

Greely girls roll to Class B state crown

BY WIL KRAMLICH
SUN JOURNAL

PORTLAND — For the first 29 minutes of Saturday's Class B girls' soccer state championship game, Greely couldn't buy a goal, missing on its first eight shots on goal, and four more that were off target.

GIRLS SOCCER

Once the Rangers did get one to go in, Hermon had trouble stopping them, and Greely ran away with a 6-0 victory at Fitzpatrick Stadium.

Greely (16-2) pelted Hermon goalie Bryanne Crouse with a flurry of shots for much of the first half, but it was the Hawks who had the first dangerous chance of the game. Greely goalie Maddie Cyr made a point-blank save against Alex Alain that led to a Hermon corner kick, but that was cleared away.

The Hermon (15-1-2) defense held off the Rangers for only so long, as Jocelyn Mitiguy ran onto an Anna DeWolfe pass up the right side and blasted a shot off

Crouse' gloves and into the net at 29:29.

"I think it changed the momentum for our team, because we started out a little bit slow. Then we picked it up right as the first goal was scored," Mitiguy said.

Cyr made a goal-line save on an Alain shot just over a minute later to keep Greely up 1-0.

The Rangers went up 2-0 with six minutes left in the half, as Katie Steinberg's corner kick was headed by DeWolfe toward the goal, where Izzy Hutnak was

there to redirect the ball in.

"We knew that they were going to be strong," Hermon head coach M.J. Ball said. "Keeping it 0-0 is what we were trying to do for half, and then make adjustments."

The Hawks held the two-goal deficit at halftime, despite being outshot 22-3. Hermon then had the first shot of the second half, but Emi Higgins' shot off a corner kick sailed over the crossbar three minutes in.

Less than four minutes later the Rangers started

scoring again. Courtney Sullivan worked through the Hermon defense before firing an open shot into the goal. Hutnak scored five minutes later after working the ball up the left side then into the box for the successful shot.

"We knew that they were going to be good," Ball said. "We thought we could match it. We've got fast players in the back as well. But it was also the speed in which they carried the ball, which is different."

Mitiguy emulated Hutnak's goal with 13 minutes

remaining, carrying the ball in from the left side before beating Crouse.

"No, 2 and 5 were too much," Ball said of Mitiguy and Hutnak.

Greely pulled many of its starters with just over 10 minutes left, and the nine seniors got a deserved ovation.

"It's great for them as seniors, last game, coming out and finishing up like that," Greely head coach Josh Muscadin said. "As a coach you couldn't ask more than that."



DAVE ALLEN GRAPHICS

Fort Fairfield's Christopher Giberson goes up in traffic to head the ball in the second half toward Buckfield's goal during the Class D soccer state final Saturday at the Dr. Gehrig T. Johnson Athletic Complex in Presque Isle.

Tigers edge Buckfield for 'D' title

BY KEVIN SJOBERG
PRESQUE ISLE STAR-HERALD

PRESQUE ISLE — Juniors Chris Giberson and Ryan Player connected on the only goal of the match 11:17 into the second half, providing Fort Fairfield's first state soccer championship in school history Saturday night in a 1-0 victory over Buckfield in the Class D final at the Dr. Gehrig T. Johnson Athletic Complex.

BOYS SOCCER

Player took a free kick from 30 yards out in the middle of the field and lofted it beautifully to Giberson, who was running down the left side. Giberson needed just one touch and he struck the ball into the upper right corner of the goal, breaking the scoreless draw.

"It was a nice through ball by Ryan over the top of their defense," Giberson said, "and I just volleyed it in."

The play was part of a dom-

inant stretch by the Tigers after an even first half between the two teams. Fort Fairfield applied solid pressure on the Bucks throughout the first 10 minutes following intermission before finally scoring.

"We struggled early to get the ball to the flanks, which is a strength of ours," said Tiger coach John Ala. "In the second half, we were able to get the ball moving laterally as well as north and south, and we built our runs a lot better."

The coach added that Player, the team's most talented player, was fighting a calf injury which limited his minutes in the first half. Ala said there is a noticeable difference when he's not in the game, so the team made some adjustments during the break.

"We wanted to keep him on the field as a target player so we moved him out of midfield and put him up front," Ala said, "and it made a big difference. We started to play off him and it

created some scoring opportunities.

"He's a true competitor and he really gutted it out for us," he added.

Ten minutes after the goal was scored, the South champion Bucks launched a sustained threat. Long throw-ins by Hunter Wiley and the powerful flip throws by Ethan Jackson put the ball in the middle of the box a few times, only to see the Fort Fairfield defense clear it away.

Buckfield's Sidney Jackson blasted a shot with four minutes remaining that went just right, while Bryan Chabe had a final opportunity with under 10 seconds left. On that one, Tiger goalkeeper Dalton Cassidy made his seventh and final save with the dive to his left and he raced around with the ball as time wound down to punctuate his team's 17-0-1 season.

It was Fort Fairfield's third shutout of the playoffs and 10th overall.

"They work really well to-

gether and their defense is very, very good," said Bucks' coach Kyle Rines. "I thought going in we'd have the advantage with our forward play, and we did have our chances, but they showed why they went undefeated and were No. 1."

Tiger sophomore Colin Goshorn, one of the talented backs, said working hard and working well together have been constant keys throughout the year.

"It's all in the heart and we just have the fire to win and have been striving to do this the whole year," Goshorn said.

Goalkeeper Jacob Kraske made 12 saves on 19 shots for Buckfield, who finished the year at 16-2 after coming out of the South as the No. 1 seed.

"In a game like this, you have a tendency to play more 'hero ball' and we got away from what we usually do," Rines said. "We've got to live with the result, but we have a lot to be proud of."

Lewiston boys blank Scarborough for state 'A' soccer title

PORTLAND — Maulid Abdow's flip throw bounced in off a Scarborough defender late in the second half Saturday for the only goal in a tightly contested game as Lewiston earned its first state soccer championship, a 1-0 triumph over Scarborough in the Class A final at Fitzpatrick Stadium.

The team that scored 114 goals this season won the Class A state title on an own goal.

Lewiston (18-0) had to weather a hard-fought effort from Scarborough. The Red Storm brought a physical style and outstanding defense. Lewiston also had to overcome yellow cards to forward Maslah Hassan and defender Mohamed Khalid.

Lewiston outshot Scarborough 17-7 and had a 10-2 advantage in corner kicks. Scarborough was the first

team all season to hold Lewiston scoreless in the first half.

Yarmouth 3, Erskine 0

At Fitzpatrick Stadium in Portland, Walter Conrad started his first game of the season after playing 12 minutes in the two previous playoff games and sparked the Clippers with his first goal en route to their win over Erskine Academy of South China in the Class B state final.

It is the 10th state title for Yarmouth (16-1-1) and it has now won back-to-back titles and six of the past 12.

Conrad scored with 11:02 left in the first half and Eric LaBrie added a goal with 4:33 left in the half. Nicholas Kamra added a second-half goal from a Christopher Piddan cross.

Erskine, the 10th seed in the North, finished with a 14-5 record.

Jimmie Johnson wins AAA Texas 500

BY AMANDA VINCENT
THE SPORTS XCHANGE

FORT WORTH, Texas — Jimmie Johnson claimed his fifth win in 2015 and played spoiler in taking the checkered flag at the AAA Texas 500 NASCAR Sprint Cup Series race at Texas Motor Speedway on Sunday.

NASCAR

Johnson took the lead from Brad Keselowski with four laps to go and led a total of six laps of the 334-lap race with just two Sprint Cup events left in the season.

Keselowski finished second with Kevin Harvick third. Kyle Busch and Carl Edwards rounded out the top-five.

Keselowski dominated after starting the race on the pole, leading a total of 312 laps.

Harvick started next to him on the front row and took the lead on lap 19. Harvick led nine laps before Keselowski got off pit road first during a caution to retake the lead. He was the only driver other than Keselowski to lead multiple laps before a cycle of green-flag pit stops that began on lap 251.

Tire issues plagued several drivers, including Harvick. A left-rear flat tire for Harvick while he was running second brought out the third caution of the race on lap 36. But he recovered to get back up to second by lap 143.

After losing position on pit road, Harvick moved up to second again, despite having to drive one-handed, holding the gear shift with the other hand to keep his car in gear.

A flat right-rear tire on lap 281 dropped Harvick from second to the back again. He led laps when Keselowski pitted under green a second time on



JEROME MIRON | USA TODAY

Sprint Cup Series driver Jimmie Johnson addresses the media Sunday after winning the AAA Texas 500 at Texas Motor Speedway in Fort Worth, Texas.

lap 298, but on lap 300, Keselowski retook the top spot.

Other drivers having tire problems included Joey Logano, Ryan Blaney, Dale Earnhardt Jr., Kyle Larson and Ryan Newman.

Like Harvick, Larson's tire problem struck while running second. At least four of the first six cautions were the result of tire issues.

Logano's issue with his left-rear tire on lap 10 was the most damaging, sending the driver to the garage for a significant amount of time for repairs. Logano eventually returned to the track more than 60 laps down and finished 40th. As a result, he'll head into Nov. 15 race Phoenix International Raceway needing a win to advance to the championship four at Homestead-Miami Speedway on Nov. 22.

Pats

Continued from Page B4

what we were going to do. They played really hard so I'm proud of them.

"For Bryan to play right tackle, and he hadn't even played CENTER this year, and he goes in and plays right tackle — unbelievable. And Flem to go to left tackle..."

Running back LeGarrette Blount ran for 129 of New England's 161 rushing yards and a touchdown as the Patriots scored 14 quick points before the Redskins ran their second play.

In addition to Vollmer going down, running back Dion Lewis left with a knee injury.

"It's tough to lose such a special player — I hope he's OK," said Brady, whose team also played without its leading tackler, linebacker Jamie Collins (illness).

Brady was intercepted for the second time this season — the other resulted from a dropped pass by wide receiver Julian Edelman then cleared a rebound attempt.



GREG M. COOPER | USA TODAY

New England Patriots wide receiver Julian Edelman (right) is tackled Sunday by Washington Redskins defensive back Jerome Johnson during the third quarter at Gillette Stadium in Foxborough, Massachusetts. The Patriots won 27-10.

man that went into a defender's arms — but rebounded with TD passes to Edelman and running back Brandon Bolden. Blount ran 5 yards for another score.

Stephen Gostkowski kicked a pair of short field goals for New England — his 27th and 28th in a row without a miss, his 51st straight at Gillette Stadium. He is one field goal shy of tying

Adam Vinatieri's all-time club record of 263.

The Patriots, who were guilty of two turnovers, pulled off an onside kick after their first score and then had an interception after fumbling the ball away the second time they had it, which followed the onside kick.

The overmatched Redskins (3-5) had their first pass of the day go in and out

of the hands of wide receiver Pierre Garcon for an interception, fumbled the ball away, and had seven of quarterback Kirk Cousins' passes dropped.

Wide receiver Ryan Grant couldn't hold the surprise onside kick, which was recovered by New England linebacker Jonathan Freeny.

Dustin Hopkins kicked a 23-yard second-quarter field goal and Cousins hit tight end Jordan Reed with a 3-yard touchdown pass with 25 seconds left in the game to account for Washington's points.

In another impressive outing for the New England defense, the Patriots held Washington to 37 rushing yards on 15 carries and allowed only one play from scrimmage longer than 18 yards.

Brady finished 26 of 39 for 299 yards, with wide receiver Brandon LaFell catching five passes for 102 yards — his fifth career 100-yard game.

Cousins was 22 of 40 for 217 yards.

Bangor

Continued from Page B4

reactionary point-blank save against Gorham's Jenna Cowan off a corner kick in the first half. Harri-

gan then cleared a rebound attempt.

Those close calls frustrated Gorham, according to Zarrilli, who admitted her team has struggled all year converting opportunities.

"They got looks, but they didn't have many quality

looks. And fortunately for us when they did they just didn't go in," Johnson said. "They very easily could have won today, just the breaks went our way today."

For Harrigan and the rest of the Bangor seniors, who entered high school the year

after the Rams' last title before losing twice in the final, Saturday's game at Fitzpatrick Stadium was a welcome end to their careers.

"We've been working so hard for so many years to get here. It feels so great to finally get that win," Harrigan said.

net, there's a chance something good will happen."

"We battled them hard," said UMaine captain Steven Swavelly. "We made sure we hit them. We wanted to frustrate them."

"But the bottom line is we have to bury the puck," Swavelly added. "Hats off to Demko. He made saves when he had to."

Fitzgerald scored what proved to be the game-winner at the 11:53 mark of the first period when his screened shot from the bottom of the right circle beat McGovern.

Wood made it 2-0 when he swept home the rebound of a Colin White shot.

Just seconds later, Demko dove headfirst across the net to make a highlight-reel stop off Will Merchant's rebound attempt.

"He made a real good save," said Merchant.