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CU soccer recruiting opposite of football

By TOM KENSLER | 2 Comments

Sometimes it's funny how things work out in sports, with irony, juxtaposition, and the just plain weird.

In a year in which Colorado football coach Dan Hawkins was able to nab just two in-state players for his 2010 recruiting class, CU women's soccer coach Bill Hempen signed all Coloradoans for the first time.

Hempen's five high school signees:

Annie Brunner, 5-feet-9, goalkeeper, Arvada West

Alex Dohn, 5-7, defender-forward, Colorado Springs Liberty

Lizzie Herzl, 6-0, defender, Heritage

Hayley Hughes, 5-4, forward-midfielder-defender, Mountain Vista

Anne Stuller, 5-7, forward, Fairview

Also, Amy Steiner, a 5-3 defender, transferred from the University of Arizona. She played high school soccer at Mullen.

"This class obviously has a big Colorado look, and we are proud that all these kids are ours," Hempen said on signing day.

Hempen will face one of his biggest challenges this fall in trying to replace stalwart starters Nikki Marshall (the best player in the program's history), Kara Linder and Kelly Menachof.

The Buffs slumped to a 9-10 record last season. Perhaps the influx of new blood from Colorado kids will accelerate the rebuilding.

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