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SOCCER ROUNDUP

MAURY SWEEPS DISTRICT TOURNEY CHAMPIONSHIPS

GIRLS

Eastern District final Maury 3, Wilson 2

With one foot out of bounds, Amanda Moore used her other foot to poke in the winning goal Wednesday, and the Commodores (9-6-1) rallied from a 2-0 deficit to hand the Presidents (13-1-2) their first loss .

Wilson forward Dara VanSkyhawk, the area's leading scorer, netted a goal in the first half and one in the second to give the Presidents a seemingly insurmountable lead.

But Maury finally solved goalkeeper Misten White, who made a handful of stops on breakaways, when Jordan Johnson fired a shot past her in the 58th minute.

"There was a huge emotional uplifting after we scored the first goal," Moore said. "You could feel it on the field. It was just amazing."

Sarah Mariano tied it with 15 minutes left in regulation on a 40-yard shot that sailed over White's head.

With six minutes to go, Moore tallied the game winner.

"I was just at the right place at the right time," Moore said.

– Ray Nimmo

Southeastern District semifinals Western Branch 3, Great Bridge 1

Lexi Stallings, Isabel Sierra and Abby Taylor scored as the Bruins built a 3-0 lead.

Teagan Eaker scored for the Wildcats.

Hickory 6, Oscar Smith 0

Alexis Cobb netted two goals to lead the Hawks.

Hickory will face Western Branch at 7 tonight at Grassfield.

BOYS

Eastern District final Maury 4, Granby 1

The Commodores caught the Comets napping and made them pay.

Shamar Perry, Kyle Brinkley and David Johnson scored goals in nine minutes in the second half in a title-game rout for Maury (10-4-1).

In a goal that encapsulated the match, Chaz Church froze Granby (7-6-2) with a quick restart just outside the 18-yard box in the 36th minute. As the Comets meandered around to form a wall, Church led a wide-open Lee Hogge into the box. Hogge tapped it far post with the outside of his left foot for a 1-0 lead.

"I heard my teammate yelling at me," Church said. "He was like, 'Chaz! Chaz! Chaz!' And I looked up and the whole Granby team was facing their goal and they didn't see him."

In the 47th minute, Perry one-timed a pass from Ben Barrett, who finessed his way near the 6-yard box from the right flank.

Brinkley and Johnson also scored from the middle of the field.

– Ray Nimmo

Southeastern District semifinals Grassfield 4, Great Bridge 1

The top-seeded Grizzlies unleashed a barrage in overtime to advance to today's 5:30 p.m. final against Hickory.

Grassfield (12-3-2) already had earned an Eastern Region quarterfinal berth and will take on First Colonial at 6 p.m. Tuesday at ODU's Powhatan Field. Hickory will face Landstown at 4 p.m.

The Grizzlies controlled nearly the entire regulation and led 1-0 on Kevin Simmons' goal 12 minutes into the second half. But Great Bridge (7-7) tied it with less than a minute left on a wicked knuckler from 30 yards out by Ryan O'Malley.

But Max Dinsmore struck late in the first of two five-minute overtimes.

Jared Benedict added insurance 30 seconds into the second overtime and Frank Luster secured it late.

"We were getting frustrated," Grassfield coach Robbie Gobble said. "It took us 77 minutes to score on them the last time."

Grassfield finished with a 25-7 advantage in shots, but Wildcats keeper Matt Popelka shined with 10 saves.

Hickory 2, Western Branch 1

The Hawks led 2-0 at halftime and held on.

Western Branch (13-3) mustered 10 second-half corners and five shots, but could only cut the margin to a goal on a point-blank blast by Barry Tucker. Two other shots missed just wide right.

"Whew," Hickory coach Mike Gyori said after the final whistle. "We knew we were in for a battle and we held on."

The second-seeded Hawks (12-3-1) led early on a shot by Hunter Soles and got what turned out to be the winner with 14 minutes left in the half when Colby Briggs found himself alone at the right post.

"I never thought that goal was going to hold up to be the winner," Briggs said. "I really didn't expect their level of attack in the second half and it was very difficult for us to recover.

"But we pulled it out."

– Lee Tolliver