Internet/Evaluation Worksheet

Evaluation of Information on the Internet

Institute for Historical Review  http://www.ihr.org/
Boston Dynamics  http://www.bostondynamics.com/
Hetracil  http://www.hetracil.com/
Digital Angel  http://www.digitalangel.com/
Dwayne Medical Center  http://www.rythospital.com/2008/
American City University  http://acuni.us/

Circle the name of the web site assigned to your group.

Give evidence in all four categories of evaluation that supports your answer above. Use the questions as guidelines in developing your evaluation:

Authority:
1. Who is responsible for the content? What kind of domain name? What does this indicate?
2. If you don’t recognize the institution, or there is no author name, what type of information is given about the contact information? Position? Organizational affiliation? E-mail address? Biographical information?
Accuracy:

1. Does the website cite sources used to present its information? What type of sources are they? Scholarly? Popular?
2. Is it possible to verify the legitimacy of these sources?
3. If the site is research-based, does the website clearly identify the method of research and the data gathered?

Objectivity:

1. What is the purpose of the web site:
   - Is it advertisement for a product or service?
   - Is it for political purposes?
   - Is it trying to sway public opinion on a social issue?
2. Do you trust the author or organization providing the information?
Currency:

1. Is a date clearly displayed?
2. Can you determine what the date refers to?
   When the page was first written?
   When the page was first posted on the Internet?
   When the page was last revised or updated?
3. Are the resources used by the author current?
4. Does the page content demand routine or continual updating or revision?
5. Do the links on the page point to the correct Internet site addresses?

Upon examining this web site, do you find this information to be reliable?  YES / NO
Why?