six-Time BIG EAST Champions • 10 Consecutive NCAA Tournament Appearances

BIG EAST Championship Notes Package • Contact: Alan Wasielewski, Wasielewski.3@nd.edu

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2002 Schedule

Shamrock Invitational

Aug. 30	UW-Milwaukee	W, 3-0
Aug. 31	Cincinnati	W, 3-0
Sept. 1	Cal Poly	W, 3-0

Loyola Marymount Classic

Sept. 6	at LMU	L, 1-3
Sept. 7	vs. Colorado	L, 0-3
Sept. 7	vs. Saint Louis	W, 3-0
Sept. 10	at Valparaiso	W, 3-0

Golden Dome Invitational

Sept. 13	Northwestern	W, 3-0
Sept. 14	Loyola (Md.)	W, 3-0
Sept. 14	#10 Pepperdine	W, 3-2

Sept. 18	at Purdue	L, 2-3
Sept. 21	Michigan	W, 3-1
Sept. 27	Connecticut*	W, 3-1
Sept. 29	St. John's*	W, 3-1
Oct. 5	at Rutgers*	W, 3-0
Oct. 6	at Seton Hall*	W, 3-0
Oct. 12	at Georgetown*	W, 3-0
Oct. 13	at Villanova*	W, 3-1
Oct. 21	at #2 Hawai'i	L, 0-3
Oct. 22	at #2 Hawai'i	L, 0-3
Oct. 25	Pittsburgh*	W, 3-1
Oct. 27	West Virginia*	W, 3-1
Oct. 29	at Illinois State	W, 3-1
Nov. 1	Providence*	W, 3-0
Nov. 3	Boston College*	W, 3-0
Nov. 9	at Syracuse*	W, 3-0
Nov. 15	at Miami (Fla.)*	L, 2-3
Nov. 17	at Virginia Tech*	L, 0-3

BIG EAST Championship

Nov. 23	vs. Connecticut	1 p.m.
Nov. 24	BIG EAST final	1 p.m.

NCAA Championship

Dec. 1-2	NCAA Championship	TBA
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* - indicates BIG EAST Conference match.

bold - indicates home matches in the Joyce Center.

2002 BIG EAST Championship

Fitzgerald Fieldhouse • Pittsburgh, Pa. • Nov. 23 & 24

Saturday, Nov. 23

#1 Notre Dame (21-7, 11-2) vs. #4 Connecticut (14-14, 9-4), 1 p.m.

#2 Virginia Tech (20-10, 10-3) vs. #3 Miami (24-4, 10-3), 3:30 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 24

Semifinal winners, 1 p.m.

Notre Dame pursues BIG EAST Championship this weekend: The University of Notre Dame volleyball team (21-7, 11-2) begins the quest for its sixth BIG EAST Championship this weekend at the 2002 conference tournament in Pittsburgh, Pa., at Fitzgerald Fieldhouse. Since the Irish joined the BIG EAST Conference for the 1995 season, it has failed to win the league tournament just once - in 1999 when Georgetown defeated Notre Dame in the finals.

Notre Dame enters this weekend with the #1 seed after finishing the regular season with an 11-2 record. The last week of BIG EAST Conference action has added even more drama to the tournament, as #2 Virginia Tech and #3 Miami handed Notre Dame back-to-back conference losses on Nov. 15 & 17 for the first time since 1995. Miami's victory on Nov. 15 ended a 36-match winning streak for Notre Dame over all conference opponents.

Connecticut earned the fourth seed in the tournament after tying Pittsburgh in the standings, but advancing to the championship by virtue of its victory over the Panthers during the regular season. Notre Dame defeated Connecticut 3-1 on Sept. 27.

Notre Dame leads the nation in team block average: Notre Dame has been the best blocking team in the nation this season, and the statistics released from the NCAA put the Irish number one in the nation as of Nov. 18. Notre Dame's 3.69 blocks per game average leads the nation, ahead of Nebraska, Montana State, Stanford and Long Beach State.

Notre Dame has led the nation in block average most of the season, assuming first place with a 22-block effort against St. John's on Sept. 29.

Irish win 20 matches for fourth season in a row: Notre Dame's 3-0 victory over Boston College on Sunday, Nov. 3, provided the Irish with their 20th victory of the season, marking the 2002 season as the fourth-straight in which head coach Debbie Brown's team has posted at least 20 victories. In fact, Brown's teams have reached 20 wins in all but one season since she took over the program in 1991.

Notre Dame won 20 matches in 1999, 20 in 2000 and 22 in 2001. The record for wins in the season is 33, reached in 1994 and 1986.

Irish finish unbeaten at home for the second straight season and just the fourth time in school history: Two BIG EAST Conference victories over Providence and Boston College on Nov. 1 and 3 provided Notre Dame with its second consecutive undefeated season on the Joyce Center floor. The Irish will carry a 35-match win streak at home into the 2003 season.

The Irish posted a 12-0 record at home a year ago and improved that mark by one this season, finishing 13-0 in front of the Joyce Center crowd.

Notre Dame finished 17-0 at home in 1994

In this notes package...

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2002 Notre Dame Volleyball Roster

No.	Name	Year	Pos.	Ht.	Hometown	BIG EAST Conference statistics
1	Emily Loomis*	So.	OH	6-1	Fort Wayne, IN	165 K, 3.84/g, .324, 2.37 d/g, 0.93 b/g
2	Leah Nedderman*	So.	OH	5-10	Grapevine, TX	15 K, 1.88/g, .211, 0.67 d/g, 0.12 b/g
3	Kelly Burrell	Fr.	S	5-11	Phoenix, AZ	6 K, 0.25/g, .080, 5.00 as/g, 0.42 b/g
4	Meg Henican	Fr.	OH	5-11	New Orleans, LA	35 K, 1.46/g, .073, 2.79 d/g, 0.46 b/g
5	Jessica Kinder**	Jr.	OH	5-10	Fresno, CA	77 K, 1.92/g, .133, 2.53 d/g, 0.70 b/g
6	Lauren Kelbley	Fr.	MB	6-1	Bascom, OH	128 K, 3.12/g, .433, 0.61 d/g, 1.46 b/g
7	Kelly Corbett*	So.	MB	6-0	Mountain View, CA	9 K, 1.00/g, .318, 0.67 d/g, 0.22 b/g
8	Kristen Kinder**	Jr.	S	5-9	Fresno, CA	439 assists, 10.71/g, 2.00 d/g, 0.71 b/g
9	Carolyn Cooper	Fr.	MB	6-3	Houston, TX	8 K, 1.00/g, .333, 0.62 d/g, 0.12 b/g
10	Kim Fletcher**	Jr.	MB/OPP	6-0	St. Louis, MO	28 K, 1.65/g, .183, 0.59 d/g, 1.00 b/g
11	Keara Coughlin***	Sr.	DS	5-8	Chicago, IL	134 digs, 3.12 d/g, 15 assists
12	Lauren Brewster	Fr.	MB	6-3	Brentwood, TN	96 K, 2.29/g, .294, 0.60 d/g, 1.90 b/g
13	Christa Moen**	Jr.	DS	5-4	San Antonio, TX	19 digs, 0.66/g, 3 aces
14	Janie Alderete***	Sr.	DS	5-2	Santa Clara, CA	81 digs, 2.25/g, 1 ace, 13 assists
15	Katie Neff**	Jr.	MB/OPP	6-4	St. Louis, MO	115 K, 2.80/g, 47 blocks, 1.15/g
16	Lindsay Peterson	Fr.	OH	6-0	Mt. Carroll, IL	1 K, 0.03/g, 0.50 d/g

and 5-0 in 1982.

Brewster fifth in the nation in block average: An exceptional week of defense at the net, which enabled Lauren Brewster to earn the BIG EAST rookie of the week award on Oct. 28, also moved the middle blocker up the national rankings in block average. Brewster was 12th as of Oct. 21, but her output during four matches from Oct. 21-26 moved her average to 1.64, which was fourth in the country as of Oct. 28.

The rookie from Brentwood, Tenn., has settled in at fifth in the nation in the latest statistical release from the NCAA, with a 1.66 average. She is behind Arkansas-Little Rock's Ivana Kuzmic, Nebraska's Amber Holmquist, Cal Poly's Worthy Lien and Ana Schanze from Montana State.

Team gets back in the top 30 in the country for team hitting: Led by all-star setter Kristen Kinder, the Irish have been steadily moving up the list of top hitting teams in the country. Notre Dame broke into the top 30 in team hitting percentage three weeks ago and ranks 28th in the country with a .263 team percentage as of Nov. 18.

Notre Dame vs. Connecticut series notes: The Irish and Huskies will be meeting for the 13th time ... Notre Dame holds a 12-1 advantage in the series, including a 3-1 victory this season in the Joyce Center on Sept. 27 ... this is the second year in a row that Notre Dame and Connecticut will meet twice, as the teams also met in the semifinals of the BIG EAST Championship in 2001 ... Notre Dame won that championship matchup in three games ... in the 2002 meeting, Emily Loomis chalked up 20 kills on .356 hitting with 13 digs ... Kim Fletcher added 11 kills off the bench ... Jamie Hadenfeldt had a great match for UConn, putting up 23 kills and 15 digs ... Notre Dame is 4-0 against Connecticut in BIG EAST Championship play.

Notre Dame vs. Miami series notes: If the Irish and Hurricanes advance to the finals, it will be the second meeting between the two teams ... this is Miami's first season of BIG EAST Conference volleyball competition ... Miami began its volleyball program in 1972, but dropped the program in 1982 before restarting it in 2001 ... the Hurricanes finished 17-7 as an independent last season ... Valeria Tipiana led the Hurricanes to an upset victory over the Irish on Friday, Nov. 15, with 28 kills (on .358 hitting) and 16 digs ... she was named the BIG EAST Player of the Week on Monday, Nov. 18 ... Miami began the season with a 15-match winning streak ... their four losses this season have been to Georgetown, Florida International, Virginia Tech and Pittsburgh.

Irish earn academic award: The University of Notre Dame volleyball team was one of 47 Division I programs honored with the American Volleyball Coaches Association/Molten Team Academic Award for the 2001-02 season. The award honors college and high school teams that displayed excellence in the classroom by maintaining at least a 3.30 cumulative team grade-point average on a 4.00 scale (or 4.10 on 5.0 scale) during the school year.

The Irish finished the 2001-02 school year with a 3.33 team grade-point average and were one of the 27 Division I teams honored by the AVCA to compete in the 2001 NCAA Tournament. Fellow BIG EAST Conference member Syracuse also was in the Division I list.

The AVCA/Molten award was distributed to a record 177 volleyball programs this year. The college ranks produced 120 schools (47 Division I, 20 Division II, 32 Division III, 12 NAIA and nine junior/community colleges). A total of 57 high school programs earned the distinction.



USA Today/AVCA Top 25 (Nov. 18, 2002)

Team	Pts.	Record
1. USC (55)	1608	22-1
2. Hawai'i (5)	1492	25-1
3. Florida (2)	1473	26-1
4. Stanford (2)	1466	25-4
5. Nebraska (1)	1422	24-1
6. Minnesota	1288	28-3
7. UC Santa Barbara	1204	26-1
8. Pepperdine	1149	21-6
9. Northern Iowa	1134	28-2
10. Long Beach State	1034	24-3
11. Santa Clara	901	23-4
12. North Carolina	891	28-2
13. Washington State	813	19-7
14. Wisconsin	782	20-7
15. E. Washington	669	28-1
16. Arizona	652	15-9
17. Penn State	600	21-6
18. South Carolina	493	21-5
19. Kansas State	445	18-6
20. Georgia Tech	339	28-5
21. UCLA	334	15-12
22. Missouri	238	22-6
23. San Diego	159	24-6
24. Utah	127	21-7
25. Ohio State	80	15-10

Other receiving votes and listed on two or more ballots: Washington (70), California (44), Arizona State (41), Texas (28), Fresno State (27), Louisville (25), Arkansas (23), Colorado State (17), **Michigan** (11), South Florida (9), Texas A&M (8), Michigan State (8), Loyola-Chicago (6), Indiana (4).

bold - indicates 2002 Notre Dame opponents.

() - first-place votes.

Notre Dame vs. Virginia Tech series notes: If the Irish and Hokies advance to the final match, it will be the third meeting between the two teams ... the series is tied 1-1, as in the last match between the two teams, Virginia Tech handed the Irish a 0-3 loss ... Lauren Kelbley led Notre Dame with 15 kills on .609 hitting in the match, but Cheryl Stinson (14 kills), Ana Lang (16 kills) and Sarah Rogers (10 kills) were too much to overcome ... the two teams met for the first time in 2001, Virginia Tech's first year of BIG EAST Conference volleyball competition ... this is Virginia Tech's first appearance in the BIG EAST Championship.

Notre Dame ranked first in the Northeast Region: Notre Dame is ranked second in the Northeast Region, according to the NCAA Division I women's volleyball committee, after having been ranked first in the previous two releases of the poll.

The rankings were released on Oct. 22, then updated on Nov. 6 and Nov. 19. The regional rankings are a key consideration when the NCAA Division I women's volleyball tournament pairings are announced. The winner of the BIG EAST Conference Championship will receive an automatic bid to the NCAA tournament.

NCAA Division I Women's Volleyball Northeast Regional Ranking:

Nov. 18, 2002 (records are as of Nov. 18)

1. Temple (23-6)
2. Notre Dame (21-7)
3. American (24-6)
4. Virginia Tech (20-10)
5. Miami, Fla. (24-4)
6. Dayton (22-6)
7. Penn (20-4)
8. New Hampshire (21-10)
9. George Washington (18-12)
10. Princeton (17-5)

Irish set a new standard for consecutive home victories in memorable fashion: Notre Dame's victory over #10 Pepperdine extended the Irish home court winning streak to 28 matches. Notre Dame has moved that total to 35 with seven victories at home since their upset of the Waves. The 35-match streak is the longest in school history, eclipsing the previous mark of 27 matches from Sept. 9, 1993 through Sept. 2, 1995.

The Irish have not lost in the Joyce Center since a three-game setback to #7 Colorado State on Sept. 23, 2000.

During the Irish winning streak at home, they have dropped just 11 games while winning 25 matches 3-0. Notre Dame also has won four tournament titles during the streak, including the 2000 BIG EAST Championship, the 2001 and 2002 Shamrock Invitational titles and the 2002 Golden Dome Invitational.

Irish home attendance hits an all-time high in 2002: Bolstered by two matches played before Notre Dame football pep rallies and an overall increase in attendance, the Irish have broken into the top 30 in the country in attendance average this season. With a school-record 3,251 in attendance on Friday, Nov. 1, as the Irish took on Providence, Notre Dame pushed its average to 1,064 and moved into 27th in the country in attendance. The 3,251 crowd was the 48th-best in the country this season (as of Nov. 4).

Irish set school records during classic victory over #10 Pepperdine: The victory over the visiting Waves on Saturday, Sept. 14, was more than just Notre Dame's first victory over a top-10 opponent since 1995. The win stretched the Irish home court winning streak to a record 28 matches and provided Notre Dame its second home tournament title of the season (combined with the Shamrock Invitational).

The match against the Waves also set two team records. The 30-32, 30-24,

2002 BIG EAST Final Standings

School	BIG EAST	%	Overall	%	outcome vs. ND
1. Notre Dame*	11-2	.846	21-7	.750	-
2. Virginia Tech^	10-3	.769	20-10	.667	L, 0-3
3. Miami^	10-3	.769	24-4	.857	L, 2-3
4. Connecticut^	9-4	.692	14-14	.500	W, 3-1
5. Pittsburgh	9-4	.692	20-9	.690	W, 3-1
6. Villanova	7-6	.538	18-16	.529	W, 3-1
7. Georgetown	7-6	.538	17-13	.567	W, 3-0
8. Rutgers	6-7	.462	17-11	.607	W, 3-0
9. St. John's	6-7	.462	17-16	.515	W, 3-1
10. Syracuse	5-8	.385	19-12	.613	W, 3-0
11. Seton Hall	5-8	.385	15-18	.455	W, 3-0
12. Boston College	3-10	.231	14-18	.438	W, 3-0
13. West Virginia	3-10	.231	9-19	.321	W, 3-1
14. Providence	0-13	.000	2-29	.065	W, 3-0

* - Clinched BIG EAST regular-season title and a spot in the BIG EAST Championship

^ - Clinched a spot in the BIG EAST Championship

29-31, 30-25 and 15-10 game scores matched the team record for points in a match (134) from Notre Dame's five-game victory over Illinois State in 2001. The Notre Dame - Pepperdine match also is the longest in the Joyce Center under the new rally scoring rules, as the match ended two hours, 28 minutes after it began (surpassing the Illinois State match by six minutes).

Another team record was set earlier in the tournament, when Notre Dame defeated Loyola College 30-16, 30-16 and 30-14 to win by 44 points, the largest winning margin for the Irish under the new rally scoring method.

Pepperdine is currently ranked #8 in the nation.

Notre Dame utilizing its front row strength to dominate at the net: The 2001 Irish team posted a 3.42 blocks-per-game average, second to just the '85 (3.51) and '88 (3.57) teams.

Entering this weekend's match, the Irish are averaging 3.69 blocks per game this season.

Front row specialists Malinda Goralski, Kristy Kreher and Marcie Bomhack graduated last season, but a talented freshman class, combined with some experienced front line players, have shown the ability to improve the Irish defense at the net. In the during the 2002 regular season, Notre Dame dominated at the net to collect 361 team blocks and have failed to post 10 or more team blocks in just five matches this season (vs. Colorado, at St. John's, at Hawai'i-Oct. 22, at Illinois State, vs. Providence).

Try to hit through this front line: Notre Dame's blocking prowess has been well documented this season, but the Irish have some rotations that defy opposing teams to get a shot through. At certain times during a match, **Katie Neff** (6-5), **Lauren Brewster** (6-3) and **Lauren Kelbley** (6-2) are patrolling the net for the Irish defense. Add in 6-1 all-BIG EAST high jumper **Emily Loomis** and the Irish defensive wall becomes even more impressive.

Neff (92 blocks), Brewster (148), Kelbley (99) and Loomis (93) play a large role in Notre Dame's 3.69 blocks-per-game average that was ranked first in the nation as of Nov. 18 - and has been ranked first in the nation for several weeks this season.

Brewster enjoying one of the top rookie seasons in Notre Dame volleyball history: Freshman Lauren Brewster has been stacking up the blocks since she first stepped on the court against Wisconsin-Milwaukee on Aug. 30.

The rookie currently has 148 blocks (ranked fifth in the country as of Nov. 3), which puts her among the top five freshman at Notre Dame all-time in

2002 Notre Dame Statistical LeadersKills

E. Loomis	335
K. Neff	261
L. Kelbley	244

Attack %

L. Kelbley	349
K. Kinder	310
L. Brewster	299

Assists

K. Kinder	989
K. Burrell	165
J. Alderete	47

Digs

K. Coughlin	253
J. Kinder	252
J. Alderete	247

Blocks

L. Brewster	148
L. Kelbley	99
E. Loomis	93

Solo Blocks

E. Loomis	25
K. Neff	16
J. Kinder	16

Aces

J. Kinder	48
E. Loomis	21
L. Brewster	20

Kills/Game

E. Loomis	3.60
K. Neff	2.90
L. Kelbley	2.71
J. Kinder	2.35

Notre Dame Sports Information:

Notre Dame volleyball information is readily available on the world wide web at www.und.com and by contacting Assistant Sports Information Director Alan Wasielewski at 574-631-7516.

A weekly release is usually available on Wednesday during the regular season, as well as other special releases when required. Complete meet recaps are posted on www.und.com.

If you are interested in receiving information on Notre Dame volleyball via e-mail, please let Wasielewski know at Wasielewski.3@nd.edu.

Player interviews and game credentials should be arranged through Wasielewski at least 24 hours in advance.

Notre Dame Match Highs

		<u>Individual</u>	
<u>Kills</u>	15	Loomis	vs. Saint Louis
	15	Kelbley	at Va. Tech
4G	20	Loomis	vs. UConn
	20	Loomis	vs. St. John's
5G	22	Loomis	vs. Pepp.
<u>Blocks</u>	10	Brewster	vs. Cincinn
4G	12	Kelbley	vs. St. John's
5G	10	Brewster	vs. Pepp.
<u>Digs</u>	19	Alderete	vs. Cincinn
4G	19	Alderete	vs. Michigan
5G	22	J. Kinder	vs. Pepp.
<u>TA</u>	43	Loomis	at Va. Tech
4G	45	Loomis	vs. UConn
5G	64	Loomis	vs. Pepp.
<u>Hit %</u>	.643	Kelbley	at Syracuse
4G	.476	Brewster	at Illinois St.
5G	.481	Kelbley	at Miami
<u>Ass.</u>	44	K. Kinder	at Va. Tech
4G	52	K. Kinder	at Illinois St.
5G	67	K. Kinder	vs. Pepp.
<u>Aces</u>	4	Kelbley	vs. St. Louis
4G	4	J. Kinder	vs. Pitt
5G	4	J. Kinder	vs. Purdue
5G	4	J. Kinder	at Miami
		<u>Team</u>	
<u>Kills</u>	3G	55	at Va. Tech
	4G	65	at Villanova
	5G	88	vs. Pepperdine
<u>Blocks</u>	3G	16	at Syracuse
	4G	22	vs. St. John's
	5G	16	vs. Pepperdine
<u>Digs</u>	3G	72	vs. Cincinn
	4G	73	at Illinois St.
	5G	80	vs. Pepperdine
<u>TA</u>	3G	156	at Va. Tech
	4G	170	at LMU
	5G	222	vs. Pepperdine
<u>Hit %</u>	3G	.418	at Rutgers
	4G	.291	at Villanova
	5G	.304	vs. Purdue
<u>Ass.</u>	3G	48	vs. BC
	3G	48	at Va. Tech
	4G	60	vs. UConn
		60	at Illinois St.
	5G	76	vs. Pepperdine
<u>Aces</u>	3G	9	vs. Saint Louis
	4G	10	vs. St. John's
	5G	9	vs. Purdue

terms of blocks during their first season for the Irish and just 12 behind matching Mary Leffers for the all-time rookie record:

Notre Dame freshman year block totals:

1. Mary Leffers ('96), 160
2. **Lauren Brewster ('02), 148**
3. Mary Kay Waller ('85), 144
4. Jaimie Lee ('94), 110
5. Jessica Fiebelkorn ('89), 107

Debbie Brown coaching is in her 12th year as the mentor of the Irish volleyball program: Debbie Brown has guided the program throughout the 90's and into the new century, developing the Irish into a volleyball power in the BIG EAST and one of the best programs in the nation. Brown is 297-101 (.746) and has earned numerous coach-of-the-year accolades throughout her 11 full years with the Irish, including the 2000 and 2001 BIG EAST Coach of the Year awards.

Brown also is closing in on her 300th victory with the Irish, needing just three more victories to reach that career milestone. Entering the 2002 season, Brown's 393-127 overall Division I coaching record placed her 26th on the winningest active coaches list.

Irish home court win streaks carry on to 2003: Notre Dame's impressive home court win streaks will carry over to the 2003 season, as the Irish have no more matches scheduled at home this season.

Since Notre Dame began BIG EAST play in 1995, they have not lost to a BIG EAST team on the Joyce Center floor. That winning streak stands at 49.

Notre Dame also has won 35 consecutive matches at home.

Libero: The NCAA Women's Volleyball Rules Committee has introduced another rule change that will have a large effect on how the game is played. After the introduction rally scoring in 2001, the 2002 season marks the beginning of the libero era in women's collegiate volleyball.

A libero (designated back row player) will be allowed in the lineup for the 2002 season. A defensive specialist that does not count toward the team's substitutions, the libero can freely replace any player that has rotated to the back row. Unlike traditional substitutions that are administered by the referee, the libero can enter the match any time there is a dead ball.

Since the libero is a defensive player, a certain restrictions have been established on the libero's offensive capabilities. A libero only plays in the back row and cannot serve or attempt to block a shot. The libero cannot attack the ball above the net, nor can the libero set the ball with an overhead finger pass in the attack zone.

Once the libero comes out of the match, the player must wait at least one point before reentering.

Here is a quick look at Notre Dame's last 35 match victories at home:

2000 -

- Sept. 29, Villanova, W, 3-0
- Oct. 1, Georgetown, W, 3-0
- Oct. 20, Rutgers, W, 3-0
- Oct. 22, Seton Hall, W, 3-0
- Nov. 3, Boston College, W, 3-0
- Nov. 4, North Carolina, W, 3-0
- Nov. 7, Saint Louis, W, 3-0
- Nov. 18, Connecticut, W, 3-0*
- Nov. 19, Rutgers, W, 3-0*

2001 -

- Aug. 31, SW Texas St., W, 3-0
- Sept. 1, Florida Atlantic, W, 3-0
- Sept. 1, Idaho, W, 3-1

2002 BIG EAST Weekly Awards

<u>Player(s) of the Week</u>	<u>Rookie(s) of the Week</u>
Sept. 2 Valeria Tipiana, Miami	Sept. 2 Lauren Kelbley, Notre Dame Julie Hockenson, West Virginia
Sept. 9 Anna Kleinsorge, G'Town Carrie Norris, Pittsburgh	Sept. 9 Sandra Nunner, Rutgers
Sept. 16.... Katie Neff, Notre Dame	Sept. 16..... Margie Young, Miami Melissa Markowski, Virginia Tech
Sept. 23..... Megan Miller, Pittsburgh	Sept. 23... Madelyn Egan, Pittsburgh
Sept. 30. Emily Loomis, Notre Dame Megan Miller, Pittsburgh	Sept. 30..... Karla Johnson, Miami Melissa Markowski, Virginia Tech
Oct. 7 Jamie Hadenfeldt, UConn Sara Albert, Georgetown	Oct. 7 Kristen Conway, Syracuse
Oct. 13 Cheryl Stinson, Va. Tech	Oct. 13 Lauren Kelbley, Notre Dame Karla Johnson, Miami
Oct. 21 Rachel Bach, B. College	Oct. 21 Sandra Nunner, Rutgers
Oct. 28 ... Lauren Venarchik, Rutgers	Oct. 28 . Lauren Brewster, Notre Dame
Nov. 1 Marcela Gamarra, Miami	Nov. 3..... Kristen Conway, Syracuse Celine Nguyen, Villanova
Nov. 11 Carrie Norris, Pittsburgh	Nov. 11 Megan Crawley, UConn Allison Scholl, Seton Hall
Nov. 18 Valeria Tipiana, Miami Kerri Sullivan, Villanova	

Sept. 18, Valparaiso, W, 3-0
 Sept. 22, Syracuse, W, 3-0
 Sept. 28, Virginia Tech, W, 3-0
 Sept. 30, Georgetown, W, 3-1
 Oct. 12, Villanova, W, 3-0
 Oct. 14, Rutgers, W, 3-0
 Nov. 9, St. John's, W, 3-0
 Nov. 11, Seton Hall, W, 3-0
 Nov. 14, Illinois State, W, 3-2

2002 -

Aug. 30, UW-Milwaukee, W, 3-0
 Aug. 31, Cincinnati, W, 3-0
 Sept. 1, Cal Poly, W, 3-0
 Sept. 13, Northwestern, W, 3-0
 Sept. 14, Loyola College, W, 3-0
 Sept. 14, Pepperdine, W, 3-2
 Sept. 21, Michigan, W, 3-1
 Sept. 27, Connecticut, W, 3-1
 Sept. 29, St. John's, W, 3-1
 Oct. 25, Pittsburgh, W, 3-1
 Oct. 27, West Virginia, W, 3-1
 Nov. 1, Providence, W, 3-0
 Nov. 3, Boston College, W, 3-0

* - 2000 BIG EAST Championship

Irish double-doubles in '02

<u>Lauren Brewster</u>	14 kills, 10 blocks	vs. Pepp.
	11 kills, 11 blocks	at Miami (Fla.)
<u>Kelly Burrell</u>	35 assists, 10 digs	vs. Providence
<u>Meg Henican</u>	13 kills, 18 digs	vs. Providence
<u>Jessica Kinder</u>	10 kills, 11 digs	vs. Cincinn.
	12 kills, 10 digs	at LMU
	14 kills, 12 digs	vs. Loyola
	13 kills, 22 digs	vs. Pepp.
	14 kills, 10 digs	vs. Pittsburgh
	12 kills, 16 digs	at Illinois State
<u>Kristen Kinder</u>	34 assists, 11 digs	vs. Cincinn.
	32 assists, 11 digs	vs. Valpo
	67 assists, 10 digs	vs. Pepp.
	39 assists, 11 digs	vs. Michigan
	45 assists, 12 digs	vs. Pittsburgh
	52 assists, 10 digs	at Illinois State
	55 assists, 14 digs	at Miami (Fla.)
<u>Emily Loomis</u>	21 kills, 10 digs	at Purdue
	20 kills, 13 digs	vs. UConn
	20 kills, 10 digs	vs. St. John's
	16 kills, 15 digs	at Villanova
	10 kills, 13 digs	vs. Pittsburgh

Notre Dame ...

... at home: 13-0
 ... away: 7-6
 ... on neutral courts: 1-1
 ... in three games: 13-4
 ... in four games: 7-1
 ... in five games: 1-2
 ... vs. ranked opponents: 1-2
 ... vs. BIG EAST opponents: 11-2
 ... vs. non-conference opp.: 10-5
 ... at night: 8-5
 ... during the day: 13-2
 ... in tournament play: 7-2

2002 University of Notre Dame Volleyball

Record: 21-7 (Home: 13-0, Away: 7-6, Neutral: 1-1, BIG EAST 11-2)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Opponent</u>	<u>Result</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Game Scores</u>	<u>Tournament</u>	<u>High Kills</u>
Aug.						
30	Wisconsin-Milwaukee	W	3-0	30-26, 30-17, 30-26	Shamrock Invitational	Kelbley (12)
31	Cincinnati	W	3-0	30-19, 30-24, 30-23	Shamrock Invitational	Kelbley (12)
Sept.						
1	Cal Poly	W	3-0	30-26, 30-28, 30-23	Shamrock Invitational	Neff (11)
6	at Loyola Marymount	L	1-3	30-26, 16-30, 23-30, 24-30	LMU Classic	Neff, J. Kinder (12)
7	vs. Colorado	L	0-3	25-30, 24-30, 26-30	LMU Classic	Fletcher (10)
7	vs. Saint Louis	W	3-0	30-25, 30-13, 30-19	LMU Classic	Loomis (15)
10	at Valparaiso	W	3-0	30-22, 30-24, 30-18		Loomis (11)
13	Northwestern	W	3-0	30-28, 30-26, 30-21	Golden Dome Invitational	Loomis (12)
14	Loyola College	W	3-0	30-16, 30-16, 30-14	Golden Dome Invitational	J. Kinder (14)
14	#10 Pepperdine	W	3-2	30-32, 30-24, 29-31, 30-25, 15-10	Golden Dome Invitational	Loomis (22)
18	at Purdue	L	2-3	30-18, 31-29, 27-30, 26-30, 6-15		Loomis (21)
21	Michigan	W	3-1	30-22, 30-24, 23-30, 30-20		Loomis (15)
27	Connecticut*	W	3-1	28-30, 33-31, 30-18, 31-29		Loomis (20)
29	St. John's*	W	3-1	30-26, 25-30, 30-20, 31-29		Loomis (20)
Oct.						
5	at Rutgers*	W	3-0	30-16, 30-24, 30-19		Loomis (13)
6	at Seton Hall*	W	3-0	30-14, 30-19, 30-25		Loomis (14)
12	at Georgetown*	W	3-0	30-26, 31-29, 30-21		Kelbley, Neff (13)
13	at Villanova*	W	3-1	30-25, 28-30, 30-28, 30-17		Loomis (16)
21	at #2 Hawai'i	L	0-3	26-30, 23-30, 17-30		Neff (11)
22	at #2 Hawai'i	L	0-3	32-34, 18-30, 25-30		Loomis (13)
25	Pittsburgh	W	3-1	23-30, 30-28, 30-28, 30-13		J. Kinder (14)
27	West Virginia	W	3-1	30-23, 30-20, 28-30, 30-20		J. Kinder (14)
29	at Illinois State	W	3-1	18-30, 30-19, 30-22, 30-28		Kelbley (15)
Nov.						
1	Providence*	W	3-0	30-18, 30-17, 30-22		Nedderman (14)
3	Boston College*	W	3-0	30-21, 30-19, 30-19		Loomis (14)
9	at Syracuse*	W	3-0	30-26, 30-21, 30-26		Neff (13)
15	at Miami (Fla.)*	L	2-3	25-30, 28-30, 30-25, 30-22, 7-15		Loomis (18)
17	at Virginia Tech*	L	0-3	27-30, 35-37, 27-30		Kelbley (15)

*-indicates BIG EAST Conference match

Notre Dame BIG EAST Championship History

The Irish have appeared in each BIG EAST Championship tournament since they joined the conference in 1995. They lead all conference teams in winning percentage at the championship, compiling a 14-1 record (.933) in seven years. Notre Dame has claimed the team championship in 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 2000 and 2001 - its lone loss coming to Georgetown in the final match in 1999.

This season's BIG EAST Championship is set for Fitzgerald Fieldhouse in Pittsburgh, Pa.. It is the eighth time that the University of Pittsburgh has hosted the tournament and the Irish have won the title three out of the four times in which it has participated in the championship at Fitzgerald Fieldhouse.

The 2002 season also marks the second straight year that Pittsburgh has hosted the tournament. Notre Dame defeated Georgetown in five games (30-22, 24-30, 27-30, 30-20, 15-11) last season in the final match to secure their sixth BIG EAST Championship crown. Middle blocker Malinda Goralski was named the tournament's Most Outstanding Player.

Speaking of individual accolades, a Notre Dame player has captured the Most Outstanding Player award six times (each season the Irish have claimed the title). Angie Harris won the first award in 1995, followed by Lindsay Treadwell in '96, Jaimie Lee in '97, Marcie Bomhack in '98, Denise Boylan in '00 and Goralski just a year ago.

Before Notre Dame's dominance of the BIG EAST Championship, Pittsburgh reigned supreme, winning seven straight titles from 1988-94. They also won titles in 1983, '85 and '87. Providence has three titles to its credit in 1983, '85 and '87. Georgetown is the only other school to win a title ('99).

Adding a special twist to this season's tournament, Virginia Tech (in its second season of BIG EAST competition) and Miami (Fla.) (in just its first season of conference play) have qualified for the tournament - both teams making their first-ever appearance.

Team History in BIG EAST Championship

Team	Years	Record	Pct.	Championships
Notre Dame	7	14-1	.933	'95-'98, '00, '01
Pittsburgh	18	45-17	.725	'82, '84, '86, '88-'94
Providence	14	26-16	.619	'83, '85, '87
Georgetown	16	29-19	.604	'99
Syracuse	15	24-21	.522	
Villanova	15	21-24	.467	
Rutgers	4	2-4	.333	
Seton Hall	13	10-25	.286	
Connecticut	20	12-33	.267	
Boston College	12	2-28	.067	
St. John's	2	0-2	.000	
West Virginia	2	0-2	.000	

Final BIG EAST 2002 statistical leaders

Conference matches:

<u>Hitting Percentage</u>		
Sarah Albert	Gtown	.435
<u>Assists</u>		
Mallorey James	Miami	14.73
<u>Blocks</u>		
Lauren Brewster Notre Dame 1.90		
<u>Kills</u>		
Shayla Bush	Rutgers	4.85
<u>Aces</u>		
Nathasha Nguyen	Gtown	0.80
<u>Digs</u>		
Megan McCrane	Pitt	4.92
TEAM		
<u>Hitting Percentage</u>		
Notre Dame		.275
<u>Assists</u>		
Miami		15.07
<u>Blocks</u>		
Notre Dame		4.03
<u>Opp. Hitting Percentage</u>		
Notre Dame		.131
<u>Kills</u>		
Miami		16.63
<u>Aces</u>		
Georgetown		1.82
<u>Digs</u>		
Connecticut		18.33



TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS (SINCE 1995)

Year	Team	Coach	Final Match Score	Runner-Up	Site	Tournament MVP
2001	Notre Dame	Debbie Brown	30-22, 24-30, 27-30, 30-20, 15-11	Georgetown	Pittsburgh	Malinda Goralski
2000	Notre Dame	Debbie Brown	15-8, 15-8, 15-10	Rutgers	Notre Dame	Denise Boylan
1999	Georgetown	Li Liu	15-11, 15-10, 15-8	Notre Dame	Pittsburgh	Yulia Vtyurina
1998	Notre Dame	Debbie Brown	15-11, 15-10, 15-13	Georgetown	Pittsburgh	Marcie Bomhack
1997	Notre Dame	Debbie Brown	9-15, 15-3, 15-10, 15-4	Villanova	Seton Hall	Jaimie Lee
1996	Notre Dame	Debbie Brown	15-5, 15-6, 13-15, 15-10	Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh	Lindsay Treadwell
1995	Notre Dame	Debbie Brown	5-15, 15-7, 15-1, 15-4	Pittsburgh	Notre Dame	Angie Harris

Notre Dame 2002 Bio Updates**#1 Emily Loomis**

So. • OH • 6-1 • Ft. Wayne, Ind.

Season Highs -

Kills: 22 vs. #10 Pepperdine, 9-14

Digs: 15 at Villanova, 10-13

Blocks: 9 vs. UW-Milwaukee, 8-30

AT: 64 vs. #10 Pepperdine, 9-14

Hitting %:

3G - .636 (14-0-22) vs. BC, 11-3

4G - .442 (20-1-43) vs. SJU, 9-29

5G - .471 (21-5-34) at Purdue, 9-18

Aces: 3 vs. Michigan, 9-21

Career Highs -

Kills: same as season

Digs: same as season

Blocks: same as season

Loomis has been the main offensive threat for the Irish this season ... enjoyed a nine-match stretch of double digit kills, including four 20-kill matches over a five-match stretch ... recorded to the top vertical reach measurement in Irish volleyball history as a freshman and earned all-BIG EAST honors at the conference indoor and outdoor track and field meets in the high jump.

#2 Leah Nedderman

So. • OH • 5-10 • Grapevine, Texas

Season Highs -

Kills: 14 vs. Providence, 11-1

Digs: 3 vs. Loyola, 9-14

Blocks: 2 vs. Loyola, 9-14

AT: 33 vs. Providence, 11-1

Hitting %:

3G - .243 (14-6-33) vs. Prov., 11-1

4G - NA

5G - NA

Career Highs -

Kills: same as season

Digs: same as season

Blocks: same as season

Nedderman enjoyed a career day against Providence this season, earning her first start and leading the Irish with 14 kills in the match.

#3 Kelly Burrell

Fr. • S • 5-11 • Phoenix, Ariz.

Season Highs -

Kills: 3 vs. Loyola, 9-14

Digs: 10 vs. Providence, 11-1

Blocks: 5 vs. Connecticut, 9-27

AT: 6 three times

Assists: 39 vs. Loyola, 9-14

Burrell stepped in during a key stretch in the season when starting setter Kristen Kinder was sidelined with a knee injury ... Burrell started against Loyola, putting up 39 assists, seven digs and four blocks ... also started against Providence with 35 assists and 10 digs for her first career double-double.

#4 Meg Henican

Fr. • OH • 5-11 • New Orleans, La.

Season Highs -

Kills: 13 vs. Providence, 11-1

Digs: 18 vs. Providence, 11-1

Blocks: 3 vs. Providence, 11-1

AT: 30 vs. Connecticut, 9-27

Hitting %:

3G - .409 (13-4-22) vs. Prov., 11-1

4G - NA

5G - NA

Henican has been used at outside hitter and libero this season ... she came off the bench in a key performance against Connecticut this season with nine kills, 14 digs and two blocks ... posted first double-double of her career with 13 kills and 18 digs vs. Providence ... has four double-digit dig matches this season.

#5 Jessica Kinder

Jr. • OH • 5-10 • Fresno, Calif.

Season Highs -

Kills: 15 at Purdue, 9-18

Digs: 22 vs. #10 Pepperdine, 9-14

Blocks: 4 four times

AT: 37 at Purdue, 9-18

Hitting %:

3G - .522 (14-2-23) vs. Loyola, 9-14

4G - .391 (14-5-23) vs. WVU, 10-27

5G - .265 (13-4-34) vs. Pepp., 9-14

Aces: 4 three times

Career Highs -

Kills: same as season

Digs: same as season

Blocks: same as season

Jessica Kinder is one of the best athletes on the team ... a superb passer who is capable of making spectacular digs ... her jump serve is one of the best weapons on the team ... leads the team with 48 aces and was second in the BIG EAST in

ace average ... enjoyed a great three-match stretch from 10-25 to 10-29, hitting for 14, 14 and 12 kills against Pittsburgh, West Virginia and Illinois State, respectively ... sometimes runs hot and cold on offense, but hits harder than any player on the team.

#6 Lauren Kelbley

Fr. • MB • 6-1 • Bascom, Ohio

Season Highs -

Kills: 15 twice, most recent vs. Va. Tech

Digs: 4 three times

Blocks: 12 vs. St. John's, 9-29

AT: 33 vs. #10 Pepperdine, 9-14

Hitting %:

3G - .643 (10-1-14) at Syracuse, 11-9

4G - .462 (15-3-26) at ISU, 10-29

5G - .481 (13-0-27) at Miami, 11-15

Kelbley has emerged as a rookie of the year nominee for the Irish team ... has carried on the tradition of high-percentage hitting MBs for ND, raising her hitting average to .349 entering this weekend's tournament ... currently on a three-match streak of double-digit kills (10, 13, 15) ... has also hit .643, .481 and .609 in those three matches.

#7 Kelly Corbett

So. • MB • 6-0 • Mountain View, Calif.

Season Highs -

Kills: 5 twice, most recent vs. Prov.

Digs: 3 twice, most recent vs. Prov.

Blocks: 6 vs. Loyola, 9-14

AT: 11 vs. Loyola, 9-14

Hitting %:

3G - .500 (5-0-10) vs. Prov., 11-1

4G - NA

5G - NA

Career Highs -

Kills: same as season

Digs: same as season

Blocks: same as season

Corbett has seen limited playing time this season but has made the most of her opportunities, reaching career highs in all categories during the Loyola and Providence matches ... made her first career start vs. Providence.

#8 Kristen Kinder

Jr. • S • 5-9 • Fresno, Calif.

Season Highs -

Kills: 8 at Miami (Fla.), 11-15
 Digs: 12 vs. Pittsburgh, 10-25
 Blocks: 5 vs. West Virginia, 10-27
 AT: 20 vs. Miami (Fla.), 11-15
 Hitting %:
 3G - .750 (6-0-8) at Valpo, 9-10
 4G - .417 (6-1-12) vs. Pitt., 10-25
 5G - .350 (8-1-20) at Miami, 11-15
 Assists: 67 vs. #10 Pepperdine, 9-14

Career Highs -

Kills: same as season
 Digs: 17 vs. Illinois State, 11-14-01
 Blocks: 6 twice, most recent vs. #7 Florida, 11-24-01
 Assists: same as season

Kristen Kinder has enjoyed another solid season leading the Irish offense ... Notre Dame has been ranked in the nation's top 30 for hitting percentage for the past three weeks of the season ... Kristen Kinder is a vocal leader on the floor and one of the hardest workers on the team ... her all-around play is invaluable to the Irish ... has the ability to provide offense if needed ... has seven double-doubles this season.

#9 Carolyn Cooper

Fr. • MB • 6-3 • Houston, Texas

Season Highs -

Kills: 4 vs. Loyola, 9-14
 Digs: 5 vs. West Virginia, 10-27
 Blocks: 9 vs. Loyola, 9-14
 AT: 14 at Valparaiso, 9-10
 Hitting %:
 3G - .571 (4-0-7) vs. Loyola, 9-14

Cooper has seen limited playing time this season ... showed the ability to dominate at the net with a nine block performance against Loyola College.

#10 Kim Fletcher

Jr. • MB • 6-0 • St. Louis, Mo.

Season Highs -

Kills: 11 vs. Connecticut, 9-27
 Digs: 5 vs. Providence, 11-1
 Blocks: 5 vs. Connecticut, 9-27
 AT: 20 vs. Connecticut, 9-27
 Hitting%:
 3G - .667 (5-1-6) vs. Loyola, 9-14
 4G - .300 (11-5-20) vs. UConn, 9-27

Career Highs -

Kills: 16 vs. Michigan State, 11-30-01
 Digs: 10 vs. Idaho, 9-1-01
 Blocks: 10 vs. Gtown, 11-18-01

Fletcher has seen a drop in playing time this season, though she remains a reliable spark off the bench ... she played a key role in Notre Dame's four-game defeat of UConn, with 11 kills and five blocks ... also played well vs. Colorado with 10 kills.

#11 Keara Coughlin

Sr. • DS/L • 5-8 • Chicago, Ill.

Season Highs -

Digs: 18 at Illinois State, 10-29

Career Highs -

Digs: same as season

Coughlin assumed the starting libero position in the middle of the season ... has posted 14 double-digit dig matches ... dug a career-best 18 attacks at Illinois State.

#12 Lauren Brewster

Fr. • MB • 6-3 • Brentwood, Tenn.

Season Highs -

Kills: 14 vs. #10 Pepperdine, 9-14
 Digs: 6 at Illinois State, 10-29
 Blocks: 11 at Miami, 11-15
 AT: 28 vs. #10 Pepperdine, 9-14
 Hitting % -
 3G - .556 (10-0-18) vs. UW-Mil, 8-30
 4G - .476 (13-3-21) at ISU, 10-29
 5G - .393 (14-3-28) vs. Pepp., 9-14

Brewster has enjoyed a stellar rookie season, as the freshman has been ranked in the top five nationally in block average ... she also led the BIG EAST in block average for conference and non-conference games ... is approaching the freshman record for blocks in a season (see Brewster blocking note in the previous section) ... has posted five matches with 10 or more blocks ... has two double-doubles this season, against #10 Pepperdine (14 kills, 10 blocks) and Miami (11 kills, 11 blocks).

#13 Christa Moen

Jr. • DS • 5-4 • San Antonio, Texas

Season Highs -

Digs: 5 at Valparaiso, 9-10
 Aces: 3 at Seton Hall, 10-6

Career Highs -

Digs: 13 vs. Illinois State, 11-14-01
 Aces: same as season

Moen has been used off the bench this season to give the Irish a boost, using her serve to keep the opposing team off balance.

#14 Janie Alderete

Sr. • DS/L • 5-2 • Santa Clara, Calif.

Season Highs -

Digs: 20 vs. #10 Pepperdine, 9-14
 Aces: 1 twice
 Assists: 6 vs. Cincinnati, 8-31

Career Highs -

Digs: 26 vs. Illinois, 11-14-01
 Aces: 4 three times

Alderete has seen time at both libero and defensive specialist this season ... has shown flashes of brilliance on defense, with 20 digs vs. Pepperdine and 19 against Cincinnati and Michigan.

#15 Katie Neff

Jr. • OPP • 6-4 • St. Louis, Mo.

Season Highs -

Kills: 21 vs. #10 Pepperdine, 9-14
 Digs: 4 at Miami, 11-15
 Blocks: 6 at Seton Hall, 10-06
 AT: 44 vs. #10 Pepperdine, 9-14
 Hitting % -
 3G - .529 (11-2-17) vs. STL, 9-7
 4G - .357 (12-2-28) at Vill., 10-13
 5G - .409 (21-3-44) vs. Pepp., 9-14

Career Highs -

Kills: same as season
 Digs: same as season
 Blocks: same as season

Neff's hard work over the summer turned into a starting spot for the one-time role player ... Neff is having a career year, hitting personal bests for all statistical categories ... is the primary offensive option at opposite ... has 16 double-digit kill matches this season.

#16 Lindsay Peterson

Fr. • OH • 6-0 • Mt. Carroll, Ill.

Season Highs -

Kills: 1 vs. Providence, 11-1
 Digs: 1 vs. Providence, 11-1

Walk-on member of the Irish team ... enjoyed first career appearance vs. Providence, playing two games in the Irish victory.