

November 7, 2009

Kwantlen Women's Soccer Team Wins Bronze At Nationals



(TORONTO, ON) The Kwantlen Eagles women's soccer team made history today as the first Eagles squad, in any sport, to bring home a Canadian Colleges' Athletic Association (CCAA) national medal. The women's soccer team thrilled the crowd throughout the tournament, with two of their three matches going into shoot-outs.

Enjoying the first sign of sunshine all week, the Eagles played beyond their injuries and clinched the bronze medal this afternoon in an exciting match, defeating the Francois-Xavier Garneau College in penalty kicks 1-0 [4-3].

"We've been through a lot as a team and I'm so proud of how far we've come," said Captain Brittany McNeill. "To win the bronze medal at our first nationals is a testament to how hard our team has worked. Although we took the longest and hardest route, we gave it our all until the end."

Entering the championships as the sole un-ranked team, the Eagles made their mark this week and continued to put their penalty kick prowess to the test. Fresh off their victory from winning the 2009 British Columbia Colleges' Athletic Association (BCCAA) Provincial championships where all three games went to PK, the Eagles put in an inspirational performance at nationals and didn't disappoint.

"This is the toughest teams mentally that I have ever coached, and it shows in today's result," commented head coach Vladimir Samozvanov. "We have 11 rookies, so it is a huge step up to complete against National team players. They didn't panic, they maintained their composure and played as a team. It was a great game."

Kelsey Docherty (Vancouver) was named player of the match for the Eagles and Amelia Ng (Richmond) was awarded for her second shut-out performance of the tournament; her fifth in six post-season matches.

The championships conclude today, and the team returns to Vancouver tomorrow afternoon.

Kwantlen's varsity athletics teams are the Kwantlen Eagles. In basketball, soccer, badminton and golf, they compete in national intercollegiate leagues. For more information about the Kwantlen Eagles, visit kwantlen.ca/eagles.

