



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL WRENNER

Holding penalty: Ladywood's Anna Albulou grabs ahold of Lauren Hogan's jersey as the two struggle to reach the ball first Saturday in the district championship game.

Soccer from page D1

and staying calm even when North Farmington was pressuring.

The Blazers, who won their first district title under Logsdon, "had something to prove and went out and did it," she added.

"We played our game, and being at home helped us a lot. (The home field was an advantage), because it's our school and we don't let anyone come to our field and push us around."

Aside from the lack of offensive chances, the Raiders

played well, Russell said, citing the defensive work of Christine Taylor, Ashley Lynch, Michele Boothroyd, Jenna Street and Melissa Navas at holding the Blazers to one goal. Meghan Callahan was a steady player in the midfield, he added.

Russell said his comments about the officiating were certainly not meant "to take anything away from Ladywood. (The Blazers) played a great game. I wish the calls would have gone both ways."

Bucks go on offensive in latest victory

The offense has definitely arrived.

Scoring goals was expected to be the Mid-Michigan Bucks strength going into the season, but it didn't look that way in the first four matches of the season, with the Bucks managing just six goals.

The last three games have been a different story, however. The Bucks won for the fifth time in seven matches Sunday on an Adam Heinemann (from Oakland University) header in the final minute of the game, giving them a 2-1 triumph over the Indiana Invaders at Birmingham Seaholm.

The Bucks are now 5-1-1 and in second place in the Great Lakes Division of the Premier Development League's United Soccer League. The Chicago Fire Reserve (6-0-1) is in first place.

The win over the Invaders was the second in as many days for the Bucks, who defeated the Chicago Eagles Select 4-2 in a Bucks' home match played Saturday at Toledo Cretes-Devillib Stadium. The six goals in the two wins gave Mid-Michigan 10 scores in its last three games.

Beating the Invaders also avenged a season-

opening 1-1 draw played at Indiana in a match that ultimately kept the Bucks from qualifying for the U.S. Open Cup. That game was called with 20 minutes still remaining.

Still, the win did not come easily. With just 30 seconds remaining in regulation and the game knotted at 1-1, Phil Pressor lined a corner kick into the box where Heinemann reached it, heading it into the net for his fourth goal of the season.

The Bucks had the early advantage against the Invaders, getting a goal from Ryan Mack (Birmingham Seaholm) on a give-and-go from Heinemann with nine minutes left in the first half.

The Invaders knotted it with 22 minutes left in the match on a hard shot into the upper corner by Junro Narita.

Which set the stage for Heinemann's game-winning. Eric Pogue (Troy Athens) was in goal for the Bucks.

On Saturday in Toledo, goals by Heinemann and Matt Samps (OU) in the final 13 minutes of the match secured a 4-2 win for the Bucks over the Eagles Select. Pogue had eight saves in goal in earning the victory.

The Bucks outshot the Eagles, 25-16.

Chicago struck first in the match, getting a goal from Doco Wesch just four minutes in. But the Bucks answered, scoring twice in the final four minutes of the first half to take a 2-1 advantage into the break.

Benji Djoukeng got the first in the 41st minute, with an assist from Pat Noonan. The Bucks took the lead with a minute left in the half on a score by Stephan David, assisted by "Snake."

The Bucks now go on the road for three-straight matches: at the Dayton Gems Saturday at Wright State; at the Chicago Fire Reserve June 14 at St. Xavier; and at the Chicago Eagles June 15 at Benedictine University.

They return home for a match against the West Michigan Edge at 7:30 p.m. June 20 at Plymouth Canton High School.

Discounted tickets may be purchased through the Livonia Family YMCA (734-262-2161), the Trading Post in Plymouth or the Soccer Post in Livonia.

Fans may call (734) 483-4826 for more information.

Marian ends tourney run by Ladywood, 3-1

BY GREG MIGLIORE

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Livonia Ladywood's defense was stifling when it shut out Redford Union and North Farmington to win its first-ever district girls soccer title last weekend.

Birmingham Marian, however, scored a pair of first-half goals on the Blazers en route to a 3-1 Division II regional semifinal Tuesday at Fenton High School.

"It definitely shifted momentum," Ladywood coach Jill Logsdon said. "We started playing a little bit more defensive. We started to rush. It kind of took us until the second half to come back."

The Blazers finishes 9-5-5 overall, while Marian is 16-1-4 and has won three straight.

Sophomore Meghan Garrity got two of the Mustangs' goals.

She scored what proved to be the game winner at 20:58 of the first half when she knocked a centering pass off the post into the right side

■ 'My goalie played an excellent game. She's the leader on the team.'

Jill Logsdon
Ladywood coach

of the net. Sophomore Jess Deneweth assisted.

"She's really quick and tough to defend," Marian coach Christopher Courage said. "To beat a goalie with a shot like that was clutch."

Ladywood cut its deficit to 2-1 at 15:26 of the second on freshman Lindsay Rowe's goal.

"It certainly put us back on our heels a bit," Courage said.

Junior Stefani Szechewski made five saves for the Blazers.

"My goalie played an excellent game," Logsdon said. "She's the leader on the team. When we can count on someone in the back to make saves like that, it really picks up momentum

for my team."

Sophomore Len Perz stopped seven shots for Marian. She has 12 shutouts this season.

"She just our leader," Courage said. "She definitely makes the saves she needs to make."

Junior Chris Wasniewski's shot into the top center of the net gave the Mustangs a 1-0 lead at 35:21 of the first.

Courage said his defense played smartly.

"(They) knew when to put some pressure on Ladywood," he said. "I think they made some good decisions."

The game was the first regional game in Ladywood's history. Logsdon said Marian's veteran players and speed were key in the game.

"I don't think they were nervous," she said of her team, which has two seniors. "They're a little bit inexperienced. I think the fact that Marian has six seniors made a difference."

Marian beat and tied Ladywood during the season.

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