

St. Albert 9, Denison 1

Denison falls to 7-7-2 this season and 4-4 in the Hawkeye 10 Conference

Denison finished the season in 5th place in the Hawkeye 10

Shots: St. Albert 30, Denison 6
Shots on goal: St. Albert 26, Denison 4
Saves: Belinda Pancho had 16 saves in goal and Giana Garcia had 1 save as a Defender for the Lady Monarchs
Halftime score: St. Albert 6, Denison 0

Goal for Denison: Alejandra Cardenas scored her 5th goal of the season, assisted by Xochi Arellano (8th assist of the season) and Lorena Huerta (2nd assist of the season), with 12:38 remaining in the match. Andrea Alcaraz cleared the ball from the Lady Monarchs defensive third of the field by passing the ball from the Denison 3 yard line up to Xochi at the 20 yard line. Xochi dribbled the ball 9 yards and led Lorena with a nice 56 yard pass down the left sideline. Lorena beat the St. Albert defender 1 on 1 at the St. Albert 8 yard line and drew the middle defender to her. Lorena centered a pass with her left foot to Alejandra who was wide open 10 yards out. Alejandra 2 touched the shot in from 9 yards out inside the right post.

Comments by Coach Eller: "St. Albert has a great team who will be tough to beat in the postseason and they also won the Hawkeye 10 Conference with an undefeated conference record. They have a team full of players who have speed, great touch, can pass and shoot with both feet, move well without the ball, communicate well with each other and see the field very well. The first 20 minutes they completely dominated us and got up 5-0 early. Thankfully, we had a water break which served as a time out and we were able to fix some mistakes we had been making. We had been chasing the ball, which leads to not marking up and making things way too easy for St. Albert to take uncontested shots. The last 60 minutes of the game, we played much better and made St. Albert earn their goals by beating us in 1 on 1 situations, which they did a couple of times. Hopefully, the girls will watch the film and watch how St. Albert moves without the ball, because we lack that even against teams where we dominate possession. Belinda had another great night in goal. Without her making some really good saves, we wouldn't have gone the full 80 minutes. Our goal was what we've been missing all season - making a pass where we want our teammate to go and passing the ball to open space to let our teammate make a play. Xochi made a great pass to lead Lorena and take advantage of her speed. Lorena made a fantastic 1 on 1 move to get by the defender and draw another defender, then she made a perfect pass to Alejandra who finished the open shot. We definitely need to see more of that the rest of this season instead of just passing the ball to where the players are standing. I give credit to the girls for not quitting and for competing for the full 80 minutes. We were very shorthanded due to sickness, injuries and a vacation as we only had 16 girls for the game. The girls were very tired, but they competed against one of the best teams in Iowa and gave their best effort in tough circumstances. It shows great character for our team".