FRATS ON LOCKDOWN
Sick of party-related issues

By Brooke Olster
Staff Writer

Due to recent incidents of alcohol abuse occurring at the Greek houses, the Inter-Fraternity Council (IFC) has temporarily implemented several major changes to their social events policy. These changes were initiated by the rise in complaints from parents received by the Office of Greek Life throughout the fall semester.

The IFC, which is the self-governing body of the four social fraternities on campus (Phi Kappa Tau, Zeta Beta Tau, Sigma Phi Epsilon, and Alpha Epsilon Pi), met with the presidents of each fraternity, along with Greg Overend and Rob Allen, from the Office of Greek Life, many times throughout the course of the past several weeks to discuss ways to combat the rise of underage drinking incidents in the Greek houses.

“The fraternities have been very successful in working together to find a viable solution,” said IFC President, Bobby Lange. “As a self-governing system, we have imposed our own decisions while working with the support of the administration at Rider.”

About two weeks ago, IFC and other Greek leaders proposed a modification of the social events policy. The modifications stated that independents (students non-affiliated with the Greek system) under the age of 21 would not be allowed in the Greek houses during registered social events for a trial period.

“These changes in the policy are not meant to keep independents away from the Greek houses, though it may seem that way. Instead, we are anxious to alleviate the harmful connection between Greeks and alcohol abuse,” said Lange.

See “Frats” on page 2

Republicans gain political majority

By Roger Alvarado
Staff Writer

A new era dawned in American politics Wednesday, Nov. 6, as Republican gains in the midterm election guaranteed that for the first time in 50 years the GOP will control both the House and Senate and have a majority in the new Senate, having gained four, and as of press time led one other race. Democrats won 203, and led three others. There was one independent. Majority control requires 218 votes.

This is only the fourth time since the 1860’s, when Abraham Lincoln was in office, that the president’s party has picked up House seats in a midterm election.

Senior Todd Tarczynski felt President George W. Bush’s extraordinarily high job approval ratings which hover around 60 percent in the aftermath of his handling of the Sept. 11 tragedy and the ensuing war on terrorism struck a resounding chord with voters.

“The Republican Party showed its true colors during this election and focused on important issues such as a strong national defense in these unsure times and tax cuts to spur the economy and that caught the voters’ attention,” said Tarczynski. “The results of the election indicate that President Bush’s popularity resonates with the voting public. By voting for people of his party and of whom he endorsed during the campaign, they entrust him and his leadership plan for the future.”

Dr. Frank Rusciano, chairman of the political science department was surprised

See “Republicans” on page 2

Saving daylight is a big expense

By Lacey Korevec
Staff Writer

Fall has arrived and the unfortunate result is that the days are getting shorter.

On Saturday, Oct. 27, daylight savings time, the clocks were set back one hour.

In just a few weeks, the stars will be out by 5 p.m. However, according to freshman Dana Scarantino, this time change has had a significant impact on the lives of Rider students. Scarantino is an athlete, and as a result, is greatly affected by the time change.

“My classes usually get out late, and on days that they don’t I have lacrosse practice. Lately we’ve been cutting practices early because we lose daylight,” she said. “We used to get two hours in and now we barely get an hour because it gets dark so early. People have been getting hurt because they can’t see holes and ditches in the ground. Practice is unproductive because you lose sight of the ball. Usually we’re out there with some of the other sports so you can imagine that they are experiencing similar problems.”

According to Scarantino, the practice conditions have become so bad that the team

See “Daylight” on page 2

A lull has fallen over Fraternity Row due to a temporarily amended social policy.