



# VILLANOVA WILDCATS



## 2003 WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL GAME NOTES

### SCHEDULE/RESULTS

A29	vs. No. 25 Michigan St.	3-0 L
A30	vs. Maryland	3-0 L
A30	vs. Tennessee	3-0 L
S5	vs. George Washington	3-0 L
S6	vs. Coppin State	3-0 W
S6	vs. Lafayette	3-0 W
S9	at Temple	3-1 L
S13	vs. Oregon	3-0 L
S14	vs. Colorado	3-0 L
<b>S19</b>	<b>PENNSYLVANIA</b>	<b>3-2 L</b>
<b>S20</b>	<b>MANHATTAN</b>	<b>3-2 L</b>
<b>S20</b>	<b>UMBC</b>	<b>3-1 W</b>
S26	at No. 17 Notre Dame*	3-1 L
S28	at Syracuse*	3-1 L
<b>O4</b>	<b>PITTSBURGH*</b>	<b>3-2 L</b>
<b>O5</b>	<b>WEST VIRGINIA*</b>	<b>3-1 W</b>
O10	at Virginia Tech*	3-2 W
O12	at Miami*	3-0 L
O14	at Florida Intl.	3-0 W
O21	at Fairfield	3-1 W
<b>O25</b>	<b>GEORGETOWN*</b>	<b>3-0 W</b>
<b>O28</b>	<b>DELAWARE</b>	<b>3-1 W</b>
O31	at Boston College*	3-0 W
<b>N7</b>	<b>RUTGERS*</b>	<b>3-0 W</b>
<b>N9</b>	<b>SETON HALL*</b>	<b>3-2 W</b>
<b>N11</b>	<b>TOWSON</b>	<b>7:00PM</b>
<b>N15</b>	<b>ST. JOHN'S*</b>	<b>2:00PM</b>
<b>N16</b>	<b>CONNECTICUT*</b>	<b>2:00PM</b>

CAPS indicate home matches

\* indicate Big East matches

### Wildcats' Week At A Glance

*Tues., Nov. 11, Villanova, Pa.*

*vs. Towson*

Series Record: Villanova leads, 5-1

*Sat., Nov. 15, Villanova, Pa.*

*vs. St. John's*

Series Record: Villanova leads, 7-3

*Sun., Nov. 16, Villanova, Pa.*

*vs. Connecticut*

Series Record: Villanova leads, 13-10

**Sitting Courtside:** Villanova extended its winning streak to a season-high seven matches with a 3-0 defeat of Rutgers and a 3-2 win over Seton Hall. The Wildcats improved to 12-13 overall and stand at 6-4 in the BIG EAST. Villanova trails Virginia Tech by one half game for the fourth and final berth in the conference tournament.

**Wildcats on the Web:** This is your last chance to catch the Wildcats live on the Internet. Their upcoming BIG EAST match against St. John's on Saturday at 2:00 p.m. is scheduled to be broadcast live over the Internet at [www.villanova.com](http://www.villanova.com). To access the broadcast, go to the audio/video link on the top of the front page and look for the volleyball audio information.

**Race for the Playoffs:** With only one week remaining in the BIG EAST regular season, Notre Dame (10-0) and Pittsburgh (9-1) have clinched berths in the upcoming conference tournament. Miami enters the week in third place at 8-3, while Virginia Tech sits in the fourth spot at 7-4. St. John's and Villanova are tied for fifth place at 6-4, just a half game out of the playoffs.

**Playing Both Sides:** Sophomore outside hitter **Celine Nguyen** (Palos Verdes Peninsula, Calif./Palos Verdes Peninsula) sparked the Wildcats in their victories over the weekend, leading the squad in both kills and digs. Nguyen finished with 25 kills and a .274 hitting percentage to spur the offense, while also posting 32 digs in a strong defensive effort. Her 14 kills against Seton Hall marked a season high and fell one short of her career high of 15.

**Racking Up Wins:** With two victories over the weekend, Villanova has extended its unbeaten streak to seven matches. It is the longest winning streak since the 1998 squad won eight in a row in the middle of its season. The Wildcats have not lost since Oct. 12 when they suffered a 3-0 defeat at Miami. Their current streak includes four conference wins and three non-conference victories.

**Scouting Towson:** Towson brings a 22-4 overall record and perfect 12-0 mark in Colonial Athletic Association play into Tuesday's match. The Tigers also own a 19-game unbeaten streak and are coming off a 3-0 win over George Mason on Saturday. Sophomore middle blocker Lindsey Hardin leads the Tigers with 418 kills, while sophomore outside hitter April Hoffman has managed 307 kills. Junior Mary Clare Coghlan serves as the squad's primary setter, while junior middle blocker Liz Goubeaux is a strong presence at net with 139 total blocks. Head coach Chris Riley has compiled an 88-36 record in four years at Towson.

**Scouting St. John's:** St. John's is coming off a 3-0 win over Providence and owns a 25-8 overall record. The Red Storm is tied with Villanova at 6-4 in the BIG EAST standings. Sophomore hitter Jackie Ahlers is averaging better than five kills a game and has posted 571 on the season to lead the St. John's attack. Seniors Robyn Kurasaki and Rosalyn Dang split the setting duties, while junior outside hitter Yana Ruban leads the squad with 97 blocks. Joanne Persico-Smith enters her 10th season as head coach of St. John's.

**Scouting Connecticut:** Connecticut enters the weekend at 17-12 overall and 4-6 in the BIG EAST after sweeping Boston College, 3-0, on Sunday. Leading the way for the Huskies are junior outside hitter Jackie Hadenfeldt and sophomore middle hitter Megan Crawley with 463 and 368 kills, respectively. Junior middle Brittany Conover has registered 118 blocks on the season, while Crawley has added 117 of her own. Senior setter Julie Erbez averages 10 assists a game for Connecticut. Head coach Kelli Myers has managed a 114-67 record during her six years at Connecticut.

**Last Dance:** Villanova is battling for its first trip to the BIG EAST tournament since the 1997 campaign when the Wildcats finished 20-9. Villanova defeated Connecticut 3-1 in the semifinals before losing to Notre Dame in the championship match, 3-1. The Wildcats also advanced to the NCAA Tournament in 1997 where they suffered a 3-2 setback to Northern Illinois in the opening game.

**Home Sweet Home:** The Wildcats have packed away their travel gear for the remainder of the regular season, as all three of the squad's final matches will be played at Jake Nevin Field House. Villanova has played to a 6-3 home record and have won their last five matches played on the Main Line.

**Ferocious Attack:** During the Wildcats' current win streak, they have posted better hitting percentages than their opponents in six out of the seven matches. The only exception came against Seton Hall when the Pirates hit .209 and the Wildcats only .197. On average, Villanova has out-hit their opponents by .097 during their current stretch.

**Lanting Looking for Career Best:** With three matches left in the season, junior middle blocker **Katie Lanting** (Loveland, Colo./Alexander Dawson) is just 21 kills shy of her career best for kills in a season. Through 91 games this season, Lanting ranks second on the Wildcats with 271 kills. She finished with 292 kills in 112 games of action in 2002.

## VILLANOVA QUICK FACTS

Location	Villanova, PA.
Enrollment	6,295
President	Rev. Edmund J. Dobbin, OSA
Athletic Director	Vince Nicastro
Colors	Blue and White
Conference	Big East
Home Court	Jake Nevin Field House
Capacity	2,500

## VOLLEYBALL

Head Coach	Allison Keeley
Alma Mater	Carleton College ('90)
Career Record	.62-.99 (6 years)
Villanova Record	.25-.33 (2 years)
Office Phone	(610) 519-4137
2002 Record	.18-.16
2002 Conference Record	.7-.6
Letterwinners Returning/Lost	.11/.3
Starters Returning/Lost	.5/.1
Newcomers	.4

## MEDIA INFORMATION

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## 2003 Villanova Alphabetical Roster

<u>No.</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Yr.</u>	<u>Ht.</u>	<u>Pos.</u>	<u>Hometown/High School</u>
18	Abbott, Megan	So.	6-4	MB	Jacksonville, Fla./Jacksonville
14	Badran-Grycan, Jennifer	Jr.	5-7	DS/S	Santa Monica, Calif./Palisades
5	Birunas, Erin	Sr.	6-0	OH	Lancaster, Pa./Hempfield
15	Bye, Megan	So.	5-7	DS	Englewood, Colo./JK Mullen
21	Edwards, Jennifer	Sr.	5-9	S	Valencia, Calif./Valencia High School
9	Hartwell, Sam	Jr.	5-6	L	San Anselmo, Calif./Marin Catholic
2	Hoover, Jessica	Fr.	5-11	OH	Highland Park, Ill./Adlai E. Stevenson
10	Kabashima, Dana	So.	5-10	OH	Santa Monica, Calif./Santa Monica
33	Lalli, Jen	Fr.	5-4	S/DS	Media, Pa./Penncrest
11	Lanting, Katie	Jr.	6-3	MB	Loveland, Colo./Alexander Dawson School
4	Ludwig, Kelly	Fr.	6-1	S/H	Franklin Lakes, N.J./Ramapo
8	Nguyen, Celine	So.	5-9	OH	Palos Verdes Peninsula, Calif./ Palos Verdes Peninsula
7	Semrau, Adrian	Fr.	6-4	MB	Grafton, Ohio/Midview
12	Sullivan, Kerri	Jr.	6-0	MB	Downers Grove, Ill./South
17	Tucker, Kate	Sr.	5-11	OH	River Forest, Ill./Oak Park River

## 2003 Villanova Numerical Roster

<u>No.</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Yr.</u>	<u>Ht.</u>	<u>Pos.</u>	<u>Hometown/High School</u>
2	Hoover, Jessica	Fr.	5-11	OH	Highland Park, Ill./Adlai E. Stevenson
4	Ludwig, Kelly	Fr.	6-1	S/H	Franklin Lakes, N.J./Ramapo
5	Birunas, Erin	Sr.	6-0	OH	Lancaster, Pa./Hempfield
7	Semrau, Adrian	Fr.	6-4	MB	Grafton, Ohio/Midview
8	Nguyen, Celine	So.	5-9	OH	Palos Verdes Peninsula, Calif./ Palos Verdes Peninsula
9	Hartwell, Sam	Jr.	5-6	L	San Anselmo, Calif./Marin Catholic
10	Kabashima, Dana	So.	5-10	OH	Santa Monica, Calif./Santa Monica
11	Lanting, Katie	Jr.	6-3	MB	Loveland, Colo./Alexander Dawson School
12	Sullivan, Kerri	Jr.	6-0	MB	Downers Grove, Ill./South
14	Badran-Grycan, Jennifer	Jr.	5-7	DS/S	Santa Monica, Calif./Palisades
15	Bye, Megan	So.	5-7	DS	Englewood, Colo./JK Mullen
17	Tucker, Kate	Sr.	5-11	OH	River Forest, Ill./Oak Park River
18	Abbott, Megan	So.	6-4	MB	Jacksonville, Fla./Jacksonville
21	Edwards, Jennifer	Sr.	5-9	S	Valencia, Calif./Valencia High School
33	Lalli, Jen	Fr.	5-4	S/DS	Media, Pa./Penncrest

**Head Coach:** Allison Keeley  
**Assistant Coach:** Stewart Arevalo

### Pronunciation Guide

Birunas	Bah-RU-Ness
Nyugen	New-YIN
Badran-Grycan	BAY-dran GRY-son
Lalli	LOLLY



Allison Keeley returns for her third season at the helm of the Villanova women's volleyball team in 2003. She was named the school's eighth volleyball coach on April 18, 2001.

Kelley guided the Wildcats to their first winning season since 1997 last year. The team completed an 11-win turnaround, finishing 18-16 overall. The 18 victories were the most for the 'Cats since they posted 20 wins in 1997.

From 1998-2001, Keeley spent three seasons as the head coach at Southern Arkansas University. Keeley brought enthusiasm and energy to the program at Southern Arkansas and saw her team earn six individual school records and four all-conference selections.

Prior to her stint at Southern Arkansas, Keeley served as the head coach at Chaffey College in Rancho Cucamonga, Cal. from 1996-98. In 1995, she served as associate head coach at Carleton College in Northfield, Minn., where her team recorded a fourth place finish in the conference race after finishing the previous season with a 3-31 record.

Keeley graduated in 1990 from Carleton College with a bachelor of arts degree in political science. Keeley earned her Masters in Education from Azusa Pacific. She resides in Ardmore, Pa.

## Wildcats By Class

**Seniors** - 3 (Erin Birunas, Jennifer Edwards, Kate Tucker)

**Juniors** - 4 (Jennifer Badran-Grycan, Sam Hartwell, Katie Lanting, Kerri Sullivan)

**Sophomores** - 4 (Megan Abbott, Megan Bye, Dana Kabashima, Celine Nyugen)

**Freshmen** - 4 (Jessica Hoover, Jen Lalli, Kelly Ludwig, Adrian Semrau)

## Wildcats By State

**California** - 5 (Jennifer Badran-Grycan, Jennifer Edwards, Sam Hartwell, Dana Kabashima, Celine Nyugen)

**Colorado** - 2 (Megan Bye, Katie Lanting)

**Florida** - 1 (Megan Abbott)

**Illinois** - 3 (Jessica Hoover, Kerri Sullivan, Kate Tucker)

**New Jersey** - 1 (Kelly Ludwig)

**Ohio** - 1 (Adrian Semrau)

**Pennsylvania** - 2 (Erin Birunas, Jen Lalli)

## AVCA Rankings

	<u>Record</u>	<u>Prev. Rank</u>
1. USC	24-0	1
2. Hawaii	26-1	2
3. Florida	26-1	3
4. Pepperdine	20-2	4
5. Kansas State	23-3	5
6. Georgia Tech	26-1	7
7. Stanford	18-5	8
8. UCLA	20-5	6
9. California	19-4	9
10. Nebraska	22-3	10
11. Washington	17-7	11
12. Notre Dame	21-2	12
13. Santa Clara	17-8	14
14. Northern Iowa	21-4	13
15. Colorado State	21-4	15
16. Penn State	22-4	16
17. Loyola Marymount	22-5	17
18. Texas A&M	18-6	21
19. Louisville	17-4	23
20. Cincinnati	25-2	24
21. UC Santa Barbara	16-7	19
22. San Diego	17-8	18
23. Wisconsin	18-7	22
24. Minnesota	17-9	20
25. Illinois	19-5	NR

\*includes matches up to 11/9

## Big East Standings

	<u>Big East</u>			<u>Overall</u>		
	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>Pct.</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>Pct.</u>
Notre Dame	10	0	.1000	21	2	.913
Pittsburgh	9	1	.9000	20	4	.833
Miami	8	3	.7273	21	8	.724
Virginia Tech	7	4	.6364	13	13	.500
St. John's	6	4	.6000	24	8	.750
Villanova	6	4	.6000	12	13	.480
Connecticut	4	6	.4000	17	12	.586
Rutgers	4	7	.3636	10	17	.370
Boston College	3	7	.3000	17	10	.630
Syracuse	3	7	.3000	17	10	.630
Georgetown	3	7	.3000	9	17	.346
West Virginia	2	8	.2000	6	19	.240
Seton Hall	2	9	.1818	19	13	.594

\*includes matches up to 11/9

## Big East Weekly Awards

**Player of the Week** - Kristen Kinder, Notre Dame

**Rookie of the Week** - Jill Robinson, Miami

## Big East Weekly Schedule

### This Week's Schedule

11/11	Connecticut at Fairfield	7:00 p.m.
	<b>Towson at Villanova</b>	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>
	Notre Dame at Northern Iowa	8:00 p.m.
11/12	Holy Cross at Boston College	7:30 p.m.
11/14	Syracuse at Robert Morris	7:00 p.m.
	CONNECTICUT at GEORGETOWN	8:00 p.m.
11/15	SYRACUSE at PITTSBURGH	1:00 p.m.
	NOTRE DAME at WEST VIRGINIA	11:00 a.m.
	BOSTON COLLEGE at SETON HALL	2:00 p.m.
	<b>ST. JOHN'S at VILLANOVA</b>	<b>2:00 p.m.</b>
	MIAMI at VIRGINIA TECH	7:00 p.m.
11/16	SYRACUSE at WEST VIRGINIA	1:00 p.m.
	NOTRE DAME at PITTSBURGH	2:00 p.m.
	BOSTON COLLEGE at RUTGERS	2:00 p.m.
	<b>CONNECTICUT at VILLANOVA</b>	<b>2:00 p.m.</b>
	ST. JOHN'S at GEORGETOWN	5:00 p.m.

### Last Week's Results

11/4	Miami 3, UCF 1
11/5	Manhattan 3, Seton Hall 0
	Connecticut 3, Yale 0
	Boston College 3, Central Connecticut 1
11/7	NOTRE DAME 3, VIRGINIA TECH 2
	MIAMI 3, SYRACUSE 2
	PITTSBURGH 3, WEST VIRGINIA 0
	<b>VILLANOVA 3, RUTGERS 0</b>
	ST. JOHN'S 3, BOSTON COLLEGE 2
11/8	GEORGETOWN 3, SETON HALL 0
11/9	VIRGINIA TECH 3, SYRACUSE 2
	<b>VILLANOVA 3, SETON HALL 2</b>
	St. John's 3, Providence 0
	CONNECTICUT 3, BOSTON COLLEGE 0
	RUTGERS 3, GEORGETOWN 0
	NOTRE DAME 3, MIAMI 0