



**PATRICK
ROWAN**

**NATASHA
CHIKINA**

**PABLO
MORALES**

COACHES & STAFF



PABLO MORALES

Head Coach 18th Season 89-54-1 Career Record

COACHING EXPERIENCE

- +Head Coach, Nebraska (2001-Present)
- +Head Coach, USA Swimming Diversity Select Camp (2007)
- +Associate Head Coach, San Jose Aquatics (2000-01)
- +Head Coach, San Jose State (1998-2001)
- +Graduate Assistant, Stanford (1997-98)
- +Assistant Coach, San Jose Aquatics (1995-96)
- +Graduate Assistant, Cornell (1989-91)
- +Head Coach, Stanford Masters Swim Program (1988-89)

HONORS & AWARDS

- +Big 12 Coach of the Year (2004)
- +WAC Coach of the Year (2000)
- +Five-Time Olympic Medalist (3 Gold, 2 Silver)
- +11-Time NCAA Champion
- +CoSIDA Academic All-America Hall of Fame

Pablo Morales continues to see the Nebraska swimming and diving program climb in national prominence in and out of the water in his 18th season leading the Husker program.

In 2018, Nebraska notched its third consecutive top-40 finish at the NCAA Championships. The Huskers took 35th in the final standings behind a second-straight first-team All-America finish from Abigail Knapton. The sophomore became the first two-time first-team All-America diver in school history. Knapton was joined at the NCAA Championships by freshman swimmer Autumn Haebig.

Nebraska's No. 35 NCAA finish in 2018, followed a 33rd-place finish at nationals in 2017, when Knapton finished fourth on platform to capture her first All-America award. Knapton also was named Nebraska's Outstanding Female Newcomer of the Year across all sports for her performance on the season.

In 2016, the Huskers finished 39th at the NCAA Championships, which included a 10th-place finish on the one-meter board from Anna Filipic. The Huskers have sent at least one diver to the NCAA Championships in five consecutive seasons.

While the diving program has climbed to national prominence, the Huskers have elevated their talent across all events as they enter their eighth season in the Big Ten Conference in 2018-19.

Overall, Nebraska features two state swimmers of the year and individual state swimming and diving champions from seven different states, including Arizona, Arkansas, Indiana, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio and Wisconsin.

Nebraska's rise in the pool and the diving well has occurred while maintaining elite performances in the classroom. In 2017, Nebraska finished among the top-20 CSCAA Division I Scholar All-America Schools for the fourth straight season, posting a team GPA of 3.61. The Huskers also captured their third consecutive Nebraska Herman Team GPA Award, which recognizes the Husker program with the highest GPA across all sports.

Nebraska's increased competitiveness in the pool and impressive success in the classroom and community are a far cry from the starting point of the Husker program when Morales took over the job in 2001. In his first season at NU, the Huskers went winless in 2001-02 (0-3) with a depleted roster.

Three years later, NU raced to an 8-1 dual record in 2004-05 and became the first Husker swimming and diving team in school history to win eight consecutive meets. Most importantly, Morales led the Huskers out of the bottom of the Big 12 with a fourth-place finish in 2004 and a third-place showing in 2005. Nebraska has continued to pursue a climb in conference prominence as it has transitioned to the Big Ten.

The Huskers hope to regain the national prowess they enjoyed in the 1990s, when they captured five Big Eight and Big 12 titles from 1994 to 1999.

A 1987 graduate of Stanford University, Morales is one of the greatest male swimmers in U.S. history, winning an NCAA-record 11 individual titles. He also helped lead the Cardinal to three consecutive NCAA titles and four Pac-10 titles, while twice earning Pac-10 Swimmer-of-the-Year honors and garnering six Pac-10 titles himself.

Morales remains the all-time leading scorer at the NCAA Championships, amassing 235 points. Morales was also the recipient of the 1987 AI Masters Award, which is Stanford's highest award for athletic performance, leadership and academic performance. He was the first male swimmer to win the award, and remains one of two to have accomplished that feat. Morales holds the Stanford record in the 200-yard butterfly (1:42.60) and held the school record in the 100-yard fly (46.25) until it was broken in 1998 by Sabir Muhammad (46.18).

While at Stanford, Morales was awarded the J.E. Sterling Award, which is presented to a student-athlete based on scholarship, leadership and community service. In addition, he served as the director of the Stanford Volunteers for Youth Program. Morales also found time to become a mainstay on the campus newspaper as the beat writer for the women's basketball team.

A CoSIDA Academic All-America selection in 1987, Morales earned a law degree from Cornell in June of 1994, despite taking two years off from law school to train and compete at the Olympics.

An Olympic swimmer, Morales won three gold and two silver medals in the 1984 and 1992 Games, serving as a team captain for the 1992 squad. Following the 1992 Games, in which he

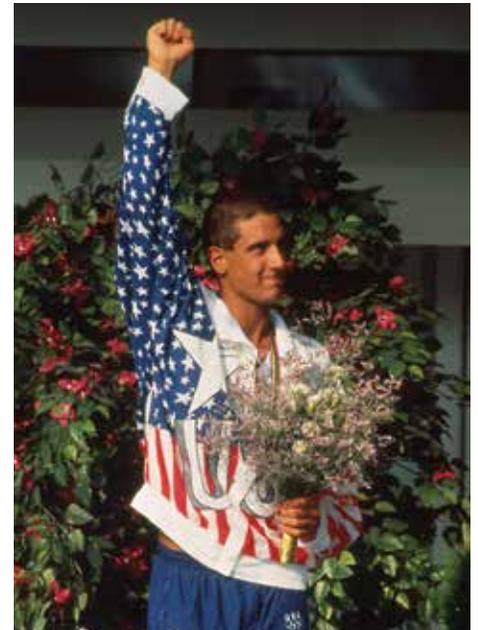
returned to the pool after a three-year layoff to capture a gold medal in the 100-meter butterfly, Morales was named the U.S. Olympic Committee's Sportsman of the Year. He held the U.S. Open and NCAA record in the 100-yard fly with a time of 46.26, which stood for 13 years before being broken at the 1999 NCAA Championships.

Among Morales' greatest swimming accomplishments in the pool is holding the world record in the 100-meter butterfly with a time of 52.84 from 1986 until 1995.

Morales' legend in the Olympic Games lives on today, as the Nebraska coach served on the bid committee for the 2008 U.S. Olympic swimming trials that took place in Omaha. Morales had the chance to see the selection process and serve a role in the decision that gave Nebraska its first Olympic event in state history.

The Swimming Trials were a resounding success, and Omaha proved to be a worthy host for the event. More than 160,000 fans attended the event, shattering the previous mark by more than 50,000. In 2016, the U.S. Olympic Trials made their third consecutive appearance at the CenturyLink Center in Omaha, and more than 200,000 fans sold out every session of the event.

Before coming to Nebraska, Morales served as the head women's swimming coach at San Jose State University. He held the reins as head coach from 1998 until being named coach at Nebraska in July of 2001. Morales rejuvenated a Spartan



Pablo Morales was a three-time Olympic gold medalist and two-time silver medalist at the 1984 (Los Angeles) and 1992 (Barcelona) Summer Games.

Gold	1984 Los Angeles	4x100m Medley
Gold	1992 Barcelona	100m Butterfly
Gold	1992 Barcelona	4x100m Butterfly
Silver	1984 Los Angeles	100m Butterfly
Silver	1984 Los Angeles	200m Medley

program that was near the bottom of the Western Athletic Conference. He was named the 2000 WAC Coach of the Year for his efforts.

While at San Jose State, Morales rebuilt a program and took the Spartans to the NCAA Championships after a 14-year absence. During his tenure, Morales produced six academic All-WAC swimmers. At the 2001 WAC Championships, five Spartans set school records under Morales' supervision, and three met NCAA qualification times. Seven others swam times that placed among the top three in school history.

Before his stint at SJSU, Morales served as an assistant coach at his alma mater, Stanford, in 1997-98, helping lead the squad to the NCAA team title.

Morales also served as a graduate assistant at Cornell while pursuing his law degree. While at Cornell, Morales prepared and coached daily workouts for swimmers and assisted in recruiting. Morales has assisted in coaching with the San Jose Aquatics club group, as well as serving as head coach of the Stanford Masters Swim Team.

For Morales, the opportunity to coach at Nebraska was a welcome challenge.

"As a coach, taking over the responsibilities at Nebraska represents a great opportunity to take a program with success and use the resources that only Nebraska can offer, the support from the athletic department, the University, the Lincoln area and the state, to take the program to a higher level," Morales said after he was hired. "Our goal is to take this program to the elite national level."

A powerful motivator, Morales hopes to keep his swimmers on the top of their games in and out of the pool, as Nebraska has established itself among the nation's best in academic support and athletics. Over the past nine seasons, nearly 80 percent of Morales' student-athletes have been named to the conference or Nebraska Scholar-Athlete Honor Roll each semester.

"I want our swimmers to achieve their goals of faster times and lifetime bests," Morales said. "I want them to have the best season that they have ever had, and I also want us to establish a team atmosphere and build an excitement toward Husker swimming and diving."

Morales said he enjoys the challenge of competing in the Big Ten, one of the premier swimming and diving conferences in the country.

Former Stanford Head Coach Skip Kenny, who coached Morales at Stanford and also with Team USA, spoke highly of his former pupil.

"He's one of the most honest people that you will meet," Kenny said. "You will always get the truth out of him. He's very dedicated to the sport of swimming and to his athletes."

Kenny also recognized Morales' charisma.

"As soon as the swimmers spend a few days or weeks with him," Kenny said, "they will see how much he cares about them and the sport of swimming."

Morales received a vote of confidence that he will be able to turn Nebraska into a national title contender.

"He brings a high level of experience to build up the team," Kenny said. "He's been there and done that as far as swimming is concerned. I honestly believe that he is a better coach than he was a swimmer, and that is saying a lot since he was one of the best swimmers in the world. He has done things with kids that I thought I would never see. If there is a female swimmer out there that wants to be the best in the world, I'd send her to swim for Pablo."

Morales' experiences as an NCAA and international swimmer, and a club and collegiate coach helps him in coaching and recruiting.

"In my experiences, I have been fortunate to have had a long career as a competitor. I was able to train with coaches who I think are some of the best in the world," Morales said. "I have learned from them, and I have learned from myself. I believe that all of my experiences have prepared me for coaching. I have a good feel for the contours of teams that are successful. I know how they practice, train and compete."

In July of 2012, Morales named Patrick Rowan as an assistant coach. A Nebraska native with a long-time association with the Husker program, Rowan spent five years at Missouri before returning to Lincoln. In his five seasons in Columbia, Rowan helped MU climb from 38th at the 2008 NCAA Championships to 14th in the final standings in 2012. He also played a major role in bringing multiple top-20 recruiting classes to Missouri.

"We were very excited to have Patrick come back to Nebraska," Morales said. "He brings extensive and successful coaching and recruiting experience at the collegiate level. Patrick has a tremendous work ethic and an unmatched passion for Nebraska. He has made an immediate impact on this program and will play a key role in helping us achieve our Big Ten Conference and NCAA goals."

In his first season with the Huskers, Rowan immediately showed his worth, coaching the Nebraska sprinters to four school-record relay times at the 2013 Big Ten Championships. He also coached Taryn Collura to a school record in the 50-yard freestyle and a trip to the NCAA Championships in Indianapolis.

Morales named former Olympian Natasha Chikina as the head diving coach in June of 2005. Through 12 seasons, she has guided Husker divers to 35 NCAA Zone appearances and a Husker diver to the NCAA Championships for four consecutive

"My job is to instill confidence in a swimmer and teach her to expect a higher level of performance from herself. I want each swimmer to open her mind to what is possible. I want her to strive to exceed what she has done in the past each and every day. I want her to expect that more is possible."

Coach Morales' Philosophy

seasons.

"She brings outstanding technical expertise combined with a tremendous coaching demeanor that yields fabulous results at the Division I level," Morales said. "She is the perfect fit to build on the success of her predecessors here at Nebraska and be part of our development into a championship-level program."

A gifted and noted public speaker and lecturer, Morales was a contributing author to *The Swim Coaching Bible*, published in 2001. In April of 2007, he was chosen as the U.S. Swimming Diversity Select Camp Head Coach, a four-day camp at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colo. Aside from in-pool training, Morales also led motivational and educational sessions and team-building activities for boys and girls from all over the nation. These children were a part of an ethnically under-represented population that is less than 20 percent of the current USA Swimming membership.

Pablo is the son of Pedro and the late Blanca Morales, who came to the United States from Cuba in 1956. Pablo and his wife, Viviana, have four boys, Sam (20), Benjamin (17), Eli (15) and Gustavo (8).

Morales was born in Chicago and grew up in Santa Clara, Calif. He enjoys golfing in his spare time.



The Morales family (from left): Gustavo, Pablo, Sam, Eli, Viviana and Benjamin.



PATRICK ROWAN

Associate Head Coach Sixth Season

COACHING EXPERIENCE

- +Associate Head Coach, Nebraska (2012-Present)
- +Assistant Coach, Missouri (2008-12)
- +Volunteer Assistant Coach, Nebraska (2006-07)
- +Head Coach, Nebraska Aquatics (2002-07)

SWIMMING EXPERIENCE

- +Eastern Michigan (1996-2000)
- +12-Time MAC Finalist
- +Two-Time MAC Team Champions
- +Two-Time Nebraska Class A State Champion (Lincoln Southeast)

Patrick Rowan is in his sixth season as Nebraska's associate head coach, helping the Huskers continue to build a nationally competitive women's swimming and diving program.

Rowan, who returned to Nebraska after spending five years as an assistant coach at Missouri, helped the Tigers become one of the nation's top-15 programs during his time in Columbia (2008-12).

The graduate of Lincoln Southeast High School and former Husker volunteer assistant coach returned to the Big Red for the 2012-13 season and has helped the Huskers produce three consecutive top-40 team finishes at the NCAA Championships.

"Patrick brings extensive and successful coaching and recruiting experience at the collegiate level," Nebraska Coach Pablo Morales said. "Patrick has a tremendous work ethic and an unmatched passion for Nebraska. He has made a major impact on our program and plays a key role in helping us achieve our Big Ten Conference and NCAA goals."

An excellent recruiter, Rowan has helped the Huskers raise their talent level in recent years. In 2018-19, Nebraska's roster features a pair of state high school swimmers of the year in Autumn Haebig (Wisconsin, 2017) and Olivia Keith (Arkansas, 2018). The Husker roster also features high school state individual champions from seven states (Arizona, Arkansas, Indiana, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, Wisconsin).

In 2017-18, Rowan helped 14-time Wisconsin high school state champion Autumn Haebig earn her first trip to the NCAA Championships as a true freshman. Haebig, who finished 10th in the 100 backstroke and 12th in the 200 freestyle at the 2018 Big Ten Championships, closed her season with a 40th-place NCAA finish in the 100 back. She added a 43rd-place showing in the 500 free at the NCAA meet. Haebig set career bests in all three of those events late in the season at either the Big Ten Championships or the NCAA Last Chance meet, when she posted a 52.29 in the 100 back.

In 2018, SwimSwam.com ranked the Nebraska swimming and diving program No. 1 in the nation for recruiting, retention and improvement among all NCAA Division I women's programs.

In 2017-18, the Husker swimmers produced 26 NCAA B-qualifying standards, which represented an increase in that total for the sixth consecutive season for Nebraska.

During those six seasons, Huskers have set 17 school records, while at least one Husker has qualified for the NCAA Championships in all six of those seasons.

In 2016, six Huskers qualified for the U.S. Olympic Trials, while two more international swimmers qualified for their trials.

In 2016-17, Erin Oeltjen set a school record in the 100 and 200-yard backstroke, while Dana Posthuma notched the second-best time in school history in the 200-yard butterfly (1:58.16).

In 2014-15, Rowan guided the 200-yard freestyle relay to the second-best time in school history at the Big Ten Championships.

In Rowan's second season at NU (2013-14), he helped 14 swimmers to personal bests in the sprint freestyle events.

Rowan served as Nebraska's primary sprint freestyle coach in 2012-13. He saw the 200- and 400-yard freestyle relay teams swim school-record times at the 2013 Big Ten Championships. Taryn Collura swam a school record in the 50-yard freestyle and became the first Husker to qualify for the NCAA Championships in six years.

A Nebraska native, Rowan helped orchestrate a steady rise into national prominence at Missouri. In his first season at MU, Rowan helped the Tiger women's team finish 38th at the 2008 NCAA Championships. After a 28th-place showing in 2009, the Tigers climbed to 23rd in 2011 before finishing 14th at the 2012 NCAA meet.

Rowan served as the power sprints coach while also working with the middle distance group at Missouri. He was the recruiting coordinator for the Tiger men's program while assisting with recruiting on the women's side. The Tiger men's 2011 recruiting class was ranked seventh nationally by collegeswimming.com, while the women's class was ranked 18th. He served as the director of the Mizzou Swim Camp and coached the Mizzou Swim Team (USA Swimming Club).

In addition to serving as a volunteer assistant at Nebraska in 2006-07, Rowan was a long-time coach in the Nebraska Aquatics program.

From 2002 until 2007, Rowan served as the head coach and general manager of the Nebraska Aquatics swim team, where he was the primary coach of the high school and collegiate swimmers. He also served as an age group coach for swimmers from ages 6 to 24 for Nebraska Aquatics from 2000 to 2002.

From 2003 to 2007, he served as the age group chairman for the Midwestern Swimming Executive Board. He was named Midwestern Swimming Coach of the Year in 2006-07, after being named its Age Group Coach of the Year in 2004-05.

A competitive swimmer from 1985 to 2001, Rowan swam collegiately at Eastern Michigan, helping EMU to a pair of Mid-American Conference championships. Individually, he was a 12-time finalist at the MAC Championships for the Eagles.

As a prep swimmer at Lincoln Southeast, Rowan was a two-time Nebraska Class A state champion and a member of a state championship team for the Knights. He was also a team captain and a seven-time Junior National qualifier.

Rowan, who earned his bachelor's degree in psychology from Eastern Michigan in 2000, received his master's degree in education with an emphasis in school and counseling psychology/sport psychology from Missouri in 2009. He is currently pursuing a Ph.D. with a similar emphasis in sport psychology.

He and his wife, Miranda, have two daughters, Reese and Quinn, and a son, Luke.



NATASHA CHIKINA

Head Diving Coach 13th Season

COACHING EXPERIENCE

- +Head Diving Coach, Nebraska (2005-Present)
- +Assistant Head Coach, U.S. Diving Regional Training Center (2001-05)
- +Assistant Diving Coach, USC (1998-99)
- +Assistant Coach, Trojan Diving Club (1998-01)

DIVING EXPERIENCE

- +Olympic Qualifier, Atlanta (1996), Sydney (2000)
- +Three-Time World Championship Competitor
- +NCAA All-American (1997, 1998)
- +Fourth on Platform (NCAA Championships, 1998)
- +Pac-10 Three-Meter Diving Champion (1997, 1998)

Former Olympian Natasha Chikina (chick-EE-nuh) is entering her 13th season as Nebraska's head diving coach in 2018-19.

Chikina has helped Nebraska rise among the nation's top diving programs.

The Husker divers have claimed at least one All-America award in three consecutive trips to the NCAA Championships, while sending at least one diver to the national meet in five straight seasons.

"As a coach, my job is to recognize the highest potential of each diver," Chikina said. "I want to make them believe in themselves by creating a positive and goal-setting environment. With hard work, discipline and encouragement, I want to bring every one of them to their highest level of performance."

In 2018, Abigail Knapton solidified her spot as the most accomplished collegiate diver in Nebraska history by capturing her second straight first-team All-America award on the platform. Knapton, who is entering her junior season at Nebraska in 2018-19, finished eighth on the platform to become the first two-time first-team All-America diver in Husker history.

As a true freshman in 2016-17, Knapton took fourth on the platform at the NCAA Championships. Knapton became the first freshman diver in school history to earn first-team All-America honors. She was also named Nebraska's Outstanding Female Newcomer across all sports for her diving performances throughout the season.

In 2015-16, Anna Filipic earned honorable-mention All-America accolades for finishing 10th on the one-meter board at the 2016 NCAA Championships. Filipic qualified for the NCAA

Championships all four years (2014-17) of her illustrious career for the Big Red. Filipic was also a two-time Big Ten Conference runner-up, accomplishing the feat on the one-meter board in 2016 and the three-meter dive in 2017.

The 2018-19 season could provide even greater success for the Nebraska divers. Knapton and sophomore Grace Tiernon will be joined by a trio of talented freshmen in this year's diving corps.

Two-time Nebraska high school state champion Jessica Warak, who participated in the U.S. National program in 2017-18, is poised to make an instant impact.

Sara Troyer, a 2018 Indiana state champion, and Michigan state runner-up Hallie Roman also bring explosiveness and potential to a young squad.

The young Husker diving group will try to add to Nebraska's list of accomplishments under Chikina, which includes 37 appearances at the NCAA Zone diving meet over the past 12 years.

Chikina's coaching career at Nebraska followed a successful diving career at the University of Southern California and competition at two summer Olympic Games.

Chikina, a native of Kazakhstan, competed at the Atlanta (1996) and Sydney (2000) Summer Olympic Games. Chikina finished 15th at the Atlanta Games, before capturing a ninth-place finish on the 10-meter platform in Sydney.

Between competitions, Chikina placed fourth on platform at the 1998 NCAA Championships for the University of Southern California. She earned NCAA All-America honors in 1997 and 1998. She was also the Pac-10 champion on the three-meter springboard in 1997 and 1998.

Chikina competed at the Goodwill Games (1994), the World Championships (1994-96) and the FINA Grand Prix (2000), placing as high as third in both the World Championships and FINA Grand Prix.

Following her diving career as an athlete, Chikina immediately began her quest to become a head diving coach. She was the assistant coach of the Trojan Diving Club from 1998 to 2001, coaching two Junior Olympic national champions, and the assistant diving coach at her alma mater, USC, in 1998-99, helping coach future Olympians Troy Dumais and Dorte Linder.

From 2001 to 2005, Chikina served as the assistant head coach at the U.S. Diving

Regional Training Center where she took on many responsibilities. Primarily, she coached a two-time Oklahoma state high school champion, two Junior Olympic National Team members and four Junior Olympic National qualifiers. Among her other responsibilities, Chikina scouted, recruited and judged competitions up to the national level. She also scheduled team trips, camps and programs. Chikina coached at the 2003 U.S. Diving National Training Camp, instructing junior national-level athletes in the spotting belt, trampoline and dryboard.

Chikina earned her bachelor's degree in social science and communications from USC in 1999, after completing her physical education and coaching degree from the Kazakh Institute of Physical Education in Almaty, Kazakhstan, in 1996.

Natasha and her husband, Kris, moved to Lincoln in the summer of 2005. Kris served as a volunteer assistant for the Husker diving team in 2005-06 and is now coaching for the Nebraska Diving Club. The couple has two daughters, Katerina and Sophia.



SWIMMING & DIVING SUPPORT STAFF



KATIE DITTER

Graduate Assistant

Katie Ditter enters her second season as a graduate assistant with the Nebraska swimming and diving program in 2018-19. She was an undergraduate coach for the Huskers in 2016-17.

In her first season as a graduate assistant for the Huskers, Ditter helped Nebraska to a 35th-place finish at the NCAA Championships. It followed one season as an undergraduate when the Huskers placed 33rd at the NCAA meet.

During Ditter's senior season for the Huskers in 2015-16, Nebraska claimed a 38th-place finish at nationals.

In her career as a Husker, Ditter was a two-time academic All-Big Ten and a three-time Tom Osborne Citizenship Team member. She made the Nebraska Scholar-Athlete Honor Roll six times.

In the pool, Ditter competed in the breaststroke and the individual medley.

Ditter earned her bachelor's degree as a marketing and management major in 2016. She expects to earn her master's degree from Nebraska in 2019 with an emphasis in family financial planning.

The Ralston native describes her Nebraska career as a "once in a lifetime opportunity that I will be forever grateful for."



RUSTY RUFFCORN

Strength & Conditioning Coach

Rusty Ruffcorn has served Nebraska as a strength and conditioning coach since 2006, and he currently works primarily with the swimming and diving program.

Ruffcorn assists swimming and diving with strength and conditioning programs in the weight room at the Hendricks Training Complex, which is just steps away from the Devaney Natatorium.

Ruffcorn began his association with Nebraska as a volunteer intern in 2004. He moved into a full-time intern role in 2005 and worked with the baseball and football squads before taking over for the men's and women's basketball teams (2006-11). While working with the Husker baseball team, Nebraska won a Big 12 title and a game in the College World Series.

During his time as NU's women's basketball strength coach, Ruffcorn helped the Huskers to the most successful stretch in school history, including seven trips to the NCAA Tournament, a pair of NCAA Sweet 16 bids in 2010 and 2013, and two conference titles in 2010 and 2014.

A native of Omaha, Ruffcorn was a student assistant strength coach at Nebraska-Omaha before graduating with a bachelor's degree in exercise science in 2004. During his time at UNO, Ruffcorn served as the primary strength coach for the Maverick football and softball teams. The football team won a pair of conference titles, including an undefeated season, while the softball team added two league titles and a national championship during Ruffcorn's time with the Mavs.

With a significant background in strength training, power lifting and Olympic weightlifting, Ruffcorn has earned USAW Level I club coach certification and is a certified strength and conditioning specialist (C.S.C.S.).

Rusty is married to the former Lisa Rathbun, and the couple has two daughters, Bella Grace and Brooklyn Reese.



CAITLIN NELSON

Athletic Trainer

Caitlin Nelson is in her first season as a graduate assistant athletic trainer for the Nebraska swimming and diving team.

Nelson earned her bachelor's degree from Nebraska in 2017, before taking a position as a graduate assistant athletic trainer at Southwestern College-Kansas in the fall of 2017.

At Southwestern College, Nelson served as an athletic trainer for the men's and women's soccer teams, the men's and women's tennis programs and assisted the football team during spring practice.

During her senior year at Nebraska in 2016-17, Nelson served as a student athletic trainer for the Husker men's gymnastics team.

Originally from Centennial, Colo., Nelson enjoys hiking and camping.

SWIMMING & DIVING SUPPORT STAFF



ANNETTE WERSCHKE

Swimming & Diving Secretary

Annette Werschke enters her 11th season as the secretary for the Nebraska swimming and diving and men's gymnastics programs in 2018-19. Werschke assists with travel arrangements, monitoring scholarship and eligibility checks and assisting the coaches.

The daughter of Kenneth and Anita Dahl, Werschke is a native of Scribner, Neb. She majored in human development and family sciences at Nebraska and was a retail clothing manager for 15 years.

For 11 years, she was an administrative assistant and supervisor for various organizations in Lincoln, including the J.D. Edwards Honors Program (now the Jeffrey S. Raikes School of Computer Science and Management) at the University of Nebraska.

Werschke has one stepdaughter and five step-grandchildren with her husband, Gary.



ALVIN BANKS

Coordinator of Student-Athlete Development

Alvin Banks serves as an academic counselor and the coordinator of student-athlete development for Nebraska's Academic Performance Team. Banks began working as an academic counselor at Nebraska in 2003 after serving two years as an assistant academic counselor.

As Nebraska's coordinator of student-athlete development, he provides academic, athletic, personal and career counseling to all Husker student-athletes. As an academic counselor, he works primarily with the Nebraska women's swimming and diving team, the men's and women's golf teams, and the wrestling team, while also assisting the football team.

Before joining the Academic Performance Team, Banks served six years as a law enforcement officer for the City of Lincoln. He is currently a member of the National Association of Academic Advisors for Athletics.

Banks, who lettered in football at Nebraska during the 1991 season, earned his master's degree in vocational education in 1998 after receiving a bachelor's degree in business management in 1992 from Nebraska. Banks and his wife, Lisa, have two children, Kaylie and Darius.



RANDY GOBEL

Director of Athletic Facilities/Devaney Center

Randy Gobel serves as director of athletic facilities for the Bob Devaney Sports Center, the Sid and Hazel Dillon Tennis Center and Barbara Hibner Stadium, and has been an assistant facilities director since 2003. He has worked in the Nebraska Athletic Department since 1981.

Gobel manages the facility operations at the Bob Devaney Sports Center, the Sid and Hazel Dillon Tennis Center and Barbara Hibner Stadium, overseeing the grounds, maintenance, and custodial crews. Gobel also serves as the technology advisor for the facilities department.

Previously Gobel served as the assistant director of athletic performance-facilities. Gobel focused on speed development for the Husker football team and during his time as a strength coach, the Huskers won three national championships along with several conference titles and produced Heisman, Lombardi, Outland, Butkus and Johnny Unitas award winners.

Gobel became a full-time member of the Husker Power staff in 1981. His mechanical expertise helped Nebraska become a leader in weightlifting equipment design. Gobel was integral in designing the state-of-the-art transformers as well as other institutional lifting equipment. He also developed a line of strength training equipment for children.

Gobel received a degree in industrial education from Nebraska-Kearney in 1981. He received his teaching certificate and then became an assistant strength coach for football while also teaching weight training classes at Nebraska. He is a member of the National Strength and Conditioning Association and the College Strength Coaches Association, and was named a Master Strength and Conditioning Coach in 2003.

Gobel has one son, Chase, and one daughter, Alexa.