Life’s Lessons: Beep beep!

With Safety Week beginning on Monday, Oct. 27, I sat down to reflect on the various lessons in safety I had learned while a child only to realize that everything important I have learned was not taught to me by my parents, teachers or even my own idiotically stupid experiences, but by the ultimate safety-awareness model of Roadrunner and his arch-nemesis Wile E. Coyote.

After deep consideration, I compiled a series of lessons the duo taught me that may possibly come in handy throughout your time in college.

Perhaps the biggest thing taught to me by the coyote was that anything labeled with the letters TNT should not be joked, prodded, overly examined or otherwise kicked around haphazardly in a room. After all, this tale took place on campus, you’d be surprised how many times I’ve come across packages with such labeling in the halls and been saved from disaster due to the thanks to the advice given to me by the Road Runner. Take it from him, inspect every situation carefully. As the speed demon would do, stop, take a look around and say to yourself, “Beep! Beep! Beep! Beep!” (roughly translated as: My dear, when you find yourself in such a situation, don’t open it. Simply run away and contact your resident advisor immediately.

As a general rule, giant slingshots, rubber bands, rockets with saddles and self-propelled propellants are bad. The problem with these is that they never seem to work as planned, either heaving you backwards as you fall out of the contraption or launching you forward into a jagged, rocky mountain. While there are not many student with the courage to go down the road, you would think that the Lawrenceville Police Department must realize that to many of these students, the Lawrenceville Police Department down the road, you would think that safety would not be a concern. To today we realize that our location, as well as the security in the present.

Every day I circulate campus to attend classes, meetings, sporting events and to eat meals at Daly’s. Every day I see Security in three places: eating in the dining hall, ticketing someone’s car and to me by the coyote was that anything labeled with the letters TNT should not be joked, prodded, overly examined or otherwise kicked around haphazardly in a room. After all, this tale took place on campus, you’d be surprised how many times I’ve come across packages with such labeling in the halls and been saved from disaster due to the thanks to the advice given to me by the Road Runner. Take it from him, inspect every situation carefully. As the speed demon would do, stop, take a look around and say to yourself, “Beep! Beep! Beep! Beep!” (roughly translated as: My dear, when you find yourself in such a situation, don’t open it. Simply run away and contact your resident advisor immediately.

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Dear Editor,

I am writing this letter for the entire campus community: students, staff, faculty and most important, Security. Every day I circulate campus to attend classes, meetings, sporting events and to eat meals at Daly’s. Every day I see Security in three places: eating in the dining hall, ticketing someone’s car and to me by the coyote was that anything labeled with the letters TNT should not be joked, prodded, overly examined or otherwise kicked around haphazardly in a room. After all, this tale took place on campus, you’d be surprised how many times I’ve come across packages with such labeling in the halls and been saved from disaster due to the thanks to the advice given to me by the Road Runner. Take it from him, inspect every situation carefully. As the speed demon would do, stop, take a look around and say to yourself, “Beep! Beep! Beep! Beep!” (roughly translated as: My dear, when you find yourself in such a situation, don’t open it. Simply run away and contact your resident advisor immediately.

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true, Security has been there to stop the on-campus fights, to bust drug violators and to make sure that the campus quiet hours are strictly adhered to. However, what about the more dangerous and more pressing security measures? With a campus that only has a gate at the main entrance, we finally realize how susceptible we are. People need only to walk from Route 206 across the lawn and they are in the center of the residence halls. The danger has not changed; the awareness has. Does this mean every person enter-

Letter to the Editor: How safe are we?

To the editor:

As President of the Rider University Alumni Association, I was disappointed and dismayed in reading the editorial entitled “Homecoming” which appeared in your Oct. 17, 2003 issue.

I was shocked that you didn’t know the purpose of Homecoming and was deeply disturbed when you said “Why on earth are alumni invited back? What do they have to do with anything?”

For your information, Homecoming provides the opportunity for alumni to return to their alma mater and to renew friendships and acquaintances which were developed during their undergraduate years. It also allows us to keep in touch with campus developments and to meet administrators as well as to connect with the Rider culture in the present.

Probable to your surprise, Rider has a very active alumni core, who contribute to the University in so many ways—financially, spiritually and emotionally. Many of the amenities, both physical and in the form of financial aid, that students enjoy are the direct result of the annual funding and the selfless generosity of Rider alumni throughout the world. Rider alumni are dedicated fans of our athletic teams and, in many ways, are more spiritual and vocal at our games than the student body. The Alumni Association has supported the formation of the Rider University Bronco Band, both in encouragement and in helping them design and purchase their uniforms. This is something Rider has needed for years and, was it not for the initiative of the Alumni Board, this might never have taken place.

Our board holds fundraisers to earn money which goes back to the University to upgrade the Riderana exhibits and also to assist in making the desperately needed Sports and Recreation Center a reality. We honor alumni each year who have made significant contributions to their professions and to society, and also are very active as committee members for the Athletics Hall of Fame. We have utilized a great deal of our funds in upgrading and beautifying the grave site of our founder, Andrew J. Rider.

The board assists the Office of Alumni Relations in holding Alumni receptions throughout the area and at local and regional basketball games. The Board, with the assistance of the Campus Life Organization, is currently forming a Student Alumni Organization with the hope that their participation will carry over to their years after graduation when they, also, will become alumni. Our board also offers mentors and career guidance services to both students and alumni.

In a nutshell, Rider alumni are dedicated to our University. It is where we became prepared to go out into the world and enter our chosen professions. We not only became prepared via class, but also through the social interaction which we enjoyed while we were undergraduates. These years are fondly remembered and we return each year to rekindle that spirit—our love for Rider does not stop when we receive our degrees, but continues throughout our lives. As our new President, Dr. Mordechai Rozanski, has stated on many occasions, “A university is only as strong as its alumni.” You should take that message to heart.

I hope and trust that your insensitive comments are not indicative of the student body as a whole. Hopefully, you will learn to appreciate the contributions that our alumni offer to the University and that you, also, will become dedicated graduates of Rider University once you receive your degrees.

Respectfully, 
Joe Casarella, President Rider University Alumni Board of Directors