

NOTRE DAME COACHING STAFF



Notre Dame head coach Dave Schrage enters his second season with the Irish. Schrage picked up his 500th career victory last year in a 15-3 rout of Rutgers on April 28.





Dave Schrage

Head Coach

20th Year Overall

Second Year at Notre Dame

Creighton '83

Dave Schrage – whose 20 previous seasons as a college head coach include 17 at the Division I level, including a 2006 Evansville squad that ranked among the nation's hottest teams during that year's postseason – was introduced on July 18, 2006, as the 19th head coach in the history of the Notre Dame baseball program. Prior to accepting the position at Notre Dame, Schrage completed his fourth year at Evansville in 2006 while guiding the Aces to the most successful season in the program's history, highlighted by winning the Missouri Valley Conference regular-season and tournament titles, reaching the NCAA regional championship round and finishing as high as 19th in the national polls.

Already regarded as one of the nation's top coaches, Schrage hit the ground running at Notre Dame in the summer of 2006 and proceeded to hire an impressive group of assistant coaches before signing a recruiting class (the team's current group of newcomers) that ultimately was rated by *Collegiate Baseball* magazine as the fourth-best incoming class in the nation.

The first class of the Schrage era at Notre Dame includes three pitchers (Evan Danieli, Brian Dupra and Ryan Sharpley) who each were rated by Perfect Game among the nation's top-40 pitching prospects. Schrage's final class at Evansville – the current Aces sophomores – also was rated high on a national scale, after being ranked 21st on *Baseball America's* list of the top recruiting classes (for players that were embarking on the 2007 season).

The four previous stops in Schrage's head coaching career – most recently at Northern Illinois (2000-02) and Northern Iowa (1991-99), prior to Evansville – have seen him mold unproven teams into record-setting units, with several seasons spent rebuilding underfunded programs while earning him top honors on the conference and national levels. A lifelong fan of Notre Dame's athletic teams and a former standout center-fielder at Creighton, the Chicago native now is in the midst of tackling a new challenge, after taking over the reins of one of the nation's top baseball programs.

Schrage's second Notre Dame team (2008) should show marked improvement from the challenging 2007 campaign that ended with a 28-28 record. In addition to

adjusting to the new coaching staff in 2007, the Irish faced the unprecedented double-edged challenge of replacing the entire three-man weekend rotation from the 2006 season and six of the nine position starters.

Schrage [pronunciation rhymes with bag] is highly-regarded as a consummate student of the game, with a vast baseball knowledge contributing to his skills as a developer of talent and teacher of the game. His teams traditionally have been founded on pitching and defense while playing with a scrappy, aggressive approach that has helped build confidence and a winning tradition among former players.

After inheriting an Evansville team that had won only 22 games in 2002, Schrage guided the Aces in making steady strides while building the program's victory total each season: 24-31 in 2003, 28-32 in '04, 35-23 in '05 and a 43-22 mark in 2006 that represents the second-most wins in the program's history. The 46-year-old Schrage ranks second on the Evansville career victories list, at 130-108.

Only 21 teams in all of DI baseball totaled more wins in 2006 than upstart Evansville, which claimed the MVC regular-season and tournament titles before turning in stunning double-digit NCAA regional wins over host Virginia and an NCAA-veteran South Carolina squad. It marked the first time Evansville ever had reached an NCAA regional title game and was only the third NCAA trip in the program's history.

Evansville's performance at the 2006 MVC Tournament included a key 14-3 victory over home-standing Wichita State. The strong season turned in by the Aces caused longtime Wichita State coach Gene Stephenson to concede in his postgame comments that Evansville had become the "class" of the MVC.

Four seasons at Evansville prepared Schrage for the high level of academic expectations that exist at Notre Dame. Evansville – a private liberal-arts university with an enrollment of only 2,500 – is rated among the top schools in the Midwest and is noted for selective admissions criteria. Schrage showed the ability at Evansville to recruit academic-minded players who went on to excel at the collegiate level. Most notably, catcher Gabe Bauer and pitcher Zach Grage received the Missouri Valley Conference's prestigious Presidents' Award, presented to graduating seniors with grade-point averages of 3.8 and higher.

Bauer – who was accepted to Notre Dame's accelerated master's in accountancy program – graduated with a 3.91 cumulative GPA as an accounting major while Grage compiled a 3.82 GPA en route to receiving his degree in secondary education. Bauer earlier joined teammates Adam Rogers (3.46; sport studies/management), Robbie Minor (3.29; accounting) and Kasey Wahl (3.04; athletic training) in receiving MVC Scholar-Athlete honors, with the four players representing the most from any MVC baseball team. Two others, Mitch Prout (3.40; accounting) and Kyle Smith (3.15; sport studies/management), earned honorable mention MVC Scholar-Athlete status.

The first year of the Schrage era saw the Notre Dame baseball program continue its stellar academic tradition, as the Irish players combined to post a 3.07 team GPA in the 2006 fall semester and a 2.97 during the 2007 spring term. Current senior shortstop Brett Lilley (3.74 cumulative GPA, as an accounting major) was named a CoSIDA first team Academic All-American



in 2007 while current junior pitcher David Phelps (3.24; double major in political science and computer applications) joined Lilley as a first team Academic All-District V selection.

Schrage is one of only five coaches in the history of Missouri Valley Conference baseball who have been named MVC Coach of the Year three or more times, with WSU's Stephenson (11) and former Southern Illinois coach "Itchy" Jones (4) receiving that honor more times than Schrage.

The MVC rates as one of the nation's top college baseball leagues, led by perennial national power Wichita State, Missouri State – which advanced to the 2003 College World Series (as Southwest Missouri

The Schrage File

Hire Date: July 18, 2006

Career Record: 504-581 (.465, 20 seasons)

Career D-I Record: 443-515 (17 seasons)

At Notre Dame: 28-28 (one season)

At Evansville: 130-108 (.546, four seasons)

Birthdate: April 29, 1961

Hometown: Chicago

Education:

1983 – bachelor of science degree in business administration from Creighton University

1987 – master's in sports administration from Biscayne College/St. Thomas University

Coaching Awards

National Coach of the Year Finalist – 2000 (*Collegiate Baseball* magazine)

Missouri Valley Conference Coach of the Year – 1995, 1997, 2006

Milestone Victories

• **Win No. 1:** 1988 season opener
Waldorf College defeated Southwestern (IA) CC

• **Win No. 100:** April 6, 1993
Northern Iowa 6, at Upper Iowa 2

• **Win No. 200:** April 2, 1997
Northern Iowa 10, at Iowa State 4

• **Win No. 300:** March 14, 2001
Northern Illinois 8, St. Xavier 7 (at Stetson)

• **Win No. 400:** Feb. 13, 2005
Evansville 13, at Arkansas-Little Rock 10

• **Win No. 500:** April 28, 2007
Notre Dame 15, at Rutgers 3

see p. 69 for year-by-year coaching resume

State) – and Schrage’s alma mater Creighton. During a four-year span from 2003-06, four different MVC teams advanced to the NCAAs and all nine current MVC teams have made NCAA appearances.

There are nearly 300 teams currently competing in DI baseball but only a small portion – roughly 10 percent (33 teams) – totaled more combined victories in the 2005-06 seasons than Evansville’s 78. Notre Dame’s 83 wins from 2005-06 were 20th-most in the nation during that two-year period.

Schrage’s teams have relied on a recipe for success that mirrors recent Notre Dame teams. His Evansville squads were built around the traditional core of pitching and defense, yielding a 3.39 staff ERA and .975 team fielding percentage in 2006 that both ranked 12th in the final NCAA rankings. Cal State Fullerton was the only other team in the nation ranked among the top-12 in both pitching (1st) and defense (6th) for 2006.

Several Evansville players ranked among 2006 national leaders. Ben Norton (9-3) finished one victory outside the top-50 on the national wins list (68th) while fellow junior righthander Matt Brinkmann ended up just outside the nation’s top-100 ERA leaders (110th; 2.97). Wahl, a junior first baseman, batted .371 to nearly finish among the nation’s top hitters (114th) while sophomore outfielder Jim Viscomi fueled the running game, ranking 10th nationally with 34 stolen bases.

The Aces’ stellar middle infield in 2006 included a second baseman (Kyle Smith) who played error-free over the final 42 games of the season and a slick-fielding shortstop (Minor) who was rated the MVC’s top player at his position for 2007.

Evansville’s emergence as the class of the conference was seen in both its championship finishes and statistical leaders. In 2006 MVC play, Evansville led the league in batting (.295) and fielding (.978; 20 errors in 24 games) while ranking second with a 3.33 league ERA. The Aces also led the MVC during 2006 league play with .420 slugging and 144 runs while the pitching staff yielded the fewest walks (51) and wild pitches (7) and second-fewest home runs (9) during MVC games.

Other noteworthy stats for Evansville in 2006 MVC games included ranking second in on-base percentage (.370) and stolen bases (29), plus third in home runs (14), doubles (42) and low opponent batting (.256). The Aces also led the conference in overall ERA (3.39) and fielding (3.39) while ranking second in on-base (.370), runs (395), stolen bases (98), walks drawn (236), sacrifice bunts (70) and opponent batting average (.256).

Schrage earned his third career Missouri Valley Conference coach-of-the-year honor in 2006, after guiding Evansville to the first MVC title in the program’s history. The Aces had a memorable third day at the NCAA Charlottesville Regional, knocking off the host team Virginia in a 15-4 elimination game and coming back to stay alive with a similar 15-5 win over South Carolina. That game saw Evansville stunningly send 18 men to the plate while scoring 12 times in the third inning – but the Gamecocks later won the decisive game, 5-1.

Schrage earlier helped develop Evansville’s first MVC batting champ (Luke Miller, in 2003) and first MVC newcomers of the year (Cody Strait in ’04; Norton in ’06). His Evansville players combined for two Freshman All-America honors, a first team Summer All-America honor and 17 spots on the all-MVC team (including six in 2006).

Schrage’s 20th season as a college head coach in 2007 corresponded with the 115th season of Notre Dame baseball, as he became only the sixth individual to lead the Irish baseball program since the mid-1930s.

Schrage came to Evansville after a three-year stint at Northern Illinois, where he took a team that was 4-51 the year prior to his 2000 arrival and helped transform it into a Mid-American Conference Tournament team. Virtually the same Northern Illinois team that won four games in 1999 rebounded to win 24 in 2000, prompting *Collegiate Baseball* magazine to recognize Schrage as runner-up for its 2000 national coach-of-the-year

award. *Baseball America* also took notice, selecting Schrage as one of the nation’s “top-10 up-and-coming coaches.”

Prior to his three years at Northern Illinois, Schrage spent nine seasons as head coach at Northern Iowa. He took a UNI program that had only one scholarship in his first season (1991) and transformed it into a perennial contender in the MVC. Schrage was named Missouri Valley Conference coach of the year in 1995 and again in ’97, when he guided the Panthers to one of the best marks in school history at 32-23.

Since 1991, Schrage has developed 56 all-conference selections and 25 players who have moved on to professional baseball – most notably first baseman Erik Lis, a ninth-round selection of the Minnesota Twins in 2005. He has coached nine Freshman All-Americans and also tutored the 1997 MVC player of the year, Brian Jergenson.

Schrage’s standout playing career at Creighton included all-MVC honors in 1982, after leading the conference with a .400 batting average. He then raised that mark to .433 as a senior and received 1983 CoSIDA Academic All-America honors. Schrage is the only individual to gain all-MVC baseball accolades as a player and later earn the league’s coach-of-the-year honor. He was recently named to the All-time MVC squad (one of six outfielders).

Former Notre Dame head coach Paul Mainieri gave Schrage his first job in coaching when he hired him to his 1984 staff at St. Thomas University (located in Miami and also known as Biscayne College). Schrage spent the 1983-84 season as a graduate assistant at Biscayne/St. Thomas before returning to Creighton to work two seasons (’84 and ’85) with current Chicago Cubs general manager Jim Hendry, who ultimately coached the Bluejays to the 1991 College World Series. Schrage was instrumental in signing the 1985 Creighton recruiting class that featured three future professional players and was rated fifth-best in the nation.

Schrage coached overseas in 1987-88 with the Mt. Gravatt Eagles Club in Brisbane, Australia, and returned to direct the baseball team at Waldorf Junior College (now a four-year college, in Forest City, Iowa) for three seasons (1988-90) before taking over at Northern Iowa.

A two-sport standout in baseball and basketball at Chicago’s Fenwick High School – where his basketball teammates included the son of former Notre Dame football Heisman Trophy winner Johnny Lattner – Schrage later received his bachelor of science degree in business administration from Creighton (’83) and a master’s in sports administration from Biscayne/St. Thomas.

His father Jack Schrage was a high school football player at Quincy (Ill.) Notre Dame High School and later served in the Korean War before marrying his wife Carolyn, a professional dancer in Las Vegas and later at the Palmer House in downtown Chicago. Schrage’s younger brother, Greg, played basketball and baseball at Loras College in the mid-1990s (when current Notre Dame athletics director Kevin White was the Loras AD) and finished his baseball career in South Carolina, at Francis Marion.

Schrage and his wife Jody – who passed away on Jan. 9, 2007, following a brief battle with cancer – met during their days as student-athletes at Creighton. A standout prep softball player who was inducted into the Iowa High School Hall of Fame, the future Jody Schrage was a leading player for the Creighton softball teams that played in three straight College World Series (1980-82). She later coached high school softball in Iowa while her husband was directing the baseball team at UNI.

The Schrage daughters – Kaitlyn (17) and Brienne (14) – have followed in their parents’ footsteps, as Kaity and Bri each play softball. Each also is musically inclined, with Kaity playing the clarinet and Bri the violin.

What They’ve Said About Dave Schrage

“The same record of achievement that Dave enjoyed as a student-athlete has followed him in his coaching career. He has built competitive teams at each of his stops by focusing first on identifying – then developing – quality young men. That same fundamental approach is a perfect fit for sustaining the national excellence that marks the Irish baseball program. I consider myself fortunate to have competed against him as an undergraduate, worked with him as an administrator, and now cheer for him as an alumnus.”

Rick Chryst

*Commissioner of Mid-American Conference
former Notre Dame baseball player (’83)*

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“I was very impressed with coach Schrage’s Evansville ballclub in the NCAA Regional at our stadium. They had the best offensive output of any team we faced all year – and that is saying something when you consider our schedule. That regional performance showed coach Schrage’s ability in making his players respond to his coaching and execute his gameplan.

“To quickly bring Evansville from the bottom to the top of the Missouri Valley Conference is amazing. I played in the MVC and for them to win the regular season and the tournament – in a tough environment at Wichita State – shows his ability to recruit and to get players performing at the needed level.

“Having coached before at Notre Dame and understanding what it takes to win championships there, I believe coach Schrage has the ability to coach, communicate and get players to play the game the right way – in order to continue the great success that Notre Dame has experienced in recent years.”

Brian O’Connor

*University of Virginia head coach
former ND associate head coach (1995-2003)*

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“Without question, Evansville has become the class of [the Missouri Valley Conference]. We have been the class of the league for a long time, but they have retaken that, no doubt about it. They play the game the way it is supposed to be played. They are well-coached, their players get good pitches to hit, they play very good defense, and their pitchers can command the strike zone and throw three pitches for strikes.”

Gene Stephenson

*Wichita State head coach
(postgame comments on May 26, 2006,
after Evansville defeated Wichita State,
14-3, at the MVC Tournament)*

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“We called everybody in college baseball – everybody we could find – to identify the right group of individuals that would make sense to attract to Notre Dame. Dave’s name came up over and over again, as somebody who made a whole lot of sense. Of course, when we had a chance to sit down with Dave, it resonated pretty clearly for us that he was a tremendous fit for Notre Dame.”

Kevin White

Notre Dame Director of Athletics

A Visit with Dave Schrage

General Coaching Philosophy

"I really feel that the sense of mission in what Notre Dame is all about meets my philosophy – that is, developing the student-athlete not only as a player, but spiritually, academically, athletically and as a total person. When I go and recruit a player in his living room, I tell him that our goals will be: to have a championship ring on his finger; to have a diploma in his hand; and to have a great heart and feeling for the experience he will have at Notre Dame."

Team Goals

"Our expectations are to get to Omaha and to win a national championship. We want to put ourselves in that position every year and be one of the major programs in the country. Our goal at Notre Dame is not to be good – we want to be great in life, in the classroom, and especially on the field. The players here at Notre Dame have an intense desire to become better every day and it is very evident that these players are winners."

"On a smaller scale, we set 15 goals for every game: five offensive, five defensive and then five team goals. The players need to have some goals in front of them to stick by, especially game goals. We keep the goals in front of the players so they can see that they are important and thus the players can stay focused on the team."

A Foundation Built On Trust

"I'm the kind of coach who is going to get to know each player as a person. I need to know what they have inside, what makes them tick. Some need to be motivated more than others, based on his personality. The main thing is to have that trust among the players. They need to trust us and we need to get to know them more as people. At the same time, the players need to learn the staff's expectations of them as people, students, and baseball players."

"I'll do what it takes to motivate them to win. You have to know your players on a personal basis, know what buttons to push for motivation. You need to find out what is important to them and what they want to do with their lives. That all goes hand-in-hand with them producing."

Long-Term Commitment

"Notre Dame is not a stepping-stone for me. This is the pinnacle for me. If I'm here for the next 20 years of my life, this is where I want to be. I couldn't have a better fit. It's the university I admired growing up. It's close to my family and the area where I spent my youth. It's an outstanding program with great leadership. This is my dream come true."

Coaching Style

"I've always tried to adapt my style to personnel and I've always built teams around pitching and defense. Our teams have always been well-prepared. I'm a hands-on coach and I'm really going to teach the game and make players better on the field. There's nothing more painful than making mental errors in a game. The more we teach, the less the mental errors will occur."

Defensive Emphasis

"We put a lot of time in practice on defending. That really helps you win games: make the other team earn runs. If teams hit groundballs and you can't defend, that's how you get beat. Teams that have better pitching and defense are going to win."

"Throwing to the right base keeps the double-play intact and if you have strong guys up the middle, you can turn the double plays. If that happens, pitchers believe in their defense and keep the ball down, strike guys out and relax a little more. Our catcher also has to take charge and be a quarterback."

"To turn around a popular saying: the best offense is a good defense."

Offensive Focus

"Generally, teams don't spend a lot of time defending. So from an offensive standpoint, we have to put guys in motion and see if they can defend against us. You never want to be an easy team to play, where the opponent can sit back and relax. You want to make the other team have to be ready for a lot of things. You want to get the opposing pitcher out of his rhythm, so he's worried about the guys on base and not focused on the batter – that's where you win a lot of games."

"I gauge offensive philosophy based on personnel. If you don't have speed, you can't just run for the sake of running. Sometimes, we may have to manufacture more through hit-and-run. I think hitting is contagious and it rolls throughout your team. It takes one or two guys to get hot and everybody else starts falling in behind."

Pitching Depth

"It's really important in our recruiting philosophy to have pitching depth. We need five good starters. It's likewise important to develop a staff that gives opposing teams different looks. I like matchups, so we will need to have a lot of quality pitchers ready to go to in the bullpen."

Recruiting Corner – with Dave Schrage and Scott Lawler

Schrage – "With Scott and I having worked together now for six years, we know the type of player that we're looking for. Your recruiting coordinator is very key, especially at Notre Dame, to identify kids who truly are interested in your program. Scott does a great job throughout the entire process of identifying the right kids. We could be the greatest coaches in the world, but you have to have talent to win."

"Every year, you need to bring in pitching and our recruiting is centered around pitching. Generally speaking, we obviously have to recruit on a national basis and locate the right kids that fit with Notre Dame."

"Chicago is a great recruiting area – it's in our backyard and is becoming a Notre Dame town again. Scott and I both are from the Chicago area and have great recruiting ties there. We intend to get in there and try to get the best players out of that area."

Lawler – "Our plan is to win with good athletes and good peo-



Team Spirit

"I want players on the bench to be into the game by paying attention and being enthusiastic. It's important to give guys roles during the games, because they all are used to playing. You aren't going to win games with selfish players, guys worried about where they're going to get drafted or focused on stats. All of also can be contagious in a bad way. You have to make sure they are focused on the ultimate goal: getting to Omaha."

"Our teams will play hard."

"I'm big on how we run to first base and in general running hard. We will sprint off the field. I want the other team to know that we are there to play today and they need to take notice of our effort."

"We aren't just going through the motions, and that's hard to do over the span of a 56-game college season. It's up to us as a coaching staff to keep on the players – so they understand the style that we are going to play every inning."

Community Service

"We need our players out in the community and they need to be visible in that way. I'll be out in the community

getting people fired up for our season. We want a family-type atmosphere at the ballpark. It's important that our players give back and that the community knows who they are – so they'll want to come cheer for those guys."

Notre Dame Visit

"I had a great experience as a player at Creighton. My senior year, we came to Notre Dame for a series in the fall and we went to the first night football game when the Irish played Michigan. I got to room with Rick Chryst from Notre Dame – we were both outfielders and they put us together. Rick and I have developed a great relationship ever since and he has done a tremendous job as commissioner of the Mid-American Conference. Just by that experience, our paths crossed."



ple. We need to spot kids who will help us athletically and help us off the field, who are going to get it done in the classroom and generally represent Notre Dame in the right way."

"We want to make sure it's always a good fit. We want kids who are proud of Notre Dame baseball and who will be more team guys than 'I' guys. We are recruiting the person, not just the player. That is our main goal – because, if you are recruiting good people who also are good athletes, you don't have to be the most talented team. You have a great chance to win, they will come together as a team and you are going to have a very good product."

"If you don't have that unity, it leaves holes in your lineup, the players will not be good teammates and you will have off-the-field problems. We don't want to deal with those things. We want to deal with kids graduating, winning a lot of games in a classy fashion and earning a quality degree."

One of the first orders of business for first-year Notre Dame head baseball coach Dave Schrage during the summer of 2006 was assembling an impressive coaching staff. Schrage's comments follow below, discussing the process in general and each member of the current staff:

Coaching Chemistry

"All of our coaches have the same general philosophy – although we definitely are four individuals with unique personality strengths. We all are in this to try to develop the team as baseball players and individuals. That's going to be a great thing for our kids to experience.

"You will find all the coaches on our staff are loyal to each other, to the players and to the University. They all are team-oriented coaches and have a great feel about what Notre Dame is all about. Each of the assistants are great communicators and tremendous teachers of the game of baseball.

"I don't want four versions of me on the staff. I want different personalities that the players can relate to. I don't want a bunch of clones or 'yes-men.' I want them to shoot ideas at me and not be afraid to tell me things."

Scott Lawler

"Scott is a rising star in coaching, with great passion for the game. He communicates and teaches the game very well. He's not afraid to learn the next technique and always wants to improve as a coach. Scott is fun to be around and keeps the guys loose, which is good because sometimes I'm too into the games and he breaks the ice.



Notre Dame's 2008 baseball coaching staff includes (from left) Sherard Clinkscapes, Dave Schrage, Graham Sikes and Scott Lawler.

"Scott is very knowledgeable about coaching and comes from a great baseball family. He's not afraid to tell me that we should look at doing something different and I need that type of assistant – that's how you become better as coaches and as a staff. A lot of things are second nature between us, and Scott does a great job of evaluating talent as it relates to our needs."

Sherard Clinkscapes

"Sherard brings a unique perspective through his involvement in professional baseball and background in the Midwest. He is a great fit with Notre Dame – in terms of his outgoing and energetic personality – and has a tremendous amount of contacts throughout the country.

"Having been in the Braves organization and around Leo Mazzone, Sherard has some of the same pitching philosophies and very unique thoughts on what goes into being a pitching coach. He knows what is needed to develop strong pitchers and staffs on the college level – in addition

to having that insight about developing players into quality pro prospects.

"Sherard believes in the good things in college athletics, including the academic standards at Notre Dame. He is a caring individual who wants to develop his staff as total student-athletes.

"Sherard had amazing references and we had great reports about his potential as a coach, his work ethic and the type of person he is. Those are people whose opinions you're going to respect."

Graham Sikes

"Graham comes from such a diverse coaching background and it is a big asset that he has catching experience, as both a player and coach. He was a great fit for our program, due to his outgoing personality, his communication and teaching skills, and a great work ethic. He does so many things for us behind the scenes and is a very important part of our baseball program."

Schrage's Coaching Record

Yr.	School	Record	Pct.	Notes/Honors
1988	Waldorf Junior College	16-26	.381	
1989	Waldorf Junior College	21-20	.512	Team reached the junior college sub-regional championship game
1990	Waldorf Junior College	24-20	.546	Team reached the junior college sub-regional championship game
3-year Waldorf Totals		61-66	.480	Saw two of his Waldorf players selected in the Major League draft
Yr.	School	Record	Pct.	Notes/Honors
1991	Northern Iowa	12-44	.214	
1992	Northern Iowa	22-34	.392	Oversaw program's transition from the Mid-American to Missouri Valley Conference
1993	Northern Iowa	12-39	.235	100th career victory
1994	Northern Iowa	24-32	.429	
1995	Northern Iowa	28-27	.509	Missouri Valley Conference Coach of the Year; UNI's first winning season since 1987
1996	Northern Iowa	26-32	.448	MVC Tournament participant
1997	Northern Iowa	32-23	.603	MVC Coach of the Year; team-record win total; coached MVC player of the year Brian Jergenson
1998	Northern Iowa	28-26	.519	
1999	Northern Iowa	26-30	.464	
9-year UNI Totals		210-287	.423	Two-time MVC Coach of the Year; third-winningest coach in UNI baseball history
Yr.	School	Record	Pct.	Notes/Honors
2000	Northern Illinois	24-33	.421	National coach of year finalist (<i>Collegiate Baseball</i>); boosted team's win total by 20; MAC Tournament
2001	Northern Illinois	28-27	.509	300th career victory
2002	Northern Illinois	23-32	.418	
3-year NIU Totals		75-92	.449	Elevated NIU program to a competitive position within the Mid-American Conference
Yr.	School	Record	Pct.	Notes/Honors
2003	Evansville	24-31	.436	Coached program's first MVC batting champ (Luke Miller)
2004	Evansville	28-32	.467	MVC Tournament 3rd-place finisher; coached program's first MVC rookie of the year (Cody Strait)
2005	Evansville	35-23	.603	Spent most of season in national top-30 (narrowly missed NAAs); UE's third-most wins since 1995
2006	Evansville	43-22	.662	MVC Coach of the Year; NCAA Charlottesville Regional finalist; MVC reg-season/tournament champs
4-year Evansville Totals		130-108	.546	Acres improved on their win total every season of the Schrage era
Yr.	School	Record	Pct.	Notes/Honors
2007	Notre Dame	28-28	.500	500th career victory
20-Year Head Coaching Record: 504-581 (.465) 17-Year Division I Coaching Totals: 443-515 (.462)				

Assistant Coach



Scott Lawler

**Assistant Coach
Second Year at Notre Dame
Simpson College '00**

Scott Lawler – considered one of the top young coaches in the nation and a product of an impressive baseball pedigree – has been reunited at Notre Dame with head baseball coach Dave Schrage, serving as the baseball program’s primary assistant coach and recruiting coordinator. The 31-year-old Lawler – whose coaching responsibilities include instructing the Irish hitters and infielders – previously served as an assistant to Schrage for five years (four with the additional role of recruiting coordinator), first at Northern Illinois during the 2001 and '02 seasons and then for three years at Evansville (2003-05).

Lawler returned to his spot alongside Schrage in the summer of 2006, after spending 2005-06 as associate head coach and recruiting coordinator at Arkansas-Little Rock. While at Little Rock, he had the unique opportunity to serve on the staff of his uncle Jim Lawler, whose status as a household name in the world of college baseball includes 22 seasons as a member of the Texas A&M baseball staff and being named national assistant coach of the year in 2003.

The second-year Notre Dame assistant coach has even closer coaching ties, as his father Phil Lawler has coached for the past 31 years in the Chicago area, including 26 seasons as associate head coach of the Naperville Central High School team that won the 2006 Illinois state title. The elder Lawler is widely known throughout the state’s baseball community and has been inducted into the Illinois High School Hall of Fame.

Lawler’s ability as a recruiting coordinator was validated during his first months on the job at Notre Dame, as he spearheaded the effort that landed an elite class (the program’s current newcomers) that was ranked as high as fourth-best in the nation (per *Collegiate Baseball* magazine).

In addition to his recruiting accomplishments, Lawler coached one of the BIG EAST Conference’s top offensive duos – Brett Lilley (.371 batting avg., .512 on-base pct., 55 runs, 31 walks, 28 hit-by-pitch) and A.J. Pollock (.372, 39 R, 32 BB, 11 stolen bases) – during the 2007 season.

A utility player in his undergraduate days at Morehead State and Simpson College, Lawler has remained a two-way talent on the coaching level

with successful stints serving as the hitting coach at Northern Illinois and then the pitching coach for Evansville. He assisted his uncle in overseeing all positions of the team at Arkansas-Little Rock.

Lawler was a key component of Schrage’s rebuilding success stories at NIU and Evansville before heading to Little Rock in July of 2005 to coach with his uncle, who targeted his nephew for the staff due to his experience rebuilding programs. In one month’s time, the Lawler duo had assembled a new group of eight recruits that was rated by *Collegiate Baseball* magazine among the nation’s “best of the rest” (just outside the top-40) for classes entering in the fall of 2005. Prior to leaving for Notre Dame, Lawler had helped his uncle sign a class of 19 for the 2006 season, as the Trojans continued on their rebuilding project.

Two UALR pitchers who were coached by Lawler moved on to professional baseball after the 2006 season, as senior Rob Harmon was drafted by the Seattle Mariners while fellow righthander Trevor Clay was a free-agent signee. Lawler’s time in Little Rock also included coordinating the baseball program’s budget, fundraising and spring game schedule.

Lawler’s three seasons at Evansville saw the Aces pitching staff lower the team ERA every season, culminating in a 4.46 ERA for the 2005 season. Many of the players he recruited ended up being key ingredients in the record-setting 2006 season that featured the Aces winning the Missouri Valley Conference regular-season and tournament titles before reaching the final game of the NCAA Charlottesville Regional (capping a 43-win season). In fact, eight players from that squad signed professional contracts in 2007.

His 2005 recruiting class at Evansville was included among *Collegiate Baseball*’s annual “best of the rest” and his 2005 staff featured three pitchers who received all-MVC honors. Most notably, Michael Greenhouse developed under the guidance of Lawler into a 2005 Chicago Cubs draft pick.

Lawler’s recruiting highlights included signing eventual 2004 MVC newcomer of the year Cody Strait and 2004 Freshman All-American Pat Tumilty. Prior to leaving Evansville, he signed two prospects who were ranked in the nation’s Top 100 by Team One Baseball: Ben Norton (the 2006 MVC newcomer of the year) and catcher Kirk Bascu, who later received all-MVC honors. His numerous duties at Evansville also included organizing the summer camp program, managing compliance needs and team travel.

Schrage and Lawler joined an Evansville program that had won only 22 games in the 2002 season, and then proceeded to guide the Aces in building their victory total each season – including 24-31 in 2003, 28-32 in '04 and 35-23 in '05. The pair earlier had overseen a similar turnaround at Northern Illinois, where Schrage took over a program that had won only four games in the 1999 season. That victory total grew to 24 in 2000 before Lawler joined the staff for a 2001 season that produced the most wins in the history of the program (28-27) and the first winning record by an NIU baseball team in 20 years.

Lawler initially joined the NIU staff as a volunteer assistant but one month later he was moved into the vacant second assistant’s position, after making a strong impression on Schrage. He coached the Huskies hitters and outfielders, including Freshman All-America first baseman Trevor Stocking, while also organizing the program’s fundraising efforts.

He later was promoted to the additional role of NIU recruiting coordinator for the 2002 season and helped sign a class that produced two Freshman All-Americans (first basemen Scott Simon and pitcher Mark Badgley) and two others – infielder Joe Mazzuca (12th round, Seattle Mariners) and pitcher Nick Hall (free-agent, Philadelphia Phillies)

The Lawler File

2006 – Notre Dame assistant coach
2005-06 – Ark.-Little Rock associate head coach
2003-05 – Evansville assistant coach
2001-02 – Northern Illinois assistant coach
1995-99 – Two-way player at Morehead State and Simpson College ('99)

Education – graduated from Simpson College in 2000, with degree in sports administration; received master’s degree from Evansville in public service administration ('05).

Hometown – Naperville, Illinois

Family – wife Kim, son Lucas, daughter Alexa

– who eventually were drafted or signed by Major League teams. Another one of his NIU signees, outfielder Mike Santoro, later signed with the San Francisco Giants in 2005. Lawler also took on the duties of infield coach and camp director in 2002.

Lawler’s collegiate playing career began at Morehead (Ky.) State, where he played from 1995-98 as a pitcher, outfielder and first baseman before transferring to Simpson College (in Indianola, Iowa) for his senior season.

He played baseball for his father at Naperville Central High School, earning all-conference honors as a senior utility player. Lawler also was a forward on the NCHS basketball team and a football tight end, with all three teams ranked among the state top-25 in his career.

A native of Naperville, Ill., Lawler graduated from Simpson College in 2000 with a bachelor’s degree in sports administration. He went on to earn a master’s in public service administration from Evansville in 2005. He and his wife, Kim – who also comes from an athletic family and was a member of the cross country team at Northern Illinois – welcomed their son Lucas Raymond to their family on Dec. 21, 2005, and daughter Alexa on Sept. 24, 2007.

...

In the Dugout with Scott Lawler

“It’s an honor to be at Notre Dame right now. I’ve had a lot of opportunities as an assistant or head coach at other schools, but this is an opportunity where I’m not looking over my shoulder. This is a program where the kids know how to win, but our main goal is going to the College World Series and winning a national title.

“I’ve now coached with Dave Schrage for seven years and he is very loyal to his program and to the kids. I respect that and it’s the reason I wanted to work for Dave again – because, with him, the kids come first and the program comes first. He has no ego and has a passion for winning. He has turned programs around and they’ve all been better programs after he leaves. I feel I’m a teacher and when you look at that aspect, you want to work for a guy who believes in the kids.

“The prestige of this university is not only the baseball program. It’s an honor to be a spokesperson or recruiting coordinator for a university that has such character across the nation.

“In coaching baseball, you play a bigger role by trying to get kids motivated. The most talented team doesn’t always win as much as in other sports – it’s the team that is better prepared, that has belief in themselves, that is close-knit and plays together. Being a baseball coach is one of the greatest jobs in the world because of all the rewards it can bring and because you can make such a positive impact on young players.”

– **Scott Lawler**





Sherard Clinkscales

Assistant Coach
Second Year at Notre Dame
Purdue '94

Sherard Clinkscales – a standout pitcher at Purdue and a former Kansas City Royals top prospect who later spent 10 years in Major League scouting – is embarking on his second season as a Notre Dame assistant coach. Clinkscales serves as the Irish pitching coach while also assisting with recruiting and overseeing the program's student welfare operation.

During his first full year at Notre Dame, Clinkscales helped the Irish attract the nation's fourth-ranked recruiting class while also making a positive impact on several of the Notre Dame pitchers. Most notably, current junior David Phelps rebounded from a rocky freshman season to become a first team all-BIG EAST performer in 2007 – when he won eight games and compiled a 1.88 ERA, with 102 strikeouts, only 30 walks and 96 hits allowed in 110.1 innings.

Clinkscales also had a profound impact on another righthander, Joey Williamson, whose strong junior season in 2007 (2.81, 53 Ks, 16 BB, 51.1 IP) led to him being drafted and signed by the Colorado Rockies. Current sophomore Eric Maust (3.65, 32 Ks, 7 BB, 44.1 IP) also quickly excelled under the watchful eye of Clinkscales while compiling a 4.6 strikeout-to-walk ratio and a lowly rate of 1.4 walks per 9.0 innings (both marks rank among the best in Irish baseball history).

A record-setting strikeout ace at Purdue, Clinkscales was the 31st pick in the 1992 Major League draft, going to the Royals as a compensatory pick after the first round. The Royals also selected future big-leaguers Michael Tucker, Jim Pittsley, Johnny Damon and Jon Lieber within the first 44 picks of the '92 draft. After injuries cut short his playing career, Clinkscales parlayed his connections into a position with the Atlanta Braves as an area scouting supervisor (1997-99). The Indianapolis native later was the Tampa Bay Devil Rays assistant director of scouting (1999-2001) and returned to the Braves as an area scouting supervisor (2001-05) before being promoted to the position of professional scout in 2005-06.

The son of former minor-league baseball player Lester Clinkscales – a lefthanded pitcher who reached triple-A Indianapolis during an 11-year career in the White Sox organization – the younger Clinkscales was an all-county pitcher at Brebeuf Jesuit High School. He also was an all-county point guard for the BJHS basketball team that beat powerhouse Pike in the 1989 sectionals before losing on a last-second shot to a Lawrence North squad

led by future North Carolina standout Eric Montross. His teammates at Brebeuf Jesuit included future NBA player Alan Henderson.

Clinkscales was a scholarship baseball player at Purdue while also playing for Gene Keady's 1989-90 basketball team, as an invited walk-on (he turned down full scholarship offers from DI basketball schools). His breakout baseball season came as a junior, earning ABCA all-region and first team all-Big Ten Conference honors while leading longtime coach Dave Alexander's 1992 squad in ERA (2.34), strikeouts (87), wins (7), complete games (9) and innings (80.2). He earlier was invited to attend tryouts for the 1991 United States Olympic team.

His pro career included playing with the single-A Eugene (Ore.) Emeralds and Rockford (Ill.) Royals, before being released in 1995. He earlier returned to Purdue to complete his requirements before graduating in 1994 with a degree in history.

Clinkscales was contacted in 1996 by then Atlanta Braves assistant general manager Dean Taylor (now Vice President-Baseball Operations/Assistant General Manager of the Kansas City Royals) and made a strong impression in his interview with GM John Schuerholz and director of scouting Paul Snyder, a legend in the scouting community. Clinkscales went on to serve in 1997 as the Braves' area scouting supervisor for the mid-Atlantic region and held the same title in 1998-99 for the Midwest region. In his mid-Atlantic position, Clinkscales replaced Dayton Moore – who has gone on to become assistant GM for the Braves and general manager of the Royals.

The role of area scouting supervisor involved overseeing evaluations of high school and college players, with associate scouts reporting directly to Clinkscales. He also handled scouting big-league clubs during those years.

Clinkscales first crossed paths with the current Notre Dame head coach in 1998, when Dave Schrage was at Northern Iowa. The Braves later used their seventh-round pick in 1998 to select UNI's Scott Sobkowiack, who pitched with the big-league club before career-ending elbow surgery.

The fall of 1999 saw Clinkscales become assistant director of scouting with a Devil Rays franchise owned by Notre Dame graduate Vince Naimoli. He evaluated elite players nationwide while coordinating draft operations and handling all budgeting for domestic and international scouting. While in Tampa, he completed a 2001 executive training program and worked alongside respected talent evaluator Dan Jennings (now the Florida Marlins Vice President, Player Personnel and Assistant General Manager).

Clinkscales returned to the Braves in the fall of 2001 and served four years as an area scouting supervisor in Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio and Tennessee. Clinkscales' most recent position of professional scout included evaluating minor-leaguers in the Carolina and Midwest leagues. He also served as an advance scout in the 2005 playoffs, providing a complete scouting report of the Boston Red Sox.

In the new role of professional scout, Clinkscales – who was instrumental in signing Australian National Team standout and eventual Major League pitcher Peter Moylan – reported directly to Schuerholz and Moore, who accepted his new post with the Royals in 2006.

During recent offseasons, Clinkscales worked alongside co-founder Scott McGowan with After Sport Group, an organization that conducts on-campus career workshops for student-athletes.

Clinkscales emerged as one of the nation's top prospects as a junior at Purdue. The three-year starter compiled a 5.01 career ERA and 14-14 record in 41 appearances (36 starts), with 190 strikeouts, 173 walks and 38 more innings pitched (196) than hits allowed (158). His 14 complete

The Clinkscales File

2006- – Notre Dame assistant coach
2005-06 – Atlanta Braves professional scout
2001-05 – Braves area scouting supervisor
1999-2001 – Tampa Bay Devil Rays assistant director of scouting
1996-99 – Braves area scouting supervisor
1992-95 – Minor-league career (Royals)
1990-92 – Standout pitcher at Purdue, selected by K.C. Royals with 31st overall pick in '92 draft
Education – graduated from Purdue in 1994, with a degree in history
Hometown – Indianapolis
Family – wife Trisha, son Alex, daughter Tara

games included three solo shutouts and a no-hitter. He still owns Purdue's top career strikeout average (8.72 Ks/9 IP), also now ranking fourth in fewest hits allowed per 9.0 innings (7.26, best since '71) and eighth in strikeouts (190, most among three-year players).

His 1992 season ranks among the best ever at Purdue, as he tied team records for strikeouts (87) and complete games (9) while posting a 2.34 ERA that is second-best in the record book and tops in the past 40 years. His 1992 strikeout average (9.71/9 IP) was best in Purdue history and now ranks second, while his 6.0 hits allowed per 9.0 IP is best by a Purdue pitcher since the late 1960s (sixth overall).

After compiling similar seasons in 1990 (6.13, 4-6, 55 Ks, 57 BB, 48 H in 61.2 IP), and 1991 (7.71, 3-4, 48 Ks, 58 BB, 56 H, 53.2 IP), Clinkscales had the breakout that earned him the second-most votes for 1992 Big Ten pitcher of the year. During his junior season, Purdue split a pair of games versus a 1992 Notre Dame squad that featured future big-leaguers Craig Counsell and Chris Michalak.

Clinkscales was a member of the 1989-90 Purdue basketball team that finished as Big Ten runner-up and lost to Texas in the NCAAs. His teammate and roommate on the road was Matt Painter, now head coach of the Boilermakers.

He and his wife, the former Trisha Lashan Smith (a graduate of Ball State), were married in 1995 and are the parents of a son, Alex (9), and a daughter, Tara (8).

...

Quoting "Coach Clink"

"My job is to be a tool for success and I won't try to reinvent a player. The psyche is most important and I know a lot about success and failure. I can take my experience and impart knowledge on players so they can reach their potential. I hope to instill the importance of mental makeup, work ethic and conditioning. I'm so indebted to baseball and want to be an ambassador for the game.

"Dave Schrage has integrity and is the type of coach I want to work for – and Notre Dame represents class in college athletics. Student-athlete is just not a term, it's a way of life at Notre Dame and it's the way I was raised. Notre Dame offers the opportunity to develop academically and professionally while becoming quality human beings. No other school does that better.

"The intangibles are what allow a young man to reach his potential and they also are what make championship clubs. Baseball is a game of failure and you have to be mentally strong. I wish I could have been a scout and then played, because I would have recognized my innate ability. Scouting is an excellent tool for pitchers to learn strengths and weaknesses of hitters while seeing how they can use their stuff to get hitters out."

– Sherard Clinkscales

Assistant Coach



Graham Sikes

**Volunteer Assistant Coach
First Year at Notre Dame
Liberty '02**

Graham Sikes – the newest member of the Notre Dame baseball coaching staff – joined the Irish program in June of 2007, after spending the previous season as an assistant coach at James Madison University. Sikes will serve as Notre Dame's volunteer assistant coach, with primary coaching duties for the catcher and outfielder positions. He also will oversee Notre Dame's expansive baseball camp operation and helps coordinate the program's annual Opening Night Dinner.

Sikes was an assistant at James Madison in the 2007 season and helped instruct the Dukers hitters while working directly with the catchers, the position he played at Liberty University. He had been promoted to recruiting coordinator at JMU three weeks before accepting the invitation to join Dave Schrage's staff at Notre Dame.

Sikes previously was the recruiting coordinator, hitting coach and catchers coach at Young Harris (Ga.) College in 2005-06, helping guide a Mountain Lions team that racked up 48 wins while being ranked eighth among the nation's junior college teams.

His first coaching position came in the fall of 2004, when Sikes was named the assistant coach for Independence (Kan.) Community College and worked primarily with the team's hitters, catchers and outfielders. After the fall season at Independence, Sikes earned an assistant coaching position at Nicholls State (La.) University and went on to work with the team's catchers while assisting with the hitters during the 2005 spring season. He helped Nicholls State player John Brummet make the transition from third base to catcher, with that position switch helping land Brummet a professional contract with the Oakland Athletics' organization (he went on to be promoted to AAA in his first professional season).

From 2005-2007, Sikes worked for the Pittsburgh Pirates as an associate Major league Baseball scout, with his coverage area including Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia.

Sikes was a four-year letterman at Liberty in Lynchburg, Va., helping lead the Flames to a pair of Big South Conference championships and two NCAA Regional appearances. During his career as the Flames catcher, Sikes threw out better than 50-percent of attempted base-stealers. He started behind the plate for the team's win over Seton Hall in the South Atlantic Regional, producing the school's first NCAA Tournament victory in any sport.

During his senior season, Liberty finished among the nation's top-10 leaders in nearly every offensive statistic – as Sikes was part of a team that hit .337 with 86 home runs, 30 triples, 151 dou-

The Sikes File

2006-07 – James Madison volunteer assistant
2005-06 Young Harris College assistant coach
2005 (summer) – Florence RedWolves (CPL) assistant coach
2005 – Nicholls State assistant coach
2004 (fall) – Independence (Kan.) C.C. assistant coach
1998-2002 – Catcher at Liberty University
Education – graduated from Liberty in 2002, with a degree in Health & Physical Education

Hometown – Independence, Kan.

bles and 111 stolen bases. Twenty-four of his Liberty teammates went on to careers in professional baseball.

Sikes earned his undergraduate degree from Liberty in 2002 and went on to earn a master's degree in health and physical education from Emporia (Kan.) State University in 2006.

...

Getting to Know Coach Sikes

"There is a great dynamic in having the two seniors along with three freshmen comprise our catchers group this season. It makes for a very competitive atmosphere and will help our guys get better. Our upperclassmen have done a good job of showing the freshmen what it takes and how to go about their business in being a college baseball player.

"The intensity and competition at practice is great. The leadership of the team has been very good and hopefully will transfer right over into the offseason drills and weight workouts.

"Before arriving in South Bend, I heard a lot about Notre Dame from people who played or coached here and they all said the same thing, 'It's hard to explain ... you just have to experience it. It is a great place.' After only a few months, I had experienced it and they were right. It is a great place to work."

– Graham Sikes



Dave Schrage's 2008 coaching staff at Notre Dame includes (from left) Scott Lawler, Sherard Clinkscales and Graham Sikes.

Notre Dame Baseball Assistant Coaches (1952-2008)

Gene Ritzenthaler 1952
 Jim Gibbons 1958-61, '62#
 Chuck Lennon 1962-66
 Tom Kelly 1967-68
 John Counsell 1969-72
 Tim McNeill 1975
 Jeff Jeffers 1976
 Joseph (Ray) Lentych 1977-88
 Larry Gallo 1979-80*
 Brian Gallaway 1988
 Jeff Nate 1989
 Fred Petersen 1989
 Mike Gibbons 1989-92
 John Flanagan 1990-91
 Mike Moshier 1991
 Gary Tuck 1992-93
 Brian Cleary 1992-93

Cory Mee 1993*, '95-'99
 Jeff Forney 1994
 Doug Schreiber 1994
 Hap Durkin 1994*
 Brian O'Connor 1995-2003
 Todd Marazita 1995*
 Dusty Lepper 2000-02
 Wally Widelski 2001-03*
 David Grewe 2003-05
 Terry Rooney 2004-06
 John Gumpf 2004-06*
 Cliff Godwin 2006
Scott Lawler 2007-
Sherard Clinkscales 2007-
 John Fitzgerald 2007*
Graham Sikes 2008-*
 * - volunteer coach; # - freshman coach



Gene Ritzenthaler



Chuck Lennon



John Counsell



Jeff Jeffers



Ray Lentych



Mike Gibbons



Gary Tuck



Brian O'Connor



Cory Mee



Future Boston Red Sox Hall of Famer Carl Yastrzemski - seen here receiving tips from former Irish assistant Jim Gibbons - attended Notre Dame in 1957-58 but pursued his pro career before he could join the Irish varsity.

Baseball Support Staff

Scott Stansbury, Athletic Trainer

(574) 631-7100 / 3302

Josh Berlo / Laura Woodward, Ticket Office

(574) 631-7356

Dan Brazo, Eck Stadium Field Maintenance

(574) 631-7081 / 7962

Boo Corrigan, Baseball Administrator

(574) 631-8219

Kristen Keve / Dan Hennessey, Student Managers

(574) 631-9476 / 6366

Charmelle Green, Student Welfare & Development

(574) 631-4606

Mike Joseph, Strength and Conditioning

(574) 631-7890

Nicole Jones, Promotions

(574) 631-3264

Michael Bertsch, Sports Information

(574) 631-7516, Fax: 631-7941
 Home/Cell: (574) 532-4154
 Press Box: (574) 631-9018 / 9476

Chad Grotegut, Academic Services

(574) 631-4478

Tony Yelovich, Game Management

(574) 631-4893



Scott Stansbury
Athletic Training



Mike Joseph
Strength & Conditioning



Michael Bertsch
Sports Information



Boo Corrigan
Associate A.D.



Chad Grotegut
Academic Services



Kristen Keve
Senior Manager



Dan Hennessey
Junior Manager



Dan Brazo
Field Maintenance



Nicole Jones
Promotions



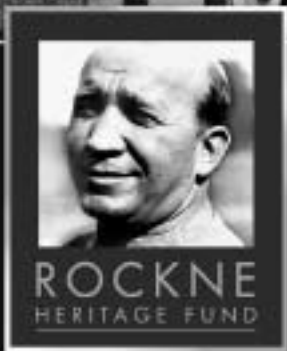
Josh Berlo
Ticket Office



Dr. David Bankoff
Team Orthopedist



Dr. Jim Moriarity
Team Physician



Give a Gift and Leave a Legacy

Character, academics, spirituality and athletics. These words represent the core of Irish Athletics. This makes us different. As Fr. John Jenkins so eloquently stated, "Our difference is not a detriment. It is an asset that will make our contribution more distinctive, more exemplary, more valuable. We welcome the challenge."

The Rockne Heritage Fund represents an opportunity to acknowledge those differences; to applaud, support and encourage the direction in which we are headed; to provide the resources our student-athletes need to compete at the very highest level; to ensure that the Notre Dame spirit lives on for generations.

Alumni, parents, friends, students, faculty and staff are among those who have generously supported the Rockne Heritage Fund and we are grateful.

In January our recognition society, the Director's Circle, announced a second giving level: Irish Legends. We have generous donors who have made \$5,000, \$10,000 and \$25,000 gifts who are now recognized at this new level.

Director's Circle

TRADITIONAL

- \$1,500-\$4,999 annual gift qualifies you for a Traditional membership in the Director's Circle.

IRISH LEGENDS

- \$5,000 minimum annual gift qualifies you for an Irish Legends membership in the Director's Circle.

FOOTBALL TICKET BENEFIT

- All Director's Circle members receive a "special contributor status" in the football ticket lottery, with improved chances for success in obtaining tickets to multiple home football games.
- Director's Circle members at the Irish Legends level receive additional consideration in the football ticket lottery and also qualify for the parking pass lottery.

HOW TO MAKE A GIFT

- Send a check payable to the Rockne Heritage Fund; P.O. Box 519; Notre Dame, IN 46556.
- Make a gift online at supporting.nd.edu and include "Rockne Heritage Fund" in the comments section.
- Specify if your employer has a matching gift program.
- Notre Dame employees may request a payroll deduction form.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Maureen L. McNamara • Executive Director • 574.631.9443 • rocknedc@nd.edu • www.und.com/rockneheritagefund



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