

CAMPUS NEWS

New technology an attraction for Hammertmill



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The new computer lab features brand new computers and many expect it to be a favored spot by students.

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Devin Faulhaber, a student technician, has worked for the computer center the last three

years. He says he likes Hammertmill's new lab for its "increased storage, where we can work and help fix student computers."

"I definitely think things have gotten a lot busier down here," says Jenna Cook, a senior majoring in management and a student consultant at Hammertmill's help desk. "It's a different place to come do your work. It's kind of refreshing."

"I like that you can come, watch the news, and work," admits John Hallagan, a senior majoring in biology. "I also like the setup; it's open. The double computers are really useful, that's for sure. A lot of people complained because there aren't a lot of computers, but they don't see the whole lab in the back. I just wish they had this three years ago when I got here."

Not all students appear to be happy with the new lab, however. There are only four large, arched desks that sport the four dual screen computers, leaving little space to spread out if those are taken. While the cubby holes provide personal space, they are small and cramped, disappointing students such as Blake MacDonald, a junior majoring in mechanical engineering technology, who "would rather use the REDC labs for space. The desks here are usually full."

Even for non-Science majors, Hammertmill's new lab may be where students want to start enjoying their homework, provided they can find an empty computer, that is.



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The new lab has a room that can also be used for classes.

Author speaks about race, Obama and life experiences at McGarvey Commons

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"Mom, I don't want to study law anymore! There was a pause, then she said, 'Well, that's ok, medicine is a perfectly good profession.'"

Because of this stigma surrounding less practical pursuits, Asim's "shameless intellectualism" earned him scorn, not praise.

"The drug dealers at the intersection of the boulevards where I lived were held in higher regard than I," Asim said.

He talked of his school days when he would carry not one but two briefcases full of books home with him. He expressed his disappointment that "when a black boy would behave intellectually, he was said to be acting 'white.'"

Asim was optimistic that Obama is changing that attitude, saying that "smart is the new black."

"I'm not using Obama as a person, but as a metaphor," Asim said. "I'm focusing on how he is shaped as a phenomenal and extraordinary character that helps



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The speaker made an appearance on The Colbert Report the night before coming to Behrend.

people to believe like never before. Obama shaped one's ambition into believing they could even actually become president one day, particularly African-Americans."

His message of phenomenal change resonated with students

who attended his lecture.

Marcus Renton, a Behrend sophomore, was one of many that came to see the speaker. "I thought [Asim] spoke on the process of Obama very well," Renton said. "I also enjoyed how he spoke on the history of

the civil rights movement. It shows how America evolves instead of staying stuck in their history."

Erik Holman contributed additional reporting to this article.

World and national news in brief

by: Matthew Schwabenbauer

Student beheaded at Virginia Tech

BLACKSBURY - A 22-year-old graduate student was stabbed and beheaded at the Virginia Tech campus in Blacksburg, Virginia. Haiyang Zhu, 25, attacked Xin Yang in front of seven witnesses at an Au Bon Pain cafe, according to police.

When authorities arrived, Zhu was still wielding the bloody knife he allegedly used to attack Yang.

Source: *The Inquirer*

Former NSA employee claims Bush administration monitored every American's communications

NEW YORK - Russel Tice, a former National Security Administration analyst, and one of the whistleblowers of the NSA's warrantless wiretapping, now claims that the Bush administration monitored the phone calls, faxes, e-mail and internet activity of every American citizen.

Source: *The Raw Story, ABC News*

Obama's inaugural speech censored in China

BEIJING - On many websites, English translations of Obama's speech had large sections omitted. During the live broadcast of the speech, the feed was cut when the new president mentioned "facing down communism," a phrase which upset some of China's leaders.

Source: *BBC News*

New president freezes salaries of some white house employees

WASHINGTON - As his first act in office, President Obama has frozen the salaries of White House Aides that make over \$100,000 a year. Obama cites a faltering economy as the reason for his actions.

"Families are tightening their belts, and so should Washington," Obama said.

Source: *Associated Press*

British schoolgirls banned from classes for being "too blonde"

ENGLAND - A headteacher of Rednock School in Dursley, Gloucestershire has banned two pupils from school due to the color of their hair. The school has a strict dress policy which prohibits dyed hair. The headteacher claims that Raegan Booth, 16, and Aby Western, 15, broke this rule.

Source: *Daily Mail*

Obama closes Guantanamo Bay prison

WASHINGTON - President Obama has signed an order to close the Guantanamo Bay prison camp in Cuba in addition to all overseas CIA detention facilities. The new president also ordered a review of military trials for alleged terrorists which includes a ban on aggressive interrogation methods.

The move is one of many early measures by the new administration to distance itself from the policies of the office of former president George W. Bush.

Source: *BBC*

Obama retakes oath of office

WASHINGTON - After mistakes during his first oath of office, President Obama has retaken his oath of office with chief justice John Roberts.

Source: *The New York Times*

Excerpts from Barack Obama's acceptance speech

"On this day, we gather because we have chosen hope over fear, unity of purpose over conflict and discord."

"The nation cannot prosper long when it favors only the prosperous."

"The success of our economy has always depended not just on the size of our gross domestic product, but on the reach of our prosperity; on the ability to extend opportunity to every willing heart -- not out of charity, but because it is the surest route to our common good."

"As for our common defense, we reject as false the choice between our safety and our ideals."

"Our founding fathers faced with perils that we can scarcely imagine, drafted a charter to assure the rule of law and the rights of man, a charter expanded by the blood of generations."

"We are a nation of Christians and Muslims, Jews and Hindus, and nonbelievers. We are shaped by every language and culture, drawn from every end of this Earth."

"And because we have tasted the bitter swill of civil war and segregation and emerged from that dark chapter stronger and more united, we cannot help but believe that the old hatreds shall someday pass; that the lines of tribe shall soon dissolve; that as the world grows smaller, our common humanity shall reveal itself; and that America must play its role in ushering in a new era of peace."

"To those who cling to power through corruption and deceit and the silencing of dissent, know that you are on the wrong side of history, but that we will extend a hand if you are willing to unclench your fist."

"What is required of us now is a new era of responsibility -- a recognition, on the part of every American, that we have duties to ourselves, our nation and the world, duties that we do not grudgingly accept but rather seize gladly, firm in the knowledge that there is nothing so satisfying to the spirit, so defining of our character than giving our all to a difficult task."



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The 44th President

UPCOMING EVENTS

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23
The Price is Right
in McGarvey Commons
at 8:00 p.m.

Gamers Club Night of Games
in Reed 114
at 7:00 p.m.

THON - Penny Wars
in Reed
from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 24
MLK Service Day
in Smith Chapel
at 8:30 a.m.

Steve Johnson Band
in Bruno's
at 8:00 p.m.

MONDAY, JANUARY 25
THON - Penny Wars
in Reed (ongoing)
from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27
MCAT/LCAT Testing
in Nick 165N
at 6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28
LEB Weekly Movie - Zack and Miri Make a Porno
in Reed 117
at 9:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29
Music at Noon: Asteria
in Reed Wintergarden
at 12:00 p.m.

Global Business and Society
in REDC002
at 12:15 p.m.