

September 14, 2011

LCA 1 - Dunbar HS 2 (OT)

Season Record: 4-5-1

District Record: 1-1-0

The LCA Lady Eagles hosted their second district game of the season against the Paul Lawrence Dunbar Lady Bulldogs. Like the Henry Clay Blue Devils, the Dunbar Dawgs are full of familiar faces from club soccer which always makes for an exciting game. The Dunbar Dawgs entered the game with a 4-3 record built primarily on lesser opponents and the Lady Eagles entered with a record of 4-4-1 making the paper matchup a virtual coin toss.

Trying not to disappoint those who believe in paper matchups, the two teams battled to a relative statistical draw and an actual draw on the scoreboard as well. Play was fairly even throughout the match with the Lady Eagles getting out to a good start and taking nine of their thirteen total shots in the first half. Of the thirteen, seven were on goal which edged Dunbar's five shots on goal. Late in the first half, Carol Beth Madden made a hustle play to track down a ball played by Caley Hall into the right corner. From there, the precocious C.B. made a worthy cross into the box that was handled by a Dunbar defender. After a quick headcount which resulted in establishing that Elise McKinney was momentarily out of the game, Caroline Hargis looked to Coach Fugmann for advice on who was to take the awarded penalty kick. As we learned in contracts class, a deal requires an offer, acceptance and some form of consideration, and Caroline accepted Coach's offer to attempt the PK. According to one witness, Caroline simply blasted a shot middle right past the Dunbar keeper. While the ball didn't find the side net, it found the net. As you golfers know with certainty, 100% of putts left short of the hole do not go in. Likewise, 100% of PKs which are not on frame do not go in. Simple rules really.

Although the Lady Eagles were able to enjoy a halftime lead of 1-0 (or 63-0 according to some), the lead was short lived and the Lady Bulldogs were able to get an equalizer in the second half. The teams struggled on the remainder of the game with LCA arguably getting the better of play. Ultimately, however, the game ended in a tie and the KHSAA stepped in to insure a winner. In the first of two golden goal overtime periods under the new "no ties in district games" rule, Abby Kovacs slipped deep into LCA's end and netted the game winner a mere two minutes into the overtime period. As was said following the West Jessamine overtime victory, when it goes your way, you love it, when it doesn't, well, not so much. A tough ending to a well contested game and the Lady Eagles now sit at 1-1 in district with games against Lafayette, and Lexington Catholic remaining on the district schedule.

The LCA JV squad lost to the Lady Bulldogs 4-1 on a nice goal by Julia Barnhart who continues to step up her game. Congrats to Jules whom I heard almost had an opportunity in the Varsity game as well.