

MILLBURN MAGIC

Press Release



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Magic Players Honors in All-WPSL Teams

After seeing their season extend all the way to the East Conference Regional Final, some of the Millburn Magic's standout players have been recognized by the Women's Premier Soccer League (WPSL) for their outstanding contributions over the course of the 2009 season by being named to the All-East Conference and All-WPSL teams.



Lina Staropoli achieved the highest recognition of all the Magic players being named to the All-WPSL 2nd team as well as the All-East Conference 1st team. The defender enjoyed seven starts for the Magic this season, including all three post season games. Her exceptional performance in the final game of the regular season saw Staropoli named the defensive MVP in the 2-1 victory for the Magic which secured the teams first appearance in the WPSL playoffs. After a fantastic season marshaling the defense, it was the Loyola standout who scored the final penalty in the shootout against the Lancaster Inferno to send the Magic to the Regional Final.

Alongside Staropoli, Magic forward Katie Ryan was also named to the All-East Conference 1st Team. Ryan has been in inspirational form for the Magic, her partnership with Kat Sheeleigh crucial to the Magic's success. After scoring on her debut, Ryan had to wait for the Magic's 5th game of the season; a 3-1 comeback win against the Adirondack Lynx to get her next goal. The

second half of the season however saw Ryan enter a rich vein of goal scoring. Hitting both goals in the 2-1 win against Philadelphia in the final game of the regular season, the Villanova forward followed up by scoring both goals in the 2-0 win over Bay State in the first round of the playoffs. Ending the season with a goal tally of an impressive seven goals in nine starts, Ryan finished inside the top 10 goal scorers in the league.



Laura Kurash was the final Magic player recognized; the midfielder being named to the All-East Conference Second team. After scoring twice on her debut in the 5-0 win over the CDSA Future on the opening day of the season, Kurash established herself as an integral part of the midfield. Working tirelessly in every game, Kurash was relentless going forward, always getting into good positions and creating danger for the opposing defenses. Entering Wesleyan University this coming Fall, Kurash also had one assist and was named both offensive and defense MVP during the course of the regular season.



The 2009 season saw a run of six wins in seven games take the Magic from mid-table to the play-offs, then past Bay State and Lancaster Inferno to the East Final, where a depleted team lost 3-0 to the eventual National Champions, the Long Island Fury.

The Millburn Magic is the Northern NJ member of the Women's Premier Soccer League, an independent national league representing the highest level of amateur soccer in the United States. The Millburn Magic are part of the New Jersey Soccer Group, a management company for a family of soccer based organizations offering a full range of soccer services in New Jersey.

More about the Millburn Magic at
More about the WPSL at

www.MillburnMagic.com
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