Northern Iowa
1981
Women’s
Track & Field
Sharon Huddleston
Head Coach

Sharon Huddleston returns as head coach of the women's track and field team at UNI after a two-year leave of absence in order to work on her doctorate in sports psychology. She came to UNI in 1973, following three years of coaching in her native Texas. Huddleston, who also doubles as the women's cross country coach, will be in her seventh year as women's track coach.

Huddleston received B.S. and M.A.E. degrees from Stephen F. Austin State University in Texas. Her athletic experience in track and field and cross country includes four years at the collegiate level and five years of AAU competition at the national and international levels.

Fingertip Facts

Location: Cedar Falls, IA 50614
Enrollment: 11,020
Nickname: Panthers
Colors: Purple and Old Gold
Founded: 1876
Home Facility: UNI-Dome
Track Office Phone: (319) 273-2730
President: Dr. John J. Kamerick
Athletic Director: Stan Sheriff
Associate Athletic Director: Sandra Williamson
Associate Athletic Director: John "Jersey" Jermier
Sports Information Director: Nancy Justis
Sports Information Office: (319) 273-6354
The Panthers return a wealth of talent from the 1980 team which captured the AIAW Division II State Championship. Back are 12 women who hold school records in 17 of the 28 individual events and who comprise over half of the members of the relay teams in the record book. It is obvious to see why Coach Sharon Huddleston is optimistic this spring.

Huddleston feels the team's strongest field events will be the long jump and discus. Record holder Susan Anderson returns in the discus, along with freshman Maren Seehusen, while Micky Illingsworth, another freshman, and Chris Ropa are expected to battle for long jump honors. Seehusen and Sue Marhoul will be the top Panthers in the shot put.

In the other field events, record holders LeAnn Erickson and Kathy Kenney return in the javelin and high jump respectively. Illingsworth and freshman Janna Assink will participate in the short hurdle events while Kim Kaiser looks to be the 400 meter hurdlist.

Karla Federspiel, record holder in the 60 meters, is back along with Kathy Kenney in the sprints. Huddleston expects Assink and another freshman, Sheila Soehner, also to be strong in the sprints and relays.

Michelle Bohlen is the top 400 meter runner back and she should be pushed by Cindy McGohan, a strong freshman.

The middle distances may be the Panthers' strongest running events. Slated for duty in the 800 meters are Deb Schmeling, record holder in the 880 yard run, and freshman Stacy Miller. Shirley Walker and Kaiser will be the 1500 meter specialists. Walker already owns the school record in the event. Backing up these runners are J'ne Day, Donna Groesbeck and Rose Utke. They are expected to participate in both events and relay teams.

Walker will run in the 3000 meters, another event in which she holds the school record. Terri Leisinger, Stacy Roberts and Michelle Stasi also will be in the 3000 as well as the 5000 and 10,000 meter runs. Leisinger is the school record holder in both the 5000 and 10,000 meter events.

Carol Powers, who Huddleston terms "a freshman with outstanding potential," will participate in the pentathlon indoors and the heptathlon outdoors. The pentathlon consists of five events: the shot put, long jump, high jump, 60 meter hurdles and 800 meter run. The heptathlon is made up of seven events with the 100 meter hurdles replacing the 60 meter hurdles and the javelin and 200 meters being added to the pentathlon.

"We have two goals as a team this year," said Huddleston. "First, we would like to qualify more individuals for the regionals than we have in the past. Also, we have several individuals we want to have qualify for the national meet. Stacy Roberts in the 5000 and 10,000 meters, Shirley Walker in the 3000 meters, Deb Schmeling in the 800 meters, Kathy Kenney in the high jump and LeAnn Erickson in the javelin all have an excellent chance to make it to the nationals.

"I think it is important for us to compete against Division I teams," added Huddleston. "It will definitely help us when we compete against stronger Division II schools in the bigger meets."
1981 Roster


Not pictured: Lisa Hermann, Joan Sexton, Stacy Roberts, Twyla Ruchti

Name           Class    Event                  Hometown
Susan Anderson  So.      Discus
Janna Assink   Jr.       Sprints, hurdles
Michelle Bohlken Jr.    400 meters
J’ne Day       Jr.       Middle distances
Kathy DeWald   Jr.       Discus
LeAnn Erickson Sr.     Javelin
Karla Federspiel So.    Sprints
Susie Ford     Jr.       400 meters, long jump
Julie Goettsch  So.      Sprints, hurdles
Donna Groesbeck So.     Middle distances
Lisa Hermann   So.       400 and 800 meters
Beth Howie     Jr.       Sprints, hurdles
Micky Illingsworth Fr.    400 meters, hurdles, long jump
LeAnn Jensen   Fr.       400 meters
Kim Kaiser     Fr.       1500 meters, 400 meter hurdles
Kathy Kenney   Jr.       Sprints, high jump
Karla Landers  Jr.       800 meters
Terri Leisinger Jr.     Long distances
Susan Marhoul  So.       Shot put
Jacquie McDonnell Fr.    Sprints, hurdles
Cindy McGohan  Fr.       800 meters
Stacy Miller   Fr.       800 meters, high jump
Carol Powers   Fr.       Pentathlon, Heptathlon
Stacy Roberts  Sr.       Long distances
Chris Ropa     Sr.       Sprints, long jump
Deb Schmeling  Sr.       800 meters
Maren Seehusen  Fr.      Shot put, discus, javelin
Joan Sexton    Fr.       Discus, javelin
Sheryl Sigmund  Sr.      Javelin
Sheila Soehner  Jr.      Sprints, long jump
Michelle Stasi  Jr.       Long distances
Rose Utte      Sr.       Middle distances
Patti Vincent   Fr.       Sprints, hurdles
Shirley Walker  Fr.       1500 and 3000 meters
Shelli Weinkauf Fr.       800 meters

Hometown
Atlantic, IA
Cedar Falls, IA
Monticello, IA
Gilmore City, IA
Waterloo, IA
Waterloo, IA
LaPorte City, IA
Brooklyn, IA
Marion, IA
Charles City, IA
Sioux City, IA
Garner, IA
Davenport, IA
Climbing Hill, IA
Cedar Falls, IA
Cedar Rapids, IA
Greene, IA
Waverly, IA
Ridgeway, IA
Fort Dodge, IA
Mount Pleasant, IA
Charles City, IA
Muscatine, IA
Mason City, IA
Stanwood, IA
Emmetsburg, IA
Hockessin, DE
Ridgeway, IA
Des Moines, IA
Hilton, NY
Oelwein, IA
Dumont, IA
Paulina, IA
Oelwein, IA
Bettendorf, IA
1981 Schedule

Indoor
Feb. 14 UNI (Triangular), 3 p.m.
Feb. 21 at Wisconsin-LaCrosse Invitational, 10 a.m.
Feb. 28 at Iowa Invitational, 12 noon
March 7 UNI Invitational, 9 a.m.
March 13-14 at AIAW Indoor Nationals at Idaho State
All home meets in the UNI-Dome.

Outdoor
April 4 at Central College Invitational, 10 a.m.
April 11 at Drake Invitational, 9 a.m.
April 18 at Northern Illinois Roadrunner Invitational, 10 a.m.
April 24-25 at Drake Relays or at Wisconsin-River Falls Invitational
May 2 at Illinois State Invitational, 8:30 a.m.
May 14-16 at Region VI Championships at Drake or at AIAW Division II National Championships at Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

1980 Results

Indoor
UNI Triangular 3rd of 3 teams
Iowa Invitational 3rd of 6
UNI Invitational 2nd of 7
St. Olaf Open 2nd of 11

Outdoor
Western Illinois Invitational 2nd of 3
Drake Invitational 9th of 13
Northern Illinois Invitational 1st of 10
Wisconsin-River Falls Invitational 4th of 12
IAIAW State Meet 1st of 4
AIAW Region VI Meet 9th of 25
UNI Women's Track and Field Records

Shot put
Tricia Underberg 40-6 1980

Discus
Susan Anderson 120-10 1980

Javelin
LeAnn Erickson 114-3 1980

Long Jump
Tracy Wentzien 17-11 1980

High Jump
Kathy Kenney 5-6 1979

60 Yard Hurdles
Sue Buffington :08.2 1976

60 Yard Dash
Tracy Wentzien :07.18 1980

60 Meter Dash
Karla Federspiel :07.8 1980

100 Meter Hurdles
Sue Buffington :14.6 1977

100 Meter Dash
Ann Bader :11.8 1976

220 Yard Dash
Tracy Wentzien :25.91 1979

200 Meter Dash
Tracy Wentzien :24.85 1979

300 Yard Dash
Chris Ropa :40.4 1980

300 Meter Dash
Michelle Bohlen :44.0 1980

400 Meter Hurdles
Deb Schmeling :65.0 1980

440 Yard Dash
Deb Schmeling :61.0 1980

400 Meter Dash
Sheryl Sigmund :60.42 1979

600 Yard Dash
Deb Schmeling :1:28.6 1980

880 Yard Run
Deb Schmeling 2:21.61 1980

800 Meter Run
Kathy Kessler 2:21.06 1980

Mile Run
Gini Edson 5:12.76 1980

1500 Meter Run
Shirley Walker 4:49.1 1979

Two Mile Run
Shirley Walker 11:09.47 1979

3000 Meter Run
Shirley Walker 10:29.72 1979

5000 Meter Run
Terri Leisinger 18:35.58 1979

Six Mile Run
Terri Leisinger 37:57.5 1979

10,000 Meter Run
Terri Leisinger 39:27.0 1979

440 Yard Relay
Colleen Howard, Tracy Wentzien, Kathy Kenney, Karla Federspiel :50.32 1980

400 Meter Relay
Colleen Howard, Tracy Wentzien, Kathy Kenney, Karla Federspiel :49.5 1980

880 Yard Medley Relay
Tracy Wentzien, Kathy Kenney, Karla Federspiel, Michelle Bohlen 1:53.84 1980

800 Meter Medley Relay
Tracy Wentzien, Kathy Kenney, Karla Federspiel, Michelle Bohlen 1:50.8 1980

Mile Relay
Deb Schmeling, Sheryl Sigmund, Linda Iliff, Michelle Bohlen 4:11.1 1979

1600 Meter Relay
Laurie Dennis, Sheryl Sigmund, J'ne Day, Michelle Bohlen 4:10.65 1980

Two Mile Relay
Kathy Kessler, Donna Groesbeck, J'ne Day, Deb Schmeling 9:34.6 1980

3200 Meter Relay
Shirley Walker, Donna McGohan, J'ne Day, Deb Schmeling 9:41.56 1979

Pentathlon
Jan Messerschmidt

Shot Put 31-10
Long Jump 16-3
High Jump 5-3/4
100 Meter Hur. :15.6
800 Meter Run 2:28.2

3381 points 1980