

MORRIS COUNTY COLONIALS

Press Release



Thursday, 4th April, 2008

Colonials Roster shows best of Morris County

The Morris County Colonials announced their roster for the 2008 season today, with a combination of local and regional talent forming a competitive inaugural squad.

Reinforcing their credentials as the highest level of soccer in Morris County, the Colonials are well represented locally by defender Mark Richter, goalkeeper Ed de Gottal and striker Andrew Zalk who were all members of the U19 State Cup winners Morris United Mayhem. Supporting Zalk in the forward line up is local boy and William Patterson University striker Jonny Donando. Former Morris Hills standout Rodrigo Santiago adds skill and guile as a left-sided midfielder and forward, while defenders Joey Stillato and midfielder Kieran Lade also represent the best of local talent. Lade is currently apart the Gettysburg College Bullets who have reached the Centennial Conference Championships three straight years (2005-2007), while Morristown HS standout Stillato will be attending Susquehanna University from the fall of 2008.

Alongside local players, the line up for the Colonials consists of talent from high level colligate backgrounds. Sam Roca is the starting central defender for the High Point University Panthers, and was named in the "Top 100 Freshman" to watch by College Soccer News and "Player of the Year" by the New Jersey State High School Coaches' Association. Red-shirt freshman midfielder Billy Collins currently is part of the UMASS program, who reached the 2007 Final Four. Midfielder Hugo Ferreria is at Kean University, and Leroy Sequeira, who anchored the NJCU team that twice won the NJAC conference and reached the D3 Sweet 16, will be lining up in defense. Gregory Delva is the starting central defender at the University of Delaware, while GK Jason Depre has won all conference honors at Randolph – Macon College.

Both Ferreria and Sequeira attended St Benedicts Prep HS, who have a strong contingency in the squad, joining Collins, and brothers Edison and Jonathan Bilbao. During their time at the HS the St Benedicts powerhouse achieved two national championships while traveling the country to play the top teams – experiences the Colonials will be looking to capitalize on when the season starts.

Head Coach Adrian Borrows is excited about his roster for the season ahead, commenting "I'm looking forward to working with such a talented squad this season." He continues "The season has a lot of potential, and I will be making sure we achieve what we are capable of – which is a lot. We'll be surprising a lot of people." In addition to the collegiate standouts, Borrows has at his disposal many of players with high-level club experience. Defender Bryan Bodner is a former SYL National Camp ODP member, winning SYL conferences and regional championships with the Pasco Stallions. Marco Gaspar played in the National finals with the Parsippany Predators, while Lazbart Oseni played at the Matchfit Academy.

The final pieces of the roster are midfielders Leandro and Rob Alman, bringing an international element to the side. Alman has professional English league experience and a British College Soccer Championship to his name, whilst Leandro played professional soccer in Brazil with Goiania F.C, and C.A Paulistan (among others). Both are well-known youth coaches in the community, whose appearances will be keenly observed by their own protégés.

"This is an incredibly exciting roster for our first year in the NPSL. I have every confidence that with hard work and focus we can be more than competitive" commented Assistant coach Andy Sones. With a strong roster now in place, the Colonials are prepared for the fast approaching inaugural season in the NPSL.

The Morris County Colonials are part of The New Jersey Soccer Group, a management company representing a family of soccer based organizations offering a full range of soccer services in northern New Jersey.

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