

# MILLBURN MAGIC



## Press Release

Millburn, NJ, April 23rd 2009

### National and International Stars round out Magic roster

With the start of the 2009 [WPSL](#) season less than a month away, [Millburn Magic](#) today completed their roster with three exciting signings. With three years of international experience behind her, Shira Averbuch will test herself in the WPSL this year, joined in Magic colors by Carly Bray and Kelly Sims, graduates of England's Arsenal Academy. "I'm really happy with these signings", said Magic coach Andy Sones. "Shira is currently one of the strongest college players from New Jersey, and will definitely strengthen us in midfield. Our English players last year made a great impression on and off the field, and I am confident Kelly and Carly can have a similar impact".

Averbuch joins the Magic with several years of international experience capping a stellar youth career. After impressive performances with the U.S. Girls National U15 ODP pool, the midfielder was selected to represent the United States National team at U15, continuing to represent her country at the U16 and U17 levels. Currently in her freshman year at Stanford University, Averbuch saw action throughout the Cardinals impressive 22-2-1 season, helping the team to a 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish in the PAC 10 Conference and a place in the NCAA Final Four. A graduate of Montclair High School, where she recorded 62 goals and 45 assists, she is keen to return home to play in New Jersey. "Playing for the Magic is a great opportunity for me to continue playing a high level of soccer and improve my game", she says. "Our roster is strong, and I am confident we can have a successful season."



Situated just north of London, England, the Arsenal Women's Academy has produced many international and English Women's Premier League players over the years, and Carly Bray and Kelly Sims join the Magic with their own great expectations. The two year full-time program, a finishing school for the cream of 16-18 year old English players, should prove a solid preparation for the coming WPSL East Conference campaign. Both players enjoyed considerable success at the Arsenal Academy, with an undefeated season in 2006, and Championships in both 2006 and 2007. For Sims and Bray, the chance of playing soccer in the United States was too good an opportunity to pass up. "As the home of the best soccer in the world, as well as the new professional league, playing in the WPSL will be a great opportunity for me", said Sims, "I am looking forward to experiencing a new soccer culture, and testing myself against players from different backgrounds." After the impact of last season's imports, Sones expressed confidence at the prospects of this year's international visitors. "We're really happy to have Kelly and Carly with us this year", he said. "While they are very different players, they both have the potential to be difference-makers for us in what should be an exciting season". While Bray is still at Arsenal, Sims has since moved to Reading FC, where she plays alongside former Magic star Rachel Fell. A creative and quick midfielder, Sims will provide an attacking threat down both flanks for the Magic this summer. Bray, a right or left sided defensive player, will provide strength on Millburn's back line, while pushing forward to support the attack at every opportunity. With the Magic's roster now finalized, preparations soon start for the team's [season opener](#) against the Delaware Future on May 17. The Magic will host the Future (6pm start) at Millburn High School, hoping to repeat the 3-0 victory that opened their 2008 campaign.

The Millburn Magic is the Northern NJ member of the Women's Premier Soccer League, an independent national league representing the highest level of amateur soccer in the United States. As an amateur league, players typically play with high level college programs through the fall, and play with us from the middle of May through the start of August. The Magic play in the East Coast Conference, with the five regional conference winners from around the country meeting for the National Championship, this year on Long Island August 1/2. The Millburn Magic are part of the [New Jersey Soccer Group](#), a management company for a family of soccer based organizations offering a full range of soccer services in New Jersey.

More about the Millburn Magic at  
More about the WPSL at

[www.millburnmagic.com](http://www.millburnmagic.com)  
[www.wpsl.info/](http://www.wpsl.info/)



Millburn Magic  
374 Speedwell Ave  
Morris Plains, NJ  
07950

[www.millburnmagic.com](http://www.millburnmagic.com)  
[info@millburnmagic.com](mailto:info@millburnmagic.com)  
Phone: 973-315-3098  
Fax: 973-315-3104