

# Lady Chiefs prevail, 1-0

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>> **SOCCER SATURDAY**

**Saturday was "Soccer Saturday" in West Caldwell.**

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**WEST CALDWELL** — It seems that the Caldwell High School girls soccer team is beginning to hit its stride, while things may be beginning to go in the wrong direction for West Essex.

In a defensive struggle on Friday afternoon at Essex Valley School, the Lady Chiefs held off the Lady Knights, 1-0. The win improved Caldwell to 3-4, while West Essex dropped to 1-6-1.

"We got the lead and our defense did a tremendous job," said Caldwell head coach Mike Teshkoyan. "Our defense was spectacular. There was a lot of pressure on us, and they just stayed poised, which we try to teach them and they solved problems together, and they were a rock back there."

The lone goal came off the foot of Emily Cannavale, who happened to be in the right place at the right time, redirecting a free kick try from Lexie Sodano, and deflecting it in for a score, with 33 minutes left in the contest.

"It kind of just came to me and I just tapped it in. It was a great feeling," Cannavale said. "...I think we played awesome and we really held it together, especially in the end, when they were about to score. We stayed so strong and just kept going."

West Essex was knocking on the door all throughout the second half, getting a few close scoring opportunities, but were never able to burst the door down and tie the game.

"We were getting called with fouls and you can't blame the refs as much as I am not agreeing with the calls, I feel that we have to adjust our system of play," said West Essex head coach Toni-Anne Cavallo. "I do feel that it was a little bit lopsided. ... I tell my girls to play physical, and then today it was almost like they weren't rewarded for playing physical."

With the exception of Cannavale's goal, it was a pretty evenly played match, which can be expected any time West Essex faces Caldwell. Early in the first half, it was Caldwell who controlled play for the most part, getting three scoring opportunities within the first 20 minutes.

Later on in the half, West Essex began to possess the ball some, and had a few shots deflected, a shot hit off of the high post and a few other close

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