



Reading United A.C.
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Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Reading United A.C. Starts Season With Electrifying Win Against Hershey FC

Reading Starts Their Season Hot With a Win and Five Goals

READING, PA (23 May 2025) – Reading United AC Women's First Team delivered a complete performance on Friday night in their season opener, securing a decisive 5-0 victory over Hershey FC at Alvernia University Stadium. A clinical first half, highlighted by three well-executed goals and relentless pressure, effectively ended the match before the break.

Reading opened the scoring just 13 seconds into the contest when Rebecca Kotula calmly headed home a cross from Anna Buckwalter, giving the home side an immediate advantage. Buckwalter racked up two early assists, displaying Reading's creative ability from the jump. The early goal set the tone, as Reading consistently applied pressure through quick passing, high pressing, and dangerous set pieces.

"The credit really goes to our veterans that returned, they had everyone feeling welcome and ready to go," said Head Coach Tom Gosslin. "Rebecca took that responsibility in the first 40 seconds and said let's just get up one to nothing. I think the girls just grew from there".

The lead was doubled midway through the first half when a Reading counterattack broke Haley Gschrey through the defensive line, where she calmly finished a one-on-one with the Hershey goalkeeper in the 29th. Olivia Thompson added a third just a minute later, converting a cutback cross from the byline to cap off a dominant opening 45 minutes.

Hershey FC struggled to respond, as Reading's stifling defense bottled up any meaningful opportunities for the visiting side. The midfield played a central role in Reading's control of the match, locking down the visitors while creating dozens of offensive opportunities. With their pressing and aggressive desire to connect the play going forward, their chance creation was relentless.

The second half continued with the same dominance from Reading United, where Ashley Lavrich netted a goal in the 63rd minute of play. She then picked up an assist, where Haley Gschrey finished off a cross for her second goal of the night, in the 88th minute.

Reading starts the season 1-0, and will face Keystone FC at Alvernia University this Tuesday, May 27th, at 7:00 PM. Tickets can be purchased online for \$10 and \$15 at the gate. Online tickets can be purchased here: <https://www.readingunitedac.com/page/show/7751450-tickets-for-usl2-and-wpsl-teams>

ABOUT READING UNITED AC

Reading United A.C. is the Greater Reading area's premier pre-professional soccer club. Led by the ownership group of Berks Professional Sports, Inc. the club was founded in 1995 as the Reading Rage. As the club entered its 15th season a name, logo, and color change was made to better feature the ties to the local and state community as well as the soccer goals of the team and its partners. Reading United's commitment to professional player development has produced over one hundred and fifty players on rosters of professional clubs throughout the United States, Europe, and Latin America. For more information about Reading United A.C., visit www.readingunitedac.com.



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