LUEDEKE’S LIFE AT RIDER
The current president recounts 31 years

By Melanie Tirpak
Staff Writer

After Bart Luedeke finished school at the University of Illinois in Urbana, his advisor sent a letter out that a doctoral student was looking for a job. At the same time, Frank Elliott, Rider’s former president, was sending out a letter in hopes of finding a needed assistant. The letters crossed and Luedeke received the job request and Elliott received Luedeke’s letter.

“It was an absolute fluke,” that got me here,” he said.

Luedeke, who will resign at the end of this academic year, was hired as an assistant to the president over 30 years ago, and promoted to the position of president in the summer of 1990. During that time he has experienced Rider and has seen it flourish.

“Students don’t see changes dramatically, as I did,” he said. “Four years is not long.”

Before becoming president,

Luedeke served for 19 years as assistant to the president, associate provost, dean of the College of Continuing Studies and vice president for academic affairs and provost.

During his presidency Luedeke has seen much happen on campus and one of the points that he is most proud of is how Rider has become more accepting of diversity.

“In my 1990 presidential installation comments, I used the work of Ernie Boyer, who was the United States Commissioner of Education. He had written a monograph to examine the qualities of effective institutions, what some of their characteristics were,” he said. “The one found most in all really successful schools was that they celebrated diversity.”

Therefore, Luedeke made a point to improve acceptance on campus. As a result Rider now has events such as Unity Day and the Celebration of Lights.

“It challenged the people of Rider to change the culture and use our differences as part of the education experience,” he said.

Celebrating diversity may begin in the classroom, but students will also find that prejudice is not accepted in the real world.

“It’s a multi-everything kind of world; you can’t be prejudiced or your career progress will be really slow,” said Luedeke.

Through a joint effort with faculty, staff and students, Rider has events such as Unity Day and the Celebration of Lights.

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Rider mourns two Daly’s employees

By Kate Rose
Staff Writer

Daly’s has suffered two tragic losses over the past two weeks.

Michael Williams and Stephen White passed away last week leaving the Daly’s family incomplete, but they will be remembered for their hard work and loyalty, according to Food Services Director Tim Richards.

“We were just shocked to have two people leave in such a short period of time,” said Richards. “We’re numb from not knowing what to do. They will be missed.”

Stephen James “Junior” White passed away after a fight with pneumonia. He had worked at Rider for over 25 years. White was not only a friend to fellow employees but a relative. Daly’s workers, whether related or not, really are family, said Richards.

Friends and coworkers will remember Michael Williams as a fun-loving guy who was a team player. Students may recall Williams saying “Get your groove on” as he gave out Cracker Jacks at special events or made their omelets on Saturday mornings.

A collapsed lung resulting from an asthma attack cut short the life of Williams at the age of 44. He had been working as a chef at Daly’s for over a year.

These men were friendly faces who helped add to the positive attitude at Daly’s, according to their coworkers such as Anne Keith, known to many students as Miss Anne.

“They were very well liked,” said Keith. “They were both good workers and good friends.”

Williams and White were part of a team that works hard everyday to provide food service to the Rider community. Anne Keith and fellow employee Marie Brown said their absence is like having missing players on that team.

“They were very nice and we’re lost without them,” Brown said.

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Professor suffers breakdown

By Nancy Wilensky
Staff Writer

A history class took an unexpected turn on Tuesday, Sept. 24.

Instead of beginning class with his usual lecture, Professor Eric Emenheiser started by chewing up a pencil, according to students.

Witnesses said he then spit out what was left onto the floor.

“The one thing I remember is he went to the back of the room and screamed ‘Attention!’” said freshman Amy Toporkel.

Emenheiser then spent the rest of the hour seated on the floor, mostly in silence.

“He had a medical problem which got a bit out of control,” said Dr. Thomas