

Sports

Boys soccer 2-1-1 on 2nd week

Although the Oakwood Boys' Soccer team ended the first week of the regular season 2-0, the team dropped one game and tied one game ending the second week 2-1-1.

On Sept. 1, the team traveled to Brookville and faced a scrappy, physical Blue Devil team. It was a hard fought, fast-paced game,

with some questionable officiating throughout the game.

For most of the first half, it was a stalemate. At the 20 minute mark of the first half, Ryan McFarland came close to scoring on a great shot with the goalkeeper out of the goal, but the Brookville keeper was able to retreat and just get a hand on the ball

to prevent the score. Harrison Davis also came close to putting the Jacks on the board with a rifle shot just a little high at the nine minute mark.

In goal for Oakwood, Scott Harman had his usual stellar performance, making a great save on a free kick from the left side in the first half, but Brookville finally scored with 7:00 minutes to go on a perfectly placed penalty kick by the left-footed Boston Hicks into the right lower corner of the goal.

The Jacks had many more scoring opportunities in the second half, but Brookville's middle defenders responded with strong play repelling the Jacks' attacks. Anthony Weckerling finally broke through the Brookville defense with 20 minutes to go in the second half scoring on a breakaway goal from the right side into the left side of the net. In the last 15 minutes, several of the Jacks, including Graham Roberts, David Shephard, Tyler Walter, and Ryan McFarland were on the attack sending shots at the goal like artillery fire, but just missed their target on every attempt.

The Jacks best opportunity for a late score came with about 2:30 minutes left. Ryan McFarland was fouled in the box by a Brookville defender, and although the lines-

woman raised her flag, the center referee chose to let play continue. Ryan McFarland used his basketball prowess to look up at the clock and get one last breakaway shot off with 5 seconds left, but the shot sailed high. The game ended in a 1-1 tie.

On Thursday, Sept. 3, the Jacks returned home to face their stiffest competition yet in Chaminade-Julienne. Scott Harman kept the Jacks in the game in the first half with several great saves in goal. But again, the Jacks fell victim to a penalty kick only 5 minutes into the game and handed CJ an early 1-0 lead.

With about ten minutes to go in the first half, the Jacks picked up the level of their play slowing down and controlling the game with ball possession. The Jacks continued a much improved ball possession game in the second half creating scoring opportunities off of some nice passing sequences and a much more controlled aggressive style of play. With 20 minutes to go, sophomore right-midfielder, Max Snyder, pressured the CJ goalkeeper deflecting the ball to senior center-midfielder, Marcel Georgin, who fired a shot just wide of the goal.

CJ scored again late in the game bringing the deficit to 2-0. But

Marcel Georgin, Ryan McFarland, and Anthony Weckerling kept the pressure on CJ, just missing on shot attempts within a 5 minute time span. Andrew Wade and Max Snyder had strong performances in the second half from the wings creating the scoring opportunities and controlling the field with center-midfielders, Marcel Georgin, Alex Gardner, David Shephard and Zack Rodabaugh.

Then with minutes to go in the game, the Jacks finally scored. After receiving the ball off an angle kick from Anthony Weckerling, Max Snyder made a great move on the CJ defender just right of the goal and scored off a ricochet shot into the right side of the goal. The Jacks fell short 2-1, but played a great second half keeping CJ on its heels in an exciting last 10 minutes of play.

The Jacks received strong play from defenders Zach Harmony, Ben Georgin, Tim Fecher, and Tyler Henry Payne, with Andrew Dickerson returning to the line-up for the first time after recovering from a hamstring injury. The Jacks will continue to need this strong defensive play in the next three games against Milton-Union (9/8 at home), Bellbrook (9/10 away), and Tipp City, (9/12 away).

Jills soccer ties with Bellbrook

By Kevin Hallinan

The third week of the season shows a team that is increasingly gelling. On Tuesday, the Jills handily beat Milton Union in an away game, taking a 5-0 score into the second half when lightning proved to be the real winner, causing the game to be stopped. All scoring happened in the last 12 minutes of the first half, when the deluge began. First to score was Alex Randolph, who directed a Colleen Hallinan assisted goal into the net with a strong left footed shot. Just three minutes later, Annie Bartlett put in a dart to the far post from the right side of the goal after a deflected shot by Clare Davis. Thirty seconds later Randolph hit a hard shot from 15 yards into the goal, assisted again by Hallinan. Three minutes later Claire Davis turned a nice pass from Christina Davis into a left footed goal from 8 yards out. Finally, just thirty seconds later, Claire Davis provided a great pass to Hallinan in the 18 box, which she directed to to the far post for a goal. Five goals. Eight minutes.

The second game of the week brought to Oakwood a Bellbrook team with nine starting seniors. The much younger Oakwood team showed great heart and played step for step with the team they haven't really challenged since the 2006 season. The game was scoreless until 29:00 into the second half, when Bellbrook managed to put a loose



Brianna McConnell and Colleen Hallinan on a give and go.

ball into the Jills goal. Eight minutes later, however, sophomore forward Amanda Winch used her hustle to create a great opportunity near the goal, directing a pass to Clare Davis in the middle, whose subsequent shot was blocked by the Bellbrook goalie, collected by Hallinan who pushed the ball just out of the reaching goalie's hands. Randolph drove the free ball into the open goal for a score. The 1-1 score held up to the end, thanks largely to senior goalie and player of the game Alex Miller. Miller collected 15 saves, three of which were brilliant, and none better than one with just 10 seconds later. After a Bellbrook corner kick banged around in the 18 box, a Bellbrook player was able to collect and send a

hard shot to the top of the net. Miller somehow reacted quickly enough to get a hand on it, deflecting it over the crossbar. It was a great end to a great game.

JV Jills Remain Unbeaten
Three more games for the JV Jills and three more games without losses. On Tuesday, the JV team won 10-0. Jessie Piechota and Celina Williams both knocked in three goals, Maggie Smith collected three assists, and Carder Gilbert scored once and assisted twice. On Thursday against Bellbrook, the JV Jills stingy defense finally gave up their first goals in a 2-2. Scoring for Oakwood was Maggie Smith on a dead ball kick and Jessie Piechota on an assist from Smith.

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