

# O'Hara soccer drops close game to Roman

By Dan McCarthy  
CORRESPONDENT

Last Tuesday afternoon in Springfield was the scene of a Catholic League soccer rivalry. The Cardinal O'Hara Lions were up to host the Roman Catholic Cahillites and it was a complete team effort on both sides.

However, it came down to heart and desire just one single goal by Roman Catholic for the team to get the 1-0 shutout of O'Hara. The Lions simply could not respond even with their community's support.

"It was heart and desire," said Roman Catholic head

coach Ray DeStapanis.

"It was a hard fought game by both teams," said Cardinal O'Hara head coach Matt Kelly. "Roman won. It came down to a mistake. We made the mistake."

With this victory, Roman Catholic was able to snap its three-game losing streak and pick of the first win of the year.

"It's great," said DeStapanis. "It's a big relief. It's great that is in the league."

The first half was all about defense as the score remained 0-0.

Things started to change in the second period, however. After a seven minute break to

regroup, several Lions began to pick up their game. Lindsay and Tees both attempted to score. Thomas Bottoms tried to get on the board for Roman Catholic.

Then Nico Delgado tallied what turned out to be the only and only goal on the day. O'Hara would have tied it up but an offside call two minutes later negated a potential goal by Tees. Both teams ran out the clock from that point on and Roman Catholic got the 1-0 victory.

On the day, Canavarrto made nine saves in goal.

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## Lady Royals shut out Patriots

By Paul Vanderveer  
CORRESPONDENT

Even a field hockey enthusiast who happened to be perusing last Friday's high school sports schedule would likely have given scant thought to the outcome of the afternoon's match up featuring Upper Darby and Penn Wood. After all, these two programs have struggled mightily to win games in recent seasons, and both were still winless so far in the still young 2009 campaign.

But after an hour of field hockey, none of those hard facts were on the minds of Upper Darby coach Lauren

this gorgeous September day. Enck's charges had presented their first year mentor with the initial triumph of her head coaching career.

"It is exciting," Enck agreed following the completion of the 5-0 drubbing of the home Patriots. "Our preseason scrimmages were good, and the girls came to summer practice in good physical condition. They definitely have the drive to improve, and it was good to see their work rewarded with a win."

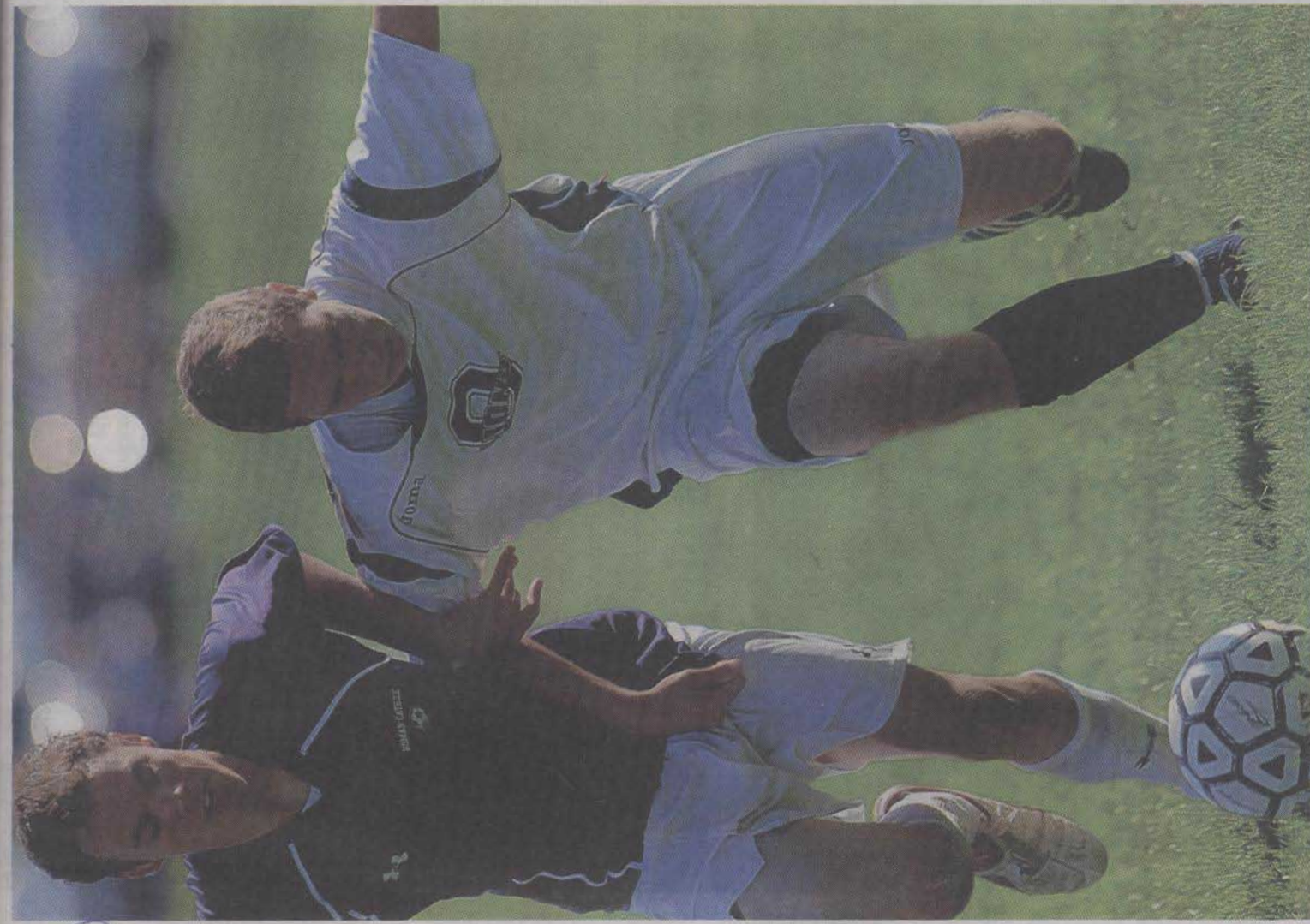
"Our teamwork and communication are improving," said junior Lauren Jordan. "We felt as though this was a game we

to take anything for granted. We know that we need to keep working and getting better."

Upper Darby competes in the tough Central League, and Enck is well aware that a performance comparable to this one will not necessarily translate into loop victories. Still, as the old saying goes, a win is a win.

"Believing that you can win is a big part of the battle when you've been used to losing," Enck remarked. "Hopefully, we can build something on this one."

Upper Darby was in charge of the proceedings from start to



O'Hara's Nick Braulinger (right) pushes off of Roman Catholic's Ryan Salayda as the two race for the ball. O'Hara lost the close Catholic League contest 1-0.

ANDRE FLEWELLEN/Staff Photographer





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**O'Hara's Jack Dwyer (center) charges toward the goal but is stopped by Roman Catholic goalie Chris Wood (left) before he can take a shot.**

## Lions shut out by Roman Catholic

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Catholic.

"He's been solid all year," said DeStephanis. "It's his first year in goal. Defense was outstanding led by Nick Valecce."

Cardinal O'Hara and Roman Catholic will face each other again on Wednesday, October

8. This time the Lions look to get revenge on the Cahillites on the road. Either way, it will definitely be an exciting game as these two teams often take on each other in postseason and sometimes fight each other in the race for the playoffs.

"I think it was a great team effort on defense," said Kelly. "It did not go our way today."

Goalkeeper Chris Woods made 13 saves for Roman



ANDRE FLEWELLEN/Staff Photographer

**O'Hara's Jack Dwyer loses control of the ball after being slide-tackled by Roman's John Dugan.**