

Soccer in the Village

(fiction storytelling)

By Logan Austin

When I was only 8, I was coming home from school and I found a soccer ball on the corner and I kicked it all the way home through the streets of our village Obermonjou. The next day I was playing and my friend Max came over and I kicked it at him. "Hey," Max yelled, "you hit me in the head!" but he wasn't hurt and we kept playing. We had a big back yard with a garden where I helped my mom grow cabbage, tomatoes, cucumbers, carrots, radishes, kale, peppers, squash, pumpkins, and watermelons, but the best part is there's open space for me to practice soccer!

Then that week I played with the ball at school and some friends came over and they played with me and we played all recess. A few weeks later the headmaster announced, "Good morning class, we are going to make a soccer team." That night the signup was full of me and my friends.

My teacher was the coach and we played sharks and minnows and I was the first shark, I got them all out in 5 minutes. When I got home I told my mom everything and she said, "I'm so proud of you, Cutiepie!" Then at our next practice our coach said, "I'm going to teach you the first skill of soccer called the 'faint'". It's where you lean to one side and then move fast to the other side. We were all assigned to drill that skill and then to practice it like it was homework. At home, my sister Alexandra yelled at me, "Go outside and practice your soccer in the back yard!" so she could get ready to go horseback riding. My dog Loki runs and hides so he doesn't get hit by the ball.

A couple years ago, everyone was calling me "The Leg" because I had a super strong left foot kick. I kicked a lot of penalty shot free kicks and the players on the other team were afraid of getting hit hard by the ball while lined up to try and block their goal.

We practiced every day after school, and at the end of the season my team went to Saratov for the big tournament. The first game on the first day was good, we won 6 – 0 to beat the Kamenka Kamels. I played well on defense and even scored 1 goal from the half way line, and had 2 assists. The second day was tough we lost 6 – 2 against the

Wittmann Watermelons. I played defense again but I let one in. Then in semi-finals we played the Wittmann Watermelons again from the second game and we won 7 – 2 over the so we qualified for the finals! I had an assist and let a couple get past me. The day of finals we lost a tough game 5 – 1 to the Pfeifer Pferden because after the first goal we crumbled. But overall we played amazing and we were proud to have made it that far together.

