

Student Life

the independent newspaper of Washington University in St. Louis since 1878

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2014

WWW.STUDLIFE.COM

SOFTBALL

Previewing the upcoming spring season (Sports, pg 5)



MARDI GRAS

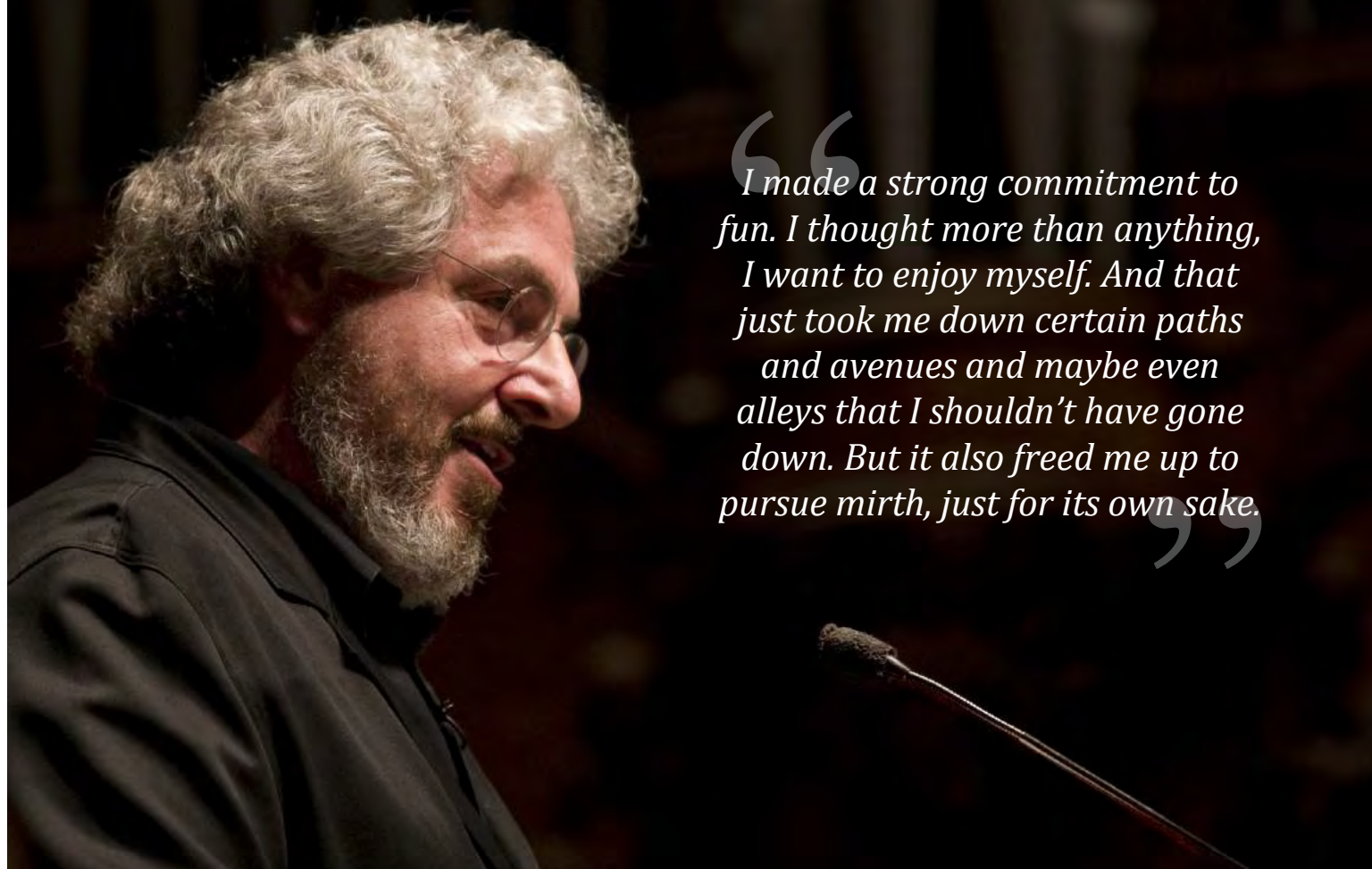
All you need to know about the holiday before this weekend (Scene, pg 4)



BEAR BASICS: TENNIS
Online at studlife.com

Remembering Harold Ramis

1944-2014



“I made a strong commitment to fun. I thought more than anything, I want to enjoy myself. And that just took me down certain paths and avenues and maybe even alleys that I shouldn’t have gone down. But it also freed me up to pursue mirth, just for its own sake.”

PAUL GOEDEKE | STUDENT LIFE ARCHIVES

Harold Ramis speaks at Graham Chapel in September 2009. Ramis, an alumnus of Washington University, died of complications from autoimmune inflammatory vasculitis Feb. 24. **FOR THE BEST OF HAROLD RAMIS, SEE CADENZA PG. 10.**

BECKY PRAGER
NEWS EDITOR

An actor, writer and director best known for his work on cult classics such as “Animal House,” “Groundhog Day” and the “Ghostbusters” films, Washington University alumnus and former trustee Harold Ramis died Monday.

Ramis, who graduated from the University in 1966, was 69 and leaves behind an incredible comedic legacy. He died of complications from autoimmune inflammatory vasculitis at his home in Chicago, where he grew up.

He was a member of the University’s chapter of Zeta Beta Tau fraternity while a student, and his experiences in the fraternity have often been said to be an inspiration for his screenplay for “Animal House.”

“The way we wrote the movie [“Animal House”] was we spent three months, eight hours a day, literally, in a office in Manhattan just debriefing ourselves totally on college,” Ramis told Student Life in a 2009 interview. “Every story we could remember, every interesting person we met, every funny thing that happened.”

“We think that we as a fraternity have always embodied the

sense of humor and free-spirited nature that Ramis had and exhibited in his films,” the University’s ZBT chapter president, junior Sam Shapiro, said. “We’re proud that he came from our fraternity...not because he was successful but just the nature of his sense of humor and the type of work he did.”

The fraternity plans to honor its alumnus with a memorial service and party this weekend.

“It’s what Harold would’ve wanted,” Shapiro said.

Ramis’ relationship with the University continued far past his graduation. He sat on the school’s board of trustees from 1997 to 2005, and he returned to campus

once again in 2009 as an Assembly Series speaker.

Ramis also visited the University in 1982 for Homecoming, Shapiro said. The fraternity honored him by finding a working car in a junkyard and constructing a full-scale model of the Deathmobile from “Animal House.” Afterward, Shapiro said, Ramis celebrated with fraternity members.

“I made a strong commitment to fun. I thought more than anything, I want to enjoy myself,” Ramis said in his Student Life interview. “And that just took me down certain paths and avenues

SEE RAMIS, PAGE 2

SU re-times elections in attempt to increase interest

MANVITHA MARNI
NEWS EDITOR

By moving its spring elections to later in the semester, Student Union hopes to improve on the 27 percent voter turnout from last year.

While elections were held before spring break each of the past three years, this year’s will be held on Wednesday, March 26, and Thursday, March 27.

The changes come in light of an apparent decline in student voter interest: whereas 2,556 students voted in spring 2012, only 1,690 students voted in 2013. Although SU officials attributed part of the drop to the movement of block funding votes from spring elections to fall elections, student response led the current SU executive council to move elections, at least partially to address this problem.

“We did receive a lot of feedback saying the elections were held during a really bad week for a lot of students,” SU President Matthew Re said. “We kind of looked at the calendar and thought that [two weeks after spring break] would be a better week. Going earlier, we ran into [resident advisor] selection, a physics exam, a GenChem exam...so later seemed like the better option.”

Junior and Election Commissioner Jodi Small said she hoped the additional time before elections would encourage more students to run but also noted that she would need to

SEE ELECTIONS, PAGE 2

Model leads conversation on body image pressures

MANVITHA MARNI
NEWS EDITOR

MyPlate, the fashion industry and perceptions of health were among the varied topics covered in a presentation by Maybelline’s first African model, Yomi Abiola, Tuesday night.

Abiola’s presentation was a part of Eating Disorder Awareness Week, hosted by student group Reflections. Although eating disorders were brought up at various points during the night, Abiola’s talk focused primarily on body image and how students could work to improve their perception of themselves.

“Body is so important to me because body is your forever friend,” she said. “You’ll have friends and they’ll leave, you’ll have people that die in your lives and things that happen, but you’ll always have your body.”

During her talk, Abiola shared an anecdote about her third modeling campaign, during which she suffered a relapse of multiple sclerosis, which left her unable to fulfill her commitments. She explained she was too scared to explain the situation to her agent and instead claimed that one of

her family members had died in order to remain at home.

“At that moment, I realized that even though I was projecting an image [of health], what was going on inside my body wasn’t really the truth,” Abiola said. “People project a certain thing, but you never really know what’s going on on the inside.”

After giving a brief overview of her personal experiences, which touched on the pressures she faced as she began modeling, Abiola asked the audience to continue the discussion by sharing similar expectations that it had encountered.

One audience member said that Washington University students often feel obligated to exercise on top of demanding coursework and extracurricular activities. Another mentioned the MyPlate option recently introduced in Bear’s Den, stating that she felt the plates could add pressure on students to make different food choices.

“When you’re eating with a group, there can be judgment if you didn’t get a salad or if you did get a salad. It’s very hard to

SEE BODY IMAGE, PAGE 2

Huntsman urges Wash. U. students to action, giving back to country



STEPHEN HUBER | STUDENT LIFE

Jon Huntsman Jr. speaks to a packed Graham Chapel audience Tuesday as part of the University’s Assembly Series.

EMILY SCHIENVAR
STAFF REPORTER

Former governor, ambassador to China and presidential candidate Jon Huntsman Jr. spoke in Graham Chapel Tuesday evening about his reflections on politics, the college generation and China.

Huntsman spoke of the good things he is expecting from this

generation, especially the ways in which he hopes it will serve the country.

“It’s OK for some people to escape and shirk their duty in terms of giving back, but for you all, no chance, because you have been given too much. The expectations will be high that you’ll be able to take the energy and the practice and the intelligence of

your generation to move forward and bring about a cultural shift that will need to happen in this country,” Huntsman said.

Huntsman shared an optimistic outlook on the future of America, including the diversity of the nation and bipartisanship of local governments.

SEE HUNTSMAN, PAGE 2

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EVENT
CALENDAR

THURSDAY 27

University Libraries—Workshop Series
Olin Library ARC, Level A, 2 p.m.
“Research Studio: Data Management Best Practices.” The workshop is open to University students, faculty and staff.

Sam Fox School—Japanese Film Series
Steinberg Hall Auditorium, 6 p.m.
“Summer Wars.” Introduced by Diane Wei Lewis, assistant professor of film and media studies. Co-sponsored by the Department of Film and Media Studies. The screening is free and open to the public.

Chabad Student Association Talk
South 40, College Hall, 7 p.m.
Featuring a talk by Philip Bialowitz, a Holocaust survivor and death camp escapee, followed by a Q-and-A session and a film presentation. The talk is free and open to the public.

Jazz at Holmes Spring 2014 Concert Series
Ridgley Hall, Holmes Lounge, 8-10 p.m.
“The Music of Chick Corea, featuring Ptah Williams Trio.” Co-sponsored by University College and the Department of Music. The concert is free and open to the public.

Department of Music—Senior Honors Voice Recital
560 Music Center, Ballroom Theater, 7:30 p.m.
Features Lauren Becker. The recital is free and open to the public.

VERITAS Forum—“Finding Purpose Beyond the American Dream”
Graham Chapel, 9 p.m.
Writer and attorney Kyle Westaway, a lecturer at Harvard Law School, and John Inazu of Washington University’s Law School will be hosting a discussion about the relevancy of Christianity for college students.

FRIDAY 28

Department of Music Lecture
Music Classroom Building, Room 102, 4 p.m.
“Helicopter Music” by Todd Decker, associate professor of musicology. The lecture is free and open to the public.

Made in Africa Fashion Show
Danforth University Center, Tisch Commons, 7-9 p.m.
Featuring a runway filled with the vibrant and elegant fashion of various African nations and a performance from the Yori Yori African dance team. Presented by the African Students Association with funding by the Women’s Society and Program in African and African-American Studies. Part of Africa Week 2014.

Department of Music Symphony Orchestra Concert
560 Music Center, E. Desmond Lee Concert Hall, 7:30 p.m.
Featuring Kelly Pappageorge, mezzo-soprano, and Steven Jarvi, conductor. The concert is free and open to the public.

Performing Arts Department—“You Can’t Take It With You”
Mallinckrodt Center, Edison Theatre, 8 p.m.
Directed by Jeffrey Matthews. Tickets are \$15 general and \$10 seniors, faculty, staff and students and are available in Edison Theatre. Also on March 1 at 8 p.m. and March 2 at 2 p.m.

Third Annual Steinberg Winter Classic and Winter Carnival
Steinberg Ice Rink, 400 Jefferson Drive, 5 p.m.
Includes an auction, raffle, ice sculpture exhibition, hockey games and more. The carnival is free and open to the public and runs through 6 p.m. Mar. 2.

SATURDAY 1

Vehicle Safety Inspections
Millbrook Garage, Lower Level, noon-2:30 p.m.
Free traveler’s vehicle inspection service offered to students, faculty and staff, in partnership with Hartmanns Towing. Co-sponsored by the Washington University Police Department and Parking and Transportation.

SUNDAY 2

Department of Music Graduate Voice Recital
560 Music Center, Ballroom Theater, 7 p.m.
Featuring Kelly Pappageorge. The recital is free and open to the public.

POLICE
BEAT

February 21
Larceny—An unsecured bicycle was stolen from an unknown location between 8 a.m. and noon on Feb. 19. The loss is valued at \$400.
Disposition: Pending

February 24
Larceny—A complainant reported the theft of cash between 5 and 11:30 p.m. on Feb. 22 from an unsecured dressing room at 560 Trinity during a production. The complainant was advised to report the incident to the University City Police Department.
Disposition: Pending

QUOTE
OF THE DAY

“We think that we as a fraternity have always embodied the sense of humor and free-spirited nature that Ramis had and exhibited in his films.”
- Junior Sam Shapiro, Zeta Beta Tau president

RAMIS FROM PAGE 1

and maybe even alleys that I shouldn’t have gone down. But it also freed me up to pursue mirth, just for its own sake.”
Henry Schvey, professor of drama and comparative literature, knew Ramis for more than 20 years and remembers Ramis

BODY IMAGE FROM PAGE 1

navigate,” junior and Reflections President Leah Cohen said.
In response, Abiola encouraged students to build a better relationship with their bodies so that they could address their own needs and avoid either skipping meals or using food as an emotional crutch.
Students said they enjoyed hearing from a person with experience in the fashion industry and appreciated the conversational style of the presentation.
“I wanted to hear more on her different identities and navigating that because she was the first African to be on this campaign, and that wasn’t talked about,” junior Chelsea Whitaker said.
However, Whitaker added that those topics might have been addressed during

Abiola’s roundtable discussion with the African Students Association earlier that day.
“I really like that she made it more of a discussion than a straight lecture,” junior Joo Lee, a member of Reflections, said. “[It was] definitely more engaging, and I think people had a lot of opinions as well as questions to ask, and I thought it was a safe environment. She made it feel very personable to share those thoughts and ideas.”
In addition to Abiola’s presentation, a free yoga class on Monday focusing on body appreciation was also a part Eating Disorder Awareness Week. The week wrapped up on Wednesday evening with a training session on how to talk with friends about the topic.

HUNTSMAN FROM PAGE 1

He did, however, mention that he feels that term limits should be imposed on members of Congress as they are often caught in an endless cycle that allows for little differentiation of thought from opposing political views.
“You see, our leaders have not been able to come around a big issue today, the simplest of tasks, being able to meet with Republicans and Democrats...and compromising and negotiating,” Huntsman said. “It’s breaking the back of this nation. Our institutions are sound. We have a constitution for heaven’s sake, the longest-surviving in the world, and there isn’t a single problem that doesn’t have a solution...But your generation will need to seek a cultural fix and bring about a change in the politics of problem-solving.”
Though Huntsman had previously delivered the Founders Day Student Address in November, the Washington University Political Review had petitioned to bring him to campus last spring before the announcement had been made. Even so, WUPR Editor-in-Chief Moira Moynihan was glad to have brought him in for the event.
“He is such a compelling figure in the current political scene, and he really is at the intersection of business and politics,” Moynihan said. “Even though he was here twice this year, I think his speech was geared a lot more toward students and had a lot to offer that the Founders Day [speech] didn’t have because that was not geared toward the student population as much as ours was... And I think that he did speak to a lot of issues that are relevant to the student body.



Huntsman discusses the importance of participating in democracy at his campus lecture Tuesday.
Well over half of his speech was devoted to youth and what issues we’re facing.”
Freshman Carl Hooks was pleased by the topics covered in Huntsman’s address.
“He covered a lot of different ground—U.S. politics, how U.S. culture and the country needs to change and progress,

ELECTIONS FROM PAGE 1

ensure that students did not forget about the candidate paperwork during spring break.
“Having the elections a little later might help with that because a lot of people are getting in their midterms right before spring break, so having elections after spring break might be easier on people’s schedules,” Small said. “But you know, when everyone comes back [from spring break], they need to reorient themselves...this is why I need to be diligent about follow-up and send an email and be like, ‘Don’t forget that the candidate meeting is on Thursday.’”
Small added that she hoped having more time before the spring elections would allow her to increase word-of-mouth recruitment efforts, both for candidates and for voters.
“I think that the most influential form of awareness is word of mouth and having

your friends run because if you know someone who’s a candidate, that’s going to be much more incentive for you to log on to your computer and vote,” Small said.
Students opinions were mixed as to whether moving elections from one of the semester’s busiest weeks would increase interest.
“If the elections don’t conflict with my midterms, I’m definitely more likely to vote,” sophomore Geena Kandel said.
Not all students fully agreed, with freshman James Lung noting that his amount of homework had no bearing on whether he would fill out an online ballot.
But the delayed election date also has given SU’s executive council more time to prepare its general budget.
Last year, the general budget was allocated in February rather than April, as it was before 2013. The earlier timeline was

intended to give groups such as Social Programming Board more time to book performers for W.I.L.D. and comedy shows.
This year’s general budget allocation meeting will still be happening earlier than historically but will be about two weeks later than last year.
Despite the later allocation this year, senior and Speaker of the Treasury Sean Janda said he did not expect the later date to have a significant effect on the groups funded directly through the general budget.
Re said that overall, the changes should make this year’s SU transition smoother.
“Because elections were pushed back, we felt like we had more time to work on the general budget, so we didn’t work on it over winter break,” Re said. “We wanted to let winter break be a time to relax and not be bothering everyone.”

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SCENE

A man of many talents: Mark Heimann’s intensive quest to conquer everything Wash. U. has to offer

MIA KWESKIN
STAFF REPORTER

He takes versatility to a whole new level, trumping the notion that passion can only be applied to one field. At a school with thousands of well-rounded individuals, he represents just how unbounded interests can be. From chess champion to instrument intellectual and beyond, there’s no one label you can place on Washington University junior Mark Heimann.

“At Wash. U., you can be a nerd, and that’s cool, but you can also burst the bubble of being the stereotypical nerd. I like that we have nerds in the sense

that you have an area of interest that you’re really passionate about and proficient in but not in the sense that that’s the only area you’re able to participate meaningfully in,” Heimann said.

When Heimann was 5, his dad bought him and his twin brother their first chess set for Christmas. Just a few years later, Heimann finished fifth in the national championship for second-graders. He then went on to win the national grade-level championships from third through fifth grade, as well as in seventh and eighth grade. In middle and high school, he won the Pennsylvania state championship as well as the Ohio state championship.

Despite the influx of honors related to chess, Heimann remains humble about his achievements. “It’s crazy how good Mark is at chess but how relatively few people know,” junior Laura Watkins said. “He’s a really genuinely humble guy,

and [he] never talks about his achievements unless you bring it up and ask him.”

With so many chess accolades, Heimann often felt boxed in by the label “chess guy.” He said he still loves the game and currently holds the position of president for the Chess Club on campus; however, in high school, where there was “one standard for being cool,” he felt he needed to branch out.

“The story of my life in high school was that I was really concerned I was too nerdy,” Heimann said. “To a certain extent, I felt like chess was reaffirming my status as a nerd. Every time I talked to people, they would always say, ‘Oh, you’re really good at chess,’ which is cool, but I was like, ‘Is that all there is to me?’”

Looking to explore new interests, Heimann spent the majority of his spare time in high school researching unique instruments. At around the same age he started playing chess, he also started playing piano. In high school, however, his instrument cravings became more obscure when he picked up and became instantly obsessed with the hammered dulcimer—an instrument he describes as a “lumberjack’s piano” that’s “a joy to play.”

Heimann “has introduced me to eight new instruments, most of which I do not remember the names of,” sophomore Shane Deiley said. “But my favorite that he has introduced [me to] is the hammered dulcimer. It’s so cool, and he’s a boss at playing it.”

In addition to the hammered dulcimer, Heimann plays the guitar, mountain dulcimer, ocarina, tin whistle and

thumb piano (kalimba)—just to name a few.

“I have varied levels of proficiency, like I’m definitely not an expert on, say, the tin whistle,” Heimann said.

Heimann has taken classes for some of the more common instruments that he plays, but it’s more difficult for him to find teachers for the more obscure ones. Whether he’s learning in a class or teaching himself, he puts a strong emphasis on maintaining the traditions behind each individual instrument.

“I try to learn traditional styles of the instruments I play because I don’t want to show disrespect for the instrument or the traditions that are built around it,” Heimann said. “One of my sources of angst with musical instruments is that I hope I never engage in any type of cultural appropriation.”

With each instrument, Heimann said he finds a new side of himself. For him, music and all art forms cultivate self-expression. In an effort to further delve into this self-expression and to once again challenge himself, Heimann began taking voice lessons his freshman year. Without a background or an interest in singing, he saw voice lessons as a way of “stretching” himself. He imagined how “awkward” it would be to sing in front of someone who was there to evaluate him critically but thought that “awkwardness” would be a great experience. So, with little hesitation, he added voice to his growing list of instruments.

“I still don’t consider myself a really great singer, but, you know, there are some things you do because you do them really well, and there are some things you do because they’re there to be done. Since coming to college,



COURTESY OF JASON ZHANG

Washington University chess club members Vic Feldberg (left) and Mark Heimann compete in the Pan-American Intercollegiate Team Chess Championship in Princeton, N.J. From Dec. 27-30, the Wash. U. chess club competed with some of the best chess teams in the country and came home with the Division II championship.

I’ve been trying to do as many of those things that are there to be done as I can,” Heimann said.

Watkins described Heimann’s passion for trying new instruments no matter the circumstances as “contagious and inspiring.”

He “is very determined—when he decides to do something, he gives it full effort,” Watkins said. “And I don’t think it’s because he wants to be really good for the sake of being the best; it’s because he enjoys it. That’s clear in his passion for music and his talent with multiple instruments, and it’s that determination that’s inspiring.”

Heimann’s determination seeps into areas far beyond the realms of chess and music. Along with a double major in mathematics and economics, he will pick up a minor in writing, which he considers another craft form for self-expression. He has also shown interest in computer science and art. His passionate attitude translates itself into his faith as well. Heimann is not only a member of Cru (Overflow), but he also has accumulated various accolades from Bible memory competitions—including placing third in the National Bible Bee memory

competition.

“One thing people would not expect about Mark [Heimann] is just how many interests he has. We are talking about a kid that will probably end up with about 180 credits in four years—he almost always takes 21 credits—and they span from his majors in economics and math to computer science, music, creative writing and art,” Deiley said. “He literally can talk about any topic with anyone and is extremely open-minded and objective about issues.”

Although he is unsure where he’ll end up in terms of a career, Heimann said he is determined to continue cultivating his passions. Specifically, he knows that music will always remain with him.

“I definitely don’t see myself going out and being some sort of rock star, but it’s not out of the realm that music ends up being something that influences my career,” Heimann said. “I feel like if I stopped being an artist someday, I would feel incomplete.”

No matter what Heimann ends up doing in the future, Deiley feels confident that his friend will forever be “his curious self, still lighting up people’s days.”



COURTESY OF OSMAN ULUG

STUDENT LIFE

THE INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER AT WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS

Washington University

Student Media, Inc.,

publishers of

Student Life newspaper,

will hold its

spring board meeting

on Friday, Feb. 28, 2014

in the

Danforth University Center,

room 239.

The Board of Directors

will take questions and/or

answer concerns from the

public during the open

session of the meeting,

starting at 4 pm.

Student Life

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Your guide to Mardi Gras

SCENE STAFF

PAGE DESIGN BY BECCA CHRISTMAN & MICHAEL TABB

While the term “Mardi Gras” conjures more images of drunken revelry than it does of history, the celebration in fact has an interesting story behind it. The quirky day, which includes outlandish activities and crazy costumes, is the perfect escape for those of you that haven’t escaped the confines of Olin Library in more than a week. Never fear, even if you don’t know the difference between a crawfish and a po’ boy—our staff has assembled the answers to some key questions about this celebration. This way, you can offer a historical fact in exchange for beads rather than having to flash a stranger, unless the latter gets you in the Mardi Gras spirit.

What is Mardi Gras, anyway?

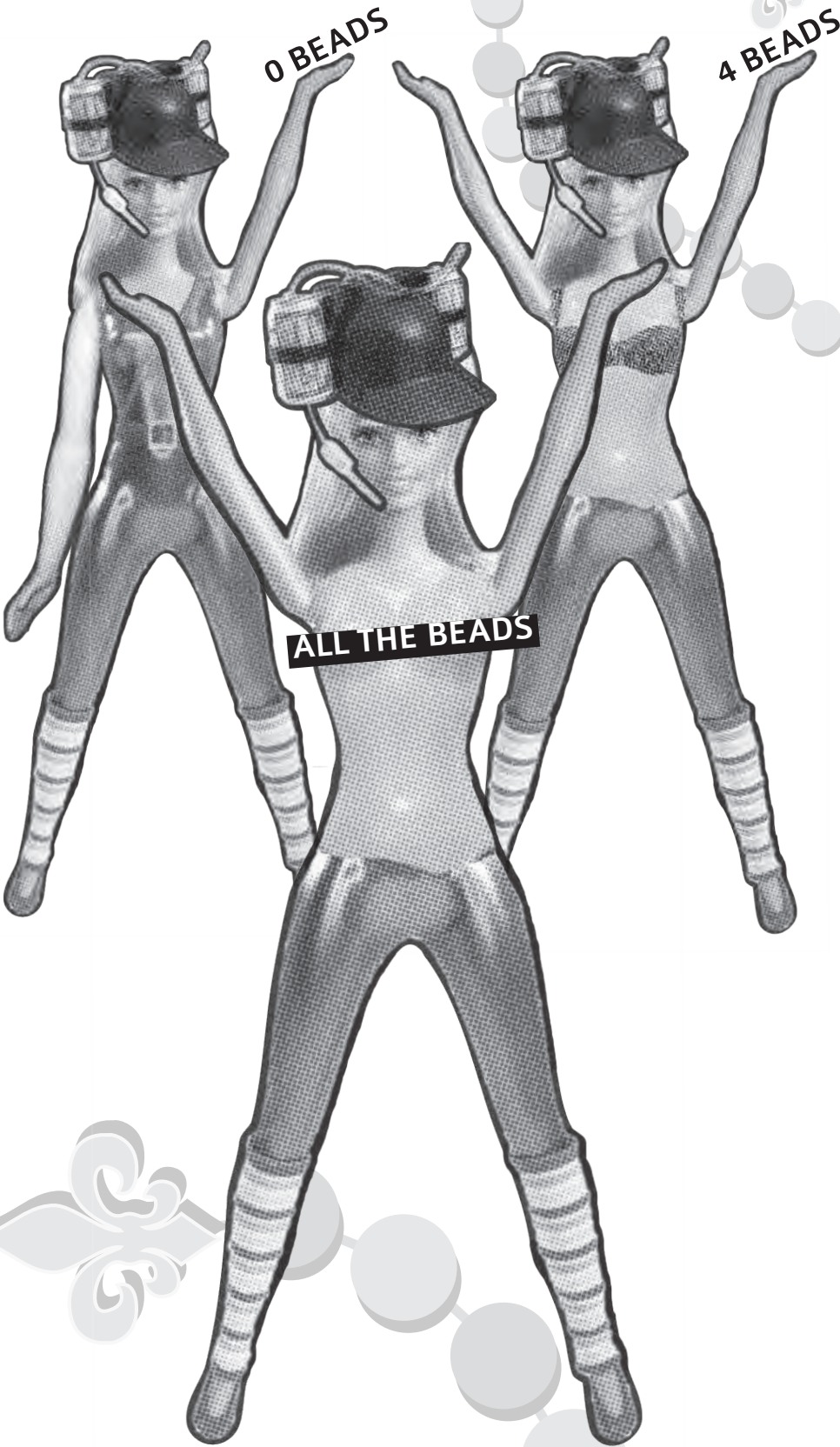
A Christian holiday with origins in France, Mardi Gras, meaning “Fat Tuesday” in French, is recognized as a day of indulgence before the beginning of the penitential season of Lent on Ash Wednesday. However, it is also believed that the festivities of Mardi Gras can trace their roots to the Lupercalia, an orgy held in mid-February in ancient Rome to welcome the arrival of spring.

On March 3, 1699, French explorer Pierre Le Moyne d’Iberville and his men set up camp on along the Mississippi River and, remembering the celebrations occurring in their home country around that time of year, named the spot in present-day New Orleans “Point du Mardi Gras.”

Masked balls were held

throughout the 1700s and soon developed into raucous street celebrations. The first documented parade of costumed partiers occurred in 1830, but their unruly behavior caused the banning of such activities until an organization of men called Comus began the traditions of a themed parade with floats as well as tableau balls.

Now people travel hundreds of miles to immerse themselves in the lavish New Orleans parades that feature marching bands, French royals, painted clowns, feather-covered showgirls, cross-dressing beauty queens, Energizer Bunnies and more. Private clubs called krewes plan the parades as well as the equally lavish but more conservative Mardi Gras balls.



Why is Mardi Gras so big in St. Louis?

While most people associate Mardi Gras with the heavy French influence in New Orleans, St. Louis definitely has its share of fun on Fat Tuesday. True, St. Louis was founded by French settlers, but that has little to do with why St. Louis has one of the biggest Mardi Gras

celebrations in the United States.

In 1980, a man named Hilary Clemens and some of his friends decided to make a big festival out of the day. Clemens had recently purchased a building in Soulard, so he and his friends grabbed instruments and flashy costumes and began to throw a large party up and down the street.

Today, there is no disputing that Soulard is the hub of Mardi

Gras celebrations within the city. Nowadays, people flock to St. Louis’s two-month-long celebration that started on Jan. 6 and will end on March 4. Not surprisingly, Fat Tuesday itself is the pinnacle of the nearly two-month celebration.

Where should you go to celebrate Mardi Gras in St. Louis?

Close behind New Orleans in terms of large celebrations, St. Louis has plenty of opportunities to get out and have some fun throughout the entire week. Most notably, the Grand Parade will be this Saturday, March 1 at 11 a.m. Hosted in the Soulard neighborhood, the Grand Parade draws tens of thousands of St. Louisans. Make sure to line the route from Busch Stadium to the Anheuser-Busch Brewery in order to see elaborate floats and catch free beads and candy. Between the chance to party in the daylight and shamelessly collect free stuff, it’s every college student’s dream. If you’re looking for a calmer, more sophisticat-

ed atmosphere, though, many Soulard restaurants such as the International Tap House and Molly’s will be offering drink and food specials in honor of the occasion.

Planning an expensive date in order to impress a special someone? Tickets for the Mayor’s Mardi Gras Ball on Friday night are currently going for \$100-500 a pop and offer you the chance to mix with members of elite St. Louis society.

For a family-friendly atmosphere, check out Mardi Gras at the Zoo on Sunday.

And on Fat Tuesday itself, bid goodbye to the carnival season until next year with a second parade, this time at 6:30 on Washington Avenue in downtown St. Louis.



GENE SWEENEY JR. | BALTIMORE SUN | MCT

SPORTS

Softball veterans angle to return to tournament



Graduate student Stacy Berg takes a swing on March 23, 2013 against Augustana College. Berg hit .318 and a team-leading nine home runs last season.

SAHIL PATEL | STUDENT LIFE

DEREK SHYR
SENIOR SPORTS EDITOR

Despite temperatures back to below freezing after a brief respite, the softball diamond on the South 40 will soon be in regular use once again. The 17th-ranked Washington University softball team will start its season Saturday in Conway, Ark., against Austin College. The Bears aim for a deep run in the NCAA Division III tournament after placing second in the University Athletic Association and finishing with a loss to Augustana College in regionals last May. With seven starters returning from last season, including graduate student Stacy Berg and seniors Maggie Ingell and Kelsey Neal, all of whom were National Fastpitch Coaches Association All-Midwest selections a year ago, ninth-year head coach Leticia Pineda-Boutte is thrilled with the team's veteran leadership and experience. "It's definitely providing

a calming effect for us, and we'll hopefully see that transition to this weekend," Pineda-Boutte said. "We're going to be a lot stronger when we go through times of adversity because of the chemistry that this team already has."

With most of the positions and roles for the team assigned over the course of the offseason, here's a short summary of the key areas of which fans should be aware in 2014.

OFFENSE

The Bears will have the luxury of having most of the middle of their lineup back with Berg, Ingell, Neal, junior Adrienne White and sophomore Brooke Hofer all returning. The five had an average batting average of .356 last season, with Ingell leading the team in runs scored (43), Berg in home runs (9) and Neal in runs batted in (55). While the core looks to replicate its offensive prowess from a year ago, Pineda-Boutte wants

consistency and confidence to be the veterans' top goal. "I think our veteran players are all acclimated to the way I coach and the plays we run," Pineda-Boutte said. "A lot of our focus in practice for them has been on detail-oriented stuff, which puts them at an advantage. They need to continue fine-tuning everything in practice and remain consistent out on the field."

Speed will continue to be a factor in the team's performance as the Red and Green will stack their fastest hitters, including junior Paige Biles (15 stolen bases in 2013), at the top of the lineup in order to create havoc on the base paths and put pressure on opposing pitchers. Freshman Kenzie James, who is expected to start and bring versatility to the offense, will add even more speed. The Bears' proficiency on the basepaths played a big part in their offense averaging more than six runs per game last season. "I think the power hitters and the speed that we

have will make us very well-balanced this year," Pineda-Boutte said. "We have a lot of potential to have great production this year, but we'll need to make adjustments as the season goes on."

PITCHING/DEFENSE

While the team has a new pitching coach this semester, the Bears will have the same four starters—Hofer and Neal, as well as sophomores Annie Pitkin and Amanda Kalupa—from last season. Neal led the team in 2013 with a 3.22 ERA and tied Pitkin with a team-leading 13 wins. Known for her high-speed pitches, Neal has worked on fine-tuning her change-up and other off-speed pitches and focused on building up arm strength to increase her pitching velocity. "She has a tremendous work ethic, and every year she surprises me," Pineda-Boutte said. "I honestly didn't think it would be possible for her to increase her

velocity, but somehow she did it. She's doing a tremendous job and setting a good tone for this young pitching staff. It's nice to have a good leader like her."

Berg will be spending most of her time behind the plate again this season, and her close chemistry with all four pitchers will be vital in order for the Bears to continue their solid defense, which yielded four runs per game last year. While the pitching order has yet to be determined, the team has faith that any of its pitchers will have the ability to help the Bears win. "All of our pitchers have different styles, which allows us to mix things up and keep our opponents on edge," junior Alyssa Wilson said. "Our bullpen is pretty stacked. It's going to be hard to keep our energy up as the season goes on, but we should be fine as long as we focus."


Wilson's return from injury will only help the Bears' defense. The starting shortstop missed all of last

season as Wash. U. committed 65 errors in 2013 compared to 47 in 2012.


OUTLOOK

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If the Red and Green hope to win the UAA this year, they'll have to surpass rival and No. 12 Emory University, whom they will play twice early in March. But even if this doesn't happen, the Bears will still have a chance to reach the playoffs again this season with a fairly manageable schedule that contains three other ranked teams besides Emory, with only one ranked in the top 10. While expectations are high, players are more concerned about returning to the playoffs after experiencing the disappointment on missing out two seasons ago. "We use that season as motivation for us, and it drives us to improve and remain focused on getting better and winning," Wilson said. "I think we can make it deep in the playoffs, but we'll need to put the work in first."




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WHAT'S ON YOUR TRANSCRIPT?

FORUM

STAFF EDITORIAL

ResLife deserves more credit, but changes should be made

A month ago, four freshman students sent a proposal to the Office of Residential Life asking for gender-neutral housing on the South 40. Although their petition included letters of support from their resident advisors and many additional signatures, they were contacted Feb. 1 by Director of Housing Operations Tim Lempfert, who turned down the petition and wrote an explanation of ResLife's decision. Since then, Lempfert's decision has been attacked by some students as unfair, biased and unprogressive. While students seeking to live

on the 40 should have the opportunity to extend their friendships to their housing plans regardless of gender, it would be rash to portray ResLife as a wholly non-progressive entity. First, ResLife already features gender-neutral housing. Before looking at the details of this, it's important to note that this option is not available at every university. Washington University students should remember that their access to this choice has been the work of ResLife and University administrators trying move the school in the fairest direction. While the 40 may not have options for

gender-neutral housing, ResLife offers a broad range of options that include the Village BLOCs,

to pass off the situation. Lempfert also emphasized ResLife's willingness to change its policy in the

these require time because administrators need to make sure they're making the best decision for not only the students but also for the University at large. However, it would be unwise for ResLife to continue its current policy. Considering that no major issues have occurred with gender-neutral housing, there shouldn't be any reason for it to not be expanded to all housing options. Telling sophomores who want to live in a gender-neutral environment that they cannot live with many of their friends on the 40 is damaging to the sophomore experience. More broadly, there is no

reason that students should not to be able to live with the people they want to, especially after their first year on campus. ResLife may be unwilling to make an exception for one group of four freshmen, but there is no reason that those freshmen need to be an exception in the first place. While ResLife's current policies seem to enforce a heteronormativity onto its students who wish to live on the 40, their progressive practices regarding other residential spaces hint at a willingness to adapt to a changing gender climate. Now the policies simply require one additional step forward.

“...it would be rash to portray ResLife as a wholly non-progressive entity.”

on-campus apartments such as Village East and off-campus apartments. It's also important to note that Lempfert and ResLife took the time to consider these four students' petition and provide a reasonable explanation. Lempfert's response had no indication of him trying

future and allow the 40 to become gender-neutral. That sort of flexibility is important and shows that ResLife does want to accommodate students' desires. While it may seem odd that ResLife cannot change its policies immediately, students need to understand that issues like

A hundred billion little bits

ALEX BERNSTEIN
STAFF WRITER

Bitcoin has had an interesting history. Created in 2009 as a way to circumvent traditional credit agencies and make online transactions cheaper, they have gone on to be the currency of choice for money launderers, people who wish to purchase illicit items and most recently, speculators. For the uninformed, a bitcoin is an anonymous cryptocurrency. It's anonymous because unlike online credit providers such as PayPal, the currency is not necessarily tied to a user's actual identity in a meaningful way. It is a “cryptocurrency” because each individual “coin” and each coin fraction, usable to a fraction of 10⁻⁸, is actually just a list of transactions for which that “coin” has been used. The creation of new “coins” is tied to the processing of previous transactions, which is done using cryptographic operations, making it similar to code breaking. The way a bitcoin is created makes it very difficult, if not impossible, to counterfeit in the traditional sense. Nevertheless, the creation method has exposed other flaws within the currency itself that make it easy for technologically savvy criminals to abuse. In recent months, Bitcoin has been noticed by mainstream media sources for its wildly fluctuating value. Practically worthless when it was first created, the currency was worth less than \$15/per coin in December 2012. By January 2014, it had peaked at a value of more than \$1,200 a coin, sometimes even doubling in value to approach the \$1,200 high. Since then, bitcoins have halved in value and are worth a little less than \$600 a coin at press time. While these fluctuations and Bitcoin's inherently anonymous nature have been very popular among certain groups, these features also make Bitcoin a terrible

currency except for the most fringe uses. Bitcoin's anonymity is a double-edged sword: it turns out that the real-world protections given to typical currency by credit providers are great for combating fraud. For example, over the past few months, 744,408 coins were stolen from one of the largest bitcoin exchanges in the world, Mt. Gox. What happened to these 744,408 coins that users entrusted to Mt. Gox? Poof. Vanished. Gone. Irrecoverable. When Mt. Gox finally froze all transactions, it had lost \$32.75 million in assets and accrued \$174 million in liabilities, mostly in an unguaranteed currency that had proven easy to steal. Of course, there are solutions to this: governments could step in and begin regulating cryptocurrencies like they do for their own currencies of goods in general. However, this would inevitably remove the Bitcoin anonymity, which is what led to its popularization in the first place. In their current states, Bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies are constantly engaged in a technical battle, attempting to ensure that their customers' coins are safe against criminals. This massive risk is part of what led to the boom and subsequent crash in Bitcoin value. Nevertheless, because Bitcoin is so risky, it is unlikely to ever enter the mainstream. It certainly still has its uses—among those who wish to keep their transactions entirely anonymous or those who wish to engage in very risky financial speculation—but for normal people who do not engage in black market activity, it simply offers too few advantages over normal currencies for the massive risks that are involved. Of course, there are a lot of other reasons, both technological and economic, that make Bitcoin unlikely to ever go mainstream, but the inherent risk means that this new technical innovation is simply not useful for most people.

EDITORIAL CARTOON



ALEX BERGER | STUDENT LIFE

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CADENZA

CADENZA PREDICTS

THE OSCARS



MATTHEW MCCONAUGHEY



CATE BLANCHETT



JARED LETO



LUPITA NYONG'O

CADENZA STAFF

The 86th annual Academy Awards will air Sunday night on ABC. Hosted by Ellen DeGeneres, this year's awards ceremony features an impressive array of nominees. Here are Cadenza's predictions of who will win in the major categories.

BEST PICTURE

- '12 Years a Slave'
- 'American Hustle'
- 'Dallas Buyers Club'
- 'Gravity'
- 'Her'
- 'Nebraska'
- 'Philomena'
- 'The Wolf of Wall Street'

The Academy's decision to switch to the format with a maximum of 10 nominees for Best Picture a few years ago was odd, but this would have been a good year to fill all 10 spots. Despite cries from the soapbox that Hollywood no longer challenges itself, this ended up being a very strong year. If it were up to me, I would have given that last spot to "Fruitvale Station" or "Short Term 12." Ryan Coogler did an incredible job directing his first feature with "Fruitvale," and "Short Term 12" was only Destin Daniel Cretton's second, so there is a good chance we will be seeing both of them in the future. As good as this year was, this is a two-horse race. "12 Years a Slave" has been the front-runner since it was released and is one of the most wrenching films of all time. Thanks to its technical mastery, "Gravity" is the only other film with even a chance of weathering the emotional storm that is Steve McQueen's film. **FAVORITE:** "12 Years a Slave" **SPOILER:** "Gravity" **SHOULD HAVE BEEN THERE:** "Short Term 12" or "Fruitvale Station"

-Trevor Leuzinger

BEST LEADING ACTOR

- Christian Bale 'American Hustle'
- Bruce Dern 'Nebraska'
- Leonardo DiCaprio 'Wolf of Wall Street'
- Chiwetel Ejiofor '12 Years a Slave'
- Matthew McConaughey 'Dallas Buyers Club'

The Best Actor race is perhaps the most contested one of this year's Oscars. The category is stacked with established talent, including past nominees Bruce Dern and Leonardo DiCaprio and past winner Christian Bale. Even though critics seem to be rallying behind Chiwetel Ejiofor for his deeply moving turn in "12 Years a Slave," Matthew McConaughey has emerged as the clear favorite. The Academy loves a good transformation, so McConaughey's much-talked-about physical transformation (plus his overall career transformation) to play AIDS patient Ron Woodroof will probably win the voters over. And that's not to say that McConaughey doesn't have serious acting chops, too—he portrayed the complex, suffering character masterfully, and the role has already garnered him a Golden Globe and a Screen Actors Guild Award. **FAVORITE:** Matthew McConaughey **SPOILER:** Chiwetel Ejiofor **SHOULD HAVE BEEN THERE:** Tom Hanks, "Captain Phillips"

- Katharine Jaruzelski

BEST LEADING ACTRESS

- Amy Adams 'American Hustle'
- Cate Blanchett 'Blue Jasmine'
- Sandra Bullock 'Gravity'
- Judi Dench 'Philomena'
- Meryl Streep 'August: Osage County'

By all accounts, Cate Blanchett is a lock to win after her magnificent turn as the down-on-her-luck titular character in Woody Allen's most recent film, "Blue Jasmine." The rest of the actresses on the nomination's list are great, but their characters simply did not have the same depth. Amy Adams has the best chance to pull off the upset after playing the double-crossing, accent-switching, cleavage-baring Sydney Prosser in "American Hustle," but it would take a trick as big as the one she and Christian Bale's character pull in the movie for her to get it. The biggest snub in this category was Brie Larson as Grace in "Short Term 12." Playing a young woman struggling with her own issues while running a foster care home, Larson is absolutely spellbinding. Balancing the pain and the humor in the movie required her to walk a tightrope, and she made it look easy. **FAVORITE:** Cate Blanchett **SPOILER:** Amy Adams **SHOULD HAVE BEEN THERE:** Brie Larson, "Short Term 12"

-Trevor Leuzinger

BEST DIRECTOR

- Alfonso Cuaron 'Gravity'
- Steve McQueen '12 Years a Slave'
- Alexander Payne 'Nebraska'
- David O. Russell 'American Hustle'
- Martin Scorsese 'The Wolf of Wall Street'

Last year, Best Director went to Ang Lee for "Life of Pi" although "Argo" won Best Picture. A similar split is possible this year, with "12 Years a Slave" winning Best Picture while Alfonso Cuaron wins for "Gravity." However, Steve McQueen is a legitimate possibility to win for his direction of "12 Years." Either way, the Academy will likely make history on Sunday evening, either awarding the first black man or the first Hispanic man. Both would make deserving winners. "American Hustle" has faded from the memory of voters after coming on strong during the nomination period while Martin Scorsese and Alexander Payne have ardent supporters, but too few of them to really affect the race. Notably absent is Spike Jonze, whose direction of "Her" managed to make what could be a creepy or campy premise into something poignant and honest. **FAVORITE:** Alfonso Cuarón **SPOILER:** Steve McQueen **SHOULD HAVE BEEN THERE:** Spike Jonze, "Her"

-Georgie Morvis

BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR

- Barkhad Abdi 'Captain Phillips'
- Bradley Cooper 'American Hustle'
- Michael Fassbender '12 Years a Slave'
- Jonah Hill 'Wolf of Wall Street'
- Jared Leto 'Dallas Buyers Club'

This one's a shoe-in for Jared Leto. While all the other nominees are certainly deserving (and, unlike the Best Actor category, there were no obvious snubs), the chances of anyone other than Leto winning are slim to none. For his first film role since 2009, Leto completely transformed himself to play Rayon, an HIV-positive transgender woman who teams up with homophobic rodeo cowboy Woodroof to deal AIDS drugs illegally. Leto's passion and commitment to the role shine through in his complex and moving portrayal. He's also already won a Golden Globe and Screen Actors Guild Award for the role. The only nominee who could maybe edge Leto out for the award is Barkhad Abdi, the complete newcomer who stole every scene in "Captain Phillips" as Muse, a Somali pirate, but don't count on it. **FAVORITE:** Jared Leto **SPOILER:** Barkhad Abdi... but it will definitely be Leto **SHOULD HAVE BEEN THERE:** Sam Rockwell, "The Way, Way Back"

- Katharine Jaruzelski

BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS

- Jennifer Lawrence 'American Hustle'
- Lupita Nyong'o '12 Years a Slave'
- Julia Roberts 'August: Osage County'
- Jane Fonda 'Nebraska'
- Sally Hawkins 'Blue Jasmine'

Despite the other actresses' strong performances, the only competition in this category is between Lupita Nyong'o and Jennifer Lawrence. Nyong'o's unshakeable American film debut as Patsey, a tortured young slave in "12 Years a Slave," blew critics away while Lawrence's sharp, comedic portrayal as Rosalyn, a bored, neglected housewife in "American Hustle," has also received critical acclaim. Given the Academy's general tendency for under-recognition of minority actors, Lawrence could very well win. But the award really should go to Nyong'o, who lost it out to Lawrence at the Golden Globes and British Academy Film Awards, because her moving performance as a tortured and raped slave is frankly more meaningful than a portrayal of a housewife obsessed with a Swiss topcoat. **FAVORITE:** Lupita Nyong'o **SPOILER:** Jennifer Lawrence **SHOULD HAVE BEEN THERE:** Scarlett Johansson, "Her"

- Tina Xiang

BEST ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY

- Woody Allen 'Blue Jasmine'
- Craig Borten, Melissa Wallack 'Dallas Buyers Club'
- Spike Jonze 'Her'
- Bob Nelson 'Nebraska'
- David O. Russell, Eric Singer 'American Hustle'

This is safely a two-horse race as there is no way the Academy will recognize Woody Allen for "Blue Jasmine" after the recent controversy, and "Dallas Buyers Club" and "Nebraska"'s Best Picture nominations aren't based on the quality of their writing. It'll be two American auteurs known more for their direction facing off for the prize. "American Hustle" has broad support across the Academy with nominations in all the major categories while "Her" has taken many of the precursor awards that usually predict a winner. I think "Hustle" will triumph simply by having been seen more than "Her" and being more accessible to older Oscar voters, despite "Her" being one of the most original screenplays ever nominated. This category is missing its normal female-driven, indie movie screenplay, and I can't think of a more well-written moment in cinema than the titular character's monologue on love in "Frances Ha." **FAVORITE:** David O. Russell, Eric Singer **SPOILER:** Spike Jonze **SHOULD HAVE BEEN THERE:** Noah Baumbach, Greta Gerwig, "Frances Ha"

- Georgie Morvis

‘Vikings’ blends history, mythology into fantasy drama

 TV PREVIEW

'Vikings'

when **Thursdays, 9 p.m.**
channel **History Channel**

★★★★☆

KIMBERLY HENRICKSON
STAFF WRITER

If you're a historical fiction buff currently at a loss for what to binge-watch, look no further than the History Channel's "Vikings," where you can get your fill of intricate plotlines, gruesome fight scenes and ambiguously medieval costumes while you wait for the "Game of Thrones" fourth season premiere in April. "Vikings" is a departure of sorts for the History Channel, which is currently overrun with decidedly un-historical shows like "Pawn Stars"

and "Swamp People." However, it's no documentary either. The dramatization portrays the efforts of Ragnar, a popular character in Viking legend and lore, to explore new lands against the wishes of the intimidating local ruler, Earl Haraldson.

Clive Standen, the English actor who plays Ragnar's brother/frenemy Rollo Lothbrok, gave insight into his experience working on "Vikings" during a conference call for college journalists last Wednesday.

"It's really rewarding, the more you indulge in all that history," he said in explaining the joys of working on a historical drama.

The relationship between Standen's character and his brother, the show's protagonist Ragnar, is a complex one, and this dynamic will be explored throughout the second season.



HANDOUT

"As much as you love your siblings, you're always going to be rivals," Standen said. "We end season one with, you know, Rollo feeling like

he's got no other option but to face down in battle against his brother." Despite allegations from critics that the show isn't very historically

accurate, Standen praised showrunner Michael Hirst and historical consultant Justin Pollard for the work that they put into this aspect of it. He

called Pollard "an outlet of historical knowledge" and said that he is always on set with the actors to

SEE VIKINGS, PAGE 9



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‘You Can’t Take it With You’: Hilarious and heartwarming

ERICA SLOAN
STAFF WRITER

If you find other people’s awkward experiences funny, the Performing Arts Department’s production of “You Can’t Take it With You” will have you doubled over in laughter in your seat.

The cast successfully delivers both the comedic and dramatic moments that would be expected from the meeting of two extremely distinct families: the eccentric Sycamore family, whose members live life simply by doing what they love, and the uptight, wealthy Kirby family, which lives by the rules of business executive and patriarch Mr. Kirby. When Mr. Kirby’s son, Tony Kirby, played by junior Mitchell Manar, and Alice Sycamore, played by senior Catherine Athenson, fall in love, Alice invites the Kirbys to her house for dinner. Reminiscent of “Meet the Parents,” Mr. and Mrs. Kirby’s almost tangible discomfort at the quirky antics of the Sycamore family brings the classically awkward situation of meeting future in-laws to another level.

The night begins with the Kirbys walking in on Essie Sycamore’s ballet lesson with crazy Russian instructor Mr. Kolenkhov, played by graduate student Jim Short, going on in the Sycamore’s living room. A procession of ridiculous and unexpected events occurs, punctuated by various pops of fireworks coming from the basement and the blunt and humorous remarks of Grandpa Vanderhof.



One exceptionally hilarious highlight from the evening occurs when Penny Sycamore, Alice’s extraordinarily upbeat mother, played by sophomore Schuyler Atkins, decides that everyone should play a word association game. The results of which words come to mind at the mention of a particular topic prove startlingly uncomfortable, yet all through the experience, Penny remains her characteristically bubbly and excited self.

Although the show maintains an overall sense of

hilarity and general craziness, Alice and Tony portray beautifully the naivete and genuine happiness of two young people who have just fallen in love. Even as Tony sweeps Alice off her feet and spins her around, the actors’ expressions retain such a sense of pure joy that this cheesy Hollywood chick-flick moment will melt the heart of even the most unfeeling audience member.

While the show reveals the importance of doing what you love in order to be happy, it also demonstrates the strength

of love as a force to bring families together. In the end, students can expect to leave the theater feeling warm and fuzzy with the reassurance that even awkward encounters and strange career choices can lead to a positive ending, because there is no one way to live life.

“You Can’t Take it With You” will be performed in Edison Theatre Feb. 28 and March 1 at 8 p.m. and March 2 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for students. The runtime is two hours with two 10-minute intermissions.

VIKINGS FROM PAGE 8

make sure that everything is just right.

According to Standen, both Hirst and Pollard look at Scandinavian history books “from the inside out because no one really knows that much about Vikings. I mean, Vikings didn’t really write a lot down, so a lot of the stuff that we know in our Western world was documented by the Christian monks and their scriptures, so a lot of it’s just very one-sided.”

In his opinion, the show is very historically accurate, even though it has the difficult task of documenting a few years. Thus, Standen isn’t eager to delve into his character’s past.

“It’s the biggest spoiler you can have in a historical drama, is actually picking up the history books and finding out what these characters actually did and how they met their end,” he joked.

Fans of mythology and legend are intrigued by the show’s prominent theme of the connection the Norsemen have with their gods. When asked how he understands these ancient relationships, Standen weighed in on the differences between Rollo’s and Ragnar’s faiths, which are reflective of the contrasting views that the people of the time period held.

“I think Rollo trusts the gods implicitly. Ragnar questions them; he asks them awkward questions. He’s not comfortable with his own faith, whereas Rollo feels that he can

give himself to the gods. He’s elected that the day of death was fated long before he was born, so that also makes him a formidable force in the battlefield,” said Standen. “That makes him more of a force of nature than Ragnar because Ragnar is more mercurial and he’s questioning all the time.”

Although the show may seem to be extremely similar to “Game of Thrones,” there are key differences between the two. For example, “Vikings” doesn’t have either the artistic elements or carnal focus of “Thrones.” According to Standen, “Vikings” differs from other period dramas on the market simply due to the fact that it’s based on reality.

“What it has is this belief system, this pagan belief system, that the gods that they worshipped and the world that they lived in almost seems fantastical. It seems as if it could be a world like ‘Game of Thrones’; you almost expect dragons and goblins and orcs and monsters. But these people really did believe in all of this,” Standen said.

He added, “It’s a historical drama, but it has all this fantastical action and adventure...it crosses the boundaries of what people expect from a period drama.”

Watch the second season premiere Feb. 27 at 9 p.m. on the History Channel. Need to get caught up? Watch all of season one for free, currently on history.com.



puzzle
mania

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"Robert Bruce 'Rob' Ford"

Difficulty ★★☆☆☆ (200pts)

HOW TO PLAY:
Spell the phrase in the grid above it, writing each unique letter only once. The correct solution will spell the complete phrase along a **single continuous spelling path** that moves horizontally, vertically and diagonally. Fill the grid from square to square - revisiting letters as needed to complete the spelling path in order. Each letter will appear only once in the grid.



"Freeze"



"Mark William Latham"

Difficulty ★★☆☆☆ (70pts)

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SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephram Group

Level: 1 2 3 4

2/27/14



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

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

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FOR RELEASE FEBRUARY 27, 2014

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle
Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

1 Start of a word ladder
5 Word ladder, part 2
9 Word ladder, part 3
13 Muscat native
15 Rough words
16 "A Death in the Family" author
17 Tech giant
18 Alienated
20 Parts of wedding scenes
22 Word ladder, part 4
23 Buttocks muscle
25 Clothing
30 Deadly biter
31 Bites playfully
33 Touch-y service company?
34 It might be twisted
36 "I" on a road sign
37 "West Side Story" song, or a hoped-for response after experiencing the transition in this puzzle's word ladder
39 Positive particle
41 Advertising target
42 Like some cereals
43 Filter
44 Political initials since 1884
47 Tut, e.g.
49 Pudding starch
52 Word ladder, part 5
54 Picnic downer
55 Get-together request
60 Blue dyes
61 Word of dismissal
62 "___ kidding?"
63 Part of an address, maybe
64 Word ladder, part 6
65 Word ladder, part 7
66 End of the word ladder

DOWN

1 Be extremely excited
2 Modern messages
3 Devours



By Daniel Nierenberg 2/27/14

Monday's Puzzle Solved

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

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36 Change symbols, in math
37 Wee bit
38 It may be inflatable
39 Father
40 Cheerleader's shout
43 "Holy cow!"
44 Accompany
45 Spots on a peacock train
46 Astronomical distance

48 Resistance-related
50 Slangy "Superb!"
51 Corinthian cousin
53 90-year-old soft drink
55 Missouri hrs.
56 Sound at a spa
57 "There's ___ in team"
58 Prevailed
59 Sign of perfection



The best of Harold Ramis

a Cadenza tribute

CADENZA STAFF

Harold Ramis will be remembered for his versatile talents; he was a brilliant comedy actor, writer and director but also an incredible person and a great family man. Washington University lost an alumnus when he died, a fact that not many students knew until Monday. He was one of our most notable alums and also an alumnus of the Wash. U. chapter of Zeta Beta Tau fraternity. Though it's a small gesture for such a monumental man, Cadenza chose its favorite Ramis movies and television shows to pay tribute.

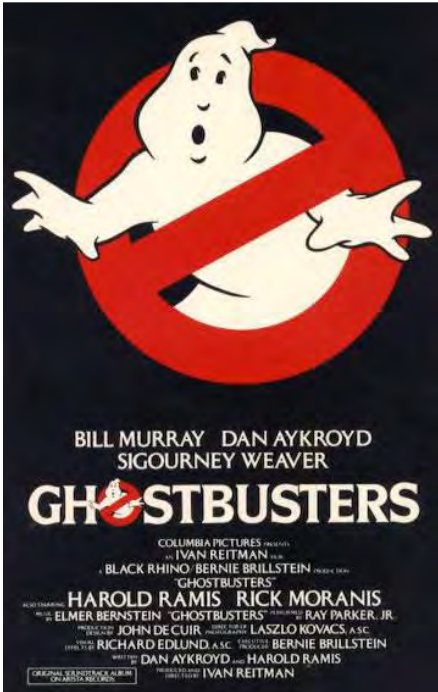
'ANIMAL HOUSE'

Ramis left behind an impressive comedic legacy, but “National Lampoon’s Animal House” is arguably his most influential film. Aside from being widely regarded as one of the best comedies of all time, the 1978 movie also launched a whole series of “National Lampoon” films and jump-started entire comedy subgenres, including gross-out humor and college comedies. The film, which Ramis co-wrote with Douglas Kenney and Chris Miller, follows the shenanigans of several brothers as they try to prevent their fictional Delta Tau Chi fraternity from getting kicked off campus. “Animal House” still serves as the basis for many modern-day Greek life stereotypes, showcasing practically every fraternity trope known to man, from toga parties and binge drinking to toilet humor and hazing. And even though Dartmouth College—co-writer Miller’s alma mater—is usually credited as the inspiration for the film’s fictional Faber College, elements of the script were also influenced by Ramis’ experiences in ZBT at Wash. U. “Animal House” is simply a classic college movie and one that should be considered required viewing for all incoming college freshmen. —Katharine Jaruzelski

'GROUNDHOG DAY'

What would you do if you lived the same day over and over and over and over again? Ramis and Bill Murray raised that question and answered it in a delightful way with “Groundhog Day.” Murray as Phil the weatherman goes from a jerk to the greatest guy in Punxsutawney, Pa. Both

funny and smart, the film is classic Ramis and Murray and a classic movie on its own. “Groundhog Day” is obviously a comedy, and Murray’s attempts to find the limits of his universe and complete disregard for consequences are endlessly delightful, but the eventual love story, while sappy, is still absolutely perfect. And the philosophical question of what you would do if you lived the same day over and over again never gets old. —Trevor Leuzinger



'CADDYSHACK'

“Caddyshack” was Ramis’ directorial debut, as well as one of his many writing credits. The rest of this write-up should just be lines from the movie because it is one of the most eminently quotable films. Not a lot really happens, but it is all hilarious. Bill Murray as the gopher-killing greenskeeper Carl Spackler is the highlight, but Chevy Chase and Rodney Dangerfield aren’t far behind when it comes to one-liners. What makes it even more impressive is that each has his own style of humor so none of it gets old. Without a doubt, Ramis has a hole-in-one with this film. —Trevor Leuzinger

'GHOSTBUSTERS'

Harold Ramis co-wrote “Ghostbusters” with Dan Aykroyd and co-starred with Aykroyd and Bill Murray. The movie is an undisputed comedy classic. Ramis’ character, Egon Spengler, acts as the subdued nerd to Murray’s goofball attitude and Akroyd’s over-enthusiasm. It’s hard to stake a comedic claim when acting with commanding presences like Murray and Aykroyd, but Ramis’ deadpan speaks volumes when



attacks and the often-unwilling therapist (Billy Crystal) he enlists to cure him. The greatness of this film is its ability to flip every mobster movie trope on its head and mash them all together with the stereotypical therapist. Ramis’ comedy is intelligent and dense but still ridiculous. A favorite scene is the meeting of Crystal and De Niro at a Catholic funeral, where they try to have a serious discussion while continually rising and being seated. The movie works best when Ramis allows Crystal and De Niro to play off each other, but it is packed with funny throwaway gags, too, such as a mobster threatening a cow at gunpoint. Ramis’ direction keeps the action of the movie fast-paced and light, even in moments of emotional intensity. —Noah Jodice

'A BENIHANA CHRISTMAS'

This season-three episode of “The Office,” one of the greatest sitcoms of the past decade, featured direction from Harold Ramis, one of the greatest comedy writers in history. Ramis took to the mockumentary style like he had spent his whole career directing in it, mastering the hop from character reaction to character reaction. Jim’s camera acknowledgment is especially hilarious in this episode. Ramis also gives every member of the ensemble a chance to shine, whether it’s Kelly singing “We Belong” to Ryan, Creed stealing a present from the toy drive, or Meredith and her handle of vodka (because a margarita is too sweet). The episode was packed with both sight gags and amazing lines, including Michael lamenting his fresh breakup on the ground behind Pam’s desk with only his legs in sight and Dwight’s description of how to kill a goose (“There’s gonna be a good amount of blood. Don’t let it bother you. Have a bucket there.”). The episode was so full of material that Michael Schur, one of the writers and producers, recently tweeted that they decided to make it an hour-long episode instead of the traditional half hour. Season three is widely considered the season that “The Office” took a huge step forward in quality, and Ramis’ direction helped elevate it from good to great. —Georgie Morris

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