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## Men's soccer: Breto's first goal beats Spartans

Will Toman

Issue date: 9/25/08 Section: Sports

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Sophomore defenseman Matt gold, above, and the Ohio State men's soccer is 5-1-1 after a win against Michigan State on Sunday.

True-freshman forward Joshua Breto scored the only goal of the game to help the Ohio State men's soccer team defeat Michigan State 1-0 Sunday.

"If feels really good to get one in the back of the net," Breto said. "Everything finally went my way today. I found my way in front of the goal and tapped it in."

Head coach John Bluem has been impressed by the freshman. "We are pleased with him and the progress that he is making," Bluem said. "He's a big, strong kid for a freshman."

The No. 16 Buckeyes are 1-0 in the Big Ten Conference after a win against the Spartans put them at 5-1-1 overall.

"It's big," junior goalie Drew Czekanski said. "Any win we get in the Big Ten obviously helps us a lot."

This was the second time the Buckeyes have shut out their opponent.

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The other shut-out was Sept. 7 against No. 18 Tulsa with a 2-0 win.

"Czekanski came up with a couple of saves for us to keep us in the game," Bluem said. "It was a good team effort today to get that shut-out."

Czekanski, a transfer from Virginia Tech, posted his fourth career shut-out.

"It was a great team effort," Czekanski said. "The defense really came to play today. They had a good offense, but we were able to mark up well and keep the shutout."

As reigning Big Ten champs, the Buckeyes are happy to have a good start in conference play.

"The Big Ten games are very important, and you certainly don't want to get a bad result at home," Bluem said. "It's good to get that first win and to be 1-0 in the conference. You got to get the points at home because it's not going to be so easy on the road."

Czekanski realizes that it's going to be difficult to defend the Big Ten title.

"Their's a bunch of good teams that are high in the rankings this year in the Big Ten," Czekanski said. "Every game is going to be a battle, so we have to come out and play hard every day."  
Breto expects the Big Ten games to be close.

"Every conference game is going to be scrappy," Breto said. "It's going to be a one-goal game all season long, so I'm glad we got this one out of the way."

The next game for the Buckeyes is a road game against No. 7 Northwestern Saturday.

"They are a top ten team," Czekanski said. "So, it should be tough. Hopefully, we can take some momentum from this game and carry it over in the next game and come out with a good result there too."

Bluem hopes the team remembers when Northwestern came to Columbus and beat the Buckeyes last year.

"We knocked them out of the conference championship in the semi-finals, so revenge will be a factor there," Bluem said. "Hopefully our guys will remember that they came here a year ago and beat us 4-0 in Columbus."

*Will Toman can be reached at toman.7@osu.edu.*

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