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For More Info. Contact: Bob Frischmann, Sports Info. Director (314) 984 7306

Men's Soccer Ends Regular Season With 8-0 Drubbing Of Flo Valley

Finishing the regular season with an 8-0 pounding of Florissant Valley, the nationally eleventh ranked St. Louis Community College - Meramec men's soccer team picked up their seventh win in a row in the process.

However, the blowout was slow in developing - the Magic, now 15-3-1, were only up 1-0 with 1:32 left in the first half when Ted Huels (Kennedy) added an insurance goal for a 2-0 halftime edge.

The big offensive gun on the day was freshman forward Scott Gyllenborg (Lindbergh) who scored three goals. His first, at 34:32 of the first half, would become the game-winner, putting Meramec up 1-0 over the Norsemen (3-17.)

"Their game plan was obviously to sit back and just try not to concede and they did well but I managed to get played a good ball and find an opening in the net," said Gyllenborg.

Gyllenborg was fed on the assist by passing wizard Matt Mantia (Webster Groves) who had a pair of assists on the day. The scoring barrage, said Mantia, was just a matter of time.

"They were just packing it in the backfield," said Mantia. "We had to break them down first so it took us awhile to get the first goal but after the first goal we handled the game pretty well and possessed the ball well. It was a good boost for the playoffs since we'll see them again Saturday."

In the second half, the Magic fired six unanswered goals with additional scores by sophomore Zach Costello (Kennedy), Steve Carenza (Marquette), Saldin Bajramovic (Bayless), and Mike Riti (Webster Groves.)

Freshman goalie Dan Kotsis (Kennedy) recorded the shutout in the nets. It was the fifth shutout by the Magic over an opponent this season.

Second-seeded Meramec begins the Region XVI Tournament Saturday at home at 1:00 against seventh seed Florissant Valley. If Meramec wins, they would host a semi-final game on Tuesday at 2:00.