And the winner is (not) ...
Previously banned film illuminates violence, loss

By Lauren Lavelle

DISTRAUGHT another clutches her son’s elemen-
tary school report card. Tears form in the
textures of  Loss.

Butalia presents his controversial film Textures of Loss.

A mystery debunked. On Feb. 27 at 12:35 a.m., Public Safety received a report
from residence life that a suspected marijuana odor was detected in Conover Hall.

Conover

Officers visited the room where the smell was coming from and asked the resident
if they could search a room. The student cooperated, and nothing was found.

CLAS proposes core revisions

Previously banned film illuminates violence, loss

CLAS proposes core revisions

Kashmir, that has witnessed the rise of armed insurgency in East India since the late 1980s,” said Shahla

“Tests of Loss focuses on one of the world’s most militarized areas of dispute, the contested region of Kashmir, that has witnessed the rise of armed insurgency in East India since the late 1980s,” said Shahla

Unfortunately though, as the mother puts away her son’s achievements, the audience learns her son was a rifle on his way to school. The mother wipes her tears and remains clutching her son’s final report card.

The 25th annual Emanuel Levine Lecture took place in the Cavalla Room on Feb. 29 with a screening of Textures of Loss, a documentary by award-winning Indian filmmaker Panjek Butalia.

Shot in 2012 in the combat-ridden region of Kashmir, Butalia homes in on specific families and questions their experiences with violence while also attempting to gain knowledge on their tactics for fighting the increasing acts of terrorism in their homeland.

“Tests of Loss focuses on one of the world’s most militarized areas of dispute, the contested region of Kashmir, that has witnessed the rise of armed insurgency in East India since the late 1980s,” said Shahla Hussain, an assistant professor in Rider’s Department of History. “This insurgency has led to killings, bloodshed and violence on a large scale. Textures of Loss maps them back to violence in the daily lives of Kashmiris, especially women and youth.

After viewing the film, the Central Board of Film Certification and the Film Certification Appellate Tribunal in India encouraged Butalia to censor the documentary in order to eliminate certain aspects of brutality so the film would be appropriate for public viewing.

“This documentary was banned in India as it raised several unconventional questions that did not fit in with the status perspectives of Kashmir,” said Hussain. “Clearly, this documentary will provide us an insight into multiple perspectives about understanding world conflicts and will raise some very interesting questions.”

After much deliberation, the Delhi High Court let the film be presented without censorship, saying, “the response [to unprove ideas] cannot be to ban, mutilate or destroy the work of another, with whom one steadfastly disagrees.”

I don’t know how to express the certain fundamental sense of depression I feel when I think of human beings,” said Butalia. “I think there is something flawed in us. I think we are determined to press the self-destruct button and it doesn’t matter how much time goes by, we repeat things antiquated thousand of years ago. We have learned nothing.”

Butalia left the audience with his overall goal when making the documentary and encouraged them to take their own coping mechanisms into consideration.

“In Textures of Loss, I tried to look at the different ways in which people have dealt with loss and what it has done for them,” said Butalia. “I tried to see if it was possible to grieve alone and understand this particular loss itself.”

This lecture is hosted in honor of Dr. Emanuel Levine, a former history professor who passed away in 1980. It is also sponsored by the history and political science departments and supported by the Provost’s Student Centered Initiative.

Applying new core to current students

By Thomas Regan

UT of curiosity, I looked at how my courses would match up with the proposed core to help determine how I would fare under the new system. In theory, I would be fine.

Since I am a journalism major and all I do is write, write some more and write again, I would easily satisfy the writing-intensive element of the proposal. As for the oral requirement, I have taken both speech communication and advanced speech communication in my major, so I would satisfy that as well. The computer-assisted reporting class, a journalism course involving writing based on the interpretation of data, would conceivably check off the quantitative reasoning aspect.

I have already completed about half of my advertising minor, and thus I have taken the series of related courses required to satisfy the vertical dimension of the proposal. However, I would need to take one course that is focused on the global perspective, and as a result, I would likely lose one of my free electives.

Yet, after sitting down with a friendly advisor, I was able to examine several senior students’ programs and found a number of less fortunate individuals. Now, I would like to prefix this by saying that Liberal Arts Associate Dean Jonathan Millen did express the idea that the proposed core would require a change in courses.

Nevertheless, one of those students, who majors in psychology, would be five classes short of completing the proposed core without a significant change in the focus of the courses within her major. Her department would need to offer two “writing intensive” classes within her major, an oral communication course and one concentrated in the global perspective. In addition, the student would be unable to satisfy the vertical dimension aspect because she does not have a minor or series of non-major related courses.

Another student with a major in history and two minors would satisfy his vertical dimension requirement, and presumably, a history major would sail through the global perspective part of the proposed core. However, unless his history courses were made writings, oral communication or quantitative intensive, he would miss out on those requirements and end up four classes short.

Finally, we looked at a student majoring in film, TV and radio with a minor. He studied abroad, which should grant him global perspective, though the plan does not say so. The minor would get him out of the vertical dimension and his major course would satisfy the oral communication requirement and one of the writing intensive requirements.

Note there is merit to the proposed core, the school would have to offer different courses or change existing courses so students like the aforementioned can satisfy those requirements. And in an ideal world, these courses would be designed first and then the core would change.
A new app will be introduced that notifies students via text message when their laundry is done.

By Therese Evans

Director exposes urban issues in Hol-Lee-wood

A

YOUNG drug dealer, trapped in a dead-end life in an inner-city housing project, makes an unlikely hero for a major film.

But that’s one of the things that makes Spike Lee’s Clockers so unusual, according to Michael Gillespie, an associate professor at the City College of New York, who spoke during the Film and Media Studies symposium on Feb. 26. Clockers transforms the story into a tale about coming of age and figuring out which path in life to take.

“There are so many things about Spike Lee that remind me why I care about cinema, and why I care for it in the terms of art,” said Gillespie, the author of the book Film Blackness: American Cinema and the Idea of Black Film. “There needs to be a bigger emphasis on black filmmakers and inspire Hollywood to start making a promise land: films that deal with different issues.”

He added that Lee can take stories and make people see basic truths of life.

“The value of Spike Lee lies, in my opinion, in that he is the last great American auteur.”

Rider’s annual film symposium was held on Feb. 26 and 27 and focused on Lee, his work and other African-American-directed films, and featured student panels, film screenings and screenwriting and film competitions.

Gillespie spoke as part of a panel that also included Paula J. Massood, a professor of film at CUNY Brooklyn College, and Ashley Clark, a journalist and film programmer.

“The most fascinating thing about Lee is that he moves across genres, said Massood. “As someone who loves film and watches a lot of film, I see that consciousness in his work.”

She then went on to talk about other Lee films including Do the Right Thing and Jungle Fever, which she wrote about in her book Black City Cinema: African-American Experience in Film and Making a Promise Land: Harlem in Twentieth Century Photography and Film.

“Lee went on to inspire a whole host of other young filmmakers and inspire Hollywood to start making films that dealt with different issues,” said Massood. “He made his own version of these films of young men living in city spaces and coming of age. On the one hand, his films deal with violence in the city, and on the other, he is concerned with representations of violence.”

Clark spoke about the movie Bamboozled, a controversial story about blackface in America that produced many mixed reactions.

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By James Shepard

A

s the lights rose on a crowded Landmark Theater in Philadelphia on Feb. 25, Dr. Oscar Holmes IV, a Rutgers University management professor, thanked Rider’s Dr. Sheena Howard for creating *Remixing Colorblind*.

“Race is a really, really delicate topic to talk about,” Holmes said. “And it’s a very complicated topic to talk about and to do it within 30 minutes. At such a high level, it’s unbelievable.”

To applause, Howard took her place beside Holmes, ushering in a 20-minute Q&A session that followed the first public screening of her first documentary.

“Just let it be known that this documentary was completely edited by me and my girlfriend,” Howard said to more applause. “We literally taught ourselves Final Cut Pro X over the last six months.”

The film discusses important topics of race and the perceptions of diversity within university settings. Interviewees are from Drexel, Howard Lehigh and Rider universities, as well as West Philadelphia Catholic High School. They expressed hopes, disappointments and anxieties. One of their more important questions focused on ways to increase the diversity of college professors.

Howard expressed satisfaction with the diversity of the faculty in her own department, the Department of Communication and Journalism, which includes two African-Americans as well as two Asians, but noted that few other Rider departments have any African-American professors.

“There are so many solutions to the problem,” she said. “I think it’s important for us to release some of our notions about who’s allowed to be a professor and who’s qualified, even when we get to the interview process.

“I’m actually tired of talking about race. I want to see an institutional change at my university. Every university has diversity in their mission statement. But it’s just a thing to say. It’s not in practice.”

Rider students interviewed in the film include Gabrielle Magwood, Joshua Bonaparte, Chelsea Jenkins, Malissa Hanson, Shariq Marshall, Steven Stain and Diamond Carr. Howard also interviewed Matt Metzger, the assistant director of admissions at Rider.

She was assisted in the production by a number of Rider alumni, students and staff: Andrew Corkery, ’14, lead camera and cinematography, with additional camera work done by senior digital media majors Stefan Huneke, Carlos DeCal and Rider’s video technologies coordinator, Scott Albeum.

The audience included a busload of 42 Rider students and staff, including the dean of the School of Education, Dr. Sharon Sherman.

Sherman had encouraged her students to attend.

“Our students will teach children and adolescents of diverse backgrounds, and this will be an important experience for them,” she said.

During the Q&A, the matter of introducing African-American history classes into schooling came up. The fact is, a questioner said, most if not all K-12 schools primarily teach European history.

Howard replied, “One of the things I try to bring out in the documentary is the need for a class in the core curriculum that actually teaches us something substantial about race. In order to get beyond something, you have to first understand it.”

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Abyssinian were on a “different level” from any other us all in a way that supersedes any conflicting ideolo-

gave the group a real chance to shine. “The music made the audience mem-

The riders hit hard and fast, with people running and dancing around the stage. “I think this is when things get interesting in the country,” said Canelos. “This is when we really feel the passion and lust she feels for Fredrik. Because of her actions of sitting on her legs while taking a nap or taking action on his desires, he wakes up_yielding_to sleep. This received quite a laugh from the audience, especially since Henrik is the one in the other room waiting quietly during this whole scene.”

The production’s scene changes went flawlessly and the stage was set in light while the others remained in the dark. The production’s scene changes went flawlessly and the stage was set in light while the others remained in the dark. The production’s scene changes went flawlessly and the stage was set in light while the others remained in the dark. The production’s scene changes went flawlessly and the stage was set in light while the others remained in the dark. The production’s scene changes went flawlessly and the stage was set in light while the others remained in the dark. The production’s scene changes went flawlessly and the stage was set in light while the others remained in the dark. The production’s scene changes went flawlessly and the stage was set in light while the others remained in the dark. The production’s scene changes went flawlessly and the stage was set in light while the others remained in the dark. 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FACE OFF: POLITICAL CORRECTNESS

Think, then speak

A FRESHMAN once told me that Rider should teach classes on how to be politically correct. How were students supposed to know what they could and could not say? According to them, it was so unfair to minorities or groups commonly discriminated against to expect people to understand why they were so offended. And, by the way, people get offended way too often.

As a woman of color, I can’t say I immediately saw the point here. To bring it down to the simplest level, being politically correct means avoiding expression that could exclude, marginalize or insult anyone disadvantaged or discriminated against. So, let me get this straight then. We need to have classes on how not to make people feel bad!

Political correctness has this negative reputation of restricting people’s speech and allowing people to be more easily offended. And maybe, to some extent, this is true. But that oversimplifies the real issue here. We often forget that our words carry weight and sometimes words can be taught them to watch what they say or that some statements can be viewed as racist, sexist, classist, etc.

I agree with my freshman friend. That’s not anyone’s fault. There’s no screening process that stops prejudiced friends or racist uncles from slipping into our lives.

However, we’re all adults now. Our upbringings aren’t excuses for letting words fly. Our backstories are not chains we wear on our ankles. Open your eyes and look around campus. There are so many people, all of colors and sizes and mindsets. Being politically correct is not about coddling these people who are different from you. It’s about seeing them as equals, not the subjects of jokes or snide comments.

But of course, we can’t be expected to be perfect all the time. So you make a joke with your friends about brown people flying planes or worshipping elephant gods, and for some reason, they laugh. But you make that joke with me, a woman of Indian descent, and I don’t.

Before complaining that I’m too sensitive, take a second and evaluate those powerful words of yours. There are stereotypical insinuations hanging off each of your words, and no one wants to be stereotyped. What you said was offensive. Don’t blame me, or anyone else who are hurt by what you say. Blame your words. I don’t under...

FACE OFF: POLITICAL CORRECTNESS

Don’t muzzle us

ALY’S Dining Hall excels at storing diverse, colorful, strange and every so often, slightly racist jargon. In those moments when I hear someone share a politically incorrect statement, I cringe and usually fall into my anger and disgust with that distasteful comment. Nowadays, being politically correct is vital for anyone to hold and remain in a position of power, but should it be?

Now, I’d rather not take the time to jut my lips forward in a perpetual frown, throw on my blonde wig, toss my hands up and the air and say, “The biggest problem with this country is being politically correct,” as Donald Trump would say. However, if you look past the wild ideas and often horrifyingly rude remarks that leave that man’s mouth, does he have a point?

Constantly forcing people to be politically correct and persecuting those who are not can have its negative effects on our society. How are we supposed to consider ourselves a free nation when we condemn a person for an idea we feel is expressed in a politically incorrect manner? At what point is being politically correct going to hurt our country’s ability to express ideas freely? I’m not encouraging people to speak negatively or publicly toss around racial slurs, but when is an invasion of privacy like that of former-Clippers owner Donald Sterling — racist pig or not — going too far? A private conversation between Sterling and his girlfriend about his racial beliefs was recorded by the woman and displayed for his public specification.

America cannot be considered a free country when a man or woman is unable to freely express ideas in his or her own home, let alone allow those thoughts to enter the marketplace of ideas.

Ironically, the equally offensive terms “racist,” “sexist,” “bigot,” etc. are tossed around so liberally without fully understanding the meaning of each term and the damage that labeling someone as such can cause. For example, if someone were to say “all Hispanics mow lawns,” is that true? — not in the least. Now, is the person a “racist”? Being that the term is defined as “a person who believes that a particular race is superior to another,” I’d bet that the person doesn’t mean to say that their race is superior to the Hispanic race.

That is a mild example, but at what point does a person simply suppress the ideas or opinions on topics relating to ethical issues just to be politically correct? Forcing political correctness on citizens and politicians could become...

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Racism in Hollywood: Not just about the Oscars

DAMNING images matter. Over the weekend, the Film and Media Studies program hosted a symposium of students discussing Spike Lee and how his role was not only to introduce one of his most controversial movies Bombshell, but to analyze it for the audience as well. I watched the movie four times, constantly saturated and uncomfortable after each scene because of Lee’s use of satire to exaggerate (and mock) real American issues such as cultural appropriation, influence of black culture, economic inequality, the danger of stereotypes and twelve years of being white people in blackface. Black people in blackface. Black people in blackface taping on a studio-wide watermelon plantation. Truth disheartening scenes that wouldn’t escape my mind for at least a week.

But there is one moment in the film that stood out to me. The film’s final character, Pierre Delacroix, who in the beginning of the movie wanted to break a system that encouraged typecasting minority groups, is at an awards ceremony receiving recognition for his work—a miniseries. In his acceptance speeches, he excitedly jumps up and pumps his fist, breaks into tap dance like the “coons” on his show and even quotes himself, justifying this action by saying “If I did that, I would be assured of work forever...Delacroix, the grateful Negro.”

This might say Lee making his character act in such a way is promoting an idea that is too far-fetched.

I don’t think so.

This was a great example of racial performance that is necessary for African-American actors and actresses to remain successful in Hollywood even at the expense of their own racial identity. Bombshell calls out racism and holds Hollywood responsible.

This past Sunday, comedian Chris Rock did the same as he hosted the 88th Academy Awards.

Rock faced the issue of racism in Hollywood head- on, immediately revealing his doubts on hosting after a few black actors called for a boycott of this year’s ceremony because of the lack of diversity among the nominees for the second year in the row.

From jokingly using the Civil Rights movement into perspective and declaring that Hollywood is “security racist” because of its blunt exclusiveness, Rock’s monologue was a successful balancing act that probably made him appear to be on all sides of the argument.

But he got the message across: “What I’m trying to say is, you know, it’s not about boycotting anything. It’s just, we want opportunity. We want black actors to get the same opportunities as white actors.”

That’s when I finally got it.

The issue with Hollywood isn’t the handing out of the golden statuettes. The minorities have to do a way over even considered in the nomination process. In its 88-year history, only 14 men and women of color have received Oscars for Best Actor, Actress, Supporting Actor or Supporting Actress, Fourteen. Worse, these actors were nominated because of their portrayal of black stereotypes: a crooked cop, a maid, a brutal and corrupt dictator, abusive mothers, entertainers and of course, the rapper.

That’s the problem. It seems that Hollywood recognizes people of color only when we’re put in these dehumanizing and lurid roles that only showcase a certain part of our history; a cack-paw dancing on a watermelon plantation.

Images that we’re trying to break away from. The Oscars are supposed to recognize excellence and talent in American film industry. Yet black, Asian, Latino and other actors of color continue to be shut out. That’s not an accident.

Last year, the Writers Guild of America released a report showing that minorities make up a mere 13.7 percent of TV staff writer positions. In other words, 86 percent of the creative teams that write the scripts and form the characters that are supposed to represent you in your favorite shows and movies are white.

So we don’t need a rule forcing members of the Academy to vote with race as a factor. We need more hired minority screenwriters, directors and heads of casting and talent — more people of color at the decision-making table and more suitable roles for minorities.

If you were there at the Spike Lee symposium, hopefully you will agree that Lee succeeded in presenting this message as well.

—Clare Dalzon
Senior journalism major

Genetically modified veggies come under attack

Before you stuff yourself with dinner at Daly’s Dining Hall or Cranberry’s tonight, have you ever thought of what might be in the food? There’s a possibility that your food might have been made with genetically modified organisms (GMOs). GMOs are living organisms whose genetic material has been artificially manipulated in a laboratory through genetic engineering. The Non-GMO Project defines this relatively new science as the unlimited combinations of plants, animals, bacterial and viral genes that do not occur in nature or through traditional crossbreeding methods. GMOs are present in a wide variety of foods that we consume daily, such as veggies, fruits and grains.

GMOs have been linked to many different health problems across America. Recently, a new study linked GMOs to gluten disorders that affect 18 million Americans. The number of gluten allergies has increased over the past decade, parallel to the amount of GMOs consumed. The Genetic Literacy Project also states that gluten is typically modified toカー
tor rat tumors. This issue is just a small fraction of the problems that have been studied and research performed. The issue of genetically modified foods is still undergirding much research, but keep a look out for updates and new issues related to the matter.

We all like to watch TV. But how about instead of watching the same old shows, try some new movies like The Human Experiment, The Future of Food on Food Inc. These movies are educational and eye-opening to issues involving GMOS and chemically modified foods. By attending our next Green Film GMO 096 on March 8 and 9 at 7 p.m. in Sweeney auditorium, you will learn all about what it really is in the food we eat and how it is affecting us.

There are easy ways to avoid GMOs, such as buying locally, consuming organic foods or growing veggies yourself. By buying locally, you have a better chance of avoiding GMOs because many local small farms don’t mass produce these foods.

In Daly’s, most of the salad bar is grown locally in the Lawrenceville area. Even some of the side dishes are grown locally, too. Look for signs that say “locally grown” and you’ll know you’re making the right choice. By buying organic products, you avoid not only GMOs but also harmful hormones, antibiotics, pesticides and insecticides which have been linked to many health problems as well.

Growing your own garden is a great way to keep track of what touches the food you’re feeding your students, faculty and staff. It’s more than welcome to take. Bring healthy, GMO-free and organic food with you to campus to help finish the year on a healthy note.

—Ambria Dell’Oro and Rachel Nangle
Senior journalism major

Speak without offense

Don’t suppress our voices

The weekly editorial expresses the majority opinion of The Rider News. This week’s editorial was written by the Opinion Editor, Samantha Swed.

so ominous that those individuals choose to avoid speaking on race issues altogether. And if that were to happen, how can society advance?

America was not built on the belief that everyone must suppress his or her ideas for the sake of offending him or her neighbor.

The concept of the First Amendment is that U.S. citizens have the freedom to speak freely.

THOMAS REGAN, JUNIOR JOURNALISM MAJOR

The concept of the First Amendment is that U.S. citizens have the freedom to speak freely.”

The fact of the matter is political correctness only suppresses certain ideologies and allows for the once-suppressed philosophies to capitalize on that suppression.

The weekly editorial expresses the minority opinion of The Rider News. This week’s editorial was written by the Executive Editor, Thomas Regan.

CONT’D FROM P. 8

CONT’D FROM P. 8

stand why it’s a huge debate over whether we should be allowed to say offensive things. Sure, you may have a First Amendment right to say what you want. But… why are there free speech rights? To protect free expression, of course. It’s an issue of legality, it’s an issue of morality.

If you say something that offends someone, don’t say it again. Ask why that person was hurt. Actually listen to what they have to say. Then, say you’re sorry and take it as a lesson for the future. You have a right to your words, but that doesn’t mean you shouldn’t exercise caution with them.

Many prejudices, intentional or not, are born through ignorance. As I said, that was a cute excuse when we were young, but we’ve all grown up now. So the take a class on political correctness, but take classes that expand your horizons. Consider Philosophy or Psychology of the Sexes. If you can, take a class in sociology or on race in society. If you don’t have that many spare credits, take a trip to the library and read a book. Stay informed on issues of race, gender and sexual orientation as they appear in the news. It’s not Rider’s job to teach you about what you should say — take that responsibility for yourself.

Your mind and your words are the most powerful weapons you have as a college student, so don’t pull the trigger without using them both.

The concept of the First Amendment is that U.S. citizens have the freedom to speak freely.”

The weekly editorial expresses the majority opinion of The Rider News. This week’s editorial was written by the Opinion Editor, Samantha Swed.

March 2, 2016 The Rider News

GREEN CORNER

Bamboozled

Bamboozled

Inc.

Food

Bamboozled

Genetically modified veggies come under attack

—Andrea Dell’Oro and Rachel Nangle
Lawrenceville Eco Reps

Speak without offense

Don’t suppress our voices

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Heading into MAACs, Broncs ‘don’t quit’

By Brandon Scalea

The men’s basketball team clinched the eighth seed of the MAAC Tournament in Albany after splitting its final two regular season games.

On Feb. 26, the in-state rivalry continued between Rider and Monmouth when the Broncs took their annual trip to West Long Branch. In another nationally televised game, a sold-out crowd at the Multipurpose Activity Center saw Monmouth (25-6, 17-3 MAAC) secure the MAAC regular-season crown in a dominant performance, defeating Rider 76-56.

The Hawks’ junior guard Justin Robinson, one of the front-runners for MAAC Player of the Year, and freshman guard Micah Seaborn left Rider (12-19, 8-12 MAAC) baffled for the second time this season. The duo was also key in the Hawks’ come-from-behind victory at Alumni Gym on Feb. 12, when they used a 17-2 run in the last three minutes to win by one.

In this game, however, a Monmouth comeback wasn’t necessary.

The Broncs came out of the gate shooting just 2 for 16 from the field, as the Hawks opened a 9-0 lead they would never relinquish. Although Monmouth led by as much as 18 in the first half, Rider would not go away. Monmouth led by as much as 18 in the first half, but the Jaspers (12-17, 9-11 MAAC) are still considered by many to be one of the elite teams in the conference — back-to-back MAAC titles will do that.

Head Coach Kevin Baggett feels as though this win will give the team confidence moving forward into the post-season.

“It feels good to get this and it feels as though this win will give the team confidence moving forward into the post-season,” he said. “We haven’t been playing well the last couple of games and we talked about it.”

In the victory, it was the same story as usual for the Broncs as Thomas led the way in the paint. He was a perfect 7 for 7 from the field and grabbed five rebounds.

Baggett commented on the importance of his big man’s play.

“He does a great job of finding his teammates and getting the ball out to the perimeter,” he said. “Those guys were trying to double-team Kahlil so I just wanted him to have those options.”

Junior guard Jimmy Taylor also had a big night, but in a different way.

“Through the second half of that game and hit the first seven three-point shots it took. Apparently, Monmouth never recovered,” Thomas said. “Those guys were trying to double-team Kahlil so I just wanted him to have those options.”

Junior guard Jimmy Taylor also had a big night, but in a different way.

Despite the outcome of the game, Baggett was happy with what he saw.

“This time, the Hawks opened the half on another 9-0 run and the Broncs never recovered. The deficit would be as high as 23 as the Broncs struggled to get into a rhythm offensively.”

Though he only hit one field goal in the month, Rider played a complete 40-minute basketball game and managed to keep it together even as the Jaspers chipped away at the lead.

“We’ve been here before. There was no way these guys were going to let this one slip away,” Baggett said. “Everyone was able to keep their composure.”

It was the third time in the last four tries that the Broncs were able to defeat the reigning MAAC Champions.

On Feb. 29, Thomas and graduate guard Teddy Okereafor were both named third team All-MAAC for their success this year.

Rider will open the conference tournament on March 4 in a first-round matchup with ninth-seeded Quinnipiac, a team it split the regular season with. If they advance, the Broncs would then meet top-seeded Monmouth one more time in the quarterfinal round on March 5.

Okereafor feels as though the team’s resiliency could come into play in Albany.

“We don’t quit and we’re not that kind of team,” he said. “As long as there is a game, we’re going to play it the way it’s meant to be played.”
Men finish third at ECAC, divers to NCAAs

By Carlos Toro

FRESH off of winning its fifth straight conference championship, the men’s swimming and diving team continued its success with a third-place finish at the ECAC Championship.

The Broncos finished with 420 points, behind Army’s 470 and Navy’s 688 points, in the three-day competition that went from Feb. 26-28 at Navy.

Junior Matthew-Matthew Martir admitted that the time between the MAAC Championship and the ECAC Championship was short for swimmers to have to prepare, but said that the team “couldn’t be more proud of how it performed.”

“The preparation going into this meet was tough on us mentally and physically,” Martir said. “MAACs were two weeks before ECACs, meaning within two weeks we had to re-taper, maintain our mentality, and make sure we were taking care of and preparing our bodies for another four grueling days.”

Martir won the gold medal in the 100 meter fly with a time of 48.34 seconds. Despite the win, Martir missed qualifying for the NCAA Zone “B” Championships at the ECAC on Feb. 28.

Martir said the medal was one of the best accomplishments of his swimming career.

“Winning gold in the 100 butterfly at ECACs meant a lot to me,” Martir said. “I was competing with some of the best in the country . It is always our goal to give our best and be the best,” Martir said. “Going into this meet we knew we were about to compete with some of the best teams like Army and Navy and prove to everyone that we are one of the best teams in the country.”

“Every time we step out on the deck it is always our goal to give our best and to be the best,” Martir said. “Going into this meet we knew we were about to compete with some of the best teams like Army and Navy and prove to everyone that we are one of the best teams there, something we take a huge amount of pride into.”

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

Rider takes season finale

By Shanna O’Mara

The women’s basketball team, led by junior guard Robin Perkins, defeated Manhattan 56-49 on Feb. 28 to conclude the regular season.

Perkins recorded 22 points throughout the game, sinking four-three-pointers. She recently earned Second Team All-MAAC for the season by averaging 15.1 ppg, good enough for third-best in the conference.

The Jaspers (14-15, 11-9 MAAC) led by four points at the end of the first period, but the Broncos had a 10-7 burst which put them ahead 22-18 at the half.

Rider led 31-20 with 6:31 left in the period. Over the next five minutes, the Jaspers went on a 5-7 run to cut the lead to three.

Throughout the game, the Jaspers were led by junior guard Crystal Ross, who had 14 points and 13 rebounds, and senior forward Amani Tatum, who recorded 11 points.

Leading 43-39 with 5:03 left in the game, Perkins scored nine straight points to take the lead, 52-39. With less than 40 seconds left, Rider went 4 for 4 from the free throw line, defeating Manhattan.

“Robin Perkins had some great offensive plays that helped us in offense, and we had big stops in defense,” Pellet said.

Sophomore guard Kamila Hoskova had seven points and four rebounds. Heading into the MAAC Championships, this win ignited the team after a tough loss to Monmouth on Feb. 25.

Rider led 16-7 with help from Perkins and freshman guard Lexi Pusset, but the Hawks (12-16, 10-9 MAAC) scored 25 of the next 31 points to quickly take a lead.

“We started the game really well with great defensive stops, but the second quarter is what cost us,” Pellet said.

“We turned the ball over, and they were successful in their transition game. We fought to come back in the second half, but we came back short.”

Monmouth went 7-for-14, despite Hoskova recording an impressive 14 points.

The 10th-seeded Broncos will play seventh-seeded Siena in the first round of the MAAC Tournament on March 3 at the Times Union Center.
1. Men's Basketball: 1,175-1,015 (.555 win percentage)

The men's basketball team started in 1908, when the Broncos were still the Roughriders. The team was under the tutelage of Hall of Fame basketball coach Clair Bee for the first three seasons, while the team had a combined record of 52-7. Take that, Golden State!

The men's basketball program is also second in school history in all-time wins with 1,175 heading into the 2015-2016 season. The program also has more than a dozen Rider Hall of Famers, with former Bronc and current NBA player Jason Thompson — who is the Sacramento Kings' all-time leader in games played — joining its ranks later in the summer.

On Feb. 29, Thompson signed a deal with the Toronto Raptors after spending the first half of the season with the defending champion Warriors.

The team has a 165-129 record from 2006-2015. This year's team almost made history when it nearly defeated then-No. 3 Maryland on March 2, 2016, but has since then struggled.

2. Field Hockey: 369-287-23 (.560 win percentage)

The sport debuted at Rider in 1979 with Fran Menard leading the group to a 4-4-2 record, helping the program to nine conference championships and seeing no losing season, culminating with that championship season.

For the longest span of years in field hockey, the program was playing in the NEC. During that time, from 1998 to 2012, the program received many accolades and awards, including four Coach of the Year awards, five Player of the Year awards, seven Rookie of the Year awards and 33 NEC First Team mentions.

The team maintained its winning ways in the following years in the NEC, winning seven regular-season championships and seeing no losing seasons after her first year as coach.

While the team left the NEC in 2013 to join the MAAC, it did not slow down. In the three years the Rider field hockey has played in the MAAC, it has made it there.

3. Swimming and Diving: 450-360-1 (.555 winning percentage)

While many people do not look at swimming and diving as a sport with regular-season records, Rider has a lot of success since the program was founded in 1969-1965 for the women.

Despite starting out with a combined 18-0 record in the first four years, the program has earned a reputation as one of the best programs in the region since starting under Head Coach Richard Coppola. The program has a combined 450 wins heading into this season and has become the standard for swimming and diving success in the MAAC under the leadership of head coach Stephen Fletcher.

Since 2002, the program has won a total of eight MAAC Championships (six for the men and two for the women) and an ECAC Championship.

Swimming and diving is enjoying arguably its most successful run, with the men winning five straight MAAC titles and the women finishing in the top 3 in recent years. This season, Fletcher doesn’t expect his program to slow down anytime soon.

4. Baseball: 1,379-1,107-14 (.555 win percentage)

The 2015 MAAC regular-season champions won 28 games last season, bringing their all-time win total to 1,379. Most of the program’s success can be attributed to former head coach Sonny Pittaro, who coached the team from 1971-2004 and is Rider’s winningest head coach with 766 wins.

Pittaro led the program to nine conference championships and eight NCAA Regional appearances and sent 41 players to a career in professional baseball. Rider’s baseball field is named in his honor.

Current head coach Barry Davis has led the Broncos to similar levels of success. In 2010, the team won a program-best 36 games while clinching a MAAC Championship and a trip to the NCAA Regionals.

When Bee formed the baseball program in 1929, the team only played five games that year. The program went defunct for more than a half century, with just 10 losing seasons from 1947-2004, when Pittaro retired.

Arguably the best season in program history came in 1967, when the team won 31 games and played in the College World Series, the only time the team made it there.

5. Wrestling: 311-276-2 (.549 win percentage)

While many sports compete more times per season than wrestling, Rider’s program exemplifies the school’s athletic success.

With more than 14 Rider Hall of Famers coming from wrestling, it also has enjoyed a level of organizational stability that few schools can attain. In almost 50 years of existence, the wrestling program only had two coaches — program founder and National Wrestling Hall of Famer Barry Burnett and current head coach Gary Taylor.

Both men turned the wrestling program into a nationally recognized program, having been ranked as high 10th in the nation last season.

The team earned its recognition as one of Rider’s strongest programs and as the sport with the highest winning percentage in Rider history.

Honorable Mention: Women’s Soccer: 144-104-36 (.555 win percentage)

Leading up to its historic 2014 season, when it won the MAAC Championship for the first time and went to the NCAA Tournament, women’s soccer had been rising in the previous few seasons. After winning just nine games in 2008 and 2009, the first two years under current head coach Dragyn Hussong, the team enjoyed six straight winning seasons, culminating with that championship season.

While Rider’s youngest varsity program, having only started in 1997, women’s soccer has already accumulated many successes. The program has six players in its history who have scored at least 20 goals, the most recent being former midfielder Tara Ballay, who just finished her senior season.

Arguably the best season in program history came in 1967, when the team won 31 games and played in the College World Series, the only time the team made it there.

By Carlos Toro