

HARVARD-WESTLAKE 3, SOUTH TORRANCE 1

Boysen back in time for H.-W.

GIRLS' SOCCER:

Wolverines advance to Div. II regional title match.

By Erik Boal
Special to the Daily News

Haley Boysen felt out of place watching from the sidelines in the opening round of the Southern California Div. II girls' soccer regionals, using the time to rest nagging injuries as her Harvard-Westlake of Studio City teammates easily defeated Hollywood.

But with sophomore teammate Katie Speidel in Las Vegas competing in a college showcase event with her club team, Boysen returned to the spotlight Thursday and South Torrance had no answer for the USC-bound junior.

Boysen scored in the eighth minute and added an insurance goal early in the second half to lift host Harvard-Westlake to a 3-1 victory in the regional semifinals.

The top-seeded Wolverines (18-5-3) will play No. 2 La Jolla (17-3-2) — which outlasted Granite Hills of Apple Valley 4-2 in a shootout — at 7 p.m. Saturday at Downey High in the championship match.

"It killed me not to be out there on the field (Tuesday)," Boysen said. "I want to be part of winning (regionals) and to have to miss a game was hard. I wanted to be out there playing with them."

South Torrance (26-4-3) probably wished Boysen had taken the afternoon off again.

The Spartans, the Southern Section Div. V champion, hadn't allowed a goal in five consecutive matches entering the contest and had recorded 24 shutouts on the season. But South Torrance struggled to

keep pace with Boysen, Camille Chapus, Danielle Duhl, Doni-lynn Hunter-Sallustio and Nicole Sneider all match long.

"We came out with a really strong mentality to score," said Boysen, who scored off assists from Katy Park and Sneider.

"It was way better than freaking out the entire game trying to score one goal."

Harvard-Westlake's outburst — including a 20-yard shot from Chapus off an assist from Duhl near the 15-minute mark — marked only the second time this year that South Torrance surrendered three goals.

"They're very quick up top ... We didn't adjust fast enough and that was the difference," South Torrance coach Brad Gomez said. "They're a great team. They're fast and they're tough to defend and they deserved to win."

Still, South Torrance made the Wolverines feel a little uneasy at halftime when Elizabeth Esquivel headed in a corner kick in the 38th minute to cut the deficit to 2-1.

But Boysen wasted little time getting the goal back, taking advantage of a well-placed pass from Park near the top of the penalty area in the 45th minute to chip a shot past goalkeeper Alyssa Heely.

"Both goals were high-quality," Wolverines Richard Simms said. "Her speed and intelligence were too much. We didn't create a lot of chances, but we did a good job of taking chances and when we did, we made them count."

Although Simms moved Chapus from the back line up to forward, Maddie Lenard, Leah Merkle, Erin Landau and Christine Kanoff held up strong against the Spartans, who came up empty in the second half on several long-range shots.



Harvard-Westlake's Alyssa Garcia tries to head the ball past South's Alyssa Heely. John McCann

■ DN ONLINE: Visit our web site for a photo gallery of Harvard-Westlake vs. South Torrance.

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