

Boys soccer earns runner-up in Sectionals

By Ashton Jones-Shell
reporter

The boys soccer season came to an end with a hard 1-2 loss against a strong Southport team, but it did not come with much regret.

“I wanted to become a better leader and to have another winning record, and I feel I met my expectations and goals, but our record is around even. We had a great season as a team, though,” senior Sam Thompson said.

Southport scored a final goal with one minute left on the clock.

“We were not able to come out on top in the last minutes of the Sectional Championship; however, Southport was a great team, and we knew we would be in for a major battle,” Thompson said.

Sectionals led to another round of on-field battles.

“The team we drew for Round 1 was not the best team, and our second round was New Pal. We beat them once so we believed we could do it again. We believed that we would make it to the Sectional finals, and we did,” senior Quintin Cain said.

Sophomore Emmanuel Jackson, striker, explained why the team record does not define how he felt about the season overall.

“Compared to my last season, my mentality is better because I have had a

larger impact on the team and also because I have spent a lot of hours practicing. I feel like I’ve had a lot of effect on this team and how we’ve performed because I always try to uplift people and encourage them to perform as best as possible,” Jackson said.

Jackson even got the attention of local media.

“My most memorable game this year was definitely Franklin because we had a lot of ups and downs during the game. I played one of my most impressive games ever. I scored my most impressive goal, and I was interviewed by Indystar and the Daily Journal,” Jackson said.

Along with the team chemistry improving, their competition also excelled a lot.

“Our competition has been a lot more difficult. We’ve had a lot of close games during this season, and every game we’ve played we have fought as hard as we can every time. Almost every game we have been down in score, we have fought as hard as possible to come back, and although sometimes we fail, I’m proud of how much we’ve fought during the games,” Cain said.

Players set big expectations for themselves and the team.

“This season I personally have not



Sophomore Jose Moreno warms up for the Mooresville game. Moreno played for the varsity team both his freshman and sophomore years. Gunner Ruppert photo

met my expectations yet and that’s something that I want to focus on extra now. As a team, I don’t feel we’ve met my expectations either because we don’t have a winning record. I know we can do better than how we’ve done,” Cain said.

Part of the experience involved enjoying the game the athletes love so much.

“The most fun and memorable game was probably New Pal because we came back after being down a bit and it was just a really impressive and fun game. I’m very proud of how we did that game and with the outcome of the game,” Cain said.

The mindset of the team overall boosted the season.

“I think that we came in with higher expectations because last season was really good and I believe it’s smart to try to keep us at a high level,” junior Ziegen Mahachanh said. “This season hasn’t met my expectations because we got unlucky and that affects our score but overall I feel we are a better team than last year..”

Girls soccer season ends with CG loss

By Davion Jones
reporter

The girls ended their season with nine wins, six losses and one tie. In the Mid-State conference, they ended with two wins, four losses and one tie. They finished the regular season with a victory over Shelbyville.

The girls lost the first round of Sectionals to Center Grove. They played a great defensive game but could not capitalize on offensive opportunities. The final score was Greenwood 0, Center Grove 3.

Senior Avah Wallischeck played left back and was a team captain for the Woodmen. She made a massive impact on the team’s success.

“Even though we lost to Center Grove, I am not disappointed with the performance of our team. We tried our hardest and put in so much effort so I am not upset with the outcome of our season,” Wallischeck said.

Allowing only nine goals this season, the team was led by the senior center back duo of Ava Griffin and Mackenna Martin. Griffin was a lockdown defender who played the entirety of every game and caused many problems for the opposing teams.

“I think this season was our struggle. We had people quit and an ACL tear, which really affected the team. Because of that, though, we had underclassmen step up and help our team out a lot. My favorite part of the season was when I scored a goal on Senior Night,” Griffin said.

Martin played a key role in the Woodmen’s success, too.

“I think our season went well. We lost some key players, but we managed to overcome it as a team. My favorite part of the season was the Plainfield game. We played hard, and it was our best game as a team together,” Martin said.

Freshman Katia Loper had a total of seven goals, leading the team in goals per match and goals in general.

“I wish that we would have done more team bonding before and during the season. It would have helped us on the field playing more connected. We would’ve gotten

to know each other more as well which could’ve helped us communicate more on the field, and all of us would have felt more comfortable together,” she said.

Junior Ava Brawley said the 2025 team looks good

“I think we will be a good team next year since most of the teams in our conference are losing all their good players, so we should be at the top of our conference. There are not many 8th graders coming next year, but some of them are determined and have potential. Most of the 8th graders have played travel soccer or have played since they were young. They are excited to play high school soccer next year, and I can’t wait for next season,” Brawley said.



Senior Mackenna Martin evades a Columbus East defender as she dribbles the ball. Martin was primarily a defender. Isaac Apgar photo



Senior Avah Wallischeck, captain, looks for an open teammate. Wallischeck played outside back. Max Flowers photo