

Girls soccer loses close matches

By Rongi Yost
Correspondent

The girls soccer team fell 5-2 at Sweet Home (SH) on Tuesday, September 20, and two days later were defeated 2-1 at home against Elmira.

In Tuesday's action, the Huskies scored at the 10-minute mark and then tacked on three more goals in 20 minutes to go up 4-0. All four goals were due to rebounds off the defense and goalkeeper, which SH was able to tap in.

Sisters got on the scoreboard with 10 minutes left in the first half, when Lexi Martin scored off a corner kick. Martin placed the ball between the goal keeper and the post for the score.

"That was truly fun to watch and picked our spirits up," said Coach Jenna Pike.

Five minutes later, Nika Chick gathered the ball from the Huskies, carried the ball for about 15 yards, and then scored on a powerful shot from 18 yards out.

Sisters played much better soccer in the second half. The Huskies scored their final goal with 10 minutes left on the clock.

Pike told *The Nugget* that Chick played very well and took advantage of opportunities that ended in a goal. Olivia Hougham also had a good game as a defensive

midfielder. Hougham supported the defense and played a controlled game. Sabrina Reifschneider made good adjustments throughout the contest and got the ball up to the forwards.

Pike said, "Even though the Huskies' first four goals were discouraging, the defense still tried to hold their positions. This was a great game to learn how to manage the back when the ball is bouncing around in the goal box. I think the defense learned from their mistakes and made remarkable adjustments in the second half of the game."

"This game showed the girls that we need to work hard and play to the ability that we can every game. Despite the loss, the girls have their heads up, and are hungry for a win against Elmira. We are all excited for the up-coming games and know we can make a major come-back."

On Thursday the Outlaws faced Elmira. It was a much closer contest, but in the end, Elmira came out on top. The Falcons got on the scoreboard 15 minutes into the contest with an amazing shot that keeper Charlotte Barton just could not stop. They scored again at the 28-minute mark with a shot that bounced off the post and went into the goal.

Sisters' lone goal came at the 56th minute in the second half. Nika Chick sent a rocket shot toward the goal, and the ball bounced off the keeper. Brooke Robillard was there and sent the ball into the back of the net for the score.

“ Now, we get to work on the little things that will help us win in the future. — Jenna Pike

Rylee Weber and Nika Chick both had a stellar game. At midfield, the duo communicated well and distributed the ball effectively.

Lexi Stewart switched from forward to defense, did a great job in the transition, and limited the Falcons' shots on goal.

Sabrina Reifschneider (midfield) and Lacy Gilmore (forward) worked well together on the field. Pike



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

Alexa Stewart defends in a contest with Elmira.

told *The Nugget* that the combo moved the ball up the field well and then got back on defense when needed.

Due to injuries, Emma Horner (midfield) and Brooke Robillard (forward) moved up to play their first varsity game of the year.

"I am really proud of the way they stepped up, and they played extremely well with the rest of the team," said Pike.

Pike told *The Nugget* she is pleased with her team and their progress.

"The girls continue to

make huge improvements in the way they play the game," said Pike. "Now, we get to work on the little things that will help us win in the future. I am still very confident in my team, and we will start winning games. I am so pleased to coach a team that keeps an amazing attitude and are willing to work hard to improve every day."

Sisters was to play at Junction City on Tuesday, September 27. The Outlaws will play at home against the Cottage Grove Lions on Thursday, September 29.

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