



News Release

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Stephanie Kruse is Player of the Year; Meghan Pile Named Freshman of the Year; Don Klosterman is Coach of the Year

Three-Time Selection Stephanie Kirby Highlights All-NCC Soccer Squad

Sioux Falls, S.D. -- NCC regular-season champion Nebraska-Omaha placed five members on the 11-member All-North Central Conference women's soccer first team selected by league coaches. In all, eight of the 11 first-team players, including the Player of the Year and Freshman of the Year, along with the Coach of the Year will be participating in the North Central Conference Championship Tournament to be held Friday and Saturday at the Aksarben Soccer Field in Omaha, Neb.

Nebraska-Omaha, undefeated this season, swept the special awards with Stephanie Kruse being selected as the league's Most Valuable Player, Meghan Pile being selected as the Freshman of the Year and Don Klosterman getting the nod as Coach of the Year.

Kruse finished the season first in game-winning goals (3), second in points (22) and points per game (2.75), third in goals (9) and goals per game (1.12), tied for fourth in assists (4) & fifth in shots (37), shots per game (4.62) and assists per game (0.50) in league games.

Klosterman, in his fourth year at the helm of the UNO program, has guided the Mavericks to a perfect 17-0 mark this season. UNO has only given up five goals this season while posting 13 shutouts. It is first time that Klosterman has been honored as Coach of the Year.

League leaders on the first team are Minnesota State's Amber Dusosky (shots, shots per game, goals, goals per game, points and points per game) and Nebraska-Omaha's Amy Price (shutouts, shutouts per game and goals against average).

Here is the 2002-2003 All-North Central Conference Soccer Team as selected by the league's coaches:

2002-2003 All-North Central Conference Soccer Team

First Team

Name	Team	Pos.	Yr.	Hometown	Top NCC Stats
Amber Dusosky*	Minnesota State	F	Jr.	Anoka, Minn.	10 goals, 4 asst.
Stephanie Kruse	Nebraska-Omaha	F	Sr.	Columbus, Neb.	9 goals, 4 asst.
Stephanie Pfeiffer	North Dakota	F	So.	Ramsey, Minn.	10 goals, 1 asst.
Carly Christensen	North Dakota State	M	So.	New Brighton, Minn.	3 goals, 3 asst.
Kelly Gilbertson*	North Dakota State	M	Sr.	Bloomington, Minn.	4 goals, 2 asst.
Stephanie Kirby^	Nebraska-Omaha	M	Jr.	Elkhorn, Neb.	5 goals, 6 asst.
Kalyn Sprehe	Northern Colorado	M	Sr.	Colorado Springs, Colo.	3 goals, 26 shots
Becca Fritz	Nebraska-Omaha	D	Fr.	Omaha, Neb.	1 shot
Jamie Graden	North Dakota State	D	So.	Burnsville, Minn.	1 shot
Meghan Pile	Nebraska-Omaha	D	Fr.	Columbus, Neb.	2 shots
Amy Price	Nebraska-Omaha	GK	Fr.	Omaha, Neb.	1 goal allowed, 22 saves

*-Two-time selection, ^-Three-time selection (first team only)

Second Team

Name	Team	Pos.	Yr.	Hometown	Top NCC Stats
Jessica Brennan	Northern Colorado	F	So.	Lakewood, Colo.	5 goals, 5 asst.
Kiha Thomas	Northern Colorado	F	Sr.	Aurora, Colo.	3 goals, 7 asst.
Anne Willrett	Nebraska-Omaha	F	So.	Omaha, Neb.	6 goals, 4 asst.
Jessica Dotson	Nebraska-Omaha	M	Jr.	Kansas City, Mo.	2 goals
Kelsie Niezwaag	North Dakota	M	Fr.	Bismarck, N.D.	1 goal, 1 asst.
Lindsey Sturm	South Dakota	M	Jr.	Sioux Falls, S.D.	2 goals, 1 asst.
Shannon Fox	Northern Colorado	D	Jr.	Aurora, Colo.	4 shots
Kari Hamilton	Northern Colorado	D	Jr.	Aurora, Colo.	1 goal, 2 shots
Carly Seth	South Dakota	D	So.	Papillion, Neb.	8 games played
Rachel Tushner	Nebraska-Omaha	D	So.	Omaha, Neb.	1 asst., 1 shot
Kelly Tierney	North Dakota State	GK	Sr.	White Bear Lake, Minn.	2.64 GAA, 47 saves

Most Valuable Player: Stephanie Kruse, Nebraska-Omaha

Freshman of the Year: Meghan Pile, Nebraska-Omaha

Coach of the Year: Don Klosterman, Nebraska-Omaha

Class Breakdown: Seniors (3), Juniors (2), Sophomore (3), Freshman (3).

Team Breakdown (1st team): Nebraska-Omaha (5), North Dakota St. (3), Minnesota St. (1), North Dakota (1), Northern Colorado (1)