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### **Roadrunners Advance to Region XIX Semifinals**

October 23, 2010 Deptford, NJ

The Roadrunners struck early then added an insurance goal in the 73rd minute to secure a 2-0 win over visiting Bergen CC on Saturday afternoon at GCC. Goalkeeper Nicole Straga recorded her 8th shutout of the season. The Roadrunners now advance to the semifinal round which will be Tuesday at 2pm at #2 seed Brookdale CC.

The Roadrunners stuck to their game plan today holding Bergen CC to only 2 shots on goal and controlling the midfield behind All-Region XIX players Julia Cendejas and MaryKate Covely. Cendejas and Covely expertly managed the ball and were able to find each other and teammates to create offensive opportunities. The stalwart defensive line of Christiana Unger, Cristina Gray, and Rebecca Gibson locked their sights on Region XIX's leading scorer Erin Mullins from Bergen and were able to keep her from attempting any shots on net.



**Sophomore MaryKate Covely in action on Saturday.**

The Roadrunners have had a host of different goal scorers this season and try to spread the offensive opportunities around. This afternoon the offensive stars were MaryKate Morrison who scored the first goal and Noelle Nociti who added the insurance goal. Goal one came in the 5th minute as Ali Luketina carried the ball to the right goalline and fed a long cross. The ball was bobbled by the Bergen GK before Lindsay Valentine found Morrison close to the net and Morrison hammered the ball in to start the scoring. The second goal of the day came as Jen Longley carried the ball to the right goalline then made a "Bangoo" pass back toward the 18-yd mark. Valentine this time found Nociti who blasted in the goal. Valentine has shown tremendous improvement over the course of the season and found herself in the right place at the right time twice Saturday and made keys plays.

The Roadrunners turnaround this season has been dramatic (coming off a 3-13-1 campaign in 2009) and much credit goes to first time head coach Megan Ruttler who has the team playing a disciplined style and working very well together. The chemistry will be tested on Tuesday as Brookdale CC will be a tough challenge. In their only meeting of the season the two teams tied in a physical 0-0 battle at GCC on October 9th. Check back for a preview of this contest on Monday!

Photos from Saturday's action...



Luketina set up the first score of the game



Covely fires



Longley set the table for goal #2



Unger has played terrific defense



All-Region defender Gibson in action



Goalscorer Morrison in action



Straga makes a rare save



Cendejas strong in the midfield



Luketina on another scoring chance

**Roadrunners to Host Bergen CC in Round 1**

*posted October 22, 2010 Deptford, NJ*

The GCC women's soccer team takes its 9-7-1 record into the postseason starting Saturday at noon against Bergen CC at Gloucester County College. The Roadrunners are the #3 seed in the 2010 NJCAA Region XIX Tournament and the winner of this game will face #2 Brookdale CC on Tuesday October 26th in Lincroft, NJ.

The Roadrunners defeated Bergen CC on 4-3 on September 26th at Bergen in a hard fought game in rainy conditions. The high-powered Bergen offense, led by Region XIX leading scorer Erin Mullins, will be matched up against a Roadrunner defense that has allowed only five goals in its last eight games. The Roadrunners offense has changed its look since that September 26th game where sophomore MaryKate Covely scored two goals and added an assist. Covely has since shifted to the defensive third and has helped defenders Cristina Gray, Christiana Unger and Rebecca Gibson lock down opposing offenses. Covely did show that she has not lost her scoring touch by knocking in a goal in the 57th minute of Monday's season finale win over Bucks CC.

Contrasting styles often lead to the most compelling matchups so Saturday could be a great game. The Roadrunners will look to control the ball and attack when they can while Bergen prefers a much wide open attacking style. Whichever team is able to control the tempo may end up the winner. We hope to see you at the game!

The Tournament finals will be played at New Jersey Institute of Technology on Saturday October 30th.



**GCC Sophomore MaryKate Covely scored two goals and added an assist when GCC defeated Bergen on September 26th.**

