

Men's soccer cruises to Sectional finals

The Oakwood men's soccer team started the post season play with two victories in the first week of tournament play.

On Tuesday, the Jacks hosted first round foe Clinton-Massey from Clarksdale, Ohio. The Jacks entered the post season with a seventh seed and a 10-5-1 record.

The Falcons opened the game with a staunch defensive position and packed several defenders in the back making it frustrating for the Jacks offensive. After dominating the play for the first 30 minutes without a goal, the Jacks then poured it on. Senior Forward Anthony Weckerling put together a quick "Hat Trick" in the balance of the half. Zach Rodabaugh assisted on Weckerling's first goal, while the remaining two goals were unassisted.

In the second half, the Jacks wasted little time, scoring five more times in the half. Harrison Davis launched one of his patented throw-ins to an awaiting Max Snyder who volleyed the ball in the net. The next goal was provided by an Andrew Wade PK after a take down in the box. Senior Captain Graham Roberts figured in the next two scores with an unassisted score off the Falcon's end line and a tap in goal from a beautiful cross from outside-mid Ben Georgin. Scott Rodabaugh rounded out the scoring late in the second half off on an assist from Tyler Walters.

On Saturday, the Jacks traveled to Monroe to face the sixth seeded Lemon-Monroe Hornets who



Pumping his fist, Sr. Graham Roberts carries Sr. Marcel Georgin on his back to celebrate his penalty kick to allow the Jacks to win 2-1 in double overtime against Monroe.

Photo by Leon Chuck, www.PressboxPhoto.com

entered the game undefeated with a 12-0-3 record. The game was a hard fought battle from the beginning as both teams failed to score in the first half. Senior Captain Goal Keeper Scott Harmon made several key stops, supported by his defensive teammates, Tim Fecher, Andrew Dickerson, Zach Harmony, Tyler Henry-Payne and Ryan McFarland. The second half remained scoreless until the Jacks found the back of the net with 9:50 remaining. Marcel Georgin served a deflected corner kick toward the goal and found Graham Roberts who headed the ball past the keeper. The game appeared to be the Jacks until the Hornets tied the game with less than 3 minutes in regulation. It appeared that the Jacks would come away

with the win in the first overtime period when David Shephard headed the ball in the goal as collided with the Falcon's keeper. However, the goal was negated when the officials ruled the goalie had possession. The second overtime period continued as a defensive struggle until 10:58 remaining in the period when Anthony Weckerling was fouled in Lemon-Monroe's penalty box. After several minutes of heated debate between L-M coaches and players and the official, Andrew Wade calmly placed the PK passed the keeper for the 2-1 win.

The Jacks continue to the Sectional finals on Tuesday, when they face top seeded and state ranked (#2) Carroll High School at Lebanon High School.

Jills soccer loses 2nd round District playoffs

The Jills soccer team ended their season with a 9-8-1 record after recording a first round 2-1 win against the Miami Valley School on Monday night followed by a 3-0 loss against Lemon-Monroe on Wednesday. The game against the Miami Valley School was one with solid play exhibited by both sides. Oakwood got on the board first and very quickly. Sophomore Molly Reese received a cleared ball at about the 40 yard line and launched a shot toward the goal in just the first minute. The ball reached the top of the net over the Miami Valley keeper who was caught off the line. Oakwood tended to dominate possession through the first half, but in the last few minutes of the half, a Miami Valley forward received a ball in the 18 box in between two Oakwood fullbacks. A seemingly innocuous touch turned into a goal after when the Oakwood keeper and fullback hesitated only for an instant. In the second half, Oakwood completely dominated possession, but still struggled to get the ball into goal. Junior

defender Erin Johnson was especially important in keeping the ball pushed forward, stepping in front of Miami Valley halfbacks and forwards on countless occasions to steal the ball. Finally, with 14 minutes left, Oakwood struck again. The second goal started with a pass up the middle to center half Colleen Hallinan, who created space then chipped a pass to open space to the right of the Miami Valley goal. The pass was collected by Olivia Ireland, delivered niftily to midfielder Erin Riley just inside the eight, whose subsequent pass to the foot of forward Christina Davis was quickly hammered into the goal. This score held up until the end.

On Wednesday, the Jills traveled to Lemon-Monroe for the second round game. Unfortunately, what faced them was an older, hard, and fast astroturf field. The Jills always seem to struggle on these fields. This game proved to be no different. The first Lemon-Monroe goal came only three minutes in, showing that a collection of small defensive errors can lead

to a big goal. Ultimately, a Lemon-Monroe outside midfielder collected a clearance from 30 yards out and lofted a shot over goalie Alex Miller, who was rushing to return to the net after having come out of the box to deflect a ball from an open Lemon-Monroe forward. The second goal came four minutes later, when a Lemon-Monroe forward received a ball with space around her in the 18 box and delivered a shot to the place in the goal where Miller had little chance to save the goal. After this, the Jills seemed to recover, putting pressure on the goal on multiple occasions, thanks to Clare Davis and Olivia Ireland at forward, and the upstream efforts of midfielders Erin Reilly and Colleen Hallinan. But, the shots delivered were against a stellar Lemon-Monroe goalie. None were able to find the net. In all, Oakwood had 12 shots against Lemon-Monroe's 5. But Lemon-Monroe scored three. The last goal came with four minutes left in the game on a counterattack, with the Jills pushing forward with lots of players.



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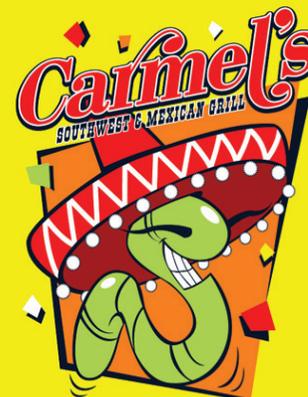
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