

Girls soccer

Griffin becomes East's all-time scoring leader

by PATRICK J. NAGY
Reporter

When Rachel Piemonte became Williamsville East's all-time scoring leader last year, Jenny Griffin thought it would be a cool feat to accomplish. Fast forward a year and a half later and the senior midfielder has passed Piemonte on the school's all-time scoring list.

Griffin scored her 13th goal of the season and 64th of her career in East's 8-0 home win on Friday against Lake Shore. Piemonte netted 63 goals from 2003 to 2006.

Griffin took the ball away from a Lake Shore player 25 yards out, cut it back to her left foot and ripped a shot in the top right corner of the net.

"It was exciting," said Griffin. "I thought coming into the season I had a chance to do it."

"It wasn't a cheap goal," added East coach Chris Durr. "It was a great shot and a goal she will remember... To be the all-time scoring leader and have 75 percent

of her goals come from the midfield is impressive."

Griffin also had two assists against Lake Shore, giving her 12 on the season. He said she is four assists away from breaking Piemonte's school record of 64.

"She's had several opportunities to score this year and passed it so others can get involved," said Durr. "She's the best player I've had in my 13 years at East."

"Whenever I'm on the field, I don't even think about taking it to the net myself," said Griffin, who is looking to play soccer at Canisius College, Niagara University, Brockport State College, Fredonia State College or the University at Albany. "I see someone open and my first instinct is to pass it to them and give them the opportunity to score."

East scored on three breakaways in the first half against Lake Shore to lead 3-0 at halftime. Sophomore Kelly McNamara opened the scoring at the 9-minute mark from junior Tara Kiernan and sophomore Katie Griffin. Freshman Becky Fedak made it 2-0 at the 17-minute mark on a

through ball from Jordan Kowalski. Sophomore Kayla Acklin tallied at 28 minutes from sophomore Becca Rumschik.

The Lady Flames scored five times in the last 13 minutes of the second half to put away Lake Shore.

McNamara got her second goal of the game two minutes in on a cross from Kiernan. Katie Griffin also assisted. Three minutes later, Kiernan knocked in a Katie Griffin shot that hit the goal post. Jenny Griffin assisted.

Two minutes after that, Kiernan scored her second of the game on a cross from Jenny Griffin. Katie Griffin gave East a 7-0 advantage on a cross from Jenny Griffin that she volleyed into the net.

Junior goalie Josephine Bochiechio made two saves for her tenth shutout of the season.

The Lady Flames opened the week with a 5-0 road win at Sweet Home last Wednesday.

Katie Griffin scored eight minutes in on a rebound off a shot from Acklin. Kiernan also assisted. Fedak knocked in a cross in

the far post from sophomore Alex Lima at the 20-minute mark. Senior Kristen Saviola also assisted.

Katie Griffin scored her second goal of the game seven minutes into the second half on a cross from Kiernan and Jessica Kowalski. Jenny Griffin put East ahead 4-0 13 minutes later on an amazing individual effort, said Durr.

"She picked up the ball five yards on our half of the field, dribbled by five of their players and beat the goalie," said Durr.

Acklin closed out the scoring at the 27-minute mark from Rumschik and sophomore Melissa Spada.

Bochiechio made four saves. Bochiechio has given up only three goals all year. East had 13 shots on Sweet Home.

East (12-0-1, 9-0), ranked No. 1 in Western New York, hosted Hamburg on Tuesday, but results were unavailable before The Bee went to press. They play at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday at Williamsville South and at 7 p.m. on Friday at Amherst.

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CCA posts 7-5-2 record after five weeks

After five weeks of play, the Christian Central Academy girls soccer team has a 7-5-2 record.

In week three, they lost to a very strong team from Rochester, Northstar Christian, 4-0, and Roy-Hart, 2-1. CCA senior Katie Smith had the lone goal against Roy-Hart.

In the fourth week of play, CCA tied Maryvale, 2-2. Sophomore Faye-Lyne Noel scored both CCA goals unassisted. In three other games in week four, CCA beat Independent Athletic Conference rival Park, 1-0, Niagara Falls, 2-1, and St. Mary's of Lancaster, 2-1. Noel had three

of the five goals and assisted on the other two. Junior Sarah Caputi had the lone goal against Park, and Smith had the second goal against Niagara Falls, as well as assisting on Noel's first goal in the St. Mary's contest.

In week five, CCA struggled with many players out with injuries. Against the Lady Hawks of O'Hara, the game ended in a 2-2 tie with CCA down at halftime, 2-0. CCA fought back to tie the game with second-half goals from Noel and senior defender Sarah Wade. Freshman midfielder Alaina Pariso assisted on the Noel goal.

In the second Niagara Falls game, CCA lost, 3-1. Niagara

Falls got its revenge from the earlier season loss by playing very aggressively and persistently. CCA's lone goal was scored by midfielder Laura Albrecht and was assisted by Smith.

In CCA's first 14 games, Noel has only played in 12 games but has 10 goals and five assists. Smith has only played in 11 games and tallied six goals and four assists. Seniors Fairclough and Wade have three goals each. Junior goalie Leanne Hoppe has two shutouts. The shutouts were helped by the strong play of defenders Amie Stuitje, Kristen Ganze and freshman Maddie Walawender.

North boys soccer continues success in ECIC I

Williamsville North's varsity boys soccer team entered last week ranked first in Western New York large schools, fifth in New York State and eleventh in the region. Yet, the Spartans would have to face two tough divisional opponents to remain undefeated.

North shut out Orchard Park, 6-0, on Tuesday, Oct. 2 and defeated Lancaster, 7-1, last Thursday.

The first half of the Orchard Park game was a tight matchup as OP rung a few shots off the post and crossbar. Brian Durfee got the scoring started for North by ripping a left-footed rocket past the goal keeper.

"I told Brian at halftime if he continued to shoot with that amount of power he might break the goalie's hand," said North

coach Lee Ferenc.

Ferenc said his team came out in the second half determined to put Orchard Park away and tallied five goals in the second half. Sean Durfee had two goals and Matt Campana and Dan Topolski each had single tallies. In addition, Jeff Ceier scored on what Ferenc called "a heck of a rip" that dipped over the keeper's head and into the net.

Goalie Tyler Cominsky earned his eighth shutout on the season.

"The depth of the overall team came through, even with all the shifting of positions the Spartans kept producing," said Ferenc.

Going into the Lancaster game, North had not given up a goal on its home field

and had the ability to control its own destiny for the division championship.

North opened the scoring early as Topolski deflected a cross into the net that froze the keeper. Topolski would end up with a natural hat trick on the day and take over as the team's leading goal scorer. Daric Will and John Piaggione also added to their scoring tallies for the year by outworking the Lancaster netminder.

Ryan Donaldson would score off a beautifully executed corner as he headed the ball into the back of the net to get his first goal of the season. Andre Marinaccio was taken down in the penalty box and buried a penalty shot.

"It was total domination over Lancaster as we never missed a beat," said Ferenc.

Ferenc said he loves the versatility of the team and the hunger to play.

"No matter who is on the field we just keep progressing as a team," said Ferenc. "Whoever is off the field is always itching to get in."

"The 'family approach' we have taken on this year is so evident," Ferenc added. "We all encourage and look out for each other not only on the field but in life in general."

North (11-0-1, 8-0-1) enters by far its toughest week of the season. They took on Williamsville East, ranked fourth in the state, on Tuesday at home and play for the divisional championship on Wednesday at Frontier. In addition, North will travel out to Section V to play against Aquinas Institute, last year's Class A state champion.

East earns 5-0 shutouts over league foes

Williamsville East's varsity boys soccer team improved to 12-1-1 overall and 9-1 in ECIC Division II with 5-0 shutouts over West Seneca West and Lake Shore, last Tuesday and Thursday, respectively.

Against West Seneca West, Kevin Castine put a low shot to the left side of the goal 20 minutes into the game to give East a 1-0 lead. Colin Begy assisted.

East coach Ron Schumacher had several other scoring chances in the first half that were not successful.

"We controlled the game but West Seneca West held strong," said Schumacher.

Playing more aggressively in the second half, East pressured the West Seneca West defense. Derek Frost made a move into the 18-yard box and was taken down.

Begy scored on the penalty kick to give East a two-goal lead.

Seven minutes later, Dave Mernan passed the ball to Begy, whose hard shot to the left corner of the goal deflected off a defender, behind the goalie and into the net. It was Begy's second tally of the game.

At the 27-minute mark, a dead ball kicked into the goal area bounced off the goalie and Mer-

nan sent it into the back of the net. Mernan later took a ball deep to the left corner and crossed it to the far post, where Trevor Igoe headed the ball into the net.

"His play has greatly improved this season," said Schumacher of Mernan.

Schumacher said the whole team played well with non-starters making contributions.

"It is good to see that subs come in, play hard and contribute to the success of the team," said Schumacher. "We are a unit of 23 good players that have been having a season of fun."

Schumacher said one of the most enjoyable games to watch was against Lake Shore. "It was a clean, well-played game for both teams," said Schumacher.

Begy scored 6.5 minutes into the game on a nice pass from Mac Noronha. As with West Seneca West, East controlled the game, but the much-improved Lake

Shore defense held strong, pulling offside traps on East's forwards.

The Flames got into their rhythm in the second half when Park scored two goals, both assisted by Castine. An accurate pass to the foot of Park allowed him to get a strong shot off on his first goal. His second goal was a nice deflection from a shot by Castine.

Matt Kweller also placed a hard shot into the upper corner of the net as Castine made a good pass to Kweller breaking in on goal. Junior Greg Ryan scored his first tally of the season as he put a ball from defender Fred Frandina-Brown into the net for the team's fifth goal.

East, ranked second in Western New York large schools, played at top-ranked North on Tuesday, but results were unavailable before The Bee went to press. East plays at 4:45 p.m. on Friday at fifth-ranked Iroquois.

CCA ties North Collins at homecoming

In its homecoming game, Christian Central Academy's varsity boys soccer team held the Western New York third-ranked small school, North Collins, to a 0-0 tie on Sept. 29.

The game remained scoreless after two sudden-death overtime periods.

CCA goalie Tim McAllister was at the top of his game, making a couple of tremendous saves to keep the opposing team from scoring. Kurt Froese had a goal called back because of a questionable hand ball penalty.

Coach James Vandenberg says hard work and determination have paid off with a recent record of 3-1-1 after a slow start. Vandenberg said the team had the best ball control of the season against North Collins and controlled the game.

"The players demonstrated incredible energy and focus," said Vandenberg. "It was truly a team effort."

North Collins had beaten CCA, 4-0, in the first game of the season.

CCA played St. Mary's on Tuesday and travel on Thursday to West Seneca Christian.