Men's Soccer Sweeps KC Series; Moves To 11-3-1

The St. Louis Comm. College - Meramec men's soccer team continued its winning ways in recent years in Kansas City, sweeping a pair of games from a tough Johnson County squad, 1-0, and taking an impressive 4-1 victory over South Suburban.

The Magic, now 11-3-1 and on a three game win streak, had to outlast a determined Johnson County team Friday evening at Rockhurst University. Forward Ben Hamilton (Springfield, MO) broke up the scoreless duel with 15 minutes left in the first half on a breakaway pass from Ted Huels (Kennedy), beating the goalie with a line drive into the upper right corner.

Two days later, at Johnson County, the task would be even more daunting as Meramec faced a South Suburban squad sporting a 10-2-2 record. To make things even more challenging, the Magic went down 1-0 early in the first half.

"I hope we don't have to come from behind anymore," said Hamilton. "I like how we can fight and overcome adversity."

Meramec did exactly that, scoring late in the half on a well-played double head ball in the box from the 6'6" Huels to forward Scott Gyllenborg (Lindbergh) who nodded the ball over the goalie's reach.

"We had a great throw-in from Corey on the first goal," said Gyllenborg. "Ted (Huels) managed to get a flick-on and I just did what I could to put it in the back of the net."

Just three minutes later, Gyllenborg played the role of play maker, feeding midfielder Corey Kossman (CBC) who booted in what would prove to be the game-winner. For Kossman, it was his fifth goal of the year.

In the second half, Hamilton drilled his ninth goal of the season midway through the period off a goal kick and a second, rare assist on the year for goalie Chris Miller (CBC.) Three minutes later, Mike Riti (Webster Groves) added the final touch with his fifth goal on the year off a Jimmy McDonnell (CBC) serve, to ice the 4-1 final.

"The key to winning today's game was consistency," said Hamilton. "We kind of fell behind a little bit in the first half but we picked it up a lot and put away some goals and played some good defense."

The Magic play Tuesday (Oct. 9) at East Central College (Union, MO) in a 4:00 contest. Last month, the two teams played to a 1-1 tie.