

Soccer games to get intense

By Gregg Madsen
Staff Reporter

The Nebraska soccer team has used a disappointing loss to Creighton in the season opener as a reason to concentrate on intensity.

Cornhusker coach John Walker said the team had been working on finding the good things out of a bad loss.

Walker said that the lack of energy at the beginning of last Sunday's game had made the players realize how important intensity was.

Freshman defender Heather Brown agreed.

"Practice has been pretty intense this week", Brown said. "We have been working harder."

Brown, who is from Cobourg, Ontario, chose to play at Nebraska to

improve her soccer abilities and also improve her chances of making the Canadian national team in the future.

"She has no glaring weaknesses," Walker said. "She is fast, intelligent, and good in the air."

He said that despite an earlier ankle injury, Brown had played very well in the last two games.

Brown said that she didn't focus on being consistent, just on doing her job. That consistency may come from her experience.

Brown has been playing soccer since she was 6 years old. She was a member of the Ontario provincial team that captured the 1995 Canadian national championship. She also played volleyball, basketball, ran cross country and threw the javelin.

"I miss the other sports," Brown said. "It helps to concentrate on one

sport, though."

Brown said that the level of intensity in the Canadian national championship was not as high as it had been at Nebraska.

The Huskers will get the chance to see if the added intensity has helped when the Huskers face Arizona tonight at 7 p.m. at the Abbott Soccer Park Complex.

Walker said the key to the game would be for his central midfielders to come out with intensity and set the pace for the entire game.

Walker said that he expected a tight game with the Wildcats, whom the Huskers beat twice last season. Arizona has many new faces on their team, Walker said.

"We can't compare this Arizona team to last year's," he said.

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Pettit said he could notice a difference already.

"I think we are getting more competitive in practice," he said. "Our defense is starting to come around. Our block is improving. I think we are working hard at it."

Matches like those this weekend do have good sides, Pettit said, as long as the Huskers maintain a positive attitude.

"We'll try some different things," he said, "but we're not fooling around. We have got a good idea who four or five players are on the court. But I don't think there is a player on our team who could not be in a significant role by the end of the season."

FRIENDS DON'T LET FRIENDS DRIVE DRUNK

Saban

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Nebraska's defensive style.

"Their defense is very aggressive and has a lot of speed," Saban said. "They are both tough and physical."

"Their defense complements their team and their offense. Their defense gets the ball back for the offense, and then their offense is able to keep the ball a long time."

But Saban said the biggest difference between the Huskers and Michigan State was depth and the quality of players. He said the Spartans had good depth at skilled positions, including quarterback, running back and receiver, but lacked the depth the Huskers had at other positions.

"I always felt the quality of a team can be measured by the last half of the players on the team," Saban said. "If the second half of players are quality players who can run the scout team and give their team a good look at the opponent, that helps a program."

Saban, a former NFL coach with the Cleveland Browns, said he respected the Nebraska program, but despite the differences between the two teams, he still believed the Spartans were capable of an upset.

"I've been talking to our seniors, and we have been looking toward this

game as a real challenge," Saban said. "We need to get turnovers, play aggressive and play hard for 60 minutes. They can only put 11 guys out there, and they put their britches on the same way we do."

Saban said the Huskers had another advantage in the game by already having played a game. Nebraska was scheduled to open its season against the Spartans until it moved the Oklahoma State game. The Huskers defeated the Cowboys 64-21.

"They have a tremendous advantage by already having played a game because I've always felt a team improves a lot between the first and second weeks," Saban said. "In the first game you always have mistakes."

HUSKER NOTES:

- Defensive tackles Christian Peter and Jason Jenkins and fullback Jeff Makovicka returned to practice Thursday, while I-back Damon Benning was held out. Benning will not make the trip to Michigan for Saturday's game.

- Freshman Kris Brown will be the Huskers No. 1 place-kicker for both field goals and kickoffs, while sophomore Ted Retzlaff will be No. 2. Brown will back up sophomore Jesse Kosch in punting.

Game Day '95

at Spartan Stadium
East Lansing, Mi.
Saturday 11:00 a.m.
(ABC).

Michigan State

SE 7 Reggie Baul	5-8 170	WR 1 Muhsin Muhammad	6-2 210
LT 75 Chris Dishman	6-3 310	LT 60 Bob Denton	6-4 305
LG 67 Aaron Taylor	6-1 305	LG 69 Tony Popovski	6-4 283
C 54 Aaron Graham	6-4 275	C 52 Matt Beard	6-3 275
RG 69 Steve Ott	6-4 290	RG 63 Brian Mosallam	6-2 280
RT 70 Eric Anderson	6-4 300	RT 76 Flozell Adams	6-7 335
TE 87 Mark Gilman	6-4 240	TE 83 Josh Keur	6-5 275
WB 33 Clester Johnson	5-11 210	WR 80 Derrick Mason	5-11 190
QB 15 Tommie Frazier	6-2 210	QB 12 Tony Banks	6-5 217
FB 22 Jeff Makovicka	5-11 225	FB 47 Scott Greene	5-11 227
IB 1 Lawrence Phillips	6-0 220	TB 26 Marc Renaud	5-10 181
PK 20 Kris Brown	5-11 190	PK 14 Chris Gardner	5-10 180

LOLB 93 Jared Tomich	6-2 250	LE 92 Robert McBride	6-3 284
DT 55 Christian Peter	6-3 300	LT 23 Yakini Allen	6-2 260
DT 95 Jason Peter	6-4 275	RT 96 Chris Smith	6-3 253
ROLB 98 Grant Wistrom	6-5 240	RE 94 Jabbar Threats	6-6 245
SAM 56 Jay Foreman	6-1 220	SOLB 41 Travis Reece	6-3 258
MIKE 41 Phil Ellis	6-2 225	MLB 22 Reggie Garnett	6-1 228
WILL 91 Ryan Terwilliger	6-5 225	WOLB 44 Ike Reese	6-3 211
LCB 16 Eric Stokes	5-11 180	LCB 21 Demetrice Martin	5-10 183
RCB 8 Tyrone Williams	6-0 185	LS 18 Marvin Wright	6-1 218
ROV 10 Mike Minter	5-10 190	RS 2 Robert Shurelds	6-2 171
FS 9 Tony Veland	6-2 205	RCB 17 Shon Hart	5-9 165
P 19 Jesse Kosch	6-0 180	P 88 Chris Salani	6-1 226

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