David Canas

10 Heuristics:

1. Visibility of System Status:
   Not applicable as far as I can tell- loading is nonexistent and everything is pretty simple. No loading bars to speak of. Site structure is clearly visible at top of site, but lacks breadcrumbs and simple methods of returning to previous page (besides back button).
2. Match between system and real world:
   Not doing its job in the department, it all looks like it's designed for people who are already in the school. Stuff is organized structurally, would be familiar to someone who is already going here and has used the site before, but I had no idea what I was looking at first.
3. User control and freedom:
   Not really sure what it's asking, but there don't seem to be very many situations in which a user would *need* an emergency exit (eg starting a process mistakenly). However, as stated above, it's a little difficult to go back one page without the back button.
4. Consistency and standards:
   Site is kind of inconsistent- the home page has certain styling, making it look colorful and inviting, however the other sites use completely different formatting. News site,
5. Error prevention:
   Recovers well enough from messed up lack of search results and improperly filled out forms, doesn't completely break and scare the user.
6. Recognition rather than recall:
   The site isn't organized very well, so a lot of thing things you need aren't where you would expect. User would mostly have to rely on memory, not a lot of cues as to where common things would be, like majors list or sports.
7. Flexibility and efficiency of use:
   I think it excels in this department- If you know the way the site is structured you know what links are in each category and can make use of the shortcuts on the home page. Down at the bottom you also find a full site map (after clicking the button for it) with a search function, which I assume is pretty useful.
8. Aesthetic and minimalist design:
   They pack way too much info per page, but their home page color schemes are nice. Any thing lower leveled than this is way to text heavy and dense, most people wouldn't want to read it. Also, titles are too prominent; can't tell what's important and what isn't.
9. Help users recognize, diagnose, and recover from errors:
   Dated 404 page, but not many other problems besides that. Couldn't really break the forms as their error recovery is decent.
10. Help and documentation:
    Pretty useless as far as I could tell, seems to have all the same links as the main page, with very few second level pages- no real assistance other than redirecting to the same pages it would normally. Not really any documentation.