

Farmington advances to meet Groves in district final

Farmington High sophomore goalkeeper Dana Wantin didn't have to sweat much at the start of the season as a backup for senior Kate Adams.

She hardly broke a sweat on Wednesday either when the Falcons cruised to a 5-0 victory over Redford Union in a Division II girls soccer district semifinal at North Farmington.

SOCCER

The difference is she's playing regularly now.

Wantin was seamstitched to learn while watching until April 20 when Adams injured her knee in a game with Northville. She's been the Falcons' No. 1 keeper ever since.

Wantin was hardly tested and five different players scored, earning Farmington a berth in the district final at 7 p.m. Friday at host Birmingham Groves.

Groves (12-3-3), also nicknamed the Falcons, defeated Birmingham Marian in another district semifinal, 5-2.

Wantin was already on the bus and thinking of the next opponent when coach Bob Neff called for her to talk to a reporter.

"I thought I was in trouble," said Wantin, misreading Neff's command.

The only trouble she's caused has been for opponents, recording three shutouts on the season.

"I'm more nervous for the difficult games," Wantin said. "As soon as I get my first shot, I calm down."

The Falcons own a 9-5-2 record, which is impressive considering they're schedule. Though they've moved down to Division II, Farmington still plays in arguably the best soccer league in the state — the Western Lakes Activities Association.

The Falcons tied Northville twice and lost to two of the WLAAs' better teams, Plymouth Canton and Livonia Churchill, 4-2 and 1-0, respectively.

"I don't know another second-division team that's played as many first-division teams," Neff said.

Jamie Jakacki, Marina Vasquez, Angela DeDomenico, Emilie Villemonte and Beth Leffingwell scored goals for the Falcons. DeDomenico, Villemonte and Dana Babineky had assists.

The Falcons are dedicating the rest of their season to Adams, who had surgery on Tuesday.

"I was disappointed that Kate was hurt, but we haven't felt any loss in goaltending," Neff said. "Dana was a close shadow of Adams anyway. She's stepped up and done a fantastic job."

Farmington beat RU earlier this year, 5-1, two games after Adams' injury. The Panthers' freshman sensation Megan Kelly was held in check, but she is one of several players RU coach Colleen Hunter will rely on next year. The Panthers (12-6) trailed 2-0 at halftime.

"We were still in it at that point, and I told them to be aggressive, hard on the ball but disciplined," Hunter said. "They played us before and knew who to mark."

MARIAN 10, N. FARMINGTON 0: Birmingham Marian opened Division II district soccer competition Monday with an easy win over host North Farmington.

Courtney Brasler and Kim Swick split time in the Marian nets to earn the shutout. Megan Dale paced the Mustangs (5-8-2) with two goals and an assist. Lauren Hofeuse added a goal and an assist. Seven others scored a goal.

REDFORD UNION 3, HARRISON 0: The visiting Panthers struck for a 3-0 halftime lead Monday on goals by Kathleen Terzano, Megan Kelley and Courtney McDonald in a Division I district soccer game.

"We never played them before and didn't know what to expect," RU coach Colleen Hunter said. "We just played our typical defensive game and it seemed to work."

Harrison finished with a 3-9-3 record.

"In the first half, they carried the play," Harrison coach Glenn Erouhan said, adding two of the RU goals were soft. "It was all us in the second half, but we couldn't catch a break."

SEAHOLM 3, MERCY 0: Goaltenders Mary Hunter and Jessica Weber combined to give Birmingham Seaholm a shutout over Farmington Hills Mercy in a

Division I district contest Monday at Seaholm.

Tammy Mitchell scored a pair of goals for the Maples (11-5-1). Laura Jones added two assists, and Lindsey Mitchell scored a goal and had an assist.

Seaholm competed in the second round of district play Wednesday at Troy Athens.

FOLEY 4, MERCY 3: The Madras (11-4) were runners-up in the Catholic League tournament, losing to Bishop Foley in the final Saturday at Livonia Ladywood.

The teams were tied at halftime, 2-2. Mercy tied it again at 3-3 before Foley scored the game-winner with six minutes left.

Susie Roble scored two Mercy goals, and Mary Gignac had two assists. Carrie Denton had one goal and Colleen Soison one assist.

Kelly Fuller played the whole game in goal and made 27 saves for the Madras. In the semifinals May 14, Mercy defeated Royal Oak Shrine, 3-0. Gignac scored an unassisted goal and assisted on others by Denton and Stephanie Klieg.

"Saturday was one of the best games I've ever been part of," Mercy coach Deepak Shivraman said. "There were spectacular goals and great play by both teams."

"It was a great show for anyone who paid the money to see it, and that's the way a championship game should be."

"We thought we had a chance and kept coming back, but we ran out of time. Fuller made some awesome saves to keep us in there. Physically and mentally, it took a toll on us Monday."

"We knew it would be a tough game, because Seaholm plays in the OAA and day after day that's a pressure situation. But we hung in there. We were down 1-0 at halftime but couldn't muster the offense we did Saturday."

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May 19 at Hudson Mills (Dexter)

Team standings: 1. Livonia Stevenson, 387 strokes; 2. Livonia Churchill, 391; 3. W.L. Central, 395; 4. Farmington, 398; 5. Northville, 414; 6. W.L. Western, 417; 7. Plymouth Canton, 428; 8. Plymouth Salem, 476.

All-Conference: 1. Mara Mazzoni (LS), 80 (medalist); 2. Janice Mills (NI), 89; 3. Amy Emeline (WLC), 90; 4. Cassie Jamison (F), 91; 5. (tie) Sarah Sobelock (WLW), Megan Vollick (LC), Jessica Makowski (LS), 93 each.

All-Division: 8. Lauren Boucher (LC), 90; 9. Laura Cunniff (F), 100; 10. Ashley Johnson (LC) and Erin Rishell (WLC), 101 each; 11. (tie) Julia McLaughlin (LC), Laura Haddock (LS), Jessica Dong (F), Daanna Sowinski (WLC) and Stef Coder (WLC), 102 each; 17. Marissa DiPaola (WLC) and Jessica Traylor (WLC), 103 each; 19. (tie) Abby Hatcher (WLW) and Carli Jarvis (LS), 104 each.

TEAM-BY-TEAM SCORING

Stevenson (387): Mazzoni, 80; Makowski, 93; Haddock, 101; Jarvis, 104; Carli Haggner, 105; Teresa Layman, 112.

Churchill (391): Vollick, 93; Boucher, 90; Johnson, 101; McLaughlin, 102; Jennie Lusa, 109; Gina Polce, 119.

Central (398): Emeline, 90; Rishell, 101; Coder and Sowinski, 102 each; Traylor and DiPaola, 103 each.

Farmington (398): Jamison, 91; Cunniff, 100; Dong, 102; Carrie May, 105; Stephanie Urger, 110; Katie Perry, 112.

Northville (414): Miller, 99; Jennie Church, 105; Cara Church, 109; Becky Rankin, 111; Dingwall, 115; Walsh, 121.

Western (417): Sobelock, 93; Hatcher, 104; Wilson, 107; Emily Charette, 113; Kim Segal, 116; Erica Gorton, 134.

Canton (429): Sandra Pavia, 105; Julie Oatman, 105; Lindsay Miller, 108; Stephanie Koppe, 109; Christina Sipek, 111; Elaine Richards, 149.

Salem (478): Angie Jones, 108; Kim Tomme, 118; Jessica Hodges, 120; Grace Yelonek, 130; Taylor Robinson, 132; Michelle Anger, 138.

Franklin (DN8): Crystal Cardwell, 152; Megan O'Connor, 159; Amanda Szebelisk, 178.

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