

## West hands Warrior girls 1st MVC loss

Written by

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The fifth-ranked Washington girls soccer team dropped a heart breaker to No. 4 Iowa City West on Thursday night at Kingston Stadium.

After 100 minutes couldn't separate the two teams, the Women of Troy (10-1, 8-1 MVC) prevailed in penalty kicks 4-2 to take the 1-0 victory.

It is the first time this season that Washington (9-2) lost in overtime, going 3-0 in penalty kicks going into Thursday night's game. Luck finally caught up to them.

"We got really lucky is what it comes down to," Morgan Bjornsen said of the previous PK victories. "When it is a PK shootout it is 50-50 for both teams. We just got really lucky and this game we didn't."

But despite the poor outcome for the Warriors, the team is still pleased with the way they played through regulation and overtime.

"We can't feel too bad," Washington Coach Sean McCoy said. "We sat in and defended and we knew that was going to be the way it went. We were going to coincide possession, let them

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have it for 75 percent of the game and be okay with it as long as we were organized and I thought we were really organized.”

The game was hotly contested throughout as both teams showed a lot of hustle and played a largely clean physical game.

“It was pretty physical,” Bjornsen said. “Both teams were going at it pretty hard. Both teams wanted it, you could tell. Both teams dominated at points in the game. It was a good game.”

It was exactly what McCoy was hoping to see out of his team against such a formidable opponent.

“This is the kind of effort you have to have to beat strong teams,” he said. “You can’t fault the kids for working extremely hard.”

The Warriors will not have much time to reflect on this game as the game against West kicked off a stretch of four games in five days for Washington.

“We are all bummed out,” Bjornsen said. “We are not happy losing, this would have been a really big win for us, but we can’t let it get us down. We have two games (Saturday) then we have a game on Monday again. We can’t let it get to us, we have to keep our energy up.”