



# CHICAGO MAGIC BREAKAWAY

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CHICAGO MAGIC

February, 2005

## Chicago Magic Ranked #1 Soccer Club in Country!

For the 2nd year, SOCCER AMERICA Magazine selects the top 20 boys and girls clubs, based on success of their teams in the three national youth competitions over the last three years, with an emphasis on success at the regional and national levels in U.S. Youth Soccer's National Championships, and recognition for players they have sent to national and regional teams in 2004.

The Chicago Magic moves into the top spot in the 2005 Soccer America Top 20 boys rankings, ahead of FC Delco, last

year's No. 1, thanks to the three national titles it captured last year.



CHICAGO MAGIC. The Magic's footprint looms large on the youth soccer No. 1 and No. 8 among the top high school senior goalies. **Rising Star:** Josh Lambo, eighth-grader who started in goal for U.S. U-15s at Nike Friendlies.

Article Courtesy of Soccer America

## There's Magic in this year's MLS Super Draft



Former Chicago Magic Player Brad Guzan, was the 2<sup>nd</sup> overall draft pick. (Andy Mead/MLS)

CD Chivas USA made history with their first 2005 SuperDraft choice, selecting former Chicago Magic goalkeeper Brad Guzan with the second overall pick. Guzan becomes the highest-drafted goalkeeper in MLS history, reflecting the immense potential that has earned him widespread acclaim as the top

'keeper available this year. "It's a big honor, and I know a lot of players have come before me and set the bar," said the former Chicago Magic goalkeeper. "I just hope I can follow and have the success that many of them have had."

Guzan is not only the highest-drafted goalkeeper in MLS history, but is also the highest-drafted Magic player in history. Coach Matkovich acknowledges Guzan's feat, saying "Sure it's great that he's highest draft pick ever for a Magic player, we're all excited for him. But don't forget CJ Klass (San Jose) and Quavas Kirk (Los Angeles) were both drafted this past year. We're extremely proud of our club, alumni, and work ethic" In addition, 8 players from Coach Matko's PDL Chicago Fire Reserves team were drafted.

Article courtesy of www.mlsnet.com

### CMSC Coaching Staff

#### Director of Coaching

Mike Matkovich

#### Assistant Director

#### College Coordinator

John Hannan

#### Head Staff Coach

#### Girls Coordinator

Scott Fonfara

#### Full-time Staff Coach

Ryan Massingill

Todd Sadler

Tom Zec

#### Part-time Staff Coach

Tommy Cholewa

Wes Bakpus

Mark Powell

David Ribbens



### SAVE THE DATE

Annual Banquet & Hall  
of Fame Induction

Monday, April 25

## Magic Add 2 National Championships

November's Super Y League National tournament in Orlando, Florida capped off another successful year for Magic teams. The Magic added a pair of national championships as the 88 Boys and 87 Boys came out on top in the last National tournament of the year.

The 91s, 90s and 89s also attended the tournament, making the Magic, with 5 teams, the best-represented club in North America. Every Magic team showed extremely well, with the 91s losing in the semifinals to eventual the champion Vancouver Whitecaps, the 90s coming out on the short end of a PK shoot-out in the finals to, and the 89s failing to advance from group play.



Mike Matkovich expressed pride with his club's representation at the National Tournament. "We should be proud of our club. This success is an example of the commitment of our players and parents, and testament to the hard work they've put in over the years."

## Super Y-League Olympic Development Select Teams

"Having been personally involved in the USYSA ODP for the past decade, the Super Y-League ODP process offered a refreshing change. Players did not 'try-out' for this opportunity, they were selected by coaches based on their performance during the course of the season, like it is elsewhere in the world", said John Hannan, Assistant Director of Coaching for the Chicago Magic Soccer Club, "Also, the cost savings is significant. The environment is based on soccer coaches making soccer decisions about soccer players, which cannot always be said about the alternative choice".

### BOYS U13

Harrison Petts—Second Team

### BOYS U14

Josh Lambo—First Team

### BOYS U16

Kyle Knotek —First Team

Paul Kopec—First Team

Ross Labauex—First Team

Cody Stanley—Alternate

### BOYS U17

Eric Conklin—First Team

### GIRLS U14

Tori Burchett—First Team

Brittany King—First Team

Laura Benck—Alternate

### GIRLS U15

Hannah Peterson—First Team



### Interested in becoming a "Certified Referee"???

Visit the IYSA website at:

<http://www.iysa.org/web/refereeclinics.html>

Sign up now for one of the available courses. Successful completion of the class will allow you to be a referee or assistant referee at one of the upcoming Magic tournaments.

The Chicago Magic BreakAway newsletter is published by the coaches and staff of the Chicago Magic Soccer Club and Hallmark SportsClub Ltd. The contents are meant for current members and former members of the Chicago Magic SC and its predecessor organizations, as well as members of the Chicagoland soccer community. Club members and their families are encouraged to provide information to Ryan Masingill at [masingill@chicagomagic.net](mailto:masingill@chicagomagic.net).

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## High School Juniors Showcase Their Talents in Adidas Final Four Tournament

In conjunction with the College Cup Final Four in Carson, California, the Chicago Magic U17s participated in the Adidas Final Four Showcase. The exhibition games, designed to display the athletes in front of a myriad of college coaches, provided the U17s with the valuable opportunity to have excellent competition while making a name for themselves in the College Soccer network. The team played three great matches, winning the first game against FC United from Washington State (finalists in USYSA Nationals and Champs of the Disney classic) 1-0, then losing to south Californian FC

Arsenal, 2-1, and finally tying MatchFit New Jersey 0-0.

Describing the benefits of the Adidas Final Four Showcase, John Hannan said, "It is another terrific opportunity for our Juniors to be seen by college coaches, and the fact that it was held on the West coast, allowed our players to be viewed by colleges from outside our region. Also, it was good for our players to view some of our former players participating in the NCAA Final Four National Championship, and winning it (Indiana)".

## StudentSportsSoccer.com National Ratings Feature Magic Seniors

StudentSportsSoccer.com, the authority on youth soccer in the U.S, features 5 Chicago Magic players in its latest installment. Below are the players featured in separate categories, such as overall player rankings, and rankings by position

### ***Class of 2005 Overall Top 25 Player Ratings***

- 5. Brad Ring, MF, Chicago Magic, Indiana
- 7. Chris Shuler, D, Chicago Magic, Indiana
- 15. Chay Cain, GK, Chicago Magic, Indiana

### ***Class of 2005 Top 10 Keepers***

- 1. Chay Cain, GK, Chicago Magic, Indiana
- 8. Pat Sperry, GK, Chicago Magic, Michigan

### ***Class of 2005 Top 12 Defenders***

- 1. Chris Shuler, D, Chicago Magic, Indiana

### ***Class of 2005 Top 20 Midfielders***

- 1. Brad Ring, MF, Chicago Magic, Indiana
- 14. David Greenman, MF, Chicago Magic, St. John's

StudentSportsSoccer.com also ranks the nation's colleges in the strength of their recruiting class. Unsurprisingly, defending national champion Indiana University is at the top of the list.

In a testament to the quality of Chicago Magic talents, this highly regarded recruiting class features three Chicago Magic players.

### ***1. Indiana***

Coaches around the country marvel at IU's ability to attract a crowd. This perennial powerhouse figures to keep on rolling with an incoming freshman class that includes four of the Top 15 prospects, as rated by StudentSportsSoccer.com. Brad Ring, StudentSportsSoccer.com's fall high school player of the year, is joined by D Chris Shuler, pesky F Lee Nguyen and GK Chay Cain. IU also is expected to land Eric Sweetin from Kansas. All the above players are at least ODP regional performers. IU tapped heavily into the Chicago Magic, where it found Ring, Shuler and Cain.

Article courtesy of Student Sports Soccer.com



## Boys and Girls Disney Showcase



The first major tournament of the calendar year came and went, with four Magic teams competing at the Disney Soccer Showcase in Orland, Florida. The U16 Boys reached the finals in the Showcase Division, while the U17s lost in group play due to goal differential. The U18Boys failed to advance from the Predator division, while the 15Girls won 2 games while losing one, and failed to advance from the Showcase Division.

The U16s tied their first game 0-0 to the Houstonians out of Texas, and then tied their second game with CESA Boys Premier from South Carolina. Needing a win to advance, the Magic got their result with a 1-0 win against Reston FC from Virginia. In the semifinals, the Magic boys met a familiar foe, regional rival Vardar III from the Detroit area...the Magic won that game 2-0 to set up the final against the Colorado Rush. In a hard fought final, the U16s lost 2-1 to an outstanding Colorado Rush team.

The U17s started their play in the Showcase Division with a pair of victories, a 2-1 result over the Potomac Cougars from Maryland followed by a 3-1 win against Paris Saint Germain out of Southern California. Unfortunately for the Magic, a 2-2 tie with the Concorde Fire out of Georgia sealed their fate as the U17s failed to advance.

The Magic U18Boys followed suit in the Predator division, winning their first two games by a 1-0 margin to Southwest Soccer Club from Southern California, and 4-2 against CSA Redwings, another Georgian opponent. But the third day proved to be unlucky, as the U18s lost 4-1 to the Dallas Comets, eliminating them from the Semifinals.

The U15Girls, reigning Disney champions, seemed to be returning to form with victories in the first two games, 2-0 against Charlotte (North Carolina) SC, and 1-0 against Dallas Inter. But another third game jinx proved to be fatal, as the 15Girls were eliminated 1-0 by the Colorado Rush.

“The reason that we participate in this fine event is to provide another opportunity for our older age group teams to be viewed by college coaches,” said coach Mike Matkovich, “Adidas does a tremendous job of bringing in some of the finest teams from throughout the United States. So the standard is quite high and an ideal setting in which to evaluate players. Not to mention that the venue, Disney World Sports Complex, is one of the better facilities in the country”.

## Magic Crown 7 Champions at Winter Indoor Tournaments

On the boys side, Chelsea, 12Boys, 14Boys, 181, and 171ls all brought home championship trophies from the annual Chicago Magic Indoor Tourney. The U16s lost in final to the 171ls, while the U16s lost in the finals to the U171ls.

While on the girls side, 11Girls, 14Girls, 15Girls all won the championships, while the 13Girls lost in the finals. Overall, the tournament was another huge success with many teams and a wonderful environment in Sports Club for the entire weekend, from dawn to dusk.

Director of tournaments, John Hannan, stated “We increased the number of teams that participated in this years event and thus the quality was lifted, too. Many competitive matches were played and the crowds created a good atmosphere. Fortunately, our Magic teams played well and won a number of age divisions. The highlight had to be the U12 Boys doing a 'pile on' after winning their championship.