

PALO ALTO, Calif. -- Gregg Olson '00, an assistant men's soccer coach at the University of Vermont the past five seasons, has been named to a similar position at Stanford University. Bret Simon, Stanford's head coach, made the announcement Monday.

"On behalf of our team and particularly our individual players I am thrilled to have Gregg Olson join our staff," said Simon. "He has played at a high level and worked with an excellent team and head coach while at the University of Vermont. Gregg is an excellent teacher, communicator and will help our players reach their potential."

A 2000 graduate of Vermont and former captain of the Catamounts, Olson has been on the men's soccer staff for the past five seasons, the last two as a full-time assistant. In this span Vermont has hosted a home playoff game the past four seasons and reached the last two America East title games. This past fall the Catamounts won the America East Championship and advanced to the second round of the NCAA Tournament.

"Words wouldn't do justice to describe what Gregg has meant to the program, our student-athletes and our staff," said Vermont head coach Jesse Cormier. "He is a man with class, character and loyalty who has been through thick and thin with this team. He has played a central role in our growth and success over the past four years. Gregg has been involved in every aspect of the program and has been a huge asset to the soccer community in this area and the region as a whole. He will be sorely missed but we wish him well. He knows he will always be a member of the Catamount family."

As an undergrad at UVM, Olson was a four-year starter for the Catamounts and was a three-time winner of the team's Donoson FitzGerald Award for perseverance, integrity and sportsmanship. In 1997 he was named to the America East All-Championship Team and he captained the team as a senior in 1999. After graduation, he played professionally for the Vermont Voltage of the PDL and the Milwaukee of the A-League.

"My experience at UVM has been nothing but first class, from being a student-athlete to coaching in the NCAA Tournament," said Olson. "I am fortunate and proud to say that I have been part of the program's recent success. The team has unlimited potential and has

a great staff to help them reach the next level and beyond. Sarah and I wish everyone the best and we will be following the Catamounts from the west coast.”