

# Porter signs contract

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Staff writer

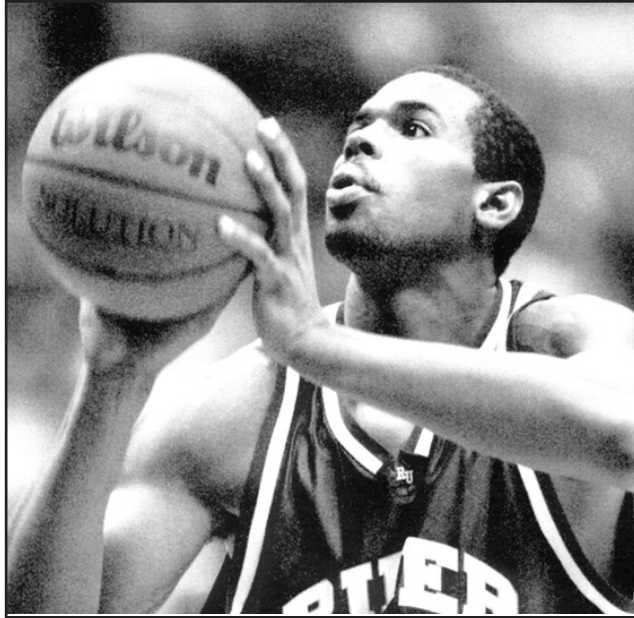
Mario Porter's days at Rider may have ended at graduation last May, but his basketball career has just begun. Over the summer, Porter signed a professional contract with a French team from Orleans. Porter was an honorable mention All-American as well as the Metro-Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) Player of the year last year.

He left for a long, nine-month season at the end of August.

When asked about Mario's new contract, head coach Don Harnum said, "This is a great opportunity for Mario to establish himself as a professional basketball player."

Porter leaves to Rider a legacy of being perhaps the best basketball player the school has ever seen.

He played three full years, averaging 17.6 points as a sophomore, 19.2 as a junior, and 20.1 as a senior last year. He shot 50 percent last year, which is a figure most professional players can only imagine in today's game.



Mario Porter signed a professional contract to play in Europe.

Showing how complete of a player he was, Porter also averaged 8.5 rebounds and 1.9 steals a game last year. Last season was arguably his best, as he led a charge by Rider down the stretch of the season to the regular season championship and the top seed in the MAAC Tournament.

Porter's final statistics reflect what a rounded-player he truly was. He finished his career here at Rider with the second most points in Rider's history, at 1,782, and the seventh most rebounds in his school with 706. He is the only player ever from Rider to score

1,700 points and grab 700 rebounds in a career.

After graduation, Porter played semi-professional basketball with the USBL Pennsylvania Valley Dawgs, which is the same team that Vikings receiver Randy Moss played on a year ago.

Now Mario Porter heads to France to start what he hopes to be a long, successful and professional career. With the influence of foreign basketball on the NBA today, it may not be too long before we see Mario playing in the NBA, using the skills he perfected here at Rider.

## Patriots

from page 11

championship the previous year.

All of the off-season drama led to the first Monday Night Football game, Patriots versus Steelers. The Steelers had almost nine months to think about how their season ended and everyone expected them to enact revenge.

Once the whistle blew, the Patriots played like the team that was seeking vengeance. They dominated the Steelers in every facet of the game from start to fin-

ish. Something was different after this win however; there were no excuses. There were no injuries, no controversial calls, and no inclement weather. The Pats were simply the better team.

At their next game there were still doubters as the Patriots once again were the underdogs, this time against the Jets. Amazingly, their string of "luck" continued in another dominating performance, a 44-7 win.

True, the Patriots may not have superstars and they may not be

as exciting to watch as other teams, but they are winners. They continue to win despite all the odds against them. They are a team made up of champions, and that's how they play, like champions.

## Equestrian

from page 11

"We will be trying to do more fundraisers," said Somaine. "We are asking that each member of our team sells at least 200 of ads for the first horse show.

"We will do additional fundraisers throughout the year to raise money for the spring," she added.

The team is also looking into community service.

According to Somaine, the ideas for community service are to donate to various organizations and volunteer at handicapped riding programs.

"We try to support each other as much as possible and we hope to get stronger every semester," said Somaine.

## And They're Off...

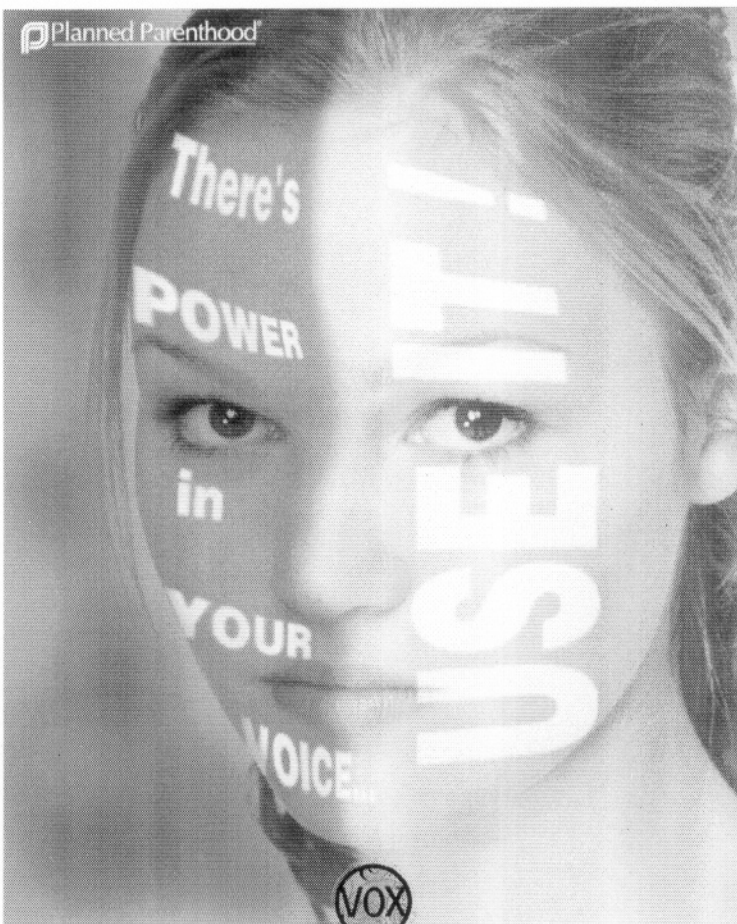
Rider's equestrian team placed 3rd in Region 3 - The team accumulated 226 points with only 9 riders while the top two teams had scores of 316 points for University of Delaware with 44 riders and 295 points for Delaware Valley College with 26 riders.

The present captain, Nicole Fox, qualified for the regional competition by accumulating +35 points in her jumping class at the regionals, where she won 1st place ribbon in her class.

### Upcoming Shows - Fall 2002

#### Schedule:

Oct 13, 2002 - at Timberedge Farm  
Nov. 10, 2002 - at Briarwood  
Nov. 17, 2002 - at Briarwood



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## Correction:

In the September 20, 2002 issue of *The Rider News*, the editorial staff incorrectly identified the photo for the article entitled, *Cross country ready to set a fast pace and take over*. The individuals in the photo were identified as members of the Cross Country team, however, they are in fact members of Rider's wrestling team.

## FREE PIZZA!



Come to the Rider News meetings, Wednesdays, 4:45 p.m. on the bottom floor of Centennial House.

## Recreation Assistants Wanted

Eden Institute in Princeton. Accompanying students with Autism in the community 2:15-5:15. We will train you. Good starting rate. Any weekdays. If interested call Jen Noto at (609) 987-0099

## Got a club event to announce?

- Or are you looking for a roommate?
- Or just to grab our reader's attention?

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On Campus Call 7124

Thinking about going to Law School? Interested in learning about the legal system and how it relates to your field of study? The Rider Law Society will host this year's first general membership meeting on Wednesday, October 2, at 5:30 in Fine Arts Rm. 201. Meet our executive board and join our network! Can't make it on Wednesdays? E-mail RiderLawSociety@netscape.net and we will keep you posted.