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# NOTRE DAME

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

### 2001-02 Irish Schedule/Results (19-8, 13-3 BIG EAST)

#### November

6	Tues.	OGBM Legends (exh.)	W, 76-62
13	Tues.	Christian Bros. (exh.)	W, 87-39
18	Sun.	Valparaiso	W, 42-35
21	Wed.	at (20/22) Colorado State	L, 66-72
24	Sat.	at Arizona	L, 70-72
26	Mon.	Army	W, 89-57

#### December

2	Sun.	vs. (16/17) Michigan <sup>^</sup>	L, 63-78
6	Thurs.	at (7/8) Purdue	L, 57-70
9	Sun.	USC	W, 62-49
12	Wed.	Western Michigan	W, 71-48
22	Sat.	Marquette	W, 60-33
28	Fri.	at Rice	L, 61-72
31	Mon.	DePaul	W, 79-50

#### January

2	Wed.	at Miami*	W, 69-65
5	Sat.	Providence*	W, 72-66
9	Wed.	Seton Hall*	W, 79-45
12	Sat.	at Villanova*	L, 59-60
19	Sat.	at Providence*	W, 69-41
21	Mon.	at (1/1) Connecticut*#	L, 53-80
26	Sat.	(16/17) Virginia Tech*	W, 64-57
29	Tues.	Syracuse*	W, 71-46

#### February

2	Sat.	at Seton Hall*	W, 65-60
5	Tues.	at Pittsburgh*	W, 68-56
10	Sun.	(16/18) Boston College*	W, 60-44
13	Wed.	St. John's*	W, 66-31
16	Sat.	at Rutgers*	W, 57-52
19	Tues.	West Virginia*	W, 72-63
23	Sat.	at Georgetown	W, 86-66
26	Tues.	Villanova*	L, 45-48

#### March

3	Sun.	BIG EAST Quarterfinal+	6 p.m.
4	Mon.	BIG EAST Semifinal+	8 p.m.
5	Tues.	BIG EAST Final+ (ESPN2)	7:30 p.m.
15-	Fri.-	NCAA First and Second Rounds	
18	Mon.	(campus sites)	
23-	Sat.-	NCAA Regionals (Raleigh;	
25	Mon.	Milwaukee; Ames, Iowa; Boise)	
29-	Fri.-	NCAA Final Four	
31	Sun.	(San Antonio, Texas)	

**Boldface** indicates home game

*Italics* indicates exhibition game

\* indicates BIG EAST Conference game

(x/y) indicates rankings in AP & ESPN/USA Today polls at tipoff

<sup>^</sup> Women's College Basketball Showcase (Grand Rapids, Mich.)

# Game played at Hartford (Conn.) Civic Center

+ BIG EAST Championship (Piscataway, N.J.)

All times are local to site and subject to change

Game No.

28

### 2002 BIG EAST Championship Quarterfinals

No. 2 Notre Dame (19-8) vs.

No. 7 Syracuse (16-11) / No. 10 West Virginia (14-13)

**The Date and Time:** Sunday, March 3, 2002, at 6 p.m. EST.

**The Site:** Louis Brown Athletic Center (8,500) in Piscataway, N.J.

**The Radio Plans:** All Notre Dame games are broadcast live on WDND-AM (ESPN Radio 1620 in South Bend) with **Sean Stires** handling the play-by-play. These broadcasts also are available through the Notre Dame athletics website at www.und.com.

#### NOTRE DAME SET TO OPEN BIG EAST CHAMPIONSHIP PLAY SUNDAY NIGHT

With a retooled squad featuring six freshmen, second-seeded Notre Dame will open BIG EAST Championship competition Sunday at 6 p.m. (EST) in the quarterfinal round against either No. 7 seed Syracuse or 10th-seeded West Virginia. When they take the floor at the Louis Brown Athletic Center in Piscataway, N.J., the Irish will be seeking to obtain a prize which has eluded their grasp during their seven-year membership in the BIG EAST — a tournament championship.

Notre Dame (19-8, 13-3 BIG EAST) ended the regular season on a sour note, falling to Villanova, 48-45 last Tuesday night at the Joyce Center. The loss not only snapped a nine-game Irish winning streak, but it also was the first home loss for Notre Dame in more than four seasons, spanning a school-record 51 games. In addition, it was the first conference loss for the Irish at the Joyce Center in the last 32 games.

Junior guard **Alicia Ratay** led Notre Dame once again with a game-high 22 points, including a perfect 8-of-8 free throws. The Lake Zurich, Ill., product has been red-hot from the line of late, hitting at a 93.1 percent clip (27-29) and will carry a streak of 21 consecutive made free throws into Sunday's quarterfinal.

Senior guard/forward **Ericka Haney** added seven points for the Irish, who were limited to their second-lowest point total this season, thanks in large measure to Villanova's controlled offensive scheme. Still, Notre Dame had an opportunity to tie the score in the waning moments, but a three-point try fell off the rim.

Heading into postseason play, Ratay leads the Irish in scoring at 15.2 ppg., third-best in the BIG EAST. She also leads the league in free throw percentage (.882), and she is second on the club in rebounding (5.6 rpg.) and three-point percentage (.415).

Freshman forward **Jacqueline Batteast**, a six-time BIG EAST Rookie of the Week, is expected to return to the Notre Dame lineup on Sunday following a four-game absence with a knee injury. Batteast is sixth in the conference in scoring (14.8 ppg.), second in rebounding (8.5 rpg.), third in blocks (1.52 bpg.) and second in double-doubles (11).

Notre Dame defeated both of its potential quarterfinal opponents during the regular season, downing Syracuse (71-46) on Jan. 29, and subduing West Virginia (72-63) on Feb. 19.

#### LAST IRISH GAME

##### Villanova 48, Notre Dame 45

Feb. 26, 2002

Joyce Center (Notre Dame, Ind.)

##### Villanova (48)

Player	min	fg-a	3fg-a	ft-a	reb	ast	pf	tp
Davis	36	2-9	1-7	0-0	4	0	3	5
Druckemiller	24	4-8	2-6	0-0	3	0	1	10
Baker	15	0-3	0-0	0-0	3	2	1	0
Riley	37	7-11	0-0	1-4	8	3	0	15
Juhline	33	2-12	0-5	0-0	0	4	4	4
Rediger	11	0-1	0-0	0-0	2	0	3	0
Mix	30	2-5	0-0	2-2	6	2	2	6
Hilgenberg	10	2-3	2-2	2-2	1	0	0	8
Johnson	3	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
Nash	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	1	0
Team					9			
<b>Totals</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>19-52</b>	<b>5-20</b>	<b>5-8</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>48</b>

##### Notre Dame (45)

Player	min	fg-a	3fg-a	ft-a	reb	ast	pf	tp
Haney	37	2-8	0-0	3-4	4	0	3	7
Flecky	26	2-7	0-0	0-2	4	1	1	4
Barksdale	21	1-5	0-0	0-0	8	1	1	2
Severe	38	2-5	0-0	0-0	2	2	3	4
Ratay	40	7-17	0-4	8-8	6	0	0	22
Joyce	17	1-1	1-1	0-1	2	0	0	3
Borton	6	1-2	0-0	1-2	2	1	0	3
Wicks	6	0-1	0-0	0-0	3	0	0	0
Bustamante	9	0-2	0-1	0-0	0	0	2	0
Team					4			
<b>Totals</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>16-48</b>	<b>1-6</b>	<b>12-17</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>45</b>

Villanova	27	21	--	48
Notre Dame	26	19	--	45

**FG Pct:** Notre Dame 33.3, Villanova 36.5. **3-PT FG Pct:** Notre Dame 16.7, Villanova 25.0. **FT Pct:** Notre Dame 70.6, Villanova 62.5. **Turnovers:** Notre Dame 12, Villanova 14. **Blocked Shots:** Notre Dame 5, Villanova 0. **Steals:** Notre Dame 2, Villanova 6 (Juhline 3). **Attendance:** 7,785.



ASSOCIATED PRESS POLL  
(Feb. 25)

Rk.	Team	Record	Last Week
1.	<b>Connecticut (44)</b>	<b>29-0</b>	<b>1</b>
2.	Stanford	28-1	2
3.	Tennessee	24-3	4
4.	Duke	24-3	5
5.	Oklahoma	23-3	3
6.	Vanderbilt	24-6	6
7.	<b>Purdue</b>	<b>22-4</b>	<b>8</b>
8.	Baylor	23-4	9
9.	Louisiana Tech	20-4	7
10.	Iowa State	21-6	13
11.	Colorado	20-8	11
12.	South Carolina	22-5	10
13.	Texas	18-8	15
14.	Kansas State	22-6	12
15.	Texas Tech	17-9	17
16.	Old Dominion	21-5	18
17.	Minnesota	21-6	14
18.	<b>Boston College</b>	<b>21-5</b>	<b>21</b>
19.	North Carolina	22-7	19
20.	<b>Colorado State</b>	<b>21-5</b>	<b>20</b>
21.	<b>NOTRE DAME</b>	<b>19-7</b>	<b>22</b>
22.	Florida	18-9	16
23.	Cincinnati	23-4	25
24.	Georgia	18-9	23
25.	TCU	22-5	—

ESPN/USA TODAY POLL  
(Feb. 25)

Rk.	Team	Record	Last Week
1.	<b>Connecticut (40)</b>	<b>29-0</b>	<b>1</b>
2.	Stanford	27-1	2
3.	Tennessee	24-3	4
4.	Duke	24-3	5
5.	Oklahoma	23-3	3
6.	Vanderbilt	24-6	7
7.	<b>Purdue</b>	<b>22-4</b>	<b>9</b>
8.	Baylor	23-4	8
9.	Louisiana Tech	20-4	6
10.	Iowa State	21-6	11
11.	South Carolina	22-5	10
12.	Colorado	20-8	13
13.	Texas	18-8	14
14.	Kansas State	22-6	12
15.	Texas Tech	17-9	17
16.	<b>Colorado State</b>	<b>21-5</b>	<b>16</b>
17.	(tie) Florida	18-9	15
17.	(tie) <b>Boston College</b>	<b>21-5</b>	<b>18</b>
19.	Old Dominion	21-5	21
20.	Minnesota	21-6	19
21.	North Carolina	22-7	20
22.	Cincinnati	23-4	23
23.	TCU	22-5	—
24.	Georgia	18-9	22
25.	<b>NOTRE DAME</b>	<b>19-7</b>	<b>—</b>

**Boldface** indicates 2001-02 Notre Dame opponents

SCOUTING THE IRISH

Notre Dame looks to write a new chapter in its rapidly-developing history as the Irish defend their first NCAA championship in 2001-02. Six monogram winners, including two starters, return from last season's title-winning squad, giving head coach **Muffet McGraw** a broad foundation from which to build this year. In addition, the Irish welcome six talented freshmen to the fold, a group heralded as perhaps the finest recruiting class in school history and ranked as high as third by several national publications.

McGraw is in her 20th season as a college coach (15th at Notre Dame) with a 429-166 (.721) overall record and 341-125 (.732) mark while under the shadow of the Golden Dome. She has led the Irish to six straight NCAA Tournament appearances and eight overall — Notre Dame has advanced to the NCAA Sweet Sixteen four times, the Final Four twice and won the 2001 NCAA title, all in the last five seasons under McGraw's guidance. She was a near-unanimous choice as national coach of the year in 2000-01, winning top honors from the Atlanta Tipoff Club (Naismith Award), Associated Press, Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA), and Sports Illustrated for Women. She also was named the BIG EAST Coach of the Year, marking the third different conference to recognize McGraw as its top skipper since she took the reins at Notre Dame in 1987.

Both of Notre Dame's returning starters were honored by the BIG EAST coaches in their preseason balloting. Senior guard/forward **Ericka Haney** (6.6 ppg., 4.5 rpg.) was a second team preseason all-conference pick and brings explosive quickness and versatility to the Irish lineup, along with veteran leadership. As Notre Dame's only captain, she is being called upon to assume a greater mantle of responsibility in '01-02. After starting the first six games for the Irish, she moved into a reserve role for the next four games, picking up her first double-double of the year against Western Michigan. She returned to the starting lineup beginning with the DePaul game and has started all but one contest since then, scoring a season-high 15 points on Feb. 19 against West Virginia. She also averaged 10.1 ppg. in her last nine regular-season games. Junior guard **Alicia Ratay** (15.2 ppg., 5.6 rpg., .415 3FG%) was a first team preseason all-BIG EAST choice and was one of 30 finalists for the Naismith Award after setting an NCAA record for three-point percentage (.547) by a sophomore last season. On Dec. 6 at Purdue, she became the 19th player in school history to score 1,000 career points. She is fourth in the BIG EAST in scoring for all games, and ranked second in conference games at 16.5 ppg., after averaging 25.5 points in her final four regular-season games. In addition, she is a two-time BIG EAST Player of the Week, earning the award for the second time in her career on Feb. 25.

Joining Ratay in the backcourt is sophomore **Le'Tania Severe** (6.5 ppg., 3.9 rpg., 5.0 apg.), who was hampered by injuries last season, appearing in just 22 games. However, she has confidently taken a larger role in the Irish offense this season, scoring a career-high 17 points against USC and handing out a career-best nine assists (with only one turnover) on Jan. 29 against Syracuse. She ranks seventh in the BIG EAST Conference in assists, is tied for eighth in steals (1.96 spg.), and is 15th in assist/turnover ratio (1.25). Severe had eight assists and just one turnover on Feb. 23 at Georgetown. Also spending time at the point has been sophomore **Jeneka Joyce** (3.8 ppg., 1.6 rpg.), who has started eight times for the Irish this season. Joyce has made 16 three-point field goals, one of five Notre Dame players to have at least 10 treys this year. However, she missed six of the last 10 regular-season games with a strained left Achilles' tendon. Junior **Karen Swanson** (0.9 ppg., 0.5 rpg.) and **Jill Krause** (0.4 ppg., 0.3 rpg.) provide McGraw with additional flexibility in her point guard rotation. Swanson and Krause each scored two points against St. John's, with Krause making the first two free throws of her career. Freshmen **Allison Bustamante** (4.6 ppg., 1.9 rpg.) and **Kelsey Wicks** (4.5 ppg., 3.4 rpg.) provide the Irish with solid ballhandling and perimeter shooting depth. Bustamante tossed in 14 points on Feb. 23 at Georgetown, while Wicks posted a career-best 16 points on Jan. 21 at top-ranked Connecticut.

A pair of freshmen (and former Parade All-Americans) are making an immediate impact on the Notre Dame front line, as forward **Jacqueline Batteast** (14.8 ppg., 8.5 rpg.) and center **Teresa Borton** (6.0 ppg., 5.0 rpg.) started the first six games for the Irish. Batteast was named the 2001-02 preseason BIG EAST Rookie of the Year and her combination of speed, athleticism and perimeter shooting ability make her a valuable weapon in the Irish arsenal. A six-time BIG EAST Rookie of the Week, Batteast rank in the top 10 in the BIG EAST in scoring (6th), rebounding (2nd), blocks (3rd, 1.52) and double-doubles (2nd, 11), and she has claimed game-high rebounding honors 11 times and top scoring laurels 10 times. Batteast was expected to return to action at the BIG EAST Championship after missing the last four regular-season games after suffering a partial tear of the posterior cruciate ligament (PCL) in her right knee on Feb. 13 against St. John's. Meanwhile, at 6-3, Borton is a smooth and versatile post player with excellent mobility and a solid defensive presence. She shot a team-high .558 from the field in conference games and picked up her second double-double of the season with 10 points and a career-high 10 rebounds on Feb. 5 in a victory at Pittsburgh.

## LOUIS BROWN ATHLETIC CENTER • PISCATAWAY, N.J.

### NOTRE DAME'S PROBABLE STARTING LINEUP

No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	PPG	RPG	Other	Notes
3	Ericka Haney (C)	G/F	6-0	Sr.	6.6	4.5	0.7 spg	10.1 ppg. in last nine games (15 pts. vs. WVU)
33	Katy Flecky	F	6-2	Fr.	4.8	3.3	0.8 apg	7.5 ppg. since moving into lineup four games ago
31	Amanda Barksdale	C	6-3	Jr.	3.7	3.5	<b>3.2 bpg</b>	Ranked third in the nation in blocked shots
4	Le'Tania Severe	G	5-8	So.	6.5	3.9	<b>5.0 apg</b>	Posted a 1.43 assist/turnover ratio vs. BIG EAST
22	Alicia Ratay	G	6-0	Jr.	<b>15.2</b>	5.6	1.6 apg	25.5 ppg., .517 FG% in last four (31 pts. vs. WVU)

### OFF THE BENCH FOR THE IRISH

No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	PPG	RPG	Other	Notes
5	Jeneka Joyce	G	5-9	So.	3.8	1.6	1.3 apg	Knocked down only three-point try vs. Villanova
10	Jill Krause	G	5-8	Fr.	0.4	0.3	0.4 apg	Dished out assist late in win at Georgetown
11	Karen Swanson	G	5-8	Jr.	0.9	0.5	0.2 apg	Registered two points in win over St. John's
12	Teresa Borton	C	6-3	Fr.	6.0	5.0	1.0 apg	Shot team-best 55.8 percent in BIG EAST games
21	Jacqueline Batteast	F	6-1	Fr.	14.8	<b>8.5</b>	2.2 apg	Expected to return Sunday for BIG EAST quarters
24	Kelsey Wicks	G	6-2	Fr.	4.5	3.4	0.5 spg	Made 4-of-4 FT in final 10 seconds at Rutgers
44	Allison Bustamante	G	6-0	Fr.	4.6	1.9	0.5 apg	Leading team with .439 three-point percentage

**Boldface** denotes team statistical leaders // (C) denotes team captain

Junior **Amanda Barksdale** (3.7 ppg., 3.5 rpg., 3.2 bpg.) was one of the nation's top shot blockers last season and has recovered nicely after missing Notre Dame's first four games with a stress reaction in her right leg. She set a school record with 11 blocks on Feb. 10 against Boston College, matching the third-highest total in the nation this season. Barksdale currently leads the BIG EAST in blocked shots and stands third in the most recent NCAA rankings, and with her performance against BC, she passed Katryna Gaither for second place on Notre Dame's career blocks list (now with 166 blocks). Meanwhile, freshman **Katy Flecky** (4.8 ppg., 3.3 rpg.) was a two-time Miss Colorado Basketball and offers the Irish an physical presence in the post. She scored a career-high 14 points and grabbed seven rebounds on Feb. 23 at Georgetown, paving the way for her selection as BIG EAST Rookie of the Week two days later. She averaged 7.5 ppg. after starting the final four regular-season games in place of Batteast.

#### IRISH AT THE BIG EAST CHAMPIONSHIP

Notre Dame begins play in its seventh BIG EAST Championship this weekend and has compiled an 11-6 (.647) record in its six previous appearances. The Irish have reached at least the semifinals all six years and made the final four times (1996, '97, '99 and 2001), falling to Connecticut in each of those finals. Notre Dame won the Midwestern Collegiate Conference championship five times in its seven years in the league, with the last Irish conference tournament title coming in 1994. Here's how the Irish have fared in the BIG EAST Championship:

#### 1996 -- Finalists (Storrs, Conn.)

Notre Dame 70, Syracuse 55 (quarterfinals)  
 Notre Dame 69, Seton Hall 58 (semifinals)  
 Connecticut 71, Notre Dame 54 (final)

#### 1997 -- Finalists (Storrs, Conn.)

Notre Dame 86, Rutgers 58 (quarterfinals)  
 Notre Dame 83, Georgetown 43 (semifinals)  
 Connecticut 86, Notre Dame 77 (final)

#### 1998 -- Semifinalists (Piscataway, N.J.)

Notre Dame 94, St. John's 57 (first round)  
 Notre Dame 56, Villanova 48 (quarterfinals)  
 Connecticut 73, Notre Dame 53 (semifinals)

#### 1999 -- Finalists (Piscataway, N.J.)

Notre Dame 83, Villanova 53 (quarterfinals)  
 Notre Dame 68, Rutgers 61 (semifinals)  
 Connecticut 96, Notre Dame 75 (final)

#### 2000 -- Semifinalists (Storrs, Conn.)

Notre Dame 67, Miami 52 (quarterfinals)  
 Rutgers 81, Notre Dame 72 (OT) (semifinals)

#### 2001 -- Finalists (Storrs, Conn.)

Notre Dame 89, Georgetown 33 (quarterfinals)  
 Notre Dame 67, Virginia Tech 49 (semifinals)  
 Connecticut 78, Notre Dame 76 (final)

### STATISTICALLY SPEAKING

#### NOTRE DAME

Overall/BIG EAST record ..... 19-8/13-3  
 AP/ESPN-USA Today rank ..... 21/25

#### SCORING

Points scored per game ..... 65.7  
 Points allowed per game ..... 56.1  
 Field goal percentage ..... .427  
 Three-point percentage ..... .379  
 Free throw percentage ..... .681

#### REBOUNDING

Rebounds per game ..... 42.5  
 Opponent rebs. per game ..... 34.7  
 Rebounding margin ..... +7.8

#### OTHER

Assists per game ..... 13.5  
 Turnovers per game ..... 17.0  
 Assist/turnover ratio ..... 0.79  
 Blocked shots per game ..... 6.4  
 Steals per game ..... 7.1

### KEVIN WHITE RADIO SHOW

A weekly half-hour show featuring Notre Dame athletics director **Kevin White** began Sept. 9 on Chicago's ESPN Radio 1000. "The Kevin White Show" is scheduled to air from 10-10:30 p.m. Central time for 30 consecutive Sundays on ESPN radio (1000 AM in Chicago, www.espnradio1000.com). The show also can be heard in 35 states. White welcomes to the show a series of guests and prominent figures associated with college athletics, including administrators, coaches and media members.



**THE SYRACUSE SERIES**

**Series:** ND leads 13-1. **Games Played at Neutral Sites:** ND leads 1-0.

Date	Site	Result	Score
1/16/88	Notre Dame, IN	W	81-64
2/4/89	Syracuse, NY	L	56-63
2/4/90	Notre Dame, IN	W	71-66
12/31/91	Syracuse, NY	W	81-60
1/10/96	Notre Dame, IN	W	91-52
3/3/96	Storrs, CT*	W	70-55
1/15/97	Syracuse, NY	W	72-45
2/6/97	Notre Dame, IN	W	90-73
1/21/98	Syracuse, NY	W	87-69
1/26/99	Syracuse, NY	W	94-61
2/17/99	Notre Dame, IN	W	82-60
1/15/00	Notre Dame, IN	W	71-56
2/14/01	Syracuse, NY	W	75-61
1/29/02	Notre Dame, IN	W	71-46

\* - BIG EAST Championship

Series Scoring	Total	Average
Notre Dame	1092	78.0
Syracuse	831	59.4

**Current Win Streak:** Notre Dame, 12 games

**McGraw vs. Syracuse:** 13-1

**ND Biggest Win:** 39 (91-52 on 1/10/96)

**SU Biggest Win:** 7 (63-56 on 2/4/89)

**ND Longest Win Streak:** 12 (from 1990-present)

**SU Longest Win Streak:** 1 (1989)

**THE WEST VIRGINIA SERIES**

**Series:** ND leads 9-0. **Games Played at Neutral Sites:** First meeting.

Date	Site	Result	Score
2/26/96	Morgantown, WV	W	73-55
1/9/97	Notre Dame, IN	W	103-58
2/25/97	Morgantown, WV	W	80-67
1/14/98	Notre Dame, IN	W	86-78
1/7/99	Notre Dame, IN	W	111-90
2/20/99	Morgantown, WV	W	89-54
1/5/00	Notre Dame, IN	W	75-54
1/24/01	Morgantown, WV	W	87-64
2/19/02	Notre Dame, IN	W	72-63

Series Scoring	Total	Average
Notre Dame	776	86.2
West Virginia	583	64.8

**Current Win Streak:** Notre Dame, 9 games

**McGraw vs. West Virginia:** 9-0

**ND Biggest Win:** 45 (103-58 on 1/9/97)

**WVU Biggest Win:** N/A

**ND Longest Win Streak:** 9 (1996-present)

**WVU Longest Win Streak:** N/A

**RECAPPING VILLANOVA**

**Mimi Riley** scored eight of her 15 points in the final four minutes, and Villanova ended Notre Dame's 51-game home winning streak with a 48-45 victory on Feb. 26 at the Joyce Center. The Irish (19-8, 13-3 BIG EAST) had a chance to tie at the buzzer, but **Allison Bustamante's** three-pointer from the left corner hit the near rim and bounced away. That made Villanova (18-9, 11-5) the first opposing team to win at Joyce Center since top-ranked Connecticut beat the Irish, 106-81 on Dec. 8, 1998. The home winning streak was the 10th-longest in NCAA women's history.

**Nicole Druckenmiller** had 10 points for the Wildcats and Riley added eight rebounds as Villanova, which used a patient offense, outrebounded the Irish 36-35. Notre Dame, playing without freshman forward **Jacqueline Batteast** for a fourth consecutive game because of a knee injury, was led by junior guard **Alicia Ratay** with 22 points and six rebounds. Junior center **Amanda Barksdale** added a team-high eight rebounds for the Irish.

Villanova, which led by as many as seven points in the first half, fell behind 43-40 when Ratay scored on a driving layup with 5:26 left. But Riley, who hit a last-second shot to beat Notre Dame, 60-59 earlier this season, drove inside for a basket with 3:56 left, hit a pair of jumpers from the right baseline and then got a rebound of her own miss and scored with 63 seconds left to make it 48-43.

The Irish, who had won nine consecutive games, cut the lead to 48-45 on a pair of free throws by Ratay. But the Wildcats called two timeouts and ran the clock down to 12 seconds before Riley was fouled. She missed a free throw to give the Irish one last chance, but Bustamante's try came up short.

**RECAPPING LAST YEAR'S BIG EAST CHAMPIONSHIP**

Notre Dame reached its fourth BIG EAST championship game in its six years in the conference and lost to Connecticut for the fourth time. The Irish reached the title game with a BIG EAST-record 89-33 win over Georgetown in the quarterfinals, as the 56-point margin of victory marked the most in a BIG EAST tournament game. First-team all-BIG EAST guard **Niele Ivey** led Notre Dame with 16 points and eight assists, while center **Amanda Barksdale** grabbed a career-high nine rebounds.

In the semifinals vs. No. 4 seed Virginia Tech, top-seeded Notre Dame used a 26-3 run in the first half to pull away from the Hokies with a 30-9 lead. The Hokies, who lost to the Irish for the third time last season, pulled within 40-25 2:19 into the second half but Notre Dame scored 12 of the next 13 points to put the game away. Notre Dame's defense held Virginia Tech to 17.6 percent shooting in the first half and 26.6 percent in the game. Forward **Kelley Siemon** and guard **Alicia Ratay** each led Notre Dame with 14 points, while guard/forward **Ericka Haney** added 12 points.

The championship matched not only the top two teams in the BIG EAST but the top two teams in the country as top-ranked Notre Dame met No. 2 Connecticut in Storrs., Conn., for the 2001 BIG EAST title. The Irish led 6-0 early in the game before the Huskies scored 12 straight for a 12-6 lead. The fast-paced first half would follow that pattern as Connecticut would build a six or seven point lead only to see Notre Dame pull within one or two points. The Huskies again built a seven-point lead, 71-64 at the 7:34 mark, but the Irish managed their first tie of the second half at 73-73 with 3:51 remaining. The score would remain tied until a Connecticut three-pointer put the Huskies ahead 76-73 with 49 seconds left. A **Ruth Riley** basket with 39 seconds left and a free throw with five seconds to go tied the game before Connecticut guard Sue Bird drove the length of a floor for a buzzer-beating shot in the 78-76 final.

The Irish shot 51 percent from the field in the game and held the Huskies to 39 percent shooting but Connecticut took 24 more shots than Notre Dame, thanks in large part to 19 offensive rebounds and seven fewer turnovers. Riley finished with game-highs of 23 points and nine rebounds, registering her second 20-point game vs. the Huskies last season. Riley, Siemon and Ratay were named to the all-tournament team, the first time the Irish had ever placed three players on the squad.

**THE NOTRE DAME-SYRACUSE SERIES**

Notre Dame has faced Syracuse 14 times in its history, owning a 13-1 record against the Orangewomen in a matchup that dates back to the 1987-88 season, **Muffet McGraw's** first as the Irish head coach. After splitting its first two games with Syracuse, Notre Dame has reeled off 12 consecutive wins in the series, including a 71-46 victory in their only encounter this season back on Jan. 29.

In that game, freshman guard **Allison Bustamante** led all scorers with a career-high 21 points, canning five three-point field goals. Freshman forward **Jacqueline Batteast** added 10 points and a career-best 15 rebounds to record her eighth double-double of the season. As a team, the Irish posted a +17 rebounding margin (48-31), and held Syracuse to its lowest scoring output and field goal percentage (.296) of the season. **Shannon Perry** was the only double-figure scorer for the Orangewomen, coming off the bench to tally 10 points.





**THE NOTRE DAME-WEST VIRGINIA SERIES**

Notre Dame and West Virginia had never met prior to the 1995-96 season, when both schools joined the BIG EAST Conference. Since then, the Irish have won all nine meetings with the Mountaineers, including a 72-63 triumph in their lone regular-season meeting back on Feb. 19 at the Joyce Center.

Junior guard **Alicia Ratay** set the pace for the Irish against WVU, pumping in a season-high 31 points and connecting on a career-best 11 (of 13) free throws. Senior guard/forward **Ericka Haney** chipped in with a season-high 15 points and sophomore guard **Le'Tania Severe** contributed 12 points and a career-best nine rebounds for Notre Dame. The Irish did much of their damage at the foul line, recording season highs of 27 free throws made and 35 free throws attempted in the victory. **Kate Bulger** led four Mountaineers in double figures with 17 points.

**OTHER NOTRE DAME-SYRACUSE SERIES TIDBITS**

- Notre Dame's 12-game winning streak against Syracuse is the second-longest active success run for the Irish against a BIG EAST Conference opponent. Notre Dame presently owns a 14-game winning streak against Georgetown.
- Only once has Notre Dame failed to score at least 70 points in its 14-game series with Syracuse. On the other hand, the Orangewomen have topped the 70-point mark just once all-time against the Irish.
- All but one of Notre Dame's 13 wins in the series have come by double-digit margins, with an average spread of 18.6 points per game.

**OTHER NOTRE DAME-WEST VIRGINIA SERIES TIDBITS**

- West Virginia is one of five BIG EAST Conference opponents against whom Notre Dame has never lost. The others are Pittsburgh (11-0), Providence (10-0), St. John's (11-0) and Virginia Tech (4-0).
- Notre Dame have scored at least 70 points against West Virginia in all nine games in the series. Conversely, the Mountaineers have topped the 70-point mark just twice against Notre Dame.
- The Irish have scored 100 points in a game twice against WVU, making the Mountaineers the only BIG EAST opponent to see Notre Dame crack triple digits more than once.
- Only two games in the series has been decided by less than 10 points (ND 86-78 on Jan. 14, 1998, and ND 72-63 on Feb. 19, 2002) with the Irish winning by an average margin of 21.4 points.

**IF NOTRE DAME WINS ...**

- The Irish would record their 20th win of the season, marking the ninth consecutive year they have reached the 20-win plateau.
- Notre Dame would advance to the BIG EAST Conference Championship semifinals for the seventh consecutive season, each year of its membership in the conference.
- The Irish would pick up their 18th win in the last 22 games since opening the season at 2-4.
- Notre Dame would move to 59-8 (.881) vs. BIG EAST foes over the last three-plus seasons.
- The Irish would improve their overall record to 107-20 (.843) since the start of the '98-99 season.

**IRISH INJURY REPORT (as of Feb. 28)**

**Questionable**

Freshman F **Jacqueline Batteast** ..... partially torn posterior cruciate ligament in right knee vs. SJU (DNP last four games)

Sophomore G **Jeneka Joyce** ..... strained left Achilles' tendon (played 17 min. vs. Villanova)

**RATAY TO BE FEATURED ON ESPN CLASSIC'S "COLLEGE SPORTSCENTURY"**

On Friday, March 1, junior guard **Alicia Ratay** will be the subject of a documentary on ESPN Classic as part of the ongoing series "College SportsCentury." The half-hour program, which will debut at 7:30 p.m. (EST), will spotlight the Lake Zurich, Ill., native, who set an NCAA sophomore record last season by hitting on 54.7 percent of her three-point attempts. The show will be rebroadcast Saturday, March 2 at 9 a.m. (EST), also on ESPN Classic.

Ratay is one of four women's basketball players to be featured in the series — the others are Connecticut guard **Sue Bird**, Duke forward **Alana Beard** and Louisiana Tech forward **Cheryl Ford**.

**BIG EAST SEMIFINALS TO BE TELEVISED IN SOUTH BEND**

Both semifinal games in the 2002 BIG EAST Conference Championship will be televised live back to South Bend on WHME-TV (Channel 46), which has joined the BIG EAST television package for the

**IRISH MEDIA POLICIES**

**MUFFET MCGRAW INTERVIEWS**

The best time for interviews with Notre Dame head coach **Muffet McGraw** is Monday morning or by special appointment. Please contact the Notre Dame SID office at 574-631-7516 to make specific arrangements.

**THE MUFFET MCGRAW SHOW**

**Muffet McGraw's** half-hour, weekly television show is produced by LeSea Broadcasting and hosted by **Bob Nagle**. The show, now in its fifth season, is carried by WHME-TV (Channel 46) in South Bend and will air at 6:30 p.m. EST on Saturdays through the end of the season.

**MORE MEDIA NOTES**

- Irish practice sessions are generally open to the media, although the coaching staff may choose to close certain practices. Contact **Chris Masters** in the Notre Dame SID office for exact practice times and availability.
- All player interviews must be coordinated through the Notre Dame SID office. All player and coach interviews must be scheduled in advance — no interviews will be conducted on game days.
- Following games, Notre Dame head coach **Muffet McGraw** and selected players will speak with the media in the football auditorium at the Joyce Center. The visiting coach and selected players may appear in the auditorium after the Notre Dame press conference. Media members should submit interview requests to Notre Dame SID staffers no later than four minutes before the end of the game. The Irish locker room is closed after every game, home and away.

**RELEASES AVAILABLE VIA EMAIL**

Media members interested in receiving Notre Dame women's basketball game notes and press releases via email should send requests to Assistant Sports Information Director **Chris Masters** at [masters.5@nd.edu](mailto:masters.5@nd.edu).

**WEB SITE ([www.und.com](http://www.und.com))**

Notre Dame's official athletic department web site can be found at [www.und.com](http://www.und.com), with the extensive offerings including live audio and real-time statistics for all Notre Dame home women's basketball games.



**BIG EAST STANDINGS**  
(as of Feb. 28)

Pl.	Team	BIG EAST	Overall
1.	Connecticut*	16-0	30-0
2.	<b>NOTRE DAME**</b>	<b>13-3</b>	<b>19-8</b>
3.	Boston College**	12-4	21-6
	Villanova**	12-4	18-9
5.	Miami	10-6	17-10
6.	Virginia Tech	9-7	18-9
	Syracuse	9-7	16-11
8.	Providence	7-9	13-14
9.	Seton Hall	6-10	14-13
	West Virginia	6-10	14-13
11.	Rutgers	5-11	8-19
12.	Georgetown	4-12	12-15
13.	Pittsburgh	3-13	8-19
14.	St. John's	0-16	3-24

\* BIG EAST regular season champion  
\* clinched first-round bye in BIG EAST Championship

**TOP JOYCE CENTER CROWDS**

Rk.	Date	Opponent	Result	Atten.
T1.	1/15/01	#1 Connecticut	W, 92-76	11,418*
T1.	2/24/01	Georgetown	W, 65-53	11,418*
3.	2/10/02	<b>#16 Boston Coll.</b>	<b>W, 60-44</b>	<b>9,676</b>
4.	3/19/01	Michigan (NCAA)	W, 88-54	9,597
5.	1/26/02	<b>#16 Virginia Tech</b>	<b>W, 64-57</b>	<b>8,878</b>
6.	1/29/02	Syracuse	W, 71-46	8,571
7.	3/17/01	Alcorn St. (NCAA)	W, 98-49	8,553
8.	1/12/92	#2 Tennessee	L, 82-85	8,134
9.	11/18/01	Valparaiso	W, 42-35	7,960
10.	1/5/02	Providence	W, 72-66	7,804
11.	2/26/02	Villanova	L, 45-48	7,785
12.	2/19/02	West Virginia	W, 72-63	7,709
13.	2/13/02	St. John's	W, 66-31	7,677
14.	12/9/01	USC	W, 62-49	7,595
15.	2/12/00	St. John's	W, 94-51	7,530
16.	12/9/00	#6 Purdue	W, 72-61	7,330
17.	11/26/01	Army	W, 89-57	7,323
18.	12/12/01	Western Michigan	W, 71-48	7,310
19.	12/31/01	DePaul	W, 79-50	7,154
20.	12/22/01	Marquette	W, 60-33	7,132

\* denotes capacity crowd // rankings are from AP poll  
Bold denotes game played in 2001-02

broadcast. The first semifinal gets underway at 6 p.m. (EST), while the second contest will tip off at approximately 8 p.m. (EST), both from the Louis Brown Athletic Center in Piscataway, N.J. Should it qualify for the semifinals, Notre Dame would play in the 8 p.m. contest.

**SECOND SERVINGS**

Notre Dame placed second in the final 2002 BIG EAST Conference regular-season standings, marking the sixth time in their seven-year conference membership that the Irish have finished either first or second in the year-end league tables.

**20-WIN SEASONS**

Notre Dame can reach an important landmark with a victory in the BIG EAST Championship quarterfinals Sunday night. It would be the 20th win of the season for the Irish, marking the ninth consecutive year in which Notre Dame has posted 20-or-more wins. It also would be the 13th 20-win season for the Irish in the 15-year tenure of head coach **Muffet McGraw**.

**THE DEFENSE NEVER RESTS**

Over the years, Notre Dame has been well-known for its defensive intensity. Last season, the Irish led the nation in field goal percentage defense (.336), ranked fourth in scoring defense (55.8 ppg.) and 16th in rebound margin (+6.3)

Now, it appears this year's club is set to continue this recent trend. Entering the postseason, Notre Dame ranks fifth in the country in field goal percentage defense (.342), is tied for ninth in scoring defense (56.1) and stands 12th in rebound margin (+7.8).

**PICKING UP THE SLACK**

With freshman forward **Jacqueline Batteast** out for the last four regular-season games with a knee injury, several other players stepped in to fill the void left by Notre Dame's second-leading scorer (14.8 ppg.) and top rebounder (8.5 rpg.). Junior guard **Alicia Ratay** erupted, averaging 25.5 points and 6.8 rebounds per game while shooting 51.7 percent from the field. Senior guard/forward **Ericka Haney** has been much improved as well, logging 11.3 ppg. and cracking double figures in three of those four contests. Meanwhile, freshman forward **Katy Flecky** took over Batteast's spot in the starting lineup and performed well, averaging 7.5 ppg. and 5.3 rpg. while shooting 47.8 percent during that time.

**POLL POSITION**

After a 10-week absence earlier this season, Notre Dame returned to the *Associated Press* Top 25 poll on Feb. 11, appearing at No. 23 and moving up to No. 21 on Monday. The Irish were ranked in the first four AP polls this season, peaking at No. 15 before falling out on Dec. 3 after a 2-4 start, thereby breaking a 56-week run in the media rankings. However, Notre Dame has rebounded in fine fashion, winning 17 of its last 21 games, including a pair of wins over Top 25 foes Virginia Tech and Boston College, to reappear in the AP poll.

The Irish also returned to the ESPN/*USA Today* coaches' poll on Monday after a 12-week hiatus, checking in at No. 25. Notre Dame was ranked in the first three coaches' polls this season, topping out at 14th in the preseason balloting before falling out on Dec. 3, thus ending a 60-week run in the poll.

**VETERANS' DAY**

Another key factor in Notre Dame's late-season stretch run (nine wins in 10 games) has been the increased contribution from its veterans. After watching the Irish freshman class set the pace during the first two months of the season, junior guard **Alicia Ratay** and senior guard/forward **Ericka Haney** have stepped forward and provide expert leadership for Notre Dame's younger players as the drive to the NCAA Tournament heats up. Ratay has averaged 18.5 points and 6.2 rebounds per game during the last 10 games, including a season-high 31 points on Feb. 19 against West Virginia.

Meanwhile, Haney has erupted of late, carding 9.3 points and 4.5 rebounds per game in the final month of the regular season. The lone captain on this year's squad has cracked double figures six times in the last 10 games, including five of the last six contests. She scored a season-high 15 points against West Virginia.

**RATAY A TWO-TIME BIG EAST PLAYER OF THE WEEK**

Junior guard **Alicia Ratay** was named BIG EAST Conference Player of the Week for the second time in as many weeks, the league office announced Feb. 25.



Ratay averaged 27.5 points, 6.5 rebounds and 3.0 steals per game while helping the Irish to conference victories over West Virginia and Georgetown and the No. 2 seed in the BIG EAST Championship. Ratay also shot 50 percent from both the floor (14-28) and the three-point line (8-16) and connected at a 90.5 percent clip (19-21) from the free throw line. Against West Virginia, she pumped in a season-high 31 points, including 20 in the second half, and also knocked down a career-best 11 free throws and four three-point field goals in the triumph.

Ratay then netted a game-high 24 points and seven rebounds at Georgetown. Once again, she logged 20 second-half points, canning four more treys against the Hoyas to help move her into 10th place on the Irish career scoring list (now with 1,323 points). This season, Ratay ranks fourth in the BIG EAST in scoring (15.2 ppg.) and first in free throw percentage (.882).

**FLECKY NAMED BIG EAST ROOKIE OF THE WEEK**

Notre Dame made it a clean sweep of the final weekly BIG EAST awards when freshman forward **Katy Flecky** was selected as the conference Rookie of the Week last Monday.

Flecky notched 11.0 points and 6.5 rebounds per game while making just the third and fourth starts of her collegiate career against West Virginia and Georgetown. The Lone Tree, Colo., native tallied eight points and six rebounds in the win over WVU, before coming back with a career-high 14 points and seven rebounds in a career-best 28 minutes of action at Georgetown. For the season, she is averaging 4.8 points and 3.3 rebounds per game, but she has far exceeded her scoring average since moving into the starting lineup four games ago, carding 7.5 ppg. in that time. Flecky is the second Irish freshman to be named BIG EAST Rookie of the Week this season — forward **Jacqueline Batteast** is a six-time winner of the award.

**THE BEASTS OF THE BIG EAST**

Notre Dame is 102-18 (.850) in regular-season competition against the rest of BIG EAST Conference, owning the best conference winning percentage of any current member of the BIG EAST since joining the circuit for the 1995-96 campaign. The Irish also have won 58 of their last 66 regular-season conference games, and claimed a share of their first-ever BIG EAST regular-season championship in 2001. When including postseason competition (BIG EAST and NCAA tournaments), Notre Dame is 114-24 (.826) against league opponents — when factoring in these 18 postseason tilts, the Irish are 56-4 (.933) at home, 46-17 (.730) on the road and 12-6 (.667) at neutral sites all-time against BIG EAST foes.

**ROOKIE RAMPAGE**

The 2002 BIG EAST Conference season seemed to signal a call to arms for the Notre Dame freshman class. In 16 league games, the Irish rookies all made significant contributions, helping their team to a 13-3 mark and a second-place finish. Here's a closer look at how the Notre Dame freshmen made an impact in BIG EAST action (percentage of overall team output listed in parentheses, wins noted with asterisks):

Opponent	Points	Rebounds	Freshman Highlights
at Miami*	29 (42%)	22 (52.4%)	Batteast - 12 pts., 13 rebs.; Bustamante - 8 pts.
Providence*	55 (76.4%)	14 (50%)	Batteast (26) & Borton (20) with career-high points
Seton Hall*	46 (58.2%)	24 (52.2%)	All six rookies score; Borton - 15 pts. (7-7 FG)
at Villanova	19 (32.2%)	11 (32.4%)	Batteast - 14 pts.
at Providence*	48 (69.6%)	22 (59.5%)	Borton - 11 pts., 10 rebs.; Bustamante - 12 pts.
at Connecticut	33 (62.3%)	17 (51.5%)	Wicks - career-high 16 pts.
Virginia Tech*	34 (53.1%)	23 (62.2%)	Batteast - career-high 26 pts.; Wicks - 8 rebs.
Syracuse*	51 (71.8%)	27 (56.3%)	Bustamante - career-high 21 pts.; Batteast - 15 rebs.
at Seton Hall*	44 (67.7%)	26 (56.5%)	Batteast - 21 pts., 12 rebs.; Flecky - career-high 9 pts.
at Pittsburgh*	35 (51.5%)	29 (58%)	Batteast (16p, 12r)/Borton (10p, 10r) - double-doubles
Boston College*	21 (35%)	14 (35.9%)	Batteast - fourth straight double-double (18p, 10r)
St. John's*	22 (33%)	23 (45.1%)	Flecky - first career double-double (12p, 10r)
Rutgers*	14 (24.6%)	16 (42.1%)	Borton - 7 rebs.; Wicks - 6 pts., 4-4 FT in final 10 secs.
West Virginia*	14 (19.4%)	15 (31.9%)	Flecky - 8 pts., 6 rebs.; Borton - 6 rebs.
Georgetown*	34 (39.5%)	16 (34.8%)	Flecky - career-high 14 pts.; Bustamante - 14 pts.
Villanova	7 (15.6%)	9 (25.7%)	Fewest pts./rebs. by freshmen in BIG EAST play
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>506 (47.9%)</b>	<b>308 (46.9%)</b>	
<b>AVERAGES</b>	<b>31.6 ppg.</b>	<b>19.3 rpg.</b>	

**BIG EAST PLAYERS OF THE WEEK**

- Nov. 19 ..... Swin Cash, Connecticut  
Trish Juhline, Villanova
- Nov. 26 ..... Julie McBride, Syracuse  
Sarah Hicks, Virginia Tech
- Dec. 3 ..... Diana Taurasi, Connecticut  
Kate Bulger, West Virginia
- Dec. 10 ..... Chanivia Broussard, Miami
- Dec. 17 ..... Meghan Saake, Miami  
Ieva Kublina, Virginia Tech
- Dec. 24 ..... Mandy Wittenmyer, Pittsburgh
- Dec. 31 ..... Swin Cash, Connecticut  
Kate Bulger, West Virginia
- Jan. 7 ..... Diana Taurasi, Connecticut  
Ieva Kublina, Virginia Tech
- Jan. 14 ..... Swin Cash, Connecticut  
Jaime James, Syracuse
- Jan. 21 ..... Shaquana Wilkins, Miami
- Jan. 28 ..... Sue Bird, Connecticut  
Shannon Perry, Syracuse
- Feb. 4 ..... Asjha Jones, Connecticut
- Feb. 11 ..... Swin Cash, Connecticut  
Laine Selwyn, Pittsburgh
- Feb. 18 ..... Alicia Ratay, Notre Dame**  
Diana Taurasi, Connecticut
- Feb. 25 ..... Alicia Ratay, Notre Dame**

**BIG EAST ROOKIES OF THE WEEK**

- Nov. 19 ..... Yolanda Paige, West Virginia
- Nov. 26 ..... Sherell Sowho, West Virginia
- Dec. 3 .... Jacqueline Batteast, Notre Dame**
- Dec. 10 .. Jacqueline Batteast, Notre Dame**
- Dec. 17 .. Jacqueline Batteast, Notre Dame**  
Mary Lisicky, Georgetown
- Dec. 24 ..... Clare Droesch, Boston College
- Dec. 31 ..... Sherell Sowho, West Virginia
- Jan. 7 ..... Jacqueline Batteast, Notre Dame**
- Jan. 14 ..... Erin Gibson, Virginia Tech
- Jan. 21 ..... Yolanda Paige, West Virginia
- Jan. 28 ... Jacqueline Batteast, Notre Dame**
- Feb. 4 ..... Clare Droesch, Boston College
- Feb. 11 ... Jacqueline Batteast, Notre Dame**  
Jessica Simmonds, Providence
- Feb. 18 ..... Yolanda Paige, West Virginia
- Feb. 25 ..... Katy Flecky, Notre Dame**





**'01-02 IRISH HONORS**

**Jacqueline Batteast (Fr., South Bend, Ind.)**

Preseason BIG EAST Rookie of the Year  
 Freshman All-America (WBB News Service)  
 Top 21 New Players of Impact (Women's College Hoops.com)  
 BIG EAST Rookie of the Week (Dec. 3, 10 & 17; Jan. 7 & 28; Feb. 11)

**Katy Flecky (Fr., Lone Tree, Colo.)**

BIG EAST Rookie of the Week (Feb. 25)

**Ericka Haney (Sr., Toledo, Ohio)**

Preseason All-BIG EAST Second Team

**Alicia Ratay (Jr., Lake Zurich, Ill.)**

Naismith Award Watch List  
 Preseason All-BIG EAST First Team  
 BIG EAST Player of the Week (Feb. 18 & 25)

**NOTRE DAME VS. 2001-02 OPPONENTS**

**NON-CONFERENCE**

Army .....	1-0
Arizona .....	2-1
Colorado State .....	0-1
DePaul .....	9-13
Marquette .....	23-4
Michigan .....	6-6
Purdue .....	4-10
Rice .....	1-1
USC .....	3-1
Valparaiso .....	15-0
Western Michigan .....	7-0
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>71-37 (.657)</b>

**BIG EAST CONFERENCE**

Boston College .....	7-3
Connecticut .....	2-13
Georgetown .....	16-1
Miami .....	12-2
Pittsburgh .....	11-0
Providence .....	10-0
Rutgers .....	8-8
St. John's .....	11-0
Seton Hall .....	11-2
Syracuse .....	13-1
Villanova .....	11-5
Virginia Tech .....	4-0
West Virginia .....	9-0
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>125-35 (.781)</b>

**TOTAL VS. '01-02 OPPONENTS .... 196-72 (.731)**

Some other tidbits about the Notre Dame freshman class:

- They outscored three BIG EAST opponents (Seton Hall, Providence and Syracuse) all by themselves. The Irish greenhorns also nearly outrebounded a conference foe four times, coming within two caroms of Syracuse's total, three boards at Seton Hall (second game) and Pittsburgh, and four boards of SHU (first game).
- Center **Teresa Borton** tied a BIG EAST rookie record for field goal percentage in a game by going 7-for-7 from the floor in the first game against Seton Hall.
- The Irish freshmen sextet shot 60.7 percent (17-28) from the field in the first win over Seton Hall.
- Borton, forward **Jacqueline Batteast** and guard **Kelsey Wicks** proved to be a deadly combination in the first meeting with Providence, scoring 44 of Notre Dame's first 46 points (including 41 in a row at one stretch), and single-handedly sparking a 22-2 run over a 7:36 span which gave the Irish a 42-23 lead late in the first half.
- Batteast got the Irish off and running against No. 16/17 Virginia Tech, scoring 13 of the first 15 Notre Dame points, and later teaming with junior guard **Alicia Ratay** to score 32 of 34 second-half points for the Irish.
- Notre Dame started three freshmen (Wicks, **Allison Bustamante** and **Katy Flecky**) for the first time in 20 years in the second Seton Hall game. Flecky responded by scoring the first seven Irish points and nine of the first 13 Notre Dame markers. As a unit, the Irish rookies accounted for 21 of their team's 25 points in the first half.

**PINE TIME PLAYERS**

One of the positives for Notre Dame this season has been its depth and the exceptional production it has received from its reserve unit this season. The Irish bench has scored 579 points (21.4 ppg.) this year, accounting for 32.6 percent of Notre Dame's offensive output this season. In fact, the Irish have won the "Battle of the Benches" 17 times this season, going 14-3 when their reserves outscore the opposition.

Notre Dame's bench depth has been especially apparent during BIG EAST Conference action this season. The Irish second team chalked up 380 points (23.8 ppg.) — compared to 239 points (14.9 ppg.) for its opponents — and logged 36 percent of Notre Dame's offensive production during league play. The Irish went 10-1 in conference games when their bench held the scoring advantage, including a season-high 47 points in wins over Seton Hall (Jan. 9) and at Providence (Jan. 19).

**A TALE OF TWO SEASONS**

Location, location, location — that's the mantra many real estate agents use, but it's also a phrase which could easily be applied to Notre Dame this season. Here's a look at the stark contrast which has developed between Irish fortunes at home and away from the cozy confines of the Joyce Center:

	<u>Joyce Center</u>	<u>Road/Neutral Sites</u>
Record	13-1	6-7
Points per game	66.6	64.8
Opponent points per game	48.0	64.9
Scoring margin	+18.6	(-0.1)
Field goal percentage	.433	.422
Opponent field goal percentage	.303	.383
Rebounds per game	45.1	39.8
Opponent rebounds per game	34.3	35.2
Rebound margin	+10.8	+4.6

**CRASHING THE BOARDS**

Despite losing its top two rebounders from last year (**Ruth Riley** and **Kelley Siemon**), Notre Dame doesn't appear to have broken stride in the rebounding department this season. The Irish have averaged 42.5 rebounds per game through 27 games in 2001-02, owning a +7.8 edge on the glass, which ranks second in the BIG EAST Conference and 12th in the nation this week.

Leading the charge on the boards for Notre Dame have been a pair of freshmen — forward **Jacqueline Batteast** is setting the pace at 8.5 rebounds per game (second in the BIG EAST), while center **Teresa Borton** is third on the team with 5.0 caroms per contest. Additionally, the Irish have been potent on the offensive glass, collecting 14.3 offensive rebounds per game. Batteast and Borton also are setting the pace in that category — Batteast has 63 offensive boards (2.74 orpg.), ranking seventh in the BIG





EAST, while Borton has corralled 71 offensive caroms in four more games (2.63) — more than half of her overall rebounding total — to place her eighth in the conference.

**IT'S BATTEAST, TO SAY THE LEAST**

Although her college career is only 23 games old, freshman forward **Jacqueline Batteast** already is showing much of the potential which led the BIG EAST Conference coaches to vote her as the league's preseason Rookie of the Year. The South Bend, Ind., resident is a six-time BIG EAST Rookie of the Week selection and ranks in the top 10 in the conference in scoring (6th, 14.8 ppg.), rebounding (2nd, 8.5 rpg.), blocked shots (3rd, 1.52 bpg.) and double-doubles (2nd, 11). She also has garnered game-high rebounding honors 11 times and top scoring laurels 10 times. Batteast collected her 11th double-double of the season (and fourth in as many games) on Feb. 10 with game highs of 18 points and 10 rebounds in Notre Dame's 60-44 win over No. 16/18 Boston College.

Batteast missed the last four regular-season games while she recovered from a partially torn posterior cruciate ligament in her right knee, an injury she suffered Feb. 13 against St. John's. Batteast is expected to return to action Sunday night in the BIG EAST Championship quarterfinals.

**RATAY GETS DIVERSIFIED**

With defenses keying to stop her this season, junior guard **Alicia Ratay** has modified her game to feature more penetration and fewer three-point shots. The nation's top perimeter specialist from a year ago still makes the trey a powerful part of her arsenal, but this season, she has shown an ability to adapt to what a defense gives her.

Ratay ranks fourth in the BIG EAST Conference in scoring at 15.2 points per game. She also leads the conference in free throw percentage (.882), and she stands second on the squad with 5.6 rebounds per game. In addition, it seems BIG EAST play agreed with the Lake Zurich, Ill., native, who wound up first in the loop in free throw percentage (.882), second in scoring (16.8 ppg.), and 18th in rebounding (5.9 rpg.).

Never was Ratay's new style been on better display than in the last four games. She has averaged 25.5 ppg. and is shooting 51.7 percent (31-60) from the field, ringing up 25 points at Rutgers, a season-high 31 points against West Virginia, 24 points at Georgetown and 22 points vs. Villanova. Additionally, the bulk of her heroics have come in the second half — she scored 16 in the final period at Rutgers, followed by 20 second-half markers against West Virginia and 20 more in the second half at Georgetown. In fact, in her last four games, she is averaging 16 points in the second half alone.

On Jan. 2 at Miami, Ratay also showed that she is still one of the nation's premier sharpshooters and has earned the nickname "Dead Eye Ratay." She canned seven of nine three-point field goal attempts (a superb .778 percentage) and finished with 23 points to lead the Irish to a victory in their BIG EAST Conference opener. The seven treys tied Ratay's career high — she went seven for seven from beyond the arc on Feb. 19, 2000 at Rutgers, a memorable game in which she nailed two threes in the final 25 seconds of regulation to force overtime, where Notre Dame prevailed, 78-74.

Ratay is second on the Irish roster with a .415 three-point percentage (49-118), which comes on the heels of Ratay's effort last season, when she nailed 54.7 percent of her three-point tries, breaking the NCAA record for long-range efficiency by a sophomore.

In her career, Ratay is making nearly half of her long-distance attempts, hitting at a 48.6 percent clip (203-418) in her 95-game college career — that's good enough to set a new NCAA record for career three-point percentage, passing the current mark of .467 held by **Erin Maher** of Harvard. She already ranks third on Notre Dame's career three-point field goals made lists and fourth on the school's three-point attempts chart, and her career percentage is more than 60 points higher than her nearest challenger (**Kari Hutchinson**, .424, 1994-98).

**BARKSDALE'S BLOCK PARTY**

Junior center **Amanda Barksdale** has forced opponents to deal with rejection quite often this season. Although she missed Notre Dame's first four games with a stress reaction in her leg, she still leads the BIG EAST Conference and ranks third nationally with 3.22 blocks per game. In addition, her 74 blocks this season rank fifth in school history, and her 3.22 bpg. average would be just shy of **Ruth Riley's** mark of 3.25, set during the 1998-99 season.

The Friendswood, Texas, native has swatted at least four shots in 10 games this season, including a school-record 11 blocks on Feb. 10 against No. 16/18 Boston College. Barksdale also rejected eight shots against Marquette and seven against USC, giving her the top three single-game performances in

**RATAY JOINS IRISH 1,000-POINT CLUB**

Junior guard **Alicia Ratay** became the newest member of Notre Dame's 1,000-Point Club, joining that elite sorority with 12 points on Dec. 6 at Purdue. In addition to being the 19th Irish player to hit that milestone, Ratay is the eighth player to do so in less than three seasons, and the 15th student-athlete to turn the trick while spending part of her career under head coach **Muffet McGraw**.

In addition, senior guard/forward **Ericka Haney** is closing in the millennium scoring mark, needing just 24 points to become the 20th 1,000-point scorer in school history. Here's a look at the Notre Dame's 1,000-Point Club and where Ratay and Haney stand on that list:

Player, Years	Points
1. Beth Morgan (1993-97) .....	2,322
2. Katryna Gaither (1993-97) .....	2,126
3. Ruth Riley (1997-2001) .....	2,072
4. Karen Robinson (1987-91) .....	1,590
5. Trena Keys (1982-86) .....	1,589
6. Sandy Botham (1984-88) .....	1,460
7. Sheila McMillen (1995-99) .....	1,439
8. Niele Ivey (1996-2001) .....	1,430
9. Shari Matvey (1979-83) .....	1,373
10. <b>Alicia Ratay (1999-present)</b> .....	<b>1,323</b>
11. Margaret Nowlin (1988-92) .....	1,298
12. Mary Beth Schueth (1981-85) .....	1,233
13. Letitia Bowen (1991-95) .....	1,205
14. Heidi Bunek (1985-89) .....	1,202
15. Krissi Davis (1987-91) .....	1,194
16. Danielle Green (1995-2000) .....	1,106
17. Carrie Bates (1981-85) .....	1,060
18. Mollie Peirick (1994-98) .....	1,034
19. Kelley Siemon (1997-2001) .....	1,006
— <b>Ericka Haney (1998-present)</b> .....	<b>976</b>

**IRISH IN THE POLLS**

Here's where Notre Dame has been ranked in both of the major national Top 25 polls during the 2001-02 season (arv - also receiving votes):

	AP	ESPN/USA Today
Preseason .....	15	14
Nov. 12 .....	15	no poll
Nov. 19 .....	15	15
Nov. 26 .....	23	23
Dec. 3 .....	arv	arv
Dec. 10 .....	arv	arv
Dec. 17 .....	arv	arv
Dec. 24 .....	arv	arv
Dec. 31 .....	arv	arv
Jan. 7 .....	arv	arv
Jan. 14 .....	arv	arv
Jan. 21 .....	arv	arv
Jan. 28 .....	arv	arv
Feb. 4 .....	arv	arv
Feb. 11 .....	23	arv
Feb. 18 .....	22	arv
Feb. 25 .....	21	25



**IRISH TRENDS IN '01-02**

**Day of the Week**

Sunday .....	3-1
Monday .....	2-1
Tuesday .....	3-1
Wednesday .....	4-1
Thursday .....	0-1
Friday .....	0-1
Saturday .....	7-2

**Time of Game**

Day games (before 6 p.m local time) .....	10-4
Night games (6 p.m. or later local time) .....	9-4

**Location**

Home games .....	13-1
Road games .....	6-6
Neutral site games .....	0-1

**Halftime score**

Leading at the half .....	16-1
Trailing at the half .....	3-6
Tied at the half .....	0-1

**Rebounding margin**

Grab more rebounds than opponents .....	16-3
Grab fewer rebounds than opponents .....	3-5
Grab same number of rebounds as opponents .....	0-0

**Field goal shooting**

Higher pct. than opponent .....	17-4
Lower pct. than opponent .....	2-4
Same pct. as opponent .....	0-0
Shoot 45% or better .....	8-1
Shoot less than 45% .....	11-7
Hold opponent under 40% .....	15-4

**Free throw margin**

Make more free throws .....	13-2
Make fewer free throws .....	4-5
Make same number of free throws .....	2-1

**Turnovers**

Commit fewer turnovers .....	6-1
Commit more turnovers .....	10-7
Commit same number of turnovers .....	3-0

**Final Margin**

1-5 points .....	3-3
6-10 points .....	4-1
11-15 points .....	2-3
16-20 points .....	2-0
21+ points .....	8-1

**Conference Affiliation**

BIG EAST .....	13-3
Big Ten .....	0-2
Conference USA .....	2-0
Mid-American .....	1-0
Mid-Continent .....	1-0
Mountain West .....	0-1
Pacific-10 .....	1-1
Patriot League .....	1-0
Western Athletic .....	0-1

**Month**

November .....	2-2
December .....	4-3
January .....	6-2
February .....	7-1
March .....	0-0

the BIG EAST this year. In addition, her BC outing ties for the third-best in the nation, and the Marquette showing is tied for ninth in the country in 2001-02.

One of only five players in school history to reach the century mark in career rejections, Barksdale is averaging 1.93 blocks per game (166 total) in her 86-game career, which is second in Irish history behind only Riley, who averaged 2.82 bpg. in her storied career from 1997-2001.

**A SEVERE DEVELOPMENT FOR THE IRISH**

Sophomore guard **Le'Tania Severe** has quickly adapted to her new role as a primary point guard for the Irish, filling the large shoes of All-American **Niele Ivey**. Through 27 games this season, Severe is fourth on the team with 6.5 points per game and leads the squad with 5.0 assists per game, ranking seventh in the BIG EAST Conference in the latter category. She also is tied for eighth in the league in steals (1.96 spg.) and stands 15th in assist/turnover ratio (1.25). Entering the 2001-02 campaign, her career highs were seven points and two assists and she had played in just 22 games due to injury.

Severe has been adept at distributing the ball to her teammates, earning game-high assist honors in 18 games and dealing at least five assists 15 times, including a career-high nine handouts (with just one turnover) on Jan. 29 against Syracuse. She also has proven to be a scoring threat when necessary, reaching double figures seven times this season, including a career-high 17 points against USC.

**A LITTLE COMPARISON SHOPPING**

Prior to the 2001-02 season, Notre Dame head coach **Muffet McGraw** compared her team to the 1997-98 Irish squad, which, like this year's club, was coming off a trip to the NCAA Final Four. Through 27 games this season, that comparison seems to be holding true in several ways. Here's a look at some of the similarities between this year's club and the '97-98 unit:

	<u>1997-98</u>	<u>2001-02</u>
Previous season result (record)	NCAA Final Four (31-7)	NCAA Champion (34-2)
Starters/monogram winners lost	4/5	3/6
Freshmen on roster	4	6
Seniors on roster	2	1
Freshmen starters	2	2
27-game record (Top 25 opponents)	19-8 (4)	19-8 (6)
Final season result (record)	NCAA Sweet Sixteen (22-10)	?

**NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK**

With six freshmen making up half of this year's roster, Notre Dame has certainly gone through some growing pains. However, the Irish rookies are getting a great deal of college experience this season, as evidenced by their production through 27 games of the 2001-02 campaign. Notre Dame's freshmen have accounted for 47 percent of the points (834 of 1775), 47 percent of the rebounds (540 of 1148) and 40.9 percent of the minutes (2211 of 5400) recorded by the Irish this season. Additionally, Notre Dame started at least two freshmen in eight games this year, and five of the six Irish rookies are averaging at least 11 minutes per contest.

**PROTECTING THE PILL**

With six freshmen on the 2001-02 roster, Notre Dame could be excused if its turnover numbers look a bit high. However, on Jan. 26 against No. 16/17 Virginia Tech, the Irish put together one of the finest exhibitions of ball control in the 25-year history of the program, setting a school record by committing just seven turnovers in the 64-57 victory. That was two giveaways fewer than the previous standard, which had been set twice before (most recently on Feb. 3, 2001 at Boston College).

**TINKERING WITH THE LINEUP**

Notre Dame fielded an unorthodox starting lineup for its Feb. 2 win at Seton Hall after curfew violations resulted in four of the five everyday starters losing their game-opening assignments. Instead, the Irish began the contest with three freshmen — guards **Allison Bustamante** and **Kelsey Wicks**, and forward **Katy Flecky** — for the first time in more than two decades. Back on Jan. 2, 1982, Notre Dame started rookies **Ruth Kaiser**, **Mary Beth Schueth** and **Carrie Bates** for the third time that season, and the freshman trio helped spark the Irish to a 60-53 win over Missouri in Kansas City.

In addition, Wicks and Flecky, along with junior guard **Karen Swanson**, cracked the starting lineup for the first time in their careers. Coupled with Bustamante, who was making her second career start in



**BIG EAST COACHES' PRESEASON POLL**

- |     |                       |            |
|-----|-----------------------|------------|
| 1.  | Connecticut (11)      | 167        |
| 2.  | <b>NOTRE DAME (2)</b> | <b>155</b> |
| 3.  | Rutgers               | 143        |
| 4.  | Boston College        | 125        |
| 5.  | Villanova (1)         | 112        |
| 6.  | Virginia Tech         | 111        |
| 7.  | Georgetown            | 102        |
| 8.  | Miami                 | 86         |
| 9.  | Seton Hall            | 75         |
| 10. | Syracuse              | 59         |
| 11. | Providence            | 56         |
| 12. | Pittsburgh            | 41         |
| 13. | St. John's            | 23         |
| 14. | West Virginia         | 19         |

**2001-02 Preseason Player of the Year**

Sue Bird, Sr., G, 5-9, Connecticut

**2001-02 Preseason Rookie of the Year**

Jacqueline Batteast, Fr., F, 6-1, Notre Dame

**Preseason All-BIG EAST First Team**

\*Sue Bird, Connecticut, G, Sr.  
 Rebekkah Brunson, Georgetown, F, So.  
 Swin Cash, Connecticut, F, Sr.  
 Becky Gottstein, Boston College, F, Sr.  
 Trish Juhline, Villanova, G, Jr.

**Alicia Ratay, Notre Dame, G, Jr.**

*\* - unanimous selection*

**Preseason All-BIG EAST Second Team**

Chanivia Broussard, Miami, F, So.  
 Davalyn Cunningham, Rutgers, F, Sr.  
**Ericka Haney, Notre Dame, G/F, Sr.**  
 Asjha Jones, Connecticut, F, Sr.  
 Diana Taurasi, Connecticut, G, So.

the Seton Hall game, four of the five Notre Dame starters had exactly one collegiate start between them.

**BACK FROM THE BRINK**

Notre Dame put together its best comeback of the season Feb. 2 at Seton Hall, erasing a pair of 10-point first-half deficits (20-10 and 21-11) to defeat the Pirates, 65-60. It was the biggest rally for the Irish since they climbed out of a 12-point hole (19-7) in the first half to claim a 68-66 win over Purdue in the 2001 NCAA championship game at the Saavis Center in St. Louis.

**IRISH LOG HISTORICAL DEFENSIVE EFFORT**

Notre Dame's 66-31 victory over St. John's on Feb. 13 marked a record defensive performance for Notre Dame. It was the fewest points allowed by the Irish since Jan. 21, 1982, in an 84-27 win at Valparaiso. For some historical context, the captain of that 1981-82 Notre Dame squad was none other than current Irish associate athletics director **Missy Conboy**. The BIG EAST Conference record for fewest points in a game is 27, set by Villanova against Connecticut on Dec. 2, 1997.

**THE BEST OFFENSE IS A GOOD DEFENSE ...**

Over the last five-plus seasons, Notre Dame has discovered that a solid defensive effort can almost certainly guarantee a victory. In fact, since the beginning of the 1995-96 season (Notre Dame's first in the BIG EAST Conference), the Irish have an amazing 101-2 (.981) record when they hold their opponents to less than 60 points in a game. The only times that notion didn't come to pass were on Feb. 17, 2001 (Rutgers 54-53), and Feb. 26, 2002 (Villanova 48-45).

The Irish already have added to this total 14 times during the 2001-02 season — Valparaiso (35 points), Army (57), USC (49), Western Michigan (48), Marquette (33), DePaul (50), Seton Hall (45), Providence (41), Virginia Tech (57), Syracuse (46), Pittsburgh (56), Boston College (44), St. John's (31) and Rutgers (52).

**... BUT SOMETIMES YOU HAVE TO SCORE IF YOU WANT TO WIN**

Not resting solely on its defensive laurels, Notre Dame also seemingly has found the magic mark when it comes to outscoring its opponents. Over the last five-plus seasons (1995-96 to present), the Irish are 81-3 (.964) when they score at least 80 points in a game. The only blemishes on that record are a pair of overtime losses to Texas A&M (88-84) and Michigan State (87-83) in 1995 and a 106-81 loss to Connecticut in 1998. Notre Dame has contributed two wins to that growing record this year, ringing up a season-high 89 points on Nov. 26 vs. Army and tacking up 86 points Feb. 23 at Georgetown.

**FRESH FACES IN THE IRISH LINEUP**

Notre Dame had a decidedly youthful look in its starting lineup when it opened the season Nov. 18 against Valparaiso, as freshmen **Jacqueline Batteast** and **Teresa Borton** got the nod at forward and center, respectively. In doing so, the pair were first rookie tandem in 20 years to start a season opener for the Irish — Ruth Kaiser and Mary Beth Schueth cracked the starting five in a 78-44 win over St. Joseph's (Ind.) on Dec. 2, 1981. Borton paced the Irish with 14 points and nine rebounds against Valparaiso, while Batteast scored two points and grabbed five boards against the Crusaders.

**A STREAK FOR THE HISTORY BOOKS**

Notre Dame saw its 51-game home court winning streak come to an end last Tuesday night with a 48-45 loss to Villanova at the Joyce Center. It was the 10th-longest home winning streak in NCAA history and the third-longest string by a current BIG EAST Conference member — Rutgers had a 53-game spree from 1984-89, while Connecticut holds the conference record with a 54-game home winning streak from 1995-99.

**NOTRE DAME REGISTERS 500TH ALL-TIME VICTORY**

Notre Dame became the 50th team in NCAA history, and the fourth BIG EAST Conference school to post 500 career wins when it claimed a 68-56 triumph at Pittsburgh on Feb. 5. The Irish currently have an all-time record of 505-224 (.693) in their 25th season of intercollegiate competition. The other BIG EAST schools with 500 victories to their credit are Rutgers (577), Connecticut (547) and Villanova (518) — all win totals are as of March 1.



**MCGRAW DEVELOPING EXTENSIVE COACHING "FAMILY TREE"**

Much has been made of the coaching roots which develop throughout the women's basketball world. Several long-time head coaches such as Virginia's **Debbie Ryan**, Tennessee's **Pat Summitt** and Vanderbilt's **Jim Foster** have helped produce a new generation of talented young coaches. In fact, back when he was the skipper at St. Joseph's (Pa.) in 1982, Foster was the mentor for an eager assistant coach named **Muffet McGraw**.

Now 20 years later, McGraw has created her own "family tree" of bright and energetic coaching minds through her tenures at Lehigh (1982-87) and Notre Dame (1987-present). No less than 16 of her former players and/or assistants currently hold coaching positions either at the high school or college level.

Here's a look at the roster of former McGraw players/assistants and where they now are coaching:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Current position</u>
Sandy Botham*^	Head coach, Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Heidi Bunek*	Head coach, Arrowhead HS (1)
Liz Feeley+^	Head coach, Smith College
Bill Fennelly^	Head coach, Iowa State
David Glass^	Head coach, Virginia Commonwealth
Sandy Hume+	Head coach, New Jersey HS system
Kari Hutchinson*	Asst. coach, Baltimore HS system
Kristin Knapp*	Assistant coach, Ball State
Sara Liebscher*	Assoc. coach, Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Colleen Matsuhara^	Assistant coach, USC
Sheila McMillen*	Assistant coach, Northwestern
Beth Morgan*	Asst. coach, Virginia Commonwealth
Mollie Peirick*	Asst. coach, St. Cecilia Academy (2)
John Sutherland^	Assistant coach, Marshall
Kathleen Weber^	Head coach, UNC-Asheville
Coquese Washington*	Assistant coach, Notre Dame

\* - former Notre Dame player  
 ^ - former Notre Dame assistant  
 + - former Lehigh player  
 (1) - located in Milwaukee, Wis.  
 (2) - located in Nashville, Tenn.

**IRISH CHART 100TH REGULAR-SEASON BIG EAST WIN**

Notre Dame reached another milestone Feb. 16 at Rutgers, recording its 100th regular-season BIG EAST Conference victory. The Irish needed only 117 games to attain that landmark victory, turning the trick faster than any school in conference history. In its seven-year affiliation with the BIG EAST, Notre Dame has averaged better than 14 wins per season, has never posted less than 12 wins, or finished lower than third place in the final conference standings.

**NOTRE DAME AMONG NATIONAL ATTENDANCE LEADERS**

Notre Dame is ranked seventh in the nation, according to the latest unofficial attendance figures released Monday by the University of Wisconsin Sports Information Department. The Irish have averaged 7,825 fans for their 14 home games, almost 1,500 ahead of last season's figures, when Notre Dame was ranked ninth in the country in attendance with an average of 6,376 fans per game.

In their final six home games, the Irish welcomed six of the top 13 crowds in school history, led by a season-high 9,676 fans, the third-largest crowd ever, who crammed the Joyce Center on Feb. 10 to watch Notre Dame pick off No. 16/18 Boston College. In addition, the Irish downed No. 16/17 Virginia Tech on Jan. 26 in front of a gathering of 8,878 fans (the fifth-largest crowd ever). Three days later on Jan. 29, Notre Dame defeated Syracuse before an audience of 8,571 spectators, ranking No. 6 on the Irish all-time attendance charts. Last Tuesday, a group of 7,785 fans (11th all-time) watched Notre Dame take on Villanova. The Irish also downed West Virginia on Feb. 19 before a crowd of 7,709, the 12th-largest attendance ever. Lastly, a gathering of 7,677 fans witnessed a Feb. 13 victory over St. John's, placing that crowd 13th in school history.

**MCGRAW REACHES COACHING MILESTONE AGAINST DEPAUL**

**Muffet McGraw** coached her 450th game at Notre Dame on New Year's Eve against DePaul. She owns a 341-125 (.732) record in her 15th season with the Irish, making her the winningest coach in school history and fourth on the BIG EAST Conference career wins list behind Connecticut's **Geno Auriemma** (455), Rutgers' **Theresa Grentz** (434) and Villanova's **Harry Perretta** (435).

In addition, McGraw is the sixth coach to work 450 games at a BIG EAST Conference school. Besides the Notre Dame mentor, three of those coaches are still active in the league — Perretta (689), Auriemma (553) and Seton Hall's **Phyllis Mangina** (485). Grentz (584) and Virginia Tech's **Carol Alfano** (540) are the other BIG EAST skippers who reached that milestone.

**NOTRE DAME PICKED SECOND IN BIG EAST PRESEASON BALLOTING**

Fresh off a share of their first-ever BIG EAST championship last season, the Irish have been picked to finish second in 2001-02 according to a preseason poll of the league's coaches which was released at BIG EAST Media Day on Oct. 25. Notre Dame claimed two first-place votes and 155 points overall, trailing only Connecticut (11 first-place votes, 167 points). Rutgers, Boston College and Villanova round out the top five, with VU picking up the remaining first-place vote.

Individually, junior guard **Alicia Ratay** was a first team preseason all-BIG EAST selection after earning third-team honors last year. The Lake Zurich, Ill., native set an NCAA record for three-point percentage by a sophomore last season (.547) and is the top returning scorer for the Irish in 2001-02 after charting 12.9 points per game a year ago.

Senior guard/forward **Ericka Haney** also was recognized by the conference coaches, earning second team preseason all-BIG EAST laurels. She joins Ratay as one of two starters back from last year's NCAA championship squad and averaged 11 ppg. and 5.7 rpg. during the '00-01 campaign.

In addition, freshman forward **Jacqueline Batteast** was chosen as the preseason BIG EAST Rookie of the Year. It was one in a series of early-season honors for the South Bend, Ind., product, who also was named a first team freshman All-American by the *Women's Basketball News Service* and was tabbed as one of the Top 21 "New Players of Impact" by Women's College Hoops.com.

**OH CAPTAIN, MY CAPTAIN**

This season, for only the fourth time in school history, Notre Dame has just one captain — senior guard/forward **Ericka Haney**. She is the first solo captain for the Irish since **Sheila McMillen** in 1998-99 and the second in head coach **Muffet McGraw's** 15-year tenure.

**IRISH HAIL FROM SEA TO SHINING SEA**

The 12 players on this year's Notre Dame roster hail from nine different states, including two each from Florida, Illinois and Ohio. Other states represented on the Irish roster include Colorado, Indiana, Kan-





sas, Texas, Washington and Wyoming. The all-time Notre Dame roster features players from 34 different states, including 23 during the **Muffet McGraw** era. Ironically, the most common home state on the Irish all-time roster — Michigan (14) — is not represented on this season's roster.

**FUN WITH NUMBERS**

This season, Notre Dame fans are seeing a pair of jersey numbers on the floor that haven't made an appearance in quite some time. Freshman guard **Kelsey Wicks** has chosen to wear No. 24, becoming the first Irish player since **Andrea Alexander** (1990-94) to sport those digits. In addition, freshman forward **Jacqueline Batteast** is wearing No. 21 this season, a number which has not been modeled by an Irish player since All-American **Beth Morgan** wore the same jersey from 1993-97. Prior to Morgan, the last Notre Dame player to wear No. 21 was current Irish assistant coach **Coquese Washington**, who had the number from 1989-93.

**NOTRE DAME AMONG RECENT WINS LEADERS**

Notre Dame has won 159 games in the last five-plus seasons, which stands as the fifth-most wins of any school in the country during that time. Here's where the Irish rank in terms of their wins since the start of the 1996-97 campaign (through games of Feb. 27):

TEAM	'96-'97	'97-'98	'98-'99	'99-'00	'00-'01	'01-'02	Total
1. Connecticut	33	34	29	36	32	30	194
2. Tennessee	29	39	31	33	31	24	187
3. Louisiana Tech	31	31	30	31	31	20	174
4. Old Dominion	34	29	28	29	21	21	162
5. NOTRE DAME	31	22	26	27	34	19	159

**NOW THAT'S A HOME COURT ADVANTAGE**

One of the hallmarks of Notre Dame's success has been its stellar play at home. In fact, the Irish have been virtually untouchable at home in recent years, winning 76 of their last 79 games at the Joyce Center, including a school-record 51-game winning streak (10th-longest in NCAA history) from 1998-2002.

Notre Dame also has a 56-4 (.933) record in BIG EAST Conference play at the Joyce Center, sporting a 31-game league winning streak at home before it was snapped with a 48-45 loss to Villanova on Feb. 26. Besides the Wildcats, only Connecticut (twice) and Boston College have successfully conquered the Irish on their home floor.

Nevertheless, Notre Dame still owns a five-year, 29-game non-conference winning streak at the Joyce Center — a stretch that includes victories over a trio of sixth-ranked teams (UCLA and Duke in 1998-99 and Purdue in 2000-01), as well as 25th-ranked Illinois in '98-99. Notre Dame's last non-conference loss at the Joyce Center came way back on Dec. 9, 1996, when 19th-ranked Wisconsin toppled the Irish, 81-69.

Since its inaugural season in 1977-78, Notre Dame has played all of its games at the Joyce Center, sporting a 239-66 (.784) mark at the venerable facility. Last season, the Irish were a perfect 15-0 for the second year in a row. The 15 victories are a school record for home wins in a season and the first time Notre Dame teams have been undefeated at home during the regular season. Also, since joining the BIG EAST Conference prior to the 1995-96 season, Muffet McGraw's squad is 89-5 (.947) at the Joyce Center.

**SEASON TICKET SALES REACH ALL-TIME HIGH FOR IRISH**

Attendance at Notre Dame women's basketball games in 2000-01 increased nearly 88 percent compared to the previous season — and indications suggest another significant jump is underway for the 2001-02 campaign. Coming off the 2001 NCAA championship, there have been more than 6,700 season tickets sold to the general public and University faculty and staff for the '01-'02 women's basketball season. That's compared to 2,700 a year ago and 940 in 1999-2000 — a jump of nearly 150 percent over last season, and a whopping 700 percent rise in just two years.

The sale of season tickets for the '01-02 campaign actually began midway through Notre Dame's 2001 championship season. All seats are reserved for Irish women's games for the first time this season — all seating in previous years had been general admission.

The Irish ranked ninth nationally in attendance last year at 6,376 fans per game, compared to 3,392 in 1999-2000. Notre Dame also recorded the first two women's basketball sellouts in school history, as 11,418 fans packed the Joyce Center for victories over top-ranked Connecticut and Georgetown.

**NOTRE DAME AMONG BEST IN ATHLETE GRADUATION RATES**

The University of Notre Dame ranks among the top NCAA Division I-A institutions in five major graduation rate categories — all student-athletes, football players, male student-athletes, female student-athletes and African-American student-athletes — according to statistics released this fall by the NCAA.

The 2001 NCAA Graduation Rates Report, the 11th-such survey issued by the association, covers students who enrolled between 1991 and 1994 at Division I institutions, including 114 in Division I-A. The NCAA bases graduation rates on the raw percentage of student-athletes who entered an institution and graduated within six years. Students who leave or transfer, regardless of academic standing, are considered non-graduates.

Using the NCAA formula, Notre Dame graduated a four-year average of 85 percent of its student-athletes, fourth behind Northwestern (92 percent), Duke (91) and Stanford (88).

Among student-athletes who complete all four years of athletic eligibility at Notre Dame, not considering those who leave or transfer, 99 percent earn their degrees. The national average for Division I-A schools is 58 percent.

Notre Dame graduated 90 percent of all women competing in varsity athletics, to rank fifth in that category behind leader Northwestern at 98 percent. Among men, Notre Dame's 82 percent rate is fourth behind Duke at 90 percent, Northwestern at 88 percent and Stanford at 85 percent.

Notre Dame graduated 73 percent of its African-American student-athletes, ranking behind only Duke, Vanderbilt, Stanford, Northwestern and Rice.

Here are the top institutions in some of the major categories:

**ALL STUDENT-ATHLETES**

- 1. Northwestern 92%
- 2. Duke 91%
- 3. Stanford 88%
- 4. NOTRE DAME 85%

**FEMALE STUDENT-ATHLETES**

- 1. Northwestern 98%
- 2. Stanford 93%
- 3. Duke 92%
- 4. Vanderbilt 91%
- 5. NOTRE DAME 90%

**AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDENT-ATHLETES**

- 1. Duke 84%
- 2. Vanderbilt 82%
- 3. Stanford 81%
- 4. Northwestern 80%
- 5. Rice 78%
- 6. NOTRE DAME 73%



### IRISH SEASON RECORDS

#### Total Points (Freshman)

1. Shari Matvey	1979-80	529
2. Beth Morgan	1993-94	518
<b>3. Alicia Ratay</b>	<b>1999-2000</b>	<b>447</b>
4. Michelle Marciniak	1991-92	381
5. Ruth Riley	1997-98	368
<b>6. Jacqueline Batteast</b>	<b>2001-02</b>	<b>340</b>

#### Scoring Average (Freshman)

1. Beth Morgan	1993-94	17.9
2. Shari Matvey	1979-80	17.6
<b>3. Jacqueline Batteast</b>	<b>2001-02</b>	<b>14.8</b>
<b>4. Alicia Ratay</b>	<b>1999-2000</b>	<b>14.0</b>
5. Mary Beth Schueth	1981-82	13.0
6. Carrie Bates	1981-82	12.4

#### Total Rebounds (Freshman)

1. Shari Matvey	1979-80	305
2. Ruth Riley	1997-98	233
3. Mary Beth Schueth	1981-82	227
4. Letitia Bowen	1991-92	218
<b>5. Jacqueline Batteast</b>	<b>2001-02</b>	<b>195</b>
6. Kelley Siemon	1997-98	165

#### Rebound Average (Freshman)

1. Shari Matvey	1979-80	10.2
2. Mary Beth Schueth	1981-82	9.1
<b>3. Jacqueline Batteast</b>	<b>2001-02</b>	<b>8.5</b>
4. Letitia Bowen	1991-92	7.8
5. Ruth Riley	1997-98	7.3
6. Carrie Bates	1981-82	6.5

#### Free-Throw Percentage

<b>1. Alicia Ratay</b>	<b>2001-02</b>	<b>.882 (105-119)</b>
2. Sheila McMillen	1998-99	.871
3. Niele Ivey	1998-99	.870
4. Beth Morgan	1995-96	.854
5. Krissi Davis	1990-91	.849
6. Mollie Peirick	1997-98	.838

*Min. 2.0 made per game*

#### Blocked Shots

1. Ruth Riley	2000-01	113
2. Ruth Riley	1998-99	101
3. Shari Matvey	1979-80	94
4. Ruth Riley	1999-2000	85
<b>5. Amanda Barksdale</b>	<b>2001-02</b>	<b>74</b>
6. Ruth Riley	1997-98	71

#### Blocks Per Game

1. Ruth Riley	1998-99	3.25
<b>2. Amanda Barksdale</b>	<b>2001-02</b>	<b>3.22</b>
3. Ruth Riley	2000-01	3.14
4. Shari Matvey	1979-80	3.13
5. Ruth Riley	1999-2000	2.66
6. Ruth Riley	1997-98	2.22

**Boldface** indicates current player

Thirteen of Notre Dame's 14 home games in 2001-02 have attracted more than 7,000 fans, placing them among the top 20 crowds in school history (see chart on page 6). Leading the way is the gathering of 9,676 fans on Feb. 10 for a win over No. 16/18 Boston College, representing the third-largest crowd in school history. Furthermore, all of the top 20 crowds in the Irish record book have occurred during the 15-year tenure of head coach **Muffet McGraw**. And, as more evidence of Notre Dame's rapid elevation to "hot ticket" status in South Bend, 19 of the top 20 crowds in school history have been recorded in the last three seasons.

#### NOTRE DAME FACES TOUGH SCHEDULE IN 2001-02

Notre Dame is slated to play 10 teams which reached the postseason as part of a rugged schedule this year. On the docket are seven 2001 NCAA Tournament squads and four teams (Connecticut - 1/1, Purdue - 7/7, Boston College - 18/17 and Colorado State - 20/16) which are ranked in the Top 25 in the latest Associated Press and ESPN/*USA Today* coaches' polls. In addition, three other Irish opponents (Rice, Villanova and Virginia Tech) are receiving votes one or both of the major polls this week.

#### IRISH ON THE SMALL SCREEN

Notre Dame is getting a good deal of face time in 2001-02, playing on television at least eight times, including a pair of nationally-televased contests — Nov. 21 at Arizona (Fox Sports Net) and Jan. 21 at Connecticut (ESPN). The Irish also will make two regional television appearances this season — Jan. 2 at Miami (Fox Sports Florida) and Feb. 2 at Seton Hall (CN8, The Comcast Network).

In addition, Notre Dame will appear three times as part of the BIG EAST regular-season television package, playing host to Virginia Tech (Jan. 26) and traveling to Villanova (Jan. 12) and Rutgers (Feb. 16). All three of those games will be telecast live on Fox Sports Chicago as part of the league's TV deal.

Additionally, the Dec. 6 rematch of the 2001 NCAA championship game between Notre Dame and Purdue was televised live statewide by LeSea Broadcasting, which includes WHME-TV (Channel 46) in South Bend and WHMB-TV (Channel 40) in Indianapolis.

The BIG EAST Championship semifinals on Monday will be aired on the BIG EAST TV package (including WHME-TV in South Bend), while the conference title game on Tuesday will be broadcast live on ESPN2.

#### NOTRE DAME RECEIVES COMMITMENTS FROM PAIR OF TOP 25 PROSPECTS

Notre Dame head coach **Muffet McGraw** announced Nov. 15 that two of the nation's top high school student-athletes have chosen to continue their careers with the Irish, signing national letters of intent to attend Notre Dame beginning in the fall of 2002. **Megan Duffy** (Dayton, OH/Chaminade-Julienne HS) and **Courtney LaVere** (Ventura, CA/Buena HS) both committed to the Irish during the early signing period.

Duffy, a 5-7 guard, averaged 17 points per game last season for Chaminade-Julienne High School in Dayton, Ohio. She was a 2001 first-team Division I all-state selection and earned honorable mention All-America accolades from *Street & Smith's*. Additionally, *Student Sports* tabbed her as a junior All-America selection. She was rated as high as No. 24 in the country by the All-Star Girls Report (ASGR) and No. 29 by *School Sports*.

LaVere, a 6-3 forward, tallied 13.8 points and eight rebounds per game last season for Buena High School in Ventura, Calif. She also shot 54 percent from the field and 73 percent from the free throw line for BHS, which was ranked in the top 10 nationally throughout the 2000-01 season by *USA Today*. In addition, LaVere was an All-America honoree by both *USA Today* and *Street & Smith's* last year, and she already has been selected as a preseason third-team All-American for the '01-02 campaign by *School Sports*. Like Duffy, LaVere also was a first-team all-state selection last season. She is a consensus top-15 player according to all of the major recruiting services — No. 10 by the Blue Star Index, No. 13 by *School Sports* and No. 15 by ASGR.

The additions of Duffy and LaVere have given Notre Dame one of this year's top 10 recruiting classes, according to at least two major recruiting outlets. The *Women's Basketball Journal*, in conjunction with ASGR, has pegged the Irish Class of 2006 at No. 5 in the nation. Meanwhile, the Blue Star Index ranked the latest group of Irish signees eighth in the nation, marking the sixth consecutive year in which Blue Star has placed Notre Dame's recruiting class among the Top 20 in the country.

#### IRISH SOLID IN THE CLASSROOM

The Notre Dame women's basketball program posted a 3.24 grade-point average during the fall 2001 semester, paced by its freshman class which had an impressive 3.2 GPA in its initial semester on



campus. All told, nine Irish players charted a 3.0 GPA or better last fall, led by junior guard **Karen Swanson**, who recorded a 3.733 GPA as she works towards her business degree.

The other eight players to top the 3.0 mark last semester were juniors **Alicia Ratay** and **Monique Hernandez**, sophomores **Jeneka Joyce** and **Le'Tania Severe**, and freshmen **Teresa Borton**, **Katy Flecky**, **Jill Krause** and **Kelsey Wicks**.

**RATAY NAMED TO VERIZON ACADEMIC ALL-DISTRICT SECOND TEAM**

Junior guard **Alicia Ratay (Lake Zurich, Ill./Lake Zurich HS)** was selected to the Verizon Academic All-District V University Division Second Team, it was announced Feb. 21. She holds a 3.42 cumulative grade-point average (GPA) with a double major in psychology and education.

Ratay is the second Irish women's basketball student-athlete in as many years to earn district academic recognition. **Ruth Riley** was a first-team all-district choice in 2001, paving the way for her eventual selection as the Verizon Academic All-America® Women's Basketball Team Member of the Year, as well as the overall Verizon Academic All-America® Team Member of the Year.

To be nominated for inclusion on the academic all-district squad, student-athletes must have reached sophomore athletic and academic status at her current institution, and must be a starter or important reserve with at least a 3.2 cumulative GPA. The District V University Division ballot included student-athletes from NCAA Division I institutions in Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota and Wisconsin, as well as the Canadian provinces of Ontario and Manitoba.

**PLANS ANNOUNCED FOR 2002 WOMEN'S BASKETBALL BANQUET**

Tickets are now on sale for the annual Notre Dame Women's Basketball Banquet — scheduled for Monday, April 8, 2002, at the Joyce Center. A reception and autograph session begin at 5:45 p.m. (EST) on the concourse and the dinner begins at 7:00 p.m. on the arena floor.

The event includes video highlights from the 2001-02 season, award presentations — and remarks from University president **Rev. Edward A. Malloy, C.S.C.**, athletics director **Kevin White**, head coach **Muffet McGraw** and senior honorees.

Tickets are \$25 each. Checks can be made payable to University of Notre Dame and mailed to Athletics Business Office, 112 Joyce Center, Notre Dame, IN 46556. Telephone reservations are not accepted. Reservation forms are available at all remaining home basketball games and at the Joyce Center second-floor ticket windows. Deadline for reservations is Monday, March 29. For additional information, contact the Notre Dame women's basketball offices at (574) 631-5420.

**KRAUSE FEATURED IN "CONFESSIONS OF A FRESHMAN"**

Freshman guard **Jill Krause** is giving fans an inside look at the 2001-02 Irish women's basketball team through regular diary entries on the Notre Dame athletic website, [www.und.com](http://www.und.com). Entitled "Confessions of a Freshman," the Glenview, Ill., native is detailing her journey as a first-year player on the defending NCAA championship squad. Her diary entries may be accessed either from the front page or the women's basketball page on the Notre Dame website.

**HANEY SHINES ON BIG EAST ALL-STAR TEAM**

For the second time in as many years, Notre Dame sent a player with the BIG EAST Women's Basketball All-Star Team, as guard/forward **Ericka Haney** joined the squad for its six-game swing of Germany last summer. Haney followed in the footsteps of **Niele Ivey**, who helped lead the BIG EAST All-Stars to a 5-1 record during a junket through Canada in the summer of 2000.

Haney paced the BIG EAST squad, which was led by Syracuse head coach **Marianna Freeman**, to an unbeaten 6-0 record during its tour, scoring a team-high 18 points in a 103-57 win over Ludwigsburg/Malmsheim in the final game of the trip.

Haney finished with a team-high 13.0 points per game and collected 4.5 rebounds per game during her European vacation. She also scored in double figures in five of the All-Stars' six wins.

**REMINDER — SOUTH BEND AREA CODE CHANGE**

The area code for north central Indiana, including South Bend, Elkhart and Mishawaka, has changed from 219 to 574, effective Jan. 15. Please be aware that all University of Notre Dame athletic department phones also have switched over to this new area code. The 219 area code still will be active through June 15, although callers will be reminded of the change to the new 574 area code.

**IRISH CAREER RECORDS**

**Scoring Average**

1. Beth Morgan (1993-97)	18.6
2. Katryna Gaither (1993-97)	16.6
3. Ruth Riley (1997-2001)	15.8
4. Heidi Bunek (1985- 89)	14.5
5. Trena Keys (1982-86)	14.3
<b>6. Alicia Ratay (1999-present)</b>	<b>13.9</b>
7. Karen Robinson (1987-91)	13.1

**Three-Point Field Goals Made**

1. Sheila McMillen (1995-99)	249
2. Beth Morgan (1993-97)	231
<b>3. Alicia Ratay (1999-present)</b>	<b>203</b>
4. Niele Ivey (1996-2001)	190
5. Mollie Peirick (1994-98)	128

**Three-Point Field Goals Attempted**

1. Sheila McMillen (1995-99)	650
2. Beth Morgan (1993-97)	628
3. Niele Ivey (1996-2001)	469
<b>4. Alicia Ratay (1999-present)</b>	<b>418</b>
5. Mollie Peirick (1994-98)	342
6. Lisa Kuhns (1985-86, 87-90)	262
7. Coquese Washington (1989-93)	231
8. Sherri Orlosky (1990-94)	216
<b>9. Jeneka Joyce (2000-present)</b>	<b>126</b>
10. Sherisha Hills (1998-99)	114

**Three-Point Field-Goal Percentage (min. 50 att.)**

<b>1. Alicia Ratay (1999-present)</b>	<b>.486 (203-418)</b>
2. Kari Hutchinson (1994-98)	.424
3. Niele Ivey (1996-2001)	.405
4. Sherri Orlosky (1990-94)	.394
5. Lisa Kuhns (1986, '88-90)	.389
6. Sheila McMillen (1995-99)	.383
<b>7. Jeneka Joyce (2000-present)</b>	<b>.382 (47-123)</b>
8. Mollie Peirick (1994-98)	.377
9. Beth Morgan (1993-97)	.368
Sara Liebscher (1987-91)	.368

**Free Throw Percentage (min. 75 att.)**

<b>1. Alicia Ratay (1999-present)</b>	<b>.867 (254-293)</b>
2. Mollie Peirick (1994-98)	.819
3. Beth Morgan (1993-97)	.814

**Blocked Shots**

1. Ruth Riley (1997-2001)	370
<b>2. Amanda Barksdale (1999-present)</b>	<b>166</b>
3. Katryna Gaither (1993-97)	141
4. Shari Matvey (1979-83)	133

**Blocked Shot Average**

1. Ruth Riley (1997-2001)	2.82
<b>2. Amanda Barksdale (1999-present)</b>	<b>1.93</b>
3. Shari Matvey (1980-83)	1.22
4. Heidi Bunek (1985-89)	1.12
Trena Keys (1982-86)	1.12

*Boldface indicates current players*



**RUTH RILEY RECEIVES  
NCAA TODAY'S TOP VIII  
AWARD**

Former Notre Dame All-American and Academic All-American **Ruth Riley**, the consensus national player of the year in women's basketball in 2001 and already winner of an NCAA postgraduate scholarship, was named a recipient of the NCAA Today's Top VIII Award on Dec. 13. The Today's Top VIII Award winners are a group of distinguished student-athletes from the 2001 calendar year who were recognized for athletics, academic achievement, character and leadership at the 37th annual NCAA Honors Dinner Jan. 13 in Indianapolis.

In addition to their athletics accomplishments, the NCAA Today's Top VIII recipients earned numerous academic honors, volunteered countless hours to community projects and served as role models for their academic institutions and to their peers.

A two-time *Associated Press* first team All-American, Riley was selected as the 2001 BIG EAST Player of the Year and the AP and Naismith Women's College Player of the Year after helping lead Notre Dame to its first national title last spring. Off the court, Riley was selected as the Verizon Academic All-America® Team Member of the Year after being named first team Academic All-American for two consecutive years.

Riley averaged 19 points and eight rebounds a game, leading Notre Dame to a 34-2 record. The former Irish center is the only player in Notre Dame history to score more than 2,000 points and grab more than 1,000 rebounds.

An eight-time Dean's List selection at Notre Dame, Riley graduated in May 2001 with a 3.64 grade-point average in psychology and sociology. She was also selected as the BIG EAST women's basketball scholar-athlete of the year and the BIG EAST women's scholar-athlete of the year for all sports. Riley received the university's highest scholar-athlete honor when she was awarded the Byron V. Kanaley Award at the 2001 Scholar-Athlete Awards Banquet.

Last April, she was chosen in the first round of the 2001 WNBA Draft, going fifth overall to the Miami Sol. In her inaugural professional season in south Florida, Riley averaged 6.8 points, 4.1 rebounds and 1.44 blocks per game (ninth in the league) while helping Miami qualify for the WNBA playoffs.

**NCAA AND BIG EAST STATISTICAL LEADERS**

Here's where the Irish players and team stand in the most recent NCAA statistics report (through games of Feb. 25) and BIG EAST Conference statistics report for all games and conference games (through games of March 1):

<b>Team Rankings</b>	<b>NCAA</b>	<b>All Games</b>	<b>Conference Games</b>
Scoring Offense		7th at 65.7	4th at 65.9
Scoring Defense	t-9th at 56.5	3rd at 56.1	t-2nd at 55.0
Scoring Margin	37th at +10.1	3rd at +9.6	3rd at +10.9
FT Percentage		9th at .681	7th at .710
FG Percentage		5th at .427	3rd at .434
FG Percentage Defense	5th at .341	2nd at .342	2nd at .347
3-Point FG Percentage	16th at .382	4th at .379	2nd at .373
3-Point FG Pct. Defense	not kept	1st at .278	2nd at .288
Rebounding		2nd at 42.5	2nd at 41.1
Rebounding Defense	not kept	4th at 34.7	3rd at 33.7
Rebounding Margin	12th at +8.1	2nd at +7.8	2nd at +7.4
Blocked Shots	not kept	1st at 6.41	1st at 6.69
Assists	not kept	9th at 13.48	t-9th at 12.62
Steals	not kept	13th at 7.07	13th at 6.69
Turnover Margin	not kept	14th at (-2.81)	11th at (-2.62)
Assist/Turnover Ratio	not kept	8th at 0.79	7th at 0.79

<b>Individual Rankings</b>	<b>NCAA</b>	<b>All Games</b>	<b>Conference Games</b>
Scoring		Ratay, 4th at 15.2	Ratay, 2nd at 16.8
			Batteast, 6th at 14.8
			Batteast, 9th at 14.2
Rebounding		Batteast, 2nd at 8.5	Batteast, 3rd at 8.1
			Ratay, 18th at 5.9
FG Percentage		Batteast, 6th at .413	
Assists		Severe, 7th at 4.96	Severe, 7th at 4.81
FT Percentage	Ratay, 18th at .874	Ratay, 1st at .882	Ratay, 1st at .882
		Batteast, 14th at .710	Batteast, 15th at .721
Steals		Severe, t-8th at 1.96	Severe, t-8th at 2.0
3-Point FG Made		Ratay, 11th at 1.81	Ratay, t-12th at 1.81
Blocks	Barksdale, 3rd at 3.3	Barksdale, 1st at 3.22	Barksdale, 2nd at 2.88
		Batteast, 3rd at 1.52	Batteast, 6th at 1.42
Assist/Turnover Ratio		Severe, 15th at 1.25	Severe, 9th at 1.43
Offensive Rebounds		Batteast, 7th at 2.74	Borton, t-12th at 2.56
		Borton, 8th at 2.63	
Defensive Rebounds		Batteast, 1st at 5.74	Batteast, 2nd at 5.58
		Ratay, 8th at 4.15	Ratay, 6th at 4.5



## 2001-02 Single Game Highs & Lows

### NOTRE DAME HIGHS

Points (Game)	89 vs. Army, 11/26/01
Points (Half)	49 at Georgetown (2nd half), 2/23/02
Field Goals Made	33 vs. Army, 11/26/01
Field Goal Attempts	77 vs. Army, 11/26/01
Field Goal Percentage ( <i>min. 25 attempts</i> )	58.0 (29-50) vs. Seton Hall, 1/9/02
Three-Point Field Goals Made	13* at Miami, 1/2/02
Three-Point Field Goal Attempts	28* vs. Army, 11/26/01
Three-Point Percentage ( <i>min. 10 attempts</i> )	60.0 (6-10) vs. Western Michigan, 12/12/01
Free Throws Made	27 vs. West Virginia, 2/19/02
Free Throw Attempts	35 vs. West Virginia, 2/19/02
Free Throw Percentage ( <i>min. 10 attempts</i> )	84.2 (16-19) vs. Virginia Tech, 1/26/02
Rebounds	60 vs. Army, 11/26/01
Personal Fouls	26 at Rice, 12/28/01
Assists	20, twice (MR: vs. DePaul, 12/31/01)
Turnovers	26 vs. USC, 12/9/01
Blocked Shots	16 vs. Boston College, 2/10/02
Steals	14 vs. St. John's, 2/13/02

### OPPONENT HIGHS

Points (Game)	80, Connecticut, 1/21/01
Points (Half)	45, Michigan (1st half), 12/2/01
Field Goals Made	30, Connecticut, 1/21/01
Field Goal Attempts	71, twice (MR: Boston College, 2/10/02)
Field Goal Percentage ( <i>min. 25 attempts</i> )	50.0 (29-58), Michigan, 12/2/01
Three-Point Field Goals Made	8, twice (MR: Villanova, 1/12/02)
Three-Point Field Goal Attempts	28, DePaul, 12/31/01
Three-Point Percentage ( <i>min. 10 attempts</i> )	70.0 (7-10), Providence, 1/5/02
Free Throws Made	26, Rice, 12/28/01
Free Throw Attempts	40, Rice, 12/28/01
Free Throw Percentage ( <i>min. 10 attempts</i> )	100.0* (20-20), Arizona, 11/24/01
Rebounds	51, Connecticut, 1/21/01
Personal Fouls	26, Providence, 1/5/02
Assists	23, Michigan, 12/2/01
Turnovers	27, USC, 12/9/01
Blocked Shots	9, Connecticut, 1/21/01
Steals	17, Miami, 1/2/02

\* denotes school record

### NOTRE DAME LOWS

Points (Game)	42 vs. Valparaiso, 11/18/01
Points (Half)	18 vs. Valparaiso (2nd half), 11/18/01
Field Goals Made	14 vs. Valparaiso, 11/18/01
Field Goal Attempts	43 vs. Valparaiso, 11/18/01
Field Goal Percentage	32.1 (17-53) at Seton Hall, 2/2/02
Three-Point Field Goals Made	0, twice (MR: vs. St. John's, 2/13/02)
Three-Point Field Goal Attempts	2 vs. Valparaiso, 11/18/01
Three-Point Percentage	00.0, twice (MR: (0-15) vs. St. John's, 2/13/02)
Free Throws Made	5 at Connecticut, 1/21/01
Free Throw Attempts	8 at Connecticut, 1/21/01
Free Throw Percentage	42.9 (6-14) vs. Marquette, 12/22/01
Rebounds	28, twice (MR: vs. Providence, 1/5/02)
Personal Fouls	7 at Rutgers, 2/16/02
Assists	5 vs. Villanova, 2/26/02
Turnovers	7* vs. Virginia Tech, 1/26/02
Blocked Shots	1 at Arizona, 11/24/01
Steals	2 vs. Villanova, 2/26/02

### OPPONENT LOWS

Points (Game)	31, St. John's, 2/13/02
Points (Half)	12, twice (MR: St. John's (1st half), 2/13/02)
Field Goals Made	10, Marquette, 12/22/01
Field Goal Attempts	45, Seton Hall, 2/2/02
Field Goal Percentage	18.5 (10-54), Marquette, 12/22/01
Three-Point Field Goals Made	1, four times (MR: Providence, 1/19/02)
Three-Point Field Goal Attempts	7, Michigan, 12/2/01
Three-Point Percentage	5.0 (1-20), Providence, 1/19/02
Free Throws Made	3, Rutgers, 2/16/02
Free Throw Attempts	8, twice (MR: Villanova, 2/26/02)
Free Throw Percentage	33.3 (4-12), Valparaiso, 11/18/01
Rebounds	20, Villanova, 1/12/02
Personal Fouls	10, Western Michigan, 12/12/01
Assists	5, DePaul, 12/31/01
Turnovers	6*, Virginia Tech, 1/26/02
Blocked Shots	0, three times (MR: Villanova, 2/26/02)
Steals	1, Virginia Tech, 1/26/02

\* denotes school record

## 2001-02 Miscellaneous Statistics

#### Starting Combos (F-F-C-G-G) & W-L Marks ..... All Games ..... vs. BIG EAST teams

Batteast, Haney, Barksdale, Ratay, Bustamante	1-0	1-0
Flecky, Wicks, Bustamante (G), Ratay, Swanson	1-0	1-0
Batteast, Haney, Barksdale, Ratay, Severe	6-1	5-1
Flecky, Haney, Barksdale, Ratay, Severe	3-1	3-1
Batteast, Haney, Barksdale, Ratay, Joyce	3-1	3-1
Batteast, Joyce (G), Barksdale, Ratay, Severe	3-1	0-0
Batteast, Haney, Borton, Ratay, Severe	2-4	0-0

#### Complete Games Played: 3 (Ratay 3) // Opponents: 6

Most Minutes: 40 (Alicia Ratay vs. Valparaiso, 11/18; vs. West Va., 2/19; vs. Villanova, 2/26)

#### Scoring

Double-Figure Games: 69 (Ratay 22, Batteast 19, Haney 7, Severe 7, Borton 5, Bustamante 4, Flecky 2, Barksdale 1, Joyce 1, Wicks 1) // Opponents: 64  
 20-29-Point Games: 15 (Ratay 7, Batteast 6, Borton 1, Bustamante 1) // Opponents: 7  
 30-39-Point Games: 1 (Ratay 1) // Opponents: 0  
 Game-High Honors\*: 23 (Batteast 10, Ratay 10, Borton 1, Bustamante 1, Haney 1)  
 Team-High Honors\*: 28 (Ratay 13, Batteast 11, Borton 1, Bustamante 1, Haney 1, Wicks 1)

#### Rebounding

Double-Figure Games: 17 (Batteast 11, Borton 2, Flecky 1, Haney 1, Ratay 1, Wicks 1) // Opponents: 7  
 Game-High Honors\*: 23 (Batteast 11, Haney 3, Ratay 3, Borton 2, Wicks 2, Flecky/Severe 1)

Team-High Honors\*: 37 (Batteast 16, Ratay 6, Borton 3, Haney 3, Severe 3, Barksdale 2, Flecky 2, Wicks 2)

#### Assists

Double-Figure Games: 0 // Opponents: 0  
 Game-High Honors\*: 20 (Severe 18, Borton 1, Ratay 1)  
 Team-High Honors\*: 29 (Severe 23, Batteast 2, Borton 2, Ratay 2)

#### Double-Doubles

Points/Rebounds: 16 (Batteast 11 - CSU, ARMY, WMU, MARQ, RICE, DEP, MIA, SYR, SHU (2), PITT, BC; Borton 2 - PC (2), PITT; Flecky 1 - SJU; Haney 1 - WMU; Ratay 1 - SJU) // Opponents: 6  
 Points/Assists: 0 // Opponents: 0

#### Largest Lead

ND: 35, three times — 71-36 (4:34, 2nd) and 73-38 (3:31, 2nd) vs. Seton Hall (ND 79-45), 1/9; 66-31 (:06.4, 2nd) vs. St. John's, 2/13  
 Opp: 37, twice — 76-39 (5:29, 2nd) and 78-41 (3:27, 2nd) at UConn (UC 80-53), 1/21

**Biggest Deficit Overcome in a Win:** 10, twice — 20-10 (10:57, 1st) & 21-11 (8:24, 1st) at Seton Hall (ND 65-60), 2/2

**Biggest Halftime Deficit Overcome in a Win:** 3 (28-25) at Seton Hall (ND 65-60), 2/2

**Biggest Lead Surrendered in a Loss:** 11, twice — 38-27 (17:18, 2nd) and 42-31 (14:56, 2nd) at Villanova (VU 60-59), 1/12

**Biggest Halftime Lead Surrendered in a Loss:** 6 (31-25) at Villanova (VU 60-59), 1/12

\* totals may not equal games played due to ties

## 2002 BIG EAST CHAMPIONSHIP

# The Last Time It Happened ...

### Notre Dame recorded a .....

30-point win ..... was on 2/13/02 — ND 66, St. John's 31 (35 points)\*  
40-point win ..... was on 3/17/01 — ND 98, Alcorn State 49 (49 points)\* (*NCAA Tournament First Round*)  
50-point win ..... was on 3/4/01 — ND 89, Georgetown 33 (56 points) (*BIG EAST Tournament Quarterfinal at Storrs, Conn.*)  
30-point loss ..... was on 1/7/94 — Tennessee 105, ND 70 (35 points)\*

### Notre Dame shot .....

60% on FGs ..... was on 2/27/01 — 63.5% (33-52) at Pittsburgh (ND 82-63)  
65% on FGs ..... was on 2/12/97 — 68.0% (34-50) vs. Boston College (ND 91-64)\*  
90% on FTs ..... was on 1/9/97 — 91.7% (11-12) vs. West Virginia (ND 103-58)\*

### Notre Dame .....

won 10 games in a row ..... was from 11/17/00 thru 2/14/01 — 23 straight  
won 15 games in a row ..... was from 11/17/00 thru 2/14/01 — 23 straight  
won 20 games in a row ..... was from 11/17/00 thru 2/14/01 — 23 straight  
lost 5 games in a row ..... was from 3/21/91 thru 11/24/91 — 5 straight (*across two seasons*)  
    \* lost 5 games in a row (*one season*) ..... was from 2/16/82 thru 3/6/82 — 5 straight  
scored 100 points ..... was on 1/7/99 (ND 111, West Virginia 90)\*  
    \* scored 100 points on the road ..... never  
    \* scored 100 points at a neutral site ..... was on 11/24/89 vs. Liberty (ND 113-35) (*Rotary Classic at Orlando, Fla.*)  
    \* scored 100 points & lost ..... never  
allowed 100 points ..... was on 12/8/98 (Connecticut 106, ND 81)\*  
scored less than 50 points ..... was on 2/26/02 (Villanova 48, ND 45)\*  
allowed less than 50 points ..... was on 2/26/02 (Villanova 48, ND 45)\*  
played an overtime game ..... was on 3/6/00 (Rutgers 81, ND 72) (*BIG EAST Tournament Semifinal at Storrs, Conn.*)  
    \* played a multiple-overtime game ..... was on 11/30/97 (ND 93, UCLA 91 - 2ot)  
won on a "last second" shot ..... was on 1/14/95 (ND 67, Detroit 65 — Letitia Bowen putback at 0:01)  
lost on a "last second" shot ..... was on 1/12/02 (Villanova 60, ND 59 — Mimi Riley jumper at 0:00.4)  
had six double-figure scorers ..... was on 1/23/99 (ND 99, St. John's 60) — Danielle Green 20, Sheila McMillen 20, Ericka Haney 16, Sherisha Hills 13, Ruth Riley 13, Niele Ivey 12\*  
had seven double-figure scorers ..... was on 2/6/97 (ND 90, Syracuse 73) — Rosanne Bohman 16, Mollie Peirick 15, Katryna Gaither 14, Kari Hutchinson 11, Sheila McMillen 11, Beth Morgan 11, Jeannine Augustin 10  
had two double-figure rebounders ..... was on 2/13/02 (ND 66, St. John's 31) — Katy Flecky 10, Alicia Ratay 10\*  
had two 20-point scorers ..... was on 1/26/02 (ND 64, Virginia Tech 57) — Jacqueline Batteast 26, Alicia Ratay 22\*  
had three 20-point scorers ..... was on 1/7/99 (ND 111, West Virginia 90) — Danielle Green 28, Sheila McMillen 26, Ruth Riley 23\*  
made 10 three-point field goals ..... was on 1/2/02 (ND 69, Miami 65) — 13-24 (54.2%) on threes (**tied school record**)  
committed less than 10 turnovers ..... was on 1/26/02 (ND 64, Virginia Tech 57) — 7 turnovers\* (**school record**)  
committed 25 turnovers ..... was on 12/9/01 (ND 62, USC 49) — 26 turnovers\*  
forced 25 turnovers ..... was on 12/9/01 (ND 62, USC 49) — 27 turnovers\*

### An Irish player had .....

25 points ..... was on 2/19/02 — Alicia Ratay (31) vs. West Virginia (ND 72-63)\*  
30 points ..... was on 2/19/02 — Alicia Ratay (31) vs. West Virginia (ND 72-63)\*  
35 points ..... was on 2/22/00 — Ruth Riley (36) vs. Miami (ND 83-68)\*  
40 points ..... was on 1/30/99 — Ruth Riley (41) at Providence (ND 97-59) (**school record**)  
15 rebounds ..... was on 1/29/02 — Jacqueline Batteast (15) vs. Syracuse (ND 71-46)\*  
20 rebounds ..... was on 1/20/88 — Heidi Bunek (20) at DePaul (DU 80-77)  
10 assists ..... was on 1/15/01 — Niele Ivey (10) vs. Connecticut (ND 92-76)\*  
5 blocks ..... was on 2/10/02 — Amanda Barksdale (11) vs. Boston College (ND 60-44)\* (**school record**)  
5 steals ..... was on 1/29/02 — Le'Tania Severe (5) vs. Syracuse (ND 71-46)\*  
a "double-double" ..... was on 2/13/02 — Katy Flecky (12 pts., 10 reb.) & Alicia Ratay (14 pts., 10 reb.) vs. St. John's (ND 66-31)\*  
a "triple-double" ..... was on 2/15/90 — Sara Liebscher (17 pts., 12 reb., 10 asst.) vs. Detroit (ND 99-58)\*  
20 pts & 10 rebs ..... was on 2/2/02 — Jacqueline Batteast (21 pts., 12 reb.) at Seton Hall (ND 65-60)  
20 pts & 20 rebs ..... was on 1/20/88 — Heidi Bunek (25 pts., 20 reb.) at DePaul (DU 80-77)

### An opposing player had .....

25 points ..... was on 2/16/02 — Mauri Horton (25), Rutgers (ND 57-52)  
30 points ..... was on 1/28/98 — Jen Beisel (30), Villanova (VU 70-54)\*  
35 points ..... was on 1/16/95 — Angela Simpson (37), Northwestern State (La.) (NSU 103-93) (*NWIT Semifinal at Amarillo, Texas*)  
10 rebounds ..... was on 2/16/02 — Davalyn Cunningham (12), Rutgers (ND 57-52)  
15 rebounds ..... was on 3/30/01 — Kelly Schumacher (17), Connecticut (ND 90-75) (*NCAA National Semifinal at St. Louis, Mo.*)  
20 rebounds ..... was on 1/8/89 — Wendy Scholtens (20), Vanderbilt (VU 86-64)  
10 assists ..... was on 2/17/01 — Tasha Pointer (10), Rutgers (RU 54-53)  
5 blocks ..... was on 2/7/01 — Bettina Love (6), Pittsburgh (ND 72-58)\*  
5 steals ..... was on 2/16/02 — Davalyn Cunningham (6), Rutgers (ND 57-52)  
a "double-double" ..... was on 2/16/02 — Davalyn Cunningham (10 pts., 12 reb.), Rutgers (ND 57-52)  
a "triple-double" ..... was on 1/24/89 — Diana Vines (23 pts., 11 reb., 12 stl.), DePaul (DU 83-62)  
20 pts & 10 rebs ..... was on 12/6/01 — Mary Jo Noon (21 pts., 13 reb.), Purdue (PU 70-57)

\* denotes Notre Dame home game