

The Telegraph

Rivier men's lacrosse posts first-ever playoff win



Photo courtesy of Rivier University Colby Larsen (25), the program's all-time leading goal scorer, led the Raiders with six goals to give them their first playoff win ever, 15-5 Saturday night over Anna Maria in the GNAC quarterfinals at Raider Field.

NASHUA – Finally.

The Rivier University men's lacrosse team has had something to celebrate in the last day. It won its first postseason game ever – in its first home playoff game ever – routing Anna Maria, 15-5, in the Great Northeast Athletic Conference quarterfinals on Saturday night at Raider Field.

But now it gets harder for the fourth seeded, 12-3 Raiders, as they'll have to take on top seed Lasell (15-1 overall) in the conference semis Tuesday at 4 p.m. at the Newton, Mass. School's Grellier Field.

The Lasers are working on a 14-game winning streak, which includes an 18-7 home regular season win over Rivier back on March 30.

"We need to be ready to put our best game of the year together," Raiders coach Jay Delanoy said, *"to give ourselves a chance to win."*

The Raiders are looking to extend the career of their top scorer in program history, senior Colby Larsen, plus nine of his fellow seniors. Larsen did a good job of helping them do that Saturday night with six goals and two assists.

Riv led 6-1 after the first quarter but was up only 6-3 at halftime. The Raiders then outscored Anna Maria 5-2 in the third to lead 11-5 and finished the game with four fourth quarter goals.

Also for the Raiders, Rob Fullerton had three goals as did Dylan McSparren. Eric Guinasso had a pair and Corey Hicks added a goal.

Raider Sean Brady led in assists with four while McSparren had three.

"Our offense was successful both in transition and in settled situations," Delanoy said. *"The ball moved well and a lot of guys made good choices with the ball."*

The Raiders outshot Anna Maria 46-38 overall and survived 12 out of 14 man-down situations. Raider goalie Matt Cloutman had 14 saves.

"Cloutman played great," Delanoy said. *"Our entire defense did a great job of limiting (Anna Maria's) offense when things settled into 6-on-6 in our defensive end."*