

Lakers defeat Hawks, earn 5th straight win

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

West Bloomfield's varsity boys soccer team is meshing early, taking its fifth consecutive game with a 4-1 win Tuesday night over Farmington Hills.

With the triumph, the 5-1 Lakers equaled their 2001 victory total.

"We've just been able to move the ball really well," coach Kurt Meservy said. "We're clicking really well and we're playing now the way we'd expect to play at the end of the season."

Meservy said many returning players gained from last year's experience and have turned it up a notch.

"It's been a huge, huge turnaround," said Meservy, noting that last year's team finished 6-6. "We're getting a lot of senior leadership. We've set our sights on winning the league and winning the districts this year."

Against Harrison, a balanced offensive attack and solid ball control led to the win, Meservy said.

Crusaders start year with pair of 2-0 wins

Madonna University's women's soccer team opened its season with a trip to Fort Wayne, Ind., for a pair of matches last weekend. The end result was consistent — and impressive.

The Lady Crusaders did not surrender a goal, beating St. Francis 2-0 on Friday and Indiana Wesleyan 2-0 on Saturday.

The victory over St. Francis was a lesson in domination. Madonna had 32 shots on goal while Crusaders' keeper Sarah Hartsel was forced to make just three saves in the match.

Megan Thiry scored Madonna's first goal, with an assist from Michele Vetrano (from Livonia Stevenson), to give the Crusaders a 1-0 half-time lead. Sarah Pack (Canton/Westland John Glenn) gave them an insurance goal in the second half, with an assist from Becky Guibord.

On Saturday, the story was much the same. Madonna got goals in each half in subduing Wesleyan, with Hartsel making nine saves to earn her second-straight shutout.

Pack scored for the Crusaders in the first half, Nicole Allevato assisting. Guibord got the insurance score in this match, with an assist from Vetrano.

Wesleyan had the advantage in shots in this game, 9-6.

Madonna plays at Lindenwood College in St. Charles, Mo., today, then takes on William Penn College at Lindenwood Friday.

West Bloomfield seniors Noah Stern and James Clancy scored within minutes of each other early in the first half. But with 6:09 left in the half, Harrison's Greg Gaynor managed to knock the ball past Laker goalkeeper Greg Bertha to slice the lead to 2-1.

"That goal late in the first half was a wake-up call," Meservy said. "That's what we talked about at halftime."

After the intermission, West Bloomfield came out more focused and Harrison paid the price when senior Ed Drew's header of a corner kick made it 3-1 at the nine-minute mark.

The final goal of the game was scored with 15:30 left, when Laker senior Gary Shuster jumped a rebound into the Harrison goal.

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R.D. Bonder at Farmington, 7 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 6
Rochester at Harrison, 7 p.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL
Thursday, Sept. 5
Farmington at Southfield, 7 p.m.
Farmington at Ferndale, 7 p.m.
N. Farmington at West, 7 p.m.

BOYS SOCCER
Thursday, Sept. 5
Harrison at W.L. Reister, 4 p.m.

GIRLS TENNIS
Thursday, Sept. 5
N. Farmington at Troy, 4 p.m.
Rochester at Harrison, 4 p.m.
Farmington at Lake Orion, 4 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 7
Merry at Okemos Country, 9 a.m.

BOYS CROSS COUNTRY
Saturday, Sept. 7
Farmington at Charlevoix (MI), TBA.
N. Farmington at W. Bloomfield, TBA.

GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY
Saturday, Sept. 7
N. Farmington at W. Bloomfield, TBA.

GIRLS FRODO
Thursday, Sept. 5
Harrison at Appleton, 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 7
Merry at Brighton Hills, TBA.

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