

The fifth-ranked Washington boys soccer team has had quite the flair for the dramatic in the substate tournament.

The Warriors took a scoreless tie into the final 10 minutes of regulation again in the Class 3A substate final, and again the Warriors used some late offense to get the win. Washington (16-3) advanced to the state tournament with a 2-0 victory over No. 13 Waterloo West (11-9) Saturday at Kingston Stadium.

"I think the kids wanted me to turn gray quick," Washington Coach J.P. Graham joked after the game. "Waiting for the kids to score these last couple games is killing me."

The Warriors finally gave their coach a reason to relax a little bit in the 73rd minute when the Waterloo West keeper fouled Kimu Kasha in the box and sophomore Austin Bergstrom took the penalty kick.

"We have had Austin take the last three or four and he has been solid every time," Graham said. "He is left footed and that throws some keepers off, and he has probably got the best touch on the team. He is confident right now and you go with whoever feels good."

The decision paid off as Bergstrom calmly knocked the ball past the keeper, giving the Warriors the lead.

Late game flair sends Warriors to state soccer

Written by Saturday, 28 May 2011 16:12 - Last Updated Saturday, 28 May 2011 21:15

