



2009

WOMEN'S FIELD HOCKEY

NEWS & NOTES

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Central Connecticut State • Fairleigh Dickinson • Long Island • Monmouth • Mount St. Mary's
Quinnipiac • Robert Morris • Sacred Heart • St. Francis (NY) • Saint Francis (PA) • Wagner

NEC Field Hockey

Facts & Figures

Last Week's Results

Monday, August 31

Hofstra 3, BRYANT 2

Tuesday, September 1

RIDER 4, Temple 1

Friday, September 4

Missouri State 7, ROBERT MORRIS 1

Yale 7, SACRED HEART 1

UC-Davis 1, SAINT FRANCIS (PA) 0

#14 Boston College 5, QUINNIPIAC 0

MONMOUTH 2, Pennsylvania 1 (OT)

#11 Penn State 3, LOCK HAVEN 1

Saturday, September 5

BRYANT 3, Lehigh 1

Missouri State 7, ROBERT MORRIS 1

RIDER 3, Central Michigan 0

Sunday, September 6

LaSalle 2, SAINT FRANCIS (PA) 0

LOCK HAVEN 3, Vermont 1

Northwestern 5, SACRED HEART 0

MONMOUTH 3, West Chester 2 (OT)

RIDER 3, Colgate 1

Saint Louis 3, ROBERT MORRIS 0

Monday, September 7

SIENA 2, UC-Davis 1 (Penalty Strokes)

NEC TEAMS ALL CAPS. Home Team underlined.

Absence of underline indicates neutral site.

NEC Player of the Week

Aug. 31 Kristi Shepps, LHU

Sept. 8 Megan Pisani, RID

NEC Rookie of the Week

Aug. 31 Jackie Adams, RID

Sept. 8 Michelle Pieczynski, MU

NEC Preseason Coaches Poll

1. Lock Haven (8)
2. Rider (1)
3. Quinnipiac
4. Sacred Heart
5. Saint Francis (PA)
6. Monmouth
7. Robert Morris
8. Bryant
9. Siena

First place votes in parentheses ().



Northeast Conference Field Hockey

(Week 2 • September 8, 2009)

School	NEC	Pct.	Overall	Pct.	Streak	Home	Away	Neutral
1. Rider	0-0	.000	4-0	1.000	W4	1-0	2-0	1-0
Lock Haven	0-0	.000	3-1	.750	W1	1-0	1-1	1-0
Monmouth	0-0	.000	3-1	.750	L1	2-0	1-1	0-0
Bryant	0-0	.000	1-2	.333	W1	1-0	0-1	0-1
Siena	0-0	.000	1-2	.333	W1	1-2	0-0	0-0
Quinnipiac	0-0	.000	0-1	.000	L1	0-0	0-1	0-0
Robert Morris	0-0	.000	0-2	.000	L2	0-0	0-1	0-1
Sacred Heart	0-0	.000	0-4	.000	L4	0-1	0-3	0-0
Saint Francis (PA)	0-0	.000	0-4	.000	L4	0-2	0-2	0-0

Top four teams qualify for NEC Tournament.

NEC Player of the Week

Megan Pisani, Rider

So., Fwd, 5-4, Plainsboro, NJ/West Windsor-Plainsboro

Pisani tallied six goals, the most in the Northeast Conference, in providing 60 percent of Rider's scoring output during a three-win week. The second-year forward, who scored in all three victories, began by notching a hat trick and an assist in a 4-1 road victory over Temple. Continuing her 14-point week, Pisani scored three goals and added an assist during the Broncs' two Labor Day weekend wins in Hamilton, NY. First, she found the back of the cage twice in a 3-0 shutout of Central Michigan. One day later against host Colgate, she assisted on the game's first goal before recording an insurance tally of her own in a 3-1 win.

NEC Rookie of the Week

Michelle Pieczynski, Monmouth

Fr., Fwd, 5-9, Doylestown, PA/Central Bucks West

Pieczynski scored two goals in two games, both coming in the clutch. Looking like a seasoned veteran, the freshman forward delivered the game winner in overtime of Monmouth's 2-1 win at Penn. With Monmouth bidding to start the season with a fourth straight victory, but trailing undefeated West Chester by a 2-1 score, Pieczynski came up big again. The rookie scored the equalizer with 1:14 remaining in regulation before WCU eventually won in overtime.

Upcoming Schedule

Tuesday, September 8
ROBERT MORRIS at Bellarmine 3:00 pm

Wednesday, September 9
SIENA at Cornell 4:00 pm

Friday, September 11
Northeastern at QUINNIPIAC 2:00 pm
SACRED HEART at Fairfield 4:00 pm

Saturday, September 12
BRYANT at Harvard 1:00 pm
LOCK HAVEN at Cornell 12:00 pm

Sept. 12 (cont.)

Longwood at SIENA 2:00 pm
MONMOUTH at Brown 2:00 pm

Sunday, September 13

SIENA at La Salle 1:00 pm
Kent State at LOCK HAVEN 1:00 pm
RIDER at Hofstra 1:00 pm
SAINT FRANCIS (PA) at Radford 1:00 pm
Columbia at QUINNIPIAC 12:00 pm
BRYANT at Brown 2:00 pm
MONMOUTH at Boston College 2:00 pm
Bucknell at SACRED HEART 2:30 pm

For the latest scores, statistics and notes, visit the NEC website at

www.northeastconference.org

General Notes:

Adams At It Again: One week after scoring two goals in her collegiate debut and earning NEC Rookie of the Week honors as a result, Rider freshman **Jackie Adams (Medford Lakes, NJ/Shawnee)** was at it again. The freshman forward scored two goals in three games last week, upping her season total to four. Adams, who has nine points (4G, 1A) leads all NEC rookies in scoring.

Saints March Triumphantlly: Siena outlasted UC-Davis, 2-1, in a game that needed penalty strokes to determine a winner. The nail-biting victory was Siena's first of the season and it snapped the Saints 11-game non-conference losing streak.

NEC Preseason Prognostication: Lock Haven stands as the unanimous favorite to capture a fourth consecutive Northeast Conference field hockey crown. The Lady Eagles garnered eight first-place votes to finish atop the NEC's preseason coaches' poll for the fifth year in a row. After coming up one victory shy of the NEC Tournament title each of the previous two seasons, Rider garnered the lone remaining first-place vote and finished second in the annual survey of the league's nine head coaches. Quinnipiac and Sacred Heart, who along with Lock Haven and Rider comprised last season's NEC Championship field, finished third and fourth, respectively, in the voting. Saint Francis (PA) claimed fifth place followed by Monmouth in sixth and Robert Morris in seventh. Poised for its inaugural season of NEC competition, Bryant was tabbed for eighth place while Siena rounded out the preseason prognostication in ninth. The team picked first in the poll has gone onto win the past four NEC crowns. The 2004 Quinnipiac Bobcats were the last preseason favorite to walk away empty-handed. Lock Haven, picked third, finished atop the regular season standings that season, and Rider, selected second, won the tournament.

Team-By-Team Notes:

Bryant (1-2, 0-0 NEC)

The Bulldogs avenged a 2008 loss to Lehigh in earning their first win of the 2009 came, 3-1. The victory was also Bryant's home opener. Earlier in the week, Bryant fell, 3-2, at Hofstra. . . . Sophomore **Courtney Landi (Kingston, NY/Kingston)** scored a goal in each of Bryant's games, including the gamewinner against Lehigh. . . . Bryant got its five goals from four different players, with Landi and **Aly Czerniak (Holyoke, MA/Smith Academy)** scoring against Hofstra and **Elise Boissoneau (Ashburnham, MA/St. Bernard's Central)**, **Katherine Andrusin (North Andover, MA/North Andover)** and Landi chipping in against Lehigh. . . . Goalkeeper **Kundayi Mawema (Harare, Zimbabwe)** made 20 saves, allowing just four goals and playing every minute on the 1-1 week.

Lock Haven (3-1, 0-0 NEC)

Lock Haven went 1-1 last week, beginning with a 3-1 setback at No. 11 Penn State before shutting out Vermont at home. . . . Lock Haven looked poised to upset its local rival PSU after sophomore **Kristi Shepps (Willow Street, PA/Penn Manor)** knocked home a rebound in the 20th minute to put LHU up 1-0. The Lady Lions responded with three unanswered goals to defeat the Haven. . . . The Haven bounced back in a big way and downed Vermont, 3-0, the 2009 home opener. The Lady Eagles got goals from three different players including **Suzann Hobart (Lewisberry, PA/Red Land)**, who also had an assist (3 points). . . . Lock Haven only allowed one shot on goal in an all-out dominating performance against UVM. . . . The win extends LHU's home win streak to seven games dating back to last season. Penn State was the last team to beat LHU at home (Oct. 5, 2008). . . . Hobart, who led Lock Haven with three points last week, also leads the team in total points. The senior-forward has three goals and one assist (7 points) on the season.

Monmouth (3-1, 0-0 NEC)

The Hawks posted a 1-1 record this past weekend, playing a pair of overtime games. . . . Senior **Enza Mazza (Oceanport, NJ/Shore)** and freshman **Michelle Pieczynski (Doylestown, PA/Central Bucks West)** scored goals in both games. . . . Junior goalie **Melissa Katz (Tinton Falls, NJ/Monmouth Regional)** posted a career-high 14 saves for MU in a 3-2 overtime loss to West Chester. Pieczynski notched her second game-winning goal of the season in overtime against Penn before notching the game-tying goal against West Chester with 1:14 remaining in regulation. . . . The Hawks travel to New England where they will face Brown (Sept. 12) and Boston College (Sept. 13) on back-to-back days.

Quinnipiac (0-1, 0-0 NEC)

Quinnipiac was held scoreless in their season opener, a 5-0 loss to Boston College (Sept. 4). . . . The Bobcats managed to hold Boston College scoreless over the second half of the game, thanks in large part to the play of **Nicole Lewis** in goal, who stopped four shots down the stretch. . . . Quinnipiac hosts Northeastern (Sept. 11) at the Quinnipiac Lacrosse & Field Hockey Turf Complex before welcoming Columbia (Sept. 13).

Rider (4-0, 0-0 NEC)

Rider enjoyed undefeated three-win week. The Broncos last started a season winning their first four games in 2004, when the team went 18-3 and won the NEC Title, advancing to the NCAA Play-In against Richmond. . . . Sophomore **Megan Pisani (Plainsboro, NJ/W. Windsor Plainsboro-North)** scored 14 points (6G, 2A) on the week, including a hat trick in a 4-1 victory at Temple. . . . Pisani tallied two goals against Central Michigan to support the shutout goaltending of senior **Lyndsie Johnson (Gibbsboro, NJ/Eastern)**. . . . The 3-0 win over CMU game was the 120th victory for head coach Lori Hussong at Rider, who is in her 10th season of service along with husband, and assistant coach, Dan. . . . Sophomore **Virginia Egusquiza (Getxo, Spain)** and junior **Lindsay Rajeski (New Egypt, NJ/New Egypt)** each had a goal and an assist as Rider defeated Colgate, 3-1, to close out the week. . . . Colgate snapped Johnson's scoreless streak of 144:29. Seven of John's 17 career wins in net have come via shutout. . . . Rider has yet to trail in a game this season. The Broncos have led for 235 of the 280 minutes played. . . . Rider entered play on September 3 as the top-ranked team in the country in the ACR poll compiled by FieldHockeyCorner.com. The ACR takes into account score differential and won-loss record and involves several mathematical computations to rank the 65 Division I schools.

Robert Morris (0-2, 0-0 NEC)

Robert Morris opened the 2009 campaign in Springfield, MO where it fell host Missouri State, 7-1, before dropping a 3-0 decision to Saint Louis. . . . Senior **Jessica Charles (Lancaster, PA/Lampeter-Strasburg)** scored the Colonials lone goal of the weekend. . . . The Colonials play at Bellarmine (Sept. 8) before returning home for a nine-day hiatus.

Sacred Heart (0-4, 0-0 NEC)

The Pioneers remained winless, falling to Yale and Northwestern. . . . SHU surrendered 12 goals on the week and received its lone tally from **Stephanie Fazio (Norwalk, CT/Brien McMahon)** 1:04 into an eventual 7-1 loss at Yale. . . . Sacred Heart makes a short trip across town to take on Fairfield (Sept. 11) before hosting Bucknell (Sept. 13).

Saint Francis (PA) (0-4, 0-0 NEC)

The Red Flash were shut out by both UC Davis and La Salle to fall to 0-4 on the season. . . . Senior goalkeeper **Sara Dittmann (State College, PA/State College)** made 13 saves and surrendered only three goals in 140 minutes of action, but received little offensive support. . . . Junior **Rebecca Reiff (Wall, NJ/Wall)** had three shots on goal against the Aggies. . . . **Kate Rossman (Lititz, PA/Warwick)** and **Caitlin Brown (Hamburg, PA/Hamburg)** each had three shots against the Explorers. . . . The Flash next travel to Radford (Sept. 13).

Siena (1-2, 0-0 NEC)

Siena recorded its first win of 2009 and snapped an 11-game non-conference losing streak by defeating previously unbeaten UC Davis, 2-1, on Labor Day. Senior captain **Andrea Caso (Carmel, NY/Carmel)** led Siena with six shots and tallied her first goal of the season to tie the game at 1-1 late in the first half. . . . After the teams remained tied through both overtime periods, the Saints stepped up to win on penalty strokes, 3-1. Sophomore midfielder **Mackenzie Smith (New Preston, CT/Shepaug Valley)**, who made her first appearance since returning from injury, recorded the winning stroke in the fifth and final round. . . . Senior goalkeeper **Renee Clavette (Danville NH/Timberlane)** made 17 saves, including one on a penalty stroke during regulation. . . . The Saints return to open a four-game road trip at Cornell (Sept. 9).