

1995

NEIU Volleyball Media Guide - 1995

Athletics Department Staff

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1993

Northeastern Illinois University

Golden Eagles Volleyball

Kneeling (L to R) Becky Darfler, Michelle Mayer, Kara Burzinski,
Sue Urban, Jennifer Maier • Back row (L to R) Holly Zientara,
Jill Kreiling, Debbie Kratcha, Brigitt Lindstrom, Diana Yacono,
Head Coach Cathy DeFranceschi



1993 GOLDEN EAGLES VOLLEYBALL SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	Location	Time
Aug. 27	Alumni Game	Home	7:00
Sept. 2	U. of Wisconsin-Green Bay	Home	4:00
Sept. 5	Boston College	Home	1:00
Sept. 7	Bradley University	Home	7:00
Sept. 9	U. of Missouri-Kansas City	Kansas City, MO	7:00
Sept. 10-11	U. of Kansas Tournament McNeese State, S.E. Missouri State, Tulsa	Lawrence, KS	TBA
Sept. 14	Valparaiso University	Home	7:00
Sept. 17	Tennessee State University	Nashville, TN	7:00
Sept. 18	U. of Tennessee-Chattanooga Tournament	Chattanooga, TN	TBA
Sept. 21	Chicago State University	Home	7:00
Sept. 24-25	Eagle's Nest Invitational Cincinnati, Evansville, Missouri-Kansas City	Home	TBA
Sept. 28	U. of Illinois-Chicago	Chicago, IL	7:00
Oct. 1-2	Butler University Tournament Ball State	Indianapolis, IN	TBA
Oct. 7	U. of Wisconsin-Milwaukee	Milwaukee, WI	7:00
Oct. 9	Drake University Tournament Kansas State	Des Moines, IA	TBA
Oct. 15-16	Florida International University Tournament Jacksonville, South Florida, Stetson	Miami, FL	TBA
Oct. 19	Chicago State University	Chicago, IL	7:00
Oct. 24	LaSalle University	Home	1:00
Oct. 29	Valparaiso University	Valparaiso, IN	7:00
Nov. 2	U. of Wisconsin-Milwaukee	Home	7:00
Nov. 4	Eastern Illinois University	Home	7:00
Nov. 9	Loyola University	Chicago, IL	7:00
Nov. 19-21	East Coast Conference Championships	Hempstead, NY	TBA

NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY GOLDEN EAGLES VOLLEYBALL ROSTER 1993

NUMERICAL ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	Hometown
3	Becky Darfler	OH	5-9	So.	Aurora, IL
4	Sue Urban	OH	5-8	Jr.	Peru, IL
5	Kara Burzinski	OH	5-8	So.	Chicago, IL
7	Jennifer Maier	S	5-6	So.	Brookfield, IL
9	Jill Kreiling	MB	5-11	Jr.	Mendota, IL
10	Debbie Kratcha	OH	6-0	Jr.	Des Plaines, IL
11	Michelle Mayer	S	5-8	Jr.	Brights Grove, Ontario
13	Diana Yacono	OH	5-10	Sr.	Hoffman Estates
14	Holly Zientara	OH	5-11	Fr.	Tinley Park, IL
22	Brigitt Lindstrom	MB	5-11	So.	Itasca, IL

Cathy DeFranceschi Head Volleyball Coach



Was named NEIU's volleyball coach this summer and she will continue as the Golden Eagles men's/women's swimming coach in 1993-94 (4th year at Northeastern).

A 1975 Northeastern Illinois University graduate, DeFranceschi has worked at her alma mater since 1990 developing the men's/women's Division I swimming program. She has also worked as an instructor at the NEIU summer volleyball camps and in 1991 was co-assistant Softball Coach for the Golden Eagles.

Prior to working at Northeastern, DeFranceschi was an Aquatics Professional and Coach at Glenbrook North High School in Northbrook, Illinois (1984-90). She was head boys and girls volleyball coach and was an assistant coach in softball and gymnastics at Glenbrook.

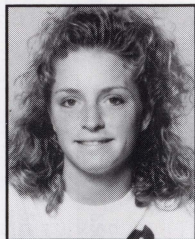
She has worked numerous camp and clinics with previous stints as Aquatics Director at the YMCA in Park Ridge, Illinois and Assistant Camp Director and Program Director at the YMCA and Girl Scout Summer Camps (1973-1989).

DeFranceschi has been affiliated with the Illinois Coaches Association (volleyball, softball, swimming, gymnastics) and the NCAA College Swimming Coaches of America Association. Cathy has served on the Northeastern Illinois University Women's Services Board.

PLAYER PROFILES

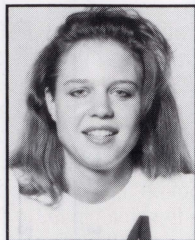
#3 Becky Darfler, 5-9, So, Outside Hitter, Aurora, IL, (Central Catholic)

Played in 13 games for the Golden Eagles last season as a freshman. Totaled 7 kills, 11 digs and 4 assists in 1992. Was a two-time Private School League selection in high school playing for Aurora Central Catholic. Was team MVP as a junior. Played with Pazazz for two years in USVBA.



#4 Sue Urban, 5-8, Jr., Outside Hitter, Peru, IL, (LaSalle-Peru HS/ Kankakee Community College)

Was a two-year All-NCIC Conference for the Cavaliers of LaSalle-Peru High School. Her senior season at LaSalle she led the team in kills with 336 as they placed 4th in the State Class AA. At Kankakee Community College, the teams qualified for the NJCAA Nationals both years (1991-1992). Kankakee finished 5th last year. Urban holds the Kankakee school records for digs (327) and games played in a season. She had the highest GPA award for the volleyball season (3.5 last year).



#5 Kara Burzinski, 5-8, So., Outside Hitter, Chicago, IL, (Resurrection High School)

Played three seasons of varsity volleyball for coaches Dawn Konow and Wendy Hammersmidt at Resurrection High School. Earned All-Conference and All-Division honors three consecutive seasons. Was among the team leaders in kills, digs and blocks every season at Resurrection.



#7 Jennifer Maier, 5-6, So., Setter Brookfield, IL, (Riverside-Brookfield)

Played in 32 matches and 97 games last year with limited stats and playing time for the Golden Eagles. Had 27 service aces to rank 5th on the team and totaled 129 digs (7th on the team). Led her Riverside-Brookfield team to a 33-7 record and a regional championship in 1991. Was a two-time **Suburban Life** all-area 1st team selection and was named to the All-Southwest Suburban Conference team. Was team MVP as senior. Played USVBA with the Chicago Volleyball Club.



#9 Jill Kreiling, 5-11, Jr., Middle Blocker, Mendota, IL, (Mendota)

Led the Golden Eagles with 132 games played participating in all 36 matches last year. Ranked third on the team with 226 kills (1.7/game) last year. Led NEIU with 33 solo blocks and 57 block assists in 1992. Was sixth on the team with 157 digs last season. Played in 30 matches with 84 kills and 49 blocks her freshman season. Was team captain of the Mendota High School which placed fourth in the 1990 State Class A Volleyball Championships. She led the squad in blocking and serving and earned 2nd team All-Conference honors. Sister played volleyball at Northern Illinois. Was a member of the Top Gun Junior Volleyball Club.



#10 Debbie Kratcha, 6-0, Jr. Outside Hitter, Des Plaines, IL, (Maine East)

Two-year player for NEIU who was second on the team in kills (264), third in digs (288) and third in assists (43) last year for the 12-24 Golden Eagles. Played in 32 matches and 112 games last year averaging 2.4 kills per game and 2.6 digs/game. Totaled 199 kills, 183 digs and 47 blocks as a freshman in 1991. Was an all-suburban Central Conference selection at Maine East High School as a senior. Was an All-Area team pick of the **Pioneer Press Newspaper** as senior at Maine East. Played for the Hobbits Junior Volleyball Club and also played in the 1991 Prairie State Games.



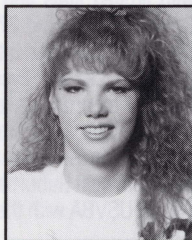
**#11 Michelle Mayer, 5-8, Jr., Setter,
Brights Grove, Ontario
(Northern Collegiate)**

In her second year at NEIU after transferring from the University of New Orleans of the Sun Belt Conference. At UNO, Michelle averaged 8.9 assists (748 total) as a freshman for the 17-16 Buc-kettes....Had a single-match high of 64 assists vs. Arkansas-Little Rock. Played in all 36 matches and participated in 126 games last year for the Golden Eagles. Totaled 230 digs and 72 assists as Northeastern's top setter Sandra Wettstaedt led the team with 938 assists (7.3/game). Was a three-year high school starter leading her team to Canadian HS sectional and regional championships.



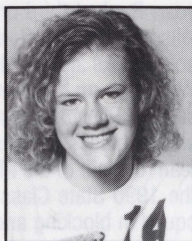
**#13 Diana Yacono, 5-10, Sr.,
Outside Hitter,
Hoffman Estates, IL, (Conant)**

Led Northeastern in kills last year, with 418 (3.2/game) and will be one of the top returning players in the East Coast Conference. Will wrap up an outstanding college career this season. Her season kill totals have increased from 190 as a frosh, 267 as a sophomore for a career total of 873 entering the 1993 opener. Versatile player who also led the team in digs (348) last year. Has 867 career digs at NEIU. Was a third team All area selection at Conant High School. Played USVBA events with the Arlington Aces Volleyball Club.



**#14 Holly Zientara, 5-11, Fr. Outside Hitter,
Tinley Park, IL, (Victor J. Andrew)**

Three-year varsity performer for Coach Terry Terhaar and the T-Bolts at Victor J. Andrew High School. Was named the Trinity League MVP last season and was an all-S.I.C.A. West and all-area selection in 1992. Was named the **Southtown Economist** and the Chicago Tribune Volleyball Athlete of the Week last season. Joins Northeastern Illinois this year as the only freshman signee for the Golden Eagles as they enter the first year of play in the East Coast Conference.



**#22 Brigitt Lindstrom, 5-11, So.,
Middle Blocker, Itasca, (Lake Park)**

As a freshman with the Golden Eagles, Lindstrom played in 33 matches and 75 games. Totaled 64 kills and 32 blocks last year...Was named to the **Courier News** all area team as a senior at Lake Park High School. Was picked Most Improved Player at lake Park both her sophomore and junior seasons. Played USVBA tournaments with Circus, West Suburban and Hobbits.

