



GIRLS' SOCCER CLASS 2A STATE QUARTERFINALS

Centennial wins on Harper's overtime goal

Champlin Park, Maple Grove and Rosemount also advanced in the girls' soccer state tourney.

Before every soccer game, Centennial junior Kiyah Harper dresses with the same spandex shorts and sports bra under her uniform, and puts her hair in a ponytail. She also puts a sock and shoe on her right foot before doing the same with her left. It's the same routine for every game.

"If I don't do them, then I don't feel like I will play as good," Harper said. "I'm just really superstitious. I just think that when I do it that the team will do better, and I will do better overall."

Whether it was because of her superstitious habits or her ponytail, Harper scored her second goal of her team's Class 2A girls' soccer state quarterfinal with 23 seconds left in overtime to lift Centennial to a 2-1 victory over Lakeville-Southwest on Tuesday at Farmington High School.

Harper, a Star Tribune All-Metro first-team selection, has scored 25 goals this season, including nine in postseason and that trick in the section final.

The winning goal came after a corner kick, using a set play Centennial works on in practice, according to Harper. She accepted a short pass and drilled the ball before shooting the ball into the net.

Her power can match most players on boys' teams, Centennial coach Ginger Fishberg said.

"It's usually in the back of the net before the goalie knows that she even struck it," Fishberg said.

The No. 2 seed Centennial (22-0) took a 1-0 lead in the 29th minute on Harper's first goal on a shot into the upper corner. The lead held up until Lakeville-Southwest forward Sammy Penobscot tied it in the 44th minute.

The Centennial goals were just the sixth and seventh allowed this season by Lakeville-Southwest, which has its 10-game unbeaten streak come to an end.



Centennial's Kiyah Harper jumped up after scoring in overtime, celebrating her 2-1 win over Lakeville-Southwest with Malory Monson.

Harper's low goal in regulation and, after a seconds overtime, made all five decisive kicks for 1-4 victory.

Freshman Palen Kadal had the game-tying goal 14 seconds after Stillwater's Sophia Babin gave the Pioneers a 1-0 lead.

Junior defender Lindsey Carlson scored the game-winning shootout goal, tapping her kick over Stillwater goalie Hadley Johnson's head.

Her twin sister, Megan, a Star Tribune All-Metro first-team selection, appeared to assist a serious leg injury in the second half.

and she doesn't like to show her pain, so when she was down, I knew it was something big."

Stillwater (16-4) controlled the ball for much of the first half, thanks in part to a stiff breeze at its back and seven corner kicks, though an apparent first-half goal was warded off because of goalie interference.

Stillwater scored after the injury break, before Kadal immediately answered, finding the net after controlling a pass up a scam in Stillwater's defense.

"I'm really worried about her," said Carlson, who sat by her sister's side during a 25-minute injury timeout. "Usually she's kind of a toughie,



Maple Grove's Abby Schulte scored on a penalty kick to give the Crimson a 2-0 lead over Minnetonka in the Class 2A quarterfinal.

He said he was planning to give Lindsey Carlson the shot at the game-winning kick, because of her ability and her sister's injury.

"Every day in practice she puts them away every single time," Porevka said. "Just the situation and with Megan going down, I thought, 'she's got to take it if we get in that spot.'"

Maple Grove did that. Then the Crimson scored twice with the wind at their backs in the second half. Jordan Pinsky scored on a header with 29:50 left in regulation on a crossing pass from Emma Fennema.

Abby Schulte scored a penalty kick with 28:42 left, and the Crimson defense contained the Skippers in the final 20 minutes.

"We just knew if we could keep them out of that second half, we'd be able to finish," Pinsky said.

Maple Grove coach Ben LaVaka said his team played well in the first half, but that the wind was limiting. Head Coach LaVaka also credited patience on her goal.

Maple Grove did that. Then the Crimson scored twice with the wind at their backs in the second half. Jordan Pinsky scored on a header with 29:50 left in regulation on a crossing pass from Emma Fennema.

Abby Schulte scored a penalty kick with 28:42 left, and the Crimson defense contained the Skippers in the final 20 minutes.

"We just knew if we could keep them out of that second half, we'd be able to finish," Pinsky said.

Maple Grove coach Ben LaVaka said his team played well in the first half, but that the wind was limiting.

Head Coach LaVaka also credited patience on her goal.

The Crimson (16-3) was making its third consecutive state appearance. Minnetonka (15-9) was aiming to repeat as state champions in its

third appearance in four years.

Skippers coach Jeff Hopkin called it "a tough night for all the teams that played here, but certainly it's just a matter of we have to capitalize on our chances. You get to finish your chances, and we did it, and certainly we're going to take it if we get in that spot."

Don't let her (Pinsky) get it because everybody knows when Paige gets the ball on her foot, it's terrifying," Stramad said.

Rosemount coach Gretchen Stramad said her team was confident in its eighth shutout of the season with freshman Jordan Hecker in net.

FOOTBALL SECTION RESULTS AND SUMMARIES

Table with multiple columns listing football game results and summaries for various teams including Centennial, Maple Grove, and Rosemount.