

Arizona State Results

DATE	OPPONENT (rank)	RESULT
Feb. 4	Texas-San Antonio	W, 8-0 (6)
Feb. 5	Texas-San Antonio	W, 4-2
Feb. 6	Texas-San Antonio	W, 5-4 (8)
Feb. 11	Buffalo#	rained out
Feb. 11	Massachusetts#	rained out
Feb. 12	Sacramento State#	rained out
Feb. 12	Tennessee-Chattanooga#	rained out
Feb. 13	Sacramento State#	W, 3-2
Feb. 13	Utah State#	W, 11-2
Feb. 16	Hawai'i	L, 6-8
Feb. 16	Hawai'i	W, 2-0
Feb. 18	Illinois State%	W, 3-0
Feb. 18	Iowa%	L, 0-2
Feb. 19	Iowa%	rained out
Feb. 19	Long Island%	rained out
Feb. 20	Long Island%	rained out
Feb. 25	vs. Long Island^	W, 14-0 (5)
Feb. 25	vs. Bethune-Cookman^	W, 6-1
Feb. 26	vs. Northwestern^	W, 1-0
Feb. 26	vs. Notre Dame^	W, 2-1
Feb. 27	vs. Kansas^	L, 0-3
March 2	Eastern Michigan	W, 2-1
March 2	Eastern Michigan	W, 6-2
March 4	San Diego State!	W, 1-0
March 4	Southern Utah!	W, 5-0
March 5	San Diego State!	L, 0-1
March 5	Southern Utah!	W, 8-1
March 6	Southern Utah!	W, 8-0 (5)
March 11	vs. Rhode Island\$	2:00 p.m.
March 11	vs. San Jose State\$	6:00 p.m.
March 12	vs. TBD\$	TBD
March 12	vs. TBD\$	TBD
March 13	vs. TBD\$	TBD
March 14	@ Loyola Marymount	12:00 p.m.
March 14	@ Loyola Marymount	2:00 p.m.
March 16	vs. Syracuse+	4:30 p.m.
March 17	vs. Oklahoma+	1:30 p.m.
March 18	vs. Louisiana-Lafayette+	1:30 p.m.
March 19	vs. TBD+	TBD
March 20	vs. TBD+	TBD
April 1	California*	7:00 p.m.
April 2	Stanford*	7:00 p.m.
April 3	Stanford*	1:00 p.m.
April 6	Arizona*	7:00 p.m.
April 8	Oregon*	7:00 p.m.
April 9	Oregon State*	7:00 p.m.
April 10	Oregon State*	1:00 p.m.
April 15	@ UCLA*	1:00 p.m.
April 16	@ Washington*	2:30 p.m.
April 17	@ Washington*	1:00 p.m.
April 22	@ Arizona*	7:00 p.m.
April 23	@ Arizona*	7:00 p.m.
April 29	@ Oregon State*	3:00 p.m.
April 30	@ Oregon*	3:00 p.m.
May 1	@ Oregon*	1:00 p.m.
May 6	Washington*	7:00 p.m.
May 7	UCLA*	7:00 p.m.
May 8	UCLA*	1:00 p.m.
May 12	@ Stanford*	7:00 p.m.
May 13	@ California*	1:00 p.m.
May 14	@ California*	1:00 p.m.
May 18-22	NCAA Regionals	TBD
May 25-29	NCAA Super Regionals	TBD
June 6-12	College World Series	TBD

Ranking are by USAToday/NFCA & ESPN/USA Softball.

* Pacific-10 Conference game.

Kajikawa Classic, Tempe, Ariz.

% Littlewood Classic, Tempe, Ariz.

^ Palm Springs Classic, Palm Springs, Calif.

! Louisville Slugger Triangular, Tempe, Ariz.

\$ National Invitational Tournament, Sunnyvale, Calif.

+ KIA Klassic Tournament, Fullerton, Calif.

ASU ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, March 9, 2005

SUN DEVIL SOFTBALL

NO. 24 ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY HEADS TO CALIFORNIA

FOR THE NATIONAL INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT

ON TAP: The 24th-ranked Arizona State University softball team (17-4) will head out on the road to Sunnyvale, California to compete in the National Invitational Softball Tournament (March 11-13). The Sun Devils will face Rhode Island (1-2) on Friday at 2:00 p.m. (PT) and host San Jose State (15-8) at 6:00 p.m. After the NIST, ASU will then play a doubleheader against Loyola Marymount in Los Angeles on Monday, March 14 at 12:00 p.m.

NIST NOTES: The tournament is held at the Twin Creeks Sports Complex and made up of 12 teams with three teams each competing in four pools ... ASU will play in Pool "B" against Rhode Island and SJSU on Field 1 ... after pool play, the three teams will be seeded into bracket play that begins on Saturday at 12:00 p.m. ... Pac-10 opponent Cal is also at the NIST.

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 played 29 games (nearly half of all their games) against top-25 teams, while 16 games were against top-10 competition. This year is no different as ASU will play several non-conference/Pac-10 regular-season games against nationally-ranked teams. Within the toughest conference in the nation, the Pac-10, ASU will face a nationally-ranked team nearly every time out. Six Pac-10 opponents are ranked in the top-16, including the No. 1, 2, 3 and 4 ranked teams and five of the nation's top-14. Additionally, The Pac-10 placed seven of its eight squads in the NCAA Tournament last season, with three teams advancing to the WCWS. For the fourth consecutive year (11th time overall), two Pac-10 teams squared off in the National Championship game, giving the conference its 17th title and fourth straight.

DEVIL NOTES: ASU enters the USA Today/NFCA poll for the first time since April 4, 2004 ... ASU leads the Pac-10 in saves (4) and is second in doubles (31) ... the pitching staff's 0.94 ERA is third-best in the conference and the teams 163 strikeouts is fourth-best ... eight of ASU's 17 wins have been shutouts ... ASU is hitting .344 with runners on base and .379 with the bases loaded.

PAC-10 CONFERENCE/OVERALL STANDINGS (MARCH 9)

Team	Pac-10		Overall		
	W-L	GB	W-L	PCT	Streak
Arizona	0-0	0.0	15-0	1.000	Won 15
California	0-0	0.0	18-1	.947	Won 14
Stanford	0-0	0.0	18-2	.900	Won 1
Arizona State	0-0	0.0	17-4	.810	Won 2
UCLA	0-0	0.0	16-5	.762	Won 4
Oregon State	0-0	0.0	14-6	.700	Won 8
Washington	0-0	0.0	12-7	.632	Lost 1
Oregon	0-0	0.0	10-8	.556	Won 1

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USA Today/NFCA Top-25

	Team (first place)	Record	Pts.	LR
1.	Arizona (23)	15-0	599	1
2.	California (1)	18-1	577	2
3.	Stanford	18-2	535	3
T-4.	Tennessee	23-3	498	5
T-4.	UCLA	16-5	498	4
6.	Michigan	21-1	490	7
7.	Louisiana-Lafayette	17-2	462	6
8.	Alabama	24-4	435	7
9.	Oklahoma	21-4	401	11
10.	Baylor	21-3	383	10
11.	Texas	14-3	369	9
12.	LSU	15-3	325	12
13.	Georgia	14-7	305	13
14.	Texas A&M	21-2	295	15
15.	Washington	12-7	229	14
16.	Oregon State	14-6	212	18
17.	Florida	17-6	175	16
18.	Nebraska	12-5	173	17
19.	Georgia Tech	19-5	156	19
20.	Missouri	15-2	151	23
21.	Florida State	14-7	110	20
22.	Fresno State	9-3	80	24
23.	Northwestern	13-6	46	25
24.	<i>Arizona State</i>	<i>17-4</i>	<i>44</i>	<i>NR</i>
25.	Texas A&M-CC	19-12	42	NR

Dropped Out: No. 21 Oregon, No. 22 Florida International

Receiving Votes: Oregon (41), Auburn (37), Long Beach State (36), Iowa (26), BYU (15), Florida International (12), Creighton (8).

SOFTBALL HISTORY: One of the nation's founding programs, the Sun Devils are in their 39th season on the diamond in Tempe. ASU holds a 1,033-560-1 (.648) all-time record since the 1967 team posted a 5-1 record. ASU has recorded 23 seasons of at least 30 wins and six with 40 or more victories, including an all-time high of 46 in 2002. The Sun Devils have earned 16 postseason bids, fourth all-time in the Pac-10 Conference, and has made four trips to the College World Series. Prior to the current NCAA format, ASU went to seven WCWS, claiming back-to-back national titles in 1972 and 1973.

HEAD COACH LINDA WELLS: Arizona State's storied tradition of softball excellence continues to flourish under the tutelage of 16th-year head coach **Linda Wells**, one of the most prominent and successful coaches in NCAA history. Wells, who is currently the 7th-most successful active coach in NCAA Division I history with 901 victories (9th all-time), has led the Sun Devils to 11 (seven consecutive 1997-03) NCAA Regional appearances in 15 seasons, including two trips in the past six years to the College World Series (1999/2002). While at ASU, Wells has compiled a record of 548-393 and has had seven players earn a total of 12 All-American awards. Her 548 wins are the most victories all-time in ASU's storied 39-year history, surpassing coaching legend Mary Littlewood's 536. Wells earned the victory with a 3-2 win over Sacramento State (2/13/05). Wells' vast coaching experience and tireless work ethic has not gone unnoticed by the country or by the world as she was named the head coach of the Greek Olympic National Team that competed in the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens. Wells has coached 35 career .300 hitters at ASU in her 15 seasons, averaging a combined .335 — not an easy accomplishment in the pitching-rich Pac-10 where games are traditionally low scoring, and with the addition of three more All-Pac-10 selections in 2004, Wells has now coached 75 all-conference players during her tenure at Arizona State, averaging five All-Pac-10 selections every season.

SERRANO TIME: Junior pitcher **Desiree Serrano** is off to a 7-1 start with 59 strikeouts. She is currently fourth all-time in career strikeouts with 493 and tied for ninth all-time with 41 victories. In three appearances at the Louisville Slugger Triangular, Serrano went 2-0 with a 0.00 ERA with 20 strikeouts, including a career-high 14 against Southern Utah. She allowed only three hits in 11 innings and walked only one batter. At the Littlewood Classic, Serrano pitched one of her best games all-time as she recorded a complete game, five-hit shutout over Illinois State. She struckout a season-high 11 and walked only one batter. Last year she led the pitching staff with a 2.21 ERA in 200 innings, making 28 starts in 41 appearances. Serrano, who averaged over seven strikeouts per contest, recorded a team-high 16 wins with eight shutouts and struck out 208 batters, eighth all-time in a single-season. She also posted five double digit strikeout games, including a season-high 13 against Illinois State, pitched a two-hit, 10 strikeout game against Wisconsin and a one-hit, 11 strikeout game against Princeton. As a redshirt freshman, Serrano made a Pac-10 second-best 49 appearances on her way to an 18-15 overall record, including seven shutouts and nine saves (second all-time in the Pac-10 in a single season). Serrano, an honorable mention All-Pac-10 selection, also posted 226 strikeouts (fourth in the Pac-10 and fifth all-time in a single-season at ASU), while holding opponents to a .209 batting average. To end her initial season, Serrano was named to the NCAA Region III All-Tournament team after posting a 0.38 ERA in 18 innings. In her no-hitter against Iowa, Serrano faced one batter over the minimum, and was just an infield error short of a perfect game as she struckout five Hawkeyes to record ASU's first no-hitter since Kirsten Voak accomplished the feat (2/29/01).

KNABE'S D-FENCE: Sophomore catcher **Heidi Knabe**, who has started all 21 games and has played every inning except one, is the only Pac-10 catcher to have picked off two runners this year. She has also thrown out seven base runners (3 for 10), tied for tops in the conference and the three stolen bases is tied for the conference low. Offensively, Knabe is hitting at a .295 clip (fourth on the team with 18 hits) with three doubles and nine runs scored.

ESPN.com/USA Softball

	Team (first place)	Record	Pts.	LR
1.	Arizona (17)	15-0	497	1
2.	California (3)	18-1	483	2
3.	Stanford	18-2	451	3
4.	Texas	14-3	417	4
5.	Michigan	21-1	405	8
6.	UCLA	16-5	388	5
7.	Tennessee	23-3	384	6
8.	Louisiana-Lafayette	17-2	374	7
9.	Baylor	21-3	329	10
10.	Alabama	24-4	326	9
11.	Texas A&M	21-2	310	11
12.	Oklahoma	21-4	304	12
13.	LSU	15-3	239	13
14.	Washington	12-7	197	14
15.	Georgia	14-7	176	17
16.	Florida	17-6	173	15
17.	Fresno State	9-3	151	18
18.	Oregon State	14-6	149	20
19.	Nebraska	12-5	126	16
20.	Georgia Tech	19-5	118	19
21.	Missouri	15-2	115	22
22.	Florida State	14-7	101	21
23.	Northwestern	13-6	54	23
24.	Iowa	15-3	47	NR
25.	Long Beach State	12-7	45	25

Dropped Out: Pacific.

Receiving Votes: Pacific (36), Arizona State (24), BYU (20), Creighton (15), Oregon (12), Syracuse (10), Southern Illinois (7), Virginia Tech (6), Texas A&M-CC (4), Illinois State (3), North Carolina (2), Auburn (1), Mississippi (1).

*TEAMS IN **Bold** INDICATES 2005 OPPONENTS.

DEVILS' NO. 8 ALL-TIME: The National Fastpitch Coaches Association announced the USA Today/NFCA All-Time Top 50 poll. The poll was compiled using weekly rankings from the 1995 season to the final poll of 2003. To date, Arizona State University, which accumulated 36,613 points for a No. 8 all-time ranking — just 12 points behind seventh-place California — has been ranked in 101 of the 127 polls all-time. Additionally, ASU has been ranked in 97 of the last 106 polls. Arizona State climbed to a school-record No. 3 in the nine-year history of the poll during the 2000 and 2002 seasons.

ASU Career Leaders

Batting Average

1. Phelan Wright (2001-04)	.381
2. Lisa Dacquisto (1994-97)	.378
3. Leanne Easley (1972-75)	.377
4. Rachel Brown (1991-92)	.362
5. Jodi Rathbun (1985-87)	.361
6. Kara Brun (2000-03)	.350
7. Peggy McAbee (1978-79)	.349
8. Valerie Sevilla (2003-present)	.333
Nichole Thompson (1999-2002)	.333
10. Raja Woods (1997-98)	.332

Home Runs

1. Phelan Wright (2001-04)	40
2. Kara Brun (2000-03)	34
3. Erica Beach (1999-2002)	27
4. Valerie Sevilla (2003-present)	19
5. Suzie Gaw (1979-82)	16

Runs Batted In

1. Kara Brun (2000-03)	165
2. Phelan Wright (2001-04)	162
3. Erica Beach (1999-2002)	153
4. Chris Gill (1997-99)	115
5. Alyssa Johnson (1993-96)	108
6. Kathy Escarcega (1984-87)	95

Hits

1. Lisa Dacquisto (1994-97)	296
2. Kara Brun (2000-03)	266
3. Phelan Wright (2001-04)	260
4. Nichole Thompson (1999-2002)	253
5. Ann Rowen (1988-91)	245
6. Kristin Farber (2001-04)	238
7. Missy Hixon (1999-2002)	228

Doubles

1. Kara Brun (2000-03)	50
2. Phelan Wright (2001-04)	44
3. Kathy Escarcega (1984-87)	39
4. Missy Hixon (1999-2002)	37
Alyssa Johnson (1993-96)	37
6. Valerie Sevilla (2003-present)	36
7. Nichole Thompson (1999-2002)	29

Stolen Bases

1. Lisa Dacquisto (1994-97)	102
2. Kristin Farber (2001-04)	80
3. Erin Hull (1994-98)	52
4. Raja Woods (1997-98)	47

SPECIAL K: Freshman pitcher **Katie Burkhart** has made an immediate impact on the pitching staff. She has already notched five wins, including a no-hitter with three shutouts and a Pac-10 leading four saves on the season. Overall in 11 appearances (51 innings), Burkhart carries a team-leading 0.41 ERA, allowing only 18 hits with 80 strikeouts (four double digit strikeout games), and has only walked three batters. Burkhart also leads the team in opponents batting average (.108). Burkhart threw her first career no-hitter, including 13 strikeouts (eight strikeouts through the first four innings of work) as ASU topped San Diego State, 1-0 in the first game of the Louisville Slugger Triangular. It was the first no-hitter at ASU since Desiree Serrano's performance against Iowa (2/16/03). Earlier in the week against Eastern Michigan, Burkhart was just one out away from a perfect game as she allowed just one hit with 12 strikeouts, including striking out the side in the fourth inning. She also fanned four EMU hitters two or more times. In her past four starts (27 innings), Burkhart is 3-1 with two shutouts, has allowed only nine hits, no walks and two runs with 44 strikeouts. Burkhart made her first career start against Hawai'i and did not disappoint. She pitched a complete game, two-hit shutout with 13 strikeouts, and walked only one batter. At the Palm Springs Classic, she recorded a shutout win along with making two saves. Burkhart went unscathed through the tournament in 12 innings, recording a 0.00 ERA. In three appearances she allowed only seven hits, did not walk a batter and struck out 23. Burkhart notched her first save of the tournament against Bethune-Cookman. Burkhart pitched the final three innings, facing nine batters, allowing no hits, no walks with seven strikeouts. Burkhart then had her best outing of the season as she shutout Northwestern on five hits while fanning a career-high 14 batters. Burkhart struck out the Wildcat side in the first inning and struck out the side again in the fourth inning on just 11 pitches. Following that game, Burkhart recorded her second save of the tournament against Notre Dame. ASU had just taken a 2-1 lead when Burkhart came in relief in the bottom of the sixth and retired the Irish in order. She then finished off the seventh as well. She gave up only two hits while striking out two more.

MIGHTY MOUSE: Despite only standing 5'-4", freshman infielder/pitcher **Mindy Cowles** proves size doesn't always matter as she swings a big bat and possess a strong arm. Through ASU's first 21 games, Cowles is batting at a team-leading .413 clip (26 for 63) with a team-high eight home runs, 24 runs scored, 24 RBIs and a .905 slugging percentage. She is also batting a robust .714 with runners in scoring position. Cowles 26 hits and 57 total bases leads the Pac-10 and her eight home runs are second. Cowles is third in the conference with 23 RBIs. In the field, she has committed only two errors and holds a team-leading 25 assists with 30 putouts. In Palm Springs, Cowles batted .313 with two home runs, one double, five runs scored and eight RBIs. She was also 3 for 3 in stolen bases and fielded her position flawlessly, making 11 putouts and five assists. To open the tournament against Long Island, Cowles went 3 for 3 with a grand slam and a three-run home run to tally seven RBIs on the day. She also scored three runs and walked once. Cowles accounted for half of the team's runs as ASU won 14-0. Cowles, who plays third and second base in the infield, also pitched 1.2 innings allowing no hits with one strikeout. Against Bethune-Cookman, Cowles again led ASU with a 2 for 4 game, including a double and RBI and two runs scored. In two games against Hawai'i, Cowles went 4 for 6 with two home runs, four RBIs and three runs scored. Her back-to-back home runs carried ASU to a 2-0 win. To begin the season against Texas-San Antonio, Cowles proved her might as she batted .500 (4 for 8) with all four hits going as extra bases, including two home runs and two doubles. Cowles drove in a team-leading five RBIs and also started the final game in the circle, pitching four and two-thirds innings.

OLYMPIC CONNECTION: Three members of the ASU staff either coached or played for Greece in 2004 Olympic Games in Athens. **Linda Wells** was the head coach of the host Greek National Team, while assistant coach **Stacey Farnworth** was team's catcher and administrative assistant **Jessica Bashor** was the starting outfielder.

Arizona State Records

Pacific-10	0-0
Non-Conference	17-4
Against Ranked Teams	0-0
Against Unranked Teams	17-4
Home Games	13-3
Road Games	0-0
Neutral Sites	4-1
Day Games	10-2
Night Games	7-1
Vs. Right Handed Starters	17-4
Vs. Left Handed Starters	0-0
Extra Innings	1-0
One Run Game	6-1
Two Run Game	2-2
Five Run (+) Game	7-0
Shutouts	8-3
ASU Scores First	12-0
Opponent Scores First	4-4
Out-Hit Opponents	13-0
Out-Hit by Opponents	2-3
Hits are Tied	2-1
February	11-3
March	6-1
April	0-0
May	0-0
Last 5 Games	4-1
Last 10 Games	8-2
Current Winning Streak	2
Longest Winning Streak	5
Longest Losing Streak	1

SIZZLING SEVILLA: After a breakout junior year, senior outfielder **Valerie Sevilla** looks to continue that trend in 2005. Through 21 games this season, Sevilla is hitting at a .403 pace (25 for 62) with a team and Pac-10 leading eight doubles, along four home runs. Sevilla hit the game-winning home run to lift ASU to a come from behind 2-1 win over Notre Dame in Palm Springs. In the three-game series against Texas-San Antonio to open the year, Sevilla hit two home runs and drove in three runs. She is currently fourth all-time in home runs (19), sixth in doubles (36) and tied for eighth all-time in batting average (.333). As a junior, Sevilla earned NFCA second-team All-Region honors, second-team All-Pac-10 accolades and was named Pac-10 Player of the Week (3/19). Remarkably, Sevilla had never hit a home run before last year as she slugged three grand slams and tied the single-season record for home runs (15). She also tied the single-season record for doubles (17), finished fifth all-time in a single-season with 46 RBIs and seventh with 70 hits. Sevilla hit at a .363 clip and led the team in hits (70), home runs (15), doubles (17), runs scored (36), total bases (132) and tallied a team-leading 21 RBIs with two outs. She led the team in multi-hit games (19), multi-RBI games (12) and batted a team-leading .421 with runners on base (.380 with runners in scoring position).

DEVILS ON THE WEB: All of ASU's 29 home games at Farrington Stadium will be available via LiveStats on ASU's home website at www.thesundevils.com.

ATTENDANCE FIGURES: Once again Arizona State University was among the top schools to carry a high home attendance figure in 2004. ASU finished No. 4 in the country and No. 2 in the Pac-10 Conference in total home attendance with 18,045. ASU finished fourth on the west coast and 11th nationally in average home attendance with 582. The Sun Devils also set the No. 1 and No. 2 all-time attendance records at Farrington Stadium against rival Arizona. The two-game series (April 9-10) combined to bring in over 3,300 fans as the record of 1,663 (1,535 capacity) was set on the first night and 1,641 on the second night.

STADIUM & FIELD AWARDS: For the third time in the past four years, Arizona State was honored with another award. Alberta B. Farrington Stadium was named the 2003 Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA) Softball Field of the Year in the College/University division. The commitment to excellence in overall field quality, safety, playability and appearance earned Farrington Stadium the top honor. The Field of the Year is the highest honor STMA bestows upon a facility. In 2002, Farrington Stadium was named the college/university winner of the NFCA/Turfgrass Grounds Crew Field Maintenance award. Dedicated in April, 2000, Alberta B. Farrington Stadium is a 1,535 seat facility that includes 500 back seats. Among the stadium's many features are sunken dugouts, home/visitor/umpire locker rooms, offices, trainers room, concession stands, a team shop and a team room. ASU also won the 2000 NFCA/Turfgrass Grounds Crew Field Maintenance award. The field maintenance staff is headed by Pete Wozniak. Award winners were chosen by a panel of independent judges made up of grounds maintenance professionals selected by the NFCA and Turfgrass. Additionally, Farrington Stadium was awarded "The Crescordia" (To Grow In Harmony) honor in 2000. The honor is for Environmental Excellence in building and structures awarded by the Valley Forward Association and Honeywell.

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.