



HUMAN RESOURCE PERSONNEL

PLAYER INTERVIEW

Sarah Wagenfuhr currently plays for the Chicago Red Stars of the WPS (Women's Pro Soccer). Even after being a two-year captain for a high profile Division 1 school she found herself undrafted after her senior year. The Red Stars contacted Sarah after the draft and brought her in for an invitation only tryout. Sarah made the cut and has now earned herself a professional contract!

1. How has your experience with RUSH soccer led you to where you are today?

I grew up playing for Rush. I was challenged everyday at practice. I was developed as a soccer player whether it was with classroom sessions to teach tactics or out on the field; everyday of training I was pushed to be better. I was pushed to learn the game of soccer and constantly reminded to have fun. Playing for Rush taught me the value of commitment, hard work, dreaming big and investing in other people. Today, every time I step on the field I am reminded to always give it my best and leave everything I have on the field.

2. Did you ever imagine yourself playing professional soccer?

There was not a Women's League for most of the time I was growing up, but I did dream of playing for the US National Team and playing for a Division 1 school and winning a National Championship.

3. For some of the younger players coming up in the club that have aspirations to making it to the PRO level....what advice can you give them?

Dream big, set goals, there are no limits to what you can achieve if you believe in yourself and push yourself. Never give up. Never get comfortable. Tim Schulz always reminded us that if we were coasting the only place we could go was downhill. Always remember to Have fun, don't make excuses and remember the journey.

4. Was there a RUSH coach(es), that inspired you along the way?

Tim Schulz. I would say he is the main contributor to my soccer career's success. He never let me settle for anything but being great and constantly reminded me that it's just a game and to have fun.

5. Who is your favorite athlete? Why?

I would have to say my favorite Athlete would be any special Olympian. We are blessed with so much and we often complain, but when I see and hear their stories I am always inspired to give it my best and be thankful.

6. Do you have a pre-game ritual, if so what?

I pray, listen to a few songs and before I step across the line onto the field I make a promise to myself that I will give it my best that day. Because if you give your best, there is nothing else you can do.

7. What is your best memory in soccer?

WOW! That one is tough! I would say my best club soccer memory was winning u19 National Championship. My team went through a lot of adversity, but we bonded together as a team and were willing to fight until the end for each other. When we won it was like all our hard work had finally paid off.

My best memory with the u20 National Team was beating Canada in the CONCACAF finals in Mexico. We were down 2-0 in the finals, we had a girl red carded out in the first 15 minutes. We came back and won the game 3-2 to Qualify for the U20 World Championships in Russia.

My best college memory would be my freshman year beating UNC in PK's to go to my first Final 4. We were outshot the whole game and we held strong giving up no goals. We were screaming and going crazy after we won!