

## Information



## adidas to host nation's top youth soccer players at the 2007 adidas Elite Soccer Program

Portland, OR, January 11, 2007 - adidas announces today that it will host the Elite Soccer Program (adidas ESP) for over 200 of the top male and female soccer players in the country this July. Sanctioned by the U.S. Youth Soccer Olympic Development Program, adidas ESP was founded in 1997 as the premier youth development program designed to identify America's best youth players and provide a platform for them to showcase their skills. In addition to the annual boys program, adidas will host girls ESP for the top high-school aged female soccer players in the country. Former U.S. Women's National and Olympic Team Coach, Tony DiCicco, will serve as Technical Director for the girls program.

"adidas ESP is an excellent opportunity for coaches and professional scouts to identify the best young soccer talents in the country." said Chris McGuire, Sports Marketing Manager for adidas Soccer. "adidas is committed to supporting all levels of soccer, and our goal with adidas ESP is to prepare each athlete to reach their academic and athletic goals."

An estimated 150 coaches from college, university, and professional teams are expected to scout the players attending adidas ESP. adidas ESP will be staffed by an experienced group of coaches from the collegiate and professional levels and will combine a top level training program with a diverse off-field educational curriculum. The boys and girls programs will be held at Cal Poly Pomona University in Pomona, CA from the 5th through the 9th and 12th through the 15th, respectively.

Past adidas ESP participants have gone on to play at the collegiate, professional and World Cup levels of soccer. Notable alumni include: **Pat Noonan** (New England Revolution, US Men's National Team), **Danny Szetela** (Columbus Crew, U20 National Team), **Michael Parkhurst** (New England Revolution, MLS Rookie of the year 2005, Generation adidas), **Josmer Altidore** (Red Bull NY, Generation adidas, U20 Men's

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National Team), **Brad Guzan** (CD Chivas USA, Generation adidas, US Men's National Team), and **Jonathan Spector** (Manchester United FC).

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For more information about adidas ESP, please visit [www.adidas-esp.com](http://www.adidas-esp.com) or contact:

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