

# 2010

## Montana State Billings

### MSUB Signs Two From England, Two From Australia (4/8/10)

Four international student-athletes - two from England and two from Australia - have signed with Montana State Billings and will be members of the Yellowjacket men's soccer team this fall. Peter Davies, Nicholas Knowlman, Jak Purkiss and Joshua Marocchi will join Billings natives Tyler Currence and Justin Enger in the 2010 recruiting class.

"This recruiting class has the potential to be the best we have put together," MSUB coach Dan McNally said. "We lost some great seniors after the 2009 season and it was important we replaced them with quality recruits. I think we have done that. We have set high standards over the last three seasons but we can't get complacent. We are determined to make 2010 our fourth winning season in a row."

Both Davies and Purkiss hail from England, while Knowlman and Marocchi come to MSUB from Australia. Knowlman is a native of Brisbane and Marocchi hails from Perth. Davies is a native of Chelmsford, England, while Purkiss comes from Retford, England.

Davies, a 6-0 midfielder, played his last two seasons at Foothill College in Los Altos Hills, Calif., where he helped lead his team to the playoffs in both 2008 and 2009. He was a scholar-athlete at Foothill and was on the all-conference team in 2009.

"Pete has played at a high level in England and he was an outstanding player on a very good junior college team in California," McNally said. "He has excellent technique and I think he will score goals from midfield."

Purkiss, a 6-0 defender, captained his high school team and represented his county (Lincolnshire) at the U18 level.

"Jak is a leader," McNally added. "He has captained just about every team he has played for. Jak is quick and he reads the game very well. I think he will be a very good defender for us."

Knowlman, a 5-10 forward, has excelled in youth leagues in Brisbane, Australia. He played six years of Division I club soccer, including two years in the Brisbane Premier Youth competition.

"Nick is a great athlete with lots of potential," McNally said. "He can play either as a forward or

wide midfielder player; I think he will develop into a great player for us."

Marocchi, a 5-11 defender, brings a wealth of experience to the Yellowjackets. He played for the Perth Soccer Club as a youth player in the state league competition. In addition, he played for the Floreat Athena Soccer Club Under-18's.

"Josh is an experienced and versatile defender. Josh is a natural leader and he plays with great intensity," McNally said. "He is a quality player than will contribute right away."

### MSUB Signs Standout From Billings West (3/2/10)

Justin Enger, a center midfielder from Billings West High School, has signed a national letter-of-intent with Montana State Billings.

"I believe Justin is the best high school senior in Montana this year," MSUB coach Dan McNally said. "He has the potential to be an excellent player for us over the next four year."

Enger, a Billings native, led West to state championships in 2008 and 2009. West also placed fourth in Enger's freshman season and third in his sophomore season.

Enger scored seven goals and tallied seven assists this past season helping West to a 14-0-1 record. He was an all-state selection for three years and team captain for his junior and senior years.

For his career, Enger tallied 16 goals and 11 assists for 43 points. During his career, he helped lead West to a 54-6-4 record.

### MSUB Signs Former Billings Senior Star (3/15/10)

Former Billings Senior High School standout Tyler Currence will play this fall for Montana State Billings. Currence, redshirted last year at Division I Creighton University in Omaha, Neb.

Creighton was ranked as high as No. 2 in the country. Currence will have four years of eligibility for MSUB and will be able to play immediately.

"Tyler is an excellent attacking player," MSUB coach Dan McNally said. "He has played with and against some of the best young players in the country over the last three years and that experience will be great for our team. It is rare that you find a player with such speed and technique."

Prior to Creighton, Currence attended the IMG Academy/U.S. Developmental Academy Pendleton School in Bradenton, Fla., for his junior and senior years. There, he earned the "Coach Award" from head coach Tom Durkin as a junior and helped lead IMG to

a second-place finish at the Dallas Cup, including a win over No. 2 Solar (TX) and also defeated the No. 3 team in Shatuck St. Mary as a junior.

As a senior, Currence continued his success as he scored the game-winning goal in the playoffs versus No. 6 team in the country (Vardar) in the US Developmental Academy League. He also competed at the US Developmental Academy National Tournament, which included the top eight teams in the country at the Home Depot Center in Los Angeles.

Prior to IMG, Currence played for two years at Billings Senior High School where he was named Rookie of the Year as a freshman at forward and earned the Most Assists Award as a sophomore. He was an Academic All-State selection both years.

In addition, Currence played for club soccer for the Billings U-12 team through U-16 helping lead the team to the state championship for five straight years.

"I think the best attacking players out of Montana over the last four years are MSUB returners Chris Andre and Garion Holian and Tyler Currence," McNally said. "It is a very positive step for our program that we are able to keep the best players in-state."

The Yellowjackets finished 11-5-2 this past season and return 14 players from 2009 and had their school-record third consecutive 10-plus win season. MSUB graduated the Ron Lenz Daktronics Division II National Player of the Year in Sam Charles.

## **Seattle Pacific**

### **Three Sign With Falcons (7/19/10)**

Taylor Backous, whose father was a four-year Falcons letterman, is among three athletes who have committed to play soccer this fall for Seattle Pacific University.

Backous is a graduate of Sammamish High School in Bellevue, Wash. He joins the Falcons along with Liviu Bird from Fairbanks, Alaska and Kodiak Gamble from Tucson, Ariz.

"The recruiting process continues to amaze me and we feel really fortunate to be able to add three quality student athletes to our roster for 2010," says Mark Collings, who begins his third season as SPU's head coach.

"All three of these guys will add some needed depth to their respective positions and more importantly continue to improve the strength of our roster. The three newest Falcons will make our training sessions more competitive which is something we feel will help us develop consistency."

Backous was a first-team All-KingCo Conference selection in 2010 after earning second-team recognition in 2009. The defender tallied a goal and six assists as a senior. He was a member of the Eastside FC team that won state club championships in 2006 and 2009.

"We feel fortunate to add a player like Taylor to our program," Collings says. "I feel like we're getting a player that is just starting to realize his potential and is still growing into his body. We're really excited about Taylor's technical skill for a player of his size."

Taylor's father, Doug Backous, played from 1980-83 as a defender at SPU. Doug accumulated nine goals during his collegiate career that was capped with an NCAA Division II championship. He was a first-team all-conference honoree in 1982 and served as the Falcons' 1983 team captain.

Bird is a native of Fairbanks, Alaska who prepped at West Valley High School. He played the last two years at Highline Community College posting three shutouts and a 0.90 goals against average as a freshman. He increased the shutout total to four during his sophomore season.

"Liviu will add some needed depth and competition to the goalkeepers," Collings said.

Gamble amassed 23 goals and 29 assists at Ironwood Ridge High School in Tucson. He garnered first-team all-state accolades his senior season after receiving second-team honors as a junior.

Projected as a defender or midfielder at SPU, Gamble participated in the 2009 under-18 Club World Cup with his Tucson Soccer Academy squad.

"We were able to sneak another player out of Arizona," says Collings, whose roster already includes three players from the Grand Canyon State. Scottsdale's Tyler Schultz led all SPU scorers with eight goals last season and Glendale's Jon Pearman was named the 2009 GNAC Freshman of the Year. Anthony Mohammed, from Litchfield Park, Ariz., is a likely SPU starter after red-shirting last season.

Those three newcomers join a pair of players who signed SPU letters of intent in February. Forward Blaine Carver (Soldotna HS) was the 2009 Gatorade Alaska Player of the Year and midfielder Connor Meppen (Boise HS) played on the two-time Idaho state Class 5A champions.

## **Western Washington**

### **Five Prep Seniors Sign NLIs To Play For Vikings (3/26/10)**

Five high school seniors have signed National Letters of Intent to compete in men's soccer at Western Washington University.

The signees are midfielder Tye Hastings from Jackson High School in Mill Creek, midfielder Steven Hughes from Columbia River High School in Vancouver, defender Bailey Martin from Stadium High School in Tacoma, forward Andrew Weishaar from Puyallup High School, and midfielder Gabriele Zaccagnini from Capital High School in Olympia.

In addition, six other prep seniors have accepted official offers of admission and will also play for the Vikings. They are defender Jarad Brisbin from Southridge High School in Kennewick, defender Dean Byron from Liberty High School in Renton, goalkeeper Dakota Huntley from Meridian High School in Laurel, midfielder Erik Lissak from Todd Beamer High School in Auburn, goalkeeper Bryce Leach from Bellarmine Prep in Tacoma and forward Caden Sowers from Ferndale High School .

"This is an outstanding class that not only features some high-caliber soccer players, but a good number of well-rounded athletes as well," said WWU coach Travis Connell. "Our focus every year is to land the best players from the state of Washington and I believe we achieved that goal again. Our coaching staff is eager to begin working with this talented group of individuals."

Zaccagnini was a first-team Class 3A all-state pick as a sophomore, and Martin and Weishaar earned Class 4A all-state honorable mention as juniors.

Sowers was a first-team Class 3A all-state selection and Northwest Conference Player of the Year in 2009, scoring 24 goals.

# 2009

## Montana State Billings

### Yellowjackets Add Four To 2009 Roster (3/2/09)

Blair Stevenson, Clifton Thomas, Ian Cochrane and William Whitworth all have inked national letters of intent to play soccer this fall for Montana State University Billings.

Stevenson hails from Edinburgh, Scotland, also the home country of current Yellowjacket, Tom Milroy. Stevenson plays at James Gillespie High School in Edinburgh. He helped lead his high school team to the league championship from 2006-2009 and were runner-up in the East Region Shield in 2007 and 2008. Stevenson was Player of the Year in 2007 and Players Player of the Year as well.

"Blair is a great signing for us," McNally said. "He has the ability to be a great player for MSUB over the next four years. Blair has all the attributes that I like in a central midfield player, athleticism, passion, determination and the ability to keep possession and create scoring opportunities for our forwards."

Boise, Idaho, native, Thomas, attends Timberline High School where he was an honorable mention selection in 2007 and a first team all-conference selection in 2008. He also was the team Most Valuable Player in 2008. Thomas helped lead his team to a sixth place finish at state in 2007 and a fifth place finish in 2008.

Thomas also played for the Boise Nationals U-17-18 team, as well as the Idaho Rush (U-16) and was a state Olympic Development Player (ODP) 2003-2005.

"Clifton is exactly the type of player that we needed to bring in this year," said McNally. "His technical skill and intelligent movement will be a huge asset for us."

Cochrane, a native of Billings and Senior High School, helped lead the team to the state tournament his freshman and sophomore year. In addition, Cochrane led the team in scoring and assists in 2008. He played for the Magic City Soccer Club that won five straight state championships and he led the team in scoring and assists each year.

"Ian has all the potential and talent to be a great player at MSUB," McNally said. "It will be my job to make sure he gets the most out of his ability. I'm sure with the correct dedication he will be a special player for us. I'm excited to see Ian develop into a great player."

Whitworth attends Billings Central Catholic where he was all-conference as a sophomore and a two-time all-state selection as a junior and senior at center defender. He had four assists his senior year and was a team captain as well.

Whitworth helped lead his team to three conference championships and two state runner-up finishes, including his senior year. He also played for Magic City for five years and one year on the state ODP team.

"Will has the potential to be an excellent defender for us," McNally said. "He naturally plays with the passion and determination I demand from my team. I think he has the ability to have a great career at MSUB."

Whitworth joins Cochrane as two signees from Billings, joining current players Chris Andre, Marco Rosales and Daneson Gray who all are from Billings. In addition, McNally will have 12 Montana players on the roster next season, including Cochrane and Whitworth.

"Signing Will and Ian shows the effort we are making not only to recruit in Montana but also directly in Billings," McNally added. "I feel it is very important that the identity of our team is Montana based."

### Yellowjackets Add Division I Transfer (1/30/09)

Ryan Covey, who played two seasons at Division I Central Connecticut State, has signed a scholarship agreement to transfer to Montana State Billings. Covey, a 6-2, 175 pound midfielder, will have two years of eligibility at MSUB.

"Ryan is a great soccer player and I am confident he will make an immediate impact on our team this fall," MSUB coach Dan McNally said. "He has outstanding technique and athleticism at this level. His experience of playing at a very high level will also be a huge asset for us."

"We were able to sign Ryan even though there was strong competition for his signature. I like the fact that we can now attract transfers from nationally recognized Division I programs. We are building a strong team for 2009"

Covey, a native of Desert Hills, Ariz., helped lead the Blue Devils to a 19-16-3 record during his two years at CCSU and a NCAA Tournament appearance his freshman year. Central Connecticut State upset two ranked teams in the tournament, including No. 15 Harvard and No. 9 Tulsa, before bowing out to UMass, 3-1 in the third round.

Prior to CCSU, Covey started all four years at Cactus Shadows High School, leading the team to the Arizona State Championship in 2005-06. In addition, Covey played club soccer for the Pro's SC 89, winning the state cup in 2006 as well as participating in the Arizona ODP team from 2003-06.

## Northwest Nazarene

### Crusaders Add Two Freshmen, Two JC Veterans (2/26/09)

Renatto Brito, Salvador Sanchez Jr., Daniel (DJ) Bechtel and John Stump have signed National Letters of Intent to attend Northwest Nazarene and play soccer for the Crusaders this fall.

"We are very excited to add another group of quality players to our program," NNU coach Coe Michaelson said. "We have always viewed the building of our squad as a two-year process and these four players give us a great start to our 2009 class. We made a concerted effort to bring in players who are ready to play, who will fit in with our creative, attacking style and who will add character to our team."

Brito (Jr., 5-8, 165, Portland, OR) is a junior transfer from North Idaho College in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho where he captained the Cardinals to their fourth consecutive Scenic West Athletic Conference title.

Brito was instrumental in the NIC midfield, playing through the middle and down the left as he was named an honorable mention All-American by the National Junior College Athletic Association after two years as an All-Region 18 all-star selection. "Brito's creativity and technical ability will be of immediate benefit to our midfield," Michaelson commented.

Sanchez (Fr., 5-11, 160, Ontario, OR) joins the Crusaders as a freshman midfielder from Ontario High School where he was a three-time first-team All-4A Greater Oregon League selection.

Sal was also a starting central midfielder for the Boise Capital Soccer Club, where he anchored the midfield on one of the top club teams in the Western United States and advanced to the quarterfinals of the Far West Regional Tournament. "Sal's technical ability and character will help him have an immediate impact for us," Michaelson said.

Bechtel joins the Crusaders from Chrysalis High School. DJ was a starting center back and captain for Eastside FC in Seattle where he helped Eastside to a first-place league finish and a championship at the prestigious Surf Cup Showcase in San Diego, Calif. this past fall.

DJ was also a two-year member of the Washington State Olympic Development Program (ODP) team. "DJ brings added steel and character to the defensive line for the Crusaders," Michaelson added.

John (Jr., 5-10, 160, Yakima, WA) joins the Crusader soccer program after two years as a striker at Wenatchee Valley College where he was a two-time NWAACC selection up front. As a freshman John scored 15 goals to finish in the Top 5 on the

NWAACC scoring chart in spite of playing significant minutes on the outside of midfield.

"John brings added experience to both the front line and the flank for NNU, where he will certainly contribute both up top and out wide," Michaelson added.

"All four of these players possess character in abundance and will contribute to what is hopefully an improvement upon this past year, which we felt was very successful for our first year," Michaelson continued.

"We are also excited to add some experience with our two transfers, as we are still a very young team, in spite of returning many college-experienced players for 2009. We expect to add three to five more players to this mix over the next few months, but these four players will form the backbone of another talented class."

## Seattle Pacific

### Falcons Sign Seven To NLI's (2/6/09)

Seattle Pacific has received letters of intent from seven student-athletes who will attend Seattle Pacific next fall and play soccer for the Falcons.

Three of the signees are from the state of Washington, including goalkeeper Zach Johnson (Snohomish, Wash./Snohomish HS), midfielder Christopher Morris (Mercer Island, Wash./Mercer Island HS) and forward Charlie Piehler (Renton, Wash.)

The recruiting class also features Anthony Mohammed (Litchfield Park, Ariz.), Caleb Nyone (Happy Valley, Ore.), Jon Pearman (Glendale, Ariz.) and Kyle Smurdon (Sherwood, Ore.)

Collings was thrilled that the Falcons signed every player they targeted.

"We made seven offers and all seven of them accepted, so that's definitely exciting for us," Collings said. "I expect all of them to come in and compete right away. We talked a lot about that in recruiting this year, needing guys that could come in ready both soccer-wise and physically to compete at this level. They all have come from programs that won and played at a high level."

Johnson routinely shut out opponents both at Snohomish (Wash.) High School and at the Crossfire Academy. "Zach has all of the tools to be a very successful goalkeeper at SPU," Collings said. "His physical presence, athleticism and shot-stopping ability were a few of the things that drew us to Zach."

Piehler was another member of the elite Crossfire club program. He was home schooled and did not compete

for a high school team, but that didn't prevent numerous colleges throughout the West from recruiting him.

"Charlie is a tremendous young man with great passion for the game that he attributes to the coaching he has received at Crossfire. It seemed like each time we saw Charlie play he found a way to score goals," explained Collings.

Morris was an All-KingCo honoree at Mercer Island (Wash.) High School. He also excelled on the club circuit with Eastside FC. "The first thing that comes to my mind when I think about Chris Morris is competitor," said Collings. "Chris is an intelligent player and has all of the technical skills necessary to be successful at SPU."

A pair of club teammates from Arizona signed with the Falcons in Pearman and Mohammed. Pearman prepped at Cactus High School where he was the Regional Player of the Year. Mohammed is a product of Agua Fria High School and is a four-time All-West Valley Region first-team selection.

"Jon and Anthony are joining us from Cisco, one of the top clubs in Arizona. Jon will provide us with a physical presence at center back. He does a great job of reading the game and winning balls through the center of the field," Collings described.

"Anthony will bolster our central midfield both as a play maker and as a ball winner. His creativity in the final third and passing ability should really help us this season."

A duo from Oregon rounds out the recruiting class. Smurdon amassed 29 goals and 24 assists during his career at Sherwood High School. He was the Northwest Oregon Conference Player of the Year.

"We're really excited about Kyle, who joins us after playing with Westside Metros for the last few years. He will add some speed and strength to the left side of the field. Kyle's comfort getting forward out of the back should really help us," Collings predicted.

A two-time league MVP at Portland Christian High School, Nyone was the state Player of the Year in Oregon.

"Caleb is just starting to understand how good he is," said Collings. "His combination of athleticism and understanding of the game will give him the opportunity to compete right away for time along the back line."

The signing class filled a variety of needs for the Falcons.

"We graduated a goalkeeper and with Zach, he has the ability to come in and compete right away," Collings

projected. "We gain some versatility in the back with three fantastic athletes that are big, strong and certainly have the ability to defend at this level. We have some creative midfielders that will allow us to keep possession better and provide us with some different things than we had this past year. Charlie gives us a great forward as far as creativity."

**2009 Seattle Pacific Men's Soccer Recruits** - Zach Johnson, GK, 6-3, Fr., Snohomish, Wash. (Snohomish); Anthony Mohammed, M, 5-7, Fr., Litchfield Park, Ariz. (Agua Fria); Christopher Morris, M, 6-0, Fr., Mercer Island, Wash. (Mercer Island); Caleb Nyone, D, 6-0, Fr., Happy Valley, Ore. (Portland Christian); Jon Pearman, D, 6-2, Fr., Glendale, Ariz. (Cactus); Charlie Piehler, F, 5-9, Fr., Renton, Wash.; Kyle Smurdon, D, 6-2, Fr., Sherwood, Ore. (Sherwood).

### **Vikings Sign Three To National Letters (2/11/09)**

Three high school standouts - defender Chris Brundage from Peninsula High School in Gig Harbor, midfielder Sujinda "Jin" Dangvan from Mountain View High School in Vancouver and forward Justin Moore from South Kitsap High School in Port Orchard - have signed national letters of intent to play soccer for Western Washington University.

"We are very excited about this class of young men as we feel that all three are going to make an immediate impact on our team," said WWU coach Travis Connell.

Dangvan was selected from Region Four, which comprises the western United States, to play on a Olympic Development Program team that is traveling to Costa Rica in March. He is in his third season playing on an Eastside FC club team, helping it to the regional quarterfinals in 2007.

The 5-foot-9, 145-pound Dangvan played for Mountain View as a sophomore, leading the Thunder to league and district titles and the quarterfinals of the Class 4A state playoffs.

Brundage is beginning his second year with the Crossfire Academy club team, missing six months last season because of a broken knee cap.

He started and lettered two years at Peninsula, being a first-team all-Narrows League pick as a sophomore and second-team choice as a freshman on a squad that reach the Class 3A state quarterfinals.

Moore was a first-team all-Kitsap County and all-Narrows League selection as a junior at South Kitsap, scoring a team-leading 12 goals and being the Wolves' team captain. A second-team all-league pick as a sophomore, he also plays for Westsound FC, helping that team place second at state and advance to regionals in 2008.

“Dangvan and Moore are attacking players that combine athleticism and exceptional technical skill to dismantle defenses,” Connell said. “Brundage is going to surprise a lot of people next year. He is a smart athletic back who is great in the air and composed on the ball.”

**Sujinda “Jin” Dangvan, Midfielder ( Freshman, 5-9, 145, 17, 10/20/91, Vancouver , Wash.)**

**HIGH SCHOOL:** Selected from Region Four, which comprises western United States, to play on Olympic Development Program team traveling to Costa Rica in March ... In third season, playing on Eastside FC club team ... Helped squad to regional quarterfinals in 2007 ... Lost in state final in 2008, but won titles at Boise Regional Tournament and San Diego Surf College Cup ... Will graduate this spring from Mountain View High School ... Played as sophomore for Thunder in 2007 on team that won Greater St. Helens League and district titles and got to quarterfinals of Class 4A state playoffs ... Scholar-Athlete award winner ... One letter **PERSONAL:** Lived in Thailand for four years from age 7 to 11 ... Plans to major in business.

**Chris Brundage, Defender (Freshman, 6-1, 175, 17, 5/15/91, Gig Harbor, Wash.)**

**HIGH SCHOOL :** Will play second season with Crossfire Academy club team this spring ... Missed six months last year with broken knee cap ... Will graduate from Peninsula High School this spring ... Started and lettered two seasons for Seahawks ... First-team all-Narrows League choice as sophomore and second-team as freshman on squad that reached Class 3A state quarterfinals. **PERSONAL:** Plans to major in business ... His stepfather, Seth Spidahl, is an assistant men's soccer coach at University of Washington .

**Justin Moore, Forward ( Freshman, 5-9, 160, 17, 3/12/91, Port Orchard, Wash.)**

**HIGH SCHOOL:** First-team all-Kitsap County and all-Narrows League selection as junior at South Kitsap High School ... Scored team-leading 12 goals and had 4 assists ... Team captain for Wolves ... Second-team all-league as sophomore ... Two-year letter winner ... Also plays for Westsound FC, helping that squad place second at state tournament and go to regionals in 2008. **PERSONAL:** Plans to take program in pre-medicine.

# 2008

## Montana State Billings

### Yellowjackets Add Players from England, Montana (4/8/08)

England native Ross Carmichael and Garion Holian have signed national letters-of-intent to play soccer for Montana State Billings.

Carmichael, from Dorset, joins fellow Englanders Scott Dixon, who also is from Dorset, and Sam Charles who played at Budmouth Technology College where Carmichael is now. Carmichael won the state title as a center-midfielder in 2003 and was named to the all-state team in 2006 as well as being named Most Valuable Player in both 2005 and 2006.

Playing with the Portland Club, Carmichael helped the team to a 26-0 record, scoring nine goals and reached the county final. He also played on the Weymouth Club.

"Ross is a first class soccer player, McNally said. "He comes from the same soccer background in England as current MSU Billings all-region student athletes Scott Dixon and Sam Charles and I expect him to make a similar impact on our squad.

"He has great athleticism and excellent technique. I expect him to be a leader in this program throughout his career and he has the potential to be a very special player at MSU Billings"

Holian was born in Houston, Texas, but went to high school in Missoula at Hellgate. He was named Montana Gatorade Player of the Year as a senior midfielder. He was an all-state selection his sophomore-senior years, as well as being named Western Conference Player of the Year as a senior.

During his high school career, he scored 36 goals and had 10 assists and was a team captain as a junior and senior. In addition to playing at Hellgate, he played club soccer with the Bozeman Blitz and the Missoula Strikers as well as playing on the Region IV Olympic Development team.

"Last season Garion was the best high school soccer player in Montana," McNally said. "He has excellent technique and vision and I think he has the ability to be a great player here at MSU Billings. Garion represents a change in how players in Montana view our program. Just like in the 2007 class when we signed Chris Andre (Billings Senior), Garion demonstrates that the best high school players in Montana want to play for MSU Billings men's soccer."

## Seattle Pacific

### Falcons Add Midfielder, Defender (4/30/08)

Midfielder Tyler Schultz (Scottsdale, AZ - Pinnacle) and defender Griffin Fahling (Tupelo, MS - Tupelo) have signed letters-of-intent with Seattle Pacific University.

Schultz is a three-time all-state player and was the Northeast Valley Player of the Year each of the last two seasons. He totaled 64 goals and 74 assists in his career and led Pinnacle High School to the 2008 State Championship.

"Tyler is a dynamic wing player who we see playing up front and wide in the midfield. He has good speed and likes to take players on 1v1," said SPU first-year head coach Mark Collings. "His teams have also been very successful winning both the high school and club state championships in Arizona. We look forward to the winning ways continuing at SPU."

Fahling hails from Mississippi where he was a two-time first team all-state selection and the Dailey Journal (Mississippi) 2008 Player of the Year. "We really feel fortunate to have Griffin," commented Collings. "He has a great understanding of the game as well as the ability to keep possession of the ball under pressure."

### Five Sign With Seattle Pacific (4/2/08)

Five players have signed letters of intent to play soccer for Seattle Pacific University.

Joining the Falcons next fall are forward Ryan Brand (Portland, OR - La Salle Catholic), midfielders Drew Williams (Bend, OR) and Joshua Hensley (Taos, NM), goalkeeper Hunter Huffman (Colorado Springs, CO - Cheyenne Mountain), and defender Elliot Morton (Tacoma, WA - Bellarmine Prep).

Brand is a highly regarded forward who has tallied 74 goals and 65 assists while being named first team All-State three consecutive years at Oregon's 4A level.

Williams and Hensley are both regulars at the ODP State and Regional Camp level and could make an immediate impact at SPU.

Huffman is the net-minder for Real Colorado Academy, one of the top club teams in the nation. He will compete for the starting goalkeeper position as the Falcons lose Kellen Rosten, who also hails from Colorado Springs, to graduation.

The Falcons lone in-state recruit is Morton, a towering 6-4 defender who is the reigning Narrows League Defender of the Year. He plays his club ball for

Washington Premier FC where Collings has seen him develop into a defensive stalwart.

## **Western Washington**

### **Vikings Three Midfielders To Letters Of Intent (2/20/08)**

Midfielders Tyler Bjork from Juanita High School in Kirkland , Matt Dutson from Rogers High School in Puyallup and Oscar Jimenez from Mount Vernon High School have signed letters of intent to play for Western Washington University.

Bjork was a first-team all-Kingco League pick as a junior at Junaita, leading the league with 16 goals. He was a second-team Associated Press Class 4A all-State pick and Seattle Times KingCo League Player of the Year as a sophomore, scoring 14 goals and having eight assists.

Dutson was a second-team all-South Puget Sound League South Division pick as a junior at Rogers and will play for the Crossfire Premier club team this spring.

Jimenez was the Skagit Valley Herald Player of the Year as a junior at Mount Vernon , helping the Bulldogs to a 13-1-3 record by scoring a team-best 14 goals.

## 2007

### Montana State - Billings

#### **Bozeman Product Signs With Yellowjackets (4/27/07)**

Kyle Moriarty, a Bozeman High School product, has signed to play men's soccer for Montana State University - Billings next season.

"Kyle is one of the top soccer recruits out of Montana this year," said McNally. "Kyle is technically strong and has the versatility to play in defense or midfield. I'm looking forward to watching Kyle develop into a quality college soccer player."

Moriarty is a 6-foot-1 defender who lettered to years for the Hawks. He was a two-time all-conference selection. As a senior, Moriarty earned all-state honors and was named the Eastern Conference player of the year. The Hawks' team MVP, Moriarty led Bozeman HS to a runner up finish at the state tournament.

The Yellowjackets are coming off a 5-11-2 season in their final year in the Heartland Conference. They will join the highly competitive Great Northwest Athletic Conference beginning with the 2007 season. MSUB kicks off fall training camp on August 6 and opens the season August 23 at Colorado Christian.

#### **Yellowjackets Add Midfielder From England (4/18/07)**

Scott Dixon, a 6-foot-1 midfielder from Weymouth, Dorset, England, has signed a national letter-of-intent to play soccer for the Yellowjackets. He will have three years of NCAA eligibility.

"Scott is a fantastic addition to the men's soccer program," said McNally. "He has first class technique and great athleticism. After watching him play last Christmas in England, I knew immediately he was the player I was looking for. I believe Scott will have a great career at MSU-Billings."

Dixon was a four-sport athlete at Wey Valley School, competing in soccer, track, volleyball, and tennis. He was a three-time soccer player of the year at Wey Valley School and a two-time player of the year at Weymouth College.

A five-year captain, Dixon helped lead his team to five county cups and five area cups. Wey Valley was a South England quarterfinalist in 2003.

#### **Yellowjackets Add Billings Recruit (2/28/07)**

Chris Andre of Billings has signed a national letter of intent to play soccer for Montana State - Billings.

Andre will graduate from Senior High School in May where he was a three-year letterman for the Broncs. He was a member of the 2004 Montana AA High School State Championship team as a sophomore where he was named Rookie of the Year. In his junior and senior seasons, he scored 15 goals to lead the team in scoring as a starting midfielder. Andre was twice named the Broncs' offensive MVP and was a 2007 Gatorade Player of the Year finalist.

"Chris has the potential to be an excellent NCAA Division II player," said MSUB coach Dan McNally. "He combines first class technical ability with a good understanding of the game. I think he will have a big impact on our offensive production throughout his career. Signing Chris demonstrates how hard we are working to attract the top soccer talent in Montana."

### Saint Martin's

#### **Saints Add Nine Frosh, Five Sophomores For Inaugural Season (5/17/07)**

Nine incoming freshmen and five transfers have been added to Saint Martin's roster for its inaugural varsity men's soccer season.

Of the five transfers, three are from Highline Community College - Tucker Maxwell, Ruben Orozco, and Daniel Palermo. Maxwell is a defender and Orozco a midfielder while Palermo takes on both positions.

Maxwell will come in as a junior and was an NWAACC all-academic winner as well as all-star and Western Conference MVP. Originally from Eagle, ID, he was named Offensive Player-of-the-Year twice and first-team all-conference.

"Tucker is an absolute gem," said Walker. "He is well rounded in his ability to play across the back line. His NWAACC Player-of-the-Year status really pushes his value in our team from both a performance and a leadership aspect. He is a recruit with great ability and soccer intelligence."

Orozco is a 2006 graduate of Mt. Rainier High School where he was an all-area and all-star selection. He received an NWAACC all-star selection at Highline as well.

"Ruben is a formidable player and brings a huge amount of skill, work-rate and tactical ability to our program. His pedigree from youth soccer speaks volumes for where he has been and our hope is that he can push our program upward," said Walker.

Palermo also graduated from Mt. Rainier High School where he was a first-team all-league and first-team all-state selection his senior year. He earned NWAACC all-Star honors in 2005, his first year at Highline.

“Daniel is a gifted player who can play in the back and also may play up front as a Saint. He was quite capable as a defender and could make his presence felt coming forward to score goals as well,” said Walker . “Daniel can do his own running and the running for other players if need be; he’s extremely versatile and we will be a more well-rounded team with him in our lineup.”

Ryan Nichols and Jesse Ramos account for the Saints’ other two transfers. Nichols is a junior goal keeper from the University of Washington while Ramos is a junior defender from Seattle Central Community College .

“Ryan is a bright, technical hard working goalkeeper who could challenge for the starting job from day one,” said Walker . “He reads the game well and has the ability and potential to cover the routine issues and make the big saves as well. He will make a contribution to our team on the field everyday in training and also be a positive off the field as well.”

“Jesse brings a wealth of experience to our side as he has been a steady and effective player in Washington State’s tough Men’s League. He has great physical tools and tactical awareness and is pretty sharp on the ball too. His wisdom in soccer and in life comes from some great soccer experience against really solid players,” added Walker .

Of the nine incoming freshmen, five have been all-league selections including Kramer Cross, Victor Kelmel, Henok Kidane, Andrew Schroederx and Thomas Young.

Cross, a midfielder and forward from Timberline High School, was named first-team all-league in 2006 and was a member of the all-state team both his sophomore and junior years. He had 16 goals and 16 assists his junior year.

“Kramer is a great local talent and has been well schooled by his high school and club coaches over the years. He is technical and tenacious and could play in a number of different positions as a collegian,” stated Walker .

Kelmel is a multiple position player out of South Kitsap High School who can play defender, midfielder, or forward for the Saints. He received all-Narrows League honorable mention his sophomore year and has been named a Distinguished Scholar three of the last four years.

“Victor is a smooth technical player with a very good “soccer IQ.” His ability to see the game, distribute great service and defend well will give us a firm footing against tough opposition in the fall,” said Walker .

Kidane is a midfielder out of West Seattle High School . He has twice been selected first-team all-Metro League and second-team all-Metro once.

“Henok has enormous ability on the ball and his attacking capabilities and instincts will carry him a long way in the collegiate game,” Walker said.

“He pairs his skill with great work ethic and has huge potential to set up teammates and score great goals.”

Schroeder, a defender and midfielder, is from La Salle High School which has been the league champion and state finalist the last four years. He has been first-team all-league and second-team all-state both of the last two years as well as team captain.

“Andy comes from a very good club background in Oregon and will be a strong defender on the backline for us next year,” said Walker . “He can also play in a midfielder’s role, and that will be something we’ll look at in pre-season as well. For a freshman, Andy brings experience and a steadying influence to our squad.”

Out of Todd Beamer High School , Young was the team captain in 2007 and helped his team to the State Championships. In 2006 he was named first-team all-SPSL South.

“TJ has solid techniques for a goalkeeper,” said Walker . “His reactions are superb and he can play off his line and organize players in front of him. He’s demonstrated the maturity necessary to lead from his position which is essential to our program moving forward from day one.”

Rounding out the freshmen class are Simon Craig, Zak Lubin, Erik Orozco and Vlad Voin.

Craig is a midfielder and defender from Meadowdale High School where he was a four-year letterman and part of the 3A State Championship team his freshman year.

“Simon is a solid tough defender who really caught my eye during his play in the Washington State Youth Soccer League and Championship Cup,” stated Walker . “He should be able to play multiple roles across the back line for us next year.”

Lubin is a goalkeeper from Bozeman High School . “Zak’s impressive the moment he walks on the field as he towers over other squad members at 6-5. He has the fabric to blossom at the collegiate level. Some solid training in the first year with some good game experience should go a long way in determining how good he will be.”

Orozco and Voin are both midfielders. Orozco comes out of Decatur High School while Voin is from Cascade High School .

“Erik is great in wide positions and can play in defense or in midfield. He is tenacious in his 1 vs. 1 defending and very good coming forward and serving. His work-rate is top class and he trains as hard as he plays on game day,” said Walker . “He’s very bright on and off the field and will be huge in his ability to play at the DII level.”

“Vlad is a great presence in midfield,” said Walker . “He’s good at playing wide and is effective taking players on. His technique is of the highest standard and along with other players on the team should make the midfield corps a real strength for us next year. Vlad is another player with great soccer intelligence and has the skill to cause problems for opponents at the next level.”

The addition of these 14 recruits combined with the Saints current roster gives them a solid group as they transition from club into their first season as part of NCAA DII soccer.

## **Seattle University**

### **Redhawks Sign Eight To Letters-of-Intent (2/7/07)**

Eight student-athletes have signed National Letters of Intent and will join the Redhawk soccer program beginning in the fall of 2007.

“We couldn’t be more excited to have such a strong incoming freshman class,” SU coach Brad Agoos said. “We’ve been able to preserve our usual mix of local players from top clubs, and out of state guys that will keep consistency and drive in the program.”

Among the signees are:

Thomas Bento-Nystad moved from Denmark to Sacramento, Calif., in the summer of 2005 and has been an All-League performer with Christian Brothers High School over the past two years. He was a team captain and the team MVP in 2006, earning 15 goals and 10 assists. He also played midfield for the San Juan Thunder club team.

Jake Ellig , a native of Richland, Wash., earned All-Area and All-Big Nine honors in 2006 as the MVP of the Kamiakin High School varsity soccer team. He is also a member of Emerald City FC 88 Green, which won the Diadora Cup in 2005 and the Washington State Championship in 2006. Ellig also has experience in the Olympic Development Program, serving on the state team for the past four years and the regional team in the past two years.

One of Ellig's club teammates, C.J. Hamel , was a four-year letterwinner at Bishop Blanchet High School. Last season he earned first team All-Metro honors and was also named honorable mention all-state. Hamel won the Golden Boot Award from the Emerald City FC 88 club team, helping the team win

the state title and finish second at the Far West regional tournament.

A native of Carmichael, Calif., Brandon Hamer was named most outstanding offensive player and first team all-league in 2006 at Jesuit High School. In September 2006 Hamer was named Jesuit High School Athlete of the Month and is presently serving as a Senior Religious Retreat Leader. He has also participated in club soccer with the San Juan Lightning 89.

Nick James , from Kirkland, Wash., was the team MVP and All-KingCo first team for Lake Washington High School in 2006. He played on the Crossfire club team from 2003 to 2005, helping the squad win the state championship in both 2003 and 2004 and also the regional championship in 2003.

Alex McCrackin has been a teammate of Hamer's at Jesuit High School for the past four years. A native of Rio Linda, Calif., he helped his high school team win the league championship three straight years and the sectional title in 2006, serving as captain and winning the team MVP award during the year. He is also a member of the San Juan Thunder club team and has been an honor roll student all four years in high school.

Sean Morris , from Bothell, Wash., has played with Hamel on both Bishop Blanchet High School's varsity team and the Emerald City FC Green club team. A two-sport athlete at Bishop Blanchet, Morris was captain of both the soccer and cross country teams, and also has experience in the Olympic Development Program with the Washington state team from 2003 to 2006.

A native of Lynnwood, Wash., David Raney was a first team All-Metro performer as a sophomore at O'Dea High School. Raney plays for the Crossfire James club team, helping the squad win the state title five times as well as the club regional title. He has been on the state Olympic Development Program (ODP) team from 2002 through 2006.

## **Seattle Pacific**

### **Falcons Sign All-Region Player From Colorado (2/12/07)**

Grant Burton, an all-region selection from Lafayette, Colorado, has signed a national letter of intent to play soccer at Seattle Pacific University beginning next fall.

Grant Burton, who plays both forward and midfield, starred Louisville's Monarch High School, where he was all-Front Range League last fall. He also is a member of the Boulder County Force.

# 2006

## Seattle Pacific

### Five Freshmen Commit to Seattle Pacific (6/14/06)

Brandon Crutchfield and Jordan Dettmer of state 4A champion and nationally-ranked Snohomish High School are among five men's soccer recruits committed to playing for Seattle Pacific University next fall.

Completing the cast of incoming freshmen are Josh Burnside of Black Diamond and Kennedy High School, Alec Nelson of Lynnwood's Meadowdale and Doug Whitney of Edmonds-Woodway.

Crutchfield scored 14 goals and assisted on 17 more for the Panthers (20-1-0), who finished ranked No. 4 in the nation. Dettmer totaled six goals and seven assists.

Crutchfield and Dettmer, both all-Wesco selections, join another Snohomish graduate, Justin Abel, as newcomers to SPU. Abel, who will be a junior, transferred from Saint John's this past winter.

Nelson led Meadowdale in assists with 14 and Whitney scored four goals for Edmonds-Woodway. Both were all-Wesco and club teammates of Crutchfield on the Northwest Nationals Pharaohs, state champions in 2005 and runners-up this year.

Burnside led the Lancers with 11 goals and six assists. Kennedy took fourth place in the state 3A championships. He was a first team all-Seamount King Division selection and played for the Federal Way Celtic, state finalists in '05 and semifinalists in '06.

### Falcons Get Transfer From St. John's (12/20/05)

Justin Abel, a former soccer standout at Snohomish High School, has transferred from St. John's to Seattle Pacific University.

A midfielder, Abel played the past two seasons for the Red Storm, and has two years of remaining eligibility. He started four games as a sophomore, scoring one goal.

Abel led Snohomish High School to the state 4A semifinals as a senior and his club, Snohomish United, won three straight state titles. He was a four-time member of the Washington ODP team and made the regional team three times.

# 2005

## Humboldt State

### **Bosnia Native To Play for Lumberjacks (6/21/05)**

Defender Zlatan Sahmanovic will play soccer this fall for Humboldt State University.

Sahmanovic was born in Bosnia and moved to Hamburg, Germany, before arriving in the United States in 1997. At Del Campo High School, located in Fair Oaks, Sahmanovic earned first team all-Capital Athletic League honors and second team all-Metro honors in 2005 while leading his team to the Division II Sac-Joaquin Section finals.

“We are excited that Zlatan is joining us at HSU,” said HSU head coach Andy Cumbo. “He has a tremendous presence on and off the field. He is a very organized defender who communicates very well. He will be a strong addition to our defense.”

Sahmanovic, who speaks fluent Bosnian, German, Spanish and English, is a member of the San Juan Sting club team, along with fellow 2005 Lumberjacks signee Drew Ryan.

### **Chula Vista Midfielder Joins Lumberjacks (6/20/05)**

Andres Ripa, a right midfielder from Chula Vista has committed to continuing his education and soccer career at Humboldt State University.

Ripa attended University of San Diego High School where he helped his team become the CIF Champions his senior year. He earned first team Division II CIF honors and first team Western League honors while playing at University of San Diego HS.

Ripa has also been a member of a number of premier club teams including the Nomads, the Surf and most recently the Hotspurs USA.

“Andres will be a great addition to our men's program,” HSU coach Andy Cumbo said. “He is extremely passionate about the game and he is a fierce competitor. He is strong, aggressive, has played for some of the strongest clubs in San Diego and is ready for the Division II level.”

### **Chico High Midfielder Commits to Humboldt State (3/21/05)**

Chico High School standout Jojo Hansen-Judge will play soccer at Humboldt State.

Hansen-Judge was a three-year varsity starter and two-time team captain at Chico HS. The two-time all-league selection helped lead the Panthers to two

Northern Section championships and a league championship his senior season.

Hansen-Judge has been a member of the Butte United Soccer Club for eight years. “Jojo is a very skilled and smart player,” HSU coach Andy Cumbo said. “He will make our defense stronger and will help us attack out of the back. He is a great addition to our program.”

### **Del Campo Goalkeeper Signs with Humboldt State (3/17)**

Drew Ryan has committed to continuing his education and soccer career at Humboldt State.

“We are very pleased that Drew has decided to join our men's program at HSU,” said HSU coach Andy Cumbo. “He has been a very successful goalkeeper and he is very accomplished for his age. Drew is a great shot-stopper, very aggressive on breakaways and very quick and explosive.”

Ryan, a 5-9 goalkeeper out of Del Campo High School, has been an all-Capital Athletic League selection for the past three years. His senior season was his most successful as he was named the all-league Keeper of the Year, leading his team to the Division II Sac-Joaquin Section finals. He posted 11 shutouts in 2004, allowing just eight goals, including four penalty kicks, while posting a .493 goal against average.

Ryan is a member of the San Juan Sting club team, a 2004 State Cup finalist. “Drew is a very sound goalkeeper and a solid addition to our team,” Cumbo said. “He will definitely help our team and he has the potential to make an impact upon arrival.”

### **Piedmont HS standout commits to Humboldt State (2/23/05)**

Piedmont High School soccer standout Kevin Maxwell has committed to continue his education and soccer career at Humboldt State.

Maxwell, a four-year starter at Piedmont, holds career totals of 35 goals and 64 assists. He tallied 17 goals and 22 assists his senior season earning him team MVP honors.

In addition to playing for his high school team, Maxwell is also a member of the Ballistic United club team.

“Kevin is a very hard working, aggressive and skilled player,” said HSU coach Andy Cumbo. “He has the ability to generate a lot of offense and he will definitely help our attack over the next four years.”

Maxwell joins Matt Colwell, out of Arcata High School, and Geoffrey Houck, out of Chaparral High School, in the Lumberjacks 2005 recruiting class.

“Kevin is another solid recruit who has decided to join our program and we are very excited that he will be continuing his career with us,” Cumbo said.

#### **Chapparral Star Signs With HSU (2/4/05)**

Former Chapparral High School soccer standout Geoffrey Houck (Temecula, Calif.) has signed a national letter of intent to attend Humboldt State University and play for the Lumberjacks in the fall.

Houck, who will play center-back for HSU, was an all-area first team selection and All-Southwest League first team selection in the fall. The 6-5 student-athlete was a two-year varsity letterwinner, starting on the No. 15 nationally ranked high school team in 2003.

“I have no doubt that Geoff will make a tremendous impact on our men's soccer program next year,” HSU head coach Andy Cumbo said. “He's a very strong, aggressive player who is forceful and dominating in the air.”

Houck, who also played for the Nomads Soccer Club in San Diego, achieved a 3.5 grade point average and was a Southwest League Scholar Athlete. He hopes to study business and marketing. “Geoff is an excellent student and a great role model,” Cumbo said.

#### **Local Star Signs With Lumberjacks (2/3/05)**

Former Arcata High School star and Humboldt-Del Norte League Co-MVP Matt Colwell has signed a national letter of intent to play soccer at Humboldt State beginning next fall.

Colwell, who has shared the H-DNL's top honor the past two seasons, helped Arcata High claim the league title both his junior and senior years. He'll be a candidate for a starting midfield position for the Lumberjacks, who finished with an 8-12 record last year under first-year coach Andy Cumbo.

“Matt is a tremendous soccer player and we're extremely happy that he has decided to continue his career at Humboldt State,” Cumbo said. “His vision, skills, and his ability to find the net will definitely help our attack.”

During his senior season, Colwell led the Tigers in both goals (19) and assists (23). He played varsity soccer all four years at AHS, leading the team in scoring each season. He has also been a member of the Northern California Olympic Development Program.

Colwell has also achieved in the classroom, posting a 4.0 grade point average, earning listing on the National Honor Roll and National Honor Society.

“He's an exceptional student and everything we look for in a student-athlete,” Cumbo said. “He'll make an immediate impact at HSU and is another important figure in moving our program forward.”

## **Seattle Pacific**

### **Five Freshman Commit To Play Soccer For Falcons (6/17/05)**

Seattle Pacific University has received commitments from five incoming freshmen men's soccer players.

Among the group is a pair of local all-Wesco selections, Colin Kosco of Lynnwood's Meadowdale and Ayo Abebefe from Everett's Cascade, plus Jono Henness of Arizona, Ben Pliskin of Oregon and Daniel Carpenter of California.

Kosco is a defender who earned all-state honors as a junior at Meadowdale, which qualified for the state 3A tournament this spring. Abebefe was a two-time all-Wesco midfielder for the Bruins.

Carpenter was an all-SCCAL first team midfielder for Harbor High School in Santa Cruz, Calif. Henness, a defender, was an all-region pick for Casa Grande Union, located southeast of Phoenix. Pliskin was an all-Valley League defender for Crescent Valley in Corvallis and also played for Oregon United.

# 2004

## Humboldt State

### Hawaii Prep standout joins Lumberjack squad (6/11/04)

Trel Mangarin, a forward out of Hawaii Preparatory Academy and the Hawaii Volcanos Soccer Club, has signed with the 2004 Lumberjack men's soccer squad.

"We are extremely excited that Trel will be joining our men's soccer program," said HSU coach Andrew Cumbo. "He has done a tremendous job both creating and finishing scoring opportunities for himself and his teammates. He will be looked upon to make an immediate impact here."

Mangarin has been an important piece of his high school's team scoring 13 goals as a freshman, 15 his sophomore year, 22 his junior year and 17 as a senior. The numbers he put up his final two seasons made him the leading scorer on the Big Island, while he was also the leader in assists.

Mangarin was named Hawaii Prep's team MVP as well as making the Big Island first-team and the All-State team.

In addition to his success on the field, Mangarin is an honor roll student at Hawaii Prep and plans to study Environmental Resources Engineering at Humboldt State.

"It's very exciting for us to be able to bring in a forward like Trel to our program," said Cumbo. "He is another important individual that will help our men's team move forward."

### Jacks sign midfielder/forward out of Redding (4/23/04)

Eric Webster, a midfielder/forward from Enterprise High School in Redding, Calif., will be joining Humboldt State men's soccer squad in the fall.

"Eric is a very talented player and he will definitely help raise the level of play here at Humboldt State," said HSU coach Andy Cumbo. "He is an accomplished competitor and has been very effective for his teams in the past. We're hoping Eric will be as effective for HSU and help us in moving our program forward."

Webster has been an all-league selection for the past three seasons and was a major factor in his team's Northern Section Division I championship victory this past season. Webster joins Jonathan Eseman from Seattle in Cumbo's first recruiting class as the head men's soccer coach at HSU.

### Eseman Signs With Lumberjacks (3/22/04)

Jonathan Eseman, a forward/midfielder from Seattle, has committed to continuing his soccer career at Humboldt State University.

Eseman, a senior at Garfield High School, has been a four-year varsity starter, is currently the team captain and was an all-conference second-team selection in 2003.

Besides playing for his high school team, Eseman also plays on the Eastside FC/P1 Level club team, which has reached the State Cup semi-finals the past two years.

"Jonathan is a very composed and versatile attacking player," said HSU Coach Andrew Cumbo. "He will be one of the early and important pieces to help us move along quickly through our rebuilding phase. I have no doubt that Jonathan can make an immediate contribution to our men's program."

Eseman, according to Cumbo, is a key to the current rebuilding process that has begun for the men's soccer team at HSU. Cumbo took over the squad in mid-December.

## Seattle University

### Redhawks Sign Skagit Valley Player, Four Prep Stars (5/26/04)

Seattle University has signed five players to national letters of intent, bringing its incoming recruiting class to seven players.

Head coach Peter Fewing's latest group of signings includes junior college transfer William "Cam" Weaver (Kent, Wash - Kentwood & Skagit Valley College) and four high school seniors: Jason Cascio (Gilbert, Ariz. - Hamilton HS), Eric Forner (Sacramento, Calif. - Jesuit HS), Luis Gamez (The Dalles, Ore.) and Peter Mullenbach (Lodi, Calif.).

Forner and Mullenbach join Seattle University from the same club team, the San Juan Predators, which has held the number one national ranking in its age group this year. The duo helped lead the Predators to two state championships and two quarterfinal appearances, along with a national championship last year.

Forner, who is also a four-time California North State Team participant and competed on the state and regional ODP teams last year, lettered three-years for Jesuit High School in Carmichael, Calif. He helped lead the Marauders to three section championships and the No. 1 national high school ranking in 2003. Forner was a two-time first team All-Delta League selection and was named the league MVP and Jesuit's Defensive Player of the Year last season.

Mullenbach was a four-year starter at Lodi High School, where he was a four-time all-league selection. He helped lead Lodi to two league championships and to the section finals in 2001, the farthest the school has ever advanced. Mullenbach served as a team captain as a senior, was named to the Principal's Honor Roll and was honored by the California Scholarship Federation.

"Both Eric and Peter have had a lot of success at the high school level," Fewing said. "Not only are they both talented players, but they are winners as well. They will bring a lot to our team."

Cascio was a four-time all-league and three-time all-region selection for Hamilton High School. He was named to the all-state team three times and was honored as the region Player of the Year in both his junior and senior seasons. Cascio, who served as a team captain in his senior year, also helped lead the Gilbert football team to a state championship this past fall and was a member of the National Honors Society.

"Jason is very mobile and strong, and is a hard tackler," Fewing said. "He is physically ready to excel at the college level already."

Gamez was a four-time first team all-league selection for The Dalles High School. He was also a two-time league MVP and two-time first team all-state selection. Gamez served three years as a team captain and was voted team MVP three times. He helped lead his club team, Westside Metro, to a 2002 state championship and a regional quarterfinal appearance. Gamez also lettered two years in track at The Dalles and was a member of the National Honors Society.

"Luis is a very composed midfielder," Fewing said. "He is extremely skillful, smart and fluid."

This past season, Weaver was named the NWAACC regular season and postseason tournament MVP after leading Skagit Valley to the league championship with 15 goals. He also served as team captain. Weaver was a four-year letter winner at Kentwood High School where he was a first team All-South Puget Sound League selection and team captain as a senior.

"Cam is also a skillful player that we can put at a variety of positions," Fewing said. "We are looking for him to play in the back."

"We are excited to add these five players to our recruiting class," Fewing added. "We anticipate all of them to make an impact for us right away."

#### **Redhawks Sign Former State Champions (4/15/04)**

A pair of former Washington state champions have signed national letters of intent with the Seattle University men's soccer team. John Fishbaugher (Redmond, Wash.), a local standout at Redmond High

School and Kennewick's Cameron Mertens (Southridge HS) will don the Seattle scarlet and white this fall.

"These are two very good players that are the start of an exceptional recruiting class for us," SU coach Peter Fewing said. "We are excited to sign both of them."

Fishbaugher has captured three youth state title in the past five years. Most recently, he helped lead Emerald City to the U-18 title this year. In 2002, he won the U-16 state crown with Tynecastle II. Fishbaugher was also a member of the Crossfire Sounders U-14 state championship team in 2002.

A four-year starter at Redmond High, Fishbaugher has helped the Mustangs to a 5-2-1 start in league play, 6-3-1 overall. He is second on the team with four goals and four assists. Last year, Fishbaugher was a first team All-State and first team All-Eastside selection after earning honors as the KingCo 4A Player of the Year. He was an honorable mention all-league selection in his freshman and sophomore seasons. This marks his second straight year as a team captain.

"John is a versatile player that is good with both feet and has very good vision," Fewing said. "He is a strong competitor and has played for Brian Schmetzer, so he is well coached."

"I'm very excited and looking forward to playing at Seattle University," Fishbaugher said. "We should have a really good team."

Mertens was a 2002 U-17 state champion with Three Rivers United, who lost in the regional tournament to eventual national champion Irvine Strikers. Mertens was also a member of the state ODP team that year. A four-year starter at Southridge, he is currently on pace to finish as the team's leading scorer for the fourth straight season with 10 goals in 12 games thus far. Last year, Mertens was a second team All-Big 9 selection after leading Southridge and finishing third in the league with 13 goals. He was an honorable mention selection the previous two years and is in his second straight season as a team captain.

"(Cameron) is an extremely dangerous threat on the left flank. He has great speed and serves good crosses," Fewing said. "He is also an excellent student, and will be a great fit at Seattle University."

## **Seattle Pacific**

### **Falcons Sign Two Players from Colorado (5/18/04)**

Matt Kemper and Kellen Rosten, both of Colorado Springs, have signed national letters of intent to play soccer for Seattle Pacific University.

Kemper, a 6-foot-2 senior at Palmer High School, was a first team all-state selection and the Colorado 5A

player of the year as a center midfielder. He finished his career with 36 goals and 57 assists, with the Terrors advancing the state round of 16 four times.

Kemper also plays defender for the Pride Predators, where he is a teammate of Rosten. The Pride Predators' assistant coach is Joel Malick, who played on Seattle Pacific's 1998 Final Four squad. They won the elite II division in 2003 and also the Nomads Coaches Showcase. Earlier this spring the Pride Predators advanced to the state cup semifinals. Kemper will also be one of only two prep player this summer for the Colorado Springs Blizzard of the PDL.

"Matt is a strong tackling, very technical central defender," said Seattle Pacific coach Cliff McCrath. "He has good speed and athleticism and can help our defense."

Rosten, a 6-1 senior goalkeeper at Doherty High School, made all-state his final two years and was a three-time all-Metro 5A pick. He posted 17 career shutouts. Rosten also served as punter and placekicker for the Spartans football team.

"Kellen possesses all the physical tools to be a quality goalkeeper," said McCrath. "Even though we have a veteran keeper, we expect Kellen to compete for playing time immediately."

#### **Falcons Sign Three Soccer Recruits (4/13/04)**

James Coggan of San Jose, Jeff Hallenbeck of Redmond, Wash., and Drew Macha of Eugene, Ore., became Seattle Pacific University's first three men's soccer recruits to sign national letters of intent for next fall.

"These three young men not only make us a better team immediately, but they are exceptionally strong students with great character," noted Cliff McCrath, the Falcons' head coach of the three high school seniors. "We're extremely excited about their decision to commit to us."

Coggan, a 5-foot-11 forward, scored 17 goals, added 13 assists and was West Catholic Athletic League offensive player of the year as a senior for Valley Christian High School, which was a Central Coast Section quarterfinalist with a record of 18-3-5. He was a unanimous all-CCS first team selection. Coggan also plays for the Santa Clara Ruckus, which advanced to the U-19 semifinals of the prestigious Dallas Cup earlier this month, scoring twice and adding one assist in the tournament.

"A bright, crafty player like James gives us a dynamic presence up front," said McCrath. "He finds different ways to score and he's a fierce competitor, who's accustomed to winning. We believe he's one of the best forwards to come out of Northern California, and can contribute right away."

Hallenbeck scored 21 goals his past two seasons at Inglemoor High School. He was a first team all-Kingco and all-Eastside forward and the league's top scorer each of the last three seasons. As a junior, the Vikings advanced to the state 4A quarterfinals. Hallenbeck, a 5-9 forward, played for Tynecastle II, the Washington U-16 club and U-17 Tampa Bay Sun Bowl champions, both in 2002. He now plays for FCA Parma, coached by former SPU player Brad Elmenhurst.

"Jeff's a smart player with pace, and someone who makes those around him better players," said McCrath. "We believe he can contribute right away, and give us some offensive punch."

Macha, a 6-1 defender, was Oregon's Gatorade Player of the Year and 3A player of the year for Marist High School last fall after scoring 14 goals and 13 assists while leading the Spartans to the Midwestern League title and a state quarterfinal advancement. He plays for the Oregon United Orange, state champions last year and Dallas Cup participants. His great uncle, was a member of the Czech national team from 1937-45. Off the field, Macha is a National Merit semifinalist.

"We've followed Drew for some time now, and feel that he'll provide both leadership and quality play to our backline," McCrath said. "His top level club experience and coaching will enable him to challenge for playing time immediately."

## **Western Washington**

#### **Two Top Goal Scores Coming to Western (6/18/04)**

Two high school seniors who combined to score 95 goals over the last two seasons, Nick Webb from Squalicum High School in Bellingham and Zach Bauling from Albuquerque, New Mexico, have enrolled at Western Washington University and will play on the men's soccer team this fall.

Webb was a three-time All-Northwest League first-team selection, receiving NWL co-Player of the Year honors as a junior. He scored 25 goals as a senior on a team that reached the quarterfinals of the Class 3A state tournament and connected for 20 goals as a junior. As a sophomore, Webb helped the Storm to the state championship game.

Webb helped Squalicum to three straight NWL titles, the Storm going undefeated in league play the last two seasons, and the 2003 district championship.

Webb's twin brother, Mason, received a scholarship to play soccer at Oregon State University. Bauling received first-team Class 5A all-State honors as a senior at Albuquerque High School, ranking third among the state's scoring leaders with 30 goals and 12

assists. He earned second-team all-state honors as a junior with 20 goals and eight assists.

Bauling also was District Player of the Year as a senior and received all-Metro League accolades for the second straight year.

## 2003

### Seattle University

#### Brothers To Play For Redhawks (6/18/03)

Nick and Chris Natale have signed scholarship agreements to play soccer for Seattle University.

The older of the two brothers, Nick will transfer from San Diego State University with two years of eligibility remaining. He played in all 19 games this past fall for the Aztecs and made 10 starts as a midfielder. Nick tallied one assist and finished fourth on the team with 23 shots attempted. He played in 10 games as a freshman.

As a prep, Nick was a four-year starter at Sam Barlow High School in Gresham, Ore., where he led his team to three Mount Hood conference championships. As a senior, he was a first team all-state selection, was honored as the conference Player of the Year and was his team's MVP and captain.

Nick led the league in scoring as a junior and finished his career as a top-10 point scorer in conference history. He was a five-year ODP participant and captured four State Cup Titles with West Villa.

A goalkeeper, Chris was a two-time all-conference selection at Sam Barlow. He served as a team captain in his senior season and was a member of the Oregon state ODP team. As a junior, Chris helped his club team to a league championship and was the youngest member selected to play in the all-star game at the prestigious Santa Clara University Soccer Camp.

"I am very excited to get both of these players," SU coach Peter Fewing said. "Nick will make an impact for us right away at a few different positions. Chris is a solid goalkeeper that will strengthen us and give us depth at that position."

#### Two Sign With Redhawks (5/29/03)

Forward Adam Jensen (Missoula, Mont./Sentinel HS) and goalkeeper Jacob Rhoads (So., Yakima, Wash./West Valley HS & Highline CC) have signed with the Seattle University men's soccer team.

A four-year letter winner for Sentinel High School in Missoula, Mont., Jensen was a two-time first team all-league selection. This past season, he was an all-state first team selection, was named his team's MVP and served as a team captain.

Jensen also led both his high school and club soccer teams in scoring the past three years. A four-time academic all-state selection, he helped Sentinel to the Montana state championship in 2000 and his club

team to four straight state titles. He also lettered two years in basketball at Sentinel.

A transfer from Highline Community College, Rhoads has three years of eligibility remaining. He was an All-NWAACC Southwest Division selection after helping Highline to first place in the Southwest Division and a tie for the best record in the NWAACC at 16-2 as the team's starting goalkeeper.

He posted a shutout against North Idaho in the final game of the season to help Highline earn a share of third place in the NWAACC tournament. Rhoads was also a two-time first team all-league selection for West Valley High School in Yakima.

### Seattle Pacific

#### Vancouver Area Defender Commits to SPU Men's Soccer (5/29/03)

Nick Westendorf, the top scorer for Vancouver's Evergreen High School, has signed a scholarship agreement to play soccer at Seattle Pacific University beginning this fall.

Westendorf was named the Greater St. Helens League offensive co-MVP after helping Evergreen win its third title in four years in 2003. He scored 11 goals and added 11 assists this season for the Plainsmen, who advanced to the West Central Bi-District playoffs.

Westendorf's club, Westside Metros, coached by John Bain, won the Oregon State Cup in both 2002 and '03. They now advance to the regional tournament in Hawaii.

#### Canadian Youth International Booter Transfers to SPU (5/27/03)

Kye Taylor, a past member of Canada's Under-23 national team, has signed a scholarship agreement to play soccer at Seattle Pacific University beginning this fall.

Taylor, a 5-foot-11 midfielder/defender, is transferring from Coastal Carolina, where he played as a freshman last fall. He graduated from Max Cameron School in Powell River, B.C., in 2002.

Taylor, who played for Canada in youth international series both in Central America and Germany, is the second recruit signed by Coach Cliff McCrath. Mike Morris of Seattle's Bishop Blanchet High School signed earlier this month.

### **Blanchet, Crossfire Midfielder Commits to SPU Men's Soccer (5/12/03)**

Mike Morris, the top scorer for Bishop Blanchet High School, has signed a national letter of intent to play soccer at Seattle Pacific University beginning this fall.

Morris, a 5-foot-7 midfielder, has scored 19 goals and added 11 assists in 16 games for Blanchet this spring. The Braves are 13-1-2 and resume play later this week in the Metro League tournament semifinals.

A resident of Bothell, he was a member of the regional Olympic Development Program pool in 2001 and played on the state ODP team since 1999. Morris is the captain of the Crossfire Sounders, state champions in 2000 '01 and '02 under Alan Hinton.

Morris is the first recruit signed by Coach Cliff McCrath. SPU, a five-time NCAA Division II champion, returns eight starters from a team which went 11-6-2 last season. It has qualified for the playoffs 28 times while posting 32 consecutive winning seasons.

## **Western Washington**

### **Vikings Add Two Transfers, Four Freshmen (5/28/03)**

Jeff Lane (Yakima - West Valley), a junior midfielder who lettered the past two years at NCAA Division I Gonzaga, is one of six players who have enrolled at Western Washington University and plan to play men's soccer for the Vikings this fall.

Lane is one of two transfers in the group, the other being sophomore defender Ben Robison (Shoreline - Shorecrest), who was at Edmonds CC. The others are all freshmen – goalkeeper Brian Gullikson (Monroe), midfielder/forward Dan Macaya (Camas), midfielder John Hoogestraat (Bremerton/Olympic) and defender Brian Emory (Boise, ID/Centennial).

“We're really excited about this class of recruits,” WWU coach Travis Connell said. “This group of players makes our team faster and our attack more creative.”

Lane made four starts for Gonzaga last year, notching two assists in 13 games. He was a four-year letter winner at West Valley, playing on two Class 3A state championship teams and twice earning Mid-Valley League all-star status.

“Jeff will be able to give us that dynamic attacking player in midfield we're looking for,” said Connell. Robison, who also attended the University of Washington, was a first-team all-NWAACC North Region pick at Edmonds CC and a three-time Western Conference all-star at Shorecrest.

Gullikson was the goalkeeper for the Washington State Select Team in 2001, and also earned second-team Wesco honors as a midfielder at Monroe. Macaya has more than 70 career goals for Camas, helping it reach the state tournament all four years.

Hoogestraat was a four-time, first-team Narrows League Bridge Division all-star at Olympic, and Emory earned all-conference honors as a senior on a Centennial team that finished 14-2 and placed fourth at state.

“Robison and Emory will be able to step in and provide depth on our back line,” Connell said. “Gullikson is an outstanding goalkeeper who is going to do great things at this level. Hoogestraat and Macaya both will play a role in our attack this year, and in the future.”

## 2002

### Seattle University

#### McAlister To Transfer to Seattle U (5/16/02)

Former Kennedy High School standout Bobby McAlister (So., Federal Way) will transfer from the University of Washington to play men's soccer at Seattle University.

"We are excited to bring in a player of Bobby's level," Seattle University coach Peter Fewing said. "He is going to make an immediate impact and do a lot of great things for our team."

McAlister played in four games this season and made two starts for the Huskies before sitting out the rest of the year as a medical redshirt due to a groin injury. Last year, McAlister made his way into the UW lineup five times as a true freshman. He still has three years of eligibility left.

McAlister lettered four seasons for Kennedy High School in Burien, helping the Lancers to class 3A state championships in his freshman and senior seasons. He recorded a hat trick in both the semifinals and championship match of the state tournament as a senior.

McAlister earned first team all-SPSL and team offensive MVP honors in both his sophomore and senior seasons and was named the South County Journal all-area Player of the Year.

He tallied 38 goals and 22 assists his senior season after a 22-goal, 15-assist sophomore campaign. McAlister missed his entire junior season due to a knee injury.

McAlister also helped his club team, Solaris, to seven straight Washington State Cup championships. In 1997, he helped Solaris become the first American team to win the prestigious Newcastle (England) Invitational Youth Tournament. He was a member of the state and regional Olympic Development Program teams and was named MVP of the state tournament in 1994 with Solaris.

Bobby is the son of former Seattle Sounder great and current Decatur head coach Jimmy McAlister, who is seeking his second straight undefeated season and class 4A state championship as the skipper of the Gators.

"With Bobby, Seattle University is getting a great student-athlete and person," Fewing said. "I think this will be a good fit for him academically, and he will be reuniting with a lot of friends he grew up playing soccer with."

#### Doran Third Signee for Redhawks (4/8/02)

Pat Doran (Bellingham, Wash./Sehome HS) has signed a national letter of intent to play soccer at Seattle University. Doran becomes head coach Peter Fewing's third signing for next season.

Doran is currently lettering in his fourth season for the Sehome varsity soccer team. He was a first team all-WesCo 4A selection last season after leading Sehome with 16 goals. A four-year starter, he finished second in scoring as a sophomore, finding the back of the net 13 times that season.

Doran has also played with the Whatcom Football Club Rangers since the U-12 age level. He has led the Rangers in scoring for the past five years and has served as the team's captain the past two.

Doran has helped the Rangers to numerous tournament championships, including back-to-back victories in the Baker Blast and three straight Pacific Coast Challenge titles. This past season he was a member of the Washington Olympic Development Program state pool.

"Pat is a strong player with good vision and great touch on the ball. He can flat out score goals," Fewing said. "I think he will adjust well to the college game. He has tremendous upside and will get better for us every year."

"Pat reminds me a lot of a young Peter Hatrup coming out of Seattle Prep," Fewing added. "Between he and (fellow incoming freshman) Alex Chursky, we have two very potent goal scorers coming in next season."

#### Kentwood's Easterbrook Signs With Redhawks (3/29/02)

The Seattle University men's soccer team landed its second local recruit for next season with the signing of Ethan Easterbrook (Kent, Wash./Kentwood HS).

"Ethan Easterbrook is a good soccer player. We are excited to have him," SU coach Peter Fewing said. "He should contribute for us as soon as he gets here."

In three complete seasons at Kentwood, Easterbrook was selected to the all-South Puget Sound League North Team twice. He was named his school's MVP as a freshman and led them in scoring last year as a junior.

After finishing fifth in the SPSL North last season, Easterbrook helped the Conquerors to a 5-1 start and recognition as one of the contenders for the league title.

Easterbrook also helped his club team, the Federal Way Storm, to consecutive Premier 1 league

championships and state berths. This past season, the Storm finished as the Washington State runner-up, and advanced to the semifinal round of the state tournament last year. Easterbrook has been a member of the Washington State Olympic Development Program and was named to the state team in 2000.

"I'm looking forward to playing soccer at Seattle University," Easterbrook said. "This gives me the opportunity to stay local and play at a good school with a good soccer program. I'm not a player who likes to watch from the bench, so I hope I can come in and be a contributor right away."

### **Another Chursky Signs With Redhawks (2/8/02)**

Local standout Alex Chursky (Federal Way, Wash./Decatur HS) has signed a national letter of intent to play men's soccer at Seattle University.

"We are very excited to bring Alex to Seattle University. He is going to be an impact player for us," SU coach Peter Fewing said. "But at the same time he is going to have to earn his spot on the team and he knows that."

Last season, Chursky was named the South Puget Sound League MVP and to the Tacoma News Tribune All-Area Team after breaking the school's single-season scoring record with 29 goals in 21 games and leading the Gators to a class 4A state championship. With Alex playing in his senior season this spring, Decatur is one of the favorites to take the title again.

"Alex gives us a very talented forward that understands how to put himself into positions to score goals," Fewing said. "He is a hard working, blue collar athlete-out type of player. He wants to win."

Chursky chose Seattle University despite offers from NCAA Division I schools, including the University of Washington and 2001 national semifinalist St. John's University. He will be reunited with brother Ian Chursky, who will be a senior on the team next season. Fewing expects Alex to have the same impact as his older brother did after transferring from Tacoma Community College in 2000. It was Ian's high school record that Alex broke last season as a junior.

Ian scored 12 goals in seven games before suffering a season-ending broken leg as a sophomore. This past year, Ian played in just seven games again, but tallied four goals, including three game winners.

"They will compliment each other well," Fewing said. "Aside from the fact that they are brothers and read each other well, they will also make a great scoring tandem up front. Alex is a great post up player and is tremendous in the air, and Ian is a guy that likes to make runs in open spaces."

The younger Chursky marks the fifth son of a former Seattle Sounder to play for Seattle U. The two brothers

are the sons of former Sounder standout Tony Chursky. SU junior Jeff Stock, Jr., who is also Ian's roommate, is the son of Jeff Stock, Sr., a teammate of Tony Chursky's with the Sounders. Soccer alumni Kelly Barton, a member of the 1997 NAIA national championship team, is the son of Frank Barton, and Eddie Fernandez was preceded by Sounder great Pepe Fernandez.

"Humble is a great word to describe both Alex and Ian, much like their father," Fewing said. "They are very coach able, good team players. I expect a lot of good things out of Alex."

## **Seattle Pacific**

### **Top Scorer From Illinois Prep Powerhouse Signs at SPU (6/7/02)**

Tom Funk, the top scorer for Illinois state champion Sandburg High School in Orland Park, has signed a national letter of intent to play soccer at Seattle Pacific University beginning this fall.

Funk, a 6-foot-1 forward, scored 16 goals and had 11 assists for Sandburg, which went 27-1-1 en route to the class AA state title and was ranked No. 6 in the nation. He was selected to the all-SICA West team as a junior and senior.

Funk also plays for the Windy City Pride, twice winner of the Busch tournament and a state cup semifinalist, and was that club's top scorer for five seasons. He played briefly for the Chicago Magic earlier this year.

### **Falcons Ink Parade All-American (3/18/02)**

Ross Vaillancourt, a two-time Parade All-America selection from New Hampshire's Manchester West High School, has signed a national letter of intent to play soccer for Seattle Pacific University.

Vaillancourt, a center midfielder, was the Gatorade state player of the year the last two seasons and a four-year starter for the Blue Knights. He scored 21 goals and added 13 assists in his final two seasons at West, that despite missing eight games of his senior season due to injury.

Vaillancourt was one of only four repeat selections for Parade All-America. The team consisted of 39 boys from 18 states this year. He was also a two-time All-America as chosen by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) and member of the Olympic Development regional pool. He becomes the first prep All-America to play for SPU since Jason Dunn (1991-93). West won the New Hampshire state title with an unbeaten record (20-0) in 2000 and was runner-up (18-1-1) last fall.