

Braves shutout 5-0 in PBC season finale

By Matt Smith
Sports Editor

The UNCP men's soccer team was shutout 5-0 in their Peach Belt Conference tournament opener against Columbus State in Morrow, Ga., on Nov. 3.

The Black and Gold offense put up 11 shots to the Lakers' 17, but failed to connect to fall scoreless in their season finale.

Clayton State scored three goals in a five minute span in the first half, the first coming in the game's 21st minute by senior Matthias Faublas. Faublas broke past the Braves' defense down the middle of the field to score his sixth goal of the season. Sophomore Leighton Fredericks was credited with the assist.

Four minutes later,

sophomore Sam Bevan scored the Lakers' second goal of the game, scoring off a direct kick from the top of the penalty box to give Clayton State a 2-0 lead.

Clayton State's flurry of first half goals ended at the 26-minute mark, when junior Igor Lukic scored the team's third goal of the half off a header from inside the box. Senior Kyle Timm tallied the assist for the Lakers.

Second half scoring

In the second half, the Braves' scoring woes continued while Clayton State's offense thrived.

The Lakers would add two more goals to their total, with Fredericks adding the fourth goal in the 49th minute. The sophomore took a cross from the left side of the

box and blasted a shot by UNCP goal keeper Tom Courtney for his ninth goal of the year.

Clayton State's final goal came at the 68-minute mark when Faublas found the back of the net for the second time on the night. Faublas took a ball from the right side of the box and sent a 15-yard strike into the bet for the 5-0 lead.

Black and Gold senior Diego Castillo led the Braves with four shots on the night, with sophomore Andy Pullin adding two of his own.

Courtney had four saves in the net for the Braves.

With the loss, the Black and Gold finish the year with an 8-8-2 overall record, with a 3-4-1 mark in the Peach Belt Conference.



Photo by Stephanie French

Junior Travis Mulford dribbles past the defense. The Black and Gold fell 5-0 to Clayton State Nov. 3.



Photo courtesy of UNCP Sports Information

UNCP sophomore Carlos Cipriano scored the Braves' lone goal in a 1-1 game against Peach Belt Conference foe North Georgia to help the Braves hold on for the tie on Oct. 31.

Braves battle to a 1-1 tie

By Jared Leblanc
Staff Writer

Carlos Cipriano gave the Black and Gold their only goal of the game in their 1-1 tie against the Saints of North Georgia on Oct. 31.

The game was played at Lumpkin County High School's artificial turf field due to the severe rain in the Dahlonega area the previous 24 hours prior to kickoff.

Even with the change in venue the Braves came out of the gate strong. They registered four shots in the opening half and were able to capitalize in the 35th minute.

The goal came from Cipriano when he received a pass from Andy Pullin at the top of the box and was able to shoot the ball through the outstretched arms of North Georgia keeper Rade Tanaskovic. The score stayed 1-0 throughout the rest of the first half.

However, the score didn't stay that way for long. The Saints were able to break into the scoring column when Ben Tayi

scored his first collegiate goal. That goal tied the game at one and that's the way the score would stay for the rest of the game.

The game stayed tied mostly due to the outstanding play of both team's net minders Horatio Bynes and Rade Tanaskovic.

Bynes was able to come away with eight saves for the Braves, while Tanaskovic had 10 saves for the Saints.

Even with the Black and Gold only tying, this game assured them of finishing at least .500 on the season. The tie moves the Braves record to 8-7-2, 3-4-1 PBC on the season.

The Braves have good momentum going into the Peach Belt Conference Tournament.

The Braves are the sixth-seeded team and they will be taking on the third-seeded Clayton State at the Lakers home field in Morrow, GA.

When the Braves took on the Lakers earlier this season, they came away with a 3-0 shutout loss on the road.

Braves' booters make hard work of 4-0 win

By Jared Leblanc
Staff Writer

The Black and Gold got off to a sluggish start Oct. 28 against Chowan University, but were able to pull it together late in the game to come away with a 4-0 win.

It took the Braves 41 minutes to finally net their first goal. It came off of a Rondell Honora penalty kick. However, that was all the Black and Gold could muster in the first half against a very weak Chowan team.

The game didn't improve much for the Braves until the final 20 minutes of the game when Andy Pullin was able to break by Chowan defenders and put in his first of two goals.

The last of the four goals came with only 12

seconds left in the game, when freshman Matt Gallager was able to put the ball in the back of the net for his first goal of the 2009 campaign.

Lack of intensity

Despite looking dominant on the score card the Black and Gold didn't play to their potential, said head coach Mike Schaffer.

"I thought that we played down to their level today and we lacked the intensity that we have shown at times in our previous games," Schaeffer said.

"This gives us some good momentum heading into our final Peach Belt Conference game of the regular season, but we need to give a little bit more of an effort next time around," he said.



Photo courtesy of UNCP Sports Information

UNCP freshman Justin Hedricks breaks down the defense to score his first college goal against Chowan Oct. 28.