

In my fourteen years as an educator, I've been a very lucky person. My first year at Midland Lee, the girls' soccer program needed an assistant, so I volunteered. I had played soccer growing up in Lubbock, TX, and in 1993 in West Texas, getting a coach with any soccer experience was rare. While I had planned on only teaching, at the first training session I fell in love with coaching. My first head coaching job was at Amarillo Caprock and in 2000 I made the move to Dallas, taking over the program at Creekview High School in Carrollton. At Creekview I was fortunate to find a group of young men that shared my passion for soccer, and over those six years we were able to win four district championships and make an appearance in the state tournament in 2003.

My good fortune also pertains to the quality coaches with whom I've been able to work. Whether it has been in select soccer or UIL, I've been blessed to have good mentors and peers who have been willing to share their ideas about coaching or listen as I develop my own. My formal education includes my bachelor's degree from Texas Tech University, some graduate school work, as well as Basic Training and Officer's Basic Course in the U.S. Army. In 1991, the Army commissioned me an officer, and I received my honorable discharge in 2000. In 2001 I completed the USSF "C" license course and in 2002 I completed the Level 1 Goalkeeping Certification. On June 1, I assumed the duties as Vice President of the Texas Association of Soccer Coaches (TASCo), the organization for high school soccer coaches in the state, and will move through the offices of President and Past President over the next three years.

In addition to the guidance of friends and mentors, I've also found a lot of good coaching advice in the model of coaches from other sports such as John Wooden in his book *Wooden* and Mike Krzyzewski in *Leading with the Heart*. *Tuesdays with Morrie* by Mitch Albom helped me gain more insight into the true value of *carpe diem* and redefined how I work with players.

As for coaching philosophy, I believe the value of participation in extracurricular sports transcends the win-loss record of a career. The value lies in helping young men learn to achieve goals, struggle through adversity, and develop into the quality men we need in this society in the future. It's been my experience that in helping young men to be the best they can be on the pitch, in the classroom, and in working with others, the players and I can always be proud of what we accomplish.

My wife Kim and I recently celebrated our first wedding anniversary. She works for the city of Carrollton in the Parks and Recreation Department. Having played select soccer growing up and club soccer at A&M, she's a great, knowledgeable fan. She's most excited about being able to come to more games than she could last year. We have two dogs and a cat as well.

My year at Lovejoy was a tremendous experience. While we worked toward building the traditions and expectations that would lead to success in the future, I look forward to the challenges of stepping into what is the most enviable boys' soccer position in the state.