



2010 NCAA Midwest Regional

March 13 - 14 • Evanston, Ill. • Sports and Aquatic Center

NCAA Regional Lineup

Men's Epee

Name	Year	Hometown
James Kaull	Fr.	Washington, D.C.
Jacob Osborne	Jr.	Colleyville, Texas
Greg Schoolcraft	Jr.	San Jose, Calif.
Andrew Seroff	Jr.	Boulder, Colo.

Men's Foil

Name	Year	Hometown
Enzo Castellani	So.	Keller, Texas
Steve Kubik	Jr.	San Antonio, Texas
Gerek Meinhardt	So.	San Francisco, Calif.
Zach Schirtz	Jr.	Rochester, N.Y.

Men's Sabre

Name	Year	Hometown
Jason Choy	Fr.	Basking Ridge, N.J.
Keith Feldman	So.	Stony Brook, N.Y.
Barron Nydam	So.	Rancho Santa Fe, Calif.
Avery Zuck	So.	Portland, Ore.

Women's Epee

Name	Year	Hometown
Courtney Hurley	So.	San Antonio, Texas
Kelley Hurley	Sr.	San Antonio, Texas
Vanessa Rosa	Sr.	El Paso, Texas
Diane Zielinski	So.	Bernardsville, N.J.

Women's Foil

Name	Year	Hometown
Grace Hartman	Fr.	St. Paul, Minn.
Darsie Malynn	So.	Grapevine, Texas
Hayley Reese	Jr.	Crestwood, Ky.
Radmila Sarkisova	So.	Grand Rapids, Mich.

Women's Sabre

Name	Year	Hometown
Beatriz Almeida	So.	Chappagua, N.Y.
Sarah Borrmann	Jr.	Beaverton, Ore.
Eileen Hassett	Jr.	Beaverton, Ore.
Abigail Nichols	Fr.	Concord, Mass.

Head Coach (sabre): Janusz Bednarski (eighth season)

Assistant Coach (foil): Gia Kvaratskhelia

Assistant Coach (epee): Marek Stepien

Pronunciation Guide

Janusz Bednarski	Yah-NOOSH Bed-NARR-ski
Sarah Borrmann	BORE-mun
Gia Kvaratskhelia	Gee (as in bee)-uh Claw-duh-SKELL-ee-uh
Gerek Meinhardt	Gerek (rhymes w/ Derek) MINE-hart
Barron Nydam	NY-dum
Marek Stepien	MARR-ick STEP-ee-un

NCAA Midwest Regional Preview

A combined 24 members of the Notre Dame men's and women's fencing teams will take part in the 2010 NCAA Midwest Fencing Regional this weekend in Evanston, Ill. Northwestern will serve as the host of the two-day event, which will take place at the Sports and Aquatic Center.

The Midwest Regional gets underway on Saturday, March 13 when the women take to the strips. Then on Sunday, March 14, the men will close out the event. The Fighting Irish are attempting to qualify the combined maximum of 12 fencers for the NCAA Championship, which will be hosted by Harvard University in Cambridge, Mass. on March 25-28.

Each team can qualify up to two men and two women per weapon for the NCAA Championship. The winner of each event at the Midwest Regional will receive an automatic bid to the NCAA Championships and the Midwest region has five bids allocated to it for the NCAA Championships in each of the six events. Fencers are nominated by the NCAA Midwest Committee, and confirmed by the NCAA National Men's and Women's Fencing Committee on Tuesday, March 16. Nominations are based on the pre-regional "Fencer Strength Factor" (40 percent) and Regional Placement (60 percent). Each region also nominates two fencers in each event as at-large candidates; the at-large bids go to the two fencers with the highest Fencer Strength Factor.

The competition at the Midwest Regional will feature preliminary pool rounds to reduce the field to 14 fencers, who will enter a double-elimination tournament, with the first twelve places being fenced out.

The Notre Dame men and women enter competition as the top-ranked teams in the latest United States Fencing Coaches Association (USFCA) poll. Other teams competing at the Midwest Regional qualifier include host Northwestern, Ohio State, Lawrence, Detroit, Wayne State, and Cleveland State.

Regional Roll Call

Representing Notre Dame at the NCAA Midwest Regional in women's epee are seniors **Kelley Hurley** (San Antonio, Texas) and **Vanessa Rosa** (El Paso, Texas) as well as sophomores **Courtney Hurley** (San Antonio, Texas) and **Diane Zielinski** (Bernardsville, N.J.). On the men's side, juniors **Jacob Osborne** (Colleyville, Texas), **Greg Schoolcraft** (San Jose, Calif.) and **Andrew Seroff** (Boulder, Colo.) will be joined by freshman **James Kaull** (Washington, D.C.). Kelley Hurley will be making her fourth appearance at the Midwest Regional, having medaled in her previous three appearances. She claimed regional gold as a freshman and earned the bronze as a soph-

UND's NCAA Qualifiers*

2000 - 12
 2001 - 12
 2002 - 12
 2003 - 12
 2004 - 11 (one in men's foil)
 2005 - 11 (one in men's foil)
 2006 - 12
 2007 - 11 (one in women's foil)
 2008 - 12
 2009 - 12
 * - since 2000

2010 Notre Dame Fencing

omore and junior. Courtney Hurley will be looking to defend her 2009 NCAA regional title, achieved last year with a 15-9 semifinal win over sister Kelley and a 15-10 win over teammate Ewa Nelip in the championship bout. Rosa will be making her second NCAA regional appearance, having placed 14th in 2008, as is Osborne, who placed 10th in 2009. Seroff participated in the 2008 NCAA Regional and finished seventh, while Schoolcraft finished sixth last year on his way to qualifying for the 2009 NCAA Championship. Zielinski and Kaull will be making their first career NCAA Regional appearances.

In women's foil, the Irish will be led by junior **Hayley Reese** (Crestwood, Ky.), who will be making her third consecutive NCAA Regional appearance. In 2008, she took the bronze with a third place finish and followed with another third place finish in 2009. Also part of the women's foil contingent are sophomores **Darsie Malynn** (Grapevine, Texas) and **Radmila Sarkisova** (Grand Rapids, Mich.), as well as freshman **Grace Hartman** (St. Paul, Minn.). Sarkisova and Malynn finished sixth and seventh, respectively, at last season's NCAA Regional.

On the men's side, the foil squad will be led by sophomores **Enzo Castellani** (Keller, Texas) and **Gerek Meinhardt** (San Francisco, Calif.). Castellani earned a bronze at last year's regional as he finished third, while Meinhardt finished fifth. The rest of the Irish lineup will be comprised of the junior duo of **Zach Schirtz** (Rochester, N.Y.) and **Steve Kubik** (San Antonio, Texas). Schirtz and Kubik both medaled as freshmen in their only previous NCAA Regional appearances, with Schirtz taking the silver and Kubik the bronze in 2008.

The women's sabre squad will be comprised of juniors **Sarah Borrmann** (Beaverton, Ore.) and **Eileen Hassett** (Beaverton, Ore.), sophomore **Beatriz Almeida** (Chappagua, N.Y.) and freshman **Abigail Nichols** (Concord, Mass.). Borrmann and Hassett will be making their third NCAA Regional appearances in as many seasons with the Irish. The duo finished one-two at last season's event, with Borrmann edging Hassett in the championship bout, 15-13. In 2008, Borrmann earned the bronze while Hassett finished fifth. Almeida is making her second appearances at the regional in as many years. She finished fourth last season.

On the men's side, juniors **Barron Nydam** (Rancho Sante Fe, Calif.) and **Avery Zuck** (Beaverton, Ore.) will once again lead Notre Dame's men's sabre squad. Last year, Zuck turned in a runner-up performance to earn the silver. Nydam finished fifth. In 2008, Nydam ended in third place to claim the bronze and Zuck finished seventh. Sophomore **Keith Feldman** (Stony Brook, N.Y.) and freshman **Jason Choy** (Basking Ridge, N.J.) round out the men's sabre contingent. Feldman finished eighth at last season's regional.

Irish Crowned MFC Championships

The Fighting Irish men's and women's fencing teams each earned outright Midwest Fencing Conference (MFC) Championship titles, enabling Notre Dame to claim the overall MFC championship for the first time since 2002 on Sunday, March 7.

Bolstered by gold medal finishes in men's foil, men's sabre, women's epee and women's sabre, the Irish finished with 660 points to edge perennial MFC rival Ohio State by 15 points, as the Buckeyes finished with 645 points. Northwestern finished third with

545 points. In addition to halting Ohio State's overall conference championship win streak at seven years, Notre Dame claimed the men's title for the first time since 2002 as well. The Irish women won their first MFC Championship since 2005.

Notre Dame's first gold medal winning performance of the day was turned in by the women's sabre squad, which entered the competition seeded second. In the final match versus Ohio State, the Irish fell in an early 2-0 hole but **Nichols** got Notre Dame on the board with a 5-1 win over **Falencia Miller**. **Borrmann** tied the match at 2-2 with a win over **Tschomakova** of OSU. Then Nichols added her second victory of the match - over **Allison Miller** - to stake the Irish to a 3-2 lead. Next, **Hassett** edged F. Miller in a crucial bout to give the Irish a 4-2 lead. After the Buckeyes won one more, Borrmann downed F. Miller, 5-3, to clinch the gold.

The Irish men's sabre team earned Notre Dame's second gold of the day in front of a raucous crowd inside the Joyce Center, also via a 5-3 win over the Buckeyes. In the finals, the Irish jumped out to a 2-0 lead, courtesy **Nydam's** 5-2 win over **Max Stearns** and 5-3 win over **Douville**. After Ohio State rattled off three wins to take a 3-2 lead, the Irish countered with three straight wins to clinch the gold. **Choy** earned the first of those wins with a 5-3 victory over Douville. **Zuck** earned the fourth Irish victory, beating **Bryan Cheney**, 5-4, in a thrilling bout. Choy registered the clinching victory with a 5-2 win over Stearns.

The first-seeded Notre Dame women's epee team earned the third Irish gold on the day, capturing the title with an impressive 5-1 victory over second-seeded Northwestern. In the final, the Irish got off a great start, jumping out to a 4-0 lead. Following the lone Northwestern win, **Courtney Hurley** clinched the championship for the Irish by shutting out **Joanna Niklinska**, 5-0.

The Irish men's foil team earned Notre Dame's final gold of the day with a 5-2 win over Ohio State. In the finals, the Irish fell behind 1-0 before **Meinhardt** evened the score with a 5-2 victory over **Joe Streb**. Following an Ohio State victory, Meinhardt again evened up the match with a 5-2 victory over **Ben Parkins**. **Schirtz** then gave the Irish a lead they would never relinquish with an emotional 5-0 shutout against **Colin Sutter**. **Castellani** kept the momentum going, beating Streb 5-2. Meinhardt then clinched the men's foil gold, the overall men's title and the overall team title for the Irish with a 5-2 victory over Sutter.

Irish Strike Gold At MFC Championships

A day prior to earning the Midwest Fencing Conference team championship, the Irish dominated day one of the MFC Championships by claiming four of the six individual gold medals that were handed out.

On the women's **Kelley Hurley** won the gold in women's epee, while **Reese** added a women's foil gold to her already impressive resume. On the men's side, junior sabreist **Nydam** won his first MFC Championship and then sophomore foilist **Meinhardt** beat out several of his Irish teammates to cap off Notre Dame's gold medal haul.

All told, the Irish won nine medals (out of a possible 24 due to third place ties in each weapon) including four golds, two silvers and three bronzes.

2010 Notre Dame Fencing

We're Number One

The Notre Dame men's and women's fencing teams took over the No. 1 positions in the United States Fencing Coaches Association (USFCA) poll on Feb. 17, becoming the first Notre Dame teams to earn national number one rankings during the 2009-10 academic year. The poll was the second of three polls the USFCA will release during the 2010 fencing season, with the final poll to appear in March after the NCAA Regional Qualifiers.

The teams are ranked first overall for the first time since the final poll of the 2009 season. With their newfound top rankings, at least one of the Irish fencing teams has now held sole possession of the top spot in nine of the past ten seasons (2001-06, 2008-10). Furthermore, the Notre Dame women now have been ranked number one in six of the past seven years (all but '07).

As has become the custom on the Notre Dame campus, the traditional lighted #1 sign will reappear atop Grace Hall, and a #1 flag will now fly outside the Irish athletic department offices at the Joyce Center.

Unbeaten And Streakin'

The Irish men posted a 33-0 regular season record and the women's team recorded a 35-0 regular season mark in 2010 as the teams combined for an undefeated regular season for the first time in 19 years and just the fourth time overall (having previously done so in 1986, 1987 and 1991).

After finishing the season unbeaten, the men and women are in the midst of some impressive streaks. Dating back to 2008, the men have not lost a regular season match in their last 77 contests, which is the fourth longest streak in program history (third best stretch was 90 consecutive wins from 2000-04).

Dating back to last season, the women have now won 59 consecutive regular-season matches, which is the second longest unbeaten stretch in program history (best stretch is 75 consecutive wins from 1993-96). 2010 marked the men's 21st undefeated season (dating back to 1934), while the women turned in their sixth unbeaten season since 1977.

USFCA Poll (2.10.09)

Men (Previous rank in parenthesis)

1. Notre Dame (2)
2. Penn State (1)
3. Ohio State (3)
4. Princeton (4)
5. St. John's (NY) (8)
6. Harvard (7)
7. Pennsylvania (6)
8. Columbia (5)
9. Duke (10)
10. Air Force (NR)

Others receiving votes: NYU, Yale, North Carolina, Stanford, UC-San Diego, Sacred Heart, Wayne State, Brown.

Women (Previous rank in parenthesis)

1. Notre Dame (2)
2. Penn State (1)
3. Northwestern (5)
4. Princeton (9)
5. Columbia-Barnard (4)
6. St. John's (NY) (NR)
7. Ohio State (6)
8. Temple (7)
9. Harvard (3)
10. Pennsylvania (8)

Others receiving votes: Duke, Yale, UC-San Diego, North Carolina, Cornell, Brandeis, NYU, Brown, Stanford.

Quite A Run

Senior epeeist **Kelley Hurley** is capping off one of the best careers in Irish history with quite an impressive stretch of fencing. A 2007 and 2008 First Team All-American (and 2008 NCAA Champion), Hurley finished the regular season on a 62-bout undefeated streak, dating back to the St. John's Challenge (during Notre Dame's season opening weekend swing through New York City). Hurley improved her regular season career record to 213-23, placing her third on Notre Dame's all-time regular season wins list for female epeeists, becoming just the third epeeist (and 12th fencer overall) to crack the 200-career regular season wins plateau in the storied history of the women's fencing program at Notre Dame.

On day one of the MFC Championships, Hurley turned in a flawless performance en route to winning the women's epee gold, pushing her personal unbeaten streak to 73 bouts. Then, on day two of the MFC Championships, Hurley notched a win versus Iowa, two wins against Michigan State and two more wins over Northwestern to help the Irish capture the women's gold and improve her unbeaten streak to 78 bouts.

Notre Dame Sports Information

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Notre Dame Fencing 2010/Career Records

Men's Records

Team: 33-0

Epee

<u>Name</u>	<u>Season</u>	<u>Career</u>
Nicholas Crebs	0-0	2-1
Conor Gettings	17-6	52-15
James Kaul	49-13	same
Brent Kelly	0-0	27-14
Rich Molina	9-1	18-4
Jacob Osborne	32-14	68-31
Chris Pfarr	1-2	19-7
Jack Piasio	20-6	same
Chris Pinkowski	3-2	21-7
Greg Schoolcraft	58-25	120-60
Andrew Seroff	24-13	78-33
Diego Silva	1-0	same

Foil

<u>Name</u>	<u>Season</u>	<u>Career</u>
Reggie Bentley	33-8	57-14
Enzo Castellani	38-6	67-15
Nicholas Crebs	25-7	51-10
Grant Hodges	33-3	same
Steve Kubik	35-7	107-22
Xavier Lebec	6-4	34-20
Gerek Meinhardt	31-3	62-5
Zach Schirtz	39-9	114-29
Diego Silva	8-2	38-16

Sabre

<u>Name</u>	<u>Season</u>	<u>Career</u>
Reggie Bentley	3-0	same
Alex Buell	13-3	52-29
Jason Choy	25-15	same
Keith Feldman	35-6	70-18
Marcel Frenkel	30-8	48-13
Xavier Lebec	1-0	same
William McGough	27-3	same
Barron Nydam	32-8	92-28
John Plunkett	5-7	18-20
Tony Schlehuber	28-3	39-3
Avery Zuck	34-7	101-23

Women's Records

Team: 35-0

Epee

<u>Name</u>	<u>Season</u>	<u>Career</u>
Sarah Borrmann	5-2	same
Caroline Dikibo	3-7	same
Courtney Hurley	59-6	109-11
Kelley Hurley	79-9	213-23
Stephanie Myers	9-10	15-16
Vanessa Rosa	28-12	81-63
Diane Zielinski	59-27	105-31

Foil

<u>Name</u>	<u>Season</u>	<u>Career</u>
Grace Hartman	32-11	same
Katie Heinzen	30-5	52-9
Christina LaBarge	27-9	44-18
Darsie Malynn	31-13	70-20
Phenix Messersmith	40-8	same
Hayley Reese	42-13	162-31
Radmila Sarkisova	37-17	79-31

Sabre

<u>Name</u>	<u>Season</u>	<u>Career</u>
Beatriz Almeida	37-7	78-21
Sarah Borrmann	43-11	156-26
Colleen Dawes	6-3	21-20
Danielle Guilfoyle	28-2	same
Eileen Hassett	33-18	143-60
Julia Kohn	3-5	same
Abigail Nichols	34-17	same
Lian Osier	0-0	same
Kathryn Palazzoto	27-6	same
Marta Stepien	32-3	same



Notre Dame Fencing Team Results

Men's Results

Team: 33-0

Date	Opponent	Result	Score
<u>NYU Invitational</u>			
1.23	Yale	W	17-10
1.23	Columbia	W	20-7
1.23	Stevens Tech	W	22-5
1.23	St. John's	W	18-9
1.23	New York Univ.	W	20-7
1.23	Ohio State	W	16-11
<u>St. John's Challenge</u>			
1.24	St. John's	W	16-11
1.24	Harvard	W	19-8
1.24	Penn State	W	16-11
1.24	Columbia	W	23-4
<u>Northwestern Duals</u>			
1.30	Stanford	W	19-8
1.30	Detroit	W	24-3
1.30	Duke	W	17-10
1.30	Princeton	W	19-8
1.30	Lawrence	W	26-1
1.30	Northwestern	W	20-7
1.30	Ohio State	W	16-11
1.30	UC-San Diego	W	20-7
1.31	Johns Hopkins	W	21-6
1.31	Cleveland State	W	23-4
1.31	Wayne State	W	20-7
1.31	North Carolina	W	17-10
<u>Notre Dame Duals</u>			
2.7	Lawrence	W	25-2
2.7	Michigan	W	24-3
2.7	Northwestern	W	25-2
2.7	Wisconsin	W	22-5
2.7	Michigan State	W	25-2
2.7	Illinois	W	24-3
2.7	Chicago	W	25-2
2.7	Cleveland State	W	26-1
2.7	Indiana	W	19-7
2.7	Purdue	W	25-2
2.7	Detroit	W	24-3

Women's Results

Team: 35-0

Date	Opponent	Result	Score
<u>NYU Invitational</u>			
1.23	Yale	W	21-6
1.23	Columbia	W	15-12
1.23	Northwestern	W	17-10
1.23	St. John's	W	17-10
1.23	New York Univ.	W	23-4
1.23	Ohio State	W	14-13
<u>St. John's Challenge</u>			
1.24	St. John's	W	14-13
1.24	Harvard	W	17-10
1.24	Penn State	W	14-13
1.24	Columbia	W	18-9
<u>Northwestern Duals</u>			
1.30	FDU	W	21-6
1.30	Stanford	W	23-4
1.30	UC-San Diego	W	21-6
1.30	Duke	W	17-10
1.30	Princeton	W	15-12
1.30	North Carolina	W	20-7
1.30	Johns Hopkins	W	20-7
1.31	Cal. Tech	W	25-2
1.31	Temple	W	16-11
1.31	Lawrence	W	27-0
1.31	Wayne State	W	19-8
1.31	Detroit	W	26-1
1.31	Cleveland State	W	26-1
1.31	Ohio State	W	16-11
<u>Notre Dame Duals</u>			
2.6	Lawrence	W	26-1
2.6	Michigan	W	25-2
2.6	Northwestern	W	19-8
2.6	Wisconsin	W	24-3
2.6	Michigan State	W	22-5
2.6	Illinois	W	26-1
2.6	Chicago	W	24-3
2.6	Cleveland State	W	25-2
2.6	Indiana	W	21-6
2.6	Purdue	W	25-2
2.6	Detroit	W	24-3