

Summer Trip to Ireland inspired NCAA-bound KU women's golf team

Kansas will tee off on Tuesday at the NCAA women's golf championship in Tulsa, Okla., making just the second appearance at the national tournament in program history and the first since 1990. "They really made their mind up to do it,"

For eight days last August, the KU women's golf team bonded amongst the lush countryside of the Emerald Isle. For a team of international transplants, a piecemeal group from all over the world, it was the ideal preseason experience.

KU coach Erin O'Neil said "I think our trip to Ireland helped bring the cohesion together and they decided we were going to play in the NCAA."

O'Neil believes the trip was great preparation for the season as the team will be playing some of the top courses around the world.

"This is a tremendous opportunity to play golf in a different setting," said O'Neil. "The players will be put in situations they're not normally in at home, which will hopefully translate when they come back to school, and make them be that much more well- rounded. "It is a great opportunity to expose players to these conditions in order to learn how to play different shots."

Towson Tiger Golf Teams go to Ireland on Spring Break Trip

The Towson men's and women's golf teams traveled to Ireland on Spring Break. Based in Killarney, they played some of the world's most famous courses. Waterville Links, Killareny Golf and Fishing Club (Home of the Irish Open with 2 Championship course right in Killarney.)

On March 17th, the teams marched in the "St. Patrick's Day Parade" and they enjoyed sightseeing on the "Ring of Kerry"

Back to Golf, moving a short distance away to the famous Doonberg Sea Course in Co. Clare and then play on one of the worlds oldest and highly rated Lahinch Golf Club. Enroute a visit to Ireland top natural attraction, "The Cliff at Mohr."

Coaches and Players bonded, learned a lot and had a life-changing trip.

"I really enjoyed Waterville," said senior Larissa Spiess. "Partially because I played really well. It was nice weather. I stepped out there and just thought 'I'm in Ireland and playing a links golf course where people like Tiger Woods have played.'"

"Bonding with both teams, being together and hanging out," reveals senior Matt Fry. "Getting to know some of the girls team I hadn't really met yet. The team camaraderie was great."



Not bad duty for the Notre Dame Women's Golf Team.

They went to Ireland playing golf for eight days in August with a number of friends of the University.

At one of their world famous courses in the Killarney area, they had a couple of special moments at Waterville Golf Links -- one of the top 20 links golf courses in the world.

Notre Dame's women's head coach Susan Holt came "one inch" from a HOLE-in-ONE at Waterville --

And Irish Prime Minister, Enda Kenny was on hand to meet the team --

The Prime Minister joined the Notre Dame family after the round for some conversation and pictures. (That's him in the "royal blue" shirt in the pictures above.)

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