

2005 Standings

	Conference Games				All Games				
	W	L	PCT	Streak	W	L	T	PCT	Streak
Michigan	---	---	---	---	31	1	0	.969	W24
Iowa	---	---	---	---	27	5	0	.844	W5
Northwestern	---	---	---	---	18	9	0	.667	L1
Ohio State	---	---	---	---	16	8	0	.667	W1
Purdue	---	---	---	---	20	12	0	.625	W2
Illinois	---	---	---	---	15	11	0	.577	W2
Penn State	---	---	---	---	16	11	0	.593	W1
Minnesota	---	---	---	---	15	13	0	.536	W2
Wisconsin	---	---	---	---	9	11	0	.450	W1
Michigan State	---	---	---	---	7	16	1	.313	L1
Indiana	---	---	---	---	9	21	0	.300	W1

Last Week's Results

March

- 21 Oregon State def. **Northwestern** [54], 5-2
- 22 **Indiana** def. Ball State, 6-0
Cal State Fullerton def. **Ohio State**, 6-1
Wisconsin def. Florida Atlantic, 4-3
Florida Atlantic def. **Wisconsin**, 2-1
- 23 Florida International def. **Wisconsin**, 3-1
- 24 UNLV def. **Illinois** [51], 12-2 (5)
Hawaii def. **Illinois** [51], 7-2
Central Michigan at **Michigan State**
UNLV def. **Northwestern** [51], 2-1
Northwestern def. St. Mary's (Calif.) [51], 16-0
Loyola Marymount def. **Ohio State**, 3-2
Loyola Marymount def. **Ohio State**, 11-10
Wisconsin def. Siena [55], 8-5
- 25 Stanford def. **Illinois** [51], 3-1
Illinois def. St. Mary's (Calif.) [51], 4-1
Iowa def. Ball State [52], 4-0
Iowa def. South Dakota State [52], 9-0 (5)
Michigan def. Western Kentucky [53], 2-0
Michigan def. Middle Tenn. St. [53], 17-1
Northwestern def. Hawaii [51], 1-0
Northwestern def. Stanford [51], 7-2

- 26 **Illinois** def. **Northwestern*** [51], 5-3
Iowa def. Ball State [52], 10-0 (6)
Iowa def. North Dakota State [52], 2-0
Michigan def. Louisville [53], 2-1
Michigan def. Louisville [53], 7-0
Ohio State def. UC-Riverside, 5-0
Purdue def. Detroit, 5-2
Purdue def. Detroit, 8-0
Penn State def. Harvard, 8-0
Coastal Carolina def. **Penn State**, 2-0
California def. **Penn State**, 8-0

- 27 **Penn State** def. North Carolina, 3-2

- [51] - Stanford Classic, Palo Alto, Calif.
[52] - Hawkeye Classic, Iowa City, Iowa
[53] - Louisville Invitational, Louisville, Ky.
[54] - in Sacramento, Calif.
[55] - in Miami, Fla.

- (DH) - Doubleheader
* - non-conference game

This Week's Schedule

March

- 30 Illinois-Chicago at **Indiana** 3 p.m.
Iowa at Northern Iowa 3 p.m.
Michigan at Bowling Green 2 p.m.
St. Francis (Pa.) at **Penn State** 6 p.m.
Purdue at **Penn State** 4 p.m.

- 31 **Michigan State** at Valparaiso (DH) 2 p.m.

April

- 1 **Illinois** at **Northwestern** 3 p.m.
Iowa at **Michigan** 4 p.m.
Michigan State at **Indiana** 3 p.m.
Penn State at **Minnesota** 6 p.m.
Ohio State at **Wisconsin** 6 p.m.

- 2 **Illinois** at **Northwestern** Noon
Iowa at **Michigan** Noon
Michigan State at **Indiana** 4 p.m.
Penn State at **Minnesota** Noon
Ohio State at **Wisconsin** Noon

- 3 **Illinois** at **Michigan** (DH) Noon
Iowa at **Northwestern** (DH) Noon
Michigan State at **Purdue** (DH) Noon
Ohio State at **Minnesota** (DH) Noon
Penn State at **Wisconsin** (DH) Noon

Player of the Week

Jessica Merchant, Michigan

Sr., SS, Wayland, Mich./Wayland

Merchant led the Wolverines to a perfect 4-0 weekend at the Louisville Courtyard by Marriott Classic Championship. She hit .636 (7-for-11), tallying three home runs, eight RBI and a slugging percentage of 1.455. Merchant accounted for Michigan's only runs in a 2-0 victory over Western Kentucky with two solo home runs. In the championship game, she then posted her team-best 10th homer of the season to become Michigan's all-time leader in home runs with 35.

Co-Pitchers of the Week

Lisa Birocci, Iowa

Sr., P, Des Moines, Iowa/Lincoln

Birocci moved into third place on the career strikeout list last weekend after posting 24 K's last weekend. She now has a total of 794 strikeouts, surpassing former Hawkeye Terri McFarland (1989-1992). Birocci threw a two-hit shutout against Ball State, while helping Iowa's cause with a two-run home run in the fifth. She then posted another shutout against North Dakota State, allowing five hits and striking out 13.

Jennie Ritter, Michigan

Jr., P, Dexter, Mich./Dexter

Ritter led Michigan with two complete-game shutouts and a save at the Louisville Courtyard by Marriott Classic Championship last weekend. She struck out 13, while allowing only two hits and two walks in a 2-0 victory over Western Kentucky. Ritter then collected another victory, tallying nine strikeouts to finish the weekend with a 0.00 ERA. She currently leads the team with eight shutouts on the season.

Michigan Ranked No. 1 in National Poll

Three Big Ten Teams ranked in latest poll

Michigan became the first non-Pacific-10 Conference team voted No. 1 in the three-year-old ESPN.com/USA Softball Collegiate top 25. Only Arizona, UCLA and California, all of the Pac-10, had resided in the top spot of the poll since its inception in 2003. Also rounding out the Big Ten contingent in this week's poll was Iowa at No. 21, while Northwestern nabbed a No. 24 ranking.