



STEPHEN HUBER | STUDENT LIFE

The media filing room where journalists from around the world will watch the debate from inside the Athletic Complex. Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton will take on Republican candidate Donald Trump in the second presidential debate, which will be a town hall style debate, on Sunday night in the fifth debate the University has ever hosted.

University maintains political neutrality amidst debate fervor

NOA YADIDI
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

With national media setting up stages across campus, protestors already staging demonstrations and student groups pulling together debate-related programming—one institution is staying noticeably silent. Washington University is taking a neutral stance on political matters regarding the debate and the upcoming election. As an institution of higher education, neutrality is something the University pursues in any election year, but this year—as the host of the second presidential debate—that’s becoming even more important. The University, however, is not the only body taking this stance. Student Union is also choosing to remain neutral—a choice some students are feeling the repercussions of. Junior Keaton Schifer, who chairs the Student Group Funding Team under the Student Engagement Subcommittee of the Presidential Debate Steering Committee, said that policies enacted by the University restricted which student-led debate-related programming efforts were funded by the \$100,000 set aside by Student Union and the University. “Since it’s University money—and even something like SU money is still technically University

money—we have to abide by all the University’s policies,” Schifer said. “If everyone is on the same understanding in terms of political policies and campaigning, we can make sure that we’re not favoring a certain candidate or a certain political party.” Schifer is referring to policies the University outlined through its “Guidance on Political, Campaign and Lobbying Activity” document, which is something it has stuck to since the beginning of the election season. According to the document, University resources cannot be used to “suggest University endorsement of or support for a political candidate or political party, nor can they be used in to engage in unapproved lobbying activities.” Essentially, this means that no campaigning for a specific candidate can be done while using University resources, which can range from SU funding to using a University space. These policies are also nothing new, according to Associate Vice Chancellor Steve Givens—the chair of the presidential debate steering committee. The policies do allow non-partisan educational events or voter registration activities. But for some students—like senior and president of the College Democrats Jimmy Loomis—the rules present what he called a “free speech issue.”

“When you think about it, if Hillary Clinton were to come to campus, that would really do something for the profile of the University and it’s a shame that these rules are prohibiting that,” Loomis said. And that—the profile of the University—is a theme many are considering following student complaints that the debate causes more inconveniences for students than direct benefits. “Students always seem to be very concerned about how their school ranks,” Loomis added. “Students seem to be concerned about [the drop in the University’s U.S. News & World Report college ranking], but at the same time, they should realize that events like this really help the University raise the profile and make it more attractive in terms of potential students and raising the stock of the University.” Givens stressed a similar point—the school hosts the debate to benefits its students. “There’s no financial gain for the University,” Givens said. “We do it to increase the value of their degree, we do it to increase the name recognition of Washington University in St. Louis, so that when they go to look for a job a couple years down the road, we’ve helped to raise that awareness.” SU is still encouraging

SEE NEUTRALITY, PAGE 2

Inconveniences, political tensions lead to student ambivalence over debate

SAM FLASTER
STAFF REPORTER

As Washington University gears up to host the Oct. 9 presidential debate, students have mixed feelings about the impact of having a debate on campus. The debate, which some are predicting may cost the University up to \$5 million, will close multiple roads, buildings and parking lots and temporarily evict students from fraternity housing on Upper Row. Students, the vast majority of whom will not be able to attend the debate itself, acknowledged the heightened publicity the debate’s media coverage will bring to campus, but disagreed on the net benefit of that publicity. Last semester, Student Union allocated \$75,000 of its budget toward programming for the debate, which came at the expense of Social Programming Board’s budget. As a result of scheduling and finances, popular events such as fall WILD were canceled this semester. However, a survey conducted by Student Life last month found that over 60 percent of students polled stated they would prefer to have fall WILD over the debate. Some students consider the debate a major inconvenience. Others fear that hosting has opened up campus as a platform—or a battleground—for additional political and social tensions. Many students noted that they have enjoyed the political

atmosphere surrounding the upcoming debate, and some students feel that it has enhanced campus discourse surrounding election issues. Still, some question how the debate benefits individual Washington University students, particularly given the price tag of hosting the debate. “I think we’ve created great conversations; [the debate] makes politics feel more relevant and personal. But part of me thinks student involvement could have been better—I don’t know anyone who has a ticket and it’s not clear they even have tickets for students. We’re paying for this. Tuition is outrageous already, and it seems like a scam,” senior Rachael Spalding said. “I don’t know if I’d put the debate into a good-bad binary. Certainly it’s bringing up conversations that need to be had on campus...but at the same time, it costs a lot of money, and it seems as if campus is being taken over. I don’t really feel like a student right now. I can’t really access the services here, but these other people can,” senior Ahmet Yucesoy added. Junior Andreas Larsen questioned whether the University will really be the center of national media attention—and whether the inconvenience for students, particularly those who live on Upper Row, is worth it. “I’m sure for people on upper [fraternity] row, who have to move out and always show ID, it’s been a huge inconvenience. Yeah, it’s about getting Wash. U.’s

name out there, but you don’t really hear about all the other schools they do the debates at. I don’t think it’s good publicity right now, but Wash. U. will use it in the future and say ‘we’ve had this many debates,’” Larsen said. Sophomore Jadine Sonoda said she considers the inconveniences to be well worth the connection to the broader political atmosphere that the debate provides. “I’m excited about the debate. I think a lot of people are upset about inconveniences, but I think it’s cool to be involved in something that people are interested in all over the world,” Sonoda said. Still, other students do believe that the University—which has hosted four previous presidential debates—can increase its standing by hosting this debate. According to Student Life’s recent survey, some freshmen even chose to apply to Washington University after learning the school would host the debate—and other students chose not to go abroad this fall. Freshman David Lee said he views the debate as a symbol of the quality of the University. “I think it puts Wash. U. on the map. Even though the spotlight will be on Trump and Clinton, overall it can only be a good thing for our school; it can also showcase what our school has to offer and how good of a school we are,” Lee said.

SEE HOST, PAGE 6

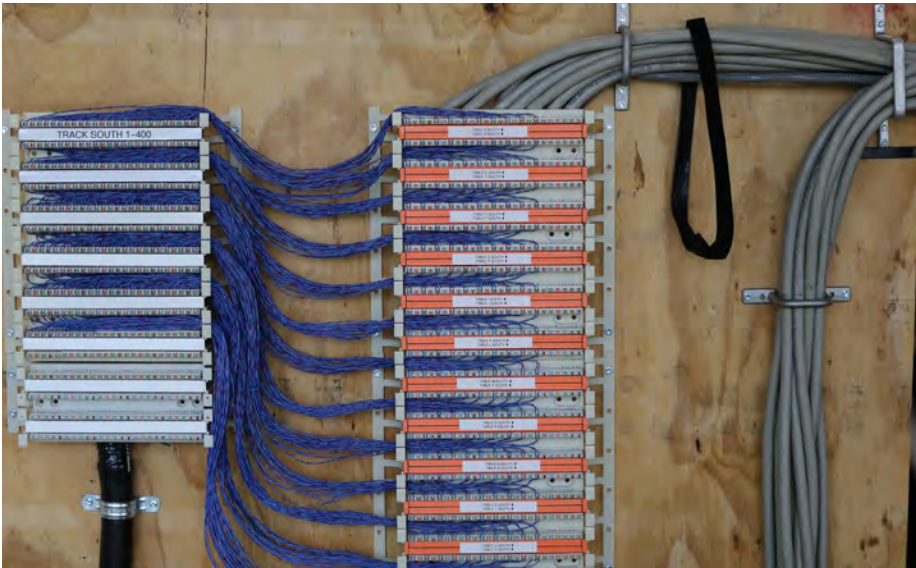




STEPHEN HUBER | STUDENT LIFE
Red carpet for the presidential debate is rolled up in the main Debate Floor area last week.



STEPHEN HUBER | STUDENT LIFE
An AT&T technician sets up the network in the media room within Summers Recreation Center.



STEPHEN HUBER | STUDENT LIFE
Cables are set up in the Media Room in the news Summers Recreation Center.



STEPHEN HUBER | STUDENT LIFE
Wash. U. employees test the network in the media room last week.

Debate logistics impacting student-athletes as event draws nearer

**AARON BREZEL
AND ROHAN GUPTA**
SPORTS EDITORS

Teams of construction crews have spent the past week constructing podiums, building a fence and planting shrubs—all to turn the Athletic Complex into the biggest media venue in the entire country for one raucous night. For the majority of students, debate preparation represents little more than a minor nuisance. However, for the roughly 600 varsity athletes on campus, their second home has been occupied. Logistical issues concerning scheduling and security have required the varsity teams and the athletic department as a whole to deviate from their regular routine. Everything from practice locations to laundry have been affected by restrictions that will only tighten as debate day approaches.

“They pretty much designated a use for every square inch of this building,” Deputy Director of Athletics Chris Peacock said.

For example, the Summers Fitness Center, of the new Gary M. Summers Recreation Center, will be the site of spin alley. Humorously, some of the candidate surrogates that do the political spinning after the debate will be held in the actual spin room—the one for bicycles—adjacent to the fitness floor.

Until then, their move-in process has been incremental. This has lead to a staggered schedule of closures of the AC’s main facilities. The varsity gym closed Tuesday Oct. 4, the equipment rooms and locker rooms went off-line after practices the next day. For security reasons, Francis Field will be closed after Oct. 7.

That last closure posed a challenge for the men’s and women’s soccer teams, who are both slated to host Emory University back-to-back on Saturday, a day prior to the debate. To solve the issue, instead of playing at their typical home, Francis Field, the teams will play at South Campus. That decision was made in March, well before the fall season was underway. Though they have played exhibition matches at South Campus in the past, it is the first time they will play a regular season game at South Campus.

“We do normally practice and play games on Francis Field,” women’s soccer head coach Jim Conlon said. “With the debate, as great as of an event as it is for the University, we know we all have to make some adjustments. So we scheduled an away game on Tuesday, and then we will take the day off Wednesday, which would be normal, and then we will move over to South Campus for Thursday and Friday in preparation for our ‘home game’ against Emory.”

Typically, conference opponents like Wash. U. and Emory alternate the hosting of their annual match. Due to the debate, Wash. U. was given the option of hosting at South Campus or allowing Emory to host for a second straight season this year. They ultimately chose South Campus.

The South Campus turf plays slightly faster, and the field is a little bigger than what both teams are used to at Francis Field. However, graduate student Jack West of the men’s team thinks the switch will actually work out in their favor.

“That will actually work well for us because we do

well with moving the ball very quickly and trying to make our opponents chase the ball,” West said. “It’s not like it’s going to be an away game.”

Other sports were able to avoid the debate entirely. Football is slated to visit Rhodes College this weekend, while volleyball has a scheduled off-week. Some local venues have also stepped in to help with practice venues. With access to Millstone Pool restricted, swimming will practice at several local high schools. Volleyball has the option of practicing at Fontbonne University, if they so chose.

To no surprise, athletes have also had to deal with heightened security. All varsity athletes had to go through a background check in order to use the AC this close to debate day. Now, when they enter, they have to show ID at the security checkpoint to receive a wristband that will let them use the facilities. They have to wear the band during practice.

Another wrinkle in the routine of athletes is the unavailability of laundry rooms. Typically, athletes are able to drop off dirty practice uniforms to get washed. With closures, that’s no longer an option. Instead, athletes will receive all equipment they need for this weekend’s games ahead of time. Upon their return, instead of dropping off their dirty clothes at the normal location, a different spot on campus has been designated for drop-off.

Once the debate is over, it shouldn’t take long for the teams to resume their standard schedules. They’ll have access to all their normal facilities in less than 24 hours.

“We should resume normal athletic activity from a services standpoint, with

equipment services, as well as athletic training services, Monday afternoon after the debate,” Conlon said. “So I don’t think the facilities will be totally up and running, as they will still be deconstructing some of the stuff, but our spaces—as far as the locker room, the athletic training room and the equipment room services and Francis Field, should be ready for our Monday afternoon practice at 5:30.”

For the athletes around the AC, playing through debate preparation has been a completely new experience. But for many of the coaches, this is their second, third, fourth—and in the case of men’s basketball coach Mark Edwards, women’s basketball coach Nancy Fahey and football coach Larry Kindbom—fifth rodeo.

“Most of our coaches have been through this before, so they know what to look for, and they start to prepare their teams when they return to campus, sometimes even during the summer, that this week will be a little out of our ordinary,” Facility Manager Andrew Koch said.

“Any time you’re going to hold a large national event like this—you want to make sure we’re putting together the safest environment,” Conlon, who was here for the Joe Biden-Sarah Palin debate in 2008, said. “We know that a week, 10 days before, we’re just going to have to show our ID and really be accountable...We’re all prepared; you just have to build in a couple extra minutes.”

Still, while the rules are easy enough to follow, it’s hard not to notice how much more intense the security measures are for this debate as in years past. Stepping on campus the week before the

debate, it’s impossible to miss the perimeter fence. There will also be road closures the day of the debate.

“1992 was the first year we hosted the debate, and you could come up to the front door of the building up through debate time,” Koch said.

This time around though, “There are certain specific details that we can’t share or that we don’t know. That’s one indicator that the security has ramped up,” Peacock said.

Though the debate will have come and gone by this time next week, it has its long-term advantages. According to Conlon, investments made during previous debate preparations have yielded lasting benefits to the athletic department and Wash. U. fans.

“I know in ‘08, one of the things we were able to get was hard-lined Internet to the press box, because we were already running wires all around the stadium,” Conlon said. “So that was a huge addition, as you well know, for our fans to be able to have live stream coming out of the press box.”

Still, it’s difficult to tell which improvements to the infrastructure will remain past this week. It might not be clear if any upgrades will persist until the dust settles after the debate.

“I don’t know, those are kind of adjustments that we see at the end,” Conlon said. “We don’t really know, to be honest, what’s temporary and what’s permanent, with some of the things that are being built in the Athletic Center right now.”

Sometimes, the benefits are subtler. The new infrastructure can pay off in the smallest ways.

“Obviously the candidates

do need private bathrooms, and so there’s been a couple coaches down on courtside with those bathrooms, but I think that’s more of a logistical thing,” Conlon said. “It’s actually nice to have the extra bathrooms in case of NCAA tournament play—if we need extra drug testing sessions, where you have to have the NCAA and their official workers with a bathroom source close by—so sometimes we can tie stuff like that together.”

The athletic department’s goal has been to maintain normality even while a national-sized tenant moves in. Conlon thinks that mission has been accomplished.

“I think the university has done a great job of getting set up for the debate while also trying to keep, especially in-season, athletes in their normal stride,” Conlon said. “And I think even this year, the recreation kids were able to be in the building much longer than they were in ‘08. So I thought the university did a great job of preparing for this amazing event but also trying to minimize the abnormalities of the entire student body.”

“Everybody is aware that this is a college campus and we have to continue with our normal activities,” Koch said. “From campus police through the Commission on Presidential Debates and Secret Service, they’re great to work with.”

Even after the debate is over, and the cameras are gone, things won’t get easier for the department. There is about a two-week window to reset the AC and move new equipment in in preparation for the opening of the Summers Center at the end of October. After that, winter sports start soon, with fall NAAs right behind.

Student Life

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STARS AND STRIPES

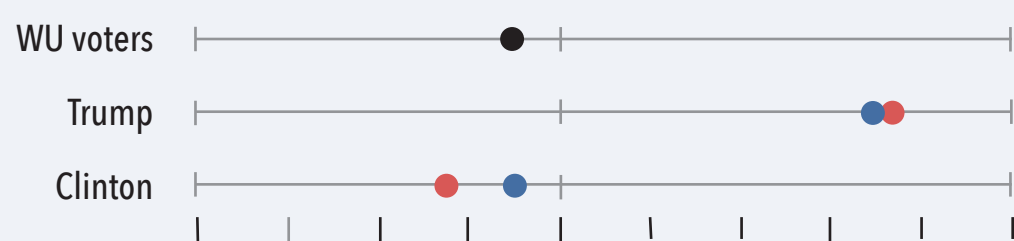
MEET THE RED AND GREEN

ON THE ISSUES...

● Average WU voter ● Where WU students think candidates stand ● Where PoliSci professors think candidates stand

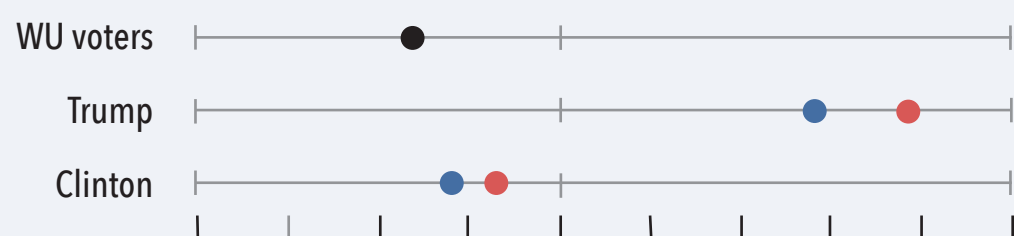
Immigration

1 - fully open borders 10 - fully closed borders



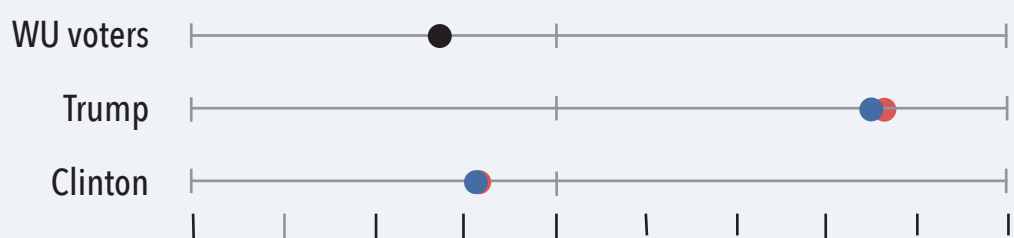
Gun Control

1 - ban on guns 10 - no gun regulation



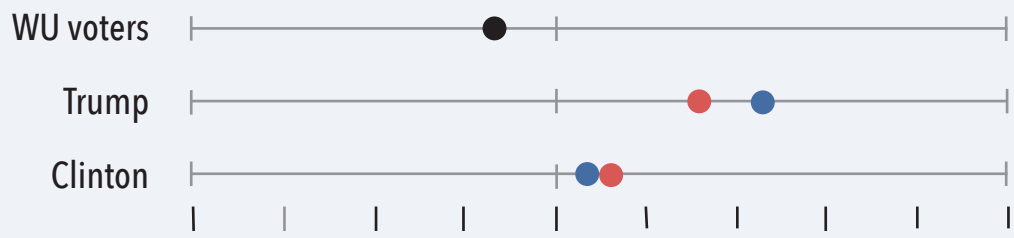
Racial Justice

1 - reparations 10 - post-racial society



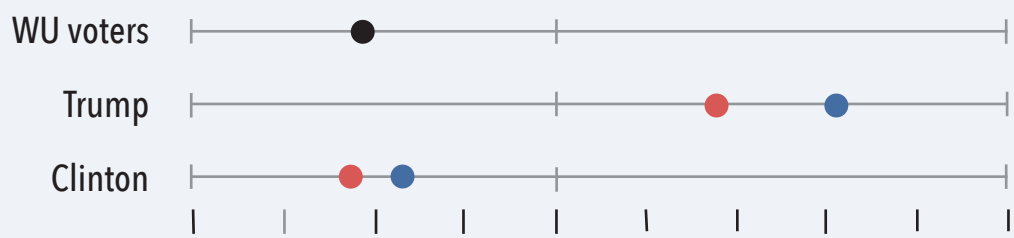
Drugs (legalization)

1 - complete legalization 10 - complete outlaw



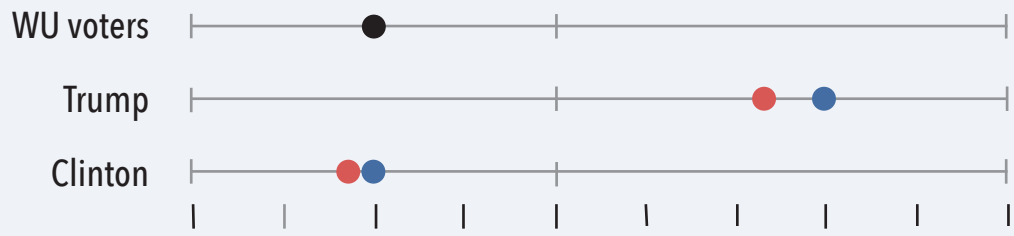
Higher education

1 - free for all 10 - available to those who can pay



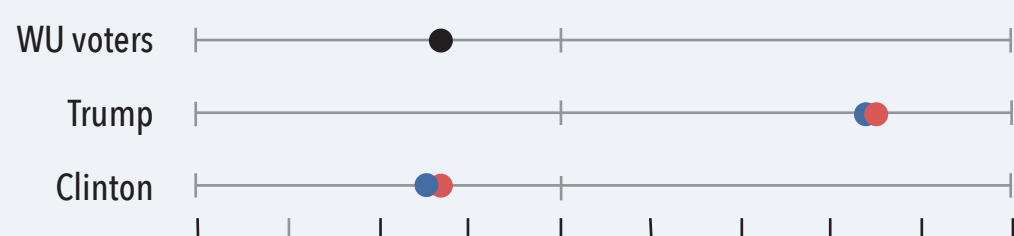
Abortion

1 - at any point during pregnancy 10 - never during pregnancy



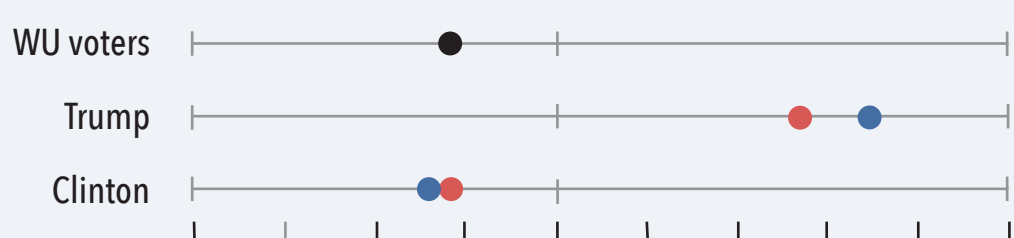
Income taxes

1 - no tax on lowest bracket 10 - flat tax



Healthcare

1 - no private healthcare 10 - no government influence



WHO ARE YOU VOTING FOR?



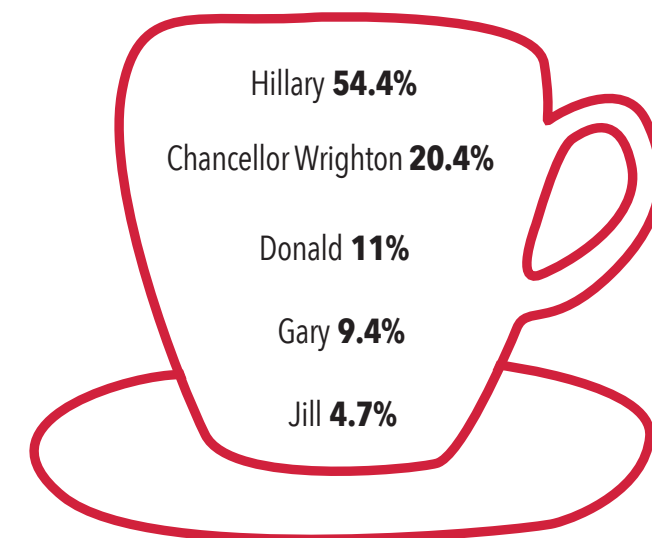
93.1%
Hillary



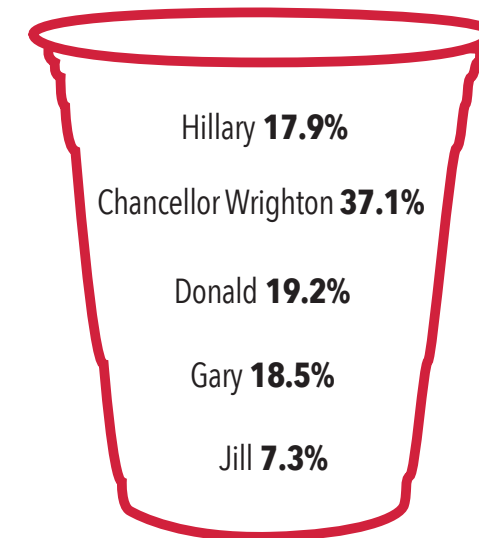
6.9%
Trump

(of registered voters)

Who would you rather grab a coffee with?



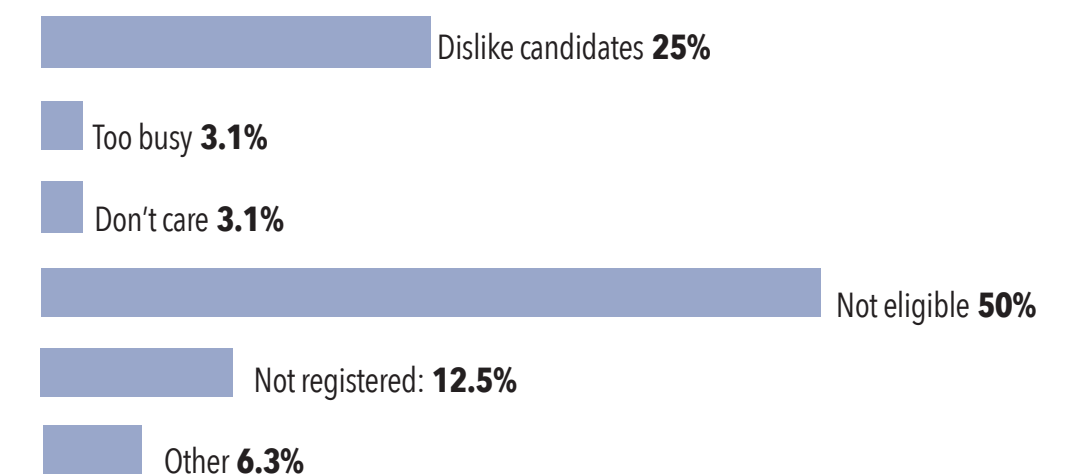
Who would you rather go to a frat party with?



94.6% OF ELIGIBLE VOTERS
ARE REGISTERED TO VOTE

98.2% OF REGISTERED VOTERS
ARE PLANNING ON VOTING

WHY NOT VOTE?



60.4% OF STUDENTS WOULD RATHER HAVE HAD **WILD**

Feeling disaffected with your own party?

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

48.2% of all *republicans*

are voting for a party other than their own

4.36% of *democrats*

61.8% of *independents*

Absentee voting:

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

55.5% of registered voters are
voting absentee

40.3% are voting at a
polling location

DID YOU CHANGE THE STATE YOU'RE REGISTERED IN?

24.1%
yes

71.8%
no

4.1%
n/a

89.5% OF STUDENTS ARE GOING TO A WATCH PARTY

Can't wait for the debate? Dreading it?

"Pros: Anderson Cooper will be here. Cons: Everything else is horrible."

"It's creating a moment of history that I get to see unfold in real time. It's like Forrest Gump being at Watergate or Forrest Gump meeting JFK. I'm living history."

"RIP WILD ??????"

"The school is spending our activities money, *without our consent*, on something that only benefits a handful of students out of the tens of thousands. Our classes and extracurriculars are being affected with *literally no benefit* to 99% of students."

"I'm excited for the media to be here and to have the *Secret Service* and *presidential candidates* so close to us."

BREAKDOWN OF

PARTY BY SCHOOL

ARTSCI

Democrat 61.8% Independent 8.5%
Republican 6.9% Unaffiliated 22.8%

B-SCHOOL

Democrat 37.3% Independent 10.4%
Republican 23.9% Unaffiliated 28.4%

SAM FOX

Democrat 69.2% Independent 0%
Republican 15.4% Unaffiliated 15.4%

ENGINEERING

Democrat 46.4% Independent 16%
Republican 11.6% Unaffiliated 26.1%

Students, St. Louis community gear up for debate-day protests

DEBATE PROTESTS

on Oct 9th

Liberation Coalition

Mudd Field
3:30 p.m.

Say No to Hate March

Delmar Loop
5 p.m.

Gary Johnson Rally

Brookings
2:20 p.m.

Jill Stein Rally

Corner of Lindell St. and Skinker St.
3 p.m.

El Trumpo Giganti

Cherokee St.
7 p.m.

64 Million March

From Kansas City to Brookings
8 p.m.

WESLEY JENKINS
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Students making their morning walk to class Wednesday morning were confronted by a different type of sign at the Underpass: one held by students above the bridge protesting the use of tuition funds.

The protestors call themselves the Liberation Coalition, and besides claiming “Your tuition funds systemic violence,” their sign advertised an event happening this Sunday, Oct. 9 at 3:30 p.m. on Mudd Field.

That event, a collection of speeches organized by the Liberation Coalition, will be just one of the many protests occurring on or off campus before, during and after the presidential debate.

“A lot of student groups on campus have been feeling upset with the election,” senior Zunaira Komal, one of the organizers of the Liberation Coalition, said. “So students started coming together around that idea. I would say that’s the driving force because a lot of communities feel like they don’t have a voice in this election.”

Other than the Liberation Coalition, events in favor of both third party candidates—Gary Johnson of the Libertarian Party and Jill Stein of the Green Party—will be held near campus on the afternoon of the debate. Even Cherokee Street will get

in on the action with an event to bash a pinata in Donald Trump’s likeness.

On campus, the events will be a bit less raucous and less widespread. Because only students and credentialed members of the media will be allowed onto Danforth Campus the day of the debate, a designated Public Expression Zone has been set up on the intramural fields for anyone, student or not, who wishes to protest peacefully.

“[The Washington University Police Department] will have a small detail of officers to assist in this area,” Chief of Police Mark Glenn said of the Public Expression Zone to Student Life in an email. “The goal is to allow people and groups the opportunity to express themselves in a safe environment.”

In tandem with the Liberation Coalition’s event will be a march starting from the Delmar Loop, organizing on the principle of “Say No to Hate.” The march consists of around 15-20 community groups, and they expect to bring nearly 2,000 people from the St. Louis community to the debate.

According to Komal, the march—in part organized by members of the Show Me \$15 movement—approached the now-leaders of the Liberation Coalition about starting a collaborative debate rally. The students responded well and decided to start their own protest on campus, where the

community protestors would not be allowed to go, closer to the debate.

“The idea is to have a distinct student voice that is a coalition of activists who are more left, more radical and have it be a sustained thing that features after the debate,” Komal said of the protest’s goals.

On the University’s end, however, the potential for protests has raised security concerns, but there’s little the University hasn’t considered.

“We have worked closely with area law enforcement leaders to develop a response plan,” Glenn said. “Our priority is ensuring the safety of persons expressing their First Amendment rights. We will communicate with all groups, as well as individuals, to support their right to express themselves freely while keeping everyone safe.”

Specifically, the potential for outbursts within the debate hall have posed somewhat of a non-preventable risk, as security can do nothing prior to the debate to prevent attendees from speaking their mind.

Steve Givens, associate vice chancellor and chair of the presidential debate steering committee, doesn’t expect anything of that kind to occur, but recognizes the unpredictability of the situation.

“[Outbursts] happen so quickly and it happens with just one or two people so there’s really no way to control that,” Givens said. “I think the

most important thing about the debate is that it goes off well and all the people watching the TV get to hear it, get to see it. So, those people—they would be removed as quickly and as peacefully as possible if they decided they wanted to try to disrupt in some kind of ongoing way.”

The Liberation Collective for one has worked extensively with WUPD and the debate security staff to prepare beforehand. Senior Christian Ralph, another one of the organizers, noted that the group had wanted to be proactive about communicating with security because the heightened presence could put people on edge.

“To have this action on campus and then police trying to figure out what their response is, I think it’s important thinking about all those different dynamics beforehand and coming up with solutions A, B and C, and I think we’ve done a pretty good job of that up to this point,” Ralph said.

Komal did wonder about how the heightened security could disproportionately affect the students involved in the coalition as opposed to the community members.

“I think as Wash. U. students we have a pretty privileged space on campus where we will be protected by the security. I think community members are more at risk,” Komal said.

Both Komal and Ralph stressed that the

demonstration and march were not meant to show favor to one candidate or another. Rather, the idea behind the protest is to tackle the policy issues that they feel have been forgotten in the rhetoric of the election.

“Our focus is on these specific issues that we’re bringing up, both candidates need to address these issues that they’ve ignored,” Ralph said. “It’s less about the people running for president and more about the marginalized communities that their policies will impact.”

“The idea isn’t to protest and get the candidates to radically change their policy, the idea is to be like ‘these things are happening, we aren’t talking about them and especially, we aren’t connecting these things,’” Komal added.

As for tangible goals the organizers hope to see come of the protest, both Ralph and Komal reiterated the right of workers to unionize, raising the minimum wage and ending U.S. occupations abroad, among other issues.

For Komal, these goals represented more than the actions the University has taken in the past.

“The idea is not to have another faux diversity day created or another person hired who’s for diversity and inclusion,” Komal said. “That’s not the point. The point is to make these political decompression spaces on campus, which I think are more important.”

HOST

from page 1

According to Student Life’s survey, around 90 percent of students are planning to come to the Danforth Campus during the event, even though only a small fraction of the student body has a chance of attending the actual debate. Winners of the student lottery are still awaiting word on whether they will receive tickets, but 500 students received emails informing them of their lottery spots last week.

Junior Tom Howe said he has enjoyed the debate’s

energy, but also questions its value.

“It’s good publicity for the school, and I do think the energy added kind of makes up for the inconvenience, but it’s going to end up being just a fact for tour guides,” Howe said.

Junior Maya Strod said she feels it will be a day to remember, regardless of whether or not she can attend.

“It will be really cool to tell the generations to come that I was there when this debate was going on, even if I wasn’t in the same room. It’s a once in a lifetime experience,” Strod said.

Other students, like junior Mimi Borders, are concerned about the negativity and potential violence that the debate’s public attention could bring, especially given the irregularity of this election cycle.

“More than any other presidential election, the rhetoric has been really violent, and so we can’t compare it to anything else in the past. Having someone with such violent rhetoric on this campus—I’m not scared for Trump, I’m scared for the fact that his supporters on and off campus will feel emboldened towards destructive actions,” Borders said.

Senior Elaine Emmerich said she regrets the University’s role as a platform for either party to propagate their ideas.

“I feel uncomfortable that we’re providing a public platform for these [candidates], both of them, who have said and done things in the past that are extremely vile towards people on our campus,” Emmerich said.

A total of 7.86 percent of students polled stated they would be protesting on the day of the debate—and Emmerich fears the worst regarding potential clashes between debate security and students.

“I know a lot of people who feel unsafe with the amount of security and law enforcement—it makes our campus a less safe space, ironically. It feels extralegal, with the secret service—what do they have the capacity to do?” Emmerich said. “It’s a great symbol of the way Wash. U. treats it’s students; it’s an opportunistic way to get publicity without looking at the real impacts of the election, the debate or the candidates on student well-being.”

But, to truly judge the benefits of hosting the debate, Associate Vice Chancellor Steve Givens, who is also

chairing the presidential debate steering committee, urged students to wait until the debate is over.

“I would just ask [students] to wait until the end of the week and weigh the whole thing—to look at what their experience was like, did they learn anything, did they have fun, do they feel proud of the university—all those things,” Givens said. “If they don’t agree with us that’s their right, but I think we continue to think this is a really great thing for the University and when I say that I mean for our students and for our alumni as well as faculty and staff.”

WHAT’S GOING ON?

Your map of the upcoming chaos on campus

★ MEDIA OUTLET BROADCAST SITE

- 1 CNN (Brookings Hall & Beaumont Pavilion)
- 2 MSNBC (Graham Chapel)
- 3 Fox News Channel (Mudd Field)
- 4 MTV News Confessional (Dains Dining Hall)
- 5 Bloomberg News (DUC patio)
- 6 C-SPAN bus (Mudd Field)
- 7 CBS Face the Nation (Law Library)

■ DEBATE SECURITY PERIMETER

■ PUBLIC EXPRESSION ZONE (Oct. 9, 4-10 p.m.)

■ BIG BEND (Closed Oct. 8 at 2 p.m. -- Oct. 10 at 6 a.m.)

■ FORSYTH (Closed Oct. 9 at 9 a.m. -- Oct. 10 at 6 a.m.)

GRAPHIC BY MADDIE WILSON

FORUM

STAFF EDITORIAL

Volunteering at Wash. U. for the debate

As the second presidential debate quickly approaches, students have scrambled for opportunities to enter the debate hall. While some of the 10,000-plus ticket applicants aim to become a cog in the never-ending political machine, others hope to catch the studio lights shimmering on Anderson Cooper's silver hair, scope out workout machines in the Summers Recreation Center to prepare for #BeachBod2k17 or to see just how much Donald Trump's neck looks like a turkey.

In an attempt to ensure access to the debate area (at the least), many Washington University students applied to be debate volunteers in addition to entering the largely fruitless ticket lottery. While we applaud Washington University for providing an opportunity for students to get involved in the debate, the Student Life editorial board wishes organizers would be more transparent about the volunteer process.

As the volunteer system is kept shrouded in claims of security and random selection, students remain confused about the selection criteria and shift distribution. Some volunteers received approval, but were given only one shift, while others were overwhelmed with over 25 hours of assigned work across a three-day period. With this many hours available, it seems logical that the limited spots offered should at least be evenly distributed, or the man power should be increased.

In addition to the unequal distribution of hours, many students were not aware of exactly what volunteering entailed. Becoming a "debate volunteer" is a vague promise to Wash. U. that has ended up meaning a variety of things. Assigned tasks range from media network coffee rat to designated golf cart driver, and each comes with their very own set of awkwardly timed hours. In reality, few were chosen for the coveted usher position, one of few choices actually in the debate hall itself.

To combat this issue in future debates and similar campus-wide events, we'd like an increase in the scale of opportunities. Considering the debate is taking over the lives of undergraduate students with the amount of security, construction and literal barricades it brings, it only seems fair to maximize the ways for students to feel incorporated into this pivotal moment and to remain politically involved. However, we understand that this may not be possible due to security concerns.

As the amount of flyers and posters tacked up around campus will tell you, there is no lack of engaged and willing students on campus, just a shortage of positions available and a lack of flexibility in shift sign-ups. Not every choice needs to be as glamorous as sipping on Kayak's Cafe lattes with Andrea Mitchell. Instead, developing spots for staging set-up or takedown may seem equally appealing to those with varied interests.

We understand the long-term benefits of hosting the debate in terms of media attention and increased name recognition (University of Washington in St. Louis, be gone!), but the focus must remain on the impact of the debate on campus life and the well-being of students.

OP-ED SUBMISSION

Candidates support the new U.S.-Israel memorandum of understanding, and you should too

DANIEL GREY
WIPAC PAST PRESIDENT

In this upcoming election, one of the few issues where both presidential candidates tend to agree is in their support for Israel, and for a strong U.S.-Israel relationship. This fundamental relationship, which Missouri's own President Harry Truman formally initiated just 11 minutes after Israel's founding in 1948, has since yielded extraordinary benefits to both of these two great nations. Sixty-eight years later, President Obama signed a new memorandum of understanding that pledges \$38 billion in military aid and bilateral, technological research and development over the next 10 years to Israel. Both presidential candidates, and more than 100 congressmen and congresswomen, have announced their support of this agreement, and here's why you should, too.

The deep-rooted bond between Israel and the United States is based on shared democratic values. In its Declaration of Independence, Israel guaranteed to all its citizens regardless of race, religion and gender, equal rights of voting, free speech, freedom of the press and due process of law, often borrowing phrasing directly from the United States Constitution. Despite six established Arab nations declaring war and attacking Israel the night of their declaration, Israeli leaders realized the importance of granting full democratic rights to Arab citizens in Israel in these turbulent times, just three years after the United States closed its last Japanese internment camps. In 1969, Israelis elected Golda Meir as their prime minister, who at the time was only the third female (non-ceremonial) head of state in the modern world. Israel, to this day, is the only liberal democracy in the entire

Middle East and serves as a beacon of light for democratic ideals in a region filled with theocracies, dictatorships and kingdoms. While these common values between the U.S. and Israel help advance our shared ideals, both nations have seen substantial benefits in many facets of life. In the early years, Israel faced the challenge of making a desert nation bloom, and, in doing so, developed advanced drip irrigation and water recycling techniques that were shared with the United States. In those same early years, the U.S. came to Israel's aid and helped arm the Israelis in their struggle for independence and defense in both the 1948 and the 1967 war. In light of an oil embargo aimed at Israel and the United States, the U.S. helped Israel significantly when it faced a surprise attack from its neighbors on Yom Kippur, the holiest day in the Jewish Year, which this year is this Wednesday. The United

States has shifted in its most recent aid package to providing strictly military aid that Israel must spend in the United States. Since the 1980s, Israel has had a technological revolution that has brought innovations such as the cell phone, Intel processors, anti-virus software, SMS texting and 4G wireless chips, the pill cam, radiation-free Xrays, bandages (including the one that saved Rep/ Gabrielle Giffords' life), desalination and anti-drought techniques, the supercomputer in the new F-35 and countless other advances to the United States. Most recently, because of experiences that Israel unfortunately must deal with all too often, Israeli anti-terror, recovery and security agencies lead the world, and several major American police and fire departments now train with Israeli experts. Moreover, every president and Congress since Harry Truman has recognized

the unique, extreme and expensive security threat that Israel faces every day. Israel is surrounded in the broader Middle East by countries that either don't recognize Israel as a state, are technically at war with Israel or actively threaten Israel, namely Iran. The terrorist organizations Hamas and Hezbollah operate with effective diplomatic independence directly on Israel's southern and northern borders, respectively, and in total, have more than 150,000 rockets prepared and aimed at Israel and all her civilians, including Jews, Christians, Muslims, Baha'is and others. Due to these looming international threats that Israel faces, the United States has deemed it necessary to provide military aid for this nation of only 8 million. For example, the average Hamas rocket costs only \$800 to make, while the Israeli rocket interception system (The Iron Dome) that was a joint development by the

U.S. and Israel has a cost of \$50,000 per interceptor fired. And thus, as a solution, the United States signed its new 10-year memorandum with Israel to provide stability in its military assistance package from 2018 and 2028. Irrespective of their other political positions, I applaud President Obama, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and both Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump for voicing their support for this pledge. Hopefully, now you too can understand why this aid is both crucial for Israel and extremely beneficial for both Israel and this great nation of ours, the United States of America. If you find yourself inclined, please contact your members of Congress and your pick for president and thank them for their support of this new memorandum.

Editor's Note: Students for Justice in Palestine was contacted to submit an op-ed, but Student Life did not receive a response.

OP-ED SUBMISSION

The dilemma of the pro-life voter

MARC MAGUIRE
AND LUISA F. CASTAÑEDA-CANO
PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT OF WASH. U. STUDENTS FOR LIFE

Let's face it—we're stuck between a rock and a hard place. Although many proudly sport blue "H" buttons or red "Make America Great Again" hats, more voters than ever have strong reservations about voting for either candidate. Among the most conflicted is the pro-life voter: One who denounces the legalization of abortion with the same urgency that pro-choice advocates fight against restrictive abortion laws.

In most American elections, the majority of pro-life voters face a fairly straightforward decision: A Republican Party candidate supports the right to life, and that same candidate's positions on other issues are at least satisfactory to earn the pro-life voter's support. Even if some of the Democratic candidate's policy positions are preferable, disrespecting an unborn human's basic right to life is a bit of a deal-breaker, as 699,202 American fetuses died in legal abortions in 2012 alone. Despite the enormity of that loss, however, the GOP's nomination of Donald J. Trump potentially throws a wrench in this typically simple voting choice and causes many pro-life voters to search

deep in their consciences when deciding how to cast their ballot this November. To be pro-life means to value all human lives, regardless of race, age, gender, sexual orientation, disability or any other condition. The pro-life voter is one who genuinely considers abortion an objectively grave injustice, as opposed to one who says "I'm personally pro-life but I think it should be legal." Although the pro-life movement focuses on defending the rights of unborn humans, born humans are clearly just as valuable and deserving of basic rights. It is with this mindset that the pro-life voter could be hesitant to support Mr. Trump—a man whose words and proposed

policies show blatant disregard for human life. From encouraging the murder of terrorists' families to his consistent trend of unabashed misogyny, Donald Trump does not appear to respect all human lives. One could argue that his apathy toward climate change alone could cause an unfathomable number of deaths, due to the monumental dangers presented by rampant pollution and rising sea levels. With that said, it is understandable to see how a pro-life voter would justify supporting Mr. Trump. They might contend that Trump's controversial statements have been misrepresented or insensitive at worst, and his presidency would not lead to a

loss or degradation of human lives. A Trump supporter could even admit that Trump is a deplorable demagogue, but still maintain that the importance of gaining conservative Supreme Court justices in order to end abortion outweighs the costs of having such an unsavory character in the oval office. The pro-life voter's potential objections to Trump do not necessarily translate into support for Secretary Clinton. The Democratic National Committee platform continues to deny the rights due to unborn humans, even going so far as to call for the repeal of the Hyde amendment, which prohibits the federal funding of abortion. This unprecedented

push to institutionally perpetuate the unjustified ending of innocent lives makes it clear that the DNC does not intend to change its platform on abortion any time soon. Even after several months of critical self-reflection on this issue, many pro-life voters are still unsure how to cast their ballot. Whether they vote for Trump, Clinton or yet another candidate, one thing is certain: The pro-life movement is far greater than any single election, and the pro-life voter will never stop fighting for human rights.

Editor's Note: WU Student Advocates for Reproductive Rights was contacted to submit an op-ed, but Student Life did not receive a response.

OUR VOICE: EDITORIAL BOARD

Staff editorials reflect the consensus of our editorial board. The editorial board operates independently of our newsroom and includes members of the senior staff and forum section editors.

Managing Editor: **Maddie Wilson**
Senior Sports Editor: **Aaron Brezel**
Senior Scene Editor: **Rima Parikh**

YOUR VOICE: SUBMISSIONS

We welcome letters to the editor and op-ed submissions from our readers. Submissions may be sent to letters@studlife.com and must include the writer's name, class and phone number for verification. Letters should be no longer than 350 words in length, and readers may also submit

longer op-eds of up to 750 words. We reserve the right to print any submission as a letter or op-ed. Any submission chosen for publication does not necessarily reflect the opinions of Student Life, nor does publication mean Student Life supports said submission.

OUR WEB POLICY

Once an article is published on studlife.com, it will remain there permanently. We do not remove articles or authors' names from the site unless an agreement was reached prior to July 1, 2005.

OP-ED SUBMISSION

To be Black in America. To be Black at Wash. U.

MORGAN HOLLOMAN
ABS POLITICAL
AFFAIRS CHAIR

You are joy, you are laughter, you are rage. You are also beauty and defiance. You are a kite soaring above the earth, bound to it by gravity and gravitas. You are deliberate and carefree, sad and contemplative, and you are bright and glowing. You are quiet, you are dancing, and you are fresh to death.”
- Unknown
To be Black in America is to consistently exist within the taunting and mundane proximity to

your death at all times. It is the chill that covers your neck when you raise your hoodie onto your head during a light rainfall. It is slowing your jogging pace so that you don’t seem too threatening to those around you. It’s yelling and insisting that your life matters and being told that you’re wrong. It’s logging onto Facebook, Instagram and Twitter to see Black bodies dropping exponentially. To be Black in America, to be Black in this space, is to be at war at all times. *Your* presence—the space you occupy every day, is your activism. Your existence is your resistance. Your

self-care is your revolution. It prepares you for the next day’s battle. To be Black at Washington University in St. Louis is to study brutality and biology, the police force and physics, activism and art. It’s finding out that your peers are prepared to *Make America Great Again*, when they didn’t even make America. It’s searching for accomplices in a sea of abundant allies. It’s knowing that going to class, means going to war. It’s knowing that your demands are decorations for diversity. It’s having a roommate who will binge-watch Luke Cage on Netflix and vilify

Black resistance and survival in their pastime. The Association of Black Students at Washington University in St. Louis would like to send healing powers and solidarity to all of our members. Remember why you are here. Know that your presence is a present. Your place within this space is a protest. During this debate season, we encourage you to remain knowledgeable of all candidates and their positions on various issues as they may impact you. Know your rights. Know your worth. Embrace the beauty in being Black. Harness the power of your

Blackness. For decades, Blackness has been viewed as a source of entertainment, while our humanity and value has been simultaneously neglected and compromised. It is our duty to resist those that seek to completely rob us of any hope of liberation. For us, resistance comes in many forms; your act of resistance may be protesting, and it very well may be using social media to express your feelings or retreating into your private dorm rooms to unplug and recharge. Regardless, we would like to take this time to stress the importance of self-care in anti-Black

spaces. Log off of your social media accounts periodically, stay hydrated, eat well and get plenty of rest. Stay safe, stay strong and refuse to live in fear. The deaths of the several Black individuals this past summer along with the deaths of several others at the hands of law enforcement are eerie reminders of our country’s commitment to housing racial segregation and systemic violence. Our country has advanced in many areas, but the treatment of Brown and Black people remains the same. To our peers, respect our existence or expect our resistance. Black Lives Matter.

OP-ED SUBMISSION

The lesser-known American Muslim perspective

AMAL HAQUE
CLASS OF 2019

I was raised in a post-9/11 world, and while growing up, I rarely come across a news story that described Islam positively. This perplexed me to no end, because the “Islam” I was seeing on TV—bombs, war and fear—was inconsistent with the Islam that Sunday School taught me— peace, charity and loving your neighbors. With age, I came to understand that what I was hearing or reading about was not Islam. It was murder in the name of craziness and stupidity, nothing more than a pathetic attempt to prove

“strength” or “power.” Yet I still couldn’t grasp why public figures and crowds of protesters who didn’t know me said that they hated me or that I was a danger to the country that I love. It’s easy for any adult to recognize that these people are not Muslim, but what’s harder is being 14 years old and, every time news breaks of a mass shooting or a bombing in the U.S. and abroad, thinking, “please don’t let it be a Muslim.” I’ve lost count of how many times this thought has crossed my brain and stayed there even as I mourn the lives lost at the hands of a Godless murderer. When Muhammad Ali

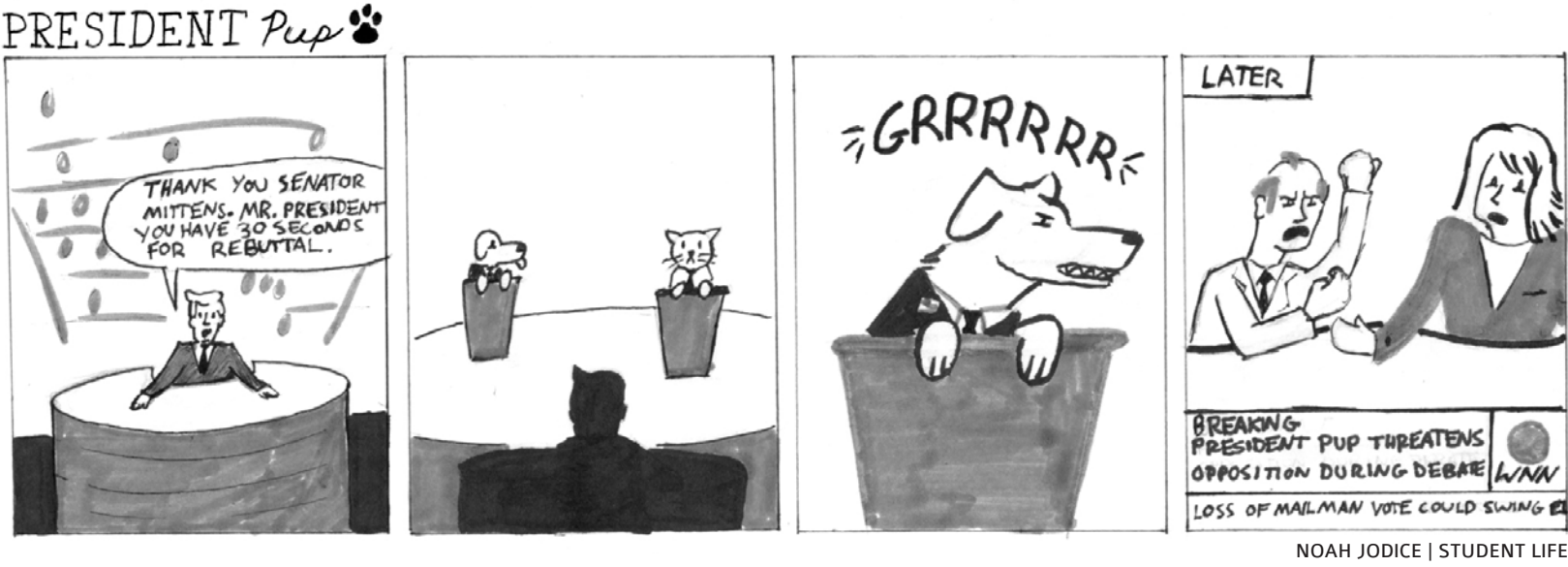
passed away, the positive coverage surrounding a Muslim man was a pleasant change of pace. His friends and family talked about his generosity, his kindness and his connection with God. They praised his expression of religion in such a peaceful and informative manner. For a moment, it seemed like people were finally detaching terrorism from Islam, and I was hopeful and excited for the future. Not two weeks after Ali’s death, a man walked into a nightclub in Orlando, Fla., and killed 49 people, wounding over 50, in the largest mass shooting in our nation’s history. I was infuriated that one man could destroy the progress

the entire Muslim community had worked so hard for and claim that his actions were in the name of my God—the One who taught me to never harm anything or anyone. It’s moments like this one where being an American Muslim is the hardest; when someone tries to corrupt the same religion you practice, when innocent people die, and when it seems like you’re a pariah in your own home country. But then I compare those moments with the moments I’ve had at Washington University; when the Muslim Students Association hosts an Eid dinner and over 180 people attend, eager to learn about Islam and celebrate with

us; when we host a fast-a-thon event encouraging the Wash. U. community to experience fasting, and students and others raise over \$1,500 for refugees; when Donald Trump says something ignorant about Islam, and hundreds of my friends—Muslim and Non-Muslim—take to Facebook to criticize his thinking, and stand in solidarity with Muslims around the world. I’m not afraid of fear-mongering presidential candidates, anti-Islamic congressmen, xenophobic national leaders, biased news organizations or even terrorists themselves. They have no concept of the diversity and wide scope of Islam. They don’t know that Muslims are the

doctors that heal us, the professors that enlighten us, the chefs that feed us or the business owners who drive our economy. They don’t know that Muslims are required to give a portion of their wealth every year to charity, and that it is in our teachings to never go to bed with a full stomach if we know our neighbor is not doing the same. I’m not afraid of those people, because I know what Islam is and I know that for every Donald Trump, there is a Wash. U.—a community of intellectual and kind students who are accepting, kind, curious and will change the world for the better.

EDITORIAL CARTOON



OP-ED SUBMISSION

Let’s try again in 2020: College Republicans descision not to endorse Trump

WASH. U. COLLEGE
REPUBLICANS

Political excitement and engagement will be reaching an all-time high as the presidential election draws near. After a particularly divisive primary season, one would expect political parties and their members to go through a phase of reunification and fall in line to support their party’s nominee. Unfortunately, this will not be the case for the Washington University College Republicans this election season. We will not be endorsing Donald Trump for president. After every presidential election, half of the country is elated by the outcome and

the other half disappointed. While a large constituency of the country will always be upset by the results, the individual elected president must still make an effort to represent the entire nation. This cycle, both candidates have had trouble pushing this idea—Hillary Clinton calling her number one enemy the Republicans and half of Trump’s supporters “deplorables” and Donald Trump making inappropriate charges against women and immigrants, to name a few. The country is in need of an individual who can remind of us of our similarities rather than our differences, and both candidates—including Trump—fall short of this ideal. Donald Trump’s policies

are also out of step with those of establishment Republicans. One of the reasons the Republicans were blindsided by Trump’s success during the primaries is because most assumed a man with un-Republican policies would not be able to last in a primary whose sole purpose is to select the next leader of the Republican party. Trump has—sometimes flippantly—called for a departure from NATO and immigration policies that would surely stifle American innovation. In addition, keeping the deficit under control, a cornerstone of the Republican Party, has only been an afterthought for Donald Trump. His budget plan is estimated to add \$11.5 trillion to the national debt, according to the nonpartisan Committee

for a Responsible Federal Budget. Perhaps the most troubling aspect of a Trump presidency is not his policies, but his inability or refusal to treat issues of grave importance with the consideration that they require. In July 2015, Trump said that he does not like people who are captured during war, referring to Senator John McCain’s time as a prisoner of war in North Vietnam. McCain, a man who fought for his country and endured torture at the hands of the enemy, should be the last person receiving scrutiny of his service. A president who does not understand the gravity of war, and the inevitable cost of life that is associated with it, is a president who is unfit to steer foreign policy.

We should note that even the unfamiliar sight of a College Republicans chapter not endorsing their nominee is not uncommon in this election cycle. A myriad of Republicans this year have decided not to endorse Trump either. Many Republicans have realized that we need a candidate who will follow the guidance of and adhere to the United States constitution, and not a nominee who speaks of his presidency as a “reign.” Trump’s success has surprised and blindsided the establishment in an incredibly unpredictable way. While we are excited and in fact support many down-ballot Republican candidates, we cannot help but feel anxiety for the future of the party. Nevertheless, we still harbor a great deal

of optimism. Seismic shifts in a party can be a welcome occurrence. Trump has provided a venue whereby it will be appropriate (and necessary) to reevaluate long-standing fixtures of the Republican Party and redirect focus to exemplary, young and up-and-coming Republicans like Paul Ryan, Ben Sasse and Tom Cotton. With the hindsight of this year’s primary, it is time to fix the weaknesses of the Republican Party. With the opportunity to chart the future course of the party, it is time to redirect attention to the rising stars and highlight our strengths. And with Donald Trump as our nominee, it is time to put country above party and not support the individual it would be so natural to support under normal circumstances.

Why should students care about the presidential debate?



JIM NEWELL
Staff writer, Slate

“I’ve covered these debates and I can imagine on a minute-to-minute level being on campus is a pain because it sort of becomes a police state. But you should be excited. You’re probably going to have another 80 million people watching this, on your campus, and there’s a lot hanging on the line. Trump is in a pretty big hole after the first debate... It’s just cool.”



LAURA MECKLER
Reporter, Wall Street Journal

“Anybody who cares about the presidential election has to care about the debates because they are perhaps the best place to see the candidates directly engaging with one another and being challenged by outside questioners. And besides, debates are just a lot of fun to watch. They somehow manage to combine the best of thinking over the nation’s future with the entertainment of professional wrestling.”



EZRA KLEIN
Editor-in-chief, Vox.com

“I think the reason to watch the debate is to assess the two candidates who might be president. But I also don’t think that watching the debate is some fundamental civic duty. This election has been going on a long time now, I think you can be forgiven if you’ve already formed at this point. So I don’t know. I don’t like scolding people for what they should and shouldn’t do in politics. I think that’s a mode we fall into that we shouldn’t.”

ILLUSTRATIONS BY NOAH JODICE | STUDENT LIFE

Meet the Press: *The reporters behind the candidates*

EMILY SCHIENVAR
SENIOR EDITOR

Though the political world never really sleeps, this election cycle has given new meaning to the phrase “political circus.” Considering the presidential candidates—Republican Donald Trump, who comes with no political experience, and Democrat Hillary Clinton, the first female candidate from a major party—and the reams of supporters that come with them, the media has had its hands full with think pieces, articles and broadcasts.

Since the race for the presidency began, each candidate has travelled from campaign stops to conventions to debates with a press corps of reporters who hang on to their every word, hoping to catch the next big story in the 24-hour news cycle.

BLINDFOLDED ON A ROLLER-COASTER

NBC Correspondent Katy Tur has been on the Trump campaign trail since he announced his candidacy in 2015. She described the experience as a roller-coaster, noting that she had to stay on and at the ready constantly. When taking a break for a movie night last week, the New York Times broke the story about Trump’s 1995 tax returns; on Friday morning, just after she’d fallen asleep, Trump began tweeting about a sex-tape with former Miss Universe Alicia Machado.

“It’s like you’re on a roller coaster and you’re blindfolded and suddenly the bottom’s going to drop out. I have to have my phone surgically attached to my face,” Tur joked. “I’m like that weirdo on the plane who’s just constantly refreshing their email. You just never know when something’s going to happen.”

Tur, however, is very new to the world of domestic political reporting. Prior to her current assignment, she was a foreign correspondent in the Middle East.

“I was expecting to be traveling across Europe and potentially the Middle East...I was planning on more European adventures, and I was definitely not planning on crisscrossing the

country and earning a million SkyMiles on Delta,” Tur said.

Tur noted that the anger of the electorate was definitely something she hadn’t expected.

“It’s interesting when an 80-year-old woman who looks like she should be a grandmother, wearing bubble gum pink from head to toe, points her finger at you and yells ‘You’re a liar.’ That’s an experience I have never had before,” Tur said. “When you add in Twitter and social media, people are able to not only give their opinion in real time, but it’s an echo chamber that amplifies all their greatest fears and deepest held beliefs.”

Tur isn’t sure where she’ll be when the elections wrap up, but she’s definitely looking forward to sleeping more.

“It depends on how things shake out. I don’t know,” Tur said. “I think with this, politics gets seeped into your blood, so you’re always sort of a political reporter after that.”

WATCHING THE POLITICAL WORLD WALK BY

“I’ve known I wanted to do this job since I was quite young, so I’ve been working to stamp bias out of my mind since I was a teenager. I didn’t let my mom put a political yard sign up in their yard when I was in college,” reporter Tamara Keith wrote in an email to Student Life.

Even though she now co-hosts the National Public Radio Politics Podcast and is a White House and Campaign Correspondent for NPR covering Clinton’s campaign, Keith had never been assigned this kind of campaign from start to finish before, though she’d worked on smaller campaigns in the past.

Keith had her fair share of “surreal” campaign experiences—after the Iowa caucuses, the result hadn’t yet been made clear before the press corps took off on several charter flights to New Hampshire for the primaries. Clinton’s marginal win was announced by a campaign staffer over the plane’s loudspeaker just before landing.

“Immediately after we landed, I had to be live on

Morning Edition. I couldn’t get my gear to work, so I joined by cell phone from the private air terminal where we had landed. As I was sitting there, I saw Senator Ted Cruz walk through carrying one of his sleeping daughters. I saw network TV anchors and correspondents and basically every political reporter I’ve ever known came through,” Keith recalled. “My favorite memory was that crazy 4 a.m. moment in Manchester watching all the political world walk by me and realizing I was part of it too. It was one of those moments where you realize you are living your dream job.”

Keith noted that in an election like this, political bias and polarization have been difficult to work around.

“This election is more polarized than many others, with all institutions including the press called into question, which I would argue has made it more challenging as a journalist who isn’t in the opinion business,” Keith said. “As reporters we constantly have to check ourselves. The key is making sure our stories are fair and that in combination with the work of our colleagues there is a good balance. This is something we work through constantly.”

Keith will be heading to the White House after the election for NPR, regardless of who wins.

NAVIGATING THE POLITICAL SNOWSTORM

Amanda Becker, political correspondent for Reuters on Clinton’s campaign, had never done this kind of coverage before, noting that it had been odd focusing on a single person for such an extended period of time. For her, logistics had been some of the hardest mental and physical gymnastics during the campaign.

“For a year, during the primary, we had to get to each stop on our own, flying at odd hours and driving as fast as we could to the next event since we weren’t in the motorcade and Clinton would often take a short flight to a regional airport,” Becker wrote in an email to Student Life. “It’s meant driving through snowstorms: one time I had parked at a

fundraiser in the mountains of New Hampshire and couldn’t figure out where my car was that evening.”

Becker said that some of her favorite moments from the campaign came when Clinton offered a deeper glimpse into her personal life, calling to mind one stop

at a cupcake shop in South Carolina.

“There was a man in the side room reading the Bible. He said he’d just come from bible study. Clinton ended up going into the side room for some sweet tea, introduced herself to the man, asked what verse he was studying

and could quote it from memory. That day made me really interested in her faith and what role it has played in her life,” Becker recalled.

Becker is looking forward to a long vacation as the cycle comes to a close, but does not yet have an assignment post-election.

ELECTION GUIDE

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STEPHEN HUBER | STUDENT LIFE
Chairs are set up for over 500 media members for the presidential debate on Sunday night.



STEPHEN HUBER | STUDENT LIFE
Final touches are put up in spin alley in the new Summers Recreation Center.

Designing the debate: Graphics and other imagery

ELLA CHOCHREK
NEWS EDITOR

Have you been posting photos of the debate banners in the Athletic Complex and the lighting of Brookings Hall all over social media? If so, you're doing exactly what the Office of Public Affairs wants. The visuals for the debate are designed to be photographed and videoed—by both phone and TV cameras. Rather than focusing on small graphics, Public Affairs decided to focus on a few larger images, most notably the many large

banners that can be seen through the AC's glass windows and the stars-and-stripes lighting display projected onto Brookings Hall's exterior. Even though Washington University has focused resources toward designing debate graphics, the University has little control over the design of the debate hall itself. "The Commission on Presidential Debates actually owns its own stage, and they are completely in control of what happens in the debate hall. Almost all Wash. U. was able to do was we were able to hang a Wash. U. logo in there, which probably won't appear on camera," Public Affairs Senior Creative Director Tracy Collins said. National media outlets will be shooting from other locations around campus, however, and the University has purposefully chosen to brand certain locations for maximum impact. Collins said that the Brookings lighting—which is something new for this year's debate—will likely be the image remembered after the debate. "What we think will sort of become the signature visual of the whole event

is the lighting of Brookings Hall," Collins said. The primary graphic used for the debate has historically been created by a Washington University student, and that tradition continued this year, as senior and Public Affairs intern Sherry Xiao designed the primary image last fall. Still, the imagery for this debate does differ from previous years, as Xiao's logo is focused more on the presidential debate as an event, rather than on branding the University itself. "In the past, they wanted to make sure that in any direction the camera

posted, they saw a Wash. U. logo, and I think they still will get that, but this time it seems more like cameras will see event branding and not just a Wash. U. logo," Collins said. Collins also noted that the imagery used for the debate must use a mostly even amount of red and blue, as the University does not want to unintentionally appear partisan. "The overall effect had to come across nonpartisan, so that's been an important part of this," Collins said. "There's such a red vs. blue thing among political parties that the effect had

to come off as completely nonpartisan." Ultimately, Public Affairs hopes its branding will photograph well and create excitement for University students, staff and faculty. "Part of this was for our own community, and that's why all around the Danforth Campus, and even the South 40, there are pole banners that have the debate logo on it. So, there are places where we have done it where we chose to do it for own community, but most of the biggest gestures were done for the TV cameras," Collins said.

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E.J. Dionne

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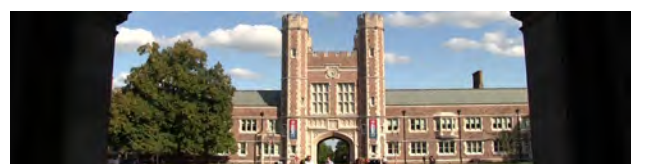
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OTTERTOBERFEST
Otters, brats and beer were about at the Saint Louis Zoo this weekend (Scene, pg 4)



BIRTH OF A NATION
Film tackles issues despite director controversy (Cadenza, pg 7)



WORD ON THE STREET: DEBATE 2016
(Video online at studlife.com)

Marginalized groups sound off on upcoming debate, election at panel



STEPHEN HUBER | STUDENT LIFE

The Athletic Complex is outfitted with decorations in preparation for the second presidential debate. Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton and Republican candidate Donald Trump will take to the stage Sunday night in a debate moderated by CNN's Anderson Cooper and ABC's Martha Raddatz.

BAILEY WINSTON
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

Panelists chosen from seven student organizations that represent different racial and cultural minorities on campus discussed issues surrounding the election Wednesday night as part of a panel titled "Perspectives on the Presidential Debate: Bridging Understanding."

The organizers of the event saw the need to inform the larger student body what issues, on the federal, state and local levels alike, were of utmost importance to minority groups.

In recognizing the need for this panel, co-president of Ashoka, senior Saniya Suri, described how inequalities faced by minority groups often go overlooked in the political world.

"In terms of this election, we've been starting to see more nuanced references to social inequities and racial injustices in our country, but they aren't overt nor discussed explicitly as a systemic issue," Suri said.

While this is the case, according to executive director of Missouri's chapter of the Council on American-Islamic Relations Faizan Syed, the climate is not sustainable.

"America is a country that's going through tremendous change, and fundamentally that change has to do with the makeup of this country. Within this nation within your lifetimes, you're going to see minorities become more and more a majority within this nation," Syed said.

With a growing presence of minorities and immigrants, panelist Sheela Lal, research director at Progress Missouri, pointed out that it is becoming more important for Americans to treat them as they deserve to be.

"Immigrants, with the matter of the way they got here, are equally, if not more American than native-borns themselves. They are here, they are trying to figure out a way to contribute and be a part of this society, and to demonize them is incredibly demeaning," Lal said.

Senior and president of the Muslim Student Association Mohamed Gabir noted that this equal treatment begins and ends with the government listening to minority voices more attentively.

"As a Muslim personally, I think that a lot of these discussions are taking place without us in it...On the day of the debate we'll have a 'Meet-a-Muslim' booth where we'll set the tone of the discussion on how we're talked about in this country and not the other way around," Gabir said.

Julie Moreau, a postdoctoral fellow in the Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies department, said that other minorities outside of those most commonly represented are facing oppression, both direct and indirect, in the United States.

"Folks who identify as trans still face significantly greater obstacles than other folks to accessing health care. This could be for economic reasons because trans folks tend to be in situations of very precarious employment and it's estimated that between 60 and

65 percent of trans-identified people fall below the poverty line," Moreau said.

While all the panelists agreed that an increase in discussion on issues regarding equal rights for minorities is necessary, this must be accompanied by an increase in legislative action, as senior Alvin Zhang, president of the Asian Pacific Islander American Initiative, pointed out.

"A lot of the issues the candidates actually talk about don't have anything to do directly with our communities but are actually pretty antagonistic from Donald Trump, and even Hillary Clinton in responding to that has really left out actually what our communities need and is instead just trying to win votes," Zhang said.

As a whole, the panelists agreed on several occasions that a Trump presidency would be disastrous for their cause, an issue Syed was able to address based on first hand experience.

SEE **MINORITY**, PAGE 3

Over 200 students, faculty, staff to volunteer for debate

NOA YADIDI
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

A select group of undergraduate and graduate students, faculty and staff will find themselves close to the action this weekend as volunteers for Sunday's presidential debate at Washington University.

Over 1000 students, faculty and staff applied last June to be considered as a presidential debate volunteer. A total of 255 people were notified that they were accepted over the summer and received their placements this past week, just days before the debate.

Volunteers will be placed with one of three different groups, Director of Career Services Aimee Wittman, who is co-managing the volunteer program with Associate Director of Employer Relations Jennie Marchal, said. Some will work in support of the Commission on Presidential Debates through administrative and logistical support roles. Other students will be working with different national media outlets or helping with University operations.

"I'm just in awe at how amazing our community is and how many people are really willing to just jump in and say 'what can I do to be a part of this process?'" Wittman said. "I think that's a really exciting part of it."

Sophomore Eden Livingston found out that she will be working with NBC over the weekend, although she is unsure currently as to what capacity. As an ROTC student who regularly writes to her local congressman, she said she was looking to get involved in any way she could.

"It's definitely going to be something I look back on and

SEE **VOLUNTEER**, PAGE 3

The debate gets creative: Political art installations set to go up on campus

OLIVIA SZYMANSKI
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts students have been working in conjunction with Art Council to set up a series of political art installations around campus in the lead up to Sunday's debate.

The council was allocated \$5,000 from Student Union's debate programming fund to promote student expression and opinion through art.

Art Council president and senior Alyse Gellis said the idea was a part of the group's presidential debate initiative. All Washington University students, faculty and staff were invited to submit their ideas to the council as a way to express their opinions on this election cycle and

the debate being on campus, but only students ended up sending in submissions.

The proposal deadline was Sept. 18, and one week later a panel consisting of three Art Council members, two Washington University Political Review members and a Campus Life staff member was assembled to make the final decisions on the installations.

According to Gellis, the criteria for the proposals was open to interpretation. Students were asked to submit an abstract, a budget and visual diagrams or drawings of their projects. At the end of the panel, all seven of the proposed projects were selected as installations.

"All of the submissions that we got

SEE **ART**, PAGE 6

A MEDIA FRENZY



HOLLY RAVAZZOLO | STUDENT LIFE

St. Louis Stage Hands employees set up the stage for CNN in Brookings Quadrangle in anticipation of the second presidential debate this weekend. CNN is one of many media outlets that will be present on campus.

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theFLIPSIDE

Freshman ‘Identity Literacy’ class to become mandatory

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87 / 64

FRIDAY 7
CLOUDY
70 / 50

SATURDAY 8
SUNNY
73 / 51

SUNDAY 9
SUNNY
74 / 52

EVENT CALENDAR

THURS 6

Spoon University’s DebATE week
Danforth University Center, 11 a.m.
Spoon University will be giving out free food in the DUC during lunch the week before the presidential debate. Take pictures with patriotic photo props and whiteboards, spin a prize wheel and enter to win gift cards to local restaurants.

Lecture: “Administration, City Planning and Policing in Imperial and Metropolitan Perspectives: Or, Liverpool as an African City?”
Seigle Hall, Room 304, 4 p.m.
Lecture given by professor Tim Parsons of Department of History and African & African-American Studies.

FRI 7

DUC N’ Donuts
Danforth University Center, North Entrance, 9 a.m.
First Friday of every month when school is in session, from 9 to 11 a.m. Come enjoy a donut and some coffee and pick up a monthly calendar of DUC events.

Here Come the Clydesdales
Brookings Hall, 1:30 p.m.
Kicking off debate weekend, come see the world famous Anheuser-Busch Clydesdales pulling the familiar wagon in and around the Danforth Campus.

SAT 8

The Danforth Dialogues: “Envisioning the Future of Religion and Politics in America”
Danforth University Center, Tisch Commons, 3 p.m.
Book signing at 3 p.m. in Tisch Commons. At 5 p.m. in Graham Chapel—two conversations: “Religion and Conceptions of the Common Good” with Eboo Patel and Natasha Trethewey and “Religion and National Politics” with David Brooks and E.J. Dionne Jr. Registration required for tickets to program and reception.

SUN 9

Public Forum: “Debate Between the Economic Advisers to Clinton and Trump”
Steinberg Hall Auditorium, 1:30 p.m.
Gain insight into the economic platforms of the presidential candidates from their top economic advisers at this debate. Free and open to the public.

DebateFair
Edison Courtyard, 3 p.m.
Student Union and the Graduate Professional Council present a fun, interactive area outside the Danforth University Center the day of the debate for students to engage in policy discussions, learn about issues and respond to what is being said and learned through an interactive wall.

RORY MATHER
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

This fall marks the second year Washington University has offered its pilot course, Identity Literacy: An Introduction to Cultural Competence in a Diverse World. The University is now aiming to make the course mandatory for all incoming freshman as soon as Fall 2018.

In 2014, a report on diversity in the classroom prompted a committee headed by Rebecca Wanzo, associate professor of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, to construct a one-credit diversity class for incoming students. She, along with committee members such as Dean of Arts and Sciences Jen Smith and LaTanya Buck, the previous director of the Center of Diversity and Inclusion who has since left for Princeton University, created the course to help students develop the skills needed to thrive socially and professionally in diverse communities.

The class of 2019 was the first to pilot the class with 150 students—about 10 percent of the class—enrolled.

Sophomore Andrew Wang was a part of that initial pilot his freshman year and felt that the class provided him an outlet to discuss topics he hadn’t yet.

“Back at home, we never talked about concepts like races, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status. The class was a nice way to have conversation about these topics in a small setting,” Wang said.

While he generally thought the class was worth

the time commitment, Wang did have complaints about its structure.

“The schedule of the class was really confusing. Sometimes we met on weekday nights or on weekend mornings. It was really random,” Wang said. “For two of the sessions my art studio conflicted and I had to attend another lecture to make it up even though they said they eliminated schedule conflicts.”

For the class of 2020, the course was still restricted to about 10 percent of the incoming class. Jill Stratton, associate dean of undergraduate residential learning, explained that this was meant to ensure that the changes they made to the class were effective before it was expanded on a larger scale.

“We received advice that anytime we pilot a curriculum, we should go through two cycles to make sure each adjustment made really enhances the quality of the class before we expand it,” Stratton said.

One of the biggest obstacles that the planning committee tackled this summer was the class schedule.

Freshman Jonathan Smith, who is currently enrolled in class, doesn’t hold the same contention with the scheduling as past year students.

“We meet about every other Wednesday evening. It’s pretty regular and since it isn’t much of a time commitment, I think the class is worth it,” stated Smith.

While Smith noted that the class was a good learning opportunity, he also thought that some identities were emphasized more than

others.

“At home, I was brought up in a very conservative environment. The class helped me learn specifically more about LGBTQ issues,” Smith stated. “But I kind of wish they spent more time on race. I feel like they are spending more time on some topics than others and that they were saying some were more important than others.”

Stratton noted that the class does have a time constraint and that the instructors tried to teach about each topic equally.


“It’s only a one-credit class. We try to cover every topic including domestic and social issues in the time we have; however, our main goal is to create curriculum that sticks with the course objectives,” Stratton said.

There are plans to expand the course to include a large percentage of the freshman class.

“Next year we plan on expanding the course to about 500 to 600 students,” Stratton said.

However, Stratton noted there are many missing pieces in the infrastructure of the class that must be fixed before the class becomes a mandatory course for the entire freshman class.

“Since this is an academic course, it has to come out of an academic unit. All four schools have to be invested in it and so the deans and faculty of all four schools have to vote on it,” Stratton said. “There is also still no concrete infrastructure for the class. Will there be an office? What is our budget? How do we sustain this? These are all questions we have to answer first before we expand.”



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WU announces commitment to reporting, supporting KIPP students

BAILEY WINSTON
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

Washington University has clarified its role as a sponsor, and now partner, with KIPP public charter schools, as the University announced it will actively search for qualified KIPP students who otherwise may not have known of opportunities offered at the University.

KIPP St. Louis is the first of two charter schools that Washington University officially sponsors. The relationship includes direct access to the University and its resources for KIPP students. Further, Washington University is now a partner with KIPP schools nationwide, as the University's recruiters visit KIPP schools outside of just St. Louis.

While controversy surrounds charter schools

around the country, KIPP's mission for over 20 years has been to "[help] students from educationally underserved communities develop the knowledge, skills, character and habits needed to succeed in college and the competitive world beyond," according to their official website.

Assistant Provost for Student Success Anthony Tillman clarified that the University's involvement with KIPP is not a scholarship program, but rather a commitment to consider applicants from KIPP schools.

"In terms of the scholarship, the story was initially misrepresented. There's not a designated KIPP scholarship at Washington University. It simply means we are investing in the opportunity to support any of those students, if they are

admissible into Washington University, and we will celebrate that accomplishment on their behalf," Tillman said.

Tillman further elaborated on what Washington University is currently doing for KIPP and what it plans on doing in the future.

"My responsibility is to address the KIPP alumni who matriculate into Washington University. Right now, there are three of them, and our hope is that [this] number will grow as time goes on," Tillman said.

In working with KIPP at the national level, Director of Admissions Julie Shimabukuro hopes the University will be able to identify qualified applicants from not only St. Louis, but other places, as well.

"Now that we have partnered with KIPP as a national member, we are

in touch with the KIPP national office and all of the KIPP guidance counselors to try to identify and connect with students who may be a strong match for Wash. U.," Shimabukuro said.

Washington University's involvement with KIPP is just one of the many times the University has shown a commitment to giving students of all financial backgrounds the education they deserve, Tillman said.

"We are an institution that does care about social economic diversity; that for us is not a rhetorical exercise, it's something that we firmly believe in as an institution and we're committed to ensuring that the opportunity to receive an education at Washington University is open to all students regardless of background as long as they meet our admissions

criteria," Tillman said.

In terms of what makes KIPP special, Tillman noted the importance of the school's long-term commitment to its students along with the commitment these students often show in return.

"What KIPP is beginning to find is that some of their alumni who have gone on to get college degrees are coming back and investing back into KIPP in terms of working with them, which is, of course, what you'd like to see happen," Tillman said.

Charter schools across the country often face controversy, due to misallocating state funding and running the schools too much like a business, a problem Tillman further explained.

"What gets charter schools in trouble, in my opinion, is more of a management issue because it's

no different from anything one does in life," Tillman said. "Not everyone is cut out to be a doctor; you may want to be a doctor and open up your own mini clinic, but you might not have the experience necessary to be a doctor. The same applies to educational administrators."

Shimabukuro summed up the University's hope for what its relationship with KIPP will foster.

"We want to encourage students to think about higher education and to consider applying to and enrolling at Wash. U. and other institutions," Shimabukuro said. "Building relationships is an important part of admissions, and we are looking forward to strengthening our relationships with KIPP schools and other schools around the country."

PREPARING FOR THE SPOTLIGHT



STEPHEN HUBER | STUDENT LIFE

Top Care employees adorning pre-debate passes plant chrysanthemums outside the new Summers Recreation Center.



STEPHEN HUBER | STUDENT LIFE

Construction workers set up the platform for large tents next to the Summers Recreation Center and Francis Field.

VOLUNTEER from page 1

tell people 'I worked at the 2016 presidential debate' so it's going to be really cool," Livingston said.

To become a debate volunteer, students had to apply over the summer by filling out a short application, submitting recommendations and writing an essay explaining their interest in serving

as a volunteer.

Wittman, who also managed the University's 2008 vice presidential debate volunteer program with Marchal, said they were looking for flexible people with a good work ethic, who were willing to jump in and have good communications skills.

Junior Emilia Weinberg,

another volunteer, is a golf cart driver for the weekend.

"I figured when else am I going to be in a place where the debate is happening, so I might as well try to get involved as best I can," she said. "Really, I can watch the debate from my couch, but how else can I be involved?"



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MINORITY from page 1

"I went to a Trump rally that happened here a few months ago. I was going there and passing out donuts to the people there, and when the people got upset, what they would do is they would yell two statements: 'USA, USA, USA' and 'Build the Wall, Build the Wall, Build the Wall,'" Syed recalled.

Going along with this idea of the white majority in the United States ignoring issues among minorities, panelist and sophomore Clayton Covington discussed his personal experiences with racism.

"One of the things that is so disheartening to me is that I've had my neighbors call the

police on me multiple times walking to my own house because they forgot that I lived there...Because of my blackness, I am automatically associated with criminality," Covington said.

Towards the end of the panel, Ivan Eusebio Aguirre Darancou from the Hispanic Literature and Cultures Ph.D. program at Washington University, noted his beliefs on why the fight for equality should be a united one among different minority groups.

"Not all minorities are the same, but we are all minorities because of the same reason," Aguirre Darancou said.

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No country for ignorant men:

A night at the Golden Probe Awards viewing party

VICTORIA ALBERT
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

It’s not every day that you eat a cupcake topped with a golden uterus. It’s even more rare that you get to pose on a mock red carpet with intrauterine device sunglasses in one hand and a cardboard cutout of Missouri State Rep. Rick Brattin in the other. But that’s exactly what attendees looked forward to at the Gateway Women’s Access Fund’s viewing party of the Golden Probes, which took place last Sunday, Oct. 2.

The Golden Probes is far from your typical event. A satirical awards show developed by the pro-choice activist group Lady Parts Justice (LPJ), the annual fundraiser honors “outstanding achievement in the fields of sexism and antichoice extremism,” derisively celebrating the “brave” men in our government who have fervidly advanced sexist, homophobic and

antichoice rhetoric in recent years.

The name “Lady Parts Justice” itself was born out of an instance of outrageous sexism. In 2012, Michigan State Rep. Lisa Brown was banned from her statehouse floor for using the word “vagina”—while arguing against a bill mandating transvaginal ultrasounds. When she asked what she should have said, they suggested “something less provocative, like ‘lady parts.’” Unsurprisingly, this sound bite took hold, galvanizing feminists nationwide.

Founded and governed by a troupe of comics, activists and writers, Lady Parts Justice League describes itself as “the first [Not-Safe-For-Work], rapid-response reproductive rights messaging hub” that uses comedy to draw attention to similar slights against women’s health perpetuated by hyper conservative legislators.

The group certainly delivered. With appearances from high-profile

feminist comedians, such as Sarah Silverman, Samantha Bee and Jessica Williams, the two-hour ceremony spun horrific legislation into comedic gold. Notable awards included “Best Acting Like You Care About Women in a Non-Supportive Role,” “Best Original Science,” and the crowd favorite “Outstanding Writing in Sharpie, Hobby Lobby Supplies and/or Microsoft Paint.” Nominees ranged from attorney generals to congressional candidates to America’s very own vice presidential nominee Mike Pence—who was narrowly outshined for “Outstanding Underperformance by a Politician in a Leading Role.”

“Humor is powerful,” Maia Elkana, co-founder of the Gateway Women’s Access Fund (GWAF), said. The organization hosted the St. Louis watch party at the Center of Creative Arts.

“I want this event to

energize current reproductive health advocates and to inspire folks who are pro-choice but maybe never really thought about it,” she said.

Attendees speculated on potential winners between live-streamed sections of the New York City event, while sipping on “Consensual Sex on the Beach” and “Old Fashioned But Pro-Choice,” and sampling uterus and penis-topped cupcakes from St. Louis’s Sweetology.

To no one’s surprise, Missouri earned two Golden Probe nominations of its own. Imposing an onerous 72-hour waiting period on women seeking an abortion and attempting to jail Planned Parenthood CEO Mary Kogut for refusing to violate patient confidentiality put it in the running for the biggest award of the night: “Legislature of the Year.” State Rep. Rick Brattin earned his own place in the “Best Performance in An

Unscripted Digital Short” division, by filing a bill that would require women seeking an abortion to obtain notarized written consent from the man who impregnated her and claiming that he would permit an exception for “legitimate rape,” a la former U.S. Rep Todd Akin.

And while the room resonated with laughs and lighthearted humor, the watch party drew activists from across the state to speak about the true impact of Missouri’s abortion restrictions. During breaks in the show, representatives from Missouri abortion providers detailed the hardships that this legislation has imposed on their patients. These hardships make it exceedingly difficult—and, in some cases, impossible—for the 1,200,000 Missouri women of reproductive age to receive abortion services.

“Missouri has some of the most restrictive abortion regulations of

any state in the country,” Elkana said. “Folks have to receive counseling in-person, three days in advance of their procedure, which means that a woman living anywhere in the state needs to drive to St. Louis for an appointment.”

Yet by the time the curtain closed on the Golden Probes, Missouri was 0-2. Despite a phenomenal effort from both Rick Brattin and the legislature he represents, it was Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine who stole the show, with his claim that Planned Parenthood “steam cooked” fetuses. A close runner-up was radio host Bryan Fischer’s declaration that women aren’t fit to be president.

But fear not, Missouri legislators. As evidenced by the thousands of activists who attended satellite watch parties, their work did not go unnoticed. And in the words of Golden Probes emcee Jean Grae, “There are no small parts. Only small minds.”

OTTERS from page B4

The keepers let an old grandpa otter stay in the normal wooded enclosure, since he doesn’t leave his den except to eat. But the otter in the Children’s Zoo, putting on a show of happiness for everyone who watched, was truly wonderful to watch.

Here’s something you

might not expect: otters can laugh, and they do whenever they’re enjoying themselves. Forget your harsh thoughts of the reality of the zoo, and it’s a lot of fun to watch. When an otter laughs, everyone—children, adults and myself—laugh as well.

I must remember that

the point of Otttoberfest is for the children to see real otters in their underwater glory and dance to the moderately German bands and touch faux-otter hides to feel how sleek and smooth they are (which is ironically the main reason, along with water pollution, that North American

river otters nearly fell into extinction; they have only recently grown to sustainable numbers). The children were entertained with coloring and otter quiz games, and their parents could order beer and bratwursts, which weren’t anything special, even in the range

of sauerkraut-laden fare, but the idea of them at least gave the parents an impression of the season.

Young adults like myself might not have much of a place at the zoo or at Otttoberfest. One group of teens near the sea lion pools agreed that, “A real zoo would

have sharks.” But for the children who haven’t seen what sci-fi suspects our zoo-keeping civilization may trigger, it is a fairly fun Otttoberfest.

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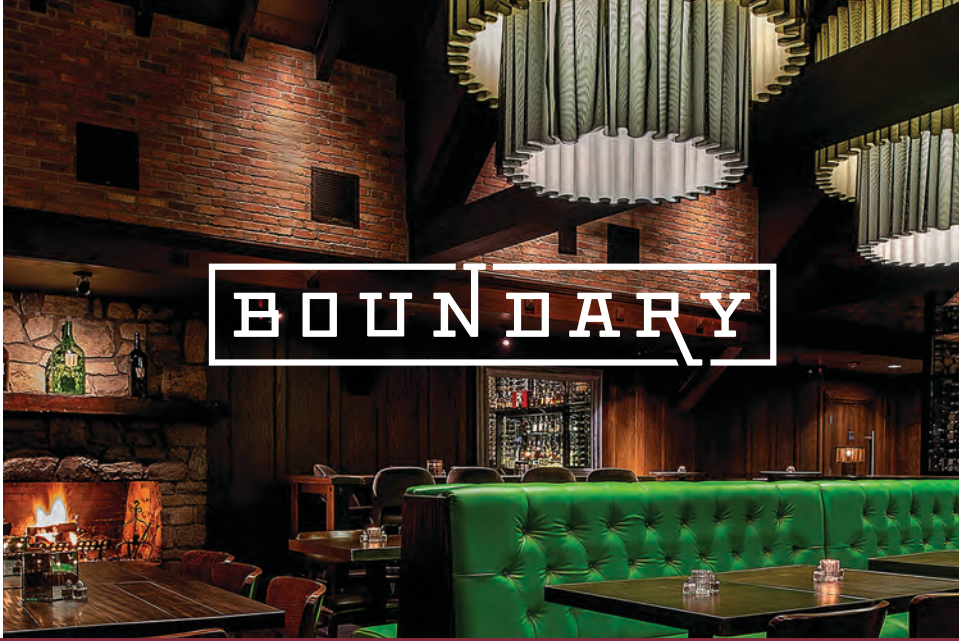
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ART from page 1

were really on par with what we were asking for and within the budget that we had, so we could take them,” said Gellis.

The Art Council members then gave the student artists feedback on their ideas, which they have been working on since. The types of projects cover all forms of art, from communication design posters to 3-D installations. The installations not only cover a broad range of artistic genres, but also differ in terms of their messages. Some support one candidate over another, while others are non-partisan and focus on issues surrounding voting.

Some professors have integrated the art initiative into their courses. Seniors Rachel Healey, Lauren Blackburn and Bowie Chen are currently enrolled in the Communication Design: Voice course, which focuses on designing for social and political impact. Their installation consists of four separate poster boards spelling out the word

“VOTE!” with facts about the voting process written within the letters. Their objective is to create a welcoming and open campaign to encourage college students to vote.

“We, as an entire group of people in the country, have a lot of power, and I think it either gets forgotten or people just don’t think about it because they don’t like the candidates. But another thing [we highlight] on the installation is that if you don’t like the candidates, elect the policies. You’re not just voting for a person, you’re voting for the future of our country in the next four years,” Healey said.

Other installations play on students’ specific concerns. Senior Katie Yun’s project, which toys with the idea of the “Wash. U. Bubble,” will include constructing a white picket fence on top of the perimeter of the McMillan Hall fence on Danforth Campus. This, Yun said, is a direct statement on the

amount of security being enforced during the debates, specifically the fencing that is designed to keep unauthorized community members lacking university identification off campus.

“During the presidential debate, the ‘bubble’ will be an actual existing presence in the form of a construction fence that will cover the perimeter of the school,” Yun wrote. “[This installation] forces the fence’s presence to be known, and stands as a reminder for those who have access to the campus of those they are excluding.”

Other projects will include a provocative poster wall, a video screening and multiple 3-D installations.

“We really wanted to create an opportunity for students to be able to comment on [the debate being on campus, political policy and anything related to politics] on campus and express their opinions in a way that was peaceful and visual for everyone else to see,” Gellis said.



drink & dine

[WEEKLY BAR AND RESTAURANT GUIDE]



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CADENZA

The rise and fall of a hero

Grappling with the troubled history of “The Birth of a Nation”

ALBERTO DE LA ROSA
FILM EDITOR

Recent discourse about “The Birth of a Nation,” one of the most acclaimed film during this year’s Sundance Film Festival, has steered away from the story of Nat Turner, the film’s protagonist, and towards the story of Nate Parker, the film’s director. The celebration of a film about the slave rebellion has been shadowed by the director’s troubled past after rape allegations resurfaced in light of his new fame.

The epic drama tells the real-life story of Virginia slave Nat Turner who, in 1831, led the bloodiest slave uprising in the history of the South. Although this premise has the potential of taking the “Django Unchained” route of sensationalist violence, the film opts for a calmer, more organic tone. In one of the most memorable images of the film, young Nat picks cotton for the first time in a shot that seamlessly transitions into his now adult-self collecting the white material with ease. The camera then pans up and zooms out to reveal disturbingly beautiful and peaceful miles of cotton fields under the calid afternoon sun.

The film is not so much concerned about the slave rebellion itself but rather, about the story of the man behind it, Nat Turner. Since birth, Nat was raised as a prodigy child destined for greatness. The opening scene sends us to a ritual in the middle of the woods in which it is revealed that Nat’s chest birthmark was indicative of this greatness that was bound to come. Sure enough, unlike any other slave, Nat learned how to read and preach. He became his master’s right hand who, as a result of Nat’s singularity, took advantage of his preaching skills and sold his services to other plantation slaveholders. Nat embarked on a tour to other plantation farms to preach to other slaves as a way for masters to appease them.

“Birth” is a magnificent, yet flawed, film. Its editing relies on old, heavy-handed tactics to create meaning out of scenes well after the audience has already figured it out. After the death of his grandmother, Nat sits alone in front of her corpse, already wrapped in white sheets, and reads the bible. At this point, Nat (and the audience) has witnessed the day-to-day atrocities that slaves experience in other

plantations. Minutes before this scene, Nat nears his death after a ruthless whipping ordered by his master, Samuel (Armie Hammer). The film also suffers from a narrative that is too straightforward and does not attempt to problematize the conflicts within and among its characters. The dramatization of Nat’s heroic tale is ultimately too Hollywood for its own good.

Nonetheless, the film still wishes to remind us of these unforgettable horrors by rapidly juxtaposing shots of Nat reading the Bible with images of slaves whom Nat visited during his preaching tour. Images of Nat’s abstract visions throughout the film also feel too contrived and unnecessary to elevate its meaning beyond setting up a cause behind the rebellion.

Yet, at a period of civil unrest from constant police brutality events, “The Birth of a Nation” feels exceptionally timely. In many ways, the film functions as a direct response to the nation’s historically anti-black sentiment. For one, the narrative works as a courageous tale of revenge towards the evil, oppressing powers that stole the freedom from this group of people. Externally, the film addresses racist rhetoric



directed by
Nate Parker | starring
Nate Parker, Gabrielle Union, Armie Hammer

right with the name of the production which attempts to reclaim its title from one of the most celebrated films in history, D.W. Griffith’s “The Birth of a Nation.” The 1915 film is known for being white supremacy-friendly although it is still examined in film studies. Then, in a broader, more contemporary context, the film facilitates discussions about race to illuminate striking parallels between the Antebellum period and today’s.

I watched “The Birth of a Nation” in the company of a predominantly black audience who vocally celebrated every moment of vindication or wisdom by the characters in the film. They gasped at the unflinching images of a slave being force-fed, a black child with a rope around her neck being paraded around like a dog and a group of slaves hanging from a bleak willow tree. These are horrific but

important and resonant images to describe the black experience in today’s America. In recent years, black mainstream art has become defiantly more political during the most demanding time. This year alone, Beyonce released “Lemonade,” a visual album about black womanhood; indie artist Blood Orange dropped “Freetown Sound,” a commentary on how it feels to be black in America; director Barry Jenkins premiered “Moonlight,” a film that intersects black masculinity and sexuality in a modern setting; Networks like Netflix, ABC, the History Channel and OWN are producing black-centric shows such as “Luke Cage,” “Black-ish,” “Roots” and “Queen Sugar.” These are all-important narratives that have been neglected for years but are surfacing in light of conversations about diversity and inclusion, as in the case of

#OscarsSoWhite.

Soon after the premiere of “The Birth of a Nation,” the film was poised to stand tall among these other artistic creations. Critics raved about the importance of the almost forgotten story of Nat Turner’s rebellion and even predicted, 12 months in advance, that this was to be an Oscars contender. Part of the appeal and significance of this production comes from the fact that Nate Parker wrote, produced, directed and starred in his film that he spent years trying to make. Parker, whose previous credits were all supporting roles, turned into an auteur by his own merits. Today, the enthusiasm that critics and scholars used to talk about the movie has faded away due to Nate Parker’s rape accusation during his time at Pennsylvania State University. Parker was

SEE HERO, PAGE B10



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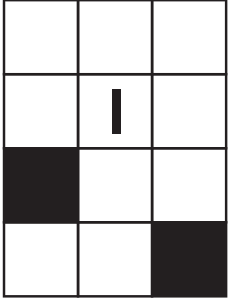
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SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephram Group



10/6/16

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Level:

1 2 3 4

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

SOLUTION TO MONDAY'S PUZZLE



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

ACROSS

- Captain obsessed with a whale
- Baseball great Ruth
- Channel covering Capitol Hill
- Formal affair
- Taken by mouth
- Rome's home
- Chronological documentation in a court case
- Prior name of Ho Chi Minh City
- Spot of acne
- Driver's license prerequisite
- Damaging precipitation
- NFL officials
- Point an accusing finger at
- Greek Cupid
- Great Lakes' ____ Canals
- Prom participant
- Japanese drama
- Cry bitterly
- Links org.
- Sharpshooters' magnifiers
- Discouraging answers
- Organs that may be pierced
- "Be careful on that icy sidewalk"
- When repeated, a Hawaiian fish
- Shoelace securer
- Offended smack
- New Deal org.
- More gloomy
- Brief film role
- Female reproductive gland
- Any one of the Bahamas
- Geometric art style
- Cup, in Calais
- Cartoon screams
- Leaves speechless


DOWN

- Elementary lessons
- "You're a riot ... not"
- Jai ____
- Fatal plant diseases
- Outskirts of the outskirts
- Weimaraner warning
- Joan at Woodstock
- Horror's "Mistress of the Dark"
- Spanish hero El ____
- Classic cowboy hat
- Windex target
- MLB postseason semifinal
- Kremlin refusal
- Genesis shipbuilder
- List listings
- Wall St. deals
- Price of admission
- Check-signing needs
- ____-Z: classic Camaro
- "Not gonna happen"
- Zany
- Try to bite, puppy-style
- Kiddle-lit monster

By Gail Grabowski and Bruce Venzke

10/6/16

Monday's Puzzle Solved



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- Sing like Joe Cocker
- Best-seller list entry
- Fusses over
- LAX listing
- The "a" sound in "about" or "around"
- Ice cream treats
- Erik of "CHiPs"
- Flower child, e.g.
- Roll in the aisles

- Kilt wearer
- Volcanic flow
- Amo, ____, amat
- Vaulted church recess
- Had the information
- Behold, to Caesar
- Classic cars
- Santana's " ____ Como Va"
- Lodge logo animal

FORUM

STAFF EDITORIAL

Intriguing questions for the Wash. U. presidential debate

The editorial board at *Student Life* hopes to see an intellectually stimulating conversation at our upcoming debate on Sunday between Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton. We would love to see them discuss their policies and show Americans why they are the right candidate to lead our country. However, since it is clear that this is nearly impossible, we may as well ask the candidates to make the debate more exciting for us Wash. U. students. Here are some questions we think that the student body will want answered three days from now:

How do you plan to address the clown epidemic sweeping the nation?

The clowns are creeping westward. Like a demented Lewis and Clark, they push on toward the Pacific Ocean, and I will have none of it. How will you get these clowns off our streets? Where will you find the money to outfit a fleet of government clown cars? And how many clowns do you plan to fit in each car? —*Maddie Wilson, Managing Editor*

What’s your take on Wash. U’s brand new art piece, Swamp Creature Friends?

We know that security will be tight for the candidates on campus, but we hope that Wash. U. will allow them to

tour our wonderful campus! What better spot to stop than “Swamp Friends,” which highlights our intense commitment to art on campus. I think students deserve to know Trump’s true feelings on the piece, since we know how prone he is to just word vomit about anything. And while we’re at it, we may as well get Clinton’s canned response that will ultimately put a positive spin on the art vomit living on the South 40. —*Peter Dissinger, Forum Editor*

The real TPP (Toilet Paper Problem) question: Do you fold or crunch?

This is an important environmental question, and

also a health question, since we seem so concerned when a potential candidate gets a cough. Do you love this s---? Are you high (in the polls) right now? Do you ever get nervous? Are you electable? I heard you crunched your toilet paper—is it true? Because you should probably change your technique.—*Sarah Hands, Senior Forum Editor*

Can you tell me what happens in Jane Eyre?

Haven’t read it all semester, but would really like to know what happens before this paper is due. —*Rima Parkih, Senior Scene Editor*

On a scale of 1-10,

how upset are you about Whispers Cafe construction being delayed for another semester?

As two people that presumably haven’t slept very much over the past few months, how much do you wish you could golf cart yourself on over to Olin Library for a quick pick-me-up? Donald, I know you and Mike like to act like you don’t rehearse for the debates, but how else could you have come up with a wicked one liner like “that makes me smart” without poring over “middle school hallway fight” manuals in the A-stacks? Wait...are you crying? —*Aidan Strassmann, Copy Chief*

How much do you like taco trucks?

OK, I know we all like tacos. But like how much do you like them? Do you like them enough to have one in each state? One in each city? One in each street corner? How many tacos is too many tacos? And what kinds of tacos do you eat? Are you one of those people who puts only cheese and copious amounts of sour cream? Or do you load everything on and just go with it? Are tacos an important cornerstone of your campaign? Why aren’t tacos an important cornerstone of your campaign? Explain. —*Lindsay Tracy, Senior Cadenza Editor*

Election issue profile: Immigration

SARAH HANDS
SENIOR FORUM EDITOR

Over the next six weeks, the *Forum* section will be profiling the most pressing economic, political and social issues of the 2016 presidential race. We will examine the views of the top three candidates: Hillary Clinton, Gary Johnson and Donald Trump—to give students an inside view on who and what we will be voting for (or against) in the upcoming election.

Immigration is a hotly debated topic among people who like to pretend they didn’t come to this country as immigrants in the first place. Its controversy is almost funny, considering we live in a country whose history was written by immigrants—like, criminal immigrants who raped, plundered and spread disease among the Native Americans (you know, the Americans) at a much higher rate than the immigrants Donald Trump likes to warn us about. But I digress.

When we talk about immigration, we are specifically talking about border restrictions, paths to citizenship and how to handle those who are already here undocumented

(which becomes much more complicated when many of those people have been in the United States for years, and may have children born on U.S. soil). Realistically, immigration is a complicated, multifaceted issue with a lot of moving parts to consider but tends more regularly in this election to devolve into a tirade of racist insults, generalizations and prejudice. Let’s see what the Three Stooges think.

HILLARY CLINTON

On Clinton’s website, she notes that America “is a nation of immigrants, and we treat those who come to our country with dignity and respect—and that we embrace immigrants, not denigrate them.” A touching, idealistic though. How does it match up with her plans?

Clinton’s immigration reform plan can be summed up by two motives: keep families together and make it easier for undocumented immigrants to become citizens. She also wants to get rid of three- and 10-year bars. Oh, but wait, what are those?

Here’s a scenario for you: You’re here illegally, because for whatever reason, you have the opportunity to live a better

life (or to provide a better life for your family) in America than you do in your home country. But you don’t want to wait years for that to happen. You’ve been here for 200 days, and you decide to leave the country to apply for a green card and immigrate the legal way. You would think that you would be rewarded for trying to go about this legally. But because you were illegally in the United States for over 180 days, you can’t come back. For three years. If you stayed in the U.S. undocumented for more than a year, you have to wait 10 years. Yes, that’s a real thing. Clinton wants to get rid of that.

Clinton also plans to support President Barack Obama’s plan to keep around 5 million immigrants from being deported—specifically, families and/or immigrants who do not have any felony convictions. She wants to encourage undocumented immigrants to seek out a legal path to citizenship by increasing services for integration and naturalization. She also wants to get rid of private immigration detention centers—essentially for-profit purgatories where undocumented immigrants can be kept for months, even if

their only crime is being in the country.

As far as border security goes, Clinton wants to protect U.S. borders (has a candidate ever actively said they don’t?), but doesn’t really go into specifics about how to do that.

DONALD TRUMP

Immigration is the chestnut of Donald Trump’s campaign—that is, getting rid of it. “Make America Great Again” by literally walling off the Mexican border and making Mexico pay for it (Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto didn’t seem particularly amused by that proposal). It would cost anywhere from \$5.1 billion to \$25 billion. Because immigrants are stealing our jobs and ruining the economy.

We are talking specifically about Mexican immigrants, by the way. Trump seemingly has no plans to build a wall on our Canadian border. Canada, however, may want to consider building its own wall, seeing as a lot of people from both parties are considering moving to the land of Drake and maple syrup if Trump becomes president.

People often struggle to see beyond the wall, but Trump has made some blatantly

unconstitutional proposals. Namely, he has said that he wants to end birthright citizenship, even though the 14th Amendment clearly states that “All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and the State wherein they reside.” But none of this is racist, right? He’s just being logical. Because he loves Mexicans. Even though, according to Trump, Mexico is not sending us its “good people” but rather its “rapists.” Never mind that evidence has been found to support the idea that immigrants are less likely to commit violent crimes than citizens who are born in the U.S.

GARY JOHNSON

Uncle Gary’s views on immigration are sweet, but almost even more vague than Trump’s. The majority of the text concerning immigration on his website seems to speak more against Trump’s idea for a wall than it actually speaks about practical solutions or policy. “Candidates who say they want to militarize the border, build fences and impose punitive measures on good people, ground their position in popular rhetoric,

not practical solutions,” the page reads, but offers very little in the way of those practical solutions.

Johnson essentially wants to make it easier to obtain visas and encourage undocumented immigrants to pay taxes and assimilate. How? If the polls change a lot in the next few weeks, or if both major party candidates implode, I guess we will have to wait and see for future President Johnson to tell us.

WHO HAS THE MOST EXPERIENCE IN THE FIELD?

Well, Gary Johnson was the governor of New Mexico from 1995 until 2003, so... that’s on the border, a little bit, I guess. Donald Trump has...been out of the country. Hillary Clinton was Secretary of State, and can probably name a foreign leader or 10. Oh, and she has dealt with, co-written and voted on numerous immigration reform bills during her time in the U.S. Senate. But, you tell me.

BEST LATE-NIGHT MOMENT?

Once again, it’s going to be John Oliver, on Trump’s fetishization of walls. Because we only watch John Oliver.

The ever-changing scope of political activism

ARIEL KRAVITZ
STAFF WRITER

On Wednesday, Oct. 5, the St. Louis Post-Dispatch profiled the Wash U College Republicans and included a short interview with Washington University graduate student Thomas Hildebrand, who was quoted saying that Wash. U. is “not a very politically active campus.” As a student at Wash. U., I consider myself to only be moderately involved in politics—and I’m fairly involved in politics. So, sorry, but I’ve got to disagree.

I find it ironic that this

article comes out on the same day as a political protest at the Underpass led by the Liberation Coalition. This group unified in a dissatisfaction for the complacency of the University when it comes to the systemic oppression of marginalized individuals. They will be marching in protest of the upcoming debate, and on Wednesday, they displayed a banner at the Underpass reading, “Your tuition funds systemic violence.”

Was this the political activism you see our campus lacking? Or is it the content you don’t like?

The liberalization of college campuses comes with

the liberalization of college politics. An idiom from feminist theory, “The personal is political,” exemplifies this change. Gone are the days where sexual assault, racialized violence and LGBTQIA* rights were personal issues, expected to be dealt with individually. Now, individuals recognize that their lived experiences are shared by many and often results of policies put in place by administrations and governments. The Black Lives Matter movement organized to combat systemic oppression of black individuals. It calls out the policies and institutions that hold up this corrupt system. Less obviously, when people spoke out

against the prison sentence of Brock Turner, they acted politically. By highlighting the issues surrounding sexual assault and racism, activists called on officials—national and local—to do better. They asked them to put in place better policies to keep this from happening again.

Maybe you’re fine with the content of political activism, but you just don’t see it anymore. Well, as the scope of politics broaden, so does the scope of political activism. There are better ways now for voices to be heard. The massive social media responses to events around the world that affect of us show that. The people who

were outraged by the loss of black lives at the hands of police, the people who wrote against the travesty of Turner’s laughable sentence and unapologetic demeanor, the people who mourned the loss of LGBTQIA* lives in the Orlando, Fla. massacre—they weren’t posting their grievances for no reason, but were using social media as a platform to affect change. They used their voices to bring attention to political issues they cared about.

The scope of political activism on college campuses is expanding. People are taking their stances more to Facebook, where it will reach more people, and saving

real-life appearances for when they are needed most.

If you’re looking for hoards of students banding together to discuss the ins and outs of the economy or foreign policy, you’re simply not going to find that in the numbers you’re looking for. As what defines politics changes, so does the way in which political views are expressed. If you don’t see political activism on campus, you’re missing something. Whether you disagree on whether something is political or not, or disagree on whether something constitutes activism or not, this campus is nonetheless very politically active. It just might not be the kind you want to see.

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SPORTS

Men's and women's soccer teams defeat Fontbonne on Tuesday

ANNA SCHOENFELD
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

On Tuesday evening, the Washington University men's and women's soccer teams both shut out their Wydown Boulevard rival, Fontbonne University. The women dominated the Griffins by a 2-0 score, while the men were able to convert late in the game and push to a 1-0 win. Combined, Bears soccer has shut out their opponents in 15 of 19 games thus far this season.

MEN

It took awhile, but the No. 8 Bears were finally able to get on the board in the 77th

minute when senior midfielder Corey Meehan beat a defender down the right side and slotted a pass into the box for graduate student and fellow midfielder Jack West. West lofted a shot into the upper corner of the net, giving the Bears a 1-0 lead they would never relinquish. The goal was West's third of the season and the assist was Meehan's second.

Despite the close score, Wash. U. controlled the pace play throughout the game, outshooting the Griffins 11-2 in the first half and 20-5 overall. Sophomore midfielder Kyle Perez lead the barrage with a game-high five shots of

his own.

The Bears also made the most of their chances, pounding the Fontbonne goalie with eight shots on goal.

With their seventh shutout of the season, the Bears continued their undefeated play, improving their record to 7-0-1. They are one of only 12 unbeaten teams remaining in all of Division III men's soccer. Meanwhile, the Griffins fall to 1-9-1 on the season.

Wash. U.'s next contest is a face-off against conference rival Emory University on South Campus on Saturday afternoon. Last season, the Eagles defeated Wash. U. 1-0 in a tight defensive battle

that featured a combined four shots on goal

WOMEN

After a disappointing 3-1 loss to University of Rochester over the weekend in their first conference matchup of the season, the No. 15-ranked Bears bounced back in a solid game against Fontbonne.

Wash. U. got on the board early during a corner kick in the 17th minute. Senior back Hannah Rosenberg took the kick, sending it into the box toward the opposite post where senior forward Katie Chandler was able to convert for her third goal of the season. Chandler also led the

Bears with five shots on goal in the contest.

The Bears dominated the remainder of the first half, outshooting Fontbonne 10-2.

In the 57th minute, Wash. U. completed a crisp passing play that resulted in their second goal. Freshman midfielder Jesse Rubin set up junior midfielder Gillian Myers for a left-footed shot which beat the Fontbonne goalie, extending the lead to 2-0.

The Bears' defense has been rock-solid throughout the season, and Tuesday was no different, as they held the Griffins to just two shots on goal. Wash. U. also had a 6-0

advantage in corner kicks.

Senior goaltender Lizzy Crist was barely tested in the game, only having to make one save. The contest was her eighth shutout of the season and 23rd of her career, the third most in Wash. U. history.

Wash. U. improved their record to 8-2-1, ending Fontbonne's four-game winning streak. The Griffins fell to 6-5-1 on the season.

The Bears will look to continue their dominant play heading into the weekend, when they resume conference play against Emory University on Saturday morning at South Campus.

Fall sports by the numbers: Statistics from the first half of the season

NICK KAUZLARICH
STAFF REPORTER

If you managed to jump over the temporary wall around the Athletic Complex this past weekend, you'd know that there's no debating whether the Washington University fall sports season is in full swing. Under the bright lights of Francis Field, the football team sealed a 34-10 upset victory against previously unbeaten Berry College on Saturday. At Millstone Pool, the men's and women's swimming and diving teams kicked off their seasons with a meet against Saint Louis University.

Meanwhile, the men's and women's soccer teams

traveled to the University of Rochester to begin their pursuit of University Athletic Association (UAA) conference titles, and the men's and women's cross country teams swept the team titles just down the road from Wash. U. in Edwardsville, Ill. Rounding out the programs, women's tennis player and senior Rebecca Ho claimed both the individual and doubles titles at the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) Central Regional. To keep you in the loop on the finer details of their seasons, here are a few other key statistics.

FOOTBALL

6,657 career passing yards for senior quarterback J.J. Tomlin, who is just 56

yards away from breaking the Wash. U. all-time record held by Thor Larsen ('97). As the catalyst of an offense that scores nearly 35 points per game, Tomlin has navigated the Bears to their first 3-1 start since 2008. The Red and Green will hope to finish their season better than that 2008 team, which went 2-4 down the stretch to post a middling 5-5 record.

WOMEN'S TENNIS

147 wins for senior Rebecca Ho after she swept the singles and doubles championships at the ITA Central Regional on Monday. Ho secured her second career Central Regional Championship ITA singles title with a 6-4, 6-3 victory before teaming

up with senior Kaylan Griffith to win her second-straight doubles title in the tournament. With the pair of victories, Ho moved into third place on the Wash. U. wins list.

MEN'S SOCCER

554 minutes without conceding a goal for the men's soccer team. The No. 8 Bears started their season with six consecutive shut-outs and a 6-0 record before allowing the first of three goals in the 15th minute against the University of Rochester. The Bears rallied to a 3-3 draw in that match, but they reignited their defensive prowess with a shutout 1-0 victory against Fontbonne University on Tuesday night.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

15 different goal scorers for the No. 15 women's soccer team, which is already one more than the 14 players who scored a goal all of last season. Headlined by senior forward Katie Chandler, the Bears have five players leading the team with three goals apiece. On Saturday, the Red and Green (8-2-1 record) begin a four-game homestand on Saturday that features matchups against two ranked teams.

SWIMMING

130 points scored by the women's swimming team en route to a 21-point victory over Saint Louis University on Friday. Junior Niamh O'Grady won two

individual events in the 100-meter butterfly (58.23) and 200-meter individual medley (2:08.92) to lead the Bears to their second consecutive triumph over SLU.

CROSS COUNTRY

22:00.98 was the winning time for junior Alyssa Wayne at the John Flammer Invitational hosted by Southern Illinois University Edwardsville on Saturday. Despite stiff competition from multiple Division I programs, Wayne raced to first to lead the women's team to their third-straight title at the meet. It was the second career individual title for Wayne, who earned her first title just two weeks prior at the Gil Dadds Invitational in Wheaton, Ill.



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HERO

from page B7

accused of raping a female student along with his friend Jean McGianni Celestin, who co-wrote “Birth” with Parker. Although the director was acquitted from the case, many have revisited the case and investigated why the victim killed herself four years ago.

Can you separate the artist from the art? This is a question that culture scholars and the internet at large have extensively dabbled with no clear consensus. In Parker’s case, it becomes more intricate given that his very own film includes implicit events of rape and violence towards women. Nat’s wife, Cherry (Aja Naomi King), is gang raped and brutally attacked by a group of white men. Another female slave (Gabrielle Union) is forced to have sex with a master’s guest. The film chooses not to visually depict these events, while focusing instead in the physical

denigration of black male bodies. To many, it feels very cynical of Parker to write weak female characters in order to depict the very same act he is accused of in a more gruesome narrative.

Nate Parker has addressed multiple media outlets about the rape accusations against him. “You know, I was falsely accused. You know, I went to court. And I sat in trial. You know, I was vindicated. I was proven innocent,” Parker recently said in a “60 Minutes” interview. “I don’t feel guilty.”

Reviews of the film, which comes out Friday, have chosen to not discuss the case and to instead focus on the visuals. Yet, to do so would be to ignore the influence of an auteur like Parker himself in the film. After all, he oversaw every salient aspect of the film, from production all the way to distribution, when he gave the rights of the film to Fox

Searchlight Pictures. It is not so much about deciding to believe that Parker is innocent or not but more about the importance of having this conversation. The brutality and intensity of sexual violence against women has not subdued since the events depicted in the film. Parker himself chose to portray this violence on his own film and therefore must embrace the reactions from it. This is an issue that must still be discussed in relationship to the film in the same way that race is.

Walking the line between artist and art is difficult especially when the art is as significant—yet, not exceptional—as “Birth.” Though Nate Parker continues to defend his innocence without acknowledging the repercussions of his act, “The Birth of a Nation” should still be considered an important film on its own. But, the story behind it should never be dismissed.

The Saint Johns play Blueberry Hill

JOSH ZUCKER
STAFF WRITER

The Saint Johns, a folk/Americana duo named for the river that runs through member Jordan Meredith’s home town, has been making music together for nine years now. Jordan Meredith met the other half of The Saint Johns, Louis Johnson, at a party and the two had an immediate chemistry—not a romantic chemistry, but a musical one.

Meredith summed up the formation of the band in a nutshell for me: “We met at a party in Florida about nine years ago. We started playing at open mic nights together, just hanging out being friends and then we moved to Nashville, Tenn. and started The Saint Johns.”

The band really became what it is today from experiences in Nashville, where the duo met many other artists that would become

friends, influences and writing companions. The Music City, home to so many other acts from all sorts of genres, was also home to their first extended play, “Open Water.” Johnson described the first EP as, “very acoustic based, very, you know, ethereal, and pretty.”

But after the release of “Open Water”, the duo wanted to go in a different direction. After five years of touring and working on new music, they relocated to New York for two months and began working on “Dead Of Night,” their first full-length album. Produced by David Kahne and made in New York, “Dead Of Night” moves the group in a different direction from what Johnson describes as their “prewritten path.”

“We tried to go a little bit more aggressive with the songwriting and the production on “Dead Of Night” We really wanted to make it something that you could

listen to and come to a show and see us and feel like there is some power in it, and there’s a lot of electric guitars and drums and that kind of stuff production-wise, and lyrically emotively I think we tried to get the same vibe of honest lyrics and feeling as though we’re putting ourselves into every song but I think the production was the thing we really wanted to push in a new direction,” Johnson said.

The new album, although musically different, contains a similar meaning to the pair’s first EP. While the Saint Johns added more energy to highlight their darker tones and provide a duality in the album, in listening to their music there is a continual theme of dark tones, an almost melancholy feel, in both the EP and album that is the style

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