

Perry County

SPORTS

1999/2024



Printed in association with
The Republic-Monitor
Serving Perry County, Mo. since 1889
Office Hours:
Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Perryville Newspapers Inc.
PO Box 367,
11 W. St. Joseph St.,
Perryville, MO 63775

PUBLISHER:
ROBERT COX,
RMPublisher63@gmail.com

SALES:
WADE LAWRENCE,
Sales Executive,
repmontsales@gmail.com

OFFICE:
KATIE JENKINS,
office manager/bookkeeper,
bookkeeper@perryvillenews.com

ANGIE BROOKS,
executive administrative assistant,
republic-monitor@perryvillenews.com

NEWSROOM:
JUSTIN HOTOP,
sports reporter/editing &
newsroom director,
jhotop@perryvillenews.com

COMPOSITION & DESIGN:
STEPHANIE SCHUMER-VANDEVEN,
lead graphic designer/
composition art director,
RMaddesignmanager@gmail.com

USPS 35880.
Entered as periodical mail
at Post Office in
Perryville, MO 63775.
POSTMASTER:
Send change of address to
Perryville Newspapers Inc.,
P.O. Box 367, Perryville, MO 63775.



PERRY COUNTY SPORTS HISTORY 1999/2024

Index:

Saint Vincent 2004 Football - - - - - **PAGE 3**

1999/2024 Timeline - - - - - **PAGE 4 & 5**

Perryville 2014 Boys Soccer - - - - - **PAGE 6**

Saxony Girls Basketball - - - - - **PAGE 7**

TG® SUPPORTING PERRY COUNTY ATHLETES SINCE 1987!

TG MISSOURI

Teamwork is the biggest prize one can win with
ATHLETIC ACHIEVEMENT!

WWW.WORK4TG.COM • 2200 PLATTIN RD • PERRYVILLE, MO • (573) 547-1041

‘Road Warriors’ claim Class 1 Title

BY JUSTIN HOTOP

jhotop@perryvillemews.com

The St. Vincent football team’s run to the Class 1 Final Four this past fall brought to mind the last time the Indians made a similar run and came away with the top hardware. The 2004 St. Vincent football team will be remembered for a lot of things, but most of all for its incredible run to the state title.

Keith Winkler, the head coach in 2004, recalls a single attribute that the Indians had that season.

“I just remember how driven that team was,” Winkler said. “We had lost in the sectional round to Paris the year before and from that moment the guys got in the weight room and they pushed each other.”

The Indians finished the season with a record of 13-1, beating East Buchanan 21-0 in the state championship game in the Edward Jones Dome in St. Louis. The only loss that season came at the hands of Potosi 17-14. The expectation to win came early in the summer.

“We were in St. Pius at a 7-on-7 camp and we weren’t executing the plays the way we wanted to and one of the seniors was jumping down people’s throats and saying ‘we don’t lose,’ Winkler said. That was just in the summer when we were still trying to figure things out. That was a very telling moment of just how that team was going to be.”

After the Indians claimed the district title with a 37-16 victory over Hayti, the Indians had to play three straight road games to reach the state championship game. St. Vincent played at South Shelby, Salisbury, and Marionville. Because of the more than 1,700 miles travelled, the Indians coined themselves the “Road Warriors.”

“I think that brought us closer,” Winkler said. “The team kept a focus on the game and we weren’t outnumbered in the stands either. We had a great following and made it a lot of fun. The closest trip we made was to the state championship game in St. Louis.”

The Indians had 20 seniors in 2004, with what Winkler called “a good foundation” of juniors and



The 2004 St. Vincent football team finished the season with a record of 13-1, beating East Buchanan 21-0 in the state championship game in the Edward Jones Dome in St. Louis. St. Vincent played at South Shelby, Salisbury, and Marionville during the state playoffs. Because of the over 1,700 miles travelled, the Indians coined themselves the “Road Warriors.”



sophomores to fill out the roster. Defense was the calling card for the Indians as they outscored their opponents 406-97, serving up an average of six points per game.

“Everyone talks about how good that defense was; it really flew around” Winkler said. “Our defense was fast and we had a big defensive line that would stop plays before they ever got to the secondary. That’s what really set us apart from other teams. We had a lot of unsung heroes that don’t get the recognition because some of the other guys.”

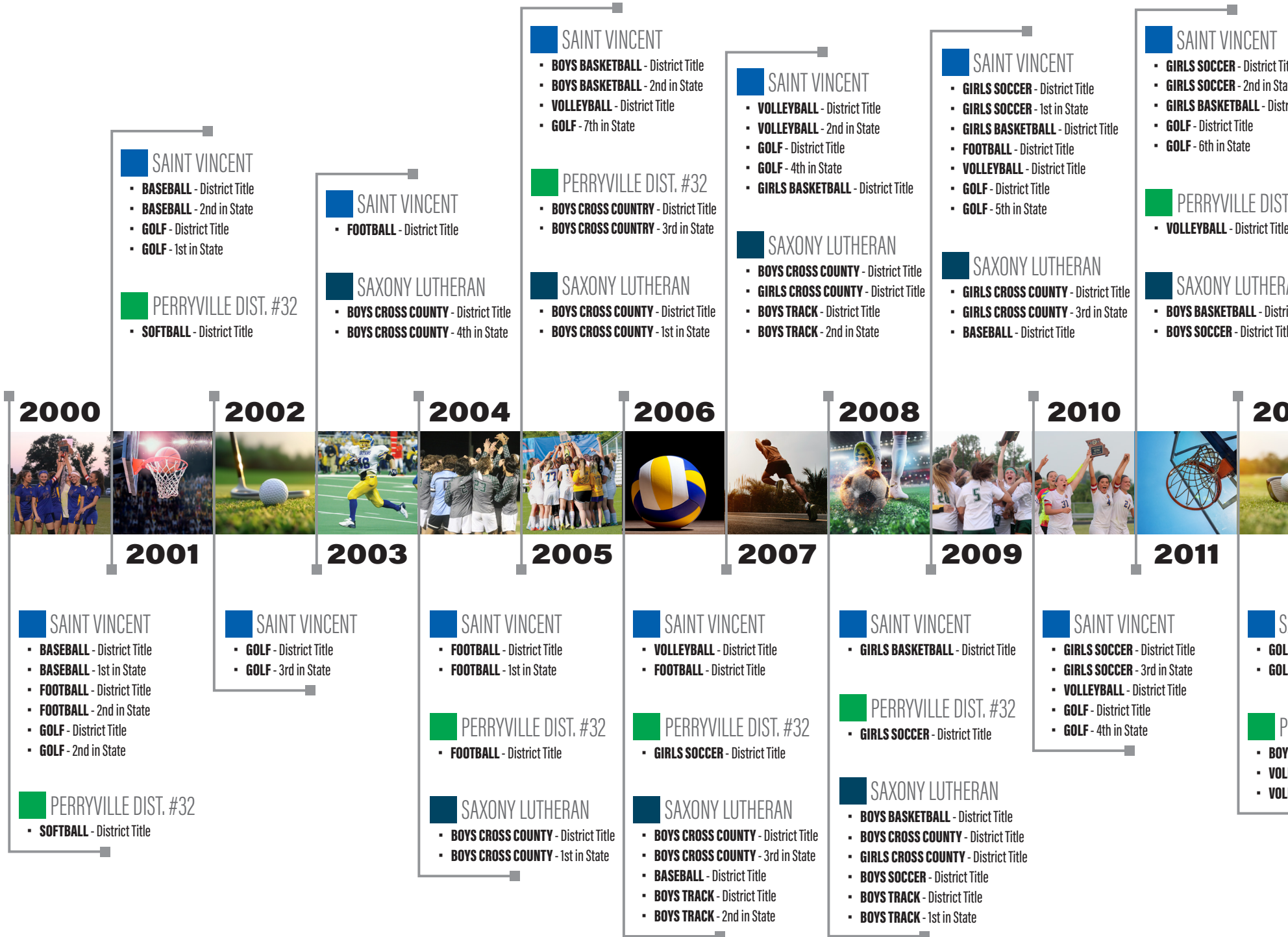
The defense was even better in the state championship game as they turned East Buchanan over eight times, (6 interceptions, 2 fumble recoveries). That number is a record for turnovers forced in a title game.

That almost didn’t happen for the Indians, who had trouble in practice figuring out how to cover Andrew Meade, a 6’5” receiver who had more than 1,000 yards on the season for East Buchanan.

“He was one of the biggest receivers we had seen all season,” Winkler said. “We had decided we were going to bracket and double cover him. We moved Danny Rellergert back to cornerback and wanted him to shadow him. Danny had three picks in the game, but on Tuesday before the game, we just weren’t getting it. I looked at our offensive coaches and told them. ‘We better outscore them, but we aren’t stopping them.’ But then the next day something clicked.”

The games weren’t the only thing that sticks out to Winkler. The Perryville Pirates football team won their district in 2004 and many of the Indians and Pirates football players had close relationships that season. On a regular basis, especially during the playoff runs for each team, Indian players could be found at Pirate games and vice versa.

“For both teams to win districts that year and have successful teams, it brought the community together,” Winkler said. “Then we go to South Shelby and I saw multiple Perryville letter jackets, and then more at the state championship game. You don’t see that much anymore.”



<p>SAINT VINCENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BOYS CROSS COUNTRY - District Title BOYS CROSS COUNTRY - 6th in State <p>PERRYVILLE DIST. #32</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> VOLLEYBALL - District Title BOYS SOCCER - District Title <p>SAXONY LUTHERAN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GIRLS BASKETBALL - District Title 	<p>SAINT VINCENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> VOLLEYBALL - District Title BOYS CROSS COUNTRY - District Title BOYS CROSS COUNTRY - 2nd in State GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY - District Title GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY - 8th in State <p>PERRYVILLE DIST. #32</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BOYS SOCCER - District Title BOYS SOCCER - 2nd in State <p>SAXONY LUTHERAN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GIRLS BASKETBALL - District Title BOYS SOCCER - District Title GIRLS SOCCER - District Title GIRLS SOCCER - 1st in State 	<p>SAINT VINCENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BASEBALL - District Title BASEBALL - 4th in State GIRLS SOCCER - District Title GIRLS SOCCER - 1st in State BOYS SOCCER - District Title BOYS CROSS COUNTRY - District Title BOYS CROSS COUNTRY - 4th in State <p>SAXONY LUTHERAN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GIRLS BASKETBALL - District Title BOYS BASKETBALL - District Title BOYS SOCCER - District Title BOYS SOCCER - 4th in State GOLF - District Title 	<p>SAINT VINCENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GIRLS SOCCER - District Title GIRLS SOCCER - 2nd in State GOLF - District Title GOLF - 6th in State BOYS CROSS COUNTRY - District Title BOYS CROSS COUNTRY - 12th in State <p>PERRYVILLE DIST. #32</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> VOLLEYBALL - District Title <p>SAXONY LUTHERAN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GIRLS BASKETBALL - District Title BASEBALL - District Title BASEBALL - 3rd in State BOYS SOCCER - District Title 	<p>SAINT VINCENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GIRLS SOCCER - District Title VOLLEYBALL - District Title GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY - District Title GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY - 3rd in State <p>PERRYVILLE DIST. #32</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BOYS SOCCER - District Title BOYS SOCCER - 2nd in State GIRLS SOCCER - District Title SOFTBALL - District Title SOFTBALL - 4th in State <p>SAXONY LUTHERAN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GIRLS VOLLEYBALL - District Title 	<p>SAINT VINCENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GIRLS BASKETBALL - District Title FOOTBALL - District Title FOOTBALL - STATE SEMIFINALIST VOLLEYBALL - District Title GIRLS SOCCER - District Title GOLF - District Title GOLF - 6th in State GIRLS TRACK - District Title <p>SAXONY LUTHERAN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GIRLS SOCCER - District Title GIRLS SOCCER - 3rd in State GIRLS VOLLEYBALL - District Title BOYS VOLLEYBALL - District Title
<p>2013</p> 	<p>2014</p> 	<p>2015</p> 	<p>2016</p> 	<p>2017</p> 	<p>2018</p> 
<p>2019</p> 	<p>2020</p> 	<p>2021</p> 	<p>2022</p> 	<p>2023</p> 	<p>2024</p> 

CAN'T WAIT TO SEE WHAT THE NEW YEAR BRINGS!



Perryville soccer has run of excellence

BY JUSTIN HOTOP
jhotop@perryvillenews.com

Even nine years later, Perryville boys' soccer coach Jerry Fulton still thinks about it.

Just seven years into the boys soccer program they did the unthinkable: won a state title. To this day it still gives Fulton goosebumps.

That team was just resilient," he said. "It was an unbelievable year and you just never knew what was going to happen. Those guys would just not quit."

The Pirates went 29-1 in 2014 and set numerous school records that still stand today. Those records include most wins in a season, fewest losses, fewest goals allowed (13), most shutouts in a season (19), longest win streak (25 games), and numerous others. The team scored 130 goals which has since been broken in 2021. Perryville was the first small public school to win a state title in a decade.

Fulton had set high expectations for the season, but wasn't sure how far his team could go.

"We had reached the state quarterfinal the year before, so we felt we had the talent," Fulton said. "But we were still worried because anything can happen. It takes one thing to mess everything up. The main thing that we as a team had to do was just stay focused and keep our eyes on the prize."

The one loss came against Poplar Bluff (1-0) in the Notre Dame Tournament and the team never lost after that. The culmination came in a 7-0 win over Soldan International in the Class 2 state title game. The Pirates set a record for most goals in a state championship game that season.

"It was a surprise," Fulton said. "We were up



The Perryville boys soccer team has seen a string of success recently, winning the state title in 2014, and finishing second in 2015 and 2021. Coach Jerry Fulton said that each of the teams had a determination and will to succeed, along with the immense talent.



1-0 at halftime and it was obvious to me that Soldan had some great athletes, but weren't a great collective team. You would think that when you're winning at halftime in the state championship, the speech would be uplifting. But instead I went a different route and chewed my guys out because I felt we were so much better."

The Pirates scored three goals in the first 10 minutes of the second half and the rest is history. "That team had the ability to respond and come back and take control of a game. It was the best way to cap a season off," Fulton said.

The Pirates defeated Pius X-Kansas City in the Class 2 state semifinals game, of which Fulton said "maybe should have been the state title game" that year.

The Pirates quickly went ahead 2-0 to start the game and St. Pius came back to tie the game. Conner Stark scored the game winning goal on a header in the final minute. Stark had the flu leading up to the game.

"We gave Conner Pedalyte all day to get him ready to play," Fulton said. "All the Kansas City players dropped their heads and looked mentally defeated."

The Pirates had five all-state players in 2014 including Class 2 player of the year Matt Moran.

The Pirates doubled down the next season as they reached the state championship game in 2015 going 24-5, losing to O'Hara 1-0. That season was much different in Fulton's eyes.

"In the first season, it felt like we fought tooth and nail to get out of district," Fulton said. "We fell behind in the sectional game [against Bayless] and had to come back. In the second run it felt like there wasn't many close games that I can remember."

Although the 2015 season was fun for Fulton,

there's nothing like winning a state championship.

"I'll never forget it," Fulton said. "Anyone that wins a state championship is never going to forget that feeling. It's a feeling I can't describe and one that I hope to feel again."

The Perryville soccer program returned to the final four in 2021 in another remarkable season. The Pirates finished 23-4, and had one of the more exciting finishes a person will ever see in a state playoff game or any game for that matter. Perryville fell behind 3-0 to Excelsior Springs at halftime before rallying back to win 4-3.

"I asked the team if that was the way they wanted to go out," Fulton said. "If it was, then don't do anything, but if we wanted to do something, we needed to start winning the ball."

Not only did the Pirates start winning the ball, they also started putting the ball into the back of the net. Perryville scored four goals in the final 23 minutes to overcome a 3-0 deficit to win 4-3.

Dayton Stratman got the scoring started with a goal in the in the 57th minute and another in the 59th minute to narrow the lead to 3-2.

"At that moment you could just see the heads of the Excelsior Springs team just drop," Fulton said. "They knew we had all the momentum and we rode it all the way the rest of the game."

Riley Hagen scored the third goal in the 74th minute on a redirect off a corner and Stratton Kaempfe put the Pirates ahead for good with two minute remaining in the game.

"I have never been a part of a game like that," Fulton said. "It was amazing."

Perryville set a team record with 133 goals as a team and were led by Dayton Stratman (43) and Bryce Brewer (41) on the season.

Celebrating over 118 Years of Pirate Sports Pride!

IN THE LAST 25 YEARS!

can't wait to see what the next 25 years brings...

19 DISTRICT TITLES
7 STATE APPEARANCES
1 STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

WWW.PERRYVILLE.K12.MO.US • 573.547.7500 • GO PIRATES!



Success never gets old for Saxony

BY JUSTIN HOTOP
jhotop@perryvilnews.com

As former Saxony girls basketball coach Sam Sides once said: “winning never gets old.”

The Saxony Lutheran program has done plenty of that over the years.

The girls won eight straight district titles from 2013-2020. The run was so dominant that it was only stopped in part because the Missouri State High School Activities Association instituted the “success factor,” moving the girls program from Class 3 to Class 5 the next season.

For the course of those eight district titles, the Saxony Lutheran program never really saw that much of a drop-off, averaging 24 victories per season.

Sides began coaching the girls program in 2012 and went 10-16, the next year the team won 25 games and the rest is history.

“I was blessed to have a lot of talent,” Sides said. “We had several groups come in back-to-back that were just good. The first group that came in my second year were all freshmen and the ones that didn’t get to play that much on varsity only lost a couple games on the JV level. We had 10 girls that could play and that’s unusual for a smaller school. That got us started and we ran with it.”

That high level talent can be seen throughout the small record book of a program that began in 2006 (19 years). Saxony has won a district title in 42 percent of its seasons.

The top seven scorers in Saxony’s history played within those district-winning years Emma Brune 1,902 points (2016-2020); Brianna Mueller 1,819 points (2012-2016); Grace Mirly 1,271 (2012-2016); Raegan Wiseser 1,169 (2012-

2016); Addison Beussink 767 (2014-2018); Masyn McWilliams 751 (2014-2018); Laurel Mueller 718 (2014-2018).

“It’s a small sample size,” Sides said of the talent through those years. “But that talent was at a consistently high level.”

Through that eight year run, the Crusaders went to the final four twice, finishing fourth in

2014 with a 24-6 record. The team fell to Hermann 68-53 in Mizzou Arena in the third place game. The Crusaders went back to the final four in 2016 and finished second losing to Strafford in the championship game 50-46. Strafford went on to win 123 straight games, a Missouri state record, which ended in December 2019.

During the run, Saxony also fell in the state

quarterfinal five other times, including in 2015 when the team went 29-1 and fell to Park Hills Central (30-1) in overtime. The Rebels went onto win the Class 3 state title that year.

“All throughout those years I had dedicated players who loved to play with each other,” Sides said. “That first group I had came from two different Lutheran grade schools and had been playing ball with each other for quite some time before I even knew them. They had a mutual interest and cared for one another. Those years were quite a time for Saxony basketball.”



The Saxony Lutheran girls basketball team won eight straight district titles from 2013-2020. There was a lot of talent during that era as each of the top seven scorers in school history played during that period.

PROUD TO HONOR ALL THE AMAZING ATHLETIC ACHIEVEMENTS!

Matthew Wibbenmeyer • PRESIDENT/GENERAL MANAGER
255 Rolling Hills Lane, Perryville, MO 63775 • (573) 517-0759 • wc.concrete@yahoo.com

Wibbenmeyer Concreters

Reporting the Big Plays!

JUSTIN HOTOP
Sports Reporter/Photographer

jhotop@perryvilnews.com • Republic MONITOR

Celebrating 24 Years!

SAXONY CRUSADERS!



Saxony
Lutheran
HIGH SCHOOL

2004 Saxony Drive, Jackson, MO 63755

573-204-7555