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Embattled engineering dean to step down

❖ Students, faculty, alumni upset with Sansalone's managerial style

BY SAM GUZIK
SENIOR NEWS EDITOR

Fewer than two years after she was named dean of the Washington University School of Engineering and Applied Science, Mary Sansalone has announced her intention to step down at the end of the academic year amid considerable controversy—including faculty and alumni petitions for her removal.

According to a statement released on Tuesday afternoon by the University, Sansalone intends to remain at the University after her resignation to devote herself to "teaching, research and other forms of University service."

The University did not immediately announce a successor to Dean Sansalone, though a letter from Chancellor Mark Wrighton to the engineering student body stated that Dean Sansalone's successor would be named as soon as possible.

Neither Sansalone nor Wrighton were available for direct comment, and the University's Office of Public Affairs referred media inquiries to their press

release.

During her deanship, Sansalone supervised the creation of a roadmap for the future of the school, which she called the "Plan for Excellence," and developed a comprehensive plan for a new 600,000-square-foot engineering complex.

"[Dean Sansalone] has initiated many important and positive changes during her deanship," wrote Chancellor Wrighton in his e-mail to the engineering students. "These changes are ones that will serve well current and future generations of faculty and students."

Neither the Chancellor's e-mail nor the University press release made mention of the controversy that has surrounded Sansalone's tenure, focusing instead on the highlights of the last year.

"There was no mention of all the problems she caused [in the e-mail]," said Alex Jeffrey, a senior and mechanical engineering major. "A lot of people are happy about this announcement."

For many students, the announcement represent-

ed the culmination of an effort to ensure that their voices were heard within the school.

"I definitely feel favorably towards [her resignation]. We've been waiting a little while for it, my friends and I," said sophomore Alex Kahler, a mechanical engineering major. "There was a petition out at some point last semester. It went around between students and faculty, and it got a fair number of signatures, but then when [Chancellor] Wrighton vetoed it, basically there was a fair amount of disappointment."

Throughout her tenure, Sansalone had come under fire for several controversial changes, including the merging of several departments and budget cuts in response to the school's financial situation.

Both students and professors from the engineering school have criticized Sansalone for what they say is her unilateral managerial style and poor communication with the community.

At the start of the fall semester, the tenured faculty within the school submitted a petition to Wrighton calling for Sansalone's removal. Of 66 tenured engineering faculty members in the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, 29 signed the petition and an additional 14 expressed their verbal support.

On January 24, the Engineering Council (Eng-Council)—the engineering undergraduate student body—passed a resolution outlining a series of changes meant to fix perceived deficiencies in the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences. Although Sansalone is not mentioned by name in the resolution, many of the actions included within it are related to her policies.

On Feb. 8, University alumnus and former technical writing instructor Eric Ratinoff circulated a petition among engineering alumni that cited eight grievances against the dean and called for the Board of Trustees to intervene in the situation. The alumni petition also stated that "I plan to withhold any financial contributions to the University until action is taken." In about two weeks, 422 alumni signed the petition.

Throughout the year, a group of graduate and undergraduate students calling itself Concerned Students for Wash. U. Engineering (CSWUE) has met with the administration to lobby for policy changes, has garnered support among alumni and has led a flier campaign to draw attention to the narratives of students by the Dean's policy changes.

"They were part of a group of people arranging faculty and alumni who were displeased with the current environment in the engineering school," said Forrest Rogers-Marcovitz, a senior in aerospace engineering. "They helped bring that knowledge to the people who make the decisions, out in the open air."

Sansalone was selected to lead the engineering school in April 2006 and assumed office at the start of the 2006-2007 academic year.

Prior to her arrival at Washington University, Dean Sansalone served in leadership posi-

tions at Cornell University and New York University.

Within the engineering school, many are hopeful that Sansalone's replacement will be able to accommodate the voices of students and faculty in the decision-making process.

"Most likely, a successor would be from within the University," said senior Elaine Cheng, a student involved with CSWUE. "Most people are hopeful that someone who already speaks the language of the University will be more successful."

—With additional reporting by Punit Kolipara and Ben Sales



LIONEL SOBEHART | STUDENT LIFE
Dean Mary Sansalone has announced that she will step down at the end of this academic year.

Dean Sansalone and the Engineering School

2000

While employed by Cornell University, then Vice Provost Sansalone proposes a for-profit distance-learning corporation called eCornell, drawing criticism from faculty members.

April 2006

Sansalone is named the ninth dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science, succeeding Christopher Byrnes.

July 2006

Sansalone arrives on campus and begins to work to improve the school's financial situation and begin implementing a strategic plan.

August 2007

Tenured professors within the engineering school submit a petition calling for Dean Sansalone's removal.

February 8, 2008

Alumni submit a petition calling for Sansalone's removal by the Board of Trustees.

February 26, 2008

Sansalone announces her intention to resign as dean and to stay at the University in a faculty position.

Fraternity house occupancy requirement to increase

BY TEDDY WHITE
NEWS MANAGER

In an attempt to draw more students into Greek Life housing, the occupancy requirements for fraternity houses at Washington University will be increased from 93 percent to 95 percent of each house's ideal level of occupancy.

The expectation is that houses have 100 percent occupancy, but if any chapters fail to meet the minimum requirement, they will be fined by the administration.

The goal of the change is that by having more students living in the fraternity houses, there will be less strain on Residential Life housing, which will be limited by upcoming construction on the South 40.

Each chapter house on the Danforth Campus houses 19 to 38 men, said Director of Greek Life Ryan-Jasen Henne. As a result, each chapter has a different experience in trying to fill the house.

"[It] all depends on the number of men in the chapter and the size of the house that they live in," said Henne.

The Inter-Fraternity Council works with the small number of fraternities that have difficulties filling their houses, to help them improve their numbers.

Some fraternities on campus require members to live in the house for a designated period of time to meet these requirements, while others

See HOUSING, page 2

Student group looks to change policy on speakers

BY GREGG RE
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

Students have organized to change Washington University's policy on political speakers in the wake of the administration's refusal to host Senator Barack Obama as a campus speaker in January.

In a statement issued last month, the University defended its decision, arguing that speeches by political candidates would disrupt the academic environment of the school.

"Because the University cannot equitably accommodate all such requests...for candidate campaign rallies without disrupting academic and co-curricular operations, the University has decided that it cannot sponsor these types of events," said the statement.

Freshman David Fox decided to protest the decision by forming a Facebook group, which gained 250 members in four days.

However, Fox eventually decided to change his strategy and work directly with

the administration.

"Although the support for the protest was great, after talking to Matt Adler—who I knew had been extremely involved with Students for Obama on our campus—I realized that our goals could be attained without necessarily engaging in protest," he said.

Fox and Adler formed the Student Civic Initiative earlier this month.

"Our overall goal is to see the administration become more involved in engaging

See SPEAKERS, page 3

Olin Cup winners succeed after graduation

BY JOHN SCOTT
STAFF REPORTER

Many Washington University Students have taken on the daunting task of creating their own businesses. With the economy more competitive than ever, the Olin Cup competition is one way for students to receive funding for their startups.

The Olin Cup, an annual competition between members of the Washington University and local business community, is sponsored by the Skandalaris Center for Entrepreneurial Studies at the Olin Business School,

which gives up to \$50,000 to the winning team as funding for its startup.

The competition begins with the IdeaBounce event, which involves participants presenting their initial ideas and giving each other feedback.

"It's that idea of starting to get momentum behind your ideas and communicating back and forth," said Lawrence "Two" Luscri, the student services coordinator for the Skandalaris Center.

According to Luscri, one reason the competition is helpful is that it simulates the business world.

The semifinal round requires teams to give a short summary of their plans, known as an "elevator pitch."

"The elevator pitch is a fairly standard business practice. The idea is what you would say if you got caught on an elevator with a backer. What would you say in those two minutes to get [them] to want to set up a meeting and

get interested in your product?" said Luscri.

During each phase of the competition, the Skandalaris Center has workshops and provides support to teams so that they can improve their plans.

"[The teams] get a chance to interact with people from the business world and get their feedback [and] input," said Luscri.

Luscri says that the competition is different from others because the business plan is only one segment of the judging criteria. Teams must also show how they will use the start-up funds in a way that will garner results for investors.

"Olin Cup prepares you because a component of your final evaluation is on your

See OLIN CUP, page 3



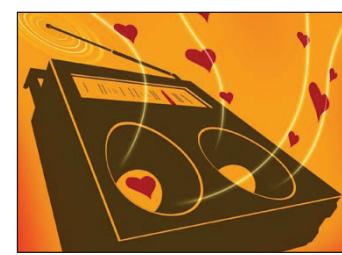
COURTESY OF MARK PYDNOWSKI
Mark Pydnowski (left) and Ramos Mays (right), co-founders of Somark Innovations, which won the Olin Cup in 2005. The Olin Cup is an annual competition sponsored by the Skandalaris Center which offers members of the Washington University community an opportunity to win up to \$50,000 to start their own business.

Kicking the Facebook habit



Maybe you didn't think it was possible, but some students are going without this beloved online addiction. See why and how they do it. Scene, Page 6

Celebrate KWUR Week



Tune in to 90.3 for KWUR Week 2008. Get the low-down on all the musical delights to come, along with a brief history lesson on KWUR. Cadenza, Page 8

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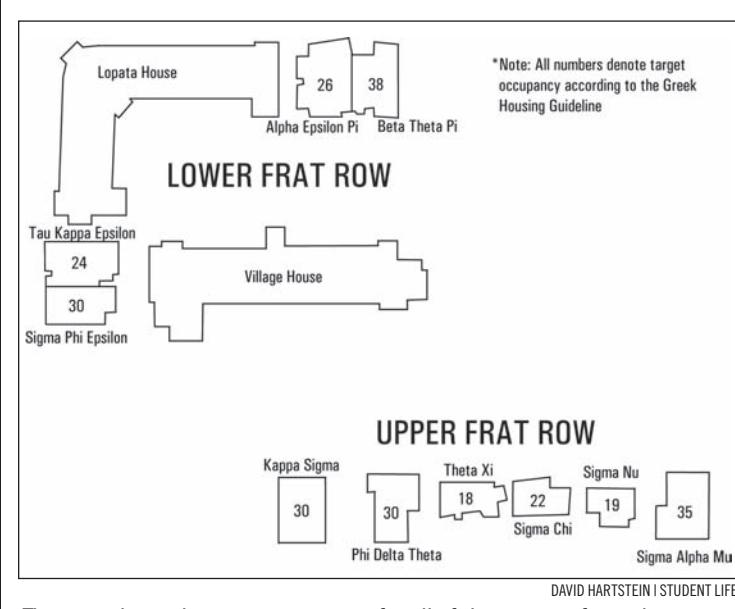
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HOUSING ♦ FROM PAGE 1

The map shows the target occupancy for all of the campus fraternity houses according to the Greek Housing Guideline.

do not. For instance, Beta Theta Pi fraternity members must live in the house for a year, while members of Sigma Phi Epsilon can choose whether or not to live in the house at all.

Beta does not usually have any difficulty filling its house, said Beta President Marius Johnson, as "everybody has to live in the house for a year so it's just a matter of managing when they live there."

As a means of enforcing the occupancy standards, if fraternity members choose to live elsewhere on campus rather than living in the fraternity house when they have the opportunity to do so, the students are dropped to the lowest level of the bidding process for Residential Life housing, the administrative round.

The University loses money on every room that is left unoccupied, which leaves the administration with less budget money to spend on improving the fraternity houses.

To many students, the decision to live in the fraternity houses is one that they do not regret.

"Living in the house is one of the greatest experiences that you can have," said sophomore Slavi Fild-

ish, a member of Sig-Ep.

According to Fildish, he has truly become "brothers" with all of the other men living in the house.

Some students choose not to live in the fraternity houses because they perceive the arrangement as a distraction from the academic demands of the school. These students are in the minority, however, as most students say that living in the house has made them more disciplined with their schoolwork and with other obligations.

"You can't just sit around and be lazy if you want to live in the house," says senior David Kurland. "You learn how to better manage your time and how to be organized with your class work, which are very valuable skills for anyone to gain."

Having a fraternity house is seen as a privilege, and the idea behind the occupancy requirements is to force fraternity members to take advantage of these benefits.

According to Henne, "A fraternity house is an awesome place to be. You become extremely close with the other guys living there because you have the same rituals to back you up."

Sobotka encourages responsible use of the ele-

Expert sees long-term issues with helium supply shortfall

BY JEREMY ROGOFF
STAFF REPORTER

As the world's energy supply shrinks, a vanishing byproduct of the oil and gas industry with several uses may emerge as a long-term environmental and economic issue.

The United States' cheap supply of helium, from its rich natural gas wells, will run out within the next few decades, according to Lee Sobotka, professor of chemistry. Sobotka attributes the threat of depleted helium resources in part to an increased worldwide demand for the gas and to the practices of energy companies unconcerned by the element as a product.

"The world's use of helium is increasing dramatically," said Sobotka. "Up to this point, we have not only been the major producer, but we've also been the major consumer. The rest of the world—China, India, every place that is building up their high technology—has to use helium, so the world demand of helium is going up as the reserves in the United States are quite finite and unknown in large parts of the world."

Although its application can decline through technological means, helium is impossible to reproduce biosynthetically, so it is irreplaceable. The campus uses up to \$75,000 worth of helium each year, Sobotka estimated, as a coolant to achieve very low temperatures in cryogenics, in welding and in several medical applications, including magnetic resonance imaging (MRI).

Sobotka encourages responsible use of the ele-

ment.

"A lot of the use on campus does recapture the helium, and that should be promoted," he said.

The colorless, odorless element can only be extracted from a handful of locations, as small—less than .3 percent—byproduct of natural gas, making it scarce and difficult to collect. In the United States, most natural gas fields are located in the Texas panhandle. Because it is a small byproduct of natural gas, the process of helium extraction is difficult and is not a priority of the oil and energy companies that mine for more profitable natural gas. The element is often released into the atmosphere.

"It's only on earth because it is a product of radioactive decay," said Sobotka. "The decay process is incredibly slow. The helium we have on earth is the result of the accumulation of helium over billions of years."

The U.S. Bureau of Land Management is conducting extensive studies to determine the urgency of the helium shortfall. Sobotka believes that any solution to the problem must come from the government, which is in the process of transferring the country's helium stockpile to private companies. Sobotka questioned the wisdom of privatizing helium extraction.

"The whole story will be far more clear in a year or two, when international studies of the worldwide helium resources are made," said Sobotka. "I think it's going to require a government policy that promotes a long term vision...even though it is not economically feasible to take it out now."

Sobotka believes that the government should provide an economic incentive to companies in the industry to forestall helium's depletion.

"The problem is the general industry is too large," said Sobotka. "That business is so large that the helium issue is something that is very difficult to get onto the radar screen."

This Season at the Saint Louis Art Museum

Thursday, Feb. 28 Looking Deeper and Seeing Stronger:

7:00 pm An Evening with Alison Saar

Alison Saar, Artist. Auditorium—Free

Join assemblage artist Saar as she discusses the personal and universal symbolism in her politically charged artwork. Saar's work is represented in the collections of major museums including the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden in Washington, D.C., the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Museum of Modern Art in New York, and the Saint Louis Art Museum.

Thursday, Mar. 13 Bringing the War Home and Other Lines of Thinking

7:00 pm *Martha Rosler, Artist. Auditorium—Free*

Working in photography, video, installation, performance, and criticism, Rosler explores everyday life and the public sphere, often focusing on women's experiences. One of her recurrent themes, media and war, is the subject of two long-term photomontage series entitled *Bringing the War Home*, the most recent of which addresses the war in Iraq.

Thursday, Mar. 20 A Conversation with Nancy Rubins

7:00 pm *Nancy Rubins, Artist. Auditorium—Free*

Since the late 1970s, Rubins has created monumental, attention-grabbing sculptures and installations out of salvaged industrial and consumer goods including mattresses and discarded appliances. Rubins has created work for the Museum of Contemporary Art Los Angeles, the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the Venice Biennale, and the Whitney Biennial.

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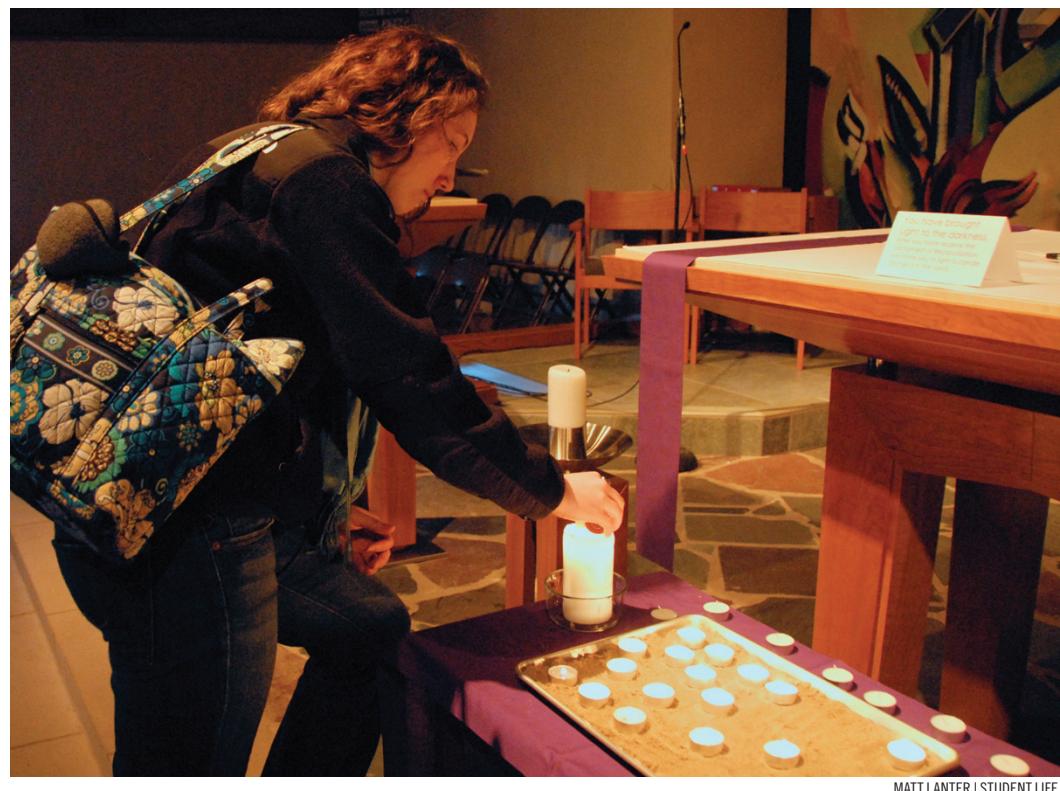


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CONFESION MARATHON AT CSC



MATT LANTER | STUDENT LIFE

Junior Margaret Burke lights a candle as a part of the Confession Marathon Tuesday afternoon. The Marathon, hosted by the Catholic Student Center, featured eight priests from all over the St. Louis area and lasted from 2 p.m. until midnight.

OLIN CUP ♦ FROM PAGE 1

offer to the University. [The teams] are judged on what is the best investment to the University," said Luscri.

Although the business environment has changed with the introduction of better communication tools like the Internet, some businesses still work with older technologies.

Luscri says that these businesses adapt well to the new systems because of their ability to pool their resources.

"One thing in particular we think is important in business is collaboration. Who are you bringing in to help you?" said Luscri. "[One business] came out of collaboration because one of the students was an engineering student and one was a business student."

Mark Pydynowski, founder of Somark Innovations—which won the competition in

2005—says that the company benefited from participating in the Olin Cup.

"As you go through the stages, you get a tremendous amount of feedback, and they help you hone your business plan," said Pydynowski.

Pydynowski said that collaboration is also important when moving the company forward.

"We plan to collaborate with many of the industry-leading processors and livestock management software companies to be able to integrate with them," said Pydynowski.

Another company that has grown, The Blessing Basket, was founded by Theresa Wilson and took second place in 2004. Unlike the other winners, the Blessing Basket is a non-profit organization. The company goes to developing countries and teaches people to make baskets that are then

sold mostly in the U.S., Great Britain and Canada. The weavers are paid a prosperity wage, which is several times higher than they would make otherwise.

According to Pydynowski, Somark has had success with its product, which uses a "tattoo" to track cattle by a radio frequency. Somark Innovations hopes the product will reduce losses due to illness such as Mad Cow Disease by allowing infected animals to be tracked.

Pydynowski says the company has already received a large amount of attention.

"We've been featured in Business Week. We have received over 200 customer inquiries and raised almost two million dollars. We received international press. A good portion of the customer inquiries include companies outside our current market," said Pydynowski.

SPEAKERS ♦ FROM PAGE 1

student political participation. We believe that this can be accomplished in not just allowing all potential candidates to speak on campus but also through other means," said Fox.

At its first meeting, the group formulated a provisional four-point plan that calls for a variety of initiatives to increase student civic engagement.

The plan includes a voting rights informational session during freshman orientation, an e-mail system designed to communicate important election dates to students and voting protection to ensure that students are not disenfranchised on Election Day.

"We [want to] extend to all members of our community an invitation to join us in the process of making civic engagement a part of campus culture," said Adler. "We feel that we have a unique opportunity to set the standard for schools around the country in promoting the civic education

of our students both inside and outside the classroom."

The group has also enlisted the help of Professor of Political Science Denise Lieberman to coordinate voting protection and draft an informational civic curriculum for freshman orientation. Lieberman heads the Advancement Project, which works to ensure voter protection in Missouri.

Fox stressed the importance of the fourth point of the plan, a relaxation of the speakers policy.

"We believe that this is not a partisan issue. All candidates—presidential and non-presidential—should be allowed to speak, educate and inform the students at Wash. U.," said Fox. "Our school prides itself on creating informed, educated and civically-engaged citizens and should therefore be open to allowing important political figures to speak to us."

According to Fox, even though there are some con-

cerns about presidential candidates disrupting the University setting and about the University's tax-exempt status being threatened by the candidates, it will be possible to reach a solution.

"We have spoken to [Assistant to the Chancellor] Robert Wild. One of our group members met with him and he seemed pretty receptive to our ideas," said Fox. "We as a group are going to address all of the administration's concerns. We believe that no matter the issue, our group can find a happy medium that satisfies the University's concerns and the student body's desire to hear important political figures."

Wild stressed the importance of hearing student opinions.

"I am always happy to meet with students who have questions or concerns about any University practices or policies and share their feedback with Chancellor Wrighton," said Wild.

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Location: Princeton, NJ

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INTERNSHIPS

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Paid/Unpaid: Paid

Location: St. Louis, MO

Apply end: 2/28

Abengoa Bioenergy Corporation

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Paid/Unpaid: Paid

Location: St. Louis, MO; York, NE

Apply end: 2/29

Air Products & Chemicals

Recruiting for: Co-op; Intern

Paid/Unpaid: Paid

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Apply End: 2/29

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Recruiting For: Restaurant Management Summer Intern

Paid/Unpaid: Paid

Location: Multiple US Cities

Apply end: 3/9

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Recruiting For: Equity Research Intern – WU Preferred

Paid/Unpaid: Paid

Location: St. Louis, MO

Apply end: 3/17

Bedford Falls Company

Recruiting For: Office Intern – WU Exclusive

Paid/Unpaid: Credit

Location: Los Angeles, CA

Apply end: 3/20

Children's Hope International

Recruiting For: Marketing Intern; Graphic Design Intern; PR Intern

Paid/Unpaid: Credit

Location: St. Louis, MO

Apply end: 3/20

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The Career Center has several summer stipends to help make unpaid internships financially viable for students. The first deadline for the Losos, Wiese and Career Center Stipend is March 17 at 11:59 p.m. To apply, you'll need to upload a resume and a completed application form to eRecruiting by the deadline.

For more information on the stipends, please go to www.careers.wustl.edu/stipends

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FORUM

STAFF EDITORIAL

Better communication needed from Dining Services

Last Friday, *Student Life* ran a news article entitled, "Danforth eateries will be similar to Mallinckrodt's," which detailed the food services that will be available in the Danforth University Center (DUC) when it opens in Fall 2008. In this article, Paul Schimmele, assistant to the director of operations for Dining Services, said, "Bon Appétit has really listened to the comments. If you look at the products that were first offered and what there is today, there are a lot of things that have been substituted." Perhaps this is the case. Unfortunately, this was not as clear to students as it should have been.

Indeed, the Danforth University Center Dining Committee sent out a survey asking students about their opinions on future food services in the

Danforth University Center. Over 1,900 students responded to the survey, which is an overwhelming response. But despite Dining Service's apparent concern for student opinions, they failed to effectively respond.

A majority, 59.8 percent, of students responded that they "would prefer franchises over Bon Appétit food offerings." Additionally, 32.1 percent were "unsure" about this question, but only 8.1 percent decidedly said "no." Students responded to the survey with numerous suggestions as to what franchises might be featured in the DUC.

But as we revealed in Friday's article, the University reported that the design of the DUC prevents the addition of a franchise to its food services. Although the survey specifically asked students whether they

wanted a franchise, this was impossible since the University had already broken ground on the new University Center.

Students may be upset by an apparent blatant disregard for student opinions; it was quite clear, after all, that students wanted an on-campus franchise eatery. And why wouldn't they? It doesn't make sense for the DUC dining survey to have asked about student opinions regarding a possible franchise if the Dining Committee already knew that a franchise in the DUC was impossible. Yet this is exactly what happened.

The Danforth University Center Dining Committee should have made this more clear. As we have repeatedly recommended, the University and the committees that interact with it need to communicate more effectively with the students. Students taking the

survey were under the impression that there was the possibility that a franchise might still be put in the DUC when such a possibility did not exist.

According to Colin Towery, Student Union senator and member of the DUC Dining Committee, the purpose of the franchise question was essentially to compile student opinion on franchises for the future new Wohl Center so that another survey would not have to be sent out.

Additionally, Towery cited more reasons than just the design of the University Center for why it would not contain a franchise eatery. For starters, franchises cost much more to run than a normal Bon Appétit food station: Bon Appétit (which ultimately staffs and runs the franchise) must pay a licensing fee for the franchise name and they must buy

special materials from the franchise for packaging and serving.

A franchise also requires a minimum amount of foot traffic in order for it to open in an area, and it must also be open for a minimum number of hours each day. Since Bon Appétit has already stated that it is running more locations for longer hours than it can afford, a franchise would be a very difficult fiscal responsibility.

We find these reasons to be perfectly understandable. Nonetheless, we would like to see two things from the DUC Dining Committee, Bon Appétit and the University itself: better communication and a greater consideration of student opinions.

Since it is not possible to put a franchise in the DUC, Dining Services ought to strongly consider putting

one in the new Wohl Center, which may begin construction as early as next year. Though finances must certainly play a role in what services are offered by Bon Appétit, it is important that the company makes every effort to satisfy the students over whom it has a monopoly.

And when Bon Appétit makes decisions like eliminating even the possibility of a franchise from a much-anticipated dining area, it should tell us the reasons. Students are rational human beings, and if they are presented with the facts, they will understand, if not accept, the limitations. Dining Services needs to remember that they can best serve us by doing their absolute best to address our most overwhelming opinions, and by explaining their reasons when they cannot.

SAM WASHBURN | EDITORIAL CARTOON



'You can't really take pictures in here'

When I was walking around in the Galleria just the other evening, taking weird pictures of doors for my photography class, a police officer (the kind they have in malls) came up to me. He was tall, but also pretty young. Not a terribly imposing guy. "Excuse me, sir," he said. I turned around and put my camera at my side. "We don't really want you taking pictures in here," he told me.

"Oh," I responded. "Is there any particular reason, or anything?" "Well," he said, "you definitely can't be taking pictures of storefronts or anything." "How about the architecture and plants and stuff?" I asked. "Well," he said, "let me radio that in." So he asked the question into his walkie-talkie and told another security guard that I was there for my photo class.

"He wants to know what

school you're from," the guard told me with a kind of sorry-I-know-that's-ridiculous tone. I told him, and the guards' correspondence concluded: no pictures of the Galleria landscape either. "If you want to do it, you can probably call the mall and get permission from them," the

guy told me. "OK, right on, I understand," I said. "Sorry, but, you know..." he said, as he walked away, sincerely, honestly acknowledging how silly it all was.

There are two morals to this story. The first is that people blatantly use background information to moderate their judgments about you, even in official, relatively crucial situations. The other security guard wanted to know what school I was from. Was it to see if I was lying about the photo project? Was it to see if I was well-off and/or smart and therefore how great a threat I

See SWEENEY, page 5



Dennis Sweeney

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sophomore Class Council deserves praise

Dear Editor:

This letter is in response to the article published Monday in the Forum section of the paper entitled, "Class Councils Need More Work."

The Sophomore Class Council would like it to be known that it has made great strides in terms of its effectiveness and its overall success throughout this school year. Though the article published on Monday may portray the scene as a group of fortunate students who get to spend their free time buying burritos and new apparel, the truth of the matter is quite different.

The Sophomore Class Council, comprised of five elected students who devote parts of their precious free time to program for the sophomore class, has taken on a new outlook of what the class council is and what it should be. Early on in the year, we established that the main goals for our group would be to focus on what we felt were the direct

needs of most sophomores. We decided to focus on three main areas, which included study abroad information, internship information and the information about moving off campus. We also decided that it would be better to do as much co-programming as possible throughout the year to keep our council busy and active, rather than spending our budget on one or two signature events.

In doing so, our class council has been, or will be by the end of this year, a part of over a dozen events. The money from our budget has been used sparingly in order to provide us with the opportunity to continue to be a part of these programs throughout the duration of the year, as it is not much to work with when programming for over 1,300 students.

Our council has co-sponsored events with the following organizations throughout the year: Lock & Chain, Lambda Sigma, Dance Marathon, Residential Life, the Office

of Undergraduate Research, Overseas Programs, Sigma Phi Epsilon, Pi Beta Phi, Olin Business Council, the Community Service Office and Mr. Wash U. We have had a great number of activities this year involving a large number of students, despite what our budget may say.

Our class council has been extremely productive, and the members of the council should be rewarded and praised for their time, energy and devotion, but instead have been portrayed as unproductive, frugal, and careless.

Our council would be happy to talk to anyone about what we have accomplished so far this year and even about events that are still to come, such as the Undergraduate Research Symposium, the Taste of St. Louis Event we are coordinating or the Moving Off Campus Panel we plan to hold. Feel free to contact any one of us.

—Sophomore Class Council

Inappropriate response to Gonzales visit

Dear Editor:

Having attended dozens of protests as an activist, I have never seen a more thoughtless and disrespectful demonstration than that at Alberto Gonzales' speech. I was opposed to the decision to pay him to speak at Wash. U., but the actions of rallying protesters were inexcusable. Gonzales was frequently shouted at and interrupted while speaking, which disrupted and censored him. This is antithetical to what we value in democracy and in dissent.

The monitor rejected most audience questions because, as he put it, there were more statements than questions. It was rather cowardly to choose to make such pointless statements anonymously rather than to ask meaningful questions.

There was even a chance to address Gonzales personally in the earlier forum, and given the size of the protest, it would not have weakened the rally to send several people with their grievances rather than barraging Gonzales with useless insults during the event.

Many protesters seemed to know very little about the issue.

It appeared the prevailing logic for joining was something like, "torture is bad—therefore I will protest." I was struck by the naïve question of how Gonzales would feel if an American soldier were waterboarded by terrorists; frankly, a captured American would be lucky to be waterboarded compared to the far more inhumane treatment they usually receive.

A friend I was with was met with blank stares when he asked a couple participants if they knew how many people have been waterboarded, the last time it happened and who was waterboarded. According to the BBC, those waterboarded were Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, 9/11

mastermind; Abu Zubayda, senior member of al-Qaeda; and Abd al-Rahim al-Nashiri, mastermind of the bombing of the USS Cole. Furthermore, many seemed oblivious to the fact that authorizing this type of interrogation is not up to the Attorney General. This basic information greatly changes if and how Gonzales should be condemned.

Finally, I was shocked by the hundreds of pictures of the rally that appeared on Facebook. It is vain and inappropriate given the severity of the matter to glibly post pictures on a social networking site. This is frowned upon in all the activist circles I have been in, as it is more geared toward crassly bragging than spreading awareness.

I expect better behavior of my peers and more depth of thinking. I am discouraged that at a school like Wash. U. we cannot handle opposing opinions gracefully and intelligently.

—Laura Kelly
Class of 2010

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Protesters teach us to affirm democracy for its own sake

Even if they knew for a fact that their protest would ultimately have no effect on the policies they opposed, many of the Alberto Gonzales protesters still would have shown up; they are that committed to democracy. And it will be through discussions of democracy and the role of the individual within democracy that we will see more activism on campus. Though none of the protesters I talked to at the protest or for this column could tell me what caused some students to set aside architecture projects and chemistry books to stand outside on a cold Tuesday delivering their opinion about Alberto Gonzales while others would only discuss their opinions of his policies with peers, I found the commitment of the protesters to democratic ideals striking.

"It's important to get involved for the sake of being involved," said sophomore Daniel DuGoff. But, standing true to his commitment to democratic ideals he made sure to point out that another tenet of democracy is that you can choose not to be involved. "I think it's important as citizens that we recognize it's our right and duty to be involved, but it's also your right not to be involved," said DuGoff.

While there is no doubt that the protest of Alberto Gonzales saw a large number of students and St. Louis community members getting involved, it is also clear that many students chose to exercise their right not to be involved. The political apathy of Washington University has been discussed in depth by the student body leadership and has been cited as a reason why Student Union needed to bring

such a controversial speaker to campus.

DuGoff said he was compelled to get involved with the Wash. U. Peace Coalition because he felt "politically unconnected" at Wash. U. "I'm from D.C. and I'm used to everything being about politics. Coming here where politics aren't always on the table was strange," said DuGoff.

When asked why he thought students who shared his views didn't show up to protest with him, junior Greg Gandenberger responded by discussing the narrow focus of many Washington University students. "People are just really busy and we are all kind of focused on getting good grades so we can get a good job. You

see that in a lot of ways on this campus. For example, not many people are thinking about marriage yet. We want to make sure our careers are in order first," said Gandenberger.

Gandenberger does not think that Wash. U. students need to shift priorities in general. He thinks students are doing a lot of good things, and we definitely don't want to take them away from that. But, at the same time he says, "I think if you pay attention to what our government is doing and the effects it's having, we're breeding a lot of extremism and losing the support of our allies, and that's going to have effects on our country and our lives and the lives of our children. The longer we let it continue, the harder it's going to be to recover, and that gives us reason

to get involved and do what we can to make a difference."

"I'm in architecture; I'm busy. But it's important that our generation doesn't let people do things without reacting," said DuGoff.

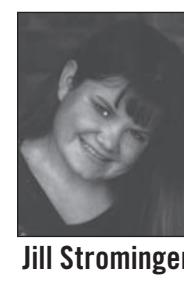
Oftentimes, the majority of us prioritize activism below our papers and below the activities that generate résumé lines because we think that showing up to speak out won't really make a difference. It's not like President Bush attended the protest and revised the policies of his administration.

But, I think there's something to learn from the students who showed up for two reasons: primarily because they wanted to send a message to the community and to Gonzales that will hopefully be sent back to the people in power, but also because they believed there was a significant

value simply in the act of participating in our democracy by making their voices heard.

We don't sit back too often at the end of the day and think about how genuinely special it is to live under a government that respects our humanity enough to allow us to participate in determining the policies that will govern our lives. But, the democratic affirmation of our individual value and worth is an incredibly powerful statement. Each time we exercise our democratic rights our voice also affirms the statements about humanity made by democracy, and that is something for which we should learn to set down our textbooks.

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



Jill Strominger

Charisma in politics: not an empty promise

BY TOM BUTCHER
STAFF COLUMNIST

I'm still not quite sure why so many people seem to have an issue with Barack Obama. Of course, if you oppose his policies, then that's one thing, but many Americans seem to have an enormous issue with the banner of "change" with which he has so effectively sold his campaign. Last Friday, Forum columnist Brian Price accused Obama of marketing himself to "the zombies who chant 'Yes We Can' without any knowledge of what it really is 'we' can do, and with the robots who wave their 'Stand For Change' and 'Change We Can Believe In' banners without knowing what 'change' actually means." Brian isn't the only person to bring this up—he's but one of many voices who have been lambasting Obama for offering change without substance.

This is not a fair critique of Obama. First, if you take any time to research his positions, you'll find that substance does exist behind his dynamic façade. But, more importantly, I am truly worried by the position that many, even within the liberal community, seem to be taking against Obama's "policies of change." It's almost as if they inherently distrust any candidate who could possibly be so charismatic as to make people actually like him. These are the people who are always excessively concerned with the bare facts of a campaign, and give no thought to the spirit behind them.

But spirit matters. Charis-

ma matters. Making people believe matters. A candidate with the best views on every matter possible would still fail if he could not convince people of his potency. The brothers John and Robert Kennedy are remembered so fondly today because they possessed a gift for actually making people enthusiastic about politics. Similarly, people think so fondly of Obama because he has that inescapable spirit surrounding him that allows people to believe that he might actually bring the change he promises. It is true that, as Brian Price said, "Barack Obama's policies are virtually no different than those of Hillary Clinton." His success so far, then, stems not from the rational facts of his policy, but from the vibrantly emotional enthusiasm which accompanies his character.

But why is this bad? Why are we afraid of "Change We Can Believe In"? The talking heads on television publish a new story every other week about how uninvolved Americans are in the political process. So when a candidate comes along in whom many of these "uninvolved" Americans can actually believe, why is that candidate then vilified for supposedly offering spirit without substance? This criticism reeks of an elitism that wants to keep the masses out of the electoral process, and that is contrary to everything Democratic and American in spirit.

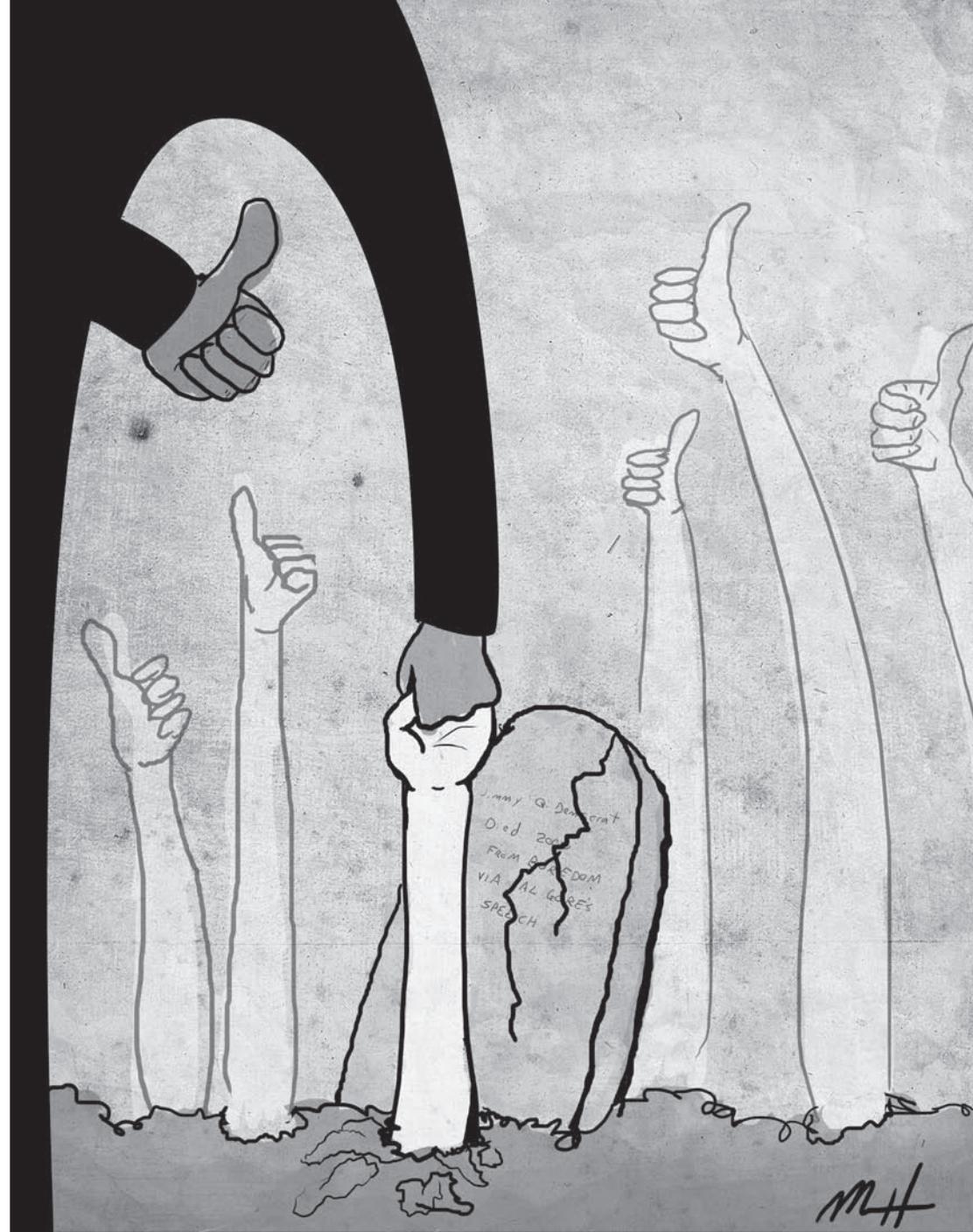
If we want the American people to become more involved in politics, then we will need a charismatic lead-

er who will engage the people and get them to believe in the political process once again. The majority of the politically uninvolved Americans choose to be so because of a deeply ingrained cynicism about the electoral process. They've seen wave after wave of lackluster candidates who seem to just be more of the same. Their political apathy cannot be changed into exuberance without the skills of a man like Obama.

In contemporary politics, it is not enough to have merely style or substance alone. Mere substance will have no one caring about your policy (think Al Gore). Style alone leaves the vacuous impression of an incandescent bubble. Obama is in the unique position of offering the combination.

Many years from today, if Obama is lucky enough to gain access to the White House, I predict that he will be remembered not primarily for his policies, which, again I must stress, are as real and well thought out as can be. Obama will be remembered as the man who brought excitement and involvement back to politics. He will be thought of as the person who broke the extreme cynicism of the American public and convinced them that they actually could make a difference. Brian Price fears that "John and Jane Q. Citizen will truly believe [in Obama]," but, personally, I can imagine nothing greater.

Tom is a sophomore in Arts and Sciences. He can be reached via email at tmbutcher@wustl.edu.



MIKE HIRSHON | STUDENT LIFE

Petty measures

BY ROEI EISENBERG
OP-ED SUBMISSION

Wash. U. cares. And it is committed. The administration is committed to being green; it is committed to providing financial aid. You see, Wash. U. cares, a lot. About a lot of things. It just so happens that they always seem to care about current buzzword issues.

It went green when it was popular, by building one of their many environmentally "friendly" buildings to the specs of the LEED-NC Gold standard—spending \$41 million while they were at it. They didn't embrace environmentalism by, say, educating the student body on how to lower their energy consumption and be "environmentally aware." Nor did they discuss, maybe, turning down the A/C during warmer months, when classrooms are unbearably cold, or turning down the heat during winter; after all, keeping every class T-shirt-friendly can't be either cheap or energy efficient. But at least the new building will have a shiny certificate.

The administration's PR tactics are more evident in the recent boost to financial aid. The Chancellor said: "This is part of our ongoing commit-

ment to ensure that Washington University remains an institution that can provide an educational experience for students with moderate financial backgrounds." This will be achieved by not requiring families earning less than \$60,000 to take out student loans, financing them with grants instead. What America does Chancellor Wrighton live in, where \$60,000 is a moderate income? After healthcare, mortgage and living expenses and after taxes, what is left for such a moderate-income family?

The worst part about this decision to "reaffirm our commitment to providing financial aid" is that it comes in the wake of significantly more meaningful commitments by Harvard, Yale and Stanford to support the socioeconomic diversity on their respective campuses.

While I don't generally reserve the nicest words for Harvard or Yale, even I can admit that they are taking a step in the right direction, as their revamped financial aid plans cater to the reality of America today. Their administrations see the stratification of wealth at the very top of society and chose to actually do something about it. Instead of being concerned with positive publicity and moving up the ranks, they are concerned with the well-being of America, the fast-growing income gap and the inability of some of the wealthiest Americans to pay for a fine education.

Roei is a junior in Arts & Sciences. He can be reached via email at rmeisenb@wustl.edu.

SWEENEY ♦ FROM PAGE 4

was?

I kind of think it might have been the second one. All I know is that I was happy to answer that question with "Wash. U." It made me feel smart, and legitimate and privileged, and I felt that the officers weren't going to shoot me on the spot. It didn't get me a license to take photos in the mall, but it at least prevented me from getting more crap than I might have.

I heard stories, back in Cincinnati, about people getting stopped for speeding. An officer would ask, "Where do you go to school?" My friends would say, "St. X." And somehow this would make a crucial difference. Because we were supposed to be clean-cut, smart Catholic boys, our speed limit-defying behavior was an exception and it didn't need to be punished by the law. I always felt like a jerk for that.

The rule, as we see, remains the same in St. Louis, even if I wasn't about to get a ticket. I can't say that I was treated any differently for going to Wash. U., but the fact that one security guard at the Galleria considered it a crucial piece of information to ask of this photograph vandal indicates to me that, sadly, privileges don't just get you material bonuses, but better social treatment, too. I guess we all knew that anyway, but it sucks.

The second moral of the story is that there are all these abstract ideas of what you "can" and "can't" do that people obey because they assume there is someone who is ultimately going to care. But there isn't. This security guard I was talking to seemed like a really nice guy, and he totally recognized how ridiculous it was that he was telling me not to do this and was sorry that it was making my photo project harder. I don't blame him.

But I think it's a bit sad and pretty funny the reasoning that seems to go behind that. Essentially: "Well, it's our job to prevent things that aren't supposed to go on in this mall from going on, so we should tell this kid to stop taking pictures, because it definitely could be illegal, and especially taking pictures of storefronts can be copyright violation, and anyway the inside of the mall might be kind of copyrighted too or something,

and the pictures could be used for purposes that would mess with the brands and the Galleria owners, and that would negatively affect them, and they wouldn't like that; there's definitely some reason at least that he shouldn't be allowed to snap photos in here."

The point is, it really just doesn't matter. I'm just taking pictures of the inside of the mall. People really worry about these things, and they have to because it's their job. But it's an unfortunate job, because it's silly. If I say the f-word in this newspaper, it's going to be really bad news with the editors, because it is a bad way to represent ourselves to *Student Life's* Board of Directors, because it's a bad way to represent ourselves to the student body, because it violates some inter-mental concept of what's OK in a newspaper. Because "you just can't do that." But nobody really cares at all. We're just defending useless, abstract concepts of what isn't OK to do.

Anyway, let's fight the man. No need to see another's privilege as an indicator of how to interact with that person and no need to pay attention to abstract concerns that no one actually cares about. Get out of the box.

Dennis is a sophomore in Arts & Sciences and a Forum Editor. He can be reached via email at sweeney@wustl.edu.

CORRECTION:

An article in Monday's paper ("Wash. U. dreamers: What students see while they slumber") was not attributed to a writer. The reporter was Kate Gallagher, the Scene special features editor. *Student Life* regrets this error.

SCENE

Facebook: Those who go without

BY LANA GOLDSMITH
SCENE REGULAR FEATURES EDITOR

It's a fact: College students love Facebook. It started out as a tool for communicating with friends, but it has become much more than that. It's an address book, a calendar, a mailbox, a massive photo album. There are instant update e-mails from Facebook every day to tell us who's having this weekend's parties, who sent us a message or who posted a goofy photo. Facebook has even changed the way we talk, making the word "friend" into a verb. The site has virtually (no pun intended) infiltrated nearly every aspect of our lives and has become an integral part of our fast-paced, Web-based culture.

But for some Wash. U. students, Facebook has been more of a nuisance than a tool—or it may get in the way of school and career goals. These students have now done what few would even consider as an option: They have deactivated their Facebook accounts.

Sophomore Dione Drew was an avid Facebook user for the two years that her profile was consistently activated. She used it for monitoring the student groups she is involved in and for keeping in touch with friends, but eventually it got to be overwhelming.

"Facebook was a big part of my life," said Drew.

She had become Facebook friends with over 1,000 people, many of whom she did not really know. When she would de-friend people she did not talk to with any regularity, they would take it as a personal offense. Once Facebook opened up to the public, men she did not know would message her with inappropriate sexual advances.

Drew said she decided to deactivate, at least for a while, to restore normalcy to her life. As far as keeping in touch with people, she figured, "The people I wanted to keep in touch with had my number."

Sophomore Pierce Johnson takes another approach. He deactivates from time to time so that he can focus on other activities. Johnson says he re-activates his profile in roughly three-week intervals but probably will not be activating it again in the next few months due to his busy schedule.

"I have other commitments," said Johnson. "[Facebook is] something to waste time with, so it's not a major part of my life."

Junior Will Arndt deactivated for more long-term purposes. Arndt had heard that potential employers and graduate schools could access his Facebook profile and assess whether or not he would be an acceptable candidate. "I didn't have anything particularly scandalous on my profile, but so much is out of

your control on Facebook," said Arndt. "You never know when a friend is going to tag you in a less-than-flattering photo or write something uncomfortable on your wall."

Initially, Arndt found Facebook was a helpful social tool when he first arrived at college.

"It was exciting and comforting as an incoming freshman to already feel like I knew a few people on campus before classes began," he noted.

But Facebook began to evolve to include users beyond the scope of just college students. Now anyone can be on Facebook, including teachers, parents, coworkers and younger siblings, to name a few.

The fact that all of these people could access so much personal information may be unsettling. As Arndt pointed out, there are elements of Facebook's interactive nature that make it fun, but they can also pose a threat because the owner of a given profile is not in complete control. Most students do not realize that once they post on Facebook, they are creating a permanent record of words and images. Even if posts are deleted or photos are taken down, in the time it takes to do that, anyone could have read, copied, printed or e-mailed that information.

Once posted, it is public. Considering the fact that you can hardly go out these days without digital cameras

flashing everywhere, Arndt was particularly concerned with the popularity of posting photos on Facebook.

"It's nice to have photos with your friends, but every now and then a picture appears in an album that's embarrassing, or worse. The intention may have been harmless, but it's still a real breach of trust. Even if you untag a photo of yourself, the photo is still on Facebook. I always feel a little vulnerable now when people start taking pictures."

Of course, Facebook is not all terrible, and even the people who have deactivated their profiles understand—they themselves were active participants at one time, too.

"I think Facebook's cool. I understand the purpose behind it," said Johnson. But he added, "For some people, it seems like it's become a necessity. Some people can't interact in real life. Plus the stalking is scary."

Drew commented on the role of Facebook in perpetuating gossip and drama. "I think Facebook results in a lot of social drama that it shouldn't result in," said Drew. "It [should just be] a communication tool."

If you find that Facebook adds unnecessary stress to your life, you might want to consider the possibility of temporarily deactivating your profile. As these students can testify, you will survive.

TOP 5 Messages you DON'T want to receive from Facebook

-  "Your mom has commented on a photo of you"
-  "Your future employer has de-friended you"
-  "You have been tagged in the album 'Beer Pong Makes People Puke!'"
-  "The campus police chief has poked you"
-  "The Chancellor has sent you a 'Hotties' request"

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SPORTS

MEN'S BASKETBALL

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BY ANDREI BERMAN
SPORTS REPORTER

With conference championship implications hanging in the balance, any follower of the Washington University men's basketball team knew that this weekend's two home contests against Brandeis University and New York University (NYU) could prove conclusive in determining a UAA champion. Yet after the completion of 80 grueling minutes of basketball in less than 48 hours, the result was that a UAA champion will not be crowned until next Saturday.

On Friday, the Brandeis Judges, needing a pair of weekend wins to remain in UAA-title contention, put a stunning end to Wash. U.'s school record 24-game, regular season, home court winning streak. Brandeis' 68-66 victory silenced a raucous home crowd of over 2,000 and earned the visitors a share of the lead for first place in the UAA with Wash. U. and the University of Chicago, who easily defeated NYU Friday in the Windy City.

On Sunday, Wash. U., now 19-5 overall, struggled early before running away with a 61-52 win over NYU. A little more than four hours to the north, Chicago scored a comeback win over Brandeis, dashing the Judges' championship hopes and setting up an epic title match next Saturday against Wash. U., in Chicago.

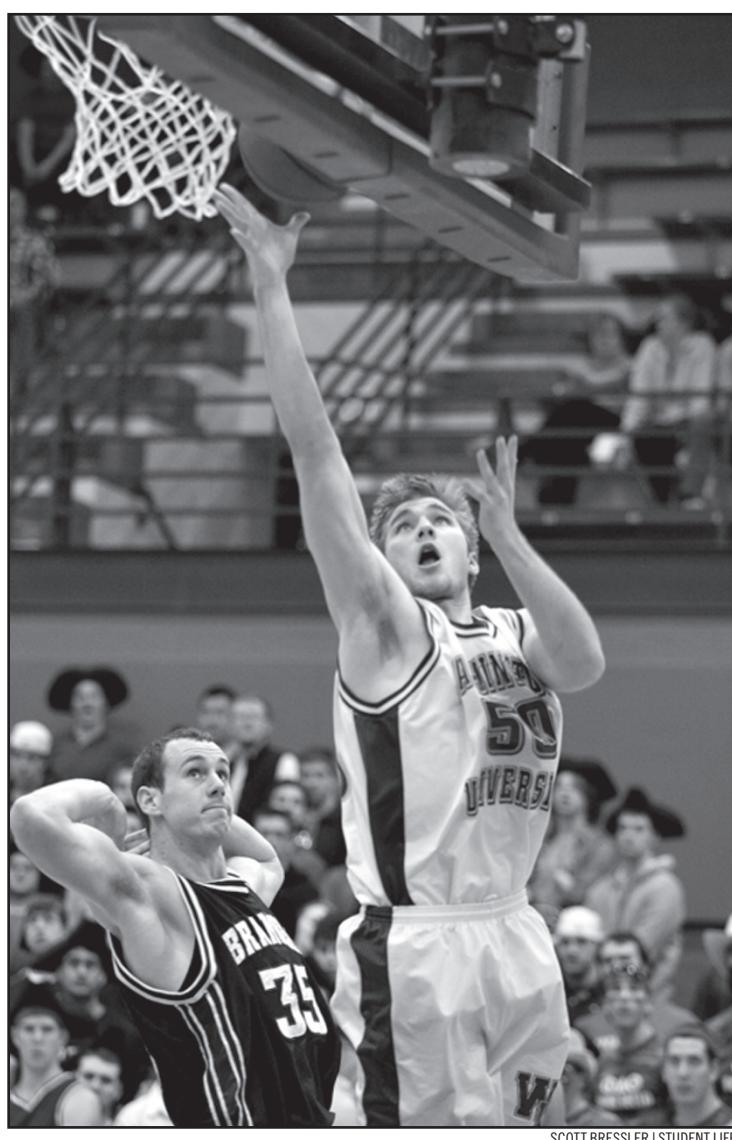
Each team is now tied atop the conference standings at 10-3 in this year's UAA, which remains the only league in the

country not to have a post-season tournament. The winner of the Bears-Maroons match-up earns the league's automatic bid to the NCAA tournament; the fate of the loser is left to the tournament's selection committee.

Sophomore point guard Ross Kelley led Wash. U. in scoring with 17 points, Brandeis' star big man Terrell Hollins was held to just two field goal attempts and both teams shot over 50 percent from three-point range. At the end, Brandeis, sparked by the efforts of star guards Andre Roberson and Joe Coppens, emerged victorious in an all-around wild evening at a packed Field House.

The game proved to be extremely close. Neither team led by more than four during the first half and the second frame was more of the same, with each squad trading baskets for much of the half. A three-pointer from Wash. U. sophomore Cameron Smith gave the Bears their biggest lead of the night, 49-42, with 12:56 remaining.

Brandeis struck back, however, as Coppens buried a pair of three-pointers over the next three minutes to cut the lead to 51-50 with just more than nine minutes to go. A three from Wash. U. senior Danny O'Boyle gave the Bears a 58-55 lead with 6:28 left, but Brandeis rattled off seven straight to take a four-point lead with just under four minutes remaining. Wash. U. responded with a pair of lay-ups over the next two minutes to tie the score at 62 with 2:07 to play. That's when Roberson, Brandeis' point guard, went to work.



SCOTT BRESSLER | STUDENT LIFE

Senior Troy Ruths goes for a layup Friday night against Brandeis University. The Bears lost to Brandeis in the last seconds but were able to beat New York University on Sunday. The Bears will play Chicago next Saturday for the UAA title.

Brandeis 68, Wash. U. 66

With the shot clock winding down, Roberson pulled up at the top of the key and buried a clutch three, silencing the crowd and sending the Brandeis bench into a frenzy with 1:40 to play.

The Bears failed to score on the ensuing possession, and an errant Coppens three found its way into the hands of Brandeis big man, Stephen Hill, forcing Wash. U. to foul with 31 ticks left on the clock. Hill hit the front end of the one-and-one, making it a two-possession game and effectively ending Wash. U.'s unprecedented home court winning streak.

Roberson buried three more free throws in the game's final 24 seconds to put the contest out of reach. Wash. U. cut the lead to one on a Ruths' layup with seven seconds remaining and had a slight chance to win or tie when Roberson missed the back end of another one-and-one, but the Bears had no timeouts remaining and failed to get off a shot attempt.

"They hit big shots, especially in the second half, but really the whole game. Sometimes you've just got to tip your cap to the other team. I think they hit just one more big shot than we did. It's a tough team," noted junior swingman Tyler Nading.

Wash. U. 61, NYU 52

On senior day, Wash. U. trailed throughout the first half and entered the locker room down 30-26. The second half, though, served as a fit-

ting end to the careers of the team's three seniors, O'Boyle, Moss Schermerhorn and Ruths. The Bears took control midway through the half, forcing the visiting Violets into an uncomfortable transition game and running away with a 61-52 win.

Ruths carried the team on his back all afternoon, finishing with 31 points and 11 rebounds. Nading added 17 and nine in the winning effort.

"[Ruths] was awesome. It was so cool to be with him on senior day in front of his parents. He played 37 minutes out there. He was a warrior," said Nading.

Saturday's championship marks the second straight year that Wash. U. and Chicago will compete for the UAA title in both teams' regular season finale. Six weeks ago, the teams' league opener against one another, Chicago was blown out, 76-50. Since then, however, the Maroons have been a completely different squad. Their résumé boasts of a season sweep over Brandeis and a win over Rochester, both ranked in the top 25.

"We know they're going to play tough. We're rivals, we love playing against them. Hopefully we can play our game at their place and come out with a win. We're expecting to see a different [Chicago] team," said Nading.

A large crowd is expected on the South Side next weekend, since a number of players on Wash. U.'s roster hail from the Chicago area.

"I'm looking forward to the atmosphere. We'll have quite a few fans there. It should be fun," said Thompson.

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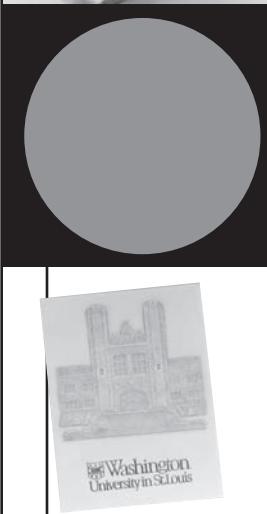
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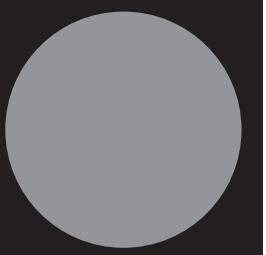
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CADENZA

Crank that 90.3

BY ERIC LEE
CADENZA REPORTER

I love KWUR. I really do. I like hearing intriguing and uncommon music from people with eccentric taste and inventive names. I appreciate its endearing conviviality. I especially like guessing whether or not the DJs are drunk, high or both. I like a challenge.

For those who don't know, KWUR can be cranked on 90.3 FM, proudly broadcasting on its 10,000 milliwatt signal, but is best served up online (www.KWUR.com). The Web site is fantastic and easy to use; check it out to stream a show digitally, check the schedule of shows or read their blogs.

KWUR, founded in 1976, has the distinction of being called the Saint Louis Riverfront Times' best radio station in the entirety of the Lou. According to its Web site, "KWUR's goal has been to supply listeners with otherwise unavailable programming in Saint Louis radio." In addition, KWUR Week, a full week of great music, events and various pandemonium, takes place once a year.

KWUR Week will be in full swing by the time this article sees print. Sponsored by KWUR, four sets will be rocking the Gargoyle tonight through Saturday. In addition, the St. Louis Symphony Partnerships Program will be at the 560 Building on Monday.

Tonight is all about hip-hop; head over at 7 p.m. to see the Twilight Sentinels perform in the company of several other emcees and DJs.

ALBUM REVIEW

Elsinore: 'Nothing for Design'

BY ANDREW SENTER
CADENZA REPORTER

Elsinore's new album, "Nothing for Design" is a fun, if at times indistinct, album of folk rock that never shatters boundaries but at times can be undeniably entertaining.

The Champaign, Illinois-based indie-rock band produces fun tunes that can seem to blend together at points. But, the charismatic lead singer Ryan Groff is able to keep most of the tunes fresh enough to avoid producing a completely staid album.

Elsinore's ability to make songs that are entertaining and vaguely familiar is both a strength and a weakness. The tension between familiarity and monotony is observed throughout the album. "Timid Maggie May" is a perfect example of what is both good and bad about Elsinore. It starts out with a nice acoustic guitar and piano part. Then lead singer Ryan Groff begins narrating a pretty entertaining story about timid Maggie. But, even though the song is enthusiastic and at points fun, it

begins to drag toward the end. Within the context of the album, "Timid Maggie May" feels similar to approximately four other tracks, which makes it seem listless. This inability to have songs distinguish themselves hampers the album.

Even though many of the songs blend together, Elsinore has many strengths as a band. One of their greatest assets is lead singer Ryan Groff, who is able to inject energy into all of the songs, even when they are not the best material. On the album's stronger tracks, Groff is really able to shine.

On "Kate," Groff passionately details Kate's desire to get away from everything and search for divine meaning in her life. This is an especially pertinent sentiment at Wash. U. as midterms are fast approaching and many of us may feel a lot of empathy toward Kate.

Elsinore is also able to produce some incredibly fun songs, such as "Vampire in My Town." The infectious melody is made even more memorable by its ridiculousness. Groff's ability to sing "Vampire in my

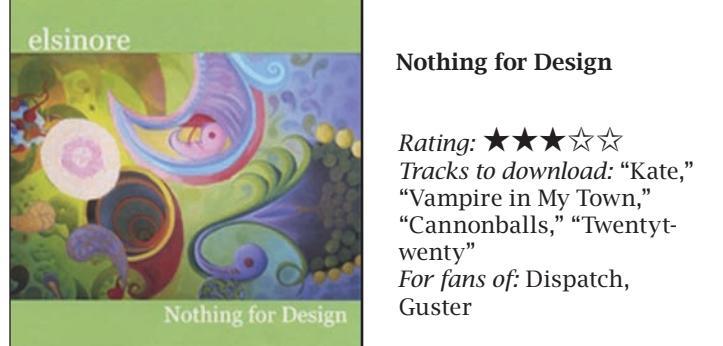
town/ Has taken my baby/ And is sucking me dry" with conviction allows the song to evolve into one of the most enjoyable of the album.

Unfortunately, the strength of "Kate" and "Vampire in My Town" cannot redeem the entire album. Many of the songs seem to be stuck in a bland indie/acoustic rock style that is indistinct and a bit monotonous. Tracks such as "The Long Run," "Cannonballs" and "Carolina" seem to be only differentiated by tempo, and on "The Long Run" a short saxophone cameo. The inability of many of the tracks to be distinguishable causes the entire album to feel a bit

bland. Luckily the enthusiasm of Groff and the rest of the band prevents "Nothing for Design" from being a complete disaster.

Elsinore's new album "Nothing for Design" is an album that borders between excitement and boredom. Its best tracks are invigorating and fun to listen to, while a large number of tracks are unbelievably indistinct. This causes the album to be a mixed bag—a mixture between horribly bland songs and stirring tracks that are very memorable.

If you want to judge for yourself, Elsinore is playing tomorrow night at the Gargoyle as part of KWUR Week.



well-bred females. Even so, his father sends him a-courting. The female in question likes Charles—who can talk just fine as long as he does not realize his "barmaid" is actually his betrothed in disguise—but must convince her father that the suitor is modest enough. This is complicated, as the suitor believes he has stopped at an inn and treats his future father-in-law as an innkeeper. Meanwhile, Constance (played by Carli Miller), George Hastings (played by Kellen Hoxworth) and Tony Lumpkin are caught up in an odd sort of love triangle. Constance and George Hastings are in love, but Constance's aunt (played by Alexa C. Shoemaker) insists she marry her cousin, Tony Lumpkin. Tony is not fond of

the idea. Basically, an arranged marriage, some generational misunderstandings and tricks lead to a very entertaining play.

A stand-out scene showcases the first interview between suitor and daughter (Noga Landau, who is superb). The meeting is a pastiche of false starts, floor-watching, floundering conversation, stuttering and rapturous flailing. You would think this would get old after about a minute. It doesn't. The whole theater was laughing hysterically along with me for the entirety of a scene at least three minutes long. We can send most of our thanks for this to the wonderful comic timing of Mr. Joseph. The only question remaining: how the actors made it through without cracking up themselves.

A pleasing surprise greets the audience, upon the first word spoken, in well-attuned British accents; in some cases two different dialects emerged from the mouth of the same character. It set the play, and gave it a good tone. (Although, when a minor character couldn't grab a hold of her accent during one scene it threw me back into my seat, breaking the spell of the show for a good portion of the next scene.) The bar-room sequence dragged slightly, and was hard to understand at points. However, most of the time the accents were understandable and laudable. Often accents can either make a play work or make it flop, especially if no one can discern what is occurring onstage.

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

arts & entertainment

KWUR Week 2008 Sponsored by KWUR 90.3 FM

Wednesday, February 27

Venue: The Gargoyle

Doors: 7:30 p.m. Show: 8 p.m.

Tickets: FREE with Wash. U. ID, \$5 for the public (18+)

Featuring: Twilight Sentinels (Indianapolis), Serengeti (Chicago), G to the T (St. Louis), Nato Caliph with DJ Crucial (St. Louis), Earthworms (St. Louis)

Thursday February 28

Venue: The Gargoyle

Doors: 8 p.m. Show: 8:30 p.m.

Tickets: FREE with Wash U ID, \$5 for the public (18+)

Featuring: Berlin Whale (St. Louis) and Jumbling Towers (St. Louis) with Elsinore (Champaign) opening

Friday, February 29

Venue: The Gargoyle

Doors: 8 p.m. Show: 8:30 p.m.

Tickets: FREE with Wash U ID, \$5 for the public (18+)

Featuring: The Zydepunks (New Orleans) with Water Bears (St. Louis) opening

Saturday, March 1

Venue: The Gargoyle

Doors: 8 p.m. Show: 8:30 p.m.

Tickets: FREE with Wash U ID, \$5 for the public (18+)

Featuring: The Octopus Project (Austin, TX), Pattern Is Movement (Philadelphia, PA) with Say Panther (St. Louis) opening

Monday, March 3

Venue: 560 Building, 560 Trinity at Delmar, Wash. U. Music Dept.

Doors: 6:30 p.m. Show: 7 p.m.

Tickets: Free For All

Featuring: Silvan Iticovici, violin; Jooyeon Kong, violin; Ken Kulosa, cello; Paul Garritson, clarinet; Seth Carlin, piano

THEATER REVIEW

No mistake: 'She Stoops to Conquer' is hilarious

BY MICHELLE STEIN
THEATER EDITOR

By far my favorite Performing Arts Department show so far this year, "She Stoops to Conquer," is a funny play put on by an amazing cast. Despite, or perhaps because of, the combinations of huge characters in a small studio, the play works the audience in without losing the theatics.

"She Stoops to Conquer, or, The Mistakes of a Night" by Oliver Goldsmith, here directed by Jeffery Matthews, centers on the disagreements between parents and their marriageable children. On the one hand, Charles Marlow (played by Justin Joseph) is a man uninterested in marriage and utterly incapable of talking to

well-bred females. Even so, his father sends him a-courting. The female in question likes Charles—who can talk just fine as long as he does not realize his "barmaid" is actually his betrothed in disguise—but must convince her father that the suitor is modest enough.

This is complicated, as the suitor believes he has stopped at an inn and treats his future father-in-law as an innkeeper. Meanwhile, Constance (played by Carli Miller), George Hastings (played by Kellen Hoxworth) and Tony Lumpkin are caught up in an odd sort of love triangle. Constance and George Hastings are in love, but Constance's aunt (played by Alexa C. Shoemaker) insists she marry her cousin, Tony Lumpkin. Tony is not fond of

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One of the marvelous things about the play itself is its characters, not a one true to life or even vaguely realistic. They are huge, with huge personalities, huge motivations and huge hairpieces, all carried without a hitch in this production. This is all the more impressive, because these characteristic neuroses and quirks (particularly in David Weiss' Mr. Hardcastle) could not have been easy to pull off; nor could the wigs sported by Alexa Shoemaker's Mrs. Hardcastle.

The play, performed Friday, February 29, Saturday, March 1 (both at 8 p.m.) and Sunday, March 2 (at 2 p.m.) is worth your time. It may remind you of a sitcom, with wacky characters and a somewhat contrived ending, but like a good sitcom, you can't help but enjoy it.

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Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Water-storing plants
- 6 Hence
- 10 Stately display
- 14 HOMES part
- 15 Take ten
- 16 Declare
- 17 Like Pisa's tower
- 18 Large-mouth pitcher
- 19 Actress Austin
- 20 Aristocrat
- 22 English Channel swimmer Gertrude
- 24 Pesky insect
- 25 Created murals
- 26 Constant
- 29 Halley's namesake
- 30 Legal wrongs
- 31 Editor's mark
- 32 Three-way intersection
- 35 Falco of "The Sopranos"
- 36 Stairway part
- 37 Billions of years
- 38 Chinese pan
- 39 Tarries
- 40 Sailing ship
- 41 Bees' abodes
- 42 Like some periodicals
- 43 Kind of nuclear reactor
- 46 Blue-gray metal
- 47 Mold again
- 48 Turning
- 52 At the summit
- 53 Actress Moran
- 55 Leg bone
- 56 Artifice
- 57 Boorish
- 58 Arena happening
- 59 Require
- 60 Understands
- 61 Male and female

DOWN

- 7 Chopped with an ax
- 8 Employ
- 9 Decorative ribbon
- 10 Proprietary product
- 11 Out in the open
- 12 Actress Oberon
- 13 Snooped
- 21 Has permission to
- 23 Menu plan
- 25 Skin openings
- 26 Pot meal
- 27 Commotion
- 28 Actor Estrada
- 29 Lawyer's files
- 31 Apple drink
- 32 Swiped
- 33 Organic compound
- 34 Catch sight of
- 36 Metal-bolt hammerers
- 37 Optional
- 39 Auction actions
- 40 Legislative bodies
- 41 Piled
- 42 Humorist
- 43 Muscle
- 44 Do up open laces
- 45 Elevate's place
- 46 Sectors

2/27/08

Solutions

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

- 48 Commute
- 49 Wild goat
- 50 Baseball team count
- 51 Gangsters' heaters
- 54 Regret

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Sudoku By The Mepham Group

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

Level: **1 2 3 4**

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3x3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk.

Solution to Monday's puzzle

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

2/27/08

the student union

SUPDATE

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2.27 The Student Forum on Sexuality and SHAC present:

I Love Female Orgasm

Marshall Miller and Dorian Solot

Wednesday, February 27th, Graham Chapel.

7 pm, doors open at 6:30

2.28 Purple 101 day!

If you are wearing purple or Relay clothing when you stop by our table, you can win Spirit Bucks

3.01 Relay For Life

\$10 at the door. Tons of Fun! Be there or be Square!

Francis Field, 6pm-6am

3.02 Show at the Gargoyle

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WashU ranks 62/76! Remember to
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