

# IN THE NEWS

Accomplishments In Academics, Arts, Athletics & Service



## Girls Net Middle School Soccer Championship Trophy



The University School girls' middle school soccer team topped an undefeated season by capturing the Middle School Soccer Championship trophy. No wonder head coach David Newman calls the group a team to watch in the future.

Here's what else Newman had to say:

"Before the season, I wasn't sure what to expect. I had never seen them play, so I went in with an open mind and no preconceptions. Everyone started off on an equal footing.

"I believe there were players returning who were strong. That being said, our team this year was also built around some very talented 6th grade students who were first-year players. Our team

was predominantly made up of 6th and 7th graders, which is young for a middle school team.

"What struck me from the beginning with the girls was their enthusiasm and talent. After the first practice I could see how talented the girls were, and I knew we were going to be a successful team. In addition, the team cohesion was fantastic. Seeing all the girls work hard for one another and show such good team spirit was evident throughout the season.

"The most challenging thing with a middle school team is the other commitments that we need to work around to ensure everyone can attend as many practices and games as possible. Additionally, like with most teams, each player is different and you need to be able to adapt and handle each individual girl differently depending on the situation.

"Having a team that wins week after week is a nice situation, but does pose some problems. We had to maintain focus, stay grounded and not underestimate any opponent. We approached each game individually. It helped that all the girls wanted to achieve an unbeaten season. I think they were extra excited for the Championship game so they could try and soak me with water afterward!

"This team is the most talented group of girls that I have worked with and if they continue along this path, they will have great athletic careers at whatever level they wish to play. **THIS IS DEFINITELY ONE TEAM TO WATCH IN THE FUTURE.** I hope they all enjoyed themselves, had a good experience and want to continue to play.

"Everyone has been so supportive. A lot of the parents helped tremendously, and a special mention should go to Hillary Levy (assistant coach). She has been great with the girls and is very passionate about the sport and the team."

Championship stand-outs for goals, assists and saves included Madiya Harriott, Samantha Hahn, Alyssa Bonchick, Camila Cardenas, Tori Alfero, Sydney Juda and Allyson Lowitz.