

JOHN DAVIES

When one of the premier sports publications in the world notices your skills on the field while you are a youth player, it is a certainty that good things are to follow. Such is the case with John Davies, one of tonight's inductees, whose talent and versatility has carved out a spot for himself as one of Mercer's finest. We welcome John Davies into the Mercer County Soccer Hall of Fame.

Beginning his career on the pitch, John kicked off in the West End soccer program where he started with not a whimper, but a roar. He scored an amazing 87 goals in a single season, for which he was named as one of the "Faces in the Crowd" by Sports Illustrated. He spent time on the powerhouse Trenton Panorama regional select youth team and was and captained the NJ State Select team.

High school saw John continue his blitz on the local scene. A starter for Pennington as an incoming freshman, he was second in the county in scoring. A remarkable sidebar to his first season was that he played the last 10 games of the season as the Red Raider goalkeeper yet still managed to score 27 goals!! He won two State prep titles while at Pennington and was All-County and All-State for both his freshman and sophomore years. He moved a few miles away to spend his last two years of high school at Notre Dame and found equal success. He helped the Irish win two State Championships while garnering All-County, All-State, and, as a Senior, All-Region and All-American. John was also recognized as a "Top 11" player in the Garden State to culminate an unmatched high-school career. He also, outside of school, was named as a member of the NJ Regional Select team.

Following a number of local standouts, John headed south to Alderson Broaddus where, in true fashion, he showed the soccer world his considerable talents. He was a three-time All-Conference and All-South player for the Battlers as well as winning All-American honors in his final two years and being named Conference Player of the Year as a senior. He captained the always formidable AB side in his senior year, which were nationally-ranked throughout his four years on the team. He led the Battlers to the national tournament where he was named to the All-Tourney team as well as National Tournament Player of the Year. He was a captain at the NAIA Senior Bowl to culminate what was a stellar college career.

In honor of his outstanding college resume', John was named to the All-25 and 50 year teams at Alderson Broaddus, putting an exclamation point on his outstanding time in the Beautiful Game. We congratulate John Davies on his induction into the Mercer County Soccer Hall of Fame.