Lacy Logic: Pop stars ruin Super Bowl halftime show

I will be the first to admit that I have never watched the Super Bowl. I know nothing about football. But as a child I went to a Super Bowl party with my family almost every year. Usually I would just enjoy the food and entertain myself until halftime, which was the only part of the program that I ever had any interest in watching. My back was facing the TV for the first half of the game this past Sunday but I did manage to catch the halftime show, as usual, and was really sickened by what I saw during Justin Timberlake and Janet Jackson’s performance.

What is more disturbing is that it really was not all that surprising. That is just how those people behave nowadays. It seems as though a handful of pop artists are competing in a ‘who can be the most sexually shocking’ contest. What all of them fail to realize is that they are role models to an audience that falls mostly between the ages of eight and 16-years-old. Britney Spears, Christina Aguilera and most recently Justin Timberlake and Janet Jackson are among the many that are guilty of this confusion.

As a woman I can understand — that they would shock everybody, make the performance more memorable and ensure headlines and more publicity. Nobody probably thought about their young fans that idolize them and want to grow up and be just like them. It is no wonder that children today are becoming sexually active at progressively younger ages. Look at their heroes. They have sex written all over them.

Many argue that the fault lies with parents, who are expected to shield their children from certain media. That used to be the case but it seems no longer possible to accomplish such a feat. Vulgarity has seeped down from adult television to shows and channels that are not unlikely to be viewed by children. It is a sad time in either of them will ever realize the impact of their behavior. And why should they? In the end, if their reputations are at all damaged by this event, they can always switch to politics and run for governors.

Letter To The Editor: Student attendance at Sovereign Bank Arena disappoints

As a long time Rider alumnus and an ardent supporter of Bronc basketball, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our students for their attendance at the SBA games. As you know, I made this facility one of the most formidable home courts in college basketball.

On the other hand, I must express my utmost disappointment with student attendance at our games at the SBA in Trenton.

On Wednesday night, for example, against UMass, there were more alumni in attendance than students. If you take away the cheerleaders, the dance team and the band, the amount of students on hand was really discouraging.

Due to many circumstances, such as the relegation of Rider to the second tier of college hoops, the pressures of recruiting players into our program, the use of SBA is a necessary evil. The team rarely wins there and, I believe, the reason for its performance is the lack of vocal support from the student body.

It has overcome nature or, at least, has learned to predict its fury and clean up after its wrath.

Yet humans still subject themselves to depression, jealousy and abuse as well as other things. And on top of these things they ask why.

Now for the $64,000 question: How can you change the world?

The answer is to change yourself.

Gandhi said “Be the change you want to see in the world.” Few truer words have ever been uttered. Changing the world does not sound so easier as it would seem to us. But change is sparked at the smallest unit and that, of course, is the individual.

Wars are fought and the lives lost are forgotten. Children and their parents go hungry and some do nothing. Store clerks are rude and such a minor annoyance can stick with you all day long.

When individuals begin to discover the inherent worth they will begin to recognize that of others. The latter cannot truly be uncovered without the former and individual discovery cannot begin without desire.

At the most basic level, every individual must recognize the humanness of the other. We all have similar flaws, similar emotions and similar experiences, whether rich, powerful, beautiful, urban, seemingly undesirable, average or [insert your own characteristic here].

People fall in love; some have their hearts broken. The top shelf is often hard to reach and a snow-covered car is a nuisance. But each person can choose to lend an ear or a hand in so many of these situations. A great technique is to put yourself in the other person’s shoes and, in doing so, you can create a common bond of the human experience. We are all equal because we are not all the same.

One cannot complain of a disinterested teacher if he is a disinterested student. One cannot expect a caring parent if he himself does not care. Enthusiasm is inspiring and insipidness is contagious. One thought can trigger many more and collaboration can lead to great things.

Violence promotes violence, but consideration promotes consideration.

In short, mankind is incredible and the human race is made up of individuals. The greater the individual that makes up the race, the better the race can be.

Don’t judge your own actions by the lowest common denominator but by the highest personal ideal.