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match of the evening except for the heavyweight class, which was forfeited by the Broncs. The final score was 41-6.

"The team came out and showed character after two tough losses [Bloomsburg and Hofstra]," said Hangey.

Miller was named the CAA co-wrestler of the week, from Tuesday, Feb. 15, to Monday, Feb. 21. He went 3-0 last week in three CAA matches to improve to 16-1 on the season and 8-0 against CAA opponents. Miller recorded first period pins in CAA wins over Sacred Heart and Boston and won a decision over the No.2 ranked 157 pound wrestler in the CAA from Hofstra.

"Dave deserves this, it shows he is the cream of the crop," said Hangey. "He is as dangerous as anybody in the country."

The CAA Championship Tournament will be held March 4-5 at Boston University, which will advance 27 wrestlers to the NCAA Championships, March 17-19 in St. Louis.

"The post-season is what we train for the entire season. "It is all that matters, it is what motivates us," said Hangey.

Right now the team is working hard, motivated by being at its best for the CAA Championships next weekend.

"We are working hard because we have to be at our best for that match," said Taylor.

The team is looking forward to the meet and hoping to use the freshmen youth and energy to show the talent of the program. It will be looking to knock off rival defending conference champion and the perennial powerhouse Hofstra Pride.



Photos by Al Vicedo

*Sophomore Brendan Modrov practices the freestyle even though no practice was held on Wednesday. The swimmers are already focusing their attention on next season.*

## Swimming finishes in second

By Mike Caputo

The Rider swimming and diving team capped off the season with second place finishes for both the men and women's teams at the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) Championships.

Last weekend's championship competition, hosted by Loyola College, saw many first-place finishes for the teams, both individually and in relays. Rider, with a disadvantage in the number of swimmers and divers eligible for the event, managed to perform spectacularly nonetheless. Both the depleted men's and women's teams finished mere points behind Marist College, the powerhouse of swimming and diving in the MAAC.

The team headed into the competition seeking to end up nowhere short of first place. The men's team went into Baltimore to defend its 2004 season title. The women's team also sought perfection.

Both squads must be complimented for their efforts. With only 12 swimmers and two divers able to advance in the tournament, the men's team won 17 of 24 events, including all five relays.

"We didn't have as many swimmers as we would have liked," said sophomore swimmer Eric McFerin. "Everybody swam really well. That's about all we could have asked for."

Some of the men's first place finishes include junior Dan Burgess' win in the 100-free (45.82), senior Brad Lacey's victory in the 1,650-freestyle (16:01.75) and freshman Dylan Korn's one meter dive which landed him a score of 260.05. The 400-freestyle relay team of senior Sam

Engle, Burgess, McFerin and Bobby DeSandre took first place with a time of 3:04.94. Engle, one of Rider's most established swimmers, finished his final MAAC Championship by setting a new MAAC record in the 200-back (1:48.38).

"We did the best with what we had," said McFerin.

Not to be outdone, the women's squad finished strong at Loyola as well. Sophomore Lauren Urbanski won the 200-butterfly (2:05.95) and fellow sophomore Courtney Clark won the 1,650-free (17:17.19). Freshman Stephanie Cosentino placed second in the 100-free (53.68) and the 400-freestyle relay team Urbanski, Clark and Cosentino came in second with a time of 3:35.06.

"Coach Fletcher had nothing but good things to say about our performance," said McFerin. "We went out and swam our fastest and dived our best."

The Rider men's swimming and diving team finished 60 points behind Marist, whose men's team has won the MAAC 10 times in the last 11 years. The final point total was Marist (852) over Rider (792). As for the women, Marist topped Rider 731 to 689. Rider certainly cannot be disappointed with its second place finish.

After the competition, Rider received more good news. Head coach Steve Fletcher was named MAAC Men's Coach of the Year. Junior diver Chris Coles was named MAAC Male Diver of the Year.

"I'm proud," said Coles. "I've been diving well for a few seasons in a row. I need to give credit to my teammates and coaches though."

Yesterday, many team members traveled to Pittsburgh to compete in the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Championships.

championships into the outdoor season. Kucinski says that the Broncs perform much better outdoors than indoors. He attributes this characteristic to the fact that the coaching staff recruits more athletes for events that take place only in the spring.

"It is just the way we do our recruiting," he said. "There are more events outdoor than indoor, such as more throwing events. In the outdoor championships, we will be much closer, if not win it."

Although the men lost by a 65-point margin in last year's outdoor championships, the women will be in a different position as they are in defense

of their title this upcoming season. Wynter says it is a realistic goal for both the men and women to win the championships this spring.

"We look forward to an outdoor dual championship," she said. "We are motivated and will be gunning for it."

At the MAAC Indoor Track and Field Championships last weekend, head coach Bill Hodge was named the MAAC women's co-coach of the year. This follows his MAAC Women's Coach of the Year honors received after leading the Broncs to their first-ever title last spring.

"When he first came to Rider, it wasn't a serious pro-

gram at all," Fenlator said. "Ever since he came, academics have increased and the amount of [athletes] on the team has doubled."

Fenlator also said Hodge acknowledged the hard work of his entire coaching staff and that none of the success would have happened without that. Assistant coaches include Rob Pasquariello and Bob Hamer.

Both teams are primed for a successful outdoor season and Kucinski advises the opposition to watch out for the Broncs.

"Manhattan knows we are coming for them," he said. "We are real excited and pumped up. We can't wait."



## Mike Caputo Women in sports

With Rider's celebration of National Women and Girls in Sports Day (NWGSD) taking place at the women's game against first-place Marist on Sunday at 2 p.m., it is important to recognize the positive and negative impacts that Title IX has had on college athletics since its inception in 1972.

Title IX assures that females have equal privileges to men participating in organizations at educational institutions that receive federal funding. In college athletics, the proportion of men and women must be the same when it comes to things like: financial assistance, choice of teams and facility availability.

The legislation made amazing strides for women's sports by catapulting them into a new generation of athletics. Ever since the passing of Title IX, more women receive athletic scholarships and are offered many more opportunities to extend their athletic careers through college. Furthermore, women's sports continue to see more popularity each and every year. It is no coincidence that the continued enforcement of Title IX led to a surge in women's professional sports leagues, the most notable being the Women's National Basketball Association.

Unfortunately, as women's sports continue to thrive, there is a major percentage of men across the country losing their own privileges. As the saying goes, to get something, you have to lose something.

The problem that schools are facing is proportions. I will make up a school, let's call it Caputo State University (CSU). If CSU has a student population with the proportion of 60 percent female and 40 percent male, according to Title IX that means the proportion must be the same in athletics. In other words, if CSU had five teams for men and five teams for women, this might not be enough to

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broke the MAAC record in the 200-meter. That record stood for 16 years until Payne eclipsed the mark on Friday with a time of 21.76.

"It was surprising that he had such a great time," said junior Adam Kucinski.

Junior Jamall Harris won the 55-meter and placed fourth in the 200-meter, while freshman Randy Nixon finished first in the 55-meter hurdles and third in the 55-meter sprint.

The Broncs will take their frustrations from the indoor