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## Men's Tennis Quick Facts

### Notre Dame Quick Facts

Location .....	Notre Dame, IN 46556
Founded .....	1842
Enrollment ....	8,332 (undergraduate), 11,479 (total)
Nickname .....	Fighting Irish
Colors .....	Gold and Blue
Conference .....	BIG EAST
Home Courts (Outdoor) ....	Courtney Tennis Center
Home Courts (Indoor) .....	Eck Tennis Pavilion
President .....	Rev. John I. Jenkins, C.S.C.
Athletic Director .....	Kevin White
Deputy A.D./Men's Tennis .....	Stan Wilcox
Athletic Department Phone .....	(574) 631-6107

### Coaching Staff

Head Coach .....	Bob Bayliss (Richmond '66)
Office Phone .....	(574) 631-6113
E-mail .....	bayliss.1@nd.edu
Record at Notre Dame .....	372-170 (.686)/20 years
Career Record .....	654-264 (.712)/37 years
Assistant Head Coach .....	Ryan Sachire (Notre Dame '01)
Office Phone .....	(574) 631-4841
E-mail .....	sachire.2@nd.edu
Volunteer Asst. Coach .....	Dr. Hugh Page (Hampton '77)
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## Notre Dame Sports Hotline:

**(574) 631-3000**

## Media Information

The Notre Dame Sports Information Office always is interested in assisting members of the media in their coverage of Irish tennis. Publicity and media information for Notre Dame tennis is coordinated by assistant sports information intern Sara Wonderlich.

• **Statistics, Match Notes, Recaps, Releases** - See und.com.

• **Credentials, Photographs, Interview Requests, Feature Ideas, Questions** - Contact Wonderlich.

• **Live Statistics** - Available free for all home matches and selected road contests, via und.com.

• **Wireless Internet** - Available free to all visiting media and SIDs visiting the Eck Tennis Pavilion. See Wonderlich for details.

• **Television Footage** - Contact local stations (WHME, WSBT, WNDU, WSJV). See page 2 for contact information.

## BIG EAST Conference

The BIG EAST Conference maintains its presence on the World Wide Web at [www.bigeast.org](http://www.bigeast.org). The site contains current information on all facets of the BIG EAST Conference. Please contact Shannon McNamara in the BIG EAST media relations department ([smcnamara@bigeast.org](mailto:smcnamara@bigeast.org)) for more information on BIG EAST tennis.

## Credits

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The Notre Dame men's tennis team was honored for its accomplishments during the 2006-07 season - which included 26 victories and its 16th NCAA tournament bid in the last 17 years - at the 2007 Irish football game against Michigan State in front of a crowd of 80,795.



### Print Media

#### *The Observer*

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Fax (574) 235-6091

#### *Notre Dame Scholastic*

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LaFortune Student Center  
Notre Dame, IN 46556  
(574) 631-7569  
Fax (574) 631-9648

#### *Irish Sports Report*

(Bob Wieneke)  
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225 West Colfax Avenue  
South Bend, IN 46626  
(574) 235-6161  
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#### *Blue & Gold Illustrated*

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Mishawaka, IN 46545  
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#### *College Tennis Online*

www.collegetennisonline.com

#### *College And Junior Tennis*

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#### *USA Today/USA Today Online*

www.usatoday.com  
1000 Wilson Boulevard  
22nd Floor  
Arlington, VA 22229  
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Online Fax (703) 907-4465

### Television

#### *WHME TV/Radio*

(Bob Nagle/Chuck Freeby)  
61300 Ironwood Road  
South Bend, IN 46625  
(574) 291-8200  
Fax (574) 291-9043

#### *WNDU-TV - NBC*

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South Bend, IN 46634  
(574) 631-1616/1239  
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#### *WSBT-TV/Radio - CBS*

(Greg Carroll/Pete Byrne/  
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#### *WSJV-TV - FOX*

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Chelsea Piers, Pier 62  
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Ste. 310  
South Bend, IN 46628  
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#### *Radio Tennis*

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#### *CSTV Online*

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www.collegesports.com  
112 Joyce Center  
Notre Dame, IN 46556  
(574) 631-3397  
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#### *United States Tennis Association*

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White Plains, NY 10604  
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# NOTRE DAME **SEASON PREVIEW**

*Senior Sheeva Parbhu and junior Brett Helgeson give the Irish a formidable combination at the top of their singles lineup. Parbhu was an All-American in 2006, while Helgeson reached the 2007 ITA Midwest Regional semifinals and knocked off the second-ranked player in the country along the way.*





## Youthful Irish Face Daunting Task in 2007-08

*Notre Dame must replace winningest senior class in school history*

The 2006-07 Notre Dame men's tennis season will go down as one of the best in the program's 85-year history. The Irish finished the year with a 26-4 record and their seventh BIG EAST Championship. Notre Dame reached the Sweet 16 for the seventh time and ended the year ranked sixth in the country – the highest season-ending finish since 1992 (when Notre Dame closed the season ranked 3rd).

Unfortunately, the 2007-08 Irish will be without the services of three key members of last year's club. Gone are three starters, two All-BIG EAST selections, an All-American and two players that rank among the top 12 all-time at Notre Dame in career singles victories.

Stephen Bass, Barry King and Ryan Keckley proved to be the most successful class in Notre Dame history, helping the Irish to 78 victories over the past four seasons. During that time, Notre Dame captured three BIG EAST Conference Championships, were ranked among the top 30 in the national rankings each year and advanced to the NCAA tournament four times, including a pair of round of 16 appearances.

The trio was instrumental as the 2006-07 Irish registered an 11-match winning streak (the longest since 1990), a championship at the prestigious Blue-Gray National Tennis Classic, and ascended into top five of the national rankings for the first time in five years.

Bass, King and Keckley combined for 264 career victories in singles and 197 more wins in doubles action. Bass (109) and King (90) are two of the top 12 in career singles victories at Notre Dame. Both were All-BIG EAST selections in 2007 and Bass was Notre Dame's 17th different player to be tabbed an All-American.

Bass went 36-11, was named the BIG EAST Performer of the Year, spent most of the year ranked among the top 10 in the country and earned the prestigious ITA/John Van Nostrand Memorial Award. The 36 victories ranked tied for the fifth-most in single-season school history. His 61 combined wins (36 sin-



Junior Brett Helgeson went 31-7 for the Irish in 2006-07, including a 23-4 mark in dual matches. He played mostly at No. 3 singles a year ago (19-4), but will move into the No. 1 or No. 2 position this spring.

gles, 25 doubles) were tied for fourth on the Irish single-season list. Bass reached the NCAA Singles Championship for the second straight season. He finished his career sixth on the all-time victory list with a 109-46 record.

King put together the best year of his career and one of top seasons in school history. He went 33-8 overall in singles and 22-4 in dual matches. His 33 victories rank tied for the 10th most in single-season Irish history and also broke the school record for most doubles victories (33-10) in a single-season. King became the first player in Notre Dame men's tennis history to register a 30-30 season (30+ wins in singles and doubles). He recorded a combined record of 66-18 and the 66 combined wins were the second-most in single-season school history. King also established new single-season school records in doubles-point clinching wins (11) and combined clinching wins (17).

Keckley ended his career as one of top doubles players in school history. He is the only player in Notre Dame men's tennis history to be listed in ITA national doubles rankings with six different partners, having earned a top-20 ranking with five. Keckley ended his career with 81 career doubles victories, third most in program history. He finished 2006-07 with a 30-15 record in doubles and 16-12 mark in dual action. Keckley teamed with senior Sheeva Parbhu to capture the 2006 ITA Midwest Regional Championship. The duo also participated in the NCAA Doubles Championship.

Instead of relying on the experience of those three seniors, Bayliss will be working with a young Irish team to try to replicate last year's success.

Fortunately, rebounding after excessive graduation losses is something Bayliss has done before. Take 1994, after the Irish lost five key players who combined to earn four All-America honors the previous year, when they finished 23-10 and advance to the round of 16 for the fourth consecutive season. In 1997, Bayliss' Irish, fresh off the loss of six veterans, rose from their preseason ranking of 31st to be listed as high as 11th, posting a 19-6 record. Two years later, the '99 squad won the school's second BIG EAST title and finished 17-8 after the loss of four important players to graduation. Bayliss hopes to duplicate his past success this season.

Bayliss' cupboard, however, is far from bare. It's just stocked with young and inexperienced talent. Of the 15 players on the 2007-08 roster 11 are either freshmen or sophomores. The Irish only have two juniors and two seniors. However, Notre Dame does return three of its top six players from last season, including 2006 All-American Sheeva Parbhu, junior Brett Helgeson and senior Andrew Roth.

Parbhu will serve as captain and try to lead the Irish to the NCAA tournament for the 16th time in the last 17 years. He owns career singles mark of 94-27 overall and 58-13 in dual matches. Parbhu ranks fourth all-time in match-clinching wins (12), ninth all-time in career singles winning percentage (.777), 10th all-time in singles victories and 12th all-time in combined victories (151).

He was named to BIG EAST all-tournament team in both singles and doubles in 2007. Parbhu also reached the NCAA singles tournament for the second straight season and teamed with Ryan Keckley to participate in the NCAA doubles championship. He finished with a 29-12 record overall, including a 19-5 mark in dual action. After reaching the NCAA Singles quarterfinals in 2006 (the first Irish player to accomplish the feat since 1959), Parbhu opened last year ranked 21st in the ITA national singles poll.

Helgeson owns career singles mark of 54-18 overall and 39-14 in dual matches. He is tied for fourth in team single-season doubles-point clinching wins (5, Barry King) and is tied for seventh all-time in team doubles-point clinching wins (5, Barry King). Helgeson was named to the BIG EAST Conference all-tournament team in both singles and doubles. He finished the season with a 31-7 overall record, including 23-4 in dual matches. His 23 dual-match victories ranked second-best on the team and 31 overall wins were third best. Helgeson went 19-4 at No. 3 singles and 4-0 at No. 4 singles.

Roth owns career singles mark of 43-19 overall and 26-12 in dual matches. He is 44-24 in doubles and 25-10 in dual matches over his career. Roth put together the best season of his college career in 2007. He went 26-12 overall in singles, including 18-7 in dual matches. Roth was 1-0 at No. 5 singles and 17-7 at No. 6 singles.

### Team Information

**2006-07 Record:** 26-4

**2006-07 Final ITA National Ranking:** 6th

**2007 BIG EAST Championship:**

3-0, champion

Notre Dame 4, Villanova 0

Notre Dame 4, St. John's 0

Notre Dame 4, Louisville 0

**2007 NCAA Championship:**

2-1, round of 16

Notre Dame 4, Butler 0

Notre Dame 4, Wisconsin 0

USC 4, Notre Dame 3

**Starters Returning:**

Sheeva Parbhu (Sr.)

Andrew Roth (Sr.)

Brett Helgeson (Jr.)

**Starters Lost:**

Stephen Bass (Sr.)

Barry King (Sr.)

Ryan Keckley (Sr.)

**Monogram Winners Returning/Lost:** 5/3

**2007-08 Team Captain:**

Sheeva Parbhu

# A Deeper Look with Notre Dame Head Coach Bobby Bayliss



**Q: With the loss of three experienced seniors from last year, just assess the fall as a whole and the early development on all those freshmen?**

"The old adage that the best thing about freshmen is that they become sophomores, but a number of our young kids really started to distinguish themselves toward the end of the fall. We are pretty excited about this group of freshmen. A number of them will definitely get an opportunity to play this year and how well the team performs will be directly related to how well they play. It is difficult to know at this point how someone will handle being in the fire when you haven't seen it but if they respond well they'll be able to maintain a pretty good level."

**Q: How much does it help those younger guys having Brett Helgeson and Sheeva Parbhu to show them how to succeed at a higher level?**

"I think having role models like Brett and Sheeva has been really good for the freshmen. Each of them came into our program as impact freshman but not as high line-up freshman. They earned their way to the top part of our line-up by first demonstrating leadership and for them to have achieved what they have to date is pretty note worthy. I think it gives the freshmen reason for optimism that they can achieve the same kind of goals. Being able to see the way they handle themselves as far as the off-the-court preparation for success on the tennis court has been equally important."

**Q: Specifically with Helgeson, what do you think was the biggest difference that he made in his game from the end of last spring to the fall that allowed him to have the fall that he had?**

"Brett has begun a transformation that is similar to baseball where someone goes from a thrower to a pitcher. He has found ways to get to the net more often. He's improved his defensive skills with a pretty effective slice backhand now. He is also working on using the width of the court as well as the depth of the court on both his serve as well as his groundstroke. Those things have really helped him to become a much better player but it is still a work in progress, in that he's getting better in those things and I foresee more improvement this spring."

**Q: How much, again back to Brett, Sheeva, and Andrew Roth, do they take over the leadership role?**

"They've been forced to do that and they've done it pretty well. The ability to keep everyone focused and on somewhat of an even keel. There's a tendency in college tennis that you are up one day and you are down the next and that you are as good as your last match. To be able to maintain an even keel through that process is important and if you've been through it as they have then it's a lot easier for these other guys to see that there's a path or a road map to what they need to be doing."

**Q: How much can you take, either positive or negative, from the fall to ride over into the spring?**

"I have not observed a pattern that is clear. We've had some pretty poor falls that have turned into good springs. One of them that sticks out to me was 2001 where we did not do very well in the fall and had a really bad regionals and yet won the Blue-Gray that year and got into the top 10 nationally. There have been some others where we've had some big expectations based on fall play but we didn't really measure up in the spring."

So many things come into play such as injuries, strength of schedule and when you are playing teams. The biggest thing that you cannot predict is how you are going to do in your close matches. If you win the 4-3 you are going to have a great year. Fortunately or unfortunately, we are going to have a lot of those matches this year because we are good enough to play with almost anybody because we feel we are going to be pretty strong at the top of our line-up; we feel that we have depth down low in our line-up and we need to establish a presence in the middle of our line-up and in doubles. Those things have yet to be proven for us. We are good enough to stay with anybody but we aren't good enough to bowl over very many people."

**Q: Do you feel that you are deeper on the bottom half and feel like you have more guys that could fill in if needed?**

"We are clearly deeper than last year. Last year our No. 7 and No. 8 who went to all of our matches were Sean Corrigan and Santiago Montoya. They are much improved and yet they are working to get back to those same positions that they held a year ago. We have, at this point based on fall play, four freshmen fighting for positions No. 4 through No. 7 and then another freshmen or two along with some returning players from last year pushing for the next positions. I think we're remarkably deeper than we were a year ago."

**Q: What are your thoughts on not backing down from playing any level of competition in college tennis?**

"A couple of thoughts on that. One, when I came to Notre Dame, I made a conscience decision that if we could become a national level school, and we did fairly quickly, that I was going to take advantage of every opportunity and play the best schedule that we could play. We will always play the very best teams that we can get to play us. That becomes a pragmatic thing with home and away matches. However, it is a double-edged sword. Ideally in a year where we are a lot younger, it would be prudent to back off a little bit but I am not comfortable asking teams that I play traditionally to give me a pass. I don't expect them to do that for me so we'll just throw the kitchen sink in and see how things go. Generally you play up to or down to the level of your opponents so hopefully we play up to the level of our competition. We're going to see some great teams right off of the bat so we'll know pretty quickly what the standard is and how far we have to go to meet it."

**Q: Do you think this will help to show what type of players and resilience that this team has?**

"This is ideally a year where if we could have passed on a team just for a year it might have been more prudent. However, you don't have the opportunity to pick and choose. If the opportunity is there, I think you have to take advantage of it. Our players didn't come here to play easy competition; they want to play the best teams so we're going to try and do that."

**Q: Is winning the Big East where it starts as far as goals for the season?**

"Actually, we don't do it that way. We just try to win every match we can possibly win and then when it's all said and done see where it puts us. Obviously, the Big East is so far away that it's not even something we're thinking about in the beginning of the year. I worry more about our national record and ranking. Not ranking in the sense of specifically where we are, but how we will position ourselves for seeding and all that comes with it at the NCAA Championships."

**Q: How do you balance the positives from the competition for fighting for the final three spots on the team but balance that with the "team first" mentality?**

"One of the great challenges in coaching is to be able to keep everybody happy. I think that the only way to approach it is directness and honesty. You've got to tell everybody where they stand and why and what they need to do to improve their situation. Some people aren't going to like what they hear, but it's best not to dance around it and you have to be telling the same thing to everybody. I think it's a good problem to have. It's certainly better than not having enough people and not being able to handle injuries but it's delicate. I really don't know this year. None of these guys have been put in that position yet and I don't know how they are going to respond. I think it could be a year in which our line-up fluctuates a little bit. I think we've got some good options and we may need to explore all of them. We may have a line-up that's better indoors and one that's better outdoors. That's entirely possible."

**Q: Does the team pick captains?**

"Our captain is selected by a team vote at the end of the previous year. Whether that would have been any different this year I don't know, but it's the way I've always done it. You think it may be better to do it at the end of the fall but I would like that person to know ahead of time that he is going to be the captain. He can think over the summer and be in contact with the incoming freshman and his other teammates. He can also be in dialogue with me about some ideas that he has and get some input that way."

**Q: As far as doubles' teams go is there any indication as to what the pairing are going to be?**

"At this point I think it is pretty wide open. We need to decide whether we focus a lot of firepower in number one doubles or try to have three more evenly balanced teams. Maybe the first couple of weeks of the season will tell us a lot. The factors that go into that is who can play which side well, ad court or deuce court. Whether you try to line up or space out your best returnees on different teams so you are not putting all of your firepower into one team, the same thing with the serves. If one person is a little passive at the net he needs to be able to be paired with someone who is a little more aggressive, and so there are chemistry issues. With only four events this fall and, because of the All-America Championships, Sheeva did not play in the first one, we really didn't get the opportunity to do the doubles work that was needed so I honestly don't know what our line-up will be. At the end of the year, we had four pretty capable teams and I was surprised with the progress that Dan Stahl and David Anderson made in doubles as a team. Tyler Davis and Santiago Montoya played well together at the end of the fall. Andrew Roth is probably our most knowledgeable doubles player. He really knows where to be, where to put the ball and he understands the game better than most of the other guys. So finding the right partner for him is important."

## 2007-08 UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME MEN'S TENNIS ROSTER

Player	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Hometown/High School
David Anderson	5-11	155	Fr.	Sandwich, MA/Sandwich H.S.
Patrick Callaghan	5-11	155	So.	Iowa City, IA/Iowa City West H.S.
* Sean Corrigan	6-0	175	So.	Lido Beach, NY/Long Beach H.S.
Tyler Davis &	5-11	160	Fr.	Nashville, TN/Father Ryan H.S.
Stephen Havens	5-11	170	Fr.	Cincinnati, OH/Hills Christian School
** Brett Helgeson	6-4	180	Jr.	Overland Park, KS/Blue Valley West H.S.
Matt Johnson	5-11	155	Fr.	Portage, MI/Portage Central H.S.
Graham King &	6-2	180	So.	Dublin, Ireland/Gonzaga College
** Santiago Montoya	6-1	165	Jr.	Scottsdale, AZ/St. Stephen's Episcopal School [TX]
*** Sheeva Parbhu c	5-11	150	Sr.	Omaha, NE/Millard North H.S.
*** Andrew Roth &	5-9	160	Sr.	Houston, TX/Tenney School
Daniel Schafer	6-0	165	So.	Edgewood, KY/Covington Catholic H.S.
Daniel Stahl	5-10	150	Fr.	Bethesda, MD/Walt Whitman H.S.
Sean Tan	5-8	140	Fr.	Lakewood, CA/Lakewood H.S.
Takashi Yoshii	5-10	155	So.	Tokyo, Japan/The American School of Japan

**Head Coach:** Bob Bayliss (21st season, Richmond '66)

**Associate Head Coach:** Ryan Sachire (2nd season, Notre Dame '00)

**Volunteer Assistant Coach:** Dr. Hugh Page (13th season, Hampton '77)

\* – denotes monograms earned

c – denotes captain

& – indicates left-handed player

### Pronunciation Guide

Callaghan

Cal-uh-han

Helgeson

HELL-guh-sin

Sheeva Parbhu

SHEE-vuh PAR-boo

Takashi Yoshii

Tuh-KA-shee YO-shee



### 2007-08 Fighting Irish Tennis

Front Row: Tyler Davis, Stephen Havens, Santiago Montoya, Brett Helgeson, Graham King, Daniel Schafer, David Anderson, Sean Corrigan. Back Row: Ryan Sachire (assistant coach), Sean Tan, Andrew Zutz (no longer on squad), Sheeva Parbhu, Patrick Callaghan, Andrew Roth, Matt Johnson, Takashi Yoshii, Daniel Stahl, Bobby Bayliss (head coach).