

HOMECOMING 2007



photo by J. Billingsley

Right: John Taylor (#25) carries the ball during Brevard's Homecoming football game against Tusculum.



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Left: Students enjoying the Homecoming Festivities last Saturday. For photos from the football game, pep rally, men's and women's soccer games and the foam party, please see p. 6.

Soccer player makes the most of lost season

by Joseph Chilton
Managing editor

85 dollars doesn't buy a lot.

It is enough money to for the average college student to buy Fourth Meal at Taco Bell every night for about three weeks.

For Brevard College freshman soccer player Henri Erti, however, it was enough money to cost him his season.

Erti was ruled ineligible by the NCAA Clearinghouse just a few days before school started because of violations of amateurism rules. The violations stemmed from a year Erti spent playing with Tampere KV, a European Club Team.

"I was still in Finland getting ready to come to school, and I got an e-mail saying I couldn't play," Erti said.

According to Erti, his club team provided him with lodging and meals, which violates an NCAA rule prohibiting any level of compensation in

exchange for play.

"Basically he lost this whole year for about 85 dollars worth of compensation," said BC soccer coach Juan Mascaro.

Despite the disappointment that accompanies not being able to play, Erti is trying to make the best out of the situation.

"I guess it is good that I am not playing this year, so that I have more time to study. Maybe this way I can get an academic scholarship too," said Erti, who also has experience with Finland's U-19 and U-21 national teams.

Erti is also quick to point out that if it were not for being ineligible this year, he probably would not be at Brevard.

"I could have gone to Penn State or Kentucky, really big schools, but when they found out I would have to sit out a year, they took their scholarships away," said Erti.

Coach Mascaro, however,

thought it only fair to honor his commitment to Erti, landing a high level recruit for Brevard College.

Even if it is for next year's team.

According to Mascaro, while Erti is not able to play in games, his presence on the soccer field with his level of experience is important to the team.

"Henri is a superb player, and for our players to get to train with a player on his level is great," Mascaro said.

Since the NCAA has taken away Erti's season, it is understandable that his focus is on next year already.

Every afternoon Erti can be seen on the Brevard College practice field working on ballhandling, footwork, and agility.

"I practice with the team, but I do my own training and go to the gym so that I can be good next year."

"I just have to wait this year, and then we're going to rock the whole conference."

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