

## Quote of the Week:

**“Rest is not idleness, and to lie sometimes on the grass under trees on a summer’s day, listening to the murmur of the water, or watching the clouds float across the sky, is by no means a waste of time.”**

— J. Lubbock

## A Student’s View:

### Good food isn’t priceless

A couple weeks ago, Daly’s tried out a new idea. The idea was called Restaurant Night. On this night Daly’s would provide students with the chance to eat some “non-dining hall” food. One night, New York strip steak was offered and then the next night Daly’s had shrimp.

When I heard of this, I thought it was a really good idea and I was looking forward to having some food that I hadn’t been having the entire semester. However, there was a catch. The steak and shrimp cost extra. Students had to spend some of their Bronc bucks in order to have a nice steak and some good shrimp.

What is this all about? Does Rider really need to charge students the extra money for some good food? I can understand that the food that Daly’s provided on those two restaurant nights are a little more expensive than the dining hall food that is normally served but, would it really kill Rider to provide a nice New York strip steak night courtesy of the school?

Considering that I, along with many other Rider resident students, have very few Bronc bucks left, it was of some trouble to use the bucks for the steak and/or shrimp. In addition, many students need to save the precious Bronc bucks for early morning trips to Java City and late night trips to the Bronc Diner.

For these reasons, I did not pay for the steak dinner. So I ask Rider this question: Would

it really be a problem to provide Restaurant Night one time per month without having students

spend their Bronc bucks?

Obviously I am not asking for Restaurant Night to occur every day or even every week. I am sure that those costs would add up for the University. However, once a month is all I ask for to have non-dining hall food. Is that really such a sacrifice? I don’t think so. For the money that most students put into this school, I feel that it is fair to allow students to have the Restaurant Night free of extra charge.

If the University *really* cannot afford to provide this for students, simply raise the price of the food plan. Divided up among all of the residents with food plans, how much would the one steak per month cost? Ten dollars per person? Fifteen?

In my eyes, it is ridiculous to force students to pay extra with their invaluable Bronc bucks for good food. I think many students were unhappy with the fact that they had to pay money for the Restaurant Night. Even though the two nights looked like successes judging strictly on the length of the lines for the food, students would be a lot more appreciative if Daly’s provided a steak dinner free of charge.



Ari Bluestein

## A “Fresh”man’s Perspective: Voting has many benefits for students

At the age of 16, teenagers jet to the nearest DMV to receive their permits. At age 17, teenagers return to that same DMV to receive their driver’s licenses. At age 18, teenagers can legally buy cigarettes and lottery tickets. At the age of 21 these same young adults make their way to the closest bar or liquor store because they can now legally buy alcohol. Did I leave any other important rights out? If you say no, think about your rights as a United States citizen. Ask yourself what our forefathers fought for.

Don’t outrule voting. While you are at the DMV receiving your license to drive why not register to vote? It only takes a few minutes.

There are so many benefits to voting. One particular reason is that one person can shape history. So many people underestimate the significance of their individual votes, but what they should realize is that their vote can go a long way. Take the last election between our current president, George W. Bush, and his opponent, Al Gore, for example. Our nation could have had a completely different presidency had more people, in particular college students, taken the time to vote. A different president would have resulted in different, as well as new, laws and budget agendas. Most of these laws and agendas would have directly affected current college students of our country now and in the future.

So I ask all college students one question: why not take the

extra few minutes to register and vote?

Some students may choose not to vote because they feel that the ideas and plans that the candidates have in mind will not pertain to them or their age group. On the contrary, many candidates discuss issues that will affect each individual college student. Some candidates want to form plans that will help lower tuition, promise jobs upon each student’s graduation and set up programs for students who need extra help in school.

Unfortunately, if college students do not become registered voters and take an active role in our country’s elections, candidates will be less likely to campaign to the college students’ age group. Candidates are running to become elected and the only way to get elected is to convince the people who actually vote that they are the right candidate for that particular job.

As a registered voter a person does not have to declare a party; a person can simply be independent. Some students may not care for either the Democratic or Republican parties; however, there are more than just the two previously mentioned. Some students may feel there are not candidates that successfully persuade an individual to vote for him or her.

However, a person can still vote to throw off other candidates. For instance, say a person did not really care for

either Bush or Gore, but that individual disliked Gore’s ideas more than Bush’s ideas, he or she could have voted for

Bush just to throw off Gore’s votes. With that individual’s vote Gore could have been a vote too short, causing him to lose the race for that voter’s state, which would have hurt him in the long run.

Presidential elections are major chances to vote in this country, but do not look past elections for state legislatures, communities or even school elections. Everybody needs to start somewhere; you can always start in your hometown. State elections are also very important because each state elects officials to represent their state in the Senate and the House of Representatives, which can greatly alter our country’s status as well.

A few weeks ago, here at Rider, other college students who were on their spring break came here with a program known as Rock The Vote. They were in Daly’s registering the students of our campus to vote so that we can be active voters in the upcoming elections. If you did not jump at this open opportunity to vote look out for members from Rock The Vote to appear again within the next few weeks. And remember, your vote counts.



Lauren Varga

## This Week in History:

**April 9, 1959 — NASA introduces America’s first astronauts.**

**April 11, 1963 — Japan’s Bullet Train breaks all world speed records during its trial run.**

**April 12, 1961 — Soviet Major Yuri Gagarin becomes the first man in space.**

**April 13, 1796 — America’s first elephant arrives in the United States.**

**April 15, 1912 — The S.S. Titanic sinks after colliding with an iceberg.**