

IN MEMORY OF
MATTHEW LOGAN SCARPATI
JUNE 26TH, 1990 – JULY 20TH, 2009



SPECIAL THANKS TO

The Scarpati Family

The Silver Family

Coach Mike Bongino

Jim Neuburger, Bill Rudy, and HBC Soccer

Half Hollow Hills School District

Senator Charles Fuschillo, Legislator Dave

Denenberg, Dave McDonough, Gina Russo, and

Governor David Paterson

Samara Harte for the wonderful tournament logo

Mike Franco and Fasttrack Promos!

The Carlson Family

Newsday and the Half Hollow Hills Newspaper for

their yearlong coverage

All of the fantastic tournament volunteers

And of course...

**The players who are competing in Matt's honor, it
can't happen without you!**



WELCOME TO THE
1ST ANNUAL MATTHEW LOGAN
SCARPATI MEMORIAL SOCCER
TOURNAMENT



TO BENEFIT THE
MILES FOR MATT
FOUNDATION

WWW.MILES4MATT.COM

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

June 12th, 2010

- 8:00 AM- 8:20 AM: Team Check-In**
- 8:30 AM: Opening Ceremony**
- 9:00 AM- 2:00 PM: Group Play**
- 2:00 PM- 3:00 PM: Semi-Finals**
- 3:00 PM- 4:00 PM: Finals**
- 4:10 PM: Closing Ceremony**

Good luck to all teams and players!!!



TEAM ROSTERS (AS OF 6/7/10)

Group A:

SBU Alum

Matt Avellino
Noah Liiv
Mark Zajkowski
Frank Stagnitta
Dan Salazar
Rob Fucci
Yahaya Musa

HBC Thunderbolts

David Neuburger
Laura Neuburger
Victor Sanchez
Ryan Reichmann
Giovanni Gomez
Ricky Wysocki
Scott Wysocki
Carlos Chacon

NY Stingers

TJ Lennon
Mike Malan
Nick Jerussi
Jim Hanigan
Shane Sabert
Zack Hand
Augie Zegerelli
Anthony Jerussi
Steve Lennon
John Berrios
Frank Roda

FC TORL

Corey Javer
Stefan Carter
Michael Mackey
John Matzelle
Brian Donovan
Matt Stevens
Tim Boehm
Alex Gilbert
Nolan Gelman

TEAM ROSTERS (AS OF 6/7/10)

Group B:

T Birds 06

**Gary Laronde
Jonathan Korn
Michael Marra
Phil Olson
Eriq Alexander
Tom Trezza
Scott Cain
Nick Frigenti
Justin Harrow
Steven Weiss
Evan Berman**

HBC Stingers

**Ryan Horch
Matt Saul
Dan Evans
Jay Benenson
Kurt Liebe
Brian Pryzblowski
Zach Williams
Mike Sforza
Alan Heavey
Greg Rubenstrunk
Chris Muhs**

Boccio & Co

**Lauren Boccio
Greg Boccio
Louis Ragusa
Meredith Deblasio
Meredith Saul
Carly Kirschner
Maria Aloe
Ashley Moore
Perry Marcus**

TX

**Bryan Fedner
Jonathan Selby
Zach Kiel
Jake Truen
Ali Erdem
Richie Ragusa
Daniel Levine
Marc Bent
Spencer Acker
Jeremy Franco
Scott Elgort**

TEAM ROSTERS (AS OF 6/7/10)

Group C:

Team USA

**Reed Marcus
Matthew Gold
Jordan Gropper
Jared Gropper
Matthew Stupore
Jamie Spero
Kevin Sattler
Jonny Rathgaber**

Merrick United

**Chris Carlson
Justin Carlson
Terence McGovern
Chad Fuschillo
Aron Denenberg
Tyler Wall
Vito Cassisi
Chris Pasillico
Brian Behnke**

Benchwarmers

**Danielle Zimmerman
Pam Wexler
Lindsay Goldman
Christie Damato
Brittany Damato
Krista Marzano
Kim Wirth
Chelsea Cohen**

Sig

**Robby Kaplain
Jordan Brustein
Zack Jenis
Zach Kadden
Marshall Rifkin
Matt Finklestein
Mitch Smith**

TEAM ROSTERS (AS OF 6/7/10)

Group D:

Hills East Foreign Legion

Max Tommarchi
George Rahbari
Beth Arikian
Chris O'Brien
Brian Strack
Tim Belz
Santo Mesumeci
Thomas Page

Five Years Later

Aaron Schwartz
Ted Rosedale
Tristan Weissler
Aldrin Charles
Jason Garabedian
Andy Hidalgo
Jonathan
Bartholemy
Chris Witko

Pi Lambda Phi A

Trevor Titley
Peter Neeves
Derek Zwerman
Mike Rendina
Richard Warren
Doug Schanz
Mike Himmelfarb
Greg Michael
Jorden Rosen

Pi Lambda Phi B

David Epstein
Karan Kapoor
Jeremy Heller
Corey Powders
Sunny Majitha
Mike Drangel
Kevin Turco
Greg Albanese
Jake Mandel
Paul Weingart

REMEMBERING MATT

You were special to me from the moment you were born. You were born on my wedding anniversary and I could not have received a better present. I miss you, my travel buddy. As much as I tried to teach you, you taught me more. You were generous, stubborn, encouraging, funny, opinionated, happy and loyal to your friends and family. Who else would have gotten me to Disney World almost every year?

In 2005 I was preparing for my first half-marathon. I had a long run of 12 miles on my calendar. The early March day was cold and wet. You told me that you wanted to come with me to the park and that you would ride your bike while I ran. That made it harder for me to put off that run. We both went to the park, you riding and me running. You went back to the car, because you said that you were cold and wet. I kept running. Several minutes later, you rode up beside me and asked me how I was doing. I told you that I had passed the 10.5 mile mark. I was close to the 12 mile mark and we could go home. You would not let me quit. You rode beside me until I had completed that run-all 12 miles. Not some, not most, but all.

You were a beautiful spirit and a wonderful son. I will always know that you are beside me and I will keep going. I know I can't quit because that was not what you would have wanted for me, your family or your friends. It was not what you wanted for yourself. The Journey continues in your honor and we will put in as many miles as we can for you, Matt.

In your honor and in celebration of your life, with all our love forever,

Matthew Logan Scarpati

June 26, 1990 to July 20, 2009

-Lynn Scarpati

Dear Matty,

I had been contemplating how to start off this tournament book for a long, long time. Originally, I thought I would just write about what a wonderful person you are, thank everyone for helping and taking part in this day, and have that be it. Over the last year, countless people have written messages to you on your Facebook, but I never did once. I'm sure some people found it strange that your best friend never did. I never could. It broke my heart to know that no matter what I said, you would never be there to respond back. After months of what I've called living in "shock and denial," it was something I wasn't able to stomach.

But today is different. Today I'm writing you the first message since that horrible day. Why? Because today, you're going to answer. Today, you're right here with us. Every smile, every handshake, every fist pump, every hug, that's you answering. People will smile and laugh and have fun because of you. Today will exemplify everything that you were in life: the greatest source of happiness for others.

You have a rare gift that very few in this world have: the unparalleled ability to put a smile on other faces. You're an unbelievably special individual. You are the person I will aspire to be for the rest of my life. Someone who never has a bad word said about them. Someone who can make others laugh at the drop of a hat. Someone who knows right from wrong. Someone everyone wants to be around. You are polite, you are respectful, you are funny, you are loyal, you are everything anyone could ever ask for in a friend. You're a class act. You are what I will want my son to be one day. You are the kind of friend most people search their entire lives for, and never find.

The tragic irony is that you would love today more than anyone. You would've been the first one signed up. You're a competitor. You love competing with me at everything, as my mother could attest to through the countless times we've woke her up with screams playing whatever game we were playing. You love going out on the field and proving you're the best. You love hearing people tell you "you can't" and then proving them wrong. You would make me get up at 7 AM and go to school with you in the summers and scream at you to run so that your legs would still be fresh in the 90th minute months later.

You brought an unmatched work ethic that I use as a source of inspiration today.

Those summers were our time. I met you when we were on the bus in the beginning of elementary school, and every summer would be Danny and Matt, while everyone else was away at camp. I have probably spent more time with you over the last 13 years than anyone else in this world, and that was never truer than in the summertime. The beginning of this summer has been as hard as anytime in the last year, and this year has been the hardest of my life. I often think about the journey we made together. We shaped each other from little boys into grown men. And that is why you will always be with me. I can't go anywhere without you, because you're a big reason why I am the person I am today.

The people who love you will not let this all be for nothing. You will never be forgotten. Our worlds were rocked last July. You are not a statistic or a footnote in the history of tragedies in this world. This tournament, the bike tour, the thousands and thousands of dollars raised in this first year of many, it is because of you. You deserve nothing less than tireless work to take the happiness that you would have continued to give us in life, and provide it for others in your name.

You are and always will be my hero, and you will be for others too. You will save a life with the guard rail, and you will help many others through the work the foundation will do. And you deserve nothing less.

Matty, I miss you more than I could ever put into words, and my world has been turned upside down more than I could ever explain. You are my better half, and an enormous part of me is missing that I can never get back.

But I want today to be a temporary return to normal, with everyone doing something you loved to do. And we will do it every year until we can't anymore. But in this first year, here we are, hopefully making you proud, because I can never be prouder than calling you my best friend. Please buddy, smile down on us, today is for you.

Your best friend,
Danny Silver

In the loving memory of Matt Scarpati

Matt always brought a sense of humor to soccer and lacrosse practice. He was an individual that made coaching worth every minute.

Matt had great knowledge and love for the game. He was a true competitor and someone who lived each day to the fullest.

Matt will forever be in my heart and mind.

Miss You

-Coach Bongino

Matt was sitting on the couch in the den watching TV when I walked in and asked him if he could help me figure out the name of a song that was stuck in my head all day. I knew some of the words and I knew it was an Eminem song but I couldn't figure out what Eminem song it was. So I started singing the words that I knew to Matt so he could help me figure out the name of the song. Out of nowhere Matt goes, "Chris it's a ***** Google search". Classic. Typical Matt. I love him. He was the best brother anyone could have.

-Chris Scarpati

Matt, I love and miss you so much. Thank you for being an amazing person and an even more amazing friend. You have changed my life forever. Love you.

-Ian Schwartz

Perhaps my favorite memories with Matt, which are unfortunately among the last, are from the weekend that Matt and I spent visiting Dan Silver at the University of Michigan in March 2009. I feel truly lucky to have spent that weekend running around Ann Arbor, chasing girls with Matt and Danny. Aside from being an incredibly fun weekend, at the time I felt that this weekend was somehow significant in the grand scheme of our lives. With our freshman year of college mostly behind us, I felt that we were somehow more mature, independent versions of our former high school selves. This was very exciting to me at the time. I saw it as the beginning of adulthood, and I looked forward to going through the next phase of my life with the people with whom I remained close throughout my childhood. Though I consider myself lucky to have the friends that I do now, there is still a void left by Matt's absence.

Though it is hard to imagine that anything positive could result from Matt's death, the existence of this tournament and the contributions it has earned for worthy charitable organizations provide evidence to the contrary. These efforts are important because they afford us an opportunity not only to remember Matt but also to do our best to ensure that similar tragedies do not happen in the future.

The outpouring of support that this tournament has received is truly impressive, and the degree to which the community has embraced this cause speaks to the effect that Matt had on everyone he knew. Everyone who is involved in this event is committed to honoring Matt's memory and contributing to these worthy causes in his honor. Events like these help us try to find some meaning in the events of last summer, and perhaps to gain some degree of closure.

I wish to thank from the bottom of my heart everyone who has put forth the time and effort to make this event a success. Matt would be so proud of all that has been accomplished here.

-Alex Sloan

Matt...we love you despite your errant ways. The correct team is Chelsea, not Man U, but that's okay. We will continue our recruitment of Santino. Watching futbol in Sevilla was such fun, and wandering about.

Lunch at Hemingways on the beach was so great, the boys all together, laughing. Not enough time spent together but I will always hear your voice in my head. We will miss you always.

Please give Michael a big hug, we miss him.

Love Aunt Casey, Uncle Roger, Kevin, Nathan and Hayden

My memories of Matthew are so many. I've seen him grow up from an infant to becoming a young man. He was a child who was happy & full of life. He was always kicking a soccer ball, playing tennis, lacrosse, golf, basketball, baseball. His passion was riding his bike. At the end of the day, he would ask me for \$5.00 for a Slurpee. I miss also him teasing me and pulling a prank on me.

The most outstanding memory of him was our conversation about politics & especially his faith in God. So, I know that Matt is in a good place.

That Monday night, when he left to ride his bike, he made sure to ask me to please wash and iron his shirt and press his jacket for work the next day, (He wanted to make less work for his Mom when she came home from work), never thinking that it would be the last time.

He was a special young man & I miss his laughter & sense of humor. My thoughts and prayers are with him. Matt will not be forgotten.

**Love,
Becky**

I'll never forget the time when Matt came to the rescue of the Hills East soccer team and carried the team on his back to earn us a victory in a must-win game to make the playoffs. Matt and I began playing club soccer together when we were 5 years old, which continued through high school. We were now both seniors on the Hills East Varsity soccer team, and appointed captains by the coach. As the season began winding down, and on the brink of making the playoffs, I knew that every game we played meant one less game I would get to play with my fellow captain, teammate, and lifelong friend. We were losing one to nothing on our home field and were being outplayed by the other team. With time running out in the second half, it looked like not only would we lose this game, but our season would be over as well; that is until Matt checked in from off the bench. As soon as Matt came into the game he scored a goal to tie the score at one to one. Moments later, he assisted what would go on to be the game winning goal (needless to say Matt was the MVP of that game). As it turns out, we earned a spot into the playoffs without a point to spare, and Matt was a crucial factor in that.

Matt's heroics on the soccer field are not only indicative of his talent and passion for soccer but also serve as a microcosm for Matt's character. If things weren't going the right way you could always count on Matt to cheer you up, whether it was by miraculously helping his team win a soccer game, making jokes that were guaranteed to make you laugh, or taking you to 7-11 for some slurpees to relax and take a load off; there was something about Matt that always made you happy to be around him. After the season ended, I knew I had lost an amazing teammate; little did I know that less than a year later I would lose an even better friend. But Matt will always be with me in spirit as he taught me the importance of always having a positive outlook on whatever life throws your way and being passionate about the things you love, as executing these two beliefs will assuredly bring happiness, which there is no doubt Matt achieved. Billy Joel said it best when he said "only the good die young", but Matt wasn't just good, he was the best. I can't thank Matt enough for the positive impact he had on my life, he is with me everywhere I go and I know on Saturday, June 12th I'll have my teammate and friend back one more time.

-Richie Ragusa

Matt and I began playing soccer together in the 7th grade. Throughout middle school we won every game except for tying one game against Candlewood. I enjoyed winning games but I also built a great friendship that would last a lifetime. One thing I remember from middle school was when Matt started calling a bicycle kick a “chilena kick.” He would practice them at the end of practice and everybody just started practicing them in games and practices. I always thought Matt had made up the name but it is in fact another name for a bicycle kick.

I always remember talking about the video game FIFA with Matt. I don’t know if I’ve ever seen him angrier when I beat him at Richie’s house before our playoff game vs. Sachem East. He was certain he’d win and when he didn’t he was upset, saying I cheated. He was very competitive in whatever he did and he loved playing every sport. We used to go to badminton intramurals after school and he would make the game seem like it was a World Cup Final. I enjoyed it though, as he was always having a good time regardless of how intense he was.

The best memory I have of Matt and I was when I was privileged enough to go England with him. We went to Shrewsbury a little town in England and we combined a team of 7-10 players from NY and 5-7 players from Shrewsbury. Matt loved every second of it. Before we traveled abroad we constantly practiced and talked with a British accent. Matt had a genuine British accent and could have passed off being from the UK. Matt also gave people a lot of nicknames. For example, he called one kid Alan Shearer and another John O’Shea. If Matt had an idol it would have to be Cristiano Ronaldo. I can still remember his face when we stepped into Old Trafford the place where Manchester United plays. His face lit up when we went into Manchester United’s dressing room and Ronaldo’s shirt was hanging up where he normally sits. Of course Matt got there first and took pictures of him imagining himself in Cristiano’s boots. Matt even had a haircut like Cristiano. I still to this day remember making fun of him when he was wearing Liverpool pants with a Manchester United jacket. I told him that he couldn’t do that but he liked the pants and did it anyway.

I also remember when some of the other kids we were playing with began to explain the rules of cricket to him. I still to this day have no idea what the rules are but I guess Matt knew them well enough to buy a cricket bat even when he didn’t have enough room in his suitcase to

bring it back. I had to put it in mine and then give it back to him after we got back home to New York. He always wanted to start a cricket league, but it never materialized. He loved all sports, cycling, soccer, cricket, badminton etc. He enjoyed living his life and I don't ever remember him not having fun when he was playing a sport. We could talk about anything related to soccer, whether it was our time on the bench sophomore year or talking about our favorite club Manchester United.

Another funny story I remember about Matt was when he bought ¾ shorts in England. They are very popular in England because the weather is terrible and it is always raining. So he bought a pair of England ¾ shorts and wore them during high school practice senior year. I think everybody on the team was making fun of him for wearing those shorts because nobody had ever seen them before. He also bought a pair of old adidas predators which were bright yellow and 2 sizes too big but he said he would triple sock them. I still remember laughing at him and then him trying to sell them to me because they were way too big.

There are hundreds of stories I can tell about Matt. I still miss him greatly but I try to remember some of the great stories that I remember as well as many of the other stories that others have about him. He always brought a smile to my face. I don't know anybody who dislikes him and to this day I still cherish the blue and white predators he sold me. They are completely ripped but I hold on to them knowing that they were Matt's. I miss you a lot Matt and I hope you can bring glory back to Old Trafford this year. #7.

–David Neuburger

I remember the first time I ever talked to Matt... we were in the elevator and I made the mistake of asking him who he was voting for in the 2008 Presidential Election. He immediately began trying to convince me to vote for McCain. I admired him for his passion and dedication, whether it was for who should win the election or simply riding his bike.

-Stephanie Pinzel

The things that I will always remember about Matt may seem insignificant to most, but will last forever in my heart. It took Matt ten years to call me something other than Mrs. Silver. He was the most polite little boy and young man I ever encountered.

Matt always had a smile on his face, especially when he would be having cookies with Danny during their very frequent and very loud video game sessions. No one loved those slice and bake cookies more than Matt. Even when he had his crutches, he would drag himself up the stairs to play the all important FIFA season. The shrieks and laughter that could be heard for miles will always be remembered and very much missed. I think was he was the happiest when I interrupted their games, distracting Danny, because Matt would always score. He found this particularly funny.

I will always think of Matt when I see a snowflake. He was Danny's snow buddy, coming over as soon as it was an official snow day, and not leaving until dark. And he never complained when it was always Boboli for lunch, and it always was on a snow day. And because he was so polite, it took him years to tell me he was lactose intolerant.

I will always miss Matt, his smile and his laughter filled the house when he was here, and the gift to Danny of his being such a good friend and companion.

-Michele Silver

My favorite memory of Matt is when I finally got to see him after the school year was over in the summer and I made him go to K-Mart with me to get things for my apartment. He absolutely did not want to be in that store but obviously being the good person that he is stuck it out while I was getting the stuff I needed. By the time I got around to looking for a keychain for my new keys he was so sick of being in there that he just took his keys off of the bottom part of his UB lanyard and gave it to me to use. To this day I still keep all my keys on that keychain because it reminds me of him and how great of a person he was. I will always miss and love Matt so much.

-Erica McLaughlin

My Respects

My attention has been called recently,
to the death of a boy I once knew.
Upon recollection he was overwhelmingly good.
He possessed a certain kindness that often helped me
feel more comfortable in an environment of near strangers.

Though I have been distant from this boy and others
who share his image in my head,
the thought of it grabs at my throat and leaves me speechless.
If I were to look down I fear I would see
unfamiliar stony white hands tugging at me
responsible for sending these pulses through my system,
emanating the remorse of something damaged far away
I feel sorry for those nearer to the grass where he would run,
for those who would follow his wheels towards the shore,
and feel myself weary upon the memory of his kindness.
I am sorry and do not know how to say it deeper,
So perhaps instead of regretting that he is lost,
I will remember that his life, as is all benevolent life,
is an imperishable, and remarkable, reality.

**Author,
Ori Oren**

I had the great pleasure to meet Matthew (Mateo-that's what I used to call him too) at a very young age, he was 3 months old. I saw him grow throughout the years to a well educated and respected young boy. I introduced him to Latin cuisine as soon as he could eat. His favorite Latin food was "arroz con pollo" (rice with chicken), but he also really enjoyed "yucca". He was like a son to me and I miss him and love him so much. Even though he went out to college and we didn't see each other as much as we did when he was growing up, we kept in constant contact. I keep him in my heart and his memories will live in there forever until we meet again. Love, "GoGos".

-Gloria Silva

Scarpati,

I wanted to start this with Matt but it just wouldn't be true to our relationship. You were always called Scarpati, Scarpalicious, or Scarp in my book. It's ironic now that in my life I'm taking classes that have to do with Greek and Roman literature. I'm learning about tragedies and while writing this, I'm thinking about your life and the only thing that comes to mind is a tragedy. It's too sad to think about what you would have accomplished. Throughout high school you were always so upbeat and funny. You were a phenomenal athlete and leader, especially on the lacrosse field. That's where we spent most of our time together and I'm never, ever going to forget those memories. You had so many different friends and I know you had a great crew at Buffalo. I met a bunch of those guys and to make the trip says a lot about your relationship with them. Anywhere you went I knew you would have a profound and positive effect on those people around you and it absolutely showed. I don't know how many guys from the lacrosse team wrote in book for you, but I speak for them when I say you were like a brother to us and we all loved you. Love you, excuse me. I'm not going to lie and say I pray for you every night; it hurts too much to know I can't speak to you again. What I do know is that you don't need me to pray for you because you probably made God laugh so he let you in anyways (not saying you weren't good in the first place...). I love you Matt. I promise I will never forget you and I will do everything in my power to live the dream for you. You'll see us all one day, but chill with BIGGIE and others until then...

**Forever your friend and with love,
Sean Li**

Matt Scarpati was one of the most loving people I ever met. The both of us had a course weeks that in the 6 weeks that we pledged. I really miss him from the bottom of my heart.

**Your loving pledge brother,
Ivor Vaz**

There are many great memories I have of Matthew, but the one that has always stood out the most is this one. When he was around 5 or 6 years old he used to tell my mom, Gloria (actually known as "GoGos"), that he didn't like girls, that they were yucky, however, Nina (me) was the only girl he liked. I thought that was so cute and adorable coming from him.

He was like my little brother and I was like a sister to him. He always looked up to his older brothers and wanted to be just like them. I remember he always wanted to act "cool" like Michael and Christopher. I think about him every single day and keep the great memories in my heart.

-Nina Daigle

Matt was not only a friend to me, he was my brother and we have so many memories together. Although I only knew him for 4 months, it feels like I know him much more than that. Pledging bonded us real close and I am still sad because I lost one of my brothers. He will always be a big part of my memories and live on through us.

Miss you Pelt.

-Caine (Avinash Sankar)

Dear Matt,

Such beautiful and kind soul taken from us too quickly. I think about you every day and all of the laughs we shared in school. Rest in peace and watch over all of your family and friends that love you eternally. I miss you and that warm smile.

**Love,
Rachel Greenfader**

Dear Matt,

There are so many amazing memories I've had of you and with you that always bring a smile to my face. Whether on the soccer field, lacrosse field, or up in heaven you've had and always will have the ability to make an impact on someone everyday and you inspire me to live my life to the fullest and be the best person I can be. I wish you were here with me now so we can experience another World Cup together, especially because your passion and enthusiasm for the sport made you all the more fun to watch it with. Your passion and enthusiasm for the sport and for life will always live on through this wonderful tournament Danny has created (you would be so proud!) and through every person's life you have touched, especially mine. I love you, Scarp.

Love Always,

Katie Persichilli

Sophomore year of high school was the best year of my life, and without you it couldn't be possible. With Super Strikers "Give it to the Play Maker," our deep conversations about life, Matt "Cubed," you were one of my best friends. I wish we talked more the last couple years, and didn't have to fight over that stupid game. Our competitiveness got the best of us, but I just hope you know that you have a special place in my heart. I still see you everywhere, despite that I am 1800 miles from home, I know you are still here with me every day and guiding me through life.

Love you always, and forever,

Tara Lerias

Matt was such a great kid and we were all so close with him. It truly is a terrible thing, and is a real eye opener as to how such great lives can be cut so short. Over the last semester that he spent at Buffalo I don't think that there was anyone that I was closer with. Matt always had the best attitude towards life, and no matter how tough things got he just kept smiling. I will never forget all of the crazy things we did together and the good times we have had. Matt touched so many lives and was such a great friend and brother. I can only imagine the great things he would have done if he were still here. He will truly be missed and has given me a new outlook on life. You never know when your last day will be, so it is so crucial to live it to the fullest. Matt did just this, whether it was through his positive attitude, his great morals, or his ability to have a good time by his ridiculous raps, which always made us laugh. I think that it is really important for us younger college kids to get involved whether it is through the walk we set up or this soccer tournament. It is great to see so many people come together for such a great cause. I'll never forget Matt, and I send my condolences to his family and friends.

-Jon Ewanyk

I was one of Matt's pledge brothers and spent a lot of time with him during pledging. There was this one time when we both were headed back to the dorms on the bus. During the ride I had a conversation about him that I distinctly remember. Both of us being soccer freaks, we started talking about our mutual love for Manchester United and how both of us hated Liverpool. I still remember very clearly the look of excitement he had on his face when we talked about how C.Ronaldo had been playing that season. He was one of the very few people that really knew his soccer and it was just fun to talk about the latest games and their results with him. Even today, every time I see United play I still think of him.

From all the time we spent together, I knew one thing about Matt for sure - he was a great kid who was going to really good things with his life. He was a really smart kid, who was very focused and was truly well rounded in all spheres of his life.

-Karan Kapoor

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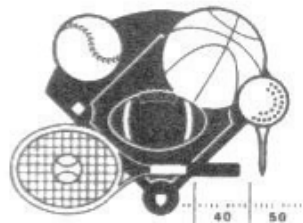
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My family's heartfelt sympathies continue to go to Matt's family and his friends from the Hills community. As a former high school and club soccer teammate, I am honored to participate in this memorial tournament in memory of Matt.

Dan Evans

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