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What Soccer Means to Me

Surrounded by chaos, obstacles in my path, opportunities coming, then going just as fast, feedback from the sideline(s), shouts from teammates... I must determine the path to lead toward the team's goals... A decision must be made. Dribble, short pass, long pass, shoulder action, foot move... so many options, so little time. If I wait, the decision will be made for me, now is the time to act.

Soccer is played on the field, but the mental skills learned are played throughout life. I've learned to identify and overcome obstacles in the way of achieving my goals. I've seen opportunities, some better than others, and know opportunity will be lost if not seized quickly. I've come to understand that mistakes and failures are okay, they are a part of learning, and these lessons will only help on my road to success. Feedback, while not always pleasant, is a gift and if accepted, will help me achieve even more. It has shown me the result of taking charge, and taking action, as well as the result of indecision, inaction and thus reaction. So much of what I have learned on the field can be incorporated into my everyday life. I love my time on the field and am grateful for the lessons learned that extend from the field to the daily challenges encountered on my journey through life.