

SSC Special Olympians on Uni ed Owls team

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Unified Union Omaha Owls (UUOO) is a team sponsored by Special Olympics Nebraska and Union Omaha Owls professional soccer team. This team plays other Special Olympics unified teams associated with other pro soccer teams. This is the second year of this new league for Special Olympics.

Last year, the inaugural year, South Sioux had eight athletes on the team that won both of their games played. Initially there were only two states participating; UUOO and Unified Forward Madison of Wisconsin.

Try outs for the 2023 team were held in the spring. SSC had 10 athletes secure spots on the team, the remaining 10 athletes are from the Omaha and Lincoln area. Those on the team as athletes are Eryc Bravo, Devon Conley, Seth Luesebrink, and Jazmin Oviedo Laurel. They are joined by unified partners Brian Garcia, Ishmell Garcia, Edson Irineo, David Montes, and Anthony Cardon. The team is coached by Marla Grier of South Sioux and Jane Elam of Omaha.

UUOO played Unified Forward Madison on Saturday, June 24 in Omaha. Under the lights in the big stadium, UUOO played a



COURTESY PHOTO)

Ten South Sioux City Special Olympians are part of the Unified Union Omaha Owls soccer team this summer. They are coached by Marla Grier of South Sioux and Jane Elam of Omaha.

very aggressive game. Eryc Bravo scored a goal with an assist from Edson Irineo and Eliany Parra from Omaha scored a free kick to finish the first half 2-0. UUOO dominated the game, controlling the ball with skilled movement on the field. Eryc Bravo scored his second goal of the night with

a pass from Ishmell Garcia, shutting out the game 3-0.

The next home game for Unified Union Omaha Owls is Saturday, July 8 against the Unified Colorado Switchbacks at Werner Park in Omaha. They will be traveling to Colorado and Wisconsin later this summer.