Family “torn apart” in last-minute Omega closure

By Hailey Hensley

JUST four days before Thanksgiving break, students who reside in Omega House, part of the Fine and Performing Arts (FPA) living learning community received startling and unexpected news: they were to be moved out of their rooms in Omega House by Dec. 17, according to an email from Vice President for Student Affairs Leanna Fenneberg.

The students in the building, who are mostly freshmen, said they still have not been told where they will live next semester.

Freshman acting and dance major Gabriela Alter said, “I was really hoping it wouldn’t happen... I’m from California, so I moved all the way across the country and I’ve tried my best to make a community here, so it’s been really stressful. It’s also my first semester, freshman year. Now I’m going to have to move somewhere else, by myself, in the middle of finals week.”

The decision was made in the wake of Rider’s consolidation plan to accommodate incoming Westminster Choir College (WCC) students and faculty on the Lawrenceville campus.

An email sent to faculty on Oct. 3 detailed a plan to turn Omega House into offices for WCC faculty. The university had stated publicly that the renovations were slated for the summer.

The email, sent by DonnaJean Fredeen, provost and vice president for academic affairs, states “the renovations to this building [Omega House] will provide office spaces that allow our faculty to continue to provide the quality of instruction that currently exists on the Princeton campus.”

On Oct. 7, a meeting was held with FPA students in which the upcoming campus transition was discussed and the floor was opened to students to ask questions regarding the changes to the Lawrenceville campus.

Freshman acting major and current Omega resident Josiah Jacoby said that they mentioned how they were going to turn Omega into an office space for WCC faculty.

“As soon as they said that, everyone who lived in Omega kind of just looked at each other like ‘what does that mean,’” he said. “If they were starting construction in the spring for all these other things, why wouldn’t Omega be one of

Heartfelt harmonies with Rider’s “Hair”

The cast of “Hair,” also known as “Tribe X,” opened the show with “Aquarius,” a song promoting “harmony and understanding, sympathy and trust.”

Stella Johnson’s 41 point game is now the women’s basketball single-game scoring record.

Acknowledging the strengths and weaknesses of the 2010s into the roaring 2020s.

“Hair” promotes love, liberation and life.
Head-al to the Metal
Wendy’s woes. On Nov. 26 at 3:57 p.m., Public Safety responded to an issue at Cranberry’s Cafe. Public Safety located a male student who said a metal pole near the construction at Wendy’s fell and hit him in the head. He refused treatment and did not want to go to the hospital.

Jolt
Watch your hands. On Dec. 1 at 6:05 p.m., a Moore Library staff member reported that when she was resetting a breaker, she received a shock on her right hand. She declined to go to the hospital and Public Safety contacted Facilities Management to check out the circuit breaker.

Glass Bash
Cracked. On Dec. 1 at 6:50 p.m., a Public Safety officer was doing a routine patrol of Hallson and realized that the lower half window of the handicap entrance was cracked. Facilities Management was contacted to fix the issue and there is no lead on how the window was broken.

Freshmen students displaced with “generous” offer

CONT’D FROM PAGE 1

them.”

According to Jacoby, his roommate then raised his hand and asked that exact question.

“So my roommate basically said, ‘If you’re starting construction on these things, where are the people who live in Omega going to go?’ and she [Fenneberg] kind of turned that into a joke. She was sort of laughing and said something like ‘we’re going to put hard-hats on all of you guys and you’re just going to get to work,’” she said.

“Then they moved on after that without actually answering the question. I think that was said about Omega at the time. So we still had no idea.”

In a statement to The Rider News, Fenneberg did not deny making the joke.

Following the Oct. 7 meeting, Omega residents felt confused about where they stood for residency in the spring semester.

“We all thought there was no way they would actually close it and we still hadn’t received any confirmation on anything. We asked Tessa [Douglas, the Omega community assistant], she said she didn’t know anything. Then we asked Tim [Altera, the Lake - Omega community director] and he said something like ‘at the moment, Omega will not start renovations next semester,’” said Jacoby.

The Rider News reached out to Alices and Douglas for comment on the situation and both declined to do so and deferred to Associate Dean of Residence Life Roberta Butler, who also declined to comment.

Freshman arts and entertainment industries

“Mostly, we’re all stressed out,” freshman arts and entertainment industries major Gabrielle Green said. “It’s a bit daunting. It’s an inconvenient time, that’s my biggest issue. It feels incredibly inconvenient in the context of the academic year.”

Jacoby emphasized how close she feels to her fellow residents.

“We’re [Omega residents] just sad, we’ve built a family in Omega and now it’s being torn apart. It’s not a big dorm. We all know each other, we all see each other and now we won’t,” said Jacoby.

Fenneberg stated that, “The decision was made by the Campus Transition team, a group comprised of all of the Chairs of the campus transition working groups. The team carefully considered the construction needs and timeline to accommodate the campus transition as well as the impact on students who live in the building.”

Fenneberg also made it clear that the students were being compensated with a “one-time credit equating to half the cost of room expenses” for the spring semester.

“Omega House is part of the FPA living learning community, which are ‘the creative hubs for freshmen engaged in the field of Fine and Performing Arts,” according to Rider’s website.

“I think that because this is such a diverse performing arts community you really get the opportunity to get to know people that are still interested in art and have that camaraderie with you, but experience art in a different way,” Alter said.

The Rider News reached out to the Associate Dean of Fine and Performing Arts David Sullivan, for a statement regarding these students being forcibly removed from their living learning community. Sullivan declined to comment.

“I have no idea where I’m going at the moment, no emails about where I’m moving. All I know is that I have to start moving on Friday and I have to be out before winter break, and finals week is coming up,” Jacoby said. “I’m absolutely terrified by the thought of moving during finals. I’m a freshman, this is my first finals week.”

Fenneberg said students were made aware of the situation as soon as possible.

“As needs were refined, it became clear that the scope of renovation would extend beyond the summer timeline to assure completion by the start of the 2020 academic year which precipitated the need to begin construction earlier than we had considered. This possibility carefully for a period because we didn’t want to inconvenience students unless it was absolutely necessary. We communicated with students as forthcoming as we could when we were certain of this need.”

Fenneberg said that the majority of students of a one-time $2,050 credit for “inconvenience” was “generous.”

“It is uncommon for Universities (or even Campus’ facilities) to face circumstances which require students to relocate mid-year due to facilities demands,” Fenneberg said.

Despite the offer of financial compensation, some students are still not confident that their needs are being listened to.

“This is the complete opposite of what I expect from Rider. I don’t think that the students should feel like they expect the administration to have their best interests at heart. I don’t feel like they care about us. It’s very rude. It’s very tense in the house now. This has ruined the community compared to what it used to be” Jacoby said. “People are nervous, people are anxious, there are people with new roommate drama. It’s overwhelming.”

Student Government Association President Paige Essing said that she was “very moved” by the situation after The Rider News reached out to her for comment.

“It is unfortunate that the students have to be moved because of renovations. If this was something that the renovations team saw could have been a possibility, I wish the administration would have warned those students. Essing said. “While it is the University’s right to move students, it is still disruptive, even with the financial compensation and aid from the facilities team to help move the students.”

After ended her interview with The Rider News by expressing her discontent with how the moving situation has handled.

“I think that the move is very sudden and we are not given a lot of opportunities to get our ducks in a row,” Alter said. “We discovered right before we left for a very big break that during the very short time we’re back in school, we’re going to have to move during our first finals week.”

As of 10 p.m. on Dec. 3, Omega residents have yet to be informed of where they are moving.

Attorney General report weighs future of WCC and Princeton land

In the 1991 merger agreement, said Acran. “The Attorney General says, ‘we are not taking a position on this.’ Which means the main issue in this case is unaffected by that letter. In fact, the Attorney General is endorsing, in effect, that the 1991 contract governs the question of whether the choir college can be moved.”

The report sets up a challenge to Rider’s plan to sell the Princeton campus. Dell’Omo has said he hopes that the proceeds from such a transaction would help fund the school’s $16 million to $20 million consolidation plan, he revealed in an interview with The Rider News on Oct. 28.

In addition, the Attorney General’s report was that some endowed gifts may be subject to a further legal dispute, because they may be “inconsistent” with the proposed move to Lawrenceville. These gifts could include ones linked to specific buildings on the Princeton campus, support of events traditionally held on that campus, and “funds to specific programs (such as organ programs or sacred music programs) that may or may not survive the move to Lawrenceville,” according to the report.

The Attorney General’s report added that the office “cannot clearly discern whether a legal proceeding is needed with regard to these gifts until Rider’s post-move plans for the Princeton campus become clearer,” but that the office planned to continue to monitor the impact of the proposed move.
Join the Gingerbread House Decorating Competition!

Pick up a Gingerbread house starter kit at the College of Continuing Studies Office, Suite 31 in the BLC or Daly Dining Hall by this Friday, December 6. Drop off your Gingerbread masterpiece at Daly Dining Hall on December 9 at 9am and let the voting begin! To learn more about the Gingerbread Competition or JTerm, visit rider.edu/jterm. Good Luck!

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WCC professor inducted into Steinway and Sons Teacher Hall of Fame

By Gabrielle Wald

WESTMINSTER Piano Professor and head of the piano division Ingrid Clarfield was recently inducted into the first Steinway and Sons Teacher Hall of Fame for her many years of teaching.

Clarfield is an accomplished pianist, performer, clinician, author and educator. She has taught master classes in over 150 cities in 40 states, written 22 books [published by Alfred Publishing Co.] and was even the subject of her own documentary, “Take a Bow: The Ingrid Clarfield Story.”

This is the first year this honor was awarded. There were 43 recipients across the United States and Canada, according to a Rider University press release.

“I have been fortunate to receive many honors and awards in my over 50 years of teaching,” Clarfield said. “But there is something special about this one, being inducted into Steinway’s first Teacher’s Hall of Fame.”

Clarfield was nominated by Senior Vice President of Operations for Jacob’s Music Robert Rinaldi.

“|I nominated [Clarfield] because of the overwhelming impact that she has made in our community. Not only do we all benefit from her own contributions to piano instruction, but also by the many students of [Clarfield’s] who are now some of the area’s top and most respected piano instructors,” Rinaldi said.

Clarfield has been a professor at Westminster Choir College since 1982, and she has been teaching piano since she was in high school.

One of the most important lessons Clarfield wished to convey to her students was to have a passion for music.

“I hope they all learn the joy of making music and sharing their talent with others and the commitment and discipline it takes to achieve excellence,” Clarfield said.

Many of Clarfield’s students have moved on from their time at Westminster to become piano teachers themselves, which was one of the aspects that made her an appropriate candidate for this award.

Clarfield took pride in knowing the inspired so many future educators.

“I am thrilled that my teaching has impacted so many of my students’ lives so they too become outstanding music educators,” she said.

Daniel Hine ’01 is a past student of Clarfield’s who studied with her for three years. He was inspired by Clarfield to become a church musician and achieve choral accomplishments.

“Her teaching philosophy matched mine in many ways, so it was priceless to see how I intended to teach before me,” Hine said. “She always had multiple methods of solving problems that would arise so that whatever kind of learner you were, she could help you learn efficiently.”

Clarfield showed her students that it was important to balance a professional and personal life to live a well-rounded one, Hine said.

“She was very good at balancing her life,” Hine said. “A good reminder to us that while music is our love and passion, we need to be well-rounded people too.”

Clarfield touched the lives of many students in her years of teaching at Westminster Choir College. Several alumni came forward to show their support for Professor Clarfield and share their stories and congratulations.

“I hope it conveys the excellence of our piano program at WCC [Westminster Choir College],” she said. Clarfield emphasized how this honor reflected the Rider community.

To contribute to the scholarship visit www.rider.edu/pratherscholarship or contact Associate Director of Leadership Giving for Scholarships Gabrielle Rinkus at grinkus@rider.edu or 609-896-5344.

Former Fine and Performing Arts professor creates scholarship for technical theater

By Kacey Maldonado and Caroline King

THE Tharyle Prather Endowed Scholarship, a new scholarship for musical theater majors, was announced this past Family Weekend on Nov. 1 through Nov. 3, in honor of the late Tharyle Prather, a former professor at Rider’s School of Fine and Performing Arts for over 35 years.

The $25,000 gift to the university from Prather’s niece, Darra Prather-Day, and her husband, Rick Day, enabled the start of the fund, in hopes of continuing Prather’s unique and determined style of performance and technical theater.

Prather was able to inspire his students and placed a level of trust in them which made him a professor his students could count on.

The scholarship fund is a way of propelling the musical theater program at Rider even further while also drawing in more interested students.

“I think this is important to theater majors because it will provide students with the opportunity to come to Rider University to learn and grow through their craft,” said junior musical theater major Madeline Kunkowski.

“It will benefit the school because Rider will be giving students a chance to continue their education,” she said. “Paying for college can be stressful and it’s very hard to do financially, so I think Rider is doing a really great thing by offering this scholarship.”

The Prather Endowed Scholarship is for technical theater students who qualify for and demonstrate financial need.

Prather would often bring decorations from home for upcoming productions to bring his shows to life, further proving his dedication to his craft.

Prather previously worked at Rutgers University as a technical director for the Mason Gross School of the Arts theater program before transitioning to Rider University.

Throughout his career, Prather helped create magic on stage working for more than 35 years as a director before retiring in 2011.

As technical director at Rider, Prather’s job was to oversee designs, sound, lighting and other technical aspects, which aided in him creating several main stage productions.

Miriam Mills, wife to Prather for 39 years, said the tribute is a perfect way to honor her husband’s legacy and dedication to students and the university.

Through this endowment scholarship, technical theater majors in need of financial aid can create vivid productions and share a love for theater as Prather did.

Senior musical theater major Belle McNamara commented, “It’s great that something horrible like a death can be transformed into something great that can help further the theater program at Rider and help a student financially succeed.”

Miriam Mills, wife to Prather for 39 years.

To contribute to the scholarship visit www.rider.edu/pratherscholarship or contact Associate Director of Leadership Giving for Scholarships Gabrielle Rinkus at grinkus@rider.edu or 609-896-5344.

Former professor for the School of Fine and Performing Arts Tharyle Prather and his family created the scholarship to help the musical theater program as well as its students.
Students at Rider have many roles on campus, some of which include being a part of the Greek community, as well as many other outside organizations and endeavors.

Leilani Arias, a junior elementary education major, is an active member of Alpha Xi Delta and a YouTube user with just over 6,000 subscribers.

Arias has been a member of Rider's chapter of Alpha Xi Delta since Spring 2018.

"Alpha Xi Delta is my home because I feel like I've made very strong connections and formed lifelong friendships. I know I can always count on these girls to have my back and I can just go to them whenever," Arias said.

Even though she is supported by her family, friends and sorority sisters, being an active member of the sorority, a commuter and a full-time Rider student has made it a bit difficult to find time to make videos for her YouTube channel called "Love Lei."

On her YouTube account, Arias talks about the latest fashion, beauty and lifestyle trends.

"I am a subscriber of Love Lei and I absolutely love [Arias]. Her videos are all super fun and I especially love her haul and travel videos," said Stephanie Garcia Diaz, a sophomore criminal justice major.

Arias has been a YouTube user since she was in middle school and was inspired to start the channel because of her mom, who is a fan of fashion trends. Having this YouTube account will be exceptionally beneficial for her when she graduates and becomes an educator, she said.

"I think it has really helped me be more comfortable talking to a larger audience. Even though I don’t see my audience through YouTube since I’m literally talking to a camera, I know when people click on my videos, it’s usually hundreds of thousands of people watching," said Arias. "So I am really starting to become comfortable talking to a larger audience."

In February 2019, Arias felt she needed a break to focus on her school work so she has stopped making videos.

"I have decided to put school first because obviously college and schoolwork is more important, but it was very hard to keep up with it especially that I attend classes Monday through Friday and I don’t have any breaks," said Arias. "During the weekends I have work, too. So it was very hard to find time, sit down, film a video and edit it."

Because she has this experience with media, Arias took on the role of external marketing director, where she works with the communications vice president and makes flyers for her Alpha Xi Delta chapter.

Arias has made such a large impact on Rider's community by being a part of Greek life, sharing her talents and hobbies on YouTube, being the public relations chair of Kappa Delta Pi Education Honor Society and striving to be a future educator.

Arias will be returning to post YouTube videos on fashion, beauty and lifestyle trends beginning in 2020.

Editor's Note: The author of this article, Jessica Nunes, is also a member of Rider's chapter of Alpha Xi Delta.

Everybody Loves Lei: Rider’s YouTube sensation and Greek member

By Jessica Nunes

Arias stands outside of the Alpha Xi Delta sorority house. Arias has been an active member since Spring 2018.

Arias plans to make a return to YouTube in 2020. She took a break in February 2019 to put the majority of her focus on her school work. Between homework, her job and Greek life responsibilities, it was hard to also manage an active YouTube account. If interested in watching her upcoming videos, be sure to subscribe Arias’s channel: Love Lei.
in front of the draft induction hall with the intention of protesting the war, culminating in one of the most memorable scenes of the production when the memorable-strippped their clothing as the main lights dimmed and pepper lights colored the theater.

“The actors definitely needed to step out of their comfort zone,” Robles recalled. “I didn’t really think that some of the actors would really get tasked on-stage but they actually did it, which is what I found interesting. I commend them for finding that confidence.

Douglas also appreciated the bold choice of the production’s nudity, and found that it helped support the show’s focus.

“The nudity of the hair was beautifully executed,” Douglas said. “It was like the lights help give them their point across in an artistic way without making the audience feel uncomfortable.”

The bold creative and political aspects of Hair” stood out to Douglas, and she believed the musical addressed issues still prevalent today.

“I feel this has been one of the most thought provoking of all the musicals I’ve seen and I’ve seen tons of them,” she said. “It really brought home the idea of issues surrounding race in a creative way, and the musical’s singing and dancing made me want to get up of my seat and dance along.”

Douglas said.

While Hair” told the story of Clarke’s and his mixed feelings about being drafted into the Vietnam War, the main plot is spiced with examples as prototypes of the counter-culture movement at the time.

The scene involved the members of the tribe by Skolla, who was played by senior musical theatre major Elise Mangold, as they entered the stage, holding signs adorned with symbols of peace and saying such as “lay not low” and “make love not war.”

Another scene exemplifying protest was the “Be-" which closed the second act. “Hair” gathered in on Broadway from 1930 until 1959. Other than being a Broadway star, Merman was known primarily for her powerful, distinctive voice.

As she grew up, Block became dedicated to her training. Block said she “At that tiny little age, I was serious,” she said. “This was not ‘just a bug.'”

Merman was a classic musical theater performer who played 13 roles on Broadway from 1930 until 1959. Other than being a Broadway star, Merman was known primarily for her powerful, distinctive voice.

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She said, “It needs to be that exciting with every opportunity, the beautiful of the performance at the moment.”

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The 2010s: The end of a decade

In 2010, we were in the middle of our first term with the country’s first black president, with not an inkling of what the next 10 years would hold. As we begin to wrap up another semester, another year and now a decade, it is nostalgic, as well as responsible, to look back at the progress made and what still needs improvement.

Politics

In the decade, politics have undergone a polarization on both ends of the political spectrum. Whether far left or right, we have seen extreme divisive demonstrations between party lines.

In 2011, former President Barack Obama announced in a media statement that Osama bin Laden, leader of al-Qaeda and mastermind of the 9/11 attacks, was killed in Abbottabad, Pakistan, by a U.S. Navy SEAL.

In 2012, everyone thought the world was going to end because of the sci-fi film ‘2012’ that debuted in 2009.

In Nov. 2012, Barack Obama was re-elected president and Joe Biden was re-elected vice president.

In 2013, a terrorist attacked the Boston Marathon by detonating two bombs at the finish line of the race, killing three and injuring 263 runners and spectators. Suspects Tamerlan and Djohakhar Tsarnaev then led Boston police on a high-speed chase, killing one officer at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Tamerlan was killed in a shootout with police and Djohakhar was detained the day after, and ultimately convicted and sentenced to die for his role in the attack.

In June 2015, the Supreme Court struck down all state bans on same-sex marriage.

In 2016, Donald Trump was elected president and Mike Pence was elected vice president.

In 2017, Trump fired FBI Director James Comey, precipitating the Robert Mueller-led investigation on Russian collusion in the 2016 election.

In 2018, Trump met with North Korean leader Kim Jong-un in Singapore.

On Sept. 24, 2019, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi announced that an impeachment inquiry would begin against Trump.

In 2020, the Robert Mueller-led investigation into Russian collusion in the 2016 presidential election.

In 2021, the birth of Instagram had over one million users in its first year. Social media is no longer just about sharing photos and keeping up with friends — it is turning into a network of commercializing, advertising and building a self-brand.

The rise of social media provides an international conversation making it easy as well as convenient to voice an opinion and reach out to others who feel the same way, thus creating a movement. Even campaigns who did not have a strong social media presence during this time were able to expand their platforms and reach a different and more populated audience.

In Jan. 2010, an earthquake in Haiti was a catastrophic magnitude of 7.0. In mid-February, the Haitian government reported the death toll to have reached 230,000, according to CNN. Millions of people donated in an effort to provide aid for Haiti, The American Red Cross being one of the prominent non-profit organizations that vowed to help the country rebuild. According to NPR, the organization in 2010 outraised other charities by hundreds of millions of dollars, but the people of Haiti — even the country’s former prime minister — has no idea where almost $500 million went.

In 2017, Hurricane Harvey made landfall in the United States, flooding broad swaths of Texas and Louisiana and causing tens of billions of dollars of damage, making it one of the costliest natural disasters in American history. Hurricane Irma made landfall in Florida and caused tens of billions of dollars of damage. Irma also wracked the Caribbean Islands. Hurricane Maria made landfall on Puerto Rico as a Category 5 hurricane, killing hundreds and knocking out the island’s power.

In 2018, United Nations scientists declared that the world has less than 10 years to get climate change under control, according to The Guardian. A small number of fossil fuels producers as well as investors can be the solution in seizing climate change.

In 2019, from January to November, there were 46,706 wildfires compared with 32,680 wildfires in the same period in 2018, according to the National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC). About 4.6 million acres were burned in the 2019 period, compared with 8.5 million acres in 2018.

In 2019, Swedish environmental activist and 16-year-old Greta Thunberg started her climate change campaign by holding global climate strikes. Thunberg is a current example of how social change can start from anywhere, anyone.

Social Change

Social media has been viewed as an instrument for social and political change connecting communities, educating the youth and even creating new social networks. Social media allows people to communicate more messages to more people much faster.

In Oct. 2010, the birth of Instagram had over one million users in its first year. Social media is no longer just about sharing photos and keeping up with friends — it is turning into a network of commercializing, advertising and building a self-brand.

The rise of social media provides an international conversation making it easy as well as convenient to voice an opinion and reach out to others who feel the same way, thus creating a movement. Even campaigns who did not have a strong social media presence during this time were able to expand their platforms and reach a different and more populated audience.

In Feb. 2012, Trayvon Martin was killed by George Zimmerman in Sanford, Florida.

In Dec. 2012, a gunman killed 26 people, including 20 children, at the Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut, resurfacing the conversation of gun control in the United States.

In 2013, three black women by the name of Alicia Garza, Patrásse Callors, and Opal Tometi founded the national organization Black Lives Matter working toward the validity of black lives and the rebuilding of the black liberation movement.

Q: Rudolph or Frosty?
A: Whoever has the red nose.

Q: Gingerbread or sugar cookies?
A: Sugar.

Q: Caroling or baking cookies?
A: Caroling.

Q: Have a white Christmas or a green Christmas?
A: Snow on Christmas Day only.

Q: Giving gifts or getting gifts?
A: Both.
movement. It emerged as a political movement, protesting against what it saw as widespread racial profiling, police brutality and racial inequality in the United States criminal justice system.

The hashtag #BlackLivesMatter commenced after the acquittal of Zimmerman in the shooting death of Michael Brown, inciting protests and riots against racism and police brutality in the St. Louis area.

In 2014, a grand jury decided not to charge officer Darren Wilson in the shooting death of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri. In Aug. 2017, a white supremacist rally in Charlottesville, Virginia, led to three deaths and a discussion about racism in American society. The term “alt-right” received renewed popular consciousness.

In Oct. 2017, a gunman opened fire at the Las Vegas Strip concert, killing 58 people and injuring 546. This was the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history.

In 2017, film producer Harvey Weinstein was accused of sexual harassment in a New York Times expose, marking the beginning of the #MeToo movement.

In Feb. 2018, a gunman killed 17 people and injured 17 at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida.

Social media allows a widespread group of people to call out injustices and inaccuracies by portraying realities, creating a space for collaborative conversations across movements. We are living in a time where the average citizen has the power and the audience to speak up and speak out and be a voice within crucial conversations across the world that can generate a change in society.

As we recap on the significant highlights of the 2010s we should acknowledge that 10 years is a long time and a lot of good and a lot of bad can occur in that lengthy time frame. As a student journalist and a member of the new age generation, this reflection of the decade is not only a testament of surviving a chaotic 10 years but a draft for monumental change.

This editorial expresses the unanimous opinion of The Rider News Editorial Board. This week’s editorial was written by Opinion Editor Qur’an Hansford.
WRESTLING

Broncs hold on to No. 20 ranking

By Mike Richione

T HANKSGIVING break has come and gone and on Dec. 6, so will the nearly two-week layoff for the wrestling team, which on Dec. 3 the NCAA ranked No. 20 in the National Wrestling Coaches Association (NWCA) Poll.

The last time the Broncs were on the mat was on Nov. 24 when they wrestled in the Keystone Classic at the University of Pennsylvania.

Rider placed second in the tournament, behind the hosts on the efforts of redshirt senior Jesse Dellavecchia and redshirt sophomore George Walton’s victories in the 157 and 184-pound weight classes, respectively.

Dellavecchia started strong with a technical fall over Eric Carter of Duke and a pinfall of Sacred Heart’s TJ Galas. The progressing matches were tighter as Dellavecchia earned victories over Noah Chau of Franklin & Marshall, 10-0, Justin McCoy of Virginia, 8-2, and a 6-3 overtime victory over Appalachian State’s Matt Zvosec. Although Dellavecchia won the title, he found things in his wrestling to improve on.

“Everytime I go out to compete, I always gain more confidence in myself and my wrestling ability,” said Dellavecchia. “There was also some technical errors that I made that when I fix them, it can make a huge difference in my future performances.”

Walton improved to 1-1 with a 14-5 major decision over Drexel’s Owen Brooks to kickoff the tournament.

In a similar fashion to Dellavecchia, Walton finished his run to the title with three decisions over Michael Battista of Virginia, 3-1, Jesse Quintero of Pennsylvania, 9-4, and Appalachian State’s Julian Gorring for the title, 5-2.

Junior Ethan Laird reached the championship match but was beaten by Jay Aiello of Virginia via decision, 4-1, at the 197-pound weight class.

Redshirt freshman Richie Koepler and graduate student Gino Fluri placed third at the 133 and 149-pound weight classes, respectively.

Thanksgiving break was a great time to give the body a rest by taking some time off the mat and just getting some light cardio to keep my weight under control for the upcoming matches,” Dellavecchia said of the 11-day layover. “This is important because once practice starts again, everyone will be excited to practice and for our upcoming matches,” Dellavecchia said of the 11-day layover. “This is important because once practice starts again, everyone will be excited to practice and for our match against Bloomsburg Friday.”

Dellavecchia is the Broncs’ top-ranked wrestler, rated as high as fourth by FloWrestling, 13th by InterMat and 17th by WrestleStat. FloWrestling Laird was ranked 12th by FloWrestling, 13th by InterMat and 17th by WrestleStat.

Notable Huskies victories include decisions from Shawn Oren and Nate Newbetty over redshirt senior Anthony Cefolo and Fluri respectively.

On Dec. 3, Dellavecchia was ranked 6th in the nation by The Open Mat, seventh by InterMat and eighth by FloWrestling. Sherry was ranked fifth by FloWrestling Laird was ranked 12th by FloWrestling, 13th by InterMat and 17th by The Open Mat. The Bloomsburg dual will begin at 7 p.m. while the Central Michigan dual will be an afternoon event with wrestling scheduled to begin at 1 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL

Rotondo’s debut season ends in quarterfinal

By Lauren Amour

T HE third-seeded volleyball team saw its season come to an end in a 3-1 loss to No. 6 Quinnipiac on Nov. 22 in the first round of the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) Championship Tournament.

The Broncs snapped their four-game winning streak against the Bobcats in their first-ever meeting between the conference rivals in the MAAC championship.

The third set was the only one the Broncs won, 25-17, preventing the sweep. The Broncs fell 25-16 in the first set, 25-18 in the second set, and 25-21 in the final set.

“First, congrats to Quinnipiac who played an excellent match,” Head Coach Jeff Rotondo said.

“They were certainly the more disciplined and fearless team, and that is something we have to learn and improve upon. We just didn’t have the fight tonight we needed in the first and second sets.”

The match marked middle hitter Evelyn Shanelfield, lifer Rachelle Runyon, and outside hitter Alexa Shello’s last game of their collegiate careers, as they are all seniors. The Broncos were 43-27 in MAAC play during their four years on the team.

“My heart is heavy for the seniors right now with their college careers coming to an end too quickly, and I can’t thank them enough for their service to this program and to me in my first year here,” Rotondo said.

The future remains bright for the Broncs, as their young talent continued to shine.

Freshman opposite hitter Morgan Romano continued to be an asset for the Broncs with a match-high 24 kills, her tenth match of the season with 20 or more. She totalled 334 kills on the season, the most by a freshman in program history.

Additional, Rotondo announced that volleyball had signed five recruits for the 2020 season — Jenna Amaro, Tori Schrader, Emma Notafranese, Katarina Tierff and Lindsey Frambach.

“Are we very excited to announce our 2020 recruiting class, which is my first class as the head coach at Rider University,” Rotondo said. “Bringing in players who can not only compete at a high level, but also exhibit the character traits we want our teams to model was imperative. We are so pleased and excited about this class, because they are excellent students, are the type of humble and serving people we look for, and they can play the game at a high level,” he said.

Rotondo’s inaugural season ended with a 15-16 overall record and a 12-6 record in MAAC play.

Next up for the Broncs is a road, Mid-American Conference (MAC) dual at Bloomsburg, where they won 28-15 last season, on Dec. 6 before their Alumni Gym opener against Central Michigan, another MAC adversary, on Dec. 8.
On Dec. 3, Rider hosted Bucknell in its first home game of the regular season after having nine days off following its win over Vermont. The match-up between the Broncos and the Bison was the first since Nov. 18, 2005, when Rider was defeated at home, 69-84.

The Broncos extended its lead to five points, only to have it shrink back down to one. The Broncs quickly pulled away at the close of the first half as guard Avi Toomer, freshman guard Christian Ings and the following free throw to close out the half as guard Willy Nuñez, Jr. threes tied the game at 19.

The Broncs had a slow start after they found themselves down 12-9 after the first media timeout. Rider junior forward Dimencio Vaughn, however, was off to a hot start of his own, having made his first collegiate start, committed his fourth personal foul. Nuñez hit one of two technical free throws and foul. Nuñez hit one of two technical free throws and fouled himself.

Bucknell Head Coach Nathan Davis was assessed a technical foul for smacking the score table after Bucknell junior forward Malachi Rhodes, who was making his first collegiate start, committed his fourth personal foul. Nuñez hit one of two technical free throws.

Rider converted eight of their 11 chances at the free throw line. The Broncs went to the locker room with a 37-35 lead.

After a made jumper from Frederick Scott and a couple of successive buckets, though Dimencio Vaughn and Ings quickly silenced the comeback attempt with baskets of their own to keep the Rider lead at eight. Bucknell made an attempt to rally back with a couple of successive buckets, though Dimencio Vaughn and Ings quickly silenced the comeback attempt with baskets of their own to keep the Rider lead at eight. Bucknell made an attempt to rally back with a couple of successive buckets, though Dimencio Vaughn and Ings quickly silenced the comeback attempt with baskets of their own to keep the Rider lead at eight. Bucknell made an attempt to rally back with a couple of successive buckets, though Dimencio Vaughn and Ings quickly silenced the comeback attempt with baskets of their own to keep the Rider lead at eight. Bucknell made an attempt to rally back with a couple of successive buckets, though Dimencio Vaughn and Ings quickly silenced the comeback attempt with baskets of their own to keep the Rider lead at eight. Bucknell made an attempt to rally back with a couple of successive buckets, though Dimencio Vaughn and Ings quickly silenced the comeback attempt with baskets of their own to keep the Rider lead at eight. Bucknell made an attempt to rally back with a couple of successive buckets, though Dimencio Vaughn and Ings quickly silenced the comeback attempt with baskets of their own to keep the Rider lead at eight. Bucknell made an attempt to rally back with a couple of successive buckets, though Dimencio Vaughn and Ings quickly silenced the comeback attempt with baskets of their own to keep the Rider lead at eight. Bucknell made an attempt to rally back with a couple of successive buckets, though Dimencio Vaughn and Ings quickly silenced the comeback attempt with baskets of their own to keep the Rider lead at eight. Bucknell made an attempt to rally back with a couple of successive buckets, though Dimencio Vaughn and Ings quickly silenced the comeback attempt with baskets of their own to keep the Rider lead at eight. Bucknell made an attempt to rally back with a couple of successive buckets, though Dimencio Vaughn and Ings quickly silenced the comeback attempt with baskets of their own to keep the Rider lead at eight. Bucknell made an attempt to rally back with a couple of successive buckets, though Dimencio Vaughn and Ings quickly silenced the comeback attempt with baskets of their own to keep the Rider lead at eight. Bucknell made an attempt to rally back with a couple of successive buckets, though Dimencio Vaughn and Ings quickly silenced the comeback attempt with baskets of their own to keep the Rider lead at eight. Bucknell made an attempt to rally back with a couple of successive buckets, though Dimencio Vaughn and Ings quickly silenced the comeback attempt with baskets of their own to keep the Rider lead at eight. Bucknell made an attempt to rally back with a couple of successive buckets, though Dimencio Vaughn and Ings quickly silenced the comeback attempt with baskets of their own to keep the Rider lead at eight. Bucknell made an attempt to rally back with a couple of successive buckets, though Dimencio Vaughn and Ings quickly silenced the comeback attempt with baskets of their own to keep the Rider lead at eight. Bucknell made an attempt to rally back with a couple of successive buckets, though Dimencio Vaughn and Ings quickly silenced the comeback attempt with baskets of their own to keep the Rider lead at eight. Bucknell made an attempt to rally back with a couple of successive buckets, though Dimencio Vaughn and Ings quickly silenced the comeback attempt with baskets of their own to keep the Rider lead at eight. Bucknell made an attempt to rally back with a couple of successive buckets, though Dimencio Vaughn and Ings quickly silenced the comeback attempt with baskets of their own to keep the Rider lead at eight. Bucknell made an attempt to rally back with a couple of successive buckets, though Dimencio Vaughn and Ings quickly silenced the comeback attempt with baskets of their own to keep the Rider lead at eight. Bucknell made an attempt to rally back with a couple of successive buckets, though Dimencio Vaughn and Ings quickly silenced the comeback attempt with baskets of their own to keep the Rider lead at eight. Bucknell made an attempt to rally back with a couple of successive buckets, though Dimencio Vaughn and Ings quickly silenced the comeback attempt with baskets of their own to keep the Rider lead at eight.

Although this season is the only one for Nuñez, he felt the rest of the team helped welcome him as a part of the team. “I felt really good [coming in]. The team’s really family oriented, so as soon as I came in, they took me in as if I was their own brother and that was the best part of it,” Nuñez said.

For Rider’s defense, Dimencio Vaughn called himself an “energizer bunny” for the rest of the team. Vaughn said, “It’s about talking each other up. Just having that right mindset and being able to get stops. It’s fun when we get stops.”

The Broncs face another lengthy break before their next game. Rider stays at the Alumni Gymnasium to take on Long Island University (LIU) on Dec. 14 at 2 p.m. The matchup will be the first between the two programs in their respective histories.

Shortly following its game against LIU, Rider will get a taste of MAAC play in a rogue conference matchup against Marist at home on Dec. 16 at 7 p.m. The Broncos have swept their regular-season games against the Red Foxes for the past three seasons, winning their last six matchups.
Johnson nets single-game scoring record

By Dylan Manfre

Sports

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

Senior guard Stella Johnson's 41-point outing set a new single-game scoring record for Riders in its win over Lipscomb University on Nov. 22.

Johnson scored a combined 5-for-7 from the field and 8-for-9 from the charity stripe. The Bison ended the game making 20 of 23 from the charity stripe.

When Johnson was on the bench with two fouls early on, sophomore guard Amanda Mobley stepped up and led the offense. She had six points in the first half, which included one three pointer in the second quarter that helped Rider pull to within two points at halftime.

"Her floor leadership was terrific," Milligan said. 'She's really been building every game and keeping our pace where it needs to be. She is really starting to understand the 'why' in things and that shows in her being more confident.'

Johnson agreed that her relationship with her new coach preaches it everyday, "Coach does not need to prove her basketball skills to anyone."

Although Rider kept the game close for a majority of the first half, Johnson said communication is the key for the Broncs not getting into deep holes, "Coach preaches it everyday," Johnson said. "[Against Lipscomb] we communicated on switches and today we didn't do that as a team so that's the key to the game."

Both teams came out of halftime looking for a breakthrough as there were 15 lead changes in the third quarter alone. Lipscomb held a 10-point lead with 5:25 left in the first half. Lipscomb held the lead for a total of 13:09 of the opening 20 minutes, "I wasn't happy with our offensive effort in the first half to be honest with you," Milligan said. "We talked about it at halftime and made a couple adjustments to get ourselves back on track."

Rider committed six fouls in the second quarter and it translated to Lipscomb shooting 4 of 5 from the charity stripe.

Holcomb torched the Broncs in the second quarter and kept her team on Rider's heels. A pump fake created space on the right side of the court for her to hit a deep three pointer giving her team a 10-point lead with 5:25 left in the first half. Lipscomb held the lead for a total of 13:09 of the opening 20 minutes.

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"I just thought that we didn't have the discipline early in the game on the defensive end… it took us a little bit of time to get our feet underneath us and clamp down and get the stops we needed," Head Coach Lynn Milligan said.

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Against Xavier, Milligan said that the team did not have the best sample size of a scouting report to work off of being that it was Rider's first time playing the Musketeers. Now facing Lipscomb for the first time, she said that she does not know if she expected the game to go as it did.

She described it as a well-rounded game and "probably the most exciting [of the season]."

Johnson followed up her career performance by scoring 39 of her team's 70 points in a 18-point loss to North Florida en route to being named the MAAC/ASUN Challenge MVP.

North Florida held the Broncos to their second fewest points in an opening quarter all season, 11, as the two teams traded buckets for the first 10 minutes.

Neither team got the upper hand in the first half as the largest lead of the half was a four-point lead by North Florida with under a minute left in the first quarter.

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The Ospreys took their biggest lead of the half, five points, after Janesha Green hit a 13-foot jumper shot with 3:09 left in the second quarter but the game went into halftime in favor of the Ospreys 29-20.

The Broncos shot 20% in the first half but outrebounded North Florida 24-18.

North Florida capitalized on Rider's play in the final period outscoring them 31-22. It was able to pull away at the six minute mark and turn a three-point lead into as much as 12.

Foul trouble plagued the Broncos against North Florida. Over the two-day tournament, Rider committed 44 personal fouls.

"For me, it's just knowing that someone is coming to get me and I need to be smart on the offensive end because that is where most of my fouls come from," she said.

After a lengthy time away from game action, Rider returns to Alumni Gym on Dec. 7 to take on La Salle with tipoff set for 2 p.m.

Rider’s Dec. 7 game against La Salle will air on ESPN3 at 2 p.m.