

SOCCER: Star-studded Gateway Classic begins tonight

Billed as the premier high school boys soccer event in the nation, the Gateway City Classic kicks off tonight with doubleheaders at CBC and St. Louis University High.

At CBC, Cherry Creek (Colo.) and St. John the Baptist (N.Y.) meet at 6, with CBC taking on Kansas power St. Thomas Aquinas at 7:45. The games at SLUH are Quincy vs. Denver East at 5 and SLUH vs. Rockhurst at 6:45.

The event, organized and run by Quincy High School assistant coach Eric Stratman, is in its sixth year and is as big as it has ever been, featuring 42 teams from 11 states competing in four traditional brackets, a round robin and showcase matches.

In addition to CBC and SLUH, the Classic will be played at local high schools O'Fallon, Chaminade and Summit as well as at the Family Sportsplex in Belleville and at the Sportport Soccer Complex in Maryland Heights.

The Classic field includes eight teams from the ESPN RISE FAB 50: No. 9 Morton (Ill.), No. 13 Strongsville (Ohio), No. 14 St. John the Baptist, No. 25 Rockhurst, No. 26 Marquette (Wis.), No. 27 Aquinas, No. 35 Neuqua Valley (Ill.) and No. 38 Peoria Notre Dame, as well as four teams — No. 10 Morton, No. 12 Rockhurst, No. 16 Marquette and No. 19 Aquinas — from the latest National Soccer Coaches Association of America top 25.

Joining CBC and SLUH in the event are local squads from Chaminade, Collinsville, Summit, O'Fallon, Belleville East, Zumwalt South, Hazelwood Central and Pattonville.

For complete event information, including schedules, visit the tournament website at www.gatewaycityclassic.com.

Popularity: 2%

Written by: [Joe Lyons | POST-DISPATCH](#) on September 29, 2010.

Tags: [Belleville East](#), [CBC](#), [Chaminade](#), [Collinsville](#), [Fort Zumwalt South](#), [Hazelwood Central](#), [O'Fallon IL](#), [Pattonville](#), [Rockwood Summit](#), [SLUH](#)