By Mike Caputo
Staff Writer

Eyes on the Prize

Men take 1st, women 2nd in MAAC

By Mike Caputo
Staff Writer

It was definitely not an easy victory, as the Rider men edged out Marist by a slim total of nine points (877-868) with Loyola finishing in a distant third place with 502 points.

The final outcome came down to the freestyle relay at the end of the meet, as the Broncs had to finish in third place to become overall champions. Rider ended up with a second place finish in the relay, led by sophomore Dan Burgess, juniors Sam Engle and Bobby DeSandre and senior Brandon Pierce to secure the championship trophy.

“The meet was extremely close all the time,” said Fletcher. “We knew it was going to take one swim at a time [to be champions].”

Coles said that it was a team effort that won the title.

“There was not one event that you could put a label on,” said Coles. “Every event was equally important to the whole meet.”

“It was such a close meet all the way through,” said freshman Jeff Dixon. “If we dropped lower than we did that would have been pivotal to the outcome.”

After last weekend’s accomplishments, a portion of the RUSDT is headed to the University of Pittsburgh to take part in the Eastern College Athletic Conference.

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Highs and Lows

B-ball drops two straight

By Mike Caputo
Staff Writer

The time that college basketball fans all across the nation wait for is almost upon us: March Madness. The only madness that has been floating around the minds of Rider fans has been the recent performance of the men’s basketball team in the final stretch of the season.

Rider lost two pivotal road games earlier in the week that realistically took away any chance of the Broncs attaining a much needed first round bye in the Metro Atlantic Athletic (MAAC) Tournament that will be held in Albany next weekend.

Last night, however, the Broncs knocked off Manhattan 56-55 on a buzzer-beater by Steve Castleberry. Manhattan is one of the best teams in the MAAC and is ranked nationally among mid-majors.

In the majority of the recent losses, Rider either was on top at halftime or was within single digits of the lead and appeared to fall apart in the second half.

The team, which is recognized as being one of the top in the conference when it comes to shooting, has not been capitalizing on high percentage opportunities. Along with the poor shooting, Rider’s big men have been beat up inside the paint, namely junior center Steve Castleberry.

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