

South boys soccer wins playoff game; Amherst, Sweet Home to open postseason on the road

by PATRICK J. NAGY
Reporter

Williamsville South was rewarded for all of their hard work during the regular season with a 6-0 home victory over Springville on Monday in the first round of the Section VI Class A tournament.

"It felt good," said South coach Peter Sugg. "Obviously, I'm happy for the guys because they've worked hard this year and haven't been rewarded because we haven't been able to score."

The Billies, seeded fifteenth, did all of the scoring against eighteenth-seed Springville, opening a 4-0 halftime lead.

Sophomore Zach Schwartz scored a little over four minutes into the game on a misplay by the Springville goalie. Senior Trevor Lawler tallied South's next three goals at the 16, 25 and 31-minute marks. Schwartz assisted Lawler on the first goal, senior Sam Alt crossed to Lawler for a header on

the second goal and senior Chris Bussi tapped the ball to Lawler to complete the natural hat trick.

Alt made it 5-0 3.5 minutes into the second half from junior Justin Hofschneider. Schwartz closed out the scoring from Lawler.

Sophomore goalie Steve Crawford registered the shutout.

South closed out the regular season with a 1-1 tie at Amherst last Tuesday and a 3-0 loss at Williamsville North last Thursday.

Sophomore Brendan Lawler put the Billies up 1-0 against the Tigers on a pass from Schwartz.

"Zach crossed it over from the right side and Brendan made a diagonal run to the net and hit a one-timer into the net," said Sugg. "Their goalie had no chance."

Amherst's Mike Owamagbe scored from Bridger Langfur to tie the game with four minutes remaining in the second half.

Sugg felt after Amherst scored, his team applied a lot of offensive pressure.

"Alt had a great scoring chance with less than 10 seconds left," said Sugg. "It just missed the near side of the net."

The tie bumped Amherst into fourth place in ECIC Division III with a 4-4-4 record. They were the last team to get a bye into the quarterfinals of the Section VI Class A tournament.

Amherst (8-5-4), seeded twelfth, will play at fifth-seed Grover Cleveland at 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday. The winner plays Kenmore East or East Aurora on at 3:30 p.m. on Friday.

"We have to score goals and outwork them," said Amherst coach Bobby DiNunzio.

North's Oliver Jackson and Matt Campana scored 35 seconds apart in the first half to give the Spartans a 2-0 halftime lead.

"We didn't play horrible in the first half but they controlled the play," said Sugg. "Crawford made a couple of big saves and they hit a couple of crossbars. They're No. 1 ranking (in Western New York)

is not a fluke."

Sugg felt his team played better in the second half and had two great scoring chances - Schwartz at the five-minute mark and Trevor Lawler on a header 15 minutes later - but could not score.

Lars Woosidlo scored the Spartans' final goal with 15 minutes left in the second half. He ripped a shot into the upper corner that Crawford got a piece of and hit the crossbar into the net.

"The fact that Crawford got a piece of it is a testament to how good Steve is," said Sugg.

South (4-8-5) plays at second-seed Iroquois at 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday.

South lost 3-0 to Iroquois earlier this season but Sugg said they had chances to score.

"We got nothing to lose," said Sugg. "We're capable of playing with them so we'll see what happens. We're going to need a strong defensive effort because they can score. Steve's going to have to play well."

Sweet Home

The Panthers' 3-1 home win over West Seneca West on Oct. 16 was the Panthers' third victory in its last six games. That may not sound like much but the way the Panthers' season has been going,

it's the best they could have done.

Sweet Home finished the regular season 4-8 in ECIC Division II and 4-14 overall. They started 1-11 before going 3-3 over the final six games.

"We're playing as good as we can but limited in what we can do with the talent that we have," said Sweet Home coach Scott Martin.

Junior Nick Cavalieri scored on a penalty kick right before halftime to give the Panthers a 1-0 halftime lead. Mamane Hamza (Matt Cuddihy) and Cuddihy (Connor Orrico) tallied with 18 and six minutes remaining in the second half.

Tim Arnold made six saves for the shutout.

Sweet Home, seeded eighth in the Section VI Class AA tournament, plays at 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday at ninth-seed Lancaster.

"Lancaster is a tough opponent," said Martin. "They have an All-Western New York forward (Matt Brehm). If we mark him tight in the back, we'll definitely be in the game."

"If we can win on Wednesday, it will be a very successful season," he added.

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Williamsville girls golfers finish season 12-1

Williamsville's girls golf team finished an impressive second season with a 12-1 record.

Williamsville's only loss came in a tri-meet at Terry Hills Golf Course with Lancaster and Section V's Mercy on Oct. 5. Williamsville lost to Mercy, 240-265.

"We were very interested in playing Rochester this year since it provided some good competition for our team," said Williamsville girls golf coach Betsy Ulmer, who was joined by assistants Steve Delisanti and Patty Jordan. "Rochester has some really good teams, most likely because this is Section V's sixth season having girls golf."

Williamsville South junior Natalie Wisniewski was medalist in every match she started, including the match against Mercy (40). Mercy's lowest scorer was a tie between Alex Battle and Madeline Sisson with a 47.

Wisniewski's lowest score of the season was a 33 over seven holes against Lancaster on Sept. 28. Williamsville won, 200-243.

Wisniewski is one of eight Williamsville golfers to qualify for the Section VI state qualifier next May. Others from Williamsville to qualify are eighth-grader Jackie Benzino (53 average) of Transit Middle; sophomores Eli Chestnut (57 average), Erin Giangreco (49 average) and Lisa Saffire (48 average) of Williamsville East; sophomore Alex Novak (56 average) and junior Caitlin Curry (55 average) of Williamsville North; and sophomore Katie Darnley (53 average) of Williamsville South. Curry, Darnley and Giangreco are tri-captains.

The top nine players from the tournament will represent Section VI at the New York State Public High School Athletic Association girls golf championship from June 7 to 8 at Fox Fire Golf Club.

Girls gymnastics

South takes first at tri-meet

Williamsville South improved to 2-2 with wins over Williamsville North and Lewiston-Porter in a tri-meet last Thursday at South.

South had 157.48 points followed by North at 149.05 and Lew-Port with 86.20.

South senior Kristina Arcury had the top score on vault (8.90), uneven bars (9.45), balance beam (9.20) and floor exercise (9.30).

Her younger sister, eighth grader, Kailyn, was second overall on floor (8.75) and bars (7.60) and third overall on beam (8.80). Seventh grader Rachel Utech was fourth overall on beam (8.75).

North senior co-captain Sarah Mikulski led her team on vault with an 8.20. It was second among all gymnasts at the meet. Junior co-captain Megan Dressel added an 8.10 on vault as well as a 6.8 on

bars and 7.7 on floor.

North eighth grader Lily Jagodzinski posted scores of 8.0 on vault, 7.3 on bars, 8.85 on beam and 8.55 on floor. Jagodzinski's beam and floor scores were team-bests and third overall.

North sophomore Torri Maccagnano was second on the team on floor (8.10) and beam (7.25). She added scores of 7.85 on vault and 6.6 on bars.

CCA girls soccer posts 9-7-4 record

Christian Central Academy's girls varsity soccer team posted a 9-7-4 record after seven weeks of play.

In a closely fought contest, CCA tied Newfane, 1-1, and Independent Athletic Conference rival, West Seneca Christian, 2-2; beat John F. Kennedy, 5-1; and lost a battle to Barker, 4-3.

CCA outshot Newfane, 16-12, but both teams could only score once. Sophomore Faye-Lyne Noel scored CCA's goal.

The West Seneca Christian game was tied at 2-2 and went to double overtime but neither team could capitalize. Noel had both CCA goals.

CCA scored early against JFK, leading 4-0 at halftime. Both teams each scored once in the second half. Noel tallied three times and senior midfielder Katie Smith added two goals.

The Barker game went back and forth. Barker got an early 2-0 lead before Smith scored a solid shot to get CCA on the scoreboard. Barker scored shortly later to make it 3-1, but Smith came back with another nice tally to make it 3-2. Noel tied it with a great shot, but Barker fought back to end the scoring.

In 18 games, Noel has tallied 19 goals and five assists. Smith has played in 17 games and scored 14 goals and four assists. CCA is 2-0-1 in the IAC.

Amherst

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Other first-place finishes came from Jenny Rogers in the 100 and 200 free. Strong contributors were Jackie Jordan, Erin Rogers, Bridget Dix, Jessica Gordon and Kate Mikoley.

The Lady Billies finished the regular season 5-5.

Amherst's final dual meet of the season was a decisive 114-64 home win last Friday over West Seneca East.

Amherst had several double event winners, including Poleon (200, 500 free), Lankes (50 free, 100 back), and the 200 medley and free relay teams of Lankes, Sullivan, Poleon and Niblock. Niblock won the 100 fly, Sullivan won the 100 breast and Masters won diving.

Drozda recorded personal-best times in the 200 IM and the 100 fly, as did Sullivan in the 50 free and Niblock in the 100 free. Joanna Bardak and Kinsey Kolega swam best times in the 100 free while Allison Scaringi swam well in the 100 breast and Julia Buscaglia hit best times in the 50 free and 100 back.

Amherst qualified 16 girls for the upcoming ECIC meet for swimming and diving being held at Sweet Home this weekend.

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