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UA lacrosse teams gaining postseason momentum

By MICHAEL ALWOOD

The members of the Upper Arlington High School girls lacrosse team will get out of school early today because the Golden Bears have a long bus ride ahead of them.

The Bears travel to Mason to take on Thomas Worthington in the Ohio School girls Lacrosse Association Division I South-Central upper bracket final.

Arlington got to this stage of the postseason with a 13-7 win over visiting Mason Thursday in which Erika Brooker scored four goals and Nancy Baker had three goals.

Worthington moved to the final with a 9-6 win over Dublin Jerome Friday and now the Cardinals and Bears will play for a second time this year.

Their first meeting came in Arlington's first game of the season (March 28) and produced an 11-4 UA victory.

But a lot of water has gone under the bridge since then and the Bears are expecting anything but an easy go of it today.

"Although it was our first game of the season and the score said 11-4, I felt like it was an intense game the whole entire time," said senior Tori Conway, who scored two goals Thursday. "The outcome made it seem like it was an easy game but it was still a tough game. And teams change over an entire season and they're a team that has definitely got a lot better. So we can't take the game lightly at all."

"They definitely have a good transition," senior Molly Everett agreed. "They pass well in the midfield and they have improved on that. I think it will be a good game. We know their team pretty well so I think there's a little bit of a rivalry too. It's a really big game for us and we're looking forward to it."

A lot of parents and fans might be wondering why teams from Arlington and Worthington have to travel all the way to the Cincinnati area to square off, but that's just the way the OSLA does things. The rules call for a neutral site and Mason is certainly that. Besides, it's not the first time for the Bears.

"We did that two years ago," Conway said. "We went to Cincinnati to play Columbus Academy. It is kind of crazy but that's what we have to do. It kind of gives us motivation to bring the game back to Arlington."

The winner of today's game will advance to the state tournament hosted by Upper Arlington June 1 and 2.

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News photo by Michael Alwood
Upper Arlington senior Molly
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