

Coaching Staff



Irish head coach Debbie Brown has shelved over 400 wins with Notre Dame and won five BIG EAST Conference Coach-of-the-Year awards since joining the league in 1995. The 2008 season is her 18th at the helm of the Fighting Irish program.



Head Coach



Debbie Brown

**Head Coach
18th Season
Arizona State '82**

Debbie Brown is one of only a handful of coaches in the volleyball ranks that has been able to parlay a dominating playing career with an equally impressive coaching resume.

A two-time winner of the Mikasa Award as college volleyball's best all-around player, Brown notched her 500th career win as a head coach during the 2006 campaign, and her 524 win total ranks her 27th in that category among active coaches. In fact, only two active coaches have more wins in as many seasons than the co-captain of the 1980 United States Olympic team.

While her credentials are virtually unmatched among collegiate coaches and players across the country, Brown – who signed a multi-year contract extension in the summer of 2006 – has turned into one of the nation's elite mentors, leading her teams to 21 consecutive winning records, 13 finishes in the top 25 of the AVCA national rankings, and 20 invitations to the NCAA Championship (including a streak of 15

consecutive bids from 1192-2006).

Now in her 18th season at Notre Dame and 24th overall as a collegiate head coach, Brown has compiled a 524-232 (.693) career record, including a 407-149 (.732) mark at Notre Dame. Her squads have reached the round of 16 in the NCAA Championship six times, highlighted by a trip to the 1993 quarterfinals. Fourteen regular-season conference championships and 13 league tournament titles are among the accomplishments of Brown-led teams, which have won 20 or more matches 17 times in the last 21 seasons.

When taking over the reigns at Notre Dame, Brown inherited a program that had just five winning seasons in its first 11 years of varsity volleyball action but has since turned it into a perennial BIG EAST powerhouse. Nine of her teams have been ranked in the AVCA's final poll. During regular season play, the Irish have cracked the top 10 in consecutive campaigns under Brown, while peaking at an all-time best fifth in 1995 and sixth in 1996 in the Volleyball Magazine rankings. In 2005, her squad achieved its highest-ever listing in the AVCA poll, moving up to fifth after entering the season unranked (it was the first time any school had ever cracked the AVCA top five after being unranked in the preseason).

That same 2005 version of the Irish put together one of the best campaigns in program history, posting the school's first 30-win season since 1994. All four of the team's defeats came in five-game matches. Notre Dame went 5-1 against top-15 teams and earned an all-time Irish high No. 6 seed in the NCAA Championship. Notre Dame played host to the first two rounds and advanced to the round of 16 for the first time since 1997 before falling in five games to Wisconsin. The Irish – which rattled off a 15-match winning streak and spent a program-record 11 weeks in the AVCA's top 10 – went 13-1 while winning their 10th regular season BIG EAST Conference championship in 11 years of league membership. In a clash between two top-10 teams, Notre Dame handed Louisville a five-game defeat in the conference tournament final to give Brown her ninth BIG EAST Tournament title.

The 2005 squad also featured the first player in program history – 2006 graduate Lauren Brewster – to earn both athletic and academic All-American accolades.

Brown was recognized as the 2005 BIG EAST volleyball coach of the year – the league's first five-time winner of the award – and named the top coach in the AVCA's Northeast Region while becoming a finalist for the AVCA's national award.

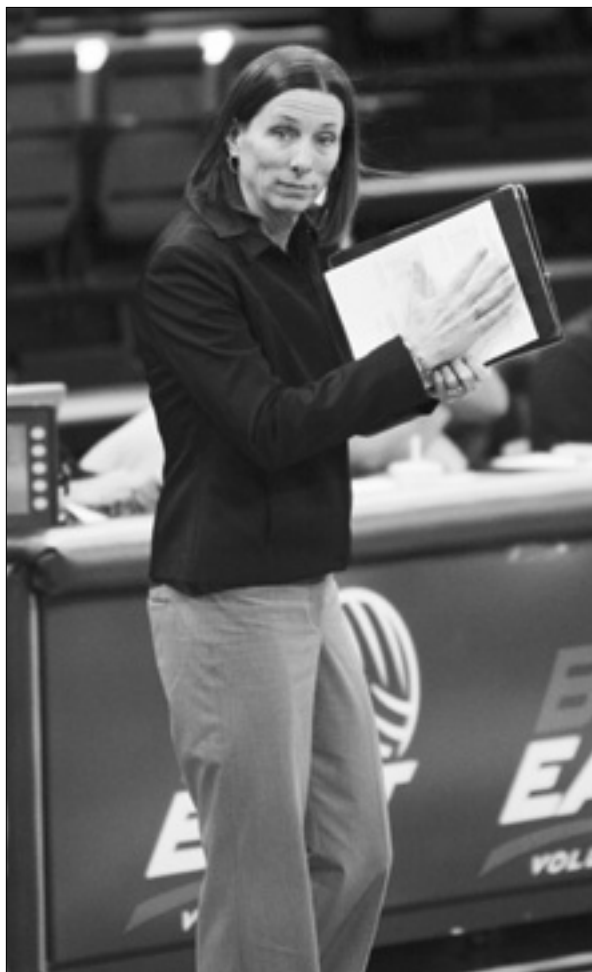
She has helped Notre Dame to a variety of dominating performances, including a 166-15

(.917) record in regular season action against conference teams (27-0 vs. Midwestern Collegiate Conference, 139-15 vs. BIG EAST Conference). That includes an 88-3 (.967) record at home and, at one point, a 79-match winning streak against conference foes (regular season and postseason) which ranks as the third-longest conference winning streak in Division I volleyball history (AIAW or NCAA). The longest losing streak suffered by any Irish squad stands at four matches, which happened only once over the past 17 seasons.

Overall, the Irish are 198-37 (.843) in the Joyce Center under Brown, including winning streaks of 36 and 27 matches. Against unranked teams at home, Notre Dame holds a 187-13 (.935) record in the Brown era.

Since becoming a member of the BIG EAST Conference in 1995, Notre Dame has opened league play with an 11-0 run in all but three seasons (with 11+ matches on the league schedule), going on to win 10 regular-season titles to go along with the nine tournament championships. The Irish have won 45 team BIG EAST statistical crowns, as well as 27 individual statistical championships. The league's player of the year has been from Notre Dame six times, while Irish student-athletes have garnered 46 all-conference accolades, including 26 first-team honors.

Brown has seen her Irish players gain All-America accolades on 12 occasions, with Brewster becoming the first Notre Dame player to be selected as an AVCA All-American (third



Playing Highlights

USA Volleyball All-Time Great

Inducted in 1995

United States Olympic Team Co-Captain

1980

World Championship Participant

1974 • 1978 (5th place)

Mikasa Award

1976 • 1977

AIAW National Champion and

First Team All-American

USC, 1976 (34-1 record)

USC, 1977 (38-0 record)

USVBA All-American

1975-1977 • 1981-1982 • 1985-1988

USVBA Sportsmanship Award

1983



team in 2004 and second team in 2005). Three of the last five seasons have seen multiple Irish players earn All-America recognition from the AVCA, a feat never previously accomplished in program history.

Additionally, Brown's players have earned ESPN The Magazine Academic All-America honors three times, while they have won the conference player-of-the-year award nine times and been named the top player in the league tournament on 12 occasions. In all, Brown-era Irish players have combined for 60 all-conference honors, including 35 first-team selections. Also, Notre Dame student-athletes have garnered all-region or all-district recognition from the AVCA 45 times since Brown's arrival.

Under her tutelage, Irish student-athletes have earned three invitations to join the U.S. National Team program and have made four trips to the U.S. Olympic Festival.

Brown has turned Notre Dame into one of the popular choices for top recruits in the country. Since Volleyball Magazine began compiling its "Fab 50" list in 1990, 25 honorees have joined the Irish program, which ranks 15th among national programs. In the six years that Volleyball Magazine has ranked incoming recruiting classes, the Irish have been mentioned xxx times, including the third-best squad in 2006, fifth in 2002, and ninth in 2000. PrepVolleyball.com recognized the 2006 incoming class fifth in the nation.

Since the NCAA began keeping official national statistics in 1994, Brown's Irish teams have been mentioned in the final listings 20 times and individuals have made 17 cameos. Among the 22 combined top-15 finishes were Notre Dame's first two national statistical crowns, which both came in 2003. The Irish led Division I with a team blocking average of 3.72 (Cornell was second with 3.52), while Brewster was tops in individual blocking with a 1.78 mark.

The Irish record books have steadily been under construction since Brown stepped on campus, as all-time best marks in over 120 team and individual categories have been eclipsed. A testament to her recruiting and coaching prowess is the fact that nearly all of the top players in the Notre Dame career record book have played for Brown. That group includes 13 of the 16 players to have registered 1,000 career kills, all six who notched both 1,000 kills and 1,000 digs, the top six competitors on the career hitting-percentage list, six of the top seven on both the assists and service aces lists, and each of the top 10 student-athletes in career digs.

Christy Peters, one of the top players in Irish volleyball history, played at



The Debbie Brown File

Year	School	W	L	Pct.	Conf. Finish	Final AVCA Ranking	Postseason	Honors
1980	Arizona State (asst.)	24	17	.585	WCAA	—	—	—
1981	Arizona State (asst.)	13	16	.448	5th/WCAA	15	NCAA Championship (0-1)	—
1982	Central Arizona (asst.)						—	—
1983	Arizona State	17	17	.500	6th/Pac-10	18	NCAA Championship round of 28 (0-1)	—
1984	Arizona State	15	18	.454	7th/Pac-10	—	—	—
1985	Arizona State	22	13	.629	4th/Pac-10	13	NCAA Championship round of 28 (0-1)	—
1986	Arizona State	27	7	.794	3rd/Pac-10	12	NCAA Championship round of 16 (1-1)	Pac-10 Coach of the Year
1987	Arizona State	16	15	.516	6th/Pac-10	—	NCAA Championship round of 32 (0-1)	—
1988	Arizona State	20	13	.606	6th/Pac-10	14	NCAA Championship round of 32 (0-1)	—
ASU 6-Year Totals		117	83	.585			5 NCAA Championship appearances	
1991	Notre Dame	26	10	.722	1st/MCC	—	NIVC runner-up (4-2)	MCC Coach of the Year
1992	Notre Dame	30	8	.789	1st/MCC	22	NCAA Championship round of 32 (0-1)	AVCA Midwest Region Coach of the Year MCC Coach of the Year
1993	Notre Dame	27	8	.771	1st/MCC	17	NCAA Championship quarterfinals (2-1)	AVCA Midwest Region Coach of the Year MCC Coach of the Year
1994	Notre Dame	33	4	.892	1st/MCC	12	NCAA Championship round of 16 (1-1)	MCC Coach of the Year
1995	Notre Dame	27	7	.794	1st/BIG EAST	14	NCAA Championship round of 16 (1-1)	BIG EAST co-Coach of the Year
1996	Notre Dame	22	12	.647	1st/BIG EAST	25	NCAA Championship round of 32 (1-1)	—
1997	Notre Dame	25	9	.735	1st/BIG EAST	18	NCAA Championship round of 16 (2-1)	AVCA District 1 Coach of the Year
1998	Notre Dame	18	13	.581	3rd/BIG EAST	—	NCAA Championship round of 32 (1-1)	—
1999	Notre Dame	20	9	.690	1st/BIG EAST	—	NCAA Championship round of 64 (0-1)	—
2000	Notre Dame	26	7	.788	1st/BIG EAST	21	NCAA Championship round of 32 (1-1)	BIG EAST Coach of the Year
2001	Notre Dame	22	7	.759	1st/BIG EAST	—	NCAA Championship round of 64 (0-1)	BIG EAST Coach of the Year
2002	Notre Dame	24	8	.750	1st/BIG EAST	—	NCAA Championship round of 32 (1-1)	—
2003	Notre Dame	23	7	.767	T-1st/BIG EAST	24	NCAA Championship round of 64 (0-1)	BIG EAST co-Coach of the Year
2004	Notre Dame	21	9	.700	1st/BIG EAST	—	NCAA Championship round of 32 (1-1)	—
2005	Notre Dame	30	4	.882	1st/BIG EAST	12	NCAA Championship round of 16 (2-1)	AVCA Northeast Region Coach of the Year BIG EAST Coach of the Year
2006	Notre Dame	18	14	.563	2nd/BIG EAST	—	NCAA Championship round of 64 (0-1)	—
2007	Notre Dame	15	13	.536	4th/BIG EAST	—	—	—
ND 17-year totals		407	149	.732	14 regular season titles		16 (15 consecutive NCAA Championship appearances from 1992-2006)	
Career 23-year totals (as head coach)		524	232	.693	14 regular season titles		21 (20 NCAA Championship appearances)	

Head Coach

The Brown Connection

Since joining the USA national program in 1978, Debbie Brown has been associated with several teammates, players and assistant coaches who have gone on to contribute in college volleyball, including:

Lauren Brewster

(Notre Dame player, 2002-05)
Assistant coach: Notre Dame (2007)

Marcie Bomhack

(Notre Dame player, 1998-2001)
Head coach: Loyola (Ill.) (2005-current)

Laurie (Flachmeier) Corbelli

(USA national teammate)
Head coach: San Francisco (1986-89)
Head coach: Santa Clara (1990-92)
Head coach: Texas A&M (1993-current)

Robin Davis

(Notre Dame assistant, 2001-05)
Head coach: Boise State (2006-current)

Kim Fletcher

(Notre Dame player, 2000-03)
Assistant coach: South Dakota State (2008-current)

Diane (McCormick) French

(USA national teammate)
Technical coordinator: U.S. national team (2005-current)

Debbie Green-Vargas

(USA national teammate)
Assistant coach: Long Beach State (1987-current)

Andria Harshman

(Notre Dame volunteer assistant, 2007)
Head coach: Grace College (2008-current)

Steve Hendricks

(Notre Dame assistant, 1994-2001)
Assistant coach: San Francisco (2005-06)
Assistant coach: New Mexico (2007-current)

Meg Henican

(Notre Dame player, 2002-05)
Assistant coach: Tulane (2007-current)

Tammy (Webb) Liebl

(Arizona State player, 1988-86)
Assistant coach: San Diego (1999-2005)

Jim McLaughlin

(Notre Dame assistant, 1996)
Head men's coach: USC (1990-95)
Head coach: Kansas State (1997-2000)
Head coach: Washington (2001-current)

Emily Loomis

(Notre Dame player, 2001-04)
Assistant coach: Connecticut (2007)
Volunteer assistant: Notre Dame (2008)

Louella Lovely

(Notre Dame assistant, 2003-07)
Assistant coach: Washington University (2007-current)

Devin Scruggs

(Notre Dame assistant, 1993)
Head coach: Nevada (1997-current)

Regina (Stahl) Mannix

(Arizona State player, 1984-87)
Head coach: Scottsdale C.C. (1994-current)

Lisa Stuck

(Arizona State player, 1983)
Head coach: Mesa C.C. (1991-96)
Head coach: Glendale C.C. (1999-current)

Sue Woodstra

(USA national teammate)
Head coach: Pittsburgh (1989-92)
Head coach: California (1996-98)
Head coach: Humboldt State (2001-current)



The Brown Family (l-r): Debbie, Connor, Ryan and Dennis

Notre Dame during Brown's first four seasons and was tabbed a third-team All-American in both 1993 and 1994. She still stands as the program's career leader in kills (1,683) and her digs mark stood 11 years before broken by 2006 graduate Meg Henican, who ended her career with 22 of the 25 Irish dig records.

Among the other standouts coached by Brown have been Jessica Fiebelkorn (1992), two-time BIG EAST Player-of-the-Year Jaimie Lee (1997), Denise Boylan (2000), Kristen Kinder (2003), Emily Loomis (2003), Lauren Kelbley (2003-05), and Adrianna Stasiuk (2005) – all of whom have earned honorable mention All-America status. Lee and Boylan were invited to train with the United States national team program during the summer of 1998, while the former earned a spot on the 1997 World University Games team. Kristy Kreher (1998-2001) also was one of just 20 players named to the USA Junior National Team in 2000.

Seven of Brown's former Irish players have gone on to play professionally. Angie (Harris) Akers is currently active in the Association of Volleyball Professionals (AVP), while Lee competed in the league until 2005. Jessica and Kristen Kinder (2004) also played briefly on the beach. Akers – who finished in the top 20 of the AVP standings in her first four seasons on tour – was the 2002 AVP Rookie of the Year, an honor Lee earned one year later. Three former Notre Dame competitors were active in the United States Professional Volleyball league in 2002 – Boylan and Kreher were members of the Minnesota Chill and Molly Stark played for the St. Louis Quest.

Five of Brown's former Irish assistants have gone on to become head coaches: Robin Davis (Boise State), Devin Scruggs (Nevada), Steve Schlick (Cal Poly), Sue Woodstra (Pittsburgh, California, Humboldt State), and 2004 AVCA National Coach of the Year Jim McLaughlin (Washington), who led the Huskies to the 2005 NCAA title.

Brown also coached several premier players at Arizona State, including three-time Olympian Tammy (Webb) Liebl (1988-96) and All-Americans Christy Nore and Regina Stahl.

The Sun Devils were ranked among the top

programs in the nation for six seasons, and in 1986 Brown led the Sun Devils to a 27-7 record and was named Pacific-10 Conference Coach of the Year. She compiled a 117-83 record en route to five NCAA Tournament berths while at Arizona State.

After serving as a program consultant since 1986, Brown took a leave of absence in 1988 to serve as an assistant coach for the United States National Team before accepting a full-time national team position in 1989. Brown's duties centered on helping improve the national team's defense and her efforts played a role in a United States bronze-medal finish at the 1990 World Championship in China. She also coached national teams in the 1985 and 1991 Olympic Festivals.

Since picking up the sport late in her high school days, Brown has become one of the most respected and accomplished individuals in all of volleyball. She grew up in the Los Angeles suburb of El Segundo to become one of the nation's top prep players. She competed as a 17-year-old for the United States at the 1974 World Championship in Mexico City and a year later played on the adidas team that won the USVBA title.

After graduating from El Segundo High School, she captained the University of Southern California to a 72-1 two-year record and national titles in both 1976 and 1977, including a 38-0 run in 1977 that, until 1998, was the only unbeaten season in Division I women's volleyball history. Her 1977 squad is still considered one of the all-time greatest at any level of volleyball. Brown (then Debbie Landreth) twice was named a collegiate All-American and received the Mikasa Award as the "nation's best all-around player" in 1976 and 1977.

The 5-foot-8 outside hitter left USC prior to her junior year, accepting an invitation to train full-time with the U.S. national team. She co-captained the team to a fifth-place finish at the 1978 World Championships. A year later, she and her teammates – including all-time greats Debbie Green, Flo Hyman, Sue Woodstra and Rita Crockett – qualified for the Olympics in Moscow and were considered serious medal contenders before the U.S. elected to boycott the games. Four of Brown's former USA teammates went on to become college head coaches, while Debbie Green is in her 22nd season as an assistant at Long Beach State, and Diane (McCormick) French is the technical director for the U.S. national team.

After serving as co-captain of the 1980 Olympic team, Brown completed her degree in physical education at Arizona State in 1982. An undergraduate, she began her coaching career as an assistant under Dale Flickinger at ASU, filling



Brown by the Numbers

Team accomplishments...

- 524-232 (.693) career record
- 407-149 (.732) mark at Notre Dame
- 198-37 (.843) record in the Joyce Center
- 166-16 (.912) regular-season conference mark
- 95-4 (.960) regular-season conference record at home
- 1 NCAA Championship quarterfinal (1993)
- 6 NCAA Championship round of 16 appearances
- 13 AVCA national top-25 finishes
- 13 conference tournament championships (9 BIG EAST, 4 Midwestern Collegiate)
- 14 regular-season conference championships (10 BIG EAST, 4 Midwestern Collegiate)
- 17 seasons with 20+ wins
- 20 finishes among NCAA statistical leaders
- 20 NCAA Tournament invitations
- 21-straight winning seasons
- 36- and 27-match winning streaks at home
- 45 BIG EAST statistical championships since 1995
- 58 Irish team records set or broken

Coaching awards and honors...

- 1 NCAA Silver Anniversary Award (2003)
- 4 AVCA regional / district coach of the year awards
- 10 conference coach of the year awards
- President, AVCA (1995-96)
- Assistant coach, United States National Team (1988-90)

Notre Dame and beyond...

- 1 NCAA Blocking Title (Lauren Brewster, 2003)
- 3 United States National Team invitees
- 3 CoSIDA Academic All-Americans
- 4 United States Olympic Festival participants
- 7 Byron V. Kanaley Award winners
- 7 players in the professional ranks
- 9 conference players of the year
- 12 conference tournament most outstanding players
- 14 All-Americans
- 17 finishers among NCAA individual statistical leaders
- 27 individual BIG EAST statistical championships
- 35 first-team all-conference picks
- 45 AVCA all-region / district players
- 60 all-conference accolades
- 68 individual Irish records set or broken
- 13 conference tournament championships (9 BIG EAST, 4 Midwestern Collegiate)
- 17 seasons with 20+ wins
- 20-straight winning seasons
- 157-11 (.935) regular-season conference mark
- 88-3 (.967) regular-season conference record at home
- 189-33 (.851) record in the Joyce Center
- 36- and 27-match winning streaks at home
- 45 BIG EAST statistical championships since 1995
- 20 finishes among NCAA statistical leaders
- 58 Irish team records set or broken

that role from 1980-82 before serving in the same capacity at Central Arizona College during the 1982 season. She returned to Arizona State as head coach in 1983.

Her international experience and travels has afforded her the opportunity to coach and play in 22 countries across the world. In honor of her work, Brown was selected as an Olympic Torchbearer for the 2002 Winter Olympic Torch Relay when it traveled through the Northern Indiana area.

In May of 1995, USA Volleyball named Brown an "All-Time Great Volleyball Player," the high-

est honor given by the organization. Brown and fellow honoree Karch Kiraly, a three-time Olympic gold medalist and beach volleyball legend, were recognized at the U.S. Open Championships in Springfield, Mass., and had their photos and records added to the Volleyball Hall of Fame in Holyoke, Mass. Established in 1954, the "All-Time Great" designation honors players with Olympic, national team or All-America honors, U.S. Open Championships, and overall dominance during a particular era. Among the 51 previous winners before Brown were Hyman, Woodstra, Green, Crockett, and



Laurel Brassey – all former teammates.

Brown earned USVBA All-America honors eight times and won the USVBA's Kilgore Sportsmanship Award in 1983. A six-time USVBA first-team All-American, Brown was a member of the USVBA Board of Directors and the U.S. Olympic Committee's Athlete Advisory Council. She served a two-year term (1995-96) as president of the American Volleyball Coaches Association and was a member of its All-America selection committee.

In 2003, Brown was recognized for her outstanding career by the NCAA with the Silver Anniversary Award, which annually recognizes six distinguished student-athletes for accomplishments since concluding their collegiate playing days 25 years ago.

Brown played for the 1975, 1985 and 1986 USVBA national-championship teams. In 1992, she joined several of her former Olympic squad teammates to capture the USVBA senior division national title in Reno, Nev.

Recognizing Brown's effort and success, the Notre Dame Monogram Club bestowed upon her an honorary monogram at the annual club banquet in 1999.

Brown has been actively involved in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Young Life, serving as a motivational speaker and coach at national banquets and camps. She also volunteers for Rebuilding Together, a home-rehabilitation program in South Bend.

Brown and her husband of 27 years, Dennis, have two sons, Connor and Ryan.



Debbie Brown's Olympic career reached another milestone on Jan. 4, 2002, when she participated in the Winter Olympic Torch Relay, carrying the famous torch in South Bend.

A co-captain of the 1980 U.S. Olympic team that missed out on the Moscow games due to the United States boycott, Brown also served as an assistant coach for the U.S. national team during its 1988 Olympic effort.

In frigid temperatures, she stepped off the torch runners' bus just a few steps from the Joyce Center, where she has coached the Fighting Irish volleyball team for 16 seasons. She was handed the torch by local news personality Maureen McFadden and took off down Eddy Street toward downtown South Bend (where the torch was housed for 30 minutes at the Century Center before continuing on its path to Salt Lake City for the opening ceremony).

Even though she missed out on Olympic competition during the 1980 boycott, Brown still remembers her national-team experience fondly: "Nothing is going to make up for the disappointment of 1980. I am happy, though, that I can still be connected to the Games. I never ever felt like I wasted four years of my life. That was a special time."

Brown was chosen as a torchbearer due to her embodiment of the inspirational spirit of the Olympics, shown by serving and motivating the community.



Assistant Coach



Greg Smith

Assistant Coach
3rd Season
Westmont '90

Greg Smith is in his third year as an assistant coach at Notre Dame. Previously the head coach for six seasons at Virginia Tech, Smith was the 2002 BIG EAST Conference Coach of the Year.

A native of Rochester, Ind., Smith led the Hokies to an 81-94 (.463) overall mark from 2000-05, including a 37-38 (.493) record in conference play. His top campaign came in 2002 when he led the Hokies to a second-place finish in the BIG EAST Conference – behind Notre Dame – with a 10-3 record and a berth in the four-team league tournament. It was the school's second of three seasons as a BIG EAST member. That Tech team more than doubled its win total from the previous season and won twice as many conference matches as it did during the 2001 season.

Smith faced the Irish three times from the bench opposite Brown. He dealt Notre Dame a rare three-game conference loss in Blacksburg, Va., in 2002 and then helped the Hokies push the 12th-ranked Irish to five games in front of a Joyce Center record crowd of 8,643 the following season. During his time at Virginia Tech, Smith helped five different players earn a total of nine all-conference honors. He oversaw the Hokies' transition from an independent (in his first season, 2000) into the BIG EAST Conference (2001-03) and then into the ACC (2004-present).

Smith came to Virginia Tech from Ohio State, where he served as an assistant coach for three seasons and helped coach the Buckeyes to a trio of NCAA Tournament bids. While with the Buckeyes, he assisted in recruiting and training the team (both on-court and physical conditioning).

Smith mentored a pair of Buckeye standouts in Jen Flynn and Katie Virtue. Flynn was a first-team all-Big Ten choice and a member of the USPV "Dream Team" in 2000. She joined the U.S. National Team in 2002 as its starting setter



while leading the squad to a silver medal at the 2002 World Championships. Virtue, Ohio State's all-time assists leader and the 1999 Big Ten Freshman of the Year, was also a member of the U.S. National Team with Flynn.

Prior to his stint in Columbus, Smith spent two seasons as an assistant at Hofstra University. There he helped lead the team to two consecutive America East Conference tournament championships and two NCAA Tournament appearances. In all, Smith has coached six seasons in the NCAAs.

Before his time at Hofstra, he was an assistant at the University of Indianapolis in 1994. He also served as one of the head volleyball coaches

for the Circle City Volleyball Club in Indianapolis.

Smith was an assistant varsity coach at Rochester (Ind.) High School from 1992-93, also serving as head coach of the freshman squad. During his tenure, he assisted the varsity team to the regional playoffs in 1992 and state semifinals in 1993.

He graduated from Westmont College (Calif.) in 1990 with a bachelor's degree in business and economics. He then received a bachelor's in education from Indianapolis in 1995. A letterwinner in tennis at Westmont, Smith also served as an assistant basketball coach.

Smith and his wife, Erica, have two daughters, Peyton and Reagan, and one son, Logan.



The Smith Family (l-r):
Reagan, Erica, Peyton,
Greg and Logan.





Matthew Botsford

Assistant Coach
1st Season
Tri-State '08

Matthew Botsford joined the Irish coaching staff in the spring of 2008. Botsford is an assistant coach at Notre Dame after serving in a similar role at the University of Miami since the 2004 season.

During his four-year tenure with the Hurricanes, Botsford's primary coaching responsibilities dealt with the development of the outside hitters and middle blockers, and the coordination of off-campus recruiting and scouting.

In 2004, Botsford and the Hurricanes surged to a second-place finish in the regular season standings after the team's first full season as members of the Atlantic Coast Conference. Botsford developed a reputation for not only attracting, but also developing highly talented players for the program at Miami. In fact, he tutored a trio of All-Americans in Val Tipiana (Miami's all-time kills leader and the first Hurricane to ever reach the 1,000-kill plateau), Frannie Savage (all-ACC and all-AVCA Region honoree) and Karla Johnson (ACC kills leader in 2005). He also spearheaded the recruiting efforts to help bring Arielle Cook, Miami's first-ever Fab 50 recruit, to the Coral Gables campus.

Botsford made his way to Miami courtesy of IUPUI, where he spent three seasons as an assistant coach with the Jaguars. As part of the IUPUI coaching staff,

Botsford helped lead a number of players to success on the court, including two-time Mid-Continent Conference Player of the Year Rebekah Pallikan.

Prior to his three-year stay at IUPUI, Botsford served as the interim head coach for both the men's and women's teams from 1998-99 at his alma mater, Tri-State University. He then ventured to the University of Indianapolis where he was an assistant coach during the 1999 season. He has also spent time as a coach with Circle City Volleyball Club (Ind.) and Prairie Heights High School (Ind.).

In the spring of 2003 he enjoyed a professional volleyball career with the Vingaker Volleyball Club of Sweden. He displayed his all-around skills by emerging as one of the team's most prolific player, leading the squad in blocks and hitting percentage throughout the playoffs. Botsford helped guide Vingaker to the finals of the Swedish Elite Series and a berth in the European CEV Cup for the first time in the team's 30-year history.

He competed on the Midwest Professional Volleyball Association (MPVA) beach volleyball tour from 1998-2003 and was named to the 2001 MPVA "Dream Team", which was comprised of the tour's top six players. Botsford also spent time on the Extreme Volleyball Professionals (EVP) Amstel Light Tour and was named the EVP Rookie of the Year in 2000. In 2002 as a member of the Surf City Volleyball Club, he won a bronze medal at the USAV Open Championships in Dallas, Texas, and was named to the all-tournament team.

Botsford served on the coaching staff of the USA Volleyball Girls Select A1 Team for the 2007 USA Volleyball High Performance Championships in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. He returned to help lead the program's 2008 session in Tucson, Ariz.

Botsford graduated from Tri-State University in 1998 with a degree in social studies education. As a student-athlete for the Thunder, he led the school to its first NAIA/MIVA Championship in 1998. In each of his four-years at Tri-State, Botsford was an all-conference and academic all-conference selection. He finished his collegiate career as the school's all-time leader in kills, blocks, and digs. Tri-State inducted him into its Athletics Hall of Fame in 2006.

He received his master's degree in business administration from the University of Indianapolis in 2004.



Hy Pham Senior Manager Notre Dame '09

Hy Pham (pronounced HE fam) was added to the Irish volleyball staff after two years of service as a manager for Notre Dame's track and field program.

The senior from Houston, Texas, is a 2005 graduate of Cinco Ranch HS where he was manager for the school's basketball team and two-time state champion track squad. While at Cinco Ranch he took part in several choral and theater productions, interned for Texas state representative Glenn Hegar, and voted class president as a senior year.

A pre-professional studies and Chinese major, Pham is active in Notre Dame's Navy ROTC program and volunteers in the emergency room of the Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center. He was born April 30, 1987.



Alisha Ewing Volleyball Operations Intern Bethel '05

Alisha Ewing joined the Irish volleyball staff in the summer of 2008 as the program's intern after a three-year collegiate coaching stint. She handles video filming and editing, team travel and administrative duties.

A native of Rochester, Ind., Ewing graduated from Rochester High School after earning four letters in volleyball, basketball, and track & field. She earned all-conference honors in each of those three sports during her final three prep campaigns. Rochester's volleyball and basketball squads earned the sectional championship when Ewing was a senior. Ewing also edged out former Irish volleyball and track & field All-American Emily Loomis in Indiana's prep high jump.

Ewing enjoyed a successful collegiate career as she starred for Bethel College (Ind.) in volleyball and track. She was the NCCAA indoor and outdoor high jump champion in 2003-04 and an NAIA All-American in the event from 2002-05. The dual-sport athlete garnered all-conference honors in volleyball from 2002-04 and in track & field from 2002-05.

Ewing graduated from Bethel in 2005 with a degree in sports management and then coached for one season at Trinity Christian High School (Ind.). She got her first taste of college coaching when she moved on to Trevecca Nazarene University (Tenn.) as an assistant coach. While there she spearheaded efforts for the program's recruiting, promotions, fundraising, game management, strength and conditioning, and on-court coaching with an emphasis on defense.



Support Staff



Chantal Porter
Associate Athletic Trainer
Iowa State '94

Chantal Porter is an associate athletic trainer at the University of Notre Dame and oversees the Irish women's Olympic sports, and oversees the administration of the Joyce Center training

room. She is responsible for the Irish volleyball and women's lacrosse teams. Porter has also worked with the women's softball, women's and men's tennis, and men's swimming and diving teams at Notre Dame.

A 1994 graduate of Iowa State University, she received a bachelor's degree in health and human performance. While at ISU, she worked closely with the football, wrestling, and women's gymnastics programs for the Cyclones.

Porter then enrolled at Old Dominion and earned her master's degree in education in 1996. At ODU Porter served as a graduate assistant athletic trainer, working primarily with the women's lacrosse, women's basketball, and baseball teams. She has also worked for the United States Tennis Association, traveling on its satellite tours.

A native of Altoona, Iowa, Porter was born on March 19, 1971. She is married to Aaron Michael Frucci of Niles, Mich. The couple lives with Aaron's son, Vincent Frucci.

Missy Conboy
Deputy Director of Athletics
Notre Dame '82

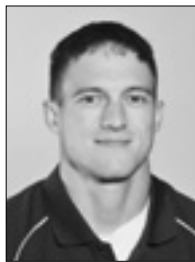


Missy Conboy is in her 14th year as the Irish volleyball team's sport administrator and her fourth as a deputy director of athletics at Notre Dame following one year as a

senior associate athletics director, 11 as an associate athletic director, and five years as an assistant athletic director.

A native of Buffalo, N.Y., Conboy was a four-year member of the Notre Dame women's basketball team from 1979-82. She graduated with a degree in English and received her *juris doctor* from the University of Kansas School of Law in 1985.

She was married in 1991 to William Mountford, and the couple has three daughters – Darby, Delaney and Killian Rose Mountford.



Chris Sandeen
Assistant Strength and Conditioning Coach
Arizona State '01

Chris Sandeen is in his first year as an assistant strength and conditioning coach at Notre Dame. He is the primary coach for the Irish volleyball and softball programs while assisting with the football team.

Before joining the staff at Notre Dame he was a strength assistant with the Cincinnati Bengals. Sandeen has spent portions of his career working with the Milwaukee Brewers, Arizona State University and with Central Michigan University as a graduate assistant.

A 2001 graduate of Arizona State University with a degree in exercise science, he was also awarded an advanced degree in the same concentration from Central Michigan in 2006. He is a Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist by the NSCA, and has Sports Performance certification by USA Weightlifting.



Mary Ann Spence
Assistant Director of Academic Services
Indiana '58

Mary Ann Spence is in her 18th year in Notre Dame's Academic Services Office and eighth serving as the academic counselor for the Irish volleyball team. Spence began her career at Notre Dame

teaching first-year composition and still occasionally returns to the classroom to teach.

Spence graduated from Indiana University in 1958 with a bachelor's degree in business. She returned to school at Indiana University-South Bend to earn her master's degree in education in 1988.



Darin Ottaviani
Sports Marketing Coordinator
Michigan '05

Darin Ottaviani served as a sports promotions assistant at Notre Dame in 2007-08 and was promoted to sports marketing coordinator for the promotions department prior to the 2008 volleyball season.

Ottaviani will oversee all marketing and promotion aspects for the Irish hockey and volleyball programs, in addition to heading marketing responsibilities for the lacrosse, cross country, track and field, and tennis teams.

Prior to joining the Notre Dame staff, Ottaviani spent the 2006-07 school year as an athletic marketing assistant at Bowling Green State University and coordinated the marketing efforts for the Falcon volleyball team. From 2005-06, he served as an assistant equipment manager at Bowling Green, working primarily with the football, men's and women's basketball, and volleyball teams.

A native of Ellwood City, Pa., Ottaviani graduated from the University of Michigan in 2005 with degrees in sport management and communications. While attending Michigan, he served two years as a student manager for the Wolverine program.



Alan George
Assistant Sports Information Director
Centre '05

Alan George joined the Notre Dame sports information staff in 2007 after a two-year stint as an athletic media relations graduate assistant at Western Kentucky University. In

addition to serving as Notre Dame's primary volleyball and softball contact, he also handles media responsibilities for the men's and women's swimming and diving teams.

While at WKU, George worked closely with the Hilltoppers' swimming and softball programs and coordinated the media efforts for the 2007 Sun Belt Conference Swimming and Diving Championships.

George played football at Centre College before graduating in 2005 with a bachelor's degree in economics. He went on to work as an operations intern for the Lexington Legends (a Class-A affiliate of Major League Baseball's Houston Astros) prior to earning a master's degree in sport administration from WKU in 2006.

George is an active basketball referee and baseball umpire, officiating both sports at the youth, prep, and collegiate levels.



Erika Whitman
Sports Nutritionist
Delaware '02

Erika Whitman is in her second year as the sports nutritionist at the University of Notre Dame. She oversees the education, monitoring and guidance for nutrition of all student-athletes for all 26 varsity sports. Whitman, who

has extensive experience in the field of nutrition, works in conjunction with the Irish strength and conditioning and athletic training staffs.

Prior to joining the Notre Dame staff in 2007, she had served since November of 2006 as coordinator of sports nutrition at the University of Florida. Before taking the post at Florida, Whitman spent three years (2003-06) as a health educator for the Health & Nutrition Technology (HNT) Program for Health and Weight Management in Indianapolis, Ind.

She also worked as a nutritionist for the Pennsylvania Nutrition Education Program (PANEP) in State College, Pa., after joining the Penn State University Sports Nutrition Clinic as a sports nutrition assistant in January of 2003.

Whitman received her bachelor's of science degree in nutrition and dietetics from the University of Delaware in May of 2002. A Dean's List student during all eight semesters and the recipient of an academic scholarship while at the University, she was one of five students selected for the Nutrition and Dietetics Panel of Distinguished Seniors in May of 2003 and received a scholarship to study in Hawaii during the summer of 2001. She became a registered dietician in 2003.

Following graduation, she completed an internship as an approved dietetic at St. Luke's Hospital-Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, Fla.

