MAGIC FADES AT DISNEY
Men’s soccer falls after impressive run

By Mathew J. Schreibman
Staff Writer

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Every season has its defining moments. As sports fans we learn to expect the unexpected. This year’s defining moment was unexpected.

The men’s soccer team went the first 16 games of the season winless, then defeated Canisius 4-1 in the last game of the regular season.

Rider went to the Metro-Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) tournament held in Disney World, Florida, on a positive note. What would happen next was shocking.

Rider’s defense did not allow Fairfield to get another shot on goal and the Broncs held on for the victory.

“Anything could happen,” said Bailey.

“We played an organized game and defense,” he added. “It was a good win for us,” said Trump.

“We got a questionable call, then a nice shot in. Everyone played well as a team.”

“St. Peter’s scored on a nice shot, then another. We got the game 2-0 and put St. Peter’s up for good.”

With 30 minutes left in the game, Jason Bernstein headed a pass from Adam Bailey past the Fairfield goalkeeper to tie the game.

“It was a big momentum booster,” Bailey said. “They weren’t expecting us to play with them.”

Rider went to the Metro-Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) tournament and the Automatic NCAA tournament bid.

For good.

In this game, both teams were anxious to go to the MAAC finals. The first half was scoreless. St. Peter’s managed three shots, two of them on goal, both stopped by Rider goalkeeper Brian Gill. Rider managed only two shots itself and only one made it on goal.

There were many questions for Rider going into the second half. Could its defense hold on or would St. Peter’s offensive attack manage to sneak one past Gill?

That question was answered just seconds into the second half, when St. Peter’s scored from 25 feet away, putting the team up 1-0.

St. Peter’s defense kept Rider away from the net. Rider did manage one shot in the period but St. Peter’s did not let it pass.

Later in the period St. Peter’s scored an insurance goal by Chris Megaloudis. This made the game 2-0 and put St. Peter’s up for good.

“We expected the second half to be like the first,” said Rider’s Chris Trump. “They got a questionable call, then a nice shot in. Everyone played well as a team.”

After ending Rider’s run, St. Peter’s advanced to the MAAC championship game against top-seeded Loyola. The Peacocks defeated Loyola 2-1 to earn its first-ever MAAC championship and the automatic NCAA tournament bid.

Earlier Rider had looked like a Cinderella team. Rider’s first-round opponent was Manhattan. The last time these two teams faced off, Rider out-shot Manhattan 19-8. But Rider would come up short when Manhattan scored two goals, handing the Broncos a 2-0 loss.

“They were two of the ugliest goals,” said Head Coach Russ Fager.

In the tournament, both defenses would prove to be on top of the game.

The first two rounds of the MAAC finals were scoreless. Saint Peter’s managed three shots, two of them on goal, both stopped by Rider goalkeeper Brian Gill. Rider man-

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Regulation time was not enough for either team to score so the game went into penalty kicks, from which Rider emerged victorious 4-3.

Fairfield, the second seed in the tournament, faced Rider in the second round. While out-shooting Rider 6-3 in the first half, Fairfield scored, giving it a 1-0 lead.

But 10 minutes later Rider’s Marc Bernstein headed a pass from Adam Bailey past the Fairfield goalkeeper to tie the game.

“It was a big momentum booster,” Bailey said. “They weren’t expecting us to play with them.”

With 30 minutes left in the game, Jason Brockman placed a direct kick straight into the goal. Rider took a 2-1 lead.

Rider’s defense did not allow Fairfield to get another shot on goal and the Broncos held on for the victory.

“It was a good win for us,” said Trump.

“We played an organized game and defense,” he added. “No one gave up the entire game.”

After a frustrating season, the Broncos put a positive spin on the fall with the two big wins in Florida.

“Anything could happen,” said Bailey. “We showed everyone that we could play.”

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-Adam Bailey

Player of the Week
Women’s Soccer

Sarah Artale will graduate as Rider’s all-time leader in goals, with 41.

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Jared Vichko
Not a typical day off

Barlow runs back to prison. Now I know what you’re thinking: “What athlete hasn’t had a run in with the law recently?” It’s a common occurrence to use athlete and jail time in the same sentence.

So why does Barlow go behind bars? He didn’t rape or murder anyone. He hasn’t robbed anyone or been caught violating the NFL’s drug policy. He has committed no crime.

Every Tuesday, Barlow’s day off from football, he goes to San Quentin State Prison to teach, council and interact with inmates. That’s right. A professional athlete doing work for his community that doesn’t involve him picking up trash on the side of the road for his probation.

And no, this isn’t what we see in movies when two people talk through a glass window on the telephone. Barlow does everything from walking and talking throughout the yard to tossing a football. While it is a big deal for most fans to have any interaction with any type of athlete, it means more to inmates. It means more to Abraham Glasper. Glasper, a convict, is serving a life sentence for murder.

“I like when Kevan Barlow comes to prison,” said Glasper. “He isn’t afraid of us and it gives me encouragement that someone out there thinks I am, in fact, redeemable.”

The 49ers started taking its rookies and free agents to the prison five years ago, a partnership it formed with prison chaplain Reverend Earl Smith.

“It’s humbling for these athletes,” said Smith. “With Kevan, he came here his rookie year in 2001. He’s one of the guys who keeps coming back.”

On his most recent trip back, Barlow talks football with convict Ernest Morgan.

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