

## Westview and RBV Play to Rank

By: Amberly Richardson

Posted: Wednesday, January 14, 2009 11:10 am

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**Shannon Hardy** nailed in the opening goal for the **Westview** varsity girls in their 2-0 win over **Rancho Buena Vista** on Tuesday night at Westview. The showdown between the two highly ranked teams lived up to expectations. RBV was a bit slow on the get-go but played a high-pressure second half to prove it is as good as advertised. The mutual respect from both sidelines echoed the sentiment.

The conceptual numbers are nice but not everything. Westview is ranked No. 2 in XK San Diego's latest [Power Rankings](#) and is inching toward the top-10 in an ESPN poll.

"The girls found out about it and then we tried to put that behind us," Coach **Peter Stogsdill** said. "It's neat that people think that way of your team, but in the end it all doesn't matter if you don't win **CIF**. That's our ultimate goal. In a way, those types of rankings put a lot of pressure on us because everyone is gunning for you."

RBV's first half made it seem like the Longhorns were feeling similar pressure.

"I don't know what it was tonight," Coach **Tim Leary** said. "I don't know if [Westview] got in their head or what. We didn't play like we can. The first half was 40 miserable minutes. But in the second half, they did a lot better and they got their legs moving."

"We learned a lesson tonight that I've taught for three years, but we keep getting re-taught the same lesson: If we turn the ball over in our end against a good team, they are going to make us pay. And they did that twice tonight."

Westview scored two first-half goals. Ten minutes in, senior **Courtney Lovelace (Surf)** implemented a cross and Hardy (Jr.) made the follow-through for the game's opening score.

RBV looked for the equalizer with efforts from **Devyn Leslie**, who was first to the ball and did her best to change momentum to the Longhorns' favor.

But Westview boasted freshman **Cassie Collins (Surf)**, who was crucial for Westview in mid. She was at the heart of Westview's ability to move the ball and keep options open. Her energy and that of her teammates allowed the Wolverines to keep the ball in scoring position.

**Melissa Gonzalez** (So.) and **Nikki Wittak** (Jr.) took advantage of possession when Gonzalez rebounded Wittak's shot and pushed it into the back of the net with less than two minutes remaining in the first half.

Westview saw double the pressure from RBV in the final 40 minutes. **Andrea Morales (Jr./Surf)**, **Soledad Gomez** (Jr.) and Leslie were consistently crafty.

For the first 30 minutes after the break, RBV was winning all the 50-50 balls and dominating possession. Sweeper **Brittini Beeman (Jr./Surf)** played a big role as she kept the ball in front of her and attempted a shot.

RBV showed a lot more pizzazz, but its shots needed to be tweaked.

In the final quarter of the second half, Westview took the ball and never looked back.



Freshman Cassie Collins is as good as it gets in midfield.

