

ND Irish

Coaching Staff

**Under head coach
Muffet McGraw,
Notre Dame has
averaged 25 wins
per year since joining
the BIG EAST Conference
in 1995-96.**

Some might assume that when the University of Notre Dame won its first NCAA championship in 2001, Muffet McGraw would take time to bask in the glow of her team's accomplishment.

However, in the eyes of the veteran Irish head coach, it was only the beginning.

"When you finally reach your ultimate goal, you have to enjoy the moment, and then get back to work preparing to do it again," McGraw says. "Without a doubt, we were ecstatic to win the national championship in 2001. It satisfied a goal our program had been aiming for since I came to Notre Dame 17 years ago.

"But, with that achievement comes a new level of expectation from everyone associated with our program," she continues. "We have been to the mountaintop and we know what it takes to get there. Now, we expect to be a regular contender on the national level when March and April roll around."

The architect of Notre Dame's rise to prominence, McGraw has shown no signs of slowing down any time soon. In July 2002, the veteran head coach signed a five-year contract extension which will keep her patrolling the Irish sidelines through the 2008-09 campaign. Her first 17 seasons at Notre Dame have been highlighted by 15 20-win campaigns (including a current string of 11 straight), 11 NCAA tournament appearances (including a current streak of nine straight), six Sweet Sixteen berths, two trips to the Final Four and the 2001 NCAA title.

To put those numbers in perspective, Notre Dame is one of only six programs in the country to have posted 11 consecutive 20-win seasons, while the Irish are one of just five teams in the nation to advance to the NCAA Sweet Sixteen six times in the last eight years. When combined, McGraw is one of only three coaches in America who can boast two current streaks of that caliber, joining Connecticut's Geno Auriemma and Tennessee's Pat Summitt in that elite group.

"Quite simply, we believe we have the best coach in women's college basketball right here at Notre Dame in Muffet McGraw," says Notre Dame athletics director Kevin White.

"She is a great fit for Notre Dame, and she has taken us where we want to go in the women's basketball world. The NCAA title in '01, the ongoing successes we've had in the postseason and her recruiting efforts overall have cemented Notre Dame's position as one of the elite programs in the country. There are many more great days ahead for our women's basketball program, and I'm very pleased to know that Muffet will continue to lead us in the right direction."

"I've been truly blessed to have had the opportunity to coach at the University of Notre Dame," McGraw notes. "I couldn't be happier right now. I love Notre Dame and I have the best job in the world."



Muffet McGraw

Head Coach

18th Season
384-149 (.720)

23rd Season Overall
472-190 (.713)

Saint Joseph's (Pa.) '77



• • •

McGraw's latest assault on college basketball's summit began the moment she and her team returned from St. Louis after winning the 2001 national championship.

In 2001-02, after losing three starters and five monogram winners from that NCAA title-winning squad, and adding six untested freshmen to the mix, McGraw deftly guided a youthful Irish team to a 20-10 record and a spot in the second round of the NCAA Tournament. Notre Dame also extended its home winning streak to a school-

record 51 games — at the time, it was the 10th-longest string in NCAA history.

One year later, she led an Irish club that had just two seniors on its injury-decimated 11-player roster to a 21-11 record and a berth in the NCAA Sweet Sixteen. Notre Dame was ranked as high as eighth in the country during the year and posted three victories over Top 25 opponents during the campaign. However, the most significant victories of the season also turned out to be

milestone moments for McGraw in more ways than one. On March 23, the Irish downed No. 22 Arizona, 59-47 in the first round of the NCAA Tournament, handing McGraw her 450th career coaching victory. Two nights later, her Notre Dame squad ousted eighth-ranked Kansas State, 59-53, snapping the Wildcats' 22-game homecourt winning streak and stunning the

purple-clad capacity crowd in the process. It was the 500th game of McGraw's coaching career, another milestone she won't soon forget.

This past season, the veteran Notre Dame

mentor skillfully guided her team to another 21-11 record and a second consecutive berth in the NCAA Sweet Sixteen (also the fourth for the Irish in the past five years). McGraw's troops also placed second in the BIG EAST Conference, their eighth top-two finish since joining the league nine years ago. In addition, the Irish went 15-0 at home, their third perfect record at the Joyce Center in the last five years, and extended their overall home win streak to 20 games, the sec-

"There are many more great days ahead for our women's basketball program, and I'm very pleased to know that Muffet McGraw will continue to lead us in the right direction." -- Kevin White





among the national leaders in scoring defense (39th, 58.5), blocked shots (46th, 4.2) and field goal percentage defense (49th, .379).

"I'm pleased, but not at all satisfied with our performance over the past three seasons," McGraw commented.

"Certainly every year, we expect to be not just a participant, but a major player in the NCAA Tournament. It's our goal every year to play for the national championship and I firmly believe this program is pointed in that direction."

• • •

Under McGraw's guidance, the last nine years have been the most successful in the program's history as the Irish have compiled an impressive 225-69 (.765) record, including a sparkling 124-28 (.816) regular-season mark in BIG EAST play, the best winning percentage in league history. Notre Dame also has won at least 20 games each year during that span, averaging 25 victories per campaign with two 30-win seasons to its credit. In addition, the Irish have won at least one NCAA Tournament game every season over that time, advancing to the Sweet Sixteen on six occasions (1997, 1998, 2000, 2001, 2003, 2004), the Final Four twice (1997, 2001) and winning their first national championship three years ago.

• • •

To be sure, the night of April 1, 2001 is one McGraw and the Irish faithful will never forget. On that memorable Sunday evening in St. Louis, Notre Dame defeated Purdue 68-66 as McGraw's

ond-longest in school history and eighth-longest active string in the nation heading into the 2004-05 campaign.

Furthermore, McGraw has continued to enhance her reputation as one of college basketball's outstanding "big-game" coaches and tacticians, piloting Notre Dame to a school-record seven wins over Top 25 teams during the '03-04 regular season, highlighted by a 66-51 tri-

umph over No. 4 Connecticut in mid-January. During her 17 seasons with the Irish, McGraw has compiled an amazing 40 victories over nationally-ranked opponents, including 30 in the past six seasons (an average of five per year).

Throughout her tenure at Notre Dame, McGraw has emphasized defense and the 2003-04 season was no exception, as the Irish ranked

Muffet McGraw's Coaching History

Year	School	Record	Pct.	Honors
1982-83	Lehigh	14-9	.609	East Coast Conference Coach of the Year
1983-84	Lehigh	13-9	.591	
1984-85	Lehigh	20-8	.714	
1985-86	Lehigh	24-4	.857	East Coast Conference Champion
1986-87	Lehigh	17-11	.607	
5-year Lehigh total		88-41	.683	
1987-88	Notre Dame	20-8	.714	North Star Conference Coach of the Year
1988-89	Notre Dame	21-11	.656	MCC Regular Season/Tournament Champion, NWIT Tournament
1989-90	Notre Dame	23-6	.793	MCC Regular Season/Tournament Champion
1990-91	Notre Dame	23-9	.719	MCC Regular Season/Tournament Champion, NWIT Tournament, MCC Coach of the Year
1991-92	Notre Dame	14-17	.451	MCC Tournament Champion, NCAA First Round
1992-93	Notre Dame	15-12	.556	
1993-94	Notre Dame	22-7	.786	MCC Regular Season/Tournament Champion, NCAA First Round
1994-95	Notre Dame	21-10	.677	MCC Regular Season Champion, NWIT Tournament
1995-96	Notre Dame	23-8	.742	NCAA Second Round , WBCA District II Coach of the Year
1996-97	Notre Dame	31-7	.816	NCAA Final Four , East Regional Champion
1997-98	Notre Dame	22-10	.688	NCAA Sweet Sixteen
1998-99	Notre Dame	26-5	.839	NCAA Second Round
1999-2000	Notre Dame	27-5	.844	NCAA Sweet Sixteen
2000-01	Notre Dame	34-2	.945	NCAA NATIONAL CHAMPION , BIG EAST Regular-Season Co-Champion, Naismith Coach of the Year, Associated Press Coach of the Year, WBCA National Coach of the Year, WBCA District I Coach of the Year, BIG EAST Coach of the Year
2001-02	Notre Dame	20-10	.667	NCAA Second Round
2002-03	Notre Dame	21-11	.656	NCAA Sweet Sixteen
2003-04	Notre Dame	21-11	.656	NCAA Sweet Sixteen
17-year Notre Dame total		384-149	.720	11 NCAA Tournaments, 14 Postseason Appearances
22-year career total		472-190	.713	



One season later, McGraw and the Irish made an even bigger national statement, going all the way to the Final Four. Notre Dame compiled a gaudy 31-7 record (at the time the most wins in school history) and the first 30-win season in the program's history. Also, for the first time ever, the Irish were ranked in both the Associated Press and ESPN/USA Today polls from the preseason until the end of the year. Notre Dame earned its first-ever top 10 ranking at the end of November and achieved all-time high finishes in both final polls, finishing fifth in the ESPN/USA Today rankings and 15th in the AP poll.

Notre Dame rose to a then all-time high of seventh in the AP rankings during that magical season after finishing third in the Preseason Women's National Invitation Tournament (WNIT) following its second-round upset of sixth-ranked Iowa, 61-50, in Iowa City, to advance to the semi-finals in Ruston, La. It marked the highest ranked opponent the Irish had beaten in 20 seasons. Three days later, McGraw's squad, after losing to second-ranked Tennessee in its semifinal contest, ousted No. 8 North Carolina State, 64-53, in the consolation game to post its second win over a Top 10 opponent in five days.

McGraw and the Irish got to the 1997 Final Four the hard way, beating three consecutive ranked opponents on the road. In its NCAA first round game in Austin, Texas, Notre Dame cruised to a 93-62 victory over Memphis. Its second round contest matched the Irish up with Texas. Undaunted by the hostile Longhorn crowd, Notre Dame pulled off an 86-83 upset of its 14th-ranked hosts.

Making their first-ever Sweet Sixteen appearance, the Irish erased a nine-point halftime deficit and went on to defeat eighth-ranked Alabama, 87-71 in Columbia, S.C. Notre Dame then claimed the East Regional championship and booked its first trip to the Final Four with a 62-52 win over No. 22 George Washington. An 80-66 loss to eventual national champion Tennessee couldn't dampen what had been a watershed season in the program's history.

• • •

The 1997-98 campaign was expected to be a transition year as the Irish lost four starters from that first Final Four team. However, it turned out to be perhaps the best coaching effort of McGraw's career, punctuated by one of the most stunning upsets of the 1998 NCAA Tournament when Notre Dame beat sixth-ranked and top-seeded Texas Tech in the second round of the Midwest Regional before a stunned Lady Raider crowd at Lubbock Municipal Coliseum. That win propelled McGraw's team into the Sweet Sixteen for the second year in a row and resulted in a final ranking of 17th in the ESPN/USA Today poll and made McGraw a finalist for the Naismith Coach of the Year award.

During the 1998-99 season, McGraw's charges posted an impressive 26-5 mark and spent a school-record 16 consecutive weeks ranked in the top 10. Notre Dame was undefeated (8-0) against non-conference opponents, registering wins at home against UCLA (99-82) and eventual NCAA runner-up Duke (84-57), both of whom were ranked sixth at tipoff.

The accomplishments of the Notre Dame program in '98-'99 made McGraw a finalist for the Naismith Award for the second consecutive season. In addition,



RECORD BREAKDOWN

Overall	472-190 (.713)
Record at Notre Dame	384-149 (.720)
Conference	218-46 (.826)
North Star	7-3 (.700)
Midwestern Collegiate.....	87-15 (.853)
BIG EAST	124-28 (.816)
Non-Conference	166-103 (.617)
Home	186-36 (.838)
Road.....	148-86 (.632)
Neutral	50-27 (.649)

MOST CAREER WINS AT NOTRE DAME (MEN'S/WOMEN'S BASKETBALL)

Digger Phelps (1971-91)	393
Muffet McGraw (1987-present).....	384
George Keogan (1923-43)	327
John Jordan (1951-64)	199
John F. Dee, Jr. (1964-71).....	116

BEST WINNING PERCENTAGE AT NOTRE DAME (MEN'S/WOMEN'S BASKETBALL - min. 5 yrs.)

Bertram G. Maris (1907-12)794 (78-20)
George Keogan (1923-43)771 (327-97-1)
Muffet McGraw (1987-present)720 (384-149)
Jesse C. Harper (1913-18)686 (44-20)
Edward Krause (1944, 1946-51)671 (98-48)

McGRAW'S MILESTONE WINS AT NOTRE DAME

No. 1	Nov. 28, 1987 (67-61 at Loyola (Ill.))
No. 50	Jan. 18, 1990 (81-64 vs. Marquette)
No. 100	March 13, 1992 (85-44 vs. Detroit)
*No. 116	March 6, 1993 (74-62 vs. Evansville)
No. 200	Jan. 29, 1997 (72-71 at Miami (Fla.))
No. 300	Dec. 31, 2000 (80-40 vs. Rice)
No. 350	Dec. 31, 2002 (75-68 at Marquette)

* surpassed Mary DiStanislao for career wins record at Notre Dame

COACHING ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- One U.S. Olympic Gold Medalist
- Three USA Basketball National Team players (eight medals)
- Seven All-Americans
- One CoSIDA Academic All-America® selection
- One National Player of the Year
- One National Freshman of the Year
- Two Conference Players of the Year
- 18 All-Conference selections, including 12 first-team honorees
- Three Conference Rookies of the Year
- 11 Conference All-Rookie Team choices
- 16 Conference Player of the Week winners
- Eight BIG EAST Rookie of the Week picks
- Developed 11 players who have been taken in WNBA Draft, or who have signed professional contracts as free agents
- Trained 14 former players/assistants who are currently coaching at the college or high school level



Riley became the first player to earn first-team AP All-America honors. Riley also was a first team CoSIDA Academic All-America® honoree, the fourth player in the history of the program to earn Academic All-America® accolades.

The 1999-2000 campaign continued Notre Dame's rise up the national ladder, as the Irish duplicated their record-setting accomplishment of the 1998-99 campaign, finishing with, at the time, the best winning percentage in school history (.844) en route to a 27-5 campaign. Notre Dame spent all but two weeks in the top 10 of the AP poll and held down the No. 5 ranking (then an all-time high) for seven of the 18 weeks.

Notre Dame's 27 victories in '99-00 were, at the time, the second-most in school history, and its appearance in the NCAA Sweet Sixteen marked the third-such showing for the Irish in four years. That would all set the stage for the memorable events of 2000-01 and Notre Dame's ascension into the ranks of college basketball's elite programs.

• • •

To understand the competitive fire that has fueled much of McGraw's success, you have to go back to her playing days. A four-year starter at Saint Joseph's University in Philadelphia, Pa., she captained the 1976-77 Hawk team that finished 23-5 and was ranked third nationally. In four seasons at SJU, McGraw helped her team compile a 59-12 mark, while participating in the regional Eastern Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (EAIAW) tournament once and the national AIAW tourney once.

She received her bachelor's degree in sociology from SJU in 1977. Following graduation, she coached for two seasons at Philadelphia's Archbishop Carroll High School where she guided her teams to a 50-3 record, including a 28-0 mark during her second year. In that '78-79 season, she led her squad to the Catholic League title and was named coach of the year for the Philadelphia Catholic League.

McGraw then played point guard for one year with the California Dreams, a team in the since-folded Women's Professional Basketball League (WBL). She returned to her alma mater in 1980, serving as an assistant coach for two seasons under Jim Foster.

In 1982, McGraw was named head coach at Lehigh University, leading that school to unprecedented success. Her teams were 88-41 (.683) during her five-year tenure. She was named East Coast Conference Coach of the Year following her first season with the Engineers in 1982-83. Her '84-85 and '85-86 teams posted back-to-back 20-win seasons, finishing 20-8 and 24-4, respectively. The latter squad won the most games in women's basketball history at the school, while claiming both the ECC regular-season and tournament titles.

• • •

Hired at Notre Dame on May 18, 1987, McGraw's penchant for success made her a logical choice for the position. In making the

Muffet McGraw's Coaching Tree

Former players/assistants and their current roles in basketball

Sandy Botham	Head Coach, Wisconsin-Milwaukee <i>First-team all-North Star pick for McGraw (1987-88); Assistant Coach at ND (1991-95)</i>
Kristin (Knapp) Cole	Assistant Coach, Xavier <i>Member of Notre Dame's first two NCAA tournament teams (1991-92, 1993-94)</i>
Beth (Morgan) Cunningham	Head Coach, Virginia Commonwealth <i>Notre Dame's all-time leading scorer and a two-time All-American (1996-97)</i>
Kelley (Siemon) Deyo	Assistant Coach, Liberty <i>2001 BIG EAST Most Improved Player; member of Notre Dame's 2001 NCAA championship team</i>
Liz Feeley	Head Coach, Smith College (Mass.) <i>Played for McGraw at Lehigh (1982-86); Assistant at Lehigh (1986-87) & Notre Dame (1987-88)</i>
Bill Fennelly	Head Coach, Iowa State <i>Assistant Coach at Notre Dame (1987-88)</i>
Ericka Haney	Assistant Coach, Chicago State <i>Starter in 2001 NCAA Championship team; 2002 team captain</i>
Monique Hernandez	Head Coach, Mishawaka (Ind.) Marian High School <i>Member of 2001 NCAA Championship team and two NCAA Sweet Sixteen units ('00, '04)</i>
Colleen Matsuhara	Head Coach, West Los Angeles (Calif.) Community College <i>Assistant Coach at Notre Dame (1989-90)</i>
Kevin McGuff	Head Coach, Xavier <i>Assistant Coach at Notre Dame (1996-2002)</i>
Mollie Peirick-Busam	Head Coach, St. Cecilia Academy (Nashville, Tenn.) <i>Four-year starter who piloted Notre Dame's first Final Four team (1996-97)</i>
John Sutherland	Assistant Coach, Marshall <i>Assistant Coach at Notre Dame (1993-96)</i>
Coquese Washington	Assistant Coach, Notre Dame <i>Co-captain on two of McGraw's teams (1991-93); Assistant Coach at Notre Dame (1999-present)</i>
Anne Weese	Assistant Coach, Mishawaka (Ind.) Marian High School <i>Member of two NCAA Sweet Sixteen teams (2003, 2004)</i>

announcement on that day, former Irish athletic director Gene Corrigan said, "If we searched for an entire year, I don't think we would find anyone better suited for our program."

In her first season at Notre Dame (1987-88), McGraw took a team which finished 12-15 the previous year and guided that squad to a 20-8 mark and a 7-3 record in the North Star Conference as she was named North Star Coach of the Year.

The Irish followed that up with a 21-11 mark in 1988-89. In Notre Dame's first year as a member of the Midwestern Collegiate Conference (MCC), the Irish shared the regular-season crown with Loyola (Ill.) as both teams posted a 12-2 record. Notre Dame won the MCC tournament crown in decisive fashion as the Irish engineered a 75-53 win over the Ramblers in the championship game. It would be a hallmark of Notre Dame's tenure in the conference.

In seven years as a member of the MCC, Notre Dame proved dominant. Under McGraw, the Irish won five MCC regular season and tournament championships, including four consecutive tournament crowns from 1989-92. McGraw's teams never finished lower than second in the regular-season standings and advanced to the semifinals of the conference tournament all but once. Notre Dame compiled an 87-15 (.853) record in regular-season MCC games and was 13-2 (.867) in tournament competition.

McGraw's 1989-90 squad turned out to be one of the most successful for any Notre Dame women's basketball team up to that point. The 23-6 mark tied the Irish record for victories in a single season, while Notre Dame won the MCC regular-season championship with a perfect 16-0 ledger - to this day, it remains the only time in

the history of that conference (now known as the Horizon League) that a team went undefeated during the regular season.

Notre Dame also won the MCC tournament title for the second straight year with a one-point decision over Butler, 67-66, in the championship game. Yet the highlight of that season came on Jan. 4, 1990, when the Irish recorded the school's first-ever victory over a Top 20 opponent as the Irish knocked off 10th-ranked Vanderbilt, 77-63, at the Joyce Center. Leading scorer Karen Robinson collected a bevy of honors throughout the season, in addition to being tabbed as the MCC Player of the Year and league tournament MVP.

Notre Dame marched through the MCC again during the 1990-91 campaign, as the Irish finished 15-1 en route to winning 23 games for the second consecutive season and posting a 23-9 mark. After beating their first top 20 opponent the previous season, the Irish lodged their historic win over Louisiana Tech in the first round of the Hawk Classic and then followed with a 72-53 win over host Saint Joseph's (Pa.) in the championship game.

Notre Dame's wins over the Lady Techsters and Hawks received national attention. As legendary sportswriter Mel Greenberg noted in the Philadelphia Inquirer the following day, "They were the kind of wins that get a team noticed on the national level."

Those words proved prophetic only days later when, on Dec. 31, 1990, the Irish women's basketball program earned the school's first national ranking. Notre Dame entered the Associated Press poll at No. 25 and remained in both the AP and USA Today polls for the next nine weeks, climbing as high as 19th in the AP and 18th in the USA Today poll.



...

Notre Dame won its third consecutive MCC tournament crown in 1991 with a 62-52 victory over Butler. Despite winning the tournament crown and being one of just 20 schools with four consecutive 20-win seasons, the Irish were left out of the NCAA championship bracket. Nevertheless, Robinson finished her four-year campaign as the leading scorer in school history at that time and earning Kodak District IV All-America honors in the process.

McGraw saw her string of 20-win campaigns come to an end when the Irish finished the 1991-92 campaign with a 14-17 mark, the only losing season McGraw has experienced during her head coaching tenure. Yet, even with a sub-.500 record, the Irish rallied to win the MCC tournament with a 59-54 upset of top-seeded Xavier in the championship finale. The win earned Notre Dame its first-ever berth in the coveted NCAA Tournament field via the league's automatic bid. Margaret Nowlin was named MVP of the MCC tournament and was a first-team all-MCC selection as she led the Irish in both scoring and rebounding.

A year later, Notre Dame finished with a 15-12 record and tied for second in the MCC with an 11-5 mark in conference play. The Irish played host to the MCC Championships at the

Joyce Center, but they were upset in the quarterfinals by Dayton, 78-74. The loss halted Notre Dame's string of four straight appearances in the championship game.

The Irish registered their fifth 20-win season under McGraw in 1993-94, as Notre Dame finished with a 22-7 mark. McGraw's team won the MCC regular-season crown with a 10-2 record and claimed its fifth league tournament title in six years with a 72-63 win over Xavier in the championship game. Notre Dame again received the league automatic bid into the NCAA Tournament and was the seventh seed in the East Region of the 64-team field, playing host to Minnesota at the Joyce Center. However, the Irish lost a tough 81-76 decision to the Gophers in the first round, abruptly ending their season.

In 1994-95, with just one senior on the roster, McGraw helped fashion her sixth 20-win campaign, as the Irish finished with a 21-10 mark. Despite starting the season 1-6, the Irish came back to win 20 of their final 24 contests and garnered their fifth MCC regular-season crown with a 15-1 mark in their swan song as a member of the conference. However, Notre Dame was upset in the semifinals of the MCC tournament, losing to host and eventual titleist Northern Illinois.

Success for McGraw has meant coaching great players. Riley, the 2001 BIG EAST Player of the Year, became the third Notre Dame player to earn AP All-America honors when she was named in '99 to the third team. Riley, who was a unanimous first-team all-BIG EAST selection in 2000 and was the '99 BIG EAST Defensive Player of the Year, also earned Kodak honorable mention All-America honors. She also was a member of the '99 U.S. World University Games team and proudly represented her country as a member of the gold medal-winning 2004 U.S. Olympic Team.

Besides Riley, two players whose names are forever linked to elevating the Notre Dame program to national prominence are '97 graduates Beth Morgan and Katryna Gaither. The two-time Kodak and AP honorable mention All-Americans both scored more than 2,000 points during their careers, becoming the first two players from the same team in NCAA history (male or female) to reach that milestone. They rank one-two, respectively, in career scoring, while Gaither also stands as the school's second all-time leading rebounder behind Riley. Both players went on to careers at the professional level with the now-defunct American Basketball League (ABL) and the Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA).

The trio of Riley, Morgan and Gaither highlight an impressive list of 18 Irish players who have garnered all-conference honors during McGraw's career. In addition, the Notre Dame mentor has coached two conference players-of-the-year, three league rookies-of-the-year, and 11 conference all-rookie team selections since arriving in South Bend.

Thanks in large part to McGraw's ability to always get the best out of her players, Notre Dame has developed a solid presence in the WNBA in recent years. Coquese Washington, a '92 graduate and current Irish assistant coach, retired last spring after a seven-year stint as a point guard for the New York Liberty, Houston Comets and Indiana Fever. Washington guided all three teams to the postseason and won a league championship with Houston in 2001, becoming the first person ever to hold NCAA and WNBA titles simultaneously. In the '01 WNBA draft, three starters from Notre Dame's national championship squad — Riley, Niele Ivey



Head coach Muffet McGraw, her husband Matt, and son Murphy at their home in Granger.



and Kelley Siemon — were chosen. Riley was the fifth pick overall by the Miami Sol, and when the Sol folded in 2003, she was the No. 1 overall pick in the WNBA dispersal draft by the Detroit Shock, helping lead that team to the league title with a storybook “worst-to-first” finish in ‘03 (Riley also was the WNBA Finals MVP last season).

Meanwhile, Ivey was a second-round pick of the Indiana Fever, and has been a mainstay in Indianapolis the past four seasons, pairing with Washington to pilot the Fever to their first-ever playoff berth in 2002. In addition, Siemon was drafted in the third round by the Los Angeles Sparks, but elected to play for Athletics in Action before retiring to enter the coaching ranks. In ‘02, a fourth starter from that title-winning team was drafted into the WNBA, when Ericka Haney was chosen in the third round by the Detroit Shock. Like Siemon, Haney has since retired to begin her coaching career.

• • •

McGraw’s knack for developing talent also extends to the coaching ranks. No less than 14 of her former players and/or assistant coaches currently are serving as coaches at either the high school or college level. In addition, five of her former pupils are presently collegiate head coaches: Sandy Botham, a 1988 Notre Dame graduate who is at Wisconsin-Milwaukee; Beth (Morgan) Cunningham, the leading scorer in Irish history from 1993-97 and now the skipper at Virginia Commonwealth; Liz Feeley, a former Irish assistant now at Smith College; Bill Fennelly, another former aide who is piloting Iowa State; and Kevin McGuff, a Notre Dame assistant for six seasons before accepting the top spot at Xavier in June 2002.

McGraw’s coaching talents also earned her an assistant coaching position on the USA Basketball staff. At the 1993 Olympic Festival in San Antonio, Texas, she served as an aide to Amy Ruley of North Dakota State for the South squad that won the gold medal. McGraw remains an active supporter of American basketball on a national and international level, serving on the USA Basketball Women’s Collegiate Committee, which ultimately selects which players will represent the United States in international competition. She also has been a member of the ESPN/USA Today Board of Coaches, which is responsible for voting in the weekly ESPN/USA Today Top 25 poll during the season.

• • •

In addition to her accomplishments on the court, McGraw has been a master recruiter for Notre Dame women’s basketball. The Irish coach and her staff have attracted Top 20 recruiting classes in each of the last eight seasons, including the ‘01-02 freshman corps which was rated third in the nation by Blue Star Index. Only two other schools in the nation have had eight



straight Top 20 recruiting classes (Connecticut and Tennessee), a testament to McGraw’s abilities, as well as the trust and respect she has garnered from coaches, parents and players around the country.

McGraw also has worked closely with Notre Dame administrators on promotions to increase interest and attendance in Irish women’s basketball. Since 1999, season ticket sales have jumped more than 700 percent and the crowds at Notre Dame home games have reflected that surge. The Irish have ranked in the top 15 nationally in attendance in each of the last four seasons, highlighted by a school-record average of 7,825 fans per game in 2001-02, good for eighth in the country. In fact, all of top 20 crowds in school history have come on McGraw’s watch, with 19 of those gatherings occurring in the last five seasons. Leading the way are the first two women’s basketball sellouts in school history — Jan. 15, 2001 vs. top-ranked Connecticut, and Feb. 24, 2001 vs. Georgetown.

On a national level, McGraw has been widely regarded as a champion for student-athletes. In June 2002, she accepted an invitation from U.S. Secretary of Education Rod Paige to join the Commission on Opportunity in Athletics. Created 30 years after the passage of the Title IX anti-discrimination law, the 15-member panel examined ways to strengthen enforcement and expand opportunities to ensure fairness for all college athletes. McGraw was the only women’s basketball coach on the Commission, which also included WNBA great Cynthia Cooper, U.S. National Soccer Team captain Julie Foudy and two-time Olympic gold medalist Donna DeVarona.

In the summer of 2004, McGraw served with the WBCA’s Special Committee on Recruiting and Access, which helped create numerous proposals to the NCAA that would clarify and strengthen national recruiting guidelines.

• • •

On top of her tireless work at Notre Dame, McGraw often is in demand as a featured speaker at various camps, luncheons and other

fundraisers around the country. For several years, she has been a co-chair for the annual “Run, Jane, Run” golf tournament in South Bend, which benefits local chapters of the YWCA. McGraw also has teamed up with Irish baseball coach Paul Mainieri and Sally Derengoski, the director of RecSports & Fitness at Notre Dame, to coordinate the annual Coaches’ Car Wash, with proceeds going to the University’s fundraising efforts for United Way.

She also had her first book published in 2003, teaming with Bradley University professor Paul Gullifor to pen “Coaching Success: Muffet McGraw’s Formula for Winning — In Sports and In Life.”

Besides basketball, she has cultivated a passion for golf, sporting a 16-handicap. In fact, one of her favorite moments off the hardwood came just two months after winning the 2001 national championship, when she stepped to the fourth tee at Notre Dame’s Warren Golf Course and promptly drained her first hole-in-one.

Born Dec. 5, 1955 in Pottsville, Pa., McGraw remains one of the predominant women’s basketball figures ever to come from the Philadelphia metro area. In 1986, she was inducted into the Saint Joseph’s University Women’s Basketball Hall of Fame, followed by her enshrinement into the Philadelphia Big Five Women’s Hall of Fame in 1989. In November 2002, McGraw’s alma mater came calling once again, inducting her into the SJU Athletics Hall of Fame.

McGraw’s accomplishments also have not been overlooked by her current employer. In 1997, she was named an honorary alumna by the Notre Dame Alumni Association and received an honorary monogram from the Notre Dame National Monogram Club.

McGraw is devoted to maintaining a strong family as well. She and her husband, Matt, celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary in 2002, and they have a 14-year-old son, Murphy, who is a freshman and member of the cross country team at St. Joseph’s High School in South Bend. The McGraws live in Granger.



On the upcoming season...

"This is another year where we have a veteran group returning, and where we don't need the freshmen to come in and start right away, but we certainly hope they will contribute. Based on how hard everybody worked this summer, I think we'll see a much improved basketball team. We got a lot of confidence last year. The thing we really need to improve on is our scoring. Defensively, we did a lot of good things last year. Mentally, we made some great improvements, and I thought we played extremely well in big games. That can only help us this year."

On this year's team carving out its own identity...

"We don't have anybody left from our national championship team, so this is the time for this team to put its mark in the Notre Dame record books. We have great leadership — Megan Duffy has proven to be an outstanding leader for us at the point. Jackie Batteast has the respect of everybody on our team because of what she's done for us. Teresa Borton is somebody that everybody looks up to because of her work ethic. With those three leading us, our team is ready to step out of the shadow of Ruth Riley and Niele Ivey."

On her team curing its recent early-season struggles...

"I think confidence has been a problem for this team in the past. Coming in following a national championship was much harder for (this year's seniors) than we envisioned. We probably didn't do a good job talking to them about our expectations because, from their freshman year, they've felt a lot of pressure. Since this past January, when we beat Connecticut and Boston College, we've started to figure out what we have to do. That shot of confidence will really help us. For this team to be really good, we have to play well early and play well on the road."

On the BIG EAST Conference this season...

"If you look at our top four or five teams, you've got Connecticut, Rutgers, Boston College, Villanova and Notre Dame. I really don't think losing Miami and Virginia Tech is going to make the BIG EAST suffer at all. It will be a great year in the conference. Seton Hall and St. John's are getting better and both Syracuse and Pittsburgh had good years in 2004. We sent nine of 14 teams to the postseason last year, so the league is definitely getting stronger."

On what this year's team needs to do to win a national championship...

"To get to Indianapolis is always a road with a lot of potholes in it. You have to be a little bit lucky in terms of injuries, you have to stay out of foul trouble and you have to get in the right bracket. We don't think our season won't be a success if we don't get to Indy, but that's certainly our goal. You have to have senior leadership and a veteran team, and that's why we think this year should be a great year."

It would be great for us to, every four years, win a national championship. You certainly rely on your senior class, and this is the senior class that we thought would be great for us. We do have high expectations for them, and we expect them to go out with the best finish of their careers. In this situation, I don't think we'll be in quite the same situation with the rebuilding year after they graduate as we have been with the past two Final Four teams, but with Jackie Batteast leading the way, this is an outstanding senior class."

On what makes Notre Dame's Joyce Center so tough for visiting teams...

"We had one year where we really struggled, but other than that, we've been pretty successful at home, and that's because our crowd has been so important to us. We have a great following, and they are just ardent fans. It's a great comfort to us to come out and see that kind of support. There's no question that it helps us, and that's the reason we played so well at home last year."

On how Notre Dame prepares her players for life after college...

"Being here gives you a chance to be on national TV quite a bit, and the players have a chance to make a name for themselves. With Ruth Riley, the MVP of the WNBA, and Niele Ivey, we've had a number of players drafted and a number of them get into coaching. People look at our program and realize that kids coming out of Notre Dame have learned a lot, and they're going to be good coaches and good citizens."

On what it means to be the head women's basketball coach at Notre Dame...

"Notre Dame is a dream come true for me. When I walk across campus and see the Golden Dome, and I know what Notre Dame stands for, I just feel like I'm lucky to be here. I don't think I've ever even considered that there could be a better job or a better place than Notre Dame."

What Others Are Saying About Muffet McGraw ...

"Muffet McGraw has a great winning attitude and has a complete understanding of how to communicate her concepts to her players. She is absolutely a brilliant tactician and does everything with class. She represents the Fighting Irish and the Golden Dome in a very special way."

-- **Dick Vitale**
ESPN College Basketball Analyst

"I have been fortunate enough to watch Muffet work up close for the past four years and have been simply amazed. She is an educator and the kind of person you would want your daughter to play for."

-- **Mike Brey**
Notre Dame men's basketball head coach

"My four years at Notre Dame were indeed life-shaping. From heartbreaking losses to the ultimate level of success, I learned how to handle pressure, what it takes to be a leader and how to balance my faith, family, academics and basketball. I will forever be grateful to Coach McGraw for giving me the opportunity to attend Notre Dame; for instructing me, guiding me and pushing me to achieve my academic and athletic goals; and most of all, for the continual support she shows in my life outside of Notre Dame."

-- **Ruth Riley**
Three-time All-American at Notre Dame
2001 National Player of the Year
2003 WNBA Finals MVP
2004 Olympic Gold Medalist - Team USA

"Year in and year out, Muffet has her team in contention for a national championship. That consistency is what every coach strives for."

-- **Jim Foster**
Ohio State University head coach

"Muffet McGraw has made Notre Dame a regular player on the national scene with one NCAA title and another Final Four appearance already in the books. Her players, in a reflection of herself, have been class acts on the sidelines as well as in the game. Muffet is another of a number of successful women who have demonstrated it is possible to have a solid family life at home as a mom, while also devoting the hours it takes to maintain a high profile entity on the hardwood."

-- **Mel Greenberg**
Sportswriter, Philadelphia Inquirer,
USBWA Hall of Famer, Founder of
Associated Press Top 25 Poll

"There is a lasting bond between a coach and her players. Muffet was a dedicated player with a tremendous work ethic; there was always a smile on her face and a will to win. It is a thrill to see her nurture that same relationship with her players today. With her success in winning a national championship, Coach McGraw knows what elements it takes to keep Notre Dame a powerhouse in women's basketball."

-- **Theresa Grentz**
University of Illinois head coach
Member, Basketball Hall of Fame



Carol Owens is now in her 10th season on the staff at Notre Dame, and her third as associate coach for the Irish. She was promoted to her current position in June 2002 by head coach Muffet McGraw.

Owens came to Notre Dame in 1995 following two years as an assistant coach at the University of Michigan. Her tenure has coincided with the Irish's rise to national prominence over the last nine years, as Notre Dame has gone 225-69 (.765) during her stay, averaging 25 victories per season with at least 20 wins in each campaign. The Irish also have qualified for the NCAA Tournament in every year of Owens' stay, reaching the second round each time en route to six Sweet Sixteen appearances (1997, 1998, 2000, 2001, 2003, 2004), two Final Four berths (1997, 2001) and the school's first NCAA championship in 2001.

In her role at Notre Dame, Owens' main focus has been developing the Irish post players, several of whom have achieved tremendous success under her tutelage. Ruth Riley (1997-2001) capped off her Notre Dame career as the consensus national player-of-the-year, and she and Katryna Gaither (1993-97) both earned All-America recognition. Riley, Gaither and Kelley Siemon (1997-2001) all were drafted into the Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA) following their Notre Dame careers.

Using the base of knowledge she gained while working under Owens' watchful eye, Riley led the Detroit Shock to the 2003 WNBA Championship and was named the Finals MVP after scoring a career-high 27 points in the decisive third game. Riley is the first women's basketball player ever to earn Finals MVP honors at both the college and professional levels. She added to her resume this summer by becoming the first Irish women's basketball alumna to earn a spot on the U.S. Olympic Team, helping Team USA to a perfect 8-0 record and the gold medal.

"Carol Owens is one of the top assistant coaches in the nation, and in my opinion, she is the best skills coach in the country when it comes to the post position," Riley said.



Carol Owens

Associate Coach

10th Season

Northern Illinois '90



"As a young player, I was very grateful to find a school where I knew I would develop fundamentally at my position. Coach Owens

Carol Owens is widely considered to be one of the top post coaches in the country. In her nine seasons at Notre Dame, Owens has worked with three All-Americans, including the 2001 consensus National Player of the Year Ruth Riley.

time she invested in making me the best post player I could be."

Four current Irish players have received national or conference honors in part to

extra time spent under Owens' guidance. In 2001-02, forward Jacqueline Batteast was selected as the United States Basketball Writers' Association (USBWA)

extra time spent under Owens' guidance. In 2001-02, forward Jacqueline Batteast was selected as the United States Basketball Writers' Association (USBWA)





land eight consecutive Top 20 recruiting classes from 1996-2003, including the '01-02 freshman corps, which was ranked third-best in the nation by the *Blue Star Index*, and this year's rookie class, which was ranked 14th nationally by the same publication. In addition, Owens was named one of the top five assistant coaches in the country by *Women's Basketball Journal* in 2001.

"Carol has made a major impact on our program from day one," McGraw said. "She's the very best in the country, both as a coach and a recruiter. She's done a super job of attracting the right people to Notre Dame and then teaching them to reach their maximum potential. She expects and demands the best from every player she coaches and that's why our post game is so good."

National Freshman of the Year, a Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA)/Kodak All-America Team finalist, and was a unanimous choice as the BIG EAST Conference Rookie of the Year. Batteast also was named a finalist for the 2002 USA Basketball World Championship for Young Women Qualifying Team, after attending the USA Basketball National Team Trials with another Irish rookie, center Teresa Borton. In addition, forward Courtney LaVere made a big splash in her freshman season of 2002-03, earning BIG EAST All-Rookie Team and Freshman All-America honors.

Owens also has garnered a reputation as a top-notch recruiter. She has helped the Irish

at Northern Illinois University from 1986-90, Owens compiled a very impressive resume. A two-time Kodak District IV All-American, Owens finished her career at Northern Illinois with 13 school records. She also scored 2,102 points and averaged 18.0 points per game over four campaigns and 117 games. She captained the Huskies for four seasons and, in her final collegiate campaign (1989-90), she guided Northern Illinois to its best record in

"Carol has made a major impact on our program from day one. She is the very best in the country, both as a coach and a recruiter. She's done a super job of attracting the right people to Notre Dame and then teaching them to reach their maximum potential. She expects and demands the best from every player she coaches and that's why our post game is so good.

-- Muffet McGraw

school history (26-5) as the Huskies went undefeated in North Star Conference play (12-0) and earned the school's first-ever NCAA Tournament bid.

Owens finished her career as NIU's leader in scoring, blocked shots, free throws, free throw

attempts and field goal percentage. In addition, she was the first player (male or female) in school history to score 2,000 points and grab 1,000 rebounds.

A native of Chicago, Ill., Owens received her Bachelor of Arts degree in communications from Northern Illinois in 1990. She was selected by the faculty of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to serve as Commencement Marshal of her graduating class and was named Northern Illinois' Outstanding Woman. In addition, Owens was the recipient of the Student Leadership Award.

Following her graduation from NIU, Owens enjoyed a three-year professional basketball career in Japan, Spain and Italy. In 1995, Owens was inducted into the Northern Illinois University Athletic Hall of Fame and followed up that honor with her induction into the Illinois Basketball Hall of Fame in April 2001.

The Owens File

- **Hometown:** Chicago, Ill.
- **Education:** 1990 - B.A. in communications from Northern Illinois

Coaching Experience

1995-present

University of Notre Dame
Associate Coach (Third Season)
Assistant Coach (Seven Seasons)

1993-95

University of Michigan
Assistant Coach (Two Seasons)

Honors/Awards

Northern Illinois Athletic Hall of Fame
Illinois Basketball Hall of Fame
Two-time Kodak District IV All-American
Top Five Assistants in Nation (2001)



Coquese Washington, a former standout at Notre Dame and longtime point guard in Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA), is now in her sixth season as a member of the Irish coaching staff. She is responsible for supporting Notre Dame's recruiting and scouting efforts, development of the Irish guards, scheduling and practice planning.

A native of Flint, Mich., Washington played for the Irish under head coach Muffet McGraw from 1989-93 and was a member of Notre Dame's first NCAA tournament team in 1992. Second on the school's all-time steals list (307) and first in steals average (2.7), Washington made 89 starts in 113 games for the Irish, averaging 8.9 points, 3.4 rebounds and 4.9 assists per game. Washington also stands third on the Irish career assist list with 554.

Since joining the Notre Dame coaching staff in time for the 1999-2000 season, Washington has been instrumental in the growth of the Irish backcourt. During her first five seasons at Notre Dame, she has coached two All-Americans, as well as three players who have earned all-conference selections a combined total of six times. Her most notable proteges have been Niele Ivey, who was the 2001 Frances Pomeroy Naismith Award winner (best senior player in the nation under 5-foot-8) and is currently playing for the WNBA's Indiana Fever, and Alicia Ratay, who holds the NCAA record for career three-point percentage (.476) and ranks sixth in NCAA history with an .872 free throw percentage, making her the only player to appear in the top 10 on both charts.

Washington's latest award winner is junior guard Megan Duffy, who was named the 2004 BIG EAST Most Improved Player and earned honorable mention all-conference recognition



Coquese Washington

Assistant Coach

Sixth Season

Notre Dame '92



the WNBA Finals with the Liberty in '99 before losing to the Houston Comets.

In 2000, Washington joined the Comets and helped the team win its fourth consecutive championship. She followed that season with a stellar campaign in 2001, ranking in the top 10 in the league in both assists (ninth) and steals (fourth), leading the Comets to their fifth consecutive playoff berth. That year, Washington also pulled off a unique double, becoming the only person ever to hold college and professional championships simultaneously. She won the NCAA title as an assistant coach with Notre Dame in April 2001, eight months after she claimed the WNBA crown as a member of the Comets.

In 2002 and 2003, Washington suited up for the Indiana Fever and sparked the Fever to their first-ever WNBA playoff berth in '02, becoming the first player in WNBA history to lead three different teams to the playoffs.

Washington also was particularly active with the Women's National Basketball Players Association (WNBPA) during her playing career, serving as that group's first vice president. She was an integral part of the WNBPA Negotiating Committee that worked to develop the league's current collective bargaining agreement and the first free agency system in women's professional sports.

Washington holds two degrees from Notre Dame. She received her undergraduate degree in history from the College of Arts and Letters in 1992, one year earlier than her scheduled graduation, and earned her Juris Doctorate degree in 1997. Washington and her husband, Raynell Brown, make their home in South Bend.



The Washington File

- **Birthdate:** January 17, 1971
- **Hometown:** Flint, Mich.
- **Education:** 1997 – Juris Doctorate from Notre Dame; 1992 – B.A. in history from Notre Dame

Coaching Experience

1999-present
University of Notre Dame
Assistant Coach (Sixth Season)

Pro Experience

- 2002-03 - Indiana Fever (WNBA)
- 2000-02 - Houston Comets (WNBA)
(Won 2000 WNBA title)
- 1998-99 - New York Liberty (WNBA)
(1999 WNBA Runner-Up)
- 1997-98 - Portland Power (ABL)

last year. Duffy made great strides in her second season working with Washington at Notre Dame, boosting her scoring output from 3.0 ppg. to 9.9 ppg., lifting her assist total from 2.0 apg. to 3.9 apg., and adjusting her assist/turnover ratio from 0.94 to 1.36.

For seven seasons, Washington played in the WNBA and the now-defunct American Basketball League (ABL). During the ABL's inaugural season, Washington played for the Portland Power and was the team's starting point guard. The following year, she joined the WNBA's New York Liberty for the 1998 and 1999 seasons and reached





Jonathan Tsipis

Assistant Coach

Second Season

North Carolina '96

Jonathan Tsipis is in the midst of his second year as an assistant coach at Notre Dame. The most recent addition to the Irish coaching staff, he was hired on May 13, 2003.

Tsipis (*pronounced SIP-iss*) works mainly with the Irish wings, while also aiding with Notre Dame's recruiting efforts, scouting and practice planning.

"Jonathan has a tremendous passion for the game of basketball and loves being involved in all aspects of coaching," Notre Dame head coach Muffet McGraw said. "He has some great fresh ideas and knows the game extremely well from all angles."

In his first year with the Irish, Tsipis mentored forward Jacqueline Batteast to the most productive season of her three-year career, averaging personal bests of 16.0 points and 8.6 rebounds per game while earning first-team all-BIG EAST Conference honors. She also was a fifth-team All-America selection by *Basketball Times* and was a WBCA/Kodak All-America

Team finalist, putting her in position to contend for several national awards in 2004-05.

Tsipis also has quickly developed a reputation as one of the bright young strategical minds in the game. He was responsible for building the game plans in four of Notre Dame's seven wins over nationally-ranked opponents last season, including the 66-51 victory over No. 4 Connecticut.

Tsipis came to Notre Dame following one season as the director of men's basketball operations at UNC Greensboro, working under former Irish assistant coach Fran McCaffery.

Prior to arriving at UNC Greensboro, Tsipis spent two seasons as an assistant men's coach at Elon (N.C.) University. While there, he worked primarily with the Phoenix's perimeter players and also helped coordinate the team's scouting and recruiting efforts. In addition, he was responsible for organizing the team's travel plans and off-season workout programs.

Tsipis came to Elon after one year as the top assistant men's coach at LeMoyné College in Syracuse, N.Y. He also spent three seasons on the men's basketball staff at Cornell University (one as a full-time assistant, two as a volunteer aide), and one year on the men's basketball staff at Duke University. In the latter role, he served under legendary Blue Devils head coach Mike Krzyzewski and worked alongside current University of Michigan head men's basketball coach Tommy Amaker.

In addition to his coaching duties, Tsipis also serves as the president of the Future Hoopsters Basketball Camp which he founded in 1991. The summer camp is divided into two one-week sessions and focuses on specialized individual instruction. He also worked at the Basketball Camp USA in Letahoria, Greece, in July of 2001. There, Tsipis worked clinics for top-ranked junior players from Greece and Macedonia, focusing on perimeter and ball handling skills.

Tsipis comes from a family with a deep basketball background. His father, Lou, played for the Greek National Team at the age of 15, and his sister, LuAnn Damiris, was a three-sport letterwinner at Baldwin-Wallace College.

A product of Cleveland, Ohio, Tsipis graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1996 with a bachelor of science degree in pharmacy. He and his wife, Leigh, are the proud parents of a daughter, Emily, who was born on Sept. 18, 2004. The Tsipis family resides in South Bend.

The Tsipis File

- **Birthdate:** Nov. 7, 1972
- **Hometown:** Cleveland, Ohio
- **Education:** 1996 – B.S., RPh, in pharmacy from North Carolina

Coaching Experience

2003-present
University of Notre Dame
Assistant Women's Basketball Coach
(Second Season)

2002-03
UNC-Greensboro
Director of Men's Basketball Operations
(One Season)

2000-02
Elon (N.C.) University
Assistant Men's Basketball Coach
(Two Seasons)

1999-2000
LeMoyné College
Assistant Men's Basketball Coach
(One Season)

1996-99
Cornell University
Assistant Men's Basketball Coach
(Three Seasons)



Heather Maxwell is in her fourth year as the coordinator of basketball operations on the Notre Dame women's basketball staff.

Prior to assuming her current position, Maxwell spent one year as a marketing and promotions assistant at Notre Dame. Since her arrival, the number of Irish women's basketball season ticket holders has tripled. Consequently, average attendance for Irish women's basketball games has ranked among the top 15 in the nation in each of the last four seasons, highlighted by a school-record 7,825 fans per game in 2001-02.

Maxwell also played a key role in attracting the first two sellout crowds in Notre Dame women's basketball history — Jan. 15, 2001 vs. Connecticut and Feb. 24, 2001 vs. Georgetown. In addition, under her watch, the Irish have attracted 18 of the top 20 largest women's basketball crowds in school history (including 11 audiences of 8,000 fans or more), and they have an active streak of 51 consecutive games with at least 5,000 fans.

In her current position as coordinator of basketball operations for the Irish, Maxwell assists in managing the administrative aspects of the program's nationally-ranked recruiting efforts. She also coordinates film exchange, aids in the day-to-day operations of the office and practice planning. She also serves as a liaison for the women's basketball office with a number of administrative offices in the Notre Dame athletics department and across campus, including academic services and life skills. In addition,

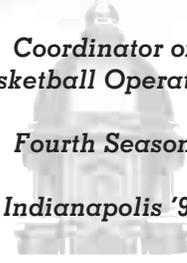


Heather Maxwell

Coordinator of Basketball Operations

Fourth Season

Indianapolis '99



Maxwell is responsible for all marketing efforts associated with the women's basketball team and she serves as director of the Irish women's basketball camps.

Before arriving at Notre Dame, Maxwell served as the assistant women's basketball coach at Goshen (Ind.) College during the 1999-2000 season. She helped Goshen compile an overall record of 18-11, the second-best mark in school history, and an 8-6 record in the Mid-Central Conference, the school's best since it joined the league. She also was responsible for the recruitment of the school's only NAIA All-American, Margene Murdent, who was named the 2002 Mid-Central Collegiate Conference Basketball Player of the Year.

Maxwell was a standout guard at the University of Indianapolis from 1995-97 before her career was cut short by injury. She finished her freshman season eighth in the conference in field goal percentage (.500), 12th in rebounding and 20th in scoring.

Maxwell stayed active at Indianapolis even after her injury, spending her final two seasons at the school as a student assistant coach. She worked with the UI guards and also assisted in planning practices.

In high school, Maxwell was an all-state selection her senior season and a senior all-star for Centennial High School in Champaign, Ill. She was a three-time all-conference player, a two-time team MVP and an all-area pick. She lettered three years in basketball, four in cross country and twice in softball and track and field.

A 1999 cum laude graduate of the University of Indianapolis with a degree in marketing, Maxwell was active as a member of both Delta Mu Delta, a Business Administration national honor society, and Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Born November 24, 1977 in Champaign, Ill., she now resides in South Bend.

The Maxwell File

- **Birthdate:** November 24, 1977
- **Hometown:** Champaign, Ill.
- **Education:** 1999 – B.S. in marketing from Indianapolis

Coaching Experience

2001-current
University of Notre Dame
Coordinator of Basketball Operations
(Fourth Season)

1999-2000
Goshen (Ind.) College
Assistant Coach (One Season)

1997-99
University of Indianapolis
Student Assistant Coach (Two Seasons)





**Peter
D'Alonzo**

**Academic
Counselor**

Peter D'Alonzo is in his eighth year as an academic counselor for student-athletes at Notre Dame. Before coming to Notre Dame in 1997, he earned a Master of Education degree with a major in guidance and counseling from Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Va.

Upon arriving in South Bend, D'Alonzo was assigned to work with the Irish baseball, men's tennis, women's swimming, women's golf, volleyball, and women's lacrosse programs. During his tenure with these teams, he worked to create an "academic transition" program for first year student-athletes and an "academic intervention" program for upperclassmen and women who were deemed at-risk.

Following the spring semester of 2000, D'Alonzo was reassigned to work with the Notre Dame women's basketball and football teams. In the last six semesters, the women's basketball team has achieved grade point averages of 3.1 or better, with every player maintaining academic "good standing" status.

Before coming to Notre Dame, D'Alonzo was a public school teacher in Spotsylvania County, Va. While teaching English, and social studies, he coached football, basketball, and track. He also was a student-athlete at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Va.

D'Alonzo is the son of the late Peter D'Alonzo, Sr., a former pro football standout with the Detroit Lions and a member of the Villanova University Hall of Fame.



**Jeri
Lucas**

**Administrative
Assistant**

An invaluable member of the Notre Dame women's basketball staff is administrative assistant Jeri Lucas. Lucas joined the women's basketball program in February of 1994. She handles many of the day-to-day operations of the office for head coach Muffet McGraw and her staff.

Lucas has worked on the Notre Dame campus since October of 1981. Prior to taking the position with the women's basketball program, she worked four years in the Cashier's Office. After that, Lucas contributed on campus as the Summer Housing Coordinator in the office of Student Residences.

Before coming to Notre Dame, she owned and successfully managed her own gift shop that was located on Diamond Lake in Michigan. She and her husband, Dell, who is remembered as the Notre Dame career counselor, relocated to South Bend, from Riverside, Calif., about 25 years ago and now reside in Granger. They are parents of two children, five grandchildren and three great grandchildren.



**Chris
Masters**

**Assistant Sports Information
Director**

Chris Masters is in fourth year as an assistant sports information director at Notre Dame. He is the primary media contact for the Irish women's basketball and men's golf teams, and also is one of the football contacts. In addition, he has contributed to Internet radio broadcasts of several Notre Dame sporting events, and he has worked on the media relations staff at four of the last six NCAA Women's Final Fours.

Prior to coming to Notre Dame, Masters spent three years as assistant sports information director at Western Kentucky University from 1998-2001, serving as the contact for the Lady Topper women's basketball and volleyball teams. He also spent time as the department's publications coordinator, assisted in the development of WKU's athletic web site, served as media relations coordinator for the 2000 Sun Belt Conference women's basketball tournament and filled in as color analyst for radio broadcasts of Western Kentucky women's basketball road games on the road.

Masters is a 1996 graduate of Ohio Wesleyan University with bachelor's degrees in journalism and politics & government. In 1998, he earned his master's degree in mass communications from Kansas State.

An active member of the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) since 1996, Masters is now in his sixth year as a district coordinator on that organization's prestigious Academic All-America[®] Committee. He was born on May 2, 1974 in San Francisco, Calif., and now resides in Mishawaka.



**Michael Miller****Associate Athletic Trainer**

Michael Miller, a 1995 graduate of Ball State with a degree in athletic training, is in his seventh year on the Notre Dame training staff, his second as an associate athletic trainer and fifth as the primary athletic trainer for the Notre Dame women's basketball team. He also works with the men's and women's cross country and track and field programs.

Prior to coming to Notre Dame, Miller was a graduate assistant trainer at Eastern Michigan, where he worked with the football team and coordinated athletic rehabilitation, while completing his master's degree in exercise physiology.

At Ball State, he worked with the men's volleyball, women's track and field, football and baseball teams. In 1995, Miller helped the home event coverage for the Richmond (Ind.) Roosters minor league baseball team. Her served an internship in 1994 with the NFL's New England Patriots, and later did a clinical rotation with Muncie Central High School and Central Indiana Sports Medicine.

A native of LaGrange, Ind., Miller was born Jan. 23, 1973. He and wife, Michelle, reside in South Bend and are the parents of a two-year-old son, Spencer.

**Tony Rolinski****Assistant Coordinator Strength & Conditioning**

Tony Rolinski is in his fourth season as the assistant coordinator of strength and conditioning at Notre Dame after three years as an assistant strength coach. He is responsible for developing and supervising the strength and conditioning programs for both Irish basketball teams, as well as the Notre Dame hockey team.

A native of Pittsburgh, Pa., Rolinski joined the Notre Dame staff in 1998 after spending one year (1997-98) at Duquesne University, where he implemented the strength and conditioning programs for 20 varsity sports.

The 35-year-old Rolinski is a 1991 graduate of Penn State University with a bachelor's degree in health education and a minor in exercise science.

From 1994-96, while earning his Master's degree in exercise physiology at the University of Pittsburgh, he served as an intern on the Panther football program staff, where he assisted with all aspects of the strength and conditioning program.

Following his stint in Pittsburgh, Rolinski served as the head strength and conditioning coach at North Hills High School in Pittsburgh (1996-97).

He also has earned certifications from the Collegiate Strength and Conditioning Coaches Association (SCCC) and the National Strength and Conditioning Association (CSCSC).

Born December 10, 1968, Rolinski and his wife, Julie, have two daughters, Alexis and Jaclyn, and two sons, Jake and Jared.

**Caitlin Early****Senior Manager**

Caitlin Early is the senior equipment manager for the Notre Dame women's basketball team. Her responsibilities include issuing team gear to players and coaches, setting up video equipment for practices and games, handling laundry and equipment on road trips, and keeping team statistics for games and practices.

Early is originally from Ridgefield, N.J., and a graduate of the Academy of the Holy Angels in Demarest, N.J. She is currently enrolled in the College of Arts and Letters at Notre Dame, pursuing her bachelor's degree in political science, with a minor in Latin American studies.

In addition to her duties as the Irish equipment manager, she is a resident assistant in Lyons Hall. Upon graduation from Notre Dame in May 2005, she hopes to do post-graduate service in Latin America.

**Kathleen Tallmadge****Senior Manager**

Kathleen Tallmadge is the senior personnel manager for the Notre Dame women's basketball team. Her responsibilities include making travel arrangements for road trips, managing certain team finances, and various duties associated with daily practices and games, including filming and keeping statistics.

Tallmadge is originally from Madison, N.J., and is a 2001 graduate of the Academy of Saint Elizabeth in Convent Station, N.J. She plans to graduate from Notre Dame in May 2005 with a bachelor's degree in history and a minor in anthropology.

While enrolled at Notre Dame, Tallmadge has been named to the Dean's List multiple times and is a member of Phi Alpha Theta, the national history honor society. As a junior, she was also named to the National Dean's List.

In addition to her responsibilities as the Irish personnel manager, Tallmadge has been an active participant in Notre Dame's intramural athletic program and is a member of the history club. She also served in past years as a commissioner in hall government. After graduation, she hopes to pursue graduate studies in history, and ultimately a career in public policy or education.

