



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	(L 57-70)
Su	J 20	• at Southern Illinois	(W 69-67)
Th	J 24	• Wichita State	(W 68-64)
Sa	J 26	• SW Missouri State	(L 55-59)
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 56-94 in her sixth season as a college head coach, 16-55 in her third season at Illinois State.

• **Tony DiCecco, Northern Iowa.** He is 94-90 in his seventh season in Cedar Falls. His teams are 6-6 vs. Illinois State.

• **Paula Buscher, Bradley.** She is 23-22 in her second season in Peoria, 66-60 in her fifth season as a college head coach. Buscher was an Illinois State assistant coach from 1986-88.

Series Stuff

• **Redbirds vs. Northern Iowa.** Illinois State leads the series 29-9 even though UNI has won the last four in a row. ISU's last win in the series was 74-61 Feb. 28, 1999 in Redbird Arena--Jill Hutchison's final game as Redbird coach.

• **Redbirds vs. Bradley.** The Redbirds lead the series 26-12. Bradley won a 71-36 decision Jan. 6 at Robertson Field House. The Redbirds are 13-6 vs. Bradley in Peoria, 12-5 vs. the Braves in Normal., and 1-0 on a neutral court.

• Northern Iowa (11-9, 6-3) at Illinois State (5-13, 3-6)

7:05 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 31, 2002, Redbird Arena, Normal, Ill.

WJBC Radio: R.C. McBride and Jill Hutchison

• Bradley (13-5, 4-5) at Illinois State

2:05 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 3, 2002, Redbird Arena, Normal, Ill.

WJBC Radio: R.C. McBride and Leanna Bordner

WTVP-TV: Kurt Pegler and Ed Hammond

The Redbirds

“Pacesetters”

Pos.No.	Name	Ht.	Yr.	Hometown	PPG	Reb.	Ast.
F 10	Katie Donovan	6-0	Fr.	Kingston, Ontario	7.4	6.2	1.5
F 20	Stacey White *	5-11	So.	West Lebanon, IN	8.5	4.6	1.1
C 55	Kristi Larson ***	6-4	Sr.	Cashton, WI	8.9	4.8	1.4 blk
G 4	Taren O'Brien *	5-7	So.	Savannah, MO	10.3	2.4	3.0
G 22	Steph Reichle **	5-9	Jr.	Lincoln, IL	7.1	5.8	1.5

Off the Bench

F 00	Michelle Harakas	6-0	Fr.	Redford, MI	3.4	2.7	0.5
G 12	Beth Huston *	5-8	So.	Port Washington, WI	3.8	2.2	1.4
F 11	Heidi Harnisch	5-10	Fr.	Urbana, IL	0.8	0.7	0.2
F 21	Stacey Nickerson *	6-0	Jr.	Washington, IL	0.8	0.8	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	1.4	1.0	0.4

(* - denotes letters earned)

HEAD COACH: Jenny Yopp (North Carolina '89)

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

Christy Thomaskutty (Tulane '96) ATHLETIC TRAINER: Yvonne Logan MANAGERS: Vance Catlin, Andrew Knarr

Taren Takes Shots; Bounces Back

In Illinois State's Jan. 24 win over Wichita State, sophomore guard Taren O'Brien had to leave the game with 11 minutes left because of a laceration under her chin (which later needed seven stitches to close). She returned by the eight-minute mark to lead her team to victory with a career-high 19 points. Two days later, O'Brien was struck by a virus which left her feeling weak, but still able to score 12 points in a 59-55 loss to Southwest Missouri State.

Low Turnovers

The Redbirds committed just 11 turnovers in their game with Southwest Missouri State (1/26). That matched the lowest total in six years by Illinois State. The last time at Redbird team had fewer than 11 turnovers was nine in a 73-60 loss at Creighton Feb. 15, 1996 (ISU's last post-season tournament team).

Free Throw Fest

Taren O'Brien's 11 free throws made (in 12 attempts) vs. Wichita State (1/24) tied the Redbird Arena record for free throws made by a Redbird player (Caryn Brune, 12/11/92) and, as a team, Illinois State's 37 free throw attempts matched the Redbird Arena record by an Illinois State team (Evansville, 1/30/97).

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.

League Leaders

(Illinois State players ranked among Valley best)

Name (Category)	Rank	Avg.
Kristi Larson (blocked shots)	4	1.47
Steph Reichle (defensive rebounds) 4(tie)		4.71
Katie Donovan (offensive rebounds) . 8		2.82
Sharon Blade (defensive rebounds) .. 10		4.38

(Illinois State team rankings among Valley's top 3)

Name (Category)	Rank	Avg.
3-Point FG Percentage Defense	1	.295
Defensive Rebounds	2 (tie)	26.1
Field Goal Percentage Defense	3	.389

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.

Pressure Produces Points

With 10 minutes left at SIU, the Redbirds trailed 50-39. But the 'Birds a defense which forced nine turnovers in 13 SIU possessions produced a 20-3 run over the next seven minutes. The Redbirds generally strangled SIU's offense, which produced only two field goals in the final 10 minutes. Twenty of the Redbirds' 37 second-half points came off turnovers ...

Four days later, Wichita State was held to 1 of 11 field goals from the 7-minute to the 1-minute mark in the second half as the Redbirds ended a four-game losing streak to the Shockers.

Stronger Since Bradley

Since the Redbirds' 71-36 loss at Bradley, the Redbirds are 3-2 on the strength of holding opponents to 37.4 percent from the field, 24.2 percent from three-point range. During those five games, the 'Birds have four players averaging double-figure points (O'Brien 12.8, Larson 11.2, White 11.0, Blade 10.5).

Signs of Much Better Times

The Redbirds are 5-6 since an 0-7 start, and the statistics bear out that Jenny Yopp's team has improved dramatically in their last 11 games since the end of a 6-games-in-12-days run into mid-December. Big turnarounds have come in the areas of defense and ballhandling (see box at right).

Better Than Last Year

A year ago, the Redbirds won five times in 27 games (this year, 5 times in 18). Last year, ISU had 52 blocked shots for the season--they have 51 with at least nine games left in 2001-02.

Larson on Target

The Redbirds have shot better in recent games, hitting 97-218 (.450) over their last three games. Kristi Larson has been the leader, sinking 30-50 (.600) in her last five games.

Chris K. Leads Key D.

Southern Illinois guard Holly Teague had 16 first-half points against ISU, but the 'Birds bounced back in the second half thanks to the stellar defense of freshman Chris Kutschinski, who helped hold Teague to one free throw after intermission in a Redbird comeback win.

The Best Defense ...

The Redbirds are limiting opponents to just 39.4 percent field goal shooting, the second-lowest rate in the 25 years for which Illinois State has full statistics. Opponents' 29.8 percent from three-point range is the lowest in Redbird history.

League Advantage: Illinois State

With a 190-139 all-time regular-season conference record (.5789), the Redbirds have winning records against five of nine current league foes. (see box above right).

Much Better Birds

(team statistics)

Category	lst 7 games	Last 11
Record	0-7	5-6
Opponent points per game	76.0	60.5
Opponents field goal pct.	.429	.362
Opponents 3-point FG pct.	.343	.263
Opponents FG made/game	27.1	22.3
ISU turnovers per game	21.7	18.1

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 **	10-5	.667
Indiana State	21-16	.567
Northern Iowa	28-9	.757
Southern Illinois	12-25	.324
Southwest Missouri State	15-22	.405
Wichita State	26-11	.702
Eastern Illinois #	12-6	.667
Western Illinois #	18-0	1.000
Total	190-139	.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 (5-13, 3-6)

• Illinois State 68, Wichita State 64

Thursday, Jan. 24, 2002, Redbird Arena, Normal, Ill. Taren O'Brien had to leave with a cut on her chin in the second half. She came back in time to lead her team to its second straight victory by scoring a career-high 19 points, including a Redbird Arena record-tying 11 free throws made. ISU out-rebounded the powerful Shockers 38-36 and held WSU to 35 percent from the field.

• SMS 59, Illinois State 55

Saturday, Jan. 26, 2002, Redbird Arena, Normal, Ill. Despite Kristi Larson's 14 points, Katie Donovan's 12 rebounds and Illinois State's 13-point halftime lead, Southwest Missouri State battled back and held on to beat the Redbirds and snap Illinois State's two-game losing streak with their fifth straight win.

Records When ...

When the Redbirds their record is:
Play at Home	4-5
Play Away	1-7
Play Neutral	0-1
Play a Daytime Game	2-5
Play at Night	3-8
Play on Monday	0-0
Play on Tuesday	0-3
Play on Wednesday	0-0
Play on Thursday	2-3
Play on Friday	0-2
Play on Saturday	2-3
Play on Sunday	1-2
Lead at halftime	2-1
Trail at halftime	3-12
Shoot better FG Pct.	4-5
Shoot worse FG Pct.	1-8
Make more 3-pointers	1-2
Make the same No. of 3-pointers	1-2
Make fewer 3-pointers	3-9
Out-rebound opponent	2-7
Opponent out-rebounds 'Birds	3-6
Commit more turnovers	2-12
Commit same turnovers	2-0
Commit fewer turnovers	1-1
Shoot more free throws	4-2
Shoot same number of free throws	0-1
Shoot fewer free throws	1-10
Score 59 or less	2-10
Score in the 60s	3-3
Score in the 70s	0-0
Score in the 80s or more	0-0
Bench out-scores opponent subs	2-4
Game goes to overtime	1-0

Stealin' Steph Rides Again

With Steph Reichle collecting four at Southern Illinois (1/20) and three more against Wichita State, Illinois State had its season-high with 11 steals in each of its last two games. Those are the most steals by a Redbird team in 31 games (12 at Wichita State, Jan. 4, 2001).

Harakas Steps Up

With Sharon Blade sidelined by a foot injury, freshman post player Michelle Harakas stepped up her performance on the Evansville-Southern Illinois road trip by averaging 7.5 points, 6.5 rebounds and 1.0 blocks. The consistent Harakas has played short stints in most games, but has scored in 16 of ISU's 17 contests, hitting 18 of her last 35 field goal attempts in the process.

Donovan Shooting Better

At the start of 2002, freshman Katie Donovan's field goal percentage stood at just .267. In six games since the calendar turned, she has hit 22 of 51 shots for a .431 percentage.

More Charity (Tosses)

Through the first four weeks of league games, Illinois State ranked a distant 10th in the Valley in getting to the free throw line. However, the 'Birds have shot 85 of the 158 conference free throws in their last three games. (see box above right).

The 'Rollover' Homestand

This year, Illinois State and Indiana State both play four straight home games at the end of the first round and the start of the second round of the Valley's double round-robin schedule. With a 1-1 record so far this time, the 'Birds have played four or more straight league home games five times before: 4-0 in 1997, 2-2 in 1998, 2-3 in 1993, 4-0 in 1991 and 3-1 in 1986.

Larson For the Block

Senior Kristi Larson is one of only four players in Redbird history with 70 or more career blocked shots. Her 25 blocks this season are No. 8 by a Redbird player in a single season. (see box above right).

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. She joins sophomore Jaci McCormack and freshman Sophie Tirtiaux on the sidelines for the Redbirds. McCormack and Tirtiaux are both out for the season.

Free Throws in Valley Games

(through games of 1/26/02)

Rank, Team (home games)	G	FT	FT/G
1. Wichita State (5)	8	195	24.4
2. Northern Iowa (4)	8	187	23.4
3. Drake (4)	8	183	22.9
4. Southern Illinois (5)	8	175	21.9
5. SMS (4)	9	195	21.7
6. Indiana State (4)	8	177	21.7
7. Creighton (4)	8	172	21.5
8. Bradley (3)	8	171	21.4
9. Evansville (4)	8	163	20.4
10. Illinois State (4)	9	148	16.4

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. 70	Kristi Larson (1998-)
5. 68	Marla Maupin (1981-85)
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 1/27/02)

Rank, Team	Valley	All
1. Creighton	7-1	12-5
2. Southwest Missouri State	7-2	10-7
3. Drake	6-2	12-5
4. Northern Iowa	6-3	11-9
5. Evansville	5-4	10-9
6. Bradley	4-5	13-5
7. Wichita State	3-6	8-10
Indiana State	3-6	7-11
Illinois State	3-6	5-13
10. Southern Illinois	0-9	4-14



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00 Michelle Harakas **Last Game:** SMS, 2 Pts., 1 Reb.

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

Increased time merited higher numbers starting with 13 pts., 9 reb. at Evansville (1/16) ... 22 minutes of defensive work vs. WSU (1/24), 4 reb., 3 blocks, 2 steals ... hit 18 of last 35 field goals after 6 of first 22 this season ... twin sister Melissa plays at Detroit-Mercy ... prep coach, Andrea Gorski, played at Bradley ... name pronounced HAIR-ah-kas.

Michelle's Career Bests

Points	13 at Evansville (1/17/02)
Rebounds	9 at Evansville (1/17/02)
Assists	2 (twice)
Steals	2 vs. Wichita State (1/24/02)
Blocks	3 vs. Wichita State (1/24/02)
Minutes	27 at Evansville (1/17/02)

4 Taren O'Brien **Last Game:** SMS, 12 pts., 2 asst., 1 reb.

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 ... No. 9 in both career 3-point field goal pct. and 3-pointers made at ISU ... has hit 15 of her last 17 free throws and 9 straight ... had arthroscopic 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	19 vs. Wichita State (1/24/0)
Rebounds	7 vs. Western Illinois (12/22/01)
Assists	8 vs. Indiana State (2/16/01)
Steals	3 (five times)
Blocks	1 at Indiana (11/30/01)
Minutes	37 vs. Western Illinois (12/22/01)

10 Katie Donovan **Last Game:** SMS, 8 pts., 12 reb., 5 steals

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

ISU's leading rebounder... has four double-figure rebounding games, including 12 vs. SMS (1/26) ... 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 ...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	5 vs. SMS (1/26/02)
Blocks	1 vs. Louisville (11/27/01)
Minutes	37 vs. Northern Illinois (12/20/01)

11 Heidi Harnisch **Last Game:** SMS, dnp/cd

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:** SMS, 0 pts., 1 reb., 1 asst.

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

In six games in mid-January, had more assists (8) and steals (6) than turnovers (4) ... has 15 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 ... part of twins (brother, Brandon).

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	3 at Evansville (1/17/02)
Blocks	1 at Evansville (1/17/02)
Minutes	33 vs. Murray State (12/1/01)

20 Stacey White **Last Game:** SMS 6 pts., 6 reb., 3 asst.

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

Only Redbird to start every game this season ... 2 FT 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)... string of 13 straight FT 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.) ... older sister is ex-Purdue star Stephanie White-McCarty.

Stacey's Career Bests

Points	16 at Southern Illinois (1/20/02)
Rebounds	9 (twice)
Assists	3 (twice)
Steals	3 vs. Murray State (12/1/01)
Blocks	1 (five times)
Minutes	37 vs. Wichita State (1/24/02)



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21 Stacey Nickerson

Last Game: SMS, dnp/cd

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: SMS 9 pts., 8 reb., 3 stl., 2 blk.

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: SMS, dnp/injured

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

Sidelined until late January with foot injury ... 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: SMS 4 pts., 2 reb., 1 asst.

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

Her entry into game at SIU 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) ... also a member of the Redbird track team, she will run middle distances after the basketball season ends ... AAU teammate of Redbird Michelle Harakas ... name pronounced koo-SCHIN-skee.

Chris' Career Bests

Points 4 (three)
Rebounds 3 vs. Central Michigan (11/25/01)
Assists 2 at Indiana (11/30/01), 2 vs. WSIU (1/24/02)
Steals 1 at Indiana (11/30/01), 1 at SIU (1/20/02)
Blocks 1 vs. Ball State (12/4/01)
Minutes 15 at Indiana (11/30/01)

55 Kristi Larson

Last Game: SMS 14 pts., 3 reb., 1 asst.

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

30-50 (.600) from the field in her last 5 games, averaging 13 ppg. during that run ... 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. 4 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 (five times)
Steals 2 (three times)
Blocks 3 (seven times)
Minutes 37 at Southern Illinois (1/20/02)

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)