

Storm Scoreboard 22-3, 14-2 IAC

Date	Opponent	Time/Result
Nov. 21	#Carthage	W, 84-82 (OT)
Nov. 22	#Neb.Wesleyan	W, 70-59
Nov. 25	at Grand View	W, 68-59
Nov. 28	%Presentation College	W, 103-74
Nov. 29	%UW-Platteville	W, 89-54
Dec. 3	Buena Vista*	W, 65-52
Dec. 6	at Cornell*	W, 70-33
Dec. 13	William Penn	W, 95-57
Dec. 17	&Muskingum	W, 86-55
Dec. 18	&&Marymount (Va.)	W, 72-66
Dec. 30	at St. Thomas (Minn.)	L, 82-72
Jan. 3	at Dubuque*	W, 92-73
Jan. 7	Luther*	W, 73-43
Jan. 10	Loras*	W, 80-52
Jan. 14	at Coe*	W, 82-52
Jan. 17	Wartburg*	W, 73-55
Jan. 21	at Central*	W, 97-73
Jan. 24	at Buena Vista*	L, 93-90
Jan. 28	Dubuque*	W, 82-56
Jan. 31	Cornell*	W, 66-59
Feb. 4	at Luther*	L, 70-55
Feb. 7	at Wartburg*	W, 79-53
Feb. 11	Central*	W, 105-66
Feb. 18	at Loras*	W, 77-65
Feb. 21	Coe* (T)	W, 72-55
Feb. 26	+Buena Vista	7 p.m.
Feb. 28	IAC Tournament Finals	

*IAC Games

#Nebraska Wesleyan Classic

%Buena Vista Classic

&Cruizin Classic

(Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., Nova SE Univ., host)

&&Cruizin Classic

(Miami Shores, Fla., Barry Univ., host)

(T) WBCA Pink Zone Day

(Indianola, Iowa, Simpson, host)

+IAC Tournament

(Indianola, Iowa, Simpson, host)

No. 14/16 Simpson Women's Basketball Hosts IAC Tournament Thursday

COMING UP: Thursday, Feb. 26, Buena Vista (18-8) at No. 14/16 Simpson (22-3), IAC Tournament semifinals, Indianola, Iowa, 7 p.m.

Simpson and Buena Vista split the season series with each team winning on their home court. The Storm lead the all-time series against Buena Vista 35-26.

Probable Starters	Pos	Current Stats
24	Laura Montague	G 5.1 ppg, 1.5 rpg, 64 assists
34	Amy Hamilton	G 10.7 ppg, 1.7 rpg, 31 assists
25	Carrie Larson	F 11.6 ppg, 3.6 rpg, 42 assists
41	Whitney Franker	F 9.3 ppg, 5.5 rpg, 80 assists
50	Maria Oliver	C 10.6 ppg, 5.3 rpg, 54 blocks

The winner of Thursday night's game will play either the No. 2 seed Wartburg (15-10) or the No. 3 seed Loras (16-10) at the highest remaining seed.

IAC TOURNAMENT NOTES (Courtesy of the Iowa Conference): Simpson has won four of the nine IAC women's basketball Tournaments played (2000, 2005, 2006, 2008). Wartburg (2001, 2002), Loras (2003), Buena Vista (2004), and Luther (2007) have won the other five. Simpson has played in seven of the nine Tournament Championship games, the only exceptions being 2004 and 2007. Wartburg has played in four Championship games, Luther in three, Loras in two and Buena Vista and Coe one.

Buena Vista and Simpson have qualified for all 10 Conference women's basketball tournaments. Loras is making its ninth consecutive appearance while Wartburg is in for the eighth time. Simpson (18-5) and Wartburg (12-5) are the only IAC members with winning records in the Conference Tournament. Buena Vista is 8-8.

Only four IAC women's basketball Tournament games have gone to overtime – including two last year. Luther defeated Buena Vista 95-88 in a 2006 semifinal, Buena Vista defeated Wartburg 91-85 in a 2007 first round game, and last year, Coe needed overtime to beat both Buena Vista in the first round (88-73) and Luther in the semifinals (66-58) before falling to Simpson in the championship game.

Only six times in the history of the women's Tournament has the lower seed defeated the higher seed: 2002 semifinals #4 Simpson def. #1 Luther; 2004 quarterfinals #5 Loras def. #4 Luther; 2004 semifinals #3 Wartburg def. #2 Simpson; 2005 semifinals #4 Wartburg def. #1 Buena Vista; 2008 first round #5 Dubuque def. #4 Loras; 2008 semifinal #3 Coe def. #2 Luther.

The IAC women's basketball Tournament started a year after the men's Tournament (women in 2000, men in 1999). Only twice has the top seed failed to win the women's tournament (#2 Wartburg, 2002; #2 Simpson, 2005). In both cases the top seed lost in the semifinals. Seed records (all-time): No. 1 (20-2); No. 2 (15-7); No. 3 (12-9); No. 4 (10-9); No. 5 (2-10); No. 6 (0-10); No. 7 (0-6); No. 8 (0-6)

STORM REWIND: Simpson College defeated Coe College 72-55 in the Iowa Conference regular season finale for both school Feb. 21 in Indi-

anola. **Carrie Larson** (Sr., Tipton, Iowa, Tipton H.S.) scored a game high 21 points to pace the Storm.

The game featured nine ties and five lead changes. With the score knotted up at 43, Simpson used a 8-0 spurt to take the lead for good. The Kohawks did chip away at the Storm advantage, getting the lead down to four with 10:26 remaining. Simpson surged again, this time it was a 17-3 spurt that was capped off by three consecutive **Whitney Franker** (Sr., Urbandale, Iowa, Urbandale H.S.) that led to seven Storm points. Simpson took its largest lead of the game, 72-52, with 1:43 to go before winning by the final 17-point margin.

Larson added five rebounded and three assists. **Maria Oliver** (Sr., Florissant, Mo., Hazelwood Central H.S.) was the only other Simpson player to score in double figures as the 5-11 center had 10 points. Franker scored nine points, led Simpson with seven rebounds, made a team high six steals, and dished out five assists. **Laura Montague** (Sr., Kansas City, Mo., Park Hill H.S.) scored eight points and had five assists (against no turnovers).

Simpson scored 29 points off of 27 Coe turnovers. By contrast, the Storm only turned the ball over 13 times (vs 24 Simpson assists). Coe outrebounded the Storm 51-37, but could only muster six second half field goals on their way to a 35% shooting afternoon (21-of-60).

"I was happy that our seniors especially Whitney and Laura stepped up and took over in the second half," said Simpson head coach Brian Niemuth. "I was happy as well for our seniors to close out the regular season by winning another conference championship."

NIEMUTH WINS #400

Simpson head coach Brian Niemuth won his 400th career game (410-171) against Luther Jan. 7, 2009. Niemuth is the 28th Division III women's basketball coach to win at least 400 games in his career. Here is where Niemuth ranks on the Division III all-time wins list (*active, as of 2/25/09);

1.	Phillip Kahler (St. John Fisher, 1975-08)	757
22.	Michael Miller (Messiah, 1987-)	427*
23.	Beth Baker (Wheaton, Ill., 1987-)	421*
24.	Jane Hildebrand (Luther, 1985-)	420*
25.	Becky Martin (McDaniel, 1982-)	416*
26.	Judy Blinstrub (Babson, 1985-)	414*
27.	Judy Malone (UC-San Diego, 1977-05)	411
28.	Brian Niemuth (Simpson, 1987-)	410*
29.	Mary Beth Spirk (Moravian, 1988-)	409*
30.	Pam Smith (Wittenberg, 1987-07)	401

AS OF 2/24/09	IIAC games			All games		
	W	L	Pct.	W	L	Pct.
Y-Simpson	14	2	.875	22	3	.880
X-Wartburg	10	6	.625	15	10	.600
X-Loras	10	6	.625	16	10	.615
X-Buena Vista	10	6	.625	18	8	.692
X-Luther	9	7	.563	10	15	.400
X-Coe	8	8	.500	14	12	.538
Dubuque	5	11	.313	9	16	.360
Central	4	12	.250	8	17	.320
Cornell	2	14	.125	7	17	.292
X-Clinched IIAC Tournament Berth						
Y-IIAC Champion						
IIAC Tournament						
First Round - Tuesday, Feb. 24						
No. 3 Loras, No. 6 Coe 51						
No. 4 Buena Vista 82, No. 5 Luther 72 (OT)						
Semifinals - Thursday, Feb. 26						
Buena Vista @ No. 1 Simpson, 7 p.m.						
Loras @ No. 2 Wartburg, 7 p.m.						
Championship game - Saturday, Feb. 28						
Semifinal winners at highest remaining seed, TBA						

PROTECTING THE HOME COURT

Simpson College has won a school record 27 games at home entering this week's action. The Storm have not lost a game at home since Feb. 27, 2007 when Luther defeated Simpson 61-55. The streak is now the 13th longest in Division III history.

The Storm have won 56-of-61 in Cowles Fieldhouse since the start of the 2004-05 season.

CONSECUTIVE HOME COURT VICTORIES

Wins	Team	Dates
88	Rust	1/23/82-2/21/89
80	William Smith	1/27/93-2/25/00
77	Southern Maine	12/8/03-2/9/08
76	Bowdoin	2/20/01-1/17/07
70	Washington (Mo.)	1/24/97-2/10/02
64	Scranton	2/18/03-12/4/07
48	Marymount (Va.)	10/10/94-11/21/97
46	Millikin	1/25/97-12/29/99
42	Howard Payne	2/2/06-1/17/09
39	DePauw	11/26/06-
32^	UNC-Greensboro	1985-89
32	UW-Oshkosh	12/6/94-2/22/97
27	SIMPSON	2/6/07-
25	Amherst	11/17/07-/1/30/09
23	St. Norbert	12/15/07-
23	Wellesley	11/20/99-2/23/01
22	Plymouth State	1/27/00-12/6/01
21	Connecticut College	2/18/88-2/11/90
21	Johns Hopkins	1/12/97-2/25/98
21	Ithaca	1/26/01-2/2/02
20	Geneseo State	2/15/92-3/12/93

^Final Nine Games of streak occurred after institution moved to Division II

*As of 2/25/09

**USA Today/ESPN Division III Top 25 Poll #12
(Released Feb. 24, 2009)**

No.	Team (First Place Votes)	Last	W-L	Pts.
1	Illinois Wesleyan (10)	1	24-0	250
2	George Fox	t2	25-0	236
3	Hope	t2	22-1	234
4	Amherst	5	24-1	212
5	York (Pa.)	7	24-1	206
6	UW-Whitewater	8	22-3	200
7	UW-Stevens Point	9	22-3	187
8	Washington (Mo.)	11	20-4	173
9	Thomas More	10	23-2	165
	Rochester	6	21-3	165
11	Oglethorpe	4	22-3	155
12	UW-Eau Claire	12	21-4	148
13	Messiah	13	22-3	135
14	SIMPSON	14	22-3	118
15	Muhlenberg	t15	22-3	99
16	Tufts	t15	21-3	97
17	Eastern Connecticut	17	23-2	84
18	Scranton	18	21-4	74
19	DePauw	20	21-4	73
20	New York University	19	20-4	71
21	Greensboro College	22	24-1	47
22	Washington & Jefferson	23	22-3	43
23	Mississippi College	25	22-3	22
24	Marymount	21	20-5	15
25	Bowdoin	NR	21-4	14

Dropped Out: Texas-Dallas.

Others Receiving Votes: DeSales 12; St. Benedict 7; Brandeis 5; Texas- Dallas 3.

The *USA TODAY* ESPN Board of Coaches is made up of 11 head coaches at Division III institutions. All are members of the Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA). The 2008-09 board: Nan Carney-DeBord - Non-voting Chair (Ohio Wesleyan), Aaron Roussell (Univ. of Chicago), Amie Bradley (Trinity), Brian Niemuth (Simpson), Doreen Carden (Albion), G.P. Gromacki (Univ. of Scranton), James Scheible (Univ. of Rochester), Michele Sharp (Kean), Mike Strong (Univ. of Scranton), Ron Rohn (Muhlenberg), and Suzy Barcomb (Puget Sound).

NOTE: This is the 45th consecutive *USA Today/ESPN Division III Top 25 Poll* in which Simpson has been ranked.

**NCAA Division III West Region Rankings No. 3
Released Feb. 25**

	Regional Rec.	Overall Rec.
1. George Fox	20-0	25-0
2. St. Benedict	22-3	22-3
3. SIMPSON	18-3	22-3
4. Concordia-Moorhead	17-5	18-7
5. St. Thomas	18-7	18-7
6. Redlands	18-6	19-6

D3hoops.com Top 25 Poll #12 (Released Feb. 23, 2009)

No.	Team (First Place Votes)	W-L	Pts.	LW
1	Illinois Wesleyan (25)	24-0	625	1
2	Hope	22-1	584	2
3	George Fox	25-0	580	3
4	UW-Whitewater	22-3	522	7
5	UW-Stevens Point	22-3	491	8
6	Rochester	21-3	488	5
7	Amherst	24-1	481	6
8	York (Pa.)	24-1	431	9
9	Washington (Mo.)	20-4	412	12
10	Oglethorpe	22-3	391	4
11	Thomas More	23-2	388	10
12	UW-Eau Claire	21-4	340	11
13	Messiah	21-3	314	13
14	Eastern Connecticut	23-2	294	14
15	Tufts	21-3	264	15
16	SIMPSON	22-3	250	16
17	DePauw	21-4	218	18
18	Greensboro	24-1	175	19
19	Muhlenberg	22-3	148	20
20	New York University	20-4	148	22
21	Washington & Jefferson	22-3	137	21
22	Mississippi College	22-3	100	23
23	DeSales	21-4	75	24
24	Scranton	21-4	61	25
25	Brandeis	17-6	45	—

Dropped out: No. 17 Texas-Dallas.

Others receiving votes: Texas-Dallas 36, St. Norbert 32, Bowdoin 24, Marymount 17, St. Benedict 15, New Jersey 12, Baldwin-Wallace 9, Western Connecticut 8, Cortland State 4, Randolph-Macon 4, Moravian 1, Pitt-Greensburg 1.

The D3hoops.com Top 25 is voted on by a panel of 25 coaches, Sports Information Directors and media members from across the country, and is published weekly.

NOTE: This is the 38th consecutive *D3hoops.com Top 25 Poll* in which Simpson has been ranked.

HAMILTON 1ST IN THREE POINT SHOOTING

Simpson College sophomore guard **Amy Hamilton** (Ames, Iowa, Ames H.S.) leads Division III in three-point shooting for the fourth week in a row as the national statistical report was released Feb. 24. Hamilton is shooting 52.8% (66-of-125). Casey Luke of Finlandia is second at 48.5% (48-of-99).

Hamilton is 25th in Division III in made three-pointers per game with a 2.5 average. The national leader is Centenary's Kristen Camuso (3.8).