

Tom Di Camillo, Sports Information Director
Office: 610-436-3316; Home: 610-857-1353; Hotline: 610-436-2100
Fax: 610-436-2966; E-Mail Address: tdicamillo@wcupa.edu

Fall Release 28 (Field Hockey) - November 8, 2002

UMass knocks WCU from A-10 Playoffs again

Jill Posen, Kate Randle wrap up season with All-Conference honors

RICHMOND, VA - When West Chester University junior defender **Kendra Wood** (*Lititz/Warwick*) smashed the penalty corner by Massachusetts goalkeeper Ashley England, shades of the 2001 Atlantic 10 Championship Game shrouded the artificial turf at the University of Richmond on Friday afternoon.

Last season in the A-10 finale, the Golden Rams stormed back from a two-goal deficit to force overtime vs. UMass on Temple University's artificial surface, but the Minutewomen scored in the extra session to claim another title.

This time WCU tied the game in the first half, but once again Massachusetts scored late in the game - at the 53:12 mark - to slip into the A-10 finals vs. the host Spiders.

For the Golden Rams, the 2-1 semifinal loss marked the fourth time in five A-10 post-season appearances that UMass has sent WCU home disappointed. Twice the Golden Rams fell in the title game, and two times now in the semifinals.

Wood's goal came on a penalty corner and was set up beautifully by junior **Liz Morrow** (*West Chester/West Chester East*) and senior forward **Stacey Tomes** (*Zionsville/Southern Lehigh*).

Tomes finishes the season with a team-best six assists while taking second place on the club in scoring with 10 points. The six assists was a single-season high for Tomes,

while her career totals feature five goals, 10 assists and 20 points. She ends her WCU career tied with Mary Melnick (1994-97) for ninth place all-time in career assists.

But it wasn't quite enough as the Golden Rams ended their campaign 9-10 overall.

Still, WCU had a strong finish after a tough 4-7 start. The Golden Rams captured five of their last seven games heading into the A-10 Tournament, including a double-overtime victory last Saturday afternoon at LaSalle that sent the Explorers exploring the off-season while propelling WCU into its fifth A-10 playoffs in six years.

In addition, senior midfielder **Jill Posen** (*Blue Bell/Wissahickon*) and junior forward **Kate Randle** (*Mountain Top/Crestwood*) completed their 2002 campaigns by earning A-10 All-Conference honors.

For Posen, it was the second straight year she claimed the accolade. She finished the season with eight points on three goals and two assists. She ends her tenure at WCU with 16 all-time points on eight goals and eight assists.

Randle recorded career highs in goals (4), assists (3) and points (11), leading the team in both goals and scoring in 2002. She now has nine goals, four assists and 22 points in three seasons as a Golden Ram.