



2002 Bearcats: The Tradition Continues

Coming off the best season in school history and a sweet 16 appearance, expectations were high for the 2002 Cincinnati women's soccer team. Behind the most successful senior class ever at UC, the 2002 squad used trademark stifling defense to claim back-to-back Conference USA Tournament championships and another trip to the NCAA College Cup.

Defense One of Nation's Best

On the strength of 13 shutouts, including eight in a row, the Bearcat defense owned Division I's 10th best goals against average, surrendering 0.60 goals per game. UC also boasted the nation's 14th best shutout percentage at 0.54. Individually, goalkeeper Tracy Hale ranked 10th in D-I with a 0.62 goals against average.

Season Of Streaks

UC put together several lengthy streaks in 2002, all of which came to an end during Oct. 27th's 2-0 loss to Saint Louis at Meyers Field. The Bearcats put together a 10-match unbeaten streak. Included in that string was a period of 943:42 where they held opponents scoreless, setting a new school record by recording eight-straight shutouts. UC also ran up a 23-match unbeaten streak in C-USA regular season matches.

2002 Cincinnati Awards

NSCAA All-Region

Heather Herweh, *First Team*
Amy Simonson, *Second Team*
Tasha Wagner, *Second Team*

Soccer Buzz All-Region

Heather Herweh, *First Team*
Tasha Wagner, *Second Team*
Amy Simonson, *Third Team*

All-Conference USA

Heather Herweh, *First Team*
Amy Simonson, *Second Team*

Conference USA All-Tournament

Tasha Wagner, *Offensive MVP*
Stacey Kyser, *Defensive MVP*
Heather Herweh
Amy Mink

All-Ohio

Heather Herweh, *First Team*
Amy Simonson, *First Team*
Tasha Wagner, *First Team*
Kristina Wilson, *Third Team*
Amy Mink, *Third Team*
Tracy Hale, *Third Team*

Ohio Senior All-Star Game

Heather Herweh
Amy Simonson
Tianna Oliver

NSCAA Scholar All-American

Kristina Wilson, *Third Team*

Jewish Sports Review All-American

Rachel Lieberman

Season Records Fall

The Bearcats broke three school records during the 2002 campaign.

- Goalkeeper Tracy Hale passed Christy Hoffman for most home shutouts in a season with five and half. Hoffman set the record in 2001 with 4.5.
- With its 0-0 tie with No. 12 Charlotte, UC tied the single-season mark for ties with three. The record has been reached four times previously, in 1983, 1990, 1996 & 1997.
- UC's streak of eight consecutive shutouts surpassed the old mark of seven. The previous record had been accomplished twice, in 2001 and 1982.

Changing The Record Books

With her 10 assists last season, Tasha Wagner moved into fourth place on the career assists list with 19.

Senior Amy Simonson moved into a tie for eighth place on the career points list at UC with her goal against Kentucky in the NCAA tournament. Simonson, who graduated with 62 career points, is also tied for seventh place on the all-time assists list with 16 and is tied for eighth place in career goals with 23.

In her first season as the Bearcats' starting goalkeeper, Tracy Hale moved into sixth-place on the career shutouts list at UC with 12.5. Hale had 12 shutouts last year and shared a shutout in 2001.

C-USA Tourney Champs Again

The Bearcats used victories over South Florida, East Carolina and Marquette en route to the C-USA title in Charlotte, N.C., their second in as many years and fourth in league history.

Amy Simonson netted the go-ahead goal 1:51 into the second half, leading UC to a 3-1 victory over South Florida in the quarterfinals. Amy Mink scored the game-winner off a corner kick from Tasha

Wagner in the 88th minute, giving Cincinnati a 2-1 win over East Carolina in the semifinals.

Simonson assisted on two goals, including the game-winner by Wagner with 6:38 left, as the Bearcats defeated Marquette, 2-1, in the championship.

Second Straight NCAA Bid Ends in Heartbreak

Cincinnati made its second consecutive trip to the NCAA Collegiate Cup in 2002, hoping to repeat 2001's trip to the sweet 16.

Amy Simonson netted a goal just over three minutes into the second half as the Bearcats defeated Kentucky, 1-0, in their opening round match in Knoxville, Tenn.

UC withstood a flurry of shots from the Wildcats and goalkeeper Tracy Hale came 30 yards off her line to thwart a break away opportunity and keep the shut out intact.

In the second round, Tennessee scored the game-winning goal with 4:59 remaining in the second half to take a hard-fought, 2-1 match over UC, ending the Bearcats's season at 17-4-3.

2002 Individual Statistics

Overall: 17-4-3 Home: 7-1-1 Road: 6-3-1 Neutral: 4-0-1
Conference USA: 6-1-3 Home: 3-1-1 Road: 3-0-1

Name	G-GS	Shots	Goals	Asts.	Pts	GWG	Y	R
Amy Simonson	24-23	54	9	3	21	6	0	0
Tasha Wagner	24-23	37	4	10	18	2	0	0
Tianna Oliver	24-18	32	7	3	17	2	0	0
Amy Mink	24-23	48	4	3	11	2	0	0
Rachel Lieberman	24-24	13	2	5	9	1	1	0
Marie Strelka	16-3	14	3	0	6	1	0	0
Lisa Stephens	24-24	44	2	2	6	1	0	0
Heather Herweh	24-24	21	1	3	5	1	2	0
Lauren Buland	17-0	10	1	1	3	0	0	0
Renee Balconi	24-24	5	1	0	2	0	0	0
Ashley Murphy	24-3	4	1	0	2	1	0	0
Kristen Baluta	22-0	10	0	1	1	0	0	0
Ashley Roush	22-0	3	0	0	0	0	1	1
Kristina Wilson	24-24	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kelly Riggsbee	24-2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stacey Kyser	24-24	2	0	0	0	0	1	0
Amanda Onnen	5-0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jill Firman	19-1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jennifer Sibert	21-0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Amy Bruewer	2-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Erin Cain	13-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ashley Moore	1-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Angie Meyer	10-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
UC Team	24-24	306	36	31	103	17	5	1
UC Opponents	24-24	221	15	15	45	4	5	0

Goalie Stats	G-GS	Min	Svs	Shots	GA	ShO	GAA	Y	R
Tracy Hale	24-24	2194	87	197	15	12.0	0.62	0	0
Marche Gendrew	2-0	23	0	0	0	1.0	0.00	0	0
Sherry Slye	2-0	30	2	3	0	1.0	0.00	0	0
UC Goalies	24-24	2247	93	200	15	13	0.60	0	0
Opp. Goalies	24-24	2247	132	274	36	5	1.44	0	0