

## Canada Games alumni win gold

Four Canada Games alumni – all of whom were amongst the youngest players on their provincial soccer teams – recently helped Canada win the 2010 CONCACAF Women’s Under-17 Championship. It marked Canada’s eighth confederation championship and first at the women’s U-17 level. The champion players were Alison Clarke of Manitoba, Diamond Simpson and Shannen Jainudeen of bronze-medal winner Ontario, and Nicole Setterlund of gold-medal winner British Columbia.



Captain Setterlund was one of the top players at the 2009 Canada Games Women’s Soccer Tournament last August in Summerside, PE. She was one of several players that used the Canada Games experience to push her way into

the national program, be it onto U-17 or U-20 youth teams. In the national program, Setterlund moved from her traditional midfield position to anchor the centre back position alongside Manitoba’s Clarke.

The highlight of the 2010 CONCACAF Women’s Under-17 Championship was a 0:0 draw against the reigning champion USA in the semi-final stage. USA had outscored its three previous opponents 32-0 before being shut out by the Canadians through 120 minutes. In kicks from the penalty mark, Canada won 5-3 and qualified for the FIFA U-17 World Cup Trinidad and Tobago 2010. In doing so, Canada became the first team to prevent USA from qualifying for a FIFA women’s competition at any age level.

Canada’s U-17 coaching staff also has ties to the Canada Summer Games. Head coach Bryan Rosenfeld previously led Ontario to a bronze medal at the 1997 Canada Games Women’s Soccer Tournament in Brandon, MB. The one-time national-team goalkeeper will be leading Canada to a second-straight FIFA U-17 Women’s World Cup this September. Assistant coach Lewis Page, meanwhile, more recently led Prince Edward Island to a fifth-place finish at the 2009 Canada Games Men’s Soccer Tournament in Charlottetown, PE.