

Examiner Sports

The 'Hills Have Eyes... on the Prize!



**Top-seeded Bobcats Come out of Quarantine
with 10 Goals in 2 Shutout Wins**

RAY GALLAGHER PHOTOS

Byram Hills senior midfielder Bailey Goldstein (10) and teammates celebrate one of four goals he and his high-flying brother, Jesse (No.7 inset), would combine for in the Bobcats' 5-0 win over visiting North Salem Saturday in a battle between two of the top programs in the upcoming Northern Westchester/Putnam County Small School Regional Championship. COVID-19 quarantine restrictions have taken its toll on both programs, including a recent 16-day layoff for top-seeded Byram Hills, who made short work of host Harrison in Friday's 5-0 win, and the show must go on in the days ahead... see Boys' Soccer notebook

Sports

Boys' Soccer Notebook

No.1 Byram Hills Returns to Pitch with Unrelenting Fervor

No.1 Carmel, No.2 Yorktown, No.3 Somers Set to Challenge for N.West/Put. Regional

By Ray Gallagher
Examiner Sports Editor@Directrays

Putting on the Byram Hills soccer uniform is akin to putting on a Yorktown lacrosse jersey, a Lakeland field hockey top or an Ossining girls' hoop tank top. It's a sacred institution, which is why the last 16 days of quarantine -- prior to last Friday -- was such an excruciating situation for Coach Matt Allen's Bobcats, who finally got back to business with consecutive wins over Harrison (5-0) and North Salem (5-0).

"It was painful to say the least to not be able to see my boys for two weeks, but we made good work during that time off," Byram D Kalden Halp said. "We made sure that each individual was putting in work almost every day over those two weeks, and I think it really gave us a sense of appreciation for our season. With COVID-19 cases on the rise now we understand that any game could be our last, so we're putting out our all for every game. This is one of the best groups of guys that I've had the privilege of playing with, so we're taking each game as it comes and hoping for the best."

The history at Byram Hills -- where the motto is "Unrivaled History; Glorious Future" -- is as rich as any soccer program in Section 1: The Bobcats have only lost two games in a row twice since 2006; they are 292-68-25 in those 20 years under Allen; they just won a 14th league title to go with six sectional titles, four regional crowns and four NYS Final 4 appearances, two state showings and one state jewel (2007).

So, yeah, not playing for 16-straight days due to COVID-19 restrictions took its toll mentally, but the unit did not skip a beat upon retaking the turf Friday and Saturday, setting them up as the No.1 seed in the upcoming Northern Westchester/Putnam County small school regional tournament. A



RAY GALLAGHER PHOTOS

Byram Hills F Ross Eagle dictates tempo in in Bobcats' 5-0 win over visiting North Salem Saturday.

win over North Salem was, on so many levels, just what the doctor ordered.

"Sitting around waiting was difficult but knowing the end date helped them focus just a bit," Allen said. "They knew they'd have more games. The boys needed a push as they sometimes play timid. They don't talk as much as they should. It's like they are too nice sometimes."

Few schools in Section 1 feed off soccer like Byram Hills does, so a two-week quarantine period was the last thing Allen's Bobcats were expecting when the abbreviated 2020 campaign began. Still, reality kicked like a mule and the Bobcats were at the mercy of the pandemic, but they appear ready to make a run at a regional crown.

"Without question it felt good to be out there with my boys again," Byram G Aidan Cogan said. "It was tough not seeing them in person after spending the last five months training with them nearly every day. We have built such a great relationship even beyond the soccer field. Most importantly, 'Practice tomorrow' are my two favorite words and that is something we do not take for granted at Byram Hills, so we are without a doubt happy to be hearing that. We practiced hard to get ready for Friday and Saturday, and we believe the results were well deserved. We have learned that our time together is more special and more valuable than ever, and we need to keep working and staying positive to make the most of this final run."

It's on, for now, but the regional tournaments are bound

to hit some bumps along the way. As of this writing, the locals within the expanded Examiner Sports region will be well represented. Top-seeded **CARMEL** (8-0), winners of the AA-North league for the first time in school history, will be on the opposite side of the No.2 **YORKTOWN** (9-0-1) and No.3

SOMERS (8-2), who could be on a semifinal collision course, making for a must-see Final 4 challenge should it come to fruition. Either way, a healthy Somers team was the team to beat going in to this whacky COVID-plagued season, so don't be shocked to see them in the end; unless George Popvic (8G, 9A), Chris Judge (3G, 7A), G Dylan Lopez and the Huskers can outlast Bennett Leitner (8G, 2A), Daniel D'Ippolito (6G, 7A), Zane Bramson (6G, 6A) and the Tuskers in Round 3 (the Huskers swept the regular season).

Carmel might get a Final 4 challenge from No.4 **HORACE GREELEY** (9-3), which was red hot before a 1-0 loss to PANAS Saturday, courtesy of Kyle Arraiano's goal from Tristian Phillips, extending the surging Panthers' win streak to four games while stopping the Quakers' win streak at seven games. Kyle Rizzo made eight saves for Panas (6-3-2), who enters the small school tourney as the No.3 seed and forget about sleeper... the Panthers are legit challengers to favorite Byram Hills after Panas went 4-0-1 to close the regular season, tying Yorktown and beating Greeley. No.2 North Salem did not appear to be on top of its game in the blanking by Byram Hills, giving Panas a real avenue to the finals.

Carmel saw Tayte Wong set up Nico Calvelli before he netted another for a 2-0 lead in a 3-1 win over RCK, assisted by Jack Aurteria. Kyle Klammer then took a Dylan Bates assist for the final margin for a Carmel



Byram Hills D Bennett Rakower (R) does yeoman's work in Bobcats' 5-0 win over visiting North Salem Saturday.



Byram Hills F Nicolas Bisgaier drills pass across field pitch in Bobcats' 5-0 win over North Salem Saturday.

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Boys' Soccer Notebook

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Byram Hills' Derek Araki-Kurdyla sends a crossing ball in Bobcats' 5-0 win over visiting North Salem Saturday.



Byram Hills' Lorenzo Amorosino works sideline in Bobcats' 5-0 win over visiting North Salem Saturday.



No.2 Yorktown's George Popovic (11) and Peter Tinaj (9) and No.3 Somers' Bennett Leitner could be on Final 4 collision course in N.West/Putnam regional.



Carmel M Tayte Wong and the Rams are stomping on uncharted territory as the No.1 seed in N.West-Putnam large school regional tourney.

team that cannot be slept upon. A regional crowning moment for the Rams would be historic on many levels. Reining Section 1 Class AA champion **OSSINING** (6-6) secured the No.5 seed and has yet to play its best game. No.7 **MAHOPAC** (2-7-1) is better than its record indicates and No.8 **FOX LANE** (0-9-2) rounds out the field in the N.West./Put. large school grouping.

The large school quarterfinals opened Monday: No. 8 Fox Lane at No. 1 Carmel; No. 5 Ossining at No. 4 Greeley; No. 7 Mahopac at No. 2 Yorktown; No. 6 John Jay-CR at No. 3 Somers. The semifinals are set for Wednesday at higher seed with the finals set for Friday at the higher seed.

Among the small schools, No.4. **PEEK-SKILL** (6-5) and No.5 **LAKELAND** (6-5-1)

have each had a solid season but neither has posted that eye-opening, quality W to make one take notice. No.6 **BRIARCLIFF** (4-4-2) has had its moments but is stepping up in class against the big boys. No.7. **HALDANE** (3-8) played tough in a 1-0 loss to Lakeland, proving it can compete. No.9 **HEN HUD** (2-8) and No.8 **CROTON** (2-8) and No.10 **PUTNAM VALLEY** (2-10) round out the grouping.

Small school opening round schedule begins Monday as follows: No. 10 Putnam Valley at No. 7 Haldane; No. 9 Hen Hud at No. 8 Croton (2-8). The quarterfinals will go off Wednesday with the Hen Hud/Croton winner at No. 1 Byram Hills; No. 5 Lakeland at No. 4 Peekskill; Putnam Valley/Haldane winner at No. 2 North Salem; No. 6 Briar-

cliff at No. 3 Panas. The semifinals are set for Friday at higher seed with the finals set for Sunday at higher seed.

No.2 **WHITE PLAINS** (5-0-3) will open up its run for the large school Southern Westchester regional at home against No.7 Edgemont (2-7) in Wednesday's quarterfinal round. The semis are slated for Friday with the finals to follow Sunday. No.1 Mamaroneck could be the last team standing on the opposite side of the bracket, awaiting the Tigers.

The Southern Westchester small school regional features several strong challengers from the Examiner area. The opening round was set to start yesterday with No.9 Hastings (3-6) at No. 8 **WESTLAKE** (4-5); No.12 Dobbs Ferry (1-6) at No. 5 Rye Neck

(4-3-2); No.10 Blind Brook (2-6-1) at No.7 Irvington (4-4) and No.11 Tuckahoe (1-5-2) at No.6 **VALHALLA** (4-4).

Wednesday's quarterfinals will see the Hastings/Westlake winner advance to No.1 Bronxville (9-1) and the Tuckahoe/Valhalla will visit No.3 **PLEASANTVILLE** (8-2-1), which has had to battle for everything this season, so Coach Beau Morki's Panthers are battle-tested and poised to make a run to the finals, but Bronxville, unless upset, will be a monster in the end. The semifinals will touch off Friday at higher seed with the finals set for Sunday at higher seed.



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Yorktown's Leitner
Runs Away from
League Field; Somers'
DeMarinis Top Male



TONY HUMBERTO PHOTOS
Lakeland-Panas' Daniel Pacheco heads down a hill en route to a sixth-place finish in league championships Saturday.



Lakeland-Panas' Grace Gallagher finished third in the league meet.



Somers' Colin Brooks, who placed second overall, leads the pack early on in Tuskers' league championship.



A pack of Somers girls cross-country athletes runs near the start of the race en route to a dominant first-place league finish.

Yorktown's Sydney Leitner placed first at Saturday's league championships by almost two minutes, clocking a time of 20 mins 04.3 seconds.

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Somers' Nico DeMarinis, front, and Colin Brooks head down a hill on their way to first and second, respectively.



Yorktown's Colin, front, and William McCarthy finished third and fourth, respectively, in league meet Saturday.



Somers' Chelsea Lewitt competes in the league meet where she placed sixth.



With a little luck, Carmel's top-notch runner Katie Turk and the Rams -- currently in a remote situation -- will be in running for N.West-Putnam X-C regional title meet.



Somers' Jessica Masterson (5th place), left, and Mia Parisi (4th place) run side by side down a hill.



Somers' Gabby Parisi took second in the girls league race.



Somers' Emma Murphy (9th place) and Lakeland-Panas' Lila Ryder (8th place) head down a hill.



Yorktown's Grace Tian (7th place) was the second Husker girl to finish.

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Greeley, Lakeland Enter Regionals as No.1 Seeds

By Ray Gallagher
Examiner Sports Editor@Directrays

HORACE GREELEY looked every part of the No.1 seed entering the Northern Westchester/Putnam Large School Regional Tournament last Saturday in its 5-0 win over host **MAHOPAC**, which procured the No.4 seed in the tournament, and the Quakers might again see the Indians in the second round of the tournament should Mahopac survive Monday's opening-round tilt with No.5 **SOMERS**.

The 2019 NYS Class A runner-up Quakers (10-1-0) drew a first-round bye after blowing open a 2-0 halftime game against Mahopac with three second-half tallies. Quaker captain Lily Shoonmaker (2G) and company were simply too much to handle, and the Quaker defense was impenetrable.

Greeley took a 1-0 lead over Mahopac on a goal by two-time All-NYS F Schoonmaker on a penalty stroke. Emma Terjesen provided a 2-0 lead, and the Quakers went up 3-0 early in the third quarter on a corner score by Natalie Laskowski, the assist by Caroline Flannery. Greeley went up 4-0 when Steph Novick scored from Emma Terjesen and Schoonmaker added the final margin late in the third.

Simply put, the Quakers appear head and shoulders above the regional



RAY GALLAGHER/TOMY HUMBERTO PHOTOS

Among the most prolific corner units in the section, Greeley's set up for a regional playoff title in the days ahead.



Greeley captain Natalie Laskowski (7) sets up an opportunity despite defense from Mahopac's Carly Ravoli in Quakers' 5-0 win over Indians.



Lakeland's Jaden Ray goes on the attack as Somers' Bella Del Vecchio pursues in the Hornets' 6-0 win over the Tuskers.

playoff field. No.5 Somers was set to challenge No.4 Mahopac Monday in what should be a whale of a contest between the bordering rivals. No.6 **FOX LANE** will visit No.3 **CARMEL**, which could surprise some folks and challenge Greeley in the end. The Rosenquest sisters, Kylie and Laila, will provide the Rams with everything they need to challenge. No.7 **YORKTOWN** will visit No.2 John Jay-Cross River, which is rich in field hockey history and should provide a staunch challenge for the Huskers.

The semifinals are set for Wednesday at higher seed with the finals set for Friday at higher seed.

Likewise, defending NYS Class B champion **LAKELAND** looks every bit of the part, and then some, to challenge for the Northern Westchester/Putnam Small School Regional Tournament after the once-beaten Hornets nabbed the top seed.

In Lakeland's 4-1 win over John Jay-Cross River, **SUNY** Cortland-bound Keirra Ettere scored twice and Lakeland secured its 24th consecutive league title and finished the regular-season 11-1. Katelyn Cerrato and Emma Ryan also scored for the Hornets, who made short work of Somers in a 6-0 win earlier in the week. Lakeland's only challenge might come from No.2 North Salem, which will find the sledding tough as the Tigers are a Class C program.

The small school quarterfinals were set to start yesterday No. 1 Lakeland getting a bye; No.5 **PANAS** at No.4 **HEN HUD**; No.6 **PUTNAM VALLEY** at No.3 **CROTON**; No.7 **BYRAM HILLS** at No.2 **NORTH SALEM**. After a 5-1 win over Valhalla, surging Hen Hud is a sneaky play after the Sailors came within a hair of .500 (5-6-1) when Sydney Muranaka and Emma Schembari both scored a pair and Paige Johannsen added another.

The semifinals were set for Wednesday at higher seed with the finals set for Friday, most likely at Lakeland.

Down south, don't sleep on Alexa Donahoe's fourth-seeded **WHITE PLAINS** Tigers in the upcoming regional tournament. Yeah, the road runs through top-seeded Mamaroneck, but the Cornell-bound Doanhoe's Tigers are upset-minded after she went for three goals and an assist in a 4-0 win over Ursuline. The Southern Westchester large school regional semis were set to open Monday with No. 4 White Plains at No. 1 Mamaroneck. The winner will face the survivor of No.3 Scarsdale vs. No.2 Pelham in the finals.

No.5 **PLEASANTVILLE** was at No.4 Hastings last night in the Southern Westchester small school playoff with the winner set to face No.6 **VALHALLA**/No.3 Irvington survivor. The semis are set for Wednesday at higher seed with the finals to follow Friday.



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Girls' Soccer Notebook

Pleasantville, Briarcliff, Yorktown Secure Top Seeds for Regionals

By Ray Gallagher

Examiner Sports Editor@Directrays

Armed with four legit scorers, **PLEASANTVILLE**, the reigning NYS Class B champion, will enter the Southern Westchester Small School Regional Tournament as the No.1 seed this week. Panthers Amber Nanaj (7G, 3A, 10P), Izzy Kapoor (7, 5, 12), freshman Jess Beck (4G, 4A, 8P) and All-NYS F Katie Moses (7, 8, 15) are locked and loaded, and a stingy defense led by G Lila Donohue Analese Picart, Julia O'Reilly, Carolyn Lee, Riley Vavolizza and Summer de Luca will make the undefeated Panthers (10-0) a prohibitive favorite to win their region.

Sectionals will not be played due to COVID-19, but all Section 1 soccer programs are hoping the virus will lay low among them in an effort to finish out this highly irregular, abbreviated season by next Monday. The Panthers, who have an opening-round bye, will face the No.9 Hastings/No.10 Blind Brook winner in Thursday's quarterfinal.

The opening round is set for Tuesday when No.11 **VALHALLA** (0-9-1) will visit No.6 Dobbs Ferry (5-4) while No.10 **WESTLAKE** (2-9-2) will visit No.7 Leffell School (3-3-2). The semifinals will be contested Saturday at higher seed. The finals are slated to kick off Monday at higher seed.

According to most Class B coaches, the Panthers are clearly the team to beat should they bring their A-game to the pitch.

The Southern Westchester Large School Regional Tournament was set to start today: Opening round games include No.9 Ardsley (2-5-3) at No.8 Edgemont (4-7-1); No.11 Mount Vernon (0-12) at No.6 Pelham (5-4-2); No.10 Eastchester (1-8-2) at No.7 **WHITE PLAINS** (5-6). The Tigers, should they advance as expected, would face No.2 Rye (8-1-1) in a very tough quarterfinal on the road Thursday when White Plains' Katie McAteer (5G, 5A, 10) would need to come up big. The semifinals will be Saturday at higher seed and the finals are scheduled for



RAY GALLAGHER PHOTOS

Pleasantville's Katie Moses is ready to do some damage in Southern West. regional playoff.

Monday at the higher seed.

The Putnam/Northern Westchester Large School Regional is full of Examiner-area clubs that are super close in terms of skill level, which should make for a riveting tournament.

The quarterfinals were set to open today with No.8 **CARMEL** (1-7) visiting No.1 **YORKTOWN** (9-0-1). The Huskers have had a historic season with Julianna Vano (8G, 4A, 12P) and Drita Tinaj (3G, 6A, 9P) leading a calculated attack. The Rams have faced tough competition, though, and

are no pushovers.

No.5 **HORACE GREELEY** (4-5-2) and leading scorer Ramsey Edson (8G, 3A, 11P) will visit No.4 **MAHOPAC** (6-3-1), which boasts three lethal scorers in Hailey Pereira (4G, 10A, 14P), a nicked-up Piper Klammer (10G, 2A, 12P) and explosive All-NYS striker Mia Klammer (6G, 2A, 8P), who is nearing a return to full health. If Mia Klammer clears quarantine protocol, she is the X-factor of the tournament, who could steer the 'Pac to a title.

No.6 **OSSINING** (4-5) and hot-shot Marlee Potillo (6G, 3A, 9P) will head to No.3 John Jay-Cross River (7-2-3). No. 7 **FOX LANE** (2-8) will visit skillful No.2 Somers (9-3) with hungry seniors Ella Kittredge (9G, 6A, 15P) and Dahlia Pepe (12G, 3A, 15P) looking to feast on opposing goalies. This dynamic duo could host John Jay in Thursday semifinals, with visions of Yorktown dancing in their heads for Saturday's championship match, though Yorktown will have to go through the Greeley/Mahopac winner, which makes for some really tough sledding.

The Putnam/North. West. Small School Regional will open up today with No.9 **PEEKSKILL** (2-9-1) visiting No.8 **HEN HUD** (4-6) and its lethal scoring duo of Lena Johnsen (7G, 4A, 11P) and Kira Varada (9G, 2A, 11P). No.10 **HALDANE** (1-9-1) has had a down year by its superlative standards but hopes to get it going in the second season at No.7 **CROTON** (4-6) and its top finisher Maliha Ravelo (7G, 1A, 8P). The winners will move on to Thursday's quarterfinals at No. 2 North Salem (8-2). The Peekskill/Hen Hud winner will be at top-seeded Briarcliff (9-2) where the Bears have been tough to contain with Ashleigh Fortunate (10G, 1A, 11P), Arianna Vizcaino (7G, 3A, 10P) and Caitlyn Dornau (5G, 3A, 8P) posing as



Briarcliff's Gabriella Chioccola (14) and Pleasantville's Jessica Beck will enter their respective regional tournaments as the No.1 seeds.

ample scoring threats for the Class B club that is playing up against some tough Class A squads.

No.5 **PUTNAM VALLEY** (4-5-1), also a Class B club, will head up Foothill Road to make the two-mile trek to No.4 **LAKE-LAND** (5-6), who will be tough for the Tigers to contain with Francesca Gerbasi (5G, 8A, 13P) and Nadia Parisi (3G, 5A, 8P) working in combo with the finisher Ava Pagliaro (7G).

No.6 **PANAS** (5-7) and its potent tandem of Kayla Guevara (5G, 2A, 7P) and Kaylie Mellars (4G, 3A, 7) face a tough No.3 **BY-RAM HILLS** (4-2), which comes out of quarantine chomping at the bit. The semifinals are scheduled for Saturday at the higher seed while the top remaining seed will host Monday's championship.

Greeley, Lakeland Enter Regionals as No.1 Seeds

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Greeley's Emma Terjesen (10) sets up goal against defense of Mahopac's Abby Gonzalez in Quakers' 5-0 win over host Indians Saturday.

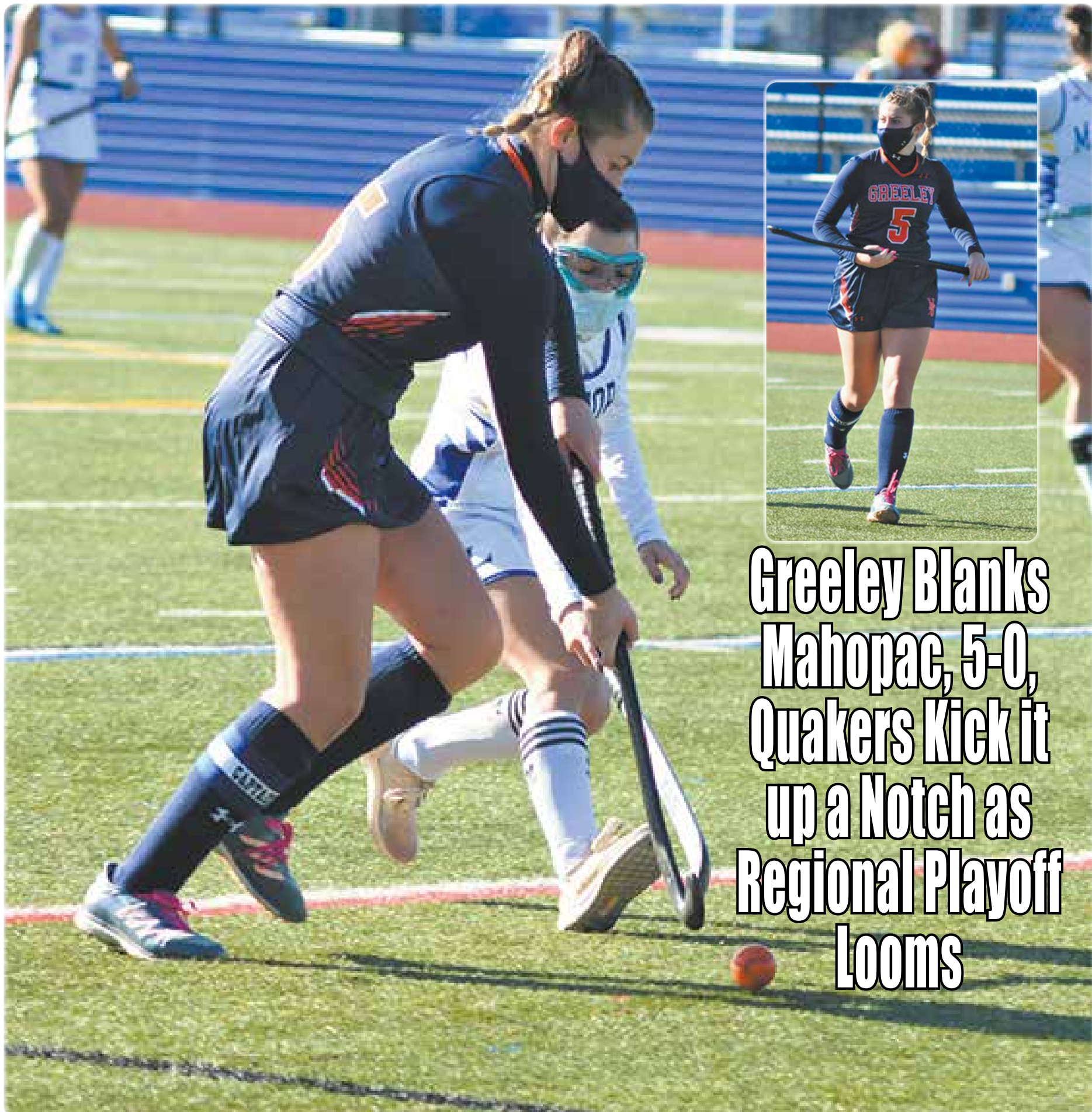


Greeley's Grace Arrese and Mahopac's Maya O'Keefe battle for 50-50 ball in Quakers' 5-0 win over host Indians Saturday.



Lakeland's Keirra Ettere and Somers' Teagan Ryan chase after a loose ball in Hornets' 6-0 win over Tuskers.

Not a Moment to Schoon'!



**Greeley Blanks
Mahopac, 5-0,
Quakers Kick it
up a Notch as
Regional Playoff
Looms**

RAY GALLAGHER PHOTO

Two-time All-NYS Horace Greeley forward Lily Schoonmaker (5) scoots past Mahopac's Victoria Fusco in the Quakers' 5-0 win over the host Indians last Saturday when second-seeded Greeley kicked things up a notch just in time for the upcoming Northern Westchester/Putnam County large school regional tournament this week. Mahopac was missing several key players to other commitments and settled on the No.4 seed for playoffs against No.5 Somers, which were slated to begin yesterday... see field Hockey Notebook