

## THE MEYER SPORTS WIRE

# Coach Zimmerman Helps Kick Local Teen Into Pro Soccer

By Dave Meyer

In August, the Soccer Club of Oceanside, known as the Oceanside Breakers, will celebrate its 40th year. The Breakers program serves approximately 2,000 children ages 4 through 18 annually with a comprehensive, inclusive and educational soccer program. The program provides both a recreational and competitive environment.

This summer, players, coaches and staff will keep one eye on Mexico City as one of their own begins his journey toward a life in professional soccer.

Heron Martinez, 17, is training with the U20 — under 20 — team of Club America, a professional football club based in Mexico City. Club America competes in Liga MX, the top professional league in Mexico. Heron has been a part of the Breakers program since he was 9 years old.

When Heron turns 18 this summer, the 5-foot-8-inch forward will officially join the Club America U20 team. He'll be one call away from joining the parent team and competing against the top players in Mexico.

Frank Zimmerman has been both the head coach of the Oceanside Pirate boys' soccer team and director of coaching for the Breakers for the past 22 years.

"We are proud of the meaningful, well-rounded experience the Breakers have provided to Heron," he said about the excitement of the local athlete joining Club America. "Heron is dynamic, explosive, quick on and off the ball



Oceanside soccer standout Heron Martinez  
(Photo courtesy of Oceanside Breakers)

and a very technical player. He works hard in practice, and has a unique combination of knowing when to shoot, pass or dribble. He has the ability to shoot with spin, with power or with placement, yet is willing to let go of the ball when the game requires him to."

We wish Heron the best of luck and will keep you updated as his career progresses.

Zimmerman's Pirates finished 17-4-6, winning the Avocado East League Championship before losing 2-1 to Valencia High in the CIF Southern California Boys' Soccer Championship.