

STUDENT LIFE

THE INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER OF WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS MO SINCE 1878

VOLUME 129, NO. 55

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2008

WWW.STUDLIFE.COM

George Clinton to bring funk to W.I.L.D.



George Clinton at the 2004 Grammy Awards

BY DAVID BRODY AND BRIAN STITT
NEWS STAFF

George Clinton and the P-Funk All-Stars will headline the spring W.I.L.D. concert, announced Thursday night.

The announcement was made at the Cascada concert in the Gargoyle and Clinton will be performing at the biannual event on Friday, April 25.

No opening acts have been finalized at this time, according to Dione Drew, co-chair of Team 31.

The initial reaction of the crowd at the concert was mixed, with some shouting excitedly and many others wondering who George Clinton was.

Drew said that Team 31 booked Clinton a couple weeks ago and is very excited to host the funk music legend. However, she did note that the quality of the concert is directly proportional to Team 31's budget.

"With the budget that we've been given, we're doing the best we can," she said. She mentioned that Team 31 cannot afford big names, "because SU cut our budget by \$15,000 this year."

Drew also noted that the inflatable couches which proved popular at last fall's W.I.L.D. will be returning this spring, hopefully in greater numbers.

George Clinton has been a driving force in funk music since the 1970s when he started blending acid rock with more

traditional R&B.

His band went through several incarnations, calling themselves alternatively Parliament, Funkadelic or some combination of the two. They now only perform live and go by the moniker George Clinton and the P-Funk All Stars.

The band has featured such musical greats as Bernie Worrell and Bootsy Collins, but it is Clinton, with his raspy voice and outlandish hair, that has garnered the pop culture notoriety. It was the P-Funk All Stars who performed at the epic party in the Jeremy Piven film "PCU," and Clinton has worked with artists as diverse as the Red Hot Chili Peppers and the Wu-Tang Clan.

Those students who were familiar with Clinton and his music seemed enthusiastic by the choice.

"That's incredible," said senior Adam Olansky. "Let's say that it's about time they got an old-school act."

Other students were not sure who he was, but were optimistic.

"I'm really interested in seeing what he can do," said sophomore Faith Steffen, who has never heard of George Clinton before. "I think he's something new and different for W.I.L.D."

Students can learn more about W.I.L.D. and Team 31 at wild.wustl.edu.

—additional reporting by Kat Zhao

Student puts college life on hold to serve country in Iraq

BY JEREMY ROGOFF
STAFF WRITER

As a junior in high school in St. Louis, John Coveyou was in search of direction and craving adventure, so he joined the army.

"I didn't think I had much of a purpose in life at the time," said Coveyou.

In the six years since his decision, Coveyou has risen to the rank of sergeant, served in Virginia, Louisiana and Guatemala and is now a junior biology major at Washington University.

But Coveyou, 23, has put his college education on hold, as he awaits his deployment to Iraq in April, where he and his unit will train local citizens to become police officers.

The University will allow Coveyou to reenter as a junior when he returns.

Coveyou, who has had friends killed in the war, admits he has mixed feelings about the prospect of facing combat while overseas.

"I want the adventure

and the courage, and not the pain," said Coveyou. "I want to know what it's like to be in combat. I want to be able to use that experience in the future in stressful situations and say I can do anything if I was able to do that."

Additionally, Coveyou says he relies on his faith to assure his well-being.

"I feel like there is a superior purpose to my life that is out of my control," said Coveyou. "If it's God's will for me to die in Iraq, then it's God's will."

Coveyou worries that his experience will have lasting effects, like those he has seen in his friends who have already served there, who returned traumatized and disillusioned.

"I feel like I have a naive desire for adventure," said Coveyou. "But now the fear is a lot more real to me."

Just like every other college-age person, Coveyou developed his own opinions about the war as it has unfolded.

"I think my views of the



Junior John Coveyou

war have changed," said Coveyou. "I still want to go and support the American mission in Iraq, but it's a lot more difficult...it's really hard to pinpoint the American mission in Iraq. We're trying to liberate and democratize Iraq, which is a noble but naive goal."

Principally, Coveyou wants to ensure that the American military operates with increasing respect for

humanity.

"I've had a lot of friends in Iraq who have told me what's going on," said Coveyou. "Things go on that should not, and that's upsetting."

Taking part in a large-scale military effort—where his actions alone cannot dictate the outcome of war—has made Coveyou rethink his idea of success after completing his tour. Primarily, said Coveyou, he must serve "with ethics and humanity at the forefront."

"I will support what we're doing as I think it is right," said Coveyou. "And I think training police officers is right. My decision comes in how I train them."

Coveyou says he finds aspects of his generation—one that contrasts with the Vietnam-era college population—frustrating.

"It isn't to see them under stress or to see them complain, but to see them do nothing, to see them waste an education, to waste their

See COVEYOU, page 2

MOOT COURT WINS MAJOR TOURNAMENT IN INDIA



COURTESY OF ANDREW NASH

Third-year law students Samir Kaushik (left) and Andrew Nash (right) lift the trophy after winning the D.M. Harish Memorial International Law Moot Court Competition in Mumbai, India. The competition featured 26 teams from all around the world and was judged by members of the Bombay High Court. The pair defeated a team from Cornell Law School to win the championship. In addition to the first place finish, Nash was honored individually as the second best oralist in the competition.

Gonzales to meet with detractors before speech

BY PERRY STEIN
NEWS EDITOR

With less than four days until Alberto Gonzales' speech at the 560 Music Building, the controversy surrounding his visit is intensifying.

In an attempt to reach all sides, the former U.S. Attorney General extended an invitation to meet with his detractors prior to his speech.

However, since the scheduling of the question and answer session conflicts with the College Democrats' protest against the former Attorney General's

policies, most of the key leaders in the Democrats' organization will not be attending.

"It's unfortunate that we would put people in such a place where we would have to choose one over the other," said College Democrats president Ben Guthorn. "Choosing to protest is not choosing not to engage in dialogue. It is choosing commitment."

The debates about Mr. Gonzales's visit continue to highlight the tense relations between the College Democrats and College Republicans; the Republicans said they understand the Democrat leaders' right and desire

to protest but still think this small meeting should take precedence.

"The leadership of the College Democrats just refuses to go. Their logic is that they are very committed to the protest, they organized it, are in it and they have to go. I don't think their direct involvement in the protest is that crucial," said Ryan Winograd, vice president of the College Republicans. "I think it's a mistake but it's their prerogative to do what they decide they want to do."

Despite the fact that the College Democrats and the Washington University Peace Coal-

ition will not fully participate in this small discussion, the session will still take place. The Republicans recruited other opponents of Gonzales on campus to participate in the event.

"I am disappointed that the College [Democrats] aren't coming because those are the people we were targeting, and now that they aren't coming we have to find random liberal people on campus," said College Republican president Charis Fischer.

Dustin Palmer, the College Democrats' director of legislative affairs, is the only officer and member of the group signed up to attend the small discussion.

He said that while it was difficult to decide between the two scheduled events, he will be attending the discussion fully and will try to be at the protest for as much of it as he can.

"I am interested to hear what he has to say. I think I am going to walk over with the protesters a little before. I've been involved with all the planning of the protest, and my heart will be with them. But I am going to go to the discussion in full," said Palmer. "It did put us in the hardship of where to go and I guess I'm in the minority [with] my choice. It was a really hard decision."

Winograd said that this dis-

ussion session would have been a good opportunity for the College Democrats to talk to Gonzales and have him address their concerns.

"I strongly believe, and I am pretty sure Alberto Gonzales believes, that there is a justification for everything he has done," said Winograd. "I strongly feel that they would come out with a very different impression of Alberto Gonzales if they actually meet with him and heard his side of the story."

While Guthorn acknowledges the criticism that the College

See GONZALES, page 2

Softball prepares for new season



The Red and Green are hoping and preparing to repeat last year's successful season, despite losing star players. **Sports, Page 3**

New Inter-tainment blog launches



In addition to campaign news from campus political groups, check out our new Cadenza blog for the latest in online pop culture at blogs.studlife.com

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Whispers' TV gives groups screen time

BY KAT ZHAO
STAFF REPORTER

The plasma screen television in Whispers Café, formerly known for its uninterrupted showing of CNN, is now accessible to student groups on campus as advertising space.

The project, at present titled the Digital Bulletin Board (DBB), is run by a small task force within Olin Library and headed by Robert McFarland, the chemistry and engineering librarian.

According to Sarah Bombich, Olin Library's technology center manager and a member of the DBB group, the project is still in a relatively early phase of development.

"Right now, it is running a limited amount of library content as a pilot project," wrote Bombich in an e-mail. "The final guidelines for non-library submissions have not yet been fully established, but they will be soon."

The library content mentioned by Bombich includes an ad announcing the advertising space itself along with the Web site featuring guidelines and other information on how to submit ads.

"One or two years ago, we had the plasma screen and were trying to get students to submit advertisements. Nobody submitted anything. So it just died, and this last fall we resurrected it again," said McFarland.

A similar effort was also undertaken within Student Union (SU) two years ago by senator

Eric Gradel, now a senior, and accumulated much support within SU as well as from Dean of Students Justin Carroll.

"I had worked on a system, but the whole thing fell apart after the library updated their computer system," wrote Gradel in an e-mail.

According to him, the project failed to get off its feet and was not picked up again by SU.

SU president Neil Patel, a senior, praises the additional use of the television for advertising.

"People are walking by. It's free publicity and it's easy to update. It will provide a different way to supplement student group advertising, which means more students will know about more events," said Patel. "It could save some money and save some paper as well."

According to Patel, SU itself has already begun taking advantage of the advertising opportunity by running application announcements for committees with open positions.

"Four weeks ago when we got back to school, I saw the [TV] screen flashing and it had some ads for departments. When I saw it was happening, I jumped on it and thought we needed to get ads on there now," said senior Jennifer Hadley, the budget committee chair for SU Treasury.

So far, says Hadley, SU has placed advertisements for budget committee and Student Group Activities Committee applications.

"We're looking to publicize our deadlines, let more people

know we're here to help, and generally improve our visibility on campus," said Hadley.

As of now, only a few student groups, including SU and Green Action, have been taking advantage of the opportunity.

the kinks," he said. "We're sort of going in, stepping in with our toes in the water. But if students want to go ahead and submit a slide, they are more than welcome to do that."

Although it is too early to rate

be jeopardized, says Patel.

"I think ideally there could be a couple TV screens, one running TV ads and one running CNN," he said.

"If there is a huge outcry, we will not keep the ads there," said



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY DAVID HARTSTEIN

Two students watch the plasma screen television in Whispers Cafe Thursday afternoon. Olin Library has launched a new project titled the Digital Bulletin Board allowing student groups to advertise on the television.

"I don't think many people know about it," said Hadley. "As far as I know, they haven't sent any e-mails to student groups."

The task force, says McFarland, has been hesitant to give its project a lot of PR at the moment, but will begin promoting the space soon.

"We're starting out slowly, because we haven't worked out all

how helpful the DBB has been, Patel and Hadley both expressed optimistic views.

"I do think it will be successful if we go with it and see," said Patel.

As many students do enjoy catching glimpses of the news while walking through Whispers, some may express concerns about whether the running of CNN will

McFarland.

CNN and the ad slides rotate on a set schedule throughout the day. The DBB will only allow student groups associated with SU to post ads. This does not include individuals.

For more information on how to submit an ad, go to <http://library.wustl.edu:800/units/arc/dbb.html>.

GONZALES ❖ FROM PAGE 1

Democrats are declining an opportunity for discussion, he says that it is not the case.

"It is a totally valid argument and I would say that we're not boycotting it [the discussion] because we don't want to go. We are not attempting to make a statement out of this. I think that in the end a protest is a better way to achieve our goal because it reaches a greater number of people," said Guthorn.

A spokesperson for Gonzales could not be reached by press time.

In addition to the meeting before his speech, Gonzales will be attending a dinner hosted by the College Republicans after the event. The Republicans initially

invited the Democrats to attend the dinner but the invitation was later revoked.

"Because they rejected the offer to come to the discussion before hand, [Neil] Patel and the College Republican vice president thought that they should have seats at the dinner. Then we thought that wasn't fair, because we already gave them the chance to talk to him and they turned that down, so we thought we should give other students a chance to attend," said Fischer.

The discussion with a select group of detractors and Gonzales will be limited to 30 students and will be on Tuesday at 5 p.m. in the 560 Building.

COVEYOU ❖ FROM PAGE 1

life, to waste a good vote," said Coveyou.

Regarding his plans after the war, Coveyou says he will leave the army, finish his undergraduate work and continue on to medical school. "I've done my duty and I'm ready to move on to other things in my life," said Coveyou.

Coveyou says that his family has supported his de-

cision to serve in Iraq, and his deployment will not be the first time they face anxiety: Coveyou's 24-year-old brother is currently serving in Iraq.

Having heard stories of the war effort, Coveyou has sharpened his political opinion about the state of the operation.

"Forced democracy is a contradiction in itself," Cov-

eyou said.

While his year-and-a-half tour will keep him away from classes, Coveyou plans to continue studying—with textbooks and audio lectures—during his time away so not to lose pace with the rest of his class.

He plans to return to the University upon completion of his tour.

Shooting wounds 18 at NIU; shooter dead at scene

On Thursday afternoon a man opened fire in a lecture hall at Northern Illinois University (NIU) wounding several students; according to the police, the gunman died of a self-inflicted gunshot at the scene.

Eighteen patients have been brought to the Kishwaukee Community Hospital, according to the hospital's Web site and school officials.

Of those, six were listed as in good condition and eight in stable condition; four patients were listed in critical condition, two of whom were flown out to the Saint Anthony Hospital in Rockford.

All of the wounds were either from the shooting or from debris.

The Associated Press reports that witnesses said the young man carried a shotgun and a pistol, and that he appeared to be targeting students in part of the lecture hall.

Immediately after news of the event spread, school officials posted alerts to the school's Web site warning people not to come to campus and confirming that several people had been transported to the hospital.

"Campus police reiterate that an immediate danger has passed," stated an update to the Web site at 4:24

p.m. "Students should return to their residence halls and stay there."

All NIU classes were cancelled for Thursday night and Friday.

According to school officials the shooting occurred in Cole Hall near the King Commons; it is believed that the shooting occurred inside an ocean sciences lecture.

NIU has 25,000 students and is located about 65 miles west of Chicago. The shooting was the fourth at a U.S. school within a week.

—by Sam Guzik and David Brody

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SPORTS

Softball steps to the plate for 2008 season

BY JOHANN QUA HIANSEN
SPORTS EDITOR

While many students trudge to classes in the cold, Washington University's softball team will be taking the field under the Texas sun to start its season at the Easton Classic.

The softball team is back for another exciting season after its second place finish in last year's NCAA Division III College World Series, where it lost to Oregon's Linfield College. Since then, the Red and Green have lost five players to graduation including four-time UAA MVP pitcher Laurel Sagartz and Wash. U.'s all-time home run leader Jamie Kressel.

Two new pitchers, sophomore Ally Berenter, who transferred from UAA rival Emory University, and freshman Claire Voris, have joined the squad this year.

Despite the much smaller than average squad, the team is not that worried. "I think having only 13 players makes it difficult, but being small makes us a much closer team, and we know how to play together and be successful," said co-captain junior Lindsay Cavarra.

"They're looking as if they're starting where they left off," added Coach Leticia Pineda-Boutté. "We're definitely going to have a great hitting team."

The transition has been challenging for the two newcomers but with the help of their coaches and teammates, both have settled in.

"At this point, I definitely feel like a member of the team as opposed to a newcomer and am proud to be a Bear," said Berenter.

Voris, the lone freshman on the team, has had the added difficulty of adjusting to college life. "I'm 'the freshman' for sure, and I still have a lot to learn, but I'm catching on slowly, and the girls have made the effort to let me know that I'm a teammate first and foremost," said Voris.

With such an impressive showing last year, expectations of others are surprisingly low, as the team guns for the College World Series title. The Lady Bears enter the season ranked No. 24 on the National Fastpitch Coaches Association pre-season poll.

"Personally, I'm happy to be the underdog and stay under the radar," said Voris. "The team has its own expectations about the season, and those are the ones we need to focus on."

The Lady Bears are setting their sights on the prize. "Ultimately, it's to win a national championship, but before we can do that, we want to win UAAs, qualify for regionals, win the regional tournament and get back to the World Series," said Cavarra.

The Bears will be looking to defend their UAA championship title over spring break for the fifth consecutive year.

On the field, in the dugout, and on campus, the Bears will be led by co-captains Cavarra and seniors Krista Swip and Kaylyn Eash.

"Our strength is that we truly have strong senior leadership that I believe will guide and support us throughout the season on and off the field," said Berenter.

Over 75 percent of games this season will be played away

from the Wash. U. softball field, but the Bears are looking forward to the thrill of away games. "There's nothing sweeter than beating a team at their home field," said Swip.

The first game against the University of Texas-Tyler is scheduled to begin at 10 a.m. on Saturday, February 23. The Bears will then play the University of Mary-Hardin Baylor at noon and

East Texas Baptist University at 6 p.m. The Red and Green conclude the Easton Classic at Tyler, Texas with a game against the University of Texas at Dallas at 10 a.m. the following Sunday.

"I am incredibly excited and ready to start this season," said Berenter. "I can't wait to finally be playing in games and contributing to the team."



SCOTT BRESSLER | STUDENT LIFE

The softball team meets after a game last season. The softball team is preparing for another exciting season after their second place finish in last year's NCAA Division III College World Series.

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Team Standings! at Turn 18

Team	Territories	Armies	Players
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Wayman Crow	14 (+1)	829 (+150)	102 (+1)
Ruby-Umrath	10 (+2)	929 (+174)	97 (0)
Lee-Beaumont	9 (-1)	365 (+86)	81 (+2)
WGE	8 (-1)	794 (+135)	108 (+2)
Brookings	6 (-1)	274 (+51)	86 (0)
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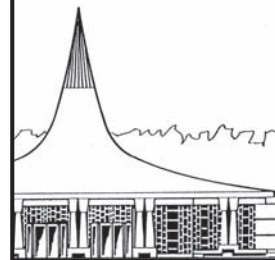
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FORUM

STAFF EDITORIAL

Pell Grant funding increase is insufficient

Recently, President Bush released his proposed federal budget for 2009. One of the notable features of this proposal is that the Federal Pell Grant Program, which supplies financial aid grants to some 5.3 million low-income college students, will be receiving a \$2.6 billion funding increase for next year.

This is part of a five-year plan that would increase the maximum Pell Grant award given from \$4,050 to \$5,400. It should be noted that Congressional approval is required before any federal budget can be finalized. This means that the final 2009 budget may not necessarily look like President Bush's proposal. From our perspective, this is a good thing because there are many reasons to dislike it in its current form.

In order to pay for the

Pell Grant funding increase, the 2009 budget reduces or eliminates the funding for 50 programs totaling \$3.8 billion. According to the Office of Management and Budget, these cuts were targeted at "small, narrowly focused programs that have not demonstrated results, do not align with national priorities, or can be funded under other authorities."

Unfortunately, many financial aid programs were among those affected. Under these criteria, the Federal Perkins Loan Program, which offers low-interest loans to low-income students, is slated for elimination. The Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, which distributes federal grants directly through college financial aid offices, will also be cut.

Several federally funded, state-administered grant programs for low-income

students, such as the Leveraging Education Assistance Partnership Program and the Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship Program face similar fates.

Even the increase in the Federal Pell Grant Program, which is one of the primary beneficiaries in this budget, is not without fault.

For starters, while the maximum Pell Grant that a student can receive has risen, the minimum award will remain at \$400. Additionally, more restrictions have been placed on the Pell Grant schedule that determines how much demonstrated need is required for a student to qualify for an award. The result is that students who don't necessarily count among those with the most demonstrated need but who nonetheless struggle paying for college will not benefit as much from the Pell Grant increase.

Overall, the 2009 budget proposal does very little to address the struggles that many students face when paying for college. It doesn't account for the fact that many students who receive Pell Grants also receive scholarships from programs that are slated for elimination.

It is entirely possible that a student who receives a Pell Grant award as well as other federal grants and loans will end up worse off under this budget proposal.

And while we are pleased that the maximum award for the Pell Grant Program has finally been raised (particularly since it has remained unchanged since 2003), we do not accept that the only way to raise it is by taking money away from other financial aid programs. We need across-the-board increases in student financial aid.

Our daily Forum editors:

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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.

Alberto Gonzales and the corruption of the Rule of Law

BY KATHLEEN CLARK, JOHN DROBAK AND LEILA SADAT
OP-ED SUBMISSION

While ordinarily the appearance of a former U.S. Attorney General might be an occasion for celebration, Alberto Gonzales's visit to Washington University Tuesday night will be a sad reminder of the Bush administration's assault on the rule of law and its quest for an imperial presidency.

Gonzales, who served as Counsel to the President from 2001 until 2005 and attorney general from 2005 until 2007, resigned under fire this past August amid allegations that he mismanaged the U.S. Department of Justice and lied to the U.S. Congress. Most significantly, both as White House Counsel and attorney general, Gonzales provided specious legal justifications for a series of decisions that seriously undermined the roles of Congress and the courts, deceived the American people and trampled the rights of U.S. citizens.

All lawyers have professional ethical responsibilities. Government lawyers have even higher responsibilities to the American people. Gonzales disregarded those responsibilities and instead served as the personal advocate for President Bush. Gonzales presided over unprecedented politicization of the Department of Justice. Under Gonzales's leadership, the Department fired U.S. attorneys for failing to pursue bogus claims of "voter fraud" against Democratic constituencies and for pursuing investigations of charges of corruption by Republican officials. He and his staff distorted legal principles

and, at times, even made up legal justifications when the actual law was contrary to what the President wanted.

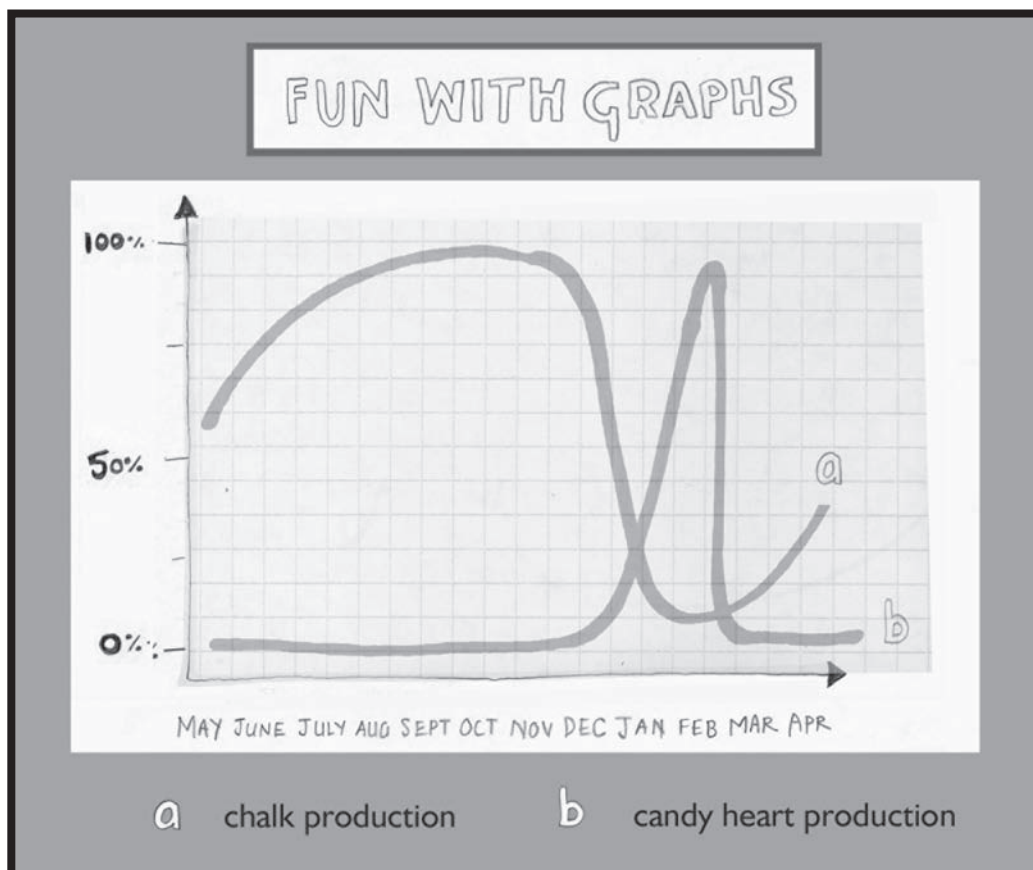
As Counsel to President Bush, Gonzales played a major role in the President's efforts to achieve unchecked power in the war on terror in disregard of the constitutional limitations on the President. For example, President Bush took the position that U.S. citizen detainees had no right to have courts review their detention under the writ of habeas corpus. That position was unanimously rejected by the U.S. Supreme Court in the case of Hamdi v. Rumsfeld (542 U.S. 507), handed down in 2004. This attempted impingement of the rights of U.S. citizens was so stark that it brought Justices Antonin Scalia and John Paul Stevens together on one opinion in Hamdi, a very unusual occurrence given their normally conflicting philosophies.

Gonzales commissioned the notorious Justice Department torture memo that adopted a bizarrely narrow definition of torture—treatment constitutes torture only if it causes pain so severe that it rises to "the level that would ordinarily be associated with . . . death [or] organ failure"—and asserted that the President could authorize torture even though a federal statute makes it a crime. The memo became the basis for U.S. interrogation policy, including the CIA's practice of "waterboarding" alleged members of al Qaeda.

Gonzales wrote the memorandum to the President that referred to the Geneva Conventions as "quaint" and "obsolete," and led the Presi-

See CLARK, page 5

RACHEL HARRIS | EDITORIAL CARTOON



a chalk production b candy heart production

The other Gazapalooza

BY EVE SAMBORN
STAFF COLUMNIST

On Feb. 4, two Palestinian suicide bombers entered the town of Dimona, in southern Israel, and detonated a bomb that killed one Israeli woman and injured 11 others. Rather than condemn the horrific attack, Hamas claimed responsibility. A spokesman for Hamas even called the attack "heroic." I wonder what exactly he felt was heroic about killing innocent people.

Rocket attacks launched from the Gaza strip have become commonplace, threatening the safety of all Israelis who live within firing

distance. Two Israelis were killed and hundreds of others were wounded in the past year. On Feb. 9, two brothers did not reach an emergency shelter in time and were seriously injured by a rocket attack. The younger brother, an eight-year-old boy, lost his leg.

The violence needs to stop. The world community needs to unequivocally condemn these acts of terror and pressure the Palestinian leadership to restrain violent extremists. Unfortunately, the world has been silent and Israel has been forced to take action. The Israeli government has responded by reducing fuel shipments to Gaza.

If angry Canadians began firing rockets into U.S. cities, the U.S. military would immediately wage a full-scale war against our northern neighbor until every U.S. citizen was safe. By contrast, Israel's response has been insufficient. The Israeli government has a right and responsibility to protect its citizens from living under siege.

While the fuel cuts have caused hardship for Palestinians, last week's column "Gazapalooza" (Feb. 6) seriously exaggerated the facts. The "starving" Palestinians who broke the barrier between Egypt and Gaza returned with cigarettes and weaponry, including more long-range rockets and mis-

siles. These are not the bare essentials needed by most starving families. The new weapons supply has, however, allowed the rocket attacks to continue. The break in the border also allowed last week's suicide bombers to enter Dimona and carry out their attack.

The column's comparison between the events in Gaza and the Boston Tea Party might have been more compelling if it were historically accurate. However, there is a big difference between Palestinian terrorists and American revolutionaries. Dumping tea into Boston Harbor is not morally equivalent to a

See SAMBORN, page 5

Dear Editor:

Alberto Gonzales's visit to campus on Feb. 19 promises to be an exciting event, and as the President of the College Republicans I am proud to be involved. It is abundantly clear, however, that the College Democrats and many others on campus are vehemently opposed to his visit. As most of campus is now aware, elaborate protests are being organized that will take place before the speech at 6:00.

What most people don't know, however, is that Mr. Gonzales requested to meet with a small group of liberal students, such as the College Democrats, before the event so that he can directly address their specific questions and concerns. This is an admirable gesture for someone in his position; he is surely aware of the Democrats' antagonism toward his actions while in office, but he is ready and willing to defend himself. When I heard about Gonzales's request, I thought the Demo-

crats would surely jump at the chance to engage in the type of dialogue that they claim to value so highly. Much to my surprise, however, the group declined the invitation. The reason? They do not want to miss out on the protest.

Let me be clear: I do not object to their right to protest. What I do object to is their preference for protest over discussion. They were offered the chance to debate the man who formerly held the position of attorney general, an opportunity that most Americans will never get, and they turned it down in order to add a few more people to the mass of students that will be protesting. It is a shame that the Democrats have let their partisanship and preoccupation with protest get in the way of meaningful discourse.

-Charis Fischer
President of College Republicans
Class of 2009

YOUR VOICE: LETTERS AND GUEST COLUMNS

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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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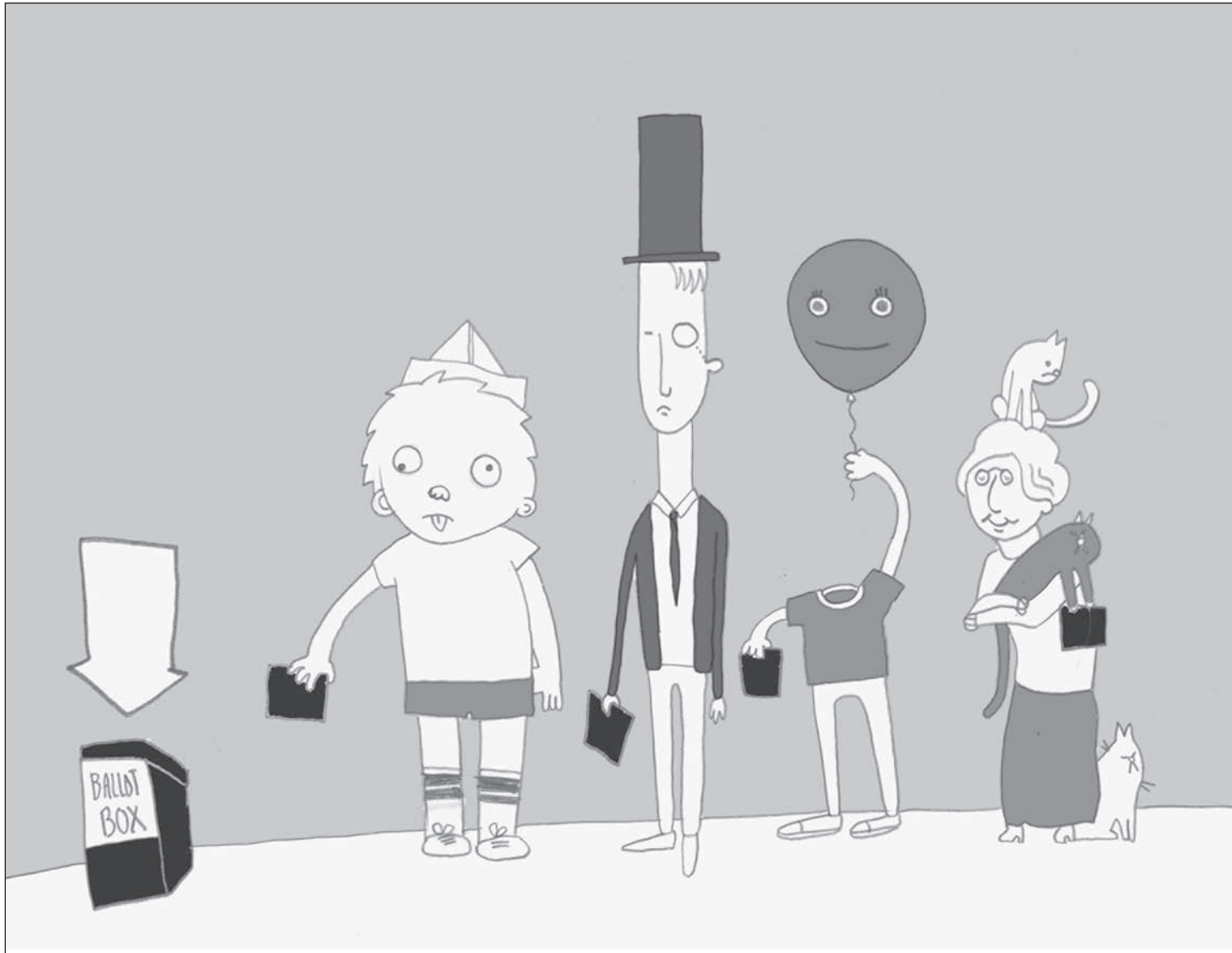
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Disillusioned with democracy



RACHEL HARRIS | STUDENT LIFE

BY KATE GAERTNER
STAFF COLUMNIST

I was in tenth grade in 2004, and the closest I got to a real polling place was the halls of my high school. We held a mock election, filling out scantron ballots and lauding American democracy—my teachers made sure that we studied the thinkers of Athens and the Enlightenment just in time to celebrate our form of government.

It seems to be a common stereotype that adolescents are stupid when it comes to politics, taking sides easily and letting their beliefs be influenced by those of their peers and those of the demagogues that they follow. My history teacher, wanting, perhaps, to make us aware of our own ignorance, had my class take a test online that lined our own views on a set of political topics up with those of the candidates, telling us which candidate best represented our own views on foreign and social policy, on the economy and the role of government.

I'd like to say that the group I found myself in was a group of open-minded high school students, who honestly believed in the power of democracy to represent their beliefs. Instead, I found that my peers fit the stereotype of ignorant ado-

lescents. A girl whose results told her that her beliefs on foreign policy and the economy lined up with John Kerry's insisted still that George W. Bush was the candidate she wanted in office, simply because she refused to vote for a candidate who supported a woman's right to choose. A boy with similar results said he would feel personally responsible for the destruction of innocent stem cells if he followed the test's suggestion and voted for Kerry.

"Here in Missouri, where John McCain won the Republican primary by eight thousand votes, almost four thousand people voted for Rudy Giuliani, who had dropped out of the race a week earlier and endorsed McCain."

I walked out of class angry that day. I remember questioning the worth of democracy: If people couldn't even bring themselves to

vote for a representative candidate, how could we ever hope to have a government that acted in the best interests of its citizens? I began to think that maybe we'd be better off living in Plato's Republic, guided by philosopher-kings who knew our best interests better than we did.

I shook it off, blaming the ignorance of my peers on their youth. But nearly four years later, I see the same ignorance—not necessarily in my peers, but across the country. On the morning of Super Tuesday, I watched clips on the New York Times Online of people describing the process they took to choose a candidate. People justified their choices in the same irrational ways that my 15-year-old peers had—a woman from Utah said she couldn't vote for a candidate who supported abortion; another woman refused to vote for Hillary Clinton because of a personal vendetta against her "fakeness." A man from California cast a vote for Edwards despite his having dropped out of the race.

And here in Missouri, where John McCain won the Republican primary by 8,000 votes, almost 4,000 people voted for Rudy Giuliani, who had dropped out of the race a week earlier and endorsed

McCain.

I'm not saying that democracy fails; inherently, it's the right idea. But I'm not sure if the political culture in this country allows people to make their own decisions. When demagogues accentuate issues like abortion—that hold no real sway in actual government—people get thrown off track, voting for candidates that aren't actually in their best interests. And maybe the problem is the people themselves; I've suggested jokingly that some sort of political proficiency test should be mandatory for the privilege to vote in this country.

Of course, no one would ever get behind that idea; it's too exclusive, easily lending itself to threats of oppression. But here's what I will say earnestly: Ignorant people vote. In fact, they take pride in it. Crazy people are citizens too, and they have political opinions—strong, scary political opinions.

It's your responsibility, as well-informed citizens, to weigh your own views, to vote, to counteract the crazies.

Kate is a freshman in Arts & Sciences and a staff columnist. She can be reached via e-mail at kgaertner@wustl.edu.

SAMBORN ❖ FROM PAGE 4

suicide bombing. American colonists did not kill innocent British civilians. Champions of democracy do not use violence to intimidate their political opponents. Hamas was democratically elected, but it has yet to act like a legitimate political party. Until it

"Champions of democracy do not use violence to intimidate their political opponents. Hamas was democratically elected, but it has yet to act like a legitimate political party."

renounces the use of violence, Hamas cannot expect the support of the Israeli government.

The column's other historical example was slightly more accurate. There are definite parallels between the current Israeli-Palestinian conflict and the ancient Israelites' exodus from Egypt. The following biblical verse is particularly applicable. Deuteronomy 25:17-19 says: "Remember what the Ama-

lekites did to you along the way when you came out of Egypt. When you were weary and worn out, they met you on your journey and cut off all who were lagging behind; they had no fear of God."

When the Israelites left Egypt, the Amalekites attacked them, targeting the weakest and most innocent. History is indeed repeating itself. Palestinian terrorists are now replicating the example of the Amalekites and terrorizing Israel's weakest and most innocent. This is not global justice.

Balanced views are critical of both sides of the conflict. To discuss the situation in Gaza without once condemning the suffering inflicted on Israeli civilians is irresponsible and does not reflect the higher level of thinking of which every student at this university is capable. Israel's actions should not be examined using a double standard for humanitarian treatment. We do need to ensure that global scales of justice remain balanced. That means we need to respect the right of Israeli citizens to live free from the fear of violence.

Eve is a freshman in Arts & Sciences and a staff columnist. She can be reached via e-mail at elsambor@wustl.edu.

CLARK ❖ FROM PAGE 4

dent to establish a system of detention and interrogation that Amnesty International would later call "the Gulag of our time." His assertion that prisoners in the Afghan conflict were not protected by the Geneva Conventions led to the establishment of a "law free" zone at Guantanamo Bay and in other U.S. detention facilities, and ultimately led to the condemnation of the U.S. by its enemies and allies alike. As then Secretary of State Colin Powell wrote, in objection to Gonzales's memorandum, the decision not to apply the Geneva Conventions broke with more than 100 years of tradition and international law. It also meant that U.S. prisoners would not be able to rely on the protections of the Convention in times of need.

Thirty years ago, Congress passed the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act to ensure that domestic wiretapping is supervised by a court and created a special court for that purpose with streamlined procedures. Gonzales and other White House lawyers flouted that law, secretly telling the President he could engage in

surveillance without court supervision. The administration also used this secret legal justification as the basis for obtaining vast amounts of data from telecommunications companies. Faced with nearly 40 lawsuits, the telecoms are now seeking retroactive immunity from Congress because they had no authority under federal law to release the data.

Gonzales's political misdeeds and ill-conceived legal opinions are of grave concern to all of us as lawyers, law professors, and citizens.

Please join us and several of our colleagues for a discussion of these issues Monday evening, February 18, 7 p.m. in Anheuser-Busch Hall, room 310.

This article is also the statement of professors Charles Burson, Leigh Greenhaw, Peter Joy, Richard Kuhns, Laura Rosenbury and Karen Tokarz, and Associate Dean Michele Shoresman, in the Washington University School of Law.

Kathleen Clark, John Drobak, and Leila Sadat are professors in the Washington University School of Law.

100 days of wandering the dial

BY ALTIN SILA
FORUM EDITOR

Way back on Nov. 5, 2007, the Writers Guild of America began its strike against television studios and shook up my world. Immediately, my favorite shows (and thus, my life) were in danger. "The Daily Show" and "The Colbert Report" went straight into reruns. "Heroes" was cut short, and the seventh season of "24" was delayed indefinitely. "Boston Legal" disappeared from the airwaves, and the penultimate season of "Smallville" was in danger.

I was lost. What was I supposed to do if I couldn't watch these shows every night? No, I didn't start exercising or reading. I instead replaced my shows with a whole new set of programs and other perfectly unhealthy activities.

I couldn't bring myself to not watch television—strike or no strike. I turned to politics. I began to watch endless hours of political coverage on MSNBC, CNN and yes, even FOX News. It got to the point where I not only knew all of the pundits,

commentators and journalists on all the networks by name, but I also knew who they worked for and what their opinions were before they gave them. (Eugene Robinson of the Washington Post who appears on MSNBC is a personal favorite.)

With the Writers Guild on strike, my TiVo had very little to do, so I actually subscribed for a Season Pass to "Hardball with Chris Matthews." (I think I may be one of four people who watch that show daily—and sometimes more often than that.)

But even Chris Matthews, Keith Olbermann and Wolf Blitzer couldn't fill the void that the writers' strike had left. I drifted toward my computer, spending more and more time staring at the screen. I may have fully exhausted all the internet has to offer. I've lost track on how many games of computer solitaire I've played. I started to play Tetris online for hours on end, constantly trying to beat my highest score, and when I couldn't do it, I threw things around my room in a mad rage. I soon got my roommate hooked and we have spent the past few weeks in a Tetris-hypnosis. That simple,

entertaining, yet annoying game took over my brain. Throughout the day and even as I tried to sleep, I saw Tetris pieces fitting together in my head. It was a living nightmare. Do yourself a favor and stay away from freetetris.org at all costs.

What I've done in absence of new scripts coming out of Hollywood hasn't been entirely detrimental, though. News of Dr. Drew's appearance tonight remind-

"With the Writers Guild on strike, my TiVo had very little to do, so I actually subscribed for a Season Pass to Hardball with Chris Matthews. (I think I may be one of four people who watch that show daily—and sometimes more often than that)."

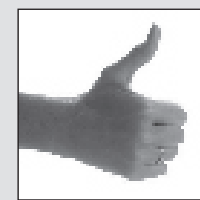
ed me of how much I loved listening to Loveline on the radio years ago when Adam Carolla co-hosted. I found a Web site which has almost

every show from the era available for download (love-lineararchive.com) and have spent quite some time downloading and listening to the shows. My understandings of sexual dysfunction, the harmful effects of drug use and how Adam Carolla became "a literal millionaire" have increased tenfold.

This week, however, great news came. After 100 days of wandering around my television dial, the writers' strike has come to an end. Finally, I'll be able to see what happens between Clark Kent and Brainiac on Smallville and just what Alan Shore and Denny Crane will do next on Boston Legal. Finally, I'm getting my life back. I've gone cold turkey on Tetris and have done well since going through withdrawal (though, I'll admit that I played a couple games of solitaire before writing this column). I've missed a couple days' worth of Hardball and haven't heard Wolf Blitzer's blabbering in a long time. Finally, the television studios pulled through, and finally, I can have a life again. My TiVo and I are very happy.

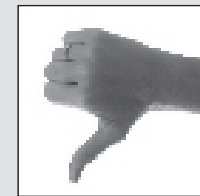
Altin is a senior in Arts & Sciences and a Forum editor. He can be reached via e-mail at forum@studlife.com.

OPPOSABLES



WRITERS GUILD

A recent report has shown that nearly 50% of all downloads on BitTorrent, a popular online file sharing service, are television shows. So it appears the Writers Guild was right during their argument with network executives over whether there was a dependable market for online content.



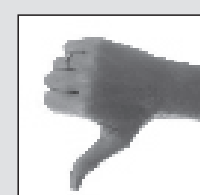
MITT ROMNEY

A few weeks ago, Romney called John McCain a liar. Now he's endorsing him for president and calling him a "true American hero."



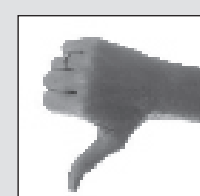
PORSCHE

Apparently there is now a limited edition of solid gold-plated Porsches. As if owning a regular Porsche wasn't sending enough of a message that you have lots of money.



MICHAEL BAY

It looks like Michael Bay has already drawn up plans to create "Transformers 2." God help us all.



FEMA

Now it comes out that there were dangerous levels of chemical fumes in the government-issued trailers for Hurricane Katrina refugees. Seriously?

- Compiled by Nathan Everly

CADENZA

MOVIE REVIEWS

For entertainment, head to Bruges

BY BRIAN STITT
SENIOR CADENZA EDITOR

The new action-comedy "In Bruges," written and directed by famed playwright Martin McDonagh, takes place almost entirely within the walls of the Belgian town. McDonagh makes an interesting choice casting this well-preserved medieval city as a surrogate purgatory for languishing Irish hit-men, Ray and Ken.

Ken, who has been in the murder-for-hire game a while, is resolved to play the tourist and enjoy himself while they wait for the dust to die down and the boss to call. Ray, having recently finished his first job and created his first bit of regrettable collateral damage, is in hell. Bruges just isn't his kind of town. Ken can't understand Ray's childish attitude as they stroll through the quaint streets taking in the glorious architecture and the charming canals. Ray voices his thought simply and crassly. "If I'd grown up on a farm and was retarded, Bruges might impress me, but I didn't, so it doesn't."

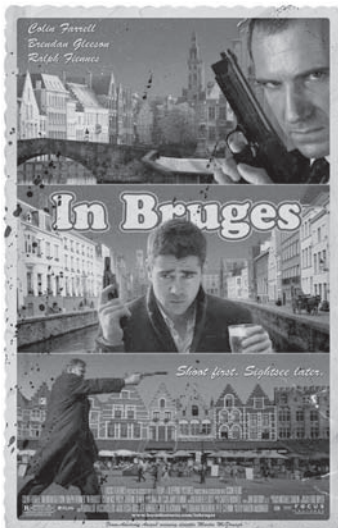
Colin Farrell, in his first comedic role in quite some time, puts all of his Irish charm into Ray. Even when he's rant-

ing about suicide rates among midgets, mercilessly mocking fat Americans or stealing coke and X from Chloe, a girl he meets on a Belgian film set, we still like Ray. Maybe it's because he says a lot of the things most of us dare not or maybe it's just that Farrell is once again showing off that charisma he hinted at early in his career.

Living teddy bear Brendan Gleeson is wonderful as the warm and paternal Ken. His conversations with Ray, while wonderfully written, could have easily degraded into obnoxious diatribes and monologues without the proper blend of detachment and earnestness.

McDonagh, in his feature directorial debut, has a few problems finding the exact space he wants his movie to fill. Ray's Ritalin-deprived restlessness sometimes intrudes into the jumping themes of the movie. When the boss, Harry (a foul-mouthed Ralph Fiennes) finally calls and changes the nature of their little holiday entirely, McDonagh struggles to bring all the wonderful tangents together. "In Bruges," half comedy, half shootout, half introspective drama, is endlessly funny, often tense and ultimately affecting.

But what blends nicely on stage often confuses on screen. When Ray and Harry trade shots late in the movie, the pregnant hotel manager steps in and tries to get these two idiots to think logically. All they can come up with is a convoluted, albeit hysterical, plan to move the shoot-out



outside. The dreamy conclusion, which features heavy allusion to Flemish painter Hieronymus Bosch, works, but not as well as it might if most of the characters weren't so ridiculous.

Bruges is a lovely town, and why it hasn't served as a backdrop for more movies is a mystery. Martin McDonagh makes it a viable purgatory, heaven for some, hell for others, a place where sins of the past must be faced. More than that, he makes "In Bruges" into a thoroughly entertaining and interesting film, but not a glorious one. McDonagh certainly revitalizes a genre, the witty hit-man dramedy, that was well worn out by the mid-nineties. He hasn't let slip the directorial talent promised by his Oscar-winning short film "Six Shooter," but he has some room to get better.

I'll enjoy watching him as he most assuredly does.

In Bruges

Rating: ★★★★★
Starring: Colin Farrell, Brendan Gleeson, Ralph Fiennes
Written and Directed by: Martin McDonagh
Showing at: the Tivoli

Definitely see 'Definitely, Maybe'

BY BRIAN STITT
SENIOR CADENZA EDITOR

A few weeks ago, my colleague and movie editor Cecilia Razak wrote a letter to Paul Rudd admonishing him for wasting his obvious charms and talents in muck like "Over Her Dead Body." Don't worry, Ryan Reynolds, your letter is in the mail.

But I'll leave all the comments about Reynolds's lazy career choices and willingness to be the best part in crap movies to Cecilia's letter. Because his new movie "Definitely, Maybe," although it may be masquerading as a uniform romcom (how I hate the phrase "romcom" and yet love the way it phonetically degrades the effortless dreck most date movies are reduced to these days), is actually a sweet movie. More than that, it's an interesting movie with engaging, complex characters. And, dash it all, it's actually romantic to boot. I shouldn't be surprised. Writer and director Adam Brooks already swept me off my feet with the very modern, and surprisingly masculine, "Wimbledon" starring Paul Bettany and Kirsten Dunst. And here, instead of the generally vapid Dunst, Brooks matches our lovable hero up with three wonderful actresses. Ryan Reynolds shares the screen with the always lovely Rachel Weisz, the beautiful red-head Isla Fisher and rising star Elizabeth Banks, most famous for small, memorable roles in well-regarded comedies. Each is more attractive and charming than the last, and all serve

as more than capable foils for Reynolds and his sarcastic charisma.

Why are there three ladies in this one romantic comedy? For two reasons. First, this movie has a twist (isn't there always a twist?), but at least this time it's fairly original. The film starts far after most of the action as Reynolds, tired adman Will Hayes, tells his precocious daughter Maya (Abigail Breslin of "Little Miss Sunshine") the tale of how he met her mother. I know it sounds more than a little like the show, but "Definitely, Maybe" covers a whole different territory.

That brings us to our second reason that three women get such equal screen time in what seems to be a standard film. This movie is not as blithely optimistic as many romantic comedies tend to be. See, the reason little Maya Hayes wants to know how her mommy met her daddy is that mommy and daddy are at the end of a divorce. Will is trying to reassure her that love does exist, but sometimes it is very complicated and can exist in different ways between different people.

Most of the movie plays in flashback with the identity of the mother always a mystery to Maya and the audience. Will changes names and specifics to protect the innocent and his secret. Banks plays Emily, Will's college girlfriend who stays behind in Wisconsin when he goes to New York to work for the '92 Clinton campaign. There he meets Isla Fisher's April, an apathetic copy girl who mocks Will's political aspirations. Eventually he tracks down Emily's old friend Summer, a journalism student played with calculated abandon by Rachel Weisz. Each plays a part in Will's introduction to the city and eventually becomes a potential mother for Maya, who sporadically pops in to make comments.

A real treat is provided by Kevin Kline who plays Summer's professor and boyfriend



Hampton Roth. This is one of those small roles that great actors like Kline can flourish in, turning Roth into a liberal, libidinous and lazy charmer. He's the kind of actor that makes everyone in the scene, even the entire movie, just a little better. This works brilliantly for Ryan Reynolds who is able to imbue Will with his personality without turning him into a grown-up "Van Wilder."

The movie works not because of the light humor or the energetic acting, but because the drama, and romance, is taken seriously and fairly realistically. Sure, "Definitely, Maybe" happens in that fantasy New York where everyone is attractive and clever, but it also has those same melancholy elements that all the great romances do. From "Casablanca" to "Brokeback Mountain," from "The African Queen" to "When Harry Met Sally," all great romances include a fair amount of sadness. From the start of "Definitely, Maybe," the audience knows that the romance the story builds to ultimately doesn't work out.

While it is not quite of the caliber to join those classics, it is to the credit of Adam Brooks's direction and the cast's earnestness that "Definitely, Maybe" keeps our interest and makes us believe in love despite the pitfalls and complications.

Definitely, Maybe

Rating: ★★★★★
Starring: Ryan Reynolds, Isla Fisher, Derek Luke, Abigail Breslin
Directed by: Adam Brooks
Showing at: Chase Park Plaza

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

arts & entertainment

"Jumper" goes nowhere

BY BRIAN STITT
SENIOR CADENZA EDITOR

Movies like "Jumper"—by that, I mean sci-fi actioners that attempt to introduce a new superhero mythology to the world (think "Highlander")—have two tasks: to come up with a fresh concept and then make the movie competently enough to inspire a legion of fans who will demand more movies, action figures and, eventually, a TV series or two.

It doesn't have to be a great movie (think "Highlander"), but there is a simple formula that, if followed correctly and punctuated with a few good action sequences, becomes amiable and intriguing entertainment. The film needs to give a brash youth incredible powers, bring in a wise but mysterious veteran who can teach him how to harness his abilities (and his soul), create an arbitrary set of rules that govern this world and its populace, pop in a powerful adversary who can match or negate our hero's fortitude and come to some kind of conclusion, which will eventually be ignored or amended in the next installment.

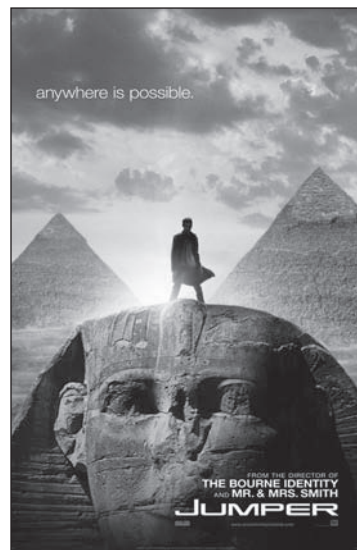
So here comes "Jumper," brought to us by Doug Liman, director of "The Bourne Identity." We meet David Rice as a misunderstood teenager who, in a time of great stress, discovers he has the ability to teleport anywhere in the world he has seen before. He abandons life in Ann Arbor, Mich., leaving behind an abusive father and a high school sweetheart, to explore the world outside the Midwest. After several years of robbing banks (and, presum-

ably, laundering the money, although the film makes no mention of how this is done) he lives in a Manhattan apartment filled with thousands of travel photos and stacks of foreign currency. He meets girls in London, surfs in Fiji and eats lunch on top of the Sphinx, all in time to cap the night off with a great party. Of course, David doesn't have time to help those dozen or so flood victims in the South American village he sees on CNN. He's too busy keeping up with the jet-set, or the wormhole-set, as it were. He eventually meets a more experienced "jumper," disaffected British tough Griffin, and runs afoul of some Paladins, a group led by Samuel L. Jackson that uses electric harpoon guns to destroy "jumpers."

Why? For religious reasons, of course.

So "Jumper" has most of the elements a movie of this particular genre needs. The setup should allow for a simple, 90-minute expansion on the first scene of "X2: X-men United." We haven't had a good one of these non-comic book adaptation sci-fis in a while and, when they are good, these franchises can provide solid, mindless entertainment until they inevitably derail. "The Terminator" and "The Matrix" are decent examples.

But "Jumper" is missing an essential ingredient. The thing that gets those 13-year-old boys and 30-year-old comic book store patrons salivating about these mythologies are those pesky rules explained during the inevitable training montage, a sequence that "Jumper" never gives us. There's no spark for endless conversation and debate. With these rules and specifics, we nerds could ignore the illogical and unfounded plot elements, or at least dismiss them. We wouldn't mind that the acting and dialogue are less realistic than the special effects. Those effects, by the way, will probably be overlooked by most but are actually quite impressive. Liman



seamlessly takes our characters from African deserts to the streets of Shanghai to the basement of the Coliseum and back. Action sequences use the jumpers' powers in innovative ways: Griffin teleports a bus at Sam Jackson and teleports other Paladins into the air to drop them with sickening thuds onto the ground. But he never teaches David any of these tricks.

Even if he had, the movie may not have been saved. Hayden Christensen, as David, is fairly incapable of playing a hero. Obnoxious whiner is more in his range. (See: "Life as a House," "Shattered Glass.") Rachel Bilson, as the inevitable love interest, apparently has the power to make any semblance of personality disappear. Jamie Bell (star of "Billy Elliot") is only mildly interesting as the moody Griffin.

"Jumper" commits its most heinous crime, however, not in the areas of casting or logic, but in that it assumes a sequel. After sitting through this fairly intolerable film, we are treated to a non-ending that doesn't just beg for a sequel but necessitates it. Maybe they want to skip the sequel and go straight into the TV series. With the writers strike over, I'd hope they could make up some more interesting characters to staple to the halfway-decent concept.

Jumper

Rating: ★★☆☆☆
Starring: Hayden Christensen, Samuel L. Jackson, Jamie Bell
Directed by: Doug Liman

TOP 10 Reactions to the Student Life sex survey

BY MATT KARLAN
SENIOR CADENZA EDITOR

10 43 percent of non-virgins have had sex in a public place. Virgins scoff at percentage, say they've masturbated in way cooler places.

9 Over 25 percent of seniors are virgins. A quarter of the class of 2008 willing to trade degrees for quick coitus.

8 The average Wash. U. student has sex _____ I do. Minority of truly attractive students look for, cannot find "much fatter" option.

7 71.6 percent of females unwilling to consider a threesome. Many Wash. U. students disheartened by statistic, then remember that they should probably work on getting one person into bed.

6 Half of freshmen begin undergraduate career as virgins. And the other half can see why.

5 Almost 40 percent of female students don't masturbate. Also don't smile, laugh, think happy thoughts.

4 Extremely small percentage of Wash. U. students have had any non-heterosexual experience. I would comment, but LGBT would be on my ass.

3 Art school has highest percentage of homosexual students. Art students look for more outlets to spread creative juices.

2 Engineers don't drink and screw. Student Life regrets the typo, should have read "or," not "and."

1 Approximately 20 percent of students admit they watch porn "several times a week" or more. Eighty percent of students complain of hellishly slow Internet connection.

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SUITE OF 4 all going abroad Spring 2009. 4 people are going Fall 2008 hope to come back, replace a suite. Contact: camancha@artsci.wustl.edu ASAP.

SUMMER SUBLET MID-May through August on corner of Forsyth and Big Bend. 2-bedroom, laundry facilities in building. Right next to campus! Please contact rebecca.leffell@gmail.com if interested or for more information.

SUMMER SUBLET: 2 Bedroom, 1 bathroom apartment. Hardwood floors, kitchen appliances, great location—walking distance to the Loop and main campus—on Wash Ave. Email hclements@wustl.edu.

WANTED

\$5000 PAID EGG donors. +Expenses. Non-smokers, ages 19-29, SAT > 1100, ACT > 24, GPA > 3.0. Reply to: info@eggdonorcenter.com.

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Attn: Individuals, groups, and departments of the Wash U community



Your idea should illustrate the phrase "Read All Over" or "We've Got You Covered" and should incorporate StudLife in some way.

Just submit an idea and we'll take care of creating your concept.



MARCH 2008

PRIZES

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FREE

Sudoku By The Mephram Group

Level: **1 2 3 4**

			4		9	7		
		7	3	5				
8	6							
		1		6	7			
6			9					2
		5	2		9			
						1	8	
			5	2	3			
3	9	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 Wednesday's puzzle

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

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Crossword

ACROSS

- Storage box
- Jakarta's island
- Ancient Briton
- Moorland
- Radiate
- Done with
- Faux pas
- Court order
- Refer to in a footnote
- Comfortable, in a way
- French roll
- Slippery swimmer
- Makes concessions to appease
- Superior skill
- For one
- Pie topping
- Scottish plaid
- Occupied
- "Sesame Street" network
- Slaphappy
- Considered
- Desire for nourishment
- Presidential coin value
- WWII troop transport
- Caffeine or nicotine
- Sprite
- Deranged
- Catherine the Great, for one
- Crazy way to run
- Ground grain
- Danger
- Dunce-cap shape
- Likewise
- Paris divider
- Was aware of
- TV drama, "Blue"
- English county

DOWN

- Masticate
- Present!
- Noble title
- Lifted with light fingers
- Spasm
- Goldblum of "The Fly"
- French friend
- Practicable
- Draw in
- Hot drink
- Boot out
- River of Hades
- Family charts
- Marking device
- Glacial epoch
- Parti-colored
- In the thick of
- Surrealist
- Magritte
- Steadfast
- Young dog
- Belief: suff.
- Conifer leaf
- Decompose
- Hard work
- Stern areas
- Dimitri's denial
- Health haven
- Hotel's cab caller
- Chief exec
- Probable
- Taken (surprised)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14					15				16				
17					18				19				
20					21			22	23				
			24				25						
26	27	28			29	30							
31			32	33				34		35	36	37	38
39					40		41		42				
43				44		45		46					
				47		48				49			
50	51	52	53					54	55	56			
57							58				59	60	61
62					63		64			65			
66					67					68			
69					70					71			

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Solutions

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

- Dud
- Jockey Julie
- Cockeyed
- Memory blackout
- Emancipates
- Doofus

- "A Severed Head" writer Murdoch
- Number of Muses
- Actor Karras
- Cleo's undoing

SCENE

R♥mance 101

The other side of rejection

BY NICOLLE NEULIST
SCENE COLUMNIST

Most people think about fear of rejection as being turned away as a potential partner. However, the other side of rejection—being in the position to turn down someone who wants to date you—can be just as intimidating, especially if you don't dislike the person you choose to reject.

Sure, saying no to the sketchy barfly who keeps trying to feel you up when you walk past is easy. They have no rapport with you and you have nothing to lose by telling them to buzz off.

But what if somebody new asked you out nicely? If they have been friendly and respectful, it can be hard to say no to them. Still, if you are not at all interested, you have to.

Doing anything else will have bad consequences for both you and the other person. You will stress out whenever you see them, because you're aware of their intentions and dreading the moment you have to let them down. You have to remember that letting them down early is the nicest thing you can do. You could try feigning interest, but that would only lead to regret; you don't want to lie to them or lead them on. You could keep ignoring their unrequited attraction to you, but that would only extend the awkwardness.

If a friendly acquaintance makes it clear that they harbor more-than-friendly feelings for you, you need to tell them nicely (and promptly) that you aren't interested. Reassure them. Tell them that they are nice, and that it's not because of anything they have done to you, but that the chemistry just isn't there. Maybe you'll become good friends eventually because you do have an intellectual or platonic connection. Maybe you'll drift apart because the attraction was all that was drawing them to you. Either way, whatever happens will proceed from an honest foundation where everyone's feelings are known.

As important as it is to be able to turn down with class the advances of a nice stranger or acquaintance, it is even more important in the case of someone who

is already a good friend. It's a situation you need to be prepared for; at some point, a friend who you see in a purely platonic way will probably want something more. If you ignore their feelings for you or remain noncommittal about their more-than-friendly expectations, one of two bad things can happen.

If you never tell them you're not interested and they are optimistic, then you may end up inadvertently leading them on to thinking that you'll have a romantic relationship in the future. That will bring a dimension of falseness into your friendship and you'll run an unnecessary risk of things blowing up in your faces later. Otherwise, the differing intentions of you and your friend may drive an awkward distance between you.

The only way to avoid either of these unpleasant results is to be firm and clear. Avoid the "I'm not looking to date right now" option, since that still leaves the door open for the future. If you want to try a relationship with them, then by all means go ahead. But, you shouldn't let the fear of losing your friendship with them force you to try going further if you don't want to.

If you don't want to date your friend, tell them so. Explain that you value their friendship, that you enjoy the time you spend together and the conversations you have, but that you don't want to be in a relationship with them.

Explain your feelings in the most specific terms you feel comfortable with. Especially when you are turning down a friend, you need to be open and honest as to why. You need to be more specific about your reasoning than you have to be with someone you hardly know. Even though it's more nerve-racking because you feel like your friendship is at stake, you have a better chance of saving your friendship if you have an honest discussion of your differing feelings.

The sooner you start, the easier it will get. If you get into the habit of turning would-be partners down promptly and respectfully when you don't want to date them, it will become more natural.

Busting this tour guide thing

BY GREGG RE
STAFF REPORTER

Tour guides leading prospective undergraduates through Washington University's campus regularly stop to share facts and—more noticeably, fiction—about life on the Hilltop.

McMillan Hall is typically the first stop for tour guides to practice their creative mythology on visiting students and their parents. The building was the first women's dormitory when it opened in 1907, a distinction that has generated some enduring campus lore.

"Supposedly, this fence was constructed around McMillan to keep the men out," said a tour guide during an information session on Monday. "It even runs 10 feet underground, just in case any guys try to dig underneath it."

"It's hard to imagine anyone getting that desperate, though," her partner added.

Tours progress to fraternity row, which usually raises the question of why sororities lack housing on campus. The common tour guide answer—that

multiple unrelated women cannot legally live together because they would constitute a 'brothel'—is false. Though the brothel myth is prevalent on many campuses without sorority housing, no law automatically classifies a housing arrangement as a brothel.

The cold weather also helps tour guides sell some of their material. Guides often claim that the University's underground tunnel system allows students to travel from class to class without venturing outside into the frigid winter. In reality, the January tunnel between Dunker and January Halls has the only practical tunnel for students to use. Most of the other tunnels on the Danforth campus are either too small or too dirty to be traversed.

Perhaps the best-known tour guide whopper is the tale of Eliot Hall, the drab concrete building housing the departments of political science and economics. Though the specifics vary, the legend says a failing Washington University architectural student designed the building and won a Nobel Prize or some other award.

Wide open

Because of the award, say the tour guides, the building cannot be demolished and must remain an eyesore for years to come.

In reality, there is no Nobel Prize for Architecture. However, there is some truth to the legend.

"As I recall, Eliot did win at least one design award," said Tom Simmons, the Arts & Sciences' director of facilities. "And one of the designers was a professor in our School of Architecture."

The structure is slated to be demolished sometime in the future.

"After the summer of 2009, Eliot's days may be numbered, but I have not heard anyone say anything specific yet about removing it or how long it might remain," said Simmons.

All the light-hearted legends aside, some extraordinary tour guide facts about Washington University are actually true. Though Holmes Lounge was not "constructed to house the Queen's jewels"—as one guide claimed on Monday—the second floor of Ridgley Hall did contain Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee gifts during

the 1904 World's Fair. And the University was indeed founded by T.S. Eliot's grandfather.

The Student Admissions Committee partners with the Office of Undergraduate Admissions to train tour guides over a period of three months during the fall and early spring semesters.

"Throughout the entire process, the admissions officers and [veteran members] give the new guides constructive feedback and help them to accurately portray the University while learning to give a genuine and personalized tour," said Jeff Nelson, a tour guide and SU Senator.

The University received over 22,000 applications in 2007, and many applicants decide to attend campus tours.

Delise LePool, a secretary in the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, said that the tours are important because they educate many applicants and allow them to communicate with current students in a personal setting.

"Some days, we get over two hundred people in for a tour," she said. "And right now is our slow time."



A tour departs from Brookings Hall on Wednesday, February 13.

SCOTT BRESSLER | STUDENT LIFE

Stepping Out

BY PETER DAVIS AND OPTI LOGDBERG
SCENE REPORTERS

Having given up Bear's Den for Lent, we were in need of a convenient, reasonably priced restaurant for dinner. We had heard good things about Pasta Plus, and as it satisfied both our criteria, we hopped in a car and took the five-minute drive over to Clayton.

We had some doubts when we saw the place; a small room and a takeout desk were all we saw at first glance. When we entered, however, we found ourselves in a pleasant atmosphere of soft music and chatter. The room was well-lit and we really liked the traditional Italian restaurant tablecloths with red and white checkers: It made us feel like we were in the Godfather, minus the death. On the wall were two pictures of the Soprano's cast standing

in front of Pasta Plus, which was pretty neat.

The service was excellent considering that Pasta Plus is much closer to fast food than to gourmet. The employees seemed truly glad that we were there, especially the man who appeared to be the owner. He kept asking us if there was anything he could do for us. Feeling more comfortable, we began to peruse the menu.

The first thing that caught our eyes was the hot wings and, as we tend to do in unfamiliar circumstances, we quickly ordered some of them. Customers have the option of getting their wings various ways, including plain, with honey barbeque sauce or with the much-hyped Frank's red-hot sauce. We chose to have bull's eye barbeque sauce on ours, which was delightfully tangy. The combination of sweetness and spice worked well and hit our palates just

right. Our mouths weren't burning, but at the same time they weren't complaining of boredom. The wings had been fried as well, which gave them a really nice crunch when they were bitten into. Pasta Plus's wings were a starter that we would get again.

Not long after we finished the wings, we got the rest of our food. Pasta Plus offers pizza whole or by the slice. In hopes of one day wearing skinny jeans, we ordered but one meager slice of sausage pizza. Truthfully, it wasn't that great. The cheese was kind of hard and after the first bite the cheese and topping came off, leaving the dough with just tomato sauce. Our guess is that the pizza was sitting around awhile before we ordered it.

The chicken rigatoni was perhaps the biggest disappointment of our meal. To start with, this woeful entrée had no visible chicken.

Now maybe we confused the peas and rigatoni for chicken, or the marinara sauce was so euphorically good that our minds were in a state incapable of noticing chicken, but somehow we doubt it.

Not only did we overpay for what turned out to be a vegetarian dish, but the sauce was too sweet. We kept searching for some kick when we took a bite, but never found any. The mushrooms and peas in the sauce couldn't do enough to make up for this, despite them actually tasting fresh. The rigatoni wasn't cooked through and something tells us that it probably wasn't made that day.

Another one of our party chose a more promising dish that can be found at every "Italian" restaurant in the States but exists nowhere in Italy: chicken parmesan.

This meal was a little more substantial. The sauce,

though also a marinara sauce, wasn't overpoweringly sweet. We really liked how flaky the breaded crust of the chicken was. The meat was nice and easy to cut through, giving us an early indication that the chicken was going to be tender and delicious, which our taste buds confirmed. The dish also came with fully cooked pasta and some bread, both of which were enjoyed with great satisfaction. The chicken Parmesan was a great choice, both well priced and filling.

An adventurous member of our group went for the pasta carbonara. This dish blended bacon, mushrooms and a creamy white sauce together into a unique meal. Traditionally this meal is very heavy due to the large amount of cream, making life after the meal a nightmare. However, at \$5.99 a plate, and being great believers in instant gratification,

we decided it was worth a try. Surprisingly, Pasta Plus's version of this dish was a little lighter than what we were accustomed to.

Flakes of bacon spread throughout the pasta provided little nuggets of salty joy, while the cream sauce spread over fresh spaghetti carried with it the faint taste of egg. We really enjoyed this dish, and the sinking feeling in the stomach that we feared so much never arrived. Maybe it was the mushrooms.

Pasta Plus was overall a very positive experience. Though it will not blow you out of the water with its food, it is very reasonably priced and has extremely friendly, expedient service. Also, the restaurant delivers to students at Washington University. So if you don't want to get up but you're tired of Chinese food and Domino's, give this place a try.

Pasta Plus
22 S Central Ave
St Louis, MO 63105
(314) 727-1001

Rating:

