

NOTRE DAME COACHING STAFF

Head coach Deanna Gumpf and her staff have compiled over 250 wins in just six seasons in addition to earning conference and regional coaching staff of the year honors in 2002 and 2004.





Deanna Gumpf

**Head Coach
Seventh Season
Nebraska '93**

AWARDS & HONORS

2002 BIG EAST Coaching Staff of the Year

2004 BIG EAST Coaching Staff of the Year

**2002 NFCA Midwest Region
Coaching Staff of the Year**

**2004 NFCA Midwest Region
Coaching Staff of the Year**

Through only six seasons as the head softball coach at Notre Dame, Deanna Gumpf has already established herself as one of the premiere college coaches in the nation.

Under her tutelage, the Irish have claimed three BIG EAST Tournament titles and six trips to the NCAA Tournament. Even more, Notre Dame staked the BIG EAST's regular-season championship during her first four seasons on the bench to extend its dominance over league opponents.

In fact, Gumpf enters her seventh season as the Irish head coach with the 17th-best winning percentage among active coaches. With a six-year mark of 251-114 (.687), her victory average is the highest of any BIG EAST skipper.

When assuming control of the Irish program in July of 2001 from her mentor and close friend, Liz Miller, Gumpf inherited a team that was fresh off a school-best 54-7 record one season prior. Without missing a beat, the Irish once again advanced to the final day of competition at the NCAA Regional Tournament and in the process smashed the school record for home runs in a season. Notre Dame also came through with a dramatic run in the 2002 BIG EAST Championship, rallying from a first-day loss to hand Virginia Tech a pair of defeats on the final day to claim the league title.



The second year of the Gumpf era began with a 10-11 start to the season before Notre Dame ripped off a 20-game win streak from April 1-26 to assume control of the BIG EAST Conference standings. The team then swept through the BIG EAST Championship by scoring 21 runs in three games and won the title on a walk-off home run from conference player of the year Andrea Loman in the bottom of the ninth inning against Villanova.

The Irish rode their momentum into the start of the 2004 slate, upsetting No. 8 Nebraska during the first weekend of the season to claim the program's first-ever bracket championship at the National Fastpitch Coaches Association Leadoff Classic. The team also won the Hoosier Invitational title and the BIG EAST regular-season crown while taking part in a record 69 contests. Notre Dame was victorious in 49 of those games – the second-best win total in school history – aided by an 18-2 mark in conference play.

By claiming her 100th victory at Notre Dame in record time in 2004, Gumpf was able to reach the 100-win plateau faster than any previous Irish head coach. She reached the 200-win plateau, again in record time, with a victory in the second game of an April 9 double-header against Pittsburgh in 2006. The Irish ensured the victory would be a memorable one, as they pounded out 21 hits to tie the school record. Two Irish players – Stephanie Brown and Meagan Ruthrauff – both fin-

ished with four hits apiece, as Ruthrauff would also set school records with three home runs and seven RBI.

Yet another landmark season came about in 2005 as the Irish hosted their first NCAA Championship competition at Ivy Field. Bolstered by a 20-game win streak – the second 20-game run of the Gumpf era which included tournament titles at the GRU Classic and Hawaii's Spring Fling – the Irish won the BIG EAST Conference regular-season title and advanced to the BIG EAST Championship final game.

Over the next two seasons, the Irish posted a 74-45 mark including 22 contests against 16 different top-25 opponents. The early stage of the 2006 slate was highlighted by a 3-2 comeback victory over No. 10 Arizona State, which came at the hands of Stephanie Brown's two-run game-winning homer. After dropping a pair of games to No. 4 Texas and No. 7 Alabama, the Irish proceeded to post a nine-game winning-streak including four wins in conference play. Notre Dame kept themselves among the top teams in BIG EAST play with the only five conference losses heading into the league tourna-

NCAA Winningest Active Coaches

Coach (team)	Yrs.	Won	Lost	Tied	Pct.
1. Mike Candrea (Arizona)	21	1,131	228	0	.832
2. Stefni Lotief (Louisiana- Lafayette)	7	355	82	0	.812
3. Yvette Girouard (LSU)	27	1,122	351	0	.762
4. Patty Gasso (Oklahoma)	13	639	208	2	.754
5. JoAnne Graf (Florida State)	24	1,180	397	6	.747
6. Patrick Murphy (Alabama)	10	495	169	0	.745
7. Lu Harris-Champer (Georgia)	11	568	196	1	.743
8. Margie Wright (Fresno State)	28	1,253	446	3	.737
9. Karen Weekly (Tennessee)	11	549	198	1	.735
10. Ralph Weekly (Tennessee)	11	517	189	1	.732
17. Deanna Gumpf (Notre Dame)	6	251	114	0	.688

ment. The Irish entered the post-season showdown as the third-seeded squad and rolled through the competition with wins over Providence, Pittsburgh, and No. 18 Louisville to claim Gumpf's third conference crown in only five seasons.

Notre Dame then headed to Evanston (Ill.) for the NCAA Tournament and defeated UC Santa Barbara and Southern Illinois before falling to Northwestern – who would go on to earn a seat in that season's World Series – to finish the year with over 40 wins for the third consecutive season.

Gumpf and the Irish rallied to a runner-up finish in the 2007 edition of the BIG EAST Tournament upon entering the event as the fourth-seeded team. Behind the solid play and leadership of senior Stephanie Brown, Notre Dame advanced to the NCAA Tournament for the

The Deanna Gumpf File

Year	School	W	L	Pct.	Postseason Play/Notes
Assistant/Pitching Coach					
1997	Long Beach State	44	20	.687	Big West Champion
Assistant/Pitching Coach					
1998	Notre Dame	34	22	.607	BIG EAST South Division Champion
1999	Notre Dame	42	20	.677	BIG EAST Tournament and Regular-Season Champion / NCAA Tournament
2000	Notre Dame	47	14	.770	BIG EAST Tournament and Regular-Season Champion / NCAA Tournament
Associate Head Coach					
2001	Notre Dame	54	7	.885	BIG EAST Regular-Season Champions / NCAA Tournament
Head Coach					
2002	Notre Dame	44	17	.721	BIG EAST Tournament and Regular-Season Champion / NCAA Tournament
2003	Notre Dame	38	17	.667	BIG EAST Tournament and Regular-Season Champion / NCAA Tournament
2004	Notre Dame	49	20	.710	BIG EAST Regular-Season Champion / NCAA Tournament
2005	Notre Dame	46	15	.754	BIG EAST Regular-Season Champion / NCAA Tournament
2006	Notre Dame	42	21	.670	BIG EAST Tournament Champion / NCAA Tournament
2007	Notre Dame	32	24	.571	BIG EAST Tournament Runner-up / NCAA Tournament
Overall (as head coach)		251	114	.687	Six NCAA Tournaments
Six seasons					Four BIG EAST Regular-Season Championships
					Three BIG EAST Tournament Championships

ninth consecutive season before bowing out to Illinois State in regional action. Brown would later be named a second-team academic All-American, finishing her career ranked among the program's all-time leaders in eight career offensive categories (including hits, runs, stolen bases, home runs and batting average).

As an assistant coach at Notre Dame (1998-2001), Gumpf worked primarily with the Irish pitchers and hitters. In each of those four seasons, Notre Dame lowered its team earned run average and eventually posted a spectacular 0.89 ERA in 2001, which ranked seventh-best in the nation. And as the team ERA dropped, its batting average steadily rose as the team set single-season program records for home runs, batting average, runs scored and strikeouts thrown with Gumpf on the staff.

Irish players have mirrored their coach's competitive fire over the past six seasons and continue to show a flair for the ability to make clutch plays at key times. This became apparent in Gumpf's first season, when she led the team to face No. 4 Nebraska for the dedication game of the Cornhusker's Bowlin Stadium. Facing her alma mater for the first time as a head coach, Gumpf and the Irish left Lincoln with a 3-2 win after Liz Hartmann drilled a three-run homer in the top of the sixth inning for the upset victory.

The La Palma, Calif., native played at Nebraska from 1989-92 while earning a degree in business management. Gumpf was an all-Big Eight Conference second-team selection in 1991 and an honorable mention pick in both 1989 and 1990.

Prior to her collegiate success in

Lincoln, Gumpf enjoyed an outstanding prep career with Gordon's Panthers, one of the most dominating Amateur Softball Association teams in Southern California.

Gumpf pursued a professional position with Delta Airlines after graduating from Nebraska but did not stay too detached from softball. She started to give private pitching lessons in the Southern California area and what began as a small side job turned into a major venture. Gumpf entertained countless offers from college coaches hoping to entice her with the opportunity to get back into the college game. Perhaps not too surprisingly, one of the first coaches to call Gumpf was Liz Miller.

Miller discussed the possibility of having Gumpf join the Irish staff, but a position was never established and Gumpf would opt to become the pitching coach at Long Beach State.

Two years later, Miller phoned Gumpf again to offer a position and the future Irish head coach jumped at the chance.

"Deanna has earned the respect of everyone in the softball coaching circles and her contributions to Notre Dame's program are extensive and well documented," said Notre Dame athletics director Kevin White.

"She has a grand design for the future of softball at Notre Dame and we're excited about the opportunity to see her, her staff and her teams make those visions become a reality."

After winning her third BIG EAST Tournament championship in 2006, Gumpf soon inked a multi-year contract extension with Notre Dame.

Gumpf and her husband, John, reside in South Bend with son, Brady and daughter, Tatum. John coached high school baseball in Southern California before serving as a volunteer assistant coach for the Irish from 1999-2001, and is currently the head coach at St. Joseph High School in South Bend. He spent four years as a professional baseball player in the Minnesota Twins' minor-league ranks from 1989-94.





**Kris
Ganeff**

**Assistant Coach
Seventh Season
Notre Dame '99**

AWARDS & HONORS

2002 BIG EAST Coaching Staff of the Year

2004 BIG EAST Coaching Staff of the Year

**2002 NFCA Midwest Region
Coaching Staff of the Year**

**2004 NFCA Midwest Region
Coaching Staff of the Year**

Arguably the best all-around catcher in Irish history, Kris Ganeff is now in her seventh year of work with the Notre Dame softball program this season on the sidelines as an assistant coach.

A key member of the 2002 and 2004 BIG EAST Coaching Staffs of the Year, Ganeff works closely with each player on hitting and defense while specializing in the development of the Irish catchers. In fact, she helped mold Mallorie Lenn into an all-BIG EAST performer in 2004 – a season in which the Irish also finished with a 49-20 record and took home the conference championship.

She has been a pivotal cog in aiding the development of the

Irish bats and batteries as Notre Dame has posted seven school records since her first season on staff. The 2002 team set a school mark for runs (318) and home runs (54); the 2003 team posted the highest fielding percentage in school history (.974); the 2004 group logged a program-best 52 complete games and 22 double plays, and the 2005 squad set marks for strikeouts (547) and strikeouts per seven innings (8.74).

Ganeff completed her Notre Dame career by earning all-BIG EAST and all-NFCA Midwest Region honors in 1999. She hit a career-high seven home runs in her final season while snagging out 16 attempted steals from behind the plate.

Ganeff was drafted by the Virginia Roadsters of the Women's Professional Softball League after graduating from Notre Dame in 1999, though the former Irish team captain and MVP instead chose to head into the coaching ranks by taking an assistant position at UNLV.

Prior to the 2006 season she was promoted to the first assistant position with the Irish.

The shift paid off well for all parties involved – Ganeff would assume full control



of the team during the first three weeks of the season and led the team to a 7-6 record while head coach Deanna Gumpf was on maternity leave

"Moving Kris into the first assistant position was an easy decision because of her coaching strengths and love of the team and University," said Gumpf.

"Kris and I complement each other well. We see things from different angles and have the ability to find a common ground. She has a strong desire to help our program get to the highest level possible."



The Ganeff family (l-r): Kris, Deven May and John

A native of Westerville, Ohio, Ganeff earned a bachelor's degree in history from Notre Dame and will soon complete a master's degree in sports science from Ball State. The former Kris McCleary has been married to John Ganeff since 2002, and the couple reside in South Bend with their daughter, Deven May. They are expecting their second child in May.

Assistant Coach



**Lizzy
Lemire**

**Assistant Coach
Third Season
Notre Dame '01**

A former member of the U.S. National Softball Team and 2001 BIG EAST Player of the Year, Lizzy Lemire returned to her alma mater as an assistant coach for the Irish softball team in the fall of 2005.

Lemire has trekked from coast-to-coast after earning a pair of degrees from Notre Dame in 2001 before landing back in South Bend. Upon graduation, she earned a spot on a U.S. National team that steamrolled the competition with four consecutive victories and a tournament title during the 2001 U.S. Cup in Hawaii.

After her time with the U.S. National team, Lemire returned to Notre Dame as an athletic department intern through the summer of 2002. It was then that she was accepted into the sport management program at the University of Massachusetts as she went on to earn a master's degree in that field. While pursuing her degree, Lemire also served as an intern in the athletic department compliance office. In addition, Lemire was also a volunteer assistant coach for the softball squad, coordinating team travel and devel-

oping the play of the Minutewomen outfield.

In 2003, Lemire shifted gears by landing a position at Boston College within the athletic department's development office, and was one year later hired as an annual giving associate at Stanford University.

During her first season back in the blue and gold as a coach, Lemire steered the 2006 Irish squad to a collective batting average of .291 while the sluggers sent 44 homers out of the park. Lemire mentored outfielder Stephanie Brown to a pair of All-America honors, as Brown also became one of only a handful of Irish players – including Lemire – to earn all-BIG EAST honors on four occasions.

Lemire captained the most successful team in the history of the Notre Dame program, powering the Irish to an overall record of 54-7 along with an all-time best No. 7 national ranking and the first number-one seed in the NCAA Tournament. As a senior, Lemire hit .324 (including a .383 mark in BIG EAST play) with 38 RBI, 10 stolen bases and three home runs. She shares the single-season record for doubles with Katie Laing, logging 17 two-baggers in 1999. Lemire's career numbers included a .332 average, 28 stolen bases, 126 RBI, nine home runs and 43 doubles. Lemire is regarded as one of the most fearless and skilled defensive outfielders in Notre Dame history. Her personal efforts were reflected in her team's success, as Lemire was part of a senior class that compiled an overall record of 177-63 (.738), earn two BIG EAST Tournament championships, four regular-season conference titles, and made three consecutive trips to the NCAA Tournament.





Dawn Austin

*Volunteer Assistant Coach
Penn State '93*



Michael Joseph

*Strength & Conditioning
Fairmont State '99*



Kathy Laguens

*Athletic Trainer
Florida State '02*



Tony Yelovich

*Assistant Athletics Director
Tampa '64*



Amanda Carvalho

*Senior Manager
Notre Dame '08*



Alan George

*Sports Information Assistant
Centre '05*



Darin Ottaviani

*Sports Promotions Assistant
Michigan '05*



Colleen Inglesby

*Academic Advising
Notre Dame '01*



Dawn Mays

*Senior Staff Assistant
UCLA '87*

TV Roster



Deanna Gump

Head Coach
7th season
Nebraska '93



Kris Ganeff

Assistant Coach
7th season
Notre Dame '99



Lizzy Lemire

Assistant Coach
3rd season
Notre Dame '01



Dawn Austin

Volunteer
Assistant Coach
2nd season
Penn State '93



1 Katie Laing

Sr.
Second Base/Shortstop
5-4 · R/R
Tempe, Ariz.
Corona del Sol



3 Heather Johnson

So.
Infield
5-8 · R/R
Los Alamitos, Calif. / Mater Dei



5 Shannon Kelly

Fr.
Catcher/Utility
5-7 · R/R
Pembroke Pines, Fla. / Hollywood Christian



7 Sadie Pitzberger

Fr.
Catcher/Outfield
5-7 · L/R
Tomball, Texas
Tomball



8 Brittney Bargar

Jr.
Pitcher
5-9 · R/R
Corona, Calif.
Corona



9 Jody Valdivia

Fr.
Pitcher
5-8 · R/R
Anaheim Hills, Calif. / Canyon



10 Christine Lux

So.
First Base/DP
5-11 · L/R
Glendale Heights, Ill. / Glenbard West



12 Katie Fleury

Fr.
Second Base/Shortstop
5-5 · R/R
San Jose, Calif.
Archbishop Mitty



14 Beth Northway

Jr.
Infield/Outfield
5-7 · R/R
Kentwood, Mich.
East Kentwood



16 Ashley Ellis

So.
Outfield
5-9 · R/R
Pikeville, Tenn.
Bledsoe County



18 Christine Farrell

Jr.
Pitcher
5-8 · R/R
La Habra, Calif.
Sonora



19 Erin Marrone

Fr.
Infield/Outfield
5-9 · R/R
Alexandria, Va.
Bishop O'Connell



21 Linda Kohan

Jr.
Infield
5-6 · R/R
Westminster, Calif.
Westminster



23 Stephanie Mola

Jr.
Outfield
5-5 · L/L
Naples, Fla.
St. John Neumann



24 Brianna Jorgensborg

Fr.
Outfield
5-11 · R/R
Thousand Oaks, Calif. / La Reina



27 Alexia Clay

So.
Catcher
5-6 · R/R
Rochester, Ind.
Culver



34 Sarah Smith

Sr.
Outfield
5-7 · L/R
Oklahoma City, Okla. / Heritage Hall

It's everywhere. In the labs. In the dorms.
In the quiet of the Grotto
and the roar of the stadium.

It's the spirit of service and tradition.
Of faith and family.
Of wisdom and leadership.

And each time you give to Notre Dame,
you ensure it's a spirit
that will live on for generations.

The Spirit of Notre Dame.

Pass it on.



SPIRIT
OF NOTRE DAME

Visit <http://supporting.nd.edu/spirit>
to tell us what the Spirit of Notre
Dame means to you. Then consider
making a gift to the Notre Dame
Annual Fund to help keep that spirit
burning for a new generation.