



# The Final Third

Springfield, Missouri

Issue 4

Summer 2008

## Springfield Soccer Club U23

The Springfield Soccer Club and NWA Lightning will compete in a home and away competition to determine the Ozarks Challenge Cup winner between the two respective clubs Under 23 teams. The first leg will be at Bentonville, AR with the NWA Lightning serving as the host on Sunday July 13, 2008 with a 3:00pm kick-off. The second leg will be in Springfield, MO at the Cooper Soccer Complex on Wednesday July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2008 with a 7:05pm kick-off.

The Ozarks Challenge Cup will consist of two-legged matches, home and away, in which the team with the higher aggregate score wins the Cup. In the event that the two teams' aggregate scores are tied, the team that scored more goals in their away leg would progress to the next round.

“The strength of the Springfield Soccer Club and the NWA Lightning is that both organizations are true clubs with a player development pyramid that goes from the beginner player all the way through the U23 level. It is the belief of both organizations that these games will bring a level of socialization and passion around the games that is found at soccer clubs throughout the world. The games will have a true event feel to them.” said Jeremy Alumbaugh Director of Soccer Operations for the Springfield Soccer Club.

“The Ozarks Challenge Cup is a perfect setting for Lightning’s young adult players to showcase their skills, athleticism and become role models for our younger players who are craving to watch quality soccer.” Lightning Coach Jakob Nilsson said. “Many of our 2,200 registered active club players will come to watch the local heroes play against a well coached and experienced Springfield Soccer Club team.” Coming to Springfield to play, with its great college and Springfield Soccer Club traditions will be exciting for our players.”

The winning club will take possession of the Ozarks Challenge Cup trophy for the next year until the 2009 home and away competition.



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#### Director of Soccer Operations

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#### Director of Player Development

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#### Director of External Affairs

*Zach Alumbaugh*

#### Director of Boys

*Carl Rose*

#### Staff Coaches

*Cory Carr, Rob Brewer, Joe Kofron, Steve Eise, Josh Hertel, Dan Meyer, Kirsten Hatz, Todd McCutcheon, Jeff Reinold, Bob Flore*

## State Cup **Champions Again!!**

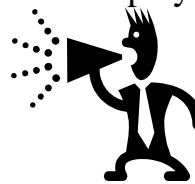
The 2008 State Cup once again saw the Springfield Soccer Club win a State Championship! The u17 boys (SSC 90-91) won their second State Championship one year after winning their first. Back to Back State Championships are tough to come by in Missouri. They had a very tough road facing Scott Gallagher I in the semi-finals, and Lou Fusz in the finals. Scott Gallagher finished 2<sup>nd</sup> behind our boys in the MRL Premier division this year, and Lou Fusz had the state cup championship pulled from their grasp by our boys last year. The semi-finals went into overtime with Tim Griffin scoring a great goal to send us into the finals. The championship game went into overtime, and then into PK's with Chris Tombridge making a couple of big saves to secure the Back to Back title. For Regionals updates check the SSC Insider Blog at [www.springfieldsoccerclub.blogspot.com](http://www.springfieldsoccerclub.blogspot.com)

The u13's (SSC 94/95 red) made it to the semi-finals in their first year to compete in the tournament. They played well for their first year and lost to the eventual champion giving them there only blemish on the score card. The boys were the only team to score against the Champions, and were 2 minutes away from overtime. The u14's (SSC 93/94) were very unfortunate in their cup run. They had some bad luck hit them in their game. One goal called back, one cleared off the line, and a bad call on the other end meant they lost 2-1. The u15 one (SSC 92/93 I) team was the talk of the State. They drew the #1 team, and eventual champion, for their first game. After 80 minutes and overtime, it appeared they lost 1-0. However, the overtime was inaccurate and the controversy started. After 36 hours of phone calls and debates, the boys headed back up to St Louis 5 days later to finish the game properly. The result ended the same, but the boys gained some very valuable experience that they hope to use in the MRL Playoffs in June. The u16's experienced a similar fate to the 15's in regards to the overtime mistake, but it was caught soon enough were the boys didn't have to travel back up. They lost in overtime as well.



“My State Cup experience was great. I had a lot of fun playing at such a competitive level. Going into State Cup I expected a high level of competition, and that is exactly what we got. I thought we performed very well. I had a blast playing and I am looking forward to playing in State Cup next year.”

--Jakob Neidig U13 Reds

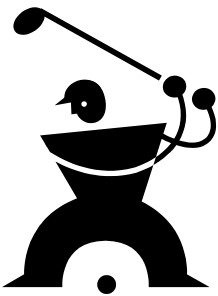


“The exciting experience of winning state cup for the second year in a row and getting the chance to win another championship at Regionals is very rewarding for all of the hard work our team has done.”

--Ryan Moses U17

**Continue to visit the Springfield Soccer  
Club web site for Club updates at:**

**[www.springfieldsportsclub.com](http://www.springfieldsportsclub.com)**



## SSC Golf Outing



On August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2008 the Springfield Soccer Club will be hosting its first annual golf outing. The outing will be held at the Millwood Golf and Racquet Club here in Springfield. Whether you are a seasoned veteran of the links or a weekend warrior this is a perfect time to gather your friends and family and enjoy some time on the golf course in support of the Springfield Soccer Club. The outing will begin at 8am with a shotgun start and space is limited to 30 teams. Entry fee for one team (4 people) is \$400, which will include your greens fees, gift baskets for each player, and lunch after your round.

If you are interested in sponsoring the event there are many options available to you and your business. There are Hole Sponsorships available at \$150, Tee and Green Sponsorships for \$250 and we are still seeking a corporate sponsorship for the entire event. If you would like to learn about sponsorship opportunities please contact Christie Greene at [creemkm@sbcglobal.net](mailto:creemkm@sbcglobal.net)

We look forward to making the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual SSC Golf Outing a memorable and exciting one!!!!



### Summer Camps

The summer time is a great time to get away and relax. It's also a great opportunity to maintain the improvements you made during the year. You worked very hard during the year to make yourself a better player. The last thing you want is to let that all go away during the summer months. Check out the dates below to see if you can spend a little bit of time keeping yourself on top of your game. More information can be found on our website at [www.springfieldsoccerclub.com](http://www.springfieldsoccerclub.com)

**Program 1 - School of Excellence (July 8&10; July 15&17; July 22&24)**

**Program 2 - Elite Soccer Skills (Aug 1-3)**

**\*\*\*Speed Enhancement & Soccer Conditioning with Brian Bounds\*\*\***

**Program 3 - Goalkeeping Camp (Aug 1-3)**

**Program 4 - Future Stars (July 21 - 24)**

**West Plains (June 23-26, 2008)**

**Greenfield, MO (July 7-11, 2008)**



## Springfield S.C. Players Make College Choices

The Springfield S.C. is pleased to announce its' senior class of 2008 and their college choices to continue their academic and athletic careers. "The past few years have seen an increase in the number of our players who are continuing their soccer careers at the college level. A record number of girls players are heading off to college to play this fall." said Jeremy Alumbaugh Director of Soccer Operations.

The college season of 2007 saw the biggest impact of Springfield Soccer Club players on the national scene as Patrick Carver earned NSCAA Division III All-American Honors playing for Emory University. Washington University made a run deep into the NCAA Division III Tournament with three Springfield S.C. Alumni on their roster. Brian Fishback from the University of Indianapolis earned the GLVC Academic POY Award. Katie Brooks also led her William Jewell teammates on a fantastic run in the NAIA National Tournament.

The class of 2008 and their college choices are listed below. "Everyone associated with Springfield S.C. wishes these players nothing but the best of luck in their college careers. The level of academic and athletic programs that these players are continuing onto is first class. What is really starting to show is the quality of player and person we are sending off to these programs. You can tell college coaches are pleased with the Alumni of Springfield S.C. as we have multiple players at programs now." said Alumbaugh. Congratulations to the players and their families for reaching their goals.

### Girls

Tara Bailes	Missouri State University	NCAA Division I
Rebecca Carter	Grinnell College	NCAA Division III
Megan Garrad	William Jewell College	NAIA
Jessica McCutcheon	Rogers State University	NAIA
Katy McLain	Drury University	NCAA Division II
Patsy Middleton	Missouri Valley College	NAIA
Lorin Opfer	Truman State University	NCAA Division II
Brianna Ragains	Missouri Southern	NCAA Division II
Maggie Schrier	Hendrix College	NCAA Division III

### Boys

Matt Beckett	Neosho County Community	NJCAA
Tucker Downs	Mississippi College	NCAA Division III
Will Griffin	William Jewell College	NAIA
Nathan Hamilton	Northeastern Oklahoma A & M	NJCAA
Michael Handley	Ashford University	NCAA Division III
Rob Harbach	Loras College	NCAA Division III
Zack Hay	Missouri Science & Technology	NCAA Division II
Brice Hunt	Birmingham Southern	NCAA Division III
Colin Lawter	Drake University	NCAA Division I
T.J. Martin	Rogers State University	NAIA
Patrick McCarthy	University of Missouri	Club Soccer
Tyler McElroy	Rockhurst University	NCAA Division II
Heath Melugin	Missouri State University	NCAA Division I
Jorge Quiroz	Missouri Science & Technology	NCAA Division II
Colton Sexton	Northeastern Oklahoma A & M	NJCAA
Justin Scicluna	Missouri State University	NCAA Division I
Stuart Ziegler	Missouri Southern	NCAA Division II



## Spring Season Review

This Spring season saw all the SSC teams enjoying league play success. Whether playing here in town or playing in the Kansas City Premiership League, SSC teams played very well throughout the entire Spring season. In the Spring league here in town at Lake Country Soccer the SSC 96/97 White Boys, 96/97 Red Boys, 95/96 White Boys, 94/95 White Boys, 97/98 Girls, 95/96 White Girls and 94/95 Girls all played very well and represented SSC during all of their league games. The YA Boys, 98/99 Red Boys, 98/99 White Boys, 97/98 Boys, 98/99 Girls and 96/97 Girls all won their respective league play with many of those teams going undefeated or only having one loss through all their games. Good job by everyone here in town this Spring!!!

The teams that traveled up to Kansas City to play in the Premiership were the 95/96 Red Girls, 95/96 Red Boys, 94/95 Red Boys, 93/94 Boys, and 92/93 II boys. The 93/94 boys finished in second place, The 95/96 Red boys and 95/96 Red Girls both played up a year competing in the U-13 age bracket and both teams have performed very well this Spring with 2 more games remaining. The 92/93 II boys finished in second place. The 94/95 Red Boys finished at the top of their division.

SSC prides itself in being prepared to play in the Spring season and this Spring was no different. Every team enjoyed the highs and lows that the game brings but by training hard all year, whether indoor or outside, helped the highs outweigh the lows all Spring season. Again, good job by everyone and congratulations on another great Spring season!!!

### Developing the Future-Springfield Soccer Club Foundation

As exciting as the past few years have been the Springfield Soccer Club is determined not rest on its' past success. Plans are currently underway for more exciting developments to continue to allow its' players the opportunity to reach their fullest athletic, academic and social potential. It is because of this desire that the Springfield Soccer Club has created the Springfield Soccer Club-Foundation. The Springfield Soccer Club-Foundation is an arm of the club that seeks to keep the club moving in a positive direction in accordance with its' mission statement. Each year the Springfield Soccer Club-Foundation will attempt to raise monetary funds to go towards certain projects that it feels will benefit the club and its mission statement.

*This year the Springfield Soccer Club-Foundation has identified three areas of need:*

#### **25% of Collected Donations- Completing the Indoor Facility**

- Weight training area improvements (equipment and flooring)
- Netting system
- Stereo system
- Academic study center

#### **25% of Collected Donations- Scholarship Planning**

- Development of college scholarship for boy & girl player each year
- Continuing to fund financial assistance so no player is turned away from the club

#### **50% of Collected Donations- Outdoor Facility Planning**

- The club is in the planning stages to develop an all weather (fieldturf) field

**THIS WILL BE OUR BIGGEST UNDERTAKING YET AND WE NEED YOUR HELP TO GET THIS PROJECT OFF THE GROUND.**

The Springfield Soccer Club has set the goal of having 200 individuals/businesses donate \$100.00 to the Springfield Soccer Club-Foundation. This would place \$20,000.00 into the foundation account and allow \$5,000.00 for Indoor Facility Improvements, \$5,000.00 for Scholarship Planning, and \$10,000.00 for Outdoor Facility Committee. These amounts would allow the completion, continuance, and planning of the three projects listed above. It will also insure that the Springfield Soccer Club is able to provide an environment for the competitive soccer player and their family which allows for them to reach their fullest athletic, academic, and social potentials.

## Juggling Crew Updates

We are very proud of the juggling crew and it's been exciting to see players improve over the past year. As a reminder of the achievements we recognize we have the 50 Club, the 100 Club, the 250 Club, the 500 Club, and the 100+ Club. Each player receives a t-shirt for the 100, 250, and 500 Club. The 50 Club gets mentioned in the newsletter and the 1000+ Club receives a plaque. Here are the **recent achievements** to each juggling club **since the beginning of the season** and the team they play on. Congrats to each and every player!!



### 50 Club

Aubrey Durst—93/94 Girls  
Caleb Boston—95/96 White

### 100 Club

Kacy Hellmer—95/96 White  
Connor Heeren—94/95 White  
Andrew Schenck—94/95 White  
Josh Call—97/98

### 250 Club

Joseph Lightner—95/96 White  
Cole Shepard—94/95 White  
Kory Hellmer—94/95 White  
Grant Daum—95/96 White  
Austin Chandler—95/96 Red  
Christian Harden—94/95 White

### 500 Club

### 1000+ Club

## MRL Recap and Update

The Midwest Regional League is the top league for club teams throughout the Midwest and every year the Springfield Soccer Club sends many teams to compete in the MRL. The MRL gives SSC a chance to play top notch teams in the region and get prepared for State Cup games. This Spring was no different as SSC had the 92/93, 91/92, 90/91 and the 89/90 boys all competed in the highly competitive MRL.

The 92/93 Boys played in the first division this Spring season and have earned a spot in the playoffs in Hebron, Indiana. The 92/93's qualified for the playoffs by going 4-2-1 in league play. The winner of the playoffs will get promoted into the premier division for the next season of competition in the MRL. The playoffs are June 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> and will be played at the Hallmark Sports Complex.

The 91/92 boys went 1-5-1 this year in the first division and gained some good experiences that will allow them to be even more competitive in the years to come in MRL play.

The 90/91 Boys played in the Premier Division this Spring and won the title by going 4-0-3. That title would have placed them in the Region II Championships for the second straight year. But the boys won a spot in Regionals by winning state cup for a second straight year.

All in all it was another successful year of competition for SSC in the MRL and we are looking forward to competing in the league again next year.



The Springfield Soccer Club "Final Third" newsletter is published quarterly by the coaches and staff of the Springfield Soccer Club and Springfield Sports Club, Inc. The contents are meant for current members and former members of the Springfield SC and its predecessor organizations, as well as members of the Springfield area soccer community.

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