WAShING AWAY AT RIDER

Professor reports on campus trash habits

By Vincent Civitillo
Managing Editor

Only two months ago, Dr. Brooke Hunter made her aspirations clear to the student community that she was looking to clean-up Rider’s campus of the trash they see everyday, beginning with paper.

The environmental history professor, aided by a team of students from her class, has finished a report on Rider’s waste problems, which features tips on how students can improve their recycling habits on campus to better the community at large.

“America will never be a paperless society. But it is possible to use less paper,” Hunter wrote in the report. “Take Bank of America for example, Janet Abramovitz reported in Paper Cuts that the nation’s largest bank reduced its paper waste by 25 percent in two years with online reports, e-mail, double-sided copying and lighter-weight paper. Such practices saved the company one-half million dollars.

“While Rider is no Bank of America, the university can benefit from similar paper-saving policies.” According to Hunter, 95 percent of the people surveyed on campus by her class believe recycling is important. When asked if those same students use recycling containers on campus, 72 percent responded with “sometimes” or “never.” However, she said she finds the fact that 77 percent claimed to recycle more at home than on campus an interesting avenue to investigate.

“Many people do not believe Rider recycles. This idea circulates around campus like a conspiracy theory, and...”

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Global programs broaden students’ horizons

By Brooke Olster
Staff Writer

In the midst of a double war on terrorism and on Iraq, Rider has incorporated several courses and initiatives that allow students to become better aware of global issues.

However, some students and faculty believe that the climate on campus is not one that is politically conscious and that more needs to be done to ensure students’ participation as citizens of this country.

“University campuses are those that should foster the exchange of intellectual ideas and encourage creative thinking as methods to potentially solve or lessen world problems,” said junior Melissa Kanavel. “I feel that the Rider community is apathetic and unwilling to get involved in politics, which is very discouraging since we are the future leaders of this country.”

Some students willingly admit to their lack of interest in the current world situation, like junior Chris Cuccolo.

“I just don’t see how my learning about war and government will change things, nor do I have the interest or willingness to try,” he said.

To combat this all too common sentiment among students, Rider offers several types of programs that enable students to voice their opinions in an open-minded and supportive environment.

For example, International Week, a long-standing Rider tradition, aims to bring world cultures to campus through a variety of workshops, entertaining events and food festivals.

“I think it is important for everyone to understand and experience other countries traditions and customs and International Week is an inexpensive opportunity to do so,” said sophomore Nicole Zinger.

On Wednesday, April 9, the Political Science Society held a roundtable discussion in the pub that allowed students and faculty to informally share their thoughts on the Iraqi war.

“Topics such as the legitimacy of war, weapons inspections, post-war reconstruction and world opinion were discussed. “We need more student conversation and participation on world affairs,” said Larry Johnson, associate dean of Students.

Rider has also been participating in ongoing video-conferences with renowned United Nations (UN) Ambassadors. Students are able to listen to UN Ambassadors debate important world topics, such as the war and human rights and get direct feedback from the Ambassadors by asking a series of questions through the video technology equipment.

By having the opportunity to hear from officials from several world regions, a wide array of views are expressed. “The video-conference endeavor is new and...”

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Goodbye to President Luedeke

By Laura Sass
Executive Editor

Jumping from university president to teacher may not be a traditional career move, but it is one that Dr. J. Barron Luedeke hopes to make.

After 13 years as Rider’s president, Luedeke is stepping down from the position.

“I’m retiring career wise,” he said. “I’ve had calls about other president positions but I’m not doing that anymore. What I’d really like to do is work with students, I may teach some; I may do some work in one of the local institutions. Much as I would like to stay at Rider, it will be somewhere else. I think I need to give the new president some space.”

Luedeke, the fifth president in Rider history, had worked at the university for...