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Nardo Wick reinvigorates Rider concert tradition



Andrew Xon/The Rider News



Andrew Xon/The Rider News

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Nardo Wick takes the stage and performs for Rider students.

Gloss Up warms up the crowd, opening for Nardo Wick.

Rider Art Gallery's demise; first painting sells for \$65,000

By Amethyst Martinez

MICHAEL Graves, a world renowned artist and architect, had one of his last shows at the Rider Art Gallery in 2011 before his death at the age of 80 in 2015. Graves isn't the only well-known artist to have exhibited at the gallery, with a history of over hundreds of shows being held at Rider over the span of decades.

As cuts continue to affect the university, the arts have notoriously taken the biggest slashes, from the program cuts at Westminster Choir College (WCC), to the majority of professors retiring in the next two years departing from the College of Arts and Sciences.

Among the casualties is the Rider Art Gallery, a wheelhouse of artistic expression that once garnered attention from major publications like the New York Times due to the artists and art it would bring to campus. It was known as a center that brought together not only students, but visitors to view art from a variety of well known artists.

Now, the donated art that once was put on display for those who came to see sits in a storage room on campus, stacked on top of each other with cardboard and plastic wrap separating hundreds of prints and paintings, the value truly unknown. The Rider News visited the room with the art, and was asked by university officials to not reveal the location due to the potential value.

The first sale

With no announcement to the university community, Rider recently sold one painting in its collection for \$65,000 and is having other works appraised, according to James Hartman, senior vice



Adrienne Unfreed/The Rider News

After the COVID-19 pandemic, the plans for an art gallery were discarded.

president for finance and chief financial officer.

As the university struggles to catalog and appraise the art in storage, a vacant desk joins it in the space, once belonging to Julia Marsh, the last art gallery director.

Marsh, who worked at Rider for a little over a year, left in June 2020 to care for her sick father. However, the overarching detail of the art gallery being closed down was in the back of Marsh's mind when she stepped down.

"I'm not surprised that [a new gallery] was never built, and they never replaced me," said Marsh. "A lot of things in the art world died during COVID, and some for reasons that make sense, and some that don't."

The gallery was shut down shortly before Marsh's departure to accommodate the need for offices in the Bart Luedeke Center; however, a plan was in place for the building of a new space.

The new location of the gallery, which was

announced a month before the pandemic struck, was initially planned for the front end of the Fine Arts building, along with a three story addition to lodge WCC. However, neither construction project came to fruition.

"I saw that the plan for this more accommodating art gallery was gone," said Marsh. "What was there was like an enlarged entryway that was really just a lobby."

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit, Rider was no stranger to the financial struggles faced by higher education institutions worldwide, placing the Fine Arts expansion plans at a halt, according to Rider Provost DonnaJean Fredeen.

"It's not going to happen in the ... foreseeable future," said Fredeen. "I'll let people define what they think the foreseeable future is."

'The artwork was really, really, valuable'

Before Marsh, Harry Naar was the past art gallery director, art curator and fine arts professor at the university who spearheaded the creation of the gallery and retired in 2019.

Naar said that all of the pieces were donated to the school, usually from artists who had exhibited at the art gallery. He added that the university "did not have to pay for a single piece of artwork."

Although pieces are hung in various places around the university, hundreds of pieces sit in a room waiting to be appraised. The university's collection spans decades with paintings, sculptures, prints and more donated to Rider, mostly during Naar's span as art gallery director.

"It was considered really one

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INSIDE

RUNNING THE TABLE

Both men's and women's track placed first at Rider's first home meet of the Spring season.

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TRANSGENDER STUDENTS AT RIDER SPEAK OUT

Transgender and nonbinary students asked to be seen and respected for who they are.

PAGE 8

THE EVOLUTION OF CONCERTS AT RIDER

Rider's history of guest performers in the annual concert series.

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SECURITY BRIEFS

BY AMETHYST MARTINEZ

CORRECTIONS

In the March 22 edition of The Rider News, Christine Melhorn's name was misspelled in an article. The Rider News regrets this error.

Missing chargers

Serious charges. On March 20, at 9:50 a.m., Public Safety was dispatched to Alumni House for the report of a theft. Upon arrival, Public Safety met with a staff member who reported their Apple charger had been taken from their workstation sometime between March 15-20. There were no signs of anything else taken or out of place. Public Safety is investigating.

Injured by basketball

Assistance required. On March 21, at 11:37 p.m., Public Safety was dispatched to Switlik Hall for a report of a medical emergency. When they arrived, Public Safety met with a student who reported that they had injured themselves playing basketball at the Student Recreation Center (SRC). Public Safety evaluated the student and called for an ambulance for further treatment.

- Information provided by Public Safety Capt. Matthew Babcock

Brogan, students help fight food insecurity

By Jake Tiger

WITH frantic authority, professor Michael Brogan flung his classroom door open at 2:44 p.m. on March 23, holding a box of assorted, snack-sized bags of chips.

Brogan began lofting chips across the classroom to his students, who happily received them without batting an eye, before he himself tore into a bag of Cool Ranch Doritos, and started instructing his class — a typical Thursday afternoon for POL 205, Introduction to Public Policy.

Brogan always brings snacks on Thursdays when his students make calls for the Trenton Health Team, following up with residents of Mercer County who participated in surveys regarding the area's food insecurity resources.

"We're calling these people who have food insecurities, who applied for the survey," said junior political science major Ranai Morgan. "It's definitely rewarding because you want to make sure that these people are getting the stuff that they need."

Brogan and his classes have been working with the Trenton Health Team for about a year, making hundreds of calls every Thursday to combat food insecurity in the region and get real-world experience in the field of public policy.

In the past, Brogan's classes have also worked with the Delaware Riverkeeper Network, making similar survey calls.

"I think the big skill it gives them is just being able to manage a pretty complex project," said Brogan. "They're working as teams, giving numbers, making calls, reading the script, and then of course, updating the database."

At the start of class, Brogan assigned each of his five

groups of students about 40 phone numbers to call out of around 500 total.

The groups then broke off into their designated offices to enter the numbers and make calls, most of which unfortunately went unanswered as usual, spending a majority of the period listening to dial tones, and if they were lucky, an answering machine.

"Unfortunately, most of the respondents don't actually participate in the survey or don't answer," said sophomore political science major Carmen Scialla. "Sometimes you'll get people, and most of them usually aren't interested."

According to Scialla, of the hundreds of numbers called, the class had only reached nine people who planned to follow through with the survey.

"It's kind of sad that the numbers are low," said junior political science major Naa'san Carr. "I wish more people would answer the phone, because we have resources out there for them. ... You change the world one person at a time."

While students oscillated in their office chairs and listened to the phone ring, Brogan ran back and forth between the second floor of the Fine Arts building and the third floor of Sweigart Hall, the two locations where his students made calls in empty adjunct offices.

"It gets a little crazy walking around the buildings," said Brogan. "We used to have a phone-a-thon room ... in the Canastra Center, but I think they redid that for faculty offices, so they got rid of it."

The session on March 23 marked the final time the class made calls for the Trenton Health Team, finally finishing the laundry list of phone numbers. Of course, Brogan saw fit to celebrate the occasion the only way he knew how.

"Next week, I'll bring donuts," said Brogan. "You can tell them that and hold me accountable."

For Rider students struggling with food insecurity, the campus' food and resource pantry provides food, clothing and other essentials to those in need, and can be found in room 23 of the Joseph P. Vona Center, beside Daly's Dining Hall. Operating hours and more information can be found on Rider's website under the Office of Service and Civic Engagement Resources tab.



Jake Tiger/The Rider News

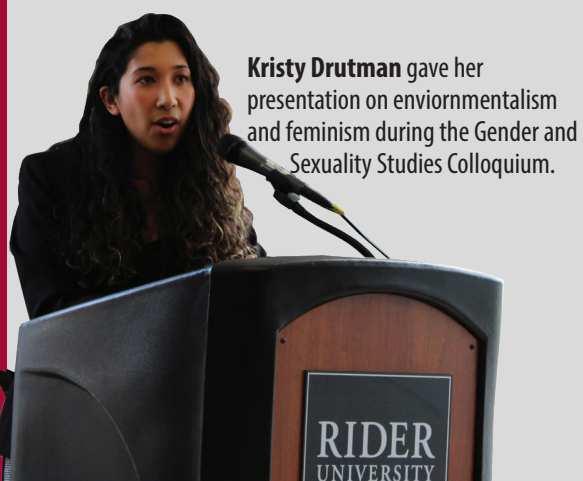
Carmen Scialla (left) and Andrew Cantermen (right) speak about their class.

Gender and Sexuality Studies program hosts 41st Colloquium

By Shaun Chornobroff

KRISTY Drutman's identity BrownGirl Green was created during her senior year of college. Her activism has cultivated into a massive following within the environmental space, pioneering not only her own brand, but the Green Jobs Board, a company dedicated to aiding passionate environmentalists within the activism industry.

On March 28, Drutman was the keynote speaker of Rider's 41st Gender and Sexuality Studies Colloquium, encouraging a crowd in Lynch Adler Hall 202, largely



Kristy Drutman gave her presentation on environmentalism and feminism during the Gender and Sexuality Studies Colloquium.

Shaun Chornobroff/The Rider News

compromised of students and young people, who are a part of the generation who have the power and responsibility to reverse the climate crisis encapsulating the world.

In her speech titled, "Owning Your Environmental Story: Feminism as a Tool for Climate Justice," Drutman talked about not only her path and efforts, but the need for more young people to use their voice to cultivate change.

"It can't just be me, nor do I want it to be," said Drutman. "I'm literally up here because I want all of you in your own regard because we need you."

In addition to Drutman's speech, panels on gender and media, historicizing sex and gender and the literary constructions of gender were held during the colloquium, which spanned from 9:45 - 6 p.m. Along with the panels, there were posters on the second floor of Lynch Adler Hall, showcasing student research into a number of categories related to gender and sexuality.

"I think in this moment where gender studies programs are being banned, potentially, LGBTQIA+ studies are under threat and the marginalized communities associated with them are threatened more than ever, this program and this colloquium is important too," said Associate Professor and Director of Gender and Sexualities Program Erica Ryan,

during the introduction of the keynote session.

Before Drutman took the stage, multiple awards were given out, including the 2023 Ziegler-Gee Award, which was given to Associate Professor Allison Weidhaas and the Virginia J. Cyrus Scholarship which was awarded to junior music production major Asha Burtin.

"It's important for students to get an opportunity to learn about how to advocate [but] also to learn about others' experiences in meaningful ways, and by having people talk about their experiences with gender discrimination and with sexuality discrimination, it's an opportunity for students to learn beyond the classroom," said Weidhaas.

Drutman opened her speech to the Rider community with a land and labor acknowledgement, shining light on how the university was built on ground that once belonged to the Leni-Lenape tribes and that the country is built on labor of enslaved people who were forcefully brought to the country, as well as acknowledging immigrant labor.

She then did a mental grounding exercise, asking the audience to close their eyes, breathe and mentally venture to a place in nature that they really love. Drutman asked the audience to survey their mental surroundings before allowing them to open their eyes.

Community mourns the once popular Rider art gallery

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

of the best exhibition spaces in New Jersey, really in the tri-state area,” said Naar. “Artists, when I approached them, no one ever said no. They were thrilled.”

Marsh said that Naar’s departure gave the university the chance to make adjustments to the gallery space.

“The person that developed the gallery and ran it for almost 35 years, when he walked away, I think they saw it as an opportunity to make these changes,” said Marsh.

Marsh also talked about the difficulties of the job, with not enough time to perform the needed work due to her part-time position, as well as the small budget allotted for the gallery.

“I think that Rider didn’t have any real investment ... in the gallery the way that other institutions have,” said Marsh. “A lot of universities and colleges see their galleries as being like a draw, and also a conversation space and a place where community can gather, and that is a place of testing the limits of what we consider a contemporary thought.”

‘It was almost criminal’

Mel Liepzig, a nationally known artist from New York and Trenton, New Jersey, was one of the artists

who exhibited in the gallery. Now retired, he resides in Cape Cod, Massachusetts, during his summers, and spoke to The Rider News about the loss of the gallery not only to Rider, but the state.

“It was almost criminal ... that it has been closed,” said Liepzig. “It was a boon, really, to the reputation of Rider.”

Universities across the country have been selling their art collections in order to dig themselves out of financial turmoil, causing a serious moral question to the validity of selling donated art.

This semester at Valparaiso University in Indiana, the school angered faculty and students with a plan to sell valuable artwork to fund residence hall renovations in an attempt to halt declining enrollments, according to The New York Times.

Rider has recently sold a single painting titled “View Through Elliot’s Shack” by artist Lois Dodd, according to Hartman. He said that the artist is living, endorsed the sale and approved the deposition of the work.

Hartman also said the university has no other plans of selling more artwork, and the funds of the Dodd painting will go toward reducing the university deficit.

Some of the donated art still hangs around campus, mostly due to the work of Naar, who made the decision to showcase the art across the university in an effort to “create a better

environment for the administration and for students.” Some of the locations include administrative offices, Bierenbaum Fisher Hall, the library and more.

“It started to inform people that we were culturally involved,” said Naar. “I was really passionate about it.”

Jessi Oliano, a graphic design professor and one of the last on campus who teach visual art, saw the gallery not only as a faculty member but as a student during her time at Rider. She described the importance of an art gallery as “multifaceted.”

Oliano explained, “Art inspires, challenges, and enriches our lives, and it is essential to have a dedicated space where students, faculty and the greater community can come together to experience and celebrate the transformative power of creativity.”

The history of the gallery is neverending, with hundreds of shows showcasing artwork worth millions of dollars combined. Now, Rider has not only lost the art gallery as a creative and cultural space, but also lost the reputation it brought to the university.

“Too many schools, I think the first thing they’ll do is cut the arts,” said Liepzig. “That is not an attitude to have. ... It’s important to the culture of the state. It’s important to the reputation of the state. ... It was the best gallery in New Jersey. Period.”



Amethyst Martinez/The Rider News

2023: Hundreds of art pieces now sit untouched and unadmired in storage.



Amethyst Martinez/The Rider News



File photo/The Rider News

2011: Michael Graves (left) and Harry Naar (right) discuss Graves's work and influence.



File photo/The Rider News

2018: Artist Mel Liepzig tells stories relating to his exhibit.



Courtesy of Rider University

A mock up of what the Fine Arts Building remodel would have looked like, sent to the Rider community in 2020 before the COVID-19 pandemic.

Renowned Sovietologist speaks on war

By Kaitlyn McCormick

STANDING at the front of the Rue Auditorium without notes, slides or even a microphone, Alexander Motyl captured the attention of nearly 40 silent audience members. Motyl, a political science professor at Rutgers University Newark, Sovietologist and this year's speaker for Rider's 29th Annual Levine Lecture presented "The Russo-Ukrainian War: One Year After," on March 27.

A son of Ukrainian immigrants and a former administrator at Columbia University's Harriman Institute, Motyl has both the personal and academic experience to discuss the ongoing war in Ukraine.

When he got into the field of Sovietology, the study of policies and practices of the Soviet Union, Motyl said in an interview with The Rider News before his lecture, there were "probably about 30 or 40 people in the country who were interested in those issues." The fall of the Soviet Union and the period around 1988-92 soon gave people in Motyl's profession their "time in the sun."

From her place on the auditorium stage, history professor Nikki Shepardson, who organized the event and delivered the introduction for Motyl, asked the audience how many of them were not alive when the USSR fell. The responses were mixed in the faces of audience members that spanned generations, some taking notes and others wearing their support for Ukraine through yellow and blue masks, ribbons and other accessories.

Motyl spent the next 90 minutes recounting to an engaged audience his take on the Russo-Ukraine war, emphasizing arguably the most important point from his lecture and one he shared that he hopes audience members walk away with.

"This isn't just a war ... that began in Feb. 2022," Motyl said. "It's a war that began in 2014, but, more than that, it's a genocide. We are witnessing a genocide."

Motyl discussed key elements of the war, contextualizing for the audience both Putin and Ukraine's history, theorizing war tactics, running over statistics of death counts and military supply as well as a multifaceted approach to dissecting the ideologies at play.

The annual Levine Lecture is endowed by the family of late professor Emanuel "Manny" Levine, who predated Rider's history department.

For the entirety of this year's presentation and the lively Q&A session that followed, a piece of Motyl's expertise was imparted on a watchful audience.

Patrick Luckie, a junior history and secondary education major, said he was so excited for Motyl's lecture that he got to the auditorium early to claim a seat. He shared that because he came in as a freshman during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, he did not have the opportunity to attend a Levine Lecture in 2020, but after hearing last year's presentation on the Civil Rights Movement, he made a vow to come back.

"I found it so interesting that I cleared it up on my calendar and made sure that as long as I'm at Rider I'll keep coming back to this event," Luckie said.

The future educator also shared that he came in with the intent of gaining the experience of learning from a qualified source like Motyl. "Having someone who has the credentials come in and talk about [the Russo-Ukraine War] is a breath of fresh air, especially when there's so much uncertainty right now," he said.

Students like Luckie, however, were not the only audience members.

Larissa Kebuz not only has a son that attends the university, but she is an active member of Philadelphia Ukrainian community who found out about the event through psychology professor and outspoken Ukrainian advocate Chrystina Dolyniuk.

"When we grew up and told anybody we were Ukrainian, 90% of the time their response was, 'Oh, is that kind of like Russian?'" Kebuz said, speaking for herself and the friend she had attended with. To see Ukraine being discussed at a university of Rider's stature with a high level of interest and a speaker of Motyl's caliber was, as Kebuz described, "mind blowing."

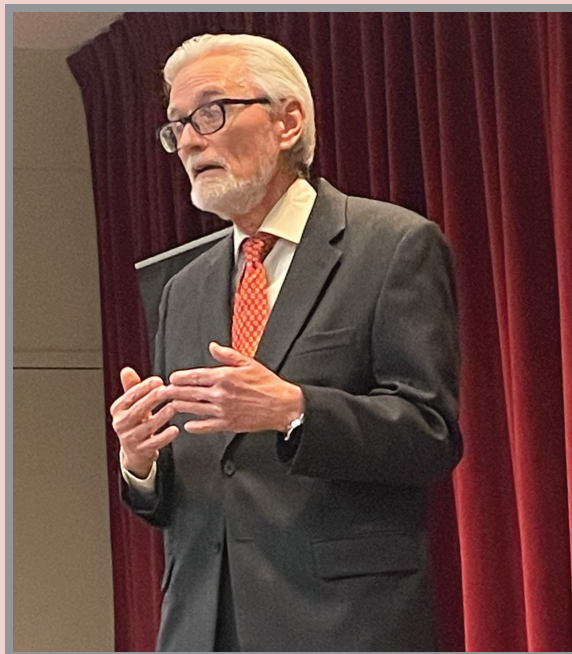
"It's really impressive how far the knowledge about Ukraine has come in this country," Kebuz said, also expressing her excitement at the number of young, non-Ukrainian attendees present.

Shepardson, the chair of the history and philosophy department and organizer of the event, expressed her gratitude to the Levine family for endowing this lecture series which allows for experts like Motyl to not only share with students, but also with university faculty, staff and members of the surrounding community.

"I realized a lot of our students weren't aware ... of what was going on. They knew there was a war ... but I don't think they understood what was behind it, and I thought it was really important for us to bring in an expert in the area to speak on it," Shepardson said.

And it is the perceived hope of Motyl that the profundity of the war remains impacted on those in attendance.

"If Ukraine loses, Russia wins. If Russia wins, we're dead ducks," Motyl concluded.



Alexander Motyl lectures to an attentive crowd.

Andrew Xon/The Rider News



President Gregory Dell'Omo's influence is recognized.

Dell'Omo receives recognition

By Jay Roberson

Rider President Gregory Dell'Omo was placed on the ROI-NJ Influencers Power list for 2023 in recognition of his commitment to preparing successful professionals at Rider University.

ROI-NJ's Influencers Power list consists of the top 60 business leaders along with 14 other categories. Dell'Omo was placed in the higher education category, among 18 other leaders like Brian Bridges who serves as the Secretary of Higher Education for the state of New Jersey.

Dell'Omo reflected on his placement next to other influential education leaders in a university press release.

"I am honored to be included alongside so many distinguished colleagues working toward the common goal of student success," Dell'Omo said. "Rider has always been fully committed to our students' pursuit of higher education and professional development, but we could not do so without the dedication and generosity of our community. I share this recognition with them."

Throughout his tenure at Rider, Dell'Omo has made it his main goal to increase student recruitment numbers and ensure financial viability.

In January, the Board of Trustees made the decision to extend Dell'Omo's tenure as president an extra year, through 2025.

"In making this decision, the Board took into account many of President Dell'Omo's accomplishments realized during his tenure, including his current ambitious and comprehensive plan to transform Rider University into a financially viable institution able to withstand the many challenges facing higher education today," said John Guarino, chair of the board of trustees.

In the 2022 fiscal year, Dell'Omo received \$15.1 million in donations which he was able to add to the "Transforming Students – Transforming Lives: The Campaign for Rider University" fund. This fund invests into scholarships for students and Rider's endowment, campus facilities and Rider's Annual Fund which supports students.

Dell'Omo has broken records in fundraising as well as receiving the largest donation in the history of the university. All money raised goes toward investing in Rider's future.

Provost DonnaJean Fredeen spoke about the president's strategic thinking when it comes to Rider's present and future.

"I think he's bold, and he is a visionary," Fredeen said. "And even though he may be focusing on the issues in front of us at this point in time, he continues to also focus on the future as well."

GSS welcomes timely keynote speech

CONT'D FROM PAGE 2

"When we're talking about climate change and these really big systemic issues around environmental justice and thinking about caring for the planet, we first have to understand our disconnect from nature," said Drutman. "A lot of us come from cultures and ancestries where we were very connected to the land and connected to the environment. Due to the economic and political systems that exist today ... we've been separated from the land, separated from our connection with nature."

Throughout her speech, Drutman, who is Jewish and Filipino, explained the impacts of colonization on environmental issues, and how women and minority groups are disproportionately affected by climate crises, yet are very often not given a voice in changing the current impact. Drutman said 67% of

climate-related decision making is made by men.

When it comes to philanthropy, Drutman said only 2% of all philanthropy goes to anything related to climate change and that 25% of staff and only 4% of senior staff that handled funding identified as people of color.

"We bridge the climate education gap, we're actually putting women in the roles to be leaders and adapters and actually protect the communities a lot more," said Drutman. "Because we're actually putting them in positions where it's like, 'No, I do have the degree, I do have the expertise, I'm leading my community and we're making sure that they're in those rooms. And that's something that's going to be continuously very critical.'"

Read more online:

Womxn's Sports celebrates year's achievements

By Sarah F. Griffin



Students host teach-in following Nobel Peace Prize ceremony

By Julia Train



'Up and coming' rapper rekindles concert tradition

By **Tristan E. M. Leach**

THE night was filled with anticipation as a line formed on the sidewalk outside the Student Recreation Center (SRC). Students excitedly conversed as the sun began to set. The doors to the SRC swung open and the hoard of people began to enter the SRC courts. It was time for the much anticipated Nardo Wick concert on March 24.

Friday saw the return of Rider's long-standing tradition of yearly musical performance. Now called the Student Entertainment Council (SEC) concert, the show was put together by a dedicated group of students and Nick Barbati, associate dean of campus life. Barbati has overseen the creation and execution of several SEC concerts and said he was thrilled to see the tradition return to Rider's campus.

Barbati could be seen working throughout the day of the show, preparing for the yearly concert tradition that was struck by the COVID-19 pandemic. Wick was chosen by the SEC to perform after an agent told the group what the college market is looking for, explained Barbati.

"He is young, he is up and coming and that's the coolest thing in the history of Rider concerts. We've had some incredible acts as they're on the rise," said Barbati. "I think the idea of him being a real up and coming star that is having some massive success, an album that is really high on the charts and he's had some big singles. I think he's got a superstar quality to him."

Whether or not they've heard of Wick, the SRC courts became packed with students who were ready for a night of dancing, music and fun. Groups of friends danced as different rap songs played over the speakers and multi-colored lights flashed. Soon, a member of the SEC came onto the stage to hype up the audience and the opening act, Gloss Up.

A few minutes later, Gloss Up made her appearance on the stage. Sporting an orange top and ripped jeans, the rapper had the audience jumping, dancing and twerking with each other. The artist was a hit with the audience and many expressed their joy at the pick of the opener.

Kayla McIntyre, a junior global studies major, came to the concert for the ambiance but also because she knew the artists performing. When asked about her favorite part of the show, McIntyre expressed her appreciation for the interactivity.

"Definitely the opening act, Gloss Up but also how the DJ was super interactive with us," said McIntyre.

Gloss Up hand picked several students from the crowd twice. The first time the chosen few did a variation of "Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes." The dancing students showed off their best moves and had the audience cheering. At the end of her set, Gloss Up selected a few lucky students to rap in a song with her. The interaction was unlike any other, and Gloss Up hyped up the crowd before Wick made his way to the stage.

As the audience waited for the main event to begin, rapper Ty50 and wg ian rapped while Wick built anticipation of his appearance. As the clock struck



Graphic by Eric Buckwalter/The Rider News. Photos: Andrew Xom/The Rider News

Nardo Wick (back center) was selected to bring back the Student entertainment Council (SEC) concert tradition. **Wick** was joined by special guest, **Gloss Up** (front center).

9:30 p.m., the rapper made his way to the stage.

Wick sported a gray sweatshirt that covered half of his body, low-rise jeans and his infamous chains. Fans of Wick cheered as the artist started his set. Even people who only knew Wick from TikTok were roaring with excitement.

Emma Matera, a freshman business administration major, knew very little about Wick but that didn't stop her from joining in on the fun with her friends.

"I wanted to come with my friends and I've heard Nardo's name around TikTok. [I was] definitely social media influenced. I'm excited to be here with my friends and my peers and just really have a good time" said Matera.

The night was full of fun as fans of Wick sang along. Though his set was short, the audience was riding the high of the concert all night. As students left the SRC excited, chatter could be heard, expressing the joy and excitement that had been brought to the campus.

Students and staff alike hope to see the SEC

concert return again next year, rekindling the tradition that has long awaited a triumphant return.

Scan the QR code to see Nardo Wick and special guest Gloss Up at Rider.



Eric Buckwalter/The Rider News. Photos: Andrew Xom/The Rider News

Nardo Wick (left) was chosen to bring back the SEC concert tradition. **Gloss Up** (center) was the opening act for this year's event, and invited students up on stage with her (right).

The evolution of concerts at Rider

By Hannah Newman and Tristan E. M. Leach

THE evolution of music has traveled through history and left a staple in every decade. In the midst of music making history, Rider has showcased many historical artists dating back as far as the '60s.

When the tradition first originated, the College Union Board (CUB) worked alongside Rider's Student Government Association (SGA) by networking figures to perform on campus.

The CUB was a sub-government of SGA at the time, which did the work of what is now known as the Student Entertainment Council (SEC).

The board was responsible for the majority of entertainment on campus during this era. The most popular figures of the '60s that performed at the university were The Beach Boys in May 1966, Simon and Garfunkel in October 1966, Vanilla Fudge in November 1968 and Janis Joplin in November 1969, who passed away the following year.

Alumni Randy Bergmann, '69, recalled that there were nearly 30 concerts during his four years at Rider. Tickets to attend these concerts ranged from three to five dollars, which he explained was a sign of the times.

Artists during this period made most profit off of CDs, which made concert tickets cheaper; however, with the interference of technology to the music industry, concert tickets and streaming services such as Spotify and Apple Music have dominated the once booming demand of CDs among fans.

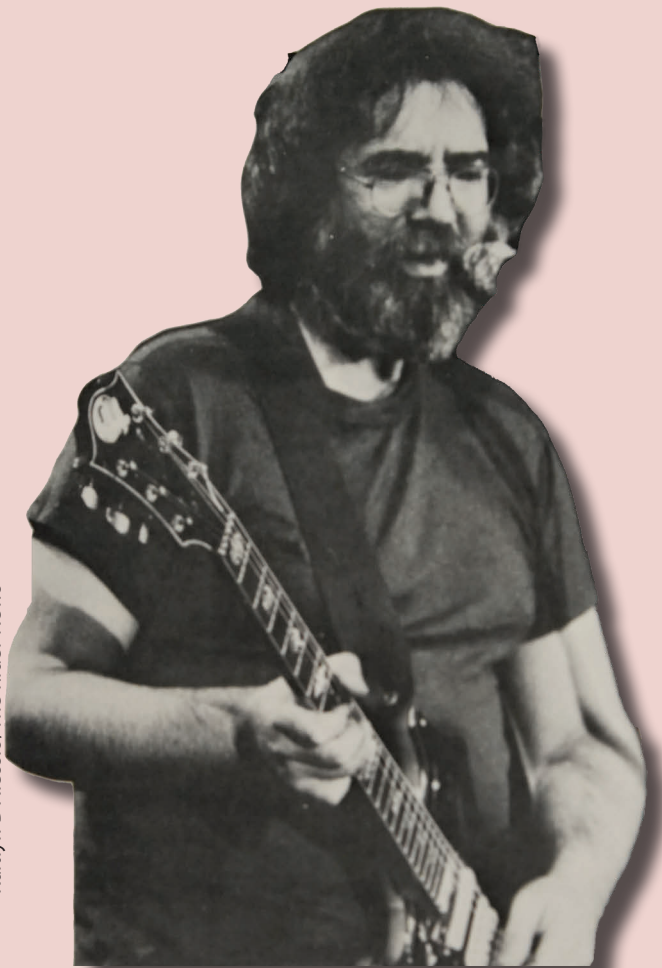
Although most concerts were in the Alumni Gym, some concerts showcased by Rider were moved off campus, such as the Simon and Garfunkel concert, which was moved to Trenton War Memorial as a result of the concert having a crowd that exceeded the occupancy of the Alumni Gym.

"I think they held it there just because they knew they could get a really big crowd for them. Simon [and] Garfunkel's time was kind of at the height of its popularity," said Bergmann.

Each performance was previewed in The Rider News, and was the primary source of advertising for campus events. After the shows, there was a review written up in The Rider News where students were able to reflect on their experience. The Beach Boys in particular did not receive a quality review after their performance.

In an article written by Steve Gabarick published on May 6, 1966, he wrote, "Part of the blame for the unsatisfying evening rests with the inadequate public address system which failed to carry either musical group's voices well. But the larger share of the blame belongs to 'The Beach Boys,' whose flat notes, wrong chords and childish clowning provided the night's largest disappointment."

Other famous concerts that have bridged the decades were Aerosmith in April 1973, The Psychedelic Furs in September 1986, Howard Jones



Kaitlyn D'Alessio/The Rider News

Jerry Garcia performs at Rider on November 8, 1981.

in May 1987 and The Go-Gos in November 1990.

Alumnus Ron Panarotti, '93, who was the editor-in-chief of The Rider News for five semesters, recalled it as a pivotal time in not only his career as a journalist, but The Go-Gos career as a band, for which they had gotten back together after breaking up and decided to do another tour after doing a benefit show for the Environmental Protection Initiative in California where Rider was one of their stops.

The Rider News got the chance to interview these performers before their shows which in most cases, was a once in a life-time opportunity for college journalists.

In an article written in The Rider News published on November 16, 1990, Panarotti quoted The Go-Gos bass player Kathy Valentine who, Panarotti said was the first famous figure he had ever interviewed. Valentine explained the motive of the band going on tour again after their break up saying, "We really enjoyed it, so we decided to go ahead on the road and do another tour."

Panarotti recalled interviewing Valentine, saying the band went five years apart before they decided to go on another tour. "In between years, Belinda Carlisle [member of the Go-Gos] had hit it big because she had, I think, three solo albums of her own," said Panarotti. "Some of the other band members also had solo albums, and then they came back and did a tour and Rider was one of the stops."

In the 2000s, popular performers like Jason Mraz, Gym Class Heroes and Sean Kingston, came to Rider and carried on the tradition of what is now known as the Student Entertainment Council (SEC) concert. In the 2010s, Jason Derulo and MAGIC! left their marks on Rider's SEC concert history. Rider has been known to host upcoming artists, most recently Nardo Wick.

In the present day, Nick Barbaty, associate dean of campus life, has aided in the development of several SEC concerts. Based on the current environment of colleges and those who attend along with trends and music taste, the artist is chosen by SEC. An agent also advises the SEC on who is popular in the college circles.

"We work with a middle agent who will allow us to know what the college market looks like in terms of available artists and who would be interested in performing at colleges," said Barbaty. "We look into the demographic and the general price range of what we're looking for."

Barbaty went on to say that the SEC receives a big list of artists who would best fit the criteria. Just as CUB had once done, it is now up to SEC and the dedicated students to whom the torch has been passed.

For many students at Rider, as well as the alumni, the SEC concert is one of the greatest things to happen at the university. Before the COVID-19 pandemic, the tradition was on track, and in 2019, A Boogie wit da Hoodie performed with special guest Ally Brooke, a former member of Fifth Harmony.

Stephen Allen, a professor of music at Rider, learned about the school's concert history after he became a full-time professor. Allen has taught classes such as The Music of The Beatles, The Music of RadioHead, History of Pop and Rock Music and more. Allen said he was intrigued by the archives of the yearly tradition.

"I became aware of [the past concerts] because of my first course which was my course of The Beatles. In 2008, we started to develop this new degree, which launched in 2012, which was our popular music degree, now music production. It was at some point during that journey somebody told me about it [the past concerts]. Somebody in physical education was particularly savvy about new bands that were coming up in the '60s," said Allen. "It was that person who brought those different acts onto the campus."

No matter the setbacks that may appear to be in the way, the annual concerts at Rider have lived on and continue to build on the history of the university with the latest performance of Nardo Wick on March 24, 2023.

Bergmann shared that this concert tradition was a turning point in Rider's atmosphere that delivered a vital change to the culture of campus.

"I mean everything evolved rapidly when I was there, you know, things change an awful lot," said Bergmann. "But that was reflected pretty much in a lot of musical groups. ... It was really remarkable."



Andrew Xom/The Rider News

Destiny's Child made an appearance in the year 2000.



Photo courtesy of Moore Library archives

The Rider News previews The Beach Boys in 1966.

A trip back in time: concert history photo gallery

Lead guitarist John Ashton warming up the crowd.

The Psychedelic Furs Rock Rider
By Mary Beth Kosich

The Psychedelic Furs played at Rider's Alumni Gym last Wednesday on a two week promotional warm up stint. According to Assistant Director of Student Activities Cathy Toenjes, 760 tickets were sold.

The small crowd seemed to be composed of devoted Furs fans who had seen them many times before. Toni Dimose, Doyle's Town Pa., said, "I saw them at The Tower and I've been going to all their concerts ever since." Joe Duffy, junior, stated that it was a "great show-I had a blast. The band was shaking every one's hands in the front"

All photos taken by Jeffrey Marcus

A collection of Furs lining up for the crowd.

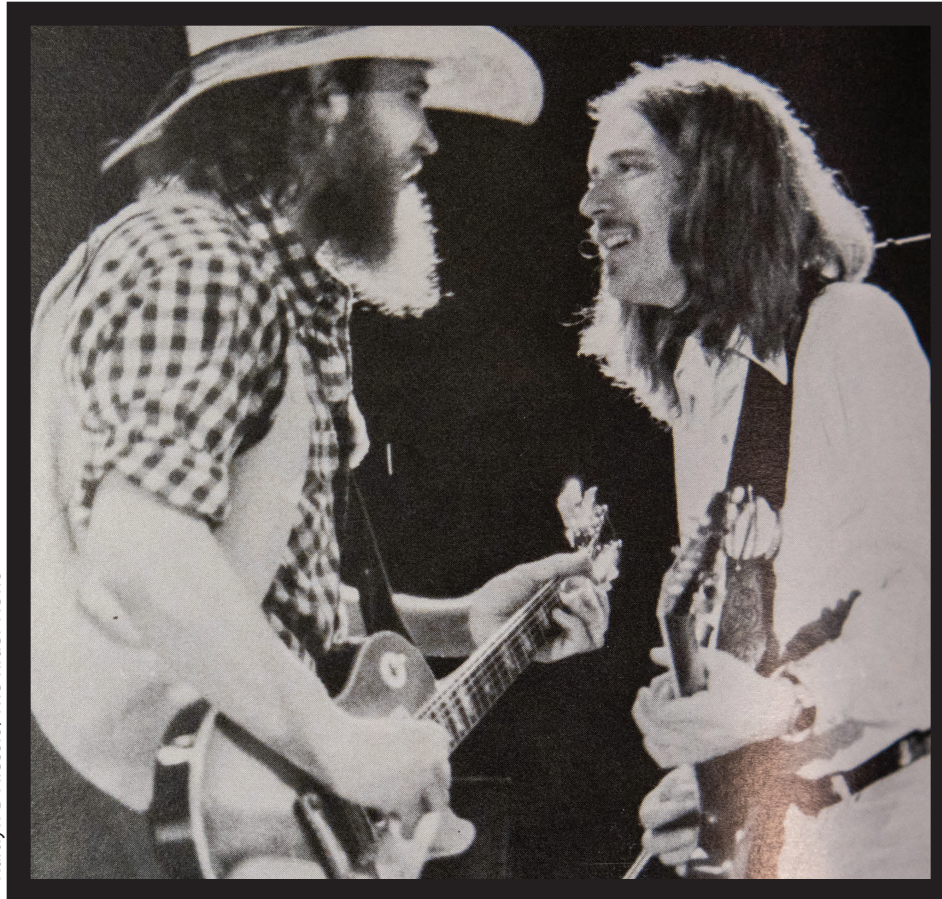
Lead vocalist Richard Butler displays Egyptian like stage to the cheers of the audience.

John Ashton and bassist Tim Butler playing to the audience.

A portion of the audience packed in front of the stage.

Andrew Xon/The Rider News

The Psychedelic Furs played Rider in a warm up for their big upcoming tour.



Kaitlyn D'Alessio/The Rider News

Two members of the Charlie Daniels Band chuckle while playing guitar.

The Rider Review
The Pull-Out Features Section of The Rider News
Vol. LII No. 22
May 1, 1987

Jones brings funk, style to Rider
By MARY BETH KOSICH

Under a kaleidoscope of lights, Howard Jones generated high-tech funk for an enthusiastic audience at Rider.

Jones, who appeared in the Alumni Gymnasium last Thursday, played before a crowd that lifted their arms and swayed to the music. They sang in unison to lyrics that "really have something to say, more than other rock stars," said visitor John Donwygal.

Jones put on an ingenious theatrical production "unusual for a college performance," said Student Entertainment Council Chairperson Matthew Suarez. He added that Jones' show was comparable to the stage presence of performers such as Roger Waters and Jethro Tull.

Indeed, Jones' stage antics gave his performance a fifth dimension, one of creativity and sincere professionalism. "You don't usually see such an elaborate production by artists when they give a show at colleges," Suarez said.

Jones and bass guitarist Martin Jones, wearing a ceremonial Japanese head-dress, "fought" on stage before breaking loose and opening the show with "Don't Want to Fight Anymore."

This song, from his latest album "One to One," conveys the pacifist theme which recurs in other songs such as "Step Into These Shoes." (Step in step into these shoes no reason to fight.)

"His personality is not garbage, he's really optimistic," Senior Debbie Meyer said.

His optimism and concern for conveying a real message to the audience was not only illustrated by the lyrics, but was also demonstrated by a unique use of human stage props, such as a mime dressed in a red body suit. The mime gyrated in perfect rhythm as he performed a bizarre robot-like dance. His silhouette, the image of a man madly clutching at his brain, was later flashed on a screen behind the stage.

Four hundred pounds of dry ice, said Suarez, were used to create smoke that shimmered beneath the elaborate lighting.

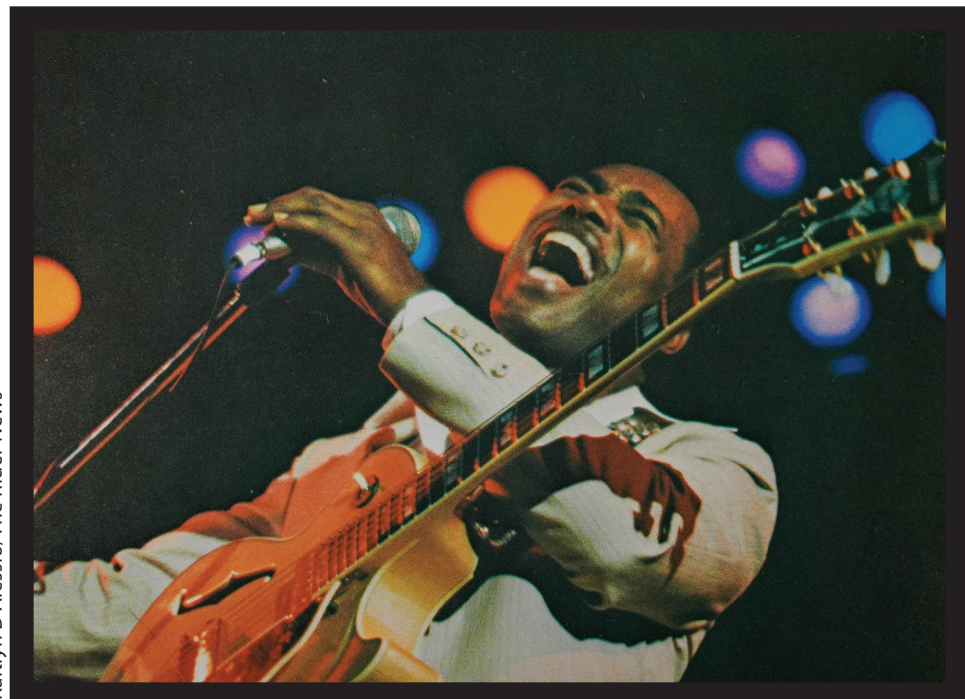
Jones' show would not have been complete, however, without the help of Afrodizak, his three back-up singers. Their rich harmonies set off Jones' vocals in a mellifluous contrast, highlighting the musical concepts.

The crowd could not get enough of Jones and applauded until they got an encore. Jones finished the concert with "Things Can Only Get Better."

photos by Jason Chen

Andrew Xon/The Rider News

An article from The Rider News explores Howard Jones' concert in 1987.



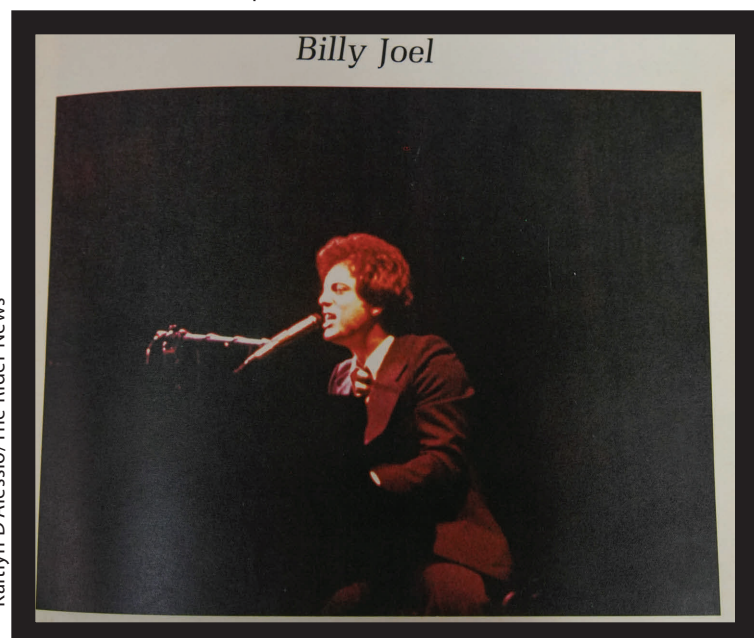
Kaitlyn D'Alessio/The Rider News

George Benson holds a note during his performance in 1978.

Boston

Kaitlyn D'Alessio/The Rider News

Boston's performance appears in the Shadow's 1977 yearbook.



Kaitlyn D'Alessio/The Rider News

Billy Joel plays piano during his performance in October 1976.

Transgender students at Rider ask to be seen

FOR a lot of transgender students, college is the first time they can start going by their preferred pronouns and name without worrying about their past. This was the case for me, but throughout my experience at Rider, there have been barriers that prevent me from feeling completely seen as a nonbinary person.

I've been living on campus since my freshman year, and while there are many benefits, residence halls don't exactly accommodate those who are not a man nor a woman.

Sophomore acting major Emily Porter Siegel, who is nonbinary and uses they/them pronouns, spoke about their experience living at Rider.

"My first year, we were gender segregated by floor and there was one gender-neutral bathroom and it was like our guest bathroom. So if I wanted to actually be comfortable in the bathroom I was using, I had to go all the way downstairs," said Siegel.

In other instances, students felt the gender-neutral bathrooms in some residence halls are better compared to others. An anonymous source who identifies as a transgender man shared his experiences dorming.

"You kind of feel like you have to be lucky in order to get a dorm hall that even has a gender-inclusive bathroom that you can use. Even when they do, oftentimes, the pipes are rusty, the water comes out orange, or they're not cleaned often or they're in a lounge," said the anonymous source.

This is an issue many transgender students face while in academic buildings as well. Most of the academic buildings only have one gender-inclusive bathroom, and it's combined with the accessible bathroom. This takes away resources both from transgender students and students with disabilities. In Lynch Adler Hall, there aren't any gender-inclusive bathrooms, so transgender students often have to use the bathroom of their assigned sex.

"Even in the Fine Arts building, there is one gender-neutral bathroom, and it's on the very first floor," said Siegel.

Another issue I faced while attending Rider is being deadnamed in different places. This academic year, there have been multiple instances where my deadname was put up on my dorm door after I told my community assistant I go by a different name. The first time this happened was really upsetting, but over time, I got used to it and took down the name tag each time it occurred.

Sophomore political science major Cecilia Simon, who identifies as a transgender woman, spoke about her experiences with being deadnamed and feeling uncomfortable.

"I know some of the things that are like a legal requirement, but the bookstore emails. I get like 20 of them, do they all have to have my deadname? Reslife emails that just went out the other day? Does that have to have my deadname when the housing portal doesn't?" Simon said.

Most of the community at Rider knows me by my preferred name, but many don't use my correct pronouns even though I have several visible pronouns stickers and my pronouns are on Canvas. Last year, I faced an issue where my professor continuously misgendered me in front of my class and posted an announcement on Canvas using my incorrect pronouns.

A previous nonbinary Rider student who prefers to stay anonymous opened up about an experience where a professor went out of their way to use their incorrect pronouns.

"I actually switched into his class because of a transphobic teacher, and everything was going really well until I made the decision to transfer schools, and once he was made aware of that decision, he began misgendering me and it had literally never been a problem before. So I'd say that was the most jarring experience I've had in regards to transphobia straight from a teacher," they said.

Many transgender students feel it is frustrating to have to continuously correct people on their pronouns. It feels as if our identity is brushed under the rug although Rider advocates for a supportive and diverse environment.

"I feel like if I want something done, I have to go out of my way and ask for it to happen. If I want a [gender inclusive] bathroom unlocked, I have to go out of my way to ask for it ... I don't want to feel like I'm an afterthought," said the anonymous student.

The most basic way you can respect your transgender classmates and friends is by respecting their pronouns and identity.

"No one is alone. None of us are alone. We are all in this together," Siegel said. "The best form of allyship is not centering yourself and making sure again, you're giving people basic human respect."

*Jay Roberson
sophomore education major and news editor*



Emily Porter Siegel/The Rider News

Emily Porter Siegel is a sophomore acting major who is nonbinary and uses they/them pronouns.



Cecilia Simon/The Rider News

Cecilia Simon is a sophomore political science major and identifies as a transgender woman.

Rider News

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SOPHOMORE SIGHTINGS

Florida's new bill may restrict speech about menstrual cycles

REMEMBER, when entering middle school, the principal and vice principal spoke to all the elementary school students about the classes they will have to take and what to expect when entering the new environment.

We were all required to take health, which included sex education, and I remember my teachers in elementary schools talking to the students about puberty in class as well.

It is not uncommon for students to take health class, but Florida is trying to pass a bill that will ban young women from talking about their menstrual cycles, and other topics of sexuality before the sixth grade.

The Associated Press reported in an article that the bill “would restrict public school instruction on human sexuality, sexually transmitted diseases and related topics to grades 6 through 12.”

Republican Rep. Stan McClain, who sponsored the bill, also confirmed that the bill would still limit the discussion of periods in grades six through 12.

Democrat Rep. Ashley Gantt taught in public schools and noted that girls as young as 10 can get their period. She asked McClain, “So if little girls experience their menstrual cycle in 5th grade or 4th grade, will that prohibit conversations from them since they are in the grade lower than sixth grade?”

McClain responded, “It would.”

He said the intention of the bill was to bring consistency and uniformity across all schools in Florida. McClain also said the bill could allow parents to oppose any school resources or materials that they find inappropriate.

Gantt also asked McClain if teachers could get in trouble if they speak to young students about menstrual cycles. Gantt responded that that is not the intention of the bill; however, this bill would affect the 67 school districts and all the young women living in Florida.

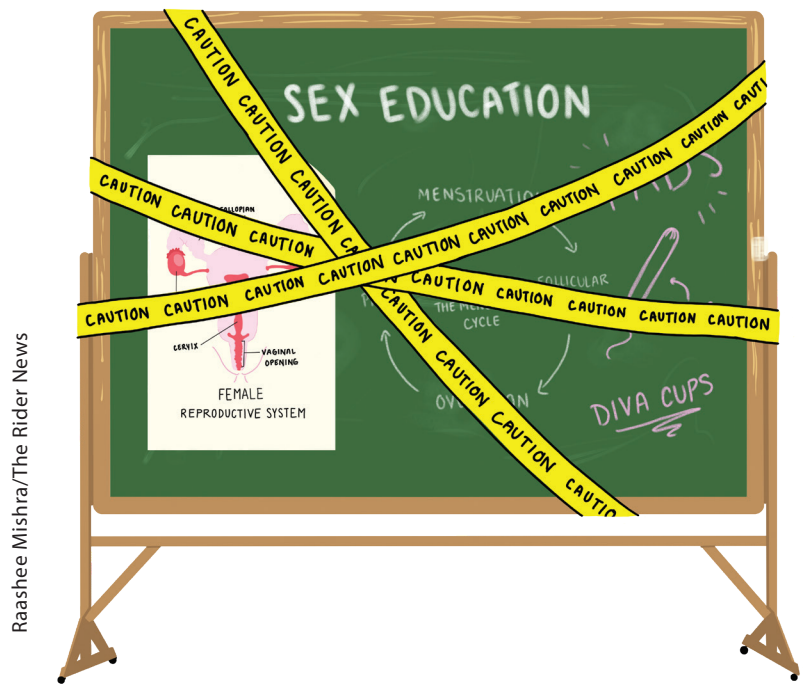
Menstrual cycles are completely normal and natural as it is part of growing up. If a young girl just started her cycle, she should be able to discuss it with a higher authority at school, especially if she is confused or has any concerns.

On an Instagram video, Gantt said, “Imagine a little girl in fourth grade, going to the bathroom and finding blood in her panties and thinking that she is dying. She doesn’t actually know what’s going on. And her teacher does not even have the ability to tell her that this is a part of life.”

Women’s health should be a priority and without the education or knowledge it leaves women at risk for future health issues.

Even though McClain would like all the districts to have consistency, the uniformity should include a curriculum about sexual and menstrual health. Each district should have the opportunity to teach students about their health and wellness because it is vital information that will affect them for the rest of their lives.

*Felicia Roehm
sophomore journalism major and opinion editor*



Women's health is at risk, as Florida is trying to pass a new bill that will restrict speech about menstrual cycles.

JUNIOR JOURNALS

The privileges of being white passing

WHEN I began applying for colleges, there would always be the section on the application where you were supposed to check off ethnicity. This portion of the application always felt a bit awkward to me. I would check white, Filipino and Alaskan Native. But I knew no matter what, I would reap the benefits of looking like my dad, a white man.

From a young age, I became aware of the privileges of being white passing. As young as third grade, peers were telling me that my mom couldn’t possibly be my mother. At first it didn’t really bother me; children don’t often conceptualize these issues. I was aware of racism, I just didn’t know how it was affecting my mother at this point in my life.

That all changed when I was 10 years old. My dad and I were going into a town to pick up my birthday cake, when my dad told me we couldn’t go the usual path we would. When I asked him why, my dad responded, “There are some really mean people who are protesting people who look like mom.” I was shocked. What had my mom done to these people? What had Filipino people done to these people?

The answer? Nothing.

As I grew up, the privileges of being white passing became more obvious to me, and I was beginning to reap the benefits. I was never followed home like my younger brother. I never had to listen to people continually guess “what I am” as my sister has. When I attended high school for musical theater, there were an infinite amount of roles for me. I was a minority who was lucky enough to be automatically included in the majority. There was no way for me to proudly show what my mom had given me.

When I was born I received two middle names: Elizabeth, for my great grandmother, and Malulani, Hawaiian for "protected by God." My mom grew up on the big island of Hawaii in extreme poverty. I was always upset, because on school identification cards the "E" was the only middle initial used. I felt as if a part of me was being erased. A few months after I was born, I was given my Tlingit Alaskan Native name: Xóotsk’i Tláa.

Though those names were a part of my identity, it was not clear, so when I was old enough to get tattoos, I decided that I would make my identity known. I started with Malulani on my left arm, and then a few months later I got Xóotsk’i Tláa on my right. The tattoos have sparked conversations, and I am proud to bring light to issues that both Hawaiians and Native Americans face.

However, it is important to note that I do not know everything about what Native American peoples face everyday.

Our country treats the first inhabitants of this land as if they were not here first. “But native peoples have casinos!” Well, yes, but also no. Native American peoples rarely make enough money to support themselves.

Reservations rarely have running water, and food is at least two times more expensive there than it is on non reservation land.

I know that I have privilege because of how I look. I know it's important to acknowledge that privilege and every benefit I have reaped from it.

*Tristan E. M. Leach
junior journalism major and features and entertainment editor*



Tristan E. M. Leach's second middle name that is Hawaiian for protected by God.



Leach's Tlingit Alaskan Native name they were given a few months after they were born.

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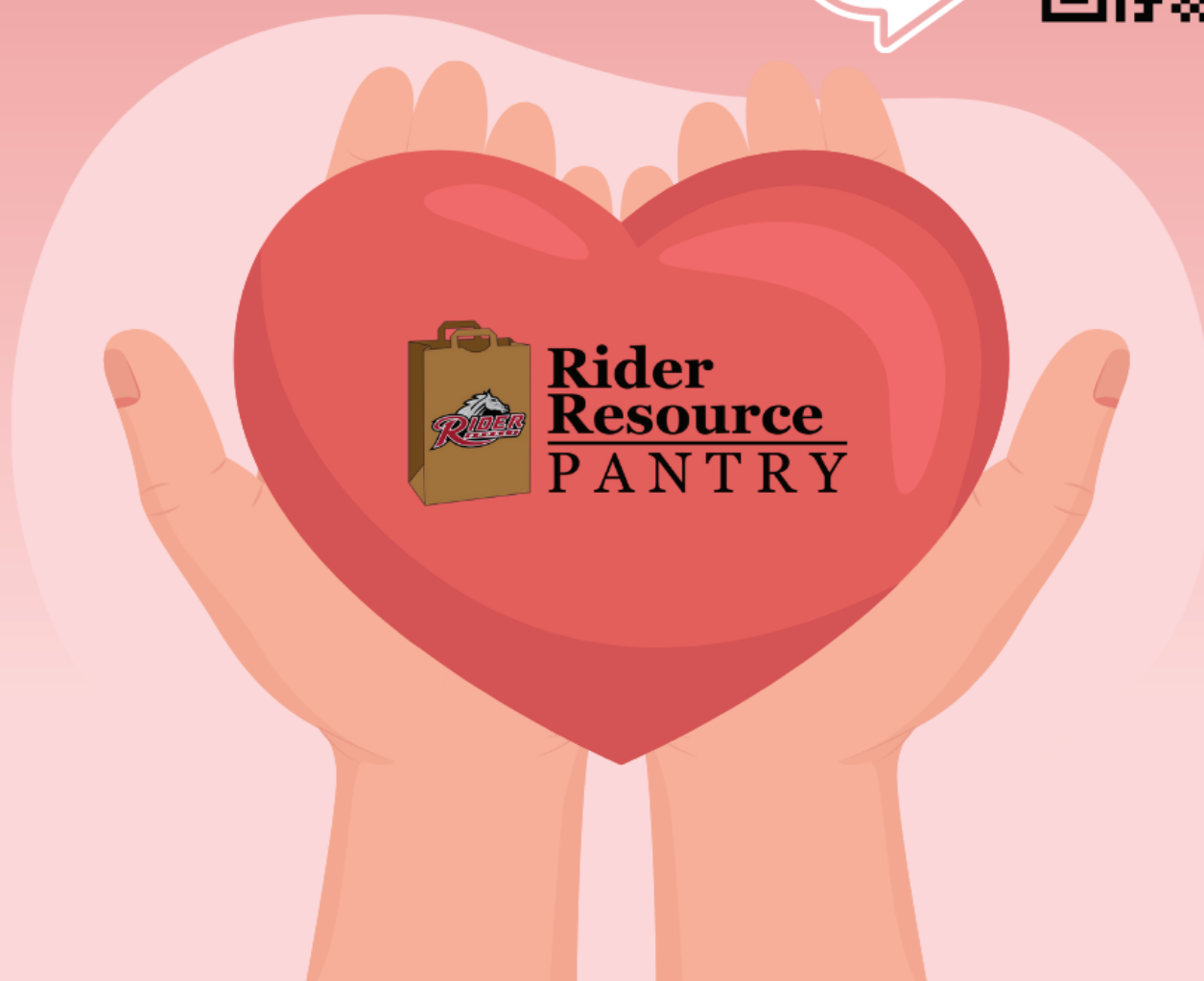
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WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Longtime assistant leaves after 16 years

By Carolo Pascale

A PICTURE of a peace sign, a signature smile and a pair of black, orange and blue socks that read "If you can read this, this coach is off duty" capped off 20 total years of devotion to the cranberry and white by Rider women's basketball Associate Head Coach Pam Durkin.

The 1997 Rider University athlete of the year put down her whiteboard and stepped off the sidelines after she announced she is stepping away from coaching via Twitter on March 24.

"I can't believe that it's been 26 years. I feel like it's only been yesterday," said Durkin. "I was a coach for 26 years, I was a player for five, I played in high school for four, that's a long time in my life to have basketball be the center of it."

During her playing days as a Bronc, Durkin had an affinity for rebounding that culminated in 1997 when she pulled down 11.7 boards per game, good enough for the seventh in the nation. She currently stands ninth all-time in the Broncs' program for rebounds with 662.

Alongside her prowess at the glass, Durkin garnered an All-Northeast Conference (NEC) selection as well as NEC All-Academic Team honors. She was also named the 1996-97 South Jersey Collegiate player of the year by the Al Carino Basketball Club.

After graduating from Rider in 1997, she coached at TCNJ, Niagara and Drexel before returning to Lawrenceville, New Jersey, a decade later as Head Coach Lynn Milligan's top assistant.

"Pam has been with me all 16 years, so it's very bittersweet for her to step away," said Milligan. "She gave us, and particularly me, everything she had for these past 16 years and really built this program with me every step of the way."

Durkin was named associate head coach in 2009 and has been a part of some of the most successful seasons in program history, capped off by the program's first two Women's National Invitation Tournament (WNIT) appearances in 2017 and 2019, and its first-ever Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) regular season championship in 2020.

As for what Durkin has lined up in her time away from coaching, she plans to take a trip to Italy and then isn't exactly sure what her plan is yet, but no matter what, she'll always be a Bronc.

"If I wanted to be a head coach, I could have done that by now. If I wanted to try to go to a bigger program, I would have done that by now," said Durkin. "It's not about that at all. Rider is my home."



Photo courtesy of Pam Durkin

Pam Durkin said goodbye to coaching on March 24.



Carolo Pascale/The Rider News

Graduate student sprinter **Jerome Boyer** set a new personal record of 10.88 seconds in the 100-meter.

TRACK & FIELD

Boyer, Thunig thrive as both track teams take first place

By Logan VanDine

In its first outdoor home meet since sweeping the indoor Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) Championships, Rider track and field dominated, taking first place overall in both the men's and women's meets in the Rider 5 Way against Sacred Heart, Fairleigh Dickinson, Fordham and Saint Joseph's on March 26.

"We had a really good meet today," said Head Coach Bob Hamer in an email to The Rider News. "There was a lot of great effort, event winners and other qualifying performances."

Boyer shines again

On the men's side of the meet, perhaps the two most impressive performances were by graduate student sprinter Jerome Boyer and senior hurdler Marques Merriweather with first-place finishes helping the men propel to 373 points for their squad.

As for the aforementioned Boyer, he put together two solid outings in the 100-meter and 200-meter, which helped him get gold for both categories. In the 100-meter, Boyer ran a new personal best of 10.88 seconds, which shattered his record from a year ago at 11.03. In the 200-meter, he finished first with a time of 22.13.

"He looked really good today, and we are very excited for a great outdoor season," Hamer said.

Boyer described how satisfied he was with the effort he put in that helped his team get to first place.

"I would say I was very happy with my performances overall as a whole. Winning the two events and the relay early this season really builds my confidence and motivation to keep striving to accomplish my goals I have for my last season of track," Boyer said.

Thunig sets historic landmark

On the women's side, the Broncs found the same success as the men's team did, placing first overall with a team total of 369 points.

The meet was highlighted by a Rider record-breaking performance by sophomore Rasia Thunig who set a new record in the long jump, which Asia Young originally set in 2017. Thunig jumped 6.13 meters, marking the first time in Broncs' history a woman has hit a mark over 20 feet.

"Raisa was outstanding in the long jump. That is a huge jump. It's always exciting to watch someone break a Rider record, and it is also a likely NCAA Preliminary qualifier. She has grown a ton this year, and it has been fun to watch. This is a huge confidence builder moving forward," Hamer said.

Thunig was not done there as she, along with her teammates, sophomores Mariah Stephens, Hailey Palmer and freshman Valencia Gosser, dominated in the 4x100 meter relay, taking first place in that category with a time of 47.23 and placing them in third for Rider's all-time record.

"I think coming off winning indoor MAAC [Championships] we were ready to kick off the outdoor season," Stephens said. "From setting new school records, coming back from injuries and setting new personal bests, I think that today everyone brought their A-game."

Stephens talked about her strong performance in her races along with her team's overall showing.

"I was very happy to win the 100-meter hurdles and triple jump and be a part of the winning 4x100," said Stephens. "It felt great to run a relay where my teammates and I have been working so hard."

Next up for the Broncs will be the Colonial Relays which are set to take place from March 30 to April 1 in Williamsburg, Virginia.

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TRACK DOMINATE IN RIDER 5 WAY MEET

Check out photos from Rider's home meet, where both the men's and women's teams placed first.



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Sports

ONLINE

'I HAVE GOOD EXPECTATIONS FOR OUR TEAM'
Softball split a doubleheader against Delaware, winning the second game of the set 4-2.

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BASEBALL

Broncs best Quinnipiac in first home series



Carolo Pascale/The Rider News

The Broncs won 2-of-3 games in their opening MAAC series against the Quinnipiac Bobcats, scoring 21 total runs over the three games.

By Benjamin Shinault

On March 24-28, the Rider baseball team returned to Sonny Pittaro Field for the first time this season. The Broncs have been bussing all around the country playing America's pastime and finally hit the brakes in Lawrenceville, New Jersey. The Broncs began Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) play with a series against the Quinnipiac Bobcats, winning 2-of-3 games, and then beat Delaware State 5-1 on March 28.

Starting hot at home

It was senior Dylan Heine's turn to pitch for the Broncs on March 24, with both him and his coaches hoping for a repeat of his last appearance. He pitched five full innings, only allowing three earned runs and striking out six Villanova Wildcats.

Heine did even better this time against Quinnipiac. He pitched another five innings, didn't allow any runs and struck out six whimpering, helpless Bobcats.

Offensively, the Broncs did what they are known for: scoring runs. This time around, Rider scored 11 runs, making it the fifth time this season they have scored 10-plus runs.

The scoring began in the first inning when senior infielder John Volpe scored an unearned run, making the score 1-0. Soon after, senior infielder Luke Lesch ripped one to right field. Fast forward to the sixth inning; the score was 3-0 with the Broncs on top, and senior outfielder Brendan O'Donnell stepped up to the plate. O'Donnell saw a pitch and swung the metal bat before the ball suddenly found itself sailing over the left field fence, making it 5-0.

O'Donnell wasn't done making an impact as he doubled down the line to score an additional two runs, making the score 7-0. Senior infielder Jack Winsett also contributed separate two-RBI singles in back-to-back innings, giving him four runs batted in on the day.

The Bobcats scored three earned runs in the ninth inning, but the Broncs had plenty of insurance runs and took game one of the three-game set, 11-3.

Doelling's domination continues

Fresh off a blowout win and a day off thanks to some rain, the Broncs were ready to play some more baseball against Quinnipiac on March 26.

The weather was impeccable as the sun was high in the sky, a slight cool breeze present and temperatures in the mid-to-low 60s. As soon as the field was ready for baseball, graduate student pitcher Frank Doelling took the mound.

Doelling got right to work for the Broncs striking out two of the first three batters he faced. Doelling went on to strike out three more batters, finishing his day on the mound only allowing five hits and one walk.

"My arm felt really good today. I was able to throw my pitches for strikes and put them where I needed to," Doelling said postgame.

Doelling's elite performance on the bump was not taken for granted as the Broncs offense held their own with 13 hits and eight runs.

The Broncs opened up their offense in the bottom of third with a two-run double for senior catcher Socrates Bardatsos.

Later in that same inning, Lesch got one to drop in shallow right field which allowed a run to score, making it 3-0. Bardatsos added another RBI with a sacrifice fly, making it 4-1.

Shortly after that in the seventh inning, O'Donnell singled in a run, making it 5-1. After a balk made the score 6-1, Winsett came up to the plate and added two runs with a single to left field which cemented the final score as 8-1.

Bobcats bite back

The rubber match of the series was all Bobcats. Sophomore pitcher Brian Young got the start for the Broncs and faced immediate turbulence on the mound.

Young was done after 1 1/3 innings as he gave up four hits, four earned runs, two walks and also a hit by pitch.

Freshman pitcher Clayton Poiley came into the game after Young and did a good job of maintaining the game and keeping the Broncs within striking distance. Poiley's final line was three innings pitched, two hits, one earned run, five walks and four strikeouts.

"He did OK," said Davis. "When you're put in a situation where you're five runs behind early, there's not a lot of room for error."

On the offensive side of things for the Broncs, O'Donnell was the lone star of the show, gathering four hits and being responsible for all two runs the Broncs scored in the 12-2 loss.

Taking two out of three against Quinnipiac was important for the team according to Davis.

"Well, if you win every series on a consistent basis, you're going to be where you need to be at the end of the season," said Davis.

Clutch hitting continues

After winning their opening MAAC play series against the Quinnipiac Bobcats, the Broncs played a Liberty Bell Classic game against Delaware State.

The Broncs bats came in clutch after going down early and helped the Broncs to a 5-1 win over the Hornets.

Freshman pitcher P.J. Craig got the start against the Hornets and had yet another solid outing with a final line of five innings, three hits, and two strikeouts.

The Broncs went down early following a solo-shot to right field but the Broncs didn't get saddled up and would go on to score five unanswered runs.

Junior infielder Brian Skettini got the Broncs going in the bottom of the 5th with a two-run single and soon after, Lesch blistered a ball down the right field for an additional run.

After this win Rider's record advanced to 16-8 on the season.

The Broncs next matchup is against the Niagara Purple Eagles in a three game set starting on March 31.