

THE 2007 GAME-BY-GAME SUMMARIES

August 6 at Glendale Heights
Lisle 11 Glenside 1

Lisle opened the 2007 campaign with an impressive victory over Glenside in Glendale Heights. Kaelin Laue paced the offense with a perfect 4-for-4 game which included a double and a triple. Melanie Early added two hits in the attack while hurling a one-hitter on the mound to gain her first pitching triumph.

August 7 at Lisle
Minooka 9 Lisle 1

Minooka spoiled Lisle's home opener as they crushed the Lady Lions with a six-run sixth inning to open up a previously close game. Lisle's only tally came on a Kaelin Laue triple followed by a Melanie Early RBI double in the first inning.



August 8 at Tinley Park
Summit Hill 3 Lisle 2

Although they pounded out ten hits, Lisle could only manage two runs while stranding numerous baserunners in a 3 to 2 defeat against Summit Hill. Skyler Tomko went 3-for-4 and Emma Buchholz 2-for-3 in the loss. This would be the last time Lisle would have a losing record during the season.



August 10 at Glendale Heights
Lisle 6 Kelvin Grove 1

A string of strong defensive performances began in this opening game of the Glenside Invitational Tournament. Lisle tallied six times during the first two innings to wrap up a 6 to 1 win against Kelvin Grove. Jessica Sedlacek and Kaelin Laue each scored twice in the first two innings, and pitcher Melanie Early didn't allow a run until the sixth inning.

August 10 at Glendale Heights
Lisle 5 Hadley 2

Julia Reed was the beneficiary of some stellar defense as she pitched Lisle to a 5 to 2 win over Hadley in game 2 of the Glenside Tournament. Kelly Urban made a fine running catch of a pop fly and doubled the runner off third base for an inning ending unassisted double play in the second inning. Julia Reed allowed the Wildcats a total of two runs on only five hits. The Lady Lions got all the offense they needed in the first inning, scoring three runs on consecutive singles from Kaelin Laue, Melanie Early, Shelby Kretman, and Emma Buchholz.



August 11 at Glendale Heights
Lisle 16 Momence 1

A thirteen-run second inning was the key component in Lisle's lopsided victory over a young Momence team. The Lady Lions capitalized on numerous walks and the hot bats of Laue, Early, and Kretman to earn their third straight victory in the tournament. Lisle finished pool play as the number one seed as they advanced to the quarter finals.

August 11 at Glendale Heights
Lisle 2 Manteno 0

Strong pitching and solid defense carried the Lady Lions to a 2 to 0 victory over a strong Manteno squad in the quarter final game of the Glenside Tournament. Melanie Early tossed her first shutout of the year while allowing only two hits. Gracie Riley scored the winning run on a Julia Reed RBI groundout in the fifth inning. Megan Dwyer scored an insurance run on Kaelin Laue's sacrifice fly.

August 11 at Glendale Heights
Shepherd 7 Lisle 1

Lisle's four-game winning streak ended in the tournament semi-final game against a potent Shepherd team. Shepherd scored two runs in the very first inning to take an early lead. Lisle rallied to cut the deficit in half with a run in the fifth as Julia Reed scored on a Melanie Early RBI single. Shepherd put the game away with a five-run sixth inning, ending Lisle's tournament hopes. With their record standing at 5 and 3, little did anyone know that the Lady Lions would embark on an incredible winning streak.

August 15 at Elmwood Park
Lisle 13 Elm 2

A thirteen run-eleven hit outburst pushed Lisle to a definitive 13 to 2 win against Elm. Gracie Riley led the way with four RBIs. Shelby Kretman, Emma Buchholz, Kelly Urban, Kaelin Laue, and Gracie Riley each had two hits. Both Riley and Kretman had triples in Lisle's sixth win of the season.

August 16 at Lisle
Lisle 14 Humphrey 0

Kelly Urban and Julia Reed combined to pitch a two-hit shutout as Lisle returned home with a 14 to 0 conquest of Humphrey. The Lady Lions drew a season high seventeen walks in capturing their seventh win of the season. Kelly Urban had a big day at the plate, going 3-for-4 with four RBIs.

August 17 at Lisle
Lisle 5 Hadley 1

Hadley scored the game's first run in the top of the fifth inning to take a 1 to 0 lead, but the Lady Lions answered the call with a five-run bottom of the fifth to secure a 5 to 1 victory. Melanie Early's three-run double and Kelly Urban's two-run double both came after two outs. Lisle's record now stood at 8 and 3 as they won their third in a row.

August 27 at Lisle
Lisle 10 Brooks 0

After a ten day lay-off due to inclement weather, Lisle returned to the diamond with a bang. Melanie Early pitched a perfect five-inning game, striking out ten of the opposition's fifteen batters in a convincing 10 to 0 victory over Brooks. Mackenzie Buchelt returned to the lineup to lead the offense with two doubles and three runs scored.

August 28 at Lisle
Lisle 1 Elm 0

Mackenzie Buchelt, Kelly Urban, and Melanie Early provided the only hits for Lisle in an exciting 1 to 0 win in a rematch against Elm. Early's RBI single scored Buchelt for the game's only run in the bottom of the first inning. Melanie Early gave up a single to Elm's first batter of the game, and then she held them hitless the rest of the way, earning her second consecutive shutout.

August 30 at Bolingbrook
Lisle 16 Brooks 5

The Lady Lions traveled to Brooks for a rematch and found themselves down 4 to 0 after one inning. Lisle's offense then began to roar, scoring three runs in the second, six runs in the third, and six more in the fourth enroute to a 16 to 5 win. Mackenzie Buchelt continued her hot hitting as she went 2-for-3. Alex DeCraene, Shelby Kretman, and Melanie Early each tripled as the Lions cruised to their eleventh win of the season.

August 31 at Lisle
Lisle 13 Adams 0

Kelly Urban and Julia Reed again combined solid pitching for Lisle in a 13 to 0 victory over Adams. Shelby Kretman went 3-for-3 with two doubles while Mackenzie Buchelt and Gracie Riley added two hits apiece. The Lady Lions were now riding a seven-game winning streak as they claimed their twelfth win of the season.

September 4 at Lisle
Lisle 12 Lukancic 0



Lisle finished their regular season schedule by defeating Lukancic 12 to 0 in only five innings. Melanie Early fired a one-hit shutout to earn her tenth victory of the season. Shelby Kretman and Emma Buchholz had two hits each to pace the Lisle offense. The Lady Lions entered the Glenside Regional as the number one seed. Their record stood at 13 and 3.



September 8 at Glendale Heights
Glenside Regional Semi-final
Lisle 2 Elm 0

Facing a tough Elm squad for the third time during the season would not be an easy task for the Lady Lions. Lisle managed only two runs on seven hits, pushing their only runs across the plate in the second inning. Superb infield play by Mackenzie Buchelt, Kelly Urban, Kaelin Laue, and Emma Buchholz, along with another strong pitching performance by Melanie Early were the keys to the 2 to 0 victory. Early pitched her fourth consecutive shutout to help Lisle gain entrance to the Regional Final. Kellie Brennan's RBI single and Gracie Riley's RBI single in the second were all the offense Lisle needed.

September 10 at Glendale Heights
Glenside Regional Championship
Lisle 10 Hadley 0

Lisle fared better than Hadley on a cold, windy, rainy Monday afternoon to capture a surprising 10 to 0 win over the Wildcats in the Regional Championship Game. The Lady Lions jumped out to a 7 to 0 lead after two innings, and they added three more in the fourth to secure a five-inning victory. The lineup's first four hitters, Mackenzie Buchelt, Kaelin Laue, Melanie Early, and Shelby Kretman combined for five hits and six runs scored to do most of the damage. Melanie Early continued to dominate on the mound as she once again tossed a one-hit shutout. The Lady Lions were now riding a ten-game winning streak while improving their overall record to 15 and 3. They captured the Regional trophy to advance to the Sectional Title Game.



September 15 at Glendale Heights
Glenside Sectional Championship
Lisle 11 Martinez 0

September 15, 2007, will always be a special day in Lisle Junior High Softball history. On this wonderful Saturday afternoon the Lady Lions enjoyed their greatest moment. They defeated A.V. Martinez 11 to 0 to claim the Sectional Championship plaque and earned a trip to IESA State Finals in Normal, Illinois. The team looked a little shaky in the first couple of innings, but they soon regained their composure and roared to victory. Melanie Early pitched another shutout in gaining her thirteenth win of the season. Everyone in the starting line-up contributed with at least a hit or a run scored. Kellie Brennan had the key blow of the game, a two-out bases loaded double, that cleared the bases in the third inning. Brennan led the way with three hits while Gracie Riley and Emma Buchholz had two hits each. A large crowd of Lisle supporters cheered loudly as Melanie Early struck out the final batter in the bottom of the seventh inning to end the game. The Lady Lions hoisted the sectional championship plaque high above their heads on the Glenside softball diamond. They were going to the IESA Softball State Finals!



September 21 at Normal
IESA State Quarter Final
Edwardsville-Lincoln 5 Lisle 4

Lisle entered the state quarter finals riding an eleven-game winning streak with a 16 and 3 record. After an impressive pep rally at school and a comfortable bus ride to Normal, it was time for the team to get back to work. They would not find the task an easy one, however. The Lady Lions were matched up against the defending state

champions of Edwardsville-Lincoln. The Wildcats entered the game with a perfect 18 and 0 record.

It was a scoreless battle for the first three innings with each team not taking advantage of scoring opportunities. Finally, in the top of the fourth, Lisle broke the ice with a two-run inning. Melanie Early led off with a single and scored on a Shelby Kretman double. Kretman later scored on an Emma Buchholz single.

The Wildcats answered the call in the bottom of the fourth when they cut the lead in half behind a solo home run from their shortstop Sam Epenesa. Lisle struck right back in the top of the fifth. Gracie Riley started it off with a double and Mackenzie Buchelt followed her with a walk. Buchelt was forced at second, but Riley advanced to third on a Kaelin Laue fielder's choice. Laue then stole second and came around to score behind Riley as Melanie Early singled them both home.

Lisle now owned a 4 to 1 lead, but it didn't last long as the defending champs pushed two across in each of the next two innings to take a 5 to 4 lead going into the seventh. The never-say-die Lady Lions gave it a last shot with an exciting rally. Melanie Early smacked her third hit of the day with one out in the seventh. Shelby Kretman singled for her second hit of the game, and Lisle was now in business. Emma Buchholz coaxed a walk to load the bases for the hot-hitting Kelly Urban. Urban smacked the ball sharply back to the mound, and the pitcher narrowly forced Early at the plate. Kellie Brennan stepped in and drove the ball sharply to the shortstop who made a fine play and an off-balance throw from her knees. The ball was apparently scooped up by the first baseman for the final out of the game.

It was a heartbreaking loss for the Lady Lions as their dream season came to a sudden halt. They finished the season with their heads held high, however. After all, a 16 and 4 record, a Regional title, a Sectional title, and a trip to the IESA finals are major accomplishments for any team. The 2007 season is one that the players, coaches, and fans of Lisle Junior High will never forget.

