Baseball bats cool off after recent hot streak

David Hurka
Staff Writer

Even though the school year is winding down, it doesn’t mean that the Rider baseball team has been winding down its season.

They played several games this week against some of the best conference and non-conference teams on its schedule, and while the results weren’t always favorable, the Broncs did come out with a sense of accomplishment.

The first game of the weekend was played as part of its season. Rider took a 1-0 lead into the sixth, Brandyde cut the deficit in half with a triple, bringing in her sister Courtney. Brandyde then tied the game on a sacrifice by freshman Jill Carrabas.

Courtney stepped into the spotlight in the seventh inning, scoring the winning run on a two-out, two-strike single, scoring sophomore Erin McGlynn. Junior Devin Kaceksky came in and pitched two innings of relief to pick up her first win of the season.

“Twas a good win for us,” said Courtney. “Everyone did what they had to do. We hit the ball well and played good defense. Devin came in and shut out the other team in the last innings.”

The second game proved to be the opposite of the first, as Rider’s bats were cold early and often, and they coasted to an 8-0 five-inning victory.

Freshman Heather Beintema pitched five solid innings, allowing only one hit and recording five strikeouts. It was a good day for other freshmen as well. Jennifer Cullen went three for three with a double and fellow freshman Kiera Fox had two hits, including her second home run of the season.

“That second game the entire team was playing great,” said Courtney. “Everyone was on. Heather pitched well and Kiera had a big home run.”

Weed reached the 100 hit plateau for her career, becoming the thirtieth female athlete to do so, and the second one this season. Junior Amanda Tu reached the mark a few weeks ago.

But what goes up must come down. On the very next day, Rider dropped two games to Lehigh, 8-0 and 10-2, with both losses only going five innings.

In the first game, Rider could manage only three hits as Boulden took the loss, dropping her record to 5-7. In the second game, Courtney Wood went two for three with an RBI. Freshman Heather Beintema, struggled on the mound and took the defeat, leaving her

Softball searching for consistency

By Jared Vichko
Sports Editor

The weather around our campus has been somewhat unpredictable as of late. It seems that day-to-day we trade in our t-shirts and sandals for wool hats and a hood. Sad to say, as the temperature has hit highs and lows recently, so has the softball team.

Head Coach Sonny Pittaro said the Broncs are a team that has been winding down its season.

The team jumped on top early, scoring seven runs in the first two innings, and pitcher James Hoey played one of his best games of the year, pitching eight scoreless innings, and striking out five to improve his record to 3-4 for the year.

Junior Eric D’Alessandro had a big game with a three run home run in the seventh inning to make the game a route.

On Saturday, the team closed the series with a double-header, and split the games by scores of 6-1 and 7-2. Iona broke a 2-2 tie in the bottom of the sixth inning in the first game by scoring five runs on route to the 7-2 win.

Casey Long had tied the game up at two in the inning before with a sacrifice fly, but Iona stormed back.

Rider returned the favor in the second game, behind some timely hitting and great pitching by junior Eric Weiner.

Rider took a 1-0 lead into the bottom of the seventh, but then busted it wide open with five runs of their own coming off four hits and two Iona errors.

Junior Sean Whalen had the hit of the inning, a key two-run single that put the Broncs up to stay. Weiner pitched a strong seven scoreless innings, striking out six and improving his record to 4-1 on the year.

Head Coach Sonny Pitaro