

Past Men's Soccer News

Tuesday, October 17, 2006

Clinton 4 North Country 3

By BILL JOHNSON, Enterprise Sports Editor

SARANAC LAKE - The Clinton Community College men's soccer team erased a 2-0 halftime deficit Thursday and rallied to a 4-3 victory over rival North Country Community College.

"Aside from making a goalie change and leaving the guys on the field who were in at the end of the first half, I thought we would start off okay. We were worried about what might happen," said NCCC coach Steve Conger. "But this has been the story of our season. We start off the game as the team we can be, but we simply disappear. I haven't been able to figure that out."

The Saints opened the scoring at the 27:05 mark of the first half when Reece Papworth drilled a shot into the upper right corner of the net from approximately 20 meters out. Less the seven minutes later, Mark Mabon made it 2-0 when he punched a shot into the lower right side of the goal past CCC goalkeeper Wade Studley.

The Cougars came roaring back early in the second half as Adam Scharf scored nine minutes into the stanza and Ryan Hathaway knotted the score at 2-2 five minutes later.

Joseph Cook gave the Saints a 3-2 lead midway through the half when he scored off a scramble in front of the Clinton net, but Scharf responded with his second goal of the game off a pass from Thomas Babbie. Chris White's tally with 1:15 left to play gave CCC the victory, its fourth of the season.

"They beat us to everything in the first half, but we continued to play hard and keep our intensity up," said Clinton coach Eric Arnold. "The rain helped us out a little too. They (NCCC) are a well-skilled team and the rain brought their skill level down. They made a few mistakes, we were able to capitalize on them and gain a little confidence."

The Saints finished the contest with a 19-11 edge in shots on goal. Studley made eight saves for the Cougars while Alastair Farmer (6) and Jayden Pernice (2) combined to make eight saves for NCCC.

With the win, Clinton ends its season with a mark of 4-10-2.

"This was a nice win for the kids," said Arnold. "They've been through a struggle this season and it was nice to see them pull together and come back. I'm especially happy for our seniors. Hopefully this will springboard us into a better season next year."

North Country (3-10-1), meanwhile, will hit the road this weekend to face Broome Community College in Binghamton Saturday at 2 p.m. before heading to Canandaigua Sunday for a 2 p.m. contest with Finger Lakes Community College.

On Tuesday, the Saints will close out their 2006 season when they face Albany Pharmacy in the Northern Independence Conference title game on the Panthers' home field.

"At this point everything we do is geared toward winning the NIC championship," said Conger. "It would have been ideal to win this game and carry that momentum in the Broom and Finger Lakes

games where I think we have a legitimate shot at winning. If we could have done that, we would have gone into the Pharmacy game firing on all cylinders."

Tuesday's conference final will begin at 3:30 p.m.

Clinton 4, North Country 3

Cougars 0 4 - 4

Saints 2 1 - 3

First half - 1. NCCC, Papworth (Hollister), 27:05. 2. NCCC, Mabon, 34:00.

Second half - 3. CCC, Scharf (White), 9:00. 4. CCC, Hathaway (Marks), 14:11. 5. NCCC, Cook (Mabon), 19:37. 6. CCC, Scharf (Babbie), 26:15. 7. CCC, White (Babbie), 43:45.

Shots: CCC 11, NCCC 19.

Saves: Studley (CCC) 8; Farmer (NCCC) 6, Pernice (NCCC) 2.

Saturday, October 14, 2006

Broome 5, North Country 0

BINGHAMTON - Stefan Miller-Lari and Vince Dadamio scored two goals each Saturday as Broome Community College defeated North Country 5-0.

Tony Roma scored the Hornet's fifth goal with one remaining in the contest. BCC outshot NCCC by a margin of 31-0.

North Country (3-11-1) travels to Albany Tuesday to face Albany Pharmacy in the Northern Independence Conference title game at 3:30 p.m.

Wednesday, October 4, 2006

North Country 3 Word of Life 1

SARANAC LAKE - The North Country Community College men's soccer team ended its eight-game winless streak Wednesday with a 3-1 victory over the Word of Life Bible Institute. Mark Mabon scored two goals to lead the Saints to their first win since Sept. 9.

Mabon and Chris Tyler gave North Country a 2-0 lead at intermission. After the Huskies James Nikerle slashed the deficit to a single goal in the second half, Mabon added an insurance tally to put the game away.

Craig Houck and Reece Papworth had one assist each in the contest as NCCC outshot WOLBI by a margin of 16-7. Al Farmer made six saves for the Saints and John Deffenbaugh made 13 saves for the Huskies.

North Country (3-8-1, 1-1-1) will face Genessee Community College at 1 p.m. Saturday in Batavia and battle Erie Community College at 1 p.m. Sunday in Buffalo.

North Country 3, World of Life 1

Huskies 0 1 - 1

Saints 2 1 - 3

First half - 1. NCCC, Tyler (Houck). 2. NCCC, Mabon (Papworth).
Second half - 3. WOLBI, Nikerle (Una.). 4. NCCC, Mabon (Una.).
Shots: WOLBI 7, NCCC 16.
Saves: Deffenbaugh (WOLBI) 13; Farmer (NCCC) 6.

Saturday, September 30, 2006
Cobleskill 3 North Country 0

The Saints of North Country Community College came marching into Cobleskill on Saturday for a meeting with the nationally ranked SUNY Cobleskill men's soccer team. The Tigers raced out to a 2-0 lead in the first half before going on to defeat the Saints 3-0.

The Cobleskill defense turned offensive as senior defender Josh Cookfair, tallied first for the Fighting Tigers unassisted with 37:16 remaining in the opening half. Senior forward Hugh Campbell, then took a cross from senior defender Christian Velasquez and found the back of the net with 20:17 remaining in the half. Freshman defender Menesky Magloire closed the scoring in the second half converting from long range with 23:41 remaining in regulation.

North Country will be back in action on Sunday when they travel to Utica to take on Mohawk Valley Community College. Game time is slated for 1 p.m.

September 29, 2006
North Country 1 Clinton 1

PLATTSBURGH - Brannon Sample's goal early in the second half Thursday afternoon gave the Clinton Community College men's soccer team a 1-all overtime tie with North Country Community College.

The Saints took an early lead six minutes into the contest on an own goal.

North Country's Craig Houck took a shot towards the Cougars' net. A Clinton defender re-directed the ball away from net minder Wade Studley and into the net.

"It was an unfortunate start to the game for us," said Clinton C.C. head coach Eric Arnold. "That goal kind of dictated the pace the rest of the first half because we had a letdown after that."

The Cougars then drew even at 3:25 of the second half when Chris White assisted on Sample's goal.

"We came out in the second half with more intensity and scored a nice goal." said Arnold. "But, we weren't able to get the go-ahead goal. Both teams had their chances and neither could score."

The Saints held a 16-12 advantage in shots on goal.

Studley returned in net after missing two games and finished with 11 saves. Ryan Wignall made eight stops for North Country C.C.

"We had a solid effort in the second half and I was proud of the way the kids bounced back," Arnold said. "I just hoped we would have bounced back a little sooner.

"It was our second draw in two games and our third overtime game in a row. I thought North Country played well."

North Country 1, Clinton 1, OT
North Country C.C. 1 0 0 0 - 1
Clinton C.C. 0 1 0 0 - 1
First half- 1, NCCC, own goal, 6:00.
Second half- 2, CCC, Sample (White), 3:25.
Shots: North Country C.C. 16, Clinton C.C. 12.
Saves: Wignall, NCCC, 8. Studley, CCC, 11.

Sunday, September 24, 2006 Fulton-Montgomery 6 North Country 1

JOHNSTOWN - Kevin Parks and Matt Lee scored two goals apiece and Roy Howell and Ben Dankwah netted one apiece as the Fulton-Montgomery Community College mens soccer team defeated North Country Community College, 6-1.

Parks added an assist to his credits as did Tim Carroll

The Saints (2-6 overall, 2-4 Region III) will travel to Plattsburgh on Thursday to take on area rival Clinton Community College. Game time is 4:00 p.m.

Tompkins-Cortland 5 North Country 0

Dryden-A solid defense and a balanced attack that featured a goal or assist from seven players was more than enough for the Tompkins-Cortland men's soccer team to break its two-game skid as the Panthers topped North Country Community College 5-0 Saturday. TC3, ranked 15th in the nation and second in Region III, is now 7-2 overall this season and 5-2 in region. North Country falls to 2-5 overall and 2-3 in region.

The scoring started early, as the Panthers put up four goals in the first half and never looked back. Todd Van Loon paced TC3 with two goals while Kyle Stone added a goal and assist. The Panthers tacked on an additional goal late in the second half to send the Saints to their fifth consecutive defeat. North Country will try to return to the win column on Sunday, when they travel to Fulton-Montgomery for a 1 p.m. contest. Scoring: 1 2 Final TC3 4 1 5 North Country 0 0
Records: TC3: 7-2, North Country: 2-5

Scoring:

TC3: Todd Van Loon 2-0, Kyle Stone 1-1, Joe Smith 1-0, Timothy Corbalis 1-0, Kevin Peck 0-1, Emmanuel Bestman 0-1, Tim Parks 0-1

Shots: TC3- 16, North Country- 4

Saves: TC3- 2 (Josh Mitchell-1, Briane Green-1), North Country- 3 (Jayden Pernice)
Corners: TC3- 2, North Country- 0

Men's soccer-written by Noelle Short
Paul Smith's 1, NCCC 0

PAUL SMITHS — Freshman Ryan Wignall kept the ball out of the North Country Community College nets for most of Thursday's game, but with less than five minutes to play, he accidentally batted a corner kick into his own goal, and Paul Smith's College took the 1-0 win.

Paul Smith's goalkeeper Raul Dudec stopped 14 shots.

North Country outshot Paul Smith's, and coach Stephen Conger said the Cougars had a strong second half.

"The first half of play was back and forth, and towards the end of the half, we started to carry the play," Conger said. "In the second half, we were all over them for at least 30 minutes."

Wignall made 11 saves, and Conger said midfielder Curtis Nelson had an excellent game.

"With only one player who has ever played college soccer, our inexperience showed today," Conger said. "We got caught up in playing long ball as opposed to keeping possession as we normally practice. I think the team just needs to get more games to feel more comfortable and confident."

Paul Smith's 1, North Country 0

North Country 0 0 — 0

Paul Smith's 0 1 — 1

Second half- 1, own-goal.

Shots- North Country 14, Paul Smith's 11.

Saves- Wignall, NC, 11. Dudec, 14, PSC.

Canton 3 North Country 1
By BILL JOHNSON, Enterprise Sports Editor

SARANAC LAKE - For more than 50 minutes Wednesday, a depleted North Country Community College men's soccer team managed to compete with a quicker, deeper SUNY-Canton squad.

Unfortunately for the Saints, time was not on their side.

After falling behind 1-0 on a Joe Cook goal at the four-minute mark of the second half, the Northstars reeled off three consecutive goals to steal a 3-1 victory and send NCCC to its fourth straight defeat.

"One thing we've been struggling with in the four games we've lost is getting an effort in the second half," said Saints' coach Steve Conger. "A lot of it has nothing to do with ability, fitness or other intangibles. It's mental toughness. We have a hurdle to cross now and until we do it's going to be tough to break this streak."

After a scoreless first half, Canton turned up the pressure following Cook's tally and scored the game-tying goal 11 minutes into the final period when Steven Bullock took a crossing pass from Prince Sabatto and deposited a shot into the left side of the net past NCCC goalkeeper Jayden Pernice.

Seven minutes later, the Northstars took the lead for good, on a goal by Sabatto, who was set up by teammate Brett Reed.

Canton sealed the victory with 25 minutes remaining in the contest when Alex Rivas tracked down a loose ball six meters from goal and punched it into the back of the North Country net.

"We haven't had a lead in a while and with a lot of freshmen, a variety of emotions go through their heads," said Conger. "Our attitude is 'we've got a lead, so let's not blow it.' What it should be is 'we've got the lead, so let's get another goal.'"

"Many times last year and the year before we've had that attitude and it's beginning to show again," he continued. "That fact of the matter is that we need to keep the pressure on in those situations and take care of business."

The Saints offense was out of sync for most of the game as the Northstars disrupted NCCC's passing attack with their quickness. North Country managed to get only two shots on Canton goalie Rashid Reid, who made only one save in the contest.

"We haven't had a passing game for a couple games now," Conger said. "I think everyone starting to fall into their comfort level because everything is not going our way. I'm seeing guys getting frustrated and going back to the way they played in high school. The most important thing right now is to keep doing what we do. We need to stick to our plan of being a possession-type team. It's what we've been practicing and I have told the guys many times it's what will make us successful."

North Country played the contest without the services of midfielder Mark Mabon, and defenders Max Martinez and Chris Tyler, who are all nursing injuries.

"Mark has a concussion and probably won't play this weekend," Conger explained. "Max has a bad hamstring and Chris is bothered by a bad hip. We have a short bench, but I felt the guys played great all things considered. We need to focus on the 46th minute to the 90th minute now and get a complete game out of our players. Once we do that, we'll get back on track and the results will come."

Adam DiVincenzo drew an assist on Cook's goal and Canton's Nic Woodley was credited with an assist on the Rivas tally. Pernice made 11 saves in the contest as the Northstars outshot the hosts by a margin of 14-2.

The Saints (2-4) travel to Dryden Saturday to face Tompkins-Cortland Community College at 1 p.m. The match opens a five-game road swing for the Saints, who will return home on Wednesday, Oct. 4 to host the Word of Life Bible institute at 4 p.m. in an important Northern Independence Conference contest.

Canton 4, North Country 1
Northstars 0 3 - 3
Saints 0 1 - 1

Second half - 1. NCCC, Cook (DiVincenzo), 49:00. CAN, Bullock (Sabatto), 56:00. 3. CAN, Sabatto (Reed) 63:00. 4. CAN, Rivas (Woodley), 65:00

Shots: CAN 4, NCCC 2.
Saves: Reid (CAN) 1; Pernice (NCCC) 11.

North Country 4 Adirondack C.C. 1 Albany Pharmacy 3 North Country 2

SARANAC LAKE - The North Country men's soccer team won one game and lost another over the weekend. The Saints defeated Adirondack Community College 4-1 Saturday afternoon and suffered a 3-2 setback to Albany College of Pharmacy Sunday in their Northern Independence Conference opener.

The Saints jumped out to 3-1 halftime lead Saturday on an own goal off a shot by Mark Mabon shot that was deflected into the net, and tallies by Keegan Vize and Rob Horton. Mabon scored the lone goal in the second stanza to close out the scoring in the contest. Jayden Pernice made three saves to get the win for the Saints.

On Sunday, Alberto Galeana and Curtis Nelson found the net, but it was not enough to prevent the Panthers from walking off with the victory. Pernice and Ryan Wignal combined to make 28 saves for NCCC.

North Country (2-1, 0-1) will host Hudson Valley Community College Saturday at 1 p.m.

Saturday's Game

NCCC 4, Adirondack 1

Timberwolves 1 0 - 1

Saints 3 1 - 4

First half - 1. NCCC, own goal, 3:00. 2. ACC, Barrachina, 25:00. 3. NCCC, Vize (Houck), 30:00.

4. NCCC, Horton (diVincenzo), 42:00.

Second half - 5. NCCC, Mabon (Nelson), 15:00.

Shots: ACC 8; NCCC 14.

Saves: Brown (ACC) 4; Pernice (NCCC) 3.

Sunday's Game

Albany Pharmacy 3, NCCC 2

Panthers 2 1 - 3

Saints 1 1 - 1

First half - 1. ACP, Scoglio, 19:34. 2. NCCC, Galeana (Mabon), 31:00. 3. ACP, 41:44.

Second half - 4. ACP, Howard (Wheaton), 2:30. 5. NCCC, Nelson (Tyler).

Shots: ACP, 31. North Country 9.
Saves: Winchell (ACP) 6; Pernice/Wignall (NCCC) 28.

North Country 4 Jefferson 0 **By BILL JOHNSON, Enterprise Sports Editor**

SARANAC LAKE - Craig Houck had a goal and an assist, and freshman goalkeeper Jayden Pernice recorded a shut out in his collegiate debut, to lead North Country Community College to a 4-0 victory over Jefferson Community College in the Region III men's soccer opener for both programs.

The Cannoneers dominated play early on, but the Saints managed to right themselves and take the lead for good on a Tom Stackpole goal at the 10:37 mark.

"Three of our four goals were the result of second efforts," explained NCCC coach Steve Conger. "I told the guys that I don't care how we score goals - pretty or unpretty, a goal is a goal. JCC is a skilled team and I'm glad we got to play them early. When they get accustomed to physical play, they're going to be dangerous. They dominated play for the first 10 minutes, but once we gained a level of confidence, our guys said 'hey, we can do this.'"

Mark Mabon upped the North Country lead to 2-0 at 25:27 when he punched home the rebound of a Houck shot, and Matt Beecher made it 3-0 with 6:12 left in the half with a spectacular goal from about 25 meters out.

Taking the ball down the left wing, Beecher fired a shot toward the net from a tough angle. The ball sailed over the outstretched hands of Jefferson goaltender Drew Bretsch and found its way into the top left corner of the net.

From there, Pernice slammed the door on the Cannoneers, stopping all eight shots he would face on the day.

"Jayden found out just before game time that he would be our starting goalie," said Conger. "I have felt all along that Jayden is a gamer. He practices well, but when it comes game time he steps it up a notch. He couldn't have played any better than he did today, and I knew we were going to get that type of effort out of him."

Houck would close out the scoring in the contest with 11:42 remaining by punching home a rebound that could not be contained by Bretsch. Rob Horton drew an assist on the play joining teammates Keegan Vize and Alberto Galeana Garcia Cuervo, who also collected one assist each in the game.

After the game, Conger praised the play of Vize and stopper Curtis Nelson, who were instrumental in NCCC's victory.

"Keegan was able to get a few touches and make them count. He earned an assist in the first half and his the crossbar with a good shot in the second half," he said. "Curtis played a very strong game for us at stopper. He's been a little beat up in practice, but today he applied what he's learned in the pre-season and had perhaps the best game of anyone on the team."

Bretsch made seven saves for Jefferson, who were out shot by a margin of 13-11 in the contest.

With the victory the Saints move to 1-0 on the campaign. They will host Adirondack Community College in another Region III matchup on Saturday before opening their Northern Independence Conference schedule Sunday afternoon against Albany Pharmacy at the NCCC Athletics field.

"The guys know we got a nice win today, but it's nowhere near what we're capable of," Conger said. "We're going back to practice tomorrow and work on being the team we're capable of being. I'm not the type of coach who changes the game plan. We're going to stay with what we do - pressure the ball, keep possession and simply do our thing."

Saturday's game with the Timberwolves will get under way at 1 p.m. and Sunday's NIC tilt with the Panthers begins at 3 p.m.

North Country 4, Jefferson 0

Cannoneers 0 0 - 0

Saints 3 1 - 4

First half - 1. NCCC, Stackpole (Vize), 10:37. 2. NCCC, Mabon (Houck), 24:27. 3. NCCC, Beecher (Galeana), 38:48.

Second half - 4. NCCC, Houck (Horton), 33:18.

Shots: JCC 11; NCCC 13.

Saves: Bretsch (JCC) 7; Pernice (NCCC) 8.