

S'craft soccer team wins district crown

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

Maybe they'll start calling him "The Dominator." Schoolcraft College goalkeeper Eric Sicilia took a page out of the Donkirk Hasek handbook, stopping two penalty kicks Sunday as the host Ocelots captured the district soccer title by defeating Lewis & Clark (Ill.) in a shootout, 1-0.

Sicilia, who played at Livonia Churchill High, kept Lewis & Clark off the board for 110 minutes, including two 10-minute sudden death overtime periods. Schoolcraft outscored Lewis & Clark 4-3 in the shootout as Worth Sampson got the game-winning after Zoran Goljic, Leonardo Moya and Walter Watts connected successfully on their penalty kick goals.

The Ocelots missed three golden chances to put the game away in overtime, including a point-blank shot by Brian Montague that sailed high with just two minutes left.

"Things were pretty tight defensively; it was an intense match," Kurta said. "We had more scoring chances. At times we dominated the play; Eric made some crucial saves."

"We were confident going into the shootout because we felt we had the better goalkeeper."

The Ocelots will take a 14-6 record into the National Junior College Athletic Association Division 1 tournament, which starts Thursday, Nov. 21, in Tyler, Tex. It will be Schoolcraft's second straight appearance in the NJCAA's.

Last year, SC finished 1-2, including an embarrassing 9-0 loss to Yavapai (Ariz.) and an 11-4 defeat to Meridian (Miss.).

"I think this year we're a lot more mature on the defensive end at midfield even though we lost Tom Eller (from Livonia Stevenson)," said SC assistant coach Jozsef Kurta, who was filling in for suspended head coach Dominic Scicluna. "We're happy to be going to the NJCAAs. We a lot more confident going back."

"We didn't have Eric last year because he had a broken arm," bemon's Joe home.com.net (734) 953-2023

Wisniewski playing key role for Whalers since his return

Well, it didn't take James Wisniewski long to get his game back.

The Plymouth Whalers' defenseman from Canton who was sidelined for four months with a knee injury returned to the lineup after missing the Whalers' first eight games. In the eight games since, he has scored six goals and added three assists for nine points.

Wisniewski's performance earned him Ontario Hockey League player of the week honors for last week.

On Saturday against the London Knights at Plymouth's Compuware Arena, Wisniewski collected a hat trick and added two assists as the Whalers pummeled the Knights, 9-3.

The win gave Plymouth a 9-5-1 record (20 points), second in the OHL's West Division to Sarnia (25 points). London was 6-6-1-i through the weekend.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

ATHLETIC TRAINER SOUGHT

Redford Thurston is looking for a certified athletic trainer, available for hire as full-time position within the district. Qualified applicants may send their resume to: athletic director Al Chambo, 26255 Schoolcraft, Redford, MI 48239. For more information, call (313) 535-4000, ext. 1166 or e-mail him at chambo@southredford.net.

SATURDAY NIGHT TENNIS

All players are welcome to attend a series of Saturday Night Tennis sessions at the Franklin Fitness & Racquet Club in Southfield. The 11 scheduled sessions begin at 7 p.m. and run through March. The next dates are Nov. 16, Dec. 7, Jan. 4, Jan. 18, Feb. 1, Feb. 15, March 1 and March 15.

GYMNASTICS COACH WANTED

The Livonia Family YMCA is seeking a gymnastics coach who is available to teach as a part-time employee weekday evenings. Gymnastics background preferred, but the Livonia Y will be willing to train.

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