

History

and Records



Notre Dame fencing began in the mid 1930s, with Pat Gerard's foil win giving the Irish the first of back-to-back NCAA titles in 1977 while Charles Higgs-Coulthard and Yehuda Kovacs (middle left) helped Notre Dame claim the '86 title, followed by the 1987 women's championship and combined titles in 1994 (bottom), 2003 (middle right) and 2005.



Notre Dame's journey to claiming the 2005 NCAA men's and women's combined fencing championship featured an historic comeback from a 24-point deficit. The rally was a fitting showcase for the top six-fencer women's team in NCAA history.

Three Irish fencers – foilists **Alicja Kryczalo** and **Andrea Ament** and epeeist **Michal Sobieraj** – ended their careers as rare four-year All-Americans while six others also earn All-America honors at the 2005 NAAs: epeeist **Amy Orlando**, foilist **Jakub Jedrkowiak** and the impressive sabre group of **Valerie Providenza**, **Mariel Zagunis**, **Patrick Ghattas** and **Matt Stearns**. Fifth-year women's epeeist **Kerry Walton** and men's epeeist **Aaron Adjemian** rounded out the 11-fencer contingent that claims the program's seventh overall NCAA team title and second in the past three years.

The annual Penn State Open in the fall of '04 sees Providenza win the sabre title while Jedrkowiak has an impressive semifinal win over Ohio State's Boaz Ellis (the defending NCAA champion) before losing to another former NCAA champ, PSU's Non Panchan. Kryczalo, Orlando and Ghattas reach the semifinals, with Kryczalo's loss to OSU's Hanna Thompson stopping her bid for a rare fourth title at the prestigious event.

Notre Dame opens at the familiar NYU Duals as the No. 2-ranked Irish women see their 41-match win streak end, losing 11-16 to fifth-ranked Columbia and dropping a heartbreaker to top-ranked Ohio State (13-14). Both teams top Stanford and NYU while the fourth-ranked Irish men defeated No. 5 Columbia (16-11), led by an 8-1 effort from the epeeists and a key 5-2 win for Stearns over Alexander Krul.

Sobieraj (10-1) and Ghattas (10-2) pace the men at NYU while Kryczalo (11-1) and Ament (10-2) have wins over Stanford and former NCAA champ Iris Zimmermann (the three would be reunited two months later as NCAA bouting

Men's Foil (150-66/694)

Frank Bontempo.....	41-17/707
Patrick Donnelly.....	0-0/ n/a
Jack Goetz.....	3-4/429
Joseph Hagmann.....	7-0/1,000
Jakub Jedrkowiak.....	47-7/870
Arthur Lam.....	3-5/375
Johannes Masserer.....	0-0/ n/a
Eamon Murphy.....	0-0/ n/a
Diego Quinonez.....	30-27/526
Paul Reyes.....	2-2/500
Andrew Zodda.....	17-4/810

Women's Foil (187-29/866)

Andrea Ament.....	43-3/946
Melanie Bautista.....	47-7/870
Rachel Cota.....	37-15/712
Alicja Kryczalo.....	33-2/943
Tiffany Muller.....	10-1/909
Monica Real.....	7-1/875

Men's Epee (185-31/856)

Aaron Adjemian.....	32-6/842
Craig Brede.....	4-2/667
Chris Castellan.....	6-0/1,000
Patrick Gettings.....	17-7/708
Greg Howard.....	36-8/818
Jesse Laeuchli.....	20-3/870
T.J. McNally.....	5-1/833
Michal Sobieraj.....	65-4/942

Women's Epee (163-53/755)

NatalieBustamante.....	26-15/634
Becca Chimahusky.....	36-18/667
Marielle Connor.....	6-1/857
Jocelyn Landgraf.....	7-2/778
Amy Orlando.....	36-10/783
Anna Rodriguez.....	3-0/1,000
Kerry Walton.....	43-7/860

Men's Sabre (162-54/750)

Ryan Bradley.....	5-1/833
Nicholas Diacou.....	36-29/554
Matt Doherty.....	4-2/667
John Espinosa.....	21-4/840
Patrick Ghattas.....	44-7/863
Jason Laws.....	5-1/833
Alex Schumacher.....	6-1/857
Matt Stearns.....	41-9/820

Women's Sabre (186-30/861)

Danielle Davis.....	43-8/843
Erin Housing.....	7-0/1,000
Valerie Providenza.....	47-9/839
Natalie Tenner.....	9-0/1,000
Angela Vincent.....	51-12/810
Mariel Zagunis.....	29-1/967

Italics indicate non-returners for the 2006 season

partners). Zagunis starts her college career 11-1, losing only to U.S. national teammate Emily Jacobson of Columbia.

The women rebound at the Notre Dame Duals with a 16-11 win over third-ranked Penn State and a 20-7 victory over No. 6 Northwestern. The sabres combine for an 8-1 record vs. PSU, as Zagunis (5-2) and Providenza (5-3) beat '04 NCAA runner-up Sophia Hiss. Kryczalo (5-1, 5-1) and Ament (5-4, 5-3) both sweep PSU standouts Anna Donath and Meredith Chin, with Ament's win over Donath clinching the win at 14-10. Walton chipped in a 3-0 win over Katarzyna Trzopek (3-0) in a matchup of former NCAA champs before topping All-American Case Szarwark (5-2).

The win over Northwestern features a dominating display by the foilists, as Ament (5-2), Kryczalo (5-2) and freshman **Melanie Bautista** (5-3) complete the sweep of Jessica Florendo while Ament (5-0) and Bautista (5-4) beat NU's other All-America foilist, Julia Foldi. Orlando adds a 5-1 win over club teammate Sharon Sullivan while the sabre team sweeps Lauren Van Gieson (Providenza 5-1, sophomore **Angela Vincent** 5-4 and Zagunis 5-2).

The women keep rolling the next day at the ND Duals with a 16-11 win over Ohio State, avenging the previous week's tough loss. The match is tight – with neither team leading by more than two – before Kryczalo's 5-2 win over Metta Thompson (11-8). Senior epeeist **Becca Chimahusky** adds a huge 2-1 win over Kaela Brendler (13-10) and Ament has the clincher with a 5-2 win over the righthanded Thompson sister (Metta). Other key wins include Walton (4-2) and Orlando (4-3) over Brendler, Kryczalo's 4-3 victory over Hanna Thompson and a sweep by Zagunis of the young OSU sabres.

Notre Dame sends mostly reserves to the Ohio State Duals before wrapping up at the Duke Duals (vs. the Blue Devils, UNC, Air Force and Johns Hopkins). The fourth-ranked Irish men finish the regular season with a 21-3 record while the second-ranked women rebounded from their 0-2 start to go 22-2.

The Irish women complete an impressive 2005 season that includes an .827 bout winning percentage, fifth-best in the program's history and best since 1991. The foil team won all 24 of its matches in '05 while winning nearly 87 percent of its total bouts (187-29; .866).

Ament and Kryczalo conclude their regular-season careers with a .923 combined win pct., going 325-27 while winning nearly 300 more bouts than they lost in '02-'05. Kryczalo's .931 career win pct. (161-12) ends up second-best ever by an ND women's fencer (minimum of three

seasons) while Ament finishes fourth at .916 (164-15).

The women's sabre team compiled the top win pct. in the program's history (.861; 186-30), – paced by Zagunis (29-10) and Providenza (47-9), who ends '05 on pace for the best career win pct. ever by an ND women's sabre (.851; 86-15). Walton (43-7) wraps up her stellar four years by owning the second-best career win pct. (.862; 172-48) by a Notre Dame women's epeeist while Orlando moves into sixth place on that list at .787 (85-23).

The men's epee team won all 24 of its regular-season matches and nearly 86 percent of its bouts (185-31; .856). Sobieraj posts the third-most wins in a season ever by a Notre Dame men's fencer (65-2) while his .936 career win pct. (176-12) ranks fifth-best ever by an Irish men's fencer and tops among men's epeeists.

The Notre Dame women – days after ascending to the No. 1 ranking – won another showdown with Ohio State at the Midwest Fencing Conference Championships, rallying for the narrow 500-490 victory. Bautista's 5-4 win over Alexandra DiCerro is the clincher in the foil final vs. OSU (5-4) and wraps up the women's team title (it also concludes a perfect 27-0 season for the foil squad).

A pair of 5-4 bouts push the Buckeyes past the Irish in the women's sabre final (5-4) while Wayne State tops Notre Dame in the women's epee semifinals (ND then beats OSU, 5-1, for third place). Highlights include Ament and Kryczalo's sweep of Metta Thompson, Chimausky's 5-2 wins over OSU's Brendler and WSU's Anna Vinnokov, Orlando's 5-3 win over Brendler and another sweep for Zagunis versus Ohio State.

The Notre Dame men finish second to OSU at the MFCs (425-540), losing in the epee and foil semifinals and the sabre final. The 5-3 decision marks the first loss of the season for the men's epee team, despite an impressive result from freshman **Greg Howard** in his 3-1 win over Denis Tolkachev. Ghattas adds his own strong result by beating two-time NCAA champ Adam Crompton (5-2) but OSU goes on to win the sabre final, 5-2.

Ohio State's unprecedented withdrawal from the MFC individual bouts results in a watered-down competition, as Irish fencers claim all six titles.

Ament wins the MFC women's foil title in thrilling fashion, rallying from an 8-1 deficit to defeat NU's Florendo (15-11). Irish fencers also post strong results in the women's epee semifinals, as Walton knocks off Wayne State's

Results	Men (21-3)	Women (22-2)
Columbia	W, 16-11	L, 16-11
Stanford	W, 19-8	W, 24-3
NYU	W, 16-11	W, 22-5
Ohio State	L, 16-11	L, 14-13
Wisconsin	W, 27-0	W, 27-0
Cal State Fullerton	W, 25-2	W, 25-2
Penn State	L, 15-12	W, 16-11
Michigan State	W, 24-3	W, 24-3
Michigan	W, 24-3	W, 25-2
Northwestern	W, 21-6	W, 20-7
Cleveland State	W, 22-5	W, 26-1
Ohio State	L, 16-11	W, 16-11
Lawrence	W, 27-0	W, 25-2
Detroit	W, 24-3	W, 25-2
Wayne State	W, 21-6	W, 24-3
Chicago	W, 24-3	W, 26-1
Bowling Green	W, 23-4	W, 26-1
Oberlin	W, 26-1	W, 27-0
Purdue	W, 20-7	W, 24-3
Case	W, 20-7	W, 25-2
North Carolina	W, 21-6	W, 21-6
Duke	W, 21-6	W, 16-11
Johns Hopkins	W, 21-6	W, 26-1
Air Force	W, 21-6	W, 22-5
Totals: m. 497-151 (.767), w. 536-112 (.827)		





Four-year foil standout Alicja Kryczalo (left) fittingly won Notre Dame's final bout at the 2005 NCAAs, clinching at least a share of the title as the Irish completed their historic 24-point comeback to win the national title.

Anna Garina in a 14-11 bout (reversing their result from the '04 NCAA final) while Orlando tops WSU's Vinnokov (15-13). Walton then edges Orlando in the all-ND final, 15-14. Providenza adds her own MFC title after a 15-2 win over Northwestern's Mai Vu in the final.

Ghattas wins the sabre title after a 15-4 final vs. Detroit's Jarislav Jelinek while the other two men's weapons feature matchups between Irish fencers. Sophomore **Jesse Laeuchli** pulls off a 15-11 semifinal upset of WSU's Wojciech Dudek before losing to Sobieraj in the epee final – while sophomore **Frank Bontempo** nips Jedrkowiak (15-13) to win the foil competition.

Several top ND fencers – including Kryczalo, Zagunis and Stearns – did not compete on the final day of the MFCs, due to minor injuries.

Notre Dame next positions itself for another run at the NCAA title, after ultimately qualifying 11 fencers following the Midwest Regional competition held at Cleveland State.

Kryczalo claims her fourth Regional title thanks to a 10-1 record in the round-robin and a 2-1 fenceoff vs. Hanna Thompson. Ament helps secure her own NCAA spot with a third-place finish (8-3), as does Orlando with her fifth-place showing (7-4, tied with the surprising Chimahusky who ended up fourth). Providenza was seeded fifth but uses wins over OSU's Siobahn Byrne (5-2) and Eileen Grench (5-4) – plus a sweep of Northwestern – to finish second and book her return to the NCAAs (Zagunis and Walton were granted exemptions due to World Cup conflicts).

On the men's side, Sobieraj (9-2) and Jedrkowiak (10-1, lost fenceoff to OSU's Will Jeter) both place second at the Regional while Ghattas impressively wins the sabre title (10-1) after sweeping the Buckeyes (5-3 vs. Jason Rogers, 5-4 vs. Crompton, 5-1 vs. Jason Paul). Adjemian places fourth in epee (7-4) – as does Stearns in sabre (7-4) – while Bontempo ties CSU's Mike Merker for fourth in foil (7-4), with Merker ultimately receiving the region's final NCAA spot due to a higher pre-regional seed.

Adjemian and Bontempo are left as alternates for the NCAAs and Adjemian later is added to the NCAA field while Bontempo narrowly misses the cut, yielding 11 of the maximum 12 fencers as the Irish head to Houston to pursue the title.

The stage is set for a four-team battle at the NCAAs, despite St. John's owning a slight edge as the only team with 12 qualifiers. The seventh-ranked Red Storm women are considerably less-

experienced than the women's fencers from the other contenders – giving Notre Dame, Ohio State and Penn State (all qualified 11) plenty of reason to believe they could become the first team ever to win the title without the full complement of fencers.

Ohio State holds a 24-point cushion over Notre Dame (then in fourth place) after the two days of men's bouts conclude, as the Irish try to stay in contention with just five men's competitors. Notre Dame clings to the knowledge that the Buckeyes would have just five fencers for the women's bouts and that factor – along with an impressive display by the Notre Dame women – combines to cause a steady leak in the OSU cushion, ultimately leading to a decisive stream of Irish wins in the closing rounds.

When the dust settles, the scoreboard reads: Notre Dame 173, Ohio State 171. The greatest comeback in the history of NCAA team fencing becomes a reality and moments later the Irish are hoisting the program's seventh NCAA fencing team trophy.

St. John's ends up third with 162 points, followed by Penn State (145), Columbia (137) and Harvard (134).

Notre Dame sets the record for most wins at the NCAAs by a women's team (103-35; /746), a mark bested by just three men's teams since the 23-bout format was adopted in 1996. Each of the six Irish women leave Houston having competed in at least one NCAA individual final during their careers while combining for 11 NCAA individual gold medals and 16 All-America awards.

Kryczalo (21-2) finishes atop the women's foil round-robin standings for the third time in her career while Zagunis also goes 21-2, with the ND pair joining PSU sabre Franz Boghicev as the leaders in wins among 144 total competitors (Zagunis, at +66, and Kryczalo, +58, also own the top total-point differentials among all participants).

Sobieraj (18-5) and Providenza (19-4) both finish second in their round-robin standings while Orlando (4th; 16-7) and Ghattas (4th; 18-5) also advance to the semifinals thanks to their strong showings.

Jedrkowiak and Ament both go 15-8 to finish seventh and earn second team All-America honors, with Ament joining Kryczalo and Sobieraj among 24 all-time Notre Dame student-athletes who have been four-year All-Americans. Stearns also turns in an All-America

finish (10th; 14-9), Walton overcomes a rough start to post 11 wins (14th) and Adjemian delivers five wins to the final margin.

Notre Dame's winning formula features the most points in the women's foil and sabre competition, with the Irish pairs also finishing with the second-most points in men's sabre and third-most in women's epee. Zagunis and Providenza became just the fourth duo (men or women) in the past 10 NCAA tournaments to reach 40 combined wins, with Kryczalo (23) and Ament's (22) 45 wins from the '02 NCAAs remaining the perfect record in that category.

The title-winning performance includes a +12 margin in head-to-head bouts versus the other three contenders, with a +8 vs. St. John's helping knock the 12-fencer Red Storm from the race.

Kryczalo delivers wins in all six of her bouts vs. OSU, PSU and SJU while Providenza (5-1), Zagunis (5-1), Orlando (4-1) and Ghattas (4-2) combine for 18 key wins against the top teams.

While the Notre Dame women staged the dramatic two-day comeback, the men's team still delivered several key wins during the first two days of action at the spacious Brown Convention Center in downtown Houston.

Two of the biggest wins in the entire tournament occur early on day-two, as Notre Dame and OSU face off on the sabre strip. Stearns delivers a 5-0 win over U.S. Olympic team member Rogers – stunning the OSU faithful – and Ghattas follows moments later with a 5-2 win over two-time NCAA champ Crompton. Those two wins ultimately provide a huge four-point swing in the final standings.

The women's bouts saw courageous bouting from Providenza (who battled through illness) and Ament, who shook off a lingering ankle injury that required her to take the maximum 10-minute timeout in one of her early bouts.

Orlando and Walton start slowly but the pair combine to win their final 11 bouts, with Walton repeating her surge that helped win the '03 team title. The clutch wins include a late sweep of Duke All-American Anne Kercksmar, who had placed third at the '04 NCAAs.

The Irish total a program-best five finalists and six semifinalists, with Sobieraj (15-10 semifinal vs. OSU's Denis Tolkahev; 15-13 final vs. Wayne State's Marek Petraszek) claiming the men's epee title. Ghattas tops PSU's Boghicev in the sabre semifinals (15-10) but loses a tight final vs. Sergey Isayenko of St. John's (12-15).

Notre Dame was the first women's team ever with finalists in all three weapons (in '04) and repeats the feat at the '05 NCAAs. Zagunis beats OSU's Siobahn Byrne in the semifinals (15-5) but then loses to Columbia's Jacobson (11-15). Kryczalo dispatches of SJU's Erzsebet Garay in a 15-8 semifinal but her title run ends with a 15-5 loss to Harvard's Emily Cross. Orlando makes quick work of Penn's Holly Buechel (15-5 semifinal) but she can't top defending champ Garina of WSU in the 15-6 final.

Kryczalo – who won all six of her one-touch bouts at the '05 NCAAs – becomes the first Notre Dame fencer ever to reach four NCAA title bouts.

See pp. 52-52 for additional NCAA recap notes and photos.



Notre Dame's competitors at the 2005 NCAA's (front row, from left)
 Amy Orlando,
 Andrea Ament,
 Kerry Walton,
 (back row, from left)
 Aaron Adjemian,
 Patrick Ghattas,
 Mariel Zagunis,
 Valerie Providenza,
 Matt Stearns, Jakub Jedrkowiak,
 Michal Sobieraj and
 Alicja Kryczalo.



2005 NCAA Championship Team Standings (at Houston)

Team	MS	MF	ME	WS	WF	WE	Total
1. Notre Dame	32 (2nd)	15 (8th)	23 (6th)	40 (1st)	36 (1st)	27 (3rd)	173
2. Ohio State	35 (1st)	29 (3rd)	30 (1st)	33 (2nd)	29 (3rd)	15 (9th)	171
3. St. John's	27 (5th)	28 (4th)	29 (2nd)	25 (5th)	30 (2nd)	23 (4th)	162
4. Penn State	32 (2nd)	32 (1st)	13 (8th)	23 (6th)	24 (6th)	21 (6th)	145
5. Columbia/Barnard	31 (3rd)	26	5	33 (2nd)	13	29 (1st)	137
6. Harvard	29	8	28	26	29 (3rd)	14	134
7. Pennsylvania	-	32 (1st)	-	22	13	18	85
8. Princeton	-	9	29 (2nd)	-	19	20	87
9. New York	10	27	8	-	-	23	68
10. Wayne State	-	-	30 (1st)	-	-	28 (2nd)	58
11. Stanford	14	15	5	-	17	-	51
12. Northwestern	-	-	-	18	26	6	50
13. Duke	-	6	13	19	-	10	48
14. Cal State Fullerton	-	22	-	11	8	-	41
15. Air Force	-	-	22	3	-	9	34
16. Rutgers	22	-	9	-	-	-	31
17. Yale	5	-	-	6	17	-	28
18. UC San Diego	11	3	-	-	-	9	23
19. North Carolina	4	-	9	-	-	7	20
20. Drew	-	-	10	7	-	-	17
M.I.T.	-	3	7	-	7	-	17

Others: Haverford 16 (9 MS, 7 WS), Detroit 12 (MS), Vassar 12 (MF), Wellesley 11 (WE), Brandeis 6 (ME), Cal Tech 6 (WE), Cleveland State 6 (MF), Johns Hopkins 6 (3 MS, 3 MF), Temple 4 (WF), Cornell 3 (WF), Sacred Heart 3 (WF), James Madison 1 (WF).

Men's Foil

- Boaz Ellis, Ohio State
- Gabriel Sinkin, NYU
- Ronald Berkowsky, Pennsylvania
- Nonpatat Panchan, Penn State
- Nitai Kfir, St. John's
- Scott Sugimoto, Columbia
- Jakub Jedrkowiak, ND**
- Steve Gerberman, Stanford
- Michael Galligan, Pennsylvania
- Michael Kantor, Vassar
- Jeffrey Chang, Penn State
- Brian Fraser, Cal State Fullerton
- Henry Kennard, St. John's
- Will Jeter, Ohio State
- Jeremy Sinkin, Columbia
- Alex Decker, Cal State Fullerton
- Alexander Kao, NYU
- Alejandro Bras, Princeton
- Enoch Woodhouse, Harvard
- Mike Merker, Cleveland State
- Jackson McClam, Duke
- Spencer Sugimoto, M.I.T.
- Cameron Spowles, UC San Diego
- Nick Marchuk, Johns Hopkins

Men's Epee

- Michal Sobieraj, Notre Dame**
- Marek Petraszek, Wayne State
- Soren Thompson, Princeton
- Denis Tolkachev, Ohio State
- Arpad Horvath, St. John's
- Julian Rose, Harvard
- Benji Ungar, Harvard
- Arthur Urman, Penn State
- Ben Solomon, Princeton
- Benjamin Bratton, St. John's
- Nathan Bragg, Duke
- Christian Rivera, Ohio State
- Jason Stockdale, Air Force
- Timothy French, Air Force
- Wojciech Dudek, Wayne State
- Dana Sanford, Drew
- Benton Heimsath, North Carolina
- Jason Henderson, Rutgers
- Philip Andrews, NYU
- Trevor Chang, M.I.T.
- Kai Keller, Brandeis
- Martin Lee, Stanford
- William Verigan, Columbia
- Aaron Adjemian, Notre Dame**

Men's Sabre

- Sergey Isayenko, St. John's
- Patrick Ghattas, Notre Dame**
- Timothy Hagamen, Harvard
- Franz Boghicev, Penn State
- Jason Rogers, Ohio State
- Alexander Krul, Columbia
- Adam Crompton, Ohio State
- Benjamin Igoe, Rutgers
- Paul Reyfman, Columbia
- Matt Stearns, Notre Dame**
- Jaroslaw Jelinek, Detroit
- David Jakus, Harvard
- Ian Farr, Penn State
- Andrew Magee, NYU
- Curtis Andrus, Stanford
- Christian Flanders, Haverford
- Nijmy Cadet, St. John's
- Phil Dolata, Rutgers
- Bret Martin, UC San Diego
- Christopher Peterson, Yale
- Jon Pearlstein, Stanford
- Wesley Newkirk, North Carolina
- Jason Runyan, UC San Diego
- Aaron Fernandes, Johns Hopkins

Women's Foil

- Emily Cross, Harvard
- Alicja Kryczalo, Notre Dame**
- Jacqueline Leahy, Princeton
- Erzsebet Garay, St. John's
- Iris Zimmermann, Stanford
- Hanna Thompson, Ohio State
- Andrea Ament, Notre Dame**
- Julia Foldi, Northwestern
- Meredith Chin, Penn State
- Metta Thompson, Ohio State
- Cassidy Luitjen, Columbia/Barnard
- Jessica Florendo, Northwestern
- Katia Larchanka, St. John's
- Anna Donath, Penn State
- Christina Kaneshigae Pennsylvania
- Diana Schawlowski, Yale
- Chloe Stinetorf, Harvard
- Senta Breden, Cal State Fullerton
- Alisa Mendelsohn, Yale
- Susannah Dorfman, M.I.T.
- Jenna Remmert, Temple
- Eve Overton, Pennsylvania
- Leanda Ferland, Sacred Heart
- Leigh Pendergrass, James Madison

Women's Epee

- Anna Garina, Wayne State
- Amy Orlando, Notre Dame**
- Morgan Midgley, Columbia/Barnard
- Holly Buechel, Pennsylvania
- Kaela Brendler, Ohio State
- Erin McGarry, Princeton
- Jasmine McGlade, Harvard
- Lauren Willock, NYU
- Case Szarwark, Penn State
- Joanna Guy, St. John's
- Anna Vinnikov, Wayne State
- Alexie Rubin, Columbia/Barnard
- Reka Szele, St. John's
- Kerry Walton, Notre Dame**
- Sarah Abraham, Wellesley
- Anne Kerckmar, Duke
- Jean Goto, NYU
- Eliza Enyart, Air Force
- Chelsea Ambort, UC San Diego
- Andrea Wine, Penn State
- Courtney Krolkoski, North Carolina
- Katherine Harvard, Cal Tech
- Courtney DuBois, Northwestern
- Kira Hohensee, Princeton

Women's Sabre

- Emily Jacobson, Columbia/Barnard
- Mariel Zagunis, Notre Dame**
- Siobhan Byrne, Ohio State
- Valerie Providenza, Notre Dame**
- Sophia Hiss, Penn State
- Carolyn Wright, Harvard
- Amelia Galliard, Ohio State
- Emma Baratta, Columbia/Barnard
- Katelyn Sherry, Pennsylvania
- Christina Crane, St. John's
- Ibtihaj Muhammad, Duke
- Kasia Wieronski, St. John's
- Rachel Liebeng, Cal State Fullerton
- Alexa Weingarden, Harvard
- Lauren Dunn, Northwestern
- Mai Van Vu, Northwestern
- Halli Melnitsky, Haverford
- Allison Schafer, Duke
- Emma Nostrand, Drew
- Cassandra Frey, Pennsylvania
- Carly Guss, Yale
- Laura Hillstrom, Penn State
- Marisa Romero, Air Force
- Ivana Zgaljic, Cornell





Alicja Kryczalo

Foil
Gdansk, Poland

Senior in 2005

Four-Time All-American
NCAA Champion 2002, 2003, 2004
NCAA Runner-Up 2005

One of the most elite student-athletes in Notre Dame history, compiling dominant career that included three NCAA foil titles ('02-'04; also '05 runner-up) – becoming second ND competitor (first since 1940 Sullivan Award winner Greg Rice) ever to win more than two NCAA titles ... combined with classmate men's epeeist Michal Sobieraj as first Poland natives ever to letter with any ND varsity team ... won nearly 93% of bouts in ND career (355-27), including 161-12 in regular season (.941), two titles and runner-up finish in Midwest Fencing Conference (52-2), four regional titles (51-4) and 91-9 wizardry at NCAAs ... won '02 NCAA title without losing a bout, compiling magical +100 in point differential during 23 five-point bouts ... won 48 straight and compiled 93-1 stretch, spanning '02-'03 ... known for fast hand and unique style, with 5-11 frame providing great reach ... joined classmate Andrea Ament ('02 and '04 NCAA runner-up, 3rd in '03, 7th in '05) to form one of the most accomplished same-weapon tandems in college fencing history ... uses frame and acceleration for sabre-like footwork, with excellent body control allows her to frustrate opponents with floating style and quick dodging ... two-year team captain who combined warm, modest and team-focused personality with warrior-type persona on the strip ... gifted athlete who could hold her own fencing versus members of the men's squad ... has strong will to train and tremendous work ethic ... nominated for Academic All-America honors in '05 before graduating with 3.49 cumulative GPA as a psychology and political science major (five straight Dean's List semesters) ... finished 3rd at the '04 Poland Cup in hometown of Gdansk to earn spot on Poland's foil squad ... reached quarterfinals of '04 European Championship.

IN THE RECORD BOOKS: Joined former Penn State foilist Olga Kalinovskaya ('93-'96 champ) as only Div. I women's fencers ever to win three-plus NCAA titles ('02-'04), with seven men completing that feat (Kalinovskaya and NYU sabre Michael Lofton are only four-time champs, with just 25 other Division I student-athletes ever winning the same NCAA event four times) ... also one of just 19 fencers ever to claim multiple NCAA titles (same weapon) ... five previous ND student-athletes (two since late 1930s) claimed multiple NCAA titles: high jumper Johnny Murphy ('21, '22), discus specialist Tom Lieb ('23, '24), distance runner Rice (two-mile in '37 and '39, cross country in '38), foilist Molly Sullivan ('86, '88) and sabre Mike Sullivan ('77, '78) ... first ND fencer to win NCAA title as a freshman and sophomore and first ever to advance to four NCAA title bouts ... set ND record for most career wins in the NCAA round-robin (84-8) ... departed program with .931 career win pct. in regular-season bouts, 2nd-best ever by an ND women's fencer (min. three seasons) – with only six all-time ND men's fencers owning a better career win pct. ... also finished 8th in ND record book for career women's foil wins (161-

12) ... fourth ND freshman (second women's fencer) to win NCAA title ... first ND fencer in 25 years to win NCAA team and individual title in same season ('03).

AS A SENIOR: Concluded stellar college career with 33-2 regular season (.943) before claiming her fourth Midwest Regional title and finishing as NCAA runner-up ... one of three Notre Dame student-athletes to receive the 2005 Byron Kanclay Award, recognizing those who are most exemplary as students and leaders ... finished atop NCAA round-robin charts (21-2) for third time in her career while helping complete team's historic rally from 24-point deficit to edge Ohio State for 2005 NCAA combined title (173-171) ... went 6-0 at the NCAAs vs. the top contenders (OSU, Penn State and St. John's) and 6-0 in one-touch bouts ... her top day-1 wins at the NCAAs came vs. Ament (5-1), Stanford's Iris Zimmermann (3-1), PSU's Anna Donath (5-1) and Meredith Chin (5-0) and Northwestern's Julia Foldi (4-3/OT) and Jessica Florendo (5-3) ... her final push included wins over SJU's Erzsebet Garay (2-1) and huge three-bout sweep of Ohio State twins Hanna (rare 1-0 OT bout) and Metta (5-2) Thompson and Princeton's Jacqueline Leahy (5-1) ... beat Yale's Alisa Mendelsohn (5-0; 167-167 tie with OSU) and Diane Schawlowski (3-2/OT; 170-168) before topping Columbia's Cassidy Luitjen to clinch share of title ... her +58 in total-point indicators was 2nd-best among the 144 total competitors at the '05 NCAAs (teammate Mariel Zagunis was +66) ... helped Irish post most wins ever by a women's team at the NCAAs (103-35) ... went on to beat SJU's Garay in semifinals (15-8) but lost gold-medal bout to Harvard's Emily Cross (5-15) ... earlier won Regional title with 10-1 round-robin and 2-1 fenceoff vs. Hanna Thompson ... beat Zimmermann at the NYU Duals (3-2) while topping Chin (5-1), Donath (5-1), Florendo (5-2) and both Thompsons (4-3 vs. Hanna, 5-3 vs. Metta) at the ND Duals ... came up short in bid to win fourth straight Penn State Open (fall of '04), losing 10-9 overtime semifinal to Hanna Thompson.

AS A JUNIOR: Compiled 49-5 regular-season record and went on to reach Midwest Fencing Conference title bout before winning third straight Regional and NCAA titles ... her early NCAAs wins included bouts vs. Ament (5-0), OSU's Metta (5-4, OT) and Hanna (5-2) Thompson, PSU's Chin (5-4) and Donath (5-0), NU's Foldi (5-2) and Florendo (5-1) and Stanford's Eva Petschnigg (5-2) ... NCAA top seed after finishing round-robin 21-2, going on to avenge 5-4 loss to Princeton's Leahy in 15-14 semifinal (15-14, after trailing 10-12) before beating Ament in 15-7 final ... won Regional title (at Northwestern), going 10-1 before avenging 5-1 loss to Florendo in 5-3 fenceoff (she also beat Florendo in a 5-0 preliminary bout) ... swept Foldi and Florendo (both 5-2) at MFCs, also besting Metta Thompson and Ament (15-8 semifinal) before losing to Hanna Thompson in 15-12 final ... topped Donath (5-4) and Chin (5-2) to

help Irish women win 14-13 at Penn State ... swept Foldi (5-4) and Florendo (5-0) at the ND Duals ... claimed third straight Penn State Open title in fall of '03, besting PSU's Sophia Hiss in 15-1 semifinal and Ament in 15-11 final.

AS A SOPHOMORE: Posted 40-3 regular season before repeating as MFC, Regional and NCAA champion ... loss at ND Duals to PSU's Donath ended her 48-match win streak (also had won 93 of previous 94) ... played key role in NCAA team title (edging PSU, 182-179), with 19-4 round-robin including sweep of PSU (5-1 vs. Chin, 5-2 vs. Donath) and OSU (5-3 vs. Hanna and 5-4 vs. Metta Thompson), plus key wins over NU's Foldi (5-4) and Wayne State's Inga Wallrabenstein (5-3) ... delivered 5-3 win over Zimmermann to help clinch the title ... repeated as NCAA foil champ, with 15-6 semifinal vs. Khouade and 15-12 decision over Zimmermann in title bout ... second ND women's fencer to repeat as conference champ, beating Wallrabenstein in semifinals and Ament in 15-9 final ... went 10-1 at OSU in Regional round-robin (4-5 vs. Ament) before besting Wallrabenstein in 5-0 fenceoff for repeat title ... won Northwestern and Penn State Opens in fall of '02.

AS A FRESHMAN: Fashioned dominating '01-'02 season that began with winning PSU Open (fall '01) and continued with 39-2 regular season, MFC and Regional titles, and rare sweep through NCAAs (also 3rd in Palm Springs and 2nd in South Bend during North America Cups) ... totaled 94-3 overall record with ND, winning 76 of final 77 bouts (after 5-2 loss to defending NCAA champ Zimmermann, at Air Force Duals) ... capped NCAA round-robin at Drew University with unheard-of +100 in total-point indicators (14 shutouts; lost 15 total points in 23 five-touch bouts) en route to 23-0 record ... beat OSU's Hanna Thompson in NCAA semifinals (15-5) and Ament in title bout (15-6) ... ended round-robin with 5-1 win over Stanford's Zimmermann ... other top wins came vs. Thompson sisters (5-2 vs. Hanna, 5-1 vs. Metta), PSU's Marta Grochal (5-1), SJU's Khouade (5-3), and WSU's Wallrabenstein (5-1) ... beat NU's Foldi (15-5) for MFC title ... went 14-1 and avenged loss with 5-3 fenceoff vs. Hanna Thompson at Regional (Cleveland) ... beat Ament in final at PSU Open (15-7) during fall of '01.

PREP & PERSONAL: Member of Poland junior women's foil team that claimed World Championship gold medal from '98-'01 ... claimed silver medal in junior foil at '96 Worlds (Canary Islands), second at Junior World Cup in Germany ('95) and '97 European Championship (Gdansk), 3rd in '98 (Slovakia) ... reached quarterfinals at Senior World Cups in Italy ('98) and Athens ... sister Kasia is one of the world's top-ranked junior-level fencers while 14-year-old brother Michal is competitive fencer ... mother Eva and father Leszek played competitive volleyball ... full name is Alicja Maria Kryczalo ... born May 20, 1981, in Gdansk, Poland ... graduated in '05 as a double major in psychology and political science.

KRYCZALO'S CAREER RECORD

Year	W-L (Pct.)	NCAAs
2002	39-2 (.951)	1st
2003	40-3 (.930)	1st
2004	49-5 (.907)	1st
2005	33-2 (.943)	2nd
Career	161-12 (.931)	



Starters

One of six Notre Dame women's fencers ever to be a four-year All-American, with runner-up NCAA finishes to teammate Alicja Kryczalo in '02 and '04 (3rd in '03 and 7th in '05, helping win NCAA combined team titles in both seasons) ... one of four ND women's fencers to finish 1st-7th at four NCAAs (one of six to reach multiple title bouts), ranking 3rd in ND women's fencing history for career NCAA wins (75-15/833) ... combined with Kryczalo to form one of most dominant tandems in NCAA fencing history (they won 86% of their combined NCAA bouts, 168-28) ... 8th in U.S. women's foil rankings (March '05) ... known for quickness, timing, mental toughness and timely dodging ... competed with U.S. at '02 World Juniors (in Turkey) ... ended '05 with .916 career win pct. (164-15), good for 5th all-time among ND women's fencers (16th in career wins/5th among women's foilists) ... posted 53-3 regular season in '05 before winning Midwest Fencing Conference title with 15-11 rally vs. Northwestern's Jessica Florendo (trailed 8-1) ... added 3rd-place at '05 Midwest Regional (8-3, at Cleveland State) before helping win national title with 7th-place showing at NCAAs (in Houston) ... battled back from early injury in NCAA round-robin, with key wins over Penn State's Anna Donath (5--2) and Meredith Chin (5-1), NU's Florendo (5-3) and Julia Foldi (5-1) and Erzebet Garay of St. John's (5-4) ... final wins over Yale's Diana Schawlowski (5-3) and Alisa Mendelsohn (5-2) helped clinch narrow NCAA title (173-171 over Ohio State), completing historic 24-point comeback ... top wins at '05 Regional came vs. Kryczalo (4-3), OSU's Metta Thompson (5-4) and NU's Foldi (5-2) and Florendo (5-1) ... helped '05 ND team compile most wins ever by women's team at NCAAs (103-35) ... had clinching wins in '05 regular season vs. PSU (5-4 vs. Donath; 16-11 at ND Duals) and OSU (5-2 vs. Metta Thompson; 16-11 at ND Duals) ... top wins at NYU Duals over former NCAA champ Iris Zimmermann of Stanford (5-3) and OSU's Hanna Thompson (5-3)

AMENT'S CAREER RECORD

Year	W-L (Pct.)	NCAAs
2002	28-2 (.933)	2nd
2003	41-6 (.872)	3rd
2004	42-4 (.913)	2nd
2005	53-3 (.946)	7th
Career	164-15 (.916)	



Andrea Ament

Foil
Gates Mills, Ohio

Senior in 2005

Four-Time All-American
NCAA Runner-Up 2002, 2004

... ND women's foil '05 MVP while sharing program's prestigious Walter Langford Leadersip Award with Kryczalo ... junior season included 42-4 regular season in '04 (.913), MFC semifinalist finish (8-15 loss to Kryczalo), 3rd at Regional (9-2, at Northwestern) and runner-up at NCAAs (at Brandeis) ... 3rd in '04 NCAA round-robin (19-4), with top wins over OSU's Hanna Thompson (5-2), PSU's Chin, Princeton's Jacqueline Leahy (5-4) and NU's Foldi (5-2) and Florendo (5-0) ... battled back from 5-1 deficit to beat Hanna Thompson in '04 NCAA semifinal that extended to rare overtime (7-6), losing 15-7 title bout to Kryczalo ... wins over Marta Grochal (5-4) and Donath (5-1) helped Irish women win at Penn State (14-13) in '04 ... runner-up to Kryczalo at PSU Open in fall of '03 (11-15), besting Donath and Leahy in quarter's and semifinals ... shared ND foil MVP with Kryczalo in '03 and '04 ... posted 41-6 regular season in '03, finishing as MFC runner-up (9-15 vs. Kryczalo) and 3rd at Regional (9-2 record, at OSU; 5-4 win over Kryczalo) ... helped win NCAA team title (at Air Force) with 3rd-place finish in round-robin (19-4) that included wins over Kryczalo (5-4), PSU's Chin (5-0) and Donath (5-1), Princeton's Leahy (5-1), OSU's Hanna Thompson (5-4), NU's Foldi (5-4) and Wayne

State's Inga Wallrabenstein (5-3) - plus 5-1 win over Fullerton's Senta Breden that helped secure final 182-179 margin over PSU ... placed 3rd at '03 NCAAs, losing 15-7 semifinal to Stanford's Zimmerman (7-15) and besting Irina Khouade of St. John's for bronze (15-10) ... runner-up at Northwestern Open, 8th at PSU Open (both fall '02) ... opened college career with 28-2 regular season in '02, then 5th at MFCs, 3rd at Regional (Cleveland) and 2nd at NCAAs (Drew University) ... top-ranked U.S. under-20 foilist in '02 (15th in world) ... combined with Kryczalo (23-0) for one of most dominating NCAA performances ever by teammates in same weapon ... went 22-1 in '02 round-robin (5-3 loss to Kryczalo), with wins vs. the Thompsons of OSU (5-2 vs. Hanna, 5-4 vs. Metta), PSU's Grochal (5-0), SJU's Khouade (5-2), WSU's Wallrabenstein (5-2) and Stanford's Zimmermann (5-3) ... beat Khouade in NCAA semi's (15-13) before losing '02 title bout vs. Kryczalo (6-15) ... 7th at '01 World Cup in Italy, also 2nd to Kryczalo at PSU Open (fall '01) ... won bronze at '01 World Juniors (Poland) ... first fencer ever to medal in foil and epee at Cadet Worlds (3rd in both; '99 in Hungary) ... six-time Junior Olympic champ ... five-year member of U.S. teams that competed in junior and cadet Worlds ... daughter of Albert and Kim Ament ... full name is Andrea Erika Ament ... born Nov. 11, 1982, in Cleveland ... graduated with 3.21 cumulative GPA, as Arts and Letters pre-professional major.



Danielle Davis

Sabre
Grand Rapids, Michigan

Graduate Student in 2005

Women's Sabre Team Captain 2005

Walk-on fencer who became regular contributor and team leader ... member of NCAA combined men's and women's championship teams in 2003 and '05 ... returned for final year of eligibility in 2005 after deciding to attend law school at Notre Dame ... served as captain for young 2005 women's sabre squad ... a quality sparring partner and team organizer who made steady progress on the strip, due to her timing, speed and reaction time ... finished her career with a 125-35 record for the second-most wins ever by a Notre Dame women's

sabre fencer (behind Destanie Milo's 166) ... also ranks 7th in ND women's sabre history with a .781 career win pct. ... closed with a 43-8 record in 2005 that represented the 6th-most wins and 7th-best season win pct. (.843) ever by an Irish women's sabre fencer ... went on to place 7th at the 2005 Midwest Fencing Conference Championships (losing 15-11 to Northwestern's Mai Vu) and then went 4-7 at the Midwest Regional, with noteworthy

DAVIS' CAREER RECORD

Year	W-L (Pct.)
2002	7-7 (.500)
2003	43-18 (.705)
2004	32-2 (.941)
2005	43-8 (.843)
Career	125-35 (.781)

wins over Vu (5-1) and Ohio State's Eileen Grench (5-3) ... totaled a 21-3 record at the 2005 ND Duals ... placed 13th at Penn State Open in fall of '04 (9-5), losing to OSU's Siobhan Byrne (the eventual NCAA bronze medalist) ... named 2004 sabre team co-MVP after posting 32-2 record in '03-'04 ... placed 8th at 2004 MFC Championships ... finished 11th at the PSU Open in the fall of '03 ... logged 43-18 record as a junior, earning the 2003 team's Auriol Award ("most improved") ... split 14 bouts while earning first of four monograms in 2002 ... lettered in basketball and softball at Grand Rapids Catholic Central High School, ... participated in Notre Dame Monogram Club service projects during summers of '02 (South Bend's Women's Care Center) and '03 (taught sports to young women in Honduras) ... was member of Notre Dame English Department's

honor society and three-year member of the Diversity Practicum ... daughter of Joe and Mary Davis ... full name is Danielle Elizabeth Davis ... four-time Dean's List student who graduated in May of 2004 with a degree in English before enrolling in law school at Notre Dame.

