Shooting suspect out on bail

By Randy Townsend
Staff Writer

The alleged Cavalla Room shooter has been out of jail since last month, but conditions of his bail placed by a Superior Court judge should keep Tarik Reid away from the Rider campus, the prosecutor’s office said.

Reid, who had no prior convictions and is currently awaiting presentation to a grand jury, has to stay out of Lawrence Township and have no contact with the victims of the shooting. According to Mercer County’s Public Information Officer Casey DeBlasio, Superior Court Judge Charles A. DeLehey increased Reid’s bail from $100,000 to $150,000.

“Tarik Reid was considered a flight risk because he was captured in Pennsylvania,” said DeBlasio. “That’s why his bail was raised.”

Reid, a Brooklyn, N.Y., resident who was not a Rider student, allegedly shot two people with a handgun in the Cavalla Room of the Bart Luedeke Center following a party last Oct. 17. He has been charged with aggravated assault, unlawful possession of a weapon and possession of a firearm for an unlawful purpose.

On Feb. 14, Reid posted a $75,000 bond representing half of his bail and was released from jail.

Meanwhile, shooting victims Vessa Dzombic, a Rider student, and Paul Hill, a guest of a Rider student, are steadily recovering, said Dean of Students Anthony Campbell.

Since the shooting, Rider has developed a new partnership with the Lawrence Township Police Department, Campbell said. The police chief is personally looking at the University’s security procedures and making recommendations.

Rider has increased its community policing, Campbell added. The campus security officers and the Lawrence police have a more visible presence, walking around the campus and talking with students. They have also increased bike patrols. Plans have been approved to have security cameras installed around campus as well.

“I still believe that campus safety and security is a campus-wide responsibility,” said Campbell. “If students see anything unusual it’s better to let us know ahead of time. Most students know what happens day-to-day in their residence halls and the area they hang out in.”

“If they see something unusual, what we ask is that students take note of it. Let security know ‘Hey, this just seems odd,’” he added. That way we can check it out up front, even if it’s nothing, and not wait until something happens. The more responsibility we take and ownership of our community, the safer we’re all going to be.”

VP of enrollment search narrows

By Laura Sass
Executive Editor

The search for a new vice-president of enrollment management has been narrowed to three “highly qualified” candidates, according to Rider president Mordechai Rozanski.

Rozanski, who announced the news at last Thursday’s town hall meeting, said that he was happy with the quality of the candidates.

“I was tremendously impressed with the candidates we have,” he said.

Besides Rozanski, who is the chair, the search committee in charge of finding the candidates includes Ellen LaCorte of human resources, Charles McCall from the economics department, Ira Mayo of student affairs, Christina Petruska from institutional planning and Ron Walker of institutional analysis.

“I want to extend my appreciation to the committee members,” said Rozanski. According to the Rider University website, the new vice president will be responsible for undergraduate, graduate and non-traditional admissions, student financial services, marketing and retention.

“Serious candidates will have a successful record in a senior admissions or enrollment management position at a college or university and a minimum of five years senior level experience. An advanced degree is preferred,” according to the website. “The Vice President will provide vision and leadership for strategic enrollment management initiatives designed to meet first-year enrollment and retention goals. Specifically, the successful candidate will have significant experience integrating admissions and financial aid operations.”

The website also mentioned that knowledge of financial strategies is important.

“(The candidate should) understand the role of prospect management in meeting institutional enrollment goals,” according to the website. “The successful candidate will also have a thorough knowledge of the strategic use of financial aid and pricing models to shape the quality and distribution of incoming classes, to advance retention goals and to achieve university revenue targets. An understanding of integrated direct and brand marketing and of the role of institutional positioning will be critical.”

Rozanski said that the three candidates will be on the Lawrenceville campus for interviews and public forums from March 22-24. The public forums will take place: Monday, March 22 12:30-1:10 p.m. in the Yvonne theater; Tuesday, March 23, 12:20-1 p.m. in the Yvonne Theater; and Wednesday, March 24, 12:30-1:10 p.m. in the Bart Luedeke Center Theater.

“My hope is to have someone engaged by April and on campus this summer,” said Rozanski.

2003 Better College Newspaper contest winners

• Feature Writing - Lacey Korevec - Honorable Mention
• Opinion Writing - Vincent Civitillo - Third Place
• Enterprise/Investigative Reporting - Tim Green - Third Place
• Arts and Entertainment Writing - Lacey Korevec - Honorable Mention
• Photography - Jennifer Kuhn - Honorable Mention

Information provided by director of Safety & Security, Vickie Weaver.

SECURITY BRIEFS

Car-sick
A visitor was seen vomiting on himself inside of a vehicle by a Security officer on sorority row on March 7 at 2 a.m. The officer stopped to provide assistance. An ambulance was called and the visitor was taken to a nearby hospital, treated and released. He and another visitor were charged with underage drinking and issued a notice of persona non grata.

Dorm room acrobat
A male resident struck his head on a radiator while jumping on his bed in Hill Hall on March 7. The victim denied losing consciousness and had no symptoms of concussion. Further medical assistance was offered and declined.

Even Picasso started somewhere
An offensive drawing was scratched into the hood of a vehicle in the Poya lot on March 8. A search of the area yielded nothing. The amount of damage is undetermined.

Girls fight too
A fight broke out in Wright hall after two residents argued about making noise in the hallway on March 9. The victim and the suspect began arguing after the victim asked the suspect to quiet down in the hallway. After the suspect became verbally abusive, the victim went to get a staff member. When she returned the suspect pushed her, the victim pushed back and the suspect punched her in the face. The suspect claims she was talking quietly in the hallway. Neither student wanted medical attention. The matter was referred to the Office of Community Standards.