Northern Iowa Softball 1985

University of Northern Iowa

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Northern Iowa Softball 1985

UNI's Senior Leadership
Quick Facts

General Information
Location: Cedar Falls, IA 50614
Founded: 1876
Enrollment: 11,200
Nickname: Panthers
Colors: Purple and Old Gold
Conference: Gateway Collegiate
Affiliation: NCAA Division I
President: Dr. Constantine Curris
Faculty Representative: Dixon Riggs

Department of Intercollegiate Athletics
Director of Athletics: Robert Bowlsby
Associate ADs: Sandra Williamson, John Jermier
Business Manager: Ann Hill
Ticket Manager: Greg Merfeld
Athletic Trainer: Dave Burton
Sports Information Director: Nancy Justis
    319-273-6354; Home: 319-277-3631
Asst. SID: Mike Madsen

Women's Softball Coach
Meredith Bakley
UNI-Dome West Side
University of Northern Iowa
Cedar Falls, IA 50614
Office Phone: 319-273-2520
Home Phone: 319-236-3664

On the Cover: UNI's two seniors, Pam Severin and Terri Heisterkamp.
The University of Northern Iowa

The University of Northern Iowa, located in Cedar Falls, was founded in 1876 as the Iowa State Normal School. From a single building on a 40-acre campus, the University has grown to include more than 40 major buildings, a 723-acre campus, 675 faculty members and 11,000 students.

Northern Iowa emphasizes outstanding undergraduate education, with complementary graduate programs at the master's, specialist's and doctoral levels. Building on its traditional strength in teacher education, Northern Iowa has developed other excellent programs in its School of Business, College of Humanities and Fine Arts, College of Natural Sciences and College of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Campus landmarks include the Campanile, the Education Center, Strayer-Wood Theatre, Maucker University Union and the UNI-Dome. Special academic resources include the 500,000-volume University Library, the Industrial Technology Center and the Communications Arts Center. The campus, classrooms and residence halls are highly handicapped-accessible.

Northern Iowa is the home of The North American Review, a quarterly journal of literature that has received two National Magazine Awards in the fiction category. The University also operates KUNI-FM and KHKE-FM, whose 4,000-member "Friends" organization makes them two of the most popular public radio stations in the United States.

Northern Iowa competes in men's and women's athletics at the NCAA Division I level. In addition to a traditionally strong wrestling program, the University is competitive in football (Mid-Continent Conference, Division IAA) and men's basketball (Association of Mid-Continent Universities). In women's athletics the softball team has been especially successful, winning the AIAW Division II College World Series twice in recent years.

Northern Iowa is a state-assisted university, part of the Iowa Regents system that also includes the University of Iowa and Iowa State University. The University's more than 40,000 alumni in the United States and other countries lend additional support through the UNI Foundation and other alumni programs.
Two words are used repeatedly by Head Coach Meredith Bakley when she talks about her 1985 softball squad — dedication and speed.

"This is the most talented and dedicated group I think I've had the pleasure to coach," says the seventh year head mentor. "Practices are fun to go to. The reason is because these players have an excellent attitude towards one another and the program."

Bakley feels her team should be stronger overall because of this positive attitude but she also feels another major strength is the speed of her players. She also feels the Panthers will be a better hitting ball club, an area of concern the last couple of years.

"We'll be better offensively because our hitting has improved over the year," Bakley said. "But if we have any weaknesses, it's our inexperience in playing together. We've got as many new faces this year as veterans."

UNI lost eight players off last year's 23-22-1 squad but return eight players. Missing from this season's lineup are pitcher Jennifer Berger, who set several school records and led the team to the 1982 Division II national championship; outfielder Marshelle Clark, reserve pitcher Lori Cook, first baseman and top hitter Laurel Magee, who left the team mid-season a year ago; short stop Sherri Salsbury, catcher Penny Seidel and outfielder Jane Wagner.

"Of all the players not returning this year, I feel we'll miss Wagner the most," Bakley said. "She had an excellent arm in right field, knew her position and opponents knew not to take home plate too easily because she could make the out more times than not from her position. She also was one of our top hitters and led the team in RBIs (17) last year. As for the loss of Berger and Cook, they provided some excellent pitching for us the past three or four years but I feel confident we have the pitchers this year to adequately replace them."

Bakley feels she has established starters at every position following last fall's unofficial competition. Handling the chores from the mound this year will be Crowder College transfer Linda Whannel and UNI reserve pitcher Terri Benson. Whannel pitched her team to a runner-up spot in last year's junior college national championships. According to Bakley, she throws "a lot of stuff and will keep the opposition off balance."

Benson has not played a lot for the Panthers in her reserve role but Bakley says "Terri will be a pleasant surprise this year. She all of a sudden has developed the confidence in herself. She probably throws the best of all our pitchers with her speed and changeup. She has a nice curve ball."

The other two pitchers are UNI reserve Gena McCormick and freshman Lori Hathaway, a third team all-state pick from Nevada, IA.

"The future looks very good for Lori," says Bakley. "She probably throws the hardest ball of all the pitchers but she needs to work on her control. That will come with experience."

Only one new face should show itself in the infield where at first base freshman Paula Evers is expected to start. A fourth team all-state pick from Dyersville, IA, she has a strong arm and is very quick, according to Bakley.
Second base probably will be covered by sophomore Sonya Feaker who shared the duties last year with the departed Janie Lyons. “Sonya has developed more confidence over the year and should enjoy the position much more,” Bakley said.

Junior Pam Phipps should return to her duties at third base where Bakley has said she is “steady as a rock.” She also should contribute more on offense this season after working hard on her hitting over the winter. At shortstop will be returnee Terri Heisterkamp, one of two seniors on the squad. Heisterkamp probably will be backed up by Waldorf Junior College transfer Peggy Ackerman. Waldorf also participated in the JUCO nationals a year ago.

The outfield will be filled by two new faces with the only veteran appearing in left field. Pam Severin, a senior from Nevada, IA, will return to her familiar position and also is the leading hitter of the returnees, batting a .284 average a year ago.

Rookie Laura McInroy, a sophomore from Charles City, IA, could take over in center field. Bakley describes her as a very competitive and aggressive player who “demands a lot of herself. She will be a good addition both defensively and offensively.”

Black Hawk College transfer Julie Schroeder could see action either in center or right field. Bakley says she has “great hand-eye coordination, making her an excellent hitter, and she has exceptional speed.”

Rounding out the outfielders are returnee Marla Peterson, who in the past has been the Panther designated hitter; rookie Pam Reiter, the only sophomore on the team; and freshman Shelly Beauchamp, a third team all-stater from Maquoketa, IA.

“Shelly has excellent fundamentals and will be very valuable because of her versatility,” says Bakley. “She’ll probably be our utility player.”

The catching corps is a mixture of old and new. Sharing duties behind the plate will be last year’s backup, LeAnne Spicer, and freshman Connie McBride, a second team all-stater from Conrad, IA. Spicer may be the quickest out of the box, according to Bakley, and is very intelligent in calling the game.

With the number of new faces on the team, as compared to a year ago when 14 veterans returned to the squad, it is very difficult to predict the outcome of the 1985 softball season. Bakley feels this year’s schedule is the toughest ever and says “if we can survive the spring break competition, we should be pretty healthy.”

The Panthers open the season March 14 against Kansas and Arizona in Oklahoma, followed by Central Michigan the next day, all in preparation for the Sooner Invitational which begins March 16. The spring break slate ends March 22-23 at the Oklahoma State Invitational. UNI’s first home doubleheader is March 27 against non-conference foe Wartburg and the Gateway Collegiate Athletic Conference (GCAC) portion of the schedule begins April 5 against Eastern Illinois. UNI hosts 13 straight events mid-season, including the 12-team UNI Invitational which includes teams from Missouri, Central Michigan, Colorado State and Michigan State.
As for the Panthers' chances in the GCAC this year, Bakley hopes her team can place in the top five after being seeded sixth a year ago in the post-season tournament and dropping the first two games, eliminating them from the competition. She feels Illinois State, Western Illinois, Bradley and Southwest Missouri State should be considered the top candidates for the conference title. “But I feel we can be a sleeper this season,” Bakley added.

Head Coach Meredith Bakley

Meredith Bakley begins her seventh year as the Panthers' head softball coach. In her first year at the helm, she guided the team to a 22-10 overall record and a second place finish in the AIAW state tournament. Five years ago she improved that mark to 31-15. Four seasons ago, the Panthers finished 29-15, placing third in the state and fourth in the regional championships. Three years ago, she directed UNI to its second national title. Two years ago, the Panthers finished 31-15 and last year, 23-22-1.

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 towards her doctorate from the University of Iowa and Northern Colorado.

Bakley was an instructor at Valley City State College in Valley City, ND, where she was head basketball and softball coach before coming to UNI. 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 229-126-3.

She is a former volleyball and softball player.

Assistant Coach Dr. Gene Bruhn

Dr. Gene Bruhn is beginning his third year as assistant softball coach and is in fact the first part-time assistant coach ever hired in the history of UNI softball. A chiropractor practicing in Clarksville, he studied two years at Ellsworth Junior College, one year at Wartburg and received his degree from Palmer College of Chiropractic in Davenport, IA. Dr. Bruhn has been a softball player for 21 years, competing in the service in Viet Nam and at Fort Sill in Oklahoma. He also has competed in city leagues in the Quad City area.
A Short History

Women's intercollegiate softball at the University of Northern Iowa has a short history but a very proud history. Even though the program is young, with competition beginning in the 1972 season, UNI's teams have made a name for themselves state-wide, regionally and nationally.

Since the sport was initiated, each team has recorded a winning record. The overall win-loss mark (since 1974) is an astounding 251-100-2. Without any doubt, the premier season was 1977 when the Panthers, behind the pitching of Pat Stockman, who later went on to play with the Buffalo (NY) Briskies pro team, captured the Women's College World Series crown and finished the year with a 32-2 overall record. Three years ago, UNI won its second national title.

Throughout the years, the Panthers have won three state championships, placed first in the regional championships in 1977 and 1982, fourth in 1978 and 1981 and besides winning the national title in 1977 and 1982, they placed eighth in 1973, second in 1975 and in the top six in the nation in 1976.

Facilities

The UNI softball team found its home on the UNI campus in the 1978 season with the construction of its own diamond after previously playing all home games at a softball complex in Waterloo, IA. Ground-level dugouts were added two years ago to afford protection for the athletes from the possibility of inclement weather.

However, if the weather dictates that games can no longer be played outdoors, the UNI softball team has the advantage of being able to play indoors in the UNI-Dome, a multi-purpose, air-supported coliseum. Thus, the Panthers are rarely rained out when they play at home.
1985 UNI Softball: 1st Row: Shelly Beauchamp, Linda Whannel; 2nd Row: Laura McInroy, Pam Severin, Julie Schroder; 3rd Row: Paula Evers, Terri Benson, Connie McBride; 4th Row: Sonya Feaker, Peggy Ackerman, Marla Peterson; 5th Row: Gena McCormick, Pam Phipps, LeAnne Spicer; 6th Row: Lori Hathaway, Terri Heisterkamp, Pam Reiter
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*Returning athlete
## 1984 FINAL NORTHERN IOWA SOFTBALL STATISTICS

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*Returning athlete

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* Pitching statistics include home and away games.
From the Files

Records (Since 1975)

Games
Most Games, season: 51 (1982)
Most Games Won, Season: 35 (1982)
Most Games Lost, Season: 22 (1984)
Lowest Winning Pct., season: .500 (23-22-1, 1984)
Most Consecutive Games Won: 18 (1977)
Most Consecutive Games Lost: 5 (1981)

Batting (team)
Highest batting avg., season: .281 (1978)
Most at-bats, season: 1362 (1982)
Most runs, season: 238 (1982)
Most runs per game: 6.3 (1975)
Most hits, season: 360 (1982)
Most hits per game: 8.0 (1977)
Most doubles, season: 43 (1982)
Most triples, season: 25 (1982)
Most homeruns, season: 21 (1982)
Most runs batted in, season: 201 (1982)
Most stolen bases, season: 74 (1982)
Most strikeouts, season: 139 (1983)

Batting (Individual)
Most runs, season: 35, Marshelle Clark (1982)
Most hits, season: 53, Laurel Magee (1982)
Most strikeouts, season: 110, Betty Throndson (1981)
Most doubles, season: 12, Jane Wagner (1982)
Most triples, season: 9, Teresa Kennedy (1980)
Most homeruns, season: 6, Marshelle Clark (1982)
Most runs batted in, season: 36, Jane Wagner (1982)
Most stolen bases, season: 17, Betty Davis (1981)
Most times hit by pitch, season: 3, Jocelyn Drabelle (1978)
Highest batting average, season: .425, Sue Coakley (1978)

Fielding (team) Since 1981
Most putouts, season: 328, Laurel Magee (1983)
Most assists, season: 110, Betty Throndson (1981)
Most errors, season: 28, Betty Throndson (1981)

Pitching (Individual) Since 1978
Most victories, career: 41, Jennifer Berger (1982-84)
Most victories, season: 17, Jennifer Berger (1982)
Most losses, career: 23, Jennifer Berger (1982-84)
Most losses, season: 10, Jennifer Berger (1984)
Most homeruns allowed, career: 4, Kathy Gross (1979-82); Linda Edwards (1978)
Most homeruns allowed, season: 4, Linda Edwards (1978)
Most games, career: 68, Jennifer Berger (1982-84)
Most games, season: 26, Jennifer Berger (1982)
Most innings pitched, career: 446, Jennifer Berger (1982-84)
Most hits allowed, career: 301, Jennifer Berger (1982-84)
Most hits allowed, season: 121, Jennifer Berger (1982-84)
Most runs allowed, career: 121, Kathy Gross (1979-82)
Most runs allowed, season: 50, Lori Cook (1984)
Most earned runs, career: 65, Jennifer Berger (1982-84)
Most earned runs, season: 33, Lori Cook (1984)
Most walks allowed, career: 135, Kathy Gross (1979-82)
Most walks allowed, season: 40, Jennifer Berger (1982)
Most strikeouts, career: 413, Jennifer Berger (1982-84)
Most strikeouts, season: 216, Jennifer Berger (1982)
Year by Year Results

Season results prior to 1974 are unavailable.

1974 (15-3)
Luther 14-2, 2-0
Graceland 2 -3
Grand View 18-4, 9-1
Iowa State 6-5, 7-3
Luther 6-3, 7-6
Iowa 13-0, 34-1
Wartburg 4-3, 5-4
IAIAW Championships (3rd)
Graceland 9-2
Buena Vista 11-1
Luther 1-2
Iowa State 1-4
Head Coach: Jane Mertesdorf

1975 (20-4)
Luther 3-0, 5-6
Iowa 10-0, 6-4
Iowa State 7-1, 10-2
Graceland 8-3
Kansas State 3-4 (8 inn.)
Wartburg 15-1, 9-0
IAIW District Championships (1st)
Wartburg 5-1
Luther 4-0, 4-0
IAIW State Championships (1st)
Graceland 12-3
Iowa Wesleyan 10-0
Iowa State 2-1, 3-2
Women’s College World Series (2nd)
Oklahoma 5-0
Michigan State 4-3
Kansas 4-1
Nebraska-Omaha 0-1
Michigan State 7-3
Nebraska-Omaha 11-1, 4-6
Head Coach: Jane Mertesdorf

1976 (23-3)
Iowa 11-0
Luther 3-0
Wartburg 3-2, 8-1
Iowa State 7-4, 1-0
Luther 1-0
Graceland 8-0, 15-0
Wartburg 5-0, 1-0
Luther 1-0, 3-4
Mankato State 10-0
Minnesota 10-0
Moorhead State 11-0
IAIW Championships (1st)
William Penn 10-0
Drake 11-0
Wartburg 2-0
Iowa State 9-1
Luther 7-2
Women’s College World Series (top 6)
Northern State College (SD) 3-1
Arizona State 0-2
Indiana State 10-2
Texas 6-0
Northern Colorado 0-1
Head Coach: Jane Mertesdorf

1977 (32-2)
Wartburg 4-3, 9-1
Nebraska-Omaha 9-3, 7-2
Iowa 8-5, 7-0
Grand View 12-0, 12-2
Mt. Mercy 6-1, 7-1
IAIW District Championships (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
IAIAW State Championships (1st)
Mt. Mercy 9-0
William Penn 2-0
Iowa State 2-1, 4-2
IAIAW Region 6 Championships (1st)
North Dakota State 4-0
Tarkio 1-0
Southwest Missouri State 3-2, 6-1
Women’s College World Series (1st)
Southern Illinois 3-0
Kansas 4-0
Michigan State 7-3
Arizona 1-0 (8 inn.), 0-1 (9 inn.), 7-0
Head Coach: Jane Mertesdorf

1978 (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 2)
Minnesota 9-2, 0-3
IAIW District Championships (1st)
Upper Iowa 13-4
Luther 7-5
IAIW State Championships (5th)
Central 4-2
Mt. Mercy 4-2
Grand View 1-2
Iowa State 1-2
IAIAW Region 6 Championships (4th)
Minnesota 0-4
South Dakota 11-2
Luther 8-3
Kansas 0-5
Head Coach: Jane Mertesdorf

1979 (22-10)
Wartburg 4-7, 6-5
Wichita State 10-2
Nebraska 2-5
Wayne State 5-4
Emporia State 1-6
Drake 1-0 (9 inn.), 5-1
St. Cloud State 6-3, 6-5
Minnesota 5-7
Minnesota JV 2-3
Iowa State 0-1, 4-3 (10 inn.)
Luther 15-5 (5 inn.), 5-4
Mt. Mercy 2-3, 10-6
Loras 1-0, 8-2
IAIW District Championships (1st)
Luther 7-2
Upper Iowa 5-2
Wartburg 8-2, 3-1
Grand View 1-3, 2-1
IAIAW State Championships (2nd)
Iowa Wesleyan 8-0
Iowa State 5-0
William Penn 3-1
Drake 0-1 (12 inn.)
William Penn 8-5 (8 inn.)
Drake 1-2
Head Coach: Meredith Bakley

1980 (31-15)
Hawaii-Hilo Invitational (2nd)
Texas Women's 0-1
Utah State 0-2
William Penn 3-1
Drake 0-1 (12 inn.)
William Penn 6-5 (8 inn.)
Drake 1-2

IAIAW State Championships (3rd)
St. Ambrose 0-2
Loras 9-1
St. Ambrose 3-0
Grand View 0-5

IAIAW Region 6 Championships (4th)
Moorhead State 7-0
South Dakota 2-1
Northeast Missouri State 0-1
St. Cloud State 6-0 (8 inn.)
Grand View 0-1
Head Coach: Meredith Bakley

1982 (35-15-1)
Oklahoma Baptist 3-6, 13-5 (5 inn.)
Southern Illinois 3-4 (8 inn.)
Oklahoma State 0-6
Oklahoma City 7-3
Texas-Arlington 1-6
Oklahoma City 11-2 (5 inn.), 1-6
Southwest Missouri State 2-7
Southern Illinois 1-0 (10 inn.)
Minnesota 1-9
William Penn 3-1, 3-2 (9 inn.)
St. Ambrose 3-0, 4-2
Grand View 0-4, 12-3
Iowa State 0-1 (8 inn.), 5-5 (5 inn.)

IAIAW Women's College World Series (1st)
Eastern Illinois 1-0
Northern Arizona 6-2
Southern Illinois-Edwardsville 1-0
Southern Illinois-Edwardsville 5-0
Head Coach: Meredith Bakley
1983 (31-15)
Central State (OK) Invitational (2nd)
West Texas State 4-1
Wichita State 5-1
South Dakota State 8-1
Central State 6-1
Northwest Louisiana 2-1
Texas Wesleyan 1-2
Oklahoma Baptist 2-0, 3-9
Oklahoma State 0-8, 1-8
Missouri 3-9
Wyoming 9-4
Oklahoma City 9-1, 8-0
Wartburg 10-1, 4-3
Iowa 1-2 (10 inn.)
St. Ambrose 3-1, 7-6
Minnesota 3-2, 3-5
William Penn 7-1, 6-0
Iowa State 2-3, 2-0
Missouri Western Invitational
Washburn 4-0
Kearney State 2-3 (8 inn.)
Oklahoma Baptist 1-0 (9 inn.)
Nebraska-Omaha 2-0
Iowa 2-0, 3-1
Drake 1-0, 2-1
Illinois State Invitational (1st)
Southern Illinois 3-0
Western Illinois 2-1
Kent State 6-2
Indiana State 7-1
Central Michigan 3-1
Grandview 2-3, 5-1
Loras 1-0, 9-8
Minnesota 0-5, 0-4
Gateway Conference
Indiana State 2-3 (10 inn.)
Wichita State 0-1 (9 inn.)
Head Coach: Meredith Bakley

1984 (23-22-1)
Central State (OK) Invitational
Texas Wesleyan 3-2
Central State 2-5
Friends 1-0
Pittsburg State 5-2
Oklahoma Baptist 0-3
Arizona 0-1 (11 inn.)
Indiana 0-2
Oklahoma City 0-0 (26 inn.)
Pittsburg State Invitational
Nebraska-Omaha 3-2
Missouri Southern 9-2
Texas Wesleyan 0-1
Wartburg 11-0, 3-4
*Illinois State 1-2 (13 inn.), 0-9
*Indiana State 1-0, 2-1
Iowa 8-7, 2-7
Mankato State 1-0, 4-0
*Western Illinois 0-2 (9 inn.), 2-4
*Bradley 2-9, 0-1
St. Ambrose 4-0, 2-0
Miller Medical-UNI Tournament (4th)
South Dakota 1-2
NEMO State 3-1
Missouri Western 1-3
Kearney State 4-3 (9 inn.)
St. Xavier 2-0
Iowa State 4-5, 5-0
*Eastern Illinois 4-2, 3-1
*Southern Illinois 2-1, 0-4
Iowa 1-7, 1-3
*SWMO State 1-0, 1-0
*Wichita State 0-1 (8 inn.), 5-2
*Gateway Conference Tournament
Bradley 0-7
Eastern Illinois 0-5
Head Coach: Meredith Bakley
(*Gateway Conference Games)
1985 Northern Iowa Softball Schedule

March 14-16  Sooner Invitational (Kansas, Arizona, Central Michigan)
March 17  Central Michigan, Missouri at Norman, OK 9 a.m., 1 p.m.
March 18  Southern Illinois-Edwardsville, Oklahoma at Norman, OK 3 p.m., 5 p.m.
March 19  Oklahoma Baptist at Norman, OK 2:30 p.m.
March 21  Oklahoma State 2 p.m.
March 22-23  Oklahoma State Invitational (Oklahoma City, Baylor, Wichita State)
March 27  Wartburg 3:30 p.m.
March 28  Mt. Mercy 3:30 p.m.
April 2  Iowa 3:30 p.m.
April 3  Mankato State 3:30 p.m.
April 5  *Eastern Illinois 2 p.m.
April 6  *Southern Illinois 2 p.m.
April 9  *Drake 2 p.m.
April 11  Creighton 7 p.m. (UNI-Dome)
April 12-14  UNI Invitational (UNI-Dome)
April 16  St. Ambrose 3:30 p.m.
April 17  Iowa State 3:30 p.m.
April 19  *Illinois State 2 p.m.
April 20  *Indiana State 2 p.m.
April 23  Grand View 3 p.m.
April 26  *Southwest Missouri State 1 p.m.
April 27  *Wichita State 2 p.m.
May 1  Iowa 3 p.m.
May 3  *Western Illinois 2 p.m.
May 4  *Bradley 2 p.m.
May 9-11  Gateway Collegiate Athletic Conference Tournament at MaComb, IL

*Gateway Conference Games

All Home Games at UNI Softball Diamond unless otherwise indicated. In case of inclement weather, games will be played in the UNI-Dome.