

# Paule's three goals lift Houston

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Sports Writer

**BRENTWOOD** — Germantown Houston won its first TSSAA boys state soccer title here yesterday, holding off Ooltewah 3-1 in a game that looked hauntingly familiar to its marathon semifinal win Friday.

In both games, Houston jumped out to an early 2-0 lead, but in Friday's win over Science Hill, Houston lost its lead and eventually was taken into double-sudden death before winning.

"We learned our lesson from Friday's game," said Houston junior Ross Paule, the tournament's most valuable player who scored three goals yesterday. "I think we slacked up a bit after we got the 2-0 lead then and today we made sure we didn't let up."

Behind Paule, Houston (21-1-1) certainly proved to be the best. Paule's second goal

## All-tourney team

**Brentwood High:** Stephen Klein, Matt Hutcheson.

**Germantown Houston:** Ross Paule (MVP), Jason Dunn, Mike Miller, Carey Talley and Alper Cetingok.

**Science Hill:** Brian Hemphill, Matt Morrow.

**Ooltewah:** Travis Giles, Shytan Davidson.

and goal of the game, at the 32:20 mark of the first half, gave Houston a 2-0 lead.

After Ooltewah's Sean Smith cut the margin to 2-1 midway through the second half, Paule responded with his third goal to make it 3-1.

"Ross is amazing," said Houston Coach David Stephens. "He's was phenomenal to-

day [yesterday] but he's been doing that all season. "It's hard to imagine he could be that kind a player because he's such a good kid. He keeps this team together."

Houston's pressure on Ooltewah goalie Andy Arbuckle was relentless. The Gambler's outshot the Owls 32-6.

Ooltewah, which knocked off Brentwood High 3-2 in two overtimes Friday, finished at 19-1.

"Houston has a great team," said Ooltewah Coach Gus Stone. "They beat us to the ball most of the time and that's what hurt us. But after we spotted them the 2-0 lead we played pretty much even."

"We came here to win the state and when we're playing up to our ability there's really no one that can touch us," said Paule. "Everyone, including our bench, does a great job." ■