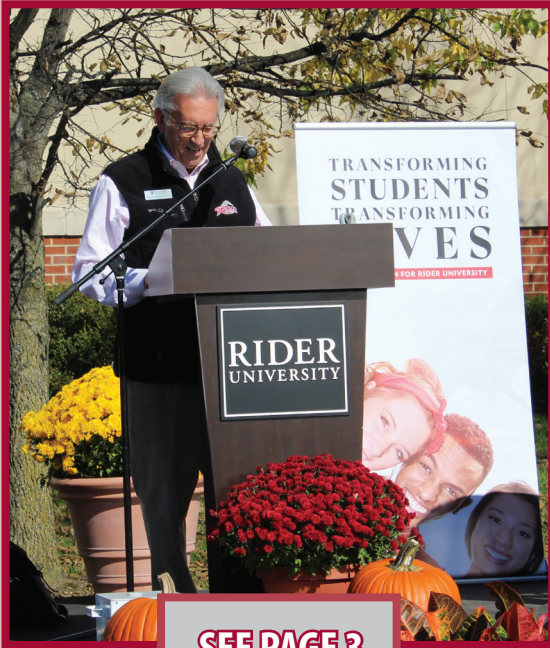




## Homecoming Weekend brings excitement to Rider



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## Rider slashes adjuncts, saves full-timers in latest cuts

By Shaun Chornobroff

**I**n the latest measure on its intended path toward future financial stability, Rider's administration revealed to the school's faculty union that it was not going to be reducing the amount of full-time faculty this year, but was laying off multiple adjunct professors.

Rider's chapter of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) was alerted of the university's decision on the afternoon of Oct. 31, not long before Provost DonnaJean Fredeen alerted the Rider community in a campus-wide email.

The decision came on the day of the deadline for layoff notices agreed to by the university and the union as part of a five-year contract announced on Sept. 11.

While AAUP President David Dewberry estimated "six or so" members of the union received notification of being laid off, in an interview with The Rider News on Nov. 1, Fredeen explained the true amount of adjuncts who will not be retained is still unknown.

"The only part-time faculty who received a notice of layoff are those who have seniority status. We have part-time faculty who are not rehired on a regular basis," Fredeen said. "They are hired depending on whether we have courses for them to teach and that group of faculty may be impacted as well."

### 'We're aware of this and we're disappointed'

The union has the right to bring any intended layoffs to an arbitration court, which Dewberry informed The Rider News over the phone that he intends to do. In an arbitration court, both sides submit their case to a judge, who then side with either the university or the union.

"I reached out to all the people who were laid off and told them basically, 'we're aware of this, we're disappointed, we're disappointed that the administration has chosen to do this and that we will fight these proposed layoffs,'" Dewberry said. "...

We've already started deliberating as the executive committee, with members of our negotiating team who are not on the executive committee, on the best way to respond."

In her university-wide communication, Fredeen explained full-time faculty was safe from layoffs due to a high number of employees applying for an early retirement incentive offered to AAUP members by the university after the most recent contract.

As the university enters a time of transition, the layoffs and early retirements were anticipated by Rider President Gregory Dell'Omo.

"Whenever you go through these kinds of changes, you're always going to be concerned about [change], especially if you start losing some really talented people. You're always balancing the loss of talent and the need to sort of right the size of the university," Dell'Omo said in a Nov. 1 interview with The Rider News.

The layoffs announced on Oct. 31 are the latest step in Rider's academic prioritization process. In June it was announced that the university was removing 25 programs from its academic catalog, spanning a variety of different schools and majors, including courses offered by Westminster Choir College as well as shifting the university's French and philosophy majors to minors.

The recent layoffs came within the 25 programs that are either being eliminated or archived by the school, and will become effective in the next academic year.

"It is not a judgment of the value of the discipline in terms of people being lifelong learners in a very holistic education," Fredeen said. "It is a statement about the viability of these programs at Rider University. There are other institutions where these programs are extremely viable, they're just not viable here."

With controversy surrounding the administration in recent years, Dewberry sees the abundance of early-retirement applications as a sign of Rider's declining reputation among its employees.

"The fact that a lot of people have taken the retirement is kind of proof that they don't like working here," Dewberry said. "When I was hired it was seen as a great job to have, it was a first choice, or a place of prime employment. It was like 'Wow, you got to jump there, that's a great place.' It's not becoming that anymore."

### Time to cut

For Rider president Gregory Dell'Omo, while he said he gets no joy in these decisions, they are necessary for an institution recovering financially from a debt that once soared near \$20 million during the pandemic.

"This idea of reevaluating your resources and reallocating your resources has always been a part of running any organization, whether it be for-profit or not-for-profit," Dell'Omo explained. "But higher education has always been add, add, add and very rarely cut, cut or reallocate, and those days are gone."

As the university continues to bandage its financial wounds, the union, which has passed two votes of no-confidence in Dell'Omo's leadership since his tenure began in 2015, remains critical.

"The administration claims there's a lot of external factors out there doing it, but one can't help but think the leadership of an institution is to be held responsible for that," Dewberry said. "It's always disheartening for people to lose their jobs."

As his administration continues to make cuts, Dell'Omo continues to maintain his sovereign goal of curating a university that the Rider community, past and present, can be proud of for the long term.

"Even though at times we may be criticized for being a little too business-oriented, or too cold, we're trying to both preserve the institution, but also all the stakeholders in the institution, which are the faculty, staff, students and alumni, and everybody associated with the university," Dell'Omo said. "We try to make them all feel that this is an institution that cares for the individual as well as for the institution."

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### PLAYOFF HEARTBREAK

Women's soccer lost in shootouts to Canisius, bringing its season to an end.

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### QUEER IN EDUCATION

The 'Don't Say Gay Bill' impacts all educators speaking freely about the LGBTQ+ community.

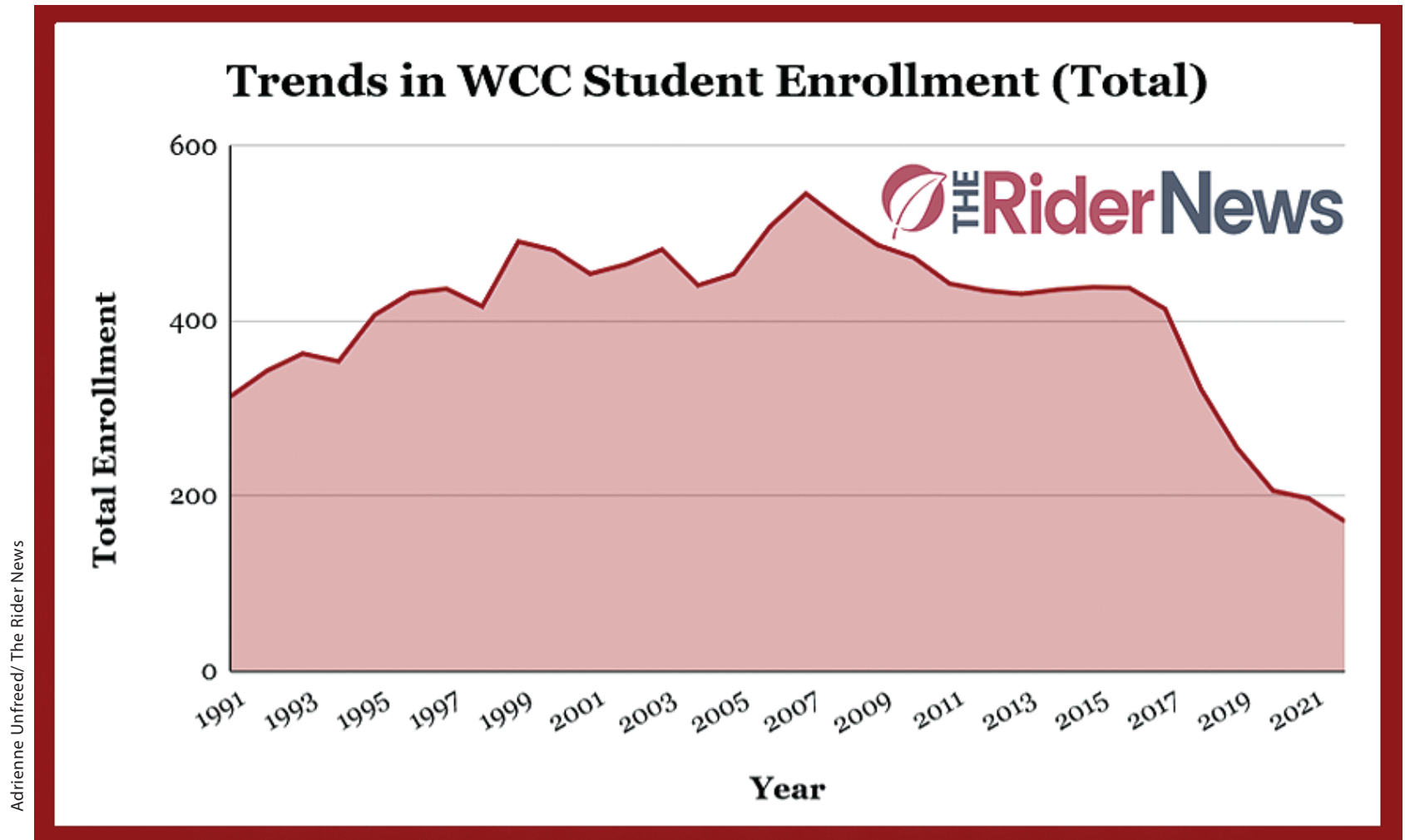
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### SUMMONING SPIRITS

Magician communicated with spirits on campus for Halloween weekend.

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A graph depicting total WCC student enrollment, including full-time, part-time graduate and undergraduate students, from fall semesters 1991 to present (statistics courtesy of Drew Aromando).

# Waning Westminster enrollment poses cause for concern

By Kaitlyn McCormick

**P**LIGHTED by a global pandemic that altered the trends of higher education and a contentious switch in locations, Westminster Choir College (WCC) has finally begun to settle into its new Lawrenceville home, but a downward trend in enrollment that precurred the pandemic still causes concern.

According to WCC fall semester enrollment data, provided by Vice President of Enrollment Management Drew Aromando, the total number of students has been on a steady decline with a noticeable drop starting around 2017.

Between 2016 and 2017, the total number of WCC students, including those enrolled part time and full time at the graduate and undergraduate levels, fell from 438 to 414 after fluctuating mostly between the 400 to 500 student range since 1995. Prior to 2018, when total enrollment dropped to 322 students, the category hadn't seen the 300s since 1994.

More pertinent was the drop in freshmen enrollment. Between the years 2016 and 2017, full-time freshmen enrollment dropped from 72 to 58 students, a harsh jump following a steady decrease.

Now, according to university statistics, the WCC fall 2022 enrollment consists of only 18 full-time freshmen.

College of Arts and Sciences Associate Dean Jason Vodicka said WCC has been working closely with Rider's admissions department to appeal to prospective students after operating on a new campus.

"It's been a learning process on both sides for admissions to find out a little bit more about what makes a serious music student unique and what types of things students are looking for when looking for a conservatory style education," Vodicka said.

As WCC adapts to the Lawrenceville scene after residing on its own Princeton campus since 1932, utilizing and tag teaming with Rider's enrollment and recruitment practices will hopefully create a stronger strategy to entice new students to the choir college.

"The curriculum, the faculty, the community, that's all still here. It's just communicating both that we are here, we're unique, but we're also an integral part of the larger university," Vodicka said.

While WCC continues to make its stake in Lawrenceville and intermingle with the greater Rider community, some still express concern for the fate of the school: Professor of composition and music theory Joel Phillips is one of them.

While Phillips did acknowledge growth in certain

aspects of the school, he caveated the sentiment by pointing out areas where the college is still underperforming.

"There is growth in the online master of vocal performance," he explained, estimating around 80 students enrolled.

However, the college, striving to hold onto its global reverence, still finds itself unable to perform at the level it once did due to the staggering drop in enrollment.

"What Westminster was famous for, is its middle name: choir," Phillips said. "We no longer can fill the choir to serve the New York Philharmonic, the Philadelphia Orchestra, or any of the world class orchestras that come to America and used and recorded with the Westminster Choir. ... We can barely fill the choir at all at this point."

In terms of enrollment, Phillips claims that decisions from higher-ups have made it "virtually impossible" to recruit students, especially considering recent program eliminations in which 25 courses

were announced to be eliminated or archived, including a number of WCC undergraduate and graduate programs, in addition to the very public legal proceedings resulting from Rider's attempts to sell the Princeton campus.

On Oct. 31, Rider Provost DonnaJean Fredeen announced anticipated layoffs for adjunct professors as the latest measure in the university's prioritization and optimization procedures, including the list of archived and eliminated programs.

"This work is currently ongoing and decisions will be driven largely by enrollment," Fredeen's statement read.

According to Phillips, one adjunct professor in his department received notice of layoff.

"I wish I could say I'm surprised in the least," Phillips said.

As the university moves to continue its prioritization process, including WCC programs, waning enrollment numbers pose a realistic concern for the future of the college.



The Westminster Choir College located in Princeton where students attended before the university conjoined campus.

# University fundraising campaign nears historic goal



Amethyst Martinez/The Rider News

Guests gather during Homecoming Weekend to hear President **Gregory Dell'Omo** historic announcements.

By **Amethyst Martinez**

What was labeled a “historic announcement,” Rider President Gregory Dell’Omo held a speech in front of alumni, staff and faculty, in addition to students and their family on Oct. 29, highlighting progress as well as asking for donations toward a fundraising campaign looking to raise \$80 million.

During Homecoming Weekend, Dell’Omo announced the public phase of the fundraiser “Transforming Students – Transforming Lives: The Campaign for Rider University.”

With bubbles blowing and sparklers fired up on stage, Dell’Omo smiled at the crowd during his speech, additionally suggesting that attendees go over to a designated donation table after to contribute financially to the university. The speech took place during the Homecoming Tailgate, where the Rider community was invited to campus with the promise of free food and Rider T-shirts.

“We wanted to find a time when you would all be gathered here together,” said Dell’Omo.

The university has been privately accruing money for the fundraising campaign since 2018. According to a university press release, this has been the largest fundraising event in Rider’s 157-year history. The \$80 million is anticipated to help the university across all sectors, with more than \$76 million raised already, according to Dell’Omo.

“I have found during my time at Rider that our community cares tremendously about our students and the future of this institution,” said Dell’Omo.

A video was also shown to onlookers to advertise the campaign, stating, “Transformation is not about just one student’s journey. It’s about all of our students, and that’s why it’s going to take all of us. Every Bronc.”

Dell’Omo stated that the last fundraising campaign took place almost 20 years ago between

1997 and 2003, where \$50 million was raised.

“So far, more than 14,000 donors have quietly helped to raise more than \$76 million,” said Dell’Omo. “That includes \$20 million total from our Board of Trustees, for Rider’s highest priorities, priorities shaped by the university strategic plan.”

One board trustee, Jill Hammer Canastra ’72, and her husband Wayne Canastra ’72 have previously gifted \$4.5 million to the athletics department.

According to the press release, the money will be used to “support campus projects such as renovating Alumni Gym and the recent expansion of the Mike and Patti Hennessey Science and Technology Center; building Rider’s endowment through support of scholarships and programs; and increasing contributions to the annual fund.” Alumnus Mike Hennessey’s donation of \$4 million in 2020 to The College of Arts and Sciences in honor of his late wife Patti Hennessey was a part of the campaign, and resulted in the naming of the Mike and Patti Hennessey Science and Technology Center. Other donations in the fundraiser included Norm Brodsky ’64 and Elaine Brodsky’s \$10 million donation, leading to the naming of the Norm Brodsky College of Business.

The fundraising campaign comes at a time when the university has been struggling financially, including the \$16.6 million deficit the school faced last year, with the deficit budget for 2023 being \$10.7 million, according to Dell’Omo at the September faculty convocation. According to the press release, the campaign has been ran predominantly by three alumni: Trustee and Campaign Chair Thomas Lynch ’75, and Campaign Vice Chairs Trustee Joan Mazzotti ’72 and William Rue ’69.

“We’re moving closely to that \$80 million in a very short period of time with the support and help of everyone here and others [who] are going to give towards the university. But even though we need to celebrate that success, we’re not done,” said Dell’Omo. “I think \$100 million sounds a heck of a lot better than \$80 million, don’t you?”

# LGBTQ+ poet brings light to representation on campus

By **Jay Roberson**

**STACEYANN** Chin opened up “An Evening with Staceyann Chin” on Oct. 27 with the discussion of why she labeled herself a Black lesbian. Chin discussed that she believes labels are an important part of her identity, but it doesn’t have to be that way for everyone.

From the beginning of her speech, which took place in the Rue Auditorium, she talked about her career as a poet, actor, writer and performing artist. She was a speaker to remember as the audience roared in laughter and paid close attention to her speech.

In an interview with The Rider News, freshman psychology major Jada Waddel and junior cyber security major Daniel Cilone discussed back and forth between their favorite parts.

“I was not expecting it to be that funny. ... It was so powerful,” Cilone said.

On Chin’s official website, it states she is, “A Caribbean, Black, Asian, lesbian woman and a resident of New York City, as well as a Jamaican national” in her biography.

When asked about the importance of events like hers on campus, Chin responded, “I think it’s important for us to look at each other, and I think the most important thing tonight was the intergenerational conversation,” she said. “I work very hard to talk to young people about who they are and validate the difference.”

Throughout her speech, Chin brought up the fact that struggles fade with age, citing her own personal experience. Chin emphasized that the first 20 years of her life were generally bad, but every year since then has been getting better.

She was also very honest about her upbringing and struggles throughout her life as both a lesbian and a person of color. Many students took a liking to her unfiltered presentation.

Freshman health science major Arleny Paulino spoke about her appreciation for the presenter.

“Having someone that has the same internal conflicts as you and going into the mind of someone like me,” said Paulino. “Now you can see you can make it that far. And you’re not excluded in any way.”

Waddel said, “There’s so much adversity that a young queer person faces, to where they need that open and older person to see that they can overcome. To see that they can live beautifully; unapologetically themselves.”

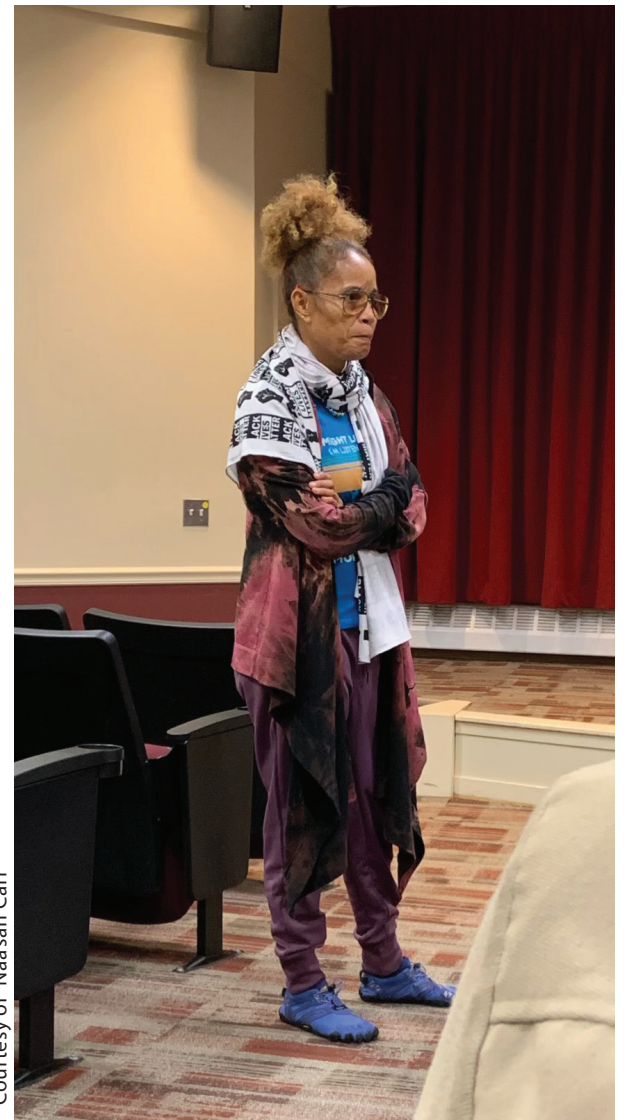
Many audience members could relate to Chin’s message of how she’s faced discrimination not only for her race but also for her sexuality. It was impactful for many audience members to see a presenter who was real about their struggles and true identity.

The director of the Center for Diversity and Inclusion (CDI) Pamela Pruitt spoke about how events with diverse speakers help support the overall well being of the Rider community.

“Rider benefits when its community members feel like they belong and are valued at Rider. Having events that relate to different identities reinforces and fosters a sense of belonging,” Pruitt said in an interview with The Rider News.

Chin seemed to have delivered the message she wanted to convey to the audience through her authenticity and spontaneity.

“I think that the more we see each other, the more we can see ourselves reflected in the world around us,” Chin said. “The more of who we are affirmed, validated and celebrated.”



Courtesy of Naa'san Carr

**Staceyann Chin** engages the audience in the aisles of the Rue Auditorium during her speech.

# Alumni House sign unveiled during Homecoming Weekend



Olivia Nicoletti/The Rider News

The new sign located outside the Alumni House where they honor Dinah, who was previously known to be enslaved in the house.

By Olivia Nicoletti

**H**OMECOMING Weekend was yet again filled with family visits, music and relaxation, but for Rider, this year's festivities included an uplifting announcement on Saturday morning.

On Oct. 29, guests and participants gathered at the Alumni House, located in the front of campus by the main entrance to ring in the news of the recent name change.

The house was originally named after Benjamin Van Cleve, a Revolutionary War veteran and statesman who served four times as speaker of the New Jersey Assembly. The name was removed and renamed Alumni House on Oct. 20, 2021, after the

Board of Trustees learned about Van Cleve's history with slavery, according to a letter written on Oct. 21, 2021 to the university community by Rider President Gregory Dell'Omo.

Dell'Omo went on to say in this letter that Van Cleve's "connection to the University began in the 1950s when Rider purchased the property on which his 18th-century house stood." Furthermore, it was found in 2021 that this statesman participated in "the cruelty of slavery and the degradation and dehumanization of Black Americans."

At the event, Associate Dean of the College of the Arts and Sciences Brooke Hunter said that according to the 1790 Federal Census, the township of Lawrenceville was a part of Hunterdon County which had 1,300 enslaved people out of the 11,000 people who were enslaved in New Jersey at the time.

Hunter commended Executive Director of the Center of Diversity and Inclusion Pamela Pruitt and Director of Campaign Operations Advancement Services Karen Bognar for "personally contributing to make both the plaque and the interpretive sign come to fruition."

Hunter then welcomed Pruitt and Bognar to the front of the ceremony to officially unveil the interpretive sign that will be installed during the following semester.

Evan Blackwell, a junior musical theater major, was introduced and asked by Associate Vice President of Campaign Operations and Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations Denise Pinney to sing the Black National Anthem.

"I've always been fascinated by history, and I think it's amazing that Rider is taking steps to acknowledge its past and move forward in a positive direction," Blackwell said. "I love to perform, and

getting to perform as part of a program like this was an opportunity I just had to take."

Dell'Omo spoke after the conclusion of the song highlighting the line "let us march on until victory is won." He proceeded to say, "The song was written more than 120 years ago. And while progress has been made, we have miles of marching to go."

Although this is a step in the right direction, Hunter said, "A sign the size of a billboard couldn't encompass the entire story which is apart of the larger, complex history of slavery in America that began in the 1600s."

Dell'Omo echoed that sentiment by stating, "As an institution of higher education, it is imperative that we continuously seek truth and justice, even when it's far easier to sweep it under the rug."



Olivia Nicoletti/The Rider News

Participants and guests stood for junior musical theater major Evan Blackwell as he sang the Black National Anthem.

# With a new name, Rider's pub is finding new vision post pandemic

By Shaun Chornobroff

**W**HEN Rider unveiled a redesigned pub alongside an overhauled design of Cranberry's in the fall of 2019, the school hoped it'd be a gathering place for students. With an array of televisions, table service and the convenience of being on campus, The Pub was well on its way.

That was until COVID-19.

Pandemic-related restrictions strangled the original concept of how The Pub was supposed to operate, going from in-house seating and service to a grab-and-go setup. The bar became less crowded and as a whole, the hotbed of students The Pub brought in pre-pandemic was gone.

"As soon as we started to ramp up the semester ended. As soon as we got back, it started to ramp up, then [the pandemic] hit," said Michael Reza, Rider's vice president for facilities and university operations. "It never got into personality development. That's the stuff we want to do now."

With The Pub recently being renamed to Muller's Pub after a \$500,000 donation from the family of the namesake and the university starting to adjust to a new normal in a world that isn't as paralyzed by the pandemic, the hope is that a rebrand can help the establishment become synonymous with students at the university.

Among the changes being discussed is a return to food being brought straight to customers, similar to the way The Pub operated before the pandemic, potentially giving those at Muller's Pub more incentive to sit down and enjoy the experience the bar provides.

"I think that would be one way to get people to enjoy the space a bit more, if there was table service," said Rider Pub Manager Timothy Trivisonno '10. "Ultimately, that's something that we're discussing, but it takes a process, it's more easily said than done."

Elise Spedding, a senior public relations major, is amidst her second year of being a bartender at Muller's Pub.

Before the pandemic ravaged the end of her freshman year, she was a regular at Muller's Pub and decided she wanted to get a job there since she enjoyed the environment and had positive experiences there.

"I literally have a video of a time when there were no tables open," Spedding said. "It was really packed and people could go watch the games, have events there and that was part of the appeal."

Even Spedding admits the dynamic of the bar she serves at now is distant from the one she knew in her first year as a college student.

"Less people actually order drinks now or sit at the bar portion of it," Spedding explained. "Now people just kind of go and grab their food. The pub itself, the mechanics of it, minus the food, is the same. I think that people have changed."

Muller's Pub is routinely reserved for events held by school organizations, which Trivisonno said is a strategy that has been successful in bringing in patrons.

When Trivisonno was a student at Rider, The Pub was much different than what students know today. But due to the workload he had, being a member of the wrestling team, he said he didn't have the ability to spend a large amount of time at the eatery.

However, when he reminisces on the dive bar-esque establishment, with walls marked by years of

collegiate recklessness, Trivisonno remembers the student body having nothing but adoration for The Pub of old.

"I think anybody that has been to the old pub talks fondly about it. No one ever said anything negative about the old pub," Trivisonno said. "We still have alumni that come back and they're like, 'Oh, we missed the wooden walls where everything was carved into.'"

Trying to rewire students, who have spent a large part of their college experience stuck indoors bounded by a global pandemic to spend time in Muller's Pub instead of their dorm room is a formidable task. But for Trivisonno, he said he just wants to provide the safe haven of enjoyment his friends had when they were students.

"I think that's what we want to continue building upon," Trivisonno said. "Having a place where there's familiarity and there's comfortability, and it's their main hang out."



Olivia Nicoletti/The Rider News

Joey Vitale (middle left), a pop studies major, Niles Smith (middle right), not a student at Rider and Cassie Duran (far right), an exercise studies major, gathered at the pub where senior public relations major Elise Spedding (far left) was their bartender.

# Halloween spirit roams campus with magic show 'Summoning Spirits'

By Julia Train

**A**NDREW Silver, an entertainment artist and magician, sat at a table, center stage, placing alphabet blocks in a pyramid formation and telling a spooky story. The only light in the Bart Luedeke Center (BLC) Theater was the spotlight on him.

"Silver is the assistant to [Peter Boie], the guy who normally performs this for us," Heather Batezel, a junior arts and entertainment industries management major, said. "... He couldn't make it this year, but we wanted to do it for Halloween."

According to his website, Boie, "a magician for non-believers" travels from college to college putting on shows. He started working with the Student Entertainment Council (SEC) during COVID-19, said Batezel.

In between each segment, a video played, telling a story about haunted places around the country. Silver then proceeded to perform magic tricks that related to them, and asked for volunteers throughout the show. Attendees excitedly raised their hands to come up on stage.

One trick featured five paper bags with a wooden block, a nail-width hole in the center of each where a spike could be placed. Only one bag contained the spike.

Silver called a volunteer up to the stage for help. The volunteer, Matt Pozzuolo, a Rider alumnus who graduated in 2022, mixed the bags up so no one knew which contained the spike, and remained still, holding a bell. The idea of the game was to communicate with a spirit that tells Silver if he was going to hit the spike by ringing the bell before he smashed a bag down. Silver compared this game to Russian roulette.

He asked audience members to tell him which bag to hit next. With each one, gasps filled the room as his hand met the bag.

Each trick called on a different ghost. One trick incorporated the ghost of the BLC Theater, which Silver called up five students to help him with. Each student was given a candle and wrote a name on a card. Four students wrote the name of someone alive, and one wrote the name of someone dead.

The cards were taken by Silver, mixed up, then

returned to the students. The spotlight turned off and the theater was pitch black, with only the light of the candles on stage.

Silver then asked the ghost to reveal who held the card with the name of the dead person, and that person's candle went out. The student that wrote the name revealed she wrote "Robin" on the card, for Robin Williams.

Silver then asked if any of those five students had CPR experience, when the same student said she did. He then revealed to the audience that he can control his breathing and stop his heartbeat to communicate with spirits on "the other side."

Silver needed someone with CPR experience to be able to easily find his pulse "just in case."

The two sat across from each other at the table on stage, where Silver asked her to find his pulse and mimic his heartbeat on a microphone so the audience could be a part of the experience as well. He asked her to write a question about the future that she wanted to be answered. Silver then placed the piece of paper in his jacket pocket, closed his eyes and stopped his heart through controlled breathing within a few moments.

The audience gasped, and the woman on the stage was visibly shocked.

Moments later, his heart began beating again and he opened his eyes. He said he "talked to the spirit" and got her answer.

Silver claimed that he saw the ghost and gave it the paper, without seeing it. Silver then said that the spirit took out a lighter and lit the paper on fire. The spirit inhaled the smoke then told him, "It'll never get better," Silver said.

He took the paper out of his pocket and gave it to her, revealing that it was burnt and the question she asked was "Will Twilight get better?" After the audience laughed, she revealed "Twilight" was her cat and the audience awed in unison.

Before the final trick, a video was played describing a lady, named Emily, who hung herself on a bridge. Silver brought a Ouija board to the site and attempted to communicate with the ghost. The planchet flew off the board and he was spooked. The video then cut to him ending it, with a scratch on his

face.

Silver asked the audience for someone with a smartphone with "at least 20% battery." He ultimately picked Corinne Rosso, a senior marketing major. Silver used her phone to record three questions he had for "the ghost." He then played it back into the microphone and members of the audience yelled out what they heard.

Silver asked if there was a ghost present and to give a sign. In the audio playback, some said they just heard a lady crying, while others heard her laughing.

Silver then asked the ghost what their name was. "Emily" is what the audience decided they heard. He then asked his final question, "what can we do for you?" No coherent answer was made out. Then, in a matter of seconds, the Ouija board that Silver brought flew off the table, Rosso screamed, the lights flickered and the projector screen flashed. Rosso said she saw the board shifting before she screamed and then turned around and heard it fall.

"There's definitely some deciphering to be done," said Rosso. "We're gonna go to church and splash a little bit of holy water just in case."



Magician **Andrew Silver** calls up attendee **Matt Pozzuolo** to participate in the act.

# Lambda Theta Alpha Latin sorority hosts 90s and 2000s trivia

By Sarah F. Griffin

**O**N Oct. 27, the Lambda Theta Alpha Latin sorority hosted a trivia night, where participants were asked nostalgic questions about the 90s and 2000s. Some of the inquiries, which came in the form of multiple choice and fill-in-the-blank, asked the contestants about the meaning of old slang terms, such as "what's the 411." Contestants were asked to finish lyrics to what some may call "iconic" songs like "Hollaback Girl" by Gwen Stefani, which rappers belonged to the East Coast and the West Coast, what a floppy disc was — which went unanswered — and fun facts about famous television shows from the era.

The contest was extremely spirited — most of the time, the contestants did not allow the host of the game show, Cassandra Shumny, a junior majoring in criminal justice, to finish the question before the excited crowd of seven all shouted out answers at once.

Contestants were split into two teams: self-named "Cheetah Girls" and "Wonder Pets."

The rules of the game were few and simple: one correct answer got the team one point; if a team got the question wrong, then the other team had the chance to steal.

After the initial contest, the score was tied and the game had to go to a tie-breaker question: who was the musical group responsible for the Macarena?

Following a few minutes of silence and some temptation to look up the answer online, neither team was able to remember that the correct answer was Spanish pop duo Los Del Rio.

After Shumny asked the back-up bonus question "what 90's fashion accessory was made by a high school shop teacher?", "Cheetah Girls" rose victorious when they answered the slap bracelet we all remember.

Every contestant left the game smiling and laughing.

Shumny believed that choosing the 1990's and



Sarah F. Griffin/The Rider News

Lambda Theta Alpha poses with participants of the trivia while holding up their greek organization's symbols.

2000's was a good way to honor her sorority's history.

"We were founded in 1991, so it's kind of like a little play on words — 1990's because that's when we were founded at Rider. And then we did the 2000's too because that's when we first really started growing as a chapter. It's really just to pay tribute to not only when we were founded, but also I feel like that era is beneficial to where we are on. All of those trends are making a comeback, so we felt that it was good to add," said Shumny.

Shumny expected more people to show up but understood why the gathering ended up being intimate.

"I feel like turnout lately on campus has been kind of lower. I do know that other organizations were having events around the same time, so I was hoping for a bigger turnout, but I kind of understand why there wasn't," said Shumny.

Sara Caban, a senior entrepreneurial studies major and programming chair for Lambda Theta Alpha, did not blame anyone for the small turnout.

"I do not think there was anything we could have done to promote it more. We promoted trivia night two weeks in advance by posting flyers, and we had it on our event poster board at Crans," said Caban.

Caban also predicted that since it was Thursday night, many students were off campus.

Yezenid Soto, a senior psychology major thought that the event "had a good turnout" and was "a good way to start our Founder's Week."

Soto says that she thinks Founder's Week is an important celebration because "it brings awareness to our organization, as well as just a general celebration for us."

# Students create livestream for Rider hockey team

By Hannah Newman

**T**HE moment that the ice of the rink became visible again for fans of the Rider ice hockey team was the moment that three sports enthusiasts who were destined to multiply the audience of this club sports team and lift its level of professionalism after the pandemic, seized the opportunity for the team to be livestreamed to viewers.

Prior to the pandemic, the Rider club hockey team games were broadcasted on 107.7 the Bronc, but after restrictions were lifted in the fall of 2021, the station was unable to support the live broadcasting of the games entirely.

Senior sports media major Carolo Pascale, a former member of 107.7 the Bronc, refused to let the pandemic strip him of his passion to broadcast. He decided to get together with another former member of the radio station, Erik Johnsen, '22, and a lifelong friend of his, Colton Reynolds, of Flemington, New Jersey, to create another way for viewers to access the hockey games online and not only listen to them, but also watch them.

Each of the three have their own designated job behind the scenes: Reynolds is the livestream manager, ensuring that each stream runs smoothly without any glitches or mishaps.

"Before being brought onto the team, I already had a wide knowledge in livestreaming with my background in eSports, so being able to bring that information to a hockey layout isn't too different," said Reynolds.

Johnsen is the color commentator who provides the analysis of the game alongside Pascale who does the play-by-play.

"It's really fun, the dynamic Carolo and I have, and I think we bounce off each other really well. There was a time where I thought not doing the hockey games was possible, especially after I graduated. But as much as there is a brotherhood on the ice, Carolo, Colton and I have a brotherhood of our own," said Johnsen.

Pascale is also responsible for the graphics used for the score bug and intermission screens. Between the different equipment that each of them already had, such as a camera, microphones, experience with livestream networks and digital designing, the broadcasting team improved their abilities to a substantial level of expertise quickly. The hockey team also donated some of their funds to the broadcast team in order to make their journey skating the web possible.

The games are streamed via Twitch, a platform where live footage can be streamed anywhere free of charge. The team streamed their first game on Sept. 24 2021, and have managed to stream nearly every home game up until the date of publication.

Rider club ice hockey Coach Sean Levin said, "They are such professionals even though they are students; it really elevates the level of professionalism, and we want our program to be considered ultra professional."

Although Pascale is graduating this coming year, he would like to continue streaming the games; however, his next journey is still uncertain.

"I would love to come back and do it again, but depending on where life takes myself, Erik, and Colton after this year, I don't know what's going to happen. I truly love broadcasting the games. It's so much fun to call the games with both Erik and Colton by my side, and it means the world to know that they

helped to get the streams to where they are now. I know that the team, parents, and all the fans support us, and I just want to thank everyone who has," said Pascale. "They've truly made us feel like part of 'the brotherhood,' and it's something we'll never forget."

Levin has high hopes that the streaming can stay alive if it is passed down to the proper people; however, the team that designated their time, money and love to the streams can never truly be substituted.

"I would be lying if I said Carolo was replaceable, but I truly believe that the broadcasting team is similar to those on the ice. The people that they recruit must have the same passion and energy for what they are doing," said Levin.

As an alumnus working as a broadcaster for his college, Johnsen can never find enough pride in the sport that has brought him a passion to stay in tune with his college after graduating.

"Knowing what we've been able to accomplish really puts a smile on my face, and to hear the players' families talk about what we've done makes me so proud," said Johnsen.

Although this team's journey together is still young and their future together is unwritten, all that has been documented about the ice hockey team on livestream will always have three names on it.

"I hope that this isn't the last year, because I feel like we've only just started, but if it is, I'll be forever grateful to those who gave us a shot at creating something special," said Pascale.

*Carolo Pascale is a sports editor for The Rider News. Pascale had no part in the writing or editing of this story.*



Photo courtesy of Carolo Pascale

The set up for the livestreaming of Rider's hockey games. The trio provides all their own equipment.



Photo courtesy of Carolo Pascale

Alumni Erik Johnsen (left) with Carolo Pascale (center), a senior sports media major and Anthony Corbi (right) a senior sports media major.



Photo courtesy of Carolo Pascale

Colton Reynolds, Pascale's childhood friend, tests the mic before a game.



Peter Borg/Rider University

Senior musical theater major, **Kaedon Knight**, takes on two roles in the show as both actresses were "knocked out" by a set piece.



Peter Borg/Rider University

Senior musical theater major, **Ned Way** (left) as Perkins and junior musical theater major, **Ellie Pearlman** (right) as Florence Colley Moore.

## 'The Play That Goes Wrong' goes so right

By **Tristan E. M. Leach**

**H**OMECOMING weekend was packed full of events for students, their families, faculty and alumni alike. Among the hustle and bustle was a comedy show that had audience members in stitches.

On Oct. 28, Rider's School of Fine and Performing Arts opened its second main stage production of the year: "The One-Act Play That Goes Wrong." The two-act show was shortened to a one-act version and was directed by Miriam Mills.

The show follows a small theater that just can't get a show right, which leads to a series of unfortunate but laughable events as the cast desperately tries to keep themselves, the costumes, the props and set together.

The production started with members of the stage crew trying to finish the set. An audience member, who was really being played by Sean McDonald, a junior theater design and technology major, came up to the stage to help put up a mantel piece. Instead, McDonald ended up taped to the set piece. Throughout the show, set pieces fell down, actors were knocked out and reluctant "crew members" were put in.

Laughter was contagious throughout the theater. Audience members were holding onto their ribs as their faces turned red. Whooping and applause were heard throughout the show as cast members put their own spin on the comical moments of the show.

Kaedon Knight, a senior musical theater major, played the role of Robert who plays Thomas Colley Moore.

Knight said, "I think that because we were playing actors...we got to kind of figure out what each of them were limited by. We all held a different role in this show as far as how the comedy goes."

While the actors made it look easy, the timing of comedy and getting a moment just right was one of the biggest challenges.

Mills, director of the show and associate professor of theater at Rider, said that this play challenged the students' perception of comedy, and told them that they should think of it as a drama or tragedy. "We find their behaviors funny, but [the actors] should not find them funny," said Mills.

There was no doubt that the audience found it funny, and if the actors thought what they were doing was funny, they didn't show it.

Joe Love, a senior musical theater major, played Jonathan, who plays Charles Haversham. Love's character of Haversham was mostly "dead" for the show but when it came to comedic time, Love was nothing short of hilarious.

"At first, I had a lot of issues with it [being funny on purpose] because there was a lot of indicating that I was just doing," said Love. "I was able to find a different approach to take it seriously and find the truth in what I was doing. We all wanted to put on the best show and that's what we had to focus on rather than just being funny."

The cast succeeded in finding their focus. The night ended with bows from each actor in the show. The sound of applause reverberated off the theater walls as the audience rose to their feet.

As the "crew" cleaned up the stage the audience made their way into the lobby to wait for their loved ones who had been in the show, eager family members waited with flowers and other gifts for their performers. Laughter could be heard as audience members recounted their favorite moments from the show with each other and the cast members.

"I really loved it when Kaedon, who was playing Robert, came in to put out the fire," said Love.

As cast and audience members alike left the Yvonne Theater, the feeling of joy and laughter was in the air. "The Play That Goes Wrong" was another success for the students and staff of Rider's School of Fine and Performing Arts.



Peter Borg/Rider University

Senior acting major, **Alexa Goyden** (left) gets choked by junior musical theater major, **Ellie Pearlman**.



Peter Borg/Rider University

**Ned Way** (back left) and **Kaedon Knight** (back right), discover the dead body of Charles Haversham, played by senior musical theater major, **Joe Love** (front center).



Peter Borg/Rider University

**Kaedon Knight** (front), answers a phone call and tries to hold the set together, while **Ned Way**, (back) listens in on the conversation.



Peter Borg/Rider University

Junior musical theater major, **Maclain Rhine** (front center), tells junior acting major, **Juliette Nero Eddings** (back left) about the favoritism that went on in Haversham Manor.

# The pain brought on by Florida's 'Dont Say Gay Bill'



Angelina Fierro/The Rider News

**O**N March 8, the “Don’t Say Gay Bill” was passed by Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis. This extreme anti-LGBTQ+ law was placed into effect in schools across Florida in order to prohibit teachers from speaking about gender identity or sexuality. As a non-binary lesbian and a future educator, I remember the fear I felt when I read the news and saw that it had passed.

Never did I think that I would read a similar article later in the year stating that the Republican Party is attempting to pass a nationwide law prohibiting the discussion of any LGBTQ+ matter in classrooms of children ages 10 and under.

My gender identity and sexuality have always been something that I struggled with, but now that I am secure in my queer identity, I am proud of who I am. It took me a long time to find security and comfort in my labels, so the fact that they are trying to erase my identity from classrooms across the country is incredibly upsetting.

The original bill that was passed in Florida states, “Classroom instruction by school personnel or third parties on sexual orientation or gender identity may not occur in kindergarten through grade 3 or in a manner that is not age-appropriate or developmentally appropriate for students in accordance with state standards.”

Not only is this detrimental to students, but to LGBTQ+ educators who are unable to speak about their identity in class. To make matters worse, on Oct. 18 it was released that U.S. Rep. Mike Johnson is attempting to pass the “Stop The Sexualization of Children Act,” which is essentially a nationwide version of the “Don’t Say Gay Bill.”

Republicans who are supporting this bill are hoping to “protect children” by federally defunding any events or organizations that are LGBTQ+ based; however, this is not protecting children. If anything, this bill will negatively affect children who are questioning their gender identity or sexuality.

Erasing the topic of the LGBTQ+ community in classrooms will only leave room for more ignorance due to a lack of education. Throughout middle and high school, I was never brave enough to come out as lesbian or non-binary because of the backlash I would have received. This is partly due to the fact that the LGBTQ+ community was rarely brought up in class.

We were given health classes and sex education, but rarely did my teachers utter a word about LGBTQ+ people within those lessons. The only time I remember discussing the topic of the LGBTQ+ community was in my senior year health class where they debated the validity of being transgender.

Considering I had just started to come to terms with being non-binary, I felt extremely unsafe in that classroom as students debated the existence of transgender people. This is not the first time I have heard this debate, though.

It feels like every time my human rights are brought up, an argument comes along with it. I started observing classes at a middle school this semester, and I’m starting to really love teaching.

Not every part of it is easy though. I’m not a Miss or Mr. I told my co-op teacher that I’m non-binary and want to be called Teacher Roberson, to which they replied, “We’ll have to see what the school says, [but] that might be controversial around the kids.”

Then, they informed me that kids may not accept me or purposely misgender me. This is something that I’ve become accustomed to due to my identity, primarily from the adults who have issues adapting.

When I tell people I’m a part of the LGBTQ+ community and use they/them pronouns, they feel like they’re entitled to give me advice or just pretend that part of me doesn’t exist. These people really don’t know me at all, though. I’m a copy editor at The Rider News. I’m a peer leader in the Multicultural Student Leadership Institute. Most importantly, I’m non-binary and a future educator. I hope to leave a good impact on future generations. This bill not only invalidates all LGBTQ+ people; it erases the LGBTQ+ community across the country.

*Jay Roberson  
sophomore education major*

## The Rider News

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## GREEN CORNER

# How what you eat impacts the environment

**S**AXBY'S "Plant-Powered" grilled cheese, Jersey Mike's veggie sub and salads from Muller's Pub and Wendys are all examples of meatless food options you can find on Riders campus. But do you know the impact you have on the environment when you eat these items? Not only can shifting your diet have a positive impact on your health, but it can directly impact climate change.

The meat and dairy industry alone account for around 14.5% of the world's greenhouse gasses each year, according to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. Greenhouse gasses trap heat in the atmosphere which subsequently results in global warming. The reason these industries have such a detrimental impact on climate change is due to the gas animals produce. Cows and sheep have specialized bacteria to digest grass, but this results in animals belching methane, an extremely powerful greenhouse gas. Freshman arts and administration major Hailey Tedesco said, "If I had known I could've made a larger change, I would've turned to a plant-based diet earlier."

The world produces four times the amount of meat it did fifty years ago, and with the meat produced, it is estimated that 70% of cows, 98% of pigs, 99% of turkeys and 98% of chickens and eggs come from factory farms, according to a USDA report. These factories have a massive impact on soil health and land usage. In the United States, 85% of all soil erosion is caused by industrial livestock overgrazing. The food that the livestock feed off of is primarily corn, soy and oats. Of the agricultural land in the United States, 87% is used for growing food to feed industrial livestock production. Not only are these companies accelerating erosion and taking up massive land space, but the process of how they take care of the soil is seriously impacting the environment.

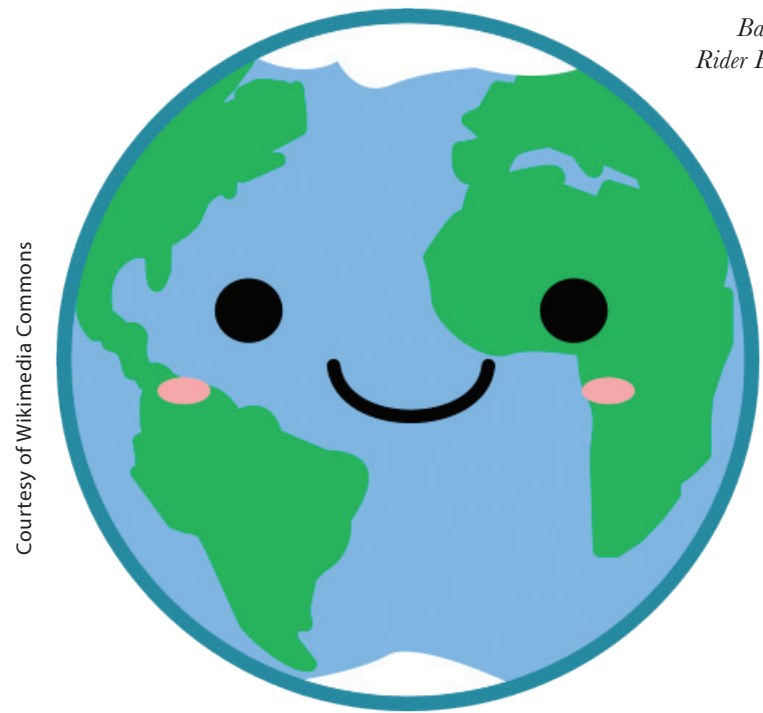
When you plow on one spot of soil, overtime, it will lose its available nutrition. Because of this, industrial agriculture has tried to solve this problem by using pesticides, but in turn, it kills the organic matter found in the soil. Organic matter is largely composed of carbon and if stable, it can be sequestered for hundreds of years, according to the Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education. However, the use of pesticides and tillage on soil releases a large amount of organic matter, subsequently releasing large amounts of carbon into the atmosphere. This carbon in the atmosphere traps heat, furthering the process of global warming.

Knowing the impact that the meat and dairy industry have on the environment, one may be inclined to live a more plant-based lifestyle. Choosing to switch these eating habits have incredible benefits. According to a study done by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, a switch to veganism can save almost eight billion tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent by 2050. This is

because the climate impact of plant-based food is around 10 to 15 times smaller than animal products. Junior musical theater major Macy Champlin said, "As someone who eats a plant-based diet, it is comforting to know that what I'm eating has significantly less of an impact on the environment and is the sustainable choice."

Switching to a more sustainable plant-based diet can feel like a bit of a transition at first, but with the vast amount of substitutes available and the knowledge of the environmental impact, there is not a more motivating time than now. Start small with a meatless Monday and see what practices you can adopt into your everyday life. Luckily, here at Rider, every restaurant you order from has plant-based options, but remember, when ordering on GrubHub make sure to "choose to go green" to opt out of paper bags and single-use utensils if not needed.

Bailey Poe  
Rider Eco-Rep



## SOPHOMORE SIGHTINGS

## 'The One Act Play That Goes Wrong' stays true to its home

**T**HERE are many ingredients that go into making a theatrical production: the script, music, sets, lighting, sound and more. One ingredient that is not often seen is blue painter's tape, but it's used in a pre-show scene during "The One-Act Play That Goes Wrong," which opened on Oct. 28 at the Yvonne Theater. The play started with painter's tape failing to hold up a mantle is used to help tape as it fails to stick. Stage manager Annie, played by senior acting major Alexa Goyden, calls upon a plant in the audience, junior technical theater and acting major Sean McDonald, to help her put up the mantle. They ultimately fail, and so begins a night filled with failures by the acting company putting on a version of a play called "The Murder of Haversham Manor."

The cast of Rider's version included senior musical theater major Kaedon Knight as Thomas Colleymore, whose sister Florence, played by junior musical theater major Ellie Pearlman, visited the setting of Haversham Manor to get married. But when her fiancé Charles Haversham, played by senior musical theater major Joe Love, is killed at the beginning of the show, it opens up a whodunnit mystery. The remainder of the show explores which person inside the house killed Charles and later his brother Cecil, played by junior musical theater major Maclain Rhine.

But the plot of the show is really two-fold. Performing this play are the Cornley University acting company, a low-budget college group who had to cut characters from shows in the past due to lack of funds. Characters are actually two people, with each part consisting of the actor as well as the character they play. For example, Cornley University Director Chris Bean, played by junior acting major Juliette Nero Eddings, also plays Inspector Carter, the antagonist of the play. It becomes confusing at times regarding what is part of the play and what is part of the bad acting, as original authors Henry Lewis, Jonathan Sayer and Henry Shields did not do the best job of distinguishing the humor.

Some of the mishaps this acting company faces during the show include falling objects, collapsing walls, fighting between actors, repeating lines in a circle and a lack of set pieces. These factors contribute to the comedy of the show, and the audience seemed to love the set dismantling before their very eyes. Although the show was the most unconventional piece of theater I have ever seen, I thought the actors did a great job composing themselves and not breaking character; moreover, I did not understand what made this show so humorous. It's not an acting problem, it's a script problem, as the original play presents many bits of English slapstick humor that isn't understood by an American audience. Rider's performance of "The One-Act Play That Goes Wrong" was helmed by Associate Professor Miriam Mills, a seasoned director who has many years of relevant experience. Her choices throughout were well-executed, but unfortunately, sometimes a poorly written play cannot save even the best-directed show.

Despite its short length, the actors take full advantage of the time they have. Every actor in this cast was especially talented and used their comedic voices to communicate the script effectively; however, if I had to choose a standout in this cast, Rhine's performance as Cecil was exceptional. He was able to use his flexibility and long limbs to toss a telephone back and forth to Knight while still hanging onto objects that had just fallen off the walls. This seemed very difficult to accomplish, but Rhine was able to use his

agile hands, knees and feet to get it done. Typically presented in two-act form, "The Play That Goes Wrong" debuted in London in 2014 and won the Olivier Award for Best New Comedy. It transferred to Broadway in 2017 and opened to very negative reviews from critics, especially The New York Times' Ben Brantley, who used damaging adjectives throughout his piece. It ended up winning one Tony Award for scenic design of a play and it closed in early January 2019. Professional productions of the two-act version are still playing around the world, including in New York and London, but the one-act version is available to high schools and colleges looking to produce a shorter version.

At just 65 minutes, "The One-Act Play That Goes Wrong," is just about half of its full counterpart that version is two hours with an intermission. However, the play still felt like a complete piece, with a beginning, middle and very abrupt ending. I thought it was the perfect length, and I do not know what direction the playwrights would have taken for an additional hour. Despite its short length, the actors on stage took full advantage of the time they had.

Although the show was great, I feel the Rider-produced basic scenic design curated by Yoshinori Tanokura could have been taken to a higher level. The show itself is known for its elaborate set, with some productions even equipped with a second floor and an elevator. While that is not possible on a college campus, the room seemed very bland with paintings of objects instead of actual portraits, which could have added some character to a show with plenty of quirks.

Overall, "The One-Act Play That Goes Wrong," was a very different type of theatergoing experience. It's not for everyone, and by reading this you probably know if this show is for you or not. If it is for you and you missed Rider's production, catch it off Broadway at New World Stages, and see for yourself what could possibly go wrong.

Zachary Klein  
sophomore journalism major



Peter Borg/The Rider News

## MEN'S BASKETBALL

# Broncs gear up for regular season with big win



Carolo Pascale/The Rider News

Graduate student forward **Ajiri Ogemuno-Johnson** scored 11 points in 14 minutes of action against Cabrini.

By **Carolo Pascale**

**T**HE Broncs are back in action, getting onto the court of Alumni Gym for their first game of the 2022-23 basketball season on Oct. 29. As the headliners of the Homecoming Weekend events, the Broncs rocked the exhibition matinee matchup to the tune of a dominating 111-79 win. Rider scored over 100 points for the first time since the final game of the 2017-18 regular season.

Despite the win, Baggett was not satisfied with the performance.

"I thought it was a better second half than it was the first half. Again, we're just trying to get the bugs out as well," said Head Coach Kevin Baggett. "There's a lot of things we need to do better, but we

also did some good things on the defensive end and on the offensive end. But again, as I said to these guys, it's a long road, and so we gotta get better day to day, game to game, and we will."

The starters for the Broncs looked a little bit different this year. There were the usuals, senior guard Dwight Murray Jr., senior guard Allen Powell and graduate student Ajiri Ogemuno-Johnson, but the starting five also featured senior guard and Rhode Island transfer Allen Bertrand and returning junior forward Nehemiah Benson.

Bertrand is expected the hole left by the graduation of Dimencio Vaughn. Benson in the starting five came as a surprise as that spot is usually occupied by senior forward Mervin James. According to Baggett, James, who was named to the preseason All-MAAC Third Team, sprained his shoulder, but should return soon. "He was actually in practice yesterday for some of the things, but not having practiced this week, we weren't gonna play him," said Baggett.

The game itself opened on a familiar note, with Murray draining a three to notch the game's first points. But for about 11 minutes of the first half, Cabrini kept the score close despite the Broncs having a major size difference at the posts.

Cabrini forced eight lead changes in that time, and actually held a 28-25 lead with 8:28 left in the half.

The Broncs went on an eight-point run to reclaim the lead and held on for the rest of the game.

Despite having the lead, Murray showed up with a buzzer-beater, draining a fadeaway jumper just before time expired to give the Broncs a 57-44 advantage heading into halftime.

The second half was all Rider as they dominated

Cabrini, raining down shots from all angles. With 6:36 left in the game, the Broncs had a 93-67 lead and decided to make their final subs of the game, with four of the Broncs on the court being new players. The only Rider player from last year that stayed in the game was Benson.

"That's the beauty of this team this year, that we have depth. And if we have some injuries or some foul trouble that we can lean on [Benson], he knows what he's doing out there," said Baggett. "He went out there and did exactly what we know he's gonna do. He did a great job, and that's why we trust him when he gets out on the court."

By the end of the game, seven Broncs had double-digit points, led by Murray, Powell and Bertrand. Murray finished with 18 points, Powell had 17 and Bertrand scored 13 in his first game after missing all of last year due to an ACL tear.

Bertrand only missed one shot the whole game, going 3-for-3 from the three point line and 5-for-6 from the field.

"I feel great. It took me a minute to really get into the flow of things again, but I've been adjusting real good," said Bertrand. "There's challenges but Coach Baggett has been helping me every day. The guys have helped me get in the swing of things."

With the exhibition win, the Broncs now look forward to their first regular season game of the year against Providence on Nov. 8.

"They're gonna be ready. There will be things that obviously we'll do that we didn't do today," said Baggett. "And I like where we are, I like where we're headed, and that'll be another good barometer for us in terms of where we stand."

## WOMEN'S SOCCER

# Rider falls in penalties in MAAC quarterfinals

By **Hannah Newman**

**A**FTER a hard-fought battle of losses, comebacks and a standing spot in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) playoffs, women's soccer closed their 2022 season on Oct. 30 with a heartbreaking 4-2 penalty shootout loss.

The game began with a heated 12 minutes of pure rivalry, both sides refusing to budge, until senior midfielder Lindsey Maslow made that mission a reality getting her team on the board and making her team-leading sixth goal of the year. This gave the Broncs' the lead for the entirety of the first half.

"The team emphasized getting a goal early in the first half, so scoring the first goal made me super happy to give the team an early lead," said Maslow.

As the game progressed into its second half, both teams lined themselves up to score efficiently from the start.

Head Coach Drayson Hounsome said, "It was a great effort. We scored first and then hit the post three times. If one of those shots goes in then at 2-0 we are in a much stronger position."

The attempts to score for the Broncs were shot down after hitting the crossbar three different times. Canisius found themselves suffering from the same setback after junior goalkeeper Ellie Sciancalepore canceled Canisius' opportunity to tie the game in the 63rd minute and tipped a shot onto the crossbar.

Right on the clock's 85th minute, just when the game appeared to be coming to an end, was the moment that the game was only beginning. The battle to win the playoffs peaked with Canisius tying the game 1-1.

Since both overtimes remained flat, the final determination of the winner was surrendered to penalty kicks.

Both teams failed to make their first attempts at the goal. After two consecutive knocks at the post and four more saves by Sciancalepore, Canisius scored on their

second kick, and after a second failed attempt for the Broncs, Canisius dominated and closed the game with a 4-2 win.

Sciancalepore was far from frustrated with the result of the penalty kicks, but she came out of this game feeling nothing but pride and appreciation for her team and their efforts that landed them in the playoffs.

"Some shots just didn't go our way, and it stings to lose in the way we did. That being said, the girls laid it on the line for the game and fought for the entire 110 minutes. All I can be is proud of them and the challenges that we have overcome this season. Losing is never easy to accept, especially in penalty kicks, but our team fights nonstop, and that is something to be proud of coming away from this," said Sciancalepore. "Every game we played, we fought hard. Win, lose or tie, we put our bodies on the line for each other. The season is always a grind, and no matter the end, the girls fought for one another every single day. I am extremely proud of the girls and what we have proved to others and to ourselves over the past three months."

Although the end to the Broncs' season was an unpredictable one for all, this loss did not deter them from feeling like this season was an achievement.

Freshman center back Olivia Smith said, "Overall, we played well and had some other great offensive chances that hit off the post a few times, so I think we were just unlucky in this game. Considering we were on the verge of not even making the playoffs to being No. 4 at the end of the regular season just shows how much work everyone put in to get to where we are now."

The Broncs women's soccer team finalized their season with a 5-5 record and four All-MAAC players; Sciancalepore won the league's Golden Glove Award as a result of being the league's top goalkeeper as well as being named to the All-MAAC First Team. Earning Second Team All-MAAC honors was Barkey and



Andrew Xon/The Rider News

The Broncs reluctantly walk off Ben Cohen Field after falling to Canisius in a penalty shootout.

Maslow and earning third team was junior defender Genevieve Ryan.

Maslow came out as the team's leading goal scorer with six total goals scored, and senior midfielder Cameron Dees became the season's leader in assists with a total of three.

Overall, coach Hounsome considers the season a success in the growth and history of his team.

"Our players have played in the playoffs every year for the last 10 years," Head Coach Drayson Hounsome said. "We scored first and then hit the post three times. If one of those shots goes in then at 2-0 we are in a much stronger position."

"To do that takes an insane amount of effort, commitment to training and desire to get better. The effort this year's team put in was outstanding," Head Coach Drayson Hounsome said.

The Broncs will return next season with key pieces in Sciancalepore and Smith, as well as many others to try and push for another opportunity at making the MAAC playoffs.



## CLUB ICE HOCKEY

# Rider outmuscled in 3-1 loss to rival Rowan

By Jake Tiger

**L**AST season, each installment of the hot-blooded Rider-Rowan rivalry was must-see hockey.

In the 2021-22 season, Rider club ice hockey took on the Rowan Profs three times, squeaking out two hard-fought wins in the regular season before knocking Rowan out of the Mid-Atlantic Collegiate Hockey (MACH) playoffs with a climactic 5-4 victory.

On their Alumni Night, the Broncos went into the Oct. 28 matchup with Rowan hoping to repeat their prior performances, but instead, they were flat and stagnant, resulting in a disappointing 3-1 defeat.

"I'm frustrated, and I'm bummed out because of how important the game was and we didn't really put our best foot forward," said Head Coach Sean Levin. "We were on our heels for... a good portion of the game, especially early on."

The puck dropped and Rider got off to an unusually sluggish start, not at all matching the ferociousness of Rowan.

Senior defenseman Eddie Coyne said, "Our team's overall intensity and physicality has to get better. We let Rowan come into our house and push us around. It absolutely did improve throughout the game and we plan on being a different team when we visit them next month."

The disparity in energy led to poor shot selection by the Broncos, often settling for low-percentage shots rather than working the puck around for a better opportunity.

"I think we were settling early on," said Levin. "Guys were getting a little too cute and shooting from spots where they are thinking it's open, but they're not."

While Rider struggled to find its rhythm, Rowan played a sound and methodical brand of offense. The Profs simply swung the puck around until the goal presented itself, striking first in the opening period by sending the puck through the legs of sophomore goalie Trevor Giwerowski.

A Rowan player scooped up a loose puck at center ice and went gliding toward the goal with just Giwerowski in his way. The attacker went right up to



Hannah Newman/The Rider News

Junior defenseman **Christian Wawrzynski** is a steady enforcer for the Broncos' blue line, as he is second on the team in penalty minutes.

Giwerowski, and quickly skated from one side of the goal to the other, tucking the puck into the net just around the left skate of Giwerowski to put Rider in a 2-0 hole.

The Broncos were visibly deflated afterward, the goal being a summation of their sloppy showing.

Rider got on the board in the third period after a stray shot by Coyne deflected off the skate of junior forward Mark McDermitt and went into the net, but Rowan responded not long after to go up 3-1.

As the final minutes of the third period ticked away, Rider was suddenly given a jolt of hope. A major penalty on Rowan gifted the Broncos a five-minute power play and a chance at a miraculous comeback.

Levin also pulled Giwerowski from goal in favor of an extra threat on offense, but despite the two-man advantage, nothing was going for the Broncos.

"We had some zone time with the six-on-four, but we weren't good enough. Not good enough," said Levin. "We were settling for bad shots, we were trying to make the cute play rather than the more productive play."

Most of Rider's desperate attempts either ended up in the chest of the Profs goalie or were rebounded by Rowan and subsequently punted to the other end of the rink to stall the power play.

Minutes turned into seconds, and seconds turned into an ugly, fourth consecutive loss for the Broncos at the hands of one of their biggest rivals. Now, they have to wait until Dec. 10 for another shot at the Profs.

"Our slow start offensively was just the way of the game and a result of some player injuries. When it becomes a pattern is when it can be a concern," said Coyne. "I am confident that we will come out hungrier this Friday for our home game against Marist."

In the meantime, the 3-6 Broncos look to put an end to their slide on Nov. 4, taking on Marist at home. The game will be streamed on Twitch.

"We have a lot of guys that need to look internally and be better themselves and be a better team next week," said Levin.

## MEN'S SOCCER

# Inverso retires after 12-year, 3-championship tenure



Steve McLaughlin/Rider Athletics

Head Coach **Charlie Inverso** hugs sophomore forward **Pablo DeCastro** after their 2015 MAAC Championship victory over Quinnipiac.

By Jake Tiger

**R**IDER men's soccer Head Coach Charlie Inverso announced his retirement on Nov. 1 after 12 years and a 95-91-25 record with the team, a Rider Athletics press release stated.

The decision comes after a 2022 season that saw the Broncos fall to a 2-8-6 record in 16 games, their worst record since 2012, when a recently-hired Inverso was still building up the struggling program.

"I just need a change, but I definitely want to keep coaching," said Inverso in a Rider Athletics press release. "If you want to do this job the right way, it takes 10-12 hours a day and very few of those hours

are on the field. I want to be on the field more and to keep learning and improving as a coach wherever that will take me. I still have a lot of things I want to accomplish in this game and hopefully God has a plan for me."

Inverso came to Rider in 2011 following a 24-year run at Mercer County Community College, in which he earned a 434-46-14 as a head coach. At the time, Rider men's soccer was coming off of a 2-15-1 season, the team's worst record since 1961.

The Broncos were in desperate need of a culture change and Inverso was the ideal candidate.

"When Charlie was hired in 2011, his main charge

was to improve the competitive standing of the men's soccer program and the competitive experience for our student athletes," said Rider Athletic Director Don Harnum. "That certainly happened in a big way and I appreciate his tireless efforts. I wish Charlie and his family nothing but the best moving forward. We will begin a search for a new coach immediately."

Inverso went on to lead Rider to Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) Championships and NCAA Tournament appearances in 2015, 2016 and 2018. In 2016, Rider was nationally ranked as high as No. 22.

With a .509 winning percentage, Inverso ends his 12-year tenure as the most successful head coach in Rider men's soccer history.

Inverso will coach his final game at Rider on Nov. 2 when the Broncos take on Canisius at home for their regular season conclusion.

"Honestly, I came here with the intention of staying 4-5 years, get the team in the playoffs and move on," said Inverso. "What the team accomplished starting in 2015 went beyond my wildest dreams and I thank the players and assistant coaches for this. I always saw Rider as a place to build something great. My dad graduated from Rider after going to night school for eight years. He was [a] first generation Italian and the youngest of eight and the only one in his family to attend college. He had so much pride in the school. He would always say, 'best business school in the country, kid.'"

ONLINE

**'WE WEREN'T GOOD ENOUGH'**  
Check out club ice hockey's photo gallery with its new third jerseys from its loss on Oct. 28.

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**'EVERYBODY WORKED HARD DURING THE GAME'**  
Men's soccer tied two more matches in the lead up to its final game of the season on Nov. 2.

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# Sports

ONLINE

## 'EXECUTING THE GAME PLAN'

Volleyball broke even in its two weekend matches against MAAC competition.

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Carolo Pascale/The Rider News

In their 6-0 shutout of Merrimack, the Broncos scored four goals in a five-minute span to put the game far out of reach.

### FIELD HOCKEY

## Broncs clinch No.1 seed in NEC with ninth straight win

By Logan VanDine

In a fairy tale season for the Rider field hockey team, the Broncos won their final two regular season games against Merrimack and Hofstra to finish their season on a nine-game winning streak and clinching the No. 1 seed in the Northeast Conference (NEC) playoffs.

For their efforts, senior goalkeeper Kaitlyn Tomas and freshman midfielder Indy Zootjens were awarded with NEC player of the week recognition, Tomas earning the defensive distinction and Zootjens receiving the offensive honor.

### 'Peaking at the right moment'

In a season full of ups and downs, the Rider field hockey team made their matchup against Merrimack on Oct. 28 a memorable one. Not only did they pitch their second straight shutout winning this game 6-0, but the Broncos also were able to clinch the 2022 NEC Regular Season Championship with their eighth win in a row.

By making the NEC Tournament, Head Coach Lori Hussong extended a long-running playoff streak to 23 years, longer than some of her players have been alive.

"It's very much a lot of pressure," Hussong said about maintaining her streak. "We're really confident in our kids ... they come from a tradition of making it to the playoffs. It's something that's on their mind, and they don't want to be the team that lets the program down and alumni down, so it's pressure on them as well."

After a scoreless first quarter against the Warriors, the Broncos were finally able to break through and prove why they're the best team in the NEC.

"I think we started out a bit nervous because we had to win this game, and then in the middle part, [we

were] more focused," said Zootjens. "When the first goal when it was just like, 'Ah, there's the goal.'"

Midway through the second quarter, the Broncos struck first as Zootjens added to her already impressive season with a goal that found the cage making the score 1-0. The goal marked her 12th consecutive game with at least one point on the stat sheet.

"I feel more familiar with how everyone plays," said Zootjens. "The first month I was just getting used to the feel and to the players, and I think after a few months, I got more comfortable."

Just minutes later, this time it was sophomore midfielder Alyssa Hoffman scoring her first goal of the season, giving the Broncos a 2-0 cushion.

With four more goals in the third, the Broncos made the game 6-0, essentially clinching the NEC title.

"It's always good to get the regular season title. We're peaking at the right moment, and I'm very confident that we're going to do the best job we can," said Hussong.

Hussong wasn't shy when talking about the importance of her team continuing to play at their absolute best if they hope to make a deep playoff run.

"We're going to have to be at our best," said Hussong. "All four teams have the potential to beat anybody at any time. It's going to be a matter of who can be the most productive and take advantage of their opportunities."

### A 'W' to close out the season

The Broncos ended their regular season in style against Hofstra in a competitive, low-scoring affair, extending their winning streak to nine games.

Rider took the win with a 2-1 effort over the Pride on Oct. 30 to finish with an overall regular season

record of 13-5 and a 6-1 record in conference play.

After a scoreless opening quarter, the Broncos got the scoring started, thanks to a goal by freshman forward Valeria Perales and just minutes later, the Broncos extended their lead to 2-0 off a goal made by senior midfielder Maeve Riehman.

Hofstra responded with a goal of their own late in the second, making the game 2-1, but the Broncos held on from there to pick up the win in the regular season finale.

"We are very proud of our team's effort. We didn't play our best hockey today, but played well enough to get the job done," Hussong said. "We've had a few tough weeks physically and mentally with the pressure of trying to qualify for playoffs on the line. Our team has handled it well, but [they] are a bit drained because the regular season is long and demanding. We are going to take this week to rest both physically and mentally and will taper our workouts so that we can be at our best on Friday."

With the NEC tournament set to get underway next week, Hussong expressed how exciting of an opportunity this is for her team and how they have to treat it like it's almost a second season.

"It's the second season and most exciting time of the year. We know that every game is precious and that we must give our best because there is no tomorrow if you lose. Our team is excited, focused and ready. We know that we have to be at our best to get to the final and everyone will do their part to give us the best chance at success," Hussong said.

The Broncos will now get ready for the first round of the NEC Tournament, as they are set to take on Saint Francis at Wagner University in Staten Island, New York, on Nov. 4, the only NEC opponent to beat them in the regular season.

Carolo Pascale/The Rider News

## NEC REGULAR SEASON CHAMPIONS

OVERALL: 13-5

CONFERENCE: 6-1

NEC SEMIFINALS: NO. 1 RIDER VS NO. 4 SAINT FRANCIS ON NOV. 4

