



## - PRESS RELEASE -

### Urbana, Ohio

Urbana Youth Sports is sponsoring a Advanced Spring Soccer Training Program to be organized and conducted by the Urbana University Men's Soccer team and directed by Blue Night's Head Coach Nick Roberts. The six-week program will be held at Urbana University and will be tailored for area youth, ages 10-18, who play soccer and want to stay active and improve their soccer skills this spring. Coach Roberts, UU Men's Soccer Assistant Coach Kyle Bertz and several UU Men's Soccer players will give college level instruction in this clinic style program. The program will begin on Tuesday, April 19th and run thru Thursday, May 26<sup>th</sup>. Activities will include two sessions a week, in the evenings, generally on Tuesdays and Thursdays, for 1 ½ hours each night. Each session will consist of focus on a specific technical and tactical topic each week for 45 minutes, followed by 45 minutes game play.

Program Director Nick Roberts, a native of Manchester, England, and a 1994 graduate of Mercyhurst College in Erie, Pa., was named Urbana University 's head men's soccer coach on April 24, 2008. Roberts has experience playing and coaching soccer at a multitude of levels. Roberts' has coached in NCAA Division II Soccer since 2006, and is the current head coach of the Urbana Blue Knights. From 2002-2006, Roberts was the director of coaching and player development for Santa Rosa United, a 40-team youth soccer club in Santa Rosa, Calif. SRU won two national titles under the direction of Roberts. He also served a four-year appointment as an assistant coach and head scout for The Columbus Crew of Major League Soccer (MLS).

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Assistant Director Kyle Bertz joined the Blue Knight coaching staff as a graduate assistant in 2009, just one season after finishing his 4-year playing career at Urbana University. Bertz was a 4-year letterman and 2-year captain at Urbana, earning Honorable Mention All-AMC honors twice. He was named Team MVP in 2008, while also making the Athletic Director's Honor Roll. Bertz played club soccer for Ohio Elite F.C. in Cincinnati, Ohio, and he played at Lakota West High School. Bertz is originally from West Chester, Ohio. Kyle also is an Olympic development coach for the Ohio South Youth Soccer Association.

The cost for the program is \$75 and includes a program shirt and a soccer ball for each registrant. Sign-ups will be at Melvin Miller Park on Saturday, February 26<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, from 10-2, in the Urbana Youth Sports Building, along with Urbana Youth Baseball and Urbana Youth Softball. For more information, contact:

- Urbana Youth Sports at 653-7519 ([sportsinfo@ctcn.net](mailto:sportsinfo@ctcn.net)) or
- Contact Coach Roberts at 484-1291 ([nroberts@urbana.edu](mailto:nroberts@urbana.edu))

Sign-up forms are also posted on [www.UrbanaYouthSports.com](http://www.UrbanaYouthSports.com) and can be mailed, if sent by Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup>.

Those who play high school, travel or recreational soccer in the fall are encouraged to participate in this program.