## Wednesday, July 25, 2007

## Power Square Off Against Sissi And The California Storm



10 Sarah Chrurchhill



11 Bethany Garchar



Photos by Jordan Fong

The Lamorinda East Bay Power soccer team and Power Head Coach Ernesto Silva knew they had a tough task ahead of them when they took on the California Storm at Acalanes on Saturday, July 21. From Sacramento, the Storm has one of the best women player's in the world: Brazilian-born soccer player known as Sissi. She and her teammates gave the Power all they could handle this last game of the season, beating them handedly by a score of 4-0.

The first half started off promising for the Power, as several players played well on the defensive end. Utility player Sarah Miller had a nice play by the Power goal. She placed herself in front of the goal – the only angle the player could make a shot - and blocked the ball with her body, while Power goalkeeper Bianca Delahousaye had some wonderful kick saves around the goal. The good news was that Delahousaye played well in the first half; the bad news was that she was getting too much action around the Power goal throughout the half. As dominating as the Storm were, the Power were only down by one goal at the half.

The 1-0 halftime score soon changed. The Storm had a wide-open, almost free shot on goal, but the Power were unable to take advantage of the Storm mistake, missing it wide left. The momentum stayed with the Storm. Playing with their backs against the goal for most of the game proved too much, as the Power tired and the Storm took advantage.

Although Sissi did not score any of their four goals on the day, she was stellar at setting up shots for her Storm teammates. The most impressive aspect of Sissi's game was her ball handling skills. Every player who had possession of the ball Saturday would have a defender in their face immediately, physically attempting to kick the ball away from them. There may have been one or two times all day where anybody got a leg in on Sissi to try and extract the ball. She was simply too good with the ball and too fast to allow that to happen.

Samantha Faber had a good game for the Power as she had a few powerful shots on goal. Fantastic play by the Storm goalkeeper kept her shots from the net.



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