



# 2003 VILLANOVA VOLLEYBALL



**ERIN BIRUNAS**  
**SENIOR • OH**  
**LANCASTER, PA.**

Expected to be one of the top all-around contributors in the Big East...Strong, aggressive and consistent.



**2002:** Saw action in 119 games on the season...Notched 299 kills on the season, including a career-high 25 against Princeton (10/30)...Recorded 166 digs on the season.

**2001:** Played in 49 games for Villanova...Contributed 45 digs and 29 kills on the season.

**2000:** Medical redshirt

**1999:** Played in 99 games...Produced 237 digs and 188 kills from the right side... Her nine kills and .318 hitting percentage topped Villanova in a defeat at Temple (11/10).

**Club:** Synergy

**Hempfield Branch High School:** Earned first team all-league and second team District III honors in 1998...Collected five all-tournament selections in her senior season, including Manheim, Central Dauphin and Hempfield...Also played varsity soccer.

**Personal:** Political Science major...Born 1/14/81...Daughter of Larry and Kerri Birunas...Hobbies include volunteering with the elderly and Broadway shows.



**JENNIFER BADRAN-GRYCAN**  
**SENIOR • S**  
**SANTA MONICA, CALIF.**

Talented performer who will provide leadership and experience...Most experienced backcourt leader in aces, digs and assists.



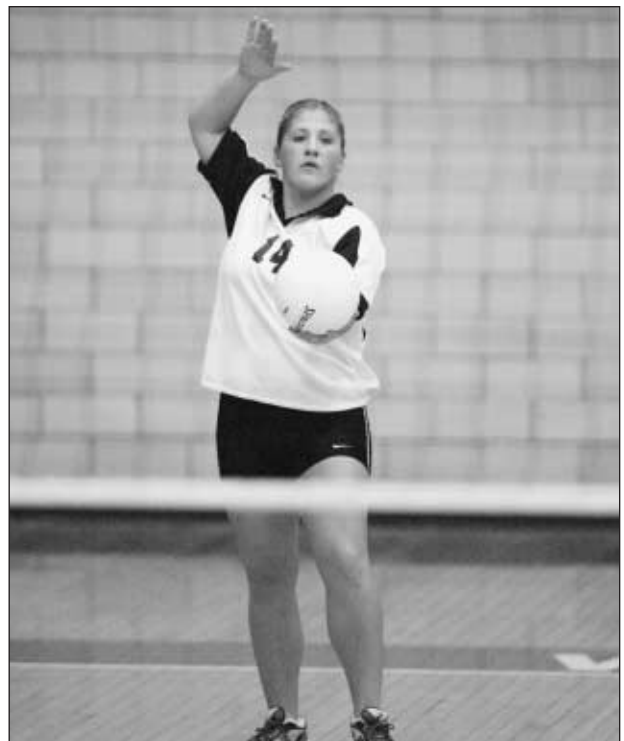
**2002:** Recorded 700 assists in 124 games...Handed out a season-high 41 assists at Towson (11/6)...Recorded double-digit assists in all but four matches...Led the Wildcats with 42 service aces.

**2001:** Led the Wildcats in her first season with 450 assists for a 5.29 average... Third on the team in digs with 193 and second with 24 service aces...Set a career-high 58 assists against Syracuse on Oct. 14.

**Club:** Gene's Team...Three-time National Open Qualifier

**Palisades High School:** Earned four varsity letters in volleyball under coach Dave Suarez at Palisades...Captained her squad during all four years...Named the Los Angeles All-City MVP in 1999 & 2000 and earned Los Angeles All-league honors in 1997 & 1998...Led her team to a California state appearance in 1999 and won the L.A. city championship from 1997-2000...Was named Palisadian Post Athlete of the year in 2000...Selected as the 2000 Optimist Club Student-athlete of the year...Earned honor roll distinctions for four years and was an AP scholar in 2000...Listed as a Who's Who among American Students.

**Personal:** Intended major is history...Has aspirations to become a lawyer... Born 12/21/81 in Los Angeles, Calif...Parents are Robert Grycan and Linda Badran...Sister, Erica, was a setter for the University of Michigan's volleyball team...Enjoys writing, singing and playing the piano and violin.



# 2003 VILLANOVA VOLLEYBALL



**JENNIFER EDWARDS**  
**SENIOR • SETTER**  
**VALENCIA, CALIF.**

Will look to lead Villanova in her fourth season at the setter position...Outstanding athlete with great sense of the game...Strong leader.



**2002:** Saw action in 123 games...Averaged just under six assists per game...Had 36 assists, 16 digs and five kills against Rice (8/31)...Had over 20 assists in 19 matches of the season.

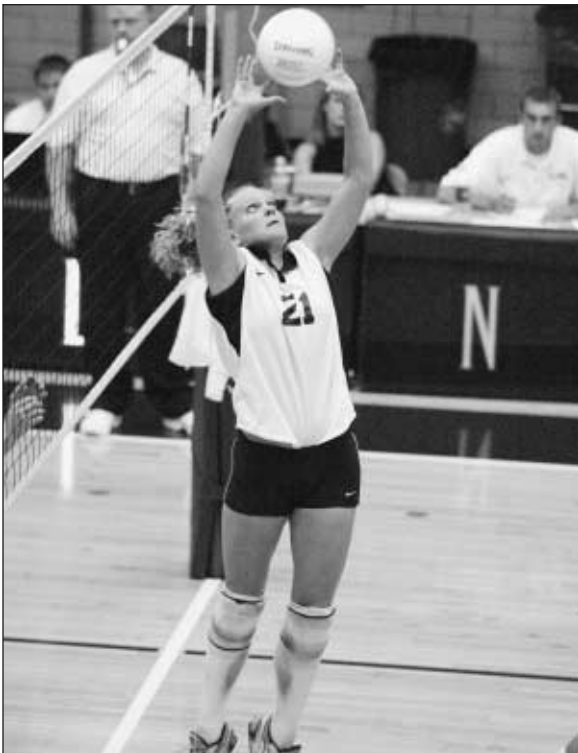
**2001:** Played in 83 games on the season...Second on the team with 446 assists and 205 digs...Also posted 35 kills and 14 service aces...Matched a career-high 55 assists against Loyola (9/1).

**2000:** Was the primary setter in her freshman campaign...Excelled in rookie season by leading the team in assists with 876 for an average of 9.03 per game...Tallied 37 kills and 14 service aces in 97 games...Standout defensively as well posting 195 digs for 2.01 per game and 40 block assists at 0.41 per game.

**Club:** Thunder

**Valencia High School:** A four-year starter...Captain of the squad in each of her final two seasons...Led Vikings to undefeated league title in 1999... Selected first team all-CIF...Named to Scholar Athlete and Principal's Honor Roll three consecutive years...All CIF honorable mention as a senior...Four year Scholar Athlete and Principal's Honor Roll...Female Scholar Athlete of the Year as a senior.

**Personal:** Business major...Born 5/21/82...Parents are Susan and Tom Edwards...Brother Brian plays volleyball at Pacific...Enjoys reading, swimming and snowboarding.



**KATE TUCKER**  
**SENIOR • OH**  
**RIVER FOREST, ILL.**

Talented all-around performer... Will look for an increased role at the outside and right side hitter positions.



**2002:** Played in 80 games on the season...Notched a career-high 14 kills against Syracuse (10/12)...Also recorded six assists against the Orangewomen...Finished the season with 79 kills and 38 digs.

**2001:** Played in 21 games for the Wildcats...Registered 14 kills, eight digs and two blocks on the season.

**2000:** Saw action in 46 games as a freshman...Tallied 57 kills and 14 solid service aces for an average of 1.16 and 0.14 per game, respectively...Solid defensive presence as well, recording 60 digs for 1.22 per game, three block solos, and 22 block assists for a total of 25, 0.51 per game.

**Club:** Sports Performance

**Oak River High School:** An all-conference choice for West Suburban Silver Division in 1998-99 and '99-00...Honorable Mention All-Area as a junior and senior...First Team All-Region pick by the Pioneer Press... Team MVP...All-Region first team Pioneer Press as a sophomore...Took home a gold medal at the 1999 AAU Nationals in the 17s division... Scholar Athlete in each of her four years...Graduated Cum Laude.

**Personal:** English major...Parents are Bill and Carol Tucker...Born 7/17/82...Coached by John Kasik...Enjoys travel, history, sports, movies, music, live theater and dance.





# 2003 VILLANOVA VOLLEYBALL



**SAM HARTWELL**  
**JUNIOR • LIBERO**  
**SAN ANSELMO, CALIF.**

Natural leader...Enthusiastic and competitive...Will anchor Villanova's passing and defense.



**2002:** Saw action in 83 games...Recorded 20 digs at Penn (10/2)...Finished the season with 151 digs...Handed out two assists and notched 15 digs against Princeton (10/30).

**Club:** Empire

**Marin Catholic:** Played three years of volleyball under Arlene Fernandez at Marin Catholic...Earned MVP honors for her senior season...Two-time All-League selection...Also earned two varsity letters in lacrosse... Named to the Dean's List for all four years...Member of the California Scholarship Federation

**Personal:** Born June 24, 1983...Only child of Bob and Sue Hartwell ... Majoring in Biology at Villanova with plans to become an orthopedic surgeon.



**KATIE LANTING**  
**JUNIOR • MB**  
**LOVELAND, COLO.**

Fast and fluid athlete...Will dominate the middle.



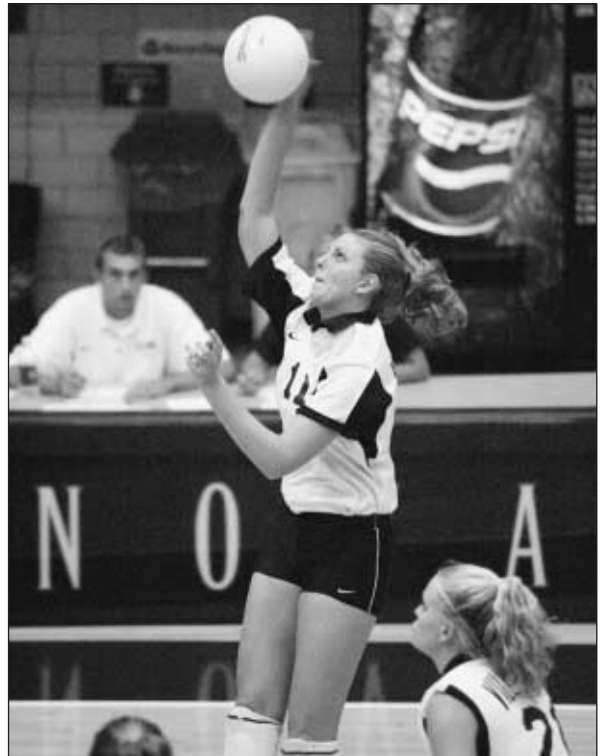
**2002:** Played in 112 games, recording 292 kills...Led the team in solo blocks with 17...Had a season-high 21 kills and three blocks against Syracuse (10/12).

**2001:** Played in 42 games in her rookie season ... Posted 52 kills and 17 blocks on the year...Registered a career-high seven kills against Loyola and Georgetown...Recorded four blocks versus Lehigh (9/8).

**Club:** Norco...National Open Finalist

**Alexander Dawson High School:** Earned three varsity letters as a middle blocker for coach Debbie McCallister...Named to the All-Conference, All-Region and All-State team during the 2000-01 season...Team captain... Recorded 40 aces, 292 digs, 147 kills and 38 stuff blocks as a senior...Also played junior varsity tennis.

**Personal:** Business major... Born July 21, 1983 in Loveland, Colo. ... Parents are Bill and Jan Lanting...Siblings are Elizabeth (23) and Bryant (20)...Enjoys swimming, snowboarding and tennis.





# 2003 VILLANOVA VOLLEYBALL



**KERRI SULLIVAN**  
**JUNIOR • MB**  
**DOWNERS GROVE, ILL.**

One of the most consistent middle blockers in the Big East...Villanova's offensive leader...was named to the All-Tournament team in each of the Wildcats' tournaments.



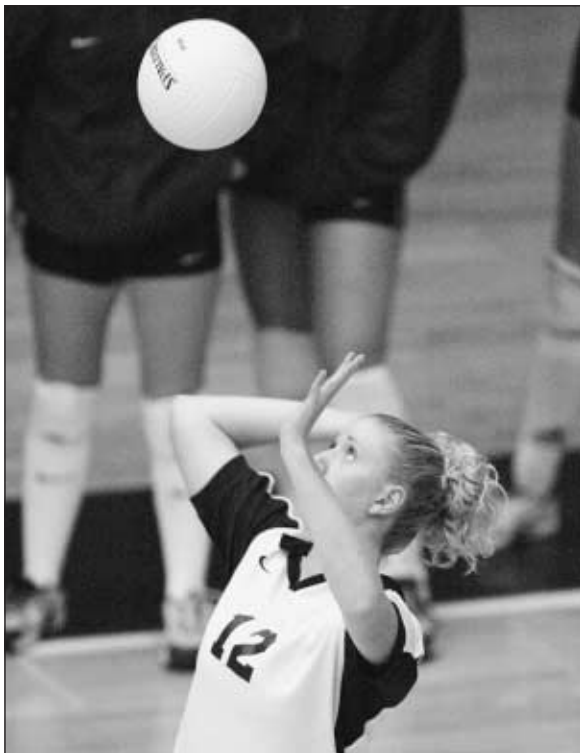
**2002:** Played in 121 games for Villanova...Led the Wildcats in kills (481) and total blocks (92)...Was named Big East Co-Player of the Week (11/11)...Had a career-high 30 kills in the season finale at Seton Hall (11/16)...Recorded double-digit kills in all but seven matches...Had 13 blocks against Princeton (10/30).

**2001:** Came on strong toward the end of the season...Was fourth on the team in kills with 172 and third with 36 blocks...Dropped a career-high 18 kills in win over La Salle (10/23)...Posted a personal best six blocks against Syracuse (10/14).

**Club:** Club Elite

**Downers Grove South:** Played a key role for a squad that was ranked No. 1 in the country in 2000 by vball.com...The team won the Illinois state title in 1999...Recorded the most blocks in the 2000 state tournament...Named to the all-area teams in 2000 of the *Chicago Sun Times* and *Downers Grove Reporter*...An All-Conference choice in 2000...Took home a Presidential Academic Award.

**Personal:** History major...Born 12/30/82 in Teaneck, N.J. ...Parents are Thomas and Margaret Sullivan...Has one brother T.J.



**MEGAN ABBOTT**  
**SOPHOMORE • MB**  
**JACKSONVILLE, FL.**

Intimidating blocker...Will push for time at the middle blocker position...One of the tallest players in Wildcat history.

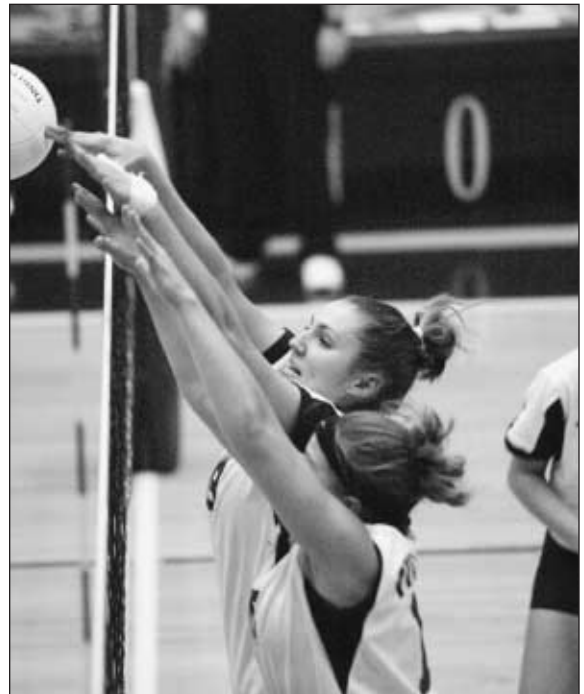


**2002:** Saw action in 99 games...Recorded 163 kills and 57 blocks...Had 11 blocks against Princeton (10/30)...Notched a season-high 13 kills at Rutgers (11/17).

**Club:** Jacksonville Juniors

**Jacksonville High School:** Led her high school team to the regional championship in 2001...Two-time captain and most valuable player...Named to the Fernadina Beach All-Tournament team, Nease All-Tournament team and Clay High All-Tournament teams from 1999-2001...Captained the Jacksonville Junior club volleyball team...Led her club team to a 52-3 record over the last three seasons.

**Personal:** Undecided on major...One of three children of Fred and Lynn Abbott...National Honor Society member...Honor roll student...Senior Class President and Homecoming Queen...Born 7/23/84.





# 2003 VILLANOVA VOLLEYBALL



**MEGAN BYE**  
**SOPHOMORE • DS**  
**ENGLEWOOD, COLO.**

Will see action as a defensive specialist...Excellent work ethic.

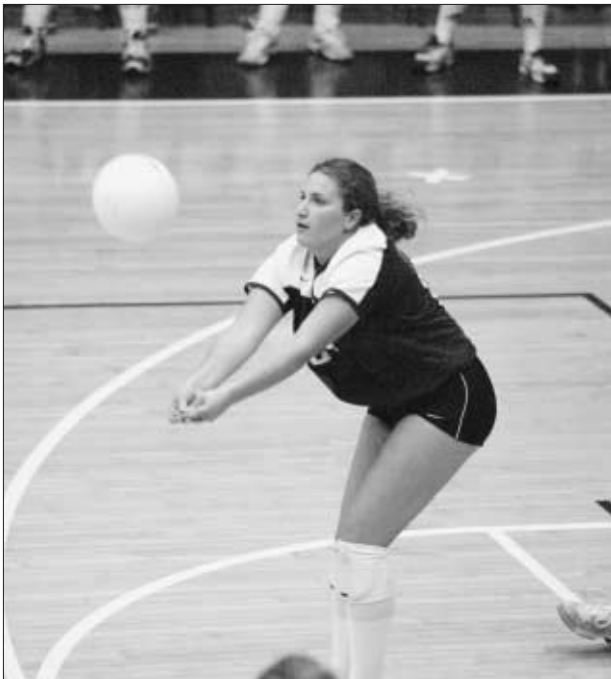


**2002:** Saw action in 58 games, recording 111 digs...Had a season-high 15 digs against Morgan State (9/14)...Tallied lone kill of the season against Radford (9/21).

**Club:** Front Range Juniors...National Champions

**JK Mullen:** Earned three varsity letters under head coach Kris Bredeholt at JK Mullen...Named honorable mention All-State in 2000 and 2001...Earned All-Conference honors in 2001...Four-year honor roll member.

**Personal:** Born February 23, 1984...Majoring in Finance at Villanova...One of four children of Steve and Karen Bye...Older brother Chris was a baseball pitcher for St. Mary's College (Calif.) from 1996-2000.



**DANA KABASHIMA**  
**SOPHOMORE • OH**  
**SANTA MONICA, CALIF.**

Possesses excellent ball control skills...Will challenge for playing time at the outside hitter position.



**2002:** Saw action in 84 games...Notched a season-high 18 kills and 24 digs against Rice (8/31)...Had a 13-kill, 15-dig performance versus Western Carolina (9/7).

**Club:** ABVC

**Santa Monica High School:** Four-year varsity letterwinner...2001 First team All-Bay League selection...Played for the ABVC Club Team...Captain and MVP of her high school team...Also lettered for one season in swimming...Honor Society member.

**Personal:** Born May 28, 1984...Parents are David and Courtney Kabashima...Younger sister Marla also plays volleyball...Undecided on college major.



*The 2003 Villanova Volleyball Sophomore Class  
 Clockwise from left: Megan Bye, Megan Abbott,  
 Dana Kabashima and Celine Nguyen*



# 2003 VILLANOVA VOLLEYBALL



**CELINE NGUYEN**  
**SOPHOMORE • OH**  
**PALOS VERDE**  
**PENINSULA, CALIF.**

Explosive hitter with great ball control...Batting back from a torn ACL.



**2002:** Returned to action 9/13 from injury...Saw action in 71 games, notching 15 kills against Georgetown (11/2)...Had 23 digs at Rutgers (11/17).

**Club:** Gene's Team

**Palos Verde Peninsula High School:** Led her Palos Verde team to the state Division I semifinals in 2001...Tallied 406 kills with a .380 hitting percentage, 487 digs, 74 aces and 58 blocks in her senior season...Selected to the All-Bay League first team and All-CIF second-team in 2001...Member of Gene's Club team.

**Personal:** Born Oct. 15, 1984...Younger of two children of Philip and Natalie Nguyen...Intended major is business.



**JESSICA HOOVER**  
**FRESHMAN • OH**  
**HIGHLAND PARK, ILL.**

Well-rounded player...Comes to Villanova from one of the top teams in the country... Tremendous work ethic and competitive spirit.



**Club:** Sports Performance

**Adlai E. Stevenson High School:** Earned two varsity letters in volleyball under coach Tim Crow...Earned All-Area honors junior and senior years...Achieved Highest Honors throughout high school...Two-year member of the National Honor Society.

**Personal:** Biology major...Oldest of Mark and Christine Hoover's two children...enjoys water skiing, snow skiing, photography and drawing... Born 5/6/85 in Highland Park, Ill.



# 2003 VILLANOVA VOLLEYBALL



**JEN LALLI**  
**FRESHMAN • S/DS**  
**MEDIA, PA.**

Solid court leader...Expected to contribute as a freshman.



**Club:** Valley Forge Junior

**Penncrest High School:** Earned four varsity letters under head coach Peggy Levesque...Delaware County Player of the Year in 2002... Two-time All-Central and All-Delco selection...2002 Honorable mention All-State...Two-time team MVP and captain...Also played two years of lacrosse...Member of the National Honor Society.

**Personal:** Undecided on major...Younger of Al and Pat Lalli's two children...Has a brother, Michael (20)...Born 4/16/85 in Media, Pa.



**KELLY LUDWIG**  
**FRESHMAN • S/H**  
**FRANKLIN LAKES, NJ**

Athletic player looking to transition to setting at the college level.



**Club:** Cut Short Juniors

**Ramapo High School:** Named to All-State, All-County All-League and All-North Jersey...Four-year letterwinner...Honor roll student.

**Personal:** Born 7/11/85...Majoring in Biology...Daughter of David and Cindy Ludwig...Sister Erin plays volleyball for University of New Hampshire.



**ADRIAN SEMRAU**  
**FRESHMAN • MB**  
**GRAFTON, OHIO**

Strong hitter and blocker expected to contribute this season.



**Club:** Spirit

**Midview High School:** Earned three varsity letters for volleyball coach Tricia Stanislawski...also earned four letters in basketball...As a senior named First Team All-Conference and All-County for volleyball...Also earned Varsity Sportsmanship Award back-to-back seasons...Served as captain of 2002 high school squad...Won several academic awards in 2003, including the U.S. Army Scholar-Athlete award.

**Personal:** Undecided major...Oldest of three children of Mike and Patricia Semrau...Born 10/5/85.