



Tuesday, January 20, 2004

Soccer team ranks fifth in Division I for most improved

Oakland University's women's soccer team has tied as the fifth most improved Division I women's soccer program in the country, according to the NCAA.

The Golden Grizzlies finished the 2003 season with a 15-5-1 record, one of the best winning records in the program's history, showing a six-game improvement from the 2002 season record of 10-12-1. The team's improvement over the 2002 season places them as tying for the fifth among the most improved Division I women's soccer programs along with Notre Dame, Rice, Stephen F. Austin and TCU. Florida finished first with a 7.5-game improvement, while Illinois came in second with a seven-game improvement. Appalachian State and UNC-Greensboro tied for third with a 6.5-game improvement.

OU was very successful in the 2003 season. The team broke two school records (most consecutive wins in a season as well as the most consecutive games without a loss), won its fourth consecutive Mid-Con championship title, took the conference regular-season crown and made its third consecutive NCAA Women's College Cup appearance. The team ended the 2003 season with a 1-0 loss to Michigan in the first round of the NCAA Women's College Cup. This was the third straight year the Golden Grizzlies qualified for the NCAA Tournament.

The NCAA Division I women's soccer most improved list, which consists of 32 schools, compares last year's final season's results with this year's results.

Most Improved Division I Women's Soccer Teams:

1. Florida, 19-4-2, 7.5-game improvement
2. Illinois, 16-4-2, 7-game improvement
3. Appalachian State, 12-5-3, 6.5-game improvement
3. UNC-Greensboro, 15-7-2, 6.5-game improvement
5. Notre Dame, 20-3-1, 6-game improvement
- 5. Oakland, 15-5-1, 6-game improvement**
5. Rice, 11-8-1, 6-game improvement
5. Stephen F. Austin, 15-5-2, 6-game improvement
5. TCU, 9-8-2, 6-game improvement
10. East Tennessee State, 12-6-0, 5.5-game improvement
10. Kent State, 12-5-3, 5.5-game improvement
10. Maine, 13-3-3, 5.5-game improvement
13. Gonzaga, 11-8-0, 5-game improvement
13. IPFW, 9-7-3, 5-game improvement
13. Northern Iowa, 10-8-1, 5-game improvement
13. Ohio State, 13-4-3, 5-game improvement
13. Oregon, 9-11-0, 5-game improvement
13. Troy State, 9-9-0, 5-game improvement
13. Wyoming, 10-9-0, 5-game improvement
20. Boston College, 15-3-3, 4.5-game improvement
20. Boston University, 12-6-5, 4.5-game improvement
20. Brown, 10-4-2, 4.5-game improvement
20. Cal Poly, 18-2-2, 4.5-game improvement
20. Colorado, 15-4-1, 4.5-game improvement
20. Lehigh, 9-9-1, 4.5-game improvement
20. Mercer, 5-11-3, 4.5-game improvement
20. Middle Tennessee, 12-7-2, 4.5-game improvement
20. Rider, 11-7-2, 4.5-game improvement
20. Saint Joseph's, 9-8-1, 4.5-game improvement
20. Stetson, 11-7-3, 4.5-game improvement
20. Syracuse, 9-8-1, 4.5-game improvement

20. Western Michigan, 13-7-1, 4.5-game improvement

For more information on OU's women's soccer team, visit the [OU Athletics](#) Web site.

SUMMARY

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