

Notre Dame Sports Information 112 Joyce Center Notre Dame, IN 46556 (574) 631-7516 Fax: (574) 631-7941

2004 Schedule (23-9)

	2004 Schedule (2	!3-9]
Feb.13	vs. Hawaii	W, 8-7
13	vs. (2/3) California	L, 1-2
14	vs. (8/8) Nebraska	W, 6-4
14	at UNLV	W, 3-1
15	vs. Portland State	W, 4-1
20	vs. Utah	W, 4-3
20	vs. Pacific	L, 1-12 (5)
21	vs. (8/8) Stanford	L, 2-4
21	vs. Team USA (exhib.)	L, 0-10
22	vs. (12/18) Tennessee	rained out
27	vs. NW State	W, 2-1
27	vs. (6/6) Georgia	L, 1-7
28	vs. (24/24) CS Fullerto	
28	vs. Princeton	W, 10-1 (6)
29	vs. (14/14) Nebraska	W, 10-1 (0) W, 1-0
29 29	vs. Georgia Tech	W, 1-0 W, 2-1
	vs. Fla. International	L, 1-2
mar. v 6	vs. Massachusetts	
7		L, 2-4
7	vs. North Carolina at Florida Atlantic	W, 2-0 W, 2-0
		w, 2-u L. 4-5 (10)
11	at (4/5) Florida State	_,
12	vs. (11/12) Michigan	L, 0-3
12	vs. Troy State	W, 3-1
13	vs. Georgia State	W, 3-2
13	vs. Maryland	W, 6-2
13	vs. Texas A&M	L, 1-2
14	vs. Penn State	W, 1-0
14	vs. Florida A&M	W, 8-0 (5)
20	East. Michigan (DH)	W, 2-0, W, 9-1
23	at Valparaiso	W, 9-0 (6)
25	Loyola (Chicago)	rained out
27	vs. Saint Louis	W, 4-3
27	vs. Indiana	W, 4-0
28	vs. Western Kentucky	W, 2-1
	at Western Michigan (
2	Connecticut* (DH)	4 p.m.
4	Boston College* (DH)	11 a.m.
6	Purdue (DH)	4 p.m.
10	Syracuse* (DH)	11 a.m.
12	at (20/21) Nebraska	7 p.m.
13	at (20/21) Nebraska	2 p.m.
15	Illinois-Chicago	5 p.m.
18	Providence* (DH)	11 a.m.
20	at Northwestern (DH)	2 p.m.
22	at Illinois-Chicago	6 p.m.
24	at Villanova* (DH)	12 p.m.
25	at Rutgers* (DH)	11 a.m.
27	DePaul (DH)	4 p.m.
30	Virginia Tech	4 p.m.
_	Pittsburgh* (DH)	11 a.m.
8	at Seton Hall* (DH)	12 p.m.
9	at St. John's* (DH)	11 a.m.
• ECDN	com/IICA Cofthall ranking	lieted firet fol.

• ESPN.com/USA Softball ranking listed first, followed by NFCA Top 25 ranking • all contests are single game unless indicated for doubleheader (DH) • * - indicates BIG EAST Conference game

2004 Notre Dame Softball

Notre Dame Softball Notes Package • Mar. 31, 2004 • Contact: Alan Wasielewski

Notre Dame at Western Michigan (DH), Thursday, April 1, 3 p.m. Notre Dame vs. Connecticut (DH), Friday, April 2, 4 p.m. Notre Dame vs. Boston College (DH), Sunday, April 4, 11 a.m.

Irish Ouick Facts:

- Notre Dame takes its eight-game win streak on the road to Western Michigan on Thursday, followed by BIG EAST action at home over the weekend.
- The Irish have given up just five runs in the last eight victories, including posting shutouts in five of those contests.
- The doubleheaders at Ivy Field vs. UConn (Friday) and Boston College (Sunday) mark the first BIG EAST Conference action of the season for the Irish.

Irish hoping to start strong in the BIG EAST: The 2004 season take a different turn this weekend, as the University of Notre Dame softball team (23-9) begins to focus on conference play. The Irish will play host to Connecticut (13-12, 1-1) on Friday at 4 p.m., followed by two more games with Boston College (19-12, 1-1) on Sunday at 11 a.m.

Notre Dame will not overlook Western Michigan (10-15) on Thursday, as they head to Kalamazoo for a make up date.

Last week: Notre Dame defeated Valparaiso 9-0 in six innings on Tuesday, April 23. The Irish then made the trip to Bloomington, Ind., for the Hoosier Invitational, defeating Saint Louis (4-3), Indiana (4-0) and Western Kentucky (2-1) during the two-day event to earn the tournament title. Notre Dame's single game match up with Loyola (Chicago) on Thursday, March 25 was rained out and will not be replayed this season.

Weekend opponents: Here is a look at Notre Dame's opponents this weekend: Western Michigan: The Irish and Broncos will be meeting for the 18th and 19th time on Thursday, with Notre Dame leading the all-time series 13-4. This game is a reschedule, after the previous date on March 21 was cancelled due to inclement weather.

The Broncos are 10-15 this season and 0-2 in the MAC. Jaymie Voss is leading the offense with a .300 average, while Stefanie Schuemann has the top RBI total with eight. The Irish should see Laura Stewart (7-7, 2.15 ERA) and Tricia Vanderslik (3-3, 3.85 ERA) in the pitching circle. Notre Dame swept a doubleheader at Western Michigan last season with 8-5 and 8-0 victories.

<u>Connecticut:</u> The Irish and Huskies will be meeting for the 26th and 27th time on Friday afternoon. Notre Dame leads the all-time series 18-7, but the teams split their 2003 meeting at Connecticut (2-1 UConn win, 6-3 Irish victory). Connecticut's seven victories against Notre Dame are the most by a BIG EAST opponent vs. the Irish.

The Huskies are 13-12 in 2004 and 1-1 in the BIG EAST after splitting with Virginia Tech last weekend. UConn also has won 11 of its last 12 games as of March 31. The offense is led by Suzy de Bary's .371 average, while Maggie Arbogast has 16 RBI. The pitching staff features Jessica Gurney (9-6, 2.63 ERA) and Michelle Caouette (3-5, 3.43 ERA). UConn is 2-8 at lvy Field.

Boston College: The Irish and Eagles will be meeting for the 19th and 20th time on Sunday. Boston College will face Syracuse on Friday before arriving on campus for Sunday's doubleheader. BC is 19-12 this season and 1-1 in the BIG EAST (split with Virginia Tech last week). Jacqui Goodchild is the hitter to keep off the bases, as she is hitting .302 this season with 20 runs scored and 10 RBI. Tekae Malandris returns in the circle for BC and she has posted a 6-3 record and 1.31 ERA so far this season. Malandris was a second team all-conference selection last season.

The Irish and Eagles met just once last season with first place in the conference on the line. Notre Dame came away with an 11-0 victory in Chestnut Hill.

2004 Notre Dame Softball Numerical Roster

No.	Name	Year	Pos.	Ht.	B/T	Hometown (High School)	Key Stats from '04			
1	Steffany Stenglein**	Jr.	P	5-10	R/R	Huntington Beach, CA (Marina)	8-6, 2.08 ERA, 89 Ks			
4	Carrie Wisen**	Jr.	P	5-7	R/R	Fullerton, CA (Sonora)	3-0, 8 APP			
5	Kenya Fuemmeler	Fr.	UT/P	5-7	R/R	Salisbury, MO (Salisbury)	1 APP, 17 GP			
8	Liz Hartmann**	Jr.	OF	5-9	R/R	Novato, CA (San Marin)	.250, 5 HR, 20 RBI			
9	Nicole deFau***	Sr.	IF/OF	5-9	R/R	Southington, CT (Southington)	.230, 4 RBI, 4 SB			
11	Gessica Hufnagle	Fr.	C	5-6	R/R	Middlebury, IN (Northridge)	21 GP, 2 R			
16	Mallorie Lenn*	So.	C	5-8	R/R	Garden Grove, CA (Pacifica)	.222, 2 HR, 9 RBI			
20	Nicole Wicks	Jr.	IF/OF	5-5	R/R	Renton, WA (Hazen)	.212, 3 HR, 5 RBI			
21	Megan Ciolli**	Jr.	OF	5-9	L/R	Terre Haute, IN (North Vigo)	.416, 7 2B, 11 RBI, 14 SB			
22	Sara Schoonaert*	So.	IF/OF	5-5	R/R	Houston, TX (Clear Lake)	. 156, 3 RBI			
24	Stephanie Brown	Fr.	IF	5-6	L/R	Chandler, AZ (Corona Del Sol)	.295, 4 HR, 10 RBI			
27	Carissa Jaquish	Fr.	C	5-6	R/R	Highland, CA (Redlands E.V.)	.205, 12B, 2 SB			
32	Heather Booth*	So.	RHP	5-10	R/R	Riverside, CA (MLK)	12-3, 1.13 ERA, 122 Ks			
44	Kellie Middleton*	So.	OF	5-6	R/R	Norcross, GA (Marist)	.391, 3 2B, 1 HR, 4 RBI			
77	Meagan Ruthrauff*	So.	IF/OF	5-10	R/R	La Mirada, CA (La Serna)	.376, 7 HR, 32 RBI			

^{* -} indicates monograms won

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Head Coach: Deanna Gumpf (Nebraska '92) - third season at Notre Dame Assistant Coaches: Charmelle Green (Utah '91), Kris Ganeff (Notre Dame '99)

Volunteer Assistant Coach: Bill Roggeman • Team Trainer: Chantal Porter • Team Manager: Melanie Ball

Booth takes her game to another level: Sophomore Heather Booth is following up her BIG EAST rookie of the year performance in 2003 with an even more impressive campaign in 2004. The staff ace for the Irish, Booth currently boasts a 1.13 ERA, 12-3 record and 122 strikeouts in 117.1 innings pitched. The Riverside, Calif., native is already threatening her 158 strikeout season-best total from last season.

Booth won 21 games in 2003 and has earned 12 wins so far in '04. She has been at her best against top competition, posting wins over Nebraska (twice), CS Fullerton (eight-innings, 11 strikeouts), while also throwing very well against Florida State (four runs allowed over 9.2 innings). Her 14 complete games are a single-season best for the Riverside, Calif., native - surpassing the 13 she had during her rookie season and her four shutouts surpass the three she posted last year.

In the month of March, Booth has posted a 7-2 record, 0.75 ERA, eight complete games in nine appearances, four shutouts and 69 Ks in 65.1 IP. Booth has allowed just 36 hits in those 65.1 IP.

Road warriors: With two more games on the road Thursday at Western Michigan, Notre Dame will play an amazing 32 of its first 34 games away from Ivy Field. To play softball for the Irish means taking on a unique challenge of crisscrossing the country to face the best teams in the nation. So far in 2004, Notre Dame has faced 10 teams who were currently ranked - or have since been ranked - in the national top 25. After the Western Michigan doubleheader on Thursday, Notre Dame's next eight games will be played at Ivy Field.

At the halfway point, Irish among the best ever: Notre Dame has won 23 of its first 32 games (.719) to quietly post the second-best record over that same stretch since the program began in 1989. The 2001 team will arguably never be caught, as the Irish won 29 of their first 32 games that year. The 2000 squad is the team the Irish have matched for the second-best record in the first 32 games of the season, as that team was 23-9 on March 31. The '00 team also won its next nine games meaning the Irish have quite a challenge on their hands as they look to post one of the best single season records in school history.

Look out for Lenn: After suffering through a long hitting drought earlier this sea-

Notre Dame Sports Information

Publicity for Notre Dame softball is coordinated by Assistant Sports Information Director Alan Wasielewski.

Photographs, statistics and feature ideas are available by contacting Wasielewski at (574) 631-7516 or via email at Wasielewski.3@nd.edu.

Requests to interview student-athletes and coaches must be arranged through the SID office and should be made at least 24 hours in advance. Credentials for home games can be obtained by calling Wasielewski.

Statistics, results and weekly releases (typically released on Wednesday of each week of the season) also are readily available on Notre Dame's official athletic site, www.und.com.

If you wish to be added to the Notre Dame softball weekly release distribution list, please send an e-mail to: Wasielewski.3@nd.edu

2004 ESPN.com/USA Softball Top 25 - March 31

Rnk-Team. Points. '04 Record, last ranking 1 1. Arizona (19) 497 36-1 2. UCLA (1) 483 26-1 2 458 3. **California** 31-3 3 4. Florida State 437 37-4 4 5. LSU 419 31-7 ĥ 6. **Georgia** 402 32-6 7. La.-Lafavette 366 30-4 9 8. Washington 347 24-7 8 9. Stanford 326 27-7 12 10. Michigan 324 25-6 10 11. Alabama 322 28-9 7 271 34-8 13 **12. Tennessee** 13. Florida 223 31-5 16 14. Oklahoma 214 26-11-1 11 214 29-9 15 **Oregon State** 16. Fresno State 190 29-12 17 17. Oregon 158 25-9 19 18. South Carolina 139 17-8 15 19. **Pacific** 137 21-9 18 22-11 20 **20 Nehraska** 96 94 21. South Florida 39-7 20 22. Auburn 87 25-4 NR 29-7 22 23. **Georgia Tech** 86 24. Long Beach St. 70 29-7 25 25. Baylor 65 31-6 24

Others receiving votes: Arizona State (16), Texas State (15), Northwestern (8), NOTRE DAME (7), CS Northridge (7), Florida Atlantic (7), Texas (6), Illinois (5), Iowa (4).

2004 opponents in **bold**.

() - first place votes

Notre Dame in the 2004 ESPN.com/USA Softball Top 25

Preseason: ORV Feb. 10: ORV

Feb. 17: ORV (26th)

Feb. 24: ORV (29th)

Mar. 3: 23rd

Mar. 10: ORV (28th)

Mar. 17: ORV (29th)

Mar. 24: ORV (30th)

Mar. 31: ORV (29th)

son, sophomore catcher Mallorie Lenn is starting to see her batting average rise back to respectability.

While her season average is still at .222, Lenn has 16 hits this month in 52 at bats for a .308 average. A second-team all-BIG EAST selection a year ago, Lenn seems to be finding her swing at just the right time for the Irish.

Boware the Ides of March? The Shakespearean warning held true for Julius Caesar, but not for the Notre Dame softball team. Notre Dame is 13-5 this month and enter Thursday's double-header with a eight-game winning streak.

Megan Ciolli (.414), Meagan Ruthrauff (.404), Stephanie Brown (.323) and Mallorie Lenn (.308) have all debunked the Soothsayer's warning by hitting over .300 this month. Ruthrauff has contributed a team-high 20 RBI in the 18 games, while Liz Hartmann has provided 11 RBI.

The Notre Dame pitching staff ERA has posted equally impressive numbers this month, as the staff has complied a 1.30 ERA. Booth leads the way at 0.75 (7-2), followed by Carrie Wisen (3.89, 1-0) and Steffany Stenglein (1.56, 5-3).

Ruthrauff earns second BIG EAST weekly award of the season: Sophomore Meagan Ruthrauff was one of the main reasons the Irish finished last week with a perfect 4-0 record and outscored their opponents 19-4. Ruthrauff was close to unstoppable at the plate, going seven for 12 (.583) with three home runs and 10 RBI in four games. She contributed the game-winning hits in three of the four victories and slammed two three-run home runs last week. She was previously named the BIG EAST player of the week on March 1 this season.

Stenglein nabs first BIG EAST weekly honors since the 2002 season: Junior Steffany Stenglein's week was highlighted by her second career perfect game at Valparaiso on Tuesday, March 23. In a six-inning 9-0 victory over the Crusaders, she struck out a career-high 14 batters and did not allow a ball out of the infield. The performance was the second no-hitter of her career against Valpo (she combined with Carrie Wisen for a no-no in 2002) and her previous

2004 USA Today/NFCA Division I Ton 25 - March 31

Rnk-Team, Points, '03 Record, last ranking

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1. Arizona (25)	625	36-1 1
2. UCLA	600	26-1 2
California	575	31-3 3
4. Florida State	547	37-4 4
5. Georgia	523	32-6 5
6. LSU	495	31-7 8
7. Washington	466	24-7 6
8. LaLafayette	445	30-4 10
9. Michigan	408	25-6 11
10. Alabama	376	28-9 7
11. Stanford	375	27-7 13
12. Tennessee	349	34-8 12
13. Oklahoma	318	26-11-1 9
14. Fresno State	272	25-10 14
15. Oregon	236	25-9 17
	218	30-9 16
17. Florida	212	31-6 19
18. South Florida	189	39-7 20
19. Baylor	156	31-6 21
20. Pacific	145	21-9 18
21. Nebraska	127	22-11 22
22. Auburn	126	26-4 NR
23. South Carolina	114	17-8 15
24. Arizona State	54	30-14 23
25. Georgia Tech	44	29-7 24
_		

Others receiving votes: Long Beach State (33), Texas State (25), **Horida Atlantic** (25), **Northwestern** (14), Texas A&M (9), Illinois (6), NOTRE DAME (6).

2004 opponents in **bold**.

() - first place votes

Notre Dame in the 2004 USA Today/NFCA Division I Ton 25

Preseason: ORV Feb. 18: ORV (27th) Feb. 25: ORV (t-36th) Mar. 3: ORV (26th) Mar. 10: ORV (29th) Mar. 17: ORV (t-31st)

Mar. 24: ORV (t-32nd) Mar. 31: ORV (t-31st)

2004 BIG EAST Conference Standings (as of March 29)

		BIG EAST	r		OVERALL							
Team	W-L	Pts.	Н	A	W-L-T	Pct.	H	A	N	vs. ND		
Villanova	2-0	4	2-0	0-0	11-12-0	.478	2-0	1-2	8-10	April 24 (away)		
Virginia Tech	2-2	4	0-0	2-2	26-12-0	.684	7-2	3-5	16-5	April 30 (home)		
Providence	2-2	4	0-0	2-2	15-8-0	.652	0-0	4-2	11-6	April 18 (home)		
Boston College	1-1	2	1-1	0-0	18-11-0	.621	2-2	5-2	11-7	April 4 (home)		
Connecticut	1-1	2	1-1	0-0	11-12-0	.478	3-1	0-4	8-7	April 2 (home)		
NOTRE DAME	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	23-9-0	.719	2-0	2-1	19-8			
Seton Hall	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	16-7-0	.696	0-0	2-1	14-6	May 8 (away)		
Syracuse	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	14-14-0	.500	0-0	4-2	10-12	April 10 (home)		
St. John's	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	12-14-0	.462	3-1	1-6	8-7	May 9 (away)		
Pittsburgh	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	13-17-0	.433	0-0	2-5	12-12	May 2 (home)		
Rutgers	0-2	0	0-2	0-0	11-14-0	.440	0-2	2-4	9-8	April 25 (away)		

<u>Note:</u> As voted by the head softball coaches, the BIG EAST softball standings will be determined by a 2/1 points system. Two points will be awarded for a conference win, one point for a tie and no points for a loss. Conference competition begins the weekend of April 1-2.

BIG EAST Weekly Awardwinners

Player of the Week
Feb. 23 - Jo Sherlick, SJU
Kelly Brown, VT
March 1 - Meagan Ruthrauff, ND
March 8 - Megan Antonucci, RU
March 15 - Tanya Rose, SU
March 22 - Tanya Rose, SU
March 29 - Meagan Ruthrauff, ND
Ricci Lugo, VU

Pitcher of the Week
Feb. 23 - Megan Meyer, SHU
March 1 - **Heather Booth, NB**March 8 - Megan Meyer, SHU
March 15 - Megan Meyer, SHU
Rachel Pacheco, VT
March 22 - Jessica Gurney, UC
March 29 - **Steffany Stenglein, ND**



perfect game came vs. Virginia Tech – also during the 2002 season. The weekly award is the third of her career and first since '02, when she claimed honors on back-to-back weeks (April 15 and 22).

Stenglein also threw seven scoreless innings vs. Saint Louis at the Hoosier Invitational over the weekend, picking up her eighth victory of the season. She ended up with 22 strikeouts in 13.0 innings pitched last week.

Notre Dame matchup with #20/21 Nebraska on April 12 to be shown nationally on CSTV: The University of Notre Dame will travel to Lincoln, Neb., to face the Cornhuskers for the third time this season - and College Sports Television (CSTV) will televise the game live across the country. The contest on Monday, April 12, will be part of CSTV Softball, which will show eight regular-season games this season, in addition to the Big Ten and Conference USA post season tournaments.

In addition to its softball telecasts, College Sports TV will cover the sport extensively within its *CSTV Primetime* and *CSTV Scoreboard* live studio shows originating from the CSTV Fieldhouse in New York. Daily coverage of women's softball will also be found on CSTV.com.

CSTV, the first 24-hour college sports network, is available to more than 15 million homes nationally on cable and satellite. The network is available on Time Warner, Adelphia and Insight

Notre Dame Probable Starters

C: Mallorie Lenn, So., R/R

1B: Meagan Ruthrauff, So., R/R

2B: Stephanie Brown, Fr., R/R

SS: Sara Schoonaert, So, R/R

3B: Liz Hartmann, Jr., R/R

CF: Megan Ciolli, So., L/R

RF: Nicole Wicks, Jr., R/R

LF: Nicole deFau, Sr., R/R

DP: Carissa Jaquish, Fr., R/R

r: Heather Booth, So., R/R

or Steffany Stenglein, Jr., R/R

Reserves:

P/DP: Carrie Wisen, Jr., R/R P/UT: Kenya Fuemmeler, Fr., R/R C: Gessica Hufnagle, Fr., R/R OF: Kellie Middleton, So., R/R

Pronunciation Guide:
Megan *Ciolli*: See-OH-lee
Nicole *deFau*: duh-FOE
Kenya *Fuemmeler*: feh-WHEM-ler
Carissa *Jaquish*: JAY-kwish
Meagan *Ruthrauff*: Rooth-ROFF
Sara *Schoonaert*: SCOON-ert
Steffany *Stenglein*: Steng-LINE
Carrie *Wisen*: WISS-ehn

Notre Dame Statistical Leaders
Batting Average
Ciolli416
Ruthrauff
Brown
Hits
Ciolli 42
Ruthrauff 32
Brown 31
RBI
Ruthrauff 32
Hartmann 20
Ciolli11
Home Runs
Ruthrauff7
Hartmann5
Brown 4
Stolen Bases
Ciolli14
Brown 5
Wicks 4
deFau 4
Slugging Percentage
Ruthrauff
Ciolli545
Hartmann455
On Base Percentage
Ruthrauff491
Ciolli
Brown
Pitching
Record
Booth 12-3
Stenglein 8-6
Wisen 3-0
ERA
Booth1.13
Stenglein 2.08
Wisen 5.36
Strikeouts
Booth 122
Stenglein 89
Wisen 17
Innings Pitched
Booth 117.1
Stenglein 84.0
Wisen 15.2
Fuemmeler 0.2
Appearances
Booth 17
Stenglein15
Wisen 8
Fuemmeler1

cable systems, among others, and is also available on DirectV (channel 610). For information on CSTV availability in particular markets, consumers can log on to www.cstv.com or call their cable or satellite operator.

Homers in the clutch: The Deanna **Gumpf era at Notre Dame has provided** some of the most memorable clutch home runs in Irish history. Over the past three seasons, Notre Dame has claimed an upset victory on the road (vs. #4 Nebraska, 2002), an amazing comeback victory on the road (vs. La.-Lafayette, 2003), a BIG EAST Championship (vs. Villanova, 2003) and two first-weekend come-from-behind victories (at the **UNLY Classic this season) via dramatic** home runs.

Liz Hartmann has played a role in three of the memorable moments. In 2002, her three-run blast in the top of the seventh pushed Notre Dame to a 3-2 victory over **#4** Nehraska at the Cornbuskers' dedication of their new field in Lincoln. Last season. Hartmann tied the school record for home runs in a single game with two shots vs. La.-Lafayette. Her first against the Lady Caiuns tied up the game in the seventh inning (after Notre Dame had rallied from a 5-1 deficit) and then ended the game in the ninth inning on a threerun round tripper.

Hartmann hit vet another game winning home run vs. Saint Louis last weekend at the Hoosier Invitational, launching a solo shot in the sixth inning to provide the winning margin (4-3 victory).

The 2003 BIG EAST Championship was claimed on a walk off home run by '03 graduate Andrea Loman, who smashed a solo shot in the bottom of the ninth.

During the UNLY Classic on the first weekend of competition for the Irish this season, the team utilized four clutch home runs to secure two victories. Sophomore Kellie Middleton launched a two-run shot to complete Notre Dame's rally from a 7-4 deficit to defeat Hawaii 8-7. The next day, freshman Stephanie Brown completed another Irish rally with a two-run shot in the top of the seventh vs. #8/8 Nebraska - followed by another two-run shot by Hartmann to claim the winning margin. Hartmann had pre-

Notre Dame Season Bests Individual

		IIIuIVIuu	
Hits	4	Ciolli	twice
Runs	3	five times	
RBI	5	Ruthrauff	twice
2B	1	32 times	
3B	1	twice	
HR	2	Hartmann	vs. Neb. (2-14)
TB	9	Hartmann	vs. Neb. (2-14)
BB	2	Ruthrauff	four times
SB	2	six times	
PO	14	Jaquish	vs. E. Michigan
	14	Lenn	at Valparaiso
Ass.	4	six times	
IP	9.2	Booth v	s. Florida State
SO	14	Stenglein	at Valparaiso
		Team	
AB	39	vs. Florida	State (3-11)
Runs	10	vs. Princet	eon
Hits	13	three times	S
RBI	10	vs. Princet	on
2B	3	vs. Nebrasi	ka (2-14)
	3	vs. Stanfor	d
3B	1	twice	
HR	3	twice	
TB	26	at Valparai	SO .
BB	5	vs. Eastern	Michigan
SB	6	vs. Princet	on
PO	29	vs. Florida	State
Ass.	12	vs. Hawaii	
l			
IP	9.2	vs. Florida	State
IP SO	9.2 14	vs. Florida vs. Valpara	

Miscellaneous Stats Multiple Hit Games

10 - Ruthrauff

10 - Ciolli

8 - Brown

5 - Hartmann

Multiple RBI Games

8 - Ruthrauff

5 - Hartmann

3 - Ciolli

Hitting Streaks

Longest of season -

8 - Ciolli (3-14 - current)

6 - Wicks (2-28 - 3-6)

6 - Ciolli (2-13 - 2-20)

6 - Middleton (2-13 - 2-20)

Longest active -

8 - Ciolli (3-14 -)

2004 Notre Dame Softball Results

Date Opponent		Score	RHE-RHE	<u>Inn.</u>	Overa	AII-BIG EAST	<u>Pitcher</u>	GW Run/GW RBI
2-13 vs. Hawaii	W	- -	8/12/3-7/10/2	7	1-0	0-0	Wisen (1-0)	Hartmann/Middleton
2-13 vs. #2/3 Cal	L	1-2	1/7/2-2/4/1	7	1-1	0-0	Stenglein (0-1)	-
2-14 vs. #8/8 Nebraska	W	6-4	6/13/2-4/5/2	7	2-1	0-0	Wisen (2-0)	Brown/Hartmann
2-14 vs. UNLV	W	3-1	3/6/2-1/5/0	7	3-1	0-0	Stenglein (1-1)	Brown/Middleton
2-15 vs. Portland State	W	4-1	4/9/3-1/5/2	7	4-1	0-0	Booth (1-0)	Hartmann/Hartmann
2-20 vs. Utah	W	4-3	4/5/0-3/8/2	7	5-1	0-0	Booth (2-0)	Middleton/-
2-20 vs. Pacific	L	1-12	1/1/3-12/11/0	5	5-2	0-0	Stenglein (1-2)	-
2-21 vs. #8 Stanford	L	2-4	2/7/2-4/4/2	7	5-3	0-0	Booth (2-1)	-
2-22 vs. Team USA (exhib.)	L	0-10	0/1/1-10/9/0	6	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2-27 vs. Northwestern St.	W	2-1	2/5/1-1/6/1	7	6-3	0-0	Booth (3-1)	Ruthrauff/Ruthrauff
2-27 vs. #6/6 Georgia	L	1-7	1/1/0-7/9/1	7	6-4	0-0	Stenglein (1-3)	-
2-28 vs. #24/24 CS Fuller.	W	5-4	5/6/2-4/7/0	8	7-4	0-0	Booth (4-1)	Schoonaert/-
2-28 vs. Princeton	W	10-1	10/12/0-1/5/0	6	8-4	0-0	Stenglein (2-3)	Wicks/Ciolli
2-29 vs. #14/14 Nebraska	W	1-0	1/5/0-0/4/2	7	9-4	0-0	Booth (5-1)	Schoonaert/-
2-29 vs. Georgia Tech	W	2-1	2/6/0-1/5/0	7	10-4	0-0	Stenglein (3-3)	Ruthrauff/Ruthrauff
3-6 vs. Florida Int'l	L	1-2	1/5/0-2/6/1	7	10-5	0-0	Booth (5-2)	-
3-6 vs. Massachusetts	L	2-4	2/8/3-4/4/1	7	10-6	0-0	Stenglein (3-4)	-
3-7 vs. North Carolina	W	2-0	2/5/0-0/3/3	7	11-6	0-0	Stenglein (4-4)	Ciolli/Hartmann
3-7 vs. Florida Atlantic	W	2-0	2/7/0-0/1/1	7	12-6	0-0	Booth (6-2)	Wicks/Lenn
3-11 at #4/5 Florida State	_	3-4	3/9/1-4/11/3	10	12-7	0-0	Booth (6-3)	-
3-12 vs. #11/12 Michigan	L	0-3	0/0/0-3/4/0	7	12-8	0-0	Stenglein (4-5)	-
3-12 vs. Troy State	W	3-1	3/9/0-1/3/0	7	13-8	0-0	Booth (7-3)	Brown/Ruthrauff
3-13 vs. Georgia State	W	3-2	3/8/0-2/1/1	8	14-8	0-0	Wisen (3-0)	Ciolli/Hartmann
3-13 vs. Maryland	W	6-2	6/12/0-2/5/0	7	15-8	0-0	Booth (8-3)	Ruthrauff/Ruthrauff
3-13 vs. Texas A&M	L	1-2	1/2/0-2/6/1	7	15-9	0-0	Stenglein (4-6)	-
3-14 vs. Penn State	W	1-0	1/2/0-0/2/3	7	16-9	0-0	Booth (9-3)	Ruthrauff/-
3-14 vs. Florida A&M	W	8-0	8/8/3-0/1/3	5	17-9	0-0	Stenglein (5-6)	Jaquish/Ciolli
3-20 vs. Eastern Michigan		2-0	2/5/0-0/2/2	7	18-9	0-0	Booth (10-3)	Ciolli/-
3-20 vs. Eastern Michigan		9-0	9/13/0-1/4/2	6	19-9	0-0	Stenglein (6-6)	Lenn/Lenn
3-23 at Valparaiso	W	9-1	9/13/0-0/0/2	6	20-9	0-0	Stenglein (7-6)	deFau/Ruthrauff
3-27 vs. Saint Louis	W	4-3	4/7/1-3/6/1	7	21-9	0-0	Stenglein (8-6)	Hartmann/Hartmann
3-27 at Indiana	W	4-0	4/5/0-0/2/5	7	22-9	0-0	Booth (11-3)	Ruthrauff/Ruthrauff
3-28 vs. Western Kentuck	y W	2-1	2/5/1-1/6/0	7	23-9	0-0	Booth (12-3)	Ciolli/Ciolli

viously cut the Cornhusker lead down to 4-2 with a two-run homer in the fifth.

Notre Dame has faced a loaded early season schedule: In what has developed into a yearly tradition for the Fighting Irish softball team, Notre Dame hit the road for the first five weekends of the season to face several of the top teams in the nation. According to the latest national polls, over the first five weekends of the season Notre Dame faced 10 ranked teams (ESPN.com/USA Softball ranking first, followed by USA Today/NFCA):

- #2/3 California (L, 1-2) now ranked #3/3
 - #6/6 Georgia, (L, 1-7) now ranked | #25/23

#5/6

- #11/12 Michigan (L, 0-3) now ranked #9/10
- #8/8 Nebraska (W, 6-4), now ranked #21/20
- #14/14 Nebraska (W, 1-0), now ranked #21/20
- #8/8 Stanford (L, 2-4), now ranked #11/9
- #24/24 CS Fullerton (W, 5-4), now unranked
- #4/6 Florida State (L, 3-4 10 innings), now ranked #4/4
- NR Pacific (L, 1-12), now ranked #20/ 19
- NR Georgia Tech (W, 2-1), now ranked #25/23

The Irish also will take on DePaul and Northwestern later this season, as both teams have earned votes in the top 25 this season. In addition, Texas A&M, Florida Atlantic and Hawaii have all received votes for the national polls this season.

While a tough schedule might affect Notre Dame's early season record, it has paid huge dividends over the last two years when the Irish return to the Midwest for conference and regional play. The 2002 season saw Notre Dame open up 8-12 while facing eight ranked teams in the first two months of the season. Notre Dame responded by winning 34 of its next 37 games and the BIG EAST Cham-

pionship entering the NCAA regional. The 2003 season followed a similar pattern, as Notre Dame found itself facing six ranked teams and holding a 10-10 record on March 14. The Irish bounced back with a 20-game win streak and 26 wins in their last 30 games entering the NCAA regional.

Head ceach Deanna Gumpf: The 2004 season marks Notre Dame head coach Deanna Gumpf's third at the helm of the Irish softball program. Her 82 wins over the first two seasons are the most in school history (Liz Miller had 77 while Brian Boulac posted 61) and she has guided the team to set school records for home runs, RBI and fielding percentage over the last two seasons.

Gumpf's record at Notre Dame stands at 105-43 (.709) entering this weekend's action and her teams have captured back-to-back BIG EAST titles and NCAA regional appearances.

The 2004 season will feature Gumpf's distinctive stamp on the program. The graduation of four starters in the infield gives the opportunity for the Irish starting lineup to feature five players from Gumpf's first two recruiting classes at Notre Dame.

Megan Ciolli named to USA Softball Player of the Year watch list: The Amateur Softball Association (ASA) and USA Softball have announced their initial watch list for the third-annual USA Softball Collegiate Player of the Year Award and Notre Dame junior Megan Ciolli (Terre Haute, Ind.) was one of the 40 players to make the list.

Ciolli will embrace a new role as team leader for the Irish this season, which

begins next weekend (Feb. 13) at the UNLY Classic in Las Vegas, Nev. The Irish have radically shifted from a senior laden team to one of the youngest squads in the Midwest.

A starter since she arrived on campus three years ago, Ciolli boasts a .350 career average – hitting either first or second in the Irish line up. A three-tool player able to bunt, slap and hit for power, the junior boasts 131 hits in her career, eight home runs and 48 RBI. She also has stolen 23 bases in her career and her .350 career average puts her in the top five all-time at Notre Dame.

So far in 2004, Ciolli has paced the Irish offense with a team-high 42 hits (.416 average), 14 stolen bases (in 15 attempts) and has contributed four outfield assists.

Notre Dame picked to win its thirdstraight BiG EAST title: Notre Dame has been picked to finish first in the BiG EAST Conference for the 2004 season, as voted on by the league coaches and released by the conference office. The Irish garnered seven of 11 first place votes and 95 total points in the poll, followed by Villanova (83 points) and Boston College (74).

Notre Dame won a share of the BIG EAST regular-season crown for the seventh-straight season last year, finishing the conference schedule with a 14-3 record. Led by conference player of the year Andrea Loman, Notre Dame swept through the BIG EAST Championship, scoring 21 runs in three games and earning the title on a walk off home run by Loman in the ninth inning against Villanova.

2004 BIG EAST Preseason Softball Coaches Poll

- 1. Notre Dame, 95 points
- 2. Villanova, 83 points
- 3. Boston College, 74 points
- 4. Seton Hall, 70 points
- 5. St. John's, 55 points Virginia Tech, 55 points
- 7. Syracuse, 50 points
- 8. Connecticut, 49 points
- 9. Rutgers. 43 points
- 10. Pittsburgh, 20 points
- 11. Providence, 12 points

Keeping up with the Irish on the read:
A complete recap, plus game boxscore, will be posted on www.und.com as soon as possible upon completion of Notre Dame's scheduled games for the day (although during preseason tournament action, the schedule might allow for game-by-game updates). The Notre Dame softball hotline will also be updated as soon as possible after each game, that line can be reached by calling (574) 631-3000, press 4, then 2.

BIG EAST Championship switched to Syracuse, N.Y. for 2004: The 2004 BIG EAST Championship will be hosted by Syracuse University this season. During the previous two seasons, the BIG EAST Championship was held in Roanoke, Va., but a schedule change in the Division II National Championship (hosted by the city of Roanoke) dictated a return to campus sites for the BIG EAST Championship. The conference title will be on the line during play beginning Thursday, May 13 and continues until Saturday, May 15, with a raindate on Sunday, May 16.

2004 Notre Dame Softball Bio Updates -

#1 Steffany Stengiein • 5-10 • Junior • P • R/R • Huntington Beach, CA (Marina)

• BIG EAST Pitcher of the Week (3-29)

Career notes - Posted second career perfect game at Valparaiso on March 23, striking out a career-best 14 batters in the six-inning victory and not allowing a single ball out of the infield ... other perfect game came vs. Virginia Tech on April 20, 2002 ... combined with teammate Carrie Wisen for a no-hitter vs. Valparaiso in 2002, giving her three career no-hit performances.

2004 - Named BIG EAST Pitcher of the Week for the first time in 2004 (and third of her career) on March 29 after going 2-0 with a spotless ERA and posting 22 strikeouts in 13 innings pitched in two victories, including the perfect game at Valparaiso ... threw seven scoreless innings vs. Saint Louis at the Hoosier Invitational to pick up eighth victory of the year (4-3 Irish victory) ... earned her second career perfect game and third no-hitter in Notre Dame's 9-0 six-inning victory at Valparaiso ... struck out 14 of the 18 batters she faced and the Crusaders failed to get a ball out of the infield ... previous no-hitter included a combined against Valparaiso in 2002 and a perfect game vs. Virginia Tech in '02 ... the 14 strikeouts were a career-best ... tossed second complete game in three outings vs. North Carolina (2-0 Irish victory), allowing three hits, two walks and striking out six ... posted a complete-game victory vs. Georgia Tech in the NFCA Leadoff Classic Silver Bracket Championship game, giving up just five hits, one run and striking out eight ... held the U.S. Olympic Team to one run on four hits over three innings of work in Notre Dame's 10-0 exhibition loss to Team USA ... earned first victory of the season vs. UNLV with a complete-game performance, striking out 10 and giving up one run and five hits ... the 10 strikeouts marked the third 10-strikeout performance of her career and first since she sat down 10 vs. Seton Hall in 2002 ... surrendered just four hits and two runs in her season opening appearance vs. #2/3 California (a 2-1 Irish loss).

#4 Carrie Wisen • 5-7 • Junior • P/DP • R/R • Fullerton, CA (Sonora)

2004 - <u>Posted her most impressive outing of the season in relief against Georgia State, throwing 5.2 innings without a hit, striking out nine of the 18 batters she faced</u> ... entered the Massachusetts game in relief, throwing three innings with two hits allowed and five strikeouts ... threw two scoreless innings vs. Princeton (10-1 Irish win) ... earned first victory of the season with 2.2 innings of relief vs. #8/9 Nebraska at the UNLV Classic (a 6-4 Irish victory) ... started at DP vs. #24/24 CS Fullerton.

#5 Kenya Fuemmeler • 5-7 • Freshman • P/UT • R/R • Salisbury, MO (Salisbury)

2004 - Scored her first career run in first appearance with the Irish vs. Hawaii ... made first career pitching appearance vs. Pacific (12-1 Irish Ioss), working 0.2 innings with three hits and two runs.

#8 Liz Hartmann • 5-9 • Junior • 3B • R/R • Novato, CA (San Marin)

Career notes - Continues climb up the all-time home run list with 21 - good for fourth on the all-time list Clarrah Myers, 99-02 is the leader with 36) ... she is five behind Sara Hayes for third place ... has hit four game-winning home runs in the sixth inning or later during her career, including two vs. nationally-ranked Nebraska ('02 and '04), along with one at La-Lafayette in 2003 and her solo shot vs. Saint Louis at the Hoosier Invitational this season.

2004 - Blasted the game-winning home run in the bottom of the seventh vs. Saint Louis in the Hoosier Invitational (4-3 Irish victory) ... three for four with a double and two singles at Valparaiso ... one for four with a two-run home run in game two vs. Eastern Michigan (9-0 Irish victory) ... posted a fielder's choice RBI in game one vs. Eastern Michigan, giving the Irish an important insurance run in a 2-0 victory ... two for three with three RBI, including a two-RBI single vs. Maryland ... shook off the effects of a flu virus vs. North Carolina, going two for three with the lone RBI of the game (2-0 Irish victory) ... one for four with two RBI vs. Princeton ... hit her third home run of the UNLV Classic vs. Portland State (a 4-1 Irish victory) ... tied her own school record (shared by eight other players) by blasting two home runs to propel Notre Dame to a 6-4 come-from-behind victory vs. #8/9 Nebraska at the UNLV Classic ... hit a two-run home run to cut the Husker lead to 4-2, then hit another two-run homer in the top of the seventh to provide the game-winning runs ... with the two homers against Nebraska, she becomes the second player in Notre Dame softball history to hit two home runs in three different games (Jarrah Myers) ... her home run vs. Nebraska in the UNLV Classic is the second game-winning home run she has hit against Nebraska in her caeer - Hartmann hit a three-run homer in the top of the seventh at #4 Nebraska in 2002 to push the Irish

to a 3-2 upset victory ... ended up three for four with two home runs, a double and two runs scored vs. Nebraska in the UNLV Classic ... three for four with an RBI double in the season opener vs. Hawaii.

#9 Nicole deFau • 5-3 • Senior • OF • R/R • Southington, CT (Southington)

2004 - Second on the team in doubles this year with five, which is already a career high and suprasses the four doubles she had in her three previous years combined ... scored the winning run in the sixth inning vs. Western Kentucky (2-1 Irish victory) by doubling to lead off the inning and scoring on a double by Meagan Ruthrauff ... got on base four times at Valparaiso, scoring three runs and going two for three with a double ... singled and eventually scored an important insurance run during the sixth inning in game one vs. Eastern Michigan ... has moved up to second in the line up to take advantage of her bunting skills ... played a crucial role in Notre Dame's victory over Georgia Tech in the NFCA Leadoff Classic Silver Bracket Championship game, throwing out the tieing run at the plate from leftfield in the bottom of the sixth inning (2-1 Irish victory) ... three for three with a double, two singles and a run vs. Princeton ... made a great catch in rightfield vs. #8/8 Stanford, bringing back a ball that looked destined for a grand slam home run ... one for three with an RBI single vs. #2/3 California (2-1 Irish loss) ... logged first triple of the season for ND in the first game of the year vs. Hawaii - driving in Nicole Wicks with the tieing run (4-4) in Notre Dame's eventual 8-7 victory.

#11 Gessica Hufnagle • 5-6 • Freshman • C • R/R • Middlebury, IN (Northridge)

2004 - Made first career appearance at catcher in Notre Dame's 10-1 victory over Princeton ... scored her first career run after pinch running for Liz Hartmann vs. #8/8 Stanford, scoring on a throwing error by the Cardinal (4-2 Irish loss).

#16 Mallorie Lenn • 5-8 • Sophomore • C • R/R • Garden Grove, CA (Pacifica)

2004 - Hit home runs in consecutive games, following up her shot vs. Eastern Michigan with a two-run bomb at Valparaiso ... was two for three with two RBI vs. the Crusaders ... smacked her first home run of the season in game two vs. Eastern Michigan, a solo shot in the second inning taht turned into the game winning run (9-1 Irish victory) ... earned third multiple hit game of the year in game one vs. Eastern Michigan (two for three) ... notched a two RBI single vs. Florida A&M (8-0 Irish victory) ... two for three (two singles) vs. Georgia State ... posted first multiple hit game of the season vs. Florida Atlantic, going two for three with an RBI double (2-0 Irish victory) ... broke out of an 0-24 slump vs. UMass with a single up the miuddle ... one for three with an RBI single vs. Utah (4-3 Irish victory) ... one for four with a double vs. #8/9 Nebraska in the UNLV Classic ... one for two with an RBI vs. UNLV.

#20 Nicole Wicks • 5-5 • Junior • OF/IF • R/R • Renton, WA (Hazen)

2004 - Transfer from the University of Washington ... has stepped in as the starting rightfield position due to the loss of Kellie Middleton (injured) crushed third home run of the season at Valparaiso ... tied up the NFCA Leadoff Classic Silver Bracket Championship game with a solo home run in the third inning - her second homer of the tournament ... two for two vs. #14/14 Nebraska at the NFCA Leadoff Classic ... two for three with two runs scored vs. Princeton ... first hit in an Irish uniform was a solo home run vs. #24/24 CS Fullerton (5-4 Irish victory) ... ended up one for two with two runs scored vs. the Titans.

#21 Megan Ciolli • 5-5 • Junior • OF • L/R • Terre Haute, IN (North Vigo)

• USA Softball National Player of the Year Watch List (40 players)

Career notes - Has moved her career batting average to .364 as of March 29, which would rank third all-time at Notre Dame ... poised to crack into the top-five all-time in stolen bases, currently has 37 (Jenn Giampaolo is fifth with 41 - Andrea Loman is the all-time leader with 60).

2004 - Currently has the top hitting streak on the team, and best of the season for the Irish, hitting safely in her last eight games ... has moved to third in the Irish lineup to take advantage of her RBI potential (batted first for Notre Dame in 2002 and 2003) ... crushed a home run vs. Western Kentucky for ND's first run of the game, eventually finishing two for three against the Hilltoppers ... drove in two insurance runs with a single in the seventh inning at Indiana (4-0 Irish victory), capping a one for four performance ... two for four with a run scored and stolen base at Valparaiso ... three for four with a run scored in game two vs. Eastern Michigan (9-1 Irish victory) ... one for two with a two-RBI double and stolen base vs. Florida A&M (8-0 Irish victory) ... put up her second four hit game of the season vs. Maryland, going four for four (four singles) with three runs scored ... one for four with two runs scored and a stolen base vs. Georgia State ... three for five with an RBI at #4/5 Florida State ... one for three with an RBI single (and eventually scored) vs. UMass (4-2 Irish loss) ... three for four with three runs scored and an RBI vs. Princeton ... two for three with a run scored vs. NW State ... two for three with a

run scored vs. Utah ... <u>four for four with a home run and three singles vs. Portland State, posting the second four-hit game of her career (Valparaiso 2002)</u> ... hit first home run of the season in the first inning vs. Portland State ... three for three with two steals vs. #2/3 California (a 2-1 Irish loss).

#22 Sara Schoonaert • 5-3 • Sophomore • SS • R/R • Houston, TX (Clear Lake)

2004 - Contributed an RBI single for an important insurance run in Notre Dame's 2-0 victory over Florida Atlantic ... scored the lone run of the game on a two-base error vs. #14/14 Nebraska at the NFCA Leadoff Classic ... scored the game-winning run in the top of the eighth on a passed ball vs. #24/24 CS Fullerton ... posted both ND hits and a stolen base vs. the U.S. Olympic Team and was perfect on six defensive chances vs. Team USA in a 10-0 exhibition loss ... two for two vs. #8/8 Stanford ... three for three with a run scored vs. #8/9 Nebraska in the UNLV Classic ... two for three in the season opener vs. Hawaii.

#24 Stephanie Brown • 5-6 • Freshman • 2B • L/R • Chandler, AZ (Corona Del Sol)

2004 NFCA Leadoff Classic All-Tournament Team

2004 - Two for three with a run scored vs. Saint Louis ... three for four with a run scored and RBI in game two vs. Eastern Michigan ... keyed Notre Dame's five-inning victory over Florida A&M with a two for three, two runs scored performance at the top of the lineup ... two for four with two runs scored vs. Maryland (6-2 Irish victory) ... three for four with a home run and scored all three runs in Notre Dame's 3-1 victory vs. Troy State ... the three hits vs. Troy State represents her first career three-hit game ... two for five with an RBI and run scored at #4/5 Florida State ... earned a spot on the NFCA Leadoff Classic all-tournament team ... hit .368 in the tournament with two home runs, two RBI and five runs scored ... two for three vs. #14/14 Nebraska at the NFCA Leadoff Classic ... two for four with two runs and an RBI vs. #24/24 CS Fullerton ... hit third home run of the season with a solo shot vs. the Titans ... broke up a perfect game and no hitter vs. #6/6 Georgia, hitting a solo home run in the fifth inning (7-1 Irish loss) ... hit her first career home run vs. #8/9 Nebraska in the UNLV Classic, tying the game up in the top of the seventh with a two-run shot down the leftfield line (Notre Dame evenutally won the game 6-4) ... carded first career hit and RBI in her first game with the Irish vs. Hawaii.

#27 Carissa Jaquish • 5-6 • Freshman • C • R/R • Highland, CA (Rediands East Valley)

2004 - Ended up two for four with two singles in game two vs. Eastern Michigan ... two for two with two singles and two runs scored vs. Florida A&M (8-0 Irish victory) ... was perfect at the plate and posted her first career three-hit performance (3-3) vs. Troy State ... had a double and two singles in the game ... platoons at catcher with starter Mallorie Lenn ... one for three in Notre Dame's 2-1 victory over Georgia Tech in the NFCA Leadoff Classic Silver Bracket Championship game ... logged first career hit in a one for two performance vs. #8/9 Nebraska at the UNLY Classic.

#32 Heather Booth • 5-10 • Sophomore • P • R/R • Riverside, CA (Martin Luther King)

- BIG EAST Pitcher of the Week (03-01-04)
- Florida State Invitational All-Tournament Team

Career notes - Has already established career-highs for shutouts in a season with five (had three as a rooki in 2003) ... also has 14 complete games this season, one better than her 13 from '03 ... will surpass her rookie strikeout total as well (158), as she has a team-high 122 strikeouts in 117.1 innings pitched this season.

2004 - Has not suffered a loss since March 11 at #4 Florida State, winning her last six starts and giving up just two runs (one earned) during that stretch ... scattered six hits to pick up the victory vs. Western Kentucky, striking out 10 for her four 10-strikeout performance of the season ... contributed a complete-game two-hitter at Indiana, retiring the 22 batters she faced on 11 fly outs, eight ground outs and one strike out ... won her third game in the Florida State Invitational tournament over Penn State, collecting her third shutout of the season with a complete-game, two-hit performance (six strikeouts) ... scattered three hits and struck out six vs. Maryland to pick up her eighth win of the season ... matched her career-best with 12 strikeouts while allowing three hits vs. Troy State ... turned in another great outing against top competition, holding #4/5 Florida State to four runs in 9.2 innings, matching her career-best for strikeouts with 12 (a 4-3 Irish loss) ... just missed her first career perfect game vs. Florida Atlantic, going the distance against the Owls - allowing just one hit and striking out seven for her second shutout in the last three appearances ... named BIG EAST Pitcher of the Week on March 1 for her performance over the course of the NFCA Leadoff Classic ... for the tournament, she pitched 22.0 innings, scattering 17 hits with 23 strikeouts and allowed just two earned runs for a 0.64 ERA ... completely shut down #14/14 Nebraska at the NFCA Leadoff Classic, earning a complete-game shut out with four hits, two walks and five strikeouts (1-0 Irish victory)

... posted one of her most impressive career outings vs. #24/24 CS Fullerton, pitching all eight innings in Notre Dame's 5-4 victory ... allowed seven hits, four runs (one earned) and struck out a career-best 11 vs. the Titans ... scattered six hits, struck out seven and did not allow a run after the first inning in ND's 2-1 victory over NW State ... pitched a complete-game five-hitter vs. Portland State in the UNLV Classic. striking out nine.

#44 Kellie Middleton • 5-6 • Sophomore • OF • R/R • Norcross, GA (Marist)

2004 - Starting rightfielder is sidelined indefinitely with an injury ... hitting .391 with three doubles and four RBI in eight games before suffering the injury ... posted two hits with two stolen bases and an RBI vs. UNLV ... capped a five-run rally in the bottom of the seventh of the season opener vs. Hawaii, crushing a two-run home run for her first round-tripper of the season and push the Irish to an 8-7 come-from-behind victory.

#77 Meagan Ruthrauff • 5-10 • Sophemore • 1B • R/R • La Mirada, CA (La Serna)

- BIG EAST Player of the Week (03-29-04)
- BIG EAST Player of the Week (03-01-04)
- Florida State Invitational All-Tournament Team

2004 - Named BIG EAST Player of the Week on March 29 for the second time in 2004, honored for her performance vs. Valparaiso and during the Hoosier Invitational ... hit seven for 12 during the week with three home runs and 10 RBI ... one for three with the game-winning double in the top of the sixth inning vs. Western Kentucky in the Hoosier Invitational ... one for three with a solo home run in Notre Dame's 4-0 victory at Indiana ... two for three with a three-run home run vs. Saint Louis in the Hoosier Invitational (4-3 Irish victory) ... contributed the game-winning hits in three off Notre Dame's four victories during the week of March 22-29 ... exploded for five RBI (including at least one in each of three plate appearances) at Valparaiso ... ended up three for four vs. the Crusaders with a home run, double and single ... scored the lone run of the game vs. Penn State (1-0 Irish victory) on a double steal play in the bottom of the fourth ... drew two walks in three plate appearances vs. the Nittany Lions ... launched a three-run homer to key a one for two afternoon vs. Maryland ...drew two walks vs. the Terrapins ... ended up two for three with and RBI and run scored vs. Georgia State ... two for three with two RBI singles vs. Troy State (3-1 Irish victory) ... named BIG EAST Player of the Week on March 1 in honor of her performance at the NFCA Leadoff Classic ... finished the NFCA Leadoff Classic with seven hits (.368 average), three home runs (two game winners), nine RBI and three runs scored ... blasted the game-winnning home run in the NFCA Leadoff Classic Silver Bracket Championship game vs. Georgia Tech ... was two for three vs. the Yellow Jackets ... two for three with five RBI vs. Princeton ... smashed a three-run home run vs. the Tigers ... posted an RBI single to put Notre Dame in front 4-3 during an eventual 5-4 eight-inning victory over #24/24 CS Fullerton ... ended up two for four vs. the Titans ... crushed first home run of the season in the first inning vs. NW State, providing the winning margin in ND's 2-1 victory ... two for three with a walk vs. #8/ 8 Stanford (4-2 Irish loss) ... two for three with two RBI vs. Portland State.