



BYU Athletic Communications

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SOFTBALL

Apr. 11-15, Week 10
Mountain West Conference Play

BYU 2006 Schedule/Results		
Date	Opponent	Time/Results
FEB 9	Southern Mississippi*	W, 5-4
	Loyola Marymount*	W, 2-1
FEB 10	Texas State*	L, 4-6, 8 inn.
	Hawai'i*	W, 4-0
FEB 11	Texas Arlington*	W, 5-2
FEB 16	UC Davis#	W, 11-0, 5 inn.
FEB 17	Notre Dame#	L, 3-8
	Purdue #	W, 5-2
FEB 18	Cal St. Fullerton#	W, 5-2
	Kansas#	W, 2-1
FEB 23	Houston ^	L, 0-4
FEB 24	Wichita State ^	L, 3-6
	Iowa State ^	W, 4-1
FEB 25	Texas State ^	W, 1-0
	Rhode Island ^	Cancelled/Rain
MAR 2	No. 14 Texas A&MS	L, 2-3
MAR 3	College of Charleston\$	W, 2-1
	No. 14 Texas A&MS	W, 8-0, 5 inn.
MAR 4	Texas Southern\$	W, 20-0, 5 inn.
	College of Charleston\$	W, 5-4
MAR 9	Middle Tennessee State**	W, 4-0
MAR 10	Miami (Ohio)**	W, 10-0
	Pacific**	Cancelled/Rain
MAR 11	Wisconsin**	W, 7-6, 11 inn.
	No. 5 Stanford**	L, 0-8, 6 inn.
MAR 23	No. 22 DePaul-DH!	L, 2-4; W, 7-5
MAR 24	@Oregon-DH	L, 1-2; Canc./Rain
MAR 25	Akron <	L, 0-1
	@No. 8 Oregon State	L, 1-2, 8 inn.
MAR 30	UNLV-DH	W, 13-7, W 9-1
MAR 31	San Diego State-DH	L, 1-8, L, 0-10
APR 4	Utah State-DH	W, 7-0, L, 7-11, 8
APR 8	Utah-DH	W, 3-1, W, 4-2
APR 11	Southern Utah-DH	3:55 PM
APR 13	@New Mexico-DH	1:33 PM
APR 15	@Colorado State-DH	12:22 PM
APR 20	Utah Valley State	6 PM
APR 22	@Utah-DH	12:22 PM
APR 25	@Southern Utah-DH	1:33 PM
APR 28	Colorado State-DH	5:27 PM
APR 29	New Mexico-DH	2:44 PM
MAY 2	@Utah Valley State	4 PM
MAY 4	@San Diego State-DH	5:27 PM
MAY 6	UNLV-DH	3:55 PM
MAY 10-13	MWC Tournament	TBA
MAY 17-20	NCAA Regionals	TBA
MAY 25-27	NCAA Super Regionals	TBA

Key:
 * indicates the Paradise Classic played in Honolulu, HI
 # indicates the Louisville Slugger Tournament played in Las Vegas, NV
 ^ indicates the Crowne Plaza Tournament played in Houston, TX
 \$ indicates the Texas A&M Invitational played in College Station, TX
 ** indicates the Stanford Classic played in Palo Alto, CA
 ! indicates games played in Eugene, OR
 < indicates games played in Corvallis, OR

All times Local to Game Site / Subject to Change

Finishing the Homestand

An early week doubleheader will finish BYU's 10-game homestand as the Cougars welcome their third consecutive in-state opponent to Gail Miller Field on Thursday before returning to the road and to Mountain West Conference play. BYU will travel to Albuquerque, N.M. and Fort Collins, Col. to take on New Mexico and Colorado State.

Catch the Cougars Live this Week

Fans can catch all BYU home games on live video feed this season. Links can be found for all games on the softball schedule page by clicking on the "Live Audio" links at www.byucougars.com. Jarom Jordan will do play-by-play coverage with former Cougar All-American Lauren Watson-Perry offering color commentary.

Probable Starters

C- Paige Paramore or Courtney Nix
 1B- Ianeta Le`i
 2B- Tracee Hoch
 3B- Ashlyn Russell
 SS- Jodi Norton or Andrea Ramirez
 LF- Monica Gonzales or Krystle Chamberlain
 CF- Jennifer Whiteley
 RF- Lindi Kennedy or Stephanie Platt
 DP- Emi Snow

Probable Starting Pitchers

Summer Tobias (10-7, 2.61 ERA)
 Daniella Urincho (8-5, 1.55 ERA)
 Brooke Boyce-Humbert (5-1, 3.19 ERA)

Last Week Recap

The Cougars' first shot against in-state opponents was successful as they went 3-1. BYU split a Tuesday doubleheader with Utah State before sweeping the Saturday twinbill with Utah.

BYU's bats came alive against the Aggies when the Cougars won 7-0 before losing the nightcap 11-7 in eight innings. Pitching was the story in the wins over the Utes as BYU pitchers gave up only three runs and seven hits in the sweep. The Cougars held the MWC's leading hitter Jackie Wong to a 0-for-5 performance in the two games.

BYU Quick Facts

General Information

Location: Provo, Utah 84602
Enrollment: 28,300 (Daytime)
Founded: Oct. 15, 1875, by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
Colors: Blue and White
Nickname: Cougars
Mascot: Cosmo (the Cougar)
Affiliation: NCAA Division I
Conference: Mountain West
Field: Gail Miller Field (2,100)
Field Surface/Dimensions: Grass/210-220-210

President: Cecil O. Samuelson
Athletic Director: Tom Holmoe

Softball Information

Head Coach: Gordon Eakin
Office Phone: (801) 422-1158
Best time to call: Mornings (Contact SID)
Record at BYU/Yrs: 115-49/3
Career Record: same
Assistant Coach: Vaughn Alvey
Office Phone: (801) 422-1157
Assistant Coach: Mindy Hanson
Office Phone: (801) 422-1739

Media Information

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Team Information

2005 Record/MWC: 45-14/16-2
2005 Post Season: 1-2 NCAA Regionals
Starters Returning/Lost: 9/2
Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 12/5
Newcomers: 8

Letter Winners Returning (2005 Stats)

Brooke Boyce-Humbert, P (8-4, 3.57 ERA, 4 Sv)
 Krystle Chamberlain, OF (.287, 37 Runs, 11 SB)
 Renae Clarke, 3B (.200 OBP, 2 2B)
 Lindi Kennedy, OF (.597 SLG, 5 HR, 14 RBI)
 Ianeta Le'i, 1B (.346, 10 HR, 53 RBI, 11 2B)
 Jodi Norton, SS (.299, 13 2B, 21 RBI)
 Paige Paramore, C (.348, 13 2B, 8 HR, 50 RBI)
 Ashlyn Russell, 3B (.667 SLG, 17 HR, 47 RBI)
 Emi Snow, OF/C (.333, HR)
 Summer Tobias, P (19-7, 1.73 ERA, 17 CG)
 Daniella Urincho, P/INF (16-3, 1.89 ERA, 8 HR)
 Jennifer Whiteley, OF (.257, 4 3B, 12 SB)

Newcomers (Previous School)

Jana Anderson, UTL (Alta H.S. Sandy, Utah)
 Karlie Fitch, OF (Mountain View H.S. Orem, Utah)
 Kacey Garziano, OF (Newbury Park (Calif.) H.S.)
 Monica Gonzales, OF (Westlake (Calif.) H.S.)
 Christina Gwyn, P/1B (Univ. of Texas)
 Tracee Hoch, 2B (Salt Lake C.C.)
 Cortney Nix, C (Univ. of Arizona)
 Stephanie Platt, UTL (Pineview H.S. St George, Utah)
 Andrea Ramirez, SS (Royal H.S. Simi Valley, Calif.)

This Weeks' Opponents



Southern Utah (13-26) Apr. 11, 3 and 5 p.m. (MST)

BYU and SUU will face-off for the 19th and 20th time in Cougar softball program history. BYU has posted a 15-3 overall record against the Thunderbirds including a 4-0 record in 2005.

SUU has plenty of offensive firepower led by Marci Pratt who has a .387 average while knocking 10 home runs and driving in 40. Amy Sauer has proven the most effective from the circle with a 6-6 record and 3.37 RBI.



New Mexico (20-18, 1-5) - Apr. 13, 1 and 3 p.m. (MST)

BYU won all five games against New Mexico last season. The Cougars and the Lobos last played in the MWC Tournament when BYU beat New Mexico, 2-1, in San Diego.

The Cougars have posted a 20-12 all-time record with the Lobos. New Mexico last beat BYU in the 2004 MWC Tournament after the Cougars had swept the previous three games in 2004.



Colorado State (22-12, 3-3) - Apr. 15, 12 and 2 p.m. (MST)

Colorado State enters the week one game behind BYU entering this week. The Rams split two with UNLV before being swept by league-leader San Diego State.

Entering this week, Colorado State is one of only two MWC teams with an overall winning record against the Cougars. The Rams are 15-12 against BYU. The Cougars won the only two games the two teams played last year by a combined two runs.

Cougars in the Preseason Top-25

For the first time in its five-year history, BYU softball entered the season ranked in the Top-25. The ESPN.com/USA Softball poll ranked the Cougars No. 25. BYU earned its first ranking in program history last year after winning the Mountain West Conference Tournament. The Cougars first game as a nationally ranked team was a 1-0 victory over then No. 2 California in the NCAA Regionals in Fresno, Calif.

2-for-1 (Miller Park Style)

Because of the unique layout of Miller Park, BYU softball and baseball will share the park on April 11. The Cougars softball team plays host to Southern Utah at 3 and 5 p.m. while the baseball team will play TCU at 7 p.m. Fans can come early to softball and stay late for baseball.

Current MWC Standings

Team	MWC Record	Overall Record
1. San Diego State	6-0	21-8
2. BYU	4-2	23-13
3. Colorado State	3-3	22-12
4. Utah	2-2	21-12
5. UNLV	2-6	17-28
6. New Mexico	1-5	20-18

BYU Category Leaders

Hitting Leaders

Batting Average: .372, Andrea Ramirez

At Bats: 115, laneta Le`i

Hits: 41, laneta Le`i

Runs: 25, Krystle Chamberlain

Doubles: 8, Andrea Ramirez, laneta Le`i

Triples: 2, Jennifer Whiteley

Home Runs: 8 laneta Le`i

RBI: 36, laneta Le`i

Slugging Percentage: .652, laneta Le`i

Walks: 33, Ashlyn Russell

On-base Percentage: .559, Ashlyn Russell

Stolen Bases: 8, Jana Anderson

Current Hitting Streak: 4, laneta Le`i

Pitching Leaders

ERA: 1.55, Daniella Urincho

Wins: 10, Summer Tobias

Winning Percentage: .833, Brooke B-Humbert

Appearances: 20, Summer Tobias

Starts: 18, Summer Tobias

Complete Games: 11, Summer Tobias

Shut outs: 5, Summer Tobias

Saves: 1, Summer Tobias

Innings Pitched: 104.2, Summer Tobias

Strike Outs: 80, Summer Tobias

Oppomemts Batting Average: .213, D Urincho

The Cougars this Year...

are 8-4 in one-run games

are 1-3 in extra-inning games

are 18-5 when scoring first

are 18-5 when leading after five innings

are 2-4 against ranked opponents

are 3-1 against in-state opponents

are 7-5 following a loss

are 22-2 when outpitching their opponents

are 2-9 when opponents outpitch BYU

have 8 shut out victories

have been shut out 4 times

longest winning streak: 7 games

longest losing streak: 3 games

Who's Hot

- Andrea Ramirez jumped back into the team lead in hitting (.372) due to last week's .750 batting average. Ramirez slugged 1.500 last week.
- laneta Le`i had another productive week from the plate hitting over .400 for the third consecutive week while hitting two homers and tallying seven RBI.
- Summer Tobias recorded another shutout victory while going 2-1 and recording a 1.65 ERA last week.

About the 2006 Squad...

- There's no mystery as to where senior catcher Paige Paramore inherits her softball skills. Paramore's father, Glen, played minor league and collegiate baseball. Paige also has two brothers that are currently playing Division I baseball: Price plays at the Air Force Academy while Preston plays at Arizona State.
- Only four players on BYU's roster of 21 hail from the state of Utah. Seven Cougars come from California which largest number of players from one state.
- BYU head softball coach Gordon Eakin has been selected as one of 16 coaches to the Quadrennial Coaching Pool, assigned to various duties with the U.S. National Team over the next three years, all in preparation for the 2008 Olympics.
"It is a tremendous honor to be associated with the National Team," Eakin said. "It is an exciting opportunity to work and associate and help develop the best players in the world. It is also an honor to be around some of the best coaches in the world."
- BYU had two players named to the 2005 Easton All-American Second Team, including returner laneta Le`i and graduated senior Lauren Watson-Perry. Interestingly, Watson-Perry also took home Mountain West Conference Player of the Year honors in 2005 while Le`i brought home the same award in 2004 as a sophomore.
- Le`i along with fellow Hawaii imports Ashlyn Russell and Emi Snow could soon carry the appellation "Hawaiian Assassins" due to their offensive prowess. In 2005 Le`i smacked 10 home runs and had a team-high 53 RBI while Russell led the Cougars with 17 homers on the year while driving in 50 runs. Snow, in limited action had a home run while posting a .333 batting average.
- BYU ranked in the Top-15 in four offensive categories last year: batting (.309), scoring (5.88 runs per game), slugging (.510) and homers (1.15 pg).
- Brooke Boyce-Humbert added the Humbert to her naming during the offseason when she married Mark Humbert. She is the only married player.
- BYU set a team record for single-game margin of victory when it beat Texas Southern 20-0 March 4. The Cougars were ahead 17-0 after two innings and pitcher Summer Tobias pitched a no-hitter.

Preseason No. 1 in MWC

After winning the 2005 regular-season and tournament championships, the No. 25 BYU Cougars have been selected to win the Mountain West Conference softball regular-season title in a vote by the league coaches. BYU and UNLV each received three first place votes.

BYU, which also won both the regular-season and tournament crown in 2001, collected 23 points to capture the top spot in the poll. 2005 Mountain West Conference regular-season and tournament runner-up UNLV tallied 22 points to place second in the poll, followed by San Diego State (16 points), Colorado State (14 points), Utah (eight points) and New Mexico (seven points).

2006 USA Softball/ESPN.com Poll (Apr. 4)

Rank	Team	'06 Record
1.	Texas (12)	38-3
2.	Arizona (7)	30-4
3.	UCLA (1)	30-3
4.	Alabama	32-4
5.	Tennessee	33-4
6.	Oregon State*	28-3
7.	Cal	33-4
8.	Stanford*	27-6
9.	Arizona State	37-4
10.	Louisiana-Lafayette	29-6
11.	Georgia	31-9
12.	LSU	35-5
13.	Michigan	20-9
14.	Washington	26-10
15.	Northwestern	22-8
16.	Nebraska	25-6
17.	Texas A&M*	25-10
18.	Baylor	22-14
19.	Louisville	23-5
20.	Auburn	24-10
21.	Oklahoma	24-13-1
22.	Fresno State	24-13
23.	Southern Illinois	23-5
24.	Virginia Tech	28-8
25.	DePaul*	14-7

Others Receiving Votes: BYU (3)

2006 NFCA/USA Today Poll (Mar. 29)

Rank	Team	'06 Record
1.	Texas	38-3
2.	UCLA	30-3
3.	Alabama	32-4
4.	Arizona	30-4
5.	Tennessee	33-4
6.	Oregon State	28-3
7.	California	33-4
8.	Arizona State	37-3
9.	Stanford	27-6
10.	Georgia	32-9
11.	LSU	35-5
12.	Michigan	20-9
13.	Louisiana-Lafayette	29-6
14.	Washington	26-10
15.	Northwestern	22-8
16.	Texas A&M	25-10
17.	Nebraska	24-6
18.	Louisville	23-5
19.	Auburn	24-10
20.	Baylor	22-14
21.	Oklahoma	24-13-1
22.	North Carolina	33-10
23.	Fresno State	24-13
24.	Florida	31-12
25.	Mississippi State	30-11

* Denotes Cougar opponents

2005 Individual Honors

Janeta Le`i:	Easton All-American (second-team) Mountain West Conference All-tournament team MWC All-Conference team
Daniella Urincho:	MWC Tournament Most Valuable Player MWC All-tournament team MWC All-Conference team
Jodi Norton:	MWC All-tournament team
Paige Paramore:	MWC All-tournament team NFCA West All-Region team
Summer Tobias:	MWC All-tournament team MWC All-Conference team MWC Pitcher of the Week
Rena Clarke:	MWC Scholar-Athlete
Jennifer Whiteley:	MWC Scholar Athlete Academic All-MWC
Ashlyn Russell:	MWC All-Conference team
Brooke Boyce-Humbert:	Academic All-MWC
Krystle Chamberlain:	Academic All-MWC

2005 Fall Exhibition Success

BYU concluded its fall schedule with a perfect 12-0 record. BYU played against six different teams in its fall exhibition schedule. Four of the Cougars opponents were in-state teams, including Division I foes Utah Valley State and Southern Utah. BYU also played games against Dixie State and Snow College.

Although the victories do not count toward BYU's overall spring record, the games provided the Cougars with an opportunity to stay sharp. BYU head coach Gordon Eakin said fall ball helps solidify the spring roster.

Gail Miller Field

Gail Miller Field at Miller Park offers a unique setting to play college softball. In addition to being a combined facility with baseball, Gail Miller Field is one of the largest softball facilities in Division I softball. This is how BYU stacks up:

5,767 Fresno State
3,000 Oregon
2,500 Arizona
2,100 BYU
2,000 Portland State
1,600 Alabama
1,600 Wisconsin
1,500 Arizona State
1,500 Louisiana Lafayette
1,500 New Mexico

2006 Mountain West Preseason Poll

Teams	Points
1. BYU	23
2. UNLV	22
3. San Diego State	16
4. Colorado State	14
5. Utah	8
6. New Mexico	7



2005 Mountain West Final Standings

Teams	Record
1. BYU	16-2
2. UNLV	17-3
3. Colorado State	8-8
4. Utah	6-12
5. New Mexico	5-15
6. San Diego State	4-16

Numerical Roster

No.	Player	Pos.
1	Krystle Chamberlain	OF
2	Jana Anderson	UTL
3	Jennifer Whiteley	OF
4	Tracee Hoch	2B
5	Stephanie Platt	UTL
6	Karlie Fitch	OF
8	Jodi Norton	SS
9	Brooke Boyce-Humbert	P
10	Cortney Nix	C
11	Christina Gwyn	P/1B
12	Summer Tobias	P
18	Emi Snow	OF/C
19	Paige Paramore	C
20	Kacey Garziano	OF
22	Daniella Urincho	P
23	Lindi Kennedy	OF
24	Monica Gonzales	OF
25	Ashlyn Russell	3B
31	Andrea Ramirez	SS
66	Ianeta Le`i	1B

Pronunciations

Ianeta Le`i	YUH-Neta LAY-ee
Hoch	HOKE
Tobias	tuh-BYE-us
Urincho	yoo-RIN-cho
Whiteley	WHITE-lee

Ianeta Le`i

Recognized as a Second Team All-American by Softball Easton...First Team All-Mountain West Conference...named to the MWC All-Tournament Team...ranked 25th in the nation in RBI per game (.93)...led team with 53 RBI and 27 BB...was second on the team in home runs (10)...had a .990 fielding percentage...homered twice against Oklahoma State and San Diego State...knocked in five runs against Oklahoma State. Appeared in 51 games as a sophomore while starting in 48...posted a .348 batting average, .617 slugging percentage and a...scored 32 runs and knocked in 34 RBI. with 11 doubles, three triples and seven home runs...earned back-to-back All-MWC and second-team NFCA West All-Region honors...named MWC Player of the Year...named honorable mention Easton All-America.



YR	AVG	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	TB	SLG%	BB	OB%
2003	.346	153	29	53	8	0	7	40	82	.536	20	.427
2004	.348	141	32	49	11	3	7	34	87	.617	27	.447
2005	.346	159	29	55	11	2	10	53	100	.629	27	.444

Summer Tobias

Led team in ERA (1.73), wins (19), appearances (33), starts (26), complete games (17), shut outs (5), saves (5), innings pitched (161.2) and strike outs (115)...pitched only the second perfect game in BYU program history against Utah Valley State...named Mountain West Conference Player of the Week...earned MWC All-Tournament team honors...an All-MWC performer...In high school, named female athlete of the year once...4-time team MVP...League MVP 4 years...2-time All-Valley Player of the Year...Press enterprise Player of the Year...1st team all CIF(3 years)...2-time All-American in 18-under gold ASA... broke 30 career high school records and 16 career league records...4-year varsity letter winner. At Nebraska...finished with a 15-4 record and a 1.51 ERA as a freshman



YR	ERA	W-L	APP	GS	CG	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	2B	3B	HR	AB	Op/Avg
2005	1.71	19-7	33	26	17	161.2	133	65	40	33	115	21	1	6	608	.219

Paige Paramore

Named to the Mountain West Conference All-Tournament team and the NFCA West Region First Team...second on the team with a .348 batting average...led the Cougars with 178 at bats and 13 doubles...second on the team in RBI (50), hits (62) and runs (35)...belted eight home runs and had a slugging percentage of .567. Appeared in 51 games while starting in 50...led the team with a .355 batting average...scored 17 runs and knocked in 32 RBI...tallied a team-high 54 hits with 11 doubles and seven home runs, recorded the first home run of her BYU career against UC Santa Barbara on Feb. 19...named to the All-MWC and the second-team NFCA West All-Region teams...named second-team Easton All-America.



YR	AVG	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	TB	SLG%	BB	OB%
2004	.355	152	17	54	11	0	7	32	86	.566	11	.400
2005	.348	178	35	62	13	1	8	50	101	.567	8	.381



Daniella Urincho

As a freshman, she led BYU pitchers in winning percentage (.842) going 16-3 on the mound...smacked eight home runs and knocked in 34 runs as a hitter...named Mountain West Conference tournament MVP...honored on both MWC All-Tournament and All-Conference team. As a Prep, she was named two-time Mountain View tournament team...foothill All-Tournament team...League MVP...All-American...Press Enterprise Player of the Year...Female Athlete of the Year...Athlete of the Year...three-time 1st team All-League/All-County...two-time Daily Bullitin Player of the Year...two-time 1st team All CIF...CIF MVP...two-time 1st team All-State.

YR	ERA	W-L	APP	GS	CG	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	2B	3B	HR	AB	Op/Avg
2005	1.89	16-3	24	16	8	125.2	116	45	34	45	81	13	2	3	482	.241

Ashlyn Russell



Led BYU as a junior with 17 home runs and a .667 slugging percentage...was 29th in the nation with .29 homers per game...posted career-bests in nearly every offensive category...named Mountain West Conference All-Conference performer...had a team-high three multi-home run games...homered twice and drove in six runs in a victory of Illinois. As a sophomore she appeared in 51 games while starting in 50...posted a .288 batting average...scored 28 runs and knocked in 29 RBI...tallied 42 hits including seven doubles and a team-high 11 home runs...hit a three-run home run to lead BYU to a 8-0 shutout over No. 23 Pacific...defensively notched a .950 fielding percentage with 130 putouts and 98 assists.

YR	AVG	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	TB	SLG%	BB	OB%
2003	.279	147	11	41	6	0	6	29	64	.442	13	.341
2004	.288	146	28	42	7	0	11	29	82	.562	17	.373
2005	.308	159	31	49	6	0	17	47	106	.667	25	.394

Brooke Boyce-Humbert



Had a stellar junior season going 8-4 while posting a 3.57 ERA...recorded the third no-hitter in BYU history pacing the Cougars to a 3-0 victory over Kansas...ranks second all-time in wins (33) and innings (314.1) among BYU pitchers. As a sophomore Appeared in 31 games while starting in 22...led the team with a low 1.73 ERA...posted 13 wins and 61 strikeouts in 137.2 innings on the mound...recorded two saves and six shutout performances...earned her first All-MWC citation...after taking a line drive to the face, she made a remarkable recovery returning to the pitching rotation after only three games.

YR	ERA	W-L	APP	GS	CG	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	2B	3B	HR	AB	Op/Avg
2003	2.31	12-6	35	15	5	106.0	118	43	35	13	62	18	1	8	428	.276
2004	1.73	13-8	31	22	15	137.2	126	45	34	27	61	7	1	5	513	.246
2005	3.57	8-4	29	29	16	70.2	107	47	36	20	30	15	2	2	310	.345

Jodi Norton



As a sophomore started in 58 of BYU's 59 games...tied for the team lead in doubles with 13...gained Mountain West Conference All-Conference honors...named to the MWC All-Tournament team...As a freshman, Started in all 52 games at shortstop...posted a .323 batting average...scored 24 runs and stole nine bases...tallied 41 hits with 11 doubles and eight home runs...led the team with a team-high 39 RBI...led the MWC in sacrifice flies with seven...recorded the first home run of her career against Loyola Marymount on Feb. 20...led the team with 107 assists...defensively posted a .911 fielding percentage...earned her first MWC Player of the Week citation on March 30...helped BYU set a new season record with 19 double plays turned.

YR	AVG	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	TB	SLG%	BB	OB%
2004	.323	127	24	41	11	0	8	39	76	.598	21	.408
2005	.299	137	21	43	13	2	3	21	67	.489	20	.386



Krystle Chamberlain

Speedy outfielder with excellent bat control that presents a stolen-base and scoring threat each time she gets on base. This year she went 5-for-10 (.500) with four runs at the Texas A&M Invitational. As a sophomore, she improved batting average and on-base percentage to become a scoring threat

at the top of the batting order...was second on the team in stolen bases...demonstrated consistent fielding committing only one error while posting a .968 fielding percentage...stole three bases and scored three runs in 7-6 victory over New Mexico.



Jennifer Whiteley

Speedy outfielder that is an exceptional defender...provides the team with speed on the basepads and a scoring threat. This year she scored a team-high five runs in five games at the Texas A&M Invitational where she tripled and posted a .400 batting average. As a sophomore, she led BYU in triples with four on the year...stole eight

bases...scored 32 runs while drawing 18 walks...named Academic All-Conference...Mountain West Conference Scholar-Athlete.



Emi Snow

Defensively versatile player that can catch or play in the outfield...has an explosive bat to help offensively. This year she went 2-for-3 with three RBI in win over Iowa State. Homered in victory over Purdue at Las Vegas Louisville Slugger Desert Classic. As a freshman, Emi played in 33 games, starting four...posted a .333

batting average and scored 11 runs despite only having 24 at bats...fielded 1.000 in limited playing time.



Andrea Ramirez

Hit first career home run in 6-3 loss to Wichita State. Went 8-for-11 (.727) at the Louisville Slugger Desert Classic. Led team for two consecutive weeks (At Las Vegas and Houston) in batting average. As a prep at Royal H.S. (Simi Valley, Calif.): two-time L.A. Times All-Regional team...two-time Ventura County Star All-County team...two-time L.A. Daily News All-Area team...two-time team MVP...L.A.

Times Player of the Year as a senior...Ventura County Star Player of the year as a senior...L.A. Daily News Player of the year as a senior...All CIF-SS Team...CIF-SS MVP.



Tracee Hoch

Started her Division I hitting career with a home run at the Paradise Classic in Honolulu. Named to the Paradise Classic All-tournament team...At Salt Lake Community College: Academic All-Conference...two-time All-Region 18...Second-team All-American...Team Captain (2004-2005)...led her team in

home runs in both 2004 and 2005. As a prep, four-year letter winner at Roy H.S. (Utah)...four-time All-Region, two-time All-Area, two-time First Team All-State...Marine Corps Most Distinguished Athlete...Most Outstanding Junior Athlete...two-time state all-tournament team...two-time Standard Star Prep Athlete of the Week...played ASA summer softball with Utah Raptors.



Monica Gonzales

In her first collegiate game, she went 2-for-3 with a run and a RBI. in BYU's 5-4 victory over Southern Miss. Went 2-for-3 with two runs scored and a RBI in 11-0 victory over UC Davis. As a prep at Westlake HS: two-time L.A. Times All-Regional team...three-time Ventura County Star All-County team...three-time L.A. Daily News All-Area team...two-

time team MVP...two-time offensive team MVP...L.A. Times All Star team in 2005...played five years for Southern California Diamonds league team.

Catch Live Video of Home Games on Web

Thanks to a new partnership with College Sports Television (CSTV), Cougar fans now have the opportunity to watch LIVE BYU athletic events online – including home softball games.

If the game is scheduled for broadcast on BYU-TV we will use that feed for the internet broadcast, otherwise we will produce the game in-house. The following softball games have been tentatively scheduled for broadcast on BYU-TV...

Mar. 31 vs. San Diego St.

April 28 vs. Colorado St.

April 29 vs. New Mexico

CougarTV (CSTV All Access) is a pay-per-view service that can be purchased on a monthly or yearly basis. CSTV is currently offering a one-month trial for \$6.95, or fans can purchase the rest of the 2005-06 season for just \$39.95. The service requires a high-speed internet connection and minimal computer requirements that can be reviewed at ...

http://allaccess.cstv.com/help/faq_system.jsp

To preview the new technology, go to <http://www.byucougars.com/Filing.jsp?ID=7275>

Alphabetical Roster

<u>No.</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Ht.</u>	<u>Pos.</u>	<u>Cl.</u>	<u>B/Th</u>	<u>Hometown/ HS or Prev. School</u>
2	Jana Anderson	5-3	UTL	Fr.	L/R	Sandy, UT/ Alta
9	Brooke Boyce-Humbert	5-9	P	Sr.	R/R	Rocklin, CA/ Del Campo
1	Krystle Chamberlain	5-4	OF	Jr.	L/R	Camarillo, CA/ Camarillo
6	Karlie Fitch	5-3	OF	Fr.	R/R	Orem, UT/ Mountain View
20	Kacey Garziano	5-4	OF	Fr.	R/R	Newbury Park, CA/ Newbury Park
24	Monica Gonzales	5-3	OF	Fr.	L/R	Westlake Village, CA/ Westlake
11	Christina Gwyn	6-0	P/1B	Jr.	R/R	Keller, TX/ U of Texas
4	Tracee Hoch	5-5	2B	Jr.	R/R	Roy, UT/ Salt Lake CC
23	Lindi Kennedy	5-7	OF	So.	R/R	Las Vegas, NV/ Cimarron Valley
66	Ianeta Le`i	5-7	1B	Sr.	R/R	Oahu, HI/ Lolani School
10	Cortney Nix	5-5	C	Jr.	R/R	Show Low, AZ/ U of Arizona
8	Jodi Norton	5-4	SS	Jr.	R/R	Mesa, AZ/ Mesa
19	Paige Paramore	5-9	C	Sr.	R/R	Allen, TX/ Texas-San Antonio
5	Stephanie Platt	5-9	UTL	Fr.	R/R	St. George, UT/ Pineview
31	Andrea Ramirez	5-9	SS	Fr.	R/R	Simi Valley, CA/ Royal
25	Ashlyn Russell	5-6	3B	Sr.	R/R	Maui, HI/ H.P. Baldwin
18	Emi Snow	5-6	OF/C	So.	R/R	Mililani, HI/ Kamehameha
12	Summer Tobias	5-9	P	Sr.	R/R	Temecula, CA/ U of Nebraska
22	Daniella Urincho	5-9	P	So.	R/R	Corona, CA/ Norco
3	Jennifer Whiteley	5-4	OF	Jr.	L/L	Houston, TX/ Lamar

2006 Highlights

- Tracee Hoch started her Division I playing career on the right foot when the former Junior College All-American blasted a home run over for her first hit in the Cougars opening win over Southern Miss.
- laneta Le`i nailed a deep home run in the bottom of the sixth inning against Southern Miss to give BYU a 5-1 lead. The runs proved decisive as the Golden Eagles rally produced three runs in the top of the seventh.
- In Andi Ramirez' first start, she drew a walk to produce the tying run in BYU's 2-1 victory of Loyola Marymount. Ramirez demonstrated the poise of a seasoned veteran as she worked a full count in her advantage with two outs and the bases loaded.
- Summer Tobias earned three wins in five games at the Hawai`i Paradise Classic including a 4-0, complete-game shutout in which she struck out 10 while only giving up two hits.
- Jodi Norton homered twice in the Paradise Classic tournament finale against Texas-Arlington. Overall, Norton batted .500 with three homers and seven RBI for the Cougars in the season-opening tournament.
- Summer Tobias and Brooke Boyce-Humbert combined for a two-hit shutout of UC Davis at the Louisville Slugger Desert Classic in the Cougars 11-0 drubbing of the Aggies.
- Andrea Ramirez had a whale of a tournament at the Louisville Slugger Desert Classic in Las Vegas, going 8-for-11 with a pair of doubles, two RBI while drawing four walks.
- laneta Le`i nailed two homers and tallied seven RBI at the Louisville Slugger Tourney. Her first home run on the tournament came with two outs in the bottom of the sixth against Purdue. Le`i belted a mammoth, three-run shot that gave the Cougars a 5-2 victory.
- The Cougars second come-from-behind victory of the Las Vegas tournament came against Kansas when Ashlyn Russell came up with a two-out single to give BYU a 2-1 victory.
- Andrea Ramirez hit her first career collegiate home run, a two-run shot in the first inning in BYU's 6-3 loss to Wichita State and the Crowne Plaza Classic.
- Summer Tobias pitched her second complete-game shutout in the Cougars' 1-0 victory over Texas State in Houston.
- Ashlyn Russell went 2-for-2 with a home run and four RBI, including a walk-off two-run single in BYU's 8-0 victory over No. 14 Texas A&M
- Daniella Urincho pitched a one-hit shutout against No. 14 Texas A&M in the Cougars 8-0 victory.
- Emi Snow snow came up with a clutch RBI single in the top of the seventh inning to give BYU a 2-1 victory over College of Charleston at the Texas A&M Invitational.
- A total team effort including a no-hitter by Summer Tobias led BYU to its largest victory in program history. The Cougars clobbered Texas Southern 20-0.
- Paige Paramore went 2-for-4 with a double and three RBI to lead BYU to a 5-4 victory over College of Charleston.
- Ashlyn Russell smoked a two-out RBI single to give BYU a 5-4 lead in a game it won by the same score over College of Charleston.
- laneta Le`i was 4-for-6 with a home run, double and seven RBI in two games as BYU shutout Middle Tennessee State, 4-0 and Miami (Ohio) 10-0 at the Stanford Classic.
- Andrea Ramirez went 2-for-4 with three RBI including a pair of clutch hits to help the Cougars extend the game in a 7-6 victory over Wisconsin in 11 innings.
- Brooke Boyce-Humbert pitched a three-hit shutout against Middle Tennessee State going seven innings for the complete-game victory. Boyce-Humbert struck out five while walking none in the win.
- Ashlyn Russell crushed a grand slam in the top of the seventh inning to put BYU ahead 7-5 and give the Cougars a victory by the same score against No. 22 DePaul.
- The Cougars played long-ball against UNLV racking up 5 home runs in two days. Cortney Nix hit her first of the season while laneta Le`i and Jodi Norton hit two apiece in BYU's sweep over the Rebels.
- Daniella Urincho gave up only one run and three hits in a 9-1 complete-game shutout of UNLV.
- The Cougars blasted five home runs against Utah State with laneta Le`i and Andrea Ramirez each hitting two.
- Summer Tobias pitched her fifth complete game shutout against Utah State in the Cougars 7-0 victory.

2006 Individual Awards**Tracee Hoch**

Paradise Classic All-Tournament team

Jodi Norton

MWC Player of the Week, Feb. 9-11

Summer Tobias

MWC Pitcher of the Week, Feb. 9-11

Ashlyn Russell

MWC Player of the Week, Mar. 2-4

2006 Mountain West Conference Stats

Record: 4-2 Home: 4-2 Away: 0-0 Conference: 4-2

Player	AVG	GP	GS	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	TB	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	GDP	OB%	SF	SH	SB	ATT	PO	A	E	FLD%
LEI, Ianeta	.500	6	6	18	3	9	0	0	2	8	15	.833	1	1	1	0	.550	0	1	0	0	63	2	1	.985
WHITELEY, Jennifer	.438	6	6	16	4	7	0	1	0	0	9	.563	1	0	4	0	.471	0	1	2	2	7	0	1	.875
CHAMBERLAIN, Krystle	.389	6	6	18	6	7	0	0	0	0	7	.389	3	0	2	0	.476	0	1	0	0	4	0	0	1.000
RUSSELL, Ashlyn	.357	6	6	14	1	5	0	0	0	1	5	.357	6	0	3	0	.550	0	1	0	0	2	8	1	.909
RAMIREZ, Andrea	.333	3	3	6	3	2	0	0	1	1	5	.833	2	0	0	0	.500	0	1	0	0	0	7	1	.875
HOCH, Tracee	.308	6	6	13	2	4	3	0	0	0	7	.538	2	1	7	0	.438	0	0	0	2	18	16	2	.944
NORTON, Jodi	.250	6	6	16	3	4	0	0	3	7	13	.813	0	0	5	0	.235	1	1	0	0	6	16	2	.917
SNOW, Emi	.250	5	1	4	0	1	1	0	0	3	2	.500	0	0	0	0	.250	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	.000
PARAMORE, Paige	.222	6	6	18	0	4	0	0	0	4	4	.222	1	0	3	0	.263	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000
NIX, Cortney	.200	6	6	15	3	3	0	0	1	4	6	.400	3	0	7	0	.333	0	0	2	2	17	6	0	1.000
KENNEDY, Lindi	.200	5	1	5	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	.200	0	0	2	0	.200	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1.000
GONZALES, Monica	.000	4	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1.000
PLATT, Stephanie	.000	4	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1.000
ANDERSON, Jana	.000	5	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	4	5	0	0	0	.000
Totals	.318	6	6	148	30	47	4	1	7	29	74	.500	19	2	34	0	.400	1	8	8	11	120	76	8	.961
Opponents	.292	6	6	161	29	47	6	2	4	27	69	.429	16	3	17	0	.363	2	1	3	4	110	46	7	.957

LOB - Team (38), Opp (34). DPs turned - Team (8), Opp (2). IBB - Team (1), RUSSELL 1. Picked off - NIX 1.

Player	ERA	W	L	APP	GS	CG	SHO	CBO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	2B	3B	HR	AB	B/Avg	WP	HBP	BK	SFA	SHA
URINCHO, Daniella	1.47	2	1	3	3	3	0	0	0	19.0	17	13	4	8	7	2	2	0	73	.233	1	2	0	2	1
TOBIAS, Summer	4.20	1	1	3	3	1	0	0	0	13.1	16	11	8	5	8	3	0	1	55	.291	0	1	0	0	0
BOYCE-HUMBER, Brooke	4.57	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	7.2	14	5	5	3	2	1	0	3	33	.424	1	0	0	0	0
Totals	2.97	4	2	6	6	4	0	0	0	40.0	47	29	17	16	17	6	2	4	161	.292	2	3	0	2	1
Opponents	4.39	2	4	6	6	3	1	0	0	36.2	47	30	23	19	34	4	1	7	148	.318	0	2	0	1	8

PB - Team (2), NIX 2, Opp (1). Pickoffs - Team (0), Opp (1). SBA/ATT - NIX (3-4), TOBIAS (1-2), BOYCE-HUMBER (1-1), URINCHO (1-1).

2006 Overall Statistics

Record: 23-13 Home: 5-3 Away: 1-5 Neutral: 17-5 Conference: 4-2

Player	AVG	GP	GS	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	TB	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	GDP	OB%	SF	SH	SB	ATT	PO	A	E	FLD%
BOYCE-HUMBER, Brooke	1.000	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	2	2.000	0	0	0	0	1.000	0	0	0	0	0	12	0	1.000
RAMIREZ, Andrea	.372	31	30	86	23	32	8	1	3	15	51	.593	19	0	17	0	.486	0	2	4	4	38	57	11	.896
CHAMBERLAIN, Krystle	.361	34	28	83	25	30	0	1	0	4	32	.386	13	1	14	0	.449	1	4	6	7	19	0	0	1.000
LE`I, Ianeta	.357	36	36	115	18	41	8	1	8	36	75	.652	12	2	10	0	.426	0	2	0	1	291	9	4	.987
RUSSELL, Ashlyn	.347	35	33	75	8	26	1	0	2	20	33	.440	33	3	12	0	.559	0	4	0	0	15	49	3	.955
PLATT, Stephanie	.333	27	1	6	10	2	0	0	0	1	2	.333	0	0	3	0	.333	0	0	2	3	8	1	0	1.000
WHITELEY, Jennifer	.313	35	31	83	17	26	0	2	0	3	30	.361	12	0	17	0	.396	1	4	6	6	24	0	4	.857
SNOW, Emi	.304	29	14	46	7	14	1	0	2	14	21	.457	2	0	8	0	.333	0	2	0	0	47	3	0	1.000
KENNEDY, Lindi	.296	31	9	27	7	8	3	0	0	4	11	.407	8	1	13	0	.472	0	1	0	0	6	1	1	.875
PARAMORE, Paige	.257	35	33	101	6	26	5	0	0	11	31	.307	6	2	16	0	.312	0	1	0	0	22	0	0	1.000
ANDERSON, Jana	.250	24	1	8	5	2	0	0	0	0	2	.250	1	0	2	0	.333	0	0	8	11	0	0	0	.000
HOCH, Tracee	.247	35	32	85	12	21	5	0	2	9	32	.376	7	2	29	1	.319	0	3	2	4	73	65	10	.932
NORTON, Jodi	.247	33	31	85	13	21	3	0	7	23	45	.529	7	1	23	0	.305	2	2	0	0	34	58	4	.958
NIX, Cortney	.192	33	27	73	8	14	0	1	1	8	19	.260	7	0	21	0	.259	1	1	4	4	126	23	3	.980
GONZALES, Monica	.182	28	14	55	7	10	0	1	0	4	12	.218	4	1	9	0	.250	0	2	0	2	17	1	2	.900
URINCHO, Daniella	.167	6	4	12	0	2	0	0	0	2	2	.167	1	0	2	1	.231	0	0	0	0	5	30	1	.972
GARZIANO, Kacey	.000	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000
Totals	.293	36	36	942	167	276	35	7	25	155	400	.425	134	13	196	2	.387	5	28	32	42	730	349	43	.962
Opponents	.237	36	36	913	113	216	32	3	18	98	308	.337	100	19	171	3	.323	4	25	34	46	702	300	43	.959

LOB - Team (259), Opp (225). DPs turned - Team (18), Opp (13). IBB - Team (1), RUSSELL 1. Picked off - PLATT 1, NIX 1.

Player	ERA	W	L	APP	GS	CG	SHO	CBO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	2B	3B	HR	AB	B/Avg	WP	HBP	BK	SFA	SHA
URINCHO, Daniella	1.55	8	5	16	13	10	1	0	0	90.1	70	42	20	51	53	12	2	2	328	.213	3	7	0	2	11
TOBIAS, Summer	2.61	10	7	20	18	11	5	1	1	104.2	91	46	39	36	80	13	1	9	393	.232	2	11	0	1	7
BOYCE-HUMBER, Brooke	3.19	5	1	14	5	3	1	1	0	48.1	55	25	22	13	38	7	0	7	192	.286	5	1	0	1	7
Totals	2.33	23	13	36	36	24	8	1	1	243.1	216	113	81	100	171	32	3	18	913	.237	10	19	0	4	25
Opponents	4.00	13	23	36	36	18	4	1	1	234.1	276	167	134	134	196	35	7	25	942	.293	9	13	4	5	28

PB - Team (5), NIX 5, Opp (7). Pickoffs - Team (0), Opp (2). SBA/ATT - NIX (21-31), URINCHO (13-20), TOBIAS (13-16), BOYCE-HUMBER (8-10), SNOW (7-9), PARAMORE (6-6).

2006 Season Outlook

Optimism rings loud for BYU softball as the Cougars enter the 2006 season coming off their best year in program history.

Champions of the Mountain West Conference regular season and tournament, the '05 squad recorded a program-best 45-14 record while going 16-2 in conference play. BYU earned a trip to the NCAA Regionals and recorded an upset victory over No. 2 California.

The Cougars enter this season determined to be even better in 2006. BYU head coach Gordon Eakin said this year's team is special.

"This team knows they belong among the best teams in the nation now," he said. "They are fearless and want to show they are for real."

Having only two starters graduate from the 2005 team, BYU will enter the season with an experienced and talented squad. The Cougars have a unique mix of speed and power coupled with a strong defensive squad and possibly their best pitching rotation ever.

"Certainly we have the core of last season's team back," Eakin said. "This is the deepest team we've ever had as far as speed, power and depth are concerned."

BATTING

BYU lost its most efficient hitter of '05 with the graduation of Lauren Perry. Perry posted a .421 batting average, good for 14th best in the nation. Also gone is Debbie Dodds who finished the season hitting .392 in MWC play. Dodds and Perry will contribute to the 2006 team as graduate assistants.



"We can't replace what those girls brought to our team," Eakin said.

Fortunately for the Cougars, the well isn't dried up when it comes to good hitting. The nation's sixth best scoring team (5.88 runs per game) in 2005 will have an arsenal of offensive weapons in 2006. Laneta Le'i, 2005 second-team Easton All-American, returns for the Cougars. Le'i batted .346 with 10 home runs and 53 RBI. She was 25th in the nation with .93 RBI per game.

Not far behind Le'i in RBI production, Paige Paramore drove in 50 runs while posting a .348 average. Paramore's batting average is the best among all BYU returners. She also led the Cougars last season with 13 doubles.

BYU will have plenty of power with the return of Le'i, Paramore and slugger Ashlyn Russell. Russell led the Cougars with 17 homers last season, good for 27th in the nation. Russell also was third on the team in RBI, driving home 47.

In front of the power and run production, BYU also returns good speed and experienced base runners. Jennifer Whitely led the Cougars in triples with four and successfully stole eight bases in 11 attempts. Krystle Chamberlain was 11-for-13 in base stealing attempts.

"Krystle and Jennifer are productive left-handed slap hitters and add excellent speed to our team," Eakin said.

PITCHING/DEFENSE

"We have always been a good

hitting team," Eakin said. "But, this season our strength will be our pitching."

BYU returns its best three pitchers from last season. Summer Tobias, who transferred to BYU from Nebraska last season, led the Cougars in wins (19), ERA (1.73) and saves (5). Tobias best demonstrated her dominance when she hurled a perfect game March 30, 2005, against Utah Valley State.

Tobias is joined by veteran Brooke Boyce Humbert and sophomore Daniella Urincho. Humbert holds many of the Cougars all-time pitching records. She is coming off a solid season where she went 8-4 with a 3.57 ERA.

Urincho is the reigning MWC tournament MVP. She had the best winning percentage (.842) among BYU pitchers last year, posting a 16-3 record. Urincho also struck out 81 batters in 125.2 innings while sporting a 1.89 ERA.

"Dani (Urincho) was dominant at the end of the season last year," Eakin said.

Eakin said defense will be another stronghold for the '06 Cougars.

"This year's team will be probably the best defensive team we've had here," he said. "We have a lot of speed in our outfield and a lot of experience in the infield."

NEWCOMERS

As if having a plethora of experienced talent returning wasn't enough, BYU has a number of incoming prospects with a lot of talent and bright futures. Topping the list are transfers Tracee Hoch and Cortney Nix.

Hoch transferred to the Cougars

after a stellar junior college career. Hoch was a junior college All-American who will likely make an immediate impact playing second base. Hoch will replace the departed Dodds. Nix transferred from the University of Arizona and will team up with Paramore to fill the void left behind the plate with the graduation of Perry.

BYU also welcomes one of the most highly recruited high school players in infielder Andrea Ramirez. Ramirez was the Los Angeles Times high school MVP last season while playing at Royal High School in Simi Valley, Calif.

Monica Gonzales, also from Southern California, looks to contribute to the Cougars early and often. Gonzales will battle for playing time in the outfield and adds excellent speed and slap hitting ability.

"Andi (Ramirez) has the potential to be one of the best players in collegiate softball," Eakin said. "And Monica led our team in hitting in the fall and will see significant playing time right away."

SCHEDULE

BYU opens its season with tour-

namment trips to Honolulu, Las Vegas, Houston, College Station, Texas and Palo Alto, Calif. Eakin said it will be another season full of quality opponents.

"We have another challenging schedule this year," he said. "We will play a lot of Top-25 teams and our conference will have more parity."

Included in the Cougars' schedule are perennial powerhouses like Texas A&M, Stanford and Oregon State, all three of which Eakin feels will be ranked in the Top-10.

The home schedule begins March 30 for BYU when the Cougars welcome conference foe UNLV to Gail Miller Field. BYU will play 15 home games, including contests against in-state opponents Utah, Utah State, Southern Utah and Utah Valley State.

The Cougars expect an exciting season while looking to win the conference and make a return trip to the NCAA Regionals and beyond.

"This is a determined bunch of girls, they will be a fun group to watch," Eakin said.



Cougar Softball Playing Below Potential

By: Jeremy Twitchell
Deseret Morning News
Feb. 23, 2006

It could be argued that to compile an 8-2 record, a team needs to be performing at or near its peak ability.

But if you ask BYU softball coach Gordon Eakin about his 8-2 team, he'll tell you it's still playing far below its potential — a scary thought to anybody who has a date with the Cougars later this spring.

"Obviously we're pleased with our 8-2 record," Eakin said. "But I don't think we've played anywhere near our potential."

First baseman Ianeta Le'i and shortstop Jodi Norton have become the Bash Sisters early in the season, tying for the team lead with three home runs each. Norton is second on the team in batting average (.364) while Le'i is fifth (.345).

Le'i, the only Cougar to have started all 10 games, leads the team in nine categories, including hits (10), RBIs (10), total bases (25) and slugging percentage (.862).

Norton was named the Mountain West Conference Player of the Week in the season's first week for her dominant performance at the Hawaii Tournament.

Eakin said both players have played well, but Norton and other players have struggled with leaving players on base.

"We're leaving too many runners on base — I'm talking 10, 11, 12 runners a game, many of them in scoring position with our big hitters at the plate," Eakin said.

"Obviously, we can't continue leaving that many runners on base and expect to continue winning."

The team also needs to reduce its strikeout percentage, which is at 24 percent, Eakin said, to at least 15 percent.

He did cite the team's pitching staff of Daniella Urincho, Summer Tobias and Brooke Boyce-Humber as a strong point on the team so far.

Tobias, who is carrying a 5-1 record and 1.68 ERA, has already earned MWC Pitcher of the Week honors, back in the first week of the season.

Urincho, while getting slightly less playing time, has made the most of every opportunity, compiling a 3-1 record and a team-leading 1.05 ERA.

The team's best quality so far, Eakin said, has been its obvious desire to win.

"Our team never quits, which has been pleasing," he said. "We've come back and won some games in which we've been trailing, and we believe we can win any game. What I like about our team, and what good teams do, is they find a way to win."

The team has gone 4-1 in both tournaments in which it has competed this year, the first in Hawaii and the second in Las Vegas. Still more than a month from their first home game, a March 30 date with conference foe UNLV, the team still has two more tournaments slated — at Texas A&M this week and at Stanford next week — as well as a six-game road trip through Oregon.

Eakin said he expects the team to improve as the weather warms

up and players can begin to practice outside.

"It's hard coming out of the snow, because we haven't been able to come outside and practice, and it's always different when you play inside," he said. "It's difficult in the first few tournaments of the season when you play warm-weather schools that have been practicing outside."

And while he said he has not received the kind of performance he expected from his veteran players to this point, Eakin said the team has been working hard in the areas in which it is struggling and remained confident that the improvement will come.

"I think the main point is we're a very talented team that hasn't played up to its potential yet, but we're still 8-2 and that's encouraging," he said. "Once we get it all together, we're going to be a very dangerous team."

Pollsters are starting to agree with that assessment of the team's talent level, it would seem, as BYU debuted at No. 25 in this week's ESPN.com/USA Softball poll. Eakin said he would prefer to have the team in that spot later in the season, when it will become important for postseason positioning, as opposed to early in the season, when it basically creates "a bull's-eye for other teams."

But he's confident that his team is up to the challenge.

"Our goal is to get better every day," he said. "We look at that and we try not to look too far ahead. We obviously feel we can win the Mountain West Conference, then qualify for the NCAA Tournament and go deep into the postseason."