

Student Life

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

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LED ZEPPELIN
An avid fan of Led Zeppelin explains why he is such a big fan (Cadenza, pg 6)



A DAY IN MUSIC
Looking at a typical day's worth of tunes listened to on Spotify (Cadenza, pg 6)



WINNING WATER POLO WAYS
(Sports, pg 4)

Junior fraternity member suspended *WUPD confiscates two firearms found on campus owned by Phi Delta Theta brother, fraternity permanently suspended on unrelated charges*



SKYLER KESSLER | STUDENT LIFE

St. Louis County Police and Washington University Police Department cars sit outside the Phi Delta Theta house Tuesday afternoon. WUPD searched and found guns in the house after receiving an anonymous tip that a member of the fraternity possessed firearms which were kept in the on-campus house.

DESI ISAACSON
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

Washington University suspended junior Chandler Elmore, the Phi Delta Theta member found in possession of two firearms on campus. Washington University Police Department discovered the weapons—an AR-15 semi-automatic weapon kept in the Phi Delta house and a handgun found in a vehicle parked in an on-campus parking lot—in a search Tuesday.

Later on Tuesday, the same day as Elmore's suspension, the University announced that Phi Delt is permanently suspended. According to Vice Chancellor for Public Affairs Jill Friedman, the decision to permanently suspend the fraternity was based on violations of a prior deferred suspension, not the discovery of the firearms.

Multiple sources confirmed that the guns belonged to Elmore. According to junior and Phi Delt Vice President Josh Prueter, the members of the fraternity knew Elmore owned an AR-15, which Prueter said Elmore had owned since October, and that he kept

a handgun in his car. However, Prueter said Phi Delt members believed Elmore's car was kept parked off campus.

"We knew he owned a gun; we didn't know it was in the house. He purchased the gun in late October, first semester. [Several members] saw a video of it; most guys did not see it in person. [Several executive members] confronted him personally...and made it clear the gun could not be in the house," Prueter said. "This was immediately after Thanksgiving break."

According to Friedman, Elmore is no longer on campus and will not be allowed on campus for the duration of his suspension.

"That is the term of his suspension, and he and his family understand that. We have been given no reason to believe that is something we should be concerned about," Friedman said. "However, we will continue to monitor the campus as we always do."

Elmore violated multiple University policies, including Residential Life policy and

Campus Life policy, which prohibits the possession and storage of any firearm or deadly weapon on campus—including in fraternity houses and in vehicles parked in University parking lots.

Student Life made initial communication with Elmore for comment but was unable to agree to terms for an interview.

An anonymous source called University administration with a tip that a member of Phi Delt was in possession of a firearm mid-morning, Monday, Feb. 19. That night, two anonymous sources were called into the WUPD station to provide information, including a photo posted to social media of the firearm.

In the photo, obtained by Student Life, a student is holding the AR-15 semi-automatic in a room with a Phi Delta Theta flag partially visible. Student Life later received a second photo of the firearm, taken from Elmore's Instagram story.

Chancellor Mark Wrighton sent a school-wide email regarding the situation Tuesday evening.

"There was no active threat;

however, this put at risk members of our University community and is a very serious violation of University policy," Wrighton wrote.

As a result of the permanent suspension, which mandates that members vacate the fraternity house, the residents of the Phi Delt house are being moved to other Residential Life housing options.

Student Life reached out to multiple students living in Residential Life housing for comment on Phi Delt members moving into residential housing; however, many declined to comment. Three specifically cited concerns for their safety.

"I would not be comfortable if those directly involved with the scandal could potentially be my neighbors down the hall," an anonymous source said. "In my opinion, there is absolutely no need for students to own such dangerous weapons, especially not under lock or on campus."

Although some students have

SEE PHI DELT, PAGE 2

WU political science department ranks 7th in nation

KATHLEEN WHITE
STAFF REPORTER

Washington University's political science department and government program was ranked 7th out of 598 programs nationwide by College Factual.

The University's political science program was ranked a top 10 program by College Factual, a source of college data analytics and insights, which recently published its 2018 rankings. The University's program was also ranked first out of 12 programs in Missouri for the second year in a row.

The ranking was determined based on a variety of factors, including education quality, average earnings of graduates and accreditation.

According to James Spriggs, chair of the University's political science department, the department is one of the best in the nation due to its world-class faculty.

"The department has built an undergraduate major that provides the tools necessary for students to succeed as citizens and professionals," Spriggs said. "We do so by offering courses that ensure students can think theoretically about important questions, as well as answer those questions using rigorous social science research methods."

In addition to the faculty, some students believe the strength of the political science program lies in the courses available to students.

"For the major, you have to take a minimum of a few classes in different subject areas with American politics, international, comparative, political theory, political methodology all that sorts of stuff," freshman and political science major Arik Wolk said. "Because there's

SEE RANK, PAGE 5

University renews contract with Enterprise for car leasing program

ELENA QUINONES
NEWS EDITOR

Washington University's Parking and Transportation Services is renewing its CarShare partnership with Enterprise.

In the recontracting process, Parking and Transportation Services and Enterprise looks at data regarding vehicle usage on campus, both to see if CarShare is a program students are using and whether there is business value in the partnership.

Additionally, this contract will determine whether more cars are added to the fleet—a decision made quarterly based on vehicle usage data by the University in conjunction with Enterprise.

Associate Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Rob Wild thinks the CarShare program is an asset

for the University's students.

"I think what the University has always tried to figure out is how we can find opportunities for students to get off campus in a way that is sustainable and that also, in some ways, limits the amount of cars that we have on campus, since we have such limited space," Wild said. "It's been great to see...the CarShare program address that."

Some students have expressed frustration with a lack of car availability and hope to see more cars on campus.

"Since they're usually almost all booked, it seems like there's enough interest to have more cars on campus. It would definitely help alleviate frustration for CarShare users, who

SEE CARSHARE, PAGE 2



BRENNAN NOAILLES | STUDENT LIFE

A CarShare rental car sits parked outside Simon Hall. The University is renewing its contract with Enterprise for the car leasing program. Some students have expressed dissatisfaction with the number of cars that are available.

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EVENT CALENDAR

THURSDAY 22

The Divided City Talk: “Collaborative Approaches to Studying Urban Processes, Policy and Inequality”

Simon Hall, Room 018, 2:30 p.m.

Diane Davis of Harvard University and Javier Auyero of University of Texas, Austin to give this talk as part of the interdisciplinary project “Inequality and the City: Mapping the Ecology of Urban Segregation,” funded by The Divided City Initiative.

Lecture: “From Refugee to Citizen: The Journey of North Korean Defectors and Refugees”

Women's Bldg. Formal Lounge, 6:00 p.m.

Sheena Chestnut Greitens, University of Missouri; Brookings Inst. Sponsored by CCHP Speaker Series & Public Forum, history department, East Asian Studies and the Office of the Dean of Faculty of Arts & Sciences

FRIDAY 23

Spring 2018 International Relations Round Table – North Korean Defectors and Refugees

Danforth University Center, Rooms 232 and 239, 11:45 a.m.

Special meeting with Sheena Chestnut Greitens, U. of Missouri; Brookings Inst. A joint meeting with the Gov't Policy Work Group. Sponsored by Undergraduate Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences and the Dept. of History.

Center for Health Economics and Policy Friday Nighters

Goldberg Hall, 2nd floor, Formal Lounge, 4:00 p.m.

Wash. U. students, faculty and staff are invited to join Tim McBride and the Center for Health Economics and Policy for a discussion on timely health policy topics with other faculty, students, staff and elected officials.

African Students Association – 12th Annual Fashion Show and Cultural Exposition: “African Royalty”

Tisch Commons, 7:00 p.m.

The ASA Fashion Show will showcase modern and traditional African fashion, and will include performances by various dance groups. RSVP online.

Performing Arts Department – “August: Osage County”

Mallinckrodt Center, Edison Theatre, 8:00 p.m.

Join us Feb. 23, 24, 25 or March 2, 3, 4 for a Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award-winning play. Tickets online or by phone at 314-935-6543.

SATURDAY 24

First Annual Black Excellence Conference 2018

Hillman Hall, Clark-Fox Forum, 10:00 a.m.

During this conference, we bring together our community through IGNITE-style student-led presentations and performances aimed to educate, engage and empower the Black community. A Black Graduate Student Mixer will follow in Brown Hall Lounge from 3 to 6 p.m. Register online. This conference is hosted by the Brown School Black Student Union.

expressed concerns with Phi Delt as a whole, Prueter said that students should not judge members of Phi Delt on the basis of the incident.

“What some people are depicting us as and some of the words they’re using to describe us on social media are completely false and, in some cases, are extremely offensive,” he said.

Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Rob Wild added that he believes none of the members of Phi Delt pose a threat to the Washington University community.

“The University would not move anybody into student space if they presented any type of concern to the community,” Wild said. “The student who we found had a weapon in the house was temporarily suspended, and there was no evidence that any other students in the house were involved in activity that would put anyone in the community at risk.”

In addition to communication from the chancellor, Student Union sent an email providing mental health and emergency resources to the student body Wednesday afternoon. According to SU Speaker of the Senate and junior Brian Adler, SU felt the need to respond quickly and comment on student concerns.

“We knew people were scared,” Adler wrote to Student Life. “We felt as

though we’d appreciate, as students, knowing what resources are available and that our student government understands and recognizes our concerns.”

Senior Allie Liss, a former intern with the Gun Violence Initiative through the Washington University of Institute for Public Health, said she believes that the event was disturbing.

“I definitely found the incident disconcerting,” Liss said. “I definitely feel safer with [campus] regulations in place.”

Phi Delt was initially placed on a deferred suspension following an investigation of a hazing incident that occurred in spring 2017. While the administration said violations of the terms of the deferred suspension led to the permanent suspension, Friedman did not specify what the specific violations were.

“The permanent suspension was based on the violation of the terms of the temporary suspension. In that way, it was made on factors unrelated to this incident,” Friedman said.

However, Prueter believes the suspension is directly related to the police finding Elmore’s firearms.

“It’s obviously not coincidental that this most recent incident corresponded with the timing of our permanent suspension. Clearly, this is what caused our

removal from campus,” Prueter wrote to Student Life. “We understand the school’s frustration regarding the alleged social events. However, we also have frustrations and complaints regarding the way the school handled the initial investigation (which prompted our original suspension) and subsequent investigations that they conducted.”

Wild agrees with Friedman that the permanent suspension was decided upon based on evidence of Phi Delt violating their temporary suspension terms.

“The chapter was suspended following allegations that they violated the terms of their temporary suspension,” Wild said. “The University was provided with evidence that they had violated those expectations and, as a result, decided to take them off of temporary suspension and move them to a status of suspension, meaning the house is closed and they’re not recognized on the Washington University campus.”

Additional reporting by Ella Chochrek, Danielle Drake-Flam, Olivia Szymanski, Elena Quinones and Emma Baker.

Phi Delta Theta’s president, junior Tom Hutchison, could not be reached for comment at the time of publication.

Editor’s Note: Desi Isaacson is a member of Sigma Chi.

CARSHARE from page 1

currently have to plan pretty far in advance to find a free time,” sophomore Jamie Cohen said.

Other students are glad to have the program on campus, but think it is too difficult to access cars when needed.

“Although I think it’s

a great system, and I’m happy we have it, it’s annoying that you can’t just spontaneously decide to go anywhere. You really have to plan days in advance to get a car,” sophomore Chazz Powell said.

Director of Parking and

Transportation Services Gwendolyn Bolden hopes to formulate a survey to process student feedback on car-share services.

“I’m glad to hear that students want to provide input,” Bolden said. “We are definitely open to making changes.”

WAIT, WHAT HAPPENED?



WE’LL TELL YOU. — STUDENT LIFE

SCENE

Fraternities: And once again, history repeats itself

KATY HUTSON
SENIOR SCENE EDITOR

Listed below is a partial history of negative, fraternity-related headlines found in Student Life's paper, from 1993 all the way to current times. This is not a comprehensive list, as the amount contained just in what I found was already overwhelming. At a time when our community is facing a huge fraternity scandal, I thought it'd be enlightening to look at fraternity scandals from the past. I was horrified and overwhelmed by my findings. This isn't to say fraternities on this campus haven't grown and changed since 1993, and this isn't an article intended to bash certain fraternities. The purpose of this article is to show just how easy it can be for fraternities to not engage in dangerous, discriminatory and awful behavior. The purpose of this article is to show that the issue with fraternities isn't new and more needs to be done to make it stop. The purpose of this article is to show that chapters must be held accountable, in more than just superficial ways.

ISSUE: Aug. 27, 1993
HEADLINE: Betas kicked off campus

In this issue of Student Life, the Washington University chapter of Beta Theta Pi fraternity made headlines for being indefinitely suspended from all campus operations, as well as being suspended nationally. The previous fall semester, the chapter was placed on probation and provided an eight-page document that enclosed guidelines to follow to receive reinstatement. The stipulations within this document detailed things such as being a positive influence on campus, respecting the rights of other fraternities and individuals, promoting personal growth and educating its members on sexual harassment, rape, and alcohol and drug abuse. A member of the fraternity interviewed in the article, admitted that the chapter had been in trouble for the past five or six years. The student listed a history of sexual harassment charges and a feud with another fraternity. A staff editorial, published within the same issue, criticized the amount of time the University took to suspend the chapter, listing an incident wherein Beta Theta Pi members taunted "Take Back the Night" marchers two years prior.

It would have been so simple for this fraternity to just make better decisions. Another case of slow

action, heinous behavior and a fraternity that was given every last opportunity to save their future. This wasn't anyone's fault but Beta Theta Pi's, and they knew it.

ISSUE: Nov. 3, 2003
HEADLINE: Drug Arrest made at SAM
SUB HEADLINE: Charges already filed against one suspect, student suspended

Sigma Alpha Mu made headlines in this issue of Student Life after a male suspect was arrested in possession of a felony amount of drugs that were packaged to distribute. Washington University Police Department was called after a member of Sigma Alpha Mu was allegedly robbed at gunpoint in his room in the Sigma Alpha Mu house. The suspect that allegedly robbed the SAM member was charged for possession of a controlled substance with the intent to distribute, but robbery charges were not charged at the time of the publication because of inconsistencies with the Sigma Alpha Mu member's statement. The member's room was searched though the findings were not publicized.

It was a strange article to read as much as it had to be a strange article to write. Was the Sigma Alpha Mu member a part of drug trafficking? What is happening here? Not necessarily a suspension, but a precursor to more drug violations by fraternities in the years to follow.

ISSUE: April 2, 2004
HEADLINE: Sigma Chi accused of hazing

SUB HEADLINE: Two students hospitalized, university investigating

Sigma Chi made headlines when two pledges were hospitalized due to alcohol poisoning. Members were seen around campus that night causing commotion and displaying hazing-like behavior.

Hazing. Nice. It's not like you are literally prohibited from doing it, but way to go for making it so dangerous. The one redeeming quality is that the members took responsibility and got their new members help. Something that can't be said for all fraternities.

ISSUE: April 28 2004
HEADLINE: Videos spark scrutiny of Sigma Chi
SUB HEADLINE: Greek life office says actions of Sigma Chi brothers, pledges were 'unacceptable' and 'distasteful'

Sigma Chi made

headlines once again after 28 videos and 31 photographs of hazing were provided to Student Life. The media featured pledges and members performing sexual skits, performers being pelted with beer cans and boxes and a video of a pledge dunking his head in ice water for approximately 20 seconds while members chanted and then the pledge coming up for air and immediately chugging a beer.

I don't know who hated Sigma Chi enough to expose them this savagely, but kudos to them. It's Sigma Chi's fault for hazing. They are not the victims in this story.

ISSUE: April 30, 2004
HEADLINE: WU investigation into Sigma Chi Set begin
SUB HEADLINE: Meanwhile, Sigma Chi national organization suspends WU chapter

Following the previous issue, Sigma Chi is suspended for 45 days so that the investigation concerning the extensive amount of hazing media can go under way.

Seems logical.

ISSUE: Nov. 9 2005
HEADLINE: Kappa Sig pledges face judicial action

Kappa Sigma made headlines when WUPD discovered two students (members of Kappa Sigma's rush class) in the process of kidnapping their pledge fathers in a U-Haul van containing alcohol.

Another instance of overt hazing that just doesn't make sense. Did I find any follow up? No.

ISSUE: Jan. 18, 2006
HEADLINE: SAE's housing contract cancelled

Sigma Alpha Epsilon made headlines when their housing contract was canceled. The chapter house was closed for a period of 18 months following a search of the house on Dec. 10 after a Wash. U. employee smelled marijuana. WUPD searched for, found and seized marijuana and took three students into custody.

All they had to do was not smoke in the house. Simple.

ISSUE: Aug. 27, 2007
HEADLINE: SAE loses university recognition

Sigma Alpha Epsilon made headlines and lost university recognition. After being put on probation in January 2006, SAE failed to follow the requirements of the development plan, to ease them out of probation. The failure was the result of conduct at the

SAE formal in Nashville, Tenn., failure to improve significantly and a collection of smaller incidents that violated the plan.

This occurred after SAE lost access to their house. This fraternity must have valued having an on-campus house, yet they actively didn't work to get it back. Confusing to say the least.

ISSUE: Jan. 28, 2009
HEADLINE: SAM moves on after losing house
SUB HEADLINE: Frats sense of community stronger; brothers resolving internal issues

Sigma Alpha Mu made headlines after losing their house after a drug bust on Dec. 8 by WUPD. The chapter maintained university recognition.

How many times can you get busted for something before, as a fraternity, you realize you need to make some changes?

ISSUE: Nov. 20, 2009
HEADLINE: WUPD connects assault with possible hazing

Hazing made headlines when two Sigma Nu brothers mock kidnapped a sophomore girl. The case was never investigated and Sigma Nu claimed to be separate from the incident.

Once again, I wonder how we can keep separating individual member's actions from the action of the fraternity. Since this was never investigated further, I can't say it was hazing, but mock kidnapping is concerning in and of itself.

ISSUE: Feb. 8, 2010
HEADLINE: ZBT's recognition suspended at national and campus levels

Zeta Beta Tau entered Student Life news when multiple alleged infractions occurred during the fraternity recruitment process that semester. Recognition was suspended at a university and national level pending an investigation.

Once again, jeopardizing something that members generally feel an extreme amount of loyalty to. It's unclear what the alleged infractions were, but they seem serious.

ISSUE: July 18 2012
HEADLINE: Hazing and drug abuse allegations against Sigma Alpha Mu remain undisclosed to public, fraternity members

Sigma Alpha Mu reported on after they are suspended as a chapter and lose recognition from the University and nationally following investigations of drug use, drug dealing, hazing and group drug use.

Seems like a repetitive

theme. Once again, maybe don't do the bad thing and bad things won't happen to you.

ISSUE: Nov. 1, 2012
HEADLINE: WU suspends Sigma Epsilon

Sigma Epsilon made headlines in a short article after being suspended for undisclosed reasons.

Who knows what it was, but given everything we've seen so far from fraternities, we can only guess.

ISSUE: Feb. 28, 2013
HEADLINE: SAE suspended after racial slur in pledge activity

Sigma Alpha Epsilon made headlines after being indefinitely suspended for an incident involving a recitation of racist and derogatory lyrics in a pledge activity and a questionable and disturbing scavenger hunt.

Who in their right mind would do this? More than that, what values must you have to do this? What are fraternities thinking?

ISSUE: April 10, 2017
HEADLINE: WU launches investigation, SAE suspends members after Kappa Karaoke dance

Sigma Alpha Epsilon makes headlines after four members are suspended, and an investigation was opened by Wash. U. after members participated in Kappa Karaoke and mimicked sexual assault in their performance.

This performance was triggering, upsetting and in poor taste. A dumb move that should have had more critical analysis before being performed. To their credit, they released apologies—something that not all fraternities at Wash. U. that have done heinous things have done.

ISSUE: Sept. 18, 2017
HEADLINE: Phi Delta Theta suspended

temporarily due to alleged hazing

Phi Delta Theta made headlines after being temporarily suspended following alleged hazing, with an investigation to come.

We all know how this story ends. But interesting to look at how it started all the same. One investigation, that if respected, could have been resolved.

ISSUE: Feb. 19, 2018
HEADLINE: Phi Delta Theta violates suspension

Phi Delta Theta allegedly hosts Mardi Gras party and other fraternity-affiliated events after being suspended, a direct violation of their suspension.

Why violate a suspension? It's so easy to not do. If the goal is to come out of the suspension squeaky clean and free to go about your merry way, why do anything to jeopardize that? Why do it so plainly and with so little regard? You really thought no one was going to notice and be upset by this? Do you have no respect for rules? Do you think that you're above the University? A level of privilege and entitlement that will never cease to astound me.

ISSUE: Feb. 20, 2018
HEADLINE: WUPD discovers firearms in Phi Delt house, fraternity permanently suspended for violations of temporary suspension

The headline is pretty self explanatory on this one.

How stupid, how careless and how absolutely impossibly dangerous. This fraternity individual made an entire campus feel unsafe. Why is it important that we separate his punishment from the fraternities? In my opinion, they are just as responsible for providing an environment wherein something like this could happen.

STUDENT LIFE

THE INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER AT WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS

Washington University
Student Media, Inc.,
publishers of
Student Life newspaper,
will hold its
Spring Board Meeting
Friday, Feb. 23, 2018
in the
Danforth University Center,
Room 248.

The Board of Directors
will take questions and/or
answer concerns from the
public during the open
session of the meeting,
starting at 1:30 pm.

Student Life

VOLUME 139, NO. 37

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SPORTS

Water polo: WU's greatest (club) sports dynasty

DORIAN DEBOSE
STAFF REPORTER

Back in October, the Washington University men's water polo team defeated Tufts University in decisive fashion to clinch a national championship. For most teams, this would be a once-in-a-lifetime experience that players would describe as a peak of their careers. For the water polo team, this was business as usual.

The game marked the team's seventh consecutive trip to the national final and their fourth consecutive national championship. Their success extends beyond just championships: For years, the Bears have been beating Division I, Division II and Division III teams indiscriminately. Despite this success, the team still remains under the radar of most Wash. U. sports fans. The reason: they're a club.

Senior co-captain Flynn Walker joined the team as a freshman. They won a championship that year and every year since.

"The first one, we tied for the national championship because the power went out. We were at Bowdoin. The power went out, so we couldn't play the game because it was in the dark," Walker said. "We actually ended up playing the game, but it didn't count because you couldn't see anything."

Even then, that level of success was par for the course of the team.

"That was a lot of fun," Walker said. "It wasn't that crazy for us because we'd won

the national championship like two years before that, the team had."

The championship and the pageantry around it have provided some memorable moments for the team beyond the water. "It's always fun to travel as a team together and get to know each other better," senior and exec board president Alex Goay said. "It's always at really fun and different places. This past year, it was in the Vermont area at Middlebury College. It was fun, at the end of fall, with the leaves changing. It's a different environment from Wash. U."

Outside playing for championships, the Bears face tough competition.

"In our division we're really competitive." Senior co-captain Christian Olaya said. "We either place second or third. We face [Division I] teams, like [Saint Louis University] and Mizzou. Our biggest competition is, surprisingly, Lindenwood [University]. They bring in a bunch of guys that they actually recruit."

The team fairs well against teams like Mizzou and Saint Louis University in their division and has held their own against teams like Ohio State and Penn State. But Lindenwood, located right nearby in St. Charles, Mo., is to Division I club water polo what Wash. U. is to Division III. They are an entirely different animal.

"It's funny because we always win [Division III] nationals and they win [Division I] nationals every year," Olaya said. "As far as

competition goes, Lindenwood is probably the peak. Unfortunately, we don't stand much of a chance. They're almost professional. There are guys who have been there for eight years. It's always fun to play them. Even though we get our butts handed to us, it's nice to go out there and play a good team."

Being a club allows the team to be inclusive for people of all skill levels. Goay started water polo for the first time as a freshman at Wash. U. and has now become a valuable contributor to the team.

"That's one of the great things about water polo," Goay said. "We have everyone from players like me, who have never played before, to players who have more than a decade in the water. We make sure players like me have time in the water to compete at our tournaments."

The focus on player development has led to a shift in the team's makeup in the last few years.

"What's changed now was that freshman year, there were a couple guys that were really strong, but the team as a whole wasn't as strong as we are now," Goay said. "We have definitely a lot more diversity in player skill."

The change has created a more well-rounded team that is likely to be competitive in years to come. The rise in average skill level combined with the successes already leaves some competitive players desiring more of a test.

"Winning a championship four times is not that much



TOP: A member of the club water polo team chases after a ball during a water polo match. BOTTOM: The Wash. U. water polo team stands in a huddle outside the pool during a water polo match. The water polo team defeated Tufts University in October, clinching a national championship, and the team secured its fourth straight national championship win in the match.

different than winning it once," Walker said. "You always want to keep on climbing for that next thing. We want to be the team that goes and plays in [Division I] club nationals as opposed to one that wins [Division III] club nationals, or whatever it is."

While they lack the benefits in coaching and facilities that might come with being a varsity program, water polo has also been able to take advantage of their status as a club to build their success in a distinct way. The distinction is both tangle—they can dictate

who they play and what conference they're in—as well as intangible.

"A lot of it's cultural," Walker said. "It's about how much time you put into it. You have to be a lot more self-motivated because you don't have specific obligations for where you need to be. It's student led, so we have to get everyone to practice and get everyone working without a coach constantly telling us what we need to be doing and how we need to be doing it."

As for the club's lack of publicity, Olaya believes it's a

reflection of the focused nature of Wash. U.'s constantly busy students.

"Sometimes, we have a little bit of a negative taste in our mouths," Olaya said. "We do really well, but nobody really knows. I think it's more of a testament to Wash. U. students. Everyone is really passionate about what they're involved in and when we tell people, they're like, 'Wow, that's awesome!' But, they're really focused on what they're doing and really passionate about their own programs. That's our identity."

Bears awake from hibernation: Spring sports take on new season

ROHAN GUPTA AND JON LEWIS
SENIOR SPORTS EDITORS

Despite temperatures reaching the mid-70s earlier this week, spring is not quite in the air at Washington University at the moment. Regardless of the weather, however, the University's spring sports schedule kicks into gear in earnest this weekend, with three teams in action. Before they get started, let's take a moment to meet the major protagonists for this coming season.

Men's tennis

The men's tennis team is the first spring sport to see serious action this season, playing their first match of ITA Indoor Nationals this Friday against University of Redlands. With a No. 6 ranking, men's tennis also enters the season as the highest ranked spring sport. The men's tennis team is a perennial top ten team, though they have not progressed past the NCAA quarterfinals since 2015. The Bears will hope this year's roster can change that.

Despite graduating two of their most dependable singles players—Jeremy Bush and John Carswell—the team is still loaded with talent top to bottom. Senior Jason Haugen and junior Konrad Kozlowski, the Bears' number one doubles pair from last year, comes into the season ranked twelfth in the nation after narrowly missing out on a fall All-American selection in October. Haugen has had some injury issues throughout the past two seasons, and has missed the Bears' two warm-up matches, so it would not be a surprise if head coach Roger Follmer decides to hold off on playing his best doubles pairing until later in the season.

On the singles side, the Bears still have their number one player from last year in senior Johnny Wu, as well as their winningest player from 2017, sophomore Bernardo Neves. Sophomore J.J. Kroot will fixture prominently in both the doubles and singles lineup. The Bears' roster is bolstered by several freshman: Ben Van Der Sman has introduced himself directly into the singles lineup, featuring at the two slot in Wash. U.'s opening match, while

Mark Wu, Daniel Li and Koki Takabatake have all made appearances so far.

With a lineup still partially in flux, this weekend's nationals will be both a chance to work out who will play where for the rest of the season and to compete for a real trophy. It will be a long season for the Bears, and however well they start, the team will largely judge themselves based on what happens in late May.

Women's tennis

While the men's tennis team may have lost two solid seniors to graduation, the women's team had to part with the most successful program in program history. Rebecca Ho graduated in 2017 with 191 career wins, and came within a set of an individual national title. Ho was a stalwart at number one singles, and her partner at one doubles, Kaylan Griffith, also collected her diploma last spring.

The Bears did get some reinforcements, however, in the form of freshmen Ally Persky and Ashley Lessen.

Persky paired with senior Grace Deering and won the ITA Central tournament in the fall. Lessen, meanwhile, reached the semifinals in the singles bracket of that tournament, and enters the season ranked No. 17 in singles. The Bears also do retain some experience, with regulars like Deering, juniors Lisa Chionis and Brigitte Hodge, and sophomore Sanjina Tripathy all returning after successful 2017 seasons.

The women's team travels to Iowa this weekend to take on Coe College and Carleton College, before heading to their own indoor nationals the following weekend in Chattanooga, Tenn. Ho will be near impossible to replace on an individual level, but the Bears will hope that their mix of new talent and experience can create enough production to win matches.

Baseball

Wash. U. baseball enters spring 2018 in a strange state. After earning the 2017 UAA championship, the Bears graduated 10 seniors and welcomed 13 freshmen,

overhauling a squad that went three games into last year's NCAA Regional as the No. 14 team in the nation. Despite this being a season preview, the Red and Green have already played three games in February—and so far, the results haven't been pretty. The Bears are off to an 0-3 start; they lost just three of their final 23 regular season games a year ago. Needless to say, the youth movement isn't exactly going as planned.

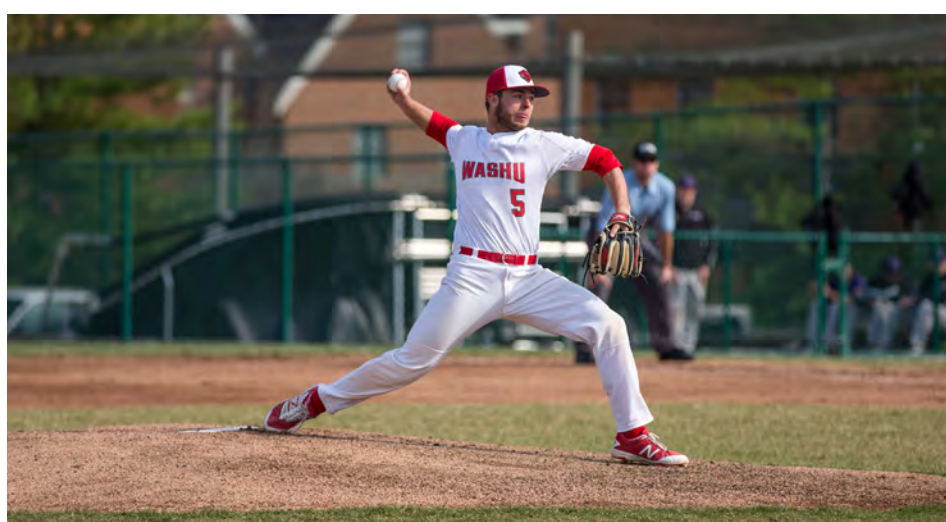
Luckily, the veterans who stuck around were among the title team's best. Outfielder Auggie Mense—the sole senior on this year's roster—reached base at a .448 clip, second only to graduated offensive superstar Ben Browdy. That production comes paired with a reliable performance in right, where Mense committed just one error while missing just one game in 2017. Sophomore infielder John Brinkman is no longer a rookie sensation; instead, he'll look to build on a solid .318/.362/.432 debut. On the mound, junior righty John Howard aims to repeat a breakout campaign in which he fired 59.1 innings of 2.73-run ball. While the Bears don't feature the same

top-to-bottom depth they did last year, they retain a sturdy core that, coupled with some pleasant surprises from the youngsters, could still live up to their D3baseball.com pre-season rankings votes.

Softball

The key for softball this season will be exactly what the key for softball was last season: the pitching of seniors Maggie Clapp and Anna McKee. McKee had a stellar 2017 season, in which she posted a 1.70 ERA, a 17-4 record and took home UAA Pitcher of the Year honors, while Clapp posted a 2.06 ERA, though her win-loss record was a more mixed 9-10. The duo combined to pitch 96 percent of the team's total innings last season, and should do the bulk of the pitching again this year.

Wash. U.'s chances this season will largely come down to the success of their two pitchers. If McKee and Clapp can keep other teams off of the bases, it will be a good 2018 for the Bears. If either of them struggle, head coach Michelle Venturilla will have to rely on a largely untested bullpen.



GRACE BRUTON | STUDENT LIFE
Sophomore John Brinkman throws a pitch in the Bears' victory against Fontbonne last year. The Red and Green secured the UAA Championship in 2017 but graduated 10 seniors in 2017.



GEORDAN NEINSTEIN | STUDENT LIFE
Sophomore Amy Walsh runs toward first base in the Bears' game against Case Western last year. The Bears will open up their season with a double header against Webster on March 4.

News in brief: WU professor wins fellowship, Teaching Center director search

UNIVERSITY FACULTY MEMBER WINS SLOAN FELLOWSHIP

Dr. Timothy Wencewicz, assistant professor in the chemistry department, was awarded the Sloan Research Fellowship Feb. 15. The two-year fellowship, granted to 126 researchers across the county, is awarded "in recognition of distinguished performance and a unique potential to make substantial contributions to their field."

The fellowship is meant to honor young members of the academic community who have a strong future in scientific research.

Wencewicz, who studies infectious diseases and antibodies, is the 34th faculty member of the University to receive this fellowship.

GLOBAL HEALTH WEEK TO TAKE PLACE FEB. 26

Global Health Week programs start Monday, Feb. 26 and will continue until Thursday, March 1.

The week's programming will feature a panel organized by Washington University's Global Health Student Advisory Committee focusing on a range of healthcare issues.

The event is sponsored by the McDonnell International Scholars Academy and the Global Health Center at the University's Institute for Public Health. Specific topics that will be discussed include nutrition and food security, gender and HIV transmission and treatment of disparities and global health careers.

The week is also co-sponsored by the Brown

School of Social Work, School of Medicine, School of Engineering & Applied Science, Olin Business School and Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts. The events throughout the week will all be free and open to the public.

TEACHING CENTER SEARCH COMMITTEE FOR NEW DIRECTOR

Provost Holden Thorp formed a search committee

to appoint a new executive director for the Washington University Teaching Center, a resource for faculties of all departments that aims to improve teaching through classroom design and learning technology.

The Teaching Center also offers training in effective teaching for graduate students and postdoctoral fellows. The executive director will manage the center's budget, personnel, programs, facilities and communications. The position will be three-year term, with the possibility of a renewed term.

The directorship application is open to all tenured

faculty at Washington University. The committee is looking for candidates who have a passion for teaching, working with different academic fields, previous experience with innovative teaching and an interest in research.

Vice Provost and Wiley B. Rutledge Professor of Law Marion Crain will serve as chair of the committee. Other members of the committee include faculty from the Teaching Center, Olin Library, the College of Arts & Sciences and the School of Engineering & Applied Science. The deadline to apply is March 19.

RANK from page 1

so much variety in each semester with the classes that are offered, it really gives students a more holistic view of the world of politics."

Political science major and freshman Nathan Card believes that the

department deserves its top 10 recognition.

"Political science doesn't always get the credit it deserves on Wash. U.'s campus, but it's a surprisingly large department and the professors are high key very accomplished in their

respective subfields," Card said. "It's awesome to know that our department excels on the national stage and that political science majors will be well prepared for their respective careers."

Spriggs believes the

undergraduate experience in the University's political science department sets it apart from other schools.

"We train students to think like social scientists, coupling knowledge of theories of how the political world works with an

understanding of research design and methods for testing theories. This training provides students with the tools necessary to succeed in the age of big data," Spriggs said.

According to Spriggs, the political science

department is committed to growing and improving their program further.

"We will continue to refine our undergraduate major to ensure students get the best possible educational experience," Spriggs said.

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puzzle mania

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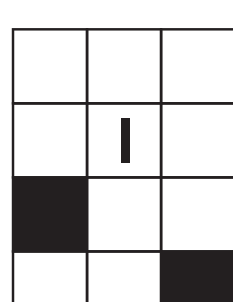
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Pathem® the path word puzzle topic: *Movies*




"Hell Or High Water"

Difficulty ★★☆☆☆ (80pts)

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

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Pathem® Puzzle Solution



"Hands Of Stone"

Difficulty ★★☆☆☆ (70pts)

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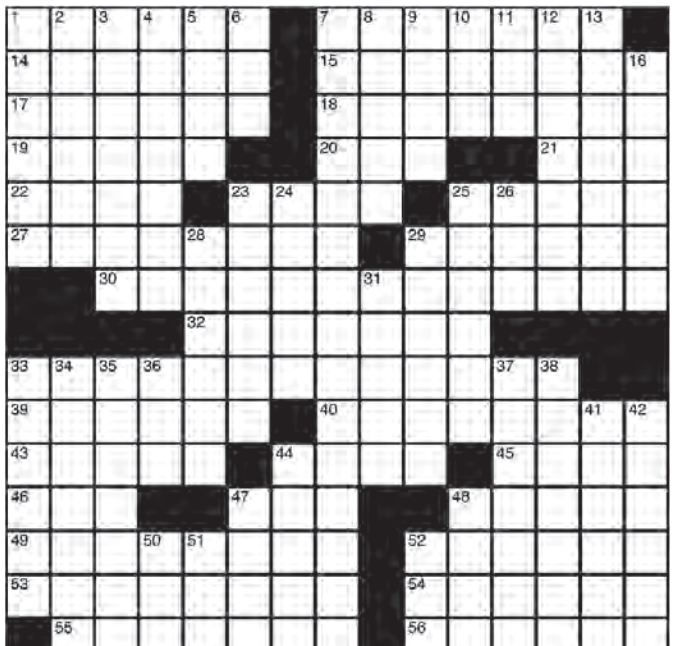
Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle
Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

- 1 MTV teen teen
- 7 Sings the blues
- 14 Planned city in California's Orange County
- 15 Conquered
- 17 General courses
- 18 "Could be worse"
- 19 ___ talks
- 20 Ones in a mess, briefly
- 21 Celestial body
- 22 Chug-__
- 23 Persuaded
- 25 Instrument dating to the Paleolithic age
- 27 "Go ahead"
- 29 One determining
- 17-Across
- 30 Wikipedia is an example of it
- 32 Like most capital costs
- 33 Kind of response to mortal danger
- 39 Brody who was the youngest Best Actor Oscar winner
- 40 Contingency plan
- 43 Double-check
- 44 Old Italian capital
- 45 "___ oui!"
- 46 Provoke
- 47 San Francisco's ___ Valley
- 48 Presages
- 49 Symbolic attitude?
- 52 Star close to Venus?
- 53 Field of dreams?
- 54 Pucker-inducing
- 55 Denies
- 56 Parks with games

DOWN

- 1 Digital image format
- 2 Jazz virtuoso
- 3 Street in Manhattan's Alphabet City
- 4 Salad bar item
- 5 ___ 500
- 6 His, to Henri
- 7 Reunion discovery
- 8 Bypass
- 9 Last team to play in the Polo Grounds
- 10 Sounds from the stumped
- 11 Base fig.
- 12 Bulgur salad
- 13 Spruce (up)
- 16 Swedish tennis great
- 23 Like some patches
- 24 Harder to explain
- 25 Precede
- 26 Inc. kin
- 28 Blackened from combustion
- 29 Exfoliation material



2/22/18

Monday's Puzzle Solved

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

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31 NFL Titan, once	41 "Burnt" crayon color
33 Pasta pellets in Jewish cuisine	42 Prose pieces
34 Thoughtful guy?	44 More than a little foolish
35 Breakfast bar	47 BCS org.
36 Sought anonymity	48 It's often tapped out
37 "Just play along, okay?"	50 North Sea feeder
38 Exploit	51 They, in Tours
	52 Radical '70s org.

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group



2/22/18

Level:

1 2
3 4

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

SOLUTION TO MONDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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CADENZA

A normal day of classes, as told by my Spotify playlist

Getting through classes in this weather during midterm season can be nearly impossible. Luckily, I have the solution: an ultimate playlist to get you through the day. Whether it's on iTunes, Spotify or Apple Music, mixing together songs of every tempo and genre keep you going. These are my go-to jams to survive the next two weeks. Music taste is a personal preference different for everyone, but listen to these songs or create your own playlist with all your favorites. — Leah Hardgrove, Staff Writer



8 a.m.: 'American Beauty/American Psycho'

If you struggle waking up in the morning, try setting the loudest, most obnoxious song on your phone as your alarm. For me, this song is the titular track off Fall Out Boy's most recent album, "American Beauty/American Psycho." Patrick Stump's wailing cuts through the calm silence of my bedroom, jolting me awake. I hit snooze and receive five more blissful minutes of sleepy serenity before Stump's wretched voice screeches me conscious again, and this time for good.



1 p.m.: 'Umbrella'

Because it's St. Louis, it's now raining harder than it was this morning. A simple rain jacket won't suffice. Surrounding Mudd Field is a sea of different colored umbrellas. Unfortunately, if you're like me and can't plan ahead, the closest thing to an actual umbrella you have is Rihanna's peppy "Umbrella," which doesn't keep you very dry. It's okay; a little water never hurt anybody.



9 a.m.: 'Here Comes the Sun'

The walk from the South 40 to Danforth Campus is always dreary, but this constant overcast sky and drizzling rain makes it 10 times worse. Paired with midterm season, the days look pretty bleak. However, the classic Beatles song "Here Comes the Sun" is the perfect pick-me-up. Let the calming rhythm flow through your body, and soon you'll feel yourself smiling despite all the gloominess.



2 p.m.: 'What Do I Know?'

Scrolling through Facebook, it's natural to get frustrated with all the negativity in the world, from politics to school shootings. It's important, then, to honor the message of Ed Sheeran's "What Do I Know?," with its inspirational chorus "Love can change the world in a moment/ But what do I know?" Any bit of love or positivity can change someone else's world instantly. If, like me, you're discouraged by the overwhelming negativity in the media, let yourself be serenaded by Sheeran; be reassured that every smile you throw and every compliment you give is sometimes enough of a positive change for the world.



10 a.m.: 'Get'cha Head in the Game'

It's the first lecture of the day, and it's time to get focused. In times like these, I call upon the most inspirational person I know: Troy Bolton. "Get'cha Head in the Game" is a total bop, and if a fictional basketball player singing about his conflicting love of musicals doesn't motivate you, nothing will.



3 p.m.: 'Oxford Comma'

Sitting in Olin, rereading and editing papers can be incredibly mind-numbing; eventually, words don't even look like words, just meaningless blobs. As I stare at my computer wondering if I've used too many semicolons, Vampire Weekend's "Oxford Comma" drifts into my mind. Punctuation is so weird. Half the time we use the oxford comma, and the other half it's strictly forbidden. Who even thought of the comma in the first place? My mind begins to wander, and soon I've wasted my entire half hour break contemplating the value of punctuation in society. If you're sick of editing papers, I highly suggest listening to this song as emotional support.



11 a.m.: 'Hit Me With Your Best Shot'

As I walk into my next class, I'm greeted with a freshly printed quiz laying on my desk. Quizzes are my enemy. General Chemistry quizzes, Latin quizzes, Management quizzes—they're all terrible. However, this time, I've actually studied. I'm still not entirely prepared, but I'm more prepared than usual. I lock eyes with my professor, and Pat Benatar's "Hit Me With Your Best Shot" fills my mind. I got this.



4 p.m.: 'Livin' on a Prayer'

Classes for today are officially over. As I walk back to my dorm ready to relax, I mentally run through everything I have to get done tonight. Even though classes are finished, I still have at least six more hours' worth of work to get done. Track practice, laundry, readings and problem sets seem endless, and all I want to do is take a yearlong nap. Bon Jovi's "Livin' on a Prayer" has never been more relatable. I'm only halfway done with my day and am definitely relying on the power of prayer.



12 p.m.: 'Shake It Off'

Unfortunately, I did not have that quiz; maybe I should've studied for more than an hour. If you're leaving a quiz or exam completely wrecked, put on Taylor Swift's "Shake it Off." Even if you hate her, it's catchy, goofy and upbeat. You can't change what happened in the past; what's done is done. You'll just have to work harder and do better next time!

'Whole Lotta Love' (and hate): The Zeppelin conundrum

TYLER SABLOFF
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

I love Led Zeppelin. I have every album of theirs saved on my Spotify, several of which I also own on vinyl. I have a huge poster of the band hung up on my dorm wall. I listen to their live album "How the West was Won" literally every single day. I've spent hours upon hours trying to learn the chords to "The Rain Song" on guitar. The solo in "Stairway to Heaven" makes me tear up every time I hear it, even after about a million listens. I could gush on an on forever about their music.

Put simply, Led Zeppelin is awesome.

Objectively, their music is among the greatest assortment of raucous hard rock in music history. Subjectively, however, the music of Led Zeppelin is victimized by four blatantly misogynistic members whose behavior much of the time was atrocious, if not illegal.

Lyricaly, Zeppelin were an arm and leg, and probably several other limbs, short of any of their musical peers. At their

best, their lyrics were a mess of Norse mythology and Tolkien references run amuck, bordering on the pretentious and nonsensical; at their worst, the lyrics were horribly misogynistic or blatantly stolen from their blues idols.

In "Living, Loving, Maid (She's Just a Woman)," Robert Plant so eloquently howls, "Alimony, Alimony, Payin' all your bills/ Livin', Lovin', She's just a woman." Wimin, am I right, guys? It's like if the Rolling Stones never got off their "Under My Thumb" kick. For a happily married man, it is dumfounding as to why so many of Percy's lyrical bursts rely so heavily on blase woman hating. Much of this is attributed to being victims of their time, however their inability to see beyond that is so antithetical to the forward thinking quality of their musicianship.

Let's not forget the copious amount of time they outright stole lyrics without giving songwriting credits. "The Lemon Song" is almost a direct rip-off of Howlin' Wolf's "Killing

Floor", and their biggest hit, "Whole Lotta Love," was pulled right from Willie Dixon's "You Need Love." Both songs, as well as many others, ended up landing Zep in court over stolen writer's credits.

Beyond their musical shortcomings, the members of Led Zeppelin were, putting it bluntly, just horrible people. They had an inclination towards the Keith Moon-inspired fad of trashing hotel rooms. Ah yes, a bunch of rich a----- check into a hotel, destroy it and leave trash for some cleaning person

making minimum wage to clean up.

John Bonham, almost universally-acclaimed as the greatest drummer to ever hold two sticks, was somewhere between the cross of a surly pirate and a Neanderthal. He was a violent drunk who enjoyed passing the time by defecating in the purses of groupies and getting into fist fights.

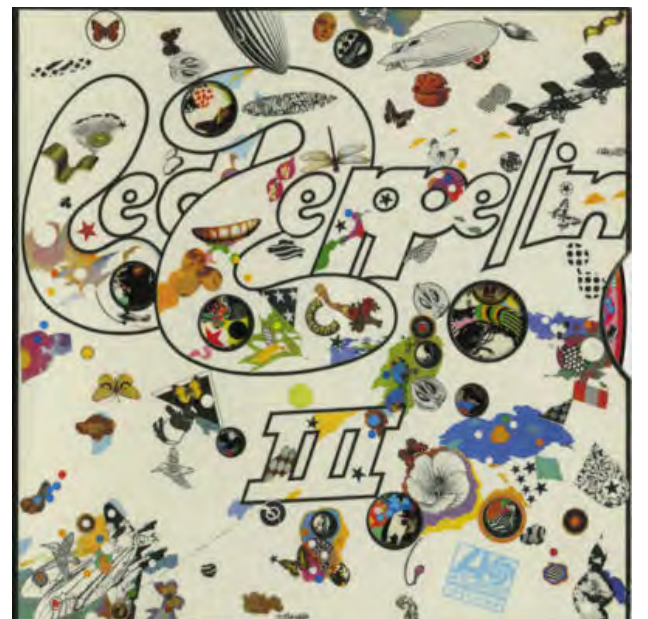
As with most '70s rockers, Zep fancied themselves a groupie or two, and for Jimmy Page, the younger the better. In the early '70s, Page began a "romance"

with then 14-year-old "baby groupie" Lori Maddox. By "romance," I mean he became obsessed with her after seeing her in a modeling catalog, instructed his road manager to arrange a meeting with her, kidnapped her and kept her under lock and key for two years as, what some believe, a sex slave. Yet somehow, Page has never been truly labeled what he is: a pedophile.

Led Zeppelin, to me, are the greatest band ever, but at the same time I can't stand who they were. Their

actions and mentality are unjustifiable, yet at the same time their musicianship is undeniable. Robert Plant is, in my opinion, the greatest singer in all of popular music, and Jimmy Page is responsible not only of the greatest single body of guitar riffs, but also the greatest solo in "Stairway to Heaven."

So the question is, can you separate one from the other? Or do you have to look at them as a whole? I really don't know what the answer is. I love Led Zeppelin, but I also hate that I love them.



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FORUM

STAFF EDITORIAL

We're not suspended, you're suspended

This staff editorial is not about guns. Because, honestly, we shouldn't even need to tell anyone not to bring a gun onto campus. Let alone two. Let alone an AR-15.

This staff editorial is about the other events that led up to this point. You might be asking, what are those other events? And we wish we could tell you.

Washington University administration has specifically stated that the fraternity's current status as "permanently

suspended" arose "overwhelmingly on other violations." This might raise another question: which ones?

Was it the hazing that occurred last spring? Or the near-weekly party buses? Or the unregistered parties held in the fraternity house? Multiple sources confirmed to Student Life that they reported the fraternity for violating their previous status as temporarily suspended, but the last we heard, this was still pending investigation. And now the fraternity has been

permanently suspended. Without acknowledging the specific acts committed on the fraternity's behalf, how will others know what the supposed precedent is?

To those both in and out of Greek life, the hierarchy of punishment severity and the violations it takes to get there are at the least murky and at the most indecipherable. If minor offenses earn someone social probation for a weekend, and hazing—which is illegal in Missouri—equals temporary suspension, what exactly does being

permanently banned from campus add up to?

While the University seems to have acted swiftly once alerted to the most recent crisis, there are others that did not. Every person that saw the photo of the gun and did nothing, every person—both members of Phi Delt and otherwise—who knew the gun existed and did nothing, are complicit. Regardless of the legality of the weapons themselves, their presence on campus is a blatant abuse of school policy and represents an

implicit threat to all students, staff members and faculty.

Again, in case it wasn't clear or obvious before, the use of or storing of guns on campus, no matter the supposed justification or reassurances given, is against the rules. Period. Don't do it. Ever. Please, for the safety and security and stability of your peers.

Being direct and explicit about the sequence of events demonstrates that actions have consequences, and which actions garner certain types of

consequences. Changing the culture and showing a willingness to react by making tangible adjustments has the potential to show people that it means something to come forward.

To those that reported, thank you. To those taking to social media to call for an end to the toxic behaviors of members of our community, thank you. We believe this event can act as a catalyst to open the conversation about what fraternity life at Wash. U. really means.

On the Florida shooting: A call to action

TYLER SABLOFF
STAFF WRITER

On Jan. 25, I wrote an article about the infuriating futility of the reactions and debate over gun control in the wake of the Kentucky school shooting. However, I feel inclined after the Florida shooting to addendum my original statement because one key factor changed. More people than ever are getting to hear directly from the victims of the shooting and their message is clear and direct: We don't need sympathy, we need action now. Before they even knew

the intricacies of what happened, students were on air calling for action on gun control. The students have already trekked down to Tallahassee, Fla. to protest outside the state capital, and they planned a "March for Our Lives," scheduled for March 24 in Washington, D.C. During a school walkout, students Emma Gonzalez and David Hogg proclaimed, "We are going to be the last mass shooting."

The response of these students is a crucial distinction from previous mass shootings, effectively eliminating the "Now is not the time for any sort of policy related

discussion. We need time to mourn blah blah blah..." sentiment often believed to be true. These students don't want anyone's empty sympathy or pity; they want meaningful change so that no one has to worry whether or not they will still be alive at the end of the school day. No longer will the right be able to scapegoat the victims through thoughts and prayers. It's pretty hard to justify saying, "Now isn't the time to talk politics for the sake of the victims," when the victims are the ones who want to talk politics.

Of course, this uncommon outspokenness by the victims hasn't been without

backlash from the supposed "pro-life" right. Criticism has ranged from simple infantilizing of the students all the way to downright conspiracy theories. Former Republican Rep. Jack Kingston said in a CNN interview, "Sorrow can very easily be hijacked by left-wing groups...Do we really think 17-year-olds on their own are going to plan a nationwide rally?" Of course! No 17-year-old could possibly form their own opinions. They must be pawns of the Soros-controlled liberal media deep state in an attempt to destroy Americans' right to own military-grade

weaponry. Seems plausible. And they would have gotten away with it if it weren't for you meddling Republicans!

I find it very ironic for the members of the Woodstock generation to be calling out young adults for voicing their political opinions. The notion that they're "too young to know what they're talking about" is especially infuriating. Why is there this assumption that young people can't possibly or aren't allowed to have opinions on political matters because of their age? Isn't it possible that seeing your friend be indiscriminately gunned down in front of you in the lunchroom would

make you want to get rid of the thing that killed them? Stop telling young people their voices don't matter.

I see this as the beginning of a trend in the narrative around mass shootings. No longer will the victims and survivors be told to go home and mourn and be helplessly kept out of the conversation. They will now be at the forefront challenging the establishment to do something to protect their lives and the lives of others from mindless gun violence. Hold your thoughts and prayers, they don't want them. Instead, join them at the March for Our Lives this March.

Wash. U. doesn't care about minority faculty

MATTHEW WALLACE
STAFF WRITER

Guess what? It's still Black History Month, and I'm still writing. In addition to its subpar relationship with its minority students, Washington University has issues with its minority faculty—the main argument being that they represent only 10 percent of the tenured or tenure-track faculty on the Danforth Campus and six percent of the School of Medicine's full-time faculty. Unlike students, faculty have traversed the difficulties of undergrad and graduate school as underrepresented minorities, achieved the highest degree in their field and actually wish to pursue a career in academia instead of taking their immense talents and skills and pursuing a potentially more lucrative option. Like many universities, Wash. U.'s administration gives weak, invalid excuses when asked about the absence of a reasonable number of minority faculty, which is perfectly in line with what I think are their true feelings and motivations about

diversity as it relates to the future of this university.

"The reason we don't have more faculty of color among college faculty is that we don't want them. We simply don't want them."

This is a quote from Marybeth Gasman, University of Pennsylvania professor and director of the Penn Center for Minority Serving Institutions. Her bluntness can be attributed to the fact that she is tenured, so she can say whatever she wants without fear of losing her job (like a certain physics professor here, but to a different effect). She lists five primary reasons university administrations give for not having more minority faculty and how they are excuses. If you have asked any administrative official at Wash. U. a question about faculty diversity, you would undoubtedly come across these same reasons. Reasons like the "quality" of institution isn't high enough, or there aren't enough in the "pipeline," they aren't the right "fit," or—my personal favorite—"we don't know how to attract faculty of color."

No s---, Sherlock.

These excuses reek of what Wash. U. is known for: elitism, reactionary decision making, avoiding responsibility and a fear of giving a non-white, non-male any position of decision-making power. Wash. U. is so afraid of change that the chancellor, current provost and previous provost are all white male chemists. Of the three other executive vice chancellors, all old white males, the one with the least amount of time at Wash. U. has been here for 10 years, and one has been with the University since the 1960s. I thought college was supposed to be about getting outside of your comfort zone and expanding your worldview—but apparently, that doesn't apply once you get a big enough title.

The number of underrepresented minority faculty has not significantly changed in the last 10 years. In 2007, 3.5 percent of the faculty in the Danforth Campus identified as an underrepresented minority, compared to 6 percent in 2017. That may seem impressive, until you find out where that change happened. More than half of these new hires went

to the College of Arts & Sciences, while the Brown School was the only other school the Danforth Campus to have more than 10 total minority faculty. The School of Engineering is especially bad, as there are only two departments where you are guaranteed to have a minority professor at least once in your four years, and as of now, that stands at one class. Think of it this way: It would take a combined 20 years to get a degree in each engineering department, and you would only have two classes taught by a minority professor.

This glacial pace is nothing new. Brown v. Board of Education is what the average American thinks was the turning point in ending school segregation, but it specified they do it "with all deliberate speed," code for "take as long as you want." And we all know racists in 1954 (some of whom are still alive today) were just waiting to open up their arms to the melanin-abundant population. Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 finally forced schools to integrate or face real punishment. Wash. U. taking its sweet

time in making a diverse educational environment is nothing new, but it is racist.

Yes, I am calling the University racist, but I am not calling any individual racist. I am calling the institution and its actions as a whole racist. There is a difference between institutional and individual racism, and the higher education system in America is as racist as you can get.

You know what else attracts minority faculty? A student population to which they can relate. No matter how many degrees they have or awards they win, professors are still human. They feel the isolation and pressure to be the representative of their community just like students at Wash. U., so why should they be ignored? Having taught for a year in Chicago, I have personally seen how much more interested and hungry for learning students are when their teacher looks like them. It brings a sense of calm and demonstrates that there are avenues to success for people of color that do not involve a ball or a microphone. From the teaching perspective, you feel more engaged and motivated because you see

yourself in your students, and you want to do all you can to help them thrive in a system constantly fighting against their success. And the Wash. U. community is in critical need of student diversity in order to attract more faculty diversity.

Why am I writing about faculty? Is it because 96 percent of black tenured faculty are at three percent of universities? Or is it the fact that I am tired of having to actively search for professors to prove to myself that the school I call home actually values people of color beyond keeping its name out of the national media? Or maybe, I've kept my own promise to speak out against injustices I see in the world, just like so many others did Nov. 9, 2016.

No matter what you may think about it, Wash. U. lags behind other elite institutions in student and faculty diversity. Having more varied backgrounds contributing to the growth of a university is only beneficial. For the longest time, I did not know why Wash. U. wasn't on par with everyone else. Now, I know it is because it just don't care.

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