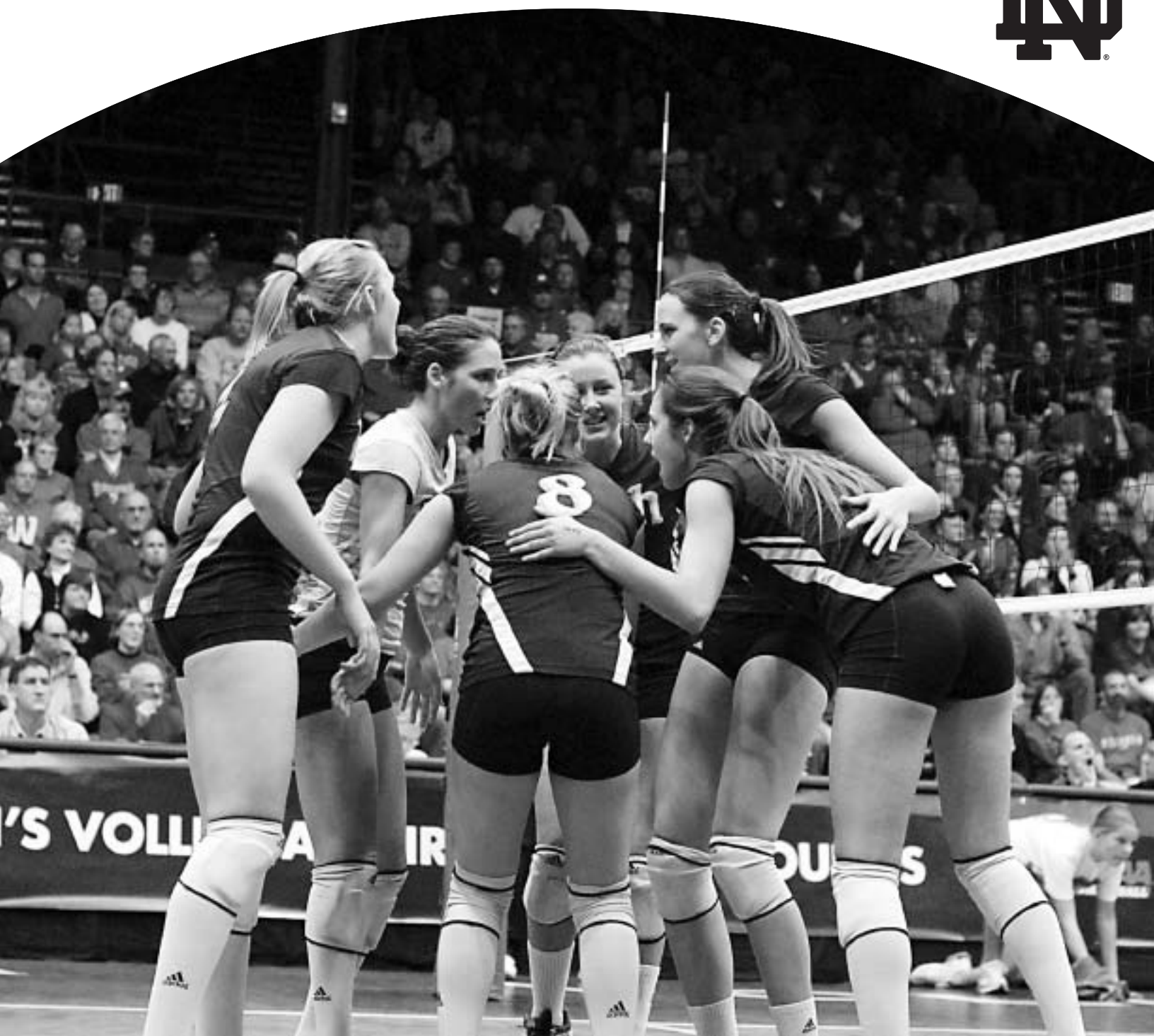


# NOTRE DAME 2007 OPPONENTS

*The Irish will travel to 10 destinations from California to Connecticut during its 2007 regular season schedule, including the program's first-ever match in the state of Tennessee.*



# Travel Itinerary

By the end of the 2007 season, the Notre Dame volleyball team will have traveled to 35 states, the District of Columbia and six foreign countries (Austria, the Czech Republic, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and Slovenia). Notre Dame's widespread travel is befitting of a student body and volleyball roster which draws from all corners of the country, as the program has included players from 27 states.



## **Arkansas**

Fayetteville (University of Arkansas)

## **Arizona**

Flagstaff (Northern Arizona)  
Tempe (Arizona State)  
Tucson (University of Arizona)

## **California**

Berkeley (University of California)  
Long Beach (Long Beach State)  
Los Angeles (USC, Loyola Marymount)  
Malibu (Pepperdine)  
Northridge (CS Northridge)  
San Diego (San Diego)  
San Francisco (San Francisco)  
San Jose (San Jose State)  
San Luis Obispo (Cal Poly)  
Santa Clara (Santa Clara)  
Stanford (Stanford)  
Stockton (Pacific)

## **Colorado**

Boulder (University of Colorado)  
Fort Collins (Colorado State)

## **Connecticut**

Fairfield (Fairfield)  
Storrs (University of Connecticut)

## **District of Columbia**

Washington (Georgetown)

## **Florida**

Buena Vista (Disney's Wide World of Sports)  
Coral Gables (Miami)  
Gainesville (University of Florida)  
Tallahassee (Florida State)  
Tampa (South Florida)

## **Georgia**

Atlanta (Georgia Tech)  
Athens (University of Georgia)

## **Hawaii**

Honolulu (University of Hawaii)

## **Illinois**

Carbondale (Southern Illinois)  
Champaign (University of Illinois)  
Chicago (Chicago State, DePaul, Illinois-Chicago, Loyola, Mizuno Cup)  
DeKalb (Northern Illinois)  
Evanston (Northwestern)  
Jacksonville (Illinois Central)  
Joliet (St. Francis)  
Normal (Illinois State)  
Peoria (Bradley)

## **Indiana**

Anderson (Anderson)  
Angola (Tri-State)  
Bloomington (Indiana University)  
Evansville (Evansville)  
Fort Wayne (St. Francis, IPFW)  
Goshen (Goshen)  
Greencastle (DePauw)

## **Indiana (cont.)**

Hammond (Purdue-Calumet)  
Huntington (Huntington)  
Indianapolis (Butler, IUPUI)  
Muncie (Ball State)  
North Manchester (Manchester)  
Notre Dame (Notre Dame)  
Oakland City (Oakland City)  
Rensselaer (St. Joseph's)  
South Bend (Bethel, Saint Mary's, IUSB)  
Terre Haute (Indiana State)  
Valparaiso (Valparaiso)  
West Lafayette (Purdue)

## **Iowa**

Bettendorf (vs. Northern Iowa)  
Cedar Falls (Northern Iowa)  
Iowa City (University of Iowa)

## **Kentucky**

Lexington (University of Kentucky)  
Louisville (Louisville)  
Richmond (Eastern Kentucky)

## **Louisiana**

Baton Rouge (Louisiana State)  
New Orleans (Tulane)

## **Massachusetts**

Chestnut Hill (Boston College)

## **Michigan**

Ann Arbor (University of Michigan)  
Battle Creek (Kellogg)  
Benton Harbor (Lake Michigan CC)  
Dowagiac (Southwest Michigan)  
East Lansing (Michigan State)  
Kalamazoo (Western Michigan)  
Mt. Pleasant (Central Michigan)  
Ypsilanti (Eastern Michigan)

## **Minnesota**

Minneapolis (University of Minnesota)

## **Missouri**

Columbia (University of Missouri)  
St. Louis (Saint Louis)  
Springfield (Missouri State)

## **Nebraska**

Lincoln (University of Nebraska)

## **New Mexico**

Albuquerque (University of New Mexico)

## **New Jersey**

New Brunswick (Rutgers)  
South Orange (Seton Hall)

## **New York**

Hamilton (Colgate)  
Hempstead (Hofstra)  
Ithaca (Ithaca)  
Jamaica (St. John's)  
Rochester (Rochester)  
Syracuse (Syracuse)

## **North Carolina**

Chapel Hill (University of North Carolina)  
Durham (Duke)  
Raleigh (North Carolina State)

## **Ohio**

Bowling Green (Bowling Green)  
Cincinnati (Xavier, Cincinnati)  
Columbus (Ohio State)  
Cleveland (Cleveland State)  
Dayton (Dayton, Fairborn, Wright State)  
Oxford (Miami)  
Toledo (Toledo)

## **Oregon**

Eugene (University of Oregon)

## **Pennsylvania**

Philadelphia (La Salle, Penn)  
Pittsburgh (Pittsburgh)  
State College (Penn State)  
Villanova (Villanova)

## **Rhode Island**

Kingston (University of Rhode Island)  
Providence (Providence)

## **South Carolina**

Clemson (Clemson)  
Columbia (University of South Carolina)

## **Tennessee**

Knoxville (University of Tennessee)

## **Texas**

Arlington (Texas-Arlington)  
Austin (University of Texas)  
College Station (Texas A&M)  
Houston (Rice, Houston)  
San Antonio (Alamodome)  
Waco (Baylor)

## **Utah**

Provo (Brigham Young)  
Salt Lake City (University of Utah)

## **Virginia**

Blacksburg (Virginia Tech)  
Charlottesville (University of Virginia)  
Williamsburg (William and Mary)

## **Washington**

Pullman (Washington State)  
Spokane (Gonzaga, Spokane Arena)

## **West Virginia**

Morgantown (West Virginia University)

## **Wisconsin**

Madison (University of Wisconsin)  
Milwaukee (Marquette)

## **Wyoming**

Laramie (University of Wyoming)

## Minnesota Golden Gophers

Aug. 24, 2007 • 6:00 p.m.  
 Notre Dame, Ind. • Joyce Center  
 All-time series: Notre Dame leads 3-2

**Location:** Minneapolis, Minn.  
**Founded:** 1851  
**Enrollment:** 48,150  
**Colors:** Maroon and Gold  
**Conference:** Big Ten  
**Home Court:** Sports Pavilion (5,700)  
**Athletic Director:** Joel Maturi



**Head Coach:** Mike Hebert (UC-Santa Barbara '66)  
**Record at Minnesota:** 283-98 (11 seasons)  
**Career record:** 855-355 (31 seasons)  
**Assistants:** Scott Swanson, Dave Manka

**2006 record (conference):** 26-8 (17-3)  
**Postseason:** NCAA Regional Final (L, Nebraska, 3-2)  
**Final AVCA ranking:** 6th  
**Starters returning/loss:** 3/4  
**Letterwinners returning/loss:** 10/4

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**E-mail:** gelle014@umn.edu  
**Courtside:** 612.626.1394  
**Website:** gophersports.com

**Notes:** The Gophers have won the last two decisions in the five-match history of this series ... Minnesota knocked the No. 17 Irish out of the NCAA Tournament with a 3-2 first-round win at Minneapolis in 1993 ... Notre Dame took the first meeting between the two squads, a 3-1 win at home in 1987 ... the Gophers were ranked in the final 2006 CSTV/AVCA poll ... they are one of just three teams in the nation to have been ranked No. 6 or higher in the final poll in three of the four seasons since 2003 ... the Golden Gophers finished 2003 ranked No. 4 and 2004 ranked No. 2, to go along with this year's final ranking ... they join Nebraska (2004-06) and Washington (2004-06) on that list ... Minnesota has been ranked in 74 of the last 82 top 25 polls dating back to the 2002 season ... in 2006, the Golden Gophers advanced to the NCAA Regional Finals for the third time in four years and broke No. 7 Florida's 24-match NCAA Tournament home-winning streak before falling to eventual national champion Nebraska ... it marked the third time in four years that the Golden Gophers were knocked out by the eventual national champion in the NCAA Tournament ... the five-game match was also the only one of the tournament for Nebraska, who defeated UCLA and Stanford in four games in the Final Four.

## Florida Gators

Aug. 26, 2007 • 7:00 p.m.  
 Notre Dame, Ind. • Joyce Center  
 All-time series: Florida leads, 4-2

**Location:** Gainesville, Fla.  
**Founded:** 1853  
**Enrollment:** 49,000  
**Colors:** Orange and Blue  
**Conference:** Southeastern  
**Home Court:** Stephen C. O'Connell Center (12,000)  
**Athletic Director:** Jeremy Foley



**Head Coach:** Mary Wise (Purdue '81)  
**Record at Florida:** 522-54 (17 seasons)  
**Career record:** 603-117 (21 seasons)  
**Assistants:** Nick Cheronis, Ryan Theis, Jenny Theis

**2006 record (conference):** 30-3 (19-1)  
**Postseason:** NCAA Regionals (L, Minnesota, 3-1)  
**Final AVCA ranking:** 10th  
**Starters returning/loss:** 7/0  
**Letterwinners returning/loss:** 10/3

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**Courtside:** 352.367.1801  
**Website:** gatorzone.com

**Notes:** The Gators are the first of four Florida schools to face the Irish in 2007 (along with Florida International, Florida A&M, and South Florida) ... in the six-match history, both teams have been ranked on five occasions, when only No. 8 Florida carried a national ranking in 1998 ... in 2005, No. 19 Notre Dame swept No. 6 Florida (30-28, 31-29, 30-28) in the UTSA Dome Rally in the Alamodome ... the win made the Irish 6-0 to start the season, with three of those wins over top-15 teams ... ND dropped the opening game of the tournament against No. 8 USC before rallying to beat the Women of Troy in four games ... Notre Dame went on to sweep Oklahoma before continuing with a 3-0 win against the Gators ... Notre Dame headed into that weekend with just three all-time victories against teams ranked among the top eight in the nation and previously took down top-10 foes in the same month just once (No. 3 Nebraska and No. 9 Illinois in September of 1993) ... the Gators, who had not been swept in more than two years, were the second-highest-ranked team ever to fall victim to Notre Dame ... Lauren Brewster led all players in three categories, finishing with 20 kills, seven blocks, and 24.5 points ... she made just two errors for a .429 hitting mark.

## Florida International Panthers

Aug. 31, 2007 • 10:00 a.m.  
 Columbia, Mo. • Hearnest Center  
 All-time series: First meeting

**Location:** University Park, Miami, Fla.  
**Founded:** 1965  
**Enrollment:** 38,000  
**Colors:** Blue and Gold  
**Conference:** Sun Belt  
**Home Court:** Pharmed Arena (5,000)  
**Athletic Director:** Pete Garcia



**Head Coach:** Danijela Tomic (Arkansas-Little Rock '99)  
**Record at Florida International:** 39-21 (2 seasons)  
**Career record:** same  
**Assistant:** Tamja Eckart

**2006 record (conference):** 24-8 (14-3)  
**Final AVCA ranking:** none  
**Starters returning/loss:** 6/0  
**Letterwinners returning/loss:** 10/2

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**Website:** fiusports.com

**Notes:** The Panthers are one of two 2007 opponents the Irish have never previously faced (along with Santa Barbara) ... FIU fell to Middle Tennessee in the Sun Belt Conference Tournament finals last season ... then-freshman Yiramar Rosa was named to the College Volleyball Update Stellar Spiker team and made its Rising Stars List of Top Freshmen ... she also became the Golden Panthers' first All-American while earning all-South Region freshman-of-the-year honors ... three FIU players along with head coach Danijela Tomic each collected individual accolades from the Sun Belt Conference Rosa and Keila Oliverira were dual winners, earning first-team all-Sun Belt nods in addition to Freshman of the Year and Newcomer of the Year honors, respectively ... Olga Vergun was selected to the all-Sun Belt second team, while Tomic was named the league's top coach ... FIU dropped out of the conference tournament in the final match against Middle Tennessee, which was the third loss of the season for the Golden Panthers against the Blue Raiders ... FIU is 1-1 in Sun Belt championship matches after winning the 2001 tournament.

## Missouri Tigers

Sept. 1, 2007 • 6:30 p.m.  
Columbia, Mo. • Hearnese Center  
All-time series: Missouri leads 2-0

**Location:** Columbia, Mo.  
**Founded:** 1839  
**Enrollment:** 28,253  
**Colors:** Old Gold and Black  
**Conference:** Big 12  
**Home Court:** Hearnese Center (13,611)  
**Athletic Director:** Michael Alden



**Head Coach:** Wayne Krecklow (Drake '80)  
**Record at Missouri:** 43-18 (3 seasons)  
**Career record:** 310-47 (9 seasons)

**2006 record (conference):** 18-13 (11-9)  
**Postseason:** NCAA Second Round (L, Stanford, 3-2)  
**Final AVCA ranking:** 21st  
**Starters returning/loss:** 4/3  
**Letterwinners returning/loss:** 6/4

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**Courtside:** 573.424.9447  
**Website:** mutigers.com

**Notes:** Notre Dame has failed to beat Missouri in two tries, with the first defeat coming in a 3-1 loss at Columbia in 1985 ... ranked 21st for the 2006 meeting, Notre Dame fell short in its attempt to upset #13 Missouri in the Shamrock Invitational ... the Irish had a 2-1 lead in games played at one point, but could not hold off the Tigers ... at the time, it was only the fifth match Notre Dame had dropped in two seasons ... the Tigers lost in five games to eventual national runner-up Stanford in the second round of the 2006 NCAA Tournament ... Mizzou reached the second round of the NCAA Tournament for the third-consecutive year ... the Tigers finished the season with a No. 21 ranking in the AVCA Coaches Poll, marking the third-consecutive season with a top-25 final ranking ... Mizzou is one of only 15 teams to finish in the top 25 in each of the last three years ... the squad won three matches over top 25 teams including a sweep of No. 5 Texas on September 23, the highest-ranked team a Tiger team has ever knocked off ... since 2000, the Tigers and Nebraska are the only teams in the Big 12 to finish with 10 or more conference wins each season ... Mizzou finished the season ranked seventh nationally in attendance with over 2,500 fans attending each match ... the Tigers have finished in the top 10 of national attendance in the last two years.

## Florida A&M Rattlers

Sept. 2, 2007 • Noon  
Columbia, Mo. • Hearnese Center  
All-time series: Notre Dame leads 1-0

**Location:** Tallahassee, Fla.  
**Founded:** 1887  
**Enrollment:** 10,500  
**Colors:** Orange and Green  
**Conference:** Mid-Eastern  
**Home Court:** Gaither Gym (3,365)  
**Athletic Director:** Nelson Townsend



**Head Coach:** Tony Trifonov (Bulgarian National '90)  
**Record at Florida A&M:** 221-80 (10 seasons)  
**Career record:** same

**2006 record (conference):** 21-7 (10-0)  
**Postseason:** NCAA First Round (L, Florida, 3-0)  
**Final AVCA ranking:** none  
**Starters returning/loss:** 4/2  
**Letterwinners returning/loss:** 6/3

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**Courtside:** 850.599.8440  
**Website:** thefamurattlers.com

**Notes:** Florida A&M stood in the way of the Irish en route to Notre Dame's 2000 Lady Seminole Classic title in Tallahassee, Fla. ... Notre Dame was paced by Marcie Bomhack and her 11 kills, five aces and nine digs ... the No. 25 Irish won 15-15, 15-3, 15-3, in the only meeting between the two teams ... the Rattlers' 2006 NCAA Tournament appearance was their sixth straight and eighth in nine seasons ... it was also the third straight year that FAMU and Florida have contested in the same subregional in NCAA play, and the second straight year FAMU appeared in Gainesville ... in 2001, the Gators eliminated FAMU, 3-0 and in 2005 year, FAMU lost to Kansas State in the first round at Gainesville ... the Rattlers' Maria Andovona was named to CVU.com's Stellar Spike team ... A&M won its sixth consecutive Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference title in 2006, extending the nation's longest active conference match win streak to 91 ... Andonova, who finished third all-time in FAMU history in career kills with over 1,600, was the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference Player of the Year in 2006 ... she set a school and conference match record against Morgan State in 2006 when she recorded 42 kills, a mark just short of the NCAA record for a four-set match.

## College of Charleston Cougars

Sept. 7, 2007 • 7:00 p.m.  
Notre Dame, Ind. • Joyce Center  
All-time series: Notre Dame leads 1-0

**Location:** Charleston, S.C.  
**Founded:** 1770  
**Enrollment:** 11,617  
**Colors:** Maroon and White  
**Conference:** Southern  
**Home Court:** John Kresse Arena (3,500)  
**Athletic Director:** Jerry Baker



**Head Coach:** Jason Kepner (Penn State '97)  
**Record at College of Charleston:** first season  
**Career record:** same  
**Assistants:** Kaleena Walters, Jake Lawrence

**2006 record (conference):** 27-8 (17-1)  
**Postseason:** NCAA Regionals (L, Arizona State, 3-1)  
**Final AVCA ranking:** none  
**Starters returning/loss:** 5/2  
**Letterwinners returning/loss:** 8/4

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**Notes:** Emily Loomis had eight of her 19 kills in a decisive fourth game and Debbie Brown picked up her 300th win at Notre Dame when the 16th-seeded Irish fought off College of Charleston (30-23, 30-24, 28-30, 30-27) in 2002 first-round NCAA Tournament action at the Joyce Center ... the first matchup between the programs was also College of Charleston's NCAA Tournament debut ... the Cougars held midgame leads in every game but the first ... libero Meg Henican chipped in a season-high 23 digs to lead all players ... Notre Dame improved on its NCAA-leading 3.7 blocks per game with a 17-block effort, including eight from freshman Lauren Brewster ... first-year Cougar head coach Jason Kepner replaces Sherry Dunbar, who guided the Cougars to a 113-22 record and to three straight NCAA Tournament appearances before taking over the volleyball program at Indiana in early January ... Kepner is familiar with the Irish program, having spent the past five seasons as an assistant coach at the University of Pittsburgh ... while at Pitt, the Panthers earned two NCAA bids, won a Big East conference title and had two players earn Big East Player of the Year honors ... during his tenure at Pitt, the Panthers compiled a 106-48 record.

## Alabama Crimson Tide

Sept. 8, 2007 • 7:00 p.m.  
Notre Dame, Ind. • Joyce Center  
All-time series: Notre Dame leads 1-0

**Location:** Tuscaloosa, Ala.  
**Founded:** 1831  
**Enrollment:** 23,878  
**Colors:** Crimson and White  
**Conference:** Southeastern  
**Home Court:** Coleman Auxiliary Volleyball Extension (1,000)  
**Athletic Director:** Mal Moore



**Head Coach:** Judy Green (Western Carolina '84)  
**Record at Alabama:** 187-165 (11 seasons)  
**Career record:** 583-239 (21 seasons)  
**Assistants:** Ben Boldt, Jill Pape-Kramer

**2006 record (conference):** 17-13 (12-8)  
**Final AVCA ranking:** none  
**Starters returning/loss:** 6/0  
**Letterwinners returning/loss:** 10/4

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**Notes:** Christina Kaelin led the Irish with 20 kills in Notre Dame's 2006 win over the Crimson Tide ... Megan Fesl chipped in 14 kills while Adrianna Stasiuk just missed a double-double with nine kills and 19 digs ... the win gave the Irish a victory in each of their last four road openers ... ND is 16-24 all-time against teams from the Southeastern Conference, and head coach Debbie Brown has a 16-14 all-time mark against the SEC ... for the second time in school history, the Alabama volleyball team was selected to compete in the NCAA Tournament in 2006 and would eventually fall to Stephen F. Austin State ... it was the second consecutive time Alabama has made the field of 64, with 2005's team making the inaugural ... Alabama was one of seven SEC teams to make the NCAA Tournament ... returning starter Crystal Hudson was named an honorable mention All-American by the AVCA after she had one of the best seasons in Tide volleyball history in 2006 ... she tallied 452 kills to lead the team while hitting .384 for the season, the fourth-best single-season percentage in school history ... Hudson posted her 1,000th career kill in a win over Tennessee in early November, becoming the 10th player in school history to accomplish that feat ... a first team all-Southeastern Conference honoree and an AVCA All-Region performer, Hudson also notched a spot in the Tide's defensive records after recording 106 block assists on the season, the seventh-best total in school history ... Hudson currently ranks in the top 10 in the Alabama career charts in kills, attack attempts, hitting percentage, block solos and block assists.

## Ohio Bobcats

Sept. 9, 2007 • 2:30 p.m.  
Notre Dame, Ind. • Joyce Center  
All-time series: Tied 1-1

**Location:** Athens, Ohio  
**Founded:** 1984  
**Enrollment:** 28,804  
**Colors:** Hunter Green and White  
**Conference:** Mid-American  
**Home Court:** Convocation Center (13,000)  
**Athletic Director:** Kirby Hocutt



**Head Coach:** Geoff Carlston (Minnesota '93)  
**Record at Ohio:** 118-16 (5 seasons)  
**Career record:** 167-58 (7 seasons)  
**Assistants:** Nadia Edwards, Don Gromala

**2006 record (conference):** 28-5 (16-0)  
**Postseason:** NCAA First Round (L, Kentucky, 3-2)  
**Final AVCA ranking:** 25th  
**Starters returning/loss:** 4/2  
**Letterwinners returning/loss:** 10/4

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**E-mail:** sports.media@ohio.edu  
**Website:** ohiobobcats.com

**Notes:** This will be the third meeting between the Irish and the Bobcats, with Ohio coming off a 3-1 win over Notre Dame at last season's Louisville Invitational ... that win pushed Ohio's winning streak to 21-straight matches ... Christina Kaelin tied for the match lead with 19 kills in her hometown return ... Adrianna Stasiuk turned in 17 kills, 16 digs, and four blocks on a .342 hitting percentage ... it was her 18th double-double of the season, and the fourth-most ever by an Irish player in a season ... after defeating Notre Dame, Ohio dropped back-to-back contests to Louisville and Kentucky, respectively, to end the 2006 campaign ... No. 24 Notre Dame defeated Ohio 15-8, 15-7, 16-14 at the Joyce Center in the MCC-MAC Challenge in 1992 ... four Ohio natives have played for the Irish, including Mary Jo Hensler (1981-84).

## Santa Barbara Gauchos

Sept. 14, 2007 • 4:30 p.m.  
Santa Clara, Calif. • Leavey Center  
All-time series: First meeting

**Location:** Santa Barbara, Calif.  
**Founded:** 1944  
**Enrollment:** 19,800  
**Colors:** Blue and Gold  
**Conference:** Big West  
**Home Court:** Thunderdome (6,000)  
**Athletic Director:** Dr. Gary Cunningham



**Head Coach:** Kathy Gregory (Cal State Los Angeles '68)  
**Record at Santa Barbara:** 784-328 (33 seasons)  
**Career record:** same  
**Assistants:** Greg Gibbons, Armen Zarkarian

**2006 Record (conference):** 19-12 (8-6)  
**Postseason:** NCAA First Round (L, BYU, 3-2)  
**Final AVCA ranking:** none  
**Starters returning/loss:** 3/4  
**Letterwinners returning/loss:** 8/8

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**Courtside:** 805.893.4361  
**Website:** ucsgauchos.com

**Notes:** Santa Barbara will play host to the Irish in the Bronco Classic, featuring the first-ever match between the two schools ... the Gauchos garnered a third-place selection in the Big West Conference preseason coaches poll, tying them with UC Irvine ... defending conference champion Cal Poly earned the number one spot and was followed by Long Beach State, which took second ... USCB reached its 26th consecutive NCAA Tournament last season, making it one of three programs (including Penn State and Stanford) to compete in every championship since the tournament's inception in 1981 ... the 2007 Gauchos will feature three returning starters from last year's squad including two-time first team all-Big West honoree Brett Quirarte and all-freshman team honoree Rebecca Saraceno ... outside hitter Lauren McLaughlin rounds out the list of returning starters ... the UCSB roster will consist of a bevy of new faces with eight freshmen, including highly-touted setter Dana Vargas.

## California Golden Bears

Sept. 15, 2007 • 4:30 p.m.  
Berkeley, Calif. • Levey Center  
All-time series: Tied 1-1

**Location:** Berkeley, Calif.

**Founded:** 1868

**Enrollment:** 32,000

**Colors:** Blue and Gold

**Conference:** Pacific-10

**Home Court:** Haas Pavilion (11,877)

**Athletic Director:** Sandy Barbour (former deputy AD at Notre Dame)

**Head Coach:** Rich Feller (San Diego State '73)

**Record at California:** 139-100 (8 seasons)

**Career record:** 438-267 (22 seasons)

**Assistants:** Chris Bigelow, Matt McShane

**2006 record (conference):** 10-22 (9-9)

**Postseason:** NCAA Regionals (L, Stanford, 3-0)

**Final AVCA ranking:** 13th

**Starters returning/loss:** 4/2

**Letterwinners returning/loss:** 10/4

**Volleyball Contact:** Scott Ball

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**E-mail:** sball@berkeley.edu

**Courtside:** 510.642.3098

**Website:** calbears.com

**Notes:** The Irish and Bears will meet in the Bronco Invitational, marking the third meeting between the two programs ... Cal took the first match in 1985 with a 3-0 win (6-15, 2-15, 6-15) ... at the NIVC Tournament in Fairborn, Ohio, Notre Dame tacked on a 3-2 win when the squads squared again in 1991 ... the 2006 Cal squad advanced to the NCAA round of 16 for only the second time in school history, while finishing 22-10 overall and 13th in the final AVCA national poll ... the Bears defeated LSU and Cal Poly, 3-1, in the NCAA first and second rounds, before falling to Stanford, 3-0, in the NCAA Regional in Austin, Texas ... outside hitter Angie Pressey was selected to the six member USA Volleyball Open All-Tournament team, and helped her USA Red Squad to a second-place finish at the 2007 USA Volleyball Adult Open Championship ... Pressey's USA Red Squad was coached by Golden Bear assistant coach Matt McShane and Concordia University (Calif.) head coach Paula Weishoff ... Pressey was a 2006 second-team AVCA All-American, an all-Pacific Region member and a first-team all-Pac-10 selection last fall, leading the Bears with 487 kills ... she was also the co-MVP of the Cal Molten Classic and the MVP of the Golden Bear Invitational ... Pressey is currently sixth on the Bears' all-time kill list with 1,262 kills in three seasons.



## Santa Clara Broncos

Sept. 16, 2007 • 11:00 a.m.  
Santa Clara, Calif. • Levey Center  
All-time series: Santa Clara leads 3-0

**Location:** Santa Clara, Calif.

**Founded:** 1851

**Enrollment:** 8,213

**Colors:** Red and White

**Conference:** West Coast

**Home Court:** Levey Center (4,500)

**Athletic Director:** Dan Coonan (Notre Dame graduate)

**Head Coach:** John Wallace (UC Santa Barbara '89)

**Record at Santa Clara:** 176-66 (8 seasons)

**Career record:** same

**Assistants:** Dustin Moore, Will Yuen

**2006 record (conference):** 20-8 (9-5)

**Postseason:** NCAA First Round (L, Missouri, 3-0)

**Final AVCA ranking:** none

**Starters returning/loss:** 5/2

**Letterwinners returning/loss:** 11/5

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**Courtside:** 408.554.4655

**Website:** santaclarabroncos.com

**Notes:** Santa Clara has yet to drop a match to Notre Dame, earning wins over the Irish in 1985, 1993, and 2006 ... when Notre Dame visited the Broncos in 1985, it was sent home with a 3-0 loss ... Santa Clara visited the Joyce Center as part of the field in the 1993 Golden Dome Invitational when the two squads battled to a five-game match that swung in favor of Santa Clara ... No. 21 Notre Dame, playing in its fourth match in three days and second consecutive match against a ranked opponent, fell in three games to No. 6 Santa Clara in 2006 ... the three-game loss marked the first time the Irish had lost in less than five-games during the regular season ... the Irish were last swept during the 2004 regular season by then-No. 2 Nebraska ... Mallorie Croal led the Irish attackers with eight kills in the match, and Jamel Nicholas led the team in assists for the fourth consecutive match with 14.



## Pittsburgh Panthers

Sept. 22, 2007 • 2:00 p.m.  
Pittsburgh, Pa. • Fitzgerlad Field House  
All-time series: Notre Dame leads 18-7

**Location:** Pittsburgh, Pa.

**Founded:** 1787

**Enrollment:** 33,574

**Colors:** Vegas Gold and Navy

**Conference:** BIG EAST

**Home Court:** Fitzgerald Field House (4,122)

**Athletic Director:** Jeff Long

**Head Coach:** Chris Beerman (Ball State '91)

**Record at Pittsburgh:** 117-65 (8 seasons)

**Career record:** 207-101 (12 seasons)

**Assistants:** Alija Pittenger, David Carlson

**2006 record (conference):** 22-9 (10-4)

**Final AVCA ranking:** none

**Starters returning/loss:** 6/1

**Letterwinners returning/loss:** 9/1

**Volleyball Contact:** Sophia Duck

**Office:** 412.648.9014

**Fax:** 412.648.8248

**E-mail:** sduck@athletics.pitt.edu

**Courtside:** 412.648.2318

**Website:** pittsburghpanthers.com

**Notes:** After coasting to a game one victory, the Irish dropped the next three to fall to Pittsburgh when the two squads met last season (Nov. 11) ... it was the second time in 2006 that Notre Dame had won the first game in a losing effort ... Adrianna Stasiuk put in a great all-around effort with 14 kills, 17 digs and two blocks ... setter Ashley Tarutis led the team with season-best 46 assists ... for the match, the Irish out-hit Pittsburgh, .158 to .148, but struggled from the line with eight service errors ... the Panthers have won four of the last six meetings after the Irish rattled off 15-straight wins from 1992-2002 ... ND and Pitt will meet for the 16th consecutive season and 26th time overall ... the 16-year streak of at least one contest against the Panthers is the longest versus any current foe ... the schools first met in 1984 in Pittsburgh, with the Panthers winning 3-0 ... the Irish eliminated Pitt from the 1994 NCAA Tournaments second round with a four-game win in the Joyce Center ... the BIG EAST era has seen the Irish win 14 of 18 matches, with the teams playing in the league tournament on six occasions ... ND leads in games won, 59-36 ... in 1996, Notre Dame's Denise Boylan tallied 86 assists at Pittsburgh, which is the second-highest assist total ever recorded by an Irish player.



## West Virginia Mountaineers

Sept. 23, 2007 • 2:00 p.m.  
Morgantown, W.Va. • WVU Coliseum  
All-time series: Notre Dame leads 12-2

**Location:** Morgantown, W.Va.  
**Founded:** 1867  
**Enrollment:** 26,000  
**Colors:** Old Gold and Blue  
**Conference:** BIG EAST  
**Home Court:** WVU Coliseum (14,000)  
**Athletic Director:** Ed Pastilong



**Head Coach:** Veronica Hammersmith (Kansas '67)  
**Record at West Virginia:** 540-526 (32 seasons)  
**Career record:** same  
**Assistant:** Jennifer Corkum

**2006 record (conference):** 3-28 (2-12)  
**Final AVCA ranking:** none  
**Starters returning/loss:** 4/1  
**Letterwinners returning/loss:** 10/2

**Volleyball Contact:** Kelly Tuckwiller  
**Office:** 304.293.2821  
**Fax:** 304.293.4105  
**E-mail:** kelly.tuckwiller@mail.wvu.edu  
**Courtside:** 304.293.2821  
**Website:** MSNsportsNET.com

**Notes:** Notre Dame has not dropped a match to WVU since a 3-0 loss in 1998 ... the Irish coasted to a 3-0 win over the Mountaineers during the 2006 campaign, 30-19, 30-21, 30-17 ... Mallorie Croal had a match-high 13 kills with a .429 hitting percentage, six assists and 17 digs ... senior Danielle Herndon made her final regular season showing at the Joyce Center and added 17 digs ... the Irish out-hit West Virginia .308 to .062, marking the fifth time the Irish held an opponent to under a .100 hitting percentage in 2006 ... WVU won the first-ever meeting between the two teams, earning a 3-2 edge in the 1991 National Invitation Volleyball Championship postseason tournament in Fairborn, Ohio ... during that contest, Notre Dame's Jessica Fiebelkorn posted the highest hitting percentage ever for an Irish player in a five-game match, with 13 kills and only two errors on 20 swings for a .550 mark ... the Irish and the Mountaineers will meet for the 14th consecutive season and 15th time overall ... Notre Dame has won 12 of the previous 14 contests, including the last eight ... the teams played twice before the Irish joined the BIG EAST Conference in 1995 ... the Irish gained their first win over the Mountaineers in 1994 in the Joyce Center in four games ... after winning the next three in straight games, Notre Dame lost in Morgantown in 1998, which marked just the second loss to a conference team in 50 matches since becoming a BIG EAST member ... the Irish lead 38-9 in games won ... in 1994, the Irish set a Joyce Center record with 15 service aces, including six by Angie Harris, which is tied for the third-highest total in school history.

## Seton Hall Pirates

Sept. 29, 2007 • 2:00 p.m.  
Notre Dame, Ind. • Joyce Center  
All-time series: Notre Dame leads 16-0

**Location:** South Orange, N.J.  
**Founded:** 1856  
**Enrollment:** 9,700  
**Colors:** Blue and White  
**Conference:** BIG EAST  
**Home Court:** Walsh Gymnasium (2,600)  
**Athletic Director:** Joseph A. Quinlan, Jr.



**Head Coach:** Kris Zeiter (Concordia College '98)  
**Record at Seton Hall:** 16-14 (2 seasons)  
**Career record:** 46-49 (3 seasons)  
**Assistant:** Allison Yaeger

**2006 record (conference):** 16-14 (5-9)  
**Final AVCA ranking:** none  
**Starters returning/loss:** 4/2  
**Letterwinners returning/loss:** 13/3

**Volleyball Contact:** Mike Kowalsky  
**Office:** 973.761.9493  
**Fax:** 973.761.9061  
**E-mail:** kowalsmi@shu.edu  
**Courtside:** 973.761.5810  
**Website:** shupirates.com

**Notes:** Notre Dame and Seton Hall will meet for the 13th time this season, having met once each year since the Irish became a member of the BIG EAST Conference in 1995 ... head coach Debbie Brown won the 500th match of her career in Notre Dame's 3-0 sweep at Seton Hall in 2006 (Sept. 30) ... Brown became only the 28th coach in NCAA history to reach the 500-win plateau ... during the win, Adrianna Stasiuk led the attack for Notre Dame with her 10th double-double of the season to go along with five blocks, and the Irish out-hit the Pirates .225 to .091 ... the last time the Irish defense held a team to a sub-.100 hitting percentage was against Cincinnati on Nov. 19, 2005 ... the Irish have won all 12 matches against Seton Hall and 36 of 37 games ... in 2004, the Pirates broke through for their first game victory in a 30-24, 30-27, 26-30, 30-23 home defeat ... ND is 6-0 at home, having won all 18 games ... the 1996 match saw the Irish make just one service error, which is tied for the fewest ever in a match ... in 1997, Notre Dame turned in its second-best hitting performance in school history, with 47 kills and just six errors on 80 attempts for a .512 percentage ... the 2002 contest lasted just 1:14, making it the second-quickest affair since the 30-point format was adopted ... former ND libero Meg Henican had 37 digs in the 2004 match, setting an Irish record for most digs in a four-game match.

## Villanova Wildcats

Sept. 30, 2007 • 2:00 p.m.  
Notre Dame, Ind. • Joyce Center  
All-time series: Notre Dame leads 16-0

**Location:** Villanova, Pa.  
**Founded:** 1842  
**Enrollment:** 6,240  
**Colors:** Blue and White  
**Conference:** BIG EAST  
**Home Court:** Nevin Gymnasium (1,500)  
**Athletic Director:** Vince Nicastro



**Head Coach:** Josh Steinbach (Penn State '02)  
**Record at Villanova:** first season  
**Career record:** same  
**Assistants:** Darcy Thompson, Kate Woffindin

**2006 record (conference):** 16-15 (7-7)  
**Final AVCA ranking:** none  
**Starters returning/loss:** 4/3  
**Letterwinners returning/loss:** 9/3

**Volleyball Contact:** Sean Forrester  
**Office:** 610.519.6460  
**Fax:** 610.519.7323  
**E-mail:** sean.forrester@villanova.edu  
**Website:** villanova.com

**Notes:** The Irish and Wildcats will meet for the 13th consecutive season and 17th time overall ... Notre Dame won each of the previous 16 previous contests, including a pair of wins in 2005 ... last season, Notre Dame dropped the first game before rattling off three straight in its 3-1 win ... the 35-37 loss in the first game was the highest scoring individual game (72 points) for Notre Dame since 2003, when they topped Eastern Washington (Aug. 30) in game one, 37-35, which is tied for the highest scoring individual game in school history ... the team's hitting percentage of .345 was the highest Notre Dame has hit in a match longer than three games since a 2004 duel against Boston College ... both Ashley Tarutis and Jamel Nicholas tallied over 20 assists against VU in the 2006 affair ... the teams have played one five-game match, when 12th-ranked Notre Dame rallied from a 2-0 deficit to prevail in the Joyce Center during the 1996 campaign ... the schools met once before Notre Dame joined the BIG EAST ... that 1982 match at Villanova was won by the Irish in three games ... ND and Villanova have played three times in the BIG EAST Championship, with the Irish winning in three games in the 1995 semifinals and in four games at the semifinals in 2005 ... ND took four games in 1997 to win the league title ... ND has been nationally ranked all three times it has played Villanova in the BIG EAST Championship ... only five times in the series has Notre Dame needed more than three games to defeat VU ... the Irish lead in games won, 45-7 ... Notre Dame's 16 victories against Villanova are the most without a defeat against any opponent ... in 1999, the Irish turned in their third-highest hitting percentage in school history against VU, with 60 kills and just eight errors on 102 swings for a .510 mark.

## Rutgers Scarlet Knights

Oct. 10, 2007 • 2:00 p.m.  
Notre Dame, Ind. • Joyce Center  
All-time series: Notre Dame leads 14-0

**Location:** New Brunswick, N.J.  
**Founded:** 1766  
**Enrollment:** 35,000  
**Color:** Scarlet  
**Conference:** BIG EAST  
**Home Court:** College Avenue Gymnasium (2,500)  
**Athletic Director:** Robert E. Mulcahy, III



**Head Coach:** Orlando Gonzalez (Michigan State '83)  
**Record at Villanova:** 16-36 (2 seasons)  
**Career record:** same  
**Assistant:** Julia Fielder

**2006 record (conference):** 5-20 (2-12)  
**Final AVCA ranking:** none  
**Starters returning/loss:** 3/3  
**Letterwinners returning/loss:** 5/6

**Volleyball Contact:** Dustin Semonavick  
**Office:** 732.445.4200  
**Fax:** 732.445.3063  
**E-mail:** dsemonavick@scarletknights.com  
**Website:** villanova.com

**Notes:** To open its BIG EAST Conference action in 2006, Notre Dame swept Rutgers in three games behind the hot hand of Adrianna Stasiuk ... Stasiuk was the match leader with 14 kills and 10 digs while hitting .737 (14-for-19) and picked up her eighth double-double in 12 matches ... her .737 clip was the highest for a Notre Dame player that averaged at least four attacks per game since Malinda Goralski hit .833 against Wyoming on Sept. 22, 2000 ... Kim Kristoff had a perfect afternoon against the Scarlet Knights as she tallied seven kills in as many attempts ... Ashley Tarutis' assist to Stasiuk in the third game gave her 3,000 career helpers ... the schools will go to battle for the 13th consecutive season and the 15th time overall ... Notre Dame has won each of the last 14 meetings, taking 42 of the 43 games ... the teams met once prior to the Irish joining the BIG EAST in 1995, a 3-0 Notre Dame win in 1986 at the Hackerman Showcase in Houston, Texas ... ND and Rutgers met once in the postseason, when the Irish claimed the 2000 BIG EAST Championship at the Joyce Center ... in that match, Notre Dame's Denise Boylan had 62 assists, the most-ever for an Irish player in a three-game match ... the lone Scarlet Knight game victory came in 1998 at the Joyce Center, when Rutgers won the third game 17-15 (after dropping the second 15-1) ... the 37-point victory for ND in 2003 is tied for its third-largest margin of victory since the 30-point format was adopted.

## Marquette Golden Eagles

Oct. 12, 2007 • 6:00 p.m.  
Milwaukee, Wis. • Al McGuire Center  
All-time series: Notre Dame leads 9-0

**Location:** Milwaukee, Wis.  
**Founded:** 1881  
**Enrollment:** 11,000  
**Colors:** Blue and Gold  
**Conference:** BIG EAST  
**Home Court:** Al McGuire Center (4,000)  
**Athletic Director:** Steve Cottingham (interim)



**Head Coach:** Pati Rolf (North Dakota State '84)  
**Record at Marquette:** 82-67 (5 seasons)  
**Career record:** 392-236 (18 seasons)  
**Assistants:** Erica Heisser, Raftyn Birath

**2006 record (conference):** 16-15 (10-4)  
**Final AVCA ranking:** none  
**Starters returning/loss:** 4/3  
**Letterwinners returning/loss:** 11/3

**Volleyball Contact:** Megan Miller  
**Office:** 414.288.7447  
**Fax:** 414.288.6519  
**E-mail:** megan.e.miller@marquette.edu  
**Courtside:** 414.288.0340  
**Website:** gomarquette.com

**Notes:** Notre Dame has been a member of three conferences over the history of its volleyball program, and has handed Marquette a league loss in each of the three ... the teams played as North Star Conference members from 1985-87 and were Midwestern Collegiate Conference foes for one season (1990) before Marquette joined the BIG EAST in 2004 ... the schools first met in 1985 in Dayton, Ohio, with the Irish prevailing in three games ... the Irish and Golden Eagles will meet for the third time since 1997 and 10th time overall ... Notre Dame holds a perfect 9-0 mark over Marquette with a 27-3 advantage in game victories ... 2002 graduate Marcie Bomhack (Waukesha, Catholic Memorial HS, Milwaukee Sting VBC) – now the head coach at Loyola (Ill.) – remains the only Wisconsin native to ever play for the Irish ... against the Golden Eagles on Oct. 3, 1986, Notre Dame finished with a .539 hitting percentage (52 kills, 4 errors, 89 attempts), which still stands as the highest mark in program history in any length match ... Adrianna Stasiuk and Danielle Herndon each tallied 20+ digs, while Jamel Nicholas and Ashley Tarutis each handed out 20+ assists during Notre Dame's 2006 victory.

## Syracuse Orange

Oct. 14, 2007 • 2:00 p.m.  
Syracuse, N.Y. • Manley Fieldhouse  
All-time series: Notre Dame leads 14-1

**Location:** Syracuse, N.Y.  
**Founded:** 1870  
**Enrollment:** 10,750  
**Color:** Orange  
**Conference:** BIG EAST  
**Home Court:** Manley Fieldhouse (9,500), Women's Building (3,000)  
**Athletic Director:** Dr. Daryl Gross



**Head Coach:** Jing Pu (Beijing Institute '74)  
**Record at Syracuse:** 244-159 (12 seasons)  
**Career record:** 383-201 (17 seasons)  
**Assistant:** Carol Munger

**2006 record (conference):** 11-25 (5-9)  
**Final AVCA ranking:** none  
**Starters returning/loss:** 6/0  
**Letterwinners returning/loss:** 12/1

**Volleyball Contact:** Brian Beacham  
**Office:** 315.443.2608  
**Fax:** 315.443.2076  
**E-mail:** suacsid@syr.edu  
**Courtside:** 315.443.1024  
**Website:** suathletics.com

**Notes:** Syracuse downed Notre Dame, 3-1, in the two program's first-ever meeting in 1981, but its been all Irish since then ... Notre Dame has won the last 14 contests as the two teams will meet for the 13th consecutive season and 16th time overall in 2007 ... the lone five-game affair between the schools came in the 1990 Rhode Island Invitational in Providence, with ND coming out on top, 16-14, for its first-ever win over SU ... ND leads 43-7 in games won, including 39-2 in the BIG EAST era ... the Irish have notched five consecutive 3-0 wins over the Orange ... Angie Harris had nine aces in the first BIG EAST contest between the teams (Oct. 20, 1995), a record that still stands despite accomplishing the feat in just three games ... the Irish made just one service error in the 1996 matchup, which is tied for the lowest total in a match ... the Irish won by 37 points in 2001 at the Joyce Center, the third-largest margin of victory for Notre Dame under the 30-point format ... ND has won all five previous matches at the Joyce Center and the only game that went more than the necessary three games was a four-game contest on Oct. 31, 1998 ... former Notre Dame libero Meg Henican totaled the school's second highest dig total, 26, in a three-game match against Syracuse on Sept. 30, 2005 ... New York has produced five Irish volleyball players, making it one of just six states to do so.

## DePaul Blue Demons

Oct. 19, 2007 • 4:00 p.m.  
Notre Dame, Ind. • Joyce Center  
All-time series: Notre Dame leads 8-4

**Location:** Chicago, Ill.  
**Founded:** 1898  
**Enrollment:** 24,300  
**Colors:** Royal Blue and Scarlet  
**Conference:** BIG EAST  
**Home Court:** McGrath Arena (3,000)  
**Athletic Director:** Jean Lenti Ponsetto



**Head Coach:** Amy Kleyweg (South Florida '96)  
**Record at DePaul:** 5-25 (1 season)  
**Career record:** same  
**Assistant:** Meghan Keck

**2006 record (conference):** 5-25 (0-14)  
**Final AVCA ranking:** none  
**Starters returning/loss:** 4/3  
**Letterwinners returning/loss:** 5/6

**Volleyball Contact:** Alicia Powers  
**Office:** 773.325.7546  
**Fax:** 773.325.7531  
**E-mail:** apowers1@depaul.edu  
**Courtside:** 973.761.5810  
**Website:** depaulbluedemons.com

**Notes:** The Irish took three-straight games from DePaul in an Oct. 13 win in 2006 ... a balanced attack limited DePaul to 48 total points ... the Blue Demon's hitting percentage of .057 was the lowest for an Irish opponent since Cincinnati hit -.057 against Notre Dame in the 2005 BIG EAST Tournament semifinals ... the 48 total points by DePaul was the lowest point total allowed by Notre Dame over the season's first 17 matches ... the two programs, formerly foes in the North Star Conference, will meet for the third time since 1995 and the 13th time overall ... Notre Dame holds an 8-4 advantage in the all-time series, including wins in each of the last four matches ... the 2005 matchup took just 70 minutes, making it the second-quickest match in Notre Dame history in the 30-point format, and the 41 point differential was the third greatest combined margin of victory in any match for Notre Dame ... the 20 point margin in the third game is tied for second greatest margin of victory for ND ... Notre Dame and DePaul played the fastest game in Irish history - a 40 minute match, on Sept. 26, 1995 ... DePaul's last victory against Notre Dame was a 3-1 win in the 1991 Miami Invitational in Oxford, Ohio, which was also the last time DePaul won a game against Notre Dame ... the Irish hold a 26-11 advantage in games won ... the teams have never played a five-game match ... all eight of ND's victories have been in three games ... the schools first met in the 1983 Xavier Invitational in Cincinnati, Ohio, with the Blue Demons pulling out a 2-0 win ... the first Irish win came one year later in a 3-0 home decision ... Mary Kay Waller had 12 kills and no errors on 13 attempts for a .923 hitting percentage in a 1986 match that still stands as the highest-ever for an Irish player in any length match ... in 1995, the Blue Demons finished with a -.110 hitting percentage (17 kills, 25 errors, 73 attempts), the lowest-ever by an ND opponent.

## LSU Tigers

Oct. 23, 2007 • 7:00 p.m.  
Baton Rouge, La. • Maravich Assembly Center  
All-time series: LSU leads 4-2

**Location:** Baton Rouge, La.  
**Founded:** 1860  
**Enrollment:** 30,564  
**Colors:** Purple and Gold  
**Conference:** Southeastern  
**Home Court:** Pete Maravich Assembly Center (13,373)  
**Athletic Director:** Skip Bertman



**Head Coach:** Fran Flory (Texas '84)  
**Record at LSU:** 155-115 (9 seasons)  
**Career record:** 265-229 (16 seasons)  
**Assistants:** Steve Loeswick, Jill Lyttly-Wilson

**2006 record (conference):** 26-6 (16-4)  
**Postseason:** NCAA First Round (L, California, 3-1)  
**Final AVCA ranking:** 19th  
**Starters returning/loss:** 3/3  
**Letterwinners returning/loss:** 8/5

**Volleyball Contact:** Melissa Foley  
**Office:** 225.578.1869  
**Fax:** 225.578.1861  
**E-mail:** mfoley@lsu.edu  
**Courtside:** 225.241.4365  
**Website:** lsusports.net

**Notes:** The Irish will travel to Baton Rouge for the first time since 1989 to take on the Tigers ... Notre Dame has never won a road match with LSU and has split two neutral meetings ... the Tigers took the first match of the series with a 3-0 home win in 1982 ... Notre Dame answered with a 3-1 win on its own turf in 1988 ... two of the matches have gone to five games, with LSU winning both decisions ... the Irish swept LSU, 3-0, at the Florida Volleyball Challenge in Buena Vista, Fla., in 2001 ... four years later, the Tigers came out on top of a five-game match played in College Station, Texas, as part of the Nokia Sugar Bowl Classic ... only two Irish players have hailed from the state of Louisiana: Meg Henican (2002-05) and Kaitlin McEwen (1999) ... after taking the first game, then-No. 16 LSU could not keep it going as the Tigers fell to 14th-ranked California, 25-30, 30-23, 30-17, 30-16, in the 2006 NCAA Tournament ... the loss ended LSU's season at 26-6, as the Tigers tied for the most wins in a season since 1992 and captured their second straight Southeastern Conference Western Division title ... LSU made its second straight NCAA appearance and eighth overall.

## Connecticut Huskies

Oct. 27, 2007 • 2:00 p.m.  
Storrs, Conn. • Gampel Pavilion  
All-time series: Notre Dame leads 16-1

**Location:** Storrs, Conn.  
**Founded:** 1881  
**Enrollment:** 28,481  
**Colors:** National Flag Blue and White  
**Conference:** BIG EAST  
**Home Court:** Harry A. Gampel Pavilion (10,167)  
**Athletic Director:** Jeffrey Hathaway



**Head Coach:** Holly Strauss (North Carolina '03)  
**Record at Connecticut:** 34-24 (2 seasons)  
**Career record:** same  
**Assistants:** Tim O'Brien, Emily Loomis

**2006 record (conference):** 19-11 (8-6)  
**Final AVCA ranking:** none  
**Starters returning/loss:** 3/3  
**Letterwinners returning/loss:** 9/3

**Volleyball Contact:** Kristen Altieri  
**Office:** 860.486.3531  
**Fax:** 860.486.5085  
**E-mail:** kristen.altieri@uconn.edu  
**Website:** uconnhuskies.com

**Notes:** Serinity Phillips led an Irish attack with a match-high 16 kills in an Oct. 20 win over UConn in 2006 ... her 16 kills set a new career-best ... the rookie carried a .500 hitting percentage, going 16-for-28 with two errors ... she also blocked four shots and totaled 18.5 points ... ND and Connecticut will meet for the 18th time in 2007 ... the Irish have rattled off 13 straight wins in the series ... the teams have three times played in five-game affairs, with Connecticut gaining its only victory over ND in 1998 ... that was Notre Dame's first loss to a BIG EAST school since becoming a league member, ending a 41-match winning streak (35 regular season, 6 tournament) ... in the semifinals of that season's BIG EAST Championship, UConn won the first two games before Notre Dame won three straight to ignite a 12-match winning streak against the Huskies ... the Irish have won 50 of 59 games ... Christi Girton had 31 kills in the 2000 match, the third-highest total ever by an Irish player and the last 30-kill match recorded at Notre Dame. ... former Irish standout middle/outside hitter Emily Loomis is a first-year assistant coach for the Huskies after spending the past year as a Service Director with City Year Washington, D.C. ... Loomis spent 2001-04 playing for the Fighting Irish and was named honorable mention AVCA All-America in 2003, finishing her career with 1,321 kills to rank fifth on the Irish all-time kills list ... she stands as the only Notre Dame student-athlete ever to earn all-BIG EAST honors in two distinctly different sports (excluding track and field and cross country), as she is a four-time all-BIG EAST performer in the high jump for the Irish track and field team, winning the 2003 outdoor BIG EAST title in that event.

## St. John's Red Storm

Oct. 28, 2007 • 2:00 p.m.  
Queens, N.Y. • Carnesecca Arena  
All-time series: Notre Dame leads 12-1

**Location:** Queens, N.Y.  
**Founded:** 1870  
**Enrollment:** 19,600  
**Colors:** Red and White  
**Conference:** BIG EAST  
**Home Court:** Carnesecca Arena (6,008)  
**Athletic Director:** Chris Monasch



**Head Coach:** Joanne Persico-Smith (Syracuse '87)  
**Record at St. John's:** 259-160 (13 seasons)  
**Career record:** same  
**Assistants:** Mario Treibit, Li Chen

**2006 record (conference):** 31-5 (14-0)  
**Postseason:** NCAA Second Round (L, Minnesota, 3-2)  
**Final AVCA ranking:** none  
**Starters returning/loss:** 6/2  
**Letterwinners returning/loss:** 9/3

**Volleyball Contact:** Joe Guster  
**Office:** 718.990.1520  
**Fax:** 718.969.8468  
**E-mail:** stjcommunications@stjohns.edu  
**Website:** redstormsports.com

**Notes:** A Notre Dame win over the Red Storm in the semifinals of the 2006 BIG EAST Tournament marked the Irish's first victory against a ranked opponent on the season ... Mallorie Croal she led Fighting Irish with 16 kills and also tallied 19 digs in the upset of No. 24 St. John's (Nov. 18) ... the game scores went 30-23, 30-28, 28-30, 30-20 ... it was only the second loss of the season for St. John's, while the first was at the hands of No. 4 USC ... Serinity Phillips tied a career-high with eight blocks ... Notre Dame's lone loss to St. John's came earlier in the 2006 season, a 3-0 home defeat ... libero Kathleen Yee led St. John's in a 3-2 loss to No. 9 Minnesota in the second round of the 2006 NCAA Tournament by collecting match-high 20 digs to become the seventh Red Storm athlete to record 1,000 career digs ... the Red Storm closed out their record-breaking season with a 31-5 mark ... the their final contest of 2006, Latoya Blunt recorded 13 kills, while setter Wioleta Leszczynska dished out 44 assists.

## Georgetown Hoyas

Nov. 2, 2007 • 4:00 p.m.  
Notre Dame, Ind. • Joyce Center  
All-time series: Notre Dame leads 16-1

**Location:** Washington, D.C.  
**Founded:** 1789  
**Enrollment:** 6,537 (undergraduate), 6,627 (graduate)  
**Colors:** Blue and Gray  
**Conference:** BIG EAST  
**Home Court:** McDonough Gym (2,200)  
**Athletic Director:** Bernard Muir (former deputy AD at Notre Dame)



**Head Coach:** Arlisa Hagan (Wisconsin '93)  
**Record at Georgetown:** 8-19 (1 season)  
**Career record:** same  
**Assistants:** Michelle Chapman, Julie Allen

**2006 record (conference):** 8-19 (2-12)  
**Final AVCA ranking:** none  
**Starters returning/loss:** 2/5  
**Letterwinners returning/loss:** 7/6

**Volleyball Contact:** Diana Pulupa  
**Office:** 202.687.2492  
**Fax:** 202.687.6591  
**E-mail:** dtp24@georgetown.edu  
**Website:** guhoyas.com

**Notes:** Notre Dame ended a three-match losing streak in 2006 with a sweep over Georgetown (Nov. 3) in Washington, D.C. ... the Irish out-hit Georgetown .356 to .121 ... the Irish have won 48 of 59 games with Georgetown, including the last 17 ... this season's meeting in the Joyce Center will be the 18th overall between the two squads and 13th in as many seasons, with the Irish riding an eight-match winning streak over the Hoyas ... the teams have twice played five-game matches, with the Irish prevailing in both (1999 and 2001 BIG EAST Tournament semifinals) ... the lone victory for Georgetown was a 15-11, 15-10, 15-8 triumph in the title match of the 1999 BIG EAST Championship in Pittsburgh, which made the Hoyas the first team to defeat Notre Dame in the conference tournament ... the schools played twice before the Irish became a member of the BIG EAST ... the Irish won 15-1, 15-6, 10-15, 15-6 in Washington D.C. in 1986 in the first-ever meeting and were victorious again in four games during the 1992 William & Mary Invitational ... the teams have played three times in the BIG EAST Championship, with the Irish winning in 1998 (3-0) and 2001 (3-2, 15-11 in the fifth) ... Georgetown's 1999 win snapped an eight-match losing streak against the Irish.

## South Florida Bulls

Nov. 4, 2007 • 2:00 p.m.  
Notre Dame, Ind. • Joyce Center  
All-time series: Notre Dame leads 2-0

**Location:** Tampa, Fla.  
**Founded:** 1956  
**Enrollment:** 44,038  
**Colors:** Green and Gold  
**Conference:** BIG EAST  
**Home Court:** The Corral (1,000)  
**Athletic Director:** Doug Woolard



**Head Coach:** Claire Lessinger (Florida '97)  
**Record at South Florida:** 25-59 (3 seasons)  
**Career record:** same  
**Assistants:** Nikki Shade, Erik Peterson

**2006 record (conference):** 12-17 (7-7)  
**Final AVCA ranking:** none  
**Starters returning/loss:** 4/3  
**Letterwinners returning/loss:** 8/3

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**Notes:** Last season Mallorie Croal and Justine Stremick each tallied 15 kills as Notre Dame swept South Florida, 3-0, (Nov. 5) ... Stremick's 15 kills were a career-high, and her .750 hitting percentage was the highest mark for Notre Dame on the season and the highest for an Irish player that averaged at least four attacks per game since 2001 ... the Irish out-hit South Florida, .432 to .088. ... Notre Dame swept the Bulls in the first meeting between the programs in 2005 then again in 2006 ... the 20 point margin in the first game in 2005 is tied for second-largest margin of victory for Notre Dame in a game ... 2007 graduate Danielle Herndon was the second Tampa-area product to play for the Irish, following standout middle blocker Mary Leffers (1996-99) ... only two other natives of the Sunshine State have played for Notre Dame.

## Cincinnati Bearcats

Nov. 9, 2007 • 4:00 p.m.  
Notre Dame, Ind. • Joyce Center  
All-time series: Notre Dame leads 6-1

**Location:** Cincinnati, Ohio  
**Founded:** 1819  
**Enrollment:** 35,244  
**Colors:** Red and Black  
**Conference:** BIG EAST  
**Home Court:** Fifth Third Arena (13,176)  
**Athletic Director:** Mike Thomas



**Head Coach:** Reed Sunahara (UCLA '89)  
**Record at Cincinnati:** 161-63 (7 seasons)  
**Career record:** 180-103 (9 seasons)  
**Assistants:** Erin Virtue, Myanna Hellsten

**2006 record (conference):** 22-7 (10-4)  
**Final AVCA ranking:** none  
**Starters returning/loss:** 5/2  
**Letterwinners returning/loss:** 8/3

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**Courtside:** 513.556.3800  
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**Notes:** Notre Dame and Cincinnati split a pair of matches in 2006, as the Irish redeemed a regular-season loss by knocking the Bearcats out of the BIG EAST Championship with a come-from-behind win in five games ... it was the first time Notre Dame had trailed 2-1 and came back to win on the season ... the match also marked the second time all season that Notre Dame had a pair of players with 20+ kills in the same match ... Mallorie Croal had 25 kills while Adrianna Stasiuk slammed 23 ... Christina Kaelin had 11 kills in the contest, all of which came in the final two games ... Cincinnati's 3-0 win on Oct. 28 was its first defeat of an Irish squad ... the Irish knocked off Cincinnati in the 2005 BIG EAST Championship finale in the Louisville, with Notre Dame winning 30-20, 30-20, 30-14 ... earlier that season, ND won all three games over the Bearcats by a margin of 30-24, 30-27 ... the Irish hold a 18-7 advantage in games won in the series ... the first-ever match between the teams was a five-game affair in the 1987 Eastern Kentucky Colonel Invitational in Richmond, Ky. (ND won with a 15-10 fifth game) ... the schools did not play again until an Irish win in the opening round of the 2000 NCAA Tournament in Columbus, Ohio ... Zannette Bennett cranked 31 kills against the Bearcats in the 1987 match, a total which stands tied for the third-highest ever by an Irish player in any length match ... she finished with a .529 hitting mark (4 errors, 51 attempts) in that match, which is the second-highest mark in program history in a five-game affair ... Irish great Mary Jo Hensler (1981-84) hails from the Cincinnati area.

## Louisville Cardinals

Nov. 11, 2007 • Noon  
Notre Dame, Ind. • Joyce Center  
All-time series: Notre Dame leads 14-5

**Location:** Louisville, Ky.  
**Founded:** 1798  
**Enrollment:** 22,000  
**Colors:** Red and Black  
**Conference:** BIG EAST  
**Home Court:** Cardinal Arena (84)  
**Athletic Director:** Tom Jurich



**Head Coach:** Leonid Yelin (Uzbekistan Institute'70)  
**Record at Louisville:** 281-74 (11 seasons)  
**Career record:** 395-110 (16 seasons)  
**Assistants:** Melissa Starck Bean, Chad Norton, Craig Bere

**2006 record (conference):** 25-7 (13-1)  
**Postseason:** NCAA First Round (L, Middle Tennessee State, 3-2)  
**Final AVCA ranking:** none  
**Starters returning/loss:** 4/2  
**Letterwinners returning/loss:** 9/2

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**Notes:** The Irish last faced Louisville in the 2006 BIG EAST Tournament finale (Nov. 19) ... the fifth-seeded Irish fell to second-seeded Louisville in five games - 30-26, 30-25, 24-30, 17-30, 12-15 ... freshman Christina Kaelin led the Irish attack with 18 kills ... classmate Serinity Phillips added 14 kills and four blocks ... Mallorie Croal totaled her seventh double-double with 12 kills and 14 digs ... both Irish setters reached double figures in assists as Ashley Tarutis tallied 31 with Jamel Nicholas chipping in 27 ... Adrianna Stasiuk had her 17th double-double of the season with 13 kills and 12 digs ... in 2003 postseason action, the Cardinals knocked Notre Dame out of the NCAA Tournament with a 3-0 first-round win ... Louisville defeated Notre Dame twice in 2006, the first time the Irish had ever dropped multiple contests to the Cardinals in the same season ... both squads have been nationally ranked in four of the 19 overall contests and have split those four matches ... at least one team has carried a national ranking in 11 of the last 15 matches between the squads ... the Irish have won 47 games compared to Louisville's 28 ... the schools have played five five-game matches since 1994, with ND winning three ... in the 1994 meeting in the Joyce Center, the Irish had 94 kills to rank fifth on the school's all-time list ... the two teams first played in 1986, with the Irish winning 3-0 in Louisville ... after six consecutive ND wins, UoFL broke through at home in 1992 with a 3-1 upset of the 20th-ranked Irish ... current Irish Christina Kaelin played her prep ball at Assumption HS in Louisville.

## BIG EAST Championship

Nov. 16-18, 2007  
Milwaukee, Wis.

**Host:** Marquette  
**Website:** BIGEAST.org  
**Participants:** Top eight teams based on regular season conference record

**Notes:** In 12 years of league membership, Notre Dame has not seen a season go by in which it did not reach the BIG EAST Tournament championship match ... the Irish have claimed nine tournament titles with pair of second-place finishes, and leads all conference squads with a 24-3 (.889) record in the annual postseason event ... Pitt's 10 titles (1982, 1984, 1986, 1988-94, 2003) are the most by any school in front of Notre Dame's nine ... the Joyce Center has played host to the BIG EAST Tournament three times (1995, 2000, 2003) ... then-junior Adrianna Stasiuk was the tournament's MVP in 2005, joining eight other Irish players to earn the honor: Lauren Brewster (2004), Emily Loomis (2002), Malinda Goralski (2001), Denise Boylan (2000), Marcie Bomhack (1998), Jaimie Lee (1997), Lindsay Treadwell (1996), and Angie Harris (1995) ... the Irish have also won 10 regular-season league crowns ... the BIG EAST will be in its third year as the nation's largest Division I-A conference ... the first year with 16 members was wrought with curiosity among those in the world of collegiate athletics and in the media, but the league thrived in its new alignment, enjoying significant success in the athletic arenas, on the playing fields and in the classroom ... more than 550 BIG EAST athletes have earned All-America recognition and dozens have won individual NCAA national championships ... the BIG EAST has been well represented on United States, foreign national and Olympic teams ... several athletes earned gold medals in each of the last five summer Olympics ... the BIG EAST is headquartered in Providence, R.I., where the conference administers to more than 5,500 athletes in 23 sports.

## Tennessee Lady Volunteers

Nov. 23, 2007 • 7:00 p.m.  
Knoxville, Tenn. • Stokely Athletics Center  
All-time series: Tennessee leads 1-0

**Location:** Knoxville, Tenn.  
**Founded:** 1784  
**Enrollment:** 25,244  
**Colors:** Orange and White  
**Conference:** Southeastern  
**Home Court:** Stokely Athletics Center (5,000)  
**Athletic Director:** Joan Cronan



**Head Coach:** Rob Patrick (Miami Ohio '83)  
**Record at Tennessee:** 210-107 (10 seasons)  
**Career record:** same  
**Assistants:** Mike Minnis, Katie Noble, Annie Sadowski

**2006 record (conference):** 19-12 (10-10)  
**Postseason:** NCAA First Round (L, Duke, 3-1)  
**Final AVCA ranking:** none  
**Starters returning/loss:** 3/3  
**Letterwinners returning/loss:** 12/4

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**Notes:** The lone match in this series went Tennessee's way in 2005 when the Lady Vols earned a five-game win in the Irish Thanksgiving Invitational ... Notre Dame was ranked 7th in the nation at the time ... the Irish won the first two games and had a pair of match points, but could not convert and eventually lost 26-30, 26-30, 30-28, 32-30, 15-9 ... it was the Irish's third loss of the season, and all three had gone to five games ... UT's Kelsey Fautsch had 35 kills, the third-most in Joyce Center history ... Sarah McFarland (45) of Loyola Marymount had more in 2000, as did Ohio State's Vanessa Wouters (36) in the 1996 NCAA Tournament ... the Lady Vols' loss to Duke in the 2006 NCAA Tournament was the first at home for UT in eight NCAA contests and took place in front of the third largest postseason volleyball crowd in Stokely history, as 645 fans were on hand ... Tennessee graduated a trio of seniors that amassed a winning percentage of .754 and accumulated a record of 98-33 during its time in Knoxville ... the three pushed Tennessee farther into the NCAA Tournament than it had ever gone, reaching the Sweet 16 in 2004 and the Final Four in 2005.

*Jamel Nicholas and the Irish enjoyed their 15th-straight trip to the NCAA Tournament in 2006 before bowing out to Wisconsin in a 3-0 match in Madison.*

## NCAA Championship

Nov. 29-Dec. 2, 2007

**NCAA Selection Show:** Sunday, Nov. 25  
**Regional Sites:** Stephen C. O'Connell Center (Gainesville, Fla.), Rec Hall (University Park, Pa.), Maples Pavilion (Stanford, Calif.), University of Wisconsin Field House (Madison, Wis.)  
**Final Four Host:** California State University (Sacramento, Calif.)  
**Participants:** Conference champions (31), at-large entries (33)  
**Website:** NCAAAsports.com

**Notes:** The NCAA will hold its 27th annual women's volleyball championship in 2007 ... Notre Dame has earned a spot in the NCAA Championship 16 times, including trips in each of the last 15 seasons ... that feat has only been accomplished by eight other programs around the nation ... the Irish are 14-16 all-time in the tournament ... they have advanced to the final 16 on six occasions (1988, 1993-95, 1997, 2005), highlighted by a quarterfinal appearance in 1993 ... Notre Dame's Joyce Center has played host to the event on seven occasions, with ND going 8-2 on its home floor ... the Irish were home for first-round play in 1988, 1993, 1994, and 1995 before becoming a first- and second-round site in 1996, 2002 and 2005 ... Adrianna Stasiuk had 12 kills on a .276 hitting percentage in Notre Dame's 2006 loss to Wisconsin in the tournament's first-round at Madison ... Mallorie Croal picked up her seventh consecutive double-double with 10 kills and 10 digs ... Danielle Herndon led the team with 17 digs in the final match of her career ... it was the 27th time that season she paced the Irish in that category, tying her for the most ever in a single season ... Sarah Pavan and Jordan Larson combined for 41 points as top-seed Nebraska (33-1) rallied to defeat second-seed Stanford (30-4) 27-20, 30-26, 30-28, 30-27 for its third NCAA Division I Women's Volleyball Championship in front of a record-crowd of 17,209 fans at Omaha's Quest Center in 2006.

### Past NCAA Champions

- 1981 University of Southern California (27-10)
- 1982 University of Hawaii (33-1)
- 1983 University of Hawaii (34-2)
- 1984 University of California, Los Angeles (33-6)
- 1985 University of the Pacific (36-3)
- 1986 University of the Pacific (39-3)
- 1987 University of Hawaii (37-2)
- 1988 University of Texas (34-5)
- 1989 Long Beach State University (32-5)
- 1990 University of California, Los Angeles (36-1)
- 1991 University of California, Los Angeles (31-5)
- 1992 Stanford University (31-2)
- 1993 Long Beach State University (32-2)
- 1994 Stanford University (32-1)
- 1995 University of Nebraska (32-1)
- 1996 Stanford University (31-2)
- 1997 Stanford University (33-2)
- 1998 Long Beach State University (36-0)
- 1999 Pennsylvania State University (36-1)
- 2000 University of Nebraska (34-0)
- 2001 Stanford University (33-2)
- 2002 University of Southern California (31-1)
- 2003 University of Southern California (35-0)
- 2004 Stanford University (30-6)
- 2005 University of Washington (32-1)
- 2006 University of Nebraska (33-1)

