

1976

Gymnastics Northern Iowa 1975-76

University of Northern Iowa

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Gymnastics



**Northern Iowa
1975-76**

University of Northern Iowa

Location: Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613
Founded: 1876
Enrollment: 8,900
President: Dr. John J. Kamerick
Original Gymnastics Team: 1966-67
Team Nickname: Panthers
School Colors: Purple and Old Gold
Home Facility: Men's Gymnasium
Conference: North Central
National Affiliation: NCAA Division II
Athletic Director: Stan B. Sheriff
Assistant Athletic Director &
Business Manager: R. C. Johnson
Faculty Representative: Dr. Raymond Schlicher
Head Coach: Garf Stych
Year at UNI: 10th
Record at UNI: 44-71
Collegiate Record: 44-71
Assistant Coach: Bill Zornow (N. Michigan, 1975)
Lettermen Returning: 5
Lettermen Lost: 5
1974-75 Dual Record: 5-7
Conference Finish: 1st
National Finish: 11th (NCAA Division II)
Gymnastics Office Phone: (319) 273-2141
Sports Information Director: James W. Shaffer
Office: (319) 273-2761 Home: (319) 268-0324
Athletic Department Phone: (319) 273-2141
Athletic Business Office: (319) 273-2470

Stych in 10th Season

To those who know him, Garf Stych may best be described as a man with spirit, humor and devotion. Since moving to Cedar Falls in 1966, he's revived the gymnastics program and led his high-flying Panthers to the North Central Conference Championship last season for the first time in school history. Panther teams have never finished lower than 2nd in his 44-71 career coaching span. Trips to the nationals the past two seasons are only an indication of the motivation this man instills.

A native of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Stych was a 3-year letterman in gymnastics at the University of Iowa in the mid 1950's. After graduating from Iowa in 1958, he began his coaching career at Elgin High School in Elgin, Illinois. Here he guided the gymnastics and cross country teams before earning his Masters Degree from Iowa in 1960.

Stych then went to Eau Claire, Wis. from 1960-66. He coached at both Memorial High and North High in four sports including gymnastics, track, wrestling and football.

Garf and his wife Lillian have three children, Jim, 16; Jerry, 13; and Jeff, 9.

Assisting Stych in his coaching duties this season is graduate assistant Bill Zornow, a 1975 graduate of Northern Michigan.

Zornow earned his degree in physical education and industrial education while competing as team captain on the gymnastics squad. Qualifying for national competition all four years, he only competed once in 1971.

Bill is a bachelor and hails from West Henrietta, New York.

The Panther Outlook

The 1975-76 Panther gymnastics squad greets six new faces in preparation for one of the most challenging seasons ever.

With a 5-7 dual season behind them, the Panthers are planning to flip, swing, and fly themselves into position as defending North Central Conference champions with all eyes focused on the 1976 NCAA Division II championships, hosted in the fantastic new UNI-Dome, March 25-27.

Head Coach Garf Stych anticipates a prosperous season with the return of Mike Doty (Cedar Rapids, Jr.) who was redshirted last year due to injury; although suffers the loss of ring specialist Jerry Hamilton, Randy Stichter (floor exercise, horizontal bar), and Brad Stary (pommel horse), who have completed their eligibility as well as senior Mark Kopriva, ending competition last year after knee surgery.

Defending NCC floor exercise champion Dave Eppert (Council Bluffs, Sr.) returns as the Panthers' core of experience, along with vaulting champion Dave Engle (Marion, So.), Mark Royer (Council Bluffs, So.) who placed 2nd on the pommel horse, and last season's most impressive freshman, Mark DeVolder (Marshalltown, So.) who carries the brunt of the chores as all-around competitor.

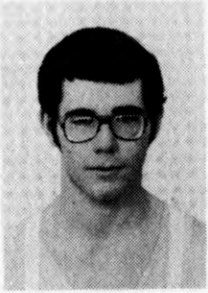
The gymnasts open the dual season against Big 8 champion Iowa State followed by Western Illinois, Kansas and the Iowa Hawkeyes.

The NCC finds real strength in South Dakota State and North Dakota this season after finishing 2nd and 4th, respectively. The Panthers managed to finish one tenth of a point higher than the Jackrabbits in their last encounter, the NCC meet, narrowing the championship gap for this season. Mankato State, finishing 3rd, returns under new direction and may provide greater depth in the race.

"We're excited about our strong schedule as in the past it has paid off, crowning us conference champs and qualifying for national competition," say Stych. "Our goal is to repeat as team champion and qualify for competition in the NCAA Division II in hopes of bettering our 11th place finish."



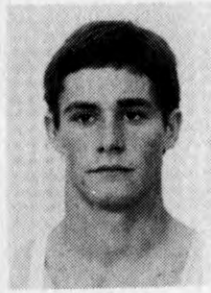
Meet the Panthers



BROWN



DeVOLDER



DOTY



ENGLE



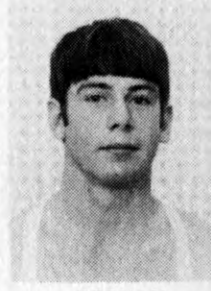
EPPERT



GATES



JEDLICKA



KEENAN



OEHLER



ROYER



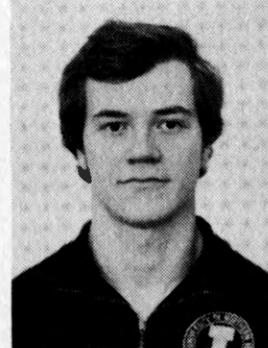
WAGONER



WENDEL



GARF STYCH
Head Coach



BILL ZORNOW
Graduate Assistant

What to Expect

BROWN, Lance--Competes strongest in floor exercise and vaulting events. With experience could show conference champion potential.

DeVOLDER, Mark--Should push Mike Doty for all-around honors. Performed as last season's top scorer and holds school parallel bar record.

DOTY, Mike--With last season's leg injury healed, progress shows top performance levels. As a freshman he set all-around and horizontal bar school records.

ENGLE, Dave--An exciting performer, Dave participates as an all-around performer with greatest strengths in vaulting and the floor exercise.

EPPERT, Dave--"Epp" enters his final year as a mature, experienced competitor. A strong back-up man in the past, he specializes in the floor exercise and parallel bars.

GATES, Jim--Freshman from Waverly, strong man on the pommel horse. Competes with Pat Oehler for the No. 2 spot.

JEDLICKA, Dean--A ring specialist transfer from Kirkwood Community, he has not competed for two years but shows signs of development as the season progresses.

KEENAN, Gary--Grinnell freshman, an all-around performer pushing to be one of the best. Gary is a self-taught gymnast.

Oehler, Pat--"Ole" vies for the No. 2 spot on the pommel horse. A strong worker, he was set back last season by a knee operation and plans to make up for it this season.

ROYER, Mark--"Clarence" to his teammates, Mark is the No. 1 pommel horse specialist and No. 2 in the North Central Conference. Will be pushed this season by Gates, Oehler and Eppert.

WAGONER, John--A freshman from Waterloo, he competed for West High in vaulting and on the parallel bars. Should give the team necessary event depth.

WENDEL, Cliff--Gives depth in rings, vaulting, parallel bars and horizontal bar events. A freshman from West Waterloo, Cliff should help the Panthers a great deal.

1975-76 Schedule

Date	Opponent	Location	Time
Nov. 1	Iowa High School State Meet	Cedar Falls	All Day
Nov. 8	UNI Alumni Meet	Cedar Falls	7 p.m.
Dec. 6	At Iowa State	Ames	7 p.m.
Dec. 13	Western Illinois	Cedar Falls	2 p.m.
Jan. 17	At Kansas	Lawrence, Kan.	2 p.m.
Jan. 20	At Iowa	Iowa City	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 24	North Dakota	Cedar Falls	2 p.m.
Feb. 7	At Titan Invitational	Oshkosh, Wis.	All Day
Feb. 13	At Wisconsin-LaCrosse, Stout State, Wisconsin-Platteville	LaCrosse, Wis.	7 p.m.
Feb. 21	At South Dakota State	Brookings, S.D.	1:30 p.m.
Feb. 28	Mankato State, Iowa State	Cedar Falls	2 p.m.
Mar. 13	North Central Conference	Brookings, S.D.	All Day
Mar. 25-27	NCAA Division II Championships	Cedar Falls	All Day

UNI Roster

Name	Event	Class	Hometown
BROWN, Lance	FX, Vault	Fr.	Waverly
*DeVOLDER, Mark	AA	So.	Marshalltown
*DOTY, Mike	AA	Jr.	Cedar Rapids (Jefferson)
*ENGLE, Dave	AA	So.	Marion (Linn-Mar)
*EPPERT, Dave	FX, PB, PH, Vault	Sr.	Council Bluffs (Thomas Jefferson)
GATES, Jim	PH, PB, Vault, HB	Fr.	Waverly
JEDLICKA, Dean	Rings	Tr.	Tipton
KEENAN, Gary	AA	Fr.	Grinnell
Oehler, Pat	PH	So.	Manchester
*ROYER, Mark	PH	So.	Council Bluffs (Abraham Lincoln)
WAGONER, John	PB, Vault	Fr.	Waterloo (West)
WENDEL, Cliff	Rings, Vault, PB, HB	Fr.	Waterloo (West)

*Denotes letters won

Coaching Records

Coach	Year	W L	NCC Finish
Stych	1966-67	0-7	---
Stych	1967-68	2-9	2nd*
Stych	1968-69	5-6	1st*
Stych	1969-70	5-8	2nd
Stych	1970-71	3-9	2nd
Stych	1971-72	7-10	2nd
Stych	1972-73	10-7	2nd
Stych	1973-74	7-8	2nd
Stych	1974-75	5-7	1st

Totals: 9 yrs. (44-71)

*Unofficial NCC Tourney

1974-75 Dual Results

UNI		Opponent
151.05	Iowa	192.20
167.10	St. Cloud	165.40
153.55	Northern Michigan	157.20
153.55	South Dakota State	157.60
153.10	Mankato	146.70
160.30	LaCrosse-Wisconsin	167.90
160.30	Kansas State	94.55
147.75	Iowa State	217.20
147.75	Kansas State	103.65
160.75	University of Kansas	181.00
180.50	Western Illinois	199.50
153.55	University of North Dakota	138.25

1974-75 Scoring

Rank		Points
1.	Mark DeVolder	462.75
2.	Dave Engle	58.30
3.	Mark Royer	46.45
4.	Jerry Hamilton	44.45
5.	Dave Eppert	41.50
6.	Randy Stichter	23.75
7.	George Hall	19.65
8.	Brad Stary	6.90
9.	Mike Doty	6.25

Records

Individual

Floor Exercise	8.85	Dave Eppert, 1971
Pommel Horse	8.35	Don Niewoehner, 1972
Rings	8.40	Jerry Hamilton, 1974
Vaulting	9.40	Jeff Conner, 1971
Parallel Bars	8.60	Mark DeVolder, 1975
Horizontal Bar	8.40	Mike Doty, 1974
All-Around	47.10	Mike Doty, 1974

*Team

Floor Exercise	33.35	St. Cloud
Pommel Horse	28.60	Western Illinois
Rings	28.15	St. Cloud
Vaulting	34.60	Western Illinois
Parallel Bars	29.55	North Central Conference
Horizontal Bar	28.60	Western Illinois
Total Team Points	180.50	Western Illinois

All team records are 1975 due to incorporation of four man ruling.