

SEIZE THE DAY

Broncs win two straight

By Eamon Ducey

Rider wanted to get the bad taste out of its mouth from last week's frustrating loss to Hofstra in time for the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) Championship March 4-5. The Broncs were given that opportunity last Friday and Saturday when they faced Boston University and Sacred Heart University, and they seized it in impressive fashion.

On Friday night, Rider came out and showed off its abilities with three pins: sophomore Don Fisch at 141 pounds, freshman Mike Palma at 149 pounds and junior Dave Miller at 157 pounds. The Broncs went on to win five more matches including victories for freshmen T.J. Morrison, Jeff Black, Ryan Smith and Zach Cunliffe. Rider won the dual meet easily by a score of 34-14.

However, the news was not all good for the Broncs as senior Sean Jenkins is suffering through an intercostals injury, something that has plagued him throughout his career.

Jenkins may not be ready to wrestle in the upcoming championships, according to assistant coach John Hangey.

"He is actively treating it, but I am concerned that he will not be in wrestling shape," said

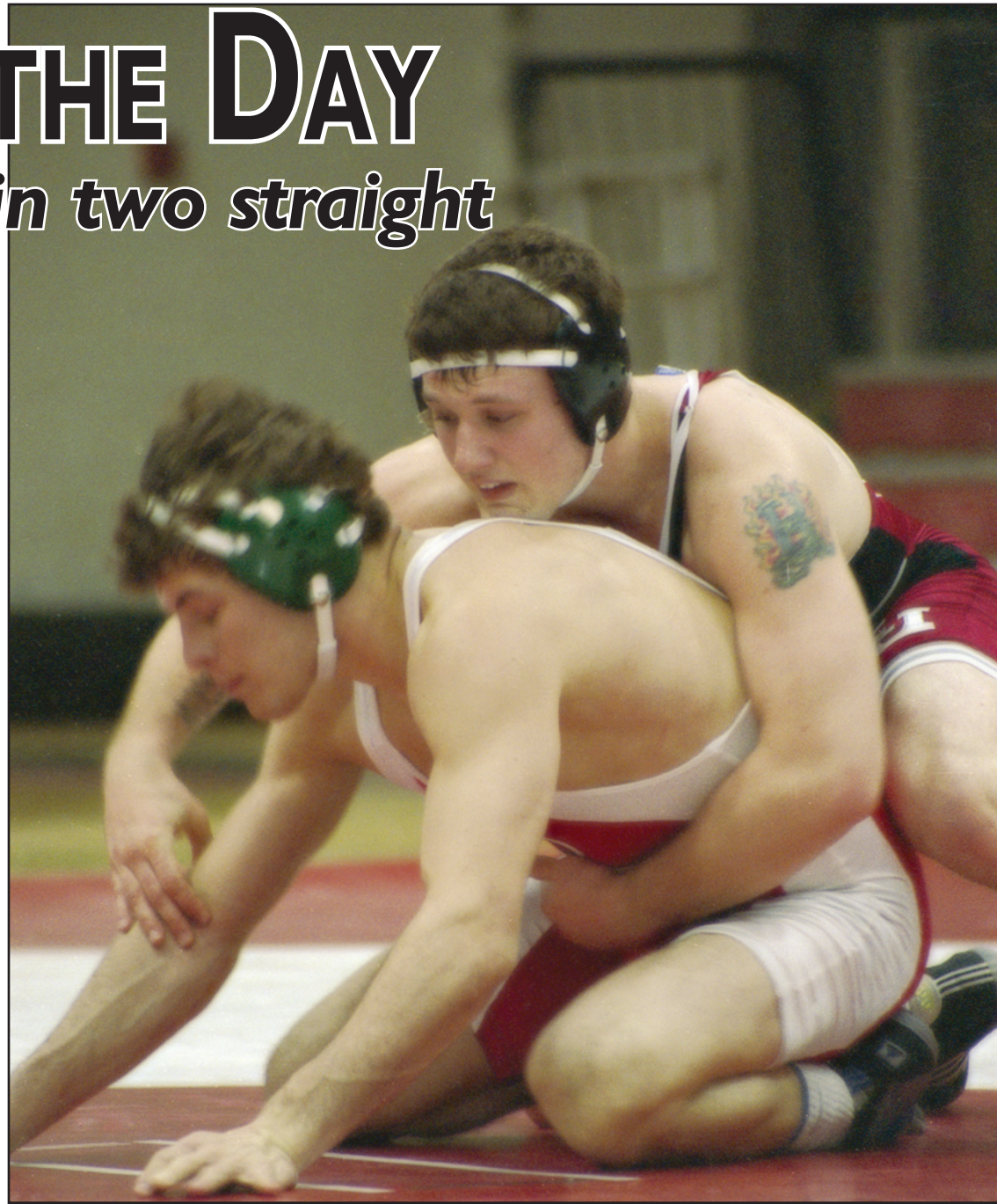


Photo by Madeleine Johnson

Sophomore Don Fisch plans his mode of attack against his Boston University opponent.

Hangey.

On the following night, the Broncs came out even hungrier for a victory as they attacked Sacred Heart from the first match. Smith started it off with a technical fall victory at 125 pounds, which was followed

by a 7-1 victory by Cunliffe in the 133 pound bracket. In the highlight of the night, Fisch, Miller and Morrison pinned their opponents quickly without fail. Fisch's came at 3:31, Miller's at 1:06 and Morrison at 1:26.

Other winners of the night for Rider were Palma, Black, sophomore Ryan Cunningham and junior Chris Marold. The team was victorious in every

See 'Seize' page 11

A simple solution to the MAAC equation

Rider hosts Niagara tomorrow with regular season title at stake

By Mike Caputo

There are currently no mathematics majors on the men's basketball team, but going into last night's game at Marist, it took such a person to figure out all the scenarios possible for the Broncs to win the regular season championship.

Although the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) has been confusing the whole season, with teams like Marist going from first to seventh place in a matter of three weeks, the Broncs did not help matters on Sunday by falling 78-69 to last place Siena at Pepsi Arena.

"Going into the game we were confident, but I guess we underestimated some of their abilities," said forward Edwin Muniz. "I wouldn't say [we were] overconfident though, I would say we underestimated them."

Rider had a very poor after-



Photo by Allen Huang

Center Steve Castleberry dunks a ball over an opposing defender earlier in the season.

noon shooting from the field as the team shot a low total of 35 percent. Point guard Jerry Johnson contributed 21 points, but was 5-for-18 from the three point line. Although the shots were not falling all day, guard

Terrance Mouton says that the defense was the main reason for the loss.

"Mainly on the defensive end [Siena] caused problems," said Mouton. "Even though we shot low percentages, we still

couldn't stop them."

According to head coach Don Harnum, Siena's field goal percentage for the season was 37 percent, on Sunday afternoon the Saints shot for 51 percent.

"We just didn't play well on offense or defense," said Harnum. "We had one of our worst shooting [games]. That combination was not good."

The loss to Siena makes things harder for the Broncs, but if a couple of events worked out for them last night, then tomorrow's televised game against Niagara (17-7, 12-4 MAAC) at Alumni Gym will be for the MAAC Regular Season Championship and the No. 1 seed in the tournament.

Harnum says that this is nothing new for his team as it was preparing for last night's game.

"The scenarios have been

See 'Solution' page 10

Falling short of a dream

By Mike Caputo

Intimidation was not a factor for the Rider men's and women's track and field teams at the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) Indoor Championships last weekend.

The intimidation factor would appear to be the Manhattan Jaspers, which entered this year's indoor championships with eight straight titles on both the men's and women's side.

In the annual meet, held at the Armory in New York, the Rider women barely finished in second by a meager 3.5 points while the men also placed second, losing by a 41-point deficit. The scores may seem to be a big difference, but both actually have something in common: the scores were the closest Rider has been to first place in the indoor program's history.

"Last year we lost by 91 points and it shows that we have grown as a team," said junior Carla Wynter.

The men also had a large turnaround, as they made up 59 points from last season.

Junior Mechea Medine (long jump) and sophomore Jazmine Fenlator (shotput) continued their consistent ways by placing first in both their events. Fenlator also gained important points by finishing third in the weight throw.

"The field events were strong," said Fenlator. "We brought in a lot of points from the beginning."

On the track, junior Carla Wynter won the 200-meter and senior Pam White was victorious in the 800-meter.

"We were pretty much covering the events equally," said Wynter. "You can't pick out just one."

Sophomore David Payne impressed once again, as he

See 'History' page 11

Rider 67
Marist 62

Last night's victory secured a chance for the Broncs to play tomorrow for a share of the regular season title.