After being a part of Shawnee’s girls soccer program, I can’t just focus on one moment in my career as a soccer player that was more memorable than another. The experience as a whole was a thing of its own. As a team, we were never the best skilled or the best athletes, but we were more than just a team – we were a family. Our love and dedication for the game is what made us who we were. One thing I learned during my soccer career is that you have to put 80+ into everything you do – on and off the field. As a family if you ALL find meaning for 80+ and play by it, you will always feel good about yourself and your team even if you walk off that field without that win. So, make your team your family because, as a family, you will do great things. – Sam Began

My most memorable moment from my time on the team was without a doubt winning league my senior year. We had worked so hard for the last few years and came so close but missed our chance until my senior year when we were finally able to accomplish winning league. The feeling running off the field is one I will definitely never forget. What made winning even better was being able to do it with my team and the relationship we had. As good as this felt, I also think in some ways we felt content after we won, which did not turn out well. We lost in the tournament to a team we never should have lost to. I look back now and am so happy with how my four years on the team went. But, if there is any advice I could give, it would be to always give it all you have every game because it doesn’t last forever… and I’m telling you, you will miss it when it is gone. – Jordan Lovely

My most memorable moment in my high school career would have to be my sophomore year after our very last game. We ended up losing 3-2 and after the game all of us were at the end of the field sitting in the corner crying together, saying how much we loved each other, and how much we were a family. At that point in time, nothing else and no one else mattered except those who were surrounding me at the time. It was like we ended on such a sad note but having everyone together made everything okay.

If I could go back in time and have our team back and one night game under the lights, warming up to “Here Comes the Boom” and ending our warm-up with our chant… There’s no greater feeling. Having our fans cheering us on. Even Schaeffer come out on the field screaming at me one last time. I’d give anything to have it back. Looking back on pictures and memories brings me so much joy but also regret at the same time because not only did I take advantage of everything surrounding me, I didn’t take time to enjoy it and be thankful for it. I know it’s cliché and everyone says it, but it is literally over before you know it. Take time to smell the roses and enjoy this special family you have because there is nothing better. And once it’s over, it’s over. There is no turning back time. Remember that. 80+.

My most memorable thing from high school would have to be stepping out on the field before every home game. I’ll never forget the feeling I got being announced and looking up in the stands and having so many supporters and then looking to my side to find my amazing teammates that you truly experience all of this with. My regret would be not taking every single game as seriously as I should. There were definitely teams that I didn’t take seriously and we lost. And once the game is over, you can’t go back and change it. You just regret not giving 110%.

I feel like the whole experience runs together for me because we were like on big family. I feel like 80+ for us related to more than just soccer, but also our lives in general at the time. We always had each other’s backs on and off the field. Even when people had issues, we all worked them out together and fixed them rather than holding a grudge. Even though we didn’t achieve our ultimate goal of being on the banner, we still worked hard and were happy with the goals we did achieve and we always motivated each other to achieve those goals. It is super important to start making goals for yourselves and achieving now because those mind sets will stick with you and make you a better team. Not that achieving those goals now will make life easier later, but it will make for positive memories and help you reach your goals easier in the future.

My most memorable times in high school were from soccer. It’s so hard to just pick one time but winning league stands out. I fell in love with my team. I had so much faith in them and love for them. I never doubted their abilities or their hearts. That’s a memory that always stays with me because that may be a feeling that I never get again. It’s a feeling that every person that was with me would give everything for the one thing we all wanted. That every single girl on the field or the bench wanted it all for that team. We loved each other so much and we worked so hard and we achieved everything as a family. I miss that family so much, one that was by my side through the ups and the downs on and off that field. A family that had so much passion for our one united goal. Take advantage of it.

It’s hard for me to think back at the most memorable moments in my high school career. There are so many little tiny moments that build up and make a memory. Some things I’ll never forget is wearing my jersey on game day to school. I know that sounds corny, but it’s little things like that you will always remember. I’ll never forget coach’s pre-game speeches that prepped you before every tough game. I’ll never forget the feeling of playing under the lights. I’ll never forget the pre-game chant that still lives on today. I’ll never forget the feeling of being announced and running out on the field to whoop some ass. I’ll never forget any of it. I remember the goals I’ve scored, the goal saving slide tackles I’ve made, but the thing I will remember the most is the group of girls I had the privilege of playing with. The bus rides, the games, the team dinners, and the funny things you laughed about. Cherish these times. Play every game like it is your last – I know it sounds cliché but it is true. One day it will end. One day you won’t be with that same group of girls. Playing under the lights and having that great feeling after a tough win. That will be gone one day. Some of you might go on to play college ball, but high school is something special – so play with everything you’ve got. Put everything into every small moment of the game. One day you will score your last goal, win your last header, and you want to look back and think “Wow. I put everything into something I completely loved.” You will never regret it or forget it.. Believe me. I’ve been there. 80+

My most memorable moment in my high school career would be… well… not just a “moment” but the “moments” of the feelings I got right before a soccer game. The rush of excitement. The feeling is unforgettable and moments I’ll cherish forever. It is very importantto always striveto reach your goals. Whether it is you grades, getting better at a sport, or just being a better you. High school wasn’t easy but it’s a whole lot better when you are achieving your goals. You only go to high school once, so make the best of it and strive for greatness!

The most memorable part of my high school career is a moment that I never got to have. It was spring of 2004 and the boys basketball team had just lost their tournament game. I was sitting on the bus ready for the ride home when Mr. Ellis walked on and said "Our school levy didn't pass. We won't be having fall sports." I was crushed. We had a solid year my sophomore soccer season but everyone knew we were going to be unstoppable my Junior year. We had lost some great seniors but we knew that we could fill in where they had left off. It was going to be our year. To my knowledge, Shawnee girls soccer had never won league and this was going to be our chance; except, it had just been taken away from us. No fall sports meant no soccer, no football, no practices after school, nothing to look forward to on Friday nights. We would be lost. My high school career revolved around sports and mostly soccer. What was I supposed to do?

Coach Schaeffer talks a lot about leaving a legacy. I never got the chance to leave that legacy. We had a great senior year and were pretty decent, but we all knew we missed our chance. This is your chance. No one can take your chance to leave a legacy away from you. Only you can earn or lose this chance for yourselves. We didn't get the chance to say that we did everything we could and gave every ounce of effort we had to put a banner up in that gym. You have that chance. There is nothing for 2005 on that banner for us. Put something there for 2015, not just for yourselves, but for those of us that missed out on 2005.

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Underclassmen – You all have so much skill and talent at this sport that I have no doubt you will all grow and become incredibly players. For this year, we hope to win league and make it to districts or further which you all will help us achieve. Even though I only get to play with you all for the rest of this season, I’m very grateful to have the opportunity to become a friend and a teammate to you. I hope after we graduate, you help contribute to this team in the following years by achieving even greater goals.

Carlee Jones

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Our Common Goals:

1. Win League.

2. Win sectionals, districts, and beyond.

3. Team and Individual improvement.

4. Become an extended family. Work together as a team. Enjoy each other.

5. Play as a team, win as a team.

6. For the team to work hard to achieve. Team Strength.

Messages:

1. Embrace, remember, and correct failures – doing so is one step closer to achieving your goals.

2. Play hard.

3. S – Set a good example for us.

4. U – I’m very impressed with the skills you all have already and I am very excited to play with you all my senior year. I have no doubt you will contribute a lot to our team this year. I hope we seniors are able to teach you and help you improve so when we graduate you may continue to make the Shawnee Soccer Program Great.

5. S – I’m glad I got to play with you all for three years. I’m really going to miss you. I hope you have a great rest of your life. Be safe and successful at college and make good choices. I love and will miss you seniors.

6. S – Allison – You are very cool and my inspiration to get better at soccer and to do it for the team. Alyssa – We had some rough times but then we got along and you are awesome. Alexis – You are really good at everything. You are a really good defender and you are cool. Meagan – OMG! ☺ You are the coolest teammate ever. I had fun with you on the trip! I’m really going to miss you guys and you are going to be on my mind forever. I will always think of you when I play soccer. Make this last year your best.

7. S – Thanks for all you guys do for us and I can’t wait to play with you for the rest of the year. Play your heart out, have fun, and make the most of your last year.

8. S – We look up to you so treat your fellow teammates well and set a good example for everyone else… We are going to miss you all.

9. S – Thank you for everything. And for being the funniest people I’ve ever played with!! You all taught me so much and have been amazing role models.

10. Carlee – You are the best role model on the team and I really admire that. You’re great at staying positive and always acting like a leader, even when no one else is looking.

11. U – Don’t spend your time waiting and wishing school was already over. Make the best of it, get good grades and have fun. Try your hardest everyday because one day you won’t have any more boring practices or nerve racking games and you are going to miss it… I’m going to miss it. So make the best of today instead of waiting for tomorrow.

12. S – Be leaders, be positive.