

2004 NOTRE DAME BASEBALL

Game Notes – vs. Villanova (doubleheader; April 3, 2004)

CHRIS NIESEL CAREER STATS

Year	ERA	W-L	App	GS	CG	SHO/CBO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	2B	3B	HR	B/Avg	WP	HBP
2002....	3.36	4-0	14	11	0	0/0	2	72.1	68	33	27	18	62	17	0	7	.242	2	4
2003....	2.65	9-1	15	15	3	1/1	0	98.1	86	34	29	19	87	15	2	2	.243	5	3
2004....	4.54	3-1	7	6	0	0/0	0	35.2	43	18	18	9	29	4	0	1	.314	2	3
TOTAL...	3.23	16-2	36	32	3	1/1	2	206.1	197	85	74	46	178	36	2	10	.249	9	10

CHRIS NIESEL'S 2004 APPEARANCES (relief vs. UTSA)

Date	Opponent (dec.)	IP	H	R	ER	BB	K
2/20	San Diego State, @USC (W)	5.2	3	1	1	1	9
2/27	Winthrop, @FAU (W)	7.0	8	1	1	2	5
3/6	Southern Illinois, @S.A. (-)	3.0	6	5	5	1	0
3/9	Texas-San Antonio, @S.A. (-)	1.0	2	0	0	0	1
3/12	Arizona, @ Round Rock (W)	7.0	10	2	2	1	6
3/20	at Southern Illinois (L)	5.0	7	6	6	2	3
3/27	at West Virginia (-)	7.0	7	3	3	2	6

TOM THORNTON CAREER STATS

Year	ERA	W-L	App	GS	CG	SHO/CBO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	2B	3B	HR	BF	B/Avg	WP	HBP
2003....	1.81	5-1	15	8	0	0/0	0	54.2	54	18	11	14	29	15	0	0	.269	3	6	
2004....	2.23	4-1	6	5	1	1/0	0	40.1	30	13	10	11	29	7	0	3	.207	0	4	
TOTAL...	1.99	9-2	21	13	1	1/0	2	95.0	84	31	21	25	58	22	0	3	.243	3	10	

TOM THORNTON'S 2004 APPEARANCES (relief vs. SIU)

Date	Opponent (dec.)	IP	H	R	ER	BB	K
2/21	at Southern California (W)	6.0	4	1	0	2	4
2/28	at Florida Atlantic (-)	7.0	6	2	2	0	7
3/7	Texas-San Antonio (L)	4.1	8	8	6	3	2
3/13	Texas Tech (W)	8.0	1	0	0	3	7
3/21	Southern Illinois (W)	6.0	5	2	2	1	4
3/27	at West Virginia (W)	9.0	6	0	0	2	5

SERIES NOTES – Notre Dame has won 17 of 22 previous games vs. Villanova (4-1 in last five), with the Irish owning an 8-0 mark vs. VU at Eck Stadium ... the Irish beat the Wildcats in a 1996 BIG EAST Tournament elimination game (7-3) but VU posted a pair of tournament wins over ND in '97 (10-5, 4-4) ... ND won 2-of-3 vs. VU last season at Villanova Ballpark in Plymouth Meeting, Pa. (2-3 in 13, 3-2, 5-1), with that series starting a day late due to wet field conditions ... the late finish of the first game then pushed the rest of the series to a rare Monday doubleheader ... ND lost the '03 series opener despite totaling 19 baserunners, spoiling a strong outing from Chris Niesel (7.1 IP, 2 R, 5 H, career-best 11 Ks, 0 walks) ... VU nearly won in the 11th but **Craig Cooper** threw out **Brian Trotta** trying to score from second ... ND's **Joe Thaman** led off the 12th with a triple but was doubled up when the SS Trotta snared **Brennan Grogan's** linedrive ... **Danny Poydenis** hit the game-winning single in the 13th, after a **Ryan Cramer** single, a passed ball, a wild pitch and a two-out intentional walk ... **J.P. Gagne** took the hard-luck loss (5.2 IP, 5 H, 2 IBB, 4 Ks) ... VU starter **Tom Kandybowicz** had no-decision (6.1 IP, 2 R, 6 H, BB, 7 Ks) while **Dan Farino** picked up the win (2 IP, 2 H, 2 BB, K) ... **John Axford** (5 IP, R, 2 H, 4 BB, 7 Ks) and **Ryan Kalita** (8 IP, R, 5 H, 3 BB, 7 Ks) delivered the '03 doubleheader wins over VU while Grogan factored into most of the ND offense ... Cooper (3-for-3, RBI) led the way in the tight 7-inning game, with **Brandon Vilorio** picking up the save (2 IP) ... Grogan hit his second triple of the day in the nightcap (3-for-5, 2 RBI, R), after scoring a run and driving in another in the first game (Cooper also scored two runs in the 5-1 win) ... **Nick Allen** lost the 7-inning game (5.2 IP, 3 R, 7 H, 3 BB, K) while **John Yeager** dropped the nightcap (7.1 IP, 4 R/3 ER, 6 H, 4 Ks) ... Trotta and **Chris Graziano** each had two of VU's six hits in the series finale.

SERIES STATS – Just two active ND players have logged more than three career games vs. VU: Steve **Sollmann** (.324, 12-for-37, 14 RBI, 10 R, HR, 2 2B, 4 BB, 2 SB) and Javi **Sanchez** (.167, 4-for-24, 5 H, 2 BB) ... six others saw their first action vs. VU in '03: Craig **Cooper** (5-for-10, RBI, 2 R, BB), Cody **Rizzo** (4-for-11, 3 R, 2 2B), Brennan **Grogan** (5-for-15, 5 RBI, 2 R, 2 3B, SB), Matt **Macri** (3-for-11, 3B, 2B, BB), Matt **Edwards** (1-for-13, 2B, 2 BB) and Greg **Lopez** (0-for-2) ... Chris **Niesel's** two career outings vs. VU (1.86, 0-0, 9.2 IP, 5 H, 1 BB, 15 Ks) include one start and one save in '02 when he was returning from a bout with mononucleosis ... Grant **Johnson** started vs. VU in '02 (5.2 IP, 7 H, 2 BB, 3 Ks) ... no other active ND pitcher has logged more than one inning vs. the Wildcats.

WILDCATS RESULTS – Villanova is 17-5-1 after a rare extra-inning, scoreless game vs. LaSalle (11 inn.) ... VU also has played games at Norfolk State (6-3, 1-0, 19-9) and Georgia Tech (1-5, 1-19, 1-4) before spending spring break in Homestead, Fla., with games vs. St. Francis (5-0), Detroit (9-3, 7-3) and Mainie (4-3), plus a 9-3 win at FIU ... VU's others games have come at home vs. Army (4-3), Cornell (4-2, 2-3, 7-6/11), St. Peter's (10-4, 6-8) and Temple (11-9), plus a 14-3 win at St. Joseph's.

IRISH TEAM NOTES – Notre Dame heads into April looking to maintain the program's success during the month (the '01-'03 Irish teams combined to go 58-8 in April) ... a win in today's first game would land ND on 20 wins in its 23rd game, with only the 1908 team (20-1) reaching 20 wins faster in the program's 112-year history (the '01 team went 20-4-1 en route to the #1 ranking) ... ND has posted 11 error-free games, 4 with 1 E ... ND's 24 HRs are just seven shy of the team's entire total in '03 ... the Irish have hit 14 HRs in the last 9 games and have hit 3 HRs four times in '04 ... the ND pitchers own a 1.97 staff ERA in the last 8 games (with .221 opp. batting) ... ND's quick start is all the more noteworthy due to the absence of two top pitchers (John Axford and Jeff Manship) who are out with season-ending injuries while Grant Johnson has logged minimal innings as he returns from '03 shoulder surgery ... ND is off to a 3-0 BIG EAST start for just the third time in nine BIG EAST seasons ... the Irish now have posted 3-0 sweeps of nine different BIG EAST teams but notched the tough 3-0 road sweep just six times in BIG EAST play ... ND is 46-7 in its last 53 games at Eck Stadium (since a 7-5 loss to Pittsburgh on April 11, 2002) ... the Irish have scored in 106 straight games and have been shut out just once in the last 336 ... ND has scored in 99.3% of the games during the 10-year Mainieri era (578 of 582) ... Mainieri's 22-year career record is 749-442-2 (418-163-1/.719 at ND) ... the Irish own a 140-48 (.745) record in 8-plus seasons of BIG EAST play, with Mainieri owning the best BIG EAST winning pct. in the league's history ... ND's 74 all-time BIG EAST series include 56 series wins, 9 even series and just 9 series wins by the opponent ... since starting 0-4 in '02 BIG EAST play, ND is 37-11 in its last 48 BIG EAST games ... the Irish have lost just 3 of 38 all-time BIG EAST home series (31 series wins, 4 even) while the last 24 BE series at Eck have seen ND win 21 and split 2.

IRISH PLAYER NOTES – **Chris Niesel** (16-2, .889) and **Tom Thornton** (2.04) have combined respectively for the second-best career win pct. and best career ERA in ND baseball history ... ND's infield shifts – **Greg Lopez** to SS, **Matt Macri** SS to 3B, **Matt Edwards** 3B to 1B and **Joe Thaman** 1B to LHP – have paid bid dividends, with the four starting IF (also 2B **Steve Sollmann**) combining for just 12 errors ... the leftside IFs have combined for 33 error-free games this season (17 for Lopez, 16 for Macri) ... Lopez is batting .469 (15-for-32) in his career-best 9-game hitting streak, including six straight games with a double (ended vs. WMU) ... since flipping spots with Danny Dressman (now the leadoff hitter), Sollmann is batting .444 as the 2-hole hitter during his last 5 games (8-for-18) ... **Matt Bransfield** had 4 HRs in his 7-game hit streak that ended vs. Hillsdale (.393, 11-for-28) ... Sollmann has not made an error in his last 25 games with the Irish (just 16 total Es in last 3 seasons) while ranking 5th on the ND career hits list (238, one behind Alec Porzel) and 6th in runs (194, one behind Mike Amrhein) ... **Cody Rizzo's** 36 times hit-by-pitch are two shy of the ND career record ... Thornton's 6-hit gem at WVU is just ND's third 9-inning solo shutout in a BIG EAST game during the last six seasons (Danny Tamayo had two in '01) ... Thornton has posted a 0.78 ERA while winning his last three starts (12 H, 6 BB, 16 Ks in 23 IP).

FAR & WIDE – The 10 players listed below as potential starters include three California natives, two from Ohio, plus one each from Florida, Virginia, Iowa, New York and Colorado.

NOTRE DAME PROBABLE STARTING LINEUP (* indicates lefthander hitter, ** switch hitter)

(1) CF #6 DANNY DRESSMAN*

Fr.; 5-9/175 (San Jose, CA/Archbishop Mitty HS)

Year	Avg	GP-GS	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	TB	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	GDP	OB%	SF	SH	SB-ATT	E
2004....	.260	19-19	73	12	19	4	0	0	10	23	.315	13	0	14	0	.364	2	4	2-4	0

- **2004 Team Ranks** – leads team in sac. bunts (4), ranking 2nd in walks (13; 8th BIG EAST), 4th in doubles (4), 5th in hits (19)
- **Situational Hitting** – .294 with runners on/.200 in scoring position320 with 2 outs (3rd on team with 6 two-out RBI)222 leadoff on-base pct. ... 26 runners advanced (4th on team; also 3rd with 60.5% advanced)
- **Last Week at West Virginia** – 1-for-12 (.083), 5 BB, R, 4 Ks
- **Top 2004 Games** – vs. Winthrop at FAU (2-4, RBI, 2 R, SAC), vs. SIU in San Antonio (2-6, 2 RBI, 2B), Detroit (2-2, BB, R), gm-1 at West Virginia (0-2, 4 BB), Western Michigan (2-4, RBI, 2 R)
- **Trends** – batting .278 (5-for-18) in his last 5 games as leadoff hitter (RBI, 4 R, 6 BB/.458 on-base, SB, 4 Ks) ... also has made 13 starts in 2-hole, one in 9-hole)
- **Senior Season at Mitty HS** ('03): .402, 8 HR, 40 RBI, 15-15 SB, 21 BB
- One of three **California natives** in 2004 opening-day lineup (also Cody Rizzo, Steve Andres) ... **parents** Chuck and Diane (former ND tennis player) are Notre Dame graduates

(2) 2B #3 STEVE SOLLMANN

Sr.; 5-11/195 (Cincinnati, OH/St. Xavier HS)

Year	Avg	GP-GS	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	TB	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	GDP	OB%	SF	SH	SB-ATT	E
2001....	.362	61-61	221	52	80	9	2	5	36	108	.489	30	4	29	0	.440	4	6	23-34	21
2002....	.362	59-57	213	53	77	8	4	2	47	99	.465	22	3	18	3	.420	5	6	6-6	8
2003....	.384	61-61	255	67	98	16	5	4	40	136	.533	25	1	23	2	.438	2	4	38-48	8
2004....	.280	20-20	82	22	23	1	1	2	13	32	.390	13	6	10	3	.412	1	0	5-7	0
TOTAL...	.361	201-199	771	194	278	34	12	13	136	375	.486	90	14	90	8	.431	12	16	72-95	37

- **ND Record Book** – ranks 9th in career batting avg. (.361), 4th in fielding assists (558), 5th in stolen bases (72), 5th in hits (278), 6th in runs (194), 9th in triples (12) and 9th in at-bats (771) ... next up on those lists are Alec Porzel's 562 assists (then Pat Pesavento's 617), Greg Layson's 80 SBs, Porzel's 279 hits (then Eric Danapilis' 295 and Pesavento's 296), Mike Amrhein's 195 runs (then Craig Counsell's 204), Paul Failia and Ryan Topham's 13 triples and Andrew Bushey's 777 ABs (then Jeff Felker's 792).
- **2004 Team Ranks** – leads 2004 team in stolen bases (5) and runs (22; also 6th among BIG EAST players) while ranking 2nd in walks (13; 8th BIG EAST) and starts (16), 3rd in hit-by-pitch (6), and 4th in hits (23), RBI (13) and total bases (32).
- **Situational Hitting** – .310 with runners on/.294 in scoring position346 with 2 outs (5 two-out RBI)407 leadoff on-base pct. (4th on team) ... 24 runners advanced (5th on team; also 51.1% advanced)
- **Last Week at West Virginia** – 5-for-11 (.455), 4 BB, 3 RBI, 3 R, HR, 3B, K, 2-3 SB, SF
- **Trends** – Has collected hits in 9 of his last 10 games (.350/14-for-40), with his season batting average rising from .214 to .280 since 0-for-5 vs. Penn State on March 11 ... batting .444 (8-for-18) in last 5 games as 2-hole hitter ... 90 career BB, 90 Ks.
- **Second-to-None** – rated BIG EAST's best defensive 2B for '04, per *Baseball America* (was a prep CF) ... has averaged 5.4 games per error in his career, including just 16 total errors in the last three seasons (8.8 games per E) ... has not made an error in his last 25 games with the Irish (spanning 155 fielding chances) while totaling 73 error-free games in the last two seasons (81 GP).
- **Honors** – Preseason 1st Team All-American/BE Player of Year ... 2003 All-American/Academic All-American (3.38 GPA, mark. major)
- **Top 2004 Games** – vs. San Diego St. (2-4, 2 R, 2 BB, SB), Minnesota (2-4, RBI, R, BB, HBP), UTSA/title gm (2-6, 3 RBI, R), SIU-gm 3 (1-3, HR, 2 R, HBP, BB), at WVU-gm1 (3-4, BB, RBI, R), WVU-gm 3 (1-2, 3 BB, 2 RBI, 2 R, HR, 2SB), WMU (3-5, RBI, R)

(3) DH/LF #36 STEVE ANDRES*

So.; 5-10/190 (Napa, CA/Justin Siena HS)

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....	.341	18-14	44	13	15	2	1	3	12	28	.636	17	3	12	0	.538	1	0	2-5	1
TOTAL...	.291	61-43	148	39	43	4	3	7	34	74	.500	36	12	39	3	.455	4	0	4-8	2

- **2004 Team Ranks** – leads team and BIG EAST in slugging pct. (.636), also leading Irish in on-base pct. (.538; 3rd BIG EAST) and walks (17; 2nd BIG EAST) while ranking 3rd on team in home runs (3), 4th in batting (.341) and 5th in RBI (12).
- **Situational Hitting** – .379 with runners on (3rd on team)/.313 in scoring position294 with 2 outs (6 two-out RBI)600 leadoff on-base pct. (2nd on team) ... 13 runners advanced (41.9%)
- **Last Week at West Virginia** – 2-for-6 (.333), 3 BB, 3 RBI, R, 3B, 2 Ks, 1-1 SB
- **Top 2004 Games** – vs. Winthrop (1-3, RBI, 2 R, HR, BB), SIU in S.A. (3-for-3, RBI, 2B), UTSA first game (2-5, 2 RBI, R, HR), at WVU-gm 2 (1-3, BB, 2 RBI, R, 3B)
- **Trends** – has hits in his last 5 GP (5-for-12, 5 RBI, 6 R)
- **Oh-Boy! OBS** – his offensive versatility includes 1.174 combined slugging and on-base pct. in 2004 (also +5 in BB/K ratio)
- **All-Tournament** selection at Alamo City Irish Baseball Classic (.462, 6-for-13, BB, 4 RBI, 3 R, HR, 2B)
- **Academic All-America** candidate (3.40 GPA, business major)
- **As Pinch-Hitter** – has collected hits in 8 of his last 12 pinch-hit ABs with the Irish (8-for-18 overall), including 4-for-7 in 2004 (rest of '04 team is 0-for-6) ... was 4-for-11 as a 2003 pinch-hitter (ended freshman season 4-for-5 in pinch-hit ABs)
- **4th-generation** ND student (great-grandfather William Andres played for ND) ... former walk-on, sparked ND's '03 opening week

or (3) DH #12 MATT BRANSFIELD (likely 7-hole if Andres in LF)

So.; 6-1/200 (Englewood, CO/Cherry Creek HS)

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....	.278	18-14	54	7	15	1	0	4	12	28	.519	4	3	8	1	.361	0	0	0-0	0
TOTAL...	.296	51-31	125	20	37	4	0	4	22	53	.424	7	6	27	2	.357	2	1	0-0	0

- **2004 Team Ranks** – ranks 2nd on team in home runs (4), 5th in RBI (12).
- **Situational Hitting** – .267 with runners on/.273 in scoring position222 with 2 outs (3 two-out RBI)308 leadoff on-base pct. ... 17 runners advanced (53.1%)
- **Last Week at West Virginia** – 3-for-14 (.214), HBP, RBI, R, 2B, 4 Ks
- **Top 2004 Games** – vs. USC (2-3), Florida Memorial (1-5, 2 RBI, R), first game at SIU (2-3, HBP, HR), Detroit (2-3, 3 RBI, BB, HR), Western Michigan (3-4, 2 RBI, 2 R, HR) ... also homered vs. Central Michigan
- **Academic All-America** candidate (3.34 GPA, College of Arts & Letters)
- **Trends** – homered 4 times in 7-game hitting streak (.398, 11-for-28) that ended vs. Hillsdale

(4) 1B #14 MATT EDWARDS

Jr.; 6-2/195 (Mechanicsville, VA/Lee-Davis HS)

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	6	.439	4	0	2-5	9
2004....	.324	21-20	80	15	25	5	0	5	22	45	.562	12	3	11	2	.542	1	0	1-1	1
TOTAL...	.357	92-90	340	58	120	22	2	13	95	185	.544	40	8	66	9	.426	6	0	4-7	16

- **2004 Team Ranks** – leads '04 team in HRs (5; also 4th in BIG EAST), total bases (45), games (21) and RBI (22; also 2nd BIG EAST), plus 2nd on team in doubles (5) and starts (20), 3rd in slugging (.563) and hits (25), and 4th in walks (12) and runs (15)
- **Situational Hitting** – .372 with runners on (4th on team)/.310 in scoring position351 with 2 outs (5th on team; plus team-best 10 two-out RBI)400 leadoff on-base pct. (5th on team) ... 30 runners advanced (2nd on team, plus team-best 62.5% adv.)
- **ND Record Book** – his .357 career batting avg. would rank 11th in ND history
- **Last Week at West Virginia** – 4-for-14 (.286), 2 RBI, 2B, 1-1 SB
- **Top 2004 Games** – vs. San Diego State (3-5, 4 RBI, R, HR, 2B), Winthrop (3-4, 2 RBI, 2 R, 2B, BB), Florida Atlantic (2-4, 2 RBI, 2 R, game-tying and go-ahead HRs), UTSA first game (3-4, 4 RBI, 2 R, HR, 2B, SF) and Texas Tech (3-4, R, 2B, BB)
- **Trends** – Ended 0-for-16 slump in first game at West Virginia (now 5-for-18 with 5 RBI in last 4 GP)
- **Tournament MVP** at FAU Classic (.417, 5-for-12, 2 BB, HBP, 4 RBI, 5 R, 2 HR, 2B) and Alamo City Irish Baseball Classic (.438, 7-for-16, 4 BB, 7 RBI, 4 R, HR, 2B) ... first Mainieri-era player to **homer in his first AB** of season opener ('04 vs. SDSU)
- **2003 honors:** 1st team all-BIG EAST, ABCA 2nd team all-region
- Returned in 2003 after suffering **broken leg** early in '02 (at Round Rock); prep SS, played 3B and 1B in '03

(5) #17 CODY RIZZO**So.; 6-1/200 (Temecula, CA/Chaparral HS)**

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	6	.425	3	1	1-2	4
2004....	.346	14-14	52	15	18	1	0	0	6	19	.365	0	8	9	0	.426	1	0	1-1	2
TOTAL...	.321	72-70	243	68	78	12	1	4	44	104	.428	11	36	42	6	.425	4	1	2-3	6

- **2004 Team Ranks** – leads '04 team in hit-by-pitch (8), ranking 3rd in batting (.346), 4th in on-base pct. (.426) and 5th in runs (15).
- **Situational Hitting** – .333 with runners on/.333 in scoring position (5th on team)200 with 2 outs (2 two-out RBI) ... team-best .714 leadoff on-base pct. ... 14 runners advanced (46.7%)
- **Last Week at West Virginia** – 5-for-13 (.385), HBP, RBI, 2 R, 2B, 4 Ks
- **Top '04 Games** – vs. USC (2-3, 2 R), Minnesota (1-5, HBP, 3 R), SIU (2-5, HBP, 2 RBI, 2 R), UTSA gm-2 (2-3, HBP, 3 R), at WVU-1 (3-5, 2 R), at WVU-2 (2-4, RBI, 2B)
- Batting 6-for-18 in last 5 GP, after missing 6 games with wrist injury (ND was 4-2 in those games).
- **HBP MVP** – set Notre Dame record with 28 HBP in '03 (7th in NCAA record book) ... his 36 career HBP already are 2nd in the ND record book and just two shy of Craig DeSensi's record total ('92-'95) ... NCAA record: 92, Anthony Hurtado (Univ. San Francisco)
- Prep **soccer/baseball** two-sport star; hit 8 HRs in '03 fall ball ... high school catcher who has developed into stellar defensive OF

(6) C #15 JAVI SANCHEZ**Sr.; 6-3/205 (Miami, FL/Columbus HS)**

Year	Avg	GP-GS	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	TB	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	GDP	OB%	SF	SH	SB-ATT	E
2001....	.000	9-2	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	1	0	2	0	.071	0	0	0-0	1
2002....	.281	66-65	231	50	65	7	3	5	29	93	.403	24	5	32	3	.360	1	8	1-1	28
2003....	.303	58-57	201	42	61	13	1	1	26	79	.393	20	7	16	1	.384	1	5	6-8	8
2004....	.279	18-18	68	11	19	4	0	1	10	26	.382	9	4	10	1	.390	1	1	0-0	2
TOTAL...	.283	151-142	513	103	145	24	4	7	65	198	.386	54	16	60	5	.367	3	14	7-9	39

- **2004 Team Ranks** – 4th on team in doubles (4) and hit-by-pitch (4), 5th in hits (19)
- **Situational Hitting** – .324 with runners on/team-best .381 in scoring position ... team-best .429 with 2 outs (5 two-out RBI)333 leadoff on-base pct. ... 21 runners advanced (52.5%)
- **Last Week at West Virginia** – 1-for-10 (.100), R, 2 Ks
- **Top 2004 Games** – vs. Winthrop (3-5, 2 RBI, 2 R, 2B), Southern Illinois in S.A. (4-6, 2 R, 2B) and UTSA first game (2-4, 2 RBI, R, 2B, HBP), SIU gm 3 (2-for-3, 2 HBP, RBI)
- **Trends** – batting just 3-for-18 in his last 4 GP.
- **All-Tournament** at FAU Classic (.417, 5-12, 4 RBI, 3 R, HR, 2B) and Alamo City Classic (.412, 7-17, 3 BB, HBP, 3 RBI, 4 R, 3 2B)
- Prep 2B who started at **SS for 2002 CWS team**; converted to another new position of catcher in 2003
- 2003 **BIG EAST Tournament MVP** (8-for-11, 4 BB, 4 SAC, 6 RBI, 5 R), NCAA **Regional all-tournament** pick (6-for-15, 2 RBI, 4 R)
- Serves as 2004 team **tri-captain** along with senior 2B Steve Sollmann and junior RHP Chris Niesel

(7/8) 3B #5 MATT MACRI**Jr.; 6-2/190 (Clive, IA/Dowling HS)**

Year	Avg	GP-GS	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	TB	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	GDP	OB%	SF	SH	SB-ATT	E
2002....	.206	17-16	68	10	14	3	0	1	13	20	.294	7	0	24	0	.273	2	0	1-2	0
2003....	.294	60-60	214	41	63	15	5	4	35	100	.467	26	6	47	1	.386	0	7	6-9	19
2004....	.333	20-20	78	20	26	5	1	3	22	42	.538	12	1	17	0	.424	1	1	2-3	5
TOTAL...	.286	97-96	360	71	103	23	6	8	70	162	.450	45	7	88	1	.373	3	8	9-14	24

- **2004 Team Ranks** – leads team with 22 RBI (also 3rd in BIG EAST) while ranking 2nd in hits (26) and doubles (5), 3rd in runs (20), home runs (3) and total bases (42), 4th in walks (12) and 5th in batting (.333), slugging (.538) and on-base (.424).
- **Situational Hitting** – .353 with runners on/.364 in scoring position (3rd on team)250 with 2 outs (6 two-out RBI, 3rd on team)500 leadoff on-base pct. ... team-best 31 runners advanced (54.4%)
- **Last Week at West Virginia** – 1-for-12 (.083), BB, R, 2B, 4 Ks, SAC, E
- **Top 2004 Games** – vs. Minn. (4-6, 6 RBI, 5 R, 2-run, opp.-field HR, 3-run 3B), SIU in S.A. (3-6, RBI, 3 R), Penn St. in R.R. (3-4, 3 RBI), SIU gm (1-4, HR), Detroit (1-3, 3 BB, 3 RBI, 3 R, HR) and Western Michigan (3-3, R, SB) ... big day vs. **Minnesota** included career-high hits (4), 6 RBI and 5 R one shy of tying ND records ... one of 8 ND players known to score 5-plus R, 3rd in ND record book since 1901 (Pat Pesavento had 5 vs. Penn in '89, Brant Ust 5 vs. at Seton Hall in '98, Steve Sollmann tied 102-year-old ND record with 6 R vs. South Ala. in '02 NCAAs)
- **All-Tournament** at FAU Classic (.385, 5-13, 7 RBI, 7 R, HR, 3B, 2 BB) and Alamo City Classic (.400, 6-15, BB, 3 RBI, 6 R, 2 2B)
- Already has **16 error-free** games in '04, including two 7-game errorless streak (he totaled 45 error-free games at Irish SS in '03)
- Rated nation's **#41 prospect** among 2004 college juniors, per *Baseball America* (4th infielder on that list)
- Returned in 2003 after early-season **elbow injury** in 2002 freshman season
- **Summer 2003**: hit **7 HRs** as 3B in wood-bat **Cape Cod League**, with Brewster Whitecaps
- One of several **top prep QBs** on 2004 ND team (also Matt Bransfield, Steve Andres, Mike Dury)

(8/9) SS #4 GREG LOPEZ

So.; 6-0/185 (Upper Arlington, OH/Upper Arlington HS)

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....	.408	21-21	76	21	31	8	0	2	19	45	.592	5	6	10	2	.467	3	3	3-3	6
TOTAL...	.308	71-61	208	38	64	9	0	2	45	79	.380	9	10	32	7	.358	5	11	4-8	14

- **2004 Team Ranks** – leads '04 team in batting (.408), doubles (8) and hits (31), also ranking 2nd in slugging (.467), on-base (.467), runs (21), total bases (45), sac. bunts (3), 3rd in RBI (19) and 5th in home runs (2)
- **Situational Hitting** – .386 with runners on/.367 in scoring position (both 2nd on team)360 with 2 outs (4th on team; also 2nd with 7 two-out RBI)400 leadoff on-base pct. ... 29 runners advanced (3rd on team; also 54.7%)
- **Last Week at West Virginia** – 6-for-12 (.500), BB, RBI, 4 R, 3 2B, SAC
- **Top 2004 Games** – vs. Winthrop (4-6, 6 RBI, 2 R, HR, 2B), Southern Illinois (2-5, 2 RBI, R), Penn State in S.A. (2-4, RBI, R), Texas Tech (1-2, 2 R, HBP, SAC), loss at SIU (1-3, HR, HBP), SIU gm 3 (3-5, 2B), Central Michigan (2-4, 2B), at WVU-1 (2-5, RBI, R, 2B), at WVU-3 (3-4, 3 R, BB, 2B, 2 SB)
- **Trends** – Riding career-best 9-game hitting streak (.469, 15-for-32)
- Named to **Florida Atlantic Classic All-Tournament Team** (.357, 5-for-14, 8 RBI, 2 R, HR, 2B)
- Already has posted **17 error-free games** in 2004, with one errors in last 12 games

or (9) LF #9 CRAIG COOPER

So.; 6-2/205 (Plainview, NY/Chaminde HS)

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....	.327	19-11	52	10	17	4	1	2	12	29	.558	4	0	5	1	.368	1	2	2-4	0
TOTAL...	.310	65-42	174	32	54	10	3	2	27	76	.430	19	4	28	4	.389	1	4	12-17	1

- **82004 Team Ranks** – ranks 4th on team in slugging (.558), 5th in home runs (2) and total bases (29)
- **Situational Hitting** – .367 with runners on (5th on team) /.304 in scoring position389 with 2 outs (3rd on team; also 5 two-out RBI)300 leadoff on-base pct. ... 19 runners advanced (5th on team with 55.9% adv.)
- **Last Week at West Virginia** – 1-for-2 (2 GP)
- **Trends** – Batting 6-for-9 in last 3 GP (4 RBI, 2 HR)
- **Top 2004 Games** – vs. Florida Memorial (2-for-4, 2 RBI, BB) ant UTSA in title game (2-for-5, 3 RBI, R, 2B), WMU (1-1, HR), Hillsdale (4-6, 3 RBI, 2 R, HR, 3B)
- **Summer 2003** (Hays Larks): hit .337 with 24 SB, 38 RBI, 5 HR, 5 3B

NOTRE DAME'S 2004 STARTERS – By Position

Opponent	C	1B	2B	SS	3B	LF	CF	RF	DH	P
San Diego State	Sanchez	Edwards	Sollmann	Lopez	Macri	Grogan	Dressman	Rizzo	Andres	Niesel
USC	Sanchez	Edwards	Sollmann	Lopez	Macri	Cooper	Dressman	Rizzo	Bransfield	Thornton
Winthrop	Sanchez	Edwards	Sollmann	Lopez	Macri	Cooper	Dressman	Rizzo	Bransfield	Niesel
FAU	Sanchez	Edwards	Sollmann	Lopez	Macri	Cooper	Dressman	Rizzo	Bransfield	Thornton
Florida Memorial	Gaston	Dury	Fournier	Lopez	Macri	Bransfield	Grogan	Cooper	Andres	Stewart
Minnesota	Gaston	Edwards	Sollmann	Lopez	Macri	Andres	Rizzo	Grogan	Sanchez	Olvey
Southern Illinois	Sanchez	Edwards	Sollmann	Lopez	Macri	Fournier	Dressman	Rizzo	Bransfield	Niesel
Texas-San Antonio	Gaston	Edwards	Sollmann	Lopez	Macri	Andres	Dressman	Rizzo	Sanchez	Thornton
Penn State	Gaston	Edwards	Sollmann	Lopez	Sanchez	Cooper	Dressman	Rizzo	Andres	Johnson
Texas-San Antonio	Sanchez	Edwards	Sollmann	Lopez	Macri	Cooper	Dressman	Rizzo	Andres	Stewart
Penn State	Sanchez	Edwards	Sollmann	Lopez	Macri	Andres	Dressman	Grogan	Gaston	Olvey
Arizona	Sanchez	Edwards	Sollmann	Lopez	Macri	Grogan	Dressman	Cooper	Andres	Niesel
Texas Tech	Sanchez	Edwards	Sollmann	Lopez	Macri	Fournier	Dressman	Cooper	Bransfield	Thornton
at So. Illinois-1	Sanchez	Edwards	Sollmann	Lopez	Macri	Fournier	Dressman	Cooper	Bransfield	Niesel
at So. Illinois-2	Gaston	Edwards	Sollmann	Lopez	Macri	Andres	Dressman	Grogan	Sanchez	Thornton
Central Michigan	Sanchez	Edwards	Sollmann	Lopez	Macri	Cooper	Dressman	Fournier	Bransfield	Thaman
Detroit	Gaston	Edwards	Sollmann	Lopez	Macri	Andres	Dressman	Rizzo	Bransfield	Stewart
at WVU-1	Sanchez	Edwards	Sollmann	Lopez	Macri	Fournier	Dressman	Rizzo	Bransfield	Niesel
at WVU-2	Gaston	Edwards	Sollmann	Lopez	Macri	Andres	Dressman	Rizzo	Bransfield	Thornton
at WVU-3	Sanchez	Edwards	Sollmann	Lopez	Macri	Andres	Dressman	Rizzo	Bransfield	Johnson
Western Michigan	Sanchez	Edwards	Sollmann	Lopez	Macri	Andres	Dressman	Rizzo	Bransfield	Stewart
Hillsdale	Gaston	Dury	Sisko	Murray	Bransfield	Andres	Nettey	Cooper	Weiss	Vasami