



Students stand in front of the Bart Luedeke Center advocating for safer parking lots.

Jay Roberson/The Rider News

By Jay Roberson

RIDER aimed to host a cheerful second-to-last open house of the fall semester on Nov. 10 to show prospective students the campus; however, student-protesters had a different way of welcoming future Broncs.

Students marched to the Bart Luedeke Center around 12 p.m. on Friday holding hand-drawn signs with sayings including, “Education not exploitation, stop this parking fee inflation” and “Parking lots we won’t ignore, safety first we’re asking for,” as families and tour guides walked by with turned heads.

Issues not being addressed

The cold wind and rain didn’t stop protestors from spreading the word on parking lot safety with plastic wrapped signs as onlookers couldn’t help but stare.

Sophomore behavioral neuroscience major Sophia Fleischer acted as the media handler for the protest and spoke with The Rider News on what the group was looking to achieve.

Fleischer said, “Many students have pleaded for

help and cried about how unsafe they feel. With the money that we’re paying just to park there alone, I don’t think it’s fair that we should be seeking out safety for ourselves.”

Protesters reiterated their request for safety by chanting, “Student parking is our right, well-lit lots we need the light,” along with other messages.

Sociology professor Richard Zdan guided students through the process of planning a protest in his Social Movements class.

Zdan said, “This assignment is their midterm, they were told to identify some sort of cause that matters to you. Could be on the Rider University campus, it could be in the greater Lawrenceville area, could be whatever it is, and put together some sort of direct action project.”

Though they could go about social change in any method, students collectively chose to organize a protest raising awareness for parking lot safety at Rider because it was something that affects most of the student body.

Putting the pressure on

Fleischer said, “We’ve seen in the past that any type of protest within Rider alone, the university has turned their heads away from us and away from the concerns of students. We felt that if we were to, for lack of a better term, threaten their admission rates, then they would finally listen to our concerns.”

As families and students walked by, only a handful of people engaged with protestors or took their QR code handout leading to a website titled “No parking, no safety.”

This website informed viewers on what improvements they were looking for, safety concerns, solutions and who to contact in order to make change.

Carly Walton, a senior musical theater major, joined the protestors because she related to concerns the group was attempting to address.

“There’s been numerous times I walk by myself in the dark to my car, and I have to call my mom ... The woman is across the country,” said Walton. “There’s parents across the country who are footing the \$250 bill who have



Rider admits to fault in missing student wages

By Amethyst Martinez

AFTER not falling in compliance with a New Jersey wage law, multiple months of students not receiving paychecks and an averted student-worker strike, top university officials admitted their faults this semester.

In an interview with The Rider News on Nov. 14, Rider President Gregory Dell’Omo took “full responsibility” for the wage issues students have faced this semester, and blamed problems on “a lot of human error,” with new payroll employees and trying to implement a different timesheet system.

“Clearly, we’re not happy with the situation. We apologize for the situation, and we want to make sure that never happens again,” said Dell’Omo.

The state law requires every employer to pay the

full amount of wages due to its employees at least twice during the calendar month on regular paydays designated in advance, according to the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workplace Development.

However, over 900 students have been affected by the crisis amongst the university’s payroll system, ADP, with some missing paychecks for months at a time.

Stacy Hawkins, a law professor at Rutgers University with a specialization in employment law, said that it seems like the university would be violating a state law.

“It is supposed to regularize wage payments for people so that they know they’re expected to receive their paychecks and that they can plan their lives around that,” said Hawkins. “It is incumbent upon the employer to track hours worked and wages owed.”

Chief Financial Officer James Hartman said in an

email to all students on Oct. 26 that those who were missing wages had to fill out a survey to receive their back pay, and stated that the university wanted to “get as many paid as possible” by Nov. 10.

Multiple university officials claimed that issues throughout the semester included personnel changes, system difficulties and more.

“I can go through chapter and verse as to why and how it happened, and that’s important in terms of context,” Dell’Omo told The Rider News. “But it’s more important to say it shouldn’t happen, [and] it can’t happen going forward.”

More than 170 students reported unpaid hours, according to information circulated to supervisors on Oct. 31.



INSIDE
BRONCS SHOW OUT
Rider women’s basketball won its home opener against Merrimack.
PAGE 11



STUDENT WORKER UNION
Adrienne Bishop encourages a student worker union after missing paychecks.
PAGE 8



CRANBERRY KING SHARES RIDER EXPERIENCE
Yusef Collins-Bryant discusses his time on campus.
PAGE 7



SECURITY BRIEFS

BY CAROLINE HAVILAND

Mystery odor

Funky scents. On Nov. 11 at 5:44 a.m., Public Safety was dispatched to Moore Residence Hall for the report of an unusual odor coming from a vent inside a residence hall room. Public Safety arrived on location and met with students and Residence Life staff who directed the officer to the vent emitting the unusual odor. The officer could not determine what the source of the odor was and Facilities Management was contacted. It was determined that the odor was caused by the heater starting up after being off for a while.

Vehicles vandalized

Scratched surfaces. On Nov. 13 at 5:20 p.m., Public Safety was dispatched to the parking lot across from the Bart Luedeke Center for the report of vandalism to a vehicle. Public Safety arrived on location and met with the driver of the vehicle who reported that someone had poured an unknown substance on the car and scratches on it. The damage was documented and the police were contacted. Public Safety is investigating.

-Information provided by Public Safety Capt. Matthew Babcock



Jay Roberson/The Rider News

Student-protesters continue to chant and give information as tour groups pass.

Rider students given chance to intern in D.C. for semester

By Julia Train

EACH semester, Rider students have the opportunity to use Washington, D.C. as their classroom.

The Washington Semester Program, administered by American University, allows college students across the country to complete a prestigious internship while living and studying in the city.

There are 4,000 organizations for internships in the program's database, including BBC News, Black Lives Matter and the United States Senate.

"We've had a lot of success with our students and one of the great things about this program is your ability to network with folks from all around the world ... I can't endorse it enough," said Michael Brogan, a political science professor and WSP liaison.

For 15 weeks (or eight in the summer), students complete an internship and two seminars, learning a lesson that only being immersed in the nation's capital can teach.

Along with the internship, there's a supplementary course that prepares students for the job market by helping them revamp their resume and cover letter and practice for interviews.

Participants spend three days in the field and two in the classroom each week; the program's aspects are designed to pair perfectly together.

The

course load is up to the student, ranging from a minimum of 12 credits to over 15; the internship and two WSP seminars total 12 credits, but courses of interest can be added, including ones that are needed for Rider students to stay on track for graduating.

Credits transfer back and forth between AU and Rider, and the process of setting up the transition is the same as it is for studying abroad.

"The idea is that it's seamless, that you can go do this program very easily," said Terrell Austin, the WSP partner relations director at American University.

In order to keep the process smooth, institutional financial aid and scholarships transfer between the schools; students receive a tuition bill from Rider and a separate one from AU for housing.

Students in the program live in off-campus apartments through TurnKey apartments, which cost \$5,850 for the entire time, which comes out to be about \$1,500 a month for the four-month lease.

Although they aren't living on campus, program members have access to resources like the fitness centers, health center, counseling center, 150+ clubs and organizations and an unlimited Metro pass.

The deadline for the spring semester is Nov. 15, but students interested in applying can speak to Brogan to see if the program is the right fit for them.

Terrell Austin gives students information on the process of transitioning into an internship at American University.



Julia Train/The Rider News

Urging for improvements

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

to worry about their kids getting to their car safely because we're not getting improvements."

Protesters were informed that tour guides received directions from their supervisors to not interact with the group.

Senior psychology major Anthea Thompson, a commuter who shared similar concerns, helped organize the protest with her class. "The lighting in the parking lots makes it feel really unsafe. The one blue light they did have they took out to try and make more spaces for new parking spots," said Thompson. "Now there's no way to try and get help if you're in a parking lot besides running to the nearest building which can be 50 feet away."

Administration confronted

At 1:30 p.m., hundreds of people walked past the protest, avoiding eye contact while student-protesters attempted to inform them on the safety they were fighting for.

Vice President of University Operations Mike Reca and Director of Public Safety James Waldon arrived at the protest to speak with the group shortly after.

Fleischer spoke with Reca and Waldon and reinstated the group's main cause for concern.

"It's very dimly lit at night and there's no security cameras. There's no emergency blue light, where is all that?," said Fleischer while describing the conversation. "This seems very important, necessary, especially with all of the break-ins happening on campus just as recent as Sept. 15."

Student-protesters are scheduled to meet with Reca and Waldon on Wednesday afternoon to discuss initiatives for change in Rider's parking.

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!



Jay Roberson/The Rider News



Families turn their heads as they walk by the students protesting for parking safety.



Parking passes, potholes and passionate peers

By Andrew Coates

WITH a new parking fee imposed on campus, Rider Public Safety has yet to provide any information regarding the number of parking permits sold this fall and income generated by traffic violations since 2020.

Rider students found no significant changes to campus roads and parking lots in the new school year, despite promises made by the university.

Ebenezer Abreu, a sophomore accounting major said, “Having to pay for something that was once free is angering.”

Last summer, students received an email announcement about having to pay to park on campus. Students could buy a full year permit for \$250 or a semester permit for \$125. The university also stated it would be required by the state to collect sales tax for permits purchased by commuting students.

At a meeting with faculty and staff early in the fall semester, Rider President Gregory Dell’Omo projected that the university would see \$550,000 in revenue from the new fee.

According to the number of enrolled students for the fall 2023 semester provided by Vice President of Enrollment Management Drew Aromando, the university should hit the goal; with 2,348 commuters, the university would generate \$587,000 if every single commuter purchased a full-year pass.

Along with the permit fee, Rider’s website provides that 50 new parking spaces will be repurposed for residential students in front of the Bart Luedeke Center in addition to road repairs and parking lot improvements across campus. However, students mentioned they are not finding these changes implemented and Public Safety hasn’t provided an update.

Katie Blowitski, a sophomore music education major, described her disappointment with parking as a commuter. She paid for a permit but never picked it up; however, no consequences have come of this.

“They have been very inefficient with how they’re getting [the parking passes] out. Even like last year, getting the parking permits, we were just able [to go to Public Safety], and then they would print it out for us ... you could get everything done at Public Safety, right there. This year it kind of feels like a hassle,” said Blowitski.

Blowitski’s other problem with parking was limited options. While she was registered to park in the lots near the BLC, a majority of Blowitski’s classes are on the far side of campus. She viewed it as an inconvenience and a potential danger to her safety.

“As a Westminster student, the parking spots by the BLC are way too far from everything, and when you’re on campus from like 8 a.m. to 9:30 p.m., it can be a really big issue of not just inconvenience, but also safety because you’re walking all the way from Fine Arts or Gill Chapel. ... Parking at Poyda or one of those athletic lots makes it so much easier,” said Blowitski.

Abreu shared Blowitski’s sentiments and said he did not enjoy the process that Public Safety made students go through.

“Last year you could just pay, and you could just come in and they give [a parking pass] to you,” said Abreu. “This year they didn’t tell us that, we had to go and ask. Then we paid, and then you had to wait until they gave it to you because it took a while.”

Abreu mentioned that dealing with Public Safety was difficult for him in the past because he forgot to display his parking pass and received a ticket.

“Eventually, they did wipe the ticket, but the process was annoying,” said Abreu.

Parking tickets generate another form of revenue for Public Safety. Fines range from \$20 for parking in the wrong spot to \$40 for speeding.

From July 2016 to June 2019, Rider assessed an average of \$129,197 each fiscal year for traffic violations, according to data provided by Public Safety last year.

In fiscal year 2020, which included the campus closure due to COVID-19, that number plummeted to \$19,300.

Director of Public Safety James Waldon and Vice President for Facilities and University Operations Mike Rea both declined to provide updated statistics this fall.

“This does not preclude we will be able to accommodate your request in future semesters,” said Waldon in an email regarding the requested parking information.

Students offered ideas which might provide solutions to their parking problems. Sophia Fleischer, a sophomore behavioral neuroscience major, preferred to see an improved parking lot for commuters after citing issues she had with the current parking lot.

“I’m always in the overflow, there’s a lot of potholes. I don’t appreciate the layout of it. It sort of feels like going through a labyrinth. And I stay very late hours here; I do a lot of stuff. So getting to that lot in the dead of night, it’s very terrifying. There’s no lights...and there’s not an emergency light,” said Fleischer.

Suggestions like Fleischer’s have potential to become a reality, according to Student Government Association President Naa’san Carr, who said that while SGA never encourages adding fees for students, things like a permit fee can be a necessity for an academic institution.

“Instituting a permit, which charges students, it now puts the power in the students’ hands again, of course, for us to keep the administration accountable for what they are doing. So as you noticed the potholes and the repaving of things, that’s what this fee should be going toward. We, as the students, should be advocating for the things that we need,” said Carr.

Carr mentioned that any suggestions regarding parking and campus roadways are welcome as SGA continues to work with the university to provide beneficial changes to campus. He encouraged students to reach out to him directly or to the SGA email.

Students who would like their voice to be heard about parking on campus can email sga@rider.edu or carnaa@rider.edu.



Jay Roberson/The Rider News

Averted strike showcases student frustrations

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

As of the morning of Nov. 14, Kristine Brown, associate vice president for university marketing and communications said that “a majority of all issues were resolved.”

Mark Solomon, vice president of legal affairs at the university, said, “Well, we always seek to be in compliance, right? At no time would I advise my client to do things that are outside of compliance. When we become aware of issues like this, collectively, we’ve got to fix it.”

An averted strike

Two weeks ago, the university averted a student strike amongst a group of Academic Success Center tutors after prioritizing their back pay and paycheck. After the 13 students were paid, they called off the strike, despite other ASC workers not being paid in a timely manner.

At the time, Shane Conto, director of the ASC, confirmed that certain students are still trying to receive their back-pay and that “there have been some isolated situations where some of our student workers didn’t get paid.”

Dell’Omo said, “We never want anybody to feel compelled to strike over a working condition. ... We want to do everything we can to avoid anybody having the feeling that they have to do that to get their point across.”

The Department of Labor allows employees to report compliance issues, which can result in fines to the employer.

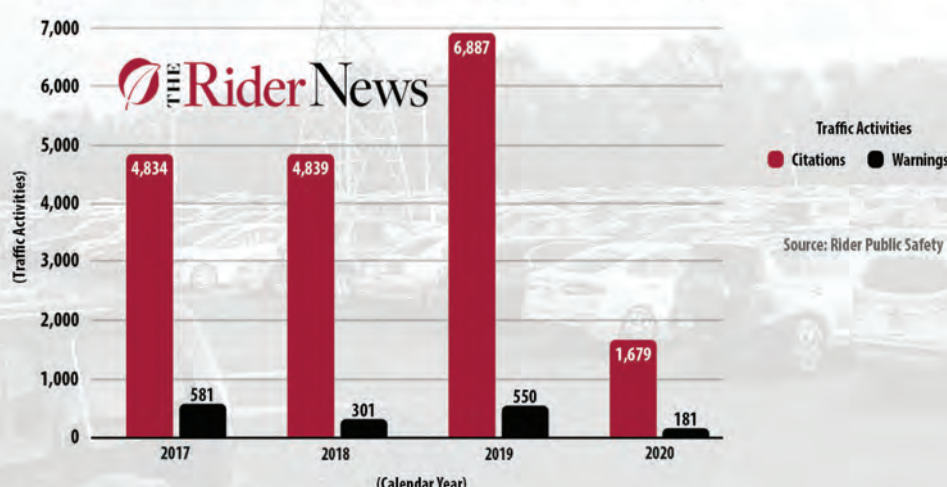
Currently, the university is trying to get all students off of ADP, and move them to Banner Web Time Entry. An email to students on Nov. 7 stated that, beginning with the Nov. 6 pay period, the university would be rolling out Banner WTE to all student-workers. Throughout the semester, Hartman stated multiple different dates for the rollout in interviews with The Rider News.

The university also invited student workers and supervisors to an Banner WTE open house on Nov. 15, where staff will be available to answer any questions.

“From an HR [human resources] standpoint, one of the first rules you learn is you don’t play around with people’s compensation,” said Dell’Omo.

Managing Editor Jake Tiger and Copy Editor Bridget Hoyt work at the Academic Success Center. They had no part in the writing or editing of this story.

Traffic citations and warnings issued by Rider Public Safety from 2017-2020



Rider Public Safety issued thousands of traffic activities from 2017-2020.

Eric Buckwalter/The Rider News

CHECK OUT THIS WEEK'S SECTION HIGHLIGHTS

NEWS

STUDENTS PROTEST FOR PARKING LOT SAFETY



During an open house on Nov. 10 students protested in front of the BLC to confront administration.

Page: **1**

FEATURES

DANCE DEPARTMENT PREMIERES NEW SHOW



This past weekend the dancers had an opportunity to showcase their talents in a new program.

Page: **6**

OPINION

STUDENT ENCOURAGES STUDENT WORKER UNION



Student shares how a union could be a helpful asset to Rider students.

Page: **8**

SPORTS

BRONCS WIN THE MAAC



Men's soccer defeated Iona winning their sixth conference championship.

Page: **12**

'Barbie' visits the Yvonne Theater

By Sarah F. Griffin

On Nov. 11, the Office of Campus Life showcased the blockbuster movie "Barbie" in the Yvonne Theater.

Wearing pink from head to toe, students grabbed pink-dyed popcorn and heart-shaped sunglasses as they waited in anticipation for the film to start.

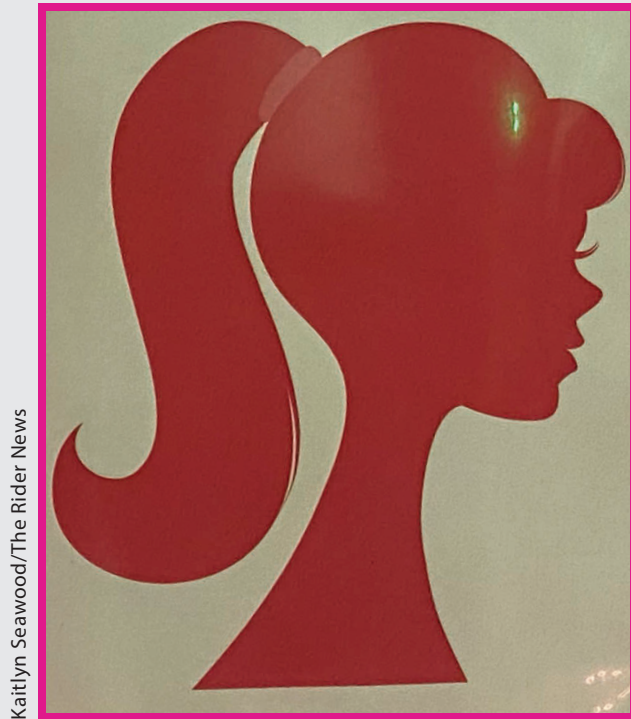
Even though the theater was only filled to a quarter of its capacity, the energy was electric, particularly when Ryan Gosling, Simu Liu and the rest of the "Kens" sang "I'm Just Ken."

The theater was deeply moved by America Ferrera's mid-movie speech about the struggles of being a woman and all of society's expectations for them, which was evident from the audible, heavy sighs from the audience.

"I feel like everyone would say that their favorite character is Ken," said Christiana Yerinides, a sophomore graphic design major. "But Ryan Gosling was so good as Ken."

Yerinides says she was excited to dress up for the movie night because she "didn't go anywhere for Halloween."

She noted that the movie is about how patriarchy can affect both men and women and how harmful the stereotypes that society perpetuates for both groups can be.



Kaitlyn Seawood/The Rider News

The Barbie logo welcomes guests into the Yvonne Theater..

"It's a deep movie, it's not a simple movie," said Yerinides. There are so many random rules that we don't even notice that society puts on us. This movie does a good job of pointing some of them out."

Joe Giambelluca, a junior English major, said he attended the movie night to "just have fun and get my mind off of stress."

Giambelluca, who saw the film two times before the Nov. 11 showing, dressed up for the occasion because getting all dolled up "is a good way to express yourself and just have a good time."

"I took away a lot from the movie ... Everyone is empowering in their own way," Giambelluca said.

Giambelluca said it "sounded appealing" that Rider would host more movie nights and social events in the future.

First-year graduate student in the Clinical Mental Health Counseling Dance Movement Therapy Program Marayah Vigo said that she felt as though everything the university has "been doing this semester has been really fun." Vigo found she particularly enjoyed Rider's Drag Show and Spectrum's Drag Queen Bingo.

Vigo said her favorite character from Barbie was probably America Ferrera's character. "I thought she did a really good job," said Vigo.

Vigo said she took an important message away from Barbie: "The world will always try and put you into specific categories, but you don't always have to conform to that. You can find your own category."



Barbie themed accessories are displayed for viewers upon entrance to the event.

Kaitlyn Seawood/The Rider News

CROSSWORD

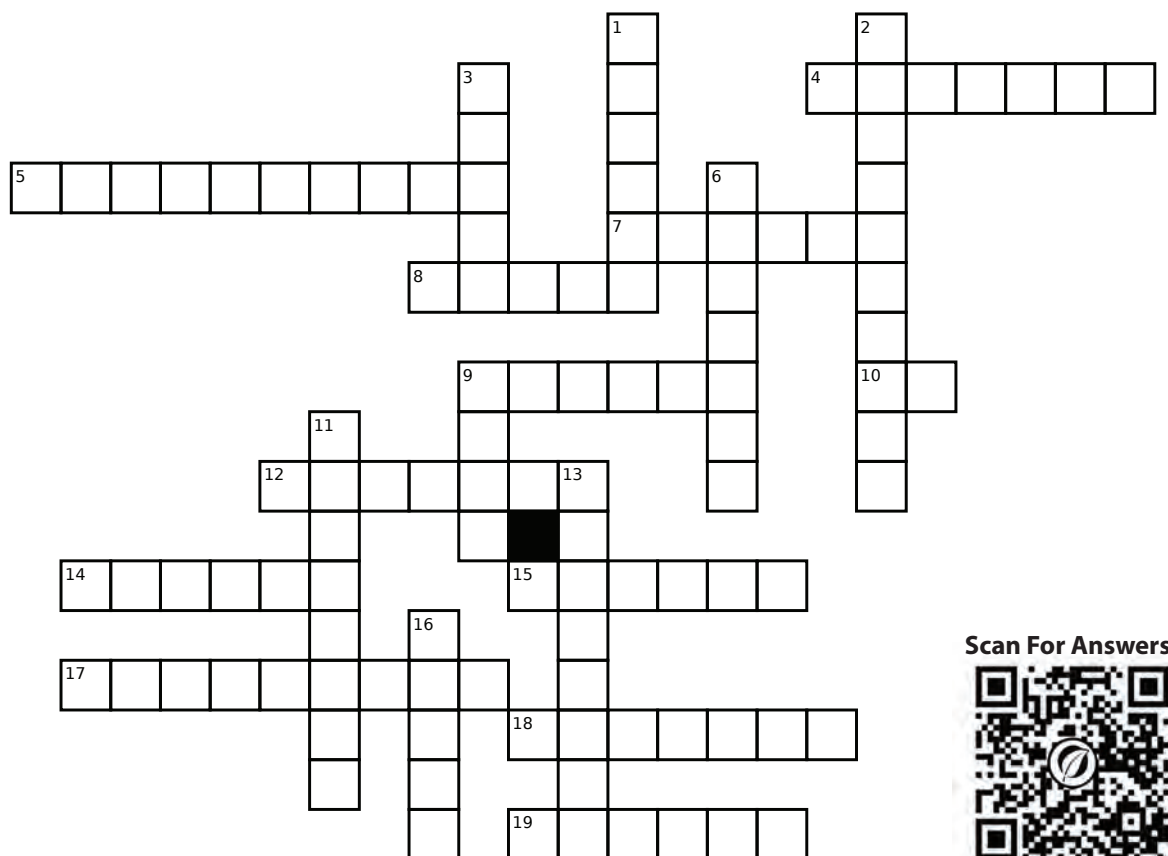
By Tristan E. M. Leach

ACROSS

- 4. The last name of the creator of R Factor
- 5. Residence hall for new members of fraternities
- 7. One of three theaters on campus
- 8. One of two dining halls on campus
- 9. Little structures found all around campus
- 10. Name of the mascot seen at open houses
- 12. Spot on campus to get a drink
- 14. Gym where basketball games take place
- 15. One of the most popular food options on campus
- 17. One of the colors of Rider
- 18. Meeting space in the BLC
- 19. First name of the basketball player whose jersey was retired in 2022

DOWN:

- 1. The popular student run cafe
- 2. One of the D-1 sports currently in season
- 3. Recently reopened residence hall
- 6. Name of the building that houses the pool
- 9. The first name of the current president of Rider
- 11. One of the top majors
- 13. The business building at Rider
- 16. The mascot of Rider



Scan For Answers:





Performers in junior dance major, **Jossie Hunter's** (fifth from left) piece, 'My Mind,' show off an impressive synchronized leap.

Peter G. Borg/Rider University

Dance department premieres new fall student concert

By **Tristan E. M. Leach**

EXCITED chatter filled the theater as people began to take their seats. On stage, videos of dance performances gave the audience a taste of what was to come. The lights went down and the stage was covered in a warm yellow glow. It was time for the dance department's Fall Student Dance Concert.

On Nov. 10 and 11, the department premiered the new program, which expanded on the previous performance, known as "Dance Day." The show featured 11 student-choreographed pieces and two short dance films that showcased solo work. At the start of the year, dance majors were invited to audition their pieces. After going through the audition process, each choreographer chose their cast from dance majors and minors.

The two shows differed on Friday and Saturday. On Friday, 24 high school students interested in the major spent a day with students in the program. The day included panels, a dance workshop and an opportunity to perform on the Bart Luedeke Center Theater stage at the end of the concert.

Christine Colosimo, visiting lecturer of dance, curated the performance. Colosimo was thrilled with the performance and was happy to see how many high school students participated in the day.

"[The department] expanded 'Dance Day' so that the recruitment at open house grew into a larger event. The high school students got to actually dance on stage and feel what it was like to be a dance major," said Colosimo. "That engagement of being on a university stage really excited them, and making a new friend who is already a college dance major would be really fun for them."

This new expansion worked just as Colosimo and the rest of the department hoped. Many of the high school



Peter G. Borg/Rider University

Junior dance major **Kate Harbison**, balances herself on sophomore dance major **Madison Reilly's** legs in the piece entitled: Ode to Sappho.

students who attended the event have already reached out to Colosimo with their interest. At the end of Friday night's performance, the 24 high school students got to improv on stage for two minutes. For part of the short performance, dance majors and minors joined the students. Colosimo attributes this opportunity to getting more potential students through the door.

While the Saturday night performance did not include improv, the performance was full of the same

energy and excitement. President Gregory Dell'Omo and his wife, Polly Dell'Omo, attended the show, much to the happiness of families and friends of the performers. Aniky Salima, a senior dance major, choreographed and assisted in the producing of the show.

Salima said, "I met with Christine to talk about some of the ideas I had, and then I was allowed the opportunity to hold auditions where other dancers could audition for my piece. The choreographic piece took about eight weeks."

Salima started putting together how she wanted her piece to look and what she wanted for the dance over the summer. The topics of pieces ranged throughout the show from dystopia to the beauty of lesbian love. Each piece captured the audience and immersed them in the stories on stage.

Once time got closer to the performances, aspects including costuming, lighting, hair and makeup were added, and the finishing touches were made. Peter G. Borg, Rider's photographer, came for a special photoshoot that showcased some of the greatest moments in each dance.

Colosimo and Samila expressed their gratitude to everyone who made this new opportunity possible and stressed the importance of giving back to the arts and appreciating the beauty of dance.

The night ended with bows from the student dancers and choreographers, who were given a bouquet of flowers from Colosimo. In the lobby, families and friends waited to greet performers with hugs, smiles and flowers.

Felicia Roehm is the opinion editor for The Rider News and was a performer in the Fall Student Dance Concert. Roehm had no part in the writing or editing of this piece.



Performers celebrate the beauty of friendship and platonic love.

Peter G. Borg/Rider University

Yusef Collins-Bryant discusses what made him Cranberry King

By Hannah Newman

SENIOR music production major Yusef Collins-Bryant has used the resources available to him to make college a steady foundation for the rest of his life.

Although he was accepted into the Berklee College of Music, the school did not provide Collins-Bryant with enough funds to attend. He then looked into Rider, which had been his first college acceptance.

His transition into college was altered due to the protocols of COVID-19, but Collins-Bryant did not let it deter him from collecting opportunities to grow and pursuing his dreams early on.

COVID-19 restricted hands-on experiences in his major, making it difficult to adjust to having an ensemble as an online class.

His previous major upon arriving at college, popular music studies, was cut prompting him to find something else that can support his drive toward success.

Living in Kroner Hall gave him exposure to sacred music at Westminster Choir College and provoked his involvement within the school's community.

"Westminster, sacred music, all of those things have been such unique experiences for me that I would never give up, even though I had to shelve them. Those people mean the world to me," said Collins-Bryant.

Collins-Bryant was also the last person to enroll in the sacred music certificate program before it was cut.

He said, "I wanted to combine my interests in African American studies with my interest in music, and they offered an Urban Church concentration course before being cut."

In pursuit of learning more about and sharing his heritage, Collins-Bryant was also the first person to minor in African American Studies.

"We needed to diversify the Rider dollar, we needed cultural studies, and I myself wanted to learn more about my culture," said Collins-Bryant.

Although Collins-Bryant was able to find his way through the obstacles of his major, the shift in discipline is something that still affects him.

"It still is a bit of an internal struggle for me, which is why I want to pursue my masters," said Collins-Bryant.

He filled the beginning of his college career quickly as he joined the Multicultural Student Leadership Institute through the Center for Diversity and Inclusion.

Pamela Pruitt, the former director of the Center

of Diversity and Inclusion, encouraged him to run for class council which is when his desire for involvement took flight.

Collins-Bryant was also a community assistant, an orientation leader and a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity.

"Yusef's kind spirit and selfless demeanor are attributes that have bettered not only the organizations he's been involved in, like [Sigma Phi Epsilon] and [Student Government Association], but the wider community as well," said former SGA President Andrew Bernstein, '23. "He is one of the few people out there whose mission is to lift others up, making his presence and impact all the more meaningful."

After becoming a brother to the fraternity, Collins-Bryant now stands as a new member educator as well as the diversity and inclusion chair.

Collins-Bryant was a prior recipient of the Balanced Man Scholarship granted by the fraternity to well-rounded, high-grade earning students.

Rider alum Jordan Allen, '23 said, "Yusef is one of those people you meet whose energy is just infectious. He is someone that will take on a problem head on and set a path for those who come after him. He is an inspiration to those around him, always ready to provide love and support to those who need it most, even when he may not have that energy to give up. I am proud to call him my little brother."

He was granted a choir scholarship to Conclave, a national conference for his fraternity that he attended during the summer of 2023.

Cranberry Court was something that fascinated Collins-Bryant and gave him the passion to participate when he was nominated as a senior.

Collins-Bryant was thrilled to find himself standing with the other candidates that he knew and was happy to be experiencing the memory with them.

"When she called my name I didn't know how to react," said Collins-Bryant.

As Collins-Bryant looks back to the moment when he decided where to go for college, he felt like he is exactly where he was meant to be.

"It's so crazy to me that I'm living this dream that I had before I knew I would come here and before I wanted to come here," said Collins-Bryant.



Photo courtesy of Yusef Collins-Bryant

Senior music production major **Yusef Collins-Bryant**, poses at at Sigma Phi Epsilon event.



Photo courtesy of Yusef Collins-Bryant

Yusef Collins-Bryant (front) poses with other students of the Westminster Choir College before a performance. The choir performs a variety of pieces from hymns to Christmas classics.

Student encourages student worker union on campus

RIDER student workers had a turbulent start to the academic year. For the last two and a half months, they have struggled to receive proper pay for their work at the university. For students on a student loan payment plan, or for those who have regular bills to pay, this issue is incredibly pressing.

Despite the recent issues with payment, they did not start with the school year; some students have had payment problems since the summer preceding the fall 2023 semester. Senior psychology major Meghan Ryan, who worked as a supplemental instructor this past summer, had to wait a month to receive payment for a two-week pay period. “It was just an absolute disaster trying to figure out how to get my money that I ... worked for,” said Ryan.

Ryan recounts having to repeatedly badger the university for the money she was owed, and despite her efforts, it still took roughly a month for the pay period to be paid in full.

While not being able to pay students on time and in full is shameful, this issue brought to light a larger problem within the student worker community: the need for a student worker union. This issue was most prominent in the way that the Academic Success Center strike was averted.

Thirteen employees for the ASC had threatened to strike if they were not properly paid, and the university met their deadline and paid the students. Although this could be generously labeled a “success” for certain student workers, there are still issues. This trend of the university holding their finances close to their chest can be seen in their reluctance to release financial reports regarding costs and profit from this year’s controversial changes to parking permits.

If the university could pay these 13 workers and supposedly make them whole, why could this have not been done when the university was aware of payment issues? As soon as the university was aware, every step should have been taken toward getting student workers who were missing checks paid.

The third issue is less of a mystery than the others; these students were paid because they took decisive action. By threatening to strike, they backed the university into a corner and got what they were owed.

This resolution to the ASC strike illuminates a truth that student workers across campus must recognize: we need a student worker union now. With a student worker union, things will change for the better for all of Rider’s student workers. For one, it would ensure everybody is talking about their wages, when they’re being paid and how they’re being paid. This promotes accountability for the university and ensures that student workers are never left in the dark. Along with accountability, a union would allow for more drastic strike action. Imagine if all of the estimated workers missing wages threatened to strike? Now imagine if a majority of the hundreds of student workers on campus threatened to strike in solidarity.

Unions work, plain and simple. With the SAG-AFTRA and WGA strikes recently concluding with massive deals in favor of the unions, we are living in a union renaissance of sorts. The sooner Rider’s student workers organize, the sooner conditions can improve.

Do not be afraid to make noise. Do not be afraid to talk to your fellow workers. Progress can only be made with complete and total solidarity. While I do not condemn the 13 ASC workers for getting paid, I can only ask: why should we be expected to stop at 13?

*Adrienne Bishop
freshman psychology major*

*Managing Editor Jake Tiger and Copy Editor Bridget Hoyt
both work for the Academic Success Center and had no part in the writing or editing of this story.*



Courtesy of Adrienne Bishop

Adrienne Bishop is concerned after some student workers still haven't gotten paid.

THE Rider News

Longstreet House, 2083 Lawrenceville Road, Lawrenceville, NJ 08648

©2023 General Meetings: Wednesdays at 4:30 p.m.

- | | |
|--|--|
| Executive Editor
Amethyst Martinez | Photography Editor
Kaitlyn D'Alessio |
| Managing Editor
Jake Tiger | Copy Editors
Asha Burtin
Madison Lewis
Caroline Haviland
Bridget Hoyt |
| News Editors
Julia Train
Jay Roberson | Social Media Editor
Kaitlyn Seawood |
| Features and Arts & Entertainment Editors
Tristan E. M. Leach
Hannah Newman | Design Manager
Eric Buckwalter |
| Opinion Editor
Felicia Roehm | Circulation Manager
Libby D'Orvillies |
| Sports Editors
Logan VanDine
Benjamin Shinault | Faculty Adviser
Dr. Jackie Incollingo |

The Rider News serves as a public forum for student expression and welcomes letters to the editor from all members of the university community. Letters must include the writer's telephone number and email address for verification. Letters that constitute personal attacks on individuals or groups are unacceptable. We reserve the right to edit letters to the editor for length, clarity, accuracy, grammar and libel. Letters must be appropriate in terms of taste and civility. Brevity is encouraged. All decisions are at the sole discretion of the editorial board, which may reject any letter. Send to The Rider News via email at ridernews@rider.edu. Letters must be received by midnight on the Monday preceding publication. Any tips or suggestions can be sent to ridernews@rider.edu.

- | | |
|---|--|
| @theridernews | @theridernews |
| www.theridernews.com | @theridernews |
| facebook.com/theridernews | ridernews@rider.edu |

One copy per person, bulk copies available for purchase at \$1 each



CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Professor concerned about students feeling unheard

In the wake of Rider's implementation of a student parking fee this semester, I have heard significantly more complaints than usual from students about parking on campus – both in regards to its availability and to the safety and condition of several of the lots. Other faculty members have told me about having similar experiences. Of these complaints, the most common one I have heard voiced by students is the feeling of being unheard by the university administration.

Feeling unheard by the administration is not limited to student concerns about parking. Sometimes, due to the recent high levels of staff turnover and frequent reorganization of administrative offices, students don't know who they should reach out to with questions or concerns. Other times, students feel that the administration is simply not interested in student feedback. Student Government Association President Naa'san Carr expressed this sentiment in reporting by The Rider News earlier this year on the new "First Day" textbook program. From concerns by Westminster students about the quality of facilities and continuation of their traditions on the Lawrenceville campus to the well-publicized recent difficulties paying student workers, students are consistently frustrated that the only responses they get from the administration seem to be empty promises delivered in emails apparently written by lawyers or crisis-management professionals. Or silence.

On Nov. 10, about a dozen students from my Social Movements class peacefully and respectfully picketed the university open house to draw attention to safety concerns related to parking issues on campus; to their belief the university had failed to live up to its promise that the new parking fees would allow for visible parking improvements to be made this semester. Their picket was not answered with an email, nor with echoing silence. After only a little over an hour, they were answered with a visit from both Vice President for Facilities and University Operations Mike Reca and Director of Public Safety James Waldon.

Reca offered to meet with the students in private at their earliest convenience to discuss their issues; that meeting is scheduled to take place this week. This response represents the emergence of a pattern. Reporting by Amethyst Martinez in last week's edition of The Rider News explicitly states that "The university has averted a student-strike amongst Academic Success Center tutors by prioritizing potential strike participants paychecks over other students across campus." Despite all their issues with paying student workers, the administration was somehow able to figure out how to pay specific students when it became necessary to avert a work stoppage.

My question then is if the administration was able to pay students threatening to strike, what is preventing them from getting all students paid?

Imagine what might have happened had the student strike leaders not called off the strike until all student workers got paid instead of just some?

There is an old union organizing slogan that states "United we bargain; divided we beg." The voice of one student complaining – even if that student is the president of the SGA – is easy to ignore, but even a dozen students standing in solidarity withholding work for promised pay or holding signs in the rain for promised parking lot safety upgrades is not. Students have more power than they realize. They just need to stand up.

Richard Zdan
sociology professor

Managing Editor Jake Tiger and Copy Editor Bridget Hoyt
both work for the Academic Success Center and had no part in the writing or editing of this story.



Courtesy of Richard Zdan

Richard Zdan shares that he believes more students feel ignored by the administration

JUNIOR JOURNALS

Tour guide loves spreading school spirit

BECOMING a tour guide was something that I always knew I wanted to do when I became a college student. When I came to Rider, I decided to apply for a tour guide position because I knew I wanted to share with prospective students how much I loved my school and be an influence as to why one might want to join our Rider community.

When I found out I got the job at the end of my freshman year, I was ecstatic. I got to move in a week early before the start of sophomore year, and I went through a thorough three-day training process where I learned the ins and outs of how to give a tour, and how to add in my own personal stories about Rider to share with prospective students. By the end of September, after completing three mock tours, I was officially a tour guide.

During my first year in the job, I met so many fantastic people, both through the Office of Admissions, and on my tours with new prospective students. One of my favorite moments I've experienced so far was getting to see a student that I had on my very first tour at an Admitted Students Day who had officially committed to Rider.

She came up to me during our student bingo session and said to me, "I don't know if you remember me, but I was on one of your tours back in September. I loved your tour and you made me love Rider after just one visit." That moment reminded me of why I wanted to do this job in the first place; to share with people what I love the most about Rider and why they too would love being a Bronc.

As the year went on and changes for the upcoming academic year took place, I decided that I wanted to apply to become a lead tour guide. The job requires one to be an example for all new and returning tour guides, help with the training process, and be of assistance to the visit team during all admissions events such as open houses and Admitted Student Days.

I started by doing an individual interview, then moved to the next round which was a group interview with all the other candidates. A week before the end of the spring semester, I found out that I got the job with all the other candidates that were up for the job as well. I was absolutely thrilled to be working with all seven of these people, and I knew that we were going to make a great team.

I have absolutely loved every minute of being a tour guide for Rider, and I would recommend it to anyone who was interested. Being someone's first impression of Rider can be a big responsibility, but it is also very rewarding to see the smiles on the prospective students' faces when the tour is over.

I am thankful every day that I took this job, and I can't wait for another two years of presenting Rider and how extraordinary of a school we are to our future students.

Allison Fama
junior dance major



Courtesy of Allison Fama

Allison Fama is a lead tour guide who enjoys being a potential student's first impression.

WRESTLING

Broncs split matches in first dual meets of 2023

By Logan VanDine

AFTER a strong performance at the Princeton Open, Rider wrestling kicked off its first dual meets of the regular season at the University of Indiana and Southern Illinois Edwardsville with the Broncs losing to Indiana, followed by a bounce-back win over SIUE.

'We had them on the ropes'

With hopes of building off their strong start at the Princeton Open, the Broncs traveled to take on Indiana, but in their first dual meet of the season, the Hoosiers proved to be too much for Rider to handle with the Broncs losing 27-15 on Nov. 10.

The match was off to a good start for Rider as they won four out of their first six matches of the night with some notable wins. Graduate student Richie Koehler had a 9-3 win in his bout, along with senior Quinn Kinner, who achieved a huge win over No. 6 Graham Rooks of Indiana by a score of 8-2.

Before the first half of the match concluded for a short intermission, junior Colton Washleski finished off on the right foot as he won by decision against Indiana's Nico Bolivar to give Rider a 15-7 lead.

Indiana took over for the rest of the match in the final four bouts of the night, outscoring the Broncs the rest of the way 20-0 to win the duel by a final tally of 27-15.

"We were in position to win the match, there were a couple of matches that we could've won, we just didn't finish the matches," Head Coach John Hangey said. "They just need to believe a little bit at a higher level and push the pace a little more."

Despite Hangey's disappointment in his team's inability to close out the match with a win, he was impressed by some of its matches, with Kinner being able to take down a ranked wrestler.

"Those guys wrestled the whole seven minutes. They really did well and managed some adversity, but Quinn just dominated that kid. It was a one-sided match, and Quinn was the most poised I have ever seen him," said Hangey.

Kinner also spoke about his dominant win and how the loss of his niece, Winnie Prescott, motivated



Photo by Maddie Boyd

Senior Quinn Kinner picked up two wins against ranked opponents.

him to give his all during his bout.

"I love the guys that I practice with, they get the most out of me. My little niece Winnie passed away recently and just seeing the strength and the faith in God that my family had, even baby Winnie had, that my sister had and my brother-in-law, everybody there, I couldn't tell you the things that it taught me," Kinner said.

'Our guys wrestled well today'

After a tough defeat at the hands of Indiana, the Broncs stayed on the road and headed to Illinois to take on SIUE.

Rider got back on the right track as it dominated the Cougars, winning 29-6 for its first dual meet win of the regular season.

It was a dominating match from start to finish by the Broncs as they won the first five of the six matches of the night that gave them a 17-3 victory.

Some of the notable bout wins that they were able to secure were Koehler winning his first by major decision with a score of 9-0 and Kinner winning his second bout of the weekend against a ranked opponent, defeating No. 15 Caleb Tyus by a 5-4 decision.

The Broncs won four of their final five matches of the afternoon with senior Tyler Klinsky finishing it off for Rider with his technical fall win by a score of 21-3, taking a 29-6 victory.

"It's always important to bounce back after a tough loss, especially when it's a conference opponent. Our guys wrestled well today; they were aggressive from start to finish in every match," Hangey said.

The Broncs will return to Lawrenceville for their first home match of the regular season on Nov. 19 when they take on Michigan at 2 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL

Rider takes one of two to close out season

By Terrell Munford and Glendale Eversley

In its last regular season matches, Rider volleyball split two home games, defeating Quinnipiac on Nov. 11, 3-2 and falling to Fairfield on Senior Day, 3-0 on Nov. 12.

'Why not us, why not now?'

The Broncs hosted one of their best comeback performances this season at home against Quinnipiac on Nov. 11.

The Bobcats took the first two sets 25-20 and 25-12 before Rider came back fighting, winning three straight sets over Quinnipiac to win the overall match 3-2.



Jayden Walker/The Rider News

Senior outside hitter Jenna Amaro launches to sail the ball over the net.

Head Coach Jeff Rotondo said, "The theme coming into the match was why not us? Why not now?"

The Broncs fell behind early in set one, and the Bobcats won the set without any stress due to Rider's lack of cohesion.

After Rider went up 2-1 in set two, it was all Bobcats as they went on to score six straight points, bringing the score to 7-2. Later, leading 9-5, Quinnipiac scored another five consecutive points and did not look back, taking the set with ease.

The third set was close early on. While trailing 9-8, Rider finally found its footing and came out better, scoring five straight points including back-to-back kills by sophomore outside hitter Kiannisha Santiago. After Quinnipiac came back too close to within 18-17, Rider maintained its lead to win its first set of the match.

In the fourth set, the Broncs took the lead early and again maintained a small lead for the majority of the set. While leading 16-11, the Broncs pulled away with four straight points on sophomore libero Keegan O'Connor's serve.

With the match tied at 2-2 in the fifth set, the Broncs took control of the match and momentum overall. Rider scored seven straight points, including three kills and a block by Santiago. Up 9-4, senior libero Molly Strah served for four points, including a back-row kill as the Broncs came back to complete the sweep.

"In the locker room at the half we talked things over and told each other how important this game is to us, and we all came together and got back

onto the same page," Strah said.

After the win, senior middle hitter Gabby Polynice gave her assessment of the team's progress. "We were working as a team now and everything is clicking, which is a plus for us," said Polynice.

Senior Night loss

On Nov. 12, Rider hosted Fairfield in its last game of the season. With a shutout loss to Fairfield 3-0, the Broncs closed out the regular season at 11-6 overall and 10-8 in Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference matches.

The Broncs came out determined as they stepped on the court for the last time, taking the first three points of the match on the serve from junior setter Ryley Frye. Down a score 7-6, Fairfield regained control with a charging 5-0 run.

Down 24-22, Rider swung back with three straight points to lead 25-24, but the Stags fought back with three straight points to take the set.

The third set was no different, resulting in 12 ties. Down early 6-5, Rider went on a 4-0 run including a pair of aces by freshman libero Simone Langford. Down 11-9, Fairfield responded again with another 6-0 run.

The Broncs still had a little bit of fight in them. Falling behind at 17-4, O'Connor came with an ace to cap off a 4-0 run, leading to a one-point advantage at 18-17. Tied 23-23, the Stags took the two final points of the match and got the win. The Broncs will head to Fairfield to play Niagara in the MAAC tournament on Nov. 17 at 6 p.m.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Broncs drop both road games, fall to 1-2

By Benjamin Shinault and Dain Smith

RIDER men's basketball has had quite the workload to kick off the season as the team has faced nationally ranked Marquette on Nov. 10 and Nebraska on Nov. 13. The Broncs so far on the road trip have gone winless.

'We have to play better'

Marquette defeated Rider 95-65 in its first battle against another Division I school on Nov. 10 at Fiserv Forum in Milwaukee. The Broncs' starting five was senior guard Corey McKeithan, senior guard Allen Powell, graduate student guard T.J. Weeks, senior forward Tariq Ingraham and senior forward Mervin James.

The Broncs kept up with the Golden Eagles at the start but fell behind as consistency lacked throughout the game.

Marquette began with a dominating 14-2 run, making the score 40-23 with 5:55 in the first half then quickly creating a 20-point deficit.

Marquette's defense was paramount to the win, sending doubles and trapping players mostly to James.

This created turnovers for the Broncs when posting up in the paint with their back turned.

Head Coach Kevin Baggett said, "We need to do a better job ... We didn't simulate at practice well enough, and we certainly learned that today. So we just got to go and watch our film tomorrow, and work on it in practice and get better."

At halftime, the Broncs were down 17, the score sitting at 49-32.

The beatdown got even more brutal in the second half, as the Golden Eagles extended their lead to 32 points, finishing at 95-65.

"The guys need to understand what it is that we're trying to get done and not take quick shots,



Jayden Walker/The Rider News

The Broncs could not pick up a victory as they fell to nationally ranked Marquette on Nov. 10 and Nebraska on Nov. 13.

and be more focused on the defense, and that's what it's about for us ... We only had six turnovers in the first half, then we had five quick turnovers in the second half. That can't happen."

With this in mind, Baggett explained how he planned to approach the following game against Nebraska.

"We have to play better in that game than we did tonight, be a better team, be better teammates, defend the three-point line, not give up as many transition points, and we will be fine," said Baggett.

'I thought we battled'

Coming off a brutal 30-point loss at the hands of Marquette, Rider continued its midwest road trip and headed to Lincoln, Nebraska, on Nov. 13 to take on the Cornhuskers where they would face yet another fierce opponent and another tough loss, 64-50.

Baggett and his coaching staff took a different route heading into the game against the Cornhuskers as they elected to start James on the bench instead of putting him in the starting rotation.

The Broncs as a whole did not shoot well in the first or second half as they had a combined field goal percentage of 30.4%. From beyond the arc it was just as disappointing, as they only knocked down six of their 25 attempts.

McKeithan recorded a new career high in points with 18. McKeithan also grabbed five rebounds, assisted on two buckets and recorded a block.

Despite the loss and the lackluster offensive numbers, Rider did come to play on the defensive side of the court as they held the Cornhuskers to only 64 points and kept Nebraska out of the paint, holding them to only 18 points within the painted region.

"We played a whole hell of a lot better than we did in the Marquette game the other night. Gave up some costly threes when the game was in the balance. I'm encouraged by our guys," Baggett said after the loss on GoBroncs.

With the loss, Rider drops to 1-2 on the season and they will now look ahead to their next opponent, Duquesne. The Broncs will face off against the Dukes on Nov. 17 at 7 p.m.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Rider picks up first victory of 2023, defeats Merrimack

By Logan VanDine and Kadie Digioseppe

AFTER a tough opening-night loss to Saint Joseph's on Nov. 7, Rider women's basketball got back on track with a 61-47 victory over Merrimack on Nov. 12.

The game did not start out ideally for the Broncs as the Warriors started the scoring and went on a 6-0 run, putting Rider in an immediate hole.

After the Warriors had a first quarter lead of 16-11, the Broncs put their foot on the gas pedal and were in complete control the rest of the way, outscoring Merrimack 18-6 in the second quarter to take a 29-22 lead into halftime.

In the third quarter, the Broncs once again outscored Merrimack 16-12 followed by a 16-13 fourth quarter affair to give Rider a 61-47 victory getting them back to .500 on the season at 1-1.

"We were really resilient today. I thought that we started to buy in on the defensive end, I thought we challenged our kids a lot over these last couple of days ... [We] definitely saw the improvements we worked on tonight, there's no question about it," said Head Coach Lynn Milligan.

The Broncs' leading scorers were senior guard Makayla Firebaugh with 19 points on 7-of-11 shooting, followed by the newcomer graduate student guard Taylor Langan in her first home game as a Bronc, scoring 16 points on 6-of-11. Langan previously played for Colgate University and Millersville University.

"I just wasn't performing the way I wanted to perform in the past two games. Today I was just like, 'Calm down, Makayla, be yourself, you know how to play, you know how to execute,' and that was kind of running through my mind the entire game," Firebaugh said.

Coach Milligan added how important it was for Firebaugh to get back in her groove: "For her to get going early today was a good thing, hitting the three, going off the bounce, being able to score in different ways is really important for us."



Kaitlyn D'Alessio/The Rider News

Senior guard **Makayla Firebaugh** had 19 points which led the team and helped lift the Broncs to their first win of the season against Merrimack.

Langan also talked about her overall performance in her first home game as a Bronc and how it was more of a team effort.

"I was just looking to get our other teammates open, it just happened that when you focus more on moving the ball, you end up giving your shot more open so it was good that we had a team effort," said Langan.

Coach Milligan commented on Langan's contributions during her first game: "Taylor was terrific, she's been around. She understands time and pace. She was able to slow us down a couple times."

The Broncs will play in Newark, N.J., on Nov. 15 to face the NJIT Highlanders at 7 p.m. The game will be streamed on ESPN+.

Sports

ONLINE

FOLLOW US ON X

Be sure to follow the sports section on social media for all things Rider sports!

FIND MORE SPORTS COVERAGE ON [THERIDERNEWS.COM](https://www.ridernews.com)

MEN'S SOCCER

Broncs capture sixth MAAC title, defeats Iona



Men's soccer celebrates after their win over Iona to advance to the NCAA Tournament.

Photo courtesy of Stockton Photos

By Aidan Brager

RIDER men's soccer is heading back to the NCAA Tournament as the Broncs defeated Siena in the semifinals and Iona in the finals to earn their sixth Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference Championship in program history.

Broncs advance

On Nov. 9, the Broncs won convincingly over Siena, advancing to the MAAC Tournament finals with a 2-0 win.

The game kicked off differently than the Broncs' others, with the team unable to convert on chances early in the game. Their constant pressure resulted in few chances.

This changed in the 36th minute, as the Siena keeper attempted to clear the ball but was instead intercepted by graduate student forward Zaki Alibou, who quickly took a strike on goal, landing in the top left corner. This was Alibou's first goal of the season, and gave Rider a 1-0 lead.

"I'm really happy that I could contribute," Alibou said. "The team did a great job defensively and offensively. We have to make sure we stick together."

Less than a minute later, Rider added to their lead. Alibou looked for a second goal as he attempted a header off of a cross. Although Siena saved his shot, sophomore midfielder Momo Diop was there to clean up the rebound, increasing the score to 2-0 heading into halftime.

The second half consisted of Siena clearly changing their style of play, which resulted in them

having twice the amount of shots then they did in the first half.

Due to the Broncs' stellar defense and goalkeeping, they allowed zero goals and went on to win 2-0, advancing to the MAAC Tournament finals.

"[Sophomore goalkeeper] Adam Salama was fantastic, said Duernberger. "He made a few saves that I could not believe myself."

When asked his thoughts on the match, Duernberger said, "I'm really pleased with how we were able to come out and play ... Really happy for our guys."

MAAC Championship

Late game heroics by Rider resulted in a nail-biting 2-1 win against Iona in the MAAC Tournament finals advancing the Broncs to the NCAA Tournament. In what has been the Broncs' most important game to date, they stepped up to the plate. "[It was] one of the wildest college soccer game I've been apart of," said Duernberger. The scoring kicked off in the 34th minute by Diop, who has caught fire as of late. Diop dribbled around the defense and fired the ball into the top right, giving Rider the lead.

The score stayed 1-0 heading into halftime as the Broncs and Gaels kept it close. The shot tally read 5-4 in favor of Iona.

Shortly after the second half began, Iona proved why they were here, scoring almost immediately after halftime to tie the game back up.

Iona took advantage of a mistake in the Broncs' defense, which led to a goal for the Gaels in the

47th minute.

"We knew being up 1-0, the game was probably not going to finish like that," said Duernberger. "We knew it was going to be a bit of a wild second half. Iona is very good."

The second half was a shot-heavy affair, with both sides having almost 10 shots each.

Late in the game, the Broncs' lead goal-scorer of the season was called. Senior forward Babacar Diene was on the right side of the field when he took one touch to the left and rocketed a shot towards goal. The shot would fly by the keeper to improve the Broncs' lead to 2-1 as Diene further proved his value to the team.

Although the game wasn't over yet, Iona kept on the attack in hopes of keeping their NCAA Tournament dreams alive. With just 16 seconds left, they got their chance.

The referee called a foul at the top of the box and awarded Iona a free kick, but changed the spot of the foul, giving Iona a penalty and chance to tie the game up and send it into extra time.

Iona stepped up and perfectly placed the ball into the bottom right corner. Fortunately for Rider, Salama made a phenomenal diving save to stop the shot.

Duernberger said, "I had full confidence in Adam ... I knew he was going to be up for it."

Time ran out and the Broncs were champions, punching their ticket to the NCAA Tournament.

Rider will be traveling to the University of Vermont to play the Catamounts on Nov. 16 at 6 p.m. The Game can be streamed on ESPN+.



THE Rider News
OFFICIAL MERCHANDISE
NOW AVAILABLE

