



September 4, 2009

## Constant control

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### **Rockets score two early goals, run past Ross**

FREMONT -- Oak Harbor controlled the ball, the tempo and, ultimately, the match during a 5-0 non-conference girls soccer win against Fremont Ross on Thursday at Alumni Fields.

Alex Weirich and Dayna Setzler broke a scoreless tie by scoring in the first 12 minutes of the match and Kayla Diefenthaler added a pair of goals for the Rockets, who improved to 4-1-0 overall.

"We slowed the game down by controlling the ball," Oak Harbor coach Renee Goldstein said. "That's one of our goals for the year. We want to slow it down, control the field and take our shots when they're the best."

The Rockets held a 25-6 edge in shots for the match.

Weirich's shot with 31:46 left before halftime slipped past Ross goalie Brandy Schmitt, who made 10 saves. Less than 4 minutes later, Setzler's line-drive from the top of the penalty box hit the back of the net as Oak Harbor took a 2-0 at the 28:04 mark.

It remained a two-goal advantage for the Rockets until Diefenthaler cashed in on a deflection off of Schmitt with 60 seconds left in the first half. Setzler's corner kick, one of 16 corner kicks by Oak Harbor, ignited the play.

"Oak Harbor controlled the ball by passing it effectively," Ross coach Otto Gonzalez said. "Our girls showed more speed by getting to the ball, but they need to be more aggressive in attacking it."

The Little Giants took three shots in each half. Their best scoring chance in the first half came with 17:58 left when Taylor Michael's direct kick from the left side of the goal box was stopped by Rockets' goalie Chelsey Kaman.

Kaman had five saves in the match.

"What we saw today is that Oak Harbor is playing more forward than our team," Gonzalez said. "In the first half, Oak Harbor had the ball on our side of the field for 20-25 minutes because they were pressuring us. It made us have to rethink our game plan."

It became 4-0 with 34:34 left when Kelly Bryant kicked in a cross pass from Rachel Hegemeier. A pass from Bryant set up Weirich on the first goal of the match.

Setzler's goal was unassisted, as well as Diefenthaler's first tally.

A pass from Wierich set up Diefenthaler, whose goal with 22:36 left completed the scoring.

Tera McDonald gave Ross a pair of scoring chances late in the second half. The first, with 15:58 left, happened after she stripped the ball away from an Oak Harbor defender in the penalty box before

taking a shot that Kaman stopped by coming out of the net.

With 4:48 remaining, McDonald drove the left baseline for another shot, but was denied again by Kaman.

The Rockets had a 16-3 edge in corner kicks, a 5-1 advantage in direct kicks and a 19-14 edge in throw-ins. The Little Giants were ahead 23-5 in goal kicks.

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Fremont's Calea Harper and Oak Harbor's Jordan Glass battle for the ball during Thursday's match at Fremont's Alumni Fields. Oak Harbor won 5-0. (Jonathon Bird | News-Messenger)