



*Loras College Athletics  
wrap-up and review.*

# Sports

## Osterberger Named Loras Football Coach



STEVE OSTERBERGER

Loras College athletic director **Chad Walthall** announced that **Steve Osterberger** has accepted the position of head football coach at the College.

Osterberger, a native of Dubuque, has been the head coach at Buena Vista University the past six seasons, posting winning seasons in five of those years. He was named the 2004 Iowa Conference Coach of the Year after finishing 6-4.

“Steve is a great fit for Loras College,” Walthall said. “He has head coaching and Iowa Conference experience and has a reputation of someone with very high character and integrity. He is a talented recruiter and good football mind, and could be someone that can bring longevity to the program.”

Osterberger leaves Buena Vista as the third winningest coach in school history. He spent 10 years in Storm Lake beginning in 1996 when he was named offensive coordinator.

“I am extremely excited to join the staff at Loras College,” Osterberger said. “It is a great opportunity at a great institution and the chance to go back to Dubuque has always intrigued me. I think it is one of the best jobs in the conference and Loras has always been very talented. Chris (Klieman) and Bob (Bierie) did a great job and I want to continue what they’ve started.”

Osterberger graduated from Drake University with a degree in sociology. He spent four years as a starting quarterback for the Bulldogs and set 20 offensive records including net passing yardage with over 7,000 yards. He earned the Jerry Howlett Memorial Award for Outstanding Athlete at Drake University in 1989.

Osterberger has a diverse coaching career that began at his alma mater where he was a student assistant working with quarterbacks and running backs. He also spent two years as a graduate assistant with the Bulldogs coaching the inside linebackers. He also served a stint at Simpson College coaching quarterbacks and wide receivers.

Osterberger becomes the 26th coach in Loras history, taking over for Chris Klieman, who resigned on March 23 to take a job on Mark Farley’s staff at the University of Northern Iowa. Osterberger’s Duhawks will debut in the Rock Bowl on September 2 against St. Ambrose University.

# Hall of Fame Inductees 2005

Loras College inducted four new members into the Athletic Hall of Fame on Saturday, Sept. 24, 2005.

## Ana Cayro-Kapparos ('93)



Ana Cayro-Kapparos ('93) is a hometown success story.

During her years, the Loras women's basketball program climbed to prominence in the Iowa Conference. Ana Cayro-Kapparos' career at Loras yielded her a mantle of honors: first Loras woman to be a two-time All-Iowa Conference selection, NCBT All-American selection and first woman to score more than 1,000 points through her junior year. When she graduated, she held eight individual records and was the all-time leader in scoring and rebounding.

Co-captain as a junior and senior, Cayro-Kapparos missed only three games in four years. She was the team's leading scorer her first year with 10.9 points a game, and got only better, averaging 20.8 as a sophomore (placing her among the NCAA Division III leaders most of the season), 18.4 as a junior and 16.7 as a senior, including 24 points in her final game.

A general science/pre-physical therapy major, Cayro-Kapparos is a physical therapist today and volunteers as a T-ball coach and a team captain for the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. She resides with her husband Kevin, and sons Zachary and Garret, in Williamsburg, Iowa.

## Bob Wagner ('76)



Bob Wagner was a linchpin on the Loras basketball team for four seasons with his rugged rebounding, consistent scoring and unselfish team play. Wagner also excelled in the spring with the Loras track team in the discus, hammer throw and javelin.

Wagner worked his way from the JV to the varsity basketball team his first year, and in four seasons appeared in 99 games. When he left the hardwood, Wagner ranked as Loras' No. 7 all-time scorer and No. 2 rebounder.

A co-captain his senior year, Wagner picked up a long list of basketball honors: MVP of the Midlands Conference (1976), all-Midlands Conference (1975, 1976), all-Dan Donovan Tournament (1975 and 1976), all-Augustana Tournament (1976) and honorable mention NAIA all-District (1976). In track, he was a big point contributor in the weight events and helped the Duhawks to the 1975 NAIA District championship.

The Wagners, Mary Ann (Beck) ('76), son Eric and daughter Abby, live in West Des Moines, Iowa, where Wagner is a manager for an assets management firm. He was named the YMCA's Family Volunteer of the Year in 1996, is a volunteer in the Dowling Catholic High School softball and basketball programs and for the last four years has been active with Rebuilding Together, a volunteer group that repairs homes for the needy.

## Susanna Barry-Rivera ('86)



Susanna Barry-Rivera blazed the way for others as a pioneer of Loras women's sports. Even though the four-time high school all-stater and prep Hall of Famer was on campus only four semesters, she left an indelible mark on the Duhawk women's swimming program.

In her brief career, Barry-Rivera set four school individual records (50-yard, 100-yard and 200-yard freestyle and the 100-yard butterfly) and was part of two more relay records. She was an NAIA all-American in 1985 in the 100-yard butterfly, the same year she qualified for the NAIA Nationals in three events. She held the school record in the 100-yard butterfly until 2001.

A standout in the classroom as well, Barry-Rivera graduated magna cum laude with a degree in physical education and was honored twice as an Academic All-American by the Swimming Coaches Association. In 1991, Barry-Rivera was honored along with eight other Loras woman athletes as part of the 10th anniversary of NCAA sponsorship of women's championships.

A physical education teacher at Central Middle School in Muscatine, Iowa, Barry-Rivera works with special needs people teaching swimming lessons. Husband Matt Rivera ('86) was a standout Loras football and baseball player. The Riveras have three children: Barry, Brance and Benjamin.

## Dick "Looper" Lynch ('47)



Dick Lynch was the Renaissance man of Loras basketball during the mid-1940s. Wherever the coach needed the lanky ex-Loras Academy standout, Lynch proved to be a Duhawk sparkplug. The four-year results were astounding — three consecutive Iowa Conference titles (one loss in three years), 78 victories, two post-season appearances and a series of storied victories.

Alternating between center and guard as a senior, Lynch was a main cog on the brilliant team that at one point won 19 straight games, was 18-0 in home games and finished 24-5—the second winningest team in the school's nearly 100 years on the hardwood.

An economics major, Lynch was much more on campus than a basketball star. He was a strong student, a student senator and active in Delta Sigma.

A teacher and a long-time insurance representative, Lynch was an honored member of the Dubuque community for his work with the Democratic Party and the Disabled American Veterans. In addition, he was a coach and referee. Lynch died in March 2004.



ANDY STOECKEN ('07) (BELLEVUE, IOWA) WON THE 19TH INDIVIDUAL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP IN LORAS HISTORY BY CAPTURING THE HIGH JUMP TITLE AT THE NCAA INDOOR MEET.

# Andy Stoecken Wins the High Jump at Indoor Nationals

Loras College senior **Andy Stoecken** ('07) (Bellevue, Iowa) claimed the national championship in the high jump at the NCAA Division III Indoor Meet hosted by St. Olaf College at the Tostrud Center. Stoecken's mark of 2.11 meters (6'11") bettered the field of 14 entrants by nearly four inches.

"It feels really good (to be an NCAA Champion)," Stoecken said at his post-championship press conference. "The last couple of years I've been waiting my turn. I had a really good feeling coming into this meet; I had a good meet last week and I kind of carried momentum into this week."

Stoecken, a graduate of Bellevue High School in Iowa, entered the meet with the fourth best jump in the nation (2.07 meters) and was the only member of the field to clear higher than 2.2 meters. His leap established a Loras record in addition to setting the Tostrud Center mark.

"He had a really good meet at conference," head coach **Bob Schultz** said. "He has been working really hard and peaking for this."

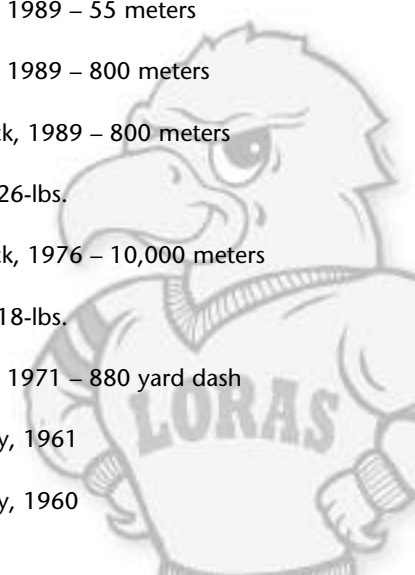
Stoecken was previously an All-American in the high jump for Loras in 2005 during both the indoor and outdoor season. He was the indoor runner-up in 2005, and placed third at the outdoor meet.

Stoecken is Loras' first men's individual national champion since 1989. In 1989 the Duhawks had two indoor and three outdoor champions. Barry Harris won three of those titles, the 55 meters indoor and the 100 and 200 meters outdoors. Overall, Stoecken is the third Loras men's track individual to win an NCAA title, and the sixth to win a national championship. Loras switched to NCAA Division III beginning with the 1986 school year.

## Loras Individual National Champions

Loras has won 20 individual national titles.

- **Andy Stoecken**  
Men's Indoor Track, 2006 – High Jump
- **Katie Meyer**  
Women's Outdoor Track, 2002 – Heptathlon
- **Sara Naumann**  
Women's Indoor track, 2001 – Shot Put
- **Ricardo Casarez**  
Wrestling, 1997 – 158-lbs.
- **Kim Kiner**  
Women's Indoor Track, 1997 – Shot Put
- **Kim Kiner**  
Women's Outdoor Track, 1996 – Shot Put
- **Kim Kiner**  
Women's Indoor Track, 1995 – Shot Put
- **Scott Stefl**  
Wrestling, 1995 – 134-lbs.
- **Pete Maldonado**  
Wrestling, 1992 – 126-lbs.
- **Barry Harris**  
Men's Outdoor Track, 1989 – 100 & 200 meters
- **Barry Harris**  
Men's Indoor Track, 1989 – 55 meters
- **John Ondande**  
Men's Indoor Track, 1989 – 800 meters
- **John Ondande**  
Men's Outdoor Track, 1989 – 800 meters
- **Keith Colsch**  
Wrestling, 1983 – 126-lbs.
- **Chuck Korte**  
Men's Outdoor Track, 1976 – 10,000 meters
- **Salvatore Fiorella**  
Wrestling, 1975 – 118-lbs.
- **Thomas Bryan**  
Men's Indoor Track, 1971 – 880 yard dash
- **John Mulholland**  
Men's Cross Country, 1961
- **John Mulholland**  
Men's Cross Country, 1960



# Kehe Named Loras Volleyball Coach



TERESA KEHE

**T**eresa Kehe has accepted the position of head volleyball coach. Kehe has been the head coach at Tripoli High School in Tripoli, Iowa, since 1983.

“Teresa is exactly the kind of high energy coach we are looking for to begin the process of turning the corner in volleyball,” Chad Walthall, director of athletics, said. “She is greatly respected and is a proven winner in the state of Iowa. Teresa will bring a team mindset to the program.”

While at Tripoli, Kehe built a program from the ground up as the school’s first-ever coach. In 2005 Tripoli won its

third straight Iowa Class 1A state championship. Kehe has taken Tripoli to the state championship match eight consecutive years, winning six titles.

“I look forward to the challenge of taking the Loras volleyball program back toward the top of the Iowa Conference, with all of us in the program working together towards that goal,” Kehe said. “I’ve accomplished all that I can at the high school level and I’m looking forward to the opportunity of working with college athletes.”

Kehe was named the State of Iowa Class 1A Coach of the Year six times and the Northeast Iowa District Class 1A Coach of the Year seven times. She graduated from the University of Northern Iowa in 1981 with a physical education degree.

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## Dillavou Garners Postseason Honors Including Gagliardi Trophy Finalist



ROSS DILLAVOU ('06)  
(CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA)

**L**oras College defensive lineman **Ross Dillavou** ('06) (Cedar Rapids, Iowa) earned several individual awards in his final season. Among them, Dillavou was named as one of 10 finalists for the Gagliardi Trophy as Outstanding Division III Football Player.

“I am extremely happy for Ross,” former Loras head football coach **Chris Klieman** said. “He has put his heart and soul into not only football at Loras College, but to giving back to the communities of Loras and Dubuque.”

Dillavou, who finished his career at Loras as the school’s all-time leader in sacks and tackles for loss, was named all-conference for the third straight season. Dillavou also blocked four kicks during the season and finished second in tackles.

The Gagliardi Trophy, named after college football’s most winning coach, John Gagliardi of St. John’s University, not only honors on-the-field excellence but also excellence in the classroom and community. Dillavou has served as a peer tutor, student teacher and a leadership council representative for athletics and for a Hurricane Katrina fundraiser. He has also taken time to read to elementary students and serve as a lector at Mass.

# Fall Wraps

## Football

Under the guidance of head coach **Chris Klieman** and in a new state-of-the-art facility, the Duhawks finished with a 3-7 mark after suffering several key injuries that saw five starters miss the season.

Still, using over 20 underclassmen on a regular basis during the season, Loras had an opportunity to claim victory in the fourth quarter of nearly every contest. Highlighted among the three victories was a Homecoming win over Simpson College in a defensive battle, 15-7. The win was the first for the Duhawks over Simpson since 1993 and came on the day of the rededication of the Rock Bowl, which underwent major renovations over the summer.

Six Loras players earned all-conference honors including **Ross Dillavou** ('06) (Cedar Rapids, Iowa) who earned the honor for the third straight year as a member of the Iowa Conference's top defense and was the only Loras representative on the first team. **Pat Ade** ('06) (Chicago, Ill.), **Chris Buesing** ('06) (Hamilton, Iowa), **Aaron Chappell** ('06) (Streamwood, Ill.), **Brock Hall** ('08) (Davis Junction, Ill.) and **Adam Laffey** ('07) (Runnells, Iowa) all earned second team all-conference nods.

## Cross Country

**Ben Grant** ('08) (Peosta, Iowa) represented the Loras cross country teams at the NCAA meet hosted by Ohio Wesleyan in the fall. Grant qualified after placing eighth at the Central Regional hosted by Wartburg. Grant helped the Duhawks finish fourth at the Iowa Conference meet by running to a third place finish. Grant was named the Iowa Conference Runner of the Week on three different occasions during the season for first year coach **Bob Schultz's** team.

The young Loras women's cross country team ran to a sixth place finish at the Iowa Conference meet under first year coach Bob Schultz. **Bryna Copes** ('08) (Des Moines, Iowa) placed seventh to earn all-conference honors. **Emily Wilder** ('08) (Davenport, Iowa) also earned all-conference honors by placing 12th.



THE WOMEN'S SOCCER TEAM AFTER WINNING THE IOWA CONFERENCE TOURNAMENT AT WARTBURG.

## Women's Golf

**Denise Udelhofen** was named as the Iowa Conference Women's Golf Coach of the Year after guiding the Duhawks to a fourth place finish, an improvement over last fall's sixth place finish. Udelhofen was also the Men's Coach of the Year in the spring 2005 season after leading the Duhawks to their first conference title since 1954.

**Amy Kemp** ('08) (Dubuque, Iowa) was the lone Duhawk to earn all-conference honors on the women's side.

Kemp placed 10th at the four-day conference meet, finishing with a score of 342.

## Women's Tennis

**Jennifer Phelan** ('08) (Roscoe, Ill.) and **Anita Saeger** ('07) (Des Plaines, Ill.) finished as the Iowa Conference runners-up at number two doubles during the conference tournament in the fall. Phalen and Saeger were seeded fourth and upset the top-seeded tandem from Central in the semifinals. With first year coach **Karl Stubben** at the helm, Loras placed sixth as a team at the meet.

## Volleyball

The Loras College volleyball program finished 2005 with an overall mark of 9-21 against a tough schedule of opponents not only in the Iowa Conference but also in non-conference. Highlighted among the wins were two at the first-ever Loras Triangular and three wins at the Clarke Invitational. Loras also took Iowa Conference runner-up Wartburg to five games in both meetings. **Kate Sievers** ('07) (Miles, Iowa) led the Duhawks with 360 kills.

# Soccer

The 2005 season was a record-setting one for the men's soccer team. Compiling a school record 18 wins, the Duhawks won the Iowa Conference Tournament for the first time ever on Nov. 5 by defeating host Wartburg 4-2 in the final to advance to the NCAA Tournament. Focused on team defense, the men's team started the season with a record of 9-1, outscoring their opponents 33-4 and posting seven shutouts.

Following the conference schedule the Duhawks went to River Forest, Ill., for their opening round NCAA Tournament game against host Dominican. Head coach **Dan Rothert** and his team won 1-0 in a suspenseful game. The next day Loras earned a berth to the NCAA's Sweet 16 with a 2-0 win over Macalester. The season would come to an end in snowy Grand Rapids, Mich., at the hands of eventual national runner-up Gustavus Adolphus, 3-0.

In the end five Duhawks were named to the All-Iowa Conference Team. Seniors **Tony Stehn** ('06) (Rock Island, Ill.) and **Matt Ochoa** ('06) (New Lenox, Ill.), alongside juniors **Kevin Smerko** ('07) (Rockford, Ill.) and **Nick Anello** ('07) (Orland Park, Ill.), were named to the first team. Senior **Nick Roe** ('06) (Crestwood, Ill.) earned second team honors. In addition, Ochoa was named IIAC Player of the Year and Dan Rothert was named Coach of the Year. Ochoa and Smerko were also recognized nationally, being named to the All-West Region Team.

For the fifth straight year the women's soccer team represented the Iowa Conference in the NCAA Tournament. The Duhawks ran the table in Iowa Conference play, going 8-0 against IIAC foes in the regular season and shutting out each opponent. The women answered the bell in the Iowa Conference Tournament as well, winning the semifinal 3-1 and the final 4-0 over host Wartburg.

Loras played the top teams in their region during the regular season and ended the year with an impressive 18-4 record. The Duhawks won their opening round NCAA match against Illinois Wesleyan 1-0 on a goal from midfielder **Allison Sanyi** ('08) (Bettendorf, Iowa). Overall, head coach Dan Rothert and the women's team set team records with fewest goals allowed in a season (11 in 22 games) and shutouts (14).

Five Duhawks earned All-Conference accolades, two of whom were recognized as All-Region players. **Julie Sapko** ('06) (Oak Park, Ill.), **Rodie Doar** ('06) (Rockford, Ill.) and **Lauren Schaefflein** ('08) (Joliet, Ill.) earned first team all-conference honors. **Katee Whitney** ('08) (Beaverton, Ore.) and **Jenna Kosek** ('09) (Batavia, Ill.) were awarded second team honors. Sapko and Doar, both seniors, were recognized as All-Central Region players.

# Winter Wraps

## Men's Basketball

The men's basketball team notched a 17-9 record and finished in a tie for third place in the balanced Iowa Conference. The Duhawks hosted Simpson in an opening round game in the Iowa Conference Tournament. It was the third time during **Chad Walthall's** tenure as head basketball coach that Loras hosted a conference tournament game.

During the season the Duhawks, who had lost nearly 70 percent of their scoring from 2004, went through a stretch of 11 games without a loss. Loras received votes in the Division III Top 25 poll and defeated two nationally ranked teams during that span, including a 64-63 decision over then 14th ranked Wartburg. Nearly all the games were decided by 10 points or less. **Greg King** ('06) (Evanston, Ill.) and **Kyle White** ('08) (Antioch, Ill.) were both selected to the All-Iowa Conference second team.

## Women's Basketball

Following a 0-6 start to the 2005-06 season, the Loras women's basketball team managed to rebound and finish 12-15 under first year head coach **Shauna Green**. The Duhawks reached the Iowa Conference Tournament semifinals before falling to eventual champion Simpson in a hard fought game 63-55.

Loras finished in fourth place with a winning record in the Iowa Conference (9-7). Included in the wins was a 75-71 win at perennial power Buena Vista, the program's first win in Storm Lake since 2001. **Natalie Pucci** ('08) (West Dundee, Ill.) earned First Team All-Conference honors after finishing as the conference's third leading scorer (16.7 ppg). **Blair Bennett** ('07) (Bourbonnais, Ill.) added a Second-Team nod.

## Swimming & Diving

**Lauren Lehenbauer** ('09) (Davenport, Iowa) rewrote the Loras record books in her first year in the water, helping the Duhawk women to an overall record of 7-3. The Duhawk women placed third at both the Iowa Conference and Liberal Arts Meet. Lehenbauer set four individual records, tied for another, and was also a member of three record-setting relays. She was also one of three individuals to earn co-Female Swimmer of the Meet at the Liberal Arts Championships. The Loras women were undefeated in conference dual meets during the season.

On the men's side, **Drew Sodey** ('06) (Ottumwa, Iowa) met the NCAA B cut time in the 100 freestyle but was not selected to participate in the meet. Sodey was one of two individuals to be honored as Men's Swimmer of the Meet at the Liberal Arts Championships. Sodey won the 100 freestyle, ahead of teammate **Jamin Foust** ('06) (Dubuque, Iowa). Sodey also won the 50 freestyle and was a member of the winning 400 Medley Relay along with Foust, **Dan McFarland** ('07) (Dubuque, Iowa) and **George Petruck** ('06) (Naperville, Ill.). The Loras men finished second at the Iowa Conference meet and fourth at Liberal Arts after finishing the year with an overall record of 6-3.

## Indoor Track & Field

The Loras College track and field teams sent six individuals to the NCAA Division III Indoor National Championships hosted by St. Olaf and for the first time in school history each individual who participated in the meet earned All-American status as the Duhawks placed in eight events.

The Duhawks followed up a strong first day by crowning three more All-Americans on Saturday. **Whitney Calvert** ('07) (Pekin, Ill.) established a school record and personal best in the women's pole vault, capturing fourth place with a mark of 12' 3 1/2".

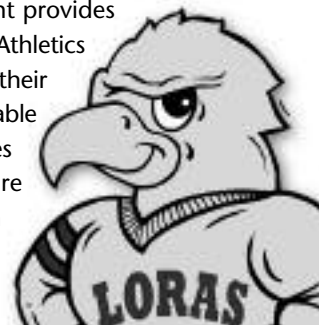


# Keep Up with Duhawk Sports

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**Dana Klemm** ('07) (Gurnee, Ill.) and **Geoff Kaiser** ('07) (Horicon, Wis.) each added a second All-American honor at the meet. Klemm, who placed fifth in the weight throw, also took fifth in the shot put by reaching a distance of 13.77 meters (45' 2 1/2") on her final throw of the day. Klemm was the runner-up in the event last season.

Kaiser followed up his seventh place finish in the long jump by taking home sixth in the triple jump to earn All-American honors. Kaiser leaped 14.21 meters (46' 7 1/2") on his second to last attempt of the day. Prior to the start of the Indoor Championships, Kaiser was named the Division III Central Region Indoor Field Athlete of the Year by the United States Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association.

Friday's All-Americans were **Andy Stoecken** ('07) (Bellevue, Iowa), the national champion in the high jump, **Victor Jones** ('07) (Oak Park, Ill.) (5th) and Geoff Kaiser in the long jump (7th), **Kyle Calvert** ('08) (Pekin, Ill.) in the pole vault (8th), and Klemm in the women's weight throw (5th).

The Duhawk men scored 20 points and placed seventh at the meet, the highest finishing Iowa Conference school. It was the best finish for the Duhawks at the indoor national meet since a fourth place slot in 1989.

The Duhawk women also were the highest finishing conference school. With three All-American honors, the Duhawks placed 15th with 13 points.

DANA KLEMM ('07) (GURNEE, ILL.) ADDED TWO MORE ALL-AMERICAN HONORS TO HER CREDIT AT THE NCAA INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS.

## Wrestling

After a regular season record of 14-2, the most winning in the 13 years of head coach Randy Steward's tenure, the Loras College wrestling team sent five individuals to the national meet hosted by the College of New Jersey.

**Brad Bishop** ('06) (Dixon, Ill.), **Jay Figgins** ('08) (Clinton, Iowa), **Mitch Hager** ('06) (Muscatine, Iowa), **Ryan Hagerty** ('06) (Muscatine, Iowa) and **Terry Morgan** ('06) (Port Saint Lucie, Fla.) all earned invitations to the national meet based on their finish at the IAC Wrestling Tournament in which the Duhawks finished third.

Bishop captured the IAC title at 157 lbs. while Hager was the runner-up at 184. Figgins, Hagerty and Morgan all earned wild-card berths after placing fifth, third and third respectively.

Hagerty and Morgan garnered All-American honors as the Duhawks placed 18th in the nation. Morgan took fifth at 125 and Hagerty eighth at 174.

Highlighted in the Loras season was a first place finish at the Budd Whitehill duals. Loras has been going to the meet for years but had never won the title until this year when the Duhawks dominated the College of New Jersey in the championship match 25-9.

Loras will again host the national meet in conjunction with the city of Dubuque in 2007.



TERRY MORGAN ('06) (PORT SAINT LUCIE, FLA.) CAPPED A SUCCESSFUL CAREER BY PLACING FIFTH AT THE NCAA WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIPS HOSTED BY THE COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY.



(BACK, L TO R) KARI ANGWIN ('09) (CLINTON, IOWA), STEPHANIE BREITBACH ('09) (CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA), ERIN BRENNAN ('07) (WATERLOO, IOWA), TASHA WILLMAN ('08) (FARLEY, IOWA), ELIZABETH TWEEDALE ('06) (WEST DES MOINES, IOWA), KELLI PATAVA ('08) (WATERLOO, IOWA), ERIN RILEY ('09) (WEST DES MOINES, IOWA), LAURA STEWART ('07) (MINOOKA, ILL.) AND KATIE MORRISSEY ('08) (SYCAMORE, ILL.). (KNEELING IN FRONT) ASHLEY COLLOPY ('07) (EPWORTH, IOWA)

## Duhawk Dancers take **First Place Honors** at National Competition

The Loras College Duhawk Dancers brought home top honors from their first-ever national competition on March 24-25, in San Antonio, Texas. The team returned home with a first place trophy from each of the categories entered: pom, hip hop and jazz. **Stephanie Breitbach** ('09) (Cedar Rapids, Iowa) also won a National Championship trophy for her solo in the college/open division.

"We didn't go down there thinking we were going to win three national championships," said Breitbach. "We went for a learning experience and to start getting the Loras name out to the dance community. It was an amazing perk that we were so successful. It felt like the hard work was really worth it."

The MA Dance National Competition was hosted by Marching Auxiliaries, a Texas-based company that provides dance and auxiliary instruction and competitions throughout the country. This competition included over 150 teams with over 3,000 participants from across the country. Categories included pom, jazz, hip hop, kick, production, military, modern and coed. Age divisions ranged from pre-k through the college/open division. Teams included public and private schools, dance studios and all-star teams.

"This trip was the experience our team needed to prove to ourselves that we are capable of very big things, not only as competitors but as a family," said **Tama-Lea Bence**, coach for the Duhawk Dancers.