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Notre Dame Quick Facts

Location.....	Notre Dame, IN 46556
Founded.....	1842
Enrollment.....	8,261 (undergraduate), 11,311 (total)
Nickname.....	Fighting Irish
Colors.....	Gold and Blue
President.....	Rev. John I. Jenkins, C.S.C.
Provost.....	Dr. Thomas G. Burish
Athletic Director.....	Kevin White
Asst. Athletic Director/	
Sport Administrator.....	Lisa Deibler
Athletic Department Web Site.....	www.und.com

2008 Team Information

Head Coach.....	Tracy Coyne (Ohio University '83)
Career Record/Years.....	212-96/20
Record at Notre Dame/Years.....	98-70/11
Coyne Office Phone.....	(574) 631-4719
Coyne E-mail.....	Teresa.A.Coyne.7@nd.edu
Asst. Coach.....	Kateri Linville (Delaware '03)
Asst. Coach.....	Meredith Simon (Notre Dame '04)
Linville Office Phone.....	(574) 631-8753
Linville E-mail.....	Linville.3@nd.edu
Simon Office Phone.....	(574) 631-8352
Simon E-mail.....	Simon.23@nd.edu
Coaches' Fax.....	(574) 631-9690
Starters Returning/Lost.....	7/5
Monogram Winners Returning/Lost.....	11/6
2007 Record.....	11-6
2007 BIG EAST Record/Finish.....	3-2/4th
Home Fields.....	Moose Krause Stadium (2,500) Loftus Indoor Sports Center (1,000)

Sports Information

Address.....	Sports Information, 112 Joyce Center Notre Dame, IN 46556-5678
Sports Information Director.....	Bernadette Cafarelli
Ass't Sports Info. Dir./Women's Lacrosse.....	Tim Connor
Sports Information Office/Fax.....	(574) 631-7516/7941
Connor Home Phone.....	(574) 273-1038
Connor E-mail.....	Connor.21@nd.edu
Krause Stadium Press Box.....	(574) 631-7264
Notre Dame Sports Hotline.....	(574) 631-3000



Media Information

The Notre Dame Sports Information office is always interested in assisting members of the media in their coverage of Irish women's lacrosse. Publicity and media information for Notre Dame women's lacrosse are handled by assistant sports information director Tim Connor.

Photographs, feature ideas and results are always available from the Notre Dame Sports Information office. For information and interviews call Connor at (574) 631-7516, e-mail him at Connor.21@nd.edu or view the official website of the Notre Dame athletic department at www.und.com

BIG EAST Outlets

The BIG EAST Conference maintains its presence on the web at www.bigeast.org which contains current information on all facets of the BIG EAST Conference. Standings, notes, schedules, results and statistics are updated on a daily basis.

Credits

The 2008 Notre Dame Women's Lacrosse Guide was written and edited by assistant sports information director Tim Connor. Editorial assistance provided by Sara Wonderlich, Brent Henningfeld and Michael Scholl.

Photographic contributions by Matt Cashore, Mike Bennett and Lighthouse Imaging, Heather Gollatz, John Strohsacker, Beverly Shaefer, Marcus Snowden, Lael O'Shaughnessy, T.D. Paulius/Midwest-Lacrosse Photography, Pellerin Photography, Bob Owen, Steve Parker, Lena Zentgraf, Kateri Linville, Beth Koloup.

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Women's lacrosse begins its eighth season as the 20th sport sponsored by the BIG EAST Conference. Connecticut, Georgetown, Rutgers and Syracuse, along with Notre Dame, began conference play in the spring of 2001. Loyola (MD) began its first season as an associate member in 2006. The 2009 season will see Cincinnati and Louisville began full conference play.

The teams will play a round-robin schedule against each of the other five teams. The BIG EAST Tournament will be played for the second time this spring with Notre Dame serving as host. The tournament winner receives the automatic bid into the NCAA Tournament. Notre Dame has competed in the BIG EAST Conference since 1995-96 in most of its 26 sports.



Print Media

South Bend Tribune

(Bill Bilinski)
225 West Colfax Avenue
South Bend, IN 46626
(574) 235-6316
Fax (574) 235-6091

Associated Press

(Tom Coyne)
South Bend Tribune Building
225 West Colfax Avenue
South Bend, IN 46626
(574) 288-1649
Fax (574) 236-1765

Irish Sports Report

(Bob Wieneke)
225 West Colfax Avenue
South Bend, IN 46626
(574) 235-6161
Fax (574) 239-2646

Blue & Gold Illustrated

(Lou Somogyi)
1605 North Home
Mishawaka, IN 46545
(574) 255-9800
Fax (574) 255-9700

Notre Dame Observer

(Matt Gamber)
LaFortune Student Center
Notre Dame, IN 46556
(574) 631-7471
Fax (574) 631-6927

Notre Dame Scholastic

LaFortune Student Center
Notre Dame, IN 46556
(574) 631-7569
Fax (574) 631-9648

USA Today/USA Today Online

(Jeff Zillgitt)
fbjeff@usatoday.com
1000 Wilson Boulevard
22nd Floor
Arlington, VA 22229
1-800-872-3410 ext. 7103
Online Fax (703) 907-4465

www.lax.com

(T.D. Paulius)
8224 Red Oak Lane
Orland Park, IL 60462
(708) 349-9283

Television

WNDU-TV - NBC

(Jeff Jeffers, Angelo DiCarlo)
P.O. Box 1616
South Bend, IN 46634
(574) 631-1616/1239
Fax (574) 631-2916

WSBT-TV/Radio - CBS

(Greg Carroll/Pete Byrne/
Carolyn Manno)
300 West Jefferson
South Bend, IN 46601
(574) 472-8124
Fax (574) 288-6630

WSJV-TV - FOX

(Dean Huppert/Allison Hayes)
59096 County Road 7 South
Elkhart, IN 46514
(574) 679-4545 or 293-9227
Fax (574) 294-1324

Radio

WHME TV/Radio

(Chuck Freeby/Bob Nagle)
61300 Ironwood Road
South Bend, IN 46625
(574) 291-8200
Fax (574) 291-9043

WDND-ESPN Radio 1580

3371 Cleveland Rd. Ext.
Ste. 310
South Bend, IN 46628
(574) 273-9300
Fax (574) 273-9090

University/Conference

Notre Dame Sports Information

(Tim Connor)
Connor.21@nd.edu
www.und.com
112 Joyce Center - 2nd Floor
Notre Dame, IN 46556-5678
(574) 631-7516
Fax (574) 631-7941

BIG EAST Conference Office

(Michael Coyne)
www.bigeast.org
222 Richmond Street
Providence, RI 02903
(401) 272-9108
Fax (401) 751-8540

College Sports Online

www.und.com
(Alan Wasielewski)
und@cstv.com
112 Joyce Center
Notre Dame, IN 46556
(574) 631-2235
Fax (574) 631-7941

Postseason Travels

Irish Women's Lacrosse Visits Ireland and England

The 2007 Notre Dame women's lacrosse season ended on May 4, but it didn't take long for Coach Tracy Coyne and her squad to get back into action. The team made a postseason trip to Ireland and England from May 30 to June 10 for team building, sight seeing and exhibition games in Ireland and England.

The 12-day trip saw the team spend five days in Ireland, spending time in both Galway and Dublin before moving on to England where they spent time in Chester, Stratford-upon-Avon, Oxford and London.

Coyne, a veteran of international travel as the former head coach of Canada's national team, explains the benefits of her team's trip to Europe.

"We recognize the value of an international trip for its educational purposes as part of the student-athlete experience at Notre Dame. It gives us a chance to expose the kids to different cultures and allows them to meet people from all around the world.

"The trip was a great way to build team camaraderie as we had an awesome time. As for playing lacrosse, it gave our players a chance to experience the traditions of international competition. It's great to expose them to that kind of atmosphere while helping to grow the sport in Ireland and England."

While in Ireland and England, current junior **Mary Veith** filed reports for the Notre Dame website und.com.

From Bunratty Castle, a look at the rolling Irish countryside.

The Irish women's lacrosse team got their trip started with a tour of Bunratty Castle.



May 31

After a long overnight flight from New York, we arrived at Shannon International Airport around 6 a.m. Ireland time. After having breakfast we began a full day of activities.

We started at the Bunratty Castle where we walked through the medieval castle from the dungeon all the way up to the towers. The estate also included a replica Irish town with shops, a pub, a post office, a church and also barns and gardens.

After spending the morning at the castle we continued on to the Cliffs of Moher, massive rock cliffs that overlook the ocean. The contrast of colors from the teal blue water to the dark cliffs, green hills, and blue sky creates a beauty so astounding it felt almost sacred. This place was where we got our first taste of the true beauty of this special country.



Lindsey Ferguson, Heather Ferguson, Kelly Gaudreau, Julie Foote, Caitlin McKinney and Becky Ranck (front) take a break from their bike tour of Inishmore.

June 1

We had breakfast at the hotel and then set out for Inishmore (Inis Mór in the Irish language which is still commonly used there), the largest of the three Aran Islands.

The team rented bikes and toured the island where the main attraction is a cliff-side fort, built around 2000 B.C., that overlooks the water. It was similar to the Cliffs of Moher, but even more astoundingly impressive.

June 2

The team traveled by bus to Dublin, leaving behind us the Irish countryside with its grids of stone walls and rolling green hills.

Dublin is a city more comparable to home, alive with the bustle of traffic and the crowds of people. We checked into our hotel and quickly made our way to the campus of the University College Dublin where we played our first game (or match, as they call it).

We were greeted by Meghan Murphy's older sister, Katie, who is a Notre Dame alum, now living in Dublin and a member of the Irish National team. She and her teammates provided us with a fun and friendly opportunity to share the sport we love in a country where the sport is still growing. Notre Dame won the game, 15-0.



While in Dublin, the team toured historic St. Patrick's Cathedral.

June 3

The team celebrated mass in Dublin at St. Mary's Cathedral on Sunday morning. The team was given a free day to explore Dublin on our own. Among popular spots visited were the Guinness Factory, local museums, and Trinity College where the famous Book of Kells is located.

Later, the team got back together to travel into the Dublin Mountains to Johnnie Fox's Pub for the evening Hooley. The four-hour Hooley included a banquet-style meal, followed by an Irish band and Irish dancers. The highlight of the night was when Heather (Ferguson) and Maria (Brooks) were chosen from among the crowd to join the performers on stage to try Irish dancing!

June 4

This morning the headed back up into the mountains to Glendalough for a day of team building activities. We were divided into the red, blue, silver, and yellow teams and competed in various activities ranging from archery to other more mentally trying tasks that required communication and cooperation.

June 5

At 7:45 a sleepy Irish lacrosse group boarded the ferry for Holyhead. After a two-and-a-half hour ride we arrived and boarded our bus to head to Chester in North Wales. From Chester we moved on to Stratford-upon-Avon, where William Shakespeare was born. We had free time to explore the quaint town and then headed to Oxford where we checked into our hotel and walked to dinner at a local restaurant.

Though we spent much of the day on the bus it was, as Kinney (Caitlin McKinney) pointed out, "Cool to be in three countries in one day."

June 6

Our second day in England was spent in Oxford, a charming college town, not too busy, yet not too quiet. Many were delighted to see the elegant dining hall in the college after our guide informed us that it was the setting for where some of the scenes from "Harry Potter" were filmed. Another highlight of Oxford was the Christ Church Cathedral, a beautiful Anglican church that was built during the 12th century.

June 7

We spent the last three days of our trip, enjoying London. On our first day there we



Don't look down. Members of the Irish women's lacrosse team at the edge of the Cliffs of Moher.

were able to see the changing of the guard in front of Buckingham Palace.

After we saw the changing of the guard we had lunch in Covent Garden, as well as a little free time to walk around the local area. Following lunch, Tim, our guide, gave the team a tour of the Tower of London and then showed us where to spend some time exploring on our own. That included viewing the Crown Jewels that are displayed along with some explanation and history of the Kings and Queens who wore the crowns and held the scepter, confirming to all the reality of the their seemingly only fairy tale existence.

June 8

On our second day in London the team went to the Wax Museum, where many pictures were taken with the lifelike statues of famous celebrities. From there we went to Westminster Abbey where the team was fascinated by this beautiful church of such both religious and political significance. That night we enjoyed one of the highlights of the trip when we went to see the play "Wicked" at the Apollo Victoria Theatre, just around the corner from our hotel.

June 9

Saturday morning we woke up for a pre-game meal in the restaurant at the hotel where Tracy Coyne immediately shifted us into a more serious game mode. The game against the English Under-19 team was a big event for us and for the sport as it was held as an exhibition game to promote lacrosse in the country.

The English girls gave us a good game but Notre Dame, or USA as the scoreboard called us, took a 14-10 win in the game to give us a 2-0 record in the two games we played on the trip.

After the game we had tea and refreshments while we mingled with the English players. On our final night in London we went to a fabulous restaurant called The Bank, where we had our last dinner as a team and wished our seniors farewell.

June 10

We woke up early to make the long trip home. What I learned on this trip is of different cultures and their pride, patriotism and loyalty, and that, however different, we are each proud of our own homeland and that is what makes each so special. That the Irish are proud to be Irish, the English proud to be English, and I and my teammates are proud to be American, hailing from the "land of the free and the home of the brave."



Lauren deMello, Beth Koloup, Alicia Billings and Mary Voith in front of the Tower Bridge in London.

Moose Krause Stadium has been the home of Notre Dame men's lacrosse since its construction in 1988 and welcomed the women's lacrosse program in 1997. The venue has seen a multitude of big games and top players in both men's and women's lacrosse.

The facility, named after former director of athletics Edward W. "Moose" Krause, is located just east of the Joyce Center on the Cartier Field complex and has a seating capacity of 2,500 and also is used by the Irish track and field squads.

Krause Stadium features 2,500 permanent bleachers on the eastern side of the 70 x 120-yard grass field. The stands are raised so that the first row of seats measures six feet above field level for better viewing, and there is ample room for wheelchair seating. The field itself is surrounded by a nine-lane Mondo track, the fastest surface of its kind in the world.

The women's lacrosse team has had considerable success at home, posting a 49-25 (.662) record since the program began in 1997. That includes a perfect 9-0 mark in 2006 on Notre Dame's run to the NCAA semifinals.

Krause Stadium/Loftus Sports Center Big Wins

Date	Opponent	Score
4/3/02	#7 Syracuse	12-9
4/14/02	#12 Yale	11-8
5/3/02	#10 Vanderbilt	10-9 (ot)
5/9/02	#12 Ohio State (NCAA)	11-7
4/5/03	#19 Connecticut	15-7
4/27/03	#20 Rutgers	13-6
3/7/04	#19 Cornell *	20-7
5/1/04	#14 Syracuse	13-11
5/8/04	#11 Vanderbilt	11-8
3/5/06	#18 Cornell *	17-15
3/12/06	#16 James Madison *	12-11
4/29/06	#13 Syracuse	11-10
5/14/06	#10 Cornell (NCAA)	16-8
5/22/06	#4 Georgetown (NCAA)	12-9
4/14/07	#9 Georgetown #	13-9

snapped 37-game BIG EAST unbeaten streak
* games played at Loftus Sports Center

In the program's first 11 seasons, the Irish have played 32 ranked teams at home and own a 17-15 all-time record against the nation's top teams.

After losing five straight games to ranked teams from 1997-02, Notre Dame defeated No. 12 Syracuse on April 3, 2002 by a 12-9 score for the first win against a ranked team.

Notre Dame's biggest win against a top team came in May 20, 2006, when the Irish defeated No. 4 Georgetown, 12-9, in the NCAA quarterfinals.

Notre Dame's Year-By-Year Home Record

Year	W	L
1997	2	1
1998	2	3
1999	3	3
2000	3	2
2001	4	1
2002	8	2
2003	4	3
2004	6	1
2005	2	6
2006	9	0
2007	6	3
Total	49	25
Winning percentage	(.662)	

The Irish also ended Georgetown's 37-game BIG EAST regular-season unbeaten streak at Moose Krause Stadium on April 14, 2007 with a 13-8 win. The Hoyas had never lost a BIG EAST game until falling to the Irish in their 38th conference game since 2001.

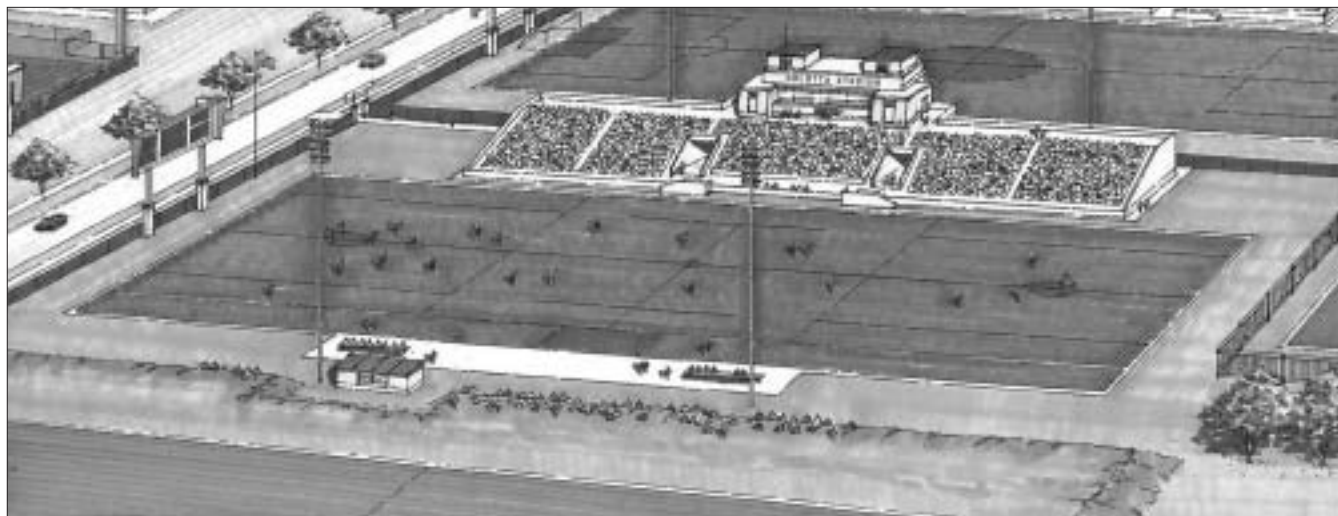
The first women's game at Moose Krause Stadium was played on March 21, 1997, a 15-4 win over the University of Denver.

Arlotta Stadium

Arlotta Stadium will become the new home for the Notre Dame men's and women's lacrosse programs upon completion, which is scheduled for June of 2009. Construction of the facility will begin in August of 2008. Conceptual plans suggest a 2,000-seat, lighted stadium that would include an artificial-turf field, locker rooms, restrooms and concession areas.

The state-of-the-art facility is named after Notre Dame graduate John Arlotta, president and chief executive officer of Denver-based

Coram Inc. He and his wife Bobbie pledged the lead gift toward the stadium to be built to the east of the Joyce Center as part of the University's new athletics quadrangle. The Arlotta children - Mindy, Andy and Jon - also have pledged an additional gift from The Arlotta Family Foundation toward the project. In addition to their generous donation, alumni and friends of the lacrosse programs have donated over two million dollars.



Loftus Center

The Loftus Sports Center combines with Moose Krause Stadium to give the University of Notre Dame some of the top lacrosse facilities in the country.

Constructed in 1988, it is one of just six indoor facilities in the country that plays host to Division I women's lacrosse games.

The Loftus Center and the Guglielmino Athletics Complex provides Notre Dame with one of the top multi-purpose indoor facilities in the nation. Complete with the 120-yard synthetic turf Meyo Field, six-lane 352-yard Mondo indoor track and a 9,000-square-foot weight room, it is used by several Irish athletic programs.

The building is named after John R. Loftus of St. Charles, Ill., a 1949 graduate of the



The Isban Auditorium within the new Guglielmino Athletics Complex provides an ideal setting for team meetings. The auditorium can seat up to 150 people in large chairback seats.



The Haggar Fitness Center, which is shared by both the Loftus Center and the Guglielmino Athletics Complex, features 25,000 square feet of strength and conditioning space with state-of-the-art weight equipment, a 50-yard Mondo track for speed training, a 45-yard by 18-yard Prestige Turf athletic surface for team workouts and an updated sound and lighting system that features six plasma television screens.



The Loftus Sports Center, one of the six indoor facilities in the country that plays host to Division I women's lacrosse games, is the home of the Notre Dame Fighting Irish women's games when inclement weather precludes them from being contested at Moose Krause Stadium.

University. Loftus is chief executive of JRL, a real estate, investment and construction firm. Loftus is also a member of the Notre Dame Monogram Club, having played on the varsity basketball team in 1944, 1948 and 1949.

The Meyo Field in the Loftus Center offers Irish lacrosse a 55-by-110 yard synthetic turf playing surface. It was revamped in the summer of 2003 with the addition of Prestige field turf. The field and surrounding track are named for Ray and Marie Meyo of Brecksville, Ohio. Meyo, who graduated from Notre Dame in 1964, is president and chief executive officer of Telxon Corp. in Akron, Ohio, the world's largest manufacturer of portable tele-transaction computers.

The Meyo Field is permanently marked for men's and women's lacrosse competition and is used as a backup site for games in the event of inclement weather. The Irish have played several contests in the Loftus Center.

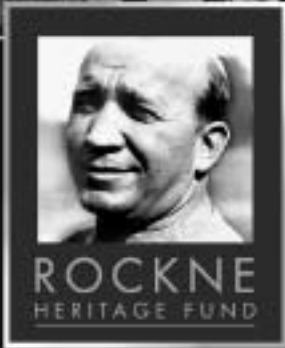
In addition to the Meyo Track and Field in the Loftus Center, the Irish lacrosse squad also benefits from the Haggar Fitness Center located in the "Gug" as the Guglielmino Athletics Complex is known, which opened in the spring of 2005. Equipped with more than 40,000 pounds of free weights, it is four times the size of the weight room in the Joyce Center. It is considered by national strength coaches to be one of the largest, and finest, college training facilities in the nation.

The Irish women's lacrosse program has benefited from the Loftus Sports Center since the program began and has a 49-25 home record since 1997. That includes the 2006 season's perfect 9-0 record between Loftus and Moose Krause Stadium.

Loftus Sports Center saw its first women's contest on March 18, 1998, a 15-6 loss to Colgate. Heading into the 2007 season, the Irish are 20-7 all-time in games played at the Loftus Center.

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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



SUPPORTING THE SPIRIT OF
NOTRE DAME CAMPAIGN
2004 - 2011

NOTRE DAME **SEASON PREVIEW**

Junior Jillian Byers returns for her third season at Notre Dame.

The high-scoring attack standout is a two-time IWLCA All-American

and a two-time unanimous first team all-BIG EAST selection. She

led the Irish in scoring with 58 goals and 66 points in 2007



Coaching Staff and Support Staff

- **Head Coach**
Tracy Coyne (Ohio University '83)
- **Coyne's Record at Notre Dame:**
98-70 (.583, 11 years)
Overall: 212-96 (.688, 20 years)
- **Assistant Coaches**
Kateri Linville (Delaware '03)
Meredith Simon (Notre Dame '04)
Kathryn Lam (Notre Dame '02)
(volunteer assistant)
- **Athletic Trainer**
Chantal Porter
- **Strength and Conditioning Coach**
Craig Cheek
- **Junior Student Manager**
John Oliva
- **Student Assistant**
Mary Veith
- **Women's Lacrosse Sports Info. Director**
Tim Connor

Team Information

- **2007 Record**
11-6 overall, 3-2 in BIG EAST
- **2007 Postseason**
Lost in BIG EAST semifinals
- **Letterwinners Returning**
11 (3 A, 4 M, 3 D, 1 GK)
- **Letterwinners Lost**
6 (1 A, 3 M, 2 D)
- **Top Returning Players**
Heather Ferguson (Sr., A)
Lindsey Ferguson (Sr., D)
Caitlin McKinney (Sr., M)
Becky Ranck (Sr., D)
Alicia Billings (Jr., M/D)
Shannon Burke (Jr., D)
Jillian Byers (Jr., A)
Erin Goodman (Jr., GK)
Beth Koloup (Jr., M/D)
Jane Stoeckert (Jr., M)
Rachel Guerrero (So. D)
Gina Scioscia (So., A)

2008 Notre Dame Personnel Breakdown

Top Returnees (yr., pos., ht./wt. ... 2007 stats)

Heather Ferguson (Sr., A, 10-8-18, 17 GP)	Talented attack player with strong moves around the goal
Lindsey Ferguson (Sr., M/D, 0-0-0, 15 GP)	Top defensive midfielder off the bench in '07; will look to start in '08
Caitlin McKinney (Sr., M/A, 44-21-65, 17 GP)	Team captain; All-American candidate, one of top players in the nation
Becky Ranck (Sr., D, 0-0-0, 17 GP)	Team captain and leader of the defense; all-BIG EAST candidate
Alicia Billings (Jr., M/D, 6-6-12, 17 GP)	Talented player who will look to become a force in the Irish midfield
Shannon Burke (Jr., M/D, 0-0-0, 16 GP)	One of the leaders of the Irish defense; strong on draws and ground balls
Jillian Byers (Jr., A, 58-8-66, 17 GP)	All-American candidate; one of the top players in the nation
Erin Goodman (Jr., GK, 1-6, 10.32, .444 sv%)	ND's top goalkeeper; won 11 games as a soph; continues to improve
Jane Stoeckert (Jr., M, 21-15-36, 17 GP)	Had a breakout sophomore year; powerful midfielder will look to score
Gina Scioscia (So., A, 4-4-8, 14 GP)	Key player off the bench; will figure in offensive attack in 2008

Top Players Lost (yr., pos., 2007 stats)

Mary Carpenter (Sr., M, 10-1-11, 17 GP)	Speedy midfielder; third team Academic All-American
Meaghan Fitzpatrick (Gr., D, 0-0-0, 17 GP)	Leader of Irish defense; two-time all-BIG EAST and all-region selection
Kristin Hopson (Gr., D, 0-0-0, 17 GP)	Quick, physical defender who was among the best in the BIG EAST
Megan Murphy (Gr., A, 18-17-35, 17 GP)	One of top student-athlete's in ND history; had a career senior year
Kaki Orr (Gr., M, 14-8-22, 17 GP)	Fast, physical midfielder who set single-season record for draw controls
Lena Zentgraf (Gr., M/D, 17-22-39 17 GP)	Had career year as a senior; team MVP and all-BIG EAST

Top Newcomers (all freshmen)

Kailene Abt.....M	5-11	Huntington, N.Y./Huntington	
Shaylyn Blaney	M/A	5-4	Stony Brook, N.Y./Ward Melville
Jackie Doherty	M/D	5-6	Ellicott City, Md./Mt. Hebron
Lauren Fenlon	D	5-10	Dayton, Md./Good Counsel
Kaitlin Keena	M/A	5-5	Vienna, Va./Stone Ridge
Meredith Locasto	D	5-6	Pittsburgh, Pa./Mt. Lebanon
Ansley Stewart	M/A	5-8	Alexandria, Va./Episcopal

ALL-AMERICANS: The 2007 season saw two members of the Notre Dame women's lacrosse team achieve All-American status. Returning senior **Caitlin McKinney** and junior **Jillian Byers** were both selected second team All-Americans by the Intercollegiate Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association (IWLCA). The duo joins **Crysti Foote '06** as the only Irish players to be named IWLCA All-American's twice in their careers. Both players took third team honors from *Inside Lacrosse* magazine with McKinney named second team on the womenslacrosse.com All-American team and Byers third team. The duo become the first two players in the program's history to be named to all three All-American teams twice.

- 2006 - **Crysti Foote** (first team)
- 2006 - **Jillian Byers** (second team)
- 2006 - **Caitlin McKinney** (third team)
- 2005 - **Crysti Foote** (third team)
- 2004 - **Meredith Simon** (first team)
- 2004 - **Andrea Kinnik** (second team)
- 2004 - **Abby Owen** (third team)
- 2003 - **Jen White** (third team)
- 2002 - **Kathryn Lam** (second team)
- 2002 - **Danielle Shearer** (second team)

Foote, Simon, Kinnik, Owen, Lam and Shearer (twice) also have been named to the *Inside Lacrosse* All-American team while Foote, Simon and Kinnik (twice) have taken womenslacrosse.com honors in the past.

BIG EAST PRESEASON HONORS: Two members of the Notre Dame women's lacrosse team have been selected to the preseason all-BIG EAST team. Senior midfielder **Caitlin McKinney** and junior attack **Jillian Byers** were named to the 2008 team with both players unanimous choices for the second consecutive year. McKinney was a unanimous first team all-BIG EAST selection in 2007 and a second team

IWLCA All-American after scoring 44 goals with 21 assists for 65 points. Byers also was a first team all-BIG EAST choice and a second team IWLCA All-American while scoring 58 goals with eight assists for 66 points to lead the Irish in scoring.

BIG EAST SCHOLAR ATHLETE: Senior attack standout **Caitlin McKinney** has been selected as Notre Dame's female BIG EAST/Aeropostale Scholar-Athlete Award winner. She received the honor along with baseball player Brett Lilley and will receive a \$2,000 award toward graduate studies. McKinney owns a 3.522 grade-point average with a double major in sociology and film, television and theatre at Notre Dame. A two-time IWLCA All-American, McKinney was selected to the IWLCA academic honor roll following the 2007 season.

CAPTAINS: Seniors **Caitlin McKinney** and **Becky Ranck** have been selected team captains for the 2008 season. McKinney was second on the team in scoring last year with 44 goals and 21 assists for 65 points and was a second team IWLCA All-American. Ranck is the leader of the Notre Dame defense and a three-time monogram winner during her career. She has played in 47 career games with 46 ground balls, 29 draw controls and 54 caused turnovers in her career.

CAREER YEAR: Junior midfielder **Jane Stoeckert** turned in the best year of her career for Notre Dame in 2007 as she finished fourth in scoring with 21 goals and 15 assists for 36 points, career highs in all three categories. For her career, Stoeckert has played in 36 games and has 32 goals, 24 assists and 56 career points.

CLOSE ONES: On the way to an 11-6 record in 2007, Notre Dame had four games that ended in one-goal decisions. The Irish were 3-1 in those contests. Two of them ended in overtime with the lone loss coming versus Rutgers with 8.8 seconds left in the game.

DOUBLE-DIGIT WINS: With 11 wins during the 2008 season, Notre Dame put together back-to-back double-digit win seasons for just the second time in the program's history and the first time since winning 10 in 2001 and 13 in 2002. The Irish won a school-record 15 games in 2006 to go with their 11 wins in 2007.

FAST TRACK: Junior attack standout **Jillian Byers** reached 100 points and 100 goals faster than any player in Notre Dame history in 2007. Byers scored her 100th point in just 24 games while getting her 100th goal in her 33rd contest. She also became the first player in Irish women's lacrosse history to score 50 goals in back-to-back seasons.

FOOTBALL STADIUMS: Twice this season, the Notre Dame women's lacrosse team will play in two of the most famous college football stadiums in the country. On Saturday, March 8, the Irish will face California in the second game of the East West Challenge in Pasadena, Calif. That game will be played in the Rose Bowl. On April 25-27, the Irish will host the 2008 BIG EAST Championships with the games to be played at Notre Dame Stadium, home of the football Fighting Irish.

GOOD FOR GOODMAN: Junior goalkeeper **Erin Goodman** took over the reins in goal last season for Notre Dame, compiling an 11-6 overall record and a 10.32 goals-against average and a .444 save percentage. She finished just one win behind **Carol Dixon '06** for the most wins by an Irish goalkeeper in her first year as a starter as Dixon had 12 in 2004. Goodman set a BIG EAST record on March 25, 2007 when she held Loyola (Md.) to just one goal in an 11-1 Irish win, setting the league mark for the fewest goals given up in a game. Goodman had three games on the year with a career-best 14 saves - vs. Cornell (13-7 win), vs. Yale (9-7 win) and against Loyola (11-1 win).

LEADER OF THE PACK: The Notre Dame defense will be led by senior **Becky Ranck**, a two-year starter for the Irish. The hard-nosed team leader had 21 ground balls and 20 caused turnovers and seven draw controls on the year. The all-BIG EAST candidate will be the leader of a defense that features senior **Lindsey Ferguson** and juniors **Shannon Burke** and **Beth Koloup**. Look for sophomore **Rachel Guerrero** and freshman **Lauren Fenlon** to see time on the defense. Only Burke has seen regular playing time during her career. She played in 16 games last season with 32 ground balls, 16 caused turnovers and 27 draw controls.



Notre Dame will play host to the 2008 BIG EAST Women's Lacrosse Championships on April 25 and 27. The semifinals and finals will be played at historic Notre Dame Stadium.

Ferguson and Koloup were the top reserves off the bench.

NCAA APPEARANCES: Notre Dame has appeared in the NCAA Tournament three times in the last six seasons. The Irish participated in 2002, 2004 and 2006, advancing to the NCAA semifinals in that last appearance. In 2006, Notre Dame defeated Cornell in the first round, 16-8, then defeated BIG EAST rival, Georgetown, 12-9, in the quarterfinals with both games played at home. In their first-ever Final Four appearance, Notre Dame dropped a 14-8 decision to Dartmouth to end the season. In 2004, the Irish lost in the first round at Northwestern by a 10-8 score. In 2002, the Irish advanced for the first time, defeating Ohio State at Moose Krause Stadium, 11-7, before losing to top-ranked Princeton, 11-5, in the quarterfinals.

OVERTIME NUMBERS: The Irish got the 2007 season off to a dramatic start, playing two overtime games in the first two games of the season. On Feb., 18 at James Madison, Notre Dame took a 10-9 triple-overtime win. **Jillian Byers** got the sudden-death, game winner with 15 seconds left in the third extra period. Six days later at home, the Irish defeated Stanford, 12-11 in two overtimes. This time it was **Caitlin McKinney** who was the hero as she scored with seven seconds left for the win. In this the 12th season of the Notre Dame women's lacrosse program, the Irish have now played 13 overtime games in the program's history and are 6-7 all-time in extra minutes play.

PROGRAM HONORS: The Notre Dame women's lacrosse program begins its 12th season as a Division I lacrosse program. The Irish come into the 2008 season looking for the 100th win in the program's history as they are 98-70 (.583) all-time. The 100th win will also give head coach **Tracy Coyne** her 100th victory as the only head coach in the program's history.

PRESEASON ALL-AMERICANS: Two members of the 2007 Notre Dame women's lacrosse team have been selected to the *Inside*

Lacrosse Magazine's preseason All-American team. Attack standout **Jillian Byers** was selected to the first team while midfielder **Caitlin McKinney** was a second team choice. Both players were third team *Inside Lacrosse All-Americans* in 2007.

RECORD TURNAROUND: Notre Dame's dramatic turnaround from 2005 (3-12) to 2006 (15-4), a +10 differential, is the largest turnaround in NCAA women's lacrosse history, according to the NCAA record book. The previous biggest changes were seven-game turnarounds by American University (0-14 in 1996 to 8-8 in 1997) and Holy Cross (4-12 in 2000 to 13-7 in 2001). Notre Dame also turned the tables in BIG EAST play, going 4-1 last season and finishing second after going 1-4 in 2005 and finishing in fifth place.

ROOKIE CLASS: Notre Dame's freshman class ranks among the best in the nation. Among the group, six of the players were selected as high school All-Americans. Leading the way is three-time U.S. Lacrosse All-American **Shaylyn Blaney** (Stony Brook, N.Y.). She is joined as a first team All-American by **Kailene Abt** (Huntington, N.Y.) from the New York region and **Lauren Fenlon** (Dayton, Md.) and **Kaitlin Keena** (Vienna, Va.) from the Potomac region. **Jackie Doherty** (Ellicott City, Md.) from the Baltimore region and **Ansley Stewart** (Alexandria, Va.) from the Potomac region were honorable mention selections.

SIMON SAYS: Former Notre Dame All-American, **Meredith Simon '04**, returned to her alma mater in July as a member of the head coach Tracy Coyne's coaching staff. She replaced former assistant and teammate **Alissa Moser '02**. The Flemington, N.J., native had been an assistant coach at Towson University for the last three seasons. With the Irish, Simon will work with the Notre Dame attack on a daily basis while assisting with recruiting and team travel in addition to the day-to-day office operations. While at Notre Dame as a player (2000-04), Simon became the school's first-ever, first-team IWLCA All-American as she set a then-Notre Dame single-season scoring mark with 74 points on 46 goals and 28 assists while leading the Irish to the NCAA tournament in 2004. During that season, Simon also became the first Notre Dame player to be a Tewaaraton Trophy nominee as the top player in the nation. A two-time first team All-BIG EAST selection (2003, 2004), Simon was the BIG EAST co-attack player of the year in 2004. A team captain as a senior, Simon finished her Notre Dame career ranked first in games played (64), third in goals (109), fourth in assists (49), third in points (158), fourth in ground balls (123) and third in draw controls (91).

Preseason Polls

IWLCA Preseason Poll

Rank	School (1st place votes)	Points
1.	Northwestern (18)	394
2.	Virginia (1)	379
3.	Duke	358
4.	North Carolina (1)	314
5.	Syracuse	306
6.	Maryland	305
7.	Pennsylvania	258
8.	Princeton	233
9.	Johns Hopkins	213
10.	Georgetown	210
11.	Notre Dame	198
12.	Vanderbilt	160
13.	James Madison	157
14.	Penn State	139
15.	Yale	126
16.	Denver	87
17.	Dartmouth	85
18.	Richmond	46
19.	Boston University	45
20.	Rutgers	44

Receiving Votes: Hofstra.

Lacrosse Magazine Preseason Poll

Rank	School
1.	Northwestern
2.	Virginia
3.	Duke
4.	Maryland
5.	Syracuse
6.	Pennsylvania
7.	Princeton
8.	North Carolina
9.	Johns Hopkins
10.	Yale
11.	Georgetown
12.	Notre Dame
13.	Vanderbilt
14.	James Madison
15.	Penn State
16.	Denver
17.	Boston University
18.	Dartmouth
19.	Rutgers
20.	Richmond

Receiving Votes:

Teams in **bold italics** on 2008 Notre Dame schedule.

Academics Job One

The Notre Dame women's lacrosse program continues to excel both on the field and in the classroom.

• For the fall of 2007, the women's lacrosse team recorded a 3.212 grade-point average after finishing the 2006-07 school year with a 3.229 grade point. The team was one of 43 women's lacrosse programs in the nation to receive IWLCA all-academic team honors with four players – **Kristin Hopson, Meghan Murphy, Mary Carpenter and Caitlin McKinney** – receiving IWLCA Academic Honor Roll honors.

• Three different players on the 2007-08 team have posted at least one Dean's List semester. The three players are **Caitlin McKinney** (fall of '06, spring of '07), **Becky Ranck** (fall of '06) and **Meghan Ryan** (spring of '07). Three former players – **Mary Carpenter, Kristin Hopson and Meghan Murphy** – also had Dean's List semesters in '06-'07 with all three having 4.0 grade-point averages for the spring semester. In fact, Carpenter was a Dean's List member in all six of her semester while a member of the team. She was a third team *ESPN The Magazine/CoSida Academic All-American* on the spring at-large team for the 2006-07 campaign.

SISTER ACTS: Notre Dame has had eight sets of sisters in the program's 12-year history and has one sister duo on this year's team. In fact, they are twin sisters – seniors **Heather and Lindsey Ferguson**. Three other members of this year's team have sisters who played at Notre Dame. Senior **Julie Foote** was preceded by her sister, **Crysti '06** while junior **Lauren deMello** was preceded by her sister, **Meghan '06** and sophomore **Maggie Zentgraf** follows her sister, **Lena '07**. Other sister duos for the Irish include: **Kelly and Kristen Gaudreau '04, Carol '06 and Angela '03 Dixon and Mary '06 and Annemarie McGrath**. The sisters that started the tradition are **Amy ('98) and Mara ('98) Grace** who played in 1997 and 1998.

STREAKS: Three members of the Notre Dame women's lacrosse team enter the season with impressive scoring streaks. **Caitlin McKinney** owns the Irish record with her 39-game point streak (94g, 44a) that started during the 2005 season. Junior **Jillian Byers** starts the season with a 17-game point-scoring streak that covers the entire 2007 season. Byers had 58 goals and eight assists for 66 points in her streak. Junior **Jane Stoeckert** finished the 2007 season with a 15-game streak, scoring 21 goals and 15 assists for 36 points.

TEWAARATON WATCH LIST: Junior **Jillian Byers** and senior **Caitlin McKinney** have been named to the 2008 Tewaaron "Watch List." They are among 42 Division I players, selected by a panel of coaches from around the country, eligible for women's collegiate

lacrosse's top player award. The current duo were both named to the "Watch List," last season and join **Crysti Foote '06, Meredith Simon '04 and Danielle Shearer '03** as Irish players named to the "Watch List." Shearer (2003) was the first named to the Watch List, Simon (2004) the first to be a nominee and Foote (2006) the first to become one of five finalists for the award.

USA UNDER-19 TEAM: Notre Dame freshman **Shaylyn Blaney** helped the U.S. Under-19 team win the gold medal at the Under-19 World Championships this past summer. The three-time U.S. Lacrosse high school All-American scored 16 goals with one assist for 17 points in six games to help the U.S. team to the gold medal. Blaney became the first Notre Dame player to play on the Under-19 team since **Kelly McCardell '03**, was a member of the 1999 Under-19 team. Fellow freshmen **Kailene Abt and Lauren Fenlon** were alternates for the Under-19 team.



Freshman Shaylyn Blaney helped the U.S. Under-19 team to the gold medal at the Under-19 World Championships in July of 2007. She had 16 goals and one assist for 17 points in the tournament.

Back Where We Belong

Irish look to return to NCAA Tournament for fourth time in last seven years during 2008

The Notre Dame women's lacrosse program will be looking to bounce back from a disappointing end to the 2007 season when they open the 2008 schedule at home on Friday, Feb. 15 versus Canisius.

The Irish finished with an 11-6 record in 2007 and were 3-2 in the BIG EAST to qualify for the first BIG EAST Tournament. Along the way, they turned in a 6-6 record versus top 20 teams, yet it wasn't enough to get them into the NCAA Tournament.

The Irish opened the season by winning 11 of their first 14 games and on April 14th handed Georgetown its first-ever BIG EAST regular-season loss to move to 3-1 in the conference and first place. From there, Notre Dame lost its final three games, including a 12-10 loss to the Hoyas in the BIG EAST Tournament.

"Last year was definitely a disappointment, especially the way we ended the season," says head coach Tracy Coyne.

"Our days of being happy just being nationally ranked are over. We want more. We want to win a BIG EAST Championship and we want to be in the NCAAs every season. Our expectations are higher, so our disappointment is greater."

Now in her 12th season guiding Notre Dame's women's lacrosse program, Coyne looks forward to the 2008 season.

"We have a seasoned team with our junior and senior classes," says Coyne.

"This team has more speed and athleticism than we've ever had. We are deeper, more athletic and our talent level continues to improve," adds the Irish bench boss.

While Coyne has to be pleased with her veteran presence on the roster, it's the addition of one of

the top freshman classes that has made the expectations even greater for the Irish in 2008.

Notre Dame's freshmen class includes six U.S. Lacrosse All-Americans, including U.S. Under-19 team standout **Shaylyn Blaney**.

The Irish lost a solid core of players that were major contributors to the success of the program over the last four years.

Lost to graduation were three-year defensive starters **Meaghan Fitzpatrick** and **Kristin Hopson**, midfielders **Kaki Orr** and **Lena Zentgraf** and attack standout **Meghan Murphy**. Coyne and her team also lost midfielder **Mary Carpenter** who decided to concentrate on her academics in her senior season.

"We lost several key players who played a great deal over the last two or three seasons," said Coyne.

"But now its time for the younger players to step up and take advantage of the opportunity to play. Our sophomores didn't play a lot last season but will see more playing time this year and we have several freshmen who should play key roles as the season goes along."

Fitzpatrick and Hopson combined for 93 starts over the last three seasons and were key players in the team's run to the 2007 NCAA semifinals.

Fitzpatrick was a two-time all-BIG EAST selection and a three-time IWLCAs all-region choice over the last three seasons. She tied for fourth in ground balls (26), sixth in caused turnovers (14) and ninth on the team with 12 draw controls.

Hopson chipped in 19 ground balls, two draw controls and caused eight turnovers as a senior while starting all 17 games. She also excelled in the classroom where she was a two-time IWCLA Academic honor roll selection and the team's Scholar-Athlete award winner for 2007.

The loss of Orr and Zentgraf in the mid-field also was a big loss due to the variety of skills that duo possessed. Both were key role players and they excelled in what they did.

Orr was a three-year starter who was a hard-working tenacious player with a physical style of play. She became one of the top draw control specialists in the nation, setting a Notre Dame record in 2007 with 51. Over her junior and senior seasons, Orr had 92 draw controls and finished her career with 110, the second highest total ever for the Irish.

A second team all-BIG EAST selection in 2007, the Darien, Conn., native contributed 14 goals and eight assists for 22 points while also grabbing 25 ground balls and causing 15 turnovers.

Zentgraf capped her Notre Dame career with the team's most valuable player award. She had career highs in goals (17), assists (22) and points (39). The fifth-year senior was second on the team with 37 ground balls, second in draw controls (31) and led the team with 27 caused turnovers. She also was a second team all-BIG EAST selection.

Carpenter was a two-year starter in the mid-field and had 10 goals and one assist in 2007. She was an IWLCAs academic honor roll selection and was a third team



Senior Lindsey Ferguson will move into the starting lineup on the Notre Dame defense in 2007. She earned her first monogram last season as the unit's top reserve.

ESPN *The Magazine*/CoSida Academic All-American for her work in the classroom. A pre-med major, she decided to concentrate on academics in her final year at Notre Dame.

Murphy set career highs on attack with 18 goals and 17 assists for 35 points and proved to be an excellent compliment to Jillian Byers in the attack zone. A steady, hard-working player, Murphy also excelled in the classroom and the community. She was a two-time IWLCAs academic honor roll selection and earned the IWLCAs Community Awareness Award as a senior. At Notre Dame she received the prestigious Byron V. Kanaley Award that goes to senior athletes "who have been exemplary throughout their careers as students and athletes."

With the loss of a pair of three-year starters on defense, Coyne and her staff will start looking for replacements on the back line.

Leading the group will be senior co-captain **Becky Ranck** (Radnor, Pa.) and junior **Shannon Burke** (Baltimore, Md.). Ranck saw all her playing time on defense with Fitzpatrick and Hopson while Burke gives the team versatility since she can play defense or in the mid-field.

Ranck has played a regular role throughout here career and has been a starter in each of the last two campaigns. She leads by example both on and off the field. Tough and tenacious, she uses her speed and quickness and has an uncanny ability to anticipate the play. A master of the stick check, Ranck plays a physical style that makes life rough for opposing players around the Notre Dame cage.



Senior co-captain Becky Ranck will lead the Notre Dame defense in 2007. A two-year starter, Ranck leads by example on and off the field.

An all-BIG EAST candidate this season, she had 21 ground balls, 20 caused turnovers and seven draw controls in 2007.

Burke has played a great deal in her first two seasons and made 15 starts last year. She has outstanding stick skills and is a smart player who makes plays around the ball. A key member of the team's draw control unit, Burke knows how to use her size and strength to her advantage.

Last season, Burke grabbed 32 ground balls, had 27 draw controls and caused 16 turnovers. She should be a force on the Notre Dame back line over the next two seasons.

Looking to break into the starting lineup among the returnees are senior **Lindsey Ferguson** (Newtown Square, Pa.), junior **Beth Koloup** (Phoenix, Md.) and sophomore **Rachel Guerrero** (Wantagh, N.Y.). Ferguson and Koloup were key reserves last season while Guerrero saw limited action as a freshman.

Ferguson saw action off the bench in 15 games during 2007 and proved to be a valuable contributor. A strong defensive player, she continues to improve her all-around game and should be the leading candidate for the opening on defense.

She had 10 ground balls, one draw control and three caused turnovers in earning her first monogram last season.

Koloup is coming off a strong fall that saw her become more confident in her game and more comfortable in the team's defensive system. Still relatively new to the game of lacrosse, the former soccer standout brings impressive speed and competitiveness to the lineup. She saw action in eight games as a sophomore.

Guerrera is coming off a strong fall and winter where she caught the coaches' attention with her solid defensive play. A defensive standout in high school, she only got into two games last season as she played behind a veteran group.

The Wantagh, N.Y., native has good size and strength and uses her speed and quickness to disrupt the opponent's attack.

A pair of freshmen join the Notre Dame defense in **Lauren Fenlon** (Dayton, Md.) and **Meredith Locasto** (Pittsburgh, Pa.).

Fenlon is a talented defender with size and speed. She's a hard-working player with a great attitude who continues to improve her game. A 2007 U.S. Lacrosse high school All-American, Fenlon was an alternate on the U.S. Under-19 team last summer.

Locasto is a walk-on defender who impressed the coaching staff in the fall with her work ethic and ability to stick with the team's fall program. She's got solid stick skills and continues to improve her game.

"Through the fall and winter, I've been pleased with the way our defense has developed," says Coyne.

"We're into our third season with this defensive system and I think the players are more confident in what we are trying to do. The are developing a personality, becoming more aggressive and looking to disrupt plays and create turnovers."

"Becky (Ranck) is the vocal leader and has the experience. Shannon (Burke) has been a key player for us the last two seasons. With Lindsey (Ferguson) and Beth (Koloup) we have a strong nucleus to build around," adds the veteran coach.



Junior goalkeeper Erin Goodman played every minute of every game in 2007. She was 11-6 with a 10.32 goals-against average.

A defense is only as strong as the goalkeeper behind it and Notre Dame will look for the continued improvement of junior **Erin Goodman** (Cortlandt Manor, N.Y.).

As a sophomore she took over as the team's starter and never looked back. She played every minute of every game, going 11-6 overall with a 10.32 goals-against average and a .444 save percentage while also leading the team with 43 ground balls. Her 11 wins were the fourth-best, single-season total for the Irish and one off the school record for a goalkeeper in her first season.

Goodman brings a confidence to the Notre Dame goal and will look to become more consistent in all aspects of her game. She has good size and quickness and showed the ability to come up with big saves at key times throughout 2007.

Backing up Goodman will be sophomore **Amy Winik** (Freehold, N.J.) who instead of watching Goodman this season is pushing the incumbent for playing time.

Winik was a top high school goalkeeper and continues to improve her game. She has excellent goalkeeper's skills and a great work ethic and tremendous attitude.

"We're more experienced in goal this season and that should help," says Coyne.

"The team knows Erin (Goodman) and she gained valuable experience last season. The team knows her and she knows what to expect from them. Amy (Winik) continues to improve her game and there was excellent competition between the two in the fall."

There is no question that the strength of Notre Dame lies in its offensive attack. The Irish are strong and deep in the midfield and on attack where Coyne and her staff of assembled an impressive array of weapons.

The midfield brings speed, skill and aggressiveness to the lineup and there is loads of talent for the Irish to rely on.

Leading the Irish in the midfield is senior co-captain **Caitlin McKinney** (Lafayette Hill, Pa.).

A two-time IWLCA All-American, the speedster has been a unanimous first team all-BIG EAST selection in each of the last two years. Last season, she saw duty at both midfield and attack and finished second on the team in scoring with 44 goals and 21 assists for 65 points. That ranked her fifth among all BIG EAST scorers.

One of the nation's quickest players, McKinney is also consistent as she brings a 39-game point streak into the new year. She also starts the season climbing on the all-time Notre Dame scoring lists. McKinney ranks fourth with 114 goals, fifth in assists (55) and fourth in points (169).

Joining McKinney among the returning midfielders are juniors **Alicia Billings**

(Potomac, Md.) and **Jane Stoeckert** (Mendham, N.J.).

Billings has seen a great deal of time over her career as a defensive midfielder but is ready to become an offensive force.

One of the quickest players on the team, Billings is strong at both ends of the field and this year will look to join the attack more often. One of the team's key match-up players, Billings had six goals and six assists for 12 points in her sophomore year.

Stoeckert had a break out season offensively in 2007 as she finished third in goals (21) and fourth in points (36) on the season.

The Irish coaching staff expects big things from the talented midfielder as she continues to improve her game. She gives Notre Dame size, strength and quickness in the midfield.

Strong around the goal, Stoeckert gives the Irish another scoring option in the midfield and will help to take the pressure off McKinney, Shaylyn Blaney and Jillian Byers.

The lone sophomore in the midfield is **Meg Ryan** (Norwalk, Conn.). She continues to improve her game and will look to get more game experience this season.

Joining the Notre Dame roster at midfield are four freshmen who come with impressive resumes. The foursome includes: **Kailene Abt** (Huntington, N.Y.), **Shaylyn Blaney** (Stony Brook, N.Y.), **Jackie Doherty** (Ellicott City, Md.) and **Kaitlin Keena** (Vienna, Va.).

Abt is a highly skilled player with tremendous potential. She gives the Irish versatility as she can

play a variety of positions depending on the match up on the field.

At 5-11, she will see duty on the draws and be counted on to control play in the middle of the field. A U.S. Lacrosse high school All-American, Abt capped her high school career with 62 goals and 25 assists for 87 points at Huntington High School while taking team MVP honors.

Blaney was ranked by many as the top high school senior in the nation last year and has the numbers to prove it.

A three-time U.S. Lacrosse high school All-American, Blaney was a member of the U.S. gold-medal winning Under-19 team last summer. During her high school career, she racked up 299 goals and 80 assists for 379 points.

An all-around talented player, Blaney excels in all aspects of the game and is as strong on the defensive side of the ball as she is on offense. She will be among the team leaders in ground balls, caused turnovers and draw controls.

Doherty will see action at midfield defense and joins Blaney as one of the top freshmen in the nation. A hard-nosed competitor with the skill to make plays all over the field, she is strong in transition and loves to play an up-tempo style of game.

A product of one of the top high school programs in the country, Doherty had 55 goals and 31 assists at Mt. Hebron High School on the way to an 11th consecutive Maryland State title. She was an honorable mention U.S. Lacrosse All-American last season after being a first team choice in 2006.

Keena brings blazing speed to the Notre Dame midfield as she makes things happen offensively. A U.S. Lacrosse High School All-American in 2007, Keena had 148 goals and 100 assists for 248 career points in high school.

A talented playmaker, she possesses strong passing and catching skills.

"Midfield will definitely be one of this team's strengths this season," says Coyne.

"This is a deep and talented group. We have veteran experience and a talented group of young players who will contribute this season."

(Caitlin) McKinney gives us great leadership on and off the field. A key for us will be replacing Kaki Orr on the draw. We want to be strong in transition. That's what we continue to work on to become a better team," adds Coyne.

The midfielders will look to get the ball to the attack and the Irish are deep there too.

At the top of the list is junior **Jillian Byers** (Northport, N.Y.), who has put together two of the best offensive seasons at Notre Dame over the last two years.

As a sophomore, Byers led the Irish with 58 goals and eight assists for 66 points, to rank fourth in overall scoring in the BIG EAST. A second team IWLCA All-American, she also has been a unanimous first team all-BIG EAST selection in each of her first two years. In 2007, she became the first Notre Dame player to have back-to-back 50-goal seasons after getting 54 as a freshman.

Byers wants the ball in key situations and has an accurate shot. After just 36 career games, she already ranks fifth in goals (112), eighth in assists (32) and seventh in points (144).

Joining Byers on attack will be senior **Heather Ferguson** (Newtown Square, Pa.). A regular contributor throughout her career, Ferguson will be counted to compliment Byers on attack. A highly



Senior Heather Ferguson is a proven scorer and has been a regular contributor during her career. She has 39 goals and 24 assists for 63 points in her three seasons at Notre Dame.

skilled player with excellent stick skills, she had 10 goals with eight assists last season but would like to revert to her 2006 form when she scored 25 goals with 11 assists for 36 points.

Sophomore **Gina Scioscia** (Summit, N.J.) saw action last season off the bench and will be in the running to move into the starting lineup this season. In 14 games, she scored four goals and added four assists for eight points.

Scioscia moves well without the ball and has a strong, accurate shot. She will become a key contributor if she can take the ball to the goal more and make things happen.

Also looking to break into the regular rotation on attack are senior **Julie Foote** (Suffern, N.Y.), junior **Lauren deMello** (Manlius, N.Y.), sophomore **Maggie Zentgraf** (Charlottesville, Va.) and freshman **Ansley Stewart** (Alexandria, Va.).

Foote has excellent stick skills and is strong at creating her own shot. deMello is creative around the goal and has shown the ability to make plays. Both players just need playing time to show what they can do.

Zentgraf gives the coaching staff options as she has played both at attack and in the midfield. She has improved a great deal over her freshman season and should work her way into the mix and get a chance to contribute.

Stewart is the final member of Notre Dame's highly ranked freshman class. She works hard to improve her all-around game. Like all young players, she continues to adapt to the speed and skill level of Division I but has shown good skill up front and gives the team a deep group at attack.

"We're excited about the group of players that we have on attack," says Coyne.

"Jill Byers is a key to our success and I think Heather (Ferguson) can be huge for us and step up in the big situations. Gina (Scioscia) has worked her way into a starting role. She plays with intensity and has a good shot. Our entire group of players on attack gives us depth and plenty of options depending on the situation."

2008 BIG EAST Women's Lacrosse Coaches' Preseason Poll

No.	Team (First-place votes)	BE Record/Overall	Points
1.	Syracuse (5)	4-1/13-6	25
2.	Notre Dame (1)	3-2/11-6	20
3.	Georgetown	4-1/10-8	18
4.	Rutgers	3-2/12-5	13
5.	Loyola (Md.)	0-5/2-14	8
6.	Connecticut	1-4/10-6	6

2008 Preseason All-BIG EAST Team

Jillian Byers, Notre Dame *	Jr.	Attack
Nina Frankoski, Rutgers *	Jr.	Attack
Bridget Looney, Syracuse *	Sr.	Defense
Caitlin McKinney, Notre Dame *	Sr.	Midfield
Whitney Michele, Connecticut *	Jr.	Midfield
Halley Quillinan, Syracuse *	So.	Attack
Katie Rowan, Syracuse *	Jr.	Attack
Kristen Stone, Loyola *	Sr.	Defense
Sandra Abel, Rutgers	Jr.	Goalkeeper
Jessica Davis, Rutgers *	So.	Defense
Patty Piotrowicz, Georgetown	Sr.	Midfield
Jordan Trautman, Georgetown	Jr.	Defense

* - unanimous selection

Preseason Offensive Player of the Year

Katie Rowan (Syracuse) Jr. Attack

Preseason Defensive Player of the Year

Kristen Stone (Loyola) Jr. Defense

2008 Notre Dame Women's Lacrosse Team

Front Row (l-r): Beth Koloup, Alicia Billings, Julie Foote, Becky Ranck, Caitlin McKinney, Heather Ferguson, Lindsey Ferguson, Jillian Byers.

Second Row (l-r): Assistant coach Meredith Simon, senior manager Tripp Matte, athletic trainer Chantal Porter, Shannon Burke, Rachel Guerrero, Jane Stoeckert, Kailene Abt, Erin Goodman, Lauren Fenlon, Amy Winik, head coach Tracy Coyne, assistant coach Kateri Linville.

Back Row (l-r): Lauren deMello, Gina Scioscia, Blair Santaspirt, Kaitlin Keena, Maggie Zentgraf, Ansley Stewart, Meghan Ryan, Jackie Doherty, Shaylyn Blaney, Maria Brooks.

By Position

Attack (6): Jillian Byers, Lauren deMello, Heather Ferguson, Julie Foote, Gina Scioscia, Maggie Zentgraf.

Midfield/Attack (6): Kailene Abt, Shaylin Blaney, Kaitlin Keena, Caitlin McKinney, Ansley Stewart, Jane Stoeckert, .

Midfield/Defense (4): Shannon Burke, Jackie Doherty, Alicia Billings, Meg Ryan

Defense (6): Lindsey Ferguson, Lauren Fenlon, Rachel Guerrero, Beth Koloup, Meredith Locasto, Becky Ranck.

Goalkeeper (2): Erin Goodman, Amy Winik.

By Class

Seniors (5): Heather Ferguson, Lindsey Ferguson, Julie Foote, Caitlin McKinney, Becky Ranck.

Juniors (7): Alicia Billings, Shannon Burke, Jillian Byers, Lauren deMello, Erin Goodman, Beth Koloup, Jane Stoeckert.

Sophomores (5): Rachel Guerrero, Meg Ryan, Gina Scioscia, Amy Winik, Maggie Zentgraf.

Freshmen (7): Kailene Abt, Shaylyn Blaney, Jackie Doherty, Lauren Fenlon, Kaitlin Keena, Meredith Locasto, Ansley Stewart.



2008 Notre Dame Women's Lacrosse Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht	Yr.	Birthdate	Hometown/High School
1 ***	Caitlin McKinney	M/A	5-1	Sr.	1-29-85	Lafayette Hill, PA/Germantown Acad.
2	Meredith Locasto	D	5-6	Fr.	12-19-89	Pittsburgh, PA/Mt. Lebanon
3	Jackie Doherty	M/D	5-6	Fr.	12-21-88	Ellicott City, MD/Mt. Hebron
4 **	Jillian Byers	A	5-7	Jr.	8-3-87	Northport, NY/Northport
5	Ansley Stewart	M/A	5-8	Fr.	7-10-89	Alexandria, VA/Episcopal
6 ***	Heather Ferguson	A	5-5	Sr.	7-22-86	Newtown Square, PA/Archbishop John Carroll
7 *	Lindsey Ferguson	M/D	5-5	Sr.	7-22-86	Newtown Square, PA/Archbishop John Carroll
8	Kaitlin Keena	M/A	5-5	Fr.	12-2-88	Vienna, VA/Stone Ridge
10 **	Alicia Billings	M/D	5-7	Jr.	11-17-86	Potomac, MD/Georgetown Visitation
11	Meg Ryan	M	5-7	So.	4-14-88	Norwalk, CT/New Canaan
12 *	Gina Scioscia	A	5-4	So.	4-16-88	Summit, NJ/Summit
13	Julie Foote	A	5-6	Sr.	7-14-86	Suffern, NY/Suffern
15	Lauren deMello	A	5-5	Jr.	8-5-87	Manlius, NY/Christian Brothers Academy
16 ***	Becky Ranck	D	5-8	Sr.	3-25-86	Radnor, PA/Radnor
17	Maggie Zentgraf	A	5-6	So.	8-24-88	Charlottesville, VA/Charlottesville
19	Rachel Guerrero	D	5-7	So.	3-30-88	Wantagh, NY/Wantagh
21 **	Shannon Burke	D	5-9	Jr.	3-22-87	Baltimore, MD/Roland Park Country School
22 *	Beth Koloup	M/D	5-7	Jr.	3-21-87	Phoenix, MD/Notre Dame Prep
23	Kailene Abt	M	5-11	Fr.	5-5-89	Huntington, NY/Huntington
26	Lauren Fenlon	D	5-10	Fr.	5-23-89	Dayton, MD/Good Counsel
27 **	Jane Stoeckert	M	5-9	Jr.	2-26-87	Mendham, NJ/West Morris Mendham
29	Shaylyn Blaney	M/A	5-4	Fr.	6-11-89	Stony Brook, NY/Ward Melville
33 *	Erin Goodman	GK	5-10	Jr.	11-15-87	Cortlandt Manor, NY/Lakeland Panas
34	Amy Winik	GK	5-8	Fr.	2-7-88	Freehold, NJ/Freehold Township

Head Coach: Tracy Coyne (Ohio '83)

Assistant Coach: Kateri Linville (Delaware '03)

Assistant Coach: Meredith Simon (Notre Dame '04)

Volunteer Assistant Coach: Kathryn Lam (Notre Dame '02)

Athletic Trainer: Chantal Porter

Junior Manager: John Oliva

* - denotes monograms earned

Pronunciation Guide

Kailene Abt.....KAY-lean Ahbt	Meredith LocastoLO-cast-oh
Shaylyn BlaneySHAY-lin Blaney	Gina SciosciaSO-Sha
Rachel GuerreroGah-RARE-ah	Jane StoeckertSteh-KERT
Kaitlin KeenaKEEN-ah	Amy WinikWIN-ek
Beth KoloupCALL-up	Maggie ZentgrafZENT-graff