

# STUDENT LIFE

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## Wash. U. reveals plans for future of South 40

**BY PUNEET KOLLIPARA**  
NEWS EDITOR

Shedding light on plans for a new Wohl Center and the construction of new dorms, Washington University has released more information about its construction plans for the future of the South 40.

Plans for the South 40 will occur in two phases. This summer, before Phase I, Umrath House and the Washington University Police Station will be demolished to make way for a new modern dorm. The police department will move into space currently occupied by the Office of Residential Life.

Phase I will begin this fall with the construction of a new dorm to replace Umrath House and the beginning of the construction of a new Wohl Center.

Phase II, which begins in the summer of 2009, will feature the destruction of traditional freshman dorm Rubelmann, the destruction of the old Wohl Center and the completion of the new Wohl Center.

In Dec. 2007, Justin Carroll, dean of students and associate vice chancellor for students, announced at the annual tu-

ition forum that the new Wohl Center would be located just south of Shepley Drive and in the grass area to the north of the current one.

The first floor of the building will contain new eateries, while the upper floors, like the Village House, will function as a dorm. The housing will primarily house upperclassmen in suite-style rooms.

The construction of a dorm in the new Wohl Center will cause the South 40 to exceed 3,000 beds. According to Carroll, because the Clayton Fire Department limits the South 40 to 3,000 beds, the University will need to demolish one or more of the older dorms without replacing them.

Candidates for permanent destruction, according to Carroll, include the sophomore suite dorms of JKL Residential College—Dauten, Shanedling and Rutledge halls—and those of HIGE—Hitzeman, Hurd and Myers halls.

The old Wohl Center will remain until the summer of 2009, when it is slated to be demolished to allow for the completion of the new building.

See SOUTH 40, page 2

## Bears return to the Final Four



Senior Troy Ruths shoots free throws at the end of the Elite Eight game Saturday night in the Athletic Complex. The Bears defeated Millsaps University 57-46 and advanced to the Final Four for the second-straight year. Ruths was awarded Sectional MVP after a 23-point performance Saturday night.

**BY JOHANN QUA HIANSEN**  
SPORTS EDITOR

Washington University's men's basketball team earned their second consecutive berth to the Final Four, ending the seasons for four very talented teams.

The Red and Green clinched their spot with a 56-47 victory over No. 14 Millsaps College on Saturday.

The victory was hard-won as it did not seem that the No. 11 Bears would be able to recover from scoring a season low of 18 points in the first period. The Bears were frigid, making only seven of 26 field goals while Millsaps had a nine point lead going into the locker rooms.

Freshman Caleb Knepper was the bright spot in the first quarter sinking two three-pointers. Each basket was accompanied by fan chants of "He's a freshman."

"I thought it was awesome," said Knepper. "I loved how everyone came back for this game."

Fans attended in greater numbers and the Bomb Squad helped create a loud atmosphere.

"[The win] was pretty much because of them," said senior Troy Ruths who was named NCAA Sectional MVP.

The Bears had been down in other games before and it was in the locker room that the

team made their fateful decision.

"[Coach Edwards] said 'We've got all week to rest up so we might as well put it all on the line now,'" added Ruths. "And that's what everyone decided to do."

It was an energized squad that came out of the locker room and put together a 17-0 run in the first seven minutes of the second period. The Bears came out fighting and established an eight-point lead that they never relinquished.

"It didn't surprise me," said Edwards. "I couldn't be more proud of them."

The Majors threatened with a tie. With the score at 35-33, Millsaps' Chris Sanders got a steal and passed the ball to teammate Cameron Varnado. Varnado went up for the wide open dunk and missed. Fired up by that close scare, the Bears did not let the Majors come close. Knepper hit another jumper as the shot clock expired to push the score to 37-33 and Wash. U. went on to win.

The Red and Green boxed out well, limiting the Majors to about one shot per possession in the final minutes of the second period.

Five Bears contributed points but the entire team was needed to pull off rebounds and force turnovers. Ruths and junior Tyler Nading were key components in the come-

back with 23 and 16 points, respectively. Knepper had eight, senior Danny O'Boyle had five and sophomore Cameron Smith had five points. The Bears ended the night with Coach Edwards making the last snip of the net. Edwards tossed it to the team and it ended up around Ruths who wore it to the press conference.

### The Tough Road to the Final Four

The Bears had to defeat several strong teams to get this far. In the first round, it was Ruths' 28 points that led the team to a 79-74 victory against No. 17 Wooster College with sophomore Aaron Thompson shooting 15 and Nading with 16.

In the second round, it was all on Smith who carried the team forward with a three-pointer. With fewer than two minutes to go and the Bears down 67-66, Smith hit his big three. No. 6 Augustana attempted a comeback but their shot missed and O'Boyle padded the 70-67 victory, hitting one of his two free throws.

It was all on Thompson in the Sweet 16 as the Bears outlasted Buena Vista University 85-77 in overtime.

"They were collapsing so hard on Troy," said Thompson. "When you have that inside-outside game, it takes your team to a different level."

Thompson had a career high of 25 points in a game that was so physical that Knepper's contact lens was knocked out onto the floor at one point. Turnovers also proved key as the Bears had 15 compared to the Beavers' 31.

Nading took over in the last few moments of the second half and in overtime as he made the

See NCAA, page 5

## Architecture students help create construction plans

**BY PUNEET KOLLIPARA**  
NEWS EDITOR

As Washington University prepares for future construction projects on the South 40, a group of architecture students has become a significant and important voice in the planning process.

According to Justin Carroll, dean of students and assistant vice chancellor for students, in making decisions on how to design the new layout for the South 40, student input has been important and useful.

"We will, to the best of our ability, incorporate some of their ideas into future plans," said Carroll.

In January, Carroll made a presentation at a Student Union Senate meeting about future plans for the South 40 and allowed senators to provide their input on the plans.

After the meeting, two senators from the School of Architecture, sophomore Kate E. Gallagher and freshman Brett Simon asked Carroll to meet with a group of students.

"After Dean Carroll presented the preliminary plans for the South 40 to the Senate, we were interested in trying to see how those were progressing and to make sure there was student input," said Gallagher.

One of the architects working on the project, seven architecture students (including Gallagher and Simon) and Carroll met a few weeks ago. According to students who attended the meeting, the architect presented plans for the future of the South 40 and took questions and input from the students.

According to Simon, See STUDENTS, page 2

# Faux anthrax attack strikes Mallinckrodt

**BY DAN WOZNICA**  
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

University administrators, St. Louis Department of Health officials and more than 200 campus volunteers collaborated in a public health drill Tuesday that simulated the distribution of medication at Mallinckrodt in the event of a terrorist anthrax attack, and tested the University's emergency text-message system.

"We have protocols in place for a public health event, but we've never tried them and we haven't trained a lot of people," said Mark Bagby, the University emergency coordinator. "We came up with a very simplistic protocol [for responders to follow]."

The faculty, staff and students who volunteered to participate in the event were given a story to tell as they proceeded through the simulation, which

was held in the Gargoyle.

During the drill, faculty and staff—including professors and administrators—were given an algorithm that helped them to identify symptoms in the volunteers and dispense medication to them. In a real-life scenario, qualified medical personnel would oversee the distributors.

The success of the distributors was measured against predetermined University and

county health criteria.

"We'll be able to track the forms to see if they made the right choices," said Bagby.

The drill was held at the University because it is considered to be a place where mass mobility could be limited in the event of a disaster. Elsewhere in St. Louis, people showing symptoms of an epidemic would go to open public points of distribution (PODS), such as high schools, commu-

nity centers and government sites.

Two observers from the St. Louis Department of Health were also present at the drill to give the University feedback on its response.

"We would be considered partners [with the University]," said Saralou Hendrickson, Bio-terrorism and Emergency Response Planner for the City of St. Louis department of health. "It is our responsibility to

make sure that people receive medication if they are exposed to a biological agent."

In the drill scenario, an anthrax attack was said to be detected during the St. Patrick's Day Parade on Monday. The simulation was meant to model "Day Two" of the attack.

Students from the Emergency Support Team (EST) were also present at the simulation

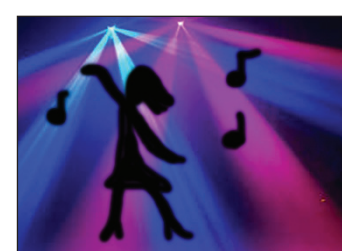
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## Game over? Game On!



If you missed the sports action over spring break, relive it all in our Sports blog, *Game On*. Visit blogs.studlife.com.

## In da club, STL style



Start the weekend early and catch the Thursday buses leaving the B-school and heading to the clubs. Get the low down on the club scene. *Scene, Page 8*

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# St. Louis institutions form consortium for recruitment

BY JOHANN QUA HIANSEN  
STAFF REPORTER

It's never been easier to find jobs for dual-career couples, as 15 St. Louis institutions launched a job search engine in early March.

"The job search engine is great because it lets couples link searches and receive e-mail alerts when at least one job 'fits' each person's criteria," said Laurel Sgan, director of the St. Louis Regional Higher Education Recruitment Consortium.

Over 500 listings in academic institutions based in the St. Louis region can be

found with the search engine. The listings give job descriptions, contact information and application deadlines.

The group that launched the site, which calls itself the St. Louis Regional Higher Education Recruitment Consortium or STLR HERC, is led by Washington University. It is the newest of nine similar groups around the country.

The first HERC was started in Northern California in 2000.

"Washington University's involvement in the HERC is a result of the work of the University's Diversity Initiative," said Leah Merrifield, special

assistant to the Chancellor for Diversity Initiatives. "It is important to Washington University to attract a more diverse faculty and administrative staff to better reflect the diversity of our student population."

Other member institutions of the STLR HERC are the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center, Fontbonne University, Harris-Stowe State University, Lewis and Clark Community College, Lindenwood University, Missouri Botanical Garden, Saint Louis University, Southern

See CONSORTIUM, page 3

## STUDENTS ❖ FROM PAGE 1

some of the more important issues they focused on in the meeting included making sure that the designs "can encourage social interaction and also incorporate sustainable practices, sustainable design, sustainable programming, to make it easy for students to live sustainably."

Other important issues for the students included green spaces around the buildings, the architectural design of the buildings and the layout of suites in the new dorms.

According to Gallagher, some students expressed interest in having common rooms in the middle of hallways instead of the end of hallways, shorter hallways and special devices in the dorms to help monitor electricity and water usage.

Freshman architecture student Daniel Tish (who attended the meeting with Carroll), Simon and two other freshmen meeting attendees are members of the same section of a two-semester discussion class required of all freshman architecture students.

According to Tish, the discussion class, a supplement

to architecture students' studio class, is designed to encourage students to weigh issues associated with a topic of their choice and come up with a cohesive architectural idea.

Tish and Simon's discussion section decided to focus on dormitories. The issues discussed in their class included energy wastage, social aspects of dorm life and environmental sustainability.

"We picked something familiar to us," said Tish. "We knew a lot about it, we knew what was important in a dorm, we knew kind of all the ins and outs, things that made them better, things that made them worse. So we thought that that was a good vehicle for us to design."

The ideas examined in Tish and Simon's discussion class provided many of the ideas that they would later recommend to Carroll in their meeting with him.

"We were just brainstorming these ideas and all these things that are really important to us, and Brett had the connection to Dean Carroll and these guys who were making the plans," said

Tish.

Carroll said that architectural plans for the new buildings have not yet been completed, but he has incorporated much of the students' input into the plans. He and the students encourage other students to voice their input and want other students to get involved in the planning process.

In addition to surveying students, Carroll has also entertained the idea of putting up boards in the Wohl Center for people to comment.

"Once we get to the point where it's pretty definite what it's going to look like, we'll put these boards up in the Wohl Center," said Carroll. "Anybody can just walk up to them. We'll leave them there for comment, or actually have some of the architects present so people can ask questions if they're curious."

The students are also planning another meeting with Carroll within the next month.

The meeting may also include representatives from environmental groups like Green Action.

## SOUTH 40 ❖ FROM PAGE 1

According to Carroll, the reasons for the construction of a new Wohl Center are manifold, but one reason in particular stands out.

"The challenge for us is that it was built at a time and designed for a lifestyle that's much different than today's students," said Carroll.

According to Carroll, the eateries in the current Wohl Center, which was built in April 1960, were designed to cater to the students' lifestyles in that era. Most students would eat three meals a day in the Wohl Center's dining rooms.

Students would even come back to the South 40 for lunch because daily class schedules were different than they are today.

Today, Carroll said, most students do not eat all their meals in the Wohl Center and few eat lunch there, resulting in a significant amount of square footage, especially on the second floor, being underutilized most of the day.

Other reasons for the construction of a new Wohl Center include the lack of handicap accessibility in the current one and the current building's inability to meet many of today's modern fire safety standards.

The new Wohl Center will also feature a new and improved fitness center.

The reconstructed Ruby-Umrath Residential College will likely be joined in an 'L' shape like Liggett-Koenig Residential College. Carroll said that the new Ruby-Umrath would not necessarily have the same aesthetic design as Liggett-Koenig.

"One of the things we've been trying to do...is to give each [building] a little bit of a personality and something that's architecturally distinctive so they don't all look cookie-cutter," said Carroll.

The destruction of Umrath House will reduce the number of beds on the South 40 by about 150 until the new Wohl Center and new Umrath House are complete. However, Carroll said that the completion of the new Village

East apartments, located on the North Side, will make up for this temporary reduction by adding 152 beds, though these beds will not be on the South 40.

Other new dorms on the South 40 will likely have suites with similar layouts to the suites in Liggett, Koenig, Lien and Gregg houses.

According to Carroll, the construction represents an ambitious project that is about more than simply updating buildings.

"In the end what's most important is about the community itself and the people," said Carroll.

The University is catering directly to the interests of students. Several students, especially in the School of Architecture, have provided input regarding the design, layout and environmental sustainability of the new buildings.

"I thought the plans were good," said freshman Daniel Tish, one of seven architecture students who recently met with Carroll and one of the architects to provide their input on the new building plans. "They're definitely working with us. They've already incorporated some of our concerns."

The new plans for the South 40 will place emphasis on adding grass areas, being more environmentally efficient and adding additional amenities to new dorms, such as music practice rooms.

This summer, all summer school, summer research and intern housing is being moved to the Millbrook apartments in order to accommodate the start of construction.

To improve the environmental soundness of buildings on campus, all new buildings on the South 40 will have some degree of Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification.

Carroll said that architectural plans for the new buildings have not yet been finalized, and that more changes and additions are possible in the coming weeks.



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**HEALTH ❖ FROM PAGE 1**



Frances Karam registers with Dr. Alan Glass, director of Health Services, Tuesday afternoon at the Public Health Drill in the Gargoyle. The drill was designed to simulate the way in which the University would respond to an anthrax attack in the St. Louis area.

in order to familiarize them with University disaster protocol.

"It's been part of our mission to provide emergency medical services to campus in the event of a disaster," said Eric LeFebvre, a senior and EST field director. "There are no written plans to utilize the team in a disaster, however the team has been working closely with the administration to formalize our role."

"If this happened, this is the role we would be doing, so this is a good way for us to train," said Jessalin Schultz, a senior and EST disaster coordinator.

This was the first time that a public health drill of this scale was carried out at the University.

In addition to the POD simulation, University administrators tested the WUText Emergency Notification System for the first time campus-wide. Students registered for the service received mock text messages informing them of an emergency test.

According to Bagby, the success of WUText could not be measured directly, but an online poll was being used to determine if students received the messages.

For more information on disaster protocol, visit emergency.wustl.edu.

—With additional reporting by Sam Guzik

**CONSORTIUM ❖ FROM PAGE 2**

Illinois University Edwardsville, University of Missouri St. Louis, St. Charles Community College, St. Louis Community College, University of Illinois at Springfield, University of Missouri Columbia and the St. Louis College of Pharmacy.

The group of institutions collaborates with each other to help the partners and spouses of faculty and staff find employment and to help increase diversity among employees.

STLR HERC members also share information about how to successfully recruit dual career couples on a regular basis.

Web site and consortium costs are covered primarily through members' dues, with the institutions paying proportional amounts, according to Sgan.

"The cost to run the web-site is generally much lower than the cost of advertising any institution would incur using other media outlets to post positions," said Sgan.

Members of the public can access the Web site for free because it also provides helpful links to Web sites dealing with the many challenges of a couple where one partner works in academia while the other has a different career.

The site is also linked to

other Higher Educational Regional Consortia Web sites so that people can search for jobs in other areas of the country including California and New York.

Students can also use the site in their job hunts since there is employment at every level and postings in various areas such as research, administration and programming.

Although the Web site is still in its beginnings and has not yet recruited anyone, Sgan said there are high hopes for its success.

"We are looking forward to many 'success stories,'" said Sgan.

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# SPORTS

## TRACK AND FIELD

# Track and Field excel at NCAA and UAA championships over weekend

❖ Leonard-Fleckman claims individual title in pole vaulting

BY TRISHA WOLF  
SENIOR SPORTS EDITOR

Washington University's women's track and field team finished third last weekend at the NCAA indoor championships meet while all six athletes competing received All-American citations, highlighted by senior Morgen Leonard-Fleckman winning the pole vault.

"[Nationals] was something I'll remember for a long time," said Sangeeta Hardy. "It was an incredible experience to compete with the best Division III runners in the nation."

The third place finish was the highest ever in school history, topping the previous record of ninth place. Illinois Wesleyan University won the meet with 30 points while Wartburg College had 27 and Wash. U. had 23.

Leonard-Fleckman's crowing jump was 3.86 meters, the greatest height cleared in Division III competition this season. Though she tied North Central College's Rachel Secrest in terms of height, she needed fewer attempts.

"I have been focusing on the process, not the outcome," said Leonard-Fleckman. "Track is a lot about momentum. When the distance medley got fourth, Dani [Wadlington] and I got pumped. When

she came in second, I thought I could win."

This was Leonard-Fleckman's third All-American citation after finishing eighth in the indoor pole vault competition in 2006 and fifth in the outdoor meet. She was also named the field athlete of this year's meet.

Junior Danielle Wadlington also received her third All-American award, finishing second in the triple jump with a leap of 11.68 meters, just 0.02 meters behind winner Shannon O'Keefe of State University of New York-Brockport.

The distance medley relay team completed the Red and Green's successful meet. The team of freshmen Kelli Blake, Hardy and Taryn Surtees and junior Erika Wade came in fourth with a time of 12:04.95.

"Our goal was to have six All-Americans," said Wadlington. "To have performances that went above and beyond and to win a team award was great."

The previous weekend, the Bears had a successful UAA Championship meet. The women came in second, just three points behind winner University of Chicago, while the men finished fourth.

"It was really disappointing

to come in second because we had such a long streak at first, but everyone competed well and had a great meet. The conference has gotten a lot better," said Leonard-Fleckman.

Wash. U. brought home eight titles over the course of the meet.

Freshman Ben Harmon was a star on the men's side, winning both the high jump and long jump. He also tied for third in the pole vault with classmate Scott Pettit and was a member, along with sophomore Iby Umana, junior Nate Koslof and senior Marcus Woods of the second place 4x400-meter relay team. For his efforts, he was named UAA Indoor Rookie of the Year.

Freshman Zhefu Xiao won the pole vault to bring home another men's title. Senior Jesse McDaniel took second in the 3,000 and 5,000-meter runs while Koslof was third in the 400-meter dash.

On the women's side, Leonard-Fleckman and Wadlington also brought home UAA titles in the pole vault and triple jump, respectively. Leonard-Fleckman was also named the Field Athlete of the Year. Junior Jessica Lane finished third in the pole vault.

Senior Tricia Frisella won the 5,000-meter run while classmate Tyler Mulkin was a

close second. Senior Angela Hartman brought home another title, winning the 800-meter run, an event in which Hardy also came in third. The 4x400-meter relay, consisting of Wade, Hartman, Hardy and sophomore Allison Lee won Wash. U.'s final title of the meet.

Wadlington also finished second in the 55-meter hurdles while Blake and Surtees took second and third in the mile run. Wade and Wadlington also took second and third in the 400-meter dash.

To round out the action, junior Aubrey Edwards finished third in the weight throw while the distance medley relay team of seniors Kate Pentak and Abbey Hartmann, Lee and freshman Vie Duncan also finished third.

Thoughts now turn toward the outdoor season, which begins Friday with the Washington University Twilight meet.

"Our training is for the outdoors season, so we haven't peaked yet," said Wadlington.

"Everyone is a lot more excited now," said Leonard-Fleckman. "We all really want to win outdoor nationals now. We know it will take a lot of work and coming so close in conference makes us want to cream University of Chicago."



LIONEL SOBEHART | STUDENT LIFE

Pole vaulter and senior Morgen Leonard-Fleckman races down the runway in her approach in a meet last spring. Leonard-Fleckman won the honor of 2008 NCAA Division III Indoor Pole Vaulting Champion by clearing a height of 3.86 meters.

# Dillard's

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The Bears celebrate as the buzzer finalizes their victory Saturday night against Millsaps University. The Bears will advance to the Final Four.

DAVID HARTSTEIN | STUDENT LIFE

## NCAA

### ❖ FROM PAGE 1

biggest defensive play of the season. With 24 seconds left in the one-point game, Buena Vista's star guard made a steal and drove down the lane.

"I saw him. I just stepped up," said Nading. "Luckily I got the call." Nading drew the charge and made both his foul shots.

The points were sorely needed as Buena Vista nailed a last second three-pointer to go into overtime. At overtime, Nading made six of Wash. U.'s 10 points and the Bears were six for six in free throws to ensure victory.

The Bears will play No. 1 Hope at 7 p.m. in Salem, Virginia for a spot in the National Championship game. The Athletic Department and Residential Life will be co-sponsoring a free fan bus and hotel accommodations for the game. Ruths will also be presented with the coveted Jostens Trophy there, recognizing the Division III student athlete who excels in athletics, academics and in the community, from the Salem Rotary Club.

"I'm proud that the whole team is going," said Ruths. "We showed that we deserve to be back there."

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

# Women's basketball ends successful season

BY CARLY ANDERSON  
SPORTS REPORTER

The Washington University women's basketball team capped off another successful season.

Junior point guard Shanna-Lei Dacanay reflected, "We had to find our 'personality' as a team, which was a struggle throughout the first half of the season. It was definitely a season of ups and downs, but we dealt with adversity as it came to us, so it was definitely a season of growing."

Fellow starter Zoë Unruh added, "I'm very excited for next season, as I am looking forward to building on the chemistry from this year."

The Wash. U. women's

basketball team wrapped up their season with a loss to DePauw University in the Regional finals of the NCAA Tournament. The Bears finished with a 19-8 overall record (10-4 UAA), which left them tied for second place in the UAA with the University of Rochester.

Four of the eight UAA teams made it to the NCAA Tournament, and the UAA conference champion was not decided until the last game of the regular season, when the University of Chicago defeated the Bears on March 1. The Bears also never lost to the same team twice in conference play.

A few Wash. U. players earned conference recognition as well. Alex Hoover, a

point guard with the game-winning layup in overtime against Rochester, was named UAA Rookie of the Year. Sophomore Janice Evans was named first team All-Conference. Evans led the Bears in rebounds (6.8 per game), steals (34), and points per game (10.4). Juniors Jill Brandt and Halsey Ward, along with sophomore Unruh, garnered honorable mention awards.

A key factor in the Bear's success during the 2007-2008 season was home court advantage. The team remained undefeated at the Field House with a 12-0 record, which extends their overall home streak to 23 games. Team captain Jamie McFarlin does not excuse the

team's road losses, but she does know how important location can be for her team.

"The Wash. U. program is consistently successful at home. There is a distinct comfort level of playing in front of our fans and in the best gym in Division III," she said.

McFarlin led the Bears early in the season before tearing her ACL and lateral meniscus during their seventh game.

Many players cite the away game at New York University as the most memorable moment of the season. The

Bears came back from a 17-point deficit to win the game by six in front of a packed NYU house.

"This season meant a lot to me; there are plenty of moments that I'll take with me as loving memories of these girls and the game," said Sarah Tibesar, a captain and the team's lone senior.

The women's basketball team has high hopes for next season, with only Tibesar leaving. "We have serious off-season preparation," said McFarlin, "and can't wait for the balls to start bouncing on the hardwood again."

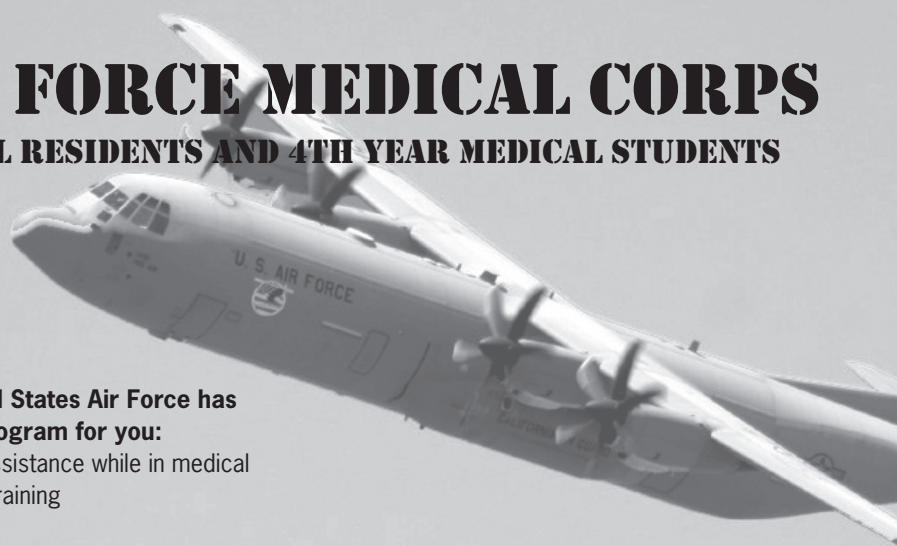
Want to go to the Final Four for free?

The Athletic Department and ResLife have teamed up to provide a free bus, accommodations and tickets to support the Wash. U. Bears at Salem, Va. A \$20 deposit to reserve a seat needs to be given to ResLife by noon on Wednesday, March 19. The deposit will be returned when you get on the bus.

You pay for food, and everything else is free. How can you not go? The bus will leave early on Friday and returns early on Sunday. If you have any questions please contact Mary Elliott in the ResLife Office via e-mail, melliott@wustl.edu or phone, 935-5050.

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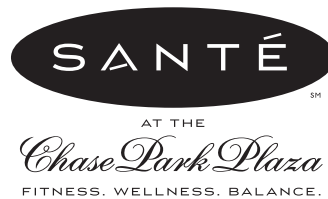
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To ensure that we have time to fully evaluate your submissions, guest columns should be e-mailed to the next issue's editor or forwarded to forum@studlife.com by no later than 5 p.m. two days before publication. Late pieces will be evaluated on a case-by-case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

We welcome your submissions and thank you for your consideration.

## STAFF EDITORIAL

# Expand the Collegiate Newspaper Readership Program

Have you ever picked up a free copy of The New York Times or the St. Louis Post-Dispatch on campus? If so, then have you ever wondered how that copy wound up on campus in the first place?

Those newspapers didn't arrive on campus by accident. They're the product of a program called the Collegiate Newspaper Readership Program. And while we believe this program provides an excellent service to students, we believe that there are ways it could be improved.

The Collegiate Newspaper Readership Program is a Student Union-run initiative that provides free newspapers to students on campus. For this year, \$52,000 was allocated to purchase thousands of copies of The New York Times, the

St. Louis Post-Dispatch and the USA Today, and to distribute them at key high-traffic areas throughout the University. It isn't difficult to see the benefits of operating such a program, and we would like to applaud Student Union for spending significant resources to operate it. A common remark about campus life is that students know very little about what actually happens outside of Washington University. This "Wash. U. bubble" is a regrettable phenomenon considering that part of the University's mission is to "encourage...students to be bold, independent, and creative thinkers." It's very difficult for students to exercise their critical thinking and independent judgment skills if they know very little about their surroundings outside of campus. Moreover, civic duties

compel every student to remain informed about current events throughout the world. Distributing newspapers throughout campus is a useful tool that helps students take the initiative in learning more about what happens outside of their isolated campus life.

But while we strongly support the Collegiate Newspaper Readership Program, we believe that there are certain steps that could be taken to make it even more helpful to students. First, we would like to see a larger selection of newspapers offered by the program. While The New York Times, the St. Louis Post-Dispatch and the USA Today are all good newspapers, there are others that cover critical niches. In our minds, two of the best additions would be the Wall Street Journal and

the Riverfront Times. The Wall Street Journal provides some of the best business reporting that can be found in any national newspaper. It would be particularly useful for students who are majoring in business or economics. And the Riverfront Times provides excellent coverage of the arts and entertainment scene throughout the St. Louis area. What would make this newspaper particularly attractive to the Collegiate Newspaper Readership Program is that it is free. These are only suggestions, however, and an appropriate step toward determining which newspapers to include could be for Student Union to distribute a survey to the student body.

Our second suggestion is that the Collegiate Newspaper Readership Program should

increase the number of newspapers it purchases and distributes to students. Currently, the demand for newspapers exceeds the supply available. In certain high-traffic areas, such as the Wohl Student Center, Olin Library and the Mallinckrodt Student Center, it is rare to find newspapers available past midday. This is indication enough that the number of newspapers distributed by Student Union could be increased.

For obvious reasons, implementing these suggestions would mandate an increase in the size of the Collegiate Newspaper Readership Program's budget. We believe, however, that funds are available to expand and diversify the program. Every year, Student Union collects all of the unspent funds from

student group operating accounts and creates an annual carryforward that is used to supplement the budgets of existing programs. This year, the annual carryforward sum amounted to \$130,795.54, and it is from this account that the money could be found to expand the Collegiate Newspaper Readership Program.

We would like to stress once again that this is a great program that we are offering these suggestions in the first place. We believe that it fills a clear and compelling need on campus, and we want to maximize its value as much as possible.

For these reasons, we would like to see the Collegiate Newspaper Readership Program expand and diversify.

## SAM WASHBURN | EDITORIAL CARTOON



## A requiem

BY TOM BUTCHER  
STAFF COLUMNIST

Sunday night, I got the call: "I'm sorry, Tommy, she passed away." After 83 years of life and a two-year degradation from cancer, my grandmother had died.

She'd been living with my family for the last 18 months as she gradually became unable to care for herself completely. We weren't expecting her to go quite so soon, but the way she did—peacefully, without pain and in the arms of her two sons—cannot be regarded as anything but a blessing. For the last several months, as it became obvious that her condition was worsening, we feared that she might fall and break her hip or have some other catastrophe, and that impossible decisions would have to be made. Sparing us from such trauma was just the final installment in a life defined by such tender devotion.

When people lose a loved one, they often try to find some external meaning in the death. "It must have happened for a reason," they say, or "It's all part of some higher purpose." This, my friends, is bull. Everyone dies; the only difference is when. Death has no more external meaning than any other random event in our lives. It is just something that happens.

Monday morning, I arrived home. My uncle and both aunts were with us, as were my parents and my sister, who is still in high school. No one quite knew what to do. Mostly we talked and hugged and passed the tissues around. Plans were already being made for the funeral. Eventually, we began to laugh as we reflected on positive memories. After the shock of the death had faded, we could only remember fondly that life which had touched us all so deeply.

Death does have meaning in the subjective. Those who loved the person in life may be brought down into the depths of despair by the knowledge that they will never again have the chance to hug and kiss the departed. Those unasked questions will remain unasked, and the dead will now live only in memory. Others will be inspired to make changes to their life in memoriam as a tribute to the person whom they loved so dearly. Clearly, such people imbue death with

a meaning as powerful as the death itself.

Death, like any other event, has no meaning except for that which we give it. Objectively, it is fundamentally absurd. But subjectively, within the realm of our own minds, it can take on all of the beauty and significance which we so often attribute to it. All meaning is internal, and because it only exists within our minds, we control it and may attach it or divorce it from events at will. Death only has meaning if we say it does.

Thursday morning, I went to the funeral. By this point, I was pretty much cried out. And for most of the ceremony, I didn't shed a tear. But, when that musical interlude hit—a small little piece by Mozart—it was as though lightning had suddenly destroyed a dam. Love of music had always been a special bond that my grandmother and I shared, and in those few notes, I was instantly reminded of everything happy and sad about the life and death of Jean Ellen Parker Butcher—my Omi. It was beautiful. I will never be able to listen to this song without thinking of her.

I give this song a very special meaning. This is a private meaning, conceived of and residing within the realm of my mind. Objectively, the song has no significance at all; but in my head, it means everything. It is permanently inscribed on my heart as a reminder of one of the greatest souls I have ever had the privilege to know.

Perhaps some regard this absence of external meaning to be a bleak and depressing outlook on life. I disagree. When the implications are understood, it becomes a philosophy of freedom and happiness. If my grandmother's death had any sort of objective meaning, then I would worry that this great love I feel for her would only be externally determined—without any input from myself. But because it is I who imbue her death with meaning, based on the familial love she and I shared during her life, then I know that this meaning is truly internally determined. I know that I truly loved her, and so I am filled with joy. It is from me, and of me. It is for her.

I love you, Omi.

*Tom is a sophomore in Arts & Sciences. He can be reached via e-mail at tmbutcher@wustl.edu.*

## Place a real vote in Student Union elections

Student Union elections never generate the attention that we ought to be devoting to them, and this year looks like it will be even worse than usual. This year, there is only one full slate of candidates and only one position on that slate will be contested.

Naturally, this largely unopposed election will draw even less attention than previous elections have. But, even though we have no real practical options about whom to vote for, we still need to pay attention. We still need to vote.

Learning the positions and goals of the upcoming Student Union representatives and voting based on that information is the only way to hold them accountable in the future. This group of future Student Union executives will not have the same opportunity to gauge student concerns over various issues the way the previous groups have done. During contested elections, candidates get a sense of what is appealing to students about

their platform and what is appealing about their opponents' platforms. The only way to give our Student Union a sense of how we feel about their platforms is to vote and have that vote be a decision.

If you vote for the candidates, make sure you actually want to vote for them. If you would have preferred a different agenda, vote with a write-in. Even though your write-in candidate probably will not actually win the election, the write-in is still meaningful, and having students actually make a choice between voting and writing-in will make people's votes for the slate meaningful. The number of people who write-in versus the number who vote will be one of the only ways candidates can get feedback from the student body at large; it will be the only way they know whether they should be charging ahead with their policies or spending their time talking to students and pursuing different goals.

Even though a lot of times it seems like the decisions the Student Union makes don't matter much to us as individuals, the truth is that they do. Last year's Student Union overhauled the way it distributes a significant amount of its funds to student groups. Over the past few years, Student Union has been behind

the push toward a lot of practical changes, including creating wireless Internet access and the ability to use campus cards in vending and laundry machines. Student Union is responsible for relaying students' concerns to the administration and has been in charge of communicating (and also determining whether to communicate) with the administration over issues students have with its policies. In the past, Student Union has considered concerns ranging from the disapproval of the new technology package and

asking for a sexual assault prevention coordinator to student protest over the firing of lecturer Jerome Bauer and desire for mixed gender housing options.

The issues Student Union handles affect our lives on a daily basis and affect how the University will be shaped. As students, we have an obligation to make sure that the people in charge of representing the student body actually represent us. If we don't pay attention, we don't have a voice. We need to make sure that our voice is really guiding the way that our University is developing. The way to do this is to actually vote for or against the visions of the candidates in the elections. After all, we can't hold a student government responsible for communicating the desires of the student body if it has no idea whether or not it is communicating those desires.

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



Jill Strominger

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# View from abroad: a reply to Dave Shapiro's notions

BY JOE O'CONNOR  
OP-ED SUBMISSION

I do Law at Oxford, and this is one of the few things you can still say in Britain that is almost guaranteed to get friends' parents to look at you approvingly. Your regular columnist, Dave Shapiro, may have spoken of the difficulty of history here, but when compared to law, reading history at Oxford is the mental equivalent of learning to break wind. Tutors consider time spent sleeping to be wasted, and god forbid you ever take a weekend off to go visit loved ones.

Certain things make life in Oxford bearable, however, and your regular columnist appears to have misconstrued most of them. The traditions, such as wearing gowns to go to Hall, may be a throwback, but they

add a structure and identity to Oxford that isn't found at other Universities.

One of the main ones, however, is the national excitement that rises around this time of year, when the Boat Race occurs. This annual battle of British educational titans is covered in the national press, normally focused exclusively on the lives of minor public figures, and is assured of an afternoon of prime time television. A 20-minute, four-and-a-bit mile long slog down the choppy waters of the Thames in London, the Boat Race brings together the country in a way not dissimilar to football's FA Cup final.

I say this mainly to prove your normal columnist wrong from an earlier column, when he wrote that Oxford had an apathetic attitude toward inter-

College sport. It's fairly obvious that he hasn't seen the right sports yet.

There is simply so much going on at Oxford, so many inter-College matches of different sorts that it is not feasible for many matches to attract large crowds of spectators. Rowing, however, is the exception to this. With only one meeting per term, lasting over several days, rowing brings huge crowds of students and local residents alike to the river, to watch young men and women pound their way through the water. Unlike America, we don't have sports scholarships; all of these students are among the brightest young people in Britain and are working toward extremely demanding degrees at the same time as training. In the summer, about 1,600 people take part, with twice or thrice

that coming to watch on the final, alcohol-fueled Saturday.

In saying that Eights Week Saturday is fueled by alcohol, I don't mean to suggest that the rest of term is not. As a result of the high stress levels created by the short terms and high workloads, your average Oxford student will take almost any opportunity to relax. It's a terrible cliché, but we work hard and play harder. There aren't many clubs in Oxford, but those there are, are regularly packed out during the week. Two or three times a term on a Saturday, Colleges will hold a themed bop, which depending on the College, will often include some manner of freebie for all those who come in fancy dress along the lines of the theme.

This fascination with alcohol, in addition to the morbid

British sense of humour, is often overwhelming for the American students who come over here on short-term visits. A friend and I went with some UGA students to a bar near College, after they'd been here for only a week or so. There, they were stunned by our casual attitude toward alcohol, our sailor's language and our morbid jokes about missing young girls. By the end of term, I heard that they had been kicked out of a pub for bad-mouthing a barman, something a true Brit would never do. Barmen provide the source of the amber nectar, and as such are ahead of the Queen in our allegiances.

This is most likely a symptom of a mental illness suffered by the University itself, if that is possible. The extremes are at times ridiculous; those

doing their final exams in the hushed hallowed Exam Schools are met outside by cheering throngs throwing all sorts of unsavory items, from champagne to cod, from confetti to calamari. But like all the best mental illnesses, this one has the effect of simply making life great. Even when the birds are singing outside and it's 4 a.m. and I haven't slept for 54 hours and the second essay isn't quite finished, all due to a simple trip to the girlfriend, I know that when it's done, it'll be amazing. So when the cannon fires on the Boat Race and the mad splashing commences, I'll forget law and exams, and shout loudly for the boys of Oxford. I wouldn't have it any other way.

*Joe is a junior at Keble College at Oxford University.*

# Collegiate incongruity: depantsing Petrarch

Incongruity. The spice of life. Like the Saturday night Alabama-Mississippi State game for the SEC quarterfinals heading into March Madness. Severe weather strikes Atlanta, and fragments of the arena's roof start falling down onto the basketball court. Kind of sad that everyone wants to watch this thing to see an Atlanta tornado blow down the Georgia Dome and kill 20,000 people. Our eyes were glued to the screen once debris started flying down from the roof of the place. Same reason we went to see 'Cloverfield.'

But on the funnier side is the incongruity between ESPN's mechanisms for sports reporting and the totally different nature of the stuff that the guys were trying to get across about this severe weather damage. After they show shots of the roof of the Georgia Dome rippling and getting torn up by the semi-tornado, they use the same little flying 'SEC' logo—zooming sound effect and all—to switch to the announcers. But the game isn't going on anymore. They're just analyzing the architecture of the building.

And then they switch to the guy down on the floor, usually interviewing a breathless player at halftime after his team's eight unanswered points in the last 40 seconds of the half. But now, the reporter is interviewing the guy who runs the arena about his response to the falling debris. "Now, how

did you coordinate that security response, Bob? That was quite a maneuver." College is a lot like the SEC quarterfinals. A lot of people, pretty high stakes that seem silly once something really bad threatens to happen. But also, it's similar in its adherence to the salsa that is incongruity. A lot of people's choice on Thursday night is between reading for their class the next day or getting really drunk and running around places. To me, this is hilarious. The ideal of knowledge is that it is gained in a vacuum, that learning has no boundaries, that the ivory tower is eternal. The reality is that limitations of time and space are everywhere. Whether it's the really annoying, loud guy next to me in Whispers stopping me from reading my Plato or my friend running into my room yelling "Oy—Get 'is trousers!" while I'm trying to wrap my head around Petrarch, the fact is that very vulgar and timely events are a major factor in our experience of what is supposed to be transcendent, timeless knowledge.

So, that's what's funniest to me in college. It's getting really drunk one night and waking up the next morning to do your lab for a class that will be the fundamental basis for your saving other people's lives in eight or so years. It's falling asleep in a lecture about the causes of Nazism because you were up

until four in the morning last night talking about boobs with your roommates. It's missing the difference between *Australopithecus anamensis* and *Australopithecus africanus* because you tripped on a patch of ice and fell on your face on the way to class. It's kind of a bummer, at first, that in these things that are supposed to be timeless and important, we're limited by these silly, practical distractions. But it's also a nice reminder that nothing is without context. As stupid as your walk to class seems in the morning, it's important. It gets you there.

*Dennis is a sophomore in Arts & Sciences and a Forum Editor. He can be reached via e-mail at forum@studlife.com.*



Dennis Sweeney



RACHEL HARRIS | STUDENT LIFE

# The new Independent on the block

BY ADITYA SARVESH  
STAFF COLUMNIST

To begin with, the idea of liberalism has been lost upon most Americans after the mid-1950s. The last shining example of liberalism was the civil rights movement. The true ideas of liberalism were founded in the post-Enlightenment era, with the likes of John Locke and Benjamin Franklin, and continued until the time of Martin Luther King Jr. and Mahatma Gandhi.

Today, when I think of liberals, I think of crazy feminists who denounce men and everything in this world that is associated with them or radical college students who protest things they don't understand but wish to undermine the authority.

By the way, I'm not saying that questioning certain acts of authority is wrong, just that the unnecessary and pointless protestation of every single little act of the government makes things worse for everybody.

But getting back to the point, liberals today are the direct opposite of what the Founding Fathers and other philosophers meant: Liberals today are closed-minded, reject contrary beliefs and try to fight everything the opposite faction represents. More importantly, it isn't just the left that has lost the idea of liberalism; there

are right-wing nut jobs who feel that their money and power entitles them a higher pedestal in society. The true meaning of liberalism must be reinstated to help those who are in need and to control those who seem tyrannical.

What does this civics lecture have to do with you, you ask. Well, as I watch the presidential elections more and more, I see that the word "change" is used over and over again, mainly by Democratic presidential candidate Senator Barack Obama of Illinois. When I ask students, "What does Obama plan on changing," they mutter (incoherently) words that sound like "healthcare, education, taxes," the usual suspects of a political election.

Granted, I am an Independent, and I also volunteer for the McCain campaign, so my views will be a little biased. But what bothers me most is the complete, mindless acceptance of partisan propaganda that the Democrats are spewing on this campaign season.

The ideas of 'change' have always been a part of each and every political platform, but this election seems to be obsessed with the word. Every politician spouts the same rhetoric every election season, yet how many have actually been able to keep their word? To me, Obama seems like a young

pup, whose eyes have just been opened to the reality of Washington within the last two years of his position as senator. He promises to change many things, but does he realize that he has to work with two parties in Congress, not just the Democrats?

At the same time, Clinton seems to be more seasoned, but I don't know how effective she can be in the White House. As a McCain supporter, I feel he is the best candidate, but there are some problems with his policies as well.

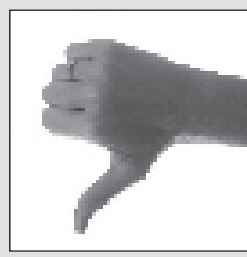
I'm sorry if I droned and complained incessantly like Carrie Bradshaw in her editorials (wait...not that I watch Sex and the City...damn my RA).

One of the main reasons I wanted to write this was to represent the voices of Independents or Libertarians or anybody else who has trouble hearing the same leftist propaganda again and again with no dissenting opinions.

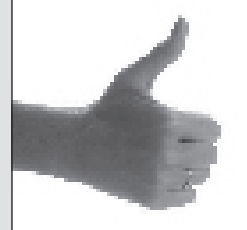
Thanks, and remember, please don't think of the Dixie Chicks when you hear the word "liberals," think of Benjamin Franklin, or at least Arnold Schwarzenegger.

*Aditya is a freshman in Arts & Sciences and a Staff Columnist. She can be reached via e-mail at asarvesh@arts.wustl.edu.*

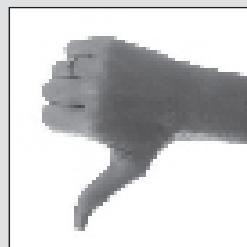
# OPPOSABLES



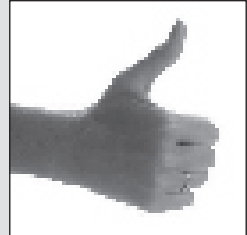
**RAIN**  
*Exactly how many consecutive hours has it been raining?*



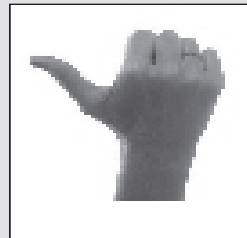
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*According to Forbes magazine, March Madness drains worker productivity and costs employers roughly \$3.8 billion.*



**ELIJOT SPITZER**  
*Enough said.*



**BARACK OBAMA**  
*You know you've done something right when your speech on race is compared to Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I have a dream" address.*



**MEAL POINTS**  
*There isn't a crisis yet, but certain students will soon begin feeling the meal point pinch that comes with the end of the school year. Start finding friends with lots of extra meal points.*

- Compiled by Nathan Everly

# SCENE

## Starting the weekend early: Thursday night clubbin' in the Lou

BY RACHEL METTER AND MEREDITH PLUMLEY  
SCENE REPORTERS

The pulse of the baseline reverberates throughout the crowded room. Students with permanent-marker Xs on their hands hit the dance floor, and others hit the bar. Jam-packed school buses pull up out front with a new load of partiers.

This is the Wash. U. club scene—and it gets going long before the weekend officially begins.

For many students, Thursday night clubbing is a great chance to express their inner Usher, meet people and even get a good workout. For some, it's a weekly ritual. Freshman Alex Kiles goes almost every Thursday.

"I like to get my groove on," said Kiles. "And it's good to get off campus."

Many students agree that the clubs give them a chance to escape the Wash. U. bubble for a night.

Each week, private groups or individuals sponsor trips to one of several local clubs. To advertise, groups post fliers around campus and also spread the word via Facebook. Sponsors often rent school buses to pick students up on campus and take them to the clubs, since many students would not be willing to fork over cab money and a cover charge.

One of the largest St. Louis club sponsors is 314 Events, a St. Louis marketing and event planning company run

by several Wash. U. students. The company hosts events at clubs and bars alike. Other groups, including fraternities and even the University baseball team, also sponsor club nights throughout the year.

Sponsored clubs include Dante's Ultralounge, Lucky's, SpyGlass, Ten14 and Lush. Each club has its own signature style and ambiance and students tend to venture to the spot that's got the vibe they like best.

"Lucky's has a pole," said freshman Ysabel Goldberg, adding that this feature makes Lucky's her favorite hotspot. "I just want to dance... Everyone is so consumed by the atmosphere and leaves their worries and their minds back on campus."

Dante's, which is Kiles' favorite club, is appealing for its size and décor.

"It has a cool atmosphere, and it's big but not too big," said Kiles.

Ten14, unlike some of the other venues, has a "style code" that changes from night to night. Their Web site lists 11 items that may never be worn at the club, including hoodies, long chains and "unstylish tennis shoes."

Once you've got the right outfit picked out, you might hit yet another obstacle: Some clubs never admit anyone under 21. However, most spots, including Ten14, admit those over 18 but will only serve alcohol to those of legal age.

Clubs tend to play a mixture of hip-hop, pop and techno music.

"I like dancing to anything I can sing to," said freshman David Atterman, who goes out regularly and has been to all of the main Thursday night venues.

Although these clubs can make for a great night out, they can also burn holes in your Coach wristlet. With cover charges ranging from \$5 to \$10—not to mention pricey drinks if you're over 21 (wink wink)—the clubs can be a very expensive way to find some fun. But many students are willing to pay the price for good times.

Sophomore Allison Rosenberg said, "The clubs are worth the money if there are a lot of people there."

Others agree that the larger the turnout, the more exciting the venue.

Upperclassmen often say that the 314 Events club scene is primarily for the youngins.

"It's a freshman thing, although it is still socially acceptable [to go] if you're older," said sophomore Crystal Okonta.

Regardless of age, students go for similar reasons. The club serves as a breeding ground for hot hookups that transcend grade level.

While this is a draw for some, the literal and figurative hotness of the club scene can be a turnoff for others.

"The club scene doesn't really offer a lot for someone in a long-term relationship," said sophomore Alex Rosenberg. "Plus, it's really cold [during winter]. Normally, if I want to hook up with a girl,

I'm willing to go out in the cold."

But Rosenberg said the club-going process can be just a little too much of a hassle during winter months.

The club scene certainly isn't for everyone. Okonta said she shies away for academic reasons.

"When you have nine o'clock orgo [the next morning], you tend to stay in," she said.

In addition to the St. Louis weather and Friday morning classes, many students complain that the bus system deters them from going out. On the busiest nights, competition for a seat can get intense; students have been known to push each other out of the way while scrambling to get on.

"The buses are kind of a hassle to catch," said Kiles. "There should be more buses or more frequent buses."

Goldberg agreed. "Sometimes the buses just leave people behind."

Atterman isn't complaining, though. "I think it's nice that [the sponsors] even provide [the buses]... I think the rush of getting on the bus is more exciting than the club—it's the most fun part of my night."

Overall, the clubs are what you make of them, should you choose to accept the mission. Whether you end up walking it out or getting low, squeezing into a bus or grabbing a taxi home, you will hopefully have fond memories of the Wash. U. club scene.

**Lucky's**  
http://www.myspace.com/luckysstl

**PROS—**  
Downtown, on Washington Ave.  
Go-go pole (occasionally, go-go dancers)  
Raised VIP area, dance floor  
Coat check  
Wider range of clientele

**CONS—**  
Not a lot of seating  
Must cross dance floor to get to bar, bathrooms  
Known as one of the less classy options

**Dante's**  
http://www.dantesstl.com/

**PROS—**  
Large dance floor  
Large second room  
Two large bars  
Coat check  
Free salsa lessons Fridays

**CONS—**  
Occasional higher cover charges

**Spyglass**

**PROS—**  
Classy décor  
Closer than most clubs  
Pool tables  
Coat check

**CONS—**  
Small  
Tiny dance floor  
Smog machine  
Limited seating

**Lush**  
http://lushstl.com/

**PROS—**  
Four levels (including a rooftop patio)  
Three bars, two private rooms, one waterfall  
Plush velvet walls  
Booth/table seating  
Large, new

**CONS—**  
Can be very crowded  
Dress code enforced

**Morgan Street Brewery**  
http://www.morganstreetbrewery.com/

**PROS—**  
No cover charge  
Location on Laclede's Landing  
In-house brews for low prices  
Pool tables  
Musical variety  
Metrolink access  
Other late-night venues nearby  
Musical variety

**CONS—**  
21+ only  
No B-School buses  
Metrolink shuts down at midnight, so taxis/rides necessary  
No coat check

**Ten14**  
http://ten14.net/

**PROS—**  
Sushi restaurant by day  
Known to be a classier option  
Elegant lounge area  
Cozy booths overlooking dance floor  
Upstairs VIP areas  
Smaller, but more intimate venue

**CONS—**  
Dance floor gets packed  
Bathroom doors kept open all night

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Breakfast for All 8:45 a.m.  
Easter Egg Hunt 9:30 a.m.  
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# CADENZA

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

## arts & entertainment

### MOVIE REVIEW

## 'Funny Games'

BY MATT KARLAN  
CADENZA REPORTER

I imagine that German film writer/director Michael Haneke once received a phone call along these lines:

"Ja?"  
"Hello Michael, this is American actress Naomi Watts. We met once at some awards show. You remember?"

He pauses briefly, utterly confounded by the situation.

"Ja?"  
"Great. Look, I just rented 'Funny Games' on the Netflix, really enjoyed it. Thought it was thought-provoking, incisive, perfect for an American remake. So look, you direct, I'll star and executive produce. It'll be fun, ja?"  
Haneke hangs up.

The incomparable Michael Haneke's writer/director credits include the sadistic "Benny's Video" and the mental purging that is "Caché." Now he has brought to American audiences a remake of what may be his most disturbing project, the 1997 Austrian film, "Funny Games." And no, the film's not at all humorous.

The picture's a remake in language and actors only. Haneke's American "Funny Games" follows the original shot for shot, but the language now changes from German to English, and unknown German actors become Naomi Watts and Tim Roth.

Now, why would one do this? Gus Van Sant was

famously lambasted for releasing a shot by shot remake of Alfred Hitchcock's "Psycho" in 1998. Van Sant supposedly wanted to expose the film to a new audience. But Vince Vaughn and Anne Heche were showered in bad reviews, as they couldn't compare to the original's Anthony Perkins and Janet Leigh. It turned out that American audiences were just fine with keeping some films in black and white.

At least Michael Haneke remade his own film instead of bastardizing the work of some unsuspecting, deceased director. But still, Haneke needed a pretty convincing reason to simply reshoot his film without improving any aspects, just simply changing the language spoken.

"Funny Games" follows a well-off family, comprised of mother Ann, father George, and son Georgie, (transliterally changed from the original's Anna, Georg and son Schorsch). They drive to their vacation home with their boat and dog and the men immediately set off to dock the boat while wifey cuts vegetables and talks on the phone. A young harmless teenage boy Peter comes to

the door wearing all white, including white gloves, asking for eggs. Mother Ann makes the mistake of letting someone with white latex gloves in the house and events begin to escalate until Paul and Peter have everyone bound or incapacitated in the living room.

Then they announce the titular game: The family wins if they're alive in 12 hours; if not, they lose. So the rules are relatively simple to follow. The film then becomes progressively more warped with a salvo of jarring scenes until (God forbid) NASCAR gives you the willies.

This film entails a laundry list of my pet peeves. It's a remake, and a melodramatic one at that. It has loads of plot holes. It unnecessarily breaks the fourth wall numerous times, as Peter directly addresses the audience, questioning their thought processes. The New York Times implied this device made the film overly pretentious, and the New York Times knows its pretension.

And yet, it all works thanks to the brilliant performances across the board. The family members, played by Roth, Watts and young Devon Gearhart, have their emotions dripping from their faces, each motion equally deliberate and telling. And the two deranged young men remain eerily polite, coming off more like bothered houseguests than cold-blooded killers. Michael Pitt and Brady Corbet pull off these

roles with such intense, almost irritating cordiality that the viewer cannot help but be frightened by the film's entirely realistic nature.

So bravo to Michael Haneke for not making any compromises. I imagine the first time I saw the original version I said something along the lines of, "I need a very cold shower." But I just as easily could have said, "This is a film that will never be remade for American audiences." Because the film does not actually chronicle a story or a series of happenings. The ending especially (which the remake now somewhat clarifies in my native language) reveals that "Funny Games" is simply an exercise in violence. It gives nothing in the form of traits that American audiences drool over, such as redemption or retribution. And so Haneke's stellar reason for essentially copying his film must have been to see if American audiences could handle it, a type of film not seen since the heyday of Stanley Kubrick.

What possessed Warner Independent studios to finance this picture is beyond me, because there is absolutely no way it makes a profit. But I applaud their release of something novel. And I promise that all those who see it will feel something with tremendous passion, whether it be wonderment or indignation. It will be undoubtedly memorable and that's a convincing reason to see any film.

### ALBUM REVIEW

## Music meets Atari in 'Crystal Castles'

BY DAVID KAMINSKY  
CADENZA REPORTER

After a whole host of indie acclaim for the various singles they've released over the past two years, Crystal Castles has released their first LP: a self-titled, 16-track disc containing both brand new tracks and many favorites from their previously released singles.

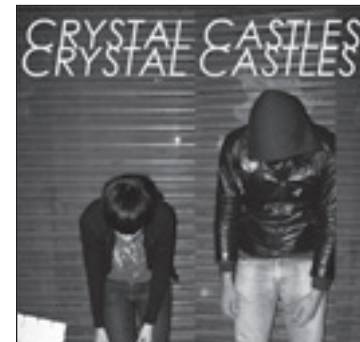
Crystal Castles was formed as a project by Ethan Kath who was later joined by Alice Glass on vocals. Their sound is distinctly electronic but unique among the genre. The reason for this is their unusual instrumentation: most notably, the placing of an Atari 5200 sound chip inside a keyboard.

Using their strange instrumentation, Crystal Castles have seemingly created two different kinds of songs on the album. One more mild in manner and typical of most electronic acts' sound, the other ringing with abrasive chimes that truly do sound straight out of a video game and with penetratingly scratchy vocals

from Glass.

It's almost as though this should have been broken up into two different albums. One that is pretty much a compilation of songs previous released as singles and EPs (as these are mostly of the abrasive style) and one of the new tracks (as these are mostly more mild in manner). However, what we have is one single album with two personalities, and while it works better than one might expect it to due to the sheer strengths of the songs of both styles, it could have been executed better.

Crystal Castles' more abrasive tracks are what made this such an anticipated release in the first place and the versions on the new LP are mostly the same and thus still outstanding. "Alice Practice," which was made a song by accident (as it literally a vocal test they did when Glass first joined Kath) is arguably the best song of the CD as the Atari chimes and screeching vocals propel the song through all two minutes and 41 seconds with a ruth-



Crystal Castles  
Crystal Castles

Rating: ★★★★★☆

Tracks to download: "Alice Practice," "Untrust Us," "Air War"

For fans of: Dan Deacon, The DeathSet, Hot Chip, electronic/experimental dance music

See CASTLES, page 10

## This Season at the Saint Louis Art Museum

Thursday, Mar. 20  
7:00 pm

A Conversation with Nancy Rubins  
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.

Friday, Mar. 28  
7:00 pm

As Smart As We Are—The Author Project  
Performed by One Ring Zero. Grigg Gallery—Free

The Brooklyn-based band led by Michael Hearst and Joshua Camp has released six CDs including their critically acclaimed album *As Smart as We Are*, featuring lyrics by such noted authors as Jonathan Lethem, Margaret Atwood, and A. M. Homes. One Ring Zero has performed at music venues and cultural institutions throughout the world.

Thursday, April 3  
7:00 pm

The Houses of Frank Lloyd Wright  
Robert McCarter. Auditorium—Free

Join architect, historian, and author Robert McCarter as he explores the interior spaces, materials, construction, and connections to nature in Wright's Prairie, Concrete Block, and Usonian Houses. This lecture is cosponsored by The Frank Lloyd Wright House in Ebsworth Park.

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- 9:30 p.m. - Maundy Thursday Vigil at the Church of the Holy Communion with fellowship, stories, vigils by shifts in the chapel, "Jesus Christ Superstar," & "The Life of Bryan"\*

### Good Friday — 3/21

- 7:00 a.m. - Good Friday Service at the Church of the Holy Communion
- 7:00 p.m. - Stations of the Cross at Rockwell House

### Easter Sunday — 3/23

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ALBUM REVIEWS

# The Presidents of the United States of America: 'These Are the Good Times People'

BY MATT KARLAN  
CADENZA REPORTER

Since the release of their eponymous album in 1995, The Presidents of the United States of America (that I will from here on call PUSA in the interest of space) have not been the best of hitmakers. They've put out albums, three to be exact, but none with the contagious hooks or chart presence of their earliest hits, "Lump" and "Peaches." Although, they have been indomitable theme song champions, with such standards as "Cleveland Rocks!" and "My Date with the President's Daughter," to name but a few.

The band members have also had side projects, the most notable with Sir-Mix-A-Lot in a sort of late 90s rock/hip-hop conglomerate. But the sides distanced from one another as Sir-Mix-A-Lot wanted to move toward a more electronic sound and PUSA wasn't feeling it. PUSA ruined the collabo band of my mash-up wet dreams and they haven't released anything worth a listen since. What gives?

But if one listens to the blogosphere, an arena that always spits the truth, PUSA has been stockpiling its creative juices for this new LP, "These Are the Good Times People." OK, lay it on me, PUSA. (I'm having too much fun writing that acronym.)

If one judges an album by song titles alone (I'm looking at you Deaf Student Union) then

this album would be the bees knees. "Truckstop Butterfly," "Flame is Love," "Poor Turtle," now these all sound poppy and uppity. And they actually are. But the striking problem on the album is, everything is just like that. Not only do all songs sound hauntingly similar to one another, but they just sound like inferior versions of their earlier hits. For the entire back half of the album if my Walkman hadn't read differently I would never have noticed a track switch; I thought the band was just consistently spouting non-sequiturs for a 30-minute duration.

A majority of the tracks had funny, but ultimately trite lyrics. An album can succeed in that fashion if the tracks do not become too repetitive, i.e. They Might Be Giants in the late-1980s/early 1990s. And this PUSA endeavor began with innovative wordsmithery that would make Roget blush, reminiscent of their glory days. But it all too soon became unnecessar-

ily quirky metalanguage, as the dregs of the album overstayed their welcome. For example, I really don't think that the omnipresence of ghosts in modern society has anything to do with the availability of "customized cookies," but there may be something I don't know.

I don't understand why PUSA waited so long to release an album that sounds like a lame rehashing of their old favorites. I'd much rather have a band falter by moving too far out of their comfort zone and releasing a concept album that nobody understands, except for those pesky indie kids that say they understand but they are actually oblivious like the rest of us normies. Honestly, they could have tried harder. So try harder next time PUSA, because if you really believe that "These Are the Good Times People," then I feel bad for railing this PUSA album. Because the times that preceded must have really blown for them.



**The Presidents of the United States of America**  
*These Are the Good Times People*

Rating: ★★☆☆☆  
Tracks to download: "Ladybug," "Ghosts are Everywhere," "Loose Balloon"  
For fans of: They Might Be Giants, jumping up and down continuously

# Mia Doi Todd: 'Gea'

BY ANDREW SENTER  
CADENZA REPORTER

Mia Doi Todd's new album "Gea" is a mellow and seductive acoustic album that at its best provides a forum for her distinctive voice to shine. Her deep, sultry voice is able to adapt to the differing moods of the tracks on "Gea." The best songs really allow her voice to shine through, whether it is a haunting melody or a sad, reflective love song. Unfortunately, not every track is able to do this. Some of the tracks feel indistinct and staid. Luckily, these songs are in the minority and overall Mia Doi Todd's new album is a strong collection of acoustic music.

The opening track of the album is able to highlight both the strengths and weaknesses that appear throughout "Gea."

The first song, "River of Life/The Yes Song" is an ambitious, ten-minute long, two-part song. The first part, "River of Life," is a great introduction to the album. It highlights Doi Todd's distinct, deep voice and has memorable lyrics. The song loses steam during the transition to the second part of the tune. The "Yes Song" part of the track does not have the power of the first half of the song. The "Yes Song" is somewhat indistinct and lacks the

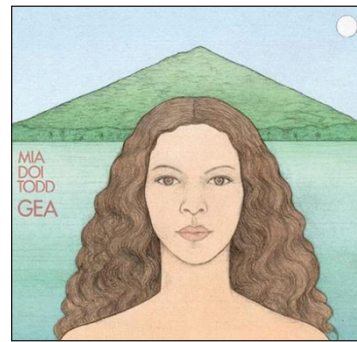
power of the opening half of the song.

It must be noted that the tracks on "Gea" that feel a bit indistinct are not due to Ms. Doi Todd's voice lacking any power. It is instead due to uninventive music that leaves her no room to display her vocal prowess. Songs such as "Night of a Thousand Kisses" and "Old World/New World" feel a bit languid due to the lack of musical distinctness.

The tracks that tend to drag on are luckily few and far between. Most of the tracks on the album are able to highlight the most distinct aspect of Ms. Doi Todd, her powerful and deep voice. Her ability to make her voice adapt to the lyrics of the song is spectacular. Songs such as "Sleepless Nights" and "Kokoro" are elevated by her vocal abilities. On "Sleepless Nights" she is able to com-

municate her sense of anguish in a haunting and memorable manner. On "Kokoro" her voice guides the listener through a love song with an impressive amount of feeling. Even when she is not singing in English, as in "Esperar es Cara," she is able to communicate tons of emotion and expressiveness.

Even though not every track on Mia Doi Todd's new album "Gea" is a complete grand slam, her beautiful and memorable voice never lets "Gea" become intolerable. On the contrary, many of the songs are elevated by Doi Todd's vocal prowess. Her best tracks are extremely enjoyable and memorable acoustic music. Also, Mia Doi Todd will be performing on campus this Wednesday. She will be opening for Jose Gonzalez. They will be playing at Graham Chapel. It is definitely worth checking out.



**Mia Doi Todd**  
*Gea*

Rating: ★★★★★☆  
Tracks to download: "Esperar Es Caro," "Sleepless Nights," "Kokoro"  
For fans of: Regina Spektor, Joni Mitchell

## CASTLES ❖ FROM PAGE 9

lessness not seen in the rest of the album.

"Xzczuzx Me" and "Love and Caring," while not reaching the level of intensity "Alice

Practice" achieves, come close and are two other highlights of the album. "1983 1991," "Air War" and their remix of Health's "Crimewave" also

contain their fair share of Atari chirps and chimes while being a bit more mellow and traditionally danceable (i.e. not hardcore dancing).

"Untrust Us" falls into the second type of song as the Atari noises are less prominent. However, the strange warped vocals and brilliantly catchy beat make it one of the best tracks on the disc by far. "Vanished" is another fantastic track of this variety with a rare addition of male vocals.

There are, unfortunately, a couple tracks that are less fantastic. "Magic Spells" is nice for a bit but doesn't go very far. Considering how repetitive it is, it certainly shouldn't be six minutes long. "Good Times" does not have an all too fantastic or distinct sound either and its vocals are some of the worst on the album.

Even with its shortcomings, "Crystal Castles" is a great first LP from what is one of the most interesting and original groups in the current music scene. Whether you're into electronica, dance music, experimental music or something else, it's likely you'll find something enjoyable about this album. At the very least, it'll make you miss playing your old Atari.

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## WU INTRAMURAL NEWS

Entries are now being accepted for the following:

Sport	Divisions	Entry Deadline
Track & Field	Men's, Women's	Thurs. Mar. 20
Event: March 24th		

**IF there are still openings available, we will accept entries for our Sports Trivia Bowl through Wednesday, March 19th**

**THE INTRAMURAL SPORTS OFFICE WISHES THE WU MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM ALL THE BEST AT THIS YEAR'S FINAL FOUR!!!!**

*Reminder to all the Intramural Tennis players to report their match scores to the IM Office by Monday, March 31st.*

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### Sudoku By The Mepham Group

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

**Level:** 1 2 3 4

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

**Solution to Wednesday's (3/5/08) puzzle**

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

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### Crossword

ACROSS

- Stream of light
- Uh...excuse me
- Mediocre
- Eagle's nest
- Mark for removal
- Break in the action
- Twisted string
- Narcissistic
- Actor Morales
- Puts in peril
- Me, too
- James Dean film
- Tom Hanks movie
- Most passe
- Scamps
- Stopwatch
- Bones in forearms
- Actor Torn
- Ripened
- Loaf or roll
- Cheerio!
- Gray Johnny
- Emancipates
- Supply food and service
- Cinematic preview
- Vendors
- Common gull
- Video image unit
- Trinity
- Paraphrasing
- Kong
- Agreement
- Type of orange
- Memory method
- Highlands hillside
- Make merry
- E.T.s' transports
- Transmit
- Tightly packed
- Yale students
- Guys
- Santa's transportation
- Throw out
- Louver element
- Hodgepodge
- Tank filler
- Andrew Clay
- Pitt of "Seven Years in Tibet"
- Commence
- Woods with metal woods?
- One-celled organism
- Single-handed
- Really angry
- Salt peter
- Bowsprits
- Jeans brand
- Concoct
- Whopper
- Went on the lam
- Did domestic work
- Pictures in the mind

DOWN

- Overfill
- Felled
- Like the Sahara
- Wangled
- More diminutive
- Indiana Jones, for one
- Core
- Dept. phone number
- Pie nut
- By way of, briefly
- Skyline component
- Division word
- Seldom seen
- Terrible leader?
- Seines
- Elation
- Network of "Frontline"

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# SU UPDATE

## 3.19 XBEAUTYX Presents: Is Dating Dead? Ursa's Fireside, 7pm

**Reflections Presents:****"Not Just a White Girl's Thing:****The Changing Face of Food and Body Image Disorders"****Lecture with Professor Susan Bordo****Wilson 214, 6 pm****Green Action, Amnesty International, and  
Delta Sigma Pi Present: ReFocus the Nation****An Interdisciplinary look at climate change and  
our future.****Brown 118, 4-8 pm**

## 3.21 The Solution Presents:

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