

# Husker Soccer: Getting to Know the Goetzmanns

By Amil Anderson, Nebraska Media Relations

Husker soccer fans may think that they are seeing double this fall. Is that blonde-haired player all over the field or is there two of her out there? There's no need to have your eyes checked because yes, there are two of what appears to be the same person. Meet the Goetzmanns, the first twins to play for Nebraska since Stephanie and Andrea Brennan in the Huskers' inaugural season in 1994.

Colleen and Katie Goetzmann are this year's Husker twins, and there are indeed two of them, despite what some people might think.

"A lot of people think of us as one," Colleen said. "It kind of bugs us."

It can be hard for fans when both are 5-7, have flowing blonde hair, brown eyes and wear numbers four and five. It's even harder when they are side-by-side, which is pretty much all the time. Born in Omaha just 13 minutes apart (Colleen first), the two have been inseparable from the start. They have always been on the same team, and not just in soccer. Their parents, John and Suzette, enrolled them in everything from gymnastics, ice skating and dance to basketball, volleyball and softball.

"Our parents stuck us in every sport, but we excelled in soccer and liked it best," Katie said.

Excel might be an understatement. The two led Millard North High School to a state title in 2006 and a third-place finish in 2007, while accumulating numerous honors on the pitch and in the classroom. They also helped their club team, the Toro Magic, to three state titles in 2003, 2006 and 2007 and a third-place finish in the region in 2006. The duo, which started their Nebraska careers in the fall of 2007, attributes their success on the field to their chemistry off the pitch.

"I feel like I can find her [on the field] more," Katie said. "I can always just tell where she is."

Colleen reflected the same sentiment, adding they often strategize about soccer outside of practice.

"We will help each other out if one of us is down in practice one day," she said. "College soccer is tough so having each other there makes it easier."

That's not to say there isn't competition between the twins. Two of the most quiet and polite women off the field, each brings an uncharacteristic physical intensity to the field. Katie credits her twin for driving her.

"Having someone so competitive to play against probably made us as good as we are," she said.

Having someone always there is something both admit they count on.

"We could probably never be split apart," Colleen said. "She is my best friend. I don't know what it is like without her. We depend on each other a lot."

Sharing everything on and off the field, the two rely on each other for emotional support as well. They shared a bedroom through high school, but now have separate rooms in their house in Lincoln, although Katie has recently spent some nights sleeping on the floor in Colleen's room.

As the future of the Nebraska midfield, the two will continue to lean on each other for support during their time in Lincoln. Katie had to redshirt her freshman season after breaking a bone in her foot last fall, but felt the time sitting out might have been more difficult for Colleen.

"I think it was harder on her because she is so used to playing with me, and I wasn't out there," Katie said. "It was fun to watch her like everyone else for a change."

Katie returns healthy this season, as both will see playing time in the Husker midfield this fall. They look forward to leading Nebraska to continued success and agree that sharing their experience with each other is special.

"If someone asks me if I am on the Nebraska soccer team, the first thing I say is 'yes, and I have a twin sister on the team,'" Colleen said. "It's special to be a twin, but then to have both of us at the same school and playing is a blessing."



**Colleen Goetzmann**  
Sophomore  
Midfielder



**Katie Goetzmann**  
Redshirt Freshman  
Midfielder

**Editor's Note:** Both Goetzmanns saw action in the Huskers' season opener, with Colleen earning a start in the midfield and Katie making her career debut off the bench. The first Husker team to play this season, Nebraska erased a 3-1 second-half deficit but allowed a goal in the closing minutes in a 4-3 season-opening loss at Northwestern on Friday, Aug. 22.



Colleen Goetzmann (left) is a sophomore midfielder for the Nebraska soccer team, while twin sister Katie (right) is a redshirt freshman midfielder after missing the 2007 season due to injury.

## 2008 Husker Schedule\*

Aug. 22	at Northwestern	L, 3-4
Aug. 29	UC Riverside	L, 0-1
Aug. 31	at Florida	L, 1-6
Sept. 5	at Saint Louis	7:30 p.m.
<b>Sept. 7</b>	<b>UAB</b>	<b>12:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Sept. 12</b>	<b>Drake</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>
<b>Sept. 14</b>	<b>Oakland</b>	<b>1 p.m.</b>
<b>Sept. 19</b>	<b>North Dakota St.</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>
<b>Sept. 21</b>	<b>Stephen F. Austin</b>	<b>1 p.m.</b>
<b>Sept. 26</b>	<b>Kansas</b>	<b>4:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Sept. 28</b>	<b>Missouri</b>	<b>1 p.m.</b>
<b>Oct. 3</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>4:30 p.m.</b>
Oct. 5	at Baylor	1 p.m.
Oct. 10	at Texas A&M	7:30 p.m.
<b>Oct. 17</b>	<b>Colorado</b>	<b>4 p.m.</b>
<b>Oct. 19</b>	<b>Texas Tech</b>	<b>Noon</b>
Oct. 24	at Oklahoma	7 p.m.
Oct. 26	at Oklahoma State	1 p.m.
Oct. 31	at Iowa State	7 p.m.
Nov. 5-9	Big 12 Championship	TBA
Nov. 14-16	NCAA First & Second Rounds	
Nov. 21-23	NCAA Third Round	
Nov. 28-30	NCAA Quarterfinals	
Dec. 5-7	College Cup	

Home games in **bold** at Nebraska Soccer Field.

\*as of Aug. 28