

IOWA STATE

BY ARIAH HUGHES

Iowa State University is home to the red and gold Cyclones. The Cyclones are 5th in the Big 12 tournament with a record of 7-2. Their overall record is 11-8. Hilton Coliseum is the 4th largest arena in the Big 12 conference with a capacity of 14,384.

The Hilton Coliseum is home to the Iowa State women's basketball program. Hilton Coliseum is known for its upset wins, improbable comebacks and thrilling finishes. These moments bring the "Hilton Magic" to life for fans and the players. In 2009 Iowa opened the Sukup Basketball Complex. The facility has a regulation-size court, training room, weight room and team room.

Iowa State doesn't just have the best coliseum they have one of the best coaches, Bill Fennelly. Bill Fennelly built Iowa State women's basketball into one of the nation's elite programs. He has a lot of credibility with student-athletes, administrators and fans, establishing a solid foundation for his program based on academics, athletics, and character. Fennelly is one of the nation's most respected coaches because of all his achievements. Fennelly has reached over 500 career wins (689-326) and averaged 21 wins per season in his last 25 years at Iowa State (523-273).

His team has made it to 21 NCAA tournaments in his last 30 seasons as head coach. He also is ranked one of the nation's top 25 active women's basketball college coaches with a .681 winning percentage. His athletes talk about how much of an amazing coach he is and how much he could lead them to a lot of achievements. "I am so blessed to be a part of the Cyclone family. My teammates, coaches and community and the atmosphere here in Ames, are second to none. Being surrounded by the amazing people here at ISU has made me a better player and person, and I am beyond thankful for that." -Madison Wise Women's Basketball.

Iowa State women's basketball guard Kylie Feuerbach received her first Freshman of the Week award. Her honor was the Week honor for the Cyclones this season. She tallied 15 points for her fourth outing of the season. Feuerbach went 2-of-5 from long range and added three rebounds and three steals against Baylor. Feuerbach also added four rebounds and two assists leading ISU to a win at Kansas State.

Lexi Donarski picked up her fourth Freshman of the Week honor. Donarski averaged 16.0 points, 4.5 assists and 3.0 rebounds per game on a route to her fourth Freshman of the Week honor. Against KU Jayhawks, Donarski received her fourth 20-point effort of her career with four rebounds and four assists. She helped ISU to their 12th win over KU. She was the seventh Freshman of the Week honor for the cyclones this season, as fellow freshman Emily Ryan and Kylie Feuerbach.

ISU continues the Cyclone history from 1973 when Coach Gloria Crosby led the Iowa State Women's Basketball team through their first season as a Division 1 program. ISU won 3 conference titles and the best conference tournament record in the Big 12. Iowa State has made and won the Big 12 tournament championship game more times than any team except for Oklahoma State University.

Iowa State has decided to finish the tournament according to their fight song. "*And when we hit that line we'll hit it hard ev'ry yard for I.S.U.*" Iowa State heads to Indianapolis, Indiana for March Madness and the Big 10 tournament. I'm looking forward to Iowa State continuing their journey of wins towards the Final Four. I am Aria Hughes signing off for Iowa State.

ARIA HUGHES
BELZER MIDDLE SCHOOL
7TH GRADE