



Illinois State Basketball 2002-03

Basketball Tickets: Call (309) 438-8000

2002-03 Schedule/Results

Day	Date	Opponent	Time
Sat.	Nov. 23	at Western Michigan	(L 79-100)
Mon.	Nov. 25	Butler	(L 57-59)
Fri.	Nov. 29	IUPUI	(W 77-60)
Sun.	Dec. 1	Illinois	(L 46-71)
Thurs.	Dec. 5	at Illinois-Chicago	(L 55-72)
Sat.	Dec. 7	at Northern Illinois	(L 48-80)
Fri.	Dec. 20	at Portland State	(L 54-72)
Sun.	Dec. 22	at Portland	(W 61-59)
Mon.	Dec. 30	Indiana	7:05 p.m.
Sat.	Jan. 4	Indiana State	2:05 p.m.
Thurs.	Jan. 9	at Northern Iowa	7:05 p.m.
Sat.	Jan. 11	at Bradley	5 p.m.
Thurs.	Jan. 16	SMS	7:05 p.m.
Sat.	Jan. 18	Wichita State	7:05 p.m.
Thurs.	Jan. 23	at Southern Illinois	7 p.m.
Sat.	Jan. 25	at Evansville	2 p.m.
Thurs.	Jan. 30	Creighton	7:05 p.m.
Sat.	Feb. 1	Drake	7:30 p.m.
Fri.	Feb. 7	Northern Iowa	7:05 p.m.
Sun.	Feb. 9	Bradley	2:05 p.m.
Thurs.	Feb. 13	at SMS	7:05 p.m.
Sat.	Feb. 15	at Wichita State	7:05 p.m.
Thurs.	Feb. 20	Evansville	7:05 p.m.
Sat.	Feb. 22	Southern Illinois	2:05 p.m.
Thurs.	Feb. 27	at Drake	7:05 p.m.
Sat.	March 1	at Creighton	3:05 p.m.
Wed.	March 5	at Indiana State	6 p.m.
<i>State Farm-Missouri Valley Tourney at Des Moines, Iowa</i>			
Thurs.	March 13	Quarterfinals	
Fri.	March 14	Semifinals	6/8:30 p.m.
Sat.	March 15	Championship	3 p.m.

• Missouri Valley Conference games
home games in red/bold

The Coaches

• **Jenny Yopp, Illinois State.** She is 60-108 in her seventh season as a college head coach, 20-68 in her fourth season in Normal.

• **Kathi Bennett, Indiana.** She is 43-28 in her third season in Bloomington, 267-130 in her 15th season as a college head coach. Bennett is 5-4 vs. Illinois State, 1-0 while at Indiana.

• **Jim Wiedie, Indiana State.** Wiedie is 25-32 in his second season as Sycamore head coach. He was an assistant until taking over in December, 2000. He is 3-1 vs. Illinois State.

Series Stuff

• **Redbirds vs. Indiana.** The Hoosiers took a 10-9 lead in the series with a 101-53 win Nov. 30, 2001 in Bloomington. The last Redbird win was 67-62 Dec. 9, 1991 in Redbird Arena.

• **Redbirds vs. Indiana State.** The 'Birds lead the Sycamores 31-27 in the series and snapped an 11-game Indiana State winning streak with a 70-67 win in the season finale of 2001-02 for the Redbirds, Feb. 28, 2002 in Redbird Arena.

• Indiana (6-3) at Illinois State (2-6)

7:05 p.m., Monday, Dec. 30, 2002, Redbird Arena, Normal, Ill.

WJBC.com: R.C. McBride & Jill Hutchison

• Indiana State (5-2) at Illinois State

2:05 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 4, 2003, Redbird Arena, Normal, Ill.

WJBC.com: R.C. McBride & Jill Hutchison

The Redbirds

"Pacesetters"

Pos.No.	Name	Ht.	Yr.	Hometown	PPG	Reb.	Ast.
F 10	Katie Donovan *	6-0	So.	Kingston, Ontario	6.0	5.1	1.7
F 32	Erin Keeney	6-2	So.	Alva, OK	5.0	4.0	0.5
C 00	Michelle Harakas *	6-0	So.	Redford, MI	5.6	1.5	0.6
G 2	Desiree Gutierrez	5-6	Jr.	Thornton, CO	3.1	1.9	2.6
G 4	Taren O'Brien **	5-7	Jr.	Savannah, MO	11.6	2.0	3.0

Off the Bench

F 3	Sophie Tirtiaux	6-1	Fr.	Andenne, Belgium	2.1	2.6	0.6
G 12	Beth Huston **	5-8	Jr.	Port Washington, WI	0.3	0.0	0.0
F 20	Stacey White **	5-11	Jr.	West Lebanon, IN	4.6	4.1	1.3
F 21	Stacey Nickerson **	6-0	Sr.	Washington, IL	0.7	0.0	0.0
G 23	Jaci McCormack *	5-10	So.	Lapwai, ID	6.1	2.5	1.5
C 31	Sharon Blade **	6-2	Sr.	Peoria, IL	7.8	3.4	0.9
G 33	Chris Kutschinski *	5-10	So.	Ann Arbor, MI	--	--	--
G 34	Sara Stevenson	5-8	Fr.	Olney, IL	0.0	0.3	0.0
C 42	Zora Skrabalova	6-5	Jr.	Lednice, Czech Republic	9.3	7.8	0.6 blks.

(* - denotes letters earned)

HEAD COACH: Jenny Yopp (North Carolina '89)

ASSISTANT COACHES: Chris Mennig (Bryant '96), Cherie Swarouth (Michigan State '91), Christy Thomaskutty (Tulane '96)

ATHLETIC TRAINER: Yvonne Logan **HEAD MANAGER:** Andrew Knarr

Merry Christmas, Coach!

For the third straight year, the Redbirds gave coach Jenny Yopp what all coaches really want for Christmas--a win in the final game before the holiday. In 2000, the Redbirds tripped up Valparaiso on the road and in 2001 stopped Western Illinois at home. This year, it was a 61-59 win at Portland--in a city where Yopp coached before coming to Normal--which sent the Redbirds home for Christmas.

Zora: Making Every Minute Count

Coming off the bench for the first time this season, junior Zora Skrabalova played just 13 minutes in the win at Portland (12/22), but that was plenty as she had enough time to score 14 points and grab 9 rebounds. The 'better-than-point-a-minute' game was the first time a Redbird player scoring in double figures had more points than minutes since Val Trame did it four times in 1995-96.

www.redbirds.org



Illinois State Women's Basketball

Access Guide

- **Interviews/Credentials.** Contact Tom Lamonica, sports information director, at (309) 438-5746/ talamon@ilstu.edu to make arrangements.
- **Weekly Media Conference.** Jenny Yopp follows Tom Richardson into the Redbird Arena press room weekly on the following dates, with all conferences beginning at 3 p.m.: Nov. 13, 19. Dec. 3, 10, 17. Jan. 2, 8, 14, 21, 28. Feb. 5, 11, 18, 25. March 4.
- **The Jenny Yopp Show.** Jenny Yopp, R.C. McBride and Tim Fisher talk basketball with guests and callers on WJBC (AM 1230, Bloomington) at 7:06 p.m. on the following dates: Dec. 3, 10 & 17. Jan. 6, 13, 21 & 27. Feb. 3, 10, 17 & 24. March 4.
- **Post-Game at Redbird Arena.** Head coaches and requested players will be brought to the interview room. Locker rooms are closed.
- **Redbird Radio.** Illinois' No. 1 play-by-play sportscaster R.C. McBride is joined by Redbird coaching legend Jill Hutchison for the play-by-play of Redbird basketball on WJBC AM 1230 and on the web at www.wjbc.com.
- **Web Birds.** The Redbird athletics home page is www.redbirds.org.
- **Missouri Valley Scoreboard Phone.** Scores and highlights at (314) 997-9877.

Records When ...

<i>When the Redbirds ...</i>	<i>... their record is:</i>
Play at Home	1-2
Play Away	1-4
Play Neutral	0-0
Play a Daytime Game	1-3
Play at Night	1-3
Play on Monday	0-1
Play on Tuesday	0-0
Play on Wednesday	0-0
Play on Thursday	0-1
Play on Friday	1-1
Play on Saturday	0-2
Play on Sunday	1-1
Lead at halftime	2-1
Trail at halftime	0-5
Shoot better FG Pct.	2-3
Shoot worse FG Pct.	0-3
Make more 3-pointers	2-2
Make the same No. of 3-pointers	0-1
Make fewer 3-pointers	0-3
Out-rebound opponent	2-3
Opponent out-rebounds 'Birds	0-2
Commit more turnovers	2-6
Commit same turnovers	0-0
Commit fewer turnovers	0-0
Shoot more free throws	0-1
Shoot same number of free throws	0-0
Shoot fewer free throws	2-5
Score 59 or less	0-5
Score in the 60s	1-0
Score in the 70s	1-1
Score in the 80s or more	0-0
Bench out-scores opponent subs	1-4
Game goes to overtime	0-0

Miss It, Take It

In their win at Portland (12/22), the Redbirds actually rebounded more of their own missed shots (17 offensive rebounds) than Portland did (the Pilots had 16 defensive rebounds). Zora Skrabalova's seven offensive boards were as many as all of the Portland players combined.

Blade Sharp for 'Birds

Senior Sharon Blade has stepped up her offensive production over the past four games, averaging 11 points per game while shooting 60 percent from the field (15 of 25) and .731 from the free throw line (14 for 19). Blade has turned her shooting percentage around after a 5 for 17 season start (.294).

After Christmas

Since 1994, the Redbirds are 4-0 in their first game after Christmas in even-numbered years (1-3 in odd-numbered years).

Offensive Boards

Against Portland State (12/20), the Redbirds scrapped and battled for 14 offensive rebounds, but had just 4 second-chance points (29 percent). In the previous five games, the Redbirds had averaged a 70 percent scoring ratio to offensive rebounds. They recovered to score 14 second-chance points on 17 offensive rebounds at Portland (12/22), now at 66 percent (60 points on 91 offensive boards).

Converting Free Throws

The Redbirds made 17 of 22 free throws at Portland State, a season-best .773 from the line.

Great Grades

With 10 of 11 returning players equaling or surpassing their previous cumulative grade point average, the Redbirds had the best academic success as a team in four years. Seven Redbirds had a 3.00 or better as the team checked in with a cumulative semester GPA of 2.93. Senior Steph Reichle and sophomore Chris Kutschinski both had straight A's--4.00 on a 4.00 scale. They were joined by juniors Beth Huston and Zora Skrabalova, sophomore Michelle Harakas and freshmen Sara Stevenson and Sophie Tirtiaux on the AFNI Athletics Honor Roll (3.00 or better semester GPA).

Against Oregon

The Redbirds are 4-5 against teams from the state of Oregon (2-0 vs. Portland, 1-2 vs. Oregon, 1-2 vs. Oregon State, 0-1 vs. Portland State).

Better Defense

Since allowing a red-hot Western Michigan team to shoot 52 percent from the field, Illinois State has limited its last six opponents to 39.4 percent field goal shooting (165-419).

ISU Career 3-Pt. Field Goals

Rank	Total	Name (Years)
1.	205	Jenny Schmidt (1995-99)
2.	129	Cindy Kaufmann (1987-91)
3.	91	Shandeen Hunt (1997-01)
4.	69	Mary Jane Owens (1992-97)
5.	63	Kristin Valdez (1994-98)
6.	57	Taren O'Brien (2000-)
7.	56	LuAnn Robinson (1987-91)
8.	50	Stacy Griffin (1993-97)
9.	48	Stacey White (2000-)
10.	44	Kellie Johnson (1997-01)

ISU Career 3-Pt. FG Pct.

Rank	Pct. (Ma-Att)	Name (Years)
1.	.437 (205-469)	Jenny Schmidt (1995-99)
2.	.423 (129-305)	Cindy Kaufmann (1987-91)
3.	.379 (31-82)	Tami Baalke (1989-93)
4.	.378 (17-45)	Pam Tanner (1985-89)
5.	.368 (14-37)	Ellen McGrew (1984-89)
6.	.358 (24-67)	Jaci McCormack (2000-)
7.	.345 (91-264)	Shandeen Hunt (1997-01)
8.	.344 (11-32)	Char Govan (1985-90)
9.	.320 (57-178)	Taren O'Brien (2000-)
10.	.308 (44-143)	Kellie Johnson (1997-01)
	.308 (48-156)	Stacey White (2000-)

one team ... one goal ... every second



Illinois State Women's Basketball

Redbird Review (2-6)

• Portland State 72, Illinois State 54

Friday, Dec. 20, 2002, Peter W. Stott Center, Portland, Ore.

The Redbirds got off to a good start, but a 2-17 shooting slump in the last 10 minutes of the first half by Illinois State helped Portland State get the lead it needed to win. Taren O'Brien led the 'Birds with 14 points and Sharon Blade added 11. Illinois State had a 42-39 rebounding advantage and made 17 of 22 free throws, but that wasn't enough to overcome a 31 percent shooting effort and 26 turnovers.

• Illinois State 61, Portland 59

Sunday, Dec. 22, 2002, Chiles Center, Portland, Ore.

For the third straight year, the Redbirds won their last game before Christmas. This time, it was Taren O'Brien's 18 points, plus Zora Skrabalova's 14 points and 9 rebounds in just 13 minutes of play leading the way. The Redbirds overpowered Portland inside, winning the rebound battle 45-26 and actually getting more rebounds on their own missed shots (17) than the Pilots got (16). Katie Donovan had 9 rebounds, while Sharon Blade had 9 points and 8 rebounds off the bench.

Missouri Valley Standings

(through games of 12/22/02)

Rank, Team	Valley	All
1. Creighton	0-0	7-2
2. Indiana State	0-0	5-2
3. Evansville	0-0	6-3
Wichita State	0-0	6-3
5. Drake	0-0	5-4
6. Bradley	0-0	4-4
Northern Iowa	0-0	4-4
Southern Illinois	0-0	4-4
9. SMS	0-0	3-5
10. Illinois State	0-0	2-6

Better Boards

The Redbirds are on the 'plus side' in rebounding differential this season (+2.1, 38.9 to 36.8, through eight games), a turnaround from six straight seasons in which the Redbirds were out-rebounded by 2.0 or more per game.

Reichle Out, Kutschinski Sidelined, McCormack Back

A team leader her first three seasons, senior Steph Reichle saw her career come to an end when medical staff informed her in mid-December that her troublesome right ankle would not hold up under the stress of college basketball. Sophomore Chris Kutschinski continues to be sidelined with a back injury. Sophomore Jaci McCormack missed some practices after a medical procedure to alleviate an ankle problem in mid-December.

Zora Hits the Mark

Seven games into the season, Zora Skrabalova (28-53, .528) is bidding to become the first Redbird player in five years to shoot better than 50 percent for the season. The last time at Redbird player shot above 50 percent for a season was 1997-98, when Corinne Vossel shot .531 to lead the team.

O'Brien, White Move Up On Three-Point List

As juniors, Taren O'Brien (57) and Stacey White (48) both are listed in the top 10 three-point shooters in Redbird history. O'Brien is No. 6, having passed LuAnn Robinson in the Portland game, and White is No. 9 on the all-time list, led by Jenny Schmidt (1995-99). Jaci McCormack (.358) is No. 6 on the career three-point field goal percentage list, with O'Brien No. 9 and White tied for No. 10 with former teammate Kellie Johnson (see box on previous page).

Board Work

For the most part, the Redbirds have controlled the rebounding this season. Subtracting a 47-22 domination by Northern Illinois, the Redbirds have out-rebounded their other seven opponents 41.3 to 35.3 combined.

For Starters

With Erin Keeney making her first major-college start against Portland making nine different Redbird players have started at least one of the first eight games of the season.

For Non-Starters

A total of 237 of Illinois State's 477 points (49.9 percent) scored in the Redbirds' first eight games were scored by non-starters. The Redbird bench has out-scored its counterparts in five of the first eight games this season.

So Many Players, So Much Time ...

Seven games into the season, the Redbirds have nine players averaging 16 or more minutes and just one (junior guard Taren O'Brien with 30.6) averaging more than 23 minutes per game.

Valley Preseason Picks

The Missouri Valley Conference coaches and media picked Illinois State 9th in the preseason poll.

Rank, Team	Pts.
1. Creighton (31)	390
2. Drake (9)	361
3. SMS	271
4. Wichita State	256
5. Northern Iowa	244
6. Bradley	216
7. Indiana State	170
8. Evansville	135
9. Illinois State	98
10. Southern Illinois	59

Missouri Valley Conference Preseason Team

Name, Yr., Pos.	Institution
Sara Bailey, Sr., G	Bradley
Carla Bennett, Sr., C	Drake
Angela Buckner, Jr., C	Wichita State
Jenni Lingor, So., G	SMS
Courtney Mennen, Sr., G	Indiana State
Christy Neneman, Jr., F	Creighton
Amy Swisher, Jr., F	Northern Iowa



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00 Michelle Harakas Last Game: 4 pts., 1 stl. at Portland (12/22)

6-0 • So. • F • Redford, Mich. (Ladywood H.S.)

One of three Redbirds to start every game in 2002-03 ... led ISU with career-high 15 pts. in win over Bradley (2/3/02)... hit 57 of last 124 field goals (.460) since 6-22 start in her career ... AFNI Honor Roll, Fall 2002 ... twin sister Melissa plays at Detroit-Mercy ... prep coach, Andrea Gorski, played at Bradley ... name pronounced HAIR-ah-kas.

Michelle's Career Bests

Points 15 vs. Bradley (2/3/02)
Rebounds 9 at Evansville (1/17/02)
Assists 2 (five times)
Steals 3 vs. IUPUI (11/29/02)
Blocks 3 vs. Wichita State (1/24/02)
Minutes 37 vs. Indiana State (2/28/02)

2 Desiree Gutierrez Last Game: 0 pts., 5 asst. 3 reb. at Portland (12/22)

5-6 • Jr. • G • Thornton, Colo. (Thornton/Western Nebraska C.C.)

Collected 6 assists in her first Division I game at WMU (11/23) ... led Western Nebraska to the 2001 National Junior College Athletics Association national tournament. leading her team in assists while averaging 10 points per game ... name pronounced DEZ-uh-ray goo-TARE-ez.

Des' Career Bests

Points 11 vs. IUPUI (11/29/02)
Rebounds 3 (twice)
Assists 6 at Western Michigan (11/23/02)
Steals 2 (twice)
Blocks
Minutes 29 at Illinois-Chicago (12/5/02)

3 Sophie Tirtiaux Last Game: 5 pts., 1 reb. at Portland (12/22)

6-1 • Fr. • F • Andenne, Belgium (Urbana, Ill., H.S.)

Her 1st career 3-point field goal helped ISU beat Portland (12/22) ... started first college game at Western Michigan (11/23) ... collected 5 rebounds in 8 minutes vs. IUPUI (11/29) ... AFNI Honor Roll, Fall 2002 ... missed 2001-02 season while recovering from a stress fracture in her leg ... part of Belgian Club Team Championship in 2000 and played for Belgian Junior National Team ... name pronounced TICT-tyew.

Sophie's Career Bests

Points 6 vs. Butler (11/25/02)
Rebounds 5 vs. IUPUI (11/29/02)
Assists 1 (four times)
Steals 1 (twice)
Blocks
Minutes 18 vs. Butler (11/25/02)

4 Taren O'Brien Last Game: 18 pts., 4 asst. 3 reb. at Portland (12/22)

5-7 • Jr. • G • Savannah, Mo. (Savannah H.S.)

Made 8 of last 14 three-pointers before Christmas ... career-high 21 pts. in season opener at Western Michigan (11/23) included 4 three-point field goals ... 2001-02 team leader in points and assists ... 77 of last 97 FT (79.4 %) including 7-7 vs. IUPUI (11/29) ... one of only 7 ISU players with 50 or more career 3-point field goals ... knee surgery in Jan., 2001, but missed just 3 games ... 1999 National Finalist for Teen Magazine Athlete of the Year ... first name rhymes with "Karen."

Taren's Career Bests

Points 21 at Western Michigan (11/23/02)
Rebounds 7 vs. Western Illinois (12/22/01)
Assists 8 vs. Indiana State (2/16/01)
Steals 4 (twice)
Blocks 1 vs. Murray State (12/1/01)
Minutes 38 at Drake (2/9/02)

10 Katie Donovan Last Game: 2 pts., 9 reb. at Portland (12/22)

6-0 • So. • G • Kingston, Ontario (St. Thomas Aquinas H.S.)

ISU's No. 2 rebounder had 17 in last 2 games before Christmas ... missed season-opener at Western Michigan because of stomach ailment ... ISU's leading rebounder in 2001-02 ... had five double-figure rebounding games ... her 2 double-doubles are the most by a Redbird freshman since 1986-87 ... in her first career start, had 15 points and 14 rebounds vs. Louisville ... joined Steph Reichle and Cathy Boswell as the only freshmen to lead the Redbirds in rebounding for a season.

Katie's Career Bests

Points 16 vs. IUPUI (11/29/02)
Rebounds 14 vs. Louisville (11/27/01)
Assists 4 (three times)
Steals 5 vs. SMS (1/26/02)
Blocks 1 vs. Louisville (11/27/01)
Minutes 38 (twice)



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12 Beth Huston **Last Game:** 0 pts., 0 reb. at PSU (12/20)

5-8 • **Jr.** • **G** • Port Washington, Wis. (Port Washington H.S.)
Made 8 of 17 from 3-point range over her last 11 games ... in last 17 games, had more assists (19) than turnovers (18) with 9 steals ... has 23 three-pointers and 14 two-point field goals in her career ... made college starting debut with 10 points at Wisconsin-Milwaukee, just minutes away from her hometown ... AFNI Honor Roll, Fall 2002 ... part of twins (brother, Brandon).

Beth's Career Bests

Points 12 vs. Louisville (11/27/01)
Rebounds 6 at Bradley (1/6/02), at Drake (2/9/02)
Assists 4 (twice)
Steals 3 at Evansville (1/17/02)
Blocks 2 (twice)
Minutes 33 vs. Murray State (12/1/01)

20 Stacey White **Last Game:** 2 pts., 2 reb. at PSU (12/20)

5-11 • **Jr.** • **F** • West Lebanon, Ind. (Seeger Memorial H.S.)
Outstanding 1st half featured 8 reb., 5 ast., 4 pts. vs. IUPUI (11/29) ... only Redbird to start every game in 2001-02 ... only the fourth different Redbird player to make 30 or more 3-pointers in a season ... No. 9 in career 3-point field goals made (48) ... older sister is ex-Purdue star Stephanie White.

Stacey's Career Bests

Points 19 vs. Evansville (2/15/02)
Rebounds 9 (three times)
Assists 5 vs. IUPUI (11/29/02)
Steals 3 vs. Murray State (12/1/01)
Blocks 2 at Drake (2/9/02)
Minutes 38 vs. Evansville (2/15/02)

21 Stacey Nickerson **Last Game:** 0 pts., 0 reb. at PSU (12/20)

6-0 • **Jr.** • **F** • Washington, Ill. (Washington H.S./Illinois Central CC)
Made her first shot of the 2002-03 season, a 3-pointer at NIU (12/7) ... has 8 assists and just 5 turnovers in 3 seasons at ISU ... averaged 8 minutes per game during last 6 games of 2001-02, most since arriving at ISU ... was offered a college scholarship for rowing out of high school ... played on Illinois Central College team which finished No. 3 at 2000 NJCAA Tournament ... junior college coach was Lorene Ramsey, an Illinois State alum and Hall of Famer.

Stacey's Career Bests

Points 5 at Louisville (12/2/00)
Rebounds 3 (twice)
Assists 1 (eight times)
Steals 2 at Drake (2/9/02)
Blocks none
Minutes 17 at Creighton (2/7/02)

23 Jaci McCormack **Last Game:** 4 pts., 6 reb. at PSU (12/20)

5-10 • **So.** • **G** • Lapwai, Idaho (Lake Oswego, Ore., H.S.)
Missed only practice time after medical procedure to relieve pain in ankle ... No. 9 in the Valley in 3-point field goal percentage (.381) ... matched her career-high with 6 rebounds at Western Michigan (11/23) in her first game back after missing 2001-02 recovering from ankle surgery ... Native American of Nez Perce Tribe was ISU's No. 2 scorer in 2001-02 ... 1997 & 1998 Idaho Prep Player of the Year at Lapwai H.S. ... first name pronounced JACK-ee.

Jaci's Career Bests

Points 18 vs. Bradley (12/30/00)
Rebounds 6 (five times)
Assists 5 vs. Drake (1/14/01)
Steals 3 at Valparaiso (12/22/00)
Blocks 1 vs. Bradley (12/30/00)
Minutes 33 vs. Missouri (12/17/00)

31 Sharon Blade **Last Game:** 11 pts., 1 reb. at PSU (12/20)

6-2 • **Sr.** • **F** • Peoria, Ill. (Peoria Central H.S.)
Averaging 11.7 points per game during the current four-game road trip, shooting .647 (11-17) from the field ... missed 8 games and was limited in others by a 2001-02 foot injury ... matched career high with 9 rebounds at UNI (1/4/02) ... in 2001, she joined Steph Reichle and Cathy Boswell as the only three freshmen in ISU history to lead their teams in scoring ... led 2001 team in blocked shots with 17 ... redshirted in 1999-2000 ... her 22 points in her first collegiate game (at Northern Illinois, 11/17/00) are a Redbird freshman first-game record.

Sharon's Career Bests

Points 25 vs. Bradley (12/30/00)
Rebounds 9 (twice)
Assists 2 (three times)
Steals 2 (seven times)
Blocks 2 (four times)
Minutes 37 at Northern Illinois (11/17/00)



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32 Erin Keeney

Last Game: 2 pts., 3 reb. at Portland (12/22)

6-2 • So. • F • Alva, Okla. (Alva/Northern Oklahoma JC)

Scored 13 pts. coming off the bench at Illinois-Chicago (12/5) ... made her first Division I start in win at Portland (12/22) ... scored 7 pts. and grabbed 7 rebounds in 1st Division I game vs. WMU (11/22) ... originally signed National Letter of Intent with New Mexico State, but opted for year of junior college instead ... area prep player of the year in 2001 as high schooler, where she led her four prep varsity teams to an 89-10 record ... averaged 12 points and 8 rebounds per game at Northern Oklahoma JC.

Erin's Career Bests

Points 13 at Illinois-Chicago (12/5/02)
Rebounds 7 at Western Michigan (11/23/02)
Assists 2 vs. Illinois (12/1/02)
Steals 2 at Portland State (12/20/02)
Blocks 1 (three times)
Minutes 30 at Illinois-Chicago (12/5/02)

33 Chris Kutschinski

Last Game: did not play, injured

5-10 • So. • G • Ann Arbor, Mich. (Pioneer H.S.)

Has yet to play in a game because of a chronic back problem ... her entry into last year's game at SIU (1/20/02) began a 7-minute stretch which produced a 20-3 Redbird run fueled by nine Saluki turnovers ... had 2 key second-half baskets in win over Western Illinois (12/22/01) ... AFNI Honor Roll all 3 semesters ... AAU teammate of Redbird Michelle Harakas ... name pronounced koo-SCHIN-skee.

Chris' Career Bests

Points 4 (four times)
Rebounds 3 vs. Central Michigan (11/25/01)
Assists 2 (three times)
Steals 1 (three times)
Blocks 1 (three times)
Minutes 19 vs. Western Illinois (12/22/01)

34 Sara Stevenson

Last Game: 0 pts., 0 reb. at PSU (12/20)

5-8 • Fr. • G • Olney, Ill. (East Richland H.S.)

No. 4 in Illinois prep history with 274 career three-point field goals ... one of 20 players in Illinois prep history to score 2,500 career points (2,504) ... 2002 Illinois Miss Basketball finalist ... led team to IHSA Class AA Semifinals at Redbird Arena in 2002 ... also a prep track star ... AFNI Honor Roll, Fall 2002.

Sara's Career Bests

Points
Rebounds 2 vs. Illinois (12/1/02)
Assists
Steals
Blocks
Minutes 7 vs. Illinois (12/1/02)

42 Zora Skrabalova

Last Game: 14 pts., 9 reb. at Portland (12/22)

6-5 • Jr. • C • Lednice, Czech Republic (Slovanske/NE Colorado JC)

Collected 2 double-doubles in her first 4 Division I games (WMU & IUPUI) ... had 8 rebounds to give ISU a 29-7 1st-half rebounding edge vs. IUPUI (11/29) ... had 14 points and 9 rebounds in just 13 minutes to help the 'Birds beat Portland (12/22) ... the tallest Redbird player in history ... AFNI Honor Roll, Fall 2002 ... led Czech women's league team to a division championship in 2000 with a 24-8 record ... name pronounced ZOHR-ah SKRAH-buh-LO-vuh.

Zora's Career Bests

Points 14 (twice)
Rebounds 14 vs. Illinois (12/1/02)
Assists 1 (twice)
Steals 2 vs. Illinois (12/1/02)
Blocks 3 vs. Butler (11/25/02)
Minutes 27 vs. IUPUI (11/29/02)