

Tecumseh pounds Springfield 7-1.

By David Dysinger

The Tecumseh Arrows boy's varsity soccer team defeated the Springfield Wildcats in dominant fashion on Saturday September 6th. The Wildcats have struggled this season and they entered the game with a 0-9 record. The Arrows, however, had a 6-2 record and had actually outscored their last three opponents by a combined score of 17-0. It would be something of an understatement to say that Tecumseh had some momentum from the start of the game.

The Arrows were quick to strike in this game. After four minutes of play, junior Jimmy Fraley fired a line drive cross to teammate Joel Summerfield, a sophomore, who promptly knocked it into the goal to take a 1-0 lead. From that point forward, the Arrows launched one relentless attack after another. The Wildcats all fell back to defend their goal and actually had a measure of success by holding the Arrows to only one goal for the first half.

When the second half began, it was fairly obvious that Arrows Coach Jason Runner wasn't fooling around when he unleashed a full strength Arrows squad on the Wildcats. With 39:02 remaining in the game, senior Zach Schwartz drove a shot from the right wing directly past the goalie for a 2-0 lead. Five minutes later, sophomore Jordan Gozelski and senior Nick Dysinger executed a series of wall passes as they ran through the Springfield defense that culminated in a Gozelski goal to increase the Arrows lead to 3-0. Less than five minutes after that, Dysinger and Gozelski teamed up again on a throw in play that led to Gozelski's second goal of the game for a 4-0 lead.

With 24:00 remaining in the match, Summerfield struck again for his second goal on a loose ball in the penalty area to increase the Arrows lead to 5-0. Forty-five seconds later, Schwartz made a slick wall pass to Dysinger, who shot the ball into the far side of the goal for a 6-0 lead. Less than three minutes later, junior Cameron Fritschie centered the ball from the right side of the field and Schwartz drove it past the goalie to make the score 7-0.

It looked like the Arrows would close out their 4th consecutive shutout when the Wildcats scored their only goal of the match under controversial circumstances. Springfield executed a throw in on Tecumseh's half that appeared to go directly into the goal. Senior keeper Jacob Heckman argued that nobody had touched the ball after the throw and that the goal shouldn't be counted. Though there was some initial confusion, the officials ruled that the Arrows had touched the ball and the goal was counted. The Arrows won by a final score of 7-1.