

YEAR IN PHOTOS!

Check out Student Life's photo coverage of the year.

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GREAT SPEECHES

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Graduating staffers give final insights on their Wash. U. experiences in Forum.

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STUDENT LIFE

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Commencement 2009

Senior year: Debate, election and an ill economy

Dan Woznica
News Editor

The year began with the opening of the Danforth University Center, Washington University's new LEED Gold-certified sustainable student center, and Seigle Hall, a new law and undergraduate building on the west end of campus. On the South 40, construction began on two new buildings, the new Wohl Center and new Umrath Hall.

Soon after students arrived on campus, then-Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., announced via text message that then-Sen. Joe Biden, D-Del., was to be his running mate in the presidential race. One week later, Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., surprised the country by picking Sarah Palin, the little-known Republican governor of Alaska, to be his running mate.

Palin was transformed into a celebrity almost overnight, ensuring that the vice presidential debate on the University's campus in October would become one of the most exciting moments in the year's historic election cycle.

In the weeks before the media stormed campus, the University saw a surge in political awareness and activism among students. Student Union allocated \$55,000 for student programming related to the election. Students from all ends of the political spectrum canvassed

dorms and area houses to register voters while Bon Appétit started selling political party-themed elephant and donkey sugar cookies.

The excitement culminated on Oct. 2, when thousands of media personnel converged on campus to cover the vice presidential debate. During the day, students rubbed shoulders with well-known journalists, politicians and media personalities, including Katie Couric, John Oliver from "The Daily Show," Howard Dean, Rudy Giuliani and Joe Lieberman.

A large crowd of students gathered behind a stage set up outside Graham Chapel, where MSNBC filmed live news coverage and episodes of "Hardball with Chris Matthews." Several students entered into a heated argument with some non-students in the crowd carrying McCain-Palin signs, which the students felt deliberately misrepresented the views of the University's student body.

The night of the debate, more than 400 students with winning lottery numbers entered into the Athletic Complex's ultra-secure debate hall, where PBS newscaster Gwen Ifill moderated the debate between Biden and Palin on matters of domestic and foreign policy. After the debate, the general consensus from politicians, pundits and students on campus was that both candidates had argued well, and that Palin had succeeded in proving her knowl-

edge of national and international politics.

Following the debate, just over a month remained before the election. Students focused on campaigning for various political issues including Proposition M, a referendum to increase the St. Louis County transit sales-tax by half a cent in order to fund operating expenses for Metro and to support future expansion of the light-rail system.

The proposition did not pass, despite the efforts of University students in showing up at the polls in record numbers on Election Day. The night of the election, campus erupted into spontaneous celebrations as the nation's first black president was voted into office.

After the election, fall semester ended on a more somber note. Later in November, Chancellor Mark Wrighton announced that due to the ill economy, the University's endowment had fallen about 25 percent in value. More bad news came when rising crime near campus reached a tragic new height after University City Police Sergeant Michael King, a University alumnus, was shot and killed on the Delmar Loop. On the last day of fall semester, a drug related search took place at the Sigma Alpha Mu fraternity house, resulting in the University's removal of the fraternity from campus at the beginning of spring semester.

Not long after returning from

winter break, hundreds of students gathered in the Danforth University Center to witness the historic swearing-in of President Obama. Students at the event enjoyed watching the carving of an Obama ice sculpture and a large-screen projection of the inauguration ceremony. With the nation's economy continuing to spiral downward, students now

looked to the new president to help alleviate the nation's financial pressures and sustain a job market for outgoing seniors hard-pressed to find employment.

March Madness saw the men's basketball team celebrate its second consecutive NCAA Division III National Championship, while the women's basketball team lost in

a nail-biting national championship of its own.

Following David Banner's performance at fall Walk In, Lay Down, students gathered in the Quad on the last day of classes to listen to spring headliner The Black Keys and celebrate the end of what was a historic year at the University.



EVAN WISKUP | STUDENT LIFE

More than 400 students won tickets through a University-run lottery to attend the vice-presidential debate in the University's Athletic Complex on Oct. 2, 2008.

Junior year: Construction, championships and controversy

Johann Qua Hiansen
Senior Sports Editor

This school year started with an uproar by many students over the Student Technology Fee rate hike. As the year progressed, tensions cooled as Student Technology Services backed off and wireless internet gradually became accessible around campus.

October brought racism and other forms of discriminations to the forefront as a student's car was vandalized with a racial slur. Student groups continued to lobby for a sexual assault coordinator but were successful in establishing an LGTBQIA coordinator. Connect 4 was created to address various discriminations and hosted its first forum on racism in November.

The school hosted several famous and highly controversial speakers throughout the year. The speech by former Attorney General Alberto Gonzales in the 560 Building and his \$30,000 speaking fee sparked protests led by the College Democrats and other groups. Other notable speakers included Newark Mayor Cory Booker, author Alan Lightman, political pundit Paul Begala, Loveline's Dr. Drew, actor Peter Sarsgaard and comedian Margaret Cho.

Inflatable couches debuted

as Lupe Fiasco headlined Fall W.I.L.D. and George Clinton came in the spring. Other notable performers were Stars, who played at the first WUstock, and Cascada, who gave a brief performance that disappointed many. Girl Talk's performance in the Gargoyle was overshadowed by a student getting tasered by Washington University Police Department (WUPD) after he resisted arrest.

WUPD had its hands full this school year as multiple break-ins were reported over winter break in Myers and Hurd dorms. The mugging at gunpoint of a freshman outside Park/Mudd made many students more conscious of their surroundings.

Several influential professors have changed their roles at the University. Professor Richard Smith, who taught Introduction to Human Evolution, left his class behind to become the dean of Graduate School of Arts & Sciences. Popular accounting professor Tzachi Zach will now teach at Ohio State University after being denied tenure.

November saw trouble in the engineering school as Dean Mary Sansalone came under fire from faculty and students for changes made in the structure and mission of the engineering school. In February 2008, Sansalone announced her resignation, effective at the end of

that academic year.

Politics played a large role at the University as the school was selected to host the 2008 vice presidential debate in November. Chelsea Clinton led a question-and-answer session at Kayak's Coffee, while many students were dismayed to find that the University would not allow then-Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama to speak on campus in the run up to Super Tuesday. This sparked the creation of the Student Civic Initiative, which aims to increase campus involvement in politics.

Online war came to Wash. U. as hundreds of students battled over the Danforth Campus in a massive GoCrossCampus game. Other Web sites like Facebook were in the spotlight for gathering users' personal information and selling it to companies. Facebook also introduced a chat function in April.

Several construction projects were completed or neared completion. The new 560 Building debuted in a sea of controversy as a cappella groups protested having their practice sites relocated off campus. Meanwhile, the newly named Danforth University Center was to be ready in the fall of 2008.

Construction continued to break ground as the University announced plans to tear down Umrath Hall that summer in order to make room for the new Wohl Center.

In the world of sports, both the men's basketball and men's tennis teams captured their programs' first national championship titles, and the volleyball team captured its Division III record ninth national championship. The athletics program was ranked first in Division III and seventh in all divisions. For the first time in school history, Wash. U. led all schools in the Director's Cup as the women's track & field

team took third place at nationals, the highest finish in program history. The women's cross country third-place finish and men's soccer team sixth-place finish also matched their best performances at their respective national tournaments.

Sustainability rose to the forefront as groups like Green Action led the charge. Dining Services started offering silverware at Bear's Den, and the sustainable garden created by the Burning Kumbhat took root. Green Action's Sustainability joined the ranks of various works of art done on campus, including the bubble wrapping of Bowles Plaza and the bed outside

Olin Library.

Mother Nature continued to fluctuate throughout the year as the University was blanketed in over 6 inches of snow in March. Classes were not canceled despite the snowstorm. St. Louis was then rocked by a magnitude-5.2 earthquake in the middle of April, surprising many members of the community.

Dance Marathon broke records as other successful student led events such as Relay for Life, Diwali, Lunar New Year Festival, Thurtene Carnival, and Carnavale continued to unite the community.

The Student Union executive board was mostly elected unop-

posed and were baptized in a trial by fire with the 2008-2009 budget controversy. Several student groups mobilized their supporters to make their voices heard as the budget was passed by Treasury only to be rejected by the Senate. The deadlock was broken with only three minutes to spare at a joint session of the Senate and Treasury in April.

Controversy continued to the last second of the school year with hundreds of students and professors protesting the awarding of an honorary doctorate to conservative activist Phyllis Schlafly during commencement.



LIONEL SOBEBART | STUDENT LIFE

Troy Ruths hoists the championship trophy after the Washington University men's basketball team defeated Amherst College in the NCAA Division III finals. It was the first national title in the team's history.

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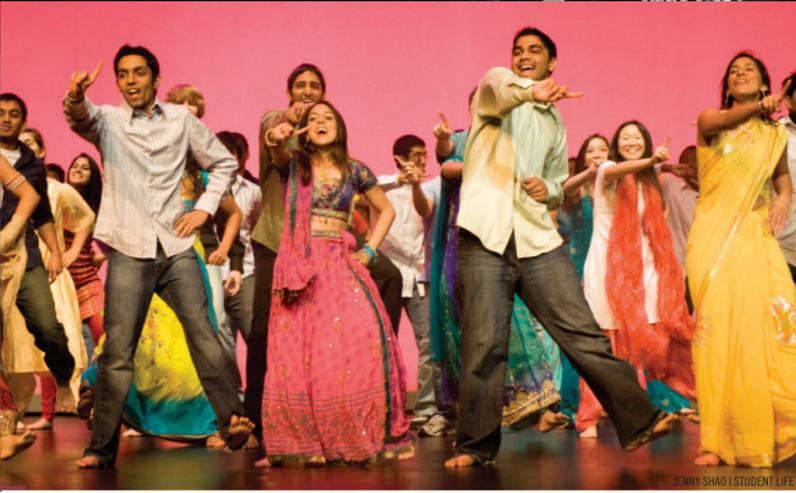
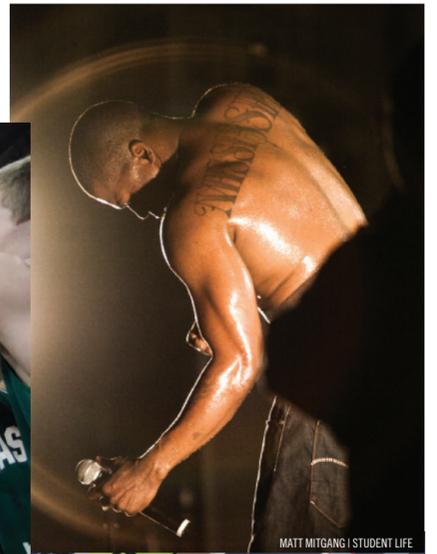
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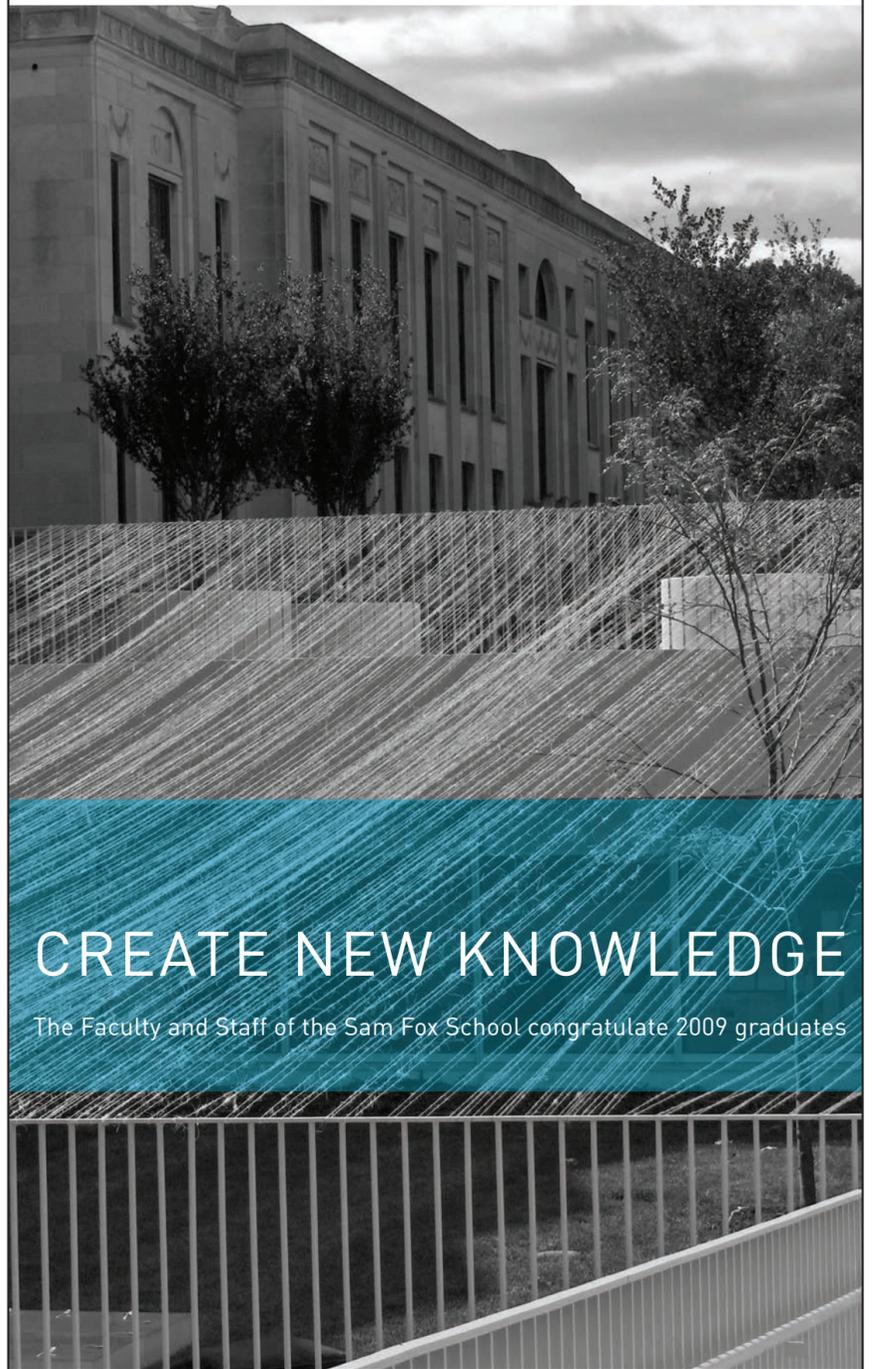
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A special thank you to those who served as members of the Orientation Executive Board:

Dave Brodell, Danielle Du Rosseau, Meghan Grissler, Laura Hawkes, Shamima Hossain, Morgan Lewis-Smith, Yogi Potini, Timothy Trinidad

and to the rest of the Class of 2009

Thank you for all you have done to make Washington University an even better place than when you arrived.

*From the First Year Center Office:
Terri Brennan, Danielle Bristow, Kristen Smith, Sharon Stabl and Kristin Weyman*

Sophomore year: Metro stops, security concerns and stem cells

Andrea Winter
Contributing Reporter

Sophomore year kicked off with the theme of "readjustment" as Washington University welcomed an unusually large freshman class.

The University continued to respond to unexpected developments, especially concerning campus security, as the year progressed. An expanded MetroLink, a renamed campus and a political win for stem cell research made this year one of progress and celebration.

For the Class of 2010, the admissions office had been shooting for a class of 1,350 students, so the University was surprised to have 1,470 students accept the school's offer of admission in the spring of 2006.

Before students arrived on campus for the 2006-2007 academic year, the University began implementing creative solutions in order to accommodate the freshman class and alleviate the housing crunch. More than 100 upperclassmen who had been planning to live on campus were moved to the University's Loop Lofts apartments, which made their debut that year.

Large freshman classes would not continue as a trend, according to the University. In April 2007, the administration announced its plan to reduce the size of the student body gradually from 6,300 to 5,800 students.

During the first week of classes, students witnessed a remarkable development in St. Louis public transportation: the expansion of the MetroLink. Twelve years of discussion and more than three years of construction culminated in the addition of nine new stops—two of which border the Danforth Campus.

The MetroLink effectively punctured the infamous "Wash. U. bubble" by linking students to Clayton, the Central West End, Richmond Heights, Brentwood, Shrewsbury and downtown St. Louis. A new program offered by the University, the U-Pass, allowed full-time students, staff and faculty to access this service for free.

In October, when the Cardinals won the World Series for the first time since 1982, many students hopped on the MetroLink so they could celebrate the victory downtown near the stadium.



During the 2006-2007 school year, the former Prince Hall was transformed from a gaping hole in the ground to a three-level underground parking garage and the foundation for the Danforth University Center. The construction process took nearly two years.

One noteworthy change was made in September 2006, when the Hilltop Campus was officially renamed the "Danforth Campus" in order to commemorate former Chancellor William Danforth and the entire Danforth family.

This name change was accompanied by a yearlong focus on the theme "Higher sense of purpose." In accordance with this theme, all incoming freshmen were given the book, "One Nation, Underprivileged: Why American Poverty Affects Us All," by Mark Rank, professor of social welfare in the George Warren School of Social Work. Rank delivered a speech on poverty during the Assembly Series.

As always, construction continued on campus, and some projects were completed. The Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum opened a new building designed by Pritzker Prize-winning architect Fumihiko Maki. In this progressively modern building that breaks away from the rest of the campus' architecture, the University is showcasing its permanent collection entitled "Modernity and Self."

Other construction projects were still in progress. The new Danforth University Center, which will eventually replace the Mallinckrodt Center, remained a construction site until the summer of 2008. An enormous hole in place of Prince Hall and a pothole-ridden temporary parking lot placed near the library were present for students in the 2006-2007 year.

Through the school year, both safety and security continually emerged as key concerns. In the fall, one study by the Morgan-Quitno Press named St. Louis America's Most Dangerous City. Chancellor Mark Wrighton joined experts and critics who contested the survey, claiming that its methodology was flawed.

Campus security was on high alert after one student was attacked in her dorm room on the South 40 in February 2007. In response to the assault, the chancellor formed a committee to review the University's safety and security policies. The University began to implement campus precautions such as peepholes, which were promptly installed on all room doors

in residential halls.

In April 2007, a tragedy at Virginia Tech shocked and saddened the world when 32 students were murdered by a gunman who subsequently took his own life. The University community congregated on the Quad for an impromptu candlelight vigil in honor of the students who were wounded or killed. In light of the tragedy, the University reassessed its own mechanism in place for preventing the escalation of such an occurrence on campus.

As both Republicans and Democrats struggled for control of the Senate in the fall of 2006, the Missouri senatorial election between Claire McCaskill and incumbent Jim Talent was one of the most-watched races nationally, with the Democrat McCaskill winning.

The University favored Amendment 2, which proposed allowing for embryonic stem cell research, which could potentially lead to cures for injuries and diseases such as Parkinson's, diabetes and cancer. The School of Medicine was concerned that if the amendment did not pass, it would lose

scientists who incorporate stem cells into their research. The University made a bold political move by sending all students a letter that encouraged them to vote in favor of the amendment, which eventually passed with 51 percent of the vote.

A series of notable speakers visited the University, including renowned autistic professor of animal science Temple Grandin and a 2008 presidential contender, former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee. Current Chief Justice John Roberts, Jr. presided over the School of Law Moot Court competition, and former Associate Justice Sandra Day O'Connor visited first-year law school classes.

The University took the lead nationally in commemorating the 150th anniversary of the infamous Dred Scott decision by hosting a national symposium in March.

In the 2006-2007 year, student participation increased in the campus-wide events of Dance Marathon and Relay for Life, both of which broke fundraising records by raising hundreds of thousands of dollars.

STUDENT LIFE

One Brookings Drive #1039
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News: (314) 935-5995
Advertising: (314) 935-6713
Fax: (314) 935-5938
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We appreciate your contributions and wish you success in your future endeavors!

Freshman Year: Katrina, charity and change

Helen Rhee
Contributing Reporter

The 2005-2006 academic year was one of unexpected change for both the Washington University campus and the nation. Hurricane Katrina's devastation of the Gulf Coast region largely shaped a year of charity and change.

Some students returned to campus in late August greeted by the news that the homes they had left were damaged or destroyed by the hurricane.

Many college students, faculty and workers displaced by Katrina found shelter at Washington University. In the fall semester, the University welcomed students from Tulane University and Loyola College, which were closed due to extensive damage by the hurricane.

Among the displaced students were freshmen from Tulane who had to evacuate during their move-in day. In response to the disaster, the University offered financial aid and health services to students who were affected by the hurricane. Unlike other schools, the University did not plan to return displaced students' tuition to their home universities in New Orleans.

From a cappella concerts to the EnCouncil's Bayou Formal, many student groups initiated campus-



Austin Thompson helps to clear rubble in New Orleans during spring break. In 2005 many students help with Hurricane Katrina relief efforts.

wide fundraising efforts to help rebuild the Gulf Coast region and support its victims. For some students, the relief effort went beyond campus initiatives. Many University students joined other college students from around the country in a weeklong spring break trip to New Orleans, where they volunteered to help rebuild broken homes for the victims of Hurricane Katrina.

In other fundraising events during the year, Dance Marathon raised \$58,000, and Relay for Life surpassed its fundraising goal of \$250,000.

The University also announced several significant changes, starting with the decision to set the new wage floor at \$8.25. The new minimum wage standard was a reaction to the Student Worker Alliance's sit-in at the admissions office during April 2005, when students demanded that the University raise the employee minimum wage to meet the city's living wage standard.

Hoping to increase public transportation for commuting students and workers, the University announced that it would start offering free universal Metro passes

for any full-time undergraduate, graduate student, faculty member or staff member of Washington University. The pass is valid for MetroBus and MetroLink and became fully functional at the beginning of the 2006-2007 school year.

The University also moved forward by revealing a plan for the new Danforth University Center. The University Center was to replace the former Prince Hall. Despite protests led by St. Louis preservationists, Prince Hall was demolished in the summer of 2006.

Chancellor Mark Wrighton also wrote a letter to parents detailing the 2006-2007 academic year tuition hike of 5.5 percent to \$32,800—the biggest marginal increase in six years.

In health news, Student Health Services (SHS) relocated from its main campus location in Umrath Hall to Forsyth House, now Dardick House, on the South 40. The relocation cost about \$2 million but provided SHS with significantly more space.

Most recently, the University announced that it would change the name of the Hilltop Campus to Danforth Campus to commemorate William Danforth, former Washington University chancellor, who made significant financial contributions to the University over the years.

Emory University's "declaration of war" against Washington University shocked this campus in mid-September 2005. Emory students vandalized both Washington University's campus and their own, attempting to pass off the vandalism on their own campus as retaliation by Washington University students. Spray-painted messages in yellow and blue read "WU girls are ugly - Emory University," "Emory owns U" and "George Washington is dead" on the underpass between the main campus and the South 40.

The act came two days after the Emory student newspaper released an op-ed piece that exhorted Emory students to start a rivalry with Washington University students. The student who authored the letter wrote on behalf of Emory's Department of War, a newly created branch of the school's Student Government Association. For a university in which rivalry with other schools is minimal and school spirit low, the war initiated by the Emory briefly ignited school camaraderie.

For the Assembly Series, the University welcomed several prominent speakers, including eminent American scholar and public intellectual Cornel West and Jonathan Kozol, an authority on the American public school system.

In the engineering school, stu-

dents showcased their new Vertigo dance floor, which was later displayed at the Contemporary Art Museum in St. Louis. It was also announced that Mary Sansalone from Cornell University would join the school in 2006 as the new dean of the School of Engineering & Applied Science.

The spring 2006 semester also brought new changes to the Mallinckrodt Center. Students said goodbye to Taco Bell and ushered in Bon Appétit's new Asian-themed concept with lukewarm reactions.

Washington University students' affairs with alcohol and drugs continued. In one incident, an intoxicated student fell out of her window in Wheeler dormitory. The University canceled Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity's housing contract after police found marijuana during their search of the house. More recently, the Magic House, a local St. Louis children's museum, banned Art Prom after discovering \$700 in damages by intoxicated students. Student Union then blocked funding for any future Art Proms.

On a more positive note, Sigma Chi was allowed to move back into its house again after a two-year expulsion for hazing. Greek Life also formed the new Council of Community Standards in an effort to better handle judicial matters.

Life after WUSTL: Seniors plan for the future

Michelle Merlin
and Lauren Olenes
Contributing Reporters

As Washington University seniors graduate, many have exciting plans in line for next year. Some students are going to graduate school, some have jobs, and others still remain uncertain of their plans following graduation.

Off to graduate school

Julie Goldberg, a philosophy and psychology major, plans to attend graduate school at the University of Wisconsin's graduate sociology program.

Greg Gandenberger will be in the University of Pittsburgh's Ph.D. program in history and philosophy of science. Before heading off to school, Gandenberger will hold several jobs this summer. He will work for the Princeton Review and a biology lab at the University as well as the University's calling center.

Francisco Robles also plans to go to graduate school. He will attend Princeton University and intends to get a Ph.D. in English literature.

"Going to graduate school has been a goal of mine ever since I had a fairly epiphany-ridden sophomore year," Robles said.

A major in chemistry with a concentration in biochemistry, Lance Peterson will be attending the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. So far, his plan is to intern in an M.D./Ph.D. program.

Peterson believes that the University truly has helped him in preparing for this next step.

"I think the research was really key. It was really easy for me to find a research venture and just find a lab that I really liked that got me off to a good start, so I could have a good research background and good recommendations," Peterson said.

Despite the current economic situation, the Idaho native does not think it will affect his plans for the future.

"Academia is kind of a selfish route, I think," Peterson said.

Ready to work

Steve Whitehead, graduating from the Olin Business School, will begin working for Deloitte Consulting LLP in St. Louis with-

and was offered a job with the company in Kansas City, Mo.

"I'm not going to lie: It hasn't been as bad as [it has been for] all my friends. I pretty much came in knowing I wanted to do accounting and finance, and I think I lucked out, because I got my job one year in advance, [since] they recruit earlier," Whitehead said.

Lauren Schwarze, a business student who majored in marketing and international business, will continue her internship at KETC, the local PBS affiliate in St. Louis, through the summer.

Schwarze said she hopes to work in television or film production in the future. As of now, however, she has not found another job.

"I've done a little bit of research, but it's just such a tough market right now that I'm really glad I have an internship for the summer. It's something that I really enjoy doing, so I figure that I can kind of just bide my time while the economy gets a little better," she said.

Engineering student Tavares Allen was fortunate enough to land a job in the midst of the economic crisis. A major in civil engineering, Allen interned at Burns and McDonnell over the summer

and was offered a job with the company in Kansas City, Mo.

"It was really the only job offer that I got," Allen said. "I was just looking to get an offer on that internship, so really I looked around for other jobs and stuff. But I was very happy with what I did over the summer, so in a way that encouraged me to take the job and not look anywhere else."

Allen will be working mostly with structural design in the company's energy department. He believes the resources available to him at the University have paid off well and made him prepared.

"[The University] made the internship a pretty smooth transition, and it wasn't as intimidating as it was to other kids," Allen said.

Tim Trinidad, majoring in entrepreneurship and computer science, will be combining his two areas of study to work for a start-up company.

"I will be working on a startup, [called] Schoology, with a couple of my fellow seniors. Schoology is a hybrid online education solution and social network," Trinidad said.

Trinidad said his extracurricular activities at the University, such as being webmaster for

a number of student groups, have helped prepare him for his venture.

Gwen Leach will participate in Teach For America to teach English to students in a St. Louis middle school for the next two years. This summer, Leach will train for her job.

Leach always knew she wanted to work for Teach for America.

"Even before the economy turned bad, I knew that Teach for America was what I wanted to do," she said. "There is always a need for teachers, no matter what the economy is like."

The application process was more competitive this year due to the troubling economy, according to Leach.

Plans still up in the air

Some seniors like Jane Philipps, on the other hand, still have no definite plans at this point for next year.

"I'm going home [to the Bay area], and I'm going to try and find a part-time job or internship in an art-related field and try to open my own practice," said Philipps, a printmaking and drawing major.

Philipps said she has found the art school's career center to be extremely helpful and believes she now possesses all the tools she needs to find a job on her own.

"[The economy is] making me more aware of the entrepreneurial spirit that I sort of eventually want to be part of, and just a little bit more of coming up with creative ideas to make money and be able to do what I want to do," Philipps said.

HeeEun Kang, a chemistry and anthropology double major, is not sure where she will be in the fall, but is certain she wants to attend medical school eventually—either in Korea, Canada or New York.

"I'm still waiting to hear from med schools that I applied to. I'll probably go back to Korea and maybe go to Canada, where I'm a permanent resident of," Kang said.

Kang will look for temporary work, in case she does not get into medical school by fall.

"Even if I don't make it this year, I'm sure I'll be able to depend on [useful advice from premed courses at the University] next year when I reapply," she said.

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Student Technology Services

STS congratulates our senior class of 2009!

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Each of these Student Techs was instrumental in providing a variety of technological support for the residential student population at Washington University in St. Louis. STS knows they are prepared for their future endeavors, and we send them off with fond memories and our best wishes. Good luck to you all!

This year in speakers: From politics to comedy

Kat Zhao
Senior News Editor

Washington University hosted an ambitious lineup of speakers this past year, featuring a diverse set of topics ranging from politics to pomography to comedy.

The fall semester kicked off early with a night of comedy with B.J. Novak during orientation week. Novak, stand-up comedian and screenwriter best known for his role as Ryan Howard on the NBC show "The Office," spoke to an overflowing crowd of students in the Athletic Complex. Novak's visit was sponsored by the Campus Programming Council.

The month and a half of the semester that followed was swept away by national politics as the University prepared to host the 2008 vice presidential debate on Oct. 2, 2008, between Gov. Sarah Palin, R-Alaska, and then-Sen. Joe Biden, D-Del., moderated by PBS newscaster Gwen Ifill. While Palin and Biden do not fall into the typical category of speakers at the University, their exchanges on the podium became

the second most-watched debate in the history of the United States, drawing close to 70 million viewers. This number does not include the number of people who went on to watch a parody of the debate on "Saturday Night Live" featuring Tina Fey as Palin.

On the eve of Election Day, the College Republicans hosted Karl Rove, campaign consultant for numerous Republican candidates, including George W. Bush's 2000 and 2004 presidential campaigns, and Bush's deputy chief of staff until his resignation in August 2007. Students, faculty and staff filled Graham Chapel that evening to listen to the man whom many consider a mastermind of media and political manipulation. In the end, the speech cost \$35,000. Despite his controversial status, Rove drew a large audience whom he quickly engaged with his speech.

Following in the line of controversial political speakers, the Conservative Leadership Association (CLA) invited conservative columnist and activist Daniel Pipes to campus in late October for Islamo-Fascism Awareness Week as part of its efforts to raise awareness about the problems extremist religious

groups pose to the global community. Pipes addressed an audience of 50 people in Laboratory Sciences on the subject of radical Islam and its impact on Western democracy. Meanwhile, a crowd of members from various campus student groups participated in a vigil-style protest against Pipes' speech and message.

February's Sex Week, hosted by the Student Health Advisory Committee, ushered in a different tone with the Great Porn Debate between adult film star Ron Jeremy and anti-porn pastor Craig Gross. Jeremy argued in defense of the multibillion-dollar pornography industry, while Gross criticized it for its desensitization of real-life sexual relationships and its exploitation of women and youths. Jeremy and Gross—both adept speakers with their own distinct appeal—informed and entertained the audience with their well-rehearsed arguments and friendly jabs at one another.

The CLA hosted a controversial speaker yet again in late March with the visit of Robert Spencer, author of numerous works concerning the alleged dangers of Islam. Spencer addressed a

small crowd in Laboratory Sciences on what he calls "stealth jihad," the theory that a group of many combined smaller Muslim groups is attempting to take over Western society and force Islamic rule upon it. Originally scheduled to be held in Graham Chapel, Spencer's speech was moved to Laboratory Sciences due to threats made by a St. Louis Muslim group.

April began in a "super-sized" way with Morgan Spurlock, a filmmaker and television producer most known for his documentary "Super Size Me," in which Spurlock subjected himself to a monthlong "burger-fueled bulk up" of McDonald's meals to see how it would affect his health. A packed house of students, faculty and staff in Graham Chapel listened and laughed while Spurlock shared his insight and humor as he accounted his experiences in making "Super Size Me" and other films. Spurlock's visit was part of the Assembly Series, organized by the Congress of the South 40.

The month of April continued with the lecture given by Michael Oren, a Middle East scholar who addressed the threats to Israel's existence in front of students and others from the local community in the 560 Building. Oren's speech focused on the many problems facing Israel, such as terrorism, the nation's military arsenal, its changing demographics and threats from Iran. The event was co-sponsored by several student and community groups, including the Jewish Student Union, the College Democrats and the College Republicans.

Oren's visit was soon followed by a night of wit and humor with the editors of The Onion, Chad Nackers and John Harris. Hosted by WUnderground and University Libraries, the editors' presentation consisted of images and clips from the "fake news" newspaper, famous for its satirical spin on international, national and local news.

As part of the ongoing efforts of the Students for a Peaceful Palestinian-Israeli Future to raise awareness surrounding Palestinian and Israeli issues, activist and author Anna Baltzer came to campus to speak on current conditions in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip from her experience in the area. Baltzer addressed a crowd of 80 people from both the University and local community in Laboratory Sciences.

This exceptional year in the University's history will close with the 2009 Commencement keynote speaker, Wendy Kopp, founder and chief executive officer of Teach For America, on May 15. At 41, Kopp is the youngest Commencement keynote speaker on record.

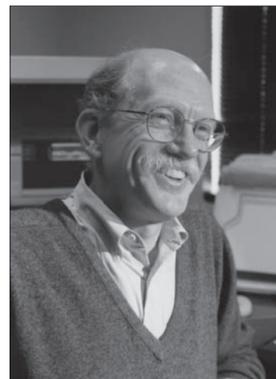
Four to receive honorary degrees at Commencement

Kat Zhao
Senior News Editor

Washington University will award four honorary degrees at the 148th Commencement on May 15, one of which will go to keynote speaker Wendy Kopp.



Wendy Kopp



Robert H. Waterson

Kopp, founder and chief executive director of Teach For America, will receive an honorary Doctor of Humanities degree. U.S. News & World Report recognized Kopp as one of America's best leaders in 2006. Time Magazine named her as one of the world's 100 most influential leaders in 2008.

Waterson, the William H. Gates III Endowed Chair in Biomedical Sciences and chairman of the Department of Genome Sciences at the University of Washington in Seattle, will receive a Doctor of Science degree. Waterson along with a fellow researcher decoded the genetic sequence of the *C. elegans*, marking the first time scientists sequenced the DNA of a multi-cellular organism and laying the path for the Human Genome Project.



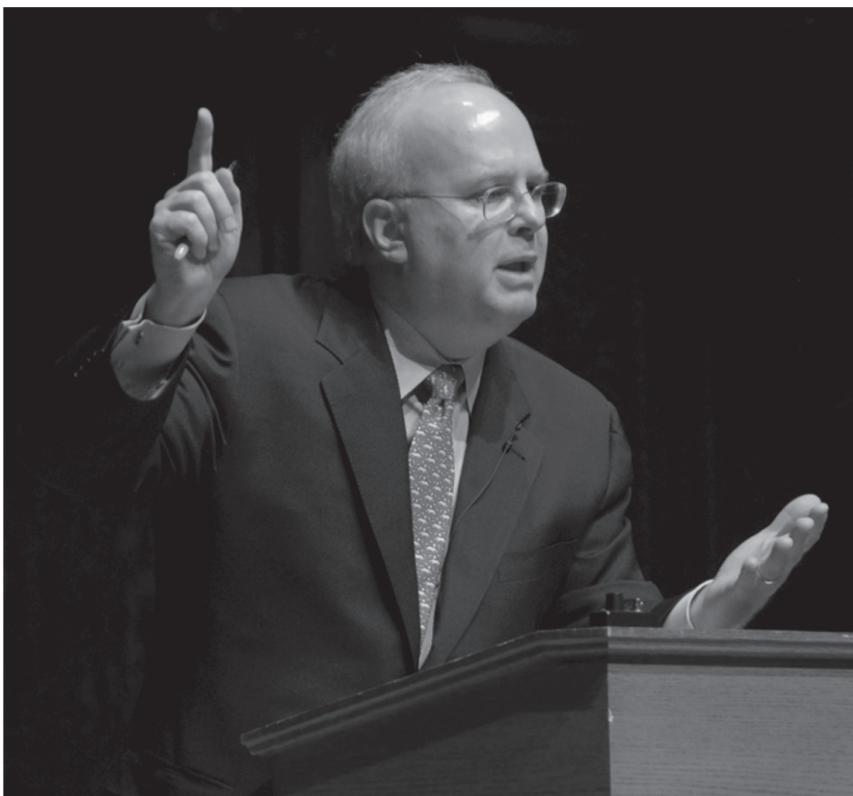
Robert L. Virgil



Patty Jo Watson

Virgil, dean emeritus of the Olin Business School and professor emeritus of accounting as well as emeritus University trustee, will receive an honorary Doctor of Laws degree. During his tenure as dean, the business school's endowment grew from \$200,000 to \$75 million and Simon Hall was constructed. Students elected Virgil as "Teacher of the Year" nine times while he was a professor.

Watson, the Edward Mallinckrodt Distinguished University Professor of Anthropology Emerita in the College of Arts & Sciences, will receive a Doctorate of Humane Letters. Watson has led an outstanding 55-year career and is considered a foremost expert on cave archaeology and a pioneer in the study of agricultural origins and ethnoarchaeology.



Karl Rove speaks in Graham Chapel on Nov. 3, 2008, on the eve of the 2008 election.

MATT LANTER | STUDENT LIFE

Congratulations

Class of 2009

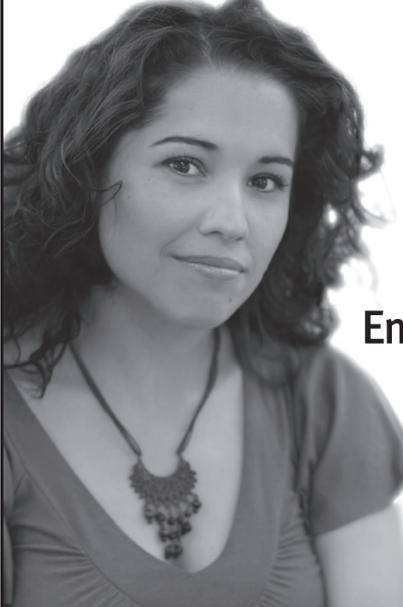


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FORUM

To all 2009 graduates: Congratulations!



Mark S. Wrighton
Chancellor

Commencement at Washington University is a day that all of us anticipate with great enthusiasm every year. It is a time for us to join together with family, friends, faculty and staff to celebrate the tremendous accomplishments of you, our students. Washington University is a great university because of the many talented students who choose to pursue their education here, and, as chancellor, I wish to extend my

most heartfelt congratulations to all of you on reaching this important milestone in your lives.

I am inspired by the many accomplishments of the Class of 2009. Not only have you excelled academically, but you have also been contributors to the advance of the University and the St. Louis community through your public service and many special activities. Some among you have provided medical care for sick people. Others have tutored children in the local public schools. Hundreds of student organizations have benefited from your leadership. You welcomed the nation to our campus last fall for the vice presidential debate. You have served as "ambassadors" for Washington University in countries throughout the world and throughout the United States. Our student athletes have distinguished themselves and the University on the playing field. You have shared your many talents with us, and we are a much stronger community because of the diversity of people and experiences of the Class of 2009.

Commencement is a time of celebration and renewal for

Washington University. While it is always somewhat sad to part ways with our newest alumni, we know that as graduates of Washington University, you will forever be a part of our family. You are joining the ranks of tens of thousands of proud Washington University alumni—teachers, physicians, lawyers, social workers, architects, business leaders, engineers, artists and scientists. You will be missed, but please know that your Washington University education will always be a source of pride for you as you pursue your dreams and aspirations. As new graduates you have the potential to make the world a better place, and we are proud to be associated with you.

The Class of 2009 will enter a world filled with unprecedented challenges. Our economy is diminished. Millions of our citizens lack affordable healthcare. Our most precious resource—the environment—will suffer potentially devastating consequences unless we can determine less harmful solutions for our energy needs. While the problems may seem insurmountable, there is hope for the era

that lies ahead. That hope is you. You, the Class of 2009, have been well prepared by your Washington University education not to see a world that is broken, but to see a world that can be fixed and made stronger. You have been taught by outstanding faculty and have been surrounded by the brightest people in America. I am proud of each and every one of you, confident in your abilities to make a difference in our world and excited to learn what you will do to create a brighter future.

You, too, should feel proud of what you have accomplished here, but realize that the greatest rewards of your Washington University education lie before you. I hope that each of you, in your own unique way, can follow your passion and make a positive difference in the lives of those around you. On behalf of all of my colleagues at Washington University, congratulations and best wishes for many future successes!

Sincerely,
Mark S. Wrighton
Chancellor

World problems make graduation time for realism



Jill Strominger
Former Senior Forum Editor

Graduation, of course, is a brief moment to step back and reflect on our individual and collective achievements. It is a moment to be proud of our accomplishments and revel at how much we've grown throughout the past four years. It is also a time to be deeply thankful that in a world where one in five people don't have access to enough food to meet their bodily requirements, we had the luxury to spend four years thinking about ideas. But for the Class

of 2009, graduation can only be a short reflective breath, because most importantly it's the time to become serious and realistic about the world we will enter shortly after we throw our hats and have celebration dinners with our families.

As many of us have already discovered, the American economy is not the economy we would have hoped to enter. What this means for us specifically is that there are fewer jobs, fewer spaces in graduate school and less support available as we start to make our way outside of Washington University. The rest of the U.S. population is feeling the same pressures, if not more intensely, and for the first time more than 6 million Americans are receiving unemployment benefits from the government. This is the state of the world we will enter and the state of the world we must work to improve. Even while we ourselves are struggling to start earning income, we must remain mentally alert and engaged in finding solutions for the problems our country is facing. We must always be on the lookout for innovative ways to use the skills we have developed in

See **STROMINGER**, page 9

YOUR VOICE: LETTERS AND GUEST COLUMNS

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

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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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This is not a romance column



Ben Sales
Former Senior News Editor

The worst social faux pas among the many I committed during my four years here came when I wrote a romance column for *Student Life* about a date I went on, a detailed play-by-play that earned me inestimable amounts of awkwardness, loads of mockery and an honorable mention in the category of "Regular Column" from the Missouri College Media Association.

I wouldn't do it again, but I don't want to forget about that column either. To be honest, I couldn't if I wanted to: My friends remind me of it on a regular basis, and I haven't been to Bread Co. since.

But the memory of that experience helps me too. I have a tendency to put on rose-colored glasses when I look at my past, to block out the negative parts and romanticize the places I've been to and times I've been through.

That column helps me avoid the romance. It reminds me of the reality of college life: that we all have our tactless, embarrassing moments. We've all failed at something, some of us multiple times, and being Wash. U. students, we've all had our share of overwhelming awkwardness.

And we've all succeeded. We've aced our classes, run great programs, had fun times on the 40 or Blue Hill and built strong circles of friends. Those are memories we'll keep with us for a while, I hope, and they could be strong enough to overwhelm remembrances of bad experiences, to create a picture of college 10 years down the line that's

made up entirely of the good parts and none of the stumbling blocks along the way.

Don't forget the awkwardness. Don't forget when you failed, when you made the wrong decisions or when 10 people showed up to a party where you had a fridge full of 120 beers. Don't forget that your life, however wonderful and positive it may be, is still real. The romance of your four years at college means nothing without the learning experiences that taught you what to do right.

The beauty of college is its potential for trial and error. This may be the last place in your life where you can fail at something huge and walk away with no consequences. You can run a program where the guest speakers put the crowd to sleep and the mikes don't work and SU will still give you funding next time. If you have 100 beers left after that dud of a party, the Natty Light will stay for your next mixer in a month. When you get a 40 on a test, you'll bounce back on the final. And if you screw up a date with a girl you like, trust me, more dates will come.

All of us have been through some of that, and some part of all of us wants to block out the failures. It feels terrible, I know, to lose out on something you want, be it social, extracurricular or academic, but don't let the memory of that feeling go.

Safeguard the worst moments of your years at Wash. U. along with the best. Remember that you were a teenager, a 20-something, a student and a stupid kid trying to figure yourself out. Remember that this was the time to gain friends and lose some, to get A's and C's, to stumble once so that you don't stumble the next time. Your memory will feel more complete if you don't romanticize it.

And, of course, sometimes the good comes with the bad. In my case, for example, a botched date turned into a journalistic award. I can't help but see some romance in that.

Ben can be reached at benjaminsales@gmail.com.

Write, don't type, your goodbyes



Indu Chandrasekhar
Former Associate Editor

I'm a huge fan of writing letters. Not quick notes on Facebook, not mass e-mails, not Twitters of less than 140 characters. I get real enjoyment out of picking up a pen and some paper, writing down my thoughts and sending them out into the oblivion. Thanks to the post office, those thoughts usually arrive in the mailboxes of my friends and sisters. I like all media: postcards,

notebook paper, greeting cards without the greetings. As long as it gets to the addressee, I could be writing on a brown paper bag.

Why do I do this? What you should really be asking is, why don't you do this? You will inevitably find that in certain situations or moments, you simply can't discuss your thoughts and feelings out loud. Or perhaps you've beaten the discussion to death, but haven't reached a conclusion. However, you feel you still need some kind of catharsis. If you write in a journal, this would be an appropriate time to sit down with a blank page. But if you balk at journals (as I suspect most of you do), there is a great solution: Write a letter.

The simple act of scribbling down your thoughts is itself cathartic. What's more, letters are one-sided. You dominate the conversation, you spill your thoughts and frustrations without interruption—and, if writing it was just an exercise, you can end the conversation yourself by sticking your letter in the recycling bin. But suppose you do feel like sending off your thoughts to someone who would

care. Perhaps you want their opinion; maybe you want to show them your thought process. In my tenure as a letter writer, I have not once disappointed someone by sending them a letter, no matter how angry or irreverent the content.

Every now and then I think of what our descendants will discover about our lives. At their disposal are records our grandparents (all of whom wrote letters, and probably still do) never dreamed of—an online treasure trove of random mentions of your name on the Internet, millions of e-mails, your shopping history, blogs, online photo albums—the list goes on. And then there is your song library, your frequently visited Web sites, the files on your desktop. All of these random things can, when pieced together, tell a story.

I'm willing to bet, however, that not only is piecing all of that information together an excruciatingly boring task equivalent to a life sentence in prison, but also that the picture that results is likely to look nothing like you. That's because as we continue to hone our public im-

ages (which the Internet allows us to have), we push back the contents of letters until they're all but forgotten. With companies prescreening you on Facebook and Google chat slowly replacing the need for long e-mails to friends and family, the way we communicate is increasingly impersonal, self-conscious and obscured. And yes, you can anonymously vent your rage in the comments section of *studlife.com* articles, but therein lies the point: You, the distinct person, aren't saying anything.

But instead of fixating on society's imminent downfall due to social networking technology, I'll return to my original point: that writing letters is an absolute win-win. So when you finally uproot yourself after graduation and resettle in strange, new lands, definitely update your Facebook status—but then send a few letters to your friends about what it's really like. You'll find they understand you a lot more, even from a distance.

Indu can be reached at ichandra@arts.wustl.edu.

My life would suck without Wash. U.



Willie Mendelson
Former Staff Manager and Copy Chief

I decided to come out of the closet three Aprils ago. During my freshman year, I was horribly closeted and I said to myself, "This isn't me. If I can't be honest to myself, then whom can I be honest

to?"

In my writing I strive to be honest with myself. I see integrity as the most important quality a writer should have.

At the end of freshman year, the first friend I came out to wrote me a letter. In it, she wrote two things that resonate with me daily:

If everything isn't working out, it's not the end.

And, what you learn about yourself outside the classroom is far more important than anything a textbook can teach you.

Each day, Wash. U. amazes me. I have seen how an entire community can come together and unite after a tragedy. I have seen how an entire community can celebrate together after a celebration.

Each day, I am amazed by the random acts of kindness I see around campus. I am amazed by what some may call the weirdness of students here, yet what I like to see as true

uniqueness. People here constantly surprise me. You'd be surprised to find that the girl with the North Face, Uggs and overdone makeup is actually completely brilliant and the quirkiest girl you know. Or that the indie, emo-goth chick you know actually loves the Spice Girls, openly and proudly. Each student here is so uniquely intelligent in his or her own way, and I am so grateful to have met such a diverse, interesting group of people in these past four years.

I've also reflected on how I've grown throughout college. Do I feel smarter? Perhaps. After all, I'm an English major. How much can that actually teach me? Yet it's what I've done outside class, the people I've surrounded myself with, who have taught me so much about myself, that has helped me grow into an adult.

I've experienced love and heartbreak, met some best friends for life, studied abroad in London, joined and deacti-

vated a fraternity, written for *Student Life* for four years on everything from masturbation to love, and spilled coffee on myself in Whispers way too many times. I cannot express how much I'm going to miss the quirkiness and wonders of Wash U.

To the freshmen: Your energy and excitement compel me to appreciate all that this school has to offer. Do everything you can these next three years: Step outside your comfort zones, join a new club or sport, talk to someone you've always wanted to talk to but for some reason or another haven't.

To the sophomores: You are halfway done with college! And it only continues to fly by. To those of you going abroad: Appreciate every single day there. Sure, it'll be scary at first. Terrifying, actually. But it's the best experience you will ever have. To

See MENDELSON, page 9

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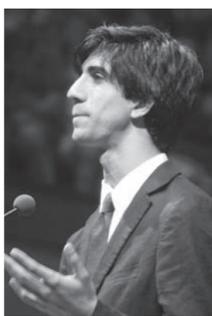
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An open letter to the Class of 2009



Sathya Sridharan
2009 Graduate

Dear Washington University, I have scaled Graham Chapel to have the best vantage point, and from here, I take it all in. It is just after 12 p.m. on a bright blue Wednesday morning and the last echoes of the chapel bell hang slightly in the air as a reminder that time is passing. The sound at last reaches the Quad, where Brookings catches it and subdues the ringing. Time is passing and it gradually comes to my attention that, here I am, atop Graham Chapel, with the business of the University

tucked away in backpacks and business suits and the statue of George Washington crowded by tulips and groups of friends, all this will soon be over. Meaning, our four-year love affair with the academy is over, and the world, with its jagged edges, is beckoning us to return home. Frankly, I don't want to. I've become so enamored with this place, its people, the way the shadows of the oak trees cast lines down main campus just wide enough for a dozing student to catch a break from the sun. The way the sun sets behind Seigle Hall and the last light of the day catches the glass of the first floor of the library and splashes golden across shelves of books and the desks littered with the furiously typing. It is impossible to see what my life looks like in June.

From my view here, I ponder what's next. The unknown looms further out than the edges of campus, further than Barnes-Jewish Hospital and the flickering lights of the quiet city. Further than all this, the unknowable future smiles and urges me to follow, and yet I still feel woefully unprepared. I'm not certain what I really want from the world. I am reminded of the feeling of walking into a bookstore and seeing the numbers of books I have yet to read and knowing

full well I may never get to. That's what the world looks like to me. Rows upon rows of books that fade into the infinite distance. There is too much to know, to see, to experience. And this reminds me of the person I was four years ago: unsure and worried about what was to come. I catch glimpses of him running from class to class, catching a nap on the third floor of Olin, eating a pizza by himself in Mallinckrodt. Graduation seemed a lifetime away.

A lifetime has passed and now I reflect on my journey. I can see that in my four years, the University has taught me to be rather than become. To take a dangerous plummet in order to unearth the great mystery of self which awaits me somewhere in my core. (Take that, Brendan Fraser.) These four years have allowed me glimpses, vague splotches of a portrait that will one day exceed the Mona Lisa in its enigmatic beauty.

Dear Washington University, The time is now and the moment is ripe. The uncertainty I feel in this moment I accept, and I believe that whatever happens, happens.

We feel the earth shifting, waiting for our feet to steady it as we disperse ourselves into the world. We reject the notion that changing the world is

idealistic. We reject the notion that one person and their passion cannot cause revolutions. We reject the insinuation that traveling the globe, creating blazing works of art, teaching for America or tending to the earth and her people is merely a "nice way to pass the time," but rather, a necessary endeavor that will last eons for those affected.

We embrace the unknown and find ourselves walking boldly, bravely and honestly into the shimmering light of the new day. We are unafraid of the light, for it will guide us to Truth. We will rage, rage, even after the sun has set over Francis Field House, because from where we are, the sun has only begun to rise. And we embrace the darkness and revere its quietness and its integrity in all things, never forgetting that in stillness and silence, we shall see beyond.

Dear Washington University, Though we say goodbye, it is with the hope that the good we do, whatever it may be, will echo gently in the air of this campus for lifetimes longer, never ceasing to inspire the coming ages.

Give my regards to J.G. Hoyt.

Sathya can be reached at sssridha@artsci.wustl.edu.

STROMINGER from page 7

college to help people, whether it is by making businesses more efficient and more profitable or by setting up social programs to offer support to those who cannot support themselves.

At this time, we must focus not on ourselves or on our own futures, but on what we will do to make the American situation better. If we do not work to find economic solutions, to combat injustice and to improve environmental protection, who will? And if we start our paths to the future solely with the narrow concerns of making an income, when will they shift? Although we still know relatively little about the world, we have the tools to analyze situations and ideas, the framework to determine their impacts and enough understanding to know that we must evaluate them critically. These foundational skills are enough to begin to research political or business policy and form opinions about the best practices and approaches to different hurdles in respective fields. We are not too young—it is not too early on—to use the critical thinking we have learned to start working on overcoming the

challenges that we will face along with the rest of society. And if we do not begin to tackle these problems, when our generation takes over from our parents', we will not have answers or ideas we need to progress.

We graduate at a time when many types of improvements are critical. We also graduate at a time when it is easy to feel overwhelmed by the problems we inherit from previous generations, from the instability of the society we will enter. But if we have learned one thing from college, it is that when we sit down and force ourselves to spend time really thinking, we can grasp concepts that we thought were beyond us and solve problems that we thought were impossible. The complex and entrenched problems we will face are different from textbook problems in that they affect real people, but these problems are not unsolvable, and it is our obligation to give them our best shots. Good luck!

Jill can be reached at jlstromi@artsci.wustl.edu.

MENDELSON from page 8

those staying at good ol' Wash. U., surround yourself with students you haven't gotten to know yet. As you now have declared your major, try to make new friends in your respective courses, because chances are you'll be seeing a lot of the same students in many classes you'll take from now on. Live it up!

To the juniors: One more year! Senior year is a whirlwind, and perhaps the most fun one at school. This is your last chance to talk to that hot guy or girl, go out on weeknights, and enjoy the new Companion bagels—make the most of that because, in my opinion, they are damn good.

And to my fellow seniors: It's

been a crazy four years. I've truly enjoyed getting to know the members of the Class of 2009. Even though this economy sucks, remember that we are graduating from one of the most incredible, highly regarded schools in the country. I'm pretty sure that counts for something. So relax, and remember that everything works out in the end. After all, it's OK if we don't have jobs yet. We're 22! Let's celebrate our accomplishments and take pride in our time here.

Mendelson...OUT!

Willie can be reached at wlmendelson@gmail.com.

It is with this hope that I return home, in the hopes of building a better society through the positive experiences here. Indeed, I am probably becoming rather Westernized in my thoughts and understanding, yet I am fully able to embrace Chinese culture in all its good aspects. Like a bridge between two societies, it is my hope to do something good in this life before my time is out, given that life is so short—just see how quickly our four years went by. In closing, I guess I don't know what else

to say except, thank you very much to all of you Americans who have made my time in college an absolutely positive experience. It is my only hope that someday you will come visit me in Singapore, and I might be able to just begin to repay this kindness that you have shown unto me during this brief history of time.

Alwyn can be reached at alwyn.loh2@gmail.com.

A simple life—transformed



Alwyn Loh
2009 Graduate

It is indeed very difficult to express four years' worth of reflection into a small paragraph. Words fail to condense the life-changing experiences and times that I have benefited from in my time in college. I distinctly remember my deep

reluctance to attend college literally halfway around the world. Too far. Too scary. Too many changes to tackle and embrace. A different society, culture, education system, food, a change of friends, scenery and informal norms. In retrospect, the good and bad times of the past four years have been immensely valuable to building me up as a person after all.

While I ponder how useful a Bachelor of Arts really is in this sinking ship of a global economy, the experiences here have indeed been unique, and have been nothing that I could have ever contemplated, envisioned or expected when admissions granted me the early-decision thumbs-up. Heck, I couldn't even find St. Louis on a map of the United States back then. I am overwhelmed by my time here, and am so deeply thankful to every single one of you who has helped me to become a much better person. Truly, it is a wonderful feeling to be accepted just as you are, to be affirmed for who you are

and to partake in the fruits of freedom and liberty this country has to offer. In these thousand days of college, I have experienced the greatest elations of joy and the deepest depths of sorrow, the bitterness of people moving on, the sourness of poor decisions.

And even as I write this now, the mental regrets are starting to pile up, one by one. I wish I had partied and danced more, invested much more deeply in good friendships and studied for two degrees instead of just one. But I guess we can't have everything we desire in one lifetime. This has, perhaps, been the most challenging time of my life. Just as iron sharpens iron, I find that my intellect, beliefs, thoughts, spirituality and artistic vision have been sharpened and refined in the common pursuit of knowledge and understanding here. I have had my horizons vastly expanded, and have questioned the very nature of my being, existence, culture and upbringing in the interactions with many of you. I have had my

mind blown, been inspired and held in amazement to the things that some of you have done before and during your time in college. Your unselfishness is daunting and achievements intimidating at times.

The kindness experienced here has been second to none in this life. I received more hugs from friends in the first two months of college life than in my previous 20 years of existence. If anything, college has taught me that there is a clear and distinct difference between merely existing and really, truly, living a life. Thank you for showing me that passion and compassion can go together, and that the combination of faith and practicality is not an oxymoron. My mind, heart, body, spirit and soul have been molded into something different. Now, I feel as though I am better able to relate to both East and West and hope to bring out the best in myself and others by simultaneously exerting the optimal in both cultures.

Children's Studies Minor

This minor offers an interdisciplinary understanding of childhood, you will learn about children and childhood while drawing on the expertise of the departments of Education, Psychology, English, History and the programs in African & African American Studies & American Culture Studies

How do children learn language?

How did Disney become such a force in the lives of children?

What can a child's mind do at the age of four?

Can children recover from being made soldiers who kill and torture in war?

Why does everyone think that L. Frank Baum's children's novel The Wizard of Oz is about the 1896 presidential election?



Enroll in the introductory course, **Introduction to Children's Studies** offered in the fall (2009) to get answers to the questions listed above.

For more information on the minor and how to fulfill it, please come to the Center for the Humanities, S101 Old McMillan Hall for a brochure and to speak with Jennifer Valier Drury or Jian Leng.

Students who minor in Children's Studies will receive special invitations to symposia, lectures, and other events related to the minor sponsored by the Center for the Humanities.



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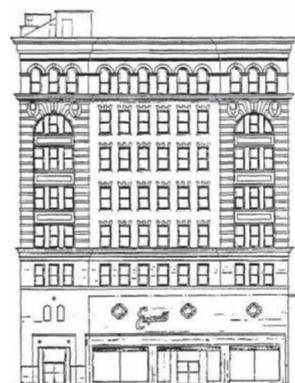
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CADENZA

memorable commencement speeches

“The best advice I can give anybody about going out into the world is this: Don’t do it. I have been out there. It is a mess.”

—Russell Baker, Connecticut College

We at Cadenza realized that we are probably in no place to be giving advice to you, graduating seniors. Thus, we have decided to compile some quotes from those who are slightly more qualified.

“I left the cocoon of Harvard, I left the cocoon of ‘Saturday Night Live,’ I left the cocoon of ‘The Simpsons.’ And each time it was bruising and tumultuous. And yet every failure was freeing, and today I’m as nostalgic for the bad as I am for the good. So that’s what I wish for all of you—the bad as well as the good. Fall down. Make a mess. Break something occasionally. Know that your mistakes are your own unique way of getting to where you need to be. And remember that the story is never over.

If you’ll indulge me for just a sec-

ond, I’d like to read a little something from just this year. “Somehow, Conan O’Brien has transformed himself into the brightest star in the late-night firmament. His comedy is the gold standard, and Conan himself is not only the quickest and most inventive wit of his generation, but quite possibly the greatest host ever.”

Ladies and gentlemen, Class of 2009, I wrote that this morning. As proof that when all else fails, you always have delusion. I will go now, to make bigger mistakes and to embarrass this fine institution even more. But let me leave you with one last thought. If you can laugh at yourself, loud and hard, every time you fall, people will think you’re drunk. Thank you.”

—Conan O’Brien, Harvard 2000

“So how do you know what is the right path to choose to get the result that you desire? And the honest answer is this: You won’t. And accepting that greatly eases the anxiety of your life experience.

I was not exceptional here, and am not now. I was mediocre here. And I’m not saying aim low. Not everybody can wander around in an alcoholic haze and then at 40 just, you know, decide to be president.”

—Jon Stewart, William & Mary

“There are so many challenges facing this next generation, and as they said earlier, you are up for these challenges. And I agree, except that I don’t think you are. I don’t know if you’re tough enough to handle this. You are the most coddled generation in history. I belong to the last generation that did not have to be in a car seat. You had to be in car seats. I did not have to wear a helmet when I rode my bike. You do. You have to wear helmets when you go swimming, right? In case you bump your head against the side of the pool. Oh, by the way, I should have said, my speech today may contain some peanut products.”

—Stephen Colbert, Knox College



top 10

overplayed graduation songs

Cici Coquillette, Music Editor

10. Pomp & Circumstance

There’s something to be said for literalism. Everyone’s favorite march is about to be trotted out once again. Both pompous and circumstantial, the only thing worse than hearing it a kajillion times is playing it.

9. Foo Fighters: Times Like These

One of the more palatable overplayed graduation songs. There’s something strangely comforting about Dave Grohl’s vocals, and between the album and acoustic versions, you’ve got enough material to last through high school and college! (Grad school is another story.)

8. Oasis: Wonderwall

This song isn’t actually about graduating—in fact, I don’t know exactly what it’s about—but somehow it winds up on every playlist and in every photo montage. After all, you will be my wonderwall, won’t you?

7. Third Eye Blind: Graduate

Stephan Jenkins’ fervent cry of “Can I graduate?” is sure to resonate with those who, in fact, can.

6. Matchbox Twenty: How Far We’ve Come

Go ahead, Class of 2009, look back with pride. Bask in your accomplishments over a sweet drum-and-acoustic-guitar backbeat. While “I believe the world is coming to an end” isn’t necessarily a positive message, at least you graduated before the apocalypse.

5. Natasha Bedingfield: Unwritten

Bless you, Natasha, for reminding us of the limitless opportunities of the future. This might be the most upbeat song of all time, and I’ll be damned if it doesn’t make you hopeful.

4. Five for Fighting: 100 Years

Everyone’s favorite sappy recounting of times past, with a vaguely sinister undertone reminding us of our own mortality.

3. Semisonic: Closing Time

“Every new beginning comes from some other beginning’s end.” With that bit of pseudo-existentialism, Semisonic launches you on to the next phase of your lives. Fun fact: The drummer drums and plays the piano at the same time. Aspire to that same multitasking ability.

2. Green Day: Good Riddance

It never fails to amuse me that the quintessential graduation song was written as one last kiss-off to a bad relationship. Nevertheless, it still stands proudly in the pantheon of overplayed graduation songs.

1. Vitamin C: Graduation Song

Awkward confession time: I cry every time I hear this song. It’s the ultimate in clichéd graduation songs, but somehow it still affects each of us. Because as we go on, we remember all the times we had together. And as our lives change, come whatever, we will still be friends forever.

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Congratulations Class of 2009

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the faculty and staff of
the Olin Business School

“The faculty and staff are proud of you, and that pride will only grow as you now turn to the work of life. Now it is up to you to realize your limitless potential, and to fulfill our ambitious hopes for you.”

— Mahendra Gupta



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SCENE

R♥mance 101 Life and love after graduation

Sara Remedios
Scene Romance Columnist

Recognizing that a lot of people are going to be quoting a lot of Dr. Seuss at us this week, I still think he said it best when he said, "Sometimes the questions are hard and the answers are simple."

Question: How does a relationship survive the transition from college to the real world?

Answer: It just does.

We, as a class, are about to set off into the real world for the first time, and the simple fact of the matter is that our relationships either will or will not make it there with us. If they do, that's because they were meant to, because the two people involved fit together well and have lives that are working out in such a way that it makes sense to live them in tandem. If they don't, they don't, and

that's probably nobody's fault.

Right now, right at this moment, we have no way of knowing what's in store for us. We might know what jobs we're taking, what cities we're moving to, what medical schools or law schools or graduate schools have accepted us, but we have no idea what any of that really means. We don't know the people whom we're going to meet; we don't know the paths that we're going to take; we don't know what the experience of being fully fledged adults will actually be like.

So, how could any of us presume to know what's going to happen to our relationships?

I was asked to write this column offering words of wisdom on what happens to relationships once we graduate, and having spent much of the last semester thinking about that very issue, I think that the best advice I can

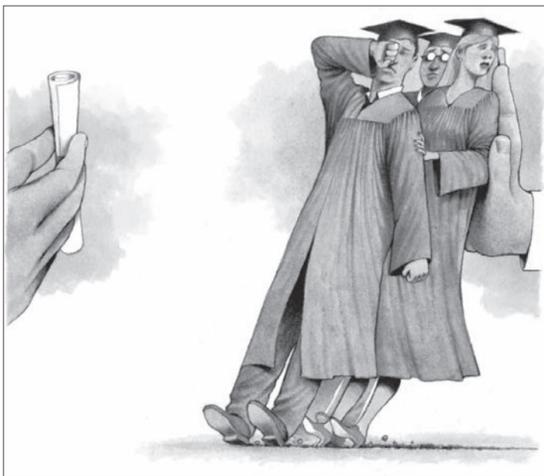
give is the most honest: We're just going to have to wait and see.

The thing is, as much as I could sit here and write about how wonderful relationships after graduation are going to be and how easy it will be for all of us to keep the romance blooming, I think part of what's going to help us all keep the romance growing and keep our relationships intact is a healthy dose of realism. If you go in thinking everything's coming up roses and you get handed a bunch of daffodils, it sucks. If, on the other hand, you weren't even banking on flowers, daffodils probably never looked so good.

If a relationship is going to work out, it's going to work out on its own. That doesn't mean that you don't have to put in any effort or that it's all going to be very easy, but at the end of the day, it's not worth worrying about what might happen six months down the line when being concerned won't and can't change anything. Seriously, what's the point?

If you want to stay together, stay together. Try. Return each other's phone calls, explore your new habitats together, keep one another included as your lives start to separate into separate non-college existences. If you're in the same place, hang out, have date nights. If you're doing the long-distance thing, make the effort to visit and make sure that you're clear on what each of you is expecting.

"You have brains in your head, you have feet in your shoes, you can steer yourself any direction you choose." Make your choice and go with the flow. Good luck, goodbye and happy dating!



MCT CAMPUS

10 things you must do before you graduate

1 Hang out on a roof

A few buildings (can't tell you which) have unlocked doors or other ways to get onto their roofs. If you don't know one, there's always the Crow Observatory. A roof is a great quiet spot to read, study, nap or spit from, and the vistas can be pretty fantastic.

2 Visit every library

For finals week, you may be spending a lot of time in Olin. But the East Asian Library is quiet, with gorgeous vaulted ceilings and windows. The Law Library is deceptively massive, with a gothic multistory reading room. And the Chemistry Library, while truly utilitarian, is a good place for solitude. For your last finals, try 'em all.

3 Get drunk on the Brewery Tour

Most of you are 21 by now, and have celebrated it every weekend since. But, remember back when you were a freshman, and Anheuser-Busch products were all you had access to? Get in touch with your inner freshman, and drink as much free beer as you can finagle on the Budweiser Brewery Tour.

4 Battle Belegarth

Our school has many interesting clubs and IM sports, but only one allows you to beat the stuffing out of someone with a padded wooden plank. Find the Medieval Combat Society at practice, choose your weapon and challenge someone to a duel.

5 Go to Uncle Bill's

Everyone knows IHOP. Uncle Bill's Pancake House on Kingshighway is a lot like IHOP, except the pancake flour is strangely addictive. The food is amazing any time of day, but somehow it's extra tasty in the wee hours of the morning—and Bill's is open 24/7.

6 Take a shower

When you first entered the Danforth University Center, did you feel like a freshman all over again? Were you perplexed when you saw the private showers next to the fun room? Did it strike you as unintentionally ironic? Well, the showers are actually quite nice, until you come out in a towel to a room full of strangers.

7 Have a clichéd hookup

There are almost 40,000 members in the Facebook group "I would totally have sex in the library." In addition to the B-stacks, other clichés include Francis Field, the softball dugouts, a music practice room and new cliché, the DUC showers. I can't actually encourage you to do this, but you must admit, the thought has crossed your mind.

8 Read in a tree

Libraries may be great places to study, but when you want to read just for fun, nothing beats a tree. With the ginkgo trees scattered around campus, you'll have no trouble finding a cozy notch between branches. Skeptical? Well, don't knock it till you try it.

9 Go bowling with Chancellor Wrighton

Do you remember freshman convocation, where the chancellor told everyone to check under their seats for an envelope? Do you remember the disappointment you felt when you did not have an invitation for pizza and bowling in your grasping hands? Well, it's now or never. Unless you become buddies with a future president of the United States, you'll likely never know anyone else with a bowling alley in his house. Just ask.

10 Go on one last drunk Bear's Den run

Just for old time's sake.

Compiled by Scott Fabricant

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LINDSAY CAVARRA



CHRIS HOELAND

The 2008-2009 school year has been another memorable year for Washington University athletics, with numerous University Athletic Association titles and the NCAA Division III men's basketball national championship. Men's swimming captured an individual national title as junior Alex Beyer captured the 400-yard IM crown. The women's basketball team took second after falling in its national championship game and men's tennis ended Emory University's 19-year streak of UAA titles. At publication time, Wash. U. is ranked fourth in the Director's Cup standings, which evaluates the performance of all Division III programs.

While most sports are team efforts, individuals play large roles. For all of the following individuals, this was their last year of competition with innumerable accomplishments and honors.

Lindsay Cavarra was named to the 2007 and 2009 UAA Softball All-Tournament Team. Cavarra was also a second team NFCA All-Midwest Region honoree. Kerry Kreitman was a 2008 First Team ESPN the Magazine Academic All-District VII honoree.

Danielle Wadlington was the 2005 UAA Indoor and Outdoor Rookie of the

Year and was part of the national runner-up 4x400 relay indoor and outdoor teams. Wadlington also holds numerous school records and UAA titles, taking second in the 2009 NCAA Indoor National Championships in the long jump.

Kevin Leckey earned 16 All-America citations in various swimming events. Leckey was part of the 2009 fourth-place 400-yard freestyle relay team and co-captained a squad that finished seventh nationally.

Alyssa Pagliere co-captained a women's swimming and diving squad that finished 14th this year.

Erin Swaller earned an individual national ranking in her junior year.

Alli Alberts and Nikki Morrison helped the Bears win the 2007 national championship and both the 2006 and 2008 UAA titles. Alberts and Morrison received All-American accolades in 2008. Alberts was the Most Outstanding Player of the 2007 National Tournament and has also received All-America honors in the outdoor heptathlon.

Amanda Boe, Shirey Lane and Caitlin Malone have won three straight UAA titles in a row. Individually, Boe was an Academic All-American. Malone and Lane were both captains this

year.

Halsey Ward was a member of two NCAA runner-up basketball teams and graduates fourth in school history in three-pointers made. Her teammate Jill Brandt also graduates seventh in three-pointers made.

Charlie Cutler, Nirmal Choradia and Chris Hoeland were key components of the 2008 national championship and the 2009 UAA men's tennis championship team. Cutler and Hoeland are both nationally ranked in doubles.

Team captains Tyler Nading and Sean Wallis garnered All-America honors and were key members of the 2008 and 2009 National Championship teams. The two have earned a host of individual accolades and captured two UAA titles. Wallis received a medical red-shirt in his junior year and will stay at the University for a fifth year and play next season.

Buck Smith has been the starting quarterback the past two years, leading the Bears to a 7-3 season in 2007.

In his freshman and sophomore years, Zander Lehmann's baseball squads have gone to NCAA regionals. Lehmann was a 2007 All-Region selection and is a captain this year.

What is your best memory of Wash. U. sports?

LC: When we won regionals in my sophomore year. It was the first time our school has ever been to the world series.

BS: Junior year when we went to No. 14-ranked North Central and upset them in the last minute of the game.

AA: Most definitely winning the national championship. One of the biggest pulls of joining the Wash. U. volleyball team was the chance to win a national championship, and there is truly no other feeling like it.

ES: Playing matches next to the frat with their music blaring and knowing I need to concentrate but really wanting to dance on court.

SL: I play defense, and up until my senior season I had only one career goal. I was determined to score a goal this year; it was one of my personal goals for the season. For our second week-end of games, we went to Los Angeles, which was an amazingly fun trip in and of itself! The weekend was even better when I scored my second career goal against The Redlands. We were losing 2-0 at half time. Caryn (Rosoff) scored

our first goal, six minutes into the second half, and I tied the game within the next minute. Lauren (Mehner) went on to score two additional goals and we ended up winning 4-2. It was a whirlwind game and a great come-from-behind win for our team!

CH: Winning the 2008 national championship was definitely one of the greatest moments of my four years as a Wash. U. athlete and one of the greatest moments of my life, really. Putting in the hard work day in and day out was tough, but for the season to end with a championship made every second of pain worth it.

HW: Realizing that we were going to the Final Four. The adrenaline rush is insane.

JB: Off the court, the party we had at our hotel after we lost in the national championship will be a night I will never forget. Friends, family, teammates and coaches celebrating our season by laughing and dancing until 3 in the morning. The George Fox team was in the lobby playing ping pong. We were having the time of our lives.

What has been your greatest athletic accomplishment?

KL: Senior year, coming back from not being in the top 10 nationally for the past two years and being part of the team that came back and came in seventh was really really great.

ES: It's a tie between earning an individual national ranking my junior year and beating No. 1 Williams in the number-one doubles spot down in Atlanta. It always means more when you can share the experience with a teammate.

SL: This past season was our coach's rookie year coaching here at Wash. U. We knew going into this season that we had the necessary talent for a successful team, but we were uncertain as to how we would mesh with our new coach. My senior season could have easily been a transition year for our team; yet, somehow, our team and coaches pulled together and found a way to make this season just as successful as our previous two. We made it to the Sweet 16 for the third year in a row, and I could not be more proud of the way everyone involved handled this transition.

How have you changed as a

See SENIORS, page 13



CHARLIE CUTLER



CAITLIN MALONE



ALLI ALBERTS



JILL BRANDT



KERRY KREITMAN



KEVIN LECKEY



ZANDER LEHMANN



NIKKI MORRISON



ERIN SWALLER

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2009
Much Success & Happiness!

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Congratulations
and Best Wishes!

to the graduates
of the class of 2009



from the College of

ARTS & SCIENCES

SENIORS from page 12

player?

LC: I've definitely grown more confident and been more authoritative.

KL: I learned a lot about myself at Wash. U. I learned a lot about what motivates me. I learned about goal setting and about functioning as part of a team. The biggest thing would be motivation. I really understand what makes me tick now. It's a really deep sense of devotion to my team and my teammates.

SL: I think the most important and drastic change I went through over my four years at Wash. U. was the development of my confidence, both as a player and as a leader. I came in timid and shy, like most freshmen do, but I quickly learned that confidence on the field translates to much more effective play. Developing my confidence took some time, but doing so helped me to become a much more [effective] player and leader for my teammates.

NM: I've become more knowledgeable about the game and developed a deeper appreciation for what coaches do for their teams.

AP: I came into college swimming placing a lot of pressure on my personal performance. I learned that no one person is greater than the team, but that every individual matters. Once I changed my outlook about personal performances, I changed everything about the way I train and how I motivate others.

What has being part of a varsity team meant to you?

KK: The fact that I got to spend four years with such hard-working, dedicated, hilarious, spectacular, etc. teammates means more to me than anything else.

DW: It's not just a sport. It's a way of life. It makes it very easy to get through hard times at Wash. U., having that outlet.

KL: From the get-go, you come in as a freshman and instantly have a close group of friends. You have 40 friends and you spend five hours of the day together every single day. Once you get through that, you're just so close to everyone.

ZL: It's given me a lot of opportunities to meet new people. It's taught me a lot about time management, running a team, having a purpose in things, prioritizing and not procrastinating. I've learned a lot as far as how to be a better person in life and a better worker down the road.

HW: I can look around and know that all my teammates and my coaches are fighting to achieve the same goal that I have been striving to achieve all my life. That is a rarity and a blessing that I am forever grateful for.

NM: Through playing volleyball and spending a significant amount of time at the Athletic Complex and other sporting events, I've been fortunate to develop some very good friendships with other athletes. Volleyball has also allowed me to meet many members of the Wash. U. and St. Louis community that I otherwise would not have had the chance to share time with. Being part of a team created the best support group and community experience I could imagine, and I am so thankful for that aspect of the sport.

What advice do you have for underclassmen?

LC: Don't be nervous as a freshman. Come out and don't think that you don't have a chance to be a starter. As long as you try hard, you can play every year.

DW: Get out there and do your best. Relax and have fun.

KL: For anyone who's on a sports team, stick with it for all four years. You'll learn something every single year. For anyone who's not out on a sports team... come out and check out your fellow Bears at sporting events because they're a lot of fun, especially if you know people. You can see your friends exhibit what they work so hard on.

ES: Only think about the task at hand, don't worry about who is in the stands or how this win/loss will affect your record. Just play for yourself and your team, it's all anyone can ask of you.

AB: Follow your passions, whatever they may be. There are times when it will cause you stress and you'll be pressed for time to do projects or study, but if you have something in your life that you dearly love, then keep doing it as long as you can no matter what.

CM: If you play, play every game like it's your last. There are no regrets that way.

NM: If I could say anything to the underclassmen, it'd be "Take it. [Stomp, clap, break it down]." play for each other and for the love of the game, and enjoy every moment you have together both on and off the court. Keep making weird noises. Many of my best memories from the past four years have been with my teammates, and I love all of them.

ZL: Work hard in the offseason and realize that even if the season's short, the other 10 months when you're not playing are equally important.

BS: Take advantage of the opportunities you have. You only have four years, and they go by really really fast.

HW: Savor every moment. Don't allow your successes to be defined merely by your wins and losses, but rather by the memories that you've made during your journey toward attaining your goals. That's the good stuff. That's the stuff that lasts.

How will being an athlete help you in the future?

DW: If nothing else, it teaches you time management and limits. There's a lot of other life lessons: commitment to a team and having heart.

KL: The most obvious thing is working with teams and functioning in a group. Goal setting is a big part of being an athlete—meeting those goals and holding yourself accountable day in and day out.

TN: I think that knowing how to be a part of a winning team is very important and applicable to real-life situations. Hopefully it will help lead me to be a successful engineer.

ZL: It's taught me a lot about time management, prioritizing rather than procrastinating. I've learned a lot as far as how to be a better person in life and a better worker down the road.

HW: Athletics helps me maintain balance in perspective in my life here at Wash. U. Down the road from Wash. U., I hope that athletics will always play a similar role in my life.

JB: One of the most important things you learn being an athlete is how to be part of a team and relate to other people. For me, I learned how to be a leader. I know that these things will help me be successful in whatever I do in life.

What has Wash. U. meant to you?

AB: It was the exact fit I needed for school. It was a place with superior academics but at the same time a strong athletic program that competes at the highest levels. Wash. U. has become a place that taught me how to deal with new challenges. Most importantly, Wash. U. has been the place where I've met some amazing people whom I can't imagine the college experience without.

SL: Being an athlete at Wash. U. has completely shaped my experience here. Playing a varsity sport at a school with such rigorous academic demands required me to develop excellent time management skills, to break my habit of procrastination and to learn to better manage my stress. When I'm away from the field, and out of the classroom, I'm usually still with girls from my team. My best friends are my teammates, and most of my other friends are athletes as well. I am a student-athlete, and though the "student" part comes first, the "athlete" part is a very close second.

ZL: Wash. U. has been an excellent way for me to gain a perspective of the world. It's been a great opportunity for me to develop physically, mentally, socially—all of these things.

It colors every experience that you had these past four years. The fact that you're here and you're surrounded by other smart, intelligent and talented people, it just sort of brings out the best in you.

What will you miss the most?

KK: I will miss my teammates the most. I will miss having hilarious conversations, deep heart-to-heart chats and simply hanging out and having a good time.

DW: I will miss just being around



Senior Amanda Boe celebrates after the women's soccer team advanced to the NCAA Sectional Round on Nov. 16.

everyone. They're not just other students. Track becomes a family.

KL: All the times that we had at meets and at practices when we weren't swimming, when we were just hanging out.

AB: Game day and my teammates. I love competition and being in those games that are just vicious battles. I love having teammates who motivate me so that I want to win not for myself, but for them and for school pride.

CH: The competitive atmosphere during dual matches and trips with the guys. There is no feeling like the one you get when you're playing in a tight match where every point is important. It's something that you only get to experience in the team environment and so not being in that team setting after graduation is definitely something I'm going to miss.

NM: Some of the things that I'll miss the most are the desserts, the adrenaline rushes and the feelings that accompany both winning and losing. I'll miss shouting random things and singing with Bert during warmups. I'll miss hitting line shots and celebrating crazy points with my team. I'll miss my teammates who have become my best friends and the relationships I've had with the coaches. I'll miss having my parents at every match of the season cheering me on and experiencing

the highs and lows that come with being an athlete.

JB: I'll miss my teammates and coaches. I have spent countless hours on buses, in locker rooms and on the court with these people and I truly do care about each one of them. It's not really about the sport in the end. You don't really remember wins and losses. You remember the people.

Any last words?

AA: Thanks to everyone who has supported the volleyball team or even

The year in review

Compiled by Sports Staff

September

13: Women's golf participates in first official collegiate tournament as a varsity program. Bears take first at the McKendree Fall Invitational.

October

17: Junior John Watts finishes third in singles at the ITA Small College National Championships. Seniors Charlie Cutler and Chris Hoeland also finish third in doubles at the same event.

November

1: Women's cross country takes second at UAA Championships as sophomore Taryn Surtees finishes first.

2: Women's soccer captures UAA title with 2-1 win over Case Western Reserve University.

8: Volleyball captures UAA title, defeating 2008 national champion Emory University 3-2.

15: Volleyball defeated 3-1 by Ohio Northern University in the Great Lakes Regional Final.

19: Volleyball senior Nikki Morrison named first team All-American by the American Volleyball Coaches Association. Senior Alli Alberts named to second team and junior Erin Alberts named to third team. Senior Audra Janak and freshman Erin Kasson receive honorable mention All-America honors.

21: Women's soccer falls in NCAA sectional play to Wheaton College 3-0.

22: Women's cross country takes 12th at the NCAA National Championships led by sophomore Taryn Surtees. Surtees earned All-America Honors finishing 30th place.

December

8: Junior Libby Held named first team All-American by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America.

February

14: Men's swimming takes third at UAA championships.

14: Freshman Karina Stridh of women's swimming sets school records in the 50-yard freestyle and 100-yard freestyle at UAA conference championship. Stridh named Rookie of the Year.

20: Men's basketball captures outright UAA title and automatic NCAA bid with a 77-63 victory over Carnegie Mellon University.

22: Women's basketball captures outright UAA title and automatic NCAA bid with a 65-52 victory over University of Rochester.

22: Men's tennis falls to Emory

University 6-3 to take second in the ITA National Indoor Team Championship.

March

7: Women's indoor track & field takes UAA title. Freshman Elizabeth Phillips is named UAA Rookie of the Year.

14: Softball captures UAA championship with 4-0 victory over Emory University.

14: Sophomore Ben Harmon takes third in the pentathlon at the NCAA National Championships. Harmon, senior Danielle Wadlington, Surtees, senior Erika Wade, junior Molly Schlamb and freshman Elizabeth Phillips all earned All-America honors in various indoor track events.

14: No. 6 women's basketball upsets No. 1 Illinois Wesleyan University 58-53 in NCAA sectional final. No. 2 men's basketball upsets No. 1 University of St. Thomas 79-64 in NCAA sectional final.

19: Men's swimming takes seventh at NCAA championships buoyed by junior Alex Beyer's 400-yard IM national championship and national-record-breaking performance. Beyer, senior Kevin Leckey, junior Dan Arteaga and sophomore David Chao also earned All-America honors with a fourth-place finish in the 400-yard freestyle relay. Sophomore Michael Flanagan received All-America honors for the 200-yard butterfly.

19: Women's swimming takes 14th at NCAA championships. Senior Kelly Kono, junior Jessie Lodewyk, freshman Samantha Schulte and Stridh earned All-America honors in the 400-yard freestyle.

21: Men's basketball captures second straight NCAA Division III national title with a 61-52 victory over Richard Stockton College.

21: Women's basketball falls 60-53 in national championship game to George Fox University.

27: Men's basketball junior Aaron Thompson, senior Tyler Nading and senior Sean Wallis named to the D-III News All-America Team. Thompson named to first team, Nading to fourth team and Wallis receives honorable mention.

April

2: Wash. U. is fourth in the Director's Cup, which compares all Division III athletic programs.

19: Men's tennis wins first-ever UAA title, defeating No. 1 Emory University 5-4. The Bears also set a new record of 16 consecutive wins.

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2009

Natalie Alm, Fulbright, English Teaching Assistant, Argentina; **Guillermo Ares**, Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons, Doctor of Medicine, New York, NY; **Julia Baller**, National Institute of Health, IRTA, Bethesda, MD; **Kevin Banas**, Wake Forest Institute for Regenerative Medicine, Business Development Analyst, Winston-Salem, NC; **Julian Beattie**, University of Washington, JD, Seattle, WA; **Francis Beling**, C.H. 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My Baby's GRADUATING 2009

A Special Commemorative Section

On a warm day four years ago, 1,500 freshman entered the Quad for the first time. Today, their journey ends. To celebrate this joyous occasion, *Student Life* presents a special section full of congratulatory messages from the family of this year's graduates.





My Baby's GRADUATING 2009



WU
Class of '09



Katie Ammann

You brought music to the WU stages, insight and humor to the pages of this newspaper, and traveled afar to study mankind. We're proud of you!

Mom, Dad, and Laura



WU
Class of '09

Paul Anderson

Congratulations on your wonderful achievement. With much pride and love we wish for you a life filled with success and joy!

Love, Mom and Dad



WU
Class of '09



Felicia Allana Baskin

We are very proud of all your accomplishments at Washington University. You are known for your devotion to obligations as well as friends, the perfect balance.

We love you, Mom, Dad and Jonathan



WU
Class of '09



Andrew Berkovits

Berk or Andrew, it's all you! Rugby, Gargoyle, Schlafly, Graceland, New Orleans, Boomers, Uzbekistan, the guys. Keep searching, keep dreaming. With pride and love, Mom, Dad, Dan and Sam



WU
Class of '09



Alexander Sherman Broad

Go confidently in the direction of your dreams! Live the life you've imagined.

Congratulations and Love,
Your Proud Family



WU
Class of '09



Jason Daniel Choi

Jason, we're so proud of you—scholar, athlete and all around great guy. As you head out to new adventures we will be cheering all the way.

Love, Mom, Eric and Alex



WU
Class of '09



Aaron David

Didn't we just do this? These four years have flown by. We are proud of all you have accomplished and look forward to your next chapter.

Love, Your Family



WU
Class of '09



Perry

Congratulations, Perry. We are filled with pride and joy as we celebrate your graduation. We wish you happiness, fulfillment, and love in all your adventures to come.

Love, Mom, David, and Pop



WU
Class of '09

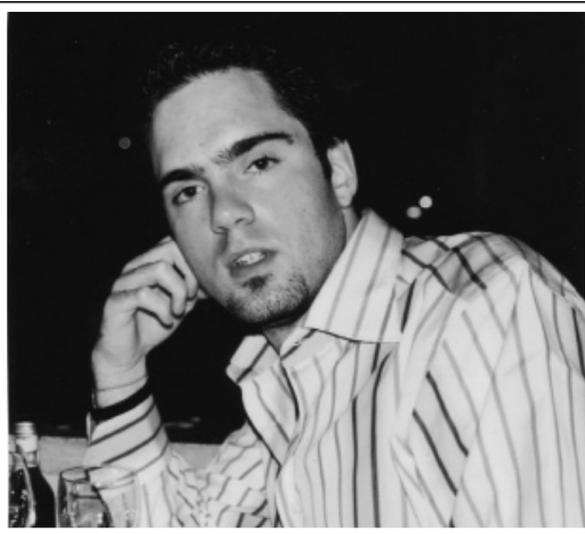


Jared Casteel Flahaven

There are no words to say how proud we are of you or to express our hopes for your future. The best is yet to come!

Love, Mom, Dad, Seth, Ethan and Micah

Joseph P. Cavanagh



Through all your endeavors—
Through all the hits and even some misses—We, in your cheering section, have always been most proud of your generous spirit and willingness to engage the world with wonder and joy.

XO Love you Joe Babes!
Enjoy your Journey!



HIP, HIP Hooray!



Jules —

Julia Kobus

WU
Class of '09

Your Mom and Dad, Katie and Wrigley too, are so proud of all you've accomplished. Your leadership has made a mark on so many. And your commitment and service to others has created a lasting memory. You are truly deserving to be named the Victor H. Farwell Outstanding Senior Leader for 2009.

Congratulations on all that you have achieved!



My Baby's GRADUATING 2009



WU
Class of '09

life is not a dress rehearsal...



WU
Class of '09

Zachary Striar Freedman

Adored by friends and family, you enrich our lives with your loving, intelligent and thoughtful spirit and we are so proud of your outstanding academic and entrepreneurial achievements.

Love, Mom



WU
Class of '09



Jason Friedman

Go confidently in the direction of your dream. Live the life you have imagined. – Henry David Thoreau
Congratulations and Love, Mom



WU
Class of '09

Sam Gass

It's called commencement because it's the beginning, not the end. And remember, you have to leave the ground to learn to fly. We are proud of you!

Love, Mom, Dad and David.



WU
Class of '09



Razzy Ghomeshi

Congratulations! We are so proud of you! Shoot for the moon! Even if you miss, you'll land among the stars...

Love, Mom, Dad and Sogol



WU
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Julia Sarah Goldberg

Dear Julia, We are so proud of all of your accomplishments. Congratulations on a wonderful undergraduate career! We are so happy to be celebrating this wonderful graduation day with you!

Love, Mom & Tom, Dad & Karen, Laura, Diana, & Scott



WU
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Leesandra P. Graf

To Our Beautiful "Love Lee"
Creative, witty, resourceful, strong, determined, proud, smart, practical & caring.

Wow - Congratulations: An excellent job.
Love, Mom, Dad, Cath, Baron, Steve & Jared



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Laura B Hawkes

Four years ago when you graduated High School at the Illinois Math Science Academy, we hoped for the day when you would graduate from college. Today is that day.

Congratulations!



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Katie Hoelzer

Congratulations, Katie Hoelzer!
Class of 2009

Love, Mom, Dad, John & Bill

Asona Lui



Congratulations, Nakoka!
Unfurl your wings and fly!



CEO

To our favorite urban person!
With congratulations and much love.

Your proud family





My Baby's GRADUATING 2009



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Whitney Jean Johnson

WhitBit, Timmy, family, SCC, dance, awesome friends, SAC, froyo, Cambios, After Dark, dance marathon, Prof. Ogilvie, WUET, food-writing, Chile, climbing, beer school, vakays, biking, muscles, Phi Beta Kappa. DREAMS!



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Zack Kaplan

Embrace life now. Have no fear.
Of the road ahead. Which once seemed so clear.
As you move on from Wash U, To a new frontier.
Love, Mom, Dad, Lauren, Jori & Aly



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Jordan King

Congratulations!
Hard work, late nights, causes to support, RA duties, friendships, study groups, papers, Sunday calls, determination, confidence, Wash U graduate, success. We're very proud of you!
Love, Mom & Dad



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Kellie Dianne Lager

Congratulations Kellie. Touch the sky. Dear.
We're with you all the way! So proud of you!
Love, Mom, Dad, Mollie, Caleb and Jon



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Kevin Leckey

Captain Leckey—Congratulations on your many accomplishments!
You're an amazing thinker, doer and competitor; son, brother, teammate and friend. We can't wait to see where life leads you next, and we know you'll make things interesting when you arrive.
May you find fair weather and calm seas on all your journeys.
We love you! Mom, Dad and Brit



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Courtney Elizabeth LeGates

Creative, smart, sensitive, humorous, and always delightful.
You bring sunshine into our lives. We are so proud of your accomplishments, and you have only just begun!
Love, Mom and Dad



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Brian Reed Lucas

"Stay as close to the edge as you can...You see all kinds of things there that you can't see from the center —Vonnegut
With pride and love, Mom and Dad



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Jared Russell Montgomery

We're proud of your accomplishments and character.
Congratulations, you're ready to make your place in the world. Love, Mom, Dad, Ryan, GeeGee, PaPa



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Nikki Morrison

Amoco sign, Skinker, Schnuck's, #16 field-house, Koenig, S40, Bear's Den, Ursa's, Hitzeman, Cardinals, Forest Park, Metro, Galleria, Building-6, National Championship, Millbrook, 101, NCAA-blog, Village, Togas, Fractured-radius, Elvis, Mi-Ranchito, Loop, Fro-yo, Cupcakes, Wuhoo

Katie Z. Shen

Dear Katie,
David, Mom and I congratulate you for a job well done. We want to take this opportunity to encourage you to dream. You and David are two Art and Letter scholars from two engineers. We are so proud of you both. You must look ahead and dream of all bright possibilities. God bless you!

David, Mom and Dad

Will

We are so proud of you and have no doubt that this milestone will only be the beginning of wonderful and great things to come.

We love you,
Mom, Dad, Perry, Grampa Artie, Meme and Cooper

Class of 2009

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Deena Moskowitz

Deena – We are so proud of you! Congratulations on your graduation – and now...live the life you've imagined – follow your dreams! We're behind you all the way! Keep Running – Love you, Mom & Dad, Air, Rafi & Maya



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Meredith Nelson

We hope you embrace life as you embraced this stingray! You go, girl!
Love, Mom and Dad



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In Loving Memory of Anthony Louis Olasov

1987 - 2009
Taken from us far too soon.
We will ALWAYS love you and miss you.
Mom, Dad and Lauren



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Class of '09



Alex Palmer

Thank you for your loving spirit and fun-loving nature. Wishing you a bright future. You are still fierce, bean! Love from Mom, Dad, Madeleine, and your grandparents.



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Adam R. Palmore

Congratulations! We are so proud of you. May your college graduation be the first of many more markers on the path to accomplishment, fulfillment and happiness. We love you.
Dad, Mom & Jordan

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Amy Power

17 years straight!
Who says persistence isn't a virtue?
With our love and congratulations,
Mom, Joey, Hannah & Dad



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Chris Quinlan

"A little nonsense now and then, is relished by the wisest men."
You are now silly and wise. Willy Wonka would be proud!
Meg, Court, Dad and I love you!



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Neema Rastgar

Intelligence, diligence, aiming high, hardworking, determination, laughter, and friends – the perfect foundation for all your dreams. Congratulations and love, Your Proud Family



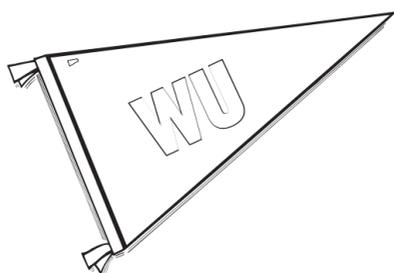
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Sara Aislinn Remedios

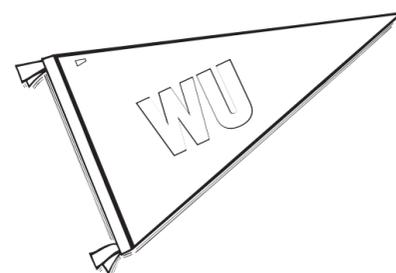
Congratulations! We love you and are so proud!
Mom, Papa, Cailan, João and Jesse

Elena Melius



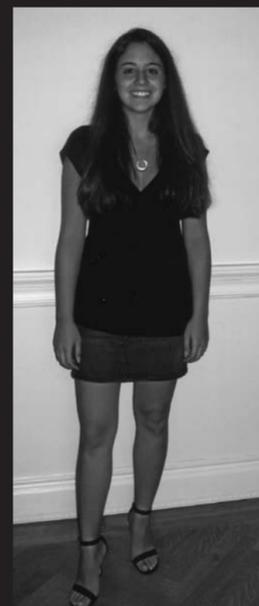
We are so proud of you!
May all your hopes and dreams come true!
Congratulations and Love,

Mom and Dad



Whatever you can do or dream you can, begin it. Boldness has genius, power and magic in it."

—Johann Wolfgang van Goethe





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Ben Sales

Eminent editor, witty jeweler, Machivellian master, Bais Abe boy, Florentine artist and barrista, Megabus man, Consummate dinner host, Community builder, Minyan man, Proud Wash U grad

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Samantha Savarese

To our incredible, wonderful Graduate
Congratulations
Buona Fortuna
Aproveite a vida ao máximo
We Love You!
Mom, Dad, Matthew and Ellie

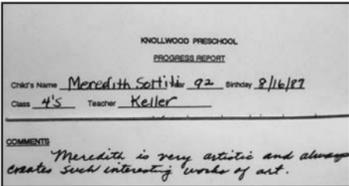


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Class of '09



Graham Robert Showell

We are so proud of you. We always knew you were going to "get the job done". Keep that song in your heart.
Love from your great big extended family.



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Merry Sottili

Mrs. Keller got it right 17 years ago. We couldn't be prouder of you, as an artist and a person. Dream big, have fun.
All our love, Mom & Dad



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Brittany Starr

Congratulations and best of luck.
You can take your rubber ducky on all your adventures.



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Laura Bell Stein

From "Old MacDonald" to "Take Me or Leave Me," you have always brought sweet music into our lives. We love you and are very proud of you.
Love, Mom, Dad and Julia



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Darcy Wilcox

We are thrilled to be celebrating with you!
All our love,
Mom, Dad and Bonnie



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Class of '09



Steven James Winslow

Teach a man to fish, he eats for a lifetime.
Teach a man, and the world is his ocean.
With much love, congratulations son! Mom and Dad



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Emily M. Yang

Congrats to our brilliant daughter for earning a BS/MS in computer science!
Love from Baba Mama

James Hale Rahardja

Time flies...we are thankful to be together with you at this special time in your life. Congratulations, we are so proud of all you have achieved and of the sensitive, compassionate, caring man you have become.

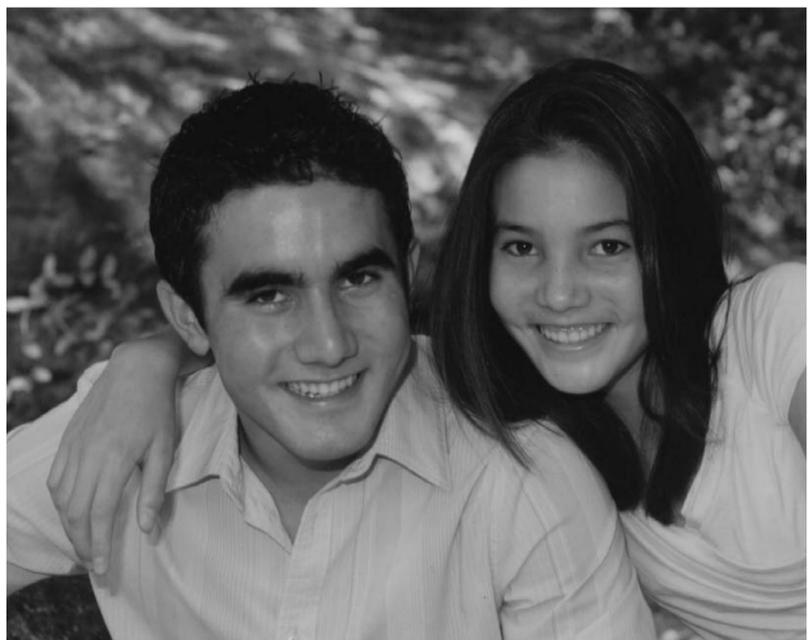
Looking back through the years watching you mature we admire your imagination and determination to excel.

You are a loving, loyal, son, brother, friend and leader with a wonderful perspective on life, invariably making a difference.

Life is a journey and yours will be full of wonder....we will always be with you...

Bon Voyage!

Our love always,
Emma, Pocil, Mom, Dad and Andrea and your entire family



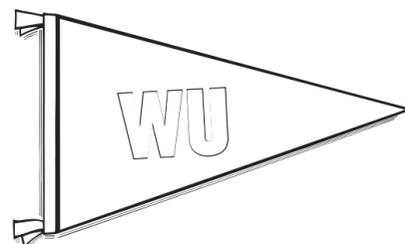
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SPENCER ROSS TODER BSBA, MBA

Spencer-
You gained knowledge,
wisdom, and maturity.
You made relationships
and memories that will
last a lifetime. The
complete experience
etched in stone.

With love, Mom & Dad



GRADUATES

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Alex Bergson

"Do not go where the path may lead;
go instead where there is no path and leave a trail."
--Ralph Waldo Emerson

Alex,
Though literally defined as "the marking of completion of studies," graduation, more aptly, is the introduction to the next chapter of your life. You have learned a tremendous amount of information in the past four years --both academically and personally-- and now you have the ability to share your vast knowledge, your great deal of experience, and your incredible self with the rest of the world. Though the change may seem daunting and emotional, through change we grow. It is beautiful to see how you have flourished thus far. We can't wait for what is to come.

WE LOVE YOU and are so very proud of you.
Mom, Dad, Brianne & Mitch

