



**CUTLINE:** The 2012 Southern State men's soccer team includes freshmen (front, l-r) Chaz Mack of West Union H.S., E.J. Aubry of Fayetteville H.S., Chris Ortleib of Leesburg Fairfield H.S., Howard Jordan of West Union H.S., Josh Moore of Washington C.H. Senior High, David Johnson of Circleville H.S., Matthew West of Lynchburg Clay H.S., Jarred White of Greenfield McClain H.S., Michael Theobald of Hillsboro H.S., Nathan Bowers of Miami Trace H.S., Grant Hanna of Washington C.H. Senior High; (back, l-r) Head Coach Josh Thoroman, Asst. Coach Greg Lawson, sophomore Zach Hardyman of Georgetown H.S., sophomore Steven Barber of Greenfield McClain H.S., sophomore Cody Claypool of Miami Trace H.S., sophomore Greg Roades of Hillsboro H.S., sophomore Adam Kerns of Unioto H.S., Asst. Coach Nick Davis and Asst. Coach Nathan Rollyson. Absent from the photo is Asst. Coach Sean Sweeney.

## **SSCC soccer begins 2012 season with a win**

On Aug. 24, the Southern State Patriots men's soccer team made the five-hour trip to Lansing, Mich., where they defeated Great Lakes Christian College (2011 NCCAA II regional semifinalists) by a score of 4-1.

"Our players worked really hard to achieve a shutout, but the player that converted the goal for Great Lakes was about six inches taller than anyone on our team," said Sean Sweeney, SSCC assistant coach. "We try to instill a real sense of pride in the defense that our teams play."

Last season, the Patriots were defeated by Great Lakes by a score of 2-4. The 2011 Patriots finished sixth in the nation and posted the second best record in SSCC history finishing the season 12-6-1. But there are big differences between the 2011 and 2012 teams. SSCC lost seven juniors and four sophomores from the 2011 roster. The 2012 Patriots are comprised of five sophomores and 11 freshmen. On Friday night, the Patriots started seven freshmen.

After a 0-0 first half, freshman Michael Theobold got the scoring started for Southern State when he stole the ball from a defender and beat the keeper to the far post with 34:12 remaining in the game. Less than a minute later, freshman Nathan Bowers brought the ball through the center of the field and Great Lakes' defense before finding Theobold on the run. Theobold collected the pass in a one-on-one situation with the keeper and again beat the keeper to the far post. It was 2-0 Southern State with 33:24 remaining in the game.

Freshman Grant Hanna earned the first goal of his collegiate career with 20:40 remaining. Hanna made a sliding strike connecting on a cross from sophomore Zach Hardyman.

The Patriots' final goal came from sophomore Greg Roades with 3:37 to go. Grant Hanna assisted on Roades' goal, slotting his pass through the center of Great Lakes' defense.

GLCC avoided the shutout with 25 seconds to go when they converted a goal off of a corner kick set piece.

"I consider today's victory to be a tremendous win for our program," said Josh Thoroman, SSCC head coach. "We lost 2-4 to Great Lakes a year ago. To lose your entire starting 11 and return a year later with a new team, start seven freshmen, and then win by a 4-1 margin against a four-year school is tremendous."

The coaches cited their all-freshmen defense of David Johnson, Howard Jordan, Matthew West, Chris Ortleib and Josh Moore as playing very well in their first game.

To learn more about the soccer program at Southern State Community College, please visit

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