

NOTRE DAME WOMEN'S SOCCER GAMEDAY NOTES

NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP GAME – VERSUS NORTH CAROLINA

Cary, N.C. (SAS Soccer Park) ... Sunday, Dec. 3; 12:30 p.m. EST

TODAY'S GAME – Notre Dame (25-0-1) faces North Carolina (26-1-0) in Sunday's game at SAS Soccer Park in Cary, N.C., with the Irish looking to join the Tar Heels as the only teams ever to win three or more NCAA Division women's soccer titles ... ND and UNC's 51-1-1 combined record marks the most wins between the finalists in the 25-year history of the D-I women's soccer championship (Florida entered the 1998 title game 25-1-0 while UNC was 24-0-0) ... UNC has defeated Notre Dame in three previous NCAA title games (5-0 in 1994, 1-0/OT in 1996, 2-0 in 1999) but the Irish won their previous two NCAA championships in the state of North Carolina, besting Portland in 1995 at UNC's Fetzer Field (1-0/OT, after a 1-0 win over UNC in the semifinals) and then winning at SAS Soccer Park in 2004 (4-3 in PKs; 1-1 through OT).

WHAT'S AT STAKE – A win by Notre Dame over North Carolina would:

- Make Notre Dame the second program (with UNC) to win three or more NCAA titles
- Make ND just the fourth undefeated NCAA women's soccer champion in the past 13 years, but the third in the past four years (UNC 27-0-0 in '03; Portland 23-0-2 in '05; also UNC 27-0-1 in '97)
- Extend Notre Dame's all-time record in the NAAs to 41-11-1 (.783)
- Make the Irish 39-1-1 in their past 41 games, since losing at Marquette on Sept. 30, 2005
- Give the senior class a 93-7-3 final career record (.918)
- Improve Randy Waldrum's record in eight seasons at ND to 167-23-6 (.867)
- Give Notre Dame a 42-1-1 record during the past two seasons ('05-'06) when Kim Lorenzen is in the starting lineup
- Make Kerri Hanks the ninth (of 19) Hermann Trophy winner to help lead her team to the national title

HANKS NAMED M.A.C. HERMANN TROPHY WINNER (see separate release for complete details and updated notes on Hanks and the Hermann) – Notre Dame sophomore forward Kerri Hanks has been named the 2006 recipient of the prestigious M.A.C. Hermann Trophy, becoming the youngest player (male or female) ever to win the award ... the 18 previous women's recipients include 13 seniors and five juniors ... Notre Dame joins UNC as the only schools with three or more different recipients of the award (also midfielder Cindy Daws in 1996 and midfielder Anne Makinen in 2000) ... ND junior forward Joe Lapira received the 2006 men's M.A.C. Hermann Trophy, making Notre Dame the first school to sweep the awards in the same season ... Notre Dame is the only program with two or more different M.A.C Hermann recipients during the current decade (Portland's Christine Sinclair repeated in 2006) ... with two seasons left in her college career, Hanks could join Sinclair and former UNC players Mia Hamm ('92, '93) and Cindy Parlow ('97, '98) as the only repeat recipients of the women's Hermann Trophy.

THE TROPHY SHE REALLY CARES ABOUT ... – Kerri Hanks is looking to become the eighth different women's soccer player to receive the Hermann Trophy while also helping her team win the NCAA during the same season (would be ninth time overall) ... the seven who have completed that special single-season double accomplishment include:

- Shannon Higgins (1989, UNC)
- Kristine Lilly (1991, UNC)
- Mia Hamm (1992 and '93, UNC)
- Tisha Venturini (1994, UNC)
- Cindy Parlow (1998, UNC)
- Cat Reddick (2003, UNC)
- Christine Sinclair (2005, Portland)

SIX IRISH PLAYERS HONORED BY NSCAA – This weekend's news also included the release of the NSCAA All-America and Great Lakes All-Region teams ... senior midfielder **Jen Buczkowski** was named an NSCAA All-American for the third time in her career (3rd team in 2004 and '05, 2nd team in '06) ... despite its season-long #1 ranking and unbeaten record, ND features just one NSCAA first team All-American (no players on ND's 2004 were named NSCAA first team All-Americans, one of only two times that the NCAA champ has not featured at least one first-teamer) ... the six ND players who were honored by the NSCAA for 2006 include:

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| • Kerri Hanks | First Team All-American and First Team All-Region |
| • Jen Buczkowski | Second Team All-American and First Team All-Region |
| • Carrie Dew | First Team All-Region |
| • Jill Krivacek | Second Team All-Region |
| • Amanda Cinalli | Second Team All-Region |
| • Brittany Bock | Second Team All-Region |

HALF AND HALF – Notre Dame opened the season by not allowing any second-half goals in the first 15 games, before allowing two by Villanova ... the Irish now suddenly are riding a 16-game stretch in which they have not allowed a goal in the first half, since allowing an early goal by West Virginia on Sept. 29 ... ND has a more impressive goal margin in the second half this season (56-6, +50) but the Irish have allowed just three first-half goals all season, all by teams that were ranked in the top-25 (Mississippi, Santa Clara and WVU).

TALE OF THE TAPE

	ND	UNC
2006 Record (BIG EAST)	25-0-1 (10-0-1)	26-1-0 (10-0-0)
2005 Record	22-3-0	23-1-1
Starters Returning from 2005	8	8
Letterwinners Returning/Lost	17/8	
NCAA Games	7-1 vs. Oakland, 1-0 vs. UWM	7-0 vs. UNC-Ashville, 4-0 vs. Navy
(ND 17-2; UNC 22-4)	3-0 vs. Colorado, 4-0 vs. Penn State	6-2 vs. Tennessee
	2-1 vs. Florida State	3-2 vs. Texas A&M, 2-0 vs. UCLA

Goals Per Game	3.20 (84)	2.89 (79)
Goals-Against Average	0.34 (9)	0.44 (12)
Avg. Scoring Margin	+2.86 (+75)	+2.45 (+67)

Shots Per Game	22.1	19.7
Shots Allowed Per Game	5.4	5.8
Shot Margin	+16.7	+13.9
Shots On Goal Allowed Per Game	1.9	2.6

Shooting Percentage	.146	.148
Shots Per Goal	6.8	6.7
Shots on Goal per Goal	3.0	3.2

Corner Kicks Per Game	6.0	6.1
Corner Kicks Allowed Per Game	2.6	1.9
Average Corner-Kick Margin	+3.4	+4.2

Save Percentage	.820	.826
Shutouts	19	18
Games w/ 0-1 GA	24	24
Games w/ 2 GA	2	3
Games w/ 3-plus GA	0	0

Overtime Record	0-0-1	1-1-0
One-Goal Game Record	4-0	8-1
Wins By 3-Plus Goals	11	13

Home Games	13-0-0	11-0-0
All Road Games	12-0-1	15-1-0

1st-Half Scoring	28-3	34-6
2nd-Half Scoring	56-7	44-5

Fouls Per Game	14.5	9.2
Yellow Cards/Red	21/0	6/0

Players with 10+ Goals	4	3
Players with 5+ Goals	5	7
Players with Goals	14	14

Players with 20+ Points	4	4
Players with 10+ Points	7	10
Players with Points	18	21

Seniors	8	4
Freshmen	10	13

Top Scorers	ND	UNC
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Kerri Hanks, So., F (22G-21A, 65 pts)	Yael Averbuch, So., M (16G-7A, 39 pts)
Michele Weissenhofer, Fr., F (18G-17A, 53 pts)	Heather O'Reilly, Sr., F (11G-15A, 37 pts)
Brittany Bock, So., F/M (11G-7A, 29 pts)	Whitney Engen, Fr., F (12G-12A, 36 pts)
Amanda Cinalli, Jr., M/F (11G-4A, 26 pts)	Lizzy Guess, Sr., F (6G-13A, 25 pts)

Goalkeeper	Lauren Karas, Jr. (0.35 GAA, 36 SV, 25 GP)	Anna Rodenbough, So. (0.40 GAA, 47 SV, 27 GP)
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SEASON OF STREAKS – Notre Dame enters the NCAA championship game with:

- 249 straight wins when taking a 2-0 lead (29 straight when scoring first)
- 102 consecutive games played by Jen Buczkowski (ND record, all of '03-'06 seasons)
- 35 straight wins when scoring first
- 32 straight wins when Kerri Hanks scores a goal (spanning all of '05-'06 seasons)
- a 26-game unbeaten streak
- 22 straight games holding the opponent to four shots on goal or fewer
- 16 consecutive games without facing a deficit (one deficit in past 22 games; 32 minutes vs. WVU)
- 16 consecutive games without allowing a first-half goal
- 12 straight wins (since 0-0 tie at UConn)

NOTRE DAME NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP HISTORY (25 team titles)

Football	11 consensus titles (1924, '29, '30, '43, '46, '47, '49, '66, '73, '77, '88)
Fencing	7 (men in '77, '78 and '86; women in '87; men/women combined in '94, '03, '05)
Women's Soccer	2 (1995 and 2004)
Men's Tennis	2 (1944 and '59)
Women's Basketball	1 (2001)
Men's Cross Country	1 (1957)
Men's Golf	1 (1944)

IRISH AIM FOR THIRD TITLE – The women's soccer team is one win away from becoming the third sport at Notre Dame with three or more national title ... the ND football program owns 11 consensus national titles while the fencing program's seven overall team titles include three for the men, one for the women and three in the combined format (began in '94) ... a win over UNC would mark the sixth time that a Notre Dame athletic program has won multiple national title in the same decade:

Notre Dame National Titles by Same Sport in Same Decade

1920s	Football (1924 and '29)
1940s	Football (1943, '46, '47 and '49)
1970s	Football (1973 and '77)
1970s	Men's Fencing (1977 and '78)
2000s	M/W Combined Fencing (2003 and '05)

WALDRUM ONE WIN FROM SECOND TITLE – ND eight-year head coach Randy Waldrum is on the verge of his second career NCAA title with the Irish ... there are six previous head coaches in Notre Dame athletics history whose teams have won multiple national championships ... of those six, only two – fencing's Janusz Bednarski (3rd season) and football's Frank Leahy (4th season) have guided their teams to a pair of titles in fewer than eight years ... Yves Auriol's second title came in his ninth season, Ara Parseghian's in his 10th, Knute Rockne's in his 11th and Mike DeCicco's in his 17th.

Notre Dame's Multiple National Championship Coaches

Frank Leahy (4)	Football	1944, '46, '47, '49
Mike DeCicco (4)	Fencing	1977, '78, '86, '94 (first three men, '94 was M/W combined)
Knute Rockne (3)	Football	1924, '29, '30
Ara Parseghian (2)	Football	1966, '73
Janusz Bednarski (2)	Fencing	2003, '05 (M/W combined)
Yves Auriol (2)	Fencing	1987 (women), '94 (combined)

WALDRUM TO COACH IN THIRD TITLE GAME – Randy Waldrum's first eight ND teams now have advanced to the NCAA title game three times, placing him in a tie for third on the list of most title-game appearances by a D-I coach:

Most Trips to the NCAA Title Game

Anson Dorrance (UNC)	21
Len Tsantiris (UConn)	4
Randy Waldrum (ND)	3

MOVING TO THIRD ON ANOTHER TOP LIST – Randy Waldrum's career women's soccer coaching record at four-year schools (273-73-18) represents the third-best win pct. (.775) in NCAA history, with a minimum of 10 years on the Division I level:

NCAA Leaders in Career Coaching Win Pct. (min. 10 yrs D-I; record includes only yrs at 4-year schools)

1. Anson Dorrance (UNC)	.945	628-28-18
2. Jerry Smith (Santa Clara)	.777	326-84-27
3. Randy Waldrum (ND)	.775	273-73-18

IRISH AND TAR HEELS POST LOFTY 2006 WIN TOTALS – There have been just 11 teams in the 25-year history of Division I women's soccer that have posted 25-plus wins but two of them are set to meet in the 2006 NCAA title game (25-0-1 ND and 26-1-0 UNC) ... Notre Dame (2) and UNC (8) have accounted for 10 of the 11 seasons with 25-plus wins ... Sunday's winner will become the fourth team in NCAA history with 26-plus victories

Most Wins in a Season

27	UNC	2003
27	UNC	1997
26	UNC	2006
26	Florida	1998

Teams with 25 wins have included UNC in 1992, '94, '95, '96 and, '96, and ND in '04 and '06.

Most NCAA Title Game Appearances

North Carolina	21
Notre Dame	6
Connecticut	4

(Portland, George Mason and Colorado College each with 3)

KERRI HANKS QUICK NOTES

- 12 of her 21 assists this season have come on set plays (8 corner kicks, 4 free kicks)
- has points in 14 of her 15 career postseason games
- now owns or shares 43 various ND scoring records, also ranking 2nd in 21 other categories
- her 15 points (4G-7A) in the 2006 NAAs are most ever by an ND player in one NCAA Tournament
- has scored (6) or assisted (9) on 15 of ND's 25 gamewinning goals in 2006; her 21 gamewinning points in 2006 are two shy of Katie Thorlakson's ND record
- looking to avoid what would be only the second 3-game goal drought of her ND career
- needs 5 points to become third D-I player with multiple 70-point seasons
- needs 3 points to tie Katie Thorlakson's record for points in one postseason (27, in '04)
- needs 5 points to tie Katie Thorlakson's record for career points in the NAAs (29)
- also ranks 2nd in ND history for career postseason points (43; Thorlakson had 53)
- needs 1 point to tie Jenny Streiffer (66, in '96) for 6th on ND single-season points list (record is 72)
- needs 1 goal to tie Monica Gerardo's ND sophomore record (23)

Top Combined Men's and Women's Soccer Records in 2006

1. Notre Dame	40-6-3
2. UNC	37-7-3
3. UCLA	35-9-4

SEMIFINAL RECAP QUICK NOTES

- Kerri Hanks and Brittany Bock had the corner kick and header that set up Jill Krivacek's header goal in the semifinal win over Florida State ... it marked the 10th time this season that Hanks and Bock have combined on a goal (G/A).
- Bock now has four rare header assists in her career, to go along with 11 header goals
- Jen Buczkowski (102) and Christie Shaner (99) have combined for the most games played (201) of any classmates in ND history
- Buczkowski now owns the ND record for games played (all 102 from '03-'06) and is tied for 7th in starts (96; she would tie Kate Sobrero for 6th by starting Sunday vs. UNC)
- Shaner is set to become the 8th all-time ND player to appear in 100 career games
- The ND defense has limited 20 of its 26 opponents to 0-4 shots on goal
- By playing in the title game, Kim Lorenzen and Jill Krivacek will tie for 16th on the ND games played list (95)
- The eight-member senior class has combined for 582 career games played and 362 starts
Openers in RW, 27-2-0, 18-0-0
- ND is 2-8-2 in its all-time series vs. UNC but 32-3-1 vs. all other teams currently in the ACC
- The ND players set to return in 2007 have combined to score 72 of the team's 84 goals (the potential 2008 returners have scored 59 of the goals this season)

VETERANS' CAREER SCORING IN THE NCAAs

Kerri Hanks.....	8G-8A (24 points), 2 GWG, 9 GS
Amanda Cinalli	8G-2A (18 points), GWG, 15 GS,
Brittany Bock	5G-3A (13 points), GWG, 10 GP/8 GS
Jill Krivacek	3G-4A (10 points), 2 GWG, 18 GP/16 GS
Jen Buczkowski.....	2G-4A (8 points), 18 GS
Susan Pinnick.....	2G-2A (6 points), GWG, 10 GP
Ashley Jones.....	2A (2 points), 15 GP/5 GS
Christie Shaner.....	1G-2A (4 points), 16 GP/12 GS
Kim Lorenzen	2G-2A (5 points), 28 GS
Lizzie Reed.....	2A (2 points), 23 GP/2 GS
Molly Iarocci	1G-1A (3 points), 7 GP
Lauren Karas.....	0.37 GAA, 2 GA, 9 SV, 488:12, 7 GP/5 GS (5-0-0)

SUNDAY, BLOODY SUNDAY – The Irish remain unbeaten in 2005-06 during Sunday games (24-0-0; with 22 of those being the second game of the weekend) while outscoring the opponents 92-6 in those games (as opposed to a 19-3-1 record and 90-17 scoring edge in the first games of a weekend).

MOST D-I WOMEN'S SOCCER WINS DURING THE PAST FOUR SEASONS (2003-06)

- 1. North Carolina 96-3-3
- 2. Notre Dame **92-7-3 (.917 win pct.; 2nd ND history behind .921/91-6-4, '94-'97)**
- 3. UCLA..... 81-15-5

MOST D-I WOMEN'S SOCCER WINS DURING THE PAST THREE SEASONS (2004-06)

- 1. Notre Dame **72-4-2 (.936 win pct.; ND four-year record is .921)**
- 2. North Carolina 69-3-3
- 3. UCLA..... 61-13-2

FRONTRUNNERS – The senior class has faced just 18 total deficits (in 16 games) during their 102-game career, with those deficits accounting for only 6.0% of the minutes from 2003-06 (558:01 of 9,285:49) ... ND has trailed for just 120:26 in the 2006 season (in three games, all vs. top- 25 teams) and has not faced a deficit since late September, spanning 16 games without trailing.