**Campus Vandals Running Rampant**

Dramatic vandalism increase causes worry, raises questions

By David Maccar
News Editor

There has been a dramatic increase in individual acts of vandalism on campus this year, especially concerning vehicles in parking lots across campus, according to Vickie Weaver, director of Safety and Security at Rider. Security has received 24 reports of vehicular vandalism since Sept. 1 of this year and three acts of vehicular vandalism were unreported, meaning Security noted damage to vehicles but could not contact their owners, said Capt. John G. Hanusi of Safety and Security.

"Not only are we trying to identify the persons responsible, and we certainly believe it's more than one person at this point but we're also working with the local police," said Weaver. "We've increased our patrols and [the Lawrenceville Police Department] increased their patrols on campus as well."

These efforts may not be enough considering the nature of the vandalism and the amount of parking lots smashed by a vandal. This sight is not rare considering most of the 24 vehicular vandals this semester were to mirrors in which the vandalism has occurred.

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"I'm just surprised at the crowd considering so much I've heard about how commuters oriented this school is; the crowd has just been tremendous," said freshman Karson Langenfelder's father, Kevin Langenfelder.

"I think it's gone pretty well," said Meehan. "I think we've probably had more people than ever for Family Day, but this is all a very easy thing to do. Families naturally want to come; it's a fun event to do," said Keenan. With an abundance of children present, kid-friendly activities were swarmed with participants, especially the Bronc Fun Zone, located in the Bart Luedeke Center (BLC), where children could get their faces painted, have their picture taken and participate in other fun activities.

"I think they really enjoyed the day here and I think when the kids are happy, everyone else tends to be happy," Keenan said.

Junior Kimberly Brancato's family said they especially enjoyed the face painting.

"All the children's activities were very good, we have a lot of children and they had a lot of things to do," said Donna Brancato, Kimberly's mother.

Kathy Swira, mother of

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**Hateful graffiti erased**

By Tim Green
Enterprise Reporter

Hours after last Friday’s issue of The Rider News revealed that a defamatory message directed at gays was reported to Rider’s intolerance website but was never erased, Facilities Management removed the graffiti.

The phrase “kill the gays” was located inside a bathroom stall in the third-floor men’s bathroom of the Fine Arts building. Six months ago, it was reported to a university-based website devoted to fighting intolerance on campus.

The front-page coverage of the incident was the driving force behind the graffiti’s removal, according to Michael Reca, director of Facilities Management.

“We saw it [the article] and we reacted to it,” said Reca. “We were shocked that it hadn’t been taken care of.”

Giovanni Buscetta, who first reported the graffiti to the website last spring, said he had mixed reactions about how the university handled it.

“I am happy to see that it is finally gone, but honestly, I am more upset,” he said. “It appears to me that the only reason that it was removed is because the school saw it publicized in the paper. It should have been handled months ago.”

Reca said he did not know why the graffiti was never taken down. He said that the usual response time for such a report is within hours.

Buscetta said he still felt it was neglected.

“The school never addressed the issue of why it took so long for it to be removed, nor did they apologize for it,” he said. “How come we have to follow up with the school and be on its back, making sure it is doing its job? It’s all about following up and following through and university officials are clearly

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**Family Day embraces kin**

By Sarah Horbal
Staff Writer

Family Day had a friendly atmosphere this year for both students and families, according to Robert Brown, father of freshman Robert Brown.

On Saturday, Nov. 1, Rider hosted its 24th annual Family Day. Packed with seminars, open houses and numerous activities, students accompanied by their friends and families walked around experiencing all that Rider has to offer.

“It was an excellent day, with the weather the way it was; you couldn’t have had a better day,” remarked Liz Doric, mother of freshman Matt Doric. It was an unseasonably perfect 70 degree day.

Turnout proved to be more successful than most anticipated, according to Dave Keenan, director of Campus Activities.

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