



NORPAC CONFERENCE MEDIA RELATIONS OFFICE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 8, 2003

CALIFORNIA CLAIMS SECOND CONSECUTIVE NORPAC CHAMPIONSHIP WITH 5-2 WIN OVER RADFORD

St. Louis, Mo. –The California Golden Bears claimed their second consecutive NorPac Championship as Cal defeated Radford 5-2 in the championship game at the 2003 Northern Pacific Field Hockey Conference (NorPac) tournament on Saturday, Nov. 8th at the Anheuser-Busch Center. With the win Cal moved to 12-3 on the season, while Radford finished its season 9-14.

The Highlanders jumped out early as sophomore Hope Bates scored an unassisted goal on a rebounded shot at the 21:52 mark. Less than four minutes later, the Highlanders extended their lead to 2-0 on another unassisted goal, this time from junior Marie Petran.

The Golden Bears, however, responded in the closing minutes of the first half as junior Julie Gipner followed a flurry of shots with an unassisted goal off the pads of Radford goalkeeper Tina Caiazza.

Trailing 2-1 at the half, California rattled off four unanswered goals by four different players. The Bears tied the game with just under 25 minutes remaining as senior Nora Feddersen scored on a corner opportunity. Just over two minutes later senior Erin Booth gave California a 3-2 lead off of a rebounded shot by Feddersen. Freshman Valentina Godfrid and sophomore Alexandra Harkins would add goals down the stretch to make it a 5-2 final.

In third place game, Stanford (6-13) defeated Southwest Missouri State (6-15) 2-1 in second overtime as senior Noor Dawood scored the game-winning goal.

Following the championship, the 2003 NorPac All-Tournament team was announced. The 11-member team was Erin Booth (Cal), Nara Brookes (Appalachian State), Vianney Campos (Pacific), Nora Feddersen (Cal), Valentina Godfrid (Cal), Jessica Lenninger (SMS), Lindsey Lombardo (Saint Louis), Cara-Lynn Lopresti (Stanford), Sarah Meriwether (Radford), Marie Petran (Radford) and the MVP of the tournament Gabby Gomez (SMS).

California now moves on to face the Atlantic-10 champion, Richmond, in an NCAA play-in game on Tuesday, Nov. 11th.



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November 7, 2003

CALIFORNIA AND RADFORD ADVANCE TO TITLE GAME WITH SHUTOUT VICTORIES ON SECOND DAY OF ACTION AT NORPAC TOURNAMENT

St. Louis, Mo. – California and Radford each advanced to the title game of the 2003 Northern Pacific Field Hockey Conference (NorPac) tournament on Friday, Nov. 7th with shutout victories at the Anheuser Busch Center. Cal defeated Stanford 3-0, while Radford beat SouthWest Missouri State (SMS) 2-0 to set up a clash between the two teams on Saturday, Nov. 8th at 12:30 p.m.

The Golden Bears struck early in their semi-final matchup with longtime rival Stanford as sophomore Teela Crosthwaite scored just 21 seconds into the game on a pass from freshman Valentina Godfrid. The Bears would extend their lead to 2-0 just over nine minutes later as Godfrid notched an unassisted goal, while Cal's final tally came midway through the second period on a goal from senior Nora Feddersen.

Radford continued to rely on its stellar defensive play as the Highlanders remained the only team to not allow a goal in the NorPac tournament by shutting out SMS. The Highlanders scored their first goal of the game when freshman Kiera Gambeski redirected a shot by junior Jenny Bell into the back of the net with 19:49 remaining in the first half. That was all that Radford goalkeeper Tina Caiazza needed, but senior Erin Lenhardt added some insurance early in the second period as she scored off a pass from senior Sarah Meriwether.

In consolation action played on Friday, Pacific defeated Davidson 3-0 and in the final game of the day, Appalachian State defeated tournament host Saint Louis 5-4 in thrilling fashion as Mountaineers scored on a corner play after regulation time had expired. The Mountaineer goal counted because field hockey rules prevent a game or half from ending when a penalty corner is in process. The Appalachian State heroics were necessary because with under a minute remaining in the game, Billiken senior Lindsey Lombardo knotted the game at 4-4 on an unassisted goal.

The 2003 NorPac Tournament will conclude on Saturday, Nov. 8th as Stanford faces SMS in the third place contest beginning at 10:00 a.m., then Cal and Radford will vie for the championship beginning at 12:30 p.m.



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November 6, 2003

SOUTHWEST MISSOURI STATE HIGHLIGHTS DAY OF UPSETS WITH 1-0 WIN OVER EAST #1 SEED, DAVIDSON

St. Louis, Mo. – The 2003 Northern Pacific Field Hockey Conference (NorPac) tournament got turned upside down on Thursday, Nov. 6th as three of the top four seeds fell in the first round at the Anheuser Busch Center and Sports Complex. The biggest upset of the day saw the fourth-seed in the west division, SouthWest Missouri State (SMS), upset the top seed from the east division, Davidson, 1-0.

SMS junior Abbey Rolfe scored the lone goal in the game just over twenty minutes into the contest on an unassisted shot as she dribbled through the Davidson defense and laced a goal through the right side.

Also collecting upset wins on Thursday were both three seeds as (#3E) Radford defeated (#2W) Pacific 1-0 in penalty strokes and (#3W) Stanford outdueled (#2E) Appalachian State 2-1 in overtime. The only favorite to hold on in the opening round of the 2003 NorPac Tournament was (#1W) California as the Golden Bears held off tournament host Saint Louis 2-1.

In the tournament opener, Radford and Pacific battled through two periods and two overtimes, but failed to settle anything as neither team could punch through for a goal, sending the contest to penalty strokes. The two teams each converted its first stroke opportunity, but the Highlanders goalkeeper Tina Caiazza stepped up to prevent Pacific from scoring on both of its next two attempts to give Radford a 3-1 lead, Sarah Meriwether then sealed the victory by connecting for the Highlanders fourth stroke.

The final game of the day also needed extra time as Stanford's Cara-Lynn Lopresti scored the game-winning goal with just under four minutes remaining in the first overtime. Lopresti's goal was similar to the one scored by SMS's Rolfe as she dribbled through the Mountaineers defense and found an opening. Her heroics, however, couldn't have occurred if Stanford's Emily Zander did not stop Appalachian State's Nara Brookes on a penalty shot approximately eight minutes into the overtime.

The host Saint Louis Billikens just missed making it a clean sweep for the underdogs as after playing California to a 1-1 tie in the first half, the Golden Bears Julie Gipner scored the only goal in the second half on a rebound shot during a California corner.

In the second round of action, on Friday, Nov. 7th, Pacific will face Davidson, while Saint Louis meets Appalachian State in the consolation games. In the semi-final contests, Radford and SMS will meet, while Stanford and Cal face off. The Pacific – Davidson match will kick the day off at 9:30 a.m., following by Radford and SMS at 11:30 a.m., Cal and Stanford at 1:30 p.m. and Saint Louis against Appalachian State at 3:30 p.m.



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November 7, 2003

FEDDERSON, BROOKES AND ONSTEAD EARN TOP HONORS AS NorPac ANNOUNCES ALL-CONFERENCE TEAMS

St. Louis, Mo. – The 2003 Northern Pacific Field Hockey (NorPac) All Conference team has been announced by Commissioner Carla Konet. California's Nora Feddersen was named West Division Player of the Year for the second consecutive year, while Appalachian State's Nara Brookes Walls claimed the East Division Player of the Year. California head coach Shellie Onstead was named NorPac Coach-of-the-Year for the third consecutive year.

Brookes was also named East Offensive Player of the Year, while Vianney Campos of Pacific earned the honor in the West Division. Defensive Player of the Year awards went to Davidson goalkeeper Sarah Nolan (East) and Pacific defender Cameron Kato (West), while Stanford's Cara-Lynn Lopresti and Appalachian State's Erica Muschamp were named West and East Rookie of the Year.

The NorPac All-Conference First Team members were: Erin Booth (California, senior, defender), Nara Brookes (Appalachian State – senior, forward), Bridgette Burkhardt (Appalachian State – senior, midfielder), Vianney Campos (Pacific – freshman, forward), Nora Feddersen (California – senior, midfielder), Kathleen Fenn (Davidson – senior, back), Gabby Gomez (SMS – junior, midfielder), Cameron Kato (Pacific – senior, back), Heather Kottmeier (Pacific – senior, defender), Cara-Lynn Lopresti (Stanford – freshman, forward), and Elizabeth Schoening (Davidson – junior, defender).

The Second Team members were: Adrienne Gerhardt (Appalachian State – sophomore, midfielder), Valentina Godfrid (California – freshman, forward), Dani Geurnsey (Stanford – senior, defender), Tiffany Homan (Davidson – junior, midfielder), Kelly Knapp (California – junior, goalkeeper), Erin Lenhardt (Radford – senior, midfielder), Kristin Lueders (Saint Louis – freshman, midfielder), Liz Mayashita (SMS – sophomore, midfielder), Sarah Nolan (Davidson – junior, goalkeeper), Marie Petran (Radford – junior, forward), Abbey Rolfe (SMS – senior, forward) and Kate Ryno (Appalachian State – sophomore, goalkeeper).