Field Hockey Survives Scare, Gains Ground in National Polls

By Kai Orenic  
Sports Editor

The EMU field hockey team overcame a 1-0 halftime deficit to defeat host Randolph-Macon College Wednesday.  

Kristin Moyer and Lisa Ehst scored 2nd half goals for the Lady Royals who remain unbeaten this season.  Moyer’s goal was her 20th of the season and put her over 200 career points. She now ranks 11th in division III history in points scored. EMU alum Sherri Allebach holds the division III record with 262 career points.  

The win moves the Lady Royals to 11-0 and 6-0 in Old Dominion Athletic Conference Play. Randolph-Macon fell to 2-5, 2-3 in ODAC play.  

EMU will host The Catholic University of America for Homecoming Saturday. CUA ranks near the bottom of the Capital Athletic Conference with a 3-5 record. Game time is 3 p.m.

Virginia State Championships to Be Inaugural Race At Local Cross Country Course

By Kai Orenic  
Sports Editor

The men’s and women’s cross country teams will host the Virginia State Championships, their only home meet of the year, on Saturday. Open and collegiate races will be contested at the course adjacent to Peak View Elementary School.  

The State Championships will be held on the grounds of the Burtner Farm, property that is next to Peak View Elementary. The course was designed by Dr. Burtner, and Gary Bugg, a former Harrisonburg High School cross-country coach.  

The course has been used by local high schools for over a year, but Saturday marks the first inter-collegiate competition at the Burtner Farm.  

The Virginia State Championships features 10 schools from across the commonwealth. The Royals will be able to see how they compare to Old Dominion Athletic Conference schools, including Bridgewater College, Roanoke College, Hollins University, and Washington & Lee University.  

An open six kilometer (3.75 mile) race will begin at 9:30 am. The general entry fee is $5. EMU students may enter the race for $2.  

Women’s Soccer Loses a Pair, Wins One

By Elisa Wolf  
Staff Writer.

The Lady Royals soccer team bounced back after two losses to crush Randolph-Macon Woman’s College by a score of 8-0 at Bomberger Field on Tuesday afternoon.  

Wednesday, Oct. 1st, the women played long-time rival Bridgewater College, losing 2-1. The loss gave the Eagles their first Old Dominion Athletic Conference victory of the year, placing them at 4-6-0 overall. The lone goal of the first half was scored against EMU on a free kick by Courtney Williamson 27 minutes into the game. Ellie Lind tied the game up at 1-1 when she hit the back of the net on a breakaway with only 14:15 left on the clock. Even with a jump-start by Lind, the Royals still fell short when Beverly Walsh scored off a corner with only 8:20 left in the game.  

The loss dropped the Royals to 4-2 in ODAC standings.  

The women then played nationally ranked Messiah Monday, losing by a score of 3-0. The Royals shut-out the Falcons in the first half. Freshmen goalie, Joy Shaltieby had 11 saves while the Royals defense showed strong teamwork, but the Falcons came out shooting in the second half handing the Royals their second loss in a row. Erin Benedict scored the first of her two goals two minutes into the game. Emily Benson then scored a goal late into the game to clinch the game for the Falcons.  

On Tuesday, the Lady Royals came back fighting when they pounded Randolph-Macon Woman’s College 8-0. The rampage began before the half with Ellie Lind netting the first goal of the game with a breakaway. Senior goalkeeper Rochelle Yoder then got a different view of the field, and the goal, when she netted her first goal of the season off a cross from mid-fielder Laura Beiler. Freshman forward Vanessa Rice scored the last goal of the half to put the Royals up 3-0.  

The ladies came out fired up in the second half to continue the onslaught. Mid-fielder Audra Baker scored the first goal of the second half and then added another later in the period. Captain Kendra Martin also netted a goal for the Royals while Rice and Lind added another tally to their total. Beiler led the Royals in assists with two, followed by Lind with one. The Lady Royals are now 6-4 overall in ODAC play. The women will face Southern Virginia University during Homecoming festivities this Saturday at 3:30 on Bomberger Field.

National Field Hockey Coaches Association Division III poll.

1. Salisbury  
2. Middlebury  
3. College of New Jersey  
4. Rowan  
5. SUNY-Cortland  
6. Messiah  
7. Eastern Mennonite  
8. Skidmore  
9. Mary Washington  
10. Montclair State  
11. McDaniel  
12. Ursinus  
13. Bowdoin  
14. Muhlenberg  
15. Williams  
16. Lebanon Valley  
17. Amherst  
18. William Smith  
19. Colby  
20. Springfield

Sports Diary:
The Obscure Life of a Cross Country Runner

By Kendra Nissley  
Contributing Writer

Cross Country, according to us runners, is the only sport. However, judging by its invisibility and lack of accessibility to EMU fans, some of you might not believe it’s even a sport at all. Unfortunately, while soccer is all over the headlines and Vane runners have a field day with women’s field hockey, cross country is often forgotten in the shuffle of things. On Saturday evenings, some of my friends try to feel interested by asking how my meet went that day, but it usually comes out sounding more like an afterthought than anything else. They might listen politely for a minute or two as I ramble on about the struggles and the triumphs of the race I’d run that day. Then they might just tell me that they had a test the next day or that they should be studying instead.  

If you want to see a competition for the strongest man or woman in the world, don’t watch weight-lifting contests. Go to a cross country race.  

This brings me to the last and most important question: how would one do that? After all, the cross country team has to travel for miles around to find races at which it can compete. Out of our last five meets, three have been less than 10 miles away, so far away that we even had to book hotel rooms for those Friday nights. So far we’ve run in four states and only once in our own state.  

So don’t worry, I’m not about to ask you to spend your Saturdays behind the wheel just so your most-neglected sports team can finally get some spectators. However, a long drive is the last thing required of you this weekend, the date of our “home” meet. No, we won’t be running right on campus like we have other years. Actually, our home course is now located about 20-25 minutes off campus at Peakview Elementary School.  

Taking the time to see us run may be a bit less convenient than, say, a home softball game, but it is so much more fun! After all, where else will you get to watch dozens of runners crank up a hill like it’s been dubbed “The Wall”? In which other athletic event would you witness every single participant pour his guts into his sport for a straight 25-40 minutes? On what other day will you have the opportunity to cheer your cross country team on to victory in the Virginia state meet?  

So I guess what I’m trying to say is: come out, EMU, and finally see what your cross country friends have been up to for the past seven weeks!! Take the time to drive out to Peakview this Saturday morning at 10:30 to support us. We will love you for it! Women run at 10:30 a.m., men at 11:15 a.m. Contact the Athletic Dept. for directions.

The Weather Vane

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