

Election Night Return: B-CC 3, Gaithersburg 1

Eighty minutes of skillful play by the Barons at home against the Gaithersburg Trojans on November 2 earned B-CC a 3-1 victory in the 4A west state divisional quarterfinal. From the get-go, B-CC pressured the Trojans, maintaining the ball largely in their opponent's half. Twenty-five minutes into the game, defender Zoe Mesirow sent an arcing corner to the far post where Alex Doll headed it authoritatively into the net. Twenty minutes later, Alex Doll looped a ball over the defensive line to an onrushing Vic Gersh who, with equal authority, pounded it into the net to make it 2-0. In the meantime, Barons goalie Angela White joined defenders Ward, Hardgrove, Mesirow and Klontz to repel the Trojans while forward Julia Hooks and midfielders Eliza Doll, Khanna, Levin, Muller and Melander strung together a number of passes to keep the ball on B-CC feet much of the half.

Five minutes into the second half, Alex Doll buzzed the left line before cutting a diagonal to unleash a shot that pierced the upper right corner of the goal. Minutes later, forward Zoe Thorpe sent a cross to Khanna who narrowly missed scoring a brilliant header that struck the post. And speaking of brilliance, Alix Emden, her back to the goal, somehow flicked a sparkling pass through a sliver of an opening to find Vic Gersh for another convincing attack. Not to be outdone, Amy Heaton scintillated with ambidexterity, powering a number of left-footed shots and passes into the center as well. But Gaithersburg midfielder Gwen Leipe deserves credit too, her right foot pulverizing the ball into the goal off a free kick just outside the box with 17 minutes left in the game. Thanks to help from B-CC's Nicole Parina and Tess Haniffee, 3-1 it would remain, the Barons moving on to the 4A west semi-finals scheduled for November 4 at B-CC at 7 p.m. against #4 Blair HS.

The numbers: B-CC took 24 shots, 11 on goal, and three corners while Angela White made a pair of saves. For their part, the Trojans chalked up four shots, three on goal, with no corners; Trojans goalie Leslie Galfond made 8 saves.

By Karl Klontz