System Administration for the Web: Final Project

21st November 2005

1 Introduction

1.1 Notes

Whether or not you pass this course will be determined in large part by how well you do on this project. This project is meant to bring together all the system administration skills you have learned this semester and to give you a taste of real-life system administration work. If you have kept up with all the lectures and laboratories, this project should not be difficult. However, this project will be different from previous laboratories in the sense that we expect you to make appropriate decisions by yourself. There will be almost no "hand-holding."

1.2 Submission Guidelines

Please mail all relevant commands, explanations, output, and information to dima+decal@ocf.berkeley.edu. It should be clear from your submission that you understand the purpose of the commands you performed and can interpret their output. If you feel that some part of your submission may be unclear, please attach an explanation. The due date for this project will be announced in class.

2 Final Project

The final project will be specified as a series of goals that you must accomplish. You may accomplish these goals in any way you wish, although we highly recommend that you heed the provided suggestions.

Goal 1 Create a new user account and activate web-hosting for that account by creating a `public_html` directory in the account's home directory. The directory will require at least user execute, read, and write and world execute permissions. Determine how to access this directory from the Internet.

1

Goal 2 Create a new MySQL database and MySQL user. Although you may use the command-line interface to MySQL, we highly recommend using *phpMyAdmin*, which should be available at
`http://pileup.ocf.berkeley.edu:1##80/phpmyadmin`
where `##` is your group's number.

Goal 3 Upload a copy of the WordPress blog software to the user account you created and extract the files. Modify the WordPress configuration files to include the MySQL database and user information you created in the previous goal.

Goal 4 Install WordPress. It may be necessary to change the permissions on the `wp-config.php` file to allow Apache to read the file.

Goal 5 Create a new post using the WordPress software to demonstrate that you have successfully installed and configured the software.

Goal 6 Set a quota on the user account.

Goal 7 Write a shell script to backup the home directory of the user you created. Install this script into `crontab` to have it execute every day. Ideally, your script should use `tar` to create the backup. For a challenge, write the shell script in such a way that each backup file is labeled with the date it was created.