



**REED KURTENBACH
NVHS BOOSTER CLUB FEATURED ATHLETE OF THE WEEK
SOCCER PROGRAM**

The NVHS Athletic Booster Club is proud to present the featured athlete of this week, soccer player Reed Kurtenbach. Reed is a senior tri-captain chosen by coach Begley thanks to his outstanding academic record and strong leadership skills.

Booster Club Reporter: What made you fall in love with soccer?

Reed: I think it was because of my dad and his enthusiasm for the game, that really had me hooked. When I was 4 years old my dad started coaching me and neighborhood kids. I loved practice with my dad and older brother out in the backyard.

Booster Club Reporter: And from there, how did you get to competitive soccer?

Reed: I was raised playing basketball and soccer all my life. I played basketball and soccer all through middle school and then joined travel teams. I only played one year of high school basketball for Neuqua, because after freshmen year, it was difficult managing high school soccer, club soccer, and academics with basketball. Besides, I have a competitive nature. It doesn't matter if it's board games, Fifa, or a high school game; I do all that I can to win. In the process, the sports have shaped me to be who I am today, and I am so glad for that.

Booster Club Reporter: What have you learned?

Reed: To always be a team player. This mindset influences my choices at school, on the field, and at home with my family. Also, I've learned from the coaches that you must never get down on yourself for mistakes in the game, because then you begin to make more and more of them. If you stay confident and keep your head up, the game seems to work itself out and things will soon turn for the better.

Booster Club Reporter: But what happen when things get really bad?

Reed: You learn from the people around you: the coaches, your teammates, your opponents, or the referees. One major learning moment of mine was when my coach, Coach Begley, pulled me over during halftime of a game that we were losing 1-0 in, and said something to the fact that we have to look toward playing for our teammates rather than for ourselves. By relaying that message onto my teammates, the game seemed to change after half, the ball seemed to be shared more, and we ended up winning 2-1. Sometimes it only takes a change of perspective and attitude.

Booster Club Reporter: What do you know now that would have helped you a lot had you known it when you were just starting?

Reed: It would be to not be afraid to talk with your coach or teachers. They are the people who do want the best for you, so don't be afraid to confront them and ask them questions. It is so much easier to ask a teacher a question if you begin to fall behind, if you have talked with him/her prior to that moment.

Booster Club Reporter: How do you manage your time?

Reed: I go in before school to do work, meet with teachers during my option, and stay up late to finish my assignments. High school athletics and academics are a great mix, if you can learn to manage time well and work hard at both your sport and your schoolwork.

Booster Club Reporter: Do you have a favorite quote which inspires you when things get hard?

Reed: "Hard work beats talent when talent doesn't work hard". When things get tough or the team is struggling to pull out a win, I like to think of the things that I can control and the things that are out of my control. I can't control how the other team will play, nor can I control my own teammates, I can only control myself; and if I can outwork all the other players on the other team, and my teammates can do the same, we have truly left all we could on the field.

Booster Club Reporter: Who is your role model? Why?

Reed: My role model in my life is my dad. He has always been there for me, and I have been able to look up to him as a positive influence in my life.