

Jared Belin wins Metro Spotlight Award

Written by Metro Sports Report

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Linn-Mar senior Jared Belin is the winner of the Metro Spotlight Award for high school boys this week, the Metro Sports Report announced Sunday.

Belin is the star goalkeeper for the Linn-Mar soccer team, which is ranked fifth in the state in Class 3A.

Belin collected three straight shutouts Saturday as the Lions won their own Challenger Cup at the Linn-Mar Stadium, including a 2-0 victory over Muscatine in the finals.

Belin has allowed only one goal in six games for the undefeated Lions, with five shutouts to his credit. His goals-against average is 93 percent.

Belin was named Honorable Mention all-state last year and plans to continue his soccer career at Briar Cliff University.

Here is our Question-&-Answer session with Jared Belin:

MSR: What is your favorite individual highlight in sports?

JARED: My favorite individual highlight would be the 2012 substate game against Jefferson where we ended up advancing on penalty kicks. It was my first year playing varsity and that game gave me a lot of confidence in myself to trust my instincts.

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MSR: What is your favorite team highlight in sports?



JARED: Last year's regular-season game against Waterloo West. We gave up an early goal but we kept fighting and eventually won in overtime. That game stuck out with me because it shows that you need 10 other guys to have your back in order to win games.

MSR: What are your future goals in sports?

JARED: Next year I will be attending Briar Cliff University on a soccer scholarship. Soccer has been a huge part of my life and I am very blessed to be able to continue playing after high school.

MSR: Who has had the biggest influence on your sports career?

JARED: My parents have always been there for me every day. They have driven me to practices, taken me to tournaments and have been there for me after both my good and bad games. There is nothing I can do to make up for all that they have sacrificed for me.

MSR: What are your favorite classes in school?

JARED: I have enjoyed the business classes. They were interesting and introduced me to the business world and the many options it has to offer. Those classes helped me determine that I wanted to study business at Briar Cliff.

MSR: What has been your favorite community service project?

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JARED: When I was in middle school, I helped coach an elementary school soccer program. It was incredible to watch the kids learn how to play soccer. It made me realize how lucky I am to be able to participate in a game that I love and share what I have learned with others.