Editorial: Homecoming

As many students didn't know, Homecoming was last weekend. Go ahead and ask pretty much any student on campus and you will get the same confused look. Most could probably tell you what Homecoming was in high school. Usually it consisted of electing a Homecoming king and queen and a big football game sometime around Thanksgiving. Maybe some students went to the game, but even if they didn’t they could at least tell you what was going on that day.

But as for last weekend, the purpose of Homecoming remains a subject of confusion. Chalk scribblings all over the campus showed that there was some type of voting going on for a king and queen, but what exactly do the king and queen do? There is no football game to attend, for obvious reasons, but what other activities were going on? And why on earth are alumni invited back? What do they have to do with anything?

In case you missed it, the Foam Dance Party was the Homecoming kickoff. Daly’s had a few giveaways and a trivia contest. The Bronc Bowl Finals were on Saturday and there was a dance in the Cavalla Room, though tickets were limited. Most people did not even realize that the Foam Dance Party was part of the Homecoming events.

How could Rider have made Homecoming a little more exciting and geared towards students? The thing that really worked in high school was having the football game and making the football players try to get people involved. Since Rider does not have a football team, it would have to make other arrangements. Maybe one of the sports teams could play against Princeton or another big rival. That would bring our school spirit.

In order to have a more exciting Homecoming, Rider should either move it to the spring and revolve it around a popular spring sport or somehow work it into the fall sports.

Maybe asking the students what they would like to see happen would be helpful. If they make the decision about what is going on, they are more likely to attend and have an interest. They may even get involved.

And what about the alumni? It’s great that they come back, but could somebody please explain why they do? If we used the idea of having a big sports game, they could attend that and attempt to relive their days at Rider.

If Rider wants a big turnout and involvement in Homecoming, they should consider making it much more appealing to students. Homecoming this year seemed to revolve predominantly around the alumni coming back to the campus. Involving sports teams would really increase the turnout because it affects not only the players, but their friends as well. One can only hope that next year’s Homecoming will be a little more interesting.

Quote of the Week:

“The ability to delude yourself may be an important survival tool.”

— Jane Wagner