

GAMES
1-4

2024 UAB SOFTBALL GAME NOTES

UAB Media Relations • 617 13th Street South • Birmingham, Ala. 35233 • www.UABsports.com
Softball Contact: Ted Feeley • Email: tfeeley@uab.edu • Cell: 205.704-4147 • Twitter/Instagram: @UAB_SB



2024 SCHEDULE

OVERALL: 0-0 | AMERICAN 0-0

Date	Opponent	Time/Result
------	----------	-------------

ALEX WILCOX MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT

2/9	vs. IUPUI	2 p.m.
2/9	at Mississippi State	4:30 p.m.
2/10	vs. IUPUI	TBA
2/11	at Mississippi State	TBA

SOUTH ALABAMA INVITATIONAL

2/16	vs. NIU	12:30 p.m.
2/17	vs. NIU	9 a.m.
2/17	vs. Central Michigan	4:30 p.m.
2/18	vs. ECU	11:15 a.m.
2/18	at South Alabama	1:30 p.m.
2/21	at Samford	2 p.m.

GREEN & GOLD CLASSIC

2/23	Bradley	2:30 p.m.
2/23	Alabama	4:45 p.m.
2/24	Western Carolina	12:15 p.m.
2/24	North Alabama	2:30 p.m.
2/25	Alabama	12 p.m.
2/28	Northern Iowa	2:30 p.m.
2/28	Auburn	5 p.m.

OLE MISS CLASSIC

3/1	vs. Kent State	1 p.m.
3/1	at Ole Miss	6 p.m.
3/2	vs. Kent State	10:30 a.m.
3/2	vs. Southeastern Louisiana	1 p.m.
3/3	at Ole Miss	12:30 p.m.
3/8	UTSA*	5 p.m.
3/9	UTSA*	1 p.m.
3/10	UTSA*	12 p.m.
3/13	vs. Colgate	3:30 p.m.
3/13	at Florida Gulf Coast	5 p.m.
3/15	at Florida Atlantic*	5 p.m.
3/16	at Florida Atlantic*	1 p.m.
3/17	at Florida Atlantic*	12 p.m.
3/20	at Alabama	6 p.m.
3/22	USF*	5 p.m.
3/23	USF*	1 p.m.
3/24	USF*	11 a.m.
3/26	Southern Miss	5 p.m.
3/28	at Tulsa*	5 p.m.
3/29	at Tulsa*	5 p.m.
3/30	at Tulsa*	12 p.m.
4/3	Mississippi State	5 p.m.
4/5	North Texas*	5 p.m.
4/6	North Texas*	1 p.m.
4/7	North Texas*	12 p.m.
4/10	at Auburn	6 p.m.
4/12	Memphis*	5 p.m.
4/13	Memphis*	1 p.m.
4/14	Memphis*	12 p.m.
4/19	at Wichita State*	6 p.m.
4/20	at Wichita State*	6 p.m.
4/12	at Wichita State*	12 p.m.
4/26	Charlotte*	5 p.m.
4/27	Charlotte*	1 p.m.
4/28	Charlotte*	12 p.m.
5/3	at East Carolina*	4 p.m.
5/4	at East Carolina*	2 p.m.
5/5	at East Carolina*	11 a.m.
Thu-Sat 9-11	AAC Championship	TBD

* American Athletic Conference Game

Home games in **bold**

ALEX WILCOX MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT - AT MISSISSIPPI STATE



UAB BLAZERS

2023 Record: 29-25
Conference Record: 16-8
Head Coach: A.J. Daugherty
Career Record: 289-83
at UAB: 29-25



IUPUI JAGUARS

2023 Record: 16-31
Conference Record: 12-10
Head Coach: Elisabeth Beirne
Career Record: 104-217
at IUPUI: Same



MSU BULLDOGS

2023 Record: 28-25
Conference Record: 7-16
Head Coach: Samantha Ricketts
Career Record: 125-80
at MSU: Same

- The UAB softball team opens the 2024 season at the Alex Wilcox Memorial Tournament hosted by Mississippi State. The Blazers enter their first season in the American Athletic Conference and their second season under the direction of Head Coach A.J. Daugherty.
- In his first season at the helm, Daugherty won Conference USA Coach of the Year after leading UAB to a record of 29-25 in his first season and a conference mark of 16-8.
- Despite losing Conference USA Player of the Year Sierra Frazier, the Blazers return five All-Conference players from last year, highlighted by Olivia Valbak, Bella Wiggins and Leigha Kirby who all earned Second Team All-Conference, and Hannah Miles and Caitlin Russell who were All-Freshman selections.
- The Alex Wilcox Memorial Tournament honors the legendary spirit of the late Alex Wilcox, as Mississippi State will continue its "No One Fights Alone" campaign throughout the 2024 softball season. Diagnosed with ovarian cancer in 2015, Wilcox defied the odds and continued to play softball throughout her treatments and helped lead Brantley (Ala.) High School to a pair of state championships. Wilcox, a Top 50 recruit in the class of 2017, committed to the Bulldogs during her junior season in high school. She played in eight games as a freshman but ultimately lost her battle in 2018 at the age of 18.

QUICK FACTS

Location.....Birmingham, Ala.
Founded 1969
Enrollment 22,563
President Dr. Ray Watts
Athletics Director Mark Ingram
Nickname Blazers
Colors Forest Green and Old Gold
Conference Conference USA

SOFTBALL HISTORY

First Season 2000
All-Time Record 725-680-1
All-Time C-USA Record..... 306-245-1
All-Time AAC Record 0-0
NCAA Tournament Appearances 5
C-USA Regular Season/Tournament Titles 1/0
Regional/Super Regional Appearances..... 5/1
NCAA Tournament Record..... 6-11

2024 ROSTER

NUMERICAL

No.	Name	Pos	Class	B/T	HT	Hometown/High School/Previous
0	Carlie Wilkins	Infield	So.	L/L	5'5"	Falkville, Ala./West Point
1	Lindsey Smith	Infield	Jr.	R/R	5'8	Hayden, Ala./Hayden
2	Kaily Collett	Utility	So.	R/R	5'6"	Lilburn, Ga./Parkview
3	Leigha Kirby	Pitcher	Sr.	R/R	5'7"	Section, Ala./Pisgah
4	Bella Wiggins	Outfield	Jr.	L/L	5'7"	Fairhope, Ala./Fairhope
5	Hannah Dorsett	Utility	Fr.	L/R	5'7"	Trussville, Ala./Hewitt-Trussville
6	Auburn Dupree	Outfield	Jr.	L/L	5'4"	Gadsden, Ala./Gadsden City/Georgia Tech
7	Makenzie Drodgy	Catcher	Jr.	R/R	5'8"	Iota, La./Northside Christian
8	Emmorie Burke	Infield	Fr.	R/R	5'6"	Boaz, Ala./Boaz
9	Lauren Brock	Utility	Jr.	B/R	5'6"	Marianna, Fla./Marianna
11	Ja'nae Wray	Infield	Jr.	L/L	5'8"	Douglasville, Ga./Alexander
12	Caitlin Russell	Pitcher	So.	R/R	5'7"	Montgomery, Ala./LAMP
13	Caroline McLendon	Pitcher	Fr.	L/L	5'11"	Mobile, Ala./St. Paul's Episcopal
14	Ant Henderson	Catcher	Fr.	R/R	5'6"	Birmingham, Ala./Ramsey
17	Lilly Crowe	Outfield	Sr.	L/R	5'5"	Moody, Ala./Moody
19	Willesha Lang	Catcher	Fr.	R/R	5'5"	Tuscaloosa, Ala./Hillcrest
21	Olivia Valbak	Pitcher/Infield	Jr.	R/R	5'10"	Ashburn, Va./Stone Bridge
22	Hope Tucker	Outfield	Fr.	R/R	5'5"	Sterlington, La./Sterlington
23	AJ Kramer	Pitcher	Fr.	R/R	6'0"	Fort Payne, Ala./Fort Payne
24	Hannah Miles	Outfield	So.	R/R	5'5"	Tuscaloosa, Ala./American Christian Academy
25	Allyson Smith	Catcher	So.	R/R	5'6"	Bowling Green, Ky./Greenwood
26	Arden Plugge	Pitcher	R-Jr.	R/R	5'11"	Vestavia, Ala./Vestavia Hills
32	Olivia Cummings	Pitcher	Fr.	L/L	5'5"	Corner, Ala./Corner
55	Alyssa Aguilar	Infield	Jr.	L/L	5'6"	Burbank, Calif./Notre Dame/Sherman Oaks
64	McKinley Hubbard	Outfield	Fr.	R/R	5'11"	Vance, Ala./Brookwood

ALPHABETICAL

No.	Name	Pos	Class	B/T	HT	Hometown/High School/Previous
55	Alyssa Aguilar	Infield	Jr.	L/L	5'6"	Burbank, Calif./Notre Dame/Sherman Oaks
9	Lauren Brock	Utility	Jr.	L/R	5'6"	Marianna, Fla./Marianna
8	Emmorie Burke	Infield	Fr.	R/R	5'6"	Boaz, Ala./Boaz
2	Kaily Collett	Utility	So.	R/R	5'6"	Lilburn, Ga./Parkview
17	Lilly Crowe	Outfield	Sr.	L/R	5'5"	Moody, Ala./Moody
32	Olivia Cummings	Pitcher	Fr.	L/L	5'5"	Corner, Ala./Corner
5	Hannah Dorsett	Utility	Fr.	L/R	5'7"	Trussville, Ala./Hewitt-Trussville
7	Makenzie Drodgy	Catcher	Jr.	R/R	5'8"	Iota, La./Northside Christian
6	Auburn Dupree	Outfield	Jr.	L/L	5'4"	Gadsden, Ala./Gadsden City/Georgia Tech
14	Ant Henderson	Catcher	Fr.	R/R	5'6"	Birmingham, Ala./Ramsey
64	McKinley Hubbard	Outfield	Fr.	R/R	5'11"	Vance, Ala./Brookwood
3	Leigha Kirby	Pitcher	Sr.	R/R	5'7"	Section, Ala./Pisgah
23	AJ Kramer	Pitcher	Fr.	R/R	6'0"	Fort Payne, Ala./Fort Payne
19	Willesha Lang	Catcher	Fr.	R/R	5'5"	Tuscaloosa, Ala./Hillcrest
13	Caroline McLendon	Pitcher	Fr.	L/L	5'11"	Mobile, Ala./St. Paul's Episcopal
24	Hannah Miles	Outfield	So.	R/R	5'5"	Tuscaloosa, Ala./American Christian Academy
26	Arden Plugge	Pitcher	R-Jr.	R/R	5'11"	Vestavia, Ala./Vestavia Hills
12	Caitlin Russell	Pitcher	So.	R/R	5'7"	Montgomery, Ala./LAMP
25	Allyson Smith	Catcher	So.	R/R	5'6"	Bowling Green, Ky./Greenwood
1	Lindsey Smith	Infield	Jr.	R/R	5'8	Hayden, Ala./Hayden
22	Hope Tucker	Outfield	Fr.	R/R	5'5"	Sterlington, La./Sterlington
21	Olivia Valbak	Pitcher/Infield	Jr.	R/R	5'10"	Ashburn, Va./Stone Bridge
4	Bella Wiggins	Outfield	Jr.	L/L	5'7"	Fairhope, Ala./Fairhope
0	Carlie Wilkins	Infield	So.	L/L	5'5"	Falkville, Ala./West Point
11	Ja'nae Wray	Infield	Jr.	L/L	5'8"	Douglasville, Ga./Alexander

BY STATE

Alabama

Carlie Wilkins	Falkville
Lindsey Smith	Hayden
Leigha Kirby	Section
Bella Wiggins	Fairhope
Hannah Dorsett	Trussville
Auburn Dupree	Gadsden
Emmorie Burke	Boaz
Caitlin Russell	Montgomery
Caroline McLendon	Mobile
Ant Henderson	Birmingham
Lilly Crowe	Moody
Willesha Lang	Tuscaloosa
AJ Kramer	Fort Payne
Hannah Miles	Tuscaloosa
Arden Plugge	Vestavia
Olivia Cummings	Corner
McKinley Hubbard	Vance

California

Alyssa Aguilar	Burbank
----------------	---------

Florida

Lauren Brock	Marianna
--------------	----------

Georgia

Ja'Nae Wray	Douglasville
Kaily Collett	Lilburn

Kentucky

Allyson Smith	Bowling Green
---------------	---------------

Louisiana

Makenzie Drodgy	Lota
Hope Tucker	Sterlington

Virginia

Olivia Valbak	Ashburn
---------------	---------

BY YEAR

Senior

Leigha Kirby
Lilly Crowe

Junior

Lindsey Smith
Bella Wiggins
Auburn Dupree
Makenzie Drodgy
Lauren Brock
Ja'nae Wray
Olivia Valbak
Arden Plugge
Alyssa Aguilar

Sophomore

Arden Plugge
Carlie Wilkins
Kaily Collett
Caitlin Russell
Hannah Miles
Allyson Smith

Freshman

Hannah Dorsett
Emmorie Burke
Caroline McLendon
Ant Henderson
Willesha Lang
Hope Tucker
AJ Kramer
Olivia Cummings
McKinley Hubbard



A.J. DAUGHERTY

HEAD COACH

Second Season

UAB Director of Athletics Mark Ingram named A.J. Daugherty as the Head Coach of UAB Softball on July 1, 2022. Daugherty is in his second season leading the Blazers.

Daugherty wasted no time proving he was an elite coach at the Division I level by being named the 2023 Conference USA Coach of the Year in his first season. Daugherty led the Blazers to an overall record of 29-25 and a league mark of 16-8.

Daugherty led Senior catcher Sierra Fraizer to new heights in 2023 as Fraizer earned Conference USA Player of the Year. Frazier started all 52 and led the team in batting average (.340), home runs (12), RBI (45), total bases (95), walks (20), slugging (.674) and on base percentage (.436). In the process, Fraizer became UAB's career leader in RBI in 2023.

Overall, UAB had six players earn postseason accolades in Daugherty's first season. Fraizer was a First Team All-Conference USA honoree, while Olivia Valbak, Bella Wiggins and Leigha Kirby were Second Team selections, while Hannah Miles and Caitlin Russell were selected to the All-Freshman Team. Aside from Fraizer, all five of those players return in 2024.

A lifelong Alabama native and the 2022 NJCAA National Coaching Staff of the Year, Daugherty came to Birmingham after a tremendously successful six seasons at Wallace State Community College.

Daugherty coached Wallace State to an overall record of 260-58 (.818) in his six seasons, including a record of 111-10 over the last two. The team's recent success resulted in Daugherty being named the back-to-back Alabama Community College Conference Coach of the Year and NFCA

South Regional Coaching Staff of the Year in 2021 and 2022.

Daugherty led Wallace State to the NJCAA National Tournament four times in five seasons (excluding 2020 due to COVID). The Lions also won the Alabama Community College Conference/NJCAA Region XXII Championship four times in 2017, 2018, 2021 and 2022.

Under his guidance, Wallace State had the 2019 ACCC/NJCAA Region XXII Player of the Year, along with the 2021 and 2022 ACCC/NJCAA Region XXII Player and Pitcher of the Year.

Prior to his time at Wallace State, Daugherty started the James Clemens High School program and coached there from 2012-16. In his final season, James Clemens was the No. 1 ranked 7A team for the majority of the season and captured the program's first Area and Regional Championship en route to finishing fourth overall in the state.

Daugherty spent two seasons as the head softball coach (2010-11) at American Christian Academy before serving as an assistant baseball coach at the same school in 2012. He was also the head softball coach at Holy Spirit Catholic High School in 2009.

Daugherty graduated from the University of Alabama in 2008 with a degree in secondary education – social sciences, and served as a student manager for the Crimson Tide softball team from 2006-08.

He and his wife Allison have two kids, son Connor and daughter Caroline.

THE DAUGHERTY FILE

College Head Coach
Second Season

Hired as Head Coach at UAB
July 1, 2022

PERSONAL

Alma Mater
Alabama

Family
Wife: Allison
Son: Connor
Daughter: Caroline

COACHING RESUME

High School Head Coach

James Clemens (2012-16)
American Christian Academy (2010-11)
Holy Spirit Catholic (2009)

College Head Coach

Wallace State CC (2017-22)
UAB (Current)

Overall Record:
289-83

Record at UAB:
29-25

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

2023 Conference USA Coach of the Year
2022 Alabama Community College Coach of the Year
2022 NFCA South Regional Coaching Staff of the Year
2021 Alabama Community College Coach of the Year
2021 NFCA South Regional Coaching Staff of the Year

2023 UAB Softball Overall Statistics (as of May 12, 2023)

Overall Record: 29-25 **Conf:** 16-8 **Home:** 18-10 **Away:** 9-10 **Neutral:** 2-5

All games Sorted by Batting Avg

#	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%
20	Frazier, Sierra	.340	52-52	141	25	48	9	1	12	45	95	.674	20	7	4	0	.436	4	0	2-2	208	25	2	.991
4	Wiggins, Bella	.326	47-47	144	29	47	9	1	2	17	64	.444	11	1	11	0	.376	1	7	10-13	63	2	4	.942
9	Brock, Lauren	.311	54-54	180	37	56	5	0	1	13	64	.356	13	2	14	0	.364	0	4	11-13	96	105	11	.948
21	Valbak, Olivia	.288	54-54	163	16	47	11	1	1	19	63	.387	7	0	16	1	.318	0	7	2-3	45	87	7	.950
24	Miles, Hannah	.266	54-53	124	16	33	4	1	2	13	45	.363	6	4	10	1	.321	0	3	9-13	65	2	5	.931
1	Smith, Lindsey	.209	54-54	139	19	29	7	0	7	28	57	.410	18	1	22	1	.300	2	2	3-3	38	130	11	.939
55	Aguilar, Alyssa	.206	54-54	131	7	27	2	0	0	6	29	.221	5	4	10	0	.257	0	3	1-2	409	6	8	.981
17	Crowe, Lilly	.188	54-53	138	9	26	5	0	0	10	31	.225	9	2	22	1	.248	0	6	2-2	74	3	2	.975
25	Smith, Allyson	.311	27-16	45	4	14	3	0	0	8	17	.378	7	4	14	1	.446	0	0	1-1	1	0	1	.500
7	Droddy, Makenzie	.257	36-27	74	2	19	4	0	0	9	23	.311	9	1	18	0	.345	0	2	0-0	28	1	1	.967
2	Collett, Kaily	.231	38-20	39	12	9	1	1	0	5	12	.308	2	1	10	0	.286	0	3	3-6	15	9	2	.923
13	Greenwood, Cassady	.200	13-1	10	1	2	0	0	0	0	2	.200	4	0	4	0	.429	0	0	0-0	0	0	0	.000
64	Bahruth, Chloe	.143	10-2	7	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	.143	0	0	1	0	.143	0	1	0-0	0	1	1	.500
11	Wray, Ja'nae	.083	12-2	12	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	.083	2	1	4	1	.267	0	0	0-0	0	0	0	.000
0	Wilkins, Carlie	.000	5-1	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	1	0	3	0	.143	0	0	0-0	8	1	0	1.000
6	Cortez, Makenna	.000	29-7	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	1	0	.000	0	0	4-4	8	14	3	.880
5	Lowery, Reese	.000	27-0	1	8	0	0	0	0	1	0	.000	0	0	1	0	.000	1	0	2-2	0	0	0	.000
26	Plugge, Arden	.000	4-0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0-0	0	0	0	.000
Totals		.265	54-54	1355	192	359	60	5	25	174	504	.372	114	28	165	6	.333	8	38	50-64	1068	436	61	.961
Opponents		.272	54-54	1425	216	388	62	3	39	194	573	.402	106	20	222	19	.329	9	24	47-55	1051	357	55	.962

LOB: Team (291), Opp (295) **DPs Turned:** Team (25), Opp (14) **IBB:** Team (2), Frazier (1), Valbak (1), Opp (0) **Picked Off:** Crowe (1), Smith (1)

All games Sorted by Earned Run Avg

#	Player	ERA	W-L	APP	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	2B	3B	HR	B/AVG	WP	HP	BK	SFA	SHA
3	Kirby, Leigha	3.28	6-10	22	15	9	3-0	2	107.0	96	52	39	28	74	13	1	10	.231	11	10	0	2	5
21	Valbak, Olivia	3.46	5-5	17	11	4	1-1	0	67.2	64	36	26	20	41	11	0	3	.243	2	2	0	1	3
12	Russell, Caitlin	3.47	10-2	21	10	4	1-1	2	80.1	84	39	31	23	35	17	0	8	.267	3	6	0	1	6
8	Cespedes, Sarah	6.09	8-8	24	18	5	2-0	4	91.2	126	77	62	30	69	17	2	17	.323	2	0	0	4	10
15	Tindell, Bailey	10.61	0-0	7	0	0	0-0	1	9.1	18	12	11	5	3	4	0	1	.439	1	2	0	1	0
Totals		4.27	29-25	91	54	22	8	9	356.0	388	216	169	106	222	62	3	39	.272	19	20	0	9	24
Opponents		3.75	25-29	99	54	18	10	5	350.1	359	192	146	114	165	60	5	25	.265	20	28	0	8	38

PB: Team (3), Totals (3), Frazier (2), Droddy (1), Opp (10) **Pickoffs:** Team (0), Totals , Opp (2) **SBA/ATT:** Totals (94-108), Frazier (44-50), Cespedes (18-22), Kirby (14-16), Valbak (7-9), Russell (6-6), Droddy (2-2), Tindell (2-2), Greenwood (1-1)