

# **2005 NOTRE DAME BASEBALL**

## ***BIG EAST Tournament Notes***

***(May 26-28; Commerce Bank Ballpark; Bridgewater, N.J.)***

**FIGHTING FOR FOUR** – The Notre Dame baseball team (33-22-1, 14-9-1 BIG EAST) looks to extend its unprecedented string of BIG EAST tournament titles to four this week, when the Irish head back to Bridgewater, N.J., and Commerce Bank Ballpark in quest of the league's NCAA Tournament automatic bid (May 26-28, schedule below) ... Notre Dame has qualified for the BIG EAST tournament all 10 years since joining the conference in '95-'96 (Rutgers is the only other team ever to qualify for the BET more than seven consecutive years, doing so eight straight times from '96-'03) ... the Irish faced a daunting schedule to end the regular season, with 8 games in 7 days, and ND had its backs up against the wall after dropping the first two games of that stretch (at Pittsburgh) ... a 21-1 win over the Panthers then launched the Irish to a 5-1 closing record that included four straight league wins (3-1, 5-1, 7-3 sweep of West Virginia) and a midweek split with #17 USC (13-6, 3-9).

**TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE** – Notre Dame claimed the third seed for the four-team BIG EAST tournament and will face second-seeded Boston College (17-8; 36-18 overall) in Thursday's second game (May 26, 7:00 EDT; 6:00 in South Bend) of the double-elimination tournament ... the 3:30 game will feature top-seeded St. John's (19-4; 39-14) vs. #4 seed Pittsburgh (15-10; 31-20) ... the winners of Thursday's games will meet on Friday at 3:30 while the losers will play a noon elimination game. The second elimination game will be played Friday night (7:00), with the championship games slated for Saturday at 3:30 and 7:00 (if necessary).

**TV, RADIO, LIVE-STATS & HOTLINE** – All of Notre Dame's 2005 games again have been broadcast by South Bend-based WDND 1580 AM (and its sister station, WNDV 1490) ... the broadcasts are available via the internet at [www.und.com](http://www.und.com) (College Sports Pass subscription required) ... und.com also provides links to livestats on the website's main page, for all home games and most road games (the GameTracker livestats are slated to be provided by the BIG EAST and linked via und.com) ... call the ND Sports Hotline at 574-631-3000 for schedule and result information for all varsity sports currently in season (from the main menu, select "4" and then select "1" for baseball information).

**Note:** daily ND gamenotes also will be provided throughout the tournament, including a look at the pitching matchups ... ND's top three starting pitchers for the BET are (alphabetically) sophomore RHP Dan Kapala and Jeff Samardzija and junior LHP Tom Thornton (order is TBA).

**THE SKIPPER** – Paul Mainieri, in his 11th season at ND and 23rd overall as a college head coach, heads into the game with an **814-473-3 career** record (.632) that includes **483-194-2 with the Irish** (.713) ... Mainieri owns the top winning pct. in BIG EAST history (.730; 171-63-1, in BIG EAST regular-season games) ... he recently became the 27th active Div. 1 coach with 800-plus career wins as a college head baseball coach ... in addition to the many noteworthy accomplishments on the field by Mainieri's players, the Irish baseball program also owns a 100% graduation rate during the Mainieri era (63-of-63, among 4-year players, with 11 others who signed professionally as juniors returning to complete/near completion of their degree).

**BEEN THERE** – Notre Dame went just 12-12 in its first seven visits to the BIG EAST Tournament but the Irish now are riding a 9-2 record as the three-time defending champs, with a four-game unbeaten streak at the BET.

**RISING UP** – Notre Dame's impressive effort while playing six games in the final six games of the season (5-1) included a .361 team batting avg., a 2.42 staff ERA and .954 fielding pct. (10 Es) ... Craig Cooper (.565, 13 RBI) and Matt Edwards (.529, 5 RBI) led the way at the plate while Jeff Samardzija bookended wins over Pittsburgh and West Virginia during that six-day stretch (2.77 ERA, .220 opp. batting avg., 8 Ks, 3 BB, 11 H in 13 IP).

**WE MEET AGAIN** – Thursday's game vs. BC will reunite Notre Dame with the team it faced during a key turning point of the 2005 season ... the Irish had lost the series opener to the Eagles on April 9 in Brockton, Mass., leaving ND with a 14-14 overall record and just 3-4 in the BIG EAST standings ... that's when head coach Paul Mainieri made the key shift of Lilley from second to third base and the Irish responded by going on a 7-0-1 run in BIG EAST play (plus 19-9-1 in the second half of the season) ... ND made another key shift starting with the BC series, by moving setup man Dan Kapala into the weekend rotation.

**HOME BOYS** – Notre Dame's strong play at home salvaged the 2005 season, as the Irish went 23-4-1 (.839) for the program's third-best winning pct. at Eck Stadium in the facility's 11 seasons (the '97 team was 25-2/.926 at home while the '02 team went 26-3/.897 at The Eck).

**TOUGH ROAD** – A look back at the 2005 schedule shows that Notre Dame had the toughest road to claiming a spot in the BIG EAST Tournament, as the Irish had to face each of the other top teams (SJU, BC, Pitt and RU) on the road ... the unbalanced BIG EAST schedule also resulted in ND facing the league's bottom two teams (Georgetown and Seton Hall) just twice but the Irish rose to the challenge by closing with the four clutch wins.

**CLOSING STRONG** – The ND pitchers turned in a strong series vs. West Virginia to close the 2005 regular season, holding the potent Mountaineers offense to just five runs and a .237 team batting avg. (well below its .312 season avg.) in the three games ... the Irish pitchers combined for a 1.80 series ERA, struck out 16 and walked just three while allowing 22 hits in the 25 innings.

**THE ND-BC SERIES** – ND leads the BC series 22-8 (2-2 at the BET), with a split in the 2004 regular season at Eck Stadium (4-7, 6-4) before the Irish beat the Eagles to open the '04 BIG EAST Tournament (3-2) and again in the BIG EAST title game (11-5) ... see '04 and '05 game recaps below ... the Irish then took 2-of-3 from the Eagles earlier this season (April 9-10), in games played at Campanelli Stadium in Brockton, Mass. (2-8, 3-2, 3-0) ... that first game vs. BC remained the only time in '05 that the Irish were not competitive in a BIG EAST games (all other losses by 1-3 runs) ... ND has won 8 of the past 10 games in the series ... ND has won 3 straight in the series and 6 of the previous 7 meetings ... the teams were slated to play a 2003 doubleheader in Brockton, Mass., that was cancelled due to weather ... the Irish swept the '02 series (8-2, 10-6, 5-2; at The Eck) after BC had won 4 of the previous 6 ... Joe Thaman hit grand slams in back-to-back games of the '02 ND-BC series ... BC knocked off the Irish twice at the 2000 BIG EAST Tournament (12-1, 10-6) ... the teams played just twice (in 1909 and '28) prior to ND joining the BIG EAST in 1996 ... ND's first BIG EAST baseball games were played vs. BC in that '96 season, as the Irish swept the doubleheader, 6-1 and 11-6, in games played on Cape Cod at Yarmouth-Dennis HS).

#### **RECAPPING THE 2005 ND-BC SERIES (in Brockton, Mass.)**

**Game 1** (BC 8, ND 2) – The Irish held a 2-1 lead but the Eagles surged ahead in the 3rd (3-2) before plating four runs in the decisive bottom of the 5th ... Mike Wlodarczyk picked up the win (7 IP, 9 Ks, 4 H, 100 pitches) while ND's Dan Kapala lost his first career start (4.2 IP, 7 R/5 ER, 8 H, BB, K, 71 pitches) ... Craig Cooper (2-for-3) was the only Irish player with multiple hits, as the rest of the team went just 2-for-23 (1-4 batters were 1-for-12) ... BC's 3-4 hitters (Jared McGuire and Jason Delaney) combined to bat 7-for-8 with 5 RBI while the rest of the Eagles batters his just 2-for-21 ... BC's big 5th inning included Dave Preziosi's bunt single and stolen base, McGuire's RBI single to left field, Delaney's two-run blast to right-center, a hit batter (McGill) followed by another stolen base, and Mike Flynn's RBI double down the rightfield line.

**Game 2** (ND 3, BC 2) – Tom Thornton's first college outing in his home state was a memorable one, turning in a clutch complete-game effort to help earn a split of the doubleheader (8 H, 2 R/1 ER, HB, 5 Ks 34 BF) ... Thornton retired the final 11 batters he faced to win the pitchers duel with Joe Martinez (7 H, 3 R/2 ER, BB, 10 Ks, 132 pitches) ... Thornton limited BC to 11 total baserunners, with just four of them venturing into scoring position (all in the first four innings) as the Eagles were held to 2-for-10 batting with runners on base ... he located 70% of his pitches for strikes (69 of 96) while using 14 groundball outs and the 5 Ks to account for the bulk of his 27 outs (his other outs included two infield popups, three infield lineouts and just three flyouts to the outfield) ... ND scored the decisive run in the 5th, when a leftside groundout off the bat of Matt Edwards brought home Danny Dressman (a one-out throwing error on SS Jonny Weiss had allowed Dressman to reach) and Brett Lilley then pulled a single through the left side ... Ross Brezovsky singled home Steve Andres in the 2nd, with Sean Gaston adding an RBI single ... the game signaled Lilley's shift from 2B to 3B.

**Game 3** (ND 3, BC 0) – Jeff Manship (3 IP, 3 H, K, 6 GO) and Jeff Samardzija (6 IP, 3 H, 2 BB, 4 Ks, 76 pitches) combined for the shutout and the ND offense awoke to score three runs in the 6th ... BC's Nate Jeanes was working on a no-hitter thru 4.1 innings before seeing the Irish offense surge to the win (6.2 IP, 3 R, 6 H, 5 Ks) ... ND's runs in the 6th included an RBI triple from Alex Nettey, a run-scoring double from Matt Edwards and Craig Cooper's RBI single ... Manship and Samardzija did not allow a runner into scoring position until the final two innings ... a single by pinch-hitter Ryne Reynosa and Dave Preziosi's full-count walks had BC threatening in the 8th but Samardzija induced a pair of flyouts – including one by potent 3-hole hitter Jared McGuire (who went 6-for-11 in the series) ... Jason Delaney then hit a leadoff double in the 9th but Samardzija came through with a strikeout and two groundouts to end the game, as BC failed to advance a runner to third base during the full nine innings.

**ND-BC 2005 SERIES STATS** – The Irish hit just .204 in the series but the ND pitchers combined for a 2.25 ERA (11 Ks, 3 BB, 23 H in 24 IP) while the Irish totaled just three errors in the three games (BC hit .245 with a 2.16 staff ERA and seven errors) ... Craig Cooper (4-for-6) was the only Irish player with more than two hits in the series.

**IT'S ALL THEIR FAULT** – Notre Dame would be riding an NCAA-record 435-game scoring streak if not for one game, an 11-0 loss to Rutgers, late in the 2002 season ...that game ended ND's team-record scoring streak at 231 (stretching from 2/26/99-5/4/02) but the Irish have scored in every game since that loss (203) for the 2nd-longest scoring streak in the program's history ... ND has scored in virtually every game (all but six) of the 11-year Paul Mainieri era (99.12%; 673 of 679).

## **RECAPPING THE 2004 ND-BC GAMES**

• **BC 7, ND 4** (April 10; Eck Stadium) – BC snapped ND's 11-game win streak as the Irish continued to play without injured 2B Steve Sollmann ... Matt O'Donnell went the distance for the win (7 IP, 6 H, 4 UER, 2 BB, 6 Ks, 116 pitches) while Chris Niesel suffered the loss (4.1 IP, 7 H, 5 R/4 ER, 4 Ks) ... ND's Matt Bransfield hit 2-for-2, with no other Irish player managing double-digit hits, RBI or runs ... 2B Josh DiScipio (2-for-3, 2 RBI, 2 R, HR, 2B) led four BC players with 2-hit games ... the Eagles left just one runner on base.

• **ND 6, BC 4** (April 10; Eck Stadium) – Matt Edwards delivered the decisive 2-run double in the bottom of the 8th to give the 4th-ranked Irish the split ... the only ND players with more than two hits in the doubleheader were 3B Matt Macri (4-for-8, 2 RBI, 4 R, HR, 2B), (3-for-6, 2 R, HBP) and LF Steve Andres (3-for-7, RBI, R, BB, SB) ... the other nine ND players who appeared in the doubleheader combined to hit just 4-for-38 (.105) ... ND survived a 5-error game in the nightcap ... the go-ahead rally began with Andres' single up the middle ... Greg Lopez then bunted Andres to second before Joe Martinez hit 2B Javi Sanchez with an 0-1 pitch (ending his brief relief stint ... closer Mike Gauthier came on to get a big strikeout but Edwards jumped all over an 0-1 pitch, pulling it into the leftfield corner for a 2-run double and the 6-4 lead ... in the top of the 8th, ND closer Ryan Doherty came on to walk a batter and load the bases before blowing a 2-2 pitch by 8-hole hitter Marco Albano (keeping the game 4-4) ... Tom Thornton pitched well enough to win (6.2 IP, 7 H, 4 R/2 ER, 0 BB, 2 Ks, 55 of 76 pitches for strikes) while Jeff Samardzija was the first ND reliever in the nightcap and extended his shutout streak to 16 innings (H, BB) ... Jake Marsello (6 IP, 6 H, 4 R/3 ER, 2 BB, 7 Ks) was the BC starter ... Sanchez had an early 2-run single and Macri later smacked a 2-run HR.

• **ND 3, BC 2** (May 27; Commerce Bank Ballpark) – A gamble by Paul Mainieri made the difference as the Irish scored in the bottom of the 9th to open the BIG EAST Tournament with a key win ... the game featured a showdown between two of elite pitchers: ND's Grant Johnson (7 IP, 5 H, 2 R/1 ER, BB, 6 Ks, 9 GO, 107 pitches) and BC's Chris Lambert (8 IP, 2 H, 2 UER, 2 BB, 8 Ks, 123 pitches) ... ND made some big plays in the 8th, as Sanchez threw out lead runner Ryan Morgan on Garrett Greer's sac. bunt attempt while eventual winner Dan Kapala came on to blow a full-count fastball by pinch-hitter Shawn McGill and then quickly struck out Marco Albano to leave runners on first and second ... BC closer Gauthier hit Sanchez with an 0-1 pitch in the 9th and Mainieri then made the rare lefty-lefty switch as Danny Dressman hit for Andres ... BC was looking for the bunt but Dressman sent the first pitch skipping through the left side for an opposite-field single that moved Sanchez to third on the surprise hit-and-run ... Gauthier walked Craig Cooper intentionally and Edwards then dug in to reprise their his big AB vs. Gauthier from six weeks earlier ... BC moved CF Drew Locke into the left side of the infield but Edwards drove a 1-0 pitch into left field to end the game ... ND forged a 2-2 tie in the 5th, thanks to Edwards' full-count walk, Cody Rizzo's HBP, Lopez's opposite-field single and Sollmann's rightside groundout that was booted by the 2B DiScipio (allowing two runs to score) ... Locke singled to score Eric Wright in the 1st and added another RBI single in the 3rd (scoring Albano).

• **ND 11, BC 5** (May 29; Commerce Bank Ballpark) – The Irish won an unprecedented third straight BIG EAST title, behind a big power day that included 5 home runs (Macri 2, Cooper 2, Bransfield) ... Macri (3-for-5, 3 RBI, 2 R, BB) took home tournament MVP honors (.429, 6-for-14, 5 RBI, 2 HR) while Cooper (2-for-3, 4 RBI, 2 R, BB, HBP) also had a solid day ... ND opened the game with 6 runs in the 1st (including Bransfield's 2-run shot and Cooper's 3-run blast) ... Thornton worked through some bumpy moments to pick up the win (7-plus IP, 8 H, 5 R/3 ER, BB, HB, 3 Ks, 12 GO, held BC to 1-for-9 hitting with 2 outs) ... Sollmann smacked his 297th career hit to claim 2nd place on that ND top-10 list ... Joe Martinez took the loss (0.1 IP, 3 H, 6 R, 3 BB, 2 WP, 7 BF, 25 pitches) ... Cooper completed the rare feat of home runs in back-to-back innings with a solo shot in the 2nd.

**COOPER COPS NATIONAL HONOR** – Notre Dame junior OF Craig Cooper (Plainview, N.Y.) was tabbed for national hitter-of-the-week honors on May 24, as selected by the National College Baseball Writers of America ... it capped off an award-filled past few days for Cooper, who also had been named the BIG EAST player of the week for the first time in his career after repeating as the BIG EAST batting champ (the second player ever to do so, and first in nearly 10 years) and surging near the top of the BIG EAST record book list for career batting average in conference games ... Cooper batted 13-for-23 (.565) and extended his career-best hitting streak to 10 games as the Irish won four straight BIG EAST games during the week (one at Pittsburgh and a three-game series vs. West Virginia) while gaining a midweek split with a USC team that was ranked as high as 17th in the national polls ... his stinging righthanded swing and improving plate discipline helped him lead the team during the week in batting avg. (.565), RBI (13), slugging pct. (.957), OPS (1.550, on-base plus slugging), runs (8), hits (13), home runs (2) and total bases (22) ... he also hit a team-best 4-for-4 with 2 outs and 7-for-10 with runners in scoring position, with his other stats for the week including three doubles, two walks, one time hit-by-pitch, a .593 on-base pct., just two strikeouts and a stolen base ... in the four league games, Cooper hit 9-for-14 (.643, 9 RBI, 2 HR, 2B, 2 BB, K, SB) to run away with the BIG EAST batting title ... he opened the week at Pittsburgh with the added challenge of shifting into the leadoff spot for the first time since the season opener and he responded with ND's first leadoff home run of the season before adding a three-run shot in that 21-1 win (3-for-5, 5 RBI, 4 R, BB) ... he returned home to Eck Stadium and helped upset the Trojans (13-6; 3-for-5, 2 RBI, R, 2B) before shifting to the 3-hole for the WVU series (senior 1B Matt Edwards had been the ND 3-hole hitter all season prior to last week's action) ... Cooper – the fifth recent ND player to earn a national player-of-the-week honor and the program's 19th to receive BIG EAST player-of-the-week honors – closed the week by batting 6-for-9 vs. WVU (4 RBI, 2 R, 2B, BB, SB, SF), as the Irish secured a BIG EAST Tournament spot ... he scored in the tight opener (3-1; 2-for-2, BB) and helped secure the postseason berth by batting 3-for-3 with 3 RBI in the 7-3 series finale (2B, SF).

**BACK-TO-BACK BATTING TITLES FOR COOPER** – 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.

**ONE OF THE BEST THERE EVER WAS** – Craig Cooper's surge also has moved him into third place on the list for career batting average in BIG EAST games, at .420 (68-for-162) ... the only players in BIG EAST history to hit at a higher clip in conference action for their career are former Rutgers player Joe Cirone (.443, 51-for-115; '97-'00) and former Seton Hall standout Marteesee Robinson (.432, 83-for-192; '85-'87) ... Cooper joins Cirone as the only players in the past 18 seasons to hit above .420 or higher in their BIG EAST career.

**ON A TEAR** – Craig Cooper is batting .487 (18-for-37) with 16 RBI (8 R, 5 2B, 2 HR, 3 BB, HBP, 4 Ks, SAC, SB) during his career-best 10-game hitting streak, the second-longest by an Irish player in 2005 behind a 15-game midseason streak from Alex Nettey

**BIG WEEK INCLUDES UPSET OF #17 USC** – Notre Dame used another big inning and a 17-hit attack to slug their way past #20 USC on May 17 ... it marked ND's third straight win vs. the Trojans (also 15-8 game in Round Rock, Texas, during the 2002 season and last year's 3-1 win at the USC Classic) ... USC was held to single-digit hits and lost by one if its largest margins this season, as just four of the Trojans' previous 47 games had seen them lose by more than seven runs ... the visitors scored a run in the first but left the bases loaded, setting up ND for its pivotal five-run 2nd inning ... USC then closed to 5-4 on a Blake Sharpe home run in the 3rd, but the Irish went on to score eight of the game's final 10 runs ... Craig Cooper hit 3-for-5 (2 RBI, R) from the leadoff spot for the second straight game while Tony Langford's 3-for-5 game included a 2-run home run that yielded a 10-5 lead in the bottom of the 4th ... four other Irish players chipped in with two-hit games, with Notre Dame's big offensive night including five doubles, three walks and two hit batters (all nine starters had hits) ... Derik Olvey and four relievers avoided the big inning to help maintain the ND margin ... Olvey came two outs shy of qualifying for the win (4.2 IP), allowing five earned runs (one unearned) on eight hits and two walks with a pair of strikeouts ... Scott Bickford (2-1) came on in the 5th to record the final two outs en route to picking up the victory (1.0 IP, K, HB, 4 BF) ... Ryan Doherty (1.2 IP, BB, 2 Ks), Langford (1.0 IP) and Jeff Manship (1.0 IP) combined with Bickford in allowing just three USC baserunners over the final four innings ... LHP Michael Friedman suffered the loss (2 IP, 5 R/4 ER, 6 H, BB) ... Jeff Clement (3-for-3) was the only USC player with multiple hits ... the only teams to post larger victory margins vs. USC this season are Rice (12-1), Arizona State (17-1), California (9-1) and Arizona (18-4).

**IRISH ERUPT FOR BIG WIN AT PITTSBURGH** – Just one day after bringing home only six of 30 baserunners in a doubleheader sweep at the hands of Pittsburgh, the Notre Dame offense responded in stunning fashion by plating 21 of its 28 baserunners in Monday's 21-1 win over the Panthers ... for the second straight day, the teams flipped spots in the BIG EAST standings, with the Irish returning to 3rd and maintaining control of their own postseason fate ... ND hit 11-for-16 with runners in scoring position and launched a season-high 4 home runs in the 18-hit attack ... Jeff Samardzija (6 IP, R, 2 H, 3 BB, 4 Ks) combined with Mike Dury and Joey Williamson for a 2-hitter ... ND held Pittsburgh hitless with runners on base (0-for-11) and with 2-outs (0-for-10) ... the 21 runs are the 3rd-most by and ND team in the 11-year Paul Mainieri era, trailing only two games during the 2002 College World Series season (23-1 vs. Detroit and 25-1 vs. South Alabama in the NCAA Regional) ... it marked the first time the Irish have reached 20 runs in a BIG EAST game (the '98 team had a 19-7 win over Georgetown) and first time they have won a BIG EAST game by more than 15 runs (the '03 team won 18-3 at St. John's) ... top hitters included Ross Brezovsky (4-for-4, RBI, 4 R, HR, BB), Craig Cooper (3-for-5, 5 RBI, 4 R, 2 HR) and Greg Lopez (3-for-5, 3 RBI, R) ... Cody Rizzo homered for the second time in the series (3-run shot) and reached base nine times in the series (5-for-8, BB, 3 HBP, 2 HR).

**MORE THAN JUST STUDENTS OF THE GAME** – Junior LHP Tom Thornton and junior SS Greg Lopez (3.36 GPA; anthropology and pre-professional science) were nominated for 2005 Academic All-America honors ... Thornton took a 3.46 cumulative GPA into the '05 spring semester as a double major in anthropology and film, television and theater (he earned Academic All-District honors in 2004 and advanced to the '04 Academic All-America ballot).

**MILESTONE MARKERS** – The following players are approaching (or recently reached) statistical milestones in their ND careers:

Steve Andres.....	101 hits, 89 runs
Craig Cooper.....	105 runs
Greg Lopez.....	94 RBI, 89 runs
Matt Edwards .....	189 RBI, 48 doubles, 102 walks
Cody Rizzo.....	88 RBI

**STENCIL THEM IN** – Two ND players have started all 56 games this season: freshman 2B/3B Brett Lilley and senior Matt Edwards (1B/3B/DH) ... Edwards was the only player to hit in the same spot (3-hole) during the first 50 games before dropping down to cleanup the past six games (with Steve Andres/Craig Cooper in the 3-hole).

**HOT CORNER SWITCH PROVIDES SPARK** – After starting the season 14-14 (18 Es at 3B), the Irish are 19-8-1 since shifting freshman Brett Lilley to 3B and inserting his classmate Ross Brezovsky at 2B, with that 25-game stretch including a .970 team fielding pct. (0-1 Es in 21 games; 31 total Es) ... Lilley played error-free in his first 9 games at 3B and now has totaled just 7 Es in 28 games at the position (four of his teammates combined for 18 Es at 3B in the first 28 games).

**ROAD HAZARDS** – Notre Dame now owns a 23-4-1 mark in all 2005 home games but is just 10-18 on the road, with a .278 team batting avg., 5.50 staff ERA and .959 fielding pct. ... ND hit .319 in 2005 home games – 40 points above its road batting avg. – with a 3.22 staff ERA and .958 fielding pct. at home in '05 ... here's a team and individual home-and-away comparison for the 2005 season:

<b>HOME (23-4-1)</b>	<b>Stat/Player</b>	<b>AWAY (10-17)</b>
.319	Batting Average	.279
8.2	Runs Per 9 Innings	6.6
20	Home Runs	20
.449	Slugging Pct.	.398
.418	On-Base Pct.	.381
+40	Red Ratio (BB+HBP-K)	-5
61	Hit-By-Pitch	57
42	Stolen Bases	21
3.22	Staff ERA	5.44
.269	Opp. Batting Avg.	.310
2.20	Pitchers K/BB Ratio	1.30
9	Home Runs Allowed	17
.958 (46 E)	Fielding Pct.	.962 (41 E)
28	Double-Plays Turned	30
.415, 15 RBI, 2 2B, 18 BB, 10 HBP, 14 Ks, 7 SB	Lilley	.295, 8 RBI, 3 2B, 16 BB, 15 HBP, 13 Ks, 2 SB
.420, 7 HR, 33 RBI, 3B, 10 2B, 23 BB, 2 HBP, 10 Ks	Edwards	.314, 6 HR, 29 RBI, 8 2B, 10 BB, 4 HBP, 16 Ks
.289, HR, 16 RBI, 3B, 6 2B, 3 BB, 11 HBP, 21 Ks	Lopez	.250, HR, 18 RBI, 7 BB, 5 HBP, 19 Ks
.321, 2 HR, 14 RBI, 6 2B, 6 BB, 8 HBP, 13 Ks, 5 SB	Nettey	.272, 7 RBI, 5 2B, 7 BB, 5 HBP, 15 Ks, 4 SB
.345, 3 HR, 33 RBI, 3B, 5 2B, 14 BB, 10 HBP, 5 Ks, 8 SB	Cooper	.327, 4 HR, 22 RBI, 8 2B, 15 BB, 4 HBP, 14 Ks, 6 SB
.286, HR, 13 RBI, 4 2B, 2 BB, 2 HBP, 10 Ks	Langford	.302, 2 HR, 14 RBI, 2 2B, BB, 6 Ks
.244, HR, 9 RBI, 3 2B, 13 BB, 13 Ks	Brezovsky	.314, HR, 10 RBI, 2 3B, 4 2B, 3 BB, 4 HBP, 23 Ks
.250, HR, 9 RBI, 3B, 3 2B, 8 BB, 4 Ks	Andres	.172, 3 HR, 12 RBI, 2 2B, 11 BB, 5 HBP, 13 Ks
.233, HR, 7 RBI, 4 2B, 10 BB, 10 HBP, 8 Ks, 10 SB	Rizzo	.275, 3 HR, 14 RBI, 3B, 4 2B, 12 BB, 9 HBP, 19 Ks, 5 SB
2.25, 4-0, 36 IP, 15 Ks, 5 BB, 38 H (.277)	Thornton	6.12, 2-5, 50 IP, 21 Ks/12 BB, 61 H (.308)
2.48, 4-0, 36.1 IP, 19 Ks, 9 BB, 33 H (.236)	Kapala	4.85, 1-3, 29.2 IP, 14 Ks/13 BB, 36 H (.310)
3.23, 3-0, 30.2 IP, 24 Ks, 6 BB, 31 H (.261)	Samardzija	5.00, 4-1, 36 IP, 24 Ks/18 BB, 44 H (.297)

**CONFERENCE COMMAND** – Through 10 seasons of play in the BIG EAST, Notre Dame has remained a consistent presence atop the league standings:

- Paul Mainieri owns the top winning pct. in BIG EAST history (.730; 171-63-1, in BIG EAST regular-season games)
- ND's .720 overall win pct. (443-172-2) during the past 10 seasons ('96-'05) is best among any BIG EAST team
- Notre Dame owns the best BIG EAST Tournament winning pct. during the past 10 seasons (.600, 21-14), followed by St. John's at .579 (11-8)
- ND has totaled 66 BIG EAST series wins, 14 series ties and just 13 series losses
- The Irish have been swept just eight times in 89 all-time BIG EAST doubleheaders (with ND sweeping 51 of them, plus 30 splits)

**FAR AND WIDE** – Notre Dame’s 2005 roster includes players from 15 states and Canada, with no more than four players from any state ... the breakdown includes 4 from Indiana, 3 each from California, Florida and Texas, and a pair each from Maryland, Ohio, Virginia and Washington, plus one player each from Alabama, Colorado, Illinois, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Jersey, New York and Ontario ... the 11-year Paul Mainieri era has featured players from 35 states (plus Canada), those listed above plus: Pennsylvania, Minnesota, Kentucky, Tennessee, Arizona, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Hawaii, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma and Oregon ... the list of all-time ND baseball monogram winners includes players from 44 states (all but Alaska, Idaho, Nevada, New Hampshire, South Carolina and Vermont), plus Canada and Panama.

**OUTFIELD MERRY-GO-ROUND** – Notre Dame entered the 2005 season with a trio of juniors returning as starters in the outfield (LF Steve Andres, CF Craig Cooper and RF Cody Rizzo) but there has been a steady variety of lineups in the OF this season as the Irish look for consistency from that group ... another junior, Alex Nettey, actually has emerged as the starter in CF and is doing a solid job as well batting from the leadoff spot ... freshman Tony Langford, a prep infielder, even has been used significantly as a starter in LF ... here’s a breakdown of the OF starting assignments so far in 2005:

**Notre Dame’s 2005 Starting Outfielders**

**Left Field:** Tony Langford (18 starts), Steve Andres (17), Craig Cooper (16), Danny Dressman (4), Ross Brezovsky (1)

**Center Field:** Alex Nettey (52), Craig Cooper (4)

**Right Field:** Cody Rizzo (33), Craig Cooper (20), Tony Langford (2), Danny Dressman (1)

**LEFTSIDE LOCKDOWN** – Notre Dame’s strong defense on the left side of the diamond includes a pair of players, junior SS Greg Lopez (40) and freshman 3B Brett Lilley (46), who have played error-free a combined 86 games this season, with Lilley playing at 2B for the first 28 games ... Lopez opened the '05 season without an error in the first 15 games and saw a 10-game errorless streak end last week vs. Michigan (he actually now has 4 Es in the past 5 games) ... Lopez has only four multi-E games in '05 (none with 3-plus Es) and had 42 E-free games in '04 (for 82 total in '04 and '05) ... Lilley logged an impressive 21-game span without an error (96 fielding chances) from March 24-April 21 (spanning time at 2B and 3B) ... four of Lilley’s teammates combined for 18 errors at 3B in the first 28 games of the season but he then turned in nine error-free games to open his stint at the hot corner (in 40 chances) ... Lilley now has totaled 22 error-free games in 27 GP at 3B (7 Es).

**ND SUMMER-BALL PLANS INCLUDE LARGE CAPE-COD CONTINGENT** – Notre Dame’s current players again are slated to scatter to some of the top wood-bat leagues during the summer of '05, including five who are set to join the prestigious Cape Cod League (several other ND players also could end up in the '05 CCL, pending the outcome of the MLB draft) ... here’s a look at the summer plans for some of the Notre Dame players:

**Notre Dame Baseball 2005 Summer Teams (as of May 1)**

Greg Lopez .....	Yarmouth-Dennis Red Sox.....	Cape Cod League
Dan Kapala .....	Falmouth Commodores.....	Cape Cod League
Sean Gaston .....	Cotuit Kettleers.....	Cape Cod League
Jeff Manship .....	Cotuit Kettleers.....	Cape Cod League
Derik Olvey .....	Cotuit Kettleers.....	Cape Cod League
Matt Bransfield.....	Mat-Su Miners .....	Alaska League
Cody Rizzo .....	Mat-Su Miners .....	Alaska League
Alex Nettey .....	Fayetteville (NC) Swampdogs.....	Coastal Plains League
Brett Lilley .....	Delaware (OH) Cows.....	Great Lakes League
Danny Dressman .....	Madison (WI) Mallards.....	Northwoods League
Mike Dury.....	Madison (WI) Mallards.....	Northwoods League
Ross Brezovsky .....	Hays (KS) Larks .....	Jayhawk League
David Gruener .....	Hays (KS) Larks .....	Jayhawk League
Wade Korpi .....	Staunton (VA) Braves.....	Valley League
Joey Williamson.....	Luray (VA) Wranglers.....	Valley League
Tony Langford.....	(team TBA) .....	Texas Collegiate League
Eddie Smith .....	(team TBA) .....	Central Illinois Collegiate League

**DYNAMIC DUOS** – Notre Dame freshman 3B Brett Lilley (.354) and senior 1B Matt Edwards (.366) rank as one of the top hitting combos in the BIG EAST ... Lilley is the only BIG EAST freshman with an overall batting avg. above .340 ... here’s a look at the teams with multiple players among the BIG EAST’s top-15 batting avg. leaders:

St. John’s.....	Greg Thomson (.385, 3rd) and Joe Burke (.361, 8th)
West Virginia .....	Lee Fritz (.379, 4th), Justin Jenkins (.359, 10th) and Doug Nelms (.349, 13th)
Pittsburgh .....	Ben Copeland (.395, 2nd) and Jim Negrych (.355, 11th)
<b>Notre Dame .....</b>	<b>Matt Edwards (.366, 6th) and Brett Lilley (.354, 12th)</b>
Connecticut .....	Tony Mallozzi (.361, 9th) and Jeff Hourigan (.348, 14th)
Rutgers.....	Johnny DeFendis (.370, 5th) and Cory Rodriguez (.342, 15th)

**SEEING RED** – ND assistant coach David "Red" Grewe charts plate discipline with a ratio of BB+HBP-Ks and freshman 3B Brett Lilley now is +32 (34+25-27) while junior OF Craig Cooper is +24 (29+14-19) and senior 1B Matt Edwards has surged to +22 (42+6-26) in that "Red Ratio" ... ND as a team is +40 (213 BB, 118 HBPs, 291 Ks):

**2005 "RED RATIO" CHART**

<b>Player</b>	<b>Walks</b>	<b>Hit-By-Pitch</b>	<b>Strikeouts</b>	<b>"Red Ratio" (BB+HBP-Ks)</b>
Brett Lilley	34	25	27	+32
Craig Cooper	29	14	19	+24
Matt Edwards	42	6	26	+22
Cody Rizzo	22	19	27	+14
Steve Andres	19	5	17	+7
Matt Bransfield	9	7	13	+3
Alex Nettey	13	13	28	-2
Sean Gaston	5	3	15	-7
Danny Dressman	5	1	12	-6
Mike Dury	2	1	11	-8
Greg Lopez	10	16	40	-14
Tony Langford	3	2	16	-11
Ross Brezovsky	16	4	37	-17
Others	4	2	3	+3
<b>TEAM TOTALS</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>291</b>	<b>+40</b>

**Note:** Lilley, Cooper and Edwards are a combined +72 in the Red Ratio (the rest of the team is -37)

**GREAT GLOVES GALORE** – ND head coach Paul Mainieri traditionally has recruited prep shortstops who then have starred for the Irish at other positions and a quick look at the current ND infield reveals four different HS shortstops manning the positions: senior 1B Matt Edwards, freshman 2B Ross Brezovsky, junior SS Greg Lopez and freshman 3B Brett Lilley ... the '04 team had a similar setup with Edwards, Lopez and 3B Matt Macri, plus a catcher (Javi Sanchez) who had started at SS for most of the '02 College World Series season ... interestingly, the other infielder on the '04 team (2B Steve Sollmann) had completed the rare switch of going from outfield (he was standout prep CF) to middle infield.

**EDWARDS RANKS AMONG BIG EAST'S ALL-AROUND TOP HITTERS** – When looking at the OPS stat that combines on-base and slugging percentages, ND senior 1B Matt Edwards ranks among the BIG EAST leaders at 1.126 (.473+.653):

**BIG EAST Conference 2005 Overall OPS Leaders**

1. Greg Thomson (St. John's) ..... .487 on-base pct. .... .667 slugging pct..... 1.153 OPS
2. Ben Copeland (Pittsburgh) ..... .481 on-base pct. .... .670 slugging pct..... 1.151 OPS
3. Jim Negrych (Pittsburgh) ..... .490 on-base pct. .... .647 slugging pct..... 1.137 OPS
4. **Matt Edwards (Notre Dame)** ..... .480 on-base pct. .... .654 slugging pct..... 1.134 OPS

**HOME-RUN HERO** – Craig Cooper's 12th-inning HR beat Purdue at Coveleski Stadium (9-7) as he became the first ND player to hit a game-ending HR since the 2002 CWS game vs. Rice (when Brian Stavisky won that 5-3 game) ... Cooper's next at-bat produced a 1st-inning grand slam that sparked the 9-8 win over Valparaiso.

**EDWARDS LAUNCHES THREE** – Matt Edwards joined an elite group of ND players with a 3-HR game (6 RBI, 2 IBB) in the 9-5 in over Western Michigan (March 29) ... Edwards became the first ND player to hit 3 HRs in a game since All-America 3B Brant Ust homered vs. three different pitchers in a 1998 game at Seton Hall ... sophomore RHP Derek Schlecker served up two Edwards home runs, the first with 2 outs in the 1st when he left a 1-0 slider up and over (Edwards drove the ball into the wind and over the leftfield fence) ... two innings later, Edwards delivered on another 1-0 pitch, turning on a high fastball and driving it over the leftfield fence for a 2-run shot ... Edwards then greeted senior RHP Tim Bebbler in the 7th, working ahead in the count (2-0) before pulling a belt-high fastball down the leftfield line and out of the park for a booming 3-run shot ... Ust had been the program's only player with three home runs in a game since the early 1990s, when 1B Jon Binkiewicz had 3-HR games vs. Evansville and Michigan in a 12-day stretch of the '91 season ... the 113-year history of Notre Dame baseball now has seen just seven players hit three home runs in a game (total of eight times) – with Edwards, Ust and Binkiewicz the only players to do so in nearly 50 years ... one of the top players for ND's first College World Series team, Jim Morris, had 3 HRs in a game vs. Naval Air Station during that 1957 season ... one must go back 23 seasons before that to find another 3-HR game, by Andy Pilney vs. Chicago in 1934 ... Jake Kline – the Hall of Fame coach who was honored at Eck Stadium in late April (when a bust of the former Irish coach will be unveiled in the stadium concourse area) – was the second ND player ever to hit three home runs in a game, doing so in a 1916 vs. Michigan (Jerry Sheehan is the first known to have a 3-HR game, vs. Hillsdale in 1906).

**THAT WAS NOTHING ...** – The previous time Matt Edwards hit three home runs in a game was when he had a 4-HR game as a 14-year-old at a Virginia AAU state tournament ... in fact, he hit nine home runs and a double in his first 11 at-bats of that tournament, while playing with the Richmond Virginians.

**HOMESTAND SECURITY** – Notre Dame's recent 13-1-1 streak included a productive homestand (11-1-1) that saw the Irish sweep UConn and go 2-0-1 vs. Villanova, plus wins over Bowling Green, Purdue (at Coveleski Stadium), Valparaiso, Manchester and Cleveland State (2) and a loss to Central Michigan ... the Irish hit .322 in the homestand – led by freshman 3B Brett Lilley (.449) and junior DH Matt Bransfield (.448) – with a 3.61 staff ERA and .976 fielding pct. (18 Es)

**FIVE-HIT HOME DEBUT** – Brett Lilley turned in a 5-for-5 game vs. Cincinnati on March 22, the first ND freshman ever to produce five hits in a home opener ... Lilley is one of 29 all-time ND players with 5-plus hits in a game (done 31 total times) and just the second to do so in a home opener ... LF Allen Greene needed extra innings to complete the feat during the home opener of his sophomore season in 1997, batting 5-for-6 in an 8-7, 12-inning win over IUPUI ... the 5-foot-7 Lilley joins another short list as one of four ND freshmen ever to post a 5-hit game at any time in their debut season ... current sophomore C Sean Gaston went 5-for-6 early in the 2004 season vs. Florida Memorial (at FAU) while CF Scott Sollmann hit 5-for-6 at Purdue in his freshman season (5/10/94) and 1B Joe Binkiewicz had a 5-for-5 game vs. Dayton as a rookie (5/20/89) ... each of the above four players is a lefthanded hitter – in fact, 10 of the past 17 Irish players to get five-plus hits in a game have been lefthanded or switch-hitters ... starting with Steve Stanley late in the '01 season, five of the past seven to do so have hit from the left side (also Brian Stavisky and Paul O'Toole in '02 and Gaston in '04, plus righthanders Steve Sollmann in '02 and Matt Macri in '04) ... Sollmann (6-for-7 vs. South Alabama, '02 NCAA regionals) and his former teammate Alec Porzel (6-for-6 vs. Pittsburgh, '01) share the ND record for hits in a game.

**BREZOVSKY BREAKS OUT** – Freshman 2B Ross Brezovsky (Naples, Fla.) ended a recent slump by batting 4-for-4 with 5 RBI in the 13-3 win over Cleveland State (BB, 2 R, HR, 2 2B) on April 30 ... Brezovsky entered that game with a sagging .252 season batting average that included just a .160 mark at Eck Stadium ... he had 2 RBI in the season-opening win over Florida A&M but had registered just one other multi-RBI game before knocking in five runs in the final game of the homestand ... Brezovsky also went 2-for-3 with a pair of runs scored on March 19 vs. Oakland (he had been hitless in six of the previous seven games).

**ALL HE DOES IS GET EXTRA-BASE HITS** – Junior LF/DH Steve Andres remains the master of the extra-base hit, as he has totaled more extra-base hits (10; 4 HR, 3B, 4 2B) than singles (9) in '05 ... Andres hit just one single from April 6-May 16 before his rare single in the first game vs. USC ... four of his previous five hits had gone for extra bases (doubles vs. Cleveland State, Purdue and Pitt, and a triple vs. Bowling Green) ... since hitting a single vs. Northern Illinois on March 18, Andres has totaled seven extra-base hits (also 2Bs vs. Seton Hall and Rutgers and a HR vs. Toledo) and just four singles ... he is batting only .202 this season but ranks 3rd on the team in slugging pct. (.404) and home runs (4) while also owning a .361 on-base pct., thanks to 19 walks and 5 HBPs.

**QUICK STARTERS** – Notre Dame has produced consistent first-inning offense, totaling 52 first-inning runs in 56 games while scoring at least one first-inning run in 27 games (12 with multiple 1st-inning runs) ... the Irish struggled with first-inning scoring for much of '04 before a surge in the final month, en route to totaling 75 first-inning runs in 63 games.

**ON A ROLL** – Notre Dame recently compiled the 12th double-digit unbeaten streak (10-0-1; from April 16-30) of the 11-year Paul Mainieri era, with five previous teams posting longer unbeaten streaks: 17 from March 24-April 14, 2003; 16 from April 4-25, 2001, and April 11-May 4, 2002; 13 from April 8-23, 1998; and 12 from April 29-May 21, 2004 ... the Irish have posted a double-digit unbeaten streak every season under Mainieri except 1997 (two in '98, '01 and '04).

**THE DRIVE FOR 30 ... AND 40** – Notre Dame has posted its 18th consecutive season with 30-plus victories but the program's standard has been higher than that for nearly two decades, as the Irish also are riding a 16-year streak of seasons with 40-plus wins ... Florida State and Wichita State are the only Division I teams with longer active streaks of 40-win seasons (each with 27, prior to '05) but the Shockers streak includes several seasons in which they were allowed to play more than 56 games (for exempted games in Hawaii, including the current season) ... the Irish would need to add seven postseason wins to reach 40 victories ... the previous 10 seasons of the Paul Mainieri era saw the 30th win come, on average, in the 41st game (the 1997 team posted its 30th win in the 45th game of that season).

**BONUS BASEBALL** – ND has played to extra-innings five times in the past 24 games, going unbeaten in the first four (before the 6-5 loss, in 10, at St. John's) with wins over UConn (3-2, in 8), Purdue (9-7, in 12) and Cleveland State (7-6, in 13), plus the 7-7 tie vs. Villanova ... the Irish had a rare 0-3 start in extra-innings this season but ND now is 23-9-2 in its past 34 extra-inning games (dating back to 1997), including 3-4-1 in 2005 ... the Irish have suffered nearly as many extra-inning losses this season (4) as in the previous eight seasons (5, from '97-'04).



**HBP HIGHWAY ROLLS ON** – Notre Dame batters were hit-by-pitch nine times in the season opener vs. Florida A&M and the Irish have remained on a record HBP pace all season, as ND has collected at least one HBP in 51 of 56 games this season (including an active streak of 22 games with an HBP) ... the Irish currently have a team-record 118 HBPs in 56 games played ... ND recently became the second team in Division I history to post 100-plus HBPs in back-to-back seasons (also 106 in 2004), with Long Beach State totaling 124 in '98 and 114 in '99 ... ND's current HBP total ranks 4th in the NCAA record book ... the Irish are averaging 2.11 HBPs per game and, at that pace, would break the NCAA record by playing four more games (the NCAA record of 125 HBPs was set by Nevada in 1997) ... of the 18 teams that have totaled 86-plus HBPs in a season, ND owns the highest avg. of HBPs per game ... no previous ND team had more than three players with 12-plus HBPs but the '05 team already has five with 12-plus HBPs: freshman 3B Brett Lilley (25; 2nd in ND history, 19th in NCAA history), junior RF Cody Rizzo (19), junior SS Greg Lopez (16), junior OF Craig Cooper (14) and junior CF Alex Nettey (13) ... Lilley, Rizzo (28 in '03, 21 in '04) and Lopez are the only ND players ever to total more than 15 HBPs in a season ... Rizzo has moved into 4th place on the NCAA career HBP list with 68, trailing only Jeff Ontiveros (74; Texas, '99-'02), Gabe Somarriba (81; Florida Atlantic, '99-'02) and Tony Hurtado (92; San Francisco, '97-'00) ... seven ND players combined for 18 HBPs during the final five games of the recent big homestand – including seven in the Villanova doubleheader and six vs. Manchester – led by six from Cooper (he totaled 6 HBPs in the '03 and '04 seasons combined) ... the first weekend of the season in Orlando included Steve Andres being HBP three times in the opener vs. FAMU and Lilley's 4 HBPs (one shy of the NCAA record) in the 4-2 win over Central Florida ... one previous ND team had three players with 12-plus HBPs (1993): Eric Danapilis (15, record until Rizzo's 28 in '03), Greg Layson (14) and Craig DeSensi (12) ... the past three ND teams have combined for 289 HBPs in 177 games (from '03-'05).

**NCAA RECORD BOOK – SEASON HIT-BY-PITCH**

Team	Year	Gms	HBP	HBP/gm
1. Nevada	1997	60	125	2.08
2. Long Beach State	1998	67	124	1.85
3. College of Charleston	2004	63	122	1.94
<b>4. Notre Dame</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>2.11</b>
5. Cal State Fullerton	2003	66	117	1.77
6. Arizona State	2000	59	115	1.95
Long Beach State	1999	60	114	1.90
<b>8. Notre Dame</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>1.68</b>
9. San Jose State	2000	65	105	1.62
10. Cal State Fullerton	1998	64	102	1.59
11. Washington	1998	58	101	1.74
12. Nebraska	2002	68	99	1.46
Oklahoma State	1999	67	99	1.48
Richmond	1997	60	99	1.65
15. Texas	2000	67	88	1.31
16. Southern Mississippi	1997	57	87	1.53
North Carolina	2000	63	86	1.37
Loyola Marymount	1986	65	86	1.32

\* The 2005 Notre Dame team owns the best HBP per game among teams on the above list

\* ND has totaled 224 HBPs in the past two seasons, in 118 games (1.90 per game)

\* Teams on the above list more than once include: Long Beach State (124 in '98, 114 in '99), Cal State Fullerton (117 in '03; 102 in '98) and Notre Dame (106 in '04; 114 in '05)

**NCAA DIVISION I CAREER HIT-BY-PITCH LEADERS**

1. 92	Tony Hurtado	San Francisco	1997-2000	221 GP	2.40 games played per HBP
2. 81	Gabe Somarriba	Florida Atlantic	1999-2002	226 GP	2.79 gms/HBP
3. 74	Jeff Ontiveros	Texas	1999-2002	258 GP	3.49 gms/HBP
<b>4. 68</b>	<b>Cody Rizzo</b>	<b>Notre Dame</b>	<b>2003-active</b>	<b>168 GP</b>	<b>2.47 gms/HBP</b>
68	Clay Schwartz	Wisconsin-Milwaukee	1994-1997	180 GP	2.65 gms/HBP

\* At his career avg. pace, Rizzo would need to play in 63 more games to break the NCAA career HBP record

**APRIL AWAKENINGS** – Notre Dame closed the book on yet another successful April, as Paul Mainieri's 11 ND teams now have combined to win 80.3% of their games in the month of April (+158; 209-51-1) compared to winning just 67% of the Feb./March games in the Mainieri era (+75; 167-82-1) ... the Irish were only three games over .500 in Feb./March this season (13-10) before rallying for a 14-5-1 mark (+9) in April, sparked by a 3.18 staff ERA during the month's 20 games ... ND hit just .293 during the month of April, averaging 7.0 runs per 9 innings ... five ND players hit above .275 in April: freshman 3B Brett Lilley (.361, 7 RBI, 19 R, 3 2B, 12 BB, 6 HBP, 8 Ks, SAC, 5-6 SB, 6 Es), senior 1B Matt Edwards (.350, 19 RBI, 17 R, 3 HR, 3B, 7 2B, 10 BB, HBP, 9 Ks, 3-3 SB, 7 Es), junior DH Matt Bransfield (.348, 9 RBI, 8 R, 4 2B, 6 BB, 2 HBP, 7 Ks, E), junior OF Craig Cooper (.321, 20 RBI, 14 R, 2 HR, 3B, 5 2B, 7 BB, 9 HBP, 7 Ks, SAC, 6-6 SB) and sophomore C Sean Gaston (.321, 11 RBI, 6 R, HR, 2 2B, 3 BB, HBP, 7 Ks, 2 SAC, 3-3 SB, 3 Es) ... the Irish pitchers bounced back from a rocky first month to post a 3.81 staff ERA, .281 opp. batting avg. and 2.3 K-to-walk ratio (106/47) in April – compared to a 5.11 ERA, .314 opp. avg. and 1.3 K/BB ratio in Feb./March ... junior LHP Tom Thornton led the staff in April with his 2.68 ERA (3-1. 5 GS, 37 IP, 38 H/.268, 15 Ks/3 BB) while freshman LHP Wade Korpi (3.32 April ERA) and sophomore RHP Jeff Samardzija (3.81) also made key improvements from the first month of the season.

**GOING THE DISTANCE** – The 13-inning win over Cleveland State (7-6; 3:52 game time) on April 29 ranks as the 3rd-longest in the 11-year history of Eck Stadium, both in terms of innings and time ... the only games at The Eck to see more innings both stretched to the 15th frame: a 5-3 win over West Virginia on May 3, 1998, and the 7-6 win over Ball State on March 23, 2004 ... the two games that have lasted longer in game time were the 1998 WVU game (4:20) and the wild 22-18 loss to Pittsburgh on May 7, 2000 (4:06).

**RIZZO RISES** – Junior RF/C Cody Rizzo has endured an often frustrating 2005 season that has seen him hit just .257 but he has found other ways to impact the game, compiling a .436 slugging pct. thanks to 14 of his 32 hits going for extra bases (5 HR, 3B, 8 2B) while his 22 walks and 19 HBPs have produced a .398 on-base pct. (he also leads the team and ranks 10th in the BIG EAST with 15 stolen bases, after totaling 6 in his first two seasons) ... Rizzo also has reached on 47% of his leadoff plate appearances, good for 4th-best in the team ... he has filled admirably in as a starting catcher during most of the past three weeks, after not playing the position full-time since high school (he made 4 starts at C for the Irish in '03) ... Rizzo also played a key role in ND's surge to a BIG EAST Tournament spot, as his .353 batting in BIG EAST play ranked 2nd on the team and 15th in the league ... he finished the BIG EAST season ranked 3rd among the conference player in on-base pct. for conference games (.514), 4th in slugging pct. (.648) and stolen bases (7), and 8th in home runs (4) games ... the Pittsburgh duo of Jim Negrych (1.311) and Ben Copeland (1.205) were the only players with a higher OPS (on-base plus slugging) in BIG EAST games than Rizzo's 1.162 ... Rizzo ranks 3rd on the team with a .310 batting avg. during the post-finals games (13-for-42, 7 RBI, 10 R, 3 HR, 3 2B, 2 BB, 6 HBP, 4 SB), including .350 during the final week of the regular season (7-for-20, 5 RBI, 7 R, 2 HR, 3 2B, 2 BB, 2 HBP, SB).

**CLUTCH HITTING KEY COMPONENT** – ND's 2004 team racked up its record-setting 51 wins behind an explosive offense that totaled 69 home runs, 19 triples and 120 doubles for a .479 slugging pct. ... the '05 team has seen that slugging pct. drop 55 points (.424), with just 40 HRs, 10 triples and 92 doubles ... 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 such a dropoff in power numbers, with freshman 3B Brett Lilley proving to be a valuable addition to the 2005 team ... using a formula that combines those three situational hitting numbers, Lilley is the runaway team leader with a "clutch hitting" score of 1.370 ... 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% (based on the fact that the '04 ND team hit .309 but had a .409 on-base; also mirrored by the '05 team's .299 batting and .400 OB), Lilley still checks in as ND's all-around leader in clutch hitting with a 1.245 score (.492 leadoff on-base/.369 adjusted, .407 RISP, .471 with 2-outs) ... Lilley leads the team in 2-out batting while ranking 2<sup>nd</sup> in batting with RISP and 3rd in leadoff OB ... as a team, the most consistent part of ND's clutch offense has been leadoff on-base pct. (.420/.315 adjusted), followed by batting with RISP (.314) while the 2-out batting lags behind at .296 ... here's a look at the players:

**CLUTCH-HITTING CHART** (team rank listed before each stat)

	<i>Leadoff On-Base Pct.</i>	<i>Batting w/ RISP</i>	<i>2-Out Batting</i>	<i>Clutch-Hitting Score (Adjusted)</i>
Brett Lilley	(3) .492 (.369 adjusted)	(2) .407	(1) .471	1,245
Craig Cooper	(5) .442 (.332)	(1) .435	(2) .393	1,158
Matt Bransfield	(2) .650 (.488)	(5) .344	(4) .323	1,155
Matt Edwards	(1) .657 (.493)	(4) .349	(5) .309	1,149
Tony Langford	(10) .282 (.212)	(3) .352	(3) .327	891
Sean Gaston	(6) .417 (.313)	(7) .308	(8) .264	885
Greg Lopez	(8) .375 (.281)	(10) .254	(6) .288	823
Alex Nettey	(7) .408 (.306)	(9) .275	(11) .235	816
Ross Brezovsky	(9) .326 (.245)	(6) .315	(9) .255	815
Cody Rizzo	(4) .472 (.354)	(12) .189	(12) .229	772
Steve Andres	(11) .269 (.202)	(11) .206	(7) .281	687
Danny Dressman	(13) .200 (.150)	(8) .286	(10) .250	686
Mike Dury	(12) .250 (.188)	(13) .182	(13) .167	537
<b>TEAM</b>	<b>.420 (.315)</b>	<b>.314</b>	<b>.296</b>	<b>928</b>

**GOOD FOR ONE** – Notre Dame has extended the program's 2nd-longest scoring streak to 203 games (also 434 of the last 435 and 673 of 679/99.12% in the Mainieri era).

**LUCKY NUMBERS** – The Irish are 27-2 this season when leading at the end of the 6th inning (just 4-18 when trailing at the end of the 6th), with one of the late losses coming recently at St. John's (led 5-2 after 6; lost 6-5 in 10) ... ND also is 20-3-1 when outhitting the opponent (recent losses to Michigan and in game-1 at Pitt), 22-3 when limiting the opponent to 0-3 runs (3-2, 3-1 losses at SJU) and 7-3 when playing error-free ball (both losses at SJU, loss at Pitt).

**BIG BOPPER** – Senior 1B Matt Edwards has hit 13 of ND's 40 home runs in the 2005 season (33%) while his 62 RBI are seven more than the next-highest run producer on the team (Craig Cooper, who has surged to 55) ... Edwards, who started the first 50 games this season batting in the 3-hole (last six as cleanup), has made 98 straight starts with the Irish while missing a total of just three games in the past three seasons ... he ranks 5th in ND history for career RBI (189, in 190 games) and is only 32 shy of the record held by '93 grad. Eric Danapilis (221) ... others on that list include Alec Porzel (211; '98-'01), Dan Peltier (202; '87-'89) and Mike Amrhein (202; '94-'97) ... Edwards also ranks 7th in ND history with 33 career home runs and 17th with a .348 career batting avg.

**CAREER HOME RUNS**

1. Jeff Wagner ('96-'99)	49
2. Brant Ust ('97-'99)	46
3. Frank Jacobs ('89-'91)	37
Mike Amrhein ('94-'97)	37
Alec Porzel ('98-'01)	37
6. Ryan Topham ('93-'95)	34
7. Joe Binkiewicz ('89-'92)	33
Brian Stavisky ('00-'02)	33
<b>Matt Edwards ('02- )</b>	<b>33</b>

**CAREER RBI**

1. Eric Danapilis ('90-'93)	221
2. Alec Porzel ('98-'01)	211
3. Dan Peltier ('87-'89)	202
Mike Amrhein ('94-'97)	202
5. Jeff Wagner ('96-'99)	189
<b>Matt Edwards ('02- )</b>	<b>189</b>
7. Joe Binkiewicz ('89-'92)	176

**CAREER BATTING AVG.**

1. Dan Peltier ('87-'89)	.406
2. Eric Danapilis ('90-'93)	.405
3. Jim Morris ('57-'58)	.390
4. Steve Stanley ('99-'02)	.384
5. Scott Sollmann ('94-'96)	.372
6. Robbie Kent ('93-'94)	.368
Brant Ust ('97-'99)	.368
8. Pat Pesavento ('86-'89)	.367
9. Randall Brooks ('94-'97)	.364
10. Mike Amrhein ('94-'97)	.361
11. Steve Sollmann ('01-'04)	.360
12. James Sass ('88-'89)	.357
13. Shaun Fitzmaurice ('63-'64)	.355
Brian Stavisky ('00-'02)	.355
15. Edwin Hartwell ('90-'93)	.354
16. Rich Gonski ('62-'64)	.353
17. <b>Matt Edwards ('02- )</b>	<b>.348</b>

**MOUND MANEUVERING** – Notre Dame's 2005 pitching staff has been slowed by injuries to several key veterans, as senior RHP John Axford and sophomore RHP Jeff Manship both are returning from 2004 reconstructive elbow surgery while sophomore RHP Jess Stewart was sidelined for most of April with a knee injury ... Manship and Axford also have suffered midseason setbacks, as Manship injured a finger on his throwing hand in the first inning of the April 17 game vs. UConn while Axford has been sidelined with a recent shoulder injury that could hold him out until mid-May ... Manship returned to throw one inning out of the bullpen vs. Cleveland State (April 30) and then logged 4.0 as the game-3 starter at St. John's before throwing the final inning in the 13-6 win over USC ... Manship (18.0), Axford (3.0) and Stewart (14.1) have combined to throw only 35.1 innings this season, representing just 7% of the staff's workload in the 2005 season ... their absence has been magnified due to the fact that the Irish lost three key pitchers – top starters Grant Johnson and Chris Niesel (respectively 2nd- and 9th-round MLB draft picks) and lefthander setup man Joe Thaman – from the 2004 staff that finished 9th in the nation with a 3.36 season ERA.

**FIT TO BE TIED** – The 7-7 game vs. Villanova was just the second tie in Paul Mainieri's 11 seasons at Notre Dame and his third in 23 seasons as a college head coach ... ND's 2001 team played to a tie with Navy at the Fresno State Classic, with time limits set on those games to keep that eight-team tournament schedule on pace.

**STEVE ANDRES (LF/DH/C, Jr., Bats: Left, 5-10/200 ... Napa, CA ... 2004 NCAA Regional All-Tournament Team)**

Year	Avg	GP-GS	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	TB	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	GDP	OB%	SF	SH	SB-ATT	E
2003	.269	43-29	104	26	28	2	2	4	22	46	.442	19	9	27	3	.415	3	0	2-3	1
2004	.320	57-49	169	38	54	13	4	8	39	99	.586	44	6	44	0	.471	2	1	4-9	4
2005	.202	35-23	94	25	19	5	1	4	21	38	.404	19	5	17	0	.361	1	0	0-0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>.275</b>	<b>135-101</b>	<b>367</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>.499</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>.427</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6-12</b>	<b>5</b>

**2005 Team Ranks** – 4th on team in slugging pct. (.404) and home runs (4), 5th in walks (19) ... 4th on team with 7 multi-RBI games (1 w/ 3 RBI), also has 2 multi-hit games (none w/ 3-plus).

**Final Week of Regular Season** – hit .214 in 3 GS (3-for-14, 4 RBI, 3 R, 2B, BB, K, SF)

**In '05 BIG EAST Play** – hit .148 in 12 GP/7 GS (4-for-27, 5 RBI, 6 R, 3 2B, 7 BB, 4 Ks, SF) ... a .282 career hitter in all games vs. BIG EAST teams (44-for-156, 36 RBI, 5 HR)

**Situational Summary** – ranks 5th on team in 2-out RBI (11) ... owned a .269 leadoff on-base pct. in '05 regular season while batting .250 with runners on, .206 with them in scoring position and .281 with 2 outs ... batting .205 vs. RHPs and .182 vs. LHPs ... 1-for-3 with the bases loaded ... has delivered the RBI 5-of-10 times with runners on 3rd and fewer than 2 outs

**In a Pinch** – owns a .385 career batting avg. as a pinch-hitter (10-for-26), including 2-for-5 in '05 (rest of team is 7-for-25)

**Post-Finals Stats** (13 GP) – batting .136 (3-for-22) with 4 RBI, 3 R, 2B, 3 BB, HBP, K

**Career vs. BC** – hit .188 (3-for-16, 3 R, 4 BB, 6 Ks, SB) in previous games vs. BC ... 0-for-3 in '05 series (R, BB, 2 Ks)

**Trendy** – dnp in WVU series (all starters were LHPs) but hit safely in three previous games (3-for-14, 4 RBI, 3 R, 2B, BB, K)

**In The BIG EAST Tournament** – hit a combined .300 with 6 RBI and 4 extra-base hits in the 2003 and '04 BE Tournaments (6-for-20, 5 R, 3B, 3 2B, 5 BB, HBP, SF, 6 Ks, E) ... hit 3-for-10 to help win '04 title (2 RBI, 2 R, 3B, 2 2B, 3 BB, 4 Ks, E) ... in '04 winners-bracket game vs. St. John's, hit a 2-run double, doubled and scored and tripled and scored (plus a walk) to help post 9-2 win ... also walked and scored as part of 6-0 lead in 1st inning of '04 title game v.s BC (11-5) ... batted 3-for-10 as platoon DH starter at '03 BET (4 RBI, 3 R, 2B, 2 BB, HBP, SF, 2 Ks) ... played classic role in first '03 title game vs. Rutgers (11-15), as ND rallied from 9-1 deficit to take 11-9 lead ... pinch-hit single sparked 6-run top of 6th in that game (7-9) ... later walked and scored game-tying run in 7th before winning 9th-inning duel vs. LHP Sean Atchison, pulling 2-run 2B down leftfield line for 11-9 lead.

**Lineup Notes** – his 23 starts include 16 in LF, 6 as DH, 1 at C ... has batted 13 times in cleanup spot (4 in 5-hole, 3 in 3-hole, 2 in 7-hole, 1 in 8-hole)

**A Little Extra** – has totaled more extra-base hits (10; 4 HR, 3B, 5 2B) than singles (9) in the 2005 season ... his career totals includes 58 singles and 43 extra-base hits (16 HR, 7 3B, 20 2B)

**Milestone Watch** – registered 100th hit of his Notre Dame career in 13-6 win over USC on May 17 ... 11 runs shy of 100

**“Red Ratio”** – ranks 5th on team with +7 plate-discipline ratio (19 BB + 5 HBP – 17 Ks)

**Home & Away** – batting 78 points higher in home games this season (.250, 9-for-36, 9 RBI, 8 R, HR, 3B, 3 2B, 8 BB, 4 Ks) than in all road games (.172, 10-for-58, 12 RBI, 17 R, 3 HR, 2 2B, 11 BB, 5 HBP, 13 Ks)

**vs. the BET Field** – hit .071 in '05 regular-season games vs. BC, SJU and Pitt (1-for-14, 3 RBI, 3 R, 2B, 4 BB, 3 Ks)

**Left-Coast Lounge** – one of three California natives who patrol the Notre Dame outfield (also soph. Danny Dressman from San Jose and junior RF Cody Rizzo from Temecula)

**Monthly Checkup** – compiled .269 batting avg. in month of April (7-for-26, 8 RBI, 8 R, HR, 3B, 3 2B, 7 BB, 4 Ks)

**13-Game Homestand** – hit .308 (4-for-13) in 6 GP/3 GS (5 RBI, 5 R, 3B, 2 2B, 5 BB)

**Top '05 Games** – his leadoff single preceded Greg Lopez HR as ND scored three times in 9th to tie series finale vs. Villanova (ended in 7-7 tie) ... sparked offense from 3-hole in 21-1 win at Pittsburgh, having a hand in 5 of the ND runs (1-for-4, 3 RBI, 2 R, 2B, BB, SF) ... repeated as all-tournament selection at Alamo City Irish Baseball Classic (.500, 5-for-10, 4 RBI, 4 R, 2 HR, 3 BB, 2 Ks) ... homered at ACIBC vs. Oral Roberts and in 3rd-place game vs. Southwest Missouri (2 RBI, 2 R in both games, added 2 BB vs. SMS) ... hit HR in 2nd AB of season, vs. Florida A&M ... had RBI double and scored in 5-run, 9th-inning comeback that tied game-2 at Rutgers ... hit HR to dead-center field vs. Toledo

**Generation Gap** – 4th-generation ND student who combines with William Andres as first great-grandfather and great-grandson ever to monogram with ND baseball program ... William Anddres was a catcher on the 1916-18 teams (his teammates included future ND Hall-of-Fame coach Jake Kline) and he also was a right end on the Knute Rockne-coached 1917 football team

## MATT BRANSFIELD (DH/1B/C, Jr., Bats: Right, 6-1/205 ... Englewood, CO ... 2004 BIG EAST RBI Champion)

Year	Avg	GP-GS	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	TB	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	GDP	OB%	SF	SH	SB-ATT	E
2003....	.310	33-17	71	13	22	3	0	0	10	25	.352	3	3	19	1	.354	2	1	0-0	0
2004....	.306	59-54	206	44	63	12	3	12	58	117	.568	22	9	30	0	.388	5	1	0-3	0
2005....	.321	29-26	84	13	27	4	0	0	16	31	.369	9	7	13	4	.422	2	2	1-1	1
TOTAL...	.310	121-97	361	70	112	19	3	12	84	173	.479	34	19	62	5	.390	9	4	1-4	1

**2005 Team Ranks** – 4th in batting avg. (.321) and on-base pct. (.422) ... has 7 multi-hit games (none with 3-plus), also has 4 multi-RBI games (1 w/ 3 RBI) ... missed 18 games after suffering broken hand in season opener

**Final Week of Regular Season** – hit 1-for-3 in limited duty (2 GP/1 GS, HBP)

**In '05 BIG EAST Play** – hit .273 in 15 GP/13 GS (12-for-44, 5 RBI, 6 R, 2 BB, 2 HBP, 10 Ks, 2 SAC, SF) ... a .295 career hitter in all games vs. BIG EAST teams (56-for-190, 38 RBI, 8 HR) ... led league with 33 RBI in '04 BE regular season

**Situational Summary** – leads team with .435 batting vs. LHPs (.279 vs. RHPs) ... also 2nd on team in leadoff on-base pct. (.650), 4th in 2-out batting (.323; 6 RBI) and 5th in batting with runners in scoring position (.344) ... batting .313 with runners on base ... 2-for-7 (.286) with the bases loaded ... has delivered the RBI 7-of-10 times with runners on 3rd and fewer than 2 outs.

**In a Pinch** – has batted at a .368 clip as a pinch-hitter during his ND career (7-for-19), including 2-for-3 in 2005 pinch-hit ABs (rest of team is 7-for-29/.241)

**Post-Finals Stats** (13 GP) – batting .292 (7-for-24) with 5 RBI, 2 R, BB, 4 HBP, 5 Ks, SAC, SB

**Career vs. BC** – has hit .278 (5-for-18, 3 RBI, R, HR, 2B, 3 R, 4 Ks) in previous games vs. BC, including 1-for-3 in the '05 series (R, K)

**Recent Trends** – played in 5 of final 9 regular-season games in '05 but hit safely in 4 of them (5-for-13, 2 RBI, 2 R, HBP, 2 Ks)

**In The BIG EAST Tournament** – hit a combined .350 (7-for-20) with 5 RBI in the 2003 and '04 BE Tournaments (3 R, HR, 3B, 2B, BB, 2 Ks) ... has delivered in the clutch at the previous BETs, batting 5-for-9 in winners-bracket games (2 RBI, 2 R, BB) ... played key role in winning 2004 BET title (5-for-14, 4 RBI, 2 R, HR, 3B, 2B, K) ... hit 3-for-5 with a triple/near-HR in '04 winners-bracket game vs. St. John's (9-2; RBI, R) ... batted 2-for-6 as platoon DH starter at '03 BET (RBI, R, BB, K) ... hit 2-for-4 in '03 winners-bracket game vs. Rutgers (9-3; RBI, R, BB).

**"Red Ratio"** – ranks 6th on team with +3 plate-discipline ratio (9 BB + 7 HBP – 13 Ks)

**Lineup Notes** – his 26 starts include 18 at DH, 6 at C, 2 at 1B; 10 starts batting cleanup, 11 in the 6-hole, 5 in 5-hole

**Home and Away** – hit 69 points higher in the '05 regular season during home games (.345, 19-for-55, 11 RBI, 6 R, 4 2B, 6 BB, 5 HBP, 7 Ks, SAC, SB, E) than on the road (.276, 8-for-29, 5 RBI, 7 R, 3 BB, 2 HBP, 6 Ks, SAC, 2 SF)

**vs. the BET Field** – hit .263 (4th on team) in '05 regular-season games vs. BC, SJU and Pitt (5-for-19, 4 RBI, 2 R, BB, HBP, 6 Ks, SAC)

**13-Game Homestand** – ranked 2nd on team (.448 batting avg., just behind Brett Lilley's .449) after hitting 13-for-29 in 10 GP/8 GS (8 RBI, 3 R, 4 2B, 3 BB, 2 HBP, 6 Ks, E)

**Summer Ball** – slated to join teammate Cody Rizzo as member of the Mat-Su Miners of the Alaska League during the summer of 2005 (ND's Matt Edwards played for Mat-Su in the summer of '04) ... previously has played summer ball with the Colorado Sox of the Rocky Mountain League ('03) and the Waynesboro (Va.) Generals of the Valley League ('04)

**Top '05 Games** – had leadoff pinch-hit single and scored as ND rallied to force extra-innings in 3-2 win over UConn ... scored 3 times in series finale at Rutgers (H, BB) ... had RBI groundout and run-scoring single to help beat Cleveland State in 7-6 game ... plated 3 runs in 9-8 win over Valparaiso

## ROSS BREZOVSKY (3B, Fr., Bats: Left, 5-10/170 ... Naples, FL)

Year	Avg	GP-GS	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	TB	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	GDP	OB%	SF	SH	SB-ATT	E
2005....	.280	49-46	164	32	46	7	2	2	19	63	.384	16	4	37	10	.351	4	6	3-5	13

**2005 Team Ranks** – co-leader with 2 triples, also ranking 4th in sac. bunts (6) and 5th in doubles (7) ... 5th on team with 12 multi-hit games (2 w/ 4 hits, 3 w/ 3 hits), also has 4 multi-RBI games (season-high 5-RBI game)

**Final Week of Regular Season** – 3rd on team with .381 batting in 6 GS (8-for-21, 3 RBI, 6 R, HR, 2 BB, 4 Ks, SF, E)

**In '05 BIG EAST Play** – hit .200 in 21 GP/18 GS (12-for-60, 3 RBI, 10 R, HR, 2B, 4 BB, 14 Ks, SB, 4 SAC, SF)

**Situational Summary** – ranks 2nd on team with .341 batting vs. LHPs (.258 vs. RHPs) ... owned a .326 leadoff on-base pct. in '05 regular season while batting .303 with runners on, .315 with them in scoring position and .255 with 2 outs (8 RBI)... 2-for-7 with the bases loaded (.286) ... has delivered the RBI 6-of-12 times with runners on 3rd and fewer than 2 outs.

**Post-Finals Stats** (13 GP) – 5th on team with .293 batting (12-for-41), plus 3 RBI, 10 R, HR, 4 BB, HBP, 13 Ks, 2 SAC, 2 Es

**Career vs. BC** – hit 2-for-8 vs. the Eagles in the '05 series (RBI, R, 2B, 2 Ks)

**Recent Trends** – hit 8-for-21 (.381) in final week of regular season (3 RBI, 6 R, HR, 2 BB) ... made 10 errors at 3B in first half of season but totaled just 3 Es at 2B in second half of '05, including a single E in final 11 games of regular season

**Home and Away** – has hit at a clip 70 points higher on the road (.314/3rd on team, 27-for-86, 10 RBI, 15 R, HR, 2 3B, 4 2B, 3 BB, 4 HBP, 23 Ks, 2 SAC, SB, 9 Es) than at home in '05 season (.24r, 19-for-78, 9 RBI, 17 R, HR, 3 2B, 13 BB, 14 Ks, 4 SAC, 2 SB, 4 Es)

**vs. the BET Field** – hit .259 (5th on team) in '05 regular-season games vs. BC, SJU and Pitt (7-for-27, 2 RBI, 5 R, HR, 2B, BB, 10 Ks, 2 SAC, E)

**“Red Ratio”** – owns a -17 plate-discipline ratio (16 BB + 4 HBP – 37 Ks), with team avg. of +3

**Lineup Notes** – his 46 starts include 15 at 3B, 27 at 2B (all in last 28 games) and 3 at SS (plus a single start at LF) ... has hit mostly in 7-hole (12 games) and 8-hole (19), plus 4 as leadoff hitter (early-season) and 11 in 9-hole

**Monthly Checkup** – batted .232 during April (13-for-56, 9 RBI, 12 R, HR, 4 2B, 8 BB, 10 Ks, 3 SAC, 2 SB, 2 Es)

**13-Game Homestand** – hit .256 (11-for-43) in 12 GS (7 RBI, 11 R, HR, 3 2B, 7 BB, 7 Ks, 3 SAC, 2 SB, E)

**Summer Ball** – slated to join classmate David Gruener as member of Hays (Kan.) Larks in Jayhawk League, during summer of '05 ... several Mainieri-era players have been on previous Larks teams, including current players Craig Cooper ('03), Cody Rizzo ('03, injured) and Tyler Jones ('02) ... other recent ND players who have been on Hays teams include Javi Sanchez ('02), Ryan Kalita ('02), J.P. Gagne ('01), Joe Thaman ('01), Andrew Bushey ('00), Matt Buchmeier ('00), Drew Duff ('99-'00), Paul O'Toole ('99), Mike Carlin ('98), Ben Cooke ('98-'99), Jeff Felker ('98-'99) and Pat Davis (also later was Hays assistant coach)

**Top '05 Games** – drove in 5 runs vs. Cleveland State on April 30 (13-3; 4-for-4, HR, 2B, BB) for his first multi-RBI game since opening week ... had similar 4-hit game two weeks later in 21-1 win at Pittsburgh (4-for-4, RBI, 4 R, HR, BB) ... helped upset #17 USC with pair of RBI (13-6; 1-for-4, SF) ... scored 3 times in 5-2 win over Villanova (2-for-3, SB) ... plated Alex Nettey with groundrule double to end 4-3 win over Florida A&M ... closed Dayton series with 3-for-4 game (2 R, HBP; 10-11) ... hit 3-for-5 vs. Oral Roberts (R) en route to earning all-tournament spot at Alamo City Irish Baseball Classic (.357, 5-for-14, 3 R, 3B, 2 Ks, E).

**CRAIG COOPER (OF, Jr., Bats: Right, 6-2/220 ... Plainview, NY ... 2nd Team All-BIG EAST in 2004)**

Year	Avg	GP-GS	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	TB	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	GDP	OB%	SF	SH	SB-ATT	E
2003....	.303	46-31	122	22	37	6	2	0	15	47	.385	15	4	23	3	.397	0	2	10-13	1
2004....	.360	58-46	175	42	63	13	1	10	48	108	.617	25	2	22	0	.441	2	4	12-17	2
2005....	.335	53-51	182	41	61	13	1	7	55	97	.533	29	14	19	6	.458	2	4	14-17	3
<b>TOTAL...</b>	<b>.336</b>	<b>157-128</b>	<b>479</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>.526</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>.437</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>36-47</b>	<b>6</b>

**Double Distinction** – repeated as BIG EAST batting champ (.403, in league games) after .470 in '04 ... joined former BC player Kevin Penwell ('95, '96) as only repeat batting champs in 21-year history of BIG EAST baseball ... also moved him into 3rd place on BE career batting list, at .420 (68-for-162), behind Joe Cirone (.443, 51-for-115; Rutgers, '97-'00) and Marteesee Robinson (.432, 83-for-192; Seton Hall, '85-'87) ... joins Cirone as only players in past 18 seasons to hit above .420 or higher in their BIG EAST career.

**2005 Team Ranks** – 2nd among ND players in six categories – slugging pct. (.533), RBI (55), home runs (7), doubles (13), stolen bases (14) and total bases (97) – also ranking 3rd in batting avg. (.335), on-base pct. (.458), runs (41), hits (61) and walks (29), 4th in hit-by-pitch (14) and games played (53), and 5th in sac. bunts (4) and starts (51) ... leads team with 16 multiple-RBI games (2 w/ 5 RBI, 2 w/ 3 RBI), also 3rd with 15 multi-hit games (6 w/ 3 hits).

**Among BIG EAST Stat Leaders** – 2nd among league's players in overall RBI (55), trailing teammate Matt Edwards (62) ... repeated as BIG EAST leader in conference batting (.403; .470 in '04) and on-base pct. in conference games (.529; .471 in '04) while finishing 8th in league slugging pct. (.582), 6th in RBI (19), 10th in doubles (6) and walks (12) ... only four players in the league finished with a higher OPS (on-base plus slugging) during '05 BE games than his 1.111: Pittsburgh sophomore 2B Jim Negrych (1.311) and junior CF Ben Copeland (1.205), fellow ND junior OF Cody Rizzo (1.111; .514 OB, .648 slugging) and WVU junior 1B Stan Posluszny (1.122).

**Final Week of Regular Season** – earn BIG EAST player-of-the-week and national hitter-of-the-week (NCBWA) honors after hitting team-best .565 with 13 RBI in 6 GS (13-for-23, 8 R, 2 HR, 2 BB, HBP, 2 Ks, SF, E)

**In '05 BIG EAST Play** – repeated as BIG EAST batting champ, hitting .403 in 23 GP/21 GS (27-for-67, 19 RBI, 14 R, 2 HR, 6 2B, 13 BB, 6 HBP, 9 Ks, 5 SB, 3 SAC, SF, 2 Es) ... a .408 career hitter in all games vs. BIG EAST teams (73-for-179, 45 RBI, 7 HR)

**Situational Summary** – batting team-best .435 with runners in scoring position ... 2nd on team in 2-out batting (.393) and batting with runners on (.373), 3rd in 2-out RBI (14), 5th in leadoff on-base pct. (.442) ... batting .333 vs. RHPs (3rd on team) and .339 vs. LHPs (4th) ... 2-for-7 (.286) with the bases loaded ... has delivered the RBI 22-of-29 times (76%) with runners on 3rd and fewer than 2 outs.

**Post-Finals Stats** (13 GP) – batting team-best .422 (19-for-45) with 16 RBI, 10 R, 2 HR, 5 2B, 6 BB, HBP, 6 Ks, 2 SAC, 2 SB, E

**Career vs. BC** – .350 career hitter (7-20, 5 RBI, R, 3 2B, 3 BB, HBP, 6 Ks, SB) vs. Eagles ... 4-for-6 in '05 series (RBI, 2 2B, HBP, SB)

**Recent Trends** – batting at a .487 clip (18-for-37) with 16 RBI and 29 total bases in his current 10-game hitting streak (8 R, 2 HR, 5 2B, 3 BB, HBP, 4 Ks, SAC, SB, .784 slugging, .537 on-base, 1.321 OPS) that ranks 2nd-longest by an ND player in '05 season (behind Alex Nettey's 15-game streak) and is longest of his career ... hit .565 during busy final week of the regular season (6 GP, 8-for-23, 13 RBI, 8 R, 2 HR, 3 2B, 2 BB, HBP, 2 Ks, SB) to earn BIG EAST player-of-the-week honors

**In The BIG EAST Tournament** – hit a combined .294 (5-for-17) with 6 RBI in the 2003 and '04 BE Tournaments (5 R, 2 HR, 4 BB, HBP, SB, SAC, 3 Ks)... went 3-for-10 with 5 RBI and pair of HR to help win the '04 BET (3 R, 2 BB, HBP, SAC, K) ... hit 3-run HR in '04 title game vs. BC (for 5-0 lead in 1st) and added solo shot in that 11-5 win (2B, BB) ... batted 2-for-7 while platooning in LF at '03 BET (RBI, 2 R, 2 BB, 2 HBP, SB, 2 Ks) ... singled and scored early in '03 winners-bracket game vs. Rutgers (9-3).

**"Red Ratio"** – ranks 2nd on team with +7 plate-discipline ratio (29 BB + 14 HBP – 19 Ks)

**Lineup Notes** – 51 starts include 19 in RF and 17 in LF (15), plus starts at 1B (9), CF (4) and DH (2) ... his 7 starts as leadoff batter include 6 recent games, also batting in the cleanup (23), 5th (8), 6th (7), 7th (3) and 3rd spots (3; WVU series)

**Milestone Watch** – collected 100th career RBI vs. Cleveland State (4/30), 100th career run scored at Pittsburgh (5/16) ... has 17 career home runs, 36 stolen bases (2 shy of ND top-10 list) and a year of eligibility remaining ... former teammates Alec Porzel ('01; 37 HR-32 SB) and Paul O'Toole ('02; 31 HR-54 SB) are the only ND players ever to reach 30 HR and 30 SB in their career

**Home and Away** – batting similarly in all road games (team-best .327, 32-for-98, 22 RBI, 20 R, 4 HR, 8 2B, 15 BB, 4 HBP, 12 Ks, 6 SB, 3 SAC,E) and in '05 home games (.345/4th on team, 29-84, 33 RBI, 21 R, 3 HR, 3B, 5 2B, 14 BB, 10 HBP, 5 Ks, SAC, 8 SB, 2 Es)

**vs. BET Field** – hit team-best .385 in '05 reg.-season vs. BC, SJU, Pitt (10-26, 7 RBI, 6 R, 2 HR, 2 2B, 5 BB, HBP, 6 K, 2 SAC, 2 SB)

**Monthly Checkup** – ranked 4th on team with .321 batting avg. and team-best 20 RBI while helping team go 14-5-1 in April (17 GS, 14 R, 2 HR, 3B, 5 2B, 7 BB, 9 HBP, 7 Ks, SAC, 6-6 SB)

**Top '05 Games** – hit ND's first game-ending HR (9-7 vs. Purdue; April 20) since '02 CWS (Brian Stavisky; 5-3 vs. Rice) and then hit grand slam in next AB, vs. Valparaiso (9-8; 5 RBI) ... smacked ND's first leadoff HR of season and added another HR in 21-1 win at Pittsburgh, having a hand in 7 runs (3-hole; 3-for-5, 5 RBI, 4 R, BB) ... helped upset #17 USC, 13-6 (3-for-5, 2 RBI, R, 2B) ... 6-for-9 series vs. WVU included 2-for-2 in 3-1 opener (R, BB), 3-for-3 in 7-3 finale (3 RBI, 2B, SF) ... helped post 4-2 win at UCF (3-for-4, 2 RBI, R, BB, SB) ... 3-for-4 in first win over Southwest Missouri (2 RBI, 2 R, HR) ... HR vs. South Dakota State (2 RBI, 3 R, 2 BB) and Cincinnati (1-for-3, 2 R, BB, SB) ... helped avert loss to Cleveland St. (7-6; 3-4, 3 RBI, 2 R, 3B, BB, 2 SB), adding 3 RBI in 13-3 win (H, R, SB) ... hit .333 (5 RBI, 2 HR) on spring break (6-18, 6 R, 5 BB, 3 Ks)... .250 (11-44), team-best 18 RBI in 13-game homestand.

**MATT EDWARDS (1B, Sr., Bats: Right ... Mechanicsville, VA ... First Team All-BIG EAST in 2003)**

Year	Avg	GP-GS	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	TB	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	GDP	OB%	SF	SH	SB-ATT	E
2002....	.290	9-8	31	3	9	1	0	0	4	10	.323	3	1	6	1	.371	0	0	1-1	6
2003....	.376	62-62	229	40	86	16	2	8	69	130	.568	25	4	39	0	.439	4	0	2-5	9
2004....	.310	61-59	216	48	67	13	1	12	54	118	.546	32	9	40	0	.414	4	3	5-6	5
2005....	.366	56-56	205	55	75	18	1	13	62	134	.654	42	6	26	7	.480	3	0	6-7	13
<b>TOTAL...</b>	<b>.348</b>	<b>188-185</b>	<b>681</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>.576</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>.441</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>14-19</b>	<b>33</b>

**2005 Team Ranks** – team leader in nine categories: batting avg. (.366), slugging pct. (.654), home runs (13), RBI (62), runs (55), hits (75), doubles (18), walks (42) and total bases (134) ... joined freshman 2B/3B Brett Lilley as only players to start all 56 games (SS Greg Lopez is only other to play in all 56) ... also ranks 2nd on team in on-base pct. (.480) and 5th in stolen bases (6) ... leads team with **23 multiple-hit** games (2 w/ 4 hits, 5 w/ 3 hits) and 2nd on team with **15 multi-RBI** games (1 w/ 5 RBI, 2 w/ 4 RBI, 5 w/ 3 RBI).

**Among BIG EAST Stat Leaders** – ended '05 regular season as league leader in RBI (62), also 2nd in home runs (13) and walks (42), 3rd in total bases (134), 4th in runs (55), doubles (18), on-base pct. (.480), slugging pct. (.654) and OPS (1.134 on-base plus slugging), and 6th in batting (.366) and hits (75) ... in conference games only, he finished 4th in doubles (8), 5th in RBI (20), 6th in walks (15).

**Situational Summary** – leads team in 2-out RBI (19) and leadoff on-base pct. (.657) ... also 3rd in batting with runners on base (.340), 4th with runners in scoring position (.349) and 5th with 2 outs (.309) ... batting .374 vs. RHPs (2nd-best on team), .340 vs. LHPs (3rd) ... 3-for-8 (.375, HR) with the bases loaded ... has delivered the RBI 16-of-24 times (67%) with runners on 3rd and fewer than 2 outs.

**Final Week of Regular Season** – ranked 2nd on team with .529 batting in 6 GS (9-for-17, 5 RBI, 5 R, 2 2B, 7 BB, 2 Ks, SB, 2 Es)

**In '05 BIG EAST Play** – 4th on team with .329 batting in 24 GS (28-for-85, 20 RBI, 20 R, 2 HR, 8 2B, 15 BB, HBP, 13 Ks, 3 SB, 4 Es) ... a .319 career hitter in all games vs. BIG EAST teams (89-for-279, 67 RBI, 10 HR)

**Record Books** – ranks 5th in ND history with 189 career RBI, 7th with 33 HRs, 11th with .576 slugging pct. and 48 doubles, and 14th with 102 walks ... needs 2 doubles to become 10th player in ND history with 50 2Bs in his career ... needs 5 hits to become 4th ND player with 80-plus hits and 40-plus walks in same season (Matt Marci, in '04, was first to do so since 1989)

**Post-Finals Stats** (13 GP) – 2nd on team with .361 batting (13-for-36), plus 8 RBI, 11 R, HR, 3 2B, 19 BB, 10 Ks, 2 SB, 2 Es

**Career vs. BC** – has hit .167 (4-for-24, 5 RBI, 3 R, HR, 3 2B, 3 BB, 6 Ks, SB, E) in previous games vs. BC, including 2-for-11 in the '05 series (2 RBI, R, 2 2B, 2 Ks, SB, E) ... all of his career hits vs. BC have gone for extra bases.

**Recent Trends** – had rare stretch of 12 straight games with at least one walk (21 total BB) from April 29-May 18, ultimately drawing 23 walks in final 15 games of regular season ... bounced back from 1-for-5 doubleheader vs. WVU (2 GDPs, 2 BB, 2 R, K) for his second 4-hit game of '05 in regular-season finale (RBI, R, 2B, SB) ... hit just one HR in final 5 weeks of the regular season (21 GP), vs. Michigan in Grand Rapids on May 11 (previous HR was April 17 vs. UConn) ... actually totaled just 2 HR in the second half of the season (29 GP; HR vs. Ball State on April 6), after hitting 11 HR in first 27 games.

**“Red Ratio”** – ranks 3rd on team with +22 plate-discipline ratio (42 BB + 6 HBP – 26 Ks)

**Lineup Notes** – his 56 starts include 45 at 1B, 10 at 3B (DH in gm-3 vs. UConn) ... made first 50 starts batting in 3-hole before shifting to cleanup role the past 6 games

**In the BIG EAST Tournament** – owns a .407 career batting avg. with 8 RBI in BE Tournament play (11-for-27, 8 R, HR, 2B, 5 BB, HBP, 4 Ks, E) ... hit 3-for-9 with 4 walks to help win '04 BET (3 RBI, 4 R, HR, HBP, K, E) ... hit bases-loaded single into LF (vs. Mike Gauthier) to end '04 BET opener vs. BC (3-2) ... earlier had battled for full-count walk and scored vs. ace Chris Lambert (for 2-1 deficit) ... homered as part of 2-for-3 day in '04 winners-bracket game vs. SJU (2 R, BB, HBP) ... enjoyed big week at '03 BET, batting 8-for-18 (.444) with 5 RBI (4 R, 2B, BB, 3 Ks) ... hit 2-for-4 in '03 winners-bracket game vs. Rutgers (9-3; R) ... smacked 3-run triple in 1st inning of '03 title game vs. Rutgers (11-3; 3-for-4, R, BB) ... did not play in '02 BET due to early-season broken leg.

**Home and Away** – 2nd on team with .314 batting in all '05 road games (33-for-105, 29 RBI, 28 R, 6 HR, 8 2B, 19 BB, 4 HBP, 16 Ks, 2 SB, 6 Es) plus team-best .420 in '05 home games (42-for-100, 33 RBI, 27 R, 7 HR, 3B, 10 2B, 23 BB, 2 HBP, 10 Ks, 4 SB, 7 Es)

**vs. the BET Field** – hit .179 in '05 regular-season games vs. BC, SJU and Pitt (5-for-28, 6 RBI, 5 R, 3 2B, 2 BB, 8 Ks, 2 SB)

**Monthly Checkup** – 2nd on team with .350 batting in April (28-for-30, 19 RBI, 17 R, 3 HR, 3B, 7 2B, 10 BB, HBP, 9 Ks, 3 SB, 7 Es)

**Old Reliable** – has logged 96 consecutive starts with the Irish and has played in 178 of 179 games during the past three seasons (starting 176), since returning from broken leg that halted his freshman season early in '02

**Top '05 Games** – first ND player since '98 to hit 3 HR in game (vs. Western Michigan on 3/29; 6 RBI, 2 IBB) ... had rare HR at 5th/3rd Bank Ballpark in Grand Rapids, vs. Michigan (3 BB, 3 R, SB) ... delivered from cleanup spot in 21-1 win at Pittsburgh (2-for-4, 4 RBI, R, 2B, BB) and in 13-6 upset of #17 USC (2-for-3, R, 2 BB) ... closed regular season with 4-for-4 game vs. WVU (7-3; RBI, R, 2B, SB) ... his other 4-hit game of '05 season came April 5 vs. Toledo (4-for-4, 3 RBI, 2 R, HR, SB) ... homered in opener vs. Florida A&M (RBI, 4 R, 2B, BB, HBP) ... his 8-for-17 Dayton series included HR in 10-2 win (2 RBI, 3 R) ... launched grand slam vs. Texas-San Antonio and homered next day vs. Southwest Missouri, as part of all-tournament performance at the Alamo City Irish Baseball Classic ... added HRs at Evansville and in game-2 vs. Georgetown ... his 5-for-11 series vs. UConn included HR to dead-center field in series finale ... helped secure 7-7 tie in season finale vs. Villanova (3-for-5, 3 RBI, R, 2 2B, BB) ... other HRs came vs. Ball State and UConn.



## SEAN GASTON (C, So., Bats: Left, 6-0/185 ... Brownsburg, IN)

Year	Avg	GP-GS	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	TB	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	GDP	OB%	SF	SH	SB-ATT	E
2004....	.316	23-12	57	11	18	3	0	0	11	21	.368	5	0	9	0	.365	1	0	4-4	1
2005....	.290	44-39	145	25	42	5	0	1	26	50	.345	5	3	15	3	.323	2	7	4-4	4
TOTAL...	.297	67-51	202	36	60	8	0	1	37	71	.351	10	3	24	3	.335	3	7	8-8	5

**2005 Team Ranks** – 3rd in sacrifice bunts (7), 5th in RBI (26) ... has totaled 10 multi-hit games (1 w/ 4 hits, 4 w/ 3 hits), plus 5 with multi-RBI (1 w/ 4 RBI)

**Situational Summary** – ranks 4th on team in 2-out RBI (13) and 5th with .292 batting vs. RHPs (.282 vs. LHPs) ... owned a .417 leadoff on-base pct. in '05 regular season while batting .286 with runners on, .308 with them in scoring position and .264 with 2 outs ... 2-for-7 with the bases loaded (.286)... has delivered the RBI 10-of-14 times (71%) with runners on 3rd and fewer than 2 outs.

**Final Week of Regular Season** – hit 3-for-8 in 5 GP/2 GS (3 RBI, R, 2B, SAC, SF)

**In '05 BIG EAST Play** – ranked 5th on team with .286 batting in 18 GP/17 GS (16-for-56, 13 RBI, 6 R, HR, 2B, 3 BB, HBP, 6 Ks, 4 SB, 4 SAC, SF, 3 Es)

**Post-Finals Stats** (13 GP) – batting 3-for-10 (3 RBI, R, K, SAC)

**Career vs. BC** – has hit .100 (1-for-10, RBI, 3 Ks, 2 SB, SAC, E) in previous games vs. BC, including 1-for-6 in the '05 series (RBI, 2 K, SB, SAC, E)

**Recent Trends** – back injury limited him to just three post-finals starts in regular season (gm-1 at Pitt; gms 2-3 vs. WVU), also coming off bench in game-3 at Pitt and in both games vs. USC ... provided spark to offense with hits in final three games of regular season (3-for-7, 3 RBI, R, 2B, SAC).

**In The BIG EAST Tournament** – played sparingly as Javi Sanchez's backup (he also was returning from mononucleosis) at 2004 BET (1 GP, 0-for-1, K)

**Lineup Notes** – has made all 39 of his starts at catcher while batting all over the lineup, with 8 starts each in the 6-, 8- and 9-holes, plus starts in the 2nd (2), 4th (2), 5th (4) and 7th (7) spots

**“Red Ratio”** – owns -7 plate-discipline ratio (5 BB + 3 HBP – 15 Ks), with rest of team at +33

**Home and Away** – batting 40 points higher in 2005 home games (.310, 22-for-71, 14 RBI, 9 R, HR, 3 2B, 2 BB, 7 Ks, 3 SB, E) than in all '05 road games (.270, 20-for-74, 12 RBI, 16 R, 2 2B, 3 BB, 3 HBP, 8 Ks, 3 SAC, SB, 3 Es)

**vs. the BET Field** – hit .111 in '05 regular-season games vs. BC, SJU and Pitt (1-for-9, RBI, 2 Ks, SAC, SB, E)

**13-Game Homestand** – 4th on team with .350 batting (14-40, 12 GP/10 GS, 9 RBI, 6 R, HR, 2B, 2 BB, 5 Ks, SAC, 2 SB)

**Monthly Checkup** – 5th on team with .321 batting in April (17-53, 11 RBI, 6 R, HR, 2 2B, 3 BB, HBP, 7 Ks, 2 SAC, 3 SB, 3 Es)

**Summer Ball** – set to join classmates Jeff Manship and Derik Olvey as members of the Cape Cod League's Cotuit Kettleers during summer of '05 (at least two other ND players also are set to play in the '05 Cape) ... played with the Waterloo (Iowa) Bucs of the Northwoods League during the summer of '04

**Top '05 Games** – went 4-for-8 in doubleheader vs. Villanova (5 RBI, 2 R, BB, 3-run HR) ... hit 9th-inning single prior to Greg Lopez's 3-run HR as ND tied series finale vs. VU (ended 7-7) ... singled for key hit in comeback win over UConn (3-for-4, SB) ... 4-for-6 in 13-9 loss to Dayton (RBI, R) ... 3-for-4 in second win over Southwest Missouri (RBI, 3 R, HBP) and 3-for-5 in comeback vs. Northern Illinois (RBI, 3 R, 2B) ... lead role in win over Bowling Green (3-for-4, 2 RBI, 2 R, 2B).

## TONY LANGFORD (OF/DH, Fr., Bats: Right, 5-11/175 ... Fort Worth, TX)

Year	Avg	GP-GS	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	TB	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	GDP	OB%	SF	SH	SB-ATT	E
2005....	.292	45-36	144	15	42	6	0	3	27	57	.396	3	2	16	8	.313	1	1	1-1	1

**2005 Team Ranks** – 4th on team in RBI (27) and 5th in home runs (3) ... ranks 4th on team with **7 multiple-RBI** games (1 w/ 5, 1 w/ 3), also totaling **11 multi-hit** games (4 w/ 3 hits) and

**Situational Summary** – ranks 2nd on team in 2-out RBI (16), also 3rd in 2-out batting (.327) and batting with runners in scoring position (.352), and 4th in batting with runners on base (.329) ... owns a .282 leadoff on-base pct. ... batting .289 vs. RHPs and .298 vs. LHPs ... 0-for-4 with the bases loaded ... has delivered the RBI 8-of-15 times (53%) with runners on 3rd and fewer than 2 outs ... 1-for-3 as a pinch-hitter.

**Final Week of Regular Season** – hit .320 in 6 GS (8-for-25, 6 RBI, 4 R, HR, BB, K)

**In '05 BIG EAST Play** – hit .273 in 21 GP/20 GS (21-for-77, 15 RBI, 9 R, 2 HR, 4 2B, BB, HBP, 6 Ks, SB, SF)

**Post-Finals Stats** (13 GP) – batting .262 (11-for-42) while ranking 2nd on team with 9 RBI, plus 5 R, HR, BB, 5 Ks

**Career vs. BC** – hit 2-for-11 (.182) in the '05 series vs. the Eagles (2B, K)

**Recent Trends** – hit safely in 5 of final 6 games in regular season (.320, 8-for-25, 6 RBI, 4 R, HR, BB)

**“Red Ratio”** – owns -11 plate-discipline ratio (3 BB + 2 HBP – 16 Ks), with team avg. at +3

**Lineup Notes** – his 36 starts include 18 in LF, 16 at DH and 2 in RF while batting mostly in 5-hole (16) and 7-hole (9), plus starts in the 6th (9), 8th (1) and cleanup (1) spots

**Home and Away** – owns similar batting numbers in 2005 road games (.302/4th on team, 16-for-53, 14 RBI, 5 R, 2 HR, 2 2B, BB, 6 Ks) and '05 home games (.286, 26-for-91, 13 RBI, 10 R, HR, 4 2B, 2 BB, 2 HBP, 10 Ks, SAC, SB, E)

**vs. the BET Field** – hit .160 in '05 regular-season games vs. BC, SJU and Pitt (4-for-25, 3 RBI, 2 R, 2B, 3 Ks)

**13-Game Homestand** – hit .231 (9-for-39) in 11 GP/10 GS (5 RBI, 4 R, 2 2B, 2 HBP, 6 Ks, SAC)

**Monthly Checkup** – compiled .266 batting avg. in April (17-for-64, 11 RBI, 6 R, 2 HR, 3 2B, BB, 2 HBP, 8 Ks, SAC, E)

**Summer Ball** – slated to play in the Texas Collegiate League (team TBA) during the summer of '05

**Top '05 Games** – played lead role in 13-6 upset of #17 USC (3-for-5, 2-run HR, 2 R) ... hit 4-for-10 to help sweep WVU in final week of regular season (2 RBI, R, BB) ... went 3-for-4 in his first start with the Irish, vs. Southwest Missouri (3 RBI, R, BB), followed by 2-for-4 game vs. Evansville (2B) and 2-for-5 vs. South Dakota State (RBI) ... added 3-for-6 effort in game-2 vs. Georgetown (RBI, 2 R, 2B) ... homered twice to fuel late comeback in extra-inning loss at Rutgers ... hit 3-for-4 in win over Bowling Green (RBI, 2 R, 2B, SAC).

**BRETT LILLEY (2B, Fr., Bats: Left, 5-7/165 ... North Canton, OH ... Freshman All-America Candidate)**

Year	Avg	GP-GS	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	TB	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	GDP	OB%	SF	SH	SB-ATT	E
2005....	.354	56-56	189	51	67	5	0	0	23	72	.381	34	25	27	2	.506	1	9	9-18	12

**2005 Team Ranks** – leads team in on-base pct. (.506; would rank 7th in ND history), HBP (25; 2nd in ND history) and sac. bunts (9), also 2nd in batting (.354), hits (67), runs (51) and walks (34), 3rd in stolen bases (9) and 4th in total bases (72) ... joins Matt Edwards as only players to start all 56 games (Greg Lopez is only other with 56 GP) ... 2nd on team with 18 multi-hit games (5-hit vs. Cincinnati, 1 w/ 4 hits, 5 w/ 3 hits) and 4th with 7 multi-RBI games (none with 3-plus RBI)

**Situational Summary** – leads team in 2-out batting (.415) and batting with runners on base (.415) ... also owns team-best .378 batting vs. RHPs (.296 vs. LHPs) ... 2nd among ND players in batting with runners in scoring position (.407), 3rd in leadoff on-base pct. (.492) and 5th in 2-out RBI (11) ... 2-for-6 with the bases loaded ... has delivered the RBI 9-of-13 times (69%) with runners on 3rd and fewer than 2 outs

**Among the BIG EAST Stat Leaders** – led the league charts all season in on-base pct. (.506), also leading all BIG EAST freshmen in walks (34; 6th overall) and batting avg. (.354; 12th overall) ... ranked 7th among BE players with 51 runs scored ... in conference games only, he finished 7th (tops among freshmen) in walks (14) and on-base pct. (.460).

**Final Week of Regular Season** – hit .300 in 6 GS (6-for-20, 2 RBI, 7 R, 2B, 3 BB, 3 HBP, 4 Ks, 2 SAC)

**In '05 BIG EAST Play** – ranked 3rd on team with .333 batting in 24 GS (27-for-81, 5 RBI, 20 R, 2 2B, 14 BB, 6 HBP, 8 Ks, 2 SB, 4 SAC, .990 fielding pct. with just a single error in 103 fielding chances)

**Post-Finals Stats** (13 GP) – 4th on team with .295 batting (13-44), plus 4 RBI, 12 R, 2B, 7 BB, 5 HBP, 10 Ks, 3 SAC, E

**Career vs. BC** –hit 2-for-1 (.182) in the '05 series vs. the Eagles (2 R, 2B, 2 K2, SB)

**Recent Trends** – closed regular season by batting just .235 (8-for-34) in final 10 games (9 R, 3 RBI, 2B, 5 BB, 3 HBP, 9 Ks, -1 Red Ratio), after hitting .381 with a +31 Red Ratio (BB+HBP-Ks) in first 46 games of season.

**“Red Ratio”** – owns team-best with +32 plate-discipline ratio (34 BB + 25 HBP – 27 Ks)

**Lineup Notes** – made first 28 starts at 2B before starting past 28 games at 3B, with the Irish going 19-8-1 in that stretch ... has hit mostly in the 2-hole (46), plus 10 starts at leadoff (including the WVU series)

**Great Glove Man** – has 45 error-free games, including 21-game span without an error (96 fielding chances) from March 24-April 21 (spanning time at 2B and 3B) ... four teammates combined for 18 errors at 3B in first 28 games of the season but he then turned in 9 error-free games to open his stint at the hot corner (40 chances) ... has 23 error-free games in 28 GP at 3B (7 Es) ... made just a single E in 2005 BIG EAST regular-season games.

**In the Record Books** – his 25 HBP rank 2nd in ND history (behind Cody Rizzo's 28 in '03) while his .506 on-base pct. would rank 7th and is within range of the ND freshman record set by Eric Danapilis in '90 (.509) ... has totaled 59 free passes (also 34 BB) to go along with his 65 hits in '05 season.

**Home & Away** – hitting significantly higher (120 points) in 2005 home games (.415/2nd on team, 39-for-94, 15 RBI, 30 R, 2 2B, 18 BB, 10 HBP, 14 Ks, 6 SAC, 7 SB, 8 Es) than in all '05 road games (.295/5th on team, 28-for-95, 8 RBI, 21 R, 3 2B, 16 BB, 15 HBP, 13 Ks, 3 SAC, 2 SB, 4 Es)

**vs. the BET Field** – hit .313 (3rd on team) in '05 regular-season games vs. BC, SJU and Pitt (10-for-32, 11 RBI, 8 R, 2B, 4 BB, HBP, 4 Ks, SAC, SB)

**Monthly Checkup** – team-best .361 batter in April (26-for-72, 7 RBI, 19 R, 3 2B, 12 BB, 6 HBP, 8 Ks, 5 SB, 6 Es)

**13-Game Homestand** – hit team-best .449 (22-for-49) in 13 GS (7 RBI, 15 R, 2B, 11 BB, 4 HBP, 6 Ks, SAC, 4 SB, 6 Es)

**Top '05 Games** – became first ND freshman ever to post 5-hit game in home opener (vs. Cincinnati, 2 RBI, R, 2 SB) ... hit-by-pitch 4 times (one shy of tying NCAA record) in 4-2 win over Central Florida (1-for-1, R) ... had 9-for-11 stretch vs. Central Michigan (2-for-3, R, BB) and then in doubleheader vs. UConn: 2-for-3 in opener (R, BB) and 4-for-4 in nightcap (R) ... hit 3-for-5 with 2 RBI in series finale vs. Villanova (7-7) ... helped post key lateseason win at Pittsburgh (21-1; 2-for-5, 3 R, HBP) ... went 2-for-4 to help upset #17 USC (13-6; 2 RBI, R, 2B, SAC) ... hit .368 on spring-break trip (7-for-19, 2 RBI, 6 R, 4 BB, 5 HBP, 4 Ks)

**GREG LOPEZ ... SS, Jr. ... Bats: R, 6-0/190 ... Upper Arlington, OH**  
**Third Team All-BIG EAST in 2004; Academic All-America Candidate in 2005**

Year	Avg	GP-GS	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	TB	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	GDP	OB%	SF	SH	SB-ATT	E
2003....	.250	50-40	132	17	33	1	0	0	26	34	.258	4	4	22	5	.289	2	8	1-5	8
2004....	.332	59-57	199	39	66	14	0	2	34	86	.432	14	9	32	0	.396	3	10	4-5	20
2005....	.270	56-55	185	33	50	6	1	2	34	64	.346	10	16	40	1	.349	7	4	0-2	20
<b>TOTAL...</b>	<b>.289</b>	<b>165-152</b>	<b>516</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>.357</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>.352</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>5-12</b>	<b>48</b>

**2005 Team Ranks** – one of three players who appeared in all 56 games during '05 regular season ... ranks 3rd on team in RBI (34), HBP (16, 5th in ND history) and games started (55), also 5th in hits (50) and total bases (64) ... his 8 multi-hit games rank 3<sup>rd</sup> on team (1 w/ 4 hits, 3 w/ 3 RBI), also has 12 multi-hit games (5 w/ 3 hits).

**Situational Summary** – ranks 5th on team in batting with runners on base (.315) and in batting vs. LHPs (.309; compared to .254 vs. RHPs) ... owned a .2375 leadoff on-base pct. in '05 regular season while batting .254 with runners in scoring position and .250 with 2 outs (5 RBI) ... 3-for-4 with the bases loaded ... has delivered the RBI 20-of-27 times (74%) with runners on 3rd and fewer than 2 outs.

**Final Week of Regular Season** – hit .238 in 6 GS (5-for-21, 4 RBI, 3 R, 2B, BB, HBP, 5 Ks, 5 Es)

**In '05 BIG EAST Play** – hit .247 in 24 GS (19-for-77, 14 RBI, 12 R, HR, 3B, 3 2B, 7 BB, 6 HBP, 15 Ks, 2 SF, 10 Es) ... a .305 career hitter in all games vs. BIG EAST teams (72-for-236, 34 RBI, HR)

**Post-Finals Stats** (13 GP) – batting .256 (11-for-43) with 5 RBI, 4 R, 2B, 3 BB, 3 HBP, 8 Ks, 7 Es

**Career vs. BC** – hit .143 (3-for-21, RBI, R, HBP, 7 Ks, E) in previous BC gms ... 1-for-9 in '05 series (RBI, HBP, 4 Ks, E)

**Recent Trends** – enters postseason in 4-game hitless slump (0-for-12, BB, 3 Es), after collecting hits in 6 of previous 7 games (.435; 10-for-23, 4 RBI, 4 R, 2B, 2 BB, 3 HBP, K, 4 Es)

**In The BIG EAST Tournament** – hit a combined 6-for-15 (.400) at the 2004 and '04 BE Tournaments (RBI, 2 R, 2 HBP, 2 Ks) ... led '04 team with .455 batting at the '04 BET (5-for-11, R, 2 HBP, K) ... his single vs. BC loaded the bases and led to tying run in '04 BET oper (ND won, 3-2) ... hit 3-for-5 in '04 winners-bracket game vs. SJU (9-2) ... went 1-for-4 in limited duty at '03 BET (RBI, R, 2 Ks).

**For Glove of the Game** – his 40 error-free games in '05 include 15 to open season and 1 E in 19 games prior to Michigan game (now has Es in 7 of past 9 games) ... has only 4 multi-E games in '05 (none 3-plus) ... 42 E-free games in '04 (82 in '04-'05)

**Hitting Ball & Books** – candidate for Academic All-America honors (3.36 GPA; anthropology/pre-professional science)

**Lineup Notes** – had 52 starts at SS (plus 3 at 3B, in midseason) while batting in the 9th (30), 8th (23) and 7th (2) spots

**Milestone Watch** – needs 6 more RBI for the 100th of his ND career, also 11 runs shy of 100

**“Red Ratio”** – owns -14 plate-discipline ratio (10 BB + 16 HBP – 40 Ks), with team avg. at +3

**Home and Away** – batting 39 points higher in home games (.289, 28-for-97, 16 RBI, 23 R, HR, 3B, 6 2B, 3 BB, 11 HBP, 21 Ks, 2 SAC, 13 Es) than in all '05 road games (.250, 22-for-88, 18 RBI, 10 R, HR, 7 BB, 5 HBP, 19 Ks, 2 SAC, 7 Es)

**vs. BET Field** – hit .241 in '05 regular-season games vs. BC, SJU and Pitt (7-for-29, 4 RBI, 2 R, 2 BB, 2 HBP, 6 Ks, 3 Es)

**Monthly Checkup** – hit .254 in month of April (17-for-67, 10 RBI, 15 R, HR, 3B, 2B, 2 BB, 11 HBP, 15 Ks, 5 Es)

**13-Game Homestand** – hit .311 (14-for-45) in 13 GS (10 RBI and 13 R/both 2nd on team, HR, 3B, 2 2B, 8 HBP, 8 Ks, E)

**Summer Ball** – one of several ND players slated to play in Cape Cod League (Yarmouth-Dennis Red Sox) during summer of '05 ... played for Delaware (Ohio) Cows of Great Lakes League in summer of '04

**Top '05 Games** – tied series finale vs. Villanova with 3-run HR in 9th (ended 7-7; 3-for-5, HBP) ... hit 3-for-5 as part of 21-1 win at Pittsburgh (3 RBI, R) ... helped upset #17 USC, 13-6 (2-for-4, RBI, 2 R, 2B, HBP) ... led 7-1 win over UConn (3-for-4, 2 RBI, 2 R, 2B) ... hit 3 doubles in gm-2 vs. Georgetown (2 RBI, R, BB) ... hit 3-for-3 in 11-10 loss to Dayton (4 RBI, R, SAC, SF) ... had 3 RBI in comeback win over Northern Illinois (1-for-3, R, SF).

## ALEX NETTEY (OF, Jr., Bats: Right, 6-1/200 ... Dolton, IL)

Year	Avg	GP-GS	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	TB	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	GDP	OB%	SF	SH	SB-ATT	E
2003....	.229	30-9	48	11	11	2	0	0	3	13	.271	3	1	9	1	.288	0	1	2-2	0
2004....	.194	27-9	36	9	7	3	0	0	5	10	.278	4	3	5	0	.326	0	0	1-1	0
2005....	.299	53-52	204	41	61	11	2	2	21	82	.402	13	13	28	5	.377	1	8	9-15	4
<b>TOTAL...</b>	<b>.274</b>	<b>110-70</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>.365</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>.356</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>12-18</b>	<b>4</b>

**2005 Team Ranks** – shares team lead in triples (2) while ranking 2nd in sac. bunts (8), 3rd in hits (61), runs (41), doubles (11), stolen bases (9) and total bases (82), 4th in games played (53) and started (52), and 5<sup>th</sup> in batting avg. (.299), slugging pct. (.402) and HBP (13) ... also 3rd on team with 15 multi-hit games (1 w/ 4 hits, 3 w/ 3 hits), plus 3 multi-RBI games (none with 3-plus RBI)

**Situational Summary** – ranks 4th on team with .318 batting vs. RHPs (.245 vs. LHPs) ... owned a .408 leadoff on-base pct. in '05 regular season while batting .310 with runners on, .275 with them in scoring position and .235 with 2 outs (5 RBI) ... 1-for-4 with the bases loaded ... has delivered the RBI 9-of-12 times (75%) with runners on 3rd and fewer than 2 outs.

**Among the BIG EAST Stat Leaders** – finished 8th with 7 doubles in conference games.

**Final Week of Regular Season** – hit .333 in 6 GS (7-for-21, 2 RBI, 7 R, 3 2B, BB, HBP, 2 Ks, SB)

**In '05 BIG EAST Play** –hit .242 in 24 GS (23-for-95, 6 RBI, 12 R, HR, 3B, 7 2B, 5 BB, 3 HBP, 15 Ks, 2 SB, 4 SAC, SF, 2 Es)

**Post-Finals Stats** (13 GP) – batting .292 (14-for-48) with 4 RBI, 10 R, 5 2B, 4 BB, HBP, 8 Ks, 4 SAC, 3 SB

**Career vs. BC** – hit 1-for-11 (.091) in the '05 series vs. the Eagles (RBI, 3B, 3 Ks) ... hitless in one previous AB vs. BC.

**Recent Trends** – has hits in 8 of past 9 games (.333, 11-for-33, 3 RBI, 7 R, 4 2B, 2 BB, HBP, SB, 3 SAC) ... has gone hitless just twice in past 17 games ... 4 of his 11 doubles in '05 came in final 8 games of season (after shift out of leadoff spot) ... did not make an error in final 16 games of regular season (54 fielding chances).

**In The BIG EAST Tournament** – Scored as pinch-runner in 2004 winners-bracket game vs. St. John's (9-2) ... also played as pinch-runner/CF in title game vs. BC (11-5).

**"Red Ratio"** – owns -2 plate-discipline ratio (13 BB + 13 HBP – 28 Ks), with team avg. at +3

**Lineup Notes** – has made all 53 starts in CF, batting mostly leadoff (33), plus starts in 9th (6), 2nd (5), 5th (4), 7th (3) and 8th (1) spots

**Home and Away** – batting 49 points higher in '05 home games (.321/5th on team, 36-for-112, 14 RBI, 29 R, 2 HR, 6 2B, 6 BB, 8 HBP, 13 Ks, 4 SAC, 5 SB, 3 Es) than in all road games (.272, 25-for-92, 7 RBI, 12 R, 2 3B, 5 2B, 7 BB, 5 HBP, 15 Ks, 4 SAC, 4 SB, E)

**vs. the BET Field** – hit .200 in '05 regular-season games vs. BC, SJU and Pitt (7-for-35, 2 RBI, 3 R, 3B, 2 2B, 2 BB, 8 Ks, SAC, 2 SB)

**13-Game Homestand** – 5th on team with .333 batting (19-57, 5 RBI, 12 R, HR, 2 2B, 2 BB, 4 HBP, 7 Ks, 2 SB, 2 Es)

**Monthly Checkup** – hit .274 in month of April (23-for-84, 6 RBI, 14 R, HR, 3B, 3 2B, 3 BB, 5 HBP, 11 Ks, 2 SB, 3 Es)

**Summer Ball** – slated to return to Fayetteville (N.C.) Swamp Dogs of Coastal Plains League during summer of '05

**Top '05 Games** – helped upset #17 USC with 2-for-4, 3-run game (13-6; RBI, 2B, BB) ... hit 2-for-4 vs. WVU as Irish clinched postseason berth (7-3; RBI, 2 R, 2B) ... snapped 1-for-18 slump vs. Purdue at Coveleski Stadium (4-for-6, HR, SB) ... hit 3-for-6 in series finale vs. Villanova (7-7) ... doubled and scored game-ending run vs. Florida A&M (4-3; 2-for-3) ... hit 3-for-4 vs. Oral Roberts (RBI, R, 2B) as all-tournament pick at Alamo City Irish Baseball Classic (.385, 5-for-13, 2 RBI, 2 R, 2B, 3 BB, HBP, 1-2 SB) ... had 2-run HR for only hit in game-2 vs. Georgetown (1-for-7, SAC) ...hit 3-for-4 vs. Bowling Green

**CODY RIZZO (OF, Jr., Bats: Right, 6-1/200 ... Temecula, CA)**

Year	Avg	GP-GS	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	TB	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	GDP	OB%	SF	SH	SB-ATT	E
2003....	.314	58-56	191	53	60	11	1	4	38	85	.445	11	28	33	0	.425	3	1	1-2	4
2004....	.263	52-51	175	39	46	5	1	4	29	65	.371	4	21	30	0	.348	4	1	5-6	5
2005....	.257	53-44	140	39	36	8	1	5	21	61	.436	22	19	27	6	.421	2	1	15-19	3
<b>TOTAL...</b>	<b>.281</b>	<b>163-151</b>	<b>506</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>.417</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>.398</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>21-27</b>	<b>12</b>

**2005 Team Ranks** – leads team with 15 stolen bases while ranking 2nd in HBP (19; 4th in ND history), 3rd in home runs (5) and slugging pct. (.436), 4th in doubles (8), walks (22) and games played (53), and 5th in on-base pct. (.421) and runs (39) ... also owns 8 multi-hit games (2 w/ 3 hits) and 3 multi-RBI games (season-high 3-RBI game).

**Situational Summary** – ranks 4th on team with .472 leadoff on-base pct. ... hit .259 with runners on base in '05 regular season, .189 with them in scoring position and .235 with 2 outs (10 RBI) ... batting .292 vs. RHPs and .182 vs. LHPs ... 0-for-3 with the bases loaded ... has delivered the RBI 6-of-9 times (67%) with runners on 3rd and fewer than 2 outs ... 1-for-2 as a pinch-hitter.

**Among BIG EAST Stat Leaders** – finished regular season ranked 10th among BIG EAST players with 15 stolen bases ... late surge landed him 15th among leaders in conference batting avg. (.352), also 3rd in on-base pct. (.514), 4th in slugging pct. (.648) and stolen bases (7), and 8th in home runs (4) – all for conference games ... the Pittsburgh duo of Jim Negrych (1.311) and Ben Copeland (1.205) were the only players with a higher OPS (on-base plus slugging) in BIG EAST games than his 1.162.

**Final Week of Regular Season** – 5th on team with .350 batting in 6 GS (7-20, 5 RBI, 7 R, 2 HR, 3 2B, 2 BB, 2 HBP, K, SB, E)

**In '05 BIG EAST Play** – ranked 2nd on team with .353 batting in 22 GP/18 GS (19-for-54, 11 RBI, 19 R, 4 HR, 4 2B, 5 BB, 13 HBP, 8 Ks, 7 SB, 2 Es) ... a .292 career hitter vs. BIG EAST teams (65-for-223, 39 RBI, 6 HR)

**Post-Finals Stats** (13 GP) – 3rd on team with .310 batting (13-42), plus 7 RBI, 10 R, 3 HR, 3 2B, 2 BB, 6 HBP, 3 Ks, 4 SB, E

**Career vs. BC** – hit .100 (2-for-20, RBI, 2 R, 2B, 4 Ks) in previous games vs. BC, including 1-for-7 in '05 series (RBI, 2B, 2 Ks)

**Recent Trends** – has hits in 8 of past 9 games (.379, 11-for-29, 5 RBI, 9 R, 3 HR, 2 2B, 2 BB, 4 HBP, 2 SB, E) ... 3 HR in 5-game stretch last week (vs. Pitt, WVU) after 2 HR in first 49 games ... 6 HBPs in final 12 games of reg.-season (13 in first 44)

**In The BIG EAST Tournament** – owns a .304 career batting avg. with 9 runs scored in the BE Tournament (4 RBI, 4 BB, 4 HBP, 4 Ks), after two distinctly different efforts in '03 and '04 ... hit just 1-for-10 at the '04 BET (3 R, BB, HBP, 3 Ks) after ranking 2nd on team with .462 batting (6-for-13) at the '03 event (4 RBI, 6 R, 3 BB, 3 HBP, K) ... hit 2-for-4 in '03 opener vs. West Virginia (9-1; 2 RBI, R) ... batted 3-for-3 with pair of sliding catches in RF vs. Rutgers in '03 winners-bracket game (2 RBI, 2 R, HBP) ... added two more great defensive catches on final day, including jump that robbed RU's Johnny Defendis of a home run ... went 1-for-3 with 2 walks and a pair of runs in '03 title game vs. Rutgers (11-3).

**"Red Ratio"** – ranks 4th on team with +14 plate-discipline ratio (22 BB + 19 HBP – 27 Ks)

**Lineup Notes** – 34 starts in RF while starting 10 recent games behind the plate (all-state catcher as a prep but previously just 4 starts at C with the Irish, in '03) ... has been batting mostly in the 5th (13), 6th (14) and 7th (15) spots, plus 2 in 8th

**Walking Tall** – has overcome subpar batting season by getting on base via walks (22) and HBP (19) – for .421 on-base pct. (despite hitting just .257), also swiping 15 bases ... first two seasons featured total of just 15 walks and 6 SBs

**Milestone Watch** – enters postseason 12 RBI shy of 100 for his career

**Plunksville** – already ranks 4th in the NCAA record book with 68 career times hit-by-pitch (record is 92)

**Home and Away** – batting 42 points higher in 2005 road games (.275, 22-for-80, 14 RBI, 18 R, 3 HR, 3B, 4 2B, 12 BB, 9 HBP, 19 Ks, SAC, 5 SB, 2 Es) than in '05 home games (.233, 14-for-60, 7 RBI, 21 R, 2 HR, 4 2B, 10 BB, 10 HBP, 8 Ks, 10 SB, E)

**vs. the BET Field** – ranks 2nd on team with .320 batting in '05 regular-season games vs. BC, SJU and Pitt (8-for-25, 6 RBI, 6 R, 2 HR, 2B, BB, 5 HBP, 3 Ks, 2 SB)

**Monthly Checkup** – hit .205 in month of April (8-for-39, 5 RBI, 11 R, HR, 2 2B, 5 BB, 4 HBP, 10 Ks, 3-5 SB, E)

**13-Game Homestand** – hit .192 (5-for-26) in 12 GP/7 GS (3 RBI, 8 R, HR, 2B, 4 BB, 3 HBP, 6 Ks, 3-5 SB)

**Summer Ball** – slated to join teammate Matt Bransfield on Mat-Su Miners of Alaska League in summer of '05 (Matt Edwards played for Mat-Su in '04) ... saw '03 summer with Hays Larks (Jayhawk League) cut short due to injury, dnp in summer of '04

**Top '05 Games** – his 5-for-8 series at Pittsburgh included reaching base 4 times and having a hand in 5 runs during 21-1 win (2-for-3, 3 RBI, 3 R, HR, BB, HBP) ... also homered the previous day in 8-5 loss (2-for-3, 2 R, HBP) ... helped secure postseason spot by batting 2-for-3 in final regular-season game vs. WVU (7-3; R, 2B, HBP) ... smacked 2-run HR and hit 3-for-3 to help complete sweep of UConn (3 R, HBP, 2 SB) ... hit 3-for-5 in 13-9 loss to Dayton (RBI, 2 R, HR, 2B, SB) ... helped rally past NIU (2-for-2, RBI, 2 R, 3B, BB, HBP).