

Despite injury, boys soccer sets successful season within its sight

By Fabian Contreras Rodriguez

Head soccer coach and social studies teacher **Adam Spieth** described boy's soccer as "a team made of people who speak many different languages, religions and backgrounds; it's important to integrate them."

The varsity team had a promising start to the season with top players from last year: seniors **Salvador Reynoso**, **Nick Vaux** and **Robert Lenhrin**.

"Many of them didn't have time to play last year, and those are the ones who are stepping up and playing well," Spieth said.

They didn't get as much playing time because last year's seniors were so talented, leading the team toward the high school's first regional win in history.

Another promising senior has joined just this year. Italian foreign exchange student **Lorenzo Vingolo** brings European style to the multicultural team.

Spieth described Vingolo as "a great addition to the team."

In the first part of the season, Lenhrin was player of the game after scoring a hat-trick, a soccer term that means three goals. Lenhrin is "perhaps our most valuable player on the team," Spieth said.

But now Lenhrin is out for the rest of the regular season. He had surgery on his left knee because he suffered a meniscus injury last January.

Before surgery, doctors expected Lenhrin might be out for four to six months, but now the striker hopes to be ready for sectionals. He said it will take five to seven weeks to recover.

Meanwhile, Lenhrin has therapy twice a week for three months.

Spieth said Lenhrin's injury will affect the team immensely. "He is our leading scorer; our entire offense plays with him."

But, he's still part of the team. A day after his surgery, he was cheering his teammates from the bench and contributing to a post game talk with the team.

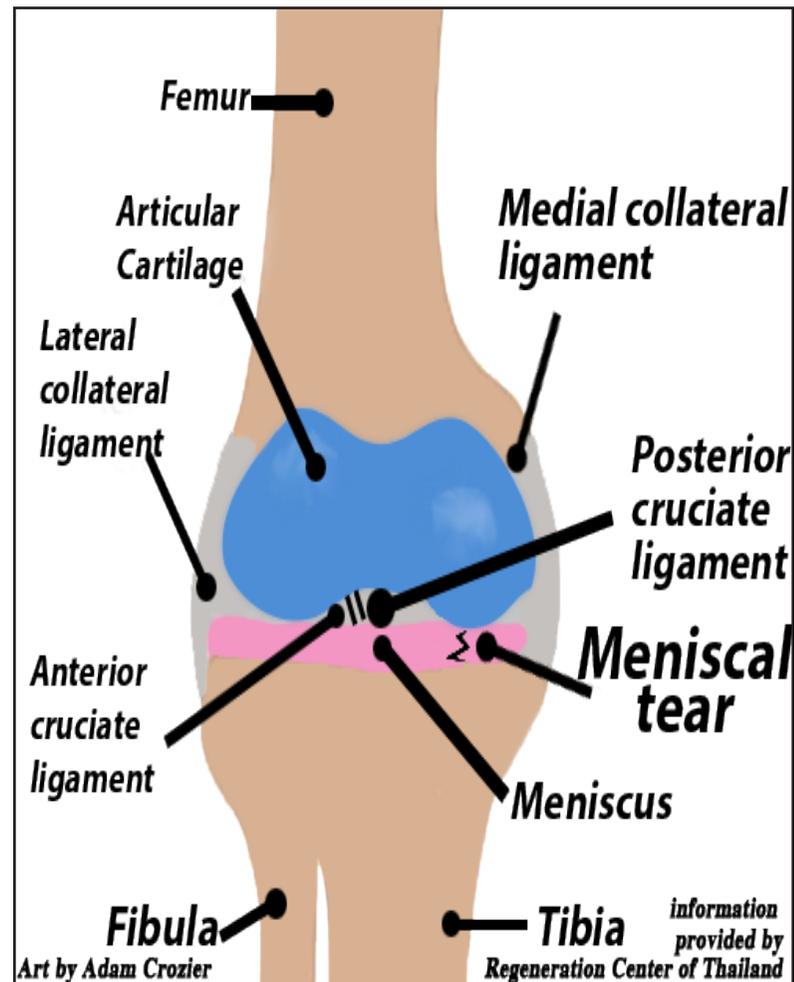
Perry won, but lost to Southport and Franklin Community High Schools.

As much as he regrets losing Lenhrin for now, Spieth is confident the Falcon team will regroup and find new ways to win.

The team beat Terre Haute South 1-0 after an intense match Sept. 9. Overall, PM is 5-3-1, and 3-1-1 in Conference.



No. 26 junior Kep Hinn maneuvers as two Decatur defenders descend upon his location. He's moving quick, thinking fast and setting up a pass to no. 9 senior Salvador Reynoso. Hinn dribbles the red, white and blue multi-colored soccer ball, alternating his left and right feet to generate kinetic motion. Hinn creates distance between himself and his opponents as he looks through them into the goal zone. Reynoso stays open for a pass (Photo by Fabian Contreras Rodriguez).



Lowery blazes through cross country

By Luis Zepeda

For senior **Blaze Lowery**, a discount on his car insurance motivates him to run cross-country. "My mom told



Blaze Lowery

me she'd pay half of my insurance until wrestling season is over if I ran cross country," said Lowery, with a little snicker.

Blaze's mother was very eager when she

found out he joined the running squad partly because she always saw potential in his running ability.

Don't let the 17-year-old fool you that he's just in it for the money. Lowery is a dedicated runner. Outside of school, he's placed in two competitive races: first in the Hathaway Run and eighth in the Drumstick Dash within his age group.

The Hathaway Run is a 5K race that takes place annually at Southport High School while the D-Dash is 4.6 miles in Broad Ripple on Thanksgiving Day.

In his first year on the cross-country team, Lowery is on the starting varsity lineup.

A typical cross-country meet is a 5K, about 3.1 miles. Lowery's best time is 18.22, which has landed him (and frequently does) in the top three of seven varsity runners during practice.

His goal is to make his personal best about 17 minutes by the end of the season. The goal is going to be attained by further outside running and keeping a healthy mindset.

Head varsity coach **Gary Raker** is happy to see talent in the late-blooming runner.

"I didn't know what to expect, but he's showed some good potential," said Raker. "The fact that he didn't run track shows that he has some natural ability."

Lowery credits his wrestling career for his success in cross-country.

"Wrestling created a heart for what I do. It made me hate losing more than I like winning," he said.

"The fact that he didn't run track shows that he has some natural ability."

- Gary Raker

Lowery first started wrestling at age 5, quit when he was 8 and then joined the wrestling team again in eighth grade and has been dedicated to the sport throughout his four years of high school.

"Running is a mental sport just as wrestling is," Lowery said.

He perseveres in a wrestling match mainly because of his will to never quit wrestling and competing, which is similar to how he can run better than most simply because of his will to keep running.

His running increases during wrestling season when he needs to cut weight. He cuts weight typically to go lower in a weight class for competitions. Being bigger and stronger while weighing equal to an opponent is a great advantage in wrestling.

The Perry varsity wrestler is devoted to his athletic training — so much so that he sacrifices his personal leisure and beyond.

"I just want to get a lot of dubs [or victories] and good conditioning for the wrestling season that is approaching us very quickly," said Lowery, his voice a mix of excitement and nervousness.