

## FRIDAY TOURNAMENT ROUNDUP

## A-B on top of its game

**By Dave Benoit, Globe Correspondent**

The Acton-Boxboro girls' soccer team faced a tough test in its Division 1 North semifinal last night, but the Colonials' talent and power came through and they prevailed over Framingham, 4-1.

The host Colonials jumped to a 3-0 lead and frustrated Framingham's prolific offense to win on a frigid night.

Led by sophomore Hayley Brock, whose speed and strength were on display as she contributed two goals and an assist, the Colonials (20-0-1) looked deserving of the No. 1 ranking they have held all season.

Coach Ruairi Sweeney was pleased with and excited by his team's performance.

"This was a big win. They came out and played exactly the way we practiced yesterday," said Sweeney, who was quick to compliment his opponent. "[Framingham] is the most skilled team we have played all year. They are phenomenal."

Acton-Boxboro needed just eight minutes to take the lead, senior Lindsey Raymond scoring on a booming, high shot from almost 20 yards.

The goal set the tone for the night. By spreading the field and relying on crisp crosses and the strength of their kicks, A-B controlled the game and converted many of their opportunities.

Brock added to the lead seven minutes later. After Ceci Jensen booted the ball far in front of her, Brock beat Framingham keeper Erin Greenstein to the ball, bounced it off Greenstein, and collected the rebound for a 2-0 lead.

Five minutes later, Brock set up Marie Margolius for a 3-0 lead.

But Framingham (16-2-3) kept attacking, and got a goal from Alexandra Doody to close within two goals before halftime.

Brock's second goal late in the second half sealed the victory, but Sweeney said he never felt comfortable against Framingham and the talented Melanie Baskind.

"They switched to a 3-5-2 I think and it gave us fits," he said of the Flyers' formation in the second half. "The scoreboard was not indicative of this game at all, no way."

Acton-Boxboro will play host to Winchester in Monday's sectional final.