Over the Thanksgiving holiday, seven players from the Alaska Rush 99G Nike team traveled to Las Vegas to join forces with players from Wisconsin Rush and Southern California Rush to compete in the Thanksgiving Classic sponsored by the Nevada Youth Soccer Association. Sophie Gross, Madeleine LaPorte, Megan Currier, Carina Kay, Cung Davidson, Kendra Luiten, and Mia Wilson all played well and enjoyed their time in Vegas.

With Sophie Gross as captain, the girls got off to a good start beating the Santos SC 99 by a score of 4-0. Carina Kay had an assist and Mia Wilson played strong defense. In the next game against the Northwest Nationals, the girls got off to a quick start by scoring two early goals. However, the Nationals scored a late goal resulting in 3-3 draw. With Madeleine LaPorte taking over the reigns as captain, the girls from Alaska came on strong in their final game against the Players SC 99. Megan Currier had a goal and two assists. Sophie Gross also added an assist and fired off some good shots at goal. Cung Davidson added another goal in the second half leading to a 4-0 victory, which won their bracket. In the semi-finals, the girls met a tough Warriors team. Kendra Luiten came out strong and played some of the best soccer of the week. Despite their efforts though, the Warriors won the game and went on to win the tournament.

Our Alaska girls again showed the other Rush clubs around the country that we are capable of producing some of the best soccer players around. Being able to guest play with other Rush teams is one of the benefits of being a Rush club. The girls were able to get some excellent training and coaching, meet girls from other clubs, and take advantage of the benefits of being a part of a international soccer club. Congratulations to our girls for a job well done!

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