

## BAKER GIRLS SOCCER

# McCall-Donnelly shuts out Baker

By COREY KIRK

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The Vandals of McCall-Donnelly, Idaho, came to the Baker Sports Complex Saturday, Aug. 28 and handed the Baker girls soccer team a 5-0 loss.

Coming less than 36 hours after a season-opening loss to Weiser, Idaho, the second nonleague match against an Idaho opponent gave the Baker coaching staff another chance to tinker with formations and prepare the Bulldogs for the league season to come.

"This is still preseason," Baker assistant coach Christine Teegarden said. "We are getting in better condition. We don't have that many practices under our belt (and) it's not a league opponent."

Incorporating a new field scheme is a focus for the Bulldogs.

"We have still been playing the 4-3-2-1 formation, and we made a little bit of an adjustment where the back line is supposed to play a certain way," Teegarden said. "We took feedback from the first game, and we learned how we can make this (work) for us, and we are still trying to get them to understand their positions better in general."

Baker coaches also had to adjust to a roster disruption.

With junior goalkeeper Neah Thomas away for the weekend, head coach Eric Layton put junior Teygan Coley between the posts.

"Teygan, I think, played in middle school a little bit of goalie, so we worked with her yesterday and a little bit before the game today," Teegarden said. "She stepped up and took the role knowing it had a lot of pressure. Honestly, and I think the team agrees, that she was our MVP at this



Corey Kirk/Baker City Herald

Junior Teygan Coley, No. 0, stepped up to play goalkeeper for the Baker Bulldogs Saturday, Aug. 28 against McCall-Donnelly, Idaho. Here Coley blocks a shot early in the first half against the Vandals.

point. Even though it was 5-0 at the end, Teygan had a lot of good blocks." The Vandals scored two early goals and led 2-0 at halftime.

But Teegarden said the first 40 minutes were not without positives for the Bulldogs.

"We were hearing communication throughout the first half, that's good," she said. "They were doing a really good job staying in their positions. What we talked about, what we really wanted to see, was (being) first to the ball, and then controlling and possession more, which we didn't necessarily see."

The Vandals scored again early in the second half, but then neither team was able to score for the next 30 minutes.

The Bulldogs struggled to advance the ball beyond midfield. Teegarden said Baker players need to be more patient, even when they're behind.

"They were playing in that flustered, want to catch up game, and you see a lot more of them booting it, hoping for

the best," she said. "We need to get the passes together and strategically move it up."

The Vandals sealed the victory with two more goals at the end of the match.

Teegarden said the coaching staff emphasized to the Bulldogs that the season has just begun, and that they need to be excited about practices and matches to come.

"We can't let their outlook reflect on the rest of the season; it's very important for them to realize we have had very little practice," Teegarden said. "These are a couple of preseason games, it doesn't say how the rest of the season is going to go. Let it roll off, but also let this be a decider or a motivator of how much you want to invest going forward."

Baker returns to the Sports Complex this afternoon for a 4 p.m. kickoff against Pendleton/Weston-McEwen.

## BAKER BOYS SOCCER

## Vandals nip Bulldogs, 2-1

■ Freshman Aldo Duran nets Baker's first goal of season

By COREY KIRK

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In front of a sideline full of fans, and the occasional dust cloud whipped up by afternoon winds, the Baker boys soccer team couldn't overcome the McCall-Donnelly Vandals in a defensive struggle, losing 2-1 Saturday, Aug. 28 at the Sports Complex.

Baker fell to 0-2 on the season.

Head coach Victor Benites had two objectives for the Bulldogs as they sought to rebound from a 3-0 loss at Weiser, Idaho, on Aug. 26.

"They were going to have to communicate more, and be able to throw the ball and pass the ball better," Benites said.

A few minutes into Saturday's match, a referee called a violation on the Vandals, leading to a penalty kick for senior captain Wyatt Hawkins.

Hawkins netted the shot, and Baker thought it had taken a 1-0 lead.

But a referee whistled Baker for encroachment and waved off the goal.

That's the sort of costly mistake Baker can't afford to make, Benites said.

"We have to pay attention," he said. "I am not blaming anyone but little things like that can cost you a game. You have to focus, and you have to be ready."

The Vandals scored in the 10th minute to lead 1-0, but 15 minutes later Baker tied the score on freshman Aldo Duran's goal, the Bulldogs' first of the season.

"I thought it was a pretty good goal, it was a pass from another freshman which was Alan (Bedolla)," Benites said. "Being a freshman and scoring a goal, that was pretty cool, he was all excited."

McCall-Donnelly scored again



Corey Kirk/Baker City Herald

Senior goalkeeper Silas Carter sends the ball downfield Saturday, Aug. 28 against McCall-Donnelly, Idaho, at the Baker Sports Complex.

late in the first half to lead 2-1 at intermission.

Benites said he was proud of senior goalkeeper Silas Carter, who had more than 10 saves in the first half alone.

"I can always count on him," Benites said of Carter. "He's been playing goalie for three years I do believe, and he's one of the kids you can play anywhere on the field and he can do good for you."

During halftime Benites said he exhorted the Bulldogs to be more aggressive on offense.

"We need to take more shots," he said. "(At) halftime they had 17 shots on goal, we had 5. We needed to have better shots and better passes."

Baker kept the ball on the Vandals' side much of the second half, but the Bulldogs couldn't capitalize.

"They did really well, they did what I asked them to do," Benites said.

He said he urged his players to not dwell on the loss.

"They are slowly improving a bit on the things we work on during practice," Benites said. "We didn't know what kind of team they were going to be."

Baker will play host to the Four Rivers Falcons on Thursday, Sept. 2 at 4 p.m.

## Charbonnet has 3 TDs in UCLA debut as Bruins rout Hawaii

By JOE REEDY

Associated Press

PASADENA, Calif. — The mother of UCLA quarterback Dorian Thompson-Robinson echoed the thoughts of many Bruins fans during the first half of Saturday's game against Hawaii after Zach Charbonnet scored his third touchdown.

Melva Thompson-Robinson tweeted "Thanks @UMichFootball" as Charbonnet rushed 106 yards in his UCLA debut and the Bruins rolled to a 44-10 season-opening victory at the Rose Bowl.

Charbonnet — who was at Michigan the past two seasons before transferring — also became the first Bruins back since Johnathan Franklin in 2012 to run for three TDs in a season-opener.

"My line put me in great situations when I did have an opportunity," Charbonnet said. "It allowed us to be one-on-one defenders, and that's all as a running back you can ask for."

UCLA scored on its first five possessions and roared out to a 31-3 halftime lead as it snapped an eight-game losing streak to nonconference teams dating back to 2017. It is also the first time that Chip Kelly has won an opener in four seasons as UCLA's coach.

"We're just excited as a team. I thought our kids played with great energy," Kelly said. "There is an idea with what you think you can do in all three phases of the game (coming into the season), but until you actually play another opponent, you're not sure."

Charbonnet scored UCLA's first touchdown midway through the first quarter on a 21-yard run after great blocks from the right side of the offensive line to extend the lead to 10-0.

The junior's best run of the day came with 47 seconds remaining in the first quarter when he broke four Hawaii tackles before turning on the speed for a 46-yard touchdown to make it 24-3. He then went over 100 yards on his sixth carry with a 21-yard score on the next possession.

Charbonnet wasn't the only UCLA back to fare well against the Rainbow Warriors. Britain Brown added 78 yards on 13 carries as the Bruins rushed for 244 yards and averaged 5.7 yards per carry.

"They run angry, and we love that as an offensive line," lineman Jon Gaines II said. "To be able to have the opportunity to get them to the second and third level and see



Luis Sinco/Los Angeles Times-TMS

UCLA running back Zach Charbonnet breaks free for a touchdown run against Hawaii in the first quarter Aug. 28, 2021.

what they can do, it's a great experience for us."

Brown also reached the end zone. His 1-yard TD with 6:06 remaining in the first quarter made it 17-0 four plays after defensive lineman Datona Jackson picked off Chevan Cordeiro's pass deep in Hawaii territory.

Dorian Thompson-Robinson was 10 of 20 for 130 yards. He completed all four of his passes on the opening drive of the second half, culminating in a 44-yard strike to Kazmeir Allen to make it 37-3.

Hawaii's lone touchdown came late in the third quarter on a 1-yard pass from Cordeiro to Caleb Phillips. Cordeiro was 24 of 46 for 216 yards.

"No excuses. We just played poorly. We played poorly, we coached poorly, and we got beat by a team that was better than us today," Hawaii coach Todd Graham said. "But we made 'em look a lot better by playing very poor."

## SPECIAL TEAMS WOES

Hawaii's Matthew Shipley had a career-long, 48-yard field goal in the first quarter, but he had two critical errors on punts.

After the Rainbow Warriors went three-and-out on their opening drive, Shipley's knee hit the ground as he fielded the snap, allowing the Bruins to take over at the Hawaii 15.

In the third quarter, Ale Kaho blocked Shipley's punt and it was recovered by David Priebe in the end zone for UCLA's final TD. Hawaii came into the game with the nation's longest streak without a blocked punt at 154 games.

It was UCLA's first blocked punt since 2016.

## LESS THAN FULL HOUSE

A 12:30 p.m. late August kickoff and students not reporting to UCLA's campus until later next month didn't translate to a huge crowd.

The game had an announced attendance of 32,982, which is the second-lowest for a UCLA game since the Bruins moved to the Rose Bowl in 1982. The record low remains 32,513 against Oregon State in 1992.

## THE TAKEAWAY

Hawaii: Calvin Turner Jr. came into the game as the nation's leading returner in career all-purpose yards (4,359 yards), but the senior all-purpose back was held to 50 yards on five receptions.

UCLA: Kelly said the one thing he likes about having Brown and Charbonnet is that both are physical three-down backs.

"It's comforting to know there is not much of a transition between either of those guys. Britain and Zach are very similar in terms of body types and the types of runs that they can do. When you play the schedule that we play, where you need to have multiple running backs, I was very happy with how those guys played today."

## UP NEXT

Hawaii: Hosts Portland State on Sept. 4. It will be the Rainbow Warriors' first home game on campus after Aloha Stadium was shuttered at the conclusion of last season.

UCLA: Hosts No. 16 LSU on Sept. 4 in the first meeting between the two programs.

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