



No. 10 Aliso Niguel rolls into Aliso Cup finals

BY [JASON EICHELBERGER](#)

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ALISO VIEJO-Another dominant victory has No. 10 Aliso Niguel Wolverines looking to make sure the Aliso Cup doesn't leave its home campus.

Lauren Miller, Alexa Watkins, and Sarah Roberts each tallied goals, as the Wolverines blanked No. 1 Esperanza 3-0 in the semifinals of the Aliso Cup Tournament Saturday night at Aliso Niguel High.

"We're a pretty deep team with players that compliment each other very well," said Wolverines coach Randy Dodge. We were able to take over the game physically, and overall, we looked really good."

The Wolverines (5-0) defeated Newport Harbor 5-1 in the quarterfinals earlier on Saturday and has outscored its opponents 14-1 so far this season. They will host Orange Lutheran in Monday's championship match.

"They have some good players that we have to be aware of, but if we put in the work, we will make things tough," said Dodge.

Attacking the Aztecs defense from the start of the match, the Wolverines grabbed a 1-0 lead in the fifth minute, as sophomore Dominique Bond-Flasza sent a well-placed touch pass to Miller who slipped a shot past Esperanza senior goalie Alyssa Giannetti.

The Aztecs nearly tied the match in the 16th minute, but Wolverines senior goalie Sammy Prud'homme made a nice sliding save to stop a scoring attempt by Esperanza junior Nosa Ogiamien.

Aliso Niguel increased the lead in the 30th minute, when Watkins flipped a shot past Giannetti and into the goal.

Continuing to move the ball into open spaces in the second half, the Wolverines made it 3-0 in the 42nd minute when Roberts slipped a shot past Giannetti and into the left corner of the goal.

Esperanza had attacking runs later in the half, but defenders Nicole Smolinski and Jordan Ansara helped keep the Aztecs off the scoreboard for the first time this season.

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