

MJ soccer finishes district play with winning record

Tuesday, October 8, 2013

For the first time in six years, the Mt. Juliet girls soccer team finished with a winning record in District 9-AAA play. They beat Gallatin, 1-0, making them 4-3 on the season.

Riley Wending's goal on a free kick with eight seconds left in the first half was the only score. Mt. Juliet had over 30 shots on goal and spent the majority of the time on the offensive end, just couldn't get more than the one goal.

Mt. Juliet celebrated Senior Night Thursday against Riverdale, but came up on the losing end, 4-0.

"We were not ready to play tonight and it showed," said Head Coach Ryan Hill. "Riverdale beat us to most 50/50 balls and controlled the pace of the game. We never really had any good chances to score."

MJ tied the Middle Tennessee Golden Eagles 4-4 Monday.

Middle Tennessee is made up of home school girls all over the region, and is based out of Lebanon.

The Golden Eagles took a 3-0 lead at the half, but the Lady Bears battled back. Lauren Whitmire scored unassisted for us in the 7th minute of the second half. Savannah Collins scored on an assist by Julia Duggan in the 8th minute. Whitmire scored again in the 20th minute on an assist by Destini Oldham. Nataya Wade scored unassisted in the 26th minute.

"We played slow in the first half and did not pressure the ball which allowed them to score three goals," said Hill. "In the second half we controlled the tempo and gave ourselves a lot more chances to score. I was proud of us coming back from being down 3-0. The girls could have given up but did not."

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Mt. Juliet finishes the regular season Thursday at Stewarts Creek. District Tournament play will begin Saturday.