



# Illinois State Basketball 2001-02

Basketball Tickets: Call (309) 438-8000

## Results/Schedule

Day	Date	Opponent	Time
W	N 7	NWBL (Exhibition)	(W 74-63)
Su	N 11	Challengers (Exhibition)	(W 88-74)
M	N 19	at Wisconsin-Milwaukee	(L 63-69)
Su	N 25	Central Michigan	(L 62-72)
Tu	N 27	Louisville	(L 58-72)
<i>Hoosier Classic at Bloomington, Ind.</i>			
F	N 30	at Indiana	(L 53-101)
Sa	D 1	vs. Murray State	(L 55-65)
Tu	D 4	Ball State	(L 61-78)
Th	D 6	at Illinois	(L 57-75)
Th	D 20	Northern Illinois	(W 55-52)
Sa	D 22	Western Illinois	(W 53-50)
Sa	D 29	• at Indiana State	(L 51-57)
F	J 4	• at Northern Iowa	(L 44-53)
Su	J 6	• at Bradley (WTVP-TV)	(L 36-71)
Th	J 10	• Drake	(L 58-70)
Sa	J 12	• Creighton (Valley TV) (W 64-57, ot)	
Th	J 17	• at Evansville	7 p.m.
Su	J 20	• at Southern Illinois	2:05 p.m.
Th	J 24	• Wichita State	7:05 p.m.
Sa	J 26	• SW Missouri State	2:05 p.m.
Th	J 31	• Northern Iowa	7:05 p.m.
Su	F 3	• Bradley (WTVP-TV)	2:05 p.m.
Th	F 7	• at Creighton	7:05 p.m.
Sa	F 9	• at Drake	2:05 p.m.
F	F 15	• Evansville	7:05 p.m.
Su	F 17	• Southern Illinois	2:05 p.m.
F	F 22	• at SW Missouri State	7:05 p.m.
Su	F 24	• at Wichita State	5 p.m.
Th	F 28	• Indiana State	8:05 p.m.
Th-Sa	M7-9	State Farm-Missouri Valley Tournament at Springfield, Mo	

• Missouri Valley Conference games

## The Coaches

• **Jenny Yopp, Illinois State.** She is 54-92 in her sixth season as a college head coach, 14-53 in her third season at Illinois State.

• **Tricia Cullup, Evansville.** She is 20-23 in her second season in Evansville. The former Purdue star played against the Redbirds and won in 1989 and 1991. Her UE teams are 0-2 vs. Illinois State.

• **Lori Opp, Southern Illinois.** She is 19-50 in her third season at Carbondale. She faced the Redbirds as a player from 1985-87 at Western Illinois. Her teams were 0-4 there, but her SIU teams are 3-1 against the Redbirds.

## Series Stuff

• **Redbirds at Evansville.** The Redbirds have a 10-4 series advantage. In 2001, Illinois State, SMS and Drake were the only league teams to sweep the Aces. ISU won the first eight and the last two games of the series.

• **Redbirds at Southern Illinois.** Illinois State leads the series 34-31, but SIU has won the last three and 22 of 28 in the last 10 years.

## • Illinois State (3-11, 1-4) at Evansville (7-8, 2-3)

7 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 17, 2001, Roberts Stadium, Evansville, Ind.

WJBC Radio: R.C. McBride and Jill Hutchison

## • Illinois State at Southern Illinois (4-10, 0-5)

2:05 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 20, 2002, SIU Arena, Carbondale, Ill.

## The Redbirds

### “Pacesetters”

Pos.No.	Name	Ht.	Yr.	Hometown	PPG	Reb.	Ast.
F 20	Stacey White *	5-11	So.	West Lebanon, IN	8.0	4.9	1.0
F 22	Steph Reichle **	5-9	Jr.	Lincoln, IL	5.5	5.6	1.4
C 55	Kristi Larson ***	6-4	Sr.	Cashton, WI	7.8	5.4	1.5 blk
G 4	Taren O'Brien *	5-7	So.	Savannah, MO	9.4	2.6	2.9
G 10	Katie Donovan	6-0	Fr.	Kingston, Ontario	7.1	5.8	1.4

### Off the Bench

F 00	Michelle Harakas	6-0	Fr.	Redford, MI	3.1	2.2	0.4
G 12	Beth Huston *	5-8	So.	Port Washington, WI	4.3	2.4	1.4
F 11	Heidi Harnisch	5-10	Fr.	Urbana, IL	1.0	0.6	0.2
F 21	Stacey Nickerson *	6-0	Jr.	Washington, IL	1.1	1.0	0.2
G 23	Jaci McCormack *	5-10	So.	Lake Oswego, OR	--	--	--
F 30	Sophie Tirtiaux	6-1	Fr.	Andenne, Belgium	2.0	1.0	0.0
C 31	Sharon Blade *	6-2	So.	Peoria, IL	6.4	5.4	0.6
G 33	Chris Kutschinski	5-10	Fr.	Ann Arbor, MI	1.2	1.2	0.3

(\* - denotes letters earned)

**HEAD COACH:** Jenny Yopp (North Carolina '89)

**ASSISTANT COACHES:** Christopher Mennig (Bryant '96), Cherie Swarouth (Michigan State '91),

Christy Thomaskutty (Tulane '96)

### The Best Defense ...

The Redbirds are limiting opponents to just 38.8 percent field goal shooting, the lowest rate in the 25 years for which Illinois State has full statistics. Opponents' 29.5 percent from three-point range is the lowest in Redbird history.

### Reichle Rebounds

Steph Reichle's personal career best 17 rebounds in a 64-57 overtime win over Creighton (1/12) were the second-best total by an Illinois State player in Redbird Arena. The arena record is 21 by Caryn Brune 10 years ago. Reichle had 5 of those rebounds in overtime.

### Signs of Much Better Times

The Redbirds are 3-4 after an 0-7 start, and the statistics bear out that Jenny Yopp's team has improved dramatically in their last seven games since the end of a 6-games-in-12-days run into mid-December. The biggest turnarounds have come in the areas of defense and ballhandling (see box above right).

### Much Better Birds

(team statistics)

Category	lst 7 games	Last 7
Record	0-7	3-4
Opponent points per game	76.0	58.6
Opponents field goal pct.	.429	.347
Opponents 3-point FG pct.	.343	.241
Opponents FG made/game	27.1	21.7
ISU turnovers per game	21.7	18.7

[www.redbirds.org](http://www.redbirds.org)



# Illinois State Women's Basketball

## Redbird Basketball Access Guide

• **Interviews/Credentials.** Contact Tom Lamonica, sports information director, at (309) 438-5746/ talamon@ilstu.edu or Erica Fricke (309) 438-3802/ebfrick@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. 7, 14, 20, 27. Dec. 4, 11. Jan. 8, 14, 22. Feb. 4, 12, 19, 27.

• **The Jenny Yopp Show.** Jenny Yopp, R.C. McBride and Tim Fisher talk basketball with guests and callers at 7:06 p.m. Mondays on WJBC AM 1230 (except Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve.)

• **Post-Game at Redbird Arena.** Head coaches and requested players will be brought to the interview room. Locker rooms are closed.

• **Redbird Radio.** Award-winning 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.

## Coming Attractions

Point guard Desiree Gutierrez has joined high-scoring guard Sara Stevenson have signed national letters of intent for basketball at Illinois State. The 5-6 Gutierrez, from Thornton, Colo., led her 2001 Western Nebraska Community College team to the NJCAA finals last year. She was an honorable mention all-stater at Thornton High School, where she was a four-year starter before graduating in 2000. Entering her senior season at East Richland High School in Olney, Ill., the 5-8 Stevenson had scored 1,674 points and has 495 career steals. A long-range shooting threat, Stevenson had 156 three-pointers during her sophomore and junior seasons.

## Blade Sidelined

Redbird post player Sharon Blade has a stress-related foot injury which will likely keep her on the sidelines until near the end of January, pending the results of a bone scan prior to the Evansville game.

## Defense Rules

The Redbird defense limited Creighton to just 22.9 percent field goal shooting (1/12) in a 64-57 overtime win, including 2-15 in the final five minutes of regulation and overtime combined.

## Offense Converts

The Redbirds shot 51.9 percent from the field in their 64-57 overtime win over Creighton (1/12), including 5-5 in overtime: Katie Donovan 2-2, Sharon Blade, Steph Reichle, Taren O'Brien all 1-1. It was the 'Birds first 50 percent-plus shooting night since the final game of 2000-01, when they shot 54.9 percent at Northern Iowa (3/1/01).

## Overtime is Redbird Time

The Redbirds' 64-57 win over Creighton (1/12) raised the all-time Redbird record for overtime games to 14-7, including 8-4 in regular-season league games. ISU is 6-2 in overtime games over the past seven years.

## 'Youngbirds'

Last year, the Redbird freshmen played a larger percentage of minutes (44 percent) than any previous Illinois State freshmen class. With one senior, two juniors, four sophomores and five freshmen, the 2001-02 Redbird team is actually younger than its 2000-01 counterpart--and the youngest team in the Valley (see chart above right).

## Young Leaders

Three players currently on the Redbird roster are among the team's career three-point field goal percentage leaders. Jaci McCormack (sidelined after ankle surgery) is No. 6, with Taren O'Brien No. 9 (see chart at right.)

## Birds vs. League

With an all-time conference record of 188-137, the Redbirds have winning records against five of its nine current league foes (see list at right).

## Donovan's Rebounds Offensive

Freshman Katie Donovan is bidding to become just the second Illinois State player in history to finish a season with more offensive rebounds than defensive. Currently ISU's top rebounder, 53

## The Valley Experience

(Valley rosters ranked by class avg./player)  
(Fr.-So.-Jr.-Sr.)

Rank, Team	No. on Roster	Exp. Avg.
1. Illinois State (5-5-2-1)	13	1.92
2. Bradley (7-2-3-3)	15	2.13
3. Creighton (6-3-2-3)	14	2.14
4. Wichita State (4-4-2-3)	13	2.31
5. Indiana State (2-2-5-1)	10	2.40
6. Southern Illinois (3-3-5-2)	13	2.46
7. Northern Iowa (3-4-4-3)	14	2.50
8. Drake (4-3-2-5)	14	2.57
9. SMS (4-2-1-5)	12	2.58
10. Evansville (4-1-2-7)	14	2.86
League Avg. (42-29-28-33)	132	2.39

## ISU Career 3-Pt. FG Pct.

Rank No.	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 (14-37) .....	Ellen McGrew (1984-89)
5. .378 (17-45) .....	Pam Tanner (1985-89)
6. <b>.348 (16-46) .....</b>	<b>Jaci McCormack (2000- )</b>
7. .345 (91-264) .....	Shandeen Hunt (1997-01)
8. .344 (11-32) .....	Char Govan (1985-90)
9. <b>.333 (33-99) .....</b>	<b>Taren O'Brien (2000- )</b>
10. .308 (44-143) .....	Kellie Johnson (1997-01)

## Birds vs. Conference

(all-time regular-season standings vs. league foes)

Opponent	W-L	Pct.
Bradley .....	26-11	.702
Creighton * .....	7-12	.369
Drake .....	15-22	.405
Evansville ** .....	10-4	.714
Indiana State .....	21-16	.567
Northern Iowa .....	28-9	.757
Southern Illinois .....	11-25	.306
Southwest Missouri State .....	15-21	.417
Wichita State .....	25-11	.694
Eastern Illinois # .....	12-6	.667
Western Illinois # .....	18-0	1.000
Total .....	188-137	.578

\* joined the Valley in 1992-93  
\*\* joined the Valley in 1994-95  
# Gateway members through 1991-92

# Get Your Game Face On !



# Illinois State Women's Basketball

## Redbird Review (3-11, 1-4)

• Drake 70, Illinois State 58

Thursday, Jan. 10, 2002, Redbird Arena, Normal, Ill. Foul problems for the Redbird centers (Kristi Larson and Sharon Blade) helped Carla Bennett score 15 of her game-high 20 points in the first half as the Bulldogs downed the Redbirds. Bennett added 14 rebounds to offset three Redbirds in double figures scoring: Stacey White with 12, Blade with 11 and Taren O'Brien with 10. ISU led 22-13 in the first 10 minutes, but Drake used a 19-0 spurt to take the lead and keep it late in the first half.

• Illinois State 64, Creighton 57, ot

Saturday, Jan. 12, 2002, Redbird Arena, Normal, Ill. Steph Reichle had 5 of her career-high 17 rebounds in overtime and the Redbirds went 5-5 from the field in the extra period to upend the previously unbeaten Valley leaders. Kristi Larson had 14 points and Taren O'Brien added 13 for ISU, with Sharon Blade scoring 10 with 7 rebounds. ISU limited Creighton--one of the nation's best three-point shooting teams--to 22.9 percent field goal shooting including 1-8 in overtime.

## Records When ...

<i>When the Redbirds ...</i>	<i>... their record is:</i>
Play at Home .....	3-4
Play Away .....	0-6
Play Neutral .....	0-1
Play a Daytime Game .....	1-4
Play at Night .....	2-6
Play on Monday .....	0-0
Play on Tuesday .....	0-3
Play on Wednesday .....	0-0
Play on Thursday .....	1-2
Play on Friday .....	0-2
Play on Saturday .....	2-2
Play on Sunday .....	0-2
Lead at halftime .....	1-0
Trail at halftime .....	2-11
Shoot better FG Pct. ....	3-5
Shoot worse FG Pct. ....	0-6
Make more 3-pointers .....	0-2
Make the same No. of 3-pointers .....	1-1
Make fewer 3-pointers .....	2-8
Out-rebound opponent .....	1-7
Opponent out-rebounds 'Birds .....	2-4
Commit more turnovers .....	2-11
Commit same turnovers .....	1-0
Commit fewer turnovers .....	0-0
Shoot more free throws .....	2-2
Shoot fewer free throws .....	1-9
Score 59 or less .....	2-8
Score in the 60s .....	1-3
Score in the 70s .....	0-0
Score in the 80s or more .....	0-0
Bench out-scores opponent subs .....	1-3
Game goes to overtime .....	0-0

percent of her boards are under ISU's basket.

## Record Stinginess

The Redbirds held four straight opponents (Northern Illinois, Western Illinois, Indiana State and Northern Iowa) under 60 points. That matched the longest streak of its kind (holding opponents below 60) by an Illinois State team since 1974-75. It's only the fourth time in those 27 years ISU has held four straight teams under 60 and the first time since Feb., 1992.

## Twinbirds

Sophomore guard Beth Huston has a twin brother (Brandon) and freshman forward Michelle Harakas has a twin sister (Melissa). The 'Birds have had other 'twin-connections' in women's basketball including early 1990s Tammy (player) and Julie (student manager) Kocher and long-time assistant coach Lisa Robinson, whose twin sister Lynnette is an assistant at Southwest Missouri State.

## Their Best Boards

In the same game at Northern Iowa, senior Kristi Larson matched her career high with 13 rebounds and sophomore Sharon Blade tied her career best with 9 rebounds.

## Heidi Breaks the Ice

Freshman guard Heidi Harnisch earned her first points of the season in dramatic style, hitting two free throws to stop a 19-0 Drake run and then adding a three-pointer to help bring the 'Birds back within striking distance in the first half.

## Great In the State

Including their back-to-back wins over Northern Illinois and Western Illinois, the Redbirds have played 253 games against Illinois' 11 other Division I teams and the 'Birds have an overwhelming lead against in-state foes with a 170-83 record (.672) and .500 or better marks against every team but Northwestern (see list at right).

## Larson For the Block

Senior Kristi Larson is one of only five players in Redbird history with 60 or more career blocked shots. She needs just three to surpass Marla Maupin for fourth place. (see box above right).

## Birds vs. The State

(all-time standings vs. Illinois Division I foes)

Team	W-L	Pct.
Bradley	26-12	.684
Chicago State	0-0	.000
DePaul	3-3	.500
Eastern Illinois	25-8	.758
Illinois-Chicago	11-1	.917
Illinois	17-15	.531
Loyola of Chicago	1-0	1.000
Southern Illinois	34-31	.523
Northern Illinois	9-3	.750
Northwestern	5-8	.385
Western Illinois	39-2	.951
<b>Total</b>	<b>170-83</b>	<b>.672</b>

## ISU Career Blocked Shots

Rank	Total	Name (Years)
1.	177	Leslie Ferrell (1986-89)
2.	95	Cathy Boswell (1979-83)
3.	90	Caryn Brune (1989-93)
4.	68	Marla Maupin (1981-85)
<b>5.</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>Kristi Larson (1998- )</b>
6.	41	Valarie Trame (1994-98)
7.	40	Melanie Ward (1991-96)
8.	39	LuAnn Robinson (1987-91)
9.	39	Juli Stiles (1983-87)
10.	32	Tammy Kocher (1989-93)

## Missouri Valley Standings

(thru games of 1/14/02)

Rank, Team	Valley	All
1. Drake	5-1	11-4
Creighton	5-1	10-5
3. Northern Iowa	4-1	9-7
4. Southwest Missouri State	4-2	7-7
5. Wichita State	3-3	8-7
6. Bradley	2-3	11-3
Evansville	2-3	7-8
8. Indiana State	1-4	5-9
Illinois State	1-4	3-11
10. Southern Illinois	0-5	4-10





# Illinois State Women's Basketball

## 00 Michelle Harakas **Last Game:** Creighton, 2 pts., 2 reb.

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

Scored in 12 of 13 games ... hit 12 of last 20 field goals after 6 of first 22 this season ... twin sister Melissa plays at Detroit-Mercy ... prep coach, Andrea Gorski, played against the Redbirds at Bradley ... from same high school as former Redbird star Char Govan, ISU's No. 3 all-time scorer and No. 4 all-time rebounder ... name pronounced HAIR-ah-kas.

### Michelle's Career Bests

Points ..... 7 at Wisconsin-Milwaukee (11/19/01)  
Rebounds ..... 6 at Wisconsin-Milwaukee (11/19/01)  
Assists ..... 2 vs. Murray State (12/1/01)  
Steals ..... 1 (twice)  
Blocks ..... 1 (twice)  
Minutes ..... 24 vs. Central Michigan (11/25/01)

## 4 Taren O'Brien **Last Game:** Creighton 13 pts., 4 reb., 4 ast.

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

Redbird leader in points, assists and 3-point field goals ... 2000-01 team leader in steals ... among Top 10 in ISU career 3-point field goal percentage ... had arthroscopic knee surgery in Jan., 2001, but missed just 3 games ... 1999 National Finalist for Teen Magazine Athlete of the Year ... last name rhymes with "Karen."

### Taren's Career Bests

Points ..... 18 vs. Western Illinois (12/22/01)  
Rebounds ..... 7 vs. Western Illinois (12/22/01)  
Assists ..... 8 vs. Indiana State (2/16/01)  
Steals ..... 3 (three times)  
Blocks ..... 1 at Indiana (11/30/01)  
Minutes ..... 37 vs. Western Illinois (12/22/01)

## 10 Katie Donovan **Last Game:** Creighton 8 pts., 2 reb., 3 ast.

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

Top freshman rebounder in the Valley ... her 2 double-doubles are the most by a Redbird freshman since Leslie Ferrell had 3 in 1986-87 ... in her first career start, had 15 points and 14 rebounds vs. Louisville ... has 3 double-digit rebounding efforts in her first 8 games ... bidding to join Steph Reichle and Cathy Boswell as the only freshmen to lead the Redbirds in rebounding for a season.

### Katie's Career Bests

Points ..... 15 vs. Louisville (11/27/01)  
Rebounds ..... 14 vs. Louisville (11/27/01)  
Assists ..... 4 (twice)  
Steals ..... 3 (twice)  
Blocks ..... 1 vs. Louisville (11/27/01)  
Minutes ..... 37 vs. Northern Illinois (12/20/01)

## 11 Heidi Harnisch **Last Game:** Creighton, 0 pts., 0 reb.

5-10 • Fr. • F • Urbana, Ill. (Urbana H.S.)

2000 Special Mention Illinois All-Stater by Illinois Basketball Coaches Association ... first 5 career pts. vs. Drake (1/10) ... made college debut in her hometown (at Illinois) ... her longest stint of the season (8 minutes at Bradley) netted her first assist and first steal of her career ... prep classmate of Redbird freshman Sophie Tirtiaux ... name pronounced HAIR-ah-kas.

### Heidi's Career Bests

Points ..... 5 vs. Drake (1/10/02)  
Rebounds . 1 at Illinois (12/6/01), vs. Drake (1/10/02)  
Assists ..... 1 at Bradley (2/6/02)  
Steals ..... none  
Blocks ..... 1 at Bradley (2/6/02)  
Minutes ..... 8 at Bradley (1/6/02)

## 12 Beth Huston **Last Game:** Creighton 4 pts., 3 reb., 1 steal

5-8 • So. • G • Port Washington, Wis. (Port Washington H.S.)

After scoring just 11 points and playing just 66 minutes as a freshman, she has joined the regular rotation ... has 11 three-pointers and 12 two-point field goals in her career ... made college starting debut with 10 points at Wisconsin-Milwaukee, just minutes away from her hometown.

### Beth's Career Bests

Points ..... 12 vs. Louisville (11/27/01)  
Rebounds ..... 6 at Bradley (1/6/02)  
Assists . 4 vs. Ball St. (12/4/01), at Ind. St. (12/30/01)  
Steals ..... 2 (twice)  
Blocks ..... none  
Minutes ..... 33 vs. Murray State (12/1/01)

## 20 Stacey White **Last Game:** Creighton 8 pts., 4 reb.

5-11 • So. • F • West Lebanon, Ind. (Seeger Memorial H.S.)

Only Redbird to start every game this season ... 2 free throws with 0:00.9 left cemented 53-50 win over WIU (12/22) ... only 2 points of the game were 2 FT with 0:18 left vs. NIU to lock-in a 55-52 Redbird win (12/20)... Redbird leader in free throw percentage, her string of 13 straight made ended at Bradley ... came within a rebound of a double-double twice, vs. Central Michigan (11 pts., 9 reb.) and at Indiana (12 pts., 9 reb.) ... younger sister of former Purdue star Stephanie White-McCarty.

### Stacey's Career Bests

Points ... 13 at Illinois (12/6/01), at Ind. St. (12/29/01)  
Rebounds ..... 9 (twice)  
Assists ..... 3 vs. Illinois (12/7/00)  
Steals ..... 3 vs. Murray State (12/1/01)  
Blocks ..... 1 (five times)  
Minutes ..... 35 at Indiana State (12/29/01)



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## 21 Stacey Nickerson

**Last Game:** Creighton, 0 pts., 0 reb.

6-0 • **Jr.** • **F** • Washington, Ill. (Washington H.S./Illinois Central CC)

Scored 4 points and grabbed 3 rebounds in 16 minutes at Indiana ... all-around athlete who 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 at Indiana (11/30/01)
Assists	1 (four times)
Steals	none
Blocks	none
Minutes	16 at Indiana (11/30/01)

## 22 Steph Reichle

**Last Game:** Creighton, 5 pts., 17 reb.

5-9 • **Jr.** • **G** • Lincoln, Ill. (Lincoln H.S.)

2001 2nd Team Missouri Valley Scholar-Athlete ... 2000 Missouri Valley All-Freshman Team ... blocked a 3-point shot which could have given NIU a win over the 'Birds (12/20) and came back 2 days later to deny WIU a last-ditch winning shot (12/22) ... 17 reb. vs. Creighton (1/12) is No. 2 by an ISU player in Redbird Arena history ... 17 points in 13 minutes vs. Central Michigan (11/25) ... team leader in steals ... name pronounced RIKE-lee.

### Steph's Career Bests

Points	24 vs. Western Illinois (11/30/99)
Rebounds	17 vs. Creighton (1/12/02)
Assists	8 vs. Wichita State (1/4/01)
Steals	6 (twice)
Blocks	2 vs. Northern Illinois (12/20/01)
Minutes	38 vs. Creighton (1/12/02)

## 31 Sharon Blade

**Last Game:** Creighton 10 pts., 7 reb., 2 stl.

6-2 • **So.** • **C** • Peoria, Ill. (Peoria Central H.S.)

Matched career high with 9 rebounds at UNI (1/4) ... in 2001, she joined Steph Reichle and Cathy Boswell as the only three freshmen in Illinois State history to lead their teams in scoring ... also led 2001 team in blocked shots with 17, No. 3 all-time for Redbird freshmen ... 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 at WIU (11/29/00), at UNI (1/2/02)
Assists	2 (twice)
Steals	2 (seven times)
Blocks	2 (four times)
Minutes	37 at Northern Illinois (11/17/00)

## 33 Chris Kutschinski

**Last Game:** Creighton, dnp/cd

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

Excellent on-ball defender who sees spot duty in the Redbird perimeter rotation ... had 2 key second-half baskets in win over Western Illinois (12/22) ... also a member of the Redbird track team, she will run middle distances for coach Jeff Pigg's team after the basketball season ends ... AAU teammate of Redbird teammate Michelle Harakas ... name pronounced koo-SCHIN-skee.

### Chris' Career Bests

Points	4 (twice)
Rebounds	3 vs. Central Michigan (11/25/01)
Assists	2 at Indiana (11/30/01)
Steals	1 at Indiana (11/30/01)
Blocks	1 vs. Ball State (12/4/01)
Minutes	15 at Indiana (11/30/01)

## 55 Kristi Larson

**Last Game:** Creighton 14 pts., 6 reb.

6-4 • **Sr.** • **C** • Cashton, Wis. (Cashton H.S.)

Announcers selected her 'Player of the Game' for her 14 pts., 6 reb. in ISU upset of previously undefeated conference leader Creighton (1/12) ... No. 3 in Valley in blocked shots ... 16 points, 7 rebounds, 2 blocks in 1st Redbird win of the season over NIU (12/20) ... ranks No. 5 in career blocked shots at Illinois State.

### Kristi's Career Bests

Points	22 vs. Northern Illinois (11/23/99)
Rebounds	13 at Ball St. (12/4/01), at UNI (1/4/02)
Assists	2 at Evansville (1/28/99)
Steals	2 (three times)
Blocks	3 (six times)
Minutes	36 vs. Creighton (1/12/02)

## 30 Sophie Tirtiaux

6-1 • **Fr.** • **F** • Andenne, Belgium (Urbana H.S.)  
Recovering from a stress fracture in her leg and likely won't play until at least January ... prep teammate of Heidi Harnisch ... part of Belgian Club Team Championship in 2000 and played for Belgian Junior National Team ... name pronounced TICT-tyew.

## 23 Jaci McCormack

5-10 • **So.** • **G** • Lake Oswego, Ore. (Lake Oswego H.S.)  
Recovering ankle surgery in November; could miss the entire season ... 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 (three 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)