**Broncos’ Bits**

**Records**
- (M) Soccer (0-8)
- (W) Soccer (3-1-2)
- Field Hockey (5-2)
- Volleyball (7-6)
- (M) Cross-Country (0-0)
- (W) Cross-Country (0-0)
- (M) Tennis (0-1)
- (W) Tennis (0-2)

**Upcoming Home Games**
- Field Hockey 9/26, Albany 4:00
- 9/28, Sacred Heart 12:00
- 10/1, Quinnipiac 4:00

Half, scoring just 42 seconds in. However, this was all the Raiders could manage as a ruthless Rider defense shut down all hope of a tying goal. A four game winning streak is not the only thing the field hockey team is proud of. On Sept. 22, Ang and Ashley Boulden were honored by the Northeast Conference. Ang was named NEC Player of the Week while Ashley Boulden was named Rookie of the Week for the second time this season. Still, Ashley Boulden is quick to credit her teammates for her accomplishment. “The great group of girls I’m surrounded with plus the coaches’ instruction and encouragement have really pushed me to help the team any way I can,” she said. “When you’re having fun and learning you make it so much easier to excel.”

The Broncs look to keep their streak alive as they face the University of Albany today at 4 p.m.

**Men’s Soccer**
- 9/30, UMBC 4:00

**Men’s Tennis**
- 9/27, Siena 12:00

**Women’s Tennis**
- 9/27, Siena 12:00
- 9/28, Marist 12:00

**And More Sports...**
Two members of the women’s soccer team were honored this week. Junior Tami Coley was named the Offensive Player of the Week and senior goalkeeper Erin Wollese was named the Defensive Player of the Week.

**Athletes of the Week**
- Ashley Boulden, a freshman member of the field hockey team, has been named The Rider News Female Athlete of the Week. Boulden was named the NEC Rookie of the Week, her second time receiving that honor.
- Bob Whartenby, a senior member of the golf team, has been named The Rider News Male Athlete of the Week.

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**‘Roll’ from page 12**

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**‘Madden’ from page 11**

Line or linbackers, and hot routes. But this year, Playmaker introduced something unheard of, controlling two players at once.

For years, the pressing need was that after the snap, there was no way to adjust your play. If the defense is in a zone and the route requires your receiver to run to the area being covered, the play doesn’t work. EA Sports finally got the clue. Realizing the need, Playmaker allows you to read the defense on the fly, find the weakness and exploit it.

The hype for this year’s game pales in comparison with other years, mainly because of one player, and if I have to tell you who, you’re not worthy to play the game. Michael Vick proved to be the ultimate weapon last year, a defensive coordinators nightmare. Imagine Barry Sanders with Dan Marino’s arm, and you have Vick.

While Vick is clearly the best player in the game, the Falcons are not the best team. That’s another one of the beauties of Madden. There is no dominant squad; every club has weaknesses and ways to be beaten. Whoever you decide to rock with, a sacrifice must be made. With the Eagles and Dolphins, you have great defense, but you have no offense except for Ricky Williams and Donovan McNab. Take Atlanta or Oakland, they both have potent offenses, but suspect run defense.

Despite people’s differences when playing, Madden has a way of bringing guys together. It is more than just a game; it is almost a rite of passage. Think of the cultural possibilities. In the jungle, instead of walking across hot coals to become a man, you have to defeat the chief in best of five. Want to join a gang? No, you don’t have to kill anyone, just beat the ’76 Steelers on All-Madden.

In America, guys no longer gauge themselves according to how many women they’ve slept with. It’s who can beat whom in Madden.

Taking a page from Brett Hart, Madden is “the best there is, the best there was, and the best there ever will be.” Now if you will excuse me, I have to leave, my game is still paused.

**‘Success’ from page 12**

Sept 5, Rider dominated the competition by defeating Wagner, Howard and Lehigh to obtain the title. Levi and Householder once again electrified the court with a combined 27 kills and 32 digs in the match against the Wagner Seahawks. In the victories against Howard and Lehigh, West compiled an outstanding 92 assists altogether while Lombardo combined for 37 kills and 29 digs.

Rider won 1-2 in the UMBC Invitational in Maryland. The team suffered defeats at the hands of a tough Georgia State squad and the host UMBC, but rolled by the Big East Providence Friars in three games. The women returned home to host the Brookline Invitational with Army, Sacred Heart and Fordham. A battle with the Army Black Knights on day one resulted in a heartbreaking loss (30-16, 23-30, 26-30, 30-20, 16-14). Freshman Megan Smith made an impression with 16 kills. A tough defeat at the hands of the Rams was followed up by a beating of the Sacred Heart Pioneers in three games, (30-16, 30-13, 30-25). Levi was named All-Tournament, along with great efforts notably by West, Lombardo, Niewender and Smith.

“Last year we were passive at this time,” said Niewender. This year we are strong and going ahead full force.”

Although the Broncs are still undergoing the pre-season non-conference portion of the schedule, Ahlquist is optimistic. “While we are still in the preseason working out a starting lineup and improving skills, we are exactly where we want to be in this point of the season. Our goal is to win the MAAC championship,” she said.

The MAAC schedule begins on Oct. 11 at home against rival Loyola. The top teams to watch are normally Fairfield, Manhattan, and Iona, but Ahlquist thinks differently. “No one team is going to go undefeated in the MAAC; this season it is very competitive and we think we have as good a chance as every other team in the conference,” she said.

Ahlquist sums up her team by claiming, “we have no real standouts, every game someone steps up.” She said “we are simply a well-rounded team.”

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