



April 23, 2004

**IOWA SOFTBALL**  
**HAWKEYES TAKE 3-2 WIN IN 14<sup>th</sup> INNING**

**IOWA CITY** – The University of Iowa softball team took a dramatic, 3-2 win in 14 innings over Penn State Friday night at Pearl Field.

With the score tied 2-2 in the bottom of the 14<sup>th</sup>, the Hawkeyes were able to take advantage of a pair of Penn State errors to break the tie and steal the win. **Natalie Johnson** led off with a walk, then advanced all the way to third when an attempted throw to first base went wild on **Kylie Murray's** bunt attempt. Murray advanced to second on the play.

**Stacy May** ended things with a sharp grounder off the glove of the second baseman, allowing Johnson to score the winning run.

**Lisa Birocci** pitched nine and two-thirds innings of relief to pick up the win, striking out 14 Nittany Lion hitters.

The Hawkeyes got on the board first with some textbook execution. Johnson led off with a double, moved to third on a sacrifice bunt from Murray, then scored on an RBI groundout off the bat of May.

Penn State then tied things up in the third off a Hawkeye error, then took the lead in the fifth on an RBI fielders choice.

Things looked bleak for Iowa, trailing 2-1 in the bottom of the seventh, but freshman Mindy Heidgerken came through with a pinch hit home run over the left field fence, sending the game into extra innings.

Iowa had a chance to end things in the bottom of the 13<sup>th</sup> when **Elisha Huse** ripped a single with runners at first and second, but **Ali Arnold** was thrown out at the plate by centerfielder Leigh Murray.

Iowa (31-17, 9-2) will battle Penn State (19-27, 4-9) in a rematch Saturday at noon.

**GAME SUMMARY**

Penn State	001	010	000	000	00	--	2	11	5
<b>IOWA</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>000</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>000</b>	<b>01</b>	--	<b>3</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>3</b>

**WP – Lisa Birocci (14-9)**  
LP – Missy Beseres (8-15)

