

# MIFFLIN COUNTY CHRISTIAN BOYS SOCCER

## Eagles aim for another trip to KCEA tournament

By **KENNY VARNER**

*Sentinel correspondent*

**SHINDLE** — There is an air of optimism soaring across the practice fields at Mifflin County Christian Academy after the boys soccer team's successful 2012 campaign.

The Eagles took third at the Keystone Christian Education Association tournament last season and their coach is hoping for history to repeat itself with another postseason effort.

"I look forward to going back this year and being competitive," Craig Todd said.

The Eagles compete without a league, but are eligible to enter the tournament sponsored by the small, private-school organization.

Members returning for the Eagles are numerous from last year's third-place team.

"We have a good core of players coming back," Todd said.

Returners are Jonathan God (senior), Colton Aumiller, Brad Smith, Luke Todd, Caleb Breneman and Jathan Gutshall.

"Mostly everyone that's coming back is here and we added a few more," Todd said. "We have pretty much everyone back except for Tommy Breneman who graduated last year."

"We brought in a few more this year. We got about 14 players this season, same as the girls team."

For leadership, Todd will be looking to his senior member of the team.

"He's been the mainstay for the last couple of years but he will be asked to help lead the team here," Todd said. "We are looking for the younger players, 11th, 10th and ninth grade players to help a little more."

"Caleb Breneman, Colton,



Sentinel photo by  
MATT STRICKER

Members of the Mifflin County Christian Academy boys soccer team are, from left, front, Wyatt Wilson, Ryan Gingrich, Cody Wilson, Kyle Ort, Caleb Breneman, Ethan Diven and Justin Groff; back, Addison North, Jonathan God, Colton Aumiller, Dustin Vargas, Bradley Smith, Luke Todd and Jathan Gutshall.

### AT A GLANCE

#### MIFFLIN COUNTY CHRISTIAN EAGLES

Coach: Craig Todd, assisted by Shane Harpster

Brad and Luke hopefully are all going to bring it up another notch this season. We are looking forward to a good season. I don't think there is anyone on our schedule that we can't be competitive with."

Strengths are aplenty for this year's edition of Eagles.

"A lot of these guys have played together for awhile. Some have played together for years, they kind of grew up together, getting older together that is one of their strengths," Todd said. "They simply love the game, they love to play it and I think they are going to work hard and hopefully they will bring the younger kids up a notch."

Todd admitted some weakness comes from the off-season and the loss of their lone senior.

"Obviously, we are always worried about conditioning. Not too many of the kids push it in the summer," Todd said. "We also have lost Tommy Breneman on defense so we are going to have to try to fill his spot. We will have to rearrange things."

One team is on the calendar that Todd sees as the toughest opponent.

"Emmanuel Mechanicsburg has been a team we seem to always split with during the season and I know their numbers are down but that doesn't mean that will affect anything because we don't know who is coming back," Todd said. "They always give us a tough time. They are the ones that always give us a tough time. The ones we are going to focus on."

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