

Soccer players

accomplished plenty

By Patrick Dorsey patrick.dorsey@indystar.com

The Pike Indy Burn under-19 boys soccer team fell short of its national title goal last week, going 0-2-1 at the U.S. Youth Soccer National Championships in Lancaster, Mass. Still, that didn't render the trip -- nor the team's nine-year run under coach Isang Jacob -- meaningless. Far from it.

"Obviously, I would have (liked a) different outcome, but I felt that the boys gave their best," said Jacob, whose team became the first U19 boys squad from Indiana to win a regional title since 1988. "It's been a good run. I'm glad they were able to experience what the next level is -- the highest level of youth soccer.



Lawrence Central grad Joey Peglow now is a goalkeeper at the University of Kentucky. - Matt Dial / The Star

"I'm just happy for the guys that stayed with the team all these years. And I think it's been a good accomplishment, whichever way you look at it. It's been a good thing for the club, it's been a good thing for the state of Indiana, so I'm very thrilled for the boys." Most of the players -- the roster included former area high players Brad Foulke and Sean McGrath (Pike), Tyler Kever (Cathedral), Adam Mills and Michael Whitman (Brebeuf Jesuit), and Joey Peglow (Lawrence Central) -- graduated from Indiana high schools and play in college. "I hope they take this experience," Jacob said, "and learn from this with (their careers)." Jacob said he is done coaching with the Pike Soccer Club, having taken an assistant coaching position with Penn State University. He's not finished with these players, though, as his Nittany Lions will face three of them -- Caleb Konstanski, Joe Tolen and Tim Wylie -- when they travel to Bloomington to face Indiana University on Nov. 6.

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