



***For Immediate Release  
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**Subject: Free kids soccer clinic offered July 24 by state's top student athletes**

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The Shodair Soccer Classic, an annual summer favorite event for soccer buffs, is set for July 25<sup>th</sup>, when top high school soccer players from around the state gather in Helena to compete and support a good cause. This year's Classic is presented by Wal-Mart and Mountain Dew.

The Classic features top student athletes from high schools all across Montana. Over 80 outstanding young men and women are considered during a rigorous screening process before being selected to participate in the event. Players must have been selected as All-State and All-Conference high school players in Class AA or A, and demonstrate academic achievement, leadership, and citizenship.

In what has become a favorite pre-game event for aspiring young soccer all-stars, the recently-graduated high school players will host a **free clinic on Friday, July 24<sup>th</sup> for children ages 3 to 12**. Young soccer players will have fun while learning skills from the Soccer Classic players and All-Star coaches, from 10:00 a.m. to noon at Nelson Stadium on the campus of Carroll College. The first 150 kids to register and attend will receive a free Soccer Classic t-shirt. Water, juice, and snacks will be provided, and parents are welcome. For registration or other information, call (406) 444-7548.

The Soccer Classic is a benefit for Shodair Children's Hospital and the important work it does for Montana's youth. Shodair provides comprehensive medical genetics services for people of all ages and psychiatric services for children and adolescents from communities throughout the state. Last year, the hospital provided more than \$4 million dollars in uncompensated care for at-risk children and youth. Support generated from events like the Soccer Classic and the Children's Miracle Network Telethon help assure that these services remain available for young Montanans in need of help.

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