

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



SARA BRANDENBURG/The Justice

Jessica Chapin '10

■ The starting shooting guard had 23 points and six steals, both career highs, in the Judges' win over Babson College.

Ever since she surprised herself by making a prestigious travel team reserved for older players when she was in fourth grade, guard Jessica Chapin '10 has taken pride in conquering her nerves. But when she prepared for her first practice as a rookie last year, she admitted to having some jitters.

"I don't usually get nervous, but I have to admit, I was a little nervous for the first practice," she said. "But once things started, and we were just playing basketball, all of my apprehensions went away."

That has been the only anxious moment of her career. After excelling at her role as the Judges' top substitute last season, Chapin has not missed a beat upon moving into the starting lineup, and currently ranks second on the team in scoring, averaging 13.3 points per game.

Chapin's offensive production has been instrumental with the struggles of last year's leading scorer Jaime Capra '08, who is averaging just 9.3 points per game on 29 percent shooting this season. With Capra mired in a shooting

slump, Chapin has become the team's top outside threat, as she is hitting nearly 43 percent of her three-point attempts this season.

Chapin said her role last season was to provide energy off the bench, and despite averaging just the fifth-most minutes on the team, she finished third in scoring with a 7.9 per-game average.

"[Coach Carol Simon] wanted me to come off the bench and be the spark so that when we started subbing, the level of play wouldn't drop off," Chapin said.

While Chapin excelled in her role off the bench, she was needed in the starting lineup due to the graduation of last year's starting shooting guard, Alison Chase '07. As a starter, Chapin's role has changed, as she currently is first on the team in minutes played this season.

"This year, I'm carrying more of the offensive load on my shoulders," Chapin said. "Now that I'm starting, I'm looking to get the game off on the right foot."

—Mike Prada

AP BRIEFS

Crazy college football season ends with two-loss LSU in BCS title game

Louisiana State University has a ticket to the title game. Everyone else has a pretty good gripe.

The latest chapter in this unpredictable college football season was written Sunday when LSU won the sport's version of the lottery, being picked to play Ohio State for the championship and leaving about a half-dozen other candidates with plenty to complain about.

The Tigers (11-2), ranked second in the latest Associated Press poll, will be the first team to play in the BCS title game with two losses.

No. 1 Ohio State goes into the Jan. 7 game at the Superdome in New Orleans with an 11-1 record.

Missouri and West Virginia, the teams that came into the weekend ranked first and second, lost Saturday to blow their title chances, and were left out of the BCS altogether.

The rest of the BCS games are filled with teams that had every bit as good an argument as LSU for a spot in the title game.

In the Sugar Bowl, Georgia will play Hawaii. The Bulldogs (10-2) were fourth and idle coming into the final weekend—behind Missouri, West Virginia and Ohio State—but didn't automatically rise two spots the way coach Mark Richt thought they should. Hawaii, meanwhile, is the nation's only undefeated team, but is penalized for playing a weak schedule in the Western Athletic Conference.

The Fiesta Bowl will pit West Virginia (10-2) against Oklahoma (11-2).

The Rose Bowl stuck with its traditional Big Ten-vs.-Pac-10 matchup, going with Southern California (10-2) against Illinois (9-3). USC, thought to be playing as well as anyone in the nation right now, was one of the two-loss teams that had a legitimate claim at the title game. A loss to 41-point underdog Stanford in October, however, probably doomed the Trojans.

The Orange Bowl chose Atlantic Coast Conference champion Virginia Tech (11-2), also a two-loss team. Hurting the Hokies was that one of their losses was 48-7 to LSU back in September. Virginia Tech's opponent will be Kansas (11-1), which leapfrogged Missouri for a BCS spot even though the Jayhawks lost to the Tigers 36-28 only a week ago.

Redskins lose heartbreaker to Bills six days after Sean Taylor tragedy

LANDOVER, Md.—After scoring the game's only touchdown, Clinton Portis lifted his jersey to reveal a white shirt with the words "In memory of Sean Taylor."

They played for Sean. They tried to win for Sean, just as Sean's father had told them to do, but their fragile emotions were shattered when Rian Lindell kicked a 36-yard field goal with four seconds left to give the Buffalo Bills a 17-16 victory.

"It makes your heart drop all the way to your feet," Redskins quarterback Jason Campbell said. "We wanted to come out here and win one for Sean and try to keep ourselves in the playoff run."

Five days after Taylor died of a gunshot wound in Florida, the Redskins defense did Taylor proud by not allowing a touchdown, but a major gaffe played a part in leaving Washington's players disconsolate at the final whistle.

Lindell hit a 51-yard attempt that didn't count because the Redskins called timeout just as the ball was snapped. Coach Joe Gibbs then tried the same tactic again, but consecutive timeouts aren't allowed when attempting to freeze the kicker. The resulting 15-yard unsportsmanlike conduct penalty gave the veteran Lindell a much easier kick. His game-winner extended his streak to 17 consecutive made field goals.

"There's nobody to blame but myself," Gibbs said. "I should have known the rule."

Taylor's father, Pedro Taylor, had urged the Redskins to win out and make the playoffs when he addressed the team Wednesday. But Washington (5-7) has now lost four straight and is fading quickly from the postseason picture. The Redskins will attend Taylor's funeral Monday, then must try to focus for a Thursday night game against Chicago.

Twins' Santana is the major prize dangling at the Winter Meetings

NEW YORK—The Johan Santana sweepstakes have already started. Now, get ready for an all-out shopping spree at baseball's winter meetings.

Trade talks involving the Minnesota Twins ace figure to heat up when the annual meet begins Monday in Nashville, Tenn.

The World Series champion Boston Red Sox and their biggest rivals, the New York Yankees, appear to be jockeying for Santana's services.

The Twins are fielding trade offers for the two-time Cy Young Award winner, who can become a free agent after next season. The Dodgers, Angels and Mets also are thought to be interested.

"Our first choice is to sign him," new Twins general manager Bill Smith said recently, though that could be a long shot.

The sides reportedly are far apart in negotiations and Santana's agent, Peter Greenberg, has been tight-lipped about the situation.

It would probably take an enticing package of major league-ready prospects to win Santana, who has a no-trade clause. Then, the new team would likely want to sign him to a multi-year deal, which could cost more than \$100 million.

Boston's trade bait includes young left-hander Jon Lester, right-hander Clay Buchholz and outfielder Jacoby Ellsbury. The Yankees have center fielder Melky Cabrera and three prized pitching prospects: Joba Chamberlain, Phil Hughes and Ian Kennedy. The Dodgers and Angels also boast plenty of young talent.

The Mets would love to grab Santana, but general manager Omar Minaya insists he won't deal All-Star shortstop Jose Reyes. That could leave New York pursuing Dan Haren, Joe Blanton or Rich Harden from Oakland.

"It's also an issue of, some of these guys, I mean are you going to be able to sign them long term?" Minaya said last Thursday. "There's only a few teams that have the ability [to do that]."

Judging numbers

4 men's basketball players with at least 10 points in the team's 63-59 win over Framingham State College last Saturday. With last year's leading scorer Steve DeLuca '08 injured, the Judges have shifted to a more balanced attack.

6 steals for guard Jessica Chapin '10 in the women's basketball team's 57-45 win over Babson College last Saturday. Chapin also scored 23 points to lead the Judges' offensive attack. Her point and steal totals were both career-highs.

57 rebounds grabbed by the women's basketball team in its 86-62 win over Emmanuel College last Tuesday. The team's 57-44 rebounding advantage was one of the many factors that enabled the Judges to avenge last season's NCAA Tournament defeat.

14 rebounds for forward Terrell Hollins '10 in the men's basketball team's win over Framingham State College last Saturday. Eight of those 14 were offensive rebounds, and Hollins also scored 12 points to pick up his first double-double of the season.

9 years since the men's fencing team last defeated Harvard University before last Wednesday's 14-13 win in the inaugural Beanpot Tournament. Led by the saber and epee squads, the Judges picked up their first victory against the Crimson since 1998.

3 top-three finishes for James Liu '10 at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Invitational last weekend. As a team, the Judges finished in third place, behind host MIT and Tufts University.

UPCOMING GAME OF THE WEEK

MBball vs. No. 1 Amherst College

The No. 7 Judges play the defending NCAA champions Saturday at 4 p.m.

When the No. 7 Judges play top-ranked Amherst College at home Saturday, it will mark a meeting between the top two New England region teams in the d3hoops.com poll.

The Lord Jeffs lost three starters off last year's NCAA Championship team, but senior point guard Andrew Olson, a first-team all-American last season,

is back. They began the season ranked second in the nation, but ascended to the top spot after Washington University in St. Louis fell to Calvin College Nov. 17.

The Judges will have to play without injured forward Steve DeLuca '08, who remains sidelined with back and hamstring ailments, (See story, page 16).

TEAM LEADERS

MBball (points per game)

Forward Terrell Hollins '10 leads the Judges in scoring despite being third in minutes played.

Player	PPG
Terrell Hollins	16.5
Joe Coppens	12.5
Kwame Graves-Fulgham	11.2
Andre Roberson	9.7
Kevin Olson	9.2

MBball (rebounds per game)

Forward Terrell Hollins '10 is also leading the Judges in rebounding, averaging 5.5 per contest.

Player	RPG
Terrell Hollins	5.5
Joe Coppens	5
Kwame Graves-Fulgham	4.3
Stephen Hill	3.8
Kevin Olson	2.5

WBball (points per game)

Center Lauren Orlando '09 has been the top scoring threat for the Judges this season.

Player	PPG
Lauren Orlando	14.5
Jessica Chapin	13.3
Jaime Capra	9.7
Amber Strodthoff	6.3
Two tied with	4.7

WBball (rebounds per game)

Rookie forward Amber Strodthoff '11 has emerged as the Judges' top rebounder so far this season.

Player	RPG
Amber Strodthoff	7.5
Jaime Capra	7.3
Lauren Orlando	6.5
Cassidy Dadaos	4.2
Jessica Chapin	3.3

UAA STANDINGS

Men's Basketball

	UAA Conference		Overall		
	W	L	W	L	Pct.
Rochester	1	0	6	0	1.000
JUDGES	0	0	6	0	1.000
Case	0	0	6	2	.750
Washington	0	0	5	2	.714
Emory	0	0	3	3	.500
Chicago	0	0	3	3	.500
New York	0	0	1	2	.333
Carnegie Mellon	0	1	3	2	.600

Women's Basketball

	UAA Conference		Overall		
	W	L	W	L	Pct.
New York	0	0	5	0	1.000
Carnegie Mellon	0	0	5	1	.833
Chicago	0	0	5	1	.833
Emory	0	0	4	1	.800
Rochester	0	0	4	1	.800
Washington	0	0	5	2	.714
JUDGES	0	0	4	2	.667
Case	0	0	4	3	.571