



**CHICAGO FIRE SOCCER**

MLS CUP CHAMPIONS 1998 . SUPPORTERS SHIELD 2003  
LAMAR HUNT U.S. OPEN CUP CHAMPIONS 1998, 2000, 2003, 2006

# NEWS RELEASE

Daniel Jankowski, MR Director [708.496.6726] djankowski@chicago-fire.com  
John Koluder, MR Manager [708.496.6725] jkoluder@chicago-fire.com  
Chris Bailey, MR Coordinator [708.496.6724] cbaily@chicago-fire.com

## **Chicago Fire Youth Development Program Update**

### **Chicago Fire Juniors U18 Girls Take Orange Classic Title**

**Mississippi U17 Boys and Girls Compete in Florida; '88 Girls Rachel Givan Named All-American CFJ-Michigan Welcomes U.S. Women's Midfielder Lindsay Tarpley for Two-Day Girls Camp Five CFJ-Elm Grove Continue ODP Play; Two Alums Finish 2006 UW-Whitewater Season**

**BRIDGEVIEW, IL (Thursday, January 11, 2007)** – Chicago Fire Soccer continues its commitment to grooming top class youth soccer talent throughout the calendar year. The Chicago Fire Juniors U18 Girls recently traveled to Broward County, Florida for the Orange Classic and took top prize, defeating five straight teams in tourney play. Fire Juniors – Mississippi also turned to tournaments in the Sunshine State as its U17 Boys and Girls both fared well in Tampa and Orlando, respectively. Mississippi saw one of its own earn All America honors, while CFJ – Michigan held a two-day, girls only camp with current Women's National Team midfielder Lindsay Tarpley. Five players from the CFJ – Elm Grove continue to work hard through ODP teams, while two former players close out their 2006 collegiate seasons.

#### **Chicago Fire Juniors - Chicago**

##### **• Fire Juniors U18 Girls Take Orange Classic Title**

The Chicago Fire Juniors U18 Girls team concluded its calendar year in style with a first place finish in the Orange Classic International Girls Soccer Tournament held Dec. 27-30 in Broward County, FL. The U18 Girls, led by Head Coach Daryl Shore, outscored three Green Division opponents 16 to 3 to go undefeated atop its group and collected 9 out of a possible 9 points. Victories over the Stafford Eagles (6-1) on Dec. 27, North Atlanta 07 Premier (7-2) on Dec. 28, and a shutout win over Texas Rush Nike 88/89 (3-0) on Dec. 29 saw the Juniors side go unbeaten at Pine Island Park and qualify for the Division playoffs. On Dec. 30 the Girls U18s faced Ohio Elite in the division semifinals at Central Park and won 4-3 to advance to the tournament final later in the day. The U18s proved to be the best of the bunch as it handed the Atlanta Fire United Elite 89 a 2-1 defeat at Central Park for a first place finish in the tourney.

#### **Chicago Fire Juniors – Mississippi**

##### **• U17 Girls Red Show Well at Disney Showcase**

The Chicago Fire Juniors - Mississippi U17 Girls competed at the Disney Showcase Soccer Tournament in Orlando, Fla. from Dec. 30-Jan. 2 in one of the most prestigious tournaments in the country. The U17s tied FSA Soccer Plus 1- 1 and tied Richmond Strikers 2-2. They lost to eventual tournament champions Washington Premiere, 4-1. The team is coached by Corey Rose and comprises of players throughout the state of Mississippi.

##### **• U17 Boys White Reach Quarterfinals of Tampa Bay Sunbowl**

The CFJ – Miss. U17 Boys White reached the quarterfinals of the Tampa Bay Sunbowl in Tampa, Fla. during the week of Dec. 27-30. They defeated CVYSA 89 Blast from North Carolina 2-0 with 2 goals from Austin Cole. The second game ended a 0-0 draw against RYSA Sporting FC Blue from Georgia. The third game saw the Fire take on Dunedin Stirling from Florida and win 4-2 with goals from Chris Williams (2), Jake Benton (1) and Elliott Thornburg (1). The Final game in bracket play saw the squad take on ABGC Pheonix from North Carolina, winning 1-0 with another goal from Austin Cole. The Juniors next met the Charlotte Soccer Club in the quarters and lost 2-0 to the eventual tourney finalist.

##### **• '88 Girls Player Rachel Givan Takes Home Awards**

Rachel Givan named Youth and High School All- American for Third Straight Year. Rachel Givan, a player for the Fire Juniors – Mississippi '88 Girls team was selected by the NSCAA as a Youth and High School "All America" and selected to the "All America Soccer Team". This is her third consecutive year to be selected for these honors. In addition, Givan was also chosen by the Clarion Ledger as the "Mississippi Sports Person of the Year". Givan plans to sign with the University of North Carolina, the 2006 NCAA Women's National Champions.

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TOYOTA PARK • 7000 S. Harlem Ave. • Bridgeview, IL 60455  
Phone: (708) 594-7200 • Fax: (708) 496-6050



**Chicago Fire Juniors – Michigan**

• ***Women’s National Team Midfielder Lindsay Tarpley Holds Camp***

USA Women’s National Team midfielder and Michigan native Lindsay Tarpley held a two-day, girls only camp on Dec. 16 and 17 exclusively for the Fire Juniors – Michigan. The event was a fun, instructional and motivating camp, highlighting some of the skills and favorite routines Lindsay uses in her training with the National Team. Lindsay also showcased some of her favorite moves and practical application of them during game situations. As an extra, Lindsay was assisted by her fiancé and current UCLA Women’s soccer assistant, BJ Snow.

**Chicago Fire Juniors – Elm Grove**

• ***Five Elm Grove Players Continue ODP Play***

Five Elm Grove SC members traveled to Omaha, NE from January 5-7 with their respective Wisconsin ODP teams for games and training with other Region 2 programs. Players included: Maggie Behrens (U14 Girls), Alyssa Blavat (U15 Girls), Katie Jacobson (U15 Girls), Danny DeChant (U15 Boys) and Jack McDermott (U15 Boys.)

• ***Two Elm Grove Alums Conclude Season at UW-Whitewater***

UW-Whitewater (NCAA Division III) recently completed its 2006 season with two Elm Grove SC members playing prominent roles. Senior Tim Cotter finished third on the team with 14 points (6 goals and 2 assists) while starting 17 of 18 games in the midfield. Sophomore Cory Schwartz appeared in 14 games at forward collecting three points (1 goal and 1 assist.) Both players have spent their entire careers in Elm Grove.

[www.ChicagoFireJuniors.com](http://www.ChicagoFireJuniors.com)   [www.WestMichiganFire.com](http://www.WestMichiganFire.com)   [www.MississippiFireJR.com](http://www.MississippiFireJR.com)   [www.elmgrovesoccer.com](http://www.elmgrovesoccer.com)

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