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THE PARTHENON

WWW.MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

MARSHALL UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER

THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 2009

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In this image issued by the government run Fars News Agency, supporters of pro-reform leader Mir Hossein Mousavi, seen in his poster in center, attend a rally in Tehran, Iran on Wednesday, June 17, 2009. Iran has accused the United States of "intolerable" meddling in its internal affairs, alleging for the first time that Washington has fueled a bitter post-election dispute.

Marshall Students react to protests

BY SAMIR ABDEL-AZIZ
THE PARTHENON

The recent political turmoil in Iran has affected two Marshall students more than most.

"I am not a fan of the current government in Iran, and I did not vote for Mahmoud Ahmadinejad," said Yasman Kahvaz, sophomore biomedical major from Southern Iran. "I feel he didn't earn this victory and I think we are going to see a recount."

Kahvaz managed to take part in her nation's recent presidential election by voting in Washington D.C.

"If I was back home in Iran I would be in the streets with my people protesting against the government," Kahvaz said. "I just do not like Ahmadinejad and I think he needs to leave office."

The validity of the elections is a source of anger for Elnaz Yousefzadeh as well.

"I believe Iran is an awesome country in many ways, but it is run by idiots," said Yousefzadeh, international business major from Tehran, Iran. "I believe the election results were faked, just like millions of Iranians in and out of the country."

Yousefzadeh said her biggest worry was whether or not Mousavi, the loser of the recent election, would be a leader and control and guide the protesters. Without a clear focus, the situation will only get more dangerous than it is right now.

"People are protesting against the fake election results on the streets all over Iran, and I honestly admire them," Yousefzadeh said. "Regardless of all the pressure they have faced, after five days they are still fighting in every way possible and asking for their right for a fair election — an election that their votes count."

Yousefzadeh said that the U.S. has been reporting for its own benefit and feels that as an Iranian outside her country it is up to her to inform the people around here about what is happening inside Iran.

"I'm just hoping for a better future," Yousefzadeh said.

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Iran accuses US of role in election crisis

ALI AKBAR DAREINI
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TEHRAN, Iran — Iran directly accused the United States of meddling in the deepening crisis over a disputed presidential election and broadened its media clamp-down Wednesday to include blogs and news Web sites. But protesters took to the streets in growing defiance of the country's Islamic rulers.

The sweep of events — including more arrests and a call for another mass opposition march through Tehran — displayed the sharpening attacks by authorities but also the unprecedented challenges directed at the very heart of Iran's Islamic regime: its supreme leader and the cleric-run system.

Any serious shift of the protest anger toward Iran's non-elected theocracy would sharply change the stakes. Instead of a clash over the June 12 election results, it would become a showdown over the core premise of Iran's system of rule — the al-

most unlimited authority of the clerics at the top.

For the moment, however, both sides appear to be using the same tactics since the disputed results showed hard-line President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad as the landslide winner.

Opposition leader Mir Hossein Mousavi called for another mass rally Thursday in open defiance of Iran's most powerful figure, Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who has urged the nation to unite behind the Islamic state.

Authorities rounded up perceived dissidents and tried to further muzzle Web sites and other networks used by Mousavi's backers to share information and send out details of Iran's crisis after foreign journalists were banned from reporting in the streets.

Officials also stepped up claims that foreign hands have been behind the unrest.

A statement by state-run Press TV blamed Washington for "intolerable" interference in the bloody showdown over allegations of vote-rigging and fraud. The

report, on Press TV, cited no evidence.

It said the government summoned the Swiss ambassador, who represents U.S. interests in Iran, to complain about American interference. The two countries severed diplomatic relations after the 1979 Islamic Revolution.

The State Department this week asked Twitter to postpone a scheduled maintenance shutdown of its service to keep information flowing from inside Iran, three U.S. officials said, speaking on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the situation.

A State Department spokesman said Washington was withholding judgment about the election and was not interfering in Iran's internal affairs. President Barack Obama has offered to open talks with Iranian leaders to end a nearly 30-year diplomatic freeze.

For nearly that entire time, Iran's ruling clerics held uncontested power over nearly every critical decision, including possible talks with Washington. But the upheavals have pushed them into unfam-

iliar territory.

Khamenei and his inner circle have been drawn into a messy and public crisis — with the election dispute even bringing possible splits within the theocracy.

Chances for a full-scale collapse are considered very remote. The ruling clerics still have deep public support and are defended by Iran's strongest forces, the Revolutionary Guard and a vast network of militias around the country.

But Mousavi's opposition movement has broken significant ground. It has forced Iran's most powerful figure, Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, into the center of the escalating crisis and broken taboos about questioning his role as the final word on all critical matters.

"It's changing the way Iranians see the supreme leader and the system in general," said Meir Javedanfar, an Iranian affairs analyst. "That opens up their system up in ways it's never faced before."

SEE IRAN | PAGE 5

New Works Festival offers chance to collaborate

BY SHEA ANDERSON
THE PARTHENON

The Third Annual New Works Festival will allow community members to collaborate in and influence the development of plays by local writers.

The festival will feature read-throughs of four plays from three playwrights beginning at 7:30 p.m. each night Thursday through Saturday at the Francis Booth Experimental Theatre in the Joan C. Edwards Playhouse. Each performance will be followed by a question and answer session.

"This kind of festival allows for actors, directors and playwrights to work together to find new growth in original material," said Jack Cirillo, director of the festival.

Thursday night, "Senate Idol" and "Fly by Night," two short films by Jonathan Joy, will premier. "Senate Idol" takes a comedic look at a Senate race in Ohio

where candidates are chosen like contestants on "American Idol." The second play portrays an alien interviewing a human and humorously examines the latter's views of Earth.

Joy has written approximately 20 plays, and he said at least 15 of them had been performed in the Huntington and Charleston areas. His plays have also been performed in seven other states, in cities including New York, Chicago and Los Angeles. Because Joy won the David Mamet Writing Award in 2005 and 2008, one of his plays was published in the New York Times.

This is Joy's third year participating in the festival. He said feedback from the previous years has helped him make changes to his work, and he hopes audience reactions will help him with his plays again.

"I'm sure people will laugh in places where I didn't expect them to, and some places when I expect

a laugh I won't get it," Joy said.

Clint McElroy, who has also participated in the festival for three years, said he also hopes to use viewer feedback to revise his work.

"I think if you're serious about wanting to write and wanting to create things, especially in playwriting, you need that feedback to know if something works," McElroy said.

McElroy's play "The Pep Sturdley Family Christmas Special" will be performed Friday. It is a modern-day version of an old-fashioned Christmas special.

"It's not just about the jokes," McElroy said. "It has a lot to say about family dynamics. There's a message to it."

In his first appearance in the New Works Festival, Jeremy Richter's [Best Imitation] will be performed Saturday. The musical follows a group of people and explores the interconnectedness of their lives and relationships.

"The greatest thing will be having my play performed by new people," Richter said. "They don't know me very well, so I am able to see my play in a different light."

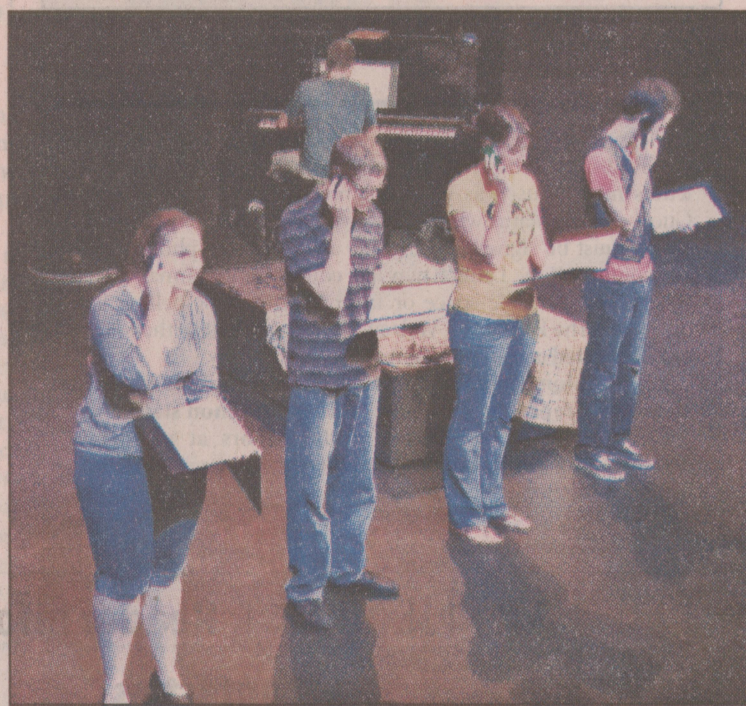
Richter has applied for a grant to help with the production of his play, so he said the festival will be the beginning of the process for the work.

"I think it will go over well but at the same time there's a lot of naturalism and honesty and realism," he said. "Hopefully people will be surprised by it."

A new feature of this year's festival is student-written interludes, which will be performed throughout the event.

Tickets are \$12 per evening or \$20 for a festival pass. They can be purchased at the Marshall University Theater box office in the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center.

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DANIEL HOLLOWAY | THE PARTHENON

Actors rehearse for their performances in the Third Annual New Works Festival

THE PARTHENON

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THE FIRST AMENDMENT

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people to peaceably assemble; and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

EDITORIAL

Iran's biggest threat is its own people

Twitter the perfect weapon to defeat tyranny

The biggest subversion to the Iranian regime is not a well-spoken rebel, an army of protestors or even an outside influence.

It is a simple little social network called Twitter.

The Iranian government has tried to crack down on every little bit of media from their country, but were unable to thanks to the advance of modern technology and the determined will of its citizens to tell their story.

While photographers were threatened, reporters driven out in spades and even instant messages being blocked, Iranians still found a way to tell the world what was happening in the streets of Tehran.

It appears that we are now living in a time of great change were even the most vile suppression of the press cannot withstand the outrage of this global, connected village.

While we at the Parthenon support President Obama's decision to allow the events of Iran to play out without giving the leaders of Iran ammunition, we applaud the people of Iran for standing up for themselves in whatever way they can. As the old expression goes "Evil triumphs when good people do nothing."

Thanks to what could be called the Twitter Rebellion, we know that the Iranian citizens are not allowing it to succeed in their homeland. There is nothing more powerful than the impulse to be free. Against it no nation can stand, no force of arms can intimidate.

>>> Online poll

Do you agree with Obama's decision to stay out of Iran

- A) Yes
B) No
C) I don't know

Previous poll

Did you have assignments during dead week?

Yes 76%
No 15%
I don't know 10%

Vote online at
www.marshallparthenon.com

Guidelines for letters to the editor

Please keep letters to the editor at 300 words or fewer. They must be saved in Microsoft Word and sent as an attachment. Longer letters may be used as guest columns at the editor's discretion. Guest column status will not be given at the author's request. All letters must be signed and include an address or phone number for confirmation. Letters may be edited for grammar, libelous statements, available space or factual errors. Compelling letters posted on The Parthenon Web site, www.marshallparthenon.com, can be printed at the discretion of the editors.

The opinions expressed in the columns and letters do not necessarily represent the views of The Parthenon staff.

Please send news releases to the editors at parthenon@marshall.edu. Please keep in mind that stories are run based on timeliness, newsworthiness or space.

EDITORIAL CARTOON | ERIN FELTON | THINK OUTSIDE THE SIDEWALK



TOM BRAGG | Contributing Columnist

Obama seeks to mend relationship with Islamic world

Barack Obama went to the well once more, and it worked, again.

Obama drew on his heritage and early years to help relate to his international audience. The speech served as a starting point for fixing American relationships with the Islamic world on multiple issues, including democracy, women's rights and the Israel-Palestine conflict.

Marwan Bishara, Al Jazeera's senior political analyst, said it helped undo some of the harm caused by the Bush administration.

"If Bush had to demonise many Muslims in order to launch the wars he did in the Islamic world, then Obama humanises the Islamic world in order to engage," Bishara said.

Speaking of the Bush regime, the American war in Afghanistan was another hot-button issue addressed by President Obama. He stated that the United States does not want military bases in the Asian country and wants to get the troops out of there, but Obama made sure to not let anyone forget why Americans are in Afghanistan.

"Let us be clear: al-Qaeda killed nearly 3,000 people on that day," Obama said. "The victims were innocent men, women and children from America and many

other nations who had done nothing to harm anybody. They have affiliates in many countries and are trying to expand their reach. These are not opinions to be debated; these are facts to be dealt with."

While I think it is important to not forget how we all felt on the day the United States was attacked, the search for Osama Bin-Laden has been going on for eight years and has turned on zilch. It feels almost as if karma is at play, considering how Americans armed and trained the poor people in Afghanistan in the 1980's to fight the Russians, and now they are using our weapons and know-how against our troops (thanks a lot, Charlie Wilson). Obama knows it is time to get out of there, but it has to be handled the right way.

The elephant in the room any time Obama speaks is Iran, and the Cairo speech was no different. Obama's comments on Iran were a breath of fresh air compared to the fire-and-brimstone approach taken by past leaders of state when dealing with Iran (thanks

in no-small part to Jimmy Carter's speech in the 1970's and the hostage crisis that ensued).

"I understand those who protest that some countries have weapons that others do not," Obama said. "No single nation should pick and choose which nations hold nuclear weapons. That is why I strongly reaffirmed America's commitment to seek a world in which no nations hold nuclear weapons. And any nation - including Iran - should have the right to access peaceful nuclear power if it complies with its responsibilities under the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. That commitment is at the core of the Treaty, and it must be kept for all who fully abide by it. And I am hopeful that all countries in the region can share in this goal."

This statement drew criticism from American conservatives, but those same conservatives seem hell-bent on negotiating with force rather than peaceful methods. Obama makes an excellent point -- why must any nation possess nuclear weapons? If a country can safely operate with nuclear power and not abuse its power to create weapons of mass destruction, then what right does America have to tell that country how to operate? No matter how much some people might want it

to be true, America is not the police of the world, nor should it be.

Granted, Iran is potentially dangerous, but much like in America last fall the young people are going to play a large part in Iran's elections (which are going on at the moment I am writing this.) A regime change has helped the United States work toward changing its ways, perhaps that is what Iran needs. (Author's note - We've seen the Iranian elections play out over the weekend and in to this week and it doesn't seem like there is a peaceful end in sight. It's debatable whether the elections were fair or not but the incumbent regime's reaction leads me to believe they have something to hide. My only hope is that America respects Iranian sovereignty and let the Iranian's handle Iran's business.)

It's hard to judge the effectiveness of a speech like the one Obama gave so shortly after its delivery. Obama certainly had some good ideas and said the right things to start mending America's relationship with the Islamic world, but history will be the final indicator as to if this was a building block or a catalyst for something different.

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BEN CALECA | Michigan Daily

Robots aren't a mechanized menace

After seeing the latest Terminator movie, I've spent weeks in an undisclosed location preparing for the coming mechanized apocalypse. For me, it is all too clear I have been an accidental collaborator in encouraging our trust in machines. Scouring all the sources I have, I've finally found what very well may be our greatest threat since broadcast television signals were changed to digital. Its name is the PR2, and it's coming to infiltrate our homes and businesses. I'm sure once you learn about this despicable creature, you'll agree we have much to fear.

The PR2, short for Personal Robot 2, is an autonomous robot developed by Willow Garage, a Silicon Valley research group. It's being hailed as a considerable leap forward in robotic technology that doesn't require human assistance. In tests, the robot has

successfully opened doors on its own and figured out how to find electrical outlets for charging. It has traveled 26 miles around the Willow Garage office building without human input in a single test. But its creators say the machine requires handicap-accessible buildings to operate effectively. To protect Ann Arbor residents, I propose Mayor Hieftje find buildings that aren't handicap-accessible to have residents take shelter in. Michigan Stadium is clearly the best place to hold out against the coming e-horde.

If, however, these machines cannot be stopped by stairs, then there may be little hope for us. The PR2 moves at the blistering speed of one and a quarter miles per hour. Combine that with its ability to charge itself after only several hours at an outlet, and we have a threat that will not tire,

will not feel and, if it spots you, will keep bumping into you until you die of old age.

Maybe I am getting it just all wrong. What if technology doesn't try to kill us by conflict, but by subversion? After all, robots are getting smarter. Robotics has gone from mere remote-controlled machines to computers capable of besting us at Chess in only the past 60 years. The Joint Action Science and Technology project in Europe has developed a robot that can anticipate what humans require assistance with, and in Japan a robot named Ninomiya-kun can read physical Japanese books. What books it reads on its off-days are anyone's guess, but perhaps it's learning our culture so it can get into our heads.

Okay, so maybe we aren't in any danger of being poisoned by a robot butler or chased down the

streets by ravenous attack robots with Austrian accents. That being said, the complexity of robots has exploded in an extremely brief time. While the capabilities of machines such as PR2 seem trivial, their evolution is astounding. Nature needed hundreds of millions of years to get from single-celled archaean to crude invertebrates. At this rate, truly intelligent artificial life may be possible in our lifetime.

While some robot concepts, such as artificial maids, are the more convenience-oriented end of robotic research, we have to remember this technology is invaluable for dangerous jobs. Robotics eliminates the human factor in situations involving hazardous waste, confined spaces, dangerous geologic areas and, most prominently, space exploration to the far corners of our solar system.

THE PARTHENON | Reader information

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Daily News Quotation

"Genuine religion ... stands at the base of any authentically human culture. It rejects all forms of violence and totalitarianism: not only on principles of faith but also of right reason." — Pope Benedict XVI to Muslim leaders in Cameroon.

All Good Festival brings four days of live music to West Virginia

THE PARTHENON

Live music fans in the Appalachian and Mid-Atlantic regions will not have to travel far for a weekend of entertainment this summer. The 13th annual All Good Festival is set to quench the thirst of concert-goers over the weekend of July 9th-12th atop farmland known as Marvin's Mountaintop.

Situated on more than 300 acres of rolling hills with a natural amphitheatre, Marvin's Mountaintop has hosted the All Good Festival since 2003. Located in Masontown, W. Va., just a few miles east of Morgantown off I-68, the festival site is one of the most recognized on the festival circuit. Live music provides a backdrop for the convergence of cultures and peoples from all over the country while the festival also offers on-site camping and vari-

ous vendors providing a wide array of exotic foods and apparel.

What started out as a gathering of less than a thousand fans and only a handful of acts has grown into a weekend that features close to 40 nationally touring bands and a draw of close to 20,000 attendees.

While many large-scale North American music festivals like Bonnaroo and Lollapalooza have decided to cash in on the boom of indie acts, All Good has favored a lineup relying almost entirely on the improvisational talents spawned by the eclectic nature of the 'jam' scene.

"The passion of the 'jam' crowd keeps them coming back," said Walther Productions Publicist Dave Weissman. "The performers, artists and bands are the type of musicians who, even if they've played the festival before, will completely mix up their show

and set lists so each performance is unique. These are the kinds of bands that this crowd enjoys and Walther Productions knows its fans and patrons very well."

Weissman also said that the promoters opened an online poll this past winter for fans and potential attendees to vote on which artists they would like to see play at this summer's festival.

Taking fans into consideration even further, Walther Productions does not want to make fans choose between bands playing on different stages at the same time. Unlike most other music festivals, All Good boasts the luxury of allowing fans the opportunity to not miss one second of any band that performs over the weekend.

"While there are nearly 40 bands on the billing, there is only one band performing in the concert bowl at all times, so fans can actually see every band listed on

the billing and every one they've paid to see. This provides nearly non-stop music from noon until about 4 to 5 a.m.," said Weissman.

Advanced tickets to the 13th annual All Good Festival are \$139 and are available online at www.allgoodfestival.com. Tickets will also be available at the gate for \$165.

For festival-goers looking for an upscale experience, the All Good Festival offers the 'Even Better VIP' package which includes an exclusive viewing and camping areas with premium site-lines, an "Early Arrival Ticket" for Thursday admission, private air-conditioned bathrooms, private showers, premium camping overlooking the main stage, Festaxi shuttles and exclusive All Good merchandise. All of these amenities and much more are available for the advanced rate of \$379.



A crowd gathers to hear a performance at the festival.

Four new deans to head departments in the fall

BY SAMIR ABDEL-AZIZ
THE PARTHENON

New deans will be heading four schools in the fall: the College of Science, the Graduate College, the Lewis College of Business and the newly formed Honors College.

"I'm looking forward to the challenge of a new position," said Mary Todd, founding dean of the Honors College. "In making the decision to move from an honors program to an honors college, the University has significantly underscored its commitment to academic excellence."

Todd said the new college will make honors much more visible both on campus and to prospective students, and the expectation of the dean will be to provide leadership and oversight for its development and growth.

"I will be focusing on two things," Todd said. "A complete program review and the development of a strategic plan. The review will provide an analysis of the current program and the plan will offer an outline of the strategies and resources necessary to establish the Honors College."

Prior to getting the position, Todd had served as the chief academic officer for Ohio Dominican University in Columbus, Ohio for five years. She had first considered

applying for the job upon hearing good things about Marshall from a coworker.

"I was impressed by the warm welcome I received from the university," Todd said. "The enthusiasm was very clear from the students and faculty associated with the program."

Donna Spindel, the new dean of the Graduate College and a faculty member of Marshall for over 33 years, is likewise pleased with her new position.

"I'm very excited about my opportunity to take on this new job," Spindel said. "Marshall has a huge graduate program and in some ways I see it as one of Marshall's best kept secrets."

She said the Graduate College at Marshall is an intricate part of the university, and that much of the research currently taking place on campus is from the graduate college.

"Graduate studies are absolutely crucial to the ability of the United States to be competitive around the world," Spindel said. "Institutions from around the world understand that and Marshall is apart of that."

She said while the hardest part of her job will be to learn the ropes of day-to-day routine, her number one priority would be to meet the needs of her graduate students.

"The part of this job that really appealed to me is the fact that the Graduate College

is interconnected to every college at Marshall," Spindel said. "To me that's really exciting because it kind of opens doors to me to become involved with academics from across the university."

Spindel said her first goal would be to build upon the strengths of the Graduate College. Once established, she will begin to work with students and faculty to identify strengths and weaknesses.

"It is not about necessarily competing with other institutions but to find what we are uniquely good at and to move forward with that," Spindel said.

Charles Somerville, the new dean of the College of Science, will be focusing on cross-disciplinary interaction within the college and the university at large.

"This is a time when separations between traditional scientific disciplines are diminishing and new interdisciplinary teaching and research programs are emerging," Somerville said in a press release.

The Lewis College of Business is awaiting its new dean. The announcement was expected Monday. However, no confirmation had taken place by press time on Wednesday.

Samir Abdel-Aziz can be contacted at abdelaziz1@marshall.edu.

Clay Center museum attendance increases

Funding from Kanawha County Commission primary reason for increase

BY JUSTIN HAWTHORNE
THE PARTHENON

The Clay Center museum has experienced a near 50 percent increase in museum attendance within the 2008-2009 school year.

"Funding from the (Kanawha County) Commission was the primary reason for the increase in attendance," said Judy Wellington, President and CEO of the Clay Center.

The Kanawha County Commission pledged \$100,000 to the Clay Center last July as a way

even to the administration at the Center which saw more than 600 students visit the galleries during the first week of June.

According to a press release from the Clay Center, Kanawha County Commission President Kent Carper said that the increased attendance was 11,000 reasons to support the Clay Center and that the commission's money was well spent.

Even though Kanawha County students are the only ones who get to experience the museum for free at this time, Wellington said that she hopes to ultimately

"We are seeking funds from the government, corporations, foundations and individuals to endow free admission for school groups."

Judy Wellington
President and CEO of the Clay Center

als to endow free admission for school groups from all West Virginia counties," Wellington said.

While the Clay Center is working on collecting funds for free admission for school groups throughout West Virginia, higher education institutions are on the back burner. Wellington said that their efforts are focused on grades pre-K to 12.

For more information on exhibits and events at the Clay Center, visit theclaycenter.org.

Justin Hawthorne can be contacted at hawthorne2@marshall.edu.

Web searches on celebs, lyrics return viruses

By NICOLE KARLIS
THE DAILY IOWAN

Michael Phelps may have conquered the 2008 Olympics, but he might also be destroying students' computers.

Typing his name in five major search engines carries a 40 percent maximum risk of infection, according to a recent report by the security technology company McAfee. Hypothetically, 100 out of the 250 websites that appear after a search of "Michael Phelps" would be infected.

Common infections from dangerous search terms include Trojans and malware — short for "malicious software."

"You can expect that someone is going to get into your computer" when searching for "free music," said Stanley Ziewacz, a graduate student in computer science.

That search phrase combines two risky terms, in fact. Any search that includes the

word "free" is likely to be an infected website. And the top three riskiest terms in the United States were "word unscrambler," "lyrics," and "myspace" — all with a maximum risk of 50 percent.

Experts say there are several reasons for the phenomenon.

It's difficult for infected sites to be completely weeded out from searches because new scams constantly replace old ones, the report said. Furthermore, the sites pop up because search engines will return bad websites as their top results, said E.J. Jung, a UI assistant professor of computer science.

The safest search terms were those related to the economy, such as "financial crisis," "unemployment," and "Wall Street." That's because companies tend to keep close tabs on their names and websites.

"Larger corporate websites are pretty well maintained; people keep an eye on them," said Jane Drews, a UI information technol-

ogy security officer. "We typically see problems with smaller websites, personal websites, or noncommercial websites."

Fortunately the UI offers all students a protection software for free. It has three different components to it, Drews said — anti-virus and spyware, proactive threat protection, and network threat protection.

And choosing what websites to enter may be more of a gamble now than before. Hackers' motives have changed over the years, Ziewacz said.

"Now it's for profit and not for fun," he said.

And computer experts agree it is ultimately the user's responsibility to decide which websites to enter.

"What I always tell my students is to be very careful about what they allow into their system," Ziewacz said. "Imagine [hackers as] people walking among the rooms of a hotel just trying every door, and if a door unlocks, they'll go into the room."

Huntington Urban Renewal Authority makes changes

BY ASHLEY DEEM
THE PARTHENON

The Huntington Urban Renewal Authority introduced a host of changes during Monday's meeting.

Philip Carter, now known as the former president of the board, called the meeting to order. Attendance was taken, and the meeting then moved to nomination and election of new officers. Carter initiated the nomination for president. A quick response followed from commissioner Diane Mufson with a motion to nominate Nate Randolph. No second nomination for president. The nominations continued for vice president. Carter was nominated, but he quickly declined the nomination. Brandi Jacob-Jones was nominated. Next nomination made was for secretary. Carter was again nominated, but he again quickly declined. Diane

Mufson was then nominated. Finally, the nomination of treasurer was brought to the table. Yet again, Carter was nominated, but he also declined this nomination. Herb Stanley was then nominated.

With all nominations complete, the meeting proceeded to the election of new officers. The election was rather quick and easy to decide with only one nomination for each office.

After Randolph took the seat of president, the meeting progressed into other orders of business. The first was a clarification. Previously, there was a misunderstanding, leading the board to believe that it may have obtained a half million dollars. Randolph mentioned the excitement they all had at the possibility of having that much money in their account and all that they could have accomplished with it. However, Jacob-Jones revealed that the half million dollars was

not the amount in their banking account, but it was the insurance value on their account.

The next order of business was a discussion about fees that had been charged to their account with Chase Bank due to inactivity and a possibility of getting those fees waived. Mufson proposed that the board move their funds to a local bank to support a local business and, in turn, to receive support from the bank, thus potentially eliminating the problem of miscellaneous fees. The resolution reached by the board was that it would research what local banks offer and decide from there.

The final point of the meeting was the discussion of which organization would be best suited to be the land bank authority in Huntington—the Huntington Urban Renewal Authority or the Huntington Municipal Development Authority.

A land bank authority takes

control of properties when the properties are considered abandoned by owners and when the owners fail to pay within an 18-month period.

Randolph said he believed it was best for the Huntington Urban Renewal Authority to be the land bank authority because the board is more residentially focused while the Huntington Municipal Development Authority is more commercially focused. Randolph also cited concerns with the financial resources of the Huntington Municipal Development Authority as well as their struggles and lack of success with Kinetic Park.

"I envision HURA (Huntington Urban Renewal Authority) as a protector and growth advocate for the neighborhood," Carter said.

Ashley Deem can be contacted at deem11@marshall.edu.

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THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 2009

Cavalier wins inaugural Jim Nantz Award

BY CHRIS DUNHAM
THE PARTHENON

Somewhere between Jack Buck and Bob Costas in the realm of great sports broadcasters, the name Adam Cavalier may someday appear.

Cavalier, who graduated from Marshall University this spring, was named the winner of the first annual Jim Nantz Award for outstanding work as a sportscaster.

The award, presented by the Sportscasters Talent Agency of America, recognizes the most outstanding collegiate radio sportscaster in the country.

"To win the first Jim Nantz award is awesome beyond all reason," Cavalier said. "I was just thrilled to be listed among the top five, especially after seeing some of the other names of schools and people that I recognized."

The WMUL production manager has now won 98 awards in his four years on the staff.

"He's being recognized by people outside this program as being good," said WMUL faculty manager Chuck Bailey. "It's one thing for me to say 'he's good.' But my view of him has now been validated by a number of other judges."

Judges have taken notice of WMUL across the board. In Cavalier's four years as a member of the staff, the station has had the four highest yearly award totals in its history including an all-time high of 89 in the last school year.

"I think Adam took it as a goal to beat the record we had, which was 77 awards, set under Vince (Payne in 2006)," Bailey said. "Was it possible? We'd never done it before so nobody knew if it was possible. But we won 89."

Cavalier was either the winner of

or a member of a team that won 64 of those awards.

"I've won awards ranging from sports play-by-play to sports programs to news reporting to news anchoring to sports anchoring to PSA production to training and manual writing," Cavalier said. "If you can think of something, chances are it's been done by me, then by this radio station."

The range of awards and honors the station has received has established WMUL as one of the nation's strongest college radio stations.

"If they want to believe the program is what does it, more power to them," Bailey said. "I think it takes the program and the people together to do it. You have to have a good program that gives you opportunities and puts you in the right place to be successful. Then you have to be willing to do it. We've had students willing to do it."

No student has been a better example of hard work over the last four years than Cavalier. With his number of awards this year, he moved into second place on WMUL's all-time list behind only Payne's 126.

Cavalier, who returns to be the station manager as he starts grad school, is expected to surpass Payne's mark before he leaves Huntington.

"I think too many people think I have this innate ability to do what I do and that's just not the case," Cavalier said. "I might win awards and perform at a high level but it's through work ethic and many sleepless nights. Anyone can do this if they apply themselves the way that I have, especially with the tools here at Marshall University and WMUL."

With these experiences and awards on his resume, Cavalier hopes to someday be the play-by-



"Anyone can do this if they apply themselves the way that I have, especially with the tools here at Marshall University and WMUL."

ADAM CAVALIER
Jim Nantz Award recipient

play broadcaster for a Division I athletic department.

"The dream is a play-by-play job," Cavalier said. "Out of grad school, if I can land a play-by-play job anywhere, I would be thrilled. If it means I go to the University of Alaska-Anchorage and call games for the Sea Wolves, by golly, I'll pack up, get myself a truck and move to Alaska. But that's where I hope it takes me."

Cavalier's versatility and work ethic, according to Bailey, are what will get him to where he needs to be.

"He has a lot of cuts he has to make and hurdles he has to clear in his race to the top," Bailey said. "But Adam is a very intelligent young man. He's a very motivated young man and now he's a very accomplished student broadcaster."

Once Cavalier is established in the field, they may change the Jim Nantz award to bear the name of its first recipient. It happened for Vince Lombardi at the Super Bowl.

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Victory!



North Korea players celebrate after their Asian Group B World Cup qualifying soccer match against Saudi Arabia at King Fahd stadium in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia Wednesday, June 17, 2009. North Korea qualified after a 0-0 draw with Saudi Arabia.

North Korea qualifies for first world cup since 1966

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia — North Korea qualified for its first World Cup finals since 1966 and Saudi Arabia and Bahrain stayed alive in the race to South Africa 2010 on Wednesday.

North Korea was the last of Asia's automatic qualifiers, joining Australia, Japan and South Korea.

After Iran conceded a costly late goal to draw 1-1 at South Korea, North Korea and Saudi Arabia knew a win against each other at King Fahd International Stadium would secure a berth. Instead, they drew 0-0 and North Korea claimed the second berth in Group 2 from the Saudis on goal difference.

North Korea gave a "great performance," said coach Kim Jong-hun.

"We focused on defending as we had come under a lot of pressure from the Saudis and I think our preparation for the game was one factor that earned the victory tonight."

"We monitored the Saudi team from the beginning of our campaign and I noticed that they have a problem in finding good strikers."

South Korea topped the group unbeaten with four wins and four draws for 16 points. North Korea and Saudi Arabia had 12 each, Iran 11 and the United Arab Emirates 1.

Australia and Japan had already qualified, but the Aussies capped an unbeaten run through Group 1 by beating their Japanese visitors 2-1 for their sixth win. Bahrain secured third spot by defeating Uzbekistan 1-0.

As the third-place finishers, Saudi Arabia and Bahrain will meet in play-offs on Sept. 5 and 9. The Saudis are trying for their fifth consecutive finals. Bahrain is still in the hunt to make their finals debut.

The winner will then face Oceania champion New Zealand on Oct. 10 and Nov. 14 for a berth in next year's finals.

North Korea, which had allowed only five goals in seven games, concentrated on defending rather than playing to win, and Ri Myong-guk was excellent in net as Saudi Arabia dominated on attack while under pressure to win from a big home crowd.

But by the time substitute Kim Yong-jun was sent off deep in injury time, North Korea had sewn up only its second trip to a World Cup finals.

In Manama, Bahrain notched the only goal when dead-ball specialist Mahmood Abdulrahman's free kick gave Uzbekistan keeper Ignaty Nestorov no chance in the 74th minute in front of more than 20,000 fans at National Stadium.

Bahrain also finished with 10 men after center back Abdulla Al Marzooqi was sent off 12 minutes from time.

Tim Cahill's second-half pair led Australia past Japan before almost 70,000 at Melbourne Cricket Ground, and rekindled memories of another pair in a win against Japan at the 2006 World Cup.

"It's fantastic for the team to have a player like that, because you know he'll always do what he has to do, and that's scoring goals," Australia coach Pim Verbeek said.

Japan scored in a lackluster first half through Marcus Tulio Tanaka, who

headed in Kengo Nakamura's corner.

Masoud Shojaei's early rebound goal off his own shot gave Iran hope of a fourth World Cup appearance, but Park Ji-sung's 81st-minute strike for host South Korea cost Iran, which drew five of its eight matches.

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MU Equestrian team focusing on recruiting for the 2009-10 season

BY KRISTEN HARKER
THE PARTHENON

Coach Billie Graham of the Marshall University equestrian team is giving serious attention to getting more students on board this season.

Graham is returning for her second season as the team's coach, and is hopeful that this year will have a better turnout than last year.

She attributes the problem with recruiting students to the fact that Marshall's team, unlike other college equestrian teams, is self-sufficient—the members of the team must pay their own way for lessons, shows, and other expenses.

The fees for this year's team will be \$100 a month for a weekly lesson with the coach, and any additional lessons will be half price, or \$12.50, instead of the regular \$25 per hour rate. Lessons

can be given individually or in groups at the rider's discretion.

"Most colleges that have an equestrian team have a barn and program attached to the school; we don't, making it that much harder to attract students and make progress," Graham said.

The only requirements for the competitive team are being an undergraduate, full-time student, and being able to practice at least once a week with the coach. Any rider wishing to compete must meet the specified number of lessons for the coach to sign off on their participation.

Graham said the riders from each college compete against each other at the shows, where each place is worth a different amount of points. The problem, according to Graham, arises where Marshall's team has only a few riders, and other schools have many

more, therefore being able to score more points, even if they come in last in each category.

"We actually had a rider last year who was one point away from going to the regional competition, so the ability is definitely there," Graham said. "We just need more of it to be able to make an impact at the shows."

The amount of riders committed to the team for this year has doubled already, and Graham hopes to get as many more as possible at tryouts, which will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 29 at Royal Winds Farm in Ona.

The 2009-2010 season will run from August to April. For more information, contact Coach Billie Graham at (304) 208-3130.

Kristen Harker can be reached at harker@marshall.edu.

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IRAN

FROM PAGE 1

Javedanfar believes two critical factors should be watched: whether the opposition movement can keep its show of strength on the streets for several more weeks and, more importantly, if it can bring in influential voices from Iran's Islamic clergy.

Shortly after the election, Mousavi appealed for the backing of clerics in the holy city of Qom, Iran's seat of Islamic learning and a critical political base for theocracy. But received shows of support from several prominent liberal and dissident religious figures, including Grand Ayatollah Hossein Ali Montazeri, who said that "no sound mind" would accept the election results.

But Mousavi, who served as prime minister during the 1980s, has not captured widespread support among the Qom clerics. That doesn't mean, however, they are supporting Ahmadinejad, either.

Many have congratulated Khamenei for holding the election, but any mention of Ahmadinejad's victory was noticeably absent.

The wild card for Mousavi's movement is former President Hashemi Rafsanjani, who heads the Assembly of Experts — a cleric-run body that is empowered to choose or dismiss Iran's supreme leader. Khamenei is Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's successor, and the assembly has never used its power to remove Iran's highest authority.

Rafsanjani was a fierce critic of Ahmadinejad during the election, but has not publicly backed Mousavi. It is not known whether Mousavi has actively courted Rafsanjani's support or if they have held talks.

But Iranian TV showed pictures of Faezeh Hashemi, Rafsanjani's daughter, speaking to hundreds of Mousavi supporters, carrying pictures of Khomeini.

Robin Niblett, director of the Royal Institute for International Affairs in London, said he does not believe Mousavi wants to topple Iran's theocracy, but his allegations of vote fraud could undermine the authority and respect of Khamenei.

"It is a split itself over this election and the broader grand strategy of the country," Niblett said. "I don't believe the protesters want to overthrow the system at this time — although their ire at Khamenei may yet increase."

Mousavi urged followers to wear black Thursday to the planned rally in mourning for the alleged election fraud and the lives lost in the protests. Seven demonstrators were shot Monday by pro-regime militia in the first confirmed deaths since the unrest erupted after the election.

Mousavi's call followed a rare public appeal to unite behind the Islamic state. Khamenei has normally remained aloof from direct involvement in political disputes, but the scope of crisis has pushed him into an unfamiliar role as mediator.

Mousavi's backers have now staged three straight days of major marches in Tehran, including hundreds of thousands of people Monday in a huge procession that recalled the protests of the Islamic Revolution.

An amateur video showed thousands marching Wednesday on an overpass in support of Mousavi's campaign.

BBC's Farsi-language news site reported Wednesday that protests also occurred in Shiraz, Tabriz and Mashad, though no serious violence was reported in those cities.

A crackdown on dissent continued, with more arrests of opposition figures reported, and the country's most powerful military force — the Revolutionary Guard — saying that Iranian Web sites and bloggers must remove material that "create tension" or face legal action.

In one high-profile display of apparent support for the opposition, several Iranian soccer players wrapped their wrists with green tape — the color of Mousavi's campaign — during a World Cup qualifying match in South Korea that was televised in Iran.

In Paris, demonstrators held up banners saying "Freedom of Expression in Iran," and "Where is my vote?" near the Eiffel Tower. In Rome, about 300 people gathered to show solidarity with Mousavi.

The government has blocked certain Web sites, such as BBC Farsi, Facebook, Twitter and several pro-Mousavi sites that are vital conduits for Iranians to tell the world about protests and violence. Many other sites, including Gmail and Yahoo, were unusually slow and rarely connect.

Mousavi condemned the blocking of Web sites, saying the government did not tolerate the voice of the opposition.

The Revolutionary Guard, an elite military force answering to Khamenei, said through the state news service that its investigators have taken action against "deviant news sites" that encouraged public disturbances. The Guard is a separate military with enormous domestic influence and control of Iran's most important defense programs. It is one of the establishment's key sources of power.

The statement alleged that dissident Web sites were backed by Canadian, U.S. and British interests, a frequent charge by hard-liners against the opposition.

"Legal action will be very strong and call on them to remove such materials," it said.

The U.S.-based International Campaign for Human Rights in Iran said several dozen human figures associated with the reform movement have been arrested, among them politicians, intellectuals, activists and journalists.

Tehran-based analyst Saeed Leilaz, who is often quoted by Western media, was arrested Wednesday by plainclothes security officers who came to his home, said his wife, Sepahnaz Panahi.

At least 10 Iranian journalists have been arrested since the election, Reporters Without Borders said.

The main electoral authority has said it was prepared to conduct a limited recount of ballots at sites where candidates claim irregularities. The re-count would be overseen by the Guardian Council, an unelected body of 12 clerics and Islamic law experts close to Khamenei.

Mousavi alleges the Guardian Council is not neutral and has already indicated it supports Ahmadinejad. He wants an independent investigation.

Researchers find educational value in some video games

Studies find that simulation games help build children's strategic thinking skills.



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BY JUSTIN HAWTHORNE
THE PARTHENON

Video games are often recognized as being violent, but some researchers want to change that perception and show there are games with significant educational value.

Constance Steinkuehler, an educational researcher at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, conducted a study at the end of last year in which he organized an after-school group to play the massively multiplayer online game World of Warcraft.

Steinkuehler's research claimed that his group started as apathetic students who were not interested in the subjects of reading and writing. Once the group had spent time playing World of Warcraft, they were able to write lengthy posts in the after-school group's Web site forum.

Bryan Johnson, an integrated science and technology major from Proctorville, Ohio, said that he wasn't sure if students could learn real-life skills from a massively multiplayer online game, but that it was possible for them to learn a few social skills and money management.

"I could see organizational or leadership skills being used, but in my experiences the younger players in World of Warcraft, or any other MMO for that matter, seem to be the players that beg, exploit and generally make the game a worse experience for everyone else," Johnson said.

Another set of researchers in the United Kingdom called the Teachers Evaluating Educational Multimedia conducted a study using games such as Age of Empires, Roller Coaster Tycoon and

Sim City 3000. This group's belief is that simulation games can build a child's strategic thinking skills.

"Age of Empires and Age of Empires II were two games that got me interested in history. Though they might not be completely historically accurate, the point would be to get the kids interested in history from the game then teach a lesson based on the civilization," Johnson said. "I could see where that could work out very well, as long as the games were only a part of the whole lesson and not the complete class."

While some researchers are working toward validating the educational value of video games, other scientists are actually developing educational games for use in the classroom.

Last year, the Federation of American Scientists launched Immune Attack, which is a game that uses cutting edge technology to help students understand the complexities of the immune system.

While the scientists are confident that this game will help students learn biology and problem-solving skills, they still stress the fact that the game may only be a complement to a lecture-based classroom.

"I have concerns with using games in class," Johnson said. "As a building block, games work to get kids interested in a certain subject, but they lack accuracy. You can't teach from a game, unless you are teaching the design or development of a game. They aren't a substitute for books or lectures; at least not yet."

Justin Hawthorne can be contacted at hawthorne2@marshall.edu.

More than 100 kids sue over parents' deportations

BY LAURA WIDES-MUNOZ
AP HISPANIC AFFAIRS WRITER

MIAMI (AP) — Ronald Soza celebrated his 10th birthday Wednesday with cake and a serenade by more than 100 other children and their parents.

His own family: absent. His mother was recently deported back to Nicaragua. His father rarely ventures out in public in fear of a similar fate. Now Soza and the other children — all U.S. citizens whose parents face deportation — are demanding a say in the immigration debate.

They are suing President Barack Obama, asking a court to halt the deportations of their parents until Congress overhauls U.S. immigration laws.

The children, who gathered Wednesday at the Miami nonprofit American Fraternity to draw attention to their cause, say their constitutional rights are being violated because they will likely have to leave the country if their parents are forced to go.

Some children said their families didn't have enough money to pay for school supplies because the breadwinning parent had been deported, and some are at risk of losing their homes. They also say they are suffering psychological and physical hardship.

"My grades went from A's to C's when my mom had to leave," said Ronald.

Nearby, 5-year-old Sara Bedoya Sanchez comforted her sister Salome, 3, who played

with a paper sign pinned to her chest reading "Don't Leave me alone."

"I came today because I want to stay with my mommy here," said Sara, who was born in South Florida, but whose mother came from Medellin, Colombia, through Mexico, crossing the Rio Grande on foot nearly a decade ago.

Nora Sandigo, the head of the Fraternity, originally brought the case on behalf of the children against the Bush administration. She refiled it in January in Miami and a hearing is scheduled for August.

Sandigo said she is frustrated that the Obama administration hasn't done more to address immigration reform.

"Today these children's voices are not heard," Sandigo said as dozens of youngsters squirmed and twirled their flags on a rug before her, "but tomorrow these U.S. citizens will be voting."

Perhaps not literally, but many of the more than 100 children who gathered Wednesday are already in their teens and will be voting age by the next presidential election.

Also on Wednesday, religious leaders and supporters gathered in Washington for a prayer vigil in advance of Obama's proposed meeting on immigration next week with congressional leaders.

Sandigo says many of the children's parents came to the U.S. before 1996 immigration changes made it more difficult for them to become legal residents. When they came, they had a valid expectation that if they

stayed out of trouble for seven years, they could eventually become legal residents, she has argued.

Immigration experts say the case has a tough road in the courts because Congress explicitly made the law retroactive.

And the plight of the children is not grounds for their parents to remain in the U.S., said Mark Krikorian, executive director of the Center for Immigration Studies, which seeks to limit immigration.

"These are deportable aliens, and they get whatever due process Congress grants them and nothing more," Krikorian said.

"There are going to be times when you're going to want to make exceptions in certain cases, but today the law is so riddled with exceptions that now is not the time."

Sandigo has championed seemingly hopeless causes before. She brought a lawsuit in the early 1990s to help fellow Nicaraguans avoid being deported back to their war-ravaged country. The case prompted Congress to pass an amnesty law for many Central Americans.

The current lawsuit could also advance the cause of immigrants in the political arena, said immigration scholar Louis DeSipio of the University of California, Irvine.

"It's a very conscious decision of the immigrant advocates to focus on this issue," he added, "to disabuse Americans of the images we have of them in their twenties and thirties running across the border, showing instead that it's a family affair."

Gas prices rise for 50th straight day

BY CHRIS KAHN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Retail gas prices climbed for the 50th straight day Wednesday, and crude prices that had slumped all week bounced back.

Historically, filling station prices tend to rise during the summer as millions of Americans take to the road. But a surge in crude prices during the past few months and less production from the refiners that make gasoline has added pressure on prices.

"Refiners slowed production and did a lot of maintenance on the expectation that this was going to be a lousy year for demand," said Fred Rozell, retail pricing director at Oil Price Information Service. "It turns out it wasn't so bad."

Yet it's still pretty bad. Before the most recent government report on demand, gasoline supply to the market was down 3 percent, and prices have still been cheaper than they were three years ago.

Pump prices added a half cent overnight to a new national average of \$2.67 a gallon, according to auto club AAA, Wright Express and Oil Price Information Service. A gallon of regular gas has jumped nearly 37 cents in a month.

Meanwhile, oil rose above \$70 a barrel after a key government report said that crude held in U.S. storage houses fell for the third straight week.

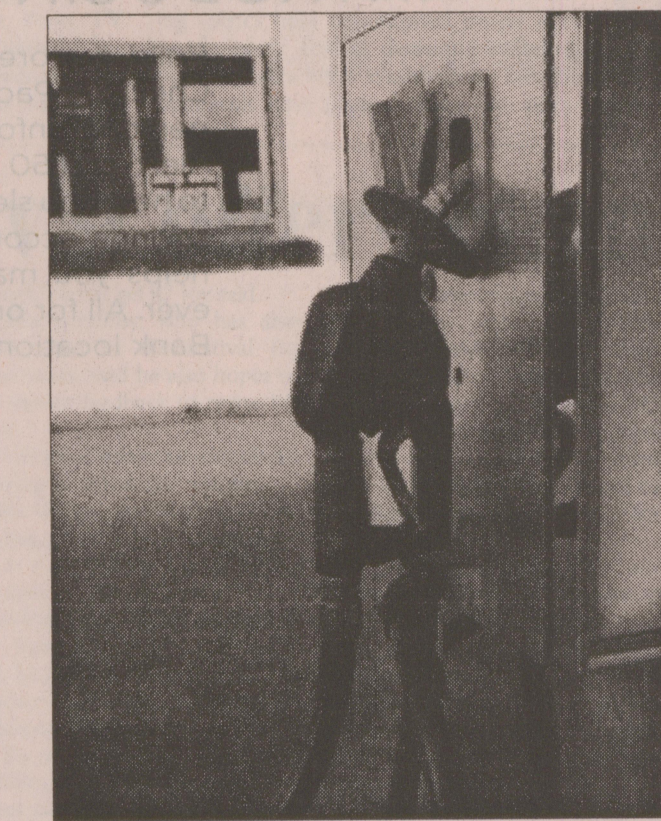
Benchmark crude for July delivery added 56 cents to settle at \$71.03 on the New York Mercantile Exchange. Most of the trading already has switched to the August contract, which added 54 cents to settle at \$71.70 a barrel.

The Energy Information Administration report said gasoline reserves grew last week by 3.4 million barrels, or 1.7 percent, to 205 million barrels. Analysts expected stockpiles of the motor fuel to rise by 650,000 barrels.

Demand for gasoline was up 1.1 percent from last year, averaging nearly 9.3 million barrels a day over the four weeks ended June 12.

Crude inventories fell last week by 3.9 million barrels, or 1.1 percent, to 357.7 million barrels, the report said. Despite the drop, U.S. inventories are still bloated with the most oil than they've held in nearly 16 years.

Oil prices this week have come off eight-month highs near \$73 a barrel amid some signs that the U.S. economy, while past the worst of a severe recession, is still weak. Crude prices have dropped with equities markets this week, and they continued to fall Wednesday



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though the dollar was weak.

Because barrels are priced in U.S. currency, oil tends to rise when the dollar falls.

In other Nymex trading, gasoline for July delivery tumbled 3.85 cents to settle at \$2.0326 a gallon and heating oil added 3.8 cents to settle at \$1.863. Natural gas for July delivery gained 12.4 cents to settle at \$4.253 per 1,000 cubic feet.

In London, Brent prices added 61 cents to settle at \$70.85 a barrel on the ICE Futures exchange.

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Reporter experiences 'concert of a lifetime' despite travel bugs

BY KYLE HOBSTETTER
THE PARTHENON

It seemed like the road trip from hell, but the destination was musical experience heaven.

At 2 a.m. Friday morning I set out in my car for what was supposed to be a six-and-a-half hour drive to my first big musical concert experience, The Bonnaroo music festival in Manchester, Tenn.

Bonnaroo is a four-day music festival held on a farm and features some of the biggest acts in music today. It is a time where you can relax with friends, camp and rock out with music that would usually not be seen together.

As I began the trek towards what I thought would be the musical enlightenment I needed, I ran into a problem—a blinding thunderstorm in the Bluegrass State of Kentucky.

As the rain let up, I continued the drive. Working on three hours sleep and driving a supposed six-and-a-half hour trip requires a little bit of assistance. So in Grayson, Ky., I picked up my first of six Redbulls. As I worked off the sugar rush of these Red Bulls, I worked off another substance: excitement.

I was on my way to see people who I never thought I would be able to see in person. Acts set to perform at the festival were Bruce Springsteen, Al Green, The Beastie Boys, Elvis Costello and my personal favorite, Public Enemy.

As the mix of excitement and sugar worked through my body, I willed my way through Kentucky to the state of Tennessee. But what I didn't know at the time was that I had put the wrong address into my global positioning system. I was unwillingly heading on a side trip an hour away from my supposed destination.

I had to pick up my tickets on Hillsboro Blvd. in Manchester, Tenn., I was on the highway towards Hillsboro Rd. in Franklin, Tenn., As I sat there screaming obscenities at my directions, I moved on to pick up my ticket.

After I arrived to pick up my ticket, I went to the farm to set up camp and listen to the tunes that define generations of people. But the line of cars defined a generation of people who had not learned a proper way to set-up an event.

After two hours of waiting in line, I finally parked my car. I grabbed my stuff and went to meet my friends to set up my camp. It was noon. The supposed six-and-a-half hour trip took more than eight hours. But what occurred over the weekend was well worth the drive.

I headed for Centeroo, the main hub containing the eight music stages and a comedy tent. I didn't know what to expect when I first entered, but I wasn't surprised by what I was exposed to.

Vendors and salesmen offered me everything that I could dream of, whether it was something as simple as food or a clothing item, to something different such as jewelry based on the event or substances that are illegal in all fifty states.

But I wasn't there for the items or the atmosphere; I was there to listen to the music. Friday, I was able to see one of the best soul singers of all time in Al Green, followed by one of my new favorite bands in TV on the Radio. But what followed was the high-

light of my trip, The Beastie Boys and Public Enemy. As I watched these two rap groups I grew up listening to perform, I realized I could have left after that night and been happy. I continued my journey though and went to bed that night in my tent, ready for the next day.

The sun glared on my tent and I woke up at 8:30 a.m. with none of the concerts beginning until noon. That was probably the worst part of actually being there: the lack of sleep. I probably slept for 10 hours over the trip, four of which were at a rest stop on the way home.

The lack of sleep did not stop my enthusiasm and I continued my Bonnaroo journey with a stop at the Which stage to listen to Jimmy Buffett. His cool island songs were what I needed to prepare for one of the better thrills of the trip: standing in the front of the stage, listening to rock legend Elvis Costello.

After listening to one rock legend, I finished the day with two more legends. The headliner of the entire festival who shut down all the other stages finally appeared, Bruce Springsteen featuring the E Street Band. After Bruce's three-hour set, the night concluded with the last North American show by Nine Inch Nails. As the night wound down, I realized I had one more day to go before travelling back to Marshall.

The last day at Bonnaroo was as big as the previous two days, but memorable for other reasons. A lot of the day was used trying to charge my phone so I had it in case something happened on my way home (keep note of this).

One of the last bands I saw was rap legend Snoop Dogg, who was at his best and had the crowd eating at the palm of his hand. My final show of the weekend was Band of Horses who I heard many good things about and was impressed by, and I found it a fitting way to end my first music festival experience. But the trip was not over—I still had the long trip back home.

I made it through the line out of the farm rather quick, about an hour. Then I made it through Nashville with ease and decided I had better sleep a little bit after making it through Tennessee. So I stopped at a rest stop to rest my eyes and re-boost my spirits.

The next day I woke up at 6 a.m. and continued my journey home, knowing I had class at 2 later that afternoon. I decided that I had better go home fast so I could rest before class. But as I was driving seventy, my tire decided to burst, causing my vehicle to go out of control on the side of the road.

Luckily I had charged my phone before I left Bonnaroo (I told you to remember that). I changed my spare tire with the help of the tow truck that AAA called. The spare, though, was flat. However, I was only two miles away from a Wal-Mart. A quick drive there and I was able to get a new tire and was on my way again.

I arrived in Huntington at around 11:30 a.m. Monday. I took a shower and laid down. I remembered the fun I had from the weekend. Nothing could take away the memory of the concert experience of a lifetime, one I hope everyone can experience.

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TAYLOR KUYKENDALL | THE PARTHENON
Jimmy Buffet performs at Bonnaroo.



TAYLOR KUYKENDALL | THE PARTHENON
The Low Anthem performs in the press tent at Bonnaroo.



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