

# SISTER ACT

## Boulden sisters too much for opposition

By Andrew Straub  
Staff Writer

In sports, there has always been the phenomenon of a pair of siblings dominating their sport.

In tennis, there are the Williams sisters. In baseball, you have the Boone brothers. In football, there are the Barber twins. Here at Rider, we have the Boulden sisters.

Separated by only 18 months, junior Maddy Boulden and freshman Ashley Boulden have dominated the forward positions all season for the Rider field hockey team.

"We've been playing sports together our whole lives, ever since tee ball back when we were four," said Maddy Boulden. "I really pushed for Ashley to come here [Rider]; it's great to play with her again."

Maddy Boulden is currently leading the Northeast Conference (NEC) in goals per game with seven and is second in points with 18, while Ashley Boulden leads the team in assists with five, which is second in the NEC.

For these accomplishments, both players have been recognized by the NEC. Maddy Boulden recently received the NEC Player of the Week after she led the team to victories over Quinnipiac and Vermont.

Ashley Boulden has been named the NEC Rookie of the Week three of the last five

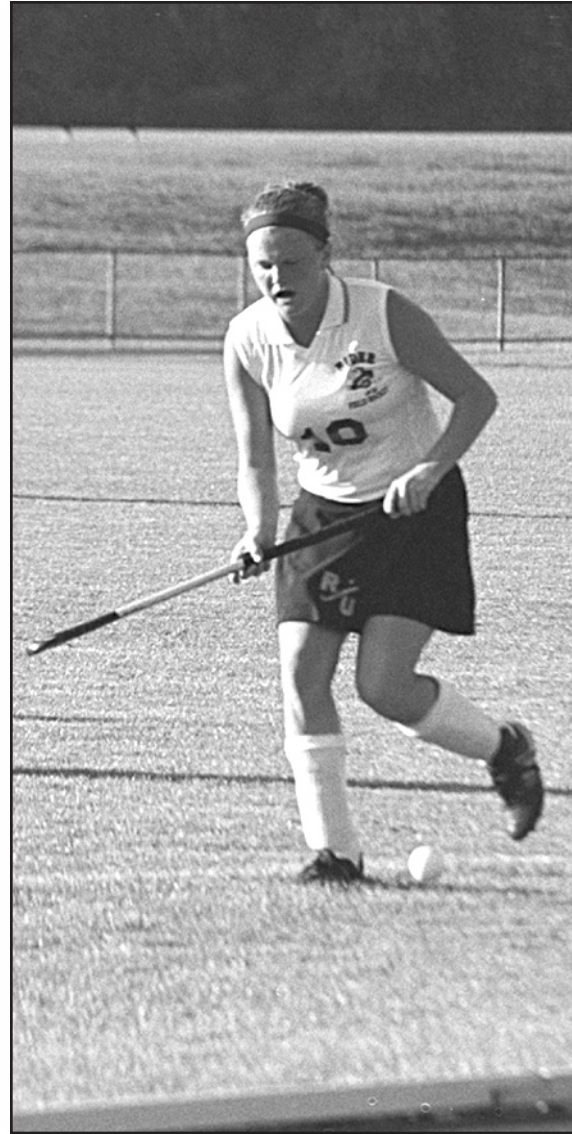


Photo by Jennifer Kuhn

Freshman Ashley Boulden (left) and junior Maddy Boulden (right) have teamed up to become a force for the field hockey team. The team was won nine straight games, a Rider field hockey record.

weeks, proving why she is well on her way to becoming the second Boulden sister to receive the NEC Rookie of the Year award, which her sister won in 2001.

"I love being between Maddy and Ashley at the forward position. Both girls play very much alike; they are fast, have great stick work and they love to score," said junior

forward Katie Conlon. "They work so well together. They are each others' biggest fans and biggest critics."

"My experience this first season has been great, espe-

cially now that Maddy and I are both forwards," said Ashley Boulden. "She helped so much in preseason to keep my head in the game."

Leading the first-place Broncs to a 9-2 record, the dynamic duo has contributed to the team with both finesse and power.

"Maddy is explosive. She can carry the ball in-and-out of very defender with confidence," said teammate Courtney Bertos.

"If you need the ball down the field, Maddy is the girl to go to," added Conlon.

Bertos said that Ashley Boulden has worked hard to improve herself.

Although they are busy reeking havoc on opponent's goalies, the Boulden sisters have another sport to focus on this spring. That's right, the tandem also plays softball.

Last spring Maddy batted .292 for the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference champions. She also won nine games as a pitcher for the squad that made it all the way to the NCAA tournament in Fullerton, California.

Ashley Boulden plans to step in right away for the champion Broncs.

"Speed, competitiveness and the desire to work hard" are all skills Ashley Boulden

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Photo by Hugh Tsung

Senior Frank Ruggiero returns a shot during a recent match. The team started off slowly, but has bounced back to win three in a row. They defeated Saint Peters 5-2 on Tuesday.

## After early struggle, men's tennis wins third straight

By Mathew Schreiber  
Staff Writer

The men's tennis team is on a roll, winning its last two matches after losing its first three.

"We happened to play three of our toughest opponents in the beginning of the season," said Head Coach Ed Torres. "The team is very hard working. They practice a lot and have a lot of desire and love to play."

Last fall season the tennis team had a 6-6 record. They began its season with losses to Manhattan, Monmouth and Siena. Then the season turned around with victories against St. Francis and Wagner.

"We're improving a lot and we have a lot of experience," said freshman Dan Honig. "If

we play our best tennis we can be the best."

In the first match of the season, they played MAAC opponent Manhattan and lost 6-0. All matches were decided in straight sets. In a close one, sophomore Chris Stanco came near to winning but lost to Manhattan's Zolton Bus 6-4, 6-3. In addition, junior Elliot Eiche lost to David Alvarado 6-2, 6-3.

In the next match of the season, Rider faced Monmouth and lost 5-2. Rider won one singles match and two doubles matches. Honig won the only singles match by default. Sophomores Andrey Dragun and Mike Greenberg won their doubles match, 8-4. In another match Neil McConnell and Honig won by default.

Next up for Rider was MAAC rival, Siena College, which found the Broncs coming up short 4-0. In several matches Rider came close to winning but could not get over the hill. Eche defeated Nick Julia in their first series of games 6-4. In the second series of games, Julia held his own and won 6-1. In their next series the match had been tied at 5-5. Julia won the next two matches to win 7-5.

In another match, sophomore Mike Greenberg played a good match against Siena's Dustin Temple. Greenberg lost the first match 6-4. In their next series, Greenberg played exceptional in his shutout of Temple 6-0. Temple won their

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