

Strong 2nd half can't save Rockets in loss to Oostburg

Written by STEVE OSTERMANN
Wednesday, 02 October 2013 14:40

CG-Belgium soccer team edged in league battle, 1-0; Ozaukee nipped by Rams

A thin margin of error cost the Cedar Grove-Belgium boys' soccer team the shot at an upset win Sept. 26.

Despite hanging tough with host Oostburg throughout a Central Lakeshore Conference match, the Rockets fell victim to a defensive miscue in a 1-0 loss.



When Cedar Grove-Belgium's back line was caught out of position in the 37th minute, Oostburg's Michael Meke cashed in with the game's only goal.

The score stood up through a hard-fought second half, leaving the Rockets to wonder what might have been.

"We had some defensive problems in the first half, but in the second half we played very well," Cedar Grove-Belgium coach Chris Mortag said.

"We created a lot of scoring chances and should have had a goal. A lot of players stepped up for us."

Mortag singled out the work of Tyler Garside, Stuart Friberg, Colin Kohl and R.J. Lemmermann in sparking the Rockets' offensively and goalkeeper Spencer Bares for his steady defense.

"It was a disappointing loss, but it was a much better effort than we had against Kohler (in a 5-1 loss Sept. 19)," Mortag said. "The guys really wanted to win this one. They said we haven't beaten Oostburg since 2008."

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Although injuries left the Rockets with only one substitute against Kohler, they were back to full strength — 14 players — for the Oostburg match.

Last week's game left the Rockets at 1-7 in the conference and 3-12-1 overall.

Oostburg improved to 13-5-1 overall and 6-2-1 in the league.

This week, Cedar Grove-Belgium resumed CLC play against Howards Grove on Tuesday, will travel to Ozaukee for a 4:30 p.m. game Thursday and host the annual Rocket Invitational at 9 a.m. Saturday.

The four-team, round-robin tournament will also include Ozaukee, Port Washington and Living Word Lutheran.

On Oct. 7, the Rockets will host Sheboygan Christian/Lutheran at 6 p.m.

Random Lake 1, Ozaukee 0

A late goal left the Warriors with a home loss in Central Lakeshore Conference play Sept. 26.

Zachary Ross scored in the 70th minute to end a scoreless deadlock.

"It was a hard-fought defensive battle," Ozaukee coach John Annis said. "Both teams gave it everything in this intense rivalry."

Ozaukee goalkeeper Joey Janik made four saves.

The loss left the Warriors at 2-6 in the conference and 4-9 overall.

This week, Ozaukee played Kohler on Tuesday, will host Cedar Grove-Belgium at 4:30 p.m. Thursday and play at the Rocket Invitational in Cedar Grove on Saturday.

On Oct. 7, the Warriors will travel to Oostburg for a 6 p.m. match.

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Image Information: OZAUKEE'S ELIJAH MABRY drove the ball downfield during his soccer team's Central Lakeshore Conference match against Random Lake. Photo by Sam Arendt