



May 8, 2003
 Contact: Emmy Zack

SOFTBALL

No. 9 Cal Makes Final Regular Season Road Trip to No. 18 Oregon, OSU

This Week: Friday, May 9 at No. 18 Oregon Howe Field, Eugene, Ore. 2:00 p.m.
 Saturday, May 10 at Oregon State OSU Softball Complex, Corvallis, Ore. 1:00 p.m. DH

CAL IN THE POLLS:

	<u>NFCA</u>	<u>ESPN.com/ USA Softball</u>
Preseason	3	
2/19	4	
2/25	6	6
3/4	8	9
3/11	7	7
3/18	6	6
3/25	7	6
4/1	7	6
4/8	6	5
4/15	10	7
4/22	9	6
4/29	9	6
5/6	9	5

HEAD COACH

Diane Ninemire, the all-time winningest coach in the school's sports history, added another milestone to her resume this past season when she guided the Golden Bears to the 2002 Women's College World Series national title.

Ninemire has led Cal to the NCAA postseason during each of her 15 seasons at the helm, including trips to the College World Series in 1992, '96, '99, '00, '01 and '02. In 2002, the Bears swept through their competition, notching a perfect 4-0 mark at the regionals in Fresno and again at the WCWS in Oklahoma City, Okla. Cal claimed the NCAA title with a 6-0 victory over defending champion Arizona.

Ninemire is in her 16th season at the helm of the Cal program, equipped with a current career mark of 693-352.

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INSIDE THE HEAD OF AN ALL-AMERICAN:

Senior first baseman **Veronica Nelson** writes a weekly journal entry posted on the calbears website, Roni's Remarks. It can be found at: <http://calbears.ocsn.com/sports/w-softbl/spec-rel/nelson-index.html>.

WHAT'S ON TAP: The ninth-ranked California softball team (40-16, 9-9 Pac-10) closes out the regular season this weekend when it heads north to play one game at No. 18 Oregon (30-16, 8-10) Friday, May 9, before heading into a doubleheader at Oregon State (31-27, 4-14) Saturday, May 10. The Golden Bears will then await word of where they are headed to begin defense of their national championship. The NCAA Tournament selections and regional matchups will be announced on ESPN News Sunday, May 11 at 7 p.m. PDT. Regional play will take place at eight sites from May 15-18.

DIANE NINEMIRE SETS CAL COACHING RECORD: Cal's win at Stanford on April 18 set a new all-time Cal coaching record. The victory was head coach **Diane Ninemire's** 689th career win, earning her the most wins by a head coach in any sport in Cal athletic history. Now in her 16th season at the helm, Ninemire owns a 693-352 record (.663), surpassing former baseball skipper **Bob Milano's** 688 record wins.

SCOUTING OREGON: No. 18 Oregon (30-16, 8-10 Pac-10) is fresh off a road sweep of then-No. 5 Washington last weekend and has won four of its last six. As a team, the Ducks are hitting .246 while their opponents hit at a .236 clip. **Andrea Vidlund** leads the attack with a .351 average, 40 hits, 26 RBI and 10 home runs. **Lynsey Haij** is hitting .314 with 37 hits. **Amy Harris** is the workhorse on the mound where she has posted a 14-12 record and a 1.60 ERA. The Bears lead the all-time series 58-27 and have won the last 10 in the series.

SCOUTING OREGON STATE: Oregon State (31-27, 4-14 Pac-10) has lost four of its last five conference games, with its victory coming last weekend at then-No. 5 Washington. The Beavers are hitting .275 with 54 home runs and stolen 61 bases. **Brynnen Guthrie** is averaging .382 with 65 hits to pace the squad, while **Shelly Prochaska** hits .308 with a team-high 45 RBI. **Monica Hoffman** has thrown 201.1 innings and posted a 21-14 record and a 2.05 ERA. Cal holds a 54-21 series advantage after posting a 7-2 victory at home earlier this year.

CAL AGAINST EVERYONE: In all games, the Bears boast the third-best batting average (.279) and ERA (1.23) and are tied for the third-best fielding percentage (.971) in the Pac-10 ... **Vicky Galindo** ranks third with 16 stolen bases and 176 at-bats ... **Kelly Anderson** is sixth with a 1.21 ERA and fifth with an opponent average of .142 ... **Kristina Thorson's** 1.17 ERA ranks fifth while she also ranks fifth by allowing opponents to hit .174.

CAL AGAINST THE PAC-10: in conference games only, the Bears rank third in both batting (.241) and ERA (1.90), as well as fielding pct. (.964) ... individually, **Kaleo Eldredge** is No. 5 with a .378 BA and **Lindsay James** is tied for ninth at .333 ... **Veronica Nelson** leads the league with a .661 on-base percentage ... **Kelly Anderson** has held Pac-10 opponents to a .167 BA to rank third, while also posting the fourth-lowest ERA (1.50) ... Meanwhile **Kristina Thorson** ranks fifth in ERA at 1.56 and sixth in opponents BA at .

FROM THE CIRCLE: Per game, Cal's pitching staff is averaging 3.80 hits allowed, 1.66 runs (1.18 earned runs), 2.07 walks, 6.48 strikeouts ... the four-deep staff has held opponents to a .163 BA, fanning 363 batters in 374.2 innings.

2003 Cal Scoreboard
40-16 overall, 9-9 Pac-10

Date	Opponent	Time/Result
1/31	San Jose State (3/X)	W, 3-1
	Tennessee (3/X)	W, 8-4
2/1	Tennessee (3/X)	W, 11-1 (5)
	San Jose State (3/X)	W, 9-0 (5)
2/8	Pacific (3/21)	W, 4-0
2/9	St. Mary's (DH) (3/X)	W, 8-2; W, 8-1
2/14-16	at UNLV Tournament	
2/14	vs. Purdue (3/X)	W, 1-0
2/14	vs. Texas Tech (3/X)	W, 7-0
2/15	vs. Nebraska (3/4t)	L, 1-6
2/15	vs. Portland State (3/X)	W, 5-0
2/16	vs. Hawaii (3/X)	L, 0-1
2/21-23	at NFCA Leadoff Classic	
2/22	vs. Alabama (4/17)	L, 2-4
2/22	vs. Notre Dame (4/23)	W, 6-0
2/23	vs. Illinois State (4/X)	W, 11-0
2/28-3/2	at Worth Tournament	
2/28	vs. Northwestern (6/X)	L, 3-4 (8)
2/28	at CS Fullerton (6/7)	L, 4-5
3/1	vs. Ohio State (6/20)	L, 0-1
3/1	vs. Pacific (6/X)	W, 7-0
3/2	vs. Minnesota (6/24)	W, 7-0
3/7-9	at NIST Tournament	
3/7	vs. Minnesota (8/24)	W, 3-2
3/7	vs. Sacramento State (8/X)	W, 4-0
3/8	vs. Georgia Tech (8/X)	W, 1-0 (8)
3/8	vs. Arizona State (8/10)	W, 6-1
3/9	vs. Oregon (8/23)	W, 6-0
3/14-16	at Blue & Gold Classic	
3/14	vs. Florida Atlantic (7/X)	W, 10-2 (5)
3/14	vs. Syracuse (7/X)	W, 8-0 (5)
3/15	vs. Umass (7/24)	W, 6-4
3/15	vs. Florida International (7/X)	W, 5-1
3/20-23	at Sacramento Capital Classic	
3/20	vs. Long Island (6/X)	W, 9-0 (6)
3/21	vs. Eastern Kentucky (6/X)	W, 9-0 (5)
3/21	vs. Utah State (6/X)	W, 5-1
3/22	vs. UNLV (6/X)	W, 1-0
3/22	vs. Iowa (6/X)	L, 3-4
3/26	UC Santa Barbara (7/X)	W, 6-2
3/28	Washington* (7/2)	W, 2-0
3/29	UCLA* (7/1)	L, 0-3
3/30	UCLA* (7/1)	L, 1-4 (8)
4/4	Oregon State* (7/X)	W, 7-2
4/5	Oregon* (7/21)	W, 4-0
4/6	Oregon* (7/21)	W, 4-1
4/9	at Sacramento State (DH) (6/X)	W, 7-1, 4-1
4/11	at Arizona State* (6/12)	L, 0-1
4/12	at Arizona* (6/1)	L, 5-7
4/13	at Arizona* (6/1)	L, 0-1
4/16	Santa Clara (10/X)	W, 4-0
4/18	at Stanford* (10/15)	W, 2-1
4/19	Stanford* (DH) (10/15)	W, 1-0, 2-1
4/25	at UCLA* (9/2)	L, 0-10 (5)
4/26	at Washington* (9/4)	W, 1-0
4/27	at Washington* (9/4)	L, 2-5 (8)
5/3	Arizona State* (9/16)	W, 10-1 (5)
5/4	Arizona State* (9/16)	L, 0-1 (9)
5/2	Arizona* (9/1)	L, 0-6
5/9	at Oregon*	2:00 p.m.
5/10	at Oregon State* (DH)	1:00 p.m.
5/15-18	NCAA Regionals	TBA
5/22-26	NCAA Championships	TBA

Bold indicates home game at Levine-Fricke Field
Numbers in parentheses are Cal/opponent NFCA ranking



BEAR BATTING BITS: As a team, the Bears have lashed out a .285 BA with runners in scoring position to their opponents' .183 BA... **Courtney Scott** and **Kaleo Eldredge** have combined for 26 RBI in 35 opportunities with a runner at third and less than two outs... Eldredge has posted a .340 BA (16-for-47) with two outs, collecting 10 of her 27 RBIs in that situation, and has a .400 BA (16-for-40) with runners in scoring position.

PULLING OUT THE BATS: The Bears put on an offensive showcase in a 10-1 victory against Arizona State May 3. Cal pounded out 10 hits, including three home runs. The nine-run margin of victory was the team's largest in a Pac-10 game since a 10-0 victory against Oregon State in 1997.

THREE DOT DATA: Cal is 8-8 in one-run ballgames, 3-2 in two-run games, 24-1 when it scores five runs or more and 1-4 in extra inning games... combining terrific defense and gutsy pitching, the Bears have recorded 21 shutouts while being blanked only eight times themselves... Cal has scored its most runs in the fifth inning (55) and its least in the sixth (20)... The Bears have scored 45 runs in the sixth and seventh innings during which time their opposition has crossed the plate just 14 times... Cal enjoyed a 15-game win streak earlier this year (March 1-22), its longest since it opened the 2001 campaign with 32 straight victories.

JAMES GETS THE JOB DONE: Freshman **Lindsay James** has been on a tear over the last five games during which she has hit a combined .625 (10-for-16). As a result, her batting average has increased 30 points to its current mark of .331, good for second on the team among regulars. Usually the number two hitter, James, a product of San Carlos, Calif., has a season on-base percentage of .402. In addition, she is second on the club with 16 multi-hit games and is the only player to have recorded a four-hit game which she accomplished against Arizona State May 4. **Vicky Galindo** paces the squad with 17 multi-hit outings.

YOU CAN COUNT ON SPENCER: Sophomore **Chelsea Spencer** is the only player on the team to have played in and started all 56 games this year. In addition, the shortstop from San Leandro, Calif., also was one of five players to start all 75 contests a year ago to give her 131 consecutive starts to begin her collegiate career.

ELDREDGE ON A ROLL: In the past 16 games, center fielder **Kaleo Eldredge** has increased her batting average by 58 points, from .244 to .302. Eldredge has hit safely in 12 of these games, dating back to April 4, collecting 18 hits and nine RBI. Against league foes, she has a team-high average of .378.

ROAD RUNNERS: After 55 games, the Bears have stolen 37 bases in 48 attempts, led by the fleet-footed **Vicky Galindo's** 16-for-20 performance. Cal already has produced more stolen bases than in its 2002 National Championship season when it swiped 23. The last time a player collected 16 stolen bases in a single season was in 1993 when **Keri Kropke** stole 16 of 21 attempts. The all-time Cal record for most stolen bases in a season by a team is 104 (1979) and individually is 28 (Kropke in 1992).

2003 PAC-10 STANDINGS

	Conference				Overall			
	W	L	T	Pct	W	L	T	Pct.
Arizona	17	1	0	.944	48	4	0	.923
UCLA	15	3	0	.833	43	5	0	.896
California	9	9	0	.500	40	16	0	.714
Oregon	8	10	0	.444	30	16	0	.652
Washington	7	11	0	.389	40	13	1	.750
Arizona State	7	11	0	.389	30	20	0	.600
Stanford	5	13	0	.278	36	23	0	.610
Oregon State	4	14	0	.222	31	27	0	.534