**Title Dreams**

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**HIP-HOP AFFECTS CHANGE**

*Celebrity summit reaches out to students*

**By Randy Townsend**

Rider students were among hundreds of high school and college students from across New Jersey converging on the Trenton War Memorial to be a part of last week’s Hip-Hop Summit voter-registration drive.

The summit, sponsored by the state’s Attorney General’s office, was aimed at increasing the number of registered voters in New Jersey by appealing to the students. Hip-hop mogul Russell Simmons, who organized the first summit of this nature in 2001, told the standing room only audience that the hip-hop community cares about them.

“We’re here today because it seems that the outreach of the political process over the last few years has been a failure,” said Simmons. “The fact is that this same group of people who have been perceived as not important are going to pick the next president, the next mayor, next congressman, next senator. This group is going to be the deciding vote in all of the upcoming elections, so your agenda will be heard.”

Following Simmons’s 2001 Hip-hop summit, he founded the Hip Hop Summit Action Network to harness the cultural relevance of the hip-hop community as a social movement.

Damon Dash, CEO of Roc-a-fella Records, said he sees this election as a perfect time to showcase the power of the hip-hop community.

“I’m seeing how influential our culture is throughout the world,” said Dash. “Now I think it’s time for people outside of the hip-hop community to see what we really are. This election and each election after this one are important to show our evolution.”

New Jersey Attorney General Peter Harvey said he

See ‘Summit,’ page 4

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**Rider collects new life**

*Provides much needed blood*

**By Cara Latham**

A blood drive was held in the Cavalla Room of the Bart Laudeke Center (BLC), from Tuesday, Sept. 28 to Wednesday, Sept. 29, and was organized by the president of The Student Blood Council, a new organization created in April.

The Community Blood Council of New Jersey collected the blood during the event from 3-9 p.m. on both days, and was open for donations from students and faculty. Both whole blood and Alyx components, which are two units of packed red blood cells, were collected.

On Tuesday, 38 units of whole blood were collected along with one unit of Alyx components. Wednesday’s results were very similar, with about 38 units of whole blood collected, along with six Alyx components.

During this time of year, the blood is in great need, since the supply is usually low, according to Tracy Moyer, the mobile supervisor of the Community Blood Council of New Jersey.

“Blood is always needed through the summer months especially,” said Moyer.Typically, the organization comes to Rider University three to four times every year, holding two-day drives each time. The blood collected at these drives serves the Delaware Valley area, according to Moyer.

“The blood we collect stays in our area,” she said.

See ‘Blood’ page 4

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**O’Hara takes bold steps forward**

**By Lauren Varga**

Rider University recently welcomed the new Vice President of Enrollment Management, James O’Hara, who looks forward to the positive changes he hopes to bring to our community.

Starting his new position on June 1, 2004, O’Hara has been anticipating the beginning of this school year.

“I was very anxious to get the students back,” said O’Hara. “From June 1 until everyone got back it’s been quite a quiet campus.”

Rider was clearly the only place that O’Hara could perform to his full potential. According to him, working at Rider will give him a chance to look at a university that has achieved so much over its history.

“I have worked in higher education for 13 years and have always been connected with a university who had a strong mission statement as well as working with students who love learning in and outside of the classroom,” said O’Hara. “This brought the best of both worlds.”

O’Hara has set both long and short-term goals to help improve Rider in all aspects. One short-term goal that he has already achieved is the launching of Rider’s new website. According to O’Hara, the idea of a new website was first presented by President Mordechai Rozanski. The new website was chosen by current

See ‘Enroll’ page 3

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