

"What Youth Soccer Has Meant To Me"
by Blake Porter

Youth soccer has been many things in my life. Mainly, it has been an opportunity. Soccer has given me opportunities to travel all over the country and meet many interesting people. Also it has been an outlet. I could always count on soccer to be there for me no matter what I was going through. Lastly, soccer has been a lesson. It has taught me not only the joys of winning and achieving greatness, but also how to lose and be a good sportsman.

The opportunities that were given to me through soccer are countless. I have been introduced to many distinguished officials not only in the soccer realm but also in the national spectrum. I have had the chance to see both oceans of our wonderful nation and have been to many states in between. Also, through soccer I have found a university at which I believe I can thrive academically and excel at soccer. Soccer has provided me with so many opportunities that I couldn't thank enough people for the chances it has provided.

Soccer has provided me an outlet that helps me solve problems. I often related situations in life to situations on the field and came up with many solutions to problems using this method.

Soccer has been a lesson in that it has taught me so much about teamwork, leadership, cooperation and life in general. I have learned that I can work in a group to accomplish much greater things than I ever could have on my own. I enjoyed my experiences in youth soccer and I wouldn't trade them for the world.