

NEWS

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Check out an unwanted threesome and another entry into "Rider's Dumbest Criminals."

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House on Haunted Hill Part 2 spooks out Rider students.

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How free is our speech? Letter to the editor on last week's RA column and some creative criticism for *The Rider News*.

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The women's soccer team won two games last week, placing them third in the MAAC.

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Go Figure!

Price of a soda from a Rider vending machine: \$1.25

Price of a soda from most vending machines: \$1.00

Price of a soda stolen from the Pepsi guy: free...

Weekend Weather



BARAKA WILL APPEAR

Controversial poet to speak at Rider

By Dave Barry
News Editor

A man described as a "political artist," a "satirist" and a "street preacher" by some, and "reprehensible" by others, is scheduled to speak at Rider on Dec. 6.

Amiri Baraka, an ex-Black Panther formerly known as Leroy Jones, and New Jersey's current poet laureate, will be featured as part of the Educational Opportunity Program's (EOP) "Distinguished Speakers" series.

During his appearance, Baraka will read some of his poetry, and then answer questions from a panel of selected students who have studied his work, as well as the audience in general.

Baraka has come under fire recently for a poem he penned entitled "Somebody Blew Up America."

In the poem, he questions



Photo by Jennifer Kuhn

Poet Amiri Baraka, who is scheduled to speak at Rider on Dec. 6

who is really responsible for the tragic events of Sept. 11. In one particular verse, Baraka suggests that the Israelis knew about the pending disaster, and warned their people to "stay away."

As a result of this, his status as poet laureate is in debate, and legislation to remove him from the position is in the

works.

He was first asked to come to Rider last spring, before his infamous poem and the controversy surrounding it came to light.

"We hadn't counted on his making such a controversial scene, but we think he can turn it into something useful," said Dr. John Hulsman, a professor

in the English Department and one of the individuals involved with bringing Baraka to campus.

At first, it did not seem that Baraka would be able to appear due to the cost of security needed to staff an appearance by such a controversial figure.

However, student groups, such as the Black Student Union and those involved with the EOP, were able to raise the funds to cover the security costs.

Whether Baraka will read his 9/11 poem at the event is unknown. When asked what they hoped students would gain from the event, Hulsman and Gary Barricklow, a professor in the English Department, and another person involved with bringing Baraka to campus, sounded positive.

"We really don't know. Gain some sense of a poet's

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Parking is a hot topic

By Priscilla Bryson
Staff Writer

The age old issue of parking is a common complaint that has swept over Rider's campus. Throughout the 2002 Fall semester, Rider has heard more and more parking related complaints, making it the biggest student related issue so far.

According to students, changes need to be made in the parking system. This includes the need for more adequate parking spaces and the need for a reevaluation of the campus parking lots.

Dean of Students Anthony Campbell agreed to establish changes, but "only where truly needed." He believes that the problem is not that Rider does not have enough parking spaces, but that the spaces available are, in students' eyes, too far from the academic buildings to walk.

The wrestling team agreed with his notion, commenting that the Open ("O") lot has plenty of spaces and that the walk really isn't as bad as students make it out to be.

"It is a shame students aren't encouraged to walk," said Campbell. "Our campus buildings are conveniently placed so students don't have to

'Our campus buildings are conveniently placed so students don't have to walk or drive miles to their next class.'

-Dean Campbell

walk or drive miles to their next class like some of the other universities."

One suggestion made by students is to employ a shuttle that drives students from the far parking lots to the academic buildings. Campbell said that an escort service is already provided for students on campus.

"They just need to be called," he said.

The majority of students blame freshmen for campus congestion. Students, including sophomore Rene Epstein and freshman Kyle Leotsakos want to take freshman parking privileges away. Another idea posed by students is to confine freshman to the back of parking lots, such as the "O" lot.

Campbell explained that freshmen are not

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Senate race coming to an end.

By Erin Lynch
Staff Writer

Senate candidates Frank Lautenberg, Democrat, and Doug Forrester, Republican, are coming to the end of their campaigns with Election Day on Tuesday, Nov. 5.

Lautenberg is the last minute replacement for Sen. Robert Torricelli, who dropped out of the race when faced with ethical questions about accepting illegal gifts.

There was a United States Supreme Court hearing to decide if the change of candidates would be allowed. There is a state law that allows a party to name replacements up to 51 days before the election.

The Democratic Party decided on Lautenberg as the replacement only 34 days

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