

1978

Women's Softball 1978

University of Northern Iowa

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1978 ROSTER

No.	Name	Position	Class	Hometown
12,22	*Coakley, Sue	C, OF	Jr.	La Motte
7,17	Corkrean, Jenny	P, 3B	Jr.	Macksburg
9,19	Drabelle, Jocelyn	OF	Jr.	Dallas Center
8,18	Edwards, Linda	P	Fr.	Macksburg
11,21	*Kennedy, Teresa	OF	So.	Bancroft
3,13	Kinley, Trish	P, OF	Fr.	Coggon
10,15	Kriener, Mary	2B, SS	Sr.	Fort Atkinson
10,20	Martin, Kathy	1B, SS	Fr.	Waukee
5,15	*McCartney, Kris	SS, 3B	Sr.	Hubbard
4,14	Olson, Kris	OF	Jr.	Decorah
13,23	*Santi, Kathy	1B	Sr.	Madrid
1,11	Schiltz, Karla	2B	Fr.	Bancroft
2,12	Schlader, Sheryl	OF	So.	Charles City
6,16	*Schneider, Pam	2B	Jr.	Bancroft
14,24	Tyler, Sue	OF, C	Fr.	Atlantic

*Returning Athlete

UNI's Athletic Program

Women's intercollegiate athletics at Northern Iowa have a short history but one it can be proud of. Three sports were offered for the first time in 1968 — field hockey, tennis and basketball. Volleyball, golf, track and gymnastics are the newest additions, besides swimming and softball. Even though the women's athletic program is young, UNI's competitors have made a name for themselves state-wide, regionally and nationally.

UNI's program is controlled by a committee of faculty members, coaches, the women's physical education department head and women's athletic director and a student representative from each sport. Focus is on educational opportunities made available through individual and team competition — the social, emotional and physical growth of each player. The goal is participation. The purpose is to provide quality competitive experience for highly skilled participants with other college-university teams.

UNI's players and teams are sanctioned by state, regional and national Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (AIAW); Midwest and United States Field Hockey Associations; and the Amateur Softball Association (ASA). All sports are played under National Association for Girls and Women in Sports (NAGWS) rules.

1977 IN REVIEW

(32-2)

UNI	Opponent
Wartburg	4-3, 9-1
Nebraska-Omaha	9-3, 7-2
Iowa	6-5, 7-0
Grand View	12-0, 12-2
Mt. Mercy	6-1, 7-1

DISTRICTS — 1st

Upper Iowa	13-0
Luther	3-2
Iowa State	2-0, 1-0
Wartburg	9-0, 10-3
Waldorf	12-0, 9-0
Luther	0-1, 13-0

STATE — 1st

Mt. Mercy	9-0
William Penn	2-0
Iowa State	2-1
Iowa State	4-2

REGIONALS — 1st

North Dakota State	4-0
Tarkio	1-0
Southwest Missouri	3-2
Southwest Missouri	6-1

WOMEN'S COLLEGE WORLD SERIES — 1st

Southern Illinois	3-0
Kansas University	4-0
Michigan State	7-3
Arizona	1-0 (8 innings)
Arizona	0-1 (9 innings)
Arizona	7-0

Quick Facts

LOCATION: Cedar Falls, IA 50613

ENROLLMENT: 10,300

NICKNAME: Panthers

SCHOOL COLORS: Purple and Old Gold

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR: Dr. Elinor Crawford

(319) 273-2654

SOFTBALL PHONE: (319) 273-6119

SPORTS INFORMATION DIRECTOR:

Nancy Ross Justis, Office: (319) 273-2761; Home:

(319) 277-3631

Women's Softball

1978



UNIVERSITY OF
NORTHERN IOWA



Jane Mertesdorf joined the UNI faculty in 1966 and started the first softball team in 1972. She has compiled an amazing 109-24 record in the past six years and taken the Panthers to the Women's College World Series four of those six years where UNI placed 8th in 1973, 2nd in 1975, 6th in 1976 and 1st last season. A former softball competitor in a Mankato, Minn., city league, Mertesdorf received her BA from Mankato State University and her MA from Ball State in Muncie, Ind.

Head Coach JANE MERTESDORF

— 1978 SCHEDULE —

April 1	WARTBURG	2, 3:30 p.m.
April 6	LUTHER	4, 5:30 p.m.
April 7	Grand View	
April 8	Nebraska-Omaha	2, 3:30 p.m.
April 15	Iowa, Luther at Iowa City	2:30, 4 p.m.
April 17	WILLIAM PENN	4, 5:30 p.m.
April 18	DRAKE	4, 5:30 p.m.
April 21	IOWA STATE	3, 4:30 p.m.
April 22	LORAS	2, 3:30 p.m.
April 24	Luther	4, 5:30 p.m.
April 25	MINNESOTA	6, 7:30 p.m.
April 29	District Tournament at Decorah	
May 1	Wartburg	4, 5:30 p.m.
May 4-6	State Tournament at Iowa City	
May 12-14	REGION 6 TOURNAMENT	
May 24-28	Women's College World Series at Omaha, Neb.	

All home games at UNI Softball Diamond, Northwest of Physical Education Complex. Region Tournament at Waterloo's Joe Straub Fields.

PANTHER OUTLOOK

How do you top a 32-2 overall record, a third straight Iowa Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women state championship, a perfect record in regional competition and a Women's College World Series title? Especially when you have lost 13 top players, which includes two top pitchers, one fine catcher, three first-team outfielders and half of your infield!

That's the order Head Coach Jane Mertesdorf must fill as she begins her seventh year at the Panther helm. Despite what may look to be an almost impossible situation, Mertesdorf isn't a bit pessimistic about the new season ahead. It seems she's doing a fine job of filling some rather large holes left vacant by graduation and individuals who didn't return to spring tryouts, where 60 women battled for 15 positions.

An optimistic outlook begins with the five returning athletes who played a major part in last year's successes. Catcher Sue Coakley (La Motte Jr.) returns for her third year behind the plate, and she's also an excellent outfielder. Mertesdorf expects to play with some changing lineups, moving players around the field. Coakley was the fourth best hitter last season with a .326 average. Her strength is her consistency.

Sophomore Teresa Kennedy (Bancroft) was not a regular first-teamer last year, but she finished with the highest batting average at .517. She's also a good, strong fielder. Kris McCartney (Hubbard Sr.) played most of last year at the no. 1 third baseman position. Her batting average is only .235 but her strength comes under pressure. Mertesdorf says she hit when she was needed throughout the tournaments last year.

Kathy Santi (Madrid Sr.) was last year's starting first baseman. With a batting average of .259, Santi is described as a consistent hitter and a dependable long hitter. She had two homeruns and 7 RBI's in 1977. Pam Schneider (Bancroft Jr.) played second base

last year and finished with a .281 batting average. Mertesdorf says she has speed once she's on the bases and is a good bunter.

Many Panther followers may believe the biggest holes to fill are in the pitching position. Ace pitcher Pat Stockman, who threw 31 innings in the World Series, giving up only one run, graduated and backup Michelle Thomas transferred to another school. However, Mertesdorf is still optimistic in this area.

Three new pitchers have joined the club — Jenny Corkrean (Macksburg Jr.), a transfer from Southwest Community College in Creston; Linda Edwards (Macksburg Fr.); and Trish Kinley (Coggon Fr.). Mertesdorf says they are not a Stockman as of yet and she can't predict who will be numero uno. All three throw different kinds of balls and all three have good speed. All three have "lots" of control, which surprises the coach this early in the season. They all can read the batters and all three are sharp in the game-sense.

As for the rest of the squad, Sheryl Schlader (Charles City So.) is quick and appears to be a good hitter. Jocelyn Drabelle (Dallas Center Jr.) is a transfer from William Penn College. She's quick and has a good arm and probably will play outfield. Kathy Martin (Waukee Fr.) is a strong defensive player infield and is very flexible, making it easy to play her at several slots. Kris Olson (Decorah Jr.) has been called a "sparkplug," with plenty of enthusiasm, and Karla Schiltz (Bancroft Fr.) is a good all-arounder. Finally, Mary Kriener (Fort Atkinson Sr.) is valuable because of her flexibility in the infield.

"Our strengths lie in our versatility and flexibility," Mertesdorf says. "I dropped the squad from the 18 carried last year to 15 this year because that number is much easier to work with and we can play more individuals more often and in several positions. I'll be using total strength."



Front row, Left to Right: Teresa Kennedy, Kris McCartney, Jocelyn Drabelle, Sheryl Schlader, Kathy Martin, Sue Coakley; Back row, Left to Right: Trish Kinley, Sue Tyler, Pam Schneider, Linda Edwards, Karla Schiltz, Jenny Corkrean, Mary Kriener, Kris Olson. Not pictured, Kathy Santi.