

STUDENT LIFE

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Black student festival focuses on activism

BY BRITTANY FARB
STAFF REPORTER

Social activist and political commentator Jeff Johnson will headline the annual Black Arts and Sciences Festival lecture Wednesday at 11 a.m. at Graham Chapel.

The festival, which began on Sunday, is one of the Association of Black Student's (ABS) major programs. This year's festival is focusing on activism and how to achieve change.

"There are different ways to be activists and that's what we're trying to highlight," said ABS President Sarah Johnson.

Mr. Johnson's lecture, entitled "Become Activists: Building Effective Campus Organizations and Maintaining Excellence," is co-sponsored by the Assembly Series.

"[Mr. Johnson] will be speaking on how we as young people can be influential forces of change on our college campus," said Jasmine Taylor,

ABS programming co-chair.

According to Ms. Johnson, ABS made its selection partially because of Mr. Johnson's history as a political commentator and the controversy he raised.

"Not everyone agreed with what he had to say," said Ms. Johnson. "But he is very interested in making people become activists."

Johnson's lecture is part of the annual Black Arts and Sciences Festival, a weeklong event that is focusing on how students can impact today's world.

"It's a national, even world wide feeling that people are getting that things will not change from their parent's generation without effort," said Ms. Johnson. "People are realizing that nothing will change unless you get up and do something about it."

Each event will be labeled Acts I-VI, and the last event will be the annual ABS semi-

See FESTIVAL, page 2

University rejects Watson's commentary on race

BY DAVID SONG
NEWS EDITOR

The Washington University Genome Sequencing Center issued a public response on its Web site yesterday in response to controversial comments on race and intelligence made by James Watson, the biologist who discovered the structure of DNA along with Francis Crick.

Watson, who shared the 1962 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine with Francis Crick and Maurice Wilkins, recently suggested a genetic difference in intelligence between Africans and non-Africans.

Watson later retracted and apologized for his statement, stating that there was no scientific basis for his claims of genetic inferiority by race. Several days after, he resigned from his post at Cold Spring Harbor National Laboratory.

The Genome Sequencing Center's (GSC) online statement opposed Watson's original claims.

"Based on our collective ex-

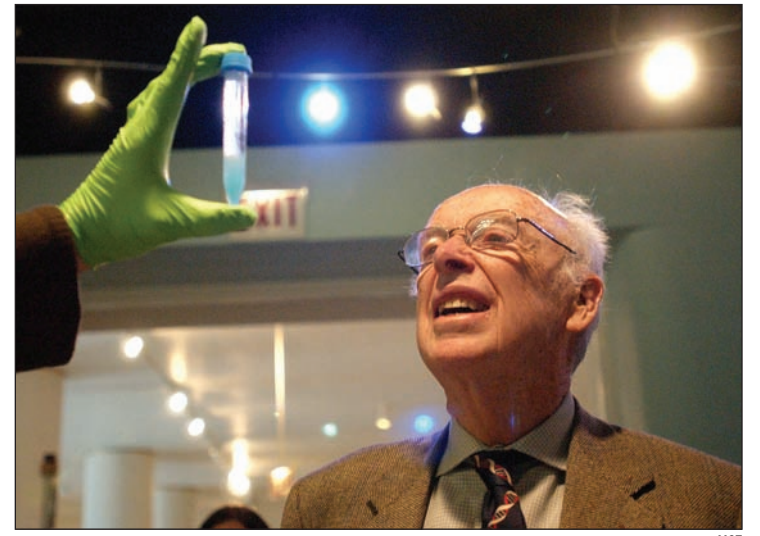
tensive training and experience in biology and genetics, we do not support any notion of intellectual inferiority based on race, ethnicity, or gender," read part of the statement. "Furthermore, we know of no scientific evidence that demonstrates that this is the case."

Allan Larson, professor of biology, similarly rejected those notions of race and intelligence.

"[Watson's] statement is a personal prejudice that in my opinion has no validity that even as a scientific hypothesis could be tested," said Larson.

Larson also questioned the existence of any evidence that could be called genetic intelligence, and suggested that the statements were rooted in personal prejudice and were without any scientific validity.

"What does he even mean by 'intelligence'?" asked Larson. "My impression is that the statement was illogical and a personal prejudice and he refers to it as if it's something measurable. He's making statements about cul-



Dr. James Watson, the biologist who discovered the structure of DNA along with Francis Crick, looks at the DNA extracted from his saliva. In response to Watson's recent comments suggesting a genetic difference between Africans and non-Africans, the WU Genome Sequencing Center issued a public response condemning his claims.

tures that are variable and probably have different ideas of intelligence. There is no possibility of

a scientific basis for his claims."

See WATSON, page 2

ENGINEERS JOIN MILE HIGH CLUB



Senior Matt McCord walks with his remote-controlled airplane in Forest Park Saturday afternoon. McCord and other mechanical and aerospace engineers are participating in a Senior Design Project course for which they must design a contraption that can move M&Ms from one location to another. The teams, comprised of four students from the class, will compete at the end of the semester to see whose device can successfully move the most candies.

Researcher names virus in WU's honor

❖ Pathogen believed to cause tumors, respiratory disease

BY STEVE HARDY
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

A new strain of virus has been identified by the medical school and named the "WU" virus after Washington University.

Graduate student Anne Gaynor believes that further testing might indicate that the virus infects young children, becomes latent in the kidney and causes illness later in life when the immune system is compromised, such as in elderly and HIV-infected people.

The virus, a type known as a polyomavirus, is closely related to two others, JC and BK, which attack the nervous system of

HIV patients and cause kidney transplants to fail, respectively. However, the research team still has much to uncover about WU.

"There [also] doesn't appear to be any difference in gender or ethnicity at this point," said Gaynor.

A Web site maintained by David Wang, a University professor who leads the research team, states that the WU virus has unique properties unlike either of the others and he questions if it even is a human pathogen.

Gaynor says that it may even be related to a virus which infects non-human primates.

The virus has been reported in such geographically disparate countries as the United

States, Australia, Germany and Korea, according to Gardner.

In fact, the first samples of the then-unknown WU virus came from the University of Queensland in Australia.

The samples were sent to the University because the school has ViroChip, a sophisticated pan-viral DNA microarray. This tool allows scientists to quickly screen viral samples and compare their structure to more than 22,000 known viruses. It was instrumental in distinguishing SARS from known viruses during the 2003 outbreak.

Several thousand young sub-

See VIRUS, page 2

Student receives "out-of-this-world" scholarship

BY JOHANN QUA HIANSEN
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

Thirty-five years ago, astronaut Charlie Duke was driving on the moon. On Thursday, he'll be presenting a prestigious \$10,000 scholarship to senior Lonia Friedlander.

Duke will present a talk entitled "A Journey to the Moon" after the awards ceremony. The talk, which is open and free to the public, is scheduled this afternoon. Prior to the talk, Duke will get to see some of the lunar samples that he collected in April of 1972 in the lab.

"I can't wait to meet him," said Friedlander. "Astronauts really interest me because they risk their lives for science."

Friedlander is one of 19 students in the country this

year and the second student in the Pathfinder program in the past four years to receive this award from the Astronaut Scholarship Foundation. Students are selected by the astronauts for excellence in their science or engineering field as well as their well-rounded contributions outside of the lab.

"We're very proud of Lonia," said Raymond Arvidson, who also heads the Pathfinder program in Environmental Sustainability. "She's off and running."

It all began when Friedlander visited the University on a whim. Although it was her first college visit, she applied Early Decision and signed up for the Pathfinder program.

"I jokingly say it's the best arbitrary decision I ever made," said Friedlander.

In the summer of her sophomore year, Friedlander traveled to Spain after being offered a research opportunity by Arvidson.

"I'm interested in science because I think it is possibly the best way to study the physical world," said Friedlander.

Friedlander's research deals with ground water salts similar to those found on Mars.

"We were studying the spectroscopy of a certain family of minerals that appear to be relatively similar to those in Mars and figure out how they change in various conditions," said Friedlander.

Friedlander has been working in the Earth and Planetary Remote Sensing Lab analyzing data sent back from the Mars Rovers and making suggestions to mission operations.

"The Earth and Planetary Sciences Department is cool because it's relatively small but really involved," said Friedlander.

Fellow Pathfinders are participating in the Phoenix rover, projected to land on Mars in May.

Friedlander plans to use the scholarship to pay for some of her undergraduate tuition.

"I get the check and hand it to Chancellor Wrighton, essentially," said Friedlander.

When not in the lab, Friedlander likes to dance and help other students with their chemistry. In her freshman year, she was part of Washington University Dance Theater. Last summer, she was part of a West African dance group in St. Louis.

In a statement from Mon-

day's Record, Duke said, "Lonia will be one of the many leaders who will keep the United States at the edge of breakthrough technology, and I consider it an honor to be presenting her with this check."

Duke was present in mission control when Neil Armstrong, announcing his arrival on the moon, said "Houston... the eagle has landed."

Years later, he became the 10th of only 12 men to walk on the moon. He and astronaut John Young stayed on the lunar surface for a record-setting 71 hours and 14 minutes where they collected 213 pounds of lunar samples, drove a Lunar Rover and planted scientific equipment.

The speaker event will begin at 2:30 pm in room 300, Brookings Hall.



Lonia Friedlander, a senior in the Pathfinder program, will be awarded a scholarship from the Astronaut Scholarship Foundation by astronaut Charlie Duke. Duke will also present a talk entitled "A Journey to the Moon" after the awards ceremony.

Cadenza says goodbye Goulet



Grammy winner and Broadway star Robert Goulet died Tuesday morning at the age of 73. The singer gained fame with a younger generation thanks to Will Ferrell's lampooning on SNL.

Boo! A haunting we will go...



Trick or treat? Naughty or nice? It's not too late to get dressed up. Student Life wishes all our readers a spooktacular Halloween!

INSIDE:

- Sports 3
- Forum 4
- Cadenza 6
- Classifieds 9
- Sudoku 9

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WE'VE GOT TUESDAYS
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Radiology takes the stand: Brain imaging enters the courtroom

BY EDWARD LAZZARIN
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

In an unprecedented attempt to bridge the gap between the radiology room and the courtroom, Washington University's Schools of Medicine and Law will be collaborating to decide how brain scans should be used within the legal system.

The University will contribute neuroscientists and legal scholars, in coordination with over two dozen other universities nationwide, to work on the \$10 million project.

Researcher Marcus Raichle, a professor in the schools of Medicine, Arts & Sciences, and Engineering, is co-directing one of the three research groups.

"Somebody with a brain lesion or disorder—clearly their behavior has been altered by this. Are they responsible for

their actions?" said Raichle. "A teenager who has committed a crime—should they be held responsible? If so or not, how do we decide this?"

The project's first three years are funded by a \$10 million MacArthur Foundation grant with the purpose of "addressing the topics of addiction, brain abnormalities and decision making as they relate to complex issues such as criminal responsibility," according to a press release by the Foundation.

One problem Raichle discussed was the admissibility of obscene or offensive evidence in court cases.

Judges are often called to evaluate whether evidence is too disagreeable for jurors to be able to deliberate rationally, possibly influencing the outcome of a case. Experts in neuroscience and psychology may be able to shed light on

some of these centuries-old judicial practices, with the hope of shaping the legal system for the better.

Those in favor of the project hope that it will make our insights on important legal concepts such as guilt, punishment, treatment, the detection of lies and bias, and prediction of criminal behavior more accurate, keeping fewer innocent people in jail, and convicting more of the guilty people.

"We're looking for information and taking a forward look at these issues," said Raichle. "The question is 'how do we think about these problems?'"

Skeptics, however, fear that incorporating brain-imaging technology into the legal system may violate rights to privacy and undermine personal responsibility, possibly undermining some of the basic

assumptions of law.

Some specific goals of the project will be to hold conferences, publish judicial guidelines for handling neuroscientific evidence, develop scientific research proposals relevant to legal proceedings and possibly publish textbooks for Law and Neuroscience courses at universities.

There will be three working groups to study addiction, brain abnormalities and decision making, the last of which being co-directed by Raichle and Owen Jones, professors of law and of biological sciences at Vanderbilt University.

The MacArthur Foundation is one of the largest private grant-making foundations and awards \$225 million annually in grants and low-interest loans. For more information about the project, visit <http://lawandneuroscienceproject.org>.

VIRUS ❖ FROM PAGE 1

jects have been studied by taking respiratory secretions. Researchers found that as many as three percent of those with respiratory infections also tested positive for the WU virus.

"Seventy percent of these kids have a secondary infection," said Gaynor. "There is every range of infections, and some have two, three or up to five other infections."

While this does not necessarily indicate a cause and effect relationship, it is enough for researchers to question the nature of the virus.

Even a one-day-old infant was found to be infected, illustrating that the virus might be able to pass from a mother to the fetus via the umbilical

cord.

As of yet, researchers are unaware of any environmental factors or genetic predispositions that cause people to be more susceptible or resistant

to contracting the virus. It does seem, however, that as the virus mostly infects people when their immune systems are weak, either by extreme age or illness.

Gaynor, who has been working in Wang's lab for more than three years, wrote an article for "PLoS," a national medical jour-

nal. Gaynor collaborated with Wang and other graduate students on the article, "Identification of a novel polyomavirus from patients with acute respiratory tract infections," which introduced the WU virus to the medical community. Since its publication in May, the research team has been considering how to continue their study.

"We want to look at who has antibodies to this and at what age are you going to get them, when you will be infected," said Gaynor. "Also, can we associate [the WU virus] with a disease? That's sort of the next logical step. Right now, it's an identified virus, but not a pathogen. We have to prove that it causes diseases."

These viruses are called polyoma, meaning multiple tumors, and they are all known to cause tumors in rats.

"The thing I'm going to work on is determining if our virus can transform normal cells into a malignant phenotype in vitro, much like other members of this family," she said.

The researchers must first grow tissue cultures and then inject those infected cells into a mouse. If the hypothesis is true, rats will develop tumors in whatever cells the WU virus is introduced, regardless of the type of tissue.

This experiment will be a good step toward determining the full scope of the University's mysterious new virus.



Anne Gaynor

FESTIVAL ❖ FROM PAGE 1

formal, which will be called the Final Act.

"We are using a bit of a theatrical theme," said Omolade Alawode, ABS programming co-chair.

Mr. Johnson has made occasional appearances on BET talk shows and created his own successful television programs, "Cousin Jeff" and "The Jeff Johnson Chronicles." In 2004, Mr. Johnson was the first to cover Democratic national conventions for BET.

Since his appointment with the NAACP as National Youth Director, Johnson has attempted to generate interest in social and political arenas among young activists, including the development of MyNationOnline.com, a Web site devoted to social activism and spreading awareness.

Mr. Johnson is currently writing a book, tentatively entitled "Black and Brown: The Conversation on Race America Has Never Had." Johnson

plans to express the need for honest communication between Black and Latino communities.

Mr. Johnson's lecture is open to all University students, faculty, staff and the entire St. Louis community.

"We would love to see a diverse crowd fill [Graham Chapel] to capacity," said Taylor.

Other events in the festival include a voter education forum on Thursday and the annual ABS semi-formal on

Saturday night.

"We want to be active votes and we want to get people registered," said Ms. Johnson. "We're going to talk about the major issues in this election and how to vote by absentee ballot."

For additional information regarding Johnson's lecture, call 314-935-5285 or visit assemblyseries.wustl.edu.

—With additional reporting by Sam Guzik.

WATSON ❖ FROM PAGE 1

Will Ross, director of the Office of Diversity Programs, and assistant at the University School of Medicine, took a similar stance on the matter.

"There is absolutely no evidence to support that sort of correlation; it's been a pseudo-science by the likes of The Bell Curve," said Ross. "It really sets this whole issue of race and intelligence back when anyone makes a statement like that; it's so unsubstantiated. I'm hoping that salient minds prevail and recognize this is an issue not supported by science," he said.

Ross added that while the University seeks different perspectives, Watson's comments were not acceptable in any institution of higher education.

"While we do promote an understanding of difference, there has to be an intolerance of things that are hateful and only serve to perpetuate stereotypes, which was the case with Dr. Watson," he said. "Any university that prides itself on multiculturalism would not allow these comments to go unchecked."

According to the St. Louis American, a Missouri newspaper targeted to African Americans, the name "watson" was dropped from University e-mail addresses.

The original e-mail servers for the GSC were named "watson" and "crick"—and so e-mail addresses would end in @watson.wustl.edu or @crick.wustl.edu—but over time the GSC has accumulated many servers. The current e-mail server is named "genome."

Richard Wilson, professor of genetics and director of the GSC, stressed that dropping "watson" from the e-mail server was not a direct effect of Watson's statements. Rather, the name has simply been disappearing over time.

"In large places they [e-mail addresses] tend to migrate," said Wilson. "Very early in our days, Watson was the name of one of our servers, and it hasn't been for many years. The e-mail addresses take time to change and it's slowly going away. People can make the changes themselves; it'll probably go away by itself."

Ross also noted that the issue with the e-mail server at the GSC was not directly related to Watson's recent comments.

"Wilson made an internal response, which speaks for itself," he said. "There are larger issues than an e-mail server."

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Tim Session 5:30–8 p.m.
3rd Environment with Kentucky Knife Fight 9:30 pm–1 a.m.

Thursday, Nov. 1
Tommy Holloran 5:30–8 p.m.
Madahoochi 9:30 p.m.–1 a.m.

Friday, Nov. 2
Grant & Andrew Essig 5:30–8 p.m.
An Evening with Michael Kelsey CD Release 9 p.m.–1 a.m.

Saturday, Nov. 3
Blues J's 5:30–8 p.m.
Javier Mendoza with His Band w/ Jim Peters 9:30 p.m.–12 a.m.

Monday, Nov. 5
Ed Belling 5:30–8 p.m.
Industry Night with DJ Trackstar 9:30 p.m.–1 a.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 6
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SPORTS

SWIMMING & DIVING

WU WOMEN 155 ♦ DEPAUW 129

WU MEN 161 ♦ DEPAUW 139

Swimming wins Division III opener



LIONEL SOBEHART | STUDENT LIFE

Both swimming teams won their matches against DePauw University. The men stand 2-0 and the women are 1-1.

BY ANNA DINNDORF
SPORTS REPORTER

The swimming teams are still going strong.

Lower numbers and the loss of some key swimmers from last season have not stopped the Bears yet. In their second dual meet of the season, their first against a Division III opponent, the Washington University swimming and diving teams both defeated DePauw University at Millstone Pool on Saturday. The women beat DePauw 155-129 and the men won 161-139.

Both the men and the women got off to a great start, each winning the 200-yard medley relay to begin the meet. The women's team of senior Meredith Nordbrock, freshman Devon O'Leary, senior Kristen Mann and junior Kelly Kono posted a time of 1:53.27 to take first in the event, while the team of freshman Kartik Anjur, junior Perry Bullock, freshman Michael Flanagan and senior Tom Morris won the race in 1:39.29.

The first place finishes just kept rolling in after that. On the women's side, Kono won the 100-yard freestyle race with a time of 54.38 and the

1000-yard freestyle in 10:38.85. She also took a close second in the 50-yard freestyle, finishing the sprint race in 25.41. Freshman Karin Underwood also had some strong swims for the women, cruising to an easy win in the 200-yard backstroke with a time of 2:10.89. Underwood also won the 100-yard backstroke in 1:01.86 and placed third in the 200-yard individual medley, finishing in 2:16.42.

Nordbrock turned in her usual strong performance as well, winning the 100-yard breaststroke (1:09.10) and 200-yard individual medley (2:12.57) events for the women. Senior diver Priya Srikanth won both diving events, scoring 238.15 in the 1-meter and 246.25 in the 3-meter.

"[This win] will give us a certain level of confidence, especially after losing the SLU meet," said Nordbrock. "It's always nice to have a win under your belt."

The men's victory was highlighted by a number of first-place finishes as well. Bullock led the men, winning the 200-yard butterfly in a close race and qualifying provisionally for the NCAA Championship meet with his time of 1:54.83.

Bullock also won the 200-yard backstroke in 1:59.55 and placed second in the 100-yard butterfly with a time of 51.99.

Other key performers for the men included sophomore Alex Beyer and junior Julian Beattie. Beyer won both the 100-yard and 200-yard breaststroke events, with times of 59.40 and 2:11.67 respectively, as well as the 400-yard individual medley in 4:12.11. Beattie dominated the distance freestyle events, winning the 500-yard freestyle in 4:50.86 and the 1000-yard freestyle in 9:56.17.

Wash. U. is back in action next weekend in Chicago, Ill. for the Maroon Invitational Nov. 9-10. Friday's events start at 6 p.m.

The Bears are also looking ahead to training for their mid-season championship meet, the Wheaton Invitational at the beginning of December, where they hope to qualify a number of swimmers for the NCAA Championship meet.

"We have really been working hard both in the weight room and in the pool," said Nordbrock. "The fact that we're swimming so tired and are still able to perform so well really stood out to me."

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Location: Washington, DC

Apply end: 11/14

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Teaching in a Montessori School

Friday, 11/5, 6:30 pm in 159 Umrath Hall

Abercrombie & Fitch

Friday, 11/5, 7 to 9 pm at 609 Lounge, Eastgate Avenue

Cerner

Wednesday, 11/7, 6:30 pm in 318 Whitaker Hall

Japanese Exchange and Teaching Program

Wednesday, 11/7, 6:30 pm in 159 Umrath Hall

Carney Sandoe & Associates

Thursday, 11/8, 6:30 pm in 159 Umrath Hall

Miller Brewing Company

Thursday, 11/8, 4:30 pm in Knight Center

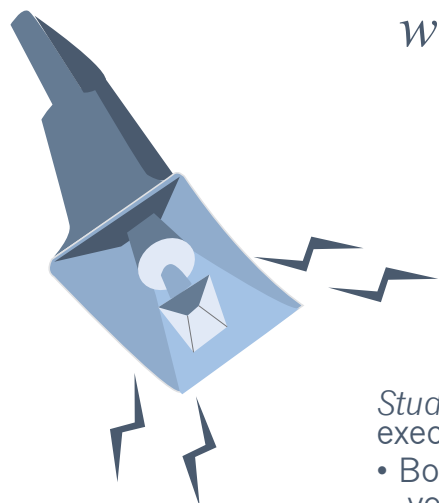
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Hawker Beechcraft

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FORUM

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To ensure that we have time to fully evaluate your submissions, guest columns should be e-mailed to the next issue's editor or forwarded to forum@studlife.com by no later than 5 p.m. two days before publication. Late pieces will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

We welcome your submissions and thank you for your consideration.

STAFF EDITORIAL

Bauhaus should tweak ticket system

The Architecture School Council did a fine job once again this Saturday in putting on Bauhaus, the costume party that has marked Halloween for Washington University students for years now. We commend the extensive organizational preparation that went into the event. But we do feel that the system for the distribution of tickets for the event would benefit from certain changes.

Bauhaus has not always been such a popular event. It began as primarily an architecture party, but its popularity grew to the point where up to 3,000 students were attending. With this popularity came an assessment of safety and the necessity to cap the number of attendees. The ticketing system was instituted to regulate attendance and we agree that some regulation is necessary.

Yet we believe that the current system could be improved. Fire codes dictate that the capacity of the tent may not

exceed 1,440 students; including the outside area, no more than 2,000 students may be allowed into the party. Bauhaus gives away 2,000 tickets, both in Mallinckrodt and in Givens Hall so that the architecture students who play such a large part in the event can get them with greater ease. The hours this year in Mallinckrodt were quite short: from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday. This year, every ticket was snatched up by an hour into the ticket distribution on Friday.

But this year only 1,600 people total ultimately made it to Bauhaus. This means that there were 400 unused tickets floating around among students. Those putting on the event encouraged those students who were not originally able to get tickets to ask their friends and acquaintances for extras that would not be used. The high number of fake tickets this year—about one hundred—make it clear that students who did not get tickets

still had a major desire to make it to the event.

To be fair, Bauhaus recognizes that some reforms are necessary, and event organizers are considering slight changes to the ticket policy for next year. Because the major cause of unused tickets is a last minute change of plans, the possible change would mean that no tickets would be distributed Monday and Tuesday; instead, they would be offered from Wednesday through Friday. The theory goes that this would allow students to crystallize their plans earlier in the week before tickets are distributed. Fewer people would get tickets "just in case," they say.

While we commend Bauhaus for recognizing that changes are necessary, we believe that these proposed changes are ultimately misguided. First, there is no reason to believe that a substantial number of students will finalize their weekend plans before Wednesday. All this new plan will do is make

it more difficult for students to acquire tickets by offering them during a shorter time frame. The fact that the supply of Bauhaus tickets was not exhausted until noon on Friday indicates that there was not a mad rush for tickets throughout the week.

If Bauhaus is going to distribute tickets, then the ticket distribution needs to be easier. A common complaint has been that students either did not know where tickets were handed out or could not get there during the short hours. We think this difficulty, not a shortage of tickets, was a major reason why Bauhaus organizers confiscated 100 fake tickets.

The tickets might still be given away in Givens Hall and in Mallinckrodt, but we also recommend that they be distributed in the Village and Wohl Center in order to be accessible to more students. The hours too should be expanded to 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Mallinckrodt.

If a greater number of stu-

dents have access to the tickets—through expanded ticket distribution hours and extra ticket locations—the students who are certain about wanting to go to Bauhaus will have more assured and immediate access to their ticket.

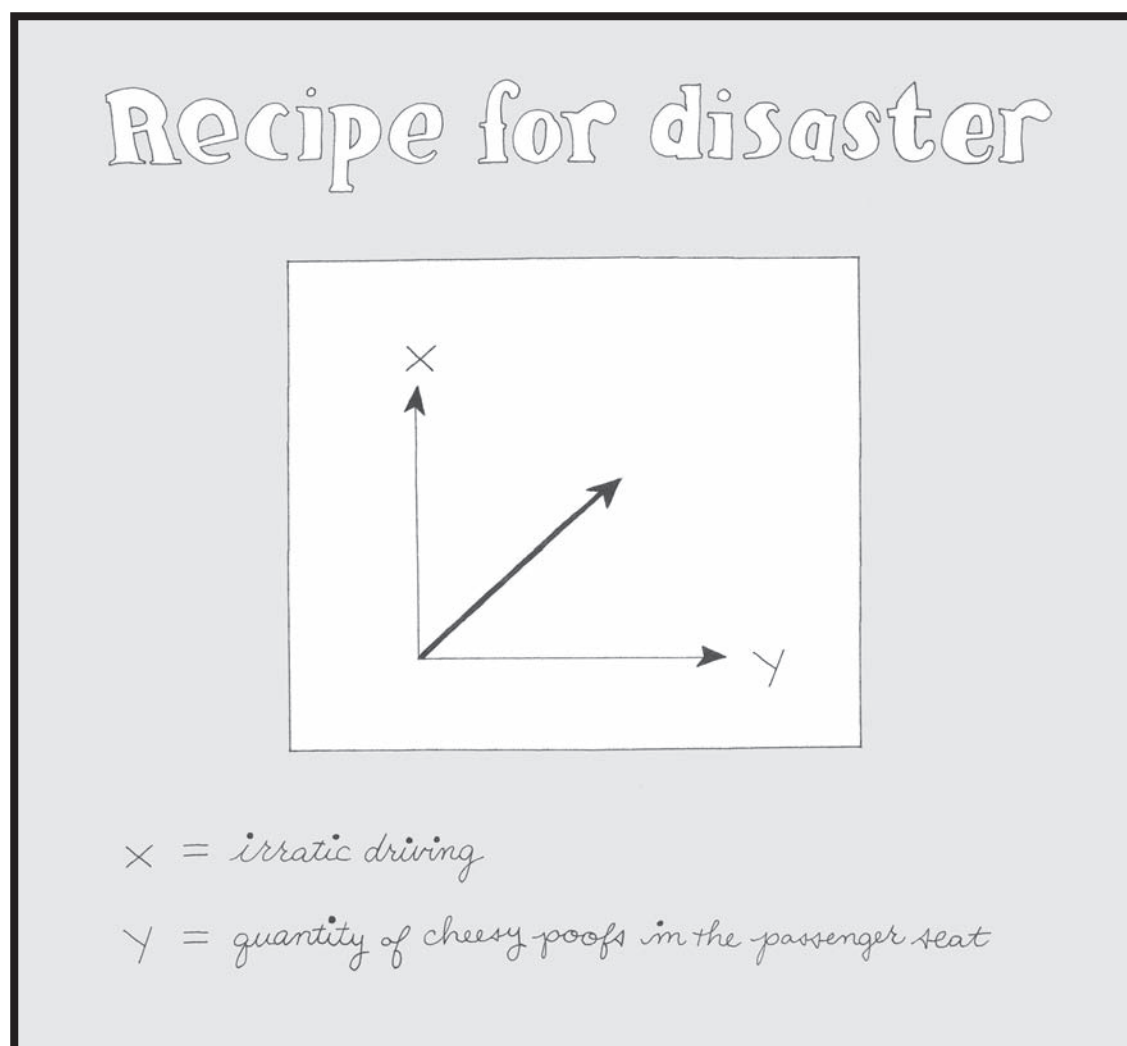
And since Bauhaus is such a large event, it is the least the organizers can do to make tickets more readily available to students. Students would have less of an excuse to complain about the ticket sales, make fake tickets and try to sneak in if they knew tickets were easily available.

But while these options would certainly improve the ticket distribution system, we strongly suggest that Bauhaus abandon this system entirely. Instead, it should consider using a counter system like the one used by Vertigo, the large engineering school party held in Lopata Hall and by various bars and clubs, such as Pin Up Bowl. They employ a system where staff use counters to

monitor people going in and out of the bar. Attendees are not allowed to enter the bar once a limit has been reached. As people leave, however, more patrons are allowed to enter. If Bauhaus used this system, ticket distribution would no longer be required and event organizers would save money by not having to print tickets. Furthermore, if this year's head count of 1,600 people (plus an additional hundred or so who attempted to gain entrance using fake tickets) is indicative of future Bauhaus attendance, everyone would be able to get in without any problems because the event would never hit the 2,000-person limit.

We applaud the Architecture Council for putting on a great event, yet we encourage them to rethink their ticket policy. They would be better off using a counter system, but if they keep using tickets they should at least work to make them easier to obtain.

RACHEL HARRIS | EDITORIAL CARTOON



Parking dilemma leaves no viable options for students

Washington University Parking Services has an obligation to change its system. There are times during the day when it is possible to park on campus, but there are also times of the day when it's impossible to park without getting a ticket. After paying \$400 for parking privileges, it's completely ridiculous that there are times when getting ticketed is unavoidable. Parking Services' rigid enforcement makes this particularly problematic.

The parking problem specifically affects North Side students who need to park in the afternoon. While it's usually possible to find parking in the evening, students who need to leave and return to campus for any reason during the daytime come back to find no available parking. This happens because most of the lots available to North Side residents are also available to commuters, who take all of the extra North Side parking spots throughout the day and leave no parking available for North Side students. For those North Side students who have off-campus jobs or internships, and for those who need to leave campus during the day for any reason, this presents a significant problem.

In my personal experience, if I was able to find and explain the problem to the people who were writing tickets, they were helpful and allowed me the option of parking in a different lot. If I could not find enforcement agents, however, calling Parking Services was no help at all. After explaining the situation to them, I was told that there was nothing I could do, since the Millbrook

garage, which is now usually full, was supposed to provide overflow parking. The only thing I was told was that they were aware of the situation, that it's been a problem for a lot of people, and that Parking Services would re-evaluate the situation in a month. In the meantime, I was

supposed to wait for someone to vacate their parking space. Right. This advice is really helpful because there are tons of people who park on campus for short periods of time and leave. Oh wait, no, that's not quite true. But, we've all been patient. It's been over two months. Has anyone seen any changes?

So, currently there are situations in which it's impossible to park in the places where it's allowed. Yet Parking Services still holds us to a rule that says we need to park in those slots or else get ticketed. It's a pretty elementary concept in philosophy that "ought" implies "can." This means if I have an obligation to do something, or I ought to do it, I have to physically be able to do it (this notion has become the subject of some debate within philosophy generally, but there are several reasons why that debate is not relevant to this conversation). Since there is no way for many students to park within the rules and they can't just leave their cars in the middle of Forest Park Parkway, it's completely unfair to enforce this regulation.

Parking Services needs to do more than just change its enforcement procedures. It needs to re-evaluate which spots are open to which



Jill Strominger

What happened to Halloween?

BY MICHELLE ALBERT
STAFF COLUMNIST

Halloween is my absolute favorite holiday of the year. It comes at that perfect fall moment when the leaves are brilliantly colored and the air is refreshingly crisp. Ghosts, witches and pumpkins are suddenly everywhere, plastered over store windows and hanging from trees. It's a night to dress up, eat an inordinate amount of candy and party down. Good, clean fun. Right?

Over the years, especially in college, I have noticed something strange happening to Halloween. When I was in elementary school, my friends and I would start on our costumes a month

before the actual holiday. We wanted to be unique and creative, wanted to seize the chance to be something completely different. Each year had to top the last. At that young, innocent, excited age, Halloween was all about the costumes and the candy. The running around at night with friends, dressed as Cleopatra or a Cheerios box, singing the latest pop

"Frostbite, anyone?"

song very loudly (and in four different keys) and toting a UNICEF bag and a hollow plastic jack o' lantern made Halloween the best night of the year.

In college, however, Halloween takes on a whole new meaning. Where there were

bowls of candy and funny rather than spooky ghost decorations, there are Jell-O shots and giant, crazy parties.

And the costumes...oh, the costumes. College students don't seem to really get into costumes anymore. Well, more like they just don't wear clothes. Somewhere along the path between trick-or-treating and deciding on a major, Halloween has become an excuse to wear as little clothing as possible—and to a somewhat ridiculous extent.

Let's think. Bauhaus, the huge Halloween party put on by the Architecture school every year, takes place outside. And this is outside, at night, at the end of October, mind you. The temperature is usually

around 40 degrees. There is a tent, but there is nothing to heat it, save the crush of dancing students. So, if you are dressed to the bare minimum, say in a bra or boxers or nothing save body paint, you are going to be, well, freezing your ass off. Yes, alcohol in certain amounts purportedly enables the drinker to not feel cold, but that just lends itself to a new host of complications. Frostbite, anyone?

Now I am not against wearing underwear as a costume. I am always up for some Rocky Horror-type action—movie, costumes and all. And, a few years ago, a friend of mine went to Bauhaus dressed as Mystique from X-Men. Nothing but

See ALBERT, page 5

YOUR VOICE: LETTERS AND GUEST COLUMNS

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See STROMINGER, page 5

The meaning of shock value

For 30 days every winter, the isolated town of Barrow, Ala. is plunged into a state of complete darkness. Then vampires come and massacre the town.

OK, "30 Days of Night" sounds pretty innocent.

But since Halloween is today, I thought I might bring it up. I have kind of a quarrel with the whole thing. Vampires are great. Go vampires. I'm sure the movie's great, too. But the pervasiveness of shock value in today's culture, especially in horror movies, is sick.

That we have in the past gone to see movies like "Hostel" and "Saw," and been able to walk out of the theater afterwards saying to our friends, "Whoah, that was intense. What a movie," and that we can then drive home and forget about it in an hour ought to disturb us. But it doesn't.

A majorly bad thing is that the people who aren't yet totally desensitized to calculated, graphic violence and disturbing images still have to deal with them even if they don't choose to go see people getting gored and torn apart on-screen. I know you hear every day about "desensitization to violence in today's culture" and it's pretty clear to most people that there is a lot of violence on cable television and in culture in general. But I wish to bring up specifically the images of horror that we see so much.

My real complaint about "30 Days of Night" is the poster. It is a black on red print of an unhuman, sharp-toothed, screaming head bursting out of something with what looks a lot like blood splattered every-

where. I honestly think that it is a disturbing image. For someone who is not used to extreme violence, this is an image that will stick in his head and become the stuff of nightmares. Call me a wimp, but I think that when you walk out the door, you are not bargaining for this sick bloody image to stare you in the face on the way to class.

There are also those violent commercials on television. Normal stations. I don't watch television a lot, but whenever I do it is not at all uncommon to see some pale-faced ragged zombie girl crawling out of the screen toward you or a bloody, screaming, tortured face flickering at you to give you just a hint of the great flick you can go catch starting this Friday in your local

"If you think Nike should stop abusing workers in sweat shops, how does it entertain you to go watch 'fake' people stuck in violent, sick situations by a 'fake' killer?"

theater.

I mean, God, I'm just trying to watch "Whose Line Is It, Anyway?" I really think it is harmful for commercials to inject these extremely well-calculated recipes for fear into the mind of someone not desiring it.

Here's a question, though: what if it was a topless woman on the "30 Days of Night" poster or on the horror movie commercial?

That would not fly at all. But I think the vampire and the topless woman have the same taboo value—not according to culture, clearly, but according to, perhaps, what "ought" to distinguish a taboo. They equally desensitize you toward things you are "not supposed to see."

But then again, is the topless woman not better for you? It's natural to have a sexual drive. There's not much wrong with that. But is it natural to have a drive for violence and horror—even not necessarily for perpetrating it but for watching it? Is it OK that we want to go sit in a theater and watch people's nails being ripped off with pliers and people sawing through other people's legs?

The answer for most people, certainly, is that there is "shock value." Seeing scary stuff gives you a feeling you would never get otherwise. OK. Some people like to be scared.

But I feel that there is a moral element to seeing a movie that is violent and full of horror, and especially torture. I think that it is a choice.

What kind of respect are you giving to people in real life who are in pain and who actually are being tortured, whether by others or by disease, when you watch the same stuff on the big screen in order to be entertained? If you think Nike should stop abusing workers in sweat shops, how does it entertain you to go watch "fake" people stuck in violent, sick situations by a "fake" killer? If you complain about George Bush torturing people at Guantanamo Bay, what the hell are you doing not walking out of the theater when a director presents to you, "for shock value," a person being graphically tortured on screen?



CHRISTINE GARVEY | STUDENT LIFE

Human suffering is, in my opinion, something we ought to have a lot of respect for.

Seeing it vividly repre-

sented on the movie screen for the sake of a thrill shows to me an absence of that respect.

Dennis is a sophomore in Arts & Sciences and a Forum editor. He can be reached via e-mail at sweeney@wustl.edu.

The weather doesn't have to be nice to have fun

BY KATIE AMMANN
STAFF COLUMNIST

A lot of you, I'm sure, would normally still be wearing shorts this time of year. Many of you would already need heavy coats and boots. In St. Louis, you'll need everything you've got—all in the same week.

Weather here is fabulously unpredictable, and St. Louis has awesome things to do for every possibility.

On a warm autumn day, you can pick apples at Eckert's Orchard or head to Six Flags for some roller coasters and Looney Tunes. For the chillier or rainier days, the City Muse-

um, History Museum and Art Museum would all be great places to stay warm and dry. The History Museum in Forest Park currently has an exhibit

"Weather here is fabulously unpredictable, and St. Louis has awesome things to do for every possibility."

about the 1904 World's Fair, which, of course, involved much of Wash. U.'s campus. There is also an exhibit featuring wedding gowns from

prominent St. Louis women throughout the city's history. Other good indoor activities include the upcoming improv comedy performances as well as Diwali, the annual celebration put on by Ashoka.

All of these fall pastimes are especially enlightening and fun, and you might find something you can make into a new tradition for you and your friends.

As we move into winter, there'll be days filled with heavy snow clouds and bitter winds, but these days will undoubtedly be mixed with one or two 60-degree interjections. For those randomly warm days, walk around downtown or in the Central

West End; go to the zoo to see the penguins and the holiday lights; go to the market in Forest Park. Or if there's enough snow, grab some sleds, inflatable rafts, lunch trays or even cardboard boxes and get over to the hill in front of the Art Museum in Forest Park before the little kids take all the good snow. It's a great hill, and it has just enough room at the bottom to stop before zooming into the museum's pond. Also check out the January Ice Festival on The Loop; they've got ice sculptures, games and more.

As spring and summer return, there will be plenty more things to see and do—the Thurtene Carnival,

student concerts and shows, the outdoor Muny Opera in Forest Park, Cardinals baseball games downtown and endless other festivals and activities.

If you've got the time, take a break once in a while to explore a new part of town, no matter how nice or terrible the sky may look. Get ready for more fickle weather, mostly cold, with events, festivals and fun places throughout the city. You're here for the Wash. U. experience—go get it.

Katie is a junior in Arts & Sciences. She can be reached via e-mail at kaammann@artsci.wustl.edu.

Think Halloween is only for one day? Think again

BY WANDALYN SAVALA
STAFF COLUMNIST

What are you dressing up as tonight? A vampire? Frankenstein? A devil?

Ever thought of going as yourself?

No, I'm not repeating that lame elementary school joke. I'm making a shrewd observation. Every day, we wake up, walk to class, talk to our professors, hang out with friends. Every day, we don our masks. We present the public with what we view as an "acceptable" image.

You know, that personality you think everyone will (maybe) love, admire and respect. We hide our true selves thinking them too hideous for people to see. When we surround ourselves with people we feel (or think we feel) comfort-

able with, we think we can just take our masks off and relax. But how many of us do?

How many of us can? Too often we tell ourselves the masks we wear are easy to remove, easy to keep separate from our

"Every day, we don our masks. We present the public with what we view as an 'acceptable' image."

"true" selves. But we treat these fake personas as appropriate (even necessary) costumes for everyday life. If we're so accustomed to wearing these masks, then how can we possibly divorce the image we present to "outsiders" from what we

think is our "true" self? At what point do we become outsiders to ourselves?

Think about it. What did you do during the college application process? Created a persona for colleges to accept or reject. What did you do throughout high school? Made sure teachers knew "you"—or the image you wanted them to write a recommendation about.

What about grade school? You bought into every fad from Pokémon to Harry Potter so you could fit in with everyone else. Slowly but surely, the outside becomes the inside. Slowly but surely, we become strangers to ourselves. While the masks we wear may never consume us whole, the sway they hold over us can be transformative.

At times, we may not even recognize who we are

without our disguises. At times, we may not even want to face what we've become.

But we continue to wear our masks. We wear them until we forget to take them off when we go out. We wear them until we forget to take them off around our friends. We wear them until we forget to take them off before we go to bed. We wear them until we can't take them off even if we want to.

What are we afraid of? What lies beneath our layers? Without the slightest notice, we've made Halloween a yearlong holiday. Sans the candy. Sans the fun.

But we sure do have plenty of fear.

Wandalyn is a freshman in Arts & Sciences. She can be reached via e-mail at wesavala@artsci.wustl.edu.

ALBERT ❖ FROM PAGE 4

layers and layers of blue latex body paint. And she looked fantastic, if a little chilly.

The point is (besides being ridiculously cold) that as costumes have become more revealing, their purpose as costumes has all but disappeared. The best part of Halloween has disappeared. Where has our creativity gone? This is a campus of intelligent, passionate people. I know we can do better. And if you are insistent on still wearing nothing but your skivvies, then at least make them furry and go as Tarzan.

Or Jane, as the case may be.

Dressing up on Halloween should be fun. What other time can you walk around with zebra stripes on your face and have it be considered completely normal? Take advantage of the opportunity. After all, this chance only comes once a year. As for me, I think I am going to be a superhero. Bed-sheet cape and all.

Michelle is a senior in Arts & Sciences. She can be reached via e-mail at mgalbert@artsci.wustl.edu.

STROMINGER ❖ FROM PAGE 4

people. There is always an abundance of empty spaces for cars with red permits (which can be purchased by school faculty and donors who are members of the Eliot Society) but not enough spaces for students who need them.

Wash. U. needs to do a better job recognizing the needs of students and pro-

viding for those who need to hold off-campus jobs or leave the campus for any reason during the day. It's more important than making sure there are plenty of spots open for big donors.

Jill is a junior in Arts & Sciences and a Forum editor. She can be reached via e-mail at forum@studlife.com.

CADENZA

n. a technically brilliant, sometimes improvised solo passage toward the close of a concerto; an exceptionally brilliant part of an artistic work

arts & entertainment

MOVIE REVIEW

'American Gangster' shoots too high



Denzel Washington, left, and Russell Crowe team up in "American Gangster."

BY CECILIA RAZAK
MOVIE EDITOR

"American Gangster" runs a little bit like a standard biopic and trips into many of the same notorious pitfalls—chief amongst them the belief that it is a much better film than it really is. Its title suggests that it will be a new standard in the ever-popular American crime genre, but it's no "Godfather." It's an entertaining film; the based-on-a-true-story plot is so appealing one can hardly believe it hasn't already been

made into several films. And one can only expect good things from a movie with big names like Denzel Washington and Russell Crowe leading the cast, and Ridley Scott at the helm.

Mr. Washington is Frank Lucas, the newest and most ambitious entrepreneur on the New York narcotics scene, who's ready to cut out the middleman and the most basic of human morals. He secures the transportation of hundreds of kilos of heroin by the American military out of occupied

Vietnam, something even the politically connected mafia can not manage. Mr. Crowe is Richie Roberts, the Jersey cop hot on Frank's tail, his foil in law and principles. Richie has become the black sheep of the squad after turning in a million dollars of dirty money, instead of pocketing it on the sly, as his crooked peers expect him to. Lucas gets rich and Richie gets hired to create a squeaky clean special anti-drug squad for the NJPD. Richie is also fighting his ex-wife for custody of their son and going to night school to

get his law degree. He eventually uses that degree to act as prosecutor, and then defense

See **GANGSTER**, page 8

American Gangster

Rating: ★★☆☆☆

Directed by: Ridley Scott
Starring: Denzel Washington, Russell Crowe

ALBUM REVIEW

Britney Spears: 'Blackout'

BY DOUG HORN
CADENZA REPORTER

After months of anticipation (accompanied by a very public divorce, child custody battle, drug allegations, a horrendous performance at the VMAs and a few run-ins with the police), Britney Spears' fifth studio album has finally arrived.

The title, "Blackout," seems a befitting summary of the past two years of Ms. Spears' life—one horrendous train wreck caused by either impaired judgment or mental illness.

Much to my surprise, however, her latest effort is a cohesive, upbeat dance album that has led some critics to say it is her "best work ever."

It is very important for us to realize that this is not the Britney we came to know and love during the TRL era of our youths. All of us big Britney fans need to let go. The age of happy, light-hearted songs and high-budget videos with memorable group dance numbers is gone. Britney is separating herself from that image both with her shenanigans in the lime-light and with her music. I'm sure that fans who can come to accept these terms can accept the album, too.

Aside from "Gimme More," the album provides a number of electro booty-shaking numbers that are inevitably going to have success in the club scene. "Radar" starts with a fairly simple beat and crescendos into a chorus that could get anyone out on the dance floor channeling their inner Britney.

Both "Piece of Me" and "Toy Soldier" carry with them a futuristic, experimental feel. These tracks may take a little adjusting on the part of the listener, but will win most over without a doubt. Her new

direction and her new album will both go far—as long as Britney can avoid releasing another video like that for "Gimme More."

The album does fall flat in a few areas. For example, despite its outrageous title, "Get Naked (I Got a Plan)" is probably the most pedestrian of the tracks on the CD. Half of the song is taken up by a background vocal which can only be described as a poor man's Timbaland, and Britney doesn't even really have to sing; she just moans every now and then. With "Ooh Ooh Baby," the Britney machine seems to run out of inspiration as it features a beat eerily similar to the earlier "Radar."

Also, if you're looking for lyrical complexity (though I don't know why you would be), you're in the wrong place. Her themes are pretty simple throughout the album: some sex, some fun and some dancing.

For example, in "Freakshow" Britney lays out her plans for the night, saying, "Well tonight I'm about to 'mash/ Make them other chicks so mad/ I'm 'bout to shake my ass/ Watch that boy?"

In "Piece of Me" Britney attempts to comment on her struggle with her public image and personal life, but the beat is too fun for us to really care. Meanwhile, in "Why Should I Be Sad," she directly takes on her marriage with K-Fed. But no one will notice, because it's one of the more boring tracks.

Simply put, if you're OK with something that's fun, synthesized, naughty and sexy, then Britney's newest CD will give you a new way to get your dance on.

As far as I'm concerned, Britney may be a fascinating mess—but dammit, she can still entertain us with her music.



Britney Spears Blackout

Rating: ★★★★★

For fans of: Goldfrapp, Kylie Minogue, Nelly Furtado
Tracks to download: "Radar," "Piece of Me," "Toy Soldier"

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UNDER THE BIG SIGN



MOVIE REVIEW

'Michael Clayton' cuts courtroom, leaves drama

BY MATT KARLAN
CADENZA REPORTER

Can a successful courtroom drama occur out of the courtroom? The film "Michael Clayton" answers surprisingly in the affirmative. George Clooney, still dreamy but occasionally serious (and you know he's serious because he's pouting) plays Michael Clayton, a fixer at high-powered law firm Kenner, Bach and Ledeen. A fixer, or as Clayton deems himself a janitor, helps clean up when any problem arises that needs to be settled on the down low.

Arthur Edens, played by Tom Wilkinson, is the firm's most reputable attorney. Edens has an attack of conscience when he realizes he is representing the wrong side in a multi-billion dollar class action lawsuit and then goes insane. You know he's insane because he runs around in the nude, rambles nonsensically, and carries around dozens of loaves of French bread with RainMan-esque flare. Tilda Swinton masterfully portrays Karen Crowder, a higher-up at UNorth, the agricultural company accused in the lawsuit of poisoning its customers. Clayton is brought in to calm Edens down and make sure he will not be a problem for the

firm's defense of UNorth.

The acting in the film is laudable across the board. Clooney gives his most believable performance since "The Facts of Life." Wilkinson impresses, as he always does and Swinton is Oscar-worthy as she brings out every nuance in Tony Gilroy's screenplay. But even with this stable of veteran actors, the star of the film actually is newcomer Gilroy.

His screenplay's dialogue is incredibly emotionally charged and riveting, especially in the hands of such accomplished actors. At times this seems forced, because although lawyers may be intelligent they are not always this witty. Therefore the film dips into pretentious territory more often than it should, but offsets that nicely with the occasional car explosion and covert murder. And while most of the empty space is filled with dialogue as opposed to property destruction, the storyline moves at breakneck pace. (Gilroy is the guy who wrote the Bourne trilogy.) The plot does drag in the second act, and some minor characters are little more than petty vehicles to evoke emotions in lead characters, but the positives definitely outweigh these qualms.



Austin Williams, left, as Henry Clayton and George Clooney as Michael Clayton star in Warner Bros. Pictures' thriller, "Michael Clayton."

Gilroy actually tried to sell the film years ago and could not get it made because too many people wanted to wrest the directing reigns from him. Clooney failed. Sidney Pollack failed, but ended up with a substantial role in the picture as a partner at Clayton's law firm. Finally Hollywood gave Gilroy his chance, with players like Clooney, Pollack and Steven Soderbergh on to produce. And Gilroy made the most of

his chance. "Michael Clayton" proves once again that writers can be exceptional directors, (and that Clooney and Soderbergh are BFFs).

The extreme pacing could have made the film feel jumbled and confusing under a less confident director. But Gilroy manages it without incident, moving rather quickly while still illuminating character. He makes thoughtful choices in his use of filters

to form specific moods. The editing, done by Tony's brother John Gilroy, was also seamless, an argument for the positive effects of nepotism.

Although at first "Michael Clayton" seems to bite off more than it can chew, it swallows it all by its culmination. All loose ends are tied off into a neat little package, delivered to you personally in the final scene by George Clooney.

And who could resist

George Clooney at their doorstep?

Michael Clayton

Rating: ★★★★★☆

Directed by: Tony Gilroy
Starring: George Clooney, Tom Wilkinson, Tilda Swinton

ALBUM REVIEW

Coheed and Cambria: 'No World for Tomorrow'

BY STEVE HARDY
CADENZA REPORTER

Big titles! Big hair! Big sound! Coheed and Cambria turn it up to 11 on the fourth and final CD of their Amory Wars series.

Though scaled down stylistically from Vol. 1, the group balances deftly between the twin pitfalls of obscurity and simplicity. They dodge simplistic rock sound but manage to

create a CD that will be palatable to mainstream audiences. Even more, loyal prog-rock fans will find enough mixed meter and cryptic lyrics to satiate their tastes as well, though Coheed has (for the most part) abandoned the full orchestral accompaniments.

Listen especially for frontman Claudio Sanchez's and guitarist Travis Stever's riffs; "Gravemakers and Gunslingers"

is ripe for a spot in the next Guitar Hero. Taylor Hawkins (of Foo Fighters) takes over behind the set, and Michael Todd rejoins the group on bass; both perform well, but perform very accessory roles, staying out of the way of the blistering solos and epic lyrics.

For new listeners, "No World for Tomorrow" concludes the five-year, four-CD journey of Claudio Kilgannon, a fictional

messiah who lives in outer space and fights wars with angels, mages, robots and a ten-speed bicycle. (The protagonist's parents are named Coheed and Cambria.) If this sounds like a comic book, well, the Amory Wars story is based on Sanchez's own graphic novels. It's over-the-top and deliciously ridiculous, residing somewhere

See NO WORLD, page 8



Coheed and Cambria
No World for Tomorrow

Rating: ★★★★★☆

For fans of: Rush, Symphony X

Tracks to download: "No World for Tomorrow," "Gravemakers and Gunslingers"



GENEROUSLY GOURMET.



CENTRAL & FORSYTH

Dumbledore did it—so should you

BY BRIAN STITT
SENIOR CADENZA EDITOR

Now that Dumbledore has been outed by his creator, its time for the rest of the closeted children's characters to burst out in the gay-friendly light the wizarding world is now enjoying. There has always been a gay influence in children's entertainment and it's time kids understand what they are seeing so that they may grow up to better appreciate the diverse world in which we live.

Snagglepuss

Heaven's to Murgatroyd. If he got any gayer he would have rainbows coming out of his butt. In fact, I don't even think he belongs on this list. Snagglepuss was the first openly gay cartoon character. He set

the standard for Dumbledore and others to come out with pride. Thank you Snagglepuss. All the rest of you heed his call, "Come out of the closet already. Today, even!"

Salem from 'Sabrina, the Teenage Witch'

I know there are a lot of cats on this list but I can't leave out one of my favorites. Salem is in many ways the most realistic representation of a gay character on children's television. He had left behind his former life as a social climbing witch and had become a cat in the "real" world. He left behind his family and his daughter (his ex-wife isn't mentioned) to embrace what he really likes. Some might say the cat he exists as is not his true self but simply a punishment. And yet he is so natural as a cat

playing with yarn and lazing around the house all day. He has found out who he truly is but has trouble embracing it. Isn't that a problem for us all?

He-Man

The guy wears elaborate underwear, refers to his powers as "fabulous" and his best friend is a cat. Forget the phallic imagery of swords and guns and his relationship with Man-At-Arms. Even with the frightful Prince Valiant haircut, Prince Adam can't hide his true secret. Power of Grayskull my foot.

Gimli and Legolas

While the Peter Jackson films focus more on the pseudo-sexual relationship between Sam and Frodo, in the books it's Gimli and Legolas

who register on the gaydar. Their forbidden elf-dwarf relationship is reminiscent of many of the great love stories of our time. Romeo and Juliet. Jet Li and Aaliyah. The start with mistrusting one another but grow into a competitive friendship that could only lead to something deeper. And in the end they both sail off on the grey vessel to Valinor. What could be more nerdily romantic?

Panthro from 'ThunderCats'

The very S&M costume alone is not quite enough to convince me that he's battling for the other team (there are plenty of straight people in to domination too, you know). But when you crash land on a foreign planet with only one female, you are by far the cool-

est guy around and you never even make a pass at her, that's suspicious. Now that I think about it, Lion-O never really tried to get anywhere with Cheetara either. Maybe she was... And Snarf was defiantly... Oh man, they were all gay!

Scar from 'The Lion King'

I've met a lot of resistance on this one but just think about it. He's an outcast, he doesn't have his own pride of lionesses to hunt for him and bear his children, he has self-image issues and he's played by Jeremy Irons. Scar is an example of the self-hating gay man turned bad by the male-dominated culture in which he just does not fit. He is ashamed of his own desires and channels his frustration on to the hyenas (the lower rungs of society), Simba (a

representation of continuing conservative social mores) and then turns on society itself by destroying the prideland. A tragedy indeed.

Dipsy from 'The Teletubbies'

Most people say its Tinky Winky who is gay. Sure he carries a purse and dances in a tutu but those are issues seemingly more closely related to a transgender person than a gay man. Dipsy on the other hand is the best dancer, the snappiest dresser and has what appears to be an erect phallus on the top of his head. Tinky Winky has a lot of personal stuff to work on but its Dipsy that needs to come out.

See www.studlife.com for more fictional characters that need to come out of the closet.

ALBUM REVIEW

Say Anything: 'In Defense of the Genre'

BY DAVID KAMINSKY
MUSIC EDITOR

Released in August 2004, Say Anything released "...Is a Real Boy," their first LP ever to receive wide distribution. While recording the album, singer-songwriter Max Bemis suffered a nervous breakdown, later attributed to stress. Upon committing himself to a mental institution, he was diagnosed with bipolar disorder, but returned in good shape to finish recording the album.

After the initial release, they signed to J Records, part of BMG Entertainment, who re-released the album in February 2006. At this point their popularity began to soar, scoring radio play, spots on MTV and a co-headlining tour with Saves the Day.

Released three years after "...Is a Real Boy," and featuring help from artists such as Chris Carrabba (of Dashboard Confessional), Matt Skiba (of Alkaline Trio), Chris Conley

(of Saves the Day) and Gerard Way (of My Chemical Romance), the much anticipated 27-track double-disc "In Defense of the Genre" has generated as much hype as there are guest spots on the album. The problem is that all of these guest spots do not add up to something cohesive or even interesting.

When listening to the album, unless paying close attention to each song listening in for the specific guest vocalist, one will likely miss their parts as they are so small and unnecessary that their inclusion comes off as a gimmick. Even with all of these guest spots, this is undoubtedly a Say Anything record. The only problem is that Say Anything has nothing to say.

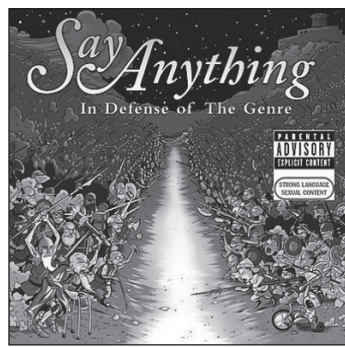
"...Is a Real Boy" was carried by Bemis' off the wall lyrics and vocal intensity. Songs like "Every Man Has a Molly," "The Futile" and "Woe" provided wacked out spins on already familiar motifs such

as a love of rough sex and thoughts of suicide. While this ingenuity was likely a product of the mental issues with which Bemis was struggling, the result was lyrical prowess that has not been matched by many, including himself on his latest effort.

While songs such as "The Church Channel," "Shiksa (Girlfriend)" and "About Falling" are examples of decent tracks on "In Defense of the Genre," they do not build to the same incredible climaxes that songs like "Admit It!!!"

and "Alive with the Glory of Love" achieve.

The album just never pieces together in a way that can reach levels achieved by "...Is a Real Boy" which I believe is altogether unsurprising. Putting aside the issue that Bemis might just not be at his best without being mentally unstable, I think it may be an unavoidable truth that putting together a 27 track double disc featuring 23 different guest appearances that works as a cohesive unit is an impossible task.



Say Anything
In Defense of the Genre

Rating: ★★☆☆☆

For fans of: Saves the Day and every other band who has guest spots on the album
Tracks to download: "The Church Channel," "Shiksa (Girlfriend)," "About Falling"

NO WORLD ❖ FROM PAGE 7

between the Bible, Dickens and Star Wars.

You can listen to this CD and its predecessors over and over and still find new intriguing aspects of the story. Or, you could ignore the dense lyrics and revel in a truly fine rock odyssey. Those familiar with Coheed's past work will also notice shadows of melodies from older albums floating among the new material.

Nearly any track on this CD can go onto your pump-up mix. All are hard-hitting, with intense lyrics and delivery. The band crafts a tight, heavy rock sound without dipping into screaming metal.

A minor complaint is that the band goes so loud and so

fast for so long that songs begin to run together. The band has shown a certain deficiency in the past for writing songs any other way, but after a half an hour of 160bpm, a listener needs a break. Still, don't let this deter you from buying this otherwise fantastic album.

Interested first-time listeners, whether drawn by Kilgannon's epic or Coheed's music, should look to the band's previous releases. This album is slightly more radio-ready than their early work, but this finale is fairly representative of their past work.

Coheed and Cambria will be playing at The Pageant in December with Sick Puppies and others.

GANGSTER ❖ FROM PAGE 6

counsel, for Lucas. And yes, it's all a true story,

There's some tricky camera work, aesthetically appealing montages and downright riveting scenes, but the story is a bit muddled. But most damning is Mr. Scott's insistence to reach for goals that are outside of the already grand scope. The film takes preemptive bows for accolades it has yet to receive, thereby precluding any possibility of actually receiving them. For example, the story brings in many side characters played beautifully by the likes of Josh Brolin, Armand Assante, Chiwetel Ejiofor and rapper/DJ the RZA. None, however, add anything to the film as a whole. They merely skim the surface—a shallow depth that underscores this lofty (failed) attempt to redefine a much

beloved genre.

The script suffers from an overload of fascinating content. In fact, there's so much stunning material that some of the most intriguing aspects of this great American crime drama are glossed over or ignored. The film is good for what it is: at its core an inherently convoluted real-life story. In fact, it's very good for what it is. The direction is artful, and the acting is reason enough to shell out eight dollars; Josh Brolin delivers a spectacular, nuanced performance in the midst of his recent career boom.

But despite the talents involved, "American Gangster" would do well to remember what it is, and to take pride in the accomplishments it manages, instead of grasping for those beyond its reach.

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ANNOUNCING

BOWL FOR WISHES: Chi Omega's annual philanthropy, November 11th. Session 1: 11-1:30. Session 2: 2-4:30. Olivette lanes (transportation available). Contact Abby Mowry (amm5@cec.wustl.edu) for information or visit one of our tables in Mallinckrodt and Wohl. Tuesday thru Thursday, 10/30-11/1 and 11/6-11/8.

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Sudoku By The Mephram Group

Level: **1 2 3 4**

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk.

Solution to Monday's puzzle

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8 | 7 | 9 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 6 |
| 1 | 4 | 6 | 7 | 2 | 9 | 8 | 5 | 3 |
| 5 | 2 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 8 | 9 | 7 | 4 |
| 7 | 9 | 4 | 1 | 8 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 2 |
| 2 | 6 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 7 | 3 | 8 | 9 |
| 3 | 8 | 5 | 9 | 6 | 2 | 7 | 4 | 1 |
| 9 | 5 | 7 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 8 |
| 6 | 1 | 8 | 2 | 9 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 7 |
| 4 | 3 | 2 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 1 | 9 | 5 |

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Crossword

ACROSS

- Run-down
- Small boys
- Summit
- Embankment
- Disembarked
- Roe source
- Scene of the action
- "Fame" star
- Kong, for one
- Great weight
- Carl or Rob
- Otherwise
- Biting fly
- Advanced on all fours
- Rue
- Part of a dance
- Plaits
- Veteran
- Distinctive doctrines
- Random choice
- Brood
- More than miffed
- Ascended
- Ceases
- Aerie builders
- Legal permit
- Model Moss
- Adam's grandson
- Straying
- Like Abner
- Pauper's plea
- Pronto letters
- More than miffed
- Notoriety
- Bill of fare
- Roof overhang
- Type of dive
- State of irritation
- Quantities of paper
- Parson's dwelling
- Finished the lawn
- Grub
- Ground grain
- Suitable
- Score-producing stats
- Scottish Gaelic
- Recess activity
- Carols
- Picture in the mind
- Richard of "Night Court"
- Fencer's foil
- Cincinnati's nine
- "The Ugly Duckling" writer
- Coop parent
- Pants
- measurements
- Playwright
- O'Casey
- More malicious
- Toronto team, tersely

DOWN

- Louver piece
- Saarinen of Finland
- Tied
- Winter quarters
- Pined
- Unspoken
- Arkin or King
- As the crow flies
- Played lead
- To one side
- Cold snap
- Delhi princess
- Volcano output
- News piece
- Not quite as much
- "Norma ___"

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SU UPDATE

HAPPY HALLOWEEN

- 10.31** **Mama's Pot Roast First Show of the Year!**
Improve Show 8pm in the Gargoyle, FREE Admission
- 10.31** **All Spooky Theatre: A Haunted Donut Social**
6 - 8pm in Umrath Lounge, \$5 for donuts, apple cider, spooky music, and a short murder mystery play written by the members of All Student Theatre!
- 11.1** **Go Cross Campus Starts**
Game similar to RISK and will be played online between Residential Colleges on the South 40
- 11.1** **Sorority Recruitment Open House**
5-7pm in Umrath Lounge

CAMPUS Y is looking for Program Leaders for the Spring Semester. Applications are due on November 9th

KWUR is looking for an Audioserve Director (paid position)

Dance Marathon is coming up on November 3rd and 4th! Visitors are welcome between 3pm and 1am!

Would you like to see your SU Group's events advertised here? Send the information to secretary@su.wustl.edu on Sunday before 2pm!

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