



HAWKEYE HOME PLATE

Iowa Softball News and Notes

Pacific Mini Tournament
vs. Utah
Capital Classic Tournament

2005 IOWA SCHEDULE

19-4 Overall, 0-0 Big Ten

2/12-13	<i>at Stetson Invitational</i>	
2/12	Virginia Tech	W, 8-0 (6)
2/12	Stetson	L, 2-6
2/13	Virginia Tech	W, 3-2
2/13	Stetson	W, 3-0
2/18-20	<i>at Arizona State Tournament</i>	
2/18	Long Island	W, 6-0
2/18	Arizona State	W, 2-0
2/26-27	<i>at Louisville Tournament</i>	
2/26	Minnesota	W, 3-0
2/26	Louisville	W, 5-3
2/27	#24 Missouri	L, 3-1 (8)
2/27	Ball State	W, 8-0 (6)
3/4-6	<i>at Buzz Classic</i>	
3/4	Georgia Southern	W, 6-0
3/4	Georgia Southern	W, 6-0
3/5	Auburn	L, 2-1
3/5	Middle Tennessee State	W, 3-1
3/5	Gardner-Webb	W, 9-1 (5)
3/6	Virginia Tech	W, 3-1
3/6	Auburn	W, 16-1 (5)
3/6	Ohio State	W, 5-0
3/11-13	<i>at NIST, San Jose, CA</i>	
3/11	Connecticut	W, 5-0
3/11	UC Davis	W, 2-1 (8)
3/12	San Jose State	W, 5-4
3/12	#2 California	L, 2-7
3/13	Colorado State	W, 5-1
3/16	<i>at Pacific Mini Tournament</i>	
3/16	vs. Rhode Island	12:30 p.m.
3/16	vs. Pacific	2:30 p.m.
3/17	vs. Utah (at Pacific)	3 p.m.
3/18-20	<i>at Capital Classic Tournament</i>	
3/18	vs. Oregon State	2:30 p.m.
3/18	vs. Long Island	5 p.m.
3/19	vs. Utah Valley State	2:30 p.m.
3/19	vs. California	5 p.m.
3/20	vs. Rhode Island	11 a.m.
3/23	Illinois State (DH)	3 p.m.
3/26-27	Hawkeye Classic	
3/30	at Northern Iowa	3 p.m.
4/1	at Michigan*	3 p.m.
4/2	at Michigan*	Noon
4/3	at Northwestern (DH)*	Noon
4/6	at Northern Illinois	4 p.m.
4/8	Purdue* 6 p.m.	
4/9	Purdue* Noon	
4/10	Indiana (DH)*	Noon
4/13	William Penn	6 p.m.
4/15	at Ohio State*	3 p.m.
4/16	at Ohio State*	Noon
4/17	at Penn State (DH)*	11 a.m.
4/19	Iowa State	4 p.m.
4/22	at Michigan State*	3 p.m.
4/23	at Michigan State*	Noon
4/24	South Dakota State (DH)	1 p.m.
4/26	Western Illinois	6 p.m.
4/29	Wisconsin*	6 p.m.
4/30	Wisconsin*	Noon
5/1	Minnesota (DH)*	Noon
5/5	Drake 6 p.m.	
5/7	Illinois*	Noon
5/8	Illinois*	Noon
5/12-14	Big Ten Tournament	TBA
5/19-22	NCAA Regionals	TBA
5/27/29	NCAA Super Regional	TBA
6/2-6	Women's College World Series	TBA

Probable Iowa Lineup

No.	Name	Pos.	B-T	Yr.	GP	Avg.	Runs	Hits	RBI	HR	2B	SLG%	SB
14	Brandi Sargent	1B	L/L	Jr.	15	.323	4	31	7	3	1	.645	1
or 24	Steph Ackerson	1B	R-R	Fr.	20	.143	5	5	0	0	0	.143	2
2	Summer Downs	2B	R-R	Fr.	17	.260	10	13	8	1	3	.420	1
or 1	Emily Nichols	2B	R/R	Fr.	23	.407	13	24	25	9	5	.949	1
10	Stacy May	SS	R-R	Jr.	23	.300	16	21	10	4	5	.543	2
12	Abby Ruff	3B	R-R	Sr.	18	.200	3	5	2	0	1	.240	2
17	Kylie Murray	RF	R-R	Jr.	23	.283	7	15	10	1	2	.377	1
or 5	Jenna Spratt	RF	L-R	So.	19	.190	6	4	2	0	0	.190	1
11	Mindy Heidgerken	CF	R-R	So.	23	.226	11	12	6	0	4	.302	7
9	Natalie Johnson	LF	L-L	Jr.	23	.288	10	19	6	2	2	.409	1
13	Sami Baugh	C	R-R	So.	22	.276	7	16	12	2	3	.431	1

Probable Pitching Rotation

No.	Name	Throws	Yr.	Record	GS	SV	CG	SH	ERA	SO	BB	IP
4	Lisa Birocci	RHP	Sr.	11-3	13	3	11	6	0.91	98	14	92.1
3	Ali Arnold	RHP	Jr.	7-1	10	0	5	3	1.27	71	81	55.1
24	Steph Ackerson	RHP	Fr.	0-0	0	1	0	0	0.95	6	2	7.1

GOING BACK TO CALI

The University of Iowa softball team travels to Stockton, CA, on Wednesday to compete in the Pacific Mini Tournament. The Hawkeyes will face Rhode Island at 12:30 p.m. and Pacific at 2:30 p.m. Iowa will also face Utah on Thursday at 3 p.m. in Stockton.

The Hawkeyes will then travel to Sacramento, CA, to compete in the Capital Classic. Iowa will square off against Oregon State at 2:30 p.m. and Long Island at 5 p.m. on Friday. On Saturday, Iowa will face Utah Valley State at 2:30 p.m. and second-ranked California at 5 p.m. Competition will conclude on Sunday against Rhode Island at 11 a.m. All times listed are central.

HAWKEYES FINISH THIRD AT NIST

The Hawkeyes won four games at the National Invitational Softball Tournament in Sunnyvale, CA, last weekend.

In group play, Iowa defeated Connecticut 5-0 and UC Davis 2-1 in eight innings. Lisa Birocci threw a two-hit shutout against UConn and struck out five. Emily Nichols went 2-3 and hit her ninth home run of the season. Ali Arnold picked up the win against UC Davis, going the distance while striking out 10. Nichols had the game-winning RBI in the bottom of the eighth inning.

Iowa opened up championship bracket play against San Jose State. The Hawkeyes used home runs from Stacy May, Natalie Johnson and Brandi Sargent to secure a 5-4 victory. May was 2-3 in the game.

The Hawkeyes faced second-ranked California in the semifinals and lost 7-2. Kylie Murray tied the game in the top of the fifth with a two-run double,

2005 BIG TEN STANDINGS

		CONF.	OVERALL
1.	MICHIGAN	0-0	21-1
2.	IOWA	0-0	19-4
3.	NORTHWESTERN	0-0	13-6
4.	OHIO STATE	0-0	11-6
5.	ILLINOIS	0-0	11-7
6.	PENN STATE	0-0	10-7
7.	MINNESOTA	0-0	13-10
8.	PURDUE	0-0	14-11
9.	WISCONSIN	0-0	6-5
10.	INDIANA	0-0	6-17
11.	MICHIGAN ST.	0-0	4-14-1

IOWA SPORTS INFORMATION

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IOWA ON THE WEB

THE MEDIA AND PUBLIC CAN FIND A VALUABLE AND TIMELY SOURCE OF INFORMATION ABOUT IOWA ATHLETICS AT ITS WORLD WIDE WEB SITE. THE ADDRESS FOR THE SITE IS:

www.hawkeyesports.com

SOFTBALL PHONE NUMBERS

AREA CODE IS 319

SOFTBALL OFFICE 335-9257

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SPORTS MARKETING 335-9431

PRESS BOX 335-9296



Hawkeye Softball Notes

but two costly Iowa errors in the bottom of the fifth allowed Cal to regain the advantage.

Birocci threw her 11th complete game and record her 11th win of the season in the third place game against Colorado State. Six Hawkeyes picked up a hit against Colorado State.

SCOUTING RHODE ISLAND

The Rhode Island Rams are 1-7 this season.

Courtney Wall leads the Ram offense. She is batting .368 with two doubles, one home run and two RBI. Nicole Haywood is batting .360 with two doubles, one home run and six RBI.

Jaime Hughes is 1-2 with a 1.93 ERA inside the circle this season. She also leads the team with eight strikeouts.

This is the first meeting between the two teams.

SCOUTING PACIFIC

The Pacific Tigers are 12-8 this season.

Michelle Anunciation leads the Tiger offense. Anunciation is batting .369 with five doubles, two home runs and 12 RBI. Jennifer Curtier is batting .317 with three doubles, four home runs and 20 RBI.

Alyce Jorgensen and Natalie King lead the Tigers inside the circle. Jorgensen is 5-4 with a 3.02 ERA and has 20 strikeouts. King is 7-3 with a 3.11 ERA and 55 strikeouts.

Iowa leads the all-time series, 6-1.

SCOUTING UTAH

The Utah Utes are 8-12 this season.

Offensively, Devina Quintero is batting .340 with four doubles, one home run and four RBI. Ivette Hernandez is batting .267 with six home runs and 17 RBI.

Brianna Gourdin and Lindsie Nielsen lead the Utes inside the circle. Gourdin is 5-6 with a 1.59 ERA and has a team-high 50 strikeouts. Nielsen is 3-5 with a 4.17 ERA and has 29 strikeouts.

Iowa leads the all-time series 4-3.

SCOUTING OREGON STATE

The Oregon State Beavers are 14-6 this season.

Mia Longfellow leads the Beaver offense. She is batting .358 with six doubles, three home runs and 15 RBI. Adrienne Alo has a .353 batting average to go along with four doubles, six home runs and 17 RBI.

Brianne McGowan leads the team inside the circle. She is 11-2 with a 2.28 ERA. She has 94 strikeouts to go with 31 walks.

Iowa leads the all-time series 1-0.

SCOUTING LONG ISLAND

The Long Island Blackbirds are 0-7 this season.

Offensively, Brina Mathiesen is batting .385 with three home runs and four RBI. Randi Gillespie is batting .294.

Chelsea Crosby is 0-4 with a 9.25 ERA while Jackie Brown is 0-3 with a 18.07 ERA.

Iowa leads the all-time series 2-1, including a 1-0 advantage this season.

SCOUTING UTAH VALLEY STATE

The Utah Valley State Wolverines are 7-11 this season.

Rachel Hartgrove leads the Wolverine offense. She is batting .459 with seven doubles, two triples and two home runs. Amanda Kendzior leads the team with 16 RBI this season.

Jackie Rboerts leads the team inside the circle. She is 4-4 with a 3.00 ERA and has 40 strikeouts.

This is the first meeting between the two teams.

SCOUTING CALIFORNIA

The second-ranked California Golden Bears are 22-2 this season.

Offensively, Vicky Galindo is batting .474 with three doubles and three RBI. Haley Woods is batting .329 with seven home runs and 29 RBI.

Kristina Thorson and Kelly Anderson lead the Bears inside the circle. Thorson is 11-1 with a 0.84 ERA and leads the team with 89 strikeouts. Anderson is 10-1 with a 0.94 ERA and has 65 strikeouts.

California leads the all-time series 10-8, including a 0-1 advantage this season.

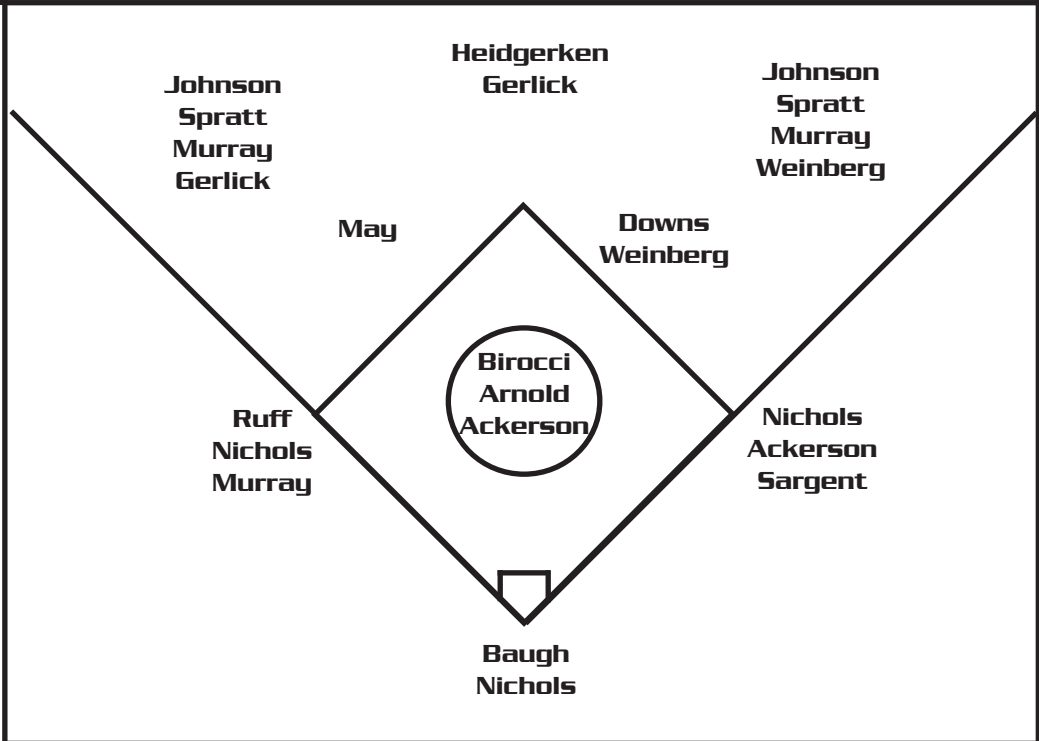
- 1** **EMILY NICHOLS**
- 2** **SUMMER DOWNS**
- 3** **ALI ARNOLD**
- 4** **LISA BIROCCI**
- 5** **JENNA SPRATT**
- 6** **BARB WEINBERG**
- 9** **NATALIE JOHNSON**
- 10** **STACY MAY**
- 11** **MINDY HEIDGERKEN**
- 12** **ABBY RUFF**
- 13** **SAMI BAUGH**
- 14** **BRANDI SARGENT**
- 17** **KYLIE MURRAY**
- 22** **EMILY GERLICK**
- 24** **STEPHANIE ACKERSON**

HEAD COACH
GAYLE BLEVINS

ASSOCIATE HEAD COACH
MICHELLE VENTURELLA

ASSISTANT COACH
DEBBIE BILBAO

VOLUNTEER ASSISTANT
KRISTIN JOHNSON



HAWKEYES IN THE RANKINGS

Iowa is ranked 24th in the ESPN.com/*USA Today* Collegiate Softball poll. The Hawkeyes are listed as receiving votes in the National Fastpitch Coaches Association poll. Other Big Ten teams in the rankings include Michigan (5th/6th) and Northwestern (23/23).

MOVIN' ON UP

Senior **Lisa Birocci** is currently fourth on the career strikeout list (773). Junior **Ali Arnold** is seventh (348).

HAVE WE MET?

Iowa will face two teams they have already played this season. The Hawkeyes defeated Long Island 6-0 in Tempe, AZ. California defeated Iowa 7-2 last weekend at the National Invitational Softball Tournament.

WEINBERG JOINS TEAM

Senior **Barb Weinberg** has joined the Iowa softball team. Weinberg was a two-time all-American and three-time all-Big Ten goalkeeper for the Iowa field hockey team. She was selected to the U.S National field hockey team in January.

VENTURELLA PROMOTED

Michelle Venturella enters the 2005 season as Iowa's first ever associate head coach. Head Coach **Gayle Blevins** announced the promotion last July.

Venturella serves as the Hawkeye recruiting coordinator and hitting coach along with coaching the Iowa catchers. As a member of the USA softball team she garnered four medals, one of which was the gold medal at the 2000 Summer Olympics in Sydney, Australia.

BILBAO RETURNS TO IOWA

Former all-American **Debbie Bilbao** has been hired as Iowa's new assistant coach. Bilbao was head coach at Utah State from 2002-04 before making the move back to Iowa.

As a player, Bilbao helped guide the Hawkeyes to three straight College World Series appearances (1995-97) and still holds three school records. Bilbao will be Iowa's pitching coach.



IOWA'S RECORD WHEN...

1-RUN GAMES	3-1
2-RUN GAMES	4-1
EXTRA INNINGS.....	1-1
AT PEARL FIELD	0-0
ON THE ROAD	3-1
AT NEUTRAL SITE	16-3
DAY GAMES.....	14-4
NIGHT GAMES.....	5-0
IOWA SCORES FIRST.....	17-1
OPPONENT SCORES FIRST	2-3
IOWA SCORES LAST	15-0
OPPONENT SCORES LAST	4-3
GIVING UP 3 RUNS OR LESS.....	18-2
GIVING UP 4+ RUNS	1-2
VS. RANKED OPPONENTS	0-2
BIROCCI STARTS.....	12-2
ARNOLD STARTS.....	8-2
IOWA HITS A HOMERUN	12-0
OPPONENT HITS A HOMERUN.....	3-3
IOWA OUTHITS OPPONENT.....	14-0
OPPONENT OUTHITS IOWA.....	2-4
EQUAL NUMBER OF HITS.....	3-0
NO IOWA ERRORS	7-0
IOWA COMMITS AN ERROR.....	12-4
WEARING WHITE UNIFORMS	6-1
WEARING BLACK UNIFORMS.....	4-2
WEARING GREY UNIFORMS.....	9-1
FLYING AIR TRAN	10-2
FLYING UNITED	6-1
BUSING TO GAME.....	3-1
IN EASTERN TIME ZONE	13-3
IN CENTRAL TIME ZONE.....	0-0
IN MOUNTAIN TIME ZONE.....	2-0
IN PACIFIC TIME ZONE	4-1
IN IOWA	0-0
IN ARIZONA	2-0
IN GEORGIA	7-1
IN KENTUCKY.....	3-1
IN FLORIDA	3-1
IN CALIFORNIA	4-1
IN PENNSYLVANIA	0-0
IN OHIO	0-0
IN ILLINOIS.....	0-0
IN MICHIGAN	0-0
ON MONDAY.....	0-0
ON TUESDAY	0-0
ON WEDNESDAY	0-0
ON THURSDAY.....	0-0
ON FRIDAY.....	6-0
ON SATURDAY	6-3
ON SUNDAY	7-1

IOWA'S TEAM SINGLE GAME INFO...

LONGEST WINNING STREAK	8
LONGEST LOSING STREAK.....	1
LARGEST MARGIN OF VICTORY	15 (AUBURN)
LARGEST MARGIN OF DEFEAT.....	5 (CALIFORNIA)
MOST AT-BATS.....	28 (GEORGIA SOUTHERN)
MOST RUNS SCORED.....	16 (AUBURN)
MOST HITS.....	13 (AUBURN)
MOST RBI	16 (AUBURN)
MOST DOUBLES	4 (GARNDNER-WEBB)
MOST TRIPLES1 (ARIZONA STATE & MIDDLE TENN. ST.)	
MOST HOME RUNS.....	7 (AUBURN)
MOST STOLEN BASES	4 (LONG ISLAND)
MOST STRIKEOUTS	13 (UC DAVIS)
MOST ERRORS COMMITTED	5 (TWICE)
MOST RUNS ALLOWED	7 (CALIFORNIA)
MOST HITS ALLOWED ...	11 (STETSON & CALIFORNIA)
MOST WALKS ALLOWED.....	5 (STETSON)

Iowa's Individual Team Batting Leaders

BATTING AVG	407 (NICHOLS)
GMS.	23 (FIVE TIED)
GMS. STARTED.....	23 (THREE TIED)
AT BATS.....	70 (MAY)
RUNS	16 (MAY)
HITS	24 (NICHOLS)
DOUBLES	5 (NICHOLS & MAY)
TRIPLES	1 (BIROCCI & DOWNS)
HOME RUNS	9 (NICHOLS)

RBI.....	25 (NICHOLS)
TOTAL BASES	56 (NICHOLS)
SLUGGING PCT.949 (NICHOLS)
WALKS	11 (MURRAY & NICHOLS)
HIT BY PITCH.....	1 (FIVE TIED)
STRIKEOUTS.....	17 (ACKERSON)
ON-BASE PERCENTAGE.....	.507 (NICHOLS)
OPS	1.456 (NICHOLS)
SACRIFICE FLIES	2 (BAUGH)
SACRIFICE HITS.....	4 (MURRAY & BAUGH)
STOLEN BASES	7 (HEIDGERKEN)
STOLEN BASE ATTEMPTS	8 (HEIDGERKEN)

Iowa's Individual Pitching Leaders

ERA.....	0.91 (BIROCCI)
WINS.....	11 (BIROCCI)
LOSSES	3 (BIROCCI)
WINNING PCT.876 (BIROCCI)
APPEARANCES.....	18 (BIROCCI)
GAMES STARTED	13 (BIROCCI)
COMPLETE GAMES	11 (BIROCCI)
SHUTOUTS	6 (BIROCCI)
SAVES.....	3 (BIROCCI)
INNINGS PITCHED.....	92.1 (BIROCCI)
STRIKEOUTS.....	98 (BIROCCI)
OPPONENT BATTING AVERAGE155 (BIROCCI)
WHIP727 (BIROCCI)

Head Coach Gayle Blevins

THE HEAD HAWKEYE... Gayle Blevins finished her 17th season as the head coach of the Iowa softball program and she has established herself as one of the nation's top coaches. In 1999, Blevins was the 17th inductee into the NFCA Hall of Fame. In her 17 seasons at Iowa, Blevins has guided the Hawkeyes to 12 NCAA Tournament appearances and four Big Ten Championships. She is Iowa's all-time winningest coach with a record of 710-324-3 (.685).

Her career record in 25 years of coaching is 1,029-476-5 (.683). Blevins has been named the National Coach of the Year twice (1986 and 1991) and the Big Ten Conference Coach of the Year three times (1989, 1997 and 2000).



BLEVINS' YEAR-BY-YEAR RECORDS

YEAR	SCHOOL	RECORD	PCT.	YEAR	SCHOOL	RECORD	PCT.
1980	INDIANA	33-16	.673	1992	IOWA	34-20	.630
1981	INDIANA	26-12	.684	1993	IOWA	39-15	.722
1982	INDIANA	30-15	.666	1994	IOWA	35-23	.603
1983	INDIANA	45-20-1	.692	1995	IOWA	41-26-1	.612
1984	INDIANA	37-22	.633	1996	IOWA	47-19	.720
1985	INDIANA	47-20-1	.701	1997	IOWA	52-9	.852
1986	INDIANA	45-18	.714	1998	IOWA	38-20	.655
1987	INDIANA	37-23	.617	1999	IOWA	41-26-1	.616
1988	IOWA	33-20-1	.620	2000	IOWA	46-15	.754
1989	IOWA	40-21	.656	2001	IOWA	49-14	.778
1990	IOWA	43-28	.606	2002	IOWA	36-20	.643
1991	IOWA	53-11	.828	2003	IOWA	44-15	.746
				2004	IOWA	39-24	.619

TOTALS

OVERALL	1,029-476-5	.683
IOWA	729-328-3	.689

BIG TEN TOTALS

OVERALL	445-156-1	.739
IOWA	275-112-1	.709

Hawkeye Defensive

OPP.	P	C	1B	2B	SS	3B	LF	CF	RF	DP
V. Tech+	Birocci	Baugh	Ackerson	Downs	May	Nichols	Gerlick	Heidgerken	Johnson	Murray
Stetson+	Arnold	Baugh	Sargent	Downs	May	Murray	Spratt	Heidgerken	Johnson	Birocci
V. Tech+	Arnold	Baugh	Ackerson	Downs	May	Murray	Gerlick	Heidgerken	Johnson	Nichols
Stetson+	Birocci	Baugh	Ackerson	Downs	May	Nichols	Murray	Heidgerken	Johnson	Spratt
LIU@	Arnold	Baugh	Ackerson	Downs	May	Nichols	Johnson	Heidgerken	Gerlick	Murray
ASU@	Birocci	Baugh	Nichols	Downs	May	Ruff	Johnson	Heidgerken	Murray	Spratt
Minnesota#	Birocci	Baugh	Nichols	Downs	May	Ruff	Johnson	Heidgerken	Murray	Ackerson
Louisville#	Arnold	Nichols	Ackerson	Downs	May	Ruff	Johnson	Heidgerken	Murray	Sargent
Missouri#	Birocci	Baugh	Nichols	Downs	May	Ruff	Johnson	Heidgerken	Murray	Sargent
Ball State#	Arnold	Baugh	Nichols	Downs	May	Ruff	Johnson	Heidgerken	Spratt	Sargent
Georgia So^	Arnold	Baugh	Nichols	Downs	May	Ruff	Johnson	Heidgerken	Murray	Ackerson
Georgia So^	Birocci	Nichols	Baugh	Downs	May	Ruff	Johnson	Heidgerken	Spratt	Sargent
Auburn^	Birocci	Baugh	Nichols	Downs	May	Ruff	Johnson	Heidgerken	Spratt	Murray
M. Ten. St.^	Arnold	Nichols	Sargent	Downs	May	Ruff	Johnson	Heidgerken	Baugh	Ackerson
Gard-Webb^	Birocci	Baugh	Ackerson	Downs	May	Ruff	Johnson	Heidgerken	Nichols	Murray
V. Tech^	Arnold	Baugh	Nichols	Downs	May	Ruff	Johnson	Ackerson	Murray	Heidgerken
Auburn^	Birocci	Nichols	Ackerson	Arnold	May	Ruff	Johnson	Heidgerken	Spratt	Baugh
Ohio State^	Birocci	Nichols	Sargent	Arnold	May	Ruff	Johnson	Heidgerken	Murray	Baugh
UConn~	Birocci	Baugh	Nichols	Arnold	May	Ruff	Johnson	Weinberg	Murray	Heidgerken
UC Davis~	Arnold	Baugh	Sargent	Nichols	May	Ruff	Johnson	Weinberg	Murray	Heidgerken
SJST~	Birocci	Baugh	Ackerson	Nichols	May	Ruff	Johnson	Weinberg	Spratt	Heidgerken
California~	Arnold	Baugh	Sargent	Nichols	May	Ruff	Johnson	Heidgerken	Murray	Weinberg
Col. State~	Birocci	Nichols	Sargent	Downs	May	Ruff	Johnson	Weinberg	Murray	Heidgerken

+ - at Stetson Invitational (DeLand, FL)

@ - at Littlewood Classic (Tempe, AZ)

- at Courtyard by Marriott Red and Black Tournament (Louisville, KY)

^ - at Buzz Classic (Marietta, GA)

~ - at National Softball Invitational Tournament (Sunnyvale, CA)