**STAYING IN TOUCH**

A guide to Rider sports over the break

By Jared Vichko
Sports Editor

Though the majority of our campus will be having a happy holiday in the confines of their own home, the teams still have a job to do. It’s sad that fan support wanes over the break, but that’s the way it is. But for those who wish to keep abreast with Rider athletics, here’s a holiday guide.

**Men’s Basketball**

The team has gotten off to a great start at 4-1 with its only loss coming by the way of a late three-pointer in a two-point loss in Hawaii. Junior Steve Castleberry and sophomore Edwin Muniz have emerged as legitimate scoring complements alongside Jerry Johnson. Junior Andre Periera has provided a spark off the bench with his hustle. Tenacity under the boards and his all out effort have eased scoring plight of Johnson.

Mark the Calendar: 12/7 at Manhattan

The Jaspers won the MAAC Preseason Player of the Month. The Jaspers are the top team in the MAAC and look to control the conference again.

**Wrestling**

The Broncos jumped off to a fast start, placing third at the Keystone Classic. Freshman Dan Fisch was named the CAA Rookie of the Week (11/17-11/24). Senior Carmelo Marrero was named the Rider Male Athlete of the Month for November.

Mark the Calendar: 1/14 vs. Drexel

The Dragons were one of the top-ranked teams in the country. Along with Hofstra, the Broncos will be battling for the top spot in the CAA the whole season.

**Men’s Swimming and Diving**

Rider started the season strong at 5-2. Junior Sam Engle was named the Rider Male Athlete of the Month for October. The team has won its last two meets, defeating Delaware and Lehigh.

Mark the Calendar: 1/14 vs. Drexel

The team has won its last two meets, defeating Delaware and Lehigh.

**Women’s Basketball**

Well, he’s not really new. His abilities and skills are the same, if not better, but his role, his importance to the team has shifted.

When Johnson was a freshman, the team belonged to Mario Porter, but it was still evident that the spotlight would eventually shine on him. After Porter graduated, Johnson, whether he was ready to or not, was pulled into the superstar vacuum. If you look solely at his numbers from last season, Johnson did a fine job, earning First-Team All-MAAC honors after averaging 18.3 points per game. But if you look closer, there were signs of struggle.

Sure Johnson averaged 18.3 points per game, but his shooting percentage was .365, very low for a guard, whose numbers should usually be above .400. His three-point percentage was worse, shooting .292. The low percentages were a sure sign of overwork and fatigue. Many times he would take shots at inopportune times or was forced to throw up a desperation jumper to beat the shot clock. I don’t care how good you are; basketball is a team sport.

But now, in this new season, I’m Berry Berry excited. Junior Steve Castleberry has provided Rider with an intimidating presence down low. Although he flashed some Robert Reidich drops, Castleberry scored 16 points in Rider’s season opener, earning scoring plights of Porter and Johnson.

Sharing the other bulk of the offensive load has been sophomore Edwin Muniz. Muniz scored 23 points and grabbed eight rebounds in a

---

The Rider News Wishes Everyone a Happy Holiday Season

**WINTER SESSION**

**AT MIDDLESEX COUNTY COLLEGE**

EDISON, NEW JERSEY

3 weeks of Concentrated Courses
December 29, 2003 – January 16, 2004

Put your holiday break to good use!

- Earn credits in just three weeks that transfer back to your own college.
- Visit our website for course offerings AND easy registration information.

Registration – Begins November 24.

Class Schedule – Most classes meet daily December 29 through January 16 (except January 1) from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

For information:

www.middlesexcc.edu
1-888-YOU-4MCC
(1-888-966-4622)

**Lifeguards, Swim Instructors and**

**Aerobic Instructors**

needed at Princeton YMCA. Great pay and**

**flexible hours available**

7 days a week.

**Start now or in 2004.**

Call 609-497-9622 X222.

**ACT NOW! Book 11 people, get 12th trip free. Group**

**discounts for 6+**

www.springbreakdiscounts.com
or 800-838-8202

---

Jared Vichko
A new man

He appears to be a new man. The weight of the team as well as the entire campus are no longer squarely on his shoulders. Rider University, I give you the new Jerry Johnson.

Well, he’s not really new. His abilities and skills are the same, if not better, but his role, his importance to the team has shifted.

When Johnson was a freshman, the team belonged to Mario Porter, but it was still evident that the spotlight would eventually shine on him. After Porter graduated, Johnson, whether he was ready to or not, was pulled into the superstar vacuum. If you look solely at his numbers from last season, Johnson did a fine job, earning First-Team All-MAAC honors after averaging 18.3 points per game. But if you look closer, there were signs of struggle.

Sure Johnson averaged 18.3 points per game, but his shooting percentage was .365, very low for a guard, whose numbers should usually be above .400. His three-point percentage was worse, shooting .292. The low percentages were a sure sign of overwork and fatigue. Many times he would take shots at inopportune times or was forced to throw up a desperation jumper to beat the shot clock. I don’t care how good you are; basketball is a team sport.

But now, in this new season, I’m Berry Berry excited. Junior Steve Castleberry has provided Rider with an intimidating presence down low. Although he flashed some Robert Reidich drops, Castleberry scored 16 points in Rider’s season opener, earning scoring plights of Porter and Johnson.

Sharing the other bulk of the offensive load has been sophomore Edwin Muniz. Muniz scored 23 points and grabbed eight rebounds in a