



Terry E. Branstad  
GOVERNOR

**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

Kim Reynolds  
LT. GOVERNOR

October 2011

Dear Iowans,

As University of Iowa Coach Kirk Ferentz and Iowa State University Coach Paul Rhoads kick off the start of the 2011 college football season, they are also gearing up to bring home a win for Iowa's youth and YOU can help. For the first time, Coach Ferentz and Coach Rhoads are participating in a "Coaches Mentoring Challenge" with University of Nebraska Coach Bo Pelini, Kansas State Coach Bill Snyder and Kansas University Coach Turner Gill. The friendly challenge will gauge which state can recruit the most new mentors this football season.

In Iowa, the Coaches Mentoring Challenge is led by the Iowa Mentoring Partnership, an initiative of the Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service. It is estimated that more than 5,000 young people are currently in need of a mentor in the state. Many of these children and youth are young men who are in need of a positive role model. The "Coaches Mentoring Challenge" strives to lower the "mentoring gap" in Iowa by recruiting more adults to volunteer as mentors.

The "Coaches' Mentoring Challenge" will last for the duration of the football season. The Iowa/Nebraska winner will be announced during the Iowa vs. Nebraska football game on November 25, 2011 in Lincoln. Likewise, the Iowa/Kansas winner and overall winner will be announced during the Iowa State vs. Kansas State game on November 26, 2011 in Manhattan.

Any new mentor application that is received between August 1 and November 21, 2011 will count toward the "score" of the respective state. By signing up to become a mentor, fans can not only show their state/team pride, but can help improve the life of a child.

All Iowans are encouraged to take the "Coaches' Mentoring Challenge" by becoming a mentor today. To learn more about the Coaches' Challenge, or to receive more information about becoming a mentor in your local community, visit [www.iowamentoring.org](http://www.iowamentoring.org).

Let's work together to bring home a win for Iowa's youth.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Terry E. Branstad".

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Governor of Iowa



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