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2007s show well in European trip

U15 BNT Highlights vs. Belgium

by Travis Clark

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The U.S. Under-15 Boys National Team wrapped up its trip to the Torneo delle Nazioni on Sunday, losing 2-1 against Portugal in the third-place game.

It marked a return to action of sort for the U.S. youth setup, as the pandemic limiting opportunities for the U.S. youth setup. The weeklong trip to Europe finish with a win, a draw and two losses, though the performances certainly overshadowed the results.

For the players born in 2007, which comprised the bulk of the roster ([Nimfasha Berchimas](#) is the lone 2008 that made the roster), it was a positive trip overall.

From tying Slovenia, coming from behind to beat Belgium, and a pair of one-goal losses against Italy and Belgium, there is plenty to look at from the U.S. U15 perspective.

While it's far too early to draw any conclusions from the level of the age group, it is a positive first impression. The team showed depth in a variety of positions, and a number of players come away with a tremendous experience under their belts.

One of the big performers from the week as [Kyrome Lumsden](#). In the games that were available online, he certainly made a significant impression, showing the drive and initiative to take the game over from midfield against Belgium. The midfielder wasn't quite at his peak against Italy, though everyone was battling through tired legs against the eventual champions.

A talented operator in tight spaces, [Rohan Rajagopal](#) showed the ability to play extremely quickly between the lines. While his physicality couldn't match some of the opposition, he was more than able to navigate through most of those situations. [Nathan Worth](#) looks to be the next in line of high-tempo, press-happy central midfielders coming through the ranks at [New York Red Bulls](#).

Up front, [Gavin Turner](#) and his work rate shined through, setting up the lone goal against Italy. [Zavier Gozo](#) and his ability to take players on off the dribble made him an option on the flanks, while [Ruben Ramos](#) translated his clutch finishing from the academy level. It's going to be interesting to see the career trajectory of [Caden Glover](#), as the tall No. 9 showed his soft feet on the winner against Belgium. On the flank, [Nimfasha Berchimas](#) didn't look out of place in the slightest despite his age.

Left back [Jeremiah White](#) and [Luis Rivera](#) were two of the defenders that put their best foot forward on a regular basis. Rivera's slightly undersized even for this age group, but his ability on the ball and reading the game offers plenty. An outlet going forward and diligent with his defensive work, White is another talented player making his way through the ranks at [New York Red Bulls](#).

[Philadelphia Union](#) center back [Neil Pierre](#) is a physically imposing defender at the back, and he had his share of ups and downs. Still, he's someone to watch at the MLS academy. In goal, [Orlando City's Zackory Campagnolo](#) made a big impact with his penalty save against the Italians.

There's a long way to go for players at this age, and much will change. But the first exposure to international talent offered promising signs. Don't be surprised if one or two of the 2007s play their way onto the Under-17 squad for next year's Concacaf qualifying cycle.

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