

## Giant killer Frontier enter quarter: Heavy rain put off WAPDA-Balochistan tie in Women's Football

Contributed by Ali Ahsan  
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Lahore, 29 July : The heavy downpour forced the Group-B match between Pakistan WAPDA, gold medallist in 2006 and silver medalist in 2005, 2008, and Balochistan to abandonment in the sixth National Women Football Championship today at huge Jinnah Stadium, Aabpara, Islamabad. Earlier, first timers Peshawar's Frontier College maintained themselves as "Giant killer" with 1-1 draw against HEC in Group-C at same venue. The League matches will be concluded on 31 July, followed by Quarter-finals on 1, 2 August. The semi-finals are being scheduled for 4 August while third-place match and final will be played on 5 August.

WAPDA required three clear points to win the match and quarter-final stage against Balochistan, got the lead they were looking for when opportunist striker Nadia Bhatti smashed the ball into back of the net as early as sixth minute. The electricity women stretched their lead until the interval. WAPDA led 1-0 at interval but heavy rain forced Referee Shafaat Habib (Army) to send both the teams to the dressing room as both was sailing onto the pitch. The match will be replayed at a later date.

Earlier in Group-C, Frontier Women College showed braveness and dedication in their maiden appearance and drew with seasoned Higher Education Commission (HEC) to enter the last eight. They managed four points in two matches after overpowering Sindh 1-0 in their first match on 27 July. The team under coaching of Gohar Zaman showed committment with Rabia Zaman dominating the field as skilfull play maker. The first half was locked 0-0 with both the teams relied too heavily on defensive tactics and both the goals were recorded in the second session. HEC broke the deadlock in the 54th minute when striker Hina Qasim cut in from left gallery and clipped the ball past advancing Frontier keeper. Hardly three minutes had elapsed, Frontier snatched the equalizer when midfielder Uzma Usman's long range drive eleduded several feets and went into left corner. It stayed 1-1, pushing Frontier to quarter-final berth. HEC required draw against Sindh on Saturday to enter the quarter-finals.

Friday (30 July) Fixture

: Islamabad v Diya FC (5.30 PM, Jinnah Stadium), Sports Sciences v Azad Kashmir (5.30 PM, Ground No.2)