

Coaching Staff



Brian Barnes, the fifth head coach in the 25-year history of the women's swimming and diving program, joined the Irish in August 2008.



Head Coach



Brian Barnes

**Head Coach
First Season
Indiana '95**



Brian Barnes, highly-regarded assistant coach the last three years for an Auburn University swimming program that produced multiple NCAA men's and women's swimming team championships, was named the University of Notre Dame's head women's swimming coach in August 2008.

Barnes becomes the fifth head coach in the program's 25-year history after serving as an assistant coach at Auburn since 2005.

"We're thrilled that Brian has come to lead our women's swimming program," said Notre Dame athletics director Jack Swarbrick.

"He has worked with world-class swimmers at Auburn, and he competed as part of a program at Indiana that has as much tradition as any. He absolutely understands what it takes to be successful in the environment of women's swimming at the intercollegiate level."

"It's an absolute honor to be here at Notre Dame," Barnes said. "My coaching career has now gone full circle, beginning as a club coach for 10-year-olds and practicing at (Notre Dame's) Rolfs Aquatic Center to being the head coach here.

"I'm fired up and honored to be able to represent Notre Dame. This school is one of the finest academic institutions in the world, and I certainly believe that you also can have high levels of success here at Notre Dame in women's swimming and diving."

An Osceola, Ind., native, Barnes helped guide both the Auburn men's and women's swimming teams to NCAA Championships in 2006 and 2007. The men won the Southeastern Conference meet three times from 2006 through '08, while the women picked up a pair of league titles during that span. In 2008, Auburn's men

placed fifth at the NCAA meet, with the women posting a runner-up performance.

Barnes spent the bulk of his time working with Auburn's middle-distance performers. The Auburn student-athletes earned 84 All-America honors from 30 different athletes and six NCAA individual championships in Barnes' final season with the program in '08 -- as the women finished their season as one of the top two teams in the country for the seventh year in a row. The Tiger women have won five of the last seven NCAA team titles with the only other second-place finish coming in 2005.

Barnes spent three seasons (2002-05) as the assistant men's swimming coach at his alma mater, Indiana University. He helped coach the 2005 Hoosiers to their highest finish at the NCAA Championships since 1991 and their first 10-win dual meet season since 1985. In 2005, Indiana garnered 29 All-America honors, most since 1976, and finished second at the Big Ten Conference Championships. In 2004, the Hoosiers had five All-Americans and finished 17th at the NCAA Men's Championships.

Prior to his coaching stint at Indiana, Barnes served as the head coach of the Lawrence (Kan.) Aquahawks from 1998-02. With the Aquahawks, he was responsible for the general management of a 200-member, parent-run swim club. He created a program for swimmers ages five to 22, planning practices and meet schedules for swimmers of all ages and abilities. During his tenure, Barnes produced a number of collegiate swimmers who went on to swim at the NCAA Division I level and was recognized as the Region VIII Coach of the Year in 2000.

Before joining the Aquahawks, Barnes served as the assistant coach at the University of

Kansas from 1997-98. He developed daily workouts and was involved in every aspect of recruiting. Barnes began his coaching career with the Michiana Marlins, a USA Swimming club team in South Bend, Ind., that held practices in the Rolfs Aquatic Center at Notre Dame.

At his club stops, Barnes coached a 2002 National Junior Team swimmer, a 2001 Central Zone record-holder, a 1998 World Championship finalist, two of the top eight finalists at the Senior Nationals in 1996, and a Missouri Valley swimming record-holder. He also coached several national age-group top-16 qualifiers (including one champion), several Missouri Valley age-group champions, numerous Indiana State Champions and record-holders, and several national championship qualifiers.

Barnes was a highly accomplished swimmer during his career at Indiana from 1992-95. He was a two-time All-American and a five-time honorable mention All-American. His school record in the 400 Individual Medley stood for more than 15 years from 1992 until 2007. A two-time team most valuable swimmer, he served as team captain during his senior campaign.

The two-time Indiana Swimming Male Swimmer of the Year (1989, 1995) was also a member of the USA Swimming National Team in 1989 and 1992. Barnes was a U.S. Olympic Trials qualifier in 1992 and 1996.

A 1995 graduate of Indiana, Barnes earned a bachelor's degree in kinesiology and is a level-4 certified member of the American Swimming Coaches Association.

In July 2004, Barnes married the former Alyssa Winter of Surry, N.H. They are parents of a son, Jack, born in October 2006.



What They're Saying About Brian Barnes...

Richard Quick, Head Swimming and Diving Coach, Auburn University:

"Brian is a great coach that many people in the nation don't know about yet. He has great intuition in terms of what an athlete needs and how to get the most out of that athlete."

David Marsh, Head Swimming Coach, United States Olympic Committee Center of Excellence with Mecklenburg Aquatic Club (N.C.):

"He is one of the top young coaches in the United States. His background gives him tremendous experience at all levels and in all events. The passion Brian will pour into Notre Dame will no doubt lead to phenomenal success in the future. Notre Dame hit a home run with this hire."

Vicki Schmidt, Kansas State Senator:

"I'm one of Brian's most ardent fans. He is the best thing in swimming. He is everything that is great about a coach and represents all that a coach should be. He coached our son throughout high school and became a part of our family, and it speaks to Brian's character that he has stayed in touch with us throughout the years. I wish I could have sent more children his way! He has no weaknesses, only strengths. Notre Dame is a lucky school to have landed him. He will make the University proud. I'm thrilled that he gets to return home and I look forward to following his progress."

Eric Nelson, Head Swimming Coach, Wichita Swim Club (Kan.):

"I think Notre Dame made a great hire in Brian Barnes. He is a great leader of student-athletes. He's an extremely confident and professional coach. The best thing about him is that he cares about people. Notre Dame will turn out great swimmers and great people under Brian."

Getting To Know Irish Head Coach Brian Barnes

On being born and raised in the South Bend area ...

I was born in Mishawaka (Ind.) and was the fourth of five children. When I was one, we moved to Osceola and I lived in the same house for 18 years. I grew up swimming for the Michiana Marlins who practiced in various pools in the South Bend school district and here at Notre Dame. My big ties to Notre Dame were definitely through football. We were big Notre Dame fans and took a particular liking to (former head football coach) Lou Holtz. I remember my father pulling for Notre Dame when they won the national championship in 1977.

When you grow up in Osceola and close to Notre Dame, you dream of playing football for the Irish. That was common at my middle school and my high school. Of course I thought about that when I was younger, but it was my goal to swim collegiately.

On how he began his career as a swim coach ...

I graduated from Penn High School and went off to Indiana University. After I graduated there, I came back to the area knowing that I wanted to coach but I didn't know how to get into the profession. I was presented with a great opportunity with the Michiana Marlins and I started off coaching the 10-and-under swimmers here at the Rolfs Aquatic Center.

The head coaching position with the Michiana Marlins freed up. I have to be honest – I didn't really know what I was doing as a 23-year-old head coach. I coached the Marlins for one year and was then presented with the opportunity to coach collegiately at Kansas. I moved to Lawrence and coached at KU for one year.

There was a local club team that showed a lot of potential and a lot of promise. I applied and accepted a position with the Lawrence AquaHawks and I knew that with taking the job I would stay put for a while. I was there for four years coaching the program. It was a great program, as we started out with 85 swimmers. Over the course of my time there we built a beautiful 10-lane indoor swimming pool. The program was exploding! By the time I left the Lawrence I had eight assistants and over 200 families involved within the program.

On his progress within the college coaching ranks ...

I was presented with the opportunity to coach at Indiana University and of course I had trouble turning that down. I got back into collegiate coaching and recruiting student-athletes at IU and that was an awesome experience because I had some meaningful years under my belt and I knew what I was doing. I had become a better coach; you never really learn how to coach, you just try to improve. I had confidence on deck and learned the recruiting system, the NCAA and the university structure. After being at Indiana for three years, Auburn was looking for an assistant and they called upon me.

On developing as a coach at Auburn ...

Having the chance to coach at Auburn was an unbelievable opportunity. I knew that going down there and being around those people was going to be an extremely valuable experience. Being a part of a championship program, I viewed it as a career investment. With the expectations of winning conference and national championships each season, there is a certain attitude and belief within the program that the student-athletes thrive on. I will always be grateful for my time spent at Auburn.

On what he's like outside of coaching ...

I'm a garage guy. I like to build things. Home improvement and carpentry are definitely hobbies. When I was at Auburn I'd routinely make recruiting calls from my garage because I always had a project going on in there. I've also been to over 200 concerts and still go to shows when I have the chance.

My three-year-old son, Jack, is going to play nose guard for a football team. I think he's going to be good at pushing people around – he's rough and a tumbler. I met my wonderful wife, Alyssa, in Bloomington. She's a certified athletic trainer and she's phenomenal at decorating cakes. I'm very blessed to have such a loving and supportive family.



*The Barnes Family (l-r):
Alyssa,
Jack and
Brian*

Diving Coach



Caiming Xie

**Head Diving Coach
14th Season
Beijing Institute of
Physical Education '85**

Now in 31st year of his career as a diving coach, Caiming Xie has helped his protégés win BIG EAST titles, All-America honors and gold medals. A proven winner, Caiming's experience reaches all over the world and he is in his 14th season as head women's and men's diving coach at Notre Dame.

During his tenure, he has molded the top two divers ever to compete for the Irish - Heather Mattingly and Meghan Perry-Eaton - who combined for five BIG EAST titles, seven appearances in the NCAA Championships, and eight All-America citations. The duo also holds all six of the Notre Dame diving records, as well as four Rolf's Aquatic Center records. He also has coached the top two men's divers in school history.

For his efforts, Caiming, the first full-time diving coach in Notre Dame history, has been named his conference's top diving coach on five occasions, claiming the BIG EAST's top honor in 1999, 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2007. The last six seasons have been the most successful in Irish women's diving history, featuring six BIG EAST titles, five All-America honors and three BIG EAST Championships Most Outstanding Diver awards.

The Caiming File

- **1977-90**
Diving Coach, Chinese Olympic and National Team
* Two-time Chinese National Diving Coach of the Year (1986, 1987)
- **1991-92**
Assistant Diving Coach, University of Pittsburgh
- **1992-95**
Head Diving Coach, University of Toledo
* Two-time Mid-American Conference Diving Coach of the Year
- **1995 - current**
Head Diving Coach, University of Notre Dame
* 1999, 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2007 BIG EAST Diving Coach of the Year

In 2006, Caiming molded two women's divers into all-BIG EAST performers in the 3-meter dive as Lucy Hirt was the runner up while her teammate, Tara Hyer, placed third in the same event at the BIG EAST Championships. For his efforts, Caiming captured his fourth BIG EAST Coach of the Year Award. Just two seasons later, Hyer was third off the 3-meter board at the league meet while Natalie Stitt claimed the title in that event and placed third off the 1-meter board.



From 2003-05, Perry-Eaton turned in the most impressive two-year stretch ever by an Irish diver, as she was beaten just one time during the regular season before sweeping the springboard events at the 2004 and 2005 BIG EAST Championships en route to being tabbed the meet's top diver. Perry-Eaton was the first Notre Dame diver ever to win a title at the NCAA Zone C Championships in 2004, taking first off the 1-meter board. At the NCAA Championships, she delivered the highest-ever finish for a Notre Dame swimmer or diver, taking third in that event, ending up just 3.30 points behind the national champion to become an All-American. She followed up with a fifth-place finish in 1-meter diving at the 2005 NCAA meet.

In 2002-03, Perry-Eaton became the first Notre Dame diver - and first non-University of Miami diver since 1996 - to win a BIG EAST championship, placing first in the 1-meter competition. She also was second on the 3-meter board and was named the BIG EAST's top diver - her first of three consecutive diver-of-the-year awards. Perry-Eaton then qualified for the NCAA Championships, where she placed ninth in the 1-meter event and 20th on the 3-meter board to earn honorable mention All-America honors.

Perry-Eaton finished her career holding four of the six Notre Dame diving records: six-dive 1-meter in both dual (322.64) and championship (331.58) action, as well as 11-dive, 3-meter championship competition (586.43) and 10-meter platform championship action (336.60). Additionally, she boasts Rolf's Aquatic Center records in both six-dive 1-meter formats (322.64 dual, 315.25 championship), as well as for dual-meet 3-meter action (333.82). Her score of 309.20 in 1-meter diving in 2003 en route to winning her first BIG EAST title stands as the highest since the switch to a six-dive format in championship meets in 2000-01.

Heather Mattingly was the first Irish diver to earn All-America honors, as she was a four-time honorable mention selection before being named an All-American in 3-meter action in 2002 with an eighth-place finish. Mattingly was the first Notre Dame diver to qualify for the NCAA Division I Championships, and she earned bids to the meet in each of her four collegiate campaigns. Mattingly also had a great deal of success in the NCAA zone

meet, taking second in 1-meter action in 1999, in addition to third-place results in 3-meter competition in both 1999 and 2002. She still maintains two Notre Dame records: for 10 dives in a championship meet off the 1-meter board (425.40) and for six-dive, 3-meter action (351.15). Her score of 550.55 in winning the 3-meter competition in the 2000 Notre Dame Invitational also is the best in the history of Notre Dame's home facility.

Before coming to Notre Dame, Caiming was the head diving coach for three

years at Toledo, earning Mid-American Conference diving-coach-of-the-year laurels in each of his last two seasons. Prior to his stint with the Rockets, Caiming was an assistant coach for the 1991-92 season at Pittsburgh.

Boasting a wealth of international experience on his résumé, Caiming served as the 1980 Chinese Olympic diving coach. He also was a technical consultant for United States Diving since 1994 and has held clinics and presentations for the United States Diving national team.

The Chinese national team coach from 1977-90, Caiming coached Sun Shu-Wei, a gold medalist in the men's platform competition at the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona, Spain, and Zhu Jin-Hong, who finished fourth in the women's platform in Barcelona. Caiming's divers also have earned medals at the Asian Games, World Cup, World University Games, and World Championships.

A competitive diver in his own right, Caiming won the springboard competition at the Asian Games in 1974 and earned first place in the platform and second in the springboard competition at the National Games of China in 1975. A 1985 graduate of the Beijing Institute of Physical Education, he also won numerous Chinese diving championships on the national level.

Caiming and his wife, Ping Tong, have one son, Tong, who graduated from Notre Dame in 2003 after a successful career as an Irish diver.



Caiming Xie with his wife Ping Tong and son Tong, a 2003 graduate and diver at Notre Dame.

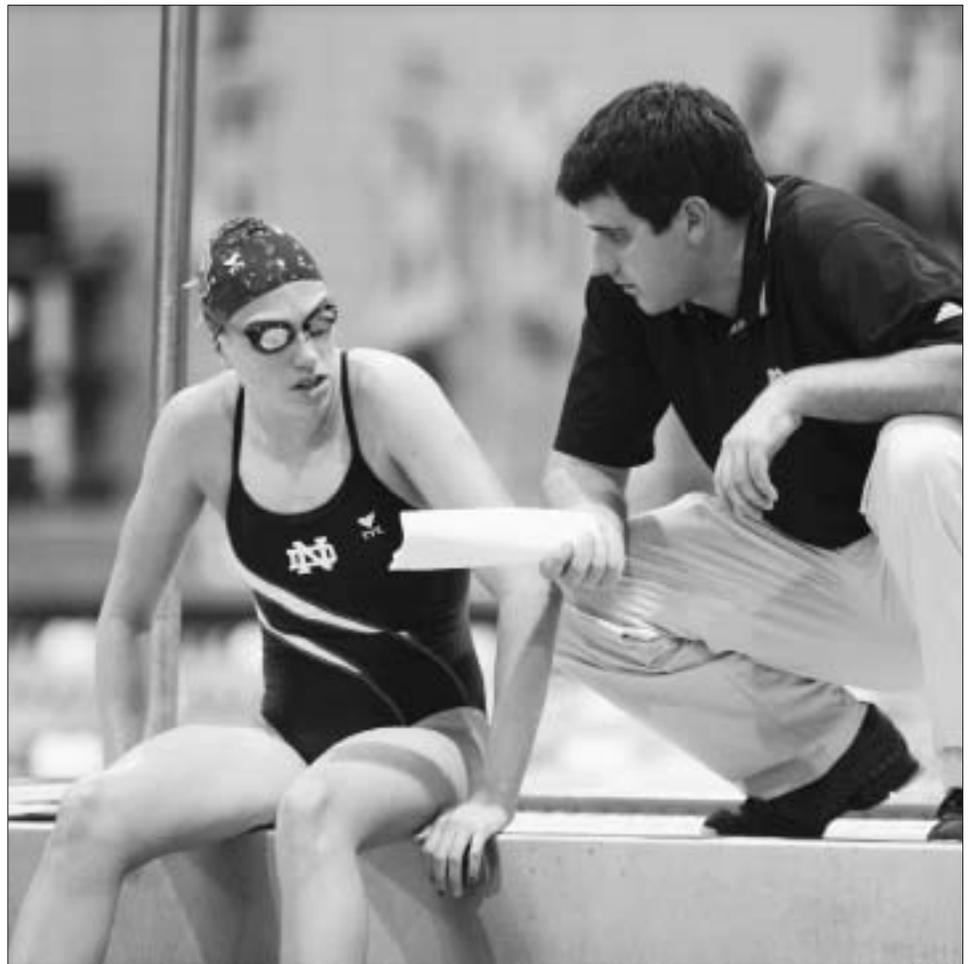


Assistant Coach



Joel White

Assistant Coach
Fourth Season
Wisconsin-
Whitewater '02



Joel White is in his fourth season as an assistant coach with the Notre Dame women's swimming and diving team.

White has worked closely with each of the last three Notre Dame teams that claimed BIG EAST Championship titles. By winning the league crown in 2008 Notre Dame earned its 12th consecutive BIG EAST title, setting a new BIG EAST record for the longest string in conference history in any sport. That Irish squad consisted of six first-place finishes at the league meet and broke or tied eight school records.

In 2008, he helped train three Irish swimmers that advanced to the NCAAs and sent 11 student-athletes to the U.S. Olympic Trials.

He assisted in the grooming of Katie Carroll as she earned her second All-America honor in the 400 Individual Medley with a seventh-place finish at the 2007 NCAA Championships. Also at the 2007 national meet, White helped guide the team to a 27th-place finish. The Irish sent eight individuals to the competition, the second largest total in school history.

In his first season with the Irish, White aided Notre Dame in winning its 10th consecutive

BIG EAST Championship. He helped coach two BIG EAST champions (Katie Carroll - 400 IM and Julia Quinn - 200 Breast) and 12 Irish swimmers and divers that were all-BIG EAST in 37 events.

Previous to the working with Notre Dame, White worked as an assistant at Utah. The Utes enjoyed a banner year in 2004-05 on the women's side, finishing the dual meet season 9-0 and 7-0 in Mountain West Conference competition. The team also claimed its first MWC regular-season title and finished third at the conference championship meet, setting nine school records at the conference competition. Combined, the Utah men's and women's team earned 39 all-conference individual honors and six relays also earned all-conference accolades from the Mountain West. Utah also was solid outside of the pool, earning 26 academic all-conference certificates in 2004-05.

A native of Austin, Texas, White has been highly active in the University of Texas swimming program, working the program's summer camp from 2000-2005. White also was the head swimming coach at Homestead High School in

Mequon, Wis., from 2001-03, leading the team to nine All-America honors, five individual state championships and two relay state titles.

White graduated from Wisconsin-Milwaukee in December 2002 with a degree in mechanical engineering. He swam all four years in college and was a nine-time conference finalist and team co-captain in 1999-200 and 2000-01. He specialized in the 400 Individual Medley, 500 Free and 200 Back during his collegiate career. White finished eighth at the 2001 Horizon League Championship in the 200 Back and ninth in both the 500 Free and 400 Individual Medley.

In 1998-99, White finished fifth in the 400 IM at the Horizon League meet (then known as the Mid-Continent Conference) and also competed in the 500 Free (ninth) and 1,650 Free (12th). He earned the team's Captain's Award at the conclusion of both his freshman and sophomore seasons.

White earned a master's degree from Utah in exercise and sport science with an emphasis in psychosocial aspects of sport in May 2005.

He was Notre Dame's interim head coach during the summer of 2008.

Support Staff



Pete Amstutz
*Volunteer
 Assistant Diving Coach*



Elisa Angeles
*Asst. Strength &
 Conditioning Coach*



Brendan Devitt
Senior Manager



Charmelle Green
*Assistant
 Athletics Director*



Darlene Borlik
*Administrative
 Assistant*



Erika Whitman
Sports Nutritionist



Mark Benishek
Aquatics Facilities Manager



Alan George
*Assistant Sports
 Information Director*



Notre Dame women's swimming and diving coach staff (l-r): assistant coach Joel White, head coach Brian Barnes, volunteer assistant diving coach Pete Amstutz and head diving coach Caiming Xie.

