

SPORTS

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AREA ROUNDUP

AAE picks up first playoff victory with a player down

FROM STAFF REPORTS

ANZA • The Academy for Academic Excellence girls soccer team started its CIF-Southern Section Division 7 wild-card match on Tuesday with 10 players and ended it with nine.

Despite being a couple players down, the Knights beat Hamilton 2-0 for the first playoff victory in program history.

“When they got to the field, you could tell they weren’t going to leave without a victory,” AAE coach Rick Samp said. “They’re very excited and ready to roll.”

Samp said that four players missed the match due to previously arranged school events, leaving the team one player short of filling a full side. Then early in the second half, Sasha Valencia injured her wrist and had to be taken to the hospital. Samp said she’s been released.

Leah Pritchard scored both goals — one in the 20th minute and the other in the 65th — and Ally Samp had an assist. Paige Miller saved four in the shutout.

Next up for the Knights is a first-round road match at third-seeded Frazier Mountain on Thursday. AAE — which came in third in the Cross Valley League — was the only Div. 7 team to earn an at-large bid into this year’s draw.

PREP GIRLS SOCCER

• **CHINO 2, OAK HILLS 1:** At Chino, the Bulldogs lost in overtime in a CIF-Southern Section Division 4 wild card game. Anne Marie O’Connel gave Oak Hills (10-11-3) a 1-0 lead in the 20th minute, but Chino freshman Traci Martinez tied it up in the 31st minute. After a scoreless second half, Martinez scored the game-winner six minutes into overtime.

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