

Northeast Conference

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For Immediate Release

November 6, 2009

Long Island and Saint Francis To Fight For NEC Women's Soccer Championship On Sunday

The top two seeds advanced to the championship match in the 2010 Northeast Conference Women's Soccer Tournament on Friday. In the first semifinal held at the FDU Soccer Field in Teaneck, True to form, top-seeded Long Island (8-1-1) used its vigilant backfield and consistent attack to overcome #4 Central Connecticut State (5-3-2) by a score of 1-0, marking the Blackbird's eighth conference game won by a single tally this season. The final score of the game was decided a minute and half after kickoff when Long Island's Ariana Calderon (Sacramento, CA/St. Francis) sprinted down the right sideline to send a pass inside the box to forward Katie Egan (Hanover, MA/Hanover). Acting fast, Egan chipped a cross to Toni Smith (Rainham, England/Savarro College), who found herself wide open to follow through with a header. Smith's tally was her fifth of the season. In the second semifinal, second-seeded Saint Francis (8-2) overcame a one-point deficit in the second half to tie #3 Quinnipiac (5-2-3) 2-2, sending the bout into two rounds of scoreless overtime. The Red Flash came out on top after 3-1 shootout victory to advance to Sunday's championship game. Championship match time is slated for 12:00 p.m. on Saturday on the FDU Soccer Field.

Semifinal #1

#1 Long Island 1, #4 Central Connecticut State 0

Teaneck, NJ - True to form, top-seeded Long Island used its vigilant backfield and consistent attack to overcome #4 Central Connecticut State by a score of 1-0, marking the Blackbird's eighth conference game won by a single tally this season. The squad advances to Sunday's championship game in the Northeast Conference Women's Soccer Tournament with a 1-0 semifinal triumph over fourth-seeded Central Connecticut State on Friday at the Fairleigh Dickinson Soccer Field in Teaneck.

The final score of the game was decided a minute and half after kickoff when Long Island's **Ariana Calderon (Sacramento, CA/St. Francis)** sprinted down the right sideline to send a pass inside the box to forward **Katie Egan (Hanover, MA/Hanover)**. Acting fast, Egan chipped a cross to **Toni Smith (Rainham, England/Savarro College)**, who found herself wide open to follow through with a header. Smith's tally was her fifth of the season.

Back-and-forth soccer was played for the rest of the first half, as the Blue Devils maintained a slight 4-3 shooting advantage over Long

2010 NEC Women's Soccer Tournament

FDU Soccer Field • Teaneck, NJ

Hosted by Long Island

Championship

Sunday, November 7

#1 Long Island #2 Saint Francis, 12:00 pm

Semifinals

Friday, November 5

#1 Central Connecticut State 1, #4 Long Island 0

#2 Monmouth 1, #3 Quinnipiac 0



(NEC Women's Soccer Tournament Semifinal Recaps • Page 1-of-2)

Bryant University (2012-13) • Central Connecticut State University • Fairleigh Dickinson University
Long Island University • Monmouth University • Mount St. Mary's University • Quinnipiac University
Robert Morris University • Sacred Heart University • St. Francis (NY) College
Saint Francis (PA) University • Wagner College

Island. Central, fighting for an equalizer, generated the most scoring opportunities in the second half by a margin of 5-2. Senior **Beth Lloyd (Reading, England/Oaklands College)** had four shots on the day, while teammates **Allison Kelly (Coventry, RI/LaSalle Academy)** and **Alyssa Gillepsie (Stratford, CT/Providence)** each registered a shot between the pipes. The Blue and White finished the season 5-4-2 in the NEC.

Long Island goalkeeper **Jessica Sexton (Rochester, NY/Greece Arcadia)** made two saves for her 10th and the team's 15th shutout of the season. The Blackbird team avenged its 2009 semifinal loss to Central that ended in also ended 1-0.

Long Island take on #2 Saint Francis in the NEC Championship match on Sunday, Nov. 9 on the Fairleigh Dickinson Soccer Field in Teaneck, NJ. Kick-off is slated for 12:00 p.m.

Semifinal #2

#2 Saint Francis 2, #3 Quinnipiac 2

Teaneck, NJ - Second-seeded Saint Francis overcame a one-point deficit in the second half to tie #3 Quinnipiac 2-2, sending the bout into two rounds of scoreless overtime. The Red Flash came out on top after 3-1 shootout victory to advance to Sunday's championship game in the Northeast Conference Women's Soccer Tournament.

Out of the gate, both teams struggled to establish a dominate offense for the better part of the first half. Most of the play remained in the center of the field as the score was deadlocked 0-0 going into halftime. Although the Bobcats outshot the Flash 5-2 in the first half, Saint Francis was first to find its footing three minutes into the second half when **Barbara Maros de Carvalho (Sao Paulo, Brazil/Colegio Sagrado Coraco de Jesus)** collected a loose ball from teammate **Haleigh Dunyon's (Long Beach, CA/Woddrow Wilson)** corner kick. She converted into a goal by chipping it off the inside post eight yards out for her 5th goal of the season.

The Bobcats responded quickly, scoring two goals within three minutes of each other only eight minutes after the Flash tally. **Megan Mcloughlin (Rocky Hill, CT/Rocky Hill)** tapped the first one in on an assist from teammate Kristina Del Mistro (**East Williston, NY/Albertson Fury**). Next, it was Del Mistro who took one in with her low shot near the right side post to tip the scales 2-1.

With 15 minutes to go, the Saint Francis offense regained momentum as Maros de Carvalho delivered a cross to Dunyon who sent a quick pass to **Chelsea Traurig (McMurray, PA/Peters Township)** for the 2-2 tie. After regulation ended, the Red and White had outshot the Bobcats 13-12 in total and 10-6 for the second half.

During the 10-minute overtime Saint Francis kept the ball in the Bobcat end, but couldn't come up with a game-winner. However the squad settled the score during the shootout. Quinnipiac's **Furtuna Velaj (Stamford, CT/Westhill)** notched the first goal, and Red Flash's Dunyon evened it back up with her successful shot. After that the Bobcats ran into trouble by missing a shot off the post and getting a pair of rejections by Flash goalkeeper Lauren Fearer (Mount Pleasant, PA/Mount Pleasant Area). Fearer's final save of the two solidified the victory as Saint Francis shooters Brianna Tata (Rochester, NY/Aquinas Institute) and **Alecia McNiff (Marietta, PA/Donnegal)** both eluded Bobcat keeper **Jillian Kelley (Simsbury, CT/CFC U-20)**.

In the end Fearer recorded seven saves, while Kelley pulled in five.

Saint Francis will take on #1 Long Island in the NEC Championship match on Sunday, Nov. 9 on the Fairleigh Dickinson Soccer Field in Teaneck, NJ. Kick-off is slated for 12:00 p.m.