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St. John's gets invite to College Basketball Invitational

BY **ROGER RUBIN**
 DAILY NEWS SPORTS WRITER

Sunday, March 15th 2009, 11:54 PM

St. John's received its first invitation to a national postseason tournament in six years late Sunday night. The Red Storm was selected into the 16-team draw for the 2009 College Basketball Invitational.

The Johnnies (16-17) are one of four teams in the East Regional and will play at [Richmond](#) (18-15) on Wednesday night at 7. The Spiders were the sixth seed in the Atlantic-10 Tournament and lost in the quarterfinals to a [Dayton](#) team that made the NCAAs.

"We see it as all good," St. John's coach [Norm Roberts](#) said. "It's an opportunity for our guys to play in a tournament atmosphere. It's a chance to win a title. It's a way to keep playing and a young team like ours can really benefit from that."

The other pairing in the East pits [Charleston](#) (26-8) against [Troy](#) (19-12) on Wednesday night. The East Regional final will be next Monday at a site to be determined. Semifinals are set for March 25 and the Best-of-3 championship series begins March 30. The Storm will have a chance to earn a 17th win, a high in Roberts' five seasons, and finish with a winning record.

St. John's last postseason invite was for the 2003 NIT, which it won. That title has since been vacated because of NCAA violations committed under then-coach [Mike Jarvis](#).

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 ROTFL a sub 500 team in a post season tournament in the NNIT, the Not Not Invited Tournament

kpr1343 Mar 16, 2009 11:47:33 AM [Report Offensive Post](#)
 Norm Roberts is a loser. If he was a man he'd quit. How can Harrington keep him with his losing record and myriad of excuses. It only shows that the administration at St. John's are losers also .

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Today's Top Picks



March Madness!
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Mets Live Chat
 Adam Rubin will talk about Livan Hernandez, Tim Redding and the Mets' rotation, plus a whole lot more, Monday at 2 p.m.



Lost on Maine drag
 John Maine indicated he has been thinking too much about his mechanics this spring, rather than just letting everything flow naturally.



Hip, hip Jorge!
 Jorge Posada started Saturday's game against the Twins, his first four innings behind the plate since he had his torn labrum repaired last July.



James Gang
 And after losing their previous three games to Cleveland when LeBron was at his best, perhaps Sunday's 98-93 Knick loss was the most discouraging.

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