

## #15 Brayton Knapp

**Position:** Outside Back/Central Midfielder

**Age:** 23

**Height:** 5'11"

**Dominant Foot:** Right



**College Experience:** Played in all 75 games at the University of Portland, of which I started 58. Finished in the top ten in minutes played. Played primarily as an outside back and central midfielder. Scored 4 goals and had 5 assists. Helped University of Portland reach the NCAA Tournament in 2007

**Youth Club:** Crossfire

**High School:** Sultan High School

**Hometown:** Sultan, WA

**Funniest Soccer memory:** When my team was playing in the Super Y League, we had to travel down to Salem to play the Cascade Surge. We were playing horribly and at half-time our coach was furious. He called me out in front of everyone and said that I was the bleeping captain and I needed to act like it. If that wasn't bad enough, he felt the urge to head butt me as he said it. Everyone was kind of stunned, but it seemed to work. We ended up winning by five and I scored two goals. After the game, my coach didn't say anything about what happened, he just winked and laughed as we walked off the field.

**Proudest Soccer moment:** My Junior year of college I broke my wrist early in the season. I had to have surgery and luckily was only out for two weeks, and two games. I had to work very hard to get back into shape, but was able to start all of the rest of the games that year, and helped our team reach the NCAA playoffs

**How would you describe yourself as a player?** I am an extremely passionate player. I leave everything on the field and try to do whatever it takes to win. I enjoy attacking from the back, where I can use my ball striking abilities to play in crosses, through balls or hit a long shot. I feel that I have a good understanding of the game, and like to see it played beautifully.

**What's your favorite soccer team & WHY?** I am a huge Arsenal fan. When my family first got Fox Soccer Channel, the first show I watched was about Thierry Henry. I taped it and would watch it over and over again because he made the game look so easy and he scored so many great goals. After that I would watch Arsenal whenever I had a chance. I love how they knock the ball around the park and their attacking style. The last few years have been difficult since we have not won anything, but I think the team is poised to do well in the next few years.

**What is your favorite part of the game of soccer?** I would have to say my favorite part of the game of soccer is that feeling you get right before a game. I always feel that if our team has properly prepared ourselves that we can win on any day. Getting the opportunity to work for each other in front of our fans, and walk off the field after the game to the cheers of our fans is what I live for.

**What do you currently do for work?** I am a site director for Sounders FC Summer Camps, and coach the U18 boys FC Portland Team.

**Other sports played growing up?** I played basketball until high school, and ran cross country in high school. I also really enjoy snowboarding.

**Other things that would be interesting for fans to know about you?** This marks my third year with the Tide, and I am excited to help us contend for the Northwest title again.