

Day 7

Region IV players, coaches, and staff were at breakfast early so that we could play our last game of the week. The players had little recovery time from the game the night before, but nonetheless, boarded the vans at 8:30 am to make the one hour trek to the Estudiantes training facility. Estudiantes is one of the more well known clubs in Argentina with their first team playing in the top tier of the professional league. The facility looked like a soccer country club in a sleepy little community outside of Buenos Aires. The pitch was perfect and the weather was hot.

Region IV was beaten 2-0 with goals scored in the 3rd minute off of a corner and the 33rd minute in the run of play. In the second half, Region IV had great bouts of play where they were dictating the play of the game. Ironically, as the players played better, they were rewarded with clouds, rain, and an unbelievably cool breeze. The game ended with handshakes followed immediately with a dash to the vans to get out of the rain. The game was easily the most entertaining and competitive match of the entire week. It was certainly the highlight of the week as far as Region IV's technical and tactical play.

Regarding their play today, Head Coach Josh Kalkstein said, "This was a very good ending to what was a very good week. The facility and the competition was a fantastic experience, and this was matched by our play. From what we understood, we were playing a side that was on par with the Argentinos Juniors team we played early in the week. A credit to our boys, we were much more competitive today. Their collective play and the tactical organization was night and day from where we were just a couple of days ago."

After the game, we headed back to the hotel for the players to eat lunch, shower up and then the players all did their own thing in the afternoon. Some players slept while others shopped and ate at the local restaurants. In the evening, the players headed over to another hotel near by to meet up with the other three Regional teams in order to have a farewell dinner. Dinner was a nice event complete with appetizer, main course, and some dessert. To top it all off, there was a magician. Needless to say, Region IV was the most active and involved with the whole show. Aaron Goo and Juan Mendoza were both called on stage to help the magician. It was a great night to our stay in Argentina.

Tomorrow, we will awake and head out of Buenos Aires to go back to the United States. Hopefully, the players will have improved on the soccer field and broadened their minds culturally.

Starting lineup (Substitutions): Dillon Snyder, Jordan Gibbs, Ryan Felix, Edgar Rodriquez, Nico Johnson (Andrew Trejo), Juan Gutierrez, Juan Mendoza, Jacob Beerman, Neil Ignacio, Tanner Williams (Corey Christ), Aaron Goo (Jacob Martinez)



Region IV vs Estudiantes



Estudiantes Swimming Pool