

TECH COLLEGIAN

 Institute of
Technology
West Virginia University.

Montgomery, West Virginia
March 8, 2006
Vol. 107 Number 20

Nessie Invades Tech

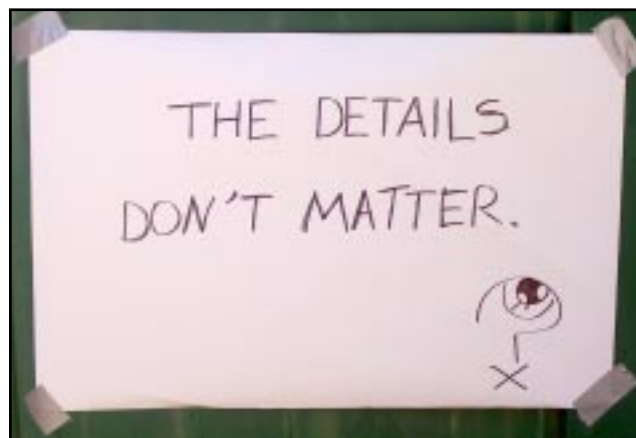
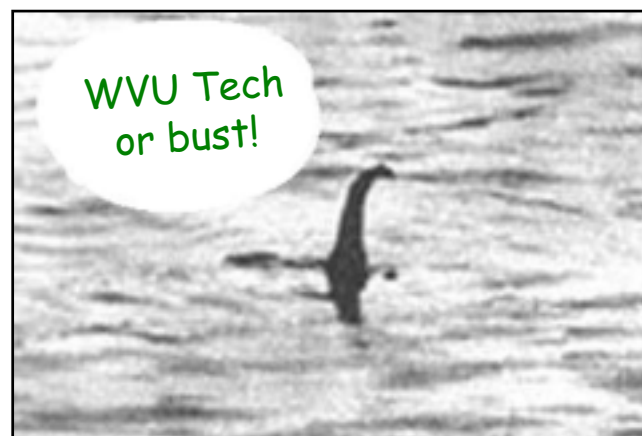
By Kate Reich

Recently, flurries of strange signs have appeared on the Tech campus, mystifying those on their way to class. While many were torn down quickly by Campus Safety, a few managed to remain, mostly in the area(s) surrounding ELab and Engineering. These signs (most of which were pictured in last week's Collegian) have cryptic messages and a logo of some creature or design. While these signs probably have something to do with all the hoopla that has surrounded Tech this semester, I have decided to take a more creative approach to figuring out the mystery of the signs. Nessie, the fabled Loch Ness Monster, has relocated from her scenic pond in Scotland to not-quite-so-scenic Montgomery. The signs themselves point to Nessie's presence on campus:

Make Up Your Mind: Do you believe in the existence of Nessie? Would you like to believe in Nessie? Well, Nessie believes in YOU, and the occasional deep tissue massage.

Stop Hurrying: Nessie likes water. I'm assuming she swam over here, and is currently tied up at the Belle locks.

The Details Don't Matter: Nessie likes everything straight



and to the point. She likes her drinks on the rocks with no garnishes.

A Brighter Future is not Guaranteed: Is Nessie's presence going to help you graduate any sooner? I doubt it.

You may be having questions on why Nessie would relocate to Montgomery (you're probably also questioning my sobriety at this point). Well, I'm guessing Tech has many conditions that are favorable to large cryptic zoological species of lizard? Amphibian? Democrat? Let's look at the facts: West Virginia is home to Tech, and it's also home to many believers of the Mothman and the Flatwoods monster. She would feel right at home. The climate is fairly favorable to large water-dwelling species of... whatever. The water in the rivers is murky enough for her to hide in, and since pollution has killed a fair amount of living creatures in the rivers (to be fair, there are currently attempts to try and clean it), Nessie could munch on all those zebra mussels which like to clog pipes and other things up.

So, if you're out and about in Montgomery, and happen across Nessie, be sure to give her a nice, warm welcome.

Tech CTC to hold "Career Exploration Carnival" on March 23rd

The Community and Technical College at WVU Tech has organized a combination Open House/Career Exploration Carnival for Thursday, March 23rd. The Open House is for area Home Schooled students. These students will arrive on campus at 10:30 am, take a tour at 10:45 am, and have lunch at 11:30 am.

There will be a "Career Exploration Carnival" in the lobby from noon to 1:30 pm. Home Schooled students will be invited to attend as well as current CTC and Tech students who are presently undecided on a major.

If you are thinking about changing majors, or if you know someone who may be interested in attending Tech, please let them know about this event. It will be on the first Thursday after spring break.

There will be snacks and prizes available. Representatives from academic majors will be there to answer questions about the various technical programs available from the CTC at Tech.

Open Forums in Davis Auditorium

The next open forum for faculty, staff, students, and the community to provide updates on constituent workgroup recommendations and legislation will be held

Thursday March 9.

(2 sessions each day:

1:00 pm and 6:00 pm)

You are encouraged to attend.

Tech Legislative Update:

HB 4690, which would make WVU Tech a division of WVU instead of a regional campus, passed the House Wednesday with an overwhelming majority vote (92-4). The bill went to the Senate Thursday morning to be taken up by the Senate Education Committee and then by the Senate Finance Committee.

The Senate Education Committee has regularly scheduled meetings on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 2:00 pm. As of last Thursday, the bill was not on the agenda. Education Chair Senator Bob Plymale, chair of this committee, reportedly had not decided what to do with this bill. He may sit on it and never bring it to the committee for vote. If he does that, the only way to bring the bill for Senate consideration is through a Senate rule that allows a senator to ask for the bill to be brought out of committee for full Senate consideration. It only takes a simple majority for such a bill to be brought out.

Senator Plymale is well known as a Marshall University

alum and supporter. One current rumor is that Plymale wants to add the CURE language to the bill (adding Marshall to the engineering education mix), which would probably result in the bill being voted down. Another rumor is that Plymale will advance the bill if a political trade-off is arranged that would give support to his transportation activities at Marshall. Senator Plymale is the third most powerful individual in the legislature. Fortunately for Tech, the most powerful person in the state is Governor Joe Manchin, who is in favor of passage of the bill.

The bill to give Tech a one-time \$14 million appropriation is dead. However, there is talk of \$8.5 million or more for Tech being added to the budget next week. The budget work continues after the legislature ends its regular session Saturday night.

This is all the news that is available at our deadline time (Monday night).

Tech Bookstore News

Bestsellers now at Tech Bookstore

The Tech Bookstore offers the top selling books in college bookstores at a 30% discount to all customers.

FICTION

1. **Da Vinci Code** **Dan Brown**
2. **Last Templar** **Raymond Khoury**
3. **. . 5th Horseman** **James Patterson**
4. **Cell** **Stephen King**
5. **In the Company of the Courtesan** **Sarah Dunant**
6. **Templar Legacy** **Steve Berry**
7. **Son of a Witch** **Gregory Maguire**
8. **At First Sight** **Nicholas Sparks**
9. **Sea Change** **Robert Parker**
10. **Everyone Worth Knowing** **Lauren Weisberger**

NON-FICTION

1. **Freakonomics** **Steven Levitt**
2. **Marley and Me** **John Grogan**
3. **World is Flat** **Thomas Friedman**
4. **Blink: Power of Thinking without Thinking** **Malcolm Gladwell**
5. **Year of Magical Thinking** **Joan Didion**
6. **Post Secret: Extraordinary Confessions from Ordinary Living** **Frank Warren**
7. **Cosmo Kama Sutra** **Cosmopolitan**
8. **Confessions of a Video Vixen** **Karrine Steffans**
9. **Man without a Country** **Kurt Vonnegut**
10. **Little Book that Beats the Market** **Joel Greenblatt**

Grad Fair at Tech Bookstore April 5-7

Graduating Seniors – mark your calendars for your own Graduation Party at the Tech Bookstore Wednesday through Friday, April 5 – 7th, from 10 am until 3 pm.

Planning to march in May? You will need to purchase your cap and gown. Want to invite (or notify) friends and relatives? You need to purchase graduation announcements.

Not planning to march? You can still purchase a tassel to display or put into a scrapbook or shadow box.

For all graduates, the Tech Bookstore has items to enhance your memory of Tech. Besides the items mentioned above, there are professional looking portfolios (one with the Tech seal in a brass medallion) that is sure to impress any boss. There are mugs, decals, hats, and shirts. There are handsome diploma frames to showcase your hard-earned degree.

Earning a degree at Tech is not easy. You probably had friends and family that helped along the way – financially and emotionally. A gift from you saying “thanks” would mean a lot to them.

So come to the Tech Bookstore Grad Fair. Enjoy the refreshments. Register to win a diploma frame – one to be given away (valued over \$100).

If you cannot attend (or your family would like to purchase you a gift), the Tech Bookstore can take phone orders and ship UPS - 304.442.3106. From our web site, you can look at many Tech items (including diploma frames) and place an order – www.wvutech.bkstore.com Hope to see you there.

**The Tech SGA and CTC SGA
are accepting requests for funding
from the Student Activity Fee
for the 2006-07 year.**

**Requests will be accepted until 4 pm on March 13, 2006.
Please contact the Student Activities Office at 442-3100
or via e-mail at James.Kerrigan@mail.wvu.edu
for the Request Forms.**

Phi Kappa Tau News

Phi Kappa Tau Study Groups

By Bryan Bittle

Do you need help in one of your classes? Know a friend who does? Then come join one of Phi Kappa Tau's study groups. Right now three different groups are meeting based on your majors.

If you are a Printing or Business major, come join our brothers on Tuesdays from 7 pm till 9 pm in the library.

If you are a four year Engineering major, such as Mechanical Engineering and Computer Science, come join us on Wednesdays at 6 pm in the library.

If you are a two year Technical major such as EET, or MET, come join us on Thursdays at 6 pm at the library.

Finally if you are a Technical Computer major such as CIT, then meet us on Thursdays from 4:30 pm till 5:30 pm in Davis Hall.

If you are involved in any of these categories of majors, please stop by and let us help you in your studies.

Phi Kappa Tau's In the Community

By Bryan Bittle

Every Semester for the past couple of years the brothers of Phi Kappa Tau have gone to Camp Horseshoe. Camp Horseshoe is a YMCA camp near St. George, WV. St. George is located about 10 miles north of Elkins. We go to the camp for a weekend each semester and help them get the camp ready for summer retreats and also help in the upkeep of the camp. Over our trips to the camp we have put new roofs on several cabins, painted interiors, and have cleaned the campsites. Over the summer several of our brothers work at the camp as counselors. This semester we are planning to go to Horseshoe the end of April.

Another organization that we try to actively participate in is our national philanthropy, the Hole in the Wall Gang. The Hole in the Wall Gang was setup by Paul Newman, a Phi Kappa Tau most known for his acting. The Hole in the Wall Gang has camps all over the world; including the USA, France, Israel, and Eustace. The camps are a non-fee experience for children ages 7-15 who have life-threatening illnesses where they can come and be “normal” for a week. Please visit www.holeinthewallgang.org for more information about the Hole in the Wall gang. If anyone is interested in helping the brothers of Phi Kappa Tau in either of these organizations please let us know.

Volunteer Your Easter Break

Some brothers of Phi Kappa Tau are volunteering their Easter Weekend at Camp Horseshoe. The van will be departing from the Phi Tau house at 5:30 pm on Thursday April 13th. There will be ten open seats. If you can't go home for Easter, come do your part and help a West Virginia based, children's camp prepare for summer programs. All meals will be provided. If you can help, email phitautattdo@yahoo.com.

Greeks:

Send your fraternity or sorority news to: CollegianWV@hotmail.com

TECH COLLEGIAN

Kate Reich, Editor • Bill Arnold, Advisor
Printed by the Tech Printing Web Press Class
James “Moon” Dickerson, Instructor
along with Gary Potter and Bill Arnold
Contact us by email at CollegianWV@hotmail.com
Check our our 4-year archives on our web page at:
www.wvutech.edu/collegian

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

STUDENTS ENROLLED BUT NOT ATTENDING

Just a note for students who might be in this situation: Students who enroll for college classes, receive financial aid, but never attend are putting their college careers at great risk.

Once we put financial aid awards on your account and you are issued any refunds, you would be held responsible for paying those funds back to the University because we must send them back to the funding source (Pell Grant Program, WV Higher Education Grant Program, banks who have loaned you money for college, etc.). That creates a balance on your account if you are administratively dropped.

If you fail to drop or withdraw and receive an "F" in every course, you will be suspended from participation in the financial aid program. This suspension covers every type of aid including scholarships.

Don't be one of the students who get caught in this trap. Speak with your instructors, talk to the Registrar's Office, or come by the Welcome Center to speak with someone in the financial aid office.

We'll be glad to see what we can do to help you with this situation.

We want you to be successful in college and our goal is to help you do just that.

Sue H. Beaver, Director of Financial Aid

ANDREW CANTERBURY SCHOLARSHIP STARTED

A scholarship fund has been set up through the high school in Andy's memory. It is called the "Andrew Canterbury Memorial Scholarship." Scholarship money will be given to one or two baseball players each year that will be continuing their education onto college. We are going to be selling t-shirts through the community and school to raise more money for this fund. They are gray in color with the name of the scholarship on the front and a baseball with his name and number on the back. If any of you would like to purchase a shirt at \$12.00, or make a donation, please let me know. I want to get the word out so others will know what we're doing. The shirts aren't ready just yet but Pam Ligon and I will be taking orders.

I would also like to let you know that In Stitches in St. Albans is covering quite a bit of the cost of these shirts for us. Erin Petry, the owner, has graciously donated her time and money. If any of you know Erin, please give her a big thank you. Also, Pam has spent a lot of time on this project and I want to give her a BIG thank you also.

It does my heart good to know that Andy's memory will carry on through the years by means of this scholarship. Thanks to all who have already purchased a shirt and thank you in advance to those who will.

God Bless.

Shane, Dee and Heather

AN IMPORTANT NOTE TO PROMISE SCHOLARS

If you received a PROMISE Scholarship to attend WVU Tech, you should be aware of the following two requirements:

1. A PROMISE Scholarship student must be enrolled for and complete a minimum of 30 credit hours in a twelve month period. You must earn 30 credits during the 05/06 award year. If you have taken 15 credit hours for both the fall and spring terms, you should meet this requirement. If you have not passed 30 credits by the end of the fall 2005 and spring 2006 terms, please check with your advisor or department head to determine what classes you should take for the summer term. Classes taken during the summer can be counted toward the 30 credits but it is strongly recommended that you take a class required to earn your degree. If you do not, you will not be able to get the required number of needed graduation hours within the 4-year timeframe.
2. A PROMISE Scholarship must maintain an overall grade point average of 3.0. An exception is made for first-year PROMSIE scholars who may have a GPA of 2.75. However, by the end of the 2nd year, all PROMISE scholars are required to have the minimum GPA of 3.0. You don't need to make an A or B in every course. The courses are averaged together to get the 3.0.

Don't let the opportunity to take advantage of this program slip by. Check your hours earned and GPA. Ask for help if you think you need it. Tutors are available to assist you. Most of all, we want you to be successful.

From the staff at the Financial Aid Office.



DELIVERING THE FUTURE OF RAIL AND THE OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFETIME

CSX DIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP

CSX Transportation welcomes your application for the CSX Diversity Scholarship, to support academic achievement and promote transportation career opportunities.

Annual Scholarship Award
\$1,000 - \$2,000

Eligibility Criteria and Selection of Recipients:

- Overall GPA 2.5 or above, rising Juniors and Seniors majoring in: Transportation, Logistics, Engineering (Mechanical, Civil, Industrial or Electrical)
- Evidence of aptitude and interest in the railroad industry
- Relevant work experience, student organization participation and leadership
- Eligible students will be required to submit a cover letter, resumé, and two letters of recommendation.

All applicants will also be considered for internship and co-op employment opportunities.

Learn more about CSX Transportation and apply online for internship and co-op employment opportunities at www.csx.com

Applications available at WVU Tech Foundation, Old Main Box 94, Pauline Price

Application deadline: Postmarked by March 31, 2006

delivering. **CSX**

Friday, March 24
is the last day
to withdraw from a class
with a grade of "W"

Important:

**Check your midterm grades
at your MyTech account NOW
to determine if you need
to withdraw from a class.**

*This announcement is brought to you by the
Student Success Center.*

**3rd Floor, Vining Library
304.442.3853**

Clay Center *on Stage* event gives audience unique experience

Intimate setting lets audience share stage with performer T.S. Monk

Charleston, WV—T.S. Monk, performing at the Clay Center on Sunday, March 19, 2006 at 4 p.m., will be surrounded by the audience in what is to be one of the 05/06 season's most exciting events.

This is a rare opportunity to hear to legendary jazz drummer T.S. Monk and his sextet in an intimate and unique setting.

With Clay Center *on Stage* events, audiences will share the stage with select performers, such as T.S. Monk. The Clay Center plans to continue this exciting new experience for patrons at least once during each regular season. This type of performance limits the number of tickets available. For T.S. Monk, the seating arrangement allows for about 400.

The stage is configured so that the performer and the audience will have a real connection, said Sue Sergi, president and CEO of the Clay Center. "We're always looking for new and exciting ways to enhance the audience experience, and this is a chance to hear a performance the way it is heard best—up close and personal," said Sergi. "Considering the energetic sound of T.S. Monk., we can't imagine a better place for the audience to be than in the middle of the magic. We are finalizing the Clay Center Stage event for next season and it promises to be just as incredible."

Son of Jazz pioneer Thelonious Monk, T.S. received the New York Jazz Awards First Annual "Recording of the Year" and "Downbeat's" prestigious 63rd Reader's Poll Award for "Monk On Monk: the 80th Anniversary Birthday Tribute to Thelonious Sphere Monk" featuring twenty guest artists including Herbie Hancock, and Arturo Sandoval. Rave reviews from the Hollywood



Reporter, Variety, the L. A. Times, and others, echoed the public sentiment of the sold out concert hall shows across the United States, Europe, and the Middle East.

Enjoy the pre-performance buffet featuring gourmet dishes and desserts for \$21.95 per person. Seating for the buffet is limited, so advanced reservations are suggested by calling (304) 561-3570.

Seating is limited for the T.S. Monk performance and tickets are general admission at \$25. Call the Clay Center Customer box office at (304) 561-3570, stop by or order online at www.theclaycenter.org for performance tickets or for dinner reservations. Tickets also are available for other performances during the remaining 2005-2006 season. Please ask for details.

REMAINING PERFORMANCES IN THE 2005/2006 CLAY CENTER SEASON:

Naturally Seven • Saturday, March 25, at 8 p.m.

The World Famous Count Basie Orchestra with Special Guest
Nnenna Freelon • Friday, May 5 at 8 p.m.

Hank Williams: Lost Highway
Co-presented by Charleston Stage Company
Thursday, June 8; Friday, June 9 and Saturday, June 10 at 8 p.m.
Saturday, June 10 and Sunday, June 11 at 2 p.m.

Applications are now being accepted for positions with the WVU Tech Upward Bound Summer Component, June 15 through July 29, 2006. One Summer Food Monitor position will be open. Also for WVU Tech students, there will be openings for Residence Hall Tutor/Mentors and Residence Hall Office Clerks. Applications will be available on March 1, 2006, and can be obtained from the Tech Center, Room 105. If you have any questions, please call 442-3196. Application deadline is March 31, 2006. Applications will not be accepted after March 31, 2006.

LOOK

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY
WVU TECH UPWARD BOUND PROGRAM

JUNE 15-JULY 29, 2006

POSITIONS AVAILABLE:
TUTOR/MENTORS
RATLIFF HALL OFFICE CLERKS
FOOD MONITORS

APPLICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE IN ROOM
105 TECH CENTER OR CALL 442-3196
APPLICATION DEADLINE
IS MARCH 31, 2006

Need A Tutor?

Tech's Student Success Center
Is Providing Student Tutors
In All Academic Areas

Visit the Student Success Center
328 Vining Library (442.3853)
or e-mail Mary.Lindsey@mail.wvu.edu
To Get the Help You Need!

Tutors Wanted

Tech's Student Success Center
is taking applications
for Student Tutoring Positions
in all academic areas.
All positions will pay for hours worked
at \$7.00/hr.
(Financial Aid eligibility not required.)

To apply, visit the Student Success Center,
Room 328, Vining Library. 442-3853
or e-mail Mary.Lindsey@mail.wvu.edu

INTERESTED IN FREE ROOM AND BOARD?

The Residence Life Office is now accepting applications for Resident Assistants through March 21!

(If selected, you will receive a private room and a 19 meal plan)

To be eligible to apply, you must:

- Be a full-time Student
- Have a minimum overall GPA of 2.3
- In Good disciplinary standing

Pick up your application today in room 325 Old Main. Applications are due back to the Residence Life Office by 4:30 p.m. on March 21, 2006. Stop by today!



From the desk of:
CTC President Jo Harris

Mid-Term Grades

Mid-term grades are being distributed this week. Please remember that grades are sent to your faculty advisor—not mailed to your address. It is a time when you can meet with your advisor, discuss your grades, and talk about any problems you might be encountering. Take advantage of this connection! If you are not sure who your advisor is, you may contact the Registrar's staff, Mr. Cooper in the Advising Enrichment Center, the department chair in your major, or office assistants—any of these individuals

can locate your major code in the student information system and route you in the right direction.

Faculty members provide mid-term grades for all courses. Talk to the individual professors if you have questions regarding your mid-term grade; ask how you might improve your performance if that is needed. Gain clarification on the expectations for completion of the course so that you can practice good time management skills for those papers or course projects that are typically due near the end of the semester.

Even though you may dread going by your advisor's office and picking up your grades, it is an important step during the academic year. You will know where you stand in every course, be able to adjust your study habits if necessary, and hopefully encounter no surprises at the end of the semester.

Please invest your time this week in talking with your advisor and your professors.

Enjoy Spring Break next week. I hope that you are able to relax and come back refreshed—and will be able to finish the semester with even better grades than you received at midterm!

**Come to the
Community &
Technical College
Job Fair
Thursday, March 30th
Davis Hall Lobby
12 noon - 2:00 pm
see details on page 8**

Career Exploration Carnival and Open House

SNACKS

PRIZES

**Thursday, March 23
Davis Hall Lobby • 12 noon-1:30 pm**

Check out available technical majors including:
Diesel Tech • Dental Hygiene • Office Administration
Printing Technology • Engineering Technology,
Health Occupations • Computer Technology

Sponsored by the Community & Technical College at WVU Tech

Appalachian Film Festival entries being accepted

Entries are being accepted through March for the 2006 Third Annual Appalachian Film Festival, according to J.P. Linkous, president of the Huntington Regional Film Commission.

Deadlines for entries are March 25 for screenplays and March 31 for films.

"We are expecting many new and exciting entries in this year's contest," Linkous said. "Last year's entries showed great talent and effort and we are looking forward to even more entries this year."

Darrell Fetty and Roger Sherman have been chosen as the guest artists for the festival.

Fetty appeared as Frankie on *Happy Days* and had roles in *The Wind and the Lion* and *Centennial*. He wrote *Hercules: The Legendary Journeys* and *Mutant X*, and he produced the television series *Viper*. Fetty is a Huntington native and Marshall University theater graduate.

Sherman's documentaries on music, science, nature, the environment, and social issues have won many awards including a Peabody Award. He is co-founder of Florentine Films. Sherman earned his education in Massachusetts, New York, and

in Denmark.

This year's festival includes a new category for best music video. Additional categories include best feature film, screenplay, short film, documentary, and young filmmakers. Prize ranges include awards up to \$1,000, and include some first, second, and third place awards, depending on the categories. A complete list of awards, previous winners, submission rules, and entry forms is included on the website at www.appyfilmfest.com.

The contest and the event are sponsored by the Huntington Regional Film Commission. Opportunities for additional sponsorship are included on the website. In addition, the site includes details about tickets, workshops, and other festival events, as well as maps and ways to volunteer to help with the event.

The contest is open to all residents of the states that make up the Appalachian Region including West Virginia, Ohio, Kentucky, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi.

The Appalachian Film Festival will be held in Huntington April 27-29.

Have You Checked "My Tech" Today? Check your grades • Print your schedule • Register for classes • View the events calendar • Check your financial aid • Get an unofficial transcript Use e-mail • Access Web-CT • And MORE
Go To: www.wvutech.edu and follow the link in the lower left corner.

SPRING 2006 Intramural Sports



Women's Flag Football

Kickball • Softball

Deadline March 11th

Entries sheets can be downloaded from the WVU Tech Intramural Sports web site, emailed to you, or physically picked up at Room 209 (Intramural Office) Rules to be distributed and discussed at Captains meetings.

Questions? Intramural Sports Office:
Call 442-3859 or
amanda.fowler@mail.wvu.edu
Neal D. Baisi Athletic Center, Room 209

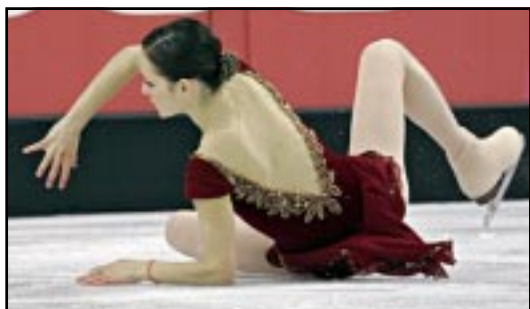
[www.wvutech.edu/
intramurals](http://www.wvutech.edu/intramurals)



Intramural Sports

WVU Institute of Technology & Community and Technical College

Feel like you're falling
on your academic butt?



The last day to drop classes
with a "W" grade
has been extended
to Friday, March 24th.

Mid-Term grades are available
from your advisor this week.

In Other News...

By Ernest "D." Chafin

With other, more interesting issues of chaos currently being locked up in legislation, I've been forced more and more into the rest of the world for finding some entertainment. However, entertainment to some is not really entertainment to me. I don't care who's taking off with the Golden Monkey this time around, nor do I care who's doing what during March Madness. No, it's a different kind of entertainment I am in search of most times. On occasion, one can catch something blowing up or places on fire, even reaching pinnacle levels with the earth itself turning on the people. Although California is still overdue a good, solid earthquake, Iran recently suffered a 5.9 in their southern areas. See, I've given up the constraints of television and what media says should be fun, exciting, and awesome. Nothing manufactured can make up for natural chaos, even though people do add to the confusion. And looking through the news, there are entirely too many things that caught my attention this time around.

We may as well start with the local news, seeing as how this state is never short on weird occurrences. The first one, just across the river in Mammoth, was a man that was arrested a couple of days back, concerning his shooting his wife in the face ... I'll repeat that. During an argument, the father of three and husband drew a rifle on his wife. Unfortunately for the man, the rifle was loaded. You can do the math on this one. Although the man claims, and I could probably agree, that it was an accident, yet I always thought that there were those sacred unsaid laws amongst firearm bearers such as my self; The most paramount being that you *don't point weapons at people*. In most safety courses, it's repeated over and over to always treat a weapon as loaded. Some way down the road in Man, word has it that they're thinking about reopening the hospital there that has been closed for the past

seven years, and making it a trauma ward for that area. A member of my family, once upon a time, worked at this hospital, yet I could never really figure out why they closed it in the first place.

In my opinion, the seams are showing within our society, but I'll allow you to draw your own conclusions from these next items. In North Carolina, a man is in custody for driving ... an SUV though a crowd of people supposedly to 'protest Muslim oppression'. An Optometrist (eye doctor) was shot and killed among the others wounded in a SWAT raid that was meant to bust some gamblers. A *doctor*, for Gripe's sake, but these two hold little interest for me when compared to the next one. A man was sentenced to fifteen years for his assault on his girlfriend, and looking at what the case offered, it should have been more. The man was in custody for his *biting a chunk* out of his girlfriend's face, just below her left eye. This was said to be in the middle of an argument, to which he spat the chunk onto the sidewalk. Yes, the chunk of face made it's way to court. Yet with things like this happening in the country, lethal injection, the last line of death in a long line of execution methods is now in question for being 'cruel and unusual'. I ask you, where's the logic? Something else that caught my attention was where well-loved celebrity Paula Abdul, judge on American Idol, I think, was allowed onto an aircraft at an airport to the west, allowing her to completely bypass the security festival that us regular people have to endure. What's wrong with this picture? What makes these faces on television any better than you or I?

Yet the news is not all bad, as some of you may have heard. Wal-Mart, the modern juggernaut known for sweeping in on a wind and drowning out all competition was forced in a court up north that the *MUST* carry the 'Plan-B' Contraception method. Initially, with the saccharine-sweet wholesomeness of Wal-Mart's policies, they didn't want to carry the morning after product at all. Thank you Liberty, for one small victory against the beast. In a somewhat related matter, Tucker Carlson, otherwise known as 'Big Pimpin' Pappy', is wanting money because of his deportation after being accused of ... yeah, you guessed it, pimping. He was deported back to his home in the Netherlands and is supposedly setting up to collect money from those that made him rich, and inadvertently got him in trouble, in the first place.

And in cyber news, mySpace is becoming something of a hotbed of news. Two men, for instance, were arrested around Boston linked to sexual charges involving children. Something else along the same line, 20 middle-school students were suspended with another facing possible expulsion over voicing their opinion on a student, including an 'expletive and an anti-Semetic reference'. Through all this, parents are warned to mind mySpace, as it may lead to problems with their children. I've always thought it a more prudent and effective means to *mind the children*, and *know* what it is they're doing out in Cyber-land. In another mySpace-related story, a 16 year old from Denver is now looking at three misdemeanor charges for some of the pictures he had posted in his blog. The pictures were of him holding handguns, and another with him laying in the center of a ring of rifles with the caption 'Angel o' Death on Wings o' Lead'. If there had been a small note stating 'no more war', this piece may have ended up in an art gallery, but the fact that the young man was from Evergreen High School, in the same district as Columbine High which scorched the news back in '99, this young man looks to have an interesting road ahead of him.

A little further out in the world, elsewhere in the country, I'm starting to notice a faint pattern, but it doesn't help anything. Charles Cullen, otherwise known as 'The Monster' has just been sentenced to eleven (11) life sentences for committing twenty-nine (29) lethal injection-style murders. The people at the trial seemed appropriately distraught, and

although he'll never see daylight again, he may never see the dosing table he inflicted on so many others. Something else that some of you may remember from a few months back is the 'Cell Phone Bandit'. Well, they finally caught her. Candice R. Martinez, 20, was sentenced to 12 years for her knocking off of 4 Wachovia banks in Virginia and Washington D.C. The former college student claimed to not know why she perpetrated these four bank robberies, but had this to say; "My whole life is ruined." Imagine what it would be like to have your life ruined and not know why. The boyfriend, who she was talking to during the robberies, was also sent into stir for a good long time. However, something equally offensive, includes Helen Frankenthaler's famous painting 'The Bay' and a stick of chewed Extra Polar Ice. I can imagine that the math doesn't have to go far for this one to be guessed. A Detroit youth was caught placing a wad of gum on the painting that was appraised for \$1.5 million dollars. Although there is no excuse, officials say that the situation, both at the museum and the kid's house have been reconciled.

The question I pose at this point is this: Where could the motivation for these acts come from? I have a theory. A country can only be as orderly and proper as those leading it. Which leads me into some of the more white-collar side of the news. A former congressman, a Representative Randy 'Duke' Cunningham is now serving one of the longest terms served by an official at eight years and four months. Quite a lengthy sentence for a politician, I would have agreed. But it's what he did that I feel merits it. Over the course of his time in power, Cunningham had received roughly \$2.4 Million dollars in homes, yachts, and bribes. What chills my blood is that this is just what they caught him with; there could be more. Speaking of bad news, the renewal of the Patriot Act is now in the House, as the Senate approved it 89 - 10. I'd recommend that you contact your congressman concerning this, but I don't know that it would do any good. However, there is dissent in the people, I'm glad to say, even if there was no real pull in the motion. What I'm talking about is a move in San Francisco that was calling for Bush's impeachment. The motion was set into place by his 'mishandling of the Iraq war and cutting civil liberties'. Valid points, I agree, but there was still not much pull in the movement. According to everything I've been scouring, there has been no oral pleasure for the man up high, at least not from any government clerks.

It was when I was looking over these accounts from here and there that I started to wonder about the status of our structure. When was the last time you there reading this have thought about the founding principles of the country? The Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, as well as the Bill of Rights were all written up when the country was still 13 states strong. Two hundred years and some change later, we're still operating out of the same principles, despite the exponential growth. Sure, things were added to it over the course of time, but the way of the settler is not the way of the American, in most cases. If you need more proof, in the senate, each state gets two senators. The population of the state of West Virginia alone right now is roughly two million people. Two million to two simplified would be 'a million to one,' in this state alone. The house is larger, granted, but the same principles of lopsidedness still apply, as WV has 3. This paltry grouping dictates what happens in the lives of each and every one of us. Doesn't seem balanced to me, especially with some of them living their lives through the position, passing it on to the children in some cases. So maybe it's not necessarily the people that are to blame, maybe it's the system that is at fault for all these problems we have as a society. The sad reality is that the system is in place ... for the people.

Any questions, comments, fan/hate/flame mail can be directed to chaos_th3ory@hotmail.com. I'd be interested to see what you'd have to say.

Hiring Student Mentors

The Student Success Center at Tech is now taking applications for Fall 2006 Freshman Seminar Mentors

For more information or to apply, visit the Student Success Center 3rd Floor, Vining Library. Call 442.3853 or e-mail Cheryl.Moses@mail.wvu.edu

Competitive pay and flexible hours.

Special consideration will be given to Juniors and Seniors with a 2.5+ GPA and good communication/people skills. Seeking applicants from all majors.

Financial Aid eligibility is not required.

Academic Awards applications due

Tech Students: Did you know...

The Academic Awards Committee has mailed application forms for the **2005-2006 Presidential Leadership and Freshman of the Year Awards** to students who are eligible. All seniors in four-year and two-year degree programs with a 3.25 GPA or greater are eligible for the **Presidential Leadership Award**. All freshmen who have a 3.5 GPA or greater are eligible for the **Freshman of the Year Award**.

The candidate's COMPLETE application is due on or before **Wednesday, March 22, 2006**. This is not a postmark date. Please be careful, for in an effort to be fair there will be no exceptions.

If you are wondering what the **Presidential Leadership Award** is, here is a short summary:

The **Presidential Leadership Award**, established by Dr. Leonard C. Nelson in 1978, is awarded to one student in each of the three colleges on campus (Community and Technical, Business, Humanities and Sciences, and Engineering) who has not only

achieved academic excellence but has also demonstrated an extensive involvement in campus and community activities. The purpose of the award is to recognize students who give untiringly of their time in leadership positions while maintaining standards of excellence. The characteristics highlighted by the award are: academic excellence, involvement in community activities, outstanding representation of the college in local, state, and nation forums, and outstanding leadership exhibited in student organizations, campus committees, or other college-related activities. The winner, one candidate from each of the colleges, will be given a plaque during the 2006 graduation ceremony.

The **Freshman of the Year Award** is given to one student from the four-year school and one from the two-year school who demonstrates academic excellence, service to the institution, potential for contribution to society, and service to the community. The applicant must have freshmen status and be

a full-time student during the semester for which the award is to be considered. The student will have participated in WVUIT/CTC at WVU Tech organizations (committees, projects, programs, clubs, drama, athletics, etc.) and in community organizations, or other service-related activities. In a one-page essay, applicants will demonstrate their attitude about the value of education and how they intend to use their college experience to meet future goals. The winners will be presented with a plaque and a \$100 check during the end-of-the year awards activities.

Students who have questions about either award should contact Kelly Grose, Committee Chair at 442-3344 or Kelly.Grose@mail.wvu.edu for further information.

Application Deadline: March 22, 2006 to Academic Awards Committee
Ms. Kelly Grose
Room 514, Davis Hall, WVUIT
Montgomery, WV 25136

by Rachel Miller

- The Bears' Den is decorated by the Bears' Den staff. They use their own money.
- At the end of each month during the school year, the Bears' Den staff makes a birthday cake with the names of the students that had a birthday during that month.

I would like to thank the special people from the Bears' Den that are involved, and I encourage all Tech students to thank them, too, the next time you are there.



COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE AT WVU TECH

JOB FAIR

Thursday, March 30, 2006

12 noon - 2 p.m.

Davis Hall Lobby

COMPANY	WEBSITE	F.T.	P.T.	INTERN	SUMMER	MAJORS
Allegheny Energy, Inc	www.alleghenyenergy.com	X		X	X	ASEET/MET
American Electric Power Moundsville, WV	www.aep.com	X				ASEET/MET
American Electric Power St. Albans, WV	www.aep.com	X				ASEET/MET; AAS, Applied Process Technology
Bankers Life & Casualty Co.	www.bankerslife.com	X				All Majors
Charleston Police Dept.	www.charlestonwvpolice.org	X		X		General Studies, Public Service Emp., Office Tech Mgmt., Legal Emp., & Occupational Develop., Corrections Emp
Charter Communications	www.charter.com	X				ASCIT, ASEET
Chesapeake Appalachia, L.L.C.	www.chkenergy.com	X				Business Tech, Accounting Emp
Cives Steel Company	www.cives.com	X				ASCET, ASD&D, & AAS Building Construction Technology
Corporate Press, Inc.	www.corppress.com	X				Bus. Tech, Bus Supv Emp; Printing Tech; Digital Imaging Tech; Pre-Press Tech; & Press Technology
Express Personnel Services	www.expresspersonnel.com	X	X		X	All Majors
Loop Pharmacy & Home Medical	www.looppharmacy.com	X		X	X	Bus. Tech, Acct & Bus Supv Emp; OTM, Executive, Medical Asst., Medical Office & Medical Emp., & Respiratory Therapy
Mt. Olive Correctional Complex		X		X	X	OTM, Executive and Legal Emp.; Occupational Development, Corrections Emp.
Northwestern Mutual Financial Network	www.nmfn.com/dobbsfinancial	X	X	X		All Majors
Performance Results Corp.	www.performanceresultscorp.com	X				Bus. Tech, Comp. Info Sys Emp; ASCIT; Comp. Sc; & ASLET
Quad/Graphics	www.qg.com	X		X	X	ASEET/MET, & Printing Tech
Ticketmaster	www.ticketmaster.com		X			All Majors
WV Public Broadcasting	www.wvpubcast.org	X	X			Bus. Tech, Acct & Computer Info Sys Emp; ASCIT; Comp. Science; OTM, Comp. Specialist Emp.; & Tech Studies, Info Tech
Walker Machinery	http://walker.cat.com	X				Technical Studies, Diesel Tech

Associate of Science - AS
Accounting - Acct
Business - Bus
Computer - Comp
Computer Information Technology - CIT

Emphasis - Emp
Information - Infn
Systems - Sys
Management - Mgmt
Supervisory - Supv

Technology - Tech
Electrical Engineering Technology - EET
Mechanical Engineering Technology - MET
Drafting and Design - D&D
OTM - Office Technology Management