



IN DEFENSE OF...

...song-and-dance numbers at the end of comedies! Hear why it's okay that Jackie Chan looks so silly in this week's "In Defense Of."

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BATTLE ON CAMPUS

Scene today takes a look at the maneuvers of Wash. U.'s Medieval Combat Group and of the on-campus Kendo Club.

PAGE 9



V-BALL KILLS UAAS

The Bears took out No. 1 Eagles 3-2 in the UAA championship match on Saturday. Sports has the story.



PAGE 6

STUDENT LIFE

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Student groups may have to pay to use DUC

Michelle Merlin
Contributing Reporter

To offset maintenance and cleaning charges, the Washington University administration may soon require non-Student Union groups to pay to use rooms in the Danforth University Center next semester.

According to Danforth University Center (DUC) Director Bill Darby, the fee would go toward cleaning up and organizing the rented rooms after usage by student groups.

Though the exact figure of the fee has yet to be determined, it will likely be set around \$25. Darby, however, said he is not positive whether the University will, in the end, even charge a fee at all.

"We don't want to do this, but we also don't want to see the building fall into disrepair," Darby said.

But some students do not believe the potential fee is fair.

"To make [students] pay to use their own university's space is simply ridiculous," freshman Meg Conley said.

The newly-constructed building has been met with both cheers

and criticism. Designed as a new dining center and haven for student group meetings, the DUC has seen praise for its state-of-the-art features and environmental friendliness. Some students, though, have criticized it for an impractical layout and a lack of spaces for theatrical performance practices.

In response to students' objections, Darby said that the University administration is trying to address all concerns.

"We want to make the facility as easy to use as possible," Darby said.

In the first semester that the building has been open, the University has not charged non-SU groups to use the building's spaces, mandating groups to pay only for catered events or adding tables or furniture, according to Assistant Director of Event Services Phyllis Jackson.

Some students, however, always want to use the DUC for free.

"Our parents are already paying an exorbitant amount of money," freshman Catherine Stodder said.

Yet Darby sees the issue dif-

See DUC, page 6

WU not among 25 most expensive colleges

Ishtiaque Toufique
Contributing Reporter

Despite its rising costs—and to the surprise of many students—Washington University was not included in Consumerist.com's recent list of the top 25 most expensive colleges for the 2008-09 school year.

Junior Vipul Borkar, an international student from New Zealand, was shocked to learn that the University was not in the top five.

"That is really shocking. I would've thought Wash. U. would at least be in the top 10," Borkar said. "I guess outside the United States you do not really hear too much about schools that are even smaller than Wash. U. The tuition here is a burden enough."

According to the list, Wash. U. ranked in the top 50, as the 46th most expensive college, at a total cost of \$47,836 per year.

The rankings are based on the total annual tuition and room and board costs of the schools, the data for which was compiled by CampusGrotto.com.

Most of the colleges on the list are private liberal arts institutions with low student-to-teacher ratios. The top five colleges on the list were Sarah Lawrence College at \$53,166, George Washington University at \$50,182, New York



Mudd Field on Washington University's Campus. To the surprise of many students, Washington University is does not break the top 25 most expensive colleges in the United States.

University at \$50,182, Georgetown University at \$49,689 and Connecticut College at \$49,385.

Although U.S. wages have been flatlining since 2000, according to CampusGrotto, college tuition has increased by more than three times the rate of inflation for the last 20 years.

In addition, the College Board reports that the average tuition at a private four-year college has grown by 6.6 percent each year, and the average cost of tuition for all four-year private institutions sits at \$23,718.

If ranked by tuition only, the top five most expensive tuitions

are those at private liberal arts colleges. Bates College ranks first at \$43,950 a year, while Washington University ranks 67th at \$36,200.

Many University students said they were unaware of the high tuitions of many of the liberal arts

See TUITION, page 6

READY, SET, SPIKE!



LANE S. GOODMAN | STUDENT LIFE

Junior Erin Albers spikes the ball during the championship game this past Saturday against Emory University. The No. 4 Bears took the UAA championship in the fifth set 15-12, beating No. 1 Emory. See Sports, page 7.

Water bottle sales to end in January

SU assists with green campaign

David Song
Managing Editor

Washington University students returning to campus after winter break will find that the Dasani and Evian bottles in the vending machines and campus bookstore will be gone.

The "Tap It" campaign, a brainchild of the University's Office of Sustainability, began this summer as an effort to demonstrate the University's focus toward creating a more sustainable community.

Though it is run "top-down" by the administration, Liz Kramer, a fellow in the office of the executive vice chancellor of administration,

and Student Union (SU) Academic Affairs Chair Kady McFadden have been spearheading the campaign among the student body.

Kramer described the campaign as an effort that would represent a first step toward greater sustainability on campus.

"The initiative would be a catalyst for the University students, staff and faculty to consider the impact that small changes in lifestyle can have on sustainability," Kramer, who graduated from the University in 2008, said.

"[The administration] came to me at the end of summer and wanted me to run a student campaign," McFadden, a junior, said. "They wanted to have education efforts and get students on board. It was an administrative decision—it wasn't because of student pressure."

Although the change may influence the habits of University students, McFadden acknowledged

that the campaign's results are not meant to drastically affect environmental sustainability on campus as much as they are to work toward a symbolic goal.

"We recognize it's one small thing. It's more of a symbolic thing, because obviously renewable energy would be more beneficial. It's not the solution to making the campus more sustainable, but it is one step," McFadden said.

Moreover, the campaign will not remove all bottled water from campus after winter break. As the result of a contract, Bear Mart and the Millbrook Market in the Village House will both continue to sell bottled water until the beginning of the 2009-2010 academic year, when the University will phase it out entirely.

As part of the "Tap It" campaign, SU and the Congress of the South

See WATER, page 3

Students find writing program to be an enriching experience

Eliza Adelson
Staff Reporter

Students currently enrolled in Washington University's writing program offered words of praise for the faculty, the course material and the philosophy behind the program.

Undergraduates in writing workshops present their writing and receive feedback and criticism from their peers and instructors. These courses, also offered through the University College for credit, cover material from drama to short stories.

"My experience with the creative writing program at Wash. U. has been really positive," senior Kari Lombard, a writing minor, said. "I've had fantastic fiction

writing instructors—professors and grad students—who have inspired me to experiment."

But as writing courses place great emphasis on the workshop process, Lombard said she sometimes finds some fault with the workshop-centered discussions. In workshops, the instructor and students typically discuss the writer's piece without vocal interaction with the composer of the piece.

"I wish they [the workshops] involved more interaction with the writer. I think most effective way to grow as a writer is to dialogue with others about your writing," Lombard said.

Lombard, however, said that on the whole she highly values her experience in the program, especially in the course Introduction to Playwriting.

"Unexpectedly... [playwriting] stretched my creativity, restructured the way I define a narrative and changed my writing process for the better," she said.

Amy Bailey, a graduate student in the Master of Fine Arts (MFA) in writing program, praised the University's support for fiction writers.

"In Wash. U.'s fiction program, everyone who is admitted is offered the same funding. When word of a contest, new publication or fellowship comes along, our teachers encourage everyone to submit work," Bailey said. "Most importantly, in our workshop, each story is treated with the same amount of respect."

According to Bailey, the writing program also encourages sig-

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Recycle

THE FLIPSIDE

eventcalendar

MONDAY 10

Locks of Love
Fun Room, DUC, 9:00 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Join Locks of Love to donate 10 or more inches of hair. The donated hair is used to make wigs. If you're not up for donating 10 inches of hair, stop by to get a haircut, the proceeds of which go to Locks of Love.

Homelessness Awareness Week:
"What's Up" Magazine Speakers' Panel
McMillan Café, 7 to 8 p.m.
From those that have lived it: a panel of vendors and writers from "What's Up," the St. Louis street magazine, share their experiences.

newsbriefs

TUESDAY 11

Mix It Up
DUC 276, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
The Office of Student Activities invites you to our annual Mix It Up lunch! Mix It Up is a nationwide campaign that supports students who want to identify, question and cross social boundaries that separate them from each other and help build inclusive, welcoming learning environments.

Homelessness Awareness Week:
CollabARTive
Seigle Hall 304, 7 to 8 p.m.
A performance-based exploration of homelessness in which men from Peter and Paul Community Services share their stories.

International

China announces economic stimulus plan

China's State Council announced Sunday that the country will spend \$586 billion in order to fight the global economic crisis. The money will be spent by 2010 and will include funds for infrastructure projects, such as new railways, subways and construction in the areas affected by the earthquakes that hit the southwestern part of the country this past May. The plan is the largest ever undertaken by the Chinese government, worth approximately 17 percent of the country's gross domestic product, about \$3.5 trillion.

The announcement came just one week before Chinese President Hu Jintao will travel to the U.S. to attend a global economic summit where world leaders will discuss how to stabilize the global economy.

China is already dealing with an economic crisis at home, as its economic growth is slowing. After five years of growth in excess of 10 percent, export and investment growth numbers have started to fall. The decline has triggered factory closures, massive layoffs and protests by workers.

It was not immediately clear how much of the money would be additional spending on top of what the government had already intended to use for infrastructure projects. The government emphasized they wanted to improve growth in the country. (John Scott)

Dozens killed in Haiti school collapse

The death toll of a school collapse outside of Port-au-Prince, Haiti's capital, was at 92 as of Sunday as rescuers continued to search the site. Friday's collapse injured 150 people. Rescue workers arrived from the U.S. and Martinique to help Haitian rescuers and U.N. peacekeepers stationed in the country.

According to officials, 700 students were enrolled in the school, but officials did not have information about how many were in the school at the time of the collapse.

According to Haitian President René Préval, the building, a three-story church school, was constructed out of concrete blocks with little structural steel or cement to hold them together.

Préval said that the previous mayor had tried to halt expansion of the school due to safety concerns, but the construction continued when a new mayor took office.

Haiti is one of the poorest and most politically unstable countries in the Western Hemisphere. The country has been trying to recover from riots resulting from increasing food prices and hurricanes that killed 800 people. (John Scott)

National

Government buying more student loans

In order to prevent a shortfall, the Education Department has announced an initiative in which the government will make it easier for loan companies to obtain financing for the 2009-2010 academic year.

After the recent crisis involving mortgage lenders, dozens of lenders stopped offering student loans, which are often seen as a secure asset, especially when they are guaranteed by the government. The government said that it would encourage private intermediary companies to buy the loans before turning to the government in order to stimulate investment in the student loan industry.

Confidence in the loan industry was shaken by the financial crisis and many are unwilling to invest money to guarantee student loans. The Education Department hopes that the buyback initiative and the government guarantee will encourage investors to return to the market. (John Scott)

weatherforecast

Monday 10

Mostly Cloudy
High 50
Low 39



Tuesday 11

Showers
High 50
Low 43



Campus

Nixon taps Wash. U. professor as transition head

Charles Burson, a professor of law at Washington University, will leave that position to become the head of Missouri Governor-elect Jay Nixon's transition team. Burson served as attorney general of Tennessee from 1988 to 1997 and as an adviser to Al Gore in his transition to the vice presidency in 1992. Burson then served as Gore's chief of staff.

In his current position, Burson will assist in the selection of Nixon's cabinet and staff, but will not become Nixon's chief of staff. John Watson, Nixon's chief of staff when he was attorney general, will occupy that position. (Ben Sales)

policebeat

FUGITIVE ARREST—Nov. 06, 2008, 8:59 a.m.

Location: POLICE DEPARTMENT

Summary: While investigating case 080582 one subject was found to have outstanding warrant from Clay Co., Mo. for check fraud. Subject showed up to station to pick up some property and was subsequently taken into custody and transferred to

custody of St. Louis County Justice Center. Disposition: Cleared by arrest.

LARCENY—Nov. 06, 2008, 2:39 p.m.

Location: HOUSE 3

Summary: Complainant reports he last saw his bike on Oct. 16 locked with a cable lock behind House 3 and found it missing on Oct. 19. Value: \$200. Disposition: Pending.

quotsoftheday

"You can say you're an elf, I guess, but it doesn't mean anything."

Ben Mudd, on participation in the student group Belegarth

"To make [students] pay to use their own university's space is simply ridiculous."

Freshman Meg Conley, on groups paying to use the DUC

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WATER from page 1

40 (CS40) have initiated several student education efforts, primarily to demonstrate the lack of difference between bottled water and St. Louis tap water.

"The purpose of ["Tap It"] is to show that a lot of bottled water is tap water, and that there's no difference in taste," sophomore TJ Pepping, chair of the CS40 Sustainability Committee, said. "There's really no point in paying \$1.50 for bottled water when tap water is free, and when [bottled water] contributes more waste."

The campaign will also highlight sustainability as one reason behind the University's removal of bottled water.

Earlier this year, "Tap It" began sustainability activities at the Sept. 18 Take a Stand Rally on the Danforth Campus. The week after the rally, the University hosted Campus Sustainability Week, during which the campaign held a public water taste test in order to demonstrate the lack of difference between bottled water and local tap water.

"No one could tell the difference—except Chancellor Wright-McFadden," McFadden said.

At the start of next semester, McFadden plans to apply for a \$10,000 grant from Brita Water Filtration Systems to increase campus accessibility to drinking water. The campaign currently plans, with Kramer's help, to install new sources for drinking water around the Danforth Campus.

Kramer noted that sustainability



Though vending machines in the Danforth University Center still contain bottled water, these are soon to be phased out from most locations on campus.

efforts by the administration would also include efforts to encourage students, staff and faculty to use reusable water containers, or to bring their own water containers.

"We'd love people to choose fountain drinks instead of water bottles—that would contribute to

minimizing our waste strain and sustainability on campus," said Kramer.

Today, the "Tap It" campaign will sell Nalgene water bottles in the Danforth University Center. Nalgene bottles were made available to current freshmen and soph-

omores during the start of their freshman year. Profits will go toward Well Worth It, a social justice campaign that aims to drill a well in Kenya and make drinking water available to locals.

Although McFadden acknowledged that some students would

still bring bottled water onto campus next year, she stressed the importance of sustainability education.

"It's not intuitive that bottled water harms the environment, so education is important," McFadden said. "People just don't know."

WU music faculty play for small but enthused audience

Sophie Adelman
Contributing Reporter

Although the audience at the Washington University Faculty Showcase Recital on Saturday evening in the 560 Building was small in number, attendees found a performance of skillfully-played music.

The University organized the event with the Missouri Music Teachers Association, which held competitive auditions during the weekend. As part of the Association's conferences, host schools usually hold an event to showcase the talents of their faculty.

Fewer than 50 people attended

the event.

The recital featured music by Frédéric Chopin and Paul Bonneau, and original jazz work by Music Director Henry Claude and Teacher of Applied Music Vincent Varvel from the University's music department.

Elizabeth MacDonald, director of strings and cello teacher at the University, performed a Romantic piece by Clara Rogers, an English composer whose work dates from the turn of the century.

"The concert was a huge success," MacDonald said. "It was very miscellaneous. We had some people that improvised. Our stuff was entirely written down yet unknown."

"We both thought the piece was

beautiful and needed another hearing. We enjoyed looking at it again in a new way," MacDonald, who had performed the piece before, said.

Paul Compton, a staff member of the School of Medicine and a self-titled "frustrated musician" with a passion for the piano, attended the recital.

"Almost any kind of free, classical event around here I try to attend if I can," Compton said, "I wish I could play like those guys."

The musicians consisted of a small but mixed group of music faculty, who specialized in instruments ranging from piano to percussion. Many of these faculty members have also made appearances with

the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, along with other prestigious venues around the country, including Carnegie Recital Hall and Lincoln Center in New York City.

Compton's friend Andrea Kaiser also came to the show. She had been to only one music event in the past.

"I felt very sorry for [the performers] because their talent far surpassed their audience," Kaiser said. "Their skills were unbelievable—how beautifully done it was and how gracefully they hit the keys—it was beautiful."

Both Compton and Kaiser said they were disappointed with the recital's low turnout.

"We need a lot more people to

come and attend these things. Word needs to get out," Kaiser said.

According to Annette Burkhart, co-chair of the event and the piano accompanist to MacDonald, there has usually been a strong interest in faculty recitals. Although the 560 Building hosts several concerts each week, community members are often especially curious to hear what the University's music faculty themselves have to offer.

This will not be the only opportunity for the faculty to perform and exhibit their talents.

"We are very interested with this building and this location in reaching out to the community around us musically," Burkhart added.



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FORUM

STAFF EDITORIAL

University community should work to help Metro

Many students celebrated the election of Barack Obama, however, many failed to notice the failure of Proposition M. Last week, in an editorial "Vote 'yes' on M, B and C; 'no' on A and I" (*Student Life*, Nov. 3) regarding important propositions on the ballot, *Student Life* endorsed Proposition M, a measure that would provide more funds to the MetroLink through an increase in sales tax. Proposition M would have provided more funds to the MetroLink and MetroBus systems in order to offset financial problems affecting Metro services.

Washington University has greatly invested in the Metro system, with thousands of employees and students

utilizing its services. With the failure of this proposition, Metro may have to reduce the hours of service, number of transports and employees. On a larger scale, the Metro system provides cheap public transportation for those who cannot afford personal transport or for those who choose to make environmentally-sound choices. Thousands of people ride the Metro to work, sporting events, public events and casual outings.

Although many students feel comfortable knowing that they own cars, the need for effective mass transit runs deeper than that. As members of a University that is deeply rooted in the St. Louis community, it is important that we support the city through

difficult times. This is not just about losing the luxury of going to the mall at 9 p.m., it is about the ability of St. Louis citizens to commute to and from work on a regular basis. The potential for reduced service and route cuts will not only make it more difficult for underclassmen to explore St. Louis, it will endanger the employment of the many St. Louis residents who cannot afford private transportation.

Hopefully, there is still time and opportunity to prevent the breakdown in Metro services. Students, the University and the Metro system must work together to find a balance between sustaining the service on which many students and faculty rely and maintaining financial stability. Stu-

dents should communicate their needs to Metro and the University must continue to support the goals of public transportation. On its part, Metro must work to maximize the quality of transportation provided while cutting costs strategically: to start with, Metro must close a significant revenue hole and examine the ease with which many ride MetroLink without buying tickets.

In this day and age where environmentalism and economy go hand in hand, it is essential that citizens utilize public transportation that could reduce emissions and save money. Wash. U. is heavily invested in the success of Metro and St. Louis. We must protect our interests and assist our community.

SAM WASHBURN EDITORIAL CARTOON



Violence is addictive

Aditya Sarvesh
Forum Editor

With the upcoming release of well-established games like "Fallout 3," "Gears of War 2" and other "violent" video game series, I started to notice that there were more studies coming out regarding children and violent video games. It bothers me every time I hear that violent video games are bad for children.

To begin with, the problem of children becoming violent stems from multiple sources. There is so much more violent content on TV that kids absorb from a younger age. As a kid, I

watched "Power Rangers," "Transformers" and "Gundam Wing," all of which are about fighting, killing and destroying. It is just a part of what boys like to watch. The effects of the shows wore off after we matured and understood that was just fantasy or our fantasies changed...

Something that parents do not take into consideration is that many of the violent video games mentioned earlier are rated "M" for mature, so people under the age of 17 cannot buy them. Even the "Halo" series, which is popular around the world, is rated "M." Yes, there are loopholes and not all video game sellers check for ID, but they are a small minority. When I do play video games online, I hear the voices of kids who could be no more than 12 and wonder how they got the

game. In those cases, it is most likely the parents buying the video games for their kids.

The main point is, at the end of the day, kids are playing A VIDEO GAME, and nothing else. That is the point of entertainment, to stimulate and play off a person's imagination. It is a method of escape for people. Of course, there are a couple of imbalanced kids who have issues in general with accepting reality and then do something terrible. Everything comes to a screeching halt, studies are done, investigations are completed and somehow a violent act would have been catalyzed by an aggressive video game. Parents and politicians get riled up and want violent video games to be wiped off the face of the earth. Meanwhile, another Rambo

comes out, with new, even more realistic violence where people's heads and limbs are dismembered and/or mutilated and everyone has a good time at the theater. Rambo nice and harmless, I think not.

As human beings with technology at our disposal, we love video games that allow us to slow down to bullet time, choose a body part (always the head) on an enemy and watch as the enemy's skull explodes into a million pieces. It's all a part of the game. If you don't like it, go play "Dora the Explorer: Journey to the Purple Planet."

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

Is it just me?

or perhaps enlightened students to join my cause, or rather, causes.

I am a senior here at Wash. U., and despite my age, intelligence and other generally-attractive qualities, there are just some basic staples of common sense missing in my comprehension of various functions at this university. Maybe you share some of my shameful secrets, or maybe you can help me out. Either way, asking never hurt anyone.

Approximately three days a week, around noon, you will find me in a most distressing dilemma. I awkwardly linger in front of the microwave at Whispers or Holmes, sporting last night's pasta in a Tupperware container, hoping that maybe this time, I will get it right. That's correct, ladies and gentlemen, I cannot seem to figure out how to use the microwave which I have been attempting to master for the last four years, or at least since I have lived off campus for the last two. It seems unusually high-

powered and, as far as I can tell, the only way to set the time is by the 10-second intervals achieved by pressing the middle of the number on the chronological touch pad. Ergo, I end up with a half-melted plastic bowl or cold spaghetti.

Neither option is overly appetizing. Is it just me?

You've all seen me. You chuckle as I pass, or as I try to do so. I'm the girl who can be seen on various levels of Olin, pushing those glass doors when they need to be pulled. Or maybe it's the other way around. Funny how I can't seem to recall. The transparent nature of these swinging ports only acts as a cruel accomplice allowing the library's distracted inhabitants to witness my clumsy conundrum. Is it just me?

I have my own three-hole punch, but on occasion I have endeavored to use the one in the Arts & Sciences computing lab. I think it's broken, or maybe just consistently overfilled, but I have just the same issue

every time: The paper just doesn't seem to want to fit under either side. Lest I be seen attempting to hole-punch my reading using the wrong side of the hole punch, I quickly abandon the task. Is it just me?

There are probably more, the nature of which my perplexity is greater, less than or equal to that which persists in the above cases. It's not overly important, it may not even be relevant. I know, however, that you have those little questions and secrets of your own. I encourage you to share them with me via e-mail. More importantly though, these daily irritations are both amusements and reminders that, no matter how smart you think you are, there is always room for improvement.

And I know it's not just me.

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

In a much-needed and very conscientious break from political pondering and panicking, I am bringing to light one of the more embarrassing but necessarily significant bane of my existence. Whether an attempt to amuse, a plea for help, or just a silly confession, I seek fellow confused



Tricia Wittig
Forum Editor

Still working toward equality

Fight lies ahead for gays



Bill Hoffman
Forum Editor

Witnessing the election of Barack Obama was one of the most exciting moments of my life. After eight years of W., there is finally some hope of competence, restraint and respect for the Constitution in the White House. And it is impossible to ignore the beauty for children of those born into slavery, like 109-year-old Amanda Jones of Texas, casting their votes for a victorious black president. This is America at its best.

But the good times were quickly overshadowed by a dark and ugly cloud when several states voted in favor of ballot initiatives which discriminate against gays. Floridians voted, by an overwhelming majority, to amend their constitution to preemptively ban gay marriage. Another large majority in Arkansas voted to prevent gay couples from adopting, despite the great need for foster care in that state. And Arizona, after having been the first state to resist a gay marriage ban in 2006, changed its mind only two years later. I'm sure it had nothing to do with the fact that the 2006 measure would have eliminated domestic partnerships for straight couples also.

These results were depressing, to be sure, but were hardly unexpected. But it was truly shocking to see California, one of the most liberal states in the country which went 61-37 percent in favor of Obama, amend its state constitution to destroy the families of its thousands of devoted gay couples by passing Proposition 8.

In the wake of such a traumatic setback for equal rights, a lot of ink has been spilled in an effort to discover what exactly went wrong. Many have tried to discover who exactly is to blame: was it blacks, whom a CNN exit poll showed voting 70-30 percent in favor of the ban (unlikely, as blacks comprise only 6 percent of California's population, and exit polls are unreliable at best)? Was it the Mormon Church, which channeled millions of dollars from Utah into the advertising blitzkrieg for the ban? Perhaps, but they were not the ones who cast the votes.

Some have placed blame on the shoulders of Obama and his running mate, for their public statements affirming the definition of marriage as a union between a man and a woman, and the ticket's relative (but not complete) silence on Proposition 8.

Questions like these may be worth asking, but those who aim to achieve marriage equality would do well to be

forward-looking about how we can prevent this from occurring in the future instead of obsessing about the past.

First off, advocates of marriage equality can take comfort in the fact that, though this is a devastating setback, it is likely only temporary. Young people are largely sold on gay marriage, and demographic trends in the next few years should ensure that gay marriage is imminent. Proposition 8 would not pass in 2012.

In the meantime, however, the best thing that can be done is to continue to educate and persuade those who are unfamiliar with gay couples. Much of the opposition to Proposition 8 was fueled by the common prejudices that gay people have an "agenda" and are out to "recruit" children to their cause. Witnessing the reality of loving gay couples who don't differ in any relevant sense from their straight counterparts exposes these prejudices for the absurdities they are.

Just ask Dick Cheney. Obama and the Democrats also have a very simple way to help move forward the cause of gay rights: repeal the discriminatory Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA). The DOMA is most commonly known for its protection of the right of states to refuse to acknowledge gay marriages granted in other states. But far more damaging and discriminatory is Section 3 of the act, which prohibits the federal government from granting any rights or benefits to same-sex couples. Whether or not one believes in gay marriage (as Obama and Biden have said they do not), it is inexcusable to refuse to grant these rights to same-sex couples.

It goes without saying that denying the rights of a small and despised minority should not be allowed and is unlikely to end well. But the future is on our side, and marriage equality is not far off.

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

And so the light shines on

Kelly Diabagate
Staff Columnist

On Tuesday evening, I was in my friend's room, huddled around my computer, trying—and failing—to do my homework, waiting impatiently for the results that would be the capstone of a long journey. To see me then, it would have been hard to guess that I absolutely detest politics. However, the recent election was about so much more than that.

In the year 1619, the first slaves arrived in the United States. In 2008, 389 years later, the United States has come full circle. In saying so, I am not commenting on the results of the elections—which should not be about race—but on the fact that so many people were completely comfortable with the idea of being led by a black president.

To all people, the United States is known as the land of opportunity. As a foreigner, I have not always felt that this common belief was entirely true. In the years that I have been here, I have witnessed an equal amount of good and bad. At times, some events made me extremely grateful that I am here, but others made me skeptical about the wonder of America.

For instance, I have been surrounded by people who came here with the hope to make a good life for themselves. Yet, after 10 years, they have not been able to save any money because they live paycheck to paycheck. On the other hand, I've also

met those of younger age, who were able to become part of the system and to rise to the top.

The truth is that no system is perfect and neither is the American system. However, the American people have proven that the ideals by which they stand have not become a mere facsimile of that which they once were; the values held dear by people across the world are still present here.

It is sometimes hard to feel part of something when you did not play a direct role. However, even though I only voted in spirit and was not physically able to cast my vote, I was still part of something big, much bigger than a simple election for the next president of the United States.

People all around the world celebrated, not so much because they supported a particular candidate, but because the 2008 elections were a victory for ideals and values that all human beings stand for. And so, regardless of political affiliation, all Americans should be proud of themselves and their country, because they have indeed once again proven that they deserve the title of the greatest country in the world.

To those in situations where they dare not dream, the American people have proven that there is still a place where people are not only allowed to dream, but where their dreams can, and indeed, do come true.

Kelly is a freshman in Arts & Sciences. She can be reached by e-mail at kadiabag@artssci.wustl.edu.



RADAR under the

Craig Ostrin
Games Editor

The holiday season is the most exciting time in gaming. Every year, an onslaught of highly-anticipated titles storm onto store shelves, and 2008 is no exception. Shooter fans won't have a problem satisfying their tastes, no matter on which platform they play. With "Gears of War 2" coming to Xbox 360 and "Resistance 2" on PlayStation 3, each console will get a sequel to its biggest new franchise. Valve's "Left 4 Dead" will have you and your friends struggling to survive the zombie apocalypse on 360 and PC, while "Call of Duty: World at War" takes players to World War II's Pacific theater on all the major platforms.

Fans of role-playing games haven't been left out in the cold, either. "Fable II" came out for 360 in October, and "Fallout 3" launched on 360, PS3, and PC one week later. Many will compliment these single-player games with the recently-released "Rock Band 2" and "Guitar Hero World Tour," which bring up to four players together to simulate the experience of playing in a band (just be ready to fill your room with lots of plastic).

Meanwhile, on the PC, "World of Warcraft" players have less than a week to enjoy all other games before Blizzard sucks them back in with



"Wrath of the Lich King." On Nov. 13, the latest W.o.W. expansion will raise the character level cap to 80, introduce the Death Knight class, and open a whole new continent to explore.

But what about the rest of the holiday offerings? Every year, great games get lost in the flood of titles. Here are a few games that might slip under your radar this fall.

It's déjà vu all over again

The most hardcore gamers tend to ignore them, but ports are still exciting for those who don't own every gaming platform. Well, PS3 owners should be thrilled to hear that "BioShock" finally came to their console on Oct. 21, exactly 14 months after its 360 release. The creepy first-person shooter was one of the most important games of last year for its unique setting (a disaster-struck, underwater metropolis stuck in the '50s) and immersive, exploration-based narrative.

On Dec. 2, PC gamers will finally get to experience "Grand Theft Auto IV," which came out for consoles last April. The GTA series has a history of coming to PC late, but the ports usually bring upgrades not found in the initial console releases. In this case, the PC



version will have improved graphics (if your machine can handle it), as well as a new replay editor that lets you save videos of your gameplay and share them online.

"Sir, yes, sir!"

The release of "Red Alert 3" last month marked the revival of a much-loved, PC strategy franchise. The series' charming mix of an absurd alternate history (where Einstein goes back in time and kills Hitler) with self-aware cheesiness captured my heart as a kid. The third installment promises the return of classic gameplay and corny cut-scenes with modern graphics and a new faction: The "Empire of the Rising Sun" boasts ninjas, psychic schoolgirls and giant robots that transform into fighter jets.

Speaking of Japan, Sega just released "Valkyria Chronicles" in the United States a few days ago, which has you commanding troops in fictional 1930s Europa. "Valkyria's" art design will strike you immediately, with sound effects written out like in a comic—machine guns fire with a "Ratta-Ratta-Ratta" and grenades explode with a "Blam!"—alongside graphics that are reminiscent of a watercolor



painting. The game mixes elements from a number of genres. In battles, you plan your attack on a detailed map, but when it comes to moving units, you zoom in and take control from a third-person perspective. It's an effective blend of the turn-based strategy and third-person shooter genres.

If you're looking for a more reality-based strategy experience, "Tom Clancy's EndWar" from Ubisoft has you covered. Set in the near future, you direct armies in "EndWar" with your voice. The voice controls aren't mandatory, but if you've tried the downloadable demo, you know that uttering orders through your headset works surprisingly well. The game was just released for 360 and PS3.

How the heck do you get up there?

The platformer genre used to consist of cute mascots gathering countless collectables, but we've covered a lot of new ground since the early days of Mario and Sonic. Last month saw the launch of "LittleBigPlanet," a PS3 exclusive and the feather in Sony's cap this holiday season. LBP's cartoony graphics, straightforward platforming, and collecting gameplay might be a throwback to simpler times, but it's



environment. I encourage everyone to download the 360 or PS3 demo before the game's Nov. 11 release.

While "Mirror's Edge" tries to capture "Prince of Persia's" gameplay in first person, "Prince of Persia" itself will be reinvented next month. Arriving Dec. 2 on 360, PS3 and PC, the fresh characters and beautiful new art design instantly convey that this is not just "Prince of Persia 4." This "Prince" will focus on your new computer-controlled partner, Elka, who Ubisoft promises will not have to be babysat. Instead, she'll help you cross difficult gaps, solve puzzles and fight by your side in combat.

Like every fall, it's a good time to be a gamer. It's heartening to see so many original and innovative games from top publishers, especially in an industry riddled with yearly sequels and decade-long franchises. So, even if you can't wait for the fifth, sixth or seventh installment in your favorite franchise this season, don't forget to look out for all the other exciting new games out there!

Cadenza calling gamers!

*Help shape our new
video game coverage!*

*We need reviewers, commentators
and interviewers.
Contact Craig Ostrin, Games Edi-
tor, at costrin@wustl.edu
for more info.*

In Defense of Song-and-dance numbers at the end of comedies

Percy Olsen
Cadenza Reporter

There's nothing quite like a song-and-dance number at the end of a comedy. Personally, I go into every comedy expecting one, craving one. The kicked-up heels, the synchronized dancing, I want it all. Most movies don't satisfy my needs. I've become a bit of a multiplex nomad, wandering deep into the mid-afternoon for the perfect send-off. I usually leave, defeated, wondering why all of the song-and-dance numbers have been forgone.

But I most certainly have not forgotten them. The best ones usually have the whole cast and crew in it. You get to appreciate the entire production in a few minutes of guilty sing-song pleasure. The only other time you'd get to see the cast and crew is in the credits, and by that time, you're usually out of the theater, aren't you? Sucking on that post-movie mint. You don't need the calories; stay in and watch everyone let loose.

A song-and-dance number at the end of a comedy is like a less awkward curtain call. The actors aren't actually there, so I don't have to worry about hurting anyone's feelings if I don't applaud when *Business Man No. 6* takes his bow. It's a great chance to remember all the fun times from the previous hour and a half. Take the great example at the end of "There's Something About Mary," where the cast lip-syncs to The Foundations' "Build Me Up Buttercup." The entire movie is played out in the span of three minutes, and there's nothing quite like seeing the hulked-out

Brett Favre dancing like a giddy robot.

Of course, most comedies aren't even good. But can you guess the secret to making them better? Add a song-and-dance number to the end (I may have telegraphed that one...) Consider "Night at the Museum," Ben Stiller's "comedy" where the exhibits in the Smithsonian come to life. Um, yeah. Any hope for a decent chortle seems lost until the final minutes, when everybody starts dancing to "September." By this point, I may loathe every single character in the movie, but I have to admit, Earth, Wind and Fire are pretty rad.

And remember, when you want to save a crappy movie, the song choice is important, but the execution is key. I performed a variety of experiments in order to test my hypothesis. Allow me to introduce the "Jackie Chan Constant." Jackie Chan loves to end his movies with cringe-inducing bloopers set to songs, but every now and then, he'll start dancing along to the tune, and occasionally, he'll sing with it, too.

With the "JCC" firmly in hand, I now turn my attention to two horrendous Jackie Chan movies: "Rush Hour 3" and "The Tuxedo." At the end of "Rush Hour 3," Jackie and Chris Tucker simultaneously punch a French cop in the face. Then the two smile and dance the movie out to "War" by Edwin Starr. It's a goofy take on riding into the sunset, but it's also fairly offensive. Not great.

On the other hand, Jackie Chan dances with James Brown at the end of "The



Zac Moskowitz
Cadenza Reporter

Morning, Wednesday, Nov. 5. It had been an emotional night, but it was a new day and time to get on with life. That is, until I turned on the TV—until my show took a break and the commercials came on. That was when I realized an important part of my life for the past year was past. Something that I encountered every day for the past three months, something that I could count on when everything else failed. I'm talking, of course, about political ads.

I started back home in Dallas in February 2008, about a month before the primaries. The screen filled with pictures of Barack Obama kissing babies, Hillary Clinton talking to the middle class. There was a lull after the primaries, and we all felt the loss. Luckily, and suddenly, they were back, and they were better. It was not just Obama or John McCain. Jay Nixon and Mike

Gibbons pleaded with me for my vote through the screen.

A nice old lady pandered for my vote on Proposition A. Mark Wrighton e-mailed me to urge me to help keep the Metro running with Proposition M. I'm fairly sure these people knew I voted absentee in Texas and were just taunting me at this point.

A month before the election, the ads got even more exciting. A vote for the wrong candidate would lead to higher taxes, taxes on health care and the end of the world. These ads kept me on the edge of my seat: real-life cliffhangers. Even though I was dying to know, the final episode wouldn't air until Nov. 4; adding to the excitement was the sense of being a part of a choose-your-own-adventure story. I would decide the outcome.

But all that's over now; Obama doesn't need me anymore. Nixon is no longer going to cater to my wants and needs. I turn on the television and I watch Hardee's try to sell me its

new Little Thickburger. Ford is telling the world about the new F-150. Domino's is subtly bashing Subway with its new Oven Baked Sandwiches. Guess what Hardee's, Ford and Domino's: I don't care.

After a year of advertisements about a choice I can make to change the world, everything else seems shallow. A car with better fuel efficiency? A choice on Nov. 4 could decide the future of the oil industry! And how am I supposed to get to Hardee's without the Metro? These post-election choices don't matter; these post-election choices won't end the war in Iraq or defend our borders.

It's a different America now, and I miss the old one. I miss politicians constantly harassing me for my vote. I miss the old America, where Obama supporters visited me four times in the week before Election Day and offered me rides. I miss the old America, when what I did on Nov. 4 mattered. I miss the old America.

Life after... political advertisements

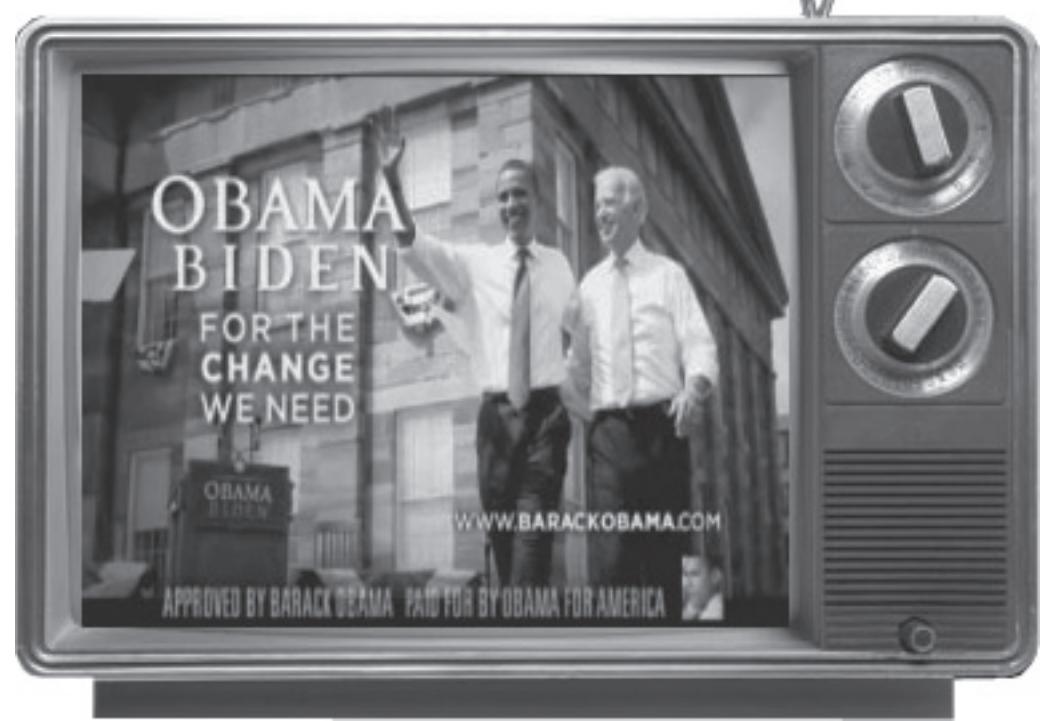


ILLUSTRATION BY NIKI DANKNER | STUDENT LIFE

Zac Moskowitz
Cadenza Reporter

Morning, Wednesday, Nov. 5. It had been an emotional night, but it was a new day and time to get on with life. That is, until I turned on the TV—until my show took a break and the commercials came on. That was when I realized an important part of my life for the past year was past. Something that I encountered every day for the past three months, something that I could count on when everything else failed. I'm talking, of course, about political ads.

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Questions for Newsweek editor John Meacham

Perry Stein
News Editor

Student Life sat down with Newsweek Editor in Chief John Meacham on Saturday and spoke to him about the election, the coming Obama administration and the future of print media. Here are his thoughts:

Student Life: How does Newsweek, a mainstream publication with no niche audience, find unique ways to cover the election of Barack Obama, a story that practically every media outlet around the world is covering?

John Meacham: What's happened is interesting. I would argue that we do have a niche audience, which is people that care deeply about the news and that appreciate the voices and reporting we bring to them every week, and every day online. [Our readership is] 2.6 million.

What happens in moments like this, which I didn't really anticipate, is that people tend to go to the larger brands in moments of overarching news. We're selling out of our election issue around the country—we had to go back on press. We are doing a newstand special that I am editing on my Blackberry right now. There is an enormous hunger for anything about this.

SL: It seems that Newsweek reporters spent a lot of time with each of the candidates. Which candidate did reporters prefer?

JM: At the moment you want to be on Obama's [campaign bus] because McCain's bus is parked. But Murray Kimpton, the great columnist, always said that the loser's locker room is more interesting. And in some ways defeat is more interesting. Senator McCain deserves enormous credit for the kind of campaign that was run and would have been fabulous to spend a year with. Senator Obama...seems, for someone who is the center of this unfolding global drama, unusually in touch with reality.

SL: This was the longest presidential campaign in recent American history. How did that affect Newsweek's bottom line?

JM: Reporting the way we do is expensive, because it involves having good people doing important

inch-by-inch shoe-level work. We are committed to making people think and telling them things that they don't know but should, or we think they should. So if that's your mission, then where your heart is then there shall your treasure be also—to reverse the scripture.

SL: What was your reaction when Senator McCain announced Governor Sarah Palin as his running mate? How did you prepare your team to cover this twist in the campaign?

JM: Well, we knew her a little bit because she had come to a Newsweek conference on women and leadership in 2007. Karen Breslau, our San Francisco bureau chief, was one of the first national reporters to ever go to Alaska and talk to her. So we had a bit of a head start on everybody else and took advantage of it.

I think we did some really good early pieces on her. Perhaps this says more about me than it probably should, but I had no inkling that [McCain] might even think about her, which is what he wanted. John McCain's father used to say that the world is run by poker players, not system analysts. And this was a poker player's move.

SL: Newsweek ran a zoomed in, untouched cover photograph of Governor Palin that was met with a lot of controversy. How did you decide to run this photo? Did you anticipate this backlash?

JM: I will say that this is the only time I can say that we were criticized for doing the right thing. We just don't retouch photos. I honestly, swear to God, did not think it was an unflattering picture and was quite surprised actually by that reaction. Now the content of the piece, which I wrote, I fully expected to be—in a way—more controversial than perhaps it was. The idea that the qualification for office is that you are one of the people...struck me as unsound. I'll let the piece speak for itself and I stand by it. And I stand by the cover too.

SL: What was it like in the Newsweek newsroom on election night?

JM: It was historic. My kids came to the office. I just thought they might remember dimly being around for a moment like this. There is no question that this is a transformative moment. Senator McCain has said that, President



COURTESY OF DAMIEN DONCK

Bush has said that. Whatever your politics, this is a moment that has a redemptive nature to it, given our racial history. And no matter where you stand, that's a reality and that's exciting.

SL: From a journalist's perspective, do you wish the results on Tuesday night were a little closer, the returns a little more exciting?

JM: If it had been closer, you have the possibility of people having hard feelings, or harder feelings, and feeling as though something was taken away. It was a great contest. I thought that McCain had a better-than-even chance of winning until the market collapsed in mid-September. I think there was plenty of excitement, so I'll take the excitement that was offered and I won't wish for anymore.

SL: The youth excitement throughout this campaign seemed unprecedented. As editor in chief of Newsweek, do you now see young people as a new audience to market to, either online or in print?

JM: Sure. The politically en-

gaged, and culturally engaged, are the people we hope the magazine reaches and interests, no matter how old they are. Whenever you have something that produces political excitement or cultural excitement you hope what you have to say resonates with anyone, and if they happen to be 21 years old, then great.

SL: With online journalism finding tremendous success, there is always talk of print media being a dying field. Where do you see print media going in the next few years?

JM: Previous generations of print people thought the radio was going to kill them and then the TV was going to kill them. It just requires adaptation and nimbleness and a commitment to good stories. The election project is a great example; there is a 50,000 word base, the oldest narrative form in human affairs, it's like the Iliad. That principle is still at work. People say you don't read long things online. Well, you read long things online if they're good. Quality will win out.

SL: The marathon campaign is finally over. What now?

JM: Oh Lord, there is plenty to write about. There is the making of the administration. The issues that he will have to confront are stubborn. John Adams once said facts are stubborn things. So there is no shortage of topics.

WRITING from page 1

nificant freedom in terms of the content and style of writing among undergraduate and graduate students.

"The culture innoculates itself against the notion that there's a single ideal of style or content we should all strive to achieve. The diversity of voices here, and the care with which that diversity is safeguarded—both in the admissions and workshop processes—is one of the most exciting aspects of our program," Bailey said.

The University also offers a Master's degree in literature and history, an MFA in writing and a Ph.D. in English and American literature.

Professors Kellie Wells, Kathryn Davis and Marshall Klimasewski lead MFA workshops, in which first- and second-year MFA students participate during all four semesters of the program. These MFA students

teach undergraduate writers for most writing courses, with some of them teaching the mandatory freshman course Writing 1.

Writing 1, however, remains a course separate from the material of the courses in the English department and the Writing program.

"Whether or not students need Writing 1, the English department is not involved in the design of the content and the syllabus of that course. It's college-wide, serves students of all disciplines and is no longer a literature-based course," Chair of the English Department Vincent Sherry said.

Sophomore Alex Mancall said she enjoyed having a graduate student teach her Writing 1 section.

"She was young enough to relate to me, but also had the expertise to tell me how to improve," Mancall said.

TUITION from page 1

colleges and were surprised at the University's relatively low place on the list. The high cost of many private schools, however, has not stopped parents from sending their children to these institutions.

"There isn't much of a difference between Sarah Lawrence or Wash. U.," senior Jonathan King said. "There's a difference of only five grand. As far as I am concerned, any college that exceeds \$40,000 is pretty much in the top 10. You only get what you pay for."

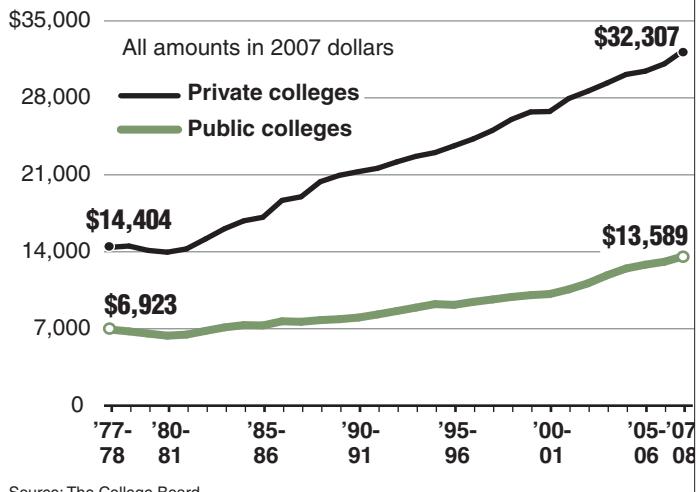
According to the U.S. News and World Report Best College

Rankings, the top 20 national universities are all private institutions. Wash. U. sits at number 12, while the University of California-Berkeley, the lone public institution that consistently flirts with the top 20, sits at number 21.

Nonetheless, tuition nowadays comprises only slightly more than 50 percent of the total cost of attendance at the average private institution. When room and board expenses are added to the tuition, the total bill comes close to or even exceeds \$50,000 a year, according to MSNBC.

Rising cost of tuition

The U.S. average cost of annual private and public college tuition, including fees, room and board, has risen dramatically in 30 years.



DUC from page 1

ferently.

"The University could absorb the fee, but what else would happen? Where's it going to come from? Everything the University does has an opportunity cost," he said. "In this case, I think the decision makes a great deal of sense."

The decision, he added, would not affect a great number of students.

"I would think that most groups who want to reserve space in the DUC would be Student Union groups," sophomore Jeremy Perkins said.

SU groups are asked to pay a fee to belong to SU, and the money SU pays to use the DUC goes in part to cover the cost of their

groups' meeting spaces, according to Darby.

"Student Union recognizes [the necessity of the cost] and is already paying. It makes sense to make other groups defray the cost of the building. It's a simple matter of the building isn't costless to operate," Darby said.

Still, many students felt that the proposed fee would negate the DUC's function as a communal space.

"I think it's unfair for people to be unable to congregate in a building that otherwise wouldn't be used. It's a student space [and] they should get to use it," freshman Erica Sandrock said.

Depending on how this coming semester goes, the administration

remains open to new possibilities and ideas.

"I think anything is on the table. We're looking for feedback," Darby said. "We're a work in progress—we've never done anything like this before."

The administration would also remain open to taking into account a group's ability to pay, which is one of the reasons the fee is not expected to be set at a high cost. Darby added that the University also absorbs part of the cost.

"We don't want to close people out, but at the same time somebody's got to pay the piper."

Congress of the South 40 executives did not respond to phone calls or e-mail requests for comment.

Sudoku By The Mepham Group

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

Level: 1 2 3 4

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

Solution to Friday's puzzle

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

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11/10/08

Solutions

9 Winter vacation option	N E T S	S T A N	S T E L
10 Very hot day	O P I E	T A R A	N A V A L
11 Once around the sun	L I A M	O H A R A	D A B S
12 Alcoholic beverages	D R E S S E R S	S I P	S I C
13 Keanu Reeves thriller	A D D E N D A	A N N O Y E D	O O Q U L
21 Armstrong or Myerson	S I T C O M	S O T D A	F O O T A G E
23 Famous fabler	N A S A L	S I S P O E T I C	S I D
24 Finger-thrower's call	E N G E S S A	E R E C T I Z E	O O Q U M
25 Hawaiian patio	N I A B	N O T A R I Z E	P R O M O
26 Anxiety	C O R N S	D A L I Q B O O E	S I D
27 Uttered	A E I O U	A M O K C R O P	P R O M O
33 Distress signal	M O S S	S O B I S	S I D
35 Yesterday's follower	S L A B S	M O S S	S I D
36 Reflection	50 Rodeo rope	52 Fried rings	55 Checkbook entry
37 Encrypted	53 Astaire film	54 After-market item	59 Poet Teasdale
39 Rights to enter	40 Ducks' relatives	42 Perch for several	63 Player's piece
4 "___ and Clyde"	45 Lettered Fords	47 "Sixteen ___"	65 "___ Maria"</td

SPO

VOLLEYBALL

Bears won't stop at UAA title

Johann Qua Hiansen
Sports Editor

It was their loss to Emory in the UAA title match last year that propelled Washington University's volleyball team to a national championship.

This year, Wash. U. will look to build on a win after the No. 4 Bears took out the No. 1 Eagles 3-2 in the UAA championship match on Saturday. "It's just the beginning," senior Alli Albers said.

The Red and Green fought a seesaw battle with the Eagles the entire match, taking the first and third sets 25-18 and 25-13, respectively. "We all just wanted it," freshman Kristen Thomas said. "It feels great and gives us a lot of confidence."

Senior Nikki Morrison led the team with 14 kills, Thomas had 12 and junior Erin Albers had 11 kills. Emory fought through 15 kills in the second set to take the frame 26-24 and won the fourth set 25-19.

"The key to our win was our backcourt play, our digging and passing," Head Coach Rich Luenemann said. "Audra [Janak] did a great job directing the offense." Junior Laura Brazeal, Albers and freshman Tricia Brandt had 24, 20 and 14 digs, respectively, which gave the Bears opportunities throughout the match.

The Bears fought back from a four-point deficit in the final frame, culminating with a block by freshman Erin Kasson and Albers to tie the score at seven. Emory extended its lead to 11-8 before the Bears caught up.

The turning point occurred when Janak punched the ball off an Emory blocker to tie the score at 11. After two Emory attack errors, an Emory kill and a solo block by Albers, the stage was set for the final point. Albers took a set from Janak and spiked the championship-winning point down the middle for a 15-12 victory. "It doesn't matter who scores it," Albers said. "It's awesome."

The UAA title was the 19th in program history and the third in five years.

Path to Championship Match

The Bears swept New York University and Case Western Reserve University on Friday. Wash. U. put together strings of points for 25-16 and 25-18 victories in the first two sets against NYU. The Violets appeared rattled in the third set with numerous errors, as the Bears picked up the 25-18 win using only seven kills.

Morrison, with her 11 kills, led the Bears against Case in a 25-18, 25-10, 25-10 sweep. Wash. U. had



LANE S. GOODMAN | STUDENT LIFE

Freshman defensive specialist Tricia Brandt serves on Saturday against Emory University. Brandt had three aces in the UAA Championship match.

18 kills in the first set alone. Albers led the Bears through the first frame and Thomas led the team in the second with five kills each.

The Bears stumbled against Carnegie Mellon University on Saturday morning, dropping the initial frame 25-27 after establishing a 21-15 lead. They came out of the break fired up, and Morrison scored the last four points, grabbing the second set with a solo block. Wash. U.'s momentum con-

tinued to flow, as the Bears shot to 11-4 in the third set with senior Ali Crouch's three kills. The lead was extended to 21-5 after back-to-back aces by Janak. A block by Albers and Albers brought the Bears to a 24-10 advantage. Albers scored the last point with a right side spike. The final set was more of the same, as Albers sealed the 25-14 win. "We finally started to click," Albers said. "I can't wait to play again."

With the UAA title, the Bears clinched an automatic berth to the NCAA Championship Tournament. Wash. U. finds out where their regional will be held on Monday. The winner of each regional will move on to Bloomington, Ill. where the national championship tournament will be held.

The Bears are not resting on their laurels and will be hard at work. "The celebration is over," Albers said. "We have regionals."

No. 1 Alabama and No. 2 Texas Tech now stand alone as the only two unbeaten college football teams in the BCS conferences after No. 3 Penn State lost to Iowa 24-23 on Saturday. The Red Raiders destroyed No. 9 Oklahoma State 56-20 while the Crimson Tide defeated the No. 16 LSU Tigers 27-21. There are two weeks left in the college football regular season before conference tournaments and bowl games begin. No. 7 Utah and No. 14 Ball State remain in contention to be BCS-busting teams. (Josh Goldman)

WU 14 CHICAGO 17

WU loses possession of Founders Cup

Alex Dropkin
Sports Reporter

Since the creation of the UAA conference, Washington University has faced the University of Chicago annually in the Battle of the Founders Cup. In the 22nd installment of the series on Saturday, the heavily-favored Bears failed to retain the cup.

Chicago won the game 17-14, a loss that drops the Bears to 5-4 on the season and 1-1 in UAA conference play. The Red and Green now lead the series 16-6.

Wash. U.'s offense got off to a miserable start. On the very first drive for the Bears, junior Matt Glenn fumbled the ball, giving Chicago possession at their own 41-yard line.

The next drive only lasted two plays, as senior quarterback Buck Smith threw an interception at the Bears' 24-yard line, setting up the Maroons for a touchdown on their following possession on a one-yard run by running back Francis Adarkwa.

After a 53-yard punt return early in the second quarter, Chicago threatened to score, starting again at the Wash. U. 24-yard line. The Bear defense held the Maroons to a 42-yard field goal, putting the Maroons on top 10-6.

In the first half, Wash. U. only managed to record 89 yards of offense, punted three times and went zero for six on third-down conver-

sions.

"We just weren't executing. We weren't capitalizing on the things they'd given us. We ran a lot of shots downfield, and we just didn't make the connections," Smith said.

The Bears' offense started to come alive in the second half. On their first possession of the half, Smith connected with freshman Brandon Rogalski for a 60-yard touchdown, cutting the lead to 10-7.

Five minutes later, the Red and Green took the lead. After forcing an 18-yard punt, the Bears put together a nine-play, 40-yard scoring drive with 10:17 left in the third quarter.

On fourth-and-four, senior tight end Miles Chan recorded his first career touchdown on a diving eight-yard catch into the end zone, making the score 14-10 in favor of the Bears.

"I was actually the second read on the play. Tom Gulyas, the receiver, was running across the field, and he was supposed to be the first option, and I knew all week that they were going to be playing me man-to-man with their linebacker...I pulled a quick move, got off of him, Buck floated it up there for me, and I just dove and got to it," Chan said.

The Maroons recaptured the lead with 14:55 left in the game when Adarkwa ran into the end zone on a 13-yard rush, single-handedly putting the Maroons ahead 17-14.

With almost the entire fourth quarter left, the Bears needed to score

and had plenty of time to either tie or take the lead. Smith, however, was unavailable for the rest of the game due to a knee contusion.

"It's really tough. Obviously when you're sitting and watching, you have no control over the outcome of the game, but I had confidence in Mitch, the backup, that he would get the job done, and we just came up a little short," Smith said.

Sophomore Mitchel Bartel took over for Smith but was unable to give the Bears the lead, ending the final drive of the game with an interception.

Smith went 10 for 24, throwing for 136 yards and two touchdowns, while Bartel had 28 yards. The Bears recorded 84 net rushing yards.

Adarkwa, on the other hand, rushed for 142 yards on 42 carries. Chicago's quarterback, John Kiernan, also suffered an injury and only attempted nine passes during the game, completing only one.

Even with the loss, the Bears still have a chance to win the UAA championship next Saturday at Francis Field against undefeated Case Western Reserve University, ranked No. 13 in the country.

"It was one of the goals of our season to win the UAA, and since that's still a viable option, we're really excited to go into this weekend and hopefully pull out a victory against the No. 13 team in the country," Smith said.



MATT MITGANG | STUDENT LIFE
Senior tight end Miles Chan, seen here last week, caught an eight-yard touchdown pass from senior quarterback Buck Smith in a 17-14 loss to the University of Chicago on Saturday.

sportsbriefs

Basketball season begins

Both the Washington University men's and women's basketball teams hit the hardwood for their first and only exhibition games this weekend. On Friday, the women took a two-point lead into halftime before falling to the Division-I St. Louis University Billikens 76-63. Sophomores Kelsey Robb and Kathryn Berger and junior Zoë Unruh led the team with 10 points each in the loss.

The men lost a second half lead but held on for a one-point double overtime win against the University of Missouri-St. Louis Tritons Saturday night 91-90. Senior Tyler Nading scored the game-winning basket on a put back with 11 seconds left in the second overtime period. Junior guard Aaron Thompson led all scorers with 35 points on 13-24 shooting, making nine three-pointers in the process. Senior point guard Sean Wallis scored five points and recorded 10 assists in his return to the court after missing all but three games last season with a tibial plateau fracture and torn MCL. (Josh Goldman)

See Wednesday's edition of Student Life for complete coverage.

Bears prep for postseason

With all conference play over aside from football, many Washington University teams are gearing up for the postseason. The No. 4 volleyball team, fresh off its defeat of No. 1 Emory to win the UAA title, will find out where it begins the NCAA tournament early Monday morning while the women's soccer team will learn where they will play at around 11 a.m. While a long shot, the men's soccer will learn if they made the NCAA tournament on Monday morning as well.

The cross country team will compete at the NCAA Midwest Regional Championships on Nov. 15 in Rock Island, Ill. and could possibly qualify for the NCAA Championships on Nov. 22 in Hanover, Ind. (Josh Goldman)

BCS top two stay unbeaten

No. 1 Alabama and No. 2 Texas Tech now stand alone as the only two unbeaten college football teams in the BCS conferences after No. 3 Penn State lost to Iowa 24-23 on Saturday. The Red Raiders destroyed No. 9 Oklahoma State 56-20 while the Crimson Tide defeated the No. 16 LSU Tigers 27-21. There are two weeks left in the college football regular season before conference tournaments and bowl games begin. No. 7 Utah and No. 14 Ball State remain in contention to be BCS-busting teams. (Josh Goldman)

Soccer celebrates Senior day

Scott Drattell
Sports Reporter

The Washington University men's soccer team finished the regular season strong with a 2-1 double-overtime victory over the University of Chicago on Saturday afternoon at Francis Field.

Prior to the start of the game, the University honored the Bears' seven seniors, who played their final game at Francis Field. Head Coach Joe Clarke then honored the seniors, who in their four years at Wash. U. helped the Bears to a 48-21-9 (.673) record and two NCAA tournament appearances, by starting all seven of them.

"These seniors were all really good players," Clarke said. "It was great to be able to [start them all]."

Appropriately, it was two of those seniors who gave the Red and Green an early 1-0 lead. In the eighth minute, midfielder Eric Hill lofted a pass from 30 yards out into the box, which found midfielder and co-captain Kevin Brege. Brege jumped and deflected the ball past Chicago goalkeeper Chris Giusto for his first goal of the season and the fifth of his career.

"It felt so good [scoring]," Brege said. "I had a bit of bad luck finishing recently, but it felt great to get that out of the way in the beginning."

"That meant a lot to all the seniors," senior co-captain Marshall Plow said. "He had a tough season battling injury but he stepped through and led by example."

Chicago tied the game with fewer than two minutes remaining before halftime when junior forward Edgar Friloux drilled a shot from 35 yards out that slipped through the hands of senior goalkeeper Ryan Kruse and into the net. The goal was Friloux's third of the season.

Junior goalkeeper John Smelcer replaced Kruse at halftime, and the Bears' defense clamped down, allowing the Maroons just one shot in the game's final 58 minutes after allowing seven in the first half. The Red and Green outshot Chicago 10-8 for the game.

After a scoreless second half and first overtime period, Wash. U. finally broke through in the fourth minute of the second overtime. Junior forward John Hengel sent a long through ball that found freshman forward Patrick McLean in the Chicago box, and McLean lofted a shot over Giusto for his fourth goal of the season. The team then piled on McLean in celebration of its 2-1 victory.

"It was awesome [getting a win for



MATT MITGANG | STUDENT LIFE

Senior Eric Hill, seen here against Maryville University, assisted a Kevin Brege goal on Saturday against the University of Chicago.

the seniors]," McLean said. "Especially when all of them started the pile. I couldn't really breathe, but it was awesome."

"It felt so good [getting a win on Senior Day]," Brege said. "We had a tough run of things recently, so it was really nice for us morally to end the season on a good note."

With the win and Case Western Reserve University's 3-2 loss to UAA co-champion Rochester University on

Saturday, Wash. U. finished the season fourth in the UAA standings with a 4-3-0 conference record. Despite being nationally ranked for much of the season, losses to Rochester and Case Western last weekend leave the Bears a long shot for making the NCAA Tournament.

"The season had its ups and downs, but I'm proud of us," Plow said. "A lot of people didn't think we could be this good this year and compete [after] los-

ing three of our seniors last year, but we kept it going, and most importantly, we kept the Wash. U. culture going."

"I'm disappointed that we're not a guarantee to get into the playoffs. If we get in I feel like we have a shot," Clarke added.

The Bears, who finished the season with a 12-5-1 (4-3-0 UAA) record, will find out Monday at 8 a.m. if they made the tournament when the NCAA announces the field.



WU Student Activities Get Involved and Connected on Campus

Mix It Up!

Date: Tuesday, November 11, 2008
Time: 11:00am - 1:00pm
Location: DUC Classroom 276

OSA invites you to our annual Mix It Up lunch! Mix It Up is a nationwide campaign that supports students who want to identify, question, and cross social boundaries that separate them from each other and help build inclusive, welcoming learning environments. Last year over 75 students attended and we're hoping for even more this November!

This year, Professor Michael Sherraden, of the Brown School of Social Work, will talk about economic diversity and asset building. Come, step outside your comfort zone, meet someone new, and discuss a challenging issue of diversity!

Great food
Great conversation
Great people

RSVP online at <http://www.getinvolved.wustl.edu/>

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



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Women's soccer falls in UAA finale

Trisha Wolf
Managing Editor

Washington University's women's soccer team suffered a 1-0 defeat against the University of Chicago Saturday, dropping the team to 14-3-1 overall and 6-1 in the UAA. The No. 8 Bears, however, will still play in the postseason next weekend, having clinched their third consecutive UAA title last weekend and the conference's automatic berth in the NCAA tournament.

"We were in a very difficult situation," senior captain Shirey Lane said. "We knew that we had already won the conference. We didn't give our best that we can give and didn't play to win."

"We put together a good game. They capitalized on an opportunity. We had some early opportunities that we couldn't capitalize on. Maybe the refs had one or two slightly off calls," Head Coach Jim Conlon said.

The team celebrated Senior Day Saturday, honoring its nine seniors before the game. Former Head Coach Wendy Dillinger made a return to St. Louis for the recognition ceremony. All nine seniors also started Saturday's game.

Wash. U. came out on fire Saturday, dominating the first half. Senior captain Caitlin Malone narrowly missed a goal in the 16th minute, stumbling as she finished her shot. Junior Elyse Hanly took a shot on an open net in the 23rd minute, but a Chicago defender blocked the shot. Classmate Libby Held nearly buried a free kick later in the 23rd minute, but Maroon keeper Polly Kline made a diving save to keep the game tied at 0-0. Questionable offsides calls

also broke up a few more opportunities. Overall, the Bears outshot the Maroons 8-3, including another impressive free kick on Held's part in the half, but the half ended in a 0-0 tie.

"We were lucky to get out of the first half," Chicago Head Coach Amy Reifert said. "They outplayed us and were clearly the better team."

It was Chicago that stole the show in the second half. Realizing that they had to win this game to have a shot at the postseason, the Maroons upped the tempo and controlled the half. Senior Sigrid Nachtergael scored the game-winning goal in the 85th minute as a ball deflected off of several players and bounced over senior keeper Amanda Boe's head.

"I'm a little bit in disbelief," Nachtergael said. "Wash. U. came out strong. I'm so proud of our team. It was a big turnaround."

"It was pretty unfortunate that we lost. We didn't play to our full potential. It was a close game and we got unlucky," Held said.

Even with the loss, Wash. U. is ready for the postseason. "Our players are very focused, very determined," Conlon said. "We have played six Top 25 opponents this season and have gone 6-0-1 against them. We're ready to make a deep run in the tournament."

The Red and Green will learn of their postseason fate at 11 a.m. this morning when the draw is announced.

"The next time this happens, the season is over," Lane said. "The way [Saturday] ended will help us refocus and bring us back to the gravity of the situation."

With additional reporting by Johann Qua Hiansen



MATT MITGANG | STUDENT LIFE

Junior forward Carter Schwarberg fights for the ball on Oct. 12 against Emory University.

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SCENE

BATTLE GLORY ON THE FORTY: A LOOK AT WASH. U.'S MEDIEVAL COMBAT GROUP: URSA

Lana Goldsmith
Scene Regular Features Editor

You see them from the windows of Liggett-Koenig as they practice on the lawn Saturdays from 2-5

p.m., or in the Village Quad on Fridays from 3-5 p.m. clad in elaborate leather armor, bearing (foam) swords and shields. They fight, and the chaos mimics that found in actual battles. These people are the members of Washington University's Belegarth Medieval Combat

Society.

The Belegarth Medieval Combat Society is actually a national organization made up of units, or groups of individuals, that fight together. Although the group on campus is not technically affiliated with it, they follow the same rules

as the national society. The Wash. U. unit is called Ursa, named for the South 40 café.

"We're trying to increase the collegiate aspect of [Belegarth]... to show pride for the University," junior Rubin Baskir said.

The following at Wash. U. has been substantial. Club members claim to have a base of 10-20 regular participants but have seen around 50 different people attend at some point this year. This number included female as well as male participants.

This high level of participation confirms Baskir's hope: "We want to show people this is a sport you can do."

Belegarth's president, senior Paul French, explained the rules and object of the game. Essentially, participants spar in mock battles in the style of medieval fighters. Whether a fighter wins or not is based on a combination of skill, experience and natural ability. In terms of how physically demanding the sport is and what kinds of skills are necessary to succeed, Baskir and French explained it to be a mix between paintball, fencing, football and wrestling.

"This is essentially a full-contact sport and a martial art," said Baskir, who explained that Europe has just as rich of a martial art tradition as Asia does, though it is not often recognized.

The group requires that participants wear armor, and they provide foam shields and swords if participants do not have their own. French, Baskir and senior Ben

Mudd have their own exquisite and elaborate leather body armor they made themselves. The armor can consist of helmets, carasses—coverings for the chest and shoulders—and arm and shin guards as well. Wearing armor and having "field names" serves the purpose of telling people apart on the field.

For training, the group plays a number of games, including King of the Hill, Dan Ball and Sword Grab, but the one played most often is plain combat. The rules for combat are to try to "kill" the opposing team members by hitting them with the blade portion of the sword. Head shots are not allowed.

If a person is wearing armor on that part of his body, his opponent must hit that part once to break the armor and once more to incapacitate it.

A fighter is allowed two hits in the chest before he's out. If an arm is hit, then the fighter must drop whatever weapon he was holding and not use that arm. If a leg is taken out, the hurt fighter must drop down and cannot move. There could be a referee, but mostly shots are based on the honor system. If a fighter refuses to go down when he's hit, he just might get hit a bit harder next time as a reminder to follow the rules.

Belegarth should not be confused with LARPing—Live Action Role Playing. Belegarth aims to recreate the medieval style and tactics of warfare, yet the fighters do not take on personages of actual medieval people. One of the founding fathers of the group, senior Ben Mudd, added that Belegarth does

not involve magic.

"We don't do magic or spells or any of that—this is purely a sport based on medieval combat." There are no mythical creatures in Belegarth either, as Mudd noted. "You can say you're an elf, I guess, but it doesn't mean anything."

A number of the participants have been involved in medieval combat for years prior to coming to Wash. U. French is also a member of a Belegarth group in St. Louis that meets in Forest Park. Some members have also taken part in national events. Baskir recalls the experience of seeing hundreds of Belegarth combatants fighting at once.

"It's like nothing you've ever seen before," Baskir said.

The group members stressed the tactical intelligence the sport requires to lead a large group into a successful battle.

All in all, the Belegarth Society is a group of enthusiastic yet down-to-earth people who are interested in sportsmanship and medieval culture and welcome all others who share that interest. I myself tried my hand at it, and it was quite thrilling. If you are interested, do not hesitate to try it out for yourself.

The Belegarth Medieval Combat Society holds open practices on Fridays from 3-5 p.m. in the Village Quad and Saturdays from 2-5 p.m. on the Liggett-Koenig lawn. They also hold build sessions on Sundays from 2-5 p.m. in the Koenig basement. All interested parties are invited to attend any of these events.



EVAN WISKUP | STUDENT LIFE
Members of Wash. U.'s Belegarth Medieval Combat Society practice on the Liggett-Koenig lawn.

The warriors of Wash. U.

Michael Yang
Scene Reporter

If you've ever walked by Umrath Lounge between 7 and 9 p.m. on Tuesday nights, chances are you've heard a distinctive clashing mixed with a chorus of fierce shouting. If you actually venture inside, you'll learn that the clashing actually comes from bamboo swords, and the fierce shouting belongs to the warriors of Washington University's Kendo Club.

Literally translating as "the way of the sword," kendo is the Japanese martial art that the samurai developed in order to practice their swordsmanship without slitting each other up. From its roots as a traditional samurai practice, it has since grown to become a popular sport in its own right. In Japan, kendo is the activity of choice for many high school students and has, to some extent, caught on in the rest of the world.

The enthusiasm of the group is really quite remarkable, as dem-

onstrated by their casual use of Japanese words during conversation. At first, my raised eyebrows were greeted with momentary confusion, as if they had been speaking English the whole time, but that quickly gave way to a good-mannered apology and more often than not, a detailed and lively explanation.

The club now has 30 or so members, with around half of that number showing up regularly to practices. In addition to undergraduates, Kendo Club also attracts graduate students and even TAs. In the past four years, the club has been steadily growing. Practices were originally held in the racquetball courts in the Athletic Complex and later in the Mallinckrodt Food Court, but they have since been upgraded to their current location in Umrath Lounge.

Over fall break, Kendo Club took a trip up to Minneapolis for a tournament sponsored by the Midwest Kendo Federation.

The members consider kendo a sport meant to be taken seriously; they even refer to their weekly meetings as "practice."

The enthusiasm of the group is really quite remarkable, as dem-

onstrated by their casual use of Japanese words during conversation. At first, my raised eyebrows were greeted with momentary confusion, as if they had been speaking English the whole time, but that quickly gave way to a good-mannered apology and more often than not, a detailed and lively explanation.

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Perhaps most exciting of all,

the Wash. U. Kendo Club was officially accepted as a probationary member of the Midwest Kendo Federation, which means it is now recognized as a dojo and can invite high-ranking sensei for instruction, the costs of which will be covered by the Federation.

For many of the members, kendo's appeal lies in its technical and competitive nature. Wash. U. senior and Kendo Club President Paul Anderson had been involved in sports and karate for much

of his life before coming to the University and found kendo to be a great fit.

"Since I wasn't playing sports, I was looking for a martial art that was serious and fun to learn," Anderson said. "Kendo is one of those sports you learn more by playing against other people that are better than you."

Debrecht likewise enjoys the unrelenting pace of the sport, in which matches can be won or lost in less than 30 seconds.

"People joke about driving 10 hours to play five minutes worth of kendo," Debrecht said, "but it really is neat to be able to compete under the pressure."

Then again, sometimes people join for the best reason of all: As Jeffrey said, "Hitting people with sticks just sounded like fun."

The University's Kendo Club is open to everyone, "regardless of age or experience," and meets Tuesday nights in Umrath Lounge from 7-9 p.m., where they're pretty hard to miss.



Japanese character for "Kendo."

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the student union



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Monday, November 10

Locks of Love Haircuts

Free haircut if you donate 10 inches or \$20 haircut, proceeds for LOL

9:00am-6:00pm, Danforth University Center, Fun Room

Watch 'Wash U Weekly,' & see 'Quantum of Solace' for free

Email your name and "007" as the subject to WUTV22@gmail.com

6:00pm, WUTV, Channel 22, Watch to see if you've won

What's Up Magazine Speakers' Panel

Panel of vendors and writers from Stl street magazine share stories

7:00pm-8:00pm, McMillan Cafe

Tuesday, November 11

Alpha Kappa Psi's WILD Shirt Sale

11:00am-2:00pm, D.U.C. Commons, Tuesday-Friday

CollabARTive

Stories about homelessness shared through spoken word

7:00pm-8:00pm, Seigle 304

Wednesday, November 12

Perspectives on Poverty: community and political approaches

Panel with government and grassroots movement members

7:00pm-8:00pm, McMillan Cafe

Campus-Wide Blood Drive

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Visit <http://www.communityservice.wustl.edu> for more info

Thursday, November 13

Deadline for Dance Marathon Exec Board Applications

12:00pm, go to www.dmsstl.org for more information

Friday, November 14

Register for Habitat for Humanity Trivia Night

Last day to register at \$4/person, event taking place Nov. 21,

<http://habitat.wustl.edu/trivia/> for more information

Ashoka presents: How the Grinch Stole Diwali

Come celebrate the festival of lights, Wash U style

7:00 pm, Edison Theater, tickets must be purchased in advance

Saturday, November 15

Ashoka presents: How the Grinch Stole Diwali

Come celebrate the festival of lights, Wash U style

12:00pm & 6:30pm, Edison Theater, must buy tickets in advance