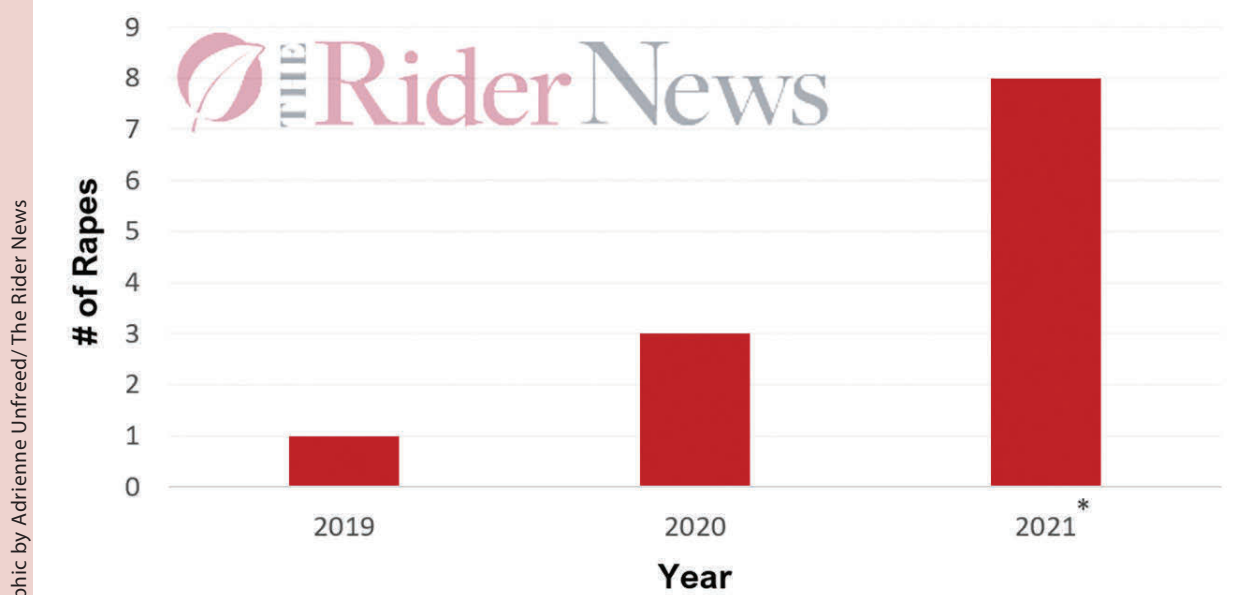




Safety report shows increase in rape cases at Rider

Reported Rapes at Rider University



Graphic by Adrienne Unfreed/The Rider News

* Of the eight rapes that were reported in 2021, one occurred in 2020, and one in 2017, but both weren't reported until 2021

A graph depicting the amount of cases of rape on campus in 2019 to 2021.

By Shaun Chornobroff

STATISTICS show that Rider University had a dramatic increase in rape cases in the 2021 calendar year, according to Public Safety's new annual security and fire safety report.

The data shows eight reported rapes, with six of them being from residential facilities such as dorming halls and Greek houses, and two other rapes occurring in 2017 and 2020, but not being reported until the last year.

The most recent reports show a combined five reported rapes in 2019 and 2020 before the spike this past year.

Rider's Director of Public Safety James Waldon said offered a potential reason for the rise in cases in an email to The Rider News.

"The increase in reports could be the result of more willing to report," Waldon explained. "Rider university updated our system for submitting reports of violence; bias, discrimination; and come and student conduct and related matters."

Anyone who wishes to alert Public Safety of an incident can do so via the "Report and Support" tab on the university website.

After a combined 10 reported fondlings in 2019 and 2020, eight of which occurred on campus, the university listed only one fondling incident in 2021.

The university also had 10 reports of domestic violence in 2019, and saw that number decrease to six in 2020. The number of reported domestic violence cases continued its decline down to two in the past calendar year.

Rider also had two cases of reported stalking in 2021.

Public Safety placed the report's statistics into two categories: criminal offenses and liquor, drug and weapon violations.

Sex and dating crimes fall under criminal offenses.

Rider did not see any cases of arson, aggravated assault or motor vehicle theft, but did report four cases of aggravated assault.

The university had no alcohol related arrests this past year, but saw a drop in disciplinary actions and judicial referrals, only issuing 16 in 2021 after giving out 33 the year prior and 58 in 2019.

After recording seven drug related arrests in 2020 and 14 in 2019, the university did not have a single drug related arrest in 2021. However, the school did have five drug-related disciplinary actions or judicial referrals, an increase from the three issued in 2020, but still a drop from the 13 issued in 2019.

When asked about the drop in drug and alcohol related incidents, Rider's Associate Vice President for University Marketing and Communications Kristine Brown said "we're always happy when numbers are going lower."

Waldon echoed a similar thought.

"While we have not fully completed an analysis of the data set, the drop is positive. ... Any decrease in that number I hope translates into better academic outcomes for our students," Waldon said.

Although marijuana is legal in the state of New Jersey for those of and over 21, it is still prohibited on Rider's campus due to it not being federally legal.

Rider did have one weapons-related arrest on campus in 2021.

After recording two building fires in 2019, for the second consecutive year Rider did not have any building fires in 2021.

The report was released on Sept. 28 and shows crime and fire statistics on campus in 2021 with information assembled by Public Safety, Student Affairs, Residence Life, Facilities Management, Community Standards and Local Police.

The Fire Safety and Security Report is released in compliance with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act that requires colleges and universities nationwide to release three years' worth of statistics annually.

This article mentions rape and sexual assault. If you or someone you know has experienced sexual violence, the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network (RAINN) Hotline can be reached at 1-800-656-HOPE (4673).

Staff members remain hopeful in light of OIT difficulties

By Kaitlyn McCormick

DESPITE consistent transitional issues faced in the beginning of the academic year, the recent outsourcing of Rider's IT department is credited with hefty savings for the university and hopefully smooth operations moving further into the fall semester.

Although Rider has been partnered with Ellucian Services for over a decade, the decision to utilize the Ellucian Managed Services Division and switch to an outsource model for the university's Office of Information Technologies (OIT) came fairly recently, prompted in part by the many changes being made at the institution to illicit savings to counter the ongoing cash deficit faced by the school.

Making the switch

Jim Hartman, Rider's vice president for finance and chief financial advisor, explained some of the behind-the-scenes decision making when it came down to making the choice to outsource the

department, including a "high six-figure savings."

"I did a lot of reference checking," Hartman said. "Not only did universities save money when they did this, but the service to the community actually improved greatly, and that was across every reference that I checked."

According to Hartman, 13 of the 16 full-time employees (FTE) on-campus were previous OIT Rider employees that decided to stay with Ellucian Managed Services, but there are also two FTE in off-campus remote resources and access to over 184 Central Technology personnel such as consultants, programmers and administrators.

"Retaining some of that knowledge base is really important with the transition, plus some of them have been long term Rider employees, so we wanted to retain as many as possible, but we also needed to make sure that we move forward under this Ellucian umbrella," Hartman said.



SEE ACADEMIC PAGE 2



Photo courtesy of Kaitlyn McCormick

Oliver Wendt acknowledges that there is some OIT difficulties but has hope that it will improve.

INSIDE

AN UPSET FOR THE AGES

Field hockey topples No. 25 American for a historic victory.



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BEING QUEER IN BUSINESS

An LGBTQ+ student shares her experience being in a "straight" major.

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ATHLETE BECOMES SAXBYS SCEO

Junior Grace Ramsey has been titled Student CEO for the fall semester.



PAGE 6

SECURITY BRIEFS

BY SHAUN CHORNOBROFF

Starbucks Stealth?

Malicious Males. On Sept. 21 at 2:06 p.m., Public Safety was contacted by Gourmet Dining Management reporting a theft that occurred at Starbucks in the Student Recreation Center (SRC). The Starbucks staff reported that they noticed some stock missing on Sept. 14, 2022 and requested that Public Safety investigate the theft of the products. After reviewing the camera footage of the Starbucks stand, two males were observed taking items from the front of the stand. The investigation is ongoing. Public Safety asked if anyone has any information regarding this incident to please report it.

Toilet Tantrums

Explosion in the lav. On Sept. 26 at 10:30 a.m., Public Safety was dispatched to a residence hall for the report of a student that injured their hands. When Public Safety arrived, they met with the student who said that their toilet exploded and they had cut their hand picking up the pieces. Medical assistance was offered to the student and Facilities Management was contacted to repair the damaged toilet. It is unknown what caused the damage to the toilet.

Refrigerator Rumbblings

Odd odors. On Sept. 29 at 11:55 p.m., Public Safety was dispatched to House No.7 for the report of a gas leak. When they arrived, Public Safety did not detect the odor of natural gas inside the building and, using a gas meter, did not detect any unusual reading inside the building. There was an odor of something electrical burning. Public Safety then spoke with the residents and they noted that a refrigerator had been malfunctioning. Public Safety unplugged the refrigerator and contacted Facilities Management for repairs.

- Information provided by Public Safety Capt. Matthew Babcock

Academic year begins with OIT problems

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

Ellucian Services

Many people wonder what this outsourcing actually means for Rider and how it differs from the services utilized by the university in the past.

Oliver Wendt, the university's interim chief information officer (CIO) said, "Ellucian Managed Services is one division of Ellucian. It's the service arm of our organization."

One of the key appeals of Ellucian as a longtime partner of Rider is the company's specialization in higher educational institutions. The outsourcing process began on June 15, but Rider has been partnered with Ellucian since 2008, said Hartman.

Wendt said, "We're not only industry leaders in managed service for higher education, but we really specialize in just institutional transformation, how to work with schools and to help develop strategic plans."

According to Wendt, there are over 145 managed services sites across the country, with 11 in New Jersey alone.

He explained that although there is now a "smaller OIT footprint on campus ... we have

[the] knowledge of all of our neighboring institutions that are facing similar challenges in higher ed[ucation]."

A rough start

While Ellucian Services is not a new partnership for Rider, this new service model correlated with a slew of technology issues present in the beginning of the academic year.

"I would say that it's a combination of a lot of factors. Certainly when there's turnover ... you lose some institutional knowledge, as well as [having] new people coming in to try to learn," Wendt said.

Wendt also explained that technology issues today are much more vast than a simple break-fix issue, especially now that advances like "cloud-based computing" are so popular.

The influx of OIT issues was also compounded by the resignation of Wendt's predecessor and former CIO Douglas McCrea. The resignation was announced via email on Sept. 21. While McCrea could not be reached for comment, Hartman described the separation as "mutual."

A new chapter

The choice to outsource aligns with a more keen eye being taken to the technology services at Rider, and Wendt and Hartman both expressed an excitement and commitment moving forward to utilize this switch to provide the best possible service to the Rider community.

Wendt said, "We need to look at [the question of], 'How do we provide modern academic computing needs in the 21st century,' and that's not for us to decide and solve, it's to work with faculty members that understand the pedagogy in the classroom."

Wendt's team has also been venturing into the Rider community to gather information from different departments regarding needs, wants and frustrations that the OIT department could help alleviate.

"That's always been the strategy from the beginning," Hartman explained.

Wendt concluded, "While it's bumpy right now, I'm excited about the future."

Faculty and staff emphasize importance of visibility

By Jay Roberson

An evening with Latinx Faculty and Staff was held at Daly's Dining Hall in the Mercer room on Sept. 29 for students and faculty who wished to hear the unique perspectives of staff who identify as Latinx.

Seven Rider staff members sat at a round table in front of the room and awaited to answer questions from the moderator and the audience. As each faculty member answered different questions, they made it clear that they were a resource for all Latinx students at Rider University.

Finding community and support

English Professor Vincent Toro, one of the Latinx staff members who participated in the Q&A session, spoke with The Rider News on the importance of events like this on campus.

"It's important that Latinx students understand that there are resources on campus for them. So to me, faculty and administrators, knowing that they have access to not only those faculties, but some of the programs and clubs, I think that that's crucial for the survival of a lot of Latinx students," Toro said.

Throughout the event, the staff emphasized the fact that they were once Latinx students going through college too; they know that students are handling a great deal of pressure and their ethnicity may be one of those pressures. It is not easy for all students at Rider to transition into a predominately white institution as a person of color.

When asked about the event, Angélica Benitez, who is director of TRIO Programs, spoke about the importance of visibility on Rider's campus as more diverse students enroll.

"Because Rider is now becoming or has become a lot more diverse in terms of the population, it is important that the populations see themselves in the administration and in the faculty, you know, for role

modeling," said Benitez.

Benitez also talked about her experience as a Rider student when there were even less people of color on campus and the isolation she experienced because of this. She highlighted the importance of Latinx staff members talking about their experiences when they were a student and showing Latinx students that there is a community at Rider for them.

"I hoped to instill my experiences into the other students that may have identified as first gen or come from an under-resourced environment, things of that nature. If my message could speak to someone in the room, I hope that it would strengthen their experience at Rider," Benitez stated.

The organizer of the event, Language, Literature and Culture professor Cynthia Martinez talked about the importance of Latinx students getting to know who they can confide in on campus.

"This kind of idea came from things we were hearing from students, things that they wanted to see, more opportunities they wanted to see. So I heard from a lot of students, we don't even know who the Latinx faculty and staff are, we don't even know where y'all are on campus," Martinez said.

Underrepresentation in staff members

Rider has been making steady improvements in diversity and inclusion, but some of the staff members stated that they need to do better.

"I've seen support from colleagues, from students. That's really refreshing and I really appreciate that. I will say that in terms of faculty and staff, considering that the student population of the school, country and state is well over 20% of Latinx, that we still do need to see not only Latinx, we need to see more Black and Brown faculty on campus that will add to the sense of belonging," Toro said. Over 20% of Rider's student population is Latinx, but only 5% of

staff and faculty members are Latinx according to Christina Peterson, assistant provost for institutional research.

It is important that students are able to see themselves in both staff and administration. "I would love to see more of us here. More of us coming together, more of doing stuff like this for students. And in the meantime, you know, I think it's a big job that falls on the shoulders of not very many of us," Martinez stated.

An event like An Evening with Latinx Faculty and Staff is vital to Rider because of the low number of Latinx staff to connect with students. Martinez organized this event to ensure that every Rider student feels seen. "If any student saw one of us for the first time, or maybe saw themselves in one of our stories or anything like that. That's what I wanted out of this event."



Photo courtesy of Rider University website.

Vincent Toro spoke with The Rider News during the Q&A session during an evening with Latinx faculty and staff.

New ADP timesheet service causes issues for workers

By Amethyst Martinez

STUDENTS and staff continue to face technical difficulties throughout campus, this time with the newly introduced timesheet system, Automatic Data Processing (ADP). The service, which was introduced on campus in August, has caused a variety of problems for on campus employees throughout the summer and into the fall semester.

Colleen Banfe, assistant director of disbursements, was unable to be reached for comment on the current issues users are experiencing with ADP.

The change was conducted by individuals in the finance division and human resources. Prior to the introduction of ADP, payroll was handled in-house by Rider, according to Kristine Brown, associate vice president of university marketing and communications.

Brown also said that ADP was implemented to increase efficiencies, reduce costs and improve service to employees.

Margaret Bergmark, the library manager of the Franklin F. Moore Library, said that there were only two training sessions available in the summer in person, with a recording of the session available online for those who were new to the system.

“The training was probably about an hour long, but it was more so just to understand how the platform worked, and how we could view our time, like our accrued time, and how we submitted our own personal time. ... I asked specifically if the supervisors would be expected to train students on how to use this system, or if students would be receiving any kind of help, and they said it fell to the supervisor,” said Bergmark.

Bergmark is responsible for the timesheets of seven full and part-time staff members, as well as 30 students. With lack of training for students, many over the summer and into the new semester have experienced a plethora of issues from the program.

“I wish I had had a little bit more time to get accustomed to the program myself before being also asked to train students how to use it,” said Bergmark. “It seems that if there are issues on the back side of things, it makes my job training students more difficult.”

Brown said there were two training sessions throughout the summer for employees to learn the new system, along with information and resources provided via email, online training, a recording of the training, and an in-person open house offered in July. In addition to these sessions, PowerPoint presentations are also available on the disbursements website.



Andrew Xon/The Rider News

Senior film and television major **Jackie Nirvana** recalls experiencing issues with ADP while working over the summer.

Jackie Nirvana, a senior film and television major, has experienced issues with the system since it was introduced in the summer. Nirvana said, “Whenever we have issues, they always point us to the company rather than disbursements. ... The fact that there was no training involved, just because as we all know, we’re just expected to figure it out. We’re college students who are already living mostly paycheck to paycheck, and now you want to delay it.”

During Nirvana’s summer job on campus, she and her coworkers went to disbursements in-person on multiple instances after they all experienced issues with no response from the department.

“I worked with the educational opportunity program over the summer. ... I think three times out of the six week program, we marched to disbursements with a group of like 15

people to speak with them,” said Nirvana.

Bergmark said the two issues she encounters most with the program are students who have two campus jobs, or who have never had a job at Rider before. She describes both of these instances as a “limitation of the platform.” Bergmark has first-hand experience with the issues that users are experiencing when trying to submit their timesheets.

“I don’t understand what it’s like from [the] disbursements side of things,” said Bergmark. “I’ve never seen that side or what it’s like uploading that many people. You’re bound to have human error if it is done by overworked staff. ... I would say that the platform will be wonderful, once all of the kinks are worked out.”

Capital Health grants new scholarships in partnership

By Kaitlyn McCormick

FOUR Rider students were awarded inaugural full-tuition scholarships from Capital Health as a part of the university’s ongoing partnership with the organization which began in 2020.

Senior communication studies major Andrew Coates, one of the recipients of the scholarship, said about winning, “It felt like a burden was kind of lifted off of me, just because I did have to pay for most of my education...it kind of has been hanging over my head.”

Junior history major Rachel Burnett, junior global supply chain major Gloria Owusu and junior computer science major Johannah Stevenson also received full-tuition scholarships.

Any employee or immediate family member of a Capital Health employee is eligible to apply as long as they are a full-time undergraduate student, including transfers and continuing studies, with a minimum 3.0 GPA and good standing with the university.

Drew Aromando, Rider’s vice president of enrollment management, said, “We are partnering with [Capital Health] on the selection, and in their case they want to make sure that they were choosing both high academic and need based scenarios so that it was balanced across all of the aspects that they felt were important.”

Al Maghazeh, president and CEO of Capital Health, said in a June 23 press release for the university, “As our relationship with Rider grows,

we’ll offer similar scholarship opportunities annually as part of a broader education benefits program for our employees and their families.”

Although the recipients of the 2022 scholarships were upperclassmen, the press release states that the full-tuition awards are “awarded for four consecutive years or until completion of the academic program.”

While the scholarships are a new addition to the partnership, Capital Health’s employee education benefits program also includes a 50% tuition discount for non-union employees and their immediate family members with no application fees.

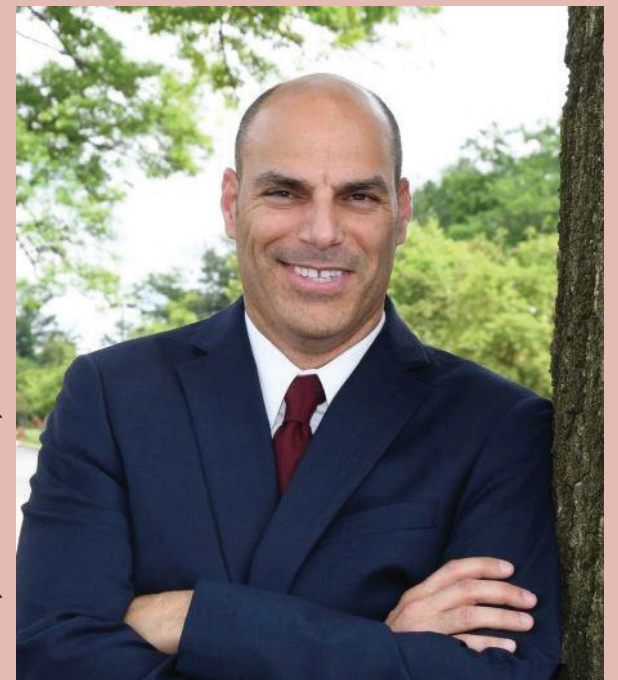
Aromando said, “It’s a great opportunity for them to essentially maintain up-skill staff and support the growing knowledge of their employees and provide benefits to their employees’ families.”

In addition to its two hospitals located in Trenton and Hopewell, N.J., Capital Health has a broader regional network of primary and specialty care facilities as well as an outpatient facility in Hamilton. One of the key components of Capital Health’s partnership with the university is each party’s dedication to the surrounding community.

“They’re a big partner with a big commitment toward the city of Trenton...we’ve shared that common interest of giving back to the community... we want to make sure that interests lie in the same place,” Aromando explained, also mentioning that Rider was originally founded with connection to Trenton as the Trenton Business College.

As for the future of this partnership, there is “a lot more to come,” according to Aromando.

“I’m excited about where the partnership has come and where it’s going. And I’m really excited about the benefit that it’s providing for students,” he said.



Courtesy of Rider University

Vice President of Enrollment Management **Drew Aromando** remains excited about the Capital Health partnership.

Public Safety to display safety signs for rideshare services

By Shaun Chornobroff

THE acronym “S.A.M.I.” will be a familiar sight at Rider University in the near future with signs promoting safety regarding the use of rideshare companies such as Lyft or Uber being displayed around campus by Public Safety.

Signs with the “S.A.M.I.” acronym that stands for “Stop, Ask, Match, Inform” will be placed around residence halls and other high volume areas, such as the Bart Luedeke Center (BLC) and the Student Recreation Center (SRC), Public Safety’s Commander of Emergency Management and Services, David Burns, said in an interview with The Rider News.

“I think everybody has to be aware of surroundings and know what’s going on. It could happen to any of us,” Burns said. “So the most important thing is to get the most education out there, make people aware of what programs are available.”

Rider displaying the signs are a part of a Mercer County wide initiative to display the signage with the #WhatsMyName foundation.

The organization was started in memory of Samantha Josephson, a 21-year-old resident of Robbinsville, New Jersey and University of South Carolina student who was kidnapped and murdered in March of 2019 after entering the car of a person posing as a rideshare driver. Her parents Seymour Josephson and Marci Josephson started the foundation to educate others about the potential hazards ridesharing can have if those using the apps aren’t cautious.

Seymour Josephson says the “S.A.M.I.” signs are an educational tool that can save lives.

“If I can get them to do two things out of those four things, like ask the driver ‘what’s my name’ before getting into a car and to reinforce matching the license plate to the display, then as an organization we’ve done our job,” he said.

The foundation has a goal of spreading awareness of rideshare safety not only across New Jersey, but across the country and sees college campuses as an important spot for signage since a high number of college students use rideshare apps.

When the public safety department at Rider was asked to put these signs around campus, Burns said the department did not hesitate at the opportunity.

“We as Rider University and the public safety department just want to give our students and guests on the campus the most valuable piece of information [we can],” Burns said.

The signs encourage students to review safety features in the rideshare app, as well as other safety precautions, such as asking drivers for their name, matching license plates and sharing details of the ride to ensure safety.

There are hopes for signs to be placed at other colleges in Mercer County as well as train stations, bars and other locations that draw a high volume of rideshares, according to a document shared with The Rider News.

A spokesperson from The College of New Jersey (TCNJ), located three miles away from Rider’s Lawrenceville campus, confirmed TCNJ already has rideshare safety signs on its campus.

Mercer County Prosecutor Angelo J. Onofri has developed a relationship with the foundation and is playing a continuously integral role in spreading acknowledgment of the potential dangers of ridesharing.

“What happened to Sami could really happen to anyone,” Onofri said. “So it’s really just trying to make people aware of their surroundings, make people aware of the kind of vehicle that they’re getting into.”

In June of 2019, New Jersey Gov. Phil Murphy signed “Sami’s Law,” a piece of legislation designed to protect rideshare passengers by requiring additional identification for drivers.

The law required rideshare companies to provide markers and plaque cards for drivers to display on vehicles, as well as two copies of a two-dimensional barcode or other forms of machine compatible code that passengers can scan to identify a vehicle, according to a press release announcing the signing of Sami’s Law.

“Every day, thousands of rideshare passengers entrust drivers to get them to and from home, school, and work safely and without delay,” Murphy said in the press release. “Just one unscrupulous mind seeking to take advantage of those passengers is one too many, and it is our responsibility to keep riders safe.”

For more information about the #WhatsMyName Foundation, its efforts and rideshare safety, go to whatsmyname.org



Shaun Chornobroff/The Rider News

New safety signage promotes caution using rideshare companies.

Lease renewed for WCC parking lot

By Kaitlyn McCormick

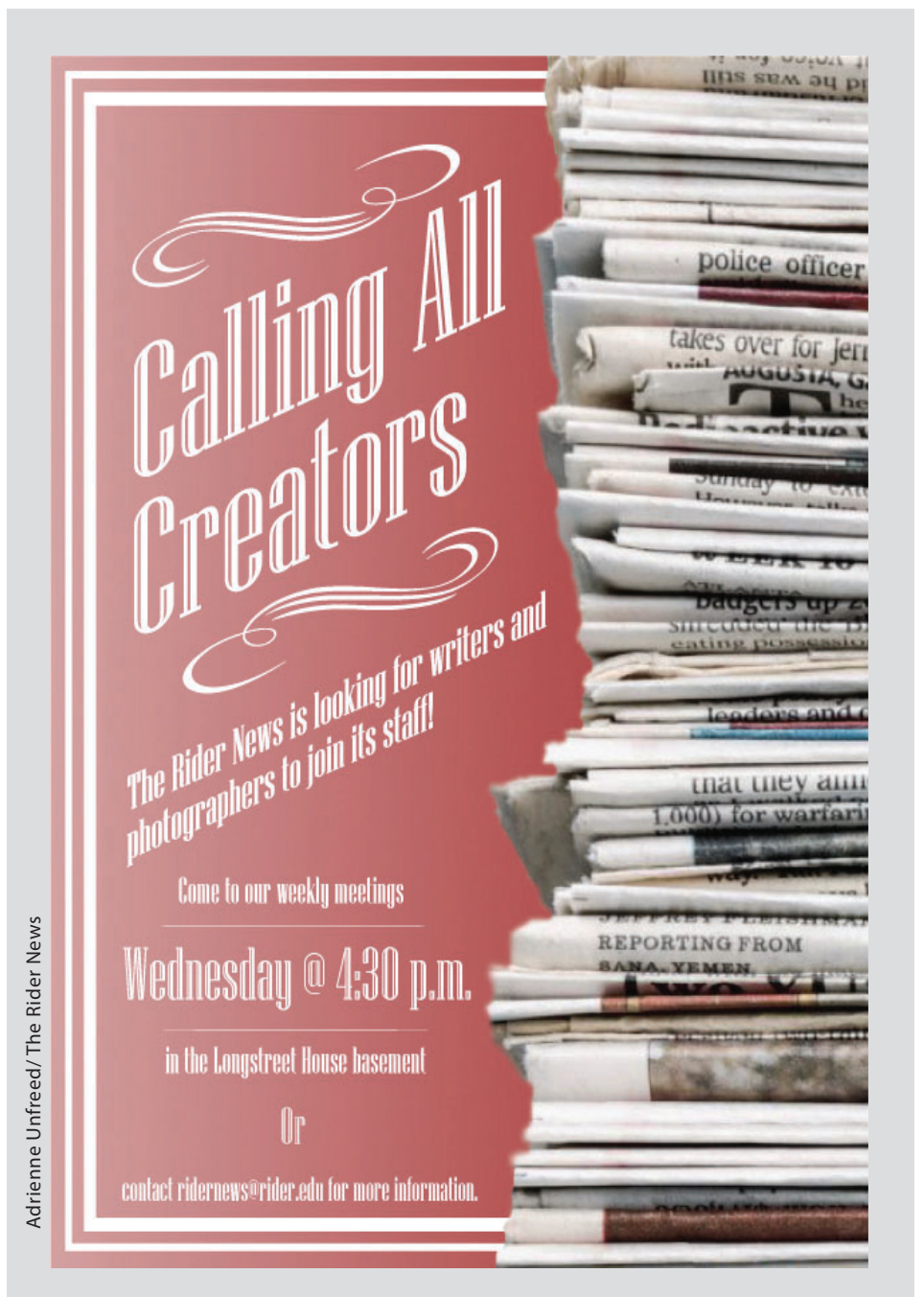
THE Princeton Council and Rider have renewed their agreement to lease a Westminster Choir College parking lot on the Princeton campus as the future of the property remains dependent on ongoing litigation.

According to information from centraljersey.com, the lease allows business employees to park in the lot off of Franklin Ave, which includes 193 spaces. It was renewed for Sept. 1 through Aug. 31, 2023, following its previous expiration.

The article also reported that while use of the parking lot is restricted to Princeton Public Schools (PPS) and Princeton business employees, PPS

or Princeton may use the space for events as long as Rider is notified at least 10 days prior, as outlined in their agreement.

Rider’s Associate Vice President for University Marketing and Communications Kristine Brown provided the following written statement: “Rider University and the Princeton Council have renewed their parking agreement for the Westminster Choir College property for another year. The University views this agreement as a beneficial partnership which helps the Princeton community meet its parking needs.”



Adrienne Unfreed/The Rider News

The Multicultural Studies Program presents its 24th annual

UNITY DAY

Tuesday, October 11, Cavalla Room, BLC

12:15 - 1:00 p.m. **Welcome, John Lewis Award Winners, and Entertainment:
"The Chinese Landscape in Poetry and Music"**

1:10 - 2:40 p.m. **Diversity in the Classroom: Why We Need It**
Pro and Con: A Certificate in Diversity Education
by Andrew Bernstein (SGA)
Linguistic Diversity Matters
by Dr. Maria Villalobos-Buehner, World Languages and Literatures

2:50 - 4:20 p.m. **Diversity in the Classroom: The Diversity Curriculum in Rider's
Multicultural Studies Program**
Dr. Cynthia Martinez, World Languages and Literatures: The
New Latinx Studies Minor in Rider's Multicultural Studies Program
Dr. Nicholas McLeod, History Department: The New African
American Studies Minor in Rider's Multicultural Studies Program
Levi Guerrero, Senior and Rider University's First Latinx Studies
Minor: Critical Thoughts about the new Latinx Minor in Rider's
Multicultural Studies Program

4:30 - 5:30 p.m. **The Dobbs Decision and You**
Dr. Frank Rusciano, Political Science and Multicultural Studies
Dr. Roberta Rusciano, Political Science and Multicultural Studies
Bridget Gum-Egan, English Major

5:45 - 6:30 p.m. **Food Fest**

6:30 - 7:15 p.m. **Keynote Address**
by Assemblywoman Verlina Reynolds-Jackson, New Jersey Legislature





Photo courtesy of Grace Ramsey

Rider athlete, junior information systems major **Grace Ramsey**, is this fall's Student Cafe Executive Officer.

Javelin thrower becomes student CEO of Saxbys

By **Hannah Newman**

SCHOOL record-breaking javelin thrower and junior information systems major Grace Ramsey is advancing their college career after taking on the role of student cafe executive officer (SCEO) for the fall semester of the 2022 school year.

Saxbys Certified B Corp. is an experiential learning program with a mission to "Make Life Better" for the community that surrounds it. The network of cafes are designed for college students to run, giving them real-world business involvement. The unprecedented exposure as a SCEO allows undergraduate students to implement classroom learning and apply it to the cafe, bringing hands-on experience in the workforce to a collegiate environment.

Ramsey, who goes by she/they pronouns, has worked at Saxbys since its doors opened on campus last fall. After applying for the SCEO position in the spring, Ramsey then attended multiple interviews, including one with Saxbys CEO Nick Bayer. Once they got the position, Ramsey then spent two weeks at the Saxbys' headquarters in Philadelphia training for the role.

The training of an SCEO is built on the grounds of three business concepts: team development, community leadership and financial management. These principals are built into a three week curriculum. Two weeks were spent in-person, while one was online. The first week of in-person training was spent learning how to properly prepare the beverages and meals. Students do not have to be a former Saxbys worker to apply for the SCEO position; however, if they have never

worked behind the counter, the first week of training is mandatory, whereas those that were employees prior to obtaining the SCEO position do not have to be present.

In the second week of training, Ramsey was sent to the University of Pennsylvania's Saxbys location with other SCEOs where they trained and rotated working in every position that is embedded into the business, including host, team lead and SCEO. The online course focused on the different elements of business management such as ordering products, payroll and schedule creating.

The SCEO recruiters seek students with a willingness to learn each day, a positive outlook on life and passion for not just Saxbys, but the title they represent.

Senior campus recruiter Shannon McQuaid said, "In my eyes, the main goal of being Student CEO is to give students the confidence to not only reach but surpass goals that they've set for themselves after their tenures as SCEO. Being SCEO can be challenging, but I truly believe when a student steps away from this role, they learn so much about themselves and what they value in life and their career."

In relation to this belief, Brand Communication Manager Sajeda Virji considers the role as an SCEO a chance to "empower the next generation of change makers."

"Being a part of the team at Saxbys provides the opportunity to make life better in your community. We're always looking to grow our team and encourage

all students to apply. I'm so inspired by Student CEOs because I think to myself, could I have been 19 or 20-years-old and run an entire business and be responsible for managing so many employees?" said Virji.

Aside from running the cafe and attending classes, Ramsey is a women's javelin thrower who broke the school's record of 143 feet with 146 feet thrown. Ramsey threw javelin throughout high school and wanted to hone her skills in college. Ramsey knew very early in her college career that Rider was the perfect fit.

"I am so happy I chose Rider. I have found my life long friends, and my education has been amazing," said Ramsey.

This new lifestyle of balancing track, class and running a business has inspired Ramsey to dedicate her independent case study time management.

"I did not think it was going to be this hard," said Ramsey. "Although I knew it would not be an easy job, learning how to manage time is preparing me for my future."

Jay Roberson, copy editor for The Rider News, is the partner of Ramsey and did not take part in writing or editing this piece.



Photo courtesy of Grace Ramsey

Grace Ramsey spent two weeks at the University of Pennsylvania training for the SCEO position.



Photo courtesy of Grace Ramsey

Grace Ramsey poses for a picture during the training period.

New club on campus welcomes car lovers

By Asia McGill

BEGINNING as a conversation about cars during a marketing class, lecturer Beverly Braddock proposed the idea to her students to form a car club. The students were interested, and after they followed Student Government Association (SGA) approval processes and wrote their bylaws, the Rider Street Club was born, holding their first meeting on Sept. 30.

"I am so proud of them for starting this Rider Street Club, they put in a lot of time... and now they're having their first club meeting," Braddock said.

Rider Street Club is the first car meet club on campus, and is a way for student car enthusiasts to gather and exhibit their unique vehicles.

The club's first meeting kicked off as members pulled up to the parking lot behind Ben Cohen Field, with an echo of revved engines trailing behind. Each vehicle parked in a uniform line, creating an aesthetically pleasing view of all the different foreign cars.

"I like seeing all my fellow car people gather up and have a good time. Cars are a way of life... they

give us a lot of enjoyment and relieve a lot of stress. I think sharing that with people, sharing your car, your car experiences, it really means a lot to people," said freshman finance major Jake Mitchell.

Junior supply chain management major Branden Dhurpat stands as the club's president, and has many plans for the organization's future.

"Some of my plans are to see the car club grow, and have cruises and events. I do want to have contests with other schools, I think that would be really cool... like Rutgers vs. Rider," Dhurpat said.

As car meets naturally occur outdoors, Dhurpat has implemented indoor classroom meetings for when the weather drops in the upcoming winter season. He plans to switch gears to the educational side of cars, by bringing in mechanics and detailers to teach members basic car care.

Many members of the club expressed how much time and effort they spent accessorizing their cars, tweaking different parts to their liking. Junior accounting major Taylor Tomko owns a car wrapping business named Element, and learned to wrap with just a few friends and videos from YouTube.

Car wrapping is the method of wrapping the exterior body of a car with vinyl decal. Wraps can differentiate by color, texture, and style of finish. "I kind of just learned as I went, as I progressed I got better at it... it was definitely a monotonous task," Tomko said.

All members bring their car expertise to the club, including junior cybersecurity major Matthew Kovacs, who picked up the skill of installing colorful LED lights to headlights. Kovacs owns a 2011 Chevrolet Camaro, his dream car that he nicknamed "The Ripper."

"I've always grown up with cars around me, and ever since I was younger I wanted a car I could make my own," Kovacs said.

At the end of the meeting, members gathered for a group picture, and shared their ideas for their next meet. Information on the club's upcoming events can be found on the Bronc Nation website under "Rider Street Club."

Adrienne Unfreed is a member of Rider Street Club and Design Manager for The Rider News. Unfreed did not have any part in the writing or editing of this story.



Photo courtesy of Asia McGill

The members of Rider Street Club pose for a picture at the first meeting of the semester.



Photo courtesy of Asia McGill

One of the cars from the event featured color changing lights.

Food Truck Friday returns with student favorites

By Nia Violette

THERE are not many things that will persuade students to leave the comfort of their dorms on a cold September evening, but free food on a Friday night is certainly one of them. On Sept. 30, students were treated to four food truck options, courtesy of the university, during this semester's first Food Truck Friday.

Each vendor was stationed at different locations around campus. La Coqueta, a restaurant specializing in Mexican cuisine, resided outside of the Bart Luedeke Center (BLC). Just around the corner, Hotpanada, a truck with a unique variety of creative and flavorful empanadas, was spotted outside of the Student Recreation Center (SRC). Just a few yards ahead of Hotpanada and offering the most eclectic meal options was The Latest Dish, a vendor new to campus, which offered street corn, cheesesteaks and warm bowls of rice, beans and a choice of meat or veggies in a pineapple. Last, but certainly not least, Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream, which needs no introduction, was found behind Hill Hall.

Though each truck provided unique flavors, to say that food was the only reason students hiked the span of campus would be misleading. In the opinion of junior music production major Ava Donaghy, Food Truck Fridays served higher purposes, socializing and stress relief. "It's fun that everyone comes out [be]cause I feel like we don't have that very often after Welcome Week," said Donaghy. "[I]t's fun just to have, like, little exciting moments at the end of the week every once in a while. And it's nice to look forward to during the week when your like, 'I'm hating my life right now.'"

Though the free treats may have been enough for most, some students were left dissatisfied by their dishes. This was the case for Emily O'Connor, a freshman arts and entertainment industries management major, who stated that her cheesesteak from The Latest Dish was, "Ehh. The bread is kind of soggy and the chicken is not really flavored." To add to her qualms, O'Connor said

that she waited thirty minutes for her meal.

Chloe Romm, a freshman biology major, had a positive review for the cheesesteaks, however.

"It was very good and I liked it," said Romm. Hopefully the next time The Latest Dish comes to campus, the disagreement of taste buds will be settled once and for all. For now, these opposed reviews can only be explained by subjectivity.

Unlike the Latest Dish, and to the fortune of last Friday's customers, a consensus was able to be reached for the empanadas served by Hotpanada. Jayla Price, a freshman film and television major said, "From the first bite [of the empanada] I knew it was for me. The savoriness of the meat, the crunch of the crust. It was perfection." The rest of the school must have agreed with Price, because the truck ended up being the first vendor to leave campus, having run out of goods within an hour of serving students. Out of all the trucks that evening, Hotpanada stood out for their exceptionally speedy service, second only to Ben & Jerry's, and quality food.

As of now, the date of the next Food Truck Friday is unknown, but one thing is for certain; whenever the trucks decide to grace campus again, the students will be ready to dig in.



Photo courtesy of Nia Violette

Students enjoy empanadas on a chilly Friday night.



Photo courtesy of Nia Violette

Excited students waited in line for La Coqueta, the food truck that specialized in Mexican cuisine.

Students want a wider variety of foods on the weekends

EVERYONE is excited when Friday finally arrives; however, students who live on campus have fewer meal options over the weekend.

On Friday night, the only restaurants open in Cranberry's are The Pub and Wendy's. Starbucks is also available, but closes at 7 p.m., and students would like more variety on the weekends with their meal swipes. Although Daly's is open all day, the distance for students who live in Lake House, Longstreet House, Phi Sigma Sigma Sorority House or Beckett Village is 15 minutes each way, which takes the students a total of 30 minutes just to get a meal. Some of the restaurants close relatively early, so if students are hungry later at night after working on school work, they will either have to eat food in their dorm if they have it, or wait until the next day to eat something. Cranberry's is much closer, but the options are limited. Students get tired of the same old hamburger and fries every weekend.

Wendy's is delicious, but not every student wants to eat there all the time because it isn't very nutritious and only accepts BroncBucks instead of meal exchanges. Starbucks is great, but also only accepts BroncBucks.

Unfortunately, Saxby's is closed on the weekends, leaving Daly's as the only meal exchange option for breakfast. Most college students don't wake up that early, and by the time they do, breakfast at the dining hall might be over. There is a teaching kitchen at Daly's, but not every student knows how to cook or wants to prepare their own food.

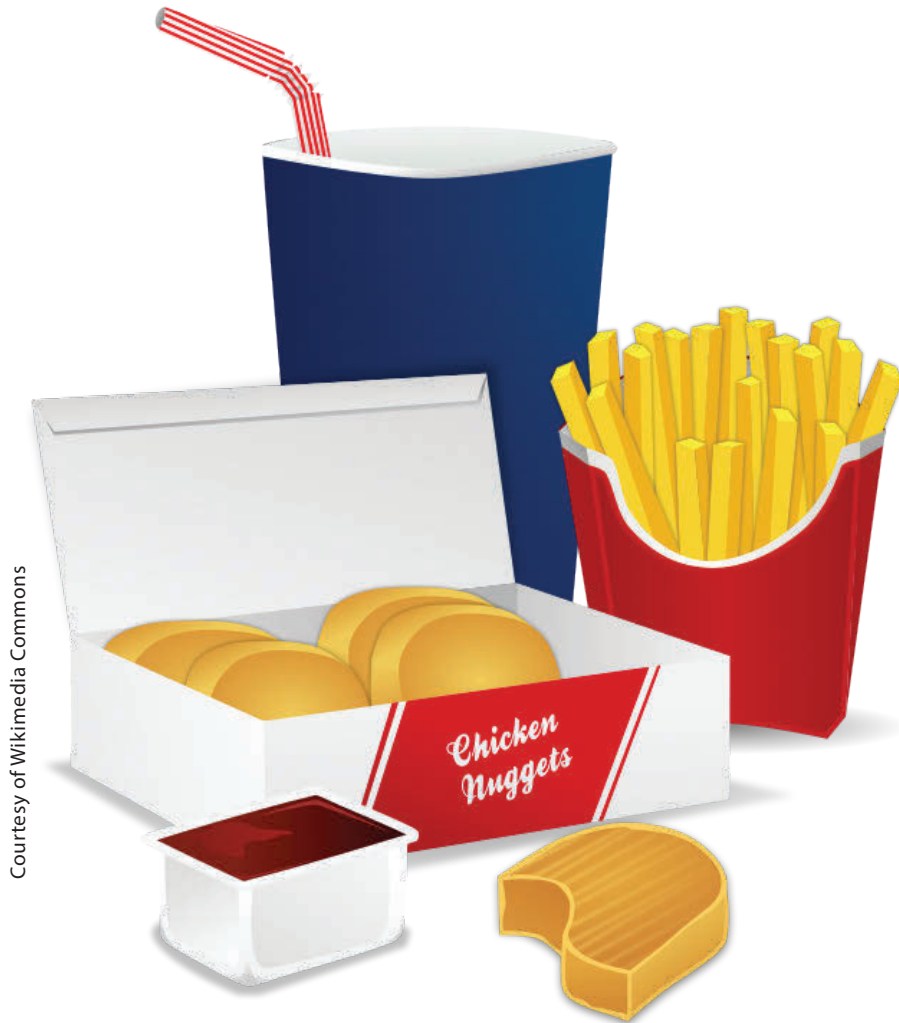
Also, the meal exchange menus and the BroncBucks menus are very different. There are many more options on the BroncBucks menu, especially if someone is vegetarian or vegan. However, students may not want to use all their BroncBucks in just the first month of the semester.

Other schools like Rowan University have what they call Rowan Bucks, and the university collaborates with local restaurants where students are able to use their Rowan Bucks to pay for a meal there instead of paying with the student's own money. This gives students the opportunity to go out to eat at different places without breaking the bank. Rider students agree that an option to be able to go out and use their BroncBucks at other restaurants is a wonderful idea. It would give students a bigger assortment of restaurants to choose from.

Although Rider may not have that plan in place, another option could be to rotate the different restaurants in Cranberry's. The pizza place could be open one weekend, and the sushi restaurant could be open the next weekend. That way, the employees at Cranberry's don't have to work every weekend, and students won't have to keep ordering the same food for 48 hours. Since students who live on campus are required to get a meal plan, then the meal choices on the weekends should be similar to the meal choices during the school week.

This editorial expresses the unanimous opinion of The Rider News Editorial Board. This week's editorial was written by Opinion Editor Felicia Roehm.

Felicia Roehm



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FRESHMAN FINDINGS

How the lack of accessibility affects students on campus

On Sept. 20, I experienced technical issues with the elevator as I tried to get to my class on the third floor of Fine Arts. This issue drew my attention to the many accessibility problems at Rider. I am a new transfer student from Mercer County Community College who lives with a physical disability and relies on my mobility aid, which is my electric wheelchair. It is my third week at Rider, and I was on my way to class when I discovered that the elevator was out of order. Because of this, I was unable to attend my Politics and Law class. This issue not only impacts me, but other students, faculty and staff who depend on the use of the elevator to access their classes safely. In addition to the elevator being out of order, many of the automatic door opener buttons are not functional. The capacity of the elevators is also not accessible for diverse disability populations with different size wheelchairs or other kinds of equipment. All elevators should comply with the American Disability Act (ADA), which became law in 1990.

Another issue I have noticed on campus is that many building doors do not have accessible door handles, such as in Sweigart Hall. All doors in each building should have accessible handles. Moreover, students with all kinds of disabilities should be able to have equal access to classes and campus activities.

I have enjoyed attending Rider so far, but I feel that all universities should be fully inclusive. If universities are excluding students that live with disabilities, this causes those individuals to feel that they do not belong. To prevent isolation and inaccessibility, all doors and elevators should be checked regularly. In addition, all accessible paths should be indicated to prevent a variety of issues. Students with visible and invisible disabilities should be provided with an accessibility map that shows all the paths they can use. Still, we should talk to the students that live with disabilities to get their opinion before things are done. Many times, decisions are made without the students' opinions, rendering inefficient solutions. So let's make every Bronc feel included!

Marlene Brockington
sophomore journalism major



Angelina Fierro/The Rider News

A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

An LGBTQ+ student's experience being in a 'straight' major

ICAN count the number of LGBTQIA+ (I standing for intersex and A standing for asexual) business majors I know on one hand. If you were to ask me to name only the business students who are comfortably out on campus, the number would drop significantly. To be honest, that number might actually be zero — including myself. I am an active member of the LGBTQIA+ community on campus. It's a running joke in our meetings that I am one of the "rare" business majors, but it's true. I have only met a few other business majors who identify as part of the community, and even fewer who actively engage with LGBTQIA+ programming and organizations on campus. While it's funny to mock how "straight" my major is, after years of feeling isolated from my peers within the university, I've started to wonder why so many of us feel this way.

I came out to my family as bisexual in my senior year of high school, but my freshman year at Rider was the first time I was publicly out. While I proudly joined Spectrum, attended the LGBTQIA+ Dessert Welcome Reception and signed up for Spectrum Mentoring, I still remained hesitant to share any details about my sexuality within an academic setting. There is something about the business environment that makes me silence the proud voice I've cultivated for myself over many difficult years.

I want to be clear that I have never faced outright discrimination, harassment or bullying related to my sexuality from any of my peers or faculty and staff within the college of business. I am proud to be a student of the Norm Brodsky College of Business, and the college has provided more opportunities than I could have ever anticipated. I am also an advocate for Rider as a generally welcoming and supportive university for LGBTQIA+ students.

However, there is a sense of discomfort that seems to surround the topic of queerness within the college of business. The LGBTQIA+ students I know often express to me that they do not feel comfortable discussing their sexuality with their fellow business majors, faculty or in the classroom. Even my heterosexual friends who consider themselves allies awkwardly avoid the topic of conversation, often citing fears of offending others. Sometimes, when I've discussed this feeling with other students, I have gotten a response similar to "Well, is your sexuality really relevant to business or your major?" I suppose, from an outside perspective, it may not seem to be. But our identities are inextricably tied to the way we relate to the world and, therefore, our majors and careers.

The apparent tendency to shy away from these topics, in my opinion, is a dangerous one. A 2018 international research report commissioned by Vodafone from research firm Out Now found that 41% of 18-25-year-olds went "back into the closet" when they started their first job. Additionally, 58% of young LGBT+ people reported that they are not out about their sexual orientation or gender identity at work because they worry they will face discrimination from managers and colleagues. I did the very same thing this past summer. At my internship, I specifically avoided the topic of my sexuality in the workplace out of fear of discrimination or embarrassment. At orientation, when my colleagues and I were sharing what we had done over the weekend, I lied about my weekend and omitted that I attended my first Pride in Asbury Park.

The question is not whether LGBTQIA+ students studying business feel isolated. The answer to that question is a resounding yes, proven by every queer business student I've met within my time at Rider. The real question is: how can we address this isolation and support these students, and why exactly is it important?

Colleges are the pipeline to our careers, especially in business. Creating an environment in which LGBTQIA+ students are empowered and secure in their identities and recognizing how they relate to the workplace is essential, as is educating students both inside and outside of the community on how these identities and issues interrelate with their areas of study and future

experiences within the business industry.

According to the 2018 report from Vodafone and Out Now, 83% of LGBTQIA+ employees said that clear and visible signs from managers that they take LGBTQIA+ inclusion seriously are important in helping them to feel comfortable being out or open at work. Also, 83% of these employees would prefer to work for an employer that has visible LGBTQIA+ leaders, friends, allies and supporters.

As of right now, there is only one name on the Rider SafeZone Allies list whose primary role is centered within the Norm Brodsky College of Business — Patricia Adams. While there are some SafeZone stickers among the offices in Sweigart Hall, they are few and far between. In my personal experience, though limited to my major and particular academic pathway, few professors or students are open supporters, resources and allies to our LGBTQIA+ students.

A good place to start would be creating more significant visibility among our faculty and staff within the college of business who are part of the LGBTQIA+ community or are allies, incorporating education and programming demonstrating a commitment to education on LGBTQIA+ issues and resources for LGBTQIA+ students, greater inclusion of LGBTQIA+ students and topics within the classroom when relevant and significant work to shift the culture toward empowerment and support of LGBTQIA+ students in business.

While this could start within the Norm Brodsky College of Business, it also includes professors, faculty, staff and students like me. Changing the culture of a university is difficult and takes time. Our individual choices and actions are much more significant than we realize.

I know that in my college experience, the out, proud and accepting students and faculty are the ones who have empowered me to be comfortable with my identity and aware of its role in my academic and professional life. Being a queer business major can be isolating, but it shouldn't have to be — and it's something we can change.

Lindsey Mulrooney
senior management and leadership major

Courtesy of Lindsey Mulrooney



WOMEN'S SOCCER

Broncs continue strong form against Manhattan

By Hannah Newman

WOMEN'S soccer brought home another victory after beating Manhattan with a single goal scored on the edge of the 59th minute on Sept. 28. This 1-0 victory for the Broncs has now given them back-to-back wins in conference play.

With her fourth goal, senior midfielder Lindsey Maslow has tied herself with senior forward Makenzie Rodrigues for team lead. Holding parallel success in their game, Maslow managed to score the winning goal on a pass from Rodrigues.

"Scoring the goal felt awesome since we didn't have too many opportunities, so making the most of it was definitely important," said Maslow. "Makenzie made a great pass so I was happy to score after our team made a good play to get it up the field."

This goal came as a sigh of relief for Head Coach Drayson Hounsoume, however, coming out of their game against St. Peter's, the team changed their formation which has allowed Maslow to break out and gain more opportunity on offense.

"Playing with two central strikers provides more support centrally so Maslow is less isolated when playing in the middle," said Hounsoume. "She is further up the field with less defensive responsibility. We were struggling to impose ourselves on the game so the goal relieved some pressure. Morale was positive, but tense for the remainder of the game."

Making four saves against the Jaspers and leading the conference in shutouts with her fifth shutout of the season, junior goalkeeper Ellie Sciancalepore devoted this game's achievement to defense.

"When it comes to shutouts, that's all credit to



Carolo Pascale/The Rider News

Senior midfielder **Lindsey Maslow** scored her fourth goal of the season, which is tied for the team lead.

our defensive unit. Every game is a battle in the MAAC and putting up shutouts in as many games as we can is just one way of getting closer to a MAAC championship," said Sciancalepore. "We are still in the beginning of the conference season, so keeping this energy and striving for clean sheets each game is vital for us moving forward."

This game has put Rider in a 13-10 all time lead vs. Manhattan along with bringing the longest winning streak in the series history.

"I thought the team competed hard the entire game, especially after we went up 1-0 to keep the lead. It's great to get another shutout because that definitely gives us confidence and we are looking forward to the rest of MAAC play," said Maslow.

The Broncs return home to play two games at Ben Cohen Field against Iona on Oct. 5 at 7 p.m and Fairfield on Oct. 8 at 1 p.m.

FIELD HOCKEY

Rider beats No. 25 American in historic 1-1 weekend



Photo courtesy of Rider Athletics

Freshman midfielder **Indy Zoontjens** scored Rider's second goal against American, her fifth goal in five games.

By Logan VanDine

It was not going to be an easy weekend for the Broncs as they continued their roadtrip facing off against Saint Francis and No. 25 American. The Broncs were able to get back to the .500 mark by splitting both matches, on top of making program history by defeating a ranked team for the first time.

"It's frustrating to watch"

The Broncs have a trend of playing in close games this season and always seem to fall on the losing side. That tendency continued as they fell to the Saint Francis Red Flash 3-2 on Sept. 30 in the first of two weekend games.

After a scoreless first quarter, the Red Flash struck first by converting on a corner attempt with a backhand shot, putting them up 1-0 in the second.

The Broncs fired back right away with a corner attempt shot of their own with senior midfielder Sierra Giuliano tying up the game at 1-1 as the game went into halftime.

After an exchange of goals made the game tied at 2-2 in the third quarter, the Red Flash put the game away for good in the fourth quarter thanks to a shot that got deflected and went over the top of the Broncs defense which gave Saint Francis a 3-2 lead and subsequent win, to drop the Broncs to 4-5 this season.

Head Coach Lori Hussong wasn't shy to vent her frustrations on yet another one goal loss for the Broncs.

"Once again, we were not ready to compete and got out-hustled and out-played all over the field. We need to improve and play with energy and confidence every time we step on the field. It's frustrating to watch, knowing that we did not play to our potential and let a tougher and hungrier Saint Francis team take advantage of our mistakes," Hussong said.

A historic win:

It was not going to get any easier for the Broncs. After a disappointing loss to Saint Francis, they had to turn it around quickly and play the No. 25 American Eagles.

They used that underdog mentality and took down the Eagles on the road 3-1, defeating a ranked opponent for the first time in program history.

The Broncs started the scoring in the first quarter via a backhand shot by freshman forward Valeria Perales to give the Broncs an early lead.

The Broncs scored another goal in the second and after the Eagles cut the lead to 2-1, the Broncs put the game away for good in the fourth quarter thanks to freshman forward Semra Said blasting a shot in the final minutes, giving the Broncs a two-score lead.

"After a disappointing loss on Friday, our team bounced back and played tough today. Everyone came with energy and persistent effort," Hussong said. "Our defense stayed poised under pressure and our midfield did a tremendous job on controlling the middle of the field. Sierra [Giuliano], Kiki [Van Ommeren], Lyric [Scott] and Abby [Hartwell] were tough as nails and fed our forwards beautiful passes to set up our offensive chances. Valeria [Perales], Indy [Zoontjen] and Semra [Said] capitalized on our opportunities and scored some beautiful goals. We are very proud of our effort today."

Perales, who was responsible for one of the Broncs three goals, gave her thoughts on her team's mindset

playing a tough team like the Eagles and how she thinks she performed.

"I didn't expect an impressive victory. We just got there with the idea of giving all our effort and making an equal game. We knew that they were going to be really good but that didn't mean that we would give them that easy victory," Perales said. "I think my game improved over Friday's game. Even though it was a more difficult game I felt more confident and relaxed thanks to my teammates. Also, I went more aggressive both in defense and offense and made my game better. But although those improvements I have seen I still have a lot of things to learn that I would like to introduce in my game."

Freshman forward Said, who also contributed to the Broncs win on offense, expressed how proud she was of her team's remarkable victory.

"I am extremely proud of the girls because we delivered an amazing game against a nationally ranked team. It started with the defense, we played really calm which made us win the ball without getting any fouls. Of course we made mistakes because that is normal in a sport, but what is important is to make up for them and we did, we made up for each other," Said said.

"We practiced really hard to use the midfield and use them for our advantage. We integrated the middle which made us successful. The forward made a great job with bringing the ball to the goal or get a corner, which we could execute really good," said Said.

"Overall we played as a team and stayed calm after they scored which made us play our game and not get stressed and therefore we could score again. We came back from Friday's tough loss but we came back even stronger and we definitely dominated the game and we deserved that great win."

The Broncs now sit at 5-5 this season and Hussong is confident in her team's ability.

"If we can consistently give this type of effort moving forward we will continue to give ourselves a shot at the playoffs," said Hussong.

The Broncs will finally return home to resume conference play as they will play Fairfield on Oct. 7 and then travel to Connecticut to play Sacred Heart on Oct. 9.

VOLLEYBALL

Broncs bested in five sets by Siena and Marist

By Jake Tiger and Andrew Smolar

In a two-game weekend homestand, Rider volleyball showcased its formidable championship-level ceiling, as well as the persistent imperfections that continue to weigh it down. The Broncs fumbled away two precious conference victories, falling in five sets to Siena on Oct. 1 and Marist a day later.

'Self-inflicted wounds'

Volleyball dropped a competitive conference game against Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) rival Siena on Oct. 1. In a match that went five sets, the Saints had a little more in the tank than the Broncs.

The first set was tight. Siena scored five of the last seven points to win 25-23.

The Broncs fared better in their next two sets, with the second set tight for most of it. Rider's largest lead was four, as they took the set 25-22.

The third set ended up being the high point of the afternoon for Rider. The Broncs started the set strong, racing out to a 6-2 lead.

After allowing Siena to bring it within two at 10-8, they took over, scoring 14 out of the next 19 points to build an 11 point lead and win the set 25-16.

Unfortunately for Rider, slow starts doomed them in the final two sets. In the fourth set, the Saints scored the first three points and led by as many as six at one point. Despite making a late rally to cut the deficit to one, the slow start proved to be too much to overcome. Siena took the fourth set 25-22 and sent the game to a decisive fifth set.

Head Coach Jeff Rotondo was pleased to see the fight his team showed, but wanted to see that energy from the start. "Unfortunately, when you dig a hole in the beginning of the set you are forced to play catch-up," Rotondo said. "Yes, the resolve to come back and make a set of it was good to see but I'd like to see the resolve, focus and intent to start the fourth set that way."

The final set was the same story as the fourth. The Saints again scored the first three points of the set. With the set only going to 15 points, there was little time to recover for the Broncs. Siena built a lead as large as seven and took the final set 15-10.

Despite the loss, Rider held a lead in essentially every major team statistic. The Broncs had more points, kills, aces, assists and digs.

Unfortunately, errors killed Rider. The Broncs had 26 total errors, including eight in the first set and seven in the final set. The team that committed fewer errors won every set.

"I think there were a lot of self-inflicted wounds, some that showed up on the scoresheet, some that do not," Rotondo said. "There were a lot of discipline and accountability breakdowns."

'An execution problem'

The Broncs' gloomy weekend became ugly on Sunday, as they again failed to perform in crunchtime, letting a two-set lead slip through their fingertips and into the hands of Marist for a 3-2 defeat.

"We kind of got comfortable," said Rotondo. "We have to be better in these situations. We have to come out with a little more grittiness... we have to find a way to close them out."

The first two sets were extremely close, but Rider often found itself in control, playing with a noticeable poise and energy that carried it to a pair of wins to start the match. Rider claimed the opening set by a score of 26-24, before earning a 25-22 win in the following set.

In the 2-0 start, junior outside hitter Jenna Amaro led the Broncs in kills with 10, and senior opposite Morgan Romano was right behind her with nine.

"I think we were really aggressive today and the energy was high," said sophomore setter Julia Slivka. "I think we just had some errors at the wrong times."

The tides soon turned, though, as the Broncs got comfortable on their two-game cushion, putting forth a lackadaisical effort and giving the Red Foxes ample opportunity to claw their way back.

"It wasn't necessarily a matchup problem for us. It was more of an execution problem," said Rotondo. "We weren't executing at a high level and I think the dip in energy is what caused that."

Marist claimed sets three and four by scores of 25-22 and 25-23 respectively, and entered the deciding set with a surplus of momentum.

"Marist is obviously a really good team, but I think we are too," said sophomore setter Sydney Bond. "There were other key factors that went into our loss today, like injuries and things like that, but we just need to fight through it."

Injuries were a persistent theme for Rider throughout the match, starting with the loss of



The Broncs led 2-1 against Siena and 2-0 against Marist, only to give away both games.

freshman libero Keegan O'Connor in the first set. O'Connor was a constant fixture in Rider's rotation throughout the season, tallying 96 digs in 40 sets played, including 18 against Siena the day before.

Amaro and senior libero Pamela Loh also sustained injuries during the match, as their heads collided whilst diving for a ball in the fourth set. Both Amaro and Loh were shaken up, and neither player returned to the match.

By the fifth set, the Broncs were looking rather thin and it became increasingly difficult for them to foil the Red Fox offense. Despite being given three points off of service errors, Rider still fell to Marist by a score of 15-11 and what looked to be a surefire win had scurried away.

"The way we played today is what we want to see a little bit more of, but you go up 2-0 and they just kinda give away some points here and there and the injuries we had today made it tough," said Rotondo.

After a lackluster weekend, the Broncs tumbled to sixth in the MAAC standings with a conference record of 3-2. With plenty of unrealized potential, the Broncs look to reroute their season at Niagara University on Oct. 8 at 1 p.m.

MEN'S SOCCER

Rider falls flat, shutout in MAAC opener



Graduate student back Jeremy Peterson splits the Manhattan defense.

By Carolo Pascale

A CURE for the injury bug and a prayer were needed for the Rider's men's soccer team when they took on Manhattan in their Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) play opener. But there was no salvation for a Broncs team still without senior midfielder Guillaume Sarabayrouse and reigning MAAC Offensive Player of the Year graduate student forward Zaki Alibou, as the Broncs were shut out for the fourth time this year, falling 3-0 to the Jaspers on Sept. 28.

"I'm not an excuses type, but we played without our two best players tonight, and we're missing one of the best forwards in the country. It's been difficult, but we have got to be mature and fight our way through it," said Head Coach Charlie Inverso. "I'll go to nine o'clock mass on Sunday and just hope they get better. That's the only solution."

The Broncs have been without Sarabayrouse for the past three games and Alibou for six of the past seven. The two have been major losses for the Broncs on both sides of the ball, with Rider allowing the second most goals in the conference with 19, and sitting tied for 10th in goals per game with six.

Despite the injuries, the Broncs hoped they could get back on track with the opening of conference play, but the same scoring issues that have plagued the Broncs all year resurfaced as Rider was blanked yet again.

Manhattan opened the scoring in the 25th minute off a cross that was banged in by defender Ronaldo Da Silva at the left post.

The Jaspers continued to put pressure on senior goalkeeper Guillaume Veinante, but he made a few beautiful saves in the 28th and 43rd minutes to keep Manhattan's lead at one at the end of the first half.

"I think it's about the mentality, about the intensity we put into every play," said Veinante. "We have to play aggressively defensively."

The Broncs had a few chances in the half, with a shot by graduate student defender Nick Cruz going

wide right in the 38th minute, and two corners being denied late in the half.

Rider was only able to muster two shots after the first 45 minutes, while the Jaspers had five, with three on target.

In the second half, Manhattan stayed on the attack, with Da Silva scoring his second of the game off another cross in the 54th minute, and Jaspers leading goal scorer, forward Johan Velez, scoring off a pass in the 61th minute to give them a 3-0 lead.

There weren't many high chance opportunities for the Broncs in the second half, but one notable moment came off a high-flying bicycle kick by freshman midfielder Mo Bocher that nearly gave him his second career goal, but was stifled by the Manhattan goalkeeper.

With just over 11 minutes left in the match, Inverso decided to sub in freshman goalkeeper Ben Collins for Veinante, who had made four saves up to that point. Collins made two saves during his short stint in net.

The Broncs finished the match with five shots, two on target, while Manhattan finished with 13, and nine on target.

"There is no excuses, we played poorly tonight," said Inverso. "It's not a good feeling to be outworked. That's not how we do things. I know that we can do better and we've got nine games."

Rider will now go on the road for its next two games against Iona on Oct. 5 and Fairfield on Oct. 8.

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

'The King' returns

Jason Thompson joins men's basketball staff



Rider men's basketball great **Jason Thompson** returns to the Broncos after a 13-year professional career, becoming a special assistant to the head coach (Photos and silhouette of were provided by Rider Athletics).

By **Carolo Pascale and Jake Tiger**

RIDER men's basketball legend and former NBA Draft lottery selection '08 Jason Thompson announced his retirement from professional basketball on Oct. 3, as well as his decision to join the Rider men's basketball's staff as a special assistant to the head coach.

"As I reflect on my career, Rider University has done so much for me both on and off the court – academically and through the basketball program," said Thompson in a press release from Rider Athletics.

Thompson's 13-year professional career began in 2008 when he was drafted by the Sacramento Kings, playing there for seven seasons and becoming the longest tenured player in the franchise's history since moving to Sacramento, California in 1985.

Thompson later went on to play for the Golden State Warriors and Toronto Raptors in the NBA, before heading overseas to play for the Shandong Golden Stars, Sichuan Blue Whales, Shanghai Sharks and Guangdong Southern Tigers of the Chinese Basketball Association and the Turkish club Fenerbahce of the EuroLeague.

"Rider University has helped me on the court

to become a 13-year pro and off-the-court to start the Jason Thompson Foundation, a leadership program, and give back to the community," said Thompson. "Even though I am retiring, I will not be leaving the game of basketball. I can't think of a better way to still be around the game than by coming back to Rider University with Head Coach Kevin Baggett, who was an assistant coach when I played. I'm excited to be here and looking forward to taking the next steps into my new journey."

In 2007-08, his final season at Rider, Thompson averaged 20.4 points per game on 56% shooting, 12.1 rebounds per game and totaling 91 blocks, a Rider single-season record that is yet to be eclipsed. He won Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) Player of the Year for his distinguished efforts.

That same season, Thompson led the Broncos to the MAAC Tournament finals, where they were defeated 74-53 by Siena.

In a 2008 Rider News article, Rider Athletic Director and former men's basketball Head Coach Don Harnum said "We thought he was going to be a really good player and we were really happy when we got him, but I don't think anyone could have predicted this."

The Camden, New Jersey native ended his collegiate career as Rider's all-time leading rebounder and third all-time leading scorer. His No. 1 jersey is just one of two jerseys retired in Alumni Gym, the other being the No. 4 jersey of '93 Darrick Suber. In 2016, Thompson was a first-ballot Rider Athletics Hall of Fame inductee.

"Since his graduation and through all of his professional success, Jason has remained close to the program and supported us both as a mentor to our student-athletes and with his contributions to help build our practice facility and renovate our locker rooms and offices," said Head Coach Kevin Baggett.

Baggett began his Rider coaching career in 2006, mentoring Thompson throughout his junior and senior seasons.

"In this next phase of his career, we're thrilled to have him back in the program. The experience and knowledge he'll be able to share with our players is invaluable," said Baggett.

Thompson will now have the opportunity to become a mentor at his alma mater, as he joins a deep and talented team with MAAC Championship aspirations.



Jason Thompson #1

- ▶ AP HONORABLE MENTION ALL-AMERICA
- ▶ 2007-2008 MAAC PLAYER OF THE YEAR
- ▶ RIDER ALL-TIME LEADING REBOUNDER
- ▶ 12TH OVERALL NBA DRAFT PICK IN 2008
- ▶ LONGEST TENURED SACRAMENTO KING
- ▶ 3880 TOTAL NBA REBOUNDS IN EIGHT SEASONS