



## Last PASS show of the semester • p8

The Aquila Theater Company presents old theater in a new light.



## Playing tough • p12

Shepherd remains undefeated in the regular season.

## Heores • p9

A new television drama is reviewed.

## Index

Editorials • 5  
Comics • 9  
TV Review • 9  
Political Columns • 3  
Health & Fitness • 11

# Dems sweep House and Senate

## SU students respond to last Tuesday's election results

PRENT SMALL  
Picket Staff Writer

In case you missed it, the Democratic Party took back the house last Tuesday for the first time in over 12 years. Also, the Democrats gained control of the Senate in what seemed to be a razor thin margin of less than 8,000 votes won in Virginia by Jim Webb.

According to CNN, National issues reigned supreme in voter's minds with corruption, terrorism, the economy and Iraq, all within a few percentage points of being the most important.

Carolyn Jefferson, a junior, said, "We definitely need a change in Congress."

For her, the Iraq War and the budget deficit were very important.

Senior Ben Adduccio said that the War on Terror, the economy and education were all issues that he kept in mind when voting.

The President, in a speech last Wednesday, said that both the new majority party and his administration will work to find common ground, but he warned that he would not abandon his principles.

On working with Nancy Pelosi, the woman expected to be the new speaker of the house, President Bush said, "She's not going to abandon her principles, and I'm not going to abandon mine. But I do believe we have an opportunity to find some common ground to move forward on."

Meanwhile, Pelosi said, "Democrats are ready to lead, prepared to govern and absolutely willing to work in a bipartisan way."

According to the Democratic



staff photo by Melissa Rogers

**Shepherd students and faculty gathered in the Robert C. Byrd Center to enjoy cider, pumpkin bread, and democracy in action as election results came in.**

“ We definitely need a change in Congress. ”

Together America will be stronger. Together we will move America in a new direction.”

The big win was seen as a result of Dean's 50 state strategy, and the efforts of Senators Schumer and Reed, and also that of Congressman Emanuel who recruited a trainload of moderate and conservative democrats who could win in the South and Midwest.

So what did Shepherd students think of the outcome of the elections? Well, it depends on who you ask.

Clark Lanzendorf, a junior, said, "The win was foreseeable; a

lot of republicans were expecting competition, especially in the senate race.”

Senior Chris Clark said, "I was very pleased at the fact that many Americans have woken up to the fact that a change was needed in the country.”

In the end, the Democrats picked up 6 seats in the senate, at least 29 in the house, and 6 and governorships. At the time this was written 10 house seats and 1 one governor position are still undecided. In West Virginia, Sen. Byrd and Reps. Capito, Rahall and Molohan all were re-elected.

## Shepherd named to ninth edition of "Barron's Best Buys in College Education"

JOSHUA BOEHMAN  
Picket Staff Writer

Shepherd University, along with 247 other colleges, has been named to the ninth edition of Barron's "Best Buys in College Education." According to Mark Stern, Vice President for Academic Affairs, "Shepherd is a 'Best Buy' because the tuition is relatively low and, at the same time, the quality of instruction and support for students is high." His example showed Shepherd has 85 percent of its faculty holding the doctorate or equivalent degrees.

"This is an indicator of high quality faculty," he said. "In addition, Shepherd's real 20 to 1 student faculty ratio is considered to be low for public universities." Stern explained that with a few exceptions,

"Shepherd offers students classes where every student is known to the faculty member, and every faculty member can teach in an environment that promotes student interaction with them. These are the hallmarks of a quality university that emphasizes teaching and attention to student learning." According to a press release issued Nov. 7, "The two main features of the 'Best Buys in College Education' are the data capsules and profiles which give such information as campus setting, student/faculty ratio, freshman profile, faculty profile, tuition and fees, and room and board. Each profile lists information about the student body, academics, facilities, special programs, and campus life." The book selects colleges to appear based on tuition rates and results from questionnaires filled out by students and college deans.

## New telescope donated to Shepherd

CHRIS BRYANT  
Picket Staff Writer

The Shepherd University observatory received an addition to its telescope collection.

Judy and Jerry Mays, of Martinsburg, decided to donate the telescope because he and his wife were impressed with Shepherd before they ever moved here. Mays said he has been interested in astronomy since he was a child growing up in Arizona.

"Somebody once said that if you don't look at the night sky, you miss half your world," Mays said. He also added, "I want students at Shepherd to experience the joy I've had in learning about the night sky."

The Shepherd University observatory was built in the summer and fall of 2005 and the winter of 2006, and was made possible by a Research Challenge Fund Science and Technology Award from the West Virginia Experimental Program.

This Award, in the form of an Innovation Grant, was attained by Dr. Jason Best of Shepherd University in October 2004. This grant was supplemented

**see Telescope p2**

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The official student newspaper of Shepherd University

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## Shepherd students stick around on the weekends

JADE WHEELER  
**Picket Staff Writer**

Shepherd, once dubbed a 'suitcase' campus, no longer looks vacant on weekends.

On the weekends, in previous years, Shepherd resembled a ghost town. However, this semester, Shepherd parking lots no longer become empty when the weekend rolls around.

With the new apartment complexes, Birch and Maple, that provide students with their personal kitchens, students could be more inclined to stay since they no longer have to eat in the dining hall.

"I really do think the apartments add a more independent feel. It makes me feel like I finally moved away from home" said junior Jackie Henning.

Henning does not think the new dorms are all that has influenced students to stay more on the weekends.

"I also do not think Shepherd is much of a suitcase school anymore since it has been established as a university for awhile and more



staff photo by Vanessa Rees

**Campus parking lots remain filled with cars, even on the weekends as students discover more exciting reasons to not go home.**

students from farther away are attending."

Henning continues, "Football has been doing very well and has brought in more crowds than I have ever seen during my time at Shepherd. I feel like the university status and all the new buildings being constructed are bringing the school more together making stu-

dents feel less detached and isolated as in previous years."

Also, this year, the Student Center started Late Night in the Zone, a program open to all students that happens once a month. Allison Lewis, a Shepherd sophomore, does not live far from Shepherd, and used to go home most weekends.

"Shepherd never had anything to offer on the weekends. I had no reason to stay" says Lewis. "I think Late Night in the Zone is a good step toward making students more inclined to stay on the weekends since they actually have something to do instead of sitting around their dorm room all day."

Freshman Kara Townsend came to Shepherd unaware of Shepherd's suitcase campus reputation, but it does not effect how much time she spends on campus on the weekend.

"I go home about once a month, but I enjoy hanging around on the weekends—it is nice to get to know others in my dorm and go out shopping or exploring in general. If I did not spend time riding around the area, I would not have a clue as to where anything is" said Townsend.

Regardless of why students strayed from campus in previous years on weekends, they are staying now. With new projections of new facilities and Late Night in the Zone success, students are sure to make Shepherd their home weekends as well as weekends.

### Telescope from page 1

with matching funds from Shepherd University.

Current equipment includes: Main telescope: Meade 14-inch LX200GPS-SMT Telescope with UHTC Coatings, CCD Camera, and a Spectrograph: SBIG DSS-7 Deep Space Spectrograph.

In addition, the observatory contains the 1998 Shepherd University Senior Class Memorial Telescope (a Celestron C-8 8-inch reflector capable of solar observing), the Jones Telescope (a Celestron C-8 Deluxe 8-inch reflector capable of solar observing),

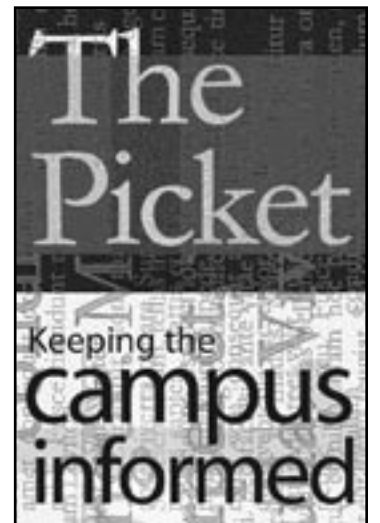
the Mays Telescope (a Celestron C-11 11-inch reflector on a German equatorial mount), the Stephan Memorial Telescope (a Meade ETX-70 70-millimeter achromatic refractor) and three Edmund Scientific

Astrosan Wide Field Telescopes (4 and 1/8-inch reflectors).

The Observatory also contains three additional imaging systems: a Meade LPI camera, a Philips ToUcam Pro II camera with telescope adapter, and a Canon EOS 20D Digital SLR camera.

The Observatory provides opportunities for coursework use, undergraduate research, and public outreach. The Observatory is located on the roof of the Robert C. Byrd Center for Legislative Studies, and is accessible only from the 93 stairs at the rear of the building.

For more information: Observatory Information Line: 1-304-876-5SKY (5759)



## SGA prez talks about the state of our Campus

Dear Fellow Students,

Voices are powerful things. As I reflect over this passing semester, I notice how many voices have touched our community and have called out on so many issues.

In a recent class discussion with the Multicultural Team, we discussed the power of one voice; how one person can change the course of history, of diversity and of humanity with just a couple of thoughts and words. Just looking over this past semester I have seen so many examples of one word or thought changing our community.

One recent example of students' voices coming together to try to create change is the response to the new athletic logo. As soon as Livingston pulled down the curtain to reveal the new symbol, a murmur of dislike rushed throughout the student body. In SGA our meeting exploded with voices of disapproval and questions of why we as students were not asked for our thoughts on an issue that affects each and every one of us.

"Why did they not ask us? Who do they think they are putting up something that looks like it was designed by a five year old?" This issue proved the power of the student's voice and how it should be heard.

On the opposite side of the spectrum I have seen voices changing the world in which we live, to make it a better place for all. Two new organizations, UNICEF and Operation Ark, are letting their voices be heard through creative fundraising in order to promote a better world for all humanity. These are just a handful of students who wanted to make a difference and are by stepping up to the plate and letting their thoughts become realities.

You too can make the difference that could affect our campus, Shepherdstown, W.Va., or even, the world. Let your voice be heard! You never know who might listen and help you make your thoughts come true.

Peace out,

NICOLE KRAUSE

**President of the Student Government Association**