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Dramatic Comeback Paces Magic Over Forest Park In OT, 2-1

Freshman Scott Gyllenborg's (Lindbergh) sliding shot from point blank range in overtime proved to be the game-winner as the St. Louis Community - Meramec men's soccer team came from behind to beat Forest Park 2-1 Saturday (Sept. 8) at St. Louis U. High. The goal developed following a goal kick controlled by Mike Riti (Webster Groves) in the midfield.

"Riti said 'Ian, run' and he flicked it off," said forward Ian Porta (Marquette) who was credited with the assist. "I just ran through and a kid tried to take my body instead of the ball. I slipped off of him and broke in, I was going to shoot it, but then I saw Scott wide open. I gave him the chance and he got the job done. Good victory and good conference win!"

Riti was not only instrumental in overtime, but also in the crunch time of regulation. With Meramec trailing 1-0 and less than nine minutes left, he booted in the tying goal off a Kyle Gamache (Francis Howell Central) pass. However, another Magic green jersey played a role in the critical score.

"I was looking at (Matt) Mantia (Webster Groves) the whole time," said Riti. "He beat a couple guys in the midfield and gave a nice ball to Gamache and Gamache set it in and it was an easy knock in for me. While I was scoring I was actually looking at Mantia to congratulate him because he did such a good job of getting it to Gamache for an easy goal."

Goalie Dan Kotsis (Kennedy) was nothing short of spectacular in the nets, turning back shot-after-shot. The win was the fourth in a row for Meramec, now 5-2 on the season and 2-0 in Region XVI action. They next play Wednesday, hosting East Central at 4:00.