Field hockey falters

By Jared Vichko
Sports Editor

Just like Seinfeld, the Chicago Bulls and believing in Santa Claus, all good things must come to an end. This was the case last weekend as the field hockey team ended their three game winning streak, losing once on Saturday and again on Sunday.

Saturday’s 4-2 loss to Sacred Heart was especially agonizing since the Broncs had defeated them 6-2, only a few weeks ago. After sophomore Maddy Boulden tied the score at 1-1, Sacred Heart scored two goals in the final 22 minutes of the first half to give them a 3-1 lead at halftime. Sacred Heart then sealed the win with another goal with 8 minutes remaining.

“Saturday was just a bad day,” said sophomore Christina Ang. “We were just a step off our game.”

Ang scored as the final whistle blew, giving her four goals in the last three games and a team high seven.

Her teammates shared the same sentiments about Saturday’s outcome. Sophomore Katie Conlon felt her team played poorly. She said “We didn’t play our game. We reacted to their style instead of controlling the tempo.”

Hoping to put Saturday’s effort behind them, they took the field again on Sunday against Quinnipiac. Ang scored eight minutes into the game to put the Broncs ahead 1-0. Quinnipiac scored eight minutes into the game to take the lead back to tie the game.

Despite the frustration, the team regained something in the loss. “We learned that we have things to work on,” said Ang. “We must continue to work hard. After last season we all know what we need to do to win.”

Ang wasn’t the only one who saw a silver lining. “We played with a lot of enthusiasm and energy,” said Cushinotto. “We grew together and the loss brought us closer as a team.”

The Broncs will look to get back on track this weekend as they host a pair of Northeast Conference games against University of Maryland Baltimore County and St. Francis-PA.

The field hockey team is trying to recover from the two losses they suffered last week. They will try to turn things around this weekend.

The teams remained knotted at one apiece until the second overtime when the host Bobcats scored the game-winner.

Sunday’s loss was disappointing because it marked the second time the Broncs lost to them this season. The first loss came down to the wire as well as the team was edged out in strokes.

“The first loss was heartbreaking,” said senior goalkeeper Jen Cushinotto. “To go to strokes with a team and lose is especially frustrating.”

The team felt the same after Sunday’s loss. “We played our hearts out,” said Conlon. “We tried our best but just came up a bit short.”

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Dear Sports Illustrated,

I am writing this letter in regards to your most recent issue. Your magazine rated every Division I school based on overall athletics. The top 200 schools were ranked 1-200, and the other remaining 124 schools were listed alphabetically. For Rider, the following was reported: “Ludacris performed at Midnight Madness; NJ school named for cranberry mogul Andre Rider; alum: Digger Phelps.”

This reporting of our school should offend any Rider student, alumni or faculty member. There are several blatant falsities in your summary. Let me correct you by stating that Ludacris did not perform at Midnight Madness, he performed at the Spring Concert. And it is not even called Midnight Madness, it’s Midnight MAAACness. Andrew Rider, not Andre, founded our school.

Your lack of respect for our university is appalling. The way we are represented gives the impression that all we do is run around and throw crabapples at each other.

Other schools have information listed that is relevant to the athletic program: statistics, special achievements, rankings, and things of that nature. I guess your magazine feels that the highlight of our athletic department was the fact that Ludacris performed here. Just because we don’t play in the Atlantic Coast Conference or the Big Ten, our athletic accomplishments have gone unnoticed.

Take for instance Deanna Dovak, a graduate last year and member of the softball team. Dovak graduated with six career softball records and five single season records at Rider. Before last season, only six women in the history of NCAA Division I softball have ever hit as many home runs. She led the nation in home runs in 2001, and was our first female All-American.

There was also Mario Porter, another 2002 graduate and member of the basketball team. Porter was the only Rider player to total 1700 points and over 700 rebounds. His point total is the second highest at Rider and his rebound total is seventh all-time. Porter’s senior year he was named as an Honorable Mention All-American and also Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference Player of the Year. His accomplishments at Rider have taken him to the next level, signing with a European professional team.

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