

March 14, 2004

<u>IOWA SOFTBALL</u> HAWKEYES TAKE THIRD AT NIST

SAN JOSE, CA – The University of Iowa softball team took third place at the National Invitational Softball Tournament with a 3-0 shutout of No. 20 Arizona State Sunday. The Hawkeyes are now 12-8 on the year. Arizona State fell to 27-12.

Sophomore hurler **Ali Arnold** continued her excellent season with a two-hit shutout of the Sun Devils. Arnold (7-4) struck out six and walked just one.

The offensive star for the Hawkeyes was sophomore third baseman **Kylie Murray**. The sophomore from Des Moines was 3-for-3 with a two-run homer and a pair of runs scored.

Iowa took a 1-0 lead in the bottom of the fifth with a sacrifice fly off the bat of senior **Amanda Hentges**. **Natalie Johnson** scored on the play.

Murray's two-run bomb in the bottom of the sixth gave Arnold the only cushion she needed, and she cruised to the win. The Hawkeyes are now 2-1 against Arizona State on the season, splitting a pair of games with the Sun Devils at the Louisville Slugger Classic.

The Hawkeyes will play a doubleheader against Sacramento State Wednesday starting at 4 p.m. central.

GAME SUMMARIES

No. 20 Arizona State0000000--022IOWA000012x--350

WP – Ali Arnold (7-4) LP – Serrano (12-4) HR – Kylie Murray

Director: Phil Haddy Associate Director: Steve Roe Assistant Directors: Traci Wagner, Matt Weitzel, Tony Wirt