

Editorial: Reflections on a difficult and tumultuous year

As we anticipate the start of summer and the closing of another academic year, it is important to reflect on some of the lessons we have learned. Not only in the academic sense, although that is important, but also on what we have learned about life.

Every notable event that takes place throughout history leaves its mark. There is always a small piece that will remain a part of each individual for the rest of his or her life. It may go unnoticed, like a person instantly judging someone after seeing a turban on their head. Or it may remain within the realms of consciousness, like a post-Sept. 11 fear of flying.

As a nation, we were witnesses to many tragic events this year. We watched the ill-fated Columbia plummet to the ground. We feared for whoever would become the next random sniper victim. We waited nervously as our nation counted down the minutes to war with Iraq, and we watched Baghdad crumble, all while the nations security alert system bounced back and forth from orange to yellow, warning us all of national danger. This year has truly been a milestone, as we entered a war and prepared to finish a task that we began over a decade ago.

The current war we are involved in has been televised like no other in the past, allowing us to literally stare at buildings as they are about to be bombed, using night vision and other high-tech communique, and has supplied us with pictures of foreign lands that have lasers bouncing around them circling places where Iraqi troops might possibly be hiding.

It does not matter that disastrous events such as these may have taken place in Maryland, Columbine, New York City or even Iraq. We still live through them, whether in person or by watching them through a television screen. They affect all of us, as Americans and as human beings.

For every horror that we have witnessed, it seems there has always been a miracle standing by to help settle the score. Elizabeth Smart, who was presumed dead, was miraculously found, unharmed, proving that we should never lose hope. Our nation sobbed tears of happiness as we watched American Prisoners of War return safely to the arms of their loved ones.

We have also experienced many events within the Rider community. We said goodbye to a beloved school president and took part in the election for a new one, all the while marking a significant year in Rider's history. We have argued with one another and dealt with controversial issues, such as hosting productions like *The Vagina Monologues* and *Children of Fatima*, and of course, any loyal *Rider News* reader knows that you can not count on both hands the number of opinionated articles that were printed concerning the visit from the notorious Amiri Baraka.

But long before any of those issues even arose, the same students who argued with one another gathered together, holding candles in remembrance of those that were lost on Sept. 11, and again as they mourned the untimely loss of two fellow classmates.

This editorial expresses the majority opinion of The Rider News editorial board and is written by a member of the editorial board.

Letters to the Editor: *The Rider News* welcomes letters on all subjects of interest to the campus community. Letters must be typed and include the name, address, phone number and signature of the author for verification. Send to *The Rider News* via e-mail (ridernews@rider.edu), campus mail or hand deliver to Centennial House. All letters must be received by midnight the Monday preceding publication. *The Rider News* reserves the right to edit all letters for space and clarity.

Fall movies breeze into theaters

By Vincent Civitillo
Managing Editor

After an August that will see yet another remake of *Freaky Friday*, a one-on-one confrontation between Freddy Krueger and Jason Voorhees and a sequel to *Jeepers Creepers*, audiences will have a fall lineup to look forward to that might entice a few more viewers to hit theaters than the shoddy summer roster.

Scary Movie 3—After a weak first installment and a sequel that probably accounts for four positions on a top five list of the worst theatrical films ever produced, *Scary Movie 3* will hit theaters on Oct. 3 without the Wayans brothers, who made the first two at least somewhat watchable. The only plausible verdict: If a movie is so bad that even the out of work Wayans brothers turn it down, that's a clear indication that viewers need to stay away.

The Matrix: Revolutions—The highly anticipated final chapter in *The Matrix* trilogy hits theaters Nov. 5 with a Terminator-esque story of a war breaking out

between humans and the machines that once enslaved them.

Love Actually—Liam Neeson and Laura Linney headline this film about ten separate, but intertwining love stories set out of London. The comedy will feature such big names as Hugh Grant, Denise Richards and Rowan Atkinson and will open on Nov. 7.

Jersey Girl—The first View Askew production not to feature Jay and Silent Bob arrives in theaters Nov. 7 and will star company-veteran Ben Affleck. The film, which will co-star Jennifer Lopez and Liv Tyler will feature a plethora of actors from Kevin Smith's other films including Jason Mewes, Matt Damon, Jeff Anderson and Jason Biggs.

Timeline—Richard Donner (*Superman: The Movie*) directs this comedy about a group of archeologists (including Paul Walker of *The Fast and the Furious* and Frances O'Conner of *Bedazzled*) who find themselves trapped back in time in 14th century France until they can be rescued. Although the fish out of water idea is usually a great theme to play off of, this idea has been

Eat it up off campus

Candela—Route 206 south about two miles. Look for signs on the right to Candela. Fantastic, affordable Italian food cooked to order.

Applebee's—Route 206 north to 95 north to Route 1 north just past Quakerbridge Mall.

Chili's, TGI Fridays, Olive Garden, Red Lobster, Macaroni Grill, Joe's Crab Shack and On The Border—All of these restaurants can be found on the southbound side of Route 1. Take 206 north to 95 north to Route 1 north as far as you want to go and make a U-turn to your destination.

P.J.'s Pancake House—Take Route 206 north into Princeton. Follow Nassau Street to #154 on your left. Sandwiches, pancakes, burgers and more; charming downtown Princeton.

Fast food restaurants—Looking for that oh-so-good-it's-bad-for-you meal? Take Route 206 south, make right at West Coast Video and follow to intersection at Olden Avenue. Along Olden you'll find: Boston Market, Burger King, Cluck U Chicken, McDonald's, Taco Bell and Wendy's.

Maidenhead Bagel—Only a half mile up Route 206 North across from The Lawrenceville School, offers delicious bagels, sandwiches, soups and wraps at an affordable price. Bring your Rider I.D. and receive a 10 percent discount.

Bossio's Deli—Route 206 south about two miles on the right. Great sandwiches, hoagies and hot subs. They will also deliver to Rider University. Receive a 10 percent discount with your Rider I.D.

Ohhh... the places students can go

Princeton, NJ—Just six miles up the road sits historic and picturesque Princeton, NJ. The town boasts great shopping, dining and entertainment experiences, including the Tony Award-winning McCarter Theatre and Princeton Art Museum. You can get there via New Jersey Transit or by car, take Route 206 north.

Quakerbridge Mall—A five-minute trip from the campus takes you to this major shopping center. Equipped with Macy's, Lord & Taylor, JC Penney and Sears Take Route 206 north to Route 95 north to Route 1 north. The mall is a quarter mile up on the right.

Mercer County Park—Sprawling acres of beautiful grounds, bike and walking paths, athletic courts, an ice skating rink and fishing areas make a trip to the park a great retreat. Route 206 north to 95 north to Exit 65A (Sloan Ave.). At second traffic light turn left on Edinburg-Old Trenton Road. Go a few miles to main entrance of park (past Mercer County Community College).

Market Fair—A few miles north of the

Quakerbridge Mall on the southbound side of Route 1, the MarketFair is a shopping mall equipped with unique stores, including Platypus and Eastern Mountain Sports. There is also a TGIFriday's. Take Route 1 north to the light at MarketFair. Go through light and make jug-handle right turn to mall.

Sovereign Bank Arena—Home to year round entertainment featuring exciting Trenton Titans Hockey, Shooting Stars Basketball and concerts. Trenton Titan tickets range in price from \$9.50-\$17.00. Follow Business Route 1 south to 129 south at the Chambersburg and Broad Street exit. The Arena will be on your right.

Philadelphia, PA—Just 45 minutes away, Philadelphia has it all: museums, sports events, shopping, dining, theater and so much more. By car, take Route 206 north to Route 95 south into Philadelphia. Most express Amtrak trains traveling from 30th Street Station in Philadelphia to New York City stop in Trenton. SEPTA also provides service to Trenton from Philadelphia.

done, redone and over done enough to say that, when it comes out on Nov. 26, it better be good enough to justify its hackneyed plot.

The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King—Although *The Fellowship of the Ring* left a little to be desired for, *The Two Towers* had it all and hit the nail perfectly on the head as an excellent continuation. Coming off that momentum, the final chapter in the series hits theaters on Dec. 17.

Throughout the semester
SEC offers free movie viewing in the
Student Center Theater.

Friday - Sunday
Check your orientation packet or
Resident Advisor's door for details.