



Notre Dame Women's Tennis

13 Straight Top-30 Finishes • 12 NCAA Tournaments Since '93 • 18 Conference Titles

Weekly Notes Package • November 2, 2005 • Contact: Bo Rottenborn, Rottenborn.2@nd.edu

ITA National Intercollegiate Indoor Tennis Championships

Columbus, Ohio • The Racquet Club of Columbus • The Ohio State University

November 3-6

Midwest Blast VII

Urbana, Illinois • Atkins Tennis Center • University of Illinois

November 4-6

THOMPSONS LOOK FOR ANOTHER GRAND SLAM TITLE THIS WEEKEND WHILE REST OF IRISH HEAD TO MIDWEST BLAST VII: Junior twins **Catrina Thompson** (Las Vegas, Nev./Bishop Gorman H.S.) and **Christian Thompson** (Las Vegas, Nev./Bishop Gorman H.S.) — who beat three top-10 teams en route to claiming the doubles title in the season's first grand slam, the Riviera/ITA All-American Championships — will try to become the first women's doubles team ever to win both of the first two grand slams of a season, as they travel to the ITA National Intercollegiate Indoor Tennis Championships, set for Thursday-Sunday at the Racquet Club of Columbus in Columbus, Ohio. The Thompsons are the top-seeded team in the event, marking the first No. 1 seeding in a grand slam in Irish history. Catrina Thompson also will compete in singles. The rest of the Notre Dame women's tennis team will head to Urbana, Ill., for Midwest Blast VII, which will run from Friday through Sunday at the University of Illinois' Atkins Tennis Center.

MIDWEST BLAST FORMAT & SCHEDULE: The Midwest Blast take place Friday-Saturday at the Atkins Tennis Center on the campus of the University of Illinois. Four teams will be participating: Illinois, Louisville, Notre Dame, and Wisconsin. The tournament will feature hidden dual action, where teams play simulated dual matches, but no team scores are recorded. All matches count for individual records and rankings purposes. Notre Dame is slated to play doubles against Louisville on Friday at 9 a.m. (CST), followed by singles against Illinois at 6 p.m. On Saturday, the Irish will face Wisconsin in doubles at 9:30 a.m. and Louisville in singles at 10:30 a.m. Sunday will feature doubles vs. the Illini at 9 a.m. and singles against Wisconsin at 11:30 a.m.

ND IN THE MIDWEST BLAST: This will be the second time that Notre Dame competes in the Midwest Blast, after also doing so in 2003. In hidden dual action, the Irish went 12-9 in singles and 4-5 in doubles against players from Illinois, Miami, and Virginia.

RANKED PLAYERS IN THE MIDWEST BLAST: The Midwest Blast will feature two nationally-ranked singles players and a ranked team in doubles. In singles, Wisconsin's Caitlin Burke is 32nd, while Irish sophomore **Brook Buck** (Yukon, Okla./Oklahoma Christian School) stands 54th. Buck and freshman **Kelcy Tefft** (Enid, Okla./Chisholm H.S.) are 60th in doubles.

ITA NATIONAL INTERCOLLEGIATE INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS FORMAT & HISTORY: The ITA National Intercollegiate Indoor Championships feature a 32-player singles field and 16-team doubles field for men and women, including: qualifiers from ITA Regional Championships held across the country during October, the ITA National Small College champions, the winners of the Polo Ralph Lauren All-American Tennis Championships and Riviera/ITA Women's All-American Championships and at-large and wild card selections made by the ITA National Tournament Committee. Overall, more than 10,000 players from nearly 600 schools participate annually in the Wilson/ITA Regional and National Intercollegiate Championships. This event was inaugurated in 1978 for the men and 1984 for the women and recent champions and finalists include current and recent top 100 professionals James Blake (Harvard), Laura Granville (Stanford), Marissa Irvin (Stanford), Jeff Morrison (Florida) and Lisa Raymond (Florida). Big Ten legends and Grand Slam finalists Todd Martin (Northwestern) and MaliVai Washington (Michigan) are also among the past champions. 2005 marks the 15th anniversary of Martin's championship run. Big Ten players have reached the men's singles final at this event each of the past four years (winning three titles). Last year, Miami's Megan Bradley beat Susie Babos of California 6-2, 6-2 in the singles final, while Cristelle Grier and Audra Cohen from Northwestern prevailed 8-2 against Stanford's Alice Barnes and Erin Burdette in the doubles final. Grier also won the '03 title with Jessica Rush. The doubles draw will have one round each day, but the round of 16 and quarterfinals of the singles will both be played on Friday.

TOP SEEDS: Junior twins **Catrina Thompson** (Las Vegas, Nev./Bishop Gorman H.S.) and **Christian Thompson** (Las Vegas, Nev./Bishop Gorman H.S.) are the top-seeded team in the doubles bracket, due largely to winning the title in last month's ITA/Riviera ITA All-American Championships and having posted a 5-0 overall record thus far this season. It is the first-ever No. 1 seed in a grand slam for Notre Dame women's tennis. The Thompsons were the No. 2 seed in the event a year ago, and current assistant coach **Michelle Dasso** was the No. 2 seed in the 1999 T. Rowe Price National Clay Court Championships.

IRISH DRAWS: The top-seeded Thompson twins will open play on Thursday by taking on the team of Kim Coventry and Joelle Schwenk of Kentucky. The Wildcats are ninth in the preseason national rankings, but hold just a 7-6 record (2-3 vs. ranked teams) this fall after losing in the final of the Wilson/ITA Southeast Championships. Catrina Thompson, ranked 27th nationally in singles, will challenge the No. 5 seed in the singles draw in opening-round action. She will face Robin Stephenson of Alabama, who was listed fourth in the preseason rankings.

ND IN THE ITA NATIONAL INTERCOLLEGIATE INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS: Notre Dame will be represented in the ITA National Intercollegiate Indoor Championships for the 12th time in the last 15 years. Among the top performances in doubles were current juniors **Catrina Thompson** (Las

Notre Dame Women's Tennis Fall 2005 Schedule

Sept. 23-25	at Maryland Invitational (College Park, MD) — Connelly/Stastny, Stastny, Nelson win consolation championships
Sept. 30-Oct. 2	at Hoosier Classic (Bloomington, IN) — Tefft, Nelson win singles titles; Buck/Tefft take doubles draw
Oct. 1-9	at Riviera/ITA All-American Championships (Pacific Palisades, CA) — Thompsons win doubles title (1st ever at ND)
Oct. 14	SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (exhibition) — ND loses two key tiebreakers (No. 2 doubles & singles) in 4-3 loss
Oct. 20-25	at ITA Midwest Championships (East Lansing, MI) — Catrina Thompson in singles semis; 2 doubles teams in semis
Nov. 3-6	at ITA National Intercollegiate Indoor Championships (Columbus, OH)
Nov. 4-6	at Midwest Blast VII (Urbana, IL)

Irish in the ITA National Indoor Championships

SINGLES

2003 - Alicia Salas (first round)

1st: 1. [4] Alexis Gordon (Florida) 6-3, 6-3

2001 - Michelle Dasso (semifinals)

1st: def. Keiko Tokuda (Stanford) 6-2, 5-7, 6-1

Rd. of 16: def. Chin Bee Khoo (Arkansas) 6-3, 6-1

Quarters: def. Sara Walker (UCLA) 6-1, 2-6, 6-4

Semis: 1. [1] Laura Granville (Stanford) 6-3, 6-2

1999 - Michelle Dasso (first round)

1st: 1. Kristina Kraszewski (Washington) 6-3, 6-3

1998 - Michelle Dasso (first round)

1st: 1. Lauren Nikolaus (William & Mary)

6-4, 1-6, 6-3

Jennifer Hall (quarterfinals)

1st: def. Zofia Csapo (Pepperdine) 3-6, 7-5, 6-0

Rd. of 16: def. [2] Agnes Muzamel (Mississippi)

4-6, 6-4, 6-2

Quarters: 1. Zuzana Lesenarova (San Diego) 6-2,

4-6, 6-0

1996 - Jennifer Hall (semifinals)

1st: def. Vanessa Webb (Duke) 7-5, 6-1

Rd. of 16: def. [7] Sandra De Silva (Stanford) 6-7,

6-3, 6-4

Quarters: def. Farley Taylor (Texas) 6-3, 6-0

Semis: 1. [5] Kylie Hunt (Kansas) 6-3, 2-6, 6-4

Wendy Crabtree (first round)

1st: 1. [4] Vicky Maes (Arizona) 6-3, 6-7, 6-3

1995 - Wendy Crabtree (first round)

1st: 1. Dawn Buth (Florida) 5-7, 6-1, 6-4

1994 - Wendy Crabtree (quarterfinals)

1st: def. Jean Okada (UC-Santa Barbara) 6-3, 6-2

Rd. of 16: def. [6] Jennifer Poulos (California) 6-

4, 6-4

Quarters: 1. [1] Lucie Ludvigova (Texas) 6-1,

6-3

1992 - Melissa Harris [5] (round of 16)

1st: def. Petra Schmitt (USC) 7-5, 4-6, 6-1

Rd. of 16: 1. Deborah Edelman (Indiana)

4-6, 6-3, 6-1

1991 - Tracy Barton (round of 16)

1st: def. Eveline Hamers (Kansas) 6-2, 6-3

Rd. of 16: 1. [1] Sandra Birch (Stanford)

6-3, 6-0

DOUBLES

2004 - Catrina Thompson/Christian Thompson (semifinals)

1st: def. Sarah Foster/Aibika Kalsarieva (Kentucky) 8-5

Quarters: def. Audrey Banada/Megan Bradley (Miami) 8-5

Semis: 1. Alice Barnes/Erin Burdette (Stanford) 9-7

2001 - Michelle Dasso/Becky Varnum (semifinals)

1st: def. Lauren Barnikow/Lauren Kalvana (Stanford) 4-6, 6-4, 6-2

Quarters: def. [4] Vlada Ulhirova/Janet Walker (Texas) 6-0, 6-4

Semis: 1. [1] Ipek Senoglu/Paola Palencia (Pepperdine) 6-3, 6-2

2000 - Michelle Dasso/Becky Varnum (first round)

1st: 1. Claire Curran/Amy Jensen (California) 6-2, 6-4

1995 - Wendy Crabtree/Holyn Lord (first round)

1st: 1. Jane Chi/Stephanie Chi (UCLA)

6-1, 6-4

Note: Numbers in brackets are seedings.

Vegas, Nev./Bishop Gorman H.S.) and **Christian Thompson** (Las Vegas, Nev./Bishop Gorman H.S.) reaching the title match last year, and **Becky Varnum** and current assistant coach **Michelle Dasso** advancing to the semis in 2001. In singles, Dasso was a semifinalist in '01, as was **Jennifer Hall** in 1996, while **Wendy Crabtree** (1994) and Hall ('98) both reached the quarterfinals. ND had never had a seeded doubles team prior to last year, when the Thompsons were the No. 2 seed. Only one Irish player — **Melissa Harris** in 1992 (No. 5) — has ever been seeded in singles. See box on this page for complete results of the Irish in the ITA National Intercollegiate Indoor Championships.

IRISH HEAD COACH: Jay Louderback is in his 17th season at Notre Dame with a 283-147 (.659) record and his 26th year as a collegiate coach with a 487-325 (.600) mark. He ranks fifth among active NCAA Division I coaches in career victories. Louderback's Irish have finished in the national top 30 in each of the last 13 seasons and have won 12 conference titles. Since the pre-season of the 1992-93 season, Louderback's teams have been in the national top 30 in 202 of 204 sets of ITA rankings. After taking over a program looking for its first NCAA tournament appearance, Louderback has helped Notre Dame to the NCAAs 12 times in the last 13 years (which only 10 other schools have done), including five appearances in the round of 16 and a 1996 quarterfinal finish. Louderback, a four-time Midwest Region coach of the year, has been honored as his conference's top coach on eight occasions, including five times in 10 years in the BIG EAST. In his time at Notre Dame, Louderback's players have earned All-America honors 15 times, won four national ITA awards, and earned 20 invitations to the NCAA Singles Championship and 12 to the NCAA doubles tournament. His players have dominated the University awards during Louderback's tenure, leading all sports in both Byron V. Kanaley awards (six) and Francis Patrick O'Connor awards (six). His family was honored with the United States Tennis Association (USTA) Tennis Family of the Year Award for 2002. The Arkansas City, Kan., native, and 1976 graduate of Wichita State arrived at Notre Dame prior to the 1989-90 season after coaching for seven years at his alma mater and three years (men and women) at Iowa State.

TWO SINGLES PLAYERS, A PAIR OF DOUBLES TEAMS EARN PRESEASON NATIONAL RANKINGS: Junior All-America twins **Catrina Thompson** (Las Vegas, Nev./Bishop Gorman H.S.) and **Christian Thompson** (Las Vegas, Nev./Bishop Gorman H.S.) were listed #2 in doubles to lead the Notre Dame contingent represented in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) preseason national singles and doubles rankings, released earlier this month. Catrina Thompson, at 27th, and sophomore **Brook Buck** (Yukon, Okla./Oklahoma Christian School), at 54th, both earned career-best rankings in singles, while Buck and freshman **Kelcy Tefft** (Enid, Okla./Chisholm H.S.) — formerly the #1-ranked doubles team in juniors action — were 60th in doubles. Notre Dame is one of just nine schools (along with California, Florida, Georgia, Northwestern, Pepperdine, USC, Stanford, and TCU) to feature both two ranked doubles teams and two of the top 55 players in singles. The Irish have multiple players among the top 55 in the nation for the first time since the first set of spring rankings in 1998-99, when current assistant coach **Michelle Dasso** was eighth, **Becky Varnum** was 47th, and **Jennifer Hall** came in 54th. The Thompsons, who became the first ND team ever to be ranked #1 last spring, are behind only another team of juniors, Caroline Basu of Germany and Shadisha Robinson, the University of Georgia team that ended last season ranked #1 and with a 25-3 record.

THOMPSON/THOMPSON CAREER IN GRAND SLAMS (11-4 record)

2003-04

NCAA Championships, May 25-29, Athens, GA

First Round: def. Cynthia Goulet/Jennifer McGaffigan (Illinois) 2-6, 6-2, 6-2

Round of 16: lost to Megan Muth/Amy Wei (William & Mary) 7-5, 4-6, 6-2

2004-05

Riviera/ITA All-American Championships, Oct. 7-10, Pacific Palisades, CA

Round of 16: def. #6 Ashley Bentley/Robin Stephenson (Alabama) 8-4

Quarterfinals: def. [No. 1 seed] #1 Dianne Hollands/Maja Mlakar (Arizona) 8-6

Semifinals: def. #11 Iva Gersic/Maja Kovacek (New Mexico) 9-8 (7-5)

Final: lost to Whitney Benik/Lolita Frangulyan (Florida) 8-3

ITA National Intercollegiate Indoor Championships, Nov. 4-7, Ann Arbor, MI [No. 2 seed]

Round of 16: def. #3 Sarah Foster/Aibika Kalsarieva (Kentucky) 8-5

Quarterfinals: def. #28 Audrey Banada/Megan Bradley (Miami) 8-5

Semifinals: lost to #13 Alice Barnes/Erin Burdette (Stanford) 9-7

NCAA Championships, May 24-28, Athens, GA

First Round: def. Zsuzsanna Fodor/Anastasia Kugakolova (Mississippi State) 6-3, 6-1

Round of 16: lost to Ana Cetnik/Story Tweedie-Yates (TCU) 6-1, 6-2

2005-06

Riviera/ITA All-American Championships, Oct. 6-9, Pacific Palisades, CA

Round of 16: def. #7 Gabriela/Duch/Neyssa Etienne (South Florida) 8-0

Quarterfinals: def. #6 Alice Barnes/Anne Yelsey (Stanford) 9-7

Semifinals: def. [No. 3 seed] #3 Iva Gersic/Maja Kovacek (New Mexico) 8-1

Final: def. #41 Lucia Sainz/Katharina Winterhalter (Fresno State) 9-8 (9-7)

2005-06 NOTRE DAME WOMEN'S TENNIS SCHEDULE

FALL 2005

Date	Day	Opponent	Location	Time
Sept. 23-25	Fri.-Sun.	at Maryland Invitational	College Park, MD	All Day
Sept. 30-Oct. 2	Fri.-Sun.	at Hoosier Classic	Bloomington, IN	All Day
Oct. 6-9	Thurs.-Sun.	at Riviera/ITA All-American Championships	Pacific Palisades, CA	All Day
Oct. 14	Friday	Southern California (exhibition)	Eck Tennis Pavilion	TBA
Oct. 20-25	Thurs.-Sun.	at ITA Midwest Championships	East Lansing, MI	All Day
Nov. 3-6	Thurs.-Sun.	at ITA National Intercollegiate Indoor Chps.	Columbus, OH	All Day
Nov. 4-6	Fri.-Sun.	at Midwest Blast VII	Urbana, IL	All Day

SPRING 2006

Date	Day	Opponent	Location	Time
Jan. 28	Saturday	OHIO STATE	Eck Tennis Pavilion	11 a.m. EST
Jan. 28	Saturday	XAVIER	Eck Tennis Pavilion	4 p.m. EST
Feb. 2-5	Thurs.-Sun.	at USTA/ITA National Team Indoor Championship (Madison, WI)		TBA
Feb. 11	Saturday	at Wake Forest	Winston-Salem, NC	Noon EST
Feb. 12	Sunday	at North Carolina	Chapel Hill, NC	1 p.m. EST
Feb. 15	Wednesday	at Michigan	Ann Arbor, MI	4 p.m. EST
Feb. 18	Saturday	TENNESSEE	Eck Tennis Pavilion	Noon EST
Feb. 19	Sunday	HARVARD	Eck Tennis Pavilion	10 a.m. EST
Feb. 25	Saturday	BRIGHAM YOUNG	Eck Tennis Pavilion	11 a.m. EST
Feb. 26	Sunday	WISCONSIN	Eck Tennis Pavilion	11 a.m. EST
Feb. 28	Tuesday	INDIANA	Eck Tennis Pavilion	3 p.m. EST
March 5	Sunday	ILLINOIS	Eck Tennis Pavilion	11 a.m. EST
March 10	Friday	WESTERN MICHIGAN	Eck Tennis Pavilion	3:30 p.m. EST
March 15	Wednesday	vs. Duke	Orlando, FL	10 a.m. EST
March 18	Saturday	at Texas A&M	College Station, TX	1:30 p.m. CST
March 20	Monday	at Texas	Austin, TX	5:30 p.m. CST
March 24	Friday	IOWA	Eck Tennis Pavilion	3 p.m. EST
March 29	Wednesday	at Vanderbilt	Nashville, TN	2:30 p.m. CST
April 2	Sunday	at Purdue	West Lafayette, IN	11 a.m. EST/CDT
April 5	Wednesday	NORTHWESTERN	Courtney Tennis Center	3:30 p.m. EST/CDT
April 7	Friday	DePAUL	Courtney Tennis Center	3:30 p.m. EST/CDT
April 9	Sunday	MARQUETTE	Courtney Tennis Center	Noon EST/CDT
April 15	Saturday	at Tulane	New Orleans, LA	Noon CDT
April 19-22	Wed.-Sat.	at BIG EAST Championship (Tampa, FL)		TBA
May 12-13	Fri.-Sat.	NCAA Championship (1 st & 2 nd rounds, Campus Sites)		TBA
May 18-21	Thurs.-Sun.	at NCAA Championship (round of 16-final, Stanford, CA)		TBA
May 22-28	Mon.-Sun.	at NCAA Singles & Doubles Championships (Stanford, CA)		All Day

Home matches in **BOLD CAPS** held at the Courtney Tennis Center, weather permitting. Otherwise, home matches held in Eck Tennis Pavilion. All home matches feature live scoring via und.com.

2005-06 Notre Dame Women's Tennis Roster

Alphabetical

No.	Player	Ht.	Yr.	Hometown/High School
7	Brook Buck*	5-7	So.	Yukon, OK/Oklahoma Christian School
4	Lauren Connelly*** (c)	5-9	Sr.	Oklahoma City, OK/Bishop McGuinness H.S.
8	Liz Donohue***	5-8	Sr.	Sioux Falls, SD/O'Gorman H.S.
5	Bailey Louderback* £	5-6	So.	South Bend, IN/Penn H.S.
6	Kelly Nelson**	5-7	Sr.	St. Petersburg, FL/Shorecrest Preparatory School
9	Katie Potts	5-10	Fr.	Brookfield, WI/Divine Savior Holy Angels H.S.
84	Jennifer Smith**	5-9	Sr.	Charlotte, NC/South Mecklenburg H.S.
26	Kristina Stastny*** £	5-6	Sr.	St. Louis, MO/St. Joseph's Academy
23	Kelcy Tefft	5-6	Fr.	Enid, OK/Chisholm H.S.
13	Catrina Thompson**	5-5	Jr.	Las Vegas, NV/Bishop Gorman H.S.
31	Christian Thompson**	5-6	Jr.	Las Vegas, NV/Bishop Gorman H.S.

Head Coach: #20 Jay Louderback (17th season, Wichita State '76)

Assistant Coach: #14 Michelle Dasso (3rd season, Notre Dame '01)

Volunteer Assistant Coach: #15 Liz Balanis (10th season, Wake Forest '94)

Senior Manager: #44 Jerry Beres (2nd season, Notre Dame '06)

Numerical

No.	Player	Ht.	Yr.	Hometown/High School
4	Lauren Connelly*** (c)	5-9	Sr.	Oklahoma City, OK/Bishop McGuinness H.S.
5	Bailey Louderback* £	5-6	So.	South Bend, IN/Penn H.S.
6	Kelly Nelson**	5-7	Sr.	St. Petersburg, FL/Shorecrest Preparatory School
7	Brook Buck*	5-7	So.	Yukon, OK/Oklahoma Christian School
8	Liz Donohue***	5-8	Sr.	Sioux Falls, SD/O'Gorman H.S.
9	Katie Potts	5-10	Fr.	Brookfield, WI/Divine Savior Holy Angels H.S.
13	Catrina Thompson**	5-5	Jr.	Las Vegas, NV/Bishop Gorman H.S.
23	Kelcy Tefft	5-6	Fr.	Enid, OK/Chisholm H.S.
26	Kristina Stastny*** £	5-6	Sr.	St. Louis, MO/St. Joseph's Academy
31	Christian Thompson**	5-6	Jr.	Las Vegas, NV/Bishop Gorman H.S.
84	Jennifer Smith**	5-9	Sr.	Charlotte, NC/South Mecklenburg H.S.

* – denotes monograms earned c – denotes captain £ – indicates left-handed player

Pronunciation Guide

Stastny..... STASS-nee

Balanis buh-LAWN-iss

Kelcy Tefft ... KELL-see teft

Dasso DASS-o

Beres beers

Roster Breakdown By Class

Seniors (5): Connelly, Donohue, Nelson, Smith, Stastny

Juniors (2): Thompson, Thompson

Sophomores (2): Buck, Louderback

Freshmen (2): Potts, Tefft