



Notre Dame  
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### 2004 Schedule (5-3)

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	cancelled
27	vs. NW State	2:30 p.m.
27	vs. (6/6) Georgia	5:00 p.m.
28	vs. (24/24) CS Fullerton	12:30 p.m.
28	NFCA Classic Bracket Play	TBA
29	NFCA Classic Bracket Play	TBA
Mar. 6	vs. UMass	10:00 a.m.
6	vs. Fla. International	12:00 p.m.
7	vs. North Carolina	2:00 p.m.
7	at Florida Atlantic	5:00 p.m.
11	at (10/11) Florida State	5:00 p.m.
12	vs. (12/7) Michigan	10:00 a.m.
12	vs. Troy State	6:00 p.m.
13	vs. Georgia State	10:00 a.m.
13	vs. Maryland	12:00 p.m.
14	Seminole Classic Continues	TBA
20	Eastern Michigan (DH)	1 p.m.
21	at Western Michigan (DH)	1 p.m.
22	at Valparaiso	4 p.m.
25	Loyola (Chicago)	4 p.m.
27	vs. Saint Louis	9:30 a.m.
27	vs. Indiana	2:00 p.m.
28	vs. Western Kentucky	9:30 a.m.
28	Hoosier Invitational Cont.	TBA
Apr. 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 (14/14) Nebraska	7 p.m.
13	at (14/14) 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.
May 2	Pittsburgh* (DH)	11 a.m.
8	at Seton Hall* (DH)	12 p.m.
9	at St. John's* (DH)	11 a.m.
13	BIG EAST Championship	TBA
19	NCAA Regionals	TBA

• 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 • all times local to site

# 2004 Notre Dame Softball

Notre Dame Softball Notes Package • Feb. 25, 2004 • Contact: Alan Wasielewski

## 2004 NFCA Leadoff Classic

Columbus, Ga. • Friday, Feb. 27 - Sunday, Feb. 29

Notre Dame (5-3) vs. NW State (8-5), Friday, Feb. 27, 2:30 p.m., Field 4

Notre Dame vs. #6/6 Georgia (9-2), Friday, Feb. 27, 5:00 p.m., Field 4

Notre Dame vs. #24/24 CS Fullerton (3-6), Saturday, Feb. 28, 12:30 p.m., Field 4

Bracket Play begins, Saturday, Feb. 28, 5:00 p.m.

Bracket Play continues, Sunday, Feb. 29, TBA

### Irish Quick Facts:

• Notre Dame will be making its third straight appearance at the NFCA Leadoff Classic this weekend - a tournament that invites the top two teams in each NFCA region. The Irish have played in a total of five NFCA Leadoff Classics entering this weekend (1996, '97, '98, '02, '03).

• The Ninth-annual NFCA Leadoff Classic will be held at the South Commons Softball Complex in Columbus, Ga.

• Notre Dame will be meeting Georgia for the first time ever this weekend.

• The NFCA Leadoff Classic features pool play and bracket play. Teams play each team in their respective pools on Friday and Saturday. The teams are then designated to bracket play - guaranteed at least two more games during the weekend.

**Irish poised to take on the best at the NFCA Leadoff Classic:** Notre Dame hits the road again for its third early season tournament, heading to Columbus, Ga., for the NFCA Leadoff Classic. The Irish will be making their third consecutive appearance and sixth overall in the elite tournament, which typically features the top two teams from each NFCA region.

Notre Dame will face NW State, #6/6 Georgia and #24/24 CS Fullerton during pool play, before facing any combination of other teams in the tournament during bracket play - which begins at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday.

**Live statistics will be available:** The official athletic home of Notre Dame athletics on the world wide web - [www.und.com](http://www.und.com) - will feature live statistics of each Irish game this weekend. Go to the [und.com](http://und.com) main page, check the right side for the correct game, then click on the 'Gametracker' link.

Save for any unforeseen technical difficulties, live stats will be up and working for the Notre Dame games this weekend.

**The NFCA Leadoff Classic field:** Here is a complete list of teams competing in this weekend's tournament -

Pool I: Georgia Tech, #12/7 Michigan, #14/14 Nebraska, Virginia Tech.

Pool II: Army, #10/11 Florida State, #16/15 Texas, #4/4 Washington.

Pool III: #3/3 California, Florida Atlantic, #13/12 LSU, Ohio State.

Pool IV: Central Michigan, DePaul, Massachusetts, #5/5 Oklahoma.

Pool V: #24/24 CS Fullerton, #6/6 Georgia, NW State, Notre Dame.

Pool VI: #21/18 Arizona State, #15/16 Fresno State, Princeton, #20/20 South Carolina.

**Tournament format -** There will be six pools of four teams each, with the top team from each pool advancing to the Gold Bracket. In addition, two other at-large teams will be selected for the Gold Bracket. The remaining second place teams, in addition to four at-large teams, will be chosen for the Silver Bracket. The remaining eight teams will be placed in the Bronze Bracket.

**Notre Dame vs. Pool V:** Notre Dame and NW State will be meeting for the third time ... the series is tied at 1-1, as NW State knocked off ND 3-2 in day one action at the Louisiana Classic last season ... Notre Dame defeated NW State 12-7 on the final day of the tournament ... Notre Dame and Georgia will be meeting for the first time ... Notre Dame and CS Fullerton will be meeting for the fourth time ... the Titans lead the all-time series 2-1 ... the last meeting occurred in 1999, a 2-1 win for CS Fullerton ... the Irish win in the series came in 1995, a 1-0 victory over the fifth-ranked Titans.

## 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)	1-2, 2.10 ERA, 13 K
4	Carrie Wisen**	Jr.	P	5-7	R/R	Fullerton, CA (Sonora)	2-0, 3 APP
5	Kenya Fuemmeler	Fr.	UT/P	5-7	R/R	Salisbury, MO (Salisbury)	1 APP, 3 GP
8	Liz Hartmann**	Jr.	OF	5-9	R/R	Novato, CA (San Marin)	.391, 3 HR, 7 RBI
9	Nicole deFau***	Sr.	IF/OF	5-9	R/R	Southington, CT (Southington)	.286, 2 2B, 1 3B
11	Gessica Hufnagle	Fr.	C	5-6	R/R	Middlebury, IN (Northridge)	5 GP, 1 R
16	Mallorie Lenn*	So.	C	5-8	R/R	Garden Grove, CA (Pacifica)	.182, 2 RBI
20	Nicole Wicks	Jr.	IF/OF	5-5	R/R	Renton, WA (Hazen)	7 GP, 4 R, 1 SB
21	Megan Ciolli**	Jr.	OF	5-9	L/R	Terre Haute, IN (North Vigo)	.480, 12 H, 1 HR, 1 RBI
22	Sara Schoonaert*	So.	IF/OF	5-5	R/R	Houston, TX (Clear Lake)	.421, 8 H, 1 2B, 1 SB
24	Stephanie Brown	Fr.	IF	5-6	L/R	Chandler, AZ (Corona Del Sol)	.167, 1 HR, 4 RBI
27	Carissa Jaquish	Fr.	C	5-6	R/R	Highland, CA (Redlands E.V.)	.100, 2 H
32	Heather Booth*	So.	RHP	5-10	R/R	Riverside, CA (MLK)	2-1, 2.33 ERA, 30 K
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)	.316, 1 2B, 3 RBI

\* - indicates monograms won

### Staff

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

### Notre Dame NFCA Leadoff Classic history:

1996: vs. Princeton (W, 7-1), vs. #22 Hawaii (L, 2-6), vs. Oregon (W, 9-2), vs. #4 Washington (L, 1-7), vs. #14 Texas A&M (W, 3-1), vs. #22 Hawaii (L, 4-6).

1997: vs. #13 La.-Lafayette (W, 4-2), vs. Texas A&M (L, 0-1), vs. Illinois State (L, 0-8), vs. Massachusetts (L, 0-1), vs. #6 South Carolina (L, 0-1).

1998: vs. Canisius (W, 15-0), vs. #11 South Carolina (W, 5-2), vs. Auburn (W, 1-0), vs. #9 Oklahoma State (L, 0-4), vs. Florida (L, 3-9), vs. #7 Arizona State (L, 2-5).

2002: vs. #11 Oregon State (L, 0-4), vs. Southern Mississippi (W, 6-0), vs. Texas A&M (L, 1-2), vs. #8 Arizona State (L, 1-2), vs. #4 Oklahoma (L, 2-3).

2003: vs. #4 California (L, 0-6), vs. Illinois State (W, 1-0), vs. #17 Alabama (L, 4-7)  
Overall - 9-16 (.360).

**Last weekend:** Notre Dame made the trip to the 2004 Palm Springs Classic in California and endured three days of rain in the typically arid climate. The Irish began the tournament with a 4-3 victory over Utah, but fell 12-1 in five innings to Pacific (the Tigers scoring all 12 runs after a two-hour rain delay). Notre Dame followed up with a game vs. #8/8 Stanford - first spotting the Cardinal three runs in the top of the first before a late rally fell short in the 4-2 loss. The weekend ended with a 10-0, six-inning loss to the USA Olympic Team - although the Irish arguably played the Olympians tougher than anyone else on the weekend, holding Team USA to one run over the first four innings. Notre Dame was scheduled to meet #11/13 Tennessee on Sunday, but rain forced the cancellation of the game.

**Schoonaert stars in the Palm Spring Classic and vs. the Olympic Team:** Sophomore Sara Schoonaert ended up as the top offensive threat for the Irish last weekend, going two for five in her limited at bats in the nine spot, but providing the highlights of the weekend vs. the U.S. Olympic Team. Schoonaert posted both of Notre Dame's hits against Team USA, both infield singles. She also was perfect defensively on six chances and had a stolen base. Schoonaert's strong play has moved her into second in the Irish batting order, a spot which she will debut in officially this weekend at the NFCA Leadoff Classic.

**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 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 e-mail 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](http://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](mailto:Wasielewski.3@nd.edu)

### 2004 ESPN.com/USA Softball Top 25 - Feb. 25

Rnk-Team, Points, '04 Record, last ranking
1. <b>UCLA</b> (20) 500 13-0 1
2. <b>Arizona</b> 471 16-0 3
3. <b>California</b> 469 13-0 2
4. <b>Washington</b> 430 11-2 5
5. <b>Oklahoma</b> 394 12-2-1 4
6. <b>Georgia</b> 383 9-2 6
7. <b>Stanford</b> 374 11-2 8
8. <b>La.-Lafayette</b> 347 13-1 9
9. <b>Alabama</b> 344 9-3 7
10. <b>Florida State</b> 309 12-1 10
11. <b>Tennessee</b> 295 13-2 12
12. <b>Michigan</b> 286 8-2 11
13. <b>LSU</b> 225 10-3 16
14. <b>Nebraska</b> 190 6-4 14
15. <b>Fresno State</b> 186 5-2 14
16. <b>Texas</b> 168 8-4 15
17. <b>Oregon</b> 146 8-4 21
18. <b>Oregon State</b> 145 14-6 18
19. <b>Pacific</b> 132 12-2 NR
20. <b>South Carolina</b> 113 8-0 23
21. <b>Arizona State</b> 104 15-6 22
<b>Iowa</b> 104 3-2 19
23. <b>Florida</b> 79 12-2 NR
24. <b>CS Fullerton</b> 49 3-6 20
25. <b>South Florida</b> 43 15-2 NR

Dropped out: DePaul, Texas State

Others receiving votes: Texas State (33), DePaul (32), Long Beach State (29), NOTRE DAME (23), Northwestern (13), Illinois (12), Oklahoma State (6), Florida Atlantic (6), CS Northridge (6), Massachusetts (4), Georgia Tech (3), Michigan State (2), Auburn (2).

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)

sons, 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 UNLV 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 Nebraska at the Cornhuskers' 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 Cajuns 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 three-run round tripper.

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 UNLV Classic two weeks ago, Notre Dame utilized four clutch home runs to secure two victories. Sophomore Kellie Middleton lauched 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 previously cut the Cornhusker lead down to 4-2 with a two-run homer in the fifth.

**Scouting the Irish:** For the first time in four years, the Notre Dame softball team will be forced to develop a new identity. The graduation of four starting seniors, with three of the starters having been in the line up for four years and the fourth for three, means that head coach Deanna Gumpf will be writing a new infield on her lineup card for the first time in four years.

Second team all-BIG EAST catcher Mallorie Lenn (.238, 6 HR, 25 RBI in '03) returns behind the plate and will catch a largely intact pitching staff - but the other four infield positions will feature

### 2004 USA Today/NFCA Division I Top 25 - Feb. 25

Rnk-Team, Points, '03 Record, last ranking
1. <b>UCLA</b> (21) 597 13-0 1
2. <b>Arizona</b> (2) 576 16-0 2
3. <b>California</b> (1) 555 13-0 3
4. <b>Washington</b> 506 11-2 4
5. <b>Oklahoma</b> 500 12-2-1 4
6. <b>Georgia</b> 465 9-2 6
7. <b>Michigan</b> 422 8-2 9
<b>Stanford</b> 422 11-2 8
9. <b>Alabama</b> 407 9-3 7
10. <b>La.-Lafayette</b> 400 13-1 10
11. <b>Florida State</b> 362 12-1 11
12. <b>LSU</b> 331 12-3 13
13. <b>Tennessee</b> 285 13-2 18
14. <b>Nebraska</b> 273 6-4 12
15. <b>Texas</b> 208 8-4 14
16. <b>Fresno State</b> 201 5-2 16
17. <b>Oregon</b> 180 8-4 20
18. <b>Arizona State</b> 139 15-6 22
19. <b>Iowa</b> 123 3-2 18
20. <b>South Carolina</b> 117 8-0 23
21. <b>Pacific</b> 114 12-2 NR
22. <b>South Florida</b> 93 15-2 NR
23. <b>Texas A&amp;M</b> 75 8-7 15
24. <b>CS Fullerton</b> 75 3-6 17
25. <b>Oregon State</b> 71 15-6 24

Others receiving votes: Florida (66), Northwestern (49), Illinois (46), Texas State (29), Long Beach State (22), DePaul (22), Florida Atlantic (17), Georgia Tech (14), Tulsa (12), Oklahoma State (8), CS Northridge (6), NOTRE DAME (6).

2004 opponents in bold.  
( ) - first place votes

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

Preseason: ORV  
Feb. 18: ORV (27th)  
Feb. 25: ORV (t-36th)

## 2004 BIG EAST Conference Standings

Team	BIG EAST				OVERALL				vs. ND	
	W-L	Pts.	H	A	W-L-T	Pct.	H	A		N
Virginia Tech	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	6-1-0	.857	0-0	0-0	6-1	April 30 (home)
St. John's	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	4-1-0	.800	0-0	0-0	4-1	May 9 (away)
Seton Hall	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	3-1-0	.750	0-0	0-0	3-1	May 8 (away)
NOTRE DAME	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	5-3-0	.625	0-0	0-0	5-3	
Rutgers	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	3-3-0	.500	0-0	0-0	3-3	April 25 (away)
Syracuse	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	5-6-0	.455	0-0	1-0	4-6	April 10 (home)
Boston College	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	4-6-0	.400	0-0	0-0	4-6	April 4 (home)
Pittsburgh	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	2-3-0	.400	0-0	0-0	2-3	May 2 (home)
Villanova	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	2-4-0	.333	0-0	0-0	2-4	April 24 (away)
Connecticut	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0-0	.000	0-0	0-0	0-0	April 2 (home)
Providence	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0-0	.000	0-0	0-0	0-0	April 18 (home)

**Note:** 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.

new players. A two year starter in leftfield, junior Liz Hartmann (.236, 9 HR, 29 RBI) comes in a few steps to take over third base. Sophomore Sara Schoonaert (.5-15, 1 RBI) will be the shortstop, freshman Stephanie Brown at second base and sophomore Meagan Ruthrauff (.310, 4 HR, 27 RBI) will be at first.

While the infield might take awhile to come together this season, the outfield should be both a defensive and offensive strength. Junior Megan Ciolli (.356, 4 HR, 24 RBI, 12 SB) will be the anchor in centerfield, beginning her second season as the starter in that position after starting in rightfield her rookie season. On Ciolli's right will be senior Nicole deFau (.271, 1 HR, 5 RBI) in leftfield - who split time with sophomore Kellie Middleton (.222, 3 HR, 9 RBI, 15 SB) last year in rightfield. Middleton returns to start in rightfield for 2004.

Off the bench, Notre Dame will receive catching relief from two freshmen - Carissa Jaquish and Gessica Hufnagle. Jaquish also is among the leading candidates at DP. Junior Nicole Wicks, a transfer from Washington, will back up the interior infield positions, all the outfield positions and be among the first options for a pinch runner. Freshman Kenya Fuemmeler can also play the outfield as well as relief pitch.

The pitching staff should prove to be a strength this season for the Irish. Sophomore Heather Booth (21-10, 1.93 ERA) returns from her BIG EAST Rookie of the Year performance a year ago to lead the staff, though junior Steffany Stenglein (10-4) looks to be regaining her freshman form after battling through an injury in 2003. The always reliable Carrie Wisen (7-3, 1.67 ERA) will be the first option for relief - as well as seeing some time at DP. As mentioned, Fuemmeler will give Gumpf another arm to call on in the bullpen as well.

**Notre Dame will face a loaded early season schedule:** In what has developed into a yearly tradition for the Fighting Irish softball team, Notre Dame will 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 will face eight ranked teams (#2/3 California (L, 1-2), #6/6 Georgia, #12/7 Michigan, #8/8 Nebraska (W, 6-4), #8/8 Stanford (L, 2-4), #20/17 CS Fullerton, #10/11 Florida State, NR (now #19/21) Pacific (L, 1-12) - (ranking vs. teams played are indicative of team's ranking when game was played) - including two top-25 teams this weekend. The Irish also will take on DePaul later on this season at Ivy Field (April 27) and have the opportunity to play several more ranked teams during bracket play at the NFCA Leadoff Classic and the Seminole Classic.

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

### 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: Kellie Middleton, Fr., R/R  
 LF: Nicole deFau, Sr., R/R  
 DP: Carissa Jaquish, Fr., R/R  
 P: Heather Booth, So., R/R  
 or Steffany Stenglein, Jr., R/R

#### Reserves:

P/DP: Carrie Wisen, Jr., R/R  
 IF/OF: Nicole Wicks, Jr., R/R  
 P/UT: Kenya Fuemmeler, Fr., R/R  
 C: Gessica Hufnagle, Fr., 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-en

### Notre Dame Statistical Leaders

<b>Batting Average</b>	
Ciolti .....	.480
Schoonaert .....	.421
Hartmann .....	.391
<b>Hits</b>	
Ciolti .....	12
Hartmann .....	9
Middleton .....	9
<b>RBI</b>	
Hartmann .....	7
Middleton .....	4
Brown .....	4
<b>Home Runs</b>	
Hartmann .....	3
Ciolti .....	1
Middleton .....	1
Brown .....	1
<b>Stolen Bases</b>	
Middleton .....	5
Ciolti .....	3
Brown .....	2
<b>Slugging Percentage</b>	
Hartmann .....	.870
Ciolti .....	.720
Middleton .....	.652
<b>On Base Percentage</b>	
Ciolti .....	.500
Ruthrauff .....	.500
Schoonaert .....	.450
<b>Pitching Record</b>	
Wisn .....	2-0
Booth .....	2-1
Stenglein .....	1-2
<b>ERA</b>	
Stenglein .....	2.10
Booth .....	2.33
Wisn .....	10.50
<b>Strikeouts</b>	
Booth .....	30
Stenglein .....	13
<b>Innings Pitched</b>	
Booth .....	30.0
Stenglein .....	16.2
Wisn .....	4.2
<b>Appearances</b>	
Booth .....	5
Stenglein .....	3
Wisn .....	3
Fuemmeler .....	1

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 Championship 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 win in its last 30 games entering the NCAA regional.

**First career:** With several of the '04 freshman class playing key roles during the season, here is a look at each player's career firsts over the last week-end:

**Stephanie Brown:** First career... hit: vs. Hawaii ... RBI: vs. Hawaii ... SB vs. UNLV ... HR vs. #8/8 Nebraska ... assist: vs. Hawaii ... run: vs. Nebraska

**Kenya Fuemmeler:** First career... run: vs. Hawaii ... appearance: vs. Pacific

**Carissa Jaquish:** First career... hit: vs. #8/8 Nebraska

**Gessica Hufnagle** scored her first career run vs. #8/8 Stanford last weekend.

**Closer look at the Irish pitching staff:** Notre Dame should be able to lean on two strengths this season, a quick and athletic outfield and a seasoned and talented pitching staff. Junior Carrie Wisen and Steffany Stenglein, along with sophomore Heather Booth, represent 362 of 373 innings pitched for Notre Dame last season.

Booth won the BIG EAST Rookie of the Year award by going 21-10 with a 1.93 ERA as the number one starter in '03. Stenglein, who was recovering from off season surgery which curtailed her pre-season workouts, found it difficult to reach the level of her freshman season (in which she also won 21 games). Wisen was her usual steady self in the bullpen, posting a 7-3 record with a 1.67 ERA and two saves.

Stenglein is back to full strength and poised for a break out season, while Booth and Wisen give Notre Dame a strong pitching staff to work with. Add in talented freshman Kenya Fuemmeler (the career prep strikeout record holder

### Notre Dame Season Bests Individual

Hits	4	Ciolti	vs. Portland St.
RBI	4	Hartmann	vs. Nebraska
2B	1	nine times	
3B	1	deFau	vs. Hawaii
HR	2	Hartmann	vs. Nebraska
TB	9	Hartmann	vs. Nebraska
BB	2	Ruthrauff	vs. Hawaii
SB	2	Ciolti	vs. California
	2	Middleton	vs. UNLV
PO	12	Jaquish	vs. UNLV
Ass.	4	Hartmann	vs. Nebraska
IP	7.0	three times	
SO	10	Stenglein	vs. UNLV

### Team

AB	30	vs. Nebraska
Runs	8	vs. Hawaii
Hits	13	vs. Nebraska
RBI	6	vs. Nebraska
	6	vs. Hawaii
2B	3	vs. Nebraska
3B	1	vs. Hawaii
HR	3	vs. Nebraska
TB	25	vs. Nebraska
BB	2	three times
SB	4	vs. California
	4	vs. UNLV
PO	21	four times
Ass.	12	vs. Hawaii
IP	7.0	five times
SO	10	vs. UNLV

### BIG EAST Weekly Awardwinners

#### Player of the Week

Feb. 23 - Jo Sherlick, St. John's  
Kelly Brown, Virginia Tech

#### Pitcher of the Week

Feb. 23 - Megan Meyer, Seton Hall



## 2004 Notre Dame Softball Results

Date	Opponent	Score	RHE-RNE	Inn.	Overall-BIG EAST	Pitcher	GW Run/GW RBI
2-13	vs. Hawaii	W 8-7	8/12/3-7/10/2	7	1-0 0-0	Wisn (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	Wisn (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)	-
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

in Missouri) and the Notre Dame pitching staff looks to be among the best in the BIG EAST Conference.

**Head coach 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 87-37 (.702) 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 UNLV 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.

**Notre Dame picked to win its third-straight 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 road:

A complete recap, plus game boxscore, will be posted on [www.und.com](http://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.

**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.