



Sam Fink



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A 2011 graduate of EHS, Fink helped the EHS boys soccer team to three state tournament appearances from 2008-10. The Tigers finished second in 2008, fourth in 2009 and third in 2010.

In Fink's four seasons, Edwardsville went a combined 71-20-8 with four regional championships, three sectional championships and two Southwestern Conference championships. Fink scored 43 career goals with 11 assists for 97 points.

"We did have a ton of success and we had a lot of quality athletes, but what stands out the most is having a chance to play at a high level with some of my best friends that I grew up with. As you move into college and professional athletics, the game becomes a little more political and high school is the last time you get to enjoy the game with no pressure," Fink said.

"You have the joy of being out there like a kid, and I look back on things like the trips to state, which were obviously high on my list of memories. But that time just playing with the guys was the most special."

As a senior in 2010, Fink scored a team-high 23 goals and had 11 assists and was an All-State selection for the Tigers. He finished 14th in the St. Louis area in goals scored. He had a hat trick against Alton during the regular season and he finished the postseason with six goals and three assists.

EHS went 20-5-1, including a 3-2 win over Naperville North in the Class 3A third-place game at the state tournament.

In Fink's junior season, he was second on the team with 14 goals and three assists, trailing only Cameron Lauchner's 18 goals. Fink had a four-goal performance in a regular-season win.

Edwardsville went 18-5-4.

In 2008, Fink finished with two goals and two assists in his sophomore season and helped the Tigers to a second-place finish at the Class AA state tournament.

EHS went 20-5.

In his freshman season, Fink scored four goals and had an assist. His first career goal came in a win over Normal West at the Morton Tournament. Edwardsville went 13-5-3 with a regional championship.

Fink credits much of his success at EHS to coach Mark Heiderscheid. "Coach Heiderscheid has had so much success as a coach and there are plenty of reasons why. But for me, he had this unwavering belief in me as a player and as a person and it gave me a ton of confidence," Fink said. "One thing about me is that I was competitive to a fault, and coach Heiderscheid had this ability to change my perspective and make the game about more than just winning or losing. We did go to state three times, but we didn't win it and that can be hard for a young kid to take, but it wasn't for me because I had a coach who believed in me and was proud of me whether we went to state or we didn't."

After graduating from Edwardsville, Fink played collegiately for Wake Forest before playing professionally with St. Louis FC and Oklahoma City.

Fink currently works for Holmes Insurance Agency in Glen Carbon.