



TANNER ECKER, TRIBUNE

Legacy's Kellen Okerson (19) kicks the ball for a goal during Thursday's match against Dickinson at the Bowl.

LEGACY DOMINANT AGAINST DICKINSON

Sabers earn first double-digit win of season

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Bismarck Tribune

It's been weeks since Legacy's boys soccer team needed to worry about making the state tournament.

Their hopes for an undefeated run through their conference schedule, however, is one game from completion as the Sabers blew out Dickinson 10-0 in the back half of a doubleheader at the Community Bowl on Thursday night.

"We went into the game wanting to make sure our starters and anybody we put in from the bench would play the style we want to keep playing," Legacy coach Tom Marcis said. "You want to win, but at this point, it's about getting ready for state, so we're trying to not get into bad habits and I think the boys accomplished that."

A feeling-out period of about 12 minutes opened the match, and from then on it was offense, offense, offense for the Sabers.

Star midfielders James-Matthew Guenther (one goal, four assists), Uriel Rivera (three goals), and Kellen Okerson (one goal, one assist) were dominant in building Legacy's five-goal first half, with all but Guenther's fourth assist of the night coming in the opening 40 minutes of play against an over-matched Dickinson defense.

The second half was more of the same for the Sabers, with Riley Ketterling scoring twice on balls from Christian Akpobi and Guenther before Legacy waived the white flag and moved a fair number of their subs into the game.

"When you start the game, we know how they play so we're trying to feel things out," Marcis said. "We're not a quick-strike team, but when things get rolling it usually goes pretty well.

"This has been a good class for us, they've been part of the development of our program over the last four years, they've matured as players and it's shown on the field."



From there it was Legacy's backups and secondary scorers that found the net for the Sabers' three other goals.

Sam Goldade earned his second goal of the season for an 8-0 Legacy lead and Nolan Healy earned his third and fourth assists of the season while aiding Brodin Monson's first goal of the season and Sammy Torres' third to hit double digit goals.

"Varsity has to play against these guys in training and they have to play against varsity every day, so the reserve gets to play one of the best teams in the state all the time," Marcis said. "They were ready to get on (the field) and it was nice to see them put some in the back of the net.

"You don't necessarily like to take it that badly to another team, but when we put our reserves on, you don't want them to stop playing."

James Erickson took a penalty kick for the Sabers midway through the second half but found himself victim of one of 10 saves in the game by Dickinson keeper Paxtyn Paulson, who had

multiple eventual Legacy goals hit him in the hands but was unable to gain full control of the ball.

“Every goalie wants to do a penalty kick, but if you’re going to do it, you gotta put it in,” Marcis said. “It’s hard when you’re in the back and everybody else is up front. He does have an assist this year, so he has been on the score sheet. Every goalie wants to take a penalty.”

Legacy closes their regular sea-son against the same team they opened against, Williston, next Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. on their Sanford Sports Complex home field.

After a 1-0 on the Coyotes’ home field back in mid-August, the Sabers have an opportunity to end Williston’s slimming state tournament hopes once and for all.

“We have one more game before state and then a full week of training before state,” Marcis said. “We haven’t had a ton of training time during the season but we’ll be able to refine a few things and get ready.

“We want to keep working and not getting into bad habits, so we aren’t taking the game (against Williston) lightly, and I’m sure they won’t take us lightly. We’re hoping for a good match but want to keep playing our style.”

LEGACY 10, DICKINSON 0

Dickinson	0	0	—	0
Legacy	5	5	—	10

First half: 1. Leg, Uriel Rivera (James-Matthew Guenther), 11:54. 2. Leg, Rivera (Guenther), 14:25. 3. Leg, Kellen Okerson (Guenther), 22:44. 4. Leg, Guenther (Okerson), 24:09. 5. Leg, Rivera (Eduard Abramciuc), 27:28.

Second half: 6. Leg, Riley Ketterling (Christian Akpobi), 42:20. 7. Leg, Ketterling (Guenther), 49:00. 8. Leg, Sam Goldade (Dang Nguyen), 64:30. 9. Leg, Brolin Monson (Nolan Healy), 75:09. 10. Leg, Sammy Torres (Healy), 77:45.

Goaltender saves: Dickinson — Paxtyn Paulson 5-5—10. Legacy — James Erickson 0-0—0.

Corner kicks: Dickinson 0-0—0. Legacy 1-7—8.

Yellow cards: Legacy — Carson Riehl.

Records: Legacy 15-0-0 West Region for 45 points, 15-1-0 overall; Dickinson 1-12-1 WDA for four points, 1-12-1 overall.



Sabers blank Dickinson in West Region soccer

SPORTS, B1