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Three members of the men's tennis team competed in the Wilson/ITA National Small College Championships. Check sports for the story.



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Scene brings advice expertise to Student Life with their new feature, 'We've Scene it All!' Roommate issues? Scene's your place.

Check out our online slideshow of photographs snapped at Saturday's rally by the Arch.



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Monday, October 20, 2008

Conservative speaker to address Islamic extremism

Students prepare to protest Pipes

Bryan Beth
Contributing Reporter

Dr. Daniel Pipes, a conservative columnist and activist, will speak on campus about issues involving extremist Islamic groups Tuesday night, prompting a range of reactions from conservative supporters to Muslim detractors.

The speech is part of a larger, national event called Islamo-Fascism Awareness Week, which aims to raise awareness about the problems extremist groups pose to the global community, and will be hosted by the Conservative Leadership Association (CLA).

Pipes' appearance is being funded by the David Horowitz Freedom Center and the Leadership Institute, two conservative, nonpartisan associations. The CLA did not seek Student Union (SU) funding for the event because the group does not have an official SU budget.

"There is still a threat from radical Islam," senior Charis Fischer, president of the College Republicans, said. "The fact that this issue is being brought up at all is beneficial for campus."

Pipes will address the influence of radical Muslim groups and their effect within Western and Islamic society in a speech entitled "Vanquishing the Islamist Enemy & Helping the Moderate Muslim Ally."

Pipes has previously taught at Harvard University and was nominated by President Bush to the U.S. Institution of Peace, receiving the position by recess appointment.

"If you are going to be talking about a touchy subject, it is good to bring in an expert," sophomore Caleb Posner, the CLA events manager, said. "[Pipes] has much experience on the topic of extremist groups, having written several books and articles on the issue."

The CLA will also be providing free copies of the video "Obsession: Radical Islam's War Against the West," which draws comparisons between contemporary radical Islamists and the Nazi Party, at the event.

Pipes has incited controversy in the past with his conservative outlook on international conflicts, especially those involving radical Islam. However, Posner defended Pipes against claims of bigotry and hatred.

"Issues that are not politically correct don't get much attention, and those of different views—at times—just don't look at what Dr. Pipes is saying with an open mind," he said.

The Washington University Peace Coalition (WUPC), however, which demonstrated against the Iraq war last year, plans to protest Pipes' visit to campus as well.

"Dr. Pipes' rhetoric expands far beyond the scope of extreme Islam, taking on a guilty until proven innocent view of people who follow Islam," Adam Shriver, graduate student and WUPC founder, said.

WUPC plans to expose Pipes' "fear tactics to promote his right-

See PIPES, page 3



Daniel Pipes is director of the Middle East Forum, a think tank in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He will speak on campus tomorrow.

Reflections by two economists on a collapse come true

Puneet Kollipara
News Editor

One year ago, two Washington University economists made a prediction about the future of the U.S. economy: a crisis on the order of the 1981 recession.

Professor of Economics Steven Fazzari and 2005 alumnus and University of Chicago Ph.D. student Barry Cynamon co-authored a paper in 2007 titled "Household Debt in the Consumer Age: Source of Growth—Risk of Collapse." The paper, which is now being updated to reflect the recent happenings of the economy, warned of the possibility of a severe recession.

With the continued housing and subprime mortgage crises, the widespread collapse of financial firms like Bear Stearns and Lehman Brothers and a slowdown in consumer spending, their predictions seem to have been accurate.

"Even though I somewhat saw this coming, it still takes my breath away when I see how significant the problems are in the financial sector," Fazzari said.

Fazzari thinks, however, that he and Cynamon underestimated the crisis' actual severity.

"I didn't foresee such a dramatic crisis of confidence in financial markets," he said. "I probably didn't appreciate how the complex derivatives, and the heavy leverage of the financial markets would lead to this kind of cascading failure and the need for such dramatic governmental intervention."

Fazzari and Cynamon argued in their paper that certain historical and financial conditions in the

past two decades created an environment of high consumption and debt spending, leading to a large increase in the past 20 years in spending on household debt.

In the past, with conditions favorable to taking out loans and mortgages, debt spending by households, according to the paper, could lead to greater financial fragility and eventually a collapse known as the Minsky moment, which is named for the late Hyman Minsky, a former economist at the University.

"Minsky's theory in a nutshell says we have systematic periods where there's a big financial boom, lots of euphoria, lots of excitement and rising asset prices," Fazzari said. "But ultimately it's unsustainable and becomes more financially fragile, and that's the Minsky moment, when you shift from the boom to a collapse."

With the country's recent financial meltdown, Fazzari believes the economy has reached the Minsky moment, but he does not think the country is headed for another Great Depression.

"There's aggressive moves by the Fed, fiscal stimulus from the government likely to be coming," he said. "There's a much more coordinated action to try to contain the damage to the economy."

Fazzari does believe, however, that consumer spending will continue to slow, unemployment will rise as high as eight percent and the country will have to endure a significant recession.

Fazzari has reached out to the public to educate people about the crisis. On Sept. 24, he delivered an Assembly Series talk discussing the state of the U.S. economy

See ECONOMY, page 3

Panel discussion highlights dangers of nuclear weapons

John Scott
Staff Reporter

Five Washington University students warned a crowd of 40 about the dangers of nuclear proliferation after attending a forum on the issue at Fudan University in Shanghai last summer.

Seniors Hillary Moffet and Meghan Luecke, junior Neehar Garg and third year law student Kay Parish shared their experiences at a presentation titled "Nuclear Weapons and You," which took place this past Wednesday in the Danforth University Center. The fifth member of the group, University alum Michael Morgan, is still in China.

The University students noted that Russia and the United States maintain the two largest stockpiles of nuclear weapons and that China is rapidly developing their missile delivery systems. While the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty names five legal nuclear states, other states have developed nuclear weapons as well, according to the presentation.

Moffet said that the treaties have been rendered ineffective since other countries developed nuclear weapons despite signing treaties against their development, such as the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), ratified in 1968.

"The success of the NPT has been dwindling, but there's a real push by a lot of different people to try and get it enforced again," Moffet said.

Luecke listed a number of

reasons why states are willing to eliminate nuclear weapons, such as the threat of terrorism, which has recently become a major concern and is gaining importance, according to Luecke.

"The idea that nuclear technology could get into the hands of a non-state actor, a terrorist group, is pretty powerful," she said. "The idea of reducing or limiting all nuclear weapons would be in part to make sure there's nothing available for terrorist groups to get their hands on."

Moffet said that while there are still thousands of nuclear weapons in existence, there has been significant progress made toward disarmament.

"The good news is that both [the U.S. and Russia] have begun massive scale-downs. There really has been a lot of progress since each of these nations were at their peak," she said.

According to Moffet, Russia was believed to have 70,000 weapons at one point and is now down to 15,000, while the U.S. decreased their arsenal from 30,000 to about 10,000 weapons.

"The real problems we run into [is] the game theory idea of 'chicken model.' No one really wants to get rid of their weapons first because they're not assured that the other nation would then follow," Moffet said. "We're really running into this issue on an international level of 'who goes first?'"

Members of the presenting group also spoke on the influence of nuclear weapons in Taiwan,

See NUCLEAR, page 3

Obama rally at Arch draws 100K



MATT MITGANG/STUDENT LIFE

According to the Obama campaign, approximately 100,000 people attended Obama's Saturday rally under the Gateway Arch. This event had the largest attendance of any Obama event in the United States, including his acceptance speech at the Democratic National Convention in Denver, Colo. this past August. The only event larger in terms of attendance was Obama's event in Berlin, Germany in July.

WU College Dems, Students for Barack Obama in attendance

Michelle Merlin
Contributing Reporter

The area around Liberty Memorial and the Gateway Arch was crowded with 100,000 people on Saturday afternoon, all of whom had a single intent: to see Barack Obama.

The Democratic presidential nominee addressed a culturally-di-

verse crowd, which stretched back to the St. Louis streets in the largest U.S. crowd at an Obama rally to date, on a number of topics related to the economy, including taxes, health care reform, job creation and standing up for the working class.

This message was echoed by Kenan Morrison, a sixth grade teacher at a St. Louis charter school who introduced the Democratic presi-

dential nominee, telling the crowd that he "knows Barack Obama will give [students] the education they deserve."

Thousands of people wound around the Gateway Arch early in the morning and were accosted by vendors selling merchandise for Obama, campaign volunteers check-

See OBAMA, page 7

THE FLIPSIDE

weatherforecast

Monday 20

Mostly Sunny
High 70
Low 46



Tuesday 21

Mostly Sunny
High 63
Low 46



eventcalendar

MONDAY 20

Dance Marathon Benefit Night at Pi
Pi, 6144 Delmar Ave., 5 p.m. to 12 a.m.
Come to Pi Monday night, where part of the proceeds from pizza sales benefit Dance Marathon. It's a good cause and the food is delicious!

Marrow Registry Drive
JKL Residential College, 6 to 9 p.m.
Take a chance to save a life by registering for the National Marrow Registry. Nine drives will be held throughout the week.

TUESDAY 21

Panel on Guantanamo Torture
Wilson 214, 7 to 9 p.m.
Join the Wash. U. chapter of Amnesty International and a panel of medical, legal and military experts who will discuss the effects of torture at Guantanamo Bay.

Conservative Leadership Association
Speaker: Daniel Pipes
Lab Sciences 300, 9 p.m.
Daniel Pipes, a noted columnist and professor, will speak to students in a lecture entitled "Vanquishing the Islamist Enemy & Helping the Moderate Muslim Ally."

newsbriefs

National

Baylor offers rewards for retaking SAT, draws criticism

Baylor University in Waco, Texas, a private University with 14,000 students, is offering \$300 credit to the campus bookstore for incoming freshmen who retake the SAT. Students who increase their overall scores by 50 points receive a \$1,000 merit scholarship. The plan has drawn sharp criticism from faculty at Baylor and other institutions.

The Faculty Senate passed a motion criticizing the plan. John Barry, a spokesman for the University, said the plan is intended to allow better distribution of merit aid, but other faculty members are skeptical about the stated motives. Specifically, some believe it was an effort to improve the University's ranking.

"I do think there was an underlying motivation to increase the average SAT scores and therefore improve our position with regard to the rankings," Robert Cloud, a professor at the university, said.

Philip Ballinger, director of admissions at the University of Washington, served on a panel to study potential misuses of such tests by universities. "I'm just astounded that rankings would drive policy to such an extent," Ballinger said. (John Scott)

Early voting key in battleground states

Although Election Day is two weeks away, many votes have already been cast through early voting or absentee voting, which is available in every state. The results of these votes will not be released until November 4, but analysis of voters show that Barack Obama, the Democratic nominee, has been more aggressive in courting the votes.

Democrats hold an advantage among those in heavily Democratic areas in Georgia, Iowa, North Carolina and Ohio while Republicans appear to be ahead in Florida. Indiana is evenly split. President Bush took all six of the states in 2004.

While Obama could win the absentee voting race and is pushing early voting with speeches, e-mails, and other means, John McCain and the Republican party have a large database of voter information and have had strong get-out-the-vote operations in the past.

With fewer restrictions, about one third of voters are expected to use absentee or early voting, compared to 22 percent in 2004.

The efforts have raised controversy, especially in Ohio where Republicans challenged the legality of a weeklong period in October when people were able to register and vote on the same day. State and federal courts upheld the early voting period. Democrats predicted that tens of thousands of college students would both register and vote for Obama at that time. (John Scott)

International

Taliban attack kills dozens

Taliban insurgents pulled 50 passengers off a bus and beheaded as many as 30 of them, according to officials in Afghanistan's Kandahar province. The insurgents claimed that they were soldiers traveling in civilian clothes.

According to the police chief of Kandahar, six of the bodies had been recovered, all of them beheaded and mutilated. The other 24 bodies had not been found.

The attack took place on the main road connecting Kandahar to Herat, a town in western Afghanistan. The area is known by officials to be infested with the Taliban and attacks on military convoys are a frequent occurrence. It is the main road for British and Afghan troops to reach the Helmand Province, the strongest area for the insurgency.

The Taliban attacks follow a pattern of intimidation in order to undermine support for the Afghan government.

General Zaher Azimi, a military spokesman, said that the men killed could not have been soldiers since the army travels in military convoys or by air. (John Scott)

policebeat

INFORMATIONAL REPORT Oct. 14, 2008-Tuesday at 3:24 p.m.
Location: MCMILLAN HALL
Summary: Department received mail with strange ramblings written on the outside of the envelope. Turned over to the PD.
Disposition: Pending.

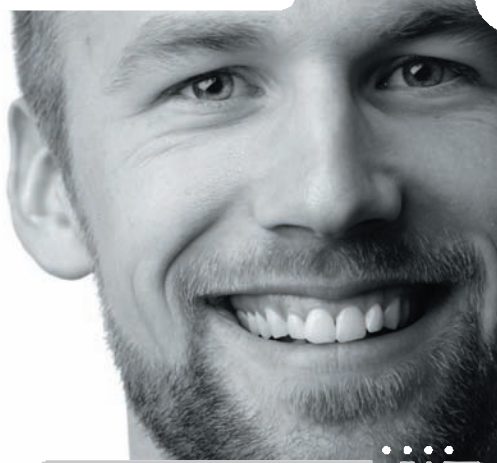
FRAUD Oct 15, 2008-Wednesday at 10:55 a.m.
Location: NEMEROV RESIDENCE HALL
Summary: Complainant reported a scam when she received a check for the sale of a printer with the buyer requesting her to wire the overage of money from the check into another account. Disposition: Pending.

quoteoftheday

"For the first time I realized I was a part of Missouri."

Freshman Limor Zisbrod, upon seeing Barack Obama speak at the St. Louis Arch

Josh Taber, RN Graduate
Rush University
College of Nursing



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Human Rights and Guantanamo Bay

Washington University's Amnesty International, National Security Network, and Physicians for Human Rights invite you to an event on torture at Guantanamo and Abu Ghraib featuring:

General James Cullen

Dr. Steven Reisner

Tuesday, October 21 at 7 PM
Wilson 214
Free and Open to the Public



Join us at the family table.



New Restaurant Opening in Fenton

A zesty bowl of pasta, a distinctive Chianti, the spirited discussion of family around a table - our guests don't have to cross the Atlantic to experience the magic of Italy. In fact, it's right here at our brand new restaurant located in Fenton. Not only do we demand the best and freshest products, cooked expertly, but we need talented people like you to help create an environment where food, family and fun come together to make something magical.

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www.olivegarden.com/employ

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PIPES from page 1

wing agenda."

The demonstration will be co-sponsored by other University student groups, such as the College Democrats, Amnesty International, Pride Alliance and Students for a Democratic Society. These groups will not only be present at the speech to stage a protest, but will also offer an academic response panel to Pipes' speech, on Oct. 29.

Professor Fatemeh Keshavarz, chair of the Asian and Near Eastern Studies department, has organized the academic panel. Keshavarz has intensively covered Middle Eastern studies and Western responses to Islam, including the video "Obsession."

"The video has many factual errors," Keshavarz said. "It is made up of scary scenes of war and hate rallies which don't make a documentary."

A number of students, both Muslim and not, who oppose Islamo-Fascism Awareness Week, hope that Pipes will have a low impact on campus, but feel that they are

relatively free from discrimination against their creed or religion.

"I have never felt adversity directed toward me because of my religion," freshman Ali Hong, a Muslim, said.

Sophomore Arvind Miriyala expressed similar feelings about the student body's perceptions.

"Even without [Islamofascism Awareness Week], I don't think that I've ever experienced any discrimination on campus," Miriyala said.

The Muslim Students Association and College Democrats could not be reached for comment.

Posner said that Pipes can still aid campus discourse by bolstering support for moderate Muslims and reminding the student body of the grave danger Islamic radicalism presents.

"His speech will hopefully deal with this campus' apathy toward the subject," he said. "There will hopefully be a broad audience which will come with an open mind, whether or not they agree with everything he has to say."

Boeing unveils a new college ranking system

Aycan Nur Sagir
Contributing Reporter

Thanks to records on roughly 35,000 engineers, Boeing, a major airplane producer, now has enough data to interpolate which universities have produced the best employees.

Boeing plans to unveil the ranking results to those universities this month.

The ranking system seeks to improve the dialogue on curriculum, performance and Boeing's ability to build strong relationships with universities, according to Vice President for Human Resources and Administration Richard D. Stephens in the Chronicle of Higher Education.

Nick Benassi, assistant dean for public relations in the Washington University School of Engineering and Applied Science, reported that Boeing has stayed



COURTESY OF BOEING

Boeing company's location in Salt Lake City. Boeing plans to unveil its own college ranking system this month.

true to Stephens' words, and that the company has formed stronger connections with engineering schools.

"The School of Engineering

values its partnerships with industry, especially with the Boeing Company," Benassi said. "Rep-

See **BOEING** page 7

NUCLEAR from page 1

North Korea and Georgia.

James Wertsch, a professor and director of the International and Area Studies program, attended the event and is interested in sending another group to the nuclear weapons forum next year.

"[The forum] is kind of an ongoing diplomatic experience," Wertsch said. "We do talk about nuclear arms; we're very interested in nuclear disarmament. More broadly, it's about forming long-term relationships with colleagues in China. These relationships are absolutely core if we're going to make any progress on this and other issues."

Wertsch said that Fudan University is one of the participating institutions in the McDonnell International Scholars Academy at Washington University, but that this is the first time that University students have attended the forum.

According to the students who attended the forum, many agreed that the United States and Russia would need to act first toward disarmament.

"I think that the United States needs to take the first step. We

have France, India, China—a lot of the big nuclear states have very openly said that they would be willing to get rid of their stockpiles if the United States and Russia did," Moffet said.

Garg pointed to the United States' large program as evidence that it would need to be the first to act.

"Consider the obvious that the U.S. and Russia have several orders of magnitude more weapons than anyone else, so if you're trying to convince everyone else to reduce their weapons, they're not likely to do it," Garg said. "Even if other countries say they'll do it, they won't do it if they feel it threatens their security."

Sophomore Caitlin Brady attended the event as an extra-credit opportunity for a class.

"[It is important] because of the global consequences of any nuclear device going off," Brady said. "During the election I think the focus is on Iran or North Korea, so I don't think [politicians] are focusing on other countries as much as they should, because there are [other countries] that have nuclear weapons."

ECONOMY from page 1

and potential policy solutions, including the presidential candidates' proposals.

Additionally, Fazzari served as a panel member at a recent discussion addressing the financial crisis and discussing potential policy solutions. The panel, titled "Financial Meltdown: Causes, Consequences and Cures," was hosted by the Economics department this past Friday.

Speaking before a nearly packed house in Lab Sciences 300, the panelists each gave short presentations related to the crisis and then took questions from audience members.

Jim Bullard, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, also sat on the panel.

"Unemployment has been high in the St. Louis area relative to the rest of the nation, so we'd like to see that turned around," Bullard, an adjunct professor and Ph.D. adviser in the Economics department, said after the panel. "Overall, over time the effects of recession tend to be more mitigated here [in St. Louis] than they

are elsewhere in the country."

While students seeking financial sector jobs will likely face challenges finding employment, Bullard believes the prospects for employment are far from abject.

"There's no question the financial sector is consolidating and certain firms are definitely shedding jobs. I don't know though, in the longer run, that the size of the intermediation sector, the financial sector, would really be all the different from what it is now," Bullard said. "Some firms will be out of business, and other firms will become larger and more efficient and more careful."

Bullard added that students seeking financial sector jobs will have to be patient as the sector recovers.

"A career isn't made on what's happening in a particular quarter or what's happening in a particular year. It's what happens over the longer run. So you have to do the best you can and handle the situation as it comes to you," Bullard said.

Some students agreed that the financial worries many experts had feared are now being realized.

"I think it's pretty scary how it's spread beyond just the financial markets," sophomore finance major Noah Roth said. "Most industries in the stock market, [nearly everything] is down almost 30 to 50 percent."

But Roth and some other students, including sophomore economics major Jeff Dreifus, remain hesitant to embrace the federal government's financial bailout package and its other intervention in the economy, and they fear that it will affect their ability to get jobs.

"I feel like if the government had just let the market mechanisms really take effect then the market would correct itself a lot sooner," Dreifus said. "But I feel like all this intervention is just going to drag this problem out a lot longer and that worries me a lot, at least for getting a job in a few years."



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FORUM

STAFF EDITORIAL

Hateful speech cannot stand unchallenged

This week, student groups across the country are hosting speakers, panel discussions and film screenings as a part of the third annual nationwide Islamo-Fascism Awareness Week. Sponsored nationally by the Terrorism Awareness Project, Islamo-Fascism Awareness Week fuels the dangerous and hateful lie that Islam is a violent religion and undermines the values of tolerance that lie at the core of the Washington University community.

As a part of the week, our campus will play host to author and historian Daniel Pipes, a commentator whose views on Islam approach bigotry. Although he rightly believes that it is possible to fight terrorism by supporting moderate Muslims, Pipes has

consistently ignored the reality that the vast majority of Muslims belong to this category. In an April 2007 column in the *New York Sun*, Pipes wrongfully asserted that moderate Muslims "constitute a very small movement when compared to the Islamist onslaught"; this statement is characteristic of the intolerant attitude that Pipes has consistently espoused in appearances at colleges around the country—and that he is likely to share tomorrow night.

Like all major religions, Islam leads its adherents along a path of value, service and faith—a fact to which Washington University students can testify through firsthand observation. Muslim students at the University are an integral part of our community

and should be commended for their commitment to bringing together students of all faiths to facilitate religious dialogue. That a radical and minuscule faction has superficially cloaked itself with the rhetoric of an otherwise peaceful religion is a painful reality of contemporary society but not a reason to condemn that religion outright.

This year's Islamo-Fascism Awareness Week is dedicated to raising awareness about the alleged radical Islamic presence on campus that chapters of the national Muslim Student Association (MSA) provide. On its Web site, the Terrorism Awareness Project makes the unsubstantiated claim that the MSA is "a hardcore radical political organization representing Muslims who support the jihad

against the West and the destruction of the Jewish state." On the contrary, at Washington University the MSA has consistently established itself as an organization guided by a desire to serve the community. One need only visit the MSA's annual Fast-a-Thon to see the natural confluence of service, religious observance and inter-faith cooperation that defines the MSA's existence.

Given Pipes' history of hateful speech, it is likely that his appearance tomorrow night will be controversial and inflammatory. Though his opinions are steeped with intolerance, *Student Life* firmly rejects any a priori attempt to censor Pipes' speech or opinions. However radical the message of Islamo-Fascism Awareness Week, it is critical to the success of our nation's

democracy that the marketplace of ideas be allowed to function freely. It is important to remember that the only effective counterbalance to hate speech is more speech.

Encouraging open expression, however, is not a justification for passively accepting the ideas that are repulsive to any common sense of decency. Pipes' lecture specifically includes an extended question-and-answer session—a unique forum for students to engage Pipes in discussion and to make known their opinions about a subject with critical global implications. It is incumbent upon the University community to parse Pipes' message with a critical eye and to form an educated opinion that does not simply parrot the loudest ideologue

within earshot.

Dr. Pipes, be cognizant of your audience and the reality that Washington University is not a campus faced with a daily threat from Islamic extremists. You have a venue to speak on the importance of building communities of moderates—take advantage of that, but be mindful of your message, and do not devolve into intolerance.

Students, do not let Pipes' speech go unnoticed, and do not passively accept that which should be the source of vigorous debate. Attend Pipes' speech, weigh his argument and challenge his ideas and their underlying implications. Most importantly, prove that acceptance and diversity are not merely empty promises, but rather values firmly embedded in our community.

SAM WASHBURN EDITORIAL CARTOON



The long journey home

Charlie Low
Staff Columnist

This past weekend I went home to New York City, ready to experience all of the urban pleasures that make it my favorite place on earth. The only thing it's missing is Urso's, with its moonlike mirrors, TVs, smoothies, friendly scoop-wielding ice cream people, endless toppings, scrumptious wraps and...!!!!

Ok, back to New York City, where gossip girl(s) rule and debutantes prance out of stretch limos into the nearest designer store with their Pomeranian poof balls plopped into their purses that probably cost more than 1,000 southwestern steak wraps and a couple of hot fudge brownie sundaes at Urso's. (Urso apparently has a strong desire to make her name known among the Washington University populace. I'll try to prevent her from name-dropping any further.)

For me, home is that New York, the Upper East Side exaggerated and parodied by the aforementioned "Gossip Girl," which I have to admit is a fantastic show. It's a world away from college, and I have found that, now, I have two homes, albeit very different ones.

What all of this brings me to ask is, "Why is fall break only one day?" I am a freshman, and when I saw fall break on my schedule I thought, "YAYYY FALL BREAK," only to realize that I would only be receiving a measly Friday off. As far as I am concerned, fall break should be a substantial break, a chance for students to make that long journey home to balance the two worlds, the two homes, that they are living in.

Schools across the country on semester schedules often receive two days off, giving students time to really take a break and enjoy not being bound to class and schedules. Furthermore, after discussing this

with multiple friends, I've heard that Friday tends to be an easy day. Many students organize their schedules so that they have limited or no classes on Friday in an effort to extend the weekend. I know that I have two hours of class on Friday, minimal amounts of time compared to the rest of my week. It seems to me that this fall break is essentially missing the point of a break. It is giving students what they already have. What would be a logical way to resolve this? I say student-wide revolt! No attendance until we get an extra day! Take it to the man, show Wash. U. who's boss. When I get home, I want time to indulge in the superficial plasticity of my neighborhood and the vivacity of New York City and spend time with my family, dog and friends who are also making the trek home for the weekend.

Simply put, we students need a legitimate break. We work tirelessly striving for greatness at an institution that inspires greatness. But, unbelievably, we are human beings, not number-crunching, paper-writing machines. I'm sure no one would complain about an extra day to recuperate. This is a matter of utmost emergency! Screw the economy—what about travel days? People of Wash. U., and yes, you too Urso, make a statement! Go to your senators; ask them to whine to the administration for you. This is a humanitarian issue. Fix it before it's too late and you're already back on that plane or jumping in the car to return home and you realize...it's too soon; you're not ready. You would love an extra night's sleep in your own bed or delicious Chinese takeout (because your mother never cooked for you). So students, I implore you, jump on my bandwagon, quickly, before your enthusiasm fizzles out in five minutes.

Charlie is a freshman in Arts & Sciences. He can be reached via e-mail at chlow@artsci.wustl.edu.

The intolerance of liberals

Justin Samakow
Op-Ed Submission

A friend of my roommate's, Sarah, came up to me and smiled. She said, "I didn't know you were a Republican. That's cool, I am too." Unlike me, wearing a College Republican shirt and holding a McCain-Palin sign, she had nothing political on her. I asked her why she didn't want to come help make a presence at the show, and she told me that she has two ultra-liberal suitmates who didn't know she was a conservative.

She didn't want to incur the wrath of some closed-minded liberals on campus, who, in recent times, have become as intolerant as the people liberals themselves fought during the civil rights era. Sarah's fear is understandable and relatable.

Let me clarify: I have found that the vast majority of the Democratic supporters are respectable and kind despite our differences of opinion. That Thursday of the vice presidential debate, in the pushy crowd with liberal students all around me, many of them

allowed me to hold up a sign without trying to block it, and I returned the favor. We were able to have pleasant discussions about current political issues. I appreciate those who can acknowledge our differences of opinion without disrespecting or demonizing them.

This leads me to the topic of those who were a disgrace and simply too overzealous in silencing all dissenting opinions on campus. One girl, for example, tried to get on a guy's back to block my yellow sign. At the time, I was toward the back, and other Obama signs were blocking most of my sign anyways. One kid put a sign next to mine saying, "I'm with stupid." The worst was when a friend of mine who is in my fraternity and is an Obama supporter was given stickers by an older man and told to somehow put them on my sign. My friend told me what the man instructed him to do, showed me the stickers and then dropped them. A woman from Planned Parenthood threw a condom at me (an obvious student group, right?). All of this surprisingly occurred during the first broadcast of "Hardball."

I also feel the need to set the record

straight on a few other things that occurred during the event. First, there was a lot of controversy surrounding the half-dozen older Republican supporters holding those yellow signs. What *Student Life* left out of their report and their interview with me was that the liberals also had older supporters in the crowd, and probably many more than we did. The guy that gave my friend the stickers to put on my sign was easily in his mid-thirties. Now if you want proof that older Democrats were doing the same, I took pictures of quite a few union workers in the crowd (Obama supporters of course). The union is called the IUPAT (or the AFL-CIO), and they slipped in just as easily as those infamous Republicans. I am sure those union workers were not students, but why were they not reported about in *Student Life*? I think I have an answer to that question: Republicans stand out and are such a minority that when a student sees an older Republican, it stands out much more than a middle-aged Democrat. Oh, did I mention the "Rednecks for Obama"?

That entire day was probably one of the most demoralizing times for

me as a Republican. Liberals who are so strongly in favor of such ideas as gay rights, affirmative action and fair wages were shown also to be the biggest hypocrites. They are in favor of equality and freedom of speech for the small minorities, but when the small minority happens to disagree with their goals, they are instantly attacked and silenced. It is truly sad when a small amount of liberal extremists begin to practice exactly what they fought against during the Jim Crow era and the gay rights movement. These new agents of intolerance are a small but extremely vocal group of liberals.

Before I stopped talking to Sarah, as she was helping the CNN bus, she told me one small thing that will stay with me for a while. She said, "Maybe tonight I will wear a red shirt..." If only she could do that and not be ridiculed or ostracized for her beliefs.

(Some names have been changed to protect individuals' identities, but the events appear exactly as they happened.)

Justin is a freshman in Arts & Sciences. He can be reached via e-mail at jjsamakow@gmail.com.

Don't forget to help at home

Nick Wilbar
Staff Columnist

The W.I.L.D. weekend was many things for many people. For some, it was a first chance to experience one of Washington University's marquee social events. For others, it was an opportunity to simply unwind. For a particular group of former Wash. U. students, namely a handful of my friends that graduated last spring, it was an excuse to take a break from the ever-alluded-to "real world" and reconvene in St. Louis. And an excuse of this sort, particularly for a number of these recent graduates working in primary education, was unconditionally needed.

Of my friends who made the W.I.L.D. sojourn, all were literally brimming with tales of post-collegiate life. In almost prototypical catch-up conversation form, there was discussion of the things they'd experienced, the people they'd met and the varying degrees to which they'd enjoyed themselves. No two of my friends have had identical experiences; in fact, rather the opposite is true. The W.I.L.D. weekend gave me an opportunity to catch up with individuals spending their post-graduation days as corporate finance

consultants, graduate students and everything inbetween. Their experiences, however, were not without similarities.

Particularly among those of my friends pursuing similar career paths, certain general anecdotal themes were fairly constant. Especially prevalent among the handful of Wash. U. grads employed in education was an unfortunate—and, at least at first, surprising—sense of ubiquitous defeat. Working primarily in under-funded and largely impoverished school districts, these individuals have been met with the unique challenge of attempting to propel students forward against a decidedly negative current of social forces. This is a task which has proven to be, at least as far as my friends have been concerned, as difficult as it appears. In its essence, this difficulty was captured rather succinctly by a particular piece of conversation in which it was noted that "[teaching] is hard, especially when you know every day is going to be a failure." As the weekend progressed and the euphoria of W.I.L.D. faded, I couldn't bring myself to shake the grave severity of this bit of insight. As someone who has been blessed with a seemingly unending string of good fortune, I couldn't help but wonder if other types of people are met, on a daily basis, by the strikingly grim reality that they will not succeed. Much to my initial surprise,

a couple of hours spent perusing the Internet provided me with more than a few examples of such individuals.

On a Citizen Journalist blog started in the winter of 2006, I encountered the story of a single mother of three who was struggling to provide for herself and her family. She was under-qualified for employment positions that would allow her to make more money and had all but ruled herself incapable of affording any further college education. She held that given the ever-increasing costs of gas—and, in turn, life at large—she would be unable to put away enough money to go back to school. Thus, inasmuch as she found herself unqualified to make more money and unable to afford further qualification, she was stuck with the reality that she was incapable of keeping her family from regressing into poverty.

On a health care blog, I came across the woe of a once-unemployed and recently self-employed man who was forced to have a surgery warranting just over \$40,000 in medical costs. Unfortunately, at the time of his surgery, this particular blogger was without health insurance. He's now left with the struggle of juggling between paying off the inordinate cost of his surgery and hoping he's able to insure himself should anything similar be needed in the future.

In a somewhat broader vein, I happened upon a couple of sets of statistics dealing with homelessness and poverty. On claretianpubs.org, it was recorded that over the course of a single year, 1.2 to 2 million individuals in America experience homelessness for some period of time. Similarly, soundvision.com reported that 35.9 million Americans live below the poverty line and that 9.6 million people live in homes in which hunger is present.

As naively simplistic as it may sound, all of the above described issues—education, energy costs, healthcare and poverty—are to some degree under the government's jurisdiction. Said somewhat differently, the role of government has to include helping those people, such as the ones just described, who are either unable or incapable of helping themselves. Without absolving the lazy or ill-natured, the government needs to be present in some tangible capacity in the lives of those less fortunate. With the election just around the corner, both candidates would be well advised to remember that while America's prosperity does, in moral terms, oblige it to help those in need abroad, there is still a great deal of work to be done at home as well.

Nick is a sophomore in Arts & Sciences. He can be reached via e-mail at nswilbar@artsci.wustl.edu.

LETTER TO EDITOR

Give us more than empty promises

Dear Editor,

During the vice presidential debate on Oct. 2, Joe Biden and Sarah Palin were asked what the Bush administration has done right regarding Israel. While both offered interesting commentaries on the current situation in the Middle East, neither was able to offer significant insight. Both sought to shore up the Jewish vote with a moment of unadulterated praise for the Jewish state. While affection for our strongest ally in the Middle East is admirable, it is not the solution to a conflict that has cost the lives of countless Israelis and Palestinians. Expressing our admiration for Israel will not relieve the constant fear of rocket attack for Israelis living in Sderot, and it certainly will not make the constant burden of checkpoints and settler violence any more bearable for the Palestinians. We need an administration that will ensure the Palestinian terrorist infrastructure is dismantled, that Israeli settlement activity in the West Bank freezes and that both sides mutually agree on borders and Jerusalem, leading to a two-state solution.

Current leader of the Palestinian National Authority Mahmoud Abbas has been called the most moderate, and most willing to compro-

mise, leader in Palestinian history. He has made a marked effort to dismantle the terrorist infrastructure in the West Bank, transforming cities such as Jenin, once hotbeds of terrorist activity, into places of relative security. Former Prime Minister of Israel Ariel Sharon has noted, "To hold 3.5 million Palestinians under occupation...I believe that is a terrible thing for Israel and for the Palestinians." His point was reiterated by exiting Prime Minister Ehud Olmert, who said, "[Israel] should withdraw from almost all of the territories, including in East Jerusalem and in the Golan Heights." Incoming Prime Minister of Israel Tzipi Livni has vowed to continue the peace talks that began in Annapolis last year. Leaders in Palestine, Israel and the United States have settled on a two-state solution as the only conceivable end—the only question is when? We need an administration that will commit to peace and not insult the Israelis and Palestinians dying in the region with an empty moment of praise. We need peace now.

Robert Fares
Class of 2010

Robert is president of Students for Peaceful Palestinian-Israeli Future.

SPORTS

MEN'S TENNIS

Men's tennis takes third in singles, doubles at fall nationals

Trisha Wolf
Managing Editor

Junior John Watts and seniors Chris Hoeland and Charlie Cutler finished in third place in the singles and doubles competitions respectively at the 2008 Wilson/ITA National Small College Championships held this past weekend in Mobile, Ala.

"We were disappointed not to win the tournament," Cutler said, "but we definitely had a good fall season and can't be too upset with our results."

Watts, the top seed and defending champion of the event, fell in the semifinals 6-4, 6-3 to eventual champion John Kauss of Gustavus Adolphus College. Watts had defeated the University of California-Santa Cruz's Max Liberty-Point 6-2, 6-2 in the first round of play to advance to the semifinals. In the third-place match, he topped Conrad Olson of Middlebury College 6-4, 6-4. Kauss defeated Emory University freshman Chris Goodwin 6-2, 6-3 to win the title.

Hoeland and Cutler, also the top seeds in the doubles draw, finished third at the event for the second year in a row. They beat Bobby Cocanougher and Cory Kowal of Trinity University 6-4, 6-4 before falling to Kauss and Mike



Junior John Watts competed in singles over the weekend at the ITA Small College Championships. Ranked first in the nation, Watts came in third at the tournament.

Burdakin 5-7, 7-6 (5), 10-5 in a semifinal match that lasted nearly three hours. The team rebounded to beat Amrit Rupasinghe and Ben Stein of Bates College 7-6 (2), 6-4 for third place. Kauss and Burdakin fell to Goodwin and his older brother Michael in the championship match 7-6 (3), 6-1.

The conclusion of this tournament effectively ends the fall season for the Bears. They will play next on February 14 against Drury University, currently ranked third in Division II tennis, in

Springfield, Mo. Official practices will begin again in January.

If the fall season serves as an indicator, Wash. U. seems poised to make a run at defending its national title. No one graduated from last year's team, and three singles players made it to the quarterfinals of the fall regional championships, as did four doubles teams. There were also seven seeded singles players and four seeded doubles teams in the same tournament for the Red and Green. The doubles regional champi-

onship match was an all-Wash. U. affair with Cutler and Hoeland defeating teammates Isaac Stein and Max Woods, both sophomores, 6-1, 7-5 for the title.

"We had a really good fall," Cutler said. "We dominated the region across the board."

"We have a very good team from top to bottom," Watts added.

Perhaps winning the team's first-ever UAA title will be just as difficult of a feat as defending their national title. Emory again looks to be among the toughest competition for the Bears at both levels.

"[The conference title] is one of the things we really want to win," Hoeland said. "We were really close the last two years, and Emory has won it 20 years running."

During the off season, the Bears will continue to focus on the more important spring season, highlighted by their goals of winning the elusive UAA title and another national title. "For me, it feels like I have much more to accomplish this year," Watts said.

"From last weekend and regionals, I definitely feel like we can realistically go after other not yet reached goals like an Indoor National Championship in late February...and/or conference title this April," Head Coach Roger Follmer said.

WU 13 WOOSTER 38

Bears remain outmatched for third straight week

Joshua Goldman
Senior Sports Editor

The Washington University football team suffered its third straight loss, falling 38-13 on the road, to the College of Wooster. The game was played in front of a crowd of 3,450 as Wooster's homecoming game. The Bears are now 3-3 and will face The University of Ohio Wesleyan at home next week in the last game before conference play.

The Fighting Scots dominated every aspect of the game, holding Wash. U. to 11 first downs with only one third down conversion in 13 attempts. The Wooster offense outgained Wash. U. 489-237, with a 162-56 advantage on the ground.

"They really didn't do a whole lot. It was really us making small mistakes here and there. We kind of stopped ourselves. They didn't really stop us most of the game," senior left guard Dan Elliot said. The team was penalized six times for 50 yards against Wooster.

Similarly to last week, the Red and Green played Wooster close during the first half. Wooster took the lead just more than four minutes into the game on a 15-yard pass from quarterback Austin Holter, who passed for a career high 327 yards, to freshman wide receiver Robert Flagg. The drive was set up by a 33-yard completion from Holter to freshman wide receiver Zack Gust on the first play from scrimmage.

Wash. U. answered back toward the end of the first quarter after an interception by junior defensive back Tim



Junior running back Matt Glen tries to juke a Wabash defender on Oct. 11.

Olivos, giving the Bears the ball on the Wooster 28. Seven plays later, senior quarterback Buck Smith connected with sophomore wide receiver Tom Gulyas for an 11-yard touchdown. The score would be the Bear's only offensive points of the game.

After an 11-yard touchdown pass from Holter to Mike Francescangeli early in the second quarter, safety Drew Makar answered with a 50-yard interception return for a touchdown to make the score 14-13 in favor of the Fighting Scots. The extra point attempt was

blocked, ending the scoring for Wash. U.

Holter threw his third touchdown of the half with four seconds remaining to extend the lead to 21-13 at halftime. A fourth touchdown by Holter, a 23-yard field goal and an interception of Smith returned for a touchdown made the score 38-13.

"We left our defense on there so long... Our offense put a lot of pressure on our defense, and I think they just got worn down from being on the field for so long," Gulyas said.

"They really just came out and stuck it to us in the second half. They adjusted well at halftime and really frustrated us on both sides of the ball. Nothing really was working for us in the second half," junior defensive back Tim Machan said.

The team is in the midst of a three-game losing streak, a stretch that has exposed the need for more consistent play.

"We need to put everything together. We started the season really strong, and we kind of hit a rough spot. It's not really that anything has changed. It's just that stuff isn't coming together like it should at this point in the season," Machan said.

The team returns home on Saturday for a matchup with Ohio Wesleyan University before opening UAA play at home on November 1 against Carnegie Mellon University.

"We're trying to focus as much as we can on winning our conference... Everyone is really looking forward to a break from buses," Gulyas said.

sportsbriefs

Volleyball hosts Dig For Cure event Wednesday

Wash. U. takes on Division II University of Missouri- St. Louis at 7 p.m. on Wednesday. The match features a fundraiser for breast cancer in honor of National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Proceeds from T-shirt sales, a silent auction and a raffle will support Susan G. Komen for the Cure. Money will be contributed for every dig that the Bears get against UMSL and donations will also be solicited. "It's a cause that's very near and dear to the team's heart," Assistant Coach Louella Lovely-Maxwell said. (Joshua Goldman)

Rams win again

The St. Louis Rams improved to 2-4 on the season with a 34-14 victory over the Dallas Cowboys. The Rams intercepted backup quarterback Brad Johnson three times and got a 160-yard game from running back Stephen Jackson, who also scored three touchdowns. After getting crushed by the Philadelphia Eagles and the New York Giants, the Rams defeated the Washington Redskins and the Cowboys to halve their season with the NFC East, considered the toughest division in football. (Joshua Goldman)

University of Missouri national title hopes shattered

After losing its second game of the season and second straight, the Missouri Tigers have all but removed themselves from national title contention. The Tigers, ranked third in the AP Top 25 poll two weeks ago, are now ranked 15th after losing to top-ranked Texas 56-31. The Tigers have also lost to Oklahoma State this season. (Joshua Goldman)

From worst to first

The Tampa Bay Rays capped off an improbable World Series birth after finishing with the worst record in baseball just one year ago. The Rays, who won a franchise record 97 games in the regular season, almost relinquished a 3-1 lead in the best of seven American League Championship Series to the defending champion Boston Red Sox but held on to win game seven 3-1 for a World Series birth. Powered by an RBI double from rookie Evan Longoria and a late homerun from Willy Aybar, who also scored earlier in the game, the Rays defeated Jon Lester, who had been the team's best pitcher since June. Matt Garza recorded his second win of the series, going seven innings and surrendering just one run on two hits, and rookie David Price closed the game with a groundout by Red Sox rookie Jed Lowrie. The Rays will face the Philadelphia Phillies in the best of seven World Series beginning Wednesday night. (Josh Goldman)

Swimmers places fourth at Show Me Showdown

Joshua Goldman
Senior Sports Editor

The Washington University men's and women's swimming and diving teams finished fourth of five schools at the Show Me Showdown Saturday. The meet, hosted by the University of Missouri-Columbia, featured schools from all three NCAA divisions and the NAIA.

The men finished behind Division I Missouri, Division II Drury University and Missouri University of Science and Technology and finished ahead of NAIA member Lindenwood University.

In a meet dominated by the Missouri Tigers, the Red and Green put up some respectable finishes. Senior co-captain Kevin Leckey provisionally qualified for NCAA's in the 50-yard freestyle with a time of 22.11 seconds. Leckey and co-captain Charles Stewart,

a senior, and sophomores Kartik Anjur and David Chao took third in the 200-yard freestyle relay, and Leckey, Chao, Anjur and junior Alex Beyer finished second in the 400-yard freestyle relay. Beyer also finished fourth in the 500-yard freestyle.

"We use this meet as a benchmark for the rest of the season," Leckey said.

The women did not come as close to the men in winning an event, with a top finish of fourth in the 500-yard freestyle by junior Jessie Lodewyk. The women finished behind Missouri, Drury and Missouri S&T and finished ahead of Lindenwood by 27.5 points.

"I think the team swam really well for being this early in the season," Lodewyk said. "Coach Shively does a great job of lining up tough competition for us in the fall."

Both Leckey and Lodewyk echoed that the team is focusing more on individual training and improvement at this point in the season as opposed to the

teams' finishes at the meets. In terms of practice for later meets, Saturday featured a morning and afternoon session and was the first full meet this season.

"It's great that the guys were able to come back in the second session and swim well," Leckey said.

The team is next in action against DePauw University on November 2, but the team is focusing more on the WU Thanksgiving Invitational and then the Wheaton Invitational on December 5. The dual meet at DePauw is scheduled for 1 p.m.

"We have an invite on Thanksgiving where we will see some good teams, and then we have Wheaton in December. It's kind of our halfway point, and we will try to get our nationals times out of the way there. It's great to get those times out of the way, but we also lose three weeks of training," Leckey said. According to Leckey, the team will rest for three weeks before the Wheaton meet in order to attain peak times.



Freshman John Scott swims butterfly against Saint Louis University on October 4.

MATT MITGANG | STUDENT LIFE

OBAMA from page 1

ing people in and Secret Service agents.

People of all backgrounds were in attendance in large numbers, according to junior Becky Hufstader, vice president of the Washington University College Democrats.

"It was just amazing to see the support across gender, race [and] age. The people around us were just so diverse and everyone was excited about the same thing. It was just really great to see," Hufstader said.

Some came with families to see the Illinois senator.

"I [support Obama] because McCain wants to keep city people the same," Trenton Patton, a nine-year-old sporting an Obama headband and standing with his family, said.

Others, like Marcia Evers Levy, came with friends.

"I wanted to be part of what was going on and show my support. My friend said he was a fantastic speaker so I wanted to [have the] experience," Levy, a senior citizen who brought blankets to sit on, said.

A few attendees had waited all day to see Obama, like Karla Purlall, who arrived at 7 a.m.

"[Obama's] visionary—he can take this country in the right direction. [He's] going to bring an end to this political unrest," Purlall said.

Despite the excitement, some people were less than happy with the campaign's no-signs policy, but they managed to show their support with Obama attire and pins.

"[The policy] probably made [the rally] a little more subdued," Mary Veal, a woman who had made a sign, said.



MATT MITGANG | STUDENT LIFE

Senator Obama spoke under the Gateway Arch on Saturday afternoon. Obama spoke primarily about the economy.

The crowd erupted into applause when Obama took the stage but was relatively quiet while he was speaking.

"People were listening very closely to what he had to say," Tottie Williams, a former employee of the Office of Student Activities. "[They] were evaluating his positions and the things he said. There was a lot of belief in him today."

For many in the crowd, Obama's delivery exhibited his oratory skills. The entire feel of the rally was "electric," according to Tanya and Tab Smith.

Sen. Claire McCaskill (D-Mo.), who endorsed Obama during the primary season, also spoke at the rally.

In addition to the people in the crowd, various interest groups came out to capitalize on the high attendance. People passed out "Save the Metro" pins to promote Proposition M, which calls for a half-percent sales tax increase in St. Louis County to help support and expand MetroLink.

Linda Garcy, a member of Missouri for Clean Energy, was also passing out information on Proposition C, which would require utility companies to increase their use of renewable energy sources until 15 percent of Missouri's energy consumption comes from renewable energy sources.

Even with the crowd's diversity, attendees felt united.

"[When Obama spoke], for the first time I realized I was a part of Missouri," freshman Limor Zisbrod said. "It made me realize I'm going to be a part of here for the next four years."

Juggling festival visits Wash. U.

Ben Sales and John Scott
News Staff

Several world famous jugglers performed at Washington University in Simon Hall on Saturday for the main event of the St. Louis Juggling Festival.

The National Prestigious Society of Collegiate Jugglers (NPSCJ), Washington University's juggling club and the largest one in the area, hosted the event for the second straight year. NPSCJ President Thom Wall, a senior, said that the event improved on last year's in terms of attendance and quality, drawing more than 100 jugglers.

"This year's [festival] was twice as big as last year's and it was three or four times better," he said. "We had a lot of local acts last year. This year we had performers that came all the way from Malibu to Norway."

The festival began Friday with an "open gym" in the Women's Building, and continued with the visiting jugglers holding workshops for students and locals.

"It's hard to boil down in 45 minutes what [jugglers] have been working on for three years," Wall said. "It's incredible to see

the new things that people are coming up with. These people are literally the cutting edge of their own style."

Saturday night's show consisted of the visitors' performing acts, and the festival ended with competitive juggling on Sunday, including a "combat" event where jugglers entered an arena and tried to upset each other's routine while keeping their own juggling steady.

"Overall, the whole thing went off without a hitch, which is incredible considering how far away these people are coming from," Wall said. "All the planning paid off."

One of the performers, Josiah Jones, is currently the only person able to juggle five clubs and seven balls. Other performers included winners of international competitions, including Matt Hall, silver medalist at the International Jugglers' Association Individuals competition, and Norwegian juggler and contortionist Frida Odden, whose act Wall considered to be Saturday's highlight.

"It's freaking insane," Wall said of Odden. "The best way to describe what she does is juggling upside-down. She's the only person that does this style."



IOANA MARCU | STUDENT LIFE

Jugglers from around the world joined at the University on Saturday for the St. Louis Juggling Festival

BOEING from page 3

representatives from Boeing were instrumental in the School's strategic planning effort which brought about important ideas, including a proposed new graduate level degree program in applied systems integration."

The 2008 U.S. News and World Report Best College Rankings placed the University 12th among national universities and ranked the School of Engineering and Applied Science 38th among engineering schools.

Benassi was proud of the University's rank but added that rankings ultimately should not determine a student's decision to attend a university.

"What should matter most to a prospective student is how he or she feels about a particular university when visiting campuses and speaking with students and profes-

sors," he said. "This is the best way to know if a university is the right place for them."

Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering Michael Swartwout agreed that companies cannot perfectly rely on such rankings.

"The problem with rankings is that every ranking system is incomplete and imperfect and more importantly, every student has a unique set of goals and needs, and many, many excellent students would be worse off by attending the so-called 'top-ranked' engineering school," Swartwout wrote in an e-mail.

Swartwout pointed out that the Boeing ranking system is very specific to the company, which may not be what is best for the graduates. Furthermore, the rankings apply mainly to the majors of aerospace, mechanical and electrical engineer-

ing and computer science.

"So students need to see the ranking for what it is—an imperfect measurement of which schools tend to create good Boeing employees, and that Boeing's rankings are not one-size-fits-all," he wrote. "I think that high school students should be extremely careful with any so-called ranking system—Boeing's included."

Freshman Bryan Baird, who plans to major in mechanical engineering and possibly minor in aerospace engineering, said he would not give too much weight to a ranking like Boeing's.

"I don't think a ranking [by an industrial company] would have affected my application decision very much at all," Baird said. "I settled on Wash. U. after not only loving the campus, but also discovering how easy and common it is for

students to be in the engineering school but still have enough time for a life outside of math and science."

Baird added that the chance to enjoy a social life and the opportunity to study other subjects such as politics, philosophy and writing serve as a highly important complement to the study of engineering.

"I think Wash. U. embraces this balance incredibly well," he said.

Gokturk Kuru, a student at the Delft University of Technology in the Netherlands, a school globally recognized for its program in aerospace engineering, had similar concerns about the general university experience.

"There are some disadvantages to studying at a technical university," Kuru said. "Everyone is an engineer. You want to see psychology majors around."

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Stop the Jihad On Campus

ON CAMPUSES ACROSS THE NATION INVITED SPEAKERS ARE CALLING FOR THE EXECUTION OF GAYS, THE KILLING OF JEWS, AND SUPPORT FOR THE TERRORIST JIHAD AGAINST AMERICA.

These speakers are sponsored by or are members of Students for a Democratic Society and Muslim Student Association, an organization which receives thousands of dollars in student funds, offices in student unions and the privileges of a recognized university group.

In the spring of 2008, a radical student group organized a campus tour for Sheik Khalid Yasin who spoke at Penn State, Ohio State, the University Of Minnesota and other schools during Islam Awareness Week. Sheik Yasin is a homophobe who has said: "God is very straightforward about this: the punishment for homosexuality, bestiality or anything like that is death."

- ▶ A speaker for the Muslim Students Union at UC Irvine -- Imam Abdel Malik-Ali -- told a crowd of students: "The Jews think they are superman, but we, the Muslims, are kryptonite. The Jews know that their days are numbered."
- ▶ At UCLA the president of the Muslim Students Association led a crowd of MSA members in chants of "Death to Israel. Death to the Jews."
- ▶ At the University of Southern California, the Muslim Students Union posted a famous hadith on the university website calling on Muslims to kill Jews. When the provost ordered the removal of the hadith, which he described it as "disgusting," the USC Muslim Students Union protested his act as an "outrage" and called for its restoration.
- ▶ At UC Irvine a student mob organized by the Muslim Students Union to protest a Daniel Pipes speech was harangued by its leader who said: "Our weapon, our jihad, our way of struggling in this country is with our tongues. We speak out, and we deflate their morale, and this is the best we can do right now. And our brothers and sisters on the other side of the world, they're handling business in their own way. May Allah give them strength. [Crowd: Allahu akbar!]"

These episodes are far from coincidental. The Muslim Students Association is an arm of the Muslim Brotherhood, the organization that spawned al-Qaeda and created Hamas. The Muslim Students Association on campuses across America have refused to condemn the terrorist organizations Hizbollah and Hamas which have called for the extermination of the Jews and the destruction of the United States.

On October 13-17, we are holding the third Islamo-Fascism Awareness Week to make campus communities aware of the doctrines that are being preached with the support of university administrations and student funds. Its theme is "Stop the Jihad on Campus" and it offers an opportunity to the Muslim Student Association at Washington U in St. Louis to re-think its position on these issues and to condemn Islamic terrorism and genocidal incitements against Israel and the United States.

**Daniel Pipes speaks on:
"Vanquishing the Islamist Enemy and Helping the Moderate Muslim Ally"**

**Tuesday, Oct 21st at 9:00pm
Washington U in St. Louis in Lab Sciences 300**

For more information contact: Jeffrey at Jeffrey@horowitzfreedomcenter.org
Visit www.terrorismawareness.org



Snapherd: Take your best shot

Michael Yang
Scene Reporter

We all know them: those people whose camera phones are an extension of their bodies, on hand at any point in time to aim and snap a photo of anything and everything that comes along. For camera phone-lovers everywhere comes Snapherd.com, a new online game that caters to those who agree that a picture is worth a thousand words, or rather, one particular word.

Snapherd, which started out over the summer as a "small side project," is the brainchild of Joshua Gross, a sophomore majoring in communications design in the Sam Fox School. It has since become a "full-fledged mobile photo game."

In Gross's own words, Snapherd is a "mobile Web game that uses catchwords to inspire users to take photos and compete with each other."

Though it may sound confusing at first, the Web site and game are actually very simple. Every two days, a new catchword is posted on the Web site, and users are invited to send in a picture of whatever they think best illustrates the word.

Most photos are sent by multimedia messaging service (MMS), but they can also be uploaded to the

site directly from a computer. The one rule is that the user must have taken the pictures that he or she submits.

Users can then rate and comment on the photos in relation to the catchword, and by the end of the two-day period, the user whose photo is the most popular wins a gift, currently a five dollar Amazon gift card.

The resulting game is not unlike a visual version of the popular game Apples to Apples, with all Snapherd users acting as judges.

The idea for the site came to Gross when his father received his first cell phone with a camera and went overboard taking pictures. Instead of being annoyed, Gross thought to channel the habit into an online game.

"He constantly would take pictures of everything in front of him," said Gross. "I wanted to make it constructive, to make it a social activity."

Snapherd has attracted more than 100 users since opening to the public two weeks ago and Gross is optimistic about its future.

"I can see people getting attracted to the game because it's a casual game," he said. "It doesn't require massive amounts of your time."

Creating Snapherd was by no means a simple task, but Gross managed to design and code the entire

site in only eight weeks. Gross created everything the user experiences on Snapherd, from the appealing sheep logo to the underlying code running the Web site.

Not only does he run, maintain and moderate the Web site, but he also pays for it, with both hosting fees and prizes coming out of his own pocket. Gross stated that he is currently looking for sponsors.

While it is both impressive and unusual that such a project was developed by one of Wash. U.'s own students, even more impressive is the fact that Gross has not taken any computer science courses.

The young developer has been teaching himself programming since he was nine years old and Web development since he was 10. Despite his work in the field, Gross has very little interest in taking any computer science courses.

"It's not practical knowledge. I don't think I'll learn anything better in a class that I can't learn myself," he said.

Regardless of his unconventional self-taught programming background, Gross has created a unique and worthwhile Web site in Snapherd. Participating only takes an e-mail address, username and password before users can start sending in photos and voting on them.

"I'm hoping people will try it out and take their best shot," Gross said.

Word on the Street

What's your favorite online game and why?



"Slime Volleyball. It's the stupidest game ever but I've never won. Worst graphics ever. One-dimensional. Really lame, but addictive. Takes like four clicks."

Jeannette Wong
Junior



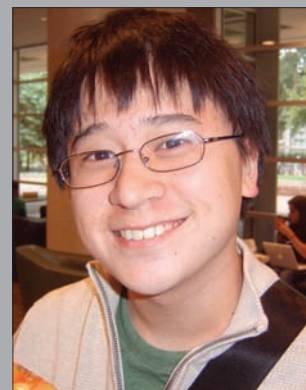
"Sudoku, because it uses the brain. Also it saves trees because it is online."

Hannah Kaplan
Freshman



"Diablo 2. It has little educational value outside of obscure medieval weaponry. When I was younger, it was fun to do with my brother and my friends. Aside from it being a venting of our adolescent violent qualities, it was fun bonding."

Felix Dowsley
Junior



"Warcraft 3. It is very fast-paced and difficult to get a handle on, but rewarding when you finally feel you have control over the units. The online community is running strong even though the game is three years old."

Brian Chen
Sophomore

Compiled by Meredith Plumley

We've Scene it all!

Dear Scene,

Not even a month in, and I'm having roommate issues! We decided not to fill out one of those roommate contracts (I know, mistake!), figuring everything would be cool. But things have changed; I go to the grocery store once a week, and I have special dietary needs. I have to buy a lot of pre-packaged foods, including ready-made sandwiches and salads. I keep them in our mini fridge, but my roommate seems to think that they're fair game! He'll come in late at night, sometimes intoxicated, and just have at my sandwiches! I tried putting sticky notes on them, but he did not get the hint. I want to confront him about it, but

I don't want to be mean or put a strain on our relationship...we're gonna have to room together for the rest of the year. But still, I want my sandwiches back!

Distraught,
S.W.

Dear S.W.,

Though we must admit this is one of the more unusual roommate situations we have heard about, we have a mild suggestion. The next time you head to the store, pick up an extra sandwich—one that you have noticed your roommate has a particular fancy for. On a night when your roommate comes back particularly trashed,

be sure to leave this sandwich out where he can find it. However, make sure to add an extra ingredient: a generous helping of one of the top-of-the-line hot sauces—Endorphin Rush or Dave's Insanity Sauce are good choices if your roommate isn't a huge fan of hot sauces. After your roommate gulps this devilish monstrosity down, we are willing to bet he will take heed of your Post-it notes warning him to "Keep Off!"

Yours truly,
The Scene Staff

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WU Student Activities Get Involved and Connected on Campus

Redefining Community Experience (RCE)

RCE is a three day retreat where Washington University students come together to explore identities, dialogue on diversity and create positive change on campus.
Registration begins today, October 20th
Learn more online at rce.wustl.edu

Looking for an opportunity this summer, but want to be PAID for helping a community?

Join us to find out how... at **SUMMER FUNDING FOR SOCIAL CHANGE**, Thurs, October 30, 2008, 4-5:30pm, DUC 276
There is over **\$100,000** available for students who are looking for a way to help a community without foregoing an income over the summer.

Leadership Summit 2008

Leadership Summit is an opportunity for student leaders to further explore leadership at Washington University.
Featuring two tracks this year:
• **Emerging Leaders Track** (Freshman & Sophomores)
Overnight Retreat on Friday & Saturday, November 7-8th
• **Established Leader Track** (Juniors & Seniors)
Day Retreat Saturday, November 8th
Learn more at: www.getinvolved.wustl.edu

Enter to win a sweet 50" LG plasma HDTV at believeinyourcell.com.

It's just one exciting part of the Believe in Your Cell Tour, visiting cities like yours all over the U.S. Check out believeinyourcell.com and don't forget to enter to win!



CADENZA

"SNL," the KGB and "Max Payne"

An interview with Mark Wahlberg, Ludacris and Mila Kunis

Brian Bloomer and Marcia McIntosh
Cadenza Reporters

"Max Payne," the movie starring Mark Wahlberg, Chris "Ludacris"



Max Payne (Mark Wahlberg, left) and Mona Sax (Mila Kunis) team up to battle powerful and dark forces in Twentieth Century Fox's "Max Payne."

Bridges and Mila Kunis, opened nationwide last Friday. Playing a character from the hit 2001 video game, Wahlberg ("The Departed") is a cop framed for the brutal murders of his family and partner. Fleeing from the police, he submerges himself in the criminal underworld to find those responsible, and as he delves into the conspiracy surrounding the deaths, he finds himself caught in the middle of a supernatural war. Chris Bridges ("Crash") plays an internal affairs agent, and Mila Kunis

("Forgetting Sarah Marshall") plays a mysterious Russian assassin who teams up with Max.

Student Life talked to Wahlberg about the film (and "SNL's" "Mark Wahlberg Talks to Animals" skit), to Kunis about her extensive KGB (former Russian secret police) experience and to Ludacris about how he almost played a 60-year-old white man.

SL: We were just wondering... what attracted [you] to the role of Max?

Mark Wahlberg: Well, I'd been looking to do something with some action, some energy, some intensity. After doing "The Lovely Bones" and doing M. Night [Shyamalan]'s movie "The Happening," I definitely wanted to do something where I could really go off.

SL: What did you do to physically and psychologically prepare for the role of Max Payne?

MW: Well physically, I didn't have to do all that much. I've been training to do a boxing movie for two years now so I kinda came in in shape. But psychologically, I would say I just had to put myself in that headspace of imagining that something horrific happened to my family. Which is not a fun place to go, you know. I had to stay in that space for the course of the 12 weeks of production.

SL: We were just wondering what

your feelings were on the ["Saturday Night Live"] sketch from last week, "Mark Wahlberg Talks to Animals."

MW: Well, it certainly wasn't as funny as Tina Fey doing Sarah Palin. I haven't really watched "Saturday Night Live" for a while... It was okay. It was kinda funny. It was funnier than that movie he did, "Hot Shots." ["Hot Rods," the 2007 film starring Andy Samberg.]

SL: Is that the kind of thing that comes out of nowhere, or did you have any idea that that was airing?

MW: No, but tell that guy I said, "Say hi to your mother for me."

SL: Chris, have you played "Max Payne" [the video game]? If so, how close do you think the movie and the video game are?

Ludacris: I definitely did get a chance to play the video game. I think that the whole story line of the movie is loosely based off the video game, but it takes it to a whole other exciting and action-packed level... I got the part, and it was definitely written for a 60-year-old white man at first. So, you know, it's very ironic.

SL: How [did] you guys [film] the "bullet time" sequences?

MW: We didn't use any wires or anything. We used a new 1,000-frames-per-second camera, and I actually was

just jumping off a bunch of apple boxes and landing on my face or body.

SL: [Mila.] you've become really well known for your comedic work in "Forgetting Sarah Marshall," "That '70s Show" and, our personal favorite, "Family Guy." Was the switch to drama a calculated move? How is it different from the comedic work you've done?

Mila Kunis: I mean, no. It's as calculated as anything is. It's one of those things where you get the opportunity to do a movie like this, you jump at the chance... It's not like I made a conscious decision "oh, the next film I do is going to be an action movie starring Ludacris and Mark Wahlberg." It doesn't quite work that way.

SL: Is the Russian mobster character a stretch for you or do you enjoy playing a badass?

MK: Well, it's amazing. When I was in the KGB, in my youth, they taught me a lot. I got to really play off my personal experiences with Putin. He really taught me well back in the mother country. No! I mean, of course it's a stretch!

SL: [Ludacris.] with the new album being released soon and your role in "Max Payne," are you able to balance rapping and acting? Or do you focus on one at a time?

L: I focus on one at a time, but luckily, when you shoot movies, it takes them almost a year to turn them around. When you're doing music, you can do that and put it right out. So, it just so happens that both projects are coming out right around the same time, because I stopped both of the movies earlier this year or last year, and the album I've been recording over the past four months.

SL: What was it like to work with a unique director with such a diverse background like John Moore, who has made films ranging from family fare like "Flight of the Phoenix" to horror films like "The Omen"? What did he bring to the table for you?

MK: He is by far one of the most passionate, enthusiastic directors I've ever had the pleasure of working with. You know very well the second you finish speaking if the take is good or bad, because the second the last word comes out of your mouth you either hear a groan or a very loud scream. I mean, literally, take for take John would get so excited and/or not, but you definitely knew if you nailed it.

Readers can view all the nailed "Max Payne" scenes now, in all participating theaters.

CONCERT

Death Cab for Cutie doesn't pay the same old fare

REVIEW

Melanie Fried
Cadenza Reporter

The Oct. 13 Death Cab for Cutie concert at the Fox Theatre felt like an evening with an altogether different band. In contrast with mellow performances of the past, the show was characterized by movement, energy and excitement, a result of the new sound of their latest release, "Narrow Stairs." The crowd enjoyed the multi-part harmonies of opener The Fleet Foxes, whose sound was reminiscent of Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young, but was clearly awaiting bigger things.

The opening song of "Narrow Stairs" was the first taste of Death Cab's new performance tone, as the band swayed to the booming "Bixby Canyon Bridge." Any mounting fears that the band might mainly play songs from their latest album were quickly alleviated: they followed up with "The New Year" and "Why You'd

Want to Live Here." In the latter, one could hear the anger in Ben Gibbard's voice as he sang out against the "shallow" city of Los Angeles.

Each of the first four songs was from a different one of their four latest and best-known albums ("Narrow Stairs," "Plans," "Transatlanticism," "The Photo Album"). Selections from each release were appropriately balanced.

Just about halfway through the show, Death Cab played a song from what some consider to be a concept album, "We Have the Facts and We're Voting Yes." This fairly obscure number, "Title Track," which failed to receive much of an audience response, beautifully chronicles a one-night stand that means much more to the song's protagonist than the partner.

The most engaging aspect of the show was Gibbard's solo acoustic version of "I Will Follow You Into the Dark," during which the audience's sing-along sweetly echoed throughout the theatre. The bril-

liant, instrumentally-layered "I Will Possess Your Heart" followed, with its intense bass line and loud drums that produced a rock 'n' roll sound even better than the recorded version. The highlight of the song was both visually and musically sensational, as Gibbard's piano led an instrumental buildup and multiple spotlights shone down on the band from all angles, creating an ethereal image of a true rock band—an image not previously associated with Death Cab.

The encore songs were huge surprises, as none came from "Plans" or "Narrow Stairs," the band's two best-known albums. The first song, "Your Bruise," was off of their first album "Something About Airplanes," which is currently being reissued in celebration of its 10-year anniversary. "Your Bruise" slowly unravels to bemoan situations in which individuals allow farsightedness to cloud their perceptions of the present and their emotions that are suppressed as a result.

The final three tracks all came from "Transatlanticism." They played the more poppy "Title and Registration," followed by the more cluttered song with ingenious lyrics, "Tiny Vessels." The show closed with an incredibly raw version of "Transatlanticism," with Gibbard's piano, shaky vocals and the accompaniment of a slow guitar. The song unexpectedly built up massive energy (even drummer Jason McGerr was standing up while playing) as the lyrics "come on" were repeated in different pitches and timings and climaxed with the guitars and bass.

Death Cab for Cutie is heading in the right direction, by both developing new sounds and styles, yet also paying tribute to where it all began.



From left: Jason McGerr, Chris Walla, Nick Harmer and Ben Gibbard are members of the band Death Cab for Cutie.

Crossword

- ACROSS
- Part of a.k.a.
 - Chat
 - African snake
 - Zellweger of "Jerry Maguire"
 - Right-angled joint
 - Shaquille of the NBA
 - Doctoral tests
 - Overly anxious folk
 - Built
 - Greek letter
 - Horse's foot
 - "Ars Amatoria" poet
 - Dickens character
 - Rock's partner
 - Story in installments
 - Groza and Gehrig
 - Fixed charges
 - Cowboy show
 - Do-others separator
 - Shoo!
 - Mediocre
 - "Sing Along With"

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65			66					67				
68					69			70				
71						72				73		

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10/20/08

- DOWN
- Fast-food magnate Ray
 - Stout's Wolfe
 - Judah's son
 - Cardiff people
 - Adviser at Troy
 - Bend the knee in worship
 - Guinness of "Star Wars"
 - Popeye's nemesis
 - More sullen
 - Aardvark's snack
 - Golda of Israel
 - Baroque master
 - As well
 - Tach readings
 - Housetops
 - Metal scum
 - In a vertical line
 - Region of Asia Minor
 - Birdie tries
 - The king of France
 - Images of gods
 - Fabler
 - Eccentric
 - Soft footwear
 - Clean with a pressure spray
 - Confused fight
 - Groups of seven
 - Hammer or awl
 - Large African antelopes
 - Forum fashions
 - Ward off
 - Do beaver work
 - Iditarod goal
 - Applications
 - Metric wt.
 - One of HOMES
 - Above
 - Seedless plant
 - Blast letters

Solutions

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

coming october 22nd

Dining Guide

locating the food you want

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephram Group

Level:

- 1 2
3 4

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

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

SOLUTION TO WEDNESDAY'S PUZZLE

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

10/20/08

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SUpdate

Monday, October 20th

Application Deadline for S.A.R.A.H.

Sexual Assault and Rape Anonymous Helpline is a peer counseling group that focuses on issues surrounding sexual assault and rape.

E-mail: wusarahrecruitment@gmail.com if you have questions

How to Solve a Rubik's Cube: Adventures in Group Theory

Hosted by Math Club, free pizza and drinks after the talk!

5:15 pm, Cupples I, Room 199

Campus Sustainability Week Kick-Off

Kickoff and CFL Exchange With Green Action, more events this week

6:00-8:00 pm, Wohl Center

Tuesday, October 21st

Assembly Series presents Peggy Orenstein

The best-selling author will deliver a speech entitled "Where's the Map? Navigating Women's Lives in a Half-changed World."

4:00 pm, Graham Chapel

Student Union Treasury Meeting

9:00 pm, Simon Hall, Room 113

student union
your student government

su.wustl.edu

Wednesday, October 22nd

Student Union Senate Meeting

9:00 pm, Danforth University Center, Room 276

Campus-Wide Capture the Flag

Hosted by Student Union, Come join us!

10:00 pm, Mudd Field

Volleyball match against UMSL and Dig for the Cure

The women's volleyball team raises money for breast cancer research

7:00 pm, Washington University Field House

Thursday, October 23rd

Assembly Series presents Carl Bernstein

The celebrated journalist will deliver a lecture titled "Public Ethics: The Responsibilities of Elected Officials"

4:00 pm, Graham Chapel

Freshman Class Council goes to Darkness Haunted House

Tickets on sale in Wohl Center from 4:00-10:00 pm, Oct. 20-22nd

7:30 pm

Saturday, October 25th

Dance Marathon

Sign up to volunteer for 3 hours at dmstl.org/volunteer

Visit your friends that are participating any time from 4 pm-2 am

3:00 pm-3:00 am, Athletic Complex, Rec Gym

Want to see your events here? Email pr@su.wustl.edu