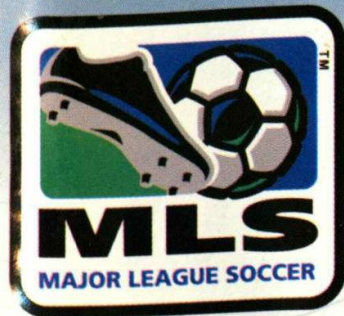


OFFICIAL 2002 PROGRAM OF MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER



# FREEKICK



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OFFICIAL 2002 PROGRAM OF MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER



# FREEKICK

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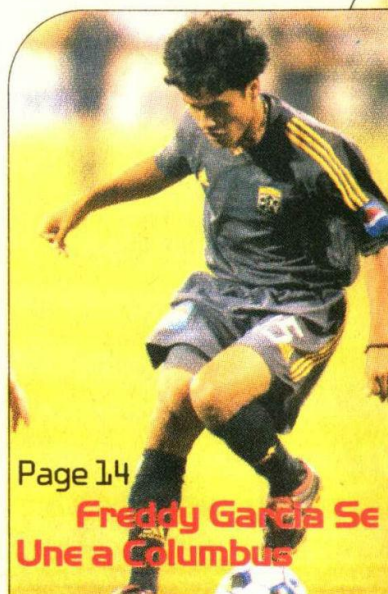
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Fax: (312) 705-7393

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www.chicago-fire.com

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www.thecrew.com

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E-mail: Rapids@MLSnet.com  
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# The WORLD Takes NOTICE



Landon Donovan, here rejoicing after scoring vs. Mexico, was a force for the U.S. in Korea.

## How MLS' best helped orchestrate the greatest World Cup finish in U.S. soccer history

**A**t times during the U.S. team's spectacular run in the 2002 World Cup, more than half the players on the field plied their trade in Major League Soccer.

But the MLS players did a lot more than just make up the numbers with 11 of the 23 players named to the World Cup roster.

"There wasn't the difference in ability between the European players and the MLS players that maybe there was in the past," said midfielder Earnie Stewart, a veteran of more than a decade in the Dutch Eredivisie. "Every player on the team showed that he can play and deserved to be here."

Landon Donovan (San Jose Earthquakes), Eddie Pope (D.C. United) and Brian McBride (Columbus Crew) started all five games. Pablo

Mastroeni (Colorado Rapids) started three and only injury limited DaMarcus Beasley (Chicago Fire) to 219 minutes in three games.

McBride's rugged work up front, Pope's staunch defending and Donovan's shrewd attacking were absolutely essential to the team's success.

Cobi Jones (Los Angeles Galaxy) came on as a sub in four games and helped kill the clock in the Round-of-16 victory over Mexico. So successful was he in frustrating the Mexicans that defender Rafael Marquez flattened him with a disgraceful tackle and head butt that resulted in a red card.

The proportion of minutes played by MLS players would have been higher had not a knee injury sidelined Chris Armas (Chicago Fire) prior to the tournament and Jeff Agoos (San Jose Earthquakes) strained a leg muscle in the third game against Poland. Beasley had his tournament cut short after three games because of injury.

### A World Star Is Born

Of the seven goals scored by the U.S., five were notched by MLS players, while a sixth—a Donovan cross that caromed off a defender's shoulder and into the net against Portugal—was credited as an own goal.

Donovan, for one, wasn't surprised at teaching

the quarterfinals. He and Beasley—their talents forged by experience with youth national teams as well as MLS—are examples of the younger breed that does not fear anybody or anything.

"We're just playing," Donovan said. "It's a game. Simple as that. We have fun and things happen."

Coach Bruce Arena used Donovan in many different positions: right mid, left mid and forward in a 4-4-2, and attacking mid and forward in a 3-5-2.

Donovan scored twice (against Poland and Mexico) and felt he should have had more goals. On flighted, beautiful balls by Claudio Reyna against South Korea and Germany, he failed to beat the goalkeeper.

Donovan also had a goal disallowed when he hip-checked Polish defender Arkadiusz Glowacki just before he headed a ball into the back of the net. He barked in anger at the referee's decision.

Such youthful bravado, when mixed with the savvy of veterans like Pope, Reyna, Brad Friedel, Tony Sanneh and McBride, made for a potent mix.

Donovan hit a first-time lob against South Korea and it dribbled embarrassingly to the keeper. "I should have brought that ball down. I had the time and space," he agonized.

Against Germany, he hesitated when played behind the defense by another Reyna launch and he took the ball wide to an angle filled by the frame and wrath of goalkeeper Oliver Kahn.

Yet most of his decisions of when to come forward, when to close opponents down, when to play simple, and when to be bodacious were correct. As was Arena's decision to get him on the field regardless of position.

Donovan's move into the starting lineup coincided with Arena's decision to at least consider playing him at forward, where he led the San Jose Earthquakes to the MLS Cup last year. The coach had been using him primarily in midfield for the national team.

Six months ago, I didn't know if I was going to be here," he said. "I was still hoping for a spot on the team."

continued



# The WORLD Takes NOTICE

## The 'Beas' Goes International

A groin injury to Beasley took his speed out of the U.S. attacking arsenal. Also missing was his relentless work covering the flank and tucking inside to win tackles.

"I can be fiesty and be like a little ant running around," said Beasley, the lightest player in the tournament at 126 pounds and thus a testament that a player of any size can contribute if good enough. "I just try to do what I can."

Beasley unhinged Portugal's defense in the historic 3-2 victory that kicked off the best U.S. World Cup performance since it reached the semifinals of the very first competition in 1930.

"We caught them by surprise in the first half scoring three goals," Beasley said. "I don't think anybody in the world expected that. First World Cup, 20 years old, it felt great. Unbelievable."

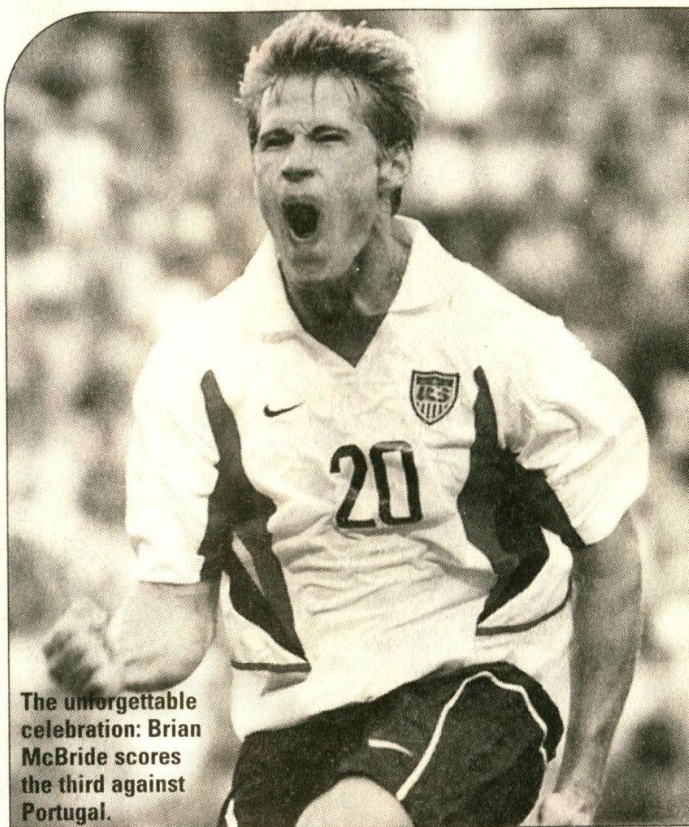
With the two precocious 20-year-olds sparking the U.S. attack, McBride shouldered a lot of the burden up front and Clint Mathis had to be content with part-time duty.

"Landon and DaMarcus, they're both 20 and look what they've done already," McBride said.

"That says a lot."

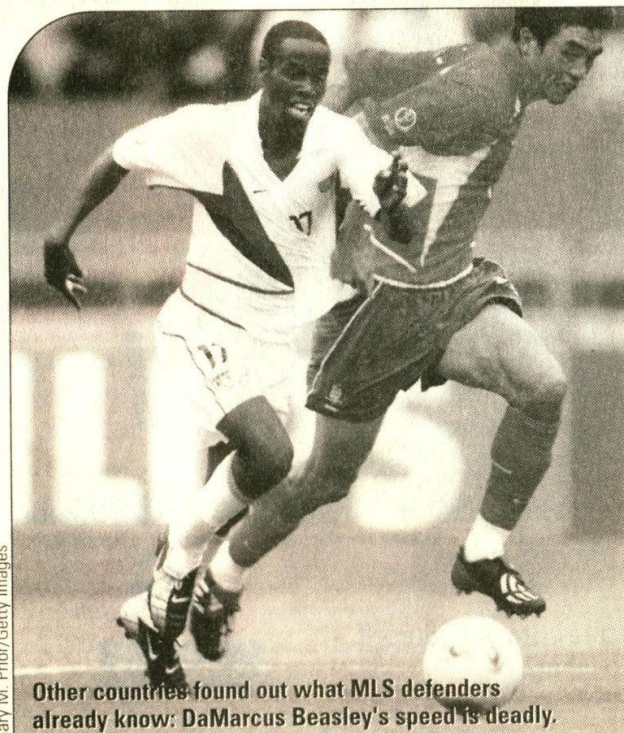
Man of the Match against Portugal, McBride scored with a diving header that was splashed across the front pages of U.S. and foreign newspapers.

Another classic McBride finish stunned Mexico. Throughout the tournament the Crew forward's unselfish running off the ball, his willingness to close down opponents, and his determination while being battered were key elements, as was his ability to adapt to different attacking partners.



**The unforgettable celebration: Brian McBride scores the third against Portugal.**

Shaun Botterill/Getty Images



**Other countries found out what MLS defenders already know: DaMarcus Beasley's speed is deadly.**

Gary M. Prior/Getty Images

"When Clint's out there I try to play the ball to his feet," McBride said. "He has a great first touch. With Josh [Wolff] you can play it into space. He makes great runs off the ball. Joe-Max [Moore] does both."

Two other MLS veterans anchored the middle of the field. Mastroeni, 25, hadn't even played in a qualifier but his strong showings in the CONCACAF Gold Cup and subsequent games earned him consideration for a midfield role to help replace Armas (see page 8).

On the back line, much was demanded of Pope, 29, and his responsibilities increased as the tournament unfolded.

He played centrally in both

three-man and four-man defenses. He faced strikers as varied and dangerous as Pauleta of Portugal, Hwang Sun Hong of South Korea, Jared Borgetti of Mexico, and Miroslav Klose of Germany.

None of those big names scored against the Americans. The U.S. did have to rely on the superb goalkeeping of Brad Friedel but few of the goals or chances resulted from Pope being beaten.

Arena used 19 field players in the World Cup, interchanging as the situation demanded, regardless of how a player might have performed.

"If other players need to start a game they can start a game and we don't miss a beat," Pope said. "I think we've proved in the World Cup that the competition in MLS is pretty good. This is obviously a higher level, the highest level you can attain, but it's not that big a jump if you take the time to prepare."

Said Arena: "The system in the United States is much better. The opportunities in our sport are there. There are more resources to help get you there than ever before."

continued



# The WORLD Takes NOTICE

## The Revelation: Mastroeni

The dilemma facing the U.S. coaching staff was as stark as it was simple when defensive linchpin Chris Armas went down with a knee injury May 12, about three weeks before the World Cup opener against Portugal.

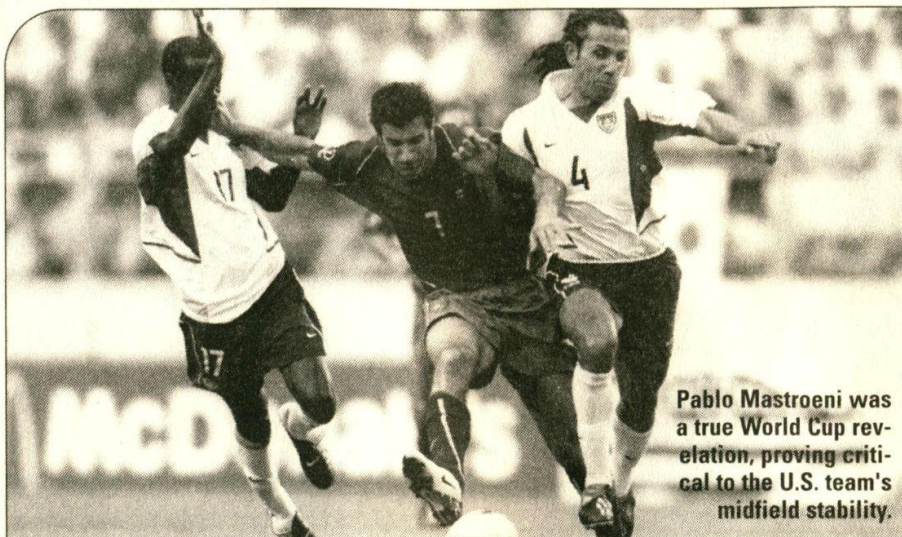
Instead of a lone holding midfielder anchoring the middle as Armas had done, two midfielders would share the responsibilities of attacking and defending.

For three of the World Cup games, Pablo Mastroeni would be one of those two midfielders. Slotted alongside John O'Brien, Mastroeni helped the U.S. beat Portugal, 3-2, and Mexico, 2-0, and played another solid game in the 1-0 quarterfinal loss to Germany.

Despite the fact he hadn't played in any of the 16 qualifiers, Mastroeni jumped right into the midfield fray against Portugal. The U.S. raced out to a 3-0 lead and then held on for one of the greatest victories in its history.

"The last week and a half here in Korea I set my mind toward a potential start," he said after the Portugal win in which he neutralized several opposing attackers. "I just stayed focused and looked at it as another game—not so much where we were and the importance of it.

"It's an amazing thing to come in and play alongside John O'Brien or Claudio Reyna, players who make your job a lot easier," he said. "John is a great player and the good thing about the team is that we have



**Pablo Mastroeni was a true World Cup revelation, proving critical to the U.S. team's midfield stability.**

Brian Bahr/Getty Images

quality players at every position that can do the job."

After sitting out games against South Korea and Poland, Mastroeni helped shut down Mexican playmaker Cuauhtemoc Blanco as the U.S. throttled the potent attack of its CONCACAF rival. He led a spirited U.S. effort that controlled the midfield against Germany.

"I just clog up the midfield to make it hard for the opposition to play through," he said.

Said Coach Bruce Arena: "He's played very well in a central midfield role. He has primarily defensive duties and he's done an outstanding job. I also think he's done very well on the ball.

"He played center back for us in the Gold Cup," Arena continued. "He played right back at times for us and has played a central midfield role. You have to give Pablo a lot of credit. He's a guy who plays a lot

of positions."

Mastroeni had been tabbed as a probable U.S. international early in his MLS career, which began with Miami in 1998. Tough in the tackle, blessed with speed and strength and a wonderful touch, his U.S. debut had to be delayed since he wasn't eligible to play for the United States.

Born in Mendoza, Argentina, in 1976, he was not yet a U.S. citizen although he'd lived in the U.S. since he was four years old and attended North Carolina State.

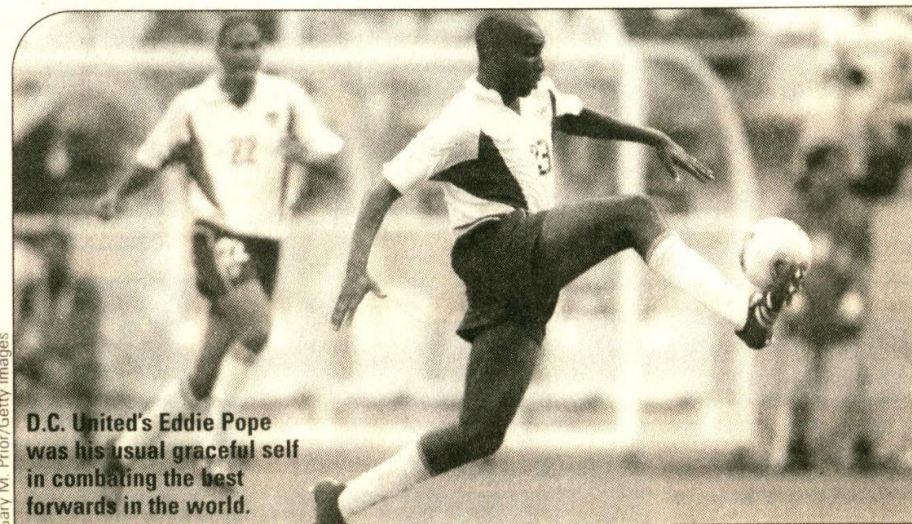
Once he completed citizenship formalities in 2001, he soon gained his first cap in a friendly against Ecuador.

At the CONCACAF Gold Cup last January he truly arrived on the international scene. In the four games he played as a central defender, the U.S. didn't concede a goal.

That performance helped cement his standing among fellow MLS players, which made up the bulk of the Gold Cup roster. But most of them knew of his abilities already.

The pre-World Cup training camp in North Carolina and tune-up games against Uruguay, Jamaica and Holland convinced the coaches he could help fill in for Armas. He also won over his European-based teammates.

"It was great," Mastroeni said of his first World Cup. "It was a happy-go-lucky environment and the people were really friendly. They accepted me and the other new guys with open arms and things couldn't have been better."



**D.C. United's Eddie Pope was his usual graceful self in combating the best forwards in the world.**

Gary M. Prior/Getty Images



# Taylor Made For SUCCESS

New England's  
Taylor Twellman is  
grabbing all the  
headlines with his  
scoring feats

**T**he U.S. has been producing enough players to stock a professional league for a couple of decades. But few gifted goal-scorers have emerged from the millions playing the game.

In fact, despite its success at the development levels and a quarterfinal finish in the 2002

World Cup, only once has the U.S. produced a scoring leader in a FIFA tournament.

In 1999, Taylor Twellman won the bronze ball after converting four goals at the Under-20 World Championships in Nigeria. The award became something of a blessing and curse for Twellman though, as it led to a contract with TSV 1860 Munich in Germany but also to his demise from the national team program.

Twellman, 22, has come home to MLS this year and has also returned to national team contention after scoring 14 goals in the New England Revolution's first 18 games of the season. Twellman was on a pace to become MLS' second-youngest scoring champion—Stern John was 21 when he scored 26 goals for Columbus in 1998—and appears capable of becoming one of the best home-grown finishers in U.S. history.

And Twellman is indeed a home-grown goal-scorer.

St. Louis, Mo. has long been regarded as a soccer stronghold. But a more accurate sporting evaluation of St. Louis would consider its capacity of encouraging both baseball and soccer to thrive simultaneously. The two sports have seldom co-existed comfortably in the U.S., and both are played at a high level in few outposts in the world.

Taylor Twellman is a product of this unique sporting culture. His father, Tim, performed in the NCAA Division II College World Series and also played in more than 150 games for three North

American Soccer League teams. His uncles played minor league baseball and two—Steve and Mike—also played in the NASL. Twellman's grandfather, Jim Delsing, is a veteran of 10 seasons in Major League Baseball. Another uncle, Jay Delsing, is on the PGA tour. Twellman's younger brother, James, is playing soccer at Stanford and sister Alexandra, 17, is likely headed for collegiate soccer.

"I always loved sports," Twellman said. "I felt I had to play baseball, and my dad made us play all sports so we could decide. But soccer was in our blood and all three of us kids loved it from the beginning. I grew up in the penalty box. We always had a goal in the backyard and one of us was always the goalie and the other ones shot.

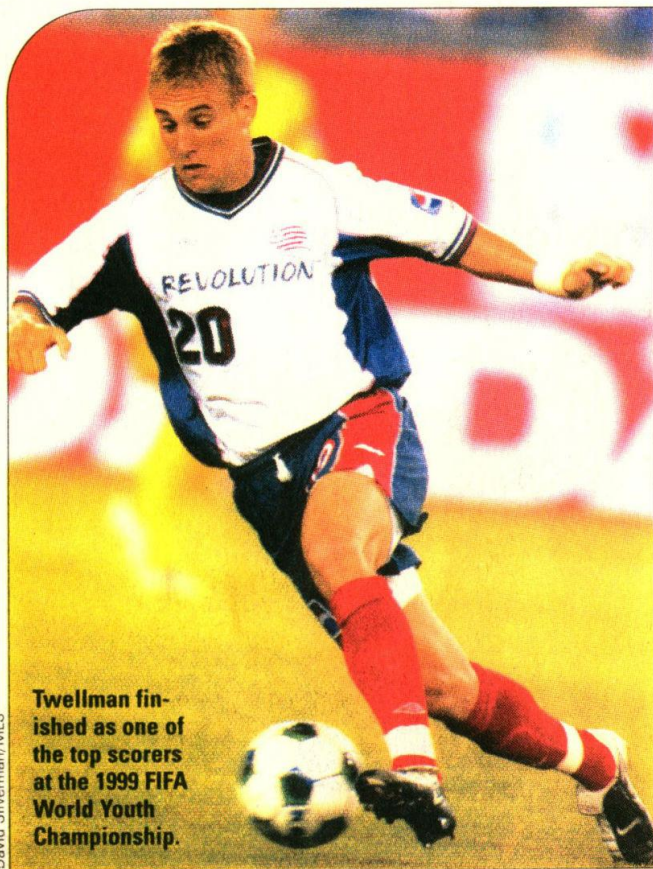
"But we always were aware that soccer was a team thing. Even now, when I talk to my dad about the game, he says 'you guys' played well. My parents always put us in the right place. If I complained after a soccer game, my mom would tell me if I was unhappy I could always go play golf and I wouldn't have to depend on my teammates."

But a goal-scorer must not completely submerge his ego. Converting a goal in soccer can be among the most dramatic events in sport, and it requires single-mindedness, even selfishness at times. Few are able to find an effective balance between individualism and team play.

Twellman was the leading scorer for the U.S. Under-17, U-20, and U-23 teams. In Nigeria, he scored two goals in a 3-1 win over Cameroon and two more in a 3-2 loss to Spain. European and South American agents and scouts took notice. The best offer came from TSV 1860 Munich, which wanted Twellman to come immediately to Bavaria in Germany.

Twellman hesitated in signing, the Bundesliga transfer window closed, and he returned to play for the U.S. in the '99 Pan American Games in Winnipeg and went back to the University of Maryland. He led the Pan Am Games team in scoring.

But once he departed for Germany the following January, he forfeited his scholarship, lost his place



Twellman finished as one of the top scorers at the 1999 FIFA World Youth Championship.

David Silverman/MLS

continued



# TAYLOR MADE FOR SUCCESS

on the Olympic team, and found himself buried on the 1860 Munich depth chart since the Bundesliga season was already well underway. Twellman was stuck in a small apartment, his soccer activity limited to practice and the reserve team, his national team dreams over.

The system was teaching lessons. Refuse an MLS Nike Project-40 offer, prepare to miss the Olympics. Don't move to Munich at transfer time, prepare to be punished.

"Every American who goes to Germany suffers culture shock," Twellman said. "If you are hungry on a Saturday afternoon you can't just go to the grocery store. There is no ESPN. Everyone laughs when I say it but just try it. My brother calls and asks if I saw what happened in the NCAA basketball tournament and all I can say is, 'uh, no'.

"Then, in practice you are playing 5-v-2 and guys are coming in at you studs up, like, 'Welcome to Europe.' A lot of it is politics, prejudice. If a coach doesn't like you, you don't play. The coach (Werner Lorant) was from East Germany, and he did not particularly like American players. You had to under-

stand his background, where he was coming from. It humbled me. But it was good for building character. It taught me how to be professional, both with the coach and with other players."

Twellman called home every night for two months. Finally, his father told him: "Do you want to do it or do you want to quit? You have to make the coach like you."

Taylor remembered what his father told him about breaking into the NASL. Tim Twellman was also a forward, but the English and German professionals employed by the Chicago Sting, Minnesota Kicks and Tulsa Roughnecks were far more accomplished. So, he switched to defense.

"My dad did not let his ego get in the way," Twellman said. "In those days, there were only three American players on a team, just the opposite of what it is now. So, he made friends with the foreign players. It comes down to how bad do you want to play?"

Twellman once scored in four successive games for 1860 Munich's reserves. But instead of being promoted to the first team he was benched for four weeks.

"Taylor did well in Germany even though he didn't make the first team," said his dad Tim Twellman, who played for the U.S. National Team in 1982. "Landon Donovan didn't make the first team, either. When Taylor played, Taylor scored and he is doing the same thing here."

Taylor gained some satisfaction from the performance by the U.S. in the World Cup, especially the 1-0 loss to the Germans in the quarterfinals.

"The U.S. outplayed Germany, and I don't think the Germans are going to continue to be so arrogant



**Twellman, at the age of 22, has become a marked man in just his first season in MLS.**

Erza Shaw/Getty Images

about Americans after that," Twellman said. "I'm not surprised by our success at the World Cup. I'm relieved it finally happened. It puts more pressure on us, because the mentality in this country after that is, 'Now, let's try to win this thing.' And that's good because it raises the bar even higher, and there can be no excuses."

The next World Cup finals will be in Germany—fate and FIFA possibly providing a chance for Twellman to return to Germany.

"Any American player wants to be there," Tim Twellman said. "We were surprised Taylor did not get a look after the Under-20 tournament. But for those teams it's one coach and he picks the players he likes. For every national team player out there there are another 18 who should have the same chance. If Taylor gets the call he would be thrilled."

*New England Revolution beat writer Frank Dell'Apa covers soccer for the Boston Globe.*

## A GOAL-SCORING MACHINE

**Twellman's credentials speak for themselves:**

**2002:** Leading scorer for Revolution and one of MLS' best  
**2000-'01:** Top scorer for TSV 1860 Munich's reserve team

**1999:** Third-leading scorer at Under-20 World Championships

**1998:** Soccer America Freshman of the Year at University of Maryland



David Silverman/MLS

**Taylor Twellman has been on a goal-scoring tear ever since making his first start in Columbus on April 20.**



# FREDDY GARCIA SE UNE A COLUMBUS

El habilidoso volante zurdo es el segundo jugador estrella de la selección de Guatemala que se une a la MLS esta temporada

**E**l Columbus Crew anunció la adquisición del volante de la selección de Guatemala y ex jugador de los "Cremas" de Comunicaciones, Freddy García. Términos del arreglo anunciado el pasado 15 de julio no fueron revelados. García se convierte en el segundo jugador estelar de la selección "Chapina" que se une a un club de la MLS esta temporada. Previamente en febrero el delantero Carlos Ruiz firmó con el Galaxy de Los Angeles.

"Este es otro gran logro en mi carrera," declaró García al finalizarse el trámite de su llegada al Columbus Crew. "Estoy muy contento de poder unirme a una gran organización como el Columbus Crew. Trabajaré con mucho esmero para dar lo mejor de mí como jugador y como persona."

García, de 25 años, es un jugador protagonista con la selección de Guatemala como lo fue con su ex club, Comunicaciones, uno de los clubes más exitosos y populares de Guatemala y Centroamérica. García, quien tiene el apodo "La Rata", ha militado con el Comunicaciones desde el 2000 e hizo su debut con la selección mayor de Guatemala en 1997.

El joven mediocampista fue adquirido como un jugador "Descubrimiento" y debido a que posee una "tarjeta verde" (residencia legal en los EE.UU.), no ocupará una plaza como jugador internacional mayor (cada club de la MLS tiene

un límite de 3 plazas para jugadores internacionales de 25 años o más).

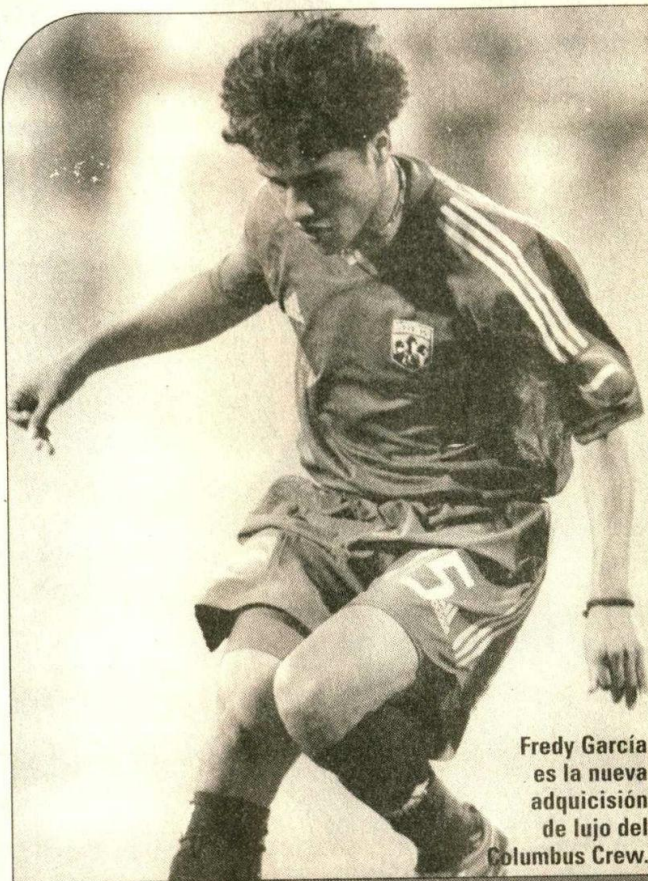
"Esta es una contratación muy importante," dijo el gerente general del Columbus Crew Jim Smith. "Estamos encantados de firmar a un jugador del calibre de Freddy y esperamos que nos brinde una fuerte dosis de buen fútbol en esta importante etapa de la temporada."

García jugó 10 partidos en las eliminatorias de CONCACAF clasificatorias para las finales del Mundial 2002 anotando 5 goles. Guatemala estuvo muy cerca de alcanzar la última ronda de las eliminatorias perdiendo un partido adicional de eliminación directa frente a Costa Rica.

"Freddy es un jugador con capacidad probada en el ámbito internacional que puede distribuir el balón y también sabe anotar goles," dijo el técnico del Columbus Crew Greg Andrulis. "Tiene la habilidad de llenar la banda izquierda de nuestra formación y proveernos con más opciones ofensivas."

García también brilló con selecciones juveniles Sub-23 y Sub-20 de Guatemala y fue capitán de Comunicaciones la temporada pasada.

A nivel personal, García es casado y tiene dos hijos. Su familia, esposa Carola e hijos Freddy Fernando y Diego Alexander, se unirán a García en Columbus dentro de uno o dos meses.



**Freddy García es la nueva adquisición de lujo del Columbus Crew.**

Greg Barron/MLS

## Ficha De Freddy García:

**Freddy García - # 15**

**Nombre Completo:**

Freddy Alexander García Carrera

**Posición:** Mediocampista

**Estatura:** 5 pies, 6 pulgadas

**Peso:** 132 libras

**Fecha de Nacimiento:** 12 de enero, 1977

**Lugar de Nacimiento:**

Puerto Barrios, Guatemala

**Nacionalidad:** Guatemalteco (Posee una "tarjeta verde")

**Último club:** CSD Comunicaciones (Primera división de Guatemala)

**Experiencia profesional:** Juca (1994-'99),

Universidad de San Carlos (1999-'00),

Comunicaciones (2000-'02)

**Experiencia con Selección Nacional de Guatemala:** equipo mayor (1997-'02)



# GRAZIANI: "EE.UU. PUEDE JUGAR CON CUALQUIERA"

## Ariel Graziani habla de su carrera del futuro de la MLS y mucho más

**A**riel Graziani, en su cuarta campaña dentro de la MLS, ha tenido un rendimiento muy regular dentro de la liga de primera división de los Estados Unidos. En todas partes que Ariel ha jugado, su presencia ha tenido un impacto.

Después de dos temporadas con el Dallas Burn, Ariel actualmente milita con los monarcas de la MLS, los San José Earthquakes, y en un poco tiempo se ha ganado la titularidad y el respeto de compañeros, el entrenador y de la afición.

Con 10 goles y 4 asistencias hasta la fecha (19 de julio, 2002), Graziani apunta a superar su marca personal de 15 goles impuesta en el 2000 con el Burn. El goleador de raza se siente contento con su nuevo equipo y con su vida emelesera.

"Estoy bien y muy contento y cuando estas contento es mucho más fácil que las cosas te salgan bien," dijo Graziani en una reciente entrevista. "El equipo esta ganando, tenemos un buen núcleo y mucho compañerismo. Esto ayuda que los jugadores tengan su mejor desempeño."

Graziani le da crédito al entrenador Frank Yallop por el buen paso del equipo y por su buen rendimiento a nivel personal. "Frank es muy abierto. El trata bien a los jugadores y porque es un ex jugador, sabe exactamente el sentir de los jugadores y sabe como comunicarse bien con todos nosotros."

Graziani confía en el futuro de la MLS y asegura que el buen paso de la selección de EE.UU. en el Mundial 2002 tendrá buenas consecuencias para la Liga.

"Fue un buen desarrollo lo que hizo la selección," asegura Graziani. "La buena actuación ciertamente ayuda para que la Liga siga creciendo ya que participaron muchos jugadores jóvenes que están dentro de la liga. Estuvo Landon (Donovan),

Clint (Mathis), DaMarcus (Beasley), entre otros"

La buena actuación de Team USA... "demuestra que (los Estados Unidos) está a la altura para jugar con cualquiera. Le da respeto a la selección y al país."

Sobre su tercera nominación para jugar en un Juego de las Estrellas Graziani dijo: "Me siento contento porque todos los jugadores trabajan en términos de objetivos. La mayoría ansia poder jugar en la selección. Se trabaja duro. Llegar al objetivo significa que las cosas andan bien."

Graziani confiesa que sintió un sentimiento mixto al presenciar la actuación del Ecuador en su primera Copa del Mundo. "Fue agri dulce," dice el goleador de 31 años de edad. "A uno le hubiese gustado estar. Uno hizo muchas cosas para estar allí. Pero me tocó verlo desde la TV y eso no me gustó."

Sobre las perspectivas de la MLS, Graziani dice que la infraestructura y el orden y profesionalismo es notable. También menciona que ciertamente, lo más importante es el nivel de juego, el cual es muy bueno. "Se juega un buen fútbol y se brinda un buen show para los aficionados. Muchos de nuestros jugadores estuvieron en el Mundial y nuestros aficionados tienen la oportunidad de verlos jugar semana tras semana."

Sobre su compañero de equipo, el excepcional Landon Donovan, dice: "Es un joven con gran presente y futuro. Gran definidor. Fuera de la cancha es gran persona. Muy humilde. La Liga tiene que aprovecharlo con la promoción y el mercadeo."

Ariel José Graziani Lentini, su nombre completo, nació en Empalme, provincia de Santa Fe Argentina en junio 7 de 1971 y debuto en primera en 1993 con el equipo de Newell's Old Boys de Rosario.

Su paso por Emelec de Ecuador, se puede decir que fue la vitrina mas grande que tubo Graziani para su carrera, no solo por haber quedado goleador en el campeonato local dos años consecutivos en la temporadas del 96 y 97, sino tam-

bién por haber actuado en la Copa Libertadores y su nacionalización para poder acudir a la convocatoria ecuatoriana, con la cual lleva 15 goles en 33 partidos.



**Ariel Graziani hará su tercera aparición en un Juego de las Estrellas de la MLS 2002.**

John Iord/ML S/Getty Images

### Ficha De Ariel Graziani:

**Ariel Graziani - # 20**

**Nombre Completo:** Ariel Jose Graziani Lentini

**Posición:** Delantero

**Estatura:** 6 pies

**Peso:** 160 libras

**Fecha de Nacimiento:** 7 de junio, 1971

**Lugar de Nacimiento:** Empalme, Argentina

**Experiencia profesional:** San Jose

Earthquakes (2002); Dallas Burn (1999-'01); New England Revolution (parte de 1999); Morelia (1998-'99); Emelec (1997-'98); Aucas (1995-'97); Sport Boys (1993-'94); Newell's Old Boys (1993)

**Experiencia con Selección Nacional:**

Graziani, nacionalizado ecuatoriano, tiene más de 30 apariciones con la selección mayor del Ecuador con 15 goles en su haber.



# 'El Fútbol Está Para Quedarse En Los Estados Unidos'

A sus 32 años, Etcheverry mencionó que ya vislumbra el momento de retirarse. "Jugaré dos años más, empecé muy joven en el fútbol profesional, a los 17 años, y quiero dedicarle más tiempo a mi familia".

El boliviano, considerado el mejor jugador de la MLS de todos los tiempos basado en sus numerosos premios a nivel individual y los tres campeonatos de liga que ganó D.C. United llevados de su mano, tiene planeado su despedida de las canchas de fútbol. "Para mi despedida me gustaría un partido entre el D.C. United y la selección boliviana en Washington, D.C. De hecho ya se ha hablado con la Federación y todo depende del calendario del equipo nacional".

Pero todavía hay "Diablo" para rato como lo confirma su nombramiento como el "Jugador de la Semana" en la segunda fecha del actual torneo.

## Faria Quiere Seguir Escalando en el Fútbol Estadounidense

Un jugador que sin duda disfrutó de una temporada inicial muy exitosa en el 2001 fue el joven delantero de los MetroStars, Rodrigo Faria, el delantero brasileño de 25 años. Mientras que su productividad ya no es sorpresa su rápida ascensión como profesional sigue siendo impresionante.

Faria llegó a los Estados Unidos apenas hace tres años animado por su padre y con el propósito de aprender inglés y educarse aprovechando una beca. El joven oriundo de Río de Janeiro consiguió mucho más de lo que se imaginó cuando elaboraba sus planes ya que hoy por hoy Faria ya es una figura de primer plano en el equipo "Gótico."

La historia de hadas de Faria empezó

cuando el joven se matricula en Concordia College en Nueva York. Rodrigo brilló en las canchas de fútbol jugando para el equipo universitario de segunda división (22 goles y 10 asistencias en dos temporadas) lo cual eventualmente fue notado por veedores de talento de MetroStars. El equipo metropolitano eventualmente lo escogió con la 13va selección en el SuperDraft del 2001.

Faria rápidamente mostró que la decisión de MetroStars estaba justificada teniendo una gran temporada

inicial anotando 8 goles con 2 asistencias y siendo elegido como el Novato del Año Kellogg's 2001.

Pero el brasileño no está satisfecho. Ahora su meta es convertirse en el máximo artillero de la liga y ganarse una plaza en la selección de los Estados Unidos.

"Los Estados Unidos me ha aceptado y me han tratado bien aquí," dijo Faria. "Es muy bonito y emocionante poder jugar con los MetroStars en la MLS. También sería una gran emoción poder vestir los colores de la selección de EE.UU., especialmente en un Mundial."

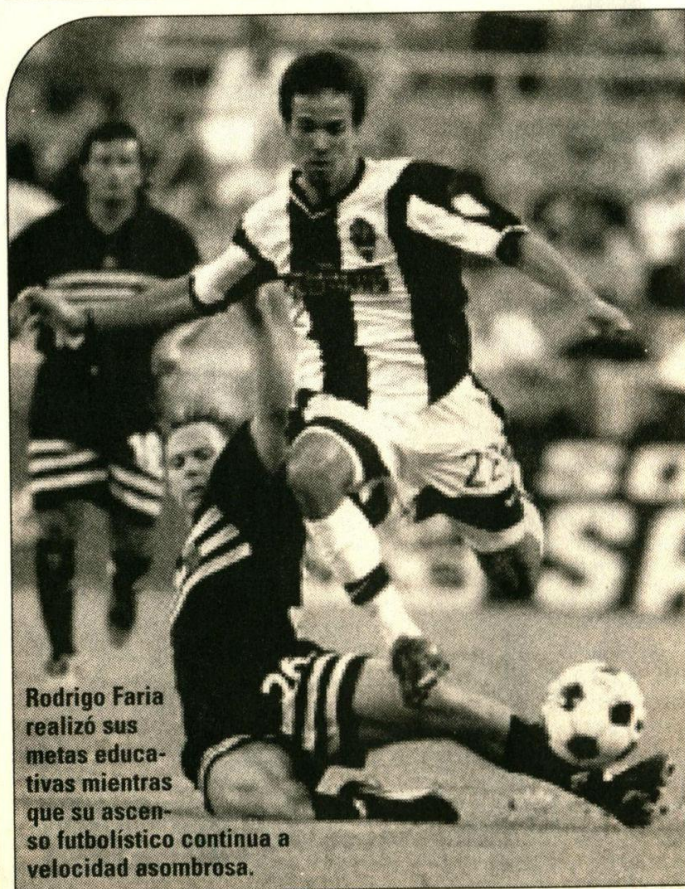
A pesar de que Faria ama a los MetroStars, él admite que su primer gran y perdurable amor es el equipo de su niñez, el Flamengo. De hecho, Faria todavía porta un tatuaje del Flamengo con orgullo.

"Esa es mi pasión," dijo Faria quien regularmente participa en clínicas futbolísticas informales con grupos infantiles en Bronxville, NY, donde reside. "Flamengo es el club más popular de Brasil. Cuando era niño Zico jugaba con el club y rápidamente se convirtió en mi ídolo," dijo Faria con emoción.

Después de ser dado de baja por los equipos juveniles de Flamengo y Vasco Da Gama, Faria se retiró del fútbol temporalmente. Pero su padre, Luis Fernando, lo empujó para consiguiera una educación y siguiera jugando.

Ahora Faria compone lo que muchos han llamado el "Turnpike Triangle" (Triangulo de la Autopista) junto a Clint Mathis y Diego Serna. Se anticipa que el triángulo será roto durante el Mundial cuando Mathis sea llamado para integrar la selección de EE.UU. Pero Faria confía que MetroStars estará bien debido al talento y profundidad de la escuadra.

"Somos candidatos a ganar el campeonato este año," asegura Faria. "Sobre mi persona puede decir que mi meta es ser el mejor delantero de la MLS y ayudar a que el equipo gane su primer campeonato."



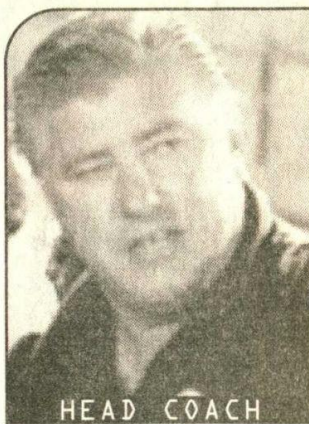
Rodrigo Faria realizó sus metas educativas mientras que su ascenso futbolístico continúa a velocidad asombrosa.

Tony Quinn/MLS





ASSISTANT COACH  
RALPH PEREZ



HEAD COACH  
SIGI SCHMID

"Our depth is going to be the surprise factor because the tightest part of the season is the playoffs."

### Welcome, one and all,

The MLS Cup has been elusive for us and that drives me.

There're three championships to be won in our region. We've won two of them, a U.S. Open Cup and F.C. Champions' Cup title. As a team from the United States, we want that missing third piece.

Our object is always to be playing our best soccer at the end of the season. That's objective number one in order to be prepared for the playoffs at the end of the year. The second objective is to be healthy. And thirdly, you want to have confidence and a belief in your ability to win big games.

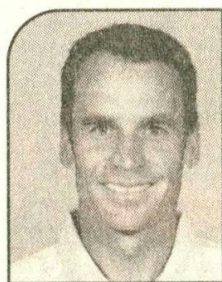
Last year, we won some very big games in the playoffs, put ourselves against the wall, and came out victorious with the exception of the final. We accomplished those victories because of the big games we won in the past.

Now is the time in the season that we must put together some consistency in our play and the necessary self-confidence. It's confidence and belief in oneself that is probably the most important ingredient in the playoffs.

Our depth is going to be the surprise factor because the tightest part of the season is the playoffs. That's when you play the most amount of games in the shortest period of time. It is the most difficult time for a team to get through com-



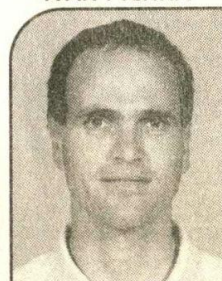
GOALKEEPER COACH  
ZAK ABDEL



STRENGTH AND  
CONDITIONING COACH  
JIM LISTON



HEAD ATHLETIC  
TRAINER  
IVAN PIERRA



VOLUNTEER COACH  
PIETER LEHRER



ON  
THE  
BENCH

pletely injury free. If somebody takes a knock then you're going to need somebody that can step into the starting squad seamlessly.

We have the depth now to establish our rhythm. The experiences that players like Ochoa, Moreno and Ginton, our reserve defenders like Waibel and Frye, all those experiences that they have gained during the season is going to be invaluable during the playoffs.

Finally, tradition is the last important factor. The Galaxy has a tradition of being a solid playoff team year in and year out. Players like Cobi Jones, Mauricio Cienfuegos, Ezra Hendrickson, Kevin Hartman and even Alexi Lalas, who has seen the other side of the coin, must pass on a respect for the club's jersey and the club's name to the younger players.

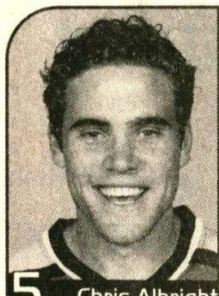
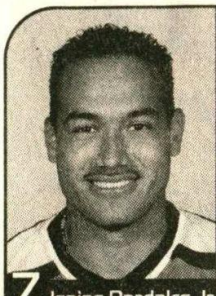
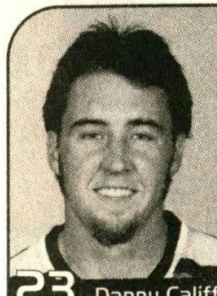
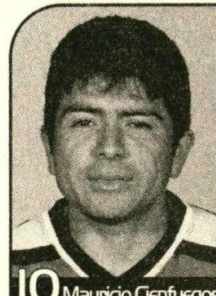
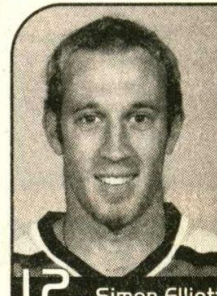
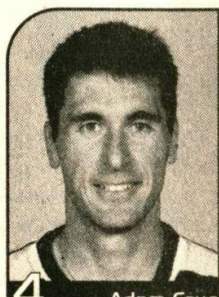
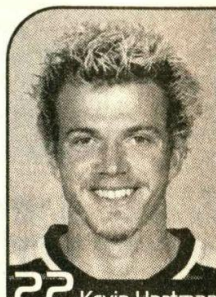
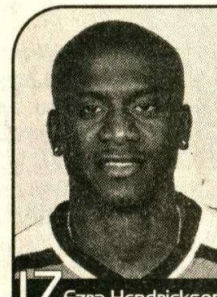
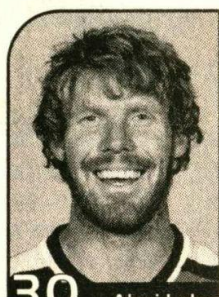
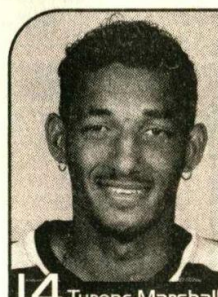
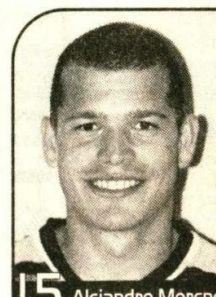
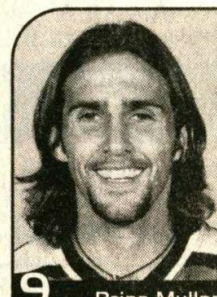
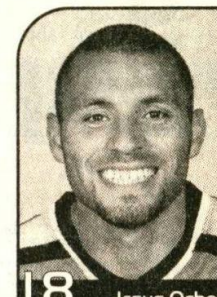
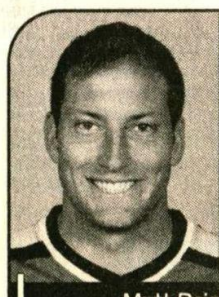
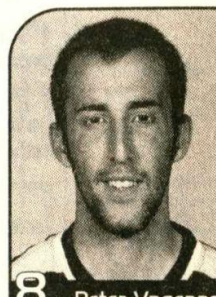
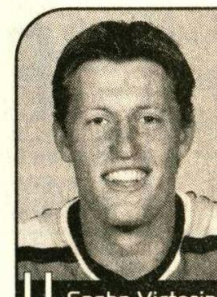
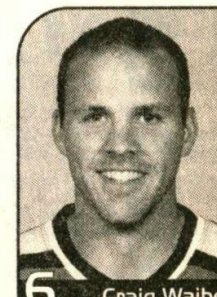
We know what the final missing piece of the puzzle is and we have the belief to put forth the necessary effort to make it a reality. Combined with the support of our 12th man, the fans, we are sure to see a championship in the Galaxy's stars.

See you at the Rose Bowl.

Sigi Schmid

DRIVING FOR A CHAMPIONSHIP



**5** Chris AlbrightForward HT: 6-1  
WT: 185 DOB: 1-14-79**7** Isaias Barales Jr.Forward HT: 5-10  
WT: 170 DOB: 8-18-79**16** Alex BengardMidfielder HT: 6-0  
WT: 165 DOB: 3-13-79**23** Danny CaliffDefender HT: 6-0  
WT: 180 DOB: 3-17-80**10** Mauricio CienfuegosMidfielder HT: 5-6  
WT: 143 DOB: 2-12-68**12** Simon ElliottMidfielder HT: 5-11  
WT: 175 DOB: 6-10-74**4** Adam FrueDefender HT: 5-8  
WT: 159 DOB: 2-15-74**2** Gavin GlintonForward HT: 5-10  
WT: 150 DOB: 3-1-79**22** Kevin HartmanGoal Keeper HT: 6-1  
WT: 185 DOB: 5-25-74**17** Ezra HendricksonDefender HT: 6-3  
WT: 185 DOB: 1-16-72**13** Cobi JonesMidfielder HT: 5-7  
WT: 145 DOB: 6-16-70**30** Alexi LalasDefender HT: 6-3  
WT: 210 DOB: 6-1-70**14** Tyrone MarshallDefender HT: 6-2  
WT: 190 DOB: 11-12-74**15** Alejandro MorenoForward HT: 5-9  
WT: 170 DOB: 7-8-79**9** Brian MullanForward HT: 5-8  
WT: 150 DOB: 4-23-78**18** Jesus OchoaMidfielder HT: 5-11  
WT: 170 DOB: 10-10-81**1** Matt ReisGoal Keeper HT: 6-1  
WT: 196 DOB: 3-28-75**20** Carlos RuizForward HT: 5-9  
WT: 170 DOB: 9-15-79**8** Peter VagenasMidfielder HT: 5-8  
WT: 160 DOB: 2-6-78**11** Sasha VictorineMidfielder HT: 6-2  
WT: 170 DOB: 2-3-78**6** Craig WaibelDefender HT: 6-1  
WT: 195 DOB: 8-21-75



WEDNESDAY - AUGUST 21 - 7:00 PM



PLAYER TO WATCH

PREKI

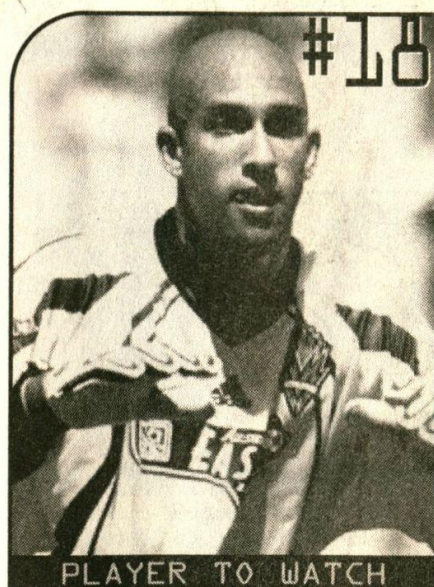
It took just three games for the Wizards to get the offensive punch they coveted when they signed Argentinean forward Dario Fabbro early in 2002. Fabbro notched his first two MLS goals against Dallas on June 1. Then came Russian forward Igor Simutenkov, who tallied his first two MLS goals against New England on June 22. Now the two international strikers are leading the Wizards march towards the MLS Cup Playoffs in September.

The addition of the two foreigners helped spark a Wizards team that scored just one goal per game through the first six games of the season and now average nearly double that when Fabbro and Simutenkov are in the starting lineup. The two have gelled nicely into what is becoming one of the top forward tandems in MLS.

Since his return from the 2002 World Cup, goalkeeper Tony Meola has led the way defensively with his solid performance in net. Coupled with the midfield play of Preki and the scoring infusion of Fabbro and Simutenkov, the Wizards will be ready to make a run at their second MLS Cup Championship.

## KANSAS CITY WIZARDS™ ROSTER

No.	Player Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	D.O.B.
1	Tony Meola	GK	6-1	205	2-21-69
2	Matt McKeon	D/M	6-3	195	9-24-74
3	Nick Garcia	D	5-10	160	4-9-79
4	Mike Burns	D/M	5-9	165	9-14-70
5	Kerry Zavagnin	M	5-10	170	7-2-74
6	Peter Vermes	D	6-1	175	11-21-66
7	Diego Gutierrez	M	5-7	155	11-3-72
8	Chris Brown	F/M	5-11	170	3-10-77
9	Dario Fabbro	F	6-2	178	11-3-76
10	Francisco Gomez	M	5-11	170	1-25-79
11	Preki	M	5-9	165	6-24-63
14	Carey Talley	D	6-2	180	8-26-76
16	Stephen Armstrong	M	5-10	165	7-23-76
17	Chris Klein	M	6-1	180	1-4-76
18	Chris Brunt	D	5-11	165	1-1-80
19	Eric Quill	F	5-10	170	2-28-78
20	Jose Burciaga Jr.	D	6-1	166	11-16-81
21	Igor Simutenkov	D	5-8	145	4-3-73
22	Davy Arnaud	M	6-0	165	6-22-80
25	Bo Oshoniyi	GK	6-1	190	11-3-71
30	Taly Goode	GK	6-3	200	8-25-78



PLAYER TO WATCH

TIM HOWARD

The MetroStars began the season with three wins in their first four games, but a slump in May saw the team shake up its roster in trades with D.C. United and New England.

Midfielders Petter Villegas, Daniel Hernandez and Brian Kamler, forward Diego Serna and reserve defender Orlando Perez are gone. The new talent entering the locker room: prolific striker Mamadou Diallo, midfielders Andy Williams and Mark Lisi and defenders Ted Chronopoulos and Craig Ziadie.

The MetroStars hope these new players will blend with the team's established veterans to bring the winning ways back to New York/New Jersey area fans. Despite the May slump, the team was only trailing first place by a few points, thanks to their strong early season success.

Tab Ramos, who announced his retirement from soccer following the current season, will be making his final appearance in many stadiums this year.

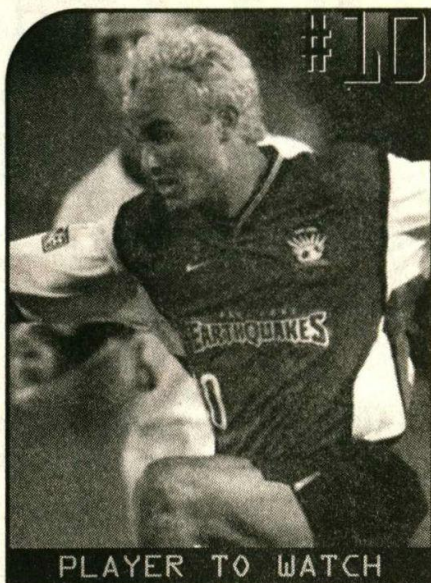
## METROSTARS™

## ROSTER

No.	Player Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	D.O.B.
2	Ted Chronopoulos	D	6-0	168	9-16-72
3	Sam Forko	D	5-9	155	9-2-78
4	Brad Davis	M	5-11	165	11-8-81
5	Steve Jolley	D	6-1	190	10-15-75
6	Jeff Moore	M	5-8	155	1-15-80
7	Andy Williams	M	5-8	155	9-23-77
8	Mark Lisi	M	6-1	165	10-11-77
9	Byron Alvarez	M/F	5-8	167	10-21-78
10	Tab Ramos	M	5-7	150	9-21-66
11	Ross Paule	M	5-10	160	4-4-76
12	Mike Petke	D	6-2	187	1-30-76
13	Clint Mathis	M/F	5-10	170	11-25-76
14	Joe Addo	D	6-0	180	9-12-71
15	Mamadou Diallo	F	6-3	210	8-28-71
16	Craig Ziadie	D	5-10	172	9-20-78
17	Marcelo Balboa	D/M	6-1	175	8-8-67
18	Tim Howard	GK	6-3	210	3-6-79
19	Dustin Sheppard	M/F	5-11	180	9-23-80
22	Rodrigo Faria	F	6-1	150	2-24-77
27	Martin Klinger	F	5-11	140	7-9-80
30	Paul Grafer	GK	6-3	200	8-7-74



SATURDAY - SEPTEMBER 14 - 8:00 PM



PLAYER TO WATCH  
LANDON DONOVAN

Coming off their first-ever MLS Cup Championship, the Quakes have the majority of their team returning for a second run at the championship.

2001 MLS Coach of the Year Frank Yallop returns for his second season in charge of the Quakes. And he can again count on having a balanced team, starting from the back. He has a defense led by captain Jeff Agoos, who was named the 2001 MLS Defender of the Year, and the resurgent Troy Dayak, who overcame career-threatening injuries to have a stellar 2001 campaign. Behind those central defenders, the Quakes can rely on one of the top goalkeepers in the league, Joe Cannon, who finished second in goals against (1.09) in 2001.

The midfield combines strong possession players in the middle, Ronnie Ekelund and Richard Mulrooney, with attacking options Ian Russell and Manny Lagos on the wings. Lagos and Russell should again combine well with the Quakes powerful strike force that includes Landon Donovan, Ariel Graziani, Dwayne De Rosario, Devin Barclay, and first round draft pick Luchi Gonzalez.



## ROSTER

No.	Player Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	D.O.B.
1	Joe Cannon	GK	6-2	190	1-1-75
2	Eddie Robinson	D/M	6-1	180	6-19-78
4	Chris Roner	M	5-10	185	3-4-80
5	Ramiro Corrales	D	6-0	180	3-12-77
6	Ronnie Ekelund	M	6-0	180	8-21-72
7	Ian Russell	M/F	5-10	170	8-30-75
8	Richard Mulrooney	M	5-9	160	11-3-76
9	Scott Bower	M/F	5-8	160	6-27-78
10	Landon Donovan	F	5-9	155	3-4-82
11	Manny Lagos	M	6-0	165	6-11-71
12	Jeff Agoos	D	5-10	175	5-2-68
13	Devin Barclay	F	5-11	165	4-9-83
14	Dwayne DeRosario	F	5-11	164	5-15-78
15	Luchi Gonzalez	M/F	5-8	156	7-14-80
17	Jimmy Conrad	D	6-2	185	2-12-77
18	Jon Conway	GK	6-6	205	5-6-77
19	Troy Dayak	D	5-11	175	1-21-71
20	Ariel Graziani	F	6-0	165	6-7-71
22	Zak Ibsen	D/M	5-11	170	6-2-72
24	Wade Barrett	M	5-8	155	6-23-76





# 2002 GALAXY SCHEDULE

## DATE

## OPPONENT

## TIME/ RESULT

### March

Sat. 23 D.C. United 2-1 W

### April

Sat. 6 Chicago 2-1 W

Sat. 13 Dallas 1-1 T

Sat. 20 at Dallas 1-1 T

Sat. 27 Colorado 0-1 L

### May

Sat. 4 at Kansas City 2-1 W

Sat. 11 at Chicago 1-0 W

Sat. 18 at Kansas City 1-2 L

Sat. 25 at New England 2-3 L

### June

Sat. 1 at Colorado 2-3 L

Sat. 8 Chicago 1-0 W

Sat. 15 at MetroStars 0-5 L

Sat. 22 Dallas 3-0 W

Sat. 29 at D.C. United 0-1 L

### July

Thur. 4 San Jose 2-1 W

Sun. 7 at San Jose 0-1 L

Sat. 13 at Colorado 3-1 W

Sat. 20 Kansas City 2-2 T

Sat. 27 Columbus 2-1 W

### August

Sat. 3 All-Star Game at Washington, D.C.

Sat. 10 New England 7:00 p.m.

Wed. 14 at Columbus 4:30 p.m.

Sat. 17 Colorado 7:00 p.m.

Wed. 21 Kansas City 7:00 p.m.

Sat. 24 at Dallas 5:30 p.m.

Sat. 31 MetroStars 7:00 p.m.

### September

Sat. 7 at Chicago 5:30 p.m.

Sat. 14 San Jose 8:00 p.m.

Sat. 21 at San Jose 7:00 p.m.



## 2002 GALAXY PROMOTIONS

### IN-STADIUM

**August 31:** Come see U.S. World Cup stars Clint Mathis and Cobi Jones as your Galaxy and the Metrostars kickoff the sixth *Los Angeles Times* Family Game of the season at 7:00pm. For as low as \$45, this Family Game will feature 4 hot dogs, 4 sodas, 4 tickets and two Sasha Victorine posters! Additional tickets (with food) are available. This offer is only available in advance. Family Games are brought to you courtesy of KLVE 107.5FM, KLOS 95.5FM and KCAL Channel 9.

**September 14 - WUSA Doubleheader:** Watch U.S. World Cup stars Cobi Jones and Landon Donovan as your Los Angeles Galaxy take on the defending MLS Champion San Jose Earthquakes in this end of the season battle beginning at 8:00pm. Prior to the game, see the San Diego Spirit vs. Philadelphia Charge of the WUSA at 5:00pm. In addition, come celebrate Youth Soccer Day as the first 4,000 youth soccer players 16 and under, wearing their team jersey, will receive a free soccer ball.

For information, and to purchase advance tickets, call toll free: 1-877-3GALAXY.

### FOLLOW THE GALAXY ON KCAL 9

Date	Opponent	Time
Sat. September 7	Chicago (delayed)	7:00pm
Sun. September 21	San Jose	6:30pm

Make sure you catch the Galaxy pregame show, *Galaxy Countdown*, hosted by Joe Tutino and Rick Davis.

### GALAXY E-NEWS

Sign up for our free online newsletter and stay informed! We will update all Galaxy E-News subscribers with news, special ticket offers, player appearances and much more. Just log on to [www.lagalaxy.com](http://www.lagalaxy.com) and look for the Galaxy E-News logo to sign up.

### GALAXY SHUTTLE

Look out! The Los Angeles Galaxy Shuttle may be coming to a soccer field near you. This mobile Soccer Extravaganza appears all over Southern California at soccer tournaments, community festivals, corporate events and at our very own Soccerfest. The experience features the official Galaxy obstacle course, speedkick, accuracy shot and human foosball. Check out our activity calendar on [www.lagalaxy.com/shuttle.html](http://www.lagalaxy.com/shuttle.html) to see our schedule of visits or to book your own.



# GALAXY, UN PROTAGONISTA EN LA FIESTA GRANDE DE LA MLS



**Cobi Jones, es el actual capitán del equipo angelino.**

**E**l Galaxy de Los Angeles es tan sólo uno de los dos equipos de la Major League Soccer que ha sido protagonista habitual de la serie final en la disputa del campeonato, serie también conocida como playoffs, durante los pasados seis años de existencia de la liga. El otro es el Burn de Dallas.

Esa consistencia por parte del elenco angelino en cuanto a participaciones en la liguilla final, que incluye la presencia en tres finales de la MLS para el equipo angelino, tiene varias explicaciones: dirección técnica, jugadores estelares y el orgullo de representar a una ciudad como Los Angeles, acostumbrada a la excelencia deportiva.

Mención aparte merece su fiel afición, que siempre exige al equipo su mejor actuación y los máximos logros en cada temporada.

El actual conductor del equipo, Sigi Schmid, trajo desde su llegada a principios de la temporada 1999, su historial como técnico ganador y

campeón en el circuito universitario de la NCAA, dirigiendo a UCLA, además de su experiencia con selecciones nacionales, como la de técnico principal de la selección estadounidense Sub-20 que intervino en el Mundial de FIFA Nigeria-99, para esa categoría, así como su labor dentro del cuerpo técnico que tuvo como cabeza a Bora Milutinovic, durante el Mundial USA-94.

Bajo la batuta de Sigi Schmid, el Galaxy ha disputado dos finales en la MLS, la de 1999 y la del 2001.

"Se necesita consistencia, tanto en el juego como en el plantel. El Galaxy ha cambiado muchos jugadores en los últimos siete años, pero nunca modificó su equipo titular de temporada a temporada en forma significativa, con

cinco o seis jugadores. Eso propone una filosofía de consistencia que los jugadores entienden y que se mantiene en la organización," dijo Sigi Schmid, al explicar el éxito del equipo.

"La temporada es muy larga y no se puede esperar que el equipo mantenga su máximo nivel de juego a través de toda la campaña. Por eso se ven equipos que suben y bajan. Es algo natural. Lo más importante, es encontrar la cohesión, la unidad y el colectivo al final de la temporada. Ya en la liguilla, todo tiene qué ver con creer en sí mismo, en creer que somos capaces de ganar y tener la disposición para esforzarse en pos de la victoria", concluyó el estratega galáctico.

Antes de Schmid, el equipo contó con los servicios de Lothar Osiander, otro técnico con experiencia internacional dirigiendo a selecciones nacionales de varios niveles, incluyendo participaciones en Juegos Panamericanos y Juegos Olímpicos. Osiander fue el primer estratega en la

historia del Galaxy y la temporada inaugural de la MLS llevó al equipo hasta la final acumulando una marca de 19 triunfos y 13 derrotas durante la temporada regular, mientras que en la posttemporada, el equipo galáctico sumó 5 triunfos y dos derrotas.

La más dolorosa, sin embargo, fue aquel 3-2 en la final celebrada en Foxboro, Massachusetts, frente al DC United, después de tener una ventaja de 2-0 en el marcador.

Entre los jugadores que Osiander tenía a su disposición, se cuentan a los seleccionados Cobi Jones y Chris Armas, así como a los internacionales Mauricio Cienfuegos, mediocampista salvadoreño, el portero mundialista mexicano Jorge Campos y el goleador ecuatoriano Eduardo 'Tanque' Hurtado.

"Calificar a los playoffs es casi una obligación para el Galaxy. Por naturaleza, desde el inicio de la liga, ha sido uno de los protagonistas. Todo lo que nos falta, es ganar la Copa MLS y considero que éste año lo podemos lograr", dijo Mauricio Cienfuegos, quien agregó: "La afición de Los Angeles sabe mucho de fútbol y siempre espera lo mejor del equipo. Incluso los jugadores nuevos sienten de inmediato la exigencia de dar su mejor esfuerzo porque el equipo siempre tiene que estar en los primeros planos".

Por su parte, Cobi Jones, que junto a Cienfuegos, es el único jugador del equipo original del Galaxy de 1996, comentó:

"Este es un equipo que siempre ha contado a través de los años con jugadores y técnicos de calidad, con una gran actitud. Creo que se debe dar crédito a los jugadores por su dedicación al deporte y por su determinación para llevar al equipo a los playoffs en cada torneo. También se debe reconocer el apoyo de los aficionados, porque para ser un equipo ganador se necesitan mucho más que sólo buenos jugadores o buenos técnicos".

A mediados de la temporada 1997, Octavio Zambrano asumió el mando para clasificar al equipo en el segundo lugar de la Conferencia



# GALAXY, UN PROTAGONISTA EN LA FIESTA GRANDE DE LA MLS



Essy Gahvameddini

**Mauricio Cienfuegos, un jemplo de continuidad y consistencia en las filas del Galaxy.**

Oeste, acumulando una marca de 13 triunfos y 7 derrotas que incluyó una racha de cinco victorias al hilo en el mes de julio.

Desafortunadamente, el Galaxy quedó, por primera y única vez en su historia, eliminado en la primera ronda de los playoffs, precisamente frente a Dallas.

La de 1998 fue la temporada de revancha para Zambrano, quien condujo a la nave galáctica a imponer una marca de victorias en un torneo regular, con 24, por 8 derrotas, además de hilvanar una serie de ocho triunfos seguidos y de establecer también una marca que sigue inalcanzable en la MLS, la de goles anotados en una temporada regular, con un total de 85,

De esta forma el Galaxy volvió a verse las caras contra el Burn, al que eliminó limpiando la serie con dos victorias consecutivas, pero en la batalla por el título de la Conferencia y el pase a la gran final, frente al Fire de Chicago, el equipo angelino quedó eliminado.

Luego vino el arribo de Sigi Schmid, quien asumió el mando en los primeros meses de la temporada

de 1999, terminando en el primer lugar de la Conferencia Oeste con una marca de 20 triunfos y 12 derrotas, además de que dos de sus jugadores recibieron los máximos honores por su labor defensiva. Kevin Hartman fue elegido como el Portero del Año, mientras que Robin Fraser era seleccionado como el Mejor Defensa de la liga,

una buena racha de once victorias al hilo.

El primer rival en la liguilla fue el Mutiny de Tampa Bay, que se quedó en el camino, pero ya en la fase de semifinales, por segunda ocasión en su historia, Los Angeles se quedó a un paso de la final, en ésta oportunidad eliminado por el Wizards de Kansas City, eventual campeón de la MLS en esa temporada.

Y en la más reciente capaña, el equipo angelino volvió a ingeniárselas para finalizar en el primer lugar de la División Oeste y con un nuevo formato en la disputa de los playoffs, pasó sobre el MetroStars de Nueva York y el Fire de Chicago, para instalarse nuevamente como finalista.

La cita para la disputa de la Copa MLS 2001 fue Columbus, Ohio, donde el Terremotos de San José, después de un batalla que finalizó empatada 1-1, aprovechó un 'gol de oro' de Dwayne DeRosario para llevarse el título y dejar nuevamente al Galaxy a un paso de la gloria.

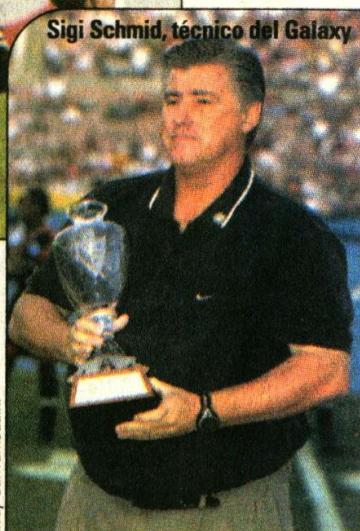
Sin embargo, a pesar de que el equipo angelino sigue buscando la elusiva Copa MLS, sus aficionados se sienten orgullosos porque en las vitrinas de la institución brillan el trofeo de Campeones de la CONCACAF, en su edición 2000, así como la Copa Abierta 'Lamar Hunt' de la US Soccer de 2001.

El Galaxy se adjudicó el torneo regional, disputado en las sedes de Fullerton y Los Angeles en el mes de enero de 2001, luego de vencer en la gran final al Olimpia de Honduras, con marcador de 3-2, luego de haber dejado en el camino al Real España de Honduras y al DC United.

Por lo que corresponde a la Copa Abierta, el equipo angelino ganó por primera vez esa añeja competencia, gracias a un 'gol de oro' de Danny Califf que doblegó al Revolution de Nueva Inglaterra, en una final celebrada el 27 de octubre de 2001, en el estadio Titán de Fullerton.

Pero estas conquistas no conforman a los exigentes seguidores del Galaxy que siguen esperando que su equipo les de el orgullo de ser conocidos como los campeones de la MLS.

Después de todo, éste es el equipo de Los Angeles, una ciudad de campeones.



Essy Gahvameddini

**Sigi Schmid, técnico del Galaxy**

al promediar el equipo sólo 0.91 goles en contra por partido.

Al mismo tiempo, Sigi Schmid fue elegido como el Mejor Técnico del Año, en su primera temporada en la MLS.

Ya en la liguilla, el Galaxy dejó en el camino al Rapids de Colorado y al Burn de Dallas, pero en la gran final, nuevamente frente al DC United, volvió a quedar corto, perdiendo en esa oportunidad por marcador de 2-0.

En la campaña del año 2000, a pesar de experimentar la menor producción de goles en sus cinco años de historia, el Galaxy volvió a meterse a los playoffs, ésta vez como segundo lugar de la Conferencia Oeste, gracias en parte a





# Alejandro MORENO

# #15

Position: Forward

Date of Birth: 7-8-79

Weight: 170

Height: 5-9

Hometown:

Caracas, Venezuela

College:

UNC-Greensboro

Acquired: Drafted by the Los Angeles Galaxy in the third round (27th overall) in the 2002 MLS SuperDraft.

Juan Miranda/LA Galaxy

**What's your favorite?**

Movie - *Braveheart*

Actor - Mel Gibson

Actress - Julia Roberts

Color - Blue

Food - NY Center Cut Steak with Baked Potato

**At what age did you first step onto the soccer field?**

Three. I was watching my older brother, who is three years older, starting his first year and I remember going with my dad to watch him play.

**Why do you wear number 15?**

That was the first number I wore competitively when I was seven. I went to an old Catholic school and I remember the priest who was in charge of the athletic department handing me the number 15 to be sown onto my shirt. My number has changed over the years and I've worn nine and eleven, but fifteen has always been special.

**Do you have any pregame rituals?**

For the game, I wear these raggedy socks for luck under my game socks.

**Did you have any nicknames growing up?**

Given that I was always with my brother and most of his friends didn't bother finding out my name, they'd call me "Homerito". My brother's name is Homer and in Spanish "Homerito" means little Homer.

**Who was your favorite soccer player growing up?**

Growing up it was Michael Platini from France, who played for Juventus in Italy.

**What's your most memorable soccer moment?**

At 13, I took my first trip out of Venezuela with a competitive soccer team and we did pretty well winning a couple of tournaments in Denmark and Norway. That told me that maybe I could do this and maybe I was good enough.

**What is your favorite tourist activity to do in Southern California?**

To be honest, I haven't been around that much in Southern California, but I'd like to catch a Dodgers game because I'm a big baseball fan.







The Los Angeles Galaxy and the Galaxy Foundation are committed to giving back to the people and communities that support us. Through the involvement of our players, coaches and front office staff, we will continue to be active community partners.

## KICKS FOR KIDS

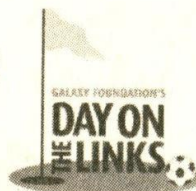
The Kicks for Kids program gives businesses, corporations and individuals the opportunity to provide Galaxy season tickets to nonprofit organizations and community groups that benefit inner-city, at-risk and special needs children in Southern California. During the 2002 MLS season, the Galaxy, Galaxy Foundation and our community partners will continue to provide children's charities and groups with the opportunity to see the Galaxy in action.

**Eddie Wedelstedt and the Goalie Charitable Foundation** have once again generously committed to donating 400 season seats to **Eddie's Kids Corner**, a special section of the Rose Bowl designated at every home game.

The Los Angeles Galaxy and Galaxy Foundation would like to acknowledge the following community partners for their contribution to the 2002 Kicks for Kids program:

**A & A Ready Mixed Concrete, Inc.**  
**Advanced Structures, Inc.**  
**Bali Construction, Inc.**  
**Barkley's Brookside LLC**  
**Crown Fence Co.**  
**Eddie Wedelstedt and the Goalie Charitable Foundation**  
**Farmer's Insurance Group**  
**Five Star Parking**  
**Ford of Montebello**  
**G & C Equipment Corporation**  
**Hispanic Broadcasting Corporation**  
**John A. Martin & Associates**  
**KCAL 9**  
**Kick 10 Promotions**  
**KROQ 106.7 FM**  
**Los Angeles Times**  
**Marina Landscape, Inc.**  
**Miller Honda/Toyota**  
**Monteleone & McCrory**  
**Morrow-Meadows Corporation**  
**PCL Construction Services**  
**Ronald L. Fresh**  
**South Coast Air Quality Management District**  
**Southern California Grading, Inc.**  
**Sullivan Concrete Textures**  
**Troyer Contracting Co., Inc.**  
**Viacom Outdoor**

## GALAXY FOUNDATION'S DAY ON THE LINKS



The Galaxy Foundation would like to thank **Budweiser** and the **Pepsi Bottling Group** for their sponsorship of the First Annual "Day on the Links" Golf Outing and recognize the following for their support:

**ABC Radio Group**  
**Adlink**  
**AEG Real Estate**  
**All Access Entertainment**  
**Cal State-Fullerton Athletics**  
**Farmer John**  
**Golden West Pools**  
**HBC - LA**  
**KCAL 9**  
**Marbri Investments**  
**Murray Company**  
**Nix Check Cashing**  
**Pacific Coast Soccer Club**

We would also like to acknowledge Goudy Honda, Global Golf & Gift Inc., Nike, Brookside Golf Club, and all the Galaxy players and volunteers for contributing to the success of the "Day on the Links" Golf Outing.

## UPCOMING EVENTS



**Saturday, August 31, 2002:**

**Galaxy Foundation's First Annual 5k Run**

Please call (626) 535-8327 for more information.

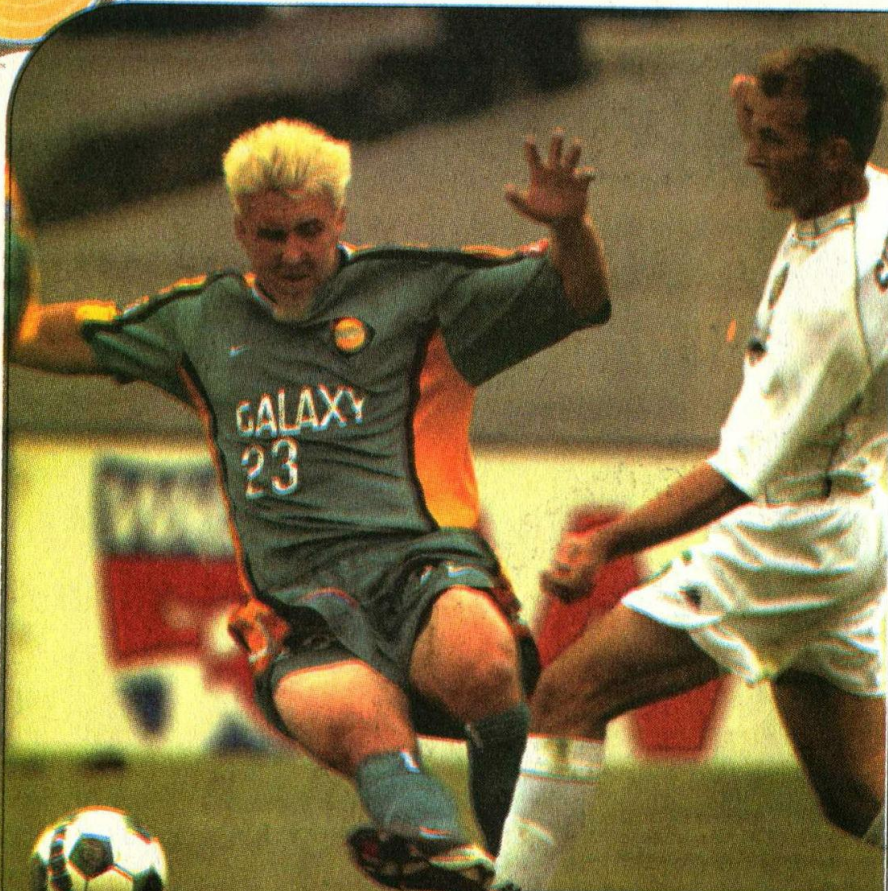
**Together we can make a difference!**

# GALAXY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND GALAXY FOUNDATION



# HomegrownTALENT

**GALAXY**



**Defender Danny Califf is just one of many Galaxy players who gives back to the community by coaching youth teams.**

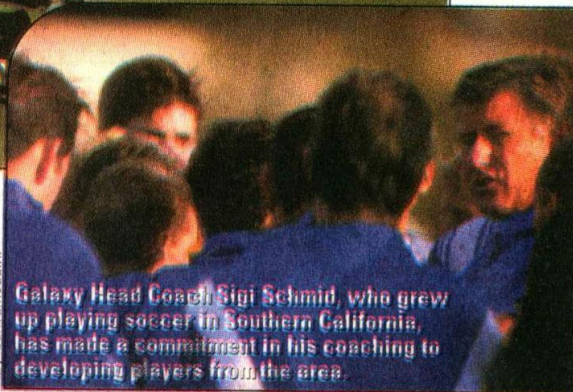
Essy Gahvameddini

Every afternoon on the grassy lawn outside the Rose Bowl, a hoard of kids in brightly colored shirts and pennies run around with soccer balls at their feet.

The Los Angeles Galaxy's Peter Vagenas, a Pasadena native, was once one of those kids. Today, he's one of the Galaxy's primary midfielders finishing last season with more starts than any other player on the team.

In terms of homegrown talent, Vagenas is not alone. Of the Galaxy's 21-man roster, a total of 10 players either grew up playing soccer in Southern California or honed their skills at a nearby university. Another two did the same in Northern California.

The only other team to hold a comparable



**Galaxy Head Coach Sigi Schmid, who grew up playing soccer in Southern California, has made a commitment in his coaching to developing players from the area.**

Essy Gahvameddini

number of players from the surrounding area on their roster is the NY/NJ MetroStars. But California dominates League-wide, sending more players to MLS than any other state.

So do players from Southern California have an advantage? Having played everywhere in the country, Vagenas thinks so.

"Southern California is a hotbed in terms of soccer. There's so many competitive kids playing in this area, and that contributes to the fact that

they're getting better. Plus, you can play year-round outside and that's a big advantage."

Another major reason why so many of the Galaxy's players are from Southern California is Head Coach Sigi Schmid. Schmid spent 21 years coaching at nearby UCLA before signing on with the Galaxy. While in Westwood he led his team to 16 consecutive postseason appearances, including three NCAA National Championships.

"Soccer and its growth in Southern California is very important to me," Schmid said. "When I first started playing I was the weirdo. When I played for UCLA, I was the first American citizen to be on scholarship, and when I became the head coach I really wanted to be committed to the Southern California players that I saw developing."

The effects are clear. For the Galaxy, their largest pool of talent washes in from UCLA. Current players who have donned the blue and gold are defender Adam Frye, goalkeepers Kevin Hartman and Matt Reis, midfielders Peter Vagenas and Sasha Victorine, and three-time World Cup midfielder Cobi Jones.

By no means has the impact of homegrown talent gone unnoticed by the higher ups. In a continuing effort to support youth soccer and develop future MLS players, the Galaxy has announced two new partnerships this year.

The first is the development of the Galaxy Reserves, formerly the Orange County Blue Stars. This semi-professional team plays in the Premier Development League and will provide an invaluable stepping-stone for players who hope to make it to MLS.

The second is a three-year marketing deal with California Youth Soccer Association, the first of its kind in MLS. The Galaxy and its parent company, AEG, will assist CYSA-South with advertising, sponsorship sales and the seeking out of grants to further education and youth development.

These two new alliances are only part of the symbiotic relationship the Galaxy and Southern



# HomegrownTALENT



Essy Gahvameddini

Galaxy midfielder Peter Vagenas is one of 10 Galaxy players who grew up playing soccer in Southern California

California share. Programs including the Galaxy Foundation, Lalas Land, and Kicks for Kids allow the Galaxy to give back to the community that supports it while stimulating the regions' young soccer talent.

For hometown players like Danny Califf of Orange, that's the best part.

"It makes a big deal to kids knowing that you grew up around here and that you're just like them," Califf said. "It's really important because it gives kids an opportunity to see that we're just regular guys and that it's a real possibility if they work hard, take care of the on and off the field stuff, that this is a reality."

With the construction of the newly named Home Depot National Training Center moving along, the future of soccer in Southern California is only getting brighter. The Galaxy will move to the new stadium in June 2003, while the U.S. National Team will make it their official training site.

Now those kids dribbling and tackling outside

the Rose Bowl have an even greater chance of making their dreams come true.

## Name (Hometown) College

### Born and Raised

Alex Bengard	(Chino Hills)	CSU Dominguez Hills
Danny Califf	(Orange)	Maryland
Gavin Ginton	(Brentwood)	Bradley
Kevin Hartman	(Palos Verdes)	UCLA
Cobi Jones	(Westlake Village)	UCLA
Jesus Ochoa	(Riverside)	Cal Baptist University
Matt Reis	(Mission Viejo)	UCLA
Peter Vagenas	(Pasadena)	UCLA
Sasha Victorine	(Corona)	UCLA

### Tried and Tested

Adam Frye	(Alamagordo, New Mexico)	UCLA
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### Imported Goods

Isaias Bardales	(San Jose)	San Jose State
Simon Elliot	(New Zealand)	Stanford

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# #30 ALEXI LALAS



ESSY GHAVAMEDINI/LA GALAXY



# A RACE FOR THE AGES

Three of MLS' most prolific scorers battle it out for the title of "best ever"

**C**areer points scored. It's Major League Soccer's equivalent to the single-season home run record in baseball. While baseball's mark should be safe this year, the opposite is true for the MLS career-scoring crown, as the chase for the top spot is heating up this summer.

In a unique twist to this prestigious race, all three of MLS' leading scorers are still active players and are in position to leapfrog one another from week to week. The career points crown has changed hands not once, but twice so far this season (through Aug. 1).

As Dallas' Jason Kreis, Kansas City's Preki and D.C. United's Roy Lassiter continue to do battle against MLS foes every weekend, the record could continue to go back-and-forth among the three veterans who have played in MLS from Day One.

The 2002 MLS campaign started with Lassiter, then a Kansas City Wizards striker, atop the charts at 211 points. In attempting to regain his finishing touch, Lassiter got few chances to produce and was unable to build on his lead.

In June Lassiter was picked up by D.C. United with the club hoping he could show glimpses of his form of 1998 and 1999, when he registered 89 points in just 55 games for the Black-and-Red. While he has struggled recently, and relinquished the top spot, Lassiter still has the fight in him to battle back in the hunt for the crown.

"There's always a sense of pride that goes along with being the best at something," he said. "I've still got the goals scored record (88), but I want

the points mark back too. I'm not too far behind the other two, so I know I can still get them."

In his prime "Rocket Roy" was the deadliest finisher in MLS. In fact, Lassiter has three of the six most productive seasons ever in MLS, including a League-record 58 points in 1996. According to United Head Coach Ray Hudson, the all-time MLS leading goal scorer will be remembered as one of the greatest pure finishers fans have ever seen.

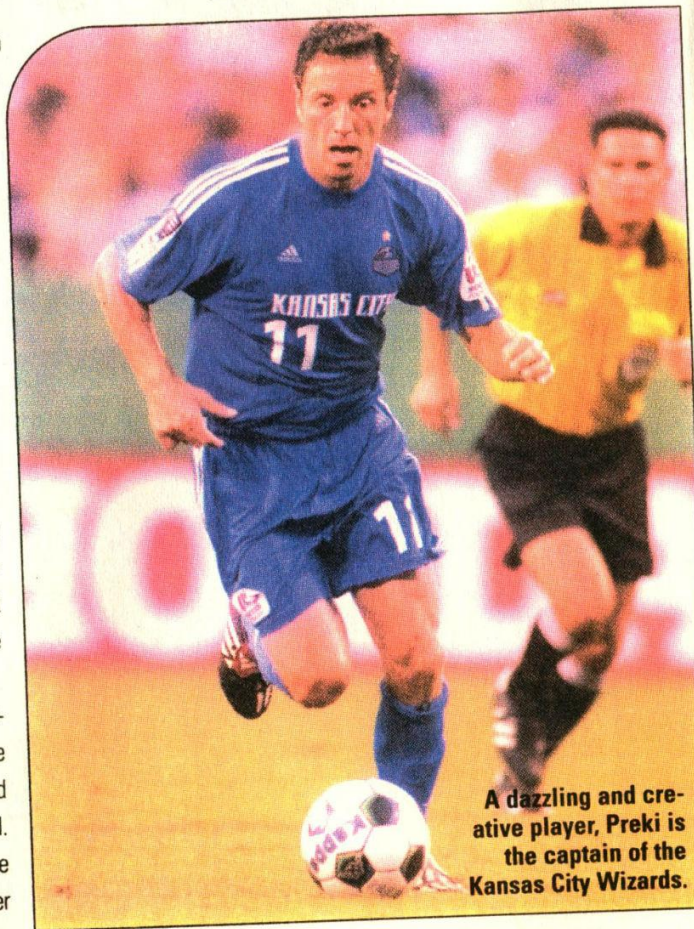
"Roy has been a tremendous poacher, a stiletto type player that relies on good service," Hudson said. "Roy's legacy will be that he was a tremendous finisher and taker of chances.

Finishing chances is a difficult art—there is nothing elementary about it. The fact that Roy was able to complete the hardest task in the sport, and do it very well, makes him a special player."

Lassiter's lead lasted until June 22, when his old Wizards teammate Preki took over the top spot by scoring his fourth goal of the season in a 3-2 victory against New England. The 39-year-old legend came into the season third in career assists with 83 and fifth in goals with 58.

According to Hudson, who coached the midfielder in Miami last season, the numbers are merely a byproduct of what Preki brings to the table.

"The statistics are a wonderful cherry on his cake, but that's not what Preki's about," Hudson said. "The fact that he produces statistics to battle his artistry is such a testament to him being a supreme player. He has been one of the top three



A dazzling and creative player, Preki is the captain of the Kansas City Wizards.

Ed Zurga/MLS

consistent, brilliant and breathtaking footballers in MLS history, and he's one of the truly great competitive players this League will ever see."

"I'm not really concerned about scoring or any of that," Preki said. "Newspaper reporters see that kind of stuff. I didn't know I was among the leading scorers until my teammates told me. My job is to do whatever it takes to help my team win."

Like a fine wine, Preki seems to be getting better with age. The veteran has not only been a member of the last two teams that have won the MLS Supporters Shield for the League's best regular season record (Kansas City in 2000 and Miami in 2001), but he's been the main contributor on both sides, dishing out a total of 27 assists in the two seasons.

While the glamour stat in soccer is goals scored, the ability to distribute the ball is just as

continued



# A RACE FOR THE AGES

important. According to Hudson, no one does it better than the ageless Preki, who still to this day baffles defenders with his infamous cutback move.

"There's no calendar on Preki's life because he's so razor sharp in his head," Hudson said. "That soccer computer in his head is working at a billion megabytes per tenth of a second. He can only make one choice that's right, and he picks it more often than not."

"You can't even compare the three of us," Preki said. "We are very different. I'm a playmaker and they are forwards. They are both good goal scorers and that's why I wouldn't bet on myself to finish tops in the scoring race."

Preki's reign at the top of the chart was short-lived, thanks to Jason Kreis. With a goal and an assist in the Burn's 2-0 win over the MetroStars on July 4, the Dallas forward took over the single-season scoring lead at the time, leapfrogging Preki.

Like Preki, Kreis has achieved his success through consistency over the years both in scoring goals and creating chances for others. Kreis' mark of 66 goals entering the 2002 season was third all-time in MLS and his 57 assists entering the year were tops all-time

among forwards. Those stats prove that he is one of the most well rounded attackers in the game.

"Kreis is a complete forward, a true spearhead for his team," Hudson explained. "Like Roy, he capitalizes on opportunities. His whole make-up consists of being very capable of a number of things, and the result is that he's one of the best finishers the League has ever seen."

A complete player with vision, dribbling skill, a powerful shot, acrobatic heading ability and blazing speed, Kreis should still be around for some time to come. The Burn's main man is just hitting his prime and will not hit the far side of 30 years of age until December 29.

One thing that hasn't changed with his age is modesty, as Kreis firmly believes he's the underdog of the three to hold the top spot at season's end.

"Well, I would have to say either one of them has a very good chance," Kreis said. "I am definitely the long shot, that's just the way I prefer it."

What's interesting about the trio's careers is that, while all three players have earned caps for the U.S. National Team, none have managed to leave an indelible mark. The three players combined have 23 starts (nine goals and four assists) on the international level, with Preki being the only one to play in a World Cup (1998).

"All three of us could classify as being a better player at the club level than at the international level," Lassiter said. "Some of it just has to do with a comfort level

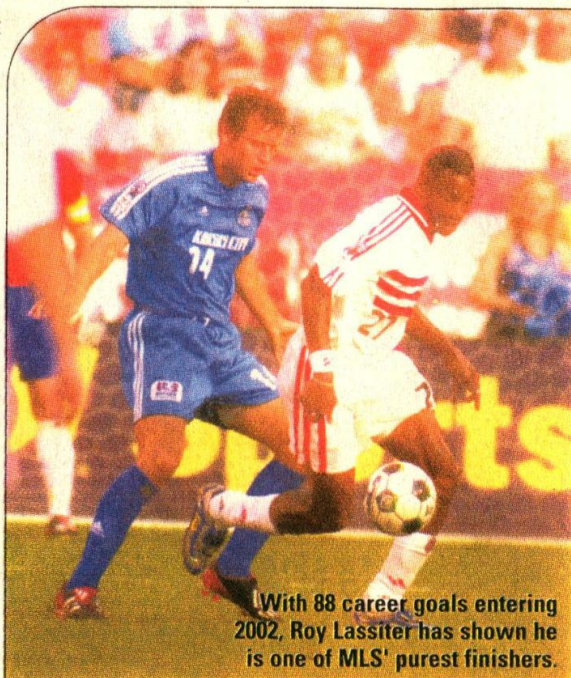
and knowing the way the other guys play. Some things just click better."

While Preki only obtained citizenship in his 30s, Kreis is able to put his experience as part of the national team in perspective. He does not dwell on what could have been, since national team matters have not always been in his control.

"I think it has really been a matter of bad timing," Kreis said. "It seems that when I have really been at the top of my form, the chances with the national team have just not been there. I have always believed that it is best to focus on doing everything you can for your club, and leaving those difficult decisions about who should get chosen to wear their country's colors up to the person who gets paid to make them—the coach."

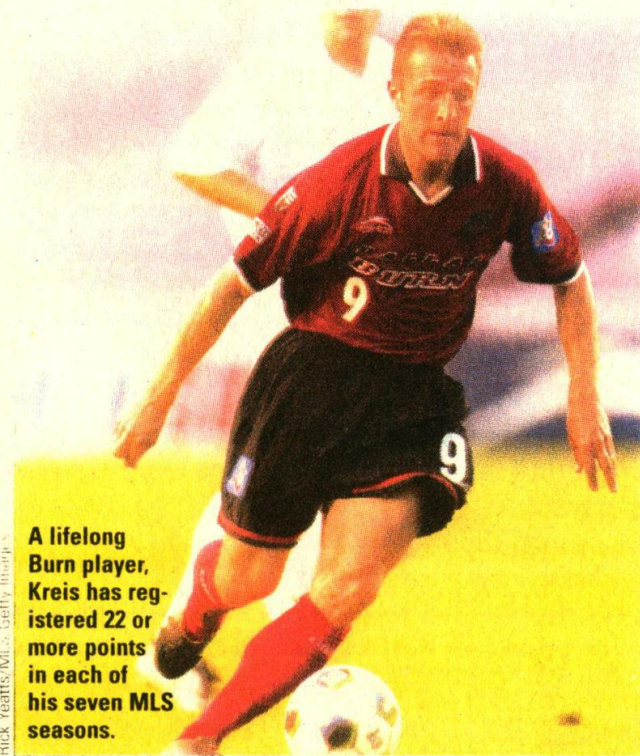
Whatever their international legacy, the fact remains that this 2002 regular season will see them battle point for point to bring MLS' most prestigious record to new heights. The only question that remains is who will have raised the bar the highest?

"Records are made to be broken," Preki said. "No one thought the home run record in baseball would fall and it did. Several years from now when Kreis, Lassiter and myself are retired, there will be other players who will have a chance to break it."



With 88 career goals entering 2002, Roy Lassiter has shown he is one of MLS' purest finishers.

Ed Zurga/MLS



A lifelong Burn player, Kreis has registered 22 or more points in each of his seven MLS seasons.

Rick Yeatts/MLS, Getty Images



# 2002 MLS SCHEDULE



## august

### Saturday, August 3

MLS All-Star Game in Washington, D.C. 3:30

### Saturday, August 10

Chicago ..... at ..... Dallas 4:00

Kansas City ... at ..... D.C. United 7:30

Columbus ..... at ..... Colorado 9:00

New England .. at ..... Los Angeles 10:00

### Wednesday, August 14

Los Angeles ... at ..... Columbus 7:30

Kansas City ... at ..... Chicago 8:30

### Saturday, August 17

D.C. United. ... at ..... San Jose 4:00

Dallas. .... at ..... MetroStars 7:30

Colorado. .... at ..... Los Angeles 10:00

### Sunday, August 18

Chicago ..... at ..... New England 7:00

Columbus ..... at ..... Kansas City 8:00

### Wednesday, August 21

Dallas. .... at ..... San Jose 10:00

Kansas City ... at ..... Los Angeles 10:00

### Saturday, August 24

San Jose ..... at ..... Colorado 4:00

New England .. at ..... Chicago 8:30

Los Angeles ... at ..... Dallas 8:30

### Sunday, August 25

D.C. United. ... at ..... MetroStars 4:00

### Wednesday, August 28

Colorado. .... at ..... New England 7:30

### Saturday, August 31

San Jose ..... at ..... D.C. United 7:30

New England .. at ..... Columbus 7:30

Chicago ..... at ..... Kansas City 8:00

MetroStars. ... at ..... Los Angeles 10:00

## september

### Sunday, September 1

Dallas. .... at ..... Colorado 9:00

### Thursday, September 5

MetroStars. ... at ..... Dallas 8:00

### Saturday, September 7

D.C. United. ... at ..... New England 7:30

Los Angeles ... at ..... Chicago 8:30

Columbus ..... at ..... San Jose 10:00

### Thursday, September 12

D.C. United. ... at ..... MetroStars 7:30

### Saturday, September 14

MetroStars. ... at ..... D.C. United 7:30

Chicago ..... at ..... Columbus 7:30

Colorado. .... at ..... Kansas City 8:00

New England .. at ..... Dallas 8:30

San Jose ..... at ..... Los Angeles 11:00

### Thursday, September 19

Dallas. .... at ..... D.C. United 7:30

### Friday, September 20

Kansas City ... at ..... Colorado 9:00

### Saturday, September 21

MetroStars. ... at ..... New England 7:30

Los Angeles ... at ..... San Jose 10:00

### Sunday, September 22

Columbus ..... at ..... Chicago 4:00

## MLS Cup playoffs

Quarterfinal and Semifinal schedule TBD

### Sunday, October 20

MLS Cup in Foxboro, Mass. 1:30

# MLS 2002 TV Schedule

Date	Event	Time (ET)	Network
Sat., Aug. 3	2002 All-Star Game	3:30 p.m.	ABC
Sat., Aug. 10	Chicago at Dallas	4:00 p.m.	ESPN2
Sat., Aug. 17	D.C. United at San Jose	4:00 p.m.	ESPN2
Sat., Aug. 24	San Jose at Colorado	4:00 p.m.	ESPN2
Sat., Aug. 31	MetroStars at Los Angeles	1:00 a.m.	ESPN2*
Thurs., Sept. 5	MetroStars at Dallas	8:00 p.m.	ESPN2
Thurs., Sept. 12	D.C. United at MetroStars	7:30 p.m.	ESPN2
Thurs., Sept. 19	Dallas at D.C. United	7:30 p.m.	ESPN2
Thurs., Sept. 26	Playoff Game TBD	7:30 p.m.	ESPN2
Sun., Oct. 6	Playoff Game TBD	2:00 p.m.	ABC
Sun., Oct. 20	MLS Cup 2002 at CMGI Field	1:30 p.m.	ABC

\* - Tape delay



# THE ULTIMATE GOALKEEPER



The goalkeeper is the start of a team's attack ... Zach Thornton distributes.

Greg Fiume/Getty Images

Find out what  
elements make a  
netminder stand out  
from the pack

**G**reat goalkeepers come in all shapes and sizes, as you can see in Major League Soccer. When you look at MLS, there is in fact an outstanding crop of goalkeepers, a core of quality that some contend is as strong as any league in the world.

As we comb the League's roster, goalkeeper clearly emerges as the strongest

position and offers the best competition, with only 20 available spots for 'keepers,

## The Basics:

As obvious as it seems, the importance of having **soft hands** for a goalkeeper is, it might be the most overlooked strength in any training program. Having soft hands in goal might be the difference between saving a ball once or having to save it multiple times.

Soft hands are an aspect of the game that can be learned, although some people just can't grasp it. It helps to have some natural ability in this

department, but it is a trait that can be improved through consistent hard work and repetition.

Think of how many times you have seen your team's goalkeeper make a great save and then have the ball bounce right to another member of the opposing team for an easy goal. In fact, arguably the best goalkeeper in the world, Oliver Kahn, probably cost Germany the 2002 World Cup on just such an error.

There is an art to good hands that covers catching, cushioning, deflecting and punching balls. A great goalkeeper hardly ever gives the opposition a second chance. I used to tell my 'keepers the key to good hands was like throwing a ball into a pillow. You needed just the right 'give' to handle the ball correctly.

Who has the best hands in MLS? That's a tough one, but I have to go with Tony Meola (Kansas City Wizards). A key part of having soft hands is learning to relax under intense situations and to give with the ball. That takes experience and Meola has the most in MLS.

Before you can catch, you need to find a way to get to the ball. Talking to most goalkeeper coaches in MLS, some might even rank **footwork** ahead of good hands in order of importance. Chicago Fire goalkeeper coach Daryl Shore, spoke about working with Zach Thornton:

"We work on footwork everyday," Shore said. "We constantly work on proper positioning to see the shot coming and get set. It's the one thing I look for in a beginner because it is the hardest thing to teach."

Quick feet were often overlooked in my days, but now the training is intense. It is not necessarily about speed over distance but agility and quickness over small spaces and quick changes of direction.

In order to change directions quickly you'll always hear coaches talking about "being set". You have to be set when a shot is taken in order to react and have the best possibility to change directions to reach a ball. Many goalkeepers in MLS do footwork exercises for hours each day. Once again, repetition is important as you speed up your body's ability to mimic the movement needed during the game.

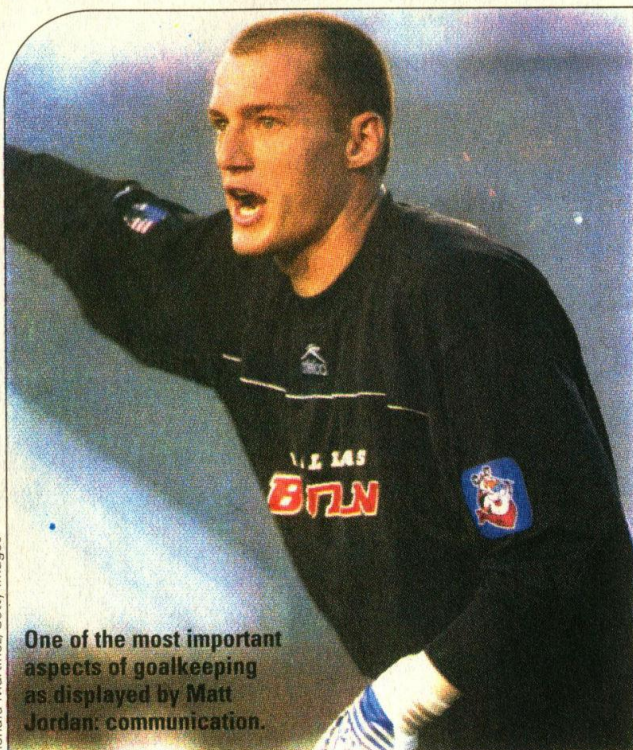
The best goalkeepers make things look simple. That means being set before having to take the risk of diving.

If you are not gifted with significant height or strength, it is often your feet that must improve to make up for other shortcomings. Nick Rimando (D.C. United) gets my vote for great quickness. That quickness is not only evident in basic bursts of five yards but also his quickness in the air or in reactions.

continued



# THE ULTIMATE GOALKEEPER



Ronald Martinez/Getty Images

One of the most important aspects of goalkeeping as displayed by Matt Jordan: communication.

**Courage** is a must for any great 'keeper. The Dallas Burn's Matt Jordan loves to throw his body into the fire. You have to have that basic instinct to put yourself in front of an onrushing freight train and use flying legs to make the stop. Sometimes it is that courage which causes the attacker to back off or hesitate in a situation that would otherwise result in a sure goal.

## The Next Level

It is widely believed that goalkeeping is one of the few positions in which players can reach their prime in their thirties. That is due to the ability to anticipate a play and position the body correctly rather than relying purely on athletic ability to recover at the last moment to make a save.

Probably the best two goalkeepers in MLS are two of the best athletes—Tim Howard (MetroStars) and Joe Cannon (San Jose Earthquakes). They are well rounded physically as well as mentally and their positional play is excellent for their experience level and age (23 and 27 respectively).

Today, both rely heavily on their quickness

to get to balls after they have anticipated and read situations. While they depend on instinctive reflex reactions now, they will only get better at reading the game, which will help them get in better positions more often.

Aside from getting game situations during training, reading a match is the type of thing that is only helped by time and experience.

**Communication** is a key part of the preparation to make the game predictable for a goalkeeper. The more the goalie is organized, the more he/she

can take away options from the other team, by anticipating the spaces that can potentially be penetrated by opposing forwards.

**Composure and presence** are built-in qualities that can be very important to a 'keeper and his defenders. When you watch Meola or Thornton play, you get a feeling of calm in their defenders. That is because the 'keepers are not panicking in tough situations.

Being too vocal can be perceived as a sign of panic. The communication by a goalkeeper must be like that of a coach on the field: settling and focusing the team with clear concise directions.

Part of **positioning** is learning your angles. One of the best in the League at this aspect of the game is Scott Garlick (Colorado Rapids). If you watch closely, he always takes an extra half step forward as the shooter lowers his head. Suddenly the forward has less of an angle to shoot at than he originally thought existed.

In reducing angles, a fine line exists between reading the ball and getting chipped.

Goalkeepers who can come off their line

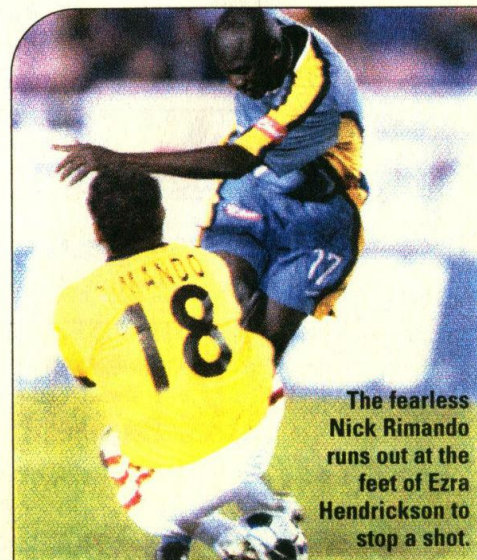
are a major plus at the elite level. They can cut down balls played behind their defense taking away some of the possibility of the opposition playing over the top of the back line. This allows your defense to play more compact with your midfield reducing the size of the field they have to defend. For reasons mentioned previously, Rimando is the best at this.

Practice playing balls in behind the defensive backs and making the 'keeper come out and play them with his feet. He is sure to improve in this aspect.

**Distribution** is often the most overlooked part of a goalkeeper's practice because there isn't the pressure of an actual game when he or she is practicing. But great 'keepers always spend a little time honing that skill so when the opportunity comes they are ready to jump-start the attack. Goalkeepers are your first attackers once they get the ball. That first decision on distribution can mean you can start the attack quicker.

So there you have it. Combining these elements together will create the next Tony Meola or Tim Howard.

*Former Dallas Burn Head Coach Dave Dir was a goalkeeper at Western Illinois University and with the Chicago Sting of the NASL.*



The fearless Nick Rimando runs out at the feet of Ezra Hendrickson to stop a shot.

Stephen Dunn/Getty Images



# A COMMON

## The story of two childhood friends who are fulfilling their soccer dreams with the Crew

**T**hey could be a younger, hipper version of the Odd Couple. One is a skinny white kid from Connecticut with South Carolina roots. The other is a strapping black kid from the Bronx with Jamaican ancestry.

Can these two Columbus Crew teammates survive a Major League Soccer season in the Midwest?

Of course they can. Midfielder Kyle Martino (of Westport, Conn.) and forward Edson Buddle (Mount

Vernon, N.Y.) don't see a problem at all.

"It's been fun. We're both cool with it," Buddle said.

What brings the two together?

"We share an understanding for the game," he said.

"Sometimes we bring a tape (of a game) home and talk about it," Martino said. "If we have same-team training or are in the game at the same time we'll discuss it."

Their relationship wasn't one that was thrown together by a lottery for newcomers on the Crew. No, Buddle and Martino go way back. The 21-year-olds first met nearly six years ago in youth soccer and continued their friendship in the U.S. National Team programs.

"Off the field, we're best friends," said Martino, who is three months older. "On the field, there's no one that I understand or know where they're going to be more. We link up without even saying anything to each other."

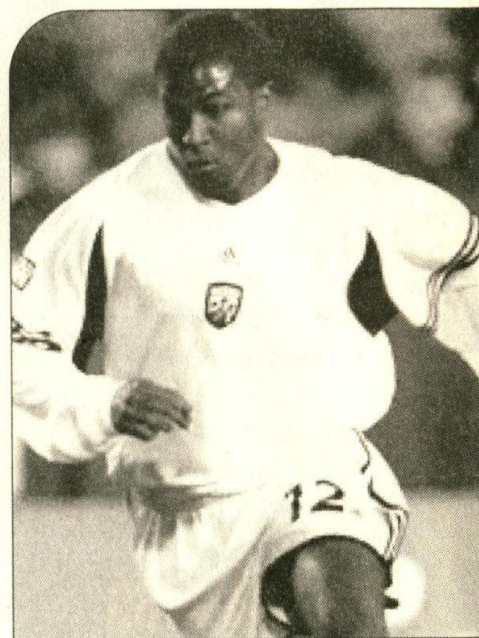
Martino recalls that their first encounter on opposing teams at a state-level tournament was not pleasant. They were both 15.

"I had just made the national team and Edson was giving me a hard time, making fun of me, talking a lot of smack," Martino said. "Right off the bat, I couldn't stand the kid. Now he's one of my best friends."

Buddle said it was part of the plan, "I knew he was a good player so I tried to get him off his game but it didn't work."

They would later be teammates for the Huntington (N.Y.) Boys Club.

"He lived in New York about 30 minutes from my



David Silverman/MLS

house," Martino said. "I lived on the border in Connecticut. I always played his club team and they killed us. So one day Edson said I should go out and practice with them. So I joined their club team. I used to go every Wednesday and play indoors with his father (former pro soccer player Winston Buddle) and the Jamaicans around New York. It was so much fun. We grew a great friendship well before Columbus."

Things didn't always go smoothly.

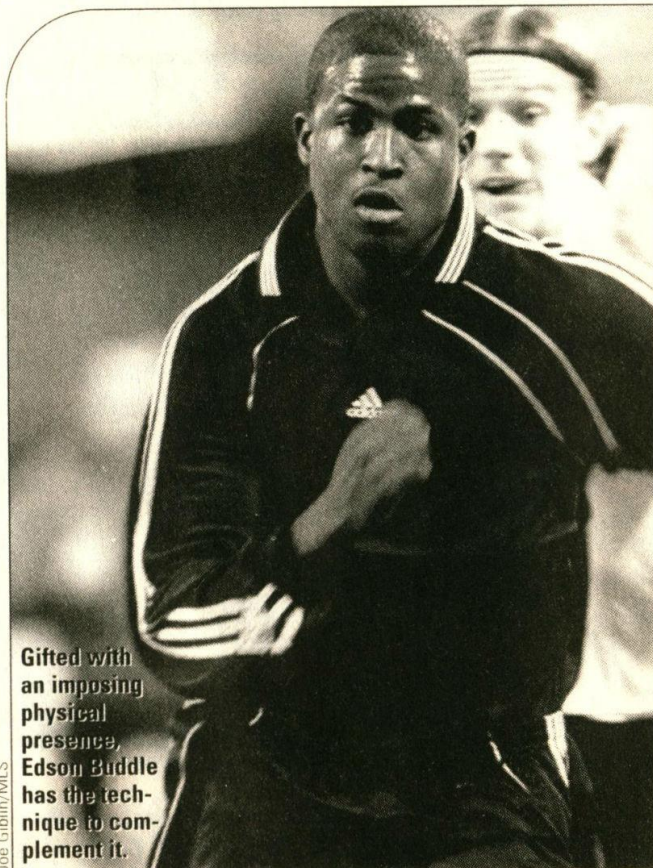
"When I first met him and we started hanging out I thought we had absolutely nothing in common," Martino said. "In the car I would put on my music and he would say, 'What in the world is this?'"

Martino likes the Grateful Dead. Buddle prefers Method Man or Wu-Tang Clan. And then there were the times Martino would pick up Buddle for practices or games.

"I'd be scared to get out of the car. I'd honk the horn. He didn't live in the nicest neighborhood in Mount Vernon. He used to make fun of me," Martino said.

"No, I wasn't doing that," Buddle said. "I just said, 'Make sure you take the exact route. Don't get lost.' Mount Vernon is a tough place where I lived."

They progressed through the national team programs over the years and were in Italy with the Under-23 team when the 2002 MLS SuperDraft was held on February 10. They kept track via the Internet.



Gifted with an imposing physical presence, Edson Buddle has the technique to complement it.

Joe Giblin/MLS



# DESTINY

Buddle had already completed one season with the Crew while Martino had just signed into the League's Nike Project-40 program after three seasons at the University of Virginia.

"Edson leaned over right before the first pick and said, 'There's no possible way you're coming to Columbus,'" Martino said. "It came to the eighth pick, the Crew's, and my name came up. Edson left the room and just started laughing."

Oh, to be young and get paid to play the game you love.

Buddle was named for a soccer player—Edson Arantes do Nascimento. You might not recognize his given name but you've certainly heard of Pele.

"My dad and I were watching (soccer) tapes. I was 4 or 5 when he told me who I was named for," Edson (middle name Michael) Buddle said. "At first no one believed me, especially growing up in New York."

He didn't let the burden of carrying a famous name get to him. Buddle made six appearances for the Under-18 squad in 1998 and has made steady

progress since then. Both he and Martino have their sights set on the 2004 Olympic squad and earning caps for the full national team.

Buddle, a physically gifted forward with refined technical ability, began his pro career in 2000 with the Long Island Rough Riders, where he led the team in scoring. The Crew drafted him in the third round (No. 27 overall) the next year and he rewarded the team's faith by scoring three goals and adding two assists in 17 matches (five starts).

The prolonged absence of Brian McBride for the World Cup this year enabled Buddle to blossom. He already had three goals and three assists by the halfway point. Two of his goals won games, including a dramatic run through the New England defense for an overtime golden goal on June 12.

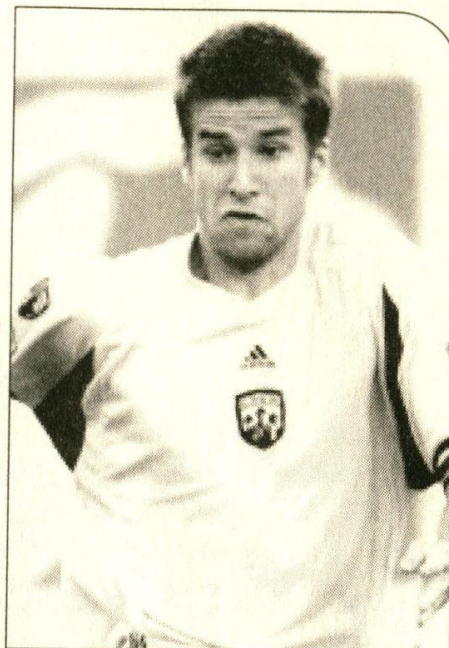
"Edson's still a project," Crew Head Coach Greg Andrulis said. "Everyone seems to forget he's only 21."

Yet Buddle has been around long enough to help Martino make the adjustment to the pro game. After sitting for most of the first five games,

Martino started the next nine—scoring once (at Chicago) and collecting four assists—while keeping MLS All-Star John Wilmar Perez on the bench.

"Kyle has great vision," teammate Robert Warzycha said. "He is very technical. He can win a game by himself. Sometimes he makes a bad decision, but he is quick enough to recover. Kyle's got a great future. He is a great student who wants to learn."

Martino has a keen sense of history. He knows this country has not produced many true No. 10s—creative



Ronald Martinez/Getty Images

playmakers along the lines of Carlos Valderrama or Marco Etcheverry.

"I never thought, 'Wow, I'm an American, I shouldn't be playing this position,'" he said.

He patterns his game after the MetroStars' Tab Ramos.

"I remember watching Tab play when I was younger," Martino said. "That was a player I wanted to be like. I loved to watch him on the ball. I loved seeing an American in that position. He was sort of a trailblazer. He was the first real American player who was an attacking center midfielder. He played like a real No. 10. Ever since I was little I wanted to be that guy, to be that playmaker."

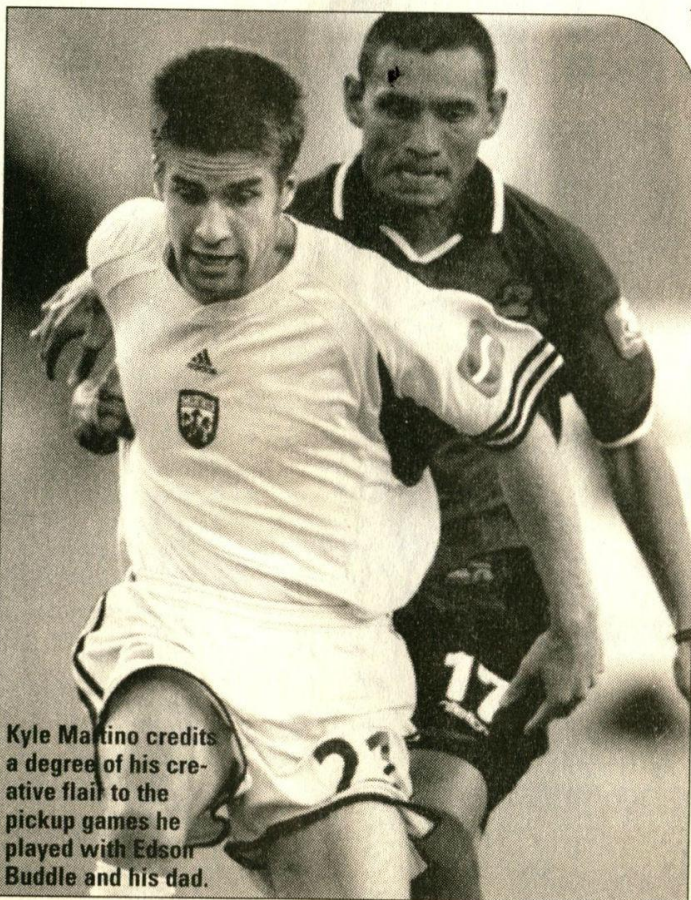
Martino and Buddle are living their dreams while leading the bachelor life. Although Buddle likes to cook (curry shrimp and chicken are his specialties), the pair usually stock single guy foods.

"We cook burgers on the George Foreman grill and eat pizza," Martino said. "We go to the store about once a month and get a ton of frozen dinners, burger patties and Tombstone pizza."

He doesn't foresee a time when they'll pull a Felix and Oscar and be at each other's throat.

"It will always work out," Martino said. "Edson is the most laid-back, easy-going guy to live with."

*Columbus Crew beat writer Craig Merz covers soccer for the Columbus Dispatch.*



Kyle Martino credits a degree of his creative flair to the pickup games he played with Edson Buddle and his dad.

Ronald Martinez/Getty Images





SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20  
FOXBORO, MA • 1:30 PM ET

abc **SPORTS**

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field

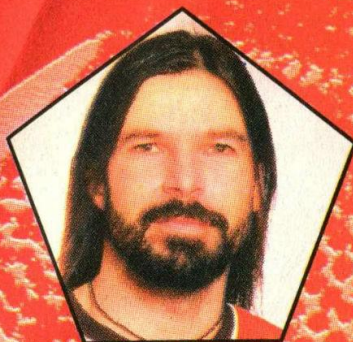
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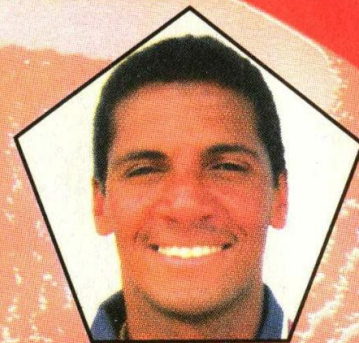
# KIDS KORNER

Name the active player on each MLS roster with the most appearances (caps) for the U.S. National Team:



## 1. Chicago Fire

- 46 caps



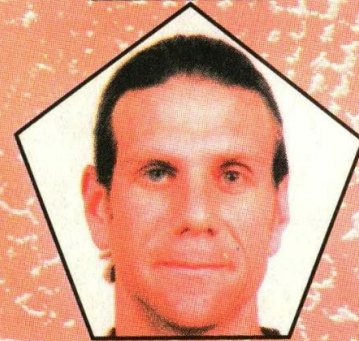
## 2. Colorado Rapids

- 79 caps



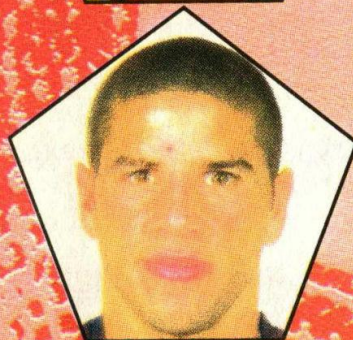
## 3. Columbus Crew

- 90 caps



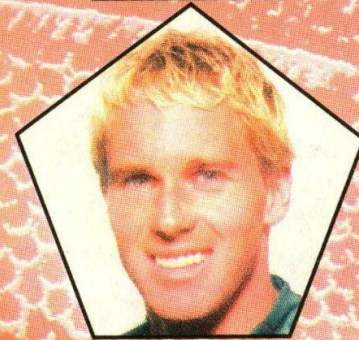
## 4. Dallas Burn

- 18 caps



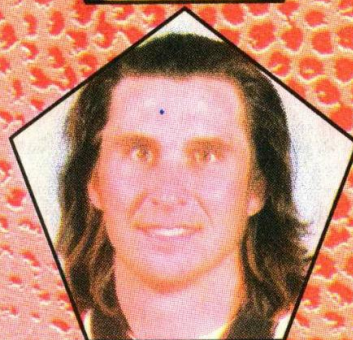
## 5. D.C. United

- 55 caps



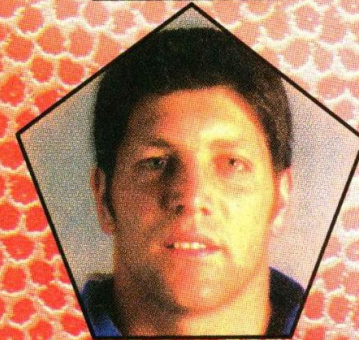
## 6. Kansas City Wizards

- 99 caps



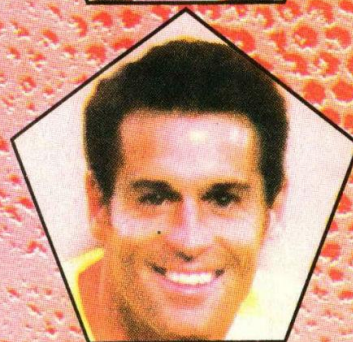
## 7. Los Angeles Galaxy

- 159 caps



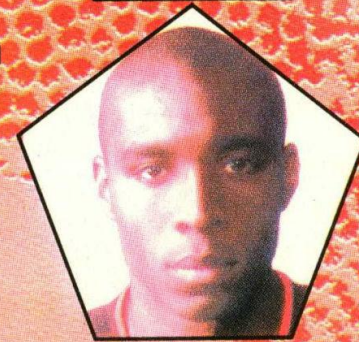
## 8. MetroStars

- 128 caps



## 9. New England Revolution

- 29 caps



## 10. San Jose Earthquakes

- 133 caps

FOR CLUB & COUNTRY

Answers: 1. Chris Armas; 2. Chris Henderson; 3. John Harkes; 4. Chad Deering; 5. Eddie Pope; 6. Tony Meola; 7. Cobi Jones; 8. Marcelo Balboa; 9. Carlos Llamosa; 10. Jeff Agoos



***THE SECOND MOST COVETED CUP  
IN MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER.***

