

LocalSports in Almaden Valley

Sporting Girls win Cal Cup

The Santa Clara Sporting Girls U11 Select Soccer team completed a perfect sweep at the Cal Cup tournament held June 27-29 in Sacramento. The team allowed only one goal during the tournament and won five straight games to claim the championship.

The team played and won three qualifying games in order advance to the semifinal game held Saturday afternoon against the very tough Tracy Velocity team. The Sporting prevailed with a 2-0 win and advanced to the finals. At the same time, the Sacramento Atlas Storm played the Danville Explosion in the other semifinal game. The Storm advanced against the Explosion with a score 1-0. The Explosion is currently ranked first in northern California.

The Sporting Girls dominated the Storm with a score of 4-0 in the championship game. "The girls' hard work and dedication paid off in a big way, although I think they may have had more fun eating ice cream out of the cup after the game was over," said Coach Jim Lawrence.

Prior to their Cal Cup victory, the Sporting girls were



The Sporting girls line up with their trophies. In the first row from the left are Sierra Painter*, Stephanie Magellan, Shaelan Murison, Lauren Craft*, Madi Cavanna*, Erica Nakano*, Ashley Lawrence*, Danielle Hadfield* and Cecelia Hinz*. The second row includes Lauren Plesse, Reese Gonzalez, Michelle Stack, Hanna Gratny*, Regan Heslop*, Erin McCoy*, and Megan Wheelock with Jamie Berg* and Jim Lawrence* in the back row.

ranked second in northern California. They will be competing next in San Diego at the end of July at the Surf Cup tournament. This tournament is one of the premier tournaments in the country and attracts teams from all over the country and world.



Pictured above, from left: Marcus Gartner and Matthew Eisenberg surround coach Mike Monsees

Two Leland grads receive All-American status in water polo

Two of Leland High School's 2008 graduates received All-American status in water polo. Matthew Eisenberg and Marcus Gartner, who have been friends since elementary school, both joined Leland's water polo team in ninth grade. The two also play polo with San Jose Aquatics club team and swam all four years on the school swim team. Both also received BVAL awards their junior and senior years.

Eisenberg, who will attend the University of Redlands in Southern California this fall, will also be playing water polo for the school. Besides playing water polo year round, he found the time to sail and to build and play with radio control planes in his spare time. He was named BVAL junior in the 2006-07 school year and received BVAL senior most valuable player this year.

Gartner will be attending Brown University in Rhode Island where he too will be playing water polo. He was BVAL freshman of the year, was BVAL second team as a junior and took the BVAL senior of the year this year.



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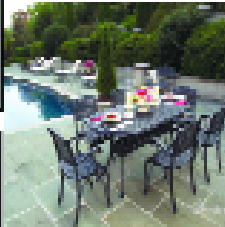


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