



Wednesday, May 2, 2001

Softball team wins Mid-Con regular-season title

Oakland University's **softball team** won the Mid-Continent Conference regular-season championship by defeating IUPUI, 8-3 and 7-2, in a doubleheader Tuesday, May 1, in Indianapolis.

OU ends its regular season with a 24-27 record and 16-6 in the Mid-Con. This marks the first conference championship in Oakland's two-year program.

Oakland is the No. 1 seed in the Mid-Continent Conference Tournament May 4-5 at Western Illinois in Macomb, Illinois.

If the Golden Grizzlies win the Mid-Con Tournament title, they will host a NCAA Play-In game May 10-11. The winner of that best-of-three series advances to the NCAA Tournament.

In the first game of the Mid-Con Championship, the Jaguars of IUPUI struck first, scoring two runs in the fourth inning to take a 2-0 lead.

The Golden Grizzlies responded in the fifth inning, scoring three runs to take a 3-2 lead. Leading OU in the fifth was sophomore Lauren Seffens as she hit a leadoff double down the right field line. Seffens later scored on a wild pitch. Two batters later, sophomore Ericka Burns hit a triple to score Nina Catanzaro, who was on first as a result of a walk. Sophomore Jennifer Granger singled to center field to score Burns to make it a 3-2 game.

The Grizzlies added two more runs in the sixth inning. Highlighting OU's sixth inning was freshman Erica Judge and Seffens, who both hit doubles.

OU sealed the game with three runs in the top of the seventh inning to lead 8-2. The Grizzlies scored three runs on five hits in the inning and eventually won the game by 8-3.

Leading the Grizzlies was Judge and Seffens, who both were 3-4 from the plate with two RBIs and two doubles. Sophomore Julie Anderson claimed her 12th victory of the season as she threw six innings and struck out three.

In game two, OU struck first, scoring all seven runs in the first four innings, including four runs in the second inning to take a 7-0 lead into the sixth inning.

Highlighting the Grizzlies attack was senior Keri Sedgely with a double in the first inning, Jaymie Voss with a double in the second inning and Megan Piar with a double in the third inning. Despite two runs by IUPUI in the sixth inning, the Grizzlies held on to win 7-2.

Leading OU in the second game was Granger as she was a perfect 3-3 with two runs scored and two RBIs. Collecting her ninth win of the season was Linnea Utecht. She threw five and a half innings, striking out three.

SUMMARY

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Created by CareTech Administrator (webservices@caretechsolutions.com) on Wednesday, May 2, 2001
Modified by CareTech Administrator (webservices@caretechsolutions.com) on Wednesday, May 2, 2001
Article Start Date: Wednesday, November 26, 2003