

## Small world after all for UW soccer coach

by Andy Baggot  
Sunday, July 11, 2010  
**Wisconsin State  
Journal/Madison.com**

You'll have to excuse John Trask on Sunday if the University of Wisconsin men's soccer coach seems a bit anxious. There are a couple of good reasons for that.

One is that while his soccer brethren are tuned into the World Cup final between the Netherlands and Spain, Trask will be conducting a local skills camp for roughly 140 youth players ranging in age from 11 to 18.

"I'm going to register all the kids and TiVo the game and come home later in the day and watch it," he said, good-naturedly mindful of the possibility that one of the participants or one of the parents will tamper with the suspense.

The other part of Trask's anxiousness relates to his unique ties with the two countries in the final and the way they play.

"These are my boys, in a way," he said. "These are the guys that I saw come of age."

While Trask was an assistant coach at his alma mater

Indiana from 1991 to '99, he made regular monthlong, fact-finding trips to the Netherlands and Spain. Usually he'd stop in France as well. He paid his own way, making notes along the way about players, drills and innovations he'd seen at youth academies, military teams and club practices.

Trask said that while most of his Dutch acquaintances spoke English, he picked up enough Spanish along the way to interpret what was being said.

Prior to the World Cup in 1998 held in France, Trask said he told acquaintances they should keep an eye on the host country. Sure enough, France prevailed thanks mainly to midfielder Zinedine Zidane, whom Trask watched up close a year earlier.

Trask remembers watching Robin van Persie, a standout Dutch forward, when he was 16-year-old up-and-comer.

Trask recalls seeing Spanish defender Carles Puyol during his first or second season with Barcelona.

"These guys that have matured into the two teams that you're seeing are really the background of the way I have been (taught)," Trask said.

The two finalists have similar star power, intelligence and tactical intentions, according to Trask.

"It's about passing and moving and that's why these two teams are in the finals," he said. "I don't remember in my lifetime — and I was born in '66 — of there being a World Cup where anyone's expecting what they're expecting (today)."

If both countries choose to keep their feet on the accelerator — especially the Dutch, who might be most tempted to slow the pace — Trask anticipates a breathtaking, transcendent game given that defense has dictated play over the past 20 years of World Cup finals.

"I think it's just going to fall on when and who scores goals and at what moments," he said, offering that an outcome of 4-3 wouldn't surprise him.

In addition to 14 years coaching at the college level — most recently cultivating the program at Illinois-Chicago into a consistent NCAA force — Trask worked as a Major League Soccer assistant at Miami, Washington, D.C., and Dallas. As such, his views on where the U.S. stands in the global pecking order of soccer are relevant.

Team USA surprisingly won its pool but was eliminated by Ghana in the round of 16.

“Every four years, you get this flood of emotions of where we are in America and we seem to be getting better,” Trask said. “But are we really there? I think a lot of us purists think we’re still a little bit further away then we’d like to acknowledge.”

The same could be said for the UW men’s program, which has had three coaches in three years. Jeff Rohrman resigned under pressure and was replaced by Todd Yeagley, whose father, Jerry, built Indiana into a perennial powerhouse.

Todd Yeagley spent 10 months in Madison before a coaching change at his alma mater lured him back to Indiana. Trask, who once coached Todd Yeagley in high school, was brought in to pick up the pieces.

“I have to keep reminding myself that it’s a transition period,” said Trask, who returned home late Friday night from a recruiting trip.

In addition to another change in coaches, the Badgers lost nine seniors from a club that went 7-9-2 overall, 3-3 in the Big Ten Conference.

“A lot of key components to the team have left,” Trask said.

A large incoming freshman class has good quality, according to Trask, but it will take time for that youth to develop.

“I hate to use the word “rebuilding,” but, shoot, we’re going to take seven or eight maybe starting freshmen into the Big Ten (season). That’s going to be tough. I don’t care how gifted you are.”

But before Trask coaches a season with his new boys, he’ll sit down sometime today and reminisce about his old ones.

###

## **A big 'Trask' at hand for UW, as Badgers look for consistency**

by Kelly Erickson

Wednesday, September 1, 2010

**The Badger Herald**

Three coaches in three seasons; it's time for some stability.

In the spring, John Trask was named head coach of the men's soccer team, replacing Todd Yeagley, whose tenure was just one season. Prior to Yeagley, Jeff Rohrman was head coach, resigning after his seventh season. This constant change of coach has put a strain on the team, but Trask has one goal for the Badgers: stability.

At the beginning of the year the Badgers had no idea who would be leading their team. But the veteran players found themselves in a familiar situation.

"It's definitely not easy. We've got a great group of seniors, we've stuck together and with all these changes going on around us we're bound to run into some challenges," senior goalkeeper Ryan Vint said. "We've learned over these past few years how bouncing back from the challenges matters more than the challenges themselves. We're going to be

one resilient team this year, that's for sure."

The last few seasons have been a mental roller coaster, but fifth-year senior Jon Rzepka also noted how the consistent change has been physically tough in addition to mentally difficult.

"Mentally it is a little tough because you never know how the coach is going to feel about you as a player," he said. "Physically too. I never thought that I'd have to stretch as much as I do now. I've now realized that I'm not as flexible and I do have to stretch more."

It's no surprise that a new coach brings a lot of change and new things, but the squad feels like it has finally found the right guy for the job.

Trask believes the fit is right too. As a native Wisconsinite, Trask feels he's returned home to a good program where he can take charge and create some stability.

"Stability: that's the beginning of it. I'm from Wisconsin so to come back home it feels right for me, both from a family perspective and from where I am in my coaching career," he said. "I've been to a lot of different places, I've had good success, but getting into an athletic department at

a University like Wisconsin, in the Big Ten conference — it's a great experience."

Don't be fooled. It's not just a great experience close to home that Trask is after. He means business. While he isn't setting goals for the team this season just yet, he is here to do his job well and make something more out of the Wisconsin soccer program.

"He's a great coach. He knows his stuff," Vint said. "He's brought a more professional approach to both preparing for games and also during training. Trask expects you to get the job done. When you come out to train you have to get the job done."

Rzepka added, "Right now it feels like we're learning the most. Every coach has taught us different things and now I feel like we have the right guy on the job to make us get to that next step, that next level."

While the constant change has created a few challenges for the veteran players, the younger ones don't know any differently. Some are still adjusting to college soccer while others are experiencing a whole new level of play.

For sophomore Ata Ozbay, the change of coach made him almost feel like a freshman all over again.

“It was a big change for me because I didn’t really know what to expect like the freshman coming in” Ozbay said. “I got used to one coach, we did everything how he wanted to do it. [Now] we have to get used to all these different things he prefers. It was a pleasant change so I think it was better for the team.

“It was mainly overcoming the fact that the older guys had been through so many coaches and the younger guys such as myself are just adjusting to college soccer still.”

Change is hard to get used to, especially on a team that’s already been through a lot of change in previous years. For Trask, this season isn’t about how many different coaches the Badgers have had in recent years.

Instead, he’s here to focus on the team he has and to make something out of the opportunity he’s been given.

“It’s never easy — change — when you’re in college,” Trask said. “I had the same coach all four years. You wish for these guys that they could have had that consistency.”

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## **UW men's soccer: New faces all around as another coaching era begins**

by Andy Baggot

Friday, September 3, 2010

**Wisconsin State**

**Journal/Madison.com**

Having three head coaches in the past three years has given Aaron Nichols of the University of Wisconsin men's soccer team a sense of perspective.

"When you sit there and find out your coach is leaving to go to a new school or your coach is resigning, during that space in between you get a little worried," he said. "It's kind of like, 'What happens next?'"

"But you look forward to it in a way. At the same time it's kind of exciting. It's something that could be a good thing."

Nichols, a senior defender, is one of 10 current UW players whose career has spanned the tenures of Jeff Rohrman, Todd Yeagley and now John Trask.

Rohrman resigned under pressure after the 2008 season, his seventh at the school, after a 61-63-12 overall record that included a 10-20-6 mark in the Big Ten Conference.

Yeagley was hired and led UW to a 7-9-2 overall mark — including a 3-3 record in

the Big Ten — but chose to return to his alma mater, Indiana, last December and take over the perennial league powerhouse built by his Hall of Fame father, Jerry.

Enter Trask, a former Indiana player and assistant coach, who took over the Badgers in January after a decorated five-year stint at Illinois-Chicago.

"You expect to have a coach for four years, but by no means do I think it's hurt us," Nichols said. "If anything, I think it's helped us. We've learned to adjust in different scenarios. You have to adapt as players to different types of styles. If anything, it's made us better."

Trask inherited a team dominated by youth — 14 true freshmen, one redshirt freshman and two sophomores on a roster of 28 — that begins the regular season Saturday against Santa Clara in the UC Irvine College Classic in Irvine, Calif.

While Yeagley had nine seniors to set the tone, Trask is trying to fit all the newcomers into a puzzle that includes five seniors.

"I hate to use the word rebuilding, but, shoot, we're going to take seven or eight maybe starting freshmen into the Big Ten (season)," Trask

said. "That's going to be tough. I don't care how gifted you are. You're giving up two or three years' experience."

Nichols, senior midfielder Jon Rzepka — the top returning scorer — and senior goalkeeper Ryan Vint were chosen as tri-captains for UW. They share not only the challenges of three coaches in three years, but the one that comes to guiding such a young team.

Vint, who has played in five career games for the Badgers, has taken stock of the newcomers and likes what he sees.

"They came in, they were ready to train and they were ready to put some work in," Vint said. "They didn't have the egos that sometimes happen when you have success in soccer early on."

"I was really impressed with how well that they fit in, how hard that they work and just how much they put the team before themselves. That's the biggest thing to me."

That's appreciated by the upperclassmen, who've ridden a roller coaster of emotions since Rohrman, the guy who recruited them to Madison, stepped down.

"We have a great group of guys that have stuck with it," Vint said. "We support each other."

The latest coaching transition has been made easier by the fact Trask and Yeagley have almost identical backgrounds and tactical philosophies built around hard-nosed defense.

"Very similar," Vint noted, "right down to the drills at practice."

Trask said the current crop of freshmen, coupled with another strong class in 2011, should put the program on a smoother path. Still, there's a ways to go before the Badgers figure to return to the form that produced an NCAA title in 1995.

"It looks like it's starting to come," he said.

For all upheaval and youth, there are lofty goals for this season.

"He's got high expectations for us and we have high expectations for ourselves," Nichols said of Trask.

"Anything short of making the (NCAA) tournament is going to be a disappointment in my eyes."

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## Season of change for Trask's squad

by Kelly Erickson

Friday, September 3, 2010

**The Badger Herald**

Change is a good thing — at least the men's soccer team hopes so.

With a new coach and 14 freshmen, the Badgers are expecting the new talent to help push the team and set new standards.

First-year head coach John Trask feels with all the changes going on around the program, this year is a fresh start and an opportunity to make something new out of the program.

"I think change is good. We've had a lot of change within the department even. In some ways I kind of like it — it's a fresh start. We can all set our own standards — coaches, media, everything about the program," Trask said. "We have a chance to set a different standard, because the standard of the past hasn't been set high enough. I think we can all admit to that."

Trask isn't the only one setting new standards for this season. The players themselves are setting their own goals and standards in an effort to quickly overcome any uneasiness.

Senior Aaron Nichols believes his team is capable of anything.

"As a team, I think we have high standards for ourselves," Nichols said. "Like I said, we're young, but there's nothing that I don't think we can't achieve. And we're all trying to buy into that and believe in that together."

Trask is trying to mesh the older guys who have been through so much change in their careers at UW and the new players who don't know any differently, into a stable team.

While Trask isn't afraid to play freshmen, he's hoping the new talent on the team will push the veterans and bring out the competition within the team that will transfer to the field. Aside from the fact senior goalkeeper Ryan Vint is tabbed to start in net, the rest of UW's starting 11 remains fluid right now.

"We have some talented freshmen that will push these older players — and I don't mind playing freshmen," Trask said. "They know they're all being critiqued on everything they're doing and they know they can change teams at any minute. We're hopefully bleeding some of that competition with these

guys. It's been pretty cool so far."

Senior Jon Rzepka also noted the competition within the team and the need to prove himself to the coaches all over again.

"It's kind of been tough because you have to prove yourself all over again," Rzepka said. "It's taught me to be a better player because it's pushed me more to prove myself to the coaches and to step up my game to that next level."

Despite trying to fuel some competition within his team, Trask still wants to see the veterans find their place and feel comfortable in his new system.

"I'm pulling for the older guys — not that I'm sorry for them — I just know where I've seen what they've gone through," he said. "We're pulling for all the older guys, it's not like we're trying to run these guys out the door. I made a commitment to them, to make sure they have success before they leave, whatever success is."

Keeping hopes for a successful season in mind, the Badgers working on coming together and just being one united team.

Although they certainly have high hopes for a good season, right now Wisconsin is taking practice one day at a time, one game at a time. Being such a young team, they're working on getting better each day.

"I think as a team, we're young, that's first of all," Nichols said. "So every day we get out here, we want to try to improve, we want to get better and better. I know that's a small goal, but every day we're trying to come out here and just do one thing better."

"Some guys one day look real good and some guys another day look real good," Trask said. "We're getting closer, we're moving in a direction. We're very much a work in progress, that's the best way I can put it."

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**UW men's soccer: Own goal by Santa Clara gives Trask first win as Badgers coach**  
Saturday, September 4, 2010  
**Wisconsin State Journal/Madison.com**

IRVINE, Calif. -- John Trask won his first game as University of Wisconsin men's soccer coach, and he's not complaining that it took an own goal by Santa Clara to make it happen.

A ball played by Badgers freshman Chris Prince deflected off the Broncos' Mykell Bates and into the net at 82 minutes, 44 seconds for the go-ahead score Saturday and Wisconsin held on for a 2-1 victory in the opening game of the UC Irvine College Classic.

The conversion came just 51 seconds after Santa Clara's Alex Fitschen had scored the equalizer.

"Tonight was a good performance by the guys," said Trask, UW's third coach in as many seasons. "Obviously one game doesn't make a season, but I'm very proud. It was great to see the way the team responded when Santa Clara tied it up."

The Badgers face the host Anteaters in the tournament finale on Monday at 6:30 p.m.

Aaron Nichols gave UW a 1-0 lead in the 26th minute with a header off a cross from freshman Trevor Wheeler.

After the teams exchanged goals late, Wisconsin senior goalkeeper Ryan Vint spearheaded a defensive stand to preserve the win.

"The older guys and the younger guys really came together tonight, and we had a nice performance from Ryan Vint in goal," Trask said. "It was a good night for Wisconsin soccer."

The Broncos outshot the Badgers 10-3 in the game, including a 5-3 advantage in shots on goal. Vint finished with four saves for Wisconsin, while Kevin Klasila made one for Santa Clara.

Redshirt freshman Derek Pitts of Middleton was one of six players to see his first action for the Badgers, while eight UW players went all 90 minutes, including freshmen Paul Yonga and Blake Succa.

###

## **Badgers split pair of weekend matches**

By Jack Doyle

Monday, September 6, 2010

### **The Daily Cardinal**

The Wisconsin men's soccer team split a pair of games at the UC Irvine College Classic this weekend in California.

The Badgers downed Santa Clara 2-1 in the opening match on Saturday for their first win of the season before falling to UC Irvine in the game two Monday.

Senior Aaron Nichols scored the first goal of the Badgers' 2010 campaign to lead Wisconsin over the Broncos in the first match.

Wisconsin never trailed in the match and pulled ahead in the 26th minute after Nichols headed freshman Trevor Wheeler's cross into the back of the net to put the Badgers up 1-0. Wisconsin maintained the lead until the 82nd minute, when Santa Clara's Alex Fitschen tied the game 1-1 after capitalizing on a cross down the endline from teammate Murphy Campbell.

With a little help from Santa Clara, the Badgers quickly responded. Less than a minute after the Bronco's goal, Wisconsin freshman Chris Prince played a ball into the

box, which then deflected off Santa Clara's Mykell Bates and into the net for an own goal.

Late runs into Wisconsin's defensive third by Santa Clara came to no avail. Senior goalkeeper Ryan Vint and the Badger defense kept the Broncos' furious attacking efforts in the closing minutes at bay to hold onto the 2-1 victory.

Monday night, Wisconsin was unable to recover from early goal and fell to the UC Irvine Anteaters 1-0.

The Anteaters capitalized early, scoring a goal in the 13th minute of the match after a throw-in into the Badgers' penalty area connected with the head of UC Irvine's Corey Attaway, who knocked it past Vint for the goal. The Badgers couldn't find an answer to Attaway's goal, as freshman forward Paul Yonga was the only Wisconsin player to put a shot on goal in the first half.

The Badgers return home with a 1-1 season record as they prepare to face Florida International and Florida Atlantic next weekend.

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**UW men's soccer: No. 25  
UC Irvine blanks Badgers  
Monday, September 6, 2010  
Wisconsin State  
Journal/Madison.com**

Corey Attaway scored off a throw-in in the 14th minute and No. 25 UC Irvine held off the University of Wisconsin men's soccer team 1-0 in the final game of the Anteaters' tournament on Monday night.

Senior goalkeeper Ryan Vint tied his career high with six saves for the Badgers (1-1) and made the all-tournament team along with senior Aaron Nichols and freshman Chris Prince.

"Tonight's outcome was a fair result," UW coach John Trask said. "UC Irvine is a high caliber NCAA tournament team. Our guys learned some lessons tonight, and we will take that with us as we move forward."

Jimmy Turner picked up the assist for UC Irvine (3-0), which carried a 13-4 edge in shots, including 7-2 in shots on goal.

Freshman Paul Yonga had UW's lone shot on goal of the first half just 6:29 into the game, and senior Jon Rzepka (Kentwood, Mich.) posted a scoring opportunity in the second half.

Freshmen Luke Goodnetter of Elm Grove and Joey Tennyson of Milwaukee saw their first collegiate action against the Anteaters. Of Trask's 13 true freshmen, seven have now seen playing time in the Badgers' first two matches of the season.

Juniors Colin Mani of Madison and Arnel Zahirovic, as well as UCI's Miguel Ibarra, all picked up yellow cards in the match. Wisconsin had 11 fouls to UC Irvine's eight in the game.

The Badgers travel to Florida for a pair of matches this weekend, against Florida International on Friday at 6 p.m. and Florida Atlantic on Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

###

**Captains bring unique talents, renewed focus**  
**Seniors Nichols, Rzepka, Vint set lofty goals, provide guidance to young players on and off the field**

By Kelly Erickson

Wednesday, September 8, 2010

**The Badger Herald**

Team leaders, a budding rap career and a few video games on the side: Enter the 2010 captains of the men's soccer team.

Senior defenseman Aaron Nichols, goalie Ryan Vint and midfielder Jon Rzepka have been given the honor to lead their team this year, and they bring some unique talents to a young squad.

The captains are ready and looking forward to this season, but Rzepka is also working on a rap career. Yes, a rap career.

While his number one focus may be soccer in the fall, Rzepka already has a CD and is working on another one (release date to be determined).

"It's fun for me and it's good to just hang out and listen to my music," Rzepka said. "I listen to my music to pump me up before the games sometimes. They all like it. It's just a fun thing for me to

do, get my mind off soccer for a little bit."

"I don't have rap career unfortunately," Vint said. "Jon's got everything going on."

Now, Vint and Nichols may not be rappers themselves, but Nichols admitted soccer isn't the only thing he's good at, video games probably come in a close — or not so close — second.

"I'm pretty good at video games," Nichols said. "I like to play with my roommates. We play Halo and COD. I wouldn't say I'm a gamer but I do throw the headset on every once in awhile."

Off-field hobbies aside, the three multifaceted men's soccer captains have a long list of goals for this year's team.

"A lot of wins. Making the tournament. All the goals in the past that we never achieved, hopefully we can get them this year," Rzepka said. "Definitely making the tournament, getting out of the first round of the Big Ten, winning the Big Ten, never losing at home, being one of the top 25 teams, winning the big games — we always seem to fail in the past or just come a little short in the big games — so stepping up and winning

those — really just having a season above .500 and making the tournament."

Rzepka may have the end of season goals in mind, but Nichols is looking for a smooth transition for the new freshmen on the team.

Before the squad can really start working on their goals this season, the captains hope they can share what they've learned throughout the last few seasons. Going through three coaches in three seasons isn't easy.

Nichols feels very honored for his captaincy and also believes he's learned a lot of different things going through so many coaches and going through the changes each season has brought.

"I couldn't ask for anything more," Nichols said. "It's something that's simply just a huge honor to have that title and have the guys look up to you. I knew coming in it would be tough having a lot of young guys, but it's something I look forward to. Sharing my experiences through all three coaches and learning a lot of different things, I like to see what I can do to spread my knowledge to those guys and help them out the best I can.

“I think the biggest thing is we want these guys to have a smooth easy transition because obviously that wasn’t the case for us. We just want to make it as easy as possible for them to just feel comfortable.”

While Nichols and Rzepka are ready to share their experiences with the rest of the team, receiving the title of captain is extra sweet for Vint.

Vint got his first start in goal last season, but he was still always waiting behind Alex Horwath. Now in his last season at UW, Vint finally has the chance to start every game in net and lead his team on the field.

“[Being named captain] it’s a great honor,” Vint said. “The four years I’ve spent here, basically behind Alex Horwath — who did a phenomenal job for us — I wanted to be respected, I thought I had a good feel for the team, a good feel for the people on it and I thought that I could be a good leader someday. Luckily I got the chance this year and it’s a great honor and I feel really blessed.”

The captains definitely feel ready to take over the team, but will lead more by example than getting in a teammate’s face.

“I was talking to both of them probably last week and we were just saying that the captains in the past were all ‘This is how we do it, set schedule, this is how we run our team.’ We’re not like that, we go with the flow,” Vint said. “If people are having a bad day we pick them up, if people are too high up we’re bringing them back down a little bit. We were just saying that we don’t just lead on the field, we lead off the field.”

###

**UW men's soccer: Late goal propels Florida Atlantic past Badgers**

Sunday, September 12, 2010

**Wisconsin State Journal**

BOCA RATON, Fla. -- Lukas Simons scored the winner in the 86th minute to give Florida Atlantic a 2-1 victory over the University of Wisconsin men's soccer team.

Sophomore Kyle McCrudden tied the game at 1 for UW (1-3) in the 73rd minute, sending home a rebound on Chris Prince's cross that was bobbled by Owls goalkeeper James McCormick.

"While it looks like a disappointing weekend on the face of it, the team definitely grew again," UW coach John Trask said. "That is what's most important about these first two weekends of the season."

###

**Sunshine state nothing but grey skies as UW falls to FIU and FAU**  
**Men's soccer drops set in Florida**

By Jack Doyle

Sunday, September 12, 2010

**The Daily Cardinal**

The Badgers dropped a pair of matches on their Florida expedition last weekend to fall to 1-3 on the season.

Wisconsin lost to Florida International 2-1 in double overtime on Friday night and to Florida Atlantic 2-1 on Sunday afternoon.

Wisconsin and FIU were deadlocked in a 1-1 tie before a goal by FIU's Nicolas Rodriguez in the 110th minute gave the Golden Panthers the win. Senior defender Aaron Nichols recorded his second goal of the season, but the Badgers could still not overcome FIU's offensive attack, which posted 10 shots to the Badgers' seven.

The Golden Panthers gained an early lead when Mike Muhseler converted a penalty kick in the 14th minute. But Wisconsin countered with a goal of their own just five minutes later, as Nichols scored the equalizer from inside the box in the 19th minute.

It wasn't until an hour and a half later that the match was decided. In the 110th minute, FIU's Diego Tamburus found Rodriguez, who finished his chance and ensured FIU claimed their second win of the season with a 2-1 victory over the Badgers.

The Badgers didn't fare much better on Sunday against FAU.

Wisconsin didn't allow the early goal like they did against FIU, but the result was still the same — a 2-1 defeat. The first half provided no scoring, as the Badgers went into halftime tied with the Owls 0-0 and posted six shots to FAU's seven. It wasn't until the 56th minute that somebody finally got on the scoreboard. The Owls' Darnell King scored his second goal of the season on a breakaway after he got behind the Wisconsin defense and slipped the ball past senior goalkeeper Ryan Vint to make the game 1-0.

The Badgers tied the match 1-1 when sophomore Kyle McCrudden tallied the first collegiate goal of his career in the 73rd minute. FAU goalkeeper James McCormick mishandled a cross from freshman Chris Prince, who recorded his first career college assist on the play, and

McCrudden positioned himself to finish the rebound.

It didn't stay tied for long.

Vint fell to the same fate that McCormick did: a bobbled cross that led to a goal. This time though, Lukas Simons' goal for the Owls in the 86th minute proved to be the game-winner.

The two losses over the weekend leave the Badgers with a 1-3 overall record on the season. Wisconsin heads home to Madison after a four-game road trip to play in the Wisconsin Soccer Classic next weekend at the McClimon Complex.

###

## **Prince adjusting to college game**

### **Freshman forward looking to score at least 10 goals in first season at UW**

By Justin Mertes-Mistretta  
Wednesday, September 15, 2010

#### **The Badger Herald**

Meet UW freshman Chris Prince. As a senior at Naperville Central High School in Illinois, Prince was an All-American selection by NSCAA and was named the Player of the Year by the Chicago Sun Times. He holds the record for almost every statistic at Naperville Central, including single-season goals, single-season points, career goals and career points. In 2007, the MLS' Chicago Fire took notice to Prince by signing him to the U-17/18 squad. As an avid fan of the Fire growing up, Prince couldn't have dreamt up a more ideal situation.

"It was amazing to be able to play with the Fire and against other MLS teams," Prince said. "The highlight of my time there was playing in the MLS Cup."

Joining Prince on the Chicago Fire was friend and now UW

teammate, freshman Trevor Wheeler. Prince and Wheeler first met at an Olympic Development Program when they were kids, but their relationship became more than just teammates once they joined the Fire.

"Trevor [Wheeler] and I have known each other since we were ten years old," Prince said. "We always had a good connection as kids, but we grew to be best friends when we were on the Fire."

The friendship didn't stop after their stint with the Fire. When Prince committed to UW-Madison to play soccer, he was adamant about bringing Wheeler with him. Shortly after he signed, Prince's wish came true as his long-time friend signed with the Badgers. Both have seen success already, especially Prince.

Most true freshman at a Big Ten school take a year to transition from the high school game to the fast-paced college game. However, Prince has shown thus far that he is not phased by the so-called "transition." This was evident after Prince's first collegiate soccer tournament, the UC

Irvine College Classic. Not only did he start both games, against Santa Clara and UC Irvine, he was named to the All-Tournament Team.

Despite all of the early season success individually, Prince admits that he was nervous before his first start as a Badger against Santa Clara.

"I usually don't get nervous before games, but seeing how much bigger and older everyone else was really made me nervous," Prince said.

"After about twenty minutes I was able to settle down and just play the game how I normally play."

For someone who has played in four high school regional championships and played against MLS competition, it would be hard to imagine the college game being that much harder. Well, according to Prince, the college game is a whole new level of competition.

"College soccer is played at such a faster pace," Prince said. "The players are more athletic, bigger and older than anyone I've seen playing club soccer."



When the competition gets tough, it is assumed that the teams' captains have a duty to lead, but what that what is not always assumed is the fact that they are there to be mentors for the younger guys as well. In some situations, freshmen are alienated or even made to feel like the weak-links, but on the Badgers this couldn't be further from the truth

"I can go to our captains for anything I need," Prince said.

"I can ask them about anything from classes to soccer. They're the best captains I've ever had."

The combination of leadership and young talent of this Badger team has everyone excited, including Prince. Expectations are set high for every player early in the season, but none are higher than those of Prince.

"My goal for this season is to score ten times," Prince said.

"I hope I go over that goal, but ten would be good."

Prince has high expectations for himself as an individual, but don't be mistaken into thinking that's all he cares about. According to Prince,

his goals as an individual would mean nothing if his team doesn't succeed.

"As a team, I hope we win the Big Ten Tournament," Prince said. "This would put us in the NCAA Tournament and anything could happen from there."

When Prince isn't playing soccer, he can be found in his dorm room playing XBOX 360, often times playing against Wheeler.

"In my free time, I'm a huge gamer," Prince said. "I'm obsessed with the new Halo right now."

Whether he's playing soccer or playing video games, one thing is for sure; Prince doesn't like losing.

"I'm competitive at everything I do," Prince said. "I hate to lose."

###

## **Vint overcomes adversity to lead Badgers**

### **Senior goalkeeper fought through childhood arthritis, now excels in net for UW**

By Will Hamilton

Wednesday, September 15, 2010.

#### **The Badger Herald**

If the men's soccer team is hoping for a Cinderella season, they need look no further than senior goalkeeper Ryan Vint to wear the glass slipper.

Pending the success of the season, of course, Vint's story has echoes of a dramatic Hollywood screenplay. He redshirted his freshman year and has had to wait until now, his final year as a Badger, to start in goal. Not only that, but the 6-foot-2 captain overcame a childhood illness that caused him to spend a year of his life bound to a wheelchair.

As a child, he was diagnosed with childhood arthritis, a disease that forced him to spend all of 4th grade in a wheelchair. "The doctors didn't know if I would be able to walk again, let alone play soccer," Vint said. "It's something that I overcame,

and it gave me the confidence to overcome a lot."

The story is an inspiring one that has inevitably shaped the drive of the senior captain. Vint has started the season off in good fashion, but unfortunately the team hasn't had the same success.

Despite finishing the UC-Irvine College Classic with a record of 1-3, Vint's performance in net earned him the honor of being named to the all-tournament team. In the two games he played last year, Vint recorded two saves and allowed zero goals. The Badgers have a fresh start with the arrival of head coach John Trask, and seniors like Vint will undoubtedly play a huge role in the shaping of this young team.

As a senior captain, Vint hopes to use what he has learned on the sidelines to lead the young team to a successful season.

"I've learned that it's all about the team and not so much about any individual player," said Vint.

His positive attitude as well as his unmistakable leadership role on and off the field is

what earned him the position of captain this year.

"We're all really confident in [Vint] and in the team as a whole," fellow captain Jon Rzepka said.

Rzepka, who also redshirted his freshman year, has been with Vint since the beginning of their collegiate careers. The chemistry between the two captains is apparent as they joked about locker room dance competitions and Vint's affinity for techno music.

"Ryan's quite the dancer. The two of us had a pretty big dance off going back and forth, and he's got skills. I'll give him that," Rzepka said.

Confidence is high on this Badger team as they hope to improve on their record from last year.

"Obviously we want to win games. But I think making the NCAA tournament is the number one goal at this point." Vint said.

And after a rough start, the upcoming games in the Wisconsin Soccer Classic are crucial in order get the team on the right track.

“These next two games will really set the tone for the rest of the season.” Coach Brad Swenby said.

Swenby, who is in his first year as the goalkeeper coach, has worked with Vint a lot and seems confident in his ability to lead this team to a great year.

Vint, who is no stranger to adversity, is certainly up for the challenge.

As the Badgers prepare for their upcoming tournament games against San Diego State and Dayton at the McClimon Complex, the goalkeeper certainly knows what is at stake. But Vint isn't worried about playing the role of Cinderella, that's for others to decide. He's just focused on winning soccer games and making it into the NCAA tournament.

###

**Badgers eager to open at home, pick up 2nd win After spending the past two weekends in California and Florida, UW is ready for season opener**

By Kelly Erickson

Thursday, September 16, 2010

**The Badger Herald**

It's time to protect this house.

The Wisconsin men's soccer team finally opens its home season Friday night against San Diego State in the Wisconsin Soccer Classic.

After spending the last two weekends on the road in California and Florida, new head coach John Trask makes his home debut. While they may only have one win on the season, the Badgers are hoping the return home will help them turn things around.

"The other teams we've played on the road weren't the best teams, but we didn't really perform too well," senior Bryan Gerster said.

"We're just hoping that finally that we're home we're going to play a lot better, play as a team, and we're looking to come out with results in both games. We have to win the games."

With the need to win in mind, Wisconsin is really hoping home-field advantage will help get their season on the right-track.

First they have to face San Diego State.

Last season, Wisconsin faced off against SDSU in California. A controversial call during overtime allowed the Aztecs to get the win on a penalty kick.

"It's great," Trask said. "I think the guys are excited. San Diego State is going to be a great challenge for us. The guys played them last year, obviously I wasn't there, but they felt like they competed very well against them and lost a very close game.

"They're 3-1, my understanding is they could easily be 4-0. Hopefully being at home and drawing some energy off the crowd will give us some strength and push us through. I know the guys have been working hard this week and I know they're excited to play at McClimon."

With two games on the weekend, Wisconsin faces off against Dayton on Sunday, but

right now, it's one game at a time.

"Dayton, we haven't really thought about too much," Gerster said. "We just want to take it one game at a time. Right now we're 1-3 and we've got to get a good win our first game at home. We have to make it a win just so we can carry that momentum into our next game at home."

While the Badgers are finally opening their home season, it means even more for the 14 new freshmen.

"It's a big deal," freshman Paul Yonga said. "I've been waiting a long time to get down here and finally get a home game. I mean I'll go out and do my hardest. It'll be exciting, there will be a lot of nerves with all my family watching, but I'll do my best."

Finally opening at home is a big deal for the Badgers — especially since they need to turn their season around — but they've been trying to learn from their road trips.

Between playing in the extreme humidity in Florida and against tough opponents in California, Trask feels they've learned a lot.

“There is no magical potion,” Trask said. “You’re going to have to look each other in the eye and find some strength. It’s just where you’ve got to reach deep within you. It looks like a disappointing weekend on the face of it, but if we use the lessons learned, we should be a stronger team. We’re really starting to gear up for the Big Ten, that’s where hopefully we’ll start to show people that we’re starting to turn the corner.”

Yonga also noted the preparation in practice this week and the effort that has been put in to make UW stronger.

“We had a couple hard practices this week,” Yonga added. “We’ve been trying to get down our defensive shape. Then, also working on our movement of the ball, getting it quicker and finding a way to get in our attack mode. Right now we’re a little slow on our attack, so we’ve been working on our offensive side a little more so we can score some goals and help [Ryan] Vint in the back and prevent their goals.”

One thing is for sure, though — finally having some games

at home is a comforting fact for the team.

“It’s going to be more comfortable playing in front of everybody especially since none of the young guys haven’t gotten a home game yet,” Jon Rzepka said. “For me, I’ll just be able to sleep in my own bed and do my own routine here, eating right, get enough sleep. Just being in my own place is a lot more comforting to me.

“Playing in front of the home crowd is going to be nice.”

###

**Men's soccer can't get win in home-opening weekend Badgers suffer 1-0 loss to SDSU Friday, fight to 0-0 2OT tie Sunday against Dayton**

By Kelly Erickson

Monday, September 20, 2010

**The Badger Herald**

It was a tale of two games.

While the Badgers weren't able to produce a win at McClimon in their home opening weekend, they looked like two completely different teams between their Friday night game against San Diego State University and their tournament finale on Sunday against Dayton University.

Walking away with a 0-0 tie against Dayton in a physical game wasn't exactly what the Badgers were hoping for, but they played like a well-rounded team. They just couldn't find the back of the net.

"I'm content with it right now to get a result, to get the tie," senior captain and midfielder Aaron Nichols said. "We still have to figure out how to score some goals and give our defense a little bit of a break. They did a phenomenal job

though getting the shut out for us and holding out all 110 minutes."

The stat sheet may only show Wisconsin had three shots on goal, but it kept momentum throughout the game, controlling the ball on Dayton's half of the field, producing multiple scoring opportunities.

"I thought we played well in the first half and I thought we played well in the second half," head coach John Trask said. "We dominated a Dayton program that historically is a pretty good program."

After 90 minutes the scoreboard didn't reflect the Badgers' domination, pushing the game into overtime. With three minutes left in the first overtime, Dayton's midfielder Marlon Duran drew a red card. Wisconsin still wasn't able to capitalize on the man-advantage through a second overtime, ending the game in a goalless tie.

"Everybody thinks it's some huge numerical advantage, it's only one guy of 11," Trask said. "A lot of times the game will turn the other way because they all pick up their

energy level. I thought we did a good job. They didn't get any chances in overtime.

"We're evolving. We learned some good lessons today."

Overall, the Badgers just looked like a different team compared to their Friday night performance.

Nichols attributes the style change to increased intensity and the desire to make a statement.

"I think that was a huge part of it just trying to get more shots," Nichols said. "We came out confident, we came out with intensity. We wanted to go out and play and we wanted to make a statement. It's tough going down four losses, losing those early goals. We wanted to come out and not lose an early goal and come out with intensity. That's what everyone did and it was tremendous."

Before the Badgers revealed their domination Sunday, in Friday night's game against the Aztecs the squad just couldn't seem to put a strong and consistent offensive attack together.

For their home opener in front of 1,022 fans, the Badgers were hoping for a very different result.

“It was a great crowd that we had tonight, that was a big thing,” senior captain and goalkeeper Ryan Vint said. “The support that the community showed for us was just awesome. I wish we could have given them a better show with the result. I hope that they don’t jump ship on us. They gave us energy especially in the last 20 minutes there and that’s what kept us going and I can’t thank them enough.”

While the Badgers weren’t quite as dominating Friday night, they still killed most of the Aztecs offensive attacks. But in the 36th minute, SDSU defender Daniel Steres buried a rebound off of Vint, scoring the lone goal of the game.

Vint isn’t making any excuses for the goal.

“I’m not going to make excuses,” Vint said. “I should have had it. 99 out of 100 times I’ll make that save and hold onto it. I thought too far ahead instead of watching the ball into my hands. I was

thinking the next play in my mind. I should have just concentrated on catching the ball. But I’m going to learn from it and never make that mistake again, that’s for sure.”

Although SDSU only made one goal, UW defenders had a busy night keeping SDSU from crashing the box and creating more scoring chances.

For freshman defender Paul Yonga, a loss at home in his first game wasn’t ideal by any means. Yonga feels the goal was disappointing, and could have been avoidable.

“I think we need to concentrate — we need to concentrate for the whole 90 minutes,” Yonga said. “Those times when we get tired and our mind drifts off and we’re not all on the same page, we need to stay on the same page and not give up some weak goals like that and we’ll be alright.”

Despite not getting a win at home yet, Trask still feels confident his team is building a strong home-field advantage.

“I’d say it was a pretty good fortress,” Trask said of the

game against SDSU. “I didn’t see them get that many chances on our goal. That’s what building that fortress is. We’re building it. I thought we were pretty good defensively against a pretty good attacking team. They had a few shots from a distance, but they didn’t have much penetration through our box. In that respect I thought we really stepped up in that part of the game.

“It’s something we can build off of.”

###

## **UW fails to find net at home Men's soccer has no luck on home turf**

By Jack Doyle

Monday, September 20, 2010

### **The Daily Cardinal**

The Wisconsin men's soccer team dropped a 1-0 contest to San Diego State and tied Dayton 0-0 at the Wisconsin Soccer Classic this weekend, sliding to 1-4-1 on the season.

Back and forth possession characterized the first half of the Badgers' clash with the Aztecs Friday. Both sides mustered a handful of half-chances and goal-scoring opportunities. Perhaps Wisconsin's best chance of the half came 20 minutes in when junior midfielder Colin Monasterio sent a threatening free kick into the box, only to be hit inches over the net by a Badger on the receiving end.

In the 37th minute the Aztecs struck. The Wisconsin defense gave up a free kick just outside the penalty box and centered directly in front of goal. San Diego State would make the Badgers pay for it. A seemingly routine save for senior goalkeeper Ryan Vint turned into a goal for the Aztecs after he gave up a

rebound that was tapped in from the six-yard box by an unmarked San Diego player.

Vint took full responsibility for the goal and said it was just a lapse of concentration.

"I'm not going to make excuses," Vint said. "I should've had it, and 99 out of 100 times I'll make that save and hold onto it. Instead of watching the ball in my hands I was thinking of the next play in my mind."

Despite solid distribution by Wisconsin, the attack consistently broke down in the offensive third. Head coach John Trask attributed these mistakes to the Badgers being a youthful side and that they haven't gotten used to each other's playing styles yet.

"We're young, we made a bad decision, we dwelled on it or we played too quick," Trask said. "That will just get better with time. They're seven games and 28 practices in to knowing each other – that's not a lot of time for soccer players."

Sunday afternoon Wisconsin looked like a completely different team in the offensive

third, with the exception being the Badger's inability to create more than a few quality scoring chances.

Even though Wisconsin dominated possession and had a nice passing rhythm for most of the game they still had nothing to show for it. Two of their best opportunities were a laser of a shot by midfielder Colin Mani that whizzed above the crossbar, and a scramble inside the Flyers' box with 12 minutes remaining that yielded two blocked shots.

After a 0-0 end to regulation, the game was headed to overtime. A reckless challenge from behind by Dayton's Marlon Duran resulted in a straight red card for the freshman midfielder. Down a man the Flyers remained steadfast and did not allow Wisconsin to take advantage of their extra player, resulting in a 0-0 tie after both overtime periods.

As a match-up with national soccer power Creighton looms, senior Aaron Nichols hopes the team improves their finishing this week in practice and provides a jumpstart to beat the Blue Jays. "Today we



couldn't find the back of the net, but after practice this week we're going to concentrate on shooting," Nichols said. "And by the time Creighton rolls around those [shots] will be rolling in hopefully."

###

## **Another one-goal loss for UW men**

By Eric Anderson

Sunday, September 12, 2010

### **Wisconsin Soccer Central**

For the second time in three days, a late goal by a freshman did in the University of Wisconsin men's soccer team.

Lukas Simons pounced on a loose ball after goalkeeper Ryan Vint bobbed a cross and scored in the 86th minute to lift Florida Atlantic over the Badgers 2-1 in a non-conference match Sunday in Boca Raton, Fla.

"Once again we gave a good effort, but the quality of play is not where we need to be at this point," UW coach John Trask said in a news release. "I have no problem with the effort our guys put forth this weekend, though.

"While it looks like a disappointing weekend on the face of it, the team definitely grew again. That is what's most important about these first two weekends of the season."

UW (1-3) had a late chance for an equalizer, but sophomore Danny Ahlering's

shot off a corner kick by freshman Joey Tennyson (Menomonee Falls) in the 89th was high and the Badgers suffered their third consecutive one-goal loss.

Sophomore defender Kyle McCrudden scored his first career goal for UW, tying the score at 1 by heading a corner kick from freshman Chris Prince past Owls keeper James McCormick in the 73rd.

Three of the Badgers' four goals this season have been scored by defenders – senior Aaron Nichols has two and the other goal was an own goal. McCrudden also played the full 90 minutes on a sunny, hot day in South Florida; he and Vint are the only UW players to play every minute this season.

Junior defender Cale Cooper (Madison West), meanwhile, saw his first action for the Badgers since a season-ending left knee injury last season. Playing 364 days after suffering a torn ACL and MCL, Cooper logged 27 minutes off the bench Sunday.

Vint finished with three saves for UW, which takes on San

Diego State at 7:30 p.m. Friday in its home opener at the McClimon Complex. The Wisconsin Classic also features UW-Milwaukee and Dayton.

Junior Darnell King opening the scoring on a breakaway in the 56th minute for Florida Atlantic (1-2-1), while McCormick made one save.

###

## **UW men blanked by San Diego State**

By Tom Ziemer

Saturday, September 18, 2010

### **Wisconsin Soccer Central**

There's no great mystery surrounding the University of Wisconsin men's soccer team's slow start to the season.

The youthful Badgers have simply failed to keep opposing goalkeepers busy in their first five games under first-year coach John Trask. That was the case again in Friday night's home opener, when UW produced just two shots on goal in a 1-0 loss to San Diego State in front of a crowd of 1,022 at the McClimon Complex.

Aztecs junior defender Daniel Steres' 37th-minute goal was enough to hand the Badgers (1-4), playing in the first of two games in the four-team Wisconsin Classic, their fourth straight defeat since a season-opening win against Santa Clara.

"It's kind of the theme of the year: We're not getting a ton of shots on goal, we're letting up some soft goals," said sophomore center back Kyle

McCrudden, who's played every minute this season. "So it's a little frustrating."

The fact that McCrudden had one of UW's better chances of the night – he got on the end of a free kick at the far post in the 18th minute but could only send the ball over the crossbar – spoke to the Badgers' problems in attack. UW, which has been playing out of a 4-5-1 formation to keep from being overrun in the midfield, certainly wasn't incisive in its play.

The best of the several half-chances the Badgers mustered came in the 76th minute, when senior midfielder Aaron Nichols got free on the left and sent in a cross that Aztecs senior goalkeeper Brad Byrns failed to hold. But San Diego State (4-1) cleared the danger and UW, which has 15 newcomers on its roster, slumped to its fourth straight one-goal loss.

"Obviously it's not a good feeling to lose four straight, but I think we've got a group of guys that are willing to work hard and do whatever it takes," McCrudden said. "So I think we're making progress."

McCrudden marshaled a backline that held San Diego State, which had scored nine goals in its first four matches, to just three shots on goal. But a troublesome passage of play late in the first half put the Badgers in a hole.

Freshman defensive midfielder Paul Yonga committed a needless foul on Aztecs leading scorer Raymundo Reza, giving San Diego State a free kick in a dangerous position just outside the 18-yard box. Reza, after a layoff from junior midfielder Pedro Adan, hit a dipping shot that UW senior goalkeeper Ryan Vint stopped but failed to hold and Steres was there to tap it in.

"I don't beat up anyone for one particular play unless literally a goalkeeper throws the ball in his own net, and Ryan didn't do that," Trask said.

"Should we have followed the rebound better? That's something we'll take a look at. Should we have not fouled the guy in the first place?"

Those were just two of the questions Trask had to ponder

ahead of Sunday's match against Dayton.

"The bottom line is we're only going to get better by going out there and working every day in training," he said. "And the guys were very good this week. I just complimented them on that. We became a better team this week. Was it good enough to beat (San Diego State)? No, we're not there – even with the home-field advantage, we're not there. And technically, tactically, psychologically, every piece of the puzzle has to get better."

San Diego State 1

0—1

Wisconsin 0

0—0

San Diego State – Daniel Steres (Raymundo Reza) 37

SAN DIEGO STATE: Brad Byrns; Daniel Steres, Pedro Adan, Jose Altamirano, Khadim Diouf, Casey Meuser, Raymundo Reza, Justin Davies, Michael Rocha, Robbie Freise, Tyrone Martin. Substitutes: Sean Zaher, Jordan Ongaro, Andre Acevedo, Chance Marden, Kody Duff.

WISCONSIN: Ryan Vint; Luke Goodnetter, Kyle McCrudden, Arnel Zahirovic, Blake Succa; Paul Yonga, Jon Rzepka, Colin Monasterio, Trevor Wheeler, Aaron Nichols; Chris Prince. Substitutes: Joey Tennyson, Nick Janus, Colin Mani, Derek Pitts.

Saves: SDS (Byrns) 2, W (Vint) 2. Shots: SDS 8, W 7. Fouls: SDS 13, W 7. Corner kicks: SDS 4, W 3. Offsides: SDS 3, W 1. Discipline: None. Att. – 1,022.

###

## **UW shows improvement, ties Dayton**

By Eric Anderson

Sunday, September 19, 2010

### **Wisconsin Soccer Central**

It wasn't a victory, but University of Wisconsin men's soccer coach John Trask saw signs of progress from his young team Sunday afternoon.

The Badgers generated a season-high 16 shots, collected 11 corner kicks and posted their first shutout of the year in a 0-0 draw with Dayton to wrap up the Wisconsin Classic at the McClimon Complex.

"I think the guys are turning the corner in some aspects," Trask said in a news release. "It was a pretty good weekend for us all together. ... It's definitely something that we can build off."

Senior goalkeeper Ryan Vint made two saves in his second career clean sheet for UW (1-4-1), which yielded just eight shots and one corner kick to the Flyers (2-2-1).

Trask had praise for Vint and the Badgers' new-look backline of left back Luke

Goodnetter (Brookfield East), center backs Arnel Zahirovic and Kyle McCrudden and right back Blake Succa.

Goodnetter and Succa are freshmen, McCrudden is a sophomore who played in just one match last year and Zahirovic is a junior-college transfer.

"I thought, all weekend long, Arnel, Cruddy, Luke and Blake did a nice job," Trask said. "There are things they can still do better, but I like that defensive package back there. I thought Vint bounced back from Friday and looked pretty solid again today."

UW, which was averaging just more than six shots per game coming in, put three shots on Dayton junior keeper Tyler Picard but was shut out for the third time in six matches.

The Flyers finished with 10 men after freshman midfielder Marlon Duran was sent off for a tackle on Badgers junior midfielder Austin Spohn in the 98th minute. Dayton coach Dennis Currier protested the red card issued by veteran referee Abbey Okulaja and was promptly given one of his own. UW had two shots late in the first overtime period

after Duran's dismissal, but couldn't capitalize on the man advantage in the second overtime.

Spohn, who has struggled with a long-term groin injury, logged 53 minutes in his season debut for the Badgers. Sophomore forward Ata Ozbay also made his first appearance of the year, playing 35 minutes. Senior Aaron Nichols and freshman Trevor Wheeler – both midfielders – were named to the all-tournament team for UW, which plays at No. 16 Creighton on Friday night in Omaha, Neb.

###

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By Kelly Erickson  
Monday, September 20, 2010  
**The Badger Herald**

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Monday, September 20, 2010

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the Badger's inability to create more than a few quality scoring chances.

Even though Wisconsin dominated possession and had a nice passing rhythm for most of the game they still had nothing to show for it. Two of their best opportunities were a laser of a shot by midfielder Colin Mani that whizzed above the crossbar, and a scramble inside the Flyers' box with 12 minutes remaining that yielded two blocked shots.

After a 0-0 end to regulation, the game was headed to overtime. A reckless challenge from behind by Dayton's Marlon Duran resulted in a straight red card for the freshman midfielder. Down a man the Flyers remained steadfast and did not allow Wisconsin to take advantage of their extra player, resulting in a 0-0 tie after both overtime periods.

As a match-up with national soccer power Creighton looms, senior Aaron Nichols hopes the team improves their finishing this week in practice and provides a jumpstart to beat the Blue Jays. "Today we couldn't find the back of the



net, but after practice this week we're going to concentrate on shooting," Nichols said. "And by the time Creighton rolls around those [shots] will be rolling in hopefully."

###

## **Badgers' backline laying a brick wall**

### **Despite working with two freshmen, UW's defenders are meshing into a solid group**

By Kelly Erickson

Wednesday, September 22, 2010

#### **The Badger Herald**

They're building a fortress, one line at a time.

For a team that's been through a lot of change this season, the four defensive backs have proved to be a strong and solid aspect of the men's soccer team.

Senior Kyle McCrudden, junior Arnel Zahirovic, and freshmen Blake Succa and Luke Goodnetter team up to give the Badgers a consistent defense that can keep opponents away from the net.

Just last weekend the Badgers only let through one goal in a two-game stretch. It was a rare occurrence on the weekend for the opponent to get as close to the goal as San Diego State was able to.

Even from the beginning head coach John Trask knew he wanted to get the defense right.

"At the beginning of this whole thing we talked about how we have to get the defense right first," Trask said last weekend. "[Zahirovic, McCrudden, Goodnetter, and Succa] I like that package back there."

The players seem to agree.

Succa feels they've got the right guys in the mix and that they work well together.

"What we try to do most of the time is keep the ball around the back and keep the ball for our team so then we can go forward with it and play it in the midfield and then get them going," Succa said. "As far as winning the balls in the air that's more of the center backs — [Zahirovic] and McCrudden do a good job of that."

"I'd say we're all pretty big back there. We're all about 6-foot or so," McCrudden added.

But for a line that looks so solid and meshes very well, it's hard to believe three of the four of them are new to the team.

"We definitely played well last weekend together," Succa

said. "When we first started playing together it was a little different. [Zahirovic] is from Australia — he's been here for a while in the States — but it was definitely weird playing with him, but as we've been playing we're definitely getting used to each other."

As far as improvement goes, the defense looks like the main part of the team that has really clicked together, now they feel they need to get to that point where they help senior goalie Ryan Vint get shutouts.

McCrudden, the only returner on the line, believes their solidarity simply comes from knowing the principles of defense.

"It's just defending," McCrudden said. "Good principles, we worked on that in the spring — pretty much all spring, everyday, all preseason. As long as we've got our principles down. We're defending well as a unit ( ... ) Shut outs every game, that's what we shoot for."

After getting the principles down comes the chemistry on the field. In a defense with three newcomers the

chemistry surprisingly already be there.

“That’s a definitely a positive,” Zahirovic said. “I still feel like we still have a long way to go getting the chemistry right, but so far so good. I feel like every game we feel like we’re developing more and more. We’re clicking together. That’s a big plus for us so far, and we’re going to need that coming into the season.”

While Trask is looking to build a fortress at home, he’s certainly started to lay the foundations with his defense.

The line showed they’re tough to get past, rarely letting the opponent near the six-yard box, or much less past the 18-yard box.

“I’d say it was a pretty good fortress,” Trask said last weekend. “I didn’t see them get that many chances on our goal. That’s what building that fortress is.”

###

**Men's soccer faces stiff test in Creighton**  
**Badgers looking for 2nd win of season, have lost last 4 to Bluejays**

By Kelly Erickson

Friday, September 24, 2010

**The Badger Herald**

After only two games at home, the Wisconsin men's soccer team gets back on the road this weekend to take on No. 16 Creighton.

Sporting a 1-4-1 record, the Badgers are still looking for another win, as their only victory came in the first game of the season. Hitting the road to face the Bluejays Friday, though, will be a tough challenge.

Creighton is 5-1-0 on the season, returning six starters from last season. The Bluejays also have a new head coach this year in Jamie Clark, who previously coached at Harvard where he brought the team to the NCAA tournament two years in a row.

"For a team like that — I played some guys this summer — they're fast, they're strong," sophomore defenseman Kyle McCrudden said. "It's hard to prepare for a

team like that — high intensity practices. Hopefully we'll come out this weekend and just play well."

The last time Wisconsin and Creighton matched up was in 2006, when the Badgers fell 1-0 at home. Overall, Wisconsin is 2-6-1 against Creighton. In their last four meetings, the Bluejays have bested the Badgers, something UW hopes to change this year.

"We started off on the road for the first four games, we've been traveling a lot and then we had a home stretch here this last week," freshman defender Blake Succa said. "We've had a few days off. We know they're going to be a big challenge for us so we rested up for two days and [Wednesday] we got back in it. We had a pretty hard practice knowing that we'll have [another] day of rest."

With a solid defense already in place, Wisconsin is now looking to get their offense rolling. In the spots they missed last weekend at home — connecting on passes and controlling the ball in front of the opponent's goal — the Badgers are hoping

corrections will bring more success.

"We're doing a lot of focusing on our top of game play, which is positioning," junior defenseman Arnel Zahorivic said. "Keeping the ball in small areas and then distributing it out wide. Just keep working on that and keep building so we can use that against Creighton. I think we'll be very effective with that."

Despite all the work put in during practice, UW knows Creighton will still be one of its biggest challenges this year. For the young team, playing a top-20 team is certainly a helpful experience.

"We'll give it our best shot," Succa said. "It'll be a challenge, but I think it'll be good for us."

Heading back on the road again will serve as a test for the Badgers. So far this season, the squad has been learning a lot with every game. While the Badgers feel they are continually improving, going on the road against a tough team will show how far the team has come.

“We’re developing as well,”  
Zahirovic said. “If we just  
keep working hard, keep  
improving, I don’t see why we  
couldn’t put up a challenge  
against them. After all they’re  
just another team just like us.”

###

## **Marshfield's Finlay beats Badgers in OT**

By Eric Anderson

Friday, September 24, 2010

### **Wisconsin Soccer Central**

Playing against his homestate team, Creighton's Ethan Finlay (Marshfield) got a fortunate bounce – and yet another game-winning goal.

The junior forward fired a shot that deflected off a University of Wisconsin defender and past goalkeeper Ryan Vint in the 96th minute as the 16th-ranked Bluejays got past the Badgers 1-0 in a non-conference match Friday night in Omaha, Neb.

"Their coaches admitted it, and I agree, that we are becoming a good soccer team," UW coach John Trask said in a news release. "We're right there, on the verge. The results will start turning our way."

It was the fifth goal of the season for Finlay, who counts 11 game-winners among his 19 career goals. Creighton (6-1-0) outshot UW 18-5 and put 10 shots on frame compared to only one for the Badgers (1-5-1), but couldn't break through in regulation.

Vint, who made eight saves, made a diving stop on a drive by Sergio Castillo in the 93rd. Before Vint could scramble back up onto his feet, Kris Clark's shot off the rebound appeared headed for the goal before Badgers senior midfielder Aaron Nichols cleared the ball off the line.

"We played against one of the best defensive teams in the country tonight," Bluejays coach Jamie Clark said.

The winning sequence started with the Bluejays' 10th corner kick of the night. Jose Gomez's service nearly was cleared by UW, but Castillo tracked down the ball and got it to Clark, who flicked a header on to Finlay. His shot caromed off a Badgers defender and bounded into the air, then dropped in just under the crossbar and in for the win.

The Badgers' lone shot on goal, by junior midfielder Austin Spohn, didn't come until the 87th minute as UW was shut out for the third straight game and the fourth time this season. The Badgers return to action Tuesday night against state rival Marquette at

the Valley Fields in Milwaukee.

###

**UW soccer: Women settle** ###

**for tie; men lose in overtime**

Saturday, September 25, 2010

**The Wisconsin State Journal**

The UW women's soccer team played to a 0-0, two-overtime draw in its Big Ten Conference opener against Purdue in West Lafayette, Ind., Friday.

The Badgers (3-3-3 overall) mustered just five shots on goal but held the Boilermakers (4-5-2, 0-0-1) to just three shots on goal in extending their shutout streak to five games.

Michelle Dalton made three saves for UW.

Meanwhile, the men's soccer team fell in overtime as Creighton's Ethan Finlay scored the only goal of the match 5 minutes, 26 seconds into extra play. The goal gave the host and 16th-ranked Bluejays (6-1-0) a 1-0 win over UW (1-5-1) in a non-conference game in Omaha, Neb.

Finlay's shot was deflected off a UW player in the box and scooted past Badgers goalkeeper Ryan Vent, who made eight saves.

## **Badgers fail to find net on road as team falls to Creighton Blue Jays in overtime defeat**

### **Men's soccer falls to non-conference foe on the road**

By Jack Doyle

Monday, September 27, 2010

**The Daily Cardinal**

The Wisconsin men's soccer team was shut out for the third straight match and fell to No. 16 Creighton (6-1-0) 1-0 in overtime at Morrison Stadium in Omaha, Neb. on Friday night.

Senior goalkeeper Ryan Vint did his best to stave off the Blue Jays' attack and made a career-high eight saves, but Creighton's 18 shots proved too much to handle. Overall, Creighton outshot Wisconsin 18 to 5, including a 10-1 advantage in shots on goal.

After 90 minutes of scoreless play, the Blue Jays broke through the stingy Wisconsin defense and capitalized on a failed clearance by the Badgers in the 96th minute.

Wisconsin looked as though they had safely cleared the ball from a Creighton corner kick, but the Blue Jays regained possession at the top

of the 18-yard box. Creighton played another ball into the box, where Kris Clark flicked it to teammate Ethan Finlay. To the delight of the 2,862 fans in attendance, Finlay's low-flying shot deflected off a player in the six-yard box and into the goal.

With just three minutes to play, junior Austin Spohn posted Wisconsin's only shot on goal of the match.

Creighton goalkeeper Brian Holt secured the ball for his lone save of the night, and recorded his fifth shutout of the season with the 1-0 win. Holt has a 0.71 goals against average through seven matches this season.

While Vint and the Wisconsin defense have given up only eight goals in seven games - good for a 1.14 goals-against average - the offense has been slow to take shots and score goals. The Badgers have been outshot in all seven matches this year and have not scored in over half of them. Only one player, senior midfielder Aaron Nichols, has tallied more than one goal on the year. If Wisconsin is to get a win, their offense must start clicking.

The Badgers will look to change their fortune when they face in-state rival Marquette (2-3-2) Tuesday in Milwaukee. The Golden Eagles opened their Big East season with a 1-0 victory over Rutgers and hope to avenge a 2-0 loss to Wisconsin in Madison last year.

###



**UW ready for in-state rival  
Marquette  
Men's soccer team expects  
physical battle on road  
against Golden Eagles**

By Kelly Erickson

Monday, September 27, 2010

**The Badger Herald**

It's rivalry week for the men's soccer team as they hit the road to take on Marquette.

After dropping a 1-0 overtime decision against No. 16 Creighton, the Badgers feel as if they have to win this physical rivalry game.

"It's always exciting to play a rival in state such as Marquette and Milwaukee," senior midfielder Jon Rzepka said. "It's a big game because obviously we need a win. It's going to be physical. It's going to be hard playing away, [but] I'm looking forward to it."

"They have a nice field, the atmosphere is going to be great. It's exciting for me, I know the team is excited too especially just to try and get back in the winning column."

While their defense proved to still be rock solid against Creighton — forcing the game into overtime — Wisconsin is

focusing on getting the ball rolling and finding the back of their opponent's net.

Through seven games the squad has only tallied four goals. Keeping in mind their defensive principles, the Badgers are focusing on getting more players down into the offensive third and finally connecting with the back of the net.

"We've kind of become a really good defensive team and have got our principles down and we can figure out how exactly we're going to play defensively," junior midfielder Austin Spohn said. "We can kind of sacrifice the ends and allow them to push up so we can get that goal."

"We've been kind of doing everything right as far as possessing the ball and attacking, we just haven't gotten that goal. Hopefully getting the numbers up will definitely help."

Focusing on scoring some goals the Badgers know they're in for a fight with the Golden Eagles. In their first mid-week game of the season, the competition Marquette

will bring isn't the only tough part of the game.

For the young Badger squad this will be the first time they have to go on the road, or even play a game, in the middle of the week between school and other upcoming exams.

"Road games in the middle of the week when you have school and exams and all that coming up is a little tougher," Spohn said. "You have to go to class before you hit the road and it makes it a little bit harder, but we expect to win this game."

"None of our freshman have ever played in a mid-week game," head coach John Trask said. "They're going to be getting out of class, going on a bus, playing on a Tuesday night — sometimes that's a great thing, sometimes when they're able to just concentrate on the weekend on their soccer, it's just a different vibe that you have and it'll be a new experience. I told the guys that we're expecting another very good performance out of them."

With expectations of winning in mind, the Badgers still

expect a physical game from the Golden Eagles.

Marquette has also been rebuilding its program over the last few seasons and are on a two game unbeaten streak sitting at 2-3-2 on the season.

“They’re an edgy program,” Rzepka said. “They’re trying to have a good season and perform well. Every time we play a rival game it’s going to be really intense and physical. There’s a lot of seniors on their team too that are just trying to go out strong. It’s going to be a tough game — it always is — we just have to be ready to play a physical game while playing our own game.”

###

**UW men's soccer:**

**Marquette gets first win  
against Badgers since 2002**

Saturday, September 28, 2010

**The Wisconsin State Journal**

Calum Mallace scored the lone goal as Marquette beat the University of Wisconsin men's soccer team 1-0 at Valley Fields on Tuesday in Milwaukee, the Golden Eagles' first win in the series since 2002.

Freshman Max Jentsch made three saves in his first career start in goal for the Badgers (1-6-1) but couldn't stop Mallace's free kick from the top of the 18-yard box in the 37th minute.

David Check made three saves for Marquette (3-3-2).

###

## **Badgers fall to Marquette, Big Ten looms**

By Matthew Kleist

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

### **The Daily Cardinal**

The Wisconsin men's soccer team (1-6-1) fell to in-state rival Marquette (3-3-2) Tuesday night. The 1-0 loss marked the first time Wisconsin has lost to the Golden Eagles since 2003, and only the second time in the past decade. Tuesday's one-goal loss is just another in a rough start to the Badgers' season.

Lead by freshman midfielder Nick Janus, Wisconsin started the game strong, taking the first two shots. Both Janus and freshman defender Luke Goodnetter produced attempts with headers, and the Badgers were able to force Marquette's keeper David Check to make saves on each.

Unable to keep the pressure on the Golden Eagles, Wisconsin only forced Check to make one more save for the remainder of the game. The Badgers would end the game with six shots, three on goal. Janus had three of the Wisconsin shots, putting two

on net himself. Unable to break the Marquette defense, the Badgers suffered their fifth shutout of the season, and their fourth consecutive. In those five games, Wisconsin's record stands as 0-4-1.

On the defensive side, freshman goaltender Max Jentsch started for Wisconsin. In the first start of his collegiate career, Jentsch made three saves and turned in a solid performance in net. Despite his effort and general success, Marquette was able to beat the young keeper in the 37th minute.

Because of a UW penalty, the Golden Eagles took a free kick just outside of the 18-yard box. Marquette's Calum Mallace scored the game's first and only goal off of the kick as Jentsch was unable to make the save. The goal was Mallace's third of the season.

A loss to Marquette was the last thing that head coach John Trask and the team needed. With this match being the last non-conference game before entering Big Ten play, the Badgers have a challenging road ahead of them as they get back to practice.

"Tonight's result was disappointing," Trask said. "We need to get back to work at practice this week as we have a tough task ahead of us at Indiana on Sunday. We need to play better as we move forward, especially entering Big Ten play.

Although Wisconsin got solid goaltending from Jentsch on Tuesday, the Badgers will need to make significant improvements on both sides of the ball between their return to practice on Wednesday and this weekend's matchup.

Wisconsin opens its Big Ten season on the road against Indiana Sunday afternoon. The Hoosiers enter the game with a 4-3-0 overall record, 1-0-0 in Big Ten play. The Badgers are back at home on Wednesday, Oct. 6 when they host the University of Northern Illinois.

###

## **Mallace, Marquette bounce Badgers**

By Matt Schroeder  
Wednesday, September 29,  
2010

### **Wisconsin Soccer Central**

MILWAUKEE – The Marquette men's soccer team achieved victory over the University of Wisconsin on Tuesday night by the slimmest of margins, as Calum Mallace's free kick in the 37th minute struck the underside of the crossbar and hit just beyond the goal line before spinning back out.

But two different perspectives emerged from the Golden Eagles' 1-0 non-conference victory watched by 1,043 fans at Valley Fields.

Marquette (3-3-2) won consecutive matches for the first time since 2005 and now boasts a three-match unbeaten streak. Sophomore goalkeeper David Check (Mequon Homestead), named the Big East Goalkeeper of the Week last week, made three saves in his third consecutive clean sheet. Optimism and positive vibes are flowing out of the Menomonee Valley, though Marquette's next task is sixth-

ranked Connecticut at home on Friday.

Badgers coach John Trask, however, was not the least bit pleased with his team's effort.

"They bossed us," the first-year UW coach said after watching his team's winless streak reach seven games. "We didn't take it personally, didn't show up to compete. Hopefully, this is rock bottom for this group. We looked like a 1-6-1 team tonight."

UW, which had lost only one of the last 10 matchups between these teams, started six true freshmen, including handing a debut to goalkeeper Max Jentsch (Hartland Arrowhead). Trask wanted his backup keeper to earn some minutes in advance of the Big Ten Conference season, which starts for the Badgers on Sunday against Indiana and former UW coach Todd Yeagley in Bloomington, Ind.

The Badgers played displayed the defensive shape and style they're developing under Trask, but couldn't translate that into success going forward. Their only dangerous opportunity was in the second half, a sequence in which a

Marquette defender lost a shoe. While the defender sought a stoppage in play, UW freshman Nick Janus took advantage of the opening and challenged Check on the near post. He slid out for a kick save to end the threat.

Check, who took over in goal from senior Keenan Flynn after a season-opening loss to UW-Milwaukee, is now firmly in charge. He has a 0.53 goals-against average and 29 saves in seven matches.

"He's very athletic," Marquette coach Louis Bennett said of Check. "He's bigger than he looks and plays much, much bigger."

Marquette, meanwhile, didn't generate a ton of offense either, but did control play in the second half. The goal followed a first-half foul just outside the top of the penalty box, directly in front of the goal.

Mallace, who now counts six game-winners among his seven career goals, is the team's free kick specialist. Taking a shorter approach than normal, the junior midfielder lifted the ball over the wall and curled it to

Jentsch's right with 36:30 expired for his team-best third goal of the season.

Mallace also played a key role in Marquette's second-half dominance as he focused on playing more simple balls. Bennett also had high praise for defenders Anthony Colaizzi and Eric Pothast. Colaizzi helped keep the ball away from UW senior Aaron Nichols in the second half after the Badgers played through him for much of the opening 45 minutes.

Marquette photo gallery //  
Marquette coach Louis  
Bennett video interview

Wisconsin 0 0 —0

Marquette 1 0 —1

Marquette – Calum Mallace  
37

WISCONSIN: Max Jentsch; Luke Goodnetter, Arnel Zahirovic, Paul Yonga, Blake Succa; Nick Janus, Trevor Wheeler, Jon Rzepka, Danny Ahlering, Aaron Nichols; Bryan Gerster. Substitutes: Cale Cooper, Colin Monasterio, Joey Tennyson, Colin Mani, Austin Spohn, Chris Prince, Derek Pitts.

MARQUETTE: David Check; Anthony Colaizzi, Eric Pothast, Michael Alfano, Matt Stummer; Ryan Robb, Calum Mallace, Bryan Ciesiulka; Amilcar Herrera, Chris Madsen, Anthony Selvaggi. Substitutes: Paul Dillon, Hector Navarro, TeeJay East.

Saves: W (Jentsch) 3; M (Check) 3. Shots: W 6, M 8. Fouls: W 12, M 13. Corner kicks: W 4, M 3. Offsides: W 1, M 2. Discipline: W – Ahlering (caution, 89). Att. – 1,043.

###

**Men's soccer starts Big Ten play against former coach Badgers head to Bloomington hoping to start conference season strong against Indiana**

By Noah Goetzel

Thursday, September 30, 2010

**The Badger Herald**

As the Wisconsin men's soccer team enters Big Ten play, the Badgers will square off in Bloomington against their heated rivals, Indiana, now led by UW's former head coach.

Sunday's game at Indiana (5-3-0, 1-0-0 Big Ten) will be a chance for Wisconsin to showcase its talent in front of current Hoosiers head coach Todd Yeagley, who ended his one-year tenure at UW to take the spot at his alma mater.

Senior goalkeeper and captain Ryan Vint says squaring off against Yeagley should serve as more of a motivation than a distraction for the team.

According to Vint, the Badgers will try to show they are better without Yeagley. Instead, his presence will further promote a sense of competitiveness to a game that

is already of utmost importance to UW.

Current Wisconsin head coach John Trask wants to downplay that element of the matchup.

"Is there going to be extra emphasis from us...because Todd was our coach a year ago? If that's what it takes for us to get up for a game — to prove the coach wrong for leaving — that's not what we're trying to build here," Trask, a former Indiana coach and player, said.

Wisconsin (1-6-1) has struggled recently against Indiana, dropping last year's Big Ten opener to IU 1-0 and then losing again to the Hoosiers 2-0 in the Big Ten Tournament to end UW's season. Indiana leads the all-time series with Wisconsin 32-3-4.

"It's not going to be tough to get prepared for it," Vint said. "It's just one of those games that you just naturally come ready to play. Being voted last in the Big Ten polls was a pretty big reason for me to show all of the Big Ten that we are not here to just get stepped on."

Like last season, Wisconsin has scored only five goals eight games into the season and has not converted on many scoring opportunities.

Vint said the team could benefit from taking all the "half chances," or opportunities that do not give players a perfect shot on goal but still put pressure on the opposing defense and goalkeeper.

Freshman Chris Prince may soon be a solution as he has impressed coaches and teammates so far this season, already earning a starting position at forward in six games. While Prince is tied for third on the team in total shots and shots on goal this season, he has yet to connect for a goal.

"Any goal scorer will tell you a lot of it is confidence, and confidence comes from hitting the back of the net," Trask said. "If Chris Prince could tickle the back of the net, all of a sudden, he becomes a much more dangerous threat every time we move down the field as a unit."

The IU squad boasts a high-powered offense featuring

forwards Will Bruin and Andy Adlard, who have each scored 15 points and combined for 10 goals this season.

Additionally, Hoosier midfielders Nikita Kotlov and Harrison Petts each have assisted in three goals thus far.

“Obviously, we’ll have to keep an eye on Will Bruin; he’s a great player,” senior defender and captain Aaron Nichols said. “I think it’s going to come down to being focused for the entire 90 minutes...and never making those small mistakes. Keeping good principle defensively and working together as a team, knowing that we have each others’ back [on tackles will be key].”

The Badgers are coming off a discouraging loss at Marquette Tuesday, a game Trask said was not the most motivating environment for the players.

According to Trask, Wisconsin’s loss against Marquette was the first game in which the team failed to surpass its performance from the prior game.

“Hopefully to me there is a level of excitement going into the Big Ten season that we

didn’t see [Tuesday] night,” Trask said. “Hopefully it was a ‘one off’ and we’ll be ready to really put our best foot forward this weekend.”

###



## **UW men end long losing skid at Indiana**

By Eric Anderson

Sunday, October 03, 2010

### **Wisconsin Soccer Central**

John Trask didn't want to get too carried away with his team's 1-1 tie against Indiana on Sunday in Bloomington, Ind.

After all, the result in the Big Ten Conference opener left the University of Wisconsin men's soccer team with a 1-6-2 record and an eight-game winless streak.

But the matchup with the Hoosiers did have plenty of connections – Trask played and coached at IU, while his longtime friend Todd Yeagley is in his first season as the coach at his alma mater after coaching UW last year. And the draw, secured thanks to an 11-save performance from senior goalkeeper Ryan Vint, did end a 17-year losing streak for the Badgers at Armstrong Stadium.

"I wouldn't say it was a great night for Wisconsin soccer," Trask said in a news release, "but I don't know the last time a Wisconsin team came in here and tied Indiana."

The answer is 1992, when the teams played to a 0-0 tie. The next year, Trask's first as an assistant with the Hoosiers, UW beat Indiana 1-0 on its home turf in an NCAA tournament match.

Since then, the Badgers had lost all 10 of their games at Indiana. The Hoosiers still lead the all-time series 34-3-5, but UW has managed two ties in the past four years.

Freshman forward Chris Prince – recruited to UW by Yeagley – scored his first collegiate goal to give the Badgers the lead off a set piece in the 20th minute. Sophomore defender Kyle McCrudden took the free kick and found senior midfielder Jon Rzepka, who flicked a header to Prince, whose header beat Indiana keeper Luis Soffner to the far post.

The Hoosiers (5-3-1, 1-0-1 Big Ten) controlled much of the play, outshooting UW 21-7, but Vint was stellar between the posts.

Vint made six saves in the first half, including two early stops on quality chances by Chris Estridge. He eventually set up the equalizer, playing a

through ball that Harrison Petts ran on to and beat Vint low to the near post in the 52nd.

"Ryan Vint had an excellent game for us tonight," Trask said.

The Badgers had three of their seven shots in the two overtime periods, with freshman Derek Pitts (Middleton) forcing Soffner into his lone save of the match on a header off a corner kick in the 107th.

"Obviously, Indiana is a very good team and they were going to have periods of play, but I was very pleased with our guys that we were able to control periods of play as well," Trask said. "Every game we seem to be a little more dangerous moving forward with the ball. That hasn't amounted to a lot of goals yet, but in the game of soccer, you don't need a lot of goals. You just need goals at the right time."

###

**UW men's soccer: Vint's career-best 11 saves help**

## **Badgers net rare tie at Indiana**

Sunday, October 3, 2010

### **Wisconsin State Journal**

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. -- Senior goalkeeper Ryan Vint made a career-high 11 saves Sunday to lead the University of Wisconsin men's soccer team to a 1-1 double-overtime tie with Indiana at Armstrong Stadium in the Big Ten Conference opener.

The Badgers (1-6-2, 0-0-1 Big Ten) took a 1-0 lead in the 20th minute on a header by freshman Chris Prince, but the Hoosiers (5-3-1, 1-0-1) notched the equalizer in the 52nd minute thanks to Harrison Pette.

Wisconsin had lost 10 straight at Bloomington, dating to a 1993 victory, and is winless in its last 18 overall meetings with Indiana.

"Obviously, Indiana is a very good team, and they were going to have periods of play, but I was very pleased with our guys that we were able to control periods of play as well," UW coach John Trask said.

"Every game we seem to be a little more dangerous moving

forward with the ball. That hasn't amounted to a lot of goals yet, but in the game of soccer, you don't need a lot of goals. You just need goals at the right time."

The Badgers' goal was keyed by a free kick by sophomore Kyle McCrudden just inside Indiana's half of the field. Senior Jon Rzepka flicked a header on to Prince, who finished with a header of his own and beat Indiana keeper Luis Soffner inside the far post.

The Badgers held a 1-0 lead at halftime, despite being outshot 9-2 in the game's first 45 minutes.

The Hoosiers tied things up when Chris Estridge played a through ball from the right side of the field, and Pette slipped a low shot past Vint on the near post.

"The most important thing is still that we continue to get better," Trask said. "I wouldn't say it was a great night for Wisconsin soccer, but I don't know the last time a Wisconsin team came in (to Bloomington, Ind.) and tied Indiana. I also thought Ryan

Vint had an excellent game for us tonight."

Vint and the Badger defense played solid as Indiana outshot UW 21-7, including a 10-2 advantage in the second half.

IU tested Wisconsin early. Estridge ripped a one-timer from six yards out just 11 minutes into the game, but Vint made the save. Less than one minute later, Vint smothered a second opportunity by Estridge, this time off a shot to Vint's left.

Both teams had opportunities late in the game. Freshman Nick Janus fired a shot wide with less than four minutes to play before Pette looked for his second goal of the game with 1:09 remaining in regulation. Vint made a diving save to send the game to overtime.

Indiana's Will Bruin pulled the trigger just 19 seconds into overtime, firing a shot from the top of the 18, but Vint again made the save. Freshman Paul Yonga (Brooklyn Park, Minn.) responded with a shot that went just high on the opposite

end of the field less than two minutes later.

youth team soccer jersey to the game.

The Badgers had two corner kicks to open the second overtime, and redshirt freshman Derek Pitts -- who hails from Middleton -- had the lone scoring opportunity of the final 10-minute period. Prince sent in a corner kick to Pitts, who connected on a header in the 107th minute, but Soffner was there to make the save.

###

Luke Goodnetter, Arnel Zahirovic and Aaron Nichols joined Vint, McCrudden and Janus in playing all 110 minutes.

The Badgers host two games at the McClimon Complex this week. Wisconsin faces Northern Illinois (4-3-2, 0-1-0 Mid-American Conference) on Wednesday at 7 p.m. before hosting Michigan (5-2-3, 1-1-0 Big Ten) at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday.

Sunday's game marks the second annual PAC the MAC doubleheader with the Wisconsin women's soccer team, which hosts Illinois at noon. Kids will receive free admission by wearing their

**UW travels into foreboding territory and comes away with rare tie against Hoosiers**

**Men's soccer still in search of second win**

By Jack Doyle

Monday, October 4, 2010

**The Daily Cardinal**

The University of Wisconsin men's soccer team managed a double-overtime 1-1 tie against Indiana on Sunday afternoon at Armstrong Stadium in Bloomington, Ind. behind Chris Prince's first collegiate goal.

The Badgers ended their four match scoring drought when Prince scored in the 20th minute to give Wisconsin the lead. Senior Jon Rzepka flicked a header off a Badger free kick to Prince, who then headed it far post and into Indiana's net.

Senior goalkeeper Ryan Vint was back in goal after freshman Max Jentsch made his first career college start in net last Tuesday against Marquette. Vint made a career-high 11 saves in his return, and was constantly peppered with shots throughout the duration of the match.

The Hoosiers already had a shot in the Badgers' six-yard box 11 minutes into the match, which was safely smothered by Vint. Indiana would add eight more shots before the half was over while Wisconsin had two.

The Badgers marched into the halftime break with a lead—something that has been hard to find for this team in 2010.

It was just seven minutes into the second half though when the Hoosiers finally capitalized on one of their many opportunities .

In the 52nd minute Indiana's Chris Estridge sent a through ball into Wisconsin territory to teammate Harrison Petts, who slid a near-post shot past Vint.

Indiana tallied another 10 shots in the second half, and Wisconsin mustered only two once again. But despite being outshot 21-7 in the match the Badgers still had their opportunities. A shot by Wisconsin freshman Nick Janus went wide with less than four minutes to play, and fellow freshman Paul Yonga ripped a shot just over the crossbar a few minutes into overtime.

"The most important thing is still that we continue to get better," head coach John Trask said. "I wouldn't say it was a great night for Wisconsin soccer, but I don't know the last time a Wisconsin team came in [to Bloomington, Ind.] and tied Indiana.

This match continued the trend of Wisconsin men's soccer this season: creating little offense while playing stout defense. The Badgers have been outshot 109-65 while only scoring five goals so far this year. In addition, they have given up 50 corner kicks while taking 35 of their own.

Wisconsin returns home this week and is seeking their second win of the season when they play Northern Illinois on Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the McClimon Complex.

###

**Trask hopes to build off draw at Indiana**  
**Young men's soccer team gets 1st goal since September 12; Vint defensive player of week**

By Frank Otto

Monday, October 4, 2010

**The Badger Herald**

After opening Big Ten conference play with a 1-1 double-overtime tie at the University of Indiana, the Wisconsin men's soccer team faces two home games this week. UW, which hasn't won since its season opener, finally found some success on the road over this last weekend.

Wisconsin scored a surprising tie against Big Ten powerhouse Indiana at the end of a stretch of three road games. Over the course of that road trip, Wisconsin took an overtime loss to Creighton in Omaha, 1-0, then lost their next game to Marquette in Milwaukee 1-0 in regulation time before meeting Indiana.

"We went on the road to Marquette and didn't show up, in all honesty," head coach John Trask said. "We kind of bottomed out. Then we turned around and went to Indiana and came away with a positive

result. It was an interesting week and one that hopefully we can continue to build on."

The Badgers' first goal since Sept. 12 at Florida Atlantic came from Chris Prince. Prince, a freshman, scored his first collegiate goal against Indiana, off the assists of Kyle McCrudden and Nick Janus.

"I think the guys, being on TV, it really meant a lot to them," Trask said. "They really showed up and played hard."

Wisconsin's only win this year came early in September against UC-Santa Clara. Trask expressed hope that the tie against Indiana could serve as a motivator for his young team. Wisconsin has 13 true freshmen and just five seniors.

"It was a result that we needed, in all honesty, with the season so far," Trask said. "The guys need to stay bought-in, and I think that this is something they'll use [for] motivation."

Despite being optimistic about the tie, Trask did feel that the Badgers could have accomplished more.

"I think the last time Wisconsin went into Indiana and got a result was in 1992," Trask said. "When you look historically, to go in to play the tradition of excellence that is Indiana soccer and come away [with a tie], we felt in some ways we were a bit unfortunate."

"Overtime, we thought we had some good looks at goal and outplayed them deep into the game, which is very difficult to do against a high-ranked team on the road."

#### Shared Histories

This was the first time Todd Yeagley, now head coach at Indiana, faced his former team. Yeagley was Wisconsin's head coach last season.

Trask also has ties to Indiana, his alma mater, where he served as an assistant coach from 1993-1999. However, Trask dismissed any extra difficulty in facing Indiana.

"People asked me how would it be for me, personally, to go back to Bloomington or Todd Yeagley coaching against Wisconsin after leaving at the end of last season," Trask said. "In all honesty, I think it

was tougher on (UW assistant coach) Phil Presser, who helped Indiana win championships, to go back there for his first time.”

Presser served as an assistant coach at Indiana from 2006-09. He also played midfield at Indiana from 1999-2002.

Presser and the Hoosiers went to three College Cups in his playing time there and won the National Championship in 2003 when he served as their undergraduate assistant coach.

#### Goalies in Competition

Wisconsin's goaltender in the Indiana game, senior Ryan Vint, was awarded Monday with Big Ten Defensive Player of the Week honors for his performance Sunday. He notched a career-high 11 saves and allowed just one goal in the effort. This improved upon his previous career-best performance, an eight-save outing during the overtime 1-0 loss at Creighton.

“Vint made a couple of [good] saves,” Trask said of the Indiana performance. “He actually was very close to getting a hand on the goal that they scored.”

Despite Vint's play, he is not the every day starter, as Trask is cycling through goalies.

Trask indicated that the starter from the Marquette game, freshman Max Jentsch, will be the the starter Wednesday versus Northern Illinois.

“We're getting some competition in goal, which always makes [things] seem better,” Trask said.

Jentsch made his first collegiate start at Marquette, where he made three saves on four shots on goal.

#### Tough Big Ten Season Coming

Indiana was only the opening of what will be a very challenging Big Ten soccer season.

“I'm looking forward to it,” Trask said. “I know week in and week out the Big Ten is very strong and I'm not going to sit up here and say I think we're going to be working miracles this year. But I do think we're going to get our fair share of results.”

Michigan, coming off of a late-goal, 2-1 win over No. 24 Penn State, heads to Madison Sunday. Following that,

Wisconsin will face off in East Lansing on Oct. 17 against No. 11 Michigan State.

Wisconsin defeated Michigan State 2-1 in two overtimes last season, but also lost 3-0 to Michigan. Wisconsin managed a 3-4-0 record against Big Ten opponents last season.

“It'll be up and down,” Trask said. “I think the guys are ready, mentally and emotionally, and we'll start doing some things tactically different. Hopefully when Michigan gets here next Sunday, we'll put our best foot forward and perform for the people of Madison and the University.”

###

**UW travels into foreboding  
territory and comes away  
with rare tie against  
Hoosiers**

**Big Ten lauds Vint after big  
performance**

By Eric Anderson

Tuesday, October 5, 2010

**Wisconsin Soccer Central**

Ryan Vint's soccer resume has had several additions the past few days.

The University of Wisconsin senior goalkeeper set a career high by making 11 saves Sunday to help the Badgers end a 17-year losing streak in Bloomington, Ind., with a 1-1 tie against Indiana.

A day later, he was named the Big Ten Conference men's Defensive Player of the Week for the first time.

Vint ranks second in the conference with an average of 4.75 saves per match and has a 1.03 goals-against average for UW (1-6-2).

###

## **Badgers look to build on recent improvements with strong defense**

By Matthew Kleist

Wednesday, October 6, 2010

### **The Daily Cardinal**

Returning home, the Badgers men's soccer team (1-6-2) is coming off a 1-1 double overtime draw in their Big Ten opener against Indiana. Wisconsin will play host to the Huskies of Northern Illinois (4-3-2) in a midweek matchup on Wednesday night. In a game that is looking to shape up to be a defensive struggle, it will be crucial to find the back of the net.

Entering this week's game, NIU owns a goals against average of only 0.53, and are ranked 12th in the nation in that category. Even more daunting, Northern Illinois is ranked 10th in shutouts, blanking opponents at a rate of 56 percent.

However, the Badger defense, laden with freshmen like Paul Yonga and Luke Goodnetter, is not to be dismissed.

Allowing 1.03 goals per game and holding a .808 save percentage, Wisconsin's back line is not often broken.

Starting in goal, freshmen keeper Max Jentsch is no slouch either. In his only start of the season, Jentsch impressed head coach John Trask. Playing the full 90 minutes, he saved 3 of the 4 shots that he faced.

"The young man that played at Marquette, Max Jentsch, who is a true freshman, was outstanding," Trask said.

"He'll start again on Wednesday night."

Hoping to build on their success in Indiana, Trask feels that his team is ready to continue forward and will start seeing results.

"I think this is something that they'll use as motivation," Trask said.

Seeing improvement every time they take the field, the Badgers are now starting to step up their play. Able to begin to look at games from a more tactical viewpoint, they are starting to play the matchups that will give them the advantage.

"Our young guys continue to develop," Trask said.

"Wednesday will be a character game."

Wisconsin is still looking for their second win of the season. Claiming the all-time series 16-11-0, the Badgers have the slight advantage historically. Despite this, the Huskies have taken 4 out of the last 6 decisions, winning the last meeting of these two teams 1-0 at Wisconsin just a season ago.

###



**UW men's soccer: Badgers fall to Northern Illinois in overtime**

Wednesday, October 6, 2010

**Wisconsin State Journal**

Danny Ahlering scored his first goal of the season, but the University of Wisconsin men's soccer team fell 2-1 in overtime to Northern Illinois during a non-conference men's college soccer match Wednesday at McClimon Field.

After Northern Illinois grabbed the lead on Juan Hoyos' goal — he finished to the back post off a combo in the penalty area — Ahlering answered off an assist from Nick Janus in the 80th minute.

Ahlering finished off the goal on a rebound, beating Huskies keeper Jordan Godsey.

But Tim King scored the winner for the Huskies (5-3-2 overall) in the 95th minute, nailing home a header from Sean Totsch from 6 yards out following a restart from 45 yards out.

The Badgers (1-7-2) were outshot 12-10 and failed to register a corner kick during the match. Max Jentsch made four saves for UW.

The match marked the third overtime loss for the Badgers this season. They lost at Florida International Sept. 10 and at Creighton Sept. 24.

UW opens the Big Ten season Sunday with a match against Michigan at McClimon Field at 2:30 p.m.

"You know, week in and week out, the Big Ten is very strong, and I'm not going to sit up here and say I think we're going to be working miracles this year, but I think we're going to get our fair share of results," coach John Trask said earlier this week.

###

## **Physicality lacking in tough loss**

### **Men's soccer team struggles to handle the physical nature of Northern Illinois**

By Kelly Erickson

Wednesday, October 6, 2010

#### **The Badger Herald**

In what can only be described as a very frustrating 2-1 overtime loss to the Northern Illinois Huskies, the men's soccer team can only move forward from here.

Besides pushing the game into overtime after falling 1-0 a few minutes into the second half, there seemed to be very few bright spots for the Badgers last night at the McClimon Soccer Complex. One was goaltender Max Jentsch, but overall the Badgers need to improve in one specific area to earn wins. They need to get more physical. That was evident in Wednesday's heartbreaking loss.

#### **Freshmen on the field**

Freshman goalkeeper Max Jentsch started his first game at home against the Huskies, his second on the season, and while it didn't end exactly how he wanted head coach

John Trask was impressed with his play.

"He's been a bright spot," Trask said. "His two performances have been very good."

Jentsch wasn't the only freshman starting. Five freshmen were in the starting line-up, and all but one of them played the full 94 minutes of the game.

All season the Badgers have found themselves with a lot of freshmen starting, but this is one of the first games where Trask has felt they played like freshmen.

"Tonight they looked like freshmen," Trask said. "I don't think there was any question of the result. I told their coaches so much, and we're not good enough. We're not hard enough, we're not big enough, we're not mean enough, we're not tough enough. We're missing every single element of being a good college soccer team at this point. The bottom line is these guys need to get bigger and stronger; the young guys need to continue to improve."

Redshirt sophomore defenseman Danny Ahlering

feels like the freshmen can no longer be looked at as such a young squad, considering Wisconsin has already played ten games at the college level.

"For the most part a lot of them have been playing all season — this is Jentsch's second start — a lot of them are used to it," Ahlering said. "We're confident in front of him. We're confident with everyone on the field, all the freshmen. They've all been playing so much I don't really look at them as freshmen any more."

#### **Different Combinations**

Wisconsin knew the game was going to be a physical matchup, but Trask still wanted to try different combinations with his team and used a lot of guys off the bench throughout the game, especially in the first half.

In the first half alone Trask subbed in four players off his bench to see what could happen with various lineups.

"It's a non-conference game," Trask said. "We were looking to try a couple different things. We had some changes with personnel, like Cale Cooper going up top. We just

wanted to see what it looked like. Pitts played in the midfield some, he's been playing up top for us, just looking at what we've got really at this point.

"Some of our guys did alright off the bench, some of them not so good."

Too many fouls

For an indication of how physical and frustrating the game was, look no further than the amount of fouls that occurred between the two teams.

With a total of 40 fouls, 20 for each team, Wisconsin felt they were making some dumb mistakes but couldn't seem to get themselves out of foul trouble, especially one that led to the winning goal.

"NIU's always physical," Ahlering said. "They're big players; you have to be ready for that. We just made some stupid fouls. You always have to be ready to play them because they're always fouling."

"When we give up dumb fouls, it's frustrating, like how they scored on that last goal," Jentsch added.

As the fouls kept piling on, scoring opportunities seemed to keep slipping away from the Badgers.

It was all too clear how frustrated the team was starting to become through the second half, especially after NIU took the lead, but the frustration only seemed to produce more fouls until UW finally knocked in a goal.

"We fouled them 20 times," Trask said. "You just can't do that. We gave them too many opportunities. I don't think we were bad tonight, but we weren't good enough to win either."

###

## **Badgers lose in OT to Huskies**

### **An NIU goal off a free kick sent the Badgers home winless for the 9th straight time**

By Noah Goetzel

Thursday, October 7, 2010

#### **The Badger Herald**

For the second straight year, the Wisconsin men's soccer team lost to Northern Illinois University at home after allowing a goal in the closing minutes on Wednesday night.

Despite a second-chance goal by sophomore defender Danny Ahlering in the 80th minute to knot the game up at 1-1, NIU defender Tim King headed in a free kick in the 95th minute to end the game for the Badgers in sudden-death overtime.

Wisconsin head coach John Trask was upset by the team's disappointing performance and saw his squad as the lesser team against its non-conference rival.

"[I thought NIU was] the dominant team that whole evening," Trask said. "I don't think there was any question in the results."

The two teams were scoreless after the first half, but the Huskies were able to strike first, just 2:47 into the second half when NIU forward Juan Hoyos tapped in a short pass off a reset from a corner kick.

UW was able to respond 32 minutes later when Nick Janus knocked a rebound off the NIU goalkeeper into the far post and onto the awaiting feet of Ahlering, who cleaned up the miss and scored.

"I'd rather win than score, obviously, but it's nice for the moment," Ahlering said.

Ahlering also saved Wisconsin from a potential defeat in regulation by clearing a NIU free kick away with a strong header in the 85th minute.

However, it was not enough for the UW (1-7-2), as Ahlering's tackle from 45 yards away earned NIU defender Sean Totsch the pivotal, game-ending free kick cross that King finished within the six-yard box.

Trask noted the team's lack of size, strength and determination as reasons for Wisconsin's defeat in a physical game that featured 40

combined fouls and two yellow cards.

The game's physicality and high number of bookings was due to UW's frustration and inability to adjust to the referee's style of officiating from the get-go, according to Trask.

Wisconsin midfielder Austin Spohn was called for a yellow card in the 74th minute when he tripped up a sprinting NIU player on a fast break. NIU earned a yellow card by tackling Spohn just 56 seconds later to sideline Spohn with a foot injury for the remainder of the game.

"I just felt like our urgency once they scored today wasn't there," Trask said. "We seemed to have turned into a team that is accepting of losing. Tonight was a character game for me, and in all honesty, we failed."

Trask said the team did liven up after Spohn's injury, yet there were still long periods of the game in which UW looked dull and unable to spur any offense.

For only the second time this season, Trask went with freshman goalkeeper Max

Jentsch over senior team captain Ryan Vint, who earned Big Ten Defensive Player of the Week honors Monday.

Jentsch provided four saves, while allowing two goals for the Badgers and said it felt good to get his second start Wednesday, but admitted it was difficult to get into a rhythm due to his inconsistency in playtime.

“It just makes me feel good that the coaches have confidence in me and they think I can play,” Jentsch said.

“It kind of throws off my rhythm a little bit because it feels like a new season for me every game.”

Trask highlighted Jentsch as a key asset among the freshmen for the Badgers this year.

“I needed to get Max games, that’s the bottom line,” Trask said. “He’s a freshman, and we think he could be a goalkeeper in the future here. We are a [1-7-2] team. He has been a bright spot. His two performances have been pretty good.”

Trask, a coach for Indiana for 10 years, noted it takes a lot out of a team to compete well

against IU, and tried to give his players as much rest as possible before Wednesday’s game. However, the team plays another Big Ten game Sunday and will need to make a quick turnaround.

“A true program...has to show up during the middle of the week, and this is two weeks in a row. I’m not saying we were bad tonight,” Trask said.

“That’s a pretty decent team we’re playing. I don’t think we were bad tonight, but we weren’t good enough to win either.”

###

## **Unlucky 7: Another one-goal loss for UW**

By Eric Anderson

Thursday, October 07, 2010

### **Wisconsin Soccer Central**

The University of Wisconsin men's soccer team came up with a late goal to force overtime Wednesday night, but gave up the game-winner on a set piece in the 95th minute and dropped a 2-1 decision to Northern Illinois in a non-conference match at the McClimon Complex.

The loss extended the Badgers' winless streak to nine games – all seven of their losses have been by one goal, including three in overtime.

"I felt like our urgency wasn't there once they scored their first goal," said UW coach John Trask, whose team fell behind in the 48th minute.

"There were long periods in the game when play was dull. Tonight was a character game, and we need to bounce back. I don't think we were bad tonight, but we weren't good enough to win."

Sophomore Danny Ahlering pulled UW (1-7-2) even in the 80th minute, finishing off a good sequence of pressure for

the Badgers. Senior midfielder Jon Rzepka had a shot blocked by a Huskies defender, then freshman Nick Janus followed with a shot off the post before Ahlering drove the rebound past NIU goalkeeper Jordan Godsey for his second career goal.

But UW couldn't build on the momentum in overtime. Sean Totsch took a free kick 45 yards out and served it into the 6-yard box, where Tim King sent a header past Badgers freshman keeper Max Jentsch (Hartland Arrowhead) for his first goal of the season.

"Max's two performances have been pretty good," Trask said. "We needed to get him some games, and he has been a bright spot for us. We'll continue to split time between him and Ryan (Vint) in goal. It's just a pure rotation right now."

Jentsch finished with four saves in his second career start, while Godsey stopped three shots for the Huskies (5-3-2). Godsey denied a great scoring chance for the Badgers, leaping to punch out a 25-yard blast by freshman midfielder Paul Yonga in the 15th.

Badgers junior midfielder Austin Spohn, who has been sidelined by a groin injury for much of the past year, had to be helped from the field after a challenge by Totsch in the 75th that led to a yellow card for the NIU freshman defender.

###

## **Frustration evident as Badgers rack up fouls, run winless streak to nine**

By Jack Doyle

Thursday, October 7, 2010

### **The Daily Cardinal**

Despite sophomore Danny Ahlering's first goal of the year, the Wisconsin men's soccer team extended their winless streak to nine matches, falling 2-1 to Northern Illinois Wednesday night at the McClimon Complex.

The Badgers went into the second half tied 0-0 with the Huskies, but NIU capitalized on a chance just three minutes after halftime. A Husky shot trickled through the Badgers' penalty box and eventually found an unmarked Juan Hoyos, who put it past freshman goalkeeper Max Jentsch to give NIU a 1-0 lead.

The Huskies would maintain their lead for nearly half an hour, but Wisconsin finally broke through in the 80th minute. Motivated by an injury to junior Austin Spohn, who did not return to play following a hard tackle by an NIU player in the 75th minute, the Badgers began to put

pressure on the Huskie defense. Five minutes later, Ahlering finished a rebound off the post by placing it in the lower corner of the net, tying the match at one.

Ahlering did not take much time to bask in the glory.

"It's fine but I'd rather win than score," Ahlering said. "It was nice at the time, but that was about it."

Since the remaining ten minutes went scoreless, the match proceeded into overtime. After an evening littered with slide tackles and elbows, the last of UW's 20 fouls proved to be fatal.

Following an Ahlering foul on an NIU player near midfield, the Huskies sent a ball into the Badgers' penalty box, where NIU's Tim King flicked it past Jentsch to secure the win.

Head coach John Trask said he was none too pleased with the team's effort and did not hold back as he described where his squad stands.

"We're not good enough, we're not hard enough. We're not big enough, we're not tough enough," Trask said. "We're missing every single

element of being a good college soccer team at this point."

"Tonight was a character game, and to be honest, we failed," he added.

There was at least one bright spot in the loss, however, as Jentsch was solid in net during the second collegiate start of his career. Although senior goalie Ryan Vint was fresh off Big Ten Defensive Player of the Week honors and a career game-11 saves against Indiana-Trask said it was time to give the newcomer Jentsch a few starts.

"The bottom line is I need to get Max games," Trask said. "We think he can be a goalkeeper of the future here."

Sunday afternoon features a doubleheader with the men's and women's soccer teams taking on Big Ten opponents as part of the "Pac the Mac" promotion. The women's soccer team will play Illinois at noon, followed by the men's squad facing Michigan at 2:30 p.m.

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