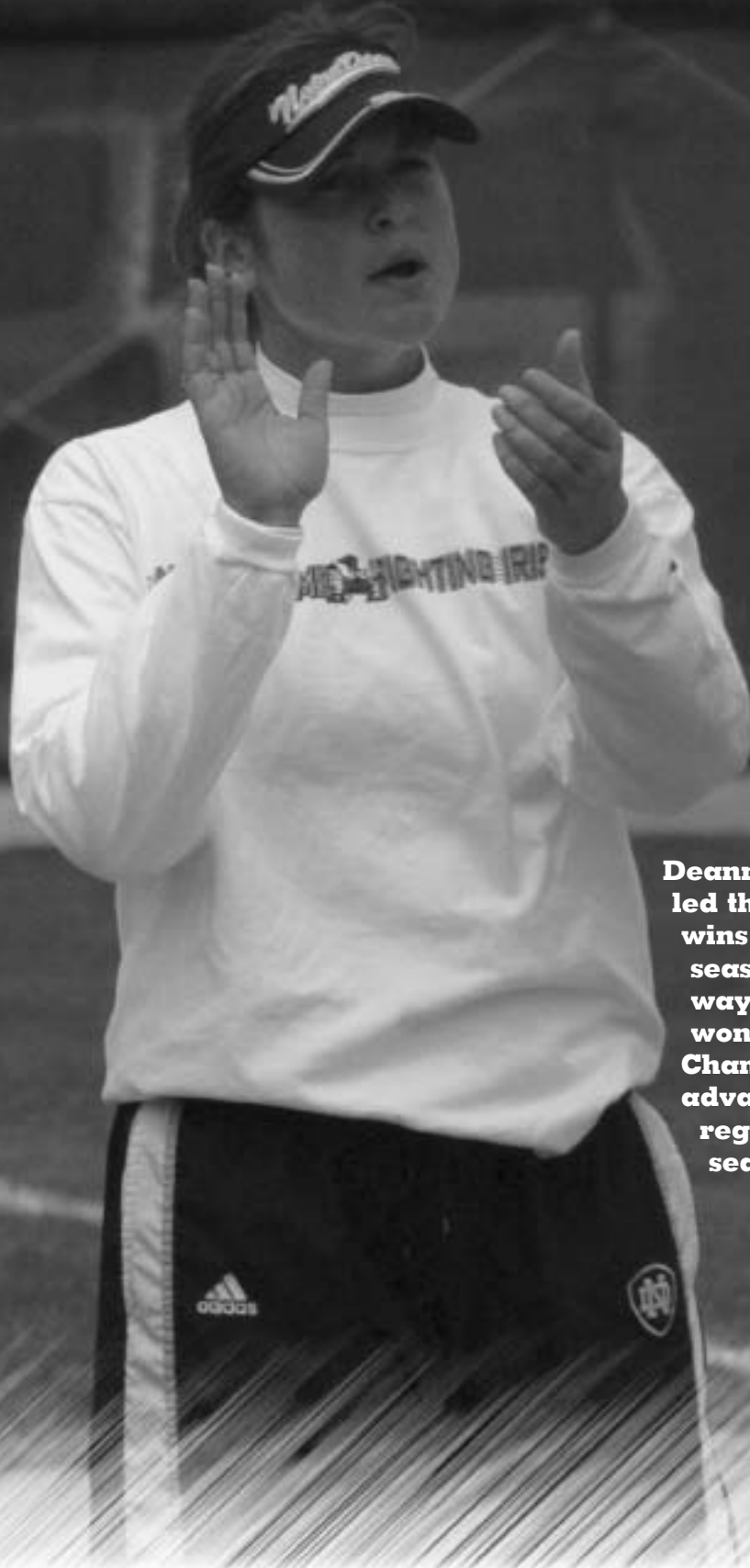


Coaches

and Staff



Deanna Gumpf has led the Irish to 177 wins in her first four seasons. Along the way, Notre Dame has won two BIG EAST Championships and advanced to NCAA regional play each season.

Entering her fifth season at Notre Dame in 2006, head softball coach Deanna Gumpf already has left a lasting impression on the Irish program. Notre Dame has solidified itself as one of the top programs in the nation, claiming five BIG EAST championships in eight years and seven straight appearances in the NCAA Championship.

Gumpf has led the Irish through four straight stellar seasons, winning the BIG EAST Championship during her first two campaigns (2002, 2003) on the bench and claiming the conference regular-season crown each year. In addition, the Irish have knocked off a number of nationally-ranked teams and posted a mixture of both dominating performances and stirring come-from-behind victories.

Gumpf assumed control of the Irish program on July 3, 2001, from her mentor and good friend Liz Miller. An associate head coach during Notre Dame's legendary 54-7 campaign in 2001, Gumpf followed up with an equally-stellar 44-17 campaign in her first season. The Irish once again advanced to the final day of play at the NCAA regional and smashed the school record for home runs in a season. Notre Dame also came through with an emotional and dramatic victory at the BIG EAST Championship in 2002, rallying from a first-day loss to defeat Virginia Tech twice on the final day to claim the league title.

The second season of the Gumpf era ended with a 38-17 campaign, as the Irish lost a number of games to inclement weather. After a rough 10-11 start to the season, 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, scoring 21 runs in three games and winning the title on a walk-off home run in the bottom of the ninth inning against Villanova from conference player of the year Andrea Loman. The Irish were then eliminated from the NCAA Regional by the host team, Michigan,

**2002, 2004 BIG EAST
Coaching Staff of the Year**

**2002, 2004 NFCA Midwest Region
Coaching Staff of the Year**



Deanna Gumpf

Head Coach

Fifth Season

Nebraska '92



the first time in school history. Bolstered by a 20-game win streak (the second 20-game run of the Gumpf era) the Irish won the BIG EAST Conference regular-season title and advanced to the BIG EAST Championship final game. A pesky Seton Hall team took the BIG EAST crown, but the Irish had earned the right to host an NCAA regional at Ivy Field. Notre Dame advanced to the final day of competition, dropping two hard-fought games to nationally-ranked Northwestern on the final day of the regional. The campaign finished with another outstanding record (45-16) and two tournament titles (the GRU Classic at the University of Florida and Hawaii's Spring Fling).

Gumpf claimed her 100th victory at Notre Dame in record time in 2004, reaching the 100-win plateau faster than any previous Irish head coach. She has led her team to an impressive .720 winning percentage (177-69) and has suffered more than two straight losses only twice – one of those runs coming in the 2002 season when the Irish battled through four losses to Texas A&M, No. 8 Arizona State, No. 4 Oklahoma and No. 19 Louisiana-Lafayette by a combined seven runs.

As an assistant coach at Notre Dame from 1998-2001, Gumpf worked with the Irish pitchers and the hitters, having a special impact on the Irish hurlers. In all four years, Notre Dame lowered its team ERA and eventually posted a spectacular 0.89 ERA in 2001 (seventh in the nation). Even as the team ERA dropped, the team's batting average rose each season and the Irish have set school records for home runs, batting average, runs and strikeouts thrown with Gumpf on the staff.

She helped several Irish pitchers and hitters land numerous individual honors, including four-time BIG EAST pitcher of the year Jennifer Sharron, two-time BIG EAST pitcher of the year Steffany Stenglein and BIG EAST players of the year Melanie Alkire, Lizzy Lemire, Andrea Loman, Jarrah Myers and Megan Ciolli. Current senior pitcher Heather Booth was named the league rookie of the year in 2002, as well.

One of the top recruiters in the nation, Gumpf has brought 19 top players into the program over the last three years and is

after defeating Missouri and Oakland during the tournament.

The 2004 season saw the Irish get off to a great start, upsetting #8 Nebraska during the first weekend of the season and claiming the program's first-ever bracket championship (Silver) at the NFCA Leadoff Classic. The team also won the Hoosier Invitational title, the BIG EAST regular-season crown (with an 18-2 record) and played a school-record 69 games. Notre Dame won 49 of those 69 contests, posting the second-best win total in school history (behind the 54 wins in '01).

Yet another landmark season came about in 2005, as the Irish hosted NCAA Championship competition at Ivy Field for





The Gumpf Family – Deanna, Brady and John.

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

After her collegiate career with Nebraska, Gumpf took a job with Delta Airlines, but the competitive softball bug soon began to bite her once again. 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. Soon, Gumpf would have numerous college coaches dialing her number looking for a pitching coach. Ironically, one of the first coaches to call Gumpf was Liz Miller.

Miller and Gumpf discussed the Irish option, but the job never opened and Gumpf would end up as the pitching coach at Long Beach State while working on her master's degree in physical education from Azusa Pacific University.

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

"I am a hard worker and my team will be hard workers," Gumpf says

"I want the team to get the job done and that is how I coach. Do whatever it takes to get the job done."

Gumpf and her husband of seven years, John, reside in South Bend with their four-year-old son Brady. They are expecting their second child in February of 2006. John was a volunteer assistant coach for the Irish from 1999-2001 and coached high school baseball in Southern California. He spent four years as a professional baseball player in the Minnesota Twins minor-league organization from 1989-94. He is currently the volunteer assistant coach and camp coordinator for the Notre Dame baseball team.

"Deanna has earned the respect of every-one in softball coaching circles and her contributions to Notre

Dame's program are extensive and well documented," Notre Dame athletics director Kevin White says.

"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."

determined to keep Notre Dame softball among the elite programs in the nation.

Gumpf's teams have also shown a flair for the dramatic and an ability to make clutch plays at key times. During her first season, the Irish faced No. 4 Nebraska during the Cornhuskers dedication game at Bowlin Stadium in Lincoln. Then a freshman, 2005 graduate Liz Hartmann drilled a three-run home run in the top of the sixth inning as the Irish held on for a 3-2 victory.

Other memorable moments in the last few years include the team smashing five home runs in a game for a come-from-behind victory at Louisiana-Lafayette in 2004 (the Ragin' Cajuns would eventually appear in the College World Series), Loman's walk-off home run which enabled the team to capture its second-straight BIG EAST Championship title in 2002 and Hartmann's two-home run performance to defeat No. 8 Nebraska in 2004 at the UNLV Classic.

Since Gumpf took over the program, the Irish have boasted five All-Americans, 22 first-team all-BIG EAST selections (including a record-tying seven in '04), seven first-team all-region selections and seven conference major awardwinners. Gumpf and her staff were named the conference coaching staff of the year in 2002 and 2004.

Over the last three years, Gumpf's teams also have set school records for runs (318 in '02), home runs (54 in '02), fielding percentage (.974 in '03), games played (69 in '04), complete games (52 in '04) double plays turned (22 in '04), strikeouts thrown (527 in '05), strikeouts per seven innings (8.74 in '05) and attempted season (134 in '05).

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

The Deanna Gumpf File

Year	School	W	L	Pct.	Postseason Play/Notes
Assistant/Pitching Coach					
1997	Long Beach State	44	20	.687	Big West Champions
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 Region No. 6 Tournament
2000	Notre Dame	47	14	.770	BIG EAST Tournament and Regular-Season Champion/NCAA Region No. 8 Tournament
Associate Head Coach					
2001	Notre Dame	54	7	.885	BIG EAST Regular-Season Champions/NCAA Region No. 7 Tournament
Head Coach					
2002	Notre Dame	44	17	.721	BIG EAST Tournament and Regular-Season Champion/NCAA Region No. 7 Tournament
2003	Notre Dame	38	17	.667	BIG EAST Tournament and Regular-Season Champion/NCAA Region No. 7 Tournament
2004	Notre Dame	49	20	.710	BIG EAST Regular-Season Champion/NCAA Region No. 7 Tournament
2005	Notre Dame	46	15	.754	BIG EAST Regular-Season Champion/NCAA Region No. 9 Tournament (Host)
Totals		177	69	.720	2 BIG EAST Championships, 4 NCAA Tournament Appearances



Kris Ganeff, one of the best all-around catchers in Irish history, begins her fifth year of work with the Irish softball program this season. She recently was promoted to the first assistant position with the Irish.

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

"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 see our program get to the highest level possible."

Instrumental in the development of first-team all-BIG EAST honoree Mallorie Lenn in 2004, Ganeff played a key role in the team game plan and preparation of the pitchers and catchers. The 2006 season also will provide a unique challenge for Ganeff, as she will assume full control over the team during the first three weekends of the season. Gumpf is expecting her second child on Feb. 22 and will not be available to travel with the team until Spring Break.

A key member of the 2002 and 2004 BIG EAST Coaching Staffs of the Year, Ganeff works with each player on the Irish roster on hitting and defense.

She has helped the Irish set seven school records since joining the staff. The 2002 team set school mark

**2002, 2004 BIG EAST
Coaching Staff of the Year**

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Kris Ganeff

Assistant Coach

Fifth Season

Notre Dame '99

for runs (318), and home runs (54), the '03 team posted the highest fielding percentage in school history (.974), the '04 group logged a program-best 52 complete games and 22 double plays, and the 2005 team set marks for strikeouts (547) and strikeouts per seven innings (8.74).

Ganeff was drafted by the Virginia Roadsters of the Women's Professional Softball League following her Notre Dame career in 1999, but the former Irish team MVP and captain chose to continue her career as an assistant coach at UNLV.

Ganeff completed her



Notre Dame career by earning all-BIG EAST and all-Mideast Region honors in 1999. She hit a career-high seven home runs in her final season while throwing out 16 runners attempting to steal.

Born March 21, 1977, in Akron, Ohio, Ganeff earned a bachelor's degree in history from Notre Dame in 1999. She is working toward a master's degree from Ball State (expected to be completed in May of 2007). The former Kris McCleary married John Ganeff in December of 2002. The couple have one child, three-year-old Deven May, and reside in South Bend, Ind.



Lizzy Lemire

Assistant Coach

First Season

Notre Dame '01

Lizzy Lemire, the 2001 BIG EAST Player of the Year and former U.S. National Softball Team Member, returned to her alma mater as an assistant coach for the University of Notre Dame softball team in the fall of 2005. An '01 Notre Dame graduate, Lemire was a team captain on the most-successful squad in Irish softball history. As the BIG EAST Player of the Year in '01, Lemire led the Irish to a 54-7 overall record, a No. 7 ranking in the national polls and the program's first number-one seed in the NCAA Championship.

As a senior in '01, Lemire hit .324 (including .383 in BIG EAST play) with 38 RBI, 10 stolen bases and three home runs. She shares the single-season record for doubles (hitting 17 in '99) with current Irish sophomore Katie Laing. Lemire's career numbers included a .332 average, 28 stolen bases, 126 RBI, nine home runs and 43 doubles, in addition to leaving a legacy

as one of the best defensive outfielders in Notre Dame history. Lemire's senior class compiled a .738 winning percentage at Notre Dame (177-63) with two BIG EAST championships, four BIG EAST regular-season titles and three consecutive NCAA regional appearances.

After her graduation from Notre Dame (with a degree in sociology and computer applications) she earned a spot on the U.S. National Softball Team. Lemire was selected for the USA Red team, which participated in the 2001 U.S. Cup in Hawaii. The USA Red steamrolled the competition with four consecutive victories on the way to earning the tournament title, with significant help from the Irish alumnus. Lemire contributed an RBI and stolen base in the team's victory over Australia (3-0) in the third round and also went one for two in the gold-medal victory (4-0) over China.

After her time with the U.S. National Team, Lemire returned to Notre Dame as a compliance

and business/legal affairs intern in the athletic department from August 2001 through July of 2002. She moved on to the University of Massachusetts as a compliance office graduate assistant, earning a master's degree in sports management in September of 2003. While at UMass, she was a volunteer assistant for the varsity softball team, coordinating team travel and working with the team's outfielders.

In June of 2003, Lemire moved on to Boston College as an intern in the athletic department office. After working through several different projects with the BC development office, Lemire was hired at Stanford University as an Annual Giving Associate in April of 2004.





Dawn Austin

*Volunteer Assistant Coach
Penn State '93*



Michael Joseph

*Strength & Conditioning
Fairmont State '99*



Chantal Porter

*Associate Athletic Trainer
Iowa State '94*



William Peck

*Senior Manager
Notre Dame '06*



Tony Yelovich

*Assistant Athletics Director
Tampa '64*



Alan Wasielewski

*Sports Information
Notre Dame '00*



The 2006 Notre Dame softball coaching staff (from left to right) – volunteer assistant coach Dawn Austin, head coach Deanna Gumpf, assistant coach Kris Ganef and assistant coach Lizzy Lemire.



