

Kate Cornwell
25 March 2002
Frontier Country College Scholarship

What Youth Soccer Has Meant To Me

Soccer has been a huge part of my life since I was five years old. My first year to play on an organized team was when I was in kindergarten. I didn't really know any of the girls on the team and none of us had any real idea what we were doing. As the years went by my knowledge of soccer progressed as my coaches and teammates came and went.

I tried out for and made Fury '84 Red for the first time in fifth grade and every year after that. Being on a traveling, competitive soccer team taught me many things. I learned not to give up because everyone on my team always counted on me to do my best. I also learned to be responsible, caring, and how to be a leader. Being on the same team year after year allowed me to build confidence in myself and it let me make strong relationships with the girls on my team. As the years went by, managing my time became more important. When I entered high school I had to be able to balance playing club and high school soccer along with doing homework and spending time with my family and friends. Through these years I have had to learn how to manage my time so I can get everything done so I can perform to the best of my abilities in everything that I do.

Over the years, the girls on my team were constantly changing. Some of the girls did not make the team while others decided that soccer was not something they wanted to do anymore. Losing touch with some of my friends who lived out of town was hard, but is something I learned to deal with. Today I still have close relationships with girls that I met playing soccer in elementary school. Every practice, game, and every time we traveled to a game or tournament, I became closer to my teammates. I learned how to build relationships and how to cope with those who I did not get along with. Every practice and every game reminds me of how lucky I am to be able to play soccer the way that I can.