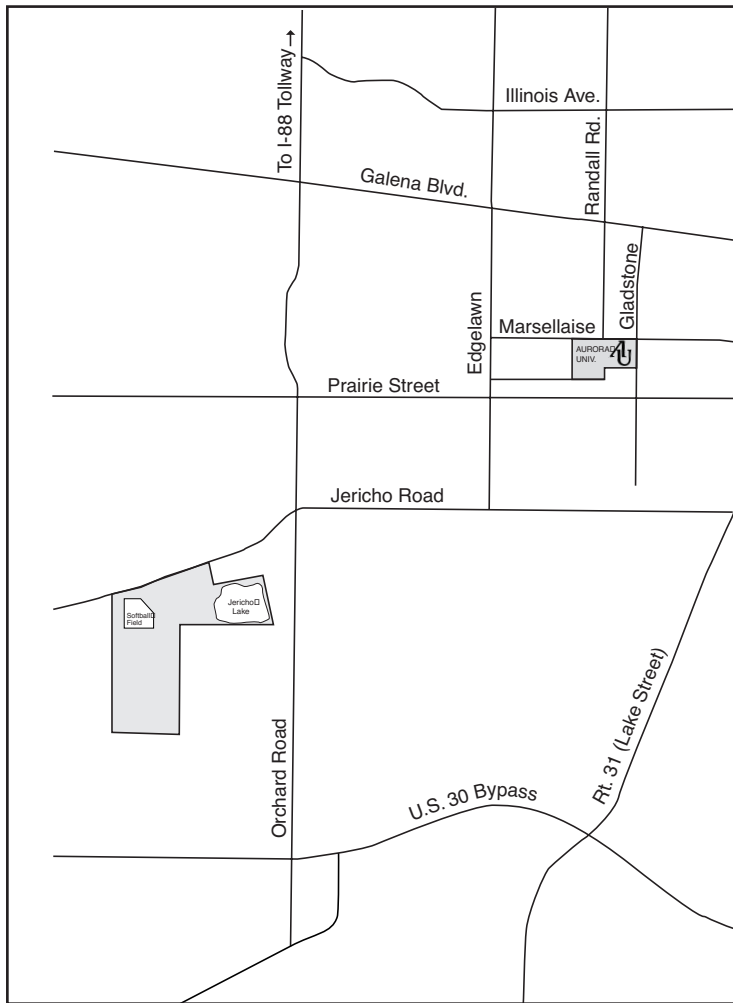


SPARTANS



SOFTBALL 2007

Getting to the Field



2007 Media Guide

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AU Quick Facts

Location	Aurora, IL
Founded	1893
Enrollment	Approximately 4,000
Nickname	Spartans
Colors	Royal Blue and White
Conference	NAC Northern Athletics Conference
National Affiliation	NCAA Division III
Field	Stuart Sports Complex
President	Rebecca L. Sherrick
Director of Athletics	Mark Walsh
Athletics Phone	630-844-5110
Athletics Fax	630-844-7809
Head Softball Coach	Mike McKenzie
Coach's Record	107-28-1
Assistant Coach	Laura Opie
Athletic Trainer	Stevie Baker-Watson
2006 Overall Record	38-11
2006 NIIC Record	12-3
Sports Information Director	Brian Kipley
Sports Information Phone	630-844-7575
Sports Information Fax	630-844-3826
AU Spartan Sports Hotline	630-844-3838

On the Cover:

Seniors Brittany Butcher, Caryssa Douglas, Jen Spoden and Michelle Holtorf

AU Media Outlets

Local Print

Aurora Beacon-News..... 101 S. River, Aurora, IL 60506
Todd Adams, Sports Editor 630-844-5911
Fax: 630-844-1043

Kane County Chronicle..... 1000 Randall Rd., Geneva, IL 60134
Brian Schaumburg, Sports Editor 630-232-9222
Fax: 630-232-4962

Fox Valley Labor News..... P.O. Box 4155, Aurora, IL 60507
Carter Crane, Editor 630-897-4022
Fax: 630-892-3873

Daily Herald..... 3805-A Main St., St. Charles, IL 60174
630-587-8623
Fax: 630-587-8639

Kendall County Publications..... 222 Bridge St., Yorkville, IL 60560
630-533-7034
Fax: 630-533-7085

Oswego Ledger-Sentinel Box 669, Oswego, IL 60611
630-554-8565
Fax: 630-554-7560

Regional Print

Chicago Tribune 435 N. Michigan, Chicago, IL 60611
Metro Sports 312-222-3474
Fax: 312-828-9392

Chicago Sun-Times 350 N. Orleans, Chicago, IL 60654
College Sports 312-321-2247

Radio/TV

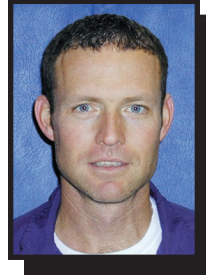
WSPY (107.1 FM) 1 Broadcast Center, Plano, IL 60545
WFXV (TV-30) 630-552-1000
Greg Burks, Sports Director Fax: 630-552-9000

Comcast (Ch. 4) 800 W. 5th Street, Naperville, IL 60563
630-552-1000

Wire Services

Associated Press 230 N. Michigan, Chicago, IL 60601
Sports Desk 312-781-0500
Fax: 312-781-1989

Meet the Head Coach



MIKE MCKENZIE
Head Coach
(Fourth Season)

Mike McKenzie will enter his fourth season as Head Softball Coach of the Aurora University softball program. McKenzie came to Aurora University from Marian College in Indianapolis, IN, where he served as Head Women's Softball Coach, Assistant Men's Basketball Coach and Director of Intramurals. In his three seasons at AU, McKenzie's Spartans have a 107-28-1 record and have captured the Northern Illinois-Iowa Conference championship all three years.

The Spartans made trips to the 2005 and 2006 NCAA Division III Softball Tournament. He was named NIIC softball Coach of the Year following the 2005 and 2006 seasons. Over the previous six seasons before coming to AU, McKenzie posted a 171-80 record, including a 36-10 record and an NAIA national tournament appearance in 2003. He was named Mid-Central Conference Coach of the Year in the 1998 and 2002 seasons.

McKenzie began his coaching career as a basketball and baseball coach at Scecina Memorial High School in Indianapolis, IN, from 1986 to 1995. As an athlete, he played both basketball and baseball at Beech Grove High School in Indianapolis where he was named MVP of his varsity basketball team.

McKenzie continued his playing career at Marian College in Indianapolis. He was a three-year starter and captain of the men's basketball team. He received his B.S. in physical education from Marian College and his master's degree in kinesiology from Indiana University. He was named outstanding senior in physical education at Marian College in 1986.



LAURA OPIE
Assistant Coach
(Third Season)

Laura Opie enters her third season with the Spartan softball program as an assistant coach. Opie came to AU after one season as an assistant at Judson College (2004). She graduated from Judson College in 2001 with a degree in Business Management.

As an athlete, Opie played both basketball and softball at Harvard High School and Judson College. At Judson, Opie was a four year starter in softball and was named to the NCCAA All-Region Team (as junior and senior) to the CCAC (Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference) All-Conference Team, CCAC All-Tournament Team, team captain and team MVP as a senior. At Harvard, she was a four-year starter in softball and was named to the Big Northern All-Conference Team and a team captain, as a junior and senior as well as named the team MVP as a senior. A two-sport athlete, Opie was named to the Big Northern All-Conference Team as well as a team captain as a senior in basketball.

All requests for interviews should be made through
Brian Kipley, Director of Sports Information, at 630-844-7575.
Media should call in advance.

2007 Softball Prospectus

2007 AU Softball Roster

The 2007 Aurora University softball team will, once again, have its eye on a conference championship and a NCAA Tournament birth. The Spartans are relying on 10 players who saw significant time last year and a good crop of newcomers as they prepare for playing in the newly formed Northern Athletics Conference.

The Spartans have good reason to be excited about this upcoming season, riding the momentum of a 38-11 season and a NIIC conference championship.

Additionally, AU returns the core group of Spartans from second consecutive NCAA Division III regional appearance. AU went 2-2 at the Augustana College Regional. Five Spartans were named to the 2006 Northern Illinois-Iowa All-Conference Team. Senior Caryssa Douglas will lead AU this year as she works to improve on her .350 batting average and team-leading eight home runs from a year ago. Douglas was also named All-NIIC and Third Team All-Central Region. Also returning will be Brittany Butcher, AU's top pitcher for much of last season. Butcher, an All-NIIC selection, finished 2006 with a 17-5 record, which included a 2.59 ERA in 151.1 innings of work. Senior infielder Jen Spoden and senior catcher/outfielder Michelle Holtorf also hope to lead the Spartans in their final collegiate campaign. AU will also bring back some key juniors this year who aim to improve on their already impressive collegiate careers. Infielder Dana Cebular was an All-NIIC and Second Team All-Central region selection a year ago will make for a potent middle of the order punch when combined with Douglas. Fellow junior Jamie Mueller also looks to improve on her 2006 season which saw her hit .281 in 38 games.

The experience keeps on coming for AU as sophomore All-NIIC selections Nicole Capone and Abby Young return. Capone, the other returning member of AU's dominant 2006 pitching staff, will add to her 2006 totals which included going 19-6 with a 1.66 ERA. Young, who was also named to the Central Region Tournament Team, will provide a potent offensive punch from behind the plate. Her 2006 season was highlighted by a .349 average. Other sophomores who return with experience include outfielder Nikki Veen and infielder Beth Okrie. Transfer Julie Beenes also looks to provide some experience after already having played two seasons at Moraine Valley C.C.

Coach McKenzie is also very excited about his freshman class. Pitchers Anna Snyder and Mary Pat Cummings look to take some of the load off of Capone and Butcher, while catcher Briana Martin, catcher/infielder Marissa Osnes, catcher/infielder Abby Peters, outfielder/catcher Karisa Hansen, catcher Tara Niemann, outfielder Kendra Ganzer, infielder Sam Spellman, catcher Carly Patkus, and infielder Emily Steinway all look to compete with the veterans for playing time. "We will once again be very dependent on our returning players, but we will also rely on some key newcomers. We return 10 significant players, but we also have several new recruits who are pitchers, catchers and position players," McKenzie said.

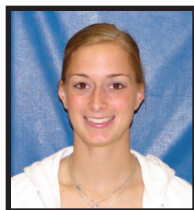
The Aurora University softball team opens its season with a spring trip to Fort Meyers, FL. Coach McKenzie's goal is to get his squad off to a winning start and knows what it takes to do so: "Our recent success has been due to good pitching, good defense and timely hitting." If these things come together, the 2007 Spartans could be very exciting to watch.

No.	NAME	Pos	Ht	Yr.	B/T	HOMETOWN/PREVIOUS SCHOOL
1	Jen Spoden	IF	4'10	Sr	R/R	Elgin, IL/Elgin
2	Michelle Holtorf	C/IF/OF	5'3	Sr	S/R	Lisle, IL/Lisle
3	Marissa Osnes	C/IF	5'6	So	R/R	Wonderlake, IL/ Woostock
4	Brittany Butcher	P/OF	5'5	Sr	R/R	St. Charles, IL/ St. Charles East
5	Nikki Veen	OF/P	5'7	So	R/R	Oak Lawn, IL/Oak Lawn
6	Brianna Martin	C	5'10	Fr	R/R	Andalusia, IL/Rockridge
7	Abby Peters	C/IF	5'6	Fr	R/R	Aurora, IL/West Aurora
8	Nicole Capone	P	5'4	So	R/R	Brookfield, IL/Lyons Township
9	Anna Snyder	P	5'6	Fr	R/R	Grayslake, IL/Grayslake
10	Kendra Ganzer	OF	5'7	Fr	R/R	Wilmingon, IL/Bishop McNamara
11	Tara Niemann	C	5'5	Fr	R/R	Quincy, IL/Quincy Notre Dame
14	Bethany Okrie	IF	5'6	So	L/R	Lisle, IL/Lisle
15	Mary Pat Cummings	P	5'4	Fr	R/R	Joliet, IL/Joliet Township
16	Julie Beenes	IF	5'11	Jr	R/R	Palos Park, IL/ Chicago Christian
18	Caryssa Douglas	OF	5'7	Sr	R/R	Elgin, IL/Larkin
19	Dana Cebular	IF	5'6	Jr	R/R	Brookfield, IL/ Riverside Brookfield
21	Carly Patkus	C	5'3	Fr	R/R	Lansing, IL/T.F. South
23	Sam Spellman	IF	5'6	Fr	R/R	Decatur, IL/Mt. Zion
24	Jamie Mueller	IF	5'6	Jr	R/R	Hanover Park/Lake Park
25	Emily Steinway	OF	5'7	Fr	L/L	Elgin, IL/Elgin
26	Karisa Hansen	C/IF/OF	5'4	Fr	R/R	Elgin, IL/Larkin
42	Abby Young	C	5'6	So	R/R	Elgin, IL/Hampshire

Head Coach: Mike McKenzie

Assistant Coach: Laura Opie

Meet the Spartans



16, JULIE BEENES, 5'11", Jr, IF
Bats: Right, Throws: Right
Palos Park, IL./Chicago Christian H.S.
College as a Sophomore ('06): Attended Moraine Valley Community College and played softball. She was named Best Offensive Player, All-Regional, All-Tournament, Sky Conference Team and All-National 2006. **College as a Freshman ('05):** Attended Moraine Valley Community College and played softball. She was named Best Offensive Player, All-Conference, All-Regional and All-Tournament. **High School:** Attended Chicago Christian High School and played softball. **Personal:** Born 11/9/85 in Oak Park, IL. **Family:** Douglas and Sandra Beenes. She has one sister, Jennifer, and one brother, Jeffrey. **Major:** Nursing.

4, BRITTANY BUTCHER, 5'5", Sr, Pitcher/OF
Bats: Right, Throws: Right
St. Charles, IL./St. Charles East H.S.
College as a Junior ('06): She had a 17-5 record as a pitcher and amassed 75 strikeouts in 151.1 innings. She was named All-NIIC. She also had three hits in 16 at bats. **College as a Sophomore ('05):** Attended and played softball at Edgewood College. She was team MVP and All-Lake Michigan Conference. **College as a Freshman ('04):** Attended and played softball at Edgewood College. Named All-Lake Michigan Conference. **High School:** Attended St. Charles East High School. Played three years of softball under Coach Jeff Bolton. Also played one year of golf under Coach Rod Osborne. **Personal:** Born 6/7/85 in St. Charles, IL. **Family:** Rick and Becky Butcher. She has two brothers, Adam and Ryan. **Hobbies:** Golf, running and working out. **Major:** Physical Education. **Minor:** Health Science.



Total	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	SB	BB	K	RBI	BA
'06	16	6	3	1	0	0	1	1	4	3	.188
Total	W	L	S	IP	K	BB	R/E	H	ERA		
'06	17	5	0	151.1	75	33	77/56	159	2.59		



8, NICOLE CAPONE, 5'4", So, Pitcher
Bats: Right, Throws: Right
Brookfield, IL./Lyons Township H.S.
College as a Freshman ('06): She had a 19-6 record with a 1.66 ERA. She also picked up one save and was named All-NIIC. **High School:** Attended Lyons Township High School. Played four years of softball under Coach Dawn Shawbacker. **Personal:** Born 4/22/87 in Broadview, IL. **Family:** Ben and Kathy Capone. She has two brothers, Jason and Kyle. **Hobbies:** Watching and playing sports, working out, watching movies, eating sandwiches and playing Super Nintendo. **Major:** Fitness and Health Promotion. **Minor:** Business.

Total	W	L	S	IP	K	BB	R/E	H	ERA
'06	19	6	1	156.1	105	42	60/37	128	1.66



19, DANA CEBULAR, 5'6", Jr, IF
Bats: Right, Throws: Right
Brookfield, IL./Riverside Brookfield H.S.
College as a Sophomore ('06): Appeared in all 49 games, starting 48, and hit .327 with six home runs and 38 RBIs. She was Named All-NIIC and Second Team All-Central region. She currently holds the school record for home runs in a career with 17. **College as a Freshman ('05):** Was named NIIC All-Conference, National Fastpitch Coaches Association Second Team All-Region and 2005 NCAA Regional All-Tournament Team. Set the AU single season record for home runs with 11. Started all 47 games, hit .388 with 11 home runs, 11 doubles and 39 runs batted in. **High School:** Attended Riverside Brookfield High School. Played four years of varsity softball under Coach Dan Hull. Named All-Conference, All-Area, and Chicago Sun-Times' Top 100 Players as a junior and senior. Named Chicago Tribune's Top 50 Players as a senior. Also played two years of varsity basketball under Coach Larry Rocco and two years of volleyball under Coach Mark Gouwens. **Personal:** Born 4/15/86 in Brookfield, IL. **Family:** Lou and Lydia Cebular. She has two brothers, Louie and Alex. **Hobbies:** Movies, music and playing all sports. **Major:** Elementary Education.

Total	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	SB	BB	K	RBI	BA
'06	162	45	53	12	3	6	4	3	12	38	.327
'05	147	37	57	11	2	11	4	10	22	39	.388

#15, MARY PAT CUMMINGS, 5'4", Fr, P
Bats: Right, Throws: Right
Joliet, IL./Joliet West H.S.
High School: Attended Joliet West High School and played softball under Coach Laurie Markatos. She was named Honorable Mention All-Conference as a junior, All-Conference, team captain and Washington Tournament All-Tournament Team as a senior. **Personal:** Born 6/15/88 in Joliet, IL. **Family:** Jack and Lynette Cummings. She has one sister, Colleen Michelle. **Hobbies:** Hanging out with friends and shopping for vintage clothing. **Major:** Elementary Education.



#18, CARYSSA DOUGLAS, 5'7", Sr, OF
Bats: Right, Throws: Right
Elgin, IL./Larkin H.S.
College as Junior ('06): Appeared in 47 games, starting 45, and hit .350 with eight home runs and 33 RBIs. She was named All-NIIC and Third Team All-Central Region. **College as Sophomore ('05):** Appeared in 43 games, starting 42. Hit .306 with seven doubles, five home runs and 18 runs batted in. Named to the 2005 NCAA Regional All-Tournament Team. **College as Freshman ('04):** Appeared in 39 games, starting 37. Hit .282 with five doubles and 12 RBIs. Named NIIC All-Conference Honorable Mention. **High School:** Attended Larkin High School. She played three years of softball under Coach Larry Hight. Was named All Area her junior and senior year. Was also named All Conference her senior year. **Personal:** Born 4/22/85 in Elgin, IL. **Family:** Candy and Willie Douglas. She has two sisters, Shauna and Alexandra. **Hobbies:** Reading, playing video games and softball. **Major:** Business Administration. **Minor:** Sales.

Total	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	SB	BB	K	RBI	BA
'06	120	36	42	7	4	8	20	16	31	33	.350
'05	108	15	33	7	2	5	9	5	28	18	.306
'04	110	15	31	5	3	2	7	1	27	12	.282

Meet the Spartans



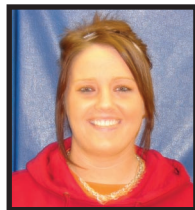
26, KARISA HANSEN, 5'4", Fr, C/IF/OF
Bats: Right, Throws: Right
 Elgin, IL/Larkin H.S.
High School: Attended Larkin High School and played softball under Coach Larry Hight. She was named Honorable Mention All-Conference as a junior and senior. She also played two years of volleyball and was named All-Area as a junior.
Personal: Born 11/4/87 in Schaumburg, IL.
Family: Carleen and Ron Hansen. She has two brothers, Neil and Justin, and two sisters, Vanessa and Alissa. **Hobbies:** Sudoku and movies. **Major:** Business Management.

2, MICHELLE HOLTORF, 5'3", Sr, C/IF/OF
Bats: Switch, Throws: Right
 Lisle, IL/Lisle HS

College as a Junior ('06): Appeared in 31 games, starting 22, and had 17 hits in 72 at bats. **College as a Freshman and Sophomore ('04-'05):** Attended and played softball at College of DuPage. She also played volleyball her freshman and sophomore year and was named All-Conference. **High School:** Attended Lisle High School. She played three years of softball under Coach Rick Beato. She was named All-Conference and All State. Played two years of basketball under Coach Brian Stiles and played two years of volleyball under Coach Matt Hrubesky. **Personal:** Born 2/22/85 in Austin, MN. **Family:** Tom and Colleen Holtorf. She has one brother, Tom, and one sister, Bridget. **Hobbies:** Sports, working out, listening to music, working on her car and drawing. **Major:** Physical Education. **Minor:** Health Education.



Total	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	SB	BB	K	RBI	BA
'06	72	17	17	2	0	0	1	3	9	5	.236

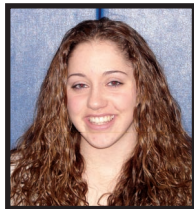


6, BRIANNA MARTIN, 5'10", Fr, C
Bats: Right, Throws: Right
 Andalusia, IL/Rockridge H.S.
High School: Attended Rockridge High School and played softball under Coach Tracy Daxon. She won the Team Best Batting Average Award and the Coach's Award as a sophomore. She was named All-Area and All-Conference for four years, and she was named to the Super 60

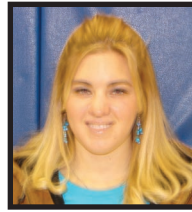
as a senior. She also played four years of basketball under Coach Shawn Strachan. **Personal:** Born 6/24/88 in Moline, IL. **Family:** Patty and Jerry Martin. **Hobbies:** Sports and music. **Major:** English. **Minor:** Political Science.

24, JAMIE MUELLER, 5'6", Jr, IF
Bats: Right, Throws: Right
 Hanover Park, IL/Lake Park H.S.

College as Sophomore ('06): Appeared in and started 38 games. She had a .281 average with five RBIs. **College as Freshman ('05):** Attended Carthage College. She played softball for one year. **High School:** Attended Lake Park High School. Played two years of softball under Coach Phil Wright. Was named All-Academic Conference her junior and senior year, All-Conference and All Area her senior year. She also played volleyball and ran cross country. **Personal:** Born 3/24/86 in Chicago. **Family:** John and Fran Mueller. She has two brothers, Johnny and Joey. **Hobbies:** Playing sports, working out and hanging out. **Major:** Accounting. **Minor:** Spanish.



Total	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	SB	BB	K	RBI	BA
'06	96	15	27	3	0	0	2	4	5	5	.281



11, TARA NIEMANN, 5'5", Fr, C
Bats: Right, Throws: Right
 Quincy, IL/Quincy Notre Dame H.S.
High School: Attended Quincy Notre Dame High School and played softball under Coach Eric Ome. She was named All-Conference and All-Area for four years, All-State as a sophomore, and team captain as a junior and senior. **Personal:** Born 5/21/88 in Quincy, IL.
Family: Kevin and Kelly Masters. She has one brother, Matt.
Hobbies: Hunting, fishing, canoeing and horseback riding. **Major:** Business Science.

#14, BETHANY OKRIE, 5'6", So, IF
Bats: Left, Throws: Right
 Lisle, IL/Lisle H.S.

College as a Freshman ('06): Started 26 games and hit .214 with three RBIs. **High School:** Attended Lisle High School. Played four years of softball under Coach Rick Beato. She also played basketball her sophomore and junior year under Coach Brian Stiles. **Personal:** Born 4/9/87 in Naperville, IL. **Family:** Ralph and Gail Okrie. She has one sister, Cara Richards, and one brother, Mark Okrie. **Hobbies:** Sports, shopping, movies and hanging out with friends. **Major:** Accounting. **Minors:** International Business and Communication.



Total	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	SB	BB	K	RBI	BA
'06	42	12	9	0	0	0	3	12	14	3	.214



3, MARISSA OSNESS, 5'6", So, C/IF
Bats: Right, Throws: Right
 Wonder Lake, IL/Woodstock H.S.
High School: Attended Woodstock High School and played softball under Coach Steve Ryan. She was named All-Conference as a sophomore, junior and senior. **Personal:** Born 11/26/86 in Hoffman Estates, IL. **Family:** Jim Osness and Karen Frazier. She has two sisters,

Meghan and Morgan. **Hobbies:** Ohio State football. **Major:** Marketing.

21, CARLY PATKUS, 5'3", Fr, C
Bats: Right, Throws: Right
 Lansing, IL/Thornton Fractional H.S.

High School: Attended Thornton Fractional High School and played softball under Coach Shawn Jensen. She was named All-Conference and to the Super 60 as a senior. **Personal:** Born 7/16/88 in Lansing, IL. **Family:** Renard and Dawn Patkus. She has two sisters, Rebecca and Jacqueline. **Hobbies:** Playing bags and watching movies. **Major:** Physical Education. **Minor:** Health.



Meet the Spartans



7, ABBY PETERS, 5'6", Fr, C/IF
Bats: Right, Throws: Right
Aurora, IL/West Aurora H.S.
High School: Attended West Aurora High School and played softball under Coach Donna Proctor. She was named All-Area and All-Conference as a senior. She also played basketball under Coach Mark Fiegl. **Personal:** Born 12/8/87 in Aurora, IL. **Family:** Mike and Mary Peters. She has two sisters, Tara and Raechel, and one brother, Simon. **Majors:** Sociology and Psychology.

1, JEN SPODEN, 4'10", Sr, IF/OF
Bats: Right, Throws: Right
Elgin, IL/Elgin H.S.

College as a Junior ('06): Appeared in 36 games, starting 35, and hit .270 with five RBIs and 18 runs scored. **College as a Sophomore ('05):** Appeared and started in 46 games. Hit .194 with four runs scored and three runs batted in. **College as a Freshman ('04):** Appeared and started in 41 games. Hit .167 with eight runs scored and five RBIs. Received AU Gold Glove Award. **High School:** Attended Elgin High School. Played three years of softball under Coach Renee Randal. Was named All-Conference her junior and senior year and MVP her senior year. **Personal:** Born 12/24/84 in Elgin, IL. **Family:** Carol and Bob Spoden. She has one sister, Trisha. **Hobbies:** Softball, shopping and hanging with her friends. **Major:** Physical Education. **Minor:** Health Science.

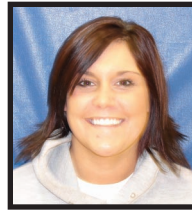


Total	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	SB	BB	K	RBI	BA
'06	74	18	20	3	0	0	0	17	6	5	.270
'05	31	4	6	1	0	0	0	2	4	3	.194
'04	72	8	12	0	0	0	0	5	8	5	.167



#9, ANNA SNYDER, 5'6", Fr, P
Bats: Right, Throws: Right
Grayslake, IL/Grayslake H.S.
High School: Attended Grayslake High School and played softball under Coach Stacy Selley. She was named All-Area and All-Conference. **Personal:** Born 7/16/88 in Barrington, IL. **Family:** Michael and Beth Snyder. She has one brother, Aaron. **Hobbies:** Photography. **Major:** Education.

Education.



#23, SAM SPELLMAN, 5'6", Fr,
Bats: Right, Throws: Right
Decatur, IL/Mt. Zion HS
High School: Attended Mt. Zion High School and played softball under Coach Greg Blakey. She played three years of basketball under Coaches Don Steers and Jeff Shumate, and also played volleyball under Coach Jenny Moore. **Personal:** Born 10/3/87 in Decatur, IL. **Family:** Bob and Chris Spellman. She has one sister, Alex. **Hobbies:** Family and friends. **Major:** Psychology.

#25, EMILY STEINWAY, 5'7", Fr, OF
Bats: Left, Throws: Left
Elgin, IL/Elgin H.S.

High School: Attended Elgin High School and played two years of softball under Coach Peg Cocoran, where she was named All-Conference and All-Area Honorable Mention as a junior. She also played two years of basketball. **Personal:** Born 7/5/88 in Elgin, IL. **Family:** George and Jeanne Steinway. She has one sister, Danielle. **Hobbies:** Fishing and sewing. **Major:** Elementary Education.



#5, NIKKI VEEN, 5'4", SO, OF/P
Bats: Right, Throws: Right
Oak Lawn, IL/Oak Lawn H.S.
College as a Freshman ('06): Appeared in 44 games, starting 38, and hit .303 with two home runs and 25 RBIs. **High School:** Attended Oak Lawn High School. Played three years of softball under Coach Pat Mayer. She was named All Conference her sophomore, junior and senior years and All State and All-Area her senior year MVP, and most offensive player her sophomore, junior, and senior year. **Personal:** Born 3/25/87 in Oak Lawn, IL. **Parents:** Mike and Cathy Veen. She has two sisters, Sarah and Erika. **Hobbies:** Stage manager/set crew for plays and going to concerts. **Major:** Communication.

Total	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	SB	BB	K	RBI	BA
'06	109	29	33	7	1	2	0	11	23	25	.303

#42, ABBY YOUNG, 5'6", SO, C/IF
Bats: Right, Throws: Right
Elgin, IL/Hampshire H.S.

College as a Freshman ('06): Appeared in 43 games, starting 36, and hit .349 with two homeruns and a team best 41 RBIs. She was named All-NIIC and All-Central Region Tournament Team. **High School:** Attended Hampshire High School and played two years of varsity basketball under Coach Sue Ellett. She was named All-Area and All-Conference her senior year. She also played four years of varsity softball under Coaches Sherm Morgan and Mike Wendt. She was All-Area her sophomore, junior and senior years; All-Conference her junior and senior years; All-State her senior year. **Personal:** Born 3/10/87 in Park Ridge, IL. **Family:** Robert and Linda Young. She has two brothers, Josh and Jared, and two sisters, Rebekah and Jessica. **Hobbies:** Playing softball and basketball, hanging out with friends, sleeping and talking to her brothers. **Major:** Accounting or Business Management.



Total	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	SB	BB	K	RBI	BA
'06	129	14	45	7	0	2	0	3	6	41	.349

2006 Game By Game Results

<u>DATE</u>	<u>OPPONENT</u>	<u>AU PT. OF REC.</u>	<u>OVER. REC.</u>	<u>NIIC REC.</u>
3-4	AU 5, Dubuque 2	Butcher (1-0)	1-0	
3-4	AU 5, Capitol 2	Capone (1-0)	2-0	
3-5	AU6, Beloit 4	Butcher (2-0)	3-0	
3-5	AU 15, Emmanuel 1	Narotsky (1-0)	4-0	
3-6	AU 6, Simmons 0	Butcher (3-0)	5-0	
3-6	AU 5, Hiram 2	Capone (2-0)	6-0	
3-8	AU 6, Tri-State 1	Butcher (4-0)	7-0	
3-8	AU 3, Thomas More 2	Capone (3-0)	8-0	
3-9	AU 11, Alverno 0	Narotsky (2-0)	9-0	
3-9	AU 15, Pine Manor 3	Capone (4-0)	10-0	
3-23	AU 6, Concordia (WI) 2	Butcher(5-0)	11-0	
3-23	AU 6, Concordia (WI) 0	Capone (5-0)	12-0	
3-29	AU 7, Lake Forest 2	Butcher(6-0)	13-0	
3-29	AU 9, Lake Forest 1	Capone (6-0)	14-0	
3-30	North Central 7, AU 6	Capone (6-1)	14-1	
3-30	AU 6, North Central 3	Capone (7-1)	15-1	
4-01	*AU 8,Concordia (IL) 1	Butcher(7-0)	16-1	1-0
4-01	*AU 12, Concordia (IL) 1	Capone (8-1)	17-1	2-0
4-04	Monmouth 3, AU 2	Butcher(7-1)	17-2	2-0
4-04	AU 3, Monmouth 2	Capone (9-1)	18-2	2-0
4-05	*AU 5, Rockford 2	Butcher(8-1)	19-2	3-0
4-05	*AU 4, Rockford 0	Capone (10-1)	20-2	4-0
4-10	AU 6, Wheaton 5	Butcher(9-1)	21-2	4-0
4-10	AU 5, Wheaton 1	Capone (11-1)	22-2	4-0
4-12	*Eureka 5, AU 4	Butcher(9-2)	22-3	4-1
4-12	*Eureka 10, AU 4	Capone (11-2)	22-4	4-2
4-13	AU 4, Lakeland 3	Butcher(10-2)	23-4	4-2
4-13	AU 2, Lakeland 1	Capone (12-2)	24-4	4-2
4-19	Carthage 10, AU 6	Butcher(10-3)	24-5	4-2
4-19	AU 12, Carthage 0	Capone (13-2)	25-5	4-2
4-20	AU 9, Marian 0	Capone (14-2)	26-5	4-2
4-20	AU 7, Marian 0	Butcher(11-3)	27-5	4-2
4-22	*AU 9, Clarke 6	Capone (15-2)	28-5	5-2
4-22	*AU 6, Clarke 2	Butcher (12-3)	29-5	6-2
4-26	Chicago 6, AU 2	Capone (15-3)	29-6	6-2
4-26	Chicago 10, AU 0	Butcher (12-4)	29-7	6-2
4-27	Elmhurst 1, AU 0	Capone (15-4)	29-8	6-2
4-27	AU 4, Elmhurst 1	Butcher (13-4)	30-8	6-2
4-29	*AU 4, Benedictine 1	Capone (16-4)	31-8	7-2
4-29	*AU 13, Benedictine 5	Butcher (14-4)	32-8	8-2
5-04	*Benedictine 5, AU 2	Capone (16-5)	32-9	8-3
5-04	*AU 2, Clarke 1	Butcher (15-4)	33-9	9-3
5-05	*AU7, Benedictine 2	Capone (17-5)	34-9	10-3
5-05	*AU 9, Rockford 0	Butcher (16-4)	35-9	11-3
5-05	*AU 11, Rockford 3	Capone (18-5)	36-9	12-3
5-11	Central (IA) 9, AU 1	Capone (18-6)	36-10	12-3
5-12	AU 7, Lake Forest 4	Butcher (17-4)	37-10	12-3
5-13	AU 9, Chicago 2	Capone (19-6)	38-10	12-3
5-13	Coe 10, AU 0	Butcher (17-5)	38-11	12-3

*NIIC Game



2006 Record 38-11
Home 15-4, Away 10-5, Neutral 13-2
NIIC Record 12-3

2006 Spartan Statistics

BATTING

PLAYER	AB	R	H	RBI	2-3-HR	SO	BB	BA
Plucinski	1	0	1	0	0-0-0	1	0	1.000
Matis	166	46	76	24	7-4-1	7	6	.458
Murdock-Barribal	8	3	3	2	0-0-0	2	2	.375
Douglas	120	36	42	33	7-4-8	31	16	.350
Young	129	14	45	41	7-0-2	6	3	.349
Cebular	162	45	53	38	12-3-6	12	13	.327
McPherrin	92	12	30	15	2-0-0	11	3	.326
Leach	135	16	44	38	5-0-3	20	10	.326
Veen	109	29	33	25	7-1-2	23	11	.303
Mueller	96	15	27	5	3-0-0	5	4	.281
Spoden	74	18	20	5	3-0-0	6	17	.270
Zito	68	11	18	7	0-1-0	4	2	.265
Holtorf	72	17	17	5	2-0-0	9	3	.236
Ewert	9	1	2	1	0-0-0	3	1	.222
Okrie	42	12	9	3	0-0-0	14	12	.214
Butcher	16	6	3	3	1-0-0	4	1	.188
Thanas	6	3	1	1	0-0-0	1	1	.167
Griffith	15	1	2	0	1-0-0	1	0	.133
Stadter	4	0	0	1	0-0-0	1	1	.000
Dhom	3	11	0	2	0-0-0	1	2	.000
Michalak	2	0	0	0	0-0-0	0	0	.000
Totals	1329	296	426	249	57-13-22	160	108	.321
Opponents	1270	144	302	117	40-9-10	196	78	.238

MISC. LEADERS

STOLEN BASES: Matis (29)
 PUTOUTS: Leach (377)
 ASSISTS: Cebular (130)
 ERRORS: Cebular (14)
 TIMES HIT BY PITCH: Veen (4)
 SLUGGING %: Douglas (.675)
 ON-BASE: Matis (.480)

PITCHING

PLAYER	IP	H	R	ER	SO	BB	W-L-S	ERA
Ewert	4.1	2	1	1	6	1	0-0	1.62
Capone	156.1	128	60	37	105	42	19-6	1.66
Narotsky	11.0	13	6	3	10	2	2-0	1.91
Butcher	151.1	159	77	56	75	33	17-5	2.59
AU Totals:	323.0	302	144	97	196	78	38-11	2.10
Opponents:	308.2	426	296	207	160	108	11-38	4.69

The NAC

The Northern Athletics Conference begins its inaugural season in 2007.

Teams

Alverno College	Aurora University
Benedictine University	Concordia University (Chicago)
Concordia University (Wisconsin)	Dominican University
Edgewood College	Lakeland College
Maranatha Baptist Bible College	Marian College
Rockford College	Wisconsin Lutheran College



AU's Northern Illinois-Iowa Conference

"Player-of-the-Year" Selections

- 1986: Amy Baudouin (P)
- 1990: Lisa Aprati (P)
- 1991: Lisa Aprati (P)
- 1994: Amy Periman (OF)
- 1995: Karyn Ericson (3B)
- 1997: Beth Cwinski (OF)
- 2004: Taylor Petersen (P/IF)
- 2005: Taylor Petersen (P/IF)
- 2006: Marissa Matis (OF)



Marissa Matis
2006

PAST NIIC SOFTBALL CHAMPIONS

- 1978: Aurora
- 1979: Aurora
- 1980: Aurora
- Benedictine*
- 1981: Aurora
- 1982: Aurora
- 1983: Aurora
- 1984: Concordia
- 1985: Aurora
- 1986: Aurora
- 1987: Benedictine*
- 1988: Benedictine*
- 1989: Aurora
- 1990: Aurora
- 1991: Aurora
- 1992: Benedictine*
- 1993: Aurora
- Benedictine*
- 1994: Benedictine*
- 1995: Benedictine*
- 1996: Benedictine*
- 1997: Aurora
- Clarke
- 1998: Benedictine*
- 1999: Clarke
- 2000: Benedictine*
- 2001: Benedictine*
- 2002: Benedictine*
- 2003: Clarke
- 2004: Aurora
- 2005: Aurora
- 2006: Aurora

*Formerly known as St. Procopius and also as Illinois Benedictine.

- 1978 - Brenda May, Kathy Burdette, Donna Benson, Karen Unger.
- 1979 - Kathy Burdette, Michelle Doucette, Karen Unger, Shelly Schmidt, Kim Colweck, Donna Benson.
- 1980 - Kathy Burdette, Janine Perle, Karen Unger, Shelly Schmidt, Therese Plachetka, Donna Benson, Katie Keller.
- 1981 - Beth Sparks, Debbie Fitzgerald, Holly Suchan, Therese Plachetka, Janine Perle, Katie Keller, Chris Martner.
- 1982 - Missy Lloyd, Leslie LaPrise, Holly Suchan, Kathy Lang, Katie Keller, Janine Perle.
- 1983 - Katie Keller, Holly Suchan, Chris Martner, Therese Plachetka, Leslie LaPrise, Julie Freund.
- 1984 - Gina Crane, Pam Yurek, Leslie LaPrise, Sue Ebel, Holly Suchan, Stacey Peterson.
- 1985 - Amy Baudouin, Leslie LaPrise, Charlotte Shepherd, Therese Meaden.
- 1986 - Amy Baudouin, Charlotte Shepherd, Sue Ebel, Lynda Schepler, Venna Raye Hoffman, Jill Bruzan, Therese Meaden.
- 1987 - Stacey Peterson, Melissa Ivlow, Mindi Smith.
- 1988 - Lisa Aprati, Kelli Gaisford, Sue Melka, Sheila Bullock, Melissa Ivlow, Therese Meaden.
- 1989 - Chris VanBuskirk, Diane Tuttle, Kris Malone, Kelli Gaisford, Sheila Bullock, Lisa Aprati, Melissa Ivlow.
- 1990 - Lisa Aprati, Sheila Bullock, Carol Christopherson, Kelli Gaisford, Kris Malone, Diane Tuttle.
- 1991 - Lisa Aprati, Carol Christopherson, Kris Malone, Kelli Gaisford, Sheila Bullock.
- 1992 - Angela Conner, Carol Christopherson, Andrea Fulfer, Tracy Humphrey, Kelly LeFevre, Kim Schaubel.
- 1993 - Carol Christopherson, Kelly LeFevre, Amy Periman, Angela Conner, Sona Bedenian, Ann Drankiewicz, Karyn Ericson.
- 1994 - Amy Periman, Angela Conner, Laurie Davidson, Karyn Ericson, Robin Beck, Ann Drankiewicz, Kelly LeFevre.
- 1995 - Karyn Ericson, Ann Drankiewicz, Karen Bode, Tina Valentino, Robin Beck.
- 1996 - Karen Bode, Jaime Lawrence, Melissa Ericson, Stacy Ladra.
- 1997 - Beth Cwinski, Jaime Lawrence, Nan Malerich, Stacy Ladra, Jenni Rinella.
- 1998 - Kelly Kramer, Jaime Lawrence, Nan Malerich, Jenni Rinella, Brandi Vogeler.
- 1999 - Kristi Haage, Jaime Lawrence, Joanne Lewis, Jenni Rinella
- 2000 - Dawn Fryman, Tara Peters
- 2001 - Stephanie Pittenger, Joanne Lewis, Dawn Fryman
- 2002 - Stephanie Pittenger, Tracy Maddox, Alicia Uzoras
- 2003 - Haley Zimmerman, Rebecca Gonzalez, Melissa Rouse, Elizabeth Parker
- 2004 - Taylor Petersen, Beth Nyhlen, Melissa Rouse, Kristy Vetter
- 2005 - Dana Cebular, Kristin Cumbo, Beth Nhylen, Taylor Petersen, Melissa Rouse
- 2006 - Brittney Butcher, Nicole Capone, Dana Cebular, Caryssa Douglas, Marissa Matis, Abby Young

AU Softball Records

INDIVIDUAL RECORDS

BATTING

(# denotes NCAA record)

AT BATS:

G: 7	Kelli Gaisford	vs. Trinity (4/12/89)
	Chris VanBuskirk	vs. Trinity (4/12/89)
S: 166	Marissa Matis	2006
C: 480	Carol Christopherson	1990-93

HITS:

G: 6	Karen Howe	vs. North Park (5/7/76)
S: 76	Marissa Matis	2006
C: 197	Carol Christopherson	1990-93

SINGLES:

S: 64	Marissa Matis	2006
C: 149	Carol Christopherson	1990-93

DOUBLES:

G: 3	Carol Christopherson	vs. Hartford (3/15/93)
	Amy Baudouin	vs. Concordia (5/6/85)
S: 19	Karyn Ericson	1994
	Melissa Ivlow	1991
C: 39	Melissa Ivlow	1987-91

TRIPLES:

G: 2	Karyn Ericson	vs. Judson (4/24/95)
		(most recent...also by several other players)
S: 10	Amy Periman	1993
		(most recent...also by several other players)
C:# 35	Melissa Ivlow	1987-91

HOME RUNS:

G: 2	Andrea Fulfer	vs. Suffolk (3/14/95)
	Angie Miller	vs. Babson (3/12/95)
		(most recent...also by several other players)
S: 11	Dana Cebular	2005
C: 17	Dana Cebular	2005-present

CONSECUTIVE HITS:

S: 11	Melissa Ivlow	4/10/91-4/16/91
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SLUGGING PERCENTAGE:

S: 1.022	Amy Periman	1993
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RUNS SCORED:

G: 6	Tina Valentino	vs. Judson (4/24/95)
	Chris VanBuskirk	vs. Trinity (4/12/89)
	Kay Suddeth	vs. Judson (4/27/76)
S: 52	Kris Malone	1990 (1.41 r.p.g.)

RUNS BATTED IN:

G:# 11	Karyn Ericson	vs. Judson (4/24/95)
S: 72	Melissa Ivlow	1991
C: 144	Melissa Ivlow	1987-91

BATTING AVERAGE: (S.=60+ ABS; C.= 240+ ABS)

S: .566	Beth Cwinski	1997 (56-99)
C: .433	Amy Baudouin	1985-86 (107-247)

BASES ON BALLS:

G.# 6	Kris Malone	vs. Trinity (4/12/89)
S: 32	Kris Malone	1991
C: 101	Kris Malone	1987-91

STOLEN BASES:

G: 7	Karen Howe	vs. Judson (4/27/76)
S: 32	Carol Christopherson	1991
C: 100	Carol Christopherson	1990-93

CONSECUTIVE SUCCESSFUL STOLEN BASES:

C: 43	Karyn Ericson	3/19/92-5/13/95
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TOTAL BASES:

G: 11	Karyn Ericson	vs. Judson (4/24/95)
		(most recent...also by several other players)
S: 105	Dana Cebular	2005

GAMES PLAYED:

S: 49	Kaitlin Leach, Dana Cebular,	2006
	Marissa Matis	
C: 148	Carol Christopherson	1990-93

FEWEST TIMES STRUCK OUT (MIN. 60 ABS):

S: 0	Robyn Beck	1993 (68 at-bats)
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PINCH-RUNS SCORED:

S: 21	Maria Sciannameo	1995
C: 44	Maria Sciannameo	1992-95

PITCHING

(#denotes NCAA record)

EARNED RUN AVERAGE (100+ IP):

S:#0.18	Amy Baudouin	1985 (3 ERs/120.0 IP)
C: 0.16	Kathy Burdette	1978-80 (176.1 IP)

EARNED RUN AVERAGE (LESS THAN 100 IP):

S: 0.00	Kathy Burdette	1979 (65.2 IP)
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VICTORIES:

S: 27	Taylor Petersen	2005
C: 47	Kelly LeFevre	1992-1995

BEST WIN-LOSS PERCENTAGE:

C: .983	Kathy Burdette	26.1
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BEST WIN-LOSS RECORD:

S: 11-0	Kathy Burdette	1979
	7-0	Deb Fitzgerald 1979
	7-0	Therese Plachetka 1982
	6-0	Kathy Burdette 1980
C: 26-1	Kathy Burdette	1978-80

STRIKEOUTS:

G: 19	Kathy Burdette	1979
S: 274	Taylor Petersen	2005
C: 450	Taylor Petersen	2004-2005

NO-HIT GAMES:

S: 3	Lisa Aprati	1990
C: 3	Taylor Petersen	2004-2005
	Kim Schaubel	1991-1992
	Lisa Aprati	1988-1990
	Katie Keller	1980-1983

AU Softball Records

SHUTOUTS PITCHED:

S: 16 Taylor Petersen 2006
C: 27 Taylor Petersen 2004–2005

GAMES STARTED:

S: 29 Tara Peters 2000–2001
C: 70 Ann Drankiewicz 1992–1995

COMPLETE GAMES:

S: 41 By Several Players 1995, 2002, 2004
C: 60 Ann Drankiewicz 1992–1995

INNINGS PITCHED:

S: 208.1 Tara Peters 2000–2001
C: 491.2 Tara Peters 2000–2001

TEAM RECORDS

(# denotes NCAA record)

MOST VICTORIES:

S: 40 2005

MOST LOSSES:

S: 28 1999

BEST WIN-LOSS PERCENTAGE:

S: 1.000 1979 (18-0)

CONSECUTIVE WINS:

S: 18 2005, 1979

CONSECUTIVE LOSSES:

S: 7 2002

CONSECUTIVE HOME WINS:

23 1978–1981

LONGEST UNBEATEN STREAK:

S: 23 3/12/1995–4/21/1995 (22 wins; 1 tie)

STOLEN BASES:

S: 103 1991

LARGEST MARGIN OF VICTORY:

G: 42 vs. Trinity (AU 42, TC 0) 4/12/1989

BATTING AVERAGE:

S: .470 1977 (167-of-355)

RUNS SCORED:

G: 42 vs. Trinity (AU 42, TC 0) 4/12/1989
S: 372 1995 41 games (9.07 r.p.g.)

RUNS SCORED, COMBINED:

G: 52 AU 27, No. Park 25 5/7/1976

AT BATS:

G: 48 vs. Trinity 4/12/1989

HITS:

G: 28 vs. Judson 5/3/1994
S: 508 1995

DOUBLES:

G: 6 vs. Lake Forest 3/24/1995
(most recent)

S: 79 1990

TRIPLES:

G: 4 vs. Judson 4/18/1994 & 5/1/1991

S: 37 1991

HOME RUNS:

G:# 7 vs. Suffolk 3/14/1995

S: 24 2005

RUNS BATTED IN:

G:# 35 vs. Trinity 4/12/1989

TOTAL BASES:

G:# 54 vs. Suffolk 3/14/1995

FEWEST TIMES STRUCK OUT:

S: 44 1993

MOST WALKS RECEIVED:

G: 26 vs. Trinity 4/12/1989

S: 217 1990



AU Directory

(All phone numbers have a 630 area code)

Sport/Department	Coach/Contact	Phone
Director of Athletics	Mark Walsh	844-5111
Athletics Business Manager	Lisa Wisniowicz	844-4574
Athletic Trainer	Stevie Baker-Watson	844-5114
Asst. Athletic Trainer	Terry Smith	844-6173
Baseball	Shaun Neitzel	844-6515
Basketball (Men)	James Lancaster	844-5144
Basketball (Women)	Michelle Roof	844-5112
Cross Country and Track and Field	James Kluckhohn	844-4573
Events/Equipment Manager	Jason Smith	844-6891
Football	Rich Duncan	844-5115
Golf (Men)	John Donofrio	844-3855
Golf (Women)	Chad Johansen	844-3849
Soccer (Men)	Pete Watkins	844-5268
Soccer (Women)	Kanute Drugan	844-4207
Softball	Mike McKenzie	844-4939
Sports Information	Brian Kipley	844-7575
Tennis(Men and Women)	Paul Heinkel	844-5152
Volleyball	Jamie Walters	844-5261

Other Important Numbers

Admission	844-5533
Alumni Office	844-5486
Physical Education Office	844-6181
Campus Safety	844-5450
Training Room	844-4891
University Communications	844-5481
Wellness Center	844-5434



Brian Kipley
Sports Information
Director

AU Administration



Rebecca L. Sherrick
President

Currently in her seventh year as Aurora University President, Rebecca Sherrick is a true Spartan booster and often attends athletic events. She earned her B.A. from Illinois Wesleyan University and Ph.D. from Northwestern University.



Andrew Manion
Provost

Previously Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences from 1998 to 2000, Andrew Manion earned his B.A. from St. Norbert College and his Ph.D. in experimental psychology from Adelphi University.



Michael Moser
Vice President for Student Life

Michael Moser assumed the duties of Vice President for Student Life in March 2004. He has a B.A. from North Central College and a Master of Divinity from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary.



Mark Walsh
Director of Athletics

Mark Walsh was named Director of Athletics in 1998. Previously, Walsh was AU's Head Baseball Coach from 1992-2002 and Assistant Coach from 1987-1992. Walsh led the Spartans to nine NIIC Conference Championships and nine NCAA Tournament appearances while posting a 320-85 (.790) win-loss record in 10 seasons. Walsh also served as Assistant Football Coach at AU from 1986-1996 and was part of the coaching staff that reinstated football after it had been dropped in 1952. Walsh earned both his bachelor's and master's degrees from Aurora University.

This Is Aurora University



Eckhart Hall

Aurora University traces its origins to the 1893 founding of a seminary in the small town of Mendota, IL. Though established initially to prepare graduates for ministry, the institution soon adopted a broader mission and moved to a new campus on the western edge of the nearby community of Aurora. With this change came a different name and a growing enrollment. In 1985, the institution was rechristened Aurora University.

In 1992, the Aurora and George Williams College traditions blended when the two institutions entered into the affiliation agreement that paved the way for a merger eight years later.

Today Aurora University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association to award degrees at the baccalaureate, master's, and doctoral levels. The institution enrolls approximately 4,000 degree-seeking students a year on its Illinois and Wisconsin campuses.

The Aurora campus offers undergraduate and graduate programs through the College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Education and the College of Professional Studies (including the Dunham School of Business, School of Nursing, School of Social Work and School of Health and Physical Education.) The graduate programs offer areas of specialization, leading to master's degrees in business administration, mathematics, recreation administration, teaching and social work, as well as a doctorate in education.

At AU, academic programs are enhanced through learning opportunities. The Dunham Scholars Program incorporates service learning and extracurricular activities into its business curriculum. The Honors Program offers students advanced coursework, innovative seminars and participation in special events. May Term is a three-week program offering opportunities to study abroad, research a science topic on campus or travel to Chicago to explore the city's culture.

AU offers its undergraduates a wide range of on- and off-campus learning experiences. Students participate in more than 60 musical, literary, religious, social and service organizations and play active roles in campus governance. The university also fields 18 NCAA Division III intercollegiate athletic teams. The Spartans boast a winning tradition with 49 conference titles in recent years and 27 regular appearances in national tournaments.

The Alumni Hall of Physical Education features a racquetball court, climbing wall, complete locker room facilities, training room, weight room, aerobic-activities room, classroom and coaches' offices.

Aurora University is located in west Aurora, within an hour's drive of Chicago and at the western end of the Illinois Research and Development Corridor. It is accessible via Interstate 88 at the Orchard Road exit.

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Aurora University Spartan Softball 2007 Varsity Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
Fri, March 2		
Fri, March 9	Gene Cusic Classic Ft. Meyers, FL	
Sat, March 3	Johnson and Wales University	11:00 a.m.
Sat, March 3	Alfred University	1:00 p.m.
Sun, March 4	Capital University (2)	9:00 a.m.
Mon, March 5	Hiram College	5:00 p.m.
Mon, March 5	Salve Regina University	7:00 p.m.
Wed, March 7	Mary Washington University	1:00 p.m.
Wed, March 7	Pine Manor	3:00 p.m.
Thu, March 8	Emmanuel College	9:00 a.m.
Thu, March 8	Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT)	11:00 a.m.
Fri, March 23	Wheaton College (2)	3:00 p.m.
Sat, March 24	*ROCKFORD COLLEGE (2)	Noon
Sun, March 25	*Dominican University (2)	3:00 p.m.
Thu, March 29	NORTH CENTRAL COLLEGE (2)	3:00 p.m.
Sat, March 31	*EDGEWOOD COLLEGE (2)	Noon
Wed, April 4	*Concordia University (IL)	3:00 p.m.
Sat, April 7	*Maranatha Baptist College (2)	Noon
Tue, April 10	*CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY (WI) (2)	3:00 p.m.
Thu, April 12	Elmhurst College	3:00 p.m.
Sat, April 14	*Wisconsin Lutheran College (2)	Noon
Wed, April 18	*ALVERNO COLLEGE (2)	3:00 p.m.
Sat, April 21	*Marian College (2)	Noon
Sat, April 24	*BENEDICTINE UNIVERSITY (2)	3:00 p.m.
Thu, April 26	University of Chicago (2)	3:00 p.m.
Sat, April 28	*Lakeland College (2)	Noon
Thu, May 3-		
Sat May 5	NAC Tournament	TBA

*Denotes NNAC Conference Event

Bold Type indicates home games.

Head Coach: Mike McKenzie

Assistant Coach: Laura Opie



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Aurora, IL 60506-4892
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www.aurora.edu