**CONCERT HELD IN HONOR OF FEMALE COMPOSERS**

By Laura Sass  
Executive Editor

A concert in celebration of female composers and conductors was the first event in a year long celebration, according to Dr. Judith Johnston, director of the Gender Studies program and a professor of English.

The program, entitled *Sounding off: Women Composers and Conductors*, took place on Friday, Oct. 10, in honor of the 25th anniversary of the Gender Studies program.

“We will be celebrating all year,” said Johnston. “This is the first event.”

In 1980 a little over two percent of all conductors were women, while in 1989 they made up four percent. In 1990, out of 90 major conducting jobs, women held seven positions, according to Dr. Sharon Mirchandi, associate professor of music history and theory at Westminster Choir College (WCC). According to the American Symphony Orchestra League, there are only 85 female conductors currently employed by its 900 member orchestra.

“When women were successful [at conducting in the 1950s], financials felt it was necessary to assure the audience that they were not neglecting their husband and children,” Mirchandi said.

Mirchandi spoke of composer and conductor Julia Perry, a 1947 graduate of WCC. Perry composed over 100 pieces, including choral works, art songs, opera, symphonies and arrangements of spirituals.

“Perry was not only English. She was also African-American,” said Mirchandi. “In her earlier compositions race did not play a role, but in later ones it did.”

These compositions are currently under study in the Gender Studies program and a professor of English.

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**SOUND OFF BY ANTHONY CAMPBELL**

Party Harder? It's Time To Find Out!

$1 shots/$1 bottles. Who Can Party Harder? It's Time To Find Out!

"I heard after the fact that [the flier] was on windshields of cars in the fraternity lot," said Dean Campbell. "I found out [about the contest] the day before. I called that day to see if the manager was there and he wasn’t."

The "Drink Off" party was to be a set competition between Rider and The College of New Jersey (TCNJ) with one point awarded for a beer, two points for a shot and three points for a mixed drink. "Highest Total Points Wins!!" proclaimed the flier.

Iacovelli. "We'll have different themed tables set up with lots of different foods like pizza, mozzarella sticks and McDonald's hamburgers to correspond with the different years."

"In addition to the ever-popular free T-shirts being given out, Associate Director of Athletics Karin Torchia said that the night would be filled with other festivities to get students excited about the upcoming season."

"It's basically a glorified pep rally, for anyone who has never gone, but there will be a lot of fun activities to get involved in," she said. "The dance team will be performing along with the cheerleading squad, the Homecoming king and queen [seniors Ryan Kimball and Samantha Gordon] will be introduced and the Bronc will be doing a routine of his own."

"The Emerging Leaders have been working on the decorations for about three weeks now. It's going to look great," she said. "There's even going to be a giant horseshoe for the basketball team to run through to get everybody's spirits going."

As part of the post-midnight activities, Jerry Johnson and Becky Hower will be going up against Katie Hall and Aidan Marra in Sounding off: Women Composers and Conductors — a concert in celebration of female composers and conductors was the first event in a year long celebration, according to Dr. Judith Johnston, director of the Gender Studies program and a professor of English.

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**MAAC-NESS RETURNS**

By Vincent Civitillo  
Managing Editor

Kicking off the collegiate basketball season this year will be the annual Midnight MAAC-ness festival tonight at 10:15 in the Alumni Gym.

The event, which celebrates the time of the year when teams all across the country are officially allowed to begin practicing in accordance with the NCAA, has the theme of MAAC-ness returns. The students will be in attendance in droves to rekindle the spirit of the year long celebration.

By David Maccar  
News Editor

An intercollegiate drinking contest at Sambuca nightclub in Trenton had Rider and TCNJ officials scrambling to prevent students from attending on Tuesday, Oct. 14.

The contest was billed as the “TCNJ vs. Rider First Annual Drink Off,” according to the fliers that could be found on cars in the fraternity lot, said Dean Campbell.

This flier was found on Rider's campus and TCNJ's campus. Flier courtesy of Dean Anthony Campbell.