Written by Ozaukee Press
Wednesday, 18 April 2012 16:08

Soccer team cruises by Oostburg, 3-0, in battle of defending co-champs

The Ozaukee girls' soccer team prevailed Monday in an early-season showdown between the Central Lakeshore Conference's defending co-champions.

Sparked by a first-half goal from Bridget Hoffmann, the host Warriors posted a 3-0 win over Oostburg in their league opener.

Hoffmann, a freshman midfielder, scored with an assist from Micaela Burns in the 28th minute.

Ozaukee added two goals in the second half. After Natalie Clark found the net in the 72nd minute on a breakaway off a pass from Katie Bares, Burns capped the scoring with a goal in the 77th minute with an assist from Clark.

Goalkeeper Erika Karrels had four saves in securing the shutout. Mari Scalone and Burns also contributed strong defensive efforts.

"We played smarter as the game went on," Ozaukee coach Eric Liebergen said.

"I like our passing combinations and the strong effort to win 50-50 balls."

Liebergen said that moving his players around on the field "helped us both in our defending and in our attacking."

The win improved the Warriors to 2-1 overall. Oostburg fell to 1-3 overall and 0-3 in league games.

Ozaukee was scheduled to continue play this week with conference matches Tuesday against

Sheboygan Lutheran/Kohler and at 4:30 p.m. Thursday at Sheboygan Christian.

On Saturday, the Warriors will participate in a tournament at Brookfield Academy.

Howards Grove 4, CG-Belgium 1

An early lead wasn't enough to keep the Cedar Grove-Belgium girls' soccer team in contention in a Central Lakeshore Conference road game Monday.

Forward Halie Schieffer put the Rockets up, 1-0, but Howards Grove got a goal from Brianna Morgen to even the score by halftime.

In the second period, the Tigers pulled away with goals by Karyssa Gallenberger, Allison Schmid and Nicole Mugan.

The loss was the Rockets' first of the season and left them at 2-1 overall and 1-1 in CLC play.

CG-Belgium 3, Sheboygan Christian 0

Briana Weyker scored two goals to lead the Rockets to a conference road victory April 20.

Weyker, a junior midfielder, put her team up, 1-0, with an unassisted goal eight minutes into the game.

In the second half, Brooke Koepsell set up a goal by Schieffer in the 60th minute and then capped the scoring with a goal, assisted by Weyker, with 90 seconds left.

Rockets coach Elias Garza praised the effort of his team as well as Christian "for playing hard despite only having 12 players."

"Nothing came easy and we had to work for everything," he said.

Garza singled out his team's strong defense, which kept Christian's scoring threats to a minimum. However, he said he wants the Rockets to be more efficient offensively.

"Although applying consistent pressure throughout and having numerous good looks and shots, we somehow need to manage to finish a higher percentage of our shots on goal," Garza said.

This week, Cedar Grove-Belgium will play a 4:30 p.m. game at Sheboygan Lutheran/Kohler on Thursday and participate in the Sheboygan South Invitational at 9 a.m. Saturday.

On April 24, the Rockets will resume conference play by hosting Oostburg at 6 p.m.

Image Information: FRESHMAN MIDFIELDER Bridget Hoffmann (right) scored the first goal in Ozaukee's 3-0 win over Oostburg in a Central Lakeshore Conference game Monday.
Photo by Sam Arendt