

Softball

About the Program

- Luther has won five conference titles.
- The Norse won four AIAW state titles before softball was a conference sport.
- Luther has posted winning records in 36 of the past 40 years, including 16 20-win seasons.
- The squad has made 10 NCAA Division III regional appearances and three NCAA Division III national tournament appearances.

- Fifty-four players have been named to all-conference teams, including four conference MVPs.
- Luther has had 11 All-American selections.
- The Norse have had eight CoSIDA Academic All-American selections.
- Since 1993, 51 student-athletes have been named to the academic all-conference team.



2009–10



RENAE HARTL, HEAD COACH

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- Ninth year as head coach
- Has led Norse to eight winning seasons
- Named IIAC Coach of the Year in 2007
- Has coached 29 all-conference and 23 NFCA Midwest Region selections and five All-Americans
- Set a school record in 2007 with 35 wins—this win total was matched in 2009

Program Snapshot

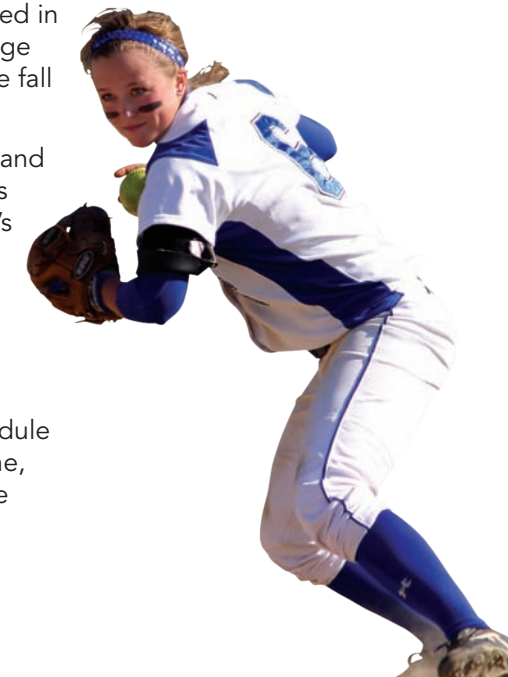
Three consecutive 30-win seasons were posted in the Norse softball program in 2007, 2008, and 2009. The past three years have seen records broken in most offensive categories, and in 2007, the Norse led the nation in home runs (56) and slugging percentage (.587). The 2007 team also won the Iowa Conference title and advanced to the NCAA tournament; Luther hosted the first round of the tournament. In 2008, senior catcher Tami Magner was named an NCAA first-team All-American. In 2009, the Norse received a bid to the NCAA tournament, where the team finished fourth in the tough Midwest Regional with big wins over St. Thomas (Minn.) and Washington University–St. Louis. Postseason accolades were plentiful for the Norse, as six were named All-Iowa Conference, five were named to the Louisville Slugger/National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA) All-Midwest Region Team, and junior Anna Simonson was named a second-team NCAA Division III All-American at second base.

The team practices and competes on some of the best facilities in the Iowa Conference. Luther's indoor softball training includes the use of four batting

cages, four full gymnasiums, and the 40,000 square-foot sports and recreation center, allowing room for a full defense to practice in a live scrimmage. The newly renovated on-campus game diamond is a great place to call home, with a new outfield and infield surface completed in the fall of 2008 and new dugout and storage construction expected to be finished in the fall of 2009.

The coaching staff stresses cardiovascular and strength training as important components of building a great team each year. Luther's full-time strength and conditioning coach trains the team in the Legends Fitness Center, complete with cardiovascular-conditioning machines, free weights, and weight machines.

Each year, the team plays a 40-game schedule that includes an annual one-week, 10-game, spring-break trip. Recent destinations have included California, Florida, and Arizona.



<http://sports.luther.edu>

