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2005 IOWA CONFERENCE MEN'S SOCCER PREVIEW

CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA . . . Defending Iowa Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (IIAC) Champion Wartburg College is the favorite among IIAC coaches to win the 2005 Conference men's soccer title. The Knights received seven of eight first-place votes and totaled 63 points, finishing ahead of Loras College (52 points, one first-place vote), Luther College (51 points) and Central College (50 points). The complete 2005 IIAC men's soccer Coaches' Poll follows.

Rank	School (1st place votes)	Points	2004 Record
1	Wartburg (7)	63	20-2-2, 7-0-1 IIAC
2	Loras (1)	52	13-6-3, 5-2-1 IIAC
3	Luther	51	11-7-0, 6-2-0 IIAC
4	Central	50	11-6-1, 4-3-1 IIAC
5	Buena Vista	37	8-8-4, 3-3-2 IIAC
6	Simpson	33	9-9-1, 4-4-0 IIAC
7	Dubuque	27	5-12-1, 1-6-1 IIAC
8	Cornell	20	5-14-0, 2-6-0 IIAC
9	Coe	19	2-15-0, 1-7-0 IIAC

Preseason National Polls: Wartburg College is tied for eighth (with Trinity (Texas) University) in the National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) preseason national poll.

The 2005 men's soccer season begins on Thursday, September 1, with five schools in action that day. All nine schools will have started their season by Saturday, September 3. Conference-play begins on Saturday, September 24, and concludes with a six-team Conference Tournament on November 1-2, 4-5 at the regular season champion.

Complete Iowa Conference men's soccer information, including schedules, results, statistics and past season information can be found on the men's soccer home page of the Iowa Conference web site at <http://www.iowaconference.com/men/soccer/index.htm>.

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Buena Vista University Beavers
(8-8-4 overall, 3-3-2 IIAC – 6th)

Starters Returning/Lost: 5/6

Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 8/8

About the Team: Buena Vista needs to find more offensive threats this year as junior forward **Dustin Bonnett** scored a third of the Beavers 31 goals and he teamed with sophomore midfielder **Brian Alvarez** to account for half of the team's scoring. Two-time All-Conference goaltender **Daniel Padilla** kept Buena Vista in games last year as the team did not score more than one goal in any of their eight losses.

Quote from the Coach: Head coach **Matt Klosterman** says, "I feel good about the incoming team at BVU and am excited for the season."

Key Returnees	
Dustin Bonnett, Jr., F	10 goals-3 assists-23 points in 20 matches IIAC Rank – t-4th in points, t-4th in goals
Brian Alvarez, So., MF	2004 Second Team All-Conference 6 goals-8 assists-20 points in 19 matches IIAC Rank – 2nd in game winning goals (4), t-6th in assists, 10th in points
Jake Vallette, So., MF	1 assist in 17 matches
Eric Saxton, Jr., D	20 matches
Geoff Wrenn, So., D	18 matches
Daniel Padilla, Sr., GK	Two-time All-Conference 8-7-4, 1.53 GAA, .801 save percentage, 2 shutouts, 4 assists IIAC Rank – 3rd in saves/game (6.16), 4th in save percentage

Tough Losses	
Scott Janish, D/F	5 goals-2 assists-12 points in 20 matches
Travis Irvin, F/MF	2004 Second Team All-Conference 4 goals-2 assists-10 points in 19 matches
Brandon Keefover, F	2 goals-3 assists-7 points in 16 matches
Alfonso Sanchez, F	1 goal-3 assists-5 points in 15 matches
Chris Bayer, D	Two-Time All-Conference 20 matches
Dave Williams, MF/D	20 matches

Central College Dutch (11-6-1 overall, 4-3-1 IIAC – 4th)

Starters Returning/Lost: 7/4

Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 10/8

About the Team: Central has a 39-15-1 record over the last three years but graduated its goaltending tandem that posted a 0.98 goals against average last season and two of its top-four scorers including record-setting forward **Kyle Halfpop**. The Dutch are deep on defense and at midfield but will need returning players and newcomers to step-up at the forward positions and in goal.

Quote from the Coach: Head coach **Garry Laidlaw** says, "At this point, we have more questions than answers. We graduated eight seniors, including only our second-ever All-Region player. We are unproven in other areas because of youth and inexperience, and may need to rely on more significant contributions from some of our less experienced juniors. At the same time, we are also excited because we feel this is a new era for the team. We have a good core, and we are excited about some of the new additions to the team."

Key Returnees	
Tim Dobberfuhl, Sr., MF	Two-time All-Conference 2 goals-2 assists-6 points in 18 matches
Cody Stoermer, So., MF	6 goals-10 assists-22 points in 18 matches IIAC Rank – 2nd in assists, t-6th in points
Blake Scott, So., MF	1 goal-3 assist-5 points in 18 matches
Jason Winslow, So., D	1 assist in 18 matches
Nick Mohwinkle, Sr., D	5 goals-2 assists-12 points in 12 matches
Eric Bentzinger, Jr., D	18 matches
Conrad Vernon, Sr., D	Three-time All-Conference 18 matches
Ryan Petersen, Jr., D	12 matches
Brett Anderson, Jr., MF	1 assist in 12 matches
Tyman Wiley, So., MF	1 assist in 7 matches
Eric McDonald, Sr., F	6 goals-3 assists-15 points in 15 matches

Newcomers To Watch	
Trent Payne, So., GK	Clint Schreiber, Fr., MF
Greg Foote, Fr., GK	Cruz Herr, Fr., MF
Jason Chohon, Jr., GK	Reid Petersen, Fr., MF
Jeff Adamczyk, Fr., MF/D	Scott Erie, Fr., F

Tough Losses	
Kyle Halfpop, MF	Three-time All-Conference 17 goals-9 assists-43 points in 18 matches (school record for goals & points) IIAC Rank – 2nd in points, t-2nd in goals, 3rd in assists, t-3rd in game winning goals (3) National Rank – 14th in points/game (2.39), 21st in goals/game (0.94)
Brandon Thomsen, D	1 assist in 17 matches
Nate Weir, F	6 goals-2 assists-14 points in 18 matches
Jarin Schmidt, GK	7-2-0, 0.93 GAA, .827 save percentage, 4 shutouts IIAC Rank – 2nd in GAA, 3rd in save percentage, t-3rd in shutouts
Andy Quigg, GK	4-4-1, 1.03 GAA, .850 save percentage, 4 shutouts IIAC Rank – 2nd in save percentage, 3rd in GAA, t-3rd in shutouts, 5th in saves/game (5.67)

Coe College Kohawks
(2-15-0 overall, 1-7-0 IIAC – 9th)

Starters Returning/Lost: 3/8

Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 7/10

About the Team: Eight different players accounted for the eight goals scored by Coe last season, and only two of those eight return this year (forwards **Scott Ligouri** and **Andrew George**). Ligouri also notched one of the three assists by the team. The Kohawks will look to **Jafar Chhaya** to replace goaltender **Bryan Knapp**, who started 32 of 34 matches the last two seasons.

Quote from the Coach: Head coach **Donovan Kron** says, “With only five returners and a bunch of incoming question marks, things will be interesting. The focus will be turning the culture of a team where losing was acceptable. When all the cards are played, I hope we enjoy a bit of luck that seemed to avoid us all year.”

Key Returnees	
Scott Ligouri, Sr., F	1 goal-1 assist-3 points in 16 matches
Andrew George, Jr., F	1 goal in 16 matches
Matthew Sonntag, So., D	17 matches
Peter Sand, Sr., D	16 matches
Christopher Schnurr, Jr., D	12 matches
Brandon Bell, Jr., MF	17 matches
Jafar Chhaya, So., GK	0-1-0, 3.17 GAA, .714 save percentage in six matches

Tough Losses	
Michael Drinkall, MF	1 goal-2 assists-4 points in 17 matches
Nick Spanel, MF	1 goal in 15 matches
Marty Ruthaivilavan, MF	1 goal in 16 matches
Jason Mueller, MF	1 goal in 17 matches
Keisuke Morita, MF	1 goal in 15 matches
B.J. Sarchett, D	15 matches
Ryan Luckenbaugh, D	1 goal in 17 matches
Bryan Knapp, GK	2-14-0, 3.84 GAA, .681 save percentage, 2 shutouts IIAC Rank – 2nd in saves/game (7.41)

Cornell College Rams
(5-14-0 overall, 2-6-0 IIAC – 7th)

Starters Returning/Lost: 9/2

Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 16/4

About the Team: Cornell must find scoring offense as four players tied for the team lead in scoring with two goals. Fortunately for the Rams, three of those four players return this season. **Marc Myers** and **Joe Okell** split time in goal last season and both return, as do four defenders including All-Conference performer **Cameron Gallegos**.

Key Returnees	
Tom Ritland, Jr., D	2 goals in 19 matches
Marc Myers, Sr., F/GK	1 goal in 19 matches 5-10-0, 2.21 GAA, .783 save percentage, 4 shutouts in 15 matches IIAC Rank – 1st in saves/game (7.47), t-4th in shutouts, 5th in save percentage
Cameron Gallegos, So., D	2004 Second Team All-Conference 1 assist in 19 matches
Gabe Gildner, Jr., MF	2 goals in 17 matches
Nii Yemofio, Jr., D	1 goal-1 assist-3 points in 18 matches
Joe Okell, Sr., GK/D	2 assists in 16 matches 0-4-0, 2.43 GAA, .789 save percentage in 7 matches
Charlie Ellerbroek, Jr., MF	1 goal in 18 matches
Patrick Carry, Jr., D	15 matches
Aaron Reykdal, Sr., MF	2 goals in 19 matches
Aaron Epstein, Jr., MF	Did not play last season 2003 stats – 1 assist in 11 matches

Newcomers To Watch	
Damian Ryan	

Tough Losses	
Blake Rasmussen, F	2 goals in 19 matches
Danny Love, D	1 goal in 19 matches
Mike Swim, F	1 assist in 13 matches
Jeremy Schaalman, D	1 goal-1 assist-3 points in 17 matches

University of Dubuque Spartans
(5-12-1 overall, 1-6-1 IIAC – 8th)

Starters Returning/Lost: 3/8

Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 8/11

About the Team: Keys to the season for Dubuque will be the strong leadership by the returning upperclassmen, the 18 incoming freshmen that are expected to make a noticeable and immediate impact, a fresh attitude and high level of discipline.

Quote from the Coach: Head coach **Jason Berna** says, "The University of Dubuque men's soccer team will have a completely different line-up on the field this year. We will be young but dangerous at the same time. I think we will surprise many teams this year with the steps forward as we look to make our first conference play-off appearance."

Key Returnees	
Joey Kelly, Sr., MF	3 goals-5 assists-11 points in 16 matches
Josh Jones, Jr., GK	0-2, 3.28 GAA, .737 save percentage in 6 matches
Andrew Mueller, Sr., MF	3 goals in 13 matches

Loras College Duhawks
(13-6-3 overall, 5-2-1 IIAC – 3rd)

Starters Returning/Lost: 8/3

Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 13/6

About the Team: No longer having to split time in goal as he did the last two years, goaltender **Kevin Smerko** will be looked to along with eight seniors including three All-Conference performers to bring Loras to the next step. The Duhawks have been to the Championship match of the Conference Tournament three of the last four years but have yet to come away with a victory.

Quote from the Coach: Head coach **Dan Rothert** says, "The Iowa Conference is going to be a tight race with a solid group of teams at the top. The extra incentive to the men's champion this year is to be able to host the conference tournament."

Key Returnees	
Andy Zimmer, Sr., F	Two-time All-Conference 6 goals-4 assists-16 points in 20 matches
Nick Roe, Sr., F	2 goals-3 assists-7 points in 21 matches
Mike Richter, So., F	4 goals-1 assist-9 points in 21 matches
Tyler Knopp, Sr., F	2 goals in 22 matches
Tony Stehn, Sr., MF	2004 Second Team All-Conference 7 goals-8 assists-22 points in 21 matches IIAC Rank – t-3rd in game winning goals (3), t-6th in points, t-6th in assists, t-7th in goals
Matt Ochoa, Sr., MF	Two-time All-Conference 6 goals-2 assists-14 points in 22 matches IIAC Rank – t-3rd in game winning goals (3)
Erik Insko, Sr., MF	3 goals-3 assists-9 points in 22 matches
Kevin Burberry, Jr., MF	1 goal in 11 matches
Ryan Cepela, Jr., MF	1 goal in 17 matches
Nick Bartley, Sr., D	2 goals-4 assists-8 points in 22 matches
Nick Anello, Jr., D	10 matches
Ben Kerrigan, So., D	2 assists in 20 matches
Kevin Smerko, Jr., GK	7-6-3, 1.36 GAA, .759 save percentage, 1 shutout in 19 matches IIAC Rank – 4th in GAA

Newcomers To Watch	
Tom Richlak, GK	
Steve Bischoff, MF	
Matt Brumfield, D	

Tough Losses	
Nick Murray, GK	6-0-0, 0.81 GAA, .760 save percentage, 2 shutouts in 12 matches
Nick Sullivan, F	4 goals-2 assists-10 points in 18 matches
Dan Johnson, D	2004 First Team All-Conference 22 matches
Sean Moran, MF	Three-time All-Conference 7 goals-3 assists-17 points in 21 matches IIAC Rank – t-7th in goals

Luther College Norse
(11-7-0 overall, 6-2-0 IIAC – 2nd)

Starters Returning/Lost: 6/5

Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 20/8

About the Team: Luther is a young but experienced team with 10 of its top returnees being sophomores including goaltender **Leif Madsen** and All-Conference midfielder **Brad Reid**. The Norse must make-up for the loss of its top-three scorers from a year ago (**Eric Henderson, Jordan Hartman** and **Jeremiah Reinkoester**) who combined for 48 percent of the team's scoring.

Quote from the Coach: Head coach **Doug Mello** says, "The time to return to the top of the league is now. We expect a hard fought battle, but are confident in our ability to play at a high level with a young team."

Key Returnees	
Steve Kain, Jr., F	3 goals-6 assists-12 points in 18 matches IIAC Rank – t-9th in assists
Brad Reid, So., MF	2004 Second Team All-Conference 2 goals-8 assists-12 points in 18 matches IIAC Rank – t-6th in assists
Andrew Best, Sr., D	Two-time All-Conference 18 matches
John Schroeher, So., D	2 goals in 18 matches
William Nartey, Sr., F	4 goals-1 assist-9 points in 15 matches
Leif Madsen, So., GK	10-6-0, 1.44 GAA, .775 save percentage, 4 shutouts IIAC Rank – t-3rd in shutouts, 5th in GAA
Peter Christensen, Jr., D	1 assist in 17 matches
Kyle Nelson, Jr., D	4 goals-1 assist-9 points in 12 matches
Peter Anhalt, So., MF	5 matches
Dane Jensen, So., MF	2 goals in 17 matches
Jordan Jensen, So., D	7 matches
Peter Murphy, So., D	1 goal in 10 matches
Ben Parman, So., GK	1-1-0, 1.38 GAA, .786 save percentage, 1 shutout in 3 matches
David Schuster, So., F	1 goal in 16 matches
Jace Senske, So., D	Limited to three matches due to injury
David Williams, So., D	2 matches

Tough Losses	
Eric Henderson, F	Three-time All-Conference 10 goals-2 assists-22 points in 13 matches IIAC Rank – t-3rd in game winning goals (3), t-4th in goals, t-6th in points
Jordan Hartman, MF	2004 First Team All-Conference 5 goals-5 assists-15 points in 18 matches
Tim Elgin, D	2 goals-1 assist-5 points in 18 matches
Jeremiah Reinkoester, MF	5 goals-9 assists-19 points in 18 matches IIAC Rank – t-3rd in assists
Quinn Fitzsimmons, D	2004 Second Team All-Conference 2 assists in 18 matches

Simpson College Storm (9-9-1 overall, 4-4-0 IIAC – 5th)

Starters Returning/Lost: 9/2

Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 13/5

About the Team: Simpson returns nine of 11 starters and 13 of 18 letterwinners but the two lost starters and four of the five lost letterwinners are on defense with its starting goaltender and three defensemen graduating. The Storm has a balanced offense, as seven players scored at least four goals and 12 different players scored at least one goal last season.

Quote from the Coach: Head coach **Mike Wilson** says, "As a former player at Simpson, I am very excited to take over the program and look forward to the challenges that the IIAC provides. I expect to have a competitive squad that will challenge the top teams in the conference."

Key Returnees	
Jesse Kaufman, So., F	5 goals-1 assist-11 points in 18 matches IIAC Rank – t-3rd in game winning goals (3)
Charlie Peterson, Sr., F	3 goals-6 assists-12 points in 19 matches IIAC Rank – t-9th in assists
Jordan Denman, So., MF	1 goal-6 assists-8 points in 19 matches IIAC Rank – t-9th in assists
Mosa Shayan, Jr., MF	2004 Second Team All-Conference 5 goals-4 assists-14 points in 19 matches
Mark Pleiss, Jr., MF	3 goals-3 assists-9 points in 19 matches
Nate Ruhland, Jr., MF	7 goals-2 assists-16 points in 19 matches IIAC Rank – t-7th in goals
Zac Craig, Sr., D	17 matches
Joe Finocchiarro, So., D	1 assist in 19 matches
Shane Wilson, Sr., D	18 matches
Ryan Chase, So., F	4 goals-2 assists-10 points in 19 matches
Matt Fiene, Jr., MF	4 goals in 16 matches
Adam Kusek, So., MF	1 assist in 17 matches
Angel Salcido, Jr., F	8 goals-3 assists-19 points in 19 matches IIAC Rank – 6th in goals

Newcomers To Watch	
Chris Bassler, Fr., MF	
Bryan Stokes, So., GK	
David Williams, Jr., D	Transferred from Buena Vista University

Tough Losses	
Greg Velasquez, GK	9-9-1, 1.67 GAA, .770 save percentage, 5 shutouts IIAC Rank – 2nd in shutouts
Kenny Chapman, D	Two-time All-Conference 4 goals-1 assist-9 points in 19 matches
Ryan Berry, D	1 assist in 18 matches
Scott Roth, D	12 matches

Wartburg College Knights (20-2-2 overall, 7-0-1 IIAC – 1st)

Starters Returning/Lost: 8/3

Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 20/8

About the Team: Wartburg graduated the first two men's soccer All-Americans in Conference history (**Verne Houston** and **Collin Lane**) but return 20 letterwinners from its national quarterfinal team, led by IIAC Most Valuable Player **Harrison Kibombo-Lugujjo**. The Knights will look to become just the second school to win consecutive men's soccer Conference titles (Luther won four straight from 1996-1999 and back-to-back titles in 2001-02).

Quote from the Coach: Head coach **Jim Conlon** says, "Our men know how to get to the top levels of the game. It's about staying hungry, not being satisfied with what was accomplished last fall. These guys have a good set of goals in front of them. They're aware of how tough it can be to earn another conference championship and go as deep as we did in the national tournament. However, once you get a taste of that, you want more."

Key Returnees	
Harrison Kibombo-Lugujjo, Jr., F	2004 IIAC MVP 17 goals-3 assists-37 points in 21 matches IIAC Rank – t-2nd in goals, 3rd in points
Scott Hill, Sr., F	Two-time All-Conference 7 goals-9 assists-23 points in 24 matches IIAC Rank – t-3rd in assists, t-3rd in game winning goals (3), t-4th in points, t-7th in goals
Casey Johnson, So., MF	7 goals-2 assists-16 points in 24 matches IIAC Rank – t-7th in goals
Jon Hinke, Jr., MF	6 goals-3 assists-15 points in 24 matches IIAC Rank - t-3rd in game winning goals (3)
Jake Best, Jr., MF/D	4 goals-5 assists-13 points in 22 matches
Luke McClyman, So., MF	2 goals-5 assists-9 points in 24 matches
Kirk Artist, Sr., MF	Three-time All-Conference 5 goals-12 assists-22 points in 23 matches IIAC Rank – 1st in assists, t-3rd in game winning goals (3), t-6th in points
Zach Prieve, Sr., D	Two-time All-Conference 2 goals-2 assists-6 points in 24 matches
Brent Schuchman, Jr., D	1 goal-2 assists-4 points in 22 matches

Newcomers To Watch	
Chris Wood, GK	Elvis Alicic, MF
Randon Ruggles, GK	Robert Acosta, D
Matt Shephard, GK	

Tough Losses	
Collin Lane, GK	2004 All-American; Three-time All-Conference 17-1-2, 0.56 GAA, .884 save percentage, 8 shutouts IIAC Rank – 1st in GAA, 1st in save percentage, 1st in shutouts National Rank – 12th in GAA
Verne Houston, MF/F	2004 All-American; Four-time All-Conference 28 goals-4 assists-60 points in 23 matches IIAC Rank – 1st in points, 1st in goals, 1st in game winning goals (6) National Rank – 3rd in goals/game (1.22) 7th in points/game (2.61)
Jeremy McEver, D	6 assists in 24 matches IIAC Rank – t-9th in assists