

Dorm intrusions ignite concern after arrest

By Amethyst Martinez

In 2015, Jon Cannon, a man unaffiliated with Rider, was charged with criminal sexual contact after allegedly entering unlocked apartments in West Village B and touching two female students in their rooms while they slept. He also allegedly entered Delta Phi Epsilon's house, but fled upon the police's arrival.

A year later, he was charged with criminal sexual contact again after similar incidents occurred at The College of New Jersey. In 2021, Cannon was charged with burglary with a battery after an unknown man entered a dorm room at the New College of Florida in Sarasota and made "inappropriate contact," according to an article by NJ.com.

Last year, Johnny Rodriguez-Brito was arrested on charges of third-degree burglary, peering and harassment, according to the Lawrence Township Police Department, after two female students were followed into their dorm hall by a man who posed as a delivery driver, but had no food in his hands.

"The man saw us walking to Lincoln [Hall] and literally ran to catch the door before it closed. If he could do that, then anyone can get in without swiping an ID to unlock the door," said one of the female students during an interview with The Rider News last year.

After the incident, campus officials asked that everyone remain vigilant, lock their doors and call Public Safety to report anything suspicious.

Just a few weeks ago, Isaiah Sparks, another man unaffiliated with Rider, was arrested on campus and charged with trespassing. After a report of a suspicious

person in Gee Residence Hall's lounge on Sept. 15, police were called and Sparks was arrested.

Public Safety confirmed that Sparks was also connected to an incident on Sept. 5 where an individual was found sleeping in the lounge at Kroner Residence Hall and advised by Lawrence Police not to return to campus, subsequently banned from Rider by Public Safety.

Propping a door open for a friend, unknowingly opening it for someone unrecognizable in a dorm residence – a seemingly passive thought for most students at Rider and at universities nationwide.

However, the dangers of unlocked buildings are real, creating a safety issue for students who live in residence halls.

Sparks' photo

After The Rider News filed a public records request, law enforcement refused to produce Sparks' photo. Public Safety also was not in the possession of a photo, despite Sparks' alleged pattern of appearances at the university, and didn't know he had one taken during his intake due to the charges, according to James Waldon, director of Public Safety.

The Rider News obtained Sparks' photograph from the Mercer County

Prosecutor's Office on Oct. 5.

When asked if the photo would be sent out to the university community after finding out that one was taken, Waldon said that he would evaluate it, but said that the publishing in The Rider News "might suffice."

"He hasn't been back, and we don't anticipate him coming back," said Waldon.

Public Safety also did not have the photo of Rodriguez-Brito last semester after The Rider News requested it.

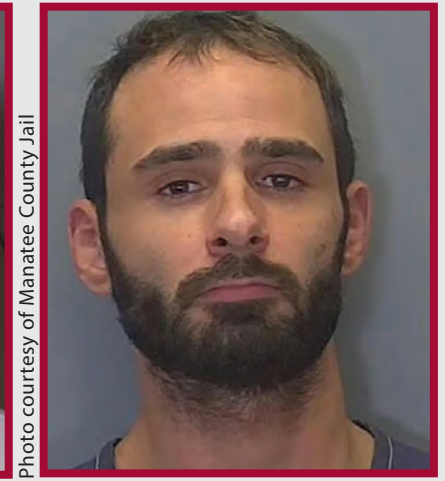
In a Facebook Group titled "Rider University Parents



Photo courtesy of Mercer County Prosecutor's Office



Isaiah Sparks was arrested on Sept. 15 and charged with trespassing.



Jon Cannon was charged with sexual contact multiple times in connection to incidents at several universities.

Thompson takes over as SASS director

By Julia Train

AFTER a summer spent searching for a new director of Student Accessibility and Support Services, there's a new one as of Oct. 2: Cheri Thompson, a 33-year veteran of the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

Who is Cheri Thompson?

Thompson's original career plan was to attend law school or get a teaching certificate after she graduated from Rutgers New Brunswick with an English degree in 1988.

After discovering reading case law wasn't for her through internships, she decided to get a masters in psychiatric rehabilitation instead from the University



Cheri Thompson serves as the new director of SASS.

of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, which is now owned by Rutgers.

Thompson then began working for the Department of Labor and Workforce Development as a tax collector. After nine years at the job, she switched positions to work for the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services, which helps disabled individuals find employment.

"The reason I found out about vocational rehab was because my mom had a brain aneurysm and she was at St. Lawrence rehab, and they referred her to [vocational rehab]," she said.

At her state job, Thompson was the assistant director of administrative services, where she oversaw the IT unit for the division. For her, moving to the university was a step in a calmer direction after retiring from the Department of Labor in April.

"My intention was always to go back to work after my six-month break. I actually thought I would extend it to a year and start my search next spring, but then, I started to get a little bit restless," said Thompson, "That's when I started seeing a lot of opportunities here [and] TCNJ. And because I'm local to the area, I wasn't trying to cast a net further than 10 or 12 miles."

SASS goals going ahead

As the director of SASS, Thompson is in charge of ensuring that students provide the proper documentation and ensure it's completed within a timely manner and receive the accommodations that

they request, such as extended time on tests, housing and dining.

"We were looking for someone who had really good experience working with students who have disabilities, someone who could understand that perspective and can apply it to the academic year," said Nicolette Colón, associate director of SASS, who has held the role since last October.

Thompson handles students with emotional, physical and learning disabilities, including requests for emotional support animals, air conditioning in rooms, single rooms and dorms with a kitchen for students with allergies or food restrictions.

At the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Thompson was in charge of a greater number of people and dealt with a wider range of customers. While she deals with solely college students in her current role, she met individuals of a variety of demographics.

Colón's duties include supporting the director with their vision for the department, meeting with students to check in to see how they're doing and reviewing documentation to assess academic and housing accommodations.

She's looking forward to having someone continue on the path the prior director was heading down, which was looking into obtaining different technologies that would help students get the accommodations they need.

INSIDE

BRONCS STOP SKID

After losing their previous two matches, the Broncs picked up two wins.



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ISSUES WITH FAST FASHION

Brands like Shein are affordable but detrimental to the environment.



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MUSICAL THEATER SEASON STARTS WITH 'THE PROM'

The department opened their first show of the year.



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Barr leaves two seats open with departure

By Jake Tiger

PROVOST DonnaJean Fredeen sat down for another routine meeting on Sept. 15 to check in with the multifaceted Dean Jason Barr.

“Going into that meeting I was feeling nervous, because I genuinely enjoyed my time at Rider,” said Barr. “There’s always that concern of how someone is going to take that news.”

Barr, the longtime dean of the College of Education and Services, also became the interim dean of libraries in March after the position was vacated, but now, he was the one stepping away just months later.

Fredeen recited, “I said to him, ‘How are things?’ He said ‘OK,’ and then he just said, ‘I’m leaving Rider.’”

Barr gave his two-weeks notice and officially left Rider on Sept. 29 for a job at Columbia University, leaving two empty spaces in the administration as the dean of libraries door revolves once more.

“I wasn’t surprised,” said Professor-Librarian Melissa Hofmann of Barr’s resignation. “People are doing at least two jobs, if not more, so it’s a lot of responsibility. I don’t see how anybody would feel comfortable or competent to be taking on additional roles that I’m sure they’re not getting compensated adequately for.”

The library now reports directly to the provost, while Assistant Provost Christina Hamme will serve as interim dean of CEHS, according to a university-wide email on Oct. 4 announcing Barr’s departure.

According to Fredeen, Barr became associate provost of Teachers College, Columbia University.

The university will permanently combine both of Barr’s positions going forward and fill both dean vacancies with one person, but the search likely will not begin until fall 2024, Fredeen said.

“I really am very appreciative of all that [Barr] did for us at Rider,” said Fredeen. “The leadership of his college and even the leadership of the library for the last nine months ... he was just tremendous.”

Hofmann and Associate Professor-Librarian Sharon Whitfield, who were informed of the resignation on Sept. 19, worked closely with Barr

after the March departure of Matthew Stieglitz, the former associate provost who oversaw the library as well.

According to Hofmann and Whitfield, they and Barr tried to make the most of the situation, but could only accomplish so much given his lack of library expertise – a problem they’ve become accustomed to.

“We’ve spent so much time talking to interim deans who have no library background and don’t know about basic functions of the library,” said Hofmann. “Without a dean that is informed about what an academic library does and how our processes work, they can’t advocate for us or suggest that we shift and pivot to a service that would better align with what the university needs.”

To ease its fiscal struggles, many of Rider’s empty positions have been assigned to existing employees, giving them an additional set of responsibilities.

According to Fredeen, Rider has also not started a search for Stieglitz’s replacement, and the associate provost’s responsibilities are being dispersed to a number of people at the university, including Fredeen.

A search for a new associate provost will also begin fall 2024, barring ongoing financial restraints, Fredeen said.

“I would love to be able to do a search for an associate provost,” said Fredeen. “But that is something that is put on hold right now until we get things straightened down, and really feel comfortable with where we are with the financial issues of the institutions.”

Hofmann and Whitfield said the university’s cost-saving strategy of combining roles could do more harm than good, because it divides attention and people often need to step outside of their specializations.

Conversely while Barr agreed that adapting to his new position was “frustrating” at times, he acknowledged the value of an outside perspective, as a fresh set of eyes is more likely to question long-standing, potentially inefficient operations.

“I think that while it’s difficult and sometimes frustrating, I think that it could be a unique



Courtesy of Rider University

Jason Barr leaves his positions as dean of the College of Education and Human Services and the interim dean of libraries, taking a job at Columbia University.

challenge,” said Barr. “Going into a new situation – the library, for example – and asking, ‘Why?’”

The dean of libraries role has seen significant turnover since 2020 following the departure of Rick Riccardi, who also served in multiple roles at Rider, acting as senior associate provost, dean of libraries and chief information officer.

According to Hofmann and Whitfield, Riccardi was the last person to occupy the dean of libraries office on the second floor of Moore Library.

The vacant office now serves as a virtual reality studio with rows of headsets behind the barron desk.

“I’m very optimistic that they’ll find somebody who will provide us some vision,” said Whitfield, seated in the empty office. “There definitely needs to be some clear leadership, and some clear stability. ... I think we’re going to continue to struggle as an organization to really find our identity.”

Rider News obtains photo of accused campus trespasser

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

Network,” concerned parents questioned why Sparks’ photo wasn’t released to the school community after his arrest.

“Can they post pictures of him around campus so the students are aware and can report it if they see him? They should be posted on every door of every

building,” commented one person.

Another commenter said, “I wish they would have released his picture, so our kids could be aware of this man.”

In all of these incidents, male trespassers have allegedly made their way into dorm buildings despite not having access, posing a potential threat to all students on campus.

Rider’s safety response

Each time, Public Safety and campus officials have urged the student body not to prop and hold doors open for people.

“If you don’t know the person who’s walking in the dormitory, you shouldn’t let them in,” said Waldon.

After the 52-minute shelter-in-place that occurred last semester following a hoax report of a potential shooter, cameras were installed for additional security, including at residence halls across campus, according to Mike Reca, Rider’s vice president for facilities and university operations.

Reca would not specify which residences had been outfitted due to safety concerns.

Fourteen cameras were installed this past summer in the residence areas that were funded by Rider’s Student Government Association, and six cameras were added to the exterior of certain residence buildings that were renovated over the past few years.

Reca also said that there are plans to add 10-12 new cameras over the next six months across campus with additional funding.

Nationwide arrests

This issue, however, is not unique to Rider, as campuses across the country have reported break-ins from unaffiliated individuals.

In May at Pacific Lutheran University in Parkland, Washington, a man was arrested after allegedly breaking into two dorm buildings on campus and groping two female students while in their rooms, according to Fox 13 Seattle.

Harvard and New York University have also had issues with break-ins, according to multiple news reports.

Although campus officials and university police can repeat the same three common steps — don’t prop open doors, lock your room and don’t let people follow behind — students still fear one-off incidents where unauthorized individuals end up in the buildings.

Junior sociology major Jennie Mae Sprouse, who lives in Beckett Village, said that door holding for others is “pretty inevitable” on campus but stressed the importance of Sparks’ photo being released to the Rider community.

“There needs to be some type of accountability,” said Sprouse. “I can understand how there’s probably some red tape, but it makes you feel like they don’t care about the safety of the students on campus once again.”



Rashe Mishra/The Rider News

Rider has taken extra steps to ensure safety on campus, such as adding cameras to the outside of residence halls.

Professors receive grants for computer science work

By Jay Roberson

TECHNOLOGY can be used in a variety of ways and Rider Assistant Professors of Computer Science and Physics Duo Lu, Mourya Narasareddygar and Md Ali have received National Science Foundation grants for their revolutionary ideas.

Though artificial intelligence is a controversial subject in academia due to programs like ChatGPT, Lu utilizes AI to create safer roads.

“How do you quantitatively measure the safety of a segment of a road or a batch of vehicles? You can wait until the cars crash which is unethical if you have a newly constructed road. How do you know if it’s safe based on this design?” Lu asked.

Narasareddygar and Ali, on the other hand, aim to use technology as a tool to make education more accessible.

“This project helps us to investigate, what are the most effective and inclusive methods for these online asynchronous learning environments across multiple educational institutions” said Narasareddygar.

The driving force behind Lu

Lu and one of his research partners, a professor at Arizona State University, Yezhou Yang, have been working on the project for more than five years. Yang was once Lu’s Computing and Augmented Intelligence professor, but now, they work together.

“Over the last decade, and specifically around 2017-2018, there was a tragic incident that happened. Whilst the automatic vehicle tested around the ASU campus, it hit a homeless lady. So she passed away, and that starts to raise awareness for the public regarding how safe these vehicles are and having all these vehicles tested,” Yang said.

In order to increase safety through his project, Lu proposed using drones and adding cameras higher up that can be used to see traffic patterns better. He also uses existing video footage to create 2D and 3D maps of traffic.

“[Traffic camera operators] have an operation room, a very dark room, with walls of monitors showing those things and the operator using a remote to check each wire,” said Lu. “I bet it’s a very difficult job. So we came up with an idea, how about we can use the existing facility, existing cameras and the videos to find out the trajectory of the vehicle on the ground.”

Bharatesh Chakravarthi, a postdoctoral research associate at ASU who collaborated with Lu and Yang, specified the work that AI does for road safety.

“Our system is capable of identifying all types of vehicles, pedestrians and micro-mobility devices. It is capable of detecting incidents, specifically if something goes wrong in terms of collision, if somebody is trying, somebody is disobeying traffic signals they will be able to detect all abnormal incidents that happen,” said Chakravarthi.

AI is utilized as an “extra pair of eyes” according to Lu. Automatic vehicles are given peripheral vision with a sensory method called LiDAR, which uses a laser and creates a 3D model of its surroundings, but



Jay Roberson/The Rider News

Professors at Rider are doing more than just teaching students, but paving the way in computer science.

this still leaves some blind spots for self-driving cars.

“In many places, especially strategic places, if you have a blind spot or traffic, you have these cameras that can relay perception information to self-driving cars. Then the car doesn’t need to be too smart, or it doesn’t have to have a very good perception,” Lu said.

Accessibility in asynchronous learning

Narasareddygar and Ali are conducting parts of their research at Rider in Intro to Cybersecurity and Intro to Computer Programming.

“What we’re focusing on is looking for courses being taught in person in spring 2024 and taking it as a base case, and then converting some of the courses to online with the same professor,” Narasareddygar said.

They are going to take the findings from six different universities and use the information to assess whether or not online learning is more effective than traditional in person courses.

“If in the future a scenario like COVID-19 starts again, then I mean, if the asynchronous classes goes well, then it might be a replacement for the in person,” said Ali. “Especially in computer science and cybersecurity. I mean, we have a lab, but many classes we can actually teach asynchronous. That is the main objective of the project.”

This study focuses on marginalized students and how these styles of learning are impacting their learning outcomes.

“We’re looking for enhanced education. We’re trying to explore and implement inclusive and incredibly active learning approaches. So this project can improve the quality of education in computing to higher retention rates,” said Narasareddygar.

By offering a wider range of online learning, more opportunities will be available for students belonging to underrepresented groups, meaning higher rates of diversity and retention among schools.

The tribulations of technology

In Lu’s project, the strategic use of AI reduces the stress on traffic operators and can further develop the intelligence of automated vehicles, but it can take away jobs. AI has already begun to take over many aspects of everyday life, including classrooms and the workplace.

“With all these tools including ChatGPT, including situational awareness and technologies including all kinds of AI tools, being deployed. Not only you, but every single person in this society is now within this giant experiment,” Yang said.

In regards to online learning, teachers are not aware of what their students are doing because they are not able to physically see them work.

“But online, we never know what is happening. They will be looking at the screens, but we don’t know what’s actually happening behind them,” said Narasareddygar.

AI has become a common topic of discussion in the classroom, while online learning gives students more opportunities to use programs like ChatGPT to cheat.

“Students should use ChatGPT and we have to update, the faculty needs to update themselves. ChatGPT can be helpful material for the student. And our assessments should not be the traditional way like asking a question and finding the answer,” said Ali.

Lu explained that AI can be a helpful tool for society as a whole.

“One perspective to consider is that AI is like the steam boat or internal combustion engine. Consider if you need to dig a trench, you can use a shovel. You can do that, or use an excavator. So people consider it just one step further of automation,” Lu said.

As technology continues to advance and aid society, precautions still need to be taken.

“I wouldn’t say that AI is going to harm us, but we need to be aware of the possibility and to actively develop and conduct research, and all of this development and research needs public support,” Yang said.



Jay Roberson/The Rider News

Professor Duo Lu holding a drone that is used to monitor traffic.

Senator speaks at Rebovich event

By Kaitlyn McCormick

DECLAN O'Scanlon, a New Jersey state senator representing the 13th Legislative District, kicked off this fall's first Rebovich Institute evening at Rider with a beer in hand and jokes at the ready.

The Republican representative kept the packed audience's attention in room 202 of Lynch Adler Hall on Oct. 4 throughout hours-long, open-format discussions covering topics anywhere from red light cameras to abortion laws.

O'Scanlon took a step off of the campaign trail to speak with the Rider community.

After introducing himself, his platform and his viewpoints, O'Scanlon participated in some moderated questions from Rebovich Institute for New Jersey Politics Director Micah Rasmussen, who organized the event, before fielding questions from audience members.

People in the Rider community, the surrounding Lawrenceville area and members of the student body and administration showed up for the conversation with the senator.

Encouraging involvement

While O'Scanlon represents the Republican Party, he encouraged college students from all affiliations to get involved and be aware of what is happening around them politically, especially at the local level.

"We have an epidemic of people not giving a damn," O'Scanlon said to The Rider News after the event. "These issues impact young people more than they impact those of us who are making the decisions."

Freshman political science major Eden Nadella shared the same sentiment in an interview with The Rider News.

Nadella had the role of introducing O'Scanlon though she says that her political ideologies tend to lean more democratic in comparison to the senator's. However, she believes college students should take the opportunity to expose themselves to as many conversations as possible.

"It's just important to see how these parties are in reality...Not everything is on the extreme left or on the extreme right," Nadella said.

Providing plenty of perspectives

Rasmussen and The Rebovich Institute for New Jersey Politics bring local politicians to campus for these discussion forums every year, with a variety of political affiliations.



Kaitlyn McCormick/The Rider News

Senator Declan O'Scanlon speaks at Rider.

Rasmussen explained the effort that goes into providing equal opportunities for students to hear from representatives who may share or challenge their own political viewpoints.

"I'm not trying to shield students from any point of view," Rasmussen said. "I want them to focus on all points of view."

In the past, The Rebovich Institute has fostered conversations at Rider with General Assemblywoman Verlina Reynolds-Jackson, Congressman Andy Kim, Senate Republican Leader Steven Oroho and even former New Jersey Governor James Florio.

For those who may be interested in a more Democratic viewpoint, the next event will invite New Jersey's longest-serving chief of staff, George Helmy, with a date, time and place to be announced, Rasmussen said.



Kaitlyn McCormick/The Rider News

Audience members listen and ask questions to Senator Declan O'Scanlon.

Rider comes together for Unity Day

By Kaitlyn McCormick

MEMBERS from all corners of the Rider community came together once more to celebrate the university's 25th Annual Unity Day, hosted by the Multicultural Studies Program.

Oct. 10 saw a full agenda of culture, community and diverse conversations at Rider, including panels titled, "Fostering Safe Spaces for Dialogue," "The Great Undoing: The Backlash Against DEI in Higher Education," "Reproductive Health in a Post-Dobbs World" and "You Ban Books, You Ban Drag": Censorship and its Consequences."

Student Government Association President Naa'san Carr spoke on the first panel of the morning, and stressed the importance of having safe places to host productive and diverse conversations.

In an interview with The Rider News, Carr explained the importance of diversity, equity and inclusion in creating these spaces.

"Not only is it important for our student body to be diverse but also our faculty and staff," Carr said. "When we focus on identity, we focus on diversity, on safe spaces, we're focusing on the needs of every individual. So, we're advocating for diversity, equity, inclusion, for justice."

In the words of Carr, "Unity means love. It means advocacy. It means understanding."

In Carr's eyes, events like Unity Day, as well as the specific panel that he served on, are so important because they allow topics like DEI to continue to be a central focus at Rider.

"We're seeing each other, we're hearing each other, and justice prevails," Carr said.

English professor Vincent Toro delivered the keynote speech for the evening, which he joked was more of a "keynote performance," dispersing conversations and anecdotes between six original poems.

Toro, an award-winning Puerto Rican poet, published author and playwright, performed work that dealt directly with themes intersecting diversity, culture, privilege and identity.

News Editor Jay Roberson, Features and Entertainment Editor Tristan E.M. Leach and Social Media Editor Kaitlyn Seawood spoke on a 2023 Unity Day Panel. Roberson, Leach and Seawood had no part in the writing or editing of this story.



Kaitlyn McCormick/The Rider News

Vincent Toro performs his poetry.

Rider Fashion

Eden Lewis, they/them
Sophomore English major



Kaiya Johnson, she/her

Freshman arts & entertainment industries management major



Lewis loves thrifting and has curated their outfit through second-hand shopping. They love styling outfits with bracelets and necklaces and pair jewelry with simple attire. Lewis finds themselves incorporating Y2K elements into their daily outfits and enjoys the comeback of '90s and '00s fashion.



Osmers is wearing her go-to outfit: a baggy shirt and jeans completed with her favorite sneakers. If she could describe her style in one word, it would be "streetwear." Summer is perfect for Osmers' style choices since she can wear her favorite outfits effortlessly in the hot, breezy weather.



Johnson is wearing a '70s-inspired look, but pulls her fashion inspiration from music icons Aaliyah and Lauryn Hill. Johnson loves fall weather because it is the perfect season to put together stylish outfits. She loves the trendy return of go-go boots, sporting vintage style.

Ella Osmer, she/her
Junior business major



Namaaste: goat yoga comes to Rider

By **Tristan E. M. Leach**

A GROUP of excited and chattering students gathered on the Campus Green. With their leggings and yoga mats, the students craned their necks in anticipation as a pen was set up just beyond the Rider rock.

Soon students were allowed to pick their spot and waited for the stars of the day: baby goats.

On Oct. 6, the Student Recreation Center, in collaboration with the Counseling Center, Rider Dining and the Office of Recreation Programs, brought back the beloved activity, Goat Yoga. Sixty spots were offered on a first-come-first-serve basis, and, as anticipated, each spot was quickly filled. The program included two rotations at 1 p.m. and 2 p.m., with roughly 45 minutes of yoga and then some extra time to snuggle and take pictures with the goats.

The goats and the yoga were supplied by Eileen Bowden of Namaaste Goat Yoga. Bowden and her family own Smith's Corner Farm in Pipersville, Pennsylvania, where the baby goats and their families are cared for.

Namaaste Goat Yoga is going into its sixth year of operation and Bowden could not be more delighted to continue the journey.

"Sometimes the sessions are very much about yoga and sometimes the sessions are very much about the goats, and that's OK. Whatever we all need today is what we will do," said Bowden to the students as the goats were placed into the pen.

Throughout the sessions, Bowden shared facts about the goats and why goat yoga is extremely beneficial for people. Bowden also talked about why the pen was the size it was as goats only observe the 10 feet directly around them.

The 10-foot radius also benefits the people participating as it encourages them to focus on themselves and the goats, nothing else. With

midterms approaching, this event was a way to calm the mind and allow students to destress.

Bowden led students through yoga poses that stayed close to the ground to ensure maximum goat interaction but also to make sure the goats weren't scared.

"As all of our goats are about this big," Bowden said as she bent down and measured about a foot off the ground. "We're going to stay on the ground for everyone's benefit."

This event relieved the stress of both the goats and students, as the goats walked among the students eating and bleating. When it was time for table pose, a yoga exercise that has participants on their hands and knees with a flat back, the baby goats clambered onto the students' backs.

Excited students like Angelina Messina, a junior cybersecurity major, waited as Bowden placed a bleating baby goat on her back.

"I decided to do goat yoga today to get out and have some fun," said Messina with a smile.

The sessions were filled with fun just as Messina had hoped, and Bowden smiled as students gleefully held the goats.

As the session came to an end, Bowden asked students to bring their hands to their chests and take a deep breath.

"Namaaste," Bowden said with a goat's bleat and a smile on her face. The students repeated Bowden's kind sentiment back to her, then held the goats and took pictures with the babies.

Each student left with a smile on their face and peace in their heart.



Kaitlyn Seawood/The Rider News

Excited students interact with baby goats before yoga.



Kaitlyn Seawood/The Rider News

Students follow along as Eileen Bowden leads them in yoga exercises with goats mingling within the crowd.

UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER

11

Wednesday

CDI | BLC
11:30 a.m.

SPEAK OUT:
A NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY DISCUSSION

OCTOBER

13

FRIDAY

CDI | BLC
1 P.M.

Open Door Conversations

OCTOBER

13

FRIDAY

Mercer Room | Daly's
6:30 P.M.

COUNCIL FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN'S MONSTER MASH

OCTOBER

13

FRIDAY

ALUMNI GYM
7:45 P.M.

MAACness:
Basketball Season Opener



The cast of "The Prom" protests anti-gay rules, a topic prevalent in the show. The Prom highlights queer love and relationships.

Rider musical theater opens season with 'The Prom'

By Julia Train

AFTER countless hours in the theater, COVID pausing rehearsals and a long, uncertain tech week, "The Prom" persisted from Oct. 6-8.

During tech week, the time leading up to a production that tends to be longer for performers and staffers, and consists of more tiring hours, three leads were sick as their understudies practiced for them.

Last month, multiple cast members caught COVID, which led to three rehearsals being canceled.

However, in the end, none of the hurdles mattered.

From the moment the curtain opened, the audience was immediately captivated and applauded.

The show was filled with comedic songs and one-liners, elaborate dance numbers with high kicks, twirls, jumps and an important message.

"All the lines [in the show] are so funny, but they do resonate so deeply," said senior musical theater major Nicole Duffy. "It's a show about just celebrating humanity with the message of accepting queer love."

Written in 2016 and adapted to the screen in 2020, the musical centers around four Broadway actors mourning their days of fame after their latest show flops and they find out their narcissism makes them strongly disliked.

The four actors, looking for a way to regain

admiration, travel to the conservative town of Edgewater, Indiana, to help a lesbian student banned by the Parent and Teachers Association from attending prom with her girlfriend.

"A lot of us in the cast talked about how in high school, when we had prom, a lot of us who are queer didn't get to take the date that we wanted to come. It wasn't allowed by our schools," said Duffy, who went to a Catholic high school.

She mentioned that her school also had similar rules for proms that the PTA in the show had: "You must bring a date of the opposite sex, girls must wear a dress and boys wear suits."

Duffy portrayed the girlfriend, Alyssa Greene, opposite Mai Caslowitz, who played Emma Nolan – the lesbian barred from the prom.

Although Caslowitz's performance was captivating, there was a time where they were apprehensive about performing on the main stage, which refers to shows that are produced by Rider University, not students.

Around finals time, auditions were held for the three musicals of the 2023-24 academic year.

Caslowitz, a junior musical theater major who uses they/them pronouns, was excited but nervous at the proposition of the role when they saw the casting list at the end of the spring semester.

"I thought, 'That's a lot of responsibility.' I was kind of scared because I've never been on the main stage," they said.

Nevertheless, Caslowitz knew they wanted to be the one to tell Emma's story and they connected to her personality, which was shy with a goofy side.

Throughout the show, their performance wowed the crowd as they held out high notes that filled the theater and portrayed the character's emotions.

Any chance the audience got, they cheered, making it clear the show was a success through the entirety of the performance.

The final number took place at a new prom, where Emma was able to go with her girlfriend and others who were inspired by her attended dressed how they wanted with whoever they wished to bring.

"It might look like as a society we moved up, but there's still people who aren't accepting," Caslowitz said. "My favorite part was being able to see how my classmates have grown into themselves and being able to connect with people I wouldn't normally connect with."

There was a disco ball, colorful lights, an LED rainbow across the top of the stage, sparkly costumes and confetti. As it ended, the audience gave a standing ovation.



The cast of "The Prom" performs the finale number.



The male students perform a number to ask their girlfriends to the prom.

Fast fashion is hurting people and the planet

LOVE to shop and buy cute new clothes and accessories, especially when they are affordable. Cheap clothes, however, create a serious problem. Fast fashion occurs when clothes are made quickly with poor quality materials, usually accompanied by employee mistreatment. Fast fashion creates a lot of waste, and there has been plenty in the past few years.

A New York Times article, titled “How Fast Fashion is Destroying the Planet” by Dana Thomas, explains that clothing companies aren’t making products that will last more than a few months and more than 60% of fabric ends up in landfills and will never decompose. Thomas is a retired style writer and wrote the book “Fashionopolis,” which explains how companies like Zara are contributing to piles of waste sitting in landfills and in oceans. Thomas created the term “slow fashion” which is “locally grown materials, often domestically manufactured or sourced on a relatively small scale.”

The fashion industry is infamous for unsafe conditions, one of the first to capture media attention being the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire in 1911, killing 146 workers. One recent example is the Rana Plaza factory collapse in 2013 in Bangladesh, which killed over 1,100 workers and injured 2,500. Rana Plaza made a lot of fast fashion that was often sold in America and Thomas wrote that Americans “spent \$340 billion on fashion,” and “much of it was produced in Bangladesh, some of it by Rana Plaza workers in the days leading up to the collapse.” Thomas also explains that none of this is uncommon. From 2006-12, over 500 employees at Rana Plaza died in factory fires. Many of these catastrophes continue to happen but fast fashion has not changed.

Shein is one of the most popular fast fashion brands. Its popularity grew since people could find almost anything for just a few bucks, but Shein’s low-cost clothing has produced a variety of humanitarian issues. An article by CBS News, “Shein’s mounting ethical concerns may be pushing some Gen Z shoppers to look elsewhere” by Sanvi Bangalore, explains that Shein can create 2,000 new clothing items in a day which has a huge environmental impact. Neil Saunders, a GlobalData retail analyst from CBS MoneyWatch said, “Shein has taken the lead in low prices, which is achieved due to their low-cost model and improper labor practices, and the end result is a low price for a consumer and that is key.”

Shein creates trending items quickly while using way less money than its competitors. Saunders added, “Shein are the ones that are taking fast-fashion to superspeed, leading to an enormous amount of unnecessary and disposable consumption, and that’s not great for the environment.”

Clothing waste has doubled in America and Europe since the year 2000. America and Europe combined have created over 30-million tons of wasted clothing and less than 1% has been recycled. The clothing waste America produces often ends up in landfills in Southeast Asia which have waste piles so large they are visible from outer space. All of this waste forces the clothes to be burned which can cause air and water pollution.

Unfortunately, fast fashion is not on the road to improvement as Shein and other companies are not changing their practices. We all love clothes that are affordable, but it isn’t worth the harm to the planet and the employees. Too many people have been injured and lost their lives due to this issue. It is not worth the planet being damaged for a pretty shirt that costs \$3, which probably won’t last long.

*Felicia Roehm
junior journalism major*



Fast fashion is a cheap price for a large impact on people and the planet.



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ALBUM REVIEW

Latest Gorillaz album is tastefully odd, modern

DURING their 25-year career, the Gorillaz, an English virtual band, released eight studio albums, along with numerous EPs and singles. Their latest album, "Cracker Island," was released Feb. 24 with 10 songs. The deluxe version of the album followed three days later with an additional five tracks.

I, along with the band's other 23 million monthly listeners on Spotify, were overjoyed. Sure, Gorillaz did release an album in 2020, but who doesn't love something new? The British band has matured with new looks and a more modern sound. With weird lyrical combinations, electric sounds and some of the oddest artists as features, Cracker Island is 53 minutes and 21 seconds of greatness.

The first song of the album, titled "Cracker Island," features artist Thundercat, and is simply a Gorillaz song to its core. By this, I mean that the lyrics seemingly make no sense and follow an iconic beat. The meaning of this song is quite on the nose, though. [With lyrics such as "On Cracker Island it was born/To the collective of a dawn/They were planting seeds at night/To grow a made-up paradise ... They taught themselves to be occult/They didn't know its many strategies."] This cult was discovered by band member 2D, who ends up becoming a part of it. The song continues on about the cult and what they will do for 2D, as well as seemingly foreshadowing a new world to come. This world is then fleshed out through other songs and music videos.

"New Gold," is the fifth song on the album and features popular artists Tame Impala and Bootie Brown. This song is reminiscent of older Gorillaz music, donning a pronounced drum beat and a rap verse. Even though the band's sound has evolved into something more electric, the song's rock roots are refreshing. The rap verse is, of course, an iconic part of their music as well and sets the band apart from others of their genre. Beneath the energetic music, the lyrics cover what can only be described as a dystopian world: "Yo, a desolate city where it hurts to smile/Ran into the Reverend since it's been a while and Are we all losing our minds?/Because life got in the way/They will be here just in time/Your replacement is here to stay." The lyrics portray a desolate society where people struggle to find meaning within it.

There is also an impending sense of doom within the song, as people know something bad is happening but do not know how to prevent it. This is symbolic in everyone's life, and we all have our own coping mechanisms.

The eighth track, is "Tormenta," featuring Bad Bunny, is the perfect song for summer, despite being released in February. The lyrics themselves are a lot more positive than others on "Cracker Island." The song is all about love, and the beauty of it. Even if it is not romantic love, everyone has people in their life that they love whether that be friends or family.

Another important message in this song is to seize any opportunity that you may find. The song talks about love, but anyone can relate to that with their own experiences. Whether you can understand Spanish or not, the song is a pleasure to listen to, and one that gives hope to listeners.

The album also got quite a positive reception online. According to Google, 95% of listeners have thumbs-upped the album. Rolling Stone's review called the album "Gorillaz's most purely pleasurable LP yet." The Guardian wrote that "Cracker Island" felt "musically unified" and that it "deals in subtlety and nuance." For a band that has been performing for two decades, it is quite a compliment that its music has held up for this long.

Jenna Munswami
freshman communications major



Eric Buckwalter/The Rider News

Gorillaz newest album consists of interesting lyric combinations and many featured artists.

SOPHOMORE SIGHTINGS

How a bright blue bike inspired a new hobby

If you have ever seen a bright blue bike zooming around campus, odds are it's me. Studies have shown that physical activity not only boosts physical health but mental health as well, and I am a living example of that.

Back in the wonderful time of the COVID-19 pandemic, I was an awkward 16-year-old kid who was stuck at home and had nothing to do and even less direction. My dad suggested I start biking again. I scoffed at the idea initially because the last time I went biking, it went "so well" I didn't do it for the next five years.

Fortunately, boredom got the best of me and I caved. My old bike was way too small for me; however, my dad still had his bike he bought 30 years ago. It was bright blue and needed a boatload of alterations, so my dad and I got to work.

It was probably the most annoying thing I have ever done. Within a few weeks I felt happy, sad, angry, annoyed and relieved. After all of that, it was finally functional.

It wasn't as shiny and new as all the bikes on the market now, but I didn't care. The blood, sweat and tears I shed made that blue hunk of metal worth it. More importantly, it brought me and my dad closer, and, I see that time as invaluable. Little did I know that my friends and I would go biking every day that summer.

As my college search and the end of high school drew near, I may have biked a little less but the close friendships and memories I made remained. That was part of the reason I decided to bring my bike to school, but it broke within the first day. There were a few more days of blood, sweat and tears trying to fix it. Unfortunately, I didn't have many tools to work with at school.

Luckily, one of my new friends at school saw me struggling and offered to take me to a bike shop that would fix it. The repairs were not too expensive and once again, my bike helped me make friends.

Since I started biking again I've made many new friends, and some people only know me as the blue bike guy. One could look at this as just a story of a dude and his frustrating bike, but the deeper meaning is that I chose to start something new, and have not only gained a faster-than-walking means of transportation, but meaningful relationships and a lifelong hobby.

If you ever see me on campus, odds are I'll be biking. Don't be afraid to say 'hi,' and take it as a sign to get out there. Find something you love as much as I love biking.

Joe Seewald
sophomore political science major



Photo courtesy of Joe Seewald

Joe Seewald found his love for biking again during COVID-19.

VOLLEYBALL

Rider adds win and loss at midseason mark

By Terrell Munford, Glendale Eversley and Benjamin Shinault

RIDER volleyball hosted two matches this weekend against Niagara on Oct. 7 and Canisius on Oct. 8. Rider went on to sweep the Purple Eagles 3-0, but did not have the same luck against Canisius the following day, losing 3-2 to now sit at 4-4 in Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference play.

Niagara falls

Rider and Niagara fought it out as the first set concluded with a final score of 25-20. The Broncos, during the short break, figured out how to handle Niagara's attack, as they won the second set 25-16 and put the Purple Eagles on their heels. With all the momentum on the Broncos side of the net, they closed out the third set with a win, slipping by with a final score of 25-22.

Rider led in every category in the game, as it ended with a total of 48 kills compared to Niagara's 45, sophomore outside hitter Kiannisha Santiago shining with 11 kills.

With the attack, Rider maintained a great pace with only nine errors in the game, while Niagara had 18 and the Broncos took full advantage of it during the match.

Tori Schrader, a senior outside hitter, said the team "knew what [they] needed to do and the defense needed to play and win the defensive battle," Schrader said. "The staff is very encouraging, they want us to go after every single swing and serve to be and stay aggressive after every single point. ... I think our confidence is up."

Broncs lack

On Oct. 8, Rider took on Canisius for the second game of the weekend, ultimately losing the match 3-2 and dropping the Broncos to 5-11 on the season. "I think everybody has to take a look at how they're prepping for games, and 'What am I doing within the game to make sure that I'm on the same page with my teammates even with my energy and body language,'" Head Coach Jeff Rotondo said.



Rider volleyball prepares an attack against the Canisius Golden Griffins on Oct. 8.

The opening sets belonged to the Golden Griffins. The Broncos began with a 5-3 lead, but Canisius went on a 7-1 run to retake the lead. With a 10-8 lead, the Griffs pulled away with an 8-1 run.

The Broncos led 4-2 in the second set, but Canisius scored six straight points. Up 12-9, Canisius went on a 5-0 run, and the Broncos never countered.

The tide turned as Rider regained control in the third set. With a 9-7 cushion, Rider went on a 8-1 run, including a pair of aces from junior setter Ryley Frye and freshman outside hitter Paige Giebtbrock. With a commanding 21-17 lead, she had three kills during a 4-0 run to close out the set.

With a 7-4 lead in set four, Canisius went on a 7-0 run. Down 13-10, Rider countered with a 5-0 run, including a pair of aces from Frye. Rider pulled away with another 5-0 run, this time capped off by an ace from freshman libero and defensive specialist

Carly Zimmet. Rider took the set 25-18.

The fifth set was back and forth with 10 ties and five lead changes. Down 9-7, Rider went on a 4-0 run, including a Frye ace. Rider eventually earned a 15-14 lead, but the Griffs with a roaring three straight points changed the match, giving Canisius the victory.

Sophomore libero Keegan O'Connor said that the team should have come out with more energy during the match.

"There was a hole in the middle of the court and they were using it and swinging away. I think they're aggression was good," said O'Connor.

The Broncos now hit the road as they will travel to Connecticut for a match against Fairfield on Oct. 14 at 1 p.m.

FIELD HOCKEY

Broncs split games against St. Francis, Stonehill

By Kadie Digiuseppe

RIDER field hockey split its two conference home games, losing 2-1 to St. Francis on Oct. 6, then beating Stonehill 2-0 during Senior Day on Oct. 8.

Opening-weekend defeat

After two straight wins last week, the Broncos faced one of their toughest divisional opponents, St. Francis.

In the blink of an eye, freshman forward Emma Bonshak scored Rider's first and only goal of the game, her second of the season.

After that early strike, St. Francis was held scoreless during the first half due to the double teams Rider laid on St. Francis.

St. Francis continued to put up a fight and by the second half, the Broncos ended up conceding two goals.

With both teams taking almost 10 corners and five shots on goal, the game was intense and competitive throughout.

Rider's shots were taken by freshman midfielder Ang Borisow, sophomore forward Valeria Perales, freshman forward Willemijn Ephraim and sophomore forward Semra Said.

Additionally, Rider senior goalkeeper Carlee Fulton had three saves in the game.

The Broncos took offensive control during the fourth quarter with many attempts to score the tying goal, but ultimately they couldn't get the ball past the St. Francis goalkeeper.

"I was proud of our team"

Coming off the tough loss to St. Francis two days earlier, Rider was hungry for a win on its Senior Day.

In the first half, the Broncos dominated on offense, getting corners and taking shot after shot at Stonehill's goalkeeper, but unfortunately couldn't break through the defense.

On the Broncos' second corner of the following half, senior midfielder Kiera Guckavan scored with the assist from Ephraim, making the score 1-0 in favor of the Broncos at the end of the third quarter.

Guckavan said, "It felt great to be able to score. I'm really happy I was able to contribute to the win. I am also grateful for all the love and support we got on Senior Day from our coaches, teammates and fans."

Stonehill battled back during the rest of the second half, making it harder for the Broncos to score again.

With two minutes left in the game and no goalkeeper for the Skyhawks, Ephraim scored off a corner to make the score 2-0.

Fulton had three more saves in the game, bringing her total saves this season to 41, fifth most in the Northeast Conference as of Oct. 10.

"I was so proud of our team because we kept fighting to win a goal and didn't stop even when we did score. I could tell they were playing for each other rather than playing for ourselves," said Fulton of the Broncos' success. "I think this team is only getting better everyday."



Senior midfielder Kiera Guckavan setting up to score for the Broncos.

Graduate student forward Carli Ciocco thinks that every Bronc played well as a team.

"Our in and out passing created a lot of momentum for us and it was great to come out, get the win and get as many scoring opportunities as we did," said Ciocco. "Now it's just about capitalizing on those opportunities and scoring more goals."

Rider now moves to 5-7 on the season and has won two out of its last three. The Broncos will host Sacred Heart on Oct. 13 at 7 p.m.

Head Coach Alicia Govannicci said the focus of the game will be "to move the ball quickly, capitalize on our opportunities and play strong defense."

The game will be streamed on ESPN+.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Broncs topple Saint Peter's and Manhattan

By Benjamin Shinault and Richard Saile

RIDER women's soccer had itself a successful two games over the weekend as it picked up back-to-back wins against Saint Peter's on Oct. 4 and Manhattan on Oct. 7. This successful two-game set planted the Broncs at fifth in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference standings as of Oct. 10.

Pummeling the Peacocks

Fresh off a four-shot loss, the Broncs were hungry for redemption, which is exactly what they got on Oct. 4 in Jersey City, as they took down Saint Peter's 3-1.

The Broncs scored within the first 10 minutes of the match off the foot of senior midfielder Hannah Freeman.

Roughly seven minutes later, graduate student forward Chloe Fisher nestled the ball in the back of the net to put the Broncs up 2-0 heading into the second half.

The Peacocks were able to slip one by senior goalkeeper Ellie Sciancalepore on a penalty kick but, that ended up being the only goal that they were able to score.

With the Broncs only up by one in the second half, the search for the insurance goal was on as sophomore back Olivia Smith delivered for the Broncs, cementing a win for Rider by a score of 3-1.

The victory marked a turnaround for the Broncs as they finished the match with 20 total shots and 13 shots on goal.

Jasper jousting

On Oct. 7, Senior Day, Rider defeated the Manhattan Jaspers 2-1.

Early in the first half, Manhattan came out strong and had several opportunities in Rider territory, but the defense of the Broncs held its own and prevented the Jaspers from scoring a goal by halftime.

The Broncs started slow offensively with a few possessions, but as the match continued, the Broncs offense became more aggressive and stressed the defense of the Jaspers.

The second half possessed countless amounts of exciting back-and-forth moments from both teams. The first goal of the match was scored on a penalty kick by the Broncs in the 56th minute by Freeman to give Rider a 1-0 lead. It was her fourth goal of the season, which lead the Broncs this season.

"It's exciting, four goals on the season and hopefully more to come. They've been big goals too and this is potentially my last time playing soccer," said Freeman. "This is it. This is what I've lived for so it feels so good."

However, the Jaspers had a quick response of their own as they quickly struck to tie the match at 1-1 thanks to a goal from outside the 18-yard box. The Broncs weren't going to lay down as sophomore midfielder Leonor Alvessent passed the ball to freshman midfielder Ava Ferrie, who set up the goal in the 75th minute to give the Broncs back the lead and go up 2-1 in the match.

The Jaspers had a chance to tie it, but the ball just missed off the top of the net and the Broncs held on to win 2-1.

With the win, the Broncs are now on a two-game winning streak and move to 5-6-1 and 3-3 in MAAC play. It also extends a run of five consecutive wins against Manhattan.

"We've really got to look at each game, take

each game that comes and try to compete for three points," Head Coach Drayson Hounsoume said. "We'll be trying to get three points on Wednesday at Iona."

The Broncs will travel to New Rochelle, New York, to face the Iona Gaels on Oct. 11 at 3 p.m. and will be looking for another win. The game will be broadcasted on ESPN+.



Kenneth Seward/The Rider News

Graduate student midfielder **Abbie Roberts** looks on during the match.

MEN'S SOCCER

Rider suffers first loss since season opener

By Logan VanDine

IT has been a strong start to the season for Rider men's soccer under first-year Head Coach Chad Duernberger. But on a windy and cloudy day in Riverdale, New York, the Broncs' eight-game unbeaten streak ended as they were shut out by the Manhattan Jaspers, 2-0 on Oct. 7.

The game was primarily a defensive battle, as neither the Broncs nor the Jaspers could do much offensively in the first half, and both teams were scoreless headed into halftime.

But in the 78th minute, the Jaspers started the scoring. After sophomore goalkeeper Adam Salama was called for a foul inside the 18-yard box, the Jaspers capitalized on that, making the penalty kick that gave Manhattan a 1-0 lead.

"There are a lot of moments throughout matches that we are able to learn from. I look forward to looking at the film and begin preparing for Iona on Wednesday," Salama said.

Four minutes later, the Jaspers got some much-needed insurance and made the game 2-0.

The Jaspers eventually snagged the win, sentencing Rider just its second loss of the season, and first of conference play.

"We had chances early on that could have changed the game. I thought we battled well in the conditions with the rain and the surface. Obviously disappointed with the result but I'm always going to find the positives and this group went on an eight-game unbeaten streak and hadn't lost since the season opener, I'm proud of them," Head Coach Chad Duernberger said.

Overall in the game, the Broncs outshot the Jaspers 10-9, but when it came to shots on goal, the Jaspers were the superior team, having a 7-5 advantage.

Duernberger was also asked if he had any concerns after his team's loss.

"No concern for the future. We'll review the film and figure out how we could have went at



Kaitlyn D'Alessio/The Rider News

Players on the Rider bench analyze the action. The loss to Manhattan was the team's first in five weeks.

Manhattan a bit more while also preparing for a very good Iona team ahead. We always say win, lose or draw, we come back with the same mentality on the training ground to prepare for the next one. We just need to make sure we grow from today," he said.

Salama also gave his input on his team's loss and expressed confidence in his team's ability to bounce back from just their second loss.

"We have a very talented group that is hungry to win every single game this season, now we are going to grow and learn from this loss, and get back to winning ways," he said.

The Broncs will look to start a new winning streak when they return home to Ben Cohen Field on Oct. 11 to host the Iona Gaels. The game starts at 7 p.m. and can be streamed on ESPN+.

Sports

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CLUB ICE HOCKEY

Rider explodes for 15 goals in two wins



Tristan E. M. Leach/The Rider News

Senior forward **Dom Cerceo** (left) and junior goalkeeper **Trevor Giwerowski** (right) were huge contributors to Rider's wins.

By **Rebecca Bludgus**

RIDER club ice hockey took down Montclair State on Oct. 6 and St. Joseph's on Oct. 8 to stay unbowed since its Sept. 22 home opener, putting its record to 6-1.

The Broncs faced off against the Red Hawks, shooting them down 7-3 and having a 45-15 advantage in shots on goal.

In the first period, Rider repeatedly attacked the Red Hawks on the defense, but Montclair ultimately struck first on a power-play goal, making it 1-0.

Freshman goalkeeper Louis Bizzoco received his first start in front of the net.

"It's not ... indicative of how [Bizzoco] performed, but how we performed in front of him," said Head Coach Conner Fox. "They battened down the hatches in front of their net and kept us out of there until the third period."

They responded almost immediately after senior forward Mark McDermitt scored on a power play with sophomore forward Aaron Pape and graduate student defenseman Eddie Coyne on the assist to tie the game at 1-1.

Montclair opened up the scoring in the second period and went up 2-1 by taking advantage of another power play.

It wasn't long until the score was knotted up again with a goal from senior defenseman Nicholas Pedulla and an assist from senior forward Anthony Zito.

Coyne gave the Broncs their first lead of the game by going top shelf for his first goal of the year, with the assist from junior forward Cole Schneider, 3-2.

"It was on the power play, finally getting something going," said Coyne. "We went two games there, probably six periods, with no power play so it was nice to finally get a couple today. I think my unit went three for three and the other unit went one for one so it was great."

Graduate student forward T.J. Evan scored Rider's fourth goal with senior forward D.J. Sucher on the rebound. Montclair's last goal came at the end of the second period, making the score 4-3 heading into the third.

In the last act, Rider scored three goals: McDermitt got his second goal of the night with Schneider on the assist, and Zito scored off an assist from freshman forward Ryan Kenna to close it out.

Freshman forward Brendan MacAnish earned his first goal as a Bronc with Schneider on the assist.

"It's cool because Cole Schneider is our top points scorer ... it's good to learn off him, expand on what he knows, and I think I'm going to learn a lot with him," MacAnish said. In net, Bizzoco earned his first win as a Bronc.

"It's just great, getting the first college start and winning. Good experience, I'm excited and happy," said Bizzoco.

Schneider, Atlantic Coast Conference player of

the week, had a three-point night with just assists, and McDermitt led the night in goals with two.

Rider's Oct. 7 game against Marist was canceled due to transportation issues for the Red Foxes.

The Broncs regrouped on Oct. 8, shutting out St. Joseph's 8-0.

In 60 minutes of play, St. Joseph's was only able to get 18 shots on goal, while Rider outshot the Hawks by a monster amount with 63 shots on goal.

The Broncs opened their season with their only loss, which was against Lehigh, and have won six straight since.

"As captain, I stick to all the mental aspects of the game, showing up to the rink on time, showing up prepared, trying to lock in, stuff like that. You just gotta do every game; it's so important," Coyne said.

Since the home opener in September, the Broncs have cleaned up their game by passing more and keeping possession of the puck.

"We're getting settled," Fox said. "We've got a lot of new guys who are maybe a little antsy at this level, but, I think we are kind of finding our groove and our touch."

Rider next travels for a pair of road games against Maryland on Oct. 13 at 9:20 p.m. and Stevenson on Oct. 14 at 4 p.m.

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