

January 14, 2003

IOWA SOFTBALL
HAWKEYES RANKED 18th IN USA SOFTBALL/ESPN PRESEASON POLL

IOWA CITY – The University of Iowa softball team debuted at No. 18 in the initial 2004 USA Softball/ESPN poll. The Hawkeyes are coming off a 44-15 season in which they won the Big Ten Regular Season and Tournament titles, and advanced to the NCAA Regional Finals.

Defending NCAA Champion UCLA is ranked No. 1, while California, Arizona, Oklahoma and Washington round out the top five. Michigan was the highest ranked Big Ten team at No. 7, while Michigan State came in at No. 24. Northwestern, Ohio State and Minnesota were listed as receiving votes.

Iowa opens its season February 14 at the Georgia State Tournament in Atlanta, GA.

<u>Team Name</u>	<u>Totals</u>	<u>2003 Record</u>	<u>Rank in final 2003 Poll</u>
1. UCLA (18)	474	54-7	1.
2. California (1)	442	49-20	2
3. Arizona	436	56-7	3
4. Oklahoma	412	47-14	6
5. Washington	367	47-16-1	5
6. Alabama	358	49-21	7
7. Michigan	277	44-16	13
8. Nebraska	276	39-17	16
9. Louisiana Lafayette	268	47-11	8
10. Georgia	258	57-14	14
11. Texas	254	49-9	4
12. Stanford	236	41-26	18
13. Oregon	220	37-19	11
14. DePaul	219	48-7-1	10
15. LSU	199	50-18	17
16. Cal State Fullerton	180	41-15	9
17. Texas A&M	168	38-22	15
18. Iowa	166	44-15	20
19. Arizona State	145	32-25	22
20. Florida State	139	46-11	21
21. Fresno State	127	36-22	-
22. Oklahoma State	96	39-15	12
23. Oregon State	93	36-31	25
24. Michigan State	62	40-19	19
25. Tennessee	59	45-25	-

(First place votes are in parenthesis.)

