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## SOCCER

the top-ranked team in the area and a sure thing to make the Sac-Joaquin Section playoffs.

### PLAYOFFS? WE'RE TALKING PLAYOFFS?

No division is more compelling than the Capital Athletic League. Rio Americano made a statement last week with a win over rival Christian Brothers, then promptly took a 2-1 loss to Vista del Lago. Vista del Lago faces Christian Brothers on Thursday. Rio has just two games left on the schedule, including the season finale next Thursday against Christian Brothers.

"It's like a playoff game," Rio head coach Antonio Sutton said. "Every time we play them it is a big battle, and it is good preparation for when it is actual playoffs."

The actual playoffs start in less than two weeks, with the first games on

Feb. 9.

### STATS UPDATE

The Sac-Joaquin Section scoring race has two players from the Sacramento area in the thick of it. Galt's Miguel Garcia has 20 goals and three assists in just 10 games this year, the top scoring output of

any area player this winter. Close behind is Nathan Beltran of Vacaville, who has 19 goals and one assist. Bella Vista's Sean Battistessa is close behind, with 17 goals and five assists through 10 games.

### THE BEE'S TOP 10 BOYS' SOCCER TEAMS

(records entering play Wednesday)

1. Davis 9-1
2. Whitney 10-2-2
3. Jesuit 12-2-2

4. Del Oro 6-1-3
5. Vacaville 8-0-2
6. Placer 14-1-1
7. Rio Americano 5-1-2
8. Pioneer 10-1-1
9. Galt 10-1-2
10. Lincoln 11-2

**Bubble Teams:** Granite Bay, Liberty Ranch, McClatchy, Ponderosa, Pleasant Grove, Vista del Lago, Woodland.

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