Becoming adults: the right to change

By Lacey Korevec
Assistant Features Editor

Being away from home means gaining new freedoms, one of which is the freedom to change.

Many students, upon breaking away from parental supervision and arriving at school, feel that they are ready for such a transformation.

According to Sophomore Jodi Morris, college is the perfect time for change.

“It’s the four years when you can do whatever you want with and to yourself,” said Morris. “It’s when you define who you are going to be for the rest of your life.”

Morris, who has several tattoos, said that her parents are not accepting of the physical changes she has undergone since arriving at Rider.

“They hate my tattoos. They hate to see them. They like when I cover them up,” she said. “They don’t approve of them. Every time I get one another one they get angrier.”

Despite her parents’ feelings, however, she has no regrets.

“I got them because I’ve always wanted to. I think of my body as a blank sheet of paper and it’s mine to decorate,” she said. “I’ve always been interested in tattooing, I didn’t think I’d get a lot, but when you start tattooing yourself, you get into a cycle.”

Tattooing is not the only physical change Morris has experienced.

“When I came to college I continued getting tattoos, I pierced my tongue, I pierced my ears, I cut all my hair off and I dyed it blonde,” she said. “It’s not a matter of saying hey, let me go do things people won’t like.”

“It’s just that once you come to college you adjust.”

Junior Kristal King has gotten a tattoo and a tongue ring since she has come to school.

“I wanted them before I came to school, but I wasn’t old enough to get them by myself, so when I was old enough, I just went out and got it done,” she said.

King knows in advance that her parents’ reaction would be negative.

“They found out that same week and they were pretty heated.”

Piercings can leave scars. I think that getting tattooed and pierced just because you can is a bad idea,” she explained. “It’s not a sexy trend anymore.”

King knew in advance that her parents, like Morris’ and King’s, had a difficult time accepting her new appearance.

“My parents don’t care about my ear piercings,” she said. “My mom doesn’t like my tattoos, but she accepts them. My dad was pretty heated about the tattoos though.”

According to King there is still more change in her future.

“I don’t have any regrets. I think if you have any doubts then you shouldn’t do anything permanent,” she said.

Since arriving at school, Freshman Pat O’Keefe has cut six inches off of his hair.

“I grew my hair out my senior year of high school for no reason,” he said.

“When I got here I just cut it.”

Unlike most students, O’Keefe’s physical change was one that his parents approved of.

“My dad likes it now, but he still complains that I don’t comb it enough,” he said. “I’ve always done what I want ed. It wasn’t like I came to school and had no rules so I could do whatever I wanted.”

According to O’Keefe, he does not really know why he did it.

“It was just different, I guess,” he said. “It was sort of impulsive. I want to grow it back out, but I’m going to keep it short for track.”

DeCicco said that freedom to change is a good thing, but should be used with discretion.

“I think that rushing out and getting tattooed and pierced just because you can is a bad idea,” she explained. “Tattoos are permanent and they hurt. Piercings can leave scars. I think that dying and cutting your hair is a great idea because it will always grow back.”

Alpha Psi Omega brings ‘Laramie Project’ to Rider community

By Vincent Civitillo
Features Editor

A controversial story about a college student beaten and killed for being different will be coming to the stage of the Yvonne Theater.

Alpha Psi Omega will be performing The Laramie Project in the Fine Arts Studio Theater from Friday, Dec. 6 to Saturday, Dec. 7 at 8 p.m. with an additional showing on Saturday, Dec. 7 at 2 p.m.

“This show was created by members of the Techtone Theater Project, based upon interviews they obtained on a trip to Laramie, Wyoming about the Matthew Shepard hate crime,” said director T. J. Bodnar. “In October 1998, Matthew Shepard, an openly gay student attending the University of Wyoming, was beaten and killed.”

According to Assistant Director Jason Wooden, Laramie’s themes are universal to college students.

“This show has elements that everyone can relate to,” Wooden said. “Alpha Psi Omega has chosen an intriguing show for Rider’s campus yet again.”

Crossword

Across
1 Festival event
5 Moore of “G.I. Jane”
9 Hold firmly
14 Joel follower
15 Arabian sultanate
16 Poor recognition
17 suit
18 Trolley
19 Surpass
20 Truce
22 Fulton’s power
23 Put up with
25 Productive oil well
26 Charitable donations
30 Scourrel
33 Peneatre
34 Largest of the Mariana Islands
35 Baptize
36 Near the kidneys
38 Amyllois ingredient
40 Rhythemed
41 Summoned, old-style
43 Set free
44 Put in stitches
45 Yield
46 Leather worker
47 Three dots in text
49 Neapolitan noodles
52 Cumfy
57 Come to pass
58 Knit end
59 Scotton’s home
60 Hue
61 At some point
62 Rotation line
63 Cred
64 Marsh plant
65 Lofty

Down
1 Strip in the Middle East
2 Love god
3 Tower
4 Italian wine region
5 Special or Spock, e.g.
6 Loves to least
7 Dye
8 Weaken
9 Have a raise
10 Course taker
11 No entrance fee
12 Fountain street
13 Senior’s gig
14 Right
15 Parade
16 Women’s ( voting)
17 Harry
18 Rounding of or clips
19 First, reverse, etc.
20 Excessive
21 Start
22 Listen to
25 30 Ecost樂ological law
26 31 Entertain
27 Talk out of
28 Combatant
29 12 o’clock
30 Star of Eve
31 Conflict
32 Leave a jet
33 Red tablespoon
34 Piano study
35 Pizza pizza
40 Military base
50 Belly or heart
51 Lover

Solutions

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