



Durango High School sophomore Elijah Fenton had a hat trick in a 10-0 win Tuesday against Montezuma-Cortez. He fired this shot past the Montezuma-Cortez goalkeeper in the first half.

JERRY MCBRIDE/
Durango Herald photos

Rolling at the right time

Fenton powers Durango past regional rival

BY JOE FRIES
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Durango High School's boys soccer team is building a nice head of steam at the right time.

Tuesday's 10-0 shutout of Montezuma-Cortez (1-5, 1-3 3A Region 5) gave the Demons (4-2) the confidence and momentum they need heading into a tough Class 4A/5A Southwestern League schedule beginning with Friday's match



Durango Demons forward Aiden Aggler flew over the opposing goalkeeper to avoid a collision. Players were slipping and sliding after a rainy Tuesday afternoon muddled the pitch.

against longtime rival Montrose.

"Our league is going to be hard this year," Durango head coach Dalon Parker said. "We won it last year, and by no means did

we get worse. That being said and looking around the league, I think every team has gotten better. Fruita (Monument) looks really good; they're beating Front Range teams.

Montrose is consistent, and their coach (James Pavich) always has them ready to play. Grand Junction always hangs in there, so it's going to be a fight."

If Tuesday's match was any indication, the Durango offense is firing on all cylinders.

Sophomore Elijah Fenton had two goals in the first nine minutes, and the team had a 6-0 lead by the 16th minute. Luke Sterler's goal in the 54th minute ended the match early.

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Demons: Tuesday's red card to be disputed by Parker

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"We've done a lot of work this week finishing and working on combination plays to get ready for these tough games," Parker said. "I'm proud of how our guys came to play from the get-go and finished (Tuesday), but we have to keep improving and working hard."

Fenton's finished with three goals, and his hat trick led the Demons. Luke and Mason Stetler had two goals each, and Sam Dekay, Connor Henry and Blake McLean also found the back of the net.

The only blemish of the day for Durango was



JERRY MCBRIDE/Durango Herald

Durango goalkeeper Seth Marvin-Vanderryn didn't see much action in net Tuesday, as most of the match was played on the other end of the field.

a red card issued to Mads Bundgaard for excessive questioning of foul calls.

The card will be contested by Parker. If the ruling is upheld, Bundgaard will

be suspended for the 5 p.m. Friday game against Montrose (3-2, 1-0 SWL).

"He (the referee) told me the red card was for dissent, and we have to take responsibility for that and keep our mouths shut if we don't like a call," Parker said. "It's tough because we need him for the next game. It's such a great rivalry that it doesn't matter whether one team is undefeated or the other hasn't won a game yet, it's always close. If we could sell tickets to this game, it would be sold out."

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