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Mar19

[Bob](#)

### [Eye of the Tiger in winter sports](#)

It was a historic winter season for [RIT athletics](#). Here is a recap.

RIT was picked to finish eighth in the [Atlantic Hockey Association](#) pre-season poll. The Tigers were the new kids on the block, having made the jump from Division I to Division III the season before. Attention Atlantic Hockey: The Tigers arrived in style by winning the league title outright, finishing with a 21-11-2 overall record. The Tigers were ranked as high as 21st nationally.

“Winning the title was an accumulation of a lot of hard work, beginning with President Simone,” says [Head Coach Wayne Wilson](#). “The support he has given, along with the vice presidents and [Athletic Director Lou Spiotti](#), enabled us to compete in Division I right away. The response from our fans was tremendous.”

Sophomore forward Steve Pinizzotto (Mississauga, Ontario) became the first player since the program moved to Division I in 2005 to leave school early and sign a professional contract. Pinizzotto was officially signed by the NHL’s Washington Capitals and has reported to the [AHL’s Hershey Bears](#).

Also on the ice, the women’s hockey team qualified for the NCAA Division III Tournament for the first time in school history, recording a program-record 22 wins and earning a season-ending No. 4 national ranking. Sophomore Danielle Nagymarosi set a school record with 32 goals. Nagymarosi and Stacey McConnell were named All-Americans.

In other highlights:

⌘ Head Coach Debbie Buff led the women’s basketball team to a school record 15 wins and its first post-season games in the program’s history. Seniors Margot Sandy and Ramata Diallo earned [All-Empire 8 honors](#), while Buff was selected as the conference’s coach of the year.

⌘ A model of consistency, the men’s basketball team finished with at least a .500 record for the 16th straight season.

⌘ In track and field, the women made school history by winning the 2007 New York State Collegiate Track Conference Championship for the first time. Seniors Allison Griggs and Danielle Simmons were selected to compete in the NCAA Championships. Dave Warth, head coach for both the men and women, was named 2007 Empire 8 Track & Field Coach of the Year.

⌘ Sophomore Luke Baum and freshman Mike McNally competed in the NCAA Division III Wrestling Championships. McNally finished with a 35-9 record and was chosen as the Most Outstanding Wrestler at the Empire Conference meet in February.

⌘ In the pool, divers Quinn Donahoe and Matt Joseph competed at the NCAA Championships. Donahoe is now a three-time All-American. Diving Coach Cliff Devries was named the New York State Men’s Diving Coach of the Year.

Check out all of our [Tiger sports news](#).

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