

Lady Arrows Lose First Game

By Tom Minutolo
August 24, 2009

-New Carlisle

Opening Days are always fun filled and exciting as the season begins anew with high expectations and a lot of fanfare. Such was the case for the Tecumseh Lady Arrow Soccer Team as they tossed their hat into the ring against a very good and determined Sidney Lady Yellow Jacket squad who buzzed out of town with a 7-1 stinging of the good guys in red and black. Sidney looked to continue to build on their success of last season as they won the GWOC North Division title and made it to the district finals in the Division 1 State tournament finishing the season with a best ever 15-2-2 record. The game started on a sour note as the Yellow Jackets scored first at 32:03. A defensive miscue on a corner kick led to an own goal at 30:12 as Taylor Thompson was attempting to clear a ball out of bounds. The lone bright spot for the Arrows in the first half came at 25:17 as freshman Jaela Coffey sent a long thru ball to the feet of Allison Denton who finished for a 2-1 margin. Sidney came back however and scored two more goals for a 5-1 halftime. For the half the Arrows showed good energy going for the ball with 82 intercepts. They struggled with possession however and won only 7 of 16 50/50 balls and had 32 loss of possession plays. Sidney outshot Tecumseh 15-6. Coach Jim Paxton emphasized the importance of getting a good first touch on the ball and in playing the ball to the flanks.

The second half saw the Arrows improve on their defensive efforts. After allowing an early goal at 39:00, the Arrows only allowed one other attempt to hit the mark as junior Brittany Koester finished the scoring for Sidney at 14:30 on a hard shot from 18 yards out in the middle. Credit Jessica Boggs for her efforts in attempting to get forward for the Arrows. All game long she was swarmed by 2 and 3 defenders and yet managed to get off 7 of the 13 Arrow scoring attempts. Kellie Gruber had 15 saves in goal. The Arrows open league play in a Thursday game vs Ben Logan at Spitzer Stadium. The Reserve's begin at 5:30pm.

-Reserves

Alexa Gallo had 13 saves in the goal in a game that saw the Sidney JV team score 6 first half goals on the way to a 7-0 victory.