

Field hockey – Judge eyes double in Sunday's Cup Final



Sam Judge (middle, red shirt) celebrates as Edinburgh University celebrate another goal

Sam Judge led Edinburgh University to their third league title in four seasons last weekend.

Now the former Scottish international wants to land the league and Scottish Cup double on Sunday 4pm.

After that, the play-offs are in her diary, but that is in the future, and Judge is focused on the clash with Milne Craig Clydesdale Western at Glasgow's National Hockey Centre today.

Clydesdale are the only team to beat the students this term and a close game is predicted.

So, the pressure is on and Paisley-born Judge's squad won the 18-fixture league title by edging the West of Scotland club by three points.

They also outscored them, finishing the regular season with 101 goals – Kirsty Abrahams, a medical student, netting the 100th goal in her last game after six years with the club – while Western collected 87.

What's more, Edinburgh only lost 13 goals in their league campaign while the Glasgow club conceded 17.

Victory would cap a big week so far for the experienced player/coach who was confirmed on Tuesday as a member of Scotland's coaching team.

The Paisley-born player won 199 caps for Scotland after making

her debut in 1999 and has played in three Commonwealth Games tournaments.

Judge, an Edinburgh-based PE teacher is determined to secure a Grand Slam of domestic titles this term. Last season they won the league and cup but lost to Dundee-based Grove Menzieshill in the play-offs.

The evergreen, 39-year-old former Hutchesons' Grammar School pupil who also played badminton for Scotland at under-16 level, said her squad were in great spirits after Saturday's 6-1 demolition of city rivals Watsonians.

Scottish international, [Amy Brodie](#), scored a hat-trick and will be a real threat and Judge, who graduated with a sports science degree from Edinburgh University and now teaches physical education at St George's School in the Capital, said: "We won 6-1 to clinch the title and we were the better team on the day.

"We started well and were 3-1 ahead at half-time and finished the job in the second-half."

On Sunday's final, she said: "Clydesdale are a team full of internationals and they are the only team to beat us this season.

"I predict a really close game. We won the league and Scottish Cup last season and want to do that again but Sunday is a test for us.

"The girls are positive and confident and looking forward to the challenge."