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STUDENT LIFE

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holi STUDENTS CELEBRATE SPRING thurtenE



ALL HOLI PHOTOS BY MATT MITGANG | CAMPUS IN FOCUS

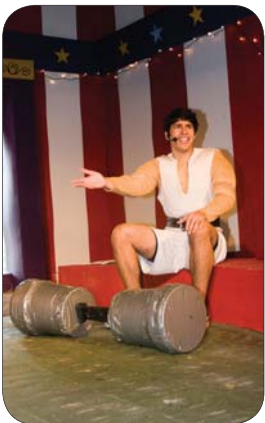


Students turn the Swamp into a giant mud pit during the Washington University Holi celebration. Run by Ashoka, the South Asian student group, the annual water balloon and mud fight follows in the tradition of Holi by helping students get excited about spring and let all of their energy out.

TO READ MORE ABOUT HOLI, SEE SCENE, PAGE 8



ALL THURTENE PHOTOS BY LUCY MOORE | STUDENT LIFE



ThurtenE, the longest-run student carnival, attracted students and members of the local community for another year of rides, games, carnival food and plays written and performed by the fraternities and sororities on campus. While the carnival was temporarily suspended on Saturday because of a tornado warning, ThurtenE continued through Sunday. The carnival suffered no major damages.

Students gearing up for Great Coal Debate

Alaa Itani
Staff Reporter

Debate regarding the future of coal will touch Washington University's campus once again this week. Fred Palmer of Peabody Energy and Bruce Nilles from the Sierra Club will face each other in Tuesday's Great Coal Debate.

Palmer currently serves as vice president of government relations at Peabody, while Nilles is the director of the National Coal Campaign for the Sierra Club.

Headquartered in St. Louis, Peabody Energy is the largest private-sector coal company in the world, generating 10 percent of the electricity consumed nationally. Gregory Boyce, CEO of Peabody Energy, is a member of the University's board of trustees. Along with Ameren and Arch Coal, Peabody Energy is also a lead sponsor of Wash. U.'s Consortium for Clean Coal Utilization.

On the other side of the debate, The National Coal Campaign encompasses efforts to move

beyond coal and adopt carbon emission-free energy. The campaign includes Campus Beyond Coal, an initiative to collaborate with college students throughout the nation to limit coal's future. The Sierra Club is the oldest and largest environmental organization in the United States.

According to senior Melissa Legge, an organizer of the event, the debate is an opportunity for students to hear unfiltered accounts from each side.

"We [organizers] wanted to open up a dialogue on campus around the subject of coal...and open up a forum for the future of coal to be debated about," Legge said. "Both sides deserve to be heard. We really want the debate to be...balanced."

Senior Kady McFadden, another organizer of the event, agrees.

"It's really important to understand what the arguments are on each side so that we can really make informed decisions going forward," she said.

The Great Coal Debate will occur in Graham Chapel at 5

p.m. Tuesday. A reception will follow the event in Tisch Commons at the Danforth University Center. The entire debate will be streamed live on the website www.ustream.tv.

Each speaker will have 20 minutes to make a statement. Debaters will then answer five questions submitted previously by students. At the end of the event there will be a chance for audience members to ask questions. Brian Walsh, senior correspondent from Time magazine, will moderate.

A similar debate at the University of Charleston in West Virginia inspired McFadden and junior Harry Alper to organize Wash. U.'s version. Don Blankenship, CEO of Massey Energy, and Robert Kennedy Jr., founder of the Waterkeeper Alliance, debated a variety of issues surrounding coal, including poverty and the environment.

McFadden hopes that the debate will allow students to participate in an issue that largely

See COAL, page 3

ThurtenE offers whirlwind of fun, despite rain and tornado warning

David Messenger
News Editor

Not even a tornado warning could stop ThurtenE.

Despite almost constant rain and high-speed winds, people from the Washington University and St. Louis communities did not hesitate to come out to Brookings Drive for this year's carnival.

The carnival, which is in its 75th year and is run by ThurtenE, a junior honorary, bore a "Choose Your Own Adventure" theme. To conform to this theme, a handful of fraternities and sororities paired up to construct façades. The façades included a Mayan temple, constructed by Sigma Nu (SigNu) fraternity and Delta Gamma (DG) sorority, and a baseball stadium, constructed by Alpha Epsilon Pi (AEPi) fraternity and Alpha Epsilon Phi (AEPi) sorority, among other designs.

"The inspiration, that's the theme of the whole carnival, the inspiration being that this carnival is so many different

things to so many people," ThurtenE Honorary President Adrian Githuku said. "It has a different meaning for the Wash. U. community than it does for people who come from St. Louis than it does for people who are alums who come back. It has a lot of different meanings to a lot of different people."

Additionally, other student groups joined the effort through food sales. Ashoka, a South Asian student group, sold Indian snacks like samosas and mango lassis. Delta Sigma Pi (DSP), one of the University's business fraternities, offered funnel cakes. Zeta Beta Tau (ZBT) fraternity ran a grill and frying station. ZBT's station offered customers a range of fried items, including fried ice cream sandwiches.

At a little past 4 p.m. on Saturday, the ThurtenE lot was evacuated because of a tornado warning issued by the National Weather Service. Officers from the St. Louis Police Department (SLPD) interrupted shows taking place in the façades, and

students running booths were told to leave everything and vacate the lot.

"We didn't get to clean up all the way, so we had to leave hot pans of oil just sitting out, but nothing got lost, thankfully," said senior Taylor Kayse, a member of DSP.

Despite the heavy rains and powerful winds, very little damage was done to the façades.

"I think our façade held up very well because of all the great work that went into assembling this thing," Sigma Epsilon fraternity (SigEp) member and junior Teddy White said. "It can withstand all that Mother Nature has to throw at it."

Githuku responded similarly, citing the strength of the structures built by the fraternities and sororities.

"It's kind of miraculous how little damage there was," he said. "It's really a testament to these groups as far as the structural integrity of the buildings

See THURTENE, page 2

Severe storm creates flurry and confusion on campus

Michelle Merlin
Senior News Editor

Sirens split through the air on Saturday afternoon, alerting students a possible incoming coming tornado. Though the tornado didn't touch down on campus, the weather took a turn for the unusual.

The tornado alarms went off on campus at around 4:10 p.m., following the warning issued by the national weather service by about 10 minutes. St. Louis' sirens went off around 10 minutes later. The warning passed at 5:15 p.m.

Even though the sirens went off, Washington University's emergency messaging systems were not used. The University sent out neither text messages nor e-mails about the tornado warning. They also failed to update the emergency.wustl.edu website.

The University could not be reached for comment.

"That was certainly a severe weather situation that would warrant an e-mail or text message," said sophomore Zach Gietl, a National Weather Service trained spotter. "Especially because a lot of our students don't come from the Midwest, [and] they're not trained with what to do in case a tornado occurs."

As a trained spotter, Gietl knows what to look for in tornadoes and how to be around them. He also pays close attention to the National Weather Service.

For students on main campus, there was direction about what to do.

"[I was] in the library. They told us to go down to the basement. They knew how to handle it. There was still a bit of confusion in other buildings about what to do," senior Ryan McLaughlin said.

In the dorms, RAs were the most helpful in informing people to get to the lower levels, students said.

"I was taking a nap, and I heard those sirens, so I was pretty confused. Our RAs were on the floor, so they could tell us what to do," said Sadie Smeck, a freshman. "It was unusual for me because I had never seen weather that severe, but I didn't feel that I was unsafe."

Students were rushed inside and to the bottoms of whatever buildings they were in. People enjoying the ThurtenE Carnival were forced inside.

The tornado did not actually touch down at the University, but by the West County Mall. University City also witnessed hail. The University saw only heavy rain and strong wind.

"There was one moment when we looked outside and you could hardly see past the rain, and then



MATT MITGANG | STUDENT LIFE

A tree blocks the eastbound lane of Forsyth Boulevard after high winds knocked it over Saturday.

everyone sort of freaked out," sophomore Bailey Davidson said. "But we also didn't do anything... I'm not from somewhere where there are tornadoes, so I didn't

think it was a big deal until I talked to people later."

Though a few trees came down on Forsyth, for the most part there was minimal damage and no

injuries.

"The rainbow afterwards was reassurance that everything was OK," freshman Camille Young said.



THE FLIPSIDE

eventcalendar

MONDAY 26

Distinguished Women in Economics and Strategy Lecture: ‘Differentiated to Death?’
Simon Hall 241, 4 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Judith Chevalier, professor of finance and economics, will give a lecture sponsored by the Center for Research in Economics and Strategy (CRES), followed by a reception.

‘The Princess and the Frog’
DUC, Tisch Commons, 8 p.m. – 9:40 p.m.
Filmboard presents Disney’s “The Princess and the Frog.”

TUESDAY 27

CPC’s Epic Animal Extravaganza
Women’s Building Lawn and DUC Courtyard, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Come and ride a camel, pet some exotic animals or play with dressed up monkeys!

Pulitzer Center Crisis Reporting: ‘Fragile States: Afghanistan to Haiti’
Rebstock Hall 215
7:30 p.m. – 9 p.m.
Journalists Andre Lambertson and Jason Motlagh talk about covering the impact of airstrikes on Afghanistan and the damages of natural disasters.

newsbriefs

Campus

New procedure aims to save vision of children with eye cancer

A Washington University ophthalmologist is implanting radioactive discs in the eyes of children with rare cancer in an effort to save their vision.

J. William Harbour is one of the few doctors nationwide to use this method to treat retinoblastoma, a rare childhood eye cancer. He implants small discs, called plaques, into the eyes of children. The plaques will be removed three days after the implantation.

According to Harbour, “The standard of care for retinoblastoma is chemotherapy, followed by laser and freezing treatments to eliminate the last remnants of tumors. But occasionally there will be a tumor that doesn’t respond to chemotherapy or is too large to treat with a laser or freezing treatment. That’s where this plaque treatment comes in. It gives us an option that may allow us to save the eyes of a young child.”

Retinoblastoma is characterized by tumors in the eye’s retina. It is an extremely rare disease affecting about one child in 20,000. Nationwide, an average of 200 children are diagnosed each year. Of these children, 40 percent of them develop tumors in both eyes. Because of the symptoms of the illness, parents and children are often faced with the choice between life without eyes or a high risk of death. (Sally Wang)

National

One-fourth of nonprofits to lose tax breaks

At midnight on May 15, an estimated one-fifth to one-quarter of some 1.6 million nonprofits, including charities, trade associations and membership groups, will lose their tax exemption because of federal legislation passed in 2006. More specifically, a section of the Pension Protection Act of 2006 required all nonprofits to file tax forms the following years, while only organizations with revenues of \$25,000 or more had to file previously. If groups fail to file for three consecutive years, they would lose their tax exemptions.

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS), the organization behind the bill, argued for the need for nonprofits to file tax forms because it needed more data to oversee the groups. In addition, this data would be helpful for donors to decide where to provide financial support. On the other hand, representatives of many nonprofits revealed that they were unaware of the newly instituted federal law. In any case, the IRS said it would try its best not to revoke exemptions, but instead try to let organizations know when they are at risk. For example, in 2007, it sent 665,000 letters to nonprofit groups that fell below the \$25,000 threshold and those above that level that had not filed. (Re-I Chin)

International

Al-Qaida confirms death of 2 top leaders

Al-Qaida has confirmed in a statement posted online that two of its most senior leaders are dead. This confirmation came a week after U.S. officials announced the deaths of Abu Ayyub al-Masri and Abu Omar al-Baghdadi.

According to U.S. officials, the two men were killed in a joint Iraqi-U.S. operation in a strike on April 18 near Tikrit.

The statement, signed by Abu Al-Walid Abdel Wahab Al-Mashadani, the minister of the Religious Committees in the Islamic State of Iraq, read, “We find it quite difficult that we are announcing the news of the loss of the Islamic nation once again. The loss of two great Jihadi leaders who are known for their heroism on the path of struggle.”

The U.S. military believes that these deaths have dealt a “potentially devastating blow to the terrorist group.” In an interview with CNN, Gen. Raymond Odierno, the commander of U.S. forces in Iraq, said that it would be “very difficult” for the al-Qaida network to replace the two men.

Al-Masri, a native of Egypt, was military leader of al-Qaida in Iraq. Al-Baghdadi was leader of the Islamic State of Iraq, an umbrella group that includes al-Qaida in Iraq. The two men were hiding in a hole within a house, where their bodies were eventually found by security forces. (Sally Wang)

quoteoftheday

“There was one moment when we looked outside and you could hardly see past the rain, and then everyone sort of freaked out.”

Bailey Davidson, sophomore, on the severe storms that hit the St. Louis area on Saturday

THURTENE from page 1

because the structural damage was very little, if any. There was minimal water damage, which is what we were scared of. Very few roofs leaked and floors were intact. Most of the damage was aesthetic and was small.”

Students involved in the construction of the façades were told to come early to the lot on Sunday in order to make any necessary repairs.

“The damage wasn’t really bad,” graduate student and member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity (Beta) Doug Horn said. “We had some pipes that were knocked around.”

Horn noted that some items were missing following the storm.

“We were shooting electricity into our fraternity letters with what we called Van de Graaff generators, and last night we got an e-mail from

our overalls asking us to come to the lot to fix things,” he said. “The first thing was fixing the tarp. The second thing was finding the Van de Graaff generators. Not fix them, but find them, because we [had] no idea where they went. We found one, and the other one might be in a parking lot somewhere.”

Many students were concerned that the storm and evacuation of the lot would cause a decline in revenue for charity.

“Sales have been pretty good,” Kayse said of the DSP funnel cake booth. “They’ve been hurt a little, obviously. We had to pack up really early with the tornado yesterday. Other than that, we’ve already made back all the money we spent, and we’re working on profits.”

The weather did hurt the

ZBT food booth’s profits, however.

“Profits have not been so good,” said Dylan Tucker, a member of ZBT. “The tornado kind of ruined that. It’s been a rough year, but it’s been fun. I’ve had a good time, but the rain has put a damper on things.”

Ashoka’s tent was destroyed as a result of the winds.

“[The tent] completely collapsed, and we tried putting it back together [Sunday], but the joints weren’t stable,” Ashoka member Suzanne Mazhuvanchery said. “Basically everything broke. So because of the weather, we couldn’t sell anything using our booth.”

However, Ashoka was still able to sell items on Sunday as a result of Sigma Alpha Mu fraternity’s (SAM) willingness to let Ashoka share their tent.

Despite the weather, visitors to the lot seemed excited to take part in the annual tradition.

“I think the weather has not deterred people from coming to this glorious event,” White said. “The turnout has been good. Everyone’s excited to come out to see the shows.”

ThurtenE Honorary saw the evacuation as a prime display of students’ dedication to ThurtenE Carnival.

“The fact we can have a tornado warning, clear out halfway through the carnival and then come back and set up the next day is a testament to Wash. U. students and a testament to the community coming out to support us,” Githuku said. “The Wash. U. community is a resilient community, and it showed today.”

Puneet Kollipara contributed to this report.

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STAFF EDITORIAL

Arizona immigration law should incite outrage

As college students, we grapple with striking that balance between idealism and pragmatism when we articulate our views on the political and social issues of the day. We are criticized for failing to see the full picture and middle ground, yet our voices are a sound of hope that represent the full, dreamland potential of our nation. Deep down, we know that it would be impossible for all our stated goals to be realized, but we speak with the expectation that our voices will help guide those in power to make conscientious decisions that are able to strike that balance our nation so desperately needs. A recently enacted immigration law has disregarded the ideals of our nation, trampled upon pragmatism and resulted in a despotic law that ignores the most basic rights of others.

Last Friday, Arizona Gov. Janice Brewer signed into law a controversial bill passed by the state legislature that requires all

police officers, “when practicable,” to demand immigration papers from anyone whom they have “reasonable suspicion” to believe is in the country illegally. Furthermore, the law requires all those who have legally immigrated to the country to carry their papers with them at all times, or else they will be in violation of the immigration law.

Governor Brewer, a Republican, has assured the enraged public that under no circumstances would she condone racial profiling. But it’s nearly impossible to prevent racial profiling when the premise of the law itself is ultimately centered on racial profiling. The word “reasonable” is one of the most ambiguous words in policymaking and is the layer of ice on a slippery slope that enables the government to strip Americans of their inalienable rights. For in this situation, what constitutes as reasonable suspicion? Is it the color of someone’s skin? His accent? His profession?

Perhaps it’s the sound of the Mexican music that emanates from his family’s home? It is hard to conjure up any genuine circumstances that would rouse enough “reasonable suspicion” to provoke a city police officer to demand the immigration paperwork of a person.

The reality is that we live in a racial society, and the probability that a law like this can be enacted without phenotypic judgment at the hands of the government is bleak. No one is questioning the need for immigration reform, but this law is racist at its core and makes a mockery out of the founding principles of the United States. While the ultimate solution for immigration reform will continue to be polarized along party lines, the situation in Arizona is not a political issue—it is a human issue. Our fellow citizens—neighbors who have spent years filling out paperwork and passing tests to legally obtain citizenship—will be forced to legitimize their

presence in a country that they rightfully call home.

At Wash. U., the student body has successfully spearheaded dialogue and movements on many social and political issues, but immigration reform has yet to take center stage. Whether it is because we think it only tangentially impacts us or because there has never been an impetus to spark campus-wide discourse is irrelevant. Let this backward law be our call to action. We have a responsibility to the people in Arizona and to our fellow immigrant neighbors in St. Louis to speak out against what we know to be wrong. We need to let the government know that such a racist law will not be tolerated in our country. We need to ensure that this Arizona law will only serve to spur meaningful dialogue and suitable, balanced policymaking on immigration reform. Let’s make Arizona the shining example of what should not happen with immigration reform.

Response to fraternity formal debate

Alissa Rotblatt
Forum Editor

The multitude of responses that I have received (both positive and negative) concerning last Monday’s “The not-so-hidden expectations behind fraternity formals” demonstrates that the pressure associated with fraternity formals is an important issue that many are interested and invested in. Of course there is controversy around the article. Of course people will want to share their opinions, just as I have done. And that is what Monday’s column was: an opinion piece in the opinion section of the paper. I didn’t assert that my opinion was the only opinion or that the examples mentioned pertained to every person who has ever attended a fraternity formal.

Many people have experienced the elements associated with fraternity formals that I described in my article. Those elements, of course, are not always present, and some of the comments, e-mails and direct responses that have been stimulated as a result of the article emphasized this point. Reactions from both ends of the spectrum, including everything from outright anger to long-awaited excitement, further illustrate that this is a topic begging for discussion. Yes, some dates go as friends with no expectations of hooking up, others are in relationships and that changes everything, and many attend formals unsure of their intentions. These examples were obvious to me, and therefore, since my goal in writing this opinion piece was not to describe every element of formal but rather to bring attention to a very real issue, I didn’t feel they were necessary to include.

I was in no way trying to insinuate that all guys take girls to formal for the sole purpose of having sex with them. In fact, I explicitly stated in my article that I was glad to be going with someone I knew, because this was not my experience. To all the men whose egos were bruised by my article: There are many courteous gentlemen in fraternities. My date for the last formal I attended is a perfect example. Many of my friends are in fraternities, and these are friends whom I love and respect.

I never intended the article to be a commentary on Greek life. Since it was printed, however, I’ve been surprised to find that a mentality exists among some (not all) members of the Greek community here at Wash. U.: In more or fewer words, “You’re either with us or against us.” This logic is bizarre given the number of people in Greek life with differing outlooks and perspectives. Wash. U. Greek life, in particular, prides itself on involving many kinds of students, and therefore, the community shouldn’t be surprised that its members will have opposing opinions on the system and the traditions that make up sororities and fraternities.

I am not asserting that the expectations I spoke of in my article are more prevalent in Greek life, but rather that they exist and manifest themselves in different ways from the world outside of college. An individual can still be in support of Greek life even if he or she sees certain aspects of it as cause for concern. If criticism only came from outside the Greek community, it would be clear that Greek organizations weren’t examining themselves closely enough. I am a proud member of Greek life here at Wash. U., but like any organization at any university, it isn’t perfect. The discourse that has resulted can only strengthen Wash. U.’s Greek organizations.

Such public conversation about this topic has hit a nerve; I think that much is clear. The article I wrote is in no way broad or narrow enough to cover all the elements of this issue. The underlying mentality I described as being behind fraternity formals does not only apply to fraternity formals and does not always apply to fraternity formals. It does, however, apply. The article was just a starting point for greater discussion and examination. Anyone who says simply, “This wasn’t my experience and therefore it isn’t true and doesn’t exist,” is far too self-involved and concerned with image to give this topic the consideration it deserves. The pressure to hook up at formal poses a serious issue. The fact that such a debate has been stimulated only further emphasizes this point.

Alissa is a sophomore in Arts and Sciences. She can be reached via e-mail at arrotbla@artsci.wustl.edu.

Re: Unintentional, but still segregation

Naia Ferguson
Op-Ed Submission

Allow me to first clarify some things so that the content of my opinion piece will be received within context: I am black, I am a junior, and I am from Harlem, N.Y., originally born in the South Bronx, New York City. Both areas are predominantly made of people of black, Puerto Rican and/or Dominican descent. My elementary schools were very integrated, but my middle school and high school primarily had, again, people of black, Puerto Rican and/or Dominican descent. I had three white teachers in my time between seventh and 12th grades, and none of them stayed at my school longer than two years.

When I came to Wash. U. for the first time, I was ecstatic to see that there were other black people. I understood that I was going to a predominantly white school and that I would have to adjust, but to find other people who were entrenched in the same culture as I, people who wouldn’t ask if I had called Child Services when my mother whooped me as a child, was a treat. To be clear, I came with no intentions to not make friends of other races, nor did I come here with the intention to make friends with every black person I came into contact

with. Both of these ideas are unrealistic and infeasible. But over the nearly three years that I have been a student in the black community at this school, I have become familiar with terms like “blavity” (the tendency for black people to congregate together at random, i.e., as if pulled by gravity) and the “black table” (any table that a majority of black people congregate at). These were funny to me and I thought little of them.

That is, until the Student Life article about unintentional self-segregation. The article caused me to think twice about these terms, as well as how these terms and the actions that they correlate to are viewed by other people. The “certain groups” that were spoken about were clear, at least to me. It was primarily about the black and Asian communities (when I brought up that Native Americans were mentioned in a class of mine, a Native American senior was confused, since she’s the only Native American who goes here she’s aware of. I guess she’s been hanging out by herself too long. . .). Why this was hard to say explicitly is beyond me. Don’t get me wrong, the article was good—it brought up things that need to be talked about. Unfortunately, it is based on three key misconceptions, at least when it comes to the self-segregation of the black community.

1) The black community is exclusive. This is completely

false. True, if there is a black freshman who is not known, attempts will probably be made to integrate them into the group if they want to be integrated. Besides that, few attempts are made to bring various people into the group. This does not mean that people of other races are not allowed to sit with us at the “black table” or to join a group of us talking. There are plenty of people of other races who are friends with multiple people within the black community, people who will sit with a group of us and talk normally. This is due to a little thing called friendship.

2) Black people congregate merely because we are all black. Also false. If I see a group of black people whom I am not friends with, I will not stop to join them. Many of my friends are indeed black, but I am just as inclined to sit with a group of my friends who are of other races as with a group of my friends who are black.

3) (Black) people who self-segregate do not have friends of other races or only congregate with people of the same race. The snapshot you get of black people together is not representative of how they are all the time. Many of us have a diverse group of friends. We do not have a checklist to make sure that we have one of every race, or an equal number of each, but few of us only have black friends. We

branch out. To be together during mealtimes or for an hour or two of downtime does not mean that we are strictly self-segregated. We have friends, roommates, floormates, study partners, etc., who are of other races, and we do not see that as a bad thing.

Personally? I see nothing wrong with self-segregation. As a person who spent her formative years in a school with no white or Asian students, I sometimes find it a comfort to be with others who, quite frankly, look like me. Other people whom I know of who came from the opposite—schools where they were one of a few, or perhaps the only black student—have also told me that their previous experiences lead them to do the same, to seek out this new, larger black community. The only issue I have with the overall concept as expressed in the former Student Life article is it seems to apply only to the black and Asian communities. I have never heard anyone bring up the idea of self-segregation upon noticing a table of white students eating together or seeing a group of them together in Whispers. But I don’t believe that situations like that are wrong, either. For me, it’s not about blocking anyone out—it’s just about feeling like I’m home.

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

WU can do better than coal

Bruce Nilles
Op-Ed Submission

Prestigious colleges and universities like Washington University have the potential, capacity and responsibility to lead the nation when it comes to making the right choices. They are the centers of research and innovation that develop the models, ideas and young people who will transform our world and lead to better living standards, a more secure nation and a healthier society.

Yet at a time when so many Americans are demanding clean energy, why are so many of our institutions of higher education still relying on and supporting such a dirty and outdated energy source as coal?

From the mine, to the plant, to the ash pond, coal is our dirtiest energy source. It causes asthma and other health

problems, destroys our mountains and releases toxic mercury into our communities.

We cannot continue to rely on this dirty and dangerous source of power. That’s why I’m excited to debate Fred Palmer, senior vice president of government relations at Peabody Energy, on Tuesday, April 27, at Graham Chapel here on the Washington University campus.

We’ve seen our nation’s college campuses become great activism centers around our greatest environmental threat: global warming. Young people are laying the groundwork for our clean energy future, and they’ve got the coal—which is responsible for more than 30 percent of our global warming pollution—in their sights.

Coal provides about half of our nation’s electricity, but here in Missouri, it’s responsible for 84 percent of the state’s power. We all know the Show Me State can do better.

Coal plants are dangerously outdated. Nearly half of our existing coal fleet began operating more than 50 years ago, and many of these plants lack modern pollution controls, making them major sources of mercury, soot, smog and global warming pollution.

Pollution from coal creates significant health impacts, including asthma, lung cancer and other respiratory issues. According to Physicians for Social Responsibility, pollution from coal plants has been linked to four of the top five leading causes of death in the U.S.: heart disease, cancer, stroke and respiratory disease. These impacts are suffered right here on the Wash. U. campus, which is located in a county that violates federal air-quality standards for smog (also known as “ozone”), a dangerous pollutant that is largely caused by pollution from coal plants in the metro area.

Coal plants are also one of the largest sources of man-made

mercury pollution in the U.S. Mercury pollution causes brain damage and other developmental problems in unborn children and infants and has been linked to a greater risk of coronary heart disease in men.

Pollution from coal plants adds \$62 billion a year to health care costs, according to the National Academy of Sciences, and research from the American Lung Association shows that coal pollution causes 12,000 hospitalizations, 38,000 heart attacks and 24,000 deaths each year.

And that’s just what burning it does. Mountaintop removal coal mining devastates Appalachian communities and watersheds, as coal companies blow the tops off mountains to get at a seam of coal, and then dump the waste into nearby streams and valleys.

Once coal is burned, its ash is very toxic, containing harmful metals and chemicals like arsenic, lead and selenium. This

coal ash is dumped into unlined piles and waste ponds, where it seeps into the ground and water tables. Or, even worse, the waste ponds can rupture, just as one did near Harriman, Tenn., in December 2008, destroying homes and permanently damaging the landscape.

This all shows what a bad investment coal is. It’s unhealthy and it destroys communities. Instead of spending millions to artificially extend the life of the outdated fleet of coal-fired power plants, it is time to phase out this old way of generating power and transition to clean energy technologies, like wind, solar and efficiency, that will power the future and create good paying jobs for Americans.

Clean energy technologies are available and already creating thousands of jobs around the country. An October 2009 study by researchers at the University of Illinois, Yale University and the University of California,

Berkeley, shows that clean energy investments will create as many as 1.9 million jobs nationally by 2020. Those are jobs that Wash. U. and other college grads will be seeking out over time.

And no matter what our opponents say, capturing the carbon pollution from coal plants does not make coal clean. As I’ve noted, there is a host of other dirty problems associated with coal.

Continuing our dependence on coal chains us to dirty energy and prevents us from making the changes we need to bring about a clean, secure energy future. I hope you’ll join me at the debate against Peabody Energy’s Fred Palmer on Tuesday, April 27. Let’s stand up for clean energy together.

Bruce Nilles is the director of the Sierra Club’s nationwide Beyond Coal campaign. To reach him, see <http://www.sierraclub.org/contact/>

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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Netflix versus Hulu

Percy Olsen
Senior Cadenza Editor

Since the dawn of time, or maybe since the dawn of 2007, Netflix and Hulu have warred over your time on the Internet. Netflix leans on its subscription model, stellar catalogue and great recommendation engine, while Hulu is (soon to be “was”) free, has a smaller library and is great for watching recent TV episodes. Who emerges as the victor in this battle for viewing time? Read on.

Movies

Hulu’s movie selection leaves much to be desired. I’m sure that somewhere, someone reading this online or in lecture just exclaimed, “What? I didn’t know that Hulu had movies!” Yes, yes they do, and I do not blame you for your ignorance or your incessant lack of an inner monologue. To borrow a phrase from a TV show that Hulu no longer carries, “The facts are these”: Hulu carries about 900 feature films. Sure, it sounds like a lot when you first hear it (I mean, think about how many shelves a collection like that would take up, but we’re talking about the Internet’s shelves here, and they probably can’t get filled up). Why aren’t there

more, Hulu? Why is one of your featured films a Lifetime movie?

To expand, if Hulu were personified as some guy on your freshman floor, he’d be the one weirdo who was always trying to sell you on his obscure, sexual taste in movies.

“Check out ‘Strictly Sexual,’” he’d snort, dangling the DVD over your head while frothing at the mouth. “Or maybe you’re more of a ‘Love Sick: Secrets of a Sex Addict’ kind of person. It’s a Lifetime Original Movie, you know.”

Sheesh. Please, let’s move on to Netflix. While Netflix made a name for itself by renting out physical DVDs,

its “Watch Instantly” section is not too shabby. How many movies can you watch? I’ll tell you one thing: I could count all of the movies on Hulu, but I couldn’t even begin to count all of the movies Netflix makes available. There are simply too many.

Perhaps a better measure of library size is the search button. Look for a movie on Netflix, and you’re going to find it, if not streaming online, then available to be shipped straight to your door. Look for a movie on Hulu, and your search will turn up either something random, something involving breasts or something starring Kieran Culkin. That’s all Hulu is. It’s Kieran Culkin all the way down.

Price and service

All right, so Hulu didn’t sweep the TV category like we all expected it to, but this round has got to be a sure thing for Hulu because Hulu is free and Netflix costs \$9 a month and up. No way Hulu loses this section, right? Again, the answer is “sort of.”

Truth, Netflix costs \$9 a month, and truth, Hulu is currently free. But it won’t be free for much longer. According to the Los Angeles Times, Hulu will launch Hulu Plus within the next month. The new service will clock in at a Netflix-esque \$9.95 monthly subscription fee, and it will provide adopters access to a comprehensive backlog of television shows, while keeping the five most recent episodes free.

Sounds a lot like Netflix, if you ask me. It’s

great news that Hulu is finally getting serious about expanding its TV selection, but it’s not enough. If Hulu is going to cost more than Netflix, it has to beef up its movie collection, too. Plus, don’t forget that your \$9 Netflix subscription also lets you rent DVDs for as long as you want. Netflix makes Hulu Plus look overpriced and underwhelming.

As for services, Hulu has a great set of discussion forums tied to complete series and to individual episodes. Netflix doesn’t have message boards, but it does have a robust recommendation system that borders on “so accurate it’s freaky” levels. On the “neat-o” side of things, you can also beam Netflix to your Xbox 360, PS3 and Wii for free. TV just looks better when it’s shown on TV.

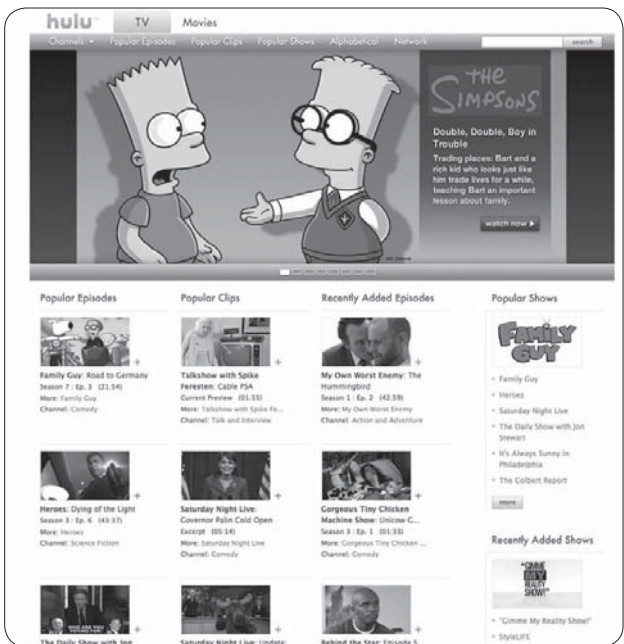


Conclusions

Looking back at this article, it looks like I’ve bashed Hulu into oblivion, and I don’t want the reader to walk away with that impression. Netflix is superior when it comes to watching movies and old episodes of TV shows, but Hulu’s greatest asset is nearly its trump card. I can’t emphasize enough how much Hulu has

changed the way I watch television. Visiting Hulu is like having TiVo at any computer in the world. It takes the hassle out of television watching.

To wrap things up, there’s no clear winner. If you like movies and older episodes of current television shows, use Netflix. If you want to stay hip to current TV, use Hulu.



Television

Hulu took a beating in the last round, but we all know that Hulu is really all about the TV, and movies are just a strange, perverted hobby for the guy. So Hulu is going to wipe the floor with Netflix when it comes to TV-viewing, am I right?

Well, yes and no. Yes, Hulu feels like the most important website in the world when you’re trying to catch up with your favorite shows. I can’t tell you how many Monday nights I’ve checked the time, seen it’s 9:02 p.m. and realized that I’ve missed “24” again, sending me into the beginning stages of a frenzied panic attack. Then I remember that Hulu posts the episodes on Tuesday, and things feel good again. We’re college students; we’re allowed to miss shows, and Hulu makes the anxiety go away.

And yes, Hulu is surprisingly good if you’re looking for lesser-known, nostalgia-laden shows, like “Newsradio” and “Jackie Chan Adventures.” But Hulu often has this maddening habit of

only presenting five episodes at a time. Hulu’s hands are tied by the distributor, but if I want to have a “Firefly” marathon, I can’t do that on Hulu. I have to wait at least eight weeks for all of the episodes to be posted. That’s not watching a marathon! That’s a summer season of “The Bachelor”!

You know where I can have a “Firefly” marathon? Netflix, because it always has the whole series available. Hulu is best if you want to watch the most recent episodes of current shows. If you want anything else, go to Netflix. For example, Hulu carries the six most recent episodes of “The Office,” but Netflix has the first five seasons! Unfortunately, Netflix’s problems are a mirror image of Hulu’s, as you can almost never find more current episodes on Netflix.

As a state-certified Television Fanatic, I endorse both services. Use Hulu to stay on top of things, and use Netflix to learn your history.

THEATER REVIEW

‘Metamorphoses’

Showing at Edison Theatre, at 8 p.m. on April 30 and May 1, and at 2 p.m. on May 2

Davis Sargeant
Theater Editor

Many courses offered next semester include the idea of change: Calculus deals with instantaneous changes in functions, biological anthropology concerns changes in human physiology, and history chronicles changes in the world over time. This weekend, theater adds its own perspective. Mary Zimmerman’s “Metamorphoses,” a play currently showing at the Edison Theatre, challenges a viewer’s relationship with change. Specifically, “Metamorphoses” explores how fundamental human nature, which has remained static for thousands of years, responds to sudden hardship or reward. Furthermore, the play asks the audience to find the lifestyle best suited for confronting unexpected change.

“Metamorphoses” condenses

Ovid’s epic and selects the most powerful myths to illustrate the theme of change. The gods, though “not altogether unkind,” exert their influence on the mortal world by dramatically interfering with the lives of humans.

From Midas to Orpheus, and from Alcyone to Baucis, mortals undergo various metamorphoses, or physical changes, which reflect their internal traits. Hubris is punished, while charity and love are rewarded. To stress the timeless nature of these myths, some take place in antiquity, while others have anachronistic references to better tie their stories to today. These myths, however, offer more than just simple morals like the importance of humility and piety. “Metamorphoses” also shows why myths themselves retain importance and relevance.

Sometimes I wonder whether my passion for the humanities is worthwhile. If I major in English, philosophy or history, I’ll

never cure cancer, balance the national budget or design better computer systems. Toward the end of the production, “Metamorphoses” addresses these concerns as a therapist comments on Phaeton’s story. Phaeton, the son of Helios, the sun god, asks his father for “the keys to his car.” Helios initially refuses to allow Phaeton to command the sun, but Phaeton persists. Helios relents, and Phaeton nearly destroys the world. With plenty of humorous psychoanalysis, the therapist concludes two points about the nature of Phaeton’s tale. First, “myths are the earliest form of science,” and second, “myths are public dreams.” After Phaeton’s tale, the audience hears Mozart.

Art, and the rest of the humanities, carries the same themes as myths. With myths as the first science, then, one can approach “Metamorphoses” as a guide to proper human life. With love and charity and Baucis and Philemon, humans can transcend their nastier natures and find redemption.

“Metamorphoses” delivers handsomely as a theater experience as well. The amazing set features a pool of water in which actors stand, sit, walk and lounge. For the best experience, one must have a basic knowledge of classical mythology. Unfortunately, some of the lines have a flat delivery. While the characters and myths of “Metamorphoses” are ancient, their portrayals at times felt too inhuman. Relating to their experiences and empathizing with them could be difficult.

Nonetheless, the ending of “Metamorphoses” is perfect. The visual and narrative elements combine to create a powerful image. There’s no other word for it but perfect. See “Metamorphoses” for its timeless perspective on life, arrogance, love and redemption.



DAVID KILPER | WUSTL PHOTO SERVICES

Senior Kate Healy is cast as Aphrodite in “Metamorphoses.”

ALBUM REVIEW

‘Swim’ by Caribou

for fans of
Beach House, Four Tet
and Yeasayer



tracks to download
‘Odessa,’ ‘Jamelia’ and ‘Kaili’

Christina Wilson
Cadenza Reporter

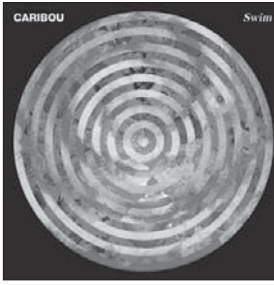
Not all experiments go well, and Caribou’s newest album “Swim” is one such experiment. The album has its moments, but overall, the album sounds unfinished. This is Canadian Dan Snaith’s fifth solo album and his third under the moniker Caribou, with two earlier albums released under the name Manitoba. Snaith’s goal for “Swim” was to create “dance music that’s liquid in the way it flows back and forth.” But it’s easier to drown in this liquid music than to stay afloat.

“Swim” is darker than its 2007 psych-laced pop predecessor, “Andorra,” which is Snaith’s most critically acclaimed work to date and which won the Polaris Music Prize in 2008. This time, Snaith drops the ‘60s bent and takes up a direct approach to electronics. But in doing so, he lacks easy entrance points to the music. His goal to create flexible, flowing music is at odds with his choice to combine it with dance music, known for its rigid structures and repetitiveness. Though this mixture is lackluster,

Snaith should be recognized for his ambitious approach to music.

The first track, “Odessa,” is the album’s most accessible. It has an inviting beat, which softens the blow of the bursts of percussion. These percussions, upon multiple hearings, become essential to the song’s appeal. The fluidity of the song and Snaith’s soft voice make it easy to miss his unhappy lyrics about a breakup, exhibited in the line, “The times you hurt me, and treated me wrong/ Something had to give to stop this thing from going on.” This theme of relationship uncertainty, usually focused on the woman, continues throughout the album.

The song structure is much looser in the following songs. Next up is “Sun,” which features random creepy laughter, a wobbling baseline and the word “sun” repeated over 200 times. Equally preposterous is the fifth song on the album, “Bowls.” As the name suggests, it is made up of a ruckus of clanging bowls and random swells of harp. These ambitious but failed attempts just come across as pretentious. The best song on the



album has to be “Jamelia,” mostly because the vocals are much better. Snaith’s whiny, light vocals are replaced with Luke Lalonde of Born Rufians, whose voice has substance. He is able to add intensity to his vocals as the song builds, something Snaith’s deadpan voice never achieves. This song also goes back to the wronged female, as it asks, “Did I not do enough to save the two of us?/ What more could I give her?/ What more can I do to see her point of view?”

“Swim” is an extensive effort to create something minimal that is overall inaccessible. Listeners have to be willing to let the album grow on them, since its nuances are not immediately evident. Snaith is obviously talented and has created something beautiful, but that does not mean it cannot be boring at the same time.

SPORTS

MEN'S TENNIS

After two blowouts, Bears fall to Emory in UAA title match

Daniel Kurzner
Staff Reporter

Despite sweeping the No. 8-seeded New York University, 9-0, and handily defeating the No. 5-seeded Brandeis University, 5-1, the No. 1-seeded Washington University men's tennis team fell to the No. 2-seeded Emory University, 5-2, in the finals of the University Athletic Association championship tournament this past weekend. With the win, Emory, the No. 3 ranked team in the nation, captured its 20th UAA championship.

This was the fifth consecutive year that the two teams met in the finals of this tournament. The Bears won last year's match 5-4 for their only UAA title.

Senior and national No. 1 John Watts suffered a rare singles loss to No. 4 Dillon Pottish, 6-0, 6-4. Watts had defeated Pottish at the ITA Small College Championships last fall but lost to him at the National Indoor Championships last February.

"[I give] a lot of credit to him. He was moving the ball well, and his backhand was great," Watts said. "In the second set, I picked up my intensity, and I also played much more aggressively. I was really just a couple of points away from getting the advantage in the second set and maybe taking that second set."

Another surprising finals loss came from the national No. 3 doubles duo of juniors Isaac Stein and Max Woods, who lost to Emory's Chris Goodwin and Chris Jordan, 8-6.

"They made us play more balls than we made them play," Stein said. "We hit some great shots, they got it back and made us play one more ball, and that's how they won. They are two really good doubles players."

Freshman Adam Putterman picked up Wash. U.'s only singles victory against Emory, 6-3, 7-5, and Watts and freshman Kareem Farah took the only doubles victory in the round, 8-5. The win upped Watts and Farah's doubles record to 19-4 on the season and was also Watts' 100th doubles victory of

his career. Despite the loss in the finals, the No. 2 Bears found solace in their lopsided victories in the first two rounds of the tournament. In singles over both rounds, Watts dropped only two games while Stein dropped only seven. The first doubles team of Stein and Woods and the third doubles team of senior Danny Levy and sophomore Cameron Chiang also won both of their first two matches. As a whole, the team won all but one match of the 15 it played over the first two rounds.

"It's a three-day tournament, and I definitely thought we were prepared," head coach Roger Follmer said. "The guys were ready in the mental and physical effort that it takes to win. And they know what it takes. They've done it before."

In the Brandeis match on Saturday, Follmer picked up his

150th career win. But Follmer is far more concerned with the team's overall success at the NCAA tournament in a few weeks than with his own personal accomplishments.

"I doubt anyone on our team would care about any of that stuff. I know I don't," Follmer said. "We look forward to playing Emory again. If we beat them the next time we play them, I'll remember the Emory win more than the 150th win, or whatever it was."

The Bears continue the season at 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 1, against No. 19 DePauw University at the Tao Tennis Center before the NCAA Division III Championships in May.

"I think we are in good shape," Follmer said. "It's just a matter of shutting it down for a couple of days and starting practice up again on Wednesday."



John Watts serves against Graceland University on March 20. Watts was upset by Dillon Pottish on Sunday at first singles, as Wash. U. fell to Emory 2-5 in the UAA championship match.

Speech by owner of MLB's Angels helps sports management club get off ground

Kurt Rohrbeck
Sports Editor

While the NFL Draft, which occurred this past weekend, gave 255 college athletes a chance to play in the NFL, a club at Washington University is striving to get some of the school's own students into the NFL and other sports leagues, but under slightly different job titles.

The Olin Sports Management Organization (OSMO), founded during the 2008-2009 school year, was created by students looking to help other Wash. U. students land jobs in the sports industry. This past Thursday, Arte Moreno, owner of the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim, came and spoke to the club.

Moreno was the highest-profile speaker that OSMO had brought in since its creation last school year. The club got off the ground with faculty adviser Dan Stiffler and four varsity athletes: seniors Nick Vom Brack and Ross Kelley, and sophomores Jon Howard and Daniel Grimm.

"[We had] a passion for sports beyond just playing sports, and we wanted to work with people who like business and are involved in sports," said Vom Brack, the club's current president.

After the initial meeting and the addition of a fifth member of the founding group, senior Remy Midkiff, OSMO began bringing in various panels of speakers in the sports field while trying to get its name out to the Wash. U. public.

"In our first year, like in a business, we were just hoping we were still around at the end of the year," said Stiffler, a



Boston Red Sox principal owner John W. Henry chats with Los Angeles Angels owner Arte Moreno on Oct. 6, 2008. Moreno spoke at Washington University on Thursday night to members of the Olin Sports Management Organization get off the ground.

career adviser in the Olin Business School.

Though OSMO had a number of speakers in before last Thursday, none had nearly the pedigree of Moreno. The club managed to bring him in through a connection to his son, Rico, a senior here at Wash. U. With Moreno already coming in to visit for ThurtenE weekend, there was a clear opportunity.

"I've been really lucky to know Rico for four years," Midkiff said. "I thought it would be great to bring in his dad, and he said that he'd love to talk to us. It really just fell into place."

Moreno's speech, in which he discussed not just the Angels but also his ascension from selling billboards to owning a Major League Baseball team, seemed to impress the crowd.

"I originally thought it was going to be mainly Q&A, so I was really blown away by the material that he prepared about his career and the Angels and

the multimedia stuff he brought in," Midkiff said.

The implications of Moreno's appearance, in terms of the club's future, are unknown. The officers acknowledged that bringing in a speaker of Moreno's caliber on a regular basis may not be realistic.

Regardless, OSMO is looking to obtain Student Union funding and recognition to be more visible across campus.

"Not only to get funding, to help us put on bigger-profile events, but just to get our name out there more and have the whole school know about us would be a big step," Vom Brack said.

Funding or not, the club's long-term goals have not changed. "We've had three goals from the beginning: one, to provide information about jobs in sports; two, to develop a network in sports; and finally, to contribute to the community," Stiffler said. "Those are our three goals, and we're doing all right with them."

Sports brief

National champions to be honored Monday night

The Washington University women's basketball team, the 2010 Division III national champions, and senior swimmer Alex Beyer, the two time defending NCAA 400 individual medley national champion, will be honored Monday night in the Wash. U. Field House. The ceremony, named the Celebration of Champions, will feature the unveiling of the 2010 women's basketball championship banner along with a presentation of the championship trophy and comments from the athletes. The third-place men's 800 freestyle relay team and senior swimmer Jessie Lodewyk will also be recognized for their efforts. (Alex Dropkin)

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SOLUTION TO FRIDAY'S PUZZLE

6	2	4	9	5	7	1	3	8
1	9	3	8	4	6	7	5	2
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4	7	5	1	8	3	6	2	9
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4/26/10

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FOR RELEASE APRIL 26, 2010

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

1 Life histories, briefly

5 Atkins diet concern

9 Bogus

14 Drub in a game

15 Exploitative type

16 Author Zola

17 Not in favor

18 Italian tower site

19 Corrective eye surgery

20 "What?"

23 Nova

24 Gentleman's offering on a crowded train, perhaps

25 Scratch (out), as a living

27 Reason to grab a tissue

32 "What?"

37 Lost color

38 Watered-down

39 Hangs ten, say

42 Actress Campbell

43 Finished

45 "What?"

47 Back-talking

50 Big bang producer

51 One running in a pusher, for short

53 Circles the Earth

58 "What?"

62 Toothbrush company

63 Metallurgist's raw materials

64 Choir voice

65 Modeling wood

66 CC ÷ XXV

67 Swerve

68 Shoreline irregularity

69 Hankering

70 Salinger heroine

DOWN

1 Thin nails

2 Architectural order

3 One-up

4 Stretch in the service

5 Hostess offerings

6 Continent crossed by Marco Polo

7 Score silence symbols

8 Sources of teen angst, dentally

9 Sharpie feature

10 Asian nurse

11 Edelstein of "House"

12 Use a letter opener on

13 Scared comics cry

21 Connections

22 Solo of "Star Wars"

26 Cousin of an ostrich

28 Vampire tooth

29 Insect in a circus

30 First name in jeans

31 First family's home?

32 Rams' ma'am

33 TV warrior princess

34 No-goodniks

35 Hawaiian strings

36 Hosp. areas

4/26/10

By Jeff Chen

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6 Continent crossed by Marco Polo

7 Score silence symbols

8 Sources of teen angst, dentally

9 Sharpie feature

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30 First name in jeans

31 First family's home?

32 Rams' ma'am

33 TV warrior princess

34 No-goodniks

35 Hawaiian strings

36 Hosp. areas

Friday's Puzzle Solved

P	I	A	N	O		J	A	M	B		N	O	R	A
A	L	L	I	N		E	R	I	E		E	R	I	C
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N	U	K	E		E	P	E	E		S	P	A	S	M

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4/26/10

40 Sprat's taboo

41 Book report, e.g.

44 Edith, to Archie

46 Gillette razor brand

48 Aye's opposite

49 Old-fashioned "Cool!"

52 Radium co-discoverer

54 Atlanta athlete

55 Dawdles

56 Symbol on a pole

57 Source of spousal angst, nocturnally

58 Persia, nowadays

59 Formal dance

60 Apart from this

61 Jockey strap

62 Kimono sash



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SCENE

Holi: The scoop behind the mud and the colorful balloons

Sasha Fine
Scene Special Features Editor

Washington University students, numbering in the hundreds, converged on the Swamp on Friday for the event known as Holi, put on by Ashoka, Washington University's South Asian cultural student group.

Beginning at 3 p.m. and running for the better part of two hours, the event consisted of students flinging almost 20,000 multicolored water balloons at each other and, when the balloons were depleted, engaging in an all-out mud fight.

Holi, celebrated by many South Asian religions, is a festival marking the onset of spring. Traditional rituals and celebrations vary by region, but Ashoka has taken a rather unusual approach. "It's known as the festival of color, one

where everyone just lets loose and gets excited," said Priya Nagarajan, a junior who is one of the co-cultural chairs of the student group. "Normally they use colored powder, but we just took a spin off of that and used multicolored water balloons because we thought it would be more fun and muddy."

The event itself has always been crowded, and this year's Holi drew over 500 people, more than had attended the event in the past according to Parsa Bastani, a sophomore who is the other co-cultural chair of Ashoka.

"People love it. From what I can tell, everyone seems to have a ball when they're at Holi, especially when the weather's good. We were crossing our fingers this time because of the clouds, but we lucked out," Nagarajan added.

Students, like freshman Jaime Rosenthal, thoroughly

enjoyed themselves at Holi.

"It was ridiculous to just fool around and tackle people in the mud and get that dirty but just not care about it, Rosenthal said."

Despite its popularity, the public's view of Holi is rather limited. Most students only see and experience the celebration itself, not the preparation and cleanup. The event requires careful planning by the 12 member executive board, and around 15 others assisted.

"We start planning at the beginning of the spring semester. In January, we start figuring out how to organize it. We have a lot of teams to fill up water balloons because we can't fill 20,000 balloons on our own," Nagarajan added.

As an added incentive for filling balloons, Ashoka offers prizes for groups of students that fill the most balloons within a set period of time.

The work continues after

the fight, as members of Ashoka have to pick up the Swamp.

"It's a lot of work. We have to pick up all the balloon remnants, and that took a while, about four hours," Bastani said.

In addition to removing balloon fragments, Ashoka is responsible for hosing off event participants, cleaning out all utilized multipurpose rooms, emptying trash cans, and collecting all supplies used for the event.

While the work required to execute Holi is intensive, the event is always well known to students.

"I think that people just know about it. I mean, we do our PR and stuff, like putting up signs, but still people just seem to know about it because it's a long-standing tradition," Nagarajan said.

Though Holi is Ashoka's main event in the spring, it is



MATT MITGANG | CAMPUS IN FOCUS

Sophomores Jacob Witt and Courtney Safir celebrate Holi on the Swamp. While the annual water balloon and mud fight may not be the traditional way to celebrate the coming of spring, the event follows the spirit of Holi since it allows participants to channel their excitement for spring.

not all the group is known for. Leading up to the celebration, Ashoka sponsors South Asian Awareness Week and, in the fall, Diwali, the dance performance celebrating the holiday

Diwali.

Said Nagarajan, "Diwali might be even bigger than Holi. Holi is pretty big, but Diwali is something more."

The Haps: Tower Grove

Kristen Klempert
Scene Events Columnist

The Loop, the Landing, the Central West End: been there, done it all. If you're ready for a new place to go out, head to Tower Grove. The Grove, for those not already in the know, is an older part of St. Louis that's building itself back up with trendy restaurants and popping nightlife. The neighborhood stretches around Tower Grove Park for blocks in every direction, but it is mostly centered in the area between Kingshighway and Manchester and Vandeventer avenues. Whether you're looking for great food, a place to relax, or somewhere to party, the Grove has a place for you. Below are some of places that are definitely worth checking out.

Everest Café & Bar 4145 Manchester Ave.

This small family-owned restaurant is a haven for anyone who loves South Asian food. Specializing in Nepalese, Korean and Indian foods, Everest is home to the best lunch deal in St. Louis: \$8.95



COURTESY OF EVEREST CAFÉ & BAR

Everest Café & Bar specializes in South Asian food and features exceptional service and an \$8.95 lunch buffet.

for its lunch buffet, which includes amazing sweet potato chapchae. The owners will welcome you to Everest like you're family. They openly care for every one of their guests, which is apparent not only in their attitudes, but also in the restaurant's mission to serve heart-healthy and vegetarian food options.

Sanctuaría 4198 Manchester Ave.

I'm not going to lie: I was originally attracted to this place because it looked like a vampire bar straight out of "True Blood." But once I got inside (and surprise, surprise, discovered it was actually a tapas bar), I was hooked. The atmosphere is neo-gothic, which is

to say there's low lighting from iron chandeliers and candles, but also splashes of color in the décor and art displays. The tapas are good, and the service is amazingly fast. Tons of kudos go to the chef for the Chihuahua and guava empanadas; the crusts on these babies are cooked impeccably, exactly as pastries should be prepared. They also have an exciting drink menu, which experiments with things like hibiscus syrups. The bartenders are very proud of their Sazerac, an old-time cocktail that's making a comeback now that absinthe is once again available in bars.

Atomic Cowboy 4140 Manchester Ave.

Atomic Cowboy is the type of place you can go out to without spending hours deciding what to wear. No matter how you dress or how you look, you will have a great time there partying with your friends. There are nightly drink specials, as well as a full menu if you get hungry while dancing. Music is provided every night by DJs and by what Atomic Cowboy calls "danceable bands." Another great plus: It's open until 3 a.m. nightly.

other happenings

may day pub crawl

MAY 1, 7 P.M. AT HAMMERSTONE'S, 2028 S. NINTH ST.

Celebrate the first of May with a pub crawl stopping at Hammerstone's, The Shanti, Great Grizzly, Llywelyn's and DB's. Cost is \$20, which helps benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

st. louis microfest

APRIL 30, 7 P.M.-10 P.M.; MAY 1, 12 P.M.-4 P.M., 6 P.M.-9 P.M.; AND MAY 2, 1 P.M.-5 P.M., AT THE MUNY, 5595 GRAND DRIVE

Enjoy local brewing by tasting beer, eating good food and listening to music. Admission cost varies.

dining out, for life

APRIL 29, VARIOUS RESTAURANTS ACROSS ST. LOUIS

More than 130 restaurants will donate a portion of their proceeds to St. Louis Effort for AIDS. Participating venues listed at <http://www.diningoutforlife.com/stlouis/participating>

Stepping Out

Kate L. Gallagher
Scene Reporter

I knew we were approaching The Dubliner when I saw a huge Irish flag draped across a brick façade and an outdoor patio where patrons were downing pints of Guinness. The Dubliner is a gastropub, which, according to the Oxford English Dictionary (please excuse me, I'm an English major) means that it is "a public house which specializes in serving high-quality food." While my experience at The Dubliner was quite enjoyable, I would hesitate to describe it as "high-quality."

Walking through the door, I felt like I had stepped into a real Irish pub. There were Irish flags hanging from the

ceiling, televisions showing a soccer game, the sound of an Irish jig playing softly in the background and, of course, a vast drink menu. The Dubliner is one of the few places in St. Louis where I've been able to find one of my favorite drinks, which I first tasted when I studied abroad in the United Kingdom: Magner's, a hard Irish cider with the subtle sweetness of apples and the bitterness of tannins. The Dubliner offers plenty of other special drink options as well, including the Black Velvet (Guinness and champagne), the Irish Car Bomb (Guinness and Bailey's), the Snake Bite (harp and cider) and Irish Coffee (coffee with whiskey, cream and sugar).

My friends and I were seated at a large dimly lit,

not particularly comfortable booth. Our waitress was friendly and helpful, offering suggestions on what to order. She promptly brought out our appetizers, the Trinity and the stuffed mushroom caps. The Trinity consisted of plump shrimp wrapped in bacon and served on dollops of saffron vanilla butter sauce. The combination of items was good, and the sauce was rich and creamy. But I felt that the shrimp should have been fresher and the bacon crispier. According to the menu, the mushroom caps were supposed to be filled with crab, but I did not notice any crab in mine. Nonetheless, these were still tasty and topped with a flavorful, spicy sauce. My friend also ordered a side of "champ," a combination of mashed potatoes with

scallions, butter and milk. This dish proved that the Irish are real champs when it comes to mashed potatoes.

We waited and waited for our entrées to arrive. We waited so long, in fact, that our waitress apologized and explained that there was a party of 40 in a backroom. But his excuse wasn't satisfying for me. For one, the rest of the restaurant was practically empty. Second, she knew it was my birthday, so I felt that better service was required for the occasion.

Finally, our entrees arrived. I went with the classic fish-and-chips option. The fish was huge, crispy and fried to perfection. The chips (french fries), on the other hand, were unimpressive, with a limp, sagging quality. While the entrée was tasty, it left me feeling a bit

queasy and greasy; but I guess that comes with any large platter of fried food.

Meanwhile, my friends sampled several other entrées, including the shepherd's pie, the chicken pot pie, the pumpkin ravioli and the chopped salad. The shepherd's pie was a large steaming bowl of ground lamb and diced vegetables topped with mashed potatoes. The chicken pot pie consisted of a pastry topping, chicken and peas in a creamy sauce. While my friends were satisfied with these entrées, I thought the dishes were rather bland.

The pumpkin ravioli, on the other hand, was tossed in a rich, creamy sauce with subtle flavors of pumpkin spice. While this entrée was flavorful, the portion was very tiny. Finally, the chopped salad

included mixed greens, roasted vegetables and goat cheese topped with balsamic vinaigrette. After puzzling over the other vegetables, we finally decided that they included sweet potatoes, parsnips and rutabagas.

Then, our delicious desserts arrived. I tried the crème brûlée, which had a crisp, burnt-sugar topping and a creamy, cool vanilla bottom. My friends loved the Guinness bread pudding and the apple cobbler as well.

When the waitress gave me my bill she informed me that my dessert was on the house since it was my birthday. Though it was certainly a nice gesture, I would have preferred an Irish jig performed by the entire staff.



PHOTOS BY KATE L. GALLAGHER | STUDENT LIFE