

Saints top Iowa Falls, eye 8th state title

Written by Metro Sports Report
Saturday, 03 June 2017 06:19 -



DES MOINES - The Xavier Saints will be seeking their eighth state title in school history Saturday afternoon when they face Norwalk in the championship game of the Class 2A boys state soccer tournament in Des Moines.

Xavier (14-4) is the No. 1 seed in the tournament. Norwalk (17-4) is the No. 2 seed and the defending state champions. The championship match is scheduled for 2:30.

The Saints clipped Iowa Falls/Alden, 4-2, in the semifinals Friday.

Luke Duball and Will Hanigan gave Xavier an early 2-0 lead, but Iowa Falls superstar Marcos Villa scored twice to pull his team into a 2-2 deadlock at intermission.

All the scoring in the first half came in the first 10 minutes.

Justin Schneider gave the Saints a 3-2 lead with 22 minutes left in the match when he scored on a rebound. Hanigan converted a penalty kick a few minutes later to make it 4-2.

Hanigan was slowed during most of the season with a back injury, but he's returned to give the Saints a big boost in the postseason.

Villa, a foreign exchange student from Spain, leads the state by a wide margin with 58 goals in 21 games. Iowa Falls finished 20-1.