



# The Boot Room

*It's what we're talking about!*

May 23, 2007

## Newbury Park HS crowd helped make great game

Fusion's game against Fresno Fuego on June 2<sup>nd</sup> was greeted by an enthusiastic crowd at Newbury Park High School. Head Coach Graham Smith thought the facilities were great. "The sound system is first class, the locker rooms are close to the field, and we liked the surface. It was a great atmosphere to play a game in." The crowd responded to a fast-paced exciting encounter with plenty of foot-stamping in the bleachers and some vocal support as chants blasted over the speakers. Kids in youth soccer jerseys got in free, and many brought their moms and dads with them. Future games return to Buena HS where unfortunately the sound system is nowhere near so effective and there are severe restrictions by the School District on how loud it can be played. There are plans to try and improve the sound before Fusion's next game there and try to recreate some of the atmosphere the team enjoyed at Newbury Park.

### **INSIDE FACT.....**

The two Fusion goalscorers against Fresno Fuego in Newbury Park are no strangers to each other. In the fall of 2003, Eric Avila and Gabe Farfan met in Florida at U.S. Soccer's full-time residency camp where selected young USA national pool players live, eat, and breathe soccer with national team staff coaches while going to school. Gabe's brother Michael was another of the 40 selected players who spent a year there. Gabe was later selected to represent the USA in the 2004 FIFA u-17 World Cup.

## **FUSION ROSTER NEWS**

- Nick Perera, a UCSB forward who has been included in all of the Fusion's 18-player game day rosters to date, was released by the club this week and is now free to sign with another organization.
- Fusion have added the registration of Alejandro Carmona to their 26-player master roster. Carmona is a 33-year old central defender with professional experience in the Mexican leagues.
- Club captain and leading scorer Mark Draycott served a one-game suspension during the game against Fresno and is now available for selection in Fusion's next game.

## Fusion misses out on U.S. Open Cup

Hopes were high in the Fusion camp that the team would qualify for the 1<sup>st</sup> Round of the US Open Cup but instead Bakersfield Brigade have won the honor of representing the PDL Southwest Division. Qualification is based on the best results from 4 games selected before the season starts and unfortunately one of the games selected for Fusion was their only loss, a 2-1 defeat against San Jose Frogs. Bakersfield, who have the same 4-1-0 record as Fusion, fared better in their qualifying games.



## **SOCCER CLINICS**



Fusion will complete a series of youth soccer clinics this week in conjunction with Real Cal FC, Fusion's official partner in youth soccer, when Fusion players and coaches entertain players aged 14 and up at Real Cal's home field of Monte Vista in Camarillo on Wednesday May 30<sup>th</sup>. Previous clinics have been well received with young players eagerly seeking autographs and going home with souvenir Fusion T-shirts awarded as prizes.

## **VUSD**

Fusion will stage a free soccer clinic as part of Ventura Unified School District's Summer Fest between 10:00am and 2:00pm on Saturday June 9<sup>th</sup> at 255 W. Stanley Ave, Ventura. This clinic is free and open to the public. Bring your kids along.

## **UP NEXT**

**Fusion vs Orange County Blue Star**  
**Saturday 2 June Kick-off 7:00 pm**  
**Buena HS Stadium**