



Notre Dame
Sports Information
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2004 Schedule (12-6)

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. (16/6) Georgia	L, 1-7
28	vs. (24/24) CS Fullerton	W, 5-4 (8)
28	vs. Princeton	W, 10-1 (6)
29	vs. (14/14) Nebraska	W, 1-0
29	vs. Georgia Tech	W, 2-1
Mar. 6	vs. Fla. International	L, 1-2
6	vs. Massachusetts	L, 2-4
7	vs. North Carolina	W, 2-0
7	at Florida Atlantic	W, 2-0
11	at (4/5) Florida State	5:00 p.m.
12	vs. (11/12) 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 (19/19) Nebraska	7 p.m.
13	at (19/19) 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

2004 Notre Dame Softball

Notre Dame Softball Notes Package • Mar. 3, 2004 • Contact: Alan Wasielewski

Notre Dame at #4/5 Florida State, Thursday, March 11, 5:00 p.m.

2004 Florida State Invitational • March 12-14 • Tallahassee, Fla.

Notre Dame vs. #11/12 Michigan, Friday, March 12, 10:00 a.m.

Notre Dame vs. Troy State, Friday, March 12, 6:00 p.m.

Notre Dame vs. Georgia State, Saturday, March 13, 10:00 a.m.

Notre Dame vs. Maryland, Saturday, March 13, 12:00 p.m.

Tournament continues Sunday, March 14

Irish Quick Facts:

- Notre Dame returns to Tallahassee, Fla., for the first time since 1996 to participate in the 2004 Semiole Classic.

- This weekend caps off the Irish spring break trip, during which they also competed in last week's FAU/Worth Invitational.

- Notre Dame is 12-6 this season and has won seven of its last 10 games.

Irish head up the Florida peninsula to Tallahassee: The University of Notre Dame softball team (12-6) continues its 2004 season in Tallahassee, Fla., this weekend, facing #4/5 Florida State, then taking part in the Seminole Classic over the weekend. The tournament field includes Florida State, Texas A&M, Central Michigan, Nebraska, St. Joseph, Robert Morris, Michigan, Notre Dame, Troy State, Maryland, Georgia State, Penn State, North Carolina, Florida A&M and Saint Louis.

The tournament is set up in similar fashion to the NFCA Leadoff Classic, as the team's play each other in 'pools', then enter bracket play late Saturday and Sunday. Notre Dame could face any combination of the participating teams in bracket play.

Gametracker will be available vs. Florida State: In conjunction with the Florida State website, www.und.com will offer Gametracker on Thursday when Notre Dame matches up with #4/5 Florida State. Gametracker provides live statistics, boxscores and play by play (updated after each play in real time) for free. To find the Gametracker link, go to the www.und.com main page, scroll down the right side of the page to the correct game and click on the Gametracker link.

The Florida State Invitational field: A quick look at Notre Dame's competition in the Florida State Invitational this weekend, plus Thursday's match up with the Seminoles-

Florida State: The Seminoles are among the hottest teams in the country, winning nine of their last 11 games and are 22-3 overall this season ... FSU has defeated four top 25 teams during that stretch ... Jessica Van der Linden leads the offense with a .353 average and 19 RBI ... the Seminoles have seven hitters with over 10 RBI so far this season ... Van der Linden also is a force in the pitching circle, boasting a 0.34 ERA, 11-2 record and 149 strikeouts in 82.0 IP ... Thursday will mark the fourth meeting between the Irish and Seminoles, with FSU leading the all-time series 2-1 ... Notre Dame defeated ninth-ranked FSU 1-0 in 1996 in Tallahassee.

Michigan: The Irish and Wolverines will be meeting for the 11th time on Friday ... Michigan leads the all-time series 6-4, including a 5-3 win in the NCAA Region VII Tournament last season to eliminate the Irish from postseason play ... Notre Dame's last win in the series came in 1999, a 1-0 victory over the fifth-ranked Wolverines ... Jessica Merchant has paced UM's offense this season, hitting .319 with six home runs and 14 RBI ... the pitching duties have been split by Nicole Motycka (6-3, 1.01 ERA) and Jennie Ritter (4-2, 1.06 ERA) ... Michigan is 12-5 in 2004.

Troy State: Troy State is 10-9 in 2004 and is hitting .288 as a team ... Bonnie Belin paces the offense with a .412 batting average and 13 RBI ... Tamara Howren also is hitting the ball well (.379) with five home runs and 21 RBI ... Laine Harcourt has seen the most action in the pitching circle (60.1 IP), posting a 4-5 record and 3.73 ERA ... Notre Dame and Troy State will be meeting for the first time.

Georgia State: Georgia State enters this weekend's tournament with a 6-6

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)	4-4, 2.66 ERA, 37 Ks
4	Carrie Wisen**	Jr.	P	5-7	R/R	Fullerton, CA (Sonora)	2-0, 5 APP
5	Kenya Fuemmeler	Fr.	UT/P	5-7	R/R	Salisbury, MO (Salisbury)	1 APP, 5 GP
8	Liz Hartmann**	Jr.	OF	5-9	R/R	Novato, CA (San Marin)	.245, 3 HR, 10 RBI
9	Nicole deFau***	Sr.	IF/OF	5-9	R/R	Southington, CT (Southington)	.271, 3 2B, 3 RBI
11	Gessica Hufnagle	Fr.	C	5-6	R/R	Middlebury, IN (Northridge)	10 GP, 1 R
16	Mallorie Lenn*	So.	C	5-8	R/R	Garden Grove, CA (Pacifica)	.163, 2 2B, 3 RBI
20	Nicole Wicks	Jr.	IF/OF	5-5	R/R	Renton, WA (Hazen)	.367, 2 HR, 3 RBI, 11 R
21	Megan Ciolli**	Jr.	OF	5-9	L/R	Terre Haute, IN (North Vigo)	.382, 21 H, 4 2B, 5 RBI
22	Sara Schoonaert*	So.	IF/OF	5-5	R/R	Houston, TX (Clear Lake)	.191, 1 2B, 2 RBI
24	Stephanie Brown	Fr.	IF	5-6	L/R	Chandler, AZ (Corona Del Sol)	.246, 9 R, 3 HR, 6 RBI
27	Carissa Jaquish	Fr.	C	5-6	R/R	Highland, CA (Redlands E.V.)	.146, 1 SB
32	Heather Booth*	So.	RHP	5-10	R/R	Riverside, CA (MLK)	6-2, 1.48 ERA, 66 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)	.362, 3 HR, 12 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

record ... the Irish and Panthers will be meeting for the first time ... Georgia State is led on offense by Candace Jones (.393) and Sara Berzofsky (.265, 7 RBI) ... Andrea McNary is the staff ace with a 1.20 ERA in 41.0 IP.

Maryland: Maryland enters this weekend's tournament with an 8-7 record ... Keri Lounge is hitting .391 this season with 11 RBI ... the Terrapins utilize four pitchers on a regular basis, but Jessica Aditays has seen the most innings (42.0) with a 4-4 record and 2.33 ERA ... the Irish and Terrapins will be meeting for the third time ... Notre Dame won the previous two meetings, the most recent a 4-1 victory over Maryland in the Holiday Inn Invitational (@ South Florida) during the 2001 season.

Last weekend: Notre Dame experienced a bad day and a good day at the FAU/Worth Invitational, falling flat on the first day of the tournament vs. Florida International (2-1 loss) and Massachusetts (4-2 loss), but rebounding to shut out North Carolina and Florida Atlantic by identical scores of 2-0 ... Heather Booth and Steffany Stenglein both tossed complete game shutouts on Sunday, with Booth ending up one hit away from her first career perfect game.

Notre Dame matchup with #19/19 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 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.

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.

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 10

Rnk-Team, Points, '04 Record, last ranking
1. UCLA (19) 499 21-0 1
2. Arizona (1) 481 25-0 2
3. California 456 23-2 3
4. Florida State 419 21-3 4
5. LSU 387 22-4 5
6. Georgia 386 17-4 7
7. Oklahoma 361 18-5-1 6
Alabama 361 19-3 8
9. Stanford 347 18-5 10
10. La.-Lafayette 329 24-2 11
11. Washington 322 13-5 9
12. Michigan 267 12-5 12
13. Tennessee 265 19-5 13
14. Pacific 216 15-3 t-14
15. South Carolina 200 13-3 15
16. Oregon 194 17-5 16
17. Fresno State 193 13-5 17
18. Oregon State 119 19-7 19
19. Nebraska 95 11-8 18
20. South Florida 83 22-5 NR
21. Florida 77 12-5-1 23
22. Texas 76 12-9 20
23. Arizona State 72 18-9 24
24. Georgia Tech 58 19-5 25
25. Long Beach St. 53 17-4 NR

Dropped out: Iowa, NOTRE DAME

Others receiving votes: **Northwestern** (36), Texas State (31), NOTRE DAME (23), CS Northridge (17), Baylor (15), Illinois (15), Auburn (13), Iowa (12), Texas A&M (12), Michigan State (5), Central Michigan (3), **CS Fullerton** (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)
Mar. 3: 23rd
Mar. 10: ORV (28th)

Irish have knocked off three of six ranked opponents this season: The victories over #24/24 CS Fullerton and #14/14 Nebraska last weekend give the Irish three wins over ranked opponents this season ... Notre Dame knocked off #8/8 Nebraska 6-4 on Feb. 14 at the UNLV Classic ... those three wins in the first 14 games of the season are the second-best total in school history, behind the four by the 2001 team (#4 Washington, #18 South Carolina, #24 CS Northridge twice) and tied with the 1995 (#14 Texas A&M, #18 Illinois-Chicago, #21 Oklahoma State) and 1994 (#10 Michigan, #25 Minnesota, #5 CS Fullerton) squads ... three of Notre Dame's four losses this season came to ranked teams, while the fourth (Pacific) is currently ranked #14/18 ... the other Irish setbacks and at the hands of #2/3 California, #8/8 Stanford and #6/6 Georgia.

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 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 four weeks ago, Notre Dame utilized four clutch

2004 USA Today/NFCA Division I Top 25 - March 3

Rnk-Team, Points, '03 Record, last ranking
1. UCLA (22) 574 21-0 1
2. Arizona (1) 601 25-0 2
3. California 518 22-2 4
4. LSU 503 22-4 3
5. Florida State 459 21-3 6
6. Oklahoma 447 18-5-1 5
7. Georgia 427 17-4 8
8. Washington 425 13-5 7
9. Alabama 392 19-3 9
10. La.-Lafayette 371 25-2 12
11. Stanford 324 18-5 10
Michigan 324 12-5 11
13. Tennessee 306 19-5 13
14. Oregon 235 17-5 14
15. Fresno State 234 13-5 15
16. South Carolina 230 13-3 15
17. Pacific 193 15-3 18
18. South Florida 150 22-5 22
19. Nebraska 125 11-8 17
20. Arizona State 123 23-9 20
21. Florida 100 19-3 23
21. Texas 100 13-9 19
23. Oregon State 51 19-7 25
24. Georgia Tech 46 19-5 24
25. Northwestern 44 12-4 NR

Others receiving votes: Long Beach State (37), Texas State (33), Baylor (30), Iowa (27), NOTRE DAME (25), Florida Atlantic (18), Illinois (16), Auburn (6), Michigan State (6), Houston (5), Texas A&M (4).

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)
Mar. 3: ORV (26th)
Mar. 10: ORV (29th)

2004 BIG EAST Conference Standings

Team	BIG EAST				OVERALL				vs. ND	
	W-L	Pts.	H	A	W-L-T	Pct.	H	A		N
Seton Hall	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	10-3-0	.769	0-0	0-0	10-3	May 8 (away)
NOTRE DAME	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	12-6-0	.667	0-0	0-0	12-6	
Virginia Tech	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	10-6-0	.625	1-1	0-0	9-5	April 30 (home)
Boston College	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	12-9-0	.571	0-0	4-2	8-7	April 4 (home)
Providence	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	1-1-0	.500	0-0	0-0	1-1	April 18 (home)
Rutgers	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	6-7-0	.462	0-0	0-0	6-7	April 25 (away)
St. John's	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	7-10-0	.412	0-0	1-7	6-3	May 9 (away)
Villanova	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	7-10-0	.412	0-0	0-0	7-10	April 24 (away)
Pittsburgh	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	6-9-0	.400	0-0	0-0	6-9	May 2 (home)
Syracuse	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	5-12-0	.313	0-0	1-0	5-11	April 10 (home)
Connecticut	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	2-8-0	.200	0-0	0-0	2-8	April 2 (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.

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

Pitcher of the Week

Feb. 23 - Megan Meyer, SHU

March 1 - Heather Booth, ND

March 8 - Megan Meyer, SHU



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 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 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

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

P: 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-ehh

Notre Dame Statistical Leaders

Batting Average	
Middleton391
Ciolti382
Wicks362

Hits	
Ciolti	21
Ruthrauff	17
Brown	14

RBI	
Ruthrauff	12
Hartmann	10
Brown	6

Home Runs	
Hartmann	3
Ruthrauff	3
Brown	3
Wicks	2

Stolen Bases	
Ciolti	7
Middleton	5
Brown	4

Slugging Percentage	
Middleton652
Wicks633
Ruthrauff596

On Base Percentage	
Ruthrauff483
Ciolti404
Wicks387

Pitching Record	
Booth	6-2
Wisn	2-0
Stenglein	4-4

ERA	
Booth	1.48
Stenglein	2.66
Wisn	5.07

Strikeouts	
Booth	66
Stenglein	37
Wisn	8

Innings Pitched	
Booth	66.0
Stenglein	44.2
Wisn	9.2

Appearances	
Booth	10
Stenglein	8
Wisn	5
Fuemmeler	1

should be both a defensive and offensive strength. Junior Megan Ciolti (.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 Ciolti'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 Wisn (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 (or have faced) nine 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 #6/7
- #11/12 Michigan (March 12)
- #8/8 Nebraska (W, 6-4), now ranked

Notre Dame Season Bests Individual

Hits	4	Ciolti	vs. Portland St.
Runs	3	Ciolti	vs. Princeton
RBI	5	Ruthrauff	vs. Princeton
2B	1	15 times	
3B	1	deFau	vs. Hawaii
HR	2	Hartmann	vs. Neb. (2-14)
TB	9	Hartmann	vs. Neb. (2-14)
BB	2	Ruthrauff	vs. Hawaii
SB	2	four times	
PO	12	Jaquish	vs. UNLV
Ass.	4	five times	
IP	8.0	Booth	vs. CS Fullerton
SO	11	Booth	vs. CS Fullerton

Team

AB	30	vs. Nebraska (2-14)
Runs	10	vs. Princetoon
Hits	13	vs. Nebraska (2-14)
RBI	10	vs. Princeton
2B	3	vs. Nebraska (2-14)
	3	vs. Stanford
3B	1	vs. Hawaii
HR	3	vs. Nebraska (2-14)
TB	25	vs. Nebraska (2-14)
BB	4	vs. Stanford
	4	vs. Princeton
SB	6	vs. Princeton
PO	24	vs. CS Fullerton
Ass.	12	vs. Hawaii
IP	8.0	vs. CS Fullerton
SO	11	vs. CS Fullerton

Miscellaneous Stats

Multiple Hit Games

- 6 - Ruthrauff
- 5 - Ciolti
- 4 - Wicks

Multiple RBI Games

- 3 - Ruthrauff
- 2 - Hartmann

Hitting Streaks

Longest of season -

- 6 - Wicks (2-28 - 3-6)
- 6 - Ciolti (2-13 - 2-20)
- 6 - Middleton (2-13 - 2-20)

Longest active -

- 3 - Brown (3-6 -)
- 3 - Lenn (3-6 -)

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)	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/Ciolfi
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

#19/19

#14/14 Nebraska (W, 1-0), now ranked

#19/19

• #8/8 Stanford (L, 2-4), now ranked

#9/11

• #24/24 CS Fullerton (W, 5-4), now unranked

• #4/6 Florida State, (March 11)

• NR Pacific (L, 1-12), now ranked #14/17

• NR Georgia Tech (W, 2-1), now ranked #24/24

The Irish also will take on DePaul later on this season at Ivy Field (April 27) and have the opportunity to play more ranked teams during bracket play at 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 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.

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 Wisn 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). Wisn 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 Wisn give Notre Dame a strong pitching staff to work with. Add in talented freshman Kenya Fuemmeler (the career prep strikeout record holder 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 94-40 (.701) 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 Ciolfi 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 Ciolfi (Terre Haute, Ind.) was one of the 40 players to make the list.

Ciolfi 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, Ciolfi boasts a .350 career average – hitting either first or sec-

ond 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 18 hits (.419 average), six stolen bases (in six attempts) and has contributed three out-field assists.

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
6. 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 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 Stonglein • 5-10 • Junior • P • R/R • Huntington Beach, CA (Marina)

2004 - 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 Wilson • 5-7 • Junior • P/DP • R/R • Fullerton, CA (Sonora)

2004 - Entered the Massachusetts game in relief and enjoyed the best outing of the year, 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 • Sallsbury, MO (Sallsbury)

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

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

2004 - 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 - 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 tying 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 slame 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 tying run (4-4) in Notre Dame's eventual 8-7 victory.

#11 Jessica 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 Mallerie Lonn • 5-8 • Sophomore • C • R/R • Garden Grove, CA (Pacifica)

2004 - 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 miiddle ... 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 (Hazon)

2004 - Transfer from the University of Washington ... has stepped in as the starting rightfield position due to the loss of Kellie Middleton (injured) ... has piled up 11 hits in her last eight games ... raised her batting average .276 points over that same amount of time ... 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 Clohly • 5-5 • Junior • OF • L/R • Terre Haute, IN (North Vigo)

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

2004 - 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 ... four for four with a home run and three singles vs. Portland State, posting the second four-hit game of her career (Valparaiso 2002) ... 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 - 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 eventually 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 (Redlands East Valley)

2004 - Platooned at catcher with starter Mallorie Lenn ... has started 13 of 14 games this season at either catcher or DP ... 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 UNLV Classic.

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

• BIG EAST Pitcher of the Week (03-01-04)

2004 - 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 • Sophomore • 1B • R/R • La Mirada, CA (La Serna)

• BIG EAST Player of the Week (03-01-04)

2004 - 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-winning 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.