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### STUDENTS FIND THEIR VOICE



MATT MITGANG | STUDENT LIFE

ABOVE: After wiping tears of joy from her face, freshman Diamond Skinner applauds with junior Patrick McBryde and sophomore Laura Hoffner while watching President-elect Barack Obama's victory speech in the Danforth Univeristy Center on Tuesday night. BELOW LEFT: Senator Obama spoke at a campaign rally under the Gateway Arch on Saturday, October 18.



MATT MITGANG | STUDENT LIFE

### WU students vote with nation, elect Obama

Near 90% vote for Democrat; Proposition M fails despite campus support

News Staff

Proving the improbable, the University student body aligned with the American public to make history by electing Sen. Barack Obama as the 44th, and first African-American, president of the United States on Tuesday.

Putting an end to the longest presidential campaign run in history—it started almost two years ago-Obama emerged victorious, securing wins in key swing states such as Florida, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Michigan.

Missouri's tally was still undecided as of press time, but was leaning toward the Republican nominee, Sen. John McCain of

Obama's ability to energize young voters was solidified at the polls as 70 percent of voters, who according to the New York Times/ CBS poll said they were voting for the first time, cast their ballots for

In a considerable increase from

See ELECTION, page 5

# Rove analyzes political scene on eve of election

### Criticizes Obama, defends Bush

Ben Sales and Perry Stein News Staff

Speaking to a packed Graham Chapel Monday night, conservative political analyst and former White House adviser Karl Rove spoke about the current election cycle, giving credence to his career with the Republican party by questioning the experience of Democratic president-elect Senator Barack Obama of Illinois.

Rove, who gained his reputation by guiding President George W. Bush's presidential campaigns to victory in 2000 and 2004 with controversial media tactics, presented a relatively nonpartisan analysis of both Obama and McCain's campaigns, albeit with the

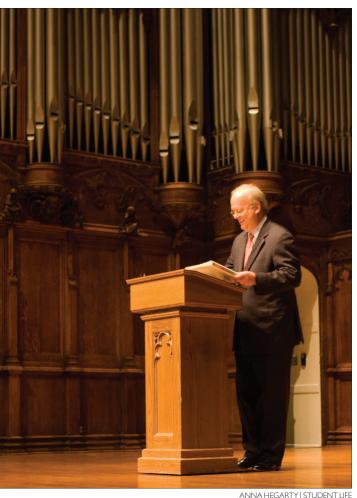
occasional jab at the Democrats.

Although Rove, for the most part, strayed from addressing controversial topics during his speech, students challenged him in a question-and-answer session after the event that critiqued his conduct while he was working for

Rove made little reference to his tenure as Bush's adviser, bringing up only his work in the 2000 and 2004 presidential campaigns and their relation to the current election.

Rove did, however, allude to his friendship with Bush during the question-and-answer session, telling an anecdote about Bush's interest in bicycling and revealing a competitive and more light-hearted side of the president.

According to Rove, both the Obama and McCain campaigns have been too exhaustive—both in terms of how early they started and how much money they



Karl Rove spoke to students on Monday night about the strategies of the See ROVE, page 4 Obama and McCain campaigns.

### For students, long lines worth the wait

### Crowd watches results in DUC

David Song and Kat Zhao News Editors

Washington University students waited for up to three hours Tuesday to cast their ballots—many for the first time-and in contrast to past years, encountered few problems along the way.

While students voting in the Wohl Center stood in line for one hour to vote, voters at local churches and other locations often waited for hours longer in the sun.

Freshman John Moynihan, a South 40 resident who went to the polls for the first time, expressed his sense of excitement in being able to

"I actually did take a second to sit down and say, 'Okay, I'm actually filling out ballot for the President of

the United States.' I was glad to participate, finally," Moynihan said. Moynihan decided to vote in Mis-

souri, primarily on account of what is happening in the state. "I'm going to be living here for the next four years, so I looked more

toward local issues, but [Missouri

being] a swing state had something

to do with it too," he said. Freshman Tyler Jackson, a Maryland resident, also voted as a Missouri resident in the Wohl Center. Like Moynihan, Jackson stated he voted in Missouri because he felt do-

Missouri is a swing state. Jackson did not express any dis-

ing so would have more impact, as

satisfaction with the voting process. "It was pretty easy, I didn't have to wait long at all. I expected [waiting], but I can say I'm pleased," Jackson said.

Although Friedman Lounge hosted only three electronic-voting machines, voting officials also made

> See EXPERIENCE, page 5



One Brookings Drive #1039 #330 Danforth University Center St. Louis, MO 63130-4899

Newsroom: (314) 935-5995 Advertising: (314) 935-6713 Fax: (314) 935-5938

Editor: editor@studlife.com News: news@studlife.com Calendar: calendar@studlife.com

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# THE FLIPSIDE

### weatherforecast

Wednesday 5

Mostly Sunny High 80 Low 57 Thursday 6

Thunderstorms
High 67
Low 43

### eventcalendar

### WEDNESDAY 5

SU Senate Elections
WebSTAC, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
You voted for president, governor, congressmen and senators. Now vote for your favorite Student Union officers as they run for senate and treasury for the spring semester. Elections will also continue on Thursday.

Speaker: Catharine Theimer Nepomnyashchy

Nepomnyashchy has a great deal of experience

dealing with issues facing Georgia, Russia and the Caucasus in general. She will be speaking

about her recent policy trip where she met with

President Saakashvili of Georgia and Sergei

Come to this event to learn more about how

you can participate in this year's Relay For Life, an annual fundraiser at Francis Field to benefit

The Landing, 9 p.m.
A group of Wash. U. students is going to help

provide basic medical care to people in rural

Honduras during winter break and is throwing

a party to help raise money for medicine and supplies for the clinic that they are setting up.

Lavrov, the Russian foreign minister.

Holler for Honduras at Club Xes

Relay for Life Kickoff

Ursa's Stageside, 7 to 9 p.m.

# newsbrief

### Campus

#### Steve Fossett confirmed dead

Washington University alumnus Steve Fossett was confirmed dead on Monday by the sheriff's office of Madera County, Calif.

Authorities used DNA tests on two bones found in the Sierra Nevada Mountains of California on Oct. 29. Searchers had found no trace of the crash site until a hiker found some of Fossett's identity cards on Oct. 2.

Subsequent searches of the area turned up more belongings, including credit cards and bones.

Fossett disappeared on Sept. 3, 2007 while on a solo flight in Nevada. A month-long search for his crash site was called off after no success. Fossett was legally declared dead on Feb. 15.

Fossett, who received an MBA from the Olin Business School in 1968, is best known for setting more than 100 aviation, navigation and sailing records. His numerous adventures and world records were recognized with some of the most prestigious aviation, ballooning and sailing awards. (Johann Qua Hiansen)

### **International**

#### Dishonesty leads to dismissal for Iranian interior minister

The Iranian parliament voted on Tuesday to dismiss Interior Minister Ali Kordan on charges of forgery after the minister refused to resign. Kordan lied about a false doctorate degree from Oxford. A furious President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad declared the dismissal "illegal" and the degree nothing more than "a piece of torn paper." His reaction is seen by many to betray his nervousness about his own upcoming election. Ahmadinejad appointed Kordan and could face a no-confidence vote in parliament should the minister leave. The former interior minister, Mostafa Pourmohammadi, resigned earlier this year.

In an appeal to the government and public, Kordan noted his 30-year record of public service and how the ordeal has had a detrimental effect on his family.

Kordan was also found guilty of lying about bachelor's and master's degrees from an Iranian university. (Michelle Merlin and Ben Sales)

#### Winnie the Pooh drawing sold for more than \$49,000

An original pencil drawing of Winnie the Pooh, Tigger and Piglet sold for 31,200 British pounds (\$49,770) at an auction.

The original picture was expected to raise only 20,000 pounds, though the sale price was inclusive of a 20 percent buyer's premium.

The drawing by E.H. Shepard shows Pooh sitting at a table while dipping his paw into a jar of honey as Tigger and Piglet look on.

The characters are some of A.A. Milne's most popular creations, spawning television shows.

The characters are some of A.A. Milne's most popular creations, spawning television shows, toys and a variety of other media. Winnie the Pooh was originally created in 1926 and named after the toy bear of Milne's son.

According to auctioneer Bonhams, the winning bidder was from Germany and bought the picture for his wife, who is a long time Pooh fan. (Johann Qua Hiansen)

### **National**

#### New drug gains weight loss credibility

In a recent study, researchers from the University of Louis Pasteur in France discovered a drug that keeps mice from gaining weight and increases their resistance to insulin. The drug, SRT1720, is a chemical cousin of a compound found in red wine. The chemical targets protein which may combat aging. It also puts the metabolism in a fat-burning mode that only usually exists at low energy levels.

The original testing on mice led scientists to conclude that it would take gallons of wine before a human could actually gain the weight loss benefit.

Scientists still recommend a change in exercise and diet before trying drugs. Nonetheless, obesity is becoming a large problem in the United Kingdom, and many doctors say that new drugs are necessary.

The mice were also less likely to get diabetes and had an improved tolerance for sugar and insulin.

It is still too new of a drug to be used by humans, and its side effects are not yet known. (Michelle Merlin)

### policebeat

LARCENY Nov. 01, 2008, 2:01 a.m. Location: LEE DORM Summary: Complainant reported that three computers were stolen. Disposition: Unfounded.

DISTURBANCE Nov. 01, 2008, 9:02 a.m. Location: EADS HALL Summary: As a result of double-booking a classroom by scheduling, an argument ensued. Officer responded and mediated the incident. Disposition: Cleared.

SUSPICIOUS PERSON Nov. 01, 2008, 11:58 p.m.

Location: GREENWAY APTS AREA Summary: NSP Officer attempted to contact three juvenile subjects who were coming onto campus via the Greenway Walk. Subjects fled from the officer. Subjects later located running through the Millbrook Garage to Forest Park Parkway. All three taken into custody for trespassing and curfew violation. Disposition: Cleared, referred to Family Courts.

SUSPICIOUS PERSON Nov. 02, 2008, 1:25 a.m.

Location: SOUTH 40 RESIDENCE AREA Summary: Report of a subject who was attempting to start several fights. Subject located, identified as a student and found to be intoxicated. Disposition: Cleared by arrest.

ASSAULT Nov. 02, 2008, 1:51 a.m. Location: OLIN LIBRARY Summary: Complainant reported that for reasons unknown a friend approached him, struck him once in the face and fled the area. Disposition: Pending.

LARCENY Nov. 03, 2008, 5:40 p.m. Location: WILSON HALL Summary: Complainant reported that his bike had been stolen but unreported in early October and that he had located the bike locked to the handrail at Wilson Hall. Disposition: Pending.

## Reflections on Election 2008 with Newsweek Editor Jon Meacham



After this year's world-historical presidential election, your Washington University Alumni Association would like to invite you to a talk with Jon Meacham, editor-in-chief of *Newsweek* magazine, who will give Reflections on Election 2008 and a student Q&A. Meet us for this event at 3:30 p.m. this Saturday, November 8, in Wilson 214 (across from Eads Hall and the front of Olin Library) for some political discussion of the election, other current events, and what it's like to run a high-profile news magazine.

Chancellor Wrighton will introduce the speaker!

What: Reflections on Election 2008 and Q&A with Newsweek

editor Jon Meacham

When: 3:30 p.m. this Saturday, Nov. 8

Where: Wilson 214 (across from Eads Hall and the front of Olin Library)
Why: In celebration of Founders Day 2008 (http://foundersday.wustl.edu/)

**Who & How:** Sponsored by your Alumni Association and the Student Alumni Ambassador Program

Please RSVP for this event to Micah Bateman at mbateman@wustl.edu



### quoteoftheday

"I thought it was good, informative and entertaining. I support his viewpoints, so I enjoyed it."

Freshman Justin Pieper, on Karl Rove's speech on Monday





RESIDENCE HALL HONORARY

OCTOBER "OF THE MONTH" AWARDS

DIVERSITY/EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM OF THE MONTH AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL'S POETRY SLAM

SOCIAL EVENT OF THE MONTH
FRESHMAN/SOPHOMORE CLASS COUNCIL'S

SUNDAY ON THE SWAMP

COMMUNITY SERVICE EVENT OF THE MONTH

RHYTHMS FOR REBUILDING

STUDENT LEADER OF THE MONTH LAUREN STATMAN - DANCE MARATHON

C540/N5A MEMBERS OF THE MONTH
TJ PEPPING, DIANA CHU, AND SHELLY OSTROFSKY

STAFF MEMBER OF THE MONTH
IBY UMANA - PARK/MUDD CHEMISTRY RPM

### Kemper keeps up with contemporary art



The Kemper Museum

Kat Zhao News Editor

While most Washington University students have been to, or know of, the Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum, they may not know the local roots of the museum.

Now part of the Sam Fox School of Design and Visual Arts, the museum's history dates back to 1881, when the St. Louis School and Museum of Fine Arts at the University was first established in downtown St. Louis, the original location of the University's art program.

According to Kemper's marketing manager Kimberly Singer, since its establishment, the museum has followed a strong tradition of collecting and exhibiting significant works of contempo-

The museum boasts an impressive collection of 19th, 20th and 21st century European and American artwork, including prints, photographs, paintings and sculptures, as well as a few relics of Egyptian and Greek origin.

This fall, Kemper is attempting to enhance its reputation by presenting "Birth of the Cool: California Art, Design, and Culture at Midcentury," a national traveling exhibit that reaches back to the roots of the California "cool" of the 1950s period.

"[The exhibit] brings together a lot of the things that make up the California 'cool' aesthetics," Singer said. "We are showing a lot of films, photography, furniture and other design pieces."

Along with those, "Birth of the

Cool" will also be exhibiting a gallery of more hard-edged abstraction paintings, sculpture, a timeline gallery including film and movie clips from the 1959 California culture and a jazz lounge featuring music from and inspired by the era.

The exhibit originates from the Orange County Museum of Arts in California. The exhibit's title is taken from the famous 1957 Miles Davis album of the same name.

"It started in the West Coast and has been in the East Coast as well," Singer

"Birth of the Cool," which has been exhibited at the Kemper Art Museum since Sept. 19, will remain at the museum until Jan. 5. Afterwards, the exhibit will be sent to the University of Texas.

In addition to "Birth of the Cool," Kemper is thriving in its new building next to the Sam Fox School of Design and Visual Arts, opened in Oct. 2006.

In the past, the museum and its arts have been well received by University students, according to Singer. Although it is not uncommon for colleges to own an art museum on campus, the Kemper Art Museum stands on its own as one of the city's art establishments and the oldest museum west of the Mississippi

"The Kemper tends to be a really prominent art museum, more so than those of many other institutions," Singer said. "We have a nice set-up. The museum has a pretty amazing collection, one of the best university collections in the country.'

In spring 2007, Kemper presented "Reality Bites: Making Avant-garde Art in Post-Wall Germany," another successful exhibit focusing on German art after the fall of the Berlin Wall.

"It was very contemporary. [The artists] tried to tie together the kind of art that was being made in the Germany at that time," Singer said.

Since moving into its new building in 2006, the Kemper Art Museum has been incorporated into the Sam Fox School.

"We're really a part of that school, so we work closely with the arts department and the Writing I program as well," Singer said. "We are hoping that students will get something out of it no matter what major they're studying or what kinds of interests they have.



Charles and Ray Eames, prototype plywood chairs (photograph by Charles Eames), © 1950, Boyd Collection, featured in the "Birth of the Cool" exhibit at the Kemper.



# Help Wanted

### **JOBS**

Carney Sandoe & Associates, Nationwide

**Recruiting for:** Teachers (certification not required)

**Majors:** All Majors **Apply end: 11/5** 

CORO, Los Angeles, CA

**Recruiting for:** Coro Fellows Program **Majors:** All Majors

**Apply end:** 11/7

**Honda,** Anna, OH

**Recruiting for:** Materials Engineer; Process Engineer

**Majors:** Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering

**Apply end:** 11/7

Ruder Finn, Inc., New York, NY

**Recruiting for:** Public Relations Executive Vice President

**Majors:** All Majors **Apply end: 11/7** 

**Teach for America,** *Nationwide* 

Recruiting for: 2008 TFA Corps Member

**Majors:** All Majors **Apply end: 11/7** 

**Green Corps, Nationwide** 

Recruiting for: Green Corps 2009-2010 Field School for Environmental Organizing **Majors:** All Majors

**Apply end:** 11/9

**Towers Perrin, Nationwide** 

**Recruiting for:** Actuarial Associate

Majors: Arts & Sciences, Business, Engineering

**Apply end:** 11/10

### INTERNSHIPS

St. Louis Sports Commission, St. Louis, MO

Recruiting for: Fall Graphic Design Internship (Part-Time) **Majors:** All Majors

**Apply end: 11/7** 

**Towers Perrin,** *Nationwide* 

**Recruiting for:** Actuarial Intern Majors: Arts & Sciences, Business, Engineering

**Apply end:** 11/10

Bain & Company, Inc., Nationwide

**Recruiting for:** Associate Consultant Intern Program **Majors:** All Majors

**Apply end:** 11/16

National Football League, New York, NY

**Recruiting for:** NFL Summer Internship Program Majors: Architecture, Arts & Sciences, Business, Engineering

**Apply end: 12/1** 

### **INFO SESSIONS**

Olin Business School: 11/5, 6:30-8 PM, Danforth University Center, Room 234

Proctor & Gamble Company: 11/5, 6:30-8 PM, Danforth University Center, Room 232

Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI): 11/6, 6:30-8 PM, Danforth University

Center, Room 234

Hewlett Packard (HP): 11/10, 7-8 PM, Knight Center, Room 220

**Americorps:** 11/11, 6:30-7:30 PM, Location TBA

Allstate Insurance Company: 11/12,12-2 PM, Danforth University Center, Room 232

Macy's Credit and Customer Services: 11/12, 6-9 PM, Danforth University

Center, Room 234

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Writing Your First Resume Workshop** 

11/6, 5-6 PM in Eads Hall, Room 204

**Got Enough Money? Proposal Writing for Social Change Workshop** 11/6, 4-5:30 PM in the Danforth University Center, Room 276

Etiquette Dinner: Sign-up Deadline: 11/7 11/12, 5:30-7:30 PM in the Whittemore House

Winter Break Road Shows: Application Deadline: 11/17

1/6-9 in Washington, D.C., New York, Los Angeles, and San Francisco with tracks in Government & Public Policy, Advertising & Public Relations, Publishing, Architecture, Film & Television, Pharma & Biotech

Winter Break Career Fairs: Interview Deadline: 12/1

1/5-9 in Boston, Los Angeles, Washington, D.C., Chicago, New York

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### Students' reactions to Rove range from pride to criticism

Ben Sales and Perry Stein News Editors

No matter what they thought of Karl Rove's words on Monday night, students reacted powerfully to the message that he sent before, during and after the speech, and particularly in a question-and-answer session that featured challenges to Rove's record and the message he sends, as well as praise for his efforts on behalf of the President.

The man dubbed as the architect of George Bush's 2000 and 2004 presidential campaigns made little reference to those times in his career and focused on commentary regarding the current campaign, but it came as no surprise that his speech was received with mixed reactions from the student body.

Notable during the speech was the lack

"I thought it was good, in-

formative and entertaining.

enjoyed it."

Freshman Justin Pieper, on Karl

Rove's speech on Monday

"What I heard was a cleverly disguised

of protests outside Graham Chapel. The last time a conservative speaker of this caliber spoke to students here, when former Attorney General Alberto Gonzales came to campus in March, protesters from the College Democrats and other groups donned orange jumpsuits to bring attention to Gonzales' alleged acts of torture.

This year, though, the College Democrats chose to focus on the general election the next day, doing little to recognize Rove's presence here.

But symbols of opposition were not absent from the scene, as the Wash. U. Peace Coalition, which also protested conservative speaker Daniel Pipes upon his arrival to Washington University two weeks ago as part of National Islamo-Fascism Awareness Week, put up a display of mock tombstones on the quad, each with the name of a fallen American soldier in the Middle East, along with the names of dead Iraqi or Afghan civilians. The display was intended to protest the human cost of the wars in Iraq and Af-

Many students said that they were surprised by the non-partisan nature of Karl Rove's speech, while others said his talk read like a McCain campaign pitch, rife with insults to President-elect Barack Obama and his running mate, Senator Joe Biden of Delaware.

Still others appreciated Rove's rightwing perspective, as he drew praise for his defense of Bush's wiretapping policies, and for his comments regarding Obama's lack of experience and attention, particularly in the context of the recent economic crisis.

But with the exception of a few 'boos' during his actual speech, the student audience remained relatively quiet, and waited until the question-and-answer session to address Rove with their challenges, and at times to criticize his policies.

Here are some highlights of student reactions from the night:

"I definitely am glad I voted for the appeal [to fund Rove]. I was very happy that the student body was respectful and gave Karl I support his viewpoints, so I Rove the opportunity to speak his views."

Senior William Osberghaus, Treasury member

"It was nice to hear it straight from the source. We don't get anywhere by playing petty."

Joel Wood, an Iraq War veteran

speech that was basically the McCain campaign's topic speeches. I think he did a good job answering the questions." Sophomore Michael Hopper

"I thought it was really informative, I thought he did a great job of comparing the current race to historical examples, and I think that's something that we kind of miss out on when we just watch TV and just hear the talking points... Great stories, I think he's really funny and personable, and I think people enjoyed it judging from the crowd's reactions. Hopefully it was worth their time."

Charis Fischer, President of the College Republicans

### ROVE from page 1

"It took months for the race in 2004 to get up to the pace that we saw almost from the beginning of this race," Rove said. "We've got these candidates floating around the country so quick and so early and so hard because we frontloaded the process."

Rove also jabbed at the mainstream media's continuous use of polling data as the basis for their stories, noting that 13 polls came out the day before his speech, each with different results.

'One thing that's been bad about this year is polls. I hate them. I say kill the pollsters," Rove said. "The media's used them as a substitute for doing what they should really do, which is cover the campaign. They've used them to cover the horse race, not the substance."

Rove stressed Obama's legislative inexperience but praised the aggressiveness of the Illinois senator's campaign, which has targeted traditionally-Republican territory.

"We have two big bets going on: 'I hope he's up to it,' and 'I hope it's the right kind of change," Rove said. "Obama had to force the battle on Red State turf, and he's done so quite ex-

Rove ended his speech by taking the focus away from the election and telling a story about an injured soldier who plans to return to the Middle East to fight after recovering from an operation. He signed off by exhorting Americans to remember their national identity.

"There's something even more important than who we elect as president and that's who we are as a people, who we are as a country," Rove said. "If we have a sense of responsibility and obligation, duty. If we keep molding and making ourselves into people who are willing to serve our country in this way then we'll remain exactly what the United States is, which is not only the greatest nation on the face of this planet but the greatest nation in the history of the world."

Professor Murray Weidenbaum,

who worked as a senior economics analyst under President Ronald Reagan, introduced Rove, who in turn praised Weidenbaum as one of his role models while in college.

Weidenbaum, who noted that the University has always had a liberal student body, said that the audience-most of which seemed to have little sympathy for Rove-comported itself better than

he expected. "[It was] much more positive than anticipated," Weidenbaum said of the audience's reaction to Rove. "He showed he could handle the pressure. This is what I was hoping for. He came away with higher respect for Washington University than he came in with."

Most of those who asked questions of Rove after the speech, though, seemed less inspired by his wisdom and more wary of the tactics he used when working under Bush.

Joseph Orkin, a graduate student, confronted Rove about the Bush administration's use of torture and illegal wiretapping.

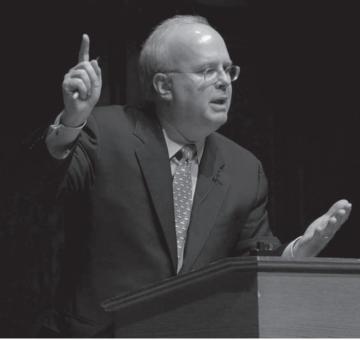
"You sat in the administration that has allowed torture and spying on American citizens, politicization of the Justice Department. I want to know why it's justified for you to evade a subpoena by Congress."

Raising his voice, Rove denied both

He did match students at their quips and one time jokingly replied to a student, "your e-mails were really interesting," referring to allegations that he invades the personal privacy of United States citizens.

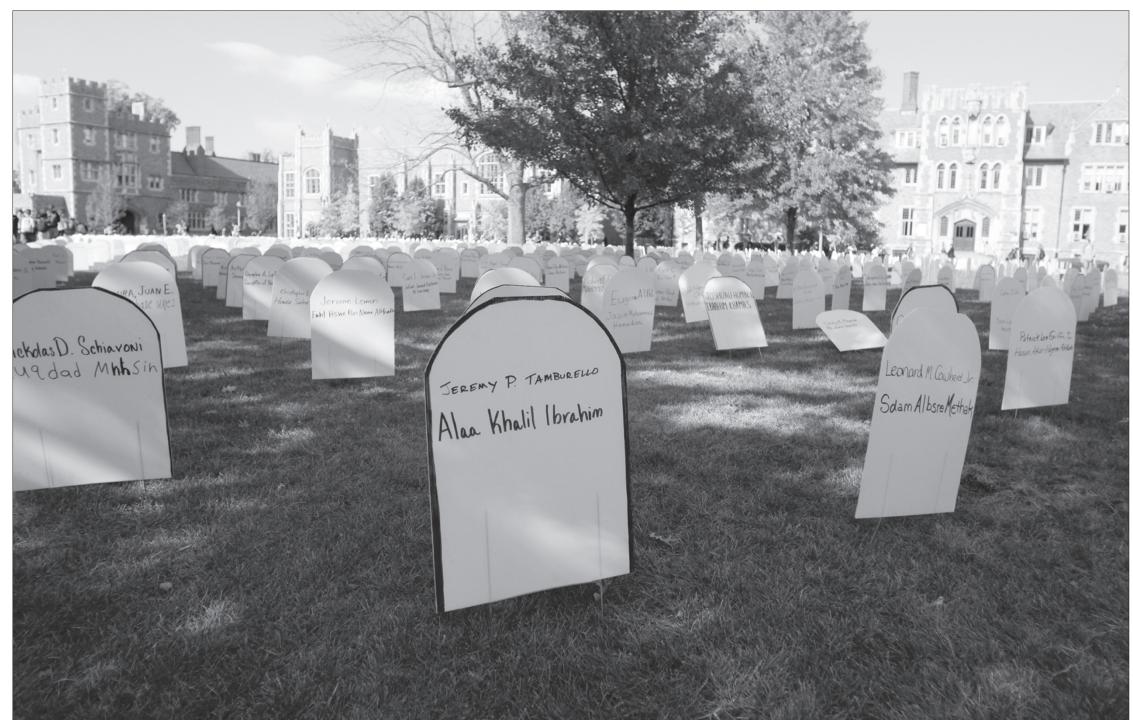
However, when confronted with serious allegations and attacks, Rove remained steadfast and stern in his responses.

"The United States does not torture," he said. "The United States government does not wiretap U.S. citizens. It has absolutely kept the U.S. safe for the past seven years...We have used every tool available to us to listen in on the communications of our enemy."



Karl Rove, a former Bush adviser, speaks in Graham Chapel on Monday.

#### REMEMBERING THE FALLEN



On Monday, Nov. 3, the Washington University Peace Coalition erected poster board graves on the grass outside the Women's Building to remember those who have died in the Iraq war—both U.S. soldiers and Iraqi civilians. This was the display's third consecutive year.

### ELECTION from page 1

2004, the youth vote, according to CNN, made up 21 percent of the total voters this election cycle.

Reflecting the University's largely liberal standing student body, data from an exit poll conducted by Student Life showed that 87.22 percent of the student body voted for Obama. Business students were slightly more likely to vote for McCain than the general student body population.

"Wash. U. turnout was unbelievable. Close to 100 percent," Sophie Cohen, president of Students for Barack Obama, said. "I'm very proud of Wash. U. Youth finally showed they do matter a lot. We do have a voice."

Of the student voters who decided for whom they would vote within the last three weeks, 80 percent voted for Obama.

Lining up with the national polls, which suggested that most Americans ranked the economy as their top concern this election, almost one-third of University students said that the economy was the largest factor when deciding for whom to vote. The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan ranked second at almost 15 percent.

Yesterday was a day for the Democrats to remember, as the party also swept the legislative

elections, picking up seats in both houses of congress. For the first time since 1995, the Democrats control the House, the Senate and the White House.

Democrat Jay Nixon won the Missouri gubernatorial race as

The Washington University student body, however, did clash with the greater St. Louis public on proposition M. The Student Life exit poll showed that an overwhelming 88.64 percent of students voted to approve proposition M, which would increase MetroLink funding, although the bill ultimately failed in St. Louis County.

Although the Democrats outnumber the Republicans on campus, the Republicans have also made their voices heard in their efforts to campaign for Senator John McCain.

Republican Monika Monson, a sophomore, said that although she is disappointed that McCain lost, she will stand behind Obama in his presidency.

"I'm going to be gracious in defeat," Monson said. "I hope [Obama] follows through on all his promises and I wish him

Student Union (SU) Vice



South 40 residents lined up early to in Wohl Center to cast their votes. The longest lines were seen around 8 a.m., when this photo was taken, but by the early afternoon there was no wait.

President for Administration Jeff Nelson noted the political activism and discourse that reverberated through campus yesterday and called it characteristic of the excitement that has flowed from the vice presidential debate here last month.

"On campus a lot of people were really energized. Even though [voting] was early, you could tell people really thought this was their responsibility. There wasn't even a choice whether they were going to [vote] or not," Nelson said.

SU President Brittany Perez added that that sense of obligation caused students to do more than just vote, saying that they contributed money and volunteered time to the campaigns.

"People have taken ownership of this election. You can tell from the people that stuck around here and the people that have been getting people out to vote in the last couple of days that they are really invested," Perez said.

Reporting by Perry Stein, Johann Qua Hiansen and Michelle Merlin. Written by Perry Stein.

### EXPERIENCE from page 1

paper ballots available to student voters.

Junior Paul Cheh from Washington, D.C. said that although the voting process at Wohl generally ran smoothly, he and other student voters had to stand in line for more than an hour to cast their votes. Cheh observed about 200 people in line during the morning, even as early as 8

"A lot of other people had the same idea to go pretty early," he said. "It was about an hour and 15 minutes' wait, and once you got into the polls it was pretty quick and painless."

However, Cheh noted that voting officials may have been able to streamline the process.

"Some of the lines were a little confusing," he said.

While students like Cheh voted as Missouri residents, others, such as junior and Maryland native Michelle Bernard, submitted absentee ballots for their home states.

Bernard, however, remained politically active on Election Day, volunteering for Democratic candidate for Missouri lieutenant governor Sam Page, who lost the race to Republican incumbent Peter Kinder.

"I didn't really get the experience of going into the polling place, but it was fun and exciting. I think this entire election is one to remember for a lifetime," Bernard said.

College Republican Josh Simpson, a Maryville, Missouri resident who voted absentee before Election Day, also volunteered. Simpson handed out literature for Kinder.

"It was crazy-college kids getting up at 6 a.m. to vote. And the rest of the day went pretty smoothly," Simpson observed. "I think their [students'] voice is definitely going to be heard in this election, especially with our state in Missouri."

While Bernard and Simpson volunteered for state candidates, Green Action member Peter Murrey, a sophomore, attempted to raise support for Propositions M and C. Proposition M, which proposed to raise Proposition C, which proposed to support renewable energy sources, was approved.

Center, waited for one hour but found the process convenient, and was able

"The line was very long, but it was worth it," Murrey said. "We are going to get our voice heard, and politicians: You better be ready for

In the evening, as ballots across the nation were being counted, students gathered in the Tisch Commons of the Danforth University Center to watch the results of the

"Watching it in the DUC has been great," Student Union (SU) Vice President for Administration Jeff Nelson said. "It's good watching it with friends, seeing who our next president and vice president are

president of finance, who also sat in the crowd in Tisch Commons watching the race, expressed exhilaration at seeing Sen. Barack Obama sweep the presidential race.

Obama is the president-elect. The fact that, one, an African-American is the president-elect of the United States of America, and two, that it wasn't just black people that voted for him, and three, Barack Obama is the President of the United States,"

funds for MetroLink, failed to pass;

Murrey, who voted at the Wohl to buy food from Bear's Den.

presidential election.

going to be."

Senior Yewande Alimi, SU vice

"This is amazing-Barack

### STUDENT LIFE

One Brookings Drive #1039 #330 Danforth University Center Saint Louis, MO 63130-4899

> News: (314) 935-5995 Advertising: (314) 935-6713 Fax: (314) 935-5938 e-mail: editor@studlife.com www.studlife.com

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she laughed.

Alimi added that the victory contains a personal element for her, in addition to being nationally signifi-

"It's an overwhelming amount of people saying they're sick and tired of the crap that's been happening It's time, and I think change is coming," she said. "This is amazing to be a student, an African-American woman, to be someone who can vote in this election—this is amazing."



Campaign posters were hung outside Wohl center on the South 40 as part of a massive "get out the vote" effort. Reminders to vote adorned walls, sidewalks and campus buildings as well.

### Colleges affected by economic downturn

lan Toufique Contributing Reporter

As a result of the market downturn, many industries have seen their companies folding, and the academic world is also feeling the effects of financial difficulties. The economic deterioration has also led to the closing of several small independent colleges-some of which were established more than a century ago.

The independent and private Antioch College in Yellow Springs, Ohio recently shut down for the 2008-09 school year, after operating for 157 years. Administrators in Antioch, which charges a tuition of \$40,000 and admitted 60 students this year, reported that they were unable to admit enough students to run successfully.

Antioch may reopen in 2012 if its situation improves. Administrators also mentioned that they may merge with other small universities, to jointly save one another from closing down.

Junior Jeff Nelson and senior Dave Shapiro react to the announcement that Barack Obama had won enough electoral

votes to become the next president during the results watching party in the Danforth Center.

In the 2007 National Association of Colleges and Universities Study, Washington University reported a \$5.42 billion endowment—a high figure for the University's medium sized student body of roughly 6,000 undergraduates and 6,000 graduates.

Other independent colleges that lack an endowment as large as that of the University, however, may see financial problems in weathering current economic woes in the future.

As numerous American families of all economic statuses have seen financial troubles recently, contributions to universities have decreased accordingly—which in turn has led to a greater need for financial aid. In response, more students have decided to attend lower-cost state universities instead of more prestigious private institutions.

With college tuition increasing by more than three times the rate of inflation for the last two decades, fewer and fewer families and students are able to afford education from private universities. Much more affordable are community colleges, which still remain a frequently-considered option for many college-bound students.

zine noted the irony in seeing colleges close to troubles, since higher education can often help an economy rebound from its downturns in the

A recent article from Forbes maga-

Many students, like junior Roger Chang, are concerned that the recent economic slump will play a large role in the near future of college educa-

"I expected that colleges would have to be affected by the markets. After all, a school's endowment is directly linked to its investments," Chang said. "I'm just glad I go to a school like Wash. U. I would hate to have to just stop going somewhere and abruptly begin a transfer search."

Saad Hasan, a junior from West Virginia-a state that boasts a number of small independent collegesbelieves that a good college education is necessary for most Americans.

"That is just the type of negative attitude [in the economy] which causes a widening loss of faith. A college education is an integral ingredient to the American dream. It will surely open opportunities to those that believe in it," Hasan said.

### Suspect apprehended in police shooting

Perry Stein News Editor

The Missouri Highway Patrol in the Kansas City area has made an arrest of a suspect in the murder of Sergeant Michael King of the University City Police Department.

Captain Tim Hull, Director of Public Information for the Missouri State Highway Patrol said that the police have the correct vehicle stopped and

have verified the identity of the person taken into custody, but have not yet released the suspect's name to the public.

The suspect is assumed to be 41-year-old Todd Shepard, the only person whom the police have named as a suspect.

Sergeant King, a Washington University alumnus, was shot in the head while on duty at about 10:20 p.m on Friday at the intersection of Leland Avenue and Delmar Boulevard. He was a Washington University

alumnus.

# Forum Editor 7 Jill Strominger 7 Torum@studine.com — WEDNESDAY | NOVEMBER 5, 200

STAFF EDITORIAL

### Students on both sides learned from Rove

But aside from the experience itself, what of Rove's words? "The Architect" had a few major points to make on the nature of this election. His most obvious point was about its length, almost twice the length of the Bush vs. Gore campaign in 2000. What resonated most from his talk, though, was his pointedly unoptimistic

outlook for the future. Both presidential candidates made their way onto the ballot by winning not a majority of Americans but a plurality; when there are several strong contenders on both sides, however, this is to be expected. His evaluations of the vice presidential picks, however, were even more bleak: Both Palin and Biden, he said, were chosen not because they would complement their respective presidential candidates but because they filled a need in each party's propaganda machine. Rove's cynicism led the rest of his speech, as he highlighted more or less equally the shortcomings of each party, platform and candidate. His party affiliations came out during a heated attack of Joe Biden but only after he had finished his written speech.

So what are we supposed to glean from this? The unfortunate truth, as he very clearly suggested—that even the campaign of 'hope' and 'change' has

pandered once in a while, that even the best-looking figures have stooped to a lie and that Americans continue to gullibly follow along. Rove's outlook certainly is depressing and supports an alarming decline in our trust of the government—but it is also, perhaps, a much needed dose of reality. Rove's most fervent assertions, aside from Biden's ineptitudes, were about the unreliability of polls and news spinners. But his final message was about respecting, loving and staying loyal to your country. Combined, he is asking Americans to love their country despite its flaws but also make the effort to distinguish the truth from all the fluff.

Did Rove do this himself? He can easily point out Democratic deficiencies, but he did not shy from discussing Republican shortfalls. Yet he did a fair amount of spinning himself, not just with summary of the vice presidential candidates but also with his laundry

list of Bush accolades. Of course, Rove does not have to be bipartisan, nor is anyone asking him to be.

What is missing from his message of awareness, however, are solutions. He declined to comment on if either presidential candidate will successfully handle any of the crises headed our way. Rove has washed his hands of that aspect, and happily so; he is no longer Bush's affectionately nicknamed "Turdblossom"—he is a journalist; he gets to do the complaining and leave the solutions to someone else.

As students who can easily fall into the same trap, we should all remind ourselves that sometimes a bit of cynicism is necessary to keep us aware of our surroundings; however, that is no reason to abandon the innate endearment of Rove's nickname, which reminds us that even out of the foulest cow patty can emerge a flower.

# Am I white enough for you?

Anna Sobotka Staff Writer

ve been thinking a lot lately about my roots. I grew up literally 10 minutes away from campus on Delmar Boulevard in University City. I went to the district's public schools from pre-k through senior year, and I always had a lot of pride in my background. I loved telling people that I was part of a 10 percent minority being both white and uppermiddle class and that more than 85 percent of my high school was African American. I enjoyed shocking other St. Louis natives by telling them that, yes, I loved my school and, yes, you can succeed in a public high school that is constantly fighting for accreditation. I think, for some time, I also believed that I was better equipped to judge "black America" because I was surrounded by it every day. The reality is, however, that I was living in a white bubble at a

All of my best friends were white, the demographics of my advanced courses were not representative of the school as a whole, and, by being white, I was instantly accepted by some groups and rejected by others. I was treated differently by the administration; rarely did I have to show a hall pass, and I can't remember ever being questioned about why I was leaving or entering the building. I was trusted by my teachers, and there was a certain level of expectation to which I was always held. At the time, I was confident that I had the respect of the administrators and teachers around me because I really was a good kid. I never skipped a day of school, I never drank or used drugs and I was a

sure that had something to do with it, but I also know it is more complicated than that. While I was given those privileges and then proved myself worthy, a lot of other kids had to earn them from scratch.

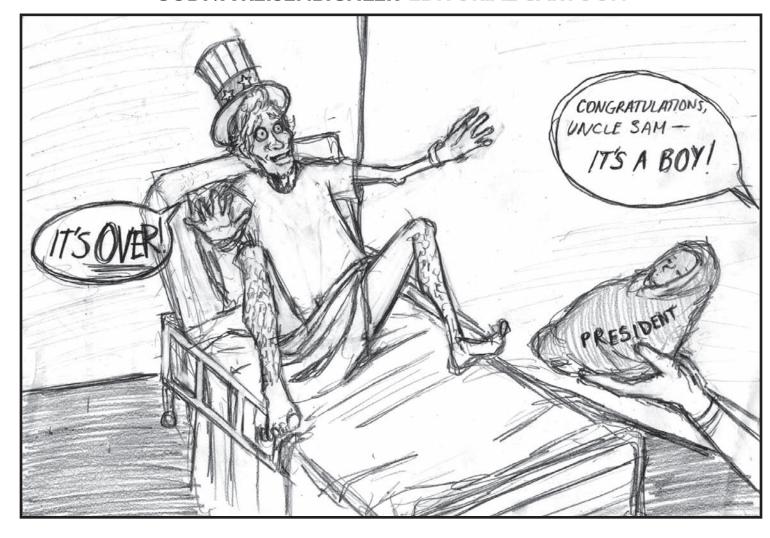
But behavior, tragically, played a huge role in the racial divide. For the past few days, I haven't been able to get this one girl, Dana Brokley, out of my head. She was an attractive, black, very smart and even more dedicated girl in the grade above me. She graduated salutatorian of her class. We participated in a lot of the same extracurricular activities, so I saw her on a regular basis. I think I always knew she struggled to find her place at our school, but I wasn't aware to what extent until one day, before mock trial practice, I spotted her crying to our coach. She explained how a group of black kids were harassing her during the day and telling her she wasn't black enough and that her motivation and doggedness were too "white" for them. I remember her looking devastated and

Later, I learned that her situation was a lot more complicated and sad. Dana had a crush on a white guy, and this fact somehow leaked onto the public arena of gossip. While we all wondered about whether they would "get together," Dana must have been fighting a much more terrifying battle at home. After a few weeks we all learned that her father, a prominent man in the community who had high expectations for his daughter's success, refused to let Dana date Mike, because he was white.

So where did Dana belong? She had been scorned by a lot of the African Americans at my high school for being "too

See SOBOTKA, page 7

#### **GODIVA REISENBICHLER EDITORIAL CARTOON**



### The work

### And why it's not over quite yet

Charlie Bohlen Staff Columnist

'm writing this after coming from a speech by Karl Rove, held in Graham Chapel Monday night. I don't know what I was expecting, but the man manages to instill an even deeper sense of dread in person than he does on TV. Honestly, watching him talk is like watching a python feed. So to bolster myself, I have checked, repeatedly, every source I have come to trust over the past two years, and every single one of them points to an Obama victory. By the time this goes to print, we'll all know whether that trust was well founded.

But that uncertainty puts this article, the last I'll ever write about this insufferable election, in a strange kind of place. To keep this piece relevant, I would rationally have to project the implications of a McCain victory as well as an Obama one. But to tell the truth, it is beyond my power to do so. I cannot rationally conceive of a world in which Sarah Palin is our vice president. It occupies the same cognitive territory as a meteor impact or a tidal wave. She recently took a prank call from some Canadian comedian who claimed to be Nicholas Sarkozy, the president of France. He eventually had to let her in on it, after he ran out of material. This is after he praised the pornographic film "Who's Nailin' Paylin?" as an "edgy documentary." So, if that is the case, then, well, sorry for wasting your time. You may stop reading. The rest of this article discusses the other alternative.

So Barack Hussein Obama is the 44th president of the United States of America. What does this mean? Well it is of course an achievement in itself, with him being black and all. Hugs all around for living long enough to see this historic day. But more importantly, Obama's victory has carried his party to a majority in the House and the Senate. Liberalism lives again. The impulse here might be to gloat, to tell the Republicans we'll see 'em again in 2012, don't let the deficit hit you on the way out. Please resist this temptation. Not because they don't deserve it. They do. It's because we haven't actually won anything yet. All we've been given is a chance to prove ourselves. That's right, you first-time-voting, Obama-bandwagon-joining, election-delivering, knee-jerk liberal punks. You're in it for the

You've got four years to take this farce of a party that it took eight years of Bush governance, five years of a deeply unpopular war, untold trillions of sunken spending, an ongoing financial crisis, two hurricanes and a Sarah Palin to rescue from total collapse and turn it into a legitimate political enterprise. We will never be this lucky again. So how do we do it?

In some ways, we have it easy. Obama's extensive online campaign has created a community he can't dismantle, even if he wanted to. We would be equally foolhardy to let it wither. Please, stay connected, stay involved, continue to care about the direction this country is taking. We can grow this community and keep it vital. It doesn't belong to Obama-it belongs to us. And it's easy. Just stay in the Facebook groups, keep blogging, whatever. The Internet has the power to connect us to every disenfranchised malcontent with a phone line and a laptop. The Republicans have yet to marshal any kind of defense against this. I'm not convinced one exists.

See BOHLEN, page 7

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Yes, I voted

Dear Editor:

For the last few weeks, the pervasive bombardment of election propaganda on campus has been impossible to avoid. Socialist realism artwork, T-shirts, posters (some ironically stapled to trees) and my personal favorite, the ridiculous "I Vote" buttons, are seemingly endless and everywhere.

By the way, can I still get my hands on one of those poster-boards with "change" written on it? That particular item still confuses me. Now perhaps my constitutional education needs some refreshing, but I was under the impression that whatever the outcome, George Bush will no longer be president next year. Maybe I can snag the closest person wearing a "Hope" T-shirt to clarify my ignorance.

Even better than the propaganda are the three times in the last two weeks I had students affiliated with the Obama campaign come to my physical residence, knock on my door and ask me if I was registered to vote.

The point is that it is insulting and annoying. Everyone here was smart enough to gain admittance into a consistently top 12 university and probably smart enough to exercise their voting rights. So while I appreciate you disturbing me at home for the third time this week, I already voted a month ago.

The other problem is the notion that by voting, you are worthy of some sort of social admiration. So you voted; congratulations, here's a cookie and a megaphone to go tell the world how special you are. What happened to voting simply being a civic duty and a personal choice?

This is not to say that people cannot be enthusiastic about candidates. By all means, hold your rallies, wear your T-shirts and hold intelligent discussion about issues. But just in case someone might have an opinion that differs from yours (a hypothetical, of course), maybe refrain from slapping Obama posters on the side of the law school, trees on campus and

all door-handles in Village East.

Please be respectful of this campus and the students who attend it before deciding to turn Washington University into a cesspool of partisan propaganda.

Brian Jones Class of 2009

### R-E-S-P-E-C-T

Dear Editor:

This year, my American Politics course has given me a myriad of insights into the complexities of the United States government, the most important being that political discourse is demonstrative of a healthy democracy: The clash of ideologies keeps the United States true to its Constitution. Inevitably, it was in this class that I saw an example of such a battle. On Monday, a disgruntled student made it very clear, during a comment in class, that he believed the professor to be placing an intentional liberal swing on information by carefully selecting which facts to present.

which facts to present.

I believe the student's claim to be absolutely unfounded and unwarranted. My professor has done a commendable job in presenting both sides of issues, even portraying weaknesses of Democrats. For example, the only readings that have been assigned pertaining to the current candidates were one that presented a sweeping patriotic portrait of John McCain and another condemning Obama's move to the center after receiving the nomination.

Even if there has been a slight bias, I would argue that, first of all, it is hard to avoid a bias because of natural human tendency (not excluding this article). Second, there are political science realities that my professor has conveyed through lectures and readings that are independent of party affiliation or political persuasion.

Yet, I can understand why the student may have been frustrated. From the letters to the editor that I have read in *Student Life*, I have been made aware of the persecution of minority ideology on campus. It is evidenced by more visible attempts of students to cover up McCain signs during VP debate coverage and the less visible squelching of the conservative minority in our very

Washington University students, including the student from my American Politics class, should take a look around to make sure they are helping to create an environment that fosters respectful political discourse. This includes listening quietly and respectfully when speakers with different beliefs are invited to campus (i.e. Alberto Gonzales from last year) and making sure that our friends and neighbors aren't, for fear of attack, condemned to keep their opinions to themselves: Our democracy depends on it.

Eliot Walker Class of 2011

### There are rules, indeed

Dear Editor:

As I was going back to my offcampus apartment, I saw something quite disturbing on the overpass. As I was going down the ramp that leads to the sidewalk, someone was walking on the left side of the overpass. Did this person not see the instructions on the overpass clearly telling bikers to walk their bikes and pedestrians to keep to their right? Perhaps, I should give this person the benefit of the doubt, but after thinking about it, I realized that many people walk on the left side of the overpass. There are rules, people.

This blatant violation of the rules by all the pedestrians thinking that they live in Britain made me wonder, what's next? First, people walk on the left side of the overpass. Then, drivers are going to drive faster than the speed limit. Before you know it, 20-year-olds are going to be drinking alcohol and 17-yearolds are going to be smoking and watching R-rated movies. Or things could get completely out of control, and college students—whether they know it's illegal or not—could start smoking marijuana or doing even harder illegal drugs.

Any violations of the rules will likely lead to more severe violations. This thought convinced me that from now on, when meeting someone who is walking on the left side of the overpass, I will stop him/ her and lecture boringly and sternly about the importance of obeying the rules. Even if there have not been any accidents resulting from people walking on the left side of the overpass (while, as far as I know, there have not been any accidents resulting from bikers riding their bikes on the overpass, though there have been many accidents resulting from speeding, drinking, smoking and other illegal activities that are still practiced), that should not be an excuse for pedestrians to create a safety risk by walking on their left. If bikers are required to get off and walk their bikes, thereby actually increasing the width required for them to get across the overpass, then people absolutely cannot allow themselves to walk on the left side of the overpass.

> Dima Galkin Class of 2010



## The thieves are among us

Brent Sherman Staff Columnist

he more expensive a school is, the more crooks it has-I'm not kidding," says Holden Caulfield. This year, crime is making the headlines: mob violence in the Loop, laptop thefts all over campus, muggings off campus and, worst of all, the slaying of a police officer.

Some say these many crimes may have eroded people's false sense of security, but I don't agree. Just the other day, I overheard some woman in Whispers saying that no one would take her laptop in the few minutes she

would be gone. Obviously, she hasn't been paying attention to the fact that nearly all the laptop thefts have been crimes of opportunity.

I could spend this whole column telling you how to be safe, but people have already tried that. WUPD does an excellent job of telling you. (I'm sure you all remember the Wash. U. bear in that Safety video from freshman year.) All this advice is worthless if it falls on deaf ears.

The best way I can think to unstop people's ears is to make them aware of how their personal behavior is unsafe. To do this, librarians should be given a roll of stickers that read, "STOLEN! This item was left unattended

and could have been stolen. Please think about your security. See police.wustl.edu for more information about safe security practices." Then, whenever someone leaves a laptop unattended, they could place the sticker on the keyboard to alert the individual of their unwise decision. A sticker would make the person realize that they could have been a victim. This alone should make that person more security conscious in

In addition to the stickers, laptop locks should be made available at Olin. They could be checked out with a Wash. U. ID just like headphones currently are. Laptop locks are a proven, low-cost method to reduce laptop theft. This would be an easy program for the library to implement, and students would take advan-

With all that being said, we really do live in a very safe environment. We should appreciate WUPD's efforts as well as each individual's hand in creating this bubble of safety. I have never felt unsafe on campus, and I continue to enjoy walking at night. I hope you all feel the same safety and that you all will think before you decide to leave your belongings unattended.

Brent is a sophomore in Engineering. He can be reached via e-mail at zuklug@

as one nation, but to proactively

### INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS with Caleb Posner

## Bosnia's predictable demise

Caleb Posner Staff Columnist

ast week, Clinton stooge and Dayton Accords author Richard Holbrooke wrote an alarmist editorial that has slowly been gaining international media attention, wherein he expressed great concern over the continued existence of Bosnia. He offered a number of diplomatic remedies that might, according to him, prevent what seems like the otherwise inevitable collapse of another state in the Balkans. As was noted, the reason behind his article is that he regards the continued existence of modern Bosnia as essential. Rather than defend this position, this is an assertion he takes for granted, which ought not be the case. Truth be told, Bosnia has no historical legitimacy, is irrational in construct. and has been destined to fail from the start. While collapse of a state is rarely beneficial, especially in the powder keg of Europe, the way this situation is approached must be grounded in an appreciation for

the region's history and the present day realities, neither of which Holbrooke appears to firmly grasp.

Bosnia is not a nation of historic validity, but a disputed buffer region between the competing Serbian and Croatian nations, each of whom have legitimate claims to substantial portions of the land. Accordingly, it has been of a multi-ethnic character for centuries, and remains so today. However, this fuels substantial conflict in a region where multiethnic states have often proven themselves to be breeding grounds for violence and genocide, the overwhelming majority of which has always been directed against the Serbs. In a half-baked effort to pacify this battleground nation, the Dayton Accords created a federal system wherein there is a relatively weak national government, and two much stronger state governments. Republika Srpska hosts the nation's sizable Serbian population, while the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina hosts the remaining Bosniak and Croat populations.

After many years of brutal

warfare and chaos, both sides set national ambitions aside and worked together to rebuild. But, as seemed fairly obvious to any individual with a grasp of the true nature of the Balkans, this was short lived. Though we have not yet seen war, the rhetoric has become increasingly polarized. Those in the Federation have been pushing for drastic reforms that would shift all of the power into a strong central government, where they would make up the majority of the population and could thus run roughshod over the rights of the Serbian minority. In turn, this has inspired the highly moderate government of Republika Srpska to extend legitimacy to the idea of ending Bosnia, by way of becoming independent (or more reasonably merging with Serbia), should the need arise.

As the nation exists today, it is a tense union between two unlike factions with highly divergent agendas and interests. So why continue to prop it up? If the only justification is Balkans stability then the answer is not to add to the hasty patchwork keeping Bosnia

develop and implement a more rational and permanent solution. That means separating Republika Srpska from the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina immediately, merging the former with Serbia. But what to do with the latter? Allowing it to become independent as is would be dangerous, since quite naturally the Croats would seek reunion with the motherland, and inspire yet another bloody conflict. As it happens, the ethnic divisions are presently such that the Croatian-dominated portions could be given to Croatia without much issue, allowing the Bosniaks to have a new state of their own. Wedged between the powers of the region, it would be kept in check, and its ability to provide a breeding ground for jihad and Islamism would be reduced by threat of invasion from the concerned neighbor states (this will be elaborated on in a future column).

Caleb is a freshman in Arts and Sciences. He can be reached via e-mail at csposner@artsci.wustl.edu.

### The all-nighter

Charlie Low Staff Columnist

ecently, I was forced to stay up to ungodly hours of the night, or morning, in order to finish a paper that shall remain nameless. Of course I've been up late here at Wash. U., that's a given. On a weekend night, I haven't gone to bed before 5:30 a.m. During the week, my average bedtime has been around 2:30 to 3 a.m. But those nights were different. Those were relaxing perusals of the nocturnal atmosphere: doing rote math work, watching the 40th repeat of Sports Center, hanging out in the common room or using my computer to catch up on all the TV I wished I could watch on a TV.

Those nights revolved around time management. Spacing out assignments with a game of Madden or a trip to get ice cream and then getting back to work, knowing I was capable of completing the assignment. College life, balanced-hard working-but most certainly balanced. It is clear that some people may disagree with my notion of balance and may find it shockingly irresponsible that I would rather stay up to the early hours of the morning in order to have my schoolwork interspersed with mindless pastimes, and I respect that. But this is my personal opinion, and it's my column, so you shall roll with my reckless pursuit of abandon.

This particular night was different. There was no carefree frolicking through the halls of Dardick 2. This night hurt; irresponsibility caught up to me, and it was not fun. One 20-ounce Americano and a double macchiato later, and I felt like the dude from Icy Tower. I was literally bouncing off the walls. I might as well have taken a syringe full of caffeine right into my bloodstream. Mind you, I am not a coffee drinker, so this was quite a shot to my system. I have certainly enjoyed the occasional cup but do not need it to wake up in the morning, nor do I like the feeling of caffeine in general. Let me tell you, caffeine is most certainly a drug. There were moments last night when I was going crazy. I was so hyper that I couldn't even focus. It's not a pleasant feeling, especially when you add the stress of an unfinished paper to your malfunctioning over-caffeinated

Let us explore how I wedged myself into this uncomfortable predicament. Like a truly selfaware, intelligent, responsible student, I am going to deflect my acceptance of the consequences of my actions and resort to the blame game. Blame who? Blame the parents! Parents Weekend was the root of my triple foam caramel soy macchiato-induced selfobliteration. Given that midterms had just recently ceased to be at the forefront of my responsibility flow chart, I had not had time to consider the paper. Then, the flying V of parents arrived on campus. Flocks of moms and dads and siblings overwhelmed the school, and upon the arrival of my parents and brother, responsibility ceased to exist. I had to show my brother a good time and convince my parents I still loved them and was actually okay by myself. The weekend passed, no work was done, and then, what I will proceed to call the Parents Weekend hangover set in. Worn out by family, Sunday was spent in a comatose state watching football. Monday followed with a calculus quiz, and then, like a slap to the face, it was nine at night on Tuesday, and I still hadn't made a dent in the paper.

Luckily enough, I was able to subdue the caffeine leprechauns that were attacking my brain and write a focused paper. The consequences were stress, caffeine jitters, a less than adequate night's sleep and a story for Forum. Nothing too drastic or life changing, but if there is a moral to this story, and there is, it's that all work should be postponed for at least one week after the departure of parental units.

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

### BOHLEN from page 6

Do not make the mistake of thinking we do not need to keep tabs on the man we elected. Let's not kid ourselves; we've elected a question mark. But unlike President Bush, President Obama owes his success to us, rather than some shadowy cabal of oil tycoons and defense contractors. He cannot afford to ignore us. But the reverse is also true. In the coming weeks Obama will doubtlessly make some speech, issuing a challenge. He will talk of the harsh realities of our time and speak of the sacrifices we will all have to make. He will demand we strive with him, to be active citizens, to participate in making this country great again. People will make comparisons to Kennedy. If you dismiss this as mere rhetoric, kiss power good-bye. His mandate is our mandate. If we divest ourselves of our political will, we deliver this country to the plutocrats. We are the party of idealists,

journalists, teachers, artists and thinkers whose chief faith is in the power of people to better this world. Republicans stand by tax breaks and family values, we, by what our governance can accomplish. Wall Street is in the tank, many American business prospects are rocky and medicine is not looking as lucrative as it may have when people still had the money for Botox. There has never been a better time for gifted, ambitious young people like you to consider a career in government. If you're committed to changing this country, there is a place for you in this presidency. Obama's election will not fix anything if it does not inspire us to throw ourselves into the work. Do not fail him. And let's show Karl Rove what Liberals can do.

Charlie is a sophomore in Arts and Sciences. He can be reached via e-mail at charliebohlen@yahoo.com.

how can we make it better? I

### SOBOTKA from page 6

white" and yet was living in a home that required her to act and speak in a manner that caused her alienation. Furthermore, that same home refused to let her find refuge in the community her black peers had tossed her in. What could she do?

Dana has a younger brother who is in the same year as my little sister. Today, I was talking to Rachel about Dana, and she mentioned that Dana's brother was dating one of her white friends. I turned to look at her,

She read me immediately: "Anna, he doesn't live at home." So where does this leave us?

And where does it leave people

like Dana and her brother? And

don't have answers to these questions; I don't even know where to begin. I do think, however, that as a new generation searching for answers to hundreds of questions about issues like abortion, terrorism, oil, globalization, etc., we need to include this one. We need to keep working on the blackwhite divide that has plagued our nation since its conception. We need to prevent people like Dana from feeling that their skin color defines their actions and that identity is an issue of black

Anna is a senior in Arts and Sciences. She can be reached via e-mail at assobotk@artsci.wustl.edu.

and white.

### YOUR VOICE: LETTERS AND GUEST COLUMNS

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

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News: (314) 935-5995 Fax: (314) 935-5938 e-mail: letters@studlife.com

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

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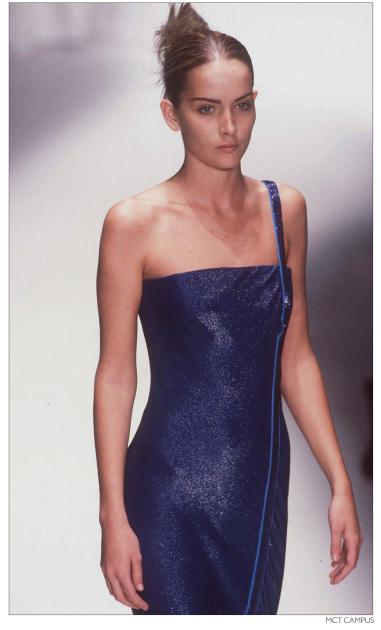
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### Fashionology: A guide to dress codes



Ginika Agbin Fashion Columnist

It's fall, which means two things: nice weather and social functions. Your lineup includes two black-tie events and one business casual event. What does that mean anyway? What are you supposed to wear? Here are some of the most commonly-used event dress codes defined just for your benefit. Cut out this section and tape it to your closet door-it just might prove even more useful than your timeless little

#### **Business Casual:**

You're told to dress in this style when attending professional functions that aren't quite formal. Men usually wear button-down, collared shirts with khakis and women wear a simple top with dress pants or a skirt.

#### Dressy Casual:

This style entails dressing up casual clothing. Jeans, however, should be left in the closet. To achieve the dressycasual look, sportswear is usually worn. Basically, by putting on anything that must be ironed, you will easily nail the look and present yourself in a clean way. Tailored blazers or sleek dress pants are prime clothing options to achieve this look.

#### Semi-Formal

Semi-formal may also be called "After Five" or "cocktail attire." This garb tends to be more formal than that of dressy casual. Usually women will wear cocktail dresses or short skirts, and men dress in dark suits. So save the tux and ball gown for another night.

Synonymous with formal, black tie indicates that men wear tuxedo suits

black pants or a black skirt. The top, however, could be a bold holiday color such as red, green or royal blue. Now, when you eventually buy

Festive Attire:

your outfit for the CS40 event this weekend or that Christmas dinner next month, you'll know exactly what to

in dark colors and women have the

option of either a knee-length cocktail

dress or a floor-length evening gown.

One variation of the black tie look is

the creative black tie. Creative implies

to you. Have fun with accessories and

pair an ornate clutch or bold necklace

wearing atypical shoes with the tux.

code includes the word "creative"-

White Tie:

otherwise, keep it simple and classic.

The most formal event type of

event is white tie. This term indicates

that men should be clothed in a white

consisting of a vest, blazer and pants,

and women are clothed in long evening

gowns. Lucky you if you're invited to

an over-the-top occasion such as this!

This term should not be too dif-

ficult to figure out. Basically festive

cally implies either a semi-formal or

informal look. Try to keep the bottom

as dark as possible; to be safe, wear

attire is holiday clothing and typi-

tie and shirt under a three-piece suit

Just remember, only do this if the dress

with a simple dress. For men, try

that some part of the outfit is unique

-Stay Stylish!

http://www.evite.com/app/cms/ party/expert-tips/party-attire

http://fashion.about.com/cs/ glossary/a/partydefinition.htm

### How to Get Your Life Back: Recovering from the election

Michelle Stein, Lana Goldsmith and Shayna Makaron Scene Staff

If you're reading this, you probably haven't moved to Canada, which means that your candidate of choice has won! Congratulations! Or maybe your candidate did lose and you're holed up in your room crying into your copy of StudLife. Our condolences. Either way, the election is over and it's time to get your life back. Here's how:

Sleep.

After getting up at 5 a.m. to wait in line to vote at 9 a.m., putting off your work to watch the debates and volunteering for different causes, you may want to redevelop your relationship with your bed. It missed you. Besides, your body technically needs more than three hours of sleep to function.

Catch up on all the TV shows you missed.

Between debates, the daily news and Election Day poll updates, you've gotten pretty far behind. You might not even know about Jenny and Nate's budding romance on "Gossip Girl"! Oops, did we ruin that for you?

#### Clean your room! Avoiding laundry is not an option!

That black hole in the corner of your room is starting to smell, and those dishes should not have things growing on them. So wash off the Obama face you carved into your plate of mashed potatoes, and toss out the Palin-shaped block of cheese. It's time to make your living situation livable and restore it to its former precampaign glory!

Forward your friends a You-Tube video about a sneezing panda or something else equally nonpar-

Remember when you watched

something other than campaign videos on YouTube? Get back out there and make somebody's second-class video footage famous! Those hits are not going to make themselves.

Walk around in your pajamas. Really, the media isn't on campus anymore. Trade in those fancy black pants for some sweats and stop kidding yourself.

Find another legitimate excuse to procrastinate on your home-

It's time to make winter break plans. Finalize your résumé for internship applications. Shampoo your hair. You must have something else to do.

Feel free to wear red or blue without promoting an unknown

"Wait, I'm supporting what? But it's just a blue shirt!"

Accept apologies from your friends and family of opposite party affiliation. You can be friends for the next four years.

**Post your Election Day pictures** on Facebook.

In red states and blue states, your friends around the country want to see how you celebrated the election. And while you're at it, de-friend all of those politicians. They're not your real friends anyway Catch up on important news.

What color is Britney's hair (or lack thereof)? How many new foreign babies has Brangelina adopted? If your schedule is really open, consider running for election as Paris Hilton's

If you really don't know what to do with yourself, start campaigning for Oprah in 2012. You know it's coming.

Now, we know that this postelection time is going to be hard. At times, you might feel entirely devoid of purpose. But when the going gets tough, just listen to the wise words of T.I. and Rihanna, and live your life.

### A sign of change: a primer on deaf culture and controversy

Scott Fabricant Scene Reporter

For some of the 28 million Americans with profound hearing loss, deafness is more than a lack of hearing—it's a way of life. To these people, deaf is a culture, complete with its own history and language.

St. Louis, however, is often seen as more of an "oral" city, where education is focused on teaching deaf and hard of hearing children to listen and speak with the assistance of modern advanced hearing aids and cochlear implants. St. Louis has four deaf elementary schools. three of which are oral and one of which is mixed oral and sign language. The purpose of these schools is to prepare students to enter a mainstream high school.

"It can be difficult," Ellie Rice, a teacher at the Central Institute for the Deaf, said. "Social language is especially hard to teach."

The Central Institute for the Deaf is part of the Washington University School of Medicine and is connected to the Program in Audiology and Communication Sciences, which teaches audiology and deaf education. The School of Medicine is also involved in ongoing cochlear implant research.

Missouri does have a sign languagebased school in Fulton, Mo. American Sign Language (ASL), the language of manual communication used by deaf people, is an entirely separate language from English. The syntax and grammar is different and is based on French Sign Language rather than British Sign. Most countries have their own sign language, and many cities, including St. Louis, have their own local words and

With the local emphasis on oral

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Holy Cross Lutheran Church, located about 2.5 miles from the University, services the St. Louis deaf community.

education, deaf culture can be hard to find in St. Louis, but it is not nonexistent. One can find deaf clubs, deaf sports teams and deaf churches, among other things. The Greater St. Louis Association of the Deaf is a good resource for finding these types of connections.

To get a better idea of what the deaf community was like before modern technology, it helps to talk to older members of the community. A few could be found at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, the nearest deaf church to the University

"The Deaf Churches were the center of the activity in the Deaf community prior to the 1960s," pastor Richard Moody said. "It is now true that the deaf, in many ways, don't need the

Deaf Church since all the services done by the pastors of the Churches prior to 1970 are now done by many other organizations. The services are great and important for the deaf and their integration in the world; however, the services have also divorced the deaf from their need for Jesus as their Savior.'

"I feel more comfortable here," elderly church member Betty Healy said. "In a hearing church, I feel lost and confused. It's not easy to make friends with hearing people; they don't know how to communicate with me.'

Many of the older members expressed memories of being ostracized in their youth, having difficulties learning in school and communicating with

"They'd laugh at my sign and think I was stupid," Rygel Healy said. "The school I went to didn't allow sign. I stayed in one room with a teacher and a typewriter. I later went to a hearing high school, but I couldn't get enough education. I quit and got my GED later."

Deaf education was and still is a controversial subject. Some members of the deaf community, like the Healys, are staunch proponents of sign education for both deaf children and their parents. However, Justine Preston, an ASL interpreter and teacher of the manual communication course at the University, explains the difficult reality.

"Imagine you give birth to a child, and the doctor tells you 'This baby is Japanese. In addition to working and

raising a new baby, you're going to have to go out and learn Japanese to communicate with your child. And you'd better go do it fast so it doesn't fall behind in language," Preston said.

Cochlear implants have supplanted oral education as the latest source of controversy. Cochlear implants, a form of hearing aid implanted directly in the inner ear, give hearing abilities to many who were unable to hear before. The implants can be given to babies only a few months old, allowing a new level of success in oral education and a lack of a need for sign language or deaf communities. This naturally has caused a wave of backlash from more traditional deaf communities.

"Cochlear implants are fracturing

the community. Parents have always gone for the "fix" for deaf, the same promise the oral schools offered parents, instead of accepting that their children have their own language and [then] learning that language," Moody said. "Eighty percent of the deaf in Illinois 10 years ago went to the School for the Deaf in Jacksonville or other deaf education programs. Now only 20 percent are in those programs and 80 percent are in new programs to teach them how to use and understand what they hear through their cochlear implants. If the implants all worked well for all those that receive them, then I guess the argument would be moot. However, when 50 percent of the kids that receive them do not want to use them for various reasons, then it does become an important issue that people should discuss."

However, Doug Hyde, a senior, who has both a hearing aid and cochlear implant, disagrees.

"Personally, I think that if the child will benefit from the implant, then they should get it at birth. If an implant is not needed, then properly-fitted hearing aids are a must," Hyde said. "If my parents had not made sure I had the best hearing aids available, I would not be where I am today."

There is no easy solution to the debates on oral education or cochlear implants, nor is there any telling what the future holds for deaf communities.

"It's not like the 'old days' when the Deaf Club met every week and had high attendance," Preston said. "It is a different sort of culture than it was even a few years ago, partly due to technological advances. With e-mail, text messaging and videophones, it is less imperative for all the local deaf people to gather in one place on a frequent basis."

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## Men's soccer falls from Men defeat DePauw, **UAA** title contention

Scott Drattell Sports Reporter

The No. 13 Washington University men's soccer team lost 5-0 at No. 11 University of Rochester on Friday night and fell again 4-0 at Case Western Reserve University on Sunday afternoon. The defeats dropped the Bears' record to 11-5-1 overall and 3-3 in the UAA.

Rochester jumped out to an early lead when junior Cliff White scored on a shot that hit the post and bounced into the net just seven minutes into the game. Junior Scott Cady increased the Yellowjackets' lead to 2-0 in the 35th minute, scoring off a throw-in by senior Dominic Pellingra.

The Red and Green continued to struggle in the second half, mustering only two shots on net and surrendering three more scores to Rochester. Rochester's five-goal output is the most allowed by any Wash. U. team since 2003, when the team fell 5-0 to Trinity University (Texas) in the sea-

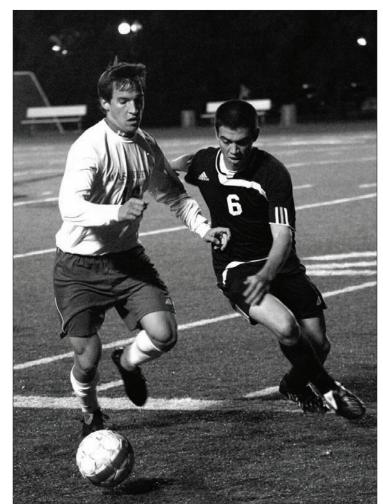
The Bears' struggles continued against unranked Case Western Reserve, who had only beaten Wash. U. once in 21 previous meetings before

Wash. U. controlled the pace of play in the first half, but Case Western went into halftime up 1-0 after senior captain Kevin Bigart scored with 41 seconds remaining in the half off a long throw-in by sophomore Jordan

"That was tough," junior forward John Hengel said. "We got a little greedy and tried to score before the half ended, and it ended up backfiring on us. They got a throw-in in our end...and they ended up sneaking one by us.'

Senior Matt Paglia added a goal in the 65<sup>th</sup> minute to put the Spartans up 2-0, and Case Western added two more goals in the final five minutes of play to secure a 4-0 win.

The nine goals given up over the weekend by the Bears were the most for any Wash. U. team in back-to-back the 12 goals the team had given up all with a win on Saturday and losses by which is 5-9-3 (1-4-1 UAA).



Senior midfielder Kellen Hayes brings the ball upfield against Dominican University on Oct. 24.

year coming into the weekend.

"We probably tried to play and attack more than we proved we can do," Head Coach Joe Clarke said. "We played better than we played against Brandeis and New York [University] on the attacking side of the ball and created chances, but we didn't put them in ... I think we just tried to advance as a team and be more dominant, and we weren't able to do it."

The losses put the Bears on the outside of the playoff picture heading into the season's final weekend. Wash. U. fell from third to fifth in the games since 1999 and nearly equaled—conference but can reclaim third place—hosts—the—University—of—Chicago,

Carnegie Mellon University to No. 6 Emory University and Case Western to No. 11 Rochester.

"We thought this weekend was the key to making the tournament, and we didn't come up big in either game," Clarke said. "I would be surprised if we got in, but anything can happen. If a lot of things went right for us and wrong for other people, maybe they would put us in the tournament."

Wash. U. returns to action and plays its final regular season game on Saturday at 2 p.m., when the team

#### SWIMMING -----

# women barely fall

Johann Qua Hiansen Sports Editor

One millisecond separated Washington University junior Dan Arteaga and DePauw University's Brogan Runion in the 100-yard butterfly.

"I tried to keep my head down and pushed as hard as I could. I looked up and saw I won," Arteaga said. "Getting first was a big deal." Arteaga's time of 53.99 gave the Bears an extra five points toward a 166-111 win over De-Pauw. The men took 11 of 13 events. The men's victory shattered DePauw's 24 home meet winning streak.

The women came up 10 points short despite winning eight of 15 events against the Tigers. The race was one of the most competitive in the dual meet as the top four swimmers finished within 10 milliseconds of each other. "It's all in the finish," junior Alex Beyer said. "[Arteaga] just wanted it more." Sophomores Kartik Anjur and Michael Flanagan finished third and fourth, respectively. "It's good to have a lot of depth," Beyer

said. "That's what we need."

Beyer placed first in the 100-yard breastroke and the 200-yard individual medley. Beyer, along with sophomore David Chao, freshman Billy Griffitts and Arteaga also won the 200-yard medley relay. Chao won the 200-yard freestyle, placed second in the 100yard freestyle and helped win the 200yard freestyle relay while Griffitts took first in the 100-yard backstroke.

Other Bears with first place finishes were Flanagan in the 200-yard butterfly, senior Julian Beattie in the 200-yard breastroke, freshman Chris Valach in the 200-yard backstroke, junior Brian Kushner in the 500-yard freestyle and the 200-yard freestyle relay made of seniors Kevin Leckey, Charles Stewart, Anjur and Chao.

"The way we swam was superior," senior Kelly Kono said. "We just don't have a diving team, and that's just 30 points that we couldn't score."

Both the men's and women's teams do not have any divers. "We try to focus more on our own swims," sophomore Karin Underwood said. "There's nothing you can do about it."

Underwood cruised to a three second victory in the 200-yard backstroke while finishing second in the 200-yard individual medley and third in the 100-yard backstroke.

Kono displayed her freestyle prowess, sweeping through the 1,000 and 500-yard freestyle while tying for first in the 100-yard freestyle. Kono, junior Jessie Lodewyk, freshman Karina Stridh and freshman Samantha Schulte won the 200 freestyle relay. "My mindset was to win points and win events," Kono said. "We were there to just win."

Schulte won the 200-yard freestyle and Stridh took first in both the 50-yard freestyle and 100-yard backstroke.

The Red and Green compete at the University of Chicago Invitational this weekend. This is the first multipleday meet this season. The Bears will see how all their relay teams stack up against the competition and compete in long distance events such as the

"It's a really good chance to practice swimming in a championshipstyle meet," Kono said.



Sophomore Micki Duncan swims the backstroke during a meet on Oct. 4.

## recent top performers

#### Caitlin Malone, women's soccer

The senior forward scored both Wash. U. goals in the UAA clincher against Case Western Reserve University on Sunday. Both goals came in the second half, with the last coming with only 14 seconds left in regulation. Malone was named UAA Athlete of the Week.

### Taryn Surtees, cross country

The sophomore won the individual title at the 2008 UAA Championships, hosted by Emory University. The women took second in the UAA. Surtees was named UAA Athlete of the Week.

### Brett Schiffman, football

The junior linebacker recorded six tackles, including a sack, and made an interception in the Bears' 16-8 victory over Carnegie Mellon University. Schiffman was named UAA Athlete of the Week.

2

4

2

8

Sudoku By The Mepham Group

9

3

9

#### Erin Kasson, volleyball

The freshman finished the weekend with 34 kills and a .526 kill percentage. Her 34 kills were second on the team. Kasson also recorded six blocks and was named UAA Athlete of the Week.

#### Dan Arteaga, swimming and diving

The junior won the 100-yard butterfly by .01 seconds over DePauw University's Brogan Runion. Arteaga was also part of the winning 200-yard medley team.

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### www.sudoku.org.uk.

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### Crossword

**ACROSS** 

1 Clan emblems 7 3 on a phone

10 Smelter's residue

14 Up and about

15 JFK info

16 What cons do 17 Gradual

18 Product

purchaser 20 Hammerin'

Hank

22 Beef entree

23 Datebook 27 Gooey mass

28 Eliminate

29 Ocean passage

33 Hangman's loop

34 Was crucial

35 Want

36 Smith and West

38 Obvious toupee 39 Became more

intense

42 Madonna role

44 Actor Armand 45 Dead body

47 6-pointers

48 Seattle nine 49 Declare

52 Lisa of "Angel Heart"

53 Sank the putt

55 Affected slightly

60 Smell 61 Blast letters

62 Like some skirts 24 Homes 63 Bucks' mates

64 Bout-stopping letters 65 Chronological

records

**DOWN** 1 Chasing game

2 Mine find

3 Can in London

4 Approx.

5 Actress Griffith 6 J.C. and Sammy

7 Room scheme 8 Harrow rival

9 Constant viewer 10 Razor's target

11 Stretch vehicle 12 to that!

13 Richard of "Chicago"

48 Saying

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11/5/08

19 Ermine in summer 21 Collegiate

cheer 23 Seven Years'

War location

25 Sets free

26 Ernie of golf 27 Acquires 29 Waterston or

Donaldson 30 Make it big 31 Sexless

32 Mystery writers

awards 34 Crazy

36 Diligent insects 37 Aberdeen's river

40 Utters glibly 41 Brought to a

conclusion 42 Single copy

43 Delivery vehicle 45 Is able to

46 "Respect"-ful name?

#### **Solutions**

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50 Kind of list

51 Burn soother 52 Sailor's bed 54 Mel of the

Giants

\_\_ sequitur 57 College student's letters

58 Sushi fish

59 Degree with teeth

### ELECTION NOTES

### CADENZA COVERS ALL ITS BASES

NO MATTER THE OUTCOME OF THE PRESIDENTIAL RACE, CADENZA IS ON TOP OF THE ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT ELECTION NEWS

### MCCAIN DEFEATED, LATE-NIGHT WORLD LOOKS ON IN SADNESS



MCT CAMPU

Cecilia Razak Cadenza Reporter

This is a terrible turn of events, nation. Although all the polls seemed to indicate otherwise, in our hearts we true Americans knew McCain would somehow emerge victorious. A McCain victory would have meant four more years of political gaffes, poor judgment, disdain of diplomacy and hypocritical press statements; in short, four more years of real late-night entertainment. But now that the messianic, rainbow-auraed Obama has won the election, the state of our Comedy Central union is not strong, nation.

What will Jon Stewart do?
Where will his topical jokes come from? Without the warmongering,

the laughably-corrupt politicians and the mind-bogglingly contradictory messages, how will we ever laugh again?

Not to fear, nation! Here comes the (slightly delayed) train of unfulfilled campaign promises! Behind that the caboose of un-meetable expectations trailed not too distantly by the handcar of unrealistic budget plans!

It's easy to laugh at things that are funny, nation. The real coup is in laughing at the things that make us want to cry. For instance, the Enron fiasco was originally stupefyingly depressing. That is, until Jon Stewart got his hands on it: "The trial of Enron chiefs Jeffrey Skilling and Ken Lay began fourand-a-half years after perpetrating—allegedly—the fraud that led to the second-largest bankruptcy in

American history. Why four-anda-half years? Because apparently it's harder to bring Ken Lay to trial than it is to invade two countries." Now not only is the Enron debacle stomach-churning and hilarious, so is the war on terror.

With Obama in office, we'll simply have to settle for less depressing amusement. Don't worry, there will still be problems with the economy and the government, they simply won't be as rife for political satire. Having a god-like figure in office might lead to more jokes about the separation of church and state, but in the end, this McCain loss means a dark four years. I'd suggest packing up and moving to Canada now, but don't rescind your citizenship too quickly! There's always hope for a Palin presidency down the line.

### OBAMA LOSS GETS CHEERS FROM COMEDY WRITERS

Brian Stitt Cadenza Reporter

College freshmen won a great victory last night. Although many may not know it, John McCain's defeat of Barack Obama is a boon for the "stoned-slacker set," as Papa Bear O'Reilly refers to us. Wash. U. freshmen will enjoy a full four years of top-notch late-night comedy. Have you been watching Comedy Central lately? Then you should know that this McCain administration will be markedly funnier than an Obama presidency. Both "The Daily Show" and "The Colbert Report" have come to prominence during the compassionatly conservative Bush terms, and have flourished. Colbert's future would have been especially difficult to imagine during a presidency defined by messages of hope and change. Would the return of the fairness doctrine force him off the air? Might he change his tune and call Keith Olbermann his new mentor? We all know that Colbert is best when he has conservatives in power to adore and loony liberals to hate. A Democraticallycontrolled Congress and White House would have left comedy fans asking "Where is the blind love?"

While Viacom-controlled Comedy Central will hold steady, General Electric's NBC will benefit the most (and not just from the corporate tax breaks). "Saturday Night Live" has seen



a huge upswing in ratings this election season, and it's hard to argue that Fred Armisan's Obama impression has anything to do with it. No, it's Sarah Palin that rules the roost at "SNL," and this McCain win may just encourge a depressed Tina Fey to throw her full weight behind an even more biting Palin impression.

#### **VIDEO GAME REVIEW**

## Invasion of the plastic instruments

Craig Ostrin Games Editor

If I told you I own three guitars, two drum sets and a microphone, you might think I'm a die-hard musician. But it's hard to confuse the miniature guitars and drums that dominate my suite with real musical instruments. These plastic peripherals come with the massively popular "Rock Band" and "Guitar Hero" games, which lead

the fastestgrowing genre in the gaming industry. Where did the rhythm genre come from, and how did all this plastic sneak into my living room?

"PaRappa the Rapper," made by Sony Computer Entertainment (SCEI) for the PlayStation 1 effectively created the rhythm game genre. You play as PaRappa, a rapping dog, who must master a series of skills, like learning to drive or polishing his martial arts abilities, with the ultimate goal of impressing his crush. In terms of actual gameplay, you have to push buttons in time with a drum beat as they scroll across the top of the screen. The fewer mistakes you make, the better PaRappa raps, and the better he does at his task.

Though SCEI jumpstarted the genre with the release of "PaRappa" in 1997, the Japanese publisher Konami dominated the space for the next eight years. Their first rhythm game, "Beatmania," landed in Japanese arcades in 1997 and became an instant success. Though a North American version was only released in 2006 on the PlayStation 2, the game

generated numerous sequels in Japan, and Konami named their music-game development studio "Bemani" after the series.

"Beatmania's" on-screen display will look familiar to fans of modern rhythm games. Bars scroll down a vertical lane, and each one corresponds to a different button. You have to press the right button as the bar crosses a line at the bottom of the screen, producing a prerecorded sound. Since you play as a DJ, there is also a turntable you can "scratch" alongside five piano keys.

"Beatmania" was the first in a line of Bemani games that were characterized by unique controllers designed specifically for each game. "Guitar Freaks" (1998) and "DrumMania" (1999) appeared in Japanese arcades with guitar and drum controllers—not unlike those included with "Rock Band" today—and "Beatmania"-style gameplay. While those two games never came across the Pacific, "Dance Dance Revolution" (1999) had Americans dancing in arcades across the country.

American game developer Harmonix Music Systems rolled onto the scene in 1995. They worked on small music-related software projects before finding minor success with a PlayStation 2 game called "Frequency" in 2001 and its sequel "Amplitude" in 2003. In November 2005, Harmonix worked with RedOctane to release "Guitar Hero" for PlayStation 2. RedOctane was relatively new to publishing games but had valuable experience in selling accessories for Konami's music games, including "Guitar Freaks." "Guitar Hero" was RedOctane's opportunity to bring their own version of "Guitar Freaks" to the neglected North American market.

"Guitar Hero" launched at \$69.99, \$20 higher than the typical PS2 game, and came with a huge peripheral controller that could only be used for "Guitar Hero"—a sure formula for failure, right? Instead, Harmonix shocked the industry with its success. "Guitar Hero" sold 1.5 million units, and a year later, its sequel "Guitar Hero II" sold three million copies across the PS2 and Xbox 360 platforms. "Guitar Hero II" innovated with two-player cooperative play and downloadable song packs available for purchase on the Xbox 360 Marketplace.

Even before "Guitar Hero II"
was released, Harmonix
and RedOctane were
preparing to
go their
separate
ways. MTV
Networks bought
Harmonix in 2006, while
RedOctane took the Guitar
Hero brand with them when they

were bought by Activision.
Activision handed development of "Guitar Hero III" to
Neversoft, which is well known

for its long-running "Tony Hawk's Pro Skater" franchise. The third installment of the Guitar Hero franchise released in October 2007, a month before Harmonix/MTV's new project, was "Rock Band."

With more than eight million copies sold, "Guitar Hero III" outdid "Rock Band" almost two-to-one, though it's debatable which actually "won." The "Rock Band" bundle, which included the mic, guitar and drums, retailed for \$169.99 to "Guitar Hero III's" \$99.99. MTV also positioned "Rock Band" as a music gaming platform and has released at least three downloadable songs (usually \$1.99/song) almost every week since the game's launch; they have sold more than 21 million songs.

With the release of "Rock Band 2" and "Guitar Hero World Tour," we can see how the music industry has changed their perspective on the rhythm games. We've come a long way since the original "Guitar Hero," which debuted with only 30 cover tracks from mainstream bands (an 17 original indie tracks).

Now, both

games

have arrived

with more than 80 songs,

all of which were master tracks.

MTV and Activision had little
problem licensing music from
major artists like The Who, Bob
Dylan, The Eagles and a number
of other major bands. Megadeth
released their newest album,
"Peace Sells," in stores and on
"Rock Band 2's" online music
store at the same time, while AC/
DC is getting their own version of
"Rock Band" this month. Activi-

Metallica" next year.

In fact, MTV and Apple just announced that they would collaborate on a new Beatles music game, planned for release in 2009.

Considering that Apple won't even put The Beatles on the iTunes Store, this

sion will release "Guitar Hero:

huge victory for MTV, Harmonix and the games industry as a

According to recent market research, music games have over-taken sports as the second most popular videogame

genre

"action games").
Games like "Guitar Hero" and "Rock
Band" have not only
earned the gaming industry a lot of respect from the
music business, but they've also
attracted new people to gaming
and expanded the kinds of experiences you can find in interactive
entertainment. Now if only they
didn't require so much plastic!

(behind

### Cadenza calling gamers!

Help shape our new videogame coverage!
We need reviewers, commentators and interviewers.
Contact Craig Ostrin, Games Editor, at costrin@wustl.edu for more info.