

For Immediate Release: February 2008

**USA Softball Women's National Team to play in Irvine at Colonel Bill Barber Park Deanna Manning Stadium on July 26, 2008 at 7:30 pm *Tickets available NOW!***

Oklahoma City, Okla. —The 2008 USA Softball Women's National Team vs Team Intensity will be in Irvine, CA at Colonel Bill Barber's Deanna Manning Stadium on July 26th for a 7:30 game as the 'Bound 4 Beijing' tour rolls through the United States in preparation for the 2008 Olympic Games. Irvine is the last stop of 46 cities on the tour that will host the Red, White and Blue as they look to capture a fourth-consecutive gold medal in China.

Tickets for the game are available and can be purchased by going to [www.socal-asa.com](http://www.socal-asa.com) and click on the link to ticket information. General admission tickets are available for only \$20.00.

"The Amateur Softball Association is proud to be able to organize the Bound 4 Beijing tour for the National Team as well as for the softball enthusiasts across the U.S.," said ASA Executive Director Ron Radigonda. "It's going to be an exciting year for our women's program as they look to a fourth-consecutive gold medal and what better way to get it started than with a tour across the United States. Our local associations have done a great job in hosting these stops, providing the opportunity for our team to compete against the best teams in the country on American soil."

The 2008 Women's National Team, who will travel to Beijing in August, will make 46 stops across the country competing in over 60 games. The team will compete against NCAA Division I opponents, Regional All-Star teams as well as international competition.

"We're excited to be able to travel across the country and showcase our talented team and hopefully get everyone excited for the Olympic Games," said Cat Osterman, who will be making her second tour. "Some of the most talented softball players of the world are in the United States so it will be good to get out there and face some of the top athletes in the sport. It's a great way to prepare for the ultimate stage, the Olympic Games."

Highlighting the tour will be eight nationally televised games on ESPN2 airing April through June. Also slated are four other games for July rounding out over 20 hours of softball programming on the ESPN family of networks.

"The Bound 4 Beijing tour is great exposure for not only the team, but also for the sport of softball," says head Coach Mike Candrea. "It provides us an opportunity to play in front of fans that may not otherwise have the chance to see us compete. It's a long haul as we will play six months of competitive softball, but in the end it will help us prepare for our ultimate goal, a fourth-consecutive gold medal."

For a complete list of the Bound 4 Beijing tour schedule, log on to [www.usasoftball.com](http://www.usasoftball.com).

For additional information please contact Debi Bales at (714) 497-7938 or (714) 531-1377.

## About ASA

The Amateur Softball Association, founded in 1933, is the National Governing Body of softball in the United States and a member of the United States Olympic Committee. The ASA has become one of the nation's largest sports organizations and now sanctions competition in every state through a network of 83 local associations. The ASA has grown from a few hundred teams in the early days to over 240,000 teams today, representing a membership of more than three million. For more information on the ASA, visit [www.asasoftball.com](http://www.asasoftball.com).

## About USA Softball

USA Softball is the brand created, operated and owned by the ASA that links the USA Men's, Women's, Junior Boys' and Junior Girls' National Team programs together. USA Softball is responsible for training, equipping and promoting these four National Teams to compete in international and domestic competitions. The USA Softball Women's National Team is one of the only two women's sports involved in the Olympic movement to capture three consecutive gold medals at the Olympic Games since 1996. The U.S. women have also won eight World Championship titles including the last six consecutive as well as claimed two World Cup of Softball titles. For more information about USA Softball, please visit [www.usasoftball.com](http://www.usasoftball.com)