

The ninth ranked McKendree University Bearcats defeated the Lady Braves 3-0 on Saturday morning at Peoples Bank Field. This was the first time in four years that OU had played a non-conference ranked opponent at home.

McKendree out shot OU 25-3 in the first period and had three straight opportunities where it looked like the Bearcats could jump out on top of the Lady Braves. OU goalkeeper **Stephanie Henderson** had three of her nine saves during that stretch and the OU defense was able to hold the Brearcats without a goal in the first period.

“We played great in the first period,” said head coach **Craig Shaw**. “I was very ecstatic with the way the girls came out in that first period.”

In the second period though McKendree was able to break the 0-0 tie when Brittany Lowell slipped the ball past Henderson to give the Bearcats the 1-0 lead. For the next 15 minutes, the score stayed 1-0 until Brittany Fuzessery scored off of a pass from Sarah Ryan with 19 minutes left in the second period. Three minutes later McKendree scored its final goal of the match when Ashlee Ritchie scored off a pass from Nyla Nighohossian to give the Bearcats the 3-0 advantage.

“I was proud of the way the girls played today. If we come out and keep playing hard the rest of the season, we will have a bright future,” said Shaw.

For the game OU’s Henderson had 17 saves in the match, a new Peoples Bank Field record.

The Lady Braves start KCAC play on Tuesday Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> versus the University of Saint Mary in Leavenworth, Kan. Game time is set for 3:00 p.m.