



The University of North Carolina

Location: Chapel Hill, N.C.
Chartered: 1789
Enrollment: 25,972 (15,961 undergraduate)
Chancellor: Dr. James Moeser
Director of Athletics: Dick Baddour
Senior Woman Administrator: Dr. Beth Miller
Affiliation: NCAA Division I
Conference: Atlantic Coast
Nickname: Tar Heels
Mascot: Rameses the ram
School colors: Carolina blue and white
Athletic department web site: www.TarHeelBlue.com



Carolina Softball

Head Coach: Donna J. Papa (Connecticut, 1979)
Record at UNC: 634-381-4 (18 seasons)
Overall record: 663-396-4 (20 seasons)
Office phone: (919) 962-5223
Office fax: (919) 843-8175
Assistant Coach: Beverly Smith (North Carolina, 1994)
Office phone: (919) 962-5224
Assistant Coach: Megan Smith (North Carolina, 1999)
Office phone: (919) 843-0128
Home facility: UNC Softball Complex (Cap. 500)
Field dimensions: 200 to all fields
Press box phone: TBA
NCAA Tournament appearances: Two, 2001 and 2003
ACC Championships: One, 2001
2003 Record: 40-22-1 (4-3 ACC)

UNC Athletic Communications

Associate A.D for Athletic Communications: Steve Kirschner
Assistant Director/softball contact: Rob Feagans
Email address: rfeagans@unca.unc.edu
Office phones: (919) 962-2123/843-5678
Office fax: (919) 962-0612
Mailing address: P.O. Box 2126, Chapel Hill, NC 27515

For more information on UNC softball

Members of the media seeking further information on the North Carolina softball program or wishing to conduct interviews with the coaches or players should contact Rob Feagans at (919) 843-5678 or rfeagans@unca.unc.edu.

www.TarHeelBlue.com



Media and fans can follow the Carolina softball team and the rest of the UNC athletic program from anywhere in the world on the official site of North Carolina athletics.

TarHeelBlue.com offers schedules, rosters, results and more for all 28 of Carolina's varsity sports.

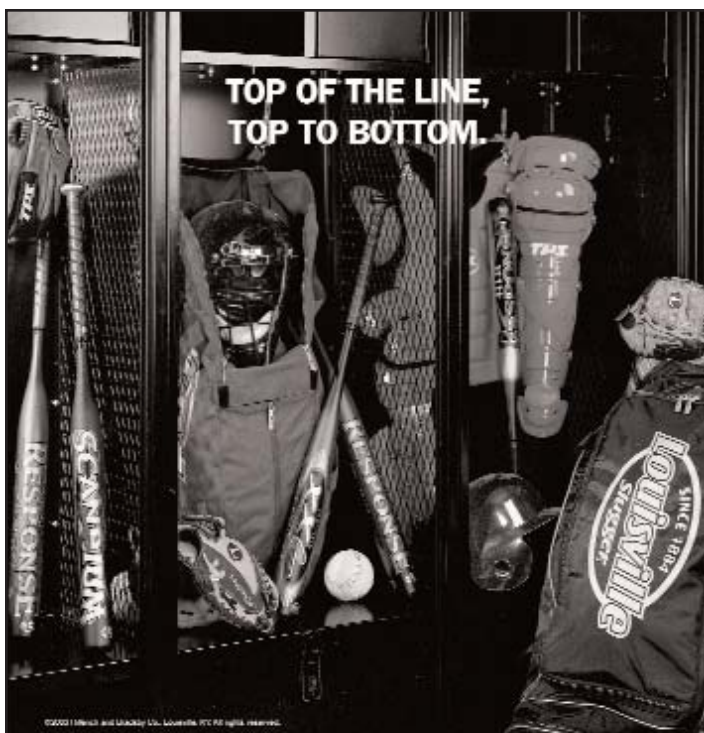
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Supporting Carolina Softball

The University of North Carolina has a long-term agreement with Nike, which provides UNC teams with shoes, apparel, equipment bags and other products. The contract, signed in 1994 and again in 1997, was extended for a period of eight more years beginning in July 2002. In addition to Nike products, the agreement provides \$100,000 annually to the Chancellor's Academic Enhancement Fund for undergraduate teaching and \$100,000 annually to the UNC athletic department to reward Olympic sport programs and coaches for academic and athletic excellence.

Louisville Slugger provides the Tar Heels with bats, catching gear and other equipment.



ON YOUR WAY TO THE TOP? Use the gear that can help you get there: TPS gear from Louisville Slugger.
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 That's why you'll find TPS gear in the locker rooms of America's most dominant teams. And if you're serious about baseball, you'll have Louisville Slugger TPS gear in your locker, too.



2004 UNC Softball Guide

Credits: Photos by Jeffrey Camarati, except as noted; Printing by B&B Printing of Bristol, Tenn.

The 2004 UNC softball media guide was edited by Dana Gelin, Assistant Director of Athletic Communications, with assistance from the UNC Athletic Communications staff.

For additional copies of this guide, write to: UNC Athletic Communications, P.O. Box 2126, Chapel Hill, NC 27515



The 2004 Season Day-by-Day



FEBRUARY

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
						1
2	3	4	Alison Yin's Birthday	6	7	8 South Carolina (DH) Chapel Hill, 1 p.m.
9	10	11	12	13 Triangle Classic (Feb. 13-15) Raleigh, N.C. • Hosted by UNC	Valentine's Day	15
16 Presidents' Day	17 At UNC Wilmington (DH) 2:30 pm, Wilmington, N.C.	18	19 At Oklahoma St. (DH) 4 pm, Stillwater, Okla.	20 OU/Nike Tournament (Feb. 20-22) Norman, Okla. • Hosted by the University of Oklahoma	21	22
23	24	25 At Charlotte (DH) 2 pm, Charlotte, N.C.	26	27	28 Mississippi Chapel Hill, 1 p.m.	29 Mississippi Chapel Hill, Noon

MARCH

Jessica Young's Birthday	2	3	4	Spring Break starts	6 FAU Worth Invitational (March 6-7) Boca Raton, Fla. • Hosted by Florida Atlantic	7
8 Triple Crown Spring Fling (March 8-9) St. Augustine, Fla.		10	11	12 FSU Invitational (March 12-14) Tallahassee, Fla. • Hosted by Florida State	13	14
15	Donna Papa's Birthday	17 St. Patrick's Day Marshall (DH) Chapel Hill, 2:30 p.m.	18	Crystal Cox's Birthday Buzz Classic (March 19-21) Marietta, Ga. • Hosted by Georgia Tech	20 First Day of Spring	21
22	23	24	25	26	27 At Coastal Carolina (DH) 2 p.m., Conway, S.C.	28 Charleston Southern (DH) 2 p.m., Chapel Hill
29	30	Whitney Gelin's Birthday At Furman (DH) 2 pm, Greenville, S.C.	1 April Fool's Day	2	3 At Virginia (DH) Noon, Charlottesville, Va.	4

APRIL

Joslin Higgins's Birthday	6	7	8	9 NC State (DH) 3 pm, Chapel Hill	10	11 Easter Maryland (DH) 1 pm, Chapel Hill
12	13	14 At UNC Greensboro (DH) 2:30 p.m., G'boro, N.C.	15	16	17	18 Georgia Tech (DH) 2 pm, Chapel Hill
Emily Price's Birthday	20	21 East Carolina (DH) 3 pm, Chapel Hill, N.C.	22	23	24 At Florida State (DH) Noon, Tallahassee, Fla.	25
26 Exams begin	27	28	29	Erin Dudley's Birthday	1	2

MAY

3	4 Exams end	5	6	7	8 Campbell (DH) 3 pm, Chapel Hill	Mother's Day UNC Commencement
10	11	12	Megan Welch's Birthday	14 Atlantic Coast Conference Championship (May 14-16) Tallahassee, Fla • Hosted by Florida State	15	16
17	18	19	20 NCAA Regionals (May 20-23) Campus sites TBA	21	22	23
24 Memorial Day	25	26	27 NCAA College World Series (May 27-31) Oklahoma City, Okla.	28	29	30
31						





Before the start of the 2004 season, UNC head coach Donna J. Papa answered questions about this year's team, her scheduling philosophy and her new staff.

Q: What do you think are the biggest strengths of this year's team?

Papa: "I think the strengths of this year's team by far are work ethic, coachability and athleticism. I think those three things really define our team well. As a by-product of that, we have very good team unity and the girls have confidence in one another and they are enjoying being around one another both on and off the field. That helps a lot when we're out there practicing and I think it will help when we get into the season."

Q: You referenced the team's work ethic – how important is that?

Papa: "I think that's huge. You can have a great amount of talent – and coaches have said this forever – but if the talent can't work together or isn't willing to work and buy into your system, you're not going to be as successful as you could be. When people work hard, it encourages their teammates to work hard. If you have a whole group doing that, you're going to achieve a whole lot more than you could based just on talent."

Q: What are you looking for when you recruit players?

Papa: "My philosophy has always been to try to get athletes who can play more than one position. Certainly, sometimes your pitchers and catchers may be limited to just those positions, but versatility helps us a lot in practice situations and with depth. As a coach, I lean more toward players who are athletic and are able to do a number of things well, because I think it helps you with depth at more than one position and it helps you get stronger as a team."

Q: You've led the team to the NCAA Tournament in two of the last three seasons. How do you hope to build on that experience?

Papa: "Our upperclassmen have it, our sophomores have it, all three

classes other than the freshmen have that experience. It's a great building block for us. When we set our goals this year, one of our goals was to win our NCAA Regional. Certainly we have to get there first, but the next rung in the ladder for us is to win it and go on to the World Series."

What's your philosophy in scheduling?

Papa: "I like to have a good mix of teams that year in, year out are going to be top 10, and teams that are going to be consistently in the top 25. We want to go out of our region and play teams like Oklahoma and Oklahoma State – those are teams we can gauge ourselves against and that's how we're going to get opportunities to go to postseason and be recognized in the top 25. That's what we're striving for as a program. We've been knocking on that door the last couple of years. Our goal is to get to that position consistently as a team."

"You want to play teams you feel like are at your level, teams that are on a level above and maybe some that you feel like your program is ahead of. You want to have a good balance. Opening our schedule against South Carolina this year is a great way to start, to come out of the blocks really early, then we go into our Triangle Classic. We want to play big games early and big games late."

Your two assistants, Beverly Smith and Megan Smith, are new to the team this year but far from strangers to the program. What do they bring to the Carolina squad?

Papa: "Both bring tons of energy to the program, lots of good ideas and ways to keep the program moving forward. We have a very good working relationship between the three of us."

"Megan is closer to the age of the players. She's very mature, but she has a good pulse on the girls and their needs. Beverly's experience with the pitchers and catchers and also with recruiting is such a plus, along with her personality. As UNC alums and former players, they know about the program and they have their own goals for where they want to see the program go. They have a very vested interest in our program."

2004 Tournament Information

Triangle Classic • Feb. 13-15

Hosted by UNC at Walnut Creek Park in Raleigh, N.C.

Campbell, Coastal Carolina, East Carolina, Elon, Fordham, George Mason, James Madison, Kent State, Liberty, Louisville, Marshall, Mercer, Miami (Ohio), North Carolina, UNC Greensboro, UNC Wilmington, NC State, Purdue, Radford, Temple, Virginia

Feb. 13: UNC vs. Elon, 1 p.m.; UNC vs. James Madison, 3 p.m.

Feb. 14, 15: Bracket play, games TBA

OU/Nike Tournament • Feb. 20-22

Hosted by the University of Oklahoma in Norman, Okla.

Louisville, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Sam Houston State

Feb. 20: UNC vs. Sam Houston State, 10 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.

Feb. 21: UNC vs. Oklahoma, 2:30 p.m. and 4:45 p.m.

Feb. 22: UNC vs. Louisville, 10 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.

FAU Worth Invitational • March 6-7

Hosted by Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, Fla.

Florida Atlantic, Florida International, Massachusetts, North Carolina, Notre Dame

March 6: UNC vs. Fla. International, 2 p.m.; UNC vs. Fla. Atlantic, 7 p.m.

March 7: UNC vs. Massachusetts, 10 a.m.; UNC vs. Notre Dame, 2 p.m.

Triple Crown Sports Spring Fling • March 8-9

Treaty Park in St. Augustine, Fla.

Central Florida, Evansville, Maine, North Carolina, Robert Morris

March 8: UNC vs. Evansville, 5 p.m.

March 9: UNC vs. Robert Morris, 9:30 a.m.; UNC vs. Central Florida, noon

FSU Invitational • March 12-14

Hosted by Florida State in Tallahassee, Fla.

Central Michigan, Florida A&M, Florida State, Georgia State, Maryland, Michigan, Nebraska, North Carolina, Notre Dame, Penn State, Robert Morris, St. Joseph's, St. Louis, Texas A&M, Troy State

March 12: UNC vs. St. Louis, noon; UNC vs. Florida A&M, 2 p.m.

March 13: UNC vs. Penn State, 10 a.m.; UNC vs. Nebraska, noon;

Bracket play, games TBA

March 14: Bracket play, games TBA

Buzz Classic • March 19-21

Hosted by Georgia Tech at Al Bishop Complex in Marietta, Ga.

Austin Peay, Ball State, Boston Univ., Bowling Green, College of Charleston, Coastal Carolina, Connecticut, Florida A&M, Georgia Southern, Georgia State, Georgia Tech, Iowa State, Louisiana-Lafayette, Mercer, Miami (Ohio), Middle Tennessee State, Nicholls State, North Carolina, UNC Greensboro, NC State, Ohio, Radford, Troy State, Tulsa, Western Kentucky

March 19: UNC vs. Georgia State, 3 p.m.; UNC vs. Ball State, 8 p.m.

March 20: UNC vs. Austin Peay, 1 p.m.; UNC vs. Troy State, 5 p.m.

March 21: Bracket play, games TBA





#	Player	Year	Position	Height	Bat/Throw	Hometown (High School or College)
1	Marissa May	Fr.	OF	5-6	L/R	Mesa, Ariz. (Xavier Prep)
3	Brandi Griffin	Jr.	P	5-9	L/R	Wilmington, N.C. (Hoggard)
4	Crystal Cox	So.	P	5-7	R/R	Harrisburg, N.C. (Central Cabarrus)
5	Emily Price	Sr.	SS	5-9	R/R	Durham, N.C. (Eisenhower)
6	Alison Yin	So.	P	5-6	S/R	Glendale, Calif. (Foothill)
7	Jessica Young	Jr.	OF	5-3	R/R	Santa Ana, Calif. (Mater Dei)
8	Jessica Graziano	Sr.	1B/3B	5-7	R/R	Pearl River, N.Y. (Pearl River/UMBC)
9	Joslin Higgins	Fr.	3B/C/P	5-8	R/R	Concord, Mass. (Concord-Carlisle)
10	Natashalyn Snipes	Sr.	OF	5-5	S/R	Durham, N.C. (Northern)
11	Dionne Streete	Sr.	1B/3B	5-7	R/R	Pembroke Pines, Fla. (Flanagan)
12	Theresa Nicholas	Fr.	C/OF	5-8	R/R	Harrisburg, N.C. (Central Cabarrus)
14	Jaclyn Holden*	So.	1B	5-9	L/R	Santa Clarita, Calif. (Saugus)
15	Erica Ennis*	Jr.	OF/P	5-7	R/R	Wilmington, N.C. (New Hanover)
16	Jessica Robinson	Sr.	DP/1B	5-8	R/R	Asheboro, N.C. (Asheboro)
18	Michelle Hoffmann	So.	C	5-8	R/R	Huntington Beach, Calif. (Mater Dei)
19	Anna Evans	Fr.	OF/C/SS	5-6	R/R	Fairmont, N.C. (Lumberton)
22	Megan Welch	So.	2B/SS	5-6	R/R	Anaheim Hills, Calif. (Canyon)
24	Erin Dudley	Fr.	OF	5-8	L/L	Seaford, Va. (York)
25	Whitney Gelin	Fr.	C	5-8	R/R	Inverness, Fla. (Citrus)
32	Julia Bove	So.	2B	5-7	R/R	Charlotte, N.C. (Providence)
52	Ashley Allen	Jr.	P	5-8	R/R	Houston, Texas (Episcopal)

* - Will redshirt the 2004 season

Head coach: Donna J. Papa

Assistant coaches: Beverly Smith, Megan Smith

Pronunciations

Julia Bove: BO-vee

Whitney Gelin: guh-LIN

Jessica Graziano: gra-zee-AH-no

Joslin Higgins: JOSS-lin

Natashalyn Snipes: na-TAH-sha-LIN

Donna J. Papa: POP-a



Seniors

(Front) Natashalyn Snipes, Emily Price; (Back) Jessica Robinson, Jessica Graziano, Dionne Streete



Juniors

Brandi Griffin, Jessica Young, Ashley Allen



Coaches

Megan Smith, Donna J. Papa, Beverly Smith



Sophomores

Jaclyn Holden, Megan Welch, Crystal Cox, Michelle Hoffmann, Alison Yin, Julia Bove



Freshmen

Whitney Gelin, Theresa Nicholas, Marissa May, Joslin Higgins, Erin Dudley, Anna Evans

