



IWCC Soccer

Brad Silvey, the girls' soccer coach at Iowa Western Community College (IWCC), spoke at the Treynor Optimist Club on Saturday, July 12. Brad was born in Missouri, living in Kirksville, then Springfield, before moving with his family to Utah. There he played soccer on a team that won six state championships. He was recruited to play on an Olympic Development Team.

Brad served a mission to Brazil for two years for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. In 2004 he was recruited to play for IWCC in its first season. They surprisingly won the regional championship. He met his future wife at IWCC where she was also playing soccer. They married after the first season. He became an assistant coach, completed his Business degree at Buena Vista University at the

IWCC campus, and became girls head coach in 2009.

In 2005 Brad also started coaching soccer in Glenwood during the IWCC off-season. In his first year there the team was 4-9. The next year they were 14-2, and they went to state the following three years.

Last year was a very successful year of sports at IWCC. The girls and boys soccer teams won National. The baseball team was 3rd in the JUCO World Series. Football was second in the nation. Track was third and had multiple individual national champions.

Soccer just finished its 10th season, having been very successful since the program started. In 2006 and 2007 they were 2nd in the nation, in 2010 they were 5th, and 2012 they were 3rd. Last year Brad changed his recruiting style. Instead of looking for the best players in specific positions, he started looking more at character and drive. He asks potential players what activities they like to do, what they do outside of soccer, their involvement in the community, and also at academics. They have also started recruiting more international players.

The IWCC girls team consists of 22-26 players. The season starts August 1 and runs until Thanksgiving. Most players are from Iowa, Nebraska, and Utah. The last 2-3 seasons some players are from outside the country.

Brad can award the equivalent of 14 full ride scholarships. They can only be given to 18 girls. They currently have two girls on Presidential Scholarships, which doesn't count in the 14.

Although the junior college level does not have restrictions on substitutions, Brad said that the players lose synchronization when they substitute, so he minimizes substitutions. However, he does emphasize that everyone has a vital role on the team, even if they don't play every game.