Freshman scores with team
Bertos makes sudden impact

By Jared Vichko
Sports Editor

Most freshmen do not make immediate contributions to their teams. They are regulated to carry bags, bear the brunt of many jokes, and their priorities are usually last on the team. Although this is common all over the country on college as well as pro teams, this is not an occurrence at Rider.

For the past few years, the Women’s Field Hockey team has been getting major contributions from their freshmen. Last year, Katie Conlon, Christina Ang, and Maddy Bouden each played a big part on the team. This year the trend continues with Courtney Bertos. Bertos, who played with Conlon and fellow teammate Karie Sebastian at Morris Knolls High School, has been happy with the production of the team so far.

“We have very good camaraderie. We all get along,” said Bertos. “We play well together and we’ve been playing since the 18ths [of August] so we’ve had time to get to know each other.”

At Morris Knolls, Courtney put up some incredible numbers. She was second team All-State, where she totaled 34 goals and 43 assists. Conlon, a teammate of hers in high school, was glad to play with her.

“We played beside each other on the front line,” said Conlon. “She was very fast and she got our offense going.”

The amazing thing is she picked up the game later on than most. I started my freshman year in high school. We don’t have a feeder program so everyone starts in 9th grade.”

Courtney Bertos
Name: Courtney Bertos
Major: Elementary Education
High School: Morris Knolls, Rockaway, NJ
Accomplishments: All-State in field hockey and softball her junior and senior year. Totaled 34 goals and 43 assists for her career.

“My sophomore year, I got moved up to varsity and then I just began to learn more and more each day,” said Bertos.

Courtney also excelled in softball. All-State honors her junior and senior year. Going into her senior year, she was still undecided about what sport to play. It was only after a trip to Florida with her softball team that she realized that field hockey was going to be her decision.

Once the season began, her impact on the team was immediate. She scored her first goal in a losing effort against LaSalle.

When asked about scoring she commented, “It was bittersweet. I was happy to score, but I would have rather taken the win.”

Her wish came true in the next game as she scored the winning goal 13 seconds into the second overtime to give Rider a 1-0 victory over LaSalle, their first victory over them since 1997.

Her two goals in the first two games earned her Northeast Conference Rookie of the Week for the first week of September.

Her late game heroics continued against Albany, when she scored her second game-winning goal to give the Broncos a 2-1 victory. Her third goal of the season, came in the last 10 minutes to break the tie.

Despite playing well in both high school and in college, she continues to get better each day.

“I saw a definite improvement in her game from high school to college,” said fellow high school teammate Conlon. “She rose to the challenge once she got on the college level.”

Besides her sport, teammates also praise her work ethic.

“She works really hard,” said teammate Ally Hunter. “She is always giving her best and leaving it all on the field.”

A SHORT WALK FROM RIDER
Lawrenceville

This handsome colonial in University Park would make a wonderful home for a Rider family! Carefully maintained by the original owner, it radiates features large, sunny rooms, a finished basement, fully maintained by the original owner, it radiates make a wonderful home for a Rider family! Carefree

Rider News

Bits
The Rider News

Athletes of the Week
Sarah Artale, a junior member of the soccer team, has been named The Rider News Female Athlete of the Week. Artale was named the MAAC player of the week for all games played September 16-22. Artale now has eight goals this season and 22 for her career.

Sean O’Hare, a senior member of the soccer team, has been named The Rider News Male Athlete of the Week. O’Hare was named the MAAC Player of the Week for all games played September 16-22. O’Hare scored a pair of goals in a 3-0 victory over Delaware.

Men’s Soccer
Women’s Soccer
Women’s Volleyball
Women’s Tennis
Lafayette, 10/2, 7 p.m.
Men’s Tennis
Wagner, 10/2, 3 p.m.
Women’s Volleyball
Women’s Tennis
Lafayette, 10/2, 7 p.m.
Men’s Tennis
Wagner, 10/2, 3 p.m.
Women’s Soccer

Broncos’
Records
Volleyball (3-10)
Men’s Soccer (2-3-1)
Women’s Soccer (2-5)
Field Hockey (4-3)
Mens Tennis (1-0)
Women’s Tennis (1-2)

Upcoming home games
Women’s Volleyball
Seton Hall, 9/28, 1 p.m.
Free PIZZA!
Come to the Rider News meetings, Wednesdays,
4:45 p.m. on the bottom floor of Centennial House.

FREE PIZZA!
Go to news ridersun.

Got a nose for news?
READ ALL ABOUT IT
The Rider News is looking for writers in news, features, sports and opinion. If you are interested in writing, call x 5256 or come to the Wednesday meeting at 4:45 on the bottom floor of Centennial House.

Jared Vichko

Patriots are no joke

Last Sunday I finally became a believer. It took me a very long time, and I had to get past a lot of doubts, but I finally converted. I was like everyone else for a very long time.

If you didn’t believe then, believe now—the Patriots are for real. They are not just some fluke team that had a lucky run through the playoffs. I heard their name mentioned with other teams such as ‘85 Villanova, and the ‘83 NC State team. Both teams had miraculous runs through the postseason, won the championship, and the next year faded back into mediocrity. Not the Patriots.

I, like millions of other people, watched the Super Bowl in disbelief, refusing to accept what I was seeing as what was actually happening. No one gave the Patriots a chance in that game. Their run through the playoffs was considered luck. The win over the Raiders was marred by the infamous tuck rule. Then a week later, in the AFC Championship, they defeated the Steelers, and people wrote off the win to the fact that Jerome Bettis didn’t play.

So that brought us up to the Super bowl against the mighty Rams. St. Louis steamrollered through the regular season and people expected nothing less in the playoffs, I couldn’t believe what I saw – Tom Brady, the Patriots quarterback, slingshot in hand, ready to take on Goliath.

I watched in awe as he led a Joe Montana-like drive down the field to win the game. In a way, the Patriots were the anti-Rams. No superstars, very basic, and they chose to be introduced (gulp) as a team.

After the monumental upset, football fans attributed the win to a lack of execution on the Ram’s part. Taking credit away from the Patriots, you heard 1,001 reasons why the Rams should have won.

As the new season began, again people doubted. Almost every publication had chosen the Rams, not the Patriots, as the favorite. Even Las Vegas didn’t believe, picking the Patriots as underdogs in two of their first three games. Think about that, how many teams have been selected as underdogs in their first two games of the season after winning the championship?