

1979

Women's Softball 1979

University of Northern Iowa

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Women's Softball

1979



UNIVERSITY OF
NORTHERN IOWA



Meredith Bakley begins her coaching career at Northern Iowa this spring as she takes over the head mentor's duties of the softball team, replacing Jane Mertesdorf who returned to full-time teaching after starting the first softball team in 1972. A graduate of Black Hills State College in Spearfish, SD, she received her master's degree from Colorado State University in

1974 and has completed some hours toward her doctorate degree from Northern Colorado. She is a former volleyball and softball player. Bakley most recently was an instructor at Valley City State College in Valley City, ND, where she was head basketball and softball coach. Her Valley City softball team placed second in the state in 1978 losing to North Dakota State in the finals. Her overall win-loss record is 58-34.

Head Coach MEREDITH BAKLEY

— 1979 SCHEDULE —

March 30	at Drake	3:30 p.m.
March 31	at Iowa State	5 p.m.
	with William Penn	3 p.m.
April 3	Wartburg	3:30 p.m.
April 6-8	at Nebraska-Lincoln	
	Invitational	
April 11	at Iowa	4:30 p.m.
April 13-14	at Minnesota Invitational	
April 17	Luther	3:30 p.m.
April 19	at Upper Iowa	3:30 p.m.
April 21	Mt. Mercy	2 p.m.
April 23	Loras	3:30 p.m.
April 27-28	AIAW District	
	Tournament	
April 30	at Wartburg	3:30 p.m.
May 1	Grand View	4 p.m.
May 3-4	at IAAW Tournament	
	at Fort Dodge	
May 10-12	at Region 6 AIAW Tournament	
	at Lawrence, KS	
May 23-27	at Women's College	
	World Series at	
	Omaha, NB	

All home games at UNI Softball Diamond, Northwest of the Physical Education Complex.



Front row, left to right: Gloria Andersen, Jill Nielsen, Trish Kinley, Betty Thronson, Marcia Huffey, Pam Schneider, Sue Tyler, Linda Edwards. Back row, left to right: Kathy Gross, Lori Stielow, Kathy Martin, Sheryl Schlader, Teresa Kennedy, Sue Coakley, Connie Bruess, Jennifer Corkrean, Jocelyn Drabelle.

PANTHER OUTLOOK

With four straight district championships under their belts, the Panthers are more than ready to recapture the state title they lost last year after graduating 13 top players. The 1979 Northern Iowa squad loses only two players off last season's first team — third baseman Kris McCartney and first baseman Kathy Santi. With a strong contingent of 10 returning players and a crop of experienced freshmen and transfer athletes, UNI is looking forward to improving upon a 21-11 record. Besides a district title, the Panthers placed fifth in the state and fourth in the region last year.

First year Head Coach Meredith Bakley displays cautious optimism when talking about the upcoming season. Sixty-four athletes attended fall tryouts and 44 returned for spring cuts, from which Bakley decided upon her top 17 players.

An optimistic outlook begins with the 10 veterans who played a major part in last season's rebuilding squad. Catcher Sue Coakley (LaMotte Sr.) returns for her fourth year behind the plate. She also was the Panthers' leading hitter with a .425 average. Junior Teresa Kennedy (Portland) returns to cover the center or left field positions. With the fourth highest batting average of .341, her strengths lie in her long, solid hits and strong arm in the outfield positions. She also recorded the most RBIs with 29.

Second baseman Pam Schneider (Bancroft Sr.) returns to the Panther squad healthy after being injured early in the season last year. Though she played in only five games, she was the second leading hitter with a .412 average. Other returning players in the fielding positions include Jocelyn Drabelle (Lincoln, NB Jr.), a .286 hitter with a good arm and strong defensive skills; Kathy Martin (Waukee, So.),

who played behind Santi last season at first; Sheryl Schlader (Charles City Jr.), a good hitter who recorded 14 RBIs; and Sue Tyler (Atlantic So.), whose strengths lie in the outfield.

All three pitchers off last year's team return to the mound, along with two new faces. Jenny Corkrean (Macksburg Sr.), Linda Edwards (Macksburg So.) and Trish Kinley (Coggon So.) are the veterans, with records of 7-3, 8-5 and 6-3, respectively. Kathy Gross (Spencer Fr.) will be giving the returning pitchers a tough run for their money for the no. 1 spot, along with Ellsworth Junior College transfer Lori Stielow (Alden Jr.).

The other newcomers are Jill Nielsen (Shelby Fr.), most likely to cover third base; Betty Thronson (New Hampton Fr.), third or short stop; Gloria Andersen (Alden Jr.), another transfer from Ellsworth who will help out at first; Connie Bruess (Provitin Jr.), a familiar face to Panther fans because she played her freshman year at UNI before transferring last year to Ellsworth; and Marcia Huffey (Waterville Fr.), a back-up catcher.

"I think we've got a lot of experience in every position, particularly outfield, pitching and catcher," Bakley says. "Third base will be covered by all new people, but we've been drilling hard in preseason and everyone is coming along strong. Looking at the total team, I'd say we're in pretty good shape. But being new to the area, I'm not familiar with our opponents. We're just anxious to get into the season."

A highlight of the season will be April 27-28 when the Panthers host the district championships.

1979 ROSTER

No.	Name	Position	Class	Hometown
18, 33	Gloria Andersen	1B	Jr.	Alden
16, 26	Connie Bruess	LF, RF	Jr.	Protivin
12, 22	*Sue Coakley	C	Sr.	La Motte
7, 17	*Jennifer Corkrean	P, 3B	Sr.	Macksburg
9, 19	*Jocelyn Drabelle	SS	Jr.	Lincoln, NB
8, 18	*Linda Edwards	P, 3B	So.	Macksburg
15, 34	Kathy Gross	P, 1B	Fr.	Spencer
5, 15	Marcia Huffey	C	Fr.	Waterville
11, 21	*Teresa Kennedy	CF, LF	Jr.	Portland
3, 13	*Trish Kinley	P, LF	So.	Coggon
10, 20	*Kathy Martin	1B	So.	Waukee
4, 32	Jill Nielsen	3B	Fr.	Shelby
2, 12	*Sheryl Schlader	LF, CF	Jr.	Charles City
6, 16	*Pam Schneider	2B	Sr.	Bancroft
20, 28	Lori Stielow	P	Jr.	Alden
13, 23	Betty Thronson	3B, SS	Fr.	New Hampton
14, 24	*Sue Tyler	LF, RF	So.	Atlantic

*Returning Athlete

1978 IN REVIEW (21-11)

Wartburg	2-1, 5-3
Luther	4-3, 0-1
Grand View	4-3, 5-1
Iowa	1-5
Luther	1-4
William Penn	5-3, 5-4
Drake	13-3, 10-3
Iowa State	2-4, 9-7
Loras	2-4, 0-5
Loras default two	
Minnesota	9-2, 0-3

DISTRICTS — 1st

Upper Iowa	13-4
Luther	7-5

Wartburg	7-3, 7-0
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STATE — 5th

Central	4-2
Mt. Mercy	4-2
Grand View	1-2
Iowa State	1-2

REGIONALS — 4th

Minnesota	0-4
South Dakota	11-2
Luther	8-3
Kansas	0-5

UNI's Athletic Program

Women's intercollegiate athletics at Northern Iowa has a short history but one its fans 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 program is young, UNI's athletes have made a name for themselves state-wide, regionally and nationally, especially in softball. The Panther softball team advanced to the Women's College World Series four out of the past seven years, placing 8th in 1973, 2nd in 1975, 6th in 1976 and 1st in 1977.

The men's and women's athletic programs merged into one administrative body July 1, 1978, under the direction of Stan Sheriff, athletic director, R.C. Johnson, associate athletic director-men, and Sandra Williamson, associate athletic director-women. Scholarship monies for women athletes was made available for the first time in accordance with Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (AIAW) regulations and student-athletes interested in receiving athletic aid should contact individual coaches.

UNI's program focuses upon educational opportunities made available through individual and team competition — the social, emotional and physical growth of each player. The purpose is to provide quality competitive experience for highly skilled participants with other college-university teams. The Panthers compete in Division II of the AIAW.

QUICK FACTS

LOCATION: Cedar Falls, IA 50613
 ENROLLMENT: 10,343
 NICKNAME: Panthers
 SCHOOL COLORS: Purple and Old Gold
 ATHLETIC DIRECTOR: Stan B. Sheriff
 ASSOC. ATHLETIC DIR. — WOMEN: Sandra Williamson
 319-273-6033
 ASSOC. ATHLETIC DIR. — MEN: R.C. Johnson
 SOFTBALL PHONE: 319-273-2601
 SPORTS INFORMATION DIR.: Brad Larsen
 ASST. SPORTS INFORMATION DIR.: Nancy Justis
 Office: 319-273-6354; Home: 319-277-3631