

MOVE OUT OF MY WAY! Mark LeBoeuf, 12, stepped in front of his opponent in his conquest for the soccer ball. LeBoeuf led the team to the win against Colerain. LeBoeuf received a scholarship from Tuscon University for soccer and planned on taking his excellent playing skills to the college level.



SCRAMBLE FOR THE SOCCER BALL. Josh Henderson, 12, and Tommy Crabill, 11, take off for the ball, in hopes of getting to it before the opposing team. Henderson ran after the ball in order to keep the ball away from the Colerain players. Henderson scored the winning goal on this victory against Colerain. The final score was 1-0.

TAKING HIS SHOT AT THE GOAL. Matt Gartner, 12, zoomed down the field and prepared to take a shot. Gartner played outside wing in this game against Colerain. His quickness and agility helped tremendously in this win.



Soccer

Better than ever

Post season play leads to big victories

By: Shay Meisner, Rachael Hochgesang and Laura Eastes

WHO WOULD HAVE thought prior to the soccer season that this team would have a winning record and would compete in post season play. Not many. The newspapers and local media gave no attention to the team and, therefore, the soccer team went on to win eleven games, lose four and tie four - a winning season.

It all began against Elder. The boys entered their first game with new cleats, shin guards, and fresh uniforms. The whistle blew and Josh Henderson, 12, Brain Lipps, 12, and Matt Gartner, 12, dominated the field with offensive speed. It did not stop there. Zac Schmitz, 12, sent the ball flying from back field

into the goal to score the first shot of the season. From there the boys went on to win their first game, a shutout 2-0.

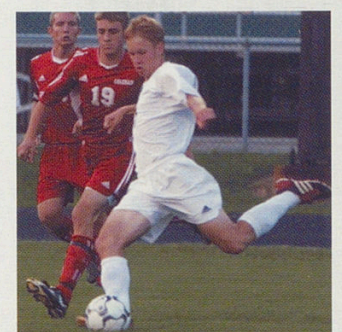
The season continued and the team kept winning, but the competition began to get tougher. The team was forced to play the number one team in the Greater Cincinnati area, Lakota West. However, that did not scare the boys. The team began an eighty minute game of gutting it out soccer. Within the first two minutes, Tommy Crabill, 11, took a shot on the goal and from then on the game was intense. A questionable call led the game to a penalty kick and Lakota West succeeded in a goal. Lakota West would attempt again to score

a goal but their offense collapsed thanks to the great plays made by Henderson, Uchenna Ononye, 12, and Matt Livingston, 12. At the end of regulation the score was tied. Although the boys were unsuccessful in the win, they had shown everyone what they were made of.

The boys would again have to show what they were made of to a very good St. Xavier team. For this match, everything was on the line, including advancing on to regional action then on to state. They began quickly and Todd Juran, 11, scored the one and only goal for the team. A fake play was made, which made St. Xavier think Henderson was going for the goal but instead Juran

took it to the net.

St. Xavier was able to get a shot off of the boys but the team kept battling. In the end the game came down to a shoot-out. The boys walked away without a victory, but gladly accepted their medals.



Brain Lipps, 12.