

**Post Game Notes**  
**Notre Dame vs. Michigan**  
**April 21, 2010**

- Ryan Connolly (Binghamton, N.Y.) saw his streak of consecutive games reaching base safely (via base hit, walk, or hit-by-pitch) end at 47 games after an 0-for-3 day. The fifth-year senior had extended the streak in his last plate appearance on five different occasions, but he could not do so against the Wolverines, grounding out in his third and final at bat before being pinch-hit for in the eighth inning. The streak was the second-longest in NCAA Division I baseball this season, bested only by the current 50-game streak by Michael Choice of UT Arlington. Connolly's statistics during the streak:

AVG	PA	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI
.347	212	167	43	58	14	2	10	39
SLG	BB	HBP	SO	OBP	SAC	SF		
.635	20	19	49	.469	3	1		

- Connolly reached base in his first plate appearance (excluding sacrifice bunts) an astounding 25 times during the streak, despite being retired in his first trip the plate in each of the last five games. At one point, Connolly reached in his first plate appearance in five straight games, nine times in a 10-game span, 12 times in a 14-game stretch, and 17 times in a 22-game period.
- Almost unbelievably, Connolly's longest streak of consecutive plate appearances reaching base safely during the streak was just three, although he did that nine different times.
- Coley Crank's RBI double in the second inning ended the Notre Dame bullpen's scoreless streak at 17.1 innings. The pen combined to strike out 18 over that stretch (covering the last six games) while walking six and allowing just nine hits (.153 opponents' batting average).
- The third out of an inning continues to elude sophomore Irish starter Steve Sabatino (Lockport, Ill.), who gave up four unearned runs against Michigan in the first inning, all of which came with two outs. Opponents are batting .386 (27-for-70) this season against the lefty with two outs and are reaching base at a .506 (44-for-87) clip with two away. Of the 45 runs Sabatino has surrendered this season, 29 have crossed the plate with two outs, including 11 of the 15 unearned runs charged against the hurler.
- Sabatino was not the only one to struggle with two outs, though, as all 13 Michigan runs in the game came across with two outs.
- Sabatino (four unearned runs in 0.2 innings) lost his second game of his season without allowing an earned run. He also took the loss against Kansas State on March 6 after yielding three unearned scores in 5.2 innings of work.
- Senior David Mills (Battle Creek, Mich.) continued his success from both the plate and the mound, going 1-for-2 with a walk and tossing a scoreless inning against the Wolverines. He is now batting .474 (9-for-19) over his last five games and has notched five consecutive scoreless outings from the hill, running his scoreless stretch to 7.2 innings. Mills has also faced 56 consecutive batters without allowing a base on balls and has walked just three batters all season (22.2 innings) and 13 in his career. His career average of 1.92 walks per nine innings currently ranks eighth in school history (he just recently reached the minimum of 60.0 innings).
- Billy Boockford (Glen Ellyn, Ill.) picked up a pair of walks in the game, matching his career high.
- Sophomore Joe Spano (Verona, N.J.) made his 19<sup>th</sup> appearance on the mound in Wednesday's game, giving up two earned runs in 0.1 innings. He has become the ultimate situational lefty of late, as the outing was the sixth straight in which he worked 0.2 innings or less. He has faced an average of 2.75 batters per game in his last four games and 3.58 per game for the season. Spano is on pace to crack the top-10 in appearances in ND single-season history (needs 28).
- Freshman Adam Norton (Highland, Ind.) worked 3.1 innings in relief of Sabatino, easily besting his career-high in innings out of the bullpen. His previous high was 2.0 innings versus UIC on March 24.
- Despite scoring 13 times, Michigan did not clear the outfield fence in the game, marking the seventh consecutive game in which the Irish have held their opponent without a long ball. The last home run against Notre Dame came off the bat of Michael Lang of Rutgers on April 10, a grand slam and the last of seven Rutgers home runs on the day; since then, Irish pitchers have faced 291 batters without allowing a round tripper. Senior Eric Maust (Alpharetta, Ga.) pitched 0.2 innings in relief and extended his personal home run-free streak to 43.1 innings and 205 batters faced.
- Junior Matt Scioscia (Westlake Village, Calif.) went 2-for-2 off the bench for Notre Dame, his first multi-at bat game since March 26 at USF and his first multi-hit contest since March 6 against Harvard.
- Freshman Patrick Veerkamp (Fort Wayne, Ind.) worked 2.0 perfect innings with a punchout in his first career relief appearance; the right-hander was 0-2 with a 12.60 ERA in two starts entering the game.
- Freshman Frank Desico (Cleveland, Ohio) made his 29<sup>th</sup> consecutive start at second base for Notre Dame.