Written by Tom Fruehling Wednesday, 22 May 2013 23:15 -

On a miserable night of marathon boys soccer at Kingston Stadium Wednesday, highly ranked Washington and Kennedy both survived scares from lesser foes to make into Saturday substate finals.

Each Class 3A semifinal game was tied 1-1 after two overtimes and decided in shootouts.

In the contest that started in drizzle at 5 p.m., fourth-ranked Washington escaped a scrappy Waterloo West bunch 5-4 on penalty kicks.

And in the nightcap that ended at 10:15 in a misty fog, fifth-ranked Kennedy squeaked by a young Dubuque Hempstead crew 4-2 in the shootout.

The Warriors (13-4) face Cedar Falls at 10 a.m. Saturday at Kingston in one substate final, while the Cougars (14-3) go up against Linn-Mar at noon in the other one.

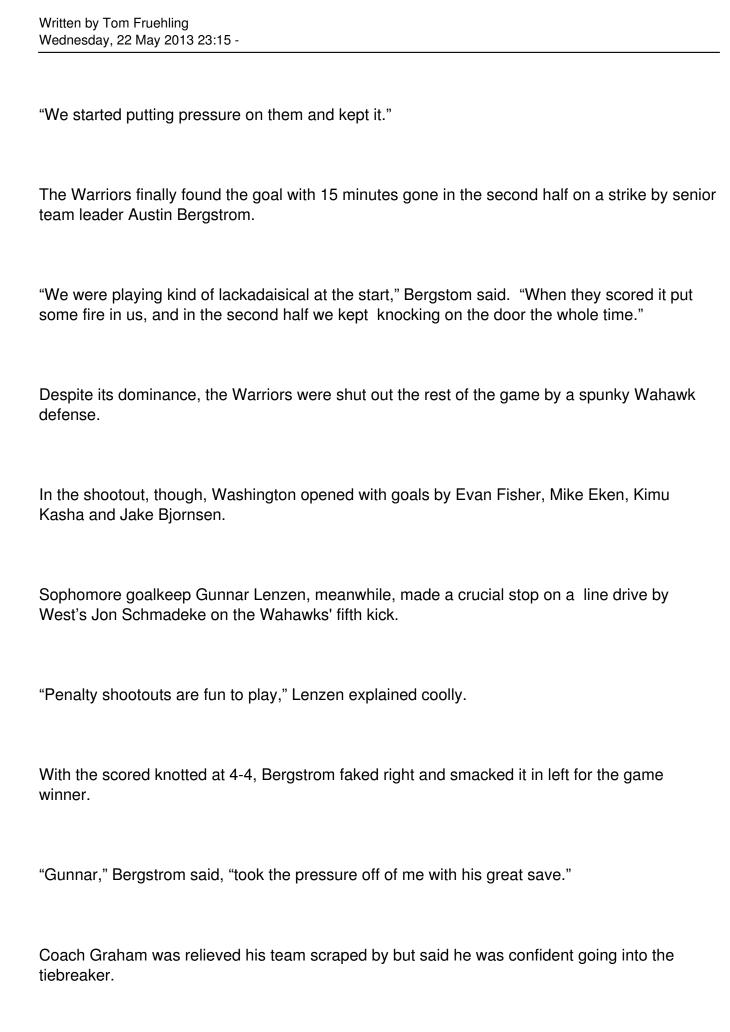
Prior to the match against the Wahawks (8-10), Washington Coach J.P. Graham exhorted his troops to "score early and often."

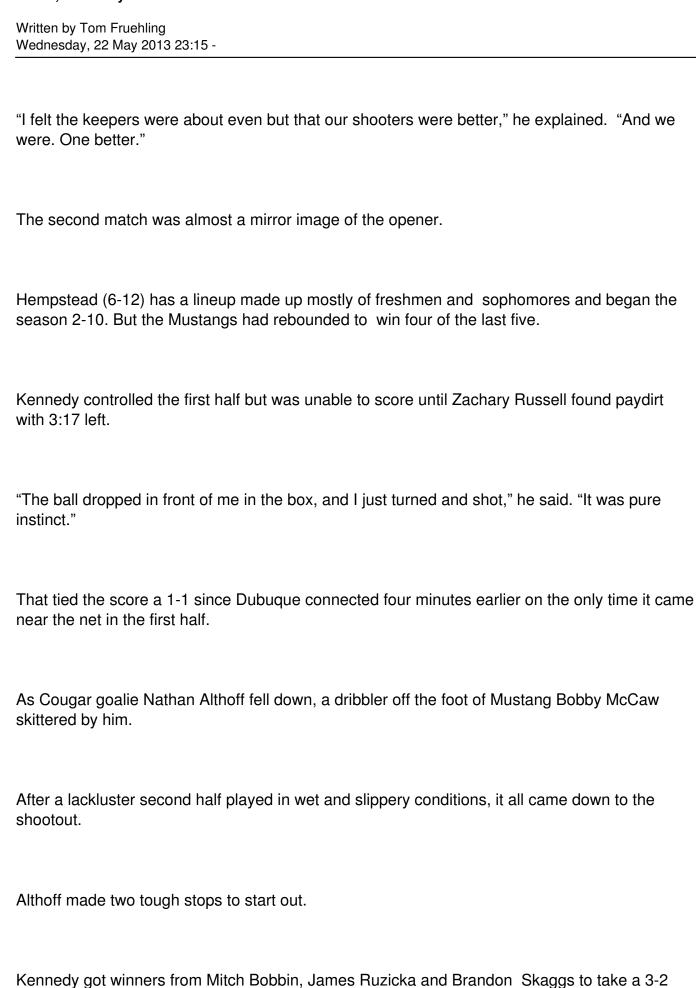
They did neither, but did manage to score exactly when they needed to in the end.

Waterloo struck first at the 25 minute mark in the first half on a clean shot by Chris Cleope.

"They seemed to start with more energy than we did," Graham said.

After falling behind, however, Graham said he felt his team picked up the tempo.





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lead. Cougar Killian Magee then put the game away with a soft shot that had the goalie going in the opposite direction.

"I look at the eyes of the keeper the whole time I'm up there," Magee explained. "I never look at the ball. It's a funny way of doing it, but it seems to work pretty well."