

1988

Northern Iowa Men's Golf 1987-88

University of Northern Iowa

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Northern Iowa Men's Golf 1987-88



Returning letterwinners Mike Sawyer, Monte Meyer, Dave Hutchison, Dave Blink, Lance Miller

Outlook

If experience is any kind of factor that contributes to the success of a golf team, University of Northern Iowa head coach Ken Green has reason to be optimistic.

As Green prepares his team for the challenge of the 1988 spring schedule, he is fortunate to have five returning letterwinners, led by junior Monte Meyer, who earned all-conference honors last year and was twice named AMCU "Player of the Week."

The supporting cast includes juniors Dave Blink, Dave Hutchison and Lance Miller along with sophomore Mike Sawyer. Hutchison and Sawyer finished 10th and 11th, respectively, at the AMCU conference meet last fall. Depth is aided by the return of sophomore Bill Stephenson.

With the exception of Meyer, the team did not play well at the 1987 fall conference tournament held at Cog Hill in Lemont, IL. Lack of consistency coupled with a demanding and intimidating golf course were factors that contributed to the squad's poor play.

"UNI will return a number of players who have played Cog Hill and this will help them in preparing for the fall 1988 tournament," said Green. "This golf course (Cog #4) is so difficult, with severe penalties for errant shots, one just has to experience playing a course like this to really appreciate what it takes to score well."

Spring workouts begin early in February in preparation for the annual trip to Marietta, GA, during spring break in late March. Eight players will make the trip based upon their play in the fall. The trip offers the players the opportunity to play some outstanding courses. In the past years, this experience has added tremendously to the success of the team.

Green is optimistic about the spring season. He expects a strong showing in both the annual Wartburg-UNI meet and Drake Relays tournament, and he expects to be competitive in the remaining events on the schedule. Meyer should lead the way and take up where he left off in the fall. The remaining players on the team also should be playing with a lot more confidence.

Next season is a critical time for recruiting. New, young players are needed to replace the veterans who will be winding up their careers at UNI. The fact that UNI's program is Division I, has a very competitive schedule, the athletes play on some great golf courses and Green takes the squad to Georgia each spring are all positive factors that make playing golf at UNI a very exciting and worthwhile experience.



1987-88 Men's Golf, Front Row, L-R: Tom Schaeffer, Chris Foley, Dave Hutchison, Robb Pentico. Back Row, L-R: Coach Ken Green, Bill Stephenson, Mike Sawyer, Dave Blink, Monte Meyer, Lance Miller, Steve Link, Bob Kelsey.

Player Profiles

Dave Blink — Junior **Spencer, IA**

Blink has been making steady progress during the two and a half years he has been associated with the Panther golf program. He presently ranks in the top six, but still needs to work on course management and inconsistency problems. With his solid swing, he should be able to continue to improve and make a greater contribution to the program. He is majoring in liberal arts.

Dave Hutchison — Junior **Mason City, IA**

An off-campus co-op program kept Hutchison, a two-year letterwinner, from competition last season. This outstanding student responded very well after the one-year layoff to finish first in the fall qualifying and to register the second-best stroke average on the team during the fall campaign. He has a double major in computer science and math.

Monte Meyer — Junior **Cedar Falls, IA**

Meyer just completed his best start ever this fall by earning all-conference honors at the 1987 AMCU tournament. He also was named "AMCU Golfer of the Week" twice while leading the Panthers in stroke average. His inconsistency problems appear to be resolved and he is looking forward to the spring season. He is a business finance major.

Lance Miller — Junior **Eagle Grove, IA**

Miller struggled last year but has rebounded very well this fall with some steady play. Since his freshman year, he has made some positive changes in his swing, worked hard and, as a result, has made a significant contribution to the program. He still is improving and will be a factor in the success of the team next spring. He is majoring in marketing.

Mike Sawyer — Sophomore **Waukon, IA**

This fierce competitor had an up and down fall season after making a few swing changes during the summer. Even though his stroke average was not as low as he expected, this has not side-tracked Sawyer in his efforts to become one of the top golfers at UNI. He is making excellent progress and eventually will mature into a very fine player. He is majoring in business management.

Bill Stephenson — Sophomore **Fort Dodge, IA**

Stephenson is a welcome addition to the squad, having transferred from Iowa Central Community College. He has excellent potential but lacks consistency. He ranked fourth in team stroke average this fall. He needs to work on his short game in order for him to reach his personal goals of being one of the top players on the squad. He is majoring in management.

Head Coach Ken Green

This season marks Ken Green's 17th year as head coach of the Panthers. While a member of the NCAA Division II, UNI was one of the stronger teams in District V, sending either a team or individuals seven of 10 years to post-season play. He produced four All-Americans. He was District V Coach of the Year in 1973 and his team finished in eighth place in the 1976 national tournament.

Seven years ago, UNI moved to the Division I level. UNI's competition and quality of play have continued to improve since making this change in classification. Division I demands a level of play that serves as a challenge that is slowly being met by the Panthers.

Coach Green is an Area Consultant for the National Golf Foundation and was selected as the AMCU Conference Coach of the Year in 1985.

1987 Fall Results

Meet	Results	Team Score
Big 4 Meet	3rd of 4 teams	608
Badger Invitational	13th of 15 teams	956
UNI Golf Classic	15th of 18 teams	1264
Ellwood Greens Invitational	6th of 8 teams	928
AMCU Tournament	3rd of 7 teams	977

Men's Golf Roster 1987-88

Name	Year	Hometown
*Blink, Dave	Jr.	Spencer, IA
Foley, Chris	Jr.	Davenport, IA
*Hutchison, Dave	Jr.	Mason City, IA
Kelsey, Bob	Jr.	Bettendorf, IA
Link, Steve	Fr.	Dubuque, IA
*Meyer, Monte	Jr.	Cedar Falls, IA
*Miller, Lance	Jr.	Eagle Grove, IA
Pentico, Robb	Jr.	Cedar Rapids, IA
*Sawyer, Mike	So.	Waukon, IA
Schaeffer, Tom	Jr.	Story City, IA
Stephenson, Bill	So.	Fort Dodge, IA

*Returning Letterwinners

Northern Iowa Division II All-Americans

Rich Lyons — 1976 (Honorable Mention)

Craig Cool — 1977 (3rd Team)

Chris Vandell — 1978 (Honorable Mention)

Dennis Rommann — 1980 (Honorable Mention)

Northern Iowa at a Glance

Location: Cedar Falls, Iowa 50614

Enrollment: 11,500

Founded: 1876

President: Dr. Constantine W. Curris

Colors: Purple and Old Gold

National Affiliation: NCAA Division I

Conference: Association of Mid-Continent
Universities (AMCU)

Nickname: Panthers

Director of Athletics: Bob Bowlsby

Head Coach: Ken Green (319) 273-6055

Director of Sports Information:

Nancy Justis (319) 273-6354

1988 Spring Schedule

March 18-25	Spring Trip	Marietta, GA
April 5	Big 4 Meet	Des Moines, IA
April 9-10	Bradley Invitational	Peoria, IL
April 15-16	UNI-Wartburg Invitational	Cedar Falls- Waverly, IA
April 23	Grinnell Invitational	Grinnell, IA
April 28-29	Drake Relays Invitational	Des Moines, IA
May 1-2	Badger Invitational	Madison, WI

Pheasant Ridge Golf Course

The golf team practices and plays its home meets on the beautifully manicured and challenging Pheasant Ridge Golf Course in Cedar Falls. Since the course opened, golfers have been challenged by generous amounts of sand, length of the course and large, undulating greens.

The course is located about two miles from the UNI campus on the northwest side of Cedar Falls and plays to a par 72. It is considered one of the finest municipal tracts in the state.