

S O U N D E R N E W S

A-League Standings

Western Conference

Team	P	W	L	D	F	A	GD	Pts
Minnesota Thunder	6	3	1	2	6	2	4	11
Vancouver Whitecaps	4	3	0	1	7	3	4	10
Portland Timbers	3	3	0	0	5	2	3	9
Edmonton Aviators	3	0	1	2	1	3	-2	2
Milwaukee Wave Utd	2	0	1	1	0	1	-1	1
Seattle Sounders	3	0	2	1	2	4	-2	1
Calgary Mustangs	5	0	4	1	3	9	-6	1

Eastern Conference

Team	P	W	L	D	F	A	GD	Pts
Richmond Kickers	7	3	1	3	10	5	5	12
Syracuse Salty Dogs	6	3	1	2	10	6	4	11
Rochester Rhinos	5	3	1	1	10	3	7	10
Montreal Impact	4	3	0	1	5	0	5	10
Charlston Battery	7	2	2	3	9	9	0	9
Virginia Beach Mariners	6	2	2	2	9	10	-1	8
Toronto Lynx	5	2	3	0	6	11	-5	6
Atlanta Silverbacks	5	1	3	1	5	7	-2	4
Puerto Rico Islanders	9	0	6	3	4	17	-13	3

*P = games played, W = games won, L = games lost,
D = games drawn, F = goals for, A = goals against,
GD = goal differential (goals for minus goals against),
Pts = points (3 per win, 1 per draw)*

Sounders fans have also created a website with team and fan information, discussion boards, a "virtual" Seattle professional soccer museum (with pictures, video clips of NASL and A-League Sounders action, and more!) at SounderCentral.com. Be sure and check it out!

Sunday, May 23, 2004

Sounder News

A fan-produced Match Day program

Today's Match:



The Sounders face the Calgary Mustangs in a must-win situation to qualify for the US Open Cup. The Sounders are battling with Milwaukee Wave United and Virginia Beach Mariners for the final A-League "wildcard" qualifying spot. Seattle needs to win tonight, have Milwaukee lose their series with Minnesota, and have Virginia Beach lose to Atlanta to qualify based on best average league standings points per match, through May 23.

Sean-Michael Callahan returns from a one game suspension after being sent off against Edmonton two weeks ago.

Calgary enters this season with a new owner, new stadium, new club name and colors, and a load of new players. Last year's Calgary Storm saw their owner leave mid-season, the A-League stepping in and run the team under the "Team Calgary" moniker until new ownership could be found. The Mustangs will play their home games this season in the large McMahon Stadium, also home of the Calgary Stampeders of the CFL. The club colors also change from Red/Black/White to a Blue/Yellow scheme this season. The Sounders won last season's series with Calgary 4-1-1, although Calgary's lone win in the series came at Seahawks Stadium in a driving rainstorm.

The Mustangs have only one draw to show from four matches, and are coming off a 3-1 loss at Vancouver, and a 2-1 loss at Portland.

Next Home Match:

vs Milwaukee Wave United
Friday, May 28th - 7pm



Read more about next week's match inside!

S O U N D E R N E W S

The 2004 Sounders bear a striking resemblance to those who took first place in their division last year: still coached by **Brian Schmetzer**, key players return in every position. Goalkeeper **Preston Burpo** and defender **Danny Jackson** have recovered from injuries to reclaim their spots, captain **Jason Farrell** returns to anchor the midfield, and **Kyle Smith**, the leading goal-scorer from 2003, returns at forward. This core is surrounded by strong players at every turn. Jackson is joined by veterans **Scott Jenkins**, **Ryan Edwards**, **Kevin Sakuda**, **Zach Scott**, and **Marco Velez**. Farrell is flanked once more by **Viet Nguyen**, **Sean-Michael Callahan**, **Chad Brown**, **Sean Henderson**, and **Ben Somoza**. Returning alongside Smith are **Darren Sawatzky** and **Craig Tomlinson**, along with **Roger Levesque**, who joined the team on loan late last season. Adding to these are newcomers **Robbie Aristodemo**, **Billy Sleeth**, **Jake Vaughn**, and **Welton Melo**, all of whom are likely to make a big impact on the team. Aristodemo, 2001 A-League Rookie of the Year, comes to the team via the Toronto Lynx, and UW graduate Sleeth has recovered from an injury suffered last year with the MLS Colorado Rapids. Welton Melo, the MLS 10th all-time scorer, may add some extra firepower. **Kei Kinoshita** is both a familiar face and a new face, returning to the Sounders after two years away from the club. **Shawn Percell**, who was on roster but did not play last year, may well see action this year.



The key to the team would seem to be the strength of their defense and the flexibility of the roster. Although normally a defender, Velez played forward for much of last year, and was the team's third leading scorer, Callahan can play up as easily as he can play back, Vaughn has played all over with his previous teams, and Sleeth can play at either defense or midfield. Heck, rookie goalkeeper **Danny Waltman** even made an appearance as a field player during the preseason!

After careful consideration, forward **Roger Levesque** was the recipient of the newly-created, fan-sponsored, Man of the Match award for his play in the May 15th game against the Portland Timbers. Levesque had four shots on goal, the best of which was a beautiful header in the 9th minute that managed to bounce off both the crossbar and the right post before being cleared out by the Portland defense.

S O U N D E R N E W S

Last Week: The Sounders dropped another match to Portland 1-0. For the first 50 minutes the Sounders attacked well, stopped by the woodwork a couple of times and by some fine saves by Portland keeper Saunders. Closest shot was **Roger Levesque's** flick-on header from **Viet Nguyen's** centering pass -- it hit the inside of the far post and rebounded across the goal mouth. But after Yakima's Sagare put one in off the far post for Portland in the 52nd, Seattle managed only one more good shot, a short, sharp header by **Welton Melo** off a free kick, but Saunders was well positioned for the save. The win qualified the Timbers for the US Open Cup, 3-1 on aggregate, leaving Seattle slim hopes for a wild card spot in the Cup.



Next Week: Milwaukee saw their season start late due to competing in the Major Indoor Soccer League finals, and their first home game postponed due to a waterlogged pitch. Milwaukee features Tacoma native and former Sounder Greg Howes at forward.

Sounder's Women News: The Sounder Women started off their season with a veritable explosion of goals, beating the Calgary Wildfire 7-0. Returning forward **Brenda Mueller** earned W-League Team-of-the-Week honors for her 2-goal performance in the rout. Mueller's goals were both assisted by **Michelle French**. French, new to the Sounders, is a three-year veteran of the WUSA and was a member of the US National team that earned silver medals in the 2000 Olympics. Mueller was joined in the goal-scoring parade by **Katie Miyake** (also with two goals), **Chelise Baysa**, **Rachel Rodrick**, and **Hillary Heath**. The Sounder Women play their next seven games on the road before returning to Seahawks Stadium on June 19th versus the Vancouver Whitecaps.

Sounder's Women Remaining Home Games:

6/19 - Vancouver Whitecaps - 4pm	7/7 - Edmonton Aviators - 4pm
6/25 - Denver Lady Cougars - TBD	7/17 - Fort Collins Force - 4pm
7/2 - Arizona Heatwave - TBD	7/25 - Mile High Mustangs - 7pm