

## Placer United Soccer Club - News Archive Oct/Nov/Dec 2004

- ★ **U10 Girls Reach Finals at the Nor Cal Premier Cup U10 Tournament!** - The U10 Girls Black returned to Placer United extremely proud of their accomplishments at the Nor Cal Premier Cup U10 Tournament in Rohnert Park November 20 and 21. This tournament had some of the finest U10 competitive level teams in northern California competing. After Saturday's seeding games, the Black team was seeded 9th out of 20 teams and first seed in the Silver Level division. They played with passion and drive throughout the entire tournament and were very excited to have made it to the finals of the Silver Level. The girls were leading 2-0 at the half but had some unlucky turn of events and ended the game with Diablo Valley winning 3-2.



The parents and families were all very proud to have represented Placer Soccer Academy at this first Nor Cal Premier Tournament. It was very exciting to have real tournament play versus jamboree. Many thanks are due to Coach Chris Alcala who shared his extensive expertise and skills in coaching our players. He and his staff have truly given of themselves for the development of our players both in their skill and in another Cal North team, Santa Rosa United. After leading much of the match sportsmanship. The Club is proud of this outstanding effort from the U10 Black girls.

- ★ **U17 Prestige Boys Win "Prestigious" Nomads!** - The U17 Placer Prestige Boys team, coached by Imed Dosey, became only the second Placer United Boys team (Placer Knights in mid 90's) to ever win the highly coveted Nomads tournament this weekend in San Diego. They not only won the tournament, but won each of the "six" games played in a three day span. The team won their group beating Evergreen Washington 2-0, Alaska 3-0 and finishing off Feyenoord (Cal South) 2-0. They then moved on to the quarterfinals at UC San Diego's beautiful soccer stadium on Saturday and won a thrilling match 2-1 over CSA Elite (Cal South). This landed them a spot in the semi finals against Celtic of Seattle (Washington State Cup Semi finalists in 2004) and came away again with a hard fought 2-1 win. The finals saw the boys ironically play another Cal North team, Santa Rosa United. After leading much of the match 1-0, Santa Rosa scored a tying goal from a corner kick in the last seconds to push the match into two 10 minute overtimes. Placer came out storming and scored "3" goals in the extra time to win 4-2!



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Ryan Perry in goal was tremendous throughout the tournament, along with the back 4 of Colin Lowry, Keith Erickson, Connor Champion, and Steve Buck. The team allowed only 4 goals in 6 games while having "9" players score 15 goals! A great "TEAM" effort to bring home the trophy to add to the many they has already won in moving them closer to their goal. State Cup Champions!

- ★ **New Travel Arrangements Payoff for U15 Boys** - Director of Coaching Nathan Williams tried a new approach with the Under 15 Boys this past weekend. The team traveled to Bakersfield to compete in the November Classic Tournament. - With no Parents.

As a team, they arranged to travel to Bakersfield without the parents. If the parents wanted to watch, they had to make arrangements for another hotel. They were trying to create a "No Parent Zone" in Preparation for each game.

Hotel reservations were made with 4 players per room. They rented a 10 passenger Van and two large SUV's for the trip. There was a set fee per player to cover the cost of the vans, accommodation, gas and food for the weekend. The parents were very pleased, as the cost was considerably less than taking the whole family to a tournament.

The boys were given an itinerary for the weekend that included when to eat, sleep and play. Saturday was an early start with a 5:30am wake call. The whole team then met for breakfast at 6:00am. After a few wrong turns, by 7:00am they were at the field ready to prepare for the first game.

They left the complex in search of some lunch and found themselves at Subway. The boys ordered sandwiches with no chips or soda, and once again were together as a team enjoying time together and talking about the morning game and what changes they would make for the afternoon game. "It was great to see the boys bonding talking about soccer." said Nathan.



After the second game they left for the hotel to get some well earned rest. The boys slept for about 90 minutes to recharge their batteries. They met as a team again at 6:00pm for a chalkboard session to talk about the great points and what they were going to adjust for Sunday, knowing that if they won the next game it would put them in a great position.

At 7:00pm they left for dinner. They ended up at a huge pizza parlor with go-carts, all-you-can-eat buffet, and lots of video games. The boys spent a couple of hours together hanging out and having fun.

11:00pm was lights out and time for the boys to start to focus on Sunday.

They won the tournament scoring 14 goals and letting in 3. This is the first time that the Prestige '90 boys had ever taken 1st Place in a tournament. To see the delight in the boy's faces knowing they had worked hard and got through it together as a team was great.

Arriving back at Maidu at 7:00pm was great to see the boys thanking each other for a great weekend full of memories. Oscar Ruiz and Mitchell Seamen both commented on what an incredible time they both had being away with the team.

The experiment was very much worthwhile and will be implemented in a few various age groups next season.

Nathan said he was very proud of how well the players represented the Placer United Soccer Club and their families both on and off the field and would like to thank all the parents on the team - in particular Dave Seamen & Mike Tappero for all their help and supervision over the weekend.



**Meet Our 2005/2006 U11 Boys' Coach - Coach Gregg Thompson Brings a Wealth of Experience to Placer United**

Gregg Thompson has an extensive soccer background that contributes greatly to his coaching success at Placer United Soccer Club. Last year his Placer U11 Boys Gold Team went undefeated and took first place in District Six league play. They also won 5 out of the 7 tournaments they entered. They were consistently ranked in the top 3 in northern California. This year his U12 team is playing up a year in the U13 bracket and is again contending for a first place finish.

Gregg's coaching success parallels his personal achievements in college, professional, and international play. Because Gregg's high school did not have a soccer team, Gregg played football throughout his high school years. He continued to play club soccer in the winter, spring & summer. By his senior year, he was a highly successful football player (running back) and received numerous football scholarship offers from colleges around the country.

His first love was soccer and wanted to continue with his soccer career; however, he would not be able to afford to give up the football scholarships being offered. He was about to accept a scholarship from the University of Wisconsin or University of Colorado to play football when at the last moment; Indiana University offered him a scholarship to play soccer at their program. He accepted their offer and played 4 years of soccer for Indiana. He was recently named to Indiana's All-Time "Best 11" Team.

During his college career, Indiana twice reached the NCAA championship game, only to lose in the final; however, during Gregg's senior year, Gregg Thompson, team captain, won the NCAA Division 1 National Championship. Gregg scored both goals in the 2-1 victory over Duke University. Gregg was named MVP for the tournament and named ESPN Player of the Year.

After his college career, Gregg was the #1 draft pick of the professional league. He was drafted by the Tampa Bay Rowdies...one of the top teams in the NASL professional league. He played 2 years for the Rowdies and then was traded to the Minnesota Strikers in the MISL indoor league.

During his professional career, Gregg played for the U.S. Olympic Team, starting all the games in the 1984 Olympics. He also played for the U.S. National Team, representing the U.S. in the qualifying rounds of the 1986 World Cup. Altogether, Gregg accumulated 12 international appearances "caps" for the U.S. National "A" Team.

After his professional playing days were over, Gregg stopped playing soccer just long enough to get married and start a family. He got into coaching when the first of his four children were old enough to play organized soccer. He has his USSF National "B" License and has coached at the Recreational, Select, and Competitive levels. Gregg has set up his own company of soccer schools and camps, which he runs in the states of California and Minnesota (information can be found at [www.atccoc.com](http://www.atccoc.com)). Gregg has also set up a free web site for coaches just starting to get involved with soccer. The site

is animated with a lot of outstanding animated drills. ([www.joesoccer.com](http://www.joesoccer.com))

Next year, Gregg is looking forward to coaching the U11 Boys Gold Team. Placer United is excited to have Gregg on our coaching staff and we look forward to having many U11 players from the area competing to make the team. Gregg believes the upcoming U11 Placer United team may be one of the most talented groups of players he has ever seen and can't wait for next season!

★ **Meet Our 2005/2006 U11 Girls' Coach - Local Soccer Star Emmy Barr Returns to Coach at Placer United -**

Placer United is excited to have Emmy Barr, former professional soccer player, join our talented coaching staff. Emmy will coach the Placer U11 girl's team in 2005. She has an impressive soccer credentials. After graduating from Oakmont High School, she began an outstanding college career at national powerhouse Santa Clara University. Playing as a defender, she was voted rookie of the year as a freshman and was a key contributor to the success of Santa Clara's team including finishing as the third ranked team in the NCAA. During high school and college she played on USA Regional and National teams including the USA Youth Regional Teams U-17, U- 19; USA Youth National Team U-20; and the USA National Team Pool in 1998.

When the Women's United Soccer Association was formed, the Washington Freedom selected her. She played for three years and was a key member of the 2003 Championship team.

Emmy also has an excellent coaching background. When the professional club suspended operations, she returned to the Sacramento area and began her college coaching career as an assistant with the Sierra College Woman's team. The Sierra ballclub is a perennial playoff team with a great shot at winning the State championship. Prior to the move to the college level, she coached several youth teams at the premier and competitive levels in both Virginia and Northern California. She helped take her California team to the Far West regionals.

Emmy has her USSF Coaching "C" license and teaches soccer skills at camps and clinics including the Freedom Soccer Academy. She is committed to developing young girls and contributing to the success of women's soccer in our area. Her coaching emphasis is on passing, ball control, and advancing the soccer skills for each player on her team.

She is very happy to return to the Roseville area and is looking forward to being a part of Placer United's continued rise as a top-notch soccer club.

★ **Placer United Soccer Club Takes Southern Cal by Storm -** 15 Placer teams will be playing in Southern California over the Thanksgiving weekend. 9 Placer teams will be traveling to play in the Nike Harvest Cup in Irvine and 6 teams will play at Nomads.

The Irvine teams include the first Southern California trip for the U10 Boys Gold coached by Jeff Alcalá. The other teams include U11 Girls Gold ([Jason Gantt](#)), U12 Girls Gold ([Craig Bradford](#)), U13 Girls Gold ([Leo Marin](#)), U14 Girls Gold ([Gene DuChateau](#)), U15 Girls Gold ([Chris Alcalá](#)), U17 Girls Gold ([Gary Messing](#)), U17 Girls Black ([Lee Callow & James Kavanagh](#)), and U18 Girls Gold ([Nathan Williams](#)).

The teams representing Placer at Nomads includes U11 Boys Gold ([Josh Fitzgerald](#)), U12 Boys Gold ([Gregg Thompson](#)), U15 Boys ([Nathan Williams](#)), U16 Boys ([Matt Scummacca](#)), U17 Boys ([Imed Dossy](#)), and U18 Boys ([Paul O'Brien](#)). Good luck to all the Placer teams!

★ **Congratulations to the U14 Girls -** The Placer United Prestige '91 team took the championship at the Placer United Foothill (Girls) Cup. The U14 girls team scored 12 goals and did not allow one goal in the four games they played. After regulation time in the championship game, the Prestige '91 and Marin FC were tied 0-0. Prestige '91 won in PK's scoring all five vs 4 for Marin. It was a very exciting, very competitive game for both teams. The U14 girls team is coached by Gene DuChateau and Jenae Kee.

★ **More Placer Alumni in the News - Carleson's first goal gives Wildcats a split -** Freshman Premila Carleson hammered home Ashley Gunther's corner kick for the game winner early in the second half to lift the Chico State women's soccer team to a 2-1 victory at Cal State Bakersfield Sunday. The win gave the Wildcats, who fell 2-0 at Cal State L.A. Sunday, a weekend split. Chico State is now 4-3-1 overall and 3-1-0 in CCAA action. Sunday, the Wildcats got on the board early when Jennifer Hogans scored on a free kick from 25 yards out. Bakersfield got the equalizer in the 35th minute, but Carleson's first collegiate goal gave Chico State the victory. Against Cal State L.A. Friday, the Wildcats allowed two goals in the final 11 minutes and saw their three-match unbeaten streak end. [More details from Chico's Web site.](#)

★ **Alumni News -** Placer Alumni are making the news in their colleges. Freshman Ashley Holder (PUSC graduate 2003-2004) gets double national recognition at Baylor as [Big Twelve Defensive Player of the Week](#) and as [Soccer Buzz National Elite Team of the Week](#). Meanwhile, freshman [Meredith Magher](#) is one of seven freshman to make the Pepperdine varsity. Meredith comes from a recruiting class where she was ranked #16 in the West.

★ **Our 3rd Web Site Award -** Congratulations Placer United and DM WebWorks. The Web Marketing Association has awarded us with an [Outstanding Web Site Award](#) for Outstanding Achievement in Web site Development. To quote one of the judges: "Wow, what a fabulous and professional site for kids' soccer! I thought I was seeing a site for an adult professional league. What great info, forms, and details. This should win an award."

- ★ **Gene DuChateau Winner of 2004 Double-Goal Coach Award** - Congratulations to our own [Gene DuChateau](#), U14 Girls coach, for winning the 2004 Double-Goal Coach Award for soccer coaches in the Sacramento Region! A Double-Goal coach is a coach who wants to win but more importantly uses sports to teach life lessons to kids. Gene has also worked tirelessly with the goalies in the Placer club. Thanks for all your hard work, Gene, and congratulations on a well deserved award!
- ★ **Logo Wear Now Available** - Placer Logo Wear is now available from Logotrends! [See the complete product offering](#) and get your [individual order form here](#). Teams will collect individual orders and submit one [order form for the team](#). One check per team will be collected when the goods are delivered (approximately 4 - 6 weeks after the order date). The next team order date will be June 9th at the Manager's meeting. Subsequent orders may be placed throughout the season. For more information, please contact our own [Dawn Carrington](#).