

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Finlandia Softball Adds Three Recruits

HANCOCK, MI – The Finlandia University women’s softball program is pleased to announce the addition of three outstanding athletes to this year’s program.

The new players who have committed to play for the Lions in the 2008-09 academic year are Nikole Metter (Rapid River, Mich.), Andrea Graves (Munising, Mich.), and Tena Vajcner (Ida, Mich.).

Nikole Metter, a 2008 graduate of Rapid River High School, played shortstop throughout her high school career. She earned numerous awards including team captain and selection for the MHSAA All-District softball team as a junior and senior.

“I’ve met with Nikole and her family several times and she is a very respectful, dedicated, and motivated young lady,” said Head Softball Coach Shawn Hendrickson. “Nikole has all those great intangibles that you need in a collegiate athlete and I can’t wait to get her out and on the field this year. With her outstanding work ethic and positive attitude she’ll be a great fit to the team.”

Andrea Graves, a 2008 graduate of Munising High School, was a four-sport athlete in high school, playing softball, basketball, volleyball, and golf. Graves will take the mound for the Lions and also spend some time in the shortstop position. In high school, she received 10 varsity letters and seven Most Valuable Player awards, was MHSAA Division II U.P. Golf Champion, and played on the District Championship volleyball team.

“Andrea is a true athlete, which is something that just can’t be taught,” said Coach Hendrickson. “Athletics are her life and through her years of hard work she has become an outstanding athlete. Andrea’s undeniable athletic ability and work ethic will most definitely shine for the Lion’s this year. I believe she’ll be an unstoppable force for us.”

Tena Vajcner, a 2008 graduate of Ida High School, rounds out the new softball trio. Vajcner plays third base and catcher.

“Tena has played softball her entire life and it shows in her knowledge, fundamentals, and respect for the game. She is a true leader and a very hard working, dedicated and motivated young woman. She knows the game of softball inside and out,” said Coach Hendrickson. “I look forward to the positive attitude and hard work that she’ll bring to our program.”

For additional information about the Finlandia University women’s softball program, please contact Coach Hendrickson at 906-487-7536 or shawn.hendrickson@finlandia.edu.