

## BOYS SOCCER

# Everett captures CAAC Silver Cup, 2-1

By Scott Yshonis  
syshonis@lsj.com

Dadiri Mussa scored both goals, including an incredible tournament winner with 4:39 on the clock, to lift Everett to the CAAC Silver Cup championship with a 2-1 win over Jackson on Wednesday.

Everett boys soccer coach Scott Wesley said that the win was big for Everett soccer, whose existence at the beginning of the 2012 season was in serious doubt.

"It's a step forward as a program. It's important," Wesley said. "We wanted to be in the (CAAC Gold Cup), but we took care of business in the Silver."

Just before the start of school in 2011, Steve Horn was fired as Everett soccer coach, and most of the team decided not to play as

## CAAC GOLD CUP CHAMPIONSHIP

**Holt at East Lansing**  
» **When:** 7:30 p.m. today  
(Junior varsity game starts at 6 p.m.)

a result. Wesley was hired to pick up the pieces, and had to forfeit the first three games of the season until the players started coming back.

"There were a lot of hurt feelings about how all of that stuff went down," Wesley said. "The kids really liked Steve and worked for him, and I was the new guy. These guys were talented before I got them, and so it was just a matter of getting them to work together."

"We want to be creative and have a flair, and thankfully I have a set of guys who want to play like that."

That flair was on full display in the CAAC Silver Cup Final, in which Everett (12-4) possessed the ball seemingly at will for the bulk of the contest.

Mussa put Everett on the board early, when Jesus Garcia-Pillar sent a through ball that deflected off of a Jackson defender in the box. Mussa beat Jackson keeper Andrew Maurer (who made 12 saves) to it and nudged it past him 6:20 into the contest.

"We had a conversation before the season," Garcia-Pillar said. "This was our senior year and we wanted to make it count. Everett hasn't won it before, so it's a pretty big win."

Everett dominated possession, but rarely translated that into quality chances in the first half. Jackson very nearly made

them pay in the final two minutes, when Tyler Kyro's free kick from midfield was headed off the goal post by Danny Carrasquillo.

Haji Osman was Everett's most dangerous player after the break, as the Vikings went from attacking primarily up the middle to going through Osman's right wing position. Several quality crosses should have been converted into Everett goals, but were wasted.

"I don't want to say we packed it in, but we definitely kept numbers behind the ball," Jackson coach Phil Maurer said. "We tried to get numbers into the attack, so we don't just stay that way."

As so often happens, Jackson (10-7-1) made Everett pay for squandering their chances by tying the

game with 8:27 left in the second half when Elliott Marshallsay's free kick from about 30 yards out was headed home by Nick Kraeuter.

But Mussa, who was guilty of some of those squandered chances, redeemed himself with an exquisite goal.

He made a run into the teeth of the Jackson defense, weaving through several defenders in the box, and emerging unscathed to slot home the game and tournament winner with 4:39 left.

"Jackson did a great job of defending. They knew exactly what we wanted to do against them and they packed it in," Wesley said. "We created some chances, struggled a bit on the finishing side again, but Dadiri came through for us in the end."