

Husson wins 2nd straight NAC crown

BY LARRY MAHONEY
BDN STAFF

BANGOR — Husson University sophomore forward Taylor Shaw scored just three goals during 15 regular season games. But the playoffs have been an entirely different story.

COLLEGE FIELD HOCKEY

Plymouth's Shaw scored a pair of second-half goals, her sixth and seventh in two playoff games, to lead the Eagles to their second straight North Atlantic Confer-

ence field hockey championship by virtue of a 2-0 victory over the University of Maine-Farmington at the Winkin Sports Complex on Saturday afternoon.

Husson, now 8-9, will move on to play in the NCAA Division III Tournament.

UMF concluded a 10-5 season. "I guess I get more fired up for the playoffs," said the former Nokomis High School of Newport star. "Seven goals in the playoffs is crazy. I honestly didn't expect this."

Both of her goals came off penalty corners.

"We usually have trouble scoring on corners so we've been emphasizing them a lot in practice and it has helped us," said Shaw.

"Our goal all season has been to score on penalty corners because we can draw penalty corners but we don't seem to be able to score off them. We achieved that today," said sophomore midfielder and tournament Most Valuable Player Mikayla Toth.

Shaw broke the scoreless tie five minutes into the second half.

A scramble ensued off the penalty corner and the ball squirted over to

Shaw off the stick of Taylor Lovley. "The goalie (Patty Smith) came diving out and it went under her," said Shaw.

Seven minutes later, Shaw was positioned at the far post and Olivia Plaisted directed the ball across to her.

"I just tipped it in," said Shaw.

"They executed their corners and we didn't," said goalie Smith who turned in an exceptional 11-save performance. "But we stepped it up today and generated offense we hadn't generated in the past against them. I was proud of our team."

"We played one of our most complete games of the season, but sometimes you get your stick on it and it goes in and other times it doesn't," said UMF coach Cyndi Pratt.

In the last two games between the teams, the Eagles outshot UMF 102-8 in 1-0 overtime and double-overtime wins.

But Husson had just a 19-14 edge in shots at goal on Saturday as the Beavers generated a number of quality chances only to be stymied by Anne Marie Provencal, who finished with an outstanding nine-save outing.

Richmond edges Ashland for 'D' title

BY JON OUELLETTE
SPECIAL TO THE BDN

PRESQUE ISLE — Richmond High School junior midfielder Meranda Martin took advantage of some rare breathing room to slot home the game-winning 10 minutes into the second half as the Bobcats were able to outlast the Ashland High School Hornets 1-0 to capture the Class D girls soccer state title Saturday at the Dr. Gehrig T. Johnson Athletic Complex.

GIRLS SOCCER

The Hornets (17-1) saw their 35-game win streak come to an end a year after topping the Bobcats in last season's state final. With the win, Richmond (15-1) captured its fourth gold ball in six years.

"Certainly a hard-fought battle," Richmond head coach Troy Kendrick said. "That's an extremely talented Ashland team — fast, well-skilled. We knew we were going to have to scratch for one to win."

After a back-and-forth first half didn't produce any changes to the score, Martin found herself free just above the 18-yard box after a scrum pushed Ashland sophomore goaltender Megan Cote out of position. Martin capitalized with a low shot to Cote's left that would stand as the lone goal of the contest.

"There was no one around me," Martin said. "There were a lot of players on the ground including the keeper, so I just shot it and it found the net. There is no better feeling."

"We had trouble at first with chasing them," Bobcats senior striker Kelsea Anair said. "They have a little more team speed than we do, so we just needed to settle down and pass to feet,



Ashland goalkeeper Megan Cote makes a save as Richmond's Autumn Acord covers the rebound during the second half of play in the Class D girls state championship Saturday at the Dr. Gehrig T. Johnson Athletic Complex in Presque Isle. Richmond won 1-0.

and that's how we were able to score."

Ashland would not go away quietly, however, turning away several Bobcat threats while continuing to pressure Richmond in the attacking third the rest of the way.

The Hornets' best chances of the second half came within moments of each other, the first on a low cross from sophomore midfielder Morgan Doughty that found the foot of star sophomore forward Mackenzie Carter seven minutes into the half. Carter's shot sailed high, however, preserving the scoreless tie.

The second chance came a minute later, this time on Carter's partial fast-break opportunity that forced Richmond sophomore goalkeeper Sydney Tilton to leave her line to snuff out the threat.

"I thought we had some

great chances in the second half. I thought we carried the play, but it wasn't our night," Ashland Peter Belskis said. "It was going to come down to one play here or there and they got the bounce."

Anair, who is tied for the most goals scored in Richmond history with 104, produced the first threat of the second half four minutes in after hammering a shot off the crossbar that led to a scrum around the goalmouth before the Hornets were able to clear.

Anair would get a chance to add to Richmond's 1-0 lead seven minutes after Martin's goal, but her shot from just inside the 18-yard box sailed high and wide.

The three best chances of the first half came within the first 10 minutes.

The first came on a lofted shot from 35 yards out by Richmond freshman midfielder Caitlin Kendrick that

found the crossbar before the Hornets defense could end the threat, the second on a skipped ball through the 6-yard box following a free kick from Ashland's Doughty from the right side. Doughty produced the third chance as well, beating her defender down the right flank before firing a shot off the near post.

Richmond outshot Ashland 8-6, with a 4-2 edge in shots on goal.

Raiders

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The East Machias-based school capped an 18-0 season and earned the Class C state title for the first time since 2008. In the process, WA outscored its opponents this season 105-4. On Saturday, the Raiders received their toughest test of the fall.

During the 80 minutes of regulation, the defensive corps for both squads stood out. WA held a 19-7 advantage in shots on goal, including an 11-2 edge with the wind at their backs in the second half. However, Waynefleter defenders Jack Meahl, Cooper Chap, Willy Burdick and John Moran, with the help of Abdi, were brilliant in controlling Lowe and the other talented Raider attackers, Bion Parsons, Takyh Dnye-Jha Sharrieff-Hayward, Dillon Townsend and Jordi Valls Rottmann.

Lowe attempted 11 of WA's shots, but either he was just off the mark, like on his best chance in the first half when his blast from 12 yards away skimmed off the side of the left post, or Belleau was able to make one his many tremendous saves for the Flyers.

"He covered the net better than anyone we've seen," Gardner said. "He's the only keeper who has shut us out in regulation and there is something to be said for that."

Belleau finished with eight saves in goal for Wayn-



Washington Academy's Takyh Dnye-Jha Sharrieff-Hayward heads the ball Saturday during the boys Class C state championship against Waynefleter. Washington Academy won the game 1-0 at 12:53 in the first overtime.

flete, while Cameron Varney had to make just three as his Raider team earned its fourth shutout of the postseason and 14th overall. WA has allowed just one goal in its last 11 matches, dating back to Sept. 30.

Waynflete, which went 11-0-1 after starting off with a 3-2 mark, came in as the No. 2 seed in the South region but like WA had not allowed a goal during the playoffs prior to the state game.

"It was a great year for a great group and I'm so proud of my guys," Salway said. "I think when they look back, they will realize how special it was."



The Orono Red Riots hoist the championship trophy in celebration of their 3-2 win Saturday over the Waynefleter Flyers in the girls Class C state title game at the Dr. Gehrig T. Johnson Athletic Complex in Presque Isle.

Orono

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today," Waynefleter coach Todd Dominski said. "She kept us in it."

With just :55.9 seconds Orono got an important second goal. Orono junior striker Becky Lopez-Anido played a perfect feed to the top of the 18-yard line where Fridtun was able to finish. Her hard drive to the left of Pope made it 2-0 Orono.

The second half saw Waynefleter driving toward the south with the wind in its favor.

Dominski also adjusted his squads' formation to create more offense.

With 11:44 to go, the Flyers broke the ice. A deep cross from the left side created an offensive chance, but Waynefleter's Lydia

Giguere was taken down in the box, giving the Flyers a penalty kick. Junior Isabel Canning converted, cutting the lead to 2-1.

At the 5:06 mark, the Flyers got the equalizer. After an Orono shot on goal, Pope's long punt with the wind bounced over the Orono defense. Senior forward Arianna Giguere beat everyone to the ball, and her blast from 20 yards beat Orono goalie Katelyn Richards to make it 2-2.

In the first overtime, Waynefleter had the wind and dominated play. Despite the pressure, Richards made a number of great saves.

"We had a lot of good chances, they just held us off. Give them credit," Dominski said.

"We knew we had to just hang on," Orono coach Cid Dyjak said.

After 15 minutes of scoreless play, the teams switched

sides for the second overtime and Orono had the wind advantage.

Orono was able to push the ball deep, and at the 12:16 mark, Murphy was able to get the championship winner.

"I'm speechless," Dyjak said. "We've been close several times, and we finally got it. I'm so happy for these players, and the fans, and the community. They have been so patient and so supportive. It just feels great."

The win marks Dyjak's first state title in his 33-year career at Orono.

"Nobody deserved this more than Cid," a proud Richards said. "We lost a heart-breaker to Waynefleter two years ago, and we just had to get this one. It is an amazing feeling."

North champ Orono finished at 16-1-1 and South champ Waynefleter ended at 13-5.

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