

## Inside IN FOCUS

# WASU on air and under fire from RIAA for downloading

**JUSTIN BOULMAY**  
Senior Staff Writer

An internet service provider (ISP) address for WASU, Appalachian State University's student-run radio station, was one of three addresses to come under fire last week for downloading copyrighted material, Associate Director for Information and Technology Services Douglas B. May said.

May said the computer was open to the public, but WASU Station Manager Jonathan E. Freeman said the computer was accessible only to employees. He also

said he knew personally the person who probably used the machine to download material.

That person used to be a DJ and has since graduated.

"I think that guy who is in question definitely had something to do with it," Freeman said. "I don't know if he downloaded [the program], but I'm sure he used it. I don't think he downloaded songs to use on his show."

The peer-to-peer program in question has since been removed from that computer and the radio station

has taken steps to ensure similar programs cannot be used on that machine, Freeman said.

University officials said anyone could have used the computer. May said he had heard about the possibility of the former employee being responsible but said it could have been anybody.

"The problem is, we're not sure what the liability is," May said. "It was in a place where it was shared by multiple students at WASU. The employees [at WASU] don't use that machine."

"Could it be a faculty or staff member? Sure," May

said. "I know for a fact it wasn't an employee."

May said no sound recording obtained from the Internet has ever been broadcast by the radio station. He also said there is no way of knowing when the music was downloaded, and the timing of the file sampling does not protect a user from a lawsuit.

Cole said if the university acted quickly to remove the material and disable that machine's Internet access, he would not expect Appalachian to be held liable. He

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Senior political science major Sosha S. Brecheen helps sophomore criminal justice major Michael A. Chase fill out his voter registration in front of Sanford Mall.

## SGA makes last minute push

**ANNA OAKES**  
Staff Writer

Friday is the last day to register to vote in the Nov. 2 election in North Carolina.

This year the Student Government Association's (SGA) State and National Affairs Committee has worked extensively to register Appalachian State University students to vote.

"It's important that people register to vote," SGA Director of State and National Affairs Howard R. Schreiber said. "The people we elect, whether it's the president or local county commissioners, make decisions that influence our lives every day."

The State and National Affairs Committee sat at contact tables with voter registration forms and helped students fill them out, Schreiber said. A contact table was set up in I.G. Greer during the showings of "Fahrenheit 9/11."

"Sitting at the table, we had so many people come up registering to vote," SGA Senator Ashley R. Smith said.

In addition, Schreiber said his committee has worked with several other campus clubs and organizations and many of them sponsored their own voter registration drives.

"A lot of the clubs are getting really involved in get-

ting the student body registered to vote," SGA Senator Andy J. Eaker said.

"A lot of it has been word-of-mouth," Schreiber said. "We've probably collected 500 voter registration forms by ourselves."

Scheiber said he is pleased with the the voter registration drive.

"It wouldn't surprise me if on campus we've got well over 2,000 people registered to vote," he said.

Schreiber also plans on participating in Common Cause Education Fund's "Vote for America" program.

Participants fill out pledge

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## Democrats rocked by cinder block

### Democratic Headquarters window broken

**JASON SECREST**  
Staff Writer

At approximately 3 a.m. last Thursday, an unidentified person shocked the Watauga County Democratic Party by throwing a cinder block through the front window of the local Democratic headquarters.

There were some minor damages inside the headquarters, but nothing was stolen. There was no one in the office when the incident took place, Watauga County Democrat voter registration and canvass chair Pam Williamson said.

Although it will take two to three weeks to replace the broken window, the headquarters remains open.

"They'll have to do worse

than that to shut us down," Williamson said.

Boone Police Chief Bill Post said there was an eyewitness and the police received a call shortly after the incident occurred.

Williamson said she and a few others showed up quickly around 4 a.m. to start cleaning up.

"I was shocked at how much strength it took to break the window," Williamson said.

Williamson said she first thought it was a random act of vandalism, but later believed otherwise.

"I think it was politically motivated," Williamson said.

Williamson said whoever did it must have planned and had a target because there are no cinder blocks around the building.

She believes whoever committed the crime must have found the cinder block somewhere else and brought it to the headquarters.

Post said he wasn't sure there were political motivations.

"We didn't catch the person, so we don't know," Post said.

Williamson said she is embarrassed for everyone. "I think it's just pathetic," Williamson said. "This is a heated election."

Williamson said the election being heated is a good thing in some ways, but not when some people don't know how to handle it.

Williamson said she would feel the same way if the vandalism had happened to the Watauga County Republican headquarters.

Nettasue McNight, volunteer at the Republican headquarters, said she feels sorry it happened.

"That's not American," McNight said of the incident.

McNight said the Republicans have very strong opinions, but don't want to deny anyone else their own. Mc-

Night said she thinks most Americans weigh things carefully, so she is not worried about the reputation of the local Republicans as a result of the vandalism.

Post said that a fair amount of vandalism occurrences take place in Boone.

There were over 200 acts of vandalism downtown last year, so this incident was not unusual, Post said.

Williamson said there is no reason to think whoever broke the window is an Appalachian State University student. She said it is a shame if anyone automatically places blame on a student.

Williamson said several students have come by the headquarters and donated money to help replace the window.

Williamson said she thinks the first presidential debate, which took place last Thursday night, had nothing to do with what happened.



Peter Larkins | Chief Photographer

Volunteer Coordinator for the Watauga Democratic Party, Marjory Holder, displays the cinder block that crashed through the front window early last Thursday morning.

## Appalachian celebrates heritage with week-long events

**CRYSTAL GENES**  
Staff Writer

The Appalachian Popular Programming Society (APPS) Council for Appalachian Heritage is holding numerous events around campus for Appalachian Heritage Week. These events are geared towards

exposing Appalachian State University students to the rich culture of the Appalachia region.

Heritage week started Monday and will end at 3 p.m. tomorrow.

Events have included documentaries on Appalachia, numerous musical performances, ballad swaps, pup-

pet shows and workshops on bee keeping, dancing, fly-fishing and fiddle making.

"It's important that students, who come here from all over the state and all over the country, who are sitting in the middle of this region that's rich in culture and music and heritage are exposed to a little of that while they spend their time here," Chairperson of Appalachian Heritage Council Mark C. Freed said.

"Whether it's their thing or not. And it's a great thing because it's all free." Travis R. Hurt, a sophomore construction major from Charlottesville Va., attended the dance workshop Monday afternoon in the Price Lake room of Plemmons Student Union, "just to see what the event was all about."

Dancers Arthur Grimes and John Turner from the

community demonstrated flatfooting and clogging while members of the Appalachian Heritage Council played music. With the lights out, Grimes entertained an audience by wearing overalls decorated with silver reflective tape and white Christmas lights while wearing his signature red dancing shoes.

"It's pretty cool," Hurt said. "I saw the posters and it looked like fun. The old time traditions are just fun to keep around."

Former Vice Chancellor of Student Development Gregory S. Blimling and professor of history Dr. John A. Williams formed the council in 1993.

Blimling placed \$10,000 in the budget to promote the culture and music of the Appalachia region with Appalachian Heritage Week. The event is held once a semester for up to two

weeks.

The specific programs are held in locations such as Plemmons Student Union where students can become exposed to the culture without having to pay for or search around for an event.

Associate Director of Student Programs Brad Vest was hired and made advisor of the council in 1995. It became a part of APPS in 1996.

"[APPS has] done an outstanding job taking the purpose of the committee to a different level," Vest said. "I think a couple of things that really helps out with the committee is being so close to the birthplace of Doc Watson and to Merle Fest. There are so many musicians located in this area. Boone is in the Appalachia cradle."

"It's a good way for students at Appalachian to

learn about the culture in the mountains," Julie A. Shepherd, a graduate student in Appalachian Studies from Jonesborough, TN, said. "A lot of people come from off the mountain and don't realize the rich music and dance traditions that are in the region."

There will be a fly-fishing workshop today at Durham Park from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m., a puppet show and live music at Crossroads Coffee Shop in Plemmons Student Union from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m.

The Dollar Boy will also perform at Crossroads Coffee from 8 p.m. until 10 p.m.

A food ways and ironware demonstration will be held tomorrow in L. S. Dougherty Hall Food Lab and legendary storyteller Orville Hicks will perform at Crossroads Coffee from 1 p.m. until 3 p.m.



Jonathan Williams | The Appalachian

Alex B. Hooker (left) an Adjunct Professor in Interdisciplinary Studies plays his fiddle with Ryan P. Crider on Sanford Mall celebrating Appalachian Heritage