

Field hockey feeling good

Team clinches second place in upcoming playoffs

By Jared Vichko
Sports Editor

Just like bowling balls, dice and tires, the Broncs field hockey team keeps on rolling. The team clinched second place in the upcoming Northeast Conference (NEC) Tournament with two wins over Monmouth and Siena last weekend.

Against Monmouth, sophomore Maddy Boulden and freshman Angela Fuoco totaled two goals and an assist to lead Rider to a 3-1 win. Though the score was close, the Broncs were in total control the entire game. They out-shot them 22-4 and senior goalkeeper Jen Cushinotto only had to make one save.

"We completely stepped it up against them," said sophomore Stephanie Corradino. "They were over-confident from the first time we played them. We just dominated both halves."

That same domination spilled over into Sunday's match up against Siena, which was the final home game for two seniors, Cushinotto and Krissy Merrill. Sophomore Christina Ang had two goals and an assist to help Rider earn a 3-2 win and a spot in the NEC Tournament. Rider out-shot Siena 24-10 and Cushinotto made eight saves.

"We played very well," said Ang, "We needed to play well for our confidence in the upcoming NEC tournament."

Junior Karen Pettyjohn felt the same way.

"When the pressure was on, we came through. We came together and played as a team; that's why we won."

The victory was special for both seniors, and after the game they were both honored for their achievements.

"It was wonderful," said Merrill. "It was very nice to be recognized. We were both very touched."

Merrill was happy with the team's performance over the weekend.

"Both games were a challenge, but we needed both wins to clinch a tournament birth. We played as one and we played together, that was our motto," she said.



Photo by Jennifer Kuhn

The field hockey team is in action at a recent practice. They played well over the weekend and clinched second place in the Northeast Conference Tournament. They are trying to reach the title game for the third

That same sense of urgency was prevalent throughout the team.

"They were huge games that we needed to win," said freshman Courtney Bertos. "We played with a lot of excitement and enthusiasm, and we left everything on the field."

One player who certainly left it all on the field was Ang, who was named the NEC Player of the Week for all games played from the Oct. 14 to 20. This is the third time this season and the second consecutive week she received the honor. She had three goals and an

assist last week, and now leads the NEC in goals with 15. The NEC record is 17, and the Rider single season record is 21. She is sixth in the nation in goals (15), seventh in goals per game (1.00), seventh in points (34) and ninth in points per game (2.267).

The team is also making headlines on the national scale. For the first time ever, the Broncs received votes in the STX/National Field Hockey Coaches Association National Poll. In the latest poll on October 22, the top twenty teams are ranked,

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Women's soccer playing tough

By David Hurka
Staff Writer

The Rider women's soccer team had a busy week, playing three games against high quality opponents such as Lafayette, Canisius and Niagara. Although the Lady Broncs won only one of these games, they played tough and were never willing to give up.

The lone win of the week came against Canisius on Sunday. After a scoreless first half, junior Andrea Giuliani, from West Deptford, scored the only goal the Broncs would need in the game. Freshman Allison Spehar scored an insurance goal with 11 minutes left to seal Rider's 2-0 victory. Rider out shot Canisius 31-7, and junior goalkeeper Erin Wolleon made four saves for her third shutout of the season.

Against Niagara on Friday, the Broncs let a 1-0 lead slip away in the second half, despite out shooting the Purple Eagles 25-



Photo by Jennifer Kuhn

Colleen Evans looks to dribble around a defender in Tuesday's game. The Broncs split the weekend and lost on Tuesday. They won on Sunday against Canisius, 2-0.

12. Junior Colleen Evans scored only seven minutes into the game to give Rider that lead, but they could not hold on to it. Wolleon made another six saves in the 4-1 loss to a very strong Niagara team that looks to be going places in the MAAC this year.

On Tuesday, Rider played another tough opponent in Lafayette. The game was very close and highlighted by the defense rather than the offense. Rider allowed one goal with only three minutes left in the first half that would prove to be the winning shot, as Rider was beaten 1-0. Rider was out shot 12-10, and Wolleon added another eight saves to her total this year.

Even though the Broncs only won once this past week, they played with determination and skill in each game. They never beat themselves, and were able to stay in each game until the very end. Rider goes to Marist on Friday for another MAAC game.