

ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO

175 ALUMNI ARENA

BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14260

(716) 645-6311 • FAX: (716) 645-6840 • WEB: WWW.BUFFALOBULLS.COM

Softball



Date: April 14, 2003 • For release: Immediately • Contact: Heidi Roth

Current record – 11-14 Overall (3-6 Mid-American)

LATE-INNING HEROICS GIVE BULLS TWO WINS OVER OHIO

The University at Buffalo softball team took two games of the three-game series with the visiting Ohio Bobcats over the weekend thanks to late-inning comebacks. The Bulls scored the winning run in the bottom of the seventh inning of Saturday's 3-2 win and then scored three runs in the bottom of the sixth inning to earn a come-from-behind 5-4 win in the series finale on Sunday.

In the series opener, the Bobcats took a 2-1 lead with two runs in the top of the fifth inning before the Bulls tied the score in the sixth on a two-out double to right by junior **Marce Ross (Innisfil, Ontario/St. Peter's)** that scored freshman **Melissa Pace (Long Beach, CA/Millikan)**. Junior **Breanne Nasti (Baldwin, NY/Baldwin)** then led off the bottom of the seventh with a single down the left field line, and walks to senior **Kelly Malone (Waterford, MI/Waterford Kettering)** and freshman **Erica Pace (Long Beach, CA/Millikan)** loaded the bases for senior **Jessica Kensy (Cheektowaga, NY/Maryvale)**. Kensy hit a grounder to the right side of the infield, and Nasti beat second baseman Crystal Turner's throw home to end the game. Sophomore **Stacey Evans (Collinsville, IL/Triad)** earned her seventh win of the year on the mound, allowing five hits and striking out five.

In the series finale on Sunday, the Bulls found themselves down by a 4-2 margin after five innings of play, but they took advantage of two Ohio errors in the bottom of the sixth, scoring three runs on two hits to earn a come-from-behind 5-4 victory. Malone hit a bases-loaded grounder to third base, and the throw home went off the glove of OU catcher Georgia Villard, allowing two runs to cross the plate and tie the score at 4-4. Sophomore **Ann Magur (Endicott, NY/Union-Endicott)** then singled to left field to drive in Ross with the game-winning run. Senior **Andrea Sage (Depew, NY/Depew)** then struck out two batters in the seventh before giving up a double to Sarah Melvin. Kiersten Scrima was intentionally walked to put runners and first and second, but Sage got OU power hitter Erin Chapman to ground out to first to end the game. Sage earned the win for the Bulls, allowing just one hit and no runs in the final two innings of the game.

Ohio's lone win in the series came in the nightcap of Saturday's doubleheader. The Bobcats scored one run in the fourth and one run in the fifth en route to a 2-0 shutout. The Bulls outthit the Bobcats by an 8-5 margin, led by sophomore **Julie Hibner (Salem, OR/South Salem)** who was 3-for-3 with a seventh-inning double.

DOUBLES FOR EVERYONE

Buffalo and Ohio pounded out 12 doubles in their three-game series over the weekend, eight by the Bobcats and four by the Bulls. Sophomore **Julie Hibner (Salem, OR/South Salem)** and junior **Marce Ross (Innisfil, Ontario/St. Peter's)** each hit their first double of the season, while **Breanne Nasti (Baldwin, NY/Baldwin)** hit her team-leading sixth double of the year and sophomore **Ann Magur (Endicott, NY/Union-Endicott)** ripped her fifth of the season.

ROSS ON A ROLL

Junior **Marce Ross (Innisfil, Ontario/St. Peter's)** has hit .524 with four runs scored and three runs batted in over her last seven games, including a 5-for-9 (.556) performance with two runs scored and two RBIs in the weekend series with the Bobcats. Ross has upped her season batting average to .344 on the year, second on the team, and she has a team-high 13 runs scored.

UP NEXT

The Bulls now host local rival Canisius in a doubleheader on Wednesday, April 16 beginning at 3 pm at the UB Softball Stadium before taking to the road for a three-game series at defending MAC Champion Central Michigan on Friday and Saturday, April 18 and 19.

2003 SCHEDULE/RESULTS

February

at Florida International Tournament

Fri., 28 vs. Florida A&M L, 2-10
vs. Tennessee W, 8-2

March

Sat., 1 vs. Furman W, 6-2
at Florida International L, 1-5
Sun., 2 at Florida International W, 2-0

at Malihini Invitational

Thur., 6 vs. No. 25 Baylor W, 1-0
Fri., 7 vs. UC-Riverside L, 2-3
vs. Kent State W, 7-5
Sat., 8 vs. Boston College L, 0-3 (8)
vs. Loyola Marymount W, 4-3
Sun., 9 vs. Hawaii L, 0-2

at San Jose State Invitational

Thur., 13 vs. San Jose State L, 3-4 (8)
vs. San Jose State L, 1-4
Fri., 14 vs. Southern Utah L, 0-3
Sat., 15 vs. Southern Utah cancelled

Sat., 22 at Marshall* (DH) L, 2-3 (10); L, 0-6
Sun., 23 at Marshall* W, 3-0
Tue., 25 at Canisius (DH) postponed
Thur., 27 **NIAGARA (DH)** **W, 1-0; W, 10-2**
Sun., 30 at Kent State* L, 0-2
Mon., 31 at Kent State* (DH) L, 1-13; L, 1-2

April

Wed., 2 **COLGATE (DH)** postponed
Sat., 5 **NORTHERN ILLINOIS* (DH)** cancelled
Sun., 6 **EASTERN MICHIGAN* (DH)** cancelled
Tue., 8 **ST. BONAVENTURE (DH)** postponed
Sat., 12 **OHIO* (DH)** **W, 3-2; L, 0-2**
Sun., 13 **OHIO*** **W, 5-4**
Wed., 16 **CANISIUS (DH)** **3:00 pm**
Fri., 18 at Central Michigan* 3:30 pm
Sat., 19 at Central Michigan* (DH) 1:00 pm
Tue., 22 at St. Bonaventure (DH) 3:00 pm
Wed., 23 at Niagara (DH) 3:00 pm
Fri., 25 **MIAMI (OH)*** **3:00 pm**
Sat., 26 **MIAMI (OH)* (DH)** **1:00 pm**
Tue., 29 at Western Michigan* (DH) 3:00 pm

May

Sat., 3 **AKRON* (DH)** **1:00 pm**
Sun., 4 **AKRON*** **1:00 pm**
Thur., 8- at MAC Championships TBA
Sat., 10 (Firestone Stadium, Akron, OH)

Home games in **BOLD CAPS**

*Denotes Mid-American Conference games

(DH) Denotes doubleheader • All times Eastern