



# PCU Quarterly Newsletter

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## PCU Alum Brad Eckerson takes his game to college

Willamette University sophomore Brad Eckerson is using his experience and well learned lessons from his days at PCU in the classroom and on the field. Brad, a 2008 graduate of Cleveland High School, who graduated with a 3.9 in the International Baccalaureate Program, is a hard working, determined individual who is making the most of his collegiate experience. I know this from experience as I have gotten the opportunity to coach Brad for the last 4 years.

Some of Brad's best memories were the trips to California, including a Nomads Tournament win his senior year. "It was a great way to get to know your teammates and have expectations raised."

Brad played for PCU since he was 10 years old and was coached by Rick Stone, Chris Burke, Jeff Enquist, and Nelson Larson. My first memory of Brad was at high school goalkeeper training and there was a younger kid out there taking shots. He would stand in goal and take shots just like the older kids would. Then when I started coaching the Blues and Brad was one of the hardest working players on the team, and he still is to this day. "The Blues were the best team I played for, mostly because it was the same group of guys for a few years. I really got to know them all even outside of playing soccer."

Now as a collegiate athlete Brad says that he was physi-

cally prepared for the college game as well as learning how to manage his time balancing soccer and school. "Most of all I learned how to compete and train at the right level. I think that players don't realize how hard it is to play college soccer."

Brad was also pushed as a leader during his club days. "There are a lot of strong personalities on a club team, most of the guys had been a captain on their high school teams so I had to bring my best each time out. It was also a great way to learn about leadership from the other guys."

Brad is also getting the opportunity to coach for PCU now, he has been a camp coach for the last 3 summers. "I love giving back to the kids in Portland. I remember all of the young camp coaches who I looked up to and I want to do the same for the kids I get to coach." Brad is great with the kids, very few people I meet are truly that good with kids and Brad is one of those people. Camp is a better experience because we have Brad on our staff.

As someone who gets to be around Brad on a regular basis, he is a bright hard working young man. It has been fun to watch him grow through out the years and I look forward to seeing him continue down the road to success.

## New coach Adam Dew determined to teach players the right way

PCU Alum and now staff coach Adam Dew is excited to about working with kids and teaching the game he loves.

Adam is a Wilson HS graduate and graduated from Willamette University in 2004 where he got a degree in Exercise Science. He is currently working for Proactive Physical Therapy and has applied to Physical Therapy programs at Pacific University and University of Puget Sound. Adam also married his high school sweetheart Emily this past August.

Adam played for PCU during his Junior and Senior years of high school. "It was a big step up from rec soccer. I got to play all the time and my coaches expected more from me." Adam played for Brian Nauert and Nelson Larson. "My two best experiences were winning the Clash at the Border my Junior year and going to Las Vegas my senior year. It was a lot of fun to play teams from other states and to get to know my teammates better."

Now a coach at PCU, currently he coaches the boys U13 Thunder Team, Adam wants his players to play soccer the

right way. "First, I want my players to be hard workers, but I also want them to defend, attack, be comfortable on the ball, and be about the team." He also wants the boys to realize that school is first. "I encourage the boys to be confident in who they are as young individuals. I want to see them get out of their shell and continue to grow."

Adam says he chose to come back to PCU to coach mostly because he loves soccer and it was a place where he felt it was comfortable to start as a young coach. "I get the chance to learn from Jeff and Nelson and I am not afraid to ask them questions." We are really happy to have Adam on staff at PCU and know he will continue to do a good job for the club and the kids he gets to coach. Coaching Adam was always easy, he was very hard working and coachable, and I knew he would be the same as a coach.

We will be pulling for Adam to get into Pacific so we can keep him around and help push our young players.

### Upcoming Events

- \* U10 to U14 Fall Tryouts
  - \* May 9th
  - \* Lincoln HS
- \* Winter YDP (U8-11)
  - \* Portland Futsal
  - \* Session 2
    - \* Jan 5 - Feb 9
  - \* Limited Spots Available
- \* 2010 PCU Summer Classic
  - \* July 9-11th
  - \* Delta Park
- \* 2010 4v4 Tournament
  - \* June 5-6th
  - \* Tualatin Hills Rec Center



2010 Season Tickets Available through PCU

