

BLAME IT ON THE WEATHERMAN

Women's soccer suffer first MAAC defeat in rain

By Mike Caputo
Staff Writer

Intensity, heart and desire are just a few words that came to the mind of sophomore midfielder Aileen Ascolese when asked about the characteristics of her team.

The team motto, "get after it," fully reveals the true shift of complexion that the Rider Broncs' women's soccer program has underwent.

"We have much more respect this year than any other year, but most importantly we have taken ourselves and the program more seriously," Ascolese said.

After securing victories against three MAAC conference opponents earlier in the week, the 6-4-1 (3-1 MAAC) Broncs definitely did not get a kick out of their 3-2 defeat in the heavy rain last Sunday, Oct. 12, at Fairfield.

Rider was unable to attain a lead throughout the entire game. After being down 3-1 in the first half, the team managed to tighten the score to 3-2 when star forward Tami Coyle sunk in her team's leading ninth goal of the season in the beginning of the second half, but the team was unable to produce any more offense. Sophomore Jennifer Marcella tied the game up at 1-1 in the first half by scoring her third goal of the season on a direct kick.

"Our second-half was



Photo by Hugh Tsung

Senior Colleen Evans competes against Fairfield on Sunday, Oct. 12. The team braved the heavy rains only to lose its first MAAC game 3-2. The loss puts the team at a record of 6-4-1 for the season, but according to sophomore Jennifer Marcella, will not hurt the team in the long run.

better than the first half, we stepped up the intensity," Marcella said.

The confidence level of the Broncs was at its highest peak before the loss and when asked

if it would negatively affect the team's poise, senior leader Sarah Artale said no.

"Every player on this team knows what we did wrong individually and as a group we

could have won," she said.

"The loss really won't be that bad, especially since Fairfield is highly respected in the league," Marcella added. "It will help us learn that we can't

go into a game expecting to win easily."

Artale continued the Broncs' abundance of MAAC award winners. She earned MAAC offensive player of the week honors for the week of Sept. 29 after impressive performances against UMBC, Marist and Siena.

The MAAC winning streak against Marist, Siena, and Iona marked the best conference start in Rider women's soccer history. Much of this success can be pointed to the team's new style. The method of play that the Broncs have displayed is described as "an aggressive possessive style of playing," according to junior Deidre Nowak.

"We don't want to play 'long ball,'" she said. "We want to gather a bunch of passes together to create action [offense]."

Rider's goal of winning the MAAC championship depends upon making the postseason tournament. In all likelihood, the Broncs could clinch a spot in the conference tournament if the team wins at least three out of the last five MAAC games.

"We want to win all of our remaining games," said Artale.

The cranberry, black, and white squad opens up a homestand with two conference games, which start

See 'Soccer' on page 10

Dynamic duo Levi and Householder reach 1,000 dig milestone

By Andrew Straub
Staff Writer

Every year on Nov. 11, Americans take time out of their day to honor soldiers that have fought bravely for their country. This day is known as Veteran's Day. Here at Rider, two veteran volleyball "soldiers" are being honored for their tremendous accomplishments on the court.

Jaclyn Levi, a junior, and senior Amy Householder have been playing together at Rider for three seasons. Standing opposite each other as outside hitters, the girls have amounted remarkable statistics that rank with some of Rider volleyballs' all-time greats.

Levi emerged in her freshman year as the go-to hitter on the squad. She continued

to progress rapidly her sophomore year, leading the squad in kills and attacks. This year Levi has become a part of Rider volleyball history. Just halfway through the season, she became the first Bronc to reach the milestone of 1,000 kills and 1,000 digs as a junior.

"It is truly a great honor," said Levi. "I could have never done it without my teammates. They are the reason I love what I do here."

"Jaclyn is an all-around great player. She's a great hitter and she's great defensively," said teammate Lauren Niewender. "We are all behind her 100 percent. Who knows? Maybe she can get to 3,000."

Householder or "House," as she is known by her teammates, is the team's four year

leader. She played in every game last year, leading the team in digs and service aces. On, Friday, Oct. 3, Householder reached the milestone of 1,000 digs.

"One thousand digs is a great accomplishment. I'm happy I was able to do it before I left," said Householder.

Niewender said that Householder has been a leader all four years.

"She shines out on the court and sets an example for everyone else," she said.

Perhaps even more extraordinary than the girls' individual accomplishments is the chemistry between the two players. Leading the Broncs to a 10-10 record, Levi and Householder

See '1,000' on page 10

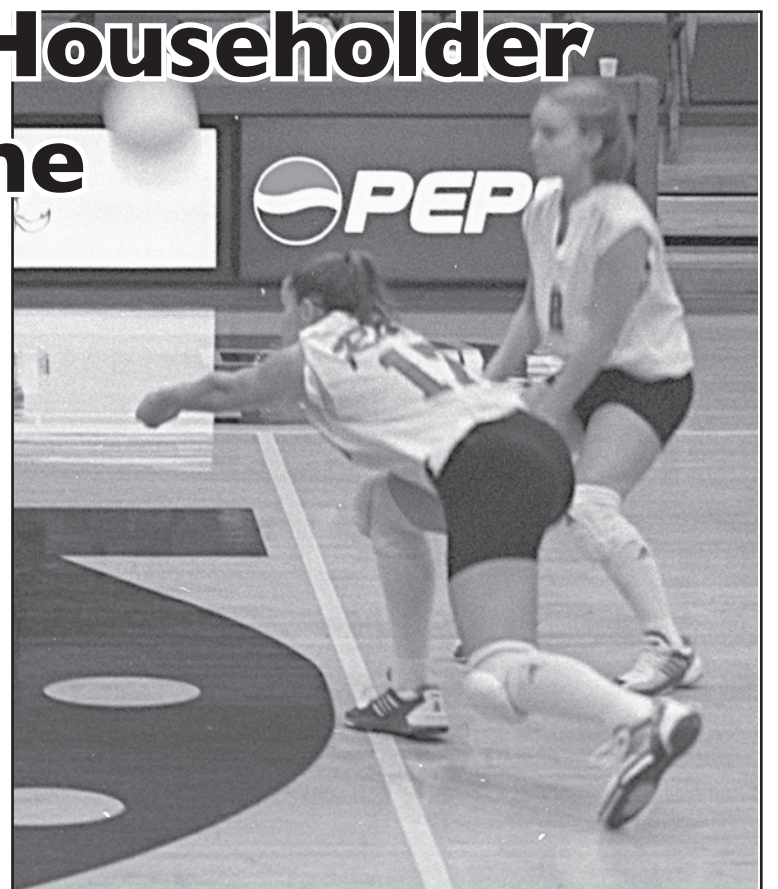


Photo by Jennifer Kuhn

Junior Jaclyn Levi dives for a save against Lafayette on Tuesday, Oct. 14. Levi became the first Bronc in Rider history to reach the 1,000 dig and 1,000 kill mark on Fri., Oct. 3, and was followed by her teammate Amy Householder who also got 1,000 digs.