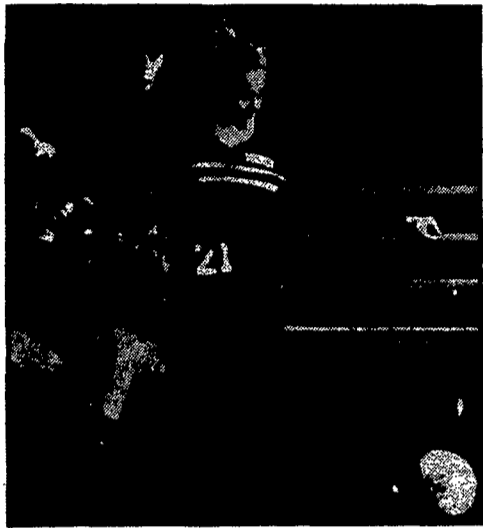


# Monarchs reach state semifinals after 7-0 win

By Lee Strong  
Staff writer

Our Lady of Mercy High School advanced to the state soccer playoffs with a surprisingly easy 7-0 victory over Williamsville North (13-3-1) in the Class A, Western Regional playoffs at the University of Buffalo Nov. 9.

The Monarchs (13-2-2), ranked 10th in the most recent New York state Class A soccer poll, are scheduled to play undefeated Shenendehowa of Section 2 — the top-ranked Class A team



Sheila Doyle has scored 36 goals for Mercy this season, giving her 103 in her four-year varsity career.

in the state — at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Nov. 15 at 1:30 p.m.

If the Section 5 champions play Shenendehowa as tough as Williamsville North, Mercy may be looking at a state title.

Mercy got on the board quickly when Sheila Doyle took the opening kickoff and scored the first of her three goals just 15 seconds into the contest.

The senior striker has scored 36 goals this year and 103 goals in her four-year varsity career.

Mercy Coach Kathy Boughton noted that the Monarchs went into the western regional well prepared thanks to a scouting trip several of her players took the preceding week.

"We knew their weakness was their defense," Boughton said. The scouting report showed that Williamsville North's defensive players were slow.

That played right into Mercy's strength, Boughton said, as she had



Mercy's Jenny Smith (right) attempts to outmaneuver Kristen Farrell of Williamsville North during the Monarchs' 7-0 win in the Class A, Western Regional playoffs at the University of Buffalo Nov. 9.

consciously built her team around speed and endurance. She even encouraged members of the Monarchs' strong track program to go out for the soccer team.

As a result, Mercy was able to control the ball throughout the game and outshoot Williamsville North 20-3. Monarch goalie Ellen Lennox had to

make just one save en route to recording her 11th shutout of the season.

In addition to her quick strike early, Doyle scored again 15 minutes into the first half, and recorded her third goal five minutes before the half to give Mercy a 3-0 lead at the intermission.

Doyle played only sparingly in the second half, but the Monarch attack didn't let up as Melanie Heeder, Tiffany Pezzulo, Megan Clifford and Anne Carney each scored goals.

The winner of the game between Mercy and Shenendehowa will advance to the state Class A finals Nov. 16 at 2 p.m. at a site not determined as of press time.

## Mercy, McQuaid fall in volleyball action

Our Lady of Mercy's volleyball team failed to advance to intersectional play when the Class BB champions lost to Class B winner Waterloo Nov. 6 at Edison Technical High School.

The Indians (18-2) eliminated the Monarchs (21-2) in the state qualifier 10-15, 15-11, 15-11 and 15-8.

Mercy, which claimed its first ever sectional volleyball title Nov. 1 with a three-game sweep over Wayne, couldn't overcome Waterloo's potent hitting and serving. The Indians recorded 17 aces against the Monarchs.

Colleen Cook, voted the most valuable player in Class BB, recorded seven kills for the Monarchs. Mercy's Nicole Roth had five kills, two blocks and three aces, while Susan Schaeffer tallied three aces and two blocks.

In boys' sectional play, top-seeded Gates Chili (23-2) swept second-seeded McQuaid (20-3) 15-7, 15-12, 15-6, in the Class A finals at Edison Nov. 5.

Gates Chili eventually lost in the state Class A finals to Orchard Park Nov. 9 at Liverpool.

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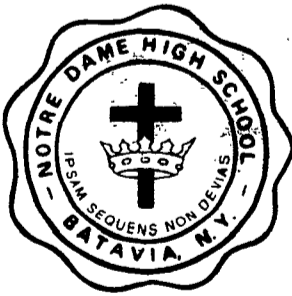
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