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FORE! Watch out! Will the women's golf team be on par this year? Find out in **SPORTS, PAGE 6**

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STUDENT LIFE

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WebFood off to strong start, students and admins say



MATT MITGANG | STUDENT LIFE

Students say they applaud the University's new WebFood system. The system, tested this past summer, allows students to order food online and pick it up later at George's Express, pictured above.

Lauren Olens
Assignment Editor

The new WebFood program at Wash. U. is off to a strong start this year, and there is still room for expansion, according to Nadeem Siddiqui, resident district manager for Bon Appétit.

WebFood allows students to place food orders online for stations in the Danforth University Center (DUC) any time of the day to pick up later without having to wait in line. Food orders can be picked up between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. at George's Express in the DUC.

"The beauty about this program is you can go at 2 a.m.—and strangely, you're all up—and order your food for the day," Siddiqui said.

Interested students can sign up for the program online at wuds.webfood.com to select which food items they would like to eat and when they would like their orders to be ready. Payment can be made by meal plan or campus card account.

One of the main advantages of WebFood is the time it saves,

Siddiqui said, because "every minute matters."

So far, most students seem to think WebFood is a positive addition to campus dining.

"The eating facilities on main campus are swamped from 11 [a.m.] to 2 [p.m.], and one can stand in line for over 20 minutes just to order a hamburger and fries," sophomore Brennan Keiser said. "Some students' schedules do not allow them this luxury."

"I applaud the efforts to make daily lunch routine more efficient for students," he added.

More than 280 students have already made online WebFood accounts. On Monday alone, more than 20 orders were placed. The number of orders is also increasing with each day, according to Siddiqui.

With additional promotions in the works, the number of students signed up for the program and the daily number of food orders are expected to rise even more in the coming weeks.

Since the summer, Student Union has posted videos pro-

See FOOD, page 3

SU, student groups work toward greener events

Dan Wozniak
News Editor

For Student Union, going green will be a top priority this year as the student government pushes forth an action plan to make campus events more environmentally sustainable.

"What we're doing is trying to make a specific contribution to the entire dialogue about sustainability on campus, and one thing that I don't think we have talked about is sustainable campus events," said senior Jeff Nelson, Student Union (SU) president.

Senior Will Fischer, former

president of Green Action, will be spearheading the effort to make campus events greener.

Fischer, a senior, has been appointed SU's executive advisor for sustainability and will lead the newly formed Green Events Commission (GEC) to research ways of making University events more sustainable.

"The responsibility for me is to work with Jeff on implementing sustainability at Wash. U.," Fischer said. "We're going to be working together to try and instill sustainability in the student body."

Fischer will work with a group of other students on the

GEC to research sustainable practices that can be incorporated into SU policy.

"We're looking to build some system through which we can quantify whether or not a given student group is running a sustainable event," Fischer said.

The commission will focus on special issues like using limited paper in publicizing and monitoring the sources and disposal of food.

"Mainly, we're going to focus on reducing waste," Fischer said.

Fischer suggested that alternative disposal options, such as turning unused food into compost, could eventual-

ly be used to take event waste "beyond recycling."

After researching sustainable practices for campus events, the GEC will then submit a list of recommendations to the newly formed Special Executive Task Force for Sustainable Events (SETSE).

The SETSE will be co-chaired by Fischer and senior Trevor Mattea, SU vice president of administration, and will include representatives from the Senate, Treasury and student groups like Team 31, the Greek community and Dance Marathon.

"I know there are a lot of

See GREEN, page 2

Univ. doses biology, math libraries due to budget cuts, reduced traffic

Becca Krock
Staff Reporter

In light of departmental budget cuts, Washington University closed its biology and math libraries this summer, reflecting a nationwide trend in universities to cut satellite libraries that are becoming increasingly obsolete as more materials go online.

The biology and math libraries, previously on the second floor of Rebstock Hall and the lower level of Cupples I, respectively, were targeted because their diminishing traffic did not justify their continued existence, Dean of Libraries Shirley Baker said. Their collections are now housed in Olin Library's B Level.

Currently, study spaces in those two locations remain open to students, and the biology and math departments have

yet to determine the future use of the space.

Slashing the salaries of two employees provided the bulk of the savings. Both of the assistant librarians whose positions were eliminated were re-hired in open positions at the Olin and the chemistry libraries.

Other savings came from eliminating some journal subscriptions, copy machines and other equipment. While computers are still available in the former biology library, printing is not.

The administration has not confirmed any plans to close more satellite libraries, though it remains a possibility if the economy stays poor, said Ruth Lewis, biology and math librarian, who now has an office in Olin.

"What scares me is if we have to cut another 12 percent next year," Lewis said. "That's going to be really hard."



MATT MITGANG | STUDENT LIFE

The biology library, above, and the math library closed last summer due to budget cuts and decreasing foot traffic.

According to Baker, the decision depends primarily on how departmental libraries are used. The biology library was already losing foot traffic dramatically because access to biology journals, previously one of the most important functions of the biology library, is now available online.

The art and architecture library, on the other hand, is unlikely to ever close since print materials are critical for those disciplines.

The chemistry library houses journals that are only available in print, often due to high

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Football team prepares for strong season



MATT MITGANG | STUDENT LIFE

Junior wide receiver Tim Johnson goes for a reception in an Oct. 11, 2008, game versus Wabash College.

Experienced roster anticipating success

Alex Dropkin
Sports Editor

have to guide the team through a tough schedule, highlighted by matchups against preseason No. 18 Wabash College and No. 16 Case Western Reserve University. The Bears will play Wabash on Oct. 10 and conference rival Case Western Reserve during the last game of the year.

"Our conference doesn't get an automatic bid, so we need to have some quality wins," Berryman said.

Junior Mitchel Bartel will take over at quarterback for 2009 graduate Buck Smith. Bartel had limited playing time last season as a backup, throwing for 278 yards in seven games. According to Kindbom, the offense will rely on a run-heavy attack, headed by senior running back and co-captain Matt Glenn and junior Jim O'Brien. The two running backs combined for 864 rushing yards in 2008 but have reason to expect much more this year.

"Everything starts...with our offensive line. We've got a really experienced offensive line...and that is really going to help us out this year, not to mention the experience in the backfield too," Glenn said.

"That experience is just really going to take us far."

O'Brien, one of the leaders of the special teams unit, is looking to make a big impact in games this season. Last year, he returned 526 yards on kickoffs, including a return for a touchdown on the opening kickoff of the very first game.

"Returning [kickoffs] is a good opportunity to make or break the game," O'Brien said. "There's no way of knowing...but you just got to go out there, thinking like you can make

See FALL, page 2



Hillel, Jewish students partner with faculty for High Holidays

Kat Zhao
Senior News Editor

With the Jewish New Year only 16 days away, the staff at the St. Louis Hillel at Washington University, and involved students, are finalizing plans for High Holiday services with an additional focus in mind this time—the greater involvement of faculty in service events.

As in the past, students will have the option of attending two services on campus or attending any of the local synagogues in the area. Typically, the services are led by undergraduate students and one guest rabbi, with a different rabbi for the reform and conservative services.

While both the reform and conservative services offered on campus are student-run and led, Hillel has worked to change the overall feel of services by inviting University professors and administrators to give sermons on a variety of topics instead of continuing with the convention of having the guest rabbi give a theological sermon each day.

This year, the Saturday morning conservative service will feature professor Assaf Shelle, the University's Efroymson Visiting Israeli Scholar. Shelle will speak about Jewish identity through Israeli music, with an emphasis on the liturgy of the service.

"I think [faculty] will make the services more attractive to individual students, because they may be interested in hearing a particular member of the faculty or an administrator," said Michael Landy, executive director of St. Louis Hillel. "Those people have a sense of campus life and student life, and I think they will work hard to speak to the student body."

Landy also notes that many students will appreciate see-

ing their role models and other important University figures involved with services.

"It is important to see the way that [these faculty] see Jewish campus life," he said.

The conservative service, which will convene at the Hillel house, will hear from Landy and guest rabbi Allen Selis on Friday night, with the two speakers welcoming students to services.

Selis will speak on the second day of Rosh Hashana, the holiday celebrating the Jewish New Year, and on Yom Kippur morning, while Landy will speak at Kol Nidrei, the evening service that starts observance of the Yom Kippur holiday.

The reform service, which will meet in May Auditorium in Simon Hall, will hear from a different speaker each day. Landy and guest rabbi Dale Schreiber, rabbinic pastor for Barnes-Jewish Hospital, will speak on Friday night before Hank Webber, the University's executive vice chancellor for administration, speaks on connecting Judaism from generation to generation.

Landy said that while the Hillel staff is responsible for arranging the logistics, the students involved have been an integral force behind the services.

"The services themselves are something that we're thrilled that a group of students are engaged in [by] recruiting leaders, and they are part of the decision-making process of how the services look and feel," Landy said. "The students really invest the time and energy to make the services make sense to students and to work with the Hillel staff, guest rabbis and other participants of the service."

As in year's past, Chabad on Campus will also be running High Holiday services. Chabad will host services and dinner on both evenings of Rosh Hashanah and will also host Kol Ni-

drei and Neilah services.

Aside from those offered at Hillel and Chabad, students also have the option of attending services at other local synagogues. Many Orthodox Jews on campus go to Bais Abraham on Delmar Boulevard.

"We definitely see students as a big part of the community, and they give a lot to the community by leading services and giving energy," said Hyim Shafner, rabbi at Bais Abraham.

While the service is Orthodox, Shafner explained that all students who have attended services have felt at home.

"We make a real effort to be welcoming to everybody... That's really one of the unique things about the synagogue. It brings an Orthodox passion to prayer but combines it with an extreme openness," Shafner added. He did request that people call ahead, though, so the synagogue is prepared.

"The thing that is difficult for students when they come to campus, especially as freshmen for the first time, is that it is never going to feel like it did at home," Landy said. "Because the holiday [Rosh Hashanah] has such a strong feeling of family from gathering for meals and services, students should seek out their new campus family—that's what's going to make the holiday stay significant for most students."

Rosh Hashanah will begin on the evening of Sept. 18 and will last until dusk on Sept. 20, since the Jewish calendar is lunar. Yom Kippur starts Sept. 27 and will end at sundown the next day. It is the tradition for all Jews to fast on Yom Kippur, excluding young children and people who are ill.

With additional reporting by Josh Goldman.

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prices, said Chris Goodman, formerly the assistant math librarian and now the chemistry and engineering assistant librarian.

"Our strategic plan includes downsizing and perhaps even consolidating some libraries because the materials are going electronic and the use is happening elsewhere," Baker said. "Biology especially had become incredibly quiet."

The University is not alone in its decision to close satellite libraries. Schools like Stanford University and Massachusetts Institute of Technology are also getting rid of departmental libraries. Others, however, are slower to move, like Harvard, which has 96 libraries.

The widespread use of digital materials is changing the structure of libraries dramatically, pushing them to consolidate and weed out their print materials when online copies become available.

Olin has adapted by creat-

ing a digital library team to push the process along. Its staff has also started to use Google Books to give students access to books they cannot find otherwise. In addition, a new catalog will be unveiled this week with more sophisticated search tools, tag clouds and other digitally focused features.

"When we talk about where the libraries will be as we finish our Plan for Excellence, it will probably be fewer physical libraries" Baker said. "The digital collections will grow dramatically; we may even remove some print from the main campus."

Lewis expressed disappointment with the recent decisions.

"I've had a few complaints. People just aren't generally happy about the decision," Lewis said. "A few faculty are going to miss 24/7 access—being able to get a journal at 7 a.m. on a Sunday."

The biology department has

been using electronic resources for years, so it happily adapted to the change, Baker said.

"Except for the loss of a piece of [their] identity," she added. "It's your departmental library."

The change may be harsher for the math department, where members still like to browse through books. Graduate students will suffer the most, according to Goodman.

"There's the occasional undergraduate, but they never really spent much time there," Goodman said.

All the same resources, however, are still available, even if they are in different formats or locations. Also, the change in structure was designed to match the way faculty and students previously used the departmental library.

"There are some things that will come out of it—undergrads can now get biology books until 2 in the morning now," Lewis said.

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things we can improve on," said senior Andrew Seidl, executive director of Dance Marathon.

Seidl mentioned reducing bags, serving soda in two-liter bottles instead of cans and using less electricity in the Athletic Complex as possible ways for Dance Marathon to

go greener. He said he is looking forward to working with Fischer and the GEC in new these initiatives.

"I'm really excited to be one of the first groups to work with Will and to really get this off the ground," he said.

After SETSE representatives from student groups and

SU deliberate, the SETSE will then form campus event guidelines that will be sent to the Senate for approval as SU policy.

Regarding this phase of the process, Nelson emphasized that he wants to see the task-force shape specific, concrete policies.

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a big play, no matter what."

Along with O'Brien, sophomore punter Austin Morman is a big part of the unit. In his freshman year, Morman ranked 13th in Division III in punting, averaging 40.41 yards per punt.

"We have some really good specialists; an outstanding punter, an outstanding place kicker," Kindbom said. "All those guys, we think, are going to be as good as [anyone] you're going to find at

any program in the country."

"We've definitely got one of the best teams we've had here at Wash. U. in a while, and I think definitely one of our goals has been 'Be a top-10 team,'" Glenn said. "That starts with winning the UAA championship, making the playoffs and then just being a top-ranked team."

Despite these long-term goals, no member of the team is looking too far ahead.

"For us...we really are

trying to take everything one step at a time," Kindbom said. "We play so many good football teams on our schedule...I've got to look at this and say, 'Let's take care of business today.'"

The Red and Green start the difficult journey toward a championship at home this Friday against Greenville College. Last season, the Bears beat the Panthers 22-0. Kickoff at Francis Field is scheduled for 7 p.m.

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INFO SESSION:
Wednesday,
September 9

Simon Hall
Room 104
6:30 PM

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THE FLIPSIDE

weatherforecast

Wednesday 2

Sunny
High 70
Low 59



Thursday 3

Partly Cloudy
High 81
Low 61



eventcalendar

WEDNESDAY 2

Activities Fair

Brookings Quad, 4:30-6:30 p.m.
Come out and learn about the hundreds of student groups on campus. Rain location: Athletic Complex.

First Senate meeting

Simon Hall, Room 113, 9 p.m.
The Student Union Senate will be having its first meeting of the year. On the agenda is legislation to allow members of school councils to serve in the legislative branch, the induction of new senators and the approval of election commissioners. The meeting will begin with a student open forum.

THURSDAY 3

"Women's Careers in Medicine": Panel discussion

Kenton King Center, Bernard Becker Medical Library, medical school campus, 4:30 p.m.

Women are now a force to be reckoned with in the medical field, but they still face unique problems that male doctors do not have to think about.

Chamber music concert

Danforth University Center, Formal Lounge, 8 p.m.

Erin Schreiber, 21-year-old concert violinist and the youngest member of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, will play with faculty member Martin Kennedy. If you arrive late, please wait for a break before entering the lounge.

policebeat

RECOVERED STOLEN PROPERTY — Aug. 21, 2009, 1:22 p.m.

Location: FORSYTH

Summary: Suspicious person stop resulted in a recovered stolen bike from a burglary reported to University City police in July.

Disposition: Cleared by arrest.

STALKING — Aug. 30, 2009, 4:17 p.m.,

Location: OFF CAMPUS

Summary: Student reports ongoing problem with another student after ending their relationship.

Disposition: Under investigation.

Campus

English department features noted authors in reading series

The English Department's Writing Program Reading Series boasts an impressive line-up this semester. The series, which brings well-known authors to Hurst Lounge for free readings open to the public, includes this fall's two visiting Hurst professors—poet, novelist and storyteller Rikki Ducornet and poet Claudia Rankine.

Ducornet, author of 16 books, is noted for her lush language, imaginative plots and formal playfulness, including experiments with illustration. Rankine, a recipient of a James Merrill Fellowship from the Academy of American Poets, is the author of four collections.

As Hurst Professor each will spend a week or two lecturing, visiting classrooms and interacting with students interested in their fields.

Also participating in the reading series this fall is Mary Jo Bang, a professor of English at Washington University and a recipient of the National Book Critics Circle Award in Poetry. The first speaker, Lydia Millet, will speak Sept. 17 at 8 p.m. in Hurst Lounge. (Rafa García Feble)

International

Banning light bulbs to help fight global warming

The European Union has officially banned both the manufacturing and the importation of older light bulbs that are not environmentally friendly, as was agreed upon last year.

These bulbs have been used since the 19th century and include frosted incandescent bulbs and 100-watt bulbs. Citizens are encouraged to use fluorescent or halogen lamps instead, as these alternatives are not only more energy efficient but also use 80 percent less electricity than the older light bulbs.

The new bulbs, however, may cause headaches and rashes in people with light-sensitive disorders.

Other countries, including the United States, Canada, Australia and New Zealand, have also announced plans to ban older, less efficient bulbs. (Lauren Olens)

newsbriefs

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moting WebFood and encouraging students to use the program, though Siddiqui said he thinks the most effective form of advertising will be word of mouth. He said he believes some people are still hesitant to try WebFood because they are concerned about the preparedness or quality of food ordered online.

"I can guarantee you both [the preparedness and quality are] a plus," he said.

The possibilities for expansion will become reality as soon as the program draws in more people.

"I sincerely hope that this idea catches on so more menu items from different eateries around campus will be available for purchase via WebFood," Keiser said. "It's innovative. It's simple. And it's convenient."

Due to its initial success, WebFood has had new food items added to the menu, including sushi, chicken gyro and falafel.

"The people who have used it seem to be really pleased with the service [and] food," Siddiqui said.

Sophomore Becca Tsevat, who used WebFood for the first time this week, said she found it easy and helpful.

"I didn't have any troubles with it. Essentially, it saves a lot of time," Tsevat said. "I'd definitely use it again. They had it prepared for me at the time they

said."

So far, the program has not encountered any major issues. Dining Services tested WebFood in a pilot program earlier this summer to guarantee that any glitches were taken care of before students arrived on campus for the school year.

The only issue at hand is that many students may still be unfamiliar with what WebFood has to offer or how to use it.

To help improve or adjust the program specifically to student needs, Siddiqui is encouraging students to provide feedback about the program through the Dining Services Web site or by speaking to dining staff directly.

Help Wanted

JOBS

Reynolds & Reynolds, Nationwide

Recruiting for: Account Manager Trainee
Majors: All Majors
Apply end: 9/5

ZS Associates, Princeton, New Jersey

Recruiting for: Operations Research Analyst
Majors: All Majors
Apply end: 9/5

Wei Laboratories, Santa Clara, California

Recruiting for: Inside Pharmaceutical Sales
Majors: Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering
Apply end: 9/9

ESPN, Bristol, Connecticut

Recruiting for: ESPN Stats and Information
Majors: All Majors
Apply end: 9/10

Nestle Purina PetCare Company, Nationwide

Recruiting for: Engineering Management Trainee
Majors: Engineering
Apply end: 9/11

Verto Medical, St. Louis, Missouri

Recruiting for: Event Marketing Manager - Technology Startup
Majors: All Majors
Apply end: 9/11

AmeriCorps VISTA Member for the NSAIE, Nationwide

Recruiting for: AmeriCorps VISTA Member for the National Society of American Indian Elderly
Majors: All Majors
Apply end: 9/14

Epic Systems Corporation, Nationwide

Recruiting for: Implementation/Project Manager
Majors: All Majors
Apply end: 9/26

INTERNSHIPS & CO-OPS

Nielsen Media Research, Inc., Nationwide

Recruiting for: Professional Services Intern
Majors: All Majors
Apply end: 9/10

Smithsonian National Postal Museum, Washington, D.C.

Recruiting for: Curatorial Research in Support of Exhibition Development
Majors: All Majors
Apply end: 9/12

The Solea Company, St. Louis, Missouri

Recruiting for: Engineering Temp
Majors: Engineering
Apply end: 9/12

Gateway Chapter Multiple Sclerosis Society, St. Louis, Missouri

Recruiting for: Event Planning and Logistics Intern
Majors: All Majors
Apply end: 9/22

Microsoft, Redmond, WA

Recruiting for: Software Development Engineer Intern
Majors: Engineering
Apply end: 9/27

INFO SESSIONS

Peace Corps: 9/3, 5:30 PM-8:30 PM, Danforth University Center, Room 234

Teach For America: 9/9, 5 PM-9 PM, Simon Hall, Room 104

EVENTS & WORKSHOPS

DUC in DUC out - Get Your Ducks in a Row!: 9/8, 11 AM-2 PM, Danforth University Center, Room 110. *DUC into the Career Center and play the Duck Pond for a chance to win a cool prize. While you're here, check out our office to learn more about the services and resources available.*

Olin Symposiums: 9/14-10/1, 4:30-7:45 PM, Weston Career Center.

This fall the Career Center is partnering with the Olin Business School to bring you two great events focused on marketing and consulting. These events are a great opportunity to gain industry specific knowledge and make professional contacts. (Deadline to apply 9/6). Visit CAREERlink for more information.

Engineering Career Week: 9/14-9/18, Various Locations. Visit CAREERlink to find out more about a week of opportunities geared toward helping engineering students jump start their search.

WORKSHOP WEDNESDAYS: The Career Center will be offering a variety of workshops every Wednesday this fall. Listed below are some upcoming workshops. For a more extensive list, visit CAREERlink.

9/2: Relationship Building (Networking), 4-5 PM in the Danforth University Center, Room 111

9/2: Informational Interviews, 5-6 PM in the Danforth University Center, Room 111

SAVE the DATE! Fall Career Fairs

NSBE All-Campus Career Fair: 9/25, 10 AM-3 PM in the Athletic Complex

Fall 2009 Internship and Job Career Fair: 10/2, 10 AM-2 PM in the Athletic Complex

Visit CAREERlink to view a list of employers registered for the fair.

start here.
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FORUM

STAFF EDITORIAL

WU/FUSED presents commendable policy goals

This past Sunday, Student Union collaborated with an assortment of student leaders for the first meeting of WU/FUSED, Washington University for Undergraduate Socio-Economic Diversity. We commend this effort and feel that such collaboration is a meaningful and necessary step toward cultivating an atmosphere that is respectful and understanding of the challenges posed and potential lessons wrought by socioeconomic diversity in our nation, city and the University.

While American universities—ours included—have long sought to attract diverse student bodies, this diversity is most often discussed in terms of race. Our University has made overtures to attract minority students

and international students.

The normative goals of the University in creating diversity are twofold and are just as applicable—if not more so—to questions of socioeconomic class than they are to race. First, universities such as ours seek to provide opportunities for underprivileged members of society to receive an education that will lead them to social contributions and lucrative careers. Second, a push toward diversity seeks to cultivate a varied atmosphere within the school itself, enabling students to interact with those of different backgrounds.

The first goal is often discussed politically; the second is the one that matters to us as students. In a university setting, we learn from our peers just

as we learn from our coursework. When the atmosphere we're surrounded by is one of privilege, the lessons of social science that we read about in our classes hold little footing: We fail to comprehend the real repercussions of numbers about poverty and social stratification. Although we live in St. Louis—a city with immense socioeconomic geographical divisions—we often fail to understand the climate that surrounds the University because it differs so radically from the climate within it.

WU/FUSED has published a set of objectives that will attempt to tackle these concerns—objectives such as creating a program for RAs to promote consciousness of so-

cioeconomic diversity, decrease textbook and dining costs, and add an additional admissions counselor to attract students from socioeconomically diverse backgrounds.

In order for these objectives to be successful, however, the student body needs to be aware that socioeconomic diversity is something we should value. Socioeconomic diversity is not as transparent—and cannot be as transparent—as racial diversity. We urge the student body to be conscious of and sensitive to the socioeconomic diversity that does exist on campus, and we encourage the administration to look to WU/FUSED as it moves to create policies that will make our University a more meaningful place to spend four years.

'Death panels' and the health debate



BECKY ZHAO | STUDENT LIFE

Daniel Fishman
Staff Columnist

The major piece of President Obama's agenda being discussed in Congress and town halls across the nation is health care and the best way to accomplish reform. Progressive Democrats are striving to insure as many Americans as possible through a variety of methods, including a public insurance plan that would compete with private options. The conservative Blue Dog Democrats seek cheaper reforms that would exclude this public option and prefer cooperative plans—localized, member-operated groups that progressives fear would lack the national coordination and power to compete against private health-care companies and to bring down costs for the average citizen. Various Democratic proposals call for mandates that would either require employers to offer health care or require individuals to have it.

From the Progressives to the Blue Dogs, Democrats of all political leanings have come out with proposals for

health-care reform because they want to fix a deeply flawed system under which insurance rates are projected to rise 94 percent by 2020. Many in the political world wonder about this simple question: What is the Republican Party's response?

Obviously, working in the minority leaves the Republicans with limited options for legislative work. Proposing their own plan would likely not result in legislation but would show the American people that Republicans have plans to help them. Opposing the Democratic plan is another logical step for Republicans, yet the Republicans have chosen neither option, but rather went a third route: to oppose an imaginary scary health-care system they want Americans to believe Democrats endorse.

The leading claim Republicans make against Democratic proposals is that health-care reform will establish "death panels" to decide who lives and dies by providing health care only to those deemed worthy. This charge was originally made by former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin. This rebuke would be terrifying if its claim

were true, but unfortunately for former Governor Palin, the "death panel" concept does not appear in any Democratic proposal. The made-up concept of death panels draws from a perversion of a provision of the main proposed House bill that allows reimbursement to medical professionals providing voluntary counseling on living wills.

Despite the complete inaccuracy of this claim, many Republicans, such as former House Speaker Newt Gingrich, Reps. Michelle Bachmann, R-Minn., and Virginia Foxx, R-Ga., continue to use its fear-evoking propaganda, causing some citizens to reject reform. Republicans enjoy this falsehood so much that conservative activist groups like FreedomWorks, led by former House Majority Leader Dick Armey, R-Texas, have created fake grassroots events and shouted at members of Congress at town halls about euthanasia. Democrats want to make reform bipartisan, but when senators at the deal-making table like Sen. Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, of the Senate Finance Committee say that the government plans

to "pull the plug on Grandma," many begin to question Republican motives.

Do Republicans want to debate health care by giving Americans facts, or do they prefer to assault it with lies? The chairman of the Republican National Committee, Michael Steele, illustrated the Republican plan for health care when asked his opinion on the death panel claims: "I think that's perfectly appropriate." In doing so, the official leader of the national Republican Party chooses to attempt to defeat progress with lies rather than by arguing honestly with facts against a plan Democrats actually support.

Last November, the American electorate voted for change because they had had enough of politicians who only care about their own reelection, playing games and lying to the people, and now as Democrats debate with facts and Republicans debate with fantasy, it is clear which party listened.

Daniel is a junior in Arts & Sciences. He can be reached via e-mail at drfishma@wustl.edu.

YOUR VOICE: LETTERS AND GUEST COLUMNS

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

Letters to the Editor
One Brookings Drive #1039
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News: 314-935-5995

Fax: 314-935-5938
E-mail: letters@studlife.com

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

OUR VOICE: EDITORIAL BOARD

Editorials are written by the Forum editors and reflect the consensus of the editorial board. The editorial board operates independently of the newsroom.

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Radical libertarianism does not provide for fairness in education

AJ Sundar
Forum Editor

underfunded public schools performing poorly, it still does not solve the pervading inequalities—students coming from rich families will still have the benefits of being able to afford and attend a high school that gives them significant advantage over those less fortunate.

Despite my libertarian streak, I find that the only feasible option to correct this inequality would be either to place a restriction of attending public schools only or to implement a voucher system in which tuition would be limited to the cost of the voucher alone. Restricting schooling options to only public schools is suboptimal because it would not account for geographic disparities—someone living in the ghetto will still have to attend school in the ghetto, and richer families will still have a benefit, if a more subtle one. A voucher system would only work if parents could not pay for tuition beyond the voucher itself. Otherwise, we would be back at square one—rich parents would send their children to schools whose tuition is much higher than the cost of a publicly-issued voucher.

Ultimately, the challenge posed to the educational system in America is to focus on achieving fairness rather than maximizing one social group at the expense of another. Programs like No Child Left Behind do not work because they do not shift the climate of education towards a meritocracy—in an environment where only the student's intelligence and competence matter, we can allow for a system that enables the brightest kids to succeed regardless of other hindrances. After all, we would all lose something if Einstein weren't given all the help he needed as a student to succeed and change the world.

Aj is a sophomore in Arts & Sciences and a Forum editor. He can be reached at asundar@wustl.edu.

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Mr. Smith goes to prison

Eve Samborn
Forum Editor

Moreso than perhaps any other industry, politics requires its young aspirants to attach their hopes and dreams to the career of another individual. The most common path to success for aspiring political strategists is typically to dedicate themselves wholly to the campaign of a promising candidate and hope for victory.

For those who choose the right candidate, the system works well. As with all human partnerships, however, there is a very real risk of betrayal.

As state Sen. Jeff Smith's recent resignation and guilty plea reflect, finding an honest candidate is not easy. Unless they have already been indicted, corrupt politicians do not wear scarlet letters or orange jumpsuits. Instead, they make promises of integrity and hope that voters fail

to see through the façade.

In Smith's case, that façade was particularly strong. He portrayed himself as an incorruptible newcomer who ran for office out of a genuine desire to improve people's lives. His alleged integrity was even the subject of a documentary whose title, "Can Mr. Smith Get to Washington Anymore?" is a reference to fictional political neophyte and man of integrity, Jefferson Smith.

Worse, not only did Smith build a reputation for idealism and ethical behavior, but he also preached it to his students. I still have my notes from the day Smith lectured to his "Campaigns and Elections" class on responding to scandals, including the section on "ethical questions to consider." I attended a forum featuring Watergate journalist Carl Bernstein during which Smith spoke about the ethical problems plaguing contemporary politics and the

need to address them. I even recall Smith lecturing on the illegality of coordination between campaigns and groups preparing independently funded advertisements and literature, the very offense Smith has been convicted of hiding.

Even more troubling, many of his campaign supporters knew Smith personally. If they could not accurately assess the character of a politician they knew, how can we even hope to correctly identify honest candidates whom we have never met?

Of course, corruption is not always a pervasive disease. Sometimes, and perhaps this is true of Smith, otherwise honest politicians get caught up in the need to win and make isolated, yet permanently damaging, mistakes.

Smith's case is not my first experience with corruption in politics. As the daughter of a federal prosecutor, I learned about corruption before I could even

spell the word "politics," and I have seen my fair share of so-called "reformers" earn their day in court. Yet Smith's downfall is a powerful reminder of a few important lessons for aspiring political idealists.

First, we should be careful whom we choose to support, and run when we sense corruption. It may not be easy to recognize every dishonest politician, but when there are warning signs, we should not ignore them.

Second, we should not attempt to cover up mistakes. Had Smith been honest with the Federal Election Commission investigators from the beginning, he probably would not be facing jail time. In nearly every major political scandal from Watergate onward, the mistakes are often trivial, and yet the cover-up is damning.

Finally, in a resignation letter to his constituents, Smith wrote to his former campaign supporters, "There are no perfect people

and no perfect candidates, but I hope you'll find a candidate or a cause in which you believe and fight for it with the same zeal you fought for me. Because the real tragedy of my lapses would be if they discouraged people like you from civic engagement."

It is difficult now to quote Smith and attribute to him any lasting wisdom. But politics is about people rather than icons and pragmatism rather than perfection. Despite the frequent corruption, politics is still one of the most meaningful ways for good people to make a difference. Furthermore, the only sure way to reform politics is for honest people to try their best.

So thanks for the last lesson, Senator. Mr. Smith might not be going to Washington anymore, but we should.

Eve is a junior in Arts & Sciences and a Forum editor. She can be reached at elsambor@wustl.edu.

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One Brookings Drive
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University underestimates importance of Wilderness Project

Andrew Gottlieb
Staff Columnist

I have participated in the Wilderness Project (WP) Pre-Orientation program for the

last two summers, last summer as a freshman and this summer as a leader. During WP, incoming freshmen embark on a weeklong trip filled with team building and social justice-themed activities, as well as

several days of backpacking or rock climbing in the subtly beautiful wilderness of the Missouri Ozarks.

The WP community is not a large one compared to many organizations on campus. I

can, however, say with great confidence that it is one of the most close-knit and supportive communities on campus, and it is extraordinarily important to students who are a part of it. Because of its small size, the important service that WP provides to freshmen is largely under the radar.

Because of its small size, the important service that WP provides to freshmen is largely under the radar.

year in and year out, the University manages to do just that.

There are several ways in which the University creates unnecessary hurdles for WP. One example is the Orientation Office's requirement that Wash. U. alumni be present every night at the base camp that we set up in the Ozarks. The theory is that we need an alumnus—any alumnus—with us in case of emergencies. In reality, this is not true: As leaders, we all took a 16-hour wilderness first aid course, and several of our leaders had more advanced wilderness first responder training. We also spent significant amounts of time preparing and rehearsing a detailed emergency plan. Our leaders are far more prepared to handle a wilderness emergency than an alumnus whose only distinction is taking 120 credits of classes from Wash. U.

In addition to being unnecessary, this requirement is extremely difficult to meet.

Andrew is a sophomore in Engineering. He can be reached via e-mail at ayg1@cec.wustl.edu.

Smoke-free policy would protect community from secondhand smoke

Sarah Schell
Op-ed Submission

In response to the Aug. 28 staff editorial, "University's endorsement of county smoking ban further limits student smokers' options," a comprehensive smoke-free policy is the simplest and most effective way to protect our University community from the dangers of secondhand smoke exposure.

If the St. Louis County clean-air legislation were to pass, it would not interfere

with the legal rights or the ability of students to smoke. Over 64 percent of the U.S. population lives in a place with smoke-free restaurants, and over 300 colleges and universities have smoke-free campuses. Smokers are not the victims. To smoke or not is still a choice afforded to all students. The staff writer misses the point when it comes to clean-air legislation. It is not about the infringement of smokers' rights, but the protection of the rights of workers and nonsmokers to healthfully inhabit the same space.

It is not about the infringement of smokers' rights, but the protection of the rights of workers and nonsmokers to healthfully inhabit the same space.

Washington University's administration clearly recognizes that smoking is an addiction, not a fad. They therefore want to create an environment, both on campus and off, that is as innocuous as possible. There is significant evidence that smoke-free ordinances result in decreased smoking in adults, including among college-aged students.

As an out-of-state undergraduate student, I was often happily unaware of the goings-on in the St. Louis and Missouri political scene, as I suspect many students still

are. Whether or not students choose to take notice, Wash. U. occupies a weighty role in the St. Louis region. As an employer of 15,000 people, an educator of 13,000 and partner to the largest health care provider in the area, Wash. U.'s support of the clean-air ordinance is both commendable and crucial. Political inertia in St. Louis runs deep.

Leadership from the University is important to help St. Louis catch up with the rest of the country. We are all better served when the University works to advance progres-

sive policies that promote the health and well-being of everyone in the University and St. Louis communities.

When voting this November, consider your peers and those in your community who don't have a choice when it comes to secondhand smoke exposure. Everyone deserves the right to breathe clean air.

Sarah is a 2007 Arts & Sciences graduate. She can be reached via e-mail at sschell@gwgbmail.wustl.edu.

SPORTS

WOMEN'S GOLF

Bears aim high in second year

Kurt Rohrbeck
Sports Reporter

Many of us learned at a young age that it takes time for good things to develop and that when starting something new, we're bound to meet some failures at first.

It would appear that no one told this to the Washington University women's golf team.

Coming off an extremely successful first season as a varsity-level team here at Wash. U., the squad foresees a successful 2009-2010 season and even a possible NCAA tournament berth in the near future.

"I was thrilled with how last season went," head coach Sean

Curtis said. "For us to finish our first season ranked 38th, I was just thrilled."

That No. 38 ranking, obtained from golfstat.com (the official statistics supplier of the NCAA), was out of 155 Division III women's golf programs—an outstanding figure, considering that the team's placement puts its in the top 25 percent of teams in the country after only its first year.

"We definitely exceeded our expectations," senior captain Kris Zeschin said. "We expected it to be much more difficult for us to break in and make a name for ourselves, but we did a great job holding our own against some highly ranked teams in our region."

The success of last season has created an incredibly large amount of optimism for the upcoming season—especially given the fact that all nine golfers from last year's team are coming back this year.

Leading the charge among those nine returnees and three freshmen are five seniors—Zeschin, Beth Pfahl, Claire Glasspiegel, Margaret Manning and Danielle Prague. Curtis called them "pioneers" of the team, adding that almost all of them were at the original meeting that started the team's run at the varsity level.

"They started this program, and they stuck with it," Curtis said. "They saw their opportunity to leave their mark on a

program that was just beginning."

"Having been here from the beginning, it's been a lot of work, but a lot of fun," Pfahl said. "We've gotten to know each other really well."

Zeschin and junior Kathleen Pettinato, as the team's captains, strive to set examples for the freshmen and other returning golfers.

"It's great having them back and having them be the leaders," Curtis said. "They set the tone. When people see them going out there and doing what they're supposed to be doing, they follow their lead."

"There's definitely some pressure to try and be a steady marker for the team," Zeschin

said. "So I try to be consistent so everyone can play their best round."

The returning veterans aren't the only ones who can play, though: The coaches and captains alike are excited about what the incoming freshmen can do.

"They'll add some new energy and new competitiveness," Zeschin said.

"I knew they were good coming in," Curtis said. "I'm trying to assimilate them and get them in, and the other players are doing their best to make them comfortable."

With a mix of new and seasoned talent in place, the team has all of the pieces in place to make a run at some of the best

teams around. The Illinois Wesleyan tournament on Sept. 19-20 gives the team a good shot at proving itself against one of the best teams in the division.

The ultimate goal, however, is simple: Make the NCAA tournament.

"I really want to see our team do well and make a national qualifier," Zeschin said. "That's our goal, really."

One thing is for sure, though: They haven't had to wait long to achieve success, and they look like they'll have that success for a long time. The Bears tee off at the Maryville Fall Warm-up Classic on Thursday and compete at the Illinois College Lady Blues Invite this weekend.

WOMEN'S SOCCER FEATURE PHOTO



DANIEL EICHOLTZ | STUDENT LIFE
Sophomore Emma Brown takes the ball downfield in Tuesday's 1-0 loss to Illinois Wesleyan.

Scoreboard

Volleyball

W 3-0 (25-12, 25-9, 25-14) vs. Harris-Stowe State
W 3-0 (25-17, 25-20, 25-9) vs. Greenville College

Men's soccer

T 0-0, 2 OT, vs. IWU

Women's soccer

L 1-0 vs. IWU

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CADENZA

ALBUM REVIEW



'No More Stories Are Told Today I'm Sorry They Washed Away No More Stories The World Is Grey I'm Tired Let's Wash Away'

Mew

Steve Hardy
Cadenza Reporter

Landing in Mew's "No More Stories..." initially might feel like visiting an unwelcoming land, a freewheeling dreamscape with stream-of-consciousness indie rock set amid echoing, somnambulant vocals. However, after you spend some time with the veteran Danish band, the music becomes appreciably lush, rife with nuanced, layered contributions from every member of the group.

Guitarist Bo Madsen goes so far as to call the band "the world's only indie stadium-rock band," and the description might be apt. "Repeaterbeater" opens with an aggressive guitar roar and heavily percussive drums before giving way to a verse reminiscent of Death

Cab for Cutie that could best be described simply as "pretty." Yet the song and album are nothing if not capricious, and before long the understated beauty of the first verse explodes into a rich chorus with fantastic backing vocals before winding back down.

And even though the song changes step several times in only two and a half minutes, it never feels like Mew is trying to stay interesting simply by switching from one sound to another. Rather, every new flavor is enjoyable and even feels necessary to contribute to the song and album as wholes.

The usual pitfalls for art rockers like Mew are taking themselves too seriously or creating music that is difficult to follow or obscure for obscurity's sake. And at times, it seems as if vocalist/lyricist/guitarist Jonas Bjerre's lyr-

ics are nothing but nonsense. However, on subsequent listenings, it appears more and more likely that he is trying to, in a way, "feel" his sentiment at you, the way a writer might use stream of consciousness to get a life-like, if disjointed, portrait of a character. This technique is mirrored in the layered and ever-shifting instrumental work, especially the ambitious, seven-minute-plus "Cartoons and Macramé Wounds." Although Mew's music is in a constant flux, the group is always anchored by talented drummer Silas Utke Graae Jørgensen. The percussive demands on "No More Stories..." are substantial, as the band relies on everything from a traditional drum kit to xylophones to steel drums to achieve fresh sonic textures.

The only knock against "No More Stories..." might

be that it's exhausting. Logging in at 54 cerebral minutes, the album demands a bit of its listener to be appreciated fully, though it is by no means off-putting in the way that some prog or art rock can be, and the album can be enjoyed as background music as well. As proof of its wide-ranging fans, the album has already reached No. 1 on the charts (in Denmark).



for fans of

Death Cab for Cutie
covering The Velvet Underground, Deerhunter

tracks to download

Repeaterbeater, 'Cartoons and Macramé Wounds'

ALBUM REVIEW

'Ellipse' Imogen Heap

Nora Long
Cadenza Reporter

I will freely admit that when I started listening to "Ellipse," all I knew about Imogen Heap was that she recorded that epic song from "The O.C." On the basis of this limited knowledge, I was fully prepared to dislike her. It's not that "Hide and Seek" is a bad song, aside from the source of its celebrity, but it is a tad repetitive, and all anyone remembers is the bridge of "Ooh, what you say?"

"Ellipse," though, was a surprise. Heap has successfully melded what is best about electronic music with a more traditional vocal style to make herself into a band of one. Each song contains layers upon layers of rich harmonies and counterpoints. Throw in lyrics that are innovative and poetic, even if they do veer into the strange now and then, and you have what amounts to an electronic version of The Beatles' "White Album": intriguing, complex and hauntingly beautiful music that boldly leads the genre in a new direction.

I would not be at all surprised if "Ellipse," like "White Album," contained subliminal messages. You can't help but wonder when a song has lyrics like "Slow hard dog wait/ Down love black canvas/ Revolve within, you understand."

Even the slightly more lucid lyrics have an air of spoken word poetry, as if it all makes sense inside Heap's head,

but she's choosing her words based on their private significance rather than their potential to communicate clear images to the listener.

Then again, there are songs that perfectly convey identifiable scenarios and emotions. "Between Sheets" may be the most beautifully post-coitus song I've ever heard, and probably everyone has experienced the kind of bordering-on-stalkerish "friend" described by "Bad Body Double." She's not even above being laughingly self-referential, as in "Swoon": "This is where I was going to sing your name/ Over and over again/ But I chickened out and I thought a minute/ Cause I thought you probably wouldn't like it." No matter what Heap is going for in a given song, the music itself perfectly complements and develops it. Heap keeps you guessing, both within each song, through new embellishments and variations on the tune and within the CD itself, never creating quite the same sound twice.



for fans of

Ingrid Michaelson, Bloc Party,
The Postal Service

tracks to download

'Half Life,' '2-1,' 'Between
Sheets'



ALBUM REVIEW

'I Look To You' Whitney Houston

Alex Terrono
Cadenza Reporter

Whitney Houston has made some serious missteps in the past few years, many of which were documented by the media and even her ex-husband's ill-conceived reality show "Being Bobby Brown." Understandably, Whitney wants all of us to forget her past drug and marital issues and focus on her music again, which leads us to her new album, "I Look to You."

On her first album in seven years, Houston makes it clear that

she has fought her way back into the musical spotlight, hoping she can win our hearts back, while still accepting that there may be those who doubt her.

Before delving in too deep, it is necessary to address Whitney's new voice. Once lauded as "The Voice," Houston has certainly lost a bit of her range due, undoubtedly, to her age and drug use; but that doesn't mean that she can't hold a tune. For the most part, Whitney consciously stays within her new range—although the ballads sprinkled throughout tend to draw out notes that are less steady.

This is really the album's pitfall: The ballads don't really match the quality of the ones from previous albums or many of her other songs on "I Look to You" itself. The biggest proof of this lies within the album's first leaked track, "I Didn't Know My Own Strength." Certainly those who are looking for more of Whitney in her "I Will Always Love You" days will be drawn to this track. But, placed in the middle of the album, the song falls flat. The slow power ballad builds slowly and ends anticlimactically. Other songs, like "Like I Never Left" and

the first single, "Million Dollar Bill," just sound outdated and cheesy.

Interestingly, on "I Look to You," the up-tempo and mid-tempo songs take center stage. Notably, "A Song for You" shines through in the middle of the album when its slow musical-esque piano tinkling gives way to a faster, synthesized dance beat. The slower Akon-produced "I Got You" really brings Whitney into the present. It's able to showcase Whitney's still-powerful vocals without straining them and put her over a modern hip-hop-influenced head-knocking beat without her sounding out of place.

Closing the album, "Salute" is by far one of the standout tracks on "I Look to You," with Whitney proclaiming that she survived all by herself over a military-like snare. Again, Whitney sings extremely well within her range to great effect, showing that when she has the right song, she can hit it out of the park.

As Whitney says in the final song of "I Look to You," "Don't call it a comeback/ I did it for years." Whitney's "I Look to You" isn't really a comeback,



for fans of

Mariah Carey, Toni Braxton,
Celine Dion

tracks to download

'I Got You,' 'Salute,' 'Call You
Tonight'