

Noire Dame's 2004 national championship capped a 25-1-1 season that ranks among the most dominant in the program's history.



ND Season in Review



Notre Dame Caps Dominating 2004 Season By Capturing Program's Second National Title

Three All-Americans lead the way for deep Irish squad that fashions 25-1-1 record while outscoring its opponents by 70-14 margin.

The dawning of Sunday, Dec. 5, marked the final day in a four-month quest for the 2004 Notre Dame women's soccer team. The Irish had navigated their way through the season with a nearly perfect record and stood just one win away from the program's second national title, previously winning it all in 1995.

The team's odyssey began way back on Aug. 10, when the veterans and newcomers gathered for the first time before embarking on an eight-day training trip in Brazil. The Irish played six games versus top semi-pro teams in the Sao Paulo area, battling against players from a soccer-crazed nation that rapidly has emerged as a force in the women's game.

On the final night of the team's stay in Brazil, sixth-year Notre Dame head coach Randy Waldrum reflected back on the week's events and progress. He was pleased not only with the team's performance on the field but also – maybe even moreso – with its spirited camaraderie throughout the trip.

"I don't think they want to leave," said Waldrum on that final night at the Vitoria Hotel, which took on an almost a dorm-like atmosphere for the Irish players and included a variety of team activities.

"I already can tell this is a group who truly enjoy being together," predicted the veteran of 22 previous seasons as a college coach. "They care about each other and want to achieve great success for one another. That is a great starting point for any team to have."

Fast forward to Cary, N.C. – 117 days after the departure for Brazil – as Notre Dame faces UCLA in the NCAA championship game. It marks the end of a 2004 season filled with individual accomplishment and team domination, one in which the Irish made a strong case for being the nation's top all-around program.

The title-game showdown produced a 1-1 tie after regulation and 30 minutes of overtime. The game extended to a penalty-kick shootout (details below) and the Irish finally won the title, 4-3 on six kicks.

Notre Dame joined North Carolina as the only Division I women's soccer teams ever to win multiple NCAA titles while remaining one of just six that have won the championship, dating back to 1983. The Irish finished 25-1-1, the most wins in the program's history and a total bested by just three teams in NCAA history.

The Irish also reached 20 wins for the ninth time in the past 11 seasons, went unbeaten at home (14-0-1) for the seventh time, became the second ND team ever to win its first 15 games and stood unbeaten after 20 games (19-0-1) for the fourth time. Notre Dame spent six weeks during the '04 season ranked No. 1 in the nation and has been ranked No. 1 or 2 in eight of the past 11 seasons.

Three All-Americans – fifth-year central defender Melissa Tancredi, junior forward Katie Thorlakson and sophomore midfielder Jen Buczkowski – led the way for a talented starting 11 that included one other first team all-BIG EAST Conference performer (forward Amanda Cinalli, who also earned Freshman All-America honors) and three who were named to the all-BIG EAST third team: senior forward Candace Chapman, sophomore midfielder Jill Krivacek and sophomore left back Christie Shaner.

Junior midfielder Annie Scheffter combined with Buczkowski and Krivacek in maintaining

Notre Dame's season-long domination of the possession game while the stout back line also included senior central defender Gudrun Gunnarsdottir and sophomore right back Kim Lorenzen. With such a talented crew playing in front of her, junior goalkeeper Erika Bohn was rarely tested but she answered the bell when it mattered most, stopping three penalty kicks (one late in regulation) during the NCAA title game.

Here's a look at nine key factors that shaped the 2004 national championship season (also see pp. 75-81 for specific details on each of the 27 games):

OVERCOMING ADVERSITY

Notre Dame advanced to the final weekend of the College Cup in the first two seasons of the Waldrum era ('99 and '00) and the Irish certainly were poised to make a run at the NCAA title in the ensuing seasons – but a series of key injuries and bad luck forced early exits from the NAAs in '01, '02 and again in '03.

The 2002 season saw the Irish make a lateseason push despite a rash of injuries but the 2003 team was positioned to be a prime national-title contender, racing to an 18-0-1 start before injuries and fluke losses got the best of them. The '03 team trailed a grand total of seven minutes during its first 19 games and finished in the national top-5 for both scoring (3.04 goals/gm) and goals-against-avg. (0.49). Ultimately, a slew of injuries that totaled 111 games took their toll, capped by lateseason injuries to All-Americans Amy Warner and Tancredi.

The 2004 team could have fell victim to the pitfalls that snared previous Irish teams. Instead, the eventual national champs rose above injuries to Randi Scheller, Mary Boland and Susan Pinnick (among others) that totaled 109 games. That number did not even take into account the season-long absence of forward sensation Kerri Hanks, the nation's No. 4-rated recruit who delayed her college career in order to play in the Under-19 World Championship.

"This season was a tribute to the current players but they also feel a sense of indebtedness to those who came before them," said Waldrum. "Every season in the Notre Dame soccer tradition is linked together and this season certainly will impact the future – but this team forged its own legacy and was very deserving of every success that came its way."

WINNING THE POSSESSION BATTLE

Waldrum's teams always have prided themselves on playing a possession brand of soccer, thriving on a pressing style that locks the ball into the middle and attacking third. Success in this strategy requires aggressive marking from the forwards – who also must have top 1-vs.-1 skills and the ability to squirt away from trouble – and a group of midfielders with excellent field vision and deft passing ability.

2004 ND Women's Soccer Award Winners

Hermann Trophy Player of Year Final-15 List

Melissa Tancredi (Sr., D)
Katie Thorlakson (Jr., F)

Sports Illustrated on Campus

National Player of the Year
Katie Thorlakson (Jr., F)

Soccer Buzz

National Player of the Year
Katie Thorlakson (Jr., F)

ESPN ESPY Finalist

("Best Female College Athlete")
Katie Thorlakson (Jr., F)

NSCAA All-America

Second Team
Melissa Tancredi (Sr., D)
Katie Thorlakson (Jr., F)

Third Team

Jen Buczkowski (So., M)

Soccer America All-America

First Team
Katie Thorlakson (Jr., F)

Soccer Buzz All-America

First Team
Melissa Tancredi (Sr., D)
Katie Thorlakson (Jr., F)

Third Team

Jen Buczkowski (So., M)

NSCAA All-Great Lakes Region

First Team
Jen Buczkowski (So., M)
Melissa Tancredi (Sr., D)
Katie Thorlakson (Jr., F)

Soccer America Freshman All-America

First Team
Amanda Cinalli (F)

Soccer Buzz Freshman All-America

Second Team
Amanda Cinalli (F)

BIG EAST Defensive Player of the Year

Melissa Tancredi (Sr., D)

BIG EAST Offensive Player of the Year

Katie Thorlakson (Jr., F)

All-BIG EAST

First Team
Jen Buczkowski (So., M)
Amanda Cinalli (Fr., F)
Melissa Tancredi (Sr., D)
Katie Thorlakson (Jr., F)

Third Team

Candace Chapman (Sr., F)
Jill Krivacek (So., M)
Christie Shaner (So., D)



Notre Dame's lockdown style led to the '04 Irish nearly totaling more goals (70) than opponent shots on goal (71) while allowing just 48 corner kicks all season (1.8 per game). Buczkowski's alert dribbling style and keen possession allowed her to run the show while the 5-foot-11 Krivacek's strong play in the air and surprising ball skills further helped keep the opposition out of the defensive third. Finally, the four starting backs showed the all-around skills to quickly cycle the ball while playing quality driven passes or accurate long serves, as the situation dictated.

The program's overall possession dominance can be seen in the fact that Notre Dame never has lost in the Waldrum era when claiming a 2-0 lead (80-0-0; 230-0-1 all-time, with 207 straight wins dating back to '92).

FILLING THE GOAL VOID

Notre Dame had lost three key members of its offense with the graduation of 2004 seniors Amy Warner (10 goals), Amanda Guertin (11) and Kimberly Carpenter (6), who had combined for nearly 40% of the goals in '03. When Boland (team-best 12G in '03) was lost early in '04 due to a broken leg, the Irish suddenly were left with a group of returners who had combined for just 45% of the goals in '03.

Add in the preseason injury to the highly-touted Pinnick and the absence of fellow frontrunner Hanks – and there was plenty of reason to wonder if the Irish goal production would suffer in 2004.

The answer to those concerns was "no problem," as Thorlakson erupted for an historic season (23G-24A) while Chapman answered the call with a 12-goal effort, after readjusting to the forward position (she started at right back in '01 and '02 before being injured in '03). Cinalli also did her share by becoming the first Irish freshman with double-digit goals (10) since 2000.

NO-FLY ZONE

Notre Dame's 2004 opponents consistently pointed to the Irish dominance in the air as a key to its success. The unquestioned leader in that area was Tancredi, who came to consider a 90% success ratio in heading duels to be an off-day. The converted forward also was a top heading

threat on set plays, as were Shaner and Krivacek (who showed a big boost in the air from '03 to '04, as did Scheffer).

"We usually can tell how we're doing in a game if we have a good edge in the heading duels," said Krivacek, whose biggest header provided the 90th-minute gamewinner vs. Wisconsin in the NCAA second round.

Dominance in the air also was seen in the fact that the 2004 Irish scored nine times off corner kicks (five in the postseason, all served by Thorlakson) while holding the opposition without a goal set up by a corner kick in all of '04.

TEEN SPIRIT

The fun-loving nature of the Notre Dame team could be traced to a spirited nine-member sophomore class that hailed from seven different states (Arizona, Florida, Illinois, New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas). The veteran member of the team, Tancredi, also played a central role in the team's focus on fun and unity.

"I knew Notre Dame demanded excellence and that there would be extremely hard-working people here," said second-year Notre Dame assistant coach Dawn Greathouse.

"I did not expect to be able to work with a team that is so competitive but also has so much fun, on and off the field. If you lose that perspective, you get away from a great part of soccer and team sports. The closeness of this team and their ability to enjoy the whole process were huge factors in their success."

The close-knit nature of the Irish team was all the more noteworthy considering that the players hailed from 13 different states, two Canadian provinces, Iceland and Finland.

ONE-TWO PUNCH

While Notre Dame's success included big-time contributions from a deep group of players, Thorlakson and Tancredi stood out as the most dominant at their respective positions in all of women's college soccer. Each was among the final 15 candidates for the Hermann Trophy and no other team had a forward and defender on that list, with Tancredi one of only two defenders among the final-15.

Thorlakson – who collected several national player-of-the-year honors – hit the ground

CoSIDA Academic All-America

First Team

Erika Bohn (Jr., G)

Second Team

Annie Scheffer (Jr., M)

CoSIDA Academic All-District V

First Team

Erika Bohn (Jr., G)

Jen Buczkowski (So., M)

Annie Scheffer (Jr., M)

Second Team

Christie Shaner (So., D)

NCAA Scholar All-American

First Team

Erika Bohn (Jr., G)

Gudrun Gunnarsdottir (Sr., D)

Third Team

Annie Scheffer (Jr., M)

CSTV National College Athlete of Week

Katie Thorlakson (Jr., F)

BIG EAST Offensive Player of the Week

Amanda Cinalli (Fr., F; 10/11)

K. Thorlakson (Jr., F; 8/30, 9/6, 10/4)

BIG EAST Defensive Player of the Week

Christie Shaner (So., D; 10/18)

Melissa Tancredi (Sr., D; 9/6, 9/13, 9/27)

Kate Tulisniak (Sr., D; 9/20)

BIG EAST Rookie of the Week

Amanda Cinalli (Fr., F; 9/20)

NCAA College Cup All-Tournament Team

Erika Bohn (Jr., G) – defensive MVP

Katie Thorlakson (Jr., F) – offensive MVP

Candace Chapman (Sr., F)

Melissa Tancredi (Sr., D)

Notre Dame Classic All-Tournament

Melissa Tancredi (Sr., D) – defensive MVP

Katie Thorlakson (So., F) – offensive MVP

Erika Bohn (Jr., G), Jen Buczkowski (So., M)

Jill Krivacek (So., M), Christie Shaner (So., D)

Team MVP

Katie Thorlakson (Jr., F)

Rockne Student-Athlete Award

Mary Boland (Sr., F)

BIG EAST/NSCAA Region Coach of Year

Randy Waldrum

BIG EAST Coach of the Year

Randy Waldrum



2004 Notre Dame Women's Soccer Team

(sitting, from left) Susan Pinnick, Molly Iarocci, Annie Scheffer, Kim Lorenzen, Ashley Jones and Katie Thorlakson; (kneeling, from left) Miranda Ford, Maggie Manning, Amber McMillin, Lizzie Reed, Jenny Walz, Claire Gallerano, Jen Buczkowski, Jannica Tjeder, Sarah Halpenny and Candace Chapman; (standing, from left) senior manager Tony Marquis, volunteer assistant coach Ben Waldrum, Melissa Tancredi, Mary Boland, Amanda Cinalli, Jill Krivacek, Lauren Karas, Erika Bohn, Nikki Westfall, Christie Shaner, Gudrun Gunnarsdottir, Kate Tulisniak, head coach Randy Waldrum, assistant coach Dawn Greathouse and athletic trainer Jaime Scollon. Not pictured: Becky Tweneboah and assistant coach Alvin Alexander.





running with a 7-point first half vs. Baylor in the '04 opener (3G-2A) and added another 7-point half the next week vs. #4 Santa Clara, finishing with 3G-2A for the most points ever by an ND player vs. a top-25 team (8). She closed the season with points in 11 straight games (one shy of the ND record), including a 10-point game vs. St. John's (4G-2A) and 27 points in postseason play (both ND records). The 5-foot-3 sparkplug scored or assisted on 24 of the team's final 28 goals in '04 while former UNC great Mia Hamm is the only player ever to total more goals and more assists in a season than Thorlakson's 2004 production (23G-24A for 70 points, two shy of tying that ND record).

Tancredi led a 2004 defense that allowed just 14 goals (5th in nation with 0.51 GAA; NCAA-best 16 shutouts), 71 shots on goal (2.6/gm) and 48 corner kicks (1.8/gm) in the 27-game season. Her combination of speed, strength and a devastating display in the air made Tancredi an easy choice for being the best defender in the women's college game.

MAN WITH A PLAN

Randy Waldrum's six seasons at Notre Dame began with trips to the College Cup's final weekend in 1999 and '00 while his '03 and '04 teams combined for a .902 winning pct. (45-4-2), nearly producing a +100 ratio of wins to losses in his Notre Dame career (119-20-5, .844).

Never known as a "yeller and a screamer," Waldrum has engendered great respect from his players, both past and present.

"Randy respects the team as players and as people, and that commands respect back," said Greathouse, who played for Waldrum at Baylor. "You want to do the best for him and don't want to let him down. That's how I felt and that's how it is now for the current players."

Tancredi agreed, adding, "He's a coach who can put any player in a position where she is going to shine. He has a great sense for soccer, a deep understanding of the game that rubs off on all of us."

TRUE STUDENT-ATHLETES

The Notre Dame women's soccer team posted a 3.32 team GPA in the 2004 spring semester while seeing 22 players register a semester GPA of 3.0-plus (13 at 3.4-plus). On a team overflowing with Academic All-America candidates, Schefter (3.73 cumulative GPA, pre-professional and psychology double major) and Bohn (3.63, art studio) were named to the official Academic All-America team. Buczkowski also was on the Academic All-America ballot and received first team Academic All-District V honors (3.37, business) while Shaner was a second team Academic All-District V pick (3.42, design).

Boland – with her sparkling 3.90 cumulative GPA as a psychology major – would have been a strong contender for Academic All-American of the Year, if not for her season-ending broken leg. The women's soccer program's unmatched tradition of Academic All-America excellence includes 15 selections in the past 10 seasons – more than double the total from any other team.

The team's focus on academics extended to the national-championship semester, with the

Irish players posting a 3.27 team GPA in the fall of '04 that was followed by a 3.31 GPA in the 2005 spring term.

POISE OVER PANIC

Waldrum remarked throughout the season how proud he was with the team's response under pressure, compiling a 10-1 record in one-goal games to go along with nine other wins by a margin of 3-plus goals.

The first test in a tight spot came at the Notre Dame Classic. One year earlier, ND and Stanford had played to a scoreless tie and the '04 game appeared headed for a similar result – despite a suffocating defense that ultimately held the Cardinal to three total shots. But Schefter stepped forward in the 82nd minute to nail a penalty kick and deliver the 1-0 win.

Two days later, Santa Clara twice came back to tie the Irish but the hosts quickly responded each time to retake the lead – with Thorlakson's hat trick helping the Irish surge in the final minutes for a comfortable 5-2 margin.

One week later, Notre Dame overcame an early deficit and 100-degree heat at Arizona State to win 2-1, behind goals from Chapman and Tancredi. The next weekend at UConn saw the Irish and Huskies locked in another classic battle when reserve outside back Kate Tulisak stepped forward for a key interception and resulting cross that set up Cinalli's decisive goal in the 84th minute. Two days later at Syracuse, the upset-minded Orange tied the game in the 79th minute on an unusual shot from outside the box – but the Irish once again composed themselves, with Thorlakson scoring in traffic for the 83rd-minute gamewinner.

The Irish returned home to face a rare late-game deficit at Alumni Field, trailing Pittsburgh with 19 minutes left to play. But Tancredi again delivered a huge goal and the Irish went on to a 3-1 win. A week later at West Virginia, the Mountaineers fired up their crowd by tying the game (1-1) early in the second half but the Irish dominated in the lategoing for another 3-1 victory.

Notre Dame answered another gutcheck at Georgetown, after seeing the Hoyas take the lead late in the first half on a wind-aided free kick. Just 59 seconds later, Cinalli scored on a booming 30-yard strike but the Irish still were on the verge of a major upset before Buczkowski scored with 44 seconds left to play.

Buczkowski's flurry of four game-winning scores continued when she volleyed home an 80th-minute cross from Ashley Jones to produce a 1-0 win over Boston College. The next weekend saw a short free kick hand Seton Hall an early lead but Chapman scored to tie the game and the Irish went on to the 3-1 win, sparking a streak of 17 straight goals scored by Notre Dame while holding the opposition off the scoreboard.

The six NCAA tournament games included four that reaffirmed the team's poise under pressure. Wisconsin opted for an extreme defensive posture in the second round and the Irish had nothing to show for a 17-1 edge in shots, with the clock ticking down the final minute in regulation. That's when Thorlakson's leftside corner kick found the head of Krivacek



(from left) Katie Thorlakson, Candace Chapman and Jen Buczkowski were among Notre Dame's many poised performers during the 2004 national championship season.

at the near post, setting off a celebration as the Irish scored with 53 seconds on the clock.

Portland came to Alumni Field in the quarterfinal round as a proven comeback team and the Pilots watched Cinalli score twice before answering with a goal early in the second half. Momentum appeared to be tilting to the visitors when Thorlakson scored directly off a corner kick, producing the final 3-1 margin.

Notre Dame and Santa Clara had a handful of first-half scoring chances in the semi-final matchup but the Irish were able to ride out the big-game jitters while dodging a few bullets. Thorlakson and Chapman then worked a give-and-go in the 73rd minute, producing the game's only goal and ultimately sending the Irish back to the NCAA title game.

Notre Dame's defensive domination had required Bohn to make just five saves in the first five NCAA games but she stopped six shots in the title game vs. UCLA, with the only score for the Bruins coming on a fluke own-goal early in the second half. That's when the Irish showed their championship mettle, continuing to battle as Thorlakson converted the game-tying PK with 17 minutes left in regulation. Bohn then saved a PK late in regulation to preserve the 1-1 tie.

The Irish were faced with the unthinkable when Thorlakson missed her try to open the penalty-kick shootout – but the Bruins flared one shot wide and Bohn saved another while three Notre Dame players calmly converted their shots: senior Sarah Halpenny (who had not played in a game since the start of the NCAAAs), Buczkowski and Schefter.

The national championship extended to sudden-death PKs and Krivacek's strike sailed into the right side of the net. Seconds later, Bohn dove to her left to make yet another save and the Irish were the 2004 national champions.



2004 Notre Dame Women's Soccer Statistics

Player	GP/GS	G	A	Pts	Shots/SOG	GWG-GWA-GWP	YC	FG	Career Stats			
									G	A	Pts	GWG
7 Katie Thorlakson (Jr., F)	27/26	23	24	70	127/69	8-7-23	3	3	37	38	112	13
8 Candace Chapman (Sr., F)	27/16	12	8	32	72/38	2-2-6	1	2	18	15	51	5
9 Jen Buczkowski (So., M)	27/25	8	11	27	51/28	4-3-11	0	5	12	17	41	4
5 Amanda Cinalli (Fr., F)	27/24	10	5	25	69/40	4-0-8	0	5	10	5	25	4
11 Annie Schefter (Jr., M)	27/22	4	7	15	51/27	2-1-5	1	2	8	12	28	3
4 Kim Lorenzen (So., D)	27/21	3	4	10	33/9	1-1-3	2	0	3	4	10	1
17 Melissa Tancredi (Sr., D)	27/27	2	2	6	25/8	1-0-2	3	0	14	11	39	3
12 Ashley Jones (Fr., M)	27/6	1	4	6	11/2	0-4-4	0	1	1	4	6	0
13 Maggie Manning (Jr., F)	13/0	2	1	5	10/6	1-0-2	0	1	2	7	11	1
3 Jannica Tjeder (Fr., F/M)	22/8	1	3	5	14/8	0-2-2	0	0	1	3	5	0
18 Christie Shaner (So., D)	27/23	2	0	4	16/6	0-0-0	2	1	3	3	9	0
15 Lizzie Reed (So., M/F)	27/10	1	2	4	26/12	0-1-1	0	0	3	3	9	0
24 Jill Krivacek (So., M)	27/23	1	2	4	10/4	1-1-3	0	1	3	5	11	2
14 Jenny Walz (Jr., D/M)	15/6	0	1	1	7/2	0-0-0	0	0	0	2	2	0
20 Kate Tulisiak (Sr., D)	16/5	0	1	1	1/0	0-1-1	0	0	0	1	1	0
19 Sarah Halpenny (Sr., M)	5/0	0	1	1	1/0	0-0-0	0	0	1	2	4	0
1 Erika Bohn (Jr., G)	25/22	0	1	1	0/0	0-0-0	0	0	0	1	1	0
23 Molly Iarocci (So., F)	10/0	0	0	0	10/4	0-0-0	0	0	1	1	3	0
10 Mary Boland (Sr., F)	4/3	0	0	0	8/7	0-0-0	0	0	19	6	44	6
21 Claire Gallerano (So., M)	13/1	0	0	0	5/0	0-0-0	1	0	0	0	0	0
2 Gudrun Gunnarsdottir (Sr., D)	24/24	0	0	0	5/2	0-0-0	2	0	0	1	1	0
26 Amber McMillin (Jr., D)	5/0	0	0	0	4/1	0-0-0	0	0	0	2	2	0
28 Miranda Ford (Jr., D)	6/0	0	0	0	1/1	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6 Lauren Karas (Fr., G)	8/5	0	0	0	0/0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0 Nikki Westfall (So., G)	6/0	0	0	0	0/0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	27	70	77	217	557/274	24-23-71	17	21				
Opponents	27	14	11	39	155/71		21	5				

Corner Kicks: Notre Dame 158, Opponents 48
Fouls: Notre Dame 331, Opponents 328
Average Home Attendance: 1,073

	Score by Periods				
	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>OT</u>	<u>OT</u>	<u>Total</u>
Notre Dame	32	38	0	0	70
Opponents	4	10	0	0	14

Goalkeeper	GP/GS	Min.	GA	GAA	SV	Pct.	ShO	W-L-T	Career Stats						
									Min.	GA	GAA	SV	Pct.	ShO	W-L-T
0 Nikki Westfall (So.)	6/0	127:59	0	0.00	2	1.000	0 (6)	0-0-0	289:23	1	0.31	6	.857	0 (10)	0-0-0
1 Erika Bohn (Jr.)	25/22	1,987:45	9	0.41	39	.812	9 (7)	21-1-1	5634:41	43	0.69	131	.753	20 (15)	31-8-2
6 Lauren Karas (Fr.)	8/5	364:16	5	1.24	11	.688	0 (3)	4-0-0	364:16	5	1.24	11	.688	0 (3)	4-0-0
Total	27	2,480:00	14	0.51	57	.803	16	25-1-1							
Opponents	27	2,480:00	70	2.54	204	.745	204	1-25-1							

Shutouts indicate solo/shared
Italics indicate players not returning in 2005




(from left) Sophomore right back Kim Lorenzen, junior goalkeeper Erika Bohn, sophomore left back Christie Shaner and senior central defenders Gudrun Gunnarsdottir and Melissa Tancredi formed the core of Notre Dame's dominating 2004 team defense.




Notre Dame Women's Soccer – 2004 National



The Notre Dame women's soccer team won the 2004 NCAA title at SAS Stadium in Cary, N.C., besting Santa Clara in the semifinals (1-0) and UCLA in the 1-1 title game that extended to a penalty-kick shootout. Candace Chapman (#8) and Katie Thorlakson (#7) worked a textbook give-and-go play for the 73rd-minute goal vs. SCU (sequence depicted on the left). The key moments from the decisive PK shootout UCLA are shown on the far right and include (from top to bottom) converted kicks by Sarah Halpenny, Jen Buczkowski, Annie Schefter and Jill Krivacek – plus a pair of saves by Erika Bohn (UCLA was wide on an earlier try, as the Irish won 4-3 in six kicks).




Forwards Candace Chapman (#8), Katie Throlakson (#7) and Amanda Cinalli (#5) combined to score 45 goals in 2004.



Midfielders Jill Krivacek (#24), Annie Schefter (#11) and Jen Buczkowski (#9) led Notre Dame's season-long possession domination.



The Irish held coach Randy Waldrum to his promise by shaving his head after the triumphant return to campus, with Mary Boland the first off the bus carrying the trophy (Melissa Tancredi also soaked in the glory, far right).



The stout back line of Kim Lorenzen (#4), Melissa Tancredi (#17), Gudrun Gunnarsdottir (#2) and Erika Bohn (#1) anchored the defense.

Champions

GOOOOAAALLL!!!
Notre Dame reaches pinnacle
with heart-stopping victory
over UCLA in championship



A special White House ceremony in May of 2005 capped the memorable year for the Irish.

Christie Shaner (#18) helped hold the opposition to 14 goals in 27 games during the 2004 season.

2004 BIG EAST All-Conference Teams

All-BIG EAST First Team

Kia McNeill, Boston College, Fr., F
 Jessica Gjertsen, Connecticut, Sr., F
 Kristen Graczyk, Connecticut, Sr., F
 ***Jen Buczkowski**, Notre Dame, So., M
 ***Amanda Cinalli**, Notre Dame, Fr., F
Melissa Tancredi, Notre Dame, Sr., D
 ***Katie Thorlakson**, Notre Dame, Jr., F
 *Jamie Pelusi, Pittsburgh, Jr., G
 Carli Lloyd, Rutgers, Sr., M
 Laura Johnson, Villanova, Sr., F
 Laura Kane, West Virginia, Sr., F

All-BIG EAST Second Team

Laina Ceddia, Boston College, Sr., F
 Jenny Maurer, Boston College, So., M
 Lindsey McArdle, Boston College, Jr., D
 *Megan Jessee, Connecticut, Jr., G
 Nicole DePalma, Georgetown, Sr., M
 *Kim Brandão, Rutgers, Jr., D
 *Natasha Lee, St. John's, So., F
 Michelle Biehl, Villanova, Sr., D
 *Ashley Banks, West Virginia, Fr., M
 *Marisa Kanela, West Virginia, Jr., M
 Ashley Weimer, West Virginia, Sr., D

All-BIG EAST Third Team

Zahra Jalalian, Connecticut, Sr., D
 *Shara McNeill, Georgetown, Jr., F
 ***Candace Chapman**, Notre Dame, Sr., F
 ***Jill Krivacek**, Notre Dame, So., M
 ***Christie Shaner**, Notre Dame, So., D
 Maura Robertson, Providence, Sr., D
 *Zoe Avner, Rutgers, Jr., M
 *Amanda Becker, Seton Hall, So., G
 Kelly Bailie, Syracuse, Sr., M
 *Laura Koch, Villanova, Jr., D
 *Jillian Loyden, Villanova, So., G

* - indicates 2005 returning player (the BIG EAST stopped naming an all-rookie team in '04 and added the third team all-BIG EAST designation)



Freshman Ashley Jones provided a spark off the bench in 2004, with all four of her assists leading to game-winning goals (including both of Jen Buczkowski's GWGs in games vs. Boston College).

2004 BIG EAST Women's Soccer Standings

Pl.	Team	BIG EAST				PTS	OVERALL			
		W	L	T	Pct.		W	L	T	PCT.
1.	Notre Dame	9	0	1	.950	28	25	1	1	.944
2.	Connecticut	8	2	0	.800	24	18	7	1	.712
3.	West Virginia	7	3	0	.700	21	15	6	0	.714
	Boston College	7	3	0	.700	21	15	7	1	.674
5.	Georgetown	5	4	1	.550	16	9	9	1	.500
	Villanova	5	4	1	.550	16	14	6	2	.682
7.	Rutgers	4	5	1	.450	13	9	10	1	.475
8.	St. John's	4	6	0	.400	12	10	8	1	.553
9.	Syracuse	2	7	1	.250	7	8	9	2	.474
	Pittsburgh	2	7	1	.250	7	6	10	1	.382
11.	Providence	2	8	0	.200	6	5	13	0	.278
	Seton Hall	2	8	0	.200	6	7	9	2	.444



(from left) Katie Thorlakson, Randy Waldrum and Melissa Tancredi combined to sweep the top 2004 BIG EAST Conference women's soccer awards.



Sophomore defensive midfielder Jill Krivacek was recognized for her stellar season as one of Notre Dame's seven players to receive 2004 all-BIG EAST honors.

2004 BIG EAST Awards

Offensive Player of the Year

Katie Thorlakson, Notre Dame (Jr., F)

Defensive Player of the Year

Melissa Tancredi, Notre Dame (Sr., D)

Midfielder of the Year

Carli Lloyd, Rutgers (Sr.)

Goalkeeper of the Year

Jamie Pelusi, Pittsburgh (Jr.)

Co-Rookies of the Year

Kia McNeill, Boston College (Fr., F)
 Ashley Banks, West Virginia (Fr., M)

Coach of the Year

Randy Waldrum, Notre Dame

Tournament MVPs

Off. - Kristen Graczyk (Sr., F, UConn)
 Def. - Zahra Jalalian (Sr., D, UConn)

2004 BIG EAST Women's Soccer Tournament

Quarterfinals

Georgetown	0
Boston College	1
Villanova	1
West Virginia	0
Rutgers	0
Connecticut	1
St. John's	0
Notre Dame	7

Semifinals

Boston College	0	
Notre Dame	2	
Villanova	1	3-2
Connecticut (adv.)	1	PKs

Final

Connecticut	2
Notre Dame	1



2004 University of Notre Dame Women's Soccer
Records: 25-1-1 (Home: 14-0-1, Away: 8-1-0, Neutral: 3-0-0)
BIG EAST: 9-0-1/Great Lakes Region: 5-0-0

Date	NSCAA Rank ND/Opp	Opponent	Result	Score	Shots		Corners		Fouls		Offside		Att.
					ND/Opp	On Goal	ND/Opp	ND/Opp	ND/Opp	ND/Opp			
Aug. 27	3/-	Baylor	W	7-2	32/9	25/5	8/1	12/20	5/0	1,316			
Aug. 29	3/-	Eastern Illinois	W	3-0	38/2	23/1	14/1	11/4	3/0	805			
Sept. 3	2/13	Stanford (1)	W	1-0	17/3	7/2	1/2	15/15	0/2	1,409			
Sept. 5	2/4	Santa Clara (1)	W	5-2	13/8	10/4	3/6	13/15	6/2	1,509			
Sept. 10	2/-	at Arizona State	W	2-1	15/7	6/3	5/0	7/14	1/0	1,505			
Sept. 12	2/-	at Texas Tech	W	3-0	21/4	11/2	2/2	16/11	1/1	1,755			
Sept. 17	2/-	at Connecticut (2)	W	1-0	18/8	9/2	4/1	9/5	6/1	1,064			
Sept. 19	2/-	at Syracuse (2)	W	2-1	16/7	12/2	7/2	10/11	0/0	474			
Sept. 24	1/-	Pittsburgh (2)	W	3-1	26/3	10/2	8/0	13/19	3/0	2,087			
Sept. 26	1/-	Wis.-Green Bay	W	4-0	17/4	6/3	3/0	11/7	3/0	1,385			
Oct. 1	1/24	at West Virginia (2)	W	3-1	17/13	7/6	8/4	11/8	4/1	892			
Oct. 3	1/-	Providence (2)	W	3-0	38/2	18/2	12/0	5/5	2/0	1,341			
Oct. 8	1/-	at Villanova (2)	W	1-0	21/14	12/4	3/6	8/8	1/1	475			
Oct. 10	1-	at Georgetown (2)	W	2-1	22/12	7/8	4/0	16/13	3/2	741			
Oct. 16	1/20	Boston College (2)	W	1-0	14/2	5/1	2/4	11/17	1/0	1,070			
Oct. 22	1/-	Rutgers (2)	T	0-0	20/5	9/2	8/3	21/16	3/3	1,278			
Oct. 24	1/-	Seton Hall (2)	W	3-1	30/3	13/2	7/1	10/16	0/2	1,231			
Oct. 28	2/-	at Michigan	W	4-0	20/2	10/1	5/0	11/8	3/0	907			
Oct. 31	2/-	St. John's (3)	W	7-0	28/2	15/0	5/0	8/8	2/2	202			
Nov. 5	2/19	vs. Boston College (4)	W	2-0	15/8	9/2	6/1	13/11	3/0	857			
Nov. 7	2/-	at Connecticut (4)	L	1-2	13/5	6/4	5/0	14/12	7/0	1,075			
Nov. 12	2/-	Eastern Illinois (5)	W	4-0	27/3	14/1	6/0	11/14	2/0	793			
Nov. 14	2/-	Wisconsin (5)	W	1-0	18/1	7/0	4/0	16/15	2/0	553			
Nov. 20	2/15	Connecticut (6)	W	2-0	24/4	10/2	9/1	13/12	4/3	628			
Nov. 26	2/6	Portland (7)	W	3-1	15/10	6/3	9/2	13/14	1/1	495			
Dec. 3	2/4	vs. Santa Clara (8)	W	1-0	11/3	4/1	5/6	18/11	4/3	8,325			
Dec. 5	2/11	vs. UCLA (8) *	W	1-1	11/11	3/6	5/5	15/19	4/2	7,644			

* - Notre Dame won national-title game in six penalty kicks (4-3)

(1) Notre Dame Classic ... (2) BIG EAST game ... (3) BIG EAST quarterfinal ... (4) BIG EAST semifinal/final (at UConn)
 (5) NCAA 1st/2nd Round ... (6) NCAA 3rd Round ... (7) NCAA quarterfinal ... (8) NCAA semifinal/final (SAS Stadium; Cary, N.C.)

GAME #1 - Aug. 27
Notre Dame 7, Baylor 2

NOTRE DAME, Ind. - The opener holds extra significance for Notre Dame head coach Randy Waldrum (who began the Baylor program in the mid-1990s) and his assistant Dawn Greathouse, formerly a standout goalkeeper with the Bears. Notre Dame jumps out to a 5-0 halftime lead but Waldrum's postgame comments express general disappointment with his team's late-game letdown, hinting at the big-picture focus on the ultimate goal that will drive his team throughout the season.

Katie Thorlakson becomes the first Irish player ever to score or assist on Notre Dame's first five goals of a game while tying a record with seven points in a half (2G-3A). Two of her assists set up goals by Amanda Cinalli, who becomes the fourth freshman ever to score Notre Dame's first goal of the season and the fourth Irish player to score the team's first two goals in an opener.

Candace Chapman caps the Irish scoring with a pair of goals, continuing her super-sub role that began on the preseason training trip to Brazil. The game marks Notre Dame's fifth straight win in a season opener and is the program's eighth season-opening win in the past nine years.

Baylor 0 2 - 2
#2 Notre Dame 5 2 - 7

ND 1. Amanda Cinalli (Katie Thorlakson) 12:49;
ND 2. Cinalli (Thorlakson, Kim Lorenzen) 21:02; **ND 3.** Thorlakson (Jen Buczkowski) 38:21; **ND 4.** Buczkowski (Thorlakson, Annie Schefter) 40:11; **ND 5.** Thorlakson (-) 41:11; **ND 6.** Candace Chapman (Cinalli) 49:02; **ND 7.** Chapman (Buczkowski, Melissa Tancredi) 54:41; **BAY 1.** Ginny Rosario-Tull (-) 84:29; **BAY 2.** Margaret Kaderli (Anna Schuch) 87:59.

Shots: BAY 4-5 - 9, ND 21-11 - 32
Corner Kicks: BAY 0-1 - 1, ND 3-5 - 8
Saves: BAY 18 (Ashley Holder 15, team 3), ND 3 (Erika Bohn 2; Lauren Karas 1, w/ 2 GA)
Fouls: BAY 20, ND 12
Offside: BAY 0, ND 5
Yellow Card: Kristin Ruef (BAY) 9:40

GAME #2 - Aug. 29
Notre Dame 3, Eastern Illinois 0

NOTRE DAME, Ind. - The Irish roll up a 38-2 edge in total shots and 14-1 in corner kicks to complete a dominating first weekend. The airtight defense - comprised of senior center backs Gudrun Gunnarsdottir and Melissa Tancredi and sophomore outside backs Kim Lorenzen and Christie Shaner -

limits Eastern Illinois to just one shot on goal while setting an undeniable tone for the game, indicative of a defensive presence that will maintain throughout the 2005 season.

Katie Thorlakson, seemingly involved in every goal that enters the net when she's on the field, helps set up all three goals. Annie Schefter opens the scoring with a pinpoint shot from outside the box while fellow midfielder Jen Buczkowski later heads in a chip pass from Amanda Cinalli. Candace Chapman - returning from an ACL injury that wiped out her 2003 season - again scores off the bench, banging home her own rebound after Thorlakson's corner-kick service.

Eastern Illinois 0 0 - 0
#2 Notre Dame 2 1 - 3

ND 1. Annie Schefter 1 (Katie Thorlakson) 4:35; **ND 2.** Jen Buczkowski 2 (Amanda Cinalli) 29:31; **ND 3.** Candace Chapman 3 (-) 72:27

Shots: EIU 1-1 - 2, ND 16-22 - 38
Corner Kicks: EIU 1-0 - 1, ND 7-7 - 14
Saves: EIU 20 (Tiffany Groene 18, team 2), ND 1 (Erika Bohn 1, Nikki Westfall 0)
Fouls: EIU 4, ND 11
Offside: EIU 0, ND 3
Yellow Card: Morgan Frericks (EIU) 87:10



**GAME #3 - Sept. 3
Notre Dame 1, Stanford 0**

NOTRE DAME, Ind. - Alumni Field again is the site for one of the nation's premier women's soccer tournaments, as the Irish prepare to face two familiar foes at the Notre Dame Adidas Classic. The matchups vs. Stanford and Santa Clara hold special significance for west-coast native Annie Schefter, whose soccer resume includes playing alongside many of the Cardinal and Broncos players on regional and national teams.

So perhaps it's fitting that Schefter's competitive spirit, mental toughness and accurate right foot produce the only scoring in the win over Stanford. The Irish and Cardinal traditionally had waged low-scoring, defensive struggles but the hosts dominate on this night under the lights, posting a 17-3 edge in total shots while allowing just two shots on goal. Notre Dame's veteran back line and bruising defensive midfielder Jill Krivacek dominate the middle third, neutralizing All-America forward Marcie Ward as part of the impressive display of team defense.

With the clock ticking under 9:00 left in regulation, freshman forward Amanda Cinalli squirts free into the heart of the Stanford penalty box and is taken down with a hard tackle. Schefter - making a rare start at forward - steps up for the penalty kick and calmly sends her shot into the lower right corner for the 1-0 win.

#13 Stanford	0	0	-	0
#2 Notre Dame	0	1	-	1

ND 1. Annie Schefter 2 (81:57)

Shots: STAN 2-1 - 3, ND 9-8 - 17
Corner Kicks: STAN 1-1 - 2, ND 1-0 - 1
Saves: STAN 6 (Nicole Barnhart), ND 2 (Erika Bohn)
Fouls: STAN 15, ND 15
Offside: STAN 2, ND 0
Yellow Cards: Christie Shaner (ND) 50:32; Jenny Farenbaugh (STAN) 58:30

**GAME #4 - Sept. 5
Notre Dame 5, Santa Clara 2**

NOTRE DAME, Ind. - The Irish and Broncos renew their rivalry but it would not be the only time they do battle in 2004 - crossing paths three months later in the College Cup semifinals.

Katie Thorlakson registers the first hat trick of her college career and assists on the other two Irish goals for the most points (8) ever by an Notre Dame player versus a top-25 opponent (it also marks the first Irish hat trick vs. top-25 team since '98, third ever vs. top-10). She also ties a record she already shared for points in a half (7) and matches her own record (set nine days earlier) by factoring into each of Notre Dame's first five goals.

There is plenty of familiarity between the Irish and a Broncos team that is three years removed from its own national-title season. Notre Dame's depth and confidence in its reserve players are seen in the starting lineup, as Jenny Walz and Lizzie Reed start alongside Jen Buczkowski in the midfield while Kate Tulisak draws the big-game start at left back, with each each of those players delivering key minutes to help post the big win.

Early in the second half, with the hosts clinging to a 1-0 lead (after Buczkowski heads in a Thorlakson free kick), Mary Boland suffers her season-ending broken leg and Santa Clara quickly ties the game. Thorlakson comes right back to score on a PK but the visitors later forge a 2-2 tie, with just nine minutes left to play.



Junior forward Katie Thorlakson's record-setting season included a hat trick and two assists in the 5-2 win over 4th-ranked Santa Clara, the most points (8) ever by a Notre Dame player vs. a top-25 opponent.

The early-season showdown of college soccer heavyweights is up for grabs as Thorlakson steps forward to snatch away the victory, in classic statement-making fashion. First, she runs onto a Buczkowski thru-ball and sends home a far-post shot for the 3-2 lead, with 6:58 left to play. Two minutes later, her cross helps set up Candace Chapman's tap-in and she completes the hat trick 68 seconds later, chipping the ball over 'keeper Julie Ryder after a booming punt from Erika Bohn. The three-goal blitz covers less than four minutes, quickly breaking the spirit of the talented Broncos.

Notre Dame's Adidas Classic all-tournament selections include Thorlakson (off. MVP), Melissa Tancredi (def. MVP), Bohn (top 'keeper), Buczkowski, Christie Shaner and Jill Krivacek.

#4 Santa Clara	0	2	-	2
#2 Notre Dame	1	4	-	5

ND 1. Jen Buczkowski 3 (Katie Thorlakson) 38:02; **SCU 1.** Leslie Osborne 3 (Jordan Angeli) 63:39; **ND 2.** Thorlakson 3 (PK) 65:19; **SCU 2.** Megan Kakadelas 2 (Osborne) 80:59; **ND 3.** Thorlakson 4 (Buczkowski) 83:02; **ND 4.** Candace Chapman 4 (Annie Schefter, Thorlakson) 85:33; **ND 5.** Thorlakson (Erika Bohn) 86:41

Shots: SCU 4-4 - 8, ND 4-9 - 13
Corner Kicks: SCU 1-5 - 6, ND 3-0 - 3
Saves: SCU 5 (Julie Ryder), ND 2 (Erika Bohn)
Fouls: SCU 15, ND 13
Offside: SCU 2, ND 6
Yellow Cards: Thorlakson (ND) 8:34; Kakadelas (SCU) 73:54; Angeli (SCU) 81:13

**GAME #5 - Sept. 10
Notre Dame 2, Arizona State 1**

TEMPE, Ariz. - The Irish stand up to the heat - literally and figuratively - weathering the 106-degree desert climate and a rare deficit to win in their first road game of the season, edging a talented Arizona State squad. Notre Dame's three-player Canadian connection combines for both goals and the game-winning assist while freshman goalkeeper Lauren Karas gets the winning decision in her first start with the Irish. Notre Dame overcomes the muggy night, compiling a 15-7 shot edge while limiting the Sun Devils to three shots on goal and no corner kicks.

ASU holds the lead for 12 minutes in the first half, ultimately ranking as ND's third-longest deficit of the entire '04 season. Ashley Jones sets up the tying goal on a driven ball from the right of the box, with Candace Chapman winning the scramble and knocking in her own rebound from close range. The Irish then snatch the lead in the 59th minute - as Thorlakson's left-side free kick sets up a world-class goal from Melissa Tancredi, who elevates for an apparent header but instead volleys the ball for a well-struck shot that rips into the right sideneeting.

#2 Notre Dame	1	1	-	2
Arizona State	1	0	-	1

ASU 1. Katie Leahy 4 (-) 22:49; **ND 1.** Candace Chapman 5 (-) 34:15; **ND 2.** Melissa Tancredi 1 (Katie Thorlakson) 58:14

Shots: ND 11-4 - 15, ASU 4-3 - 7
Corner Kicks: ND 5, ASU 0
Saves: ND 2 (Lauren Karas), ASU 4 (Kim Bingham)
Fouls: ND 7, ASU 14
Offside: ND 1, ASU 0
Yellow Cards: Juanita Lawson (ASU) 22:24; Annie Schefter 1 (ND) 22:31; Melissa Tancredi 1 (ND) 29:24

**GAME #6 - Sept. 12
Notre Dame 3, Texas Tech 0**

LUBBOCK, Texas - The 100th win of the Randy Waldrum era at Notre Dame (100-19-4) seals the Irish program's return atop one national poll (Soccer America), with the coaches poll following suit one week later. Maggie Manning's pair of goals and another dominating defensive effort pace the 3-0 win at Texas Tech, in a homecoming for six lone-star state natives (Waldrum, the other three members of his coaching staff and players Claire Gallerano and Lauren Karas). The game also produces the 300th victory in the program's 17-year history (300-57-15).

Manning and Ashley Jones check into the game midway through the first half and combine on first goal, with Manning launching a shot into the upper left corner of the net. Candace Chapman's flick-pass later sets up Manning for a surprising lob shot that skims under the crossbar for the 2-0 halftime lead. The second half sees Katie Thorlakson make a run down the right flank and feed the ball to Jen Buczkowski, whose shot deflects behind the 'keeper before Amanda Cinalli slides in to cap the scoring.

Notre Dame continues to pace its lineup by resting several top players for large chunks of the roadtrip's second leg. The reserves again are up to the challenge, helping rack up a 21-4 edge in total shots while holding the Red Raiders to just a pair of shots on goal.

#2 Notre Dame	2	1	-	3
Texas Tech	0	0	-	0

ND 1. Maggie Manning 1 (Ashley Jones) 26:26; **ND 2.** Manning 2 (Candace Chapman) 44:22; **ND 3.** Amanda Cinalli 3 (Jen Buczkowski, Katie Thorlakson) 68:25

Shots: ND 8-13 - 21, TT 1-3 - 4
Corner Kicks: ND 1-1 - 2, TT 0-2 - 2
Saves: ND 2 (Lauren Karas 1, Erika Bohn 1), TT 8 (Beth Lippert 7, team 1)
Fouls: ND 16, TT 11
Offside: ND 1, TT 1



GAME #7 – Sept. 17 Notre Dame 1, Connecticut 0

STORRS, Conn. – Reserve defender Kate Tulisiak picks an ideal time for the only point of her Notre Dame career, intercepting a pass and providing the endline cross as Amanda Cinalli scores in the 84th minute for the 1-0 win over rival UConn. The slick field at Morrone Stadium produces an up-tempo game with 25 total shots, including 18 for an Irish team that twice hits the crossbar and sees two other chances cleared off the goal line. Notre Dame's depth plays a key role in mastering the game's tempo, with the Huskies managing a handful of counterattack chances but just two shots on goal and a single corner kick.

Cinalli and Tulisiak both re-enter midway through the second half, shortly before combining on the game's only goal. The hosts had cleared a Jen Buczkowski shot off the line moments earlier and try to send a pass out to their left flank. Tulisiak anticipates the pass from her right back position, races in to intercept and carries on to the endline before driving a low cross into the box. Annie Scheffer plays a "dummy" move on the pass and Cinalli is filling the middle, making a touch before quickly sending a shot into the right corner of the net.

#2 Notre Dame	0	1	-	1
Connecticut	0	0	-	0

ND 1. Amanda Cinalli 4 (Kate Tulisiak) 83:34.

Shots: ND 10-8 – 18, UConn 5-3 – 8

Corner Kicks: ND 2-2 – 4, UConn 0-1 – 1

Saves: ND 2 (Erika Bohn), UConn (Megan Jessee) 8

Fouls: ND 9, UConn 5

Offside: ND 6, UConn 1

GAME #8 – Sept. 19 Notre Dame 2, Syracuse 1

SYRACUSE, N.Y. – Notre Dame again opts to not start several top players, including Katie Thorlakson, as part of the season-long strategy that paces the minutes of the regulars while also giving the talented reserves plenty of quality playing time. Jen Buczkowski scores early – on a leftfooted volley after Amanda Cinalli's endline cross – and the Irish have chances to pull away but Syracuse ties the game on an unusual shot from outside the box.



Freshman Amanda Cinalli delivered a pair of goals to win 1-0 BIG EAST road games, at Connecticut and Villanova.

Locked in a physical battle that illustrates the tough weekly battles waged in the BIG EAST, the Irish again show their poise by scoring a late game-winning goal. Candace Chapman, playing at left back, provides the entry pass and Thorlakson pokes home the goal at the far right post in the 83rd minute, lifting Notre Dame's record to 8-0. Thorlakson's goal makes her the 19th all-time Notre Dame player with 20 career goals and 20 assists – but her special 2005 season is just beginning and she would go on to reach 20 goals and 20 assists in the 2004 season alone.

After limiting the Orange to a pair of shots on goal and two corner kicks, the Irish remain one of five unbeaten/untied teams in the nation while winning for the 31st consecutive time when scoring first.

#2 Notre Dame	1	1	-	2
Syracuse	0	1	-	1

ND 1. Jen Buczkowski 4 (Amanda Cinalli) 14:22; **SYR 1.** Molly McManus 2 (Kelly Bailey) 68:18; **ND 2.** Katie Thorlakson 6 (Candace Chapman) 82:49

Shots: ND 8-8 – 16, SYR 2-5 – 7

Corner Kicks: ND 4-3 – 7, SYR 0-2 – 2

Saves: ND 1 (Erika Bohn), SYR 10 (Shannon Myers)

Fouls: ND 10, SYR 11

Offside: ND 0, SYR 0

GAME #9 – Sept. 24 Notre Dame 3, Pittsburgh 1

NOTRE DAME, Ind. – The final full week of September brings the return of two familiar landmarks, as the lighted number-one sign now glows atop Grace Hall while the number-one flag waves in front of the Joyce Center. Prior to the game versus Pittsburgh, Katie Thorlakson announces her intention to remain with the Irish for the entire 2004 season, foregoing the previous plan to leave for three weeks during the NCAA Tournament to compete with Canada at the Under-19 World Championship. Jen Buczkowski had made a similar decision in the spring, opting not to play for the U.S. team that required its players to sit out the entire 2004 college season while training for the U-19 World Championship.

Despite the uplifting news of Thorlakson's decision, Notre Dame shockingly falls behind in the first half and is 19 minutes from defeat before rallying behind the "Canadian Connection" for a 3-1 victory. On a night when three of the most prolific offensive players in Notre Dame women's soccer history – Monica Gerardo, Jenny Heft and Holly Manthei – are in the house, Waldrum might have opted to suit up one of those legendary players in hopes of jumpstarting the slumping offense.

Instead, the team's players from north of the border combine for all three goals and two assists as Notre Dame surges ahead midway through the second half. Kim Lorenzen's excellent crossing ability sets up Tancredi for the game-tying goal and Thorlakson converts a penalty kick three minutes later, after Cinalli is knocked down in the box. The Irish cap the win on a Thorlakson corner kick, with Tancredi deflecting the ball to Chapman for her sixth goal of the season. Notre Dame limits Pitt to a pair of shots on goal and no corner kicks while Lauren Karas logs the second half in goal to pick up the winning decision.

Pittsburgh	1	0	-	1
#1 Notre Dame	0	3	-	3

PITT 1. Erin Hills 1 (-) 31:06; **ND 1.** Melissa Tancredi 2 (Kim Lorenzen) 71:24; **ND 2.** Katie Thorlakson 7 (PK) 74:23; **ND 3.** Candace Chapman 6 (Tancredi, Thorlakson) 87:12

Shots: PITT 1-2 – 3, ND 9-17 – 26

Saves: PITT 7 (Jamie Pelusi),

ND 1 (Erika Bohn 0, Lauren Karas 1)

Corner Kicks: PITT 0, ND 2-6 – 8

Fouls: PITT 19, ND 13

Offside: PITT 0, ND 3

Yellow Cards: Courtney Wrightson (PITT) 17:53;

Katie Surma (PITT) 25:21; Thorlakson (ND) 58:54;

Pelusi (PITT) 87:12

Game Recaps

GAME #10 – Sept. 26 Notre Dame 4, Wis.-Green Bay 0

NOTRE DAME, Ind. – The rejuvenated offense hits its stride two days later in the comfortable win over UWGB. Katie Thorlakson keeps rolling with two goals and an assist and Annie Scheffer adds a goal and assist, as the Irish improve to 10-0 for the third time in the program's history. Notre Dame shuffles five new players into the starting lineup and 22 members of the team go on to log significant minutes. Candace Chapman draws her first start of the season and goes on to be a regular presence the rest of the season. Jannica Tjeder also makes her first start after battling back from an early foot injury and records her first official point by providing the endline cross on Thorlakson's second goal.

Melissa Tancredi's goal in the previous game sparks a stretch in which the Irish score seven times on 12 shots. Scheffer's deep free kick sets up the first score vs. the Phoenix, with Thorlakson sending home the volley for Notre Dame's quickest goal of the season (2:54).

Wisconsin-Green Bay	0	0	-	0
#1 Notre Dame	4	0	-	4

ND 1. Katie Thorlakson 8 (Annie Scheffer) 2:54; **ND 2.** Thorlakson 9 (Jannica Tjeder, Jenny Walz) 17:50; **ND 3.** Amanda Cinalli 5 (Thorlakson, Candace Chapman) 22:51; **ND 4.** Annie Scheffer 3 (-) 30:37.

Shots: UWGB 3-1 – 4, ND 8-9 – 17

Corner Kicks: UWGB 0-0 – 0, ND 1-2 – 3

Saves: UWGB 2 (Brooke Wikgren 1, Ryan Werner 1), ND 3 (Lauren Karas 2, Nikki Westfall 1)

Fouls: UWGB 7, ND 11

Offside: UWGB 0, ND 3

GAME #11 – Oct. 1 Notre Dame 3, West Virginia 1

MORGANTOWN, W. Va. – The Irish score their quickest goal of the season for the second straight game, as a Katie Thorlakson corner kick finds the head of Christie Shamer to open the scoring at the 2:38 mark. A fired-up crowd helps inspire the 24th-ranked Mountaineers, who tie the game early in the second half – but the Irish retake the lead when Kim Lorenzen matches Shamer by scoring her own first goal of the season (and first of her ND career), on a 25-yard crossing shot with 15 minutes left to play.

Erika Bohn enters the game shortly after WVU scores its equalizer and she makes a huge save in the 84th minute, anticipating a one-touch shot and diving to her right to make the stop at close range and preserve the 2-1 cushion. Thorlakson then scores moments later to ice the 3-to-1 victory, faking out her defender and scoring inside the near right post.

The game is preceded by an enjoyable bus ride from South Bend to Morgantown, bringing back memories of the preseason trip to Brazil and strengthening the team bonds as the Irish head into some key BIG EAST battles. Notre Dame remains the only unbeaten and untied team left standing, out of 308 in Division I (with seven games still remaining in the regular season).

#1 Notre Dame	1	2	-	3
#24 West Virginia	0	1	-	1

ND 1. Christie Shamer 1 (Katie Thorlakson) 2:38; **WVU 1.** Rachael Minnich 6 (Ashley Wiener, Ashley Banks) 51:30; **ND 2.** Kim Lorenzen 1 (Lizzie Reed) 74:53; **ND 3.** Thorlakson 10 (Candace Chapman) 85:43

Shots: ND 7-10 – 17, WVU 6-6 – 12

Corner Kicks: ND 4-3 – 7, WVU 2-2 – 4

Saves: ND 4 (L. Karas 2 in 60:18; E. Bohn 2 in 29:42), WVU 4 (Lana Bannerman)

Fouls: ND 11, WVU 8

Offside: ND 4, WVU 1

Yellow Cards: ND bench (77:07 and 78:12)



GAME #12 - Oct. 3
Notre Dame 3, Providence 0

NOTRE DAME, Ind. - The Irish rack up a 38-to-2 shot edge and attempt all 12 of the game's corner kicks in a convincing win over the Friars. Katie Thorlakson converts a leftfooted shot on a tricky angle near the left-endline and Jannica Tjeder sends home a Candace Chapman thru-ball for her first goal of the season and the early 2-0 lead.

Scheffter later adds one of her patented strikes from outside the box to cap the scoring early in the second half (it marks the eighth goal of Scheffter's ND career, with each of them coming at Alumni Field). The Irish again rest many of their regulars, with all 24 of the active players seeing significant minutes.

Thorlakson extends her goalscoring streak to five games and collects her sixth game-winning goal of the season, representing half of the team's total.

Providence	0	0	-	0
#1 Notre Dame	2	1	-	3

ND 1. Katie Thorlakson 11 (-) 25:42; **ND 2.** Jannica Tjeder 1 (Candace Chapman, Thorlakson) 26:35; **ND 3.** Annie Scheffter 4 (-) 58:25

Shots: PC 0-2 - 2, ND 16-22 - 38
Corner Kicks: PC 0-0 - 0, ND 5-7 - 12
Saves: PC 15 (Ashley Fedshyn), ND 2 (E. Bohn 0, L. Karas 1, N. Westfall 1)
Fouls: PC 5, ND 5
Offside: PC 0, ND 2

GAME #13 - Oct. 8
Notre Dame 1, Villanova 0

VILLANOVA, Pa. - The final two-game road trip of the 2005 regular season takes the Irish to the Philadelphia area for another battle vs. the always organized and well-coached Villanova squad. The Wildcats show their counterattacking ability to create a handful of chances but the Irish emerge with the game's only goal, as Amanda Cinalli again delivers a key score on the field of a top BIG EAST opponent.

Cinalli wins the ball near the left sideline and shifts to her right before making Villanova pay for its sagging defense. The freshman sensation then launches a world-class strike, sending a 35-yard shot that rips into the upper-right corner of the net for her sixth goal of the season.

Notre Dame (13-0-0) matches the 1996 team for the program's second-best undefeated start while extending its recent scoring margin to 14-1 over three-plus games. Candace Chapman shows her versatility by shifting to left back in the second half, Jill Krivacek and Annie Scheffter help dominate the midfield with strong play in the air, and Erika Bohn adds to her career win total after a couple of big saves. Former ND midfielders Anne Makinen and Kim Carpenter are among the Irish supporters. Villanova head coach Ann Clifton will see the Irish again in 2004, serving as the team's NCAA liaison two months later at the College Cup in Cary, N.C.

#1 Notre Dame	1	0	-	1
Villanova	0	0	-	0

ND 1. Amanda Cinalli 6 (-) 19:40

Shots: ND 13-8 - 21, VILL 7-7 - 14
Corner Kicks: ND 1-2 - 3, VILL 2-4 - 6
Saves: ND 4 (Erika Bohn), VILL 11 (Jillian Loyden 10, team 1)
Fouls: ND 8, VILL 8
Offside: ND 1, VILL 1
Yellow Card: Melissa Tancredi 1 (ND) 47:49



The first game-winning goal of Jen Buczkowski's career with the Irish came in the final minute at Georgetown and she quickly added three more GWGs, including the decisive score in both wins over Boston College.

GAME #14 - Oct. 10
Notre Dame 2, Georgetown 1

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Notre Dame wraps up a stretch of playing seven of 10 games on the road with a matchup in the nation's capital vs. a Georgetown program that had handed the Irish a gut-wrenching 4-3 loss in its previous visit to Harpin Field, during the '02 season. The Hoyas begin to eye another upset after scoring late in the first half but the visitors quickly tie the game on another clutch goal from Amanda Cinalli, who roofs a pass from Maggie Manning to force the 1-1 tie.

Just four previous games out of nearly 400 in Notre Dame women's soccer history had seen the game-winning goal scored in the final minute of play, including GU's win in '03. The Irish turn the tables on the Hoyas this time around, as Jannica Tjeder's low entry pass sets up the final goal. Jen Buczkowski then turns in a crowded penalty box and buries a low 12-yard shot inside the near left post with just 44 seconds left in regulation, giving Buczkowski the first game-winning goal of her Irish career in dramatic fashion (she also became the first ND player in 10 years to win a game in the final minute).

Erika Bohn notches a season-high seven saves to help hold off the Hoyas on a windy day that gives the Irish the distinct second-half advantage.

#1 Notre Dame	1	1	-	2
Georgetown	1	0	-	1

GU 1. Sara Jordan 5 (Nicole DePalma, Karen Waskewich) 40:40; **ND 1.** Amanda Cinalli 7 (Maggie Manning, Annie Scheffter) 41:39; **ND 2.** Jen Buczkowski (Jannica Tjeder) 89:16

Shots: ND 9-13 - 22, GU 8-4 - 12
Corner Kicks: ND 2-2 - 4, GU 0-0 - 0
Saves: ND 7 (E. Bohn 6, team 1), GU 5 (Jade Higgins)
Fouls: ND 16, GU 13
Offside: ND 3, GU 2
Yellow Cards: Katie Thorlakson 3 (ND) 22:41; Christina Araps (GU) 69:46

GAME #15 - Oct. 16
Notre Dame 1, Boston College 0

NOTRE DAME, Ind. - Jen Buczkowski delivers another late gamewinner, scoring in the 80th minute to clinch ND's ninth regular-season title in 10 years of BIG EAST play. Ashley Jones provides the leftfooted cross and Kim Lorenzen volleys the ball to Buczkowski for a low strike from 10 yards. The defense does not allow a shot of any kind until midway through the second half while the 20th-ranked Eagles manage their only shot on goal in the 88th minute.

#20 Boston College	0	0	-	0
#1 Notre Dame	0	1	-	1

ND 1. Jen Buczkowski 6 (Kim Lorenzen, Ashley Jones) 79:06

Shots: BC 0-2 - 2, ND 12-2 - 14
Corner Kicks: BC 1-3 - 4, ND 0-2 - 2
Saves: BC 4 (Kate T aylor), ND 0 (Erika Bohn)
Fouls: BC 17, ND 11
Offside: BC 0, ND 1

GAME #16 - Oct. 22
Notre Dame 0, Rutgers 0

NOTRE DAME, Ind. - Robyn Jones stops all nine shots she faces while seeing two shots smack off the posts and two others sail over the frame, as Rutgers plays to a scoreless tie with Notre Dame that leaves the Irish one win shy of matching the best start in the program's history (16-0-0, in 2000). Notre Dame fails to secure the win despite a 20-5 edge in total shots, with the visitors packing 10 players into the defensive third and not attempting a shot on goal until the 50th minute. Lizzie Reed sweeps the ball off the endline early in the second half while Erika Bohn charges out to her left to make a huge save on a counterattack.

The Irish remain unbeaten in their past 17 overtime games but see their home winning streak vs. BIG EAST teams end at 55 games.

Rutgers	0	0	0	0	-	0
#1 Notre Dame	0	0	0	0	-	0

Shots: RU 2-2-1-0 - 5, ND 9-9-1-1 - 20
Corner Kicks: RU 1-1-1-0 - 3, ND 1-3-1-3 - 8
Saves: RU 9 (Robyn Jones), ND 2 (Erika Bohn 1, tm 1)
Fouls: RU 16, ND 21
Offside: RU 3, ND 3

GAME #17 - Oct. 24
Notre Dame 3, Seton Hall 1

NOTRE DAME, Ind. - Candace Chapman ends her eight-game goal drought with her third two-goal game of the season while Katie Thorlakson adds her seventh game-winning goal to help squelch the upset hopes. The Irish hold SHU without a shot for a 76-minute stretch, en route to a 30-3 shot advantage. Jannica Tjeder works the ball into the box from the right side and Chapman sends it into the left side for the 1-1 tie. Thorlakson then races free on the left side and sends home her 26th career goal early in the second half. Erika Bohn comes off the bench to pick up the win, entering after the early Pirates goal.

Seton Hall	1	0	-	1
#1 Notre Dame	1	2	-	3

SHU 1. Carley Piagentini 5 (-) 5:22; **ND 1.** Candace Chapman 7 (Jen Buczkowski, Annie Scheffter) 32:26; **ND 2.** Katie Thorlakson 12 (Chapman, Jannica Tjeder) 54:29; **ND 3.** Chapman 8 (Buczkowski, Thorlakson) 60:05

Shots: SHU 1-2 - 3, ND 17-13 - 30
Corner Kicks: SHU 0-1 - 1, ND 3-4 - 7
Saves: SHU 10 (Amanda Becker 9, team 1), ND 1 (Lauren Karas 0 in 8:16; Erika Bohn 1 in 81:44)
Fouls: SHU 16, ND 10
Offside: SHU 2, ND 0
Yellow Cards: Ashley Reinecke (SHU) 32:07; Jen Michewicz (SHU) 55:32



GAME #18 – Oct. 28
Notre Dame 4, Michigan 0

ANN ARBOR, Mich. – The Irish players don't need any motivational speeches from their coaches in order to be ready for the regular-season finale, a matchup with the Michigan program that handed Notre Dame a pair of tough losses in 2004. Thorlakson scores twice and assists on the other two Irish goals as the visitors quickly take command en route to the road victory.

Buczowski scores in the fifth minute for her third game-winning goal in a span of five games while Chapman knocks in her ninth goal of the season and Cinalli adds a pair of assists. The Irish complete their fourth all-time unbeaten regular season in dominating fashion, holding Michigan to a single shot on goal and no corner kicks.

The Irish – still unbeaten on the opponent's field (16-0-0) during the past two seasons – limit the Wolverines to a pair of shots (one on goal) and no corner kicks while holding the opponent to 0-1 goals for the 14th straight game. Thorlakson (14G-15A) becomes the first Notre Dame player since 1997 to reach 14 goals and 14 assists in the regular season, after factoring into each of the team's final seven goals of the '04 regular season.

#2 Notre Dame	2	2	-	4
Michigan	0	0	-	0

ND 1. Jen Buczowski 7 (Katie Thorlakson) 4:55; **ND 2.** Thorlakson 13 (Buczowski) 28:12; **ND 3.** Candace Chapman 9 (Amanda Cinalli, Thorlakson) 61:31; **ND 4.** Thorlakson 14 (Cinalli) 72:54

Shots: ND 6-14 – 20, UM 0-2 – 2

Corner Kicks: ND 4-1 – 5, UM 0-0 – 0

Saves: ND 1 (Erika Bohn 1, Nikki Westfall 0), UM (Megan Tuura 6)

Fouls: ND 11, UM 8

Offside: ND 3, UM 0



Freshman midfielder Ashley Jones set up game-winning goals with all four of her assists in 2004 – including both games vs. Boston College – while her lone goal of the season came in the BIG EAST title game vs. Connecticut.

GAME #19 – Oct. 31
BIG EAST Quarterfinal
Notre Dame 7, St. John's 0

NOTRE DAME, Ind. – The regular-season champs immediately face the challenge of proving themselves all over again in the BIG EAST Tournament. This first layer of the postseason precedes the more important games in the NCAAs and presents a tough dilemma for the coaching staff when it comes to the season-long pacing of the team's top players.

The first postseason opponent is the only BIG EAST team the Irish did not face in the regular season but the end result is another dominating display by the Irish and more records for Katie Thorlakson, who becomes the first Notre Dame player ever to total 10 points in a game while tying the record for goals in a game (4, each leftfooted). She also betters her own record by scoring or assisting on the first six goals, yielding a stretch of 12 straight goals in which she finds the net or sets up a teammate's score. The junior frontrunner also becomes the 10th ND player ever to reach 30 goals and 30 assists in her career.

Notre Dame holds St. John's without a shot on goal and does not surrender a corner kick for the sixth time in the past 11 games. The Irish score three goals in a five-minute stretch during the first half and three more in just 78 seconds of the second half. Jen Buczowski assists on the first two goals, Lizzie Reed and Kim Lorenzen each have a goal and assist and Christie Shaner tacks on another header goal while Jill Krivacek, Candace Chapman and Sarah Halpenny add assists during the high-scoring afternoon.

Thorlakson's record-setting day (giving her 19 points in three games) includes: taking a feed from Buczowski and sliding in for a 10-yard leftfooted shot (her eighth GWG of the season, tying another ND record); the rightside corner kick on Shaner's header; finishing a give-and-go sequence with Buczowski by scoring on a shot from the left side; a leftside corner that skims off Reed's head and into the net; a counterattack run down the center of the field, capped by another sliding leftfooted shot; and – with her sub waiting to check in – her fourth goal of the day (first ND player to do so since '97), scoring from the center of the box after Lorenzen slots a perfect pass.

#2 Notre Dame	3	4	-	7
St. John's	0	0	-	0

ND 1. Katie Thorlakson 15 (Jen Buczowski) 22:43; **ND 2.** Christie Shaner 2 (Thorlakson) 26:21; **ND 3.** Thorlakson 16 (Buczowski) 27:28; **ND 4.** Lizzie Reed 1 (Jill Krivacek, Thorlakson) 56:27; **ND 5.** Thorlakson 17 (unassisted) 57:02; **ND 6.** Thorlakson 18 (Kim Lorenzen, Reed) 57:45; **ND 7.** Lorenzen 2 (Sarah Halpenny; Candace Chapman) 69:40

Shots: SJU 1-1 – 2, ND 13-15 – 28

Corner Kicks: SJU 0-0 – 0, ND 3-2 – 5

Saves: SJU 8 (Jaime Beran 8 in 70, E. Hartman 0 in 20) ND 0 (Erika Bohn 69:40, Nikki Westfall 20:20)

Fouls: SJU 8, ND 8

Offside: SJU 2, ND 2

Yellow Card: Claire Gallerano 1 (ND) 79:42

GAME #20 – Nov. 5
BIG EAST Semifinal
Notre Dame 2, Boston College 0

STORRS, Conn. – Notre Dame's defense continues to dominate while Jen Buczowski and Katie Thorlakson both find the net, as the Irish avenge their 2003 BIG EAST semifinal loss at the hands of the Eagles. One day earlier, the Irish had become the first team in nine years to sweep the BIG EAST awards for top offensive player (Thorlakson), defensive player (Melissa Tamcredi) and coach of the year (Randy Waldrum).

The Irish improve to 20-1-0 BIG EAST Tournament play, limiting BC to a pair of shots on goal and one corner kick. An early try represents the first shot on goal by an ND opponent in 124 minutes of game action, spanning parts of three games. Ashley Jones has the primary assist on the first goal, dribbling away from pursuit before playing a pass into the upper left corner of the box. Buczowski is tightly marked but squeezes off a leftfooted shot that finds its way into the far right-sidenetting midway through the first half (the Jones-Buczowski combination also had beaten BC two weeks earlier, at Alumni Field).

Amanda Cinalli nearly scores early in the second half, drilling a shot off the crossbar. Candace Chapman then beats 'keeper Kate Taylor to the ball and plays a pass back to Thorlakson, who slides in near the right post for her 19th goal of the season.

#2 Notre Dame	1	1	-	2
#19 Boston College	0	0	-	0

ND 1. Jen Buczowski 8 (Ashley Jones) 27:04; **ND 2.** Katie Thorlakson 19 (Candace Chapman) 59:30

Shots: BC 2-6 – 8, ND 5-10 – 15

Corner Kicks: BC 1-0 – 1, ND 2-4 – 7

Saves: BC 7 (Katie Taylor 2, tm 0), ND 2 (Erika Bohn)

Fouls: BC 11, ND 13

Offside: BC 0, ND 6

Yellow Cards: Candace Chapman 1 (ND) 44:57; Laura Georges (BC) 45:46

GAME #21 – Nov. 7
BIG EAST Final
Connecticut 2, Notre Dame 1

STORRS, Conn. – Ashley Jones scores her first goal of the season early in the second half but UConn All-American Kristen Graczyk scores twice in the final 20 minutes, in a game that halts many noteworthy statistical trends. The loss ends the fourth-longest unbeaten start in the program's history (20-0-1) and marks the first time a team had come from behind to defeat the Irish since Oct. 19, 2002 (ND also had been 39-0-0 in its previous 39 games when scoring first).

Katie Thorlakson assists on the Irish goal, after battling near the right endline and sending a cross into the penalty area. Jones is running onto the play at the top of the six-yard box and angles her body for a right-footed volley into the open net. Candace Chapman nearly scores moments later, preventing the magical 2-0 lead that has produced a 227-0-1 record in the history of the Irish program. Graczyk goes on to cash in UConn's only quality scoring chances of the game, as the Irish yield multiple goals for the first time since early in the 2004 season.

#2 Notre Dame	0	1	-	1
Connecticut	0	2	-	2

ND 1. Ashley Jones 1 (Katie Thorlakson) 46:13; **UConn 1.** Kristen Graczyk 11 (-) 72:27; **UConn 2.** Graczyk 12 (Karyn Reviere) 86:48

Shots: ND 8-5 – 13, UConn 1-4 – 5

Corner Kicks: ND 4-1 – 5, UConn 0-0 – 0

Saves: ND 2 (Erika Bohn), UConn 5 (Megan Jessee)

Fouls: ND 14, UConn 12

Offside: ND 7, UConn 0



**GAME #22 - Nov. 12
NCAA First Round
Notre Dame 4, E. Illinois 0**

NOTRE DAME, Ind. - The Irish, relegated to the No. 4 NCAA seed, open with a comfortable win over a team it faced in the opening week. Katie Thorlakson (1G-2A) becomes the third player in ND history to reach 20 goals and 20 assists in a season while the defense allows just one EIU shot.

With Notre Dame alums/Olympic gold medalists Kate Sobrero Markgraf and Shannon Boxx on hand, the Irish quickly bounce back from their first loss of the season, scoring in the seventh minute when Cinalli volleys home a Thorlakson corner kick (marking the fifth time in '04 that Cinalli has opened ND's scoring). Eight minutes later, Jen Buczkowski pounces on a loose ball and sends a pass back to Thorlakson, who rockets a shot from 14 yards out for her 20th goal of the season.

Thorlakson later chases down a ball near the left endline and sends a low pass into the goal area, with Kim Lorenzen completing her long run for the 3-0 lead. Candace Chapman then caps the scoring 48 seconds later, after a dazzling race down the left side before sending a tough-angle shot into the right sidenetting.

Eastern Illinois	0	0	-	0
#2 Notre Dame	2	2	-	4

ND 1. Amanda Cinalli 8 (Jill Krivacek, Thorlakson) 6:13; **ND 2.** Katie Thorlakson 20 (Jen Buczkowski) 14:54; **ND 3.** Kim Lorenzen 3 (Thorlakson, Annie Schefter) 61:47; **ND 4.** Candace Chapman 10 (-) 62:35

Shots: EIU 2-1 - 3, ND 16-11 - 27
Corner Kicks: EIU 0-0 - 0, ND 4-2 - 6
Saves: EIU 7 (Tiffany Groene 6, tm 1), ND 0 (E.Bohn)
Fouls: EIU 5, ND 3
Offside: EIU 0, ND 2

**GAME #23 - Nov. 14
NCAA Second Round
Notre Dame 1, Wisconsin 0**

NOTRE DAME, Ind. - As a member of the dominant defensive unit, midfielder Jill Krivacek had toiled in the shadows with little fanfare. That all changes on this Sunday afternoon, with the clock ticking down the final minute in regulation. The team's most visible player - Katie Thorlakson - drives a leftside corner kick that finds the head of Krivacek, who parlays her 5-foot-11 frame and quick thinking into a flick header at the near post. The ball rips into the net for her first goal of the season and the Irish run out the final 53 seconds for the 2nd-round win over Wisconsin, completing a dominating day in which the hosts do not allow a shot on goal or corner kick.

Annie Schefter nearly scores twice in the opening minutes but Wisconsin maintains its extreme defensive posture and nearly forces overtime. The Irish had seen their '03 season end in a similar scenario - but set-play execution and emotional toughness rule the day this time around. Thorlakson delivers her eighth corner-kick assist of '04, with Krivacek positioned near the center of the goal before sensing an opening to her left to spark off a wild celebration as the Irish advance to the round-of-16.

Wisconsin	0	0	-	0
#2 Notre Dame	0	1	-	1

ND 1. Jill Krivacek 1 (Katie Thorlakson) 89:07

Shots: WIS 0-1 - 1, ND 8-10 - 18
Corner Kicks: WIS 0-0 - 0, ND 2-2 - 4
Fouls: WIS 15, ND 16
Saves: WIS 6 (Lynn Murray 5, tm 1), ND 0 (E. Bohn)
Offside: WIS 0, ND 2



Jill Krivacek heads in Katie Thorlakson's corner kick in the final minute of play to beat Wisconsin in the second round of the NCAA's.

**GAME #24 - Nov. 20
NCAA Third Round
Notre Dame 2, Connecticut 0**

NOTRE DAME, Ind. - The Irish face the Huskies for the third time, avenging their only loss of the season while advancing to the NCAA quarterfinals for the eighth time in nine trips to the round-of-16. The Notre Dame defense allows just two shots on goal and a single corner kick, with Candace Chapman and Katie Thorlakson continuing their goalscoring blitz in the 2-0 win. Notre Dame's steady pressure finally breaks through for a goal in the 66th minute, as Chapman heads in a leftside cross from Ashley Jones for her 11th goal of the season. Thorlakson secures the two-goal cushion in the 82nd minute, sending her penalty-kick shot squarely under the center of the crossbar after Amanda Cinalli is taken down in the penalty area. The Irish extend their home unbeaten streak vs. BIG EAST teams to 59 games (58-0-1), dating back to a 1995 loss at the hands of the Huskies during ND's first season of BIG EAST play.

Thorlakson extends her point streak to eight games (with points on 19 of the past 23 ND goals) while extending her season totals to 21 goals and 21 assists, becoming just the sixth Divisi I women's soccer player ever to reach that distinction. The player-of-the-year frontrunner also break's Anne Makinen's team record for points in one postseason, with 20 (7G-6A).

#15 Connecticut	0	0	-	0
#2 Notre Dame	0	2	-	2

ND 1. Candace Chapman 11 (Ashley Jones) 65:43; **ND 2.** Katie Thorlakson 21 (PK) 81:43

Shots: UConn 3-1 - 4, ND 12-12 - 24
Corner Kicks: UConn 1-0 - 1, ND 5-4 - 9
Saves: UConn 8 (Megan Jessee), ND 2 (Erika Bohn)
Fouls: UConn 12, ND 13
Offside: UConn 3, ND 4
Yellow Cards: Kim Lorenzen (ND) 72:44; Zahra Jalalian (UConn) 81:44



**GAME #25 - Nov. 26
NCAA Quarterfinal
Notre Dame 3, Portland 1**

NOTRE DAME, Ind. - A trip to the ollege Cup semifinals is on the line as two of the top teams in women's soccer history meet at Alumni Field. Portland is put in the familiar position of battling from behind, after a pair of early goals from Amanda Cinalli, and the Pilots respond with a goal early in the second half. Momentum appears to be tilting to the visitors when Katie Thorlakson (who assisted on the earlier goals) takes the wind out of their sails, scoring directly off a leftside corner kick just minutes after Portland's goal.

The game features the top contenders for national player-of-the-year honors: Thorlakson and Canadian national teammate Christine Sinclair (who scores in the 58th minute). The win is the 300th in Randy Waldrum's coaching 23-season career and sends Notre Dame to the College Cup's final weekend for the third time in his six seasons with the Irish.

Portland, seeded 5th, surrenders three goals for the first time all season while being held to three or fewer shots on goal (2) for just the third time in '04. The win improves Notre Dame's all-time record to 35-3-0 in postseason games at Alumni Field.

The Irish open the scoring when Thorlakson plays a pass back to Annie Schefter, with the Academic All-American then one-touching a serve from 40 yards out on the left flank. Cinalli slants in from the right and flicks a header from eight yards out, with the ball settling into the left side of the net for her team-best fifth game-opening goal (3:42). It marks the third-quickest goal for the Irish in '04 and is ND's earliest postseason goal since the 2001 BIG EAST final.

A Kim Lorenzen free kick later finds Thorlakson at the right side of the box and she shakes loose for a left-endline cross that sets up Cinalli on the doorstep. The surging rookie roofs a shot into the topnetting for her third goal in four NCAA games, after enduring an eight-game goal drought. Thorlakson's first corner-kick goal of her competitive soccer career caps the scoring in the 64th minute, with the inswinger curling under the center of the crossbar for her 22nd goal of the season to go along with 22 assists (marks reached by just four previous college players).

#6 Portland	0	1	-	1
#2 Notre Dame	2	1	-	3

ND 1. Amanda Cinalli 9 (Annie Schefter, Katie Thorlakson) 3:42; **ND 2.** Cinalli 10 (Thorlakson) 29:59; **UP 1.** Christine Sinclair 22 (Lisa Sari, Kristen Rogers) 57:11; **ND 3.** Thorlakson 22 (-) 63:44.

Shots: UP 1-9 - 10, ND 7-8 - 15
Corner Kicks: UP 0-2 - 2, ND 5-4 - 9
Saves: UP 3 (Cori Alexander), ND 2 (Erika Bohn)
Fouls: UP 14, ND 13
Offside: UP 1, ND 1
Yellow Cards: Emily Michaelson (UP) 29:53, Natalie Budge (UP) 44:34



**GAME #26 - Dec. 3
NCAA Semifinal
Notre Dame 1, Santa Clara 0**

CARY, N.C. - Two of the top programs in women's soccer history meet at SAS Stadium in the College Cup semifinals, as Notre Dame faces Santa Clara for the second time in 2004. It marks the fourth time in the program's history that the Irish have played three-plus rematch games in the same NCAA tournament.

Santa Clara is 4th in the coaches poll but somehow seeded 16th in the NCAA field, battling to another high-stakes showdown with Notre Dame. SCU is making its 10th appearance in the semi's and Notre Dame its seventh, with only UNC owning more semifinal appearances than the Broncos and Irish.

The game marks the eighth ND-SCU meeting in the span of six seasons and is the third time the heavyweights have met in the late rounds of the NCAA's, with the Irish previously topping the Broncos in the '99 semifinals and the '00 quarterfinal round.

This game proves to be just as tight as the previous two NCAA meetings between the teams, with the wide-open and bruising game featuring a handful of prime scoring looks. The Broncos are unable to cash in a couple of early scoring chances while the Irish convert a textbook sequence in the 73rd minute.

Candace Chapman and Katie Thorlakson produce the goal on a give-and-go play, minutes after coming out of the TV timeout. The big-game veterans are not shaken by the electric atmosphere and the sellout crowd of 8,300-plus, as Chapman initiates a rush down the center of the field before playing the ball off to Thorlakson on the right side of the box.

Thorlakson - who had scored (4) or assisted (3) on ND's previous seven goals vs. SCU - adds another assist, making a touch on the ball and drawing the defenders to her before quickly sending the ball back to her left. Chapman still is filling the middle and traps the ball off her chest before sending a low 12-yard shot inside the left post.

"I thought they were going to come after me and I didn't have a good angle," says Thorlakson, riding a 10-game point streak while having scored or assisted on 23 of ND's last 27 goals. "I was lucky to get the ball to 'Chappy' but she was in the right spot."

"Things started to open up for me and I just got an open look," adds Chapman.



Candace Chapman jumps for joy after completing a classic give-and-go with Katie Thorlakson for the late goal that beat Santa Clara in the NCAA semifinals (1-0).

The Irish finish with an 11-3 shot edge but SCU (18-5-2) posts a rare corner-kick edge (6-5) vs. an ND team that allowed just 37 corners in the 25 previous games.

"We expected they would man-mark Katie but she only needs that one opportunity to make things happen," says Irish head coach Randy Waldrum.

The win gives the Irish a 7-3-0 series edge on SCU and produces the team's nation-leading 16th shutout. Notre Dame becomes the second Div. I women's soccer program ever to reach 24 wins in multiple seasons and improves to 5-1 in its last six NCAA semifinal games.

#4 Santa Clara	0	0	-	0
#2 Notre Dame	0	1	-	1

ND 1. Candace Chapman 12 (Katie Thorlakson) 72:02

Shots: SCU 0-3 - 13 ND 6-5 - 11

Corner Kicks: SCU 2-4 - 6, ND 3-2 - 5

Saves: SCU 3 (Julie Ryder), ND 1 (Erika Bohn)

Fouls: SCU 11, ND 18 **Offside:** SCU 3, ND 4

Yellow Cards: Mel. Tancredi 3 (ND) 33:37; Gudrun Gunnarsdottir 2 (ND) 37:18; Leslie Osborne (SCU) 45:33

Attendance: 8,325

**GAME #27 - Dec. 5
NCAA Final
Notre Dame 1, UCLA 1
(4-3 in penalty kicks)**

CARY, N.C. - In a game that Irish head coach Randy Waldrum describes as "having a little bit of everything," Notre Dame survives a tense title match, edging UCLA in six penalty kicks (4-3) after a pair of unconventional goals in the run of play. The action is end-to-end throughout, with the Irish creating repeated chances by calmly passing through tight spaces and attacking down the flanks.

Notre Dame allowed just one goal in five previous NCAA games but the Irish fall behind in the 60th minute, when Gudrun Gunnarsdottir's intended back-pass skips past charging goalkeeper Erika Bohn for an own-goal. Moments later, the teams break for a TV timeout and the Irish go on to tie the game in the 74th minute, after Katie Thorlakson is arm tackled at the top of the box. She drills the resulting PK into the lower left corner, as the Irish faithful breath a sigh of relief.

"Everyone has a routine and I knew it was going in," says Thorlakson. "I didn't have any doubt in my mind."

Notre Dame's anxiety returns 10 minutes later - with 5:09 left in regulation - as UCLA is awarded a PK of its own. Kendall Billingsley strikes a shot headed for the upper right corner but Bohn leaps to her left and pushes the ball around the post.

"It's pressure, but I went with my gut," says Bohn, facing a PK for the first time in the '04 season. "After I saved it, I knew we weren't going to lose."

Moments after Bohn's big save, UCLA threatens again on a corner kick served into the box. Billingsley squeezes off a shot that appears headed for the left corner - but Candace Chapman is hugging the post and sweeps away the ball for a defensive save.

"I was in the right spot at the right time," says Chapman. "I'm supposed to stick on that corner, so thank God I did."

UCLA 'keeper Valerie Henderson is forced to confront the Irish by charging from her line - most notably in the closing moments of regulation, when she smacks into Thorlakson some 40 yards from the net. The gutsy Thorlakson leaves momentarily but is back in the game when overtime commences.

The teams tiptoe through 20 minutes of OT before producing the first Division I women's soccer final ever decided in a shootout. The hotly-contested regulation and OT yields the same number of shots (11) and corner kicks (5) for each team.

The Irish coaches make an interesting decision in determining the order of their 10 PK shooters.

"I believe the players have a feel for it, so we let them decide their own order," explains Waldrum.

Thorlakson shockingly misses her try, with Henderson diving to her left for the leg save. Caitlin Ursini then sneaks a shot into the lower right corner (under the diving Bohn) but Sarah Halpenny - who had played just 108 minutes all season (and not since the NCAA opener) - calmly ties the shootout with a rising shot into the left side.



Erica Bohn's three PK saves in the NCAA title game vs. UCLA included this stop late in regulation.

The Irish get their own break when Brynn McGrath pushes her shot wide right, as Jen Buczkowski's shot into the right side produces a 2-1 lead. Bohn then dives left for a foot save on Kim Devine's try and Annie Schefter stretches the lead to 3-1, after a perfectly-placed strike into the back-left corner.

Jill Oakes keeps the Bruins alive with a rising shot to the left (despite Bohn again guessing correctly) and Christie Shaner has a chance to clinch the win - but Henderson makes a full-extension save to her right. Danesha Adams then forces sudden-death PKs with a rising shot into the right side of the net.

Jill Krivacek - whose only goal in '04 had been the dramatic corner-kick header that beat Wisconsin - secures the final 4-3 margin by slotting the ball into the lower right corner. Lindsay Greco then tries to hit the same spot but Bohn is there, diving low and to her left for the clinching save.

Notre Dame, making its fifth title-game appearance (second only to UNC), joins the Heels as the only teams with multiple titles. Thorlakson and Bohn are named tournament MVPs, joined on the all-College Cup team by Chapman and defender Melissa Tancredi.

The Irish return to campus for a heroes' welcome, completing a four-month odyssey that began with the preseason training trip to Brazil.

"This game shows the character of a championship team, to come back and fight through a disaster like an own-goal," says Waldrum, whose superstitious nature prevents him from watching any of the PKs.

"It was a track meet but one thing we've been able to do all season is use our depth. At the end of the day, it's about the players. We put the plans together and create the environment but they have to execute it."

"This team truly established its own legacy."

#11 UCLA	0	1	0	0	-	1
#2 Notre Dame	0	1	0	0	-	1

UCLA 1. Own goal 59:30; **ND 1.** Katie Thorlakson (PK) 73:10

Shootout - ND miss, 0-0 (Henderson dives left, leg save vs. Thorlakson) ... UCLA make, 0-1 (Ursini goes right, under diving Bohn) ... ND make, 1-1 (Halpenny rising shot to left) ... UCLA miss, 1-1 (McGrath rising shot, wide right) ... ND make, 2-1 (Buczkowski lower right corner) ... UCLA miss, 2-1 (Devine goes right, Bohn foot save) ... ND make, 3-1 (Schefter back-left corner) ... UCLA make, 3-2 (Oakes rising shot to left) ... ND miss, 3-2 (Shaner rising shot to left, Henderson save) ... UCLA make, 3-3 (Adams rising shot to right) ... ND make, 4-3 (Krivacek, lower right corner) ... UCLA miss, 4-3 (Greco lower right, save by Bohn)

Shots: UCLA 3-5-3-0 - 11, ND 4-6-1-0 - 11

Corner Kicks: UCLA 2-2-1-0 - 5, ND 0-4-0-1 - 5

Saves: UCLA 2 (Valerie Henderson 1, team 1),

ND 5 (Erika Bohn 4, team 1)

Fouls: UCLA 19, ND 15 **Offside:** UCLA 2, ND 4

YCs: Kim Lorenzen 1 (ND) 26:09; Adams (UCLA) 55:15

Attendance: 8,325





Mary Boland

#10

Class of 2005 – Forward

Hudson, Ohio
Hudson H.S.

- 2nd Team Academic All-American ('03)
- NSCAA 2nd Team All-Region ('03)
- 1st Team All-BIG EAST Conference ('03)
- 2004 Team Tri-Captain

Talented frontrunner who collected all-BIG EAST, all-region and Academic All-America honors in her career ... graduated with 3.90 cumulative GPA as psychology major (eight Dean's List semesters included 4.0 GPAs in '03 fall, '05 spring) ... tireless competitor with go-for-goal mentality, wide collection of moves and strong play in the air ... totaled 19 goals, 6 assists in 54 career games (38 starts), overcoming series of injuries ... one of six all-time ND players to score in three season openers (none has scored in four), joining Rosella Guerrero ('92-'94) as only players to do so in three consecutive ... first player ever named BIG EAST offensive ('02) and defensive ('03) player of the week at some point in career ... played in summer of '04 with W-League's Fort Wayne Fever (5G-2A in 12 GP; 11-3-1 record) ... member of U.S. Under-19 National Team in 2000, alongside future ND teammate Annie Schefter ... participant in athletic department's Academic Honors faculty mentoring program.

Boland's Career Statistics

Year	GP/GS	Sh	G	A	Pts	GW
2001	10/5	12	2	2	6	0
2002	19/15	10	5	0	10	1
2003	21/15	59	12	4	28	5
2004	4/3	8	0	0	0	0
Totals	54/38	89	19	6	44	6

Postseason: 8 GP/5 GS (7 GP/4 GS NCAAAs)

AS A SENIOR:

Served as team tri-captain but missed most of 2004 national championship season (4 GP/3 GS), after suffering broken leg vs. Santa Clara on Sept. 5.

AS A JUNIOR:

Collected first team all-BIG EAST, NSCAA second team all-Great Lakes Region and CoSIDA second team Academic All-America honors ... third on team with 28 points (team-best 12G, 4A) ... led team with 5 GWGs while appearing in 21 of 24 games (15 GS) ... joined Vanessa Pruzinsky and Erika Bohn as first three players from same women's soccer team named Academic All-America ... set ND record for goals in first three games (6) ... fifth ND player to notch hat trick in opener (3G-1A, vs. Hartford at UConn Classic) ... took pass from Amy Warner to complete five-player combination for first goal vs. Hawks, then scored off Warner's leftside pass, split pair of defenders with feed to set up an Amanda Guertin goal, and secured hat trick with one-timer via Katie Thorlakson cross ... added goal vs. Wake Forest (3-0) for 9-point weekend and spot on UConn Classic all-tournament team (also BIG EAST player of the week, Soccer America national team of the week) ... had 2G vs. Arizona State (3-1), on lunging deflection and looping shot, adding solid play vs. Oklahoma (5-1) for ND Classic all-tournament honors ... assisted on Warner's lunging header vs. Western Kentucky (5-1) ... all-tournament at Santa Clara Classic (0-0 vs. Stanford, 2-1 vs. SCU) ... tracked down Thorlakson cross and scored early goal vs. SCU, later ripping shot that led to Thorlakson's rebound score (handing Broncos first-ever loss in SCU Classic) ... volleyed in Thorlakson cross vs. North Texas (8-1) ... scored on PK and had cross on Kim Carpenter header vs. Indiana State (3-0) ... volleyed Tancredi service for quick goal (1:24) in 2-0 win over West Virginia ... added header vs. Miami (3-0) ... tracked Christie Shamer service for sharp header to beat Pittsburgh (1-0).

AS A SOPHOMORE:

Appeared in 19 of 21 games (15 GS) at midfield, defense and forward ... fourth on team with 5G ... named to CoSIDA Academic All-District V team ... scored in opener vs. Providence (3-0) and two days later vs. Virginia Tech (5-0) ... BIG EAST defensive player of the week, after lead role in 1-0 wins over Rutgers and Seton Hall (ND allowed 7 shots on goal in the weekend) ... opened Rutgers game at left back before shifting to midfield (for injured Ashley



Dryer), shutting down All-American Carli Lloyd in OT win ... scored on diving header vs. SHU ... made another key move to defensive midfielder, neutralizing Sarah Popper vs. UConn (3-1) ... scored twice vs. Syracuse (6-0), on header and high shot from top of the box.

AS A FRESHMAN: Appeared in 10 of 21 games (5 GS, 2G-2A) as M/F ... started in opener vs. Penn State (2-1), with hustling goal in 7th minute on diving header ... first freshman to open season scoring for Irish since Guerrero in '92 (2nd-earliest goal ever by ND freshman, 6th-earliest in an opener by any ND player) ... assisted on Tancredi goal at Pittsburgh (4-0) ... opened scoring vs. West Virginia (low shot after Mia Sarkesian thru-ball), later combining with Sarkesian on double-header sequence for game-winning assist (2-1, OT) ... sidelined five weeks (Oct. 8-Nov. 15), playing handful of minutes in NCAAAs vs. Eastern Illinois and Cincinnati.

PREP & PERSONAL: Named NSCAA All-American (27G-12A) for 20-1-2 Hudson High School team that won 2000 state title ... scored twice in state semifinals, adding 2G in final six minutes to beat Mother of Mercy in title game (2-1) at Columbus Crew Stadium ... played alongside her sister Laura (who went on to play at Dayton) ... NSCAA youth All-American, ODP Academic All-American ... member of Olympic Development Region II team ... 2000 state player of the year ... played for Ohio Internationals club ... attended Walsh Jesuit as freshman and sophomore ... her mother Suzanne Boland is graduate of Saint Mary's College, uncles Robert and Charles Schenkelberg are Notre Dame grads ... daughter of John and Suzanne Boland ... full name is Mary Elizabeth Boland ... born Jan. 1, 1983, in Medina, Ohio.





Gudrun Gunnarsdottir

#2

Class of 2005 – Defender

Seltjarnames, Iceland

NSCAA Scholar All-America Team ('04)
2004 Team Tri-Captain
Icelandic National Team

Internationally-seasoned player who provided her trademark play in central defender role, combining with fifth-year senior Melissa Tancredi to form the core of Notre Dame's dominating defense in historic 2004 season ... longtime member of Icelandic National Team program ... provided calm presence at high-pressure position, with strong tactical and anticipation skills,



tremendous 1-on-1 marking and speed to go along with 5-foot-9 frame ... logged 66 career games with the Irish (including 45 starts) while earning four monograms ... slowed by nagging injuries during her first three seasons, playing just 42 GP (21 starts) ... played with her club team (FC Reykjavik) in 2004 European Championship ... followed midfielder and 2000 NCAA player of the year Anne Makinen (Finland) as second European to play for the Irish, with another Finland player (Jannica Tjeder) than joining the Irish in 2004 ... her name is pronounced Gud (as is bud)-run Goon-us-dott-err ... known by nickname "Gunna" (Goon-uh) ... graduated with 3.33 a cumulative grade-point average, as a finance major in the Mendoza College of Business.

AS A SENIOR: Team tri-captain and starter at central defense for 2004 national championship team ... received NSCAA first team Scholar All-America honors ... started all 24 games she played (dnp vs. Syracuse, Pittsburgh and Wisconsin-Green Bay from Sept. 19-26, due to minor injury) ... combined with Tancredi and sophomore outside backs Christie Shaner and Kim Lorenzen to form stout back line ... member of '04 defense that ranks among best in program's history – most notably in low number of corner kicks allowed (48; 1.8 per game/2nd in ND record book), also ranking 3rd in fewest shots allowed/gm (5.7; 155 total) and shots-on-goal allowed (2.6/gm; 71) ... helped Irish lead nation in shutouts (16; 3rd in ND history) while allowing 0-1 goals in 25 games with 2 GA in other two (10 GA in final 25 GP) ... the '04 team's 0.51 season goals-against avg. ranked 4th in nation (4th in ND history) ... helped shut down Stanford in early 1-0 win (the Cardinal managed just 3 shots, 2 SOG, 2 CK) ... played key role in strong regular-season efforts vs. top teams Arizona State (2-1; 3 SOG, 0 CK) and Connecticut (1-0; 2 SOG, 1 CK) – plus games vs. Boston College in regular season (1-0; 2 shots, 1 SOG) and BIG EAST semifinal (2-0; 2 SOG, CK) ... closed final month of career as part of defense that allowed just 2 goals, 32 shots, 13 SOG and 14 corners in NCAAAs (6 GP) – vs. Eastern Illinois (4-0; 1 SOG, 0 CK), Wisconsin (1-0; 1 shot, 0 CK), UConn (2-0; 2 SOG, 1 CK), Portland (3-1; 3 SOG, 2 CK), Santa Clara (1-0; 3 shots, 1 SOG) and UCLA (1-1; 6 SOG).

AS A JUNIOR: Appeared in 18 games (11 GS, mostly central D) ... helped Irish allow just 53 shots on goal while finishing 5th in nation with 0.49 GAA (3rd ND history) ... member of defense that allowed just 4.8 opponent shots and 2.2 shots on goal per game (both 2nd in ND record book) ... named all-tournament at UConn Classic, after impressive wins over Hartford (9-1) and

Graduated

Letterwinners

Wake Forest (3-0) ... missed four games after broken wrist in WFU game ... returned off bench at Santa Clara Classic (0-0 vs. Stanford, 2-1 vs. SCU; 3 combined SOG) ... started in shutouts of Villanova (1-0, OT; 5 shots), Butler (3-0; 2 shots) and Pittsburgh (1-0; 6 shots) ... combined with Katie Thorlakson to assist on Amy Warner goal vs. Seton Hall (2-0) ... started all four postseason games but only one in defense (replacing injured Tancredi in 1-0 loss to Michigan, when ND allowed just 3 shots) ... started as defensive midfielder in BIG EAST Tournament vs. Miami (3-0) and BC (1-2), opening NCAAAs as forward vs. Loyola Chicago (5-0; three regulars did not start due to injuries).

AS A SOPHOMORE: Limited to seven games played during 2002 season (6 GS, as central defender) due to stress fracture and ankle injury ... underwent season-ending surgery on Oct. 10 ... named the BIG EAST Conference defensive player of the week after wins over Providence (3-0; 2 shots) and Virginia Tech (5-0), with the Irish allowing just a pair of corner kicks in the weekend action (despite absence of defensive standouts Vanessa Pruzinsky and Candace Chapman) ... named all-tournament at ND Classic, helping Irish stay in game vs. eventual national champ Portland (1-0 late-game loss) ... missed six games due to injury before playing first half vs. Pittsburgh (5-0) ... knocked from action two games later in collision during Oct. 8 Purdue game, two days before surgery.

AS A FRESHMAN: Appeared in 17 games as a central defender on 2001 team (4 GS) ... helped Irish post a 0.82 season goals-against avg. ... started in 2-0 win over Hartford ... played in BIG EAST Tournament wins over Boston College (3-0) and West Virginia (2-1) and NCAA Tournament win over Eastern Illinois (2-0).

PREP & PERSONAL: Hails from Seltjarnames (near Reykjavik) ... attended Menntaskolinn I Reykjavik ... began playing soccer at age of seven, on boys team ... also participated in basketball, gymnastics and dancing ... born Sept. 15, 1981 ... her parents names are Gunnar and Sigrun ... full name is Gudrun Soley Gunnarsdottir.

Gunnarsdottir's Career Statistics

Year	GP/GS	Sh	G	A	Pts	GW
2001	17/4	0	0	0	0	0
2002	7/6	1	0	0	0	0
2003	18/11	7	0	1	1	0
2004	24/24	5	0	0	0	0
Totals	66/45	13	0	1	1	0

Postseason: 17 GP/14 GS (10 GP/9 GS in NCAAAs)





WITH THE IRISH: Three-year member of Notre Dame program, after playing at California Irvine in '01 ... known for skill on the ball, understanding of the game and strong work ethic ... graduated as double major in finance and mathematics ... appeared in 23 games during '02-'04 seasons, including split-second stint that played key role in 2004 national-championship shootout vs. UCLA ... logged just 108 minutes of action during '04 season and had not played in NCAA title game (1-1) – but her teammates selected her to take ND's

second try in decisive shootout ... ND's top player Katie Thorlaxson opened the shootout by sending the ball right at 'keeper Valerie Henderson and UCLA converted, putting the pressure on Halpenny – but she calmly sent a rising shot into the left side of the net (pictured) and UCLA freshman Brynn McGrath then flared her shot wide right to keep the PKs 1-1 (ND won, 4-3 on the 6th kick) ... had attempted just one shot in '04 season and seven in ND career (no goals) ... had primary assist on Kim Lorenzen goal to cap '04 BIG EAST quarterfinal vs. St. John's (7-0) ... logged 34 minutes in '04 win over Wisconsin-Green Bay (4-0) ... gained NCAA game experience in '03 (vs. Loyola Chicago, 5-0) and '04 (vs. Eastern Illinois, 4-0) ... appeared in six '04 games as reserve midfielder, after logging 11 as reserve defender/midfielder in '03 ... made two starts and appeared in nine games overall as one of '02 team's top midfielders ... helped jumpstart offense in '02 win over Hartford (2-1) at Maryland Classic, starting second half as Irish rallied (her hustle to dig out a loose ball helped set up Amy Warner's game-winner) ... earlier appeared in 10 games (3 GS) during '01 season at UC Irvine, scoring in 2-1 win over Air Force and adding assist vs. Utah State ... also lettered in rowing at UCI.

PREP & PERSONAL: Earned three letters in soccer, two in track at Immaculate Heart High School ... leading scorer and team MVP as a junior ... twice all-conference ... played for Westside Breakers club ... two-year board member on Girls Athletic Association ... father Tom Halpenny was member of Loyola Marymount crew team ... daughter of Tom and Brigid Halpenny ... full name is Sarah Theresa Halpenny ... born Jan. 1, 1983, in Torrance, Calif.



Sarah Halpenny

#19

Class of 2005 – Midfielder

*Glendale, California
University of California Irvine
Immaculate Heart H.S.*

Halpenny's Career Statistics

Year	GP/GS	Sh	G	A	Pts	GW
'00 (UCI)	10/3		1	1	3	0
'02 (ND)	9/2	4	0	0	0	0
'03 (ND)	8/0	2	0	0	0	0
'04 (ND)	6/0	1	0	1	1	0
Totals	33/5		1	2	4	0



Kate Tulisniak

#20

Class of 2005 – Defender

*Medina, Ohio
Walsh Jesuit H.S.*

WITH THE IRISH: Athletic and hard-nosed defender who made great strides in her career, developing into one of top reserves for 2004 national champs ... combined with sister Kelly (senior forward on '01 squad) as first sisters to play for Notre Dame women's soccer ... posted 3.58 GPA in '04 fall semester and 3.50 in spring of '05 before graduating with degree in

marketing ... appeared in 36 career games, primarily as outside back ... emerged as top defensive reserve for '04 national championship team ... named BIG EAST Conference defensive player of the week, after picking perfect time for only point of her college career (she intercepted pass near midfield, raced to endline and sent cross to Amanda Cinalli for 84th-minute goal and 1-0 win at Connecticut) ... her 16 games played in '04 included starts (5) vs. Santa Clara (5-2), Syracuse (2-1; 2 shots on goal and 2 corner kicks allowed), Wisconsin-Green Bay (4-0; 3 SOG, 0 CK), Providence (3-0; 2 SOG, 0 CK) and Seton Hall (3-1; 2 SOG, 1 CK) ... played full game vs. UWGB, 79 minutes vs. Syracuse and 56 at Arizona State (2-1; 3 SOG, 0 CK) ... played in all three '04 BIG EAST tournament games and NCAA win over Eastern Illinois (3-0) ... helped post 0.51 season goals-against avg. and 16 shutouts in '04 ... missed most of junior season in '03 due to back injury (2 GP) ... played in 11 games as sophomore ('02), with four early starts ... started in 1-0 loss to eventual '02 national champ Portland ... made fifth start of '02 in late win over UConn (3-1) ... logged seven games as freshman, including the 2001 opener vs. Penn State (2-1) and NCAA win over Eastern Illinois (2-0).



PREP & PERSONAL:

Member of Walsh Jesuit team that earned recognition as 2000 national champ (also nationally-ranked in '98, '99) ... team MVP as senior on state champs (21-0-1) ... twice named first team all-state ... member of Ohio state Olympic Development team ... NSCAA all-region in '99, '00 ... played on Ohio Internationals club team, alongside future Notre Dame teammate Mary Boland (also played with W-League's Ohio Internationals in summer of '04) ... lettered in basketball and as track sprinter, combining with sister Kelly on record-setting 4x200 relay team ... qualified for regionals

in 400 and 100 meters, 4x200 relay ... member of National Honor Society ... father Terry ('74) and uncle Tom Schriener ('77) are Notre Dame graduates ... born Sept. 25, 1982, in Cleveland ... daughter of Terry and Marita Tulisniak ... full name is Kathryn Marie Tulisniak.

Tulisniak's Career Statistics

Year	GP/GS	Sh	G	A	Pts	GW
'01	7/0	2	0	0	0	0
'02	11/4	1	0	0	0	0
'03	2/0	0	0	0	0	0
'04	16/5	1	0	1	1	0
Totals	36/9	4	0	1	1	0





Melissa Tancredi

#17

Fifth-Year Senior in '04 – Defender

Ancaster, Ontario
Cathedral H.S.

NSCAA All-American ('03, '04)

BIG EAST Defensive Player of the Year ('03, '04)
Team Tri-Captain ('04)

Canadian National Team Member

Defining presence of defense who returned for fifth year of eligibility in 2004, helping win national title while repeating as All-American ... combined with defender/forward Candace Chapman (Ajax, Ont.) and forward Katie Thorlakson (Langley, B.C.) as "Canadian Connection" during '02-'04 seasons ... emerged as member of Canadian National Team after breakthrough 2003 college season ... converted forward who made midseason shift to central defense in '02 ... displayed classic combination of strength and speed, unmatched domination in the air and surprising technical ability ... defensive enforcer who set tone her 5-9 frame and recovery speed ... known off the field for her



free spirit and lively personality ... totaled 14 goals, 11 assists in 82 games (73 starts), missing 2000 season due to knee injury ... first women's soccer field player to earn top BIG EAST honor ('03 defensive player of year) despite no previous all-BIG EAST recognition ... played with W-League's Detroit Jaguars in summer of '04 ... graduated in May of '04 as double-major in anthropology and pre-professional studies before pursuing graduate studies in fall of '04.

AS A FIFTH-YEAR: Repeated as final-15 candidate for Hermann Trophy, All-American (1st team from Soccer Buzz, 2nd team from NSCAA/1st team all-Great Lakes Region) and BIG EAST defensive player of the year, after leading dominant defense from central defender spot ... set ND record for games started (27) while chipping in 2G-2A to the Irish attack ... helped spring Chapman for goal in opener vs. Baylor (7-2) ... scored on skilled volley shot via Thorlakson's free kick, for GWG at Arizona State (2-1; defense allowed 3 SOG, 0 CK) ... knocked in a Kim Lorenzen cross to end rare deficit vs. Pittsburgh, later deflecting Thorlakson's corner to Chapman to cap 3-1 win ... tri-captain who combined with senior center back Gunnarsdottir and sophomore outside backs Christie Shaner and Kim Lorenzen to form stout back line ... member of '04 defense that ranks among best in program's history – most notably in low number of corner kicks allowed (48; 1.8 per game/2nd in ND record book), also ranking 3rd in fewest shots allowed/gm (5.7; 155 total) and shots-on-goal allowed (2.6/gm; 71) ... helped Irish lead nation in shutouts (16; 3rd in ND history) while allowing 0-1 goals in 25 games ... the '04 team's 0.51 goals-against avg. ranked 4th in nation (4th in ND history) ... helped shut down Stanford in 1-0 win (3 shots, 2 CK) ... played key role in win at UConn (1-0; 2 SOG, 1 CK) – plus games vs. Boston College in regular season (1-0; 2 shots, 1 SOG) and BIG EAST semifinal (2-0; 2 SOG, CK) ... closed final month as part of defense that allowed just 2 goals, 32 shots, 13 SOG and 14 CKs in NCAAAs (6 GP) – vs. Eastern Illinois (4-0; 1 SOG), Wisconsin (1-0; 1 shot), UConn (2-0; 2 SOG, 1 CK), Portland (3-1; 3 SOG, 2 CK), Santa Clara (1-0; 3 shots, 1 SOG) and UCLA (1-1; 6 SOG).

AS A SENIOR: Joined senior forward Amy Warner among final 15 candidates for Hermann Trophy, also 1st team All-America from Soccer Buzz and 2nd team NSCAA (1st team all-Great Lakes Region) ... leading presence for '03 defense that allowed just 12 goals, with 10-game shutout streak ranking 5th in NCAA history ... paced defenders with 13 points (4G-5A, 21 GP/20 GS) ... led defense that yielded just 53 opponent SOG (2.2/gm), posted 0.49 GAA (5th in nation), set team-record span of 16 games without a deficit, tied another record by going 24 games without allowing multiple goals, and allowed just two opponents to come back and tie ... played most of season alongside freshman Christie Shaner ... scored twice via Amanda Guertin free kicks (header and lunging volley) in 8-1 win over North Texas (also assisted on Mary Boland goal) ... had long service on Boland's volley vs. West Virginia, later deflecting ball to Kim Carpenter (2-0) ... her thru-ball sprung Guertin vs. Miami (3-0) ... headed ball to

ND Graduated

Letterwinners

Thorlakson for goal vs. UConn (2-0) ... headed home Thorlakson CK vs. Rutgers (3-0) ... shifted to forward after 2-0 deficit in BIG EAST semifinal vs. BC, quickly heading in Vanessa Pruzinsky's long service (BC won, 2-1) ... missed first half of 1-0 NCAA loss to Michigan (illness).

AS A JUNIOR: Appeared in 18 games (16 GS), with all 4G on corner-kick headers (5A)... starter at central defense vs. Hartford before being sidelined with achilles injury ... came off bench two days later, scoring on pair of header as forward in comeback vs. host team (5-2) to earn offensive MVP of Maryland Classic ... headed home pair of Guertin CKs in that game, also providing thru-ball that led to Guertin's goal ... won all 18 heading duels and scored on header vs. UConn (3-1) ... scored on header while shutting down Purdue's top threat Annette Kent in 3-1 NCAA win, after missing earlier loss to Boilers (picked up fifth yellow card in previous game).

AS A SOPHOMORE: Emerged as starting forward (16 GP/10 GS), ranking 5th on team in scoring (4G-4A) ... scored vs. Georgetown (2-1), via Mia Sarkesian thru-ball ... had primary assist on set play vs. Nebraska (1-0), with right-endline cross for 18th-minute Sarkesian tap-in ... knocked in Boland cross at Pittsburgh (4-0) ... scored program's second-quickest goal, at 0:27 vs. St. John's (header via Guertin's cross; added assist on Scheller goal in 7-0 win) ... assisted on goals by Warner vs. Miami (4-0) and Guertin vs. Yale (2-0) ... scored after strong individual effort to cap BIG EAST semifinal vs. BC (3-0) ... knocked from BIG EAST title game with early head injury but returned to assist on GWG, heading Guertin's corner (Sarkesian followed with header and Scheller scored on volley for 2-1 win over West Virginia) ... had GWG-2A in 3-2 win over Mexico during '02 spring.

AS A FRESHMAN: Missed entire 2000 fall due to preseason ACL knee injury.

PREP & PERSONAL: Member of Canadian Under-16, U-18 and U-19 national teams, plus under-19 provincial team and Burlington Sting club ... played on team that won u-19 national title ... member of '99 national women's 'B' training team and trained with U-20 national team ... helped Sting win national title and Ontario Cup ... '99 Sting MVP ... three-sport standout at Cathedral HS (soccer and volleyball MVP, also played basketball) ... CHS senior athlete of the year ... daughter of Peter and Ann-Marie Tancredi ... born Dec. 27, 1981, in Hamilton, Ontario.

Tancredi's Career Statistics

Year	GP/GS	Sh	G	A	Pts	GW
2000	dnp (injury)					
2001	16/10	31	4	4	12	1
2002	18/16	15	4	0	8	0
2003	21/20	16	4	5	13	1
2004	27/27	25	2	2	6	1
Totals	82/73	87	14	11	39	3

Postseason: 3G-1A in 19 GP/15 GS



You bet on LOSER!

Don't bet on it.

NCAA Sports Wagering Contact: 317.917.6222 24-Hour Confidential National Gambling Helpline: 1.800.522.4700

NC24



STORY

DECEMBER

Dejected and embarrassed, she stated "I didn't realize it could lead to this," as she addressed the media about her sports-wagering pro

University Athlete Busted for Betting

Player out one year, could be permanent ineligibility

...charges have been filed against two ...
...allegate student-athletes, alleging the two ...
...in point shaving and illegal gambling ...
...on incidents that occurred in the late ...
...ident—not a student-athlete—was charged ...
...gambling activities. Authorities said he ...
...as a bookmaker for the student-athletes and ...
...placed bets associated with the point-shaving activities ...
...leading to the indictments ...
...The investigation ...
...internal review at the university.

The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) is conducting an investigation of the events. The could lead to penalties for the institution. The indictments issued today went far beyond the collegiate body's investigation, changing the two former athletes with conspiring to fix games. One of those charged appeared today at a press conference. She would say only that she was cooperating with investigators and that her involvement in ...

The two were charged with in ...
...poorly in the several games in an ...
...their outcome.

'I've caused so much embarrassment to my family and my friends ...
...Both were paid to play in ...
...influence the outcome of the ...
...would lose by more than the ...
...in Nevada by bookmakers. ...
...bets on those games throu ...
...Nevada. In addition to the ...