Varsity soccer: Unsung hero of St. Joe athletics

give a mediocre season or if their playoff bid falls flat, St. Joe has one sport on that will never deny us a great season: soccer.

f any of our fall sports ever

coach. Let's take a minute to thank The very the ever-competitive soccer next year in program at our school. It often 2005 under has been an unsung hero in St. his guidance,

Joe athletics. the team was Throughout the years it hasn't listed as one been a question of whether the team will make the playoffs.

Rather, it's been a question of how far will the team advance it in the championship tournament. Hanging in our gymnasium is a blue-and-gold banner. On it,

Demmin Coach of the Year



JACK HALL Sports Editor

of the top 10 in the nation. In the past, Coach Demmin taught keyboarding to middle schoolers. Currently, he coaches

Demmin

in 2004 as

varsity soccer. Before coaching high school, Coach Demmin was a you can clearly read: "Dwayne professional soccer player. He certainly has the experience,

skill and determination to

make St. Joe varsity soccer a continuous top-notch contender for the playoffs. Assistant Coach David Wissel

agreed. "Since its inception, St. Joe soccer has always

successful." Coach Wissel said. "We've been known around town for our soccer team." It's fairly safe to assume that the success of the program continues to lie in Coach Demmin's hands in addition to

the talent of the students on the

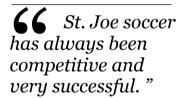
been competitive and very

team Many said that the loss of 11 seniors from the previous year's team would hinder the success of this year's team. I maintain it

was a godsend.

of exceptionally talented eighthand ninth-graders to repopulate the gaping hole left by the graduated seniors.

Demmin brought in a number



– David Wissel assistant soccer

He put in the entirety of his time and energy in coaching the team to not only maintain the

also to bring the former junior varsity players to his standards. These standards leave

skills of his upperclassmen, but

minuscule room for failure. As soon as the younger players learn this, the sooner they will become leaders on the field. Coach Demmin has been

The 2012-2013 season came to an abrupt halt as the team was eliminated from the playoffs in its first game. We could

training with his varsity and

junior varsity teams since late

certainly use a change in pace with new leadership. Seniors Charlie LeDoux and Josh Speyerer brought a level of accomplishment to the team that hasn't been seen in years.

Speverer brought with him a new energy and a new mantra. "We are going to win the real championship," he said. Through Coach Demmin's

After not playing last year,

rigorous regimen of training and preparation, the team met its first goal of becoming back-to-back district champions. The Bruins marched into the playoffs with their shoulders high as they took on Franklin County and arose

victorious.

this year.

Unfortunately, the road to the state championship ended as they were cut after their loss in the second game. I look forward to their season next year, which will certainly pick up from the

successes our team left off on