

# Eastbrook girls blank Marion for 3rd win

By Sean Douglas

Despite her past achievements, which place her among the most gifted and dominant girls soccer players in the illustrious history of Grant County sports, Sarah Foulk’s star continues to rise.

After scoring five goals in Eastbrook’s season opener against Oak Hill and all seven of the Panthers’ tallies against Delta, Foulk’s blazing start to the 2020 season continued against Marion on Saturday evening. The senior striker found the back of the net six times, giving her 18 on the young season, as the Panthers shut out the Giants 7-0 to cap off an excellent first week.

“She is the most disciplined person I’ve ever

seen,” Eastbrook Head Coach Jamie Hallis said. “She’s very regimented, and she works for everything she does. And, in playing club, she has been able to play with some incredible players at a very high level. That’s really stepped up her game.”

While the final score may seem a little lopsided, Ben Hawk’s young and rebuilding Giants’ squad held their own against a lethal Eastbrook squad. In the match’s early stages, Marion’s defense stayed in front of Foulk, making it difficult for her to find much space.

However, Foulk finally broke through, scoring her first goal of the evening at the 33:20 mark of the opening half, and from that moment on, Eastbrook took control of the contest.



Eastbrook’s Sarah Foulk dribbles the ball up the pitch against Marion. **Photo by Sean Douglas**

“I think we had a slow start. I feel like we do that a lot,” Hallis said. “I feel like often it takes a goal to settle us down, but once they settled in a bit, they found each other.”

After the Panthers’ first

goal, Hallis made several adjustments to give Foulk and Eastbrook’s other offensive players more room to maneuver, and those alterations paid off.

“I originally wanted my outside [players] to pinch in

a little bit, but we all realized that wasn’t working. We had them stretch it out, so I think that helped to give her a little more room to maneuver,” Hallis said. “Some of our girls were making great runs too, and I think that helped get things going as well. Sarah is always really good at choosing when to keep it and when to pass, and when those girls are moving off of her, I think that really gives her great shots at the goal.”

Foulk completed her first-half hat trick in the first 30 minutes of the match and added her fourth in the final 10 off an excellent pass from junior midfielder Camden Chellis.

Eastbrook outshot Marion 15-1 in the first half, which included 10 shots on goal.

The Panthers kept up the pressure in the second half. Kendra Edgell scored her first varsity goal just over a minute in, and Foulk added two more tallies in the final 40 minutes to secure the seven-goal triumph.

Marion, however, continued to battle throughout the contest. They eventually created some scoring chances in the latter stages of the contest, but they were unable to push one past Gabby Scott, who recorded her first shutout of the season.

Additionally, Eastbrook’s back line, a group that Hallis is continuing to tinker with, was excellent throughout the match. Eastbrook will be back in action against Homestead on Wednesday, while Marion hosts Kokomo.

## Controversial goal lifts Eastbrook over Marion

By Sean Douglas

Saturday night’s contest between Eastbrook and Marion produced a hard-fought, well-played affair between two evenly matched teams.

But while the match featured several highlight-reel plays, the ending will be forever mired in dispute.

With the match tied at 1-1 with just over six minutes to go, a referee’s whistle on a supposed dead ball caused the Giants to stop in their tracks. However, the ball was not actually dead, and the Panthers kept playing. Thus, Marion was caught out of position, leaving Eastbrook sophomore Andrew Diller alone with nothing but the goal in front of him.

Seconds later, Diller pushed the game-winning goal past Marion goalkeeper Malik Smith, securing the 2-1 triumph under the lights of Dick Lootens Stadium.

“We have had it happen to us before where the ball is dead and you think it’s dead and you are waiting for something and people just go,” Eastbrook Head Coach Adam Hallis said. “I actually didn’t see it because I was going to shout some instructions, and I saw [Diller] going and I just told him, ‘keep going.’” I’ll be honest, if I were them, I [too] would have come out and asked about it.”

While the Eastbrook sideline celebrated, the Marion sideline fumed. Coaches

and players pleaded their case, claiming that it was an inadvertent whistle and that the goal should have not been allowed. The goal was eventually upheld, and the Panthers held on for the victory.

“The ball is 10 yards away and he is coming from behind,” Marion Head Coach Jorge Berry said. “[The official] wasn’t facing the play; he was out of it. By them playing it where they did was an unfair advantage. They try the best they can. Things like this happen. If that would have happened to Adam, I’m sure he would have been complaining as well. That’s just part of the game.”

The game’s final six minutes sullied what had been an exciting contest – one that the Giants had dominated for most of the second half. Led by Kyle Coryea, who scored the game-tying goal on a penalty kick, and JD Fagan, the Giants maintained consistent offensive pressure in the final 40 minutes, coming away with several high-level scoring chances.

“What’s hard is that we are going to remember a PK, we are going to remember that, but we aren’t going to remember two good teams playing,” Hallis said. “Marion played their hearts out. It took a lot to contain them. We had our chances, but they amped it up. Kyle and JD are great, and luckily, they didn’t get on anything. We just got to be on



Eastbrook’s Bryce Dmyszewicz and Marion’s Tyson Johnson battle for possession at Dick Lootens Stadium on Saturday night. **Photo by Sean Douglas**

the plus-one side this time.”

Eastbrook controlled most of the play in the opening half, scoring the game’s first goal in the opening 10 minutes. Lucas Shilts sent a free kick towards the Marion goal, and the ball ended up on the left foot of Bryan Popoca, who fired it past Smith for the 1-0 lead.

However, the Giants started to assert themselves late in the half, passing the ball fluidly and keeping the Eastbrook defense on its heels.

With 26:14 remaining in the contest, Coryea was fouled hard in the box, leading to a penalty kick opportunity. Moments later, he converted, tying the contest at 1-1.

Marion continued to dominate play, finishing with six shots in the final 40

minutes, five of which were on goal, but Diller’s questionable tally proved to be the difference.

Marion held a slight 11-10 edge in total shots and a 9-8 advantage in shots on frame. Eastbrook goalkeeper Sam Spiegel made four saves, while Smith collected three for Marion.

For Eastbrook, it was a strong first week. Despite making several adjustments to their formation heading into the 2020 campaign, they shut out a rebuilding Wabash squad and escaped with a one-goal triumph over a Grant County rival.

“I think it’s huge,” Hallis said. “We opened up with Wabash, who is improving, but then you get those teams like Marion. They have always been good; they are always going to be well coached and have great players. To come out and  
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## Foulk’s 5 goals pushes Eastbrook over Oak Hill

By Sean Douglas

Throughout her entire high school career, Sarah Foulk’s ability to score goals has been unmatched.

If last Tuesday’s night game against Oak Hill is any indication, Eastbrook’s star senior striker is in line for another spectacular campaign.

After scoring 103 goals in the last two seasons, Foulk picked up right where she left off, finding twine five times as the Panthers overcame an early deficit to defeat the Golden Eagles 8-4 in their season opener.

Chloe McDaniel also filled the stat sheet, scoring twice, while Naomi Diller recorded the other tally for Eastbrook.

On the other side, Tegan Phillips was impressive for Oak Hill, notching two goals, while Carlee Biddle collected her first goal of the season early in the first half. Junior Kristen Travis also scored for Oak Hill late in the contest.

While Eastbrook ended up doubling Oak Hill on the scoreboard, it was the Golden Eagles that drew first blood.

In fact, it only took 21 seconds.

Moments after the opening kickoff, Oak Hill drove down the middle of the pitch, and after a scramble in front of the net, Biddle pushed one past Eastbrook goalkeeper Gabby Scott to give the Golden Eagles a 1-0 lead.

Quickly, however, Foulk took matters into her own hands.

With her impressive combination of ball skill, quickness, and strength, Foulk dribbled the ball through the entire Oak Hill defense, collecting her first tally just over three minutes later and tying the contest at one goal apiece.

“We tried to mark her, but she is very talented,” Oak Hill Head Coach Alex Kenworthy said. “We just weren’t successful enough.”

After that, Eastbrook dominated possession for the rest of the first half.

“We got off to a slow start, but we made some adjustments,” Eastbrook assistant coach Bobby Foulk said. “We moved the outside defenders up and played our defense more on the offensive end. We kept the ball down on their end most of the time.”

With her scoring ability and finishing touch, Foulk is always the focal point of opposing team’s gameplans, but with players like McDaniel and Diller also on the pitch, defenses are forced to cover them as well.

Foulk used that to her advantage throughout the evening.

“We assumed I was going to be marked, but it helped because the other girls knew where to go if I was coming in, and it opened up [the field] a lot,” Foulk said. “If they are marking  
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