



While spring training just started for the pros, Wash. U. baseball season has begun. See **SPORTS PAGE 6**

Wash. U. softball swept its opening weekend!
For a recap, visit studlife.com

Oscars will be awarded this Sunday, but the Cadenza staff has already made its picks in **CADENZA, PAGE 8**



STUDENT LIFE

the independent newspaper of Washington University in St. Louis since eighteen seventy-eight

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Wednesday, March 3, 2010

Wrighton appears in pro-transit spot as election nears

Jack Marshall
Staff Reporter

Proposition M might not have passed, but voters in St. Louis County have another chance on April 6 to increase funding for St. Louis Metro with another referendum: Proposition A.

As the April 6 election loomed, advocacy commercials for the region's transit system debuted during the Winter Olympics. The first advertisement, which aired during the opening ceremony of the Olympics on Feb. 12, features testimonials from multiple St. Louis businessmen and personalities, including Chancellor Mark Wrighton. In the commercial, Wrighton cites how public transit such as MetroLink carries 25,000 of his students,

faculty and staff.

Proposition M failed on Nov. 4, 2008, by a vote of 52 percent to 48 percent. If it had passed, St. Louis County would have raised the sales tax by half a cent, bringing in \$80 million per year for Metro. According to the Greater St. Louis Transit Alliance, an advocacy group working to improve Metro service, Proposition M's failure has led to "agency-wide layoffs, a transit fare increase on January 1, 2009, and massive service cuts on March 30, 2009."

Proposition A also aims to increase sales tax by half a cent. This tax, according to the Transit Alliance, will cost the average family \$50 per year. The Transit Alliance is basing its campaign on the slogan "Some of us ride it. All of us need it."

See **PROP A, page 3**

Universities unite on Latino research

Lauren Olens
News Editor

While Washington University offers numerous classes about different cultures and ethnicities, one area that has been lacking in the past is Latino studies.

The University, along with Saint Louis University (SLU), University of Missouri-St. Louis (UMSL) and other local universities, is working to form the St. Louis Coalition for Latino Research. This coalition combines each school's research and services to better enhance the overall research and provide increased services to the community.

Professor Luis Zayas, in Washington University's George Warren Brown School of Social Work, is the director of the coalition. He started discussing it about

a year ago with Joel Jennings, an assistant professor at SLU. Last semester, the coalition had its first meeting with more than 10 participants. Another meeting occurred this semester, and the membership has doubled.

A third meeting will likely occur later this year in which participants will actually share their research with one another to see how they should proceed.

The St. Louis Coalition for Latino Research combines members of many different disciplines, including anthropologists, demographers, sociologists, historians and biologists. According to Ana Baumann, a postdoctoral fellow in the Brown School and member of the coalition, this is a "win-win situation," helping both their own research and the greater

See **LATINO, page 3**

Student creates course listings site



WebSTAC

School:	Engineering and Applied Science						
Department:	COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING (E81)						
Semester:	FL2010						
Course:	332S						
Title:	Object-Oriented Software Development Laboratory						
Credit:	3 Units						
Course Type:	Home [Home/Mini]						
Lab Required:	Yes						
Frequency / Last Offered:	<None> / FL2010 [History]						
Attributes:	EN - TU 3 SU 1 DU 2						
Description:	Intensive focus on practical aspects of designing, implementing and debugging object-oriented software. Topics covered include developing, documenting, and testing representative applications using object-oriented frameworks and C++. Design and implementation based on frameworks are central themes to enable the construction of reusable, extensible, efficient, and maintainable software. Prerequisites: CSE 132 and 241.						
Sec	Days	Begin	End	Building	Room	Instructor	Exam Code
01	-T-R----	10:00 AM	11:30 AM	TBA		Gill	XX
A	--W----	1:00 PM	3:00 PM	TBA		Gill	Default - none
B	--W----	3:00 PM	5:00 PM	TBA		Gill	Default - none

WooCourses

Object-oriented Software Development Laboratory							
Intensive focus on practical aspects of designing, implementing and debugging object-oriented software. Topics covered include developing, documenting, and testing representative applications using object-oriented frameworks and C++. Design and implementation based on frameworks are central themes to enable the construction of reusable, extensible, efficient, and maintainable software. Prerequisites: CSE 132 and 241.							
Sec	Instructor	Location	Days	Time (Length)			
01	Gill	TBA		10:00 - 11:30			40 / 40 seats
01 / 40 seats							
Sec	Instructor	Location	Days	Time (Length)			
A	Gill	Sever 201		01:00 - 03:00			40 / 40 seats
B	Gill	Sever 201		03:00 - 05:00			40 / 40 seats
A	Gill	TBA		01:00 - 03:00			40 / 40 seats
B	Gill	TBA		03:00 - 05:00			40 / 40 seats

MATT LANTER | STUDENT LIFE

A new Web site created by junior Joshua Gross for browsing course listings provides students with an alternative to WebSTAC with additional features and a new user interface.

Jack Marshall
Staff Reporter

Junior Joshua Gross was dissatisfied with Washington University's online course catalog and decided to create WashUCourses.com. The only problem was the University trademark on "Wash. U." and other variations of the University's name.

Gross changed the Web site's URL to woocourses.com, after Patricia Hart, the associate general counsel of Washington University, sent a cease-and-desist letter on Feb. 18. The letter cited possible confusion that the "Wash. U." designation might cause.

"Your use of the 'Wash. U.' trademark in this context causes confusion as to the sponsorship of your Web site's services by implying to consumers (students) that the University is somehow affiliated with, or approves of your services," Hart wrote in her letter to Gross. "Such consumer confusion regarding affiliation or approval constitutes trademark infringement and unfair competition under Missouri state law and federal law."

Gross, a student in the art school, created the Web site at the beginning of the semester after past experiences with the University's course catalog. He was displeased that the University's course catalog did not allow him to search by basic graduation

requirements for the art school.

"I have been using the course Web site for the past two years, and I've always been dissatisfied," Gross said. "You have to fill out certain credits, but you can never search by these requirements, so I wanted to create a way that students can search by requirements that they need."

Gross' site allows students to search not only by basic requirements, but also by length of class, frequency, instructor, room, number of credits, course title and course description, and by whether the course has a subsection or whether the course needs prerequisites. Students can also comment on courses.

Gross has received positive

feedback from students inside and outside the art school. Students, he said, have complimented him on expanding the information already available on the course catalog.

"I try to make the information as clearly presented as possible and add the ability to search by a wider variety [of criteria]," Gross said.

Sophomore Melissa Cochran is one student who views Gross' site positively. "I like woocourses.com more than WebSTAC's course listings because it is more helpful and user friendly," Cochran said.

Cochran also complimented woocourses.com's color coding

See **WOO, page 3**

NORTH VS. SOUTH: THE VEGAN COOK-OFF



PERRY STEIN | STUDENT LIFE

Students and chefs gathered in Tisch Commons on Tuesday evening for the first annual North vs. South Champion Chef Competition, sponsored by Bon Appétit. Selected students and Bon Appétit chefs participated in a vegan tempeh recipe cook-off, which was part of a series of events surrounding eco chef and cookbook author Bryant Terry's visit to campus. The teams included the North Side and South 40, with four student chefs participating on each team. Team North was led by DUC chef Justin Keimon, and South 40 chef Gary Suarez; led Team South. Above, senior Patrick Fahey cooks for Team North as Keimon, left, supervises him. Team South won the cook-off. Judges for the event included Terry; Catherine Neville, editor in chief of Sauce Magazine; Chris Desens, award-winning chef; Provost Edward Macias; and James Dodge, chef and cookbook author.

The newbie dilemma: Modern or traditional?

Josh Berry
Contributing Reporter

Riot-proof halls and communal bathrooms are soon to be a thing of the past. With Residential Life to shut down Rutledge and Myers residence halls next year, to avoid overstepping the Clayton fire marshal's bed quota, and the creation of two new modern dorms, the debate over modern and traditional dorms is as heated as ever.

Some of the most pressing issues on the minds of Washington University students and prospective freshmen are where to live and which form of housing is more appealing. Students have the option of choosing the "old-school," vintage living arrangement of a traditional dorm, or a modern one, which has won Washington University a place in the "Dorms Like Palaces" ranking in the Princeton Review.

Additionally, students have to take into account whether they want to share a bathroom with a suite of students or a whole floor. Some worry that suite-style

housing makes a floor less social.

For the past decade, the University has demolished traditional housing, which features communal bathrooms on each floor, in favor of modern suite-style housing, in which all individual suites have private bathroom facilities. In addition, all remaining traditional dorms and modern dorms that opened this fall have been provided with TempurPedic mattresses.

Old dorms were renovated over the summer to resemble newer dorms. Rubelmann, Lee and Beaumont have all been fitted with new carpet, swivel chairs and an interior paint job.

These significant housing changes may or may not be serving the needs and desires of all incoming freshmen.

Andy Marsh, a freshman living in Lee Hall this year, chose to live in a traditional dorm for the social element that communal bathrooms and the absence of suites bring to each floor.

"[I chose to live in traditional housing because] I really liked the idea of a more social dorm," Marsh said.

Marsh acknowledged that there are some benefits that come from living in a modern dorm, such as living in a newer building and having elevators, but he still prefers the traditional housing.

"Besides becoming really good friends with your suitemates and maybe a few other kids on your floor [as you would in the modern dorms], you become friends with everyone on your floor in the traditional dorms," he said.

Parker Spielman, a freshman currently living in Danforth House, finds modern dorms to have environments conducive to socialization as well. He said this is especially true of dorms that have straight long hallways, such as Dardick House and Eliot House. Just as Marsh is happy with his decision to live in a traditional dorm, Spielman is happy with his modern living arrangement this year.

"It seemed ideal to live in a suite with four people," he said.

For Spielman, having a private bathroom is a more comfortable

See **DORMS, page 2**

THE FLIPSIDE

eventcalendar

WEDNESDAY 3

Jazz band concert
Holmes Lounge, 8 p.m.–9:30 p.m.
Come listen to Wash. U.'s jazz band's first concert of the spring semester.

Vote!
WebSTAC, all day
Vote on your WebSTAC account for your new Student Union senators, amendments and who you think should get block funding!

THURSDAY 4

Cupcakes!
DUC, Tisch Commons, 11 a.m.–2 p.m.
Support KIVA, a micro-financing organization that provides loans to entrepreneurs in impoverished communities, by buying Cupcakery cupcakes!

Suspicious of Whistlers
Gargoyle, 8 p.m.–9:30 p.m.
Head to the Gargoyle for another free evening of improv, called "A Show pt. 2, 'A Little Prov.'"

STUDENT LIFE

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newsbriefs

Campus

1...2...3...debate!

The Student Union executive slates participated in a debate on Monday night. Sponsored by the Election Commission and run by Sarah Rubin (who is on the commission), the execs went head to head. They answered questions prepared by a panel of moderators consisting of Kurt Wall of Interfraternity Council, DeAndrea Nichols of Connect 4, Kenny Hofmeister of KWUR, Hannah Bowling of Congress of the South 40, and Michelle Merlin of Student Life. The question topics ranged from the slates' priorities to what they would do for each respective panelist's affiliation. After each panelist asked four questions, the floor was opened for students to ask questions. The viability for campus card use off campus, individual appeals for Treasury, and transparency were discussed. (Lauren Olens)

Feminist activist cancels Assembly Series lecture

Gloria Steinem, who was supposed to be a part of the Assembly Series and give a talk called "Sex Trafficking and the New Abolitionists" on Wednesday, March 3, has canceled her lecture because of illness. Her talk will likely be rescheduled for another day. Steinem's lecture is about human trafficking and the slave trade. (Lauren Olens)

National

Obama proposes change in education funding

In reaction to the issue of failing schools, President Obama has said that he prefers to allocate funds to school districts that have closed down underperforming schools and fired underperforming teachers.

According to Obama, taking these steps will help to lower the high school dropout rate, and will remediate education issues in general. Obama proposes allocating \$900 million to school districts that take these aggressive measures to ensure their future success. According to Obama, this funding will be most available to districts with high dropout rates.

This announcement comes just a week after the entire faculty of Central Falls High School in Rhode Island was fired in an effort to improve the school's 48 percent graduation rate. (Chloe Rosenberg)

fortherecord

Student Life published that Senate Speaker Chase Sackett summoned Constitutional Council to speak at Senate on Wednesday when it was, in fact, Senator Cody Katz who did. Student Life regrets the error.

weatherforecast

Wednesday 3

Partly Cloudy
High 44
Low 26

Thursday 4

Sunny
High 47
Low 27

Friday 5

Sunny
High 51
Low 31

DORMS from page 1

and convenient amenity than communal bathrooms. When he visited the Massachusetts Institute of Technology his senior year of high school, he found himself in a situation involving a female student using the men's bathroom. After this incident, he decided that he would prefer suite-style living.

As far as living in a dorm that lacks TempurPedic mattresses, Spielman thought that the mattresses currently in Danforth and other

modern dorms are neither good nor bad, and that it is a norm among students to bring a mattress pad to school to increase the comfort of the provided mattresses.

As the debate over modern versus traditional housing continues for current students and incoming freshmen who will live on the South 40 next year, one fact remains: Traditional dorms are slowly being abandoned in favor of modern housing.

policebeat

LARCENY—Feb. 27, 2010, 2 a.m.
Location: POLICE DEPARTMENT
Summary: Complainant reported a stolen jacket from Frat 2 between 11:30 p.m. and 1:30 a.m. An ID case that had been in the pocket was later found outside and turned into lost & found.
Disposition: Pending

PROPERTY DAMAGE—Feb. 28, 2010, 5:32 p.m.
Location: MCMILLAN HALL
Summary: The academic coordinator for the anthropology department reported that unknown person(s) destroyed an old bench that sits inside Old McMillan Hall near the Old Mac Cafe. This bench used to be part of the seating in Graham Chapel before

it was remodeled. She also stated a research poster hanging near Old Mac 118 was torn off the wall. Damage occurred between 5 p.m. hours on Friday, Feb. 26, and 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 27. The research poster was worth around \$25, and the value of the bench is unknown at this time.
Disposition: Pending.

LARCENY—March 1, 2010, 4:37 p.m.
Location: THETA XI
Summary: Student reported a lost or stolen ID card with fraudulent charges on it. TOC Feb. 28 between 1:30 a.m. and 2 a.m.
Disposition: Pending.

Student Life's next print edition will come out on Wednesday, March 17, because of spring break.

For the latest news, check studlife.com, and have a safe and enjoyable break!

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Information Session

March 20, 9 a.m. to noon
Lunch served at noon
Simon Hall, room 112
RSVP to get started now:
shepard@wustl.edu

www.olin.wustl.edu/MBA



Washington University in St. Louis

OLIN BUSINESS SCHOOL

WOO from page 1

and the ease of searching for classes.

According to Gross, he had received prior warnings about Wash. U. Courses "a solid seven days, possibly more" before he received the cease-and-desist letter. He had not spoken to Hart prior to receiving the letter. Gross did not believe that he was violating any trademark laws.

"From my own research of the law and of trademarks, they did not own a trademark on 'Wash. U.' in the context of Web sites and searchable databases, so I thought I was in the clear," Gross said.

After receiving the letter, Gross decided to change the

site's name to "WooCourses," because he wanted it to maintain a name that was identifiable to the University but did not infringe on any trademarks. Although he still believes that he did not infringe on any trademarks, he does not want to spend the time or money required to keep the site's original name.

While Gross willingly changed the Web site's name to "WooCourses," he said he believed that the University could have handled the legal matter better than it did.

Gross plans to continue running the Web site independently of the University, but he noted that if the University is willing to have an open dialogue with

him, he will think about collaborating with them to improve Wash. U.'s catalog.

"I said that I would be willing to talk to the school about getting official support, since other students have told me that they want more support from the Web site," Gross said. "I thought the school and I could work together on this."

Despite the legal disputes he has faced, Gross emphasized that his main goal for WooCourses has remained the same.

"I want people to find classes they want more quickly, instead of browsing through the course catalog for a few hours," Gross said.

PROP A from page 1

"Great cities have great transit systems," says the Transit Alliance's Web site, www.moremetrolink.com. "MetroLink is one of the most successful light rail systems in the country with 70,000 riders per day on a typical week-day and reaches as many as 100,000 on days with special events. Without MetroLink, St. Louis would not be at the level it is today."

According to the Transit Alliance, although annual ridership for the MetroLink rose from 15.4 million people to 19.7 million people from fiscal 2006 to fiscal 2008, the number dropped by 300,000 for fiscal 2009. Ridership for all forms of the Metro fell from 53.8 million in fiscal 2008 to 52.8 million in fiscal 2009.

There are also many opponents to Proposition A. In response to the new commercials, Citizens for Better Transit, a group which opposes the tax increases in Proposition A, wrote a new blog post on its Web site, stoptheprop.com.

"I've now heard radio commercials and seen television commercials for the Metro Tax increase we're supposed to vote on in April, and can say with a straight face it's not truthful...No matter how

the vote goes, we will still have Metro," the site reads.

Opponents from this group believe that the tax increases will be used for expansion of the Metro, not for sustaining the services the region already has, which they believe to be problematic.

"If the Vote Yes on Proposition A people won't even bother to tell you the truth about why they want the money, how can we trust them to take care of the money when they get it," the site reads. "The loss in Metro services that will occur when the stimulus funds runs out is still going to occur. This tax won't fix it."

Students have noticed the drop in MetroLink service after the failure of Proposition M in 2008.

"The trains close earlier and are much less efficient than they were before," sophomore Aubrey Murray said. "[The failure of Proposition M] has been devastating."

Murray, who is originally from St. Louis and uses MetroLink regularly, said that she will vote for Proposition A.

Some, including freshman Chris Bell, registered to vote in St. Louis County as a result of the University's campaign

for Proposition A.

"The Metro is adequate," Bell said. "Nothing's perfect, but to keep service at the current level, Proposition A has to pass. I would not like to see the service decrease at all."

Non-St. Louis County voters share similar sentiments about Proposition A. Although sophomore Annie Pinnell is registered to vote in Kansas and has not used Metro this year, she nevertheless believes in the cause of Proposition A, and would vote for it if she were registered in Missouri.

"I think it's a worthwhile tax increase, because a lot of people need to use the Metro," Pinnell said.

In addition to the commercials, Wash. U. has sent out e-mails to students with instructions on how to register to vote and encouraging student volunteers to help with voter registration.

The deadline for St. Louis County registration is March 10. Even if students are already registered to vote in St. Louis County, their address must be the same as it was the last time they voted, so students must register even if they have only changed dormitories or moved to a different part of campus—otherwise, they may only vote provisionally.

LATINO from page 1

community.

Zayas discussed how the combination of research really would strengthen the different studies. He emphasized how a historian can help a sociologist by looking at similar infrastructure and its functions in historical cases.

Baumann further mentioned that this sort of study is exactly what the community has been asking for.

"We have organizations now, but we have pockets of people that are separate that are working with the community," Baumann said. "The goal, then, is to get these people together. We don't have only Washington University, SLU and UMSL, but also representatives from all three communities with us so we can hear from the community, what they need and what they want from us."

Currently, Zayas, along with Jennings and other members, is assisting with La Casa de Salud. La Casa de Salud has reopened after La Clínica closed. La Clínica provided services to Latino immigrants, regardless of their legal status, but had to close due to a lack of funding.

The St. Louis Coalition for Latino Research is currently being

hosted by Washington University's Center for Latino Research and can be found through its Web site. The coalition is planning on expanding in the future and welcome any master's, doctoral or postdoctoral students to join its forces.

"They are more than welcome to join us and help us develop grants and studies and workshops and strengthen the forces to help the Latino community," Baumann said.

Baumann also emphasized how the coalition is only in its early stages and that there are future plans in the works. One such proposal is to develop workshops for the community that focus on parenting, mental health and Latino values.

Zayas is very pleased that Washington University is part of this coalition. While there are programs on Latin American languages and literatures and on Latin American studies in certain departments like anthropology, there really has not been a study on Latino population yet at Washington University, according to Zayas. He believes that Latin American Studies is a very important area that should be focused on, and that the University does

not do nearly as much as it should to provide services to the Latino community in St. Louis.

Baumann believes that the reason that the University does not do as much as it should is a lack of available resources.

"The Latino community is increasing, and it's increasing fast in St. Louis and in Missouri," Baumann said. "We are very few... We are not enough to provide services for the community."

This study coincides with an increase in the Latino population in St. Louis.

Estimates range from 58,000 people in the 2007 U.S. Census to 90,000 people in other counts that believe the census under-reports the Latino population.

The Pew Hispanic Center calculated that there were 170,000 Hispanics in Missouri in 2007. According to Zayas, the Latino population recently has been increasing in many places where it has not historically or traditionally been expected, in states like Missouri, Iowa, North Carolina and Georgia. In Missouri specifically, the economic status of Latinos is lower than that of non-Hispanic whites and non-Hispanic blacks, based on a calculation of a lower median income.

Help Wanted

JOBS

AT&T Corporation, Multiple U.S. Locations

Recruiting for: NETREX-Network Transition Exchange
Majors: All Majors
Apply end: 3/7

Robert W. Baird & Co., Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Recruiting for: Equity Research Analyst
Majors: All Majors
Apply end: 3/7

ESD-Environmental Systems Design, Inc., Chicago, Illinois

Recruiting for: Electrical Consulting Engineer, Mechanical Consulting Engineer
Majors: Electrical & Systems Engineering, Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering
Apply end: 3/8

Federal Reserve Board, Nationwide

Recruiting for: Research Assistant
Majors: All Majors
Apply end: 3/8

Google, Multiple U.S. Locations

Recruiting for: Software Engineer
Majors: Engineering
Apply end: 3/8

Green Corps, Nationwide

Recruiting for: 2009-2010 Green Corps Field School for Environmental Organizing
Majors: All Majors
Apply end: 3/8

USPIRG, Nationwide

Recruiting for: Campus Organizer, Fellowship Program
Majors: All Majors
Apply end: 3/9

STARLiMS, Arlington, Virginia

Recruiting for: Software Developer
Majors: Computer Science & Engineering, Energy, Environmental & Chemical Engineering, Chemistry
Apply end: 3/14

The MATCH School, Boston, Massachusetts

Recruiting for: MATCH Corps: Urban Education Fellowship
Majors: All Majors
Apply end: 3/18

Washington University in St. Louis-Office of Undergraduate Admissions

Recruiting for: Admissions Officer
Majors: All Majors
Apply end: 3/26

INTERNSHIPS & CO-OPS

Edward Jones, Nationwide

Recruiting for: Branch Development Group Intern, Client Solutions Intern, Information Systems Intern
Majors: All Majors
Apply end: 3/4

St. Louis Children's Hospital, St. Louis, Missouri

Recruiting for: Summer Intern
Majors: All Majors
Apply end: 3/4

Washington University in St. Louis-Alumni & Development Programs

Recruiting for: Summer Intern
Majors: All Majors
Apply end: 3/4

Washington University in St. Louis-Office of Undergraduate Admissions

Recruiting for: Summer Undergraduate Admissions Intern
Majors: All Majors
Apply end: 3/5

Stereotaxis, Inc., St. Louis, Missouri

Recruiting for: Medical Device Technical Writer Intern
Majors: All Majors
Apply end: 3/8

West End Word, St. Louis, Missouri

Recruiting for: Publishing Intern
Majors: All Majors
Apply end: 3/14

Berman Braun, St. Louis, Missouri

Recruiting for: Summer Intern (WU EXCLUSIVE)
Majors: All Majors
Apply end: 3/15

INFO SESSIONS

Produce Pro Software: 3/3, 6:30-7:30 PM, Danforth University Center, Room 234

U.S. Department of State: 3/3, 6:00-7:00 PM, Danforth University Center, Room 232

U.S. Peace Corps: 3/18, 6:00-7:30 PM, Danforth University Center, Room 234

EVENTS & WORKSHOPS

WORKSHOP WEDNESDAYS: The Career Center will offer a variety of workshops every Wednesday this fall. For a more extensive list, visit CAREERlink.

• **EXPLORING CAREERS:** 3/3, 4:00-5 PM, Danforth University Center, Room 111

EDUCATIONAL TRANSITIONAL PROGRAMS PANEL DISCUSSION:

3/17, 4:00-5:30 PM in the Danforth University Center, Location TBD

Wanting to make a difference with your time off before graduate school or taking that first job? You'll have the opportunity to learn about educational based transitional programs and ask all your questions. Visit CAREERlink to RSVP.

Panelists include: City Year, College Bound, Peace Corps, Teach For America.

start here.

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FORUM

STAFF EDITORIAL

Cast an informed vote today

Student Union elections are upon us. When you're deciding whether to vote on March 3 and 4, consider this—the four years you spend as a college student at Wash. U. may be the least apathetic of your life, at least in terms of the peo-

Vote if you've voted in every SU election since coming to Wash. U., and vote if you've never voted in any election, Wash. U.-related or not, before.

ple who surround you. You may go on to change public policy or initiate grassroots organizations, or you may be president, but never again will you be so closely surrounded by so many young people who care. What exactly the students at Wash. U. care about varies, of course. But the engaged nature of a college campus can be seen in Wash. U. students' high grade-point averages, their athletic dedication and the flyers that cover campus promoting more than 200 SU groups.

It's a scary thought, the notion that such intense,

condensed, active participation in life will be lost amid a sea of apathy when we move out of the Wash. U. bubble and into the real world. And so the only viable option when presented with the reality of such short-lived engagement is not to take such an atmosphere for granted.

Vote in the upcoming elections. Vote because you've decided who you want to control a \$2.2 million budget. Vote because you've chosen the representatives who will bring positive change to SU and campus. Vote because the system works only if the student body feels connected to its

government. Vote if you know every detail about both slates, and vote if you know nothing but their big ideas. Vote if you've voted in every SU election since coming to Wash. U., and vote if you've never voted in any election, Wash. U.-related or not, before. Vote to increase transparency. Vote to bring the kinds of speakers you want to campus. Vote to increase funding for individual student groups. Vote because you can. Vote because you only have four years at Wash. U. and because such an opportunity for direct involvement may not last past graduation.

Election day dichotomy

Eve Samborn
Forum Editor

Today is election day, and in its honor, I planned to pen a mildly snarky column (think Maureen Dowd, but at Wash. U.) about Student Union's general lack of meaningful action and to remind you dear readers that although I am pleased to see at least two candidates running for each position this year (by the way, congrats to SU on achieving the bare minimum requirement for competition), I still doubt SU's ability to take on issues that, you know, actually matter.

Then I had a change of heart...or at least change in tone.

I was driving down Lindell Boulevard tonight, and I saw a man, probably in his 20s, standing on the median and holding a cardboard sign that read, among other things, "homeless." He was standing about 100 yards from the steps of Brookings Quad.

We all know poverty exists in St. Louis. It is a fact we tend to treat as inevitable. There is something almost unspeakably sad, however, about a man with no home standing steps away from a university that costs more than \$50,000 per year to attend.

Today and tomorrow we will log on to WebSTAC and vote for the candidates most likely to improve our Wash. U. experience. The platforms to be voted

upon include pseudo-compelling issues like the expansion of the campus card, the development of the SU archives and a plan to teach the entire student body the Wash. U. fight song.

These platforms are fine. They include some good ideas with the potential to improve SU and benefit the student body. They are also in no way fundamentally different from what I might have expected.

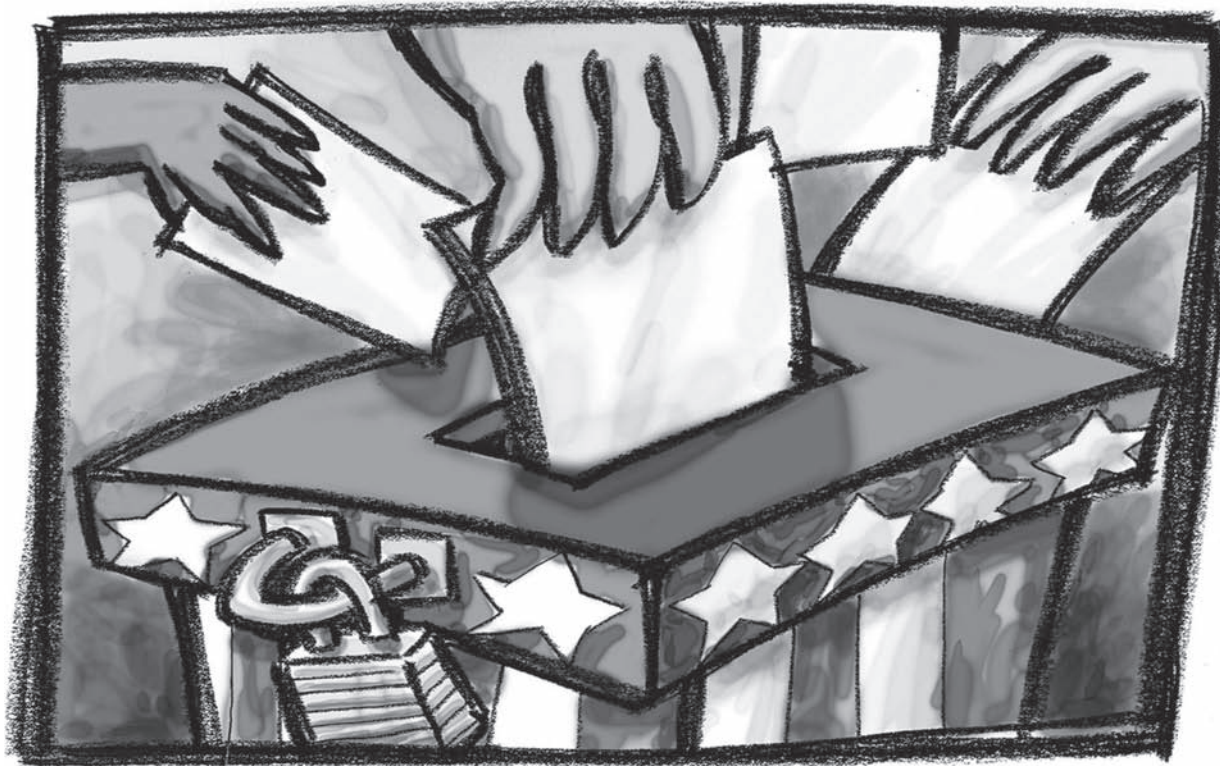
So I am not going to judge the participants for their involvement in an exercise that seems futile and trivial, when juxtaposed with the man standing on Lindell Boulevard.

Each of the students Student Life interviewed when we considered our endorsements was smart, passionate and clearly capable of achieving great things. I stand by our endorsements and also feel confident that all of the candidates running will do their best to improve our undergraduate experience.

So no, I will not judge them. I have no problem with their qualifications, their willingness to run for office or their proposed ideas. Running for student government is hard work, and it takes a decent amount of effort, dedication, talent and audacity.

So no judgment. Just a short, sad reminder that while their effort, dedication, talent and audacity will soon be devoted to improving our already luxurious, if not palatial, experience at our incredibly expensive university, on Lindell Boulevard, maybe 100 yards away, a man is homeless.

Eve is a junior in Arts & Sciences. She can be reached via e-mail at elsambor@wustl.edu.



Shameless

Philip Christofanelli
Staff Columnist

In St. Louis County's next election, a proposition will be on the ballot to impose a half-cent sales tax increase to fund expanded Metro services across the St. Louis area. Many members of the Washington University community have voiced strong support for this proposition and involved themselves in the effort to ensure its passage. Yet no one seems to acknowledge Prop A for what it is—an unbridled exploitation of St. Louis' poor and working-class families. The fact that so many self-proclaimed liberal students are willing to use the force of government to provide for their transit on the backs of the poor is the epitome of hypocrisy.

A sales tax is a regressive tax. A regressive tax is the opposite of a progressive tax, like the U.S. income tax, which increases the tax burden as your income rises. The burden of regressive taxation falls most heavily on those with low-income and fixed budgets. Because the poor use a much higher portion of their income to fund their daily consumption, a much larger part of their earnings must be dedicated to any tax on consumption.

The argument is often made that the majority of St. Louis' poor live in the city. This proposition imposes the sales tax only on the county, where the people are much wealthier. Those who make this argument are either ignorant or intentionally trying to mislead. Back in 1997, the city of St. Louis passed a sales tax increase to fund Metro, the deal being that if the county were ever to pass a similar

tax, the city tax would be triggered. The passage of Prop A would trigger this tax in the city, and the poor would be forced to donate even more to the light-rail service they largely do not use.

The light-rail service, which Metro intends to expand with its new profits, is plagued by a whole host of special interest groups that use their power and influence to ensure that the rail service is provided to their stomping grounds. When light rail is installed, chancellors of powerful, wealthy universities can ensure that costly Metro stops are placed right outside their institutions. Light rail rarely goes to the places where the poor live and work. Consequently, the poor are largely dependent on the more-flexible bus service, which is often cut whenever light rail is expanded.

Many students at Wash. U. seem to support the expansion of light rail for environmental reasons. If they feel that strongly about the need to save the planet through Metro, I am sure they would be willing to sacrifice the obscene discount they receive on their Metro passes. If the Washington University community would pay the full price for the Metro services they use, Metro would bring in an additional \$9.3 million yearly. Instead, Wash. U. only pays roughly 20 percent of the cost of a yearly Metro pass while simultaneously demanding that the poor make up the difference. That means a Wash. U. student pays \$250 less for his yearly Metro pass than a disabled person. Low-hanging fruits such as Wash. U.'s discount should be addressed before we make demands on the poor.

According to the U.S.

Census, of the roughly 1 million people who live in St. Louis County, only 10,000 actually use public transit. With the \$160 million that would be brought in annually from the county to fund the Metro (\$80 million in current revenue plus an increase of \$80 million after Prop A), we could afford to buy all of the county's public transit users a new car every year. The idea that such a small number of commuters should be allowed to benefit at such a high cost to everyone else is nothing short of highway robbery.

Milton Friedman once said, "There's nothing more permanent than a temporary government program." If Prop A is allowed to pass, St. Louis citizens can expect Metro to be back asking for more in no time. Metro's unfunded liabilities, a result of Cadillac pension plans, are enormously high. Its ultimate expansion desires are overly ambitious and incapable of being supported by St. Louis' population density.

Washington University students should stop drinking Chancellor Mark Wrighton's Kool-Aid and wake up to the fact that plundering the poor is an unjust way to get to and from school. If expanded Metro services are desired, Wash. U. can afford to contribute a little more before demanding that the taxpayers subsidize the transit. Until then, all of Washington University's supposed "social justice" initiatives should be viewed with a skeptical eye. Helping the poor is a lot more difficult than giving up tomatoes.

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

The Student Sustainability Fund: What unaddressed needs does it meet?

Ellie Cooper
Op-Ed Submission

In the Feb. 24 issue of Student Life, Eliza Adelson introduced to the student body the basic functioning of the Student Sustainability Fund. But the article was unable to address what makes the fund both unique and vital to Washington University's sustainability movement. Here is my answer: The Student Sustainability Fund will meet individual student needs and the desires of the student body in ways that cannot be addressed by the Washington University administration, the Office of Sustainability, student groups and academic departments.

Washington University, in conjunction with the Office of Sustainability, just released its sustainability plan, but the plan focuses solely on efficiency and economically expedient measures that will turn a profit for the University. It has no stipulations for student involvement, for sustainability education of the student body, or for educational and pilot projects that wouldn't provide a quantifiable return on investment. The Student Sustainability Fund will fund projects for students—projects that will benefit the student body as a whole through educational initiatives or services that increase sustainability. Examples of such projects include implementation of a rain-barrel irrigation system, a green-roof pilot project, permanent signage to remind students to turn off lights, and speakers who address sustainability.

Green Action and other student groups manifest their commitment to sustainability differently than in projects

funded by the Student Sustainability Fund. This is primarily because of the Student Sustainability Fund's specific focus on directly benefiting the student body.

Additionally, there are inherent differences in the infrastructure, resources and timescale for project implementation between student groups like Green Action or Verde and the Student Sustainability Fund. These differences would result in the Student Sustainability Fund's support of initiatives very different than those of existing student groups. The Student Sustainability Fund would be unique from most groups in its access to consistently available funds, ability to sustain multiple and diverse projects, wide cross-school membership and focus on campus improvement. The Student Sustainability Fund will provide students with the resources—notably the finances and relevant on- and off-campus connections—necessary to implement their projects successfully. Finally, the Student Sustainability Fund will serve as a hub for all undergraduate students, academic departments and administrative departments to collaborate on sustainability projects. This will enhance the quality and effectiveness of initiatives and will also reduce redundancy of projects across groups.

I would like to step briefly through the function of existing environmental groups to further clarify the differences between their purpose and that of the Student Sustainability Fund. The Green Events Commission is a Student Union organization with a specific focus on providing free consulting services to student groups who want to "green" their events by increasing

recycling, using reusable materials, etc. The Student Sustainability Fund is unique in that it is available to individuals and to groups of students. In addition, its agenda is flexible and can support a greater diversity of sustainability projects and events. Though this doesn't preclude funding for "greener" events, the Student Sustainability Fund is not limited to this function. In addition, the membership of the Student Sustainability Fund includes student representatives from SU, CS40 and the student body as well as faculty, an administrator and facilities personnel all with different skill sets and connections in all areas of the University.

The Student Sustainability Fund also meets a need unaddressed by funding from academic departments. The departments, which provide funding for student research with faculty members, support projects with a specific departmental focus and require semester-long or yearlong commitments for research and implementation. The Student Sustainability Fund would grant access to more varied projects and initiatives of any duration. The Student Sustainability Fund is different in that it would work with students and faculty across disciplines and across schools. This would enhance the innovation and effectiveness of projects.

The Student Sustainability Fund combines the strengths of these various other sustainability initiatives on campus. It adds the benefit of coordination of people from all over campus in the pursuit of two goals: improving campus sustainability and increasing student awareness by providing students with the financial

See SUSTAINABILITY, page 5

YOUR VOICE: LETTERS AND GUEST COLUMNS

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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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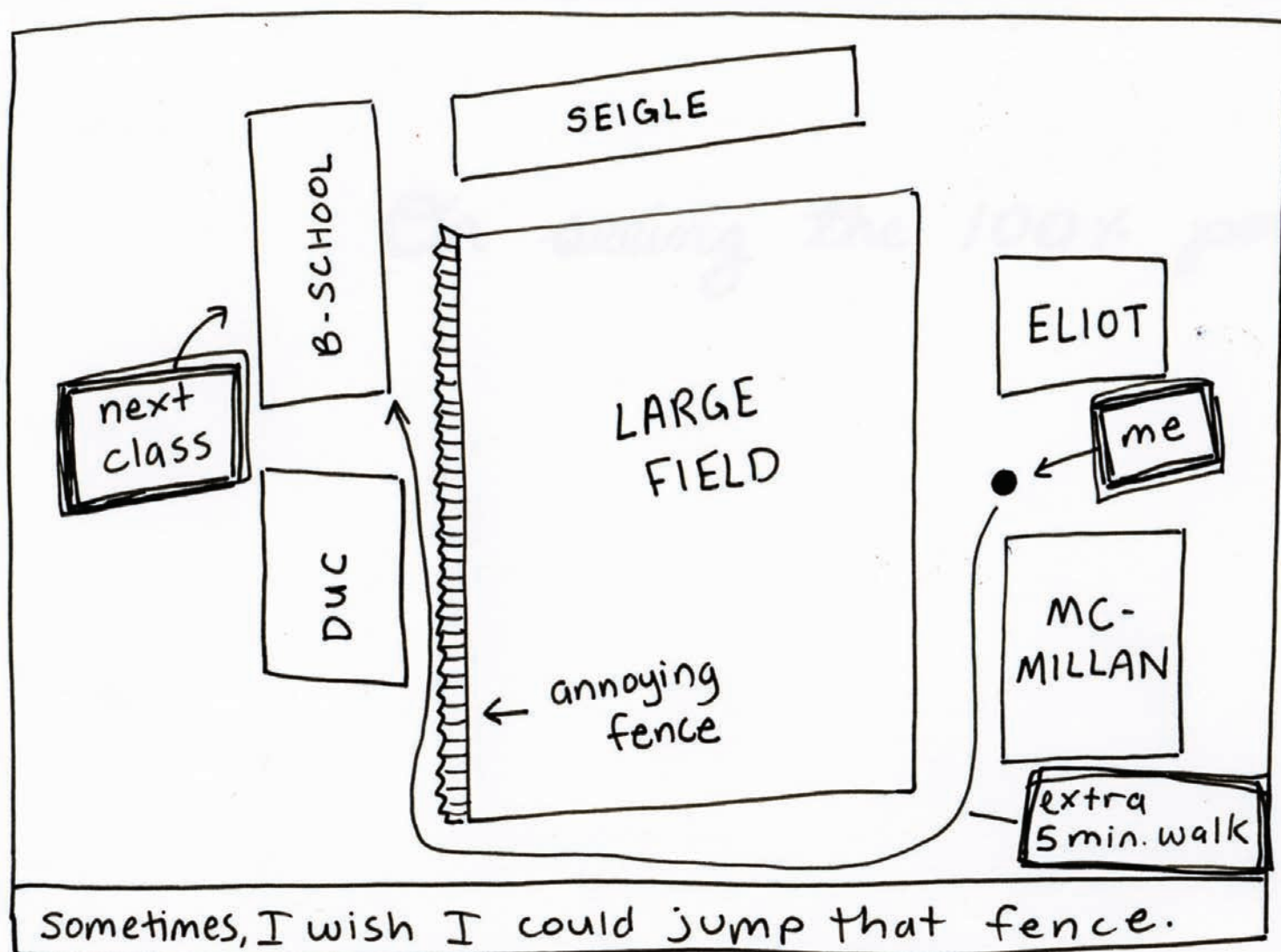
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SNOW POWERS EDITORIAL CARTOON



Why we should change the SU exec calendar

Trevor Mattea
Op-Ed Submission

Although “senior burnout” has been central to my argument in favor of changing the Student Union executive officers’ calendar, I believe that there are other important reasons to do so. By changing the calendar, newly elected Student Union executive officers may experience more momentum for pushing their agendas, more transition time, more access to outgoing executive officers, and more time to present the general budget.

The executive officers are currently elected in the spring semester, usually the week before spring break, and the vice president of finance presents the general budget later in the spring semester, usually a couple of weeks before the end of school. At the same time, executive officers usually serve from the middle of the second semester of their junior year until the middle of the second semester of their senior year, although some serve terms that overlap their sophomore and junior years. It would be better if the officers were elected near the end of the fall semester and they began their terms at the very beginning of the spring semester.

The executive officers should serve on a calendar that empowers them to accomplish as much as possible. As a general rule, they only experience momentum twice during their tenure—when they begin their terms and at the beginning of a new school year. These are the times when they are most motivated and students are paying the most attention. But the potential in the first of these instances is not fully realized because officers begin their terms in the middle of the second semester, when there is a little more than two months before the end of school.

If the executive officers were elected near the end of the fall semester, either right before Thanksgiving or sometime between Thanksgiving and finals, and began their terms at the very beginning of the spring semester, the potential at the beginning of their terms would be fully realized because there would be more time between then and the end of school, while the potential at the beginning of a new school year would be unchanged.

It would provide additional transition time because the newly elected executive officers would have the time between their election and winter break, as well as between winter break itself, which would be between one and two

months, during which they could focus on preparing themselves for their new responsibilities. Currently, they have the weeklong spring break and two weeks after school starts again, for a total of three weeks to focus on this task. Any increase in transition time benefits students and their representatives in Student Union.

It would provide additional time in which the outgoing executive officers would be available on campus to provide guidance to the newly elected executive officers, because they would be available for the entire spring semester, which is almost four months. Currently, the outgoing executive officers are only available on campus to provide guidance to the newly elected executive officers from spring break to the end of school, which is a little more than two months. Any increase in access to outgoing executive officers benefits students and their representatives in Student Union.

Assuming the timing of the general budget would not change—and there is no reason why it should change along with the calendar—a new calendar would provide additional time in which the newly elected executive officers would be able to prepare the budget, because

the time between their election and when the general budget is presented would be extended to almost four months. Currently, the time between their election and when the general budget is presented is a little more than a month. Any increase in the amount of time available to discuss the general budget benefits students and their representatives in Student Union.

I reject the notion that freshman voters are significantly more informed about Student Union executive officer candidates in February and March than they would be in November or December, or, at least, I think that this cost would be outweighed by other benefits. While changing the Student Union executive officers’ calendar would provide seniors an opportunity to focus more of their energies on friends, graduate school programs and job opportunities, perhaps most importantly, it would provide more momentum for newly elected officers to push their agenda, more transition time, more access to outgoing executive officers, and more time to present the general budget.

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

Transit helps the poor and helps us all

Amy Plovnick
Op-Ed Submission

In his op-ed (“WU support of Prop A shows school’s callousness toward the poor,” Feb. 26), John Burns argues that passing Proposition A will benefit Washington University at the expense of the poor. But in reality, the cuts in service that will result from not passing Prop A will hurt the poor most of all.

Every day, more than 100,000 people use Metro services to commute to work and school and to get around the city. In particular, Metro

“Saint Louis University economists have estimated that every dollar invested in Metro transit operations returns \$6 to the local economy.”

helps people who do not own and cannot afford cars, many of whom are urban, working-class people who rely on Metro to get to their jobs. The Call-A-Ride service provides transportation to the elderly and disabled, many of whom have no other viable transportation options. If Prop A does not pass, Metro will be forced to cut back on bus routes and provide less-frequent MetroLink service, and the people who rely on Metro may be unable to continue relying on it. In addition, Metro employs many St. Louis residents, some of whom would be laid off if Prop A were not to pass.

Burns asserts that Prop A is a regressive tax that would hurt the poor. But this small increase in the sales tax rate (half of a percentage point increase in St. Louis County) would have very little impact compared to the negative economic effects of cutting Metro services. Since some bus routes may be cut, people who rely on these routes to commute would have to find a new way to get to work—probably by buying a car—and if this is not economically feasible, they might be fired or have to quit their jobs. In addition to Metro’s positive impact on individuals, the transit system helps

spur the economy by promoting development in the areas surrounding MetroLink stops. Saint Louis University economists have estimated that every dollar invested in Metro transit operations returns \$6 to the local economy. Not passing Prop A would have far worse impacts on the economy than a small increase in the sales tax would.

St. Louis city residents passed a similar initiative in 1997, and if Prop A passes, it will bring in \$80 million in tax revenue, allowing Metro to restore service previously cut in 2009 and to expand service. This would not be a tax increase voted on by the county and imposed on the city, but rather a resolute commitment to transit voted on by all those whom the Metro services affect.

In addition to the economic and social benefits of adequately funding Metro, there are enormous environmental benefits to doing so. Having a far-reaching public-transit system allows people to drive less, thereby decreasing their consumption of fossil fuels. It is estimated that a household can reduce its carbon footprint by 25 to 30 percent if one person makes the switch from a commute via car to a commute via public transit. Such environmental benefits are only possible if the transportation system is adequately funded and has frequent service.

In conclusion, public transportation helps us all. It helps students get to school and explore the city. It helps working people commute to their jobs. It helps the elderly and disabled live independent, mobile lives. It helps reduce the amount of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. It helps the local economy grow and prosper. Most of all, public transportation helps the poor, who do not have the resources to pay for other, more costly transportation options. In addition to contemplating how voting in favor of Prop A would benefit your own life, consider how it would benefit the lives of many St. Louis residents and Metro employees. Every successful, vibrant major city has an extensive public transportation system, and St. Louis should be no exception.

Amy is a junior in Arts & Sciences. She can be reached via e-mail at amyplovnick@wustl.edu.

Real health care reform

Cyrus Bahrasra
Forum Editor

I’ve supported health care reform for the duration of its time in the political limelight. I realize Americans are divided, but I’d challenge anyone who suggests no changes are needed to the U.S. health care system. Insurance costs are too high and insurance practices too ruthless to go unchallenged.

That being said, some major changes to the current proposals are needed, particularly when it comes to Americans’ attitudes toward health. Health care reform needs to include serious efforts to educate Americans and to reduce unhealthy behaviors. Insurance costs are high because people are unhealthy. My mother is a pediatric anesthesiologist, and some kids she puts

to sleep are in the hospital to have their teeth cleaned. They don’t want to brush their teeth, and their parents don’t want to get a 50-cent toothbrush and make them, so their teeth rot away until a hospital visit is necessary.

Though that problem is anecdotal, it’s real—and so are other common issues. Obesity is an epidemic in the U.S., which isn’t surprising when a bag of potato chips is cheaper than a bag of carrots. The National Institutes of Health says fewer than one-third of American adults are at a healthy weight. Since when has it been atypical to be healthy? Americans eat too much of the wrong kinds of food, such as pizza and doughnuts. As great as the need is for cheaper prescription drugs, so is the need to teach individuals what wholesome foods are and how to cook them. We need tax breaks for gym

memberships and for major improvements to the public-school lunch program.

I also support reducing tobacco consumption through educational programs and higher prices, or even a total ban. According to the American Cancer Society, nearly nine out of 10 cases of lung cancer are directly attributable to tobacco smoke, and tobacco boosts the prevalence of many other cancers. In 2002, the U.S. spent \$76 billion in health care costs related to tobacco. I recognize concerns about personal liberties, but it would be expensive and idiotic to let this continue.

I admit I’m wishing for a lot of change in a short time, but we can’t sit back and ignore big problems until they become really big. Major corporations have lots of power to resist, so education needs to be a priority. I believe teaching healthier

eating practices and supporting smoking-cessation programs will go a long way. I believe emphasis on habits as simple as daily exercise and brushing your teeth at least twice a day will make a big difference.

The current health care reform proposals contain a number of good features, including a ban on the denial of insurance coverage because of pre-existing conditions. Still, a focus on healthy behaviors and health education will do more to improve health care in this country. Prevention should be the ultimate goal so that costs remain low and well-being high. These measures would create a healthier America; these measures would be real health care reform.

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

SUSTAINABILITY from page 4

and organizational tools to implement their project ideas. Students have the motivation and the ideas; all they need is the Student Sustainability Fund to provide the capital, the partners and the guidance to

implement their sustainability projects or put on their sustainability events!

Ellie is a sophomore in Arts & Sciences. She can be reached via e-mail at ercooper@wustl.edu.

SPORTS

BASEBALL

Bears open season with 2-1 weekend

Alex Dropkin
Sports Editor

The Washington University baseball season has only just begun, and already there have been plenty of ups and downs.

Junior Miguel Davis' two-run single in the bottom of the sixth inning on Sunday against Fontbonne University capped a five-run rally that was enough to win the game.

"Really, at that point, we were just trying to get a couple of runs on the board—at least cut down the lead," Davis said. "When I came up, really all I had to do was put the ball somewhere in the outfield, and it just so happened that I got a good pitch to hit."

The Bears also capitalized on two walks and an error in the key inning.

Junior David Lieberman started the game for the Bears, but struggled through five innings, giving up five earned runs and four walks. A three-run third inning for the Griffins broke a 1-1 tie.

Junior H.T. Flanagan took the mound in relief of Lieberman during the top of the sixth inning,

shortly before the Bears' rally. He finished the game with four scoreless innings.

The victory pushed the Bears to a 2-1 record for the weekend, including a split doubleheader against Coe College on Saturday.

"Saturday obviously wasn't how we wanted to come out offensively, so I'd say definitely on Sunday, everyone was hoping to come to the plate more aggressive and put up some more runs," Davis said.

The Bears suffered an 8-0 loss in the second game, but managed a close 3-1 win in the first.

Senior Jeremy Rogoff started the season opener, throwing five full innings and giving up only three hits and one unearned run.

"It was just really good to get back out there, [to] start throwing strikes early," Rogoff said. "For me, after having a pretty tough season last year, it was just a really good confidence boost to help my team win."

The Bears got on the board quickly, scoring two runs in the first inning. After loading the bases on two walks and an error, juniors Joe Noon and Matt Skinner forced back-to-back RBI walks.



Senior Jeremy Rogoff delivers a pitch in the season opener Saturday against Coe College. Rogoff recorded the win by tossing five innings of one-run ball, and the Bears won the game 3-1.

CHRISTINA KELLY | STUDENT LIFE

"Baseball is just a crazy game like that," Davis said. "Basically, if you make an error, something is going to end up building on top of that. For us, especially early in the season, you have to take advantage of little changes in

momentum like that."

Juniors Adam Merzel and Bryce Hrovat finished the game with three scoreless innings.

Coe responded to the loss with an eight-run performance in the second leg of the doubleheader.

The Kohawks broke a fifth-inning scoreless tie with an RBI groundout, but subsequently scored five more runs in the next inning off freshman reliever Max Gordon.

"It's kind of a tough period,

because we haven't really been outside at all...so it's a chance for all of us to get some repetition in and for [Coach Lessmann] to see what lineups are going to work," Rogoff said. "It's a little like the preseason, although these games count, so we need to figure it out fast."

Wash. U. recorded seven hits, but could not score.

As a "Pool B" team, not able to receive an automatic NCAA tournament bid, head coach Ric Lessmann stressed the importance of the Bears winning every game.

"You can't fool around at this stage in the game...We have to play every game like it's a tournament game," he said. "There's no getting around it. There's nothing easy about anything we do; there is just one tough game after another."

The Bears also defeated Greenville College 12-3 on Monday.

Washington University continues with another doubleheader Wednesday against Westminster College. The first pitch is at 1 p.m. at Kelly Field.

The Bears will also compete at the UAA championships in Sanford, Fla., during spring break.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Bears host Westminster to start NCAA tourney

Alex Dropkin
Sports Editor

The "Bracket of Death" is no more. One year removed from the infamous NCAA tournament bracket placement, the No. 1 Washington University men's basketball team is looking at a much less strenuous road to Salem, Va.

"It's definitely a little different than the feeling that we came out of here with last year, but any team that makes it into the NCAA tournament is a good team," senior co-captain Aaron Thompson said.

The Bears will host the first and second rounds of the tournament, opening against Westminster (Mo.) College. Westminster (20-7, 13-3 SLIAC) earned an

automatic bid from the St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference. The two teams met in a scrimmage earlier this season.

"The closest game we had last year was the first game, so really, [seeding] is immaterial," head coach Mark Edwards said. "Every team that is in the tournament is deserving of being in the tournament, and every team that is in the tournament is coming to win it."

If Wash. U. gets past the Blue Jays, it could potentially face Illinois Wesleyan University in the second round. The Bears defeated the Titans 76-71 in a heated contest on Nov. 22. The other potential opponent is No. 25 Central College (Iowa).

"We've had so much

development since we've played those guys...so I think it's going to be a lot of fun," senior co-captain Cameron Smith said.

Also in the pod (the division of 16 teams) are No. 4 St. Thomas University, No. 8 University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point and No. 15 University of Texas-Dallas.

"It's nice to play at home, but after that, it doesn't really matter who we play, because we're going to have to beat them anyway," Smith said.

Tip-off against Westminster will take place at 8 p.m. on Friday, March 5.

"Westminster is a good team," Thompson said. "We've really just got to be ready to go and on top of our game and get things clicking early."

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Ladies roll to Kentucky

Kurt Rohrbeck
Sports Reporter

After reaching the Final Four twice in the last three years, the Washington University women's basketball team certainly has its work cut out as it attempts to extend that streak.

With the team's first matchup on Friday, the Bears find themselves in a very formidable bracket, as seven other teams in the Top 25 of D3hoops.com's rankings sit in Wash. U.'s group of 16 teams.

"We try not to look at the difficulty of bracket too much," senior Zoë Unruh said, "just because it's more important at this point in the season to look at yourself and focus on how you're playing versus your opponent."

The group opens up on Friday at 5 p.m. in Crestview Hills, Ky., where it will face Maryville College (22-5, 13-1 Great South Athletic Conference) out of Maryville, Tenn. The Scots

reached the tournament by capturing the GSAC championship.

"They're a really aggressive defensive team, [and they] really like to push the ball," head coach Nancy Fahey said. "They have a really balanced scoring attack. They're going to be a formidable opponent."

If the Bears advance past the first round, they may face their regional host school, No. 16 Thomas Moore College, in the second round. Past the second round could be waiting any one of six other ranked teams, ranging from No. 20 Messiah College in the Sweet 16 to the reigning national champions, No. 5 George Fox University, in the Elite Eight.

The latter of those possibilities is one that the Bears are certainly excited at the chance of experiencing, after the defeat that the Bruins handed them in last year's championship game.

"I would love to play them again," Unruh said. "There's still a lot of emotion from that game. It would be awesome if

we both made it to the Elite Eight and we got to play them, simply for revenge's sake, but it'd be exciting."

Though the Bears are certainly excited at the possibility of exacting revenge for last season, they recognize that the games have to be handled one at a time.

"In my experiences, tournament runs can pivot on the bounce of a ball or a shot just rolling out," Fahey said. "We understand it's very fragile, and right now our respect is just going to Maryville."

Every returning member of the team has NCAA tournament experience and knows what is coming.

"It's about going to the game with intensity, and if you know ahead of time that it's going to be that intense, it might give you an edge, but you definitely can't take it for granted," Unruh said. "We do realize it's a privilege to be in the tournament. We've earned it, and now it could be one and done."

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DRINK SPECIALS

SCENE

Sextras The chode: A mythical object or an expression of reality

Lucy Moore
Scene Sex Columnist

What is a chode? I don't know about you, but I've been pondering the meaning of this word ever since I heard a 6-year-old boy holler "Chode!" at a fellow student on the zipline during recess. Perhaps in this context, the phrase was merely uttered as a repetition of a parent's linguistic misstep — but, still, the question lingered in my mind.

In my time as a female member of this planet, I have heard two separate definitions for "chode." The first is a synonym for a "prick" or any other word with a negative connotation and of similar meaning. The second definition, which I always believed to be the more accurate one, refers to a penis that is wider than it is long. That would be, for example, a penis that is 6 inches long and 7 inches in circumference. Perhaps the shape of a particularly stout cucumber may incite your

imagination, or even, in a more extreme example, so may half of one of those crème-filled Hostess logs. Urban Dictionary, along with the general Washington University population, agrees with this description of a chode.

So, now that we know what a chode really is, are they real? Can someone really have a penis of such a corpulent figure? And if so, does this make for any sexual advantages? One would think that these are pretty straightforward questions, but investigation says otherwise. Of 10 sexually active Wash. U. senior females questioned about the existence of chodes, all 10 remarked that they had never seen them. While one said, "Is that even possible?" another inquired if such organs were functional during sexual intercourse. On the other hand, of the six Wash. U. males questioned, all remarked that they were certain of the existence of chodes. Two in particular noted their time spent in locker rooms before and

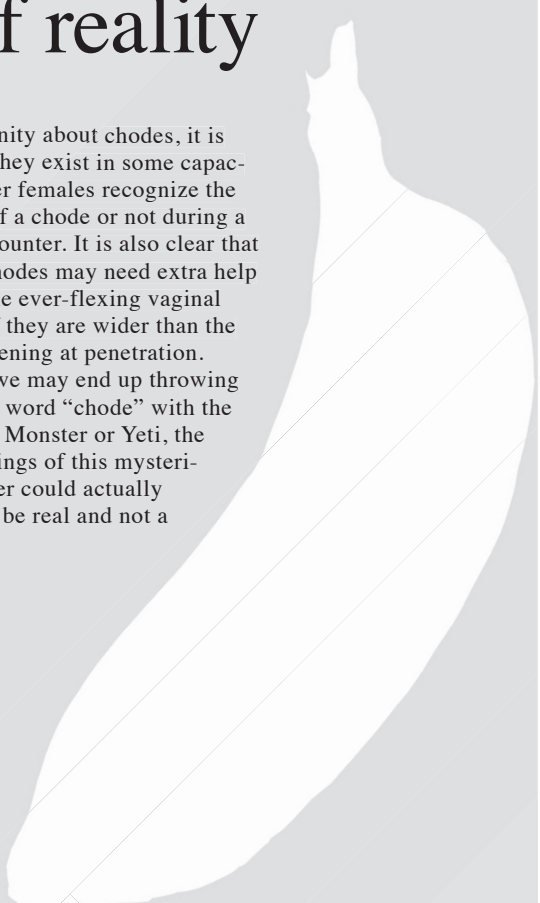
after football practice as evidence for chodes. One Wash. U. graduate offered a story of an extreme chode sighting: "I met a guy in the locker room of a friend's club whose nut sack was the size of an orange, and his penis was mostly inside him." He continued, "It was like a flap of foreskin!"

Between males and females, it seems the mystery of the chode has not been completely unearthed. But I did finally meet one female this past week who had had a sexual encounter with what she described as a chode. The anonymous junior described the specimen at hand as "possibly 5 inches long and as wide as [she had] ever seen a penis." Although this does not confirm its true existence as a chode, she said it was difficult to maneuver sexually, as it was wider than the entrance to her vagina. Sex was possible in the end, she said, "after enough foreplay."

Although few conclusions have been formed in the Wash.

U. community about chodes, it is clear that they exist in some capacity, whether females recognize the presence of a chode or not during a sexual encounter. It is also clear that extreme chodes may need extra help entering the ever-flexing vaginal entrance if they are wider than the vaginal opening at penetration.

While we may end up throwing around the word "chode" with the Loch Ness Monster or Yeti, the brief sightings of this mysterious member could actually prove it to be real and not a fable.



Party of Six: Bringing students together

Francis Aguilard
Scene Reporter

As many students know, making friends after your first year at Washington University can be difficult. Sure, you may meet the occasional acquaintance through a small seminar or a new club, but for the most part, your social circle will remain relatively stable throughout your four years here. Despite the prominence of this phenomenon, however, no one has addressed this friendship issue...until now.

If you've been on Facebook recently, your news feed has probably been alerting you as more and more of your Wash. U. friends join a group called Party of Six. This group is the unique brainchild of five Wash. U. students: freshmen Karen Mok and Joe Sutherland, sophomores Owen Qi and Cameron Chiang, and senior Guillaume Auffret.

The group hopes to allow Wash. U. students to meet new people by providing six randomly chosen students from the Wash. U. community with a free night out to do a group activity. As Sutherland said, "You can meet random people who may turn out to be important connections in the future or may just turn out to be good friends." This idea came to fruition over winter break at the three-day Redefining Community Experience workshop hosted by the Office of Student Activities. As Auffret said, "We hope that students will recognize this as a good effort to connect people at Wash. U."

By participating in a Party of Six event, not only do students have a chance to meet others that they otherwise may not have known, but they also have the opportunity to explore different

parts of St. Louis. Some of the locations and activities suggested for the event include Sky Zone, City Museum, the Delmar Loop and a number of special cultural and/or sporting events in St.

Louis. The participants in these weekly outings will come from all class levels and backgrounds; the only thing that one must do for the opportunity to be chosen is to join the Facebook group.

The Party of Six creators hope to select random groups, provided that the members have some common interests that they can bond over while out on the town. Auffret said, "A lot of people are hanging out with the same kind of people, and it's not very easy to branch out to other people, so I thought it was a good idea to break all these barriers between these groups of people." The hope is that the Party of Six will be a group of diverse Wash. U. students, just like the five creators of the group.

So far, students have been overwhelmingly responsive to this group. As of March 2, the Party of Six Facebook group had 1,042 members. According to Mok, 660 members joined in the first three days of the group's

Facebook launch. As Auffret said, "We did not expect it at all; it was a good surprise. It shows there's a need for this and that people would be really happy to meet other people."

Currently, Party of Six is gearing up for its first event, which will take place after spring break. Sutherland said, "During the trial run we're going to have icebreakers and catalyze meeting people. We're going to get a little feedback and re-tweak a little and see how we go from there." In the meantime, the Party of Six founders are working on getting funding from Student Union. The group is currently functioning on a small budget provided by the Office of Student Activities. The group, however, hopes to secure a much larger budget to finance future outings.

When explaining the five founders' inspiration for creating Party of Six, Mok referred to the Machiavellian belief that "fortune determines your fate 50 percent of the time. [Party of Six is] doing that 50 percent." With around 6,000 undergraduates on campus, who knows? You just might find your new best friend on a Party of Six trip.

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SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephram Group

Level: **1** **2**
3 **4**

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

SOLUTION TO MONDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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FOR RELEASE MARCH 3, 2010

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS
1 Palindromic title
6 Ashen
10 Interrupter of a bad act, on an old game show
14 Word after horse or soap
15 Elvis ___ Presley
16 Mayberry kid
17 Government declaration of its intentions
20 Prefix with gram
21 Modest shelters
22 Madison Square Garden et al.
23 Variety of lily
24 1998 animated bug movie
25 Vietnam War defoliant
29 Speed Wagon maker
32 Velma's rival in "Chicago"
33 Chat room chuckle
34 Detained at the precinct
35 Electrical network
36 Pigs and hogs
38 Etcher's need
39 Leer at
40 Scepter's partner
41 Emulate Cicero
42 Betty Ford, ___ Bloomer
43 Gold Rush villain
46 Heckey's tool
47 Hearing requirements
48 Displaying buoyancy
51 Periodic table no.
52 Protrude, with "out"
55 High-octane fuel
58 Having all one's marbles
59 Rotary phone feature
60 1988 film farce fish
61 School on the Thames
62 Bobbles the ball
63 Taboos

DOWN
1 Sulk
2 Each

By Donna S. Levin 3/3/10

Monday's Puzzle Solved

O	R	A	L	C	R	O	C	S	P	R	E
V	E	T	O	B	E	G	O	T	D	E	E
A	V	O	N	S	E	L	M	A	E	R	N
L	U	N	G	S	K	E	E	N	A	E	O
S	E	E	S	A	W	D	O	Z	E	D	
			T	G	I	F	N	A	M	I	B
T	I	T	O	S	L	E	D	S	N	A	R
U	S	S	R	P	Y	R	O	S	T	R	A
S	L	A	Y	S	B	A	W	L	H	E	N
H	E	R	S	H	E	Y	N	O	S	E	
			H	E	N	N	A	T	H	W	A
F	I	D	O	G	I	L	D	H	A	G	
A	V	E	R	A	G	L	O	W	T	A	P
L	E	N	T	G	H	A	N	A	E	V	I
L	S	T	E	T	H	E	R	R	E	D	S

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30 Upper echelon	48 Church recess
31 More strange	49 Toga party setting
34 Injures	50 Jay seen at night
36 Isolation	51 Culture medium
37 Sandwich in a tortilla	52 Arabian folklore spirit
41 Thornton Wilder classic	53 Reverse
43 Spiced Indian beverage	54 43-Down et al.
44 Gold and silver	56 Space station for about 15 years
45 Shark flick	57 Vientiane native
46 Part of NOW	

CADENZA

Oscars according to Cadenza

By Paul Johannet, Percy Olsen, Davis Sargeant, Andrew Senter and Alex Terrono

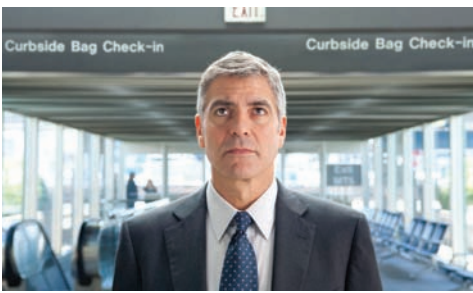
The Oscars are fast-approaching, and we here at Cadenza wanted to put in our two cents. There doesn't seem to be much disagreement about who will win, but who should win?

BEST PICTURE

Nominees



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- "Avatar"
- "The Blind Side"
- "District 9"
- "An Education"
- "The Hurt Locker"
- "Inglourious Basterds"
- "Precious"
- "A Serious Man"
- "Up"
- "Up in the Air"

Who will win?

Paul Johannet: "The Hurt Locker" (A guess, as I'm guilty of having not seen it).
Alex Terrono: It's down to "The Hurt Locker," "Avatar" and "Inglourious Basterds," but "Hurt Locker" will pull out the win in the end.
Davis Sargeant: "The Hurt Locker."
Andrew Senter: "The Hurt Locker."
Percy Olsen: "The Hurt Locker." I feel so unoriginal, but then again, why fight it?

Who should win?

Paul: Rather than who should win, I'll pitch a controversial who should NOT win: "Avatar." This visually enchanting behemoth's financial success has launched James Cameron into the ranks of creative directors completely void of narrative ability. George Lucas was at the initiation ceremony.
Alex: Well, in MY opinion, "Avatar" is a work of cinematic genius. It is beautiful, engaging and creative. "Avatar" for the win!
Davis: Before I saw "The Hurt Locker," I thought of the war in Iraq as an abstract political issue. This movie should share a shelf with "All Quiet on the Western Front," "Saving Private Ryan" and "Apocalypse Now" as a compelling examination of emotion in war.
Percy: Look, I don't know if it's the best movie the year, but I really, really, really want "Inglourious Basterds" to win. If you just size up the movie based on general traits (World War II epic, maybe a smidge of biopic), then it should win. But clearly, anyone who actually saw the movie will tell you it is so much more than Oscar bait. The more I think about the nominees, the more I want "Inglourious Basterds" to take it.
Andrew: There is a small part of me that wants "The Blind Side" to win. Why? So I can permanently disregard the Oscars and every terrible movie they decide to name "Best Picture" because it is popular. Or has Sandra Bullock in it.

BEST ANIMATED FILM

Nominees

- Sandra Bullock, "The Blind Side"
- Helen Mirren, "The Last Station"
- Carey Mulligan, "An Education"
- Gabourey Sidibe, "Precious"
- Meryl Streep, "Julie & Julia"



Who will win?

Alex: Sandra Bullock will no doubt pull this one out. She's the whole reason the film got nominated for Best Picture, so obviously the Academy loves her. Plus, the movie was the first female-driven film to cross \$200 million. She made that happen.
Percy: Did you know that she said she was unhappy with her performance in "The Blind Side"? There should be some stipulation that you have to approve of your performance to win an Academy Award. Unfortunately, there isn't, and she'll take it.

Who should win?

Alex: I don't care what anyone says, Zoe Saldana should win this award for "Avatar." Even though she didn't really appear on screen, her performance did, and it knocked my socks off.
Percy: Really, Alex? Zoe? Put your socks back on, this should go to Meryl Streep. Her winning percentage (two wins for 16 nominations) shows that she is consistently underappreciated.
Alex: Underappreciated? Really? 16 nominations later...

BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS

Nominees

- Penelope Cruz, "Nine"
- Vera Farmiga, "Up in the Air"
- Maggie Gyllenhaal, "Crazy Heart"
- Anna Kendrick, "Up in the Air"
- Mo'Nique, "Precious"



Who should win?

Alex: Anna Kendrick really shone through in "Up in the Air." She was my favorite part of the movie.
(More silence)
Alex: Seriously, guys?

BEST ACTOR

Nominees

- Jeff Bridges, "Crazy Heart"
- George Clooney, "Up in the Air"
- Colin Firth, "A Single Man"
- Morgan Freeman, "Invictus"
- Jeremy Renner, "The Hurt Locker"



Who will win?

Andrew: Jeff Bridges, "Crazy Heart."
Alex: Jeff Bridges is on a roll that no one can stop.
Percy: It's gotta be Jeff Bridges.

Who should win?

Alex: Colin Firth shines in "A Single Man" in an emotion-packed, beautiful performance. Recognize!
Andrew: Jeff Bridges, who transforms what should be a Lifetime "movie of the month" into a memorable story about music and the perils of alcoholism, should take it.
Percy: Not to take anything from Bridges, but George Clooney was absolutely fantastic in "Up in the Air." I would be incredibly surprised if he wins this year, but then again, I'd also be a little happy.

BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR

Nominees

- Matt Damon, "Invictus"
- Woody Harrelson, "The Messenger"
- Christopher Plummer, "The Last Station"
- Stanley Tucci, "The Lovely Bones"
- Christoph Waltz, "Inglourious Basterds"

Who will win?

Paul: Christoph Waltz.
Alex: Without a doubt, Christoph Waltz.
Andrew: Christoph Waltz.
Percy: Agreed, it's Christoph Waltz. Man, just writing that gave me chills.



Who should win?

Andrew: Waltz gives one of the most riveting and horrifying performances of the year.
Paul: Putting aside the ethical pitfalls of "Inglourious Basterds," Waltz was brilliant. He colored the sadistic, cunning interrogative approach of Col. Hans Landa. Without sacrificing Landa's perceptive abilities, Waltz made his character surprisingly inhuman, even for a Nazi.
Percy: Matt Damon really brought the goods in "Invictus"—he should win if the Academy has any sense. Nah, I'm just kidding, Waltz.
Alex: I'm going to go off on a limb and say that Harrelson should win.

BEST ANIMATED FILM

Nominees

- "Coraline"
- "Fantastic Mr. Fox"
- "Princess and the Frog"
- "The Secret of Kells"
- "Up"

Who will win?

Paul: "Up."
Alex: "Up" is a Best Picture nominee, enough said.
Andrew: "Up."
Percy: "Up," and it won't be close.

Who should win?

Paul: "Up." The film begins with a 15-minute montage of truly beautiful storytelling showing the relationship of Carl and Ellie.
Alex: Pixar can't go wrong, and "Up" is no exception. It is beautifully made and completely adorable.
Andrew: The best picture nomination says everything.
Percy: But I don't think we can forget about "The Princess and the Frog." Yes, "Up" was the better movie, but Disney's first hand-animated film in years dazzled, while bringing back a flood of childhood memories about "The Lion King" and "Aladdin." It even made me have an emotional moment (and I'm not keen to admit that.) "Up" deserves it, but wow, that is some tough luck for "The Princess and the Frog."