

May 30, 2008

Eastlake soccer battles back from tough loss, nabs third

The Eastlake soccer team turned a tough 4A state semifinal loss on Friday into strong end to the season on Saturday.

Less than 24 hours after losing a shootout to Bellarmine Prep — a team ranked No. 9 by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America — the Wolves battled back to beat Todd Beamer of Federal Way, 2-1, for third place.



Eastlake's Tyler Klein heads the ball away from Bellarmine's Dylan Gaydosh Friday at Lakewood's Harry Lang Stadium.

Mark Lowry/Reporter

Scoreless through most of the first half, Eastlake senior Jordan Softli put the Wolves on the board first in the 36th minute with an unassisted goal **.

Eastlake struck again just four minutes into the second half, this time on an unassisted goal from junior Gordon Savage — his second score of the season.

Todd Beamer scored in the 68th minute on a penalty kick by Troy Peterson, but Eastlake fended off the rally.

Bellarmino Prep 3, Eastlake 2

Eastlake just missed an opportunity to advance into the state finals on Friday, falling 3-2 to Bellarmine Prep.

** *Webmaster note:* Jordan Softli's goal came from a nice feed off of Justin Lewis, although the official scorer did not credit "JLew" with an assist.

Tied 2-2 through regulation and two five-minute overtimes, the teams were forced to go to a best of five penalty-kick shootout. Eastlake missed on its first two attempts — once off the crossbar and once via a save from goalkeeper Chris Carlin — and Bellarmine pulled away, outscoring the Wolves 3-1 on free shots. Senior Tyler Klein punched in Eastlake's only penalty kick.

The Wolves had Bellarmine against the ropes early, grabbing a lead under four minutes into the contest. Senior Justin Lewis led Sofli with a perfectly placed ball down the right sideline. Sofli beat a defender and booted the ball in the left corner of the net. The Lions knotted the contest up in the 10th minute on via penalty kick and took the lead in the 57th minute on a goal from Scott Hanson.

Eastlake countered in the 67th minute on a controversial play. Senior Easton Fix booted a free kick from into the goal box from 45 yards out. Savage headed the ball away from Carlin. The two collided in mid-air forcing the ball loose and junior forward Kevin Braun knocked the ball into an open net.

Bellarmino went on to win the state championship, knocking off Puyallup 2-1 in another shootout.

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