



Notes from the Nest...

Game 28

**2003 Northeast-10 Tournament
First Round
#12 Franklin Pierce
at
#5 Southern Connecticut State
Sunday, March 2, 2003 • Moore Fieldhouse • 2 p.m.**

2002-2003 Schedule/Results (13-14, 8-14 NE-10)

Date	Opponent	Time/Res
Nov. 23	vs. Teikyo Post !	W 94-39
Nov. 24	vs. Mercy !	W 69-45
NOV. 26	UMASS LOWELL #	L 68-44
Dec. 4	at Bentley #	L 70-45
DEC. 7	MERRIMACK #	L 71-41
DEC. 9	LE MOYNE #	W 69-54
DEC. 21	SOUTHERN N.H. #	W 72-62
Dec. 28	at Bryant #@	L 55-50
Dec. 29	vs. Molloy @	W 69-47
Jan. 3	at Saint Anselm #	L 87-75 (OT)
Jan. 5	at Saint Michael's #	L 73-69
JAN. 8	PACE #	W 72-61
JAN. 11	SOUTHERN CONN. #	W 69-66
Jan. 14	at Saint Rose #	L 49-45 (OT)
JAN. 20	ASSUMPTION #	W 66-56
Jan. 23	at American Int'l #	L 58-45
Jan. 25	at UMass Lowell #	L 55-50
Jan. 27	at Green Mountain	W 65-49
Jan. 29	at Southern N.H. #	L 59-57
Feb. 1	at Stonehill #	L 69-53
FEB. 3	GREEN MOUNTAIN	W 88-37
FEB. 5	STONEHILL #	L 65-61
FEB. 8	BENTLEY #	L 83-63
Feb. 11	at Merrimack #	W 81-65
FEB. 15	BRYANT #	W 76-49
Feb. 19	at Assumption #	L 76-75 (OT)
FEB. 22	AMERICAN INT'L #	W 64-56

2003 Northeast-10 Tournament

March 2	at Southern Conn.	2 p.m.
March 5	at Merrimack	7 p.m.
March 7	Semifinals	6 p.m.
March 8	Championship	7 p.m.

Home: 8-4 **Road:** 2-10
Neutral: 3-0
Day: 6-6 **Night:** 7-8

Home Games in **BOLD**

! - Purple Knight Classic (Bridgeport, Conn.)
 @ - Comfort Suites Holiday Classic (Smithfield, R.I.)
 # - Northeast-10 Conference Opponents

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THE GAME: 12th-seeded Franklin Pierce makes its second-straight tournament appearance as it travels to fifth-seeded Southern Connecticut State University in first round action of the 2003 Northeast-10 Conference women's basketball tournament this afternoon. The winner of today's game advances to face fourth-seeded Merrimack College on Tuesday for quarterfinal round action at 7 p.m.

RAVENS STING YELLOW JACKETS:

Franklin Pierce clinched its second-straight Northeast-10 Tournament berth thanks to a 64-56 victory over American International College and a College of Saint Rose loss at Stonehill College last Saturday. The Ravens hit seven-of-ten shots from three-point range in canning 45.5-percent (20-44) of their shots from the field overall. Franklin Pierce also outscored the Yellow Jackets 17-3 at the stripe, including 16-2 in the second half, as AIC hit just 3-10 from the line for the game. Senior **Jennifer Webster** led the Ravens with 17 points and seven rebounds (three offensive) in her final game at the Franklin Pierce Fieldhouse. Sophomore **Patricia Lang** added 17 points, eight rebounds, four assists and three steals, while junior **Susan Ocitti** totaled 14 points, eight boards and three assists.

ON THE BENCH: Franklin Pierce Head Coach **Mark Swasey** is in his first season at the helm of the Franklin Pierce women's basketball team. He was tabbed as the 11th coach in program history in April and has led the Ravens to a 13-14 (.482) clip this season. Prior to coming to Rindge, Swasey spent three successful years at Norwich University, guiding the Lady Cadets to a 56-26 (.683) mark, three-straight GNAC Championship appearances, an NCAA Division III Tournament bid (2000) and ECAC III berth (2002). He has posted a 69-40 (.633) career record and was voted GNAC Coach of the Year last season.

AGAINST THE OWLS: This afternoon marks the 35th meeting all-time between these two programs, the fourth in postseason play. After January's victory in their lone regular season encounter, Franklin Pierce holds a 26-8 advantage in the all-time series. The Ravens have never lost to Southern Connecticut in postseason play, posting a 3-0 mark in New England Collegiate Conference Tournament action in the 1990's. The two programs last met in the postseason in the 1999 NECC semifinals as Franklin Pierce posted a 77-56 victory at the Franklin Pierce Fieldhouse. In their lone meeting this year, Franklin Pierce held on down the stretch in posting a 69-66 victory after a **Patricia Lang** lay-in with seven-seconds left in regulation lifted the Ravens. Lang led all scorers with a career-high 25 points on 10-12 shooting from the floor to go with eight rebounds and four assists. **Jennifer Webster** registered her third double-double of the season with 19 points and a career-best 15 rebounds. Rebecca Roy and Jessica Kolakosi each registered double-doubles for the Owls as Roy totaled 19 points and 12 rebounds, Kolakosi 16 points, 12 boards and three steals.

A TALE OF TWO TEAMS: Franklin Pierce has won just two games on the road this season (2-10), only one of which came against a Northeast-10 team (1-10). The Ravens lone road win against a Conference opponent was an 81-65 decision over Merrimack College on February 11 that ended an 11-game winless string on the road against Conference opposition dating back to a 70-66 triumph over the Warriors at the Volpe Complex on February 12, 2002. Southern Connecticut on the other hand has dropped just one home game (12-1) this winter. The lone loss came at the hands of top-seeded and No. 3-ranked Bentley College.

WARNING!: Franklin Pierce enters the postseason as one of the more dangerous 12 seeds since the Northeast-10 adopted the 12-team tournament format in 2000-2001. The Ravens have posted wins over six of the 11 teams above them in the standings, including four victories over regionally-ranked teams.

Probable Starters

G: Tara Bligh (7.9 ppg, 2.6 apg, .761 FT%)
G: Patricia Lang (10.5 ppg, 2.9 apg, 2.2 spg, .422 3pt%)
G: Erin Bailey (4.9 ppg, 2.4 rpg, 2.1 apg, 1.7 spg)
F: Jennifer Webster (18.4 ppg, 7.6 rpg, .764 FT%)
F: Susan Ocitti (11.3 ppg, 6.7 rpg, 2.3 apg)

Key Players Off the Bench

F: Maria Clifton (3.9 ppg, 2.9 rpg, 15 blks)
F: Heather Jacobs (4.2 ppg, 2.9 rpg, .475 FG%)
G: Kristi Powlovich (1.3 ppg, 2.1 rpg)

Northeast-10 Standings

School	NE-10	Overall
*Bentley	22-0	26-2
UMass Lowell	17-5	21-6
Stonehill	16-6	20-6
Merrimack	15-7	20-7
Southern Connecticut	14-8	19-8
Saint Michael's	12-10	17-10
Bryant	12-10	17-10
American International	11-11	15-12
Saint Anselm	11-11	16-11
Le Moyne	9-13	12-15
Assumption	8-14	12-14
Franklin Pierce	8-14	13-14
Saint Rose	6-16	8-19
Southern N.H.	3-19	7-19
Pace	1-21	4-23

* - Regular Season Champions

NE-10 Tournament Schedule

First Round

Sunday, March 2, 2 p.m.

- Game 1: #12 Franklin Pierce at #5 Southern Conn.
 Game 2: #11 Assumption at #6 Saint Michael's
 Game 3: #10 Le Moyne at #7 Bryant
 Game 4: #9 Saint Anselm at #8 American Int'l

Quarterfinals

Tuesday, March 5, 7 p.m.

- Game 5: Game 4 winner at #1 Bentley
 Game 6: Game 3 winner at #2 UMass Lowell
 Game 7: Game 2 winner at #3 Stonehill
 Game 8: Game 1 winner at #4 Merrimack

Final Four (at highest remaining seed)

Friday, March 7

- Game 9: Game 5 winner vs. Game 8 winner, 6 p.m.
 Game 10: Game 6 winner vs. Game 7 winner, 8 p.m.

Championship

Saturday, March 8, 7 p.m.

Semifinal winners

Ravens against the field

Team	2002-03	All-time
Bentley:	0-2	0-11
UMass Lowell:	0-2	15-31
Stonehill:	0-2	1-10
Merrimack:	1-1	8-4
Southern Conn.:	1-0	26-8
Saint Michael's:	0-1	8-8
Bryant:	1-1	7-5
American Int'l:	1-1	5-7
Saint Anselm:	0-1	6-22
Le Moyne:	1-0	9-7
Assumption:	1-1	6-12

Last Season...

Sixth-seeded Le Moyne College never trailed in posting a 77-55 victory over Franklin Pierce in first round action of the 2002 Northeast-10 Tournament. The Ravens trailed by just four at the intermission, but the Dolphins connected on 66.7% of their shots in the second half to outscore Franklin Pierce by a 39-21 margin. **Jennifer Webster** led the Ravens with 18 points, four rebounds and three steals. Emily Liskow totaled 13 points.

CAUTION, FLAMMABLE!: Franklin Pierce has won three of its last four games, with the lone loss an overtime setback at Assumption College. In the Ravens three wins, they have torched the nets from three-point range, shooting a combined 67.6-percent (25-37) from beyond the arc against Merrimack, Bryant and American International. In the win at Merrimack, the Ravens connected on 78.6% (11-14) from downtown, including a 5-6 three-point performance from **Jennifer Webster**. Franklin Pierce hit 70% from long distance last weekend against AIC when they canned 7-10 three balls.

ROCKY ROAD: Franklin Pierce enters Sunday's game with just two road wins over Northeast-10 Conference opponents in their last 17 such contests. This season, the Ravens are averaging 59.2 points per game on the road, compared to 65.4 points at home. Franklin Pierce is shooting 37.2-percent from the field, including 29.5% from three-point range away from the Franklin Pierce Fieldhouse, compared to 41% from the field and 33.9% from long-distance at home. The Ravens are also out-rebounding the opposition by an average of 3.3 per game at home, compared to a +1.2 on the road. Franklin Pierce is committing 1.2 more turnovers per game on the road, while forcing the opposition into 2.6 more mistakes at home.

FRESHENED RAVENS: Franklin Pierce has had seven full days since it last hit the hardwood. The Ravens are 2-2 this season following layoffs of five days or more. Franklin Pierce last came off a five-day break with a 66-56 win over Assumption on January 20 after it had dropped a 49-45 heartbreaker at Saint Rose in overtime on January 14. The Ravens fell to Bryant (six days) and Bentley (eight days) and defeated Southern New Hampshire (11 days).

WITH HONORS: Franklin Pierce senior **Jennifer Webster** and junior **Susan Ocitti** were named to the Northeast-10 Conference's weekly honor roll on Monday. Webster averaged 19 points and 7.5 rebounds in a 1-1 week for the Ravens, while Ocitti averaged 15.5 points, 9.5 rebounds, three assists and 1.5 steals.

CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS: This afternoon's game is a battle between the top two free-throw shooting teams in the Northeast-10. Southern Connecticut holds a slim advantage over Franklin Pierce as the Owls are shooting 74.6-percent from the line this season compared to 74.5% for the Ravens. The next closest team behind them is Stonehill at 71.8%. Franklin Pierce senior **Jennifer Webster** ranks ninth in the Conference converting 76.4% (120-157) of her attempts at the line. She trails Southern's Rebecca Roy (80.2%), Anabel Perdomo (78.3%) and Kim Jackle (76.5%) who occupy the seventh, eighth and ninth spots. Ten members of the Ravens team are shooting 70-percent from the line or better, with sophomore **Patricia Lang** converting 84.2% (48-57) of her attempts.

GLASS PLUS: Franklin Pierce ranks fourth in the Northeast-10 Conference behind top seeds Bentley (+7.4), Stonehill (+4.6) and UMass Lowell (+3.4) in rebound margin having out-rebounded its opposition by an average of 3.3 per contest. The Ravens are pulling down 38.3 rebounds per game (7th NE-10), while opposition is snaring 35 caroms per contest (5th). Senior **Jennifer Webster** leads the team and ranks 8th among NE-10 leaders with 7.6 rebounds per game.

STOP! THIEF!: Franklin Pierce is averaging 10.63 steals per game this season which is good for third in the Northeast-10. Sophomore **Patricia Lang's** 2.2 thefts per game leads the Ravens and ranks ninth among NE-10 leaders. She leads four Franklin Pierce players with 40-plus steals this season in **Erin Bailey** (46), **Tara Bligh** (41) and **Jennifer Webster** (40).

IF AT FIRST YOU DON'T SUCCEED, TRY AGAIN: Franklin Pierce's 13.22 offensive rebounds per game ranks fourth in the Northeast-10. Junior **Susan Ocitti** leads the effort on the offensive glass, pulling down 2.4 per game, followed by 2.0 from sophomore **Patricia Lang**.

WINS AND LOSSES: Franklin Pierce is averaging 73.4 points per game in its 13 wins this season, outscoring the opposition by an average of 20.6 points. On the flip-side, the Ravens are averaging just 55.2 points in their 14 losses, getting outscored by an average of 11.8 points per game.

1,000-POINTER: Senior forward **Jennifer Webster** became the 17th player in program history to reach the 1,000-point plateau on February 3 against Green Mountain College. She currently ranks 15th all-time at the College with 1,125 career points, while her 447 career rebounds is good for 18th in program history.

MVP, MVP: Senior **Jennifer Webster** earned her second-straight Tournament MVP honor as she led the Ravens to a third-straight Bridgeport Purple Knight Classic in November. She averaged 30.5 points, 6.5 rebounds, four assists and four steals in wins over Teikyo Post and Mercy. She shot a combined 55.3-percent (21-38) from the floor, including 47.1% (8-17) from three-point range, with an 11-13 (84.6%) effort at the line. She opened the season with a career-high 32-point effort against Teikyo Post.