Letter to the Editor:

Have you seen my elm tree?

That’s a great new sign on I-95. It looks best at night when the bold letters of Rider are illu-
minated for those driving by. The plans for the
signs on Route 206 and the campus entrances
look equally exciting! What about this word everyone has
thrown around as of late — “tradition”? How are we expected to have traditions if the subtle
ones to which we adhere are taken from us?

It was wrong of the administration to think
the students would not react to this. It was brought to the attention of anyone who attended
the Student Senate meeting, which was held this
past Tuesday, that marketing was moving toward
a new graphic identity. It is my belief that they
are not beginning the movement now, but that
the momentum has already begun. To bring it to
the students’ attention now, in what seems to be
an act to appease us, is insulting.

If the University is as focused on “student
centeredness” as the current administration pro-
claims, where is the students’ say in this market-
ing ploy? We are currently fighting for the tree,
but not just as a symbol for our eventual alma
mater. We are fighting for this tree as a symbol
of the students’ voices and consent in the mat-
ters that affect us. Our voices are the roots that
nourish and sustain student government and give
credence to administrative decisions. Ignoring
that fact would make Rider pride and “student
centeredness” disappear along with our tree.

— Brian Rocks
Senior

The Sophomore Voice:
The fading colors of school spirit

School spirit and tradi-
tions fall short at Rider. If you
count the number of times you’ve
seen our student body swimming in a sea of cran-
berry while school spirit is roaring in full effect? You can’t count any, anybody, neither could I.

Are students just confused as
to what school spirit is? It’s
certainly not wearing neat-
shirts advertising other univer-
sities. Princeton is down the
road. Stanford is on the other
side of the country — we’re
in Lawrenceville. If you walk
around other campuses, you’ll
find that students are proudly
deploying their love for their
own educational establish-
ments, not promoting other
colleges. We should be proud that we’re Rider students.

I know not everyone will
come to our basketball games
wearing face paint and waving
banners while chanting end-
lessly, but people should at
least wear a cranberry-colored shirt.

Are the students entirely
blame for the lack of school spirit? We have a good handful of traditions that we celebrate
every year, but what does it show students when some
of those traditions are taken
away? Where did homecom-
ing go? And are spring things
dead forever? Why should
students continue to support
events that won’t be a good
idea by next year? How are the students supposed to identify
with a school whose traditions,
color and symbol are always
changing?

Cranberry is our school
color, but you wouldn’t know
that if you walked into the
school book store and found
yourself greeted by t-shirt col-
s ranging from pink to black.
Is pink the new cranberry?

Furthermore, I think a lot of
students are confused as to
what Rider’s official symbol is.
Are we just “Rider University”
in bold steel lettering, or is
there a Rider tree accompany-
ing our school’s name? The
portrayal of this university
name goes beyond actual sym-
ols and lettering. It is more
root of the problem. The
student government is hold-
ing a Rider Rally for a major
basketball game. Will stu-
dents and the administration
stand behind this new shot at
a Rider ritual, or will it just
be another leaf falling off our
tree of traditions? We need the
campus community to stand
by this and everything that
happens at Rider. There are so
many hard-working students
and staff members who try to
make things possible, but there
is a fault somewhere along the
path.

If something cannot be
done for the Rider class of
today, hopefully something
will be instilled for the Rider
class of tomorrow. Sooner or
later, something needs to be
set in stone, or school spirit
we know it will wither away with some past traditions.

Kim Fleming

The Rider News, November 11, 2005

The Rider News, November 11, 2005

Friday, November 11, 2005

The Rider News

Clippings From Rider History

RUSSIAN RUMBLE
Nov. 10, 1933 — The Russian basketball team has requested a game against Rider College’s Roughriders during the Russian’s U.S. tour.

SCOUTS’ HONOR
Nov. 11, 1957 — Alpha Phi Omega, a national Boy Scout fraternity, establishes itself at Rider. Unlike most fraternity

A SHINY TREND
Nov. 12, 1965 — Ear piercing is the new “in thing” on campus. Three main reasons for this trend are the security of an earing staying in place, the much-sought-after European look and, naturally, because everyone else is doing it.

‘Election’ from page 8

potential loyalty to voters. Ads like this only distract attention and are used to attack a candi-

date on a personal matter that has nothing to do with poli-
tics. In fact, that negativity grew so tiresome that many wanted the election to be over

As ugly and bitter as the race may have been, it is the
future of New Jersey and its residents that is at stake. As
a college student, I look to the governorship to help with
the rapidly increasing costs of college tuition, and to stimu-
late economic growth that will bring the jobs we have worked
four long years to obtain.

Unfortunately, these concerns received very little attention in the race and may prove to be
the reason many young voters stayed away from the polls.

Young people do not simply want to see a politi-
cal ad or read a brochure,” Rebovich said. “They want
candidates to come to cam-

CLIPPINGS FROM RIDER HISTORY

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“Weirdos are never alone”

“Tradition is a guide and not a jailer.”

W. Somerset Maugham

The Rider News

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