

State of St. Joe tennis

This past year, we have had many exemplary successes with our numerous athletic pursuits at St. Joe.

Football and soccer respectively reached their playoff opening games.

The boys swim team won its state competition, allowing for a new title to be brought to school in the team's honor.

Bowling continued on its gradual slope to new heights, winning the district competitions for Boys' and Girls' bowling.

Acquiring these feats is especially notable due to the fact that St. Joe lost its pivotal Athletic Director Flip Godfrey.

Godfrey passed the baton to new Athletic Director Miller Todd.

Approaching May, we had three sports still competing: baseball, track and tennis.

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In particular, I'd like to single-out Bruin tennis. Under the leadership of Coach Lynn Ogden, this team has flourished.

Ogden came to St. Joe nine years ago, brought on as a tennis coach under former Athletic Director Bill Raphael.

Since then, she has managed and coached the varsity tennis team while simultaneously teaching health and physical education at St. Joe.

Ogden notes her keen ability of intertwining strict discipline into her routine, after-school practice regimen. Having been a former student of Ogden's, I can attest to her no-nonsense style.

With tryouts in early fall and practice starting mid-winter, the team is continuously primed to be ready for any opponent standing.

There is no fault in her line up, either.

She strategically places her student-athletes with partners who will not only accentuate their own gifts and talents, but will allow for competitive matches against strenuous opponents. As a coach, she prepares them for the pinnacle of competition.

I've gathered through my time as sports editor that a team's success is one part leadership and another part membership.

While a team may have formidable leadership on the court, the team must solely rely on the actual players of the game in a tournament atmosphere.

This is where all of the preparation as per the coach comes into play with her competitors.

The team came through in early May as they placed second in the state tournament.

Katelyn Hanneke has a full list of titles won in her article on Page B2.

The team will surely carry on with much strength and vigor in the following years as the younger members grow in skill and experience.

This small group of young athletes is headed in a great direction under the guidance of Coach Lynn Ogden.

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From the Press Box



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