Boulden and junior designated sophomore infielder Ashley by junior catcher Carrabus, was also powered from doubles er of the weekend. The offense inning. It was her second hom sealed the game for Rider run homerun by sophomore they defeated East T ennessee Penn 9 Rider 3 Ice Hockey Women's Swimming (3-10) Ninth place out of 28 Women's Swimming (5-8) First place out of 24 Westling (12-7, 6-2 CAA) Men's Swimming (5-8) (at Buffalo) Ice Hockey 2/25 (at Vineyard, N.J.) Penn 9 Rider 3 MAAC Tournament Schedule (at Buffalo) *Taken from maacsports.com

Women's Championship and all men's games except the championship game are telecast on Madison Square Garden Network.

3/4 Women's Second Round Siena vs. Fairfield 9:15 a.m. Siena vs. Canisius 11:15 a.m. Rider vs. Niagara 1:15 p.m. Men's First Round Siena vs. Iona 4:30 p.m. Marist vs. Canisius 7 p.m. Loyola vs. Manhattan 9:30 p.m. 3/5 Women's Semifinals TBA vs. Marist 11:30 a.m. TBA vs. TBA 1:15 p.m. Men's Second Round TBA vs. St. Peter's 4:30 p.m. TBA vs. TBA 7 p.m. TBA vs. Fairfield 9:30 p.m. 3/6 Women's Championship Semifinal Winners 11 a.m. Men's Semifinals TBA vs. Niagara 2 p.m. TBA vs. TBA 4 p.m. 3/7 Men's Championship (ESPNU) Semi-final winners 9:00 p.m.

**Women's**

Women's basketball is a very competitive conference where even a small defeat can have a major impact. Rider (9-19, 6-12 MAAC) has given the fans a fun ride despite a challenging season. They have shown resilience and determination throughout the year, as evidenced by their upset over Army on March 1, which was a significant victory for the team and their fans.

Although Rider didn't achieve the conference title, they showed growth and improvement this season. The team's recent success, particularly in winning key games, has increased excitement around Rider basketball. The upcoming MAAC Tournament will be a crucial test for Rider, as they will look to prove their capabilities in a more competitive environment.

**Upset**

First year at Rider. "This is my first senior class at Rider and I couldn't ask for a better one," said Harrison. Rider (9-19, 6-12 MAAC) was seeded ninth in the MAAC Tournament this weekend at Buffalo. The team faced the No. 6 seeded Loyola Greyhounds, who trounced the Broncs at Alumni Gym a week earlier.

In a thrilling and stunning upset yesterday, the Broncs slipped past Loyola by a score of 60-58. Hower hit a three-pointer at the buzzer to win the game for the Broncs. This is nothing new for Hower as he now has four game winning shots this season.

It was the first MAAC Tournament win for the women's basketball program since 2001, and the first for this senior class. Before the Loyola game, Moore expressed confidence. "Now we know we can play with every team in the MAAC," said Moore.

**Madness**

There is one thing that all Rider students must understand: if the team completes three victories this weekend, the Broncs will be Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) champions. This will give Rider the right to represent the conference in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Tournament, where dreams truly do come true. To me, if you could compare something to sports in Disney World, the NCAA Tournament would be it.

There are all those numbers and past games aside. Who cares if Rider's Ratings Percentage Index (RPI) is 122? All a fan has to know is that the Broncs need three wins and they are in the NCAA Tournament. If Rider somehow happens to lose, then we can bring back those numbers and put them in a National Invitation Tournament (NIT) bid.

To have an outside chance at gaining an NIT bid, Rider will need to make it to at least the MAAC championship game. Losses to lowly Siena and Hartford, who have low RPI ratings, will hurt the Broncs when teams are selected for the tournament.

Rider's first challenge will be in the championship round tomorrow at 7 p.m., when it will take on the winner of the No. 7 Canisius versus No. 8 Marist first-round game tonight.

Although Rider has swept both teams, the margin of victory was only in the single digits in each meeting. Canisius will be in front of its home city and will be looking to avenge the controversial 81-74 overtime loss to Rider at Alumni Gym on Sunday, Feb. 13. Marist will also be seeking vengeance for the 67-62 loss at home to the Broncs last Thursday night. If Rider gets to the semifinals, which it hasn't since it joined the MAAC, its next opponent could be Fairfield, Manhattan or Loyola.

The Broncs will not be looking past anyone though, since the MAAC is such a competitive conference where every team has a shot to win. Regardless of the format, Rider has given the fans a fun ride.

**Bases**

Wonderful tradition here at Rider," said Davis. Davis has proven to be a successful coach at his previous stops, which include Georgia Southern, Kansas State University and Gloucester County College (GCC). He started his career with an 11-year stint at GCU, where he won four National Junior College Athletic Association Titles and eight Regional Championships. Davis has gone 137-87 at Georgia Southern, winning the 2002 conference regular season and finishing with a National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Ranking of fifth, earning Georgia Dugout Club 2002 NAIA Coach of the Year honors. Davis has compiled 571 wins with a winning percentage of .745.

The team has yet to win a game going 0-4 so far this season, losing to powerhouse schools such as Coastal Carolina and Pittsburgh but is showing some positive signs.

"It is never good to start 0-4, but we are getting a grasp on things," said Davis. "We made mistakes that we will correct, we need to utilize our time on the field." Rider's series with Army this weekend is cancelled because of snow.

Correction:

The swimming article in last week's issue should be credited to Joe Haubrich.