

Men's soccer lives to play another day

By Jason Christodoro

The Rider men's soccer team kept its playoff chances alive with a tie against Manhattan (0-0) and a 3-2 come from behind win against St. Peters on Sunday.

"This was an awesome win, because it kept our playoff hopes alive," said junior Dylan Matlack.

The Broncs will need some help to return to the playoffs, but have put themselves into position to sneak in with Sunday's win. Rider will have to take care of business as well with a win in their last game at Loyola on Saturday.

The Broncs had to come from behind twice to beat St. Peters and keep their hopes of returning to the playoffs alive. St. Peters took a 1-0 lead early in the first half on a goal by Juan Gaviria. The score would stay 1-0 until late in the first half. With 16

seconds left in the half AJ Parillo scored his first collegiate goal to tie the score and give the Broncs some momentum going into the second half.

Early in the second half, Gaviria helped St. Peters regain the lead with his second goal of the game. However, that would be the last time St. Peters would lead again.

Matlack starred in the final 25 minutes of the game. With the Broncs trailing 2-1, Matlack scored his first of two goals on the day to tie the score at two. Matlack booted a shot to the far post that beat the goalkeeper, giving him his second goal of the year. Matlack would later score the game winner on a header with 18 seconds left in the game to give the Broncs a huge 3-2 win. Freshman Owen Castle delivered the assist on the game winner; Castle also assisted on the Parillo's goal.

"Owen's corner was deflected back to him, and he made a beautiful cross to me

and I headed it in," Matlack said.

Rider got out-shot 15-10 in the game, including 9-4 in the first half. Junior goalkeeper Dan Rivero kept the Broncs in the game when St. Peters could have taken a bigger lead early on. Rivero's shutout against Manhattan and his nine big saves in the win against St. Peters earned him Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference AC defensive player of the week. Rivero had two shutouts this week and four on the season. This marks the third time in Rivero's career that he has been honored as defensive player of the week by the conference.

The top four teams in the MAAC will make the playoffs. As of right now, the Broncs trail fourth place Niagara by one point in the standings. Rider travels to Baltimore, Md to play Loyola on Saturday in a must-win situation. The Broncs will also need no better than a tie from Niagara to slip into the final four.



Eamon Ducey Routine Victory Dance

When a team wins we know that we should expect a celebration, but often we don't know exactly what will transpire.

This weekend Sacred Heart beat the number one seed Rider in the Northeastern Conference field hockey tournament. When they won, they all embraced each other, they smiled and some of their eyes welled up.

Sometimes the celebration sends the message of relief. This was the case last year when the volleyball team snapped its 20-game Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference losing streak. After these women knocked the monkey off their back, they all merged in a group hug. Many of their faces became overwhelmed with emotions. This was the first win for all women except one. The girls all met in the middle of the court and clutched each other tightly. They finally knew the feeling of a conference victory.

I have been very dissatisfied by the recent trend of demeaning time-honored traditions. In Super Bowl XXV, the New York Giants doused their head coach with Gatorade, starting the tradition. It slowly traveled throughout the football world before losing some of the magic. The last time we saw the Gatorade shower was when the Washington Redskins doused their head coach after a win against the Dallas Cowboys.

College football had a great tradition of the student body rushing the field during a major upset and bringing down the goal posts. First it was for victories against rivals, and now students rush fields for the stupidest reasons. Last Saturday, Oct. 29, Rutgers won its sixth game of the season. They beat Navy 31-21, and all the students rushed the field just because the team became bowl eligible. This win did not guarantee them one of the over 50 spots for a team to play in a

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Photo by Cookie Jiang

Two Lady Broncs console one another after falling to Sacred Heart in the Northeast Conference (NEC) field hockey championship game by a score of 1-0. The team failed to repeat as NEC championships on its home field.

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Bertos and Victoria Barrington stepped up, as well as freshman Tricia Crotty, all of which were named to the all-tournament team.

Crotty scored 11 goals this season, good for third highest on the team. Five of her goals were game-winning goals. Crotty won Rookie of the Year honors and was named to the All-NEC second team along with senior Ally Hunter. She was also named Rider University Athlete of the Month for October.

Three Broncs were named to the All-NEC first team. Bertos and Barrington were joined by sophomore Stephanie Walker. Walker ranked 11th in the nation with an NEC-high

34 points, and ranked 10th in the nation with an NEC-high 14 goals. Bertos won first team honors all four years of her collegiate career and led the NEC with eight assists.

Rider has nothing to be disappointed about because it accomplished so much in 2005.

"We set goals before the season started and we were able to accomplish two of them: winning the regular season crown and reaching today's championship game," said Bearish. "We just fell a little short of the third goal."

The Broncs had beaten Sacred Heart 4-0 in early October. Rider will look to get revenge next season. It's an even-numbered year, so Sacred Heart and the rest of the NEC are probably doomed.

Youth leads Broncs to Middle of the MAAC

By Eamon Ducey

It is always important to take steps forward, especially in races. The men's cross country team did that when they had an impressive Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) Championship.

Rider finished fourth behind Iona, Marist and Manhattan. Sophomore John Smith finished with a Rider best 26:23.6, good enough for 14th out of 128. Three seconds later another sophomore, Jeff Stead, finished 15th.

"They showed that they can compete out of their comfort zone," assistant coach Rob Pasquariello said about the men's team.

The women's team did not duplicate the men's results, coming in sixth. It was still the best finish in five years.

"They did not get rewarded for running as well as they did,"

Pasquariello.

The one to receive all-MAAC honors was freshman Andrea Campbell. She finished 12th with a time of 23:50.

The third Bronc to finish was freshman Matt Dahl, who placed 22nd with a time of 26:58.3.

"Matt is track kid, but he ran well for us. Hopefully he will develop," said Pasquariello.

Sophomore Paul Matuszak was 24th in 27:00.7. Senior Matt Ciociola ran his best time ever on the Van Cortlandt course 27:34.4.

Other runners for the Rider women included freshman Megan Crowe, who completed the race 35th overall in 24:50.8, freshman Rebecca Riedel, crossed the finish line 37th in 24:58.3, and freshman Kelly Wojciehowski, who was 39th in 25:18.4.

The next meet for the Broncs is the NCAA Regional Championship at Lehigh.

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