

## Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

What is up with the computers around campus? I am a commuter and I pay the "Technology Fee", so therefore I should have access to reliable, easily accessible computers.

In reality I don't. I go on campus to use the computer labs, and there always seems to be a class in all of them at the same time. Then once I finally find a computer that is not being used, it either: a) doesn't have access to the Internet or b) the printer doesn't work.

I mean what is all my money going towards? It's really frustrating that I pay money to have computers to use on campus and the majority of the time they don't even work. I can't tell you how many times I have come on campus to print

out a paper or to do research and the computer completely doesn't work.

Or, when I save a document on one computer it won't pull up on another computer in a different lab. Explain this to me?

Why not provide more computers on campus because every time I need to use the computer there is ALWAYS a line of people waiting to use them.

A suggestion or a solution might be to have a computer lab specifically for those who come on campus, and pay the Technology fee, to use computers freely. Maybe we could call it the "Open Lab".

We need something. I mean really, we pay around \$800 in a Technology Fee, I think that the College should be able to provide reliable computers for those

of us who live off-campus.

And for all of those seniors who still live on-campus and live in underclassmen dorms, they aren't provided with computers in their buildings. And they too have to pay a technology fee.

Something has to be done because it is really getting to be a bit ridiculous.

A Frustrated Commuter

**Send your letters to the Editor!**

**Send letters to [herald@meredith.edu](mailto:herald@meredith.edu)**

**All submissions must be received by 1 p.m. on the monday prior to publication.**

**You Better  
Belize It, It!**

**Spring Break  
just got interesting.**

**Go to Belize this spring.  
With Volunteer Service's  
2003 Service Trip,  
you make a difference.**

**Come to an Information  
Session at 10 am on Oct. 3 in  
Jones Chapel Reading Room or  
contact Winter at  
[brownwin@meredith.edu](mailto:brownwin@meredith.edu)**

## World News Briefs

**MARGARET ANN  
COONEY**  
Managing Editor

Egypt, Libya, Morocco, South Africa and Tunisia will each make a presentation in attempts to win a bid for the 2010 World Cup. Investigations of the countries will follow in October and a winner will be announced in May. Libya and Tunisia earlier announced they plan a joint bid while Nigeria, the 6th country to present their case, backed out of the race Monday. South Africa, who lost the bid to host 2006 World Cup in a controversial vote to Germany, is favored to win.

In Rwanda, the first parliamentary elections since 1994 are being held. Paul Kagame of the Rwandan Patriotic Front was elected President last month to a vote of 95%. The turnout

was lower in the Parliamentary vote. At least thirty percent of the parliament must be women.

Only 100 troops remain in Liberia as the U.S. begins withdrawing its forces. The U.S.'s, feeling stretched militarily from the war in Iraq and Afghanistan, last warship will leave sometime this week. In its place, the U.N. will position a force of 15,000 troops, the largest in the world. However, because the U.S. forces left before U.N. troops could be fully deployed, some argue that peace in Liberia has been put in danger. Assistance was needed in Liberia to aid in bringing peace to the warring governmental factions in the capital city of Monrovia.

Taiwan's President Chen Shui-bian announced he hoped to rewrite their con-

stitution by 2006. Not much detail is being given as to what the revisions might be. Many are fearful that by changing the constitution, Taiwan might be making a push towards independence. China considers Taiwan its' renegade province; fear is that if Taiwan asserts its independence China will react with military action.

North Korea's foreign minister declared that there no longer would be negotiations over N. Korea's nuclear program. Instead, N. Korea plans to continue making strides in the development of its' nuclear program. Failed negotiations had been held in Tokyo between Japan, U.S. and N. Korea. N. Korea was willing to cease its' nuclear program development upon the U.S. offering a non-aggression pact. Indonesia plans to add new

laws to their civil code. These laws include the banishment of witchcraft and sex among unmarried couples while making homosexual acts by those under 18 a crime. As a result, unmarried couples living together can face up to two years in prison while those committing homosexual acts could face one to seven years in jail. Drafts of the laws are currently being submitted to Parliament and could take years to actually become laws.

A rebel group called the National Liberation Army (ELN) kidnapped eight backpackers in Colombia. The kidnapping, called "Allende Lives", was in commemoration of the 30th anniversary of Chilean coup that bought Augusto Pinochet to power. One hostage, a 19 year old from Britain was able to escape.

The seven others consist of 4 Israelis, 1 British, 1 German and 1 Spanish citizens. The ELN, the second largest rebel group in Colombia, have refused to negotiate.

Union members in Italy have called for a 4-hour walkout on October 4th. The strike is in response to pension reforms, which is currently 15% of the GDP. Pensions are set up for those going into retirement, presently those who are at least 57 or have put 35 years into work. The government hopes by reforming pensions it will encourage workers to retire later. Prime Minister Berlusconi, who has already witnessed his government fail in 1994 over pensions, explained that reforms are necessary and for the best of the Italian people.