

February 18, 2005 Softball Contact: Aaron Blau

<u>IOWA SOFTBALL</u> HAWKEYES DOMINATE AT LITTLEWOOD CLASSIC

IOWA CITY- The University of Iowa softball team had two solid performances at the Littlewood Classic in Tempe, AZ on Friday. The Hawkeyes defeated Long Island, 4-0 in six innings and Arizona State, 2-0. The game against Long Island was called in the sixth inning due to rain.

The Iowa pitching staff combined for 12 innings of shutout softball, giving up only two hits on the day. In game one against Long Island, junior **Ali Arnold** gave up only one hit while striking out 11 and walking none. Both **Summer Downs** and **Natalie Johnson** went 2-4. Downs also had 2 RBI and a run scored while Johnson had a stolen base and a run scored. Freshman **Steph Ackerson** stole two bases for the Hawkeyes.

Lisa Birocci dominated Arizona State in game two, pitching a complete game shutout while striking out six. Freshman **Summer Downs** continued to hit the ball well against Arizona State. Downs was 1-2 and hit her first home run as a Hawkeye. Freshman **Emily Nichols** went 2-3 with a run scored.

The Hawkeyes will continue competition at the Littlewood Classic on Friday. Iowa is set to square off against Illinois State (11 a.m. MT) and Arizona State (5 p.m. MT).

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

