

Oct. 25 MCT Consolation Soccer



Ryan Lamarca provides sophomore goalie Nolan Kopec the cold shower everyone loves to get, as Kopec was doused after earning his first varsity shutout in a 2-0 win over Robbinsville tonight (Photo by Mike Dill/purchase photos at www.michaeldillphotography.com).

Robbinsville finds Kopec's first varsity start to be good for nothing

By Rich Fisher

Fish4Scores.com

Oct. 25: It was a night of firsts and a night of joy for the Steinert boys soccer team.

Paced by the first career start and shutout for sophomore goalie Nolan Kopec and aided by the first varsity goal by Zach Gates, the Spartans took a 2-0 win at Robbinsville in a Mercer County Tournament consolation game today.

"The team was really happy for Nolan," coach Todd Jacobs said. "From day one, Nolan has been there at practices working hard. He is a very positive kid who never complained about his role on the team.

"Tonight he was exceptional in goal. The team seemed to rally around him."

And in the end, they drenched him as Ryan Lamarca delivered the ceremonial water bucket shower in celebration of the shutout.

The game was scoreless at halftime and stayed that way deep into the game until Pat Remboski assisted Gates with 6:17 left for his first goal and, as it turns out, first game-winning goal.

"It was a brilliant shot from about 25 yards out," Jacobs said.

With 40 seconds remaining, Remboski intercepted a pass and scored on a breakaway for the goal that sealed it, as both teams moved to 5-8-2.

"Derek Shearer was very effective in the midfield and controlled much of the game in the second half," said Jacobs, who enjoyed trying to learn the rules of field hockey with assistant coach Mike Hastings prior to the game. "CJ Harvell, Zach Castaldo, Xavier Ceballos and Ryan Lamarca played outstanding defense."