



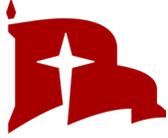
# RED RAIDER SOFTBALL

## 2026 GAME NOTES



NWC Athletic Communications • bradley.laackmann@nwciowa.edu • 712-707-7268 (O)

### #17 NORTHWESTERN RED RAIDERS



9-3 (0-0 GPAC)

HC: Shane Bouman (8th season)

Neutral: 9-3 | Streak: W2

### GAMES 13-16

Date(s): February 27-28  
Location: Sioux Center, Iowa  
Venue: American State Bank Sports Complex  
Watch: Softball Network  
Live Stats: [nwcraiders.com/softballstats](http://nwcraiders.com/softballstats)

### DICKINSON ST BLUE HAWKS



6-2 (0-0 Frontier)  
HC: Kristen Fleury (16th Season)

### HASKELL INDIANS



0-6 (0-0 Continental)  
HC: Jolona Shield-Dzanic (6th)

### WILLIAM PENN STATESMEN



4-2(0-0 HOAAC )  
HC: Laura North ( 2nd Season)

### VITERBO V-HAWKS



2-2 (0-0 CCAC)  
HC: Brandi Alonzo (11th Season)

### FIRST PITCH

- Northwestern will play one final weekend at the ASB Dome Classic, facing Dickinson State (N.D.), Haskell (Kan.), William Penn (Iowa), and Viterbo (Wis.).
- In the all-time series, the Raiders are tied 6-6 with Dickinson State, lead Viterbo 14-0, trail William Penn 7-5, and are meeting Haskell for the first time.
- The Raiders have already faced Dickinson State this season, dropping a 9-2 decision on February 13.

### LAST TIME OUT

- The Raiders earned a top-25 win last weekend, taking down No. 23 Saint Xavier (Ill.) 3-1.
- Northwestern went 3-1 on the weekend, also defeating Dakota State (S.D.) 8-5 and Valley City State (N.D.) 8-1.
- Allison Koontz led the offensive effort, driving in five runs, doubling three times, and collecting a triple and a home run.
- Koontz was named the GPAC Player of the Week for her efforts.
- Rylee Bomgaars hit .400, stealing three bases and drawing three walks on the weekend.

### TOP OF THE LEAGUE

- Northwestern has multiple players at or near the top of GPAC stat categories.
- Allison Koontz leads the conference and is second in the NAIA in wins (7).
- Tatum Schmalbeck leads the GPAC and is second nationally in saves (3).
- Ava Gross is the GPAC leader in RBIs (13).
- Rylee Bomgaars (10) and Myla Murphy (6) are first and third, respectively in stolen bases among GPAC players.

### RANKED RAIDERS

- The Raiders open the season at No. 17 in the NAIA Coaches' Poll, which was released in November.
- They have been ranked in 18 consecutive polls dating back to March 8, 2023.
- Northwestern is one of two GPAC schools in the top 25, joining No. 11 Midland.
- The Raiders were ranked as high as No. 4 during the 2025 season.

### SCHEDULING STRONG

- This year's schedule has six opponents who are either ranked or receiving votes in the NAIA preseason poll.
- The Raiders, at No. 17, faced RV Benedictine in the first weekend and have four opponents in the top 25 on the schedule in No. 23 Saint Xavier, No. 20 Indiana Wesleyan, No. 11 Midland, and No. 6 Grand View.

### SMALL BALL SUCCESS

- Northwestern has found success through small ball in recent years.
- The Raiders once again lead the GPAC in walks (42), sacrifice hits (28), and steals (27) so far this year.
- Rylee Bomgaars and Myla Murphy are both top-five in the GPAC in stolen bases.

### PITCHING PROWESS

- Pitching staffs have been key to Northwestern's success, as Kate Kralik was named the 2025 GPAC Pitcher of the Year.
- Northwestern led the conference in batting average against (.247) and shutouts (10) and was second in ERA (2.61).
- Despite graduating its top three starters, Northwestern is poised to continue its dominance in the circle.
- Tatum Schmalbeck pitched 21 games in relief last season, compiling a 2.02 ERA with two saves and a .217 opponent batting average.
- They will once again have four pitchers on the roster in Schmalbeck, Allison Koontz, Audrie Kohl, and Mariah Renken.

### SHANE'S SQUAD

- Entering his eighth season at Northwestern, head coach Shane Bouman is searching for his fourth consecutive GPAC regular season title.
- Bouman has over 20 years of coaching experience at the Division I, NAIA, and NJCAA level, posting over 500 career wins.
- While at Northwestern, Bouman has coached his teams to a 242-90 record, has won three GPAC regular season titles, and has three NAIA tournament appearances.
- Bouman is five GPAC wins away from 100 conference victories.
- Prior to his coaching career, Bouman was a three-year starter at quarterback for South Dakota State University.
- His brother Todd, played QB in the NFL for six seasons and nephew, Aidan, recently closed his career as the QB at the University of South Dakota, where he set the FCS record for career starts (46).

### 2025 IN REVIEW

- The Raiders found themselves in the national tournament once again after winning the 2025 GPAC regular season and tournament titles.
- They went 48-13 (20-2 GPAC), marking Northwestern's third consecutive season with 45+ wins.
- The squad was highlighted by Gwen Mikkelsen as a Third Team NAIA All-American and Kate Kralik's GPAC Pitcher of the Year honor.
- Seven Raiders were named to the All-GPAC team, including returners Sydney Jacobs and Tatum Schmalbeck.

### 2026 SCHEDULE

RECORD	9-3
GPAC	0-0
HOME	0-0
AWAY	0-0
TOP-25	0-0
STREAK	L1

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
2.6	Mount Mercy (Iowa)	W 2-1
2.6	Mayville State (N.D.)	L 2-1
2.7	York (Neb.)	W 5-0
2.7	Benedictine (Kan.)	W 2-1
2.13	Bismarck State (N.D.)	W 11-2
2.13	Dickinson State (N.D.)	L 2-9
2.14	Dakota State (S.D.)	W 15-0
2.14	Bellevue (Neb.)	W 4-2
2.20	Saint Xavier (Ill.)	W 3-1
2.20	Dakota State (S.D.)	W 8-5
2.21	Valley City State (N.D.)	W 8-1
2.21	Mayville State (N.D.)	L 1-4
2.27	Dickinson State (N.D.)	12:00 PM
2.27	Haskell (Kan.)	2:00 PM
2.28	William Penn (Iowa)	10:00 AM
2.28	Viterbo (Wis.)	2:00 PM
3.3	Indiana Wesleyan	12:00 PM
3.3	Indiana Wesleyan	2:00 PM
3.4	College of Saint Mary	12:00 PM
3.6	Providence (Mont.)	1:00 PM
3.6	Embry-Riddle (Ariz.)	3:30 PM
3.7	Valley City State (N.D.)	2:30 PM
3.7	Dickinson State (N.D.)	4:30 PM
3.18	Dakota Wesleyan*	3:00 PM
3.18	Dakota Wesleyan*	5:00 PM
3.21	College of Saint Mary*	1:00 PM
3.21	College of Saint Mary*	3:00 PM
3.27	Midland*	3:00 PM
3.27	Midland*	5:00 PM
3.28	Mount Marty*	1:00 PM
3.28	Mount Marty*	3:00 PM
4.1	Morningside*	3:00 PM
4.1	Morningside*	5:00 PM
4.4	Dordt*	1:00 PM
4.4	Dordt*	3:00 PM
4.8	Briar Cliff*	3:00 PM
4.8	Briar Cliff*	5:00 PM
4.11	Concordia (Neb.)*	1:00 PM
4.11	Concordia (Neb.)*	3:00 PM
4.14	Grand View (Iowa)	2:00 PM
4.14	Grand View (Iowa)	4:00 PM
4.17	Hastings*	3:00 PM
4.17	Hastings*	5:00 PM
4.18	Doane*	1:00 PM
4.18	Doane*	3:00 PM
4.25	Waldorf*	1:00 PM
4.25	Waldorf*	3:00 PM
4.29	GPAC Tournament%	TBA

All home games in BOLD // \*GPAC game // %GPAC tournament // \$NAIA tournament

### NWC LEADERS

STAT	NAME	NO.
AVG	Ava Gross	.462
RBI	Ava Gross	13
2B	Ava Gross	5
HR	Allison Koontz	1
SB	Rylee Bomgaars	10
ERA*	Allison Koontz	1.49
K	Audrie Kohl	20

### GPAC STANDINGS

Team	GPAC	OVR
Dordt Defenders	0-0	10-2
<b>Northwestern Red Raiders</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>9-3</b>
Morningside Mustangs	0-0	6-2
Dakota Wesleyan Tigers	0-0	7-4
Hastings Broncos	0-0	5-3
Midland Warriors	0-0	8-5
Briar Cliff Chargers	0-0	6-6
Concordia Bulldogs	0-0	6-6
Doane Tigers	0-0	4-5
College of Saint Mary Flames	0-0	2-5
Waldorf Warriors	0-0	2-6
Mount Marty Lancers	0-0	1-4