

LOCK 'N' LOAD

Ang breaks record as Broncs win two games

By Jared Vichko

Some sports are team games, but occasionally certain individuals stand out and deserve recognition. Such is the case for the field hockey team, where Christina Ang, one of the most unselfish members on the Broncs, deserves a mention for her offensive merit.

In a 5-1 victory over St. Francis (PA) last week, Ang scored her 59th and 60th career goals. While finding the cage twice in one game isn't uncommon for Ang, the goals broke the career scoring record at Rider, which was set in 1984.

"We expected it to happen for her," said junior Victoria Barrington. "We are all excited for her, especially since she is so humble."

Sophomore Stephanie Durante said she agrees about Ang's character as a player and a person.

"She is well-deserving because she is never selfish and works really hard," she said.

In Wednesday's 5-1 win over Lehigh, Ang scored and added an assist in the easy



Senior Katie Conlon fighting to get to the ball in a 4-0 win over Sacred Heart on Oct. 8. Rider's seven game winning streak was snapped on Friday after a 2-1 defeat at former Division II champion Lock Haven, but bounced back to win two in a row. *Photo by Allen Huang*

victory. After breaking the goal record, the effort against Lehigh gave her 132 career points, breaking the Rider points record.

Ang, who has been on a collision course with both records since she broke through as a freshman, also ranks 10th in the nation in goals per game. While Ang has dominated offensively, it's clear she wouldn't be where she is if not for the team.

"We were always like best friends as a team," said Durante.

Barrington believes that teamwork is at its peak at this point of the season.

"We have always tried to pick up our teamwork more as the season went on," she said. "It is as high as it ever has been this season."

While the Broncs have outscored its opponents 10-2 in the last two games, it has been the defense, led by solid goaltender Krysta Bearish, that has been the untold story of the team.

"Krysta has been the leader on defense," said Barrington. "We stand by her when it comes to defense."

Bearish, despite being a sophomore and facing several tough Northeast Conference foes, entered the game ranked

first in the nation in save percentage. The two impressive victories come after a disappointing 2-1 loss to Lock Haven, which, if things stay the way they are, may cost Rider home field advantage in the playoffs.

"When we lose, we learn from it," said Barrington. "We will be looking forward to playing in the championships regardless of where we play. We will play just as hard."

With the loss, Rider falls to second in the conference, while Lock Haven, a former Division II powerhouse, moves into first. Rider can still secure home field advantage in the NEC

tournament tomorrow with a victory over Siena. The reason for this is that Lock Haven is in conversion from Division II to I, the team is not eligible for the NEC Tournament until 2006.

The Broncs must not overlook tomorrow's home game against Siena at 4 p.m.

"Siena is really quick and has a strong defense," said Durante.

Despite the possibility of finishing second, the Broncs still have high hopes heading into the postseason.

"As a team, we think that we can win the rest of our games," Durante said.



Photo by Allen Huang

Sophomore Nicole Revere about to spike the ball after a set from sophomore Megan Smith during Saturday's dramatic 3-2 victory over Fairfield. Freshman Jennifer Lane and junior Embrey Minor are watching and getting into position to react.

Spiking down a sour streak

Victory over Fairfield is first in conference since 2002

By Eamon Ducey

If someone was in the Lawrenceville area on Saturday, they might have heard a loud sound around 6 p.m. It was the sound of a crowd, which signaled the end of a losing streak that began almost three years ago in November of 2001. The streak belonged to the volleyball team, which won a conference game against Fairfield on Saturday, its first conference win in 20 Metro Atlantic Athletic Association (MAAC) games.

Nothing feels better than a close, hard fought victory, and Saturday was close as it gets. The Broncs won three sets to two as the final set resulted in

10/16
Rider 3
Fairfield 2

a dramatic 15-13 score.

The only member of the team that has won a conference game in her career is senior outside hitter Jaclyn Levi, as she lead her team to victory with 19 kills, 28 digs and six assists.

In order to win the game, the team needed help from freshman Jennifer Lane, who had 59 assists and 15 digs. Sophomore Megan Smith added 16 kills while junior Kristine Dormer compiled 15 kills.

When the Broncs had won

the final point in the last set, the team celebrated in a moment of true joy.

"I got emotional before the game when I told the team this was the last time I would start in a conference season" said Levi.

Coach Emily Ahlquist attributed the win to preparation and "hard work in practice and in games."

Sunday's match-up against Iona was, at the very least, a disappointment to the team. The Broncs were beaten by the Gaels three sets to one. Levi led the team with 18 kills and 25 digs. For Iona, Megan Dailey had 18 kills and 25 digs to lead

See 'Spike' page 15

Turn to page 15 to find out the nominees for Rider News Players of the Month