



008 SPORTS



Dynamo Juniors Soccer

THREE TEAMS COMPETE IN BARCELONA

BY AGENT ERIN HOLDEN

Three Dynamo Juniors teams recently had the trip of a lifetime to compete in the Mediterranean International Cup tournament in Barcelona, Spain. The Youngsville-based soccer program brings players to their best and most competitive level. "It's given our club a dose of the next level of soccer," said Dynamo Juniors Executive Director Kevin Mooney.

The teams were U17 Girls in class F Group B, U17 Boys Class Group E, and U15 Boys Class B2 Group E. "The 15 boys had a tough group and really matured as a team in group play," Mooney said. "Once they got into the knock-out rounds for Division 2, they really came into their own with a big win over a Division 1 Spain team, UE Figueres, and winning in the Championships!"

Adam Glover, U17 Boys coach, said his team had a good



Courtesy of LSU Athletics

showing as well, pointing out that "the U17 Boys played a system where we were very defensive when without the ball, playing in the U19 division."

The U17 girls is a team made

up of 16 and 17-year-old players, and they played 18-year-olds in the tournament. "The girls played great and were in all the games," Mooney said. "We played a very defensive style of

play, but players adjusted and were able to compete at this level."

The Dynamo Juniors program, "eight years young," as Mooney described it, is one of the five largest in Louisiana. He said it's been incredible to watch the U17 boys, who started playing when the program began, get to this point. In its infancy, the players played in sugarcane fields that their parents helped them to clear out with pitch forks. Now, they are grateful to play in sports complexes in both Broussard and Youngsville.

"Our coaching staff makes us the club that we are," said Mooney. "They are from all over the world and bring a wealth of knowledge." To find out about tryouts for the upcoming year, visit dynamojuniors.com.