Breezing through the years of success

The University of Southern Indiana women's basketball team enters the 2004-05 campaign seeking its eighth NCAA Division II Tournament appearance in 11 seasons. The last 10 seasons have not only produced seven NCAA II Tournament appearances, but have seen the Screaming Eagles make it to the NCAA II Sweet Sixteen three times and to the Elite Eight twice. USI finished as the runner-up in 1997.

In addition to its NCAA II Tournament success, USI also has been a powerhouse in the Great Lakes Valley Conference. The Eagles have won four GLVC regular-season titles since 1995 and have won the GLVC Tournament a record three times. In six trips to the GLVC Tournament, the Eagles are a conference-best 10-3.

Note: Since 1994, the Eagles have had five players earn All-America honors.

After beginning the 1996-97 season with a 1-1 record, the Eagles won 29 straight games as well as the GLVC and NCAA II Great Lakes Regional Championship. USI went on to win its first two games in the NCAA II Elite Eight before falling in the national championship game to North Dakota. USI also became the first and only team in GLVC history to go 20-0 in conference play. USI finished the season with a school-record 30-2 mark and finished second in the national rankings.

After missing out on the NCAA II Tournament in 1999 and 2000, the Eagles exploded back onto the national stage in 2001. The Eagles finished the 2000-01 season with a 28-4 mark and won a share of the GLVC regular-season title. The Eagles went on to win the GLVC Tournament championship as well as the NCAA II Great Lakes Regional Championship for the second time in school history.

Quick fact: The Eagles have hosted the NCAA II Great Lakes Regional Tournament twice. However, the two times the Eagles have gone to the Elite Eight, they have won the regional tournament in the state of Michigan.