

# Reputable soccer coach ready to create a stir at Iowa State

By Brian Jensen  
Staff Reporter



Angela Heywood/DN

Iowa State coach Cathy Klein is taking over a first-year program, much like John Walker did at Nebraska last year.

Nebraska soccer coach John Walker said his team wasn't about to let up against Iowa State last weekend just because the Cyclones were a first-year program.

Maybe the Cornhuskers didn't let up because Cathy Klein is Iowa State's new coach.

Klein's name is recognizable throughout women's collegiate soccer. Klein coached at Creighton last year, and her team went 14-4 and was ranked 17th in the nation.

Despite coaching a winning program at Creighton, Klein said she jumped at the chance to coach the Cyclones.

"Iowa State gave me a tremendous opportunity to start my own program," Klein said. "It was an exciting commitment made to women's soccer and was just one of those opportunities I couldn't turn down."

The Toronto native has been around soccer for a long time. Klein played for the Canadian national team for three years and also for Cortland State in upstate New York for two years, where she was an All-American.

Klein began her coaching career at Division-III Earlham College in Richmond, Ind. Klein was only the second coach in school history, so she spent much of her time developing a new program, which was a lot like her current situation at Iowa State.

"We've got so much to do. It's an exciting time," Klein said. "We've got some of the best facilities, so there's no place to go but up."

Walker said he knew what Klein was going through. Walker took over the new program at Nebraska last year.

Klein was hired in July and didn't get a good opportunity to recruit because she had little time to prepare, Walker said.

"I got hired in April and got a head start," Walker said. "Next year will be her first full year to compete."

Klein said she was going to focus on the future and the development of the soccer program and her student-athletes.

"My job is to prepare and structure them to win and hopefully, the winning takes care of itself," Klein said.

Though the Cyclones ended up losing to Nebraska on Friday 4-0, Klein said she had no complaints with the game because the better team had won. And she also has Nebraska as a model to build on.

"John (Walker) had done such an outstanding job in one year," she said. "(Nebraska) has got to be one of the most outstanding second-year programs in the country. He has done

a first-class job."

Klein said that next year the Big 12 Conference, consisting of 10 established soccer programs, would rank as one of the best conferences in the country. She said that schools such as Texas A&M and Nebraska were more developed than teams such as Kansas or Iowa State. But she said that the strength of the conference would help in recruiting.

"All the teams will be competitive; they're all first-class programs with a great commitment to girls' soccer," Klein said. "I think it will be great."

The Wildcats rallied in the third game, coming as close as 9-5 after Nebraska opened an 8-1 lead. Two Weston kills shifted the momentum back in favor of Nebraska, a Reitsma kill put the Huskers on top 14-8, and with freshman Jaime Krondak serving, Winsett iced the match with a kill.

Pettit said the players, not the coaches, deserved credit for the renewed energy evident against Kansas State.

"The key is having players that

motivate players," Pettit said. "That's the difference between championship teams and pretty good teams."

**NOTE:**

Nebraska officials announced Wednesday that the Oct. 21 match against Colorado has been moved to the Bob Devaney Sports Center to avoid traffic problems. The Husker football team's game against Kansas State that afternoon has been moved from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Fans are encouraged to buy tickets in advance.

## KSU

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to open the second game, Nebraska scored six straight points. Kansas State cut the score to 6-3, but behind the play of Weston and sophomore outside hitter Lisa Reitsma — whose 13 kills were second to Weston's 17 — Nebraska scored nine of the next 11 points, clinching the game on a hitting error by Kansas State's Jill Dugan.

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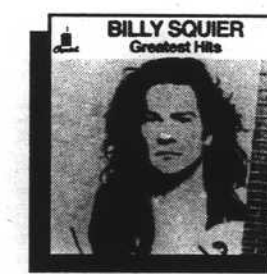

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