



UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA ATHLETICS MEDIA RELATIONS

Upper NW UNI-Dome • Cedar Falls, Iowa • 50614-0314 • <http://www.unipanthers.com>
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2008-09 UNI SOFTBALL

Sept. 15, 2008 — Release #1

2008 Fall Exhibition Schedule

| | | |
|----------|----------------------|-----------|
| Sept. 15 | vs. Kirkwood CC | 5:30 p.m. |
| Sept. 20 | vs. Iowa! | 2 p.m. |
| Sept. 21 | vs. Drake! | 11 a.m. |
| Sept. 21 | vs. Iowa State! | 3 p.m. |
| Sept. 24 | vs. Iowa Central CC# | 6 p.m. |
| Oct. 4 | vs. Muscatine CC# | 2 p.m. |
| Oct. 5 | vs. Indian Hills CC# | 3 p.m. |

All times Central

! Big 4 Classic - Cedar Falls, Iowa

Panther Fall Invitational - Cedar Falls, Iowa

Softball Quick Facts

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Location..... | Cedar Falls, Iowa |
| Founded..... | 1876 |
| Enrollment..... | 12,908 |
| Nickname..... | Panthers |
| Colors..... | Purple and Old Gold |
| Facility..... | Robinson-Dresser Sports Complex |
| Conference..... | Missouri Valley |
| Affiliation..... | NCAA Division I |
| President..... | Dr. Benjamin Allen (Indiana, '69) |
| Athletics Director..... | Troy Dannen (UNI, '89) |
| Senior Woman Administrator..... | TBA |
| Athletics Dept. Phone..... | 319-273-2470 |

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Head Coach..... | Ryan Jacobs (UNI, '99) |
| UNI Record..... | 20-28 |
| Career Record..... | 20-28 |
| Assistant Coaches..... | Julie Gerdes (UNI, '04) Stephanie Winter (Michigan, '08) |
| Volunteer Assistant Coach..... | Mandi Daigh |
| Manager..... | Connor Hughes |
| Student Assistant Coach..... | Stephanie Agüero |
| Trainer..... | Sara Eggleston |
| Strength and Conditioning Coach..... | Boone Bigger |
| Softball Office Phone..... | 319-273-4487 |

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 2008 Overall Record..... | 20-28 |
| 2008 MVC Record (Finish)..... | 5-16 (9th) |
| Letterwinners Returning/Lost..... | 10/4 |
| Starters Returning/Lost..... | 8/2 |
| Newcomers..... | 16 |
| First Year of Softball..... | 1974 |
| All-Time Record..... | 912-776-4 (.544) |
| Years in WCWS (Last)..... | 3 (1977 - Champions) |
| Years in NCAA Regionals (Last)..... | 1 (1990) |

UNI Athletics Media Relations

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
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THIS WEEK IN PANTHER SOFTBALL

Sept. 17-21

| | | |
|----------|-------------|------------|
| Sept. 17 | Kirkwood CC | 5:30 p.m. |
| Sept. 20 | Iowa | 2:00 p.m. |
| Sept. 21 | Drake | 11:00 a.m. |
| | Iowa State | 3:00 p.m. |

The University of Northern Iowa softball team kicks off its 2008 fall exhibition season at home against Kirkwood Community College on Wednesday at 5:30 p.m., but there will be no score kept in this exhibition contest. The Panthers will also welcome Iowa, Drake and Iowa State to Cedar Falls this weekend in the Big Four Classic. UNI will take the field against Iowa at 2 p.m. on Saturday and conclude the Big Four Classic with a double-header against Drake and Iowa State on Sunday.

LEADING OFF

- The Panthers return eight starters and 10 letterwinners from last year's team which finished 20-28.
- There will be many new faces around the Panther softball program this year with the addition of 16 newcomers to the team.
- Last year, UNI lost two one-run games against Iowa, 5-4 and 1-0. The Hawkeyes finished 42-20 last year and qualified for the NCAA tournament.
- Missouri Valley Conference foe Drake won all three contests last year against the Panthers. Drake cruised to 10-1 and 15-7 victories, but had to hold on to an 11-10 win over the Panthers in the third meeting of the year. Drake finished 29-25 overall last year and 13-10 in the MVC. The Bulldogs won the MVC Conference championship last year and qualified for the NCAA tournament.
- UNI split with the Iowa State last year, as both games ended with a 6-3 score. Iowa State finished 29-29 overall and 4-14 in Big 12 play.

UNI ROSTER

| No. | Name | Ht. | Pos. | B/T | Class | Hometown (High School / Last School) |
|-----|------------------|-----|----------|-----|--------|---|
| 1 | Angie Steil | 5-8 | 3B/SS/OF | R/R | So. | Lacona, Iowa (Southeast Warren) |
| 2 | Mackenzie Daigh | 5-5 | INF | R/L | Fr. | Bucyrus, Kan. (Berean Christian) |
| 3 | Allison Galvin | 5-9 | OF | R/R | Fr. | Cedar Rapids, Iowa (Jefferson) |
| 4 | Brittney Balduf | 5-6 | 3B | R/R | Sr. | Mason City, Iowa (Mason City/NIACC) |
| 5 | Kelly Paphes | 5-6 | C | R/R | Sr. | Minooka, Ill. (Minooka) |
| 6 | Hannah Borschel | 5-4 | OF | R/L | Fr. | Marion, Kan. (Olathe-East) |
| 7 | Crystal Keiper | 5-9 | IF | R/R | Sr. | Cedar Rapids, Iowa (Jefferson/ Kirkwood CC) |
| 8 | Megan Machovec | 5-4 | IF | L/R | Jr. | DeWitt, Iowa (Central) |
| 9 | Rachel Gerking | 5-5 | OF | L/R | Jr. | Spirit Lake, Iowa (Spirit Lake) |
| 10 | Jen Larsen | 5-9 | P/1B | R/R | Jr. | Moline, Ill. (Moline) |
| 11 | Courtney Dunker | 5-9 | C/1B | R/R | Fr. | New Lenox, Ill. (Lincoln Way Central) |
| 12 | Jaye Hutcheson | 6-0 | P/1B | R/R | Fr. | Marion, Iowa (Linn-Mar) |
| 13 | Samantha Waters | 5-6 | OF/SS | R/R | Jr. | Des Moines, Iowa (East) |
| 14 | Eranne Daugherty | 6-0 | P/1B | R/R | So. | Ottawa, Kan. (Olathe-East) |
| 15 | Sarah Bakey | 5-6 | 3B/P | R/R | Jr. | West Des Moines, Iowa (Valley) |
| 16 | Melissa Tillett | 5-4 | P | L/L | Rs Fr. | San Diego, Calif. (Mira Mesa) |
| 17 | Jessica Magnuson | 5-7 | 3B/OF | R/R | So. | Waterloo, Iowa (East) |
| 18 | Morgan Paulson | 5-8 | 1B | L/R | Sr. | Fort Dodge, Iowa (Fort Dodge) |
| 19 | Angie Miller | 5-7 | INF/OF | R/R | Fr. | Las Vegas, Nev. (Faith Lutheran) |
| 20 | Laura Turner | 5-7 | C/3B | R/R | Fr. | West Des Moines, Iowa (Valley) |
| 21 | Kim Wachholder | 5-3 | INF | R/R | Fr. | Salem, Wis. (Central Westosha) |
| 22 | Lindsay Callanan | 5-6 | OF/1B | L/L | Fr. | Antioch, Ill. (Antioch) |
| 23 | Molly DeVenney | 5-6 | OF | R/R | Fr. | West Des Moines, Iowa (Dowling) |
| 24 | Leah Embrey | 5-5 | C/3B | R/R | Fr. | Johnston, Iowa (Johnston) |
| 25 | Kalli Heflin | 5-3 | C/2B | R/R | Fr. | Rosemount, Minn. (Rosemount) |
| 26 | Whitney Plein | 5-5 | 3B | R/R | Fr. | Burlington, Iowa (Burlington) |

Second Season

Record at UNI: 20-28

Overall Record: 20-28



Ryan Jacobs enters his second season at the helm of the University of Northern Iowa softball team, but Jacobs is no stranger to Panther athletics. The Cedar Rapids native played two seasons for UNI's baseball team, from 1997 to 1998, helping the Panthers to a then-school record 32 wins and second-place finish in the Missouri Valley Conference.

During his first year as head coach, Jacobs led the Panthers to a blistering 7-1 record to start the season before cooling off and finishing with a 20-28 overall record and a 5-16 conference mark. Jacobs also helped the Panthers improve their overall winning percentage from .373 (19-32 overall) in 2007 to .416 (20-28 overall) in 2008 and improve one spot in the Valley standings.

During the non-conference slate the Panthers snapped Nebraska's 44-game non-conference home winning streak with a 2-1 win, topped Minnesota, 6-4, and beat Wisconsin, 3-0.

In conference play, the Panthers just missed qualifying for the eight-team Missouri Valley Conference Tournament after finishing ninth in the league.

The Panthers set a school record for team fielding percentage during Jacobs' first year after compiling a .971 fielding percentage, topping the previous school record of .961 set in 2001. Jacobs' squad only committed 41 errors, shattering the previous mark of 52 errors committed in a season back in 1998.

Jacobs served as the head softball coach at Cedar Falls High School from 2004 to 2007, guiding the Tigers to a 108-62-2 cumulative record. In 2007, the Tigers' squad finished with a 32-10 mark — the second-best in school history — and was ranked as high as fifth in Iowa's Class 4A. In Jacobs' tenure at CFHS, he guided six first-team All-Mississippi Valley Conference players, including one conference player of the year, five first-team all-district players and four all-state players.

After a season of playing professional baseball for the Richmond Roosters of the Frontier League and assistant baseball coaching stints at Cornell College and Cedar Rapids Xavier High School, Jacobs returned to Cedar Falls and UNI in 2001.

He served as an assistant coach on the Panther baseball staff, specializing in coaching the catchers and hitters. He also coordinated Panther camps and clinics and served as the team's first base coach. UNI recorded an average of 29 wins per season while Jacobs was on staff, including a school-record 35 victories and an NCAA tournament appearance in 2001.

Jacobs' coaching philosophy revolves around pushing players to their maximum potential and being able to outwork the opposing team. Jacobs looks to focus on playing the game "the right way" and hustling to outplay opponents.

Jacobs was a standout prep baseball player at Cedar Rapids Regis High School, being named both Mississippi Valley Conference Player of the Year and the Iowa Legion Player of the Year in 1994.

Jacobs and his wife Kelley, a UNI assistant women's basketball coach, reside in Cedar Falls with their two daughters, Haley (2) and Emma (born May 2007).

2008 HIGHLIGHTS AND SEASON REVIEW

STEADY IMPROVEMENT

- The UNI softball team showed gradual improvement from 2007 as the Panthers just missed out on earning a place in the State Farm Missouri Valley Conference Softball Tournament in 2008. The Panthers finished just shy of the eight-team field, earning a ninth-place finish with an overall record of 20-28 and 5-16 in MVC play. UNI also improved its winning percentage from .373 in 2007 to .416 in 2008.

LARSEN EARNS FIRST TEAM ALL-MVC HONORS

- Sophomore Jen Larsen earned the Panthers' first All-MVC first team selection since 2003. Larsen finished the season with a .317 overall batting average and hit .318 in conference play. The sophomore led the Panthers with seven home runs, including three game-winning homers. Larsen registered seven multiple-RBI games, including a career-high five RBIs against UT-Martin (March 2). Besides being a strong force at the plate for the Panthers, Larsen led the way in the circle also, posting the lowest ERA on the team (3.34). Larsen tossed 127.2 innings, including 10 complete games and two shutouts.

NO SOPHOMORE SLUMP

- Sophomore Megan Machovec finished the season in fourth place in The Valley standings with a batting average of .366. The sophomore finished in second place in The Valley in triples (5) and sixth place in hits (56). Machovec led the Panthers in runs (32), hits (56), stolen bases (8) and triples (5).

STARTING THEM ALL

- New Panther student assistant coach Stephanie Agüero ended her four-year playing career as a Panther last spring. Agüero started all 197 games in her career. Agüero finished second on the team with a .361 batting average, while connecting for 53 hits, 11 doubles, five home runs, 31 RBIs and 28 runs scored.

MAKING AN IMPACT

- The Panthers six underclassmen made their impact on the stat books for the Panthers in 2008. The six combined for 154 of the Panthers 324 hits (48 percent), 76 of the 172 runs (44 percent), 65 of the 163 RBIs (40 percent), 16 of the 45 doubles (36 percent), five of the nine triples (56 percent) and 10 of the 25 home runs (40 percent).

LEAVING THEIR MARK

- The 2008 Panthers earned themselves a place in the record books after compiling a school record .971 fielding percentage, topping the previous UNI school record of .966. The Panthers also finished the season with 41 errors, shattering the previous record (52) for fewest errors in a season set in 1998.

STREAK STOPPIN'

- UNI snapped Nebraska's 44-game winning streak in home non-conference games as they took a 2-1 win over the Huskers in game one of the double-headers contest on March 30. The win was also the Panthers first over the Huskers since 1994 and only its second in 16 attempts against Nebraska.

BATTLING THE BIG TEN

- UNI finished the season 2-3 against Big Ten opponents, with wins over Minnesota and Wisconsin and losses to Iowa (twice) and Minnesota. Both of UNI's losses against Iowa were by one run.

PLAYING AT A NEW HOME

- The Panthers finished 8-7 at home in their first year playing at the Robinson-Dresser Sports Complex in Cedar Falls last year.

2008 FINAL TEAM LEADERS

2008 WIN-LOSS SUMMARY

| | |
|----------------------------|-------|
| Total | 20-28 |
| Conference | 5-16 |
| Non-Conf | 15-12 |
| Home | 8-7 |
| Away | 8-13 |
| Neutral | 4-8 |
| Day | 18-26 |
| Night | 2-2 |
| vs Left | 2-3 |
| vs Right | 18-25 |
| 1-Run games | 6-9 |
| 2-Run games | 3-5 |
| 5+Run games | 4-7 |
| Extra innings | 1-2 |
| Shutouts | 7-6 |
| Scoring 0-2 runs | 4-14 |
| Scoring 3-5 runs | 7-9 |
| Scoring 6-9 runs | 8-4 |
| Scoring 10+ runs | 1-1 |
| Opponent 0-2 runs | 14-5 |
| Opponent 3-5 runs | 6-8 |
| Opponent 6-9 runs | 0-9 |
| Opponent 10+ runs | 0-6 |
| Scored in 1st inning | 4-7 |
| Scores first | 11-8 |
| Opp. scores first | 9-20 |
| After 4 leading | 10-3 |
| After 4 trailing | 5-16 |
| After 4 tied | 5-9 |
| After 5 leading | 13-1 |
| After 5 trailing | 4-22 |
| After 5 tied | 3-2 |
| After 6 leading | 14-1 |
| After 6 trailing | 2-21 |
| After 6 tied | 3-3 |
| Hit 0 home runs | 7-20 |
| Hit 1 home run | 11-7 |
| Hit 2+ home runs | 2-1 |
| Opponent 0 home runs | 16-7 |
| Opponent 1 home run | 3-8 |
| Opponent 2+ HRs | 1-13 |
| Made 0 errors | 6-15 |
| Made 1 error | 7-9 |
| Made 2+ errors | 7-4 |
| Opp. made 0 errors | 9-14 |
| Opp. made 1 error | 6-11 |
| Opp. made 2+ errors | 5-3 |
| Out-hit opponent | 12-5 |
| Out-hit by opponent | 8-23 |
| Hits are tied | 0-0 |

RECORD BY MONTH

| | |
|----------------|------|
| February | 7-2 |
| March | 5-15 |
| April | 7-9 |
| May | 1-2 |

STREAKS

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Current losing streak | 2 |
| Longest winning streak | 6 |
| Longest losing streak | 8 |

ATTENDANCE

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------|
| Home attendance/average | 1,690/153 |
| Away attendance/average | 4,198/144 |
| Total attendance/average | 5,888/147 |

Hits

| | |
|---------------------------|----|
| 1. Megan Machovec | 56 |
| 2. Stephanie Aguero | 53 |
| 3. Jen Larsen | 44 |
| 4. Rachel Gerking | 37 |
| 5. Ashley Lepley | 26 |

Runs

| | |
|---------------------------|----|
| 1. Megan Machovec | 32 |
| 2. Stephanie Aguero | 28 |
| 3. Jen Larsen | 22 |
| 4. Ashley Lepley | 18 |
| 5. Rachel Gerking | 14 |

RBI

| | |
|-------------------------|----|
| 1. Jen Larsen | 31 |
| Stephanie Aguero | 31 |
| 3. Rachel Gerking | 18 |
| 4. Crystal Keiper | 17 |
| 5. Ashley Lepley | 15 |

Doubles

| | |
|---------------------------|----|
| 1. Stephanie Aguero | 11 |
| 2. Crystal Keiper | 9 |
| 3. Jen Larsen | 5 |
| Rachel Gerking | 5 |
| 5. Megan Machovec | 4 |

Triples

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| 1. Megan Machovec | 5 |
| 2. Ashley Lepley | 2 |
| 3. Crystal Keiper | 1 |
| Brittany Ruzicka | 1 |

Home Runs

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| 1. Jen Larsen | 7 |
| 2. Stephanie Aguero | 5 |
| 3. Ashley Lepley | 4 |
| 4. Crystal Keiper | 3 |
| 5. Kelly Papesh | 2 |

Batting Average

| | |
|---------------------------|------|
| 1. Megan Machovec | .366 |
| 2. Stephanie Aguero | .361 |
| 3. Jen Larsen | .317 |
| 4. Rachel Gerking | .270 |
| 5. Crystal Keiper | .265 |

Pitching (Wins)

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| 1. Ashley Lepley | 9 |
| 2. Jen Larsen | 6 |
| 3. Sarah Bakey | 5 |

Pitching (ERA)

| | |
|------------------------|------|
| 1. Jen Larsen | 3.34 |
| 2. Ashley Lepley | 4.33 |
| 3. Sarah Bakey | 4.40 |
| 4. Liz Adams | 6.68 |

Pitching (Strikeouts)

| | |
|------------------------|----|
| 1. Ashley Lepley | 70 |
| 2. Jen Larsen | 40 |
| 3. Sarah Bakey | 38 |
| 4. Liz Adams | 7 |