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OF THE WEEK

Maddie Dahlien

Edina's leading girls soccer scorer netted two goals in the Hornets' 2-0 victory over St. Michael-Albertville Sept. 10 at Kuhlman Field. The win gave Edina a 4-0-0 season record.

Sydney Drees

The Benilde-St. Margaret's High girls soccer team defeated Chaska 3-0 in a Metro West Conference match Sept. 10. Sydney Drees led the Red Knights with a goal and an assist.

Lily Gremmels

The Edina High swimming tri-captain won her two individual events as the Hornets defeated St. Michael-Albertville 93-83 in the Lake Conference opener at Edina's Art Downey Aquatic Center. Gremmels took the 50yard freestyle in 24.54 seconds and the 100 freestyle in 54.14.

Shanze Karimi

The Edina High diver added points to the team score by winning her event in a 93-83 victory over St. Michael-Albertville the first meet of the Lake Conference aquatics season. Karimi scored 226.65 points to win by more than 60 points.

Runners from Edina

In the first 5K triangular of the boys cross country season, Edina's Ethan Richter was the individual winner against Wayzata and Buffalo with a time of 16:37.1. Andrew DeFor of the Hornets had an identical time and was awarded second place. Team scores were Wayzata 37, Buffalo 42 and Edina 47.

Ryan Swanda

A pair of goals by Swanda helped the Edina High boys soccer team to a 7-0 win over St. Michael-Albertville in a Lake match Sept. 10 at Edina's Kuhlman Field.



(SUN PHOTO BY JOHN SHERMAN)

It's 'True Grit' on the Edina soccer pitch at Kuhlman Field Sept. 10 as St. Michael-Albertville's Zaya Esterberg (8) competes for header

Hornet girls edge Knights to stay perfect

Edina stands 4-0-0 after 2-0 soccer win

By **John Sherman**

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Except for one two-minute stretch in the second half, the St. Michael-Albertville girls soccer team had a perfect plan for stopping Edina junior forward Maddie Dahlien

The Knights doubleteamed, triple-teamed and cut off every lane to the goal for Dahlien, then suddenly, they had no way of stopping her.

Dahlien scored the only two goals of the night early in the second half. The first goal was a dynamic individual effort. After missing several good chances in the first half, Dahlien had a breakthrough and shot the ball just inside the far post from a difficult angle. The second goal was more of a reaction play by Dahlien, who banged in the rebound of a shot by teammate Izzie

A minute after her sec-

ond goal, Dahlien had another grade-A chance, but shot the ball just wide of the net. Having done her job, Dahlien rested on the bench during the latter stages of the game.

Edina head coach Katie Aafedt, whose team improved to 4-0-0 with the victory said, "We worked on possession in practice and were able to maintain it in the game. One of our goals was to get St. Michael-Albertville chasing and tire them out."

The strategy worked to perfection.

"We are still figuring out how to make the offense work," Aafedt said.

The Edina coach used Dahlien a couple different ways against STMA. One was to put the leading scorer up front. The other was to use her in the midfield where she could use her sprinter's speed to make longer runs.

"Maddie is a great buffer for us as we figure it out," Aafedt said.

The Hornets were playing Minnetonka (3-1-0) Monday, Sept. 14, as this edition went to press. Edi-



(SUN PHOTO BY JOHN SHERMAN)

Edina senior forward and captain Emma Frommelt (13) gets off a shot against St. Michael-Albertville with the Knight defender Rheana Zerna (1) trying for the block. In the background are Erin Hamilton (27) of STMA and Izzie Engle (3) of Edina.

na and Minnetonka have played in the section finals four of the last five years, so the teams are well aware of how important this game will be in determining the Lake Conference champion. Playoffs are still up in the air, with no decision from the State High School League as of Sept.

11. If there is a Section 2AA Tournament, Edina and Minnetonka are again expected to be the opponents in the championship match.

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Tennis Showdown

Edina High's No. 1-ranked girls tennis team will take on its top challenger, Minnetonka, in a Lake Conference match at 4 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 17, at the Minnetonka High courts.

These two teams met in the state Class AA championship match last fall with Edina posting a 5-2 victory. Minnetonka returns its top four players from last season - the Elvestrom sisters, Annika and Karina, along with Sarah Shahbaz and Emily Jurgens. Edina is led by first singles player Sami Hankinson and the senior captains, Morgan Clark, Paige Greene and Ingrid Smith.

In other 4 p.m. Lake matches Thursday, Eden Prairie will travel to St. Michael-Albertville and Wayzata will host Buffalo.

Soccer Sept. 22

The next round of Lake Conference soccer features three doubleheaders on Tuesday, Sept. 22.

The doubleheaders that all have the boys teams playing at 5 p.m. and the girls teams following at 7:15 are Hopkins at St. Michael-Albertville, Wayzata at Edina and Eden Prairie at Buffalo.

Face masks are required for fans attending these

Aquatics Sept. 17

Three Lake Conference girls aquatics meets are set for Thursday, Sept. 17.

The big matchup that day is Edina vs. Eden Prairie at 5:30 p.m. at Eden Prairie Community Center. Edina is the defending state Class AA champion, while Eden Prairie finished third in the state Class AA ranks last season. Edina is a young team this year, but still has key seniors Lily Gremmels, Chloe Swan-Follow the Sun sports writers on son and Sophie Curran at Twitter @MNSunSports and on the top of the lineup card along with sophomore Ka-SportsStaff. tie McCarthy.