

# Quick recovery: Bengals grab early season win over defending 5A champ

By Alex Riggins  
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The Brighton girls' soccer team lost its season opener to Maple Mountain last week, but recovered in a big way on Tuesday to beat Viewmont 4-1 at Albion Middle School.

Brighton scored the game's first goal in the 11th minute. Senior midfielder Sydney Meyers found herself alone with the ball in front of the net and turned to place a low shot past the keeper just inside the left post to put Brighton up 1-0.

"We came out a lot better and a lot harder than we did the first game," Meyers said. "We played more as a team this time and it worked out a lot better."

The Bengals kept Viewmont goalkeeper Haley Johnson busy in the first half but couldn't break through again. In the second half the Brighton pressure finally took its toll on the Viewmont defense. The Bengals went up 2-0 in the 51st minute when Meyers battled off two defenders and served a low cross into the box that senior forward Jocelyn Loomis redirected into the goal with one touch.

Four minutes later, Brighton went up 3-0 when senior midfielder Stephanie Ringwood gathered a loose ball near the top of the penalty box, took two touches to get past her defender and fired a shot into the



**Jocelyn Loomis** celebrates an early goal by the Bengals in their win vs. Viewmont.

upper left corner of the goal. Viewmont pulled one back when junior forward Brookelle Tripp ran onto a long pass and squeezed a shot into goal between a Brighton defender and the keeper.

But the Bengals had a quick answer in the 72nd minute on a strange play. Senior forward Nadia Gomes applied pressure to Johnson, the Viewmont goalie, on a back pass, and when Johnson tried to kick it downfield, the pass

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ricocheted off Gomes into the goal. She said she'd never scored like that before.

"I knew [the defender] was going to pass to the goalie," Gomes said. "So I just chased her. I didn't know I was going to score, it was just lucky I guess."