

# Kids' Sports

## Soccer on the Hill's Firecrackers make a bang, Senators go to national playoffs

BY LARRY KAUFER

Soccer on the Hill's Firecrackers, an under-10 team, confidently entered the annual Fairfax Police Youth Club Fathers Day tournament. The team won all their qualifying round games and entered the championship game as the top seed.

But the final game was not so easy. The Firecrackers moved out to a 2-1 first half lead. But during the second half, the Prince William opponent outplayed the Firecrackers 2-1 capped by a goal in the last minute producing a game ending 3-3 tie.

An overtime period was tough for both teams but neither could break the tie. So, according to the rules, a penalty kick shootout ensued, testing the skill and nerves of both teams. The Firecrackers prevailed by making 4-shots to their opponent's two goals and won the game.

Congratulations and many thanks to the U10 commissioner Keith Murphy and Firecracker coaches Ted McGinn and Aimee Ochetti for a wonderful season.

### Senators ramp up to national playoffs

The Tyler Field Washington Senators U16 girls fast-pitch softball team represented the nation's capital at the Virginia Rock and Fire Invitational in Richmond.

The Senators clinched the championship after winning six straight games. The placed second at last year's tournament.

The team's hurlers allowed just four runs in the final day of play.

"I was very impressed with our defense, pitching and timely hitting all the way. Once we upset the Virginia Batbusters 2-1 we were on a roll. I would be happy if this level of play continues the rest of the summer. I only hope our injuries are behind us for this season," said Senators head coach Stan Kolbe.

The team has been plagued with injuries and has missed their key run producer and defensive stand-out. Kolbe and staff made some adjustments for sidelined players — top hitter Brittany Polan and stand-



PHOTO BY HILARY CAIRNS

Lacrosse campers and staff. Coach Malcolm Lester is in the last row, fifth from the left.

out pitcher Alie Kolbe.

Coach Kolbe said the power hitting and leadership from Vicki Webb, also All-ISL Conference Team honoree at the Cathedral School, helped fill the void.

Vicki has been one of the Senators' top hitters and has led the team in home runs and extra base hits all season. All-Metro hurlers Carly Martin and Katie Hobson also performed well all season. Also notable is the outstanding defensive play from Kathy McLaughlin, a first

team All-World Series selection in 2005.

The pace intensifies this month as they enter a number of major tournament games in Pennsylvania against teams from 12 states and Canada. The competition features some of the finest teams in the country and previews of some key World Series match-ups later in the month.

The Senators have just four key tournaments left to prepare for the World Series. Then in the fall the college showcase tournaments will come as the high school standouts attempt to move up to the college ranks.

For information about Senators Softball, [www.SenatorsSoftball.com](http://www.SenatorsSoftball.com), or e-mail program director, Stan Kolbe at [SKolbe@SenatorsSoftball.com](mailto:SKolbe@SenatorsSoftball.com).

### First lacrosse camp a success

Sports on the Hill continues to



IMAGE COURTESY SPORTS ON THE HILL

The under-10 soccer squad, Firecrackers, recently took first place in the Fairfax Police Youth Club's Father's Day Tournament. Front Row: Hayden Boshart, Dominic Thompson, Jevian Gudger, Paul Cowden, Nick Heim, John Murphy. Second Row: Derek Thomas, Team Manager Clara McGinn, Adam Pine, Ellis Byrd-Tabscott, Ryan Fennell, Oliver Hightower. Third Row: Coaches Ted McGinn & Aimee Ochetti. Not shown: Brandon Shiel.

expand its menu of youth sports with a new summer camp for lacrosse.

The camp was organized through Capitol Hill resident Malcolm Lester, who has been the head lacrosse coach at nationally ranked St. Albans school for 15 years. Lester and wife, Hillary Cairns, offer lacrosse camps and instruction to the public through their company, Sticks Lacrosse.

The one-week, half-day camp for boys and girls ages 5 to 13 was held June 19 to 23 at Kingman Field.

More than 34 kids attended

from mix of 12 D.C. area schools — including Watkins, St. Peter's, Two Rivers, Stuart Hobson, Capitol Hill Day, Rock Creek International, St. Patrick's, Hardy, Academy of Christian Education, Beauvoir, Thomson and Oyster.

Lester assembled an experienced coaching staff of female and male high school and college lacrosse players to offer a five to one camper to coach ratio to insure individual instruction.

The staff are veteran players from the National Cathedral School, St. Albans, Brown University, Hamilton College, Princeton University and the University of Vermont.

Campers learned fundamentals through drills and scrimmages and enjoyed themed costume days. Area lacrosse and sporting goods organizations generously supported the summer camp.

Sports on the Hill lacrosse was started by commissioner Erik Kriel and commenced with indoor lacrosse instruction in January and February at Eastern High School gym. Lester was a primary volunteer instructor.

The first outdoor lacrosse session was offered during the spring season with at Anacostia Park. Both events attracted about 25 kids. A summer camp was the next logical step and the market responded with even more youth attending.

A positive beginning for lacrosse has been achieved. For information about future Sports on the Hill lacrosse activities, visit [www.sportsonthehill.org](http://www.sportsonthehill.org).



IMAGE COURTESY SPORTS ON THE HILL

The Hill-based Washington Senators fast-pitch softball team is en route to the Softball World Series later this year. Front row: Katie Hobson, Trophy, Vicki Webb; Second row: Kathy McLaughlin, Carly Martin, Brittany Jarboe, Erica Kinney. Third row: Alie Kolbe, Victoria Halla, Emma Cabrera, Kristina Robinson, Ginna Roach. Back row: Coach Stan Kolbe, George Carbrera and Dave Martin (assistant coaches). Not shown: Angelica Appold and Brittany Polan.