

STUDENT LIFE

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ResLife works to reimburse students after rash of thefts

BY KAT ZHAO
STAFF REPORTER

Three weeks after issuing e-mails alerting students of the crimes committed in dormitories during winter break, Residential Life has begun installing added security measures on the South 40 and negotiating reimbursements with the insurance company.

Following the break-ins, and before most students returned to campus, metal dowels were placed in the track of the sliding doors in old residence halls, preventing the doors from being opened from the outside. A new sticker on the door now reminds students to keep their doors

locked.

This, according to Josh Walehwa, associate director of Residential Life, is only a temporary solution for the department as it looks for a more permanent lock.

"We're really excited we're able to contract with [a] company," said Walehwa. "We've found another type of mechanism that would secure the doors as well. For this one will have some additional support and security. It'll be another reminder to encourage residents to keep their doors secured."

The new mechanism resembles a metal latch and will be installed higher up on the doors, according to Walehwa.

"It won't be any more difficult unlocking it from the inside," he said.

Sophomore resident Michelle Bernard welcomes the new security addition. Bernard's common room in Myers was burglarized and her portable DVD player was taken.

"Our [balcony door] lock worked, although they probably could be easily picked. For the boys next door, their door could never lock. There was supposed to be a key, but they were never given a key," said Bernard.

"It is my understanding that there might have been some other residents who had similar issues," said Walehwa. "Those have all been addressed."

He added, however, that he did not receive any complaints about the balcony doors before the break-ins.

"We deal with those situations when they come up, and when they came up, we definitely have dealt with them," he said.

Bernard is pleased to see ResLife's response so far.

"So far, I've been very satisfied with their actions," said Bernard of both ResLife and the Washington University Police Department (WUPD). "They've been very open to ideas and opinions. But I guess we'll see."

Bernard hopes to get a full reimbursement for her DVD player, an estimated value of \$200.

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University pulls out of Millbrook Plaza expansion plan

BY PUNEET KOLIPARA
NEWS EDITOR

Washington University recently abandoned its plans to expand its Millbrook Plaza shopping area into the University City subdivision of West Portland Place.

The University recently purchased several large, single-family homes in West Portland Place along Pershing Avenue, just to the northwest of Big Bend Boulevard and Forest Park Parkway and near the Millbrook. The homes are intended for faculty, staff and graduate students for the short term.

The University has owned the Millbrook Plaza, a commercial strip at the northwest corner of the two streets, since 1991, according to a recent story in the West End Word.

The University then considered a further expansion into the area to remodel its holdings into a larger residential and commercial area.

Several University City residents, however, voiced their concerns about the expansion.

According to Julie Feier, city manager of University City, residents were concerned about the University "moving within the neighborhood and changing the nature of the neighborhood by buying up homes."

Steve Givens, associate vice chancellor and executive director of communications, said that the University discovered several restrictive covenants in place in West Portland Place that may have posed legal problems for the University had it continued to expand.

"We didn't want to challenge those neighborhood covenants, so we decided not to pursue the expansion of [the Millbrook Plaza]," said Givens.

The covenant in question was filed in 1908 with the

county recorder of deeds, before zoning restrictions were put into place in University City. The covenant, according to Givens, requires 100 percent approval of residents in the area before West Portland Place property can be used for anything but single-family homes.

According to Feier, a University City resident brought the covenant to the attention of the University.

"He had mentioned it, and Wash. U. researched it and was able to locate a very old copy of the deed restriction," said Feier.

A recent news release on West Portland Place's Web site said that the University met with several city council officials in late December to tell them that they had discovered the covenants and to announce that the University would not acquire any additional property in the West Portland Place area.

The University can still renovate buildings within the area that it owns, but it will not attempt any further expansion.

"We're still going to improve what's there, but we're not going to be expanding that because of the restrictive covenants," said Givens.

At a Jan. 15 meeting of the University City Council, the council passed a resolution supporting not only the residents of West Portland Place, but also those of neighborhoods throughout University City.

While the resolution acknowledged the positive consequences of further development of the Millbrook Plaza, it also called on the University to respect the desires of University City residents.

"The Council also particu-

See MILLBROOK, page 2

Alumna's literacy program takes off

BY STEPHANIE MARIE WONG
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

The Facebook "Causes Giving Challenge" finished Friday afternoon, raising funds and awareness for alumna Julie Katz's program, called "Everybody Wins! South Florida."

The fifty-day contest be-

tween several nonprofit startups awarded monetary prizes to the nonprofit causes with the highest number of donors. Katz's program, which supports children's literacy, received \$2,931 in donations and a \$1,000 award from the Case Foundation.

"We can really use the money,"

said Katz, the executive director of Everybody Wins! South Florida. "We fortunately have a very low annual budget compared to most programs, but we still need funds to keep the program going, for paying the school coordinators, volunteer recruitment and office supplies."

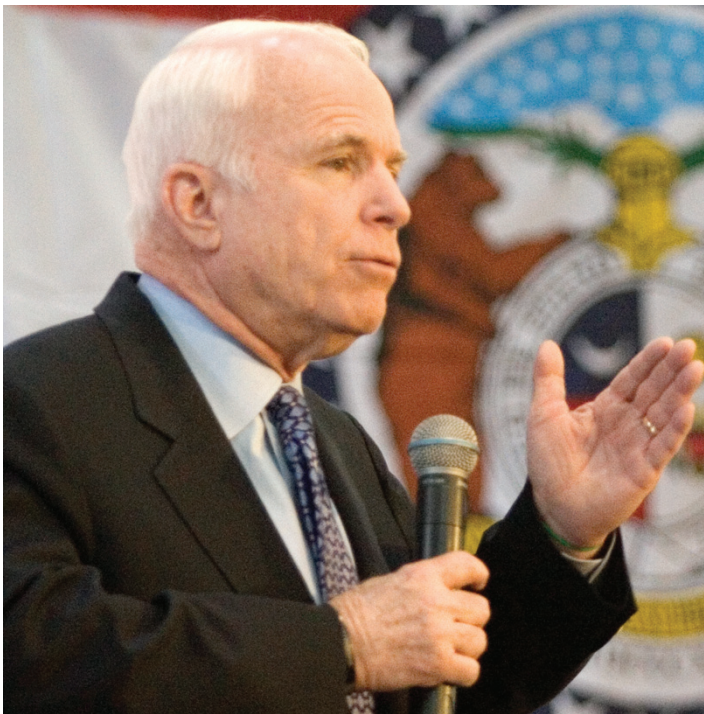
Everybody Wins! matches at-risk children with adult volunteers who help them develop much-needed positive impressions of reading. These volunteers, usually businesspeople from companies near the el-

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PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES RALLY STL



DAVID BRODY | STUDENT LIFE



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SAM GUZIK | STUDENT LIFE

The front-runners for each party's presidential nomination converged on St. Louis this weekend in a flurry of campaign stops and town hall meetings. Sen. Hillary Clinton (D-NY) held a town hall meeting at the Machinists District 9 headquarters in Bridgeton on Sunday afternoon at which she emphasized her union sympathies and promoted her health care plan. Sen. John McCain (R-AZ) held a rally on Friday afternoon in an airplane hangar at the Spirit of St. Louis Airport in Chesterfield, touting his support for veterans' benefits. Sen. Barack Obama (D-IL) held a mammoth event with 20,000 attendees at the Edward Jones Dome on Saturday night, repeating his mantra of 'change.' Republican and former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney made a brief stop at a Dave and Busters restaurant on Sunday afternoon, where he enjoyed the support of Gov. Roy Blunt (R-MO), Sen. Jim Talent (R-MO) and former Sen. Rick Santorum (R-PA).

Dining Services reduces fry content

BY BEN SALES
NEWS EDITOR

In response to economic pressures, Dining Services has started giving fewer French fries in each order.

While the container size remains the same, the containers are only filled if customers order the larger size. Employees also used to fill the container for the medium order, but have been told to stop handing out the surplus and now leave the containers partially filled.

The move, according to Bear's Den Chef Robert Jackson, comes in response to the recent poor performance of the economy.

"Everything went up," he said, referring to other day-to-day commodities such as gas and grocery prices. "We're giving what we are supposed to give at that price."

Dining Services is cutting the size of more products as well. Jackson said that when the food provider saw how the economy was affecting its sales, it was forced to conduct a survey of all of its prices and re-

adjust them to face the new reality.

"We 'costed' the menu out," he said. "We were giving too much away. When food costs are out of line, you've got to cost your menu out."

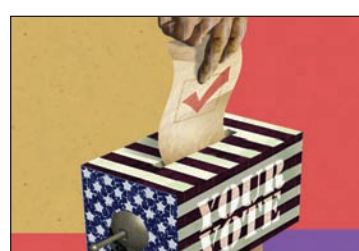
Though the price reduction may be most evident in Bear's Den, one of Washington University's main eateries—and one of the dining halls that serves the most students with the largest meal plans—Dining Services is cutting french fry content in every campus eatery where the fries are given out à la carte. Jackson says this is part of an initiative to give out more definite quantities of every type of food.

"It got mixed up," he said, referring to the protocol regarding how much food a Dining Services employee is supposed to dole out. "Everything is in portion bags now [because] the prices went up."

The reduction, however, has not affected students' purchases of the fries. Ac-

See FRIES, page 2

Who will lead on Super Tuesday?



Enter the political arena with just a click. Find the results of Student Life's exit polls after Super Tuesday. Go online to blogs.studlife.com

Super flicks you'll love to see



From classic horror movies to British cinema, there is sure to be a movie that catches your fancy. And the best part is, it's free! **Cadenza, Page 6**

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UCollege speaker series takes on 2008 election

BY MIN WANG CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

Riding the tide of one the most diverse primary ballots in history, the University College Master of Liberal Arts program began its Saturday lecture series this weekend on the topic of elections and politics.

With Super Tuesday coming up and the presidential election scheduled for Nov. 4, the series looks to answer questions like "Do you know who you're voting for?" and "How will you choose your candidate on election day?"

"My sense is that the pur-

pose of the lecture series is to spur debate within the campus community about the upcoming presidential election and about workings of American politics more generally," said Margaret Garb, a professor who will be speaking later this month.

The yearly series is offered four times throughout the month of February on Saturday mornings.

"Cast the most informed votes you have ever cast!" the University College Web site declares. The program has recruited professors, who are experts in a variety of disciplines, to analyze politics and

elections in the United States from the past to the present.

Each of the four speakers—Professors Wayne Fields, Margaret Garb, Steven Smith and Susan Appleton—are members of the Washington University faculty from several different disciplines.

On Saturday, Professor Fields spoke on recent and current politics in a lecture titled "Faith, Hope and Fear: The American Presidency in the 21st Century."

Fields' lecture looked to recap the almost eight years that have passed since George W. Bush became the forty-third president of the United

States.

Next Saturday on Feb. 9, Garb will speak on racial issues concerning the American voter. She will discuss the history of the African Americans' struggle for voting rights and for influence in American politics in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. She plans to explore the debate among African American activists over political strategies, agenda and actions.

"I hope to contribute to the debate by addressing the ways race has determined access to the franchise and, to a very large extent, shaped the

ways democracy and citizenship were defined in America," said Garb.

On Feb. 16, Smith will give his thoughts on Congress after the 2008 elections.

The final lecture in the series will be given on Feb. 23 by Appleton with her lecture on reproductive rights.

The lectures are held every Saturday in February from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Goldfarb Auditorium in McDonnell hall on the Danforth Campus. They are free to the public and everyone is encouraged to attend. For more information, call the University College at (314) 935-6700.

THEFTS ❖ FROM PAGE 1

player, an estimated value of \$200.

"We're working with our insurance company to figure out what can be covered so we can take care of our students as much as possible," said Walehwa.

The total estimated loss had been approximately \$6,000 at the time when students first came back to their dorms from winter break.

"I don't know the exact amount right now," said Walehwa, "But the number has definitely gone up from that."

In a different situation where a student loses a laptop while leaving his or her door open, or leaves personal items in the open, Walehwa says the student would not be reimbursed by the University.

"What we're doing here is a unique situation," he said. "A lot of students were really target-

ed. The department is changing things around and making efforts to make sure students get reimbursed," he said.

Apart from the reimbursement efforts, ResLife is conducting a survey of all the residential houses on campus to make improvements and additions to security.

"There's been a committee of students and members of the police department and our department, to look at other ideas to make sure students continue to feel safe on the Wash. U. campus," said Walehwa.

WUPD will be conducting most of the checkups.

"We have additional police patrol presence on the South 40 and North Side," he said. "They'll be doing rounds in all residential areas, even in Fraternity Row. The good thing about Wash. U. is that we have our own fully functioning po-

lice department."

Bernard also appreciated the work and presence of WUPD in her case.

"The police were very helpful and good with telling us what they knew," she said. "Even though I didn't realize [the DVD player] was missing until after a few days, they were very understanding."

"This isn't typical for most college campuses," said Walehwa of the burglaries.

Bernard, on the other hand, thought differently.

"It's a college dorm, people know students are gone during holidays and it becomes a really easy target," she said. "It's just unfortunate that these things will happen. Also, we have a false sense of security. Although we have good security here, people definitely tend to forget that we still need to be careful."

LITERACY ❖ FROM PAGE 1

But Katz added that the program needs more time to be properly evaluated.

"Though I believe in this program and have dedicated my life to this, I had to remind her [that] it's only been three weeks," said Katz. "But the teacher was sure it was making a difference, because this was the only time this student had one-on-one time with an adult."

The combination of stress-free reading and personal attention works so successfully that Everybody Wins! South

Florida has expanded to serving four schools and 120 students since its founding last year.

Katz is proud of the program's accomplishments and finds her job to be a rewarding combination of passions. "I always knew whatever I'd do would be working with people," said Katz.

After graduating from Washington University in St. Louis in 2002 with a degree in psychology, Katz earned a master's degree in nonprofit management from Brandeis

University. Now she is working to close the literacy gap among elementary school students so that poor readers do not fall behind in education.

According to the program's Web site, 55 percent of participating students at the poor-reading level reported that they enjoyed reading, whereas only 31 percent of control-group students did so. Sixteen percent of poor readers improved their classroom behavior compared to only three percent of students not in the program.

Katz appreciated all the donors who contributed to the Facebook challenge, and predicted future success for Everybody Wins! South Florida.

"This program is sustainable, and it really works," she said.

FRIES ❖ FROM PAGE 1

"The [containers] haven't gotten smaller," said Vanhook. "More people are buying."

Students, though aware of the recent downsizing, do not seem to mind and will continue to purchase fries at their previous rate. Freshman Matt Smerud said that the change is unimportant because he already has a fixed amount of meal points.

"You get a little less, but you've [already] given all of your money for the meal plan,"

he said.

Some students were not aware of the reduction and see it as a positive development because french fries are unhealthy.

"Fries aren't good for you, so it's better," said Chloe Shapiro, another freshman.

Students are also sympathetic toward Dining Services, agreeing with the reaction to the economy's current woes.

"I don't see a problem with it," said Smerud.



SCOTT BRESSLER | STUDENT LIFE

Bear's Den employee Demetrius tops off a small order of fries in Bear's Den, where students will now find less fries for their buck.

Vote Tomorrow!

For students registered to vote in Missouri:

- Polls are open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- If you have voted in Missouri before (and have not since voted in another state) or are a first-time voter and mailed in your registration before January 9, then you are registered to vote.
- Bring your Wash. U. ID to the poll. No other identification is required.

- You must vote at the correct polling location for your current address.
- Please note: If your name does not appear on the voter list at the polling station, you can still vote by signing an affidavit confirming your new address.

Polling Locations:

- **South 40:** Friedman Lounge (Wohl Center)
- **Village, Lopata, Millbrook, fraternities and Forsyth Apartments:** Our Lady of Lourdes School, 7157 Northmoor Dr.
- **University Drive,**

Greenway, Washington Ave. and other streets west of Skinker: Trinity Presbyterian Church, 6800 Washington Ave.

Off campus east of Skinker (Co-op, Rosedale, part of Pershing): St. Roch's Church, 6040 Waterman Blvd.

For more information on polling locations visit stlouisco.com/elections (for locations on campus or west of Skinker) or stlections.com (east of Skinker).

There will be free shuttles circulating nonstop from 8 a.m. until 7 p.m. They will both begin at Mallinckrodt. One will stop at the Village and continue to Our Lady of Lourdes School. The other will stop along the streets intersecting Melville Avenue on the way to Trinity Presbyterian Church.

For students not registered to vote in Missouri:

You may still be able to vote by absentee ballot in your home state. Visit vote-smart.org to find more information.

THEY'VE GOT THE BEAT



EVAN WISKUP | STUDENT LIFE

From left to right, freshman Pierre Boncy, junior Aarthi Arunachalam and freshman DeMarco Mitchener perform at Black Anthology Friday night in Edison Theater. This year's production, entitled "Syncopated: Can You Keep Up With The Beat?" featured a story about a young man returning from the war in Iraq to find his life changed; the production boasts a cast of nearly 40 students. Black Anthology, a student-run group, creates a different play that is performed each year and focuses on current issues and hope for the future. This year's play was written by a committee of students headed by sophomore Maryse Pearce and was directed by senior Valerie Wade.

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MILLBROOK ❖ FROM PAGE 1

lary recognizes and supports the desires of the nearby property owners to retain the character and value of their historic single-family residential neighborhoods," said the resolution.

The resolution, though not legally binding, also urged the University to maintain frequent discussion with the residents of West Portland Place and not to engage in house demolition without a near-term replace-

ment plan.

The University will not expand any further, but it will improve its current holdings in the area. It has already begun to make improvements in the Millbrook Plaza shopping area.

"We're still going to improve what's there, but we're not going to be expanding that because of the restrictive covenants," said Givens.

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SCENE

Finding roommates and suitemates

BY MICHAEL KRANZ
SCENE REPORTER

With housing selection just around the corner, many students have started their search for the perfect living arrangement. You've probably overheard a conversation addressing these questions or have been a part of the dialogue on the housing topic. Roommate and suitemate decisions are at the top of the list of plans for next year. Many freshmen who will remain on campus have already decided with whom they want to define their second-year experience at Wash. U. They've gotten to know first-year friends better and they've learned from the random rooming experience of the tough college transi-

tion.

But what is the best group with which to room? How do you know who will be a good roommate? Among freshmen, many students decide based on strong friendships created within a familiar group: their freshman floor.

Freshman Rachel Goldfeder was one such person who decided that this was the best option.

"We all know we get along together, and I think it would be difficult to live apart," she said.

Along with Goldfeder, freshman Rachel Hyland is not only happy with her selection of suitemates (she has decided to live with the same group as Goldfeder) but also told us why she's happy with her present roommate, freshman Laura Jensen, with

whom she's choosing to live again.

"We have similar sleeping patterns and habits," explained Hyland (after raving about how pretty, smart and clean Laura is).

Friends on the floor aren't the only people that help students develop a plan for this important decision about next year's life. Extracurriculars can greatly influence rooming as well. The men's basketball team is a great example. Some sophomore teammates made the decision last year to room together.

"Since we spend so much time together with basketball, everyone's responsible about going to bed early and getting to practice on time," explained sophomore Tyler Gordon.

Another member of the

men's basketball team, sophomore Michael Young, not only used his sport as a common thread for deciding on rooming decisions last year, but also his fraternity, Sigma Chi. When the idea of having all 12 then-freshmen basketball players living together proved to be implausible, Young decided on rooming with two guys from his floor who also pledged Sigma Chi and his freshman roommate, sophomore Tom Blount, also on the basketball team. Spending so much time with his teammates gave Young a positive outlook on how his living situation ended up.

"It gives me people to hang out with other than basketball guys," said Blount.

"Choose wisely" was the advice from junior Elyse Sadow.

Sadow was referring to choosing roommates and suitemates, particularly at the end of the first freshman semester. There is a lot of pressure, and caution should be taken.

"Just wait until the moment is right," concluded Sadow, who cautioned against making snap decisions just to get it over.

What exactly is the best option? Perhaps living with people from your freshman floor is great because of the closeness developed from already living "together." Also, it helps that living with people from your residential college gives you housing preferences if you stay on the South 40. But people change year to year, so it's not always a sure bet. And many sports and clubs also

allow students to form a connection with each other. Being a part of a team or group is almost like living with someone anyway—you have to work together and try not to get on your teammates' nerves. Ultimately, picking roommates and suitemates should not be a pressure-filled process; friendships that develop in college without living together aren't dependent on being close every second of the day.

As the next conversation you overhear flows through your ears, and you realize you haven't fully established rooming decisions, fight the anxiety and remember that waiting may not be such a bad thing. Whatever your situation, every student has numerous opportunities to find roommates.

Navigating the housing question: Homing in on your next home

BY INDU CHANDRASEKHAR
SCENE REPORTER

Deciding the location of your next home is one of the biggest decisions you get to make each year (aside from picking your spring break location, of course). Making that decision is a game of pros and cons. As someone who has lived both on and off campus and in several colleges' dorms (the current one being the property of the University College London), I feel compelled to share a few of the realizations I have reached concerning the following dilemma: Do I stay, or do I go?

Many of you would rather bulldoze the Bunny than leave campus; still more of you have been itching to leave Washington University housing ever since you got your towel stolen from the shower by your feisty freshman floormates. Or perhaps, like so many University students, you have not quite decided where you would like to end up next year. The run for off-campus housing started early this school year, but that doesn't mean that the search is hopeless. Below you will find a variety of reasons to stay or go; the ultimate decision, however, is up to you.

Living on campus

The University's on-campus housing is rated as some of the nicest in the country, and there is no question as to why. With the South 40 makeover already underway, Wash. U. students will eventually have a host of veritable hotels to choose from while living on campus. But regardless of how new the couches are in your common room, there are several other things to consider:

Proximity. A limited number of off-campus apartments, most already signed away, are as close to main campus as the dorms on the South 40 and the North Side. Of course, some University-owned off-campus housing, which includes the Loop Lofts, Greenway, University Drive and Rosedale apartments, is quite a trek away. University-owned places on Forsyth Boulevard, Pershing Avenue, Kingsbury Boulevard and Waterman Avenue are an easy walk. Students living on the South 40 have the advantage (or disadvantage, if your building gets invaded) of easy access to a shower after the mud fight after Holi; people living in the Village have a relatively quick walk, or stumble, from frat party to bedroom floor.

Community. Sheer probability points out that when so many students are clustered in the same area, they are likely to get to know one another and think of things to do. Freshman floors, Village BLOCs and suites are easy facilities to build communities. As for

larger gatherings, CS40 and the North Side Association are constantly hosting activities. However, don't forget that with a close on-campus community comes that inescapable on-campus bubble.

Room particulars. All University-owned housing, in addition to offering laundry services, is furnished, which saves you the trouble of finding furniture on a nine-month basis. However, not all campus housing options are created equal; some offer a great deal more (or less) space than others, and you might not get your first-choice building. Ask yourself if you'd prefer some walking room instead of plowing your way through the week's discarded clothes.

Meal plan. This is both a blessing and a curse. All students, regardless of whether they live on campus, are required to purchase a meal plan. The advantages of an easy-swipe system lie in the facilities on hand; Bear's Den offers great late-night options, Urso's hot chocolate is to die for and the Village's stir-fry is worth running in for before closing time. However, this food costs money, and it costs a good deal more than you think you're paying, because points do not directly correlate with dollars. Depending on the meal plan, the price of a point can range from \$1 to \$1.52; the \$1 price applies only after you add points to your existing plan. In translation: that large coffee just cost you \$2.79. The most dangerous thing about the ability to swipe your breakfast, lunch, dinner and occasional fries at 2:59 a.m. is that students grow accustomed to blind payment and buy without consideration at all for the cost. Do the same blind shopping at Schnucks, and you'll find yourself in a serious state of sticker shock.

Price. This is yet another example of the blind payment in which University students constantly engage. Blessed with a housing bill that tags along with the bill for tuition, students living on campus can easily turn a blind eye to the real cost of their housing. A brief breakdown: For the 2007-2008 school year, singles ranged from \$854.45 to \$1073.56 per month, a single in an older dorm and a single in Rosedale or Greenway being the lower and upper bounds. Doubles range in price from \$746.89 for an older double to \$836.22 for a double in Greenway or Rosedale. Another hidden provision: On-campus housing contracts last for just under nine months, while most apartment leases are for a full year. In the end, some University-owned housing is a steal—University Drive apartments are the cheapest off-campus option, for approximately \$689 per month.

Living off campus

On-campus housing might be gorgeous and Gothic, but sometimes it feels sterile—one step away from a hotel. And after a while, most students get tired of sharing a bathroom with 45 other people. Your own full-sized refrigerator and stove are also commendable amenities. A great deal of Washington University students do choose to move off campus and away from the Residential Life system at some point in their four years. Like living on campus, however, there are many points to consider.

Proximity. Moving off campus most often means more walking time, and for many students, driving or shuttling is a necessity. You might have driven to school every day for your pre-college years, but believe me when I say that driving to college is something altogether different. When it comes to waking up at 10 a.m. for your 10:07 class, there is a nice advantage to being able to run to class: no parking, no traffic, no hateful stop lights that never turn green. However, driving to class does mean you save yourself from panting and sweating profusely as you make your entrance, and you get automatic protection from the elements on the way to campus.

Community. Leaving the familiar mores of on-campus life does not equal abandoning the Wash. U. community; it just means your participation needs to be a bit more premeditated. The living community certainly changes once you move off campus; if you are used to being constantly surrounded by people, then moving to a two-bedroom apartment 15 minutes away might not be the smartest idea. Still, student apartments tend to cluster in a few main areas, and some students manage to fill whole apartment buildings with their friends. In essence, your living community is what you make it; if your neighbors are also students, get to know them and foster a new community.

Room particulars. You might have to buy a bed. This is not, however, that monumental a task. If you are quick on the uptake, scour the junk piles outside both campus housing and off-campus student apartments for abandoned furniture at the end of the school year; you can make some great free finds. And with any luck, the rooms in your apartment will be larger than the shoeboxes called "singles" in some of the older dorms. Decorating opportunities abound.

Meal plan. Living off campus means that you will define

your own meal plan. This is a big step for some people, and an easy transition for others. The biggest adjustment students need to make in this department is figuring out how to make balanced meals for just one or two people. Coming from a big family, I am used to watching my mom cook massive meals; by myself, a bowlful of pasta will suffice. Bear's Den will not be there to dole out your burgers as easily as it once did when you could run there in your

pajamas, but then again, with your own apartment, you can run to your kitchen wearing even less.

Price. St. Louis apartments clearly vary in price depending on location, amenities, security and so forth. The average rent for a three-bedroom apartment in University City is just over \$1000 per month; divided three ways, plus other expenses such as utilities, electricity and cable, the monthly rent per person is left

at approximately \$450. This figure may be an approximation, but it is a clear indicator of how much cheaper off-campus housing is, especially when considering the extra advantages—a living room, kitchen, possibly a balcony or maybe even a yard. You will have to deal with paying extra expenses yourselves, possibly including setting up cable and Internet; these, however, are the responsibilities of real adults, which we are all just about to be.

STUDENT LIFE
THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS



Is this apartment too big?
Is this apartment too small?
Which apartment is just right?

Housing Guide

Coming Soon

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

Mixed-gender housing policy a welcome addition

Last February, Student Union passed a resolution supporting the option of mixed-gender housing. Student Union had hoped its resolution would go into effect in the fall of 2008, and we have recently learned from the administration that mixed-gender housing will indeed be an option for students next fall.

Upperclassmen living in the Village and Greenway Place Apartments will have the option of living in gender-neutral housing. This option will not be available for freshmen. The University's decision to implement mixed-gender housing demonstrates the administration's faith in the student body and shows the University's

rejection of binary gender norms.

Getting the administration to implement mixed-gender housing has been a long and arduous process spanning several years. In December 2006, *Student Life* interviewed then-Associate Director of Residential Life Rob Wild. Wild informed us that students of opposite genders had been requesting to live together for the past 10 years and that transgender students had informed Residential Life that a mixed-gendered housing option would make them more comfortable. In response to these requests, Residential Life's Room Selection Task Force committee considered the idea and recommended its

implementation. At that time, the University rejected the proposal, telling Residential Life that it feared the student body would not get behind the resolution. To understand the opinion of the student body, Residential Life took a survey and found that 74 percent of students said they might take advantage of mixed-gender housing were the option available. Given these poll results and the Student Union resolution, it has been overwhelmingly clear that Washington University students support mixed-gender housing options. The University's response to student input is gratifying.

The fact that the University has finally decided to implement such an option shows it

has found the same faith in its student body that our peer institutions have been able to find in theirs. We understand that it would be difficult for Wash. U. to open up a policy that would allow heterosexual couples to live together. However, we feel that the University was correct in believing that students would make decisions about housing cautiously enough to fully consider the dangers of living with significant others. While some students will inevitably make poor choices in selecting their suitemates, these instances would not outweigh the benefits of allowing students to make better suitemate selections by choosing from both genders. We believe that Wash.

U. students are just as mature as students at the University of Pennsylvania, Brown University, the University of Colorado, Haverford College, Oberlin, Sarah Lawrence College, Swarthmore and Wesleyan Colleges, Ithaca College, the University of San Francisco, Tufts University and Cornell University and are excited to be able to join these progressive schools in allowing mixed-gender housing.

It is important for Washington University to take a leading role in this issue. As a progressive school, Wash. U. should be at the forefront of policies that promote equality. Wash. U. has finally supported the teachings of its own Women and Gender Studies department and rejected the assumption that sex and

gender are binaries and that one's biological sex determines one's gender. It has affirmed that sexual relationships do not only exist between parties of the opposite sex and finally recognized the identities of its transgendered students as legitimate.

We applaud the administration for its decision to embrace mixed-gender housing. We are pleased the administration is listening to its students and placing its faith in their maturity and are thankful to have an administration that prioritizes equality. Even protecting equality requires a difficult policy decision. We are proud to attend a university that is willing to make that difficult decision. Thank you, Wash. U.

RACHEL HARRIS | EDITORIAL CARTOON



Watching a speech does not make you an expert on politics

BY ERIC SUNDHEIM
STAFF COLUMNIST

We're coming up on Super Tuesday and the Super Bowl just passed. Long live the armchair quarterbacks and politicians.

Many Wash. U. students think that they are political experts because they went to a Barack Obama rally or listened to a Mike Huckabee speech, yet the great majority of these "politically" charged students have no clue who Thomas Hobbes or John Locke are. This happens because these speeches/rallies/debates are to politics what rap all too often is to music: image over substance.

I challenge you to find one candidate who does not have "change" as his number one issue. "I will usher in a new era of change, I will change special interests, I will change our world image, I will give loose change to the poor, I will short-change our enemies."

First, Barack Obama was the candidate for change. Voters seemed to respond to his message, so Clinton and Huckabee jumped on the change train as well. It is too bad that after all this change, and all the time and resources spent tracking it, we will still have learned nothing, because change is not a platform.

Even when candidates are forced to single out certain issues, watching these speeches helps you understand their position about as well as Rock Band helps you become a musician. Almost every Republican candidate claimed that they would be "hard on illegal immigration." Every Democrat said they are going to have a "compassionate" immigration policy. These tough and compassionate policies have been promised for years by both parties, but neither of these have ever come true (building a fence is not being tough—deporting people is. Giving illegals driver's licenses is not compassionate, making them legal is).

Even if you read between the lines on these debates, you're not going to find any-

thing outside what any party member would support. All republicans are for "cutting government fat." You're not going to discover who will cut the most fat by listening to these candidates hype up their record and commitment to an issue. Not only is all this buzz rhetoric meaningless in that it does not tell us what programs these candidates would actually eliminate, it also fails to address the larger political issues that surround them.

When we look at what actually has been accomplished by candidates who have promised similar measures in recent history, we find that republicans deliver big government and democrats deliver bigger government. If you were looking for a candidate who will really cut the fat, you'd choose a Libertarian.

An interest in politics should be inspired by informed political philosophies. Unfortunately, every major candidate who sincerely wants to win an election is going to do everything but expound upon the relative merit of conflicting ideas. These candidates are not political philosophers. They are professionals at getting elected. We shouldn't blame them for that; it is what they are supposed to do. But we must remember that they are, in the classic and pejorative sense, tools.

Do not think they speak for you; they speak for what gets them elected. Do not be inspired because a candidate is so moral that he is "pro-choice" or "pro-life." Everybody is moral in both those ways. Don't vote for Obama because he is a new face, or for Clinton because she has experience. Vote for Obama or Clinton because you have studied real politics, have good reasons for believing in certain policies, and feel that he/she is the tool that will best implement your policies. If you do not, you are not interested in politics.

Eric is a junior in Arts & Sciences. He can be reached via email at ersundhe@artsci.wustl.edu.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Freedom of speech is a two-way street

Dear Editor:

In last Monday's edition of *Student Life*, College Republicans president Charis Fischer responded to plans to protest Alberto Gonzales' speech at Wash. U. by writing, "It is ironic how a party that weds itself to the First Amendment selectively abandons that principle when a Republican speaker is involved." This statement and the presumptions on which it is based are confusing, so I would like to clarify a few misconceptions about the nature of our protest and of the First Amendment itself.

Our protest is not a test of the First Amendment. We have no plans to prevent Alberto Gonzales from

entering the building, nor do we intend to interrupt or prematurely end his speech. We are not holding this protest because we think the First Amendment only applies when we want it to apply. Alberto Gonzales, like any American regardless of political affiliation, has the right to speak freely, and we will respect this right on February 19.

In return, we expect that Gonzales' supporters will respect our rights. Freedom of speech is a two-way street, and those of us who will be protesting Alberto Gonzales have the same right to free speech as he. We will let it be known that, although Washington University students are collectively footing the bill for

his speech, we do not all support the things which Gonzales authorized and condoned while serving as our country's highest law enforcement official. We oppose his authorization of torture, his approval of warrantless surveillance of American citizens, his dismissal of U.S. Attorneys for strictly political reasons, and his blatant disregard for the Constitutional provision of habeas corpus and the Geneva Convention, among many others, and we must be accorded our First Amendment right to speech, even if the College Republicans and their guest speaker disagree with our message.

Finally, there is a message buried in Fischer's comment that concerns me and should

concern all of us who participate in our democracy. Freedom of speech is not a liberal or progressive ideal. It is not a democratic or republican or libertarian or any other kind of partisan belief. Freedom of speech is an American value, and it is one of the fundamental values upon which this nation was built. In an age where anything and everything is being ascribed to one political party or the other, we must not lose sight of the basic freedoms that the laws of this nation provide for all of its citizens.

*-Eric Reif
Class of 2010
Treasurer, Wash. U.
College Democrats*

YOUR VOICE: LETTERS AND GUEST COLUMNS

Student Life welcomes letters to the editor and op-ed submissions from readers.

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All submissions must include the writer's name, class, address and phone number for verification. Student Life reserves the right to edit all letters for style, length, libel considerations and grammar. Letters should be no longer than 350 words in length. Readers may also submit longer articles of up to 750 words as guest columns. Student Life reserves the right to print any submission as a letter or guest column.

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In defense of Alberto Gonzales

BY RYAN WINOGRAD
OP-ED SUBMISSION

Since the moment Alberto Gonzales' plans to speak on campus were announced, there has been a great deal of unrest amongst many left-leaning organizations on campus. They complain that he "represents almost all of the things that have gone wrong with our country during Bush's presidency." That's quite a broad statement, so I'll focus on the more specific complaints being mentioned.

Many students are quick to associate the former Attorney General with torture. Gonzales wrote documents clarifying how the Geneva Conventions, the U.N. Convention against Torture, and U.S. law define torture during his time as White House Counsel. Various governmental organizations applied Gonzales' and others' definitions in constructing interrogation techniques that would supposedly not constitute torture.

In 2005, ABC News aired a story entitled "CIA's Harsh Interrogation Techniques Described," in which six "harsh" interrogation techniques are listed. These techniques, which were revealed by former and cur-

rent CIA officials, include the following:

1. Shirt Grabbing
2. Slapping
3. Belly Slapping
4. Long Duration Standing
5. Cold Cell
6. Waterboarding

The most controversial technique to appear on this list is waterboarding, the permission of which is often attributed to Alberto Gonzales. This is actually a misconception, as permission to waterboard, which has been given only three times, must originate from the President's office. Nevertheless, there are strong arguments on both sides of this issue. As a result, determining whether or not the U.S. should waterboard terrorists would appear to be a difficult undertaking. The truth is, however, that in order to prevent the use of waterboarding, Congress must simply pass a bill forbidding its use. Congress has failed to do so even with a Democratic majority.

Another extremely controversial issue is that of warrantless wiretapping. Congress is close to reauthorizing this program for the second time. The first authorization occurred six months ago—under a Demo-

cratic Congress. Now that it is set to expire, the Senate will soon be considering the RESTORE Act, which was recently passed by the House 227 to 189. A lot of Democrats must think that listening in on the conversations of terrorists is a good idea. They're right.

Now that I have shown that Congress, controlled by Democrats, has either sided with the President or chosen not to take action against him, let's focus on the biggest controversy surrounding Gonzales—the firing of U.S. Attorneys. Before we do so, a short history lesson may be useful. President Bill Clinton fired all 93 U.S. Attorneys during his first term. And he was able to do so because U.S. Attorneys serve at the President's whim. In other words, there was absolutely nothing illegal about Alberto Gonzales' actions. To date, he has not been indicted.

Other claims against Alberto Gonzales are laughable. The fact that Gonzales once received money from Enron never affected legal proceedings against Enron and its executives. Claims that Gonzales is to blame for the Patriot Act are also absurd. Congress passed the Patriot Act, and its provisions can always

be modified or removed by Congress. In addition, most of the provisions of the Patriot Act are not considered controversial at all. Only a handful of the Act's over 100 sections are controversial. Overall, the Patriot Act is a good piece of legislation. Even so, it isn't perfect. But that is why our government has checks and balances. The Supreme Court ruled the National Security Letters provision unconstitutional, evidence that our democratic system still works.

I have thus far provided

"If what I say is true—that Gonzales has done nothing wrong—then why is there so much controversy surrounding his name?"

strong arguments showing that Gonzales has not partaken in any wrongdoing with respect to the issues of torture, wiretapping, and the U.S. Attorney controversy. There are certainly other claims against Alberto Gonzales, and I'll be happy to provide a defense for every single last one of them.

And I can do so because they simply don't hold water—the former Attorney General has done nothing wrong.

If what I say is true—that Gonzales has done nothing wrong—then why is there so much controversy surrounding his name? I have a theory about that.

The Democrats took control of Congress as a result of the 2006 midterm elections, and they ran on campaigns of change and fighting the administration. That's exactly what they did. But instead of working to pass meaningful legislation, which is what they should have done (and should be doing now), they set out to increase partisanship and damage the image of the Bush Administration, thereby deteriorating its legitimacy. One of the tools the Democrats used to accomplish this end was their oversight power.

The nonpartisan National Journal (not the National Review, a conservative publication) recently published an article supporting my theory:

"To be sure, the new [oversight] committee chairmen on Capitol Hill banged their gavels in 2007. And banged them. And banged them again. And it isn't just ousted Attorney General

Alberto Gonzales and his decapitated Justice Department feeling the echo. A wide array of executive branch chiefs and corporate leaders...are dealing with, or bracing for, the effects of congressional Democrats' aggressive oversight."

As the committee attacked the former Attorney General with question after question, the media followed suit, leading to a deterioration of Alberto Gonzales' image. The amount of public scrutiny, largely based on misleading statements and logical fallacies forced Alberto Gonzales to resign; the Justice Department could no longer function efficiently.

This brings us to where we are today. Why is the former Attorney General so disliked? Is it based on fact or fiction? Did he actually do anything wrong?

My answer to these questions is quite clear, but what's yours? And avoid that gut reaction. Look deeper into the facts. Do your own research. Find a primary source—come listen to him speak on February 19.

Ryan is a sophomore in Arts & Sciences and the Vice President of College Republicans. He can be reached via e-mail at rwinograd@wustl.edu.

The cell of morality



RACHEL HARRIS | STUDENT LIFE

BY MICHELLE ALBERT
STAFF COLUMNIST

(Disclaimer: Everyone has the right to intelligently agree or disagree with other opinions. Though I am aware that this is controversial, I wish to express my opinion as intelligently as possible.)

During his State of the Union Address last Monday, President Bush mentioned certain advancements being made concerning stem cell research. He spoke about the new process of taking adult skin cells and transforming them into stem cells, a technique that, I have to agree, is a big step forward.

However, Bush continued his speech by claiming that, since the use of skin cells has been approved, it can replace existing methods of manipulating embryonic stem cells, and thus avoid all of the moral questions that arise from embryonic stem cell use. He also insisted that human cloning should not be pursued, as it is also immoral. And at that point, I had to stop paying attention. How can something be immoral if it has the potential to save lives? According to NIH's Web

site on stem cells, embryonic stem cells are derived from embryos that are fertilized in vitro, in a laboratory. The labs use eggs that have been donated from women, fertilize them, and allow the embryos to develop for four or five days. At this time, the embryos are at a stage known as the blastocyst, a miniscule, hollow ball of undifferentiated cells. Though these cells are alive, they do not possess any signs of specialization, such as becoming skin cells or liver cells, and they have no consciousness or thought processes.

The cells exist in the same state as, say, a blade of grass. And no one, at least not to my knowledge, has ever had a moral dilemma over mowing the grass.

Once these stem cells are harvested, scientists can control cell differentiation in order to develop specific cell types. Once these types are grown, they have the potential to replace diseased cells and thus treat certain diseases. There are also experiments concerning the cloning of human organs and other body parts, in hopes of being able to replace a diseased organ with a healthy one. This process

would alleviate concerns of finding a healthy donor organ, and would help ensure that the new organ would be successfully accepted by the patient's body. The possibilities are huge.

Of course, President Bush is subscribing to the belief that all human life is sacred, that we are killing potential babies by using

"The [embryonic stem] cells exist in the same state as, say, a blade of grass. And no one, at least not to my knowledge, has ever had a moral dilemma over mowing the grass."

embryonic stem cells, and that the artificial reproduction of human life directly refutes what nature had intended for the human race. But I am of the opinion that actual life—cognitive human life—has a right to be saved.

Firstly, the eggs used

by the NIH are donated by women, not stolen or taken by force. And these are eggs that, in all likelihood, would not have the chance to develop into embryos on their own.

When a woman reaches puberty, her ovaries allow thousands of eggs to mature. And, given the average number of children in each American household, maybe 99% of these eggs are never fertilized. Instead, they are passed out of the body during menstruation. So, donating unfertilized eggs for stem cell research is actually a means of retaining life, rather than discarding it. These eggs have the potential to create other cells, or organs, that can save someone's life.

So let us not consider such work immoral any longer. Human life is sacred, so why should we deprive people of the chance to continue living?

Stem cell research has the potential to save countless lives. Sounds pretty moral to me.

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

Tomorrow, vote for Barack Obama

BY BILL HOFFMAN
STAFF COLUMNIST

I said it before and I'll say it again—why in God's name would anyone prefer Hillary Clinton to Barack Obama? We all know why she has the support of Bill, who is doing his best to remind us that we should think twice before putting them back in the White House. When asked what he thought about his wife's utter annihilation in the South Carolina primary (by a 28 percent margin), Bill smugly retorted: "Jesse Jackson won South Carolina twice, in '84 and '88." Translation: "So what if a bunch of black people voted for Obama, who is black. Jesse Jackson is black and he didn't win the nomination. Did I mention that Obama is black?" Karl Rove would be proud. If you think all's fair in politics, ask yourself how you would react if a Republican said this.

The "best" excuse by far, however, belongs to Ann Coulter. Yes, you heard that right, Ann Coulter is now on record as saying that she will not only support, but will also campaign for Hillary—if McCain wins the nomination that is. She insists she isn't joking.

Coulter's frustration aside, the likely primary victory of John McCain does give us many reasons to celebrate. Were he to win, we could all go to sleep at night knowing that the next president of the United States would shun torture and tackle global warming. There would be no poisonous xenophobia during the presidential campaign. And I must say that I'm savoring the schadenfreude at watching the apoplectic fits of rage of far right-wingers like Rush Limbaugh and Michelle Malkin. Indeed, McCain's unpopularity with the Republican base could be a big problem for him in November. That is, unless there was something to unite the Republicans, some common enemy whom they hate even more than McCain... I think you see where I'm going with this.

Make no mistake: there's no better fuel for the right wing noise machine than a Hillary Clinton nomination. As their Clinton hatred is rekindled, conservatives will quickly forget how angry they are at "Juan" McCain, as CNN's resident blowhard Glenn Beck likes to call him (because McCain isn't hostile to immigrants).

Come to think of it, no one seems to like Hillary very much, as Gallup polls consistently show that nearly 50 percent of voters view her unfavorably. Compare this with

Obama's recent unfavorable rating of 32 percent (this is that same 32 percent who still think George W. Bush is a good president).

Conservatives, meanwhile, can't decide whether they admire or fear Barack Obama. Rod Dreher, a columnist at the Dallas Morning News, recently lamented, "If I were a Republican, I'd be very, very afraid. Oh wait, I am a Republican. Dang. Lord have mercy, I wish that man were a conservative." They know that a McCain/Obama match up doesn't bode well for the GOP. When voters compare Obama's consistent, principled opposition to the deeply unpopular Iraq war with McCain's notorious pledge to stay there for another hundred years, their choice will be easy. Clinton, on the other hand, can only offer the lame excuse that she voted for the war authorization because she didn't think Bush would use it. But with any luck, Mitt Romney will somehow win the nomination, in which case you can forget about electability and just support Obama because he'll be a better president.

You'd be in good company. Prominent party leaders, including Senators Ted Kennedy, John Kerry, Patrick Leahy and Missouri's own Claire McCaskill are lining up for miles to offer Obama their support. Nearly every major newspaper in the country has endorsed Obama, including the Los Angeles Times, the Chicago Tribune, the Boston Globe, and the St. Louis Post-Dispatch (which are all located in key Super Tuesday states). Even lifelong Republicans like Susan Eisenhower, the granddaughter of the former president, have been publicly singing his praises.

This kind of broad-based support and national unity will be especially crucial for the next president. Pressing problems like global warming, healthcare and mending our battered Constitution cannot be solved with a fifty percent plus one majority, of the kind we could expect from the divisive, Karl Rove-style politics of the Clintons. They require both cooperation and sacrifice, and only Obama can inspire us to do both. Hearing Obama speak passionately about breaking down the barriers that separate us has made me feel proud to be an American again.

After seven years of Bush, there's nothing we need more than that.

Bill is a senior in Arts & Sciences. He can be reached via e-mail at william.howard.hoffman.iii@gmail.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

MUSIC REVIEWS

Hot Chip: 'Made in the Dark'

BY ERIC LEE
STAFF REPORTER

Hot Chip's music is really good in my book. Their third effort, "Made in the Dark," is intriguing, seductive and intelligent. They have created a fantastic album and a bangin' single, "Ready for the Floor," (streamable on YouTube). They have a strong following in the UK and are poised for a takeover over hither with their particular brand of shiny dance rock.

But everyone's got their kryptonite right? Shaq can't throw free throws. Heath Ledger had pills. Tila Tequila's head is inexplicably a perfect cube. And Hot Chip all have faces that could melt cheese. I suppose their rhythm guitarist racks up like a six on the bonability scale but they defi-

nately aren't getting their own reality show anytime soon (unless one of them decides to pop a bisexual pill).

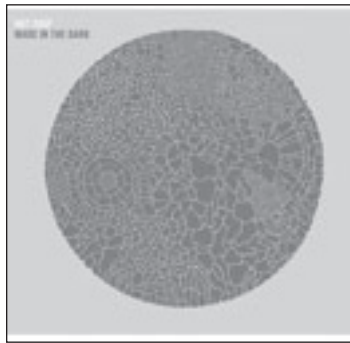
Anyways, "Made in the Dark" is certainly worth a spin. It's certainly not your typical dance record. In fact, my suitemate just poked his biracial head in my door and told me that I, star Cadenza reporter Eric Lee, "listen to weird music."

I accept this little jibe, because modicum of originality and whimsy are oft hard to find in this day and age's land of stale acoustic guitars. Also, my family tree doesn't put roots out on four continents. So you can suck it, mutt.

Speaking of diversity, it should be noted that Hot Chip consists of five musicians, who rock conventional instruments by day and moonlight

as DJs. This has given way to a blend of electronic and rock music with a taste for dramatic synthesizers and basslines. Couple this with smartass lyrics and horny ethos and you have a combination built to entertain. Check out the WWE inspired "Wrestlers" for this nugget of gold, "I've got a roll of coins/I'm aiming for your loins."

This is all a little eccentric to be sure. Aside from the slurry diction, and the guy's voice sounding, endearingly, like a nervous freshman speaking up in Gen. Chem., I have no problems with the musicianship. I'm sure this won't get far, as far as club spins go, but I'd definitely recommend cranking this at your next local party.



Hot Chip
Made in the Dark

Rating: ★★★★★☆
For fans of: Beck, LCD Sound-system, Air
Tracks to download: "Ready for the Floor"

Xiu Xiu: 'Women as Lovers'

BY DAVID KAMINSKY
MUSIC EDITOR

Xiu Xiu (pronounced shoe-shoe) is weird and singer-songwriter Jamie Stewart, who has been the only constant member in the band, knows it. "Women as Lovers" is their sixth studio album and has been touted as "more approachable or communicative on a basic human level" than anything else the band has released. That said, it is still best described as art/experimental rock.

"Women as Lovers" is an album that grows on you. The first listen is by no means bad, but it also isn't mind-blowing. Especially given the slow start that is the first three songs: "I Do What I Want When I Want," "I Lust You Can Hear the Axe Fall," and "F.T.W." While none of these songs are bad—in fact "I Do What I Want When I Want" is one of the better tracks on the album—this combination does not suit the opening of an album well.

In "No Friend Oh!" the album picks up a bit, adding a pulsing drum line, bells and horns. This is easily the most single-ready song on the record (although saying this record could produce any singles is probably a stretch). "Guantanamo Canal" is too obvious of a political song with its most odd and striking feature being a siren blaring toward the end of the track.

"You Are Pregnant, You Are Dead" has a metal garbage-can kind of tin in the sound of the drums and more fantastically

crazy noises surrounding the drum sound. This very industrial feel makes the song one of the best on the album.

However, while this might not be a huge credit to Stewart's writing ability, the best song of the album is a cover of Queen/David Bowie's "Under Pressure," which is a mind-blowingly good tribute to the original and is likely the best cover of any song to be produced in this decade (clearly beating the crap out of the My Chemical Romance/The Used version of the same song). Incredible saxophone improvisation and spirited vocals by what I can deduce are at least three different vocalists (two male and one female who sounds remarkably like Amy Milan of Stars) make the song one you can't help but come back to.

However, despite all that's great in the album, the vast majority is mediocre. Stewart's security blanket appears to be the solemn, acoustic song that he whispers more than sings. While this isn't bad, it doesn't take many risks, allowing the experimental elements of the production to spearhead the imaginative side of the album. Some songs such as the previously mentioned "I Do What I Want, When I Want" are great examples of this formula (with the addition of some awesome kazoo work), others fall far short of this example. In the end, while "Women as Lovers" can, at times, be absolute magic, much of the time it consists of crappy card tricks that get old fast.



Xiu Xiu
Women as Lovers

Rating: ★★★★★☆
For fans of: Joy Division, The Octopus Project, Animal Collective
Tracks to download: "No Friend Oh!," "Under Pressure"

Berlin Whale: 'Berlin Whale'

BY ELIZABETH OCHOA
MUSIC EDITOR

The genre of music I prefer most likely has a name, but lucky for me I don't read enough Pitchfork to know what it is. It's the type of rock that makes you want to tap your toe to the drum line, clap to the bass line and sing along to both the lead and backup vocals. You know the songs, the ones that you can play every instrument on expert in Rock Band. This is Berlin Whale. According to Last.fm, "Berlin Whale is an indie rock band; they are from St. Louis; you like them." And it couldn't be truer (side note: truer seems wrong, Microsoft Word, more true makes me happier).

In the opening song of their self-titled release, "Beatrice (Apples and Oranges)," the music is full bodied and forceful, yet the lyrics oscillate between the entire band sing-shouting and the lead chanting the words, "Open windows let's climb in like criminals." I'll be honest; at

this point I tend to get so into the music I can't listen to the words, but I'm sure they're awesome.

"Typhoon" tones things down, but ups the ante with a lot more Casio. The track opens with the repetition of "earthquake, hurricane" but is replaced by the sweet sound of Trevor's voice. This song embodies the band's spirit. Skirting the line between intricate musicianship and full-fledged energetic chaos, it's easy to see how Berlin Whale put on a live show that makes you exhausted for days.

Recently the band went through a makeover, losing their drummer to the bright lights of the East Coast along with another member of the band. But Berlin Whale remains tight enough to rock through their intricate songs with the energy fans have come to expect from them.

"Berlin Whale" will appear at the Gargoyle on Feb. 28 as part of KWUR week.

Look for more information on that in the near future.



Berlin Whale
Berlin Whale

Rating: ★★★★★☆
For fans of: Too Many Dynamites
Tracks to download: "Typhoon"



Free movies on campus this week

"Cat People"

Monday 2/4
4 p.m.
Brown 100

Considered by many to be one of the all-time classic horror movies, "Cat People" plays out like a supernatural film-noir. Simone Simon plays a Serbian-born artist who marries a New York everyman, only to succumb to her superstitious fears that sexual arousal of any kind will turn her into a murderous panther. By utilizing noir style, like a sense of moral ambiguity and a seductive femme fatale, and letting the audience scare themselves, director Jacques Tourner crafts a scary movie that sticks with you. Notable for waiting to show the audience whether or not the main character actually is a cat woman and for creating the "bus," the horror technique that prepares the audience for danger only to have the scene end with nothing scary ever happening. Innovative and daring, "Cat People" was remade in the 1980s with less success.



"Trouble in Paradise"

Monday 2/4
7 p.m.
Brown 100

A pre-production code classic, Ernst Lubitch's comedy uses bawdy innuendo to highlight the love affair of a master thief and a pretty pickpocket.

"The Quiet Man"

Tuesday 2/5
4 p.m.
Brown 100

One of the few famous John Ford/John Wayne movies that isn't a western, "The Quiet Man" features lush photography of the Irish countryside. Wayne plays an ex-pat boxer who returns to the Ireland hoping to reclaim his family's farm.

"Blackmail"

Tuesday 2/5
7 p.m.
Brown 100

Considered to be the first British movie filmed completely in sound, Alfred Hitchcock's "Blackmail" tells the suspense-filled tale of a woman who is blackmailed after murdering in self-defense.

"Story of a Young Couple"

Wednesday 2/6
7 p.m.
Brown 100

A little seen East German film from early in the Cold War, "Story of a Young Couple" explores the marriage of two people with very different political views.

"Sullivan's Travels"

Wednesday 2/6
4 p.m.
Brown 100

Preston Sturges is often overlooked in discussions and lists compiling America's best writers/directors, but for those informed, he blends broad comedy and surprisingly natural dialogue with a style way ahead of his time. "Sullivan's Travels" is one of Sturges' best-remembered films, perhaps because it features a young, stunning Veronica Lake, but more so because of its hilarious and touching story. Joel McCrea plays John Sullivan, a successful Hollywood director who wants to make a different kind of picture: one entitled "O Brother, Where Art Thou?" that highlights the plight of the downtrodden. Sturges has more in common with the Coen brothers than taste in titles, and he makes a kind of movie modern audiences will be surprisingly comfortable with.



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Sudoku By The Mepham 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 Friday's puzzle

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

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Crossword

ACROSS

- Write hastily
- Toot one's own horn
- NYC arena
- New member of the team
- Gandhi's rival
- Santa ___ winds
- Ahead
- Compensations
- Hen product
- Gives
- Couples' perches
- Frighten
- Highest point
- Express
- Family greeting
- Site of the Louvre
- Ball attendee
- Cuts slits
- Supporting fans
- Floozies
- Show to be false
- Chromosome unit
- Fabler
- Alleviate
- Forewarnings
- Molded
- Cochise's tribesmen
- TV guide abbr.
- Tool in a trunk
- Fine speaker
- Afore
- Parking penalty
- Impigmented
- Ballad ending?
- Trial by fire
- Business magnate

DOWN

- No-seats-available letters
- Pro's foe
- Horizontal lineup
- Rap-sheet initials
- Performs an electrician's job
- Mountain climbers' rests
- Natl. TV network
- Car with a rumble seat
- Norway's capital
- Stops sucking
- Fruity cocktail
- Exhibits scorn
- Radon and neon
- Loan shark, e.g.
- Mobster's rod
- Indy circuits
- October stone
- Aloe ___
- Being
- Diner's bill
- "Telephone Line" rock grp.
- ___ Na Na
- High shot
- Period
- Some relatives by marriage
- Zest
- Floater
- Plant starter
- Retirement grp.
- Chin whiskers
- Magnate's purview

Solutions

N	O	O	A	L	L	L	S	E	L	L	H	E	E
O	N	I	B	T	V	E	N	I	F	E	H	E	E
H	O	L	V	B	O	N	O	F	I	E	H	I	L
L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L
D	E	N	H	E	L	V	E	S	N	E	W	O	
E	S	V	E	P	O	S	E	V	E	N	E	G	
E	I	T	E	B	S	L	H	V	L				
S	H	E	L	O	H	S	E	H	S	V	L	S	
L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	
S	S	I	K	L	L	L	L	S	X	E	L	L	
E	H	V	C	S	S	L	V	E	S	E	L	O	L
S	E	L	V	N	O	D	G	E					
S	E	I	H	V	L	V	S	D	H	V	M	N	O
V	N	V	E	S	O	B	E	I	K	O	H		
G	S	M	M	O	R	C	L	M	V	H	C	S	

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SPORTS

TRACK & FIELD

Track takes fourth and seventh at Titan Open



Cristina Garmendia vaults to victory, finishing fourth with a jump of 9.99 meters.

BY TRISHA WOLF
SENIOR SPORTS EDITOR

Washington University's indoor track and field team had another successful weekend, with the women taking fourth of 13 and the men seventh of 15 at the Titan Open hosted by Illinois Wesleyan University on Saturday.

"A bunch of us had [personal records]," said senior Cristina Garmendia. "We had big improvements from the week before."

Senior Morgen Leonard-Fleckman continued her outstanding season, leaping 3.74 meters in the pole vault to break her week-old school record and automatically qualify for the NCAA indoor championships. Junior Jessica Lane took fourth in the same event with a leap of 3.13 meters. Freshman Emily McNish and Garmendia finished third and fourth in the triple jump, with jumps of 10.44 meters and 9.99 meters respectively. Junior Aubrey Edwards finished fourth in the weight throw with a 13.56 meter toss. Sophomore Reva Broussard took sixth in the high jump, jumping 1.52 meters.

On the track, senior Abbey Hartmann brought home a victory in the 5000-meter event, winning in 18:27.11. Senior Lisa Sudmeier finished second in the

mile with a time of 5:19.16. Senior Angela Hartman and freshman Sangeeta Hardy took third and fourth in the 800-meter run, with times of 2:17.77 and 2:21.00 respectively. Hartman just missed provisionally qualifying for the NCAA championships. Sophomore Allison Lee took fourth in the 400-meter dash, sprinting the course in 1:02.13. Junior Danielle Wadlington also took fourth in the 55-meter hurdles, running a time of 8.96 seconds. The 4x400-meter relay team also took fourth, in 4:03.15.

"The team is doing well. We have so many new members who have only been able to see a fraction of what the team can do," said Garmendia.

Even with all of the new members, the team has really begun to gel.

"We pride ourselves on really supporting each other," said McNish.

Illinois Wesleyan won the meet with 104 points. Lewis University and Lindenwood University rounded out the rest of the top three. The Wash. U. team was overall very happy with their performance.

"[Saturday] was the first time lots of injured people got to compete. It was nice to see them out there pushing their bodies as hard as they could," said freshman Mackenzie Olson.

On the men's side, the 4x400-meter relay proved to be a highlight as the team came in second with a time of 3:24.36. They also landed a fourth-place finish in the distance medley with a time of 10:51.22. Junior Nate Koslof finished sixth in the 400-meter dash with a time of 50.52 seconds. Senior Ryan McDonald also finished sixth in the 55-meter hurdles, running the race in 8.64 seconds.

On the field, freshman Ben Harmon finished fourth in the high jump, recording a 1.91 meter leap. Harmon and classmate Scott Pettit also tied for fourth in the pole vault, jumping 4.12 meters. Illinois Wesleyan also won the men's meet with 70 points. Lewis University again came in second while Olivet Nazarene University was third.

The Bears return to action Saturday at the Bob Keck Invitational, also held at Illinois Wesleyan. The team has begun to focus on winning the UAA championship meet, which will be held next month.

"We're only going to get stronger," said Sudmeier. "People will come back from injuries and we'll see more improvement and better performances."

"No one on the team has ever lost conference," said Garmendia. "It was the same when I was a freshman."

MEN'S TENNIS

WU 9 • USML 0

Men's tennis aces UMSL in season opener

BY JOSHUA GOLDMAN
SPORTS EDITOR

The Washington University men's tennis team opened the season with a dominant 9-0 win over Division II University of Missouri-St. Louis (UMSL) at the Sunset Tennis Center. The team is now 2-0 on the 2007-2008 campaign, with the first win on Sept. 20, 2007 also coming against UMSL. The Bears have won 13 straight home matches and 30 of the last 31.

The seventh-ranked Bears won every set played, with the only close match coming at number two doubles, which resulted in an 8-6 victory by sophomore John Watts, the number-one ranked singles player in Division III tennis, and freshman Isaac Stein. In addition, the No. 1 and No. 3 doubles teams, nationally third-ranked juniors Charlie Cutler and Chris Hoeland, and freshman Max Woods and senior co-captain Charlie Howard, respectively, won their matches.

In singles, Watts breezed through his match 6-1, 6-0, and Cutler, sophomore Danny Levy, Woods, Hoeland and Stein also

won their singles matches. Though it was the first match of the semester, the team has been practicing since classes resumed in January. Monday through Wednesday, the team meets at 6:15 a.m. for indoor practices.

"It's certainly a big change from the sleep schedule we've all become accustomed to at Wash. U., but once you start warming up, it's practice as usual, and you can get over the time of morning. Plus, it's the team's second year on this kind of schedule, so we're prepared for what's involved," said junior co-captain Mark Partridge.

The Bears also practice on Friday and Saturday afternoons.

"We will transition outdoors in late February or early March. At that time, the guys will get to enjoy catching a few more Zs. But it is those sacrifices, like WU swimming and diving does all year long, that truly build character and team unity," stated Head Coach Roger Follmer.

Follmer emphasized that in addition to practicing the fundamentals, "The guys are learning or realizing that the

best competition they will have all year will be themselves. So when they play outside competition, it just comes down to executing the situations [that] they have each already faced in practice."

Howard also said, "UMSL is not a bad team. I think the lopsided score in this match is more of a testament to how tough we are. Obviously, everyone on the team can always improve."

Partridge agreed, stating, "It's important right now to make sure we're putting forth solid performances, both personally and as a team, and to keep growing and build up our confidence. The team has an incredibly deep stack of players, so there's a lot of variables and combinations to experiment with in both the singles and doubles lineups. Right now, we need to stay focused and disciplined, settle into our lineup and then we'll be ready to start hitting on all cylinders when it really counts."

The team's next match will be on Feb. 16 in Normal, Ill., against Division I Illinois State University. The first set is scheduled to begin at 1:30 p.m.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

WU 55 • UROCHESTER 58

Bears keep battling in loss

❖ Bears suffer overtime loss to University of Rochester in a hard-fought defensive game

BY JOHANN QUA HIANSEN
SPORTS EDITOR

The Washington University Bears nearly spoiled the No. 10 University of Rochester's celebration of a new mascot by forcing an overtime that ended in a 58-55 loss.

Rochester premiered a vicious-looking wasp to replace their former cuddly bee mascot. The Yellowjackets reflected their new image, offering up a stifling defense that forced an uncharacteristic season-high 22 Bear turnovers.

"It was reflected by how low scoring the game was," said junior guard Shanna-Lei Dacanay.

The closely fought match was tied 11 times and the lead changed 13 times. Both teams had 47 rebounds, with freshman Kathryn Berger pulling down 10 and sophomore Janice Evans nine, although the Bears were out-rebounded offensively 20-13. Both teams struggled offensively. Neither team was able to get many shots from behind the arc as both teams made three treys combined. The Bears held the Yellowjackets to 28 percent field goal shooting through the entire game, but Rochester outscored Wash. U. in the paint 30-28 and held a large advantage in free throws, outscoring Wash. U. 19-13.

Nevertheless, the Red and Green kept fighting through three quarters. After the Yellowjackets jumped to a five-point lead in the last two minutes of the first period, the Bears clawed back to a 21-21 tie. The 5-0 Bear run was sparked by a momentum-boosting three-pointer by Dacanay and was capped with a lay-up in the paint by freshman forward Kelsey Robb.

The Yellowjackets also thought they had the game in the bag at the end of the second period. Nursing a single point lead with 18 seconds left on the clock, freshman Alex Porter of the Blue and Yellow was fouled and received a bonus shot. Porter sunk her basket, eliciting cheers from a large home crowd who thought the game was over. With nine seconds left, the Red and Green's freshman guard Alex Hoover drove to the lane and was fouled.

"It's the worst pressure you can have at the line," said Dacanay. "It was do or die."

Tension rife in the air, Hoover



Sophomore Janice Evans goes for a two-point shot during the Jan. 18 game vs. Emory.

stepped to the line to take her first of two shots, which she sunk. With all eyes watching, Hoover buried the second to tie the game. "It was a little nerve-racking," admitted Hoover. "Right before I stepped up, I thought of all my practice shots. From there, I just sunk them."

A last-second attempt to break the deadlock failed, sending the game into overtime. This was the first overtime for the Bears since their double-overtime triumph over Kenyon College on Nov. 24.

Right from the starting gate, the Blue and Yellow put in a bucket, which the Red and Green responded to two seconds later. Both teams were held scoreless for the next minute and a half before Rochester had a 4-0 run. The Bears nearly caught up with a three-point play by guard junior Jill Brandt, who led the team with 12 points, to put the score at 52-51 with 1:16 left. Rochester extended their lead to five but Wash. U. maintained

their tenacity.

With seven seconds left, guard junior Halsey Ward made her only lay-up of the night before committing a foul to prevent the clock from expiring. The Rochester shooter made both her shots to extend the lead to five again, but another Yellowjacket fouled Hoover.

One second remained on the clock and hope still existed. Hoover, who shot phenomenally from the charity line, buried both her second-chance shots. Time expired on a Rochester inbound play, preventing the Bears from one more chance.

"It was a one-possession game," said Head Coach Nancy Fahey. "We came out short by one basket."

The Bears have been unable to get back on track, dropping two games in a row, but they are looking to beat Carnegie Mellon University to break their skid. As of press time, the outcome of the Carnegie Mellon game had not yet been decided.

RECENT TOP PERFORMERS:

Troy Ruths
Men's basketball

The senior had 26 points, including 15 in the first half, against third-ranked Rochester Friday, along with nine rebounds and five assists. He followed up that performance with 16 points and nine rebounds against Carnegie Mellon on Sunday.

Janice Evans
Women's basketball

The sophomore led the team's rebounding efforts in Sunday's victory over Carnegie Mellon, pulling down 12 boards and contributing five points. Evans also grabbed nine boards and contributed eight points in Friday's overtime loss to Rochester.