Student vandalism caught on tape

By Charlie Olsen

As students prepared for their first day of classes, several of them had been spending their time committing petty vandalism at construction sites across campus, said university officials.

On Tuesday, Sept. 7, at 2:15 a.m., a student, whose name is not available for disclosure, was caught red-handed by security cameras while stealing a construction sign outside of Kroner Hall, according to Assistant Vice President of Facilities Management, Phillip Voorhees, who is closely involved with the construction of the parking lots and renovations, said he was not surprised by the attempted vandalism, but merely disappointed.

In light of recent events, Rider Safety and Security is looking at expanding its network of surveillance cameras, Weaver said.

Rider adopts colorful new parking scheme

By Charlie Olsen

When students came back to start of a new school year, they were greeted by an array of new multi-colored parking spaces.

Dark orange outlines the Open lot. White colors the commuter lot and the infamous blue line separating the commuter and resident lots is gone. The colored spaces should ease any confusion concerning parking, school officials said.

“We tried to make it more user-friendly,” said Vickie Weaver, director of safety and security at Rider.

The biggest "user-friendly" change is in the "O" lot. The color of the lines in the lot is a close match to the orange color of the freshman resident parking decals, so that they know where to park, said Weaver.

Freshmen Poyda residents will be issued specific Poyda decals for the Poyda lot.

Although the freshmen are limited in their parking choices, the restrictions do not extend to everyone else. The freshman lot is open season to all the upperclassmen and commuters students, said Weaver.

“If their lot is full they can go over and park in O lot; it’s overflow,” said Weaver. “If the resident lot is filled and the O lot is filled, students are allowed to park in the baseball field parking lot.”

The 50-space parking lot near the south entrance has been razed and planted with grass for a number of reasons, Assistant Vice President of Facilities Management Phillip Voorhees said.

“One, the noise and traffic was directly next to the neighbor’s property line and the University had several complaints,” said Voorhees. “Two, it was originally installed as a service road during the original campus construction circa 1960’s and three, the square footage removal gave us credit for permeable surface for the new construction.”

The preservation of a certain amount of permeable surface at Rider is a requirement imposed upon the campus by both Lawrence Township and the state of New Jersey, said Voorhees. The campus is cleared for the current construction, which is underway, but any future development will require a “storm water master plan” for the campus.

Voorhees said there are no plans to remove the lot directly adjacent to the baseball field, even after the old field is removed.

Once construction of the new baseball field behind the Maurer Center is completed, “the old field will be leveled and become a green recreation space,” said Voorhees.

Despite the re-configuring of spaces, Weaver said there are enough parking spaces for everyone, although they can’t have convenient parking for everyone.

“We’re all like have parking available right outside our doors, this is a walking campus,” said Weaver. “Park your car and walk within the campus.”

Because of all the extra space, Weaver reminded students to keep the fire lanes clear.

“Let us know in advance,” said Weaver, “and designate a person to stay at the car in case we need to get emergency vehicles through.”

Lincoln gets revamp after 30 years of stagnation

By Andrew Silver

The renovation of Lincoln was one of the major projects of the construction on campus that occurred over the summer.

The project, which began six days after the end of the school year, finished one week before students settled in.

There are major changes in the dorm as a result of the work over the past few months, said Matthew Smith, a junior, who said the feeling for the dorms is similar to that in one’s own house.

“It feels like your taking a shower at home because you don’t have to carry anything,” said Smith.

Smith was also satisfied with other aspects of the rooms.

“The air conditioning is worth all of the money you pay for the suite.”

Lincoln is the best place to live on campus, according to Smith.

Since the changes went so smoothly, Pollack did not mention any drawbacks from the administration’s point of view, except that the rooms aren’t carpeted anymore.

“From a students perspective the only drawback is that they have to bring their own carpets for their rooms; it is not just there,” said Pollack.