

# NOTRE DAME **COACHES**

*Susan Holt was named the 2008 BIG EAST Coach of the Year after leading the Fighting Irish to the conference title in just her second season at Notre Dame.*





**Susan Holt**

**Head Coach  
Second Year**

**Ohio State University '88**

Susan Holt was introduced as head coach of the University of Notre Dame women's golf program in August of 2006. Holt became the second full-time head coach in the history of the Fighting Irish program and the fourth overall since women's golf became a varsity sport in 1988-89. In just her second season at the helm of the program, the Fighting Irish won the 2008 BIG EAST title and Holt was named the conference's coach of the year.

The 2007-08 season was a record-breaking campaign in many ways for Notre Dame. The Irish produced a school-record 300.47 stroke average and



Holt and the Irish then delivered on one of the team's goals for the year by winning the BIG EAST title by nine shots over two-time defending conference champion Louisville in Batavia, Ohio. Sophomore Annie Brophy became the first Notre Dame golfer to win the BIG EAST title outright. Brophy and three of her teammates garnered all-conference accolades. The four all-league members tied a program record, which had also been achieved the previous season during Holt's first campaign at Notre Dame.

In all, the Irish finished in the top-five in nine of the 11 tournaments on the season and registered 20 top-10 individual showings. Notre Dame also reached as high as 12th in the Golfstat rankings during the year. That was the highest ranking ever for the Irish, who had two freshmen and two sophomores in the five-person scoring lineup all season long. Notre Dame garnered the ninth seed in the NCAA Central Regional before finishing 16th.

Holt's presence at the wheel of the Fighting Irish program has also produced big dividends on the recruiting trail. Notre Dame brought in the top recruiting class in program history for the 2007-08 season. Notre Dame's Class of 2011 was comprised of Katie Conway and So-Hyun Park, who were both ranked in the top 25 nationally. Another stellar class that features Becca Huffer and

Katie Allare will join the Irish beginning in the fall of 2008.

In her first campaign with the Fighting Irish, Holt witnessed her team post a then school-record scoring average of 305.46 during the 2006-07 season. Holt steered Notre Dame to a runner-up finish at the 2007 BIG EAST Championship. The Irish tied Louisville with a season-best 891 (+27) total during the 54-hole event. Notre Dame fell to the Cardinals by one stroke in the first hole of a sudden-death playoff. Notre Dame tied a program record by placing four student-athletes on the all-BIG EAST Team with the fine performance at the 2007 BIG EAST Championship.

The showing at the conference tournament was the culmination of hard work displayed by the golfers and coaching staff during the season. Notre Dame produced two runner-up finishes, including one at the Lady Irish Invitational. The other second-place finish occurred at Kansas' Marilynn Smith Sunflower Invitational. The results were even more impressive given the Irish squad featured three freshmen in the five-person scoring lineup during the entire spring semester.

Notre Dame also made history as senior co-captain Noriko Nakazaki became the first team member in program history to qualify for NCAA play as an individual entrant. Nakazaki carded a three-round score of 224 (+11) to place in a tie for 18th at the NCAA Central Regional in Ann Arbor, Mich.

won a program-best five tournaments, including the BIG EAST championship. Three straight wins to open the season signified another program milestone for the Irish. Three golfers combined to win four tournaments on the season and the year was capped with a trip to the NCAA Central Regional in Austin, Texas.

Freshman So-Hyun Park became the program's first All-America honoree as she copped honorable mention All-America accolades from the National Golf Coaches Association and *Golfweek* magazine. Park won two tournaments on the year and posted a 73.63 stroke average, which eclipsed the program's old standard.

The season commenced with a win at the Cougar Classic in Hanahan, S.C. Junior Lisa Maunu earned medalist honors by firing a school-record three-round total of 210 (-6). Maunu's first-round six-under par 66 also represented a program record. Notre Dame followed that with a victory at the Napa River Grill Cardinal Cup in Simpsonville, Ky. Park made it a second clean sweep for the Fighting Irish as she claimed the victory. The Irish made it three in a row with a triumph at the Wolverine Invitational in Ann Arbor, Mich.

A fourth team victory was achieved in the spring at the Rio Verde Collegiate Invitational in Rio Verde, Ariz. For the third time on the year, Notre Dame swept the hardware as Park captured the individual title.

## The Holt File

### Head Golf Coach

University of Notre Dame, 2006-Present  
University of South Florida, 1993-2006  
Purdue University, 1990-93

### Two NCAA Finals appearances

2001, 2002

### Eight NCAA Regional appearances

1994, 1995, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2005, 2008

### BIG EAST Champion

2008

### BIG EAST Coach of the Year

2008

### Five-time Conference USA Champion

1996, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2003

### Conference USA Coach of the Year

1996, 1999 and 2001

### C-USA Coach of the Decade (1995-2005)

Holt came to Notre Dame from the University of South Florida, where she spent 13 successful seasons guiding the Bulls. In her final season, USF joined the BIG EAST Conference where she led the Bulls to a tie for third, along with the Irish, in their inaugural BIG EAST tournament.

"First and foremost, I was attracted by the opportunity to come to what I believe is the best academic and athletic combination that's out there," says Holt on why she decided to come to Notre Dame following a successful run at South Florida.

"The commitment to the golf program with the course and the new indoor facility makes a statement. As a coach you want to know that you have a chance to be successful and you can tell that's how it is at Notre Dame and it's impressive to see that."

A native of Dayton, Ohio, Holt made a return to the Midwest, where she began her college coaching career at Purdue University, with her hiring at Notre Dame. She was at the helm of the women's golf program at Purdue for four seasons from 1990-93 before taking the position at South Florida.

Holt directed the USF program to 16 team titles and 17 runner-up finishes, including five of 10 Conference USA Championships. She guided the team and/or individuals to 11 NCAA Regional appearances and trips to the NCAA Championship Finals in 2001 and 2002.

Holt's teams at South Florida won at least one tournament in 10 of her 13 seasons and she was recognized as the Conference USA Coach of the Year in 1996, 1999 and 2001. In the spring of 2005, Holt was named Conference USA Coach of the Decade for women's golf (1995-2005). Under Holt's watch, South Florida players were named to the Conference USA All-Conference Team 23 times. Current LPGA player and South Florida graduate Kelly Lagedrost was named Conference USA Player of the Year in 2001. Former South Florida golfer Christina Jones was named Conference USA Freshman of the Year in 2005.

Over the past 13 years Holt's teams have excelled academically as well. Twenty-one times, players have been named to the National Golf

Coaches Association All-Scholar Golf Team (3.5 grade-point average and play in 66 percent of events) and 18 times have earned the Conference USA Commissioners Academic Medal (minimum 3.75 GPA). Seventy-five times, players have earned all-Conference USA academic team honors (minimum 3.0 GPA). During her final season at USF, 10 players were named to the BIG EAST Conference Academic All-Star Team (minimum 3.0 GPA). The overall team grade-point average over the final 12 years at USF was an impressive 3.24.

Prior to college coaching Holt worked as a club professional in West Palm Beach, Fla., and Ipswich, Mass. She is a 1988 graduate of Ohio State University, where she played on the women's golf team that won Big Ten Championships in 1985 and 1988 and played in the NCAA Championship those same years.

Holt graduated from Fairmont High School in Kettering, Ohio. She has been a member of the PGA of America since 1992.

Susan married Tim Holt of Kokomo, Ind., in 1993 and they are the parents of two children, Justin and Kristin.



**Kyle  
Veltri**

**Assistant Coach**

**Third Year**

**Saint Mary's College (Ind.) '01**

Kyle Veltri completed her third season as the assistant women's golf coach at the University of Notre Dame during the 2007-08 campaign. The Fighting Irish have posted the top-three scoring averages in program history during Veltri's brief tenure. Veltri, a 2001 graduate from Saint Mary's College in Notre Dame, Ind., returned to the Notre Dame community when she was hired in August of 2005.

Veltri's third year at her post was a record-breaking campaign for the Fighting Irish. Notre Dame produced a school-record 300.47 stroke average en route to winning the 2008 BIG EAST title. The Irish won a program-record five tournaments on the season, including three straight victories to open the season. Three golfers combined to win four tournaments on the season and the year was capped with a trip to the NCAA Central Regional in Austin, Texas.

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A fourth team victory was achieved in the spring at the Rio Verde Collegiate Invitational in Rio Verde, Ariz. For the third time on the year, Notre Dame swept the hardware as Park captured the individual title.

The Irish then delivered on one of the team's goals for the year by winning the BIG EAST title by nine shots over two-time defending conference champion Louisville in Batavia, Ohio. Sophomore Annie Brophy became the first golfer in program history to win the BIG EAST title outright. Brophy and three of her teammates garnered all-conference accolades. The four all-league members tied a program record, which had also been achieved the previous season in Veltri's second year with the Irish.

Notre Dame finished in the top-five in nine of the 11 tournaments on the '07-'08 season and registered 20 top-10 individual showings. The Fighting Irish were also ranked 12th in the Golfstat rankings during the fall. That was the highest ranking ever for the Irish, who had two freshmen and two sophomores in the five-person scoring lineup all season long. Notre Dame garnered the ninth seed in the NCAA Central Regional before finishing 16th.

In her second season at Notre Dame, Veltri was an instrumental part with the transition after the hiring of new head coach Susan Holt in August of 2007. Veltri coached the Irish in their first event of the fall season, while Holt was still with her former team at the University of South Florida.

On the season, Veltri helped a young Irish squad that featured three freshmen in the five-person scoring lineup during the spring semester. The team posted impressive numbers, including a then program record 305.46 stroke average for the entire 2006-07 campaign.

Notre Dame tied a program record by placing four student-athletes on the all-BIG EAST Team after a fine performance at the 2007 BIG EAST Championship. The Irish were tied with Louisville following the 54-hole event with a season-best 891 (+27) total. Notre Dame fell by one stroke in the first hole of a sudden-death playoff to the Cardinals.

The showing at the conference tournament was the culmination of hard work displayed by the golfers and coaching staff during the season. Notre Dame produced two runner-up finishes, including one at the Lady Irish Invitational. The other second-place finish occurred at Kansas' Marilynn Smith Sunflower Invitational.

Notre Dame also made history as senior co-captain Noriko Nakazaki became the first team member in program history to qualify for NCAA play as an individual entrant. Nakazaki carded a three-round score of 224 (+11) at the NCAA Central Regional in Ann Arbor, Mich.

Veltri has also been a huge factor on the recruiting scene for Notre Dame. The Fighting Irish brought in the top recruiting class in program history for the 2007-08 season. Notre Dame's Class of 2011 was comprised of Katie Conway and So-Hyun Park, who were both ranked in the top 25 nationally. Another stellar class that features Becca Huffer and Katie Allare will join the Irish beginning in the fall of 2008.

In her first season, Veltri helped guide the Fighting Irish to a (then) school record 306.66 scoring average. The Irish had seven top-five finishes, including a win at the Notre Dame Invitational.

Before her arrival at Notre Dame, Veltri compiled seven years of experience in the golf industry, tracing all the way back to her work at the Notre Dame/Saint Mary's College Nike Golf Camp in 1999 and 2000. At the camp, she introduced golf etiquette, rules and technique to over 50 youths per week. The Clarksburg, W. Va., native also worked at Notre Dame's Warren Golf Course as a golf shop assistant during her time at Saint Mary's.

Following her graduation from Saint Mary's College, Veltri worked for nearly one year at Captain's Choice Golf Services Inc. in Orlando, Fla., where she served as management/tournament coordinator while also working in sales. She managed the company's secondary location along with selling both individual and tournament tee times. Additionally, she planned each tournament including the organization of the golf course, merchandise, food, beverage and location.

During the summers of 2003 and 2004, Veltri served as an instructor/counselor at the Stonewall Resort Nike Golf Camp in Roanoke, W. Va. At the camp, she taught golf etiquette, rules and technique to youths on a daily basis along with supervising campers during day and evening activities.

Prior to coming to Notre Dame, she worked at the Palmer Course at the Stonewall Resort as the assistant golf professional for three years. Her main duties included the coordination of golf tournaments by consulting outing groups. She also created marketing plans and traveled to golf shows to promote and market the golf course and resort.



**George  
Thomas**

George Thomas helped found the women's golf program at Notre Dame. Thomas and Tom Hanlon were co-head coaches when women's golf was elevated to varsity status in 1988 and they remained in that role until 1993. Thomas is still actively involved in the Fighting Irish program.

Thomas also served as the Notre Dame men's golf coach from 1989-2001. He was a two-time BIG EAST Coach of the Year while guiding the men. Thomas also was named the Midwestern Collegiate Conference Coach of the Year for the 1988-89 campaign.

As a player, Thomas qualified for the U.S. Open twice (1965, 1976) and the PGA Championship once (1974). He has also appeared in the U.S. Senior Open from 1981-86. The Elkhart, Ind. native was inducted into the Indiana PGA Hall of Fame in 1979-80 and was the Indiana PGA Player of the Year three times (1970, 1973, 1977).

After serving as a B-17 navigator with the Eighth Air Corps during World War II, Thomas accepted a football scholarship to Purdue University. He served as a backup quarterback to All-American Bob DeMoss.

Thomas also was a four-year member of the golf team at Purdue. During his playing days at Purdue, Thomas was a member on the NCAA runner-up squad for the Boilermakers in 1950. He graduated from the Purdue School of Pharmacy and served as a pharmacist for 12 years while playing professionally.

The longtime member of the Notre Dame community earned an honorary monogram from the Notre Dame Monogram Club in 1999.



**Tom  
Hanlon**

Tom Hanlon has been involved with the women's program from its days as a club sport through its transition to a varsity sport. He served as co-head coach, along with George Thomas, of the Fighting Irish women's team when they began varsity play in 1988. He and Thomas served in that role until 1993.

Hanlon has been linked with Notre Dame golf since his playing days back in the 1940's. He was a member of Notre Dame's 1944 NCAA championship team. Following the 1944 NCAA competition, Hanlon joined the Navy and served on a cruiser in the Pacific during World War II.

After being discharged at the end of the war, Hanlon returned to Notre Dame and received a Bachelor of Science degree in pre-medicine in 1949. He later received a master's degree in education from Notre Dame in June of 1951 before going on to teach science and math and coach basketball and track at Jefferson School in South Bend.

Hanlon sold the insurance firm of Tom Hanlon and Associates in order to devote his time fully to the varsity golf duties. Hanlon is still actively involved in both the men's and women's programs at Notre Dame.

**Notre Dame  
Women's Golf  
Support Staff**



**Jim Fraleigh**  
*Assistant Athletics  
Director/Golf  
Administrator*



**Jason Nowak**  
*Senior  
Manager*



**Chad Grotegut**  
*Academic  
Services*



**John Foster**  
*General Manager/  
Head Professional  
Warren Golf Course*



**Sean Carroll**  
*Sports  
Information*