

# **Local Youth Soccer Stars Score More Than \$6400 for Breast Cancer Cause at Athena Invitational**

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## ***Girls' indoor soccer invitational raises funds to benefit Athena Partners and Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center***

**SEATTLE, WA – Jan. 7, 2008** – Local under-12 girls soccer clubs including South Hill Revolution (Puyallup), Dosveedayna (Kent), FC Marauders (Maple Valley), and Washington Premier Football Club (Puyallup/Tacoma), scored in more ways than one at the inaugural *Athena Indoor Soccer Invitational*, raising \$6430 to help find a cure for breast cancer. Held last weekend (Jan. 5-6) at the Mt. Rainier Sports and Fitness Club in Enumclaw, the funds were earned through a \$102 per goal pledge from tournament sponsors, which quickly added up as the teams tallied a combined 55 goals. Team participation fees and individual contributions raised additional funds for the cause.

Local foodservice businesses, including Sysco Foodservices of Seattle and Taco del Mar, led the charge in underwriting the event and pledging the per goal sponsorships. The monies raised will benefit Athena Partners, a Seattle-based non-profit that raises funds and awareness for the womens' cancer cause, primarily through sales of its popular Athena bottled water. Athena has earmarked the total funds raised for donation to the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center on behalf of the soccer clubs involved.

“The invitational was a warm-up for upcoming State Cup play, but we also saw it as an opportunity to take the unusual step of turning it into a charitable event to help teach our young players the importance of giving back and working together to make a difference,” said Kevin Sloan, tournament organizer and manager of the U12 FC Marauder team. “The more goals scored, the more money we donated to the cause, so everyone was a winner! We were very pleased with the results, which surpassed our \$5000 goal, and look forward to growing the *Athena Invitational* in years to come through a collaboration with these great soccer clubs.”

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