1997

1996-97 Northern Iowa Wrestling

University of Northern Iowa

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# 1996-97 Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 23</td>
<td>at Nebraska-Omaha Open</td>
<td></td>
<td>9 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 30</td>
<td>at Northern Open (Madison, Wis.)</td>
<td></td>
<td>9 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 7</td>
<td>Northern Iowa Open</td>
<td></td>
<td>9 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 28-29</td>
<td>at Midlands Open (Evanston, Ill.)</td>
<td></td>
<td>9 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 4</td>
<td>at Great Plains Invitational (Lincoln, Neb.)</td>
<td></td>
<td>9 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 7</td>
<td>at Georgia State</td>
<td></td>
<td>12 noon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 10-11</td>
<td>at Tennessee-Chattanooga</td>
<td></td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 17</td>
<td>at Virginia Duals (Hampton, Va.)</td>
<td></td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 18</td>
<td>Northern Iowa Duals</td>
<td>(Wyoming, Ohio, Marquette, Augsburg, Moorhead State, Central Oklahoma, Lindenwood)</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 23</td>
<td>Wisconsin</td>
<td></td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 26</td>
<td>at Eastern Illinois</td>
<td></td>
<td>1:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 31</td>
<td>vs. Indiana (Charleston, Ill.)</td>
<td></td>
<td>1:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 1</td>
<td>at Oklahoma</td>
<td></td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 16</td>
<td>Nebraska</td>
<td></td>
<td>2:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 21</td>
<td>Ohio State</td>
<td></td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 23</td>
<td>at Iowa State</td>
<td></td>
<td>2 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 8</td>
<td>NCAA West Regional (Cedar Falls)</td>
<td></td>
<td>9 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 20-22</td>
<td>NCAA Division I Championships (UNI-Dome, Cedar Falls)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*All home meets in West Gym. All times local.*
MEDIA INFORMATION

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1997 NCAA Championships IBC

Primary UNI Media Outlets

Print
Kevin Evans Waterloo Courier P.O. Box 540, Waterloo, IA 50704 319-291-1466
Dan McCool Des Moines Register P.O. Box 957, Des Moines, IA 50304 515-284-8000
J.R. Ogden Cedar Rapids Gazette 500 Third Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52401 319-398-8211
Chuck Schoffner Associated Press P.O. Box 1741, Des Moines, IA 50306 515-243-3281
Sports Editor Northern Iowan Maucker Union, UNI, Cedar Falls, IA 50614 319-273-2157

Electronic
Bryan Lessly KWWL-TV East Fourth & Franklin, Waterloo, IA 50703 319-291-1290
Keith Beyer KGAN-TV P.O. Box 3131, Cedar Rapids, IA 52406 319-395-6188
John Campbell KCRG-TV 2nd Ave. at 5th St., Cedar Rapids, IA 52401 319-398-8391
Doug Brooker Iowa Public Television P.O. Box 6450, Johnston, IA 50131 515-242-3100
Gary Rima KOEL Radio P.O. Box 391, Oelwein, IA 50662 319-283-1234
Tracey Williams KCNZ Radio 721 Shirley St., Cedar Falls, IA 50613 319-277-1918
Kelly Neff KWLO Radio P.O. Box 1330, Waterloo, IA 50703 319-234-2200

Northern Iowa At A Glance
Location: Cedar Falls, Iowa 50614
Founded: 1876
Enrollment: 13,000
Nickname: Panthers
Colors: Purple & Old Gold
President: Dr. Robert Koob
Athletic Director: Chris Ritteri
Head Coach: Don Briggs
Record at UNI: 157-90 (14 years)
Career Record: 157-90 (14 years)
Assistant Coaches: Joel Greenlee, Alan Fried

Home Facility (capacity): West Gym (2,500)
Conference: Independent (NCAA West Regional)
1995-96 Dual Record: 5-12
1996 NCAA Finish: T27th
Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 9/3
Starters Returning/Lost: 7/3
Assistant Trainer (Wrestling): Jeff Marcks
Assistant Athletic Media Relations Director, Wrestling Contact: Kevin Kane
Office Phone: 319-273-3642
Fax: 319-273-3602

To the Media
Press facilities in the West Gym are very limited. Only working media are allowed access to the press area, which is located on the south side of the arena.
Head coach Don Briggs and team members are available for interviews in person or by telephone on most occasions. Interviews may be arranged through Assistant Athletic Media Relations Director Kevin Kane (319-273-3642) or directly through the Wrestling Office (319-273-6473).

To access UNI wrestling information on your fax machine, dial (770) 399-3066 from the handset of your machine and follow the instructions. The Missouri Valley Conference passcode is 682 and UNI's request numbers are: 1775 (latest release, notes, records) and 1776 (latest meet results).

Credits
The 1996-97 Northern Iowa Wrestling Media Guide was written and edited by Kevin Kane, Assistant Athletic Media Relations Director, with design provided by Dave Moll, Athletic Media Relations Intern. Photography and cover design by UNI Office of Public Relations.

1996-97 University of Northern Iowa Wrestling
Don Briggs says the theme for the 1996-97 season is "Bouncing Back."

The UNI coach hopes that bounce is strong enough to give the Panthers quite a presence when the NCAA Division I Wrestling Championships come to the UNI-Dome on March 20-22.

Hosting the prestigious event for the first time will just give the hungry Panthers a little more incentive, Briggs says.

"It is easier for us to focus on the nationals because it is here," Briggs said. "There are five guys I expect to be seeded at the nationals this year -- it's been a while since I've been able to say that. I mean legitimate, viable seeds, not a shoestring 12th."

Briggs hopes that kind of presence at the national tournament will be the culmination of a comeback from a disappointing 1995-96 season.

The Panthers struggled to a 5-12 dual record during a season that was cluttered with injuries.

Rarely were the Panthers able to field a full 10-man team for dual meets and at least once their numbers were down to seven. There was always the temptation to bring a wrestler or two out of redshirt seasons to fill the lineup, but Briggs resisted.

Now, he hopes the Panthers reap the benefits.

"In all honesty, if you look back at last year, we sacrificed a lot," he said of keeping people like John Zelinski and Amir Alexander out of competition.

"With that in mind, there would have been about two, maybe three more meets we would have won. But I wasn't going to sacrifice the individual that way."

"Now if you look at the whole thing, we've got some depth. Last year we didn't have any depth. We knew if we had some injuries we'd be in trouble and that's what happened. I can't see that happening with this team."

This year's Panther squad will have a nice blend of youth and experience and the best part about the experienced wrestlers is that, for the most part, they are young.

All-American Tony Wieland heads the pack of veterans after he placed eighth in the nation last year at 190 pounds. Yet he is still just a sophomore.

Five of the eight Panthers who qualified for the NCAA meet are back.

Scott Murray has been there three
1996-97 Season Outlook

times. Other returning qualifiers are Chris Bahr, Dan Kjeldgaard and Burt Beamer. Two others who missed last year with injuries -- Ryan Cummings and Ben Barton -- have been to NCAA events in the past.

An indication of the improved strength is that some past NCAA qualifiers may not be able to make the lineup.

Here is a look at each weight:

118 pounds -- A weight without a wrestler much of last year, there are four candidates this season.

Jeff Bellows, a transfer from Illinois who started the season here last year, has recovered from an ankle injury and is expected to be the man. Zelinski, the redshirt freshman from Franklin, Wisconsin, will be ready if needed. Also available are freshmen Nick Marin and Tim Everett.

126 pounds -- Murray is here for the season. Last year, he bounced back and forth between 118 and 126, not knowing for sure where he'd be. This year he will be at 126 all the way through the NCAA. He had a 26-16 record last year and is 75-43 for his career. Three freshmen -- Mark Rial, Ben Barnes and Mike Corsiglia -- add depth to the weight.

134 pounds -- This is one of those young, untested weights. Iowa State transfer Darrin Youngblut starts the season as the favorite. There's a possibility true freshman Nick Flach would wrestle, but Briggs would rather hold out all of his freshmen.

142 pounds -- Freshman Glen Pero has Briggs excited. "This puts a lot of pressure on him, but he's going to be one of our top two guys this year," said Briggs. "People are going to like him." Behind the former Wisconsin state prep champ are sophomore Chad Venz and junior Ken Primola.

150 pounds -- Senior Dan Kjeldgaard moves up from 158 and is solid here. He struggled making the lower weight last year, but still qualified for the NCAA meet after overcoming a mid-season injury. His eight wins by fall shared the team lead with Murray. Behind him are sophomores Darrel Wieland and junior Robert Armey.

158 pounds -- Junior Jason Haag moves up a weight and starts the season on top at this weight. Redshirt freshman Andy Krueger could challenge and there is also a strong possibility that one of the 150-pounders could move up and take this spot.

167 pounds -- Senior Dan Kjeldgaard moves up from 158 and is solid here. He struggled making the lower weight last year, but still qualified for the NCAA meet after overcoming a mid-season injury. His eight wins by fall shared the team lead with Murray. Behind him are sophomores Darrel Wieland and junior Robert Armey.

177 pounds -- This is another weight with two solid performers. Junior Ben Barton missed much of last year with a neck injury but is back to 100 percent. With Barton out, Ken Bigley was more than an adequate replacement and Briggs would not be afraid to use either this year.

190 pounds -- There is little depth here, but Wieland proved to be a sturdy performer last year as he posted a 34-17 mark on his way to earning all-American status. His victory total was the second highest ever for a UNI freshman.

Heavyweight -- Burt Beamer, who is 10th on the UNI freshman win list with 23, had off-season knee surgery, but enters the year with the other knee bothering him. He went to the NCAA last year as a true freshman and gave the Panthers a solid season. He is backed up by senior Bret Jones.

What all this adds up to is a "I like this team better than any team we've had the last four or five years."

-- UNI head coach Don Briggs

brighter outlook than the Panthers have had in a few seasons.

"I like this team better than any team we've had the last four or five years," said Briggs. "The fact that we've got a couple of standouts -- I like that.

We've got some guys that are bouncing back from last year, from injuries and from redshirt years. I like the attitude. I like what I see in the room.

"The thing I see that's different, the guys are kind of mad about what happened last year. They're not proud of it. It's like they want to show everyone that we are a legitimate Division I top 10 program.

"Our goal has to be shooting for the top 10. If we fall short, 12, 13, or 14, I can live with that. But 20th or lower, I can't live with that."

Personnel Capsule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Returning Lettermen (9)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scott Murray 126 Sr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chris Bahr 150 Jr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ryan Cummings 150 Jr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dan Kjeldgaard 167 Sr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Arney 167 Jr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ben Barton 177 Jr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ken Bigley 177 So.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tony Wieland 190 So.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burt Beamer HWT So.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Top Newcomers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Zelinski 118 RS Fr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nick Marin 118 Fr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Rial 126 Fr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nick Flach 134 Fr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glenn Pero 142 RS Fr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amir Alexander 150 RS Fr.</td>
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</table>

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Key Losses</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ryan Kutz 134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joe Stephens 142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jason Wedgbury 167</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The 1996-97 season marks the 15th year of the Don Briggs era in Northern Iowa wrestling, a period that has been marked by consistently competitive and winning teams.

Only the sixth head coach in school history, Briggs' accomplishments as the Panther head man are quite impressive, although one would have a hard time coaxing the modest coach to admit it.

But Briggs' record speaks for itself. Under his direction the Panthers have placed in the top 30 at the NCAA Championships every season and have been ranked as high as fourth in the nation. UNI was ranked fifth and eighth in 1988 and 1989, respectively, in the final Amateur Wrestling News poll. The Panthers equalled their best finish at the NCAA Division I Championships in 1992 by finishing 10th, matching the finish of Briggs' first season in 1983 when he was voted National Rookie Coach of the Year by his peers. He has led Northern Iowa to 11 consecutive NCAA Regional titles with his other three teams placing second.

During his tenure, he has posted a 157-90 record, making him the second winningest coach in school history and giving him more victories at the NCAA Division I level than any of his predecessors. Since first joining the UNI staff as a graduate assistant in 1974, Briggs has coached 51 NCAA All-Americans and 14 national champions.

Highly respected among his peers, Briggs has won 10 NCAA West Regional Coach of the Year awards and served a two-year term as president of the National Wrestling Coaches Association from 1988-90.

Eleven of the 14 teams Briggs has coached have had winning records, only five below a .600 winning percentage, and his .636 career percentage ranks him among the nation's elite. He has accomplished that feat while sticking to his philosophy of competing against the best collegiate wrestling has to offer.

Before being named head coach in 1982, Briggs served as an assistant to long-time head coach Chuck Patten for seven seasons and as a graduate assistant one year.

A native of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Briggs graduated from Jefferson High School and later received his bachelor's degree in physical education from the University of Iowa in 1971. While wrestling for the Hawkeyes, he placed fourth in the Big 10 at 134 pounds as a sophomore and third as a junior and senior. He was voted team captain as a senior. Although he did not compete his first year at Iowa, Briggs compiled a 30-5-1 career record, posting consecutive marks of 12-2-1, 12-2 and 6-1.

Briggs served one season as assistant coach at Cedar Rapids Prairie High School before becoming a graduate assistant at UNI in 1974. He completed his graduate work with a master's degree in physical education in 1975.

Briggs is an avid hunter and fisherman in his spare time, but is best known as a skydiver. In fact, he completed his 2000th jump this past October.

He and his wife, Dianna, reside in rural Cedar Falls.
Joel Greenlee  
Assistant Coach  
Joel Greenlee is in his eighth season as a Panther assistant, his sixth as the top aide to head coach Don Briggs. In addition to his duties in the wrestling room, Greenlee is heavily involved in recruiting and scheduling. He also directs the team's overall and individualized weight training programs and other conditioning programs.

Greenlee brought impressive credentials to his new post in 1989 after concluding one of the most successful careers in Northern Iowa history. He ranks third on Northern Iowa's career victories list with 127 and his name can be found in every career and single season category in the UNI record book. Competing at heavyweight, he set the UNI standard for career dual wins with 58 and never lost a collegiate dual meet, posting a 58-0-3 mark, while his overall record of 127-16-4 gives him the top winning percentage in school history.

Greenlee was an NCAA qualifier all four seasons and earned all-America honors twice, placing fourth as a junior and second his senior year. He also competed in the National Wrestling Coaches Association All-Star Classic his final two seasons.

The Waverly, Iowa, native has wrestled competitively on the international level since ending his collegiate career, having been ranked as high as third at 286 pounds while representing the New York Athletic Club. He has been a member of the United States Freestyle Team and has regularly competed in the Cerro Palado Tournament in Cuba, winning the 286-pound title in 1993 and 1995. He also has recorded second and third-place finishes at the National Freestyle Open and taken third at the World Team Trials three times.

Greenlee toured the Soviet Union with the U.S. team in January of 1991 and competed at the Tbilisi Tournament. He also accompanied the United States Freestyle Team to the Olympic Games in Barcelona in 1992.

He was a High School All-American at Waverly-Shell Rock High School as a senior after capping a 27-0 season with a state championship.

He and his wife, Roxann, reside in Cedar Falls.

Alan Fried  
Assistant Coach  
Former Oklahoma State national champion Alan Fried was appointed to the Northern Iowa staff in August. Fried came to UNI after spending the last two years as a volunteer assistant at Indiana.

Fried enjoyed one of the finest collegiate careers of his era at OSU, earning all-America honors three times while compiling a 129-6 record in four seasons.

He capped a perfect 31-0 senior season by winning the NCAA title at 142 pounds after runner-up finishes at 134 pounds as a freshman and sophomore. He also went 34-0 as a junior, but was unable to compete due to the Cowboys' NCAA probation. He captured three Big Eight Conference championships and was an academic all-conference selection.

Other accomplishments on the mat include a U.S. Olympic Festival Gold Medal, two Freestyle University Nationals titles, two Espoir National championships and an Espoir World title.

A native of University Heights, Ohio, Fried was the first four-time champion at the Junior National Freestyle tournament and was a three-time Ohio state high school champion at St. Edward High School while compiling a 139-3 record.

Fried still competes at the international level, advancing to the semifinals of the 1996 U.S. Olympic Trials. He is considered a strong contender for the U.S. team in 2000.

Fried received his bachelor's degree in psychology from OSU in 1994.

Joe Stephens  
Volunteer Assistant Coach  
After completing his collegiate career a year ago at Northern Iowa, Joe Stephens joins the Panther staff this season as a volunteer assistant coach.

Stephens began his career at the University of Nebraska in 1991 and wrestled three years for the Cornhuskers, compiling a 47-40-1 mark. He qualified for the NCAA Tournament as a freshman and placed fourth at the Big Eight Championships at 134 pounds. After redshirting the following year, he posted an 11-8 mark as a sophomore and then went 26-11 for the Huskers in 1994-95.

After transferring to UNI last year, Stephens became the Panthers' regular 142-pounder and placed fourth at the Big Eight Championships at 134 pounds. After redshirting the following year, he posted an 11-8 mark as a sophomore and then went 26-11 for the Huskers in 1994-95.

He was a High School All-American at Waverly-Shell Rock High School as a senior after capping a 27-0 season with a state championship.

He is currently pursuing his bachelor's degree in economics.
## 1996-97 Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Wt.</th>
<th>Yr.</th>
<th>Exp.</th>
<th>Hometown/High School (College)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amir Alexander</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
<td>RS</td>
<td>Chanhassen, Minn./Minnetonka</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Armey</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>1VL</td>
<td>West Liberty, Iowa/West Liberty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chris Bahr</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>2VL</td>
<td>LaCrosse, Wis./Central</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dan Bainbridge</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>So.</td>
<td>NVE</td>
<td>Dubuque, Iowa/Senior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ben Barnes</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
<td>HS</td>
<td>Johnston, Iowa/Johnston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ben Barton</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>2VL</td>
<td>Wabasha, Minn./Wabasha-Kellogg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burt Beamer</td>
<td>HWT</td>
<td>So.</td>
<td>NVE</td>
<td>Council Bluffs, Iowa/Lewis Central (Illinois)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeff Bellows</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>So.</td>
<td>1VL</td>
<td>Sugar Camp, Wis./Three Lakes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ken Bigley</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>1VL</td>
<td>Bettendorf, Iowa/Davenport Assumption</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mike Corsiglia</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
<td>HS</td>
<td>Harvard, Ill./Harvard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ryan Cummings</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>1VL</td>
<td>Mediapolis, Iowa/Mediapolis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ches Dougherty</td>
<td>HWT</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
<td>RS</td>
<td>Independence, Iowa/Independence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tim Doyle</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>HS</td>
<td>Winterset, Iowa/Winterset</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tim Duff</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>So.</td>
<td>NVE</td>
<td>Waterloo, Iowa/East</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tim Everett</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
<td>HS</td>
<td>Fort Madison, Iowa/Fort Madison</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nick Flach</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
<td>HS</td>
<td>Monticello, Iowa/Monticello (Simpson)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jason Haag</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>NVL</td>
<td>Osage, Iowa/Osage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travis Holm</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
<td>NVL</td>
<td>Council Bluffs, Iowa/Lewis Central</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bret Jones</td>
<td>HWT</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>3VL</td>
<td>Sioux City, Iowa/Heelan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dan Kjeldgaard</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>RS</td>
<td>West Liberty, Iowa/West Liberty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andy Krueger</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
<td>RS</td>
<td>St. Ansgar, Iowa/St. Ansgar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nick Marin</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
<td>HS</td>
<td>Atkins, Iowa/Benton Community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ryan Mayer</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
<td>HS</td>
<td>Auburn, Kan./Wasbush Rural</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blake Miner</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
<td>NVE</td>
<td>Dixon, Ill./Dixon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scott Murray</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>3VL</td>
<td>Watertown, Wis./Watertown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael O'Horo</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
<td>RS</td>
<td>Yardley, Pa./Pennsnn (East Stroudsburg)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glenn Pero</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
<td>RS</td>
<td>Fort Dodge, Iowa/Fort Dodge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ken Primola</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>NVL</td>
<td>Northwood, Iowa/Northwood-Kensett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Rial</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
<td>HS</td>
<td>Dubuque, Iowa/Senior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chad Venz</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>NVL</td>
<td>Cedar Falls, Iowa/Cedar Falls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keith Weber</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
<td>NVE</td>
<td>Jesup, Iowa/Jesup (Iowa State)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darrell Wieland</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>So.</td>
<td>NVE</td>
<td>Franklin, Wis./Whitnall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tony Wieland</td>
<td>190</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Zelinski</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
<td>HS</td>
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</table>

**Head Coach:** Don Briggs  
**Assistant Coaches:** Joel Greenlee, Alan Fried  
**Volunteer Assistant:** Joe Stephens

### Experience Key:
- **HS** - High School  
- **RS** - Redshirt  
- **TR** - Transfer  
- **NVE** - No Varsity Experience  
- **NVL** - Varsity Experience, but Non-Letterwinner  
- **#VL** - Number of Varsity Letters

#### BY WEIGHT (Underline denotes returning letterman)

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<tr>
<th>Weight (Underline denotes returning letterman)</th>
<th>Number</th>
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**1996-97 University of Northern Iowa Wrestling**
Tony Wieland

Sophomore • 190 Pounds
Cedar Falls, Iowa • Cedar Falls High School
Birthdate: September 9, 1976
Major: Biology

1995-96...Enjoyed one of the finest freshman seasons in school history a year ago, placing eighth at the NCAA Tournament to claim all-America honors—posted a 34-17 mark as a true freshman, placing him second on UNI’s all-time freshman list, trailing only Mark Schwab’s 49 (1985-86)—went 4-3 at the NCAAs, closing with an incredible string of four straight sudden-death overtime matches, one of which went to a tie-breaker—named to the Amateur Wrestling News Freshman All-America Team—posted a 5-5 mark in 10 overtime matches—opened the season by winning the Nebraska-Omaha Open, then placed fourth at the Northern Open, and third in the UNI Open the following week—won the Upper Iowa Open, took fourth at the Great Plains Open and finished second at the NCAA West Regional—his 34 victories led the squad, while 10 dual wins ranked second—posted four major decisions and five pins—never lost more than two straight matches despite facing 13 ranked or seeded opponents—defeated eventual sixth-place NCAA finisher Marc Bodo of Pitt, 2-1, in sudden death during regular season—fell one win short of placing at the Midlnds, losing to fifth-place NCAA finisher Brian Picklo of Michigan State, 2-1, in last match—lost twice to Picklo and NCAA runnerup Paschal Duru of Cal State Bakersfield during the season—won first seven matches of the season and 15 of first 19. High School...A High School All-American who twice won the state title at 189 pounds—compiled a 116-2 mark his final three years, 152-10-1 for career—ranked fourth in the nation at 189 after compiling a 43-1 record to finish third in the state meet as a senior.

YEAR OVERALL DUALS PINS
1995-96 34-17 10-6 5

Dan Kjeldgaard

Senior • 167 Pounds
Council Bluffs, Iowa • Lewis Central High School
Birthdate: June 29, 1974
Major: Chemistry

1995-96...The Panthers’ regular at 158 throughout the season, he posted a 12-18 record and recorded eight pins to tie for the team lead—placed fifth at the Great Plains Open and second at the West Regional—earned his second trip to the NCAA Tournament, where he dropped his first two matches—started strong, going 10-6 through mid-January, but then lost seven straight, mostly to ranked opponents—went 2-3 in five matches at 167 in the season-opening Nebraska-Omaha Open—missed a month in December and early January due to a rib injury.

1994-95...Made his first appearance at the NCAA Tournament after placing second at the West regional—compared a 15-20 mark despite an eight-match losing string in January—ranked second on the team with eight pins, including one at the NCAAs, where he flattened Mike Van Oss of Maryland for his only NCAA win—went 3-10 in duals, but 12-10 in tournaments—won four of five matches to take third at the UNI Open—posted wins in three of his last four duals—went winless in four matches at 167. 1993-94...Finished his freshman season with a solid 11-14 record at 158...top finishes included sixth place at the UNI Open and a strong third place at the West Regional. 1992-93...Redshirted. High School...A four-time state qualifier who placed third as a junior and senior—named to the Amateur Wrestling News High School All-America Team after finishing his career with a 132-21 record—won the state Greco-Roman title as a senior and finished third at Junior Nationals.

YEAR OVERALL DUALS PINS
1993-94 11-14 2-7 3
1994-95 15-20 3-10 8
1995-96 12-18 5-10 8
TOTAL 38-52 10-27 19

1996-97 University of Northern Iowa Wrestling
RETURNING LETTERMEN

Scott Murray

Senior  ♦  126 Pounds
Auburn, Kansas  ♦  Washburn Rural High School
Birthdate: August 1, 1973
Major: General Studies

1995-96...Competed in his second NCAA Tournament after compiling a 26-16 record and winning NCAA West Regional at 118 pounds...his nine dual wins ranked third on the team...went 3-2 at NCAAs, falling one victory short of earning all-America honors in a 5-2 loss to eighth-place Mike Miller of North Carolina State...began the season ranked 12th in the country at 126...fell out of the rankings after a 7-7 start, then got hot and won 12 of 15 in January to jump back into the rankings at no. 9 at 118...split time between 118 and 126, going 13-5 at 118 and 13-11 at 126...tied for the team lead with eight pins, placing him eighth on UNI's all-time list with 24...entered the season planning to spend all his time at 126, but was forced down to 118 several times due to other injuries on the team...his 75-43 career record gives him the most wins of any active Panther and puts him on pace to become the 15th wrestler in school history to hit the century mark for his career...named to Successful Farming Magazine's "All-America Farm Team", based on his involvement with the family business in Kansas...won the West Regional and and finished third at the Great Plains Open.

1994-95...Earned his second trip to NCAA Tournament as a wild card selection after placing third at the West Regional...began the season ranked 13th in the nation...placed fourth at the Northern Open, winning three of five matches...took sixth at the Midlands and fifth at the UNI Open...sustained a knee injury at the Virginia Duals (Jan. 13) and underwent arthroscopic surgery, forcing him to miss three duals...struggled after coming off the injury, losing three matches in a row before rebounding to win two of three at the regional...finished with a 4-4 dual record and tied for third on the squad in dual wins...also tied for third on the team with six pins; placed second with 21 victories.

1993-94...Emerged as one of the top 118-pounders in the nation as a freshman...compiled a 28-12 mark, the most wins by a UNI freshman in five years and most by a 118-pounder in four...finished third at the Midland and Great Plains Opens, took sixth at the Northern Open and won the West Regional, but did not make weight at the NCAA Championships...finished the season ranked 17th after a high-water mark of ninth in mid-January...knocked off several highly-rated opponents, including #8 Scott Gonyo and #5 Ty Moore; also defeated defending Division II champ Brian Kapusta of North Dakota State...his pin of Jason Nurre at 2:36 sparked UNI's 18-16 upset of Iowa State...his 28 wins, 10 pins and four major decisions all ranked second on the team...posted a season-high eight-matching winning string from Dec. 29 to Jan. 8...went 15-4 the final two months of the season.

YEAR  OVERALL  DUALS  PINS
1993-94  28-12  5-4  10
1994-95  21-15  4-4  6
1995-96  26-16  9-5  8
TOTAL  75-43  18-13  24

1996-97 University of Northern Iowa Wrestling
Chris Bahr
Junior • 150 Pounds
LaCrosse, Wisconsin • Central High School
Birthdate: July 13, 1975
Major: Physical Education
1995-96...Took over at 150 during the season after starter Ryan Cummings sustained season-ending injury...enjoyed a fine season, posting a 13-18 record, 5-9 in duals, and sharing the Outstanding Wrestler honor at the West Regional after winning the 150-pound title with three impressive victories...his five major decisions ranked second on the team...earned his first trip to the NCAA Tournament, but lost his first two matches...lost to the eventual 150 and 158-pound national champions, Chris Bono and Joe Williams, respectively...one of the most exciting Panther wrestlers, he was involved in 11 matches which saw double figures in scoring. 1994-95...Filled a valuable "utility" role by competing at three weights (150, 158, 167) and 10 duals, filling in for injured starters. 1993-94...Redshirted. High School...Won the large school state title in Wisconsin as a senior at 140 pounds after placing the previous two seasons...earned three varsity letters in football and four in wrestling.

YEAR | OVERALL | DUALS | PINS
---|---|---|---
1994-95 | 3-17 | 0-10 | 1
1995-96 | 13-18 | 5-9 | 1
TOTAL | 16-35 | 5-19 | 2

Ben Barton
Junior • 177 Pounds
Wabasha, Minnesota • Wabasha-Kellogg High School
Birthdate: March 18, 1975
Major: Physical Education/Health
1995-96...Began his second consecutive season as the UNI starter at 177, but was sidelined for the season in late January due to a neck injury...compiled an 11-10 record with four dual wins and four pins...recorded a 15-second pin, over Jesse Corry of Lawrence at the Northern Open. 1994-95...UNI's top freshman who ranked third on the team in victories with 20, second in dual wins with five and major decisions with four...took runnerup honors at the West Regional to earn a berth at the NCAA Tournament...finished fifth at the UNI Open and sixth at the Great Plains Open...named to the Amateur Wrestling News Freshman All-America Team...narrowly missed placing at the Midlands with a 2-2 mark...wrestled in all but one dual, missing the Penn meet due to a neck injury...appeared in 40 matches, ranking second on the squad. 1993-94...Redshirted. High School...Finished second at the Minnesota state tournament at 189 as a senior, going 42-1...placed third as a junior...compiled a 145-38 career record...also lettered three years each in football and baseball.

YEAR | OVERALL | DUALS | PINS
---|---|---|---
1994-95 | 20-20 | 5-9 | 3
1995-96 | 11-10 | 4-4 | 4
TOTAL | 31-30 | 9-13 | 7

Robert Armey
Junior • 167 Pounds
West Liberty, Iowa • West Liberty High School
Birthdate: November 12, 1974
Major: General Studies
1995-96...Compiled a 7-5 record in tournament competition...competed most of the season at 177, where he won the Upper Iowa Open and took eighth at the Great Plains Open. 1994-95...The Panther regular at 190 pounds despite being a true 167/177-pounder...competed in all but one dual despite an elbow injury down the stretch...placed sixth at the UNI Open. 1993-94...Redshirted. High School...The Iowa Class 2A runnerup as a senior at 171 after finishing fifth as a junior.

YEAR | OVERALL | DUALS | PINS
---|---|---|---
1994-95 | 20-20 | 5-9 | 3
1995-96 | 11-10 | 4-4 | 4
TOTAL | 31-30 | 9-13 | 7
### Burt Beamer

**Sophomore • Heavyweight**  
Post Falls, Idaho • Post Falls High School  
**Birthdate:** October 31, 1976  
**Major:** Physical Education

1995-96...Took over as the main man at heavyweight as a freshman...one of just two Panthers to compete in all 17 dual meets, posting a 23-24 record, which ranks him 10th on the school's all-time freshman list...ranked third on the team with six pins...captured the West Regional championship to earn a trip to the NCAA Tournament, where he went 1-2, dropping a three-point decision to fourth-place Stephen Neal of Cal State Bakersfield in the first round...won the Upper Iowa Open and placed eighth at the Great Plains Open...began the season with a 16-9 mark...seven of his 24 losses came to ranked opponents.  

1994-95...Redshirted.

### Ken Bigley

**Sophomore • 177 Pounds**  
Sugar Camp, Wisconsin • Three Lakes High School  
**Birthdate:** August 30, 1975  
**Major:** Science/Environmental Planning

1995-96...Stepped into the lineup at 177 in January, replacing Ben Barton, who was sidelined with a season-ending injury...went 12-17 overall and 2-7 in duals...finished second at the West Regional, narrowly missing a wild-card berth in the NCAA Tournament...finished sixth at the Great Plains Open.  

1994-95...Redshirted.  

### Ryan Cummings

**Junior • 150 Pounds**  
Mediapolis, Iowa • Mediapolis High School  
**Birthdate:** February 22, 1975  
**Major:** General Studies

1995-96...Began the season as UNI's top 150-pounder, but sustained a neck injury early in the year and was able to compete in only two duals...compiled a 4-8 overall record, 0-2 in duals...one of his dual losses came to eventual all-American Mike Uker of Iowa, 6-3...competed in Nebraska-Omaha and Midlands Open.  

1994-95...Earned a berth in the NCAA Tournament as a freshman after winning the West Regional title...won his regional title by one point after scoring a reversal with just 20 seconds remaining in the final match...began the season by winning three of six matches at the Nebraska-Omaha Open...earned his first career dual win on Feb. 12 at North Dakota State...four of his 15 losses came to national runnerup Lincoln McIlravy and no. 4 Temoor Terry...missed seven dual meets due to various injuries...came on strong near the end of the season, winning his last five before the NCAA Tournament...went 2-6 in duals and 11-9 in tournaments.  

1993-94...Redshirted.  

A High School All-American who twice won the Iowa Class 2A title at 152 and won the Minnesota state title at 140 as a sophomore...finished his career with a 132-13 mark went, 77-1 his final two seasons...also lettered in football, baseball and track...was named all-state in football and all-conference in baseball.
Amir Alexander
Freshman • 150 Pounds • Chanhassen, Minn. • Minnetonka High School
Birthdate: March 1, 1977 • Major: Undecided

1995-96...Redshirted. High School...The Minnesota state champ at 152 as a senior...compiled a 110-24 career record...a High School All-American who was ranked 10th in the nation as a senior by Amateur Wrestling News.

Dan Bainbridge
Sophomore • 142 Pounds • Dubuque, Iowa • Senior High School
Birthdate: March 2, 1976 • Major: Philosophy

1995-96...Compiled a 7-8 record in tournament competition...had a major decision and two pins among his seven victories...competed at the Nebraska-Omaha, Northern and UNI Opens. 1994-95...Redshirted. High School...Placed third in the state meet his senior year...earned all-conference honors his junior and senior years...four-time letterwinner in wrestling...1993 state Greco champ.

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Jeff Bellows
Sophomore • 118 Pounds • Council Bluffs, Iowa • Lewis Central High School/Illinois
Birthdate: January 4, 1976 • Major: Biology

1995-96...One of the favorites at 118 entering the season...recorded a pin in his first match of the season at the Nebraska-Omaha Open, then sustained a fractured ankle in his next match and missed the remainder of the season. 1994-95...Redshirted at Illinois. High School...Four-time letterman and state placer at Lewis Central...won the state meet at 112 as a junior, placed second as a freshman and sophomore; finished third at 119 as a senior...posted a 162-11-1 career mark, losing only one match his final two years...also lettered in cross country and golf...placed fifth at the Freestyle Junior Nationals as a sophomore.

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Ches Dougherty
Freshman • Heavyweight • Harvard, Illinois • Harvard High School
Birthdate: April 12, 1977 • Major: Undecided

1995-96...Redshirted; also redshirted for the Panther football team as a defensive lineman. High School...A three-time state qualifier who finished fourth as a junior...also an all-conference running back and defensive end in football...lettered three years in wrestling and football, one in track and field.

Tim Duff
Sophomore • 167 Pounds • Winterset, Iowa • Winterset High School
Birthdate: September 12, 1975 • Major: Physical Education

1995-96...Went 3-4 in tournament competition with one major decision...competed in the Nebraska-Omaha and UNI Opens. 1994-95...Redshirted. High School...Won the state title his senior season after qualifying for the state meet as a junior...earned honorable mention all-America honors after finishing his career with a 101-36-1 record...also a third team all-state football selection as a senior.

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Jason Haag
Junior + 158 Pounds + Monticello, Iowa + Monticello High School/Simpson
Birthdate: August 5, 1974 + Major: Physical Education

1995-96...Enjoyed his busiest season as a Panther, going 10-13 overall, 0-3 in duals...took second at the Upper Iowa Open...recorded four major decisions...competed in duals against Indiana, Edinboro and Pitt at 150...competed at Nebraska-Omaha, Northern, UNI, Upper Iowa, Midlands and Great Plains Opens. 1994-95...Redshirted. 1993-94...Lettered at Simpson College. High School...Qualified for the state meet while earning all-state honors in football...voted male athlete of the year as a senior...earned 13 varsity letters in four years.

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Bret Jones
Senior + Heavyweight + Cedar Rapids, Iowa + Prairie High School/Kirkwood C.C.
Birthdate: September 16, 1973 + Major: Art Education

1995-96...Posted an 8-9 mark and competed in his first dual as a Panther, pinning Josh Brooks of Northeast Missouri State at 190 pounds in the UNI Duals...took third at 190 in the Upper Iowa Open...also competed at the Nebraska-Omaha, Northern, UNI and Great Plains Opens...notched three pins and two major decisions. 1994-95...Went 2-5 in tournament competition...placed second at the NCAA West Regional, but did not advance to NCAAs. 1992-94...Attended Kirkwood Community College. High School...A two-time state qualifier who placed third as a senior...an all-metro football selection as a senior...a three-time state qualifier in the high jump...earned four varsity letters in track, three in wrestling and two in football.

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Andy Krueger
Freshman + 158 Pounds + Sioux City, Iowa + Heelan High School
Birthdate: February 1, 1977 + Major: Biology

1995-96...Redshirted. High School...A two-time state champion at 152 pounds...collected 150 career victories...also earned all-state honors in football and baseball.

Glenn Pero
Freshman + 142 Pounds + Watertown, Wisconsin + Watertown High School
Birthdate: October 10, 1976 + Major: Physical Education

1995-96...Redshirted. High School...Won the Wisconsin state title as a senior at 140 pounds after placing second as a junior and fourth as a sophomore...compiled a 168-25 career record, including a 42-0 senior season...placed fourth at the 1994 Junior Nationals...named to the Amateur Wrestling News High School All-American Team with a no. 9 national ranking.
**Returnees**

**Chad Venz**

Junior ♦ 142 Pounds ♦ Northwood, Iowa ♦ Northwood-Kensett High School

Birthdate: June 4, 1975 ♦ Major: Physical Education

1995-96...Went 1-5 overall, 0-3 in duals...wrestled duals against Northeast Missouri State, Nebraska-Omaha and Indiana at 134 pounds. 1994-95...Competed at the UNI Open, winning one of three matches with the win coming by pin. **High School**...A two-time state qualifier who placed second as a senior...was named to the all-conference team four times.

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**Darrel Wieland**

Sophomore ♦ 167 Pounds ♦ Cedar Falls, Iowa ♦ Cedar Falls High School

Birthdate: December 16, 1974 ♦ Major: Biology

1995-96...Compiled a 3-6 record in tournament competition...wrestled at Northern and Upper Iowa Opens. 1994-95...Redshirted. **High School**...Qualified for the state tournament three times, finishing fourth once and third twice...won the Big 8 Conference championship four times.

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**Darrin Youngblut**

Sophomore ♦ 134 Pounds ♦ Jesup, Iowa ♦ Jesup High School/Iowa State

Birthdate: November 16, 1975 ♦ Major: Elementary Education

1995-96...Did not compete. 1994-95...Redshirted at Iowa State. **High School**...Lettered four times in wrestling and baseball.

**John Zelinski**

Freshman ♦ 118 Pounds ♦ Franklin, Wisconsin ♦ Whitnall High School

Birthdate: January 18, 1976 ♦ Major: Undecided

1995-96...Redshirted. **High School**...A two-time Wisconsin Division I champion at 112 pounds, posting a 142-6-1 career record, 39-0 his senior season...placed second at the Junior Nationals in 1992.
### Newcomers

<table>
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<th>Position</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<th>Birthdate</th>
<th>Major</th>
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<tr>
<td>Nick Flach</td>
<td>Freshman</td>
<td>134 lbs</td>
<td>Fort Madison, Iowa</td>
<td>January 12, 1978</td>
<td>Philosophy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School</td>
<td>A two-time state champion who won the 135-pound Class 3A title as a senior and the 125-pound crown his junior year; placed fifth as a sophomore...compiled an 85-7 career record...a High School All-American who was ranked fourth in the country by Amateur Wrestling News...lettered four years in wrestling.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

| Nick Marin    | Freshman  | 118 lbs | West Liberty, Iowa   | May 4, 1978     | Psychology/Pre-Law    |
| High School   | A High School All-American who was ranked seventh in the nation at 112 by Amateur Wrestling News...captured the Class 2A state title at 112 pounds two of his final three years, winning as a senior and sophomore and finishing second as a junior...compiled a 109-12 career mark...also lettered in football...twice named to the academic all-state team. |

| Mark Rial     | Freshman  | 126 lbs | Fort Dodge, Iowa     | March 29, 1978  | Undecided             |
| High School   | A two-time state champion who won at 125 as a senior, placed second at 119 as a junior and won at 103 as a sophomore...recorded a 124-4 career mark...finished second at the Greco-Roman Junior Nationals and fourth at the Greco Cadet World Championships...also lettered in football. |

| Keith Weber   | Freshman  | 134 lbs | Dubuque, Iowa        | February 24, 1978| Undecided             |
| High School   | Took runnerup honors in Class 3A at 140 pounds as a senior after finishing fifth as a junior and fourth as a sophomore. |

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1996-97 University of Northern Iowa Wrestling
Ben Barnes
Freshman  +  128 Pounds
Johnston, Iowa
Johnston H.S.
Birthdate: November 21, 1977
Major: Undecided

Mike Corsiglia
Freshman  +  128 Pounds
Bettendorf, Iowa
Davenport Assumption H.S.
Birthdate: December 14, 1977
Major: Undecided

Tim Doyle
Junior  +  158 Pounds
Independence, Iowa
Independence H.S.
Birthdate: June 10, 1974
Major: Physical Education

Tim Everett
Freshman  +  118 Pounds
Waterloo, Iowa
East H.S.
Birthdate: March 26, 1975
Major: Communications

Travis Holm
Freshman  +  142 Pounds
Osage, Iowa
Osage H.S./Luther College
Birthdate: September 25, 1975
Major: Social Work

Ryan Mayer
Freshman  +  142 Pounds
St. Ansgar, Iowa
St. Ansgar H.S.
Birthdate: July 22, 1977
Major: Elementary Education

Blake Miner
Freshman  +  150 Pounds
Atkins, Iowa
Benton Community H.S.
Birthdate: September 21, 1977
Major: Biology

Michael O'Horo
Freshman  +  180 Pounds
Dixon, Illinois
Dixon H.S.
Birthdate: June 20, 1978
Major: Computer Science

Ken Primola
Junior  +  142 Pounds
Yardley, Pennsylvania
Pennsbury H.S./East Stroudsburg
Birthdate: April 4, 1976
Major: Communications
### 1995-96 STATS/RESULTS

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### DUAL RESULTS (5-12)

- **Dec. 9**: at Iowa L 0-44
- **Jan. 5**: JAMES MADISON W 39-9
- **Jan. 9**: vs. Indiana L 4-39
- **Jan. 11**: at Edinboro L 21-24
- **Jan. 20**: NORTHERN IOWA DUALS
  - NORTHEAST MISSOURI W 45-4
  - NEBRASKA-OMAHA W 31-7
  - INDIANA L 6-30
- **Jan. 25**: at Wisconsin L 4-39
- **Feb. 3**: MISSOURI L 12-27
- **Feb. 9**: at Purdue L 12-25
- **Feb. 11**: vs. Eastern Illinois W 33-9
- **Feb. 17**: at Nebraska L 6-31
- **Feb. 23**: at Ohio W 28-18
- **Feb. 24**: at Ohio State L 6-38
- **vs. Illinois** L 6-35

### TOURNAMENT RESULTS

- **Nov. 24**: Northern Open: 134-Ryan Kutz, 4th; 142-Tim Novak, 6th; 167-Jason Wedgbury, 4th; 190-Tony Wieland, 4th.
- **Dec. 2**: Northern Iowa Open: 142-Tim Novak, 5th; 190-Tony Wieland, 3rd.
- **Dec. 29-30**: Midlands Open: No placewinners.
- **Jan. 6**: Great Plains Open: (4th of 22 teams) 118-Scott Murray, 3rd; 126-Ryan Kutz, 3rd; 142-Joe Stephens, 2nd; 158-Dan Kjeldgaard, 5th; 177-Ken Bigley, 6th; 177-Robert Armey, 8th; 190-Tony Wieland, 4th; HWT-Burt Beamer, 8th.
- **Mar. 9**: NCAA West Regional: (1st of 5 teams) 118-Scott Murray, 1st; 126-Ryan Kutz, 1st; 142-Joe Stephens, 1st; 150-Chris Bahr, 1st; 158-Dan Kjeldgaard, 2nd; 167-Jason Wedgbury, 1st; 177-Ken Bigley, 2nd; 190-Tony Wieland, 2nd; HWT-Burt Beamer, 1st.
- **Mar. 21-23**: NCAA Division I Championships: (T27th of 80 teams) 190-Tony Wieland, 8th.
Iowa 44, Northern Iowa 0
Dec. 9, 1995 - Iowa City

118 - Mike Meni (I) won by forfeit
126 - Nick Dohrmann (I) major dec. Scott Murray, 16-6
134 - Mark Ison (I) major dec. Ryan Kutz, 14-6
142 - Bill Zadick (I) major dec. Joe Stephens, 15-7
150 - Mike Uker (I) dec. Ryan Cummings, 6-3
158 - Joe Williams (I) pinned Chris Bahr, 2:16
167 - Dan Kjeldgaard (I) inj. def. Raphael Kizze
177 - Curt Heidemann (I) match term. Ben Barton, 22-7
190 - John Degi (I) dec. Tony Wieland, 3-1
HWT - Erik Stroner (I) pinned Burt Beamer, 0:37

Northern Iowa 39, James Madison 9
Jan. 5, 1996 - Cedar Falls

118 - Nick Dohrmann (I) major dec. Scott Murray, 16-6
126 - Ryan Kutz (I) dec. Pat Smart, 15-12
134 - Tony Johnson (UNO) dec. Chad Veitz, 7-5
142 - Joe Stephens (UNI) dec. Erin Daugherty, 10-4
150 - Chris Bahr (UNI) major dec. Phil Smart, 14-6
158 - Dan Kjeldgaard (UNI) dec. Dan Lovell, 4-1
167 - Jason Wedgbury (UNI) inj. def. Rafaelle Kizze
177 - Ben Barton (UNI) dec. Cory Royal, 8-5
190 - Tony Wieland (UNI) dec. Pat Kelley, 11-5
HWT - Wode Krouse (UNI) major dec. Burt Beamer, 11-0

Indiana 30, Northern Iowa 4

118 - Derek Moscovic (I) won by forfeit
126 - Scott Murray (UNI) major dec. Chris Behling, 9-1
134 - Trevor Elliott (I) major dec. Ryan Kutz, 8-0
142 - Roger Chandler (I) major dec. Joe Stephens, 19-7
150 - Andy Trevino (I) pinned Jason Haag, 4:37
158 - Brooke Hoerr (I) pinned Chris Bahr, 4:32
167 - Jason Wedgbury (I) match term. Jeff Vidak
177 - Ben Barton (UNI) dec. Brian Collier, 9-6
190 - Tony Wieland (UNI) pinned Keith Zimmerman, 2:55
HWT - Burt Beamer (UNI) pinned Jason Friend, 0:37

Edinboro 24, Northern Iowa 21

118 - Jason Sluyter (E) won by forfeit
126 - Scott Murray (UNI) major dec. Bill Lawrence, 8-0
134 - Zip Spencer (E) dec. Ryan Kutz, 6-5
142 - J.J. Fasnoch (P) pinned Joe Stephens, 2:27
150 - Tom Uszewski (E) won by forfeit
158 - Dan Kjeldgaard (UNI) pinned Kevin Weish, 1:05
167 - Jason Wedgbury (UNI) match term. Cliff Warden, 17-1
177 - Ben Barton (UNI) major dec. Marty Stockert, 21-9
190 - Tony Wieland (UNI) dec. A.J. Johnson, 3-2
HWT - Jason DeVries (I) dec. Burt Beamer, 5-3

Pittsburgh 29, Northern Iowa 11

118 - Eric Knopsnyder (P) won by forfeit
126 - Mike Ziska (P) dec. Scott Murray, 6-4
134 - Ryan Kutz (UNI) major dec. Jeremy Lingle, 27-15
142 - J.J. Fasnoch (P) pinned Joe Stephens, 1:27
150 - Brett Gould (P) major dec. Jason Haag, 22-9
158 - Dan Kjeldgaard (UNI) pinned Kevin Weish, 1:05
167 - Jason Wedgbury (UNI) match term. Cliff Warden, 17-1
177 - Ben Barton (UNI) major dec. Marty Stockert, 21-9
190 - Tony Wieland (UNI) dec. Mark Bodo, 2-1
HWT - Pat Willtanger (P) major dec. Burt Beamer, 8-0

Northern Iowa 45, NE Missouri State 4
Jan. 20, 1996 - Cedar Falls (N. Iowa Duals)

118 - Scott Murray (UNI) pinned Karega Scott, 3:51
126 - Ryan Kutz (UNI) major dec. Kevin Bates, 15-3
134 - Calvin Buhrer (NEMO) major dec. Chad Veitz, 15-6
142 - Joe Stephens (UNI) pinned Andy Dykes, 1:55
150 - Chris Bahr (UNI) major dec. Andy House, 18-8
158 - Dan Kjeldgaard (UNI) pinned Scott Wence, 2:04
167 - Jason Wedgbury (UNI) match term. Matt Markham, 2:29
177 - Ben Barton (UNI) major dec. Mike Beno, 1:25
190 - Burt Beamer (UNI) pinned Josh Brooks, 5:56
HWT - Burt Beamer (UNI) dec. Ryan Fish, 4-2

Northern Iowa 33, Nebraska-Omaha 7
Jan. 20, 1996 - Cedar Falls (N. Iowa Duals)

118 - Scott Murray (UNI) pinned Chad Short, 4:05
126 - Ryan Kutz (UNI) dec. Pat Smart, 15-12
134 - Tony Johnson (UNO) dec. Chad Veitz, 7-5
142 - Joe Stephens (UNI) dec. Erin Daugherty, 10-4
150 - Chris Bahr (UNI) major dec. Phil Smart, 14-6
158 - Dan Kjeldgaard (UNI) dec. Dan Lovell, 4-1
167 - Jason Wedgbury (UNI) inj. def. Rafaelle Kizze
177 - Ben Barton (UNI) dec. Cory Royal, 8-5
190 - Tony Wieland (UNI) dec. Pat Kelley, 11-5
HWT - Wode Krouse (UNI) major dec. Burt Beamer, 11-0

Northern Iowa 34, Northern Iowa 7
Feb. 11, 1996 - Cedar Falls

118 - Jason Nurre (ISU) dec. Scott Murray, 7-3
126 - Eric Keller (ISU) won by forfeit
134 - Dwight Harrison (ISU) dec. Ryan Kutz, 9-3
142 - Derek Mountsier (ISU) pinned Joe Stephens, 1:36
150 - Chris Bono (ISU) pinned Chris Bahr, 6:27
158 - Bart Horton (ISU) major dec. Dan Kjeldgaard, 11-3
167 - Jason Wedgbury (UNI) dec. Brad Horton, 11-0
177 - Barry Weldon (ISU) dec. Ken Bigley, 9-2
190 - Tony Wieland (UNI) major dec. Kajie McDougald, 18-5
HWT - Trent Hynek (ISU) dec. Burt Beamer, 2-0

Nebraska 31, Northern Iowa 6

118 - Brad Canoyer (N) won by forfeit
126 - Jose DeAnda (N) dec. Ryan Kutz, 6-4
134 - Chauncey Parker (N) won by forfeit
142 - Joe Stephens (UNI) dec. Jake Roe, 9-2
150 - Jason Kraft (N) dec. Chris Bahr, 8-2
158 - Temoer Tery (N) major dec. Dan Kjeldgaard, 13-4
167 - Chad Nelson (N) major dec. Mike Thoms, 8-5
177 - Erik Josephson (N) dec. Ken Bigley, 3-1
190 - Tony Wieland (UNI) dec. Scott Munson, 7-3
HWT - Ryan Tobin (N) dec. Burt Beamer, 6-0

Northern Iowa 28, Ohio 18
Feb. 23, 1996 - Athens, Ohio

118 - Double forfeit
126 - Scott Murray (UNI) dec. Colin O'Donoghue, 6-0
134 - Ed Schilling (OU) won by forfeit
142 - Joe Calhoun (OU) dec. Joe Stephens, 7-5
150 - Chris Bahr (UNI) dec. Jeremy Gordol, 7-2
158 - Dan Kjeldgaard (UNI) pinned Paul Kaiser, 1:39
167 - Jason Wedgbury (UNI) major dec. Josh Heffernan, 14-3
177 - Mike Auerbach (OU) dec. Ken Bigley, 6-1
190 - Tony Wieland (UNI) dec. Mike Benson, 2-1
HWT - Burt Beamer (UNI) dec. Neal Harvey, 9-3

Illinois 35, Northern Iowa 6
Feb. 24, 1996 - Columbia, Ohio

118 - Lindsey Durlacher (I) won by forfeit
126 - Scott Murray (UNI) dec. Rob Anderson, 4-0
134 - Tommy Lee (I) won by forfeit
142 - Jon Vaughn (I) major dec. Joe Stephens, 11-1
150 - Eric Siebert (I) major dec. Chris Bahr, 16-4
158 - Ernest Benion (I) dec. Dan Kjeldgaard, 8-1
167 - Jason Wedgbury (UNI) major dec. Scott Benson, 3-1
177 - Jeon Herman (I) pinned Ken Bigley, 1:25
190 - Jamie Lee (I) dec. Tony Wieland, 3-2
HWT - Seth Brady (I) dec. Burt Beamer, 4-2

Ohio State 38, Northern Iowa 6
Feb. 24, 1996 - Columbus, Ohio

118 - Shawn Conyers (OSU) won by forfeit
126 - Mike McGlame (OSU) dec. Scott Murray, 6-4
134 - Dominic Diosabulo (OSU) won by forfeit
142 - Jay Michael (OSU) won by forfeit
150 - Dan DiCesare (OSU) dec. Chris Bahr, 7-4
158 - Eric Smith (OSU) match term. Dan Kjeldgaard, 17-2
167 - Jason Wedgbury (UNI) inj. def. Will Knight
177 - Eric Odita (OSU) dec. Ken Bigley, 8-5
190 - Anthony Gary (OSU) dec. Tony Wieland, 4-2
HWT - Nick Nutter (OSU) major dec. Burt Beamer, 12-4

1996-97 University of Northern Iowa Wrestling
1996 NCAA Championships

Final Results, Mar. 21-23 - Minneapolis, Minnesota

118 Pounds
1. Sheldon Thomas, Jr., Clarion
2. Jason Nurre, Sr., Iowa State
3. David Morgan, So., Michigan State
4. Lindsay Durlacher, Jr., Illinois
5. Mike Mena, Jr., Iowa
7. Mike Miller, Sr., North Carolina State
8. Shane Valdez, Fr., Oklahoma

126 Pounds
1. Sanshiro Abe, Sr., Penn State
2. Dwight Hinson, So., Iowa State
3. Eric Jetton, So., Wisconsin
4. Coby Wright, Jr., Cal State Bakersfield
5. Eric Guerrero, Fr., Oklahoma State
6. Willie Carpenter, Jr., Brown
7. Scott Schatzman, Fr., Northwestern
8. Brandon Howe, So., Michigan

134 Pounds
1. Cary Kolat, Jr., Lock Haven
2. Steve St. John, Sr., Arizona State
3. Mark Ironside, So., Iowa
4. Steven Schmidt, So., Oklahoma State
5. Tony Pariano, Sr., Northwestern
6. Yero Washington, Jr., Fresno State
7. Oscar Wood, Fr., Oregon State
8. Frank Laccone, Jr., Purdue

142 Pounds
1. Bill Zadick, Sr., Iowa
2. John Hughes, Sr., Penn State
3. Roger Chandler, Sr., Indiana
4. Derek Mountsier, Sr., Iowa State
5. Jason Davids, So., Minnesota
6. Scott Reina, Jr., Oklahoma State
7. Tod Surman, Sr., Stanford
8. Phil Judge, Sr., Michigan State

150 Pounds
1. Chris Bono, Jr., Iowa State
2. Charlie Becks, Sr., Ohio State
3. Russ Hughes, Sr., Penn State
4. Bill Lacure, So., Michigan
5. Chad Kraft, Fr., Minnesota
6. Mike Rogers, Jr., Lock Haven
7. Brent Voorhees, Sr., Wyoming
8. Mike Uker, Jr., Iowa

158 Pounds
1. Joe Williams, So., Iowa
2. Ernest Benion, Jr., Illinois
3. Temoc Terry, Jr., Nebraska
4. Alfonzo Tucker, Sr., Fresno State
5. Eric Smith, Sr., Ohio State
6. Brandon Alderman, Jr., Wyoming
7. Jeff Catrabone, So., Michigan
8. Matt Hughes, Jr., Eastern Illinois

167 Pounds
1. Daryl Weber, Sr., Iowa
2. Mark Branch, Jr., Oklahoma State
3. Charles Burton, Sr., Boise State
4. Markus Mollica, Sr., Arizona State
5. Barry Weldon, Jr., Iowa State
6. Joel Morissette, Sr., Michigan State
7. Mike Powell, Fr., Indiana
8. Chad Nelson, Sr., Nebraska

177 Pounds
1. Les Gutches, Sr., Oregon State
2. Reese Andy, Sr., Wyoming
3. Rohan Gardner, Sr., Northwestern
4. Jesse Rawls, Sr., Michigan
5. Erich Harvey, Jr., Michigan State
6. Derek Scott, Sr., Cal State Bakersfield
7. Mike Geurin, Jr., Lock Haven
8. Aaron Simpson, So., Arizona State

180 Pounds
1. John Kading, Jr., Oklahoma
2. Paschal Duru, Sr., Cal State Bakersfield
3. Ryan Tobin, Jr., Nebraska
4. Lee Fullhart, Fr., Iowa
5. Brian Picklo, Jr., Michigan State
6. Marc Bodo, So., Pittsburgh
7. Bryan Stout, Jr., Clarion
8. Tony Wieland, Fr., Northern Iowa

190 Pounds
1. Jeff Walter, Sr., Wisconsin
2. Justin Harty, Jr., North Carolina
3. Tolly Thompson, Jr., Nebraska
4. Stephen Neal, Fr., Cal State Bakersfield
5. Airon Richardson, So., Michigan
6. Billy Pierce, Sr., Minnesota
7. Nick Nutter, Jr., Ohio State
8. Pat Wiltanger, Sr., Pittsburgh

Heavyweight
1. Jeff Walter, Sr., Wisconsin
2. Justin Harty, Jr., North Carolina
3. Tolly Thompson, Jr., Nebraska
4. Stephen Neal, Fr., Cal State Bakersfield
5. Airon Richardson, So., Michigan
6. Billy Pierce, Sr., Minnesota
7. Nick Nutter, Jr., Ohio State
8. Pat Wiltanger, Sr., Pittsburgh

Final Team Standings
1. Iowa 122.5
2. Iowa State 78.5
3. Cal State Bakersfield 66
4. Penn State 65.5
5. Nebraska 61
6. Oklahoma State 54.5
7. Michigan State 53.5
8. Oregon State 48.5
9. Michigan 47
10. Arizona State 45
11. Lock Haven 43
12. Clarion 42.5
13. Illinois 42.5
14. Ohio State 38
15. Wisconsin 37.5
16. Wyoming 37.5
17. Oklahoma 36.5
18. Northwestern 34.5
19. Minnesota 32.5
20. Indiana 32
21. North Carolina 28.6
22. Boise State 24.5
23. Fresno State 19.5
24. Pittsburgh 19
25. Brown 17
26. West Virginia 14
27. Northern Iowa 12
28. North Carolina St. 11.5
29. Stanford 11.5

UNI Wrestlers at the 1996 NCAA Championships
118 - Scott Murray #12
W - #11 Teague Moore (Oklahoma State), 13-8
L - Shaw Conyers (Ohio State), 3-1

126 - #11 Markus Mollica (Arizona State), 9-2
L - #8 Barry Weldon (Iowa St.), 3-0

134 - #10 Stephen McNeal (Cal Bakersfield), 5-2
L - #8 Mike Miller (N.C. State), 5-2

142 - #11 Teague Moore (Oklahoma State), 13-8
L - #2 Roger Chandler (Indiana), 0:52
L - Troy Knez (Ohio State), 3-1

149 - #15 Chris Bahr
L - #3 Mark Samples (Edinboro), 8-5
L - Mark Samples (Edinboro), 0-2

150 - #15 Chris Bahr
L - #5 Chris Bahr (Indiana), 0:52
L - Troy Knez (Ohio State), 3-1

158 - #15 Chris Bahr
L - #5 Chris Bahr (Indiana), 0:52
L - Troy Knez (Ohio State), 3-1

167 - #15 Chris Bahr
L - #5 Chris Bahr (Indiana), 0:52
L - Troy Knez (Ohio State), 3-1
1996 NCAA WEST REGIONAL

Final Results, Mar. 9 -- Cedar Falls

Final Team Standings
1. Northern Iowa 103
2. Eastern Illinois 70
3. Marquette 42
4. Northern Illinois 34
5. Chicago State 18.5

Outstanding Wrestlers (tie)
Chris Bahr, Northern Iowa
Matt Hughes, Eastern Illinois

Coach of the Year
Jim Schmitz, Marquette

Championship Matches:
118 - Scott Murray (N. Iowa) dec. David Pena (EIU), 4-1
126 - Ryan Kutz (N. Iowa) dec. Terry O'Brien (Marq.), 8-5
134 - Jason Solomon (N. Ill.) dec. Russell Fecteau (Marq.), 10-3
142 - Joe Stephens (N. Iowa) dec. Jessie Dortch (CSU), 10-7
150 - Chris Bahr (N. Iowa) major dec. Dan Zirbel (Marq.), 14-5
158 - Matt Hughes (EIU) dec. Dan Kjeldgaard (N. Iowa), 9-5
167 - Jason Wedgbury (N. Iowa) match term. Chris Owen (EIU), 6:2
177 - Tim Fix (EIU) dec. Ken Bigley (N. Iowa), 16-9
190 - Demond Rodez (N. Ill.) dec. Tony Wieland (N. Iowa), 4-3 sd
HWT - Burt Beamer (N. Iowa) dec. Jeremy Karle (Marq.), 5-2

NCAA Qualifiers:
118 - Scott Murray (N. Iowa), David Pena (EIU)
126 - Ryan Kutz (N. Iowa)
134 - Jason Solomon (N. Ill.)
142 - Joe Stephens (N. Iowa), Erik Murry (EIU)
150 - Chris Bahr (N. Iowa), Dan Zirbel (Marq.)
158 - Matt Hughes (EIU), Dan Kjeldgaard (N. Iowa)
167 - Jason Wedgbury (N. Iowa)
177 - Tim Fix (EIU)
190 - Demond Rodez (N. Ill.), Tony Wieland (N. Iowa)
HWT - Burt Beamer (N. Iowa), Jeremy Karle (Marq.)

West/Midwest Regional
Team History
1996 1. Northern Iowa
2. Eastern Illinois
3. Marquette
1995 1. Northern Iowa
2. Illinois State
3. Northern Illinois
1994 1. Northern Iowa
2. Southwest Missouri
3. Illinois State
1993 1. Northern Iowa
2. Illinois State
3. Southwest Missouri
1992 1. Northern Iowa
2. Notre Dame
3. Eastern Illinois
1991 1. Northern Iowa
2. Notre Dame
3. Illinois State
1990 1. Northern Iowa
2. Notre Dame
3. Illinois State
1989 1. Northern Iowa
2. Notre Dame
3. Eastern Illinois
1988 1. Northern Iowa
2. Notre Dame
3. Illinois State
1987 1. Northern Iowa
2. Drake
3. Illinois State
1986 1. Northern Iowa
2. Drake
3. Tennessee
1985 1. Louisiana State
2. Northern Iowa
3. Cal Poly SLO
1984 1. Louisiana State
2. Northern Iowa
3. Cal Poly SLO
1983 1. Louisiana State
2. Northern Iowa
3. Tennessee
1982 1. Northern Iowa
2. Eastern Illinois
3. Tennessee
1981 1. Northern Iowa
2. Louisiana State
3. Indiana State
# Record Book (Division I, since 1980-81 season)

## Career Leaders

### Overall Victories

2. Justin Greenlee (1991-95) 129  
3. Joel Greenlee (1985-89) 127  
5. Gary Steffensmeier (1988-92) 115  
7. Dave Malecek (1980-84) 114  
8. Ken Gallagher (1978-82) 113  
9. Mark Schwab (1985-90) 112  
10. Joe Gormally (1980-81) 111

### Dual Victories

1. Joel Greenlee (1985-89) 58  
2. Ken Gallagher (1978-82) 55  
3. John Kriebs (1980-84) 53  
4. Bob Hallman (1980-84) 49  
9. Jeff Weatherman (1983-87) 46  
10. Mark Schwab (1985-90) 44

### Pins

1. Justin Greenlee (1991-95) 57  
3. John Kriebs (1980-84) 53  
4. Dion Cobb (1979-84) 50  
5. Joel Greenlee (1985-89) 49  
7. Jeff Weatherman (1983-87) 46  
8. Bob Hallman (1980-84) 45  
9. Scott Murray (1993-present) 45  
10. Tony Koontz (1986-88) 43

### Winning Percentage (min. 50 wins)

1. Joel Greenlee (1985-89) .878 (127-16-4)  
5. Gary Steffensmeier (1988-92) .793 (115-29-3)  
7. Joel Greenlee (1981-95) .787 (129-35)  
10. Ken Gallagher (1978-82) .728 (113-41-4)

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## Season Leaders

### Overall Victories

1. Mark Schwab (1985-86) 49  
2. Joel Greenlee (1991-95) 44  
4. Kurt Shedenhelm (1986-87) 41  
5. Jeff Weatherman (1985-86) 39  
6. Joel Greenlee (1986-87) 39  
7. Lew Sondgeroth (1984-85) 38  
8. Pat Pickford (1985-86) 38  
10. Dave Malecek (1990-94) 38

### Wins (min. 20 wins)

1. Joel Greenlee (1981-82) 21  
2. Justin Greenlee (1991-95) 20  
4. Joel Greenlee (1986-89) 18  
7. Tony Koontz (1985-86) 16  
8. Nine tied with 15

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**Note:** To qualify in career records, athletes must have wrestled at least two seasons in Division I at UNI.
For the past 14 years, Northern Iowa head coach Don Briggs and his staff have proudly carried on the rich tradition which has placed the Panthers among the elite in collegiate wrestling since The Great Depression. Since Coach Paul Bender sent his first team to the mat representing Iowa State Teachers College in 1923, the Panthers have rolled up 573 victories and a .682 winning percentage in 856 dual meets and have had only 11 losing seasons in seven decades.

When the subject of national championships is brought up, Northern Iowa takes a back seat to very few. The University is one of just nine institutions in history to capture the NCAA Division I Championships, accomplishing that feat in 1950. In the school's 18-year Division II era, it won two national titles and finished third or better 12 times.

Individually, only a handful of institutions boast more Division I national champions than UNI's 20. In all, the Panthers have crowned 42 national champions through the years and more than 100 all-Americans.

Only six coaches have guided the Panthers in 72 seasons of intercollegiate competition, winningest being Chuck Patten, whose teams compiled a 217-87-8 record in 18 seasons. Dave McCuskey enjoyed the longest reign—20 seasons—and led Iowa State Teachers College to the national championship in 1950 on his way to 102 victories and a .754 winning percentage.

Wrestling legend Bill Koll began his successful coaching career at his alma mater, guiding the Panthers for 11 seasons in the '50s and early '60s. And Don Briggs has led UNI back into the Division I ranks with top 20 NCAA finishes 12 times in the last 14 years. He has coached 27 all-Americans and racked up more Division I wins than any coach in school history with 157.

When Bender fielded that first team, little did anyone know it would be the first step toward building one of the most successful traditions in Iowa sports and eventually bring the school more recognition and attention than any sport in its history.

It would be several years before ISTC, as it was known then, would begin the climb to the pinnacle it would someday reach, but the colorful story which decorates the years since has no equal in Northern Iowa sports annals.

The Pre-World War II Years
Bender guided the first squad to a victory over Cornell in its only meet of the season and posted an 18-9-1 mark during his four-year stint. That tenure included only one losing season and victories over Oklahoma, Cornell and Wisconsin. The program was still in the development stage, however, with little national recognition and no all-Americans.

In 1930, Bender was appointed dean of men at the institution and turned over the reins to the man who built one of the greatest mat powerhouses in history. Dave McCuskey compiled a 102-31-7 mark, guided the Panthers to an NCAA title, four runnerup finishes and coached nine wrestlers to a total of 16 NCAA titles.

The first of many significant years for ISTC was 1931. It was the year McCuskey graduated and accepted the wrestling post, and also was the season which saw the school crown its first NCAA placewinners. Jesse Arends took second in the 118-pound class while teammate Orville Orr placed third at 155 pounds. McCuskey's matmen achieved their first national finish with a seventh-place tie in 1934.

The next milestone came in 1937 when the Panthers claimed their first individual NCAA title as Ray Cheney took the 135-pound championship and led the team to a third-place finish. ISTC placed no higher than eighth from '37 to the time when World War II forced the cancellation of the national meet in 1944-45. However, when the layoff ended in 1946, ISTC thrust itself into the national wrestling limelight for decades to come.
Northern Iowa’s NCAA Champions

University Division
1937 - Ray Cheney, 135
1946 - Cecil Mott, 121
1946 - *Gerald Leeman, 128
1946 - Bill Koll, 145
1947 - *Bill Koll, 145
1947 - Russ Bush, 128
1947 - Bill Nelson, 165
1949 - Bill Nelson, 165
1949 - Bill Smith, 165
1949 - Keith Young, 145
1950 - Bill Nelson, 155
1950 - Bill Smith, 165
1950 - Keith Young, 145
1952 - Gene Lybbert, 130
1952 - Bill Weick, 157
1953 - Jim Harmon, 157
1955 - Bill Weick, 157
1963 - Bill Dotson, 137
* NCAA Tournament Outstanding Wrestler

College Division (Division II)
1963 - Bill Dotson, 137
1963 - Jim Sanford, 147
1966 - Don Parker, 177
1967 - Don Parker, 177
1968 - Kent Osboe, HWT
1969 - Kent Osboe, HWT
1971 - Clint Young, 158
1972 - Mike McCready, HWT
1974 - Tom Garcia, 126
1974 - Jim Miller, 134
1974 - Ken Snyder, 142
1975 - Jim Miller, 134
1975 - Ken Snyder, 142
1975 - Randy Omvig, HWT
1976 - Gary Bentrim, 142
1977 - Gary Bentrim, 142
1978 - Gary Bentrim, 158
1978 - Keith Poolman, 167
1978 - Kirk Myers, 190
1979 - Kirk Myers, 190
1980 - Kirk Myers, 190
1980 - Ken Gallagher, 150

The Golden Era
The end of the war came in 1946 and with it the return of thousands of servicemen to colleges throughout the United States. It also was the year of the Panther. Gerald Leeman became a national champion at 128 pounds and won MVP honors at the national tournament. Cecil Mott also won a title at 121 pounds as McCuskey’s squad finished second in the team competition.

A veteran of D-Day and the Battle of the Bulge named Bill Koll also won an NCAA title for ISTC and completed the first leg of one of the most amazing careers in wrestling history. Koll (145), Russ Bush (128) and Bill Nelson (165) took titles the following year with Koll becoming the second Panther in as many seasons to take home the MVP award. ISTC could not improve on its second-place finish that year, though, and dropped to fourth in 1948 with Koll being named the tournament MVP for the second consecutive year.

Koll capped his brilliant career with his third title and a 72-0 career mark; he was taken down only once in three seasons. The Panthers were national AAU champions in 1949 and NCAA runnersup with Nelson earning his second title at 155 with Bill Smith (165) and Keith Young (145) taking their first championships.

McCuskey had to wait 20 years, but his dream of a national championship came true in 1950. Iowa State Teachers College hosted the NCAA tourney in the Men’s Gym that year and delighted the hometown fans by running away with the team crown. That 1950 squad generally is regarded as one of the top collegiate teams of all-time.

After breezing to an 11-0 record in which none of the opponents reached double figures, and taking the AAU national championship, ISTC racked up enough points in the semifinals to walk away with the championship. Nelson took his third crown at 155 with Young, at 145, and Smith, at 165, each winning their second. Other Panther placewinners were Frank Altman (121), Luverne Klar (128), Floyd Oglesby (136) and Fred Stoeker (HWT).

Young became ISTC’s third three-time national champion in 1951 and Gene Lybbert placed third at 130 pounds en route to a team fourth-place finish.

The McCuskey era ended in 1952 when the long-time mentor resigned to accept the head coaching position at the University of Iowa. Lybbert (130) and Bill Weick (157) won NCAA titles that year, leading the squad to a runnerup finish, and capping a six-year span (1947-52) in which ISTC compiled a 53-4-3 dual mark, claimed three straight outstanding wrestler awards in the NCAA meet, won 16 individual national championships, two national AAU crowns, one NCAA title and four second-place finishes.

The Move to Division II
Koll took over for McCuskey in 1953 and guided the Panthers to fourth place. During his 11-year tenure, ISTC had three more individual national champs and went 71-42-6. Jim Harmon won at 157 pounds in 1953, Weick returned in 1955 to win at 157, and Bill Dotson became the school’s only NCAA champion in Division I and Division II in 1963.

Patten was named the school’s fifth head coach in 1965 and for the next 18 years led the Panthers to dominance in Division II. His 217 victories signifies him as the winningest coach in school history. Patten coached 58
athletes to all-America status, 16 to national titles. His 1975 and '78 teams were Division II national champions, with the '70, '72, '74 and '80 squads claiming second place. His teams placed in the top three in 11 of the 18 seasons he was at the helm.

Kirk Myers (190) and Gary Bentrim (142, 158) were three-time national champs for Patten, while Don Parker (177), Kent Osboe (HWT), Jim Miller (134) and Ken Snyder (142) were two-time winners. Myers capped his career with a fifth-place finish in 1982. He is the only Panther to win 30 or more matches in all four years of competition, and his 134 victories ties him for the most in any division in school history.

Mike McCready, the 1972 national heavyweight champion, also took the gold medal at the 1975 Pan American Games and went on to become Iowa's most successful Greco-Roman wrestler with seven titles to his credit.

Mike McCready, the 1972 national heavyweight champion, also took the gold medal at the 1975 Pan American Games and went on to become Iowa's most successful Greco-Roman wrestler with seven titles to his credit.

Back to Division I

Patten retired from coaching in 1982 and Briggs, his long-time assistant, took over as UNI stepped up to NCAA Division I competition. Briggs led the Panthers to 10th and 11th-place finishes his first two seasons and has kept his teams in the top 20 nearly every year.

Along the way, some of the best and most exciting wrestlers to don the Purple and Gold have called the West Gym, known as the Men's Gym until 1980, home.

Joel and Justin Greenlee, Rich Powers, Gary Steffensmeier and Mark Schwab are just a few of the names and all-Americans Briggs has recruited and coached.

Between them, the Greenlees claimed five all-America honors and finished second in the nation three times at heavyweight. They combined for a career mark of 256-51-4 (.830), with Justin and Joel ranking second and third on the career victories list, respectively. Joel has the best winning percentage in school history while Justin tops the career pins list.

Another great in the Briggs era was 118-pounder Mark Schwab, who holds the school standard for wins in a season with 49 in 1985-86. Unfortunately, Schwab's career was thwarted by a knee injury his sophomore season, but when healthy, he was undoubtedly the best at his weight in the nation and one of the finest in the world.

The duo of Rich Powers and Gary Steffensmeier came along in 1988 and thrilled UNI fans with amazingly similar careers through 1992. During that time, each captured three All-America honors and flirted with a national championship. Steffensmeier gained the 1990 NCAA final at 150 pounds and was ranked first in the nation for a time as a junior while Powers entered the 1992 national tournament favored to win at 177 pounds before falling in the semifinals. Each also appeared in the NWCA All-Star meet. When they ended their careers together in 1992, Powers had the most wins in Division I in UNI history with 134 and Steffensmeier ranked fourth with 115.

The Panthers have dominated the NCAA West Regional for over a decade, claiming the team title the past 11 years and finishing second the three seasons before that.

The future promises nothing but continued success as Briggs and his staff face the final years of the century. A young but very enthusiastic group of wrestlers will take to the mat for the Panthers this season and, almost 50 years after first hosting the NCAA Championships, the University will once again have the opportunity to play host to the best in collegiate wrestling in 1997 when it will be the site of the NCAA Division I Championships.

Armed with that young talent and the prospect of having the national championships in Cedar Falls, it would seem all the essentials are there for Northern Iowa wrestling to meet the challenges of the years to come.

Panther Tradition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wrestling Hall of Fame</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wrestlers</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Bill Koll</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gerald Leeman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bill Nelson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bill Smith</td>
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<td>Keith Young</td>
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Panther Olympians

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maynard Harmon</td>
<td>1932, Los Angeles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gerald Leeman</td>
<td>Silver Medal, 1948, London</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill Koll</td>
<td>5th Place, 1948, London</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill Nelson</td>
<td>1948, London</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bill Smith</td>
<td>Gold Medal, 1952, Helsinki</td>
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Pan American Games

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Medal</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mike McCready</td>
<td>1975</td>
<td>Gold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justin Greenlee</td>
<td>1993</td>
<td>Gold</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PANTHER ALL-AMERICANS

Division I

1931  Jesse Arends, 2nd, 118  
Finn Eriksen, 4th, 135  
Orville Orr, 3rd, 155  

1932  Maynard Harmon, 3rd, 145  
Arthur Gerber, 3rd, HWT  

1934  Alvie Natvig, 2nd, 118  

1937  Davis Natvig, 2nd, 118  
Ray Cheney, 1st, 135  

1938  Davis Natvig, 3rd, 118  

1940  Delbert Jensen, 3rd, 121  
Roger Isaacson, 2nd, 136  

1941  Vernon Hassman, 2nd, 145  

1942  Leon Martin, 2nd, 175  

1946  Cecil Mott, 1st, 121  
Gerald Leeman, 1st, 128  
Russ Bush, 3rd, 136  
Bill Koll, 1st, 145  

1947  Russ Bush, 1st, 128  
Bill Koll, 1st, 145  
Bill Nelson, 1st, 165  

1948  Bill Koll, 1st, 147 1/2  
LeRoy Alitz, 4th, 191  

1949  Russ Bush, 3rd, 128  
Leverne Klar, 3rd, 136  
Keith Young, 1st, 145  
Bill Nelson, 1st, 155  
Bill Smith, 1st, 165  

1950  Frank Altman, 3rd, 121  
Leverne Klar, 4th, 128  
Floyd Oglesby, 2nd, 136  
Keith Young, 1st, 145  
Bill Nelson, 1st, 155  
Bill Smith, 1st, 165  
Fred Stoeker, 2nd, HWT  

1951  Gene Lybbert, 3rd, 130  
Keith Young, 1st, 147  

1952  Gene Lybbert, 1st, 130  
Bob Morris, 2nd, 137  
Jim Harmon, 2nd, 147  
Bill Weick, 1st, 157  

1953  Pat McCarron, 3rd, 123  
Jim Harmon, 1st, 157  
Gus Gatto, 4th, 191  

1955  Bill Weick, 1st, 157  
Gus Gatto, 4th, 191  

1956  Dick Heaton, 3rd, 147  

1958  Dick Heaton, 4th, 157  

1961  Francis Freeman, 4th, 123  
David Jensen, 2nd, 130  

1962  Francis Freeman, 2nd, 123  
Bill Dotson, 2nd, 137  

1963  Bill Dotson, 1st, 137  

1967  Don Parker, 6th, 191  

1968  Marv Reiland, 6th, 130  
Kirk Osboe, 6th, HWT  

1972  Mike McCready, 3rd, HWT  

1974  Jim Miller, 2nd, 134  
Ken Snyder, 3rd, 142  

1975  Jim Miller, 4th, 134  
Ken Snyder, 5th, 142  

1978  Kirk Myers, 6th, 190  

1979  Joe Gormally, 4th, 177  
Kirk Myers, 3rd, 190  

1981  Ken Gallagher, 5th, 142  
Dion Cobb, 4th, 158  

1982  Ken Gallagher, 7th, 142  
Joe Gormally, 7th, 177  
Kirk Myers, 5th, 190  

1983  Randy Majors, 3rd, 126  
John Kribs, 5th, HWT  

1984  Bob Hallman, 2nd, 118  
Dave Grant, 8th, 158  
John Kribs, 6th, HWT  

1985  Paul Kreimeyer, 6th, 118  
Lew Sondgeroth, 5th, 142  

1986  Mark Schwab, 5th, 118  
Jeff Clutter, 8th, 158  

1987  Mike Schwab, 8th, 126  
Jeff Weatherman, 5th, 190  

1988  Chris Lembeck, 5th, 158  
Joel Greenlee, 4th, HWT  

1989  Joel Greenlee, 2nd, HWT  

1990  Mark Schwab, 6th, 118  
Dauine Martin, 8th, 126  
Gary Steffensmeier, 2nd, 150  
Rich Powers, 5th, 177  

1991  Steve Hartle, 7th, 142  
Gary Steffensmeier, 4th, 150  
Rich Powers, 4th, 177  

1992  Gary Steffensmeier, 4th, 150  
Rich Powers, 5th, 177  

1993  Steve Hartle, 8th, 150  
Justin Greenlee, 8th, HWT  

1994  Dave Maleck, 4th, 177  
Justin Greenlee, 2nd, HWT  

1995  Justin Greenlee, 2nd, HWT  

1996  Tony Wieland, 8th, 190  

1996-97 University of Northern Iowa Wrestling
Panther All-Americans

Division II

1963
Gary Pollard, 3rd, 115
Bill Dotson, 1st, 137
Jim Sanford, 1st, 147
Dick Austin, 2nd, 157
Ron Mehlin, 4th, 167
Steve Hoemann, 4th, 177

1964
Bob Trautman, 4th, 137
Jim Monroe, 2nd, 167

1966
Dave Steinkamp, 6th, 160
Don Parker, 1st, 177

1967
Jerry Bond, 2nd, 137
Don Parker, 1st, 177
Kent Osboe, 2nd, HWT

1968
Jerry Bond, 4th, 145
Kent Osboe, 1st, HWT

1969
Marv Reiland, 2nd, 130
Jim Guyer, 3rd, 160
Vince Bellock, 6th, 167
Kent Osboe, 1st, HWT

1970
Marv Reiland, 4th, 134
Clint Young, 4th, 158
Vince Bellock, 2nd, 167
Bob Boeck, 3rd, 177
Mike McCready, 3rd, HWT

1971
Clint Young, 1st, 158
Randy Omvig, 5th, 190

1972
Jon Moeller, 5th, 134
Mark Fox, 4th, 142
Joe Hatchett, 2nd, 190
Mike McCready, 1st, HWT

1973
Dave Nicol, 4th, 126
Jim Miller, 4th, 134
Ken Snyder, 2nd, .142
Randy Omvig, 4th, HWT

1974
Dave Cunningham, 6th, 118
Tom Garcia, 1st, 126
Jim Miller, 1st, 134
Ken Snyder, 1st, 142
Dan Keller, 4th, 167
Rich Erickson, 6th, 177
Randy Omvig, 4th, HWT

1975
Dave Cunningham, 2nd, 118
Jim Miller, 1st, 134
Ken Snyder, 1st, 142
Rich Erickson, 2nd, 177
Randy Omvig, 1st, HWT

1976
Dave Cunningham, 5th, 118
Bruce McClure, 4th, 134
Gary Bentrim, 1st, 142

1977
Jim Blasingame, 3rd, 150
Keith Poolman, 4th, 167
Dan Keller, 2nd, 177

1978
Dave Prehm, 6th, 118
Jeff Melvin, 5th, 126
Scott Kollings, 6th, 134
Gary Bentrim, 1st, 142
Dick Briggs, 4th, 150
Keith Poolman, 4th, 167
Ed Herman, 6th, 190

1979
Kevin Finn, 4th, 134
Larry Luttrell, 6th, 142
Ken Gallagher, 3rd, 150
Keith Poolman, 4th, 167
Joe Gormally, 4th, 177
Kirk Myers, 1st, 190

1980
Kirk Myers

East/West All-Star Classic

1967—Don Parker (177)
1969—Kent Osboe (HWT)
1974—Jim Miller (134)
1975—Jim Miller (134)
1984—John Krieb (HWT)
1988—Mark Schwab (118)
Joel Greenlee (HWT)
1989—Joel Greenlee (HWT)
1991—Gary Steffensmeier (150)
Rich Powers (177)
1992—Rich Powers (177)
1993—Justin Greenlee (HWT)
PANTHER ALL-AMERICANS

Four-Time All-Americans (4)

Both Divisions
Kirk Myers (Three-Time Division I and II — see below)
Ken Gallagher (Two-Time Division I and II — see below)

Division II
Randy Omvig (190-HWT-HWT-HWT)
5th-4th-1st...1971,73,74,75
Keith Poolman (167-167-167-167)
4th-4th-1st...1976,77,78,79

Three-Time All-Americans (14)

Division I
Bill Koll (145-145-147.5)
1st-1st...1946,47,48
Russ Bush (136-128-128)
3rd-1st...1946,47,49
Bill Nelson (165-155-155)
1st-1st...1947,49,50
Keith Young (145-145-147)
1st-1st...1949,50,51
Kirk Myers (190-190-190)
6th-3rd-5th...1978,79,82
Gary Steffensmeier (150-150-150)
2nd-4th...1990,91,92
Rich Powers (177-177-177)
5th-4th-5th...1990,91,92
Justin Greenlee (HWT-HWT-HWT)
8th-2nd-2nd...1993,94,95

Division II
Kent Osboe (HWT-HWT-HWT)
2nd-1st-1st...1967,68,69
Jim Miller (134-134-134)
4th-1st-1st...1973,74,75
Ken Snyder (142-142-142)
2nd-1st-1st...1973,74,75
Dave Cunningham (118-118-118)
6th-2nd-5th...1974,75,76
Gary Bentrim (142-142-158)
1st-1st-1st...1976,77,78
Kirk Myers (190-190-190)
1st-1st-1st...1978,79,80

Two-Time All-Americans (33)

Division I
Davis Natvig (118-118)...2nd-3rd...1937,38
Luverne Klar (136-128)...3rd-4th...1949,50
Bill Smith (186-165)...1st-1st...1949,50
Gene Lybbert (130-130)...3rd-1st...1951,52
Jim Harmon (147-157)...2nd-1st...1952,53
Bill Weick (157-157)...1st-1st...1952,55
Gus Gatto (191-191)...4th-4th...1953,55
Dick Heaton (147-157)...3rd-4th...1956,58
Franc Freeman (123-123)...2nd-2nd...1961,62
Bill Dotson (137-137)...2nd-1st...1962,63
Jim Miller (134-134)...2nd-4th...1974,75
Ken Snyder (142-142)...3rd-5th...1974,75
Joe Gormally (177-177)...4th-2nd...1978,79,82
John Kriebs (HWT-HWT-HWT)...5th-6th...1983,84
Mark Schwab (118-118)...5th-6th...1986,90
Joel Greenlee (HWT-HWT-HWT)...4th-2nd...1988,89
Steve Hartlie (142-150)...7th-8th...1991,93

Both Divisions
Dion Cobb (One-Time Division I and II — see below)

Division II
Don Parker (177-177)...1st-1st...1966,67
Jerry Bond (137-145)...2nd-4th...1967,68
Marv Reiland (130-134)...2nd-4th...1969,70
Vince Belloch (167-167)...6th-2nd...1969,70
Clint Young (158-158)...4th-1st...1970,71
Mike McCready (HWT-HWT-HWT)...3rd-1st...1970,72
Dan Keller (167-177)...4th-2nd...1974,76
Rich Erickson (177-177)...6th-2nd...1974,75
Dave Prehm (118-118)...6th-2nd...1977,78
Dick Briggs (150-150)...4th-3rd...1977,78
Kevin Finn (134-134)...4th-4th...1978,79
Joe Gormally (177-177)...4th-2nd...1978,79
Ken Gallagher (150-150)...3rd-1st...1979,80
Kevin Kurtz (HWT-HWT-HWT)...5th-6th...1979,80

One-Time All-Americans (62)

Division I
Jesse Arends (118)...2nd...1931
Finn Eriksen (135)...4th...1931
Orville Orr (155)...3rd...1931
Maynard Harmon (145)...3rd...1932
Arthur Gerber (HWT)...3rd...1932
Alvie Natvig (118)...2nd...1934
Ray Cheney (135)...1st...1937
Delbert Jensen (121)...3rd...1940
Roger Isaacs (136)...2nd...1940
Vernon Hassman (145)...2nd...1941
Leon Martin (118)...2nd...1942
Cecil Mott (121)...1st...1946
Gerald Leeman (128)...1st...1946
LeRoy Alitz (191)...4th...1948
Frank Altman (121)...3rd...1950
Floyd Oglesby (136)...2nd...1950
Fred Stoecker (HWT)...2nd...1950
Bob Morris (137)...2nd...1952
Pat McCarron (123)...3rd...1953
David Jensen (130)...2nd...1961
Don Parker (191)...6th...1967
Marv Reiland (130)...6th...1969
Kirt Osboe (HWT)...6th...1969
Mike McCready (HWT)...3rd...1972
Dion Cobb (158)...4th...1981
Randy Majors (126)...3rd...1983
Bob Hallman (118)...2nd...1984
Dave Grant (158)...8th...1984
Paul Kriemeyer (118)...6th...1985
Lew Sondgeroth (142)...5th...1985
Jeff Clutter (158)...8th...1986
Mike Schwab (126)...8th...1987
Jeff Weatherman (190)...5th...1987
Chris Lembeck (158)...5th...1988
Duaine Martin (126)...8th...1990
Dave Malecek (177)...4th...1994
Tony Wieland (190)...8th...1996

Division II
Gary Pollard (115)...3rd...1963
Bill Dotson (137)...1st...1963
Jim Sanford (147)...1st...1963
Dick Austin (157)...2nd...1963
Ron Mehl (167)...4th...1963
Steve Hoemann (177)...4th...1963
Bob Trautman (137)...4th...1964
Jim Monroe (167)...2nd...1964
Dave Steinkamp (160)...6th...1966
Jim Geyer (160)...3rd...1969
Bob Boeck (177)...3rd...1970
Jon Moeller (134)...5th...1972
Mark Fox (142)...4th...1972
Joe Hatchett (190)...2nd...1972
Dave Nicol (126)...4th...1973
Tom Garcia (126)...1st...1974
Bruce McClure (134)...4th...1976
Jim Blasingame (150)...3rd...1976
Jeff Melvin (126)...5th...1977
Scott Kollings (118)...6th...1977
Larry Luttrell (142)...6th...1979
Brent Hagen (126)...2nd...1980
Dion Cobb (167)...6th...1980
Efonda Sproles (177)...2nd...1980

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1996-97 University of Northern Iowa Wrestling
## Year-by-Year Records

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* NCAA Division II
**School Record

## UNI Head Coaches & Records

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Paul Bender 1923-30 (8) 18 9 0 .667
Dave McCuskey 1931-52 (20) 102 31 7 .754
Bill Koll 1953-64 (11) 71 42 6 .622
Ed Lyons 1958 (1) 8 2 1 .773
Chuck Patten 1965-82 (18) 217 87 8 .708
Don Briggs 1983-present (12) 157 90 0 .636
1923-96 (72) 573 261 22 .682

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1996-97 University of Northern Iowa Wrestling
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**Head Coach:** Chuck Patten
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23 Ohio State 14
22 Northwestern 17
21 Cornell 0
20 Oregon 21
37 at Mankato State 9
36 South Dakota St. 6
23 Louisiana St. 20
22 at Northwestern 11
21 at Nebraska 23
20 at Missouri 14
19 at Iowa State 23
18 Iowa 30
17 at Northeastern Illinois 16
16 vs. Navy* 29
15 vs. Pennsylvania* 29
14 vs. Marquette 3
13 vs. Wisconsin 22
12 at Wisconsin 23
11 vs. Drake 3
10 at Missouri 32
9 vs. Illinois 36
8 at Wisconsin 24
7 at Nebraska 26
6 vs. Drake 6
5 at Iowa State 32
4 at Drake 3
3 vs. Carson-Newman 15
2 vs. Drake 3
1 vs. Livingstone 2

1983 (17-3)
Head Coach: Don Briggs
41 Kentucky 3
45 Northern Michigan 2
6 Iowa 33
33 Cal Bakersfield 6
31 North Carolina 8
25 at Lock Haven 14
23 at Lehigh 22
23 at Clarion 17
20 at Missouri 19
19 Iowa 43
18 at Missouri 14
17 at Illinois 10
16 at Missouri 33
15 Augustana (SD) 3
13 vs. Drake 3
12 vs. Drake 3
11 vs. Pittsburgh 29
10 vs. Arizona State 29
9 vs. Arizona State 16
8 vs. Arizona State 5
7 vs. Utah State 4
6 vs. Drake 3
5 vs. Nebraska 5
4 vs. Drake 3
3 vs. Bloomington 5
2 vs. Bloomington 4
2 vs. Bloomington 3
1 vs. Bloomington 2

1984 (12-4)
Head Coach: Don Briggs
8 at Wisconsin 12
31 Cleveland State 12
23 SIU-Edwardsville 14
14 at Iowa 30
33 New Mexico 12
20 at Ohio State 21
11 at Oklahoma 29
33 Lehigh 13
26 at Augustana (SD) 17
26 at South Dakota St. 10
16 at Iowa State 23
13 at Michigan State 19
12 at Nebraska 24
11 vs. Drake 2
10 vs. Drake 1
9 vs. Drake 1
8 vs. Drake 1
7 vs. Nebraska 24
6 vs. Nebraska 24
5 vs. Nebraska 24
4 vs. Nebraska 24
3 vs. Nebraska 24
2 vs. Nebraska 24
1 vs. Nebraska 24

1985 (9-6)
Head Coach: Don Briggs
8 Wisconsin 27
57 SW Missouri St. 0
12 at SIU-Edwardsville 25
21 at Missouri 23
28 at Eastern Illinois 12
3 Iowa 43
25 North Carolina 10
23 at Cal Poly SLO 14
17 at Fresno State 9
41 at New Mexico 26
13 at Oklahoma State 26
8 at Wisconsin 24
4 at Drake 6
3 vs. Nebraska 24
2 vs. Nebraska 24
1 vs. Nebraska 24

1986 (12-8)
Head Coach: Don Briggs
22 at Wisconsin 21
19 at Iowa 39
23 Oklahoma State 15
27 Lock Haven 8
46 New Mexico 3
34 Morgan State 4
43 vs. Illinois State 29
29 vs. Penn State 21
19 at Arizona State 29
11 "Clemson" 11
24 "Northwestern" 28
15 "Wisconsin" 23
23 "Virginia" 26
18 "Bloomington" 20
6 at North Carolina 28
35 Missouri 12
24 vs. Illinois 17
11 Iowa State 26
43 Drake 0
21 "Virginia Duals" 18

1987 (18-6)
Head Coach: Don Briggs
11 vs. Weber State 31
10 vs. NIW Missouri St. 14
16 vs. Minnesota 12
17 North Carolina 25
37 Augustana (SD) 3
15 "Virginia" 15
12 "Penn State" 28
20 "North Carolina St." 16
16 "Arizona State" 10
21 "North Carolina" 19
16 "Bloomington" 16
8 at Lehigh 16
51 vs. Livingston 2
8 vs. Carman-Northern 15
24 vs. Edinboro 14
18 Wisconsin 15
17 vs. Minnesota 11
32 SIU-Edwardsville 15
8 Nebraska 12
17 at Iowa State 20
29 at Drake 12
21 at Missouri 13
30 at Eastern Illinois 8
* Virginia Duals

1988 (14-3)
Head Coach: Don Briggs
37 at Wisconsin 12
14 at Iowa 24
20 Minnesota 18
17 Missouri 7
21 at Ohio State 14
26 vs. "Indiana" 3
26 "Bloomington" 3
3 vs. Arizona State 3
29 vs. California (PA) 0
23 at Drake 6
21 at Ohio State 24
36 at Eastern Illinois 13
43 at Wisconsin 12
43 "Virginia Duals"
38 vs. Tenn.-Chattanooga 3
37 North Dakota State 10
17 at Michigan 25
13 Oklahoma State 23
8 vs. Nebraska 24
7 vs. Nebraska 24
6 vs. Nebraska 24
5 vs. Nebraska 24
4 vs. Nebraska 24
3 vs. Nebraska 24
2 vs. Nebraska 24
1 vs. Nebraska 24

1989 (12-6)
Head Coach: Don Briggs
11 Iowa 26
12 at Minnesota 26
9 New Mexico 24
17 "Bloomington" 18
19 "North Carolina" 24
23 vs. Army 23
35 vs. SIU-Edwardsville 4
27 at Missouri 16
47 SW Missouri St. 18
22 at Ohio State 20
33 at Nebraska 18
29 at Eastern Illinois 16
23 vs. Temple-Chattanooga 3
23 North Carolina 9
28 Nebraska 15
20 Oklahoma State 23

1990 (12-6)
Head Coach: Don Briggs
23 Minnesota 15
7 at Iowa 39
35 "Missouri" 8
34 at Cal State Chico 5
22 at Fresno State 10
22 at Cal State Bakersfield 16
21 at Cal Poly SLO 6
20 at California State Fullerton 15
3 at Oklahoma State 30
21 at SMU St. 6
14 Iowa State 20
40 Eastern Illinois 4
10 vs. Nebraska 26
30 Drake 8
35 Northern Illinois 7

1991 (16-5)
Head Coach: Don Briggs
24 vs. Minnesota 12
11 Iowa 34
20 vs. SW Missouri 6
19 at Missouri 18
17 vs. Purdue 10
5 at Iowa 32
14 *Ohio State 21
4 vs. "Illinois" 0
22 "Michigan" 15
23 "West Virginia" 16
7 "Illinois" 35
20 "Nebraska" 24
43 vs. Illinois 3
33 Nebraska 9
47 at Northern Illinois 2
36 at Eastern Illinois 9
33 vs. Illinois State 3
26 vs. Drake 21
21 Oklahoma State 16
21 Indiana 9
35 Wyoming 3
* National Duals

1992 (11-4)
Head Coach: Don Briggs
4 Iowa 35
3 at Fresno St. 15
39 vs. California (PA) 0
32 vs. Cal State Bakersfield 9
21 at Cal State Fullerton 6
21 Minnesota 16
5 Iowa State 32
24 Missouri 16
37 Eastern Illinois 3
34 Drake 6
43 SW Missouri St. 2
51 Northern Illinois 0
42 Illinois State 5
21 vs. Purdue 21
17 at Nebraska 19

1993 (10-7)
Head Coach: Don Briggs
9 Iowa 31
27 at Edinboro 7
29 at Clarion 9
17 at Bloomington 12
23 vs. "Brown" 9
21 "Clemson" 19
19 "Wisconsin" 16
12 "Minnesota" 24
7 Nebraska 28
12 #Bates 25
28 at Dragons 23
31 at Drake 9
12 at Iowa 25
36 vs. Northern Illinois 15
16 at Minnesota 27
19 vs. Penn State 17
11 vs. Nebraska 26
25 Cal State Bakersfield 10
* Virginia Duals (2nd place)
* National Duals

1994 (5-12)
Head Coach: Don Briggs
9 at Minnesota 30
4 vs. Iowa 40
12 vs. Nebraska-Omaha 26
12 vs. Edinboro* 26
22 vs. Virginia Military* 22
22 vs. "Synchro" 17
8 vs. Navy* 33
6 vs. "Pennsylvania" 29
7 Wisconsin 36
6 at Missouri 37
6 at Iowa State 38
30 vs. Northern Illinois 13
12 Nebraska 30
21 at North Dakota State 15
17 Virginia State 22
* Virginia Duals

1995 (4-11)
Head Coach: Don Briggs
9 at Iowa 34
3 vs. Missouri 9
4 at Edinboro 24
21 at Pittsburgh 29
20 vs. Nebraska-Omaha* 25
31 Nebraska-Omaha* 1
12 at Iowa State 36
12 vs. Wisconsin 30
12 vs. Missouri 37
12 at Nebraska 38
12 vs. Ohio 38
6 at Ohio State 36
6 vs. Illinois 36
* Northern Illinois Duals

1996-97 University of Northern Iowa Wrestling
All-Time Lettermen

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Keith Poolman

1996-97 University of Northern Iowa Wrestling
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<tr>
<td>Livingstone</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1987</td>
<td>1987</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lock Haven</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1982</td>
<td>1986</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# 1996-97 OPPONENTS

## Georgia State
**Tuesday, January 7**
**Atlanta, Georgia**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location: Atlanta, Georgia</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enrollment: 25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nickname: Panthers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colors: Royal Blue, Crimson, and White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference: Independent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athletic Director: Head Coach: Keith Walton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Career record: 9-8 (one year)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Record at school: 9-8 (one year)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Series History: First meeting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1995-96 Dual Record: 9-8
1996 Conference Finish: N/A
1996 NCAA Finish: 54th
Lettermen Returning/Lost: 7/3
Wrestling SID: Peter O'Reilly/Rob Preiditsch
Office Phone: 404-651-3168
Fax: 404-651-3204

## Tennessee-Chattanooga
**Tuesday, January 7**
**Chattanooga, Tennessee**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location: Chattanooga, Tennessee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enrollment: 8,325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nickname: Mocs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colors: Navy Blue and Old Gold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference: Southern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athletic Director: ED Farrell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Coach: Mark Leen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Career record: 6-4 (one year)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Record at school: 6-4 (one year)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Coaches: Matt Sloand, Deryk Moisiner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Series History: UNI leads 2-0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1995-96 Dual Record: 6-4
1996 Conference Finish: 3rd
1996 NCAA Finish: T49th
Lettermen Returning/Lost: 3/7
Wrestling SID: Kevin Floyd
Office Phone: 423-755-4618
Home Phone: 423-757-8297
Fax: 423-755-4610

## Ohio
**Friday, January 17**
**Cedar Falls, Iowa**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location: Athens, Ohio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enrollment: 19,143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nickname: Bobcats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colors: Ohio Green and White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference: Mid-American</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athletic Director: Thomas Boeh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Coach: Harry Houska</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Career record: 227-129-10 (28 years)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Record at school: 227-129-10 (28 years)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Coach: Dan Willaman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Series History: First meeting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1995-96 Dual Record: 5-8-1
1996 Conference Finish: 2-1
1996 NCAA Finish: 37th
Lettermen Returning/Lost: 8/5
Wrestling SID: TBA
Office Phone: 614-593-1298
Fax: 614-593-2420

## Wisconsin
**Thursday, January 23**
**Cedar Falls, Iowa**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location: Madison, Wisconsin</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enrollment: 40,305</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nickname: Badgers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colors: Cardinal and White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference: Big Ten</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athletic Director: Pat Richter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Coach: Barry Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Career record: 25-15-2 (three years)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Record at school: 25-15-2 (three years)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Coaches: Bart Chelesvig, Sean Bormet, Terry Steiner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Series History: UNI leads 17-10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1995-96 Dual Record: 10-5
1996 Conference Finish: 8th
1996 NCAA Finish: T15th
Lettermen Returning/Lost: 14/4
Wrestling SID: Dan Meyer
Office Phone: 608-282-1811
Home Phone: 608-233-8218
Fax: 608-282-8184

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1996-97 University of Northern Iowa Wrestling
## 1996-97 Opponents

### Eastern Illinois
**Sunday, January 26**
**Charleston, Illinois**

**Location:** Charleston, Illinois  
**Enrollment:** 10,700  
**Nickname:** Panthers  
**Colors:** Blue and Gray  
**Conference:** Independent  
**Athletic Director:** Lou Hencken  
**Head Coach:** Ralph McCausland  
**Career record:** 90-67-2  
**Record at school:** 90-67-2  
**Series History:** UNI leads 9-0

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Home</th>
<th>Away</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Home</th>
<th>Away</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**1995-96 Dual Record:** 6-7  
**1996 Conference Finish:** 2nd at West Regional  
**1996 NCAA Finish:** N/A  
**Lettermen Returning/Lost:** 7/4  
**Wrestling SID:** Dave Kidwell  
**Office Phone:** 217-581-6408  
**Home Phone:** 217-345-4166  
**Fax:** 217-581-6434  
**Wrestling SID:** Dave Kidwell

**Office Phone:** 812-856-9399  
**Home Phone:** 812-334-3839  
**Fax:** 812-856-9401

### Indiana
**Sunday, January 26**
**Charleston, Illinois**

**Location:** Bloomington, Indiana  
**Enrollment:** 34,700  
**Nickname:** Hoosiers  
**Colors:** Cream and Crimson  
**Conference:** Big Ten  
**Athletic Director:** Clarence Doninger  
**Head Coach:** Duane Goldman  
**Career record:** 50-22-1 (four years)  
**Record at school:** 50-22-1 (four years)  
**Assistant Coaches:** Jason Kelber, Miron Kharchilava  
**Series History:** IU leads 4-2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Home</th>
<th>Away</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Home</th>
<th>Away</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1995-96</td>
<td>L 6-30</td>
<td>W 1987-88</td>
<td>W 26-10</td>
<td>1990-91</td>
<td>W 26-9</td>
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<tr>
<td>1990-91</td>
<td>W 26-9</td>
<td>W 1935-36</td>
<td>L 8-22</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**1995-96 Dual Record:** 16-2  
**1996 Conference Finish:** 11th  
**1996 NCAA Finish:** 50th  
**Lettermen Returning/Lost:** 8/3  
**Wrestling SID:** Jason Gordova  
**Office Phone:** 573-882-3241  
**Home Phone:** 573-874-2674  
**Fax:** 573-882-4720

### Missouri
**Friday, January 31**
**Columbia, Missouri**

**Location:** Columbia, Missouri  
**Enrollment:** 22,356  
**Nickname:** Tigers  
**Colors:** Old Black and Gold  
**Conference:** Big 12  
**Athletic Director:** Joe Castiglione  
**Head Coach:** Wes Roper  
**Career record:** 61-77-2  
**Record at school:** 61-77-2  
**Assistant Coaches:** Gil Sanchez, Sam Henson  
**Series History:** UNI leads 13-4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Home</th>
<th>Away</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Home</th>
<th>Away</th>
<th>Score</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1994-95</td>
<td>L 6-37</td>
<td>L 1987-88</td>
<td>W 37-7</td>
<td>1990-91</td>
<td>W 26-9</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1989-90</td>
<td>W 35-8</td>
<td>W 1985-86</td>
<td>W 35-12</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**1995-96 Dual Record:** 6-11  
**1996 Conference Finish:** 5th  
**1996 NCAA Finish:** 42nd  
**Lettermen Returning/Lost:** 8/3  
**Wrestling SID:** Todd Oswald  
**Office Phone:** 573-882-3241  
**Home Phone:** 573-874-2674  
**Fax:** 573-882-4720

### Oklahoma
**Saturday, February 1**
**Norman, Oklahoma**

**Location:** Norman, Oklahoma  
**Enrollment:** 25,000  
**Nickname:** Sooners  
**Colors:** Crimson and Cream  
**Conference:** Big 12  
**Athletic Director:** Larry Naifeh  
**Head Coach:** Jack Spates  
**Career record:** 102-29-2  
**Record at school:** 28-16-1 (three years)  
**Assistant Coaches:** Mark Manning, Jeff Liberman, Andy Foster  
**Series History:** UNI leads 5-4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Home</th>
<th>Away</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Home</th>
<th>Away</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1987-88</td>
<td>W 21-16</td>
<td>W 1951-52</td>
<td>L 8-19</td>
<td>1948-49</td>
<td>W 22-6</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**1995-96 Dual Record:** 15-4  
**1996 Conference Finish:** 3rd  
**1996 NCAA Finish:** 17th  
**Lettermen Returning/Lost:** 11/5  
**Wrestling SID:** Betsy Runyan  
**Office Phone:** 405-325-8231  
**Home Phone:** 405-447-0735  
**Fax:** 405-325-7623
1996-97 OPPONENTS

Nebraska
Sunday, February 16
Cedar Falls, Iowa

Location: Lincoln, Nebraska
Enrollment: 25,000
Nickname: Cornhuskers
Colors: Scarlet and Cream
Conference: Big 12
Athletic Director: Bill Byrne
Head Coach: Tim Neumann
Career record: 147-52-5 (11 years)
Record at school: 147-52-5 (11 years)
Assistant Coaches: Mark Cody, Brad Penrith
Series History: UNI leads 30-9

1996-97 Dual Record: 15-13-1
1996 Conference Finish: 2nd
1996 NCAA Finish: 5th
Lettermen Returning/Lost: 13/5
Wrestling SID: Jeff Griesch
Office Phone: 402-472-7775
Home Phone: 402-438-8545
Fax: 402-472-2005

Location: Columbus, Ohio
Enrollment: 48,600
Nickname: Buckeyes
Colors: Scarlet and Gray
Conference: Big Ten
Athletic Director: Andy Geiger
Head Coach: Russ Hellickson
Career record: 236-96-4 (14 years)
Record at school: 165-74-4 (10 years)
Assistant Coaches: Ken Ramsey, Rex Holman, Mike Schyck
Series History: Series tied 4-4

Location: Ames, Iowa
Enrollment: 24,431
Nickname: Cyclones
Colors: Cardinal and Gold
Conference: Big 12
Athletic Director: Gene Smith
Head Coach: Bobby Douglas
Career record: 278-107-7 (23 years)
Record at school: 49-21-1 (four years)
Assistant Coaches: Thom Ortiz
Series History: ISU leads 37-14

1996-97 University of Northern Iowa Wrestling
Most Valuable Wrestler
1996 - Tony Wieland
1995 - Justin Greenlee
1994 - Dave Malecek
1993 - Steve Hartle
1992 - Rich Powers
1991 - Rich Powers
1990 - Gary Steffensmeier
1989 - Joel Greenlee
1988 - Joel Greenlee
1987 - Jeff Weatherman
1986 - Mark Schwab
1985 - Lew Sondgeroth
1984 - Bob Hallman
1983 - Randy Majors

Lyle E. Schwarzenbach Award
(Exhibits highest standards in citizenship, academics, practice and dedication)
1996 - Joe Stephens
1995 - Chris Bahr

Chuck Patten Award
(Leadership)
1996 - Tony Wieland
1995 - Justin Greenlee

National Wrestling Coaches Association
All-Academic Team
(inaugural year 1991)
1995 - Justin Greenlee (First Team)
1993 - Jamie Byrne (Honorable Mention)
    Andrew Showalter (Honorable Mention)
1992 - Gary Steffensmeier (First Team)
1991 - Gary Steffensmeier (First Team)
    Jamie Byrne (Third Team)
    Cory Manning (Third Team)

GTE Academic All-America Team
(includes athletes from 16 NCAA-sponsored sports)
1992 - Gary Steffensmeier (Third Team)

Managers
Tiffany Timmsen and Damon Wick

Ed Ewoldt Scholarship
In January of 1992, Northern Iowa officials announced the establishment of the Ed Ewoldt Wrestling Scholarship, the first fully-endowed scholarship in the history of the University's athletics program.

The scholarship was made possible by a $120,000 gift to the Northern Iowa Foundation by Ron Magruder of Orlando, Florida. Each year, beginning with the 1992-93 academic year, the Panther wrestling program has awarded a full scholarship from the interest generated by the gift.

Ewoldt began attending UNI, then known as Iowa State Teachers College, in 1948 and graduated in 1954, competing on the wrestling team his last two years. He went on to teach and coach at West Central-Maynard (IA) High School from 1955-58 and Wheaton (IL) Central High School, where he coached Magruder, from 1959-88.

"Ed has had a tremendous impact on my life," Magruder said, "and has helped me get where I am today. This is my way of thanking him for being a great teacher, mentor and friend."

Magruder is the president of Cracker Barrel Old Country Store, Inc. He also serves on the Florida Citrus Bowl Committee, the Business Advisory Council at the University of Mississippi and the Foundation Board at the University of Central Florida.

The recipient of the Ed Ewoldt Scholarship for the 1996-97 season is sophomore Tony Wieland, who earned all-America honors last year at 190 pounds.

Ewoldt Scholarship Recipients
1996 - Tony Wieland
1995 - Chris Bahr/Ryan Cummings
1994 - Justin Greenlee
1993 - Justin Greenlee
1992 - Justin Greenlee

Managers
Tiffany Timmsen and Damon Wick

1996-97 Mat Aides
Front - Stephanie Wageman
Middle row (l-r) - Jamie Tredie, Jennifer Nightingale, Michelle Fogle, Jill Pospichal, Gina Weber.
Back row (l-r) - Dawn Stoaks, Anita Foulks, Wendy Miller, Heidi Van Beek.
A campus-wide commitment to great teaching lies at the heart of the University of Northern Iowa's reputation for providing exceptional undergraduate education, as well as complementary programs at the master's, specialist's and doctoral levels. Building on its historic strength in teacher education, the University has developed a number of outstanding programs in business, natural sciences, humanities and fine arts, and social and behavioral sciences.

The University's academic reputation again has proven a key factor in landing a spot as the only public institution in U.S. News and World Report's top 15 regional universities in the Midwest for 1996.

UNI's 11th-place ranking is two places higher than the previous year's rating. This marks the second year in a row that Northern Iowa was the only public university ranked in the top 15, which are chosen from more than 100 public and private institutions in the region.

UNI received a "1" rating in academic reputation, the highest of any of the top 15 universities in the Midwest region. That rating consistently has improved over the past four years, from 26 in 1993, 20 in 1994 and 13 in 1995.

The magazine also named UNI the Midwest's most efficient regional university and first in "best value". This marks the fifth time in six years that UNI has been cited by the magazine's "America's Best Colleges" issue in such categories as overall "best", "best buy", "up and coming" and "most efficient".

Enrollment on the 860-acre campus stands at about 13,000 students from every county in Iowa, 40 states and 48 foreign countries.

UNI's heritage and philosophy place great value on providing a student-centered educational experience. The University nurtures a premier learning environment—it is small enough to offer students individualized attention, yet large enough to provide a variety of resources and opportunities, as well as distinguished faculty.

The school was founded in 1876 as the Iowa State Normal School. In 1909, it became Iowa State Teachers College. In 1961, the name was changed to State College of Iowa, and in 1967, the Iowa Legislature acted to change the status of the institution to that of a university under its present title.

While maintaining its heritage in teacher education, the University has continued its metamorphosis toward a multi-purpose institution, with nationally acclaimed programs in many disciplines. UNI's accounting program continues to be ranked among the best in the nation. The College of Business Administration has become the largest undergraduate business school in Iowa and has gained a reputation as one of the finest in the Midwest. Student groups ranging from chemistry to conservation to public relations have been recognized by their respective national groups for the excellence of their programs.

Northern Iowa is located in Cedar Falls, an inviting and historic community of about 36,000 people. Together with the adjacent city of Waterloo, the metropolitan area has a culturally diverse population of 115,000 and combines big city opportunities with small town friendliness. Cedar Falls/Waterloo is a center for industry, finance, commerce, recreation and cultural activities for northeast Iowa.
Dr. Robert Koob, President

Robert Koob, a native of Hawarden, Iowa, and a 1962 graduate of UNI, was appointed the University's eighth president in August, 1995. He is the first alumnus in the University's 120-year history to return as its president. "It is an honor for me, as a UNI graduate, to return as president," Koob said upon his appointment. "I can't imagine anyone being more honored in the state of Iowa."

The Koob presidency has stressed a commitment to strategic planning, including the institution's efforts, the effective use of technology in higher education, and the importance and value of developing a university community, and has renewed the University's commitment toward teaching and learning. Koob believes in reaching a better understanding of each student's abilities, and ensuring students achieve a university education of the highest quality as they become valued and productive members of society.

"It is important that we define our niche well and that Northern Iowa understand it's an institution committed to four-year undergraduate education, with appropriate graduate programs, but that teaching is its fundamental focus," he says. "We want everyone on the campus to understand that that's (teaching) an honorable and appropriate future for them, and that faculty understand that their good work is appreciated by the state. We want students to understand the education they receive will put them in contention for the appropriate positions when they graduate, as well as prepare them to be good citizens. And we want the people of Iowa to believe they're getting good value for their dollars."

Before coming to UNI, he was senior vice president and vice president for academic affairs at California Polytechnic State University at San Luis Obispo, Calif., since 1990.

Prior to his position at Cal Poly, the 54-year-old Koob was vice president of academic affairs at North Dakota State University in Fargo, N.D., from 1985-90, and served a one-year term as interim president there from 1987-88.

At Cal Poly, Koob was a director and chair of the Cal Poly Foundation, and served on a number of CSU system committees, including the CSU Commission on Telecommunications Infrastructure.

He began his teaching career at North Dakota State in 1967 as an assistant professor of chemistry, advancing to professor in 1972. He served as chair of the chemistry department for six years, acting chair of the physics department for a year and dean of the College of Science and Mathematics from 1981-84 before assuming the vice presidency.

Koob graduated from State College of Iowa (now UNI) with a B.A. in chemistry and earned his doctorate in chemistry from the University of Kansas in 1967. He and his wife, Yvonne, have seven children.

Christopher Ritrievi, Athletic Director

Christopher Ritrievi is in his fifth year as Northern Iowa's athletic director. Since the day he joined the department, he has worked to develop a competitive Division I athletic program at UNI.

A former Division I athlete himself, Ritrievi earned three varsity letters in wrestling at Princeton University, where he received a bachelor's degree in economics in 1979. He earned a master's in business administration from Lehigh University in 1983.

His career in intercollegiate athletics started as a graduate assistant at Lehigh. He has served in administrative and coaching positions at the Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference, Bowling Green State, Princeton, Pennsylvania and Stanford, where he had been associate athletic director prior to coming to UNI.

During his tenure at Northern Iowa, he has reorganized the management of the athletic department to make it more effective and has set priorities to increase the competitiveness of Panther teams. Emphasizing increased operating budgets for all sports and increased scholarships for women's sports, the department has enjoyed its best performances since joining the NCAA's Division I in 1980.

Since 1992, UNI has celebrated Missouri Valley Conference championships in men's cross country, indoor and outdoor track, and volleyball. The football team has won four Gateway Conference titles and has enjoyed the highest attendance, including six of seven UNI-Dome football sellouts. In 1995-96, six sports enjoyed their highest conference finishes since joining the MVC in 1991.

The department has successfully hosted NCAA playoff games in football and volleyball and the 1996 West Regional Wrestling Championship. In March, the UNI-Dome will host the NCAA Division I Wrestling Championships.

The department operates on a balanced budget and student-athletes graduate at rates equal to or better than the student body as a whole. And after a year-long process, the department received NCAA Certification last March.

Ritrievi served as vice president for the MVC athletic directors in 1994-95 and chairs the MVC long-range planning and Gateway Conference finance committees. He also has been named president of the Division 1-AA Football Athletic Directors Association for the 1996-97 academic year.

The 39-year-old native of Levittown, Pa., is married to the former Stephanie Homeyer, who grew up in Wellsburg, Iowa.
In 1992, Northern Iowa athletic director Chris Ritrievi, wrestling coach Don Briggs and a small group of wrestling supporters and administrators had the idea of bringing the NCAA Championships to the UNI-Dome. After all, the University of Iowa and Iowa State University had enjoyed success in hosting some of the most well-attended Division I tournaments in history, drawing from the strong base of amateur wrestling enthusiasts in Iowa.

Why couldn't the UNI-Dome, a versatile, 16,400-seat facility built in 1976, play host to such an event? After months of preparation and a formal bid to the body's Wrestling Committee, the NCAA sent a group of officials to the Cedar Falls campus in the fall of 1993.

The result was the awarding of the 1997 Championships to the University, bringing the tournament to Cedar Falls for the first time since 1950.

Northern Iowa, then known as Iowa State Teachers College, won that 1950 team title before the NCAA split into divisions a decade later.

UNI's program then joined the Division II ranks, or the College Division as it was known then, in 1962 and hosted that national tournament four times—1963, '64, '77 and '78.

The University and Cedar Falls/Waterloo community are proud to again host the best collegiate wrestlers in the nation, Mar. 20-22, 1997, in the UNI-Dome!