



Montoursville's Mackenzie Ruffing (9) collides with Warrior Run's Chloe Eisenhuth (11) as Lexi Marchioni (2) and Sarah Grow (1) look on Saturday at Loyalsock in the District 4 Class AA girls soccer championship.

Montoursville girls top Warrior Run for District 4 AA girls soccer title

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by: Devin Bierly

Kirsten O'Malley and Carly Mill have been playing soccer together for a very long time and they have had many assists to each other, the duo hooked up again in a big way.

Kirsten O'Malley scored off a header from Carly Mill at 81:09 in the first overtime to propel Montoursville to a 1-0 win over Warrior Run in the District 4 AA Championship Saturday night at Loyalsock. Montoursville now moves onto the state playoffs where it will play District 3 runner-up Trinity Tuesday at Loyalsock.

"I've played with Carly so long that I just know every move she is going to make," said O'Malley. "She had a perfect flick and she knew right where I was going to be and I just happened to be there."

Lauren Walker was the one who delivered the ball off Mill's head and if it wasn't for her placement that goal might have never happened.

"It's the delivery from Lauren Walker, too," said Montoursville coach Adam Scheibeler. "All year she's done all our set pieces, it was obviously the ball that set up the assist. She has 10 assists this year, all off free kicks. And Carly and Kirsten are two of the best headers off the ball around."

The Warriors wouldn't have won the district title if it wasn't for the play of its defense. It held the dangerous Defender offense to just two shots on goal.

"It felt great," said Alexis Weisser. "Our defense did amazing tonight, we all worked together and this is my first year playing defense and it's nice to play with Lauren (Walker), another senior in the center. We really kept it together well."

Jordynne Harvey and Maddy Gorini also played well on defense.

O'Malley's goal didn't come without some controversy, as it came off a free kick. The cause of the free kick was of a questionable yellow card given to Warrior Run defender McKenna Beyer, when given a yellow card, the player must be taken out of the game for five minutes.

"It was the referee's decision," said Warrior Run coach Jen Allen.

Beyer is possibly Warrior Run's best defender and the goal was scored eight seconds after she received the yellow card. Also, the goal was scored on Beyer's side of the field.

Even in defeat Warrior Run played well, again led by senior Chloe Eisenhuth in the midfield. Maddie Beyer also played a great game as she was all over the field making plays on offense and defense.

The defense played especially well led by Erika Landis, Tori Ross, Laura Bastian, Gabby Heiss, Madison Bennett and McKenna Beyer.

Sarah Grow, Eisenhuth, Bastian, Bennett and Mackenzie Hays all played well in their last game as a Warrior Run Defender.

"Yeah I mean I thought the seniors were great tonight," said Allen. "I thought Chloe and Keely (Laidacker) in the middle were all over the field making stops defensively for us and Bennett in the back and Laura just played phenomenal."

Montoursville: Kirsten O'Malley (Carly Mill), 81:09.

Shots on goal: M-5; WR-2. Corner kicks: M-4; WR-5. Saves: M-2; WR-4. Goalies: Montoursville (Marissa Folk); Warrior Run (Madi Welliver).

Records: Warrior Run (14-6-1) Next: Montoursville vs. Trinity at Loyalsock.