

LocalSports



The Almaden Fusion (above left) and the Sporting Girls U10 Select soccer team (above right)

Almaden Fusion wins Almaden Champions Cup

Almaden Fusion, a class 1 U11 girls' soccer team, took first place in the Almaden Champions Cup tournament. The tournament, hosted by Almaden Valley Youth Soccer League, was played in Morgan Hill Sept. 27 and 28. After winning its bracket, the team advanced to the championship game and defeated Orchard Valley Chaos 3-0.

The members of the team are, from left, front row: **Ashley Parsons** and **Kristin Baer**; middle row: **Rhiannon Holmes**, **Piper Gleadhill**, **Sydnie Stanton**, **Ashley Kirchick**, **Adrianna Lash** and **Michelle Maemone**; and top row: **Megan Rogusky**, **Alli Foreman**, **Kelsey Allmon**, **Courtney Chang**, **Kelly Lymberopoulos**, **Melissa Fletcher**, **Katie McMullin**, **Brooke Lisowski** and **Alexa Kuechle**. The team is coached by **Veronica Zepeda** and **Kendra Sato**.

Sporting takes second at tournament

The Sporting Girls U10 Select soccer team took home second place in the Battle of the Bay soccer tournament. The tournament, held Sept. 29 and 30 in Union City and hosted 12 class 1 U10 girls' teams from all around northern California.

The Sporting girls rolled over all their opponents in the three games leading up to the finals with 17 goals scored on offense giving up only two goals defensively. The finals were played against their archrivals, the Danville Xplosion, last year's Norcal state champions.

By the time the final whistle blew, the Sporting had lost by a score of 5-3. However they played a tough game and never gave up. Both the Sporting and the Xplosion are their respective league champions and have played each other many times throughout the last few years.

"These girls have to be proud of

their play in this tournament," said head coach **Jim Lawrence**. "The girls put out their best effort and nearly won the whole tournament. They are so focused and dedicated that I am convinced they will be a top California select team for many years to come."

So far, the Sporting are once again in first place in their league and hope to put up a strong showing in the Norcal state cup in November. They took second place in last year's state cup.

The team includes, from left, front row: **Megan Wheelock**, **Erica Nakano***, **Maddie Cavanna***, **Shaelan Murison-Brown**, **Sierra Painter*** and **Danielle Hadfield***; second row: Head coach **Jim Lawrence**, **Erin McCoy***, **Kylie Nall (guest player)**, **Ashley Lawrence***, **Hanna Gratny***, **Sierra Painter***, **Regan Heslop*** and assistant coach **Jamie Berg***. Not pictured are **Reese Gonzalez** and **Julia Houk***.

(* Denotes Almaden resident)



Almaden Flames win 2007 District Cup

The Almaden flames in their first appearance as a class 1 U14 girl's soccer team took first place in the Silver division at the District Cup championships in Santa Clara on Oct. 6 and 7.

The Flames came in as underdogs in their division with two players out for the season and a shaky start to the season. In league play they received a second chance to compete against the teams in their division at district cup.

The team came together and turned on the heat in league play. They won their first game against the Alpine Stings, tied against SMSC Fury and went on to beat DeAnza Force 93G Blue and Palo Alto 94G White. They earned enough points to take over first place in the Silver bracket for the District Cup tournament.

Pictured are, from left, top row: **Chantel Dariano**, **Teri Lawrence**, **Katy LaPlante**, **Kristine Mijatovich**, **Stephanie Maniglia**, **Brianna Slater**, **Kayla Souza**, **Rachelle McGuy** and **Mariah Gutierrez**; front row: **Adrianah Ramirez**, **Milian Pollifrone**, **Alexa Wise**, **Marisa Cavanna**, **Morgan Yost**, **Sarah Blackford** and **Maddi Hyde**. **Ron Ramirez** and **Sara Mijatovich** coach the team.

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