

ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

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Softball



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Current record – 1-5 Overall (0-0 Mid-American)

BULLS GO 1-4 AT NATIONAL INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT

The University at Buffalo softball team traveled across the country over the weekend to participate in the National Invitational Softball Tournament, hosted by San Jose State University. The Bulls opened play with a strong effort against nationally-ranked Arizona State, losing by a 2-0 score, before falling to Northern Iowa by a 5-0 score and then defeating host San Jose State by a 3-2 score in eight innings. The Bulls were eliminated from the consolation round after a 6-0 loss to UNC-Greensboro and a 9-4 loss to Syracuse on Saturday.

EVANS IMPRESSIVE AGAINST NO. 7 ARIZONA STATE

Freshman *Stacey Evans (Collinsville, IL/Triad)* threw a five-hitter against Arizona State in Buffalo's first game of the National Invitational Tournament on Friday. The Sun Devils, who entered the game ranked seventh in the nation in the USA Today/NFCA (National Fastpitch Coaches Association) Top 25 poll released on Wednesday, March 6, got all the offense they would need in a two-hit, two-run third inning, and Evans was credited with the loss, her second of the season.

BULLS PICK UP FIRST VICTORY OF THE YEAR

Buffalo played its second extra-inning game of the young season on Friday against host San Jose State, but this time the Bulls came out victorious in eight innings by a 3-2 score. The Spartans scored the first run of the game in the third inning, but the Bulls tied the score in the bottom of the seventh on an RBI-double to right field by freshman *Julie Hibner (Salem, OR/South Salem)* to score sophomore *Breanne Nasti (Baldwin, NY/Baldwin)*, who had led off the inning with a triple to right. San Jose State scored an unearned run in the top of the eighth to go ahead 2-1, but Buffalo answered with two runs in the bottom half of the inning when a single by sophomore *Allison Round (Markham, Ontario/Markham District)* scored *Missy Switzer (West Seneca, NY/West Seneca West/Valparaiso)* and *Dominique Jones (Jamesville, NY/Jamesville-DeWitt)*. Sophomore *Heather Robbins (West Bloomfield, MI/West Bloomfield)* pitched a complete game to earn her first win of the season on the mound.

HIBNER NAMED UB FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Freshman *Julie Hibner (Salem, OR/South Salem)* was named UB's Female Athlete of the Week after leading the Bulls' offense at the National Invitational Tournament over the weekend. Hibner started all five games and led the Bulls with a .615 batting average (8-for-13). She recorded at least one hit in each of the Bulls' five games, and she accounted for two of Buffalo's four hits against No. 7 Arizona State. Hibner also had 13 putouts and six assists during the tournament while making just two errors for a .905 fielding percentage.

MID-AMERICAN CONFERENCE OPENER UP NEXT

The Bulls are now off until Saturday, March 23 and Sunday, March 24 when they open the MAC season with a three-game series at Ohio.

2002 SCHEDULE/RESULTS

March

at Charleston Southern Tournament (Charleston, SC)

Sun., 3	vs. Charleston Southern	L, 6-7 (9)
	vs. Central Florida	cancelled
	vs. Furman	cancelled

at National Invitational Softball Tournament (San Jose, CA)

Fri., 8	vs. Arizona State	L, 0-2
	vs. Northern Iowa	L, 0-5
	vs. San Jose State	W, 3-2 (8)
Sat., 9	vs. UNC-Greensboro	L, 0-6
	vs. Syracuse	L, 4-9

Sat., 23	at Ohio* (DH)	1 pm
Sun., 24	at Ohio*	1 pm
Tue., 26	at Canisius (DH)	3 pm
Fri., 29	MARSHALL* (DH)	2 pm
Sat., 30	MARSHALL*	1 pm

April

Tues., 2	CANISIUS (DH)	3 pm
Wed., 3	at Colgate (DH)	3:30 pm
Fri., 5	ST. BONAVENTURE (DH)	3 pm
Sat., 6	WESTERN MICHIGAN* (DH)	1 pm
Sun., 7	WESTERN MICHIGAN*	1 pm
Sat., 13	at Northern Illinois* (DH)	2 pm
Sun., 14	at Northern Illinois*	2 pm
Sat., 20	KENT STATE* (DH)	1 pm
Sun., 21	KENT STATE*	1 pm
Mon., 22	NIAGARA (DH)	3 pm
Thur., 25	at St. Bonaventure (DH)	3 pm
Sat., 27	at Bowling Green* (DH)	1 pm
Sun., 28	at Bowling Green*	1 pm
Tue., 30	at Akron* (DH)	2 pm

May

Wed., 1	at Akron*	2 pm
Sat., 4	MIAMI (OH)*	2 pm
Sun., 5	MIAMI (OH)* (DH)	12 pm
Thur., 9-	at MAC Championships	TBA
Sat., 11	(at Firestone Stadium, Akron, OH)	

Home games in **BOLD CAPS**

*Denotes Mid-American Conference games

(DH) Denotes doubleheader

All times Eastern