

The Mississippi COLLEGIAN

WWW.MC.EDU/COLLEGIAN

THE STUDENT NEWS PAPER OF MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE

Elliott Vines and Miriam Webb named as Mr. and Miss MC.

page 4



NOVEMBER 14, 2005

Laptop stolen from new men's study room

By Kate Russell
Staff Writer

The laptop computer of Chinese exchange student Xia Xudony was taken from a study room in New Men's dormitory when left unattended on Saturday, Oct. 29.

According to Director of Public Safety, Jerald Sherman, the initial complaint was answered by Evening Supervisor Mel Malpass and Patrol Officer Cecil Packer at approximately 10 p.m. The Officers wrote an incident report and contacted the Clinton Police Department, who also filed a report.

Sherman said "Everyone cooperated completely" and insisted that Xia's broken English did not make the situation more difficult.

Bear Coleman, resident assistant in New Men's dormitory said he was called by the Office of Public Security at around 10:30 p.m. to alert him of the situation and, upon returning to campus at 11, "did a room search of the whole dorm for the laptop."

"This makes me angry," said Coleman, "it's one of the reasons I became an R.A. I was tired of

getting laundry stolen. People don't expect stuff like this at a Christian school. They shouldn't."

Despite searches of each room in the building by security and resident assistants, the computer has not been retrieved and Sherman said there is nothing else that can be done by the Office of Public Safety at this point.

Sherman said there have been approximately 15 burglaries this calendar year on the campus of MC - significantly lower than the 24 reported in 2004.

These statistics must be made available because of The Crime Awareness and Campus Security Act of 1990, which states that students and employees must be informed during the most recent calendar year and the two preceding calendar years of the reported number of on-campus occurrences of murder, sex offenses, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, and motor vehicle theft. Statistics are also maintained as to the number of liquor law violations, drug abuse violations, and weapons possessions on campus. These statistics are available in the Tomahawk or by going to www.mc.edu/safety/right_know.php. Copies are also located in the Office of Public

Safety, Office of Enrollment Services, Office of the Vice-President of Student Affairs, and the Personnel Office.

None of the 15 burglaries in 2005, however, have been resolved, and Sherman said there is no real reason to believe that Xia's computer will be recovered, either.

It seems that the fate of Xia's customized laptop is now in the hands of the Clinton Police Department. The advice from Xia and Sherman is the same: Do not leave your computer unattended.

If you have any information regarding the theft of Xia's computer or any of the previous thefts, contact Campus Security at ext. 3204 or the Clinton police at 601-924-5252.



Photo by Mark Melton

Xia Xudony's laptop, similar to the one pictured above, was stolen from a new men's study room the night of Oct. 29.

Upcoming Events on Campus:

Naturals' "Holiday Spectacular" Nov. 17-19

Lighting of the Quad Nov. 29

Chorale & Jazz Ensemble Nov. 29

"Festival of Lights" Dec. 1-3

Online registration brings mixed reactions

By Jenna L. Talbert
Assistant Editor

Spring pre-registration has always been a time of long lines and frustrating waits as hundreds of students struggle to get their schedule set for the next semester. However, this year Mississippi College students no longer have to contend with

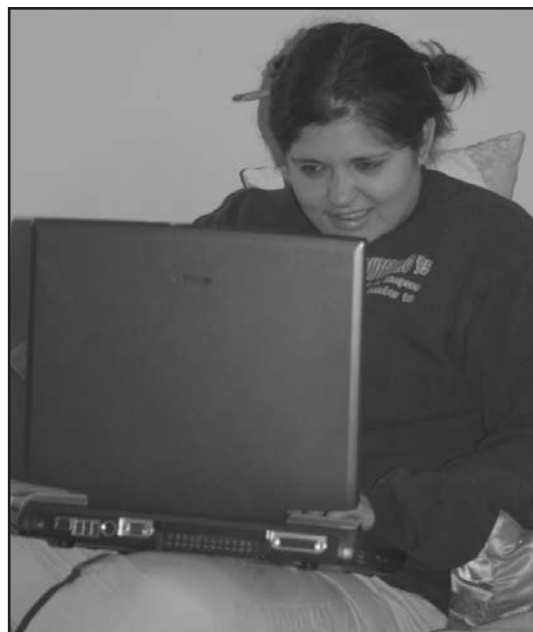


Photo by Alice-Claire Thompson

Marcy McDonald registers for spring classes online using new Banner Web software.

long lines in order to register. As of Oct. 31, 2005, MC students are now allowed to register online via Banner Web software for the first time.

Online registration has brought mixed emotions and a different set of instructions for registration. As in the past, students still need to schedule sessions with their respective advisors in order to discuss schedules. However, the most important reason for students to meet with their advisors is to obtain their needed pin numbers to order to log into the system. After receiving their allotted pin number, students are then able to access Banner Web through a link on the MC website. From here, students are able to follow instructions to key in CRN numbers to join the class. The system will also open in early January for pre-registered students who might need to change their schedules.

Another change from past years is that the date of registration has been based on class ranking. Graduate students and seniors were allowed to begin registration on Oct. 31, juniors on Nov. 3, sophomores on Nov. 6, and freshmen on Nov. 9. Registration will shut down on Nov. 16.

According to Registrar Carol Busbee, online registration has been in the works since the first few weeks of the fall semester and has full backing from the administration. With a limited time frame to get things put into place, the Registrar's office and members of Computer

Services applied extra effort to get the framework up in time.

"It was a very intensive project," said Busbee. "We had to build a lot of things into banner to get things ready."

The Banner Web system also brings future plans to increase a student's options with online accounts. According to Busbee, the future of online registration will include a student being able to access and check grades, view and print unofficial transcripts, and check balances in the business office.

With any new system comes minor problems that will need to be worked out. The online registration process is no different. According to Busbee, senior registration went well, but when juniors began registering a "few glitches here and there" showed up in the system.

"We know that this first time out there are going to be a few problems. We are learning a lot about things we need to do," said Busbee.

Several students have expressed frustration with the new system, citing that it took too long to find where they were supposed to go as the reason for their complaints. Busbee feels that many problems experienced by students result from a rushed effort with little to no attention paid to the precise instructions provided. However, for some students that is not the case.

See *Online*, page 2