

October 24, 2011

Eagles Split Weekend Matches and Qualify for the Provincial Championships



METRO VANCOUVER, BC -- (October 24, 2011) --The Kwantlen Polytechnic University Eagles men's soccer team played two away matches this weekend against the Langara Falcons (4-2-6) and the Quest Kermodes (3-5-4). The Eagles managed a tough fought 1-0 victory against Langara, but lost a close 2-0 defeat to Quest.

Saturday's match-up in Burnaby against the Langara Falcons had a playoff type atmosphere. Both teams were in the thick of a tough battle to qualify for next week's Provincial Championships and were eager to start the game. Riding the high of last week's victory against UNBC, the Eagles came out with confidence and determination. Second year forward Jacob Starheim (Delta) and rookie forward Marcos Teodoro Da Silva (Burnaby) both had opportunities to put the Eagles on top early, but were unable to convert. The game remained scoreless until the 27th minute when Marcos Teodoro Da Silva buried a shot into the back of the net to give the Eagles in the lead 1-0 heading into half.

The Falcons came out on fire in the second half. The Eagles used some sound positional play to fend off the Falcons attack. But the star of the match was fourth year goalkeeper Tom Johnston who made a number of key saves, including two point blank chances to preserve his second shutout for the season. The 1-0 victory secured a birth in the 2011 PACWEST Provincial Championships; the first time the team has qualified since the 2007 season.

"The team played another consistent match on Saturday," said Eagles head coach Ajit Braich. "They came out confident and made very few unforced errors. Offensively we looked dangerous and created a number of scoring chances. Overall it was a great team performance."

Braich also took time to comment on qualifying for the Provincials by saying, "It just goes to show what how far confidence can improve team morale. I'm proud of the guys."

The Eagles were not as fortunate in Sunday's match against Quest. Despite another strong performance from goalkeeper Tom Johnston, the Eagles were unable to capitalize on any of their chances throughout the game. Quest managed to score two goals against the flow of play, which was enough to secure a 2-0 victory.

The Eagles finished the season in 2nd place in Group A of the PACWEST soccer standings with a record of 4-3-5.

The Eagles will next play on Friday October 28th at 3:30pm in Kelowna against the host team UBC Okanagan in the quarterfinals of the 2011 PACWEST Provincial Soccer Championships.

Fans can catch the game results at www.kwantlen.ca/eagles

To follow the PACWEST Soccer Provincial Championships in Kelowna visit www.goheat.ca/soccer