



RIDER UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL YEARBOOK

09
10



www.gobroncs.com



For the latest on Rider Men's Basketball, go to www.gobroncs.com

For more information:

- ▶ ***Current Season Statistics***
- ▶ ***2008-09 Box Scores/Year in Review***
- ▶ ***2008-09 Final Statistics***
- ▶ ***Rider Athletics Hall of Fame***



Table of Contents

RIDER UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL YEARBOOK



Photography: **Peter G. Borg**, *Rider University photographer*
Hugh Tsung, *Rider University photography graduate assistant*

Design: **Cathy Carter-Romero**, *director of publications and creative services*
Elizabeth Woody, *graphic designer*

Content: **Bud Focht**, *sports information director/men's basketball contact*
Brian Solomon '91, *assistant sports information director*

Table of Contents

ABOUT

Media Information/Outlets	2-3
Directions	4
Quick Facts/Bronc Briefs	4
About Rider University	5
President Mordechai Rozanski	6
Director of Athletics Don Harnum	7
Broncs in the Classroom/Academic Support	8-9
Strength and Conditioning	10-11
Broncs' Zoo/Sovereign Bank Arena	12-13
Midnight MAACness	14-15
2010 Bracketbusters	16

COACHES

Head Coach Tommy Dempsey	18-19
Associate Head Coach Kevin Baggett	20
Assistant Coach Mike Witcoskie	21
Assistant Coach Todd Shellenberger	22
Athletic Trainer Henry Minarick	22
Support Staff	23
Athletics Staff	24

PLAYERS

TV/Radio Roster	26
Roster	27
Player Profiles	28-49

OUTLOOK

Banner Year	52-53
About the MAAC	54-55
2008-09 Final Standings/All-MAAC Teams	56

OPPONENTS

2009-10 Opponent Information	58-63
------------------------------------	-------

YEAR IN REVIEW

2008-09 Game Summaries/Box Scores	66-73
2008-09 Final Statistics/Results	74

TEAM HISTORY

Career Leaders	76
Individual and Team Records	77
Rider Athletics Hall of Fame	78-81
In the Game Beyond Rider	82-83
All-Time Roster	84-85
Year-by-Year Results	86-93
Series Records vs. All Opponents	94-95
Awards	96-97

Team Picture	Inside Back Cover
2009-10 Schedule	Back Cover



Media Information

RIDER UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL YEARBOOK

2009-10

Media Information for Contests at Rider

The Rider University Office of Sports Information, located in the East Wing of the Department of Athletics in Alumni Gymnasium, extends a cordial welcome to all working media covering Rider basketball. The coverage given to Rider is greatly appreciated, and the sports information staff will do everything possible to assist you in your game duties.

Media credentials are available by contacting Bud Focht, sports information director, Rider University, 2083 Lawrenceville Road, Lawrenceville, N.J. 08648-3099 609-896-5138, fax 609-896-0341 or e-mail focht@rider.edu.

Visiting radio stations will have access to a visitor's phone line at a charge of \$100 or on a reciprocal home-and-home agreement for the primary outlet of the visiting team. Other outlets will need clearance and must make special arrangements through the Office of Sports Information.

Free parking is available in lots directly behind Alumni Gymnasium on the Rider campus. There is no reserved parking but public parking is near and sufficient.

Press row is located on the baseline in front of the stage. Seating will be marked. All media requiring a seat along press row must inform the sports information office in advance. If your name does not appear, see Bud Focht. Please do not sit in a seat with someone else's name on it.

The press room is located on the second floor of the Student Recreation Center, the building adjacent to Alumni Gym. Pre-game notes from both teams are available in the press room. Telephone lines and electronic outlets are available, as well as wireless Internet connection. Post-game interviews with coaches and players from both teams take place in the press room. **ONLY MEMBERS OF THE RESPECTIVE BASKETBALL TEAMS ARE PERMITTED IN THE LOCKER ROOMS.**

Interviews during the week with players or Coach Tommy Dempsey may be set up by calling the Office of Sports Information or, for Coach Dempsey, by contacting the basketball office at 609-896-5076 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Message to the Media

This is your copy of the 2009-2010 Rider University basketball yearbook, which we sincerely hope will make your job of covering the Broncs a little easier and more factual. If you desire additional information, please feel free to contact the Rider Office of Sports Information in Alumni Gymnasium.

Bud Focht is now in his 29th season as the Rider sports information director, and is present at all Rider home games to serve the needs of the media. Requests for interviews, feature stories, photographs, statistics and background information are welcomed.



Bud Focht
Sports Information Director



Brian Solomon '91
Assistant
Sports Information Director



Rider Basketball Radio Network
Daryl Fein - play-by-play announcer
Steve Rudenstein - color analyst

Basketball Media Outlets

RIDER UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL YEARBOOK



Newspapers

The Times of Trenton

Jim Gauger, sports editor
Mark Eckel, sports columnist
500 Perry Street, Trenton, N.J. 08605
Fax 609-989-8368
sports@njtimes.com
www.nj.com/times

Trentonian

Matt Osborne, sports editor
Ben Doody, Joe O'Gorman, sports
600 Perry Street, Trenton, N.J. 08602
Fax 609-393-6072
sports@trentonian.com
www.trentonian.com

The Star-Ledger

Colin Stephenson, Tom Licci,
Ed Barmakian, sports
One Star-Ledger Plaza, Newark, N.J. 07102
973-392-4203 Fax: 908-789-4744 or
187 Mill Lane, Mountainside, N.J. 07092
Fax 908-789-4744
sports@starledger.com
www.nj.com/starledger

Philadelphia Inquirer

Mike Jensen, college basketball
400 N. Broad Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 19101
Fax 215-854-4564
jjenks@phillynews.com
www.philly.com/inquirer

Philadelphia Daily News

College Basketball
400 N. Broad Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 19101
Fax 215-854-5524
mcloonp@phillynews.com
www.philly.com/dailynews

Bucks County Courier Times

Jeff Beideman, sports editor
8400 Route 13, Levittown, Pa. 19067
Fax 215-949-4177
www.phillyburbs.com

Burlington County Times

4284 Route 130 North
Willingboro, N.J. 08046
Fax: 609-871-0490
bctsports@yahoo.com
www.phillyburbs.com

Camden County Courier-Post

Celeste Whittaker, sports
P.O. Box 5300, Cherry Hill, N.J. 08034
Fax: 856-663-2831
cpsports@courierpostonline.com
www.courierpostonline.com

Asbury Park Press

3601 Highway 66, Neptune, N.J. 07754
732-922-6000 Fax: 732-643-4012
sports@app.com
www.app.com

USA Today

7950 Jones Branch Drive
McLean, Va. 22108-2030
703-854-6319 Fax: 703-854-2030
www.usatoday.com

Radio-Television

Comcast

John Anderson, sports director
940 Prospect Street, Trenton, N.J. 08618
609-394-3860 Fax: 609-394-6983

Madison Square Garden Network

Bob Page
4 Penn Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10121
212-465-5955 Fax: 212-465-5943

New Jersey Network

Jerry Henry, sports
25 S. Stockton Street, Trenton, N.J. 08611
609-777-5000 Fax: 609-633-2921

WZBN TV

Greg Zaroni, General Manager
Tony Cornish Jr., sports
77 Shady Lane, Trenton, N.J. 08619-1878
Fax 609-587-0011

News Channel 12 TV

George Falkowski, Brian DeNovellis, sports
450 Raritan Center Parkway
Edison, N.J. 08837
732-346-3200 Fax: 732-417-1484

107.7 FM The Bronc/Flagship Station

John Mozes, general manager
Rider University, Bart Luedeke Center
Lawrenceville, N.J. 08648-3099
609-896-5369

WJHR Radio 1040 AM

110 Locktown Road
Flemington, N.J. 08822
908-996-0172

WBCB Radio 1490 AM

200 Magnolia Road
Levittown, Pa. 19054
215-949-1490 Fax: 215-949-3671

Conference

Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC)

Jill Skotarczak, assistant commissioner/
media relations
Ed Clinton, director of media relations
712 Amboy Avenue
Edison, N.J. 08837-3554
Fax: 732-738-8366
www.maacsports.com
jill.skotarczak@maac.org
edward.clinton@maac.org

Wire Service

Associated Press

Tom Canavan, sports
50 Park Place #800
Newark, N.J. 07102-4305
201-642-0151
800 645-0091 Trenton
Fax: 609-392-3525 or
Jim O'Connell, AP
50 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10020

Campus

Rider News

Sports Editor
Rider University
Lawrenceville, N.J. 08648-3099
609-896-5256
Fax: 609-895-5696



Bronc Briefs

RIDER UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL YEARBOOK

2009-10

Directions to Rider

From New York and North Jersey:

From the New Jersey Turnpike: Take the NJ Turnpike South to Exit 7A (I-195 West). Follow I-195 West to the exit for I-295 North (Princeton). I-295 North will become I-95 South. Take Exit 7A off of I-95 South to U.S. Route 206 South (Trenton). Rider is a quarter mile on the right.

From U.S. Route 1 South: take the exit for I-95 South (sign says "To Pennsylvania"). Bear right at junction, following signs for I-95 South (Pennsylvania). Take exit 7A off of I-95 South to U.S. Route 206 South (Trenton). Rider is a quarter mile on the right.

From Pennsylvania:

Take I-95 North, straight over the Delaware River into New Jersey. Take Exit 7A off of I-95 to U.S. Route 206 South (Trenton). Rider is a quarter mile on the right.

From the Pennsylvania Turnpike: take the PA Turnpike east to Exit 28 (Philadelphia) and take U.S. Route 1 North to I-95 North. Continue on I-95 North, straight over the Delaware River into New Jersey. Take Exit 7A off of I-95 to U.S. Route 206 South (Trenton). Rider is a quarter mile on the right.

From the South:

Take I-295 North. I-295 North will become I-95 South. Continue on I-95 South and take Exit 7A off I-95 South to U.S. Route 206 South (Trenton). Rider is a quarter mile on the right.

From the East:

Take the Garden State Parkway to Exit 98 (I-195 West). Follow I-195 West to the exit for I-295 North (Princeton). I-295 North will become I-95 South. Take Exit 7A off of I-95 South to U.S. Route 206 South (Trenton). Rider is a quarter mile on the right.

Location:

Enrollment:

Founded:

Academic Units:

Colors:

Nickname:

Athletic Affiliations:

Conference:

President:

Athletic Director:

Associate Athletic Director:

Associate Athletic Director:

Assistant Athletic Director:

Faculty Athletic Representative:

Academic Support Coordinator:

Head Coach:

Alma Mater:

Associate Head Coach:

Assistant Coach:

Assistant Coach:

Director of Basketball Operations:

Strength/Conditioning Coach:

Administrative Associate:

Basketball Office Phone:

Lettermen Lost/Returning:

Starters Lost/Returning:

Head Team Physician:

Head Athletic Trainer:

Assistant Athletic Trainer

for Men's Basketball:

Home Court:

Sports Information Director/MBB Contact:

Assistant Sports Information Director:

Sports Information Administrative Associate:

Athletics Fax:

Athletics Hotline:

Athletics Home Page:

Lawrenceville, NJ

6,084 (4,857 undergraduate)

1865

College of Business Administration; College of Liberal Arts, Education, and Sciences; College of Continuing Studies; and Westminster College of the Arts

Cranberry, White, Gray

Broncs

NCAA Division I, ECAC

Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC)

Mordechai Rozanski, Ph.D.

Don Harnum 609-896-5054

Karin Torchia 609-896-5249

Greg Busch 609-895-5642

Brian Keane 609-896-5364

Dr. Jonathan Husch, Ph.D.

Sonya Hurt

Tommy Dempsey

Susquehanna '97

Kevin Baggett (Saint Joseph's '89)

Mike Witcoskie (Susquehanna '01)

Todd Shellenberger (King's College '96, TCNJ '98)

Ben Luber (Penn State '07)

Gerry Green

Joan Hedden 609-896-5076

609-896-5076

4/8

1/4

Dr. Tom Lardner

Tim Lengle, A.T.C.

Henry Minarick, A.T.C.

Alumni Gymnasium (1,650)

Bud Focht 609-896-5138 focht@rider.edu

Brian Solomon '91 609-896-5135

bsolomon@rider.edu

Lynn Rugg 609-895-5778 lrugg@rider.edu

609-896-0341

609-219-2000 #2

www.GoBroncs.com



Broncs' Zoo! The Broncs play in Alumni Gym, located on the Lawrenceville, New Jersey campus. Free public parking is available behind the gym.

About Rider University

RIDER UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL YEARBOOK



Rider's enrollment of almost 6,084 consists of approximately 4,800 full- and part-time undergraduate and more than 1,200 graduate students studying on campuses in Lawrenceville and Princeton, N.J. The University is comprised of four academic units – the College of Business Administration; the College of Liberal Arts, Education, and Sciences; the College of Continuing Studies; and Westminster College of the Arts – and offers undergraduate programs in 60 areas and graduate programs in 21 specialties.

Ninety-six percent of Rider's 244 full-time faculty hold doctoral degrees or the highest credential in their field. Rider's faculty members are award-winning teachers and researchers dedicated to excellence in teaching, learning and scholarship and 13 have been named Fulbright Scholars. Rider's classes are small and interactive with a student-faculty ratio of 13:1. Rider's curricula balance theory and practice, and emphasize learning by doing through more than 1,000 student internships or field experiences, community service learning placements, and undergraduate research fellowships. Westminster's internationally acclaimed choirs perform with world-famous orchestras and conductors in the United States and abroad, further demonstrating Rider's commitment to experiential learning.

Rider is currently ranked in the top tier of northern regional universities under the designation of "Best Universities – Master's" by *U.S. News & World Report* and has been included in the last seven editions of *The Princeton Review's* Best 371 Colleges, its list of the nation's top 10 percent of colleges and universities.

The University's many specialized accreditations attest to the quality of its academic programs. Rider is among the select business schools to have attained AACSB (Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business) accreditation and the only school in New Jersey to hold

the specialized AACSB accreditation in accounting. Elementary and secondary education programs and their applicable graduate programs on both campuses are accredited by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). The undergraduate and graduate music programs of Westminster College of the Performing Arts are accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM). In addition, Rider's graduate counseling services program in the School of Education holds the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Education Programs (CACREP) national accreditation. Rider University is regionally accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools.

Rider University is a member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division I for both men's and women's athletics. The University offers 20 varsity sports – 10 men's and 10 women's teams – with 18 vying for titles in the competitive Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC), along with field hockey in the Northeast Conference (NEC) and wrestling in the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA).



President Mordechai Rozanski

RIDER UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL YEARBOOK

2009-10



Mordechai Rozanski became Rider University's sixth president on August 1, 2003.

Guided by a comprehensive strategic plan, President Rozanski has undertaken a successful program of institutional renewal that is leading the University to the next level of excellence.

Evidence of Rider's success can be seen in its enrollment, which has increased 16 percent since 2004, in its application pool, which has increased 73 percent, in its retention, which has risen to 80 percent and in its selectivity, which has improved by 11 points in that same period. In its annual "America's Best Colleges" issue for 2010, *U.S. News & World Report* again placed Rider in the top tier of its Master's Universities – North category. Further, The Princeton Review again named the University among its "Best 371 Colleges" in the nation for 2010.

In March 2007, Rider successfully completed its Middle States re-accreditation process; in April 2007, Rider's College of Business Administration was among only 2 percent of programs worldwide, and the only one in New Jersey, to be reaccredited for its business and accounting programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels by the Association for the Advancement of Colleges and Schools of Business International (AACSB).

Rider has invested more than \$67 million since 2004 to construct new residences, to renovate existing residences, classrooms and academic buildings, and to build a new Student Recreation Center. These are in addition to a number of other academic and student life

enhancements that were completed over the past five years on both campuses. In the summer of 2009, construction was completed on a new, environmentally-friendly 150-bed residence hall on the Lawrenceville campus.

Donor support for the University continues to grow with total gifts of \$10.3 million in 2008-09, an increase of 35 percent over the previous year. Rider is currently in the "quiet phase" of its comprehensive fundraising campaign, which will feature, among other priorities, academic program enhancements, facilities projects on both campuses and endowment growth in support of scholarship needs.

President Rozanski's 35-year career in higher education includes academic leadership roles at Adelphi University, Fairleigh Dickinson University, and Wagner College. In 1993, he was selected to be the president of the University of Guelph, in Ontario, Canada, where he served until 2003. During his tenure at Guelph, President Rozanski led the university to national prominence as Canada's top-rated comprehensive university on three occasions. He also presided over two successful capital campaigns that exceeded \$100 million and increased Guelph's endowment by 300 percent.

Dr. Rozanski earned his B.A. in History from McGill University and his Ph.D. in Chinese History and Chinese-American Relations from the University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Rozanski and his wife, Bonnie, reside in the president's residence adjacent to the Rider campus in Lawrenceville, N.J.

Director of Athletics Don Harnum



RIDER UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL YEARBOOK

2009-10

Following a highly successful eight-year career as Rider's head men's basketball coach, Don Harnum is now finding success while leading the Rider Department of Athletics and the Rider University's 20 NCAA Division I programs, 355 athletes and 63 administrators, coaches and support staff.

In September 2005 Harnum was named interim director of athletics upon the retirement of Curt Blake and following a national search, President Mordechai Rozanski officially named Harnum Rider's new director of athletics in April 2006. "It was difficult to leave the sidelines," Harnum said. "But having been part of a bigger picture for the last few years I felt like I could make a positive contribution to Rider, the athletics program, and most importantly, to the lives of our more than 350 student-athletes."

Under Harnum's guidance, the semester grade point average for all Rider student-athletes in the spring 2008 was 3.06, the highest ever, and several student-athletes earned conference All-Academic honors. Rider student-athletes continue to achieve a higher semester of the efforts of academic support personnel and coaches.

Harnum has already orchestrated a number of initiatives, including the development of a new athletics logo unveiled in July 2007. He also led the creation of the new Athletics Hall of Fame display, oversaw renovations to the Alumni Gym lobby, established the annual Captain's Leadership Seminar, hired Rider's first-ever strength and conditioning coordinator and has increased corporate sponsorships and donor support over the last two years. A few of the most notable facility improvement projects completed since his appointment as director of athletics include major renovations to the Maurer Center, specifically in the areas of the swimming and diving team locker rooms and hallway, and the creation of a state-of-the-art varsity athletics strength and conditioning

center complete with new flooring, central air conditioning, recessed lighting and a sound system. Upgrades to Sonny Pittaro baseball field and the Herb & Joan Young softball field were completed in March 2008. Both facilities now have stadium seating, press boxes and irrigation systems as a result of successful fundraising efforts. In addition, a lighted turf field, which will house the Rider men's and women's soccer and field hockey programs as well as intramural and club sports, is scheduled to be completed in the spring, 2010.

Meanwhile, Harnum is working on the planning and design of a new Rider athletics arena and served as a member of the Mercer County Sports and Entertainment Commission when Rider and the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) hosted the 2006 NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Championship First and Second Rounds and 2009 NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Championship Trenton Regional at Sovereign Bank Arena. Additionally, Rider hosted the 2008 and 2009 MAAC Baseball Championships at Waterfront Park, home of the Trenton Thunder minor league baseball team, and will do so again in 2011. Harnum will also have an active role as a tournament director when Rider and the MAAC host the 2011 NCAA Division I Wrestling Championship at the Wachovia Center in Philadelphia. Harnum is also very active on the conference level and serves as a member of the MAAC Committee on Athletic Administration and the chair of the MAAC Outdoor Track and Field Committee.

A native of Selingsgrove, Pa., Harnum received his master's degree at Trenton State College where he was a graduate assistant coach. He earned his bachelor's degree at Susquehanna University.

Harnum and his wife, Janet, have two children, Abigail and Lucas.





Broncs in the Classroom

RIDER UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL YEARBOOK

2009-10



When players commit to play at Rider University, they are asked to set two important goals – to work as hard as they can on the basketball court and to work equally as hard in the classroom. Judging by the Broncs' accomplishments, the players are more than living up to their promises.

100% Graduation Rate

- Over the last two decades, every Rider men's basketball player who has completed four years of eligibility has graduated.
- Both the coaching staff and the players take just as much pride in that perfect statistic as they do in their winning percentage.

Academic Success and Monitoring

- In 2008, the men's basketball team received public recognition from the NCAA for its performance in the Academic Progress Rate. To be recognized, a program's APR must rank among the top 10 percent in the nation in its sport. The NCAA developed the Academic Progress Rate (APR) in 2004 to examine academic success on a more real-time basis. One point is awarded each term to each scholarship student-athlete who meets academic-eligibility standards and an additional point is awarded if they remain with the institution. A team's APR is the total points earned by the team at a given time divided by the total points possible.

- Under the direction of Coach Dempsey, the Rider men's basketball program has never had an academically ineligible player.
- At Rider University, the basketball coaching staff takes an active and vested interest in each player's academic affairs. The coaches sincerely believe that the success of the program begins with academic success. Because of this strong belief, the coaches take an active role in monitoring each student-athlete.
- Each assistant coach is directly responsible for monitoring three student-athletes. It is the assistant coach's responsibility to know exactly where his players stand in each class and to know when each assignment is due and when tests are approaching. This is done through constant communication with each of the players' professors and their academic advisor.
- Because of this active monitoring role, the coaches can more effectively manage each student-athlete's academic progress. In addition, by knowing the timetable of each player's class responsibilities, it is easy for the coaching staff to help guide them toward academic success.

KEVIN HICKMAN '08

Kevin Hickman '08 is a shining example of Rider's academic success. Hickman was on the MAAC All-Academic Team for three straight years (freshmen are not eligible) and when he graduated with a degree in Communication, he carried a cumulative GPA of 3.58. "From the first day you step on campus it's evident that the coaches take a personal interest in not only bringing out your best on the court, but also in the classroom," said Hickman. "The program's formula for success is having student-athletes who work hard and don't cut corners, combined with the support of the coaches, administration and other faculty around campus."

- Members of the coaching staff also have weekly individual meetings with each student-athlete. These weekly meetings are designed to allow time for the players and coaches to openly communicate and usually cover topics such as academics, family issues and social issues.

Student Transitional Educational Program (STEP)

- During the 1993-94 academic year, the Rider Department of Athletics developed the Student Transitional Educational Program (STEP) for varsity student-athletes.
- Under the direction of the coordinator for academic support, STEP provides individual and group tutoring and study halls that are mandatory for certain student-athletes depending on their GPA.
- STEP also coordinates the regular personal progress reports and monitors each student-athletes' academic progress while providing workshops on such topics as test taking, note taking and time management.

Broncs in the Classroom

RIDER UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL YEARBOOK



Grade Monitoring Procedure

- Grades are monitored twice a semester through forms completed by each professor regarding attendance, quizzes and test grades and class participation.
- Mid-term deficiencies and semester grades are monitored via report through the office of the coordinator of academic support. These reports are reviewed by the coordinator and the respective coach.
- Student-athletes meet with the coordinator of academic support on a regular basis for academic progress review and plans are devised when deficiencies have surfaced.

Tutoring

- Tutors are available to assist all student-athletes and individual and group sessions are available upon request.
- Appointments for tutorial assistance are arranged by the coordinator of academic support.

Study Hall

- Student-athletes with a GPA of 2.5 or below, as well as all freshmen, are required to attend study hall five nights per week.
- Study hall is monitored by one of the assistant coaches and takes place in the library.
- If a student-athlete is struggling in a particular class and/or needs additional help or time to prepare for a test, an assistant coach will help the student-athlete make contact with a tutor.

Bi-Weekly Coaches' Meetings

- To provide additional academic support and guidance to the student-athletes in the men's basketball program, weekly meetings between individual players and the coaching staff are a requirement.
- Every Wednesday, each player will sit down with the coaches to discuss academic progress and other important issues. These individual meetings are a great way for the players and coaches to discuss personal matters.
- The coaching staff feels these meetings are a big reason why Rider men's basketball has never had an academically ineligible player.



"It is very important to our coaching staff that each player takes pride in their academic performance," said Tommy Dempsey, head coach. "We try to identify players during the recruiting process that are driven not only to be great basketball players while they are here at Rider, but also great students."



Strength and conditioning are an important part of athletics. In order for Rider University student-athletes to realize their potential they must not only improve their skill work, but improve physically as well.

Rider Athletics has set in place a strength and conditioning program to help its student-athletes reach their full potential. The end result of this program will make each student-athlete stronger, quicker and faster while helping them avoid injuries. The program is designed to work during the preseason, in season and off season. The sets, repetitions, number of training days, rest time and total exercise can be changed to suit any team at any time of year.

"A very generous donation from Ralph and Kathy Anderson and Family has made it possible for us to provide our student-athletes and coaches with a modern, state of the art, Strength and Conditioning Center," said Rider Director of Athletics Don Harnum. "This first class facility serves all of our 20 athletic programs at a very high level and also serves as a significant recruiting tool for our coaches."

To convert the space previously used as the Rider community's fitness center into a state-of-the-art facility for all 20 of Rider's NCAA Division I varsity athletics teams, major renovations took place in 2005. Those renovations included: the removal of one wall and expansion of the facility from 2,600 to 4,200 square feet; the purchase of new equipment customized with the Rider logo; installation of a quiet and energy-efficient central air conditioning system; new flooring, a drop ceiling and lighting; improved circuit training flow from station to station; the transformation of the entrance to the facility; attractively painting all the walls in the Rider University color scheme; and strategically placing logos on the walls to identify the facility as an athletics strength and conditioning center.

This facility now rivals any mid-major strength and conditioning center in the country and will allow Rider to enhance the competitive advantage of its existing programs.

Mission

The mission of the Rider University Strength and Conditioning program is to apply the best practices and approach to training student-athletes in sport specific exercises. In addition, the program aims to maximize competitive effectiveness in each sport while lowering the incidence and severity of injuries sustained in practice or competition.

Methods

This is accomplished in a safe and effective environment utilizing various resistance training regimens and equipment. Our student-athletes use a variety of strength training techniques incorporating the areas of Olympic weightlifting and traditional weightlifting using free weights and machines. We also utilize bands, medicine balls, stability ball training and plyometrics. Another focus is the development of speed, agility and quickness with an emphasis on flexibility, nutrition and metabolic training which are unique to each sport.

In order to ensure that student-athletes are cared for and treated efficiently regarding athletic injuries or illnesses, we work closely with the Rider University Sports Medicine staff to make sure the proper modalities are in place and that exercise modifications to their workout programs are performed.

Goals

To help student-athletes reach their full physical potential and develop the characteristics of a strong work ethic, personal accountability, discipline, team work, and the pursuit of competitive success.

Facility

The Anderson Family Strength and Conditioning Center opened the fall of 2005. The 4,200 square feet facility contains:

Main Workout Area:

- Six custom signature series multi-power racks;
- Six half racks with customized oak and rubber platforms with bumper plate and bar storage for Olympic lifting, squats, and pull ups;
- Three half racks for bench press, pull up/chin up/dip attachments and weight horns;
- Three multi-3/4 racks for heavy squatting, bench press, multi-grip pull up/chin up, weight horns, and band attachments for speed training;
- Nine custom signature line 0-90 degrees dumbbell/barbell benches;
- Twelve complete sets of rubber bumper plates;
- Twelve complete sets of vinyl coated steel weight plates;
- Two sets of vinyl coated dumbbells ranging from 5 to 120 pounds;
- Fixed weight barbells and rack ranging from 20 to 100 pounds;
- Two reverse hyper machines;
- Three signature line glute hams;
- Plyo boxes, weight sleds, bands, technique boxes, step up boxes and other accessories.

Attached Workout Room:

- Promaxima dual leg extension/seated leg curl;
- Promaxima functional trainer;
- Promaxima dual hack squat/ leg press;
- Hammer Strength dual chest/back;
- Promaxima dual lat pull/seated row;
- Three Woodway treadmills;
- Three cycle ergometers;
- Two Precor elliptical machines;

Strength & Conditioning

RIDER UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL YEARBOOK



In order to realize their potential as players, the Broncs are challenged to work as hard in the weight room as they do on the court.



Strength and Conditioning Coordinator GERRY GREEN



Gerry Green came to Rider in 1987 to help establish the Rider University Fitness Center.

In 1998, Green became a certified strength and conditioning specialist from the National Strength and Conditioning Association and began training several of the Rider varsity athletic teams while serving as the director of the fitness center. Green holds other certifications from USA Weightlifting as a certified sports performance coach and is a certified specialist in speed and explosion from the National Association of Speed and Explosion.

In the fall of 2005, he became the first full-time strength and conditioning coordinator for the Rider Department of Athletics. As the coordinator, Green works with the majority of the athletic teams at Rider University.

Green graduated from West Chester State College in 1981 with a degree in Health and Physical Education. He received a Master's of Business Administration from Rider University in 1994. As a student-athlete, Green was a two-year letter winner in soccer and also lettered in track and field.

Green has published articles and has co-authored a sport specific weight training book entitled "Winning Weight Training for Girls".

He resides in Morrisville, PA with his wife Melody and sons Gerry Jr. and Timothy and daughter Kaitlin.



Welcome to the Broncs' Zoo

RIDER UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL YEARBOOK

2009-10

“They call this place the BRONCS’ ZOO and you can see why it is murder to play in this place.” - Ed Murphy, ESPN



“When the Broncs’ Zoo gets involved, there is no better atmosphere anywhere. This place has been a tremendous home court advantage for Rider over the years. The atmosphere, plus the fact that Rider has been very good, makes it very difficult for an opponent to win here.”

– Rob Kennedy, CN8 Television Analyst



Welcome to the Broncs' Zoo



RIDER UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL YEARBOOK

2009-10



Eastern Basketball magazine ranked Alumni Gym the second best “off Broadway Pit” on the East Coast, behind Duke’s Cameron Indoor Stadium.





Midnight MAACness

RIDER UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL YEARBOOK

2009-10

Each year the Broncs mark the official beginning of the basketball season in a big way—with the annual Midnight MAACness celebration. Featuring a dunk contest, lots of music and huge crowds, Midnight MAACness is another reason they call Alumni Gym the Broncs' Zoo—it's crazy!



Midnight MAACness

RIDER UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL YEARBOOK



2009-10



“Midnight MAACness is a great way to kick off our season,” said Head Coach Tommy Dempsey. “It gets everyone involved in the spirit that makes this place the Bronx’ Zoo and it’s that spirit that makes this a tough place for our opponents. The excitement of Midnight MAACness shows our players they have tremendous support from the campus community and it gives Rider students a sense that they are part of our team—and they are. This is truly a chance to celebrate the start of the season.”



BRACKETBUSTERS

February 19-20, 2010

**98
TEAMS
14
CONFERENCES
2
DAYS
OF
GREAT
COLLEGE
BASKETBALL
ACTION!**

A total of 98 teams – representing 14 collegiate athletic conferences – will compete in the two-day event (February 19-20), with the entire BracketBusters slate of matchups to be announced in early February.

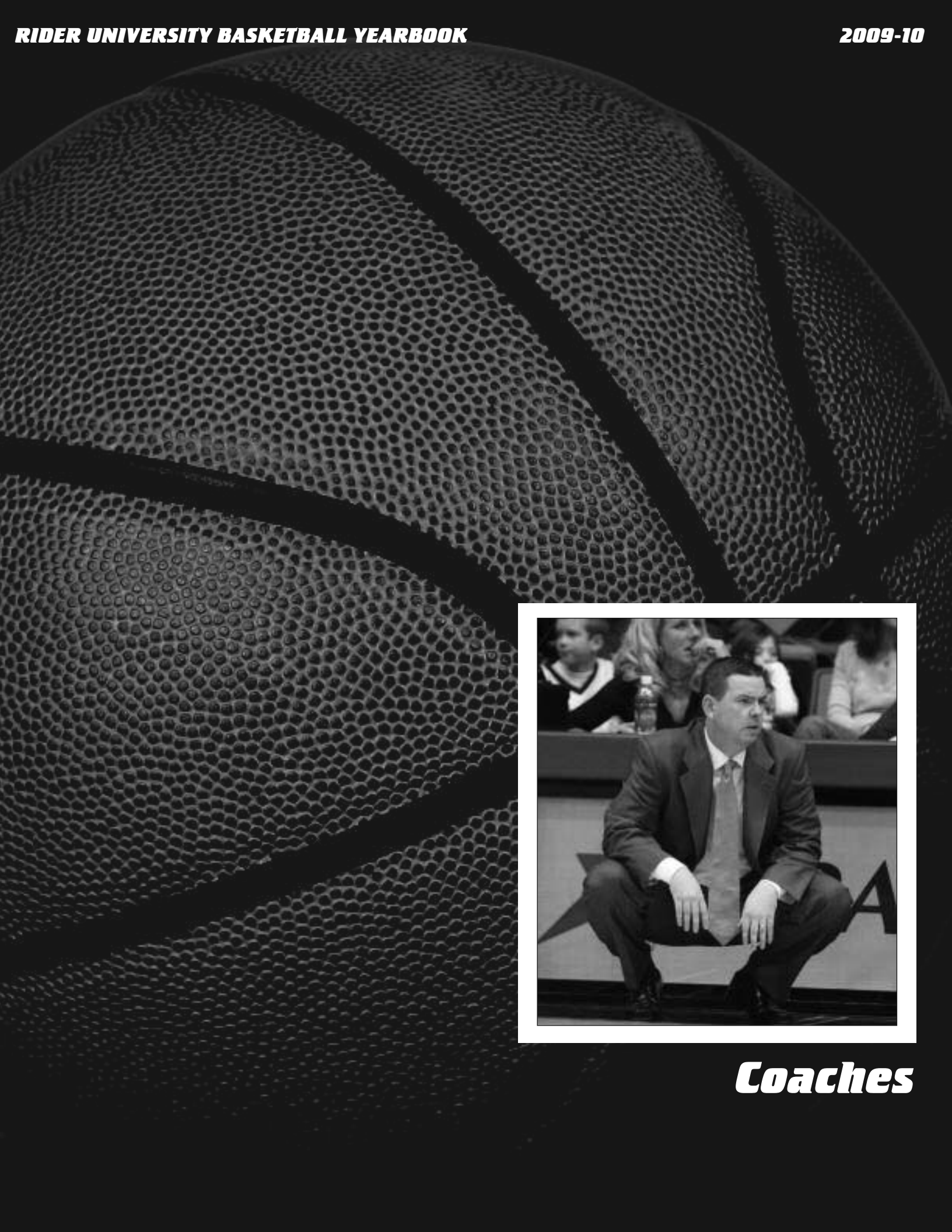
Of the 49 games, a minimum of 11 will be televised, with six contests on ESPN2. An additional five games will be aired on ESPNU – ESPN's collegiate sports network which launched on March 4, 2005. Please consult your local listings for start times.

HOME TEAMS: Vermont, Montana State, Gardner-Webb, Radford, Cal State Fullerton, Cal State Northridge, Pacific, UC Irvine, UC Riverside, Delaware, George Mason, Georgia State, Hofstra, Northeastern, Virginia Commonwealth, Butler, Cleveland State, Detroit, Green Bay, Milwaukee, Canisius, Iona, Loyola (Md.), Manhattan, Saint Peter's, Ball State, Bowling Green State, Central Michigan, Kent State, Miami (Ohio), Ohio, Bradley, Creighton, Evansville, Illinois State, Missouri State, UNI, Southern Illinois, Austin Peay, Eastern Illinois, Eastern Kentucky, Jacksonville State, Murray State, Appalachian State, Boise State, Fresno State, Hawaii, Idaho and Utah State.

AWAY TEAMS: Boston, New Hampshire, Presbyterian, Winthrop, Cal Poly, Long Beach State, UC Davis, UC Santa Barbara, Drexel, James Madison, Old Dominion, Towson, UNC Wilmington, William & Mary, Illinois-Chicago, Loyola (Ill.), Valparaiso, Wright State, Youngstown State, Fairfield, Marist, Niagara, Rider, Siena, Akron, Buffalo, Eastern Michigan, Northern Illinois, Toledo, Western Michigan, Drake, Indiana State, Wichita State, Morgan State, South Carolina State, Morehead State, Southeast Missouri State, Southern Illinois-Edwardsville, Tennessee-Martin, Tennessee State, Tennessee Tech, College of Charleston, Elon, Western Carolina, Oral Roberts, Louisiana Tech, Nevada, New Mexico State and San Jose State.



ESPN2



Coaches



Head Coach Tommy Dempsey

RIDER UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL YEARBOOK

2009-10

Tommy Dempsey has recorded 58 wins in his three years as the Rider University head coach, the most wins in program history over a three year period.

Last season Dempsey, who now owns the team record for wins in a season at three different colleges, led Rider to postseason play for the second consecutive season in the CollegeBasketballInsider.com Tournament, produced another Metropolitan Basketball Writers Association All-Met selection (Ryan Thompson) and produced another Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference All-Rookie Team member (Novar Gadson).

In 2008 Dempsey was named MAAC Coach of the Year and was also honored with the Peter A. Carlisimo Award as the Division I Metropolitan Basketball Writers Association Coach of the Year.

Dempsey took a team with eight wins in 2006 and led it to 16 wins in 2007 and to a program-best 23 wins in 2008. In six seasons as a college head coach Dempsey has compiled an overall record of 146-51 (.769).

On an interim basis, Dempsey returned to the head coaching ranks in 2005-06, where he had experienced nothing but success in the past. That year the Broncos had four freshmen and a sophomore among the top eight players on the team and produced an All-MAAC selection (Jason Thompson) and a MAAC All-Rookie Team member (Lamar Johnson).

In 2006-07, his first full year as the head coach, Dempsey's team doubled its win total from the previous season and was the only Division I team in New Jersey (out of eight) to finish with a winning record. It was Rider's sixth winning season in eight years. His first squad as the head coach produced a first team All-MAAC se-



lection and MAAC Defensive Player of the Year (Thompson).

In 2007-08 Dempsey's team earned the first postseason berth for Rider in ten years when the Broncos competed in the inaugural College Basketball Invitational tournament, losing at Old Dominion 68-65. The 2007-08 Broncos were one of the most celebrated teams in program history, winning a MAAC regular season championship, establishing a program-best 23 wins and culminating with Jason Thompson becoming the 12th pick by the Sacramento Kings in the NBA draft.

As a head coach prior to Rider, Dempsey took two different institutions to the NJCAA Final Four, including a trip to the National Championship game in 2003. In three years as head

coach on the junior college level, Dempsey compiled an 88-12 record including a perfect 46-0 record at home and was twice a finalist for National Coach of the Year honors.

At Lackawanna College, Dempsey reached the Division II National Title Game in 2003 and was the Region 19 and District 9 Coach of the Year, taking a team that was not in the preseason top 40 and finishing National Runner-Up with a school-record 33 wins.

Dempsey spent the 2000-01 and 2001-02 seasons at Keystone College. He was named the Eastern Pennsylvania Collegiate Conference Coach of the Year in 2001 after taking over an 11-12 team and winning 26 games and a conference championship in his first season. In 2001-02 Dempsey's team again won the conference championship, with Dempsey earning Region 19 and District 6 Coach of the Year honors while leading Keystone to the NJCAA Division III Final four and a team-record 29 wins. Dempsey left Keystone after compiling a 55-8 record in two seasons.

Dempsey began his head coaching career at age 24 at Wyoming Seminary Preparatory School in Kingston, Pa., in 1999. Dempsey is a former assistant coach to Frank Marcinek at Susquehanna University where he was a former player. Dempsey was a three-year letter-winner in basketball and team captain in 1996-97 at Susquehanna.

Dempsey received his bachelor's degree from Susquehanna University and master's degree from Bloomsburg University. Dempsey came to Rider from Scranton, Pa. with his wife Amy and children Tommy (9), Emily (8) Brian (2) and Tyler (infant). He currently resides in Langhorne, Pa.



Q & A with Tommy Dempsey



RIDER UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL YEARBOOK

2009-10

Q What does this team need to win a MAAC Championship?

We need to build on our experiences from the past two seasons. We have been so close the past two years so I feel that has really motivated our players to do everything possible as we prepare for this season to make sure we don't have to feel that disappointment of falling short of our goal of playing in the NCAA Tournament. This team is older now and very focused. The two things we have focused on to become an NCAA Tournament team in 2010 are defense and chemistry. Those were two areas where our staff felt we came up short last season. If we come together as a group and buy into becoming a strong defensive unit we have a chance.

Q Your roster has a strong Philadelphia presence. Is that by coincidence or design?

A little bit of both. We never try to limit ourselves to any particular geographic area when it comes to recruiting but we are located just 40 minutes from Philadelphia so this is a great location for a player from Philadelphia that is hoping to get out of the city and go away to college, while at the same time not go too far from home. I am also a big fan of the type of basketball that is played in Philadelphia. I like tough kids that take pride in winning and are willing to work hard at becoming great players. While we do have several players from Philly, we also have

players from all over. We really think it is important to recruit well in our home state of New Jersey and our roster has a strong Jersey presence. Our roster also has a player from as far as Orlando, Florida (Jonathan Thompson) and two international players (Justin Robinson- Great Britain and Dara Nd-Ezuma- Nigeria). We have a great amount of diversity on our roster right now and I think that is great!

Q What was your feeling seeing Jason Thompson '08 playing, and playing well, in the NBA last year?

It was exhausting at times because I tried to watch almost every game and because Sacramento is on the West Coast it made for a lot of long nights. But above all I was proud of him. I was happy for him, for his family, watching his dream come true. Now we have to get beyond that. In the beginning you are just happy that he's there. Now the focus is on him being great while he's there. I was proud of our staff, after all of the work we put in to help him develop as a player. There were a lot of emotions, especially the first several games. His first game against Minnesota he had 18 (points) and 10 (rebounds). It was like 'Wow.' All of a sudden, a month into the season he's starting. It was a fun source of pride. Now as he gets on to year two, it is more like 'how good could he be?' not being satisfied with being there. Now he'll do everything he can to become an all-star. I know he'll work at that.

Q You have won 58 games over the last three years, the most ever at Rider. Can that success continue?

I think that it can and I hope that it will. We've put ourselves in a position where we have a lot of good players in the program. We finally have the depth that we were looking for. We've had good players in the past couple of years but I think now, through recruiting, we've added depth and competition for jobs on a daily basis. We don't know who is going to start this year, which is good. The past couple of years as we got into the season we pretty much knew who needed to play, who needed to start. Now I have eight or nine guys who could potentially compete for starting jobs. So I think we are in good position for sustained success. Each class has depth and Ryan is our only senior who plays a significant amount of minutes. One of the hardest things to do on the Mid-Major level is to be good over a long period of time. Programs have struggled with that. Hopefully we have the stability right now, with good players and a coaching staff that has been together for four years. Everybody is on the same page. A lot of times the stability of the coaching staff is a big ingredient in sustaining success.



Dempsey's Coaching Career

Season	School	Position	Record	Postseason
1997-98	Susquehanna University	Assistant Coach	15-10	
1998-99	Susquehanna University	Assistant Coach	14-9	
1999-00	Wyoming Seminary High School	Head Coach	13-10	
2000-01	Keystone College	Head Coach	26-4	EPCC Champions
2001-02	Keystone College	Head Coach	29-4	NJCAA Final Four
2002-03	Lackawanna College	Head Coach	33-4	NJCAA National Runner-up
2003-04	Rider University	Assistant Coach	17-14	
2004-05	Rider University	Assistant Coach	19-11	MAAC Champions
2005-06	Rider University	Interim Head Coach	8-20	
2006-07	Rider University	Head Coach	16-15	MAAC quarter finals
2007-08	Rider University	Head Coach	23-11	MAAC Regular Season Champions, CBI Tournament
2008-09	Rider University	Head Coach	19-13	CIT



Q & A with Tommy Dempsey

RIDER UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL YEARBOOK

2009-10

Q Your teams were 22-4 in Alumni Gym over the last two seasons. What is it like playing in the Broncs' Zoo?

It has been a tremendous home court advantage. I don't think it is a place where anybody looks forward to coming to play. We talk to the players a lot about defending our home court, taking a lot of pride in the building. This is home; this is every day, play in the hot summer nights. We take the approach that when teams come in here they are going to have a long night. Our student support has really helped that. The fact that our students are behind the program and really support us at the games has created a really tough environment for the road team.

Q What are the most important attributes you look for in a prospective player?

Toughness. I want guys who know how to compete, that are willing to work at their game and we look for guys from winning programs. Along with the athleticism and skill level that everybody is looking for, but when you are trying to decide over one player or another, what normally wins out for me is a tough kid who likes to compete and knows how to win. There are so many kids that can play, but at the end of the day normally the kids that have won, win. They know how to close games, finish games, make a big shot, want to take a big shot. If you get enough of those players in your program it will help you win a lot of games late. At our level so many of the games are tied with five minutes to go because there is so much parity. Sometimes the difference in winning 20 games and winning 15 games is if your players know how to win or not. One of the key ingredients we've had over the last couple of years is we've been very good closing games.

Q Every year you've brought in a recruit who made the MAAC All-Rookie team. How does this year's freshman class measure up to that?

I think it is a strong class, a talented group that hopefully has another All-Rookie team member in it. One thing that we needed to do was add depth. We have a lot of key players back (four starters, four other letterwinners), all with extensive playing experience, so to get on the court as



a freshman this year you better be pretty good. We went after kids who could come in and contribute and give us the depth we were missing last year.

Q How would you describe yourself as a coach?

I would describe myself as a players' coach. The big word for me is accountability. If guys take care of business in the classroom, socially, and have a great work ethic, I get along great with those players. As long as they are disciplined, take care of business on the court and off, then we have great relationships. My players know that if they do the schoolwork, handle themselves well socially and are driven in here, they have a lot of fun playing for me.

Q What are you most proud of in your life, on or off the court?

To me it really starts with family. My immediate family, not only my wife and children, but my parents, my sisters, aunts and uncles. I've always had a great support system. On any given night you can look behind the bench and see a lot of Dempsey's and a lot of friends from home. That

is something that as you go through this, it is a good feeling that you are not going through this alone. They live and die with every win and loss, every missed free throw. That people I am close to are experiencing this with me. I also take a lot of pride in watching the players put on their cap and gown. After all of the sacrifices that they've made, and now in May, you see them better people for it. That is what makes me go.

Q When you are not doing something that is basketball or family related, what are you doing?

There is only one thing in my life outside of family and basketball that I try and carve out time for and it is golf. I love to play golf. It is the one selfish thing that I do in my life because unfortunately it takes so much time to play golf. It also gives me a great avenue to get together with my old friends. There is nothing I enjoy more in the off season than getting together with my friends from home and competing on the golf course. Those matches can get extremely heated and I enjoy that a great deal. I talk a lot of smack out there so everybody always wants to beat me.

Associate Head Coach Kevin Baggett

Kevin Baggett returns for his fourth season at Rider, second as Associate Head Coach after serving two seasons as an assistant coach on the Rider staff. Baggett is entering his 14th year as a Division I assistant coach.

"Kevin has been a huge asset to our entire basketball program during the past three seasons," said Head Coach Tommy Dempsey. "I want assistants that are striving to be head coaches. Kevin is well rounded and I believe he will eventually be a head coach at the college level."

Baggett works primarily with the Rider post players, helping the Broncs lead the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference in rebounding. Two seasons ago, one of his pupils, Jason Thompson, was the 12th player selected in the NBA Draft.

At Rider, Baggett made an immediate impact on the recruiting trails by recruiting Mike Ringgold, who went on to earn Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference All-Rookie team and collegeinsider.com Mid-major All-Freshman team honors.

Baggett is a former Saint Joseph's University player and standout performer at the scholastic level in New Jersey. A 2006 inductee into the South Jersey Hall of Fame, Baggett hails from Burlington and has coached at Cinnaminson High School. He was a member of the Hawks' 1985-86 team that compiled a 26-6 record and reached the second round of the NCAA Tournament. He received his bachelor's degree in marketing with a minor in sociology from Saint Joseph's in June, 1989.

Baggett came to Rider from the University of Maryland Baltimore County, where he served as assistant coach from 2004-06. At UMBC Baggett recruited an America East All-Rookie Team member who went on to earn First Team All-Conference honors the past three seasons, as well as a pair of transfers from the Colonial Athletic Association who went on to earn All-America East honors. Six of his recruits were on the 2008 NCAA Tournament UMBC squad with three of the recent graduates now playing professionally overseas.

Baggett has also served as an assistant coach at James Madison, Howard, Western Kentucky and Coastal Carolina.

At JMU, Baggett coached four players who are currently playing professionally overseas and two of his recruits went on to score 1,000 career points.

The 2002 Howard University team compiled the best record (18-13) in 20 years, finishing as conference runner-up. Baggett recruited a two-time All-Conference player while at Howard.

At Western Kentucky he helped the Hilltoppers reach the conference championship game in 1999 while coaching a future NBA post player. Western Kentucky went to the NCAA Tournament in 2001, 2002 and 2003 with his recruits.

At Coastal Carolina Baggett coached two players who are currently playing in Europe.

"I am looking forward to the continued opportunity to work with Coach Dempsey," Baggett said. "We are striving to build on the success of the past seasons and our goal is to bring a conference championship home to Rider University."





Assistant Coach Mike Witcoskie

Mike Witcoskie returns for his fourth season as an assistant coach on the Rider University men's basketball staff.

"Mike has really established himself here in his first three years," said Head Coach Tommy Dempsey. "He has helped our current players develop on the court, in the classroom, and has done a great job getting our players out in the community. Mike also is making an impact on the recruiting trails, helping us land a couple key recruits since joining our staff. I like our assistants to be well rounded and Mike has embraced that philosophy during his first three seasons."

Witcoskie's duties include off-campus recruiting, post-player development, game scouting, practice and game coaching and coordinating the team's academic program.

Witcoskie was instrumental in bringing the last two incoming classes to campus. The current sophomore class was ranked second in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference according to Hoopscooponline.com. Rider's 2012 class includes a Top 200 recruit and two of the top five recruits in the MAAC (Hoopscooponline.com). According to Hoopscooponline.com the current freshman class is ranked fourth in the MAAC.

"Wit" helped develop Jason Thompson into an NBA Lottery Pick in 2008 as well as the MAAC Player of the Year, Defensive Player of the Year, MET Player of the Year and a CollegeInsider.com All-America Team member. In the same year, Mike Ringgold earned recognition as a MAAC All-Rookie Team member and a CollegeInsider.com All-Freshman Team member. In 2009 Novar Gadson was honored as the CollegeInsider.com Mid Major Freshman of the Year and was a member of the MAAC All-Rookie Team.

As coordinator of the academic program, Witcoskie twice helped Rider receive national recognition for its Academic Progress Rate (APR). In the past two years, the Broncs have achieved the highest and third highest grade point average in the history of the program.

"I've greatly enjoyed my first three years here at Rider," Witcoskie said. "We have a very good team and we are excited to meet the expectations

we have set for ourselves this year. There is a special feeling on campus and you can tell that the entire University is behind us, from the administration to the students."

In his first two years Witcoskie served as a camp director, managed team travel, film exchange, and the recruiting data base along with every day activities such as workouts and practice schedules.

Witcoskie is a 2001 graduate of Susquehanna University, where he graduated Magna Cum Laude with a degree in Biology. Witcoskie was the Susquehanna men's basketball team captain as a senior.

"Mike played for me when I was an assistant coach at Susquehanna," Dempsey said. "He was a very hard worker when he was a player and he has attacked the coaching profession with the same work ethic that made him successful on the court."

Witcoskie came to Rider already with several years of coaching experience. At Wilkes University, Witcoskie was a full-time assistant for two years, both years reaching the Middle Atlantic Conference playoffs. He helped coach the Colonels to the Freedom Conference Championship Game in the MAC.

At Wilkes, Witcoskie was the recruiting coordinator, oversaw team defense, developed scouting reports, was involved in practice and game coaching, individual development of post players and also served as the intramural director.

During the 2003-04 campaign, Witcoskie served as an assistant coach at Susquehanna, where he was involved in every aspect of the program. Witcoskie's responsibilities included recruiting, scouting, practice and game coaching and the individual development of the Crusaders guards. He also implemented a new weight training program. While at Susquehanna, Witcoskie also served as the junior varsity basketball coach and was the assistant camp director.

Witcoskie is a 1997 graduate of Palmyra High School in Palmyra, Pa., and now resides in Ewing with his wife, the former Megan Fisher, a kindergarten teacher in South Brunswick.



Coaching Staff

RIDER UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL YEARBOOK



Assistant Coach Todd Shellenberger



Todd Shellenberger returns for his second year as an assistant coach on the Rider University men's basketball staff. Prior to coming to Rider, Shellenberger was the head boy's basketball coach at Notre Dame High School from 2000-2008. Shellenberger, 35, already has fifteen years of coaching experience, including seven years as an assistant at the collegiate level and eight as a head coach.

"I feel very fortunate that Todd has decided to become part of our staff," said Dempsey upon hiring Shellenberger in 2008. "He has successful head coaching experience that will benefit our staff and our players. It is nice to have another coach on your bench who has been a head coach."

At Rider, Shellenberger's duties include off-campus recruiting, individual development of the Bronco guards, game scouting, directing summer camps, film exchange and monitoring the team's academic progress. Last fall, the men's basketball team received national recognition for its Academic Progress Rate (APR).

While at Notre Dame, Shellenberger's teams had a program best 139 wins over an eight year period, averaging 17 wins per season. His squads won 71 percent of their conference games and advanced to the NJSIAA South Jersey semifinals four times. Three of his teams had 20 or more win seasons (2002, 2004 and 2008), the first three in school history since 1957, including a school-record 22 wins in 2002. At Notre Dame, Shellenberger also served as the school's director of institutional advancement, overseeing all development initiatives, annual giving, fundraising events and alumni relations.

Shellenberger served two stints as an assistant coach at The College of New Jersey, 1996-98 and 1999-2000, where he helped guide the Lions to a three year record of 50-25. In 1998, the Lions captured the New Jersey Athletic Conference Championship and advanced to the second round of the Division III NCAA Tournament. That year's squad finished 22-5 and had a national ranking as high as fourth before finishing eleventh in the year's final national poll. While at TCNJ, Shellenberger helped develop four all-conference players and was responsible for recruiting, guard development, game scheduling, practice/game planning and advanced scouting.

Shellenberger served as a volunteer administrative assistant coach at Rider under former head coach and current athletic director Don Harnum during the 1998-99 season. He was also an assistant coach at his alma mater, King's College, from 1994 to 1996. His recruiting efforts at King's helped land a Pennsylvania third team all-state player, the first high school player to attend King's after receiving all-state recognition.

Shellenberger is a 1996 graduate of King's College and he earned his master's degree from The College of New Jersey in 1998. He and his wife, Nicole, reside in Hamilton, NJ with their children Noah (5), Sophie (3) and Cal (1).





Coaching Staff

RIDER UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL YEARBOOK

2009-10

Director of Basketball Operations Ben Luber

Ben Luber begins his career in collegiate athletics this season as the director of basketball operations for the Rider Broncos.

"We are excited to add Ben to our staff," said Rider Head Coach Tommy Dempsey. "Ben was an outstanding player and I expect he will have a very bright future in the coaching profession."

Luber is a former Penn State and Council Rock North High School star. A point guard, Luber graduated from Penn State University in 2007 ranked among the top 10 in Nittany Lion history in both assists and steals, serving as team captain as a junior and senior. As a junior he helped PSU advance to the National Invitation Tournament as the team's Most Improved Player. As a freshman he was an Honorable Mention

Freshman All-America selection by *Street & Smith* magazine.

"Rider University is a program that is dedicated to its academic and athletic excellence," said Luber, who also serves as a coach at the Ben Luber Basketball Academy and played two seasons professionally in Israel and Iceland. "I feel very fortunate to join a coaching staff that is truly passionate about the game of basketball."

At Council Rock North Luber earned First Team All-State honors in 2003, setting school records for points (1,969), assists (562) and steals (236). He led the Indians to the Pennsylvania Sweet 16 as the Suburban One League Champions. He was twice the Bucks County Player of the Year.

Luber resides in Richboro, Pa.



Assistant Athletic Trainer Henry Minarick

Henry Minarick begins his ninth season as the Rider University assistant athletic trainer for men's basketball. A 1993 graduate of Montclair State College, Minarick earned a master's degree in Teaching from Montclair State in 2000.

A certified athletic trainer since 1993 and a certified strength and conditioning specialist since 1995, Minarick was a student athletic trainer at Montclair State as an undergraduate

and served as a graduate assistant in the Montclair State athletic training department while obtaining his master's degree.

At Rider, Minarick works in injury prevention with pre-practice and pre-game conditioning as well as rehabilitation and treating injuries.

"Henry has a great working relationship with the coaching staff," said Head Coach Tommy Dempsey. "Whenever we have to make a deci-

sion on the welfare of a player for a practice or game, Henry always makes the final decision. He has earned the trust of the coaches and the players."

A native of Lyndhurst, N.J., Minarick is a 1986 graduate of Queen of Peace High School where he earned two varsity letters in football. He currently resides in Lawrenceville.





Players



TV/Radio Roster

RIDER UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL YEARBOOK

2009-10



2

Junior
F
6-7
215

Mike Ringgold
Philadelphia, Pa.



3

Junior
G
6-1
210

Jhamar Youngblood
Elizabeth, N.J.



5

Senior
G
6-6
220

Ryan Thompson
Mt. Laurel, N.J.



10

Freshman
G
6-0
160

Carl Johnson
Philadelphia, Pa.



12

Freshman
G
6-4
190

Jonathon Thompson
Orlando, Fla.



14

Junior
G
6-1
195

Patrick Mansell
Cheltenham, Pa.



15

Junior
G
6-2
190

Justin Robinson
London, England



21

Freshman
C
6-10
215

Dera Nd-Ezuma
Nigeria



23

Sophomore
G/F
6-7
230

Novar Gadson
Philadelphia, Pa.



25

Sophomore
F
6-8
220

Jermaine Jackson
Reading, Pa.



31

Sophomore
F
6-7
205

Brandon Penn
Philadelphia, Pa.



33

Senior
C/F
6-9
255

Robbie Myers
Mountaintop, Pa.

Pronunciation Guide

#2 RING gold
#14 man SELL
#34 NO var

Roster



RIDER UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL YEARBOOK

2009-10

ALPHABETICAL

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Hometown (Previous School)
23	* Novar Gadson	G	6-7	230	So.	Philadelphia, Pa. (John Bartram)
25	* Jermaine Jackson	F	6-8	220	So.	Reading, Pa. (Reading)
10	Carl Johnson	G	6-0	160	Fr.	Philadelphia, Pa. (St. Thomas More) (Lower Merion)
14	* Patrick Mansell	G	6-1	195	Jr.	Laverock, Pa. (Cheltenham)
0	#DeShawn Mitchell	G	6-5	205	So.	Piscataway, N.J. (UNLV) (Oak Hill)
33	* Robbie Myers	F/C	6-9	255	Sr.	Mountaintop, Pa. (Crestwood)
21	Dera Nd-Ezuma	C	6-10	215	Fr.	Nigeria (Life Center)
31	* Brandon Penn	F	6-7	205	So.	Philadelphia, Pa. (Paul Robeson)
2	* Mike Ringgold	F	6-7	215	Jr.	Philadelphia, Pa. (Winchendon Mass. Prep) (Roman Catholic)
15	* Justin Robinson	G	6-2	190	Jr.	London, England (Blair Academy)
12	Jonathon Thompson	G	6-4	190	Fr.	Orlando, Fla. (Jones)
5	* Ryan Thompson	G	6-6	220	Sr.	Mt. Laurel, N.J. (Lenape)
3	Jhamar Youngblood	G	6-1	210	Jr.	Elizabeth, N.J. (Monmouth) (St. Patrick's)

NUMERICAL

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Hometown/High School/Previous School
0	#DeShawn Mitchell	G	6-5	205	So.	Piscataway, N.J. (UNLV) (Oak Hill)
2	* Mike Ringgold	F	6-7	215	Jr.	Philadelphia, Pa. (Winchendon Mass. Prep) (Roman Catholic)
3	* Jhamar Youngblood	G	6-1	210	Jr.	Elizabeth, N.J. (Monmouth) (St. Patrick's)
5	Ryan Thompson	G	6-6	220	Sr.	Mt. Laurel, N.J. (Lenape)
10	Carl Johnson	G	6-0	160	Fr.	Philadelphia, Pa. (St. Thomas More) (Lower Merion)
12	Jonathon Thompson	G	6-4	190	Fr.	Orlando, Fla. (Jones)
14	* Patrick Mansell	G	6-1	195	Jr.	Laverock, Pa. (Cheltenham)
15	* Justin Robinson	G	6-2	190	Jr.	London, England (Blair Academy)
21	Dera Nd-Ezuma	C	6-10	215	Fr.	Nigeria (Life Center)
23	* Novar Gadson	G	6-7	230	So.	Philadelphia, Pa. (John Bartram)
25	* Jermaine Jackson	F	6-8	220	So.	Reading, Pa. (Reading)
31	* Brandon Penn	F	6-7	205	So.	Philadelphia, Pa. (Paul Robeson)
33	* Robbie Myers	F/C	6-9	255	Sr.	Mountaintop, Pa. (Crestwood)

Head Coach:

Tommy Dempsey (Susquehanna '97, Bloomsburg '05 MA), 4th season

Associate Head Coach:

Kevin Baggett (St. Joseph's '89), 4th season

Assistant Coach:

Todd Shellenberger (Kings's College '96), TCNJ '98 MA), 2nd season

Assistant Coach:

Mike Witcoskie (Susquehanna '01), 4th season

Captains:

Ryan Thompson, Justin Robinson, Mike Ringgold

*letterwinner

#transfer eligible in 2010-2011



Ryan Thompson

No. **5**

RIDER UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL YEARBOOK

2009-10



Senior Guard

Height: 6-6 / Weight: 220

Hometown: Mt. Laurel, N.J.

HIGH SCHOOL

Named the MVP of Group IV and was the Burlington County Player of the Year as a senior at Lenape High School...a First Team All-South Jersey selection as a senior after earning third team honors as a junior...twice a First Team All-Burlington County selection...teamed with brother Jason to lead the 2004 Lenape team to a 28-1 season and the NJSIAA Group IV Championship.

PERSONALS

Major:

Communication

Best Advice:

"Don't give up."

If I wasn't a basketball player I'd be:

A sports commentator

One thing I can't live without:

Basketball

Three words that describe me are:

Tall, athletic, goofy

Family:

Parents: Chuck and Sharyn

Brother: Jason (Rider Class of 2008 currently playing in the NBA for the Sacramento Kings)

FAVORITES

TV Show:

"Martin"

Movie:

"All About the Benjamins"

Food:

Chicken

Quote:

"Hard work pays off."

AT RIDER

Team captain...as a junior was named First Team All-MET, First Team All-MAAC, National Association of Basketball Coaches First Team All-District 1 and a collegeinsider.com Mid-Major All-American...also named to the 2009 MAAC All-Tournament team...ranked second in the MAAC in scoring (18.0), first in minutes played (38.2), second in three-point field goal percentage (.422), seventh in assists (3.3), eighth in field goal percentage (.509), eighth in free throw percentage (.773), 11th in rebounding (6.5) and 11th in three-pointers made (32)...played 50 minutes in playoff game against Niagara and played 40 minutes in nine other games last season...scored 18 or more points in 18 games last year...had 13 games with four or more assists last season in his first year as a point guard...had four games of 10 or more rebounds as a junior...led Rider to playoff win over Saint Peter's with 30 points...enters his senior year 15th in career scoring at Rider...compiled 57 points and 17 rebounds in two MAAC playoff games...compiled 50 points and 20 rebounds in back-to-back wins over Lafayette and Cal State Northridge...scored with 3.4 seconds left to beat Siena last season...scored a lay up at the buzzer to win at Loyola...as a sophomore was a Second Team All-MET and Second Team All-MAAC selection and was named to the collegeinsider.com Mid-Major All-America team...as a sophomore grabbed 13 rebounds against Kansas State and 10 rebounds against NC State and scored a game-high 24 points and added eight rebounds, three assists and three steals at Old Dominion...as a sophomore ranked eighth in the MAAC in scoring, 10th in rebounding, ninth in assists (3.44), fourth in three-point field goal percentage (.438) and fifth in steals (1.66)...started 23 games as a Rider rookie, including the final five of the season...as a freshman ranked in the top 15 in the MAAC in assists, rebounds and steals...among MAAC rookies was second in rebounding, second in free throw percentage, fourth in assists, sixth in steals and ninth in scoring.

CLICK HERE FOR CURRENT PLAYER STATS



RYAN THOMPSON

5



Robbie Myers

No. **33**

RIDER UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL YEARBOOK

2009-10



Senior Forward/Center

Height: 6-9 / Weight: 255

Hometown: Mountaintop, Pa.

HIGH SCHOOL

Compiled over 1,100 career points at Crestwood High School...as a senior averaged 14.4 points and 9.7 rebounds for his 27-3 squad...led Crestwood to the Wyoming Valley Conference Division I and AAA District 2 Championship as a First Team All-Wyoming Valley Conference selection...named the MVP of the Munley Tournament...named to the All-Star teams chosen by the *Times Leader* and the *Citizen's Voice* newspapers.

PERSONALS

Major:

Accounting

Best Advice:

"Never quit," my parents.

If I wasn't a basketball player I'd be:

An accountant

One thing I can't live without:

My TV

Three words that describe me are:

Smart, physical, tough

Family:

Parents: Robert Myers and Holly Winters

FAVORITES

TV Show:

"Family Guy"

Movie:

"Big Mama's House 2".

Food:

Lobster tails

Song or Artist:

"Ridin Dirty," by Chamillionare

Quote:

"Always go hard like it's your last."

Book:

"The Da Vinci Code," by Dan Brown

AT RIDER

Saw action in four games as a junior...played in 25 games as a sophomore, serving as a back-up to current NBA player Jason Thompson '08...made three of four foul shots at Loyola as a sophomore...grabbed three rebounds in win over Penn State in ESPN'S Old Spice Classic...started 10 games as a Rider rookie...his first start was at Notre Dame and he compiled seven points...made all three of his field goal attempts in the win at Binghamton...compiled 10 points and 10 rebounds in 34 minutes of action over two games against Marist in 2006-07...averaged 8.5 points and 7.0 rebounds per 40 minutes played as a sophomore...tied for third on the team in blocked shots in 2006-07.

[CLICK HERE FOR CURRENT PLAYER STATS](#)



ROBBIE MYERS **33**



Patrick Mansell

No. **14**

RIDER UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL YEARBOOK

2009-10



Junior Guard

Height: 6-1 / Weight: 195

Hometown: Laverock, Pa.

HIGH SCHOOL

Twice earned First Team All-Suburban One League honors...graduated as the all-time career leader in three-point field goals made (334) and set the single season record for three-pointers (117) at Cheltenham High...finished second in career scoring at Cheltenham (1,869) to his brother Harris...averaged 21 points per game along with five rebounds and four assists as a senior...named by HoopScoop as the fifth best shooter in the Philadelphia Area in 2006...led Cheltenham to a 99-23 four-year record and four consecutive PIAA Tournament appearances.

AT RIDER

Played in 26 games last year...came in off the bench to score 12 points, nine in the second half, in win at Monmouth, making a career-high four of five three-point field goal attempts...made back-to-back threes to lead an 8-0 Rider run, giving the Broncs a 49-41 lead against Monmouth...took 52 three-point shots last year and just 12 two-point attempts...went the entire 2008-09 season without missing a foul shot...scored 11 points in win over NJIT, including six points in an 11-3 run that gave the Broncs a 40-19 lead at halftime...grabbed four rebounds at Saint Joseph's...as a red-shirt freshman made a three-point field goal, his only shot of the game in seven minutes of action, with 62 seconds remaining to give Rider a 74-71 lead in the 2008 MAAC quarterfinal win over Canisius...compiled 13 points in 12 minutes off the bench to help Rider beat Penn State in ESPN'S Old Spice Classic...scored nine points off the bench against Kansas State in the Old Spice Classic...made all four of his foul shots in a MAAC win over Canisius...red-shirted the 2006-07 season.

[CLICK HERE FOR CURRENT PLAYER STATS](#)

PERSONALS

Major:

Global Business

What most people don't know about me:

I can sing.

One thing I can't live without:

The Phillies

Three words that describe me are:

Philly Sports Fan

Family:

Parents: Teresa and Robert

Brothers: Robert, Harris

Sister: Eve

FAVORITES

TV Show:

"Family Guy"

Movie:

"A Night in Missouri"

Food:

Chicken and cheese

Song or Artist:

"Dirty Laundry," by Don Henley

Quote:

"You're cool," Joe Hirsch

Book:

"The Five People You Meet in Heaven,"
by Mitch Albom



PATRICK MANSELL **14**



Mike Ringgold

No. **2**

RIDER UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL YEARBOOK

2009-10



Junior Forward

Height: 6-7 / Weight: 215

Hometown: Philadelphia, Pa.

HIGH SCHOOL

Spent 2006-07 at Winchendon Preparatory School in Winchendon, Ma., where he was named team MVP after averaging 15.0 points and 9.0 rebounds on a team that posted 22 wins...as a senior at Philadelphia's Roman Catholic High School averaged 18.0 points and 8.0 rebounds per game, earning First Team All-Catholic League and First Team All-City honors.

PERSONALS

Major:

Communication

Best Advice:

"Listen before you speak."

If I wasn't a basketball player I'd be:

A football player.

One thing I can't live without:

My parents

Three words that describe me are:

Loyal, honest, respectful

Family:

Parents: Robin Ringgold, Edward Robbins

Brothers: Anthony and Tyrone

Sisters: Zakia and Tyreece

FAVORITES

TV Show:

"The Wire," Jamie Foxx

Movie:

"Friday."

Food:

Chicken

Song or Artist:

Jay-Z

Quote:

"Who am I to tell you different? You only live once."

AT RIDER

Team captain...started all 32 games last season after starting 33 of 34 games as a rookie...compiled four 'double-doubles' last season, including a 20-point, 12-rebound performance in the MAAC tournament semi-finals...compiled 22 points and 12 rebounds against Rutgers and came back four days later to add 20 points and nine rebounds in MAAC win over Manhattan...ranked seventh in the MAAC in field goal percentage last season and was ninth in rebounding, 21st in scoring...made five of seven foul shots in win over Marist...made six foul shots at Manhattan...as a freshman was named to the MAAC All-Rookie team and to the collegeinsider.com Mid-Major All-Freshman team...ranked second in the MAAC in field goal percentage and 11th in steals as a freshman...made eight of his first nine shots in Alumni Gym...scored 17 points in his second home game, a win over Fairleigh Dickinson University...grabbed 14 rebounds in a win over Binghamton as a freshman, still his career high...made seven of nine from the field in hometown debut at Drexel as a rookie.

CLICK HERE FOR CURRENT PLAYER STATS



MIKE RINGGOLD **2**



Justin Robinson

No. **15**

RIDER UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL YEARBOOK

2009-10



Junior Guard

Height: 6-2 / Weight: 190

Hometown: London, England

HIGH SCHOOL

Led Blair (N.J.) Academy to the MAPL Title as a junior and a runner-up finish as a senior...led his team in assists for the second straight season with 6.0 per game and was second in scoring at 12.0 points per game...as a junior was named First Team All-MAPL and Second Team All-State by *The Star-Ledger* of Newark, N.J.

PERSONALS

Major:

Communication

Best Advice:

"Don't let anyone change who you are and be proud of who you are."

If I wasn't a basketball player, I'd be:

A social worker.

What most people don't know about me:

I'm fluent in French Patois.

Three words that describe me are:

Laid-back, outspoken, ambitious.

Family:

Parents: Eileen Sweeney
and Herbert Robinson
Siblings: Jermaine, Andrew and Belinda.

FAVORITES

TV Show:

First 48 Hours

Movie:

There Are No Children Here

Food:

Stewed Chicken

Song or Artist:

"Send Fi Mi Army," by Vybz Kartel

Quote:

"The patient man rides the donkey,"
my Dad.

Book:

"The Great Gatsby," by F. Scott Fitzgerald.

AT RIDER

Team captain...spent the summer with the Great Britain national team...started 27 games last season after missing most of preseason and first two games with a knee injury...moved from the point guard to shooting guard last season and led the MAAC in 3-point field goal percentage...after not starting two consecutive games started against Drexel and scored 20 points...scored a career-high 25 points in win over Siena last season...scored 19 points in MAAC semifinal...scored eight points in the final 10 minutes in win over Canisius...compiled nine points, a career-high eight assists and tied his career high with six rebounds in win at Iona...compiled 15 points, four rebounds and four steals in win at Fairfield...was 14th in the MAAC in assists last year...started 31 games as a rookie, the only games he did not start were Senior Day and when he was injured during MAAC Tournament...was second on the 2007-08 team in assists, fourth in steals and fifth on the team in scoring and minutes played...scored 13 points against North Carolina State at ESPN'S Old Spice Classic in Orlando, Fla. in just his fourth collegiate game...scored 13 points in just 21 minutes of action in 2008 MAAC quarterfinal win before suffering an injury...all eight of his double-digit scoring games as a freshman came on the road...compiled five assists and three steals in his first game in Alumni Gym, a win over Delaware...compiled 12 points, six rebounds and four assists in 2007-08 win at Siena.

[CLICK HERE FOR CURRENT PLAYER STATS](#)



JUSTIN ROBINSON **15**



Novar Gadson

No. **23**

RIDER UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL YEARBOOK

2009-10



Sophomore Guard/Forward

Height: 6-7 / Weight: 230

Hometown: Philadelphia, Pa.

HIGH SCHOOL

Earned First Team All-City and First Team All-Public League honors as a senior...was the Division A Conference Player of the Year...averaged 22.5 points, 12 rebounds and 6.0 assists per game as a senior...surpassed Joe Bryant (Kobe's father) as Bartram High School's all-time leading scorer and earned Fifth Team All-State honors...named the MVP of the Public League All-Star Game.

AT RIDER

Named the Collegeinsider.com Mid-Major Freshman of the Year for 2008-09...was named to the Collegeinsider.com Freshman Mid-Major All-America team...named the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference Rookie of the Week six times and was named to the MAAC All-Rookie team...ranked 24th in the MAAC in scoring, 13th in rebounding, 11th in field goal percentage and 12th in blocked shots...compiled a career-high 24 points in his final game of the season at Liberty in the Collegeinsider.com Postseason Tournament...scored 23 points in a MAAC win at Fairfield...scored 17 points in just his second collegiate game, a win at Lehigh...grabbed 35 rebounds in three games against Saint Peter's, including 14 in a MAAC playoff win.

CLICK HERE FOR CURRENT PLAYER STATS

PERSONALS

Major:

Communication

Best Advice:

"Strive for what you believe."

What most people don't know about me:

I love to play video games.

Three words that describe me are:

Dedicated, hardworking, entergetic

If I wasn't a basketball player, I'd be:

A football player.

Family:

Parents: Avis Gadson, Jamilla Gadson

Siblings: James Judd, Aishia Gadson

FAVORITES

TV Show:

Martin

Movie:

Friday After the Next

Food:

Chicken

Quote:

"A man experiences two types of pain, the pain of regret and the pain of hard work."

Book:

Madea's Family Reunion, by Tyler Perry



NOVAR GADSON

23

NIGHTS



Jermaine Jackson

No. **25**

RIDER UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL YEARBOOK

2009-10



Sophomore Forward

Height: 6-8 / Weight: 220

Hometown: Reading, Pa.

HIGH SCHOOL

Led Reading High School to a 30-1 season as the District 3 Champion...a southpaw... earned All-Berks County honors as a senior for the third consecutive season...graduated with over 1,400 career points...Berks County Player of the Year in 2008...earned Second Team All-Berks County in football as a wide receiver...his R.A.I.D.E.R.S AAU team won at Nationals in 2004 when he was the Player of the Year...plays the drums.

PERSONALS

Major:

Criminal Justice/Business

Best Advice:

"Always go hard, like it is your last time."

What most people don't know about me:

I like to listen to rock music

If I wasn't a basketball player, I'd be:

A singer

Three words that describe me are:

Smooth, funny, hardworker

Family:

Parents: Jeanel Poulson and Anthony Jackson

Brothers: Roger Hall, Jason Poulson

and Joey Jackson

Sisters: Brianna Jackson

and Kayln Jackson

FAVORITES

TV Show:

"Fresh Prince of Bel-Air"

Movie:

"Next Friday"

Food:

Seafood

Song or Artist:

"Freak Me" by Silk

Book:

"Street Smarts"

AT RIDER

Started 21 of the final 22 games of the season after a preseason injury...grabbed a career-high six rebounds in his first start, against Drexel...compiled eight points and six rebounds in win at Canisius...made the first shot he took as a Bronc, in win over Cal State Northridge...had seven blocked shots in just 19 minutes of action in MAAC semi-finals against Niagara...ranked sixth in the MAAC in blocks per game...possessed the highest field goal percentage on the team...compiled five rebounds, four assists and three steals in win over Siena, playing a career-high 24 minutes...six rebounds and a pair of blocked shots in win at Marist.

[CLICK HERE FOR CURRENT PLAYER STATS](#)



JERMAINE JACKSON

25



Brandon Penn

No. **31**

RIDER UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL YEARBOOK

2009-10



Sophomore Forward

Height: 6-7 / Weight: 205

Hometown: Philadelphia, Pa.

HIGH SCHOOL

Earned All-State honors as the Division D Conference Player of the Year... averaged 27.4 points and 16 rebounds per game as a senior...compiled over 1,000 career points and represented Paul Robeson High in the Public League All-Star Game... earned Third Team All-City honors as a junior.

AT RIDER

Played in 31 games as a rookie, all off the bench...compiled a career-high eight points in just his second collegiate game...made a foul shot with 4.8 seconds left to give the Broncs a 69-66 lead in 69-68 win at Lehigh...grabbed a career-high six rebounds in just 13 minutes of action in win over NJIT...made a key three-point field goal in a two-point win over Siena...made a key three-point field goal in three-point win over Niagara...scored 18 points and grabbed 11 rebounds in his first 45 collegiate minutes.

CLICK HERE FOR CURRENT PLAYER STATS

PERSONALS

Major:
Business Management

Best Advice:
"If I work hard and get better each year in college I could make it to the NBA."

What most people don't know about me:
How much passion I have and how much effort I put into the game of basketball.

If I wasn't a basketball player, I'd be:
A real estate agent

Three words that describe me are:
Energetic, fun, determined

Family:
Parents: Mary Martin and Gregory Penn
Siblings: Gregory, Christopher, Shawn, Shanna, Lillian and Renee

FAVORITES

TV Show:
Martin or *Fresh Prince of Bel-Air*

Movie:
He Got Game

Food:
Mac and cheese

Quote:
"By any means necessary" Malcolm X

Book:
Jigga What by Jay-Z



BRANDON PENN ***31***



Jonathon Thompson

No.

12

RIDER UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL YEARBOOK

2009-10



Freshman Guard

Height: 6-4 / Weight: 190

Hometown: Orlando, Fla.

HIGH SCHOOL

Scored over 1,000 points at Jones High School, averaging 20 points, seven rebounds, four assists and three steals as a junior...led his team to the Florida AAA State Title with a 28-4 record...earned All-State Honorable Mention honors...Player of the Year in District B...earned All-Metro Second Team honors, Second Team All-Orange County and Third Team All-City...was named the MVP of the Lakes Great 8 Tournament... Accounting Major.

PERSONALS

Major: Accounting

Best Advice I ever got: "Never give up."

What most people don't know about me:
That I talk and joke a lot.

If I wasn't a basketball player, I'd be:
An actor.

One thing I can't live without: Family.

Three words to describe me: Relaxed,
intelligent, humble.

Family:
Parents: Glenford Thompson, Jill Moore
Siblings: Shenell, TJ

FAVORITES

TV Show: *Everybody Hates Chris*

Movie: *Life*

Food: Snickers bar

Quote: "If you put in the work, the results
will come." Michael Jordan

Book: *Death of a Salesman*

CLICK HERE FOR CURRENT PLAYER STATS



Carl Johnson

No.

10



RIDER UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL YEARBOOK

2009-10



Freshman Guard

Height: 6-0 / Weight: 160

Hometown: Philadelphia, Pa.

HIGH SCHOOL

At St. Thomas More Prep (CT) averaged 18 points, seven assists, four rebounds and three steals last season...at Lower Merion '08 averaged 18 points, five rebounds and two steals per game, leading his team to the PIAA AAAA State Title in 2006 as an All-League and All-Main Line selection...was named the MVP of the Junior Nelson Classic...MVP at the Villanova Camp...MVP of the Kobe Scholastic Tournament...MVP of the Cuttino Tournament...Business Major

PERSONALS

Major: Undecided

Best Advice I ever got: "Work hard and good things will happen."

What most people don't know about me:
I have five older sisters.

If I wasn't a basketball player, I'd be:
A soccer player.

One thing I can't live without: Family.

Three words to describe me: Ambitious,
loyal, competitive.

Family:
Parents: Erica Hollingsworth,
Carl Johnson
Siblings: Markeda, Shonta, LaShana,
LaMyra, LaShawn

FAVORITES

TV Show: *Martin*

Movie: *Paid in Full*

Quote: "I'm different – I can't base what I'm going to be off what everybody isn't." Jay-Z

Song: *3 Peat* by Lil Wayne

Book: *Tru to the Game*

CLICK HERE FOR CURRENT PLAYER STATS





DeShawn Mitchell

No.

0

RIDER UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL YEARBOOK

2009-10



Sophomore Guard

Height: 6-5 / Weight: 205

Hometown: Piscataway, N.J.

HIGH SCHOOL

First Team All-Prep at Monmouth Academy (Howell, N.J.) in 2007-08, averaging 24.0 points, 8.0 rebounds and 4.0 assists ... in 2006-07 at Oak Hill Academy (Mouth of Wilson, Va) averaged 24.0 points, 10.0 rebounds and 7.0 blocks per game, leading his team to a 31-2 record ...as a junior at Oak Hill averaged 21.0 points, 11.0 rebounds and 4.0 blocks, leading the Warriors to a 28-3 record...First Team All-Prep at Monmouth...plays the saxophone.

PERSONALS

Major:

Undecided

Best Advice:

"God gives grace to the humble," from my mom and dad.

What most people don't know about me:

I'm afraid of heights.

If I wasn't a basketball player, I'd be:

An actor.

Three words that describe me are:

Caring, athletic, regligious.

Family:

Parents: Kia Terrence and Fred Latanya

Siblings: Elizah, Elijah, Taj, Jeremiah

FAVORITES

TV Show:

Jamie Foxx

Movie:

He Got Game

Food:

Italian Cheeseburger

Quote:

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13

Book:

The Outsiders

AT UNLV

Played in 21 games for the 21-11 Runnin' Rebels last season, averaging over five minutes per game...shot .500 from the field...averaged over 12 points per 40 minutes played.

[CLICK HERE FOR CURRENT PLAYER STATS](#)

Dera Nd-Ezuma

No.

21



RIDER UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL YEARBOOK

2009-10



Freshman Center

Height: 6-10 / Weight: 215

Hometown: Nigeria

HIGH SCHOOL

Played two years at Life Center Academy in Burlington, NJ...once had 10 dunks in one game...a newcomer to the sport of basketball...was at the top of his class in Algebra and British Literature...an Economics major.

[CLICK HERE FOR CURRENT PLAYER STATS](#)

PERSONALS

Major: Economics

Best Advice I ever got: "My destiny lies in my hands."

What most people don't know about me:
God-fearing

If I wasn't a basketball player, I'd be:
A businessman.

Three words to describe me: focused, determined, God-fearing.

One thing I can't live without: God, family

Family:
Parents: Ndubusi Ezuma, Uju Ezuma
Siblings: Nnamdi, Nnedima, Sukky

FAVORITES

TV Show: ESPN's *Sportscenter*

Movie: 300

Food: Chicken

Quote (and who said it?):
"Have a goal, pursue it and get it."

Song (and Artist): *Song Cry* by Jay-Z

Book: *Essential Wooden* by John Wooden





Jhamar Youngblood No. **3**

RIDER UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL YEARBOOK

2009-10



PERSONALS

FAVORITES

Junior Guard

Height: 6-1 / Weight: 210

Hometown: Elizabeth, N.J.

HIGH SCHOOL

Led St. Patrick's to a 90-10 three-year record, winning two state championships...earned the "Best Teammate" Award in 2005 and 2006...was named to the All-Tournament team at the Paradise Jam...was a member of Student Council and was on the Academic Honor Roll 16 times.

AT MONMOUTH

The Hawks' leading scorer in 2007-08...Northeast Conference Rookie of the Year in 2006-07...has close to 700 career points.

AT RIDER

Honored on Academic Achievement Night last semester while sitting out the transfer season...Marketing major.

[CLICK HERE FOR CURRENT PLAYER STATS](#)





Jhamar Youngblood No. 3

RIDER UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL YEARBOOK

2009-10



PERSONALS

Major: Marketing

Best Advice I ever got: "Treat others better than you treat yourself."

What most people don't know about me:
I love soccer.

If I wasn't a basketball player, I'd be:
A pro skateboarder.

One thing I can't live without:
My Blackberry.

Family:
Mother: Sonya Youngblood

FAVORITES

TV Show: *Entourage*

Movie: *Boondock Saints*

Food: Italian Sub

Quote (and who said it?):
"Swing big, miss big," Babe Ruth

Song (and Artist): *You are Not Alone*, by Michael Jackson

Junior Guard

Height: 6-1 / Weight: 210

Hometown: Elizabeth, N.J.

HIGH SCHOOL

Led St. Patrick's to a 90-10 three-year record, winning two state championships...earned the "Best Teammate" Award in 2005 and 2006...was named to the All-Tournament team at the Paradise Jam...was a member of Student Council and was on the Academic Honor Roll 16 times.

AT MONMOUTH

The Hawks' leading scorer in 2007-08...Northeast Conference Rookie of the Year in 2006-07...has close to 700 career points.

AT RIDER

Honored on Academic Achievement Night last semester while sitting out the transfer season...Marketing major.

CLICK HERE FOR CURRENT PLAYER STATS





Outlook



Banner Year

With the return of four starters, the 2009-10 Rider University basketball team is once again expected to be one of the top teams in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference. But that might not be good enough for head coach **Tommy Dempsey**, who has guided the Broncs to a program-best 58 wins over the last three seasons. "We've been to postseason tournaments the last two years (CBI, CollegeInsider), now it is time to go to the NCAA Tournament," said Dempsey, the 2008 MAAC Coach of the Year.

Depth and experience are two of the biggest reasons Dempsey is excited about this year's team. "We are hoping to finally have the depth that we were looking for," Dempsey said. "We've had good teams the past couple of years but this year's team should be deeper than those teams. There is a lot of competition for playing time and that should increase the intensity of practice on a daily basis. We don't know who is going to start this year, and that is a good thing. We are also now more of a veteran team. Last year's team had eight players in the rotation that were freshmen and sophomores. I think we have learned a lot about ourselves and what we have to do to become more successful."

The returning starters from last year include All-America candidate **Ryan Thompson**, a 6'6" senior point guard who last year ranked in the top 11 in the MAAC in eight categories, including second in scoring (18.0), seventh in assists (3.3) and 11th in rebounding (6.5).

"Ryan is the best player in the MAAC and anytime your team steps on the court with the best player you should have a chance to win," Dempsey said. "His ability to play all over the court makes him a match up problem for people. He can shoot the three, take you off the dribble, or post you up. There are not many holes in his game right now. Ryan is also extremely unselfish. He is into winning and that makes my job as the head coach a lot easier."

Other key returners include 6'7" junior forward **Mike Ringgold**, 6'8" sophomore forward **Jermaine Jackson** and 6'2" junior guard **Justin Robinson** and last year's sixth man and MAAC All-Rookie Team selection, 6'7" sophomore small forward **Novar Gadson**.



Robbie Myers



Ryan Thompson

Ringgold ranked seventh in the MAAC in field goal percentage last season and was ninth in rebounding, 21st in scoring. "Mike is the heart and soul of this group," Dempsey said. "I wouldn't trade him for anybody in the league. We've won 42 games his first two years here and he's been a big reason why. He's one of those guys that doesn't get as much credit as he deserves but I really rely on him to bring his energy and his effort every day. He's tough, competitive and knows how to win. His attitude has really helped me change the culture of the program, to start holding guys more accountable to playing hard, playing good defense. If we are going to become a defensive team, which we need to do to become a championship team, guys are going to have to follow his lead."

Jackson started 21 of the final 22 games last season as a rookie after a preseason knee injury. He grabbed six rebounds in his first start and blocked seven shots in the MAAC semifinals. "Jermaine's role is to defend, rebound and play hard," Dempsey said. "His offensive numbers were modest last year but people forget he missed the entire preseason and that is difficult especially for a freshman. He has really focused on becoming a better offensive player during the spring

and summer."

Robinson moved from the point guard to shooting guard position last season and led the MAAC in three-point field goal percentage (.437). He spent the summer training with the Great Britain National team. "Justin is probably the player who has taken the biggest step forward in the past year," Dempsey said. "I expected him to have a huge sophomore year and then he had the knee surgery to start the season. From the middle of January to the end of the season I think he was one of the better guards in the league. We were 11-4 going down the stretch and that was because Justin got healthy. He's had a terrific spring and summer competing all over the world with the Great Britain National team. I think Justin is going to break out this year and become one of the better guards in the MAAC. Over the next two years he's going to show people just how good he could be."

Gadson, a finalist for MAAC Rookie of the Year honors, was named the Collegeinsider.com Mid-Major Freshman of the Year for 2008-09 and was named to the Collegeinsider.com Freshman Mid-Major All-America team. "We threw Novar right into the fire last year as a freshman and he responded very well," Dempsey said.

Outlook



RIDER UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL YEARBOOK

2009-10



Justin Robinson

"There were nights when he played like a freshman and there were nights when nobody in the gym could stop him. His growing process was one of the reasons why down the stretch we were a tough team to beat. He's really worked hard this summer to become a better shooter. Novar is going to be a force to be reckoned with in this league over the next three years."

The key newcomer is 6'1" junior guard **Jhamar Youngblood**, a transfer from Monmouth University where he was the Northeast Conference Rookie of the Year as a freshman and the Hawks' leading scorer as both a freshman and sophomore. "Jhamar is chomping at the bit to get out there," Dempsey said. "It was hard on him to sit out last year but he worked hard on his game and used his time off to become a more complete player. He has gotten better and stronger and he's eager to get back out there and show people he can really make an impact in our program. Jhamar is very athletic and he knows how to score the basketball. We also think he is a guy that can go after the best guard on the other team and lock him up on defense."

Other returnees include **Patrick Mansell**, **Brandon Penn** and **Robbie Myers**.

Mansell took 52 three-point field goals last

year, finishing third on the team in three-point field goal percentage and went the entire season without missing a foul shot. "Pat is still probably the best shooter we have in the program," Dempsey said. "He's a veteran who has made some big shots in the past and we'll still count on him to come in off the bench and make shots for us and be a good leader."

Penn played in 31 games last year, all off the bench, after compiling 18 points and 11 rebounds in his first 45 collegiate minutes. "Brandon needs to get himself in the mix this year," Dempsey said. "He's 20 pounds heavier and with his increased strength and understanding of the game we expect him to demand more minutes this year. He was a little disappointed in his freshman year, but it motivated him. He got after it in the weight room and did a lot more individual work outs. He didn't like sitting on the bench and that's a positive. He's done the things he's needed to do since the season ended to put himself in position to be more of a contributor on this year's team and he'll get that opportunity."

Myers is one of just two seniors on the squad and is a veteran of 54 games. "Robbie has great character and has to provide senior leadership," Dempsey said. "Good teams have that. He's been around the program and we love having him here. You don't have to play 25 minutes a game to be a team leader, to be a good role model for the younger players. Robbie works hard, practices hard and does whatever the coaches ask of him. I am really pulling for Robbie to have a good senior year."

The incoming freshmen include **Carl Johnson**, **Jonathon Thompson** and **Dera Nd-Ezuma**. "I think it is a strong class, a talented group that hopefully has another MAAC All-Rookie team member in it," said Dempsey, who has produced a member of the All-Rookie team every year at Rider. "One thing that we needed to do was add depth. We have a lot of key players back, all with extensive playing experience, so to get on the court as a freshman this year you better be pretty good. We went after kids who could come in and contribute and give us the depth we were missing last year."

Johnson came to Rider from St. Thomas More Prep School in Connecticut, where he averaged 18 points, 7.0 assists, 4.0 rebounds and 3.0



Mike Ringgold



Novar Gadson



Outlook

RIDER UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL YEARBOOK

2009-10

steals. A 6'0" point guard, Johnson is a 2008 graduate of Lower Merion High School, where he averaged 18 points, 5.0 rebounds and 2.0 steals, leading his team to the PIAA AAAA State Championship in 2006. "Carl is going to be an important piece because he gives us some depth at the point guard position," Dempsey said. "He won a state championship at Lower Merion, and to do that at the point guard position is pretty important, so now you are not only adding a good point guard who has a bright future in your program but also a player who has experienced winning in the past."

Thompson, a 6'4" guard, scored over 1,000 career points at Jones High School in Orlando, averaging 20.0 points, 7.0 rebounds, 4.0 assists and 3.0 steals as a senior for the 28-4 Florida AAA State Runner-Up. "Jonathon had a terrific senior year and is another player who has been around a lot of winning," Dempsey said. "He is my kind of player. Jon is athletic, tough, competitive, and plays to win. If we are going to be as deep as I hope we are, it is because he can come in and contribute as a freshman, and we expect him to."

Nd-Ezuma is a 6'10" center from Nigeria who just began playing basketball two years ago at Life Center Academy in Burlington, NJ. "Dera is a presence in the lane," Dempsey said "He's a shot blocker and a really good rebounder. He's only been playing basketball for two years so the sky is the limit for him. He just needs to get

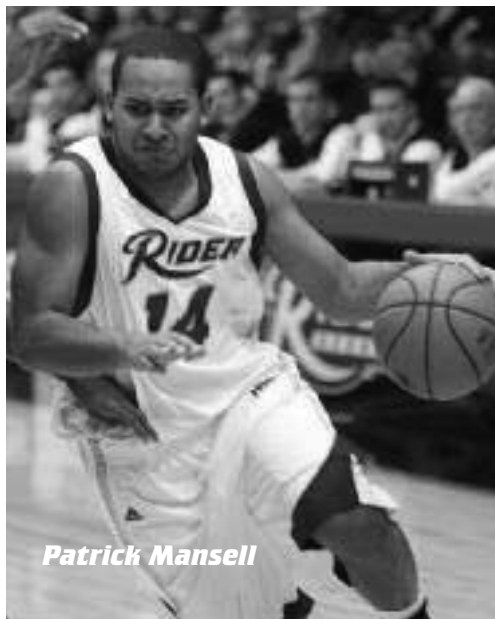
more comfortable with the game. Dera is a worker therefore his offensive skill level will advance quickly. He also has worked extremely hard in the weight room this summer. I expect Dera to eventually be a great center in the MAAC."

After reaching the MAAC Championship game in 2008 and missing the 2009 MAAC title game on a banked three-point buzzer-beater in the semifinals, Rider is ready to be a championship team in 2010.

"Before you become a championship team there is a process involved," Dempsey said. "I feel we've lived the process over the past couple of years. A lot of these players have been here for both of those disappointing losses. Now there is nothing left for us to do except win it. We understand how difficult that will be this year and we are well aware that the league will be stronger than ever, but we can't hide behind that. We have to find a way to get it done. No excuses this year. It is time to raise another banner in Alumni Gym."



Jhamar Youngblood



Patrick Mansell



Brandon Penn



Jermaine Jackson



MAAC



Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference



With 10 institutions strongly bound by the sound principles of quality and integrity in academics and excellence in athletics, the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference is in its 29th year of competition during the 2009-2010 academic year.

WWW.MAACSPORTS.COM

The MAAC was founded in 1980 by six charter members: the U.S. Military Academy, Fairfield University, Fordham University, Iona College, Manhattan College and Saint Peter's College. Competition followed one year later in the fall of 1981 with members competing in the sports of men's cross country and men's soccer. On January 2, 1982, Army traveled to Iona for the first MAAC men's basketball game and the MAAC story had begun.

Today, Conference members include: Canisius College, Fairfield University, Iona College, Loyola University Maryland, Manhattan College, Marist College, Niagara University, Rider University, Saint Peter's College, and Siena College. In addition, associate members the University of Detroit Mercy, Mount St. Mary's University, Saint Joseph's University, Virginia Military Institute and Wagner College compete in men's lacrosse. St. Francis (N.Y.) College, Villanova University and Wagner College are all associate members of the MAAC Women's Water Polo League. Drake University and Sacred Heart University compete in women's rowing, while the University at Albany, Boston University and the University of Hartford begin competition in women's golf this season. The MAAC will support 24 sports and championships during the 2009-2010 academic year.

The MAAC Basketball Championships return to the Times Union Center in Albany, New York, for 2010, with Bridgeport's Arena at Harbor Yard preparing to host the 2011 championship. By having an excellent working relationship with

various facilities, the MAAC has been able to attract a number of NCAA Championship events. Most recently, the MAAC, Canisius College and Niagara University successfully hosted the 2004 and 2007 NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Championship First and Second Rounds at the HSBC Arena in Buffalo, New York. All three parties will host that event again in 2010. The MAAC and Rider University co-hosted the 2009 NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Championship Regional at the Sovereign Bank Arena in Trenton, N.J., after recording the third highest attendance figure for the women's championship with the First and Second Rounds in 2006.

MAAC Associate Sports

In June of 1995, the MAAC continued to develop opportunities for student-athletes as the conference announced the formation of the MAAC Men's and Women's Lacrosse Leagues. The men's league began competition in the spring of 1996, while the women's league commenced in the spring of 1997. The men's league consists of four MAAC schools — Canisius, Manhattan, Marist, and Siena — and five associate members — Detroit Mercy, Mount St. Mary's, Saint Joseph's, Virginia Military Institute and Wagner. The women's league consists of MAAC institutions Canisius, Fairfield, Iona, Manhattan, Marist, Niagara and Siena.

In 2002, the MAAC added the MAAC Women's Water Polo League. The league is made

up of three MAAC schools — Iona, Marist and Siena — as well as three associate members, St. Francis (N.Y.), Villanova and Wagner.

Sacred Heart started participating in MAAC Women's Rowing in the spring of 2008. Drake University will also join the league for the 2010 MAAC Championship.

In the summer of 2009, the MAAC added three associate members — Albany, Boston University and Hartford — to women's golf, with the programs starting competition against MAAC members Fairfield, Niagara and Siena in 2009-2010.

Academics and Athletics

The MAAC prides itself on the accomplishments of its student-athletes in the classroom, as well as on the field. Mary Beth Riley, a 1991 graduate of Canisius, was the first recipient of the NCAA Woman of the Year Award. In the fall of 1998, Erin Whalen, a member of the Iona women's rowing team, was awarded one of the nation's 32 Rhodes Scholarships for academic achievement and civic leadership. Jose Vargas, a Loyola student, was also awarded a Rhodes Scholarship in 1999.

First-class facilities are the rule with MAAC schools, as teams regularly play in top-notch arenas, such as Madison Square Garden, the IZOD Center, HSBC Arena, Times Union Center, the Arena at Harbor Yard and Sovereign Bank Arena. The other MAAC championships boast their

Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference



RIDER UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL YEARBOOK

2009-10

share of outstanding locales as well, such as the fabled Van Cortlandt Park in the Bronx, where the cross country championships are contested, and Waterfront Park in Trenton, home of the 2008 and 2009 MAAC Baseball Championship. This year, the MAAC will take its women's soccer championship to Orlando, Florida, where it will conduct its post-season championships at Disney's Wide World of Sports Complex. In 2010, the MAAC Volleyball Championship will be at Walt Disney World. The MAAC Men's and Women's Golf Championships will be held at Celebration Golf Club, located in Celebration, Florida, for the second consecutive year.

In the past several years, a number of the MAAC schools have also enjoyed success in NCAA Championships. MAAC schools have made a total of 74 NIT appearances and 43 NCAA appearances. In addition, Rider represented the league last season in the CollegeInsider.com Postseason Tournament. The MAAC currently possesses 13 automatic bids to NCAA

Championships in men's and women's basketball, baseball, softball, men's and women's soccer, volleyball, men's golf, men's and women's tennis, men's and women's lacrosse, and women's water polo. In 2007, the Marist women's basketball team advanced to the Sweet 16 before falling to the eventual National Champion, the University of Tennessee. Last fall, the Iona men's cross country team earned a second-place finish for the second straight year at the NCAA Division I Cross Country Championships. Canisius softball, Manhattan track, Manhattan and Marist base-

ball and Loyola soccer and lacrosse have also flourished on the national stage.

The MAAC has also been a leader in the forefront of technology, expanding the notoriety of the league into cyberspace. In 2007, the league reached an agreement with JumpTV, Inc. to sponsor the MAAC web page. Launched in November 1999, www.maacsports.com has been a great success, providing fans with up-to-date contest results, multimedia content and an on-line merchandise store.

The MAAC President for the 2009-2010 academic year is Rev. Brian F. Linnane, S.J., the President of Loyola University Maryland. The Vice-President is Rev. Jeffrey von Arx, S.J., the President of Fairfield University. Bob Byrnes, Director of Athletics at Manhattan College, will chair the Committee on Athletic Administration, and Elizabeth Donohue, Assistant Athletic Director/Senior Woman Administrator at Marist College will serve as Vice Chair.





Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference

RIDER UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL YEARBOOK

2009-10



2009 MAAC Tournament Results Pepsi Arena, Albany, NY

First Round

(9) Canisius 74, (8) Loyola 68
(10) Marist 43, (5) Iona 40

Quarterfinals

(5) Fairfield 68, (4) Manhattan 61
(1) Siena 77, (9) Canisius 52
(3) Rider 67, (6) Saint Peter's 58
(2) Niagara 79, (10) Marist 50

Semifinals

(1) Siena 80, (5) Fairfield 65
(2) Niagara 93, **(3) Rider 89**, (2 ot)

Championship

(1) Siena 77, (2) Niagara 70

NCAA Tournament

Siena 74, Ohio State 72 (2 ot)
Louisville 79, Siena 72

National Invitation Tournament

Rhode Island 68, Niagara 62

Colleg Insider.com

Postseason Tournament

Liberty 79, **Rider 64**



2008-2009 Final Standings

Siena # \$	16-2	27-8
Niagara	14-4	26-9
Rider	12-6	19-13
Fairfield	9-9	17-15
Manhattan	9-9	16-14
Saint Peter's	8-10	11-19
Iona	7-11	12-19
Loyola	7-11	12-20
Canisius	4-14	11-20
Marist	4-14	10-23

Regular Season Champions

\$ Tournament Champion

2008-2009 All-MAAC Teams

First Team All-MAAC

Bilal Benn, Niagara
Tyrone Lewis, Niagara
RYAN THOMPSON, RIDER
Kenny Hasbrouck, Siena
Edwin Ubiles, Siena

Second Team All-MAAC

Jamal Barney, Loyola
Ryan Schneider, Marist
Benson Egemonye, Niagara
Alex Franklin, Siena
Ronald Moore, Siena

Third Team All-MAAC

Frank Turner, Canisius
Greg Nero, Fairfield
Gary Springer, Iona
Darryl Crawford, Manhattan
Wesley Jenkins, Saint Peter's

All-Rookie Team

Scott Machado, Iona
Anthony Winbush, Loyola
R.J. Hall, Marist
NOVAR GADSON, RIDER
Kyle Downey, Siena

MAAC All-Academic Team MATT GRIFFIN



Ryan Thompson



Novar Gadson

www.maacsports.com
for the latest MAAC news and results



Back Row (l-r)

Director of Basketball Operations, Ben Luber
Assistant Coach Todd Shellenberger

#23 Novar Gadson

#31 Brandon Penn

#2 Mike Ringgold

#21 Dera Nd-Ezuma

#33 Robbie Myers

#25 Jermaine Jackson

#5 Ryan Thompson

Assistant Coach Mike Witcoskie

Associate Head Coach Kevin Baggett

Front Row (l-r)

#3 Jhamar Youngblood

#15 Justin Robinson

#12 Jonathon Thompson

Head Coach Tommy Dempsey

#0 DeShawn Mitchell*

#14 Patrick Mansell

#10 Carl Johnson

*transfer eligible in 2010-2011



NOVEMBER

Sat.	7	WEST CHESTER	4:00 p.m.
Fri.	13	at Mississippi State	9:00 p.m.
Mon.	16	LEHIGH	7:00 p.m.

CANCUN CHALLENGE

Thu.	19	at Virginia	7:00 p.m.
Sat.	21	at Kentucky	1:00 p.m.
Tue.	24	vs. Florida A&M (Cancun, Mexico)	11:00 a.m.
Wed.	25	vs. Sam Houston State or Oral Roberts (Cancun, Mexico)	1:30 p.m. or 4:00 p.m.
Sat.	28	BINGHAMTON	7:00 p.m.
Mon.	30	SAINT JOSEPH'S	7:00 p.m.

DECEMBER

Sun.	6	*MARIST	2:00 p.m.
Wed.	9	LA SALLE	7:00 p.m.
Sat.	12	at Maryland Baltimore County	7:00 p.m.
Tue.	15	at Rutgers	7:30 p.m.
Sat.	19	at Monmouth	7:00 p.m.
Wed.	23	*at Siena	7:00 p.m.

JANUARY

Sat.	2	*at Loyola	1:00 p.m.
Mon.	4	*at Manhattan	7:00 p.m.
Sat.	9	*IONA	3:00 p.m.
Mon.	11	*at Marist	7:30 p.m.
Fri.	15	*SAINT PETER'S	7:00 p.m.
Mon.	18	*at Iona	7:30 p.m.
Fri.	22	*at Canisius	7:00 p.m.
Sun.	24	*at Niagara (MAAC TV)	4:00 p.m.
Thu.	28	*MANHATTAN	7:00 p.m.
Sat.	30	*at Fairfield	4:00 p.m.

FEBRUARY

Fri.	5	*LOYOLA	7:00 p.m.
Mon.	8	*NIAGARA	7:00 p.m.
Fri.	12	*FAIRFIELD (ESPNU TV)	7:00 p.m.
Mon.	15	*at Saint Peter's (MAAC TV)	7:00 p.m.
Sat.	20	at BracketBuster	TBD
Fri.	26	*SIENA (ESPNU TV)	7:00 p.m.
Sun.	28	*CANISIUS	2:00 p.m.

MARCH

Fri.-Mon.	5-8	MAAC Championship, Times Union Center, Albany, NY	
-----------	-----	---	--

*Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference Game
HOME GAMES IN CAPS