

Arizona State Results		
DATE	OPPONENT (rank)	RESULT
Feb. 8	#Utah State	W, 13-4 (5)
Feb. 8	#Texas A&M	W, 2-1 (9)
Feb. 9	#Texas Tech	W, 6-1
Feb. 9	#Fresno State (16)	W, 2-0
Feb. 10	#Kansas	L, 2-3
Feb. 10	#New Mexico State	W, 8-0 (5)
Feb. 15	%Illinois State	L, 0-3
Feb. 15	%Iowa (6)	W, 9-1
Feb. 16	%Michigan State	W, 7-2
Feb. 16	%Oklahoma State	W, 1-0
Feb. 17	%Illinois State	W, 3-1
Feb. 22	^Mississippi State (24)	L, 1-2
Feb. 22	^Connecticut	W, 4-2
Feb. 23	^Michigan (10)	W, 6-4
Feb. 23	^Notre Dame (19)	W, 3-2
Feb. 24	^Michigan	L, 1-5
Feb. 26	Eastern Michigan	W, 9-1 (5)
Feb. 26	Eastern Michigan	W, 11-2 (5)
Feb. 27	Hawaii	W, 3-1
Feb. 27	Hawaii	W, 5-2
March 1	Boston College	W, 9-0 (5)
March 2	Boston College	W, 9-0 (5)
March 3	Boston College	W, 8-1
March 8	&San Jose State	10:00 a.m.
March 8	&Buffalo	12:00 p.m.
March 8	&Northern Iowa	8:00 p.m.
March 9	&Bracket Play	TBA
March 9	&Bracket Play	TBA
March 10	&Bracket Play	TBA
March 13	+Texas	5:00 p.m.
March 14	+New Mexico	5:00 p.m.
March 15	+DePaul	3:00 p.m.
March 15	+Bracket Play	TBA
March 16	+Bracket Play	TBA
March 17	+Bracket Play	TBA
March 22	New Mexico	7:00 p.m.
March 22	New Mexico	9:00 p.m.
March 29	Arizona*	7:00 p.m.
March 30	Arizona*	7:00 p.m.
April 5	UCLA*	6:00 p.m.
April 6	Washington*	7:00 p.m.
April 7	Washington*	1:00 p.m.
April 12	@ Oregon*	2:00 p.m.
April 13	@ Oregon State*	2:00 p.m.
April 14	@ Oregon State*	1:00 p.m.
April 19	@ California*	2:00 p.m.
April 20	@ Stanford*	7:00 p.m.
April 21	@ Stanford*	1:00 p.m.
April 26	Oregon State*	7:00 p.m.
April 27	Oregon* (Fox Sports Net)	1:00 p.m.
April 28	Oregon*	1:00 p.m.
April 30	@ Arizona*	7:00 p.m.
May 3	Stanford*	7:00 p.m.
May 4	California*	7:00 p.m.
May 5	California*	1:00 p.m.
May 10	@ Washington*	2:00 p.m.
May 11	@ UCLA*	1:00 p.m.
May 11	@ UCLA*	3:00 p.m.
May 16-19	NCAA Regionals	TBA
May 23-26	NCAA College World Series	TBA

All home games are **bolded**.

\*Pacific-10 Conference game.

# Fiesta Bowl Tournament, Phoenix/Tempe, Ariz.

% Louisville Slugger Tournament, Tempe, Ariz.

^ NFCA Leadoff Classic Tournament, Columbus, Ga.

& National Invitational Tournament, San Jose, Calif.

+ KIA Classic Tournament, Fullerton, Calif.

# ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

Wednesday, March 6, 2002

## SUN DEVIL SOFTBALL

### No. 7 Arizona State Heads To The National Invitational Softball Tournament

**ON TAP:** The seventh-ranked Arizona State Sun Devils (19-4) will play in its fourth tournament this year as they travel to Pleasanton, California to compete in the National Invitational Softball Tournament hosted by San Jose State University, Friday, March 8 through Sunday, March 10.

**A QUICK LOOK AT THE NIST:** The Sun Devils, who last won the NIST in 2000, will begin play in Pool (B) along with Buffalo, Northern Iowa and host San Jose State. ASU will play all three pool games on Friday, beginning at 10:00 a.m. (Pacific) against San Jose State (7-13). ASU will then face Buffalo (0-0) at 12:00 p.m. and end pool play against Northern Iowa (11-4) at 8:00 p.m. The winners of each of the four pools (A-D) will advance to the Championship Bracket while the other teams will face off in the Consolation Bracket. Bracket play begins on Saturday at 10:00 a.m.

Pool A	Pool B	Pool C	Pool D
California	Arizona State	UCLA	Iowa
Miami (Ohio)	Buffalo	Long Beach St.	Georgia Tech
Santa Clara	Northern Iowa	UNC Greensboro	Syracuse
Virginia	San Jose State		

**LIFE'S A BEACH:** Senior All-American pitcher/designated player **Erica Beach** continues to have a stellar career as a Sun Devil. Beach currently holds Arizona State's all-time record for home runs (22) and RBIs (138), and is fourth all-time in wins (59) and fifth in strikeouts (365). Last week, Beach posted five of ASU's seven wins, including two shutouts, and was one pitch away from a perfect game. Beach picked up wins against Eastern Michigan (two), Hawaii and won all three games against Boston College. Combined Beach went 5-0 in 22 innings, allowing only two earned runs, three walks while striking out 18. Her ERA was 0.63. After posting a perfect 3-0 record at the Louisville Slugger Classic Tournament, Beach was named the Pac-10 Pitcher of the Week. She tossed her third shutout of the year against Oklahoma State and was a main factor in Arizona State winning the tournament title as she pitched 21 innings, striking out 13, while allowing only one earned run. The earned run was the first all year, snapping a streak of 39 and two-thirds innings. The honor is Beach's fifth Pac-10 award of her career. Currently, Beach is 13-2 (four shutouts) in 85 innings pitched, recording a 0.74 ERA with 65 strikeouts. At the Fiesta Bowl Tournament, Beach posted back to back one-hit games against No. 16 Fresno State and New Mexico State, flirting each time with no-hitters deep into the games. Beach also went nine innings for a career-high eight strikeouts against Texas A&M for the win and also knocked in the winning run. Last year Beach set a new career high with 17 wins and 134 strikeouts, including six shutouts and a 1.35 ERA. She also claimed Louisville Slugger/NFCA National Player of the Week, Pac-10 Player of the Week honors and Pac-10 Pitcher of the Week.

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**NFCA/USA Today Top-25**

Team (first place)	Record	Pts.	LR
1. <i>UCLA</i> (22)	23-2	670	1
2. <i>Arizona</i> (2)	23-2	652	2
3. <i>Stanford</i>	18-2	621	3
4. <i>Louisiana State</i>	14-5	569	5
Nebraska	11-5	569	4
6. <i>California</i>	19-6	513	6
7. <b>Arizona State</b>	<b>19-4</b>	<b>496</b>	<b>9</b>
8. <i>Michigan</i>	12-4	484	8
9. <i>Oklahoma</i>	17-4	457	7
10. <i>Fresno State</i>	16-5	429	13
11. <i>Cal State Fullerton</i>	15-9	390	17
12. <i>Washington</i>	20-7	360	12
13. <i>Florida Atlantic</i>	19-3	316	20
14. <i>Oregon State</i>	19-7	313	11
15. <i>DePaul</i>	7-2	283	15
16. <i>Alabama</i>	15-9	270	14
17. <i>Iowa</i>	7-3	242	16
18. <i>Pacific</i>	11-9	203	10
19. <i>Louisiana-Lafayette</i>	13-3	189	19
20. <i>Georgia</i>	24-0	142	21
21. <i>Texas A&amp;M</i>	16-4	140	23
22. <i>Florida State</i>	16-7	139	18
23. <i>Mississippi State</i>	12-7	88	22
24. <i>South Carolina</i>	13-6	62	25
25. <i>Wisconsin</i>	9-5	42	NR

**Dropped Out:** Notre Dame.

**Receiving Votes:** Minnesota (33), *Oklahoma State* (33), Baylor (19) *Notre Dame* (11), Ohio State (11), Arkansas (6), Long Beach State (4), San Diego State (4).

**\*\*Teams in italics indicates 2002 opponents.**

**Arizona State Records**

Pacific-10.....	0-0
Non-Conference .....	19-4
Against Ranked Teams .....	4-2
Against Unranked Teams .....	15-2
Home Games.....	16-2
Road Games .....	0-0
Neutral Sites.....	3-2
Day Games .....	10-4
Night Games.....	9-0
Vs. Right Handed Starters .....	18-4
Vs. Left Handed Starters.....	1-0
Extra Innings.....	1-0
One Run Game.....	3-2
Two Run Game.....	5-0
Five Run (+) Game.....	10-0
Shutouts .....	5-1
ASU Scores First .....	16-1
Opponent Scores First .....	3-3
Out-Hit Opponents .....	18-1
Out-Hit by Opponents .....	1-2
February .....	16-4
March .....	3-0
April.....	0-0
May.....	0-0
Last 5 Games .....	5-0
Last 10 Games .....	9-1
Current Winning Streak.....	7
Longest Winning Streak .....	7

**OFFENSIVE PRODUCTION:** Sophomore **Phelan Wright** is picking up where she left off after an outstanding freshman year. Through 20 games this season, Wright is leading the team in batting average (.492), home runs (6), tied for hits (29) and doubles (6) and is tied for second in RBIs (17). At the NFCA Leadoff Classic, she batted .563 (9-16) with four doubles, one home run, six runs scored and four RBIs. As a freshman, Wright was named the team's Offensive Player of the Year after leading the Sun Devils in batting average (.399/average was the highest posted by a freshman in the Pac-10 since 1999), hits (67) triples (2) and slugging percentage (.530). She also earned second-team All-Pac-10 honors. Over the last 33 games in 2001, she batted .495 with five doubles, two triple, three home runs, 12 runs scored, 15 walks and 22 RBIs. She also earned NFCA National Player of the Week honors and Pac-10 Player of the Week honors. In 21 Pac-10 games she batted an amazing .418 in the pitching rich conference and posted the team's longest hitting streak at 13 games (fifth longest in the Pac-10). Wright produced a team-high 18 RBIs with two outs and finished tied for second on the team with 17 multi-hit games and third in multi-RBI games (6). Additionally, she batted .530 at the National Invitational Softball Tournament, earning all-tournament honors and led the team in postseason batting average at a .455 clip, earning Region III All-Tournament team honors.

**DYNAMIC DUO:** Seniors **Missy Hixon** and **Nichole Thompson**, who play second base and center field/first base respectively, each contribute to the success of the team in similar ways. Hixon, a three-time All-Pac-10 selection, is a four-year starter and has played in 203 career games ... she has produced 193 hits (fifth all-time), seven home runs, scored 107 runs and recorded 66 RBIs ... Hixon has also tallied 31 career doubles (fourth all-time) and stole 16 bases ... in 660 career at bats, Hixon has struck out only 32 times (1:21 at bats). Thompson, also a four-year starter, is a two-time All-Pac-10 selection and an All-Pacific Region choice as a sophomore ... Thompson holds a career .337 batting average (sixth all-time) in 205 games ... she has produced 212 hits (fourth all-time), scored 128 runs and recorded 62 RBIs ... Thompson has also tallied 21 doubles, four triples, stole 31 bases (sixth all-time) and has sacrificed 52 times ... in 629 career at bats, she has struck out only 30 times (1:21 at bats) ... both players were members of the USA National Softball (Blue) team.

**HEAD COACH LINDA WELLS:** Coaching her 13th season at ASU and 28th of her career, Sun Devil Coach Linda Wells is one of the most prominent and successful coaches in NCAA history. Wells, who is currently the seventh-most successful active coach in NCAA Division I history with 792 victories, has led the Sun Devils to nine (five consecutive 1997-01) NCAA Regional appearances in 12 seasons, including her first trip to the College World Series in 1999. While at Arizona State, Wells has compiled a record of 441-317 and has had five players earn a total of eight All-American awards. Wells' achieved a coaching milestone that few will ever obtain, winning 700 career games and is just eight wins shy of reaching 800. 2001 featured another one of Wells' teams finishing in the top-10 (No. 9), as well as playing one of the toughest — if not the strongest schedules — in the country (35 teams in the top-25). Wells also produced six Pac-10 Pitcher/Player of the Week honors, two NFCA National Player of the Week honors, two Academic All-Pacific Region choices, seven All-Pac-10 honorees and five Academic All-Pac-10 selections. Additionally, Wells was one of 12 coaches selected to form the USA Softball Women's National Team Coaches pool for the 2004 Olympic Games. She also had five current players earn invitations to participate in the USA Softball Women's National Team Camp. With the addition of seven All-Pac-10 selections in 2001 (the most since the 1990 season), Wells has now coached 59 all conference players during her tenure at Arizona State, averaging five All-Pac-10 selections every season. Wells has coached 28 .300 hitters at ASU in her 12 seasons, averaging a combined .330 — not an easy accomplishment in the pitching-rich Pac-10 where games are traditionally low scoring.

**TOUGH SCHEDULE/TOUGHER CONFERENCE:** As in any season, Arizona State will face many of the nation's top teams and traditionally holds a high RPI. Last year, ASU led the Pac-10 in most games played against nationally ranked teams (35). Within the toughest conference in the nation, the Pacific-10, ASU will face a nationally-ranked team nearly every time out. Seven of the eight Pac-10 teams are ranked in the top-14, including five of the top seven positions. In 2002, Pac-10 teams gave combined to post an 153-37 (.805) overall record against non-conference teams. Last year, seven of the eight teams made postseason appearances with four teams advancing to the College World Series. Pac-10 teams have won 11 of the past 14 College World Series titles.

**Arizona State Starters & Key Reserves**

#	Name	Yr.	Pos.	B/T	Avg.	Notes
1	Erica Beach	Sr.	P	L/L	.288	13-2, 4 shutouts, 65 Ks, 0.74 ERA; 17 hits with 17 RBIs
12	Kirsten Voak	Sr.	P/OF	R/R	.167	5-2 with 1 save; 46 Ks in 46 innings; all-time leader in Ks (837)
17	Adriana Garcia	Jr.	C	R/R	.286	12 hits, 3 doubles, 1 HR, 12 RBIs; NFCA JC Catcher of the Year
10	Bonnie Brannen	Sr.	C	R/R	.250	10 starts with 1 home run and 5 RBIs
37	Erin Wardein	Sr.	1B	R/R	.206	Missed most of last year with wrist injury; has played in 143 games
2	Missy Hixon	Sr.	2B	L/R	.338	Team-high 22 runs; 25 hits, 2 doubles, 1 HR and 8 RBIs
7	Kara Brun	Jr.	SS	R/R	.403	Team-high 25 RBIs, tied with 29 hits, 6 doubles; 5 HRs and 18 runs
13	Phelan Wright	So.	3B	R/R	.492	Team-leader in avg. and HRs (6), tied in hits (29) and doubles (6)
23	Nichole Thompson	Sr.	OF/1B	L/R	.426	Second in avg., tied with 29 hits, 1 triple, 14 runs and 7 RBIs
4	Kristin Farber	So.	OF	L/R	.290	Has 20 hits and 9 runs scored; 5-for-6 in stolen bases
8	Jennifer Forner	Jr.	OF	L/L	.318	Has 14 hits with 8 runs scored
9	Kristen Swetel	So.	P/OF	R/R	.357	1-0 in 18 innings; 1 home run and 1 triple with 6 RBIs
15	Amber Turner	So.	OF	S/R	1.000	Played in 15 games with 1 hit, 4 runs scored and 3 stolen base
16	Blair Holck	Fr.	3B	R/R	.000	Played in 15 games with 3 starts, scored 2 runs
5	Kari Reidhead	So.	1B	L/L	.000	Played in 13 games with 1 run scored
20	Pua Reis	Fr.	OF	R/R	.000	Played in 7 games

**BRUN'S A HIT:** Junior shortstop **Kara Brun** has made an impact while wearing the Maroon and Gold, offensively and defensively. In five games at the 2002 NFCA Leadoff Classic Tournament, Brun batted .500 (8-16) with three home runs, one double, three runs scored and eight RBIs. She also had 18 total bases a 1.125 slugging percentage and a .529 on base percentage. Against 19th-ranked Notre Dame, Brun hit two home runs, including a walk-off two run shot with two outs in the bottom of the seventh inning. At the time ASU was trailing 2-1. The win propelled ASU into the semifinals of the Silver Bracket. Earlier in the game, Brun hit her first home run to cut Note Dame's lead to 2-1. Brun then won the game in the bottom of the seventh. In the game, Brun went 2-4 with two home runs, two runs scored and three RBIs. Against 10th-ranked Michigan, Brun hit the first of her three home runs in the third inning, a three run blast to put ASU up 6-0. The home run was the difference in the out come of the game as Michigan cut into the six run lead with the final score of 6-4. For her performance, Brun was named the Pac-10 Player of the Week (Feb. 19-24). As a sophomore, Brun earned second-team All-Pac-10 honors, as well as the team's Defensive Player of the Year award, currently carries a career .343 batting average (sixth all-time). She is second all-time in Arizona State history in home runs (19), third all-time in doubles (32) and fourth all-time in RBIs (105). Last year Brun had a 12 game hitting streak, second longest on the team and eighth longest in the Pac-10. She batted .311 with 59 hits, a team-high 34 runs and also posted team-highs in RBIs (42) and doubles (10). Brun finished second on the team in homeruns (6), had a .458 slugging percentage and recorded a team second-best 15 RBIs with two outs. Defensively, she turned 14 double plays, good for fourth in the Pac-10 and led the team with 129 assists. As a freshman, Brun earned All-Pac-10 second team honors, selected to the Region V All-Tournament team and was named the team's Freshman and Defensive Player of the Year. At the plate, Brun led the team in batting average (.352), hits (68), doubles (16), runs (44), total bases (108), and was second in RBIs (38). Brun also tied the single-season record in home runs (8). Brun posted 18 multi-hit games, eight multi-RBI games and held a team-high 16 game hitting streak.

**VOAK'S RESUME:** Two-time senior All-American pitcher **Kirsten Voak** will look to end her outstanding career as one of the most prolific pitchers in Arizona State history. In just her second game in 2002, Voak became Arizona State's career leader in strikeouts, currently with 837, breaking a 20-year old record. She is second all-time in Arizona State history with 74 career wins. As a junior she was named the team's Pitcher of the Year and pitched her first career perfect game against Utah State, tossing her fourth career no hitter. Voak earned Pac-10 honorable mention status and was a two-time Pac-10 Pitcher of the Week, giving her eight in her career (fifth all-time in the Pac-10). She finished 14th in the country and second in the Pac-10 with four saves after posting a 15-9 record in 141 innings. Voak also recorded two shutouts (23 career) with 161 strikeouts, held opponents to a .185 batting average, while averaging eight strikeouts a game. She has tallied 17 career double-digit strikeout games. After two ASU record-setting seasons (24 wins, 314 strikeouts/Fr.), (30 wins, 316 strikeouts/So.), Voak garnered her second NFCA All-American honor, was a first-team All-Pac-10 and second-team All-Pacific Region choice and was named the team's MVP and Pitcher of the Year. Last year Voak earned three Pac-10 Pitcher of the Week honors and was named to the NFCA Leadoff Classic and NIST All-Tournament teams.

**Voak's Career Double-Digit Strikeout Games (17):**

15 — Oregon, 7 innings (4/2/00)	12 — Oregon State, 6 innings (4/24/99)
15 — Central Michigan, 8.1 innings (5/20/99)	12 — Nebraska, 7 innings (2/13/99)
14 — Utah, 7.1 innings (3/13/99)	12 — Washington, 8 innings (4/10/99)
13 — Santa Clara, 7 innings (3/10/00)	11 — Utah, 7 innings (3/10/00)
13 — Florida Atlantic, 7 innings (5/22/99)	11 — Illinois State, 7 innings (2/20/00)
12 — Washington, 7 innings (4/8/01)	10 — Oregon, 7 innings (4/27/01)
12 — UNLV, 7 innings (3/26/00)	10 — Oregon, 7 innings (4/25/99)
12 — Iowa, 7 innings (3/17/00)	10 — Utah, 7 innings (3/18/99)
12 — Portland State, 7 innings (2/26/00)	

**FIVE SUN DEVILS TO OLYMPIC CAMP:** The Amateur Softball Association selected five current Arizona State players to participate in the USA Softball Women's National Team Camp this past summer at the ARCO Olympic Training Center in Chula Vista, California. Senior **Kirsten Voak** (member of the 2001 ASA/USA National Softball (Red) team ... as a pitcher, she helped the team win the U.S. Cup); senior **Missy Hixon** (member of the 2001 ASA/USA National Softball (Blue) team ... won the Pan Am qualifier in Maracay, Venezuela ... played in seven games with five starts ... batted .286 with two runs and two sacrifice hits ... posted a perfect 1.000 fielding percentage, making six assists); senior **Nichole Thompson** (member of the 2001 ASA/USA National Softball (Blue) team ... won the Pan Am qualifier in Maracay, Venezuela ... started and played in all eight games ... led the team in sac bunts (3), fourth in hits (9) and sixth in batting average (.391)); junior **Kara Brun** and sophomore **Kristin Farber**. Additionally, of the 20 schools listed with players competing, Arizona State had the third most representing one school. USA Softball then selected two 16-player teams to represent the U.S. in international competitions at the U.S. Cup in Honolulu, the Canada Cup in Vancouver and the Pan Am Qualifier in Maracay.

**IVIE JOINS THE STAFF:** **Tamara Ivie** begins her first season as an assistant coach on Linda Well's staff. Prior to her appointment at Arizona State, Ivie was an assistant coach at Mount San Antonio College in Walnut, California. From 2000 to 2001, Ivie was the second assistant coach at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces, New Mexico. Ivie also coached the 1997-98 seasons as the second assistant at Eastern Michigan University. On the professional level, Ivie spent the 1999 season playing on the WPSL's Virginia Roadsters. Additionally, Ivie played one season with the Ladies Professional Baseball League (Buffalo NightHawks). Before that, she played three years of professional baseball with the Colorado Silver Bullets. As a standout college player, Ivie played four years of softball at Cal State Northridge. While at Northridge, she earned All-American honors and was a two-time All-Western Athletic Conference selection. During her four years, Northridge was a top-20 program while the 1994 team appeared in the finals of the College World Series. Ivie earned her bachelor's in kinesiology in 2000 and plans on getting her master's in physical education and sports counseling from Arizona State.

**SPEED TO BURN:** Sophomore **Kristin Farber** is seeking to keep her pace up from last year when she led the team in stolen bases and was named the team's Freshman of the Year. In 2002, Farber is 5-for-6 in stolen bases with 20 hits and nine runs scored. Farber earned second-team All-Pacific Region accolades and was named honorable mention All-Pac-10 after finishing fifth in the Pac-10 with 16 stolen bases. The 16 swipes were also a team-high and tied for ninth all-time in a single season at ASU. Farber played and started in all 58 games and batted .320, good for third on the team. She posted 56 hits, scored 26 runs, batted .378 with runners in scoring position and had 13 multi-hit games, fourth highest on the team.

**BEHIND THE PLATE:** In addition to senior **Bonnie Brannen**, who is having her best year yet, the Sun Devils will also have the services of **Adriana Garcia**. The junior is batting .286 with three doubles, one home run and 12 RBIs. She has also thrown out two runners and picked off two others. Garcia was named the 2001 NFCA/NJCAA Division I Diamond Sports National Catcher of the Year and was a 2001 first-team All-American. The two-time all-region and all-conference selection, Garcia played the past two years at Arizona Western College in Yuma, Arizona where she batted .448 with six home runs and 68 RBIs. Garcia recorded a fielding percentage of .991, while throwing out 29 base runners attempting to steal.

**CAREER/ALL-TIME MILESTONES:** Hixon needs nine more doubles for the all-time record (40) ... Voak needs eight more wins for the school record (82) ... Brun is four home runs shy of the all-time record (23) and eight doubles short of the all-time mark ... Linda Wells needs eight more wins for 800 career.

**MEDIA INFORMATION:** All publicity for the ASU softball team are coordinated by Assistant Media Relations Director **Will Phillips** at (480) 965-1237. Any interviews with ASU softball players or coaches should be arranged through Phillips with at least 48 hours notice.

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