

Alabama, Here We Come!

PORTLAND, Ore. – The University of Great Falls Men’s Soccer Team is headed to the Sweet-16 of the NAIA National Tournament for the second year in a row. The Argonauts beat the Cavilers of Concordia University, Oregon 3-2 in upset fashion to advance to the second round of the tournament.

The Argos were trailing at the end of the first period 1-0. “Concordia is a very good side and a high quality opponent, especially at home at their top notch facility.” Head coach Paul Zazenski said. During the half Argo seniors began to motivate their team. “It would have been easy to pack it up after the first half.” Zazenski added.

In the second half the Argos senior scoring leader, Ryan O’Neil got going and found the back of the net to tie the score. Later O’Neil found the net again and put the Argos up 2-1 with less than 10 minutes left in the contest. “Ryan did what he has done all year for us.” Zazenski said. The Argos were aggressive and attacked the Cavaliers keeper with 8 shots on goal. The Cavs only posted 3 shots on goal.

With under 5 minutes the Cavilers tied the game off a corner kick. The Argos were not shaken. “We believed from the beginning we were going to win and that kept us going the full 90 minutes.” Zazenski added. The Argos promptly responded and scored the go ahead and game winner with less than 3 minutes left in the game. The winning goal came off the foot of senior Jimmy Sliwa who drove a corner kick feed by the Cavalier keeper to seal the victory for the Argonauts. “I could not be more proud of the guys who battled the full 90 minutes. We stayed composed and played like a playoff quality team.” Zazenski concluded.

The Argos will travel to Orange Beach, Alabama for the second round of the tournament and will face 6th ranked Grand View (Des Moines, Iowa) who beat Mid-America Nazarene 2-1 earlier today. The Argos are scheduled to meet the Vikings at 5:00 pm on Tuesday the 22nd.