

**SUNDAY**

Aug. 22, 2010



**Scam targets  
military families**

Caller seeks money  
for jailed soldier.

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**Tool helps monitor  
stream levels**

DEP website helps monitor  
water withdrawals.

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**Obituaries**

COMEAU, Kelly  
LANGDON, Alta Nell  
METCALF, Oliver Gene  
RITCHIE, Nathan William (Nate)  
SPEICHER, Lurline "Kathryn"  
VALLYATHAN, Dr. Velayudhan

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**Markets**

 DOW — 89.53
 NASDAQ + 6.28
 S&P 500 — 7.56

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**Gunmen invade  
hotel in Brazil**

30 people taken hostage  
in Rio de Janeiro.

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**Get with  
the program**

Gym's training program  
demands results.

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**Senior year:  
College**

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**COMING TOMORROW**

**Taste of France**

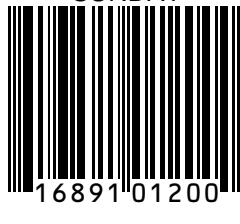
Former WesBanco building  
to get French bistro.

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## Learn positions of 12 Senate candidates

Stances on health  
care, immigration  
among responses

The Dominion Post

Readers can learn how 12 of the  
14 candidates vying to fill the U.S.  
Senate seat of the late Sen. Robert

**MEET THE CANDIDATES:** Bio-  
graphical information and  
stances on issues appear on  
**Pages 3B-5B** in today's news-  
paper. The candidates appear  
in ballot order.

C. Byrd view our nation's abortion  
laws, gay marriage, gun control  
and mountaintop removal  
coal operations.

All candidates were asked to  
provide personal background infor-  
mation and to share their views on  
these and other issues facing the  
state and nation.

Only two candidates did not do so.  
West Virginia Gov. Joe Manchin,  
Democrat, provided biographical  
information, and brief opening  
and closing statements, but he did  
not answer issue questions.

Albert Howard, Republican, of  
San Pedro, Calif., did not respond.

The candidates were asked to  
expound upon topics such as West  
Virginia's economy, national education  
programs and President  
Obama's health care plan.

Byrd died in June, at age 92.  
Democrat Carte Goodwin was

**SEE SENATE, 4-A**

## Gold and blue crab feast



Cassie Shaner/The Dominion Post

**WVU alumni, family and friends** shuffle through fresh crabs Saturday at the 33rd Annual Crab Feast sponsored by the National Capital Area Chapter of the WVU Alumni Association.

## WVU alumni gather at annual D.C. event

**CRAB FEAST** notebook.  
**Page 4-A.**

**BY CASSIE SHANER**

The Dominion Post

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — Ask Paul Farmer why nearly 1,000 WVU alumni, family and friends flock to the Washington, D.C., area every August for all-you-can-eat crab, and he's quick to reply.

"It's a social opportunity," said Farmer, head crab for the 33rd Annual Crab Feast sponsored by the National Capital Area Chapter of the WVU Alumni Association. "It takes time to eat crab."

And while they eat, they talk. Farmer said they catch up with old friends and make new ones, too. Ann Hensler, a 1976 WVU grad-



**Moun-  
taineer  
mascot  
Brock Bur-  
well** poses  
with John  
Coyner, who  
served as  
WVU's Mountaineer  
mascot in 1954.

Cassie Shaner/  
The Dominion Post



**U.S. Army sol-  
diers salute**  
during the cas-  
ing ceremony for  
4th Brigade,  
2nd Infantry  
Division, the  
last American  
combat brigade  
to serve in Iraq,  
on Saturday, at  
Camp Virginia,  
Kuwait.

AP photo

months of the invasion, allowing  
for a short-lived occupation and the  
relatively quick emergence of a  
viable government.

Among the challenges are  
helping Iraq's deeply divided  
politicians form a new government;  
refereeing long-simmering  
Arab-Kurd territorial disputes;  
advising on attracting foreign  
investment; pushing for  
improved government services;  
and fleshing out a blueprint for  
future U.S.-Iraqi relations.

President Barack Obama also  
is banking on the diplomats —  
about 300, protected by as many as  
7,000 private security contractors —  
to assume the duties of the U.S.  
military. That includes protecting  
U.S. personnel from attack and  
managing the training of Iraqi  
police, starting in October 2011.

The Iraq insurgency, which  
began shortly after U.S. troops  
toppled Baghdad in April 2003, is  
why the U.S. only now is entering  
the postcombat phase of stabilizing  
Iraq. Originally, the U.S. thought  
Iraq would be peaceful within

The question is whether  
progress will be interrupted or  
reversed once American combat  
power is gone.

The U.S. will have 50,000 troops  
in Iraq when the combat mission  
officially ends Aug. 31; they are  
scheduled to draw down to zero by  
Dec. 31, 2011. Until then, they will  
advise and train Iraqi security  
forces, and provide security and  
transport for the diplomats.

Once the troops are gone, how-  
ever, the security problem will be  
the State Department's.

Obama administration officials  
said the diplomats are well  
prepared for what the State  
Department expects to be a three-  
to five-year transition to a "nor-  
mal" U.S.-Iraqi relationship.

## Police arrest robbery suspect

Man charged in  
hot spot theft

The Dominion Post

A Morgantown man was arrested  
Saturday by Monongalia County  
deputies who say he was the one  
who pulled the gun in the armed  
robbery last week of a video poker  
parlor on Point Marion Road.

Cody Martisko, 29, was arrested  
"without incident" Saturday at a local  
hotel, Sheriff Al Kisner said.

Martisko, Kisner said, robbed  
the High Life Lounge, on Point  
Marion Road, around midnight  
Thursday.

According to reports, Martisko  
walked in, brandished a handgun,  
and demanded an employee empty a  
safe and cash register. He left  
with an undetermined amount of  
money. The employee and a cus-  
tomer weren't harmed.

Deputies say he attempted a  
similar robbery earlier that  
evening, when he accosted an  
employee in the parking lot of Top  
Doggs Hot Spot, in Dellsow, around  
11:30 p.m.

Martisko, reports said, bran-  
dished a handgun and demanded

**SEE ROBBERY, 4-A**

## Nev. judge orders drug offender to write pot report

Associated Press

GARDNERVILLE, Nev. — A Nevada judge has an unusual sentence for a 25-year-old Sacramento man who sold marijuana to a police informant in a casino parking lot at Lake Tahoe.

District Judge Dave Gamble ordered Matthew Palazzolo to write a report on what the judge called the "nonsensical character" of California's medical marijuana law.

Gamble gave Palazzolo 90 days to complete the paper discussing his realization that marijuana led him to use more powerful narcotics.

Palazzolo, who works for a Sacramento law firm, was arrested outside a Stateline casino in February after selling the informant a quarter-pound of pot for \$1,060. Palazzolo said he grew it after using complaints of a sore back to get a California medical marijuana card. But he said the pot was for recreational use.

## Crab line longer than it used to be

### CRAB FEAST NOTEBOOK

BY CASSIE SHANER

The Dominion Post

Bill Hedrick's record is 39.

That's the most crabs he has ever eaten at the annual Crab Feast sponsored by the National Capital Area Chapter (NCAC) of the WVU Alumni Association.

But he doubted he would set a new record this year as he cracked open his sixth crab Saturday.

Crab Feast attendees can eat all the crab they want, but they're limited to six per trip to the buffet line. And it's tougher than it used to be to get through the line, Hedrick said.

"But I'm going to get another dozen, at least," said Hedrick, a history teacher at Morgantown High School.

#### Volunteers help prepare food at event

Tony Hylton, of Bruceton Mills, comes to the Crab Feast for the food, but not to eat it. He's been cooking hot dogs at the annual event for more than 30 years.

Chesapeake Seafood Caterers prepared the crabs and shrimp Saturday, but the rest of the food was made by NCAC volunteers.



Cassie Shaner/The Dominion Post

**Former WVU quarterback Major Harris** signs a football for Nick Ropp and greets fellow WVU graduates Jae and Cory Hoeksema, their daughter Chloe and friend Bill McCartney.

Hylton, who was soaked in sweat, said he doesn't mind the hard work, though.

"The university is so important to so many people," said Hylton, who used to live in the Washington, D.C., area. "It feels good to give back, and there's a lot of friends here."

#### Mascot: Event 'good warmup'

Brock Burwell, WVU's 2010-11 Mountaineer, said his buckskin suit was "a little warm," but he enjoyed Saturday's crab feast nonetheless.

"This is the best alumni event I've been to all summer," said Burwell, who has been traveling the state. "It's a great turnout, and you

couldn't ask for better weather ... It's a good warmup for the first game."

#### 1954 mascot attends first Crab Feast

Burwell wasn't the only Mountaineer mascot at Fort Hunt Park. John Coyner, who carried the rifle in 1954, came from Wichita, Kan., to attend the crab feast for the first time.

Coyner's college roommate, Paul Farmer, helped found the event and invited him to come.

"I've seen a lot of people," Coyner said. "I got to meet the Mountaineer and had a nice visit. I told him he's in for the best experience of his life. It's quite an honor."

#### Major Harris attends his first Crab Feast

Several crab feast attendees were honored to meet former Mountaineers quarterback Major Harris, who also attended the event for the first time.

They lined up to snap photos, get autographs and reminisce about their favorite WVU football moments.

Dave Seldomridge, of Arlington, had Harris sign a WVU mug and window decal.

"I used to watch him play ball," Seldomridge said. "He was incredible."

#### Bert Sharp on the ball at football games

Bert Sharp graduated from WVU in 1951, but he never missed one of Harris' games. In fact, he didn't miss a game for 20 years.

Sharp, who worked as a scientist for the Department of Defense before retiring, attended every home and away game from 1987-2007.

"I retired in 1986, so what else are you going to do?" said Sharp, a longtime Crab Feast attendee. "There were some good times, but let me tell you, there were some long trips home."

## CRAB

FROM PAGE 1-A

uate who lives in nearby Annandale, Va., attended the crab feast for the fifth time Saturday at Alexandria's Fort Hunt Park.

"This gets bigger every year," she said. "It's great fun, and I meet new people every time."

Farmer and about 25 other WVU alumni met for the first crab feast in 1977. They gathered at then-NCAC president James Edmundson's house and cooked the crab themselves in the backyard.

Afterward, Farmer got calls from other WVU alumni who said they would like to attend. NCAC officials moved the event to Cameron Station, a military base in Alexandria, the following year, and it's grown in popularity ever since.

This year's event attracted about 750 people who feasted on 55 bushels of Chesapeake Bay blue crab, 450 pounds of shrimp, hot dogs, buffalo wings, corn on the cob, watermelon and other picnic fare. They also played cornhole and listened to live bluegrass music, creating a tailgate party atmosphere at Fort Hunt Park.

"There's food, friends, beer and crab. What else could you want?" said Mark Coleman, a WVU alumnus who lives in the Washington, D.C., area.

Coleman and his friends set up their own shaded picnic area under a blue and gold WVU Mountaineers canopy. They've attended the crab feast for the past 10 years, and Coleman said it's an opportunity for them to catch up and make plans for the upcoming football season.

For others, it's a family reunion. Glenna Linville didn't go to WVU, but her niece did. She joined family members from Florida and New York at the crab feast for the third year in a row on Saturday.

"We use it as a way to celebrate WVU and have a family reunion," Linville said. "We wouldn't miss this for the world. We have a lot of fun."

WVU alumni Pam and Barry Casto came from Point Pleasant to meet up with their son, Chris, who also graduated from WVU. He and several others recommended the crab feast to them.

"They said it was fantastic," Pam Casto said. "And who doesn't love crab?"

NCAC President Kevin Nodianos said "Mountaineer pride" and positive feedback keep people coming back to the crab feast, which serves as a fundraiser for the NCAC's John F. Nicholas Jr. Scholarship Fund, year after year.

"These guys that have been doing this have been doing it for so long," Nodianos said, referring to Farmer and the others who originated the event. "They know what they're doing. It's a lot of fun."

WVU President James Clements said the event's growth reinforces the family atmosphere among WVU alumni.

"This is pure energy," said Clements, who donned shorts decorated with crabs for the occasion. "You've got hundreds of Mountaineers here. They're dedicated. They come every year. And they bring their families, which is appropriate because we're like a big family."

## ROBBERY

FROM PAGE 1-A

money. The employee didn't have any cash and Martisko left, deputies said.

On Saturday, Martisko was taken to the North Central Regional Jail after appearing before Magistrate James Neighbors, who set bond at \$50,000. His preliminary hearing will be at 9 a.m. Aug. 30.

In a press release from the Sheriff's Department, Kisner credited hot spot managers across the area for aiding the investigation.

"The assistance of several Hot Spot managers networking between themselves and the sheriff's department was imperative to the quick resolution of this case," he said.

He didn't return calls in time for this report.

## SENATE

FROM PAGE 1-A

appointed by Manchin to replace Byrd until voters make their pick in November. That person will serve the remainder of Byrd's term, which ends in January 2013.

In addition to Manchin and Howard, those in Saturday's special primary election include, in ballot order, Democrats Ken Hechler and Sheiri Fletcher; Republicans Thomas Ressler, Harry Bruner, Frank Kubic, John Raese, Dan Rebich, Kenneth Culp, Lynette Kennedy McQuain, Scott Williams and Mac Warner; and Mountain Party candidate Jesse Johnson.

Early voting began Friday and runs through Wednesday. Those winning their party's nomination will face off in November's general election.



## to the Taxpayers of Monongalia County

- If you have not received your 2010 Tax Statements, please contact the Sheriff's Tax Office: 304-291-7244
- You **must** contact the Assessor's Office to make a permanent address change and ensure that you will receive future tax statements.

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Kenneth Allen Kisner  
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