THE JOURNAL

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Delivery driver robbed at WVA

BY ANDY DIERKER
adierker@webujournal.com

A pizza delivery driver was robbed at gunpoint Oct. 26 after making a delivery to the Webster Village Apartments.

The 26-year-old driver, Nick Caito, has worked for the Crestwood Pizza Hut since 2003. Caito said he made a delivery to the apartments at 10:20 p.m. and was approached by two men as he walked back to his car. He said at first, he thought they were students.

"I had passed no less than six students heading to and from the delivery," Caito said. "One (of the men) passed me to my left and got behind me. The other stopped in front of me and pulled out a gun — he kept it pressed close to him so that none of the students walking around could see it."

Caito said the man with the gun demanded his money while the man behind him pulled valuables from his pockets. The suspects took the money from his wallet, the money he had gotten from that night's deliveries and his cell phone.

"They told me to run back to my car or they'd shoot me," Caito said.

Tracy Winka, manager of Public Safety for Webster, said Public Safety's role was limited because the Webster Groves Police were contacted first.

"When (the call) comes from someone outside the university, we sometimes won't even know about it," Winka said. "We'll assist the police as much as we can, but when they come on our campus, the crime scene is turned over to them."

Caito said the police believe he was targeted because of the "car toppers" delivery drivers often have on their vehicles. The suspects probably saw his car with the topper and followed him to his delivery to rob him.

Because of this, Winka said it's unlikely that Webster is in any imminent danger of another robbery.

"It doesn't appear it was targeted here," Winka said. "And we haven't had any other incidents, but of course I could say that and then another incident happens tomorrow."

Winka said the best advice would be for students to be extra careful when walking to or from their cars on campus.

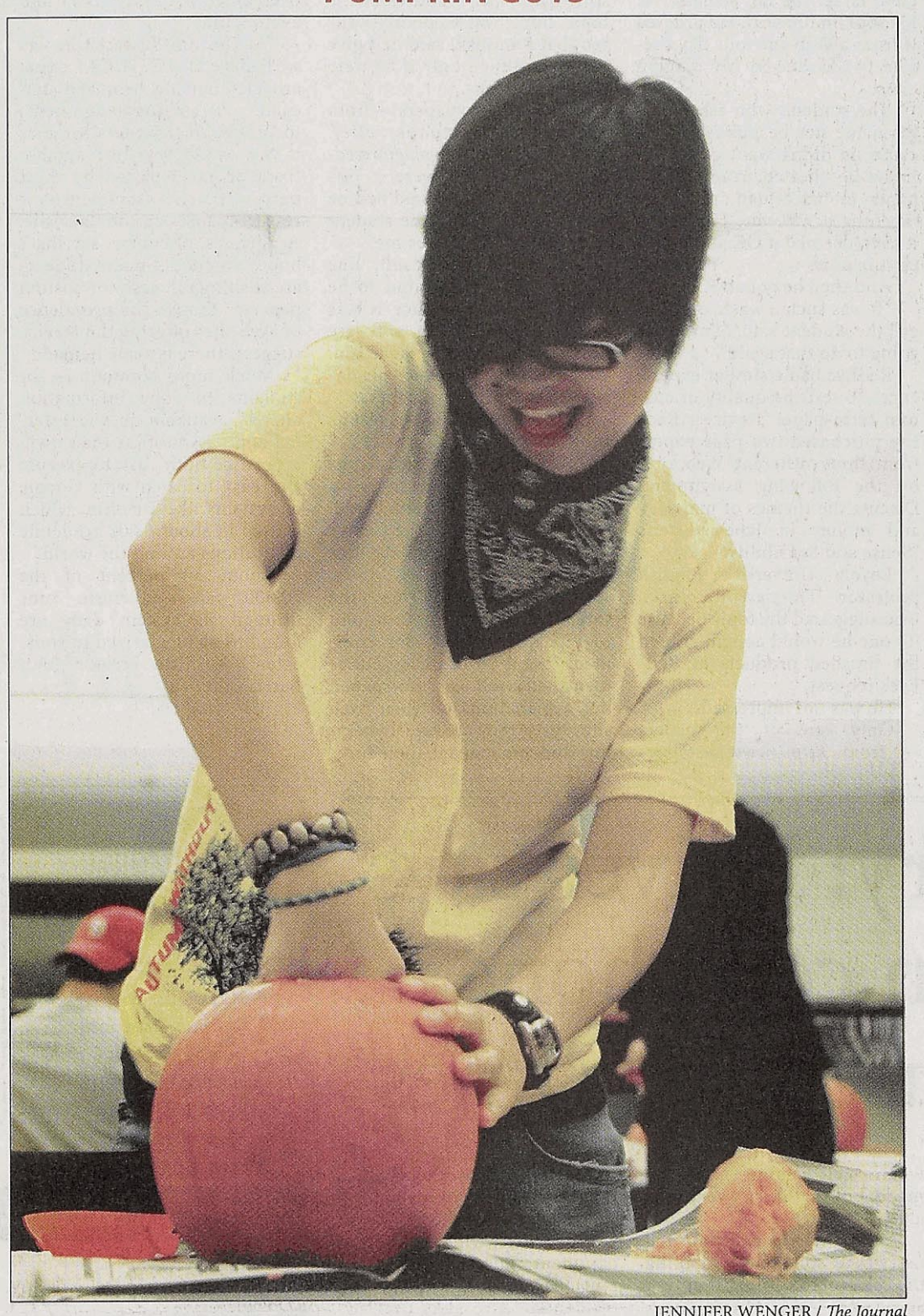
Caito said being robbed made him feel sick, but was also troubled by the way he felt the Webster Groves Police handled the event.

"The cops have known about these people robbing pizza delivery drivers for the past couple of weeks," Caito said. "None have warned any of the delivery drivers about the thieves though. We have police officers come in all the time for free food, and I don't recall being told by any of them that they know about a group of men holding up delivery drivers."

According to a report released by Lt. Stephen Spear of the Webster Groves Police, there was another robbery Oct. 10 involving a delivery driver on the 8100 block of Big Bend Blvd. Spear said his department had recently contacted local restaurants to let them know about the robberies, something it does as a courtesy in cases in which they believe there is a possibility of more crimes.

See ROBBERY, Page 2

PUMPKIN GUTS



JENNIFER WENGER / *The Journal*

Freshman Audio Production major Elise Chi uses her hands to dig out the pumpkin entrails during the Pumpkin Carving event Oct. 25 in the University Center Sunnen Lounge, sponsored by Campus Activities. Pumpkin carving and extreme candy-apple making were part of SHOCKtoberfest, a weeklong Halloween celebration. The events concluded Oct. 31 with a monster mash tailgate and trunk-or-treat and a Calabaza party in the UC Sunnen Lounge and UC Commons. For more coverage, visit http://www.webujournal.com.

WU panel discusses midterm elections

BY ANNA C. FORDER
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A panel discussion was held Oct. 26 in the University Center Sunnen Lounge to address issues surrounding the upcoming midterm elections. The panelists addressed various elements facing candidates and voters this November, and they discussed whether the Democrats will make gains or the Republicans will hold control. The speakers, all Webster professors, included former Gov. Bob Holden, Laura Arnold, Jim Brasfield and Gwyneth Williams.

Williams, a professor of history, politics and international relations, addressed trends in voting behavior. She said there is a generalization in politics that a current president's party will lose Congressional seats in midterm elections. She said this is a commonly-held assumption because many elected officials are voted into office on the president's coattails.

Williams said people who are disgruntled with the president's administration tend to come out for a midterm election and vote in favor of the opposition party in an attempt to punish the president through punishing his party. She cited the midterm elections during the Eisenhower and Nixon administrations as examples of this behavior.

She said an exception to this voting pattern was the 1998 midterm election during the Clinton administration, during which the House was impeaching Clinton. She said voters who did not support the impeachment came out in favor of Democrats that year, and the Democrats made gains.

Williams also addressed the voting gap between various demographics, including race, religion and income. The number of people in each demographic that voted for a certain party, candidate or issue is determined, and the difference between the way people voted within a demographic is the voting gap.

She said the income gap decreased in the 2004 elections because concerns about the war overrode concerns about income. She said typically there is a large voting gap in gender, but that gap also was smaller in the 2004 elections. She attributed this to more Southern women voting similarly to men.

Arnold, a professor of history, politics and international relations, addressed women candidates. She said a major dif-

See PANEL, Page 3

Luebbert resigns as MOHELA chairwoman

WHAT IS MOHELA?

The Missouri Higher Education Loan Authority makes loans and buys others from lenders, like banks, then provides them with reduced interest payment rates and other incentives that can save students thousands of dollars. MOHELA's benefits have received positive recognition from *NBC News, the Wall Street Journal, US News and World Report* and *Business Week*.

According to the MOHELA Web site, the organization has approximately $3.8 billion in assets, and purchases more than $900 million in loans each year. However, fewer than 5 percent of Webster students go through MOHELA, according to Jon Gruett, Webster's director of financial aid.

BY JAMES CHILTON
jchilton@webujournal.com

The chairwoman of the Missouri Higher Education Loan Authority has resigned the position following her earlier vote against approving the sale of $350 million of the loan authority's assets for construction projects at public universities.

Karen Luebbert, vice president and executive assistant to the president at Webster University, sent an official statement announcing her resignation from MOHELA to Gov. Matt Blunt's office Oct. 23.

"MOHELA needs a united board as it moves forward in implementing the Lewis and Clark Discovery Initiative," Luebbert's statement read. "I cannot support the selling of assets and therefore, believe it is in the best interest of MOHELA that I resign effective immediately."

The Lewis and Clark Discovery Initiative, announced by Gov. Blunt Jan. 26, proposes the use of MOHELA's money to fund capital improvement projects, including the construction and renovation of buildings at public universities in Missouri. Luebbert was one of two dissenting votes in the Sept. 27 decision that authorized the sale.

Luebbert was off campus the following days, directing any further questions to Polly Burtch, Webster's director of news and public information. University President Richard Meyers offered no comment on Luebbert's resignation, but he had praised her

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OUTSIDE

THURSDAY
Mostly Sunny
49/30

FRIDAY
Mostly Sunny
52/38

SATURDAY
Partly Cloudy
56/43

Election party to feature Missouri politicians

BY BREANNA HERSCHELMAN
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Former Gov. Bob Holden will host an election party promising appearances by Missouri State Attorney General Jay Nixon and Congressman Russ Carnahan. The party will take place Nov. 7 in the University Center Sunnen Lounge from 6 to 11 p.m. Anyone is welcome to attend.

Christine Wells Eason, Webster media relations director, said both politicians are scheduled to make appearances at the party. Wells Eason said other politicians and campaign leaders would make call-ins throughout the night.

Holden has a special public relations class dedicated to helping him with his Public Policy Forum and the election party. The class contains eight students who each have their own role in planning the party.

Junior Rebecca Sweat, a public relations major, said the class has been challenging so far with preparing for the forums and the party. Sweat said the party would include snacks, games and multiple television screens to watch the coverage.

Sweat's main task for the semester was to write an article about Holden for *Webster World* magazine. For the article, Sweat traveled to Jefferson City twice to interview Holden's family and friends.

Senior Abby Heft, a public relations major, said while there were no more forums scheduled for this semester, the election party would give the students practice with special events planning.

"I really enjoy the experience, even if it's not a forum, of working with Gov. Holden," Heft said.

Heft said the class was hoping for 50 to 100 people to attend the election party throughout the night.

Holden has a topic for his forums each year. This year's topic was Healthy Futures and featured speakers who work with health care issues.

On May 10, 2006, Webster hosted its first speaker of the forum, Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee. The second forum was held May 31 and featured *New York Times* columnist Paul Krugman.

Heft said two forums were scheduled this semester, both in September. The first, scheduled for Sept. 18, was to feature Webster graduate Brig. Gen. Sheila Baxter. The forum was postponed and has yet to be rescheduled.

The Old Post Office campus held the first actual forum of the semester Sept. 21 featuring medical activist Charles Inlander.

The forum topic for the 2006-2007 school year is America's Future and will deal with presidential hopefuls, Wells Eason said. Seven influential politicians have verbally confirmed they will hold a forum.

The seven include: New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson, House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, Massachusetts Sen. John Kerry, Delaware Sen. Joe Biden, Iowa Gov. Tom Vilsack, Missouri Representative Ike Skelton and Missouri Representative Roy Blunt.

In the spring in addition to the public relations class, Holden also is offering two reading courses for upper-level management majors in communications research and analysis. In the political science department, Holden will be teaching a course on political communication research. Holden also will teach two courses in speech communications on communications analysis.



MARIANO ULIBARRI / *The Journal*

Former Missouri Gov. Bob Holden started the Holden Public Policy Forum in early 2006. Holden's class is responsible for an election-night party Nov. 7 that will bring state and local politicians to campus.

Cheating the cheaters

Web sites promising cheap term papers are often more trouble than they're worth

BY ALEXIA ELEJALDE-RUIZ
Chicago Tribune

For students too bored, too busy or too burdened to write their own term papers, it's tempting to turn to the Web for a little help.

As teachers wise up to the popular cut-and-paste method of Internet plagiarizing and the use of myriad online essay banks, some students determined to outsource their papers are taking a more unusual route: paying for custom jobs.

For as little as $9.95 per page if you give advance notice, to as much as $44.95 per page for same-day delivery, dozens of Web sites offer to write your paper for you, guaranteeing original, unplagiarized essays they say are written by professionals with master's degrees or Ph.D.'s.

Buying custom papers is clearly cheating. But beyond the obvious ethical problems, can a custom-written paper even get you a good grade?

It didn't for a 19-year-old DePaul University junior who told RedEye, an edition of the Chicago Tribune, he paid $80 for a custom 12-page paper on ancient Israel the fall semester of his sophomore year. He ordered it from a Web site four days before it was due in his religion class.

The student, who asked that his name not be published because he didn't want people to know he cheated, received the paper in his e-mail inbox the morning it was due. He looked it over, deemed it OK and handed it in as is.

And then he got an F.

"It was such a waste of money," the student said. "I'm never going to do that again."

RedEye had a similar experience. To test the quality of custom term-paper services, RedEye purchased two-page papers from three different Web sites on the following assignment: Discuss the themes of marriage and money in Jane Austen's "Sense and Sensibility."

Loyola University English professor Thomas Kaminski, who suggested the topic because it's one he would assign, graded the finished products at RedEye's request.

He was not impressed.

Only one of the papers — from *http://www.customresearchpapers.us* — addressed the topic, but it was so poorly written that Kaminski said he'd give it a D, and then only if he were feeling generous.

The other two papers — from *http://www.termpaperrelief.com* and *http://non-plagiarized-termpapers.com* — were so off-topic that Kaminski said he'd be suspicious and give the student the dreaded "Come see me."

Adding to the insult, one of the papers was found to be largely plagiarized once it was run through Turnitin, software designed to catch plagiarism. Turnitin did not detect plagiarism in the other two papers.

Perhaps the poor results shouldn't come as a surprise.

"Would you trust the claims of firms that engage in fraud and deception?" said Tim Dodd, executive director of the Center for Academic Integrity at Duke University.

Representatives from the three Web sites did not respond to repeated requests for comment on the story once RedEye identified itself as a newspaper, but explanations on their Web sites insist they are merely helping students manage their time, overcome writer's block and avoid failing.

"At Custom Research Papers we believe IT'S ETHICAL to get an [sic] outside help and delegate your writing assignments to professional writers same as if you would get your watches fixed or car repaired by third party experts," says custom-researchpapers.us on its site. Academics, of course, say that's hooey and doubt many students are shelling out cash for custom papers _ though the prevalence of Web sites offering the service suggests there is some demand.

Much more common is for students to copy information already available on the Internet and pass it off as their own, a practice both easy to execute and easy to catch with Google or systems like Turnitin, which is used in about 6,000 academic institutions around the world.

About 30 percent of the 70,000 papers Turnitin runs through its system daily are found to be plagiarized to some extent, Turnitin creator John Barrie said.

NEWS BRIEFS

Career fair and workshops in November

Career Services will be holding a career fair from noon to 4 p.m. Nov. 14 in Grant Gymnasium.

Career Services also will hold workshops from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Nov. 8 and 9 in the University Center Conference Room to help students make the most out of the fair.

For more information, contact Career Services at ext. 6982 or visit *http://www.webster.edu* and click on Career Services.

MISDEMEANORS AND MISHAPS

Oct. 26, 10:28 a.m.: A student had been displaying a fraudulent parking permit on Lot N.

Oct. 27, 12:00 p.m.: A bicycle was taken from the bike rack at Maria Hall.

Oct. 28, 3:43 p.m.: A student was ill in Grant Gymnasium.

Oct. 30, 7:52 a.m.: A fan and calendar were taken from an office in Garden Park Plaza.

Source: Public Safety crime log

Robbery: Driver says stolen cell phone being used in crimes

FROM PAGE 1

But Caito said he is also worried about his stolen cell phone, which he believes is being used to commit more crimes.

"I'm able to track my phone usage online, sometimes even up to the minute," Caito said. "Ten minutes after they took my phone, they started calling other pizza places. They called a neighboring Pizza Hut in Maplewood, placed an order and then robbed the driver — my number was in the police report as the one used to place the order."

Spear said police departments can sometimes track where cell phone calls are made, but that it isn't very reliable.

"Sometimes it can only tell us (where someone is making the call from) within 10 miles," Spear said. "And if they're moving … who knows?"

But Caito said he had trouble just telling the cops that his cell phone was being used. He said when he called up to the police department the night of Oct. 27, they told him no one would be available to help him until Monday.

"During this time, (the other) Pizza Hut was robbed," Caito said, referring to the Maplewood store. "Crime certainly doesn't take the weekend off."

The Resident Assistant on call that night at the WVA was Larry Morris, who declined to comment. Lucas Davis, assistant director of housing and residential life, also declined comment.

"I support officers and what they do," Caito said. "I don't want to be too hard on them because I know their job is hard. I don't know what to think about them in this situation though — perhaps they are doing a great job tracking these guys, but I'm not noticing their hard work because I'm not seeing instant results."

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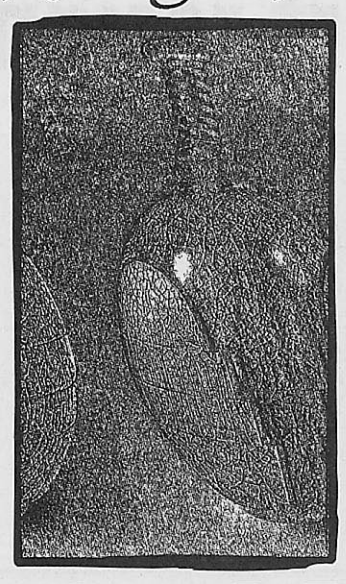

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Dean announces student awards for Fall I

Seven students are recognized for their community service or outstanding work in their department

Dean's Award for Service

Dean of Student Affairs Ted Hoef has selected four students to receive the Dean's Award for Service for Fall I. The award recipients are Dee Goines, Sara Gunn, Patrick Vacek and Kameron Zach.

According to Hoef, in order to be considered for the Dean's Award, one must be nominated by a member of the Webster University community for performing a valuable service. Hoef said the term "service" encompasses a broad range of contributions made by students, both on- and off-campus.

Dee Goines, a sophomore media communications major from St. Louis was nominated by John Ginsburg, director of the University Center and Student Activities, Kendra Davis, vice president of Student Government Association, and Jayme Callahan, head coach of the women's basketball team. He was nominated for his volunteer service and leadership on campus, including serving as president of SGA, women's basketball team manager, executive board member of RHA and member of many committees.

Sara Gunn, a sophomore business administration major from St. Louis was nominated by John Buck, associate dean of students. She was nominated for coordinating a Fall Break trip involving 25 Webster students volunteering their time and labor to Hurricane Katrina restoration efforts in New Orleans, in conjunction with Habitat for Humanity.

Patrick Vacek, a junior computer science major from Olathe, Kan. was nominated by Dee Goines, SGA president, and Kendra Davis, SGA vice president. He was nominated for his service to the campus for his work as comptroller for SGA.

Kameron Zach, a sophomore video production major from Ballwin, Mo. was nominated by Luke Davis, assistant director of housing and residential life. He was nominated for his service to the campus as treasurer of the Residential Housing Association (RHA).

Up to four students are recognized each term with the Dean's Service Award. The awards will be presented at a luncheon to be held in November.

Outstanding Student Employee

Suzanne Jones, assistant director of Career Services for student employment, has announced the selection of three students to receive the Outstanding Student Employee Award for Fall I. The award recipients are Marcy Lewis, Ashlee Dyer and Ryan Govreau.

In order to be considered for the Outstanding Student Employee Award, one must be nominated by a member of the Webster University community for working at a superior level to serve the department in which they work and the university as a whole.

Marcy Lewis, a senior finance major from St. Louis, was nominated by Holland Saltsman, managing director of the Webster Village Apartments. She was nominated for her outstanding work as a customer service associate in the WVA office.

Ashlee Dyer, a junior psychology major from St. Louis, was nominated by Tasha Eisele, department associate in the School of Education. She was nominated for her outstanding work as a student employee in the School of Education, especially for her work on projects for the upcoming NCATE accreditation.

Ryan Govreau, a junior interactive digital media major from Glen Carbon, Ill., was nominated by Lauriette Smith, coordinator of Mail and Copy Solutions. He was nominated for his outstanding work as a student employee working on color production in the copy center.

Up to three students are recognized each term with the Outstanding Student Employee Award. The awards also will be presented at a luncheon to be held in November.

The Journal classifieds

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Program seeks to improve writing at WU

BY SHAWN DOOLEY
sdooley@webujournal.com

A *Chronicle of Higher Education* report found the writing skills of high school graduates and college graduates lacking. The report described the writing skills of college graduates as adequate but not excellent.

The report is a part of a nationwide for colleges and universities. Webster University has initiated a pilot program called Writing Enhanced Courses, which would make existing courses across all majors writing enhanced.

"We want to improve students' writing skills," said Brad Loudenback, Writing Committee Chairman. "Writing skills in the workforce play a much bigger role, (in particular) e-mail, internet messaging, and others."

Loudenback said while the actual content of a course will not change, the assignments will become more writing comprehensive. For example, each WE course will include 20 pages of writing assignments. He said it can be four five-page papers — one of the written papers should be peer-reviewed and can be revised.

"I think there are more papers assigned," said Davina Harrison, an art history graduate student who is enrolled in one of four pilot WE courses this semester. "There is more of an understanding (emphasis) and less of an emphasis on memorizing dates and information."

There were two reasons the writing committee formed and why there is an initiative to combat the criticism of college writing skills, Loudenback said. There were a number of national articles critiquing college written communication skills and the increasing need for written communication skills in the business field.

"The faculty investigated the problem of undergraduate writing skills and the issued cried out for attention," Loudenback said.

The faculty was surveyed about their attitude toward student writing skills. The Writing Committee then formed through the Faculty Senate. The committee was formed to prepare concrete steps to improve writing skills.

The committee's recommendation included a requirement that freshmen students take two WE courses and transfer students take one WE course. The courses can be general study courses or any class that is writing enhanced. Loudenback said the writing would adapt to the course curriculum, making it more writing intensive.

"This movement doesn't just focus on the grammar," said Fran Hooker, Writing Center coordinator and Writing Committee member. "It will help students frame arguments, express oneself fully and increase critical thinking."

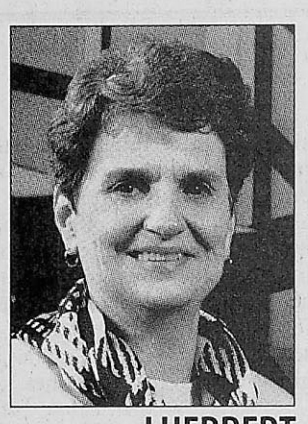
They committee recommended the hiring of a writing director to bring consultants from outside Webster to conduct workshops to help the faculty adapt their courses to be more writing enhanced. The recommendations were two-thirds approved by the Faculty Senate. The implementation of the recommendations is contingent upon financial resources to pay for the director and consultants. If resources are made available, the program could take effect January 2008.

"I think we have the support of the administration, but it just depends on the funding," Hooker said.

Loudenback said the implementation of the WE courses will be voluntary upon the faculty. He said it won't replace the writing and composition classes, but instead adapt to every course.

"The mission is broader than Webster University, this is a national trend," Loudenback said. "This is not to punish students; this is to help students be prepared for graduate school or the business field."

MOHELA: Last dissenting member to stay on board



LUEBBERT

FROM PAGE 1

Sept. 29, saying she was "taking a hard stand for students" and that he would have voted the same way.

The other dissenting vote came from John Greer, the longest-serving member of the board and its new interim chairman. Greer praised Luebbert for her 12 years on the board and sympathized with her decision to resign.

"Karen is a fine person and she's done her job well," Greer said. "She just had it up to her ears with the situation. I don't blame her."

He did not intend to follow her lead, however. Greer said he felt students need a spokesman on the board and he's the best candidate.

"They're forgetting the students who made MOHELA what it is," he said.

Greer's term expires Oct. 22, 2007.

Greer echoed Luebbert's stance on the Lewis and Clark Discovery Initiative, saying MOHELA assets should be used for students instead of "brick and mortar." With the sale of assets approved by the board, he said his hopes now rest with the Missouri state legislature.

"I would hope the legislature has the sense not to pass it," Greer said.

Luebbert's resignation is the board's third in only two months, following the resignations of board members Marilyn Bush and Charles McClain Sept. 18. Since Blunt announced the Lewis and Clark Discovery Initiative, Jan. 26 the entire original board has now resigned – Greer the lone exception.

Further underscoring the organizational malaise, the former director of MOHELA, Michael Cummins, is receiving an $830,000 severance package following his termination in January. Cummins had been against the governor's plans to sell the agency and is now under agreement to not speak out against MOHELA or consort with any of its members for the next decade.

The next step for MOHELA will be Nov. 4 when the board will elect a new chair. Greer made it clear it wouldn't be him.

"I wouldn't accept it if they wanted me," he said. "And they don't want me."

Panel: Brasfield says Senate race still too close to call

FROM PAGE 1

ference between men and women candidates is that, when considering whether to run for political office, women tend to question whether they can do the job well, but men tend to focus on whether they can win the election.

Women candidates are often perceived as more honest as well as being seen as agents of change in the electoral environment, she said.

"Another reason to argue that this will be a good year for women is that the electorate is dissatisfied with the status quo," she said, citing the president's approval rating.

Arnold said the Democratic Party nominates twice as many women as the Republican Party, and, therefore, if more voters are in favor of Democrats, women will probably win more seats. She said this is the first election in which women are not necessarily perceived as weaker than men on foreign policy issues, as they were in past elections

Brasfield, a professor in the management deparment, broke down the races for U.S. House and Senate.

"This is the closest and most dynamic Senate race in many years," Brasfield said.

The Democrats have 18 Senate seats up for election, and the Republicans have 15 seats up for election. He said eight of these Republican seats are probably safe, and the Democrats and Independents combined have 13 seats that are probably safe.

He said the Republican Party has an advantage, however, because fewer Senate seats held by Republicans are up for election. He said three Senate races, including Missouri, are too close to call, and the Democrats probably will not have enough votes to regain control of the Senate.

Regarding the House of Representatives, Brasfield said none of the Democrat's seats up for election are a "toss-up," but 27 seats held by Republicans have the possibility of being lost to Democrats.

Holden, a professor in the School of Business and Technology, explained why governors' races across the nation affect Missouri voters, even though Missouri's governor is not up for election this year. He said 36 of 50 governors' positions are up for grabs.

"Whoever has control of these elections, has a majority of the country's governors going into the 2008 election," Holden said. He said this is significant because few Senators become president, but many governors do.

"A number of significant states that have elections this cycle also control a significant number of electoral votes for 2008," Holden said.

Holden also said less well-known races, such as state auditor, are a good indication of voting trends, because voter may vote along party lines in these races.

Ryan Alban, a freshman audio production major who attended the panel, encouraged all Webster students to vote.

"Most elections will be a toss-up because of how unpopular Republicans are," Alban said. "Every vote will count in this election."

Andrew Bryson, a junior political science major, said it is important for students to make an informed and rational decision.

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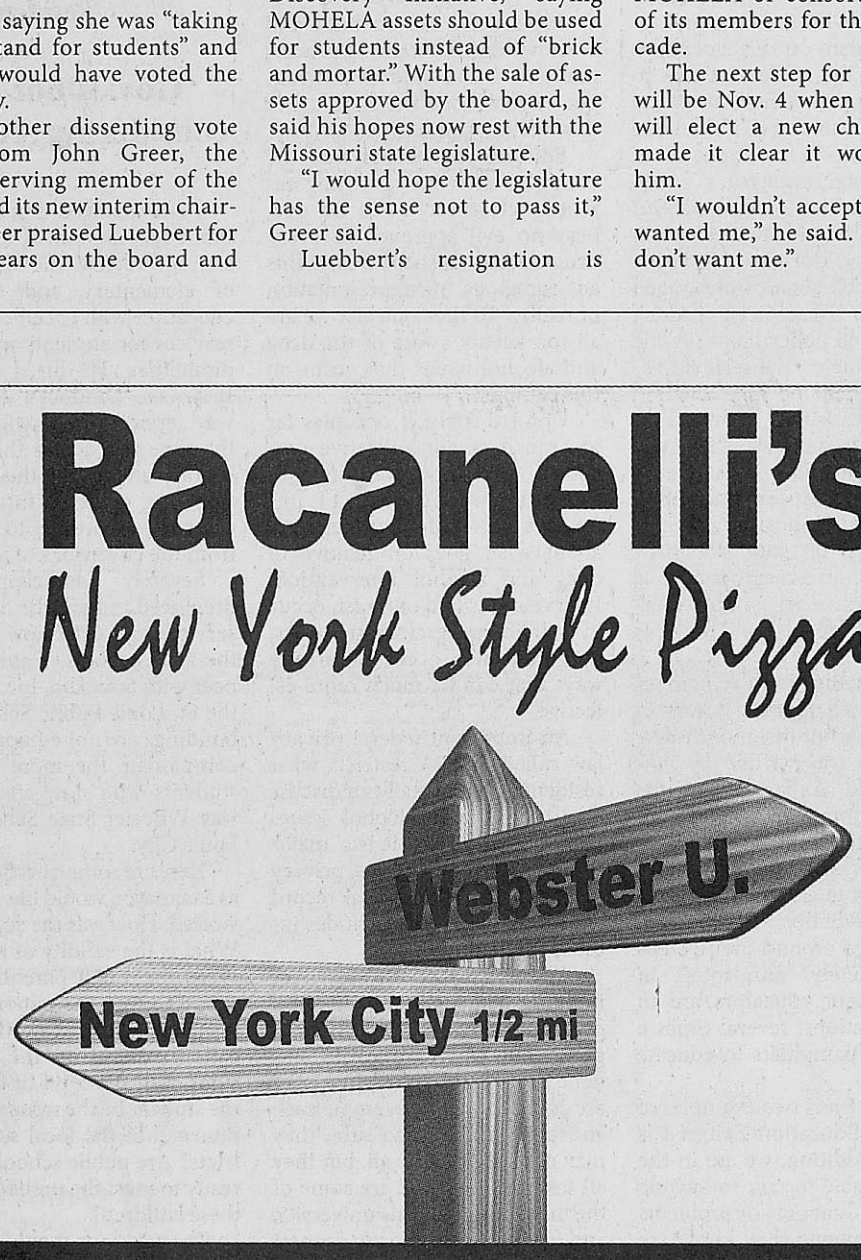

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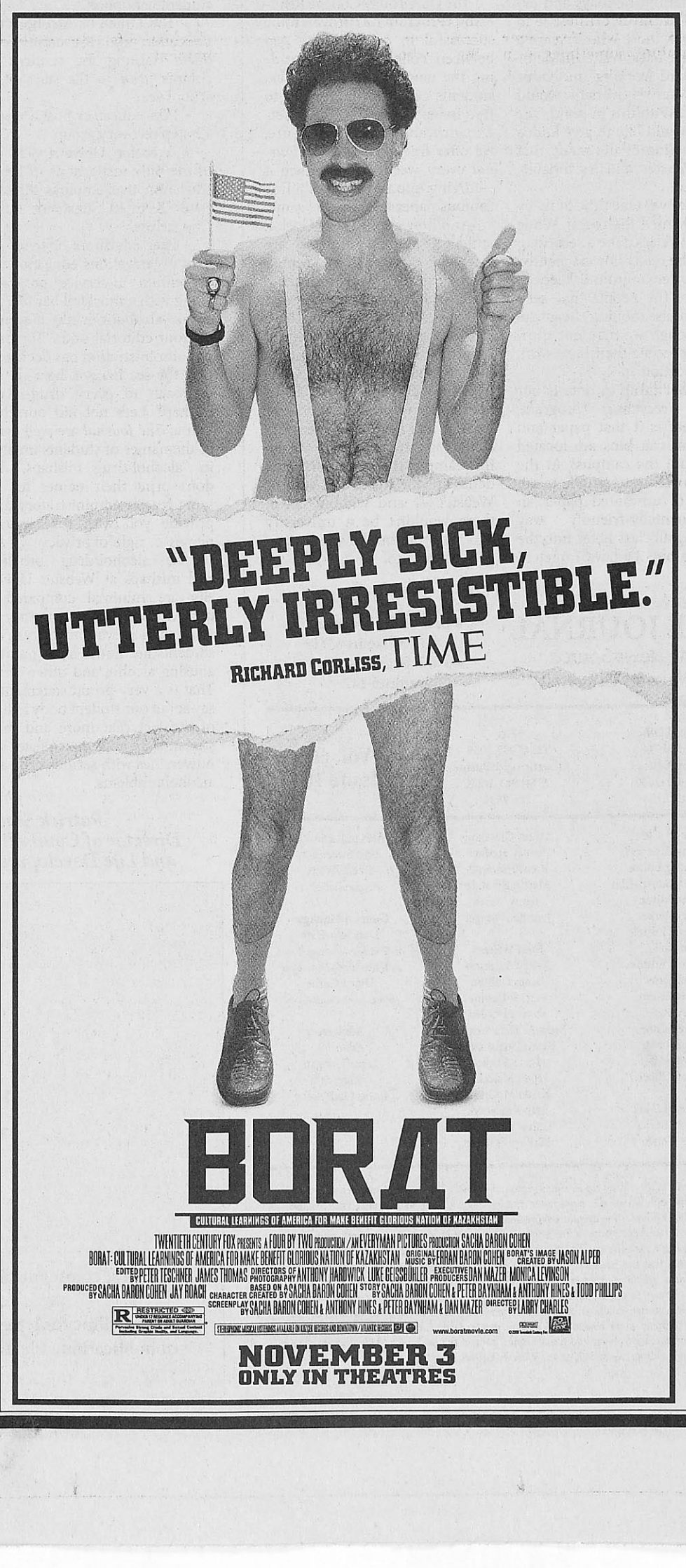

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RICHARD CORLISS, TIME

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Opinions

EDITORIALS

You're paying for it, might as well take advantage

There are plenty of services offered at Webster that few students, undergraduate or graduate, choose to take advantage of. Whether it's for lack of knowledge or lack of time — students should realize that tuition funds a lot of things on campus that students don't utilize. Whether it's making free copies in the Sverdrup drop-in computer labs or getting someone from the Writing Center to proof a research paper, students should be getting their money's worth.

Health Services offers medical supplies and consultation from nurses to all students. Most services are free. Students can get referrals for doctors and dentists in the area, receive emergency and non-emergency care as well as tuberculosis tests and some shots. So there's no need to walk around campus all day with a sore throat and congestion without relief. Just take a moment to pop into the Health Services office for some medicine and maybe a few cough drops.

Some students may not realize that movies can be rented for free from the Emerson Library. The selection may not be as up-to-date as the local Family Video or Blockbuster, but there is a pretty good array of classics, international films and somewhat new releases. The library also carries a decent selection of CDs. All you need is an updated student ID.

Webster hosts an award-winning film festival right on campus, and most of the patrons aren't students. Almost every weekend, the Webster University Film Series hosts one or more films in the Winifred Moore Auditorium. Students can get in all shows free with a valid ID.

The St. Louis Repertory Theatre offers its shows every season right on the stage of the Loretto-Hilton Theater. Tickets can sometimes be pricey for the average student budget, but students with valid IDs can get $8 show by visiting the box office 30 minutes before curtain call if the show has not sold out.

The University Center houses the fitness center and indoor pool and sauna, which are nearly empty at certain times of the weekday and on weekends. With a valid ID, students can work out whenever the fitness center is open and use the pool during open swim times.

However, if working out is not your stress reliever of choice, you can visit with a counselor in the Counseling and Life Development office free of charge. The department offers counseling sessions and even group sessions for students on a variety of subjects including stress management and substance abuse.

These aren't all of the services and opportunities open to students, but they may be some of the most overlooked. Remember, tuition doesn't just pay professors.

Finding time to stop and smell the roses, give kudos

Sometimes, in the midst of class, homework, papers, work, friends, family, holidays and everything in between — we tend to overlook those who deserve a pat on the back. Without dedicated, hard-working individuals, Webster University would fall apart. With this in mind, *The Journal* would like to give kudos to a sampling of the many that make Webster and its inhabitants proud.

Do we ever take time to really stop and smell the roses? While walking to class, take a second to admire the many flowers planted by Webster's groundskeepers. These are the people that keep our campus looking beautiful and although we may not show it, we appreciate their hard work and dedication.

Another thing to note is our campus recycling program. How great is it that paper and aluminum can bins are located throughout the campus? At the end of the semester, students can dispose of unwanted paper an environmentally-friendly way by tossing all class notes into the recycling bin. Did we forget to mention the paper-tossing also is a great stress reliever?

The USA Today College Readership Program has proven to be successful in bridging the gap between college students reading the newspaper. Every week, students can help themselves to free issues of the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* and *USA Today*. Sure, we offer free issues of *The Journal* every week, but let's face it — diving into the pages of a free campus paper just isn't the same.

And how about those Gorlok athletes? Student athletes are rarely recognized for keeping up their grades, while balancing work and hours of games and practices. Not to mention how well Webster athletic teams are doing in this year's Saint Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference. (See pages 9 and 10 in Sports for more details.)

And let's not forget the overachieving students who make this campus their own. The students are the heart and soul of Webster — and without them, there wouldn't be a university and we wouldn't have an audience to write to.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Webster offers drug/alcohol resources

I was very surprised and disappointed with the Oct. 26 editorial "Webster's drug policy effective after the fact." Not only are you wrong, but have you trivialized a very complex situation. In spite of our best efforts to assist students "before the fact," some students will continue to misuse and abuse alcohol and other drugs.

Let me make you aware of our best efforts before the fact:

- All participating freshmen and their parents attend a presentation about alcohol and drugs during summer mini orientation. University expectations and resources are explained.
- Peer Education Zeitgeist and the Counseling and Life Development staff visit each resident freshman during orientation weekend. We make students aware of the alcohol/drug policy found in the student handbook.
- The Office of Alcohol/Drug Education and Prevention conducts training for resident assistants prior to the start of the school year.
- Peer educators host a weekly 12-step recovery group.
- Webster University is one of the only institutions of higher education that employs Missouri state Certified Substance Abuse Counselors.
- Peer educators offer all student organizations education and prevention in-service programs, along with a mocktail bar (service of non-alcoholic drinks at events).

Your editorial said, "The campus administration has decided to play the see no evil, hear no evil approach to every drug-related mishap." Let's not kid ourselves. You at *The Journal* are well aware of the names of students involved in "alcohol/drug mishaps." You don't print their names for the same reason administrators don't provide you with the students' names … right of privacy.

The alcohol/drug problems and mishaps at Webster University are minimal compared to other schools. The reason they are minimal is the vast majority of our students are not misusing and/or abusing alcohol and other drugs. That is a very proud statement to say about our student body in light of the fact that more and more students are entering colleges and universities with serious drug and alcohol problems.

Patrick Stack,
Director of Counseling and Life Development

To the author of last week's editorial

My name is Daniel Hogan and I am vice president of peer education here at Webster. I recently read your editorial. Most of the article I agreed with. I agree there may be a problem on this campus with drugs and alcohol. I do not live on campus. I am not friends with people who live on campus. On the average, there is a drug and alcohol problem that plagues most universities in America. My experience with the drug and alcohol problem on this campus is limited to the students I talk to when they come into the office. My experience also is limited due to the fact that I have been sober for more than seven years.

I haven't been associated with drug culture (with the exception of recovery) for several years. Does the policy on campus need to change? Absolutely, a don't ask, don't tell policy helps no one with a problem. The resident assistants should be instructed to report students they know are involved in drugs. I was, however, slightly offended by the statement of where are the peer educators. I found it hypocritical or a lack of investigation on your statement especially since a member of your staff wrote an article on the counseling and life center and the peer educators.

I personally don't remember exactly which *Journal* it was in but it was around a month ago. The article was written by Angie Zielinski. As far as what the peer educators offer was laid out in that article. To refresh your memory, I run a 12-step meeting that is open to anyone struggling with any addiction. The meeting is free, based around the 12 steps and completely confidential. In addition, peer educators are in several locations, several times a week with pamphlets to educate students.

These are just two examples of what Peer Education Zeitgeist is doing. In addition, we are in the office available to talk to anyone confidentially about any problems they or someone they know are having. Although these programs are not prevention, they are there to help and educate when a student wants or needs the information.

I personally do not believe that prevention is possible on this campus or any other campus. I work for peer education in order to do some good and help someone, hopefully, before they get too deep in the drugs and alcohol. My hope in writing this letter is that next time you or anyone else writes an editorial do some research or at least contact the office you name drop.

Daniel Hogan,
Vice President of Peer Education

Editorial akin to tabloid

Typically, I can sit back and acknowledge the learning process that goes on as student newspaper editors hone their craft. But this week, I cannot sit so idly by.

Editors, your belief that the administration has anything remotely close to "a see no evil, hear no evil approach to every drug-related mishap," represents an egregious misrepresentation of reality. To the contrary, we are all too keenly aware of the drug and alcohol issues that occur on this campus.

Unfortunately, it occupies far too much of our collective university time — but we in fact do this sort of work so often it is impressive how little is understood about what goes on relative to drug and alcohol intervention. Interventions and outreach occur in public, programmatic ways, but often also occur in private ways that can be much more effective.

An important federal privacy law called FERPA restricts what resident assistant staff can discuss about drug and alcohol issues regarding students. It is a major federal law that ensures privacy of a student's educational record which, by definition, includes judicial matters.

Additionally, in the spirit of merging fact into your editorial overstatement, it is indeed staggering how many ways RAs, student health and counseling staff are asked to lead by example each and every day. To be sure, they may not see or know all; but they all take on roles that are some of the most crucial at this university, and for that they have my deepest gratitude.

Finally, I and others do care deeply about the university's image. A most vivid manifestation of that commitment is the direct, visible and also unseen ways in which we intervene in so many profound and important ways in the lives of students who struggle with the temptation and vices of alcohol and drugs.

The suggestion of "repeatedly sweeping these things under the rug," in an effort to promote and protect the university's image is as ridiculous as it is offensive. To imply we are conveniently looking the other way until things get dramatic is the type of misinformed hyperbole that I expect to see in tabloid-trash headlines at grocery store check-out lines.

John Buck,
Associate Dean of Students,
Director of Housing and Residential Life

Gov. Blunt not considering students

I am outraged that Gov. Matt Blunt has appointed a commission to review the department of elementary and secondary education with specific review of services for students with severe disabilities. He hired LAN Resources to conduct a study of the way services are provided across the state and across the country. Blunt plans to use this information as a guide to future policy changes, according to a memo from the governor's office.

Severely handicapped children need to have the options for services that exist now including the state schools. I am an engineer with Sodexho, Inc. We serve the St. Louis Public Schools. The buildings are not equipped to accommodate the more than 100 students who now attend Gateway-Wheeler State School in St. Louis City.

Here are some questions that I, as a taxpayer, would like to see answered. How was the study done? What is the validity of the study? Were the 1,000 parents at state schools given the opportunity to voice concerns? Were there education experts on the commission? Will the level of service to the student be the same if they are returned to the local school districts? Are public school teachers ready to meet the unique needs of these children?

The governor should be thinking of the needs of the children first — not money.

Individuals who wish to support the state schools can access a petition that has been set up by a parent. The Web address is *http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/saveourstateschoolsfromblunt/*

Scott Schilling,
Stationary Engineer,
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POINT/COUNTERPOINT

Two angles on the stem cell research initiative

Amendment 2 is nothing more than a political ploy



Amanda King

Going by what the political ads say, I should be all for Amendment 2. According to scientists at Washington University, my dad might not have debilitating Graft Versus Host Disease had doctors had the luxury of using embryonic cells during the stem cell transplant that eradicated his leukemia. Moreover, my cousin might not have died of leukemia at age 14 for lack of a DNA match — researchers could have cloned matching stem cells.

The only problem with these scientific assertions is that there is little to no scientific evidence to back them up. The truth is that embryonic stem cells are not the cure-all solution to diseases like cancer, Parkinson's, Alzheimer's or diabetes. Years of research in the United States and abroad have yet to yield a single cure from embryonic stem cells.

However, existing adult stem cell treatments have actually resulted in real-life cures and are available for each of the aforementioned diseases. Adult stem cells are matured versions of embryonic stem cells, specialized into performing specific functions. They can be extracted from both children and adults without causing harm to the donor.

More promising treatments are in trial stages right now in the private sector. Even though under federal law drug developers can legally delve into embryonic stem cell experimentation, when it comes to putting their own money on the line, these developers are consistently choosing to research adult stem cells. It's simple. Adult stem cells are producing cures; embryonic stem cells aren't. The public sector should take a cue.

An even better use of federal funds would be to make cryogenic storage of cord blood affordable for the parents of every American baby — starting now. Cord blood can be extracted from a baby's umbilical cord at birth and frozen. Using this approach, the country will sidestep the ethics surrounding embryos and cloning because every American will have his or her own backup DNA in storage, ready to combat degenerative diseases whenever they strike.

So what, then, is scientists' reasoning for pushing forward with research that destroys human embryos? Perhaps the reason is that embryonic stem cells have the capability to function as any type of somatic cell, making them more flexible than adult stem cells — a feasible argument, until four years ago, when a Harvard study showed adult stem cells can be stimulated to perform new functions. Or maybe, as the extreme right would have us believe, it is because these evil pro-choice scientists have a blood lust for the embryos of unborn children. While I don't believe pro-choicers are that evil, I'm not above accepting the circulating "conspiracy theory" that says Amendment 2 is really about cloning.

A cursory scan of Amendment 2 shows a neat piece of legislation, which clearly states, "no person may clone or attempt to clone a human being." But hidden inside the ensuing 1,800 words of legalistic jargon is a disturbing truth. An in-depth study of the author's definition of cloning, coupled with a little scientific vocabulary, reveals that the amendment allows for the very process — somatic cell nuclear transfer — which brought Dolly the sheep clone into being.

The only difference between somatic cell nuclear transfer and cloning, as defined by Amendment 2, is that cells are implanted into an egg whose nucleus has been removed. This is a mere technicality to assuage voters' moral reservations because SCNT still results in an exact genetic copy of the donor — what most Missourians know as a clone.

So what interest do liberal-leaning Missouri politicians have in cloning? The answer is, quite frankly, none. The liberal political machine has allied itself with the scientific community for one reason and one reason only — abortion. Democrats in Columbia, Mo., understand that federal laws protecting embryos from destruction stand the chance of creating a precedent through which social conservatives can argue for the rights of the unborn, potentially leading to the overturn of that Holy Grail of the Democratic Party, Roe v. Wade.

Reading between the lines, Amendment 2 is nothing more than a political ploy, preying upon a scientifically uninformed and polarized populace. Missouri politicians don't seem to care that lives hang in the balance — lives of the sick and the unborn.

Amanda King, a sophomore journalism and international relations major, is a guest writer for The Journal.

The most important thing this amendment provides is hope



Anna C. Forder

Political signs in yards across Missouri may have voters thinking that if Amendment 2 passes, human clones will be walking among us in no time. First and foremost, it is important for people to understand this amendment does not allow or support the creation of clones, and the wording of the amendment actually bans human cloning or attempted human cloning. This may come as a surprise to voters who have driven past the numerous yard signs claiming the amendment supports or legalizes cloning.

This amendment would allow Missouri scientists to use somatic cell nuclear transfer. Through this process, researchers can create stem cells without fertilizing an egg with sperm. Admittedly, this is the same method used for cloning Dolly the sheep, but, unlike Dolly's case, the egg will not be implanted in a woman's womb.

Using the SCNT method to generate stem cells is not the same as implanting an embryo in a woman's womb for nine months and allowing it to grow into a person. The amendment actually bans this implantation. Instead, it allows SCNT only for the purpose of creation stem cells for research. I fail to see how this amendment promotes cloning.

Opponents are using the term cloning as a scare tactic to frighten unknowing voters into thinking this amendment will allow scientists to create full-grown, human clones in labs that will one day walk among us. Not even close. This amendment simply allows Missouri researchers to follow federal guidelines regarding stem cell research, and it allows Missourians to have the same federal benefits for this research that other states receive without being financially penalized for conducting this research.

Opponents of the amendment also claim that using adult stem cells is a viable alternative that could be used to help find cures for diseases. An adult stem cell, a stem cell taken from a fetus, child or adult, is not a substitute for an embryonic stem cell, according to an article in *Washington University in St. Louis Magazine*. The article explains that, unlike an adult stem cell, an embryonic stem cell can "differentiate into any type of mature cell." The article also said an embryonic stem cell is unable to develop into a human baby because it is not the same as blastocyst, which is created by fertilizing an egg with sperm.

In addition, adult stem cells have not been shown to treat or cure all of the diseases embryonic stem cells have the potential to cure.

The Web site voters are referred to on the "vote no on Amendment 2" political yard signs, *http://www.nocloning.org*, says even frozen embryos left over from fertility clinics should not be used, even though they will be destroyed anyway. That makes sense to me. Instead of allowing these embryos to help sick people, pro-life supporters think they're so valuable that we cannot use them for research, even though they will be destroyed.

My entire life I have watched my mother and sister struggle with a disease they were born with – type 1 diabetes. They're my reason for voting yes. For those voters who don't know anyone who could be helped by stem cell research, I assure them this amendment has the potential to change lives. I see the hope my family holds for stem cell research.

Though, no known cures have been generated by stem cell research, that is why scientists want to do further research. Stem cell research has not been exhausted, and it is scientists' responsibility to keep trying. Let scientists do their job.

Embryonic stem cells may help treat or cure: Lou Gehrig's disease, Alzheimer's disease, autoimmune diseases, cancer, diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease, severe burns, sickle cell anemia and spinal cord injuries, among others.

The most important thing this amendment provides is hope; hope that a cure is possible. Don't let the pro-life agenda take charge of this issue and influence Missouri to throw away a chance at real cures for real people.

Anna C. Forder, a senior journalism major, is the copy editor for The Journal.

COMMENTARY

Straight-ticket voting now harder for Missouri residents



Breanna Herschelman

This past year the media covered the issue of voter identification cards with so much more fervor, the issue of straight-ticket voting in Missouri was practically put on the back burner.

While visiting with my grandparents in Indiana during fall break, my grandma received her absentee voting ballot in the mail for the Nov. 7 election.

She told me she might vote straight-ticket this year as other family members had done in the past. This got me wondering – how many people still vote straight-ticket today?

Straight-ticket voting allows voters who identify themselves as Republican or Democrat to check only one box to vote for that party in every category. Lawmakers have fought to eradicate this option and have succeeded in all but 17 states. My home state of Indiana still has this option and up until early 2006, Missouri previously had the option as well. Now Missourians will be forced to check each box individually.

Missouri Secretary of State Robin Carnahan said the elimination would make lines longer at the polls this year, according to *The Associated Press*. This could potentially decrease the voter turnout in coming years if they feel too much of an inconvenience in not having the straight-ticket option.

I have never voted straight-ticket, but I do not want to take that right away from others. Though political scientists may believe getting rid of straight-ticket voting will help voters think about their ballot rather than aimlessly checking one box, it will definitely slow down lines at voting booths, causing people to take more time out of their day than expected.

In the 2004 election, nearly 39 percent of the votes in Missouri came from straight-ticket ballots, according to *The Associated Press*. It will be interesting to see how those who normally would have voted straight-ticket will vote this time.

Voters may not realize they do not have to vote for a candidate in every race in order for their ballot to count. For example, if a voter only wanted to vote for the Senate race, he or she would only have to fill in that box.

Some political scientists believe the elimination of straight-ticket voting will decrease the number of voters for candidates lower on the ballot. Local politics generally come after national and state candidates on a ballot, and voters might not be as aware of all the candidates in races such as the St. Louis School Board as they are for United States Senate.

Local politics often get pushed aside in election coverage as well, but these issues may be the ones St. Louis residents should watch more closely. While covering a Democratic rally for Senate hopeful Claire McCaskill earlier this semester, the party brought out many local candidates to give speeches.

This was a great way to help Democrat voters recognize the other people running in their party. It didn't hurt that former President Bill Clinton was there to motivate the Democrats as well.

Republicans have done the same thing within their party. Sen. Jim Talent has had the support of the Bush Administration, Missouri Sen. Kit Bond and other national and local politicians.

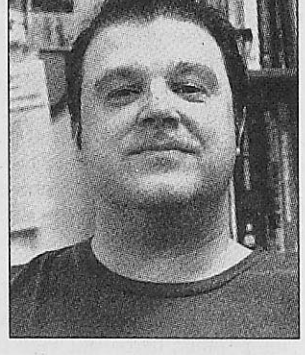
Overall, this issue will cause voters trouble Nov. 7. If a voter wants to vote for one party, they will have to check each box all the way down the ballot. The longer lines will no doubt upset voters.

Many voters may not even know the option of straight-ticket has been removed. This past year the media covered the issue of voter identification cards with so much more fervor, the issue of straight-ticket voting in Missouri was practically put on the back burner. If more than one-third of Missouri voters used this option in the past, they will probably be a little disappointed to see it won't be an option on this year's ballot.

Breanna Herschelman, a junior journalism major, is a staff writer for The Journal.

GUEST COMMENTARY

Midterm elections put heat on conservative Republicans



Donald Miller

Right-wing Republicans have been waging their moral crusade for quite some time, but it never gained such hellish momentum until the Bush administration came into power.

Midterm elections. Republicans are dreading them and Democrats are salivating in anticipation. While I hope those swing voters have recovered from whatever severe head injuries prompted them to re-elect Bush in '04, I am not busting out the party favors quite yet. How so many people could blindly put their faith in a man and a party that has used such blatant, fear-mongering tactics to gain political power is scary and at times unfathomable. More annoying than that, however, is the moral self-righteousness.

Right-wing Republicans have been waging their moral crusade for quite some time, but it never gained such hellish momentum until the Bush administration came into power. Christian Conservatives came crawling out from their spider holes at Cracker Barrel and Wal-Mart in order to keep a "Christian" in the White House. What they failed to understand were two very important things:

1) Bush is to Christianity what Jessica Simpson is to the craft of music.

2) Bush and his cronies used Jesus as the "get out the vote" guy but secretly joked these extreme Bible-thumpers were wing nuts of epic proportion.

So a deal was made with the devil: Promise the Children of the Corn that their moral agenda would make its way into the White House in exchange for political (read: votes and $$$) support. Bush and his henchmen then unleashed the true terror upon our country — the wedge issue. It was (and is) ingenious. Divert attention away from significant issues such as the economy education and international relations and redirect it to a phantom boogeyman … perhaps gay marriage … prayer in public schools … or even (insert maniacal scream here) the "war on Christmas." Use a message architect like Karl Rove to construct an entire platform that preys upon fear and ignorance and then use it to divide the nation.

We have endured insufferable "morality cops" like Sen. Rick Santorum (R-PA) and our own Sen. Jim Talent (R-MO) bringing their personal religious beliefs into the nation's capital in order to try and create legislation that promotes discrimination and intolerance, all under the guise of "moral imperatives." We listened to these self-proclaimed Christians as they unleashed vicious attacks upon American citizens simply for being gay and wanting the same civil rights as their straight counterparts.

We heard them lecture us about the importance of a democracy in Iraq while they tried to deny that very same thing to citizens in this country who disagreed with them about how and why this war was being fought. They used twisted and circular logic to muzzle criticism of their beloved president and his administration's hideous policies here and abroad. The only thing more sickening than their lack of a moral compass is their unwavering conviction that they are doing God's work in public office; apparently they missed the day in grade school where the issue of separation of church and state was discussed.

And here we are, weeks before the mid-term elections, and most people have one name on their minds: former U.S. Rep. Mark Foley. While it is unfortunate that Mr. Foley has blamed alcohol and alleged sexual abuse for his actions, the fact remains that this scandal could well be the final nail in the political coffin for Republicans this fall.

While part of me wants to take the high road and not relish in their misfortune, the other part of me delights in the fact that these hypocritical authoritarians have finally demonstrated to the American people that they do not have a monopoly on morality or "family values." If anything, their disgusting and numerous scandals over the past few years have proven that they should be cleaning their own houses instead of throwing stones at others.

Donald Miller, a graduate student in media communications, is a guest writer for The Journal.

Ghosts wander campus

BY KELLEY ATHERTON
katherton@webujournal.com

From a pregnant nun to a wandering gardener, Webster spirits are very much alive. Strange, inexplicable things have happened at paranormal hotspots throughout campus, such as former dormitory Loretto Hall and the Loretto-Hilton Center.

Some stories have even been exaggerated over the years. Perhaps the most well-known among students is the one about the nun who was impregnated by a priest, finally throwing herself from the fourth floor window of Loretto Hall. This story, however, is not quite the whole truth.

Ghost of the fourth-floor nun

A nun did kill herself by jumping out a window on the fourth floor of Webster Hall, said Anna Barbara Sakurai, a professor of math and computer science and former Sister of Loretto. There used to be a stone arrangement and a statue of the Blessed Mother at the spot where her body landed. Sakurai caulks the nun's suicide up to depression. Sakurai said, before the '60s, a nun becoming pregnant would have been impossible; sisters could not go anywhere unaccompanied or live alone.

"She must have been a very unhappy woman," Sakurai said. "You can imagine her still traipsing the halls. Nuns could barely breathe, they were accompanied everywhere and wore their habit until they went to bed."

When Sakurai was a Webster student, an older nun would tell ghost stories about sisters going into the chapel — where the Winifred Moore Auditorium is now — to say their nightly prayers. These sisters would hear someone praying in the back, but no one would be there. The nun died without saying her final prayers and comes back every night to make up for it.

Students who have lived on the fourth floor of Loretto Hall claim to have had strange things happen to them to the point where some couldn't sleep at night. Patrick Stack, director of counseling and life development, said students have reported hearing a woman crying and moaning at night and walking up and down the hallway.

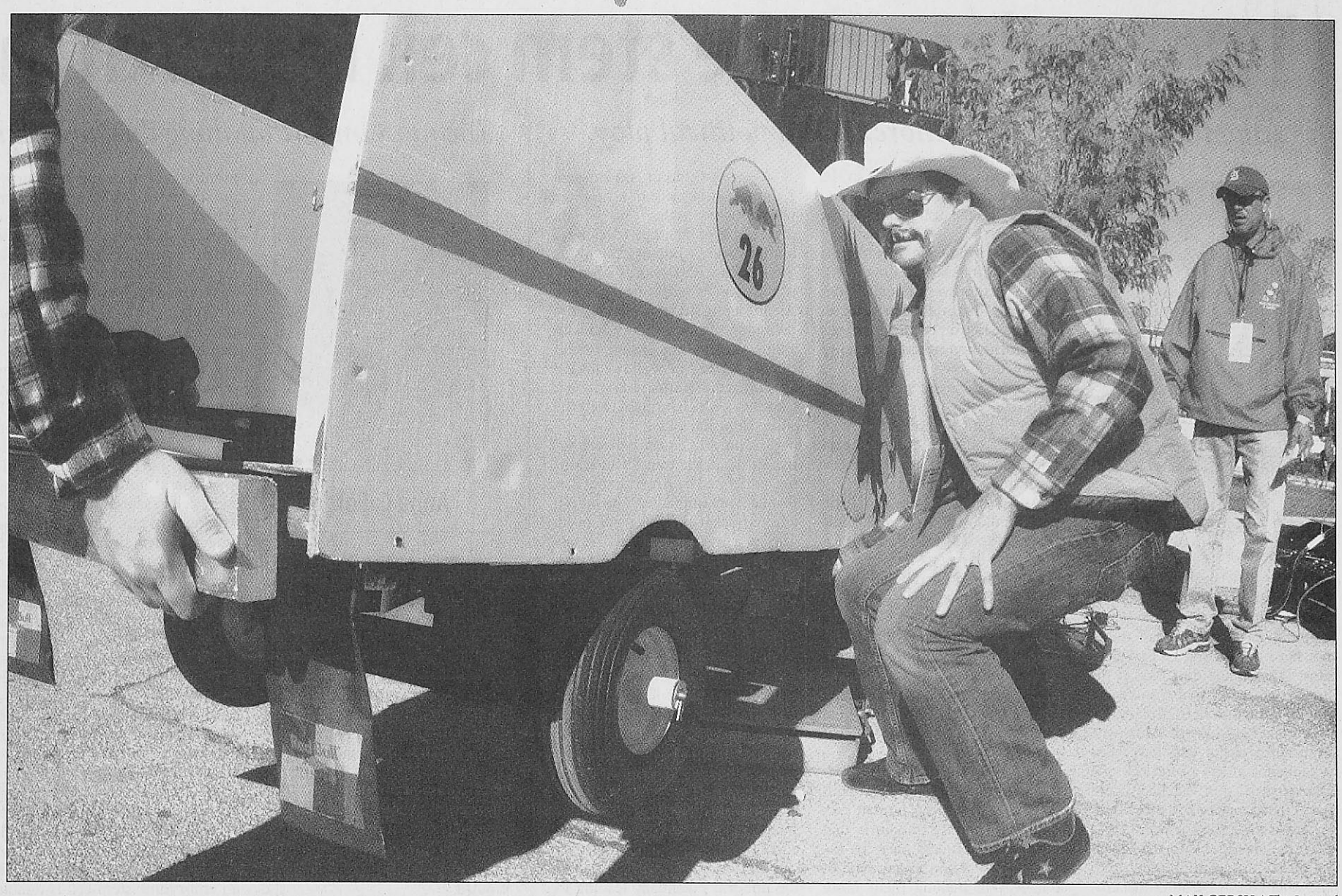
He said about 10 years ago while part of the fourth floor of Loretto was closed for renovations, students claimed they could hear people talking and saw lights on in the restricted area. Stack and several Public Safety officers took some students into the locked-up area to prove there weren't any ghosts.

However, all furniture had been moved out of the residence halls, but they found two rooms each with a large, five-drawer bureau — not the standard residence hall bureau. Each bureau had clothing that appeared to be from the '20s, Stack said.

As they continued down the hall towards where the student lounge was, he said it suddenly became cold; lights started flickering and a door from one of the rooms slammed shut. They investigated to see if anyone was playing tricks or if there was a breeze, but no one was in the room — the window was closed. Stack said Public Safety went back to see if the bureaus were still there and they were gone. Stack thought someone was playing a trick on them, but neither he

See GHOSTS, Page 7

Visit *http://www.webujournal.com* for coverage of "Can a Photo Tell the Truth?" a lecture held by Bill Barrett, photography professor and chairman of the electronic and photographic media department.



MAX GERSH / *The Journal*

Webster alumnus Joe Millitzer lifts his team's soap box racer onto the scales for a pre-race weigh-in. The team barely made the 176-pound limit at 175 pounds.

Red Bull Soap Box Derby

Alumni team fails to make final cut

BY TOM PARR
tparr@webujournal.com

"Oh, shit!" soap-box driver Joe Millitzer said he thought, seconds before his makeshift 18-wheeler was to be hurled down the 40-foot starting ramp at the Red Bull Soap Box Derby, Oct. 28 in Forest Park.

Millitzer and his teammates, all Webster University alumni, were one of 42 teams from 13 states and two countries competing in the Oct. 28 derby. Forest Park was overrun with Drunken Elvii, seven-foot Cheese Doodles and Japanese schoolgirls — all vying for a spot atop the coveted first place podium. The derby, already a success in Europe, was the first Red Bull race held in America. The grand prize for the winning team would be a VIP trip for five to see the Red Bull NASCAR Nextel Cup racing team compete next year.

The Webster team, nicknamed Semi-Coherent, were inspired by the "Smoky and the Bandit" movies — the trucker-based, speedster flicks starring Burt Reynolds as an outlaw bootlegger. Semi-Coherent members donned flannels, five-gallon hats, sexy police uniforms and faux mustaches in a show of spirit and unity — all in an effort to impress the judges and the fans.

Other teams made similar efforts before the racing even began — one of the most memorable being the jailbird/warden team called Don't Drop the Soap Box, who sang jailhouse ballads in front of the team's car — a rolling prison cell. Another of the fan favorites was the team of Tufts University in Boston engineers and their Mr. Peanut-inspired ride, Los Senores Cacahuete.

Teams were pitted against one another — and the clock. Twenty heats determined the top four qualifiers, who would go on to race for the championship.

The build-up

Semi-Coherent's team consisted of Joe Millitzer, his wife Katie, Nick Eaton, Riana Spencer and Ron Parres — all 2002 Webster graduates. The team vehicle, a six-foot-long 18-wheeler, complete with "team idol" Burt Reynolds 8 x 10 photograph taped to the cockpit, took six weeks to finish.

"We worked on it two hours a day and all weekend," said Parres, an hour before the race. "Nick (Eaton's) dad had a really great garage/shop in Kirkwood and we built the truck there."

Parres said the team submitted preliminary sketches to Red Bull almost two months ago and began construction immediately upon receiving confirmation from the energy drink company that the sketches had been chosen. Parres said Red Bull reportedly received more than 500 rough plans and narrowed the field to an eventual 42 cars. Red Bull took applications via their Web site and chose the final teams based on creativity and technical prowess.

Many of the rides, including Semi-Coherent, had trouble meeting the weight limit. The cars could not exceed 176 pounds without the driver, and a few teams had to be scratched at race time because the cars were overweight. Luckily for Semi-Coherent, they weighed in at 175 pounds; the team would have been hard-pressed to find anything else to pull off the rig had it come down to it.

Semi-Coherent was built upon a modified riding lawn mower chassis the team found on the Web site Craig's List. The back axle and tires were purchased from Home Depot and the frame was plywood and two-by-fours. The sturdiness of the vehicle was in question, and as one passer-by put it; " There's no way that thing's going to make it."

A trial run was scheduled for Oct. 27 but was cancelled due to the rain. Semi-Coherent's team spirit was never in doubt — but its means of transportation soon would be.

"The ramp remains untested and our car remains untested," Parres said.

When questioned prior to the race about her biggest fear, Katie Millitzer, whose husband Joe would be steering the truck, said flatly, "becoming a widow."

Unfortunately for Semi-Coherent, the rig's maiden voyage would be its last.

The heat is on

Semi-Coherent's rig was hauled up to the top of the 40-foot starting ramp by a system of switchbacks. The team's first heat pitted them against The Family Truckster, a Woody-wagon inspired racer. After being introduced to the crowd from high atop the ramp, each team went into a choreographed dance routine to handpicked music. This portion of the contest also was judged. Semi-Coherent got down to the theme song from "Smoky," while Truckster boogied to the theme song from the National Lampoon vacation movies.

Then it was time to race.

Joe Millitzer, the team's driver, climbed inside the rig while the four members of the crew grabbed hold of the truck, ready for the bobsled-style push start. The drag lights flashed yellow-yellow-green and the race was on — at least for The Family Truckster. The Woody-wagon got a great start and was three-quarters of the way down the ramp before Semi-Coherent even got going.

"We had a horrible start," said Joe Millitzer said. "We were still thinking about dancing."

Semi-Coherent overcame the lackluster launch with a rolling fury that would have made the Bandit proud. Millitzer caught The Family Truckster 100 yards before the harrowing, hairpin turn nicknamed Carnage Corner, and the two were neck and neck as they approached the downhill section of the course.

"I kind of rammed him," Joe Millitzer said. " But he was in my way."

Joe Millitzer was literally rocking back and forth inside the truck, urging his vehicle towards the finish line. This was the closest and slowest race of the day, and with 1,000 feet remaining, Semi-Coherent began to pull away while the Family Truckster began to fall apart — literally.

"I didn't see him crash," Millitzer said. " But I knew we would finish because we were in it for the long haul."

The pits

Semi-Coherents final time, ultimately, was not good enough to qualify for the finals. The winning team was Fast Food, which drew upon the epic Roadrunner versus Coyote chases as inspiration. The people's choice was Quadra-Gnomes, a giant, muscular torso devised by Wash U. students. Although Semi-Coherent didn't take home any hardware, the team was upbeat post-race and ready to begin production for next year's race.

"I would definitely do it again," Parres said. " I think we know now what it takes to win and can use that to our advantage. Plus, nobody died and that's a good thing."

Students collect food, not candy

Donations will benefit the poor and homeless of St. Louis

BY MALLORY SKINNER
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On Oct. 31, a day usually reserved for donning ghoulish costumes and trolling neighborhoods in quest of the best Halloween loot, a group of 13 Webster students chose to go door-to-door, gathering food and money for homeless and hungry St. Louisans.

Senior Nikki Dukes, a social sciences major led this year's edition of Trick-or-Treat So Others Can Eat. Dukes began participating in the fundraiser as a teenager in her hometown of Kansas City and has been involved in the program for the past eight years.

"Trick-or-Treat So Others Can Eat is a fun way to do a service for other people," Dukes said. "It's a way to make sure people are getting the things they need."

Dukes said the program originated in the 1980s in Kansas City, where a group of teenagers decided to trick-or-treat for charitable donations instead of candy. The idea quickly gained popularity and the program expanded. Dukes said that, in Kansas City, she would typically collect goods with a group of 30 or 40 trick-or-treaters of all ages. Dukes has led the program at Webster for three years and said she usually has five or six trick-or-treaters. Each year a car will drive behind them to collect the goods. She added that last year her group gathered a trunk full of goods.

"In Webster Groves, we haven't had such huge groups," Dukes said. "This year, we're hoping for about 10 volunteers."

Dukes said the small number of participants makes it difficult to canvass large areas. She said, before Halloween, volunteers commonly distribute flyers and advertisements to each house in their neighborhood. The flyers contain information about the fundraiser as well as the time volunteers will return to collect donations. If the homeowners choose to participate, they can display the door hanger and leave a box or bag of goods on their stoop. Dukes said this policy works well if people are not home on Halloween night. But with fewer volunteers, the policy proves inefficient.

"Unfortunately, there are not always enough volunteers to ensure that every house in the community is visited," Dukes said.

In lieu of candy, Dukes said, volunteers usually ask for canned and boxed goods as well as healthy treats like granola bars.

Dukes said she recently read online that the program was being adopted by people in other states.

"I'm really excited to see it is something that's growing," she said.

This Halloween's group of trick-or-treaters included Dukes, her husband Brian, junior journalism major Breanna Herschelman, junior resident assistant and film major Matt Grant and nine of Grant's residents.

The trick-or-treaters gathered outside of the parking garage and dispersed into groups of two or three in a residential area north of Lockwood Ave. Using role-play, Dukes, who dressed as a cowgirl and her husband, who went as a Jedi knight, demonstrated to volunteers how to explain the program to residents and politely request canned goods in place of candy.

Freshman communications major Katherine Dockery, who dressed as a Rubik's Cube, said the night marked her return to trick-or-treating after a long hiatus.

"I chose to go as a Rubik's Cube because my boyfriend and I love strategic puzzles," she said.

The program, tagged as "trick-or-treating with a twist," is sponsored by St. Louis' City Lights Church. The church serves as a location to drop off donations. Dukes stressed that people can continue to bring goods to the church up until Nov. 5. On that Sunday, members of the congregation will take inventory and divide the donations between La Clinica, a community health center for underprivileged Latinos and Centenary United Methodist Church. Centenary Church is located on Plaza Square in downtown St. Louis and cooks dinners for the needy. These organizations will determine how to distribute the food and money collected to people in need.

★★★½☆

Movie Review: 'God Spoke'

Franken film polarizes audiences

BY ANTHONY BARSANTI
abarsanti@webujournal.com

"What I do isn't propaganda. What I do is jujitsu," said Al Franken, a former "Saturday Night Live" comedian, in reference to the tactics of reversal he uses against his enemies in the conservative media on his left-wing talk radio network Air America.

Directors Nick Doob and Chris Hegedus are part of the documentary trio that is spiritually led by the legendary D.A. Pennebaker ("Don't Look Back"). Continuing here with "Al Franken: God Spoke," they seem to be following one of their two main strains of interest: that of inspirational political figures — the other focuses on musically-unique characters.

Together, their subjects emit a kind of historical significance, almost as if the filmmakers are tracking the major players in human history and placing tacks on a timeline that denotes their cultural infliction.

Though most people will ignore this documentary due to the politically-polarizing subject, believers in the new left and open-minded cinephiles will most likely flock to it, hoping for either a reason to believe in Franken's crusade or for a reason to admire his gusto.

Amusing as his satiric efforts may have been – taking on Bill O'Reilly, launching the first liberal-centered radio network and pushing Kerry towards the Oval Office — the film shows Franken has far too much heart.

He stands everything he cares about in front of a shooting gallery. He says himself the only reason he named his first radio show "The O'Franken Factor" was to "annoy and bait Bill O'Reilly," the notoriously fiery host on the Fox News Channel.

Seeing himself as a martyr for the "elite East-Coast Liberals," a term coined by the Ann Coulter's and the Sean Hannity's of right-wing punditry, Franken is blind in his conviction to save us all from being brainwashed by their slanderous lies.

It is simply more interesting to watch the footage as an indifferent outsider that Doob and Hegedus have gathered over the past few years, tailing the comedian-turned-rebel-rouser on his exploits at RNC rallies, USO tours and various speaking engagements.

On a more personal level, we see whose steps Franken follows: his populist hero Paul Wellstone, the late Minnesota senatorial candidate, and his father, a Buddy Hackett fan who taught his son the importance of carrying a sense of humor through life.

In case you missed the showing at Webster or The Chase, visit the film's Web site at *http://www.godspokefilm.com* to find the most convenient showing.



BRENT HOLZAPFEL / *The Journal*

Vocalist Michele Isam sings "Feelin' Good," the song from "Roar of the Greasepaint" Oct. 23 in the Winifred Moore Auditorium. The "Smell of the Crowd" was one of many songs performed at the Best Of Broadway show.

Concert honors deceased students

BY KAREN MCGLENN
kmcglenn@webujournal.com

If you closed your eyes, you could imagine yourself sitting at a small corner table sipping a martini in a small, smoke-filled jazz club. The tinkling of a piano mixed in with the soft brush of a drum and the low pulse of a stand-up bass made up the jazz ensemble at the TKT Memorial Scholarship Concert Oct. 23 in the Winifred Moore Auditorium.

The jazz scholarship was established in memoriam by the friends and family of three Webster graduates: Terry Jackson, Kirk Cappello and Tony Saputo, all of whom died in a plane crash in 1991 while touring with country singer Reba McEntire.

The theme for the annual concert was "The Best of Broadway." Approximately 200 people attended the concert to hear jazz renditions of songs from various Broadway productions, composed by such notables as George and Ira Gershwin, Rodgers and Hammerstein and Stephen Sondheim.

Michael Parkinson, chairman for the music department, said the concert, which began in the mid-90s, is a community celebration.

"This concert is in memory of three wonderful young musicians who excelled when they were students and were on their way to fantastic careers," Parkinson said.

Parkinson said nearly $1,600 was raised from the concert for the scholarship endowment fund. The TKT scholarship is given to junior or senior jazz studies students who have a B-average or better. The music department currently has five TKT scholarship endowments. Parkinson said a group selects the recipients and the families are given a chance to voice their opinions.

"It benefits musicians who are the future of the business," Parkinson said.

This year's recipients are senior music major Randy Boyce, senior jazz studies performance major Abbie Hainz, junior jazz studies performance major Nick Savage, junior music major Paul Shanker and junior music Mike Smith.

The performers for the evening were pianists Kim Portnoy, Carole Schmidt and Jerry Liebman; *bassist Willem von Hom*bracht; drummer Kevin Gianino; and vocalists Michele Isam and Charles Glen, along with Ralph Butler of the Ralph Butler Band.

Phil Cappello, father of Kirk Cappello, performed two songs on piano. Parkinson said Phil Cappello had been approached several times over the years to play at the concerts, but had always declined. Phil Cappello said in previous years he was "just a viewer" and enjoyed the concerts.

"This is a singular honor," Phil Cappello said. "These guys are all such phenomenal talents."

Also joining the musicians on stage was sophomore Derick Tramel, a music technology major. Tramel played the baritone sax alongside Schmidt and Isam.

"Carol (Schmidt) asked around about a bari sax player and I was recommended," Tramel said. "I enjoyed it."

Lon Jackson, father of Terry Jackson, said he enjoys the concerts and likes that the university honors the three young men.

"I think it's great," he said. "It's giving something back. It shows they were loved."

Cappello echoed that sentiment.

"The faculty and school make this thing the success it is," Cappello said. "I can't say enough about them."

One of the songs Cappello played was "Memories of You." He said his son is always there in the back of his mind and his spirit *was probably with him on stage at* the concert.

"I sure hope so," Cappello said with a chuckle. "I think he was — probably to keep me from blowing it."

Students don drag for 'Rocky Horror'



Left: *Senior Jarrod Stetina (left) and Tyler Cross (right) brought their best costumes to the Oct. 26 screening of "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" in the Grant Gymnasium. Cross, who goes to SLU, hosted last year's Drag Ball as his alter ego Siren. The screening was part of Shocktoberfest, a week-long celebration that lead up to Halloween night, culminating in the Calabaza Party. For further information about Shocktoberfest, the "Rocky Horror" screening, as well as a review of the film, see our Web site at* http://www.webujournal.com.

MAX GERSH / *The Journal*



Below: *Students and alumni line up for judgment in the costume contest at a Halloween party hosted by the Vietnamese Student Association Oct. 28 in the Webster Village Apartments Clubhouse. VSA President Lam Nguyen said he wanted this to be an opportunity for students unfamiliar with the holiday to learn more about Halloween traditions in the United States.*

AUDREY BURKE / *The Journal*

Movie Review: 'Little Children'

★★★★★

Child molestation film tests audience's limits

BY JAMES HANSEN
jhansen@webujournal.com

Todd Field exploded onto the independent film scene five years ago with his highly acclaimed debut "In The Bedroom." His latest feature, "Little Children," has Oscar written all over it. The film, adapted from a book by Tom Perrotta, is beautiful, disturbing, darkly humorous and resoundingly powerful all in one. Field and Perrotta blend every element to perfection in this dark, nose-dive into suburbia.

Sarah Pierce (Kate Winslet) is stuck in a dull marriage and growing frustrated with her repetitive lifestyle. She goes to the park every day with the neighborhood mothers, where they become enamored by a man they call the Prom King. The Prom King, whose actual name is Brad Adamson (Patrick Wilson of "Angels in America"), also is caught in a lifeless marriage to his seemingly perfect wife, Kathy (Jennifer Connelly). Sarah and Brad's relationship ignites into a passionate love affair.

As their adulterous relationship escalates, Brad joins a nighttime football league with Larry Hedges, a former cop. Larry is driven by his obsession with a convicted child molester, Ronnie, who has moved into their peaceful community. Larry has started an abusive group to try and get Ronnie to leave town.

"Little Children" is fueled by a slew of great performances. Winslet has never been better and Wilson is having a breakthrough film year with this film on top of the ferocious "Hard Candy."

However, it is the devastating scenes involving Ronnie, played with dark tenderness by Jackie Earle Haley, that often have the most dramatic impact. On a hot summer day, Ronnie goes to cool off at a local swimming pool filled with kids. When the children's mothers discover Ronnie in the pool, they panic and call the police. Haley has great range from being a sympathetic character to suddenly transitioning into the vile child molester whom the town is worried about.

Child molestation and unsettling suburbia have been a common thread in many recent films, headed up by the filmography of director Todd Solondz. However, Field and Perrotta bring more depth to the material than in any previous films. Field brings in an edgy fragility, punctuated by brutal reality that is becoming increasingly rare.

As these realities catapult into each other, "Little Children" takes a bold leap in storytelling and pushes the brink of going too far. The situations and emotions escalate and approach the point of spiraling out of control.

Beneath the surface of a nearly overwhelming conclusion, "Little Children" gives us reaffirmation in life and reason for the struggles we battle through every day. The challenges the characters faced and whose relationships were tested are all part of the giant puzzle of being human.

"Little Children" is currently in limited release. Viewers should check their local listings for showtimes.

Ghosts: Master electrician watches over theater

FROM PAGE 6

nor anybody else can explain what they saw and heard.

"I did see the clothes, the lights flicker and heard the bangs," Stack said. "I trust my colleagues in Public Safety that all the doors were locked and no one was allowed up there."

Not only have people heard strange things, but some have actually seen forms or spirits lurking on the fourth floor.

Billy Ratz, alumni programs officer, said he possibly saw the spirit of a nun on the night of Oct. 5 on the fourth floor of the Loretto tower.

"I was standing there, looking down the hall, when a black form moved across the hallway," Ratz said. "It stopped and looked at me, and then it was gone. All the office doors were locked. It looked like it had something draped over its head like a habit."

Stack said a student claimed to have seen two ghosts in the student lounge area of the fourth floor of the residence wing of Loretto Hall.

"She said the figures were in human form, but were white, like they were glowing," Stack said.

There also are three possible ghosts who haunt the Loretto-Hilton Center. Several students have reported having their lives saved by the ghost. Students working the lights on the catwalks said they leaned over too far and then felt something pull them up, when they turned around no one was there.

Ghost of the master electrician

David Hitzert, who was the master electrician for the Loretto-Hilton, died of a lung embolism in the lighting booth on the catwalks on Labor Day 1982. The irony of his death was that he died during a rehearsal of the play "Tartuffe" by Moliere; the playwright himself died during one of his plays, "Le Malade Imaginaire."

David Hitzert's son, Jason G. Hitzert a 1998 Webster alumnus, said his father would enjoy the idea that people believe he's a ghost like Casper the Friendly Ghost.

"If my old man is over there, I believe he's helping out," Hitzert said. "He instills fear and confidence. He's looking out, but they better not mess around."

Dottie Marshall Englis, a professor and chairwoman of the theater department, finds the idea of Hitzert's protective role to be comforting.

"I can imagine him up there (on the catwalk), smoking and looking down," Englis said.

Peggy Thierhiemer, master electrician for the Loretto-Hilton, agrees Hitzert's ghost is looking out for the theater.

"But if Dave (Hitzert) didn't like the show, weird things would happen," Thierhiemer said. "Switchboards would light up, the catwalk door would open and close and lights would go out."

Some students are afraid to go up on the catwalk and refuse to work up there late at night, but people have always had feelings of benevolence, Englis said.

Ghost of the gardener

Another possible ghost is the gardener of the Frank Thompson estate. He took care of the water garden, which was located where the Loretto-Hilton is now. The Webster-Kirkwood Times brought the psychic Alexandria St. Lee to the Loretto-Hilton in 1984 and identified this man as a ghost.

In the article, St. Lee said she saw an "elderly man, small and stooped, about 78 or 80 years old, in turn-of-the-century garb and a leather apron. He was holding gardening tools." She said he enjoys the plays and tries to give designers ideas.

Legend has it he only manifests himself whenever questionable things are done to the facility. Thierhiemer thinks the gardener might have something to do with the basement of the Loretto-Hilton flooding and water leaking in some of the offices.

Ghost of the workman

St. Lee also identified another ghost in the Loretto-Hilton. A workman who died during the construction of the Loretto-Hilton in 1966 slipped and fell from the roof. While standing in the theater green room, St. Lee said the workman would only be around when he's needed — when someone is careless.

"I think he's decided that this is where he wants to stay," St. Lee said.

Dottie Englis said David Hitzert believed the workman was a ghost in the Loretto-Hilton, but he would say "Yeah, yeah, don't worry about him, he's a good guy."

Robbi Courtaway mentions the supposed three ghosts of the Loretto-Hilton in the book "Spirits of St. Louis" published in 1999.

The Venue

A calendar of upcoming events on campus and around town



Thursday, November 2

• Campus Activities is sponsoring **water basketball** at 9:30 p.m. in the University Center Pool as part of the new series of "What the Health" programming. For more information, call ext. 7708.
• Maxine Clark, founder and chief executive of Build-A-Bear Workshop, will be dicussing **"Power of a Plan: Building a Company for Success"** from 11:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. in the Sverdrup building, room 123. Space is limited, so reservations are requested. To R.S.V.P. or for more information, e-mail *entrepreneurship@webster.edu.*
• The Webster University Film Series presents **"Krzysztof Kieslowski: Early Work"** at 8 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium.

Friday, November 3

• **First Friday's Open Mic Night** is at 8 p.m. in Marletto's Marketplace. For more information, call ext. 7708.
• The Fall 2006 Workshop Series is sponsoring **"Using M.S. Excel to Create Inventory Lists and Data Tracking"** from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. in Webster Hall, room 407. Admission is free for Webster faculty, staff, students and alumni and $25 for non-Webster attendees. For more information, call ext. 5995.
• The Webster University Film Series presents **"Krzysztof Kieslowski: Early Work"** at 8 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium.

Saturday, November 4

• An **Evening of Piano Ensemble Literature** begins at 7 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium. The concert is sponsored in part by the Steinway Piano Gallery of St. Louis and is presented in conjunction with the Krzsztof Kieslowski Film Retrospective. Admission is free to students, faculty and staff with valid Webster ID, $5 for adults and $3 for seniors. For more information, call ext. 7174.
• The Webster University Film Series presents **"Krzysztof Kieslowski: Early Work"** starting at 8 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium.

Sunday, November 5

• The **Webster Student Jazz Combos** will perform at 4 p.m. in the Singleton Chapel as part of the St. John's Concert Outreach Series. The concert will be held in St. John's United Methodist Church, located at 5000 Washington Place at Kinghighway in the Central West End. Admission is free and open to the public. A reception will follow the concert. For more information, call 361-3543.
• The Webster University Film Series presents **"Krzysztof Kieslowski: Early Work"** at 8 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium.

Monday, November 6

• **Atreyu** will at 7 p.m. at The Pageant with **Every Time I Die** and **Chiodos**.The venue is located at 6161 Delmar Blvd. Admission is $20 in advance and $23 the day of the show. There is a $2 surcharge for minors. For more information, call 726-6161 or *visit http://www.thepageant.com.*

Tuesday, November 7

• An **Election Night Party** will be held at 6 p.m. in the UC Sunnen Lounge. The event is sponsored by the Holden Public Policy Forum. For more information, call ext. 5976.
• The Brown Bag Luncheon Series will have a panel discussion, **"Welcome to SIM City: Chart Your Own Path with a Self-Designed Interdisciplinary Major,"** from noon to 1 p.m. in the Emerson Library Conference Room. Snacks and beverages are provided. Admission is free.
• Eileen Smith, professor at Webster's London Campus and researcher of the Imperial War Museum, will be speaking on **"Got any gum chum? Experiences of British Children WWII"** at noon in the UC Sunnen Lounge. For more information, call ext. 7705. Admission is free and open to the public.

Wednesday, November 8

• There will be beginning level **salsa lessons** at 8:30 p.m. and at the advanced level at 9:30 p.m. in the Dance Studio in the Loretto-Hilton. Th lessons are part of "What the Health" programming. For more information, call ext. 7708.
• The **Classical Guitar Ensemble**, under the direction of John McClellan, will perform at 7 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium. Admission is free to Webster students and a $3 general admission. For more information, call ext. 7128.

Want your event listed in The Venue? E-mail us at *calendar@webujournal.com* and get the attention of *The Journal's* more than 3,000 readers!

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By Michael Mepham

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

Level of Difficulty: 3

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

The solution to this puzzle will be published Nov. 9.

Oct. 26 puzzle solution

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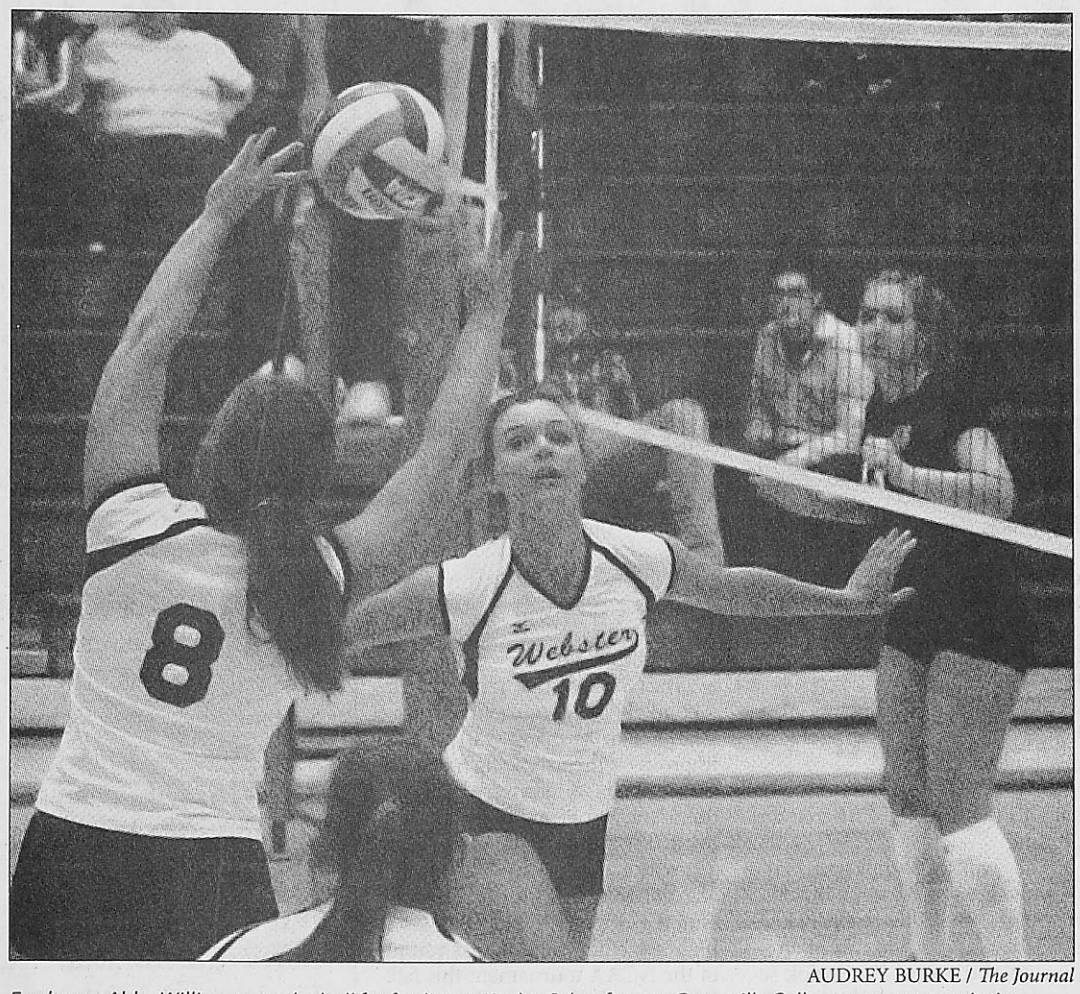


AUDREY BURKE / *The Journal*

Freshman Abby Williams sets the ball for freshman Kaylee Schaefer as a Greenville College opponent waits in anticipation. Webster went on to win the match in the first three games Oct. 31 at Grant Gymnasium. The match set the stage for a Saint Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Championship showdown with the top-seeded Principia College Panthers in Principia, Ill., Nov. 4.

Taking a different path

Junior Cayla Clark, former Webster soccer player, is trying her luck with the cross country team in '06

BY ANDREA PASZKIEWICZ
apaszkiewicz@webujournal.com

At 6:30 every morning, junior Cayla Clark is out running with her five cross country teammates trying to work out any kinks. Clark is the newest member of the team and only ran in the last three meets of the season, but she is no stranger to competitive sports.

For her first two years at Webster, Clark was a member of the women's soccer team, but this year she decided to run cross country. Clark declined to reveal the specifics of her decision not to play soccer.

"She's an outstanding, individual athlete, a multi-talented athlete, who made a personal decision," said Luigi Scire, women's soccer head coach. "I think it's the thought that she wants to excel at a sport, and she feels that cross country is the sport she can excel at."

Clark still supports her old teammates, though. In fact, it was on the sidelines of a soccer game that Chris Bunch, head coach of Webster's cross country team, first approached Clark about running on his team.

Bunch said he approached Clark about her potential for cross country after he noticed she wasn't playing in the women's soccer game he attended earlier this semester. He said the idea of pursuing cross country had already crossed Clark's mind.

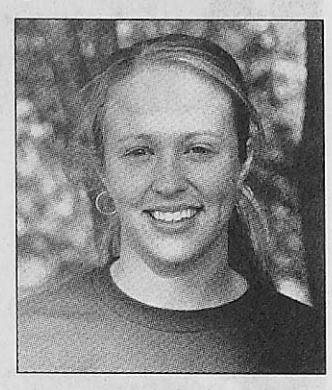
"A lot of athletes have a problem when their careers are over of not having anything to shoot for and compete against," Bunch said. "So, I just urged her to come out and try [cross country] to see if she liked it."

Since she's still new to the sport, Clark ran in the sixth spot on the team, which technically doesn't count toward the team's overall score. Since the first five runners' scores are counted, Clark's biggest goal is to become more useful to her team as this season wraps up and they look forward to next fall.

"I'm still kind of in the transition period," Clark said. "It's totally different. I don't know how to pace myself yet. I'm still trying to figure all of that out. I just got to get used to running and not chasing a ball, not chasing anything, except for the girls in front of me."

Bunch is confident Clark will improve because he believes all meets are just steppingstones to where the runners are going in the sport. Clark now has a legitimate starting point and knows what it will take to get where she wants to be competitively, Bunch said.

"I think for her it's a little different than the other [runners] because she's just starting out," Bunch said. "She didn't even have a time to base anything by, and now she has a time in her head and a mark to hit."



CLARK

Clark didn't run with the rest of her teammates in the SLIAC Conference meet Oct. 28 because only the top five runners of each team compete in the final meet.

Anticipating the beginning of next season, Clark's main concerns are to improve, have fun and stay in shape. Clark said she had nothing to lose by joining the team for her last two years at Webster.

"I'm going to be out there running anyways on my own," Clark said. "So, I might as well do it competitively. I might not ever place, but that's not really what I'm looking for."

Principia or bust

BY RACHEL LEBO
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Coming off a win against the Fontbonne University Griffins on their own turf left the women's volleyball team in high spirits.

The Gorloks haven't won a game at Fontbonne since 1998. The Oct. 26 game changed that and left Webster's overall record at 17-10 and the St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference record at 7-1.

"We played well," Head Coach Merry Graf said. "It was the most relaxed I've ever been when we played in their gym."

Before the Oct. 31 match against Greenville College, the Monster Mash Tailgate took place in the University Center parking lot to support the volleyball team. Campus Activities, Student Athletic Advisory Council, Audio Engineering Society and Danceline co-sponsored the activity.

Small children trick-or-treating came accompanied by their parents and had free reign over car trunks full of candy. Chants of "Let's get rowdy" were heard from some of the crowd. Junior Stephanie Gallaway, a media communications and video production major, enjoyed the atmosphere of the event.

"Hey, it's great," Gallaway said. "Free food and school spirit are a good combination."

The match against Greenville was a victory in three games for the Gorloks that took their overall record to 18-10 and SLIAC record to 8-1. It was also Senior Night for Webster athletes Lesley Poggemoeller, Melanie Klingelhoefer and Susi Reigel.

The first game started with a quick kill by junior Crystal Shelton, and the pace was set. The Gorloks were in high spirits and won the game 30-13.

Shelton started the second game with another kill and Webster quickly won the game 30-13.

Greenville played strong in the beginning of game three and gave the Gorloks more of a challenge than the prior two games. Webster came out ahead and took the game 30-26.

"We played well," said Sophomore hitter Erin Grobe. "We're all looking forward to the tournament and we play Greenville again this weekend. We gave them the right message tonight."

The Gorloks travel Nov. 4 to Principia College for the SLIAC tournament. At 11 a.m. they will play Greenville College and if they win they will go on to play Principia College for the championship title.

"We're excited for the tournament," Graf said. "The girls went out there and played well. They got the job done for tonight's game and hopefully we'll win the first game for the tournament and go on to try for the title."

Seniors: Want to finish in style

FROM PAGE 10

accumulated 81 total games played in four years. Midfielder Shaina Neiderschulte averaged almost 10 goals a season. Goaltender Heather Schaefer tallied 245 saves. Captain forward Mary Bunt had 84 points and midfielders Kristen Kinsella and Michelle Sweeney tallied 47 points.

"I am going to miss what they bring as individuals," Head Coach Luigi Scire said. "And all six of them are class individuals."

Each of the six seniors were honored before the Oct. 28 match up with the Maryville Saints. Each player was recognized with flowers, balloons, picture collages and even framed jerseys commemorating their contribution to the program.

"These girls have been outstanding ambassadors for the girl's soccer program," Scire said.

During the four years that Scire coached these six seniors he claimed the head coach of the year honor in 2003 and 2005. With yet another dominating season Scire will likely win the award once again for 2006.

After their 2-1 overtime defeat of Maryville, the Gorloks happily greeted family and fans on the sidelines for what turned into tearful embraces. The last regular season game for the Gorloks gave the team an opportunity for revenge of their 2-1 non-conference loss to Maryville Oct. 18. While the Gorloks already locked down a conference title Oct. 21 against Blackburn College, the team still feels like there is something to prove.

"We are not taking any team lightly," Neiderschulte said. "It doesn't matter who the team is, we have to be ready."

However, The Gorloks still have unfinished business. The SLIAC tournament begins Nov. 1 when the Gorloks will take on Westminster College at Anheuser Busch Soccer Park. The Gorlok seniors hope to go out in style with a SLIAC tournament win and their third NCAA tournament appearance in four years.

Cards: Happiness abounds

FROM PAGE 10

The Sunday following the World Series came the parade and the rally at Busch Stadium. Since I was not lucky enough to get tickets to the World Series, the parade was something I was not going to miss.

As Cardinal fans lined up on both sides of Market Street in downtown St. Louis, I realized just how lucky I was to live in this city.

As I tired to find a place to stand where I could snap pictures of my favorite players, people were more than willing to squeeze together to get everyone as close as they could to the barriers.

"It's Cardinal Nation," one guy said to me as he stood there smashed in between five people. "It's what we do here."

Complete strangers became the best of friends that day, sharing one thing in common: the sheer joy of a Cardinals' World Series title.

Memories of the season were being traded from one loyal fan to the next.

Once the parade started, things got a little crazy. The noise level rose as the players drove by in their truck. Flash bulbs were going off left and right, people hoping to get a picture of their favorite Redbird player.

Even now, almost a week after the big win, it's all anyone can talk about. Winning the World Series is still in the news broadcasts and on the cover of the newspaper. This is something that Cardinal fans will be talking about for weeks to come.

With the season over, I find myself already missing baseball. Spring training is only a few months away, and I'm sure that all of St. Louis is excited for another memorable season to start.

No one can foresee what's in store for the Cardinals next season. Who knows, maybe we'll get lucky again and see another World Series win. After all, anything is possible in Cardinal Nation.

SLIAC: WU ready for defense

FROM PAGE 10

contests this season, but are familiar with the other two teams to round out the four-team playoff. The winner is crowned conference champion and receives an NCAA berth. Webster defeated the second-seeded Greenville College Panthers 5-0 in late September, and defeated the third-seeded Principia College Panthers 3-2 Oct.7.

The Gorloks surrendered their only non-win in conference play to the Griffins with a 2-2 tie Oct. 7 before dropping a non-conference game to Fontbonne Oct. 18 in a 1-0 loss after two overtimes.

"If you look at that Fontbonne game we lost, and the number of golden opportunities we had, we had to finish," Head Coach Marty Todt said. "And when we finish early, we're more relaxed. And when we're more relaxed, we play our game better."

Game results back up Coach Todt's theory since Webster has jumped out to the early lead in 11 games this season, with eight victories and one tie resulting in those 11 games. Webster also has outscored the opposition 29-9 in the first half of games this season.

"That Fontbonne game was tough to drop," Assistant Coach Alex Fritts said. "But at least it was a non-conference game, so there weren't any points at stake."

Webster finished the conference season with 22 total points. Greenville and Principia each finished with 18 points, with Greenville being awarded the two seed after defeating Principia twice this season, including their 2-0 win Oct. 14 in conference play. Fontbonne finished the season with 16 points in the conference, landing them as the fourth seed.

The Gorloks are a well-rounded team heading into the SLIAC tournament, with their offense, defense and goalkeeping clicking on all cylinders. In 17 total games played this season, the Gorloks have scored 52 goals while holding their opponents to just 18.

"The defense has been playing very well," Fritts said. "We're still platooning our goalies each game, and that's working out nicely. We wish we could get them a couple more shutouts, because they've earned them. Unfortunately, we've allowed a goal here or a goal there that has cost them."

Together, the rotating goaltending tandem of senior Chris Hartman and sophomore Dustin Simpson has produced five shutouts on the seasons, while both logging more than 800 minutes in the net and allowing only nine goals each. Both players shared the honor of defending the net in Webster's final game of the regular season against Maryville, with neither player allowing a goal in the half they were on duty.

The Gorloks advanced past the SLIAC tournament last year, but lost the NCAA tournament opener to Trinity College (Texas) 3-0. With the team riding momentum from its offensive surge and defensive domination this season, the Gorloks hope to continue playing after this weekend's tournament is complete.

"We're starting to figure it out now after all of our injuries," Fann said. "Against Fontbonne we had some people sitting out because of injuries or cards. But now we have our full line-up, and I think we can make a run."

The first round of the SLIAC tournament takes place Nov. 2, and the finals will be played Nov. 4. The winner is awarded the SLIAC conference championship and receives a spot in the NCAA tournament.

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Sports

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ASHLEY HEIFNER / *The Journal*

Junior Kyle Milfeld, left, busts a move to try and deceive the defenseman of Maryville University Oct. 28 at home.

First Place again

BY JAY TROWER
jtrower@webujournal.com

As the calendar page flips from October to November, the Gorlok men's soccer team leaves a successful regular season behind. Now, the defending conference champions prepare for their first-round match-up in the Saint Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference tournament this week.

Webster finished the regular season with an overall record of 12-3-2 and received the top seed in the SLIAC tournament after barreling through the conference with a 7-0-1 mark. The Gorloks put the final touches on their season with a 2-0 victory over SLIAC foe Maryville University to close out the regular season.

Sophomore Captain Kevin Fann scored both goals in Webster's victory over the Saints, bringing his season total to 19 goals. That mark ties former Webster player Jeremy Amsler's school record for goals that has stood for 20 seasons. Fann has a chance to break that record with at least one more game remaining in the win and advance SLIAC tournament.

The Gorloks' first-round opponent will be the fourth-seeded Fontbonne University Griffins on 4 p.m. Nov. 2. at the Anheuser-Busch Sports and Conference Center.

The Gorloks felt a little resistance from the Griffins in two

See SLIAC, Page 9

Women's Soccer

WU earns top seed in playoff

BY MATT MAJIKAS
mmajikas@webujournal.com

After a lopsided 7-0 win against Blackburn College Oct. 21, the Webster women's soccer team are poised to make a run at the team's third Saint Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Championship in four years.

The victory prompted the Maryville Saints women's soccer players to take a cheap shot at the reigning SLIAC champion Gorloks. They created a Facebook group prior to the match with the Gorlok women's soccer team declaring their intentions to "kick some Gorlok ass."

Oct. 28, the Gorloks squared off with Maryville with nothing left to prove conference-wise. Maryville had topped the Gorloks in a 2-1 non-conference match up the previous week, and the Gorloks' undefeated SLIAC record was on the line.

"Since the loss against Maryville, we refocused in terms of what we need to do to finish strong," Head Coach Luigi Scire said. "I think Maryville is going to play their best game of the season."

The Gorloks happily welcomed back junior Katie Mannion for the match. Mannion returned from an ACL injury that sidelined her for half of the season.

"I am so ready to go," Mannion said before the game. "I have no doubt that everyone is fired up to play."

The Gorloks got on the board first when senior defender Jennifer McSheehy found the back of the net with four minutes remaining in the first half. The Gorloks maintained the lead throughout the second half behind strong goaltending from senior Heather Schaefer and sophomore Jessica Kozeny, who combined for seven saves.

Just when the Gorloks thought they had the game wrapped up, Maryville's Katie Biri trickled a ball into the Gorlok net in the 89th minute, sending the game into overtime. In the 107th minute, SLIAC Player of the Week for Oct. 2 through 8, freshman Kelsey McClure, buried her team-leading 18th goal — a shot that sank just below the crossbar giving the Gorloks a 2-1 double overtime win.

After the game, Scire turned his back to the field for a discrete fist pump.

The win not only gave the Gorloks bragging rights, but also a perfect 8-0 SLIAC record. However, the Gorloks had mixed emotions after the win. Six Gorlok seniors had played their last regular season game.

"This program is going to miss their passion for this game," Scire said. "To be playing in the conference tournament again speaks highly of their motivation and determination."

The graduating Gorloks are: goalie Heather Schaefer, defender Jennifer McSheehy, forwards Mary Bunt and Shaina Neiderschulte and midfielders Kristen Kinsella and Michelle Sweeney — of whom all played four years of soccer.

The Gorloks now turn their focus to the SLIAC tournament, which will begin Nov. 1 when they take on Westminster College at Anheuser Busch Soccer Park. The Gorloks shut out Westminster in each of their previous regular season games outscoring the Blue Jays 5-0.

"We are not taking any team lightly," Neiderschulte said. "It doesn't matter who the team is; we have to be ready."

The Gorloks hope to make their second NCAA tournament appearance in as many seasons and improve on their showing from last season. The Gorloks were knocked out of the first round of the NCAA tournament by Wheaton College last season. With a favorable overall record and a SLIAC tournament win, the Gorloks would likely get a higher seeding for the first round of the NCAA tournament this fall. With a newly found focus, the entire Gorlok squad is confident the team will send its senior leaders out in style.

"Physically, our skills and abilities are there," Scire said. "We have to be mentally prepared to play at all times."

Team honors six seniors

The success of the women's soccer season can be attributed to the success of the team's many seniors who now look to the conference tournament as a bittersweet ending to their careers.

This season six seniors led the Gorloks to a perfect 8-0 Saint Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference record, along with a 15-3-1 overall record.

Over the last four seasons the Gorloks dominated the SLIAC. In the four seasons that this class of six seniors played the Gorloks accumulated 61 wins, including a staggering 40-3 SLIAC record. Add on three SLIAC Conference Championships and two NCAA Tournament appearances with one in the running and the Gorloks have developed into a dynasty.

The defense was anchored by captain Jennifer McSheehy, who

See SENIORS, Page 9

GORLOK GLANCE

Women's soccer

Nov. 1 SLIAC Semi-Finals @ Anhueser-Busch Soccer Park 7 p.m.

Nov. 4 SLIAC Championship vs. TBA

Men's soccer

Nov. 1 SLIAC Semi-Finals vs. @ Anhueser-Busch Soccer Park 7 p.m.

Nov. 4 SLIAC Championship @ Anhueser-Busch Soccer Park 1 p.m.

Volleyball

Nov. 4 @ SLIAC Finals @ Principia University 7p.m.

Men's & Women's home soccer games are played at Anheuser-Busch soccer park. Home volleyball games are played at Grant Gymnasium.

Next week:

ARE WE READY FOR SOME FOOTBALL? HOOPS AND SLIAC PLAYOFF RECAPS

Story Ideas?

Send them via the Internet to tparr@webujournal.com

Or via the telephone at (314) 961-2660 ext. 7575.

SLIAC soccer preview: How WU stacks up

Men

The seeds

#1 Webster University Gorloks 22 Pts: (12-3-2) Overall (7-0-1) Conf.
#2 Greenville College Panthers 18 Pts: (11-5-4) overall (6-2-0) conf.,
#3 Principia College Panthers 18 Pts: (12-8-0) overall (6-2-0) conf.,
#4 Fontbonne Univ. Griffins 16 Pts: (9-8-1) overall (5-2-1) conf.

The key players

Greenville : Travis Siebert, goalie, senior (15 GA, 7-4-4 record, 5 shutouts)
Principia : Ricky Seaman, midfield/forward, freshman (12 goals, 4 assists)
Fontbonne : Dane Arand, forward, senior (17 goals, 7 assists)
Webster : Kevin Fann, sophomore (19 goals, 5 assists)

Versus Webster

Webster @ Greenville College, Sept. 23, away 5-0 ***win***
Webster @ Fontbonne, Oct. 4, away 2-2 ***tie****
Webster @ Principia, Oct. 7, away 3-2 ***win***
Webster vs. Fontbonne, Oct. 18, home 0-1 (2 OT) ***loss***

*Denotes conference game

Women

The seeds

#1 Webster University Gorloks 24 pts, (8-0-0) conf. (15-3-1) overall
#2 seed Principia College Panthers, 21 pts, (7-1-0) conf. (15-5-0) overall
#3 seed Maryville University Saints, 16 pts (5-2-1) conf. (13-5-1) overall
#4 seed Westminster College Blue Jays, 13 pts (4-3-1) conf. (7-9-1) overall

The key players

Principia, Christina Day, senior, forward, (20 goals, 8 assists)
Maryville, KendriaBoddie, freshman, goalie, (1234 mins. 15 GA, 77 saves, 10-4-1) 4 shutouts
Westminster Danielle Shannon, junior, forward, (7 goals, 1 assist)
Webster, Kelsey McClure, freshman, forward/Midfield, (18 goals, 6 assists)

Versus Webster

Webster @ Principia Oct. 7: away, (6-2) ***win****
Webster vs. Westminster Oct. 11: home, (3-0) ***win***
Webster @ Maryville Oct. 17: away, (1-2) ***loss***
Webster vs. Maryville, home Oct. 28, (2-1) 2 OT ***win****

Stats compiled by Jay Trower

Carrie Shylanski



This MLB season was definitely for the birds

"Go crazy folks, go crazy!" The late Cardinals' announcer Jack Buck's famous line was being heard all around St. Louis this week as the Cardinals won their 10th World Series title- the first in 24 years.

Everywhere I went the week of the World Series people were clad in red, sporting a T-shirts with their favorite players' names on the back. All anyone could talk about was the World Series, either what happened in the game the night before or what was going to happen that night. The news wasn't the news anymore; it was Cardinals 101. Being a St. Louisan was something to be even more proud of that week.

Watching game five was pure excitement for me, as well as for the rest of Cardinal Nation. Going into game five, I didn't want to say the Cardinals were going to win that night, but I had a feeling they would. It all came down to the last out; my stomach was a ball of nerves. Sitting on the edge of the couch, I waited for that last strike in the bottom of the ninth. When Adam Wainwright threw the pitch, to win the World Series, nothing but pure adrenaline pumped through my veins. To say I just sat on my couch and smiled when the Cardinals won would not be accurate. Jumping up and down, screaming my head off was more like it. I had just witnessed the Redbirds win the World Series — something I have waited for my entire life.

The day after the game, Cardinal Nation was in full force. It was a zoo at the local Sports Authority to get one of those much-coveted World Series Champions T-shirts. Any place that sold anything Cardinre-lated was bound to be jam-packed.

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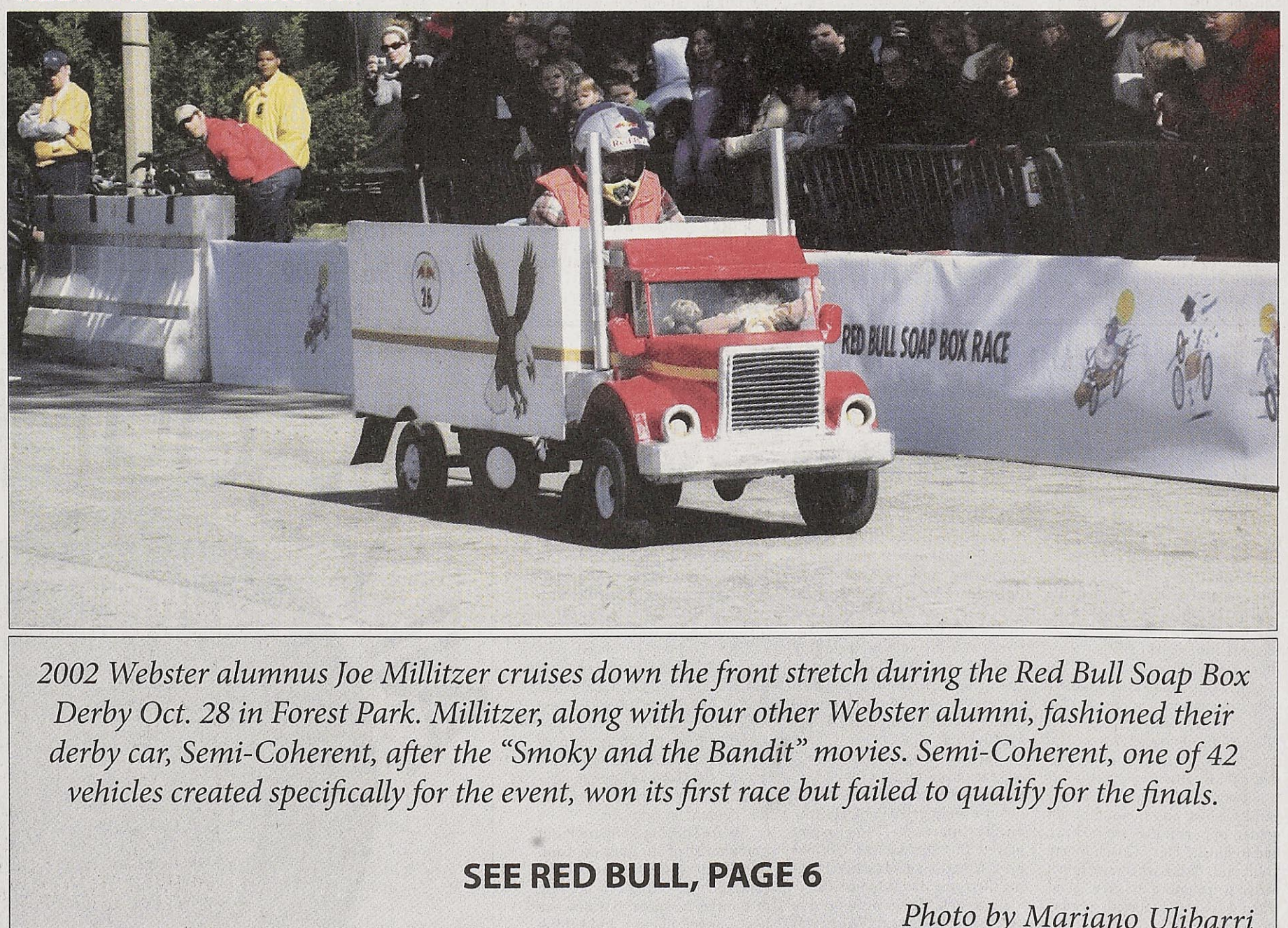
KEEP ON TRUCKIN' ...



2002 Webster alumnus Joe Millitzer cruises down the front stretch during the Red Bull Soap Box Derby Oct. 28 in Forest Park. Millitzer, along with four other Webster alumni, fashioned their derby car, Semi-Coherent, after the "Smoky and the Bandit" movies. Semi-Coherent, one of 42 vehicles created specifically for the event, won its first race but failed to qualify for the finals.

SEE RED BULL, PAGE 6

Photo by Mariano Ulibarri

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Updated Web site to debut

BY BETH PRUSACZYK
bprusaczyk@webujournal.com

Webster University is set to unveil an updated Web site Nov 9.

Dan Perkins, director of interactive media and marketing, said the delay was due to spring 2006 registration, which began for seniors Nov. 6.

"That allowed us to get past the first three days of registration, which are historically the highest traffic days for the Web site," Perkins said.

Perkins said those in interactive media and marketing are excited to launch an overhauled Web site that provides a fresh look for the university. The new site will also make it easier for people to navigate and find the information they desire. He said the changes include a new home page and new content behind almost every link on the home page.

"In many cases, we've created and updated content two and three clicks beyond the home page," Perkins said. "At that point, we have linked to existing content in the old design, until we have time to build out the rest of the site."

Besides a new look, the home page now has new links – one for prospective students and one for current students, Perkins said. When current students click on the link, they will have access to 20 or 30 of the most important pieces of information within the entire Webster University Web site. He also said these pieces of information will change as needed.

"For example, registration is now a key link on this page," Perkins said. "As we move closer to graduation, the information that students will need to know about commencement will be highlighted on this page."

The new graduate admissions site launched in July 2006, making it possible for prospective students to apply online. Perkins said since the launch, they received more than 1,000 applications online within the first three months.

According to the National Association for College Admission Counseling, in 2005 colleges and universities nationwide received an average of 49 percent of their applications online. Webster is now entering the online application world.

Perkins said the new undergraduate admissions site is expected to release within the week, but there are some issues with the launching.

"Since we collect information and application fees from prospective students through the online application, we have to take extra precaution to insure that all of those processes work properly," Perkins said.

Perkins said the new Web site was a joint effort.

"It has been a true team effort between information technology and marketing to create a Web site that better manages and delivers the vast amount of content that is needed to tell the story of a worldwide university," Perkins said. "There's still much work to be done, but this is an important first step."



MAX GERSH / *The Journal*

Political observers cram into the University Center Sunnen Lounge for former Gov. Bob Holden's Election Night 2006 Party. The event featured call-ins and visits from analysts, candidates and political party members, who fielded questions from the audience. By the end of the night, more than 200 people had attended.

Dems seize House, Senate victory likely

BY JAMES CHILTON
jchilton@webujournal.com

Students packed the University Center Sunnen Lounge the night of Nov. 7 for former Gov. Bob Holden's Election Night 2006 Party. As election results began pouring in, Holden fielded questions to several guest speakers from both sides of the political spectrum.

More than 200 students filtered in and out of the room while televisions lining the walls updated the crowd on local and national elections. Republicans and Democrats alike turned out, fraternizing with one another and contributing questions to the speakers.

As CNN called the House of Representatives for the Democrats, however, a chorus of cheers revealed the party affiliation of much of the crowd.

After 12 years of nearly uninterrupted Republican control of Congress, election night proved a major success for the Democrats, who took a projected 28 seats in the House and six seats in the Senate as of 4:15 a.m. Nov. 8. To regain a majority, Democrats needed 15 seats in the House and six in the Senate.

"I think the whole thing's a referendum on the Bush administration, it's a referendum on a lot of key issues," said Kathy Corley, a film and video professor. "I am so excited that people have been re-energized about politics, particularly the student population."

In Missouri's U.S. Senate race, challenger Claire McCaskill unseated incumbent Republican Jim Talent by a razor-thin margin, giving Democrats a much-needed victory in an already-tight bid for control of the Senate.

"If you're a Republican, you'd better have a life jacket on," said Republican National Political Consultant call-in Steve Grand.

Sen. Dick Durbin (D-Ill.), also over the phone predicted major changes in public policy to come with Democratic control of Congress, including changes in U.S. fiscal policy, altering the conduct of the War on Terror and the war in Iraq, and moving to enact the recommendations of the 9/11 Commission, the group that investigated the attacks and issued a report to Congress.

"You'll actually have a two-party system," Durbin said.

James Brasfield, president of Webster's Faculty Senate and the former mayor of Crestwood, said he expected Democrats to force President George W. Bush to adopt a more inclusive, bipartisan agenda for his last two years in office.

"Bush is going to have to be bipartisan not only in terms of working with the Democrats, but he's also going to have to take a more moderate approach in some of his policy positions," Brasfield said.

Brasfield further anticipated that working with Democrats may actually help the president pass some of his agenda, such as immigration reform.

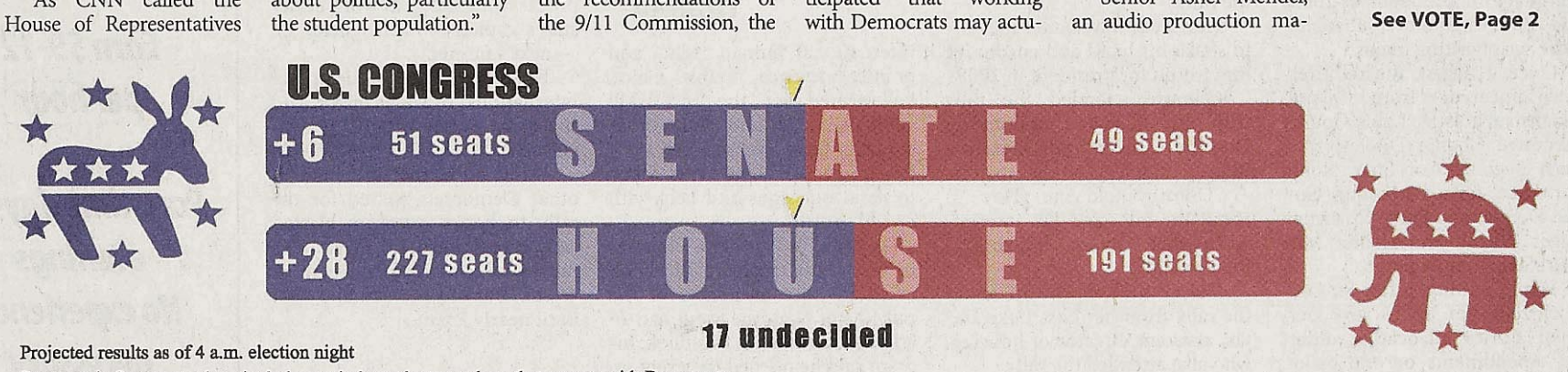
Senior Asher Mendel, an audio production major, said while Democratic control of Congress was crucial this election, there

See VOTE, Page 2



MAX GERSH / *The Journal*

Abby Heft colors in Democratic seats for the U.S. Senate in the UC Sunnen Lounge on Nov. 7.



Projected results as of 4 a.m. election night
Democratic Senate numbers include two independent members that caucus with Democrats.

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OUTSIDE

THURSDAY
Partly Cloudy
73/53

FRIDAY
Isolated Showers
70/46

SATURDAY
Partly Cloudy
54/38

Webster unveils new refund options

BY KELLEY ATHERTON
katherton@webujournal.com

Students will have new options for receiving financial aid refunds for the spring 2007 semester. Currently, students can only receive refunds via paper check, but now will be able to get direct depositing or a debit card.

Students get a refund when their financial aid outweighs the balance on their account. For example, students can apply for an independent student loan or scholarship and then get back whatever money is left after tuition and other fees.

Vickie Fredrick, vice president of finance, said students will start receiving their refunds the third week of school next semester.

Janice Neal, bursar for Webster University, said this December every student will receive a packet in the mail explaining the new refund options, including a Webster University/Higher One debit card. The packet will explain how to log on to the Web site *http://www.websterdebitcard.com*, activate the card and then choose a refund option: check, direct deposit or debit card.

Neal said the purpose of the new direct depositing and debit card is for students to get refunds quicker. She also said students have been asking for this option for several years.

"Students need their refunds as soon as possible," Neal said. "Students will able to get the refund a lot faster, within one to two days."

If students want to use the debit card, they have to start a bank account with Higher One. Higher One is a Connecticut-based, FDIC-insured refund management company to higher education institutes, through Texas-based Frost Bank, Neal said. The credit limit on the debit card is the same amount as a student's refund; he or she cannot spend more than that amount on the debit card.

"It works like any debit or credit card," Neal said. "It can be used anywhere MasterCard is accepted, also at ATMs."

Neal said there had been problems in the past with student refunds. Checks were stolen, some were mailed to one state and ended up in another or checks were simply lost in the mail. Direct depositing sends the money directly into a secured account, Neal said.

Students who receive refunds each semester have mixed feelings about the new system. Junior Robert Royer, an accounting major, said he feels indifferent about how he receives his refund, but doesn't want to constantly receive banking offers from Higher One.

"My refund normally comes within a week," Royer said. "Direct depositing is probably a good idea, but I have a feeling Higher One is going to start marketing students. Webster is probably benefiting from the debit cards; it's too weird."

Sean Glass, chief marketing officer for Higher One, said Higher One cannot under FDIC law sell information to other companies. He said students can go to the Webster debit card Web site and elect whether or not they want to receive offers from Higher One.

"Students will not get calls from telemarketers," Glass said.

Senior Larry Morris, an audio production major, said he likes the idea of using direct depositing, but not the debit card because he doesn't want to open a new banking account.

"I would prefer direct depositing because it's much easier than running to the bank," Morris said. "If I have to go through another bank, I wouldn't choose the debit card."



The Higher One debit card is one of the new options for students receiving financial aid refunds. The card can be used like a regular debit card.

Glass said every student is sent a debit card because it has a unique identification number assigned to each student. Students need the ID number to log onto the Web site to choose their refund option. The ID number creates a web account for students to use and monitor their refunds. Also, if students change their minds and decide to start a new account they already have the debit card.

Fredrick said a team of 13 people from student affairs, financial aid and the business office assembled to discuss the issue of student refunds. They decided to use Higher One to exclusively handle student refunds, even though it costs the university money to go through the company.

"The university pays for the service," Fredrick said. "There are

See DEBIT, Page 2

Vote: Stem cell issue, wage hike approved

FROM PAGE 1

would be no serious changes in U.S. policy in Iraq until Americans elect a Democratic president.

"I think it's very important that the Democrats, in the best interests of the party and balancing out the political spectrum, gain control of the Senate as well," Mendel said after the Sunnen Lounge projection screen showed CNN announcing the House for the Democrats.

Junior Courtney Kennedy, a video production major, said though she was usually apolitical, she was unhappy with President Bush.

"This is a chance to do what people should've done two years ago," Kennedy said.

Junior Andrew Bryson, a political science major, said even with one house of Congress, Democrats could cause major changes in the executive branch.

"I think you're going to see Bush come a lot more to the center, he's going to have to abandon the far right policy that he's been pursuing," Bryson said. "He's going to have to draw back to the middle, not a bad thing for anybody."

Also on the ballot, Amendment 2, an initiative that would protect stem cell research, squeaked past with barely 51 percent of the vote. An 80-cent tax increase on tobacco products, Amendment 3, failed narrowly. Proposition B, an initiative to increase the state minimum wage from $5.15 to $6.50, passed with overwhelming support.

"This is ... what people should've done two years ago."

- Courtney Kennedy, Webster student



MAX GERSH / *The Journal*

Mark Abels (left), friend of former Gov. Bob Holden (middle), watches election statistics on a computer while Political Science Director Dan Hellinger watches the results on CNN.

U.S. Senator

Claire McCaskill (D):	**49%**
Jim Talent (R):	48%
Frank Gilmour (Lib):	2%
Lydia Lewis (Prog):	1%

90% of precincts reporting

U.S. Representative

1st District

Lacy Clay (D):	**74%**
Mark Byrne (R):	24%
Robb Cunningham (Lib):	2%

78% of precincts reporting

2nd District

Todd Akin (R):	**61%**
George D. Weber (D):	37%
Tamara Millay (Lib):	2%

81% of precincts reporting

3rd District

Russ Carnahan (D):	**66%**
David Bertelsen (R):	31%
R. Christophel (Lib):	2%
David Sladky (Prog):	1%

77% of precincts reporting

State Auditor

Susan Montee (D):	**53%**
Sandra Thomas (R):	44%
Charles Baum (Lib):	3%
Terry Bunker (Prog):	2%

90% of precincts reporting

Amendment 2: Stem Cell Init.

Yes:	**913, 825**
No:	909,984

88% of precincts reporting

Amendment 3: Cigarette Tax

No:	**954,777**
Yes:	868,707

88% of precincts reporting

Proposition B: Min. Wage Hike

Yes:	**1,358,904**
No:	446,992

88% of precincts reporting

NEWS BRIEFS

Literature conference Nov. 10 and 11

The School of Education will hold a conference for teachers and librarians on literature for children and young adults.

Sessions are from 5 to 8:30 p.m. Nov. 10 and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Nov. 11 at the Emerson Library Conference Room.

Author and Educator Steven L. Layne will be the keynote speaker on Nov. 10 and Sharroky Hollie, co-founder of the Culture and Language Academy of Success, will be the keynote speaker Nov. 11.

The cost is $40 for Nov. 10, $95 for Nov. 11 or $125 for both.

For more info, call ext. 7493, or register at *http://www.webster.edu/depts/education/clc006_07.pdf.*

Career fair and workshops in November

Career Services will be holding a career fair from noon to 4 p.m. Nov. 14 in Grant Gymnasium.

Career Services also will hold workshops from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Nov. 8 and 9 in the University Center Conference Room to help students make the most out of the fair.

For more information, contact Career Services at ext. 6982 or visit *http://www.webster.edu* and click on Career Services.

Old Courthouse photo exhibit opens

An exhibit entitled "Let Wonderland Tell Its Story: William Henry Jackson's 1871 Alberttypes" will be on display at the Old Courthouse Nov. 8 through Jan. 21.

The exhibit features first printed depictions from photographic images of geographic features in what became Yellowstone National Park in 1872. Yellowstone was established as the United States' first national park.

Debit: Higher One will manage student refunds

FROM PAGE 1

fees for every transaction."

However, Fredrick said Webster will avoid extra costs by no longer issuing checks and lines will be shorter at the cashier windows. In addition, Higher One will offer better student information protection.

"The university did not want to collect and maintain all the students' banking information," Fredrick said. "It was a risk the school didn't want to take."

Jon Gruett, director of financial aid, said he thinks using Higher One will be successful.

"My impression is it'll be more efficient and cost-effective than doing it internally," Gruett said. "It takes quite a bit of effort to keep track of all those routing numbers."

Miles Lasater, Mark Volchek and Sean Glass, while attending Yale University, formed Higher One in 2000. The company has disbursed $1.5 billion in refunds to more than 450,000 students, faculty and staff, according to Higher One's Web site.

Glass said they started the company to offer students a faster and better way to get their refunds.

"We felt large financial institutions ignore students because student accounts don't make money," Glass said. "Students are the least desirable customers."

Higher One offers different choices to students, Glass said.

Students turn out for Obama at McCaskill rally

BY BREANNA HERSCHELMAN
bherschelman@webujournal.com

The crowd was getting restless when after 45 minutes of standing in the cold, the man they were waiting to see was nowhere in sight.

Thousands of people gathered at the World's Fair Pavilion in Forest Park for a rally for Senate hopeful Claire McCaskill Nov. 5, but the main attraction was speaker Sen. Barack Obama.

"I think (Obama) is a good candidate for president in 2008," said Bryant Gilmore, a sophomore scriptwriting major.

Once it began, the rally featured appearances from local politicians such as St. Louis County Executive Charlie Dooley, Missouri Secretary of State Robin Carnahan, former Missouri Gov. and Democratic Party Chairman Roger Wilson and former Missouri Sen. Tom Eagleton.

While waiting, a few St. Louis citizens got up to give personal stories advocating different amendments on the ballot. Webster alumnus and Vintage Vinyl co-owner Lewis Price spoke on behalf of small business owners.

Obama appeared around 5:30 p.m. He spoke about his new book, "The Audacity of Hope," and how he found inspiration for the title from his pastor's sermon. Obama said over and over that change needs to happen in Washington along with a plethora of issues.

"I believe in the capacity of ordinary people to do extraordinary things," Obama said during the rally.

Hundreds stayed after the rally to shake his hand and encourage him to run for president in 2008.

Gilmore attended the rally with his friends sophomores Dorothy Colyer and Anastasia Rucker, both legal studies majors.

"Dorothy told me (Nov. 2) about the rally and I'm interested in what (Obama) has to say," Rucker said.

Colyer said she heard about the rally from her boss Luke Davis, assistant director of housing, who also attended the rally.



OBAMA

Sophomore Mac Ingram, an international human rights and political science double major, volunteered for the McCaskill campaign. He and four other students from Webster arrived a few hours early and were asked to hand out signs and help with crowd control.

Ingram, a resident assistant in West Hall, created a Facebook event to raise awareness of the rally. As of Nov., the event had 26 confirmed guests on Facebook. Ingram said he opened the event up to his floor and offered to carpool.

"I've done some phone banks for Claire, and some work at Webster to make sure people register and go out to vote," Ingram said.

Phone banks are locations where numerous volunteers call constituents and raise awareness of their campaign and other issues.

One of the students that accompanied Ingram was freshman Jessie Chappell, an international relations major. Chappell said she is interested in the political process and wants to work at her state's capitol — Springfield, Ill. — next summer.

Freshman Katye Ellison, an international relations major, said she came to the rally to get involved in the democratic process.

While all of the students and other Democrats waited for the rally to begin, speakers blasted jazz, gospel and R&B music. The rally was scheduled to begin at 4 p.m., but did not actually start until nearly 5 p.m.

Make money working for your student newspaper.

The Journal is seeking to fill several editor positions for the spring semester.
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SGA argues funding, recognition of groups

Ginsburg says groups are still feeling last year's budget cuts

BY ALEXANDRA SMITH
asmith@webujournal.com

At Student Government Association meetings, it is common for groups to attend for the purpose of asking for formal recognition of their student organization – the Nov. 7 meeting was no exception.

The discussions and questions at the meeting regarding these decisions, however, were a bit out of the ordinary.

In past meetings, the process of approving new student groups has taken very little time. Club members tell the SGA board a little about their group, what the group's purpose will be on campus and whether the group intends to be a funded or non-funded student organization. SGA officers then vote on whether to approve the club's status.

The process wasn't quite as simple for the newly formed Webster Lions Club, a service group committed to the community of Webster University. There were also complications for *The Spark*, a publication that will serve as an outlet for student opinions and open discussion of politics and current events.

SGA members went back-and-forth about whether the clubs should be recognized and, if so, they should be recognized as funded groups.

"I think we recognize too many clubs as funded organizations when in the end they don't really need it," said Fine Arts Senator Janele Moore. "A non-funded club can come back at any time if there's a need for money."

After members of the Lions Club said funds would be used for projects meant to raise profits for charity, SGA decided to recognize them – but as a non-funded organization.

"I like what they're doing, but I didn't see any purpose for them to be funded," Moore said.

Discussion about *The Spark* followed, and SGA Adviser John Ginsburg said deciding whether or not a club should be funded did not require a detailed account of how funds would be used.

"SGA doesn't have to know anything about (the club's) funds," Ginsburg said. "They only get to determine now whether or not they get recognized. Clubs are not expected to have their budgets prepared when they come to this meeting."

Because *The Spark* intends to first be an online-only publication, SGA members had trouble deciding what their status regarding funding should be. Vice President Kendra Davis recommended putting the issue on the table to be decided at a future date. Instead, *The Spark* was recognized as non-funded because the SGA board could not see a necessity for funds at the current time.

Ginsburg said because of the budget crunches SGA has faced since the beginning of the year, the executive board has been more conscious about distributing money.

"I think that this SGA has been more focused on whether or not a club should be funded because of legitimate concerns of less money being available than in past years," Ginsburg said.

Aside from recognizing clubs, SGA did its fair share of fund allocation at the meeting. Money was allocated from the Student Grant Fund for the Children's Literature Conference, the Gospel Choir and the Ultimate Frisbee Club.

At the end of the meeting, Arts and Sciences Senator Mac Ingram announced he will soon be resigning from his position. He is doing so in hopes of filling the comptroller position next semester. Patrick Vacek, the current comptroller, will be studying abroad in Vienna.

Ingram's resignation will add more complexity to the game of SGA musical chairs that started at the beginning of the year and will continue into next semester. In the spring, Gabe Bullard will return from an internship in New York and resume the presidency, forcing current President Dee Goines back into the vice presidency and current Vice President Kendra Davis back into her education senator position. There will be vacancies in the comptroller position, a graduate senator position and an arts and sciences senator position. Individual applicants will be voted into these posts by the remaining SGA members.

Goines said he is not worried about the changes in the SGA executive board for next semester. He said it should have no effect on SGA's overall goals and commitments.

"We work as a body," Goines said. "There's no individual that runs the whole SGA."

Language dept. recovers after loss of three faculty

BY ANNA C. FORDER
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The department of international languages and cultures has some new faces this semester due to the resignation of three adjunct professors last May.

The department currently has 18 adjuncts and four full-time professors, said Mary O'Donnell, department associate. Latin classes were cancelled due to the professors leaving, but will resume in the spring 2007 semester.

Emily Thompson, an associate French professor said it's difficult to keep adjuncts and develop curriculum in new languages, such as Mandarin Chinese, because adjuncts aren't paid full salary if their classes have less than seven students.

Languages that are new to the department tend to have low enrollment for the first few semesters, which makes it more difficult to keep adjuncts for those classes, Thompson said.

Thompson said the department relies heavily on adjuncts.

"It had us kind of scrambling to find qualified people to replace them," Thompson said. "It's something we always fear in a department with a lot of adjuncts."

Department Chairwoman Graciela Corvalan said the professors leaving didn't negatively affect the department, and new professors have been hired to fill their roles.

Thompson said the adjunct professors didn't leave the department because of a singular trigger; they each left for different personal reasons.

Two of the adjunct professors left to take full-time positions at other institutions, and one left because a spouse's job was transferred, Corvalan said. Annalise Brody and Melanie Butler, both adjuncts that left the department, were replaced before the start of the fall 2006 semester.

Latin Professor Joan Hart-Hasler was the only teacher the department was unable to replace in time for the fall semester, so Latin classes had to be cancelled for fall 2006, O'Donnell said. Corvalan said another Latin professor has been hired, however, for the spring 2007 semester.

The members of the department declined to provide the name of the new Latin professor. Corvalan, however, described this new adjunct as "very qualified." In addition, professors were hired for Italian and Spanish positions. Members of the department also declined to provide the names of these professors.

Former Department Chairman Brian Kennelly also left the department May 2006 to take the position of chairman of the modern languages and literature department at California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo, Calif.

In addition to the resignations of the other three adjuncts, adjunct Diana Pascoe still teaches in the department but no longer teaches English as a Second Language classes. However, two new ESL adjuncts have been hired: Caroline Trachtova and Anthony LaBaido, a Webster adjunct who teaches classes in journalism.

"I think we've recovered very well," O'Donnell said.

Thompson said adding new staff with different perspectives is always positive, but it is difficult to acquaint these professors with the department and Webster. Unlike in many other departments, she said international language teachers can't compensate for one another. For example, professors who teach French cannot substitute for those who teach Spanish.

It remains difficult, she said, to find qualified language teachers who have the training, experience and understanding of the culture necessary to fill the department's requirements.

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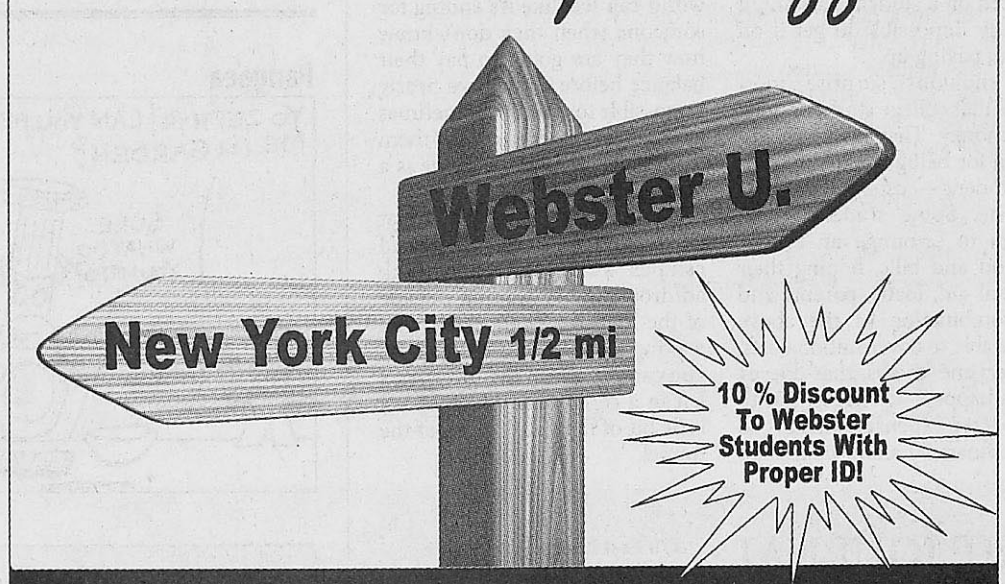

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Opinions

EDITORIALS

Voting problems aside, people still flock to polls

Despite discrepancies at the ballots Nov. 7, most citizens still managed to get out and vote — and it wasn't even a presidential election.

New technological advancements at polling locations weren't foolproof as electronic voting machines throughout the country broke down. Some voting errors were the cause of human error — people just didn't know how to use the new system.

Others, frustrated with the failure of electronic voting machines, turned to the tried and true paper ballot.

Some polling locations weren't able to offer voters the latest voting technology, and instead voters had no choice but to use the paper ballot.

Because of mishaps at polling locations — and people pouring over the ballot, probably struggling to make a decision on Amendment 2 — some lines were longer than others. However, others were short as voters moved swiftly, touching the screens of the electronic voting machines at what seemed like warp speed.

Students shared stories of their voting experiences and it seemed volunteers at some polling locations were strict on voters providing identification, while others didn't even bother to ask.

We at *The Journal* heard the following observations from students who made their way to the polls:

• Inconsistency with providing proper identification. Some polling locations required ID, while others seemed to look the other way.

• Confusion regarding cell phone use. Voters were not informed of the cell phone restrictions that took action once they entered a polling location.

• An abundance of canvassers at polling locations. People stood outside poll centers waving signs, pushing buttons and pamphlets, trying to sway voters before they cast their ballot.

Aside from all the glitches that surfaced election day, people still got out to vote — and the response to the 2006 midterm election was overwhelming.

Webster showed support Election Day with former Gov. Bob Holden's election party in the University Center, where political big whigs wined and dined (sandwiches, chips, cheese cubes, vegetables and cake) with students, faculty and staff.

Those who trekked to the polls election day, voter ID card and license in hand, should be commended for taking the time out of their day to vote. After all, every vote counts.

On top of registration, students faced with debt

It's that time of year again. Students are looking for the spring course booklets and hoping to register in time to get into their favorite class or fulfill a few dire course requirements. Professors and advisors are meeting with students to go over degree audits and even a few degree changes. However, some students are not having an easy time with class registration. With grant money and scholarships becoming harder to come by, students may frequently end up with an unpaid account balance by the time registration rolls around. If the money isn't paid soon enough, a hold is placed on a student's account. It usually doesn't matter how low the remaining balance is. Once a hold is placed on a student account, it is nearly impossible to get it off without paying up.

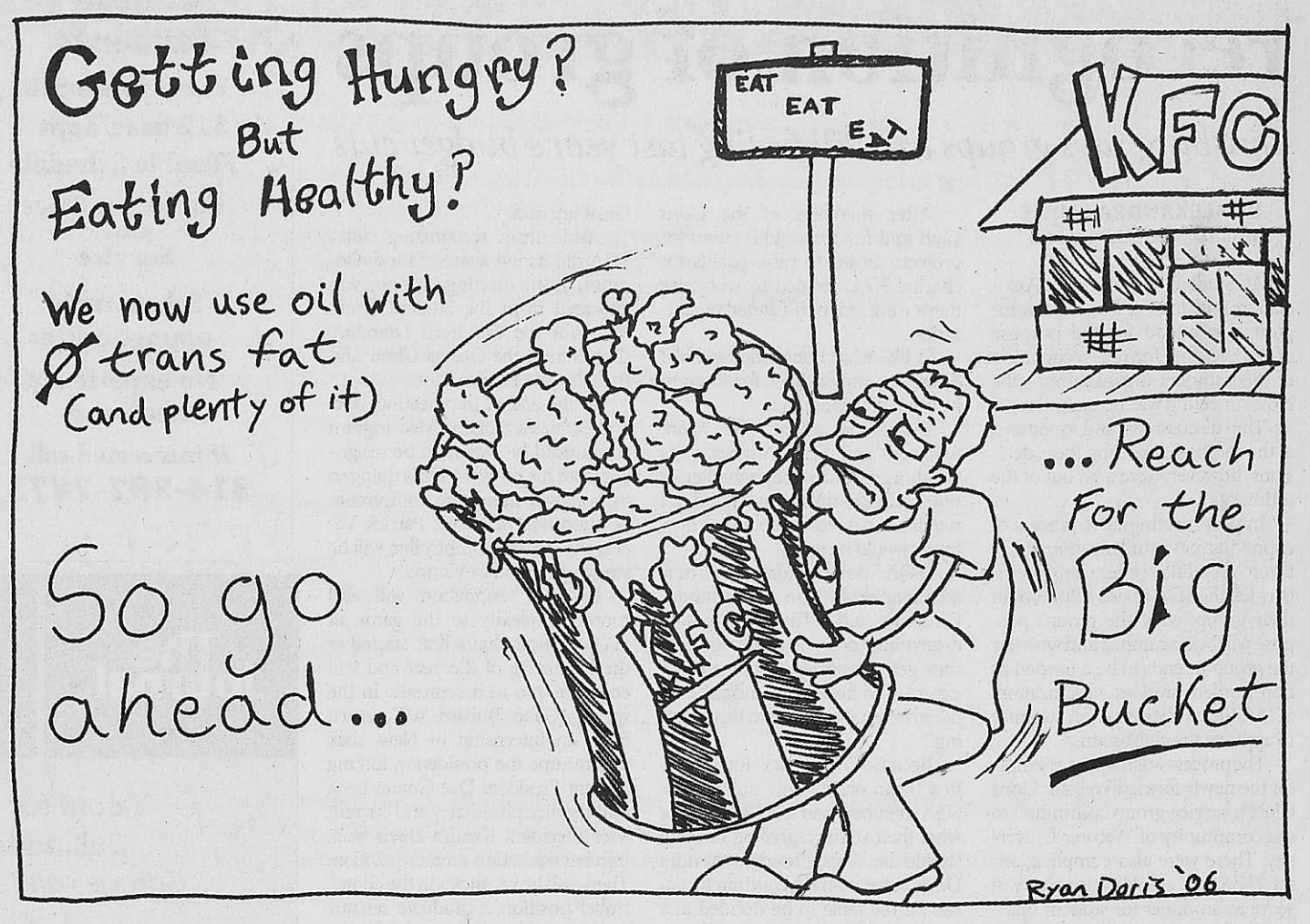
It shouldn't surprise most people that college students don't have money. That is, after all a criteria for being a full-time college student — especially undergraduate. Some students work enough to scrounge up money for food and bills, hoping their financial aid, loans, parents and any combination of the above will be able to cover tuition costs. As everyone knows, that doesn't always happen — whether due to unexpected expenses, inability to obtain financial aid or confusion about the loan application process.

Registering on time is vital to graduating on time. Required core classes fill up fast and most professors are sticklers when it comes to taking extra students on the rolls. There is nothing sadder than a student crying on the phone with the business office administrator, hoping he or she will temporarily remove the hold on their account so the student can register for classes.

Most students are too far along in their studies to skip out on a $200 balance and the prospects of a Webster University degree. So what is all the fuss about?

Students understand that a portion of every university is run like a business. But sometimes the world can feel like it's ending for someone when they don't know how they are going to pay their balance before classes are nearly impossible to get into. Sometimes all a student needs to ease them from going into panic mode is a little compassion.

Students — remember that when you're running around campus will a fist full of pink ad/drop slips or waiting outside of the Registrar's office at 8 a.m. waiting for the door to open so you can get one of the three seats left in a certain class — there's a little bit of light at the end of the tunnel.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Tom Parr's specious argument

I hope I am not too late and not piling on when I say that I wish I had seen Tom Parr's "Mets are Pond Scum" monologue on the Quad, after his specious claims of Mets supremacy over the St. Louis Cardinals (Point/Better Point, Oct. 12 issue).

The fact Tom cherry-picked attendance statistics from 1994 and 1995 to make an argument about Cardinals fans' supposed bandwagon membership is ludicrous. I suppose Tom knows that, in 1994, Major League Baseball experienced its first player strike since 1981? He may only have been six or seven years old, but that's no excuse for him not knowing his baseball history.

So, in a year when the season ended six weeks short, it's understandable that attendance was down. Given many fans displeasure with MLB after the record strike (which canceled the World Series that year), it's easily understandable how attendance was "so low" in St. Louis the following year.

Check attendance across baseball — it wasn't until a certain androdro-chugging slugger, Mark McGwire, hit 70 home runs in 1998 that baseball really recovered. Of course, Tom should know about the record — *New York Daily News* columnist Mike Lupica wrote a book about how great the season was, thanks to Cubs outfielder Sammy Sosa and McGwire, who happened to be the St. Louis Cardinals' first baseman.

Attendance has been up ever since then, for many reasons, the main one being that the Cardinals have been winning. Tom mentions 2000 as a line of demarcation. Okay. From the 2000 season to now, the Cardinals have compiled 658 wins versus 475 losses, a .580 winning percentage. In that same time, the Mets won just a few more games (568) than they lost (564), a .501 percentage.

Don't worry Tom — though the Cardinals are the premier National League team, there's one record your Mets will always have, that of the worst record ever, 40-120 in 1962. I can't wait to read more of your prescient prose.

Jeff Starck,
Alumnus 2003
Former Journal *Editor-in-Chief*

Webster Works Worldwide not covered

It has come to my attention that *The Journal* did not put much effort into informing the campus about one of our biggest events of the year. An event that has occurred now for the past 12 years — an event that drew a grand total of 2,085 people at the St. Louis campus and extended campuses. An event that serviced 191 different companies all over the world. An event that at least almost all of my professors took the time to write into their class syllabi and even an event that Webster president Meyers took the time to write a thank-you e-mail to all that were involved.

This event: Webster Works Worldwide. It would have helped very much if there was some advertisement or even a mention of this event in the newspaper beforehand in order to get the word out to get people involved and excited. What's worse is there was still no mention about Webster Works Worldwide in *The Journal* after the event. No one is asking for glory just because a group of people went out and performed some hours of community service, but it would have been nice if there were at least some follow-up pictures and maybe some quotes from students who did participate.

I was informed that there is a slight mention of Webster Works Worldwide in the online version of *The Journal* for the Oct. 26 issue, but you would not believe what I had to do to find it! There is no article of the event, just a picture that if clicked on is a link to the Webster Works Worldwide image photo gallery. Nice effort. As the official Webster University newspaper whose responsibility is to report on the events of this campus and the interests of its students, faculty and staff — there could have been a better job done on this topic.

Ngozi Williams,
Sophomore,
International Relations,
Webster Works Worldwide Planning Committee

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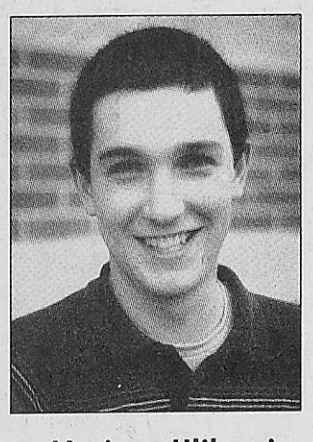
COMMENTARY

St. Louis does not deserve 'most dangerous' title

Report issued by Morgan Quitno has flaws, ranks St. Louis as the most dangerous city in the United States



Mariano Ulibarri

According to the FBI — the very source of Morgan Quitno's data — reports like the America's Safest are inaccurate and should not be taken seriously.

Just a few hours after St. Louisans finished celebrating a World Series victory over Detroit, reporters from *The Associated Press, Reuters* and countless major papers around the country sat at their computers preparing a headline that pretty much writes itself: "St. Louis beats Detroit in crime as well as baseball," or some variation thereof. It was big news for a day or two in our dangerous little town.

The report responsible for the claim was released Oct. 30 by Morgan Quitno Press, a Lawrence, Kan.,-based research company. The 13th Annual America's Safest and Most Dangerous Cities has seen St. Louis top the rankings twice this millennium — in 2002 and 2006. According to the report, the top five most dangerous cities this year are: St. Louis; Detroit; Flint, Mich; Compton, Calif. and Camden, NJ.

The statistics used to determine a city's danger level come from the FBI — a reputable source. Six categories of crime are examined: murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary and motor vehicle theft. Numbers are counted and compared against national averages; cities with the highest percentage exceeding that average are ranked accordingly.

After a full day, and countless articles running the report, Mayor Francis Slay made a statement. He claimed the figures were flawed, pointing to a low population estimate — Morgan Quitno reported 346,000. However, Slay said the populations estimate is more like 353,000. Slay also made mention of the much larger population of the metro area and ultimately used his moment in the spotlight to tout new downtown lofts and restaurants. The much-needed response offered by the mayor was weak. Why not attack the very core of the report, Mr. Slay?

I am not a native St. Louisan, but I've called this place home for more than seven years, and I have to disagree with Morgan Quitno. This is not a dangerous city, certainly not the most dangerous in the country. With a little bit of digging, it's easy to see the report should be questioned.

According to the FBI — the very source of Morgan Quitno's data — reports like the America's Safest are inaccurate and should not be taken seriously. While the statistics used in the report are accurate, they are meaningless when taken out of context — which is exactly what happens in Morgan Quitno's report.

Which is a better measure of danger — being murdered or having your car broken into? Morgan Quitno says they're the same. That's right, all six crime categories are given equal weight — try telling a rape victim they are no higher priority than a kid whose bike was stolen.

In Morgan Quitno's defense, they do provide a disclaimer that the FBI, police and many criminologists caution against reports like the one they offer. Unfortunately, the disclaimer appears in the press-only area of their Web site, not in the areas open to the public.

Mayor Slay touched on one fatal flaw — the population of the greater metro area — but failed to drive it home. In addition to ranking individual cities, Morgan Quitno also ranks metro areas. In this competition St. Louis fared much better, coming in as the 129th most dangerous. Why such a large gap between the city and its metro area? Am I supposed to believe crime simply stops as I head west out of Forest Park?

I know some terrible neighborhoods in the St. Louis metro that aren't in the city and I know some wonderful neighborhoods that are in the city. To slap the label of most dangerous on this city is irresponsible, inaccurate and nothing more than fear mongering. Morgan Quitno states their aim is to make cities safer by letting people understand the "true magnitude of their crime problems," I call bullshit.

Twisting the facts and conveniently excluding relevant context does nothing more than further the problems these cities face. The report will keep people and money out of St. Louis and contribute to the already rampant white flight. People don't leave a city because it becomes dangerous — a city becomes dangerous because people leave.

Mariano Ulibarri, a senior photography major, is the photo editor for The Journal.

MOST DANGEROUS U.S. CITIES

1. St. Louis
2. Detroit
3. Flint, Mich.
4. Compton, Calif.
5. Camden, N.J.
6. Birmingham, Ala.
7. Cleveland
8. Oakland, Calif.
9. Youngstown, Ohio
10. Gary, Ind.
11. Richmond, Calif.
12. Baltimore
13. Memphis, Tenn.
14. Trenton, N.J.
15. Richmond, Va.
16. Kansas City, Mo.
17. Atlanta
18. Cincinnati
19. Washington, D.C.
20. North Charleston, S.C.

Source: http://www.morganquitno.com

GUEST COMMENTARY

Wise up before signing dotted line

Students eager to sign a lease may be left dissapointed



Amy Swanson

Our first mistake was renting from someone we weren't very comfortable with.

Initial here. Initial there. Sign there. Date there. Sound familiar? Millions of college students venture off campus each school year to live on their own away from incoming freshmen, resident assistants and rules. But it is not always all it's cracked up to be. Case in point: my first off-campus apartment during the 2005-2006 school year.

My roommate and I decided to move off campus for our senior year at Webster to cut costs and hopefully gain more living space.

Our first mistake was renting from someone we weren't very comfortable with. It was obvious to us he was unorganized, irrational and a little strange. We just wanted to be done searching for an apartments, we were willing to rent from anyone. So we signed a lease from August 2005 to May 2006. We thought if we paid the rent on time every month, there wouldn't be any problems.

We were wrong. In September, a month after we moved in, I received a knock on the door. It was our landlord and two other people. He informed me they were the new owners. The visit triggered a warning signal in my head and I wondered who would buy an apartment complex sight unseen.

At first, it seemed the only thing that changed was where we sent our rent check each month. Then in November, we received a letter from the new owners stating our lease was null and void and we would have to sign a new one with them or rent from month-to-month. I didn't understand why our lease wasn't valid anymore, and the letter didn't explain why nor would they tell me over the phone.

Through my own investigation at the public library, I discovered an appalling loophole in the system. One in which the renter is left at the mercy of the landlord. The law stated that in the case of a foreclosure, a lease signed prior to the foreclosure is invalid.

After I looked up my former landlord in the phone book and asked him point blank if the property had been foreclosed, I found my answer. Therefore, the new owners could have kicked us out with 60 days notice, torn down the building and built a parking lot if they wanted to. Luckily, they were a realty company and chose to continue renting the property as apartments.

Unlucky for us, however, we had to sign a new lease or rent from month-to-month and suffer a rent increase. A new 12-month lease would have meant staying until the following November, which, if we weren't graduating in May, might have been an option.

Even more upsetting, our security deposit of $700 was gone. Our previous landlord was in possession of it, and the only way to get it back was to sue him. Of course, he was bankrupt, and upon consultation with a lawyer, we decided it wasn't worth our time or effort because he would probably never pay anyway.

So there we were, no lease, no security deposit and no idea what could happen next. And more did happen.

When we moved out in May, I was penalized for not giving a 30-day written notice even though we did not have a signed lease with the owners. I again consulted a lawyer and was told that it was the landlord's responsibility to learn if a tenant is moving out. However, other sources did not agree with this explanation. In order to get a second opinion I contacted the St. Louis Apartment Association and the Better Business Bureau.

I also reviewed the Missouri Attorney General's Web site and searched tenant laws and rights. There I found contradicting evidence with one document stating I did not have to give 30 days notice and another stating I did.

After five months of back and forth between us and the owners, we finally came to a settlement with the help of the Better Business Bureau. We were able to settle at $395, or half a month's rent.

It was an unfortunate situation, and I am still not 100 percent convinced which side was right, but I am glad it is over. I am sure if I followed through with a lawyer, I could have ended up with both my security deposit and avoiding payment of any charges. However, as a 22-year-old college student with barely enough money for a trip to Taco Bell let alone lawyer fees, I am glad I didn't choose that route.

I strongly urge students to look out for their rights and educate themselves on state tenant/landlord laws and rights. Also, be aware of the specific differences from state to state. Depending on whom you rent from, be it an individual private owner or a real estate agency, there are many differences in how they handle things, so be prepared.

Tips for potential tenants:

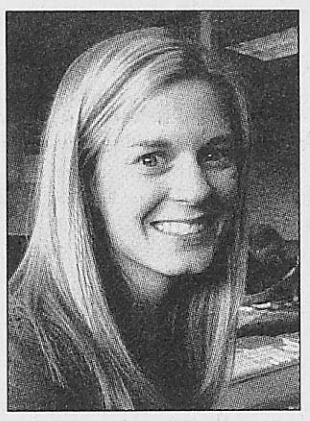
- Read your lease from beginning to end and ask questions about anything you don't understand.
- First impressions are key; if you don't click with the landlord when you meet then you should probably walk away.
- Being able to communicate well with your landlord is also imperative.
- Make copies of every document you sign and be aware of every document you sign.
- Always write out a list of damages and give a copy to the landlord/owners.
- If something does happen over the course of your lease that you feel is unwarranted or confusing, immediately consult with public agencies such as the Better Business Bureau, the St. Louis Apartment Association or legal aide through the Missouri Attorney General's office.
- If you feel the situation would work out better with a lawyer, make sure you find one familiar with real estate laws.

Amy Swanson, a 2006 alumna, is a guest writer for The Journal.

COMMENTARY

KFC eliminating trans fat does little to break habits

Overall choices, not fast food intake, determine health



Alexandra Smith

The implication that fast food restaurants have caused some kind of obesity epidemic is absurd.

I can't tell you the last time I thought about Kentucky Fried Chicken. I don't know that I could even tell you the most convenient location to my home.

The fried-chicken chain proved their status as a health-consciousness eating establishment Oct. 30 when their company, Yum Brands, Inc., announced it will switch to a cooking oil with no trans fat in all of its U.S. restaurants by April 2007. The story was all over the Internet, newspapers and radio.

I applaud Yum Brands' effort to promote reforming bad eating habits by attempting to cut all of the trans fat from its menu. However, I am somewhat surprised at how this change is being spun as a landmark decision that will save us from our own poor dining choices and make us an altogether healthier society.

Formally defined, trans fat is a type of processed fat that does not occur in nature. This fat is made when manufacturers add hydrogen to vegetable oil. This process, called hydrogenation, increases the shelf life and flavor stability of foods. Research suggests a correlation between diets high in trans fats and diseases like atherosclerosis and coronary heart disease.

It seems to me that removing trans fat from the KFC menu is simply a way to disguise even bigger issues. Removing trans fat may make food potentially less harmful, but it doesn't necessarily promote healthier choices and a healthier way of life.

According to a *Reuters* article, fast food restaurants around the country have been feeling the pressure to make a change in their menus. Much of this pressure is in response to the growing issue of obesity, especially in children and adolescents, throughout the United States.

The implication that fast food restaurants have caused some kind of obesity epidemic is absurd. In a 2003 lawsuit involving McDonald's, plaintiffs sued the fast food chain claiming it was the primary cause of their obesity. The case was thrown out because the judge ruled McDonald's is not responsible for any individual's health status.

Fast food restaurants do not single-handedly cause obesity. No one ever went to KFC thinking they would get a healthy, well-balanced meal. Bad choices, among other things, cause obesity. Reforming menus with revisions such as zero trans fat does not stop people from making unhealthy decisions on what to eat.

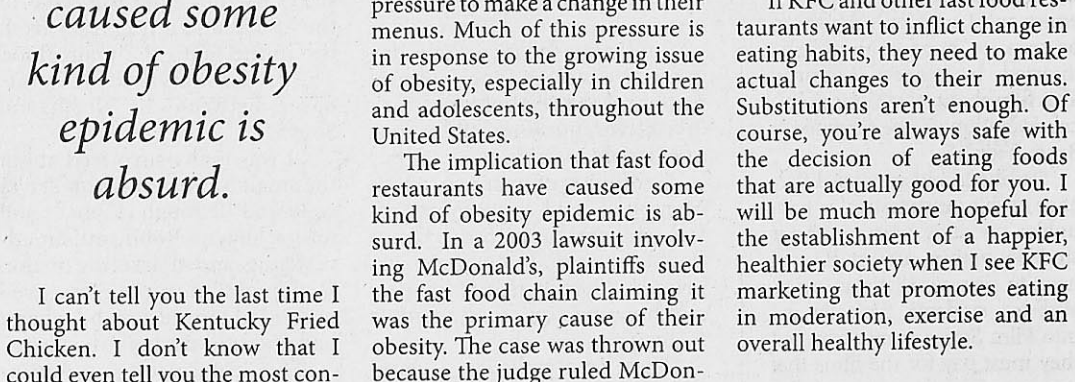
I find it highly unlikely that the removal of trans fat from fast food menus is going to have a noticeable impact on the overall healthiness of our society. Though getting rid of trans fat may be a step in a healthier direction, it is not going to inflict any kind of real change. The hype surrounding this cooking oil switch seems to promote an idea that eating foods that are bad for you is fine, and even better when we can find an alternative or substitution to make them slightly less bad for you.

Isn't that what's happening here? News flash: trans fat is not the only thing making KFC's food unhealthy. The change may be noticeable, but it hardly puts KFC on the list of the 10 smartest dining options.

This change is a recipe for disaster. Remember when Frito-Lay introduced fat free chips? It turned out Olestra, the synthetic oil used as a substitute for dietary fats in their chips, had unpleasant side effects that made consumers happier to stick to the original, less-healthy version.

If KFC and other fast food restaurants want to inflict change in eating habits, they need to make actual changes to their menus. Substitutions aren't enough. Of course, you're always safe with the decision of eating foods that are actually good for you. I will be much more hopeful for the establishment of a happier, healthier society when I see KFC marketing that promotes eating in moderation, exercise and an overall healthy lifestyle.

Alexandra Smith, a senior journalism and dance major, is a staff writer for The Journal.



SLIFF

Film festival returns to campus

BY ANNA FORDER
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Webster University students will get to see a sampling of international cinema without leaving campus when the 15th annual St. Louis International Film Festival comes to Webster. The film festival is run by Cinema St. Louis, a non-profit organization that organizes and produces the international film festival. The festival's more than 200 films and shorts will be screened Nov. 9 through 19 in venues around the St. Louis area.

Michael Steinberg, director of the Webster University Film Series, said the film festival has been part of the Film Series for about five years. Webster will host the festival Nov. 15 through 19 in the Winifred Moore Auditorium.

The most anticipated of the films to be shown at Webster are those of director Les Blank, said Steinberg and Cliff Froehlich, Webster adjunct professor and executive director of Cinema St. Louis. Steinberg said Blank was on campus many times during the '80s and '90s to accompany the showing of his films, but hasn't been back since.

Blank will be on campus Nov. 18 when he is honored by the festival with the Maysles Brothers Lifetime Achievement Award in Documentary. His documentary, "The Tea Film," which follows an American tea importer to China on a quest for the best tea, will be screened at 7 p.m. In addition, a tribute reel will be shown and two of Blank's current works will be previewed. Blank's documentary, "Always for Pleasure," will show at 6 p.m. Nov. 19.

"The Naked Ape," which will kick off Webster's portion of the festival at 8 p.m. Nov. 15, has a connection close to home. The director of the film, Daniel Mellitz, is a native of St. Louis. The film is about a summer road-trip that begins in St. Louis in which the teenage characters leave with the intention of never returning. Milletz, however, will return to St. Louis and will be present for the screening of the film.

Stephen Venora's "Boardwalk," a feature film about an elderly Coney Island couple, will show at 8 p.m. Nov. 16. Froehlich describes this as a lost film because it hasn't been seen by many people since the late '70s due to a legal rights debate.

One of the documentaries in the series will address workers' rights. "Maquilapolis: City of Factories," directed by Sergio De La Torre, documents factories on the border between the United States and Mexico. Froehlich said the film takes viewers into the lives of women who work in these factories and are then discarded when they are unable to work any longer. This documentary will be screened at 5 p.m. Nov. 18.

Such well-known actors as Donald Sutherland, Ralph Fiennes and Lara Flynn Boyle can be seen in "Land of the Blind," directed by Robert Edwards. This film about a fictitious political revolution will be screened at 8 p.m. Nov. 17.

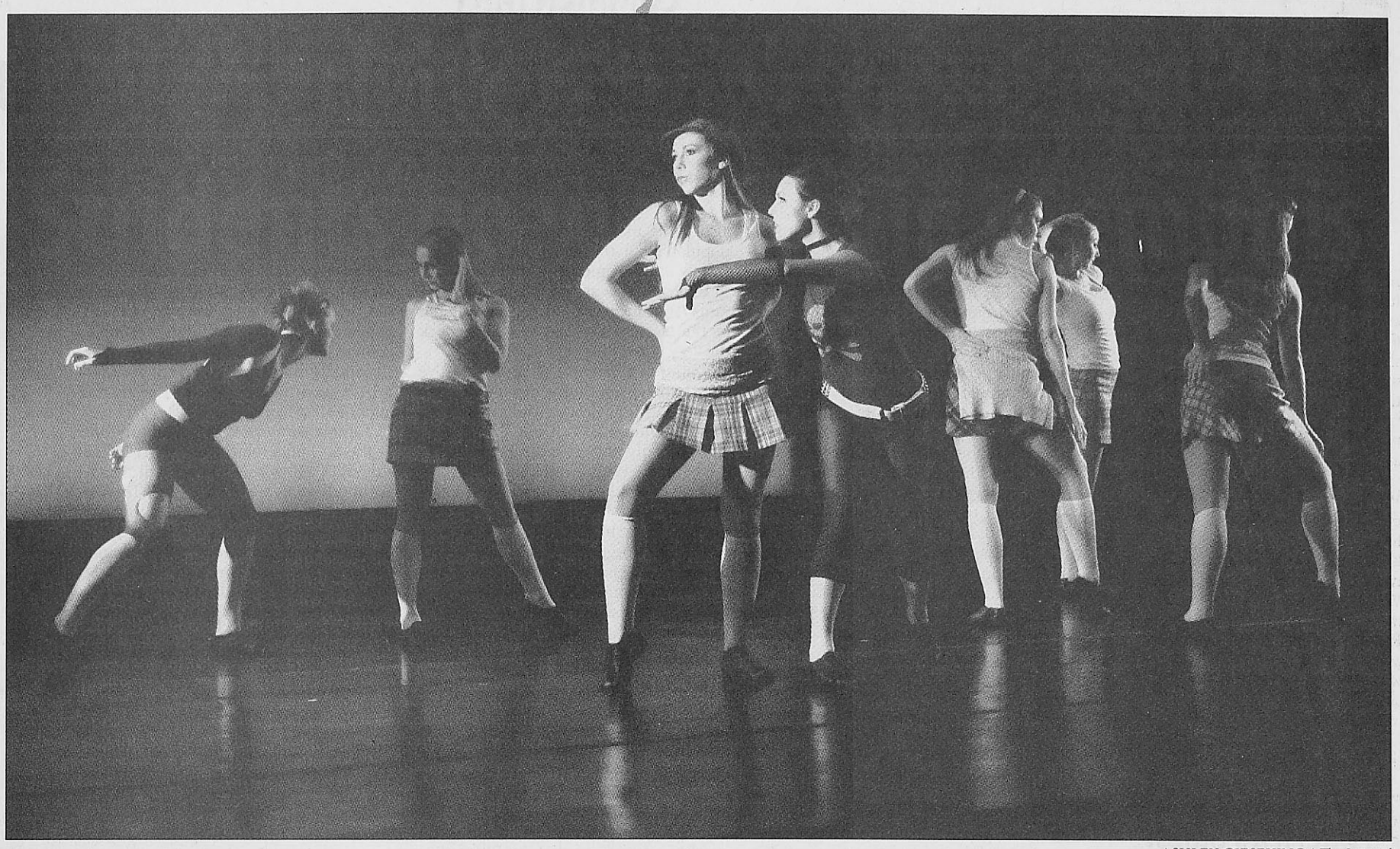
Steinberg said a major difference in this year's festival is that, unlike previous years, Webster students with a current ID will have to pay an $8 ticket price. Webster students typically get into Film Series events free, but they must pay for the films that are part of the international film festival. Tickets cost $10 for the general public and $9 if purchased with a MasterCard. Advance tickets can be purchased at the Tivoli Box Office, located at 6350 Delmar Blvd.

Webster's portion of the festival is co-sponsored by Cinema St. Louis and the university.

"Webster gives the venue, Cinema St. Louis gives the films," Froehlich said. "And we split the take equally."

MasterCard is the major sponsor of the St. Louis International Film Festival, but Froehlich said the festival has many types of sponsors. Other sponsors include corporations such as Anheuser-Busch, American Airlines, Macy's; grants such as the Whittaker Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts and the Regional Arts Commission; and private donors.

Other locations of the festival include the Tivoli Theatre, Plaza Frontenac and the Saint Louis Art Museum. More information can be found at *http://www.cinemastlouis.org.*



ASHLEY GIESEKING / *The Journal*

Webster University dance students perform "The In Crowd Out," choreographed by senior Sandra Struthers, to Marilyn Manson's cover of "Sweet Dreams" at the fall 2006 Choreographic Concert Nov. 2 on Stage III in Webster Hall.

Three senior dance majors debut self-choreographed pieces

BY BREANNA HERSCHELMAN
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Four years of intense dancing and training finally paid off for three senior dance students.

Bright lights, vivid colors and dancers galore filled Stage III of Webster Hall Nov. 2 and Nov. 3 for the fall 2006 bachelor of fine arts dance Choreographic Concert. The theater had standing room only as the three students each presented their work as candidates for the BFA degree in dance.

Seniors Ashley Illers, Tyne Shillingford and Sandra Struthers each choreographed three dances. The seniors began preparing with choreography proposals for the concert at the end of last semester. The dances included a solo, duet and group piece from each senior. Each piece was choreographed to a song of the student's choice.

The seniors each chose student dancers for their pieces through auditions at the beginning of the semester.

Beckah Voigt, associate professor in the dance department, helped the seniors with their performances.

"I saw each of their rehearsals a minimum of three times during the semester," Voigt said. "But I invited them to invite me to come and help as much as possible."

Shillingford's ensemble piece, "Escape to Freedom," opened the show. The dance featured different types of African dancing and was based on escaping to freedom through the Underground Railroad.

Junior Katelyn Minnick, a dance major, performed in Shillingford's ensemble piece. Minnick said she auditioned for the BFAs in August, then was chosen for the piece and practiced twice a week for an hour and a half.

"I loved being in Tyne's piece," Minnick said. "I had taken some African dancing before, but not a lot, so this was a fun challenge."

Shillingford's duet piece featured swing dancing and was titled "Harlem 1936." Her solo piece was called "Mind of Darkness" and symbolized the effects of Alzheimer's Disease.

Each choreographer danced in her own solo piece. The seniors picked two dancers for the duet pieces and seven for the ensembles.

Illers' group piece was called "The Seven in Us All" and represented personality types she learned about through her psychology minor. Seven dancers portrayed different personalities through their movements.

Illers' solo piece "AnaMia" depicted anorexia and bulimia. Illers had red marks across her body to symbolize pain.

Illers' duet "Crosswalk" was based on the Bible verse Matthew 16:24, "then Jesus told his disciples, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me."

Struthers' solo piece, titled "Sacrifice," was based on the conflict between the head and the heart, she said. Her duet was based on a commercial she had seen for khaki pants she had seen. The piece featured two dancers in a romantic relationship dancing to Etta James' "Sunday Kind of Love."

Struthers' group piece focused on the balance between the preppy girls and the gothic girls in high school. The preppy girls all wore white tank tops and plaid short skirts while the gothic girls wore tattered black clothes.

Struthers has 20 years dance experience and is a double major in elementary education and dance. Shillingford came to Webster specifically for dance and wants to dance for a company when she graduates. Illers has been dancing since she was very young and is staying at Webster next year to enroll in the master's of fine arts program for arts management.

In addition to dancers, other students had the opportunity to display their talent as well. Conservatory theater majors helped in various areas, including lighting design, set design and sound design.

The show lasted about an hour each night.

Students go walking in Memphis

Cultural day trip included visits to Elvis' estate, Stax Recording Co. and Civil Rights Museum

BY SHAWN DOOLEY
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Students took a one-day journey through the cultural history of the birthplace of rock 'n' roll via museums and a tour of Memphis, Tenn.

"I didn't know much about Memphis," said sophomore Jessica Williams, a math and dance double major. "I was very surprised by the history of Memphis and how the city highlighted its history."

The Multicultural Center and International Student Affairs sponsored the Nov. 4 Cultural Day Trip to Memphis. Forty-three students boarded a coach bus at 5 a.m. and returned around midnight. The trip was open to all students.

There were five stops on the tour, including Stax Recording Co., Slave Haven, and W.C. Handy House on Beale Street, the Civil Rights Museum and Graceland. Graceland was a 15-minute stop, reserved for students to take pictures.

The first stop on the excursion was a tour of Stax Recording Co. on McElmore Avenue. Stax was the 1960s recording home to artists like Isaac Hayes, the Mar-Keys and Otis Redding. Stax now houses the Museum of American Soul Music.

The second tour was of the Slave Haven Underground Railroad Museum. The museum is the 1849 Burkle Estate, which was a haven in the Underground Railroad for runaway slaves.

The house, still in its original state, showed how the Burkle family housed runaway slaves. The house has tunnels, which slaves used to enter the cellar of the house, and a trap door from the tunnel onto the main floor. The house was used as a safe haven between the North and South.

"I was really surprised about the small tunnels and how slaves squeezed through them," said junior Shayna Robinson, an advertising and marketing major. "I thought the house was well preserved for the age and what it had endured through the years."

The historical tour continued to Beale Street, which has more than 25 specialty eateries and shops, including B.B. King's Blues Club, Club 152 and Blues City Cafe.

The final tour was at the Lorraine Motel, home of the Civil Rights Museum. The Lorraine Motel is known as the location of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s assassination. The motel closed in 1982, and the Civil Rights Museum was built shortly after. Most of the original Lorraine Motel was cleared, but some of it was preserved. The museum is a journey through the lengthy history of civil rights struggles from the early 1800s to King's death in 1968, along with current civil rights issues.

At the museum, students looked out from the terrace where King was shot. A light smudge of King's blood still remains on the concrete terrace. Directly across the street, students looked out of the boarding house bathroom window where James Earl Ray took the shot at King.

"To tell you the truth, I didn't even know that King was killed in Memphis," Williams said. "The museum kind of touched me, just seeing the (terrace) King was killed on and the room he stayed in the day he was killed."

At the corner of the Civil Rights Museum at Butler and Mulberry Streets sat Jacqueline Smith, who protested the Civil Rights Museum. Her sign said, "Stop worshipping the past. Start! Living the dream." Another sign posted on a light pole by Smith said she has been there the past 18 years and 291 days.

Sophomore Blake Murphy, a broadcast journalism major, said he thought the museum was a beneficial educational experience.

However, Smith wanted the museum closed. She thought the museum was making money off of King and his death and not living up to King's dream. For every question Murphy presented, Smith answered with references to King's book, "Where Do We Go From Here?"

"I wanted to know where she was coming from," Murphy said. "I think her view that the museum was exploiting King and what he stood for had merit, but why can't there have been a median between the both?"

There has been one Cultural Day Trip per semester for the past couple of years, said Shay Malone, coordinator of MCISA and a Memphis native. Malone said previous day trips included Kansas City, Indianapolis and Cincinnati.

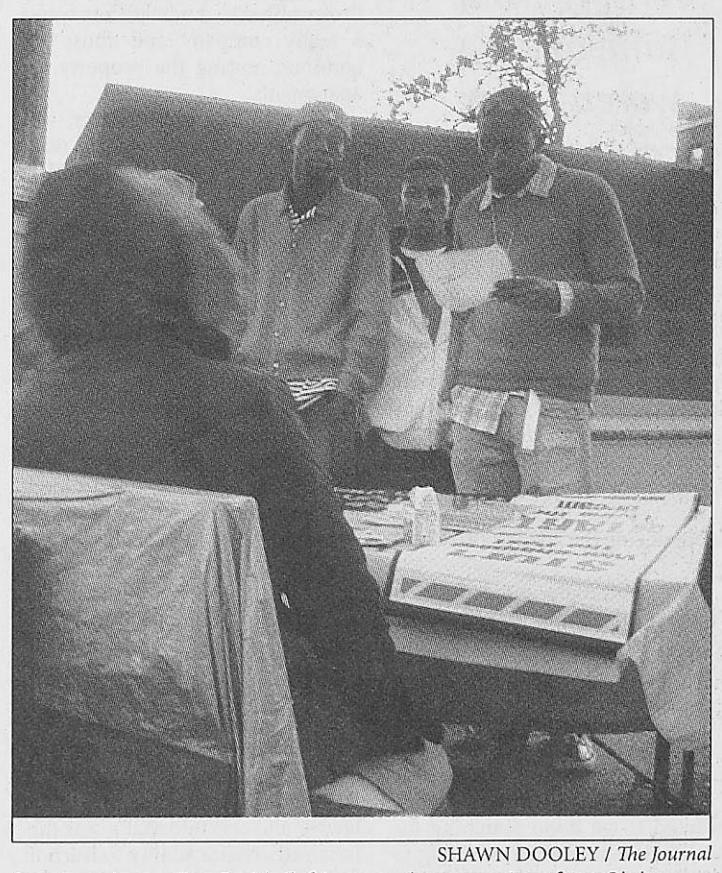
"We really try to choose cities that have added educational and cultural value," Malone said. "We want to learn more about the city and not just sightsee."

Malone said she selects cities that can be reached in four to six hours and can be partially explored in a day.

Williams said there might be too many planned destinations in such a short period of time and some places wouldn't fit into the day, but the tour stopped at all five-planned destinations.

"I thought the trip was very interesting and organized," Williams said.

Most cities have a lot to offer, Malone said, but a day trip doesn't allow a stop to half of those places, leaving room for a possible return. However, Malone said she is done with Memphis for now.



SHAWN DOOLEY / *The Journal*

Protestor Jacqueline Smith (left) responds to questions from Blake Murphy (right), while Larry Morris and Byron Bagsby watch outside the Civil Rights Museum in Memphis Nov. 4.

SLIFF Preview: 'The Naked Ape' ★★½☆☆

St. Louis filmmaker's piece doesn't quite make sense

BY ANTHONY BARSANTI
abarsanti@webujournal.com

Only time will truly tell if the homegrown Daniel Mellitz's debut feature "The Naked Ape" garners enough praise to put the Gateway City on the map again, but in the short term, we can look to the opinions of the St. Louis International Film Festival goers when the film plays at 8 p.m. Nov. 15 in the Winifred Moore Auditorium as part of the renowned festival.

The protagonist Alex (Josh Wise) is a reserved, yet rather impulsive young man, leaving his old life behind in St. Louis — unbeknownst to his father — with his two troublemaker friends for the West Coast. On their way, they meet Susie (Chelse Swain) and Kristie (Amanda MacDonald), another unlikely pairing of friends who are both searching for an excuse to leave their miserable lives in small-town New Mexico.

A typical story of teenage insecurities and overzealous ambitions, the film is also narrated by the voice of zoologist Desmond Morris (played by Michael Jackson), author of the book with the same title that observed the human animal through the scope of zoology.

This strange appendage to the action on-screen is at once a blessing and a distraction.

In one scene, Alex gets rough with his friend James (Sean Shanks) and has a chance to stand up to him after being pushed around all the time, but the moment passes. All the while, Morris' enlightening dictation tells of how an alpha male sometimes faces opposition from a lesser member of the pack, with adrenaline pumping through their veins, but in the case of the naked ape, a possible deathly quarrel is averted due to such cerebral concerns as morality.

While a rather amusing original device for attempting to evaluate the human condition in film, it doesn't resonate anything worthwhile. Toward the middle of the film, the leader of the pack allows his secret plans to ditch St. Louis altogether and get a job in Los Angeles to beknown to his compatriots.

Warning. We've just lost all sense of reality and believability. Recommended action: reverse course and exit theater at once.

What doesn't make sense to me about this film is why we are supposed to care about what happens to these characters because they so misrepresent the true nature of teenage maladjustment and human development. In a way, the lackluster plotline puts to shame the unique works of Morris, who wrote several more books on the connection between Homo sapiens and the animal kingdom.

St. Louisans may eternally be looking for greater attention from the film world, but is homegrown visual effects extraordinaire-turned filmmaker Daniel Mellitz the guise through which this kind of exposure is warranted?

SLIFF Preview: 'Three Times' ★★★★★

Thrice-told love story introduces audiences to Hou

BY JAMES HANSEN
jhansen@webujournal.com

For 20 years, Taiwanese director Hou Hsiao-hsien has been making films that, with few exceptions, never made it past the festival circuit in the United States. Although his films are available on DVD, the cinematic experience of a Hou Hsiao-hsien film is something that should not be missed and will long be treasured.

Luckily, the St. Louis International Film Festival is giving everyone the opportunity. Hou's new film, "Three Times," is finally receiving its St. Louis premiere, despite having been more than a year since its 2005 American premiere at the Telluride Film Festival and being already available on DVD.

"Three Times" chronicles three romantic relationships in three dissimilar years: 1966, 1911 and 2005. Though each couple is different, they are played by the same two magnificent actors: Chang Chen and Qi Shu. Each year and each relationship deals with various issues and tells a different story, but they all revolve around the central theme of our desire to love someone and our quest for that love. The tales take place in Taiwan, but the issues are clearly applicable to the rest of the world.

As the film melodically drifts from story to story, "Three Times" feels more like watching a gorgeous dream than a film. This can be said for all of Hou's films.

The first story, titled "A Time For Love," is set in 1966 and revolves around a young man (Chang) who has been drafted into the army. He is in love with a pool bar hostess (Qi), but goes away with the army, promising to write. Chang longs to find Qi again and yearns for what he once had. Hou uses the song "Smoke Gets In Your Eyes" by The Platters and the bouncing of pool balls as a symbol for this entire story.

The second story, "A Time For Freedom," is set in 1911 and is put together like a silent film. Chang is a young revolutionary and Shu is a courtesan who wants to become free. The dialogue between the two uses intertitles, while Shu at some points overlaps the dialogue in song. The slow-paced flow and tremendous cinematography bring the story to life.

In the final story, "A Time For Youth," we are yanked from our free-flowing beautiful era of 1911 and cut into a roaring motorbike in modern Taipei (the capital of Taiwan) in 2005. Hou's take on the lack of connection in modern life has never been clearer and, although far from tragedy, we come to a somewhat bitter end in our stories of love.

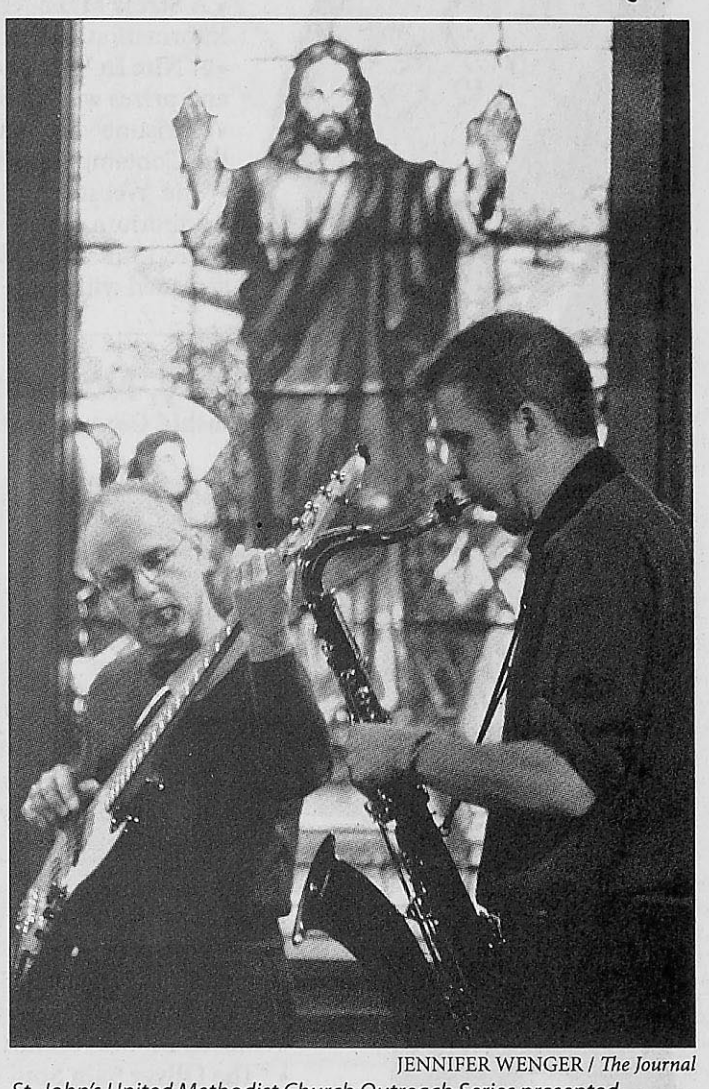
In the end, "Three Times" succeeds on all levels and, above that, seems to capture all of Hou's previous films and ideals. Hou's films are not slow or boring, as some may describe. Rather, they are patient, attentive and completely engrossing. Specifically recalling two of his more recent films, "Flowers of Shanghai" and "Millennium Mambo," Hou continues to create much of the same mood and feeling of his previous work. However, "Three Times" succeeds in being more accessible material for those unfamiliar with his work or for those who reject his super art-house films.

Hou's work may be an acquired taste for viewers, but "Three Times" is a great first film to see from this premier director. Often compared to Ozu, Hou achieves the same feeling with similar choreography while always maintaining his own modern spin. Beautiful, engrossing and quietly devastating, "Three Times" showcases the art of Hou and is a must-see in the incredible lineup that St. Louis International Film Festival has this year.

"Three Times" shows as part of SLIFF. The film shows at 6:30 p.m. Nov. 14 at Plaza Frontenac Cinema. Tickets for the film are available exclusively at Plaza Frontenac Cinema. There are no online tickets sales for SLIFF. Tickets are $10 for general admission, $9 for Mastercard holders and $8 for students with a valid student ID.

Webster jazz combo promotes community

BY NIKOLE BROWN
nbrown@webujournal.com



JENNIFER WENGER / *The Journal*

St. John's United Methodist Church Outreach Series presented Webster University's jazz combo group, directed by instructor Tom Byrne (left) and led by Tenor Saxophonist Mike Smith (right) Nov. 5.

Audience members filed into a chapel, usually reserved for Sunday morning services, to listen to the smooth jazz sounds of one of Webster University's 10 jazz combo groups.

On Nov. 5 in the Singleton chapel of St. John's United Methodist Church located at 5000 Washington Place, one of Webster's jazz combos played a selection of songs for the St. John's United Methodist Church Outreach Series. The listening group was able to spread out among the 180 seats facing the pulpit, where the band began to set up their equipment. As the clock struck 4 p.m., the combo began with the song "Autumn Leaves" by Johnny Mercer.

Since September, the series has offered free Webster musical performances on the first and third Sunday of each month. This was the jazz combo's third performance. Due to the small size of the stage in the chapel, St. John's Pastor Wally Shearburn decided not to include theatrical performances in the series and instead kept them in the upstairs theatre. For now, the series only includes free musical performances.

The jazz combo that performed Nov. 5 included John Lum on drums, Mike Smith on tenor sax and Jay Raymond on guitar. The group, who plays together regularly for class, usually includes five student musicians, but the fifth was unable to play due to personal reasons. For the performance, Director of Jazz Studies Tom Byrne joined the students by playing his bass guitar.

Shearburn created the an outreach series as a way to bring the Central West End community together. After receiving financial assistance from a church member, Shearburn approached Michael Parkinson, chairman of Webster's music department, about being part of the outreach series.

"Webster was the first place I called," Shearburn said. "I could have called Saint Louis University or Washington University, but Webster seems to be ahead as far as performing arts. It just seemed more natural."

Parkinson suggested a Webster graduate student organize the event, since at the time the business school was practicing art management for their assistantships. Graduate Student Danielle Woolery organized the event and in turn received the stipend collected by Shearburn. Woolery said she was glad she chose the outreach series for her assistantship as a way to bring music to the Central West End Community.

The jazz combo played nine selections, which ranged from the slow blues of Miles Davis to the Latin rhythms of the song "Spain." Afterward, the audience met the musicians in a small reception.

Smith said he could see himself doing a free concert again, but non-paying gigs usually are not high on his list, especially with the stress of school. Since the concert was not part of class, students were given a choice in their involvement in the show. Although not required, the musicians were encouraged to play as another way to practice.

"It was fun," Smith said. "(You) get experience and free food, who can beat that?"

Byrne, who is the director of two other jazz combos at Webster University, said Paul DeMarinis selected the combo for their playing experience.

Dorothy Edwards, a member of St. John's congregation and a self-proclaimed jazz fanatic, said she is glad Webster and the church partnered.

"It is more convenient for me to come to the church to hear jazz now since it was much harder for me to get out to Webster Groves on the bus," Edwards said.

Edwards said the event should be advertised more.

Shearburn said since the attendance remains around 20 audience members per show, he hopes that as the events continue — which will include the choral society and the guitar ensemble — word-of-mouth will draw a larger audience. He also plans to place an ad on the radio.

Shearburn hopes to continue these performances indefinitely, as long as Webster University is satisfied with the partnership and members of the community continue to attend.

"(I think) this is more of an opportunity to come together in fellowship for the good of the community," Shearburn said. "Because no matter who you are, you can come and share something together."

The Guitar Ensemble will hold the next performance 4 p.m. Nov. 19, at St. John's United Methodist Church. The performance will include solo and ensemble selections.

To see why James Hansen gave "Babel" one out of five stars, see his review at http://www.webujournal.com.

Polish piano music fills Winnie Moore

BY RACHEL LEBO
rlebo@webujournal.com

The lively sound of a Slavonic dance coming from the dimly-lit Winifred Moore Auditorium was illustrated by two people and four hands on one grand piano moving in a display of synchronization.

The "Pianos, Pianos, Pianos" concert culminated the end of an all-day piano ensemble event Nov. 4 that started with competitions and ended in the concert. The concert featured Janice Saffir, Paul Stephens and Webster faculty members Patricia Weeks and Donna Vince.

The concert showcased works by three Polish composers: Frederic Chopin, Witold Lutoslawski and Moritz Moskowski, in conjunction with a film from the Webster University Film Festival by Krzysztof Kieslowski.

Saffir and Stephens played duets on the same piano. Weeks and Vince played their duo on two separate pianos.

"Jeux d'enfants (Children's Games)," by French composer Georges Bizet was played early on in the concert and was one of the darker pieces featured.

"These must have been some scary games," Stephens said. "Most of the pieces start out in minor, but end cheerfully."

Saffir followed Stephen's description with her own.

"The title of 'Children's Games' does not mean these were written for children to play," Saffir said. "These are somewhat difficult, and I believe Bizet wrote these for people of all ages to listen to and enjoy."

Saffir's explanation of the gentle-sounding piece "Sonate for Piano, Four Hands," by French composer Francis Poulenc, received a chuckle from the audience toward the end of the concert.

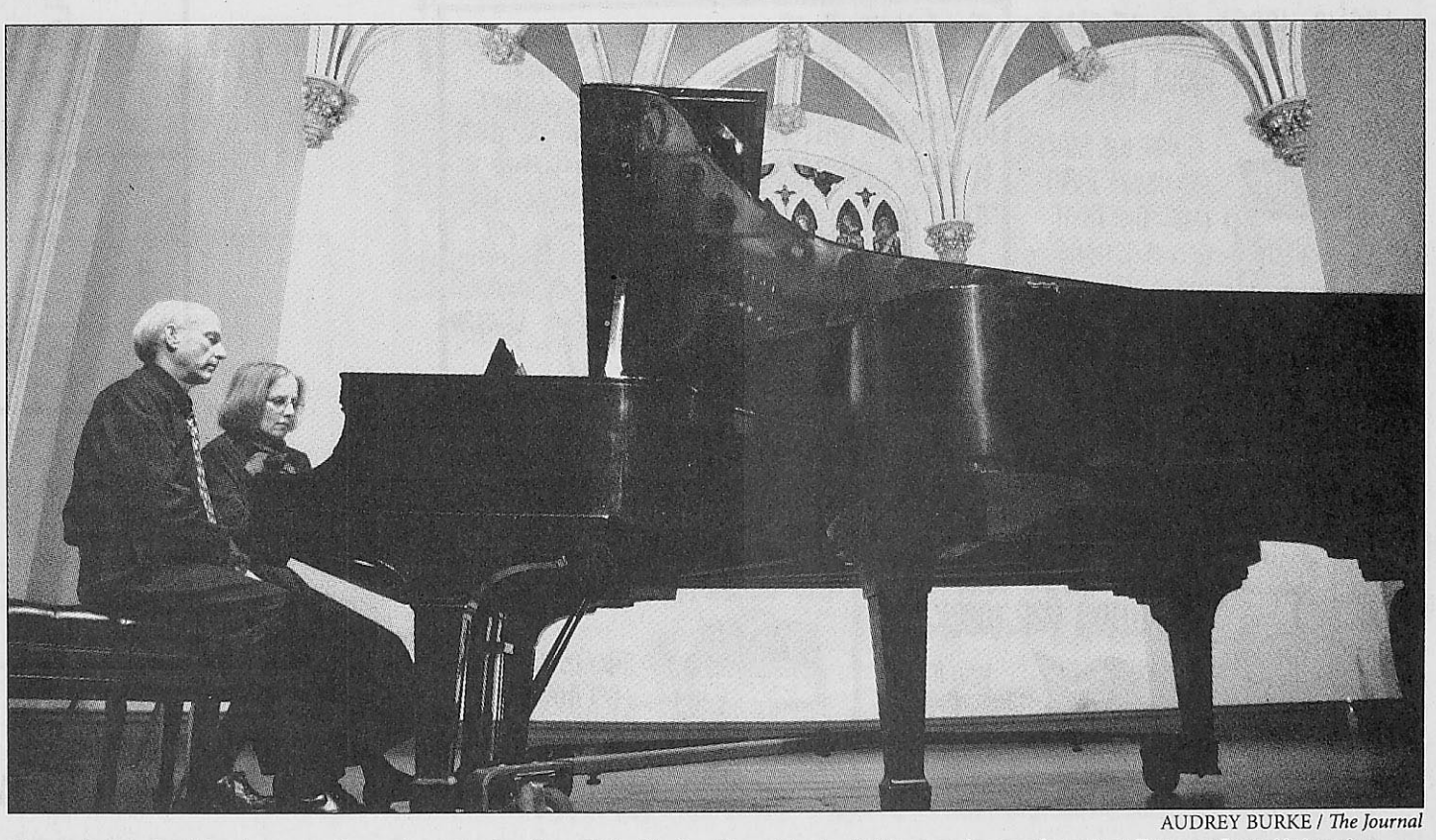
"This piece was arranged two ways," Saffir said. "It can be played by four hands or on two pianos. He might have written it this way because the piece for four hands includes a wide range of keys and you're even closer to the other person than normal. If you don't like the other person you're playing with, you're out of luck."

"Valse Brilliante" by Moskowski, the last piece of the concert, brought out all four performers, each playing a duet on the pianos.

The audience of about 50 people, mostly residents of the Webster Groves area, clapped for the performers when the last note was played. Some audience members congratulated performers as everyone left the auditorium. One woman, as she was leaving, repeated "the repertoire was magnificent" over and over to the person she was with.

"It was exquisite," said Donna Glomb, a resident of Richmond Heights. "I've never heard anything like this in my life. My daughter recently started taking piano lessons a few months ago, and I brought her here so we could listen to a professional concert live."

After the concert, the Webster University Film Festival presented Blurring the Lines, a collection of three films, "Personnel/Personel," "Curriculum Vitae (Zyciorys)" and "From the Point of View of the Night Porter (Z punktu widzenia nocnego portiera)," by director Kieslowski as part of the regular schedule.



AUDREY BURKE / *The Journal*

Guest pianists Paul Stephens, a private piano teacher from Kirksville (back) and Janice Saffir, a professor of music at Truman State University (front), perform at the Nov. 4 concert of piano duos and duets entitled Pianos! Pianos! Pianos!

Weeks and Vince organized the Piano Ensemble Festival. They became a duo in 2002. Both perform as freelance pianists and maintain an independent piano studio.

"Saturday (Nov. 4) started out with piano competitions for any students that were in grades seven through 12," Weeks said. "There was a master class for piano students afterward and for the end of the day we decided on a recital. We chose Polish composers to tie it in with the film festival."

Stephens is a private piano teacher in Kirksville, Mo. He has bachelor's and master's degrees in piano performance from the University of Missouri at Kansas City and Ball State University. He is an active collaborative performer and adjudicator, someone that gives a critical evaluation of performances in competitions or festivals.

Saffir is an active performer in solo, concert and chamber music. She is a professor of music at Truman State University and received bachelor's and master's degrees in piano performance from the University of Illinois and a doctorate of music arts from the University of Iowa. She also serves as an adjudicator and clinician.

Of the two pianos featured in the concert, one belonged to Webster while the second grand piano was on loan from the Steinway Gallery.

The Venue



A calendar of upcoming events on campus and around town

Thursday, November 9

• A **Stress Management Workshop** will be held from 11 a.m. to noon in the University City Sunnen Lounge as part of International Week. For more information, call ext. 7649.

• A **Nite In Vegas** will be held from 9:30 to 11:30 p.m. in the UC Commons. There will be blackjack, roulette, poker and Texas hold-em. Food, drinks and prizes will be available. Admission is free. For more information, call ext. 7105.

• Christine von Braun's documentary film **"Beauty, desperately seeking. Concerning the history of beauty"** will be shown from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis. Admission is free. For more information, call 535-4660.

• The Webster University Film Series presents Krzysztof Kieslowski's **"Camera Buff"** and **"Talking Heads"** at 7 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium.

• The 15th annual **St. Louis International Film Festival** will be held Nov. 9 through 19. More than 200 shorts, features and documentaries will be screened with more than 30 countries represented. For a complete schedule and list of films, visit *http://www.cinemastlouis.org* or call 289-4150.

Friday, November 10

• A **Nashid Concert** with live music and drum circle will start at 7 p.m. in the UC Commons as part of International Week. For more information, call ext. 7649.

• **Science Uncorked** will be held from 7 to 10 p.m. in the James S. McDonnell Planetarium at the St. Louis Science Center. There will be 36 different wines to sample, desserts and live music by The Todd Mosby Trio. Tickets are $40 and you must be 21 to attend. For more information, call 267-9916 or e-mail *cfiles@slsc.org*.

• The Webster University Film Series presents Krzysztof Kieslowski's **"A Short Working Day"** and **"Railway Station"** at 7 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium.

Saturday, November 11

• Puccini's **Madame Butterfly** will start at 8 p.m. in the Anheuser-Busch Performance Hall on the University of Missouri-St. Louis campus. Tickets range from $35 to $50. For more information or to purchase tickets, call 516-4949 or visit *http://www.touhill.org*.

• The Webster University Film Series presents Krzysztof Kieslowski's **"Blind Chance"** at 7 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium.

Sunday, November 12

• Chamber concert with violinist **Nicolae Bica** and pianist **Daniel Schene** starts at 4 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium. Admission is $5. For more information, call ext. 7034.

• The Webster University Film Series presents Krzysztof Kieslowski's **"A Short Film About Killing"** and **"A Short Film About Love"** at 7 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium.

• **"The Oliver Sain Soul Reunions"** will be held from 7 p.m. to midnight at BB's Jazz, located at 700 S. Broadway. There is a $20 donation at the door. For more information, call 867-0451.

Monday, November 13

• Webster University **Student Jazz Combos No. 2** will be performing at 7 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium. Admission is $3. For more information, call ext. 7034.

Tuesday, November 14

• A **career fair** will be held from noon to 4 p.m. in the UC Grant Gymnasium. For more information, call ext. 6982.

• *New York Times* best-selling author **Sharon Draper** will discuss and sign her book **"We Beat the Street"** at 6 p.m. in the Schlafy Branch Library. The library is located at 225 N. Euclid Ave. For more information, call 206-6779.

• The Webster University Film Series presents Martin Scorsese's **"Taxi Driver"** at 7 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium.

Wednesday, November 15

• Author Daniel Woodrell will discuss and sign his new book **"Winter's Bone"** at 7 p.m. in the Schlafly Branch Library, located at 225 N. Euclid Ave. For more information, call 206-6779.

• The Webster University Film Series presents Daniel Mellitz's **"The Naked Ape"** at 7 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium. Mellitz, director of the film, will be in attendance.

Want your event listed in The Venue? E-mail us at *calendar@webujournal.com* and get the attention of *The Journal's* more than 3,000 readers!

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By Michael Mepham

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

Level of Difficulty: 3

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

The solution to this puzzle will be published Nov. 16.

Nov. 2 puzzle solution

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

Vote: Do they want it?

FROM PAGE 10

each candidate donned spandex (red and blue, respectively) and rollerblades. They then made there way to the starting point on the sidewalk that circled the Quad.

The race began and McCaskill pushed off to a great start. McCaskill's early days as a roller-waitress at a Lake of the Ozarks drive-in restaurant had paid off. Talent though would not be left in her wake. As if channeling a higher being, Talent gained speed near Emerson Library, catching the challenger up by the Gor-rock. Suddenly a wave of 15, blue spandex wearing roller-bladers fell in behind Talent — gaining on the now cognizant senator.

"I knew it!" bellowed Talent, about to be overwhelmed by a sea of blue. "They all look like her!"

McCaskill had cloned herself 15 times.

For the final test, the head of I-EAT chose an eating contest (no surprise here). The food? Toasted raviolis.

"No problem-o" decreed McCaskill, fastening a paper-towel to the top of her turtleneck.

McCaskills confidence was not shared by the 160-pound, 30-inch-waisted incumbent senator.

" … This is just another case of the liberal media inflicting its will on the American — what the blazes?!" Talent marveled.

McCaskill,quiet throughout Talent's speech, had apparently no interest in waiting for the start gun. She was already half way through the first bucket and fervently eyeing the second.

The two, still not grasping the whole fair play and slander free concept of the games, gave their respective speeches.

Talent, knowing he was well and truly beaten, conceded. "The best man one," he said.

McCaskill, citing Talents inability to finish even a single T-Rav, quipped, "I'm just glad you guys didn't choose pork — he works well with that."

Ultimately, the winner and securer of my vote was Mrs. Claire McCaskill (D) and her regiment of clones.

Spike: Play on

FROM PAGE 10

game against Principia, the Gorloks played against Greenville College, a team they defeated Oct. 31 in a home game they won in three games.

Junior outside hitter Crystal Shelton led the match with 19 kills and two aces. Sophomore hitters Erin Grobe and Megan Floarke both had nine kills throughout the game and freshman hitter Jackie Schall came out with eight kills.

"The match against Greenville went pretty smooth," Graf said. "We served well and had seven aces with no errors."

After the SLIAC tournament matches, an awards ceremony was held and several Webster players were given honors. Schall and Shelton were named to the SLIAC All Conference Volleyball Team First Team. Klingelhoefer and Reigel were given Honorable Mention. Schall also was awarded Newcomer of the Year.

The Gorloks' record is left at 20-10. They were seeded sixth in the NCAA tournament and will be playing 4:30 p.m. Nov. 9 at Washington University against Rhodes College.

Rhodes College, which is located in Memphis, Tenn., is part of the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference. This is the first year the Rhodes women's volleyball team has won the SCAC and earned their place in the NCAA competition.

Rhodes' overall season record is 27-11, while their conference record is 15-3.

Sideline: Game 'sweet' from up here, too

FROM PAGE 10

found its way into the net. The crowd of Gorlok fans grew silent, and then the parents of seniors let out a slow, melancholy groan as they sensed their daughters' careers coming to an end.

Then, on a missed clearing attempt, senior Mary Bunt got the ball near the right corner. She had a defender to her inside and McClure trailing her. Bunt dropped the ball back to McClure, who showed off her accuracy one more time by placing a near perfect cross to the far post and the head of sophomore Dana Vahey. Vahey blasted the ball into the net for the 2-2 tie.

"She made a hell of a pass, and Dana was exactly where she was supposed to be," Bunt said. "It was sweet!"

The Webster crowd finally breathed a sigh of relief, but it was a short one. The score was only tied. The final five minutes ticked away without a huge scoring opportunity for either side.

The first overtime revealed some tired Webster players as the Panthers resorted to using their legs to beat the Gorloks. Gorlok fans were once again feeling anxious, shouting more obscenities than cheers. However, Principia's efforts went unrewarded as Webster senior sweeper and captain Jen Mcsheehy thwarted every Panther attempt to get the ball deep in the zone. McSheehy's efforts revived the fans.

"You can't go in there! Jen lives there!" yelled Webster fans.

The second overtime was full of scoring chances for both teams, but neither side was able to score the golden goal that would deem them Conference champs. After 110 minutes, there wasn't a clear winner, so the Conference Championship went to penalty kicks.

To my left were dozens of fans who were too scared to even watch what was unfolding. With their backs to the field, they cheered when Webster scored, and agonized when Principia did the same. Across the field was the bench of the Webster Gorloks — huddled together keep their knees from collapsing.

The last penalty shot came. Webster had the lead 4-3, and Principia midfielder Jamie Furbush stepped into the box. Over my shoulder I noticed a woman who was close to a nervous breakdown with her head buried in her hands — her husband standing over her, eyes glued to the field. Suddenly, he screamed and jumped out of the stands. The woman looked up and saw the scene of mass hysteria. Furbush had hit the post, and the fans were storming the field.

I sat back and watched Gorlok nation in all its glory.

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ATTENTION STUDENTS

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER NOMINATION

Webster University President, Richard S. Meyers, requests your nomination for an individual to serve as the speaker at the 88th Commencement Ceremony on May 12, 2007.
This special honor recognizes an individual, not associated with Webster University, for his or her academic, professional or civic accomplishments and contributions to society. The individual chosen as speaker will also receive an Honorary Doctorate Degree.

Nominations are due by December 15, 2006.
Please be specific in your justification statement for this honor and provide as much information as possible on the individual you wish to nominate.
Thank you for your participation.

WEBSTER UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENT

NOMINATION FORM

I nominate _____
to be the 2007 Commencement Speaker.

I believe _____

deserves this honor because _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Do you know this individual personally? _____Yes _____No

Do you have personal contact with this individual? _____Yes _____No

How may we contact this individual?

Phone: (___) _____ Cell phone: (___) _____

E-Mail: _____

Address: _____

_____

_____

Thank you for your recommendation.

Name: _____

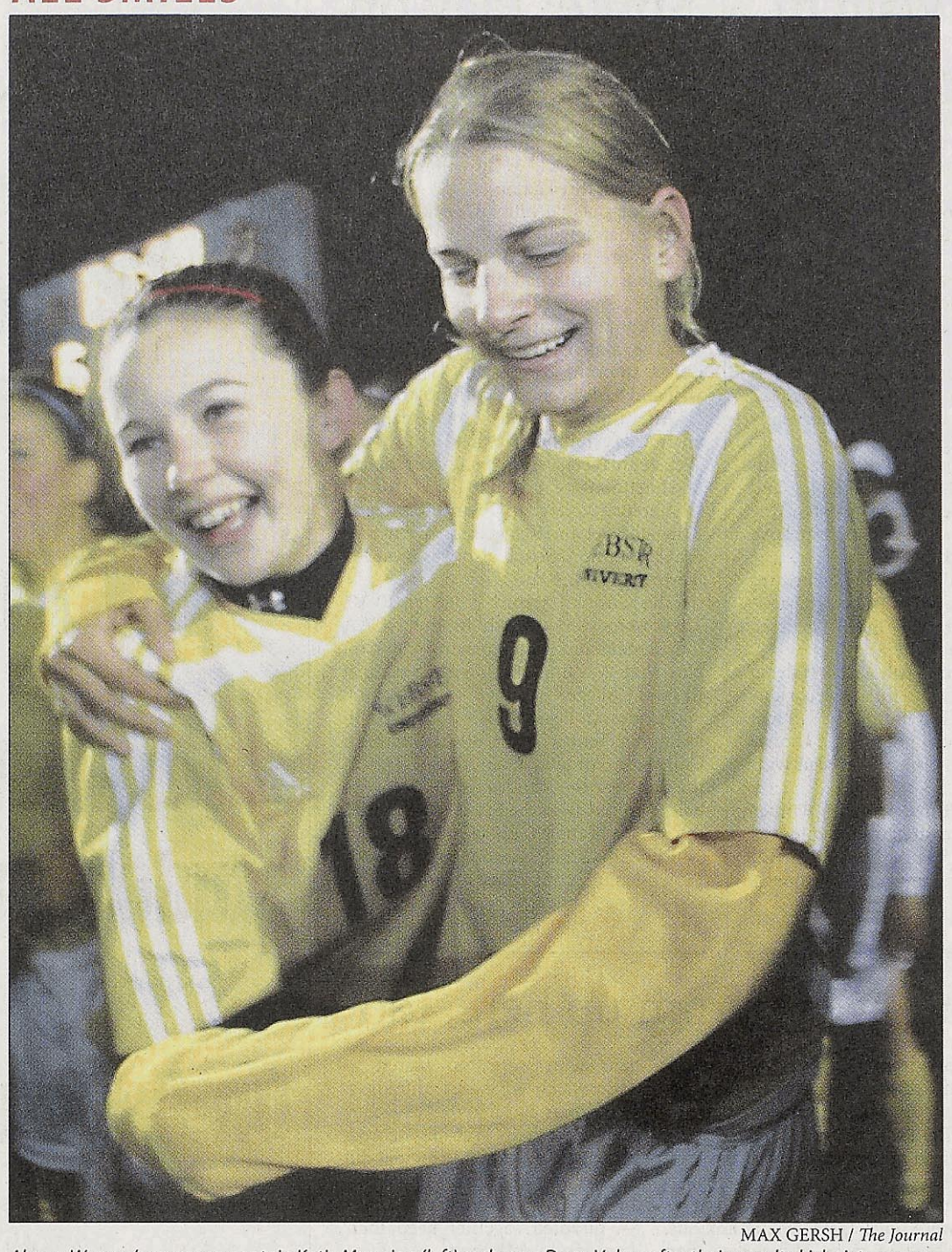
Phone: (____) _____ E-Mail: _____

Please submit this form to Karen Luebbert, Executive Office, Loretto Hall,
470 East Lockwood, Webster Groves, MO 63119 or fax to 314-968-7117 by December 15, 2006.

Sports

November 9-15, 2006 • The Journal

ALL SMILES



MAX GERSH / *The Journal*

Above: Women's soccer co-captain Katie Mannion (left) embraces Dana Vahey after their penalty kick victory over Principia in the SLIAC championship Nov. 4 at home. Vahey scored a crucial goal in the 83rd minute that sent the championship match into overtime.

Below: Senior forward Mary Bunt sneaks home the winning penalty kick past Principia keeper Eva Post. The win sent Webster to its second straight NCAA Tournament. The Gorloks will receive a first round bye in the NCAA's and will face the winner of the University of Santa Cruz and Claremont Mudd Scripps College 1:30 p.m., Nov. 12 at Anhueser-Busch Soccer Park.



MARIANO ULIBARRI / *The Journal*

SLIAC champs

BY MATT MAJIKAS
mmajikas@webujournal.com

The women's soccer team kept its season alive Nov. 4 when they squared off against Principia College for the Saint Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Tournament title.

Webster defeated Principia handily in their regular season match up Oct. 7, by a score of 6-2. Freshman forward Kelsey McClure netted a hat trick for the Gorloks that day, but the second meeting between the teams was anything but a runaway.

Principia scored first when senior forward Christina Day found the back of the Gorlok net. The score remained 1-0 at halftime and into the second half until McClure put the Gorloks on the board, tying the game. The Gorloks kept the score even until halfway through the second half when Principia senior midfielder Britsy Bruland put the Panthers on top by a score of 2-1.

With the Gorlok season on the line and just under seven minutes remaining in regular time, sophomore midfielder Dana Vahey scorched the Panther net, tying the game 2-2 and sending the game into overtime.

The Gorloks and Panthers remained deadlocked throughout both overtimes. After combining for 42 shots in the first two halves, a mere two shots were taken in overtime, both by Principia.

In true storybook fashion, the game went to penalty kicks with an NCAA Tournament bid on the line. According to many of the players, the feeling throughout the Gorlok squad was indescribable.

"I do not even know how to explain what we were feeling at that point," senior forward Shaina Neiderschulte said. "Especially for the seniors."

After exchanging goals with the score tied at three goals each, senior forward Mary Bunt put the Gorloks on top when she kicked the ball by Principia sophomore goaltender Eva Post. Post also scored on Principia's third penalty kick.

On the last penalty kick of the game, Principia sophomore midfielder Jamie Furbush stared in at Gorlok sophomore goaltender Jessica Kozeny. Furbush kicked the ball just inches wide, as it struck the goal post, sending Gorlok fans into a frenzy.

"After we heard the sound of the ball hitting the post, everyone went crazy," Neiderschulte said.

With the win, the Gorloks clinched their second consecutive NCAA Tournament birth and finished the season with a 17-3-1 overall record. Bunt claimed SLIAC Tournament Most Valuable Player with a goal, an assist and a penalty kick goal.

The Gorloks' most exciting news came the morning of Nov. 6, however, when the Division III NCAA Tournament bracket was released. Initially the team was told it would be traveling to California for the first round, but was later informed that it had a first round bye and would be playing the first game with home field advantage.

"The bye was completely unexpected," Assistant Head Coach Mike Hutchinson said. "Regardless, we still need to do the basic things that we feel are important in our system."

The Gorloks will play at 1 p.m. Nov. 12 at Anheuser Busch Soccer Park, but what team they play will be determined Nov. 8 when the University of California Santa Cruz Banana Slugs and the Claremont Mudd Scripps College Stags compete for passage into the second round against the Gorloks.

UC Santa Cruz enters the tournament boasting a 15-0-3 record while Claremont has a record of 10-7-3. Claremont has a roster consisting of 12 freshmen and three seniors, while UC Santa Cruz will field 11 freshmen and one senior. UC Santa Cruz allowed just three goals the entire season.

In the same bracket as the Gorloks is the Wheaton College Thunder of Ill. Wheaton bounced the Gorloks from the first round of last year's NCAA Tournament by a score of 5-0.

"I would love to face Wheaton, but it doesn't matter," Bunt said. "We are just taking it one game at a time."

The Gorloks will not only have home field advantage but also six seniors who have played in the NCAA Tournament before.

"It does not matter who we play, we just need to execute our game plan," senior defender Jennifer McSheehy said.

A win for the Gorloks will advance the team to the third round of the NCAA Tournament. A third round appearance would be the deepest any Gorlok team has reached in women's soccer history.

"We don't want to deviate from what has made us successful," Head Coach Luigi Scire said. "We just have to go out and get the job done."

GORLOK GLANCE

Women's soccer

Nov. 12 @ NCAA second round vs. TBD @ Anhueser-Busch Soccer Park 2 p.m.

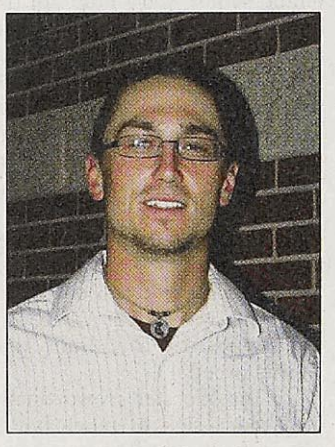
Volleyball

Nov. 9 @ NCAA Regionals vs. Rhodes College @ Wash U. 1:30 p.m.

Men lose heartbreaker

Webster men's soccer team lost in the first round of the SLIAC Tourney, 1-0 Nov. 1 to Fontbonne. Webster finished the season with a 12-4-2 record.

David Umfleet



Are penalty kicks dramatic? Try watching from stands

Webster University's women's soccer team is the winner of this year's Saint Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Tournament. It took 90 minutes of regulation, two overtime periods, 10 penalty kicks and countless near heart attacks to happen. But, it did happen.

I watched the Gorlok faithful exhale cold breath after cold breath at Soccer Park Nov. 4 as they witnessed the Webster Gorloks claim their title — once again as SLIAC Conference champions. The fans' collective breath created a dramatic mist that covered the field and provided a scene fit for the big screen. All right, maybe it wasn't that dramatic, but it was a pretty good game.

Standing in the Gorloks' way were the Principia Panthers. After defeating Westminster 2-0 in the semifinal game, Principia had a head of steam going into the finale. Webster was Principia's only loss during the conference season, but the Panthers put that behind them. At least it looked like they didn't remember the 6-2 shellacking Webster gave them a month ago.

Principia controlled the tempo of the first half with ease by using their speed to neutralize Webster. I listened to the once confident Gorlok fans begin to criticize what appeared to be a lack of effort from the home team. Their frustration turned to anger when Principia scored just before the half. The Gorloks appeared to be in somewhat of a dilemma. They wanted to come out and dictate like they had the first time the two teams faced each other, but Principia simply wouldn't let it happen. Webster Head Coach Luigi Scire said this wasn't the same team Webster faced in October.

"I don't think we came out flat," Scire said. "I think they just forced the issue, and we were just trying to make adjustments in the first half."

With 14 minutes to go in the game, the Panthers retook the lead with a corner kick that

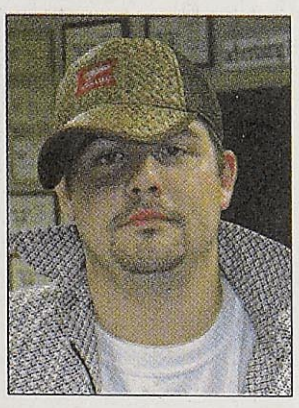
See SIDELINE, Page 9

Election '06

How to earn my vote

If one of these jokers want this vote they need to prove it

Tom Parr



As of this very moment, the race for U.S. Senator between Claire McCaskill (D) and Jim Talent (R) will have been won. Regardless of the outcome, I for one have become tired of the nasty path that leads our leaders to the capitol. This has been a no-holds barred campaign from both candidates — each spending millions from their campaign war-chests in hopes of smearing their opposition and collecting our precious, precious vote. Debates, TV ads, lawn placards and radio spots have battered my senses since mid-August and in the spirit of the season — I desire change.

Not being a political pundit or really very smart at all — I decided that the only way for a guy like me to decide between these two slur junkies would be to have them compete in the area I know best — athletics.

I decided to organize a series of events between the two candidates. The idea being that the one who wowed me with their athletic prowess would get my vote. This may seem like a very sophomoric way a making such a crucial decision — and it is. But I am not a sophomore (although I was four years ago) so, in my head, we play on.

Each candidate would select an event while, a third and fin-ultimate challenge would be chosen by myself and newly appointed Head of Instant Emissary Athletic Trials (I-EAT) Larry Baden.

I approached the two candidates after a mid-October debate in hope of recruiting them for my "Trip-to-Fall Triptathlon." I'd already reserved some time in the quad for the challenge and after some swift talk and two secret promises to "deliver" Webster to each candidate — the games were on.

Talent, staying true to his Missouri roots, chose the Show-Me-State traditional backyard game of washers. McCaskill, though familiar with the game, did have some confusion regarding the redundancy and pointlessness of the game. "Why keep shelling such small targets for such minimal gain — this reminds me of something," McCaskill observed.

The first few hurls from both tossers were a little off target. Talent's washers kept landing far to the right of the cup, while McCaskill's ventured slightly left.

Talent, who was captain of Wash U. 's washer team the "Wash Dudes," became visibly unsettled by his performance. Although at first his advisers begged him to "stay the course," Talent, in somewhat of a surprise move, felt the need for change. A phone call was made and the game was paused by order of Talent. Twenty minutes later a tinted, black Chevy Tahoe raced onto the quad. A rather large man in a suit exited carrying what appeared to be a dictionary. He approached.

"These are the new, official rules of washers," Talent asserted.

Section 1-F of the new rules would allow Talent to "Do whatever it takes to ensure that the traditional values of the game are upheld." Unfortunately for McCaskill this meant she would have to move back 20 paces while Talent was able to introduce his "Slam-dunk" shot. A bold abuse of power that eventually saved the day for the incumbent. Round one to (as he asked to be called that day) Slick Jimmy.

For her event McCaskill chose roller-derby. In, what was certainly the lowlight of the day,

See VOTE, Page 9

Volleyball

Striking victory

Volleyballers win SLIAC tourney, ready for Nov. 9, NCAA match with Rhodes College

BY RACHEL LEBO
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Five was the unlucky number for the Webster women's volleyball team this season. The Gorloks dominated most of their opponents in three games, but eight out of their 10 losses came down to the fifth game which as fate may have it, ultimately determined the winner of the St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

The Gorloks didn't let their past with the unlucky number affect their performance and instead won their first match in the fifth.

"The game against Principia College was very intense," Senior Susi Reigel said. "We went to five games. All season long, we had not won a game that went to five, but we did on Nov. 4 when it counted most."

The Gorloks will represent the SLIAC in the NCAA Division III tournament, held 4:30 Nov. 9 at Washington University.

Principia College has the best SLIAC record and won the season title, but the loss to the Gorloks eliminated Principia's chance to play in the NCAA.

"I'm so excited to be heading to the national tournament," Senior Melanie Klingelhoefer said. "This has been a personal goal of mine since I came to Webster. We have a lot of talent this year, and I'm so happy we have this opportunity to play in the NCAA tournament."

The Gorloks played well Nov. 4 at Principia in game one against the Panthers, and won the match 30-27. Game two went even better, and the Gorloks won 30-19. In game three, the Gorloks had nine hitting errors and Principia won 23-30. The Gorloks had another five hitting errors in game four and lost the match 28-30.

"Game five was back and forth," Head Coach Merry Graf said. "It was close the entire way, with neither team ever gaining a lead of more than one or two points. We've lost every match we've played this year that went to five, and I think the team was determined to change that."

The team's determination paid off, and the Gorloks won the match 16-14.

Before the championship

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THE JOURNAL

The News Source for Webster University • www.webujournal.com • November 16-29, 2006

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Webster offers incentives for students transferring from the institution formerly known as the School of the Americas

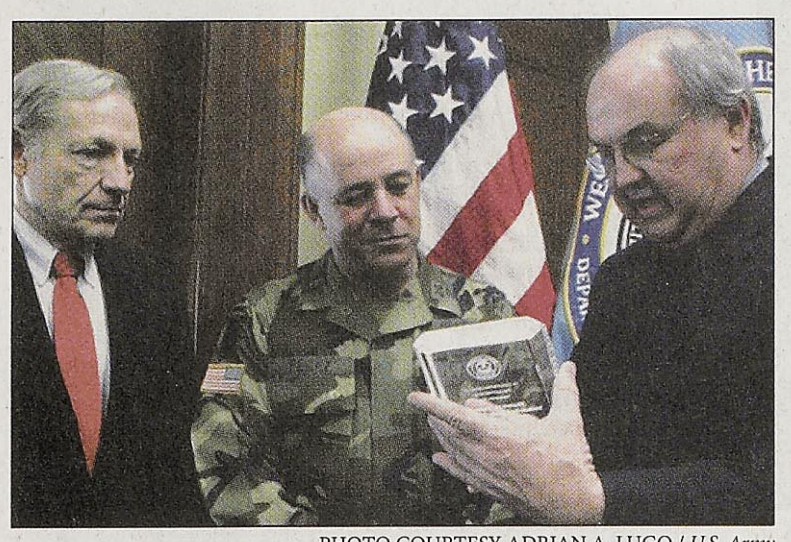

PHOTO COURTESY ADRIAN A. LUGO / *U.S. Army*
Webster University's Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs Randy Wright (right) presents WHINSEC Commandant Col. Giliberto Perez (middle) and Dean of Academics Donald Harrington with a plaque to commemorate the new partnership between the two institutions March 18, 2005.

BY BREANNA HERSCHELMAN
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A degree from the controversial Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation, formerly the School of the Americas, can get graduates up to 12 credit hours at any Webster University campus offering a graduate program.

WHINSEC, located at Fort Benning, Ga., gives government-sponsored training to Western Hemisphere military personnel, mostly Latin Americans. The school has a tumultuous past with human rights groups, who claim the school is a training ground for undemocratic revolutionaries.

Webster's program, in partnership with WHINSEC's Command and General Staff Officer Course, was started in March 2005, said Randy Wright, associate vice president for academic affairs. Wright said any graduate from the CGSOC could transfer credit to Webster to be applied to a master's degree in business administration, management and leadership, or human resources and development.

SOA changed its name in 2001 after many graduates were accused of human rights violations in their respective countries. One of the most recent instances was Oct. 22, 2003, when the Gulf Cartel, a Mexican drug-smuggling operation, hired 31 ex-Mexican soldiers to their assassin force. Mexico Secretary of Defense Gerardo Clemente Ricardo Vega García said at least one-third of the former soldiers were trained at SOA, according to SOA Watch, a non-profit group dedicated to shutting down the institution.

One major incident caught the attention of religious and human rights groups across the U.S. in 1989. According to SOA Watch, Salvadoran army officer Gonzalo Guevara Cerritos, who had just graduated from SOA the year before, was convicted of murdering six Jesuit priests, a housekeeper and her 14-year-old daughter in San Salvador.

On Oct. 18, 2006, police found Guevara Cerritos in Los Angeles where he had been living illegally for more than a year, according to the U.S. Customs and Immigration Office.

Wright said Webster has no formal activities in Fort Benning, such as a campus or hired faculty, and the agreement was for transfer credit only. Wright also said he knew the location had formerly been SOA, but that to his knowledge the CGSOC was not available before the name change.

Christine Wells Eason, media relations director for Webster, said Webster does not promote WHINSEC.

"We by no means endorse what's going on there," Wells Eason said.

Wright said, though he knows of no one pursuing a degree at Webster who graduated from WHINSEC, he sees no reason to end the program.

"If the CGSOC had changed their curriculum, we would reevaluate our standing with them, otherwise we have no expiration date on the agreement," Wright said.

Dan Hellinger, professor of

See WHINSEC, Page 3

Tailor-made majors help students avoid cubicles

BY JAMES CHILTON
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Every year, thousands of students churn through the educational system with no idea what they want to major in. For these students, no single major covers what they want to do and many remain undecided, only to choose a major they're only half-heartedly sure of.

But Self-Designed Interdisciplinary Majors know exactly what they're doing, and they like it.

SIMs give students the chance to create their own major from several different subject areas, combining the flexibility and self-determination of the student with the structure and advising of a traditional major. While the program has only attracted a handful of students per semester in the past, Webster's Coordinator of Experiential Learning, Lori Diefenbacher, says the success stories are literally writing themselves.

"It's a passion — they know they don't want a straight degree," Diefenbacher said. "It's for people who really know what they want."

While many students say they don't know what they want, Diefenbacher said they often do; they just don't realize it until they talk to her.

The SIM process begins when a student comes to Diefenbacher to discuss the student's areas of interest and the possibilities for a major based on those interests. The student then searches the faculty for someone familiar with the subjects to serve as the student's adviser. With the adviser's help, the student determines which courses will make up the core credits of the major. The student then writes a proposal including the selected courses, a formal rationale for the major and a brief description of the senior overview project. The student submits the proposal to Diefenbacher, who passes it along to the General Studies Committee for approval.

Not every proposal is accepted, though. The core requirements have to include between 36 and 64 credits from three

See SIMS, Page 2

Stafford loans

Webster enters loan market

BY KEVIN HUELSMANN
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Banks now have one more competitor in the graduate student loan market. Webster University has announced it will now act as the lender for Stafford loans for graduate students.

As with all Stafford loans, the rates will still be set by the government.

"We partnered with Wachovia, who offered us with a line of credit to offer these loans," said Jon Gruett, director of financial aid. "Any revenue from the program goes back into scholarships or paying down loan fees."

Webster's Financial Aid Office processes more than $130 million in student loans every year. To figure out who will handle the loan, the financial aid department relies on past experience and the features of the loan being offered.

"We point out the options to students," Sarah Wieck, a financial aid counselor at Webster, said. "We look around and see what's best for each student and their situation. We know from past experience who will be best for students."

Financial aid helps students find lenders for federal and private loans. Federal loans follow government regulations on things such as interest rates. Private loans, however, are not federally regulated. The lenders who offer private loans decide on the rates and features of the loan.

"Federal loans are a very vanilla product," said Ginny D'Angelo, vice president of student loans at Commerce Bank. "Private loans take the umbrella of policies and restrictions off of the loan. Then it becomes a product like any other commercial product."

Gruett said he relies on financial aid counselors for suggestions on banks to use. Financial aid counselors meet with students to help them decide with what bank to get a loan.

"Counselors let me know the banks that they think are best," Gruett said. "I just limit that number to about four or five."

Gruett added that Webster commonly, but not exclusively, uses Wachovia, Citibank and Commerce Bank for federal

See LOANS, Page 3

GORLOKS GET SLUGGED



MAX GERSH / *The Journal*
Jeanne Engert fights to prevent UC Santa Cruz forward Annick Lamb from scoring. Lamb went on to score two goals on the Gorloks. See story on page 10.

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Luebbert's e-mails offer insight into MOHELA spat

BY ANDY DIERKER
adierker@webujournal.com

At the heart of the ongoing Missouri Higher Education Loan Authority saga was a Jan. 24 teleconference that was supposed to have been closed to the public.

But according to depositions taken during a lawsuit against MOHELA as reported in the *St. Louis Business Journal*, former MOHELA Chairwoman Karen Luebbert was sending e-mails to a lawyer in the Missouri Attorney General's office during the meeting. Luebbert, who is also a vice president and executive assistant to the president at Webster University, wrote she was shocked at what was occurring.

"You would not believe what is happening," Luebbert wrote to Assistant Attorney General Ronald Molteni.

The board's other members, many of whom supported Missouri Gov. Matt Blunt's controversial plan to sell off portions of MOHELA's assets to finance building projects at state universities, had moved to put the meeting in closed session. They then voted to fire Michael Cummins, the loan authority's executive director.

Luebbert had contacted Molteni the day before to ask him about the legality of the asset sale. So when Molteni called Cummins and told him he was to be fired, Luebbert felt betrayed.

"He is an attorney, and while there may not have been a formal attorney-client privilege, we had been discussing matters," Luebbert said in the deposition. "I believed those matters were confidential … certainly as a lawyer, he should have known better."

During their e-mail conversation, Molteni asked Luebbert if the board was discussing anything that would require them to open the meeting to the public. Luebbert told Molteni the meeting was still closed, but didn't indicate whether she thought that was appropriate or not.

Molteni's questions foreshadow concerns by Attorney General Jay Nixon's office — concerns that culminated in a lawsuit against MOHELA for allegedly violating Missouri Open Meetings and Records laws. Those laws state that quasi-governmental bodies such as MOHELA must post adequate notice of meetings and provide a forum for the public to voice their concerns.

But according to a report in the *St. Louis Business Journal*, Luebbert, who resigned from her position as MOHELA chairwoman Oct. 23, has now joined with other former board members in a motion to throw out the suit. Those members claim that when Molteni alerted Cummins he was being fired, the attorney general's office became a participant in the meeting. That represents a conflict of interest, they contend.

Molteni has since left the attorney general's office, which he claims had nothing to do with MOHELA.

Tom Sullivan, an outspoken advocate for open meetings and records in government, said the tumultuous MOHELA controversy highlights the need for transparency in government.

"[This case] has to do with students in Missouri and their ability to get loans," Sullivan said. "Given the importance of the matter, it seems like there are arguments on both sides — and it deserves a lot of public scrutiny."

MOHELA is a non-profit provider of low-cost student loans. Blunt's proposal to sell off $350 million of the loan authority's assets would fund the Lewis and Clark Discovery Initiative. The initiative would help state colleges and universities pay for building and construction on their campuses.

SIMS: Webster grad went on to work for National Geographic

FROM PAGE 1

or more disciplines and must include realistic class progression — at least 12 hours of 3000- and 4000-level courses.

"This is not an opportunity to sidestep the courses that are hard," Diefenbacher said. "We still want our students to have the expertise."

Before his or her final semester, the student has to submit a senior overview proposal to the General Studies Committee. This proposal can take many forms — a thesis, a performance or practical fieldwork — so long as it shows the student's mastery of the chosen subjects.

While the SIM program only was introduced during the summer of 2006, independent majors are nothing new to Webster. The SIM is a revision of the Individualized Area of Concentration program, which required fewer core credit hours. For some graduates, choosing an individual major has been crucial to their post-college careers.

During her junior year, Webster alumna Teresa Shipley realized all of the courses she took were in science, journalism and creative non-fiction — and she still hadn't declared a major.

"I came to the conclusion that what I really wanted to do was write about science for a general audience," Shipley said in an e-mail. "Be a translator, the Bill Nye of the literary world."

Shipley wrote her proposal, submitted it and became Webster's first environmental science writing major.

"Sometimes certain classes were difficult, like some higher-level science or journalism courses, because I hadn't had chemistry or worked for *The Journal*," she said. "But professors were accommodating and I picked things up pretty quickly."

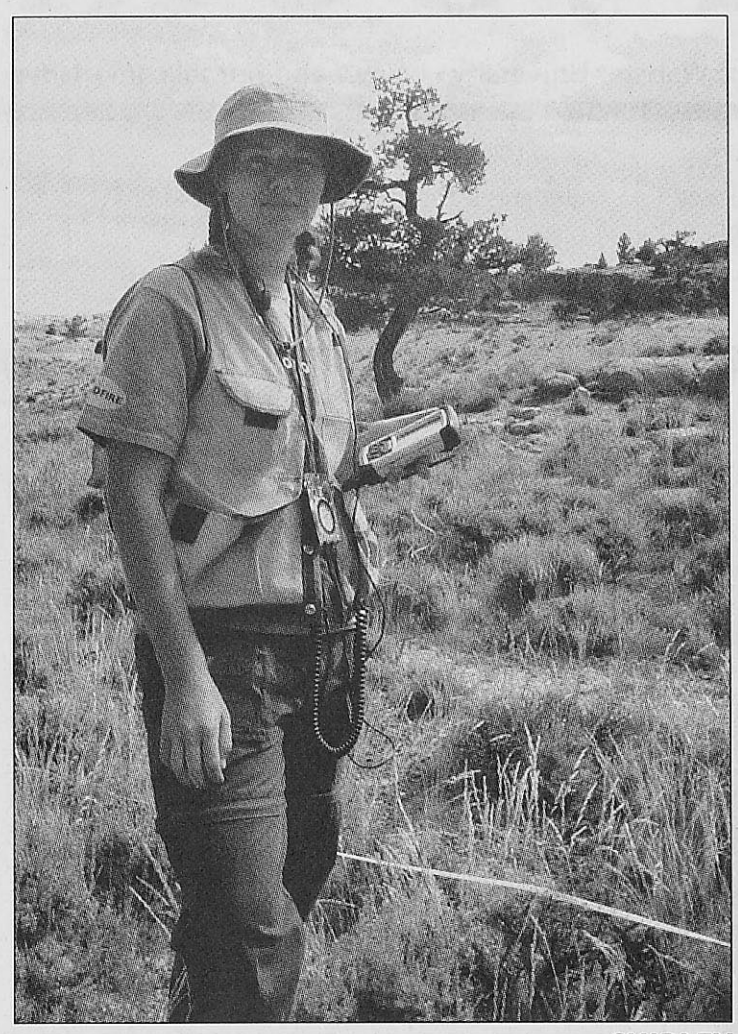
Upon her graduation in May 2005, Shipley was hired by the Student Conservation Association to perform botany surveys for a national project on wildfires throughout the American West.

"I wanted to do this because being able to think like a scientist is the gold standard for science writers," Shipley said. "I wanted to be able to honestly say I'd worked as a field scientist."

Since then, Shipley has worked as an intern and later a contractor conducting research for National Geographic Magazine and is currently on the road looking for a small town newspaper or non-profit organization to write for. She credits Webster's independent major programs for her success.

"By not forcing myself to take required courses and only choosing and learning from those I really wanted, I gained so much more from my education," she said. "How many college students can say they've never taken a class that they didn't want to take? I can. And I thank Webster a lot for that."

Rachel Shannon, another independent major, graduated from Webster in May 2006 with a bachelor's degree in nonprofit leadership and community relations.



SHIPLEY

"I originally thought that I wanted to be in media," Shannon said over e-mail, "but when I took a couple production classes and realized that my heart wasn't really in it, I decided to design my own program — the ultimate program for my professional goals."

Shannon now works as an executive grant assistant for the St. Louis Healthy Marriage Coalition, a group dedicated to educating St. Louisians on relationship skills. Shannon said she loved the independent major program at Webster but, with only five students currently engaged in SIMs, lamented its lack of exposure.

"Most people that I told about the IAOC program were really interested, but had no clue that it even existed," Shannon said.

For Diefenbacher, who now gets a phone call a week from prospective SIMs, limited exposure is probably the best.

"We're not looking for a rush of students, we want to serve the ones with the passion and the ambition," Diefenbacher said.

MISDEMEANORS AND MISHAPS

Oct. 30, 3:55 p.m.: A computer was taken from the Academic Advising Office.

Oct. 31, 2:37 p.m.: A vehicle was towed from Lot D.

Nov. 1, 11:47 a.m.: A student dislocated her knee outside Pearson House.

Nov. 1, 12:21 p.m.: A parked vehicle was struck in a minor accident in the garage.

Nov. 2, 1:47 p.m.: A vehicle was towed from Lot M.

Nov. 3, 4:45 p.m.: Items were taken from a wallet in an office in the Loretto-Hilton Center.

Nov. 5, 7:33 a.m.: A fire alarm sounded in West Hall.

Nov. 6, 11:18 p.m.: Grafitti was found on a wall in the parking garage, and the glass cover of a fire extinguisher was damaged.

Nov. 7, 11:36 a.m.: A parked vehicle was struck in a minor accident in the garage.

Nov. 7, 1:18 p.m.: A fire alarm was sounded in the Loretto-Hilton Center.

Nov. 8, 12:31 p.m.: Four CDs were taken from the mail and copy center counter in Loretto Hall.

Nov. 8, 1:42 p.m.: A vehicle was towed from the fire lane in Lot K.

Nov. 9, 10:30 a.m.: Juveniles were being loud and disruptive in Emerson Library.

Nov. 9, 7:09 p.m.: A fire alarm sounded in the Emerson Library.

Nov. 9, 7:29 p.m.: A student had a seizure in East Hall.

Nov. 9, 8:18 p.m.: A fire alarm sounded in the University Center.

Nov. 10, 3:23 p.m.: A fire alarm sounded in West Hall.

Nov. 11, 5:47 a.m.: A fire alarm sounded in West Hall.

Nov. 11, 6:32 p.m.: A student was ill in the Webster Village Apartments.

Source: Public Safety crime log

Peer educators try to regain footing on campus

BY LANZ CHRISTIAN BAÑES
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Peer Education Zeitgeist is not here to tell students what to do, said Alexis Graves, a junior psychology major and month-long member of the group.

Instead, PEZ presents itself as an alternative to talking to counselors, Graves said. Rather than emphasizing any particular area — such as drug abuse — the organization offers advice on how to live a healthy lifestyle in general.

"We're mostly here to listen," Graves said.

PEZ, a student organization under the direction of Counseling and Life Development, was founded more than a decade ago. Gladys Smith, adviser for the organization and the assistant director of counseling, translates the German word zeitgeist as "a new beginning." She stressed the educator part of the PEZ name, saying PEZ's main focus is to provide information to students who want to know more about issues on campus or with their lives.

Smith, an advanced addiction counselor, said the four main concerns on campus are stress, drugs and alcohol abuse, eating disorders and overall healthy lifestyles.

The peer educators of the group provide several services to Webster students in need.

The most notable of these are the personal one-on-one sessions for which student can make an appointment with a peer educator. The sessions do not necessarily take place at the PEZ offices on the first floor of Loretto Hall, but could include any comfortable place, such as Emerson Library, Graves said. Regardless of the locale, a student can talk to a peer educator about any aspect of his or her life.

"If (a person) doesn't feel comfortable talking to a counselor, we're someone of the same age group that may have gone through some of the same experiences," Graves said.

Graves noted the student members of PEZ are not certified counselors. However, in order to be part of PEZ, potential peer educators go through an eight-hour training class at Webster, after which they test to be certified by the state of Missouri as peer educators.

Smith's immediate goals for this peer-educator class include offering it for credit and merging it with the resident assistant training, since both groups could learn from each other.

"(PEZ) is not heavily used (by students), but it's used," Smith said.

In addition to the personal peer sessions, peer educators also offer information in the form of handouts about everyday issues during their scheduled hours at various places on campus. Smith ensures each member of PEZ is thoroughly versed in the particular subject they are dealing with before allowing them to pass out flyers.

Current freshmen also might remember PEZ from their orientation. Members were present in the new residence halls early in the year to introduce themselves and provide information. Also, PEZ is present at many campus events providing "mocktails," a non-alcoholic concoction most recently served at A Nite in Vegas Nov. 9.

'PEZ' who?

PEZ has recently been afflicted with unwanted anonymity, struggling to regain momentum and visibility.

"This year was weird," said Smith, explaining there was usually a group of peer educators from the spring who would roll into fall, which was not the case this year. Because of that, Smith and Director of Counseling Patrick Stack spent much of the fall 2006 semester recruiting new peer educators.

Graves was one of those new recruits, joining the staff after Smith and Stack visited her psychology course. She completed the eight hours of training during fall break 2006 and, along with her fellow peer educators, has been pushing to make the campus more aware of PEZ.

"We're available as part of the events on campus," Graves said. "I just want to say 'Hey, my name is Alexis and I'm here if you need it.'"

Peer educators also have been regularly attending the RA meetings to offer their knowledge and to make their presence known.

Graduate student Jason Reynolds, a former PEZ member before he received an undergraduate degree in 2004, noted that being unknown is nothing new for PEZ.

"When I was involved (with PEZ), it was difficult to get people out to us," Reynolds said.

Indeed, Smith described how she would encourage the various peer educators to keep steady, especially when no one would show up to their planned events. Smith attributes much of this lack of enthusiasm from the campus community to the incorrect stigma that PEZ tells students not to use drugs or alcohol. Instead, PEZ stresses healthy lifestyles, giving the individual student the ultimate choice.

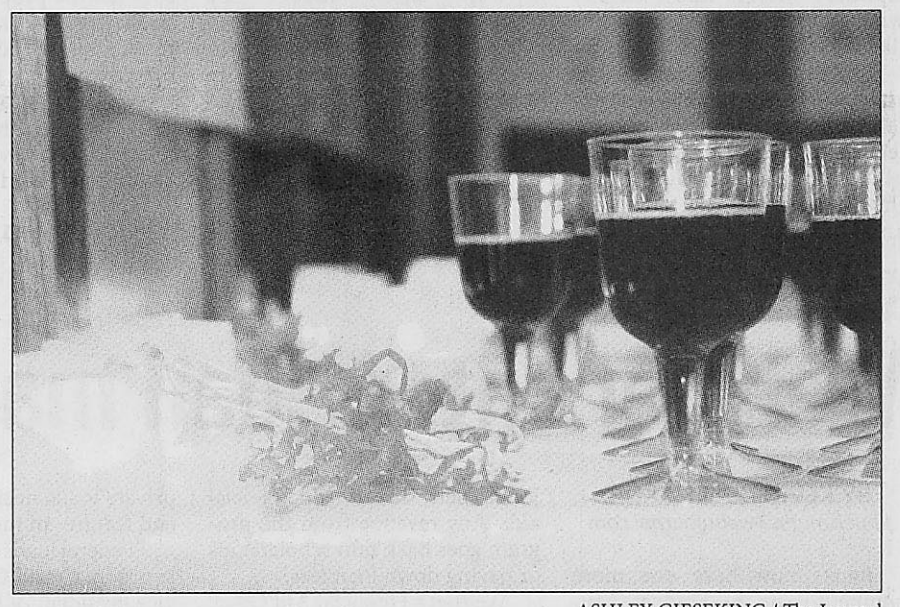
Smith also is trying to revive a PEZ page on Webster's Web site, which disappeared during the reconstruction. A quick search of the new Web site reveals there is no specific contact information for PEZ. In order to get any reference, one must perform a search and weed through the results until an old page titled "Alcohol and other Drug Education and Prevention" surfaces.

Overall, however, Reynolds does not qualify the success or failure of PEZ through dismal turnout or the campus's general perception of the organization.

"We have to judge ourselves on the quality of the education we've provided, not the number of students we've spoken with," Reynolds said.

PEZ is currently preparing for December. Smith expects to see cases of the "holiday blues," characterized by stress. December also is National Drunk and Drugged Driving Awareness month, Smith said. So PEZ will try to get a decimated automobile on campus that graphically illustrates the dangers of driving under the influence.

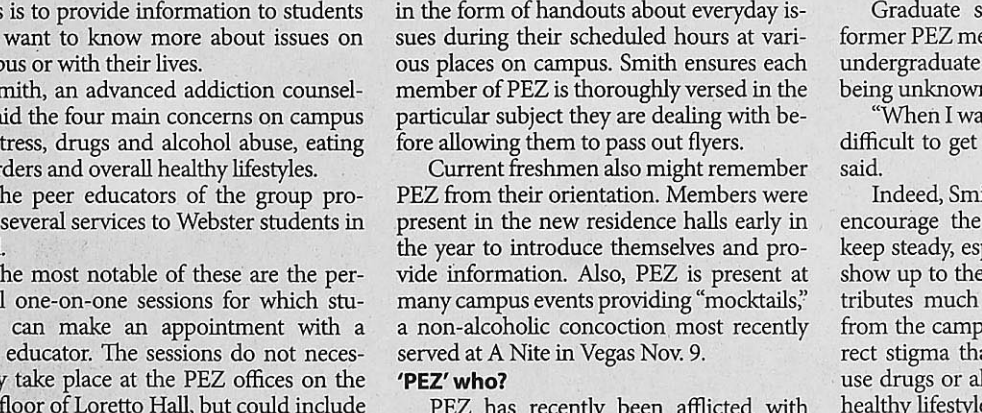
For more information, including setting up appointments with peer educators or joining the PEZ staff, contact PEZ at ext. 7402 or via its group on Connections.



ASHLEY GIESEKING / The Journal

Sparkling grape juice "mocktails" are served during Campus Activities' "A Night in Vegas" Nov. 9.

CAREER FAIR 2006



ASHLEY GIESEKING / *The Journal*

Graduate student Jing Wang inquires about job opportunities at the Career Fair Nov. 14 in the Grant Gymnasium.

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WHINSEC: Webster students to attend protest Nov. 17

FROM PAGE 1

Latin American politics, said he does not want to see Webster affiliated with WHINSEC in any way.

"The fact that Webster has any agreement with WHINSEC and not just the command school is ridiculous," Hellinger said.

Wright said Webster has a direct connection with the command and general staff college (CGSC) at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., which is the headquarters of the program and also a Webster campus. Wright said the CGSOC at WHINSEC acts as an extended program of Fort Leavenworth.

Webster Fort Leavenworth Director Philip Kimmel said WHINSEC was the same as the CGSC program at his campus.

When shown a photograph of Wright at Fort Benning handing a plaque to WHINSEC's Commandant Col. Gilberto Perez, Hellinger contended the photograph was embarrassing.

"Why would Webster need to go to Georgia if they already had a program with the command school at Fort Leavenworth?" Hellinger said.

Since 1989, thousands of people have held yearly vigils outside WHINSEC for one weekend in November. Eight Webster students are going to Fort Benning this year to join in the protest Nov. 17 through Nov. 19.

When the school reopened, WHINSEC officials vowed to increase human rights training. According to the winter 2006 edition of WHINSEC's newsletter "El Hemisferico," the only human rights course offered was 18 days long, while the CGSOC course went from June 30 to May 24.

Hendrick Voss, a full-time volunteer for SOA Watch in Washington, D.C., said the group requested the names of the 2005 graduates from WHINSEC through the Freedom of Information Act. When they received the list, Voss said the names of the graduates were blacked out.

"What is the evidence that human rights education is effective if they can't even find out who took the courses?" Hellinger said.

"The fact that Webster has any agreement with WHINSEC and not just the command school is ridiculous."

-Dan Hellinger, professor

LOANS: Rise in tuition results in more student debt

FROM PAGE 1

loans.

It is common practice for schools to have a preferred lenders list, D'Angelo said. This list is not strictly enforced, but acts as more of a default list for students who are unsure of where to apply for a loan.

"When a student goes in and applies for a loan, sometimes they don't know where to go for a loan, or sometimes they really don't care," D'Angelo said. "Most students just go to a bank on that list."

When students are in need of private or alternative loans, Webster's counselors make suggestions based on their personal experience with the banks.

"We think about what will be best for the student and their situation," Wieck said. "Some loans are easier to get or some loans may have lower fees. It depends on the student and what they need."

Student loans have become a necessity for many students as the cost of higher education in Missouri has increased.

From the 2001-2002 school year to 2005-2006, Webster's non-Conservatory tuition has increased by $3,490.

In 2004, Missouri received an F in affordability in a report by The National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education, a non-partisan group that analyzes national and state policy issues.

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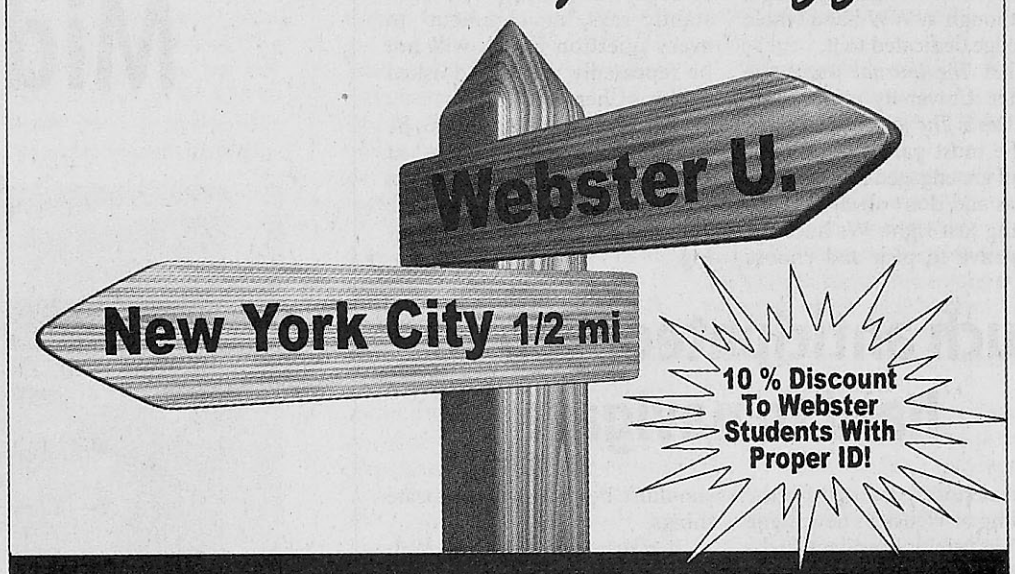

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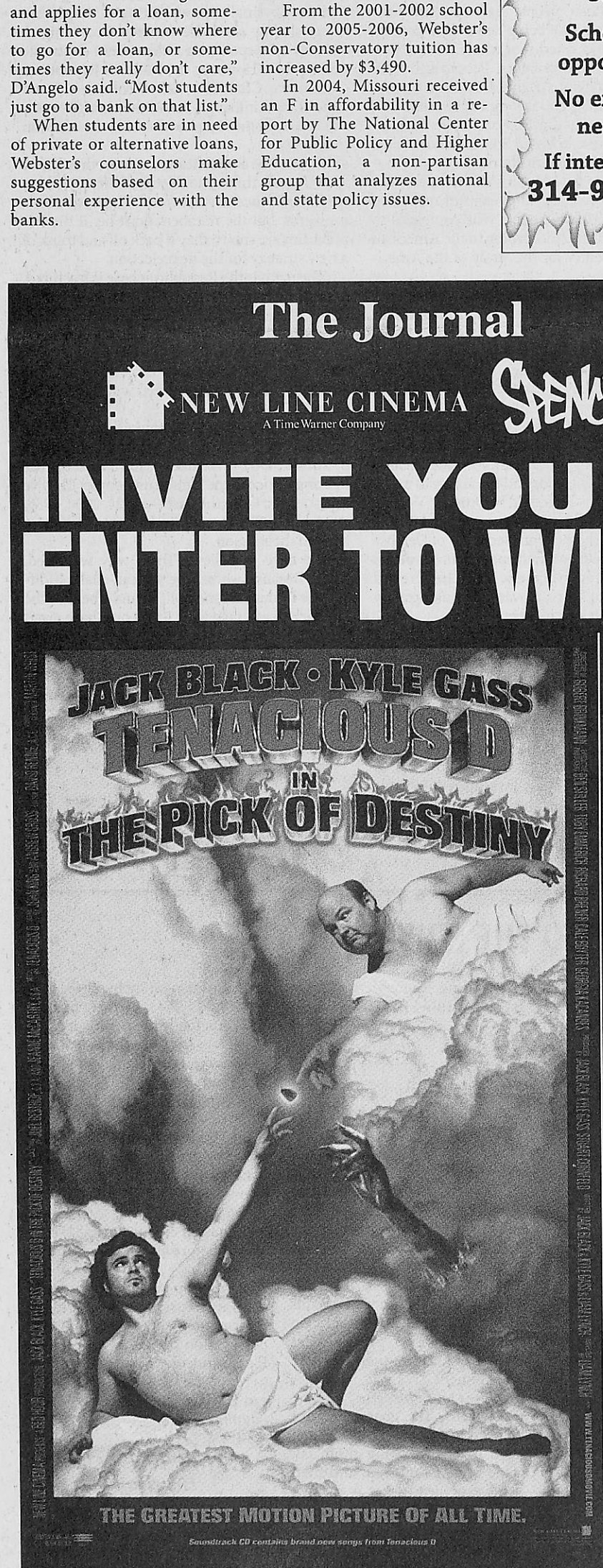

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EDITORIALS

The Journal: Not a venue for PR coverage

The Journal has been criticized by departments and campus groups for not covering certain events. The misunderstanding is that the function of a newspaper — student or otherwise — is not to carry out the advertisement of every press release that crosses the news desk. *The Journal* is a student newspaper that predominately caters to the interests of students. However, the staff tries to include coverage of staff and faculty events as well as off-campus endeavors.

Webster Works Worldwide, for example, has been going on every year for more than 10 years. However, *The Journal* coverage of the event this past October was criticized as not being extensive enough. Despite the fact that only so many stories can be written about volunteer workers before readers get bored — the organizers of WWW felt as if their event deserved better coverage. *The Journal* was able to obtain photos after the fact, which were placed on the Web site. That was not good enough, even though WWW has a whole Web page dedicated to it.

What *The Journal* wants the Webster University community to realize is *The Journal* is a class. For the most part, the students on staff are engaged in a learning process and don't always get everything just right. We have the prerogative to pick and choose what we feel our readers want to read about. *The Journal* has covered big events on campus that even the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* has ignored.

Also, *The Journal* has a limited number of dedicated reporters and there usually aren't enough people available on a weekly basis to cover everything that's going on. Furthermore, when one department has 13 speakers come to campus in one semester, we can't possibly be expected to cover every single one of them — nor do we want to.

When it comes down to it, *The Journal* will only be as cooperative with the Webster community as the Webster community is with *The Journal*.

Any logical human being should realize a press release given to us on the day of an event will most likely be ignored. An event that has been covered year after year when the staff is starting to run out of interesting angles to cover it will probably be passed up. A department head who constantly says "no comment" to every question asked, will not be repeatedly called and asked for his or her opinion.

We are all supposed to be educated individuals here at Webster University. So, put on your thinking caps and do a little work before you start complaining.

Much anticipated Web site hard to navigate

We anxiously awaited for the unveiling of Webster's new home page. University President Richard Meyers said in April 2006 that the Web site would be overhauled by the end of summer 2006. Summer came to an end, school started — but the old Web site remained.

Director of Marketing and Interactive Media Dan Perkins told *The Journal* in the Sept. 28 issue that technical problems contributed to the delay of the home page's debut.

"We have made tremendous strides this summer, but a few technical issues forced us to push back our initial launch date slightly," Perkins said.

The premier date for the new and improved Web site was set for Nov. 1, but it wasn't there. However, on Nov. 9, another date promised for the Web site's release, something wonderful happened. After months of waiting, Webster's new home page was complete — the wait was finally over.

However, since the introduction of the new home page Nov. 9, we've had some problems. It has become more difficult to find what you're looking for through this new Web site. This lack of navigational skills on our part may be due to a sense of unfamiliarity with the site, but it shouldn't be that hard to locate things.

It also seems this new Web site really isn't all that new. Just a few clicks and links from the old Web site kick in. We realize this site is not fully complete and that it does take time to do update everything. However, it was disappointing to find the more popular and used links, like that of the campus bookstore, were not some of the first to be updated.

Another gripe is how visitors to the site have to search for faculty and staff in the campus directory. It takes a while to figure out where the campus directory is on the page and even longer to search for someone. It seems select departments pop up with a list of employees and photos, while others don't. We're not saying the photos or lists don't exist, — but if they do, we simply can't find them.

A trivial but noticeable change is the smaller size of the site itself. The old browser also didn't conform to the size of the window, but it was bigger. Does the new home page need to be so small? Couldn't the extra window space be utilized in some way?

The new Web site may be a step forward for Webster, but it seems everyone else has to take a few steps back when trying to use it.

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Midterm election results conjure optimism



Kelley Atherton

Whether the Republicans say it or not, as a direct result of the election, Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld resigned, making my day even better.

I woke up the morning of Nov. 8 with the sun shining on my face, the birds chirping and knowing that the tides of politics were shifting in my favor. Claire McCaskill did what few thought she would do and beat out incumbent Jim Talent, helping the Democrats take back the Senate. I was, for the first time in a long time, genuinely proud to be an American.

The American people had spoken. They were sick and tired of being lied to by a corrupt government and voted in a whole slew of new representatives and senators. People also were tired of the religious right shoving mistruths down their throats about stem cell research and abortion. Not only did Missourians vote to allow stem cell research, but South Dakota voted down a proposed ban on abortion.

More people voted in this midterm election than 2002. More than 40 percent of registered voters went to the polls this year compared to 39.7 percent in 2002, according to the American University's Center for the Study of the American Electorate.

Most impressive was the young adult. Twenty-four percent of registered 18 to 29-years-olds nationwide voted this year; whereas, in 2002 only 20 percent voted. That's two million more people than four years ago, according to the University of Maryland's Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement. Because so many more people voted this year, we reshaped our government. The midterm elections proved our vote does matter. Every person has a voice and the ability to use it. The founding fathers would be proud.

Whether the Republicans say it or not, as a direct result of the election, Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld resigned, making my day even better. He and everyone else knew he screwed up with the Iraq War and was now sulking away with his tail between his legs.

After Rumsfeld resigned, President George W. Bush held a press conference Nov. 8 in response to the news. The president looked distraught and scared when asked about Nancy Pelosi, the Democratic House speaker hopeful. She vowed election night to follow all of the 9/11 Commission's suggestions, meaning the causes of Sept. 11 and the justifications for the war in Iraq would be thoroughly investigated. Liberals knew eventually the truth about that fateful day and the subsequent war would come out. Say it with me: the Republicans are going down.

Also in the press conference, Bush chalked the midterm election up to the natural swing of American politics. He said it had nothing to do with his abysmal approval rating — 43 percent — up slightly since the summer, according to Rasmussen Reports, an independent electronic polling firm. However, the National Republican Committee Chairman Ken Mehlman said on "The Rush Limbaugh Show," he thought voter fraud had something to do with the election outcome.

I guess the Republicans are mad they didn't try as hard to throw the election their way. There was no evidence of voter fraud. There were little problems, but the numbers don't lie. If the Republicans are smart, they'll back off and think of a new strategy for the next election.

The truth is the Republican base is fractured. Older conservatives think Bush made a mistake in Iraq. Even evangelical Christians are distancing themselves from the Grand Ole Party, and the public is disillusioned with the party in general. The Democrats didn't do anything different; people were just frustrated with the Republicans.

I have to question the obvious though: will this election change anything? I might be overly optimistic. Do the Democrats have what it takes to bring justice to the American people? They've floundered a lot in the past — 2004, 2000, 1988, 1984 and 1980, on and on. I wonder if they've learned their lesson.

We have to believe. That's why we voted, right? Because we believe we can make a difference in our nation's politics and I believe the Democrats will take what the people have given them and do the right thing. Our country deserves better. Our current government and the country can be better, but it will take time and new leadership.

Kelley Atherton, a senior journalism major, is a staff writer for The Journal.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Misleading SGA subhead

While I appreciated Alex Smith's article on the last SGA meeting, the subheading that said I made reference to "last year's budget cuts" is entirely incorrect and misleading. As Comptroller Patrick Vacek addressed with you already this semester, SGA's financial decisions this year have had nothing to do with budget cuts. I am unclear why *The Journal* keeps making reference to something that is not true.

SGA has had less money to work with for student organizations this year for two reasons: First, SGA decided last year to create the "Programming Pool," which sets aside $20,000 for large-scale programs. This idea came from the suggestion of group treasurers who wanted to plan programs beyond the scope of what is normally covered in a $,1500 semester budget. The Programming Pool has been used widely since its inception and student organizations and the campus have benefited from the diverse programming that has resulted. In the past, too many groups were not spending most of the money that SGA had allocated them and this new concept was an excellent use of funds that were not being used.

The second reason behind SGA having a smaller reservoir of funds is the increasing number of student organizations. With more clubs seeking funding, the money gets thinned out more quickly among the groups. Having more organizations is a good thing because it represents the diverse interests of Webster's students, but it presents challenges that require the SGA to seek balance, which was the point of Tuesday's (Nov. 7) meeting discussion.

These are the reasons this year's SGA has applied more scrutiny to its spending. There were no budget cuts within SGA.

John Ginsburg,
Director,
University Center and
Student Activities

China's crisis

Imagine a world where a phone call can get you an organ transplant within a few weeks — no matter what organ is needed. The order-taker accesses a database, showing where an organ and its body are located, then clicks on "order." The "order processor" at the body's location then heads to the basement.

There's no morgue — just prison cells. The guards remove the right body. The "body" is then taken to an operating room, all viable organs removed, and then — alive or dead — it is thrown into the hospital incinerator.

Sound like science fiction? This is actually happening in China — and has been the fate of tens of thousands of people who practice Falun Dafa (Falun Gong). The followers of this peaceful meditation practice, which originated there, are being brutally exterminated by the Chinese Communist Party. Why don't most people know about this situation? Why did 6 million people die in extermination camps during World War II before anyone heard about it?

I urge you to contact your senators and representatives for more information about this ongoing persecution of several years now. Please consider asking the media to report on it, as well. More info can also be found at *http://www.faluninfo.net.*

Barbara Phillips,
Harrisonville, Mo.

Corrections and Clarifications

The following errors were in the Nov. 9 issue. *The Journal* regrets these errors.

- The front page promotion of the BFA show incorrectly referred to "BFA music students" instead of dance students.
- The Student Government Association story deck on page 3 was misleading. John Ginsburg did not say SGA budget problems were connected to last year's budget cuts.

COMMENTARY

Gay male athletes not wanted

Homosexuality remains a taboo topic among team sports



Beth Prusaczyk

The environment of pro sports and society's image of the all-American, manly male athlete offer little solace to a gay athlete.

As St. Louis begins to come down from its World Series high, and the last fake, red soul-patch is put away next to pictures of Detroit pitcher Kenny Rogers' "dirty" hand, baseball fans everywhere are looking forward to next season. There is talk about trades, extensions and retainers, but there is one word that isn't being tossed around, but should be: homosexuality.

Pro athletes have, to put it mildly, a less than conducive environment for coming out. America's pasttime is years behind almost every other field of society. There are out-of-the-closet gays and lesbians in almost every walk of life, and society is becoming more aware of discrimination against homosexuals. However, baseball and other pro sports are taking an Army-like "don't ask, don't tell" stance and most people simply look the other way.

Gay athletes are more accepted in non-team sports such as tennis, track and field and swimming. In 1920, openly gay Bill Tilden won the men's singles at Wimbledon. Skip 68 years ahead to 1998 and Michael Muska was named athletic director of Oberlin College, making Muska the first openly gay man to hold such a title in college sports. Unfortunately, the story is vastly different for team sports such as baseball, football, basketball and volleyball.

In 1985, Ed Gallagher, an offensive lineman for the University of Pittsburgh from 1977 to 1979, jumped from a dam 12 days after his first sexual experience with a man. He survived but was left paralyzed from the waist down. Gallagher said he jumped because he was unable to reconcile his image of himself as a pro-athlete and a gay man.

In baseball, the list goes on and on. It starts with players and coaches displaying homophobic behavior. In 1998, former Yankees clubhouse assistant Paul Priore filed a lawsuit against Yankee pitchers Jeff Nelson and Mariano Rivera and former Yankee pitcher Bob Wickman. Priore claimed the pitchers harassed him with gay-bashing remarks and threatened him with sexual assault. He also claimed he was fired because he contracted AIDS.

In 2006, White Sox manager Ozzie Guillen got into trouble after calling a reporter a fag. Guillen apologized and said he didn't mean it that way. I'm sure Ozzie meant "fag" as a compliment.

And of course, who could forget Mets' star catcher Mike Piazza. After New York Mets manager Bobby Valentine said baseball was probably ready for an openly gay player, the media turned to finding out just whom Valentine might be referring to. Rumors circulated around Piazza. Apparently it bothered him so much he held a Seinfeld-esque press conference to say he was not gay — not that there's anything wrong with that.

Players have come out, although not while playing. Glenn Burke played for the Dodgers and the Oakland A's from 1976 to 1979. Burke came out to his family and friends in 1975, but kept it secret from his teammates. In his autobiography, Burke said Dodgers' management offered to pay for a luxurious getaway if he would agree to conceal his homosexuality. When he refused, Burke said he was traded to the Oakland A's. Once Burke was there, A's manager Billy Martin made public statements about not wanting a homosexual in his clubhouse, clearly referring to Burke. Burke was left with no choice but to retire.

The environment of pro sports and society's image of the all-American, manly male athlete offer little solace to a gay athlete. Some are looking for a gay Jackie Robinson — the first player to break the color barrier. I'm looking for the next Branch Rickey — the baseball executive who signed Robinson and moved baseball forward.

Beth Prusaczyk, a senior journalism major, is a staff writer for The Journal.

COMMENTARY

Bombing tactics just as devastating as nuclear war



Evan Sweetman

Fire bombing was a strategy used by the United States where aircraft drop bombs blindly on a city at night.

Nuclear warfare is all fun and games until someone loses a major population center. Now that I've got your attention, and presumably your blood pressure up a bit, let's set a few facts straight on military history. During my four years at Webster, I've heard some pretty interesting theories about the "atrocity" of using nuclear bombs on Japan spouted by liberal and conservative alike and frankly, facts need to be clarified. While it wasn't the best thing to do, in the same war there were equally as atrocious acts committed by the Allied forces during World War II.

In any argument waged about nuclear war, the first volley usually made is that it was a horrible thing to drop nuclear bombs. The bomb, "Little Boy," was the one dropped on Hiroshima, Japan in World War II.

A better argument would be to refer to Fat Man, the bomb dropped on Nagasaki, Japan, three days later. The safe argument put forth in regards to Fat Man is whether we learned nothing from dropping the first bomb? The apparent answer would be a simple and resounding yes. The United States ignored the devastation caused by the first atomic bomb. On the other hand, Hirohito, then-emperor of Japan, didn't respond in the manner that the United States had hoped — surrendering.

Two other cities were planned as targets, but Truman only wanted military sites to be bombed, according to the Web site *http://www.dannen.com*, which contains several documents regarding the bombing in the months and days leading up to the dropping of the bombs.

Now, compare Hiroshima and Nagasaki to Dresden, Germany, and Tokyo. This is where the reader pauses for a second and asks; "What do Dresden and Tokyo have to do with anything?" Simply put, they were both targets of fire bombing in World War II. Fire bombing was a strategy used by the United States where aircraft drop bombs blindly on a city at night.

This approach, used by the U.S. and U.K. militaries in Dresden in World War II, caused the near total annihilation of the city. As Len Deighton described in his book "Bomber," several waves of bombers were sent in. In the book, it was explained that the first wave of bombers was sent to blow roofs off buildings and cause basic structural damage. The second wave dropped incendiary bombs designed to set fire to the exposed timbers of the buildings. The third wave was either the result of time-delayed bombs or another bombing run meant to disrupt emergency services from responding to fires and injured civilians. As the fires burned, the heat would cause a firestorm, engulfing the entire city.

Tokyo suffered similar damage, but the fires were aided by the large amount of wood and paper used in many buildings. Both Dresden and Tokyo had casualties similar to Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Although no definite death toll for the Dresden bombings can be given, it has been estimated that between 25,000 and 100,000 people were killed according to *http://news.bbc.co.uk*. The bombing of Tokyo left approximately 100,000 dead, according to the Civil Rights Foundation. These techniques were a calculated attack on a city, meant to wreak havoc and cause terror.

It may seem as though I am trying to downplay the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, but I certainly agree those were tragic events and can be argued one way or another. The difference is simply that the intended targets for the nuclear bombs were purely military — although that is not what actually got bombed — whereas the intended targets for fire bombing raids in Europe and Japan were civilian.

A look into the top members of the Manhattan Project, the program at Los Alamos, Ariz., where the nuclear bomb was invented, will show they felt similarly.

Robert Oppenheimer, the lead scientist on the Manhattan Project, quoted the Buddhist text the Bhagavad Gita by saying, "I am become Death, the destroyer of worlds" after the first detonation of an atomic bomb.

Evan Sweetman, a senior journalism major, is a staff writer for The Journal.

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GUEST COMMENTARY

Environmental concerns relate to Iraq crisis

U.S. search for new, efficient energy affects other nations drastically

Robert Rossfeld

... before we move to go completely green, we must consider that Iraq's only current hope for prosperity is the very oil which is degrading our environment.

So, I'm home on leave for a couple of weeks trying to enjoy some of my pre-uniformed pursuits. Along the journey, my fiance and I ended up at the Chase Park Plaza to catch a movie and we settled upon "An Inconvenient Truth." Everyone from family to acquaintances recommended the flick, and I'm always up for some gloom and doom — after all, I am an upstanding member of the armed forces. So, I dropped the six or so bucks to see if Al Gore could get a scare out of me.

Now granted, as a man in uniform, mine is not to question why ... you know the rest of that line. But I was a political science major before joining the military and I reserve the right to exercise my First Amendment rights when my subordinates are not around. I land somewhere between Republican and Democrat in my political life and try to vote on issues instead of ideology. So, for the length of this read, I ask you to turn off your feelings toward Mr. Gore as we look at some of his assertions and their implications.

Greenland is going to melt off the face of the earth. When it does, the North Atlantic heat transfer will stop and you'll be able to go fishing in Manhattan. Hmm. That's a little worrisome. Now, for the most part, Mr. Gore put together a pretty convincing argument and showed a bunch of charts and graphs to convince us that what he's saying will come to pass. I haven't researched the validity of his charts and graphs, but I'm willing to accept them as legit for the moment.

If we accept what he says as true and answer his call to arms, then we'll adopt alternative forms of energy: cleaner fuels, more efficient production processes, lower carbon dioxide emissions. Awesome, right? We get to maintain our standard of living without causing harm to the planet. So we can drive as much as we want and crank up the heat in the winter. Not to mention it will save us money, because oil will become obsolete. But what's the catch?

Here's where Mr. Gore loses me a bit. I wrote a paper in college on the balance between environmental regulation and the economy. Ours is a resilient workforce. If we tell the American worker, "There's no more money in oil; now there's money in corn," the worker will adapt in order to put food on the table. But there is a place where the workforce is not as resilient as ours. This little place I'll visit before too long: Iraq.

I Googled Iraq to figure out how it would react if the world stopped buying its oil. Oil exports account for 95 percent of its national revenue. Needless to say, Iraq would have to find alternative industries to sustain itself if the world went to green energy. It does have other natural resources, among which are sulfur, phosphates and natural gas. Maybe I'm industry illiterate, but those don't sound like big money makers in a green world.

Now here's the issue. There are 28 million people living on a swath of land that most of us consider uninhabitable. Those people are largely poor, uneducated and unemployed. I read once those conditions give rise to something called terrorism. So how viable of an idea is worldwide conversion to green energy? I'm sorry Mr. Gore, but environmental regulation does indeed have an impact on the economy.

If Iraq is insecure now, what will happen when we deplete 95 percent of its revenue-generating capacity? Sure, a green world will still use some oil, but demand for oil would bottom-out in that world. What do Iraqis, or middle-easterners in general, do then? Believe me, if anyone wants Iraq to be stable and secure, it's me and those like me. I'm headed over there and I'd feel better about the trip if the Iraqis were well-fed and happy. Happy people tend to be less angry.

So, I kept Googling. I learned sulfur is used to produce matches, gunpowder, insecticides and fertilizers. Phosphates are used to produce the softeners found in laundry detergent and fertilizer. Oil can be used to produce plastics, pesticides and fertilizer. Natural gas can be used to produce plastics and fertilizer. Hmm, fertilizer ... Maybe fertilizer is a bad economic anchor in a country skilled at making homemade bombs, but maybe the sale of fertilizer to farmers worldwide would provide income to Iraqi workers in the absence of an oil industry.

That transition would require a hell of a lot of fertilizer and probably some changes to trade regulation. But here's something else about natural gas: it creates 30 percent less carbon dioxide than oil for the same amount of energy output. It can be used in hydrogen-based fuels. Again, we'd have to regulate the natural gas market to make sure we purchase enough natural gas from Iraq to keep its economy alive. But it looks like we'd be able to spread wealth in Iraq while simultaneously reducing carbon dioxide emissions. Once again, I read once that when a man has enough money to provide for his family, he's less likely to use his Kalishnikov AK-47.

I'm not sure if natural gas is the ultimate solution to these problems. Iraq has several difficulties inhibiting its development. It needs a functioning and responsive government that gives all its people a sense of inclusion, equitable distribution of wealth, a quality and innovative education system, and a sense of security from harm. But before we move to go completely green, we must consider that Iraq's only current hope for prosperity is the very oil which is degrading our environment.

I believe that neither Iraq, nor environmental recovery, are lost causes. Both present major challenges to American preferences, and it's hard to identify the starting point from which to solve the inherent problems. Terrorism borne from Iraq is larger than a fundamentalist reading of the Quran. And oil consumption is larger than global warming.

We cannot address environmental sustenance at the expense of economic sustenance, whether it be our economy or another peoples'. Given our current engagements, we cannot go green overnight. To do so would perpetuate our difficulties in the middle-east. Mr. Gore's alarm is not out of line, but we must move for measured progress to solve these related problems intelligently. He made at least one concrete point: political will is a renewable resource. An American paratrooper asks you to remember that.

Robert Rossfeld, a 2003 alumnus, is a guest writer for The Journal.

Trio performs classics

BY NIKOLE M. BROWN
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In the soft light of an auditorium, audience members spoke in hushed tones waiting for the concert to start as the sound of a violin floated from backstage. The overhead lights were turned down as the musicians walked onto the stage and began Sonata III composed by Jean-Marie Leclair.

On Nov. 12 in the Winifred Moore Auditorium, Webster University's music department presented their 27th performance of the season. The chamber concert included violinist and alumnus Nicolae Bica, pianist and director of keyboard studies Daniel Schene, and guest artist Kurt Baldwin from the music faculty at the University of Missouri St. Louis on the cello.

Bica, who had earned a master's degree in music in 2001, had performed at Webster University in chamber concerts before. Since Bica and Schene had experience playing Sonata III together, Schene looked for a chance for the two to perform through the music department for the 2006-2007 season.

"It was such a fun piece, we were looking for another time we could perform it," Bica said. "Since I went to school here and I had not performed at Webster in five years, it seemed like the best time."

Bica and Schene also performed Sonata No. 2, Op. 6 by Georges Enescu. After the piece they took a brief intermission, then Baldwin joined Bica and Schene in Trio No. 1 in D minor, Op. 49 by Felix Mendelssohn. After the finale, the musicians stayed in the auditorium to talk with audience members. Many of the music students approached the musicians to introduce themselves and praise the show.

Other audience members, like Barb Rebstock, a regular to the chamber concerts with her husband, just wanted to say how much she enjoyed seeing Bica and Schene perform together.

Freshman Nicole Galkowski, an elementary education major who went to the concert to fulfill a requirement for her music appreciation class, said she enjoyed the show, especially Sonata III. Galkowski's mother, Linda Galkowski, shared her daughter's sentiments on the show.

"I really liked the first piece and the violinist is very talented," Linda Galkowski said. "We had seen the piano player by himself before. He was also very good."

Linda Galkowski said they enjoyed shows they had seen during the season and plan to attend others. One such concert is "holiday Reflections," where the Webster University Chorale will perform at 5 p.m. Dec. 10.

Schene said although the 51-person attendance was below average for a chamber concert, he believed the audience responded well to the performance since the musicians received three curtain calls. He said the reason for the low attendance was probably because there were at least six other performances going on that night in St. Louis.

What happens at Webster, stays at Webster

Cards fly, dice roll in latest installment of casino night

BY KEVIN HUELSMANN
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Dim lighting fell onto cards on a green felt table. Players hovered over their cards while cigarettes carelessly dangled on the edge of their lips. They were glaring at the competition to see who was bluffing and who had the hand to beat. Meanwhile, ragtime music and old Fats Waller tunes played in the background as champagne glasses clinked and provided an almost percussive backdrop.

Well — almost. The cigarettes were of the candy variety, the champagne was sparkling grape juice and the money at stake wasn't real. It was Webster's annual A Nite in Vegas held in the Sunnen Lounge and University Center Commons.

The Nov. 9 event, sponsored by Campus Activities and coordinated by sophomore Seville Fletcher, a public relations major, attracted prospective gamblers from the campus to try their hand at blackjack, poker and roulette. This year's theme, the 1920s, brought some students out in red slinky dresses, fedoras, feather boas and even a few zoot suits.

Despite the fact that the chips weren't real, students still writhed and winced after losing a hand and threw their hands in the air when they won.

Faculty from various departments got behind the tables to deal out hands for the evening.

"It's a fun thing to do," said Patrick Stack, director of counseling. "I've been involved with this since it got started. I have a freshmen orientation class where I've been pushing this. I challenged my students to come out and play me."

Weaving in and out of the crowd, waitresses in red and black frilly dresses offered students candy cigarettes and glasses of sparkling grape juice.

"(A Nite in Vegas) is something different," said Jason Woolem, a junior video production major. "It's a good way to meet people and hang out and play some cards."

Terrell Sanders, a junior sociology major, said he was out to win some chips.

"I like to take chances and I want to win the big bucks," Sanders said jokingly. "It's fun though. It gives people something to do on campus."

As each student entered, he or she was directed to get chips. Each student received $500 in chips that could be redeemed for tickets at the end of the night. Prizes included an iPod, DVD sets, a Razor scooter and practical items like a laundry basket and detergent.

At the one end of the UC, a small, gazebo-like structure was host to numerous couples posing for fake wedding photos.

In the Sunnen Lounge, five tables were used for poker while Ron Bryant, an adjunct faculty and graduate student at Webster, tickled the ivories.

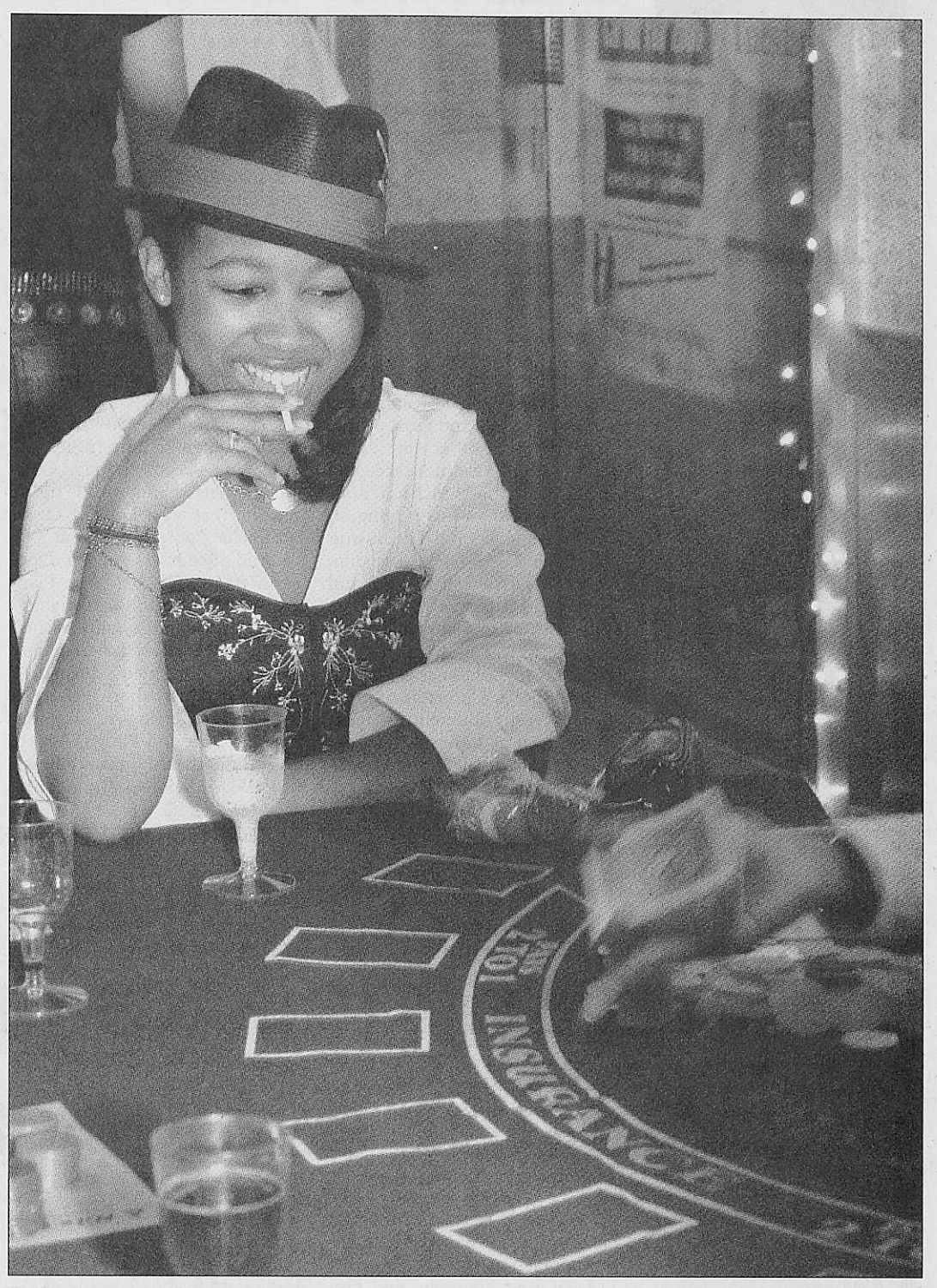
"They told me they were going for the 1920s feel," Bryant said. "I played some ragtime, some Fats Waller, but I also played some other stuff like 'Linus and Lucy.'"

Humberto Herrera was visiting his girlfriend at Webster and the couple just happened to get drawn in by the signs outside.

"It sounded interesting," Herrera said. "Get married, spend money — what happens in Webster stays at Webster. It sounded fun. I don't play poker very well, but it's fun."

Katie McComb, Campus Activities graduate assistant, said the night was a success.

"I was very pleased," McComb said. "I think we counted about 200 people and everyone seemed to have a good time."





Top: *Freshman Nadia G. Battle bites on a candy cigarette while she plays a card game during Campus Activities' "A Night in Vegas" Nov. 9 in the University Center. The annual event included everything from roulette tables and a wedding arch to 'mocktails,' non-alcoholic cocktails. Faculty and staff participated in the event by acting as dealers.*

Left: *Freshman Ricardo Falla folds a poker hand. Each gambler began the night with $500 in chips. Their winnings — or losses — could be exchanged for prizes at the end of the night, which included things as mundane as laundry material to as high-tech as an iPod.*

ASHLEY GIESEKING / *The Journal*

Artist offers students view from above

Photographer Julieanne Kost presents the May Gallery exhibit "Window Seats," 51 images taken from airplane windows

BY MALLORY SKINNER
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Each of the 51 photographs spanning the walls of the May Gallery's current exhibit "Window Seat" create for its viewer the sensation of looking out of an airplane's window — not surprising, since that is exactly what they are. Julieanne Kost, a visiting photographer to whom the images belong, has spent the past eight years peering out of airplane windows and photographing what she sees.

Kost describes "Window Seat" as a hybrid of the personal and professional. A spokeswoman for the digital imaging division of Adobe Photoshop since 1993, Kost goes from city to city giving seminars on Adobe software. Her job requires her to travel almost 200 days a year, often by plane. Terrified of flying, Kost said she came to regard her camera as a coping mechanism. She used her camera to turn her nervous energy into a creative outlet.

"My camera served as a sort of buffer between my fear and the necessity of flying for business," Kost said. "As long as I could wedge the camera between myself and the window, I was OK."

Kost said, in the beginning, she only photographed clouds. Eventually, she focused her camera on the landscapes over which she flew, capturing images of mountains, salt flats, agricultural fields and shorelines some 30,000 feet below. Having collected more than 3,000 pictures during her aerial travels, Kost said it will be a challenge to find something she has yet to photograph.

Kost said her favorite photograph in the series was taken during a flight from San Jose, Calif., to Los Angeles in 2004. In the picture, the Pacific coastline's jagged inlets create the outline of a horse. Kost said she considers herself fortunate to have caught the image.

"I'd flown the route between San Jose and Los Angeles a million times," she said. "But this time our route was changed, due to weather, and we flew closer to the coastline."

Kost said all of her pictures were shot with a Nikon camera, using mostly digital photography. She also used various Adobe programs to digitally enhance the sharpness of colors and shapes in her photographs. By applying Adobe to her own pictures, she said her passion for photography is an excellent way to exemplify the merits of using the software.

Senior Jennifer Burgoyne an English and women's studies double major, said the aerial aspect of Kost's photographs made familiar landscapes seem more jarring.

"Photographing your subject from such great heights is a unique way of looking at what would otherwise be mundane," Burgoyne said.

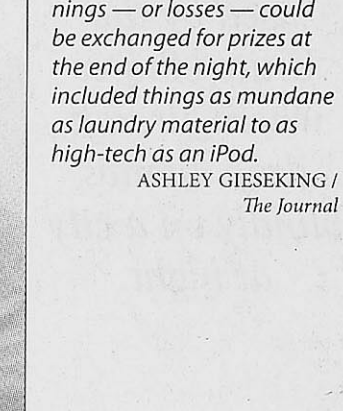
Earlier this year, Kost published a collection of photographs titled "Window Seat: The Art of Digital Photography and Creative Thinking." The book offers readers insight into Kost's creative process, a tutorial on how to use Adobe software and a host of pictures taken from Kost's travels.

Bill Barrett, director of the May Gallery, said when he learned Kost was touring in promotion of her book, he invited the photographer to visit Webster.

Though her pictures are now bound in one volume, Kost said she does not intend to stop taking aerial photographs.

"I can't stop now," Kost said. "What would I do on those long plane flights?"

"Window Seat" will be on display until Nov. 24. The May Gallery's next exhibit is the Photo Imaging Education Association's International Competition, which opens Dec. 1.



KOST

Campus Activities provides athletic programming

What the Health offers swimming, dancing and maybe sex education

BY MALLORY SKINNER
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What the Health, a string of projects designed by Campus Activities to encourage students to lead more healthy and active lifestyles, began in November with on-campus water sports and salsa lessons. The program will continue throughout the academic year.

Katie McComb, Campus Activities graduate assistant, said most campus activities are social as opposed to recreational. She said What the Health will provide physical activities during which students can expend energy and release stress.

"You see a lot of programs where students can meet one another," McComb said. "But there are very few student activities oriented toward athletics."

Campus Activities surveyed students at the Involvement Fair to see which activities they would most likely to participate in. McComb said most of the students who responded were interested in swimming. As a result, Campus Activities has implemented Thirsty Thursdays, four weeks of water sports in the University Center pool. Thirsty Thursdays began Nov. 2 with a game of water basketball. Thirsty Thursdays is held every Thursday at 9:30 p.m. in the UC pool.

Another What the Health event is a month of salsa lessons organized by the Latin American Student Organization. Seville Fletcher, a sophomore and member of Campus Activities, said LASO approached Campus Activities with the idea of salsa lessons. Campus Activities agreed to sponsor the event. Salsa lessons, each lasting an hour, will be offered at 8:30 p.m. every Wednesday until Nov. 29.

McComb said What the Health is a good way of acquainting students with Webster's facilities.

"A lot of students aren't aware of what all the University Center has to offer," McComb said. "They don't even know about the pool."

McComb said future What the Health programs may include kickboxing, aerobics and tae bo. She said Campus Activities also would like to have soccer matches every Saturday, but the success of such a program will depend on the gym's availability. McComb added, as part of What the Health, Campus Activities plans to simulate a boot camp with early morning workouts. She said the boot camp's location and type of exercise have yet to be determined.

In the 2007 spring semester, What the Health may devote a week to sex education, promoting safe sex among students. During finals week of the spring semester, McComb said What the Health will offer stress-alleviating programs, including free massages and dodgeball tournaments.

"With this program, we're aiming for health in both mind and body," McComb said.

BY RACHEL LEBO
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The rhythmic sound of feet shuffling across the floor, punctured by a lone voice counting the basic salsa beat, signified the free salsa lessons were in full swing.

"To dance with salsa music, you must first know the basic rhythm of salsa," said instructor Eduardo Ayala. "Songs may sound different, but when you listen closely, it is still that same pattern. You can always hear the numbers; just listen to the beat."

Sponsored by Campus Activities and the Latin American Student Organization, the salsa lessons are free to students, staff and anyone else who wants to attend. The first lesson was Nov. 9 in the large dance studio in the Loretto-Hilton Center. Fourteen people attended the first class, and approximately 25 people attended the second class.

The beginners' class consisted of the basic rhythm of salsa dancing, as well as posture, hand placement and finger positioning. For the majority of the class, everyone formed one line to learn the basic moves that go into salsa dancing without music. The most important lesson of the night was not how to dance, but to dance without inhibition.

"Don't feel shy to dance," Ayala said. "You must open up. You could have beautiful moves or techniques but no one will know if you aren't moving."

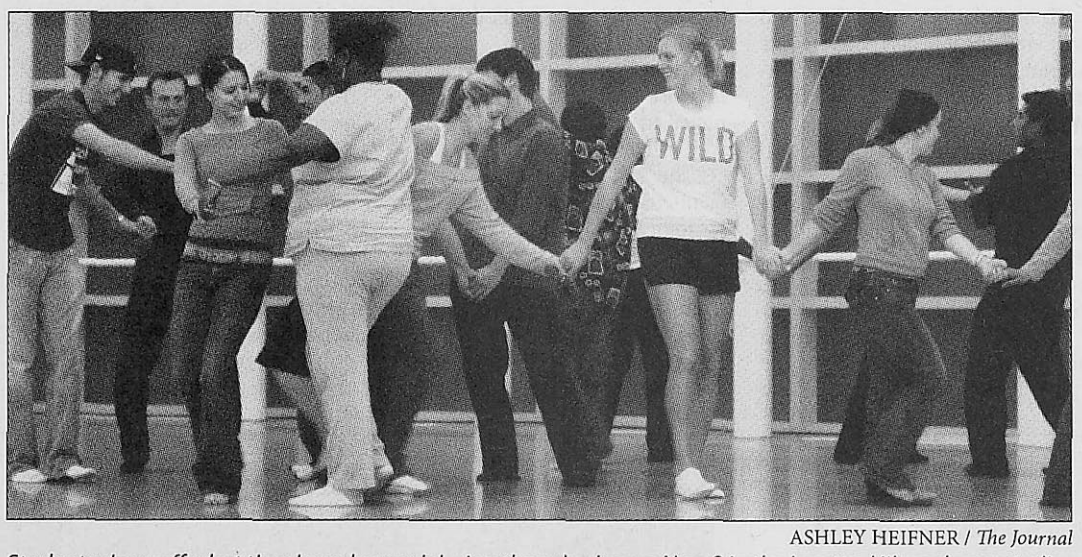
From basic back-and-forth moves to complicated spins and turns, the beginners' class learned to combine them all while dancing alone. After the first 35 minutes, the participants chose partners and their new techniques were put into practice.

"I was amazed at how many people showed up and it seemed that everyone had a great time," said senior Shaun Wall, an audio production major. "Most of us stayed after and danced for another half hour (after two hours of practice). I can't wait for next week."

Most of those who attended the first lesson stayed for the second.

Armelle Depays, Ayala's assistant in the salsa lessons, French teaching assistant and vice president of LASO, proposed to LASO the idea of group salsa lessons when several people showed interest for private salsa lessons. She contacted Ayala, who is from Mexico and asked him to teach the lessons. The lessons are a part of Campus Activitie's What the Health program.

Salsa lessons will continue from 8:30 to 10:30 p.m. Nov. 21 in the large dance studio in the Loretto-Hilton Center. The first hour will be a beginners' class and the second hour will be an advanced class. The last day for salsa lessons will be 8:30 to 10:30 p.m. Nov. 29 in the University Center Sunnen Lounge.



ASHLEY HEIFNER / *The Journal*

Students show off what they have learned during the salsa lesson Nov. 8 in the Loretto-Hilton dance studio as part of What the Health.

'Transamerica'

Son finds 'father,' travels across country

BY KAREN MCGLENN
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Felicity Huffman is floating in a tubful of water. Seemingly soaking away the day's stress, she runs her hands lightly over her naked body. Starting with her breasts, she works her way down to the dark, fuzzy mound. Checking and double-checking, she sighs, happy her penis is truly gone.

This is a scene out of "Transamerica," a Duncan Tucker-directed movie screened by the LGBTQ Alliance Nov. 10 in the Sverdrup building, room 101. In an award-winning performance, Huffman, best known for her role on "Desperate Housewives," plays Bree, a pre-operative transsexual living in Los Angeles.

With just one week until her surgery, Bree learns she fathered a son, Toby, when she was still living as a man. That son is now a teenager and in jail in New York City. Bree's therapist refuses to sign off on her surgery until she comes to terms with her past, so Bree goes to New York. Eventually, she and her son embark on a cross-country trip back to Los Angeles. The movie focuses on the pair's evolving relationship and the misconceptions of others.

Quinn Gardner, a junior photography and human rights major and president of LGBTQ Alliance, said the movie screening was planned months ago. Gardner said the Alliance wanted to show a movie about transsexuals because the group is often overlooked by society.

"We don't address the 'T' enough," Gardner said, referring to the T in the club's name.

Approximately 25 people attended the screening. In an open forum held after the movie, topics such as the difference between sex and gender, sexism and gender classification were discussed. The group talked about how sex is the biological part of a person and gender is the social construction. When the words he and she are used, it generally refers to how that person is seen by society. If a person has long hair and wears makeup and a dress, that person is usually referred to as a woman. If someone has very short hair and looks and acts in a stereotypical masculine way, then that person is referred to as a man.

The general consensus of the group was that sex and gender are not interchangeable. A person could not and should not be defined by their appearance. Steve Houldsworth, faculty adviser for LGBTQ, related this to a form of sexism.

"If there was no sexism, no one would be offended if they were called the wrong thing," Houldsworth said. "It's all language-based, how we refer to ourselves."

Before someone can have surgery to change their bodies, they must go through a period of mental health care to determine if they are ready to become a member of the opposite sex. Gender identity disorder, also called gender identity dysphoria, is the diagnosis used by mental health professionals. During this period of care, transsexuals deal with any gender issues they may have and must be consistent in their desire to change their sex.

Transsexuals might feel compelled to become overly feminine or masculine in their appearance to convince their therapists to sign off on the surgery. Houldsworth said male to female transsexuals use hyper-feminization to leave no doubt in their therapists' minds.

While many transsexuals do not like or want to be associated with a mental disorder, there is an advantage.

"(Surgery) is considered treatment for a disorder, so insurance companies will pay for it," Houldsworth said.

Senior Jenn Burgoyne, an English and women's studies double major, said she had seen the film before but wanted a friend to see it. She said she had an interesting upbringing, which made her familiar with the film's topic.

"I had drag queen aunties," Burgoyne said.

Webster alumnus Jon-Carlos Evans came with Burgoyne to see the movie for the first time. Evans said he enjoyed the film and was comfortable with the subject matter.

"It's a subject I've dealt with in my family," Evans said. "I am comfortable with it and I think having a dialogue is good to make changes."

Burgoyne related the topic to another subject matter.

"Gender issues are the civil rights of the millennium," Burgoyne said.

Left-wing poet tackles LGBTQ issues

BY LANZ CHRISTIAN BAÑES AND EVAN SWEETMAN
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For the second time in two months, the University Center Sunnen Lounge played host to a bold, female spoken-word artist.

"People need to know that it's OK to be pissed off," said Alix Olson, encouraging the crowd of students and community members to fight for their rights. Olson performed to a crowd of approximately 120 people Nov. 8.

"If you have the resources or tools — aka a college campus — it's your responsibility to help and to seek community," continued Olson, who was billed on her Web site as "one part peace vigil, one part protest rally and one part joyful raucous concert."

Olson's left-leaning subject matter galvanized the crowd, who filled the packed room and responded with yelling, screaming and an overall boisterous attitude. The topics of the night included women's rights, gender equality and gay and lesbian issues.

Olson said she feels one important aspect of her work is to show that anger and humor can work together. To illustrate this, Olson sarcastically called President George W. Bush "cute" and a "sweet little monkey" — clearly indicative to the audience of her dislike of the criticized president.

In addition, Olson's act, which followed the Sept. 27 performance of activist-poet Andrea Gibson, opened with a set by local guitarist Summer Osborne, who had themes similar to Olson.

"George W. might think we're crazy in the head, but he'll be eating his words when his daughter is in my bed," Osborne said.

During Osborne's performance, she said, "You've got to pick your battles, not start the whole damn war."

Osborne, originally from Illinois, has been performing for about two years. She said she is hoping to branch out and start playing at more gay and lesbian bars and clubs.

"Remember my face and name because I'll be a superstar," she said.

Both artists expressed their views on gay marriage.

"We're not contagious. We don't bite — unless you want us to," Osborne said in a fit of innuendo. "We just want what you got without the fight."

Olson, on the other hand, took a more serious and personal approach.

"I've been fighting so hard for it," Olson said. "But then I realize, I don't want to get married. It's just not for me."

However, she immediately followed that with another joke.

"So, I'm starting my own movement: 'No divorce for straights' because that's a sin," Olson said in conclusion.

Despite being enthusiastic, some crowd members could not relate to Olson and Osborne's strong, topical themes.

"It was a little more than I could connect to," said Patrick Vacek, president of the Anti-War Society, Student Government Association comptroller and a sophomore computer science major. "It was a new experience, but very enjoyable."

The event was co-sponsored by Students for Gender Equality, the Anti-War Society, SGA, the LGBTQ Alliance, Women in the Media and the Audio Engineering Society.

Kat Touschner, a junior video production major and treasurer of SFGE, said the organization brought Olson to campus because she is inspirational, and her politics are in line with the sponsoring organizations.

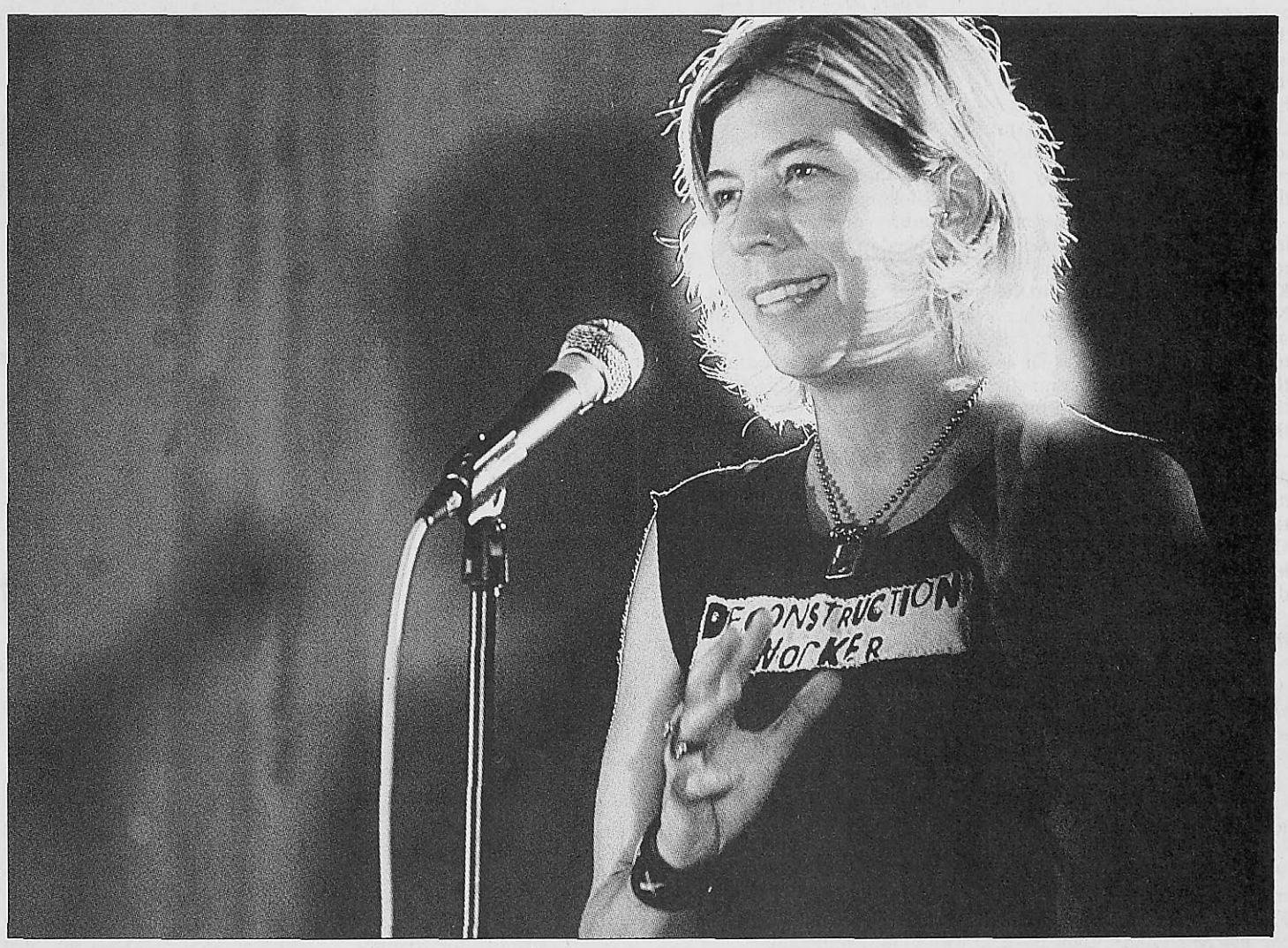
"I think it went real well," Touschner said. "A lot of people from off-campus came too, so we had a nice mix."

Touschner said bringing Olson to campus does not indicate a trend of bringing spoken-word artists to Webster; rather, SFGE and other organizations are bringing in people who are strongly outspoken.

"Both Andrea Gibson and Olson tell you what they believe," Touschner said.

Olson also was the subject of the award-winning documentary "Left Lane," which chronicles her tour across the country.

More information about Olson can be found on her Web site *http://www.alixolson.com*. More information about Osborne can be found at *http://www.myspace.com/summerosborne*.





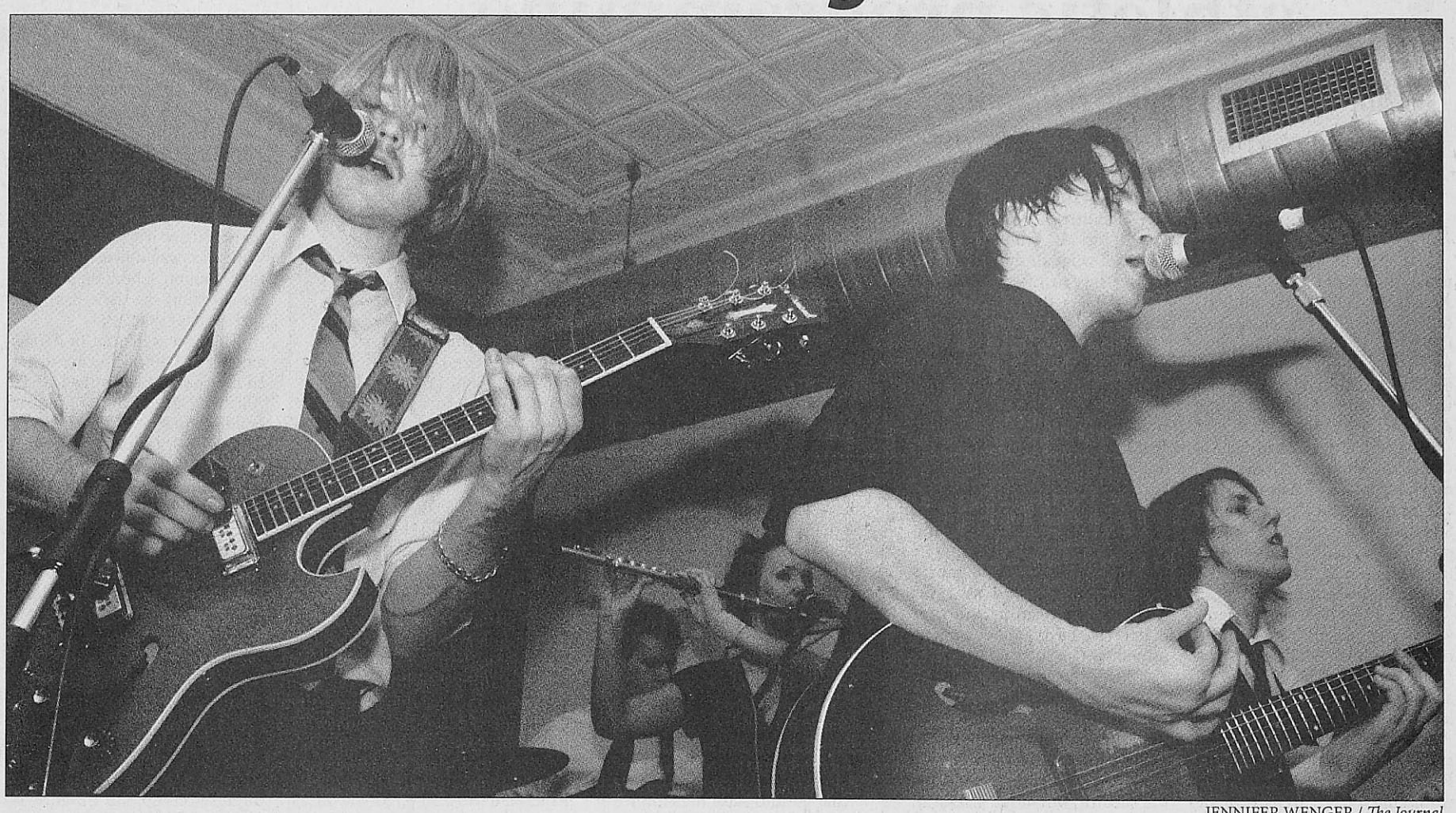
Top: *Spoken-word artist Alix Olson stuns Webster's audience during her poem, "My relationship with my country," where she describes her relationship with America as being immature, self-absorbed and ultimately destructive. Olson performed Nov. 8 at Webster's UC Sunnen Lounge, sponsored by a number of Webster's organizations.*

Left: *Guitarist Summer Osborne opens for Olson with her rendition of the popular country music song "Redneck Woman." Osborne's version of the song consisted of slamming President George W. Bush by singing of his theoretical anger when he "finds his daughter in my bed," in addition to changing the chorus to sing "let me get a big HELL YEAH from the lesbians like me!"*

JENNIFER WENGER / *The Journal*

Gentleman alumni aim to gain local fans

BY SHAWN DOOLEY
sdooley@webujournal.com



JENNIFER WENGER / *The Journal*

Webster alumnus Steve Kozel (left) and bass guitarist Eric Hurbst perform with the rest of their band, the Gentleman Auction House, Nov. 9 at Mangia Italiano.

The room was intimate, and with all eyes on the table-size stage, Gentleman Auction House music took control of the room.

The Gentlemen Auction House is a seven-member band, five of whom are Webster University alumni. The band was performing Nov. 9 at the South Grand bar and eatery, Mangia Italiano. The band typically plays about three to five shows monthly around the St. Louis area. The band was dressed like young professionals, the men in black slacks and ties and the woman in a black cocktail dress. Gentlemen Auction House's sound and appearance can be described as that of pop-rock band Green Day, but they mostly compare themselves to the indie-pop-rock band Arcade Fire.

Each member has many roles on-stage and behind the scenes. Each member plays different instruments. The band members were attuned with one another and involved themselves with the crowd. The diverse crowd bopped their heads to the beat, and when the band started the performance, it drew a larger crowd from the restaurant side of the eatery.

"Our biggest obstacle was fitting on that stage," said guitarist Mike Tomko, an audio production alumnus.

The band

The dynamic of the group can only be summed up as fitting. Each member in their own way related Gentlemen Auction House to a family.

"We like such different things," Tomko said. "We differ so much vocally that the sound is a part of each of us."

Each member doesn't just do one thing in the band. Tomko is a guitarist, a vocalist and does the day-to-day operations for Gentlemen Auction House. Kiley Lewis, a music alumnus, is a keyboarder as well as a vocalist. Eric Enger, an audio production alumnus, is a vocalist, guitarist, and writer. Steve Kozel, an audio production alumnus, is a vocalist, guitarist and trumpeter. Ryan Adams, an audio production alumnus, is a drummer. Eric Hurbst is the bassist. Stephen Tomko, Mike Tomko's brother, is a drummer in the band.

"There is a time and place for each member and we know it," Enger said. "Everyone has a role, and we fit right in because no one tries to overplay their role in the band."

The band has limited time to practice and perform, but makes time each Wednesday to practice at Mike Tomko's house. Each band member has a day job and performs in the band part-time.

"We have very distinct traits," Lewis said. "We are very eccentric in our own ways, some more than others."

Hurbst and Enger are the self-proclaimed pranksters of the band.

"Yeah, when you put (Hurbst and Enger) together they are double-trouble." Lewis said. "It is always fun."

Hurbst and Enger also work at the same center for the disabled.

"I think going to work there and really enjoying it helps me appreciate this band," Enger said. "I get really inspired by the patients at the center."

Origins of the band

The band started in 2002 and originally had four members. The Gentlemen Auction House name came to be after original members Mike Tomko and Enger searched the phone directory for a word to go with "gentlemen."

"I think we both really thought that 'gentlemen' was going to be a part of the name," Mike Tomko said. "We literally went through the phone book until something fit."

The original group formation slowly grew over time. The band didn't just seek members to add to the group — all of the added members were friends of another band member.

"The band kind of built this network of friends and we all happened to be musicians in our own way," Mike Tomko said.

The last member to join the Gentlemen was Stephen Tomko. He joined in December 2005.

"Stephen just started playing his drums at one of our practices, and from then on he was a part of the band," Mike Tomko said.

Lewis is the only female in the male-dominated band. Lewis said she loves to perform with Gentlemen Auction House because it serves as an outlet for her to release her passion for music.

Mike Tomko said Hurbst is the third bassist of the band. Hurbst joined Gentlemen after the original bassist and his replacement.

"Hurbst was already a friend of the band," Mike Tomko said. "And he fit well with the dynamics of the group."

Gentlemen Auction House started as a backing band for Enger. Mike Tomko said he booked the shows and Enger wrote the songs.

"This just started as something fun and has only gotten better," Enger said. "We really don't dream to be a band on every little girl's wish list."

The band's future

Mike Tomko said if the right offer were to come along from a record label, the band would take it. Currently, they enjoy the local music scene and are excited about building a regional fan base. They have about 10 shows booked until the end of the year.

"We just started to book shows not in our niche audience," Tomko said. "Let's see where that takes us."

For the immediate future, Tomko said he is still putting the final touches on a February 2007 regional tour to promote their newly released CD, The Rules Were Handed Down. He hopes to move the tour south and work a way to the South by Southwest Festival in Texas.

Vocal performance students compete, win national contest

BY ALEXANDRA SMITH
asmith@webujournal.com

For vocal students at Webster University, singing in the shower or accompanying the radio as they get ready in the morning is merely a warm-up for the day that will follow. More than a hobby or recreation, they have chosen singing as the path to lead them through their college education, and eventually to their chosen career.

On Oct. 27 and 28, this path led approximately 15 students to Truman State University in Kirksville, Mo., to compete in the National Association of Teachers of Singing state competition. Fifteen students advanced as far as the semi-finals in the competition, and three continued on to the final round.

"Having so many students do so well is not common, and it speaks well on the quality of the vocal program at Webster University," said Michael Parkinson, chairman of the music department.

Not all students who entered the competition were vocal performance majors. However, they were all students who take a weekly voice lesson through the music department in the Leigh Gerdine College of Fine Arts. Individual voice instructors asked students who they felt were ready to attend the competition.

In the category of Junior Women, Angie Dinkelman, a music major, placed first and Kimberly Moller, a music major, placed second. Adam Bock, a music education major, placed third in the category of Freshman Men.

For the competition, students were required to learn and memorize three pieces. The first two were an English art song and an art song in a foreign language. For the third song, students could choose between an Aria, Oratorio or art song in any language.

"Learning the language and sounding authentic in that language is the most difficult thing," said sophomore Lauren Lee, a vocal music education major who competed in the semi-finals.

"I basically live for singing. I love it more than anything else and it is definitely my main focus right now."
- Lauren Lee, student

Students perform alone in front of adjudicators, most of whom are vocal teachers from participating schools.

"It can be a very stressful situation, but it's about the relaxation and the belief in oneself," Parkinson said. "We want them to be able to really get into the character of the song they are singing."

For Webster faculty and students, the competition is not as much about placing as it is about the experience of performing.

"I looked at it as a chance for growth," said sophomore Heather Sweeney, a music education major who competed in the semi-final round at NATS. "It gave me more insight into how I'm doing. I could gauge myself against other students."

For vocal students in the music department, preparing for a performance or a competition like NATS is part of a daily routine.

"In a sense, you're always preparing," Bock said. "What you do in voice lessons is the practice you get for competition."

Vocal students fill their days with private voice lessons, personal practice time, a required weekly two-hour master class and supplemental music classes such as music theory, musicianship and foreign language.

"My classes might not be the hardest, but they are physically demanding," Sweeney said. "They require a lot of outside practice."

Singing is a huge component not only in these students' education and college experience, but their lives. Some said it is not uncommon to find people practicing in the music building all hours of the day.

"There is a tremendous amount of time these students must spend by themselves mastering their craft," Parkinson said.

In addition to class work, students may have rehearsals for one or more of Webster's five ensemble singing groups, which include Webster Chorale, Concert Choir, Choral Society, Webster Jazz Singers and Webster University Opera Studio.

Parkinson said there are about 175 students in the music department, including graduate students. Approximately 22 students are studying vocal performance, a highly selective major. Parkinson said about half of the students who audition each year are accepted into the vocal performance major. The number of students accepted into each major within the music program every year is controlled, so as to allow students more opportunities and individualized attention.

"We want to make sure (students) will be busy, have opportunities and will join the stream of music-making from the beginning," Parkinson said. "The students work very hard, and the faculty are inspired to teach at a high level off of the enthusiasm of the students."

This enthusiasm is what led many of the students to study music, and what keeps them singing from one day to the next.

"I basically live for singing," Lee said. "I love it more than anything else and it is definitely my main focus right now."

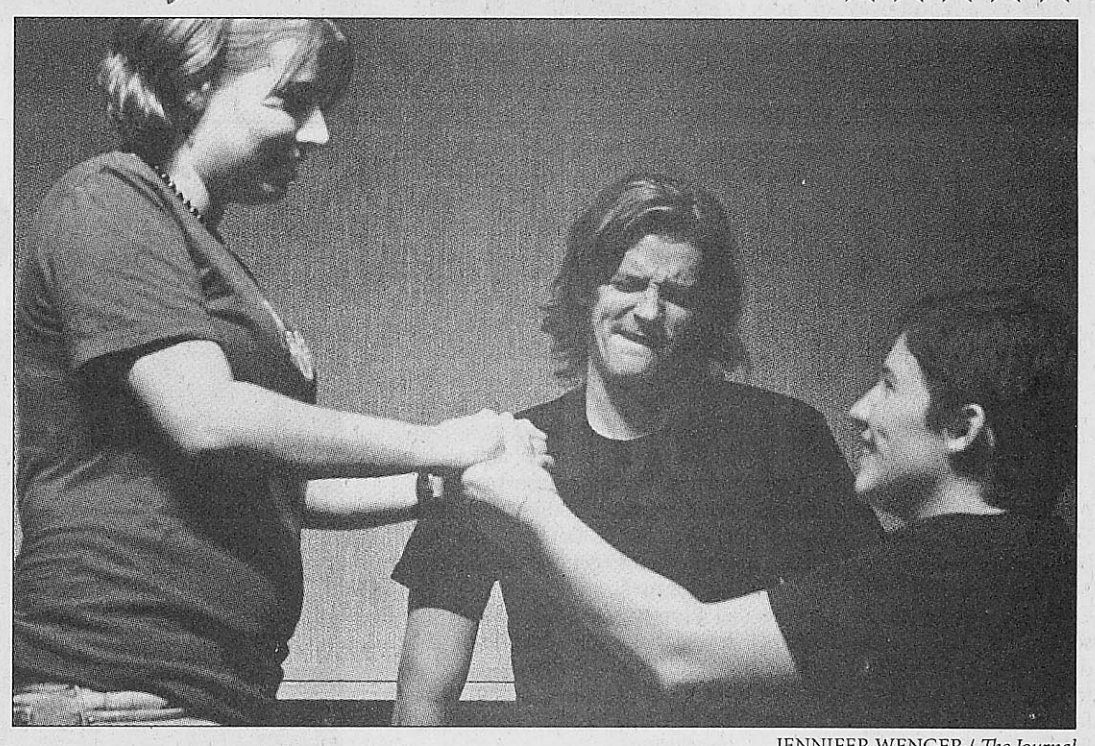
Sweeney said the decision to study music in college was an obvious choice for her.

"There's absolutely no comparison to the way I feel when I'm on stage singing," Sweeney said. "I thought about my other options and realized that what I do for the rest of my life should be something I can't go a day without doing."

Want to know what Anthony Barsanti gave "The Fountain" or see pictures from International Week? See our Web site at http://www.webujournal.com. *Also, check online after Nov. 17 for a review of "The Comedy of Errors."*

Comedy Review: Chainlink

★☆☆☆☆



JENNIFER WENGER / *The Journal*

Senior Steve Clemmons (middle), junior Brenda Thacker (left) and freshman Deanna Beaton (right) come together for the improvised performance of a girl stealing her friend's boyfriend as part of Webster's Chainlink Improv group Nov. 13 in the UC Sunnen Lounge.

Broken links: Comedy troupe fails to bring laughter

Pearson: 'It looked like the majority of the players didn't really care.'

BY BREANNA HERSCHELMAN
bherschelman@webujournal.com

Foreplay, pickup lines and ways to die offered little excitement at the Chainlink Improv show Nov. 13.

The Chainlink Theatre and Improv Troupe performed their first show of the year in the University Center Sunnen Lounge to what started out as a crowd of approximately 70 people. But by the end of the show, only about 15 remained.

Where did the show go wrong? In the past, they opened for Laughs on the Landing, but this year president Kathleen Weber said she felt the troupe was ready to perform by themselves.

"We did one show by ourselves last year," Weber, a junior video production major, said. "But we decided to show off our own talent this year."

Where was this talent Weber spoke of? It was nowhere to be found.

Weber hosted the show, which featured a series of segments where the 12 actors improvised various roles, mostly chosen by audience members. The first segment was called "movie trailer." The actors had to improvise a trailer to a movie while another actor narrated in the background.

One segment, called "fourplay," featured four actors, each given a character chosen by the audience. These characters each had to interact with one other character in a given scene as they rotated.

Sophomore Bryant Gilmore, a scriptwriting major, said "fourplay" was his favorite of all the segments.

"For their first show of the semester, they had both good and bad parts," Gilmore said. "But they need more practice."

The show, originally slated to start at 9:30 p.m., began 15 minutes late while the troupe waited for junior Matt Grant, a film production major, to arrive. Waiting for Grant proved to be a good idea because he and senior Steve Clemmons, a film production and screenwriting major, brought most of the laughs.

Sophomore Molly Pearson, a creative writing major, agreed with my assumption.

"I thought (Clemmons) and Jon Moy De Vitry were brilliant," Pearson said. "Overall, I thought the male performers were much better than the females. The girls just looked uncomfortable, and I couldn't hear them very well."

Pearson said the troupe has a lot of work to do and said she had seen high school improv groups perform better than Chainlink.

"It looked like the majority of the players didn't really care about what they were doing," Pearson said. "It looked like most of them had never studied improv before and they threw it together at the last minute."

In another segment, called "pickup lines," the audience wrote phrases on pieces of paper and the actors took turns inserting them into their improv acts.

My favorite segment had the most participation from the audience. The act, called "more or less," featured the performers acting out scenes; then the audience would shout if they wanted to see more or less. In every scene but one, the audience cried out "LESS!" The only scene that saved the segment was with Grant and junior Moy De Vitry, a business administration major, as a young boy finding an old man's Internet porn.

Grant, a two-year member of the group, said the performance was the group's best ever. This gave me chills thinking about their past performances (and not the good kind.)

Weber said the troupe practices every Monday in the Sverdrup building, room 123 at 9:30 p.m. They plan to have one more performance this semester.

The Venue

A calendar of upcoming events on campus and around town

Thursday, November 16

• Artist **Michael Paul Britto** will dicuss his work at 7 p.m. at the Contemporary Art Museum of St. Louis in Grand Center. Admission is free. For more information, call 535-4660.

• Thirsty Thursdays' **pool basketball** will start at 9:30 p.m. in the University Center pool. The event is part of the new Campus Activities "What the Health" programming.

• There will be a fiction reading by author **Dan Chaon** at 1:30 p.m. in room two of the Pearson House. Chaon is the author of "You Remind Me of Me," "Fitting Ends" and "Among the Missing" and is the Houck Associate Professor in the Humanities at Oberlin College. For more information, call ext. 7170.

• The Webster University Film Series presents Stephen Verona's **"Boardwalk"** at 8 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium.

Friday, November 17

• The **New Music Ensemble**, directed by Joseph Neske, will start at 7 p.m. in the Music Annex. Admission is $3. For more information, call ext. 7034.

• The opening reception of the **Murray and Megan McMillan – "Bruc Fugue"** exhibit will last from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Cecille R. Hunt Gallery, Visual Arts Studio. Admission is free and open to the public. For more information, call ext. 7171.

• The Conservatory of Theatre Arts presents William Shakespeare's **"Comedy of Errors"** at 8 p.m. in the Browning Theatre of the Loretto-Hilton Center. For more information, call ext. 7128.

• The Webster art department is presenting painter **Brandon Anschultz** at noon in the Sverdrup building, room 123, as part of the Friday Artist Lecture Series. Admission is free and open to the public. For more information, call ext. 7171 or email *joness@webster.edu.*

• Montreal's hip hop/ballet **Rubberbandance Group** will be performing at 7 p.m. at COCA located at 524 Trinity Ave. in the University City Loop. Ticket costs range from $14 to $17. For more information, contact the COCA box office at 725-1834 ext. 124 or visit *http://www.cocastl.org.*

• The Webster University Film Series presents Robert Edwards' **"Land of the Blind"** at 8 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium.

Saturday, November 18

• The Conservatory of Theatre Arts presents William Shakespeare's **"Comedy of Errors"** at 8 p.m. in the Browning Theatre of the Loretto-Hilton Center. For more information, call ext. 7128.

• Montreal's hip hop/ballet **Rubberbandance Group** will perform at 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. at COCA, located at 524 Trinity Ave. in the University City Loop. Tickets range from $14 to $17. For more information, contact the COCA box office at 725-1834, ext. 124 or visit *http://www.cocastl.org.*

• The Webster University Film Series presents **"Maquilapolis Vicky Funari & Sergio de la Torre"** at 5 p.m. and **"Tribute to Les Blank"** at 7 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium. Blank will be in attendance.

Sunday, November 19

• The Conservatory of Theatre Arts presents William Shakespeare's **"Comedy of Errors"** at 2 p.m. in the Browning Theatre of the Loretto-Hilton Center. For more information, call ext. 7128.

• Montreal's hip hop/ballet **Rubberbandance Group** will perform at 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. at COCA, located at 524 Trinity Ave. in the University City Loop. Tickets range from $14 to $17. For more information, contact the COCA box office at 725-1834, ext. 124 or visit *http://www.cocastl.org.*

• The **Webster Symphony Orchestra** will present 20th Century Masterworks at 7 p.m. in the E. Desmond Lee Concert Hall, located at 560 Trinity Ave. Admission is free to faculty, staff and students with a Webster ID. There is a $10 general admission. For more information, call ext. 7034.

• The Webster University Film Series presents Les Blank's **"Always for Pleasure"** at 6 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium. Blank will be in attendance and pianist Tom McDermott will give a musical history of New Orleans jazz.



Monday, November 20

• Campus Activities is sponsoring a trip to see **"Spamalot"** at 8 p.m. at the Fox Theatre. The bus will be leaving from the UC parking lot at 6:45 p.m. Tickets are sold out.

• The Webster Big Band and Mini Big Band will perform **"We Remember. . ."** at 7 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium. The musicians pay their respect to other musicians while under the direction of James Martin and Michael Parkinson. Admission is free to students with a Webster ID, $5 for adults and $3 for seniors. For more information, call ext. 7128.

• The Conservatory of Theatre Arts presents William Shakespeare's **"Comedy of Errors"** at 8 p.m. in the Browning Theatre of the Loretto-Hilton Center. For more information, call ext. 7128.

Tuesday, November 21

• The Conservatory of Theatre Arts presents William Shakespeare's **"Comedy of Errors"** at 8 p.m. in the Browning Theatre of the Loretto-Hilton Center. For more information, call ext. 7128.

• There will be **salsa lessons** at the beginner level at 8:30 p.m. and at the advanced level at 9:30 p.m. in the dance studio at the Loretto-Hilton Center as part of "What the Health" programming.

• Wenceslaus P'Oryem, director of MCISA, speaks on "The Sudan Story" at noon in the UC Sunnen Lounge. Admission is free and open to the public. For more information, call ext. 7705.

• The Webster University Film Series presents Martin Scorsese's **"Raging Bull"** at 7 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium.

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By Michael Mepham

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

Level of Difficulty: 3

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

The solution to this puzzle will be published Nov. 30.

Nov. 9 puzzle solution

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

Wednesday, November 22

• **"Urinetown: The Musical"** will be start at 8 p.m. at The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis. "Urinetown" and will continue until Dec. 10. Admission prices vary from $14 to $63. Times for each show vary per day of the week. For a complete listing, visit *http://www.repstl.org.* For more information, call 968-4925.

Thursday, November 23

• The **Ameren St. Louis Thanksgiving Day Parade** starts at 8:45 a.m. in downtown St. Louis, at Washington Avenue and Fourth Street. For more information, visit *http://www.christmasinstlouis.org.*

Friday, November 24

• **Jeremy Davenport** will perform at 8:30 and 10:15 p.m. at Jazz at the Bistro. Admission is $35. For more information, call 531-1012 or visit *http://www.jatb.com.*

Saturday, November 25

• The **Rock 'n' Roll Craft Show** will be held from noon to 9 p.m. at the Mad Art Gallery, located at 2727 S. 12th St. For more information, visit *http://www.rocknrollcraftshow.com.*

Sunday, November 26

• The **Rock 'n' Roll Craft Show** will be held from noon to 6 p.m. at the Mad Art Gallery, located at 2727 S. 12th St. For more information, visit *http://www.rocknrollcraftshow.com.*

Monday, November 27

• The **Webster Wind Ensembles** will be perform at 7 p.m. in the Community Music School, located at 560 Trinity Ave. in University City. For more information, call ext. 7034.

Tuesday, November 28

• Assistant Professor of Behavioral & Social Sciences Evelyn Buday speaks on **"Thinspiration" vs. Real Beauty: Media Trends and the Definition of Female Beauty** from noon to 1 p.m. in the Library Conference Room as part of the Brown Bag Lunch Series. Snacks and beverages will be provided.

Wednesday, November 29

• The Conservatory of Theatre Arts presents **"Bat Boy: The Musical"** at 7:30 p.m. on Stage Three of Webster Hall on the ground floor. For more information, call ext. 7128.

• There will be **salsa lessons** at the advanced level at 8:30 p.m. and at the beginner level at 9:30 p.m. in the UC Sunnen Lounge as part of "What the Health" programming.

Want your event listed in The Venue? E-mail us at *calendar@webujournal.com* and get the attention of *The Journal's* more than 3,000 readers!

BASKETBALL PREVIEW

Men emerge confident; Women start anew

BY ANDREA PASZKIEWICZ AND PATRICK DEVINE
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pdevine@webujournal.com

There is a popular phrase about starting with a clean slate, but the women's basketball team is taking that to a whole new level.

The Gorloks have a new coach for the second year in a row, and this year there is only one returning player. They are living in square one.

Nevertheless, there is an infectious optimism surrounding new Head Coach Jayme Callahan and her team. Knowing most people don't expect much from the team this season, the players are using that as motivation to prove everyone wrong.

"I want those doubters to come and watch and see how hard these girls work," Callahan said. "They don't have to feel sorry for us. I think we're in a very lucky situation."

That situation includes a team of only nine players, three of whom can't play because they are currently playing in other sports or are injured. It also involves seven preseason games against teams that are ranked in the top 25 of the nation.

The freshness of the team is actually working as a bonding agent between the players, Callahan said.

The good news is the team should be back to full strength by January. Other sports will be over, and injured player Michelle Kenney, a sophomore guard/forward, should be on the mend from her broken arm. The added power will put the Gorloks in great shape for the majority of their conference games.

"Last year, we were second in the conference," Callahan said. "Going from not having anybody back to wanting to stay at that status, that's a challenge for us. These girls are hidden, little secrets that people didn't see or they overlooked, but I think I'm lucky with the girls I got."

Men

After starting last season 1-10, the men's basketball team rattled off 11 wins in the their next 15 games. The Gorloks finished the year with a 12-14 record. The team is looking to capitalize on last year's late-season success.

Experience is something the team is going to rely on throughout the season with the Gorloks' 10 returning players, especially since Christian Basilio graduated and Benny Roberts is out with a knee injury.

"I'm really going to miss playing with Benny," senior Shawn Nichoalds said. "His leadership and his hard-working qualities are going to be hard to replace, but this team is better compared to last year's team and our starting five are going to be tough to stop."

Nichoalds, Scott Spinner and Jeff Messman are the team's only seniors and Head Coach Chris Bunch is going to rely on them for leadership. Junior Corey Kuhn, who was named to the Saint Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference 2nd team all conference, and sophomore Doug Stiegemeier will help shoulder the responsibility.

"Shawn, Jeff and Scott are going to provide us with the veteran leadership that we need," Bunch said. "We're also going to need juniors Brad Robinson and Darin Hoggatt to stay out of foul trouble and step up for us."

Hoggatt is coming off a year where he was named to the SLIAC 1st team all conference.

"In our conference, Darin is going to be the best player returning, so look for him to be the player of the year," Bunch said.

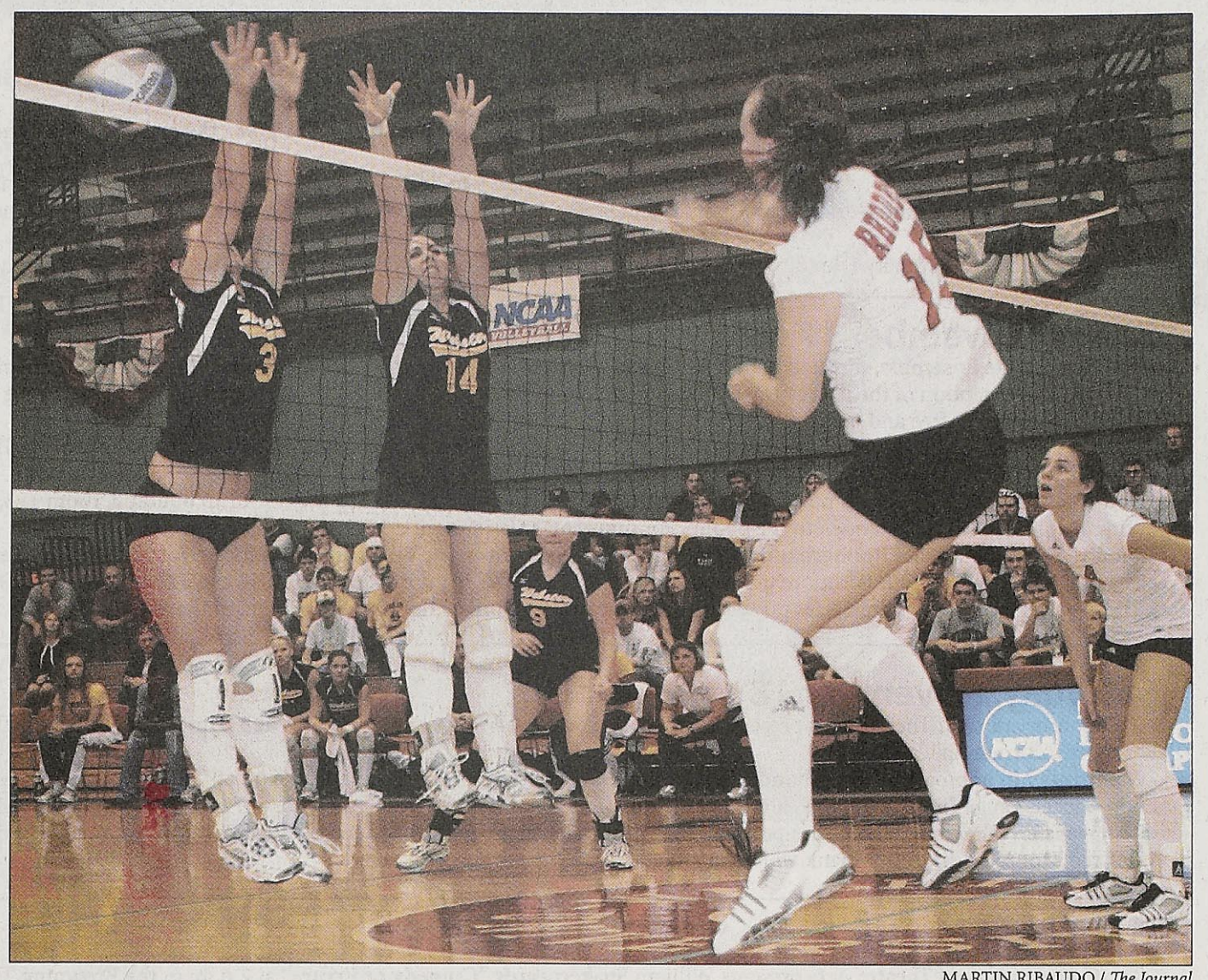
While veteran leadership is important to the team, Bunch is happy with the new players. The Gorloks will have nine newcomers joining the team.

"Some freshmen will step in and play, but it's not going to be necessary right away," Bunch said.

The veteran leadership; the deep, young bench; and defense are going to be the key ingredients for the team's success this year.

The Gorloks' first conference game is Dec. 6 against Maryville University. After going 10-4 in the conference last year and 2-10 outside of the conference, Bunch has set the bar high for his team.

"We will be disappointed if we don't win the conference," Bunch said.



MARTIN RIBAUDO / *The Journal*
Junior Chrissy Engel (left) and sophomore Erin Grobe reach to block their Rhodes opponent Nov. 9 at Washington University.

WU spiked from NCAA tourney

BY RACHEL LEBO
rlebo@webujournal.com

Webster women's volleyball season may be over, but the Gorloks achieved the goal set at the beginning of the season: advancing to the NCAA tournament.

The Gorloks played Rhodes College at Washington University in the first bracket of NCAA games. Although the Gorloks lost to Rhodes in five games, the team played hard and fought for each point.

"It was tough to lose that game because we knew we could beat them, but we fought hard," senior Melanie Klingelhoefer said. "Rhodes is a very good team. I'm glad the season ended in a five-game match like that."

Many Webster students, staff and family of the players came Nov. 9 to Wash U. to support the Gorloks in their first NCAA appearance.

"It was amazing to have such great fan support," Head Coach Merry Graf said. "It was almost as though we played a home match and it certainly helped us out."

Webster fans reacted to every play and cheered for every one of the 71 kills the Gorloks made.

"We were disappointed that we couldn't close the match out, but Rhodes was a good team — ranked 17th in the nation," Graf said. "This year we played four nationally ranked teams and we took every one of those teams to game five."

Rhodes players showed their strength in game one of the match and won 22-30. In the second game, the Gorloks gained the lead early and kept it. When the score reached 28-20, Rhodes kept the Gorloks locked in at 28 points. After a time out called by Webster, the Gorloks regrouped and took the last two points of the game to win 30-26.

In the third game, Rhodes and Webster traded point for point until the end of the match when the Gorloks pulled ahead and won 30-22.

The two teams seemed to trade dynamics in the fourth game when Rhodes pulled ahead early and left the Gorloks behind. Webster lost the match 30-17.

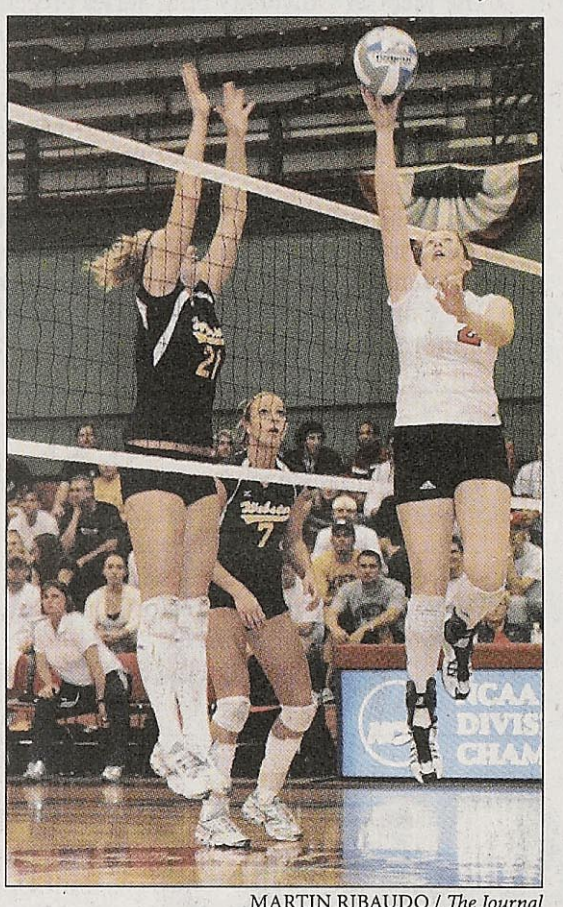
The fifth game started with a lead in points for Rhodes and Webster struggling to catch up. In the middle of the match, the Gorloks scored several points in succession. These points weren't enough to catch up. Rhodes took the last match 15-11, but not without a fight from the Gorloks.

Rhodes College was later defeated by Wash U. in its game to advance to the nationals.

"We'll miss our seniors, but since we have several young players that now have this experience under their belt," Graf said. "I feel confident that next year will be another strong season for us."

On the season, junior Crystal Shelton and sophomore Erin Grobe together made 757 kills out of 1,736 kills the team made throughout the season. Freshman Jackie Schall made 277 kills alone and sophomore Megan Floarke made 224 kills.

"I couldn't have asked for a better way to end my volleyball career," Klingelhoefer said. "We were in the NCAA Tournament, had a ton of family and friends cheering us on and it was a close game. It's something that I will never forget. Thanks to everyone who came out and supported us Nov. 9, and throughout the entire season."



MARTIN RIBAUDO / *The Journal*
Sophomore Megan Floarke (left) awaits a return from freshman Laura Jensen of Rhodes College.

GORLOK GLANCE

Women's Basketball

Millikin University Tournament — Decatur, Ill.

Nov. 18 @ Millikin University vs. Marygrove College — 3 p.m.

Nov. 19 @ Millikin University — 3 p.m.

Nov. 21 vs. Illinois Wesleyan University — 7 p.m.

Nov. 28 @ Missouri Baptist University — 5:30 p.m.

*all home games in Grant Gym

Men's Basketball

Sodhexo Classic — Transylvania University — Lexington, Ky.

Nov. 17 @ Transylvania University — 8 p.m.

Nov. 18 @ Transylvania University vs. Hanover College — 1 p.m.

Nov. 25 vs. Milwaukee School of Engineering — 2 p.m.

Nov. 26 vs. Rheinhardt College — 2 p.m.

Nov. 28 vs. Fisk University — 6 p.m.

*all home games in Grant Gym

Swimming

Nov. 18 @ Illinois Wesleyan University Invitational, Bloomington, Ill. — 1 p.m.

Banana Slugs slime Gorloks in second round

Optimism persists as WU retains freshmen team leaders

MAX GERSH / *The Journal*
Team co-capain Katie Mannion struggles to get to the ball in front of UC Santa Cruz midfielder Didi Ramirez.

BY MATT MAJIKAS
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The women's soccer season came to a bitter end Nov. 12 as the team fell to the undefeated Banana Slugs from the University of California, Santa Cruz by a score of 4-0.

The Gorloks failed to make it past the second round of the NCAA Tournament, which was played on their home field at Anheuser Busch Soccer Park. Gorlok fans packed the cold metal bleachers, hot chocolate in hand, hoping for a Gorlok win.

The first half was all the Banana Slugs needed as they took advantage of Gorlok mistakes. A soft goal by UC Santa Cruz sophomore Annick Lamb put the Banana Slugs out in front just five minutes into the first half. Lamb scored her second goal just 15 minutes later, and the Banana Slugs never looked back, tallying all four of their goals in the first half.

"Jessica (Kozeny) was hung out to dry on all four of those goals," freshman midfielder Abby Klobe said. "There is nothing a goaltender can do in that situation."

Sophomore goaltender Kozeny faced six shots in the first half as the Gorloks mustered three shots, including a blast by freshman forward Kelsey McClure that struck the cross bar and sailed out of bounds.

At half time, Head Coach Luigi Scire told his players the second half was about playing for pride.

"We had a great week of practice and, mentally, I thought that we were prepared," Scire said. "But when you play good teams and you make mistakes in the offensive third of the field, they will make you pay."

The Gorloks refocused for the second half, holding the Banana Slugs to just five shots. Senior goaltender Heather Schaefer was in net for the Gorloks, compiling three saves and shutting out the Banana Slugs for the entire second half.

"We knew we were not playing to the best of our ability," Schaefer said. "We needed to step up and show them what kind of team we really were."

Four shots by the Gorloks did not find the back of the net as they dropped their fourth game of the season, finishing with a 16-4-2 overall record.

UC Santa Cruz advanced to the third round of the NCAA Tournament and is scheduled to play the 19-0-3 Hardin Simmons College Cowgirls from Abilene, Texas, Nov. 17. Hardin Simmons is fresh off their defeat of the No. 1 ranked team in the nation, Trinity University.

The Gorloks' early exit from the NCAA Tournament was by no means a disappointing one, Scire said.

"What is impressive about our team is that this game showed our unity and our character," Scire said. "We showed that when we are on, we can play with these types of teams."

The Gorloks graduated a core of players in 2005 and left many feeling the 2006 season would be a transition year. A number of good recruits — including this year's leading goal-scorer, freshman forward Kelsey McClure — allowed the Gorloks to have an even more successful season than 2005.

"I told the girls at the end of the game that there should be this burning, yuck feeling inside that they need to use for motivation for next season," Scire said.

The 2007 Gorloks will likely have 16 returning players, including eight freshmen, who combined accounted for more than 60 percent of the Gorloks' offensive production in 2006.

THE JOURNAL

The News Source for Webster University • www.webujournal.com • November 30 - December 6, 2006

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WU's founding sisters decry contentious degree program

BY BREANNA HERSCHELMAN
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Webster's agreement with WHINSEC has triggered a negative response from the nuns who founded the university.

Each year, thousands of protesters go to WHINSEC, located on the campus of Fort Benning in Georgia, and demand the institute close its doors.

Included in the protests are the Sisters of Loretto, a diverse population of nuns who founded Webster University in 1915. Since its inception, the Sisters of Loretto have had continuous involvement in the university's affairs.

One of the sisters' communities is next door to Webster, at 590 E. Lockwood Ave., near the campus of Nerinx Hall, an all-girl high school they also founded. Whether by teaching, serving on the administration or gaining a degree from Webster, more than half of the sisters have been affiliated with the school in some way.

One of the main goals of the sisters is to improve human rights worldwide. In addition to global activism, the sisters gather from around the country to protest each year at WHINSEC. On the weekend of Nov. 17 to 19, more than 20 of these sisters and their friends and family went to WHINSEC to protest.

Anna Barbara Sakurai, a computer science professor at Webster and co-member of the Sisters of Loretto, was unaware of the cooperative agreement until last week. Sakurai said she immediately sent e-mail responses to Executive Vice President and Vice President for Academic Affairs Neil George and Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs Randy Wright and neither had responded.

"I'm shocked; I can't imagine our having a connection with this place," Sakurai said as her eyes teared up. "It's inexcusable; shutting down WHINSEC has been such an important cause to the sisters that I can't believe Webster would affiliate with such a notoriously dangerous place."

Wright said he never received an e-mail from Sakurai and that he stood by Webster's affiliation with the CGSC. Wright said he had no prior knowledge the sisters protest every year at WHINSEC.

"We're very proud to have these agreements with the outstanding military schools," Wright said.

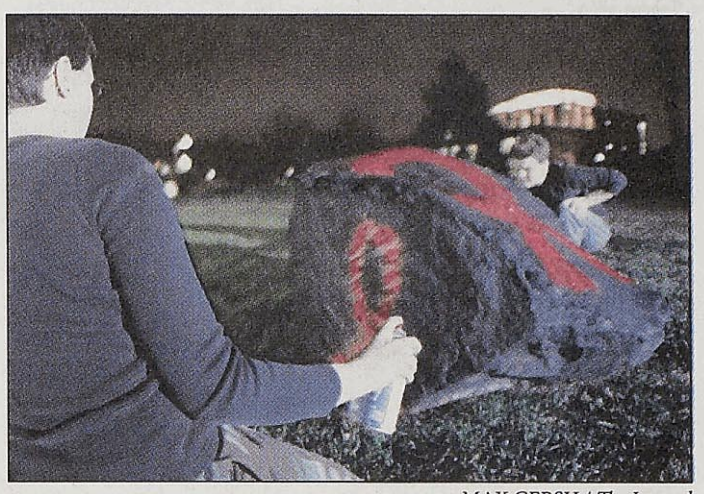
Barbara Mecker, co-member

See PROTEST, Page 2

WHAT IS WHINSEC?

The Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation — formerly known as the School of the Americas — is an institute that trains Latin American military officials, many of whom in the past have been accused of human rights violations, such as massacres on villages and coup attempts.

Webster has a cooperative degree program known as the Command and General Staff College (CGSC). Since March 2005, a WHINSEC graduate of CGSC can transfer up to 12 credit hours of master's level courses to any Webster campus.



MAX GERSH / *The Journal*

Juniors Amy Farfan, left, and Quinn Gardner, back, paint the Gor-rock with the international sign of AIDS solidarity, the red ribbon. Farfan is the secretary of the LGBTQ Alliance and Gardner is president.

Student groups prep for AIDS day

BY KELLEY ATHERTON
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LGBTQ Alliance, Campus Activities and the Multicultural Center and International Student Affairs are bringing World AIDS Day to Webster Dec. 1. Quinn Gardner, president of the Alliance, wanted to use World AIDS Day as an opportunity to spread awareness around campus and help end prejudice against the syndrome.

"For me, it's important for a lot of reasons," Gardner said. "It's about beating ignorance; no one is invincible. It's also about discrimination. We look down on people who have HIV/AIDS when they do the same thing we do."

However, Tracey McCarthy, associate professor of psychology and legal studies, said not everyone is genetically susceptible to contracting HIV or developing AIDS.

"First, people believe that everyone is at equal risk for becoming HIV positive or for developing AIDS," McCarthy said. "There is the belief that HIV does not discriminate. In fact, the microorganism known as HIV selectively infects individuals based upon genetic make-up. Scientists have recently discovered that there is a relationship between biological 'race-based' markers and susceptibility or resistance to HIV and the progression to AIDS. Hence, my other concern that perhaps there also is an undiscovered biological susceptibility in gay males."

Shay Malone, program coordinator for MCISA, said MCISA will show the movie "Yesterday" about AIDS in South Africa at noon Nov. 30 in the University Center Sunnen Lounge. There will be a panel discussion with McCarthy, Susan Daily, director of health services, and other experts on HIV and AIDS at noon Dec. 1 in the UC Sunnen Lounge. McCarthy said one of the misconceptions about HIV and AIDS is that HIV is a virus, not a disease. McCarthy also said HIV is not the sole cause of AIDS, but after acquiring HIV, AIDS is usually inevitable.

"AIDS is not a discrete disease, but a collection of diseases accompanied by immune cell markers," McCarthy said. "The discoverer of HIV, Dr. Luc Montagnier of the Pasteur Institute in Paris, is now postulating that HIV alone cannot cause AIDS but needs the assistance of another microorganism, namely the cell wall-deficient mycoplasma. Various researchers are examining other possible infectious and noninfectious cofactors."

In addition to the panel discussion Dec. 1, the Alliance will hand out red ribbons during First Fridays at Marletto's Marketplace. In between performances the Alliance will give statistics on HIV and AIDS.

Gardner said she is excited to use First Fridays'open mic nights as a venue to talk about the syndrome because of First Fridays' popularity among students.

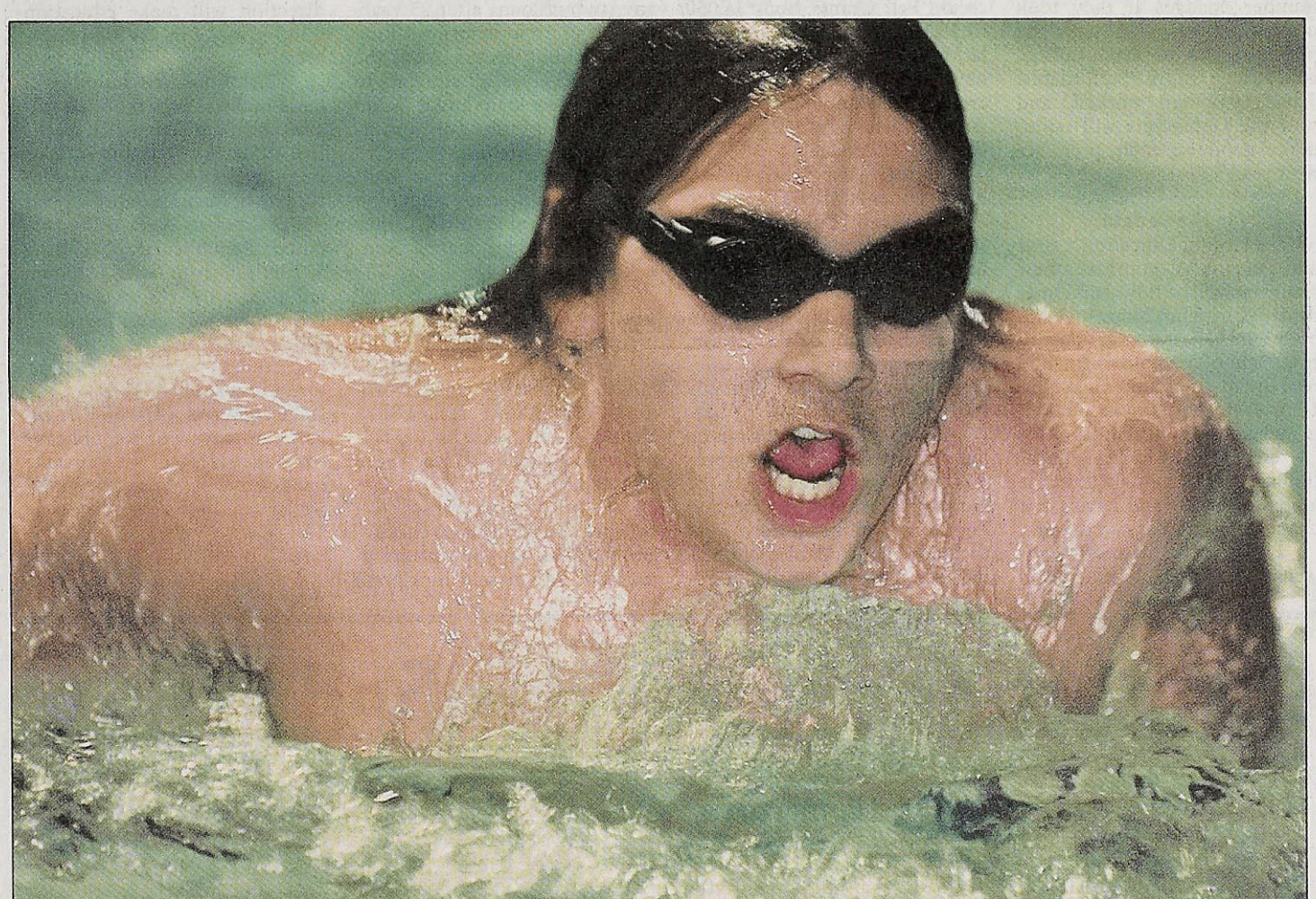
"First Fridays is one of the biggest, consistent events on campus," Gardner said. "The audience will be awesome."

Campus Activities got a 12-by-12-foot piece of the AIDS Memorial Quilt from the AIDS Memorial Quilt organization, which is currently on display in the UC.

See WORLD AIDS DAY, Page 6



HEAD FIRST INTO A NEW SEASON



MAX GERSH / *The Journal*

Nick Beckmann races down the lane during swim practice Nov. 21. The Gorlok swimmers, sporting a new head coach from the top-ranking Lindbergh High School swim team, are hoping to bounce back after a string of disappointing seasons. The season started Nov. 4. For more information, see story on page 10.

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OUTSIDE

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Webster offers individual attention in admissions

Fewer students and applications mean more flexibility in recruitment, director of admissions says

BY KEVIN HUELSMANN
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As many Missourians focused on the ballot issues of stem cell research, minimum wage and cigarettes taxes in the recent midterm elections, other states focused on their own issues, such as Michigan and its affirmative action ban.

The amendment passed in Michigan, known as the Michigan Civil Rights Initiative, prohibits public colleges and other state agencies from operating affirmative action programs that grant preferences based on race, color, ethnicity or gender.

At Webster, a school that actively advertises its study abroad program and international sensibility, affirmative action does not play a part in student admissions.

"If it comes down to choosing between Student A and Student B, race isn't going to play a part in our decision," Neil DeVasto, director of admissions at Webster, said. "We basically look at four criteria for incoming freshmen. We look at GPA, if they have taken college preparation classes and what kind, ACT/SAT scores and their class rank."

Based on these criteria, Webster's admissions policy is considered to be moderately selective. The Missouri Department of Higher Education uses the titles of highly selective, selective, moderately selective and open to categorize schools' admissions policies.

"We're not pretending to be an Ivy League school," DeVasto said. "Someone coming in with a B or B+ average, someone who isn't headed for the Ivy Leagues but who has prepared for college and has good study skills can come in and face the challenges and do the type of work here that will make them successful."

DeVasto added that Webster adopted the moderately selective criteria to avoid admitting students who were not prepared for the university.

"When tuition is $18,000, you don't want to set up a student for failure," DeVasto said.

Out of an average 1,300 freshman applicants, Webster rejects about 80 to 90 students, DeVasto said. Another 80 to 90 students will be accepted on academic probation.

When a student goes on academic probation, that student is assigned a special adviser who regularly meets with the student to check his or her progress. After one semester, if the student has maintained a GPA of 2.0 or above, that student is released from academic probation.

"Even though Webster is a moderately selective school, we're still flexible," said Chris Fletcher, assistant director of admissions at Webster. "If a student doesn't get a 21 on the ACT it doesn't automatically mean that the door is closed."

DeVasto said a benefit of working in admissions at a school such as Webster is that each application can be reviewed carefully and not rushed through.

"The good thing about a smaller university is that you're only dealing with about 1,300 applicants each year," DeVasto said. "It allows us to individually look at each applicant; their transcripts, their test scores, what kinds of classes they have taken, the major they want to pursue and how they have performed in the past. If a student doesn't meet our minimums, it doesn't mean they're not accepted, it means that we look closer."

Webster's minimums for incoming freshmen focus on four categories: a 21 composite score on the ACT or a 1600 composite score on the SAT, a 2.5 GPA, a class ranking at or above 50 percent and what college preparation classes the student has taken.

For transfer students, Webster's minimums require the student has a 2.5 GPA and 30 or more credit hours.

However, if a student doesn't meet those criteria, the application is turned over to the Academic Resource Center Staff, who will then review it and give a recommendation to the admissions department.

"We look at how students with similar situations have performed in the past at Webster," DeVasto said. "It's one of those things that has been established over many years."

Other moderately selective schools in Missouri include University of Central Missouri, Southeast Missouri State University, Northwest Missouri University and Missouri Southern State University.

MISDEMEANORS AND MISHAPS

Nov. 13, 4 p.m.: Graffiti was found on a men's restroom stall in the University Center.

Nov. 15, 10 p.m.: An iPod was taken from the West Hall common area.

Nov. 16, 10:35 p.m.: A convertible top of a car was damaged.

Nov. 19, 10:32 p.m.: A male student pulled a female student's hair in East Hall.

Nov. 21, 5:05 p.m.: A traffic accident occured on Big Bend Blvd.. There were no injuries.

Nov. 21, 11:37 p.m.: Three male students created a disturbance outside of West Hall.

Source: Public Safety crime log

NEWS BRIEFS

Dodgeball Tournament Sunday

The Webster University Softball Team is sponsoring a Dodgeball Tournament 5 p.m. Dec. 3 in Grant Gymnasium.

Six to 10 players are allowed per team. There is a tournament donation of $10 per player for participating in the tournament. Checks should be made payable to Webster University Softball.

Checks and forms should be turned in at the Webster Athletic Office. Prizes will be given to teams with the best uniforms.

Four SGA seats open

At the Dec. 5 Student Government Association meeting, seats will be filled for comptroller, arts and sciences senator, business and technology senator and graduate senator. Applications are available online at *http://www.webster.edu/sga*. The deadline for applications is 5 p.m. Dec. 4.

New *Ampersand* released next week

From 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Dec. 5 and 6, *Ampersand* staff will be stationed in the University Center Commons and Marletto's Marketplace. Free cookies, hot chocolate and the latest edition of the *Ampersand* will be available.

World AIDS Awareness Day Events

"Yesterday" the movie will show at noon Nov. 30 in the UC Sunnen Lounge as part of World AIDS Awareness Day. A discussion will follow the movie.

An HIV/AIDS panel discussion will be held at noon Dec. 1 in the UC Sunnen Lounge. Topics include the effects of HIV and AIDS on the campus community.

The AIDS quilt will be on display through Dec. 1 in the UC Commons. For information on any of these events, contact the Multicultural Center and International Student Affairs at ext. 7596.

Protest: Staley says three students used transfer program

FROM PAGE 1

of the Sisters of Loretto and staff liaison for their Latin American committee, organized the sisters' involvement at the protest this year. A co-member is a layperson affiliated with the sisters.

"It's pretty shocking that we have an agreement with (WHINSEC), having been a Loretto school for so many years," Mecker said. "The focus of Loretto is peace and justice."

Mecker said the sisters attended the peace vigil demonstration the morning of Nov. 19 at Fort Benning. Sister Mary Fran Lottes, former dean of academic affairs at Webster, read an introduction at the vigil. Lottes also taught at Webster for four years before she became dean. This was Lottes' eighth year protesting at WHINSEC.

"I would prefer that Webster had not made that agreement," Lottes said. "I wish it weren't available and that people wouldn't use it."

In an e-mail, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs James Staley said three students have transferred to Webster campuses from WHINSEC.

In another e-mail, the sisters' peace and justice coordinator Marie L. Ego expressed her disappointment with Webster's cooperation with WHINSEC.

"I am deeply saddened by Webster's action and insensitivity to justice and peace issues," Ego said. "For me, this is an appalling action on Webster's part and I have lost respect for Webster. At this point, I would not recommend anyone attend Webster."



PHOTO COURTESY OF BRIAN HAMMOND

Sisters of Loretto Natalie Wing, left, and Mary Fran Lottes protest the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation Nov. 19. Lottes is a former dean of academic affairs for Webster.

Democrats offer new ideas for affordability in higher education

BY BETH PRUSACZYK
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In what proved to be a successful strategy, Democrats launched the "Six in '06" campaign July 2006 promising a number changes if they took over Congress. One of the promises was to make college education more affordable. Their campaign worked, and now the Democrats will try to make good on their promises next year.

In the Senate

The Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee's new chairman will be Edward Kennedy, D-Mass. The Committee has broad jurisdiction over health care, schools, employment and retirement programs. In a Nov. 16 press release, Kennedy said it is more important than ever for citizens to have a college education so they can compete in the global economy and have a fair chance at the American dream.

"But because of soaring college costs, stagnant student aid and heavy student loan debt, it's becoming increasingly difficult for our citizens to get such an education," Kennedy said in the release.

The promises continued as Kennedy vowed next year to increase Pell Grants from $4,050 to $5,100. Pell Grants are similar to loans, but they do not have to be repaid. These loans are available to undergraduate students who have not earned a bachelor's degree.

Kennedy also said college loan payments will be capped to no more than 15 percent of the student's income. Also promised were drops in student loan interest rates.

"These will be my priorities as chairman of the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee next year," Kennedy said.

However, Kennedy assures he has a way to fulfill these promises. His proposed action in the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee next year includes the Student Debt Relief Act. This Act would be responsible for the increase in Pell Grant funds, the drop in student loan interest rates and the cap of student's loan payments to no more than 15 percent of their income.

The Act would also forgive any student loans after 25 years and 10 years for those working in the public sector. Also, the Act would allow all students to reconsolidate loans and it would repeal the elimination of in-school consolidation.

"Going to college is hard enough — student's shouldn't have to be exploited when they take out student loans," Kennedy said.

In the House

Rep. George Miller, D-Calif., will be the new chairman on the House Education and Workforce Committee. Miller, like Kennedy, said one of his top priorities is to make college more affordable.

"We will invest in our schools, colleges and students so that every child has an opportunity to succeed," Miller said in a press release.

There is one, clear message coming from Miller and his staff — the country needs a new direction.

Rachel Racusen, spokeswoman for Miller, said this new direction will make education a top priority in the next Congress.

"One of our first actions will be to make college more affordable and accessible to all qualified students by cutting interest rates in half on college loans for students," Racusen said.

In October 2006, Miller accused Republicans of cutting $12 billion from federal student aid programs. Miller said the Democrats will take America in a new direction so every qualified student will be able to afford the cost of college.

"Democrats will work in a bipartisan way with Republicans so that, together, we can take our country in a new direction," Miller said in the press release.

Commencement nominations open to students

BY RAYLA HERNDON
Contributing Writer

Webster University President Richard Meyers is allowing students to nominate a speaker for the 88th Commencement Ceremony May 12, 2007.

"It's the students' graduation, so why not let them nominate their speaker?" Meyers said.

In the 12 years Meyers has been at Webster, this is the first time speaker nominations have been open to students. Once the nominations are given, the administration will narrow down the list. Nominations are due Dec. 15 and must be submitted on a nomination form, available in the Sverdrup building and other buildings on campus.

"The administrative council, vice president, board president, faculty senate president and I nominate possible speakers as well," Meyers said.

Once the nominations are final, Meyers and the board president select the names of whom they would like to have as a speaker. But Meyers said it's not picking that's hard, but finding one that's available.

"Last year was very difficult to find a speaker that was available," Meyers said. "In the past we have asked people such as Colin Powell, and former U.S. President Bill Clinton. It's not that they don't want to do it, they're just too busy."

In past years, selecting a speaker was handled the same way — but without student input. The nominated speaker cannot be associated with Webster University. The speaker will receive an honorary doctoral degree, and the university will not pay the speaker.

"The Commencement Ceremony is a day for honoring the students, not the speaker," Meyers said. "Giving the honorary doctoral degree is payment enough."

Meyers also said some of the past speakers started by demanding monetary payment but changed their mind after a little convincing. Other area universities pay their commencement speakers.

Because the speaker is given the high degree, it is important there is a justified reason why the person should be the speaker, along with contact information. He or she must have academic, professional or civic accomplishments and contributions to society.

Seniors, especially, are encouraged to place a nomination, even though the form does not specify that. Meyers was not fully aware of what was on the nomination form. He said next year nominations will only be open to seniors.

There is no demand for specific kinds of speakers, and Meyers encourages everyone to take advantage of the nomination opportunity.

"We want a mix," Meyers said. "We don't want it to be the same. The worst thing we can do is have the same kind of speaker."

Connections issues clarified at SGA

Larry Haffner said students can expect improvements in coming weeks

BY ALEXANDRA SMITH
asmith@webujournal.com

The Student Government Association was fairly calm Nov. 21 in the issues that plagued them this semester, such as budgets and funding. Instead, the meeting restored hope for all students about the future success and effectiveness of Connections e-mail.

Larry Haffner, vice president of information technology, attended the meeting to answer student questions relating to concerns and recent problems regarding Connections. He said the e-mail system has already improved significantly from the original problems students were experiencing, and improvements should continue.

Haffner said several of the problems were a direct result of how many messages the server was bombarded with daily.

"There were days we were just getting slammed with the number of messages coming in," Haffner said. "By the start of the spring semester, we'll have taken the size of the box up to double the horsepower."

In order for students to have increased success with Connections e-mail, Haffner suggested keeping inboxes as small as possible and not including the word auden in an e-mail address. For example, a student's address should read *student@webster.edu*, not *student@auden.webster.edu*. Students should be able to access their accounts without the use of the word auden.

The meeting also provided an opportunity for SGA officers to give updates on the seven specific goals set by the organization for the semester. President Dee Goines said the group of officers has been successful this semester in working together and making progress in all of these goals.

At the end of the SGA meeting, Comptroller Patrick Vacek and Arts and Sciences Senator Mac Ingram, a comptroller hopeful for spring semester, discussed ideas for changing the budget by-laws. Vacek and Ingram hope to draft a formal document to be voted on Dec. 5 before the last meeting of the semester.

The proposed revisions should provide student organizations clearer directions in regard to their budget reports and clarify sections of the by-laws that have proven confusing or unnecessary in the past.

Applications for open SGA positions are due Dec. 4. The current executive board will vote in new members at the Dec. 5 meeting. Positions that need to be filled are those of comptroller, arts and sciences senator, graduate senator and business and technology senator. After the elections, SGA will enter the spring 2004 semester with a full executive board for the first time this school year.

The last SGA meeting of the semester also will provide an opportunity for students to ask questions and learn more about the Higher One Refund program that will soon be implemented at Webster. Higher One will distribute debit cards to students as a new way of receiving student loan refunds. A staff member will be present to explain the program and address concerns.

SGA'S TOP SEVEN GOALS: AN UPDATE
Provided by Dee Goines, president of SGA

1. Accessibility (more handicap access, signage)
The student representatives of SGA have been meeting with the university accessibility committee. The committee conducted a campus walkthrough to figure out how to make Webster more accessible.

2. Book rental/exchange (an opportunity for students to rent books from the bookstore for cheaper prices and also have students exchange books with each other)
The student committee has been meeting to discuss exactly how students will benefit from a book rental program. Students will soon be surveyed.

3. Student organizations (better communication and relationships between student organizations)
There have been two president roundtables, where all student organization presidents got together to discuss how to run organizations smoothly. A Gorlok network has been established for student organization officers to meet monthly.

4. Community relations (includes lighting for Garden Avenue, exploring the option of a gate in the fence along Edgar Road)
SGA is working on lighting for Garden Avenue. We've been told the lights are in, just waiting for them to be installed.

5. Beautification (improving the campus appearance, including in front of Webster Hall, the Quad and exploring a sand volleyball court)
Improvements to campus are being made slowly but surely. The Quad will soon undergo improvements.

6. Dean's List (having the dean's list requirements publicized for students)
In progress.

7. Parking (getting clarification and exploring options and regulations for the new residential halls and Nerinx parking)
Nerinx Hall High School students have to park on lot O. We are still working on clarifications for the residence halls. Lot M will have a lottery for available spots.

Students seek hall pass out of high school

BY KAREN MCGLENN
kmcglenn@webujournal.com

For years, students, faculty and staff have found themselves back in high school — the Webster Groves High School. But some students aren't satisfied with the university's reliance on high school space for classes.

Karen Miller, department assistant for the Registrar's Office, is in charge of scheduling classes at the high school. She said space limitations at Webster require the university to find alternate classrooms.

"Rooms on campus are assigned to each department and when they fill up, we have to assign rooms at the high school," Miller said.

Miller said some instructors ask to be assigned to the high school.

"Even if there is room on campus, some are like 'No, put me in the high school,'" Miller said. "They like the high school."

Graduate student Chris Butler is attending her first class at the high school this semester. She said she does not like having a class in the building.

"I don't like the school," Butler said. "The maps here have no room numbers. I have seen tons of lost students here."

A lack of accessible technology is a problem with some students and faculty. Terri Weiersmueller has been teaching graduate and undergraduate education courses at Webster for nine years. This is her first semester teaching a class held at the high school. She said she likes having a bigger classroom, but she doesn't have all the desired tools to teach.

"I like the size of the classroom, we're not all packed in," Weiersmueller said, "but I can't access any technology here. There is no Internet."

Graduate students Jessica Stephens and Mark Milbrandt echo that sentiment. Stephens is studying international business and Milbrandt is pursuing his MBA. Both said that not having any available technology in the classrooms at the high school make it hard on students.

"The classrooms aren't accommodating for students," Stephens said.

Milbrandt said the classrooms are functional, but he would like to have a computer.

"I am used to having technology available," Milbrandt said. "I would bring my laptop, but I couldn't use it here."

Miller said not having smart classrooms is a drawback about the high school. She said even if some of the computer labs on campus are open, she will still assign classes at the high school. In addition to the university not wanting to take unnecessary chances with their labs, Miller said instructors don't like having the computers around.

"A lot of instructors don't like having the computers there if they don't need them," Miller said. "Students will use the computer during class or the monitor gets in the way."

Another issue for some students is parking. Webster Groves High School principal Jon Clark said the university and the high school have a happy relationship, but the parking issue is a problem. The main parking lot at the high school is reserved for high school evening events, but many university students try to park on the lot.

"We always have something going on," Clark said. "This is our high school. We have had to pay people to block the lot so our students and parents can park."

Clark said university students have a parking garage, but won't use it because they don't want to walk.

"Students have a place to park, but they don't want to park there," Clark said. "It's really not that far."

Clark said some days the high school will leave one of the gates to the main lot open so university students can park there.

"There are 120 slots open on days we don't use the lot for an event," Clark said. "We are getting no fee for that."

Clark said he is not sure of the exact amount, but he thinks the rental fee the university pays for using the high school is between $22,000 and $25,000 for the whole year.

"The district gets that," Clark said. "We get a portion of it."

Graduate student Ron Parres, an education major, said he has no problem with having a class at the high school. He said parking is not an issue for him.

"The parking is good," Parres said. "I parked in front of the school. Of course, I have no scruples about disobeying a parking sign."

Clark said the high school always makes sure university students know when they have an event happening.

"We try to notify students when the lots will be closed," Clark said.

At the beginning of the semester, teachers provided their students a sheet of information about the high school. This information comes from the office of academic affairs. The sheet included information about parking, technical support, restrooms and food service. Under food service, the sheet states that a food cart with sandwiches, chips and cookies would be available on the second floor of the high school. It also encouraged students to use the Gorlok Grill or Jazzman's Café.

There currently is no food cart provided at the high school.

Brad Woodroffe, director of dining services, said there had been a food cart at the high school, but it wasn't there anymore. He said the university center and director John Ginsburg had operated the cart.

"We just made the food for it," Woodroffe said. "It just stopped and I don't know the reason behind it."

Clark said the high school had offered to provide food service for the university students, but was turned down. He said the university center brought in food. Clark said he thought maybe the cart wasn't profitable, so it stopped.

Ginsburg said it was very hard to find people to work the cart and it had very little business.

"It wasn't worth it to keep trying," Ginsburg said.

He noted there are no future plans to have another cart at the high school.

"The cart in Sverdrup is open and is pretty close to the high school," Ginsburg said.

A minor issue for a few students at the beginning of the semester was that the vending machines located next to the high school cafeteria were either locked or empty. Clark said that situation has been resolved.

"The university usually starts classes before us, so the machines just hadn't been stocked yet," Clark said. "They should be fine now."

Clark said overall the relationship between the university and the high school is good.

"We do our best to make everybody happy," Clark said. "Everything works out and the students are friendly."

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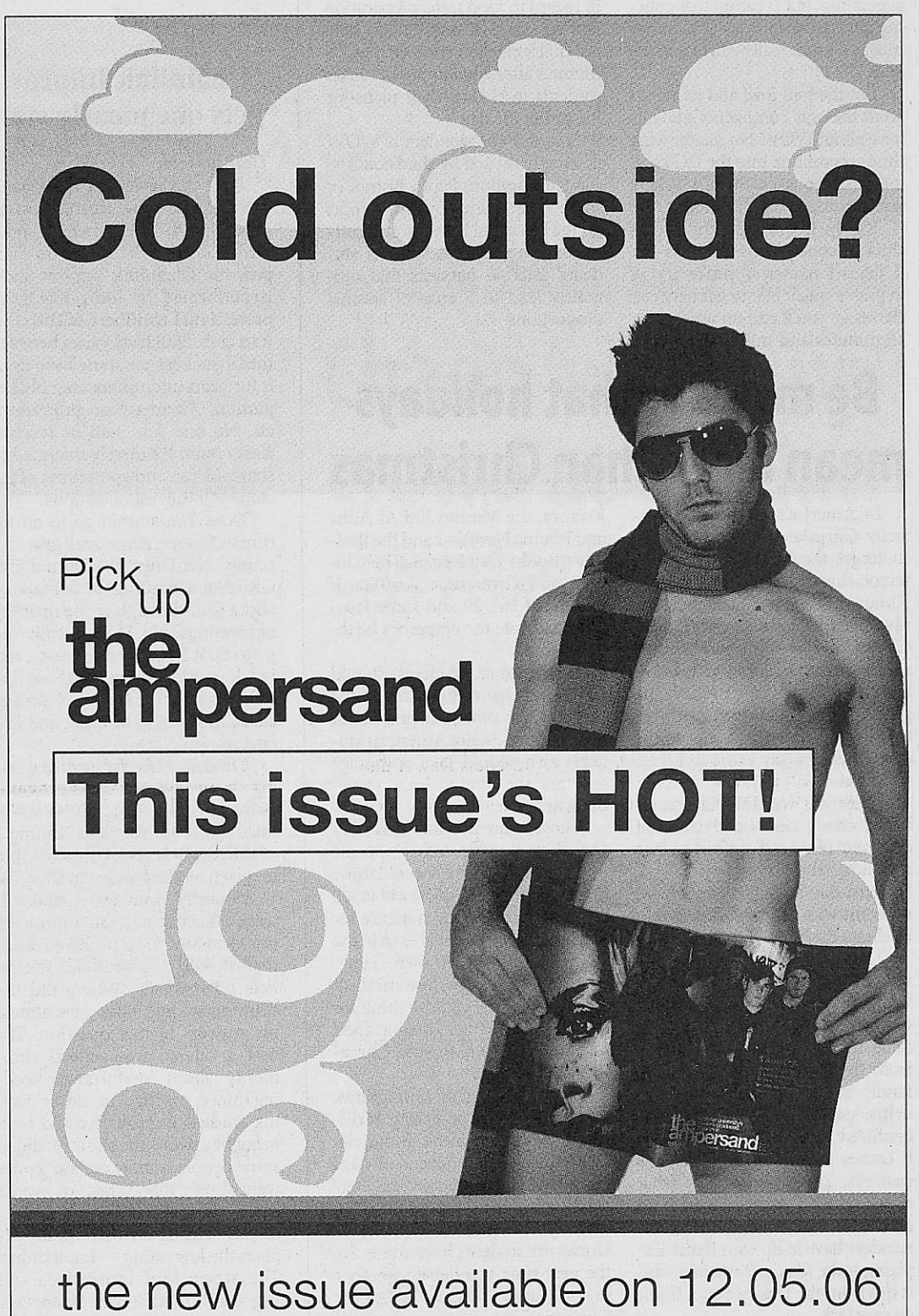

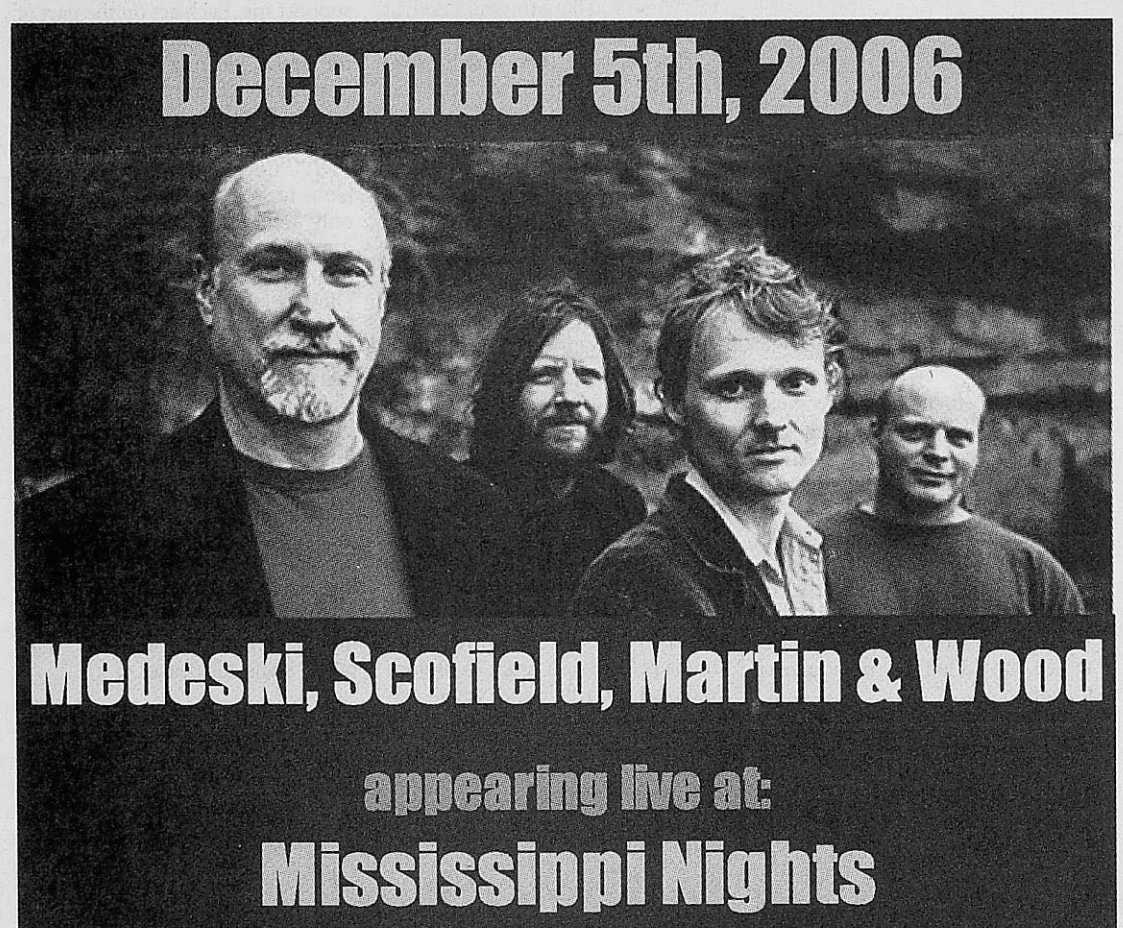

CROSSINGS
Taverne & Grille

December Schedule December Schedule December Schedule

12/1 FRI TODD MOSBY JAZZ FUSION TRIO 8 PM
12/2 SAT DAVID TRONCOSO JAZZ TRIO 8 PM
12/7 THU TERRY THOMPSON JAZZ TRIO WITH DEAN CHRISTOPHER 8 PM
12/8 FRI SWING SET 8 PM
12/9 SAT TODD MOSBY JAZZ FUSION TRIO 8 PM
12/14 THU CAROLBETH TRUE JAZZ TRIO 8 PM
12/15 FRI RHYTHM CHANGES 8 PM
12/16 SAT WILLEM VON HAMBRECHT TRIO WITH DEBBY LENNON 8 PM
12/21 THU SANDY WELTMAN NEW WORLD HARMONICA TRIO 8 PM
12/22 FRI DAVID TRONCOSO JAZZ TRIO 8 PM
12/23 SAT TERRY THOMPSON JAZZ TRIO WITH DEAN CHRISTOPHER 8 PM
12/28 THU RANDY BAHR / MARGARET BIANCHETTA DUO 8 PM
12/29 FRI SANDY WELTMAN NEW WORLD HARMONICA TRIO 8 PM
12/30 SAT JIM MANLEY JAZZ TRIO 8 PM

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EDITORIALS

WOW not the word for food cooked up at UC

WOW is in need of a name change. The word "wow" doesn't accurately describe the University Center's fine dining venue, World of Wings. Instead, Watch Out Webster seems to be a more appropriate description.

Since its inception at Webster this fall, WOW has made more stomachs churn from snacking on greasy chicken delights than watching a Michael Jackson music video.

After chowing down on WOW's fried chicken and questionable dipping sauces, students still feel the effects of WOW days later. As one student put it, "The chicken strips are like a molotov cocktail on the toilet. It tastes OK going in, but it's trouble on the other end."

In fact, all across campus you can spot those who dared to eat at WOW. These people can be found clenching their stomachs, their face pale in color and having no mercy pushing others aside as they race for the bathroom. We may be exaggerating, but is eating that enticing chicken strip dipped in honey mustard sauce really worth it in the end?

But the foul fowl and its effects aren't the only complaints students have about WOW. No matter what time you venture into the UC craving lardaceous pieces of chicken, you're going to have to wait.

Rarely, if ever, are any of the chicken concoctions ready to eat. It doesn't matter if you're trying to grab a quick bite to eat between classes — you'll end up waiting for 15 minutes and miss part of your class as a result. (In addition to the 15 minutes you'll miss at the start of class, you're going to miss at least that much trying to make it to the bathroom in time.) As if the end result from eating WOW isn't bad enough, you cruise into class late, upsetting both your professor and your stomach.

Another con to WOW is the way it's set up. After ordering, students are left to wander the UC or move back and forth, trying to get out of the way for more of WOW's unsuspecting customers. There's nowhere to comfortably stand while waiting for your food.

Immediately following the wait, you're left wondering how to obtain your food. You either have to reach over the sneeze guard, exposing the spots your deodorant missed, or swoop in from underneath, unknowingly sacrificing arm hairs soon to be burnt off from the steam.

Most schools offer students recognizable franchises with standards in regard to food taste, preparation and service. The only option here is a quick chicken concept that, 30 minutes after consumption, causes students to change their plans for the rest of the day.

The Journal wonders if WOW is secretly owned by the Scott Tissue Corporation, Pepto Bismol or some other company that profits on the bountiful harvests currently stewing in countless Webster students' guts — harvests that ultimately lead to a crop of seismic proportions.

Be mindful that holidays mean more than Christmas

In America's westernized, majority Christian society, it is easy to forget the holidays mean different things to different people. Although it is a personal choice to say "Happy Holidays" or "Merry Christmas" as you pass people on the street, don't fret or take offense if strangers don't return the greeting. If people don't celebrate the holiday, they might not know exactly what to say without feeling awkward.

There are wreaths, Christmas lights, candy canes and trees all over the place. Christmas is not a holiday that is easily ignored. Modern-day Scrooges aside, there are some who simply choose not to celebrate the holiday season.

There are a lot of students, faculty and staff at Webster University who don't celebrate the traditional Christmas holiday with a big decorated tree — a practice borrowed from the Pagans — gifts or a big family dinner. International students, especially, may be a little confused this time of year when it comes to American Christmas customs. Think about it — what exactly does a fat, white man in a red suit with a huge beard and reindeer have to do with Jesus? Explaining the idea to someone who is not from the United States is not an easy task.

December ushers in the notorious Christmas joy, Hanukkah, Kwanza, the Muslim Eid Al Adha and Islamic New Year and the Buddhist Bodhi Day Dec. 8. The Chinese and Vietnamese New Year is celebrated Jan. 29 and some Japanese celebrate the emperor's birthday Dec. 23.

International students should take advantage of this time of the year to teach other students about their cultures. Also, American students also should take advantage and take the time to learn something new.

Those who do may find that considering what other people celebrate is part of the old time Christmas ethic — good will to all.

Some people may not care for religions and beliefs that exist in the world outside of their own. However, no matter how close-minded, everyone has the right to think for themselves. But here's some food for thought to put on your Christmas dinner table:

In this nation of immigrants, people should be accepting of different views and ideas. Especially at Webster, where dozens of flags hang from the rafters in the University Center — representing all of the nations from which Webster University students have come. So, the next time you debate whether to say "Happy Holidays" or "Merry Christmas" to a stranger, think about what it might mean to them.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Chainlink Improv gets one measly star

Dear *Journal*,

I felt the review of the Chainlink Improv Show in the Nov. 16 issue was in phenomenally poor form. Unlike most shows on campus, the Chainlink Improv Show is performed by individual non-professional members of the club. It's a club. Skill level varies between members because some have done it for years and others are only beginning. There are no professionals. No one gets paid or receives class credit. It's merely intended to share the fun and good times of the club with the rest of campus.

Does *The Journal* go to an ultimate frisbee game and give it a rating? No. Does *The Journal* give CREW a bad rating for not talking about Jesus enough at the opening of meetings? No. Does *The Journal* go to First Fridays and give it a rating or give low ratings to those that didn't perform as strongly? No, because that would be cruel and unnecessary.

I find it shameful and disgusting the article would assign a star rating to an organization event like that. I have no problem reading a negative article about the show, but to give it a rating seems gratuitous.

Honestly, even for a review it wasn't that good. It cited more actual evidence for a positive review than it did for a bad one. The article only asked, "Where did the show go wrong?" But gave almost no answers to that question. The best it offered was general comments about performers needing more practice or never having studied improv. It could have brought up how the show offended some people or how certain games went slower than others or even a single game that didn't do well … or anything at all that would explain the low rating — but it didn't. The article kept things nice and vague and that's terrible, noncommittal journalism.

There also were several inaccuracies in the brief review. There were two (not one) scenes that called a winning vote for "more" in the game "More or Less." The wait for the show to begin was only eight minutes. (Oh yeah, I know because I was watching my phone waiting for Matt to arrive.) Finally, there were closer to 30 people who remained until the end of the show, not "about 15" as commented (vague yet again).

In summary, if someone were to ask me, I'd give the review of the Chainlink Improv Show a review of exactly one out of five stars. Irony! I am, however, a huge supporter of seeing pictures of myself in *The Journal*. Please do that more.

Steve Clemmons,
Senior,
Film Production and Screenwriting,
Chainlink Improv

People cannot contract AIDS

In Regards to Miss Prusaczyk's article on homophobia in professional sports, I found an error in her reporting. It was stated that Paul Priore had filed a lawsuit against the New York Yankees, claiming he was fired for contracting AIDS.

When I first read this statement, I thought something was wrong. You cannot contract AIDS. You can contract HIV, which is the virus that causes AIDS. AIDS is not classified as a separate disease from HIV, other than that once a person's T cell count falls below a certain number, it is said to develop into the horrible disease, which has killed so many across the globe.

The ignorance with which this statement was made is insulting to every person who either has HIV or is close to someone who does. Paul Priore filed a lawsuit based on the fact that he was fired for having the virus which causes AIDS — not that he had contracted it — as reported in the *New York Times*.

I strongly suggest that you, Miss Prusaczyk, take full advantage of the World AIDS Day activities Dec. 1 so you may be less ignorant of this epidemic. I expect an apology.

William G. Brajnikoff,
Senior,
Music

Crossing the line

People ask me how I can "cross the line" at Fort Benning in an act of civil disobedience. "Why now? Why Fort Benning and the School of the Americas? How can you do this when you have three children at home?"

The answer is that I first "crossed the line" spiritually. If teaching and practicing torture and violence are the means to secure the safety of our nation, then what is there to protect if in the process we have lost our soul?

So I reply, "Why not now?"

I reply, "It is for my children." Because of them, and what I have learned from them, it makes sense to me that the force of love is stronger in securing life and freedom for all children. It is because I have an extraordinary hope for a peaceful world for my children that I honor the line outside Fort Benning by an outward act of non-violent civil disobedience.

What I am called to do is love. I am called to love in a world that depends on massive slaughter of civilians to settle disputes, where torture is practiced in order to protect "national security" and where we are held hostage by unprecedented weapons of war-making.

While my act of civil disobedience at SOA may not stop our military from teaching methods of torture, intimidation and extermination to our neighbors in Central and South America, it is one more drop in the bucket for peace. It is an act of love for my children and all children the world over.

I believe the day will come when it will take only one drop to make that bucket overflow. When it does, there is no army, no governmental proclamation and no weapon on earth that will quell the sound of peace.

I am supported by a community of peacemakers here in St. Louis who make my public act of peacemaking possible. They have promised to take their own actions: to care for my children, prepare meals for my family, coordinate my children's activities, write letters to public officials and pray for the success of my action — small and not-so-small actions — that will support me. Each act on the part of others is another drop in the bucket for peace. No one action is more important or more courageous than another because peacemaking is by its very nature a communal act.

It is not up to me or my actions alone to stop the war-making. I am only doing my small part. What is important is that day by day, person by person, with each act of loving kindness, we will fill the bucket. Change will happen when our desire for peace is stronger than our fears. It is difficult but not impossible.

This is the approach I take with this act of non-violent civil disobedience. My desire for peace outweighs my fear of what could happen. I cannot just sit safely on the sidelines all the while disapproving but not acting. It is the boldness of love, which prompts me to "cross over the line" and take a stand for peace.

Tina Busch-Nema,
Kirkwood, Mo.

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Corrections and Clarifications

The following errors were in the Nov. 16 issue. *The Journal* regrets these errors.

- A front page story quoted Randy Wright, associate vice president for academic affairs, as saying he knew of no one who graduated from the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation pursuing a degree at Webster University. According to information from Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs Jim Staley obtained prior to publication, three students have transferred to Webster through the program.
- The peer education story on page 2 incorrectly stated PEZ served mocktails at A Nite in Vegas Nov. 9. Campus Activities provided the mocktails.
- The photo that accompanied the story on Gentleman Auction House on page 8 incorrectly identified the bass guitarist Eric Hurbst. The individual in the photo is guitarist Eric Enger.
- The vocal performance headline on page 8 states students won a national contest. The National Association of Teachers of Singing hosted a state competition.
- A commentary on page 5 incorrectly stated Paul Priore filed a lawsuit against Yankee pitchers because he contracted AIDS. Priore's lawsuit was based on the fact he contracted HIV.

COMMENTARY

O.J. Simpson put on trial by national media

Publishers pull the plug on anticipated book after public outcry over taboo topic



Mallory Skinner

It is not the media's duty to selectively filter the realities to which the public is exposed.

Former football star O.J. Simpson's recent foray into the literary world was squashed Nov. 21 when the publishing company News Corporation canceled the publication of Simpson's book "If I Did It." In the book, Simpson detailed how he would have killed his ex-wife Nicole Brown Simpson and her friend Ron Goldberg if, in fact, he had done it.

The book was slated for release Nov. 30, and prior to its cancellation, was among the 20 most pre-ordered items on *http://www.amazon.com* that week.

But television stations, including a dozen FOX affiliates and periodicals, like the industry trade publication Broadcasting and Cable, rallied against the book, condemning it as offensive and obscene. They also expressed disappointment in those who would choose to read Simpson's book. Bill Lamb, the general manager of TV station WDRB in Louisville, Ky., told CNN reporters he believed anyone with a moral compass would refrain from reading or promoting the book.

Certainly, the book's premise — how Simpson would hypothetically carry out the murders of which he was acquitted in 1995 — is a bit ludicrous. More ludicrous is the idea that a project can and should be terminated because some people find it distasteful. The cancellation of "If I Did It" sets a precedent for the publishing industry, according to a statement issued by News Corp.

Over the years, many books have been withdrawn due to possible plagiarism but rarely are books removed due to objectionable content.

In the case of "If I Did It," the various media who clamored for the book's withdrawal acted as censors, and they weren't above using force to get what they wanted. Numerous TV stations obstinately refused to play Simpson's two-part interview, which was to air days ahead of the book's release. In print, writers editorialized against the book. Some encouraged bookstores to ban sales.

By behaving the way they did, some media practitioners displayed an infantile desire to shut their eyes and make the naughtiness disappear, to create a world sans all the bad stuff. But trying to suppress something won't make it untrue. Face it, homicide is an ugly reality. Profiteering, something Simpson has been accused of in choosing to write his book, is a reality.

It is not the media's duty to selectively filter the realities to which the public is exposed. Rather, the media should aspire to a level of sophistication where they can make intelligent social commentary, instead of hollering for book bans and attempting to dictate what is and isn't fit for public consumption.

Indeed, Simpson's book deals with taboo topics, but why are these topics unmentionable? If they exist, why not discuss them? Strip away the layers of inhibition and illogic that surround the taboo and there is nothing left, no real reason for getting offended by anything.



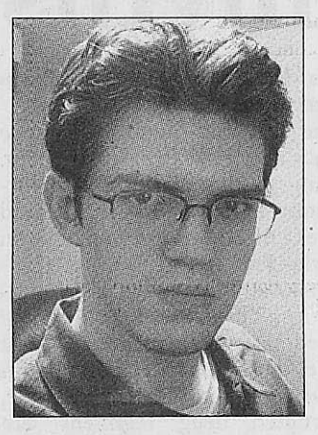
In many ways, obscenity is an antiquated idea. A person can only be a transgressive if he or she believes in boundaries. Those who spoke out against Simpson's book clearly believe in boundaries. They decided Simpson crossed the line that separates the decent from the indecent, and they thought it was incumbent upon them to correct his misstep.

The media were instrumental in getting "If I Did It" canceled. Yet the media's job is to report the truth – not mask it. The media do not exist to pacify people's fears about unpalatable truths. Rather, the media are there to report those truths to the best of their ability. And the media, like the offensive people they admonish, should be reminded when they overstep their boundaries.

Mallory Skinner, a junior journalism major, is a staff writer for The Journal.

COMMENTARY

Democratic Party inherits burdens of entire nation



James Chilton

Hopefully, the 2006 elections showed Democrats and Republicans alike that the American people get it, and they want their leaders to get it, too.

As a political junkie, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Democratic Party on its resounding success in this year's Congressional elections. The Democrats campaigned well and they campaigned smart — for the most part. And when they shot themselves in the foot, they were sensible enough not to reload. For all their effort they won back control of the legislative branch, giving the scales of power a much-needed tip back toward balance.

It's rare to see one political party so thoroughly ravage the other. The last time America saw such a massive turnover in power was 1994, when Republicans under Newt Gingrich's leadership took eight seats in the Senate and 54 in the House of Representatives, gaining control of Congress for the first time in 40 years. But now the election is over. The dust has settled, the yard signs are gone and a bunch of incoming Democrats are being briefed on their roles in the new 110th Congress.

Prior to 2006, I worried the Democrats were fast becoming irrelevant to American politics. Throughout the 20th century, the party controlling the White House always lost seats in the midterm elections, save for three exceptions: 1902, 1934 and 1998. In 2002, thanks to Sept. 11, the war on terror and the ensuing patriotic fervor that drowned out the national dialogue, the ruling Republicans managed to defy the trend and pull a few more seats from the Democrats. The party of Roosevelt and Kennedy broke beneath the powerful, righteous wave of neoconservatism that had been building since Barry Goldwater lost to Lyndon Johnson in 1964.

Forty-two years hence, the Democrats now have a chance to stem the tide, to show Americans they aren't just "not Republican" or "Republican-lite." The Democratic Party has to prove it's not the lesser of two evils, it's not a nebulous, agendaless cloud of die-hard liberals and mushy centrists, too conflicted with themselves and too enraged at the President to focus on sound legislation. The American people are giving the Democrats a chance — one chance — to show us they are relevant, that they do have a place in 21st century American politics. My advice? Don't blow it.

Don't impeach the President. It's 2006. The guy barely has two years to go and with a Democratic-controlled Congress, he won't be able to sell anything those of us to the left of Pat Robertson find particularly unpalatable. The President may not have told the truth when he said he was a uniter and not a divider, but that doesn't mean the other side has to follow suit. Partisan politics and petty revenge are ugly enough, and thus far this has not been a pretty decade.

Go with what you know, namely, bread-and-butter issues, which have been in increasingly dire straits. The buying power of the average American's wages has been consistently dropping since the 1970s. And forget the stratosphere, at the rate we're spending in Iraq, the federal deficit will reach Mars long before we do. Meanwhile, the Economic Policy Institute estimates CEOs that made 24 times the average worker's pay in 1975 now make 262 times the average pay — a near 11-fold increase in inequality. And no, that's not merely adjustment for inflation.

Speaking of inflation, let's talk minimum wage. The federal minimum wage has been stuck at $5.15 an hour since it was last raised in 1997, and its purchasing power has dropped 20 percent since then, according to the EPI. In fact, once you factor in inflation, the minimum wage has been "dropping" ever since 1968, when $1.60 an hour bought more than $9 worth of today's goods.

Nearly half of the states already have voted for their own minimum wage hikes, and incoming Democrats have pledged to work for a new raise for the federal minimum wage. That's good. That's the kind of thing that wins over liberal elitists and blue-collar laborers alike. The Democrats are talking about college tuition and health care costs, too, and that's even better.

God, guns and gays may have been good fuel for the fire in the past, but if we're too sick to drive to the store and too poor to buy the charcoal, we end up cold, hungry and pissed off anyway. Hopefully, the 2006 elections showed Democrats and Republicans alike that the American people get it, and they want their leaders to get it, too.

What incoming Democrats need to understand — and I'm sincerely hoping they do — is that they were not hired Nov. 7. Republicans were fired. There's a difference. Democrats have been in the minority for a dozen years now and if they don't want to wind up back there in 2008, they'll go with what they know.

James Chilton a senior journalism major, is a staff writer for The Journal.

COMMENTARY

Holiday bar etiquette made simple

Five-year veteran bartender explains dos and don'ts



Patrick Devine

... when you and your friends are at the bar, never, and I mean never, ever yell at the bartender to get you a drink. Yelling "hey buddy" or "sweet cheeks" is a good way to add time to your wait.

Another holiday season is upon us. Shopping, wrapping gifts and spending time with the family become everyone's priority. It also happens to be the time of year when bars get busier every night. Funny how those things go hand in hand.

I have been a bartender in St. Louis' downtown bar district, Laclede's Landing, for five years. The holiday season is always the craziest time of year. School is out for the semester; friends and family return for the holidays. Whatever the reason, there is one thing that will never cease to amaze me — the amount of people who come to the bar and check their common sense at the door.

The busiest bar night of the year, the night before Thanksgiving, already has passed, but I am here to give you some tips to make your holiday bar hopping go smoothly.

First and foremost, when you and your friends are at the bar, never, and I mean never, ever yell at the bartender to get you a drink. Yelling "hey buddy" or "sweet cheeks" is a good way to add time to your wait. This also goes for banging your drink or hand on the bar. You may get the bartender's attention, but it won't be in a good way. Take a look around and try to see how busy the bartender is. They will get to you as fast as they can. Just relax and be patient.

When the bartender asks what you want, make sure you know what you're ordering. Don't wait to be asked, then turn and ask everyone with you what he or she wants. After you get your drinks, don't bitch about the price. Just pay it. The bartender doesn't have time to listen. Remember the bartender doesn't make the prices, just the drinks. Complaining about the price is going to piss the bartender off, and the next time you want a drink you're going to have to wait even longer.

For all you cool guys out there, a word to the wise: if you're going to hit on a woman and offer to buy her a drink, don't stiff the bartender on the order. You're trying to impress your date. If you buy her a drink and don't tip the bartender she's going to think you're not worth her time. Not to mention you run the risk of getting a smart-ass bartender. They might say something in front of her just to make you look bad.

Also, try not to stand at the bar and order with your back to the bartender — have the courtesy of facing him or her. Know what your companion wants and be ready when it's your turn to order.

Another thing, if she is drinking an easy drink, don't order her a shot of something disgusting. This just makes you look like a creep ready to prey on an unsuspecting victim. Have some common sense.

It may seem like I'm picking on the guys, but they are the worst. But for the women, there are some things you could avoid doing.

One piece of advice, the bartender doesn't care if it's your birthday, so don't ask for a free shot. If you want a free drink, ask a friend to buy you a drink. Or just be patient and some guy will be more than willing to buy you one. Believe me — they're out there.

Ladies, the bar is there for your drinks. Not your purses, coats or anything else you think about putting up there. These items take up space. If your purse is heavy, just bring your ID and money with you and keep it in your pocket. Leave the purse at home. There might be coat checks for your coats. If there's no coat check, just hold onto it. The bar also is not a stool. Don't sit up there — unless you're invited.

This tip goes for both men and women; do not use a credit card unless you plan on running a tab. Most bars have a minimum amount that has to be spent before the bartender can run a credit card. This means the bartender can't run your card for a $3 drink. If you don't have the three bucks, then you should be at home or at some high school house party. There are these amazing things called ATMs. These modern-day machines are designed to give you money when you slide your card in. The whole process takes less time then the bartender running your card for that $3 drink. If the bartender does take the time to run your card for one drink, don't stiff them.

That brings me to the most important piece of advice I can give you. Tipping is not a crime and is thought to be a gratuitous act. Being a college student is not an excuse for not tipping. A bartender is going to remember the person who tips. They also will make sure the patron who tips the best gets the best service. The bartender doesn't make $7 or $8 an hour. They work for tips. If your drink is $4.75, don't wait for your quarter. If you can't part with a quarter, then stay home and drink there.

For all you Johnny tough guys out there; getting into a bar fight is cliché. This doesn't make you tough; it makes you look like a fool. There is nothing more embarrassing than getting ripped out of a bar by security. And don't try to plead your case outside, because the staff doesn't care what you have to say. The staff's first priority is the safety of the patrons. If two people start fighting, both people are going to get thrown out. It doesn't matter who started it — save your breath.

If everyone avoids these problems, then your holiday drinking season should be a merry one. But don't be stupid either; if you're too messed up to drive, call a friend or tell the bartender and they'll take care of you.

Patrick Devine, a junior journalism major, is a staff writer for The Journal.

AIDS epidemic continues after 25 years

WORLD AIDS DAY: Campus Activities displays AIDS quilt

FROM PAGE 1

The project was founded in 1987 to honor the memory of those who have fallen victim to the syndrome, according to the AIDS Memorial Quilt Web site *http://www.aidsquilt.org*. Each 12-by-12-foot piece has eight individual 3-by-6-foot panels sewn together. The entire quilt has more than 40,000 panels throughout the United States.

Katie McComb, graduate assistant for Campus Activities, said displaying the AIDS Quilt is a visual reminder of HIV and AIDS and the devastation it causes.

"Seeing that representation of AIDS is more powerful (than hearing about it)," McComb said.

December 1, 2006 marks the 18th anniversary of World AIDS Day. The World Health Organization and the United Nations General Assembly declared World AIDS Day in 1988 as a means to raise awareness of the burgeoning syndrome, according to the World AIDS Campaign Web site *http://www.worldaidsday.org*.

The theme for this year is accountability. The World AIDS Campaign is demanding governments and organizations keep their promises to help treat and prevent HIV and AIDS. This is especially needed in developing countries where the syndrome is aggressively spreading and most people do not have access to adequate sex education or drug treatments for those with HIV or AIDS.

The World AIDS Campaign began in 1997 by UNAIDS, a facet of the United Nations dedicated to stopping the spread of HIV and AIDS. The organization's objective is to involve more partners in the fight against the spread of HIV and AIDS, increase awareness of the syndrome and develop a plan to stop the epidemic. The World AIDS Campaign Web site is *http://www.worldaidscampaign.info*.



JENNIFER WENGER / *The Journal*

A piece of the AIDS Memorial Quilt lies on display near the staircase of the University Center. The quilt commemorates those who died due to complications from AIDS and will be on display until Dec. 1, World AIDS Day.

Commonly misunderstood definitions

BY KAREN MCGLENN
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Understanding AIDS and HIV is no easy task. Becoming educated about the diseases can be confusing and time-consuming. Here are some basic terms and definitions that are important to know.

AIDS — Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome, development of certain infections that may result from a decrease in a person's immune system. AIDS also can be diagnosed if a person's T cell count, which helps fight infections, falls below 200. An HIV-negative person's T cell count ranges from 600 to 1,200 cells per microliter.

Antibodies – Molecules that destroy bacteria or viruses.

ARV — Antiretroviral, a medication that keeps a retrovirus, such as HIV, from making copies of itself, thus progressing. The U.S. Department of Health recommends starting antiretroviral therapy when a person's T cell count is less than 200 or the person has a history of AIDS-defining illnesses or suffers from severe symptoms of HIV infections. Therapy also may be offered when a T cell count is between 201 and 350.

Asymptomatic — Having no symptoms. A person may test positive for HIV, but does not display any symptoms of the disease.

AZT — Azidothymidine, also known as Retrovir, a drug used to suppress HIV replication. AZT was one of the first drugs administered to HIV patients.

Candidiasis — An infection caused by a yeast-like fungus that can affect the skin, nails, mouth, esophagus, vagina, lungs and intestines.

CD4 Cell — Also known as T cells, fights infections and leads other cells in the immune system. HIV kills CD4 cells, which makes the immune system weak.

CD4 Count — or T cell count, number of CD4 cells in a milliliter of blood.

CDC — Center for Disease Control and Prevention, based in Atlanta, Ga., among the first to identify the virus and the AIDS epidemic, offers various HIV and AIDS information and prevention services.

Cocktail — a combination of drugs used to combat AIDS that must be taken every day

DNA — deoxyribonucleic acid, a double helix molecule that contains instructions for reproduction and protein synthesis for cells and viruses; occasionally referred to as the "blueprint of life."

HAART — Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy, usually a combination of three or more anti-HIV drugs that slows down the progression of HIV.

HIV — Human Immunodeficiency Virus, a contracted retrovirus that weakens the body's immune system.

Kaposi's sarcoma — A type of cancer considered to be an AIDS-defining illness caused by an overgrowth of blood vessels, which can leave spots or bumps on the skin. Can also occur in the intestines, lymph nodes and lungs and can be life-threatening.

Lesions — Infected sores on the skin.

Long-term nonprogressors — People who have been HIV-positive for several years, who have maintained a T cell count of at least 600, have had no HIV-related illnesses and have not required any antiretroviral therapy.

Retrovirus — A type of virus that can clone itself from a single-stranded RNA to a double-stranded DNA, which integrates back into the host cell's genes.

RNA — ribonucleic acid, a single-stranded molecule that acts as a guide for protein synthesis. RNA is generally created from DNA. Some viruses contain only RNA rather than DNA.

Virus — A molecule, generally consisting of a protein coat and genetic material, which needs a host cell to make copies of itself in order to reproduce. Arguments abound as to whether viruses are living or not; most agree that they are non-living particles. Examples are measles, mumps, polio, influenza and the common cold.

Wasting syndrome — Can be an AIDS-defining illness, refers to loss of more than 10 percent of body weight, loss of muscle mass, more than 30 days of diarrhea and fever.

The information above was found at the following Web sites: *http://www.aidsinfo.nih.gov*, a Web site provided by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; the Virology Journal at *http://www.virology.net* and also at WebMD, a medical information Web site, accessible at *http://www.webmd.com*.

A conversation with an HIV-positive person

BY LANZ CHRISTIAN BAÑES
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The AIDS epidemic, now 25 years old, affects all people from all walks of life, including those at Webster University. The following is from an interview with a 21-year-old senior male, student at Webster. He identifies himself as gay and is in a monogamous relationship. In September 2006, he tested positive for HIV. At one point, his T cell count was 192; at 200, a person is considered to have developed AIDS. However, thanks to medication, his new count is now at 346 (600-1,200 is considered normal) and his viral load count (amount of virus present) is down from 950,000 to 913.

Q: When was the last time you got tested?
At least a year and a half ago, maybe two years. I got it before I started dating (my boyfriend, 24). I don't know who I got (the virus) from.

Q: Did you think you were going to test positive?
It was in the back of my mind. A lot of my friends are HIV positive, so it's always around me. I wasn't sure what to expect because it had been so long since I had a test. I didn't want to get an answer in my mind; when it did come, it was jarring.

Q: Were you by yourself or alone?
Alone. The counselors at Planned Parenthood explained it to me for 30 minutes when all I wanted to do was leave.

Q: What did you do after you found out?
I called my mom and my boyfriend. It was about 2 p.m., so my boyfriend came home from work and so did my mom. I cried a lot.

Q: How did you feel?
I don't think I could put any one emotion on it; my mind was blank. I was upset, angry — every single stage of grief happened at one time.

Q: How did your mom react?
My mom was like "Oh Jesus." She was really supportive of it and so was my boyfriend; I didn't have a negative experience.

Q: Did your boyfriend get tested?
He also was positive. Mine is more advanced than his. I (unknowingly) gave it to him, which is probably the hardest part. It's different when you know you have something that kills you, but when you give someone that same fate, it's hard to deal with.

Q: How did it affect your relationship with your boyfriend?
In the few weeks after that, we fought a lot. We almost ended our relationship, but we talked it out and we've been in a good place.

Q: What medication are you on?
I take only one pill a day, Atripla. Researchers figured out how to take the three best existing drugs and turn it into one. Insurance takes care of most of it — it's $1,500 for a 30-day supply. I pay about $56 (of the $1,500).

Q: How has this changed your life?
I'm more aware of my health situation. I try to eat better and try to stay more physically fit so my immune system stays up. I'm more distracted. I try not to let it take too much of my mind, or I'll go insane. It made me appreciate a lot more things. It made me not take things for granted anymore — or less than I did before. I had petty differences that I resolved.

Q: How has this affected you physically?
On Election Night (Nov. 7), I had a fever and I went to bed coughing. I had pneumonia — I was scared to death; (Pneumocystis jiroveci pneumonia) is the leading cause of death for those with HIV/AIDS. Until I went to the hospital and found out it was the "nice" pneumonia, I thought it'd be the end of my life.

Q: Are you scared of dying?
Up until that night, I thought I accepted that I would die earlier than I originally thought, but I was pretty scared when it was happening. I'm still adjusting.

Q: What are you afraid of?
I'm constantly paranoid I missed a dose of my medication. (If I do), the virus will learn what it is (making the drug ineffectual), and I will have to start a cocktail. My worst fear is losing my insurance and not being able to afford pills anymore. One of my friends lost his insurance. Within two weeks, he had AIDS and within six weeks he was dead. It's not a disease that kills you quietly. You look like crap and you're in pain. That would be my worst-case scenario: not having anyone there.

Note: HIV is constantly mutating and adapting to medication, which is what has made it difficult to develop a vaccine or cure

Q: How do you deal with it?
I have a bunch of friends who are positive — one friend found out a month before I did, so we had the same emotions at the same time. I'm lucky in having a great support system. I just try to live my life. There's not a whole lot I can do — just hope for the best. If I don't live my life normally, I'll go crazy.

Q: Anything else you want to say?
It's something everyone knows about, but until it hits so close to home, then it's not real — that's the biggest problem of this disease. It happens to people; it can happen to anyone.

For further AIDS coverage, including a history of the epidemic, more statistics and movie reviews, see http://www.webujournal.com.

Also, visit our Web site to see stories beyond our AIDS coverage, including a review of "Urinetown" and information on alumnus Joe Stickley.

Debunking AIDS myths

BY KAREN MCGLENN
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Myths and half-truths have surrounded AIDS and HIV since the epidemic began in the early 1980s. Can it be passed through kissing? Can you get it through oral sex? Can you get it just by touching someone? Although AIDS information and education have been available throughout the years, people may still be confused and have questions.

HIV and AIDS are the same thing. FALSE!
HIV is the virus that can lead to AIDS. HIV attacks the T cells in the immune system, which help defend the body against infections. Though not completely definitive, AIDS typically means having a T cell count lower than 200, leading to a weakened immune system and infection by opportunistic diseases.

HIV can be contracted by hugging or kissing someone who has tested positive. FALSE!
HIV is not an airborne disease. A person cannot contract HIV by touching someone or even kissing them. A person can only contract HIV through another person's infected blood, semen, vaginal fluid or breast milk. A person also can become HIV-positive by using a needle with infected blood on or in it. This includes needles used for body piercing, tattooing and injecting drugs.

Oral sex can lead to HIV. TRUE!
Pre-ejaculate semen also can contain the HIV virus.

AIDS is a gay disease. FALSE!
AIDS and HIV can affect anyone. Heterosexual men, women and children and people of all races and ethnic backgrounds are susceptible to the disease.

Women can contract HIV from other women through sex. TRUE!
Although rare, there have been cases of female-to-female transmission. Vaginal secretions and menstrual blood can contain the virus and oral or vaginal exposure can put a person at risk for HIV infection.

HIV-positive women cannot have children. FALSE!
In the early days of AIDS, if a woman became HIV-positive, it was assumed she could not have kids. But with certain precautions, HIV-positive women can have children without fear of passing on the virus. Using HIV medications, delivering by Cesarean section and not breast feeding can help reduce chances of transmission to between 2 and 3 percent.

There is a cure for HIV. FALSE!
There is no cure for HIV or AIDS. There have been great advances in drug therapies for HIV patients that can prolong an infected person's life for several years. But it is imperative to take medications faithfully.

HIV can become resistant to drugs designed to fight it. TRUE!
Since the virus can mutate, resistance to certain anti-HIV drugs can occur. According to the World Health Organization, between 5 percent and 20 percent of HIV-positive people in "industrialized countries" are HIV-resistant to at least one class of anti-HIV drugs. These are countries that have used anti-HIV drugs for at least a decade, but had experimented with one- and two-drug therapies. Simple, uninterrupted drug regimens can minimize resistance.

More information can be found at the following Web sites:

http://www.liaac.org/myths-facts

http://www.thebody.com/aawh/wad2001/myth.html

http://aids.about.com/cs/aidsfactsheets/tp/hivmyths.htm

http://www.who.int/hiv/topics/en

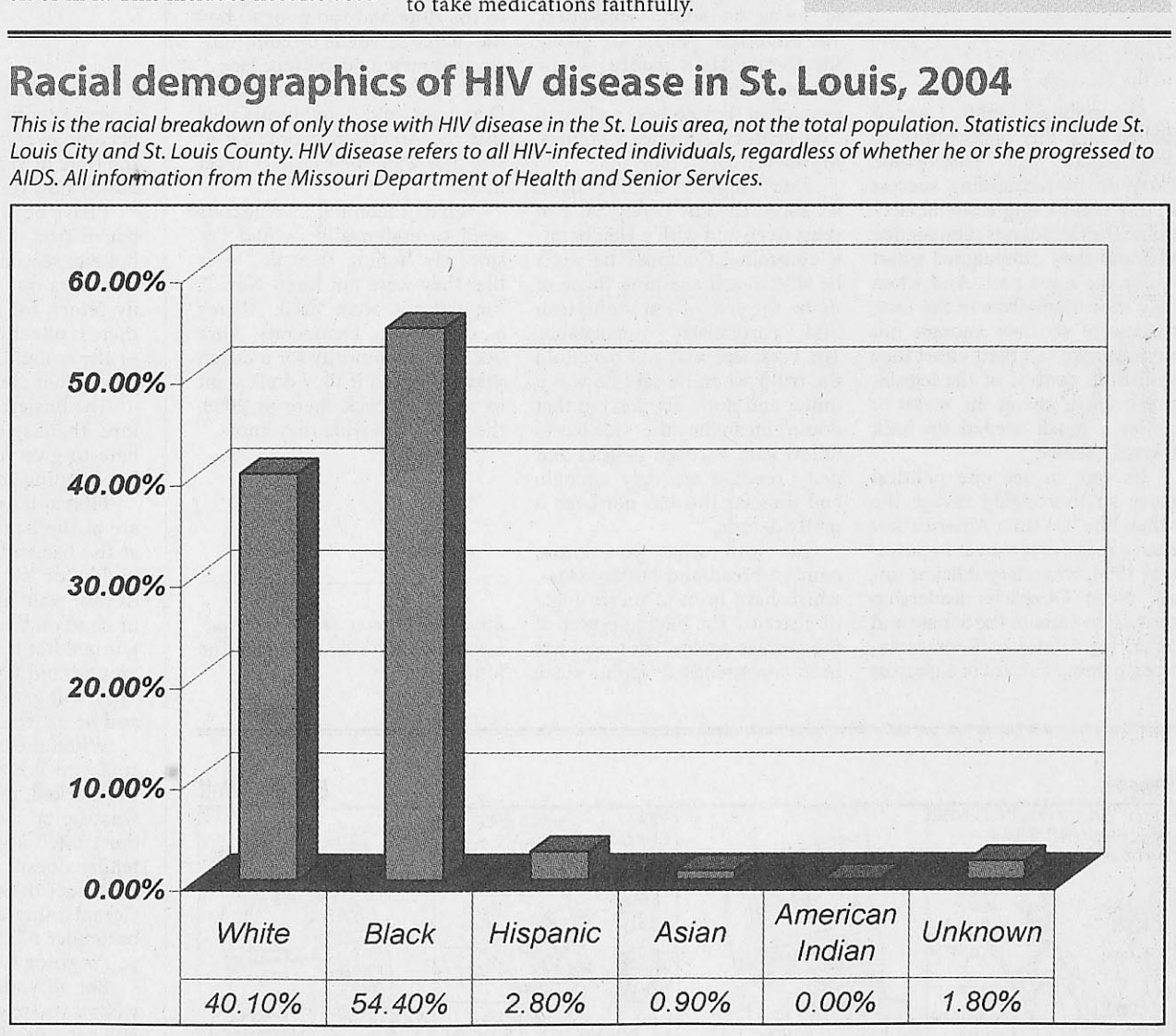
http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/dhap.htm

http://aidsmyth.addr.com

For all other questions, talk to a doctor or contact the local health department.

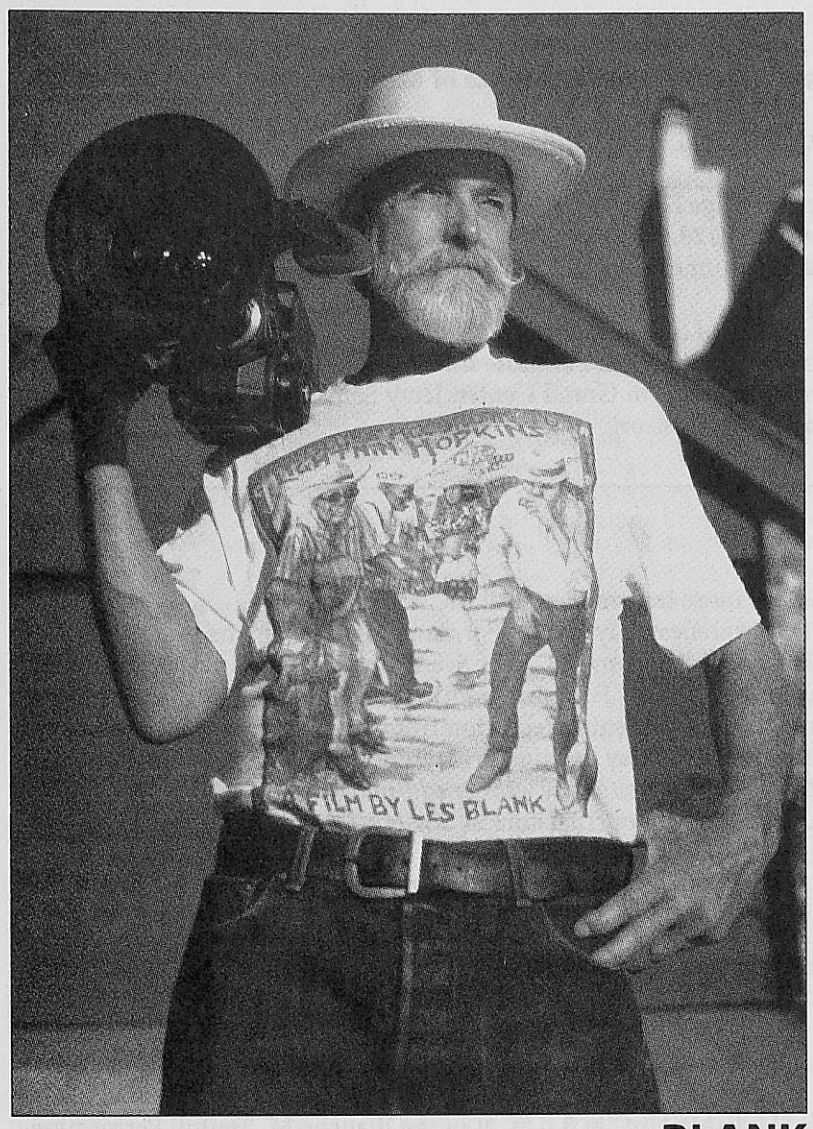
Racial demographics of HIV disease in St. Louis, 2004

This is the racial breakdown of only those with HIV disease in the St. Louis area, not the total population. Statistics include St. Louis City and St. Louis County. HIV disease refers to all HIV-infected individuals, regardless of whether he or she progressed to AIDS. All information from the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services.



Blank's visual storytelling unearths subcultures

St. Louis International Film Festival awards documentarian for lifetime achievements



BLANK

BY ANNA C. FORDER
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During his career, documentarian Les Blank has filmed everyone from Mexican-Americans, garlic fanatics and fellow filmmakers to gap-toothed women and a tea enthusiast. Blank finds the less ordinary in life, the uncharted subjects and brings viewers a glimpse of their world, unspoiled.

Blank came to campus Nov. 18 and 19 for the St. Louis International Film Festival, part of the Webster University Film Series, and received the Maysles Brothers Lifetime Achievement Award in Documentary. The Film Festival, organized by Cinema St. Louis, is held annually to expose St. Louisans to international films. This year was Webster's fifth hosting part of the festival.

"(Blank) is clearly one of the more important documentary filmmakers to emerge in the last 40 years," said Cliff Froehlich, Webster adjunct faculty and director of Cinema St. Louis. "There's an astonishing range of material he's covered."

Blank's films tend to focus on subjects involving music. Blank said he has a love of rich music that speaks directly to him.

"Music is always close to me," Blank said.

Blank's first independent film, "The Blues Accordin' to Lightnin' Hopkins," about a Texas Blues singer, was filmed in 1967. He financed the film himself. During his early career, Blank worked on industrial and promotional films to make a living and help fund his filmmaking.

This Lightnin' Hopkins film began a long line of Blank's films that highlighted the music and art of subcultures throughout America. Webster Film Series Director Michael Steinberg said this film is an accurate and beautiful portrayal of the artist and the subculture. Froehlich said Blank's films explore ethnic and musical subcultures, including the music of New Orleans, R&B, polka and jazz.

"He talks about the larger culture that helped create the music, including the food, culture, ethnic roots and people," Froehlich said.

Blank said his 1965 film about jazz legend Dizzie Gillespie is his favorite work.

"I broke out of conventional filmmaking techniques," Blank said of the film. "I went beyond that. I took away the linear system of arranging info. I relied on instincts rather than intellectual order. There's soulfulness in Blues music I was trying to convey. I think it worked."

His second 1967 film, "God Respects us When we Work, but Loves us When we Dance," charts the free outdoor concerts of flower children, hippies in the Sunset Boulevard area. Blank, who was living in Berkeley, Calif., said free concerts were unheard of at the time.

Steinberg said Blank has a talent for giving viewers a personal and intimate look at his subjects.

"His films have always been a personal experience, as opposed to some sort of issue-driven documentary," Steinberg said.

Froehlich also said Blank's documentaries reflect his own vision and personality.

"You can really see his personality," Froehlich said. "He hides behind the camera, but his personality is very much imprinted on every film."

Blank's favorite part of the filmmaking process is traveling around and meeting people, Blank said. He enjoys getting into the minds and living rooms of ordinary people. Blank said the best way to find something worthy of filming is to "follow your nose."

"I like it when I'm shooting and I manage to get something," Blank said. "Filmmaking doesn't come easy, so you never know if you get something or not."

Blank took a long road to get into the film industry. He chose to be a filmmaker because of his love of storytelling. Blank began college in New Orleans at Tulane University as a biology major. He said too much partying led to his failure at this major, so he quit school and worked as a merchant marine. During his time on the ship, he read extensively and fell in love with storytelling, so he decided to go back to Tulane as an English literature major.

After his graduation, he failed to become a published author. Blank then attended graduate school at Tulane for his master's degree in theater. Blank also attended the Ph.D. film program at the University of Southern California for two years without completing the program.

Blank's film "Burden of Dreams" won a British Academy Award for Best Feature Documentary in 1982. Two of Blank's films also have been included in the Library of Congress' National Film Registry. Twenty-five American films are chosen each year to be included in this collection, which ensures the preservation of these films for all time. Blank said the United States National Film Preservation Board chose these films because of their aesthetic, cultural and historical value. "Garlic is as Good as it Gets" was added in 1993 and "Chulas Fronteras" was added in 2004. Blank said only three documentarians have more than one film in this registry.

He said these documentaries depict certain truths and realities of the time in which the films were made in an artful way. Blank said he has a total of about 36 works he considers completed, and about 12 of those he hopes to keep alive in the current culture through the continued sale of his DVDs.

DVDs of Blank's films can be ordered online at *http://www.lesblank.com.*

Jazz takes stage

Big Band, 'Mini' honor music legends

BY ALEXANDRA SMITH
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ASHLEY GIESEKING / *The Journal*

Webster University Mini Big Band saxophone players Zachary Minor, soprano, Mark Nitz, alto/tenor, and Derrick Tramel, baritone, perform in the Winifred Moore Auditorium Nov. 20.

The lights dimmed and the remaining sounds were the combination of trumpets, trombones, saxophones, percussion, piano and bass guitar. Musicians and audience members alike bobbed their heads and tapped their toes to the music. On Nov. 20, the Winifred Moore Auditorium was, if only for a few hours, transformed into a jazz music haven.

The performance, titled "We Remember ... ," was an evening of jazz music presented by the Webster University Big Band and Mini Big Band. All of the pieces selected for the performance were works written by musicians honoring other musicians.

Michael Parkinson, chairman of the music department in the Leigh Gerdine College of Fine Arts, said the show was a challenging endeavor.

"It's not easy because the musicians have to have an understanding of two different musicians," Parkinson said.

The first two pieces were performed by the Mini Big Band, an all-male group consisting of 12 members. In the Mini Big Band, student performers have the opportunity to have a great deal of say in the evolution of the music. The players actually interpret and add on the music as they see appropriate, making the pieces their own. The arrangement of the pieces is heavily dependent on the input of the performers.

Parkinson said there are only about three or four schools in the United States with groups similar to the Mini Big Band.

"It takes patience and time," Parkinson said. "It's a valuable experience for the students. They get to truly shape the music."

The master of ceremonies for the evening was Dennis Owsley, who hosts a Sunday evening show on KWMU FM 90.7. After the Mini Big Band performed, Owsley made a point of how their revolutionary style contributes to the overall future of jazz music.

"That's the thing about jazz; it's never static," Owsley said. "While it has a history, it is always trying to move forward."

The Big Band performed nine pieces following the conclusion of the Mini Big Band performance. Though the group used many of the same instruments, the music was stylistically different than that of the Mini Big Band.

"The personality of the groups is radically different in every possible way," Parkinson said.

The Big Band is an 18-piece ensemble that performs literature from all style periods of jazz, including composers such as Chick Corea, Miles Davis, Duke Ellington, Bill Holman, Oliver Nelson and Kenny Wheeler. The focus of the Big Band is placed on developing individual skills of improvisation, reading, stylistic awareness and ensemble interaction.

No director stands in front of the Big Band to give them cues. Parkinson and James Martin, the faculty directors of the Big Band, play along with the group as player coaches. Parkinson said this tactic makes the band more self-sufficient and keeps the focus on the music and the students. About 13 of the Big Band members performed solos.

Senior Mayuko Abe, an international studies major, said the Big Band performance was different than other ensemble performances she had attended.

"I like that they had many different kinds of instruments and many different solos mixed in," Abe said.

Hannah McDonald, a junior vocal jazz performance major, lent her voice to a couple of the Big Band's pieces. She said working with the band is much different than the type of performing she is used to in choirs.

"It's a lot of boys," McDonald joked. "It's also more of a team effort. You've got the group sound along with a lot of solos and (varying) styles."

As the audience filed out at the end of the evening, remnants of jazz music hung in the air.

"I've been to several of their concerts, and this was the best one," said senior dance major Kirsten Gandenberger. "They sounded especially tight and had a very powerful sound."

The next performance of the Webster University Big Band and Mini Big Band is scheduled for Feb. 27. The performance, titled "Ellington is Forever," will be performed in the Winifred Moore Auditorium along with the St. Louis Air National Guard Jazz Ensemble.

Chaon 'wakes up' crowd at visiting writer's series

BY BREANNA HERSCHELMAN
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With seven brothers and sisters, all with different fathers and a mother sent to prison for killing two of her children, life can get pretty hectic. These issues were the least of the main character's worries in acclaimed writer Dan Chaon's current book project, "I Wake Up."

Junior scriptwriting major Joe Kast attends as many readings by visiting writers as possible, missing only last semester while he studied abroad in Thailand. Kast said he appreciated the fact that Chaon took time at the end of his reading to answer questions from the audience. Kast said, to his recollection, this was the first visiting writer who had addressed the audience afterwards.

"While the other speakers held their distance, Chaon was more personal," Kast said.

Though he had little background of Chaon before the reading, Kast said he still tried to sit in the front and talk to him afterwards.

"Listening to him read and seeing how he interprets his own reading made me more interested in his stuff," Kast said.

Chaon described his own writing as "realism with an element of weirdness."

"I'm interested in the genre as a way to think about what's interesting in normal life," Chaon said.

Chaon has three books published: two collections of short stories and a novel. One of his short story collections, "Among the Missing," was a National Book Award finalist in 2001 and was also named one of the 10 best books of the year by various literary reviews.

Chaon is currently working on two more novels. He read the first chapter from "I Wake Up", Nov. 16 to a packed room in the Pearson House. The crowd was a mixture of young and old, composed of Webster students as well as interested members of the community.

Chaon, the Houck Associate Professor at Oberlin College in Cleveland, met Steve Lattimore, a literature and fiction professor at Webster, through a mutual friend at Stanford University in 1997. Lattimore was studying at Stanford through a fellowship. Chaon had just graduated when Lattimore first heard of him. However, the two would not meet in person until later in Cleveland.

"I had read his work before I knew him," Lattimore said. "(Chaon) went to work at Oberlin, and I heard they needed a visiting instructor. Not long after, I began teaching there as well."

Lattimore said throughout their careers, each has helped the other. When Chaon finished a collection of short stories, Lattimore introduced him to his agent to help Chaon sell his book.

Lattimore has a book of short stories published called "Circumnavigation."

Lattimore and Webster professor David Clewell prepare the Visiting Writer Series every year. He said they usually host one accomplished fiction writer, one accomplished poet and another writer closer to the beginning of his or her career.

Previous visiting writers include cartoonist and novelist Lynda Barry, short story and novel writer Aleksander Hemon and short story writer George Saunders. Hemon and Saunders have both won the MacArthur Genius Grant. The grant allows artists in any field to expand their creativity through a $500,000 award.

Upcoming writers for the spring semester include established poet Ron Wallace and upcoming poet Brian Barker.



CHAON

Porn-inspired art spurs lecture

BY SHAWN DOOLEY
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Abstract painter Brandon Anschultz entertained Webster students with his Internet porn-inspired paintings. Anschultz lectured Nov. 17 to a packed house in the Sverdrup building, room 123. Students were sitting in the aisles to get a peek at his work.

"I came to see (Anschultz) because I am an art major with an emphasis in painting," freshman Britnee Kennedy said. "I really want to see his work and how he got to the point where he is now."

Anschultz, a 2002 graduate of Washington University, described abstract painting as art less concentrated on content.

"It was interesting," Kennedy said. "I haven't seen much work where it looks like graphic design, but is actually paint and paintings."

Anschultz uses wallpaper, wood and ink. He said his work is defined by its surface appeal, color theory and design. The colors range from fluorescent to pastels and any color Anschultz finds attractive. He said he likes patterns of blues and yellows.

There was no visible porn involved in his paintings, but he said early in his career his work was inspired by Internet porn. He referred to the silhouettes of people hidden in the art and patterns in some of his paintings.

Anschultz said he justifies the ideas in his head, and then his ideas are formally created into shapes.

"I think he is an interesting abstract painter," said John Watson, a visiting assistant professor in the art department. "His work coincides with a class that Jeff Hughes, an art professor, teaches."

Anschultz came to Webster as part of the art department's Friday Artist Lecture Series.

Several times throughout the semester, the art department invites artists from different aspects of the art world to lecture about their experiences.

Watson said the series runs every Friday, unless the department has another conflicting event.

He said the main goal of the Friday Artist Lecture Series is to expose students and the Webster community to the art world. The series has brought in artists and art historians from across the United States.

"Artists are invited to come (to Webster) when we know they are coming into town," Watson said.

Many artists visit Webster with a showing of their work in the St. Louis area. Anschultz lives in south St. Louis and has a show opening at White Flag Projects, an art space, located at 4568 Manchester Ave. Anschultz is one of many artists in the show.

Anschultz said the White Flag Projects installation is different because he wasn't asked to bring his work, but he was asked to create a painting on a wall in the art space.

Anschultz's visit to Webster was one of his many shows that exhibited across the country.

The Venue

A calendar of upcoming events on campus and around town



Thursday, November 30

• Emil Kerenji from the University of Michigan gives a presentation, "**Holocaust Research and the Politics of Memory: The Case of Serbia,**" at noon in the Library Conference Room as part of the Brown Bag Lunch Series.
• Campus Activities sponsors **Thirsty Thursdays** at 9:30 p.m. in the University Center Pool. Relays will be part of "What the Health" programming. For more information, call ext. 7708.
• The Conservatory of Theatre Arts presents "**Bat Boy: The Musical**" at 7:30 p.m. on Stage III in Webster Hall. Admission is free to faculty, staff and students with ID. General admission is $10. For more information or tickets, call ext. 7128.
• A screening and discussion of the movie "**Yesterday**" takes place at noon in the UC Sunnen Lounge. Lunch will be served. For more information, call MCISA at ext. 7596.
• "**The Musical of Musicals: The Musical**" will start at 8 p.m. in The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, located at 130 Edgar Rd. The show will perform until Dec. 29. Ticket prices range from $14 to $63. Show times and prices vary by day of the week. For more information, call ext. 4925..
• The St. Louis Symphony Orchestral Program performs at 8 p.m. in Powell Symphony Hall in Grand Center. Jerzy Semkow will conduct. Tickets range from $15.50 to $110. For more information, call (800) 232-1880 or visit *http://www.slso.org*.

Friday, December 1

• There will be an **HIV/AIDS Panel Discussion** at noon in the UC Sunnen Lounge. For more information, call MCISA at ext. 7596.
• Campus Activities sponsors **First Fridays** at 6 p.m. in Marletto's with a World AIDS Awareness Day theme. For more information, call ext. 7708.
• The art department presents architect, historian and photographer **Andrew Raimist** at noon in room 123 of the Sverdrup building as part of the Friday Artist Lecture Series. Raimist will speak on "The Birth of St. Louis Modernism: Harris Armstrong." For more information, call ext. 7171.
• The 2006 **Photo Imaging Education Association's Annual Competition** exhibit will have its opening reception from 5 to 7 p.m. at the May Gallery in Sverdrup. The exhibit will be on display until Dec. 15. Gallery hours are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday, and noon to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Admission is free and open to the public. For more information, call ext. 7673 or visit *http://www.webster.edu/maygallery*.
• The first **Bi-State Worlds AIDS Day Conference** takes place from 1 to 9:30 p.m. at the Missouri Historical Society, located at Lindell Blvd. and DeBaliviere in Forest Park. Admission is free. For more information, call 534-9251.
• The Conservatory of Theatre Arts presents "**Bat Boy: The Musical**" at 7:30 p.m. on Stage III in Webster Hall. Admission is free to faculty, staff and students with ID. General admission is $10. For more information or tickets, call ext. 7128.

Saturday, December 2

• Grafton sponsors the second annual "**Taste of Chocolate**" from noon to 4 p.m. at the Grafton Methodist Church Annex building, located at 100 E. Main St. Admission is $5 per person. For more information, call (618) 465-0491.
• The Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis hosts the **49th Ebony Fashion Fair's "Stylishly Hot"** at 8 p.m. at in the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center in benefit of the Beatrice T. Hurt Scholarship Fund. The Touhill Center is located on the University of Missouri Saint Louis campus. Tickets range from $35 to $50. For more information, call 615-3645.
• The Sheldon Art Galleries fourth annual **Winter Warming Benefit Event** is held from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the Sheldon Ballroom. Admission is $35 per person. For more information and to make reservations, call the 533-9900, ext. 14.
• The Conservatory of Theatre Arts presents "**Bat Boy: The Musical**" at 7:30 p.m. on Stage III in Webster Hall. Admission is free to faculty, staff and students with ID. General admission is $10. For more information or tickets, call ext. 7128.

Sunday, December 3

• The Webster Concert Choir and Choral Society perform "**African American Spirituals and Gospel for Christmas**" at 2 p.m. in St. John's United Methodist Church, located at 5000 Washington Place in the Central West End. For more information, call ext. 7034. Admission is free.
• The Conservatory of Theatre Arts presents "**Bat Boy: The Musical**" at 2 p.m. on Stage III in Webster Hall. Admission is free to faculty, staff and students with ID. General admission is $10. For more information or tickets, call ext. 7128.

Monday, December 4

• Professor and author Gabor Boritt discusses "**The Gettysburg Gospel: The Lincoln Speech that Nobody Knows**" from 10 to 11:15 a.m. in the Emerson Library Conference Room. Admission is free. For more information, call ext. 7426.
• The Webster Jazz Singers present "**Home for the Holidays**" at 7 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium. Admission is free to students with a valid ID. General admission is $5 for adults and 3$ for senior adults. For more information, call ext. 7034.
• Campus Activities sponsors **Laughs on the Landing Improv Group** at 9:30 p.m. in the UC Sunnen Lounge. For more information, call ext. 7708.

Tuesday, December 5

• Stephanie Schroeder discusses "**Bird Flu: Impact on Birds**" from noon to 1 p.m. in the Library Conference Room as part of the Brown Bag Lunch series. Snacks and beverages are provided. Admission is free.
• Campus Activities sponsors a movie screening of "**Blood Diamond**" at 9:30 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium. Free passes will be available at the UC Front Desk after Nov. 30. For more information, call ext. 7708.
• The Webster University Film Series presents Martin Scorsese's **"After Hours"** at 5 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium.

Wednesday, December 6

• The Conservatory of Theatre Arts presents "**Bat Boy: The Musical**" at 7:30 p.m. on Stage III in Webster Hall. Admission is free to faculty, staff and students with ID. General admission is $10. For more information or tickets, call ext. 7128.
• Campus Activities sponsors **Gorlok Spirit Night** at 6 p.m. at the men's basketball game versus Maryville and the women's basketball game versus Maryville at 8 p.m. in Grant Gymnasium. For more information, call ext. 7708.
• *The St. Louis Times* sponsors the annual **FUNFEST** event from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Missouri History Museum in Forest Park. There will be live music, bingo, line dancing, exhibitor booths and free donuts. Admission is free. For more information, call (636) 225-2442 or e-mail *info@stlouistimes.com*.
• **The Aaron Neville Quintet** will perform at 8 p.m. in the Sheldon Concert Hall. Tickets are $42 for orchestra seats and $38 for balcony seats. For more information and to purchase tickets, call MetroTix at 534-1111 or visit *http://www.sheldonconcerthall.org*.
• The Webster University Film Series presents Alan Arkush's **"Heartbeeps"** at 8 p.m. at Schlafly Bottleworks as part of Strange Brew: Cult Films.

Want your event listed in The Venue? E-mail us at *calendar@webujournal.com* and get the attention of *The Journal's* more than 3,000 readers!

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By Michael Mepham

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

Level of Difficulty: 2

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

The solution to this puzzle will be published Dec. 7.

Nov. 16 puzzle solution

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

Muhm: School choice great for program

FROM PAGE 10

Muhm said the trip was a turning point for a small Gorlok team compiled mostly of underclassmen.

"We worked really hard, but it paid off when we got back," Muhm said. "We all dropped times and it was a bonding experience for the team. It was great."

Muhm's modesty and work ethic haven't gone unnoticed by her teammates.

"I see her as a hard worker," said junior Zach Olsen who, along with Muhm, is one of the few Gorlok swimmers who have more than two years experience competing at the collegiate level. "She's a very good swimmer, and she can tear it up in the butterfly."

While Muhm has been dominant since she began her tenure at Webster in 2003, the men's and women's swim teams have struggled, compiling a combined 10-38 record the past three seasons.

In that time, Truman State has added three more Division II championships to its collection, giving their teams an impressive six straight titles. However, Muhm, who hopes to work in advertising, has no regrets, she said Webster has helped prepare her for life after graduation.

"I think I've really developed a lot on my own," Muhm said. "A lot of people have influenced me, but I've just tried being my own person. I've really enjoyed going to Webster. It's the perfect balance of academics, athletics and social (activities)."

Awards: Numerous records shattered

FROM PAGE 10

Gorloks to a 12-4-2 overall record. Fann's single season goal total for 2006 was good enough to tie him for first in the record books for most goals in a season in Webster history.

"You don't notice it until the season is over," Fann said. "During the season, all you think about is winning."

Fann's 33 career goals place him second on the career goals list. Women's Soccer Assistant Coach Mike Hutchinson currently holds the record for most goals in a career. Hutchinson claimed the honor with 37 goals from 1986 to 1989.

Throughout Webster athletics, a number of athletes also have made their individual presence felt. This season, the women's soccer team happily welcomed freshman forward Kelsey McClure. McClure tallied 45 points including 19 goals, which tied her for third on the single season goals list. McClure also claimed SLIAC Newcomer of The Year and First Team All Conference honors. The record for most goals in a career currently stands at 58, set in 2002. Should McClure continue her pace for three more seasons she will finish her career with almost 80 goals.

A major women's volleyball record is in jeopardy next season. Junior hitter Crystal Shelton tallied 432 kills in 2006 and took another huge stride towards Webster's career kills record. Entering 2007 as a senior, Shelton will be just 68 kills shy of the record of 1,463 kills set in 2002. Should Shelton eclipse the mark, each of the three major volleyball statistics will have fallen in the last two seasons.

Senior defensive specialist Susi Riegel also climbed to the top of the Webster record books. This season, Riegel claimed the No. 1 spot for most digs in a career with 1,615. The previous record of 1,439 was set in 2002.

Webster's softball team also is a part of the record-breaking trend. Senior outfielder Jenn Brandenburger, senior catcher infielder Kelli Dean and junior pitcher infielder Gail Vogt are all in the thick of the softball record books. Brandenburger and Vogt both have career batting averages of .403, which is good for a tie for fourth on the all-time list. The mark for highest career batting average of .421 was set in 2004.

Vogt and Dean are both in the running for the coveted career homerun record. Vogt's 13 homeruns and Dean's 11 are good for third and fourth, respectively, on the all-time list. The record currently sits at 21 set in 2001. Vogt is also in contention for career wins as a pitcher. Vogt accumulated 31 wins in her first two seasons and needs just 21 more wins to claim first on the all-time list. Should Vogt play out her last two seasons consistently, she will contend for No. 1 in homeruns, wins and strikeouts.

Gorlok fans should keep an eye on baseball this season as well. The 2006 season placed the Gorloks in the Webster record books, and also gained them national recognition. Senior shortstop Adam York tallied 23 doubles last season, which was good for second on Webster's list for single-season doubles. York also was ranked sixth in the nation in Division III for doubles with .55 per game.

In fall 2006, Webster student athletes accumulated a total of 17 All Conference selections between men's and women's soccer and volleyball. Webster also hoisted its sixth All Sports trophy in seven years. This season, Webster currently is first in the standings for the award. Webster's Athletic Director Tom Hart said the department is able to grow because of the excellence of its student athletes.

"It takes special individuals to eclipse these marks set by previous student athletes," Hart said. "Individual records in many instances indicate success for the team, but one doesn't come without the other."

Women hoopsters need to right the ship

BY ANDREA PASZKIEWICZ
apaszkiewicz@webujournal.com

Four games aren't many. Four games don't make a season, but for the Webster women's basketball team, four games could be the key to the rest of the season.

Anyone following the preseason Gorlok games might be getting a little nervous about their shot at making it to the St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Tournament this year. They've lost all four of their preseason games — some by significant amounts.

The good news for players and their fans is that the team hasn't played a conference game yet. So, while the losses won't help the team achieve an ideal overall season, they also won't hinder Webster's standing in the tournament.

"That is the nice thing about playing all the non-conference games," junior forward Jacquelyn Wamser said. "Playing these great teams only makes you better, and they will definitely help us when our conference season officially kicks off."

That kick off will be 8 p.m. Dec. 6 at Webster against Maryville University. This gives the Gorloks one week to shake off the last few games and prepare themselves for conference competition.

The Gorloks went head-to-head against Michigan's Marygrove College Nov. 18 losing the game by 16 points, 54-70. The next day, their game against Illinois's Millikin University was an even bigger blow of 40-101, and an almost identical outcome occurred when they played Illinois Wesleyan University Nov. 21 at home and lost 39-101.

"I think for our first game of the year, our team did awesome," Women's Basketball Head Coach Jayme Callahan said. "The second two (were) a little more shaky. It's a little bit harder to take a loss when you know that you didn't do your best."

Webster's women certainly did their best against Missouri Baptist University Nov. 28 taking the lead several times throughout the game and finishing with a close loss of 56-61.

"We have a lot to focus on," Callahan said. "We've just been going back to the drawing board and going back to basics and starting over. Just switching things around a little bit … to put (the players) in the most successful places they can be in."

Callahan said Webster wasn't the only school having trouble beating these teams and other teams in the conference are losing to them as well.

"There's no reason to think that it's just us and that we're on this bad streak," Callahan said. "The teams we're playing now are amazing. I think (the players are) taking it as a learning step and moving on from there."

The biggest obstacle for the Gorloks seems to be that they're still getting used to one another and aren't familiar with each other's signals.

"Our main thing is talking," sophomore guard/forward Martine Wiley said. "We just have to know where our people are and where they are going. Someone has to direct traffic on the floor."

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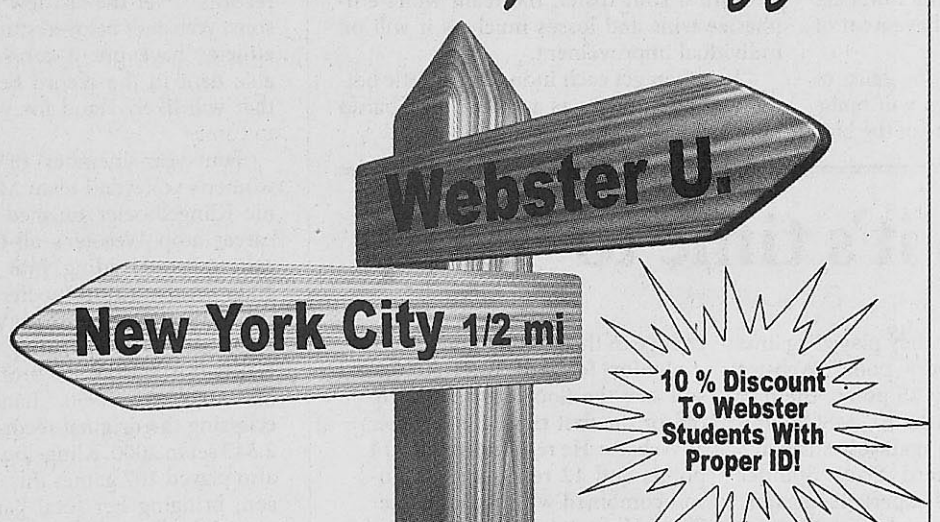

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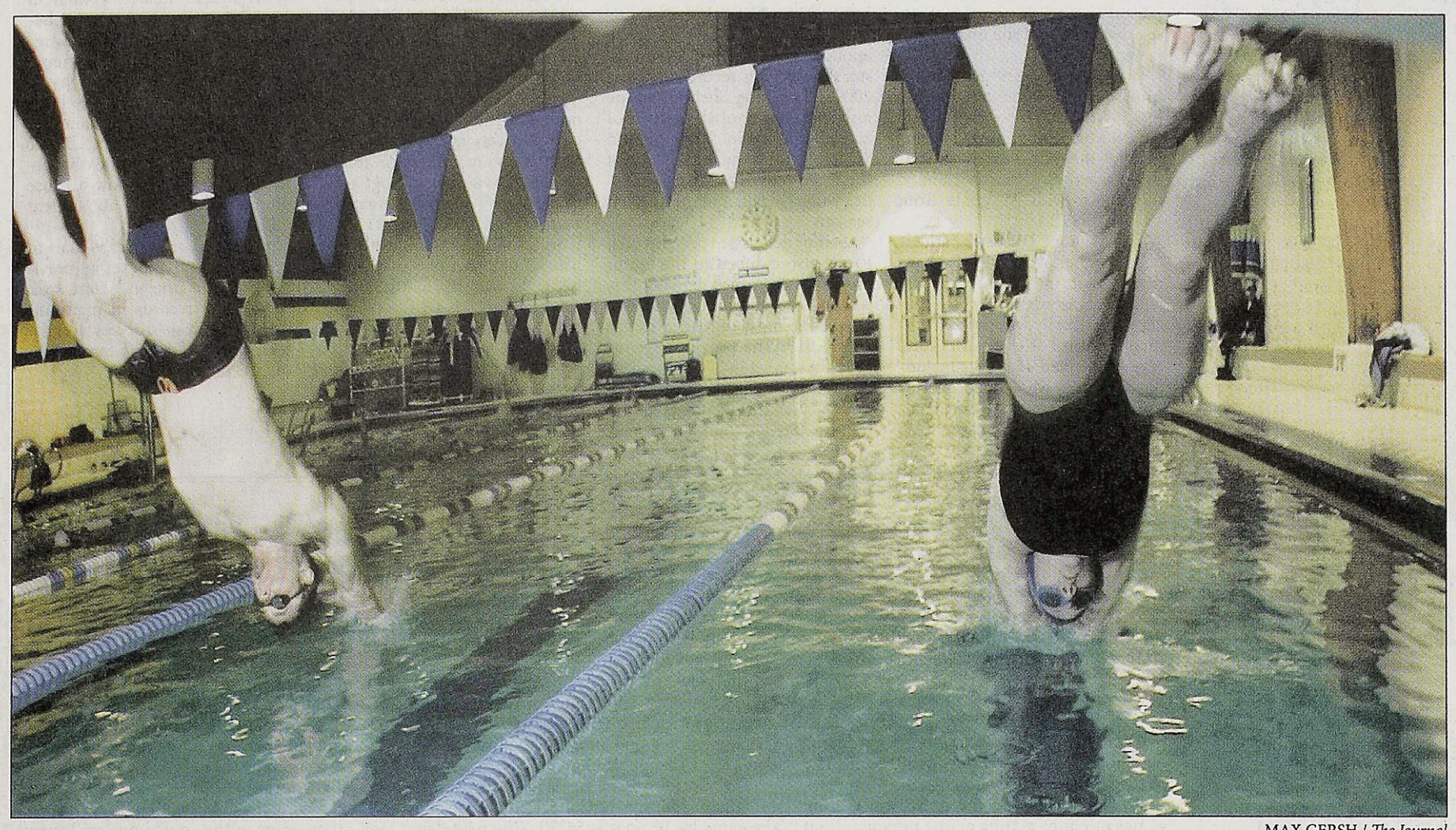
Sports
November 30 - December 6, 2006 • The Journal

2006 - 2007 swimming

Taking the plunge

New coach Lombardo hopes to guide Gorlok swimmers out of shallows and toward NCAA



MAX GERSH / *The Journal*

Adam Rafferty (left) and Leah Bend dive into the University Center pool during swim practice Nov. 21. Webster's next meet is Dec. 2 at the Augustana Invite.

For WU, Muhm's the word

BY MATT GROVER
mgrover@webujournal.com

Imagine the year is 2003. You're a swimmer in the senior year of high school with an opportunity to take your career to the collegiate level. Your decision boils down to two completely opposite candidates. In one corner, you have Webster University's fairly new swim program, struggling to find its place. In the opposite corner is Truman State University, a school that has just won its third consecutive Division II women's swimming national championship.

Sounds like a no-brainer, right?

For senior Josie Muhm, it was.

"I could've swam at Truman, but it's extremely competitive," Muhm said. "I would've been swimming probably eight hours a day and I couldn't have done that."

Truman's loss was Webster's gain. Muhm, who started swimming at age six or seven, has become the face of the Gorloks' swim program. Now a senior and the team's captain, Muhm has accomplished plenty in her first three seasons. Among her awards and honors was being named the team's Most Valuable Player for the 2005-2006 season, becoming the women's swim team's all-time point leader with 536.750 points entering her senior season and setting six school records.

Four of the records Muhm is most proud of are relay records she set with some of her teammates, including three she set last year with current sophomores Emily Pfund, Mo Randazzo and Brianna Schilling.

"For us to work so hard, we just have to know we're doing it for something," said Muhm, who also competes in butterfly stroke events. "Having records like that you, remember why you do it."

Ask Muhm to select the most memorable moment from her impressive resume and she modestly deflects the attention off of herself and onto the team. In Muhm's eyes MVP awards are nice, but team accomplishments — no matter how big or small — are better.

One of Muhm's personal highlights is a training trip the swim team made to Florida during the 2006 winter break.

See MUHM, Page 9

Swimmers shaved up, ready to go

Program ready for boost from new faces, veterans

BY MATT GROVER
mgrover@webujournal.com

In the world of sports, teams that play sub-par one season seldom turn into championship contenders the next. The Webster swim team realizes this.

After several losing seasons, the Gorlok swim team has brought in a new coach to turn the struggling program around. Lindbergh High School swimming Coach Tim Lombardo has taken over the coaching duties at Webster this season.

"Lombardo's very knowledgeable about swimming," said senior team captain Josie Muhm. "He knows a lot about technique."

Lombardo's resume includes coaching the Lindbergh men's swim team to a top 10 finish at the 2006 Missouri State Championships. However, Lombardo is quick to admit turning the sinking Gorlok swim team around will take some time and recruiting.

"We're pretty slim as far as the numbers go," Lombardo said. "We don't have a lot of kids."

Muhm agrees as she said the lack of depth on the Gorlok swim team will make it difficult to "compete with some of the bigger teams" in the Saint Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

"Our big problem is we have a lot of talent, but not a lot of swimmers," Muhm said.

Among the talent the Gorloks will depend on are sophomores Emily Pfund, Brianna Schilling and Mo Randazzo. The trio teamed with Muhm to set three Webster freestyle relay records last season.

Also returning is sophomore Adam Rafferty, a freestyle swimmer. In a dominating freshman season, Rafferty set seven Webster swim records, including the team mark for most points in a season with 389.125. His efforts earned him the Team MVP in men's swimming.

The team is also excited about incoming freshmen Leah Bend and Nick Beckmann.

"I think we can expect a lot out of them," Muhm said about the underclassmen.

Next up, the team will compete in the Augustana Invite Dec. 2 in Rock Island, Ill.

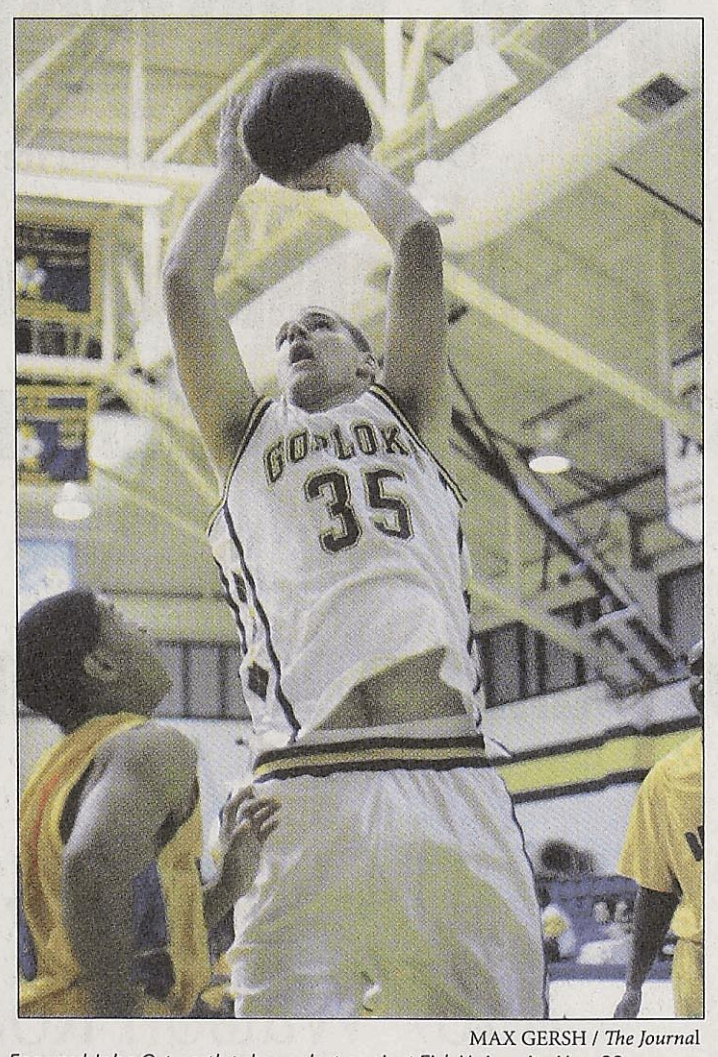
With a slim roster, the team won't emphasize wins and losses much as it will on individual improvement.

"If we can get each individual a little better, we can improve as a group," Lombardo said.

If team wants SLIAC title, coach says it's time to 'D' up

As SLIAC play nears, team, coach say playing better team defense will lead to more wins, fewer close losses

BY DAVID UMFLEET
dfleet@webujournal.com



MAX GERSH / *The Journal*

Forward John Ortwerth takes a shot against Fisk University Nov. 28.

Webster University men's basketball team opened the 2006-2007 season by ending a losing streak that has survived longer than Head Coach Chris Bunch.

The Gorloks dropped their first game against Transylvania University Nov. 17, but returned to the floor the following night to defeat Hanover College in overtime behind a 25-point performance from sophomore guard Ryan Turk. The win ended the Hanover Panthers' 10-year domination over Webster.

With a 1-1 record, Webster returned home over Thanksgiving weekend to play the Milwaukee School of Engineering Nov. 25, and Reinhardt College the following day. Webster was looking to go over the .500 mark and the possibility of a winning record outside of conference. What they found were ghosts that have been haunting the Gorloks, Bunch said.

Webster lost both games by a combined four points, allowing both teams to score more than 70 points.

Bunch said he made a team goal at the beginning of the season to not allow any team to score more than 70 points. Webster has yet to accomplish this goal.

"You can't win if you don't play defense," Bunch said. "We have enough people who can score, but if we don't play defense we are not going to have the season we would like to have."

Bunch said the Gorloks played the first half against Reinhardt the same way they played against MSOE — "very poor." Webster managed only 25 points the first 20 minutes against MSOE and just 26 points against Reinhardt.

Senior guard Scott Spinner said a lack of experience against both teams caused several mental breakdowns.

"It's tough to play against a team you've never seen before," Spinner said. "They forced us to play at their tempo, and it took a while for us to regain control."

Webster entered the second half of both games, trailing by 10 points or more. A collective team effort mixed with Turk and Spinner's hot hands, erased the lead for MSOE and Reinhardt.

"We've got plenty of guys who can store," Turk said. "The question is do we have anyone who can play defense."

Bunch said he was proud of the resilience his team has shown so far this year, but it becomes a long season if you're playing from behind in every game.

"We seem to have a habit of getting down by 10 or 15 in the first half and then having to climb a mountain to get back into the game," Bunch said. "That's fine, but when you get to the top of the mountain you're exhausted and you can't finish."

Webster was eventually able to tie both games. Play went back and forth for the final five minutes of both games until the Gorloks fell 82-79 against MSOE and 74-73 to Reinhardt.

The Gorloks had one day to put the weekend behind them and prepare for Fisk University of Nashville, Tenn. In an attempt to end a current two-game losing streak, Bunch decided to make a change in the starting lineup.

Junior forward Brad Robinson saw the floor during the tip off for the first time in his career at Webster. He responded with 14 points and 12 rebounds. Robinson combined with junior center Darin Hoggatt, who had 25 points and seven rebounds — together the duo accounted for nearly half of Webster's scoring as they went on to win 84-60.

"Me and Brad took care of business," Hoggatt said. "We really executed offensively and were able to slow them down defensively."

Bunch said after the two, early losses he needed to find a new plan of attack.

"Robinson and Hoggatt had only seen the floor at the same time a few times all season, but tonight's game called for a taller lineup," Bunch said.

The taller lineup produced a better offensive night, which allowed for more defensive error, Bunch said.

"We didn't have to play the usual style of defense," Bunch said. "They wanted to run and push the tempo, and all we had to do was sit back and let them run to us."

Robinson said the team's defensive effort was better, but not where it needs to be.

"After two losses, it's easy to come out and play with a fire that helps you get to a few more loose balls," Robinson said. "We have to get better defensively because a winning season is not only possible, it's essential."

Webster is now 2-3, and will play at Millikin University Dec. 2.

GORLOK GLANCE

Women's hoops
Dec. 6 vs. Maryville 8 p.m.
Dec. 9 vs. MacMurray 1 p.m.
Dec. 20 vs. DePauw 7 p.m.

Men's hoops
Dec. 2 @ Millikin 3 p.m.
Dec. 6 vs. Maryville 1 p.m.
Dec. 9 vs. MacMurray 3 p.m

Swimming
Dec. 2 @ Augustana Invite, Rock Island, Ill.
Dec. 6 @ Knox Invite, St. Charles, Mo.

Men's & Women's basketball games are played at Grant Gymnasium. Swimming happens where the water is.

SLIAC dominance recognized with awards, honors

BY MATT MAJIKAS
mmajikas@webujournal.com

For all the rabid Gorlok fans that may have missed it, the 2006-2007 athletic season has produced some pretty impressive individual numbers, causing the Webster record books to be altered forever.

When Gorlok fans visit the Webster University athletic site, they will notice a rarely visited section dedicated to athletic records. Over the last few seasons, Webster's beloved student athletes have put a considerable dent in the record books that will likely stand for years to come.

Four-year member of the women's volleyball team Melanie Klingelhoefer finished her career atop Webster's all-time assists list. Heading into the 2006 season Klingelhoefer already was No. 1 on the list with 3,303 assists. After adding 647 assists this season, she brought her total to 3,950, handily eclipsing the original record of 2,347 set in 2000. Klingelhoefer also played 107 games this season, bringing her total games played to 414 in four years, placing her first in career games played.

"Last season, I didn't even know that I was close to the record until they announced I broke it," Klingelhoefer said. "I am proud of what I accomplished, but I don't pay attention to my stats."

Klingelhoefer claimed Second Team All Conference honors in 2004 and First Team All Conference in 2005. She was the winner of the Leadership Award in 2005 and claimed Academic All-Conference recognition from 2004 to 2006. Klingelhoefer also was named to the 2006 SLIAC Volleyball All Tournament Team.

"I never thought about it during a game," Klingelhoefer said. " It was always about the team."

Also setting the record books ablaze in just his second season on the men's soccer team is sophomore forward and St. Louis native Kevin Fann. Last season, Fann posted 14 goals for the Gorloks and claimed First Team All Conference honors and National Soccer Coaches Association of America All Region First Team. Fann posted another 19 goals this season, leading the 2006

See AWARDS, Page 9

THE JOURNAL

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Violence over video games
New gaming console not worth the bloodshed
OPINIONS, A5

"Fuck"
Film tells history of four-letter word
LIFESTYLE, B3

"Finish Him!"
Gorlok massacres SLIAC mascots
SPORTS, B6



AUDREY BURKE / *The Journal*

Ice encases the branches of a tree near the intersection of Edgar Road and Garden Avenue Dec. 1.

Winter whips Webster

BY MALLORY SKINNER
mskinner@webujournal.com

Webster University canceled classes Dec. 1 following a snowstorm that left hundreds of thousands of St. Louis residents without electricity. In anticipation of worsening road conditions, all classes were released at 3 p.m. Nov. 30.

According to Barbara Stewart, director of the academic resource center, Dec. 1 was the first time in more than 15 years the university cancelled a full day of classes for weather.

Holland Saltsman, managing director of the Webster Village Apartments, said Webster initially planned to close school early Nov. 30 and reopen at 10 a.m. Dec. 1. Due to ice and accumulated snow, however, Webster remained closed.

Despite maintaining power throughout the snowstorm, much of the campus lost electricity for nearly two hours around noon Dec. 2.

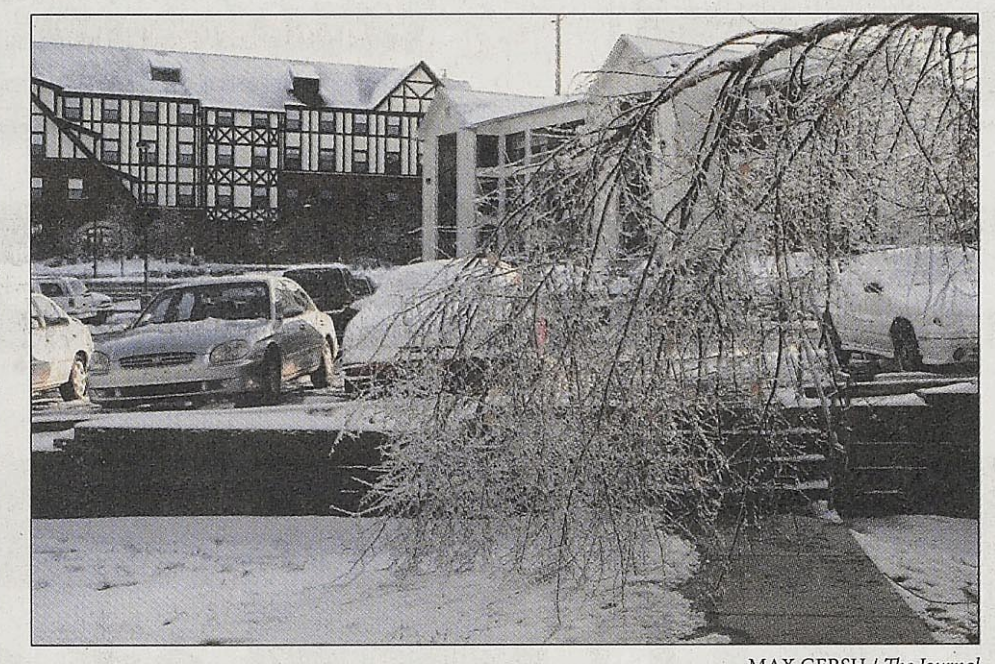
Senior biology major and campus resident Megan Mayer said she welcomed the school cancellation as an opportunity to sleep in, but felt inconvenienced by Saturday's power outage.

"I was in the middle of online research when the electricity went off," Mayer said. "My laptop continued to operate on battery power, but the Internet was down for an hour and a half."

Mayer said she and her roommate called other residents, hoping to find out when the power might be restored.

"We knew a lot of people were without power after the storm," Mayer said. "We weren't sure how quickly (electric company) Ameren would be able to get to us."

Building six resident assistant Bailey Barrett visited each of her residents, explaining the power would be out for an indefinite amount of time. She advised them to store perishables in the outside cold if the power remained off for long.



MAX GERSH / *The Journal*

Ice drags down a tree behind the Webster Village Apartments Dec. 1.

Barrett said the electric gate used to keep unauthorized vehicles from entering the WVA parking lot also lost power.

"People were sitting in their cars waiting for the gate to open," Barrett said. "It didn't occur to them that the gate wouldn't work because the electricity was out."

Barrett and Larry Morris, building two's RA, placed orange traffic cones in front of the gate and redirected cars trying to exit the lot.

Barrett said buildings one, three, five and six were among the buildings that lost power. Webster Hall, the Loretto-Hilton Center, Sverdrup building, University Center, WVA Clubhouse and Emerson Library were also without electricity. East and West residence halls did not lose electricity and building four residents lost cable temporarily.

With school back in session, some students are scrambling to make up the assignments missed Friday. Sophomore international relations major Lauren Huffman said her teacher e-mailed the class their assignments.

James Moon, junior biology major, said in order to make up for the snow day, one of his teachers added an hour to both of his remaining Friday classes.

Faculty letter to condemn WHINSEC transfer program

Professors urge administration to break ties with "school for assassins"

BY ANDY DIERKER
adierker@webujournal.com

News of Webster's agreement with the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation drew criticism last week from the Sisters of Loretto, the religious organization that founded Webster University. Now, several faculty members have joined the sisters in condemning a program that allows students to transfer credit from the controversial training facility to be put toward a Webster degree.

In an e-mail sent Dec. 5 to faculty on a campus mailing list, the authors are seeking signatures for a letter they intend to send to Webster's administration — calling for the university to sever its ties with WHINSEC.

"WHINSEC (has) earned a reputation as a 'school for assassins,'" the letter says. "Many of its graduates have compiled a notorious record for human rights abuses. Several Latin American countries have discontinued their association with the school. We would urge that Webster honor the tradition of the Sisters of Loretto and do the same."

At press time 11 professors — Bill Barrett, Gary Gottlieb, Dan Hellinger, Jeff Hughes, Brad Loudenback, Andrea Rothbart, Anna Barbara Sakurai, Art Sandler, Art Silverblatt, Gerry Tierney and John Watson — all signed the letter.

Art Silverblatt, a professor in the School of Communications, said he signed the letter because he believes WHINSEC's reputation as a training ground for human rights abusers conflicts with Webster's values.

"Webster has a long tradition of working for peace," Silverblatt said. "(Things) like Webster Works Worldwide are a statement about our belief in the value of building communities, not tearing them down. The discovery of this relationship between the university and WHINSEC is really antithetical to that tradition."

Silverblatt said he thinks the administration probably didn't know about the accusations against WHINSEC when they made the agreement last year.

"I don't think anyone was doing this to be malicious," Silverblatt said. "The hope is, once people see what this institution has done in regards to producing people who have done some dreadful things — like the violation of human rights — the university will take another serious look and reassess the value of offering this."

Gerry Tierney, a professor in the department of behavioral and social sciences, was another signatory of the letter. Tierney drew a distinction between Webster's relationship with WHINSEC and the agreement Webster has with other military campuses.

"I have no problem with Webster's agreements with the military at all," Tierney said. "However, an agreement with the (former) School of the Americas is different — they have a long history of human rights abuses. They've changed their name, but I'm not sure their activities have."

Various members of the university's administration could not be reached for comment as of press time.

WHAT IS WHINSEC?

The Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation — formerly known as the School of the Americas — is an institute that trains Latin American military officials, many of whom in the past have been accused of human rights violations, such as massacres on villages and coup attempts.

Webster has a cooperative degree program known as the Command and General Staff College (CGSC). Since March 2005, WHINSEC graduates of CGSC can transfer up to 12 credit hours of master's level courses to any Webster campus.

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OUTSIDE

THURSDAY
Partly Cloudy
17/25

FRIDAY
Mostly Sunny
28/34

SATURDAY
Partly Cloudy
29/45

Florida students sue campus bookstore chain

BY KELLEY ATHERTON
katherton@webujournal.com

Two students from Daytona Beach Community College have sued Follett Higher Education Group, the collegiate-bookstore chain that is the vendor for Webster's bookstore. The suit claims Follett has engaged in unfair and illegal pricing practices.

The students accuse Follett of overcharging students on used books and underpaying when buying books back. The two students from the Florida college are seeking $5 million in damages.

The five-count complaint against Follett includes a breach of contract between the company and the college. They also claim the company is in violation of the Florida Deceptive and Unfair Trade Practices Act and civil conspiracy, according to the *Orlando Sentinel*.

Plaintiffs Thomas Rebman and Danny Brandner claim their Follett-owned college bookstore rounded up prices of used books to the next 25-cent increment. In addition, the store paid them less than 50 percent of the new retail price for books they sold back as required by the contract between Follett and the college.

A representative from Follett did not respond to voicemail messages. Dan Hitchell, Webster associate vice president for resource planning and budget, said his contact through Follett said the suit "doesn't have merit and probably won't go forward."

"Follett and DBCC have audited their procedures and are complicit with their contract," Hitchell said.

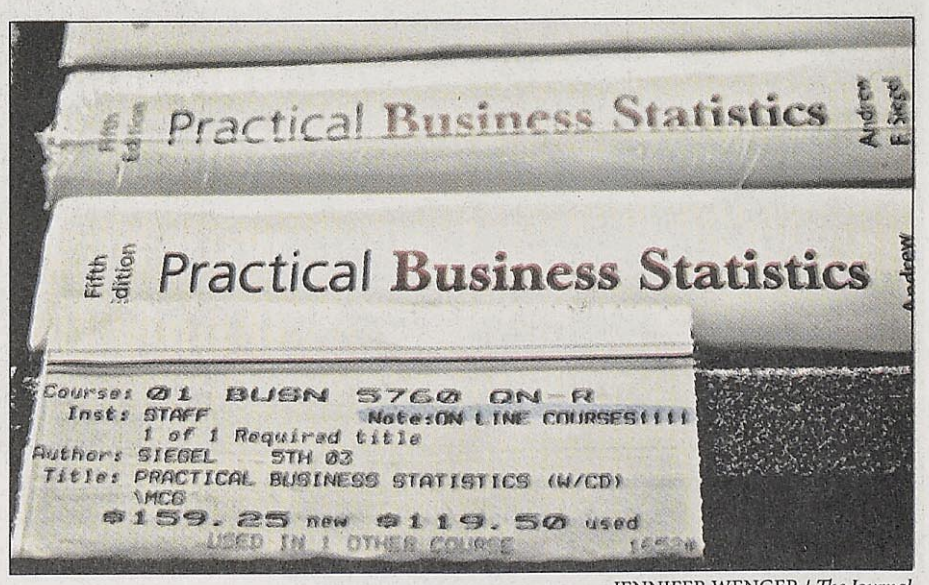
Larry Baden, Webster assistant professor of media law, said the case could be difficult to win because of the small 25-cent price difference for books.

"I think (the plaintiffs) also made a mistake focusing on the small, incremental changes in price and the buy-back practices," Baden said. "The one area of the suit that, seems to me, has the greatest opportunity to prevail would be the issue of varying pricing practices (agreements) at different schools. This could violate a number of fair practices (equity) laws."

Jeff Smithson, store manager for Webster's bookstore, said he was not familiar enough with the lawsuit to comment, but said bookstore prices are fair. However, every year students complain about how expensive books are.

"A percentage of students complain about prices," Smithson said.

In Webster's contract with Follett there only is one agreement on book prices or buy-back policies, Hitchell said.



JENNIFER WENGER / *The Journal*

The Webster University bookstore is a vendor for the Follett Higher Education Group. Follett is being sued by students in Florida for alleged illegal pricing practices.

Follett establishes how much the bookstore charges for books and how much they buy books back for. In the contract, Follett states they will only price books at a certain percentage over what Follett pays the publisher for the book.

"There are pricing guidelines based on (Follett's) costs from the publisher," Hitchell said. "They will not charge over (a certain) percentage of the book price."

The marketplace for textbooks keeps

See BOOKSTORE, Page A2

Bookstore: GAO report shows book prices have risen steadily for two decades

FROM PAGE A1

prices in line with competition like *http://www.amazon.com* and *http://www.half.ebay.com*, Hitchell said. He said Webster continues to use Follett as their bookstore vendor because they are the most efficient company for providing books.

"They are a large, well-run company," Hitchell said. "They have the resources (with publishers) to get the best deals on textbooks for students."

Arthur Stewart, a senior history major, said last year he tried to sell back one of his textbooks to the bookstore and they offered him a fraction of what he paid for it.

"The idea that you buy a book for $85 and they buy it back for a $1.50," Stewart said. "They probably resold it for $40 to $50. I gave $83.50 to the university, plus the textbook."

Melissa Rodriguez, a senior public relations major, said she had a similar situation this semester with a $150 marketing book that had never been used for the class before.

Rodriguez said when she tried to sell the book back to the bookstore after her Fall I class a cashier told her they were overstocked with the book. The cashier told her to come back later in the semester.

"I went back two weeks and they told me there was a new edition, and they wouldn't buy it back," Rodriguez said. "There's also a problem with teacher's getting new editions every semester. Not a lot has changed in a semester."

The Government Accountability Office, an independent, non-partisan agency that investigates how the federal government spends tax dollars, issued a report on college book prices in July 2005.

The report states college textbook prices "have risen at double the rate of inflation for the last two decades." Textbook prices have risen an average of 6 percent each year since 1987.

The National Association of College Stores found that during the 2004-2005 academic year college textbooks and course materials accounted for more than $6.5 billion in sales for colleges and bookstore companies.

New books accumulated more than $4.4 billion and used books generated $1.9 billion. Used textbooks are typically priced at 75 percent of the retail value of the new book.

According to Follett's Web site, the corporation generates more than $2 billion in sales annually through more than 700 college bookstores. They also claim in 2003 to have saved students more than $300 million by selling used textbooks and then buying them back at the end of the semester.

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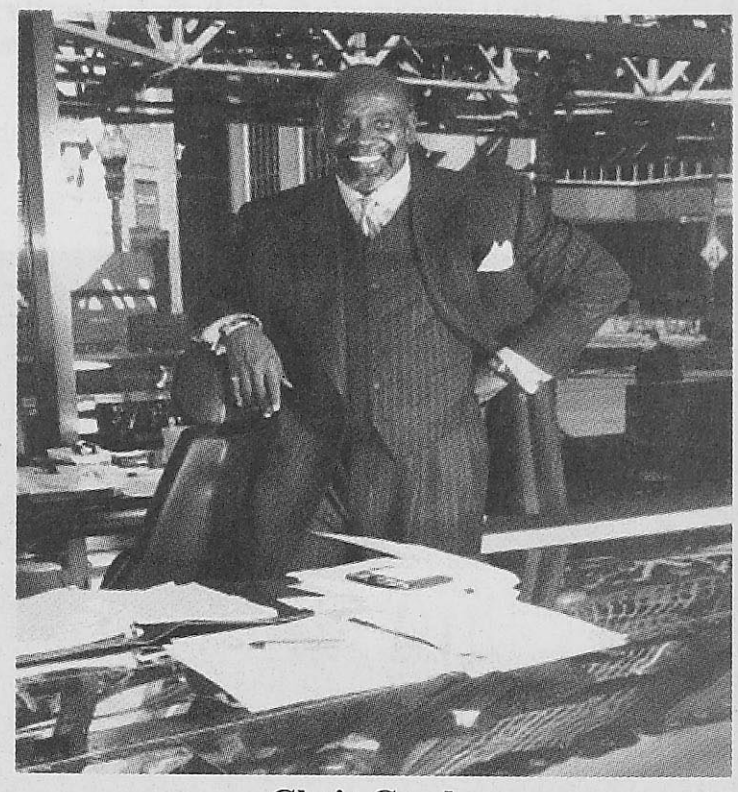

Chris Gardner

A Rags-to-Riches Story: From Homelessness to Wall Street

Monday January 29, 2007

7:00 pm

Gardner's first book, The Pursuit of Happyness, is an account of his life story and was released in June 2006. Columbia Pictures has released a feature film based on Gardner's rags-to-riches tale starring Will Smith as Gardner.

Listen as Chris Gardner recounts the story of how a red Ferrari became the turning point of his career, and ultimately his life. Gardner takes you from his days in the military to the day he decided he would pursue his career dream and become a stockbroker. As a father first, and businessman second, his story is one of overcoming obstacles, facing the daunting task of balancing life responsibilities, and ultimately succeeding.

Sponored by the Multicultural Center and International Student Affairs and Campus Activities

If you have any questions, please contact us at campusactivities@webster.edu or x7708.

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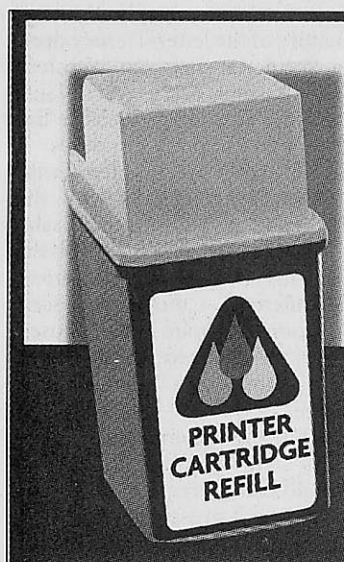

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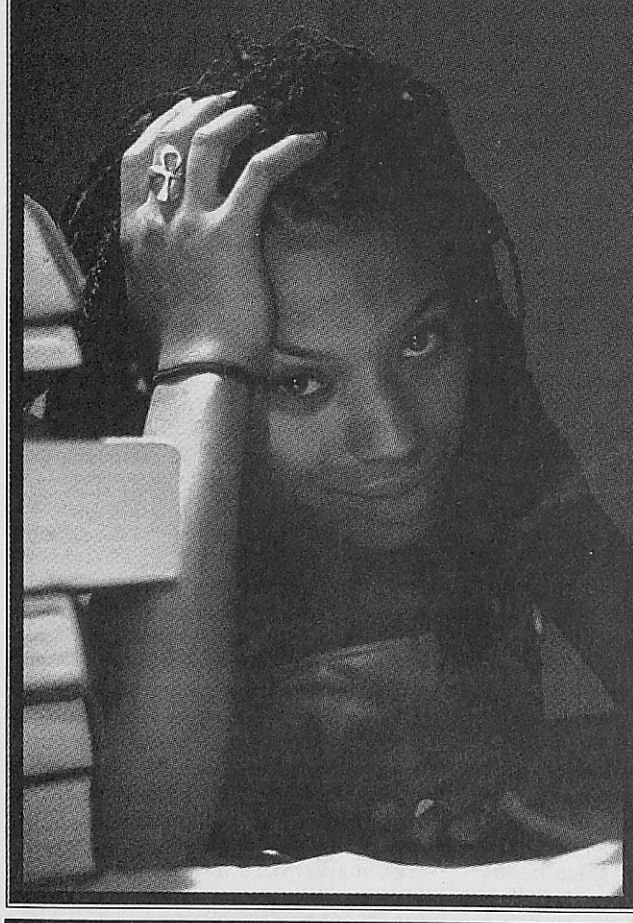

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NEWS BRIEFS

First Fridays rescheduled Dec. 8

Due to school closing Dec. 1, First Friday's has been rescheduled for 6 p.m. Dec. 8 in Marletto's Marketplace.

Free massages offered finals week

Campus Activites sponsors a relaxation event for students from 2 to 5 p.m. Dec. 12 in the University Center Presentation Room. A sign-up sheet is available at the UC Front Desk.

Fall II award nominations due

Nominations for the Dean's Award for Service are due by Dec. 8 and should be turned into the Dean of Students office in the University Center. Please call ext. 6980 or e-mail *hoeftl@webster.edu* for more information.

Nominations for the Outstanding Student Employee Award are due by Dec. 8 and should be submitted to Suzanne Jones, assistant directior of career services. For more information, call ext. 7641 of e-mail *sjones@webster.edu*.

Freshman writing awards

Freshman students may submit papers written for classes during the fall semester to the Writing Center to be considered for the freshman writing awards. For an entry form and more information, visit *http://www.webster.edu/acadaffairs.asp/wc/fwa.pdf*.

Surfacing 2007 entries

Students can now submit plays for the April 2007 playwright festival. Submissions are due Jan. 19, 2007. Submission guidelines are:

- Plays must be 15 pages or less.
- Students may submit more than one script.
- All Webster students are eligible.
- Script must include a cover sheet with name of script, student name and contact informa tion.
- Submissions can be sent or dropped off at the front desk of the Pearson House in care of Christine Keller. For more information, e-mail *surfacing2007@gmail.com*.

Graduation Celebration

The faculty and staff of the School of Communications nvite December graduates to a Graduation Celebration.

The event will be held at 4 p.m. Dec. 12 at the Alumni House at 534 Garden Ave. R.S.V.P. to Susan Napoleon at ext. 7154 or *susannapoleon19@webster.edu*.

MISDEMEANORS AND MISHAPS

Nov. 27, 7:41 p.m.: A smoke machine from a Stage III rehearsal set off a fire alarm in Webster Hall.

Nov. 27, 9:51 p.m.: Prescription medications were taken from a dorm room in East Hall.

Nov. 29, 1 a.m.: A student became ill in West Hall.

Dec. 1, 9:43 a.m.: A fire alarm sounded in Maria Hall.

Dec. 2, 4:25 p.m.: There was a water leak in East Hall.

Dec. 2, 9:51 p.m.: A fire alarm sounded in East Hall.

Dec. 3, 1:17 a.m.: A fire alarm sounded in West Hall.

Dec. 3, 1:36 p.m.: A man slipped on ice at the entrance to the Loretto-Hilton Center.

Dec. 3, 4:41 p.m.: A fire alarm sounded in East Hall.

Dec. 3, 4:53 p.m.: A student fell on ice at the entrance to the Loretto-Hilton Center.

Dec. 3, 4:53 p.m.: A fire alarm sounded in the Webster Village Apartments.

Source: Public Safety crime log

SGA wraps up semester

BY ALEXANDRA SMITH
asmith@webujournal.com

Students, watch your mail — your Higher One refund card should be arriving sometime within the next two weeks, and you don't want to throw it away.

Associate Vice President of Finance Vickie Frederick attended the Dec. 5 Student Government Association meeting to answer questions relating to the Higher One Refund Program. She said students should be on the lookout for their refund cards, as a replacement for a lost or stolen card will cost $20.

Frederick said Higher One is currently in the process of sending refund cards to about 20,000 students. At the SGA meeting, she said Higher One has reported that only 9,000 remain. About 187 students have already activated their accounts.

When students activate their Higher One cards, they have three options on how they want to receive their refund: they can establish an account with Higher One, have the money direct deposited into their personal bank account or request that the refund be sent to them in the form of a paper check.

"The major difference in the options is the speed that students will have the money available to them," Frederick said.

Frederick said she checked references with other universities that use the Higher One Program. The biggest issue universities have faced is students unknowingly throwing the card away. Frederick said even if students choose not to activate the Higher One account they should keep the card, as it is printed with their log-on information and password.

Students can logon to *http://www.websterdebitcard.com* to activate their card, check what address their card was sent to and read information about Higher One banking and the card benefits.

After questions regarding the new refund program were answered, SGA officers spent the remainder of the meeting making changes that will impact the spring 2007 semester. First, revisions were passed on a number of budget by-laws. President Dee Goines said the changes will help clear up the confusion over funding and budgets that was prevalent this semester. He said by-law changes should result in better communication between student organizations and SGA.

In addition, Vice President Kendra Davis proposed Student Grant Fund by-law changes to make the rules regarding money acquired from the fund more specific. Davis said in reviewing receipts from the semester, she found that student organizations were often spending money on items such as lattes from Starbuck's, room service at hotels and excessive tips.

"I don't want this to get out of control next semester, and it has been happening more frequently," Davis said.

The by-law changes aim to more clearly define what is considered a meal and states that when using Student Grant Fund money, students should not tip more than 18 percent. They also clearly state coffee and ice cream are not considered meals, so should not be paid for with money allocated to groups from the fund.

At the end of the meeting, SGA officers held internal elections to fill three open positions. Former Arts and Sciences Senator Mac Ingram will serve as comptroller next semester, Former Senator-At-Large Ben Berges will fill the open arts and sciences senator position and freshman and SGA newcomer Lauren Meyer will serve as business and technology senator.

A graduate senator position remains unfilled. Goines said he plans on spreading the word in graduate classes next semester in hopes of filling the position and having a full executive board.

With the start of the spring semester, SGA will reassemble to its intended state. President Gabe Bullard will return from an internship at "Late Night with Conan O'Brien," sending Goines back into the vice president position and Davis into her original education senator position.

Goines said the semester was a success and a positive experience.

"I just want to thank the students for having faith in SGA and sticking with us this semester despite communication problems," Goines said. "Next semester, we're going to top what we did this semester."

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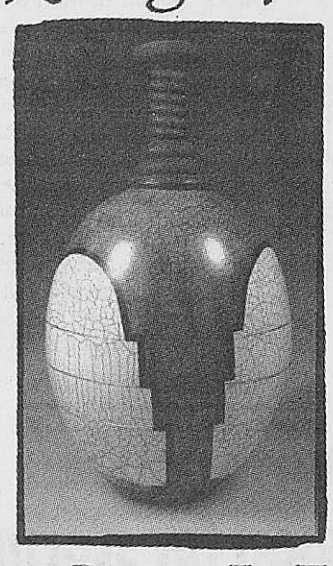
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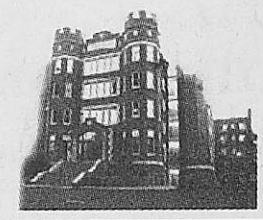

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EDITORIALS

Graduates get a wham, bam, thank you ma'am

Graduation is special to everyone. It doesn't matter if you've been working on your degree for four years or six years. Graduation is a pivotal moment. Celebration is definitely in order once you've struggled through long nights writing papers, attending classes all week and juggling a personal life on top of it all. However, graduation, nor anything resembling it, is offered to students who complete their degrees in December at Webster.

This may be perfectly fine for December graduates who opt to grace the graduation stage for their respective schools in May, but it leaves the rest of the students high and dry. Unless a student's respective school offers some sort of graduation send-off, they are unlikely to feel any sort of excitement about the finality of their success.

For years, Webster University graduation ceremonies were held on the main campus. However, the move of commencement ceremonies to the Edward Jones Dome has probably made it unlikely that students will be graduating on campus again anytime soon. It is also unlikely that smaller ceremonies will be held on campus for off-season graduates. However, Webster could change that.

Receiving a diploma in the mail doesn't offer the same zeal as walking across the stage, cap and gown clad. Even though the paper handed out during commencement ceremonies isn't real, students get the opportunity to have their family and friends see them officiate their status as university graduates. Even more important, the whole experience is rewarding and just feels good.

If you are obtaining your second or third degree, you may not care as much for the pomp and circumstance. However, Webster could be doing a lot more to acknowledge December and July graduates. No one in their right mind would expect the university to shell out money every year to rent the Edward Jones Dome multiple times, but May graduates are honored by graduation festivities and an extravagant welcome by the Alumni Association. None of that is available to December graduates.

Some students may not be able to come back after July or December for the May festivities. Besides, even if they are, much of the excitement usually wears off in the five months between the actual completion of the degree and the opportunity to walk across the stage.

Where's the fun in that? Students — especially undergraduates — come to campus not knowing what to expect. Most students spend more time on Webster University's campus than they do anywhere else. They devote a lot of their time, money and energy to their educational experience. Sadly, when it comes down to it — some students would probably be happier with a cupcake and a cheap glass of champagne than nothing at all.

Don't wait until you're snowed in to plan for storm

Despite warnings from local meteorologists and the slew of states already effected by the winter storm, Webster University was still unprepared for the blistery mix of sleet and snow that blew in Nov. 30.

While everyone was informed of the ice storm heading for St. Louis and surrounding areas, few seemed to care — unless they were buying groceries. Webster was no different, waiting until vehicles and roads were covered with layers of ice before closing school at 3 p.m. Nov. 30. There was no salt sprinkled on Webster parking lots to melt the pelting ice as it hit the ground.

Instead, students, faculty and staff were left to fend for themselves as they slipped and slid on sidewalks on the way to their vehicles. Days later, the lots are still slippery and some parking spaces are covered with sheets of ice. Unsuspecting parking lot patrons will be the ones who suffer as they fall, attempting to get into their vehicles.

Webster folk aside, many St. Louisans were still rushing to gas stations and super markets just hours before the storm hit. Why does everyone need to buy bread, milk and eggs whenever a snow storm is expected to hit? Don't people keep cooking staples in their kitchen cupboards?

And yet again, employees from electric powerhouse Ameren UE are scrambling to repair power lines damaged by the mini blizzard. Just like July 2006, some residents are powerless — with nothing they can do about it. It seems every time the forecast predicts rain, heat, snow or any other change in weather St. Louisans lose power. Perhaps Ameren should plan ahead the next time rain is on the radar.

Power outages and snow aside, the question that plagues many is why people wait until Jack Frost is knocking on their door before they start preparing for the worst. Plan ahead: make sure your car has gas, flashlights and candles on hand, and the ones you love are accounted for.

But please, whatever you do, always remember to continually stock your kitchen pantries. You never know when you're going to need it.

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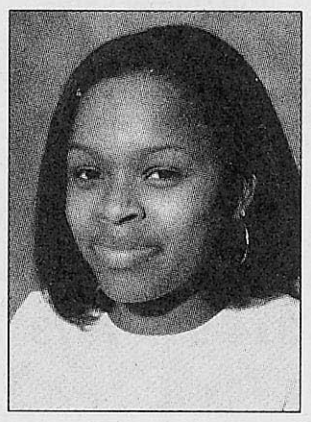
COMMENTARY

One last word: No matter what they tell you, get the scoop



Stephanie Godwin-Chu

The answer to one question determines credibility: Do you scare people? For The Journal, *the answer is a definite yes.*

This opinion piece marks the end of an era for me. Soon, I will no longer be a college student, but someone ready for the "real world" and headed for bigger things. Unlike those before me, I'm not going to spend my last words in *The Journal* on personal accomplishments. I am, however, choosing to take this time to offer a boost to the students who will still be here after I graduate.

The Journal has come a long way since I was a freshman. It's still a work in progress, but a better newspaper for its struggles and lessons learned. I've moved up through the ranks from reporter, to copy editor, to news editor and now managing editor. I've experienced the good and bad of college newspaper reporting, and the most important thing I learned is that no "Best in State" title can determine how good a newspaper is.

The answer to one question determines credibility: Do you scare people? For *The Journal*, the answer is a definite yes. *The Journal* has made department secretaries all over campus cower in the corners of their offices at the sight of *The Journal* on the caller ID. *The Journal* has caused the university president to conveniently be out of the country and unavailable for comment on several occasions, despite his trusty international cell phone. Reporters who choose to make surprise visits in person are often met by individuals fumbling various reading materials at their desks in an effort to be prepared for anything and everything they could possibly be confronted with.

The staff has come far from the days when faculty and staff were regarded as unapproachable deities. I congratulate reporters for not accepting "no comment" or "I can't discuss that" as the final word. On the heels of breaking news from *The Journal*, various staff and faculty have feared for their jobs, attempted to retract damning statements and gone above and beyond to let the whole world know just how angry they are over what we've written. These are the marks of effective reporting.

I doubt I would have learned as much about journalism as I have at Webster than at any other school. Nowhere else can a student be known by the dean of students on a first-name basis and, at the same time, have no idea who Richard Meyers is. Nowhere else will you see professors griping about university policy over mass e-mail, while refusing to express discontent out loud.

Webster students, especially journalism students, have no reason to fear the wrath that may come down from the offices within the Loretto Hall "Tower of Power." The bigwigs only have as much power over your determination and creativity as you allow them. So, write your articles. Dig out the truth and keep on digging until you strike gold, because if we don't continue to do the dirty work, no one else will.

As I leave Webster, I take with me a better understanding of the power of public relations, a gift for reading in between the lines and a very thick skin. I've received a harassing phone call from Webster University public relations staff, had nasty letters to the editor submitted about what I've written and had to take the blame for careless mistakes made along the way — some my own and some not. However, that's what journalism entails at Webster University. It has definitely been four entertaining years.

Stephanie Godwin-Chu, a senior journalism major, is the managing editor for The Journal

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Journal must have a gripe with chicken

Excuse me for intruding, but I feel you must know your talents are being wasted here at Webster. Please consider changing to a political career because your skills in writing empty smear campaigns are second to none.

After reading the editorial on World of Wings in the University Center, I too felt sick to my stomach after having to digest that much bull. I'm sorry that you, *GASP*, actually had to wait in line for food like an average person, but that is hardly a good enough reason to get so up tight. First of all, I've eaten and enjoyed WOW since it's opening this year with no problems to my physical state. If you don't like the food, stay out of the UC.

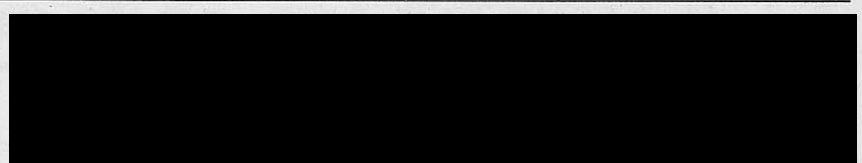
As for that rant about being late to class while you wait for the chicken to cook, I don't know where to even start. Perhaps you have eaten a little too much McDonald's and Burger King and have forgotten that real food takes time to cook and you're not the only one who eats on campus. I'm sorry, your highness, if your chicken wasn't waiting on a silver tray.

Also, as for the standing issue you brought up, there's this invention called a chair. In fact, Webster has invested highly into this mysterious technology and has made it free to use by the public. You can try this out for yourself while you wait to eat. Simply walk, oh, three steps in any direction.

Do you want to talk about wait times? Do you want to talk about food quality? Have you been to Marletto's at all? Ordering anything from the Sizzle it a guaranteed ten-minute wait and God help anyone who visits in between noon and one. There is a line for everything: trays, food, drinks, the cashier. Everything. Even if you do get your food and your seat by the end of the day, there's only a 50 percent chance that what's on your plastic plate next to your unwashed silverware is edible.

Basically, I don't know what's worse in this editorial: the lame Michael Jackson jokes or the complete lack of logic. I guess you just don't like chicken. Perhaps you'll enjoy eating crow a little bit more.

Kyle Vincent,
Sophomore,
Video



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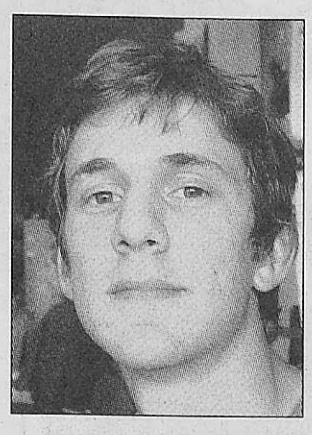
COMMENTARY

Iraq violence cycles out of control on both sides



Kevin Huelsmann

How can members of the U.S. military forces carry out such heinous acts and still act bewildered when Iraqis want U.S. troops out of their country?

Last week, a fourth Marine pleaded guilty to charges of aggravated assault and conspiracy to obstruct justice in connection with the killing of an unarmed Iraqi civilian in April 2006. The Marine, Lance Cpl. Jerry E. Shumate, Jr. was originally facing charges of murder, kidnapping, conspiracy, larceny, assault and housebreaking, according to his lawyer, Steve Immel. Shumate was able to sidestep the original charges by promising to testify in further proceedings against the remaining Marines involved in the incident. There were seven Marines and a Navy Corpsman charged.

Two of the Marines and the Navy Corpsman already testified the group had planned to kidnap and kill a suspected insurgent from Hamdaniya and, when they were unable to locate the man, went into a neighboring house and kidnapped 52-year-old civilian Hashim Ibrahim Awad instead.

The eight men allegedly took Awad from his house, shot him, and then placed a rifle and a shovel by his body to make it look like he was an insurgent planting a roadside bomb, according to reports by BBC News and NPR.

After something like this, some people wonder why there is resistance to U.S. forces. How can members of the U.S. military carry out such heinous acts and still act bewildered when Iraqis want U.S. troops out of their country?

If I were them, I would want troops out of my country, too. I don't think that we, in the United States, understand what it's like to have an occupying force in our country. I can't imagine what kind of attacks would be launched against an invading force in the name of national pride. And we would feel that we had every right, because it is our country, our land, our pride.

Consider if Iraqi troops were deployed to the United States to overthrow President George W. Bush because they thought he was committing crimes against humanity or producing destructive weapons. Then think about what would happen if some of those troops killed an unarmed, U.S. civilian and made it look like he was attacking them.

Hamdaniya isn't even an isolated incident either. There have been investigations and inquiries in killings of Iraqis in Haditha, Ishaqi, Tikrit and Mahmudiya, according to BBC News. In Haditha, investigators are looking at an incident that happened November 2005 when a group of U.S. Marines allegedly shot 24 civilians, including seven women and three children, according to BBC News.

In Ishaqi, there was a military inquiry into the killing of 11 civilians. The inquiry found no wrongdoing by U.S. troops, but Iraqi police filed a report accusing the military of rounding up civilians and shooting them. In Tikrit, four soldiers are under investigation for the shooting of three Iraqi prisoners.

In Mahmudiya a criminal investigation was started regarding the killing of an Iraqi family of four. The family included a 14-year-old girl who was allegedly raped. One soldier involved in Mahmudiya case pleaded guilty to rape and murder Nov. 15 in an effort to avoid the death penalty.

We cannot let these incidents be swept under the rug by way of hearings and trials the media and, therefore, public will lose interest in. I understand the incident at Hamdaniya is not indicative of all U.S. forces in Iraq, or anywhere for that matter, and I'm certainly not condoning attacks against the United States. I'm merely saying we should all take a second and think about why attacks are happening and why there is such an anti-U.S. sentiment in Iraq.

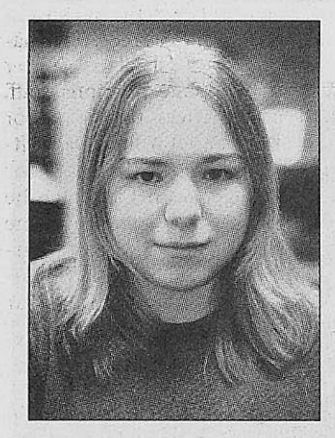
The heinous action of a few U.S. troops isn't the only factor fueling the fire, though. The whole situation is entirely too complex to pinpoint one factor behind all of the problems between the United States and Iraq. Whether the Iraqi quagmire is turning into a civil war or merely experiencing troubles with secretarian violence, if the United States is going to be there, incidents such as these must end if we ever want a chance to have serious diplomatic relations with the Iraqis.

Kevin Huelsmann, a junior journalism major, is a staff writer for The Journal.

COMMENTARY

New Playstation console brings out worst in people

Holiday shopping can be dangerous when PS3s are involved



Rachel Lebo

When a 24-hour Wal-mart in Palmdale, Calif., closes because a group of 100 people are rioting, that's a sign that perhaps some Americans have their priorities mixed up.

Sega Genesis was my first video game console. Christmas 1991 was pretty exciting; I spent the afternoon playing one of the first video games I ever owned, Sonic the Hedgehog. Over the years I've upgraded from console to console and have kept up with the video game industry. Sure, I can be considered a gamer, but not a very serious one. So, when I read about all of the hysteria and crimes the Playstation 3 brought about on its release day, I was somewhat amused.

Sony launched the Playstation 3 Nov. 17, 2006, and its development was announced May 16, 2005. Many fans of the Sony consoles looked forward to the day it would be launched, and a few of those fans got their hands on a PS3.

Stores across America received a small number of PS3s to sell — only 400,000 PS3s were allotted for the United States. Sony produced a grand total of 2 million systems worldwide. Why does this number matter? Sony sold a total of 110 million Playstation 2s since its release date of Oct. 26, 2000.

Much like that day in 2000, dedicated consumers waited outside stores for hours to be one of the first to get the PS3 consoles. The lucky people bought their prize and went home without incident. But others, like Michael Penkala, 21, of Webster, Mass., were not so lucky. While waiting in line for a PS3 outside a Wal-mart in Putnam, Conn., two men approached the group of 20 people he was standing with and attempted to rob them.

Penkala confronted one of the robbers, and suffered a shotgun wound to the chest and shoulder. The two robbers fled, and Penkala was taken to the hospital for the nonfatal injuries.

When Penkala does recover fully from his injury and gets a PS3, will this be a story he wants to share? I think Sony should give the man a PS3 for what happened, but if that happens, people might take advantage of Sony's generosity and start injuring themselves, claiming it as a PS3-related accident. It would be the workman's compensation of the video game world.

People illegally obtaining their PS3s, such as the robbers, aren't getting away with their crimes all of the time. In Indiana, two Walmart customers loading their new PS3s in their car were approached by two teenagers who demanded the game systems be handed over to them.

A fight broke out and one teen ran away. The other was stabbed and placed in the hospital in critical condition. Perhaps the teenagers should have chosen their victims more carefully – or stayed home and played their sorely outdated PS2s.

In Massachusetts, a shopper was beaten and robbed of his PS3 by five men just minutes after he purchased it. If that wasn't bad enough, while getting in the getaway car, one of the robbers pushed one of their own from the car — a 17-year-old. While the teen rolled away, was he cursing the fact that he wouldn't get a chance to play the new system or was he concerned he might get arrested? I hope, for his sake, it's the latter.

Should the release of a video game system be handled with this much drama? It pains me to say this, but video games are not that important. If told I could be successful in anything I wanted to do for the rest of my life – but I would have to shun all video game consoles and games for it to happen — I would make that sacrifice.

When a 24-hour Wal-mart in Palmdale, Calif., closes because a group of 100 people are rioting, that's a sign that perhaps some Americans have their priorities mixed up.

When Isaiah Triforce Johnson legally changed his name to include "Triforce" so he could reference the "Legend of Zelda" game series, I became a little concerned about his mental health. Johnson waited in line for many hours in front of the Toys R' Us in Times Square to buy the first Nintendo Wii in America. He shook hands with President and Chief Operating Officer of Nintendo of America Reggie Fils-Aime.

The Nintendo Wii, also released with the PS3, had a calmer reception. However, consumers did wait in line for hours. A friend of mine, who showed up at a store before its opening to get a Wii said, people were passing out cupcakes with icing mushrooms on them, a reference to the Super Mario series.

The difference between getting robbed and getting a cupcake … well, I would rather be in line for a Wii if I had the knowledge I would get delicious baked treats instead of a shotgun shell to the chest.

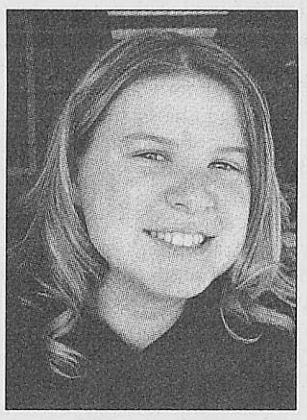
The hysteria for new game systems, I understand. I was tempted to wait in a line for a Nintendo Wii myself, but the $250 price tag didn't agree with my checking account, neither did being cold or loitering in front of a store seem like something I wanted to do.

Whenever the Playstation 4 comes out or Nintendo releases a new system, I hope that stores, police and, most of all, the people buying the game systems have learned from what happened this November. Amusing as it was to learn video game consoles were causing crimes, it's scary to think a box with some wires, metal and a couple computer chips can cause such violence.

Rachel Lebo, a junior journalism major, is a staff writer for The Journal.

GUEST COMMENTARY

The Journal gets bad rep for not sugar-coating news



Elizabeth Eisele

If your event sucks, The Journal *has the right as the press to say your event sucks.*

The press is the only business protected by the U.S. Constitution. The First Amendment allows journalists the right to report information to the public. There are "three estates in Parliament; but in the Reporters' Gallery yonder, there sat a fourth estate more important far than they all," said Edmund Burke, member of the British Parliament in the 1700s. The press keeps the government in check. The freedom of the press is essential for a democratic state to succeed.

The freedom of the press does not seem to apply to *The Journal*. This semester, *The Journal* has come under a lot of criticism for its coverage or lack of coverage of events at Webster. Students and student organizations have not been pleased with reviews of their events. However, these people are forgetting one fact: journalists do not make the news — they report the news. Reporters are not here to publicize or sugar coat an event. This is not a public relations publication. *The Journal* does not print press releases nor should it. *The Journal* is a free press.

Timeliness, impact, locality, prominence, novelty and conflict are the six criteria journalists use in determining how newsworthy a story is. At Webster, every journalism major learns these criteria in their first journalism class. Those students in the journalism program have plans on being a reporter or editor somewhere in the world. Their start may be at *The Journal*. *The Journal* is a newspaper. It reports news.

In the last issue of *The Journal*, Steve Clemmons complained about the bad review given to the improv performance. He did not like the amount of stars given for their performance. Do directors like Sophia Coppola write letters to Ebert or Roper when they give a thumbs down to her movies? No. What makes people at Webster think *The Journal* is not a real news publication? *The Journal* is not here to give you a pat on the back when reporting on an event. If you want someone to do that, then talk to your mom. If your event sucks, *The Journal* has the right as the press to say your event sucks. They may use a better description than suck, but they do not have to say your event was wonderful if it was not.

Other people have complained about no coverage for either their event or sports team. Nowhere does it say *The Journal* has to report on an event. If it's not newsworthy, then the story is not worth publishing. Does the *St. Louis Post Dispatch* always report on Webster athletic events? No. If a Webster sports team plays a team they are supposed to beat and they beat that team, why report it? What was expected to happen happened. It's not news. There does not need to be a full-length story. The score is at the bottom. If you want a story in the paper then do something worth publishing in the paper.

I do have some criticism of *The Journal*, too. It is not professional when *The Journal* reports inaccurate information. However, *The Journal* is a learning tool for journalism majors. It is important when *The Journal* then corrects its mistakes. A mistake does not include a bad review, lack of coverage or an editorial piece. An editorial is opinion. Readers can either choose to agree with the article or dismiss it. After all, it is not supposed to be fact.

The most important point to remember is *The Journal* is a newspaper. The reporters on the paper should report the news, not make the news. It is not their job to promote an event. If you want someone to promote your event talk to public relations majors.

Elizabeth Eisele, a junior broadcast journalism major, is a Student Government Association senator, Campus Activities program manager and guest writer for The Journal.

New rule prevents RHA execs from studying abroad

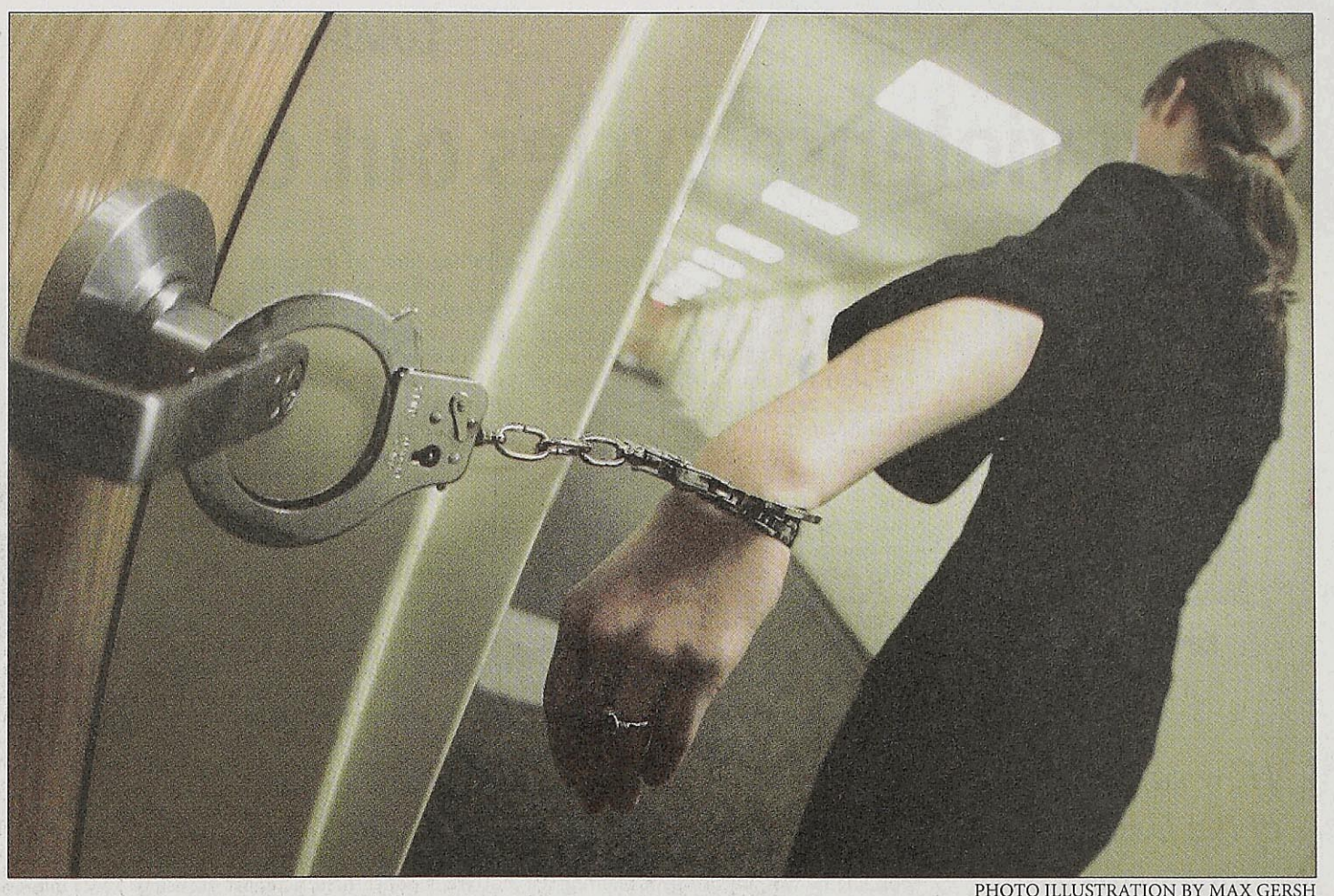


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY MAX GERSH

RHA members can no longer study abroad after the passing of the new amendment to the RHA constitution.

BY RACHEL LEBO
rlebo@webujournal.com

Students applying for Residential Housing Association executive positions must stay at the Webster University Headquarters during their term, according to the newest amendment applied to the RHA constitution.

"Last year, both the president and vice-president left to study abroad," said current RHA executive board president sophomore Kristin Price. "RHA was affected by the temporary staff changes and the structure wasn't as organized as it originally was."

This September, RHA proposed and voted the constitution change to include an amendment that students running for executive positions in the organization cannot study abroad during their term.

"The amendment was proposed by students and passed by the students," said Luke Davis, RHA executive board adviser and assistant residential life director. "It only affects the executive board members, not the resident assistants or RHA representatives from the residence halls or WVA. It will go into affect next year."

RHA is a campus student organization that provides programming, advises the Office of Housing and Residential Life on policy and works to improve the on-campus living environment.

RA and former RHA president Katie Carter, a junior middle school education major, studied abroad spring II 2006 during her term as president.

"We were able to prepare for when I studied abroad," Carter said. "It was still a hardship for RHA, though, especially having to replace the president. I think the amendment is a good idea, and it will keep RHA running smoothly."

Vice president Beth Blumfelder, a junior history major, is currently studying abroad in Vienna. Interim vice president Ryan Alban, a freshman audio production major, is filling the position until Blumfelder returns.

"We were really lucky to have Ryan run for interim vice president," Price said. "We had to get someone trained fast and take on a lot of responsibility. He's been doing a really good job."

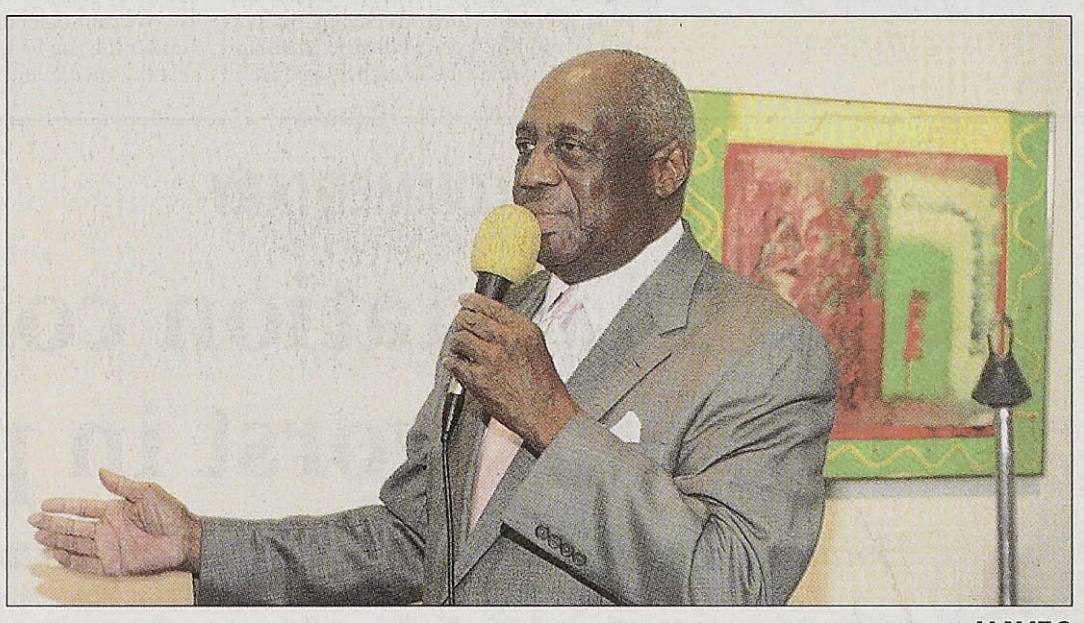
The new amendment is not deterring students from applying for RHA positions, said sophomore Kameron Zach, a video production major and RHA treasurer.

"We recently had elections for Webster communication coordinator and national communication coordinator in training, which is a year and a half long term," Zach said. "We had some really good applicants for the positions. I'm new to RHA this year, but I think the new amendment will benefit RHA."

Other student-run organizations, such as the Student Government Association, do not have amendments in their constitutions that prohibit executive board members from studying abroad during their term.

Edward Staples contributed information to this story.

Professor documents "Death of Black Radio"



HAYES

BY RACHEL LEBO
rlebo@webujournal.com

For more than 50 years Adjunct Faculty Member Bernie Hayes has worked in radio with a career spanning from New York to Chicago, San Diego and St. Louis. A seven-year project for Hayes resulted in the publishing of his book, "The Death of Black Radio: A Personal Perspective and The Story of America's Black Radio Personalities."

"I wanted to document my journey," Hayes said. "I also wanted to write a history and pictorial of radio in general and include some information that other books may not have."

Hayes, who works in the media communications department, teaches courses like Cultural Diversity in the Media and Media and Social Change. He also is a St. Louis radio personality.

The St. Louis Radio Hall of Fame inducted Hayes into its ranks in 2001. Hayes was also the first black man to be appointed news director for KWMU-FM 90.7, St. Louis' major NPR affiliate. He was at KWMU-FM from 1987 to 1993.

"Any media student should have a class with him," said Brandi McMurry, a former Webster student. "He's one of the best professors at Webster."

"The Death of Black Radio" was published November 2005. Hayes used information from scrapbooks and memorabilia he had collected throughout his career, ranging from news articles to personal photographs.

"Black radio has changed and is nothing like it was," Hayes said. "Black radio used to be personality-driven and for the community. Personality radio has died. Black analysis and black involvement has disappeared. I feel that black radio today is a place where disc jockeys can disrespect their listeners. All kinds of foul language is being used, and it was never like that before."

"The Death of Black Radio" reveals a journey of the black radio experience in America with insight to American culture.

"Bernie is a significant figure in St. Louis media," said Larry Weir, operations manager and radio personality of KDHX-FM 88.1. "His experience in the industry and knowledge on the subject is enormous."

The book addresses several issues on why Hayes considers black radio dead. Media consolidation is one of the causes, Hayes said.

"The radio industry was being driven by profits instead of black dedication," he said.

In his book, Hayes writes how white radio station owners who broadcasted to the African American community had devised strategies to fool their audience by acting like they were concerned about the issues in the community. Profits became the concern for the industry, not the audience.

"The lack of black station owners is one problem," Hayes said. "But even today, black station owners are profit-driven because they are in an industry that concentrates on profits."

A native of Chicago, Hayes' broadcasting career started in 1950 when he was an announcer for the Armed Forces Radio Service in the Air Force. He earned a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Illinois and began working for KDBS in Alexandria, La., in 1956 as the black on-air personality and first black news announcer.

From there, Hayes went on to broadcasting jobs in New York and New Jersey in 1961 and in Chicago from 1962 to 1963. Hayes worked for WMMP in Chicago, the first black-owned radio station in the Midwest, and three other stations that were programmed for specific ethnic areas within the city.

Hayes arrived in St. Louis in April 1965. He worked for a variety of stations, including KXLW-FM, KATZ-AM 1600, KWK-AM and KKSS-FM.

Hayes' career in St. Louis took some controversial turns in the 1970s. In 1969, Hayes started KWK-AM radio. He and seven other black disc jockeys walked off the job in 1972 to protest Hayes' demotion from music director and operations manager to advertising salesman, along with other personal changes made by a new, all-white management team from Tennessee. The Congress on Racial Equality, a civil rights group founded in 1942, supported the action with pickets.

Hayes filed a class-action lawsuit in March 1977 charging black-orientated KKSS-FM with discrimination because he was replaced as program director by Scott St. James, a white male. Listeners supported Hayes in this ordeal and organized a petition drive and advertising boycott against the station. The Missouri Commission on Human Rights ruled in favor of Hayes.

The MCHR is the state agency charged with enforcing the Missouri Human Rights Act, an act that discourages discrimination. The basic powers and duties of the MCHR are to prevent discrimination through education and outreach, and to eliminate it through enforcement.

While at KATZ Radio 1600, a black music station, Hayes had a Sunday morning show. In September 1983, management canceled the discussion part of Hayes' program — a prominent forum for local black politics. The program was reinstated after a meeting with local black aldermen and many listener-complaints sent to the radio station.

Hayes said the controversial times were frustrating, and he appreciated the community support expressed for him and others affected.

"Bernie Hayes is a true gentleman and professional," Weir said. "I have a great amount of respect for him."

In 1989, Hayes began an independent record label, Mission Park. Hayes' wife, Uvee, recorded the first 45 RPM single, "In My Eyes," which was released by the label.

Senator calls for student loan transparency

BY KEVIN HUELSMANN
khuelsmann@webujournal.com

Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., announced at a November news conference plans for the introduction of a bill that will require colleges and financial lenders to provide detailed information about any arrangements between the institutions.

Student loan watchdog groups have alleged that lenders have bribed college officials in the United States to make it on college's lists of preferred lenders.

Federal law prohibits colleges from forcing a student to use certain banks for federal loans. However, colleges often have preferred lender lists they use as suggestions for students who do not know what bank to use. Students who are awarded financial aid are required to choose a bank that will handle their loan.

"I only know of a very small number of schools that do that kind of stuff," Jon Gruett, director of financial aid, said. "I've heard stories about it, but I really don't know a whole lot of schools that actually do it."

Gruett believes the proposed legislation would only add a burden to participants in the federal loan program.

"It would be wasting more time that could be used to help students," Gruett said. "It's kind of a pain to have another bureaucratic government reporting system to report to."

The legislation, which will be named the Student Loan Sunshine Act, is one of Kennedy's many proposals to reform higher education. Kennedy will be the next chairman of the education committee in the Senate.

The Student Loan Sunshine Act would also provide for an investigation by the Government Accountability Office into whether loan companies have rewarded colleges for directing students to them.

Gruett said Kennedy's proposal won't have a big effect on lenders.

"I think it's mostly a publicity stunt," Gruett said. "The schools that are abusing this will find ways around it."



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Alumnus rocks out with professor
Jesse Irwin, Patrick Rishe play Off Broadway
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Bat Boy's faux fangs endear crowd
Conservatory gives best show of season
B3

★★★☆☆

Movie Review: 'Volver'

Almodovar creates new genre

BY JAMES HANSEN
jhansen@webujournal.com

If Pedro Almodovar's new film "Volver" succeeds in doing anything, it is performing exactly what is advertised: A Film By Almodovar. Almodovar's stamp is all over his new film to the point of fault. Rather than using some of the same characteristics and cinematic traits that carry through his work as a cinematic auteur, Almodovar is instead going down a line of creating his own genre called Almodovar.

I suspect those who are reading this without having seen a film by Almodovar have no idea what I am talking about. Those familiar with the illustrious career of the Spanish filmmaker should.

Starting with "Todo Sobre Mi Madre" (All About My Mother), which won him the Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film in 1999, Almodovar started a new arena of more "mature" filmmaking. It was a sharp contrast to his wild and crazy films of the 1980's. This mature works seems to have already culminated with his 2002 film "Hable Con Ella" (Talk to Her), which still stands as his most accomplished work.

"Volver," which can loosely be translated as "to return" or "to come back," stands in line with these films to fit into the mature, but somehow more light-hearted, section of Almodovar's work.

Neither a failure nor a towering achievement, "Volver" stars Carmen Maura, who returns to work with Almodovar after an 18-year break and falling out with the director. The film also stars Penelope Cruz, who is garnering Oscar buzz for her role.

"Volver" follows the story of Irene (Maura), who has died. Her ghost returns home to confront family issues she could not resolve while alive, mostly concerning her daughter Raimunda (Cruz), who still hates her. Although Irene immediately comes to her other daughter, Sole, and granddaughter, Paula, she holds off on revealing herself to Raimunda for a vast number of reasons. Perhaps she just fears Raimunda is afraid of ghosts.

Raimunda and Paula run into another set of difficult circumstances, as Paula kills her abusive father. The set-up of the entire film is fantastic and gives us hope for an incredible film. However, we hear her father might not really be her father, which leaves the family in a tough situation and leads our plot down the road of unnecessary twists and subplots.

After its marvelous opening, "Volver" seems unsure of what its focus should be. The film revolves around the story of Irene's ghost, but we are constantly returning to Cruz, whose character is pivotal, but whose story is simply not as important. This is where the script and film become incredibly convoluted.

Almodovar and his camera love Cruz, but the love needs to spread around more. Cruz gives a solid, at times overwhelming performance, but there is not enough balance to make this ensemble work. This is really too bad considering all of the breathtaking, humorous and heartwrenching moments the film still manages to create.

The steps "Volver" misses are exactly the steps "Todo Sobre Mi Madre" hit. At the same time, the themes and ideas from "Volver" are so similar to those addressed in "Todo Sobre Mi Madre" that, for those who have seen his prior work, they are completely redundant.

Starting with an awkward and unnecessary talk-show sequence, "Volver" loses the steam of its brilliant and falls into the realms of an overdone melodrama. It has sincere moments, and all of the cleavage you could ever want, but it lacks the overall connection that "Todo Sobre Mi Madre" and "Hable Con Ella" have.

For all of the buzz and joint acting awards at the Cannes Film Festival, "Volver" fails to deliver the promised grandeur of most reviews and acclamations, but it still may end up giving the audience exactly what they want: Almodovar.



ASHLEY GIESEKING / *The Journal*

Soloist junior Michelle Knollhoff sings "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" at the Webster University Jazz Singers concert Dec. 5 in the Winifred Moore Auditorium.

'Baby, it's cold outside'

Webster University Jazz Singers heat up Moore Auditorium despite outdoor freezing temperatures

BY KEVIN HUELSMANN
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Under the golden dome of the Winifred Moore Auditorium, the Webster University Jazz Singers performed holiday favorites and jazz standards to a full crowd. The eclectic mix of songs played on the festive holiday mood while performers added their own jazz-influenced style.

The group performed 16 songs Dec. 4, including a Rodgers and Hammerstein tune, a commentary on peace by Horace Silver and Christmas favorites like "Santa Baby" and "Baby, It's Cold Outside."

Debby Lennon, director of the Webster University Jazz Singers, said the songs were chosen carefully over the course of the past year.

"I do a lot of listening and reading to see what's out there," Lennon said. "There are a lot of great composers out there, and I want to see what's hip and what the kids will like."

The group, made up of 14 Webster students, took to the stage en masse. They started the concert with "So Danco Samba," a song written by Antonio Carlos Jobim, a Brazilian composer and guitarist. The group bounced in tune with the upbeat song, their mouths in perfect synch with one another.

The remainder of the concert alternated between group and solo performances. Ten of the 16 singers took turns performing solos and duets, showcasing their individual talent.

Hannah McDonald, a junior vocal jazz major, and Anders Fahey, a sophomore music major, brought out the playful nature of "Baby, It's Cold Outside." The pair held hands and pulled each other close, while acting out the lyrics.

Michelle Knollhoff, a junior music major, gave "Santa Baby" a coy, sultry performance. She pouted her lips and brought out the sassy attitude of the song, while singing about her desire for diamonds, rings and money.

Behind the group a combo of bass, drums and piano provided an accompaniment that, at times, threatened to steal the show. The brushes of Kevin Gianino, adjunct professor of jazz percussion, slid over the snare and mixed with the smooth whoosh of his cymbals. Willem von Hombracht, adjunct professor of jazz studies, walked out thumping bass lines that drove the singers. Carolbeth True, an adjunct piano professor, led the trio with her piano playing, alternating between playing accompanying chords, melodies and solos full of flights through scales and flurries of notes and chords.

Audience members said the performance showcased the group's talent.

"I enjoyed the show enormously," said Gene vanBreusegen, a Webster Groves resident. "There is so much talent in the group. They are all very talented singers."

Another audience member said she enjoyed the singing of McDonald, who duetted on "Baby, It's Cold Outside," sang a solo rendition of "What Are You Doing New Year's Eve?" and sang a solo on the closing song "Splanky."

"I loved [McDonald's] singing," said Joanne Rueter, a Webster Groves resident. "She's got a lot of pizzazz."

The Webster University Jazz Singers are preparing for an upcoming concert at 10 a.m. Dec. 12 at the Sheldon Concert Hall located on Washington Avenue in downtown St. Louis.

"This was really a glorified dress rehearsal," Lennon said. "We're getting ready for a sold-out show at the Sheldon. We only get to rehearse for two and a half hours a week. It's a little less time than I would like, considering how challenging the music is."

Lennon said she was happy with the result, despite the short amount of practice time.

"I was very, very pleased with the concert," Lennon said. "I'm really proud of all these young people involved. It's kind of like a high school musical. It all comes together at the last minute."

Mouse inspires alum to write children's book

A passion for a classic nursery rhyme led 2002 grad Tony Jaskiewicz to submit story for publication

BY CARRIE SHYLANSKI
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"Hickory dickory dock, the mouse went up the clock." The classic nursery rhyme about a mouse and a clock has been told to countless children at bedtime. But what hasn't been told is the story of Hickory, the mouse who lives in the clock.

Webster alumnus and St. Louis native Tony Jaskiewicz, a 2002 media communications graduate, recently published his first children's book, "Hickory and the Big Clock."

"Hickory and the Big Clock" is a tale about a mouse who lives under a grandfather clock with his mom, aunt and uncle. When Hickory tires of the clock's frequent chiming, he sets out on an adventure up the clock to make the chiming stop.

Jaskiewicz said he got into writing children's books because he always loved children's literature.

"I still enjoy reading children's literature more than adult literature," Jaskiewicz said. "But writing children's books is something that I've always wanted to do ever since I was a kid."

Jaskiewicz said he first got involved in writing when his theater group, the Notre Dame Funtimers, needed another writer for a play.

"Writing was something that I never really considered as a viable career option, until now," Jaskiewicz said. "I wasn't really finding anything I liked with my media communications major, so I decided to start looking into other fields, really just anything I had a vague interest in."

That's when he decided to try writing.

Jaskiewicz said he applied and was accepted into the Institute for Children's Literature, a series of classes geared toward helping people learn how to write for a children's audience.

"It's all done through the mail," Jaskiewicz said. "All of their instructors are in the publishing world in some way, shape or form."

Jaskiewicz said inspiration for his books comes from a variety of things.

"I have always been fascinated by that nursery rhyme, so that was sort of one of my inspirations," Jaskiewicz said of his first book. "I had also just finished reading three books about mice as well."

The book was illustrated by Jaskiewicz's sister-in-law, Sarah Kramer Jaskiewicz, and was published by Maryland-based PublishAmerica. PublishAmerica is a small publishing house that likes to deal with writers directly, rather than through an agent, Jaskiewicz said.

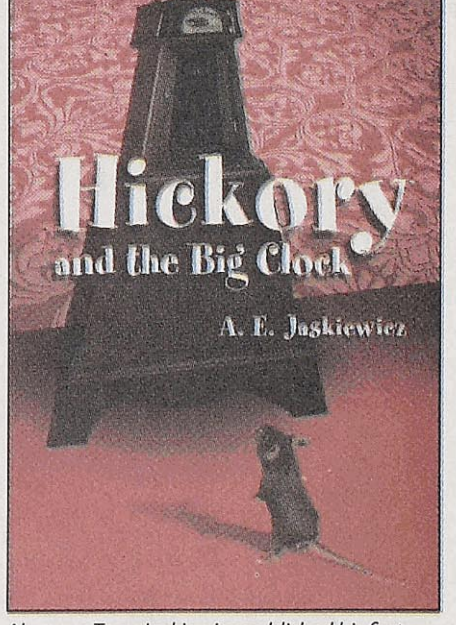
Jaskiewicz said the classes he took at Webster — such as composition I and composition II — helped him write the book. He also believes his bachelor's degree in communications helped him learn how to conduct interviews.

"I will say that my degree in communications has helped me with my writing career because I know how to interview people," Jaskiewicz said. "Even when writing fiction, you still need to make sure that any facts you have in your book are correct. The best way to check your facts is to interview someone involved with a given profession."

Jaskiewicz, who currently lives in South St. Louis County, advised future Webster alumni to persevere in the things he or she wants to achieve.

"The best advice I can give may seem overused, but really don't give up," Jaskiewicz said. "I have received many rejection letters, but never let that discourage me."

Jaskiewicz's book can be found online at *http://www.amazon.com* as well as *http://www.bordersstores.com* and *http://www.bn.com* under the name A.E. Jaskiewicz.



Alumnus Tony Jaskiewicz published his first children's book through PublishAmerica. The book, "Hickory and the Big Clock," can be found at various online book vendors.

Volunteers feed homeless, needy

Donations pay for holiday party, McDonald's gift certificates

BY ALEXANDRA SMITH
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The holidays are often a time for giving, sharing and celebrating. For one group of Webster students, faculty and friends, there is no better place to do all of these things than Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Soulard.

Anna Barbara Sakurai, a computer science professor, is one of the faculty members who organizes a monthly event to feed the needy at Saints Peter and Paul. Webster students and faculty go to help, and for the month of December they take the event one step further with a holiday party.

The group of volunteers spends about $300 on food each month to provide for the needy and homeless. With additional donations, they are able to make the December dinner event a little more memorable with gifts, decorations and sometimes music.

This year's party is 5 to 6:30 p.m. Dec. 18 at the church on South 7th Street in Soulard. Sakurai said the goal for the Webster volunteers is to make the day special for the attendees. The meal is the same as every other month, but decorations, treats and small gifts bring the holiday spirit to the party.

Sakurai said about 180 people usually attend the party. About 60 of those are men who live in the shelter provided by the church. Many of the people who participate are homeless, and others are hungry and needy.

"Giving them a good meal doesn't change their lives," Sakurai said. "But it's something you can do for somebody else, and I feel so blessed to be able to do it."

Sakurai said the holiday party regulars look forward to seeing Santa Claus, who often makes an appearance. Don Love, a professor in the math and computer science department, dresses as Santa and poses for pictures at the party.

"The adults behave like children visiting a mall Santa," Love said. "To me, it's just a fun way to bring smiles to the faces of people who desperately need something to smile about."

Another special aspect of the party is the gift given by the Webster group. Money raised through donations buy enough McDonald's gift certificates for the guests who attend. Sakurai said it costs about $2,000 to buy the gift certificates.

"That's what they really need most — food," said Claudia Burris, senior editor and photojournalist for Webster. "They really seem to appreciate it."

Burris said the holiday party at Saints Peter and Paul has been an annual event for at least 16 years, the length of time she has worked at Webster. The event is not specific to any Webster group or department, and anyone is invited and encouraged to attend.

In order to serve all of the people in an efficient manner, at least eight servers and six people in the kitchen are needed, Sakurai said. She would also like to find someone to play holiday music for the event because musical performances have been successful in the past.

"Almost everyone who volunteers feels like it's really a joy to do," Sakurai said. "It makes you appreciate what you have, and makes you realize that there is so much need in this country."

Burris said donations are accepted and appreciated for the McDonald's gift certificates.

Checks can be made payable to Peter and Paul Community Services and can be sent to Sakurai.

Students interested in donating, volunteering or learning more about the holiday party at Saints Peter and Paul can contact Sakurai at ext. 6958 or Burris at ext. 7027.

Credit cards can lead students to financial doom

BY SHAWN DOOLEY
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Many call it the season to give, but for college students, it's the season to overspend. With Black Friday, the day after Thanksgiving, behind them and Christmas only a few weeks away, students are shopping for the perfect gifts for friends and family.

"I think most people forget what Christmas is really about," said Gladys Smith, assistant director of counseling services. "That is when this time of the year can become more stressful than it is intended to be."

Whether unemployed or working part-time, many college students live on a limited income — sometimes using credit cards, which often result in debt and stress.

"We recommend that students use debit cards," said Patrick Stack, director of counseling services. "And do not use credit cards, because then you will know what you are spending and it automatically comes out of your account."

Junior Jenny Myer, a photography major, said she prefers to use cash. She doesn't like any form of plastic because she can't see the money being spent and how it is spent.

Stack said most students overspend for one of three reasons during the holiday season.

- Some students try to impress gift receivers.
- Others try to control how a person may feel about them or they try to convey a feeling of appreciation or love.
- Others have no boundaries on their expenses.

"I start out with a budget," Myer said. "I buy for my most important people and if I have money left over I try to buy for others."

Stack said counseling services are available for students having financial difficulties. He said counselors give students financial recommendations based on a student's issue — but it is up to the student to take those recommendations and apply them to their monetary problems.

"I think if students really learn what Christmas is about, then this time of year can be more about family, relaxing and enjoying each other," Smith said.

Twelve tips to avoid overspending this holiday season

1. Reflect on last year
2. Count the cost
3. Check your list twice
4. Limit use of credit cards
5. Don't procrastinate
6. Time the sales
7. Steer clear of unwarranted warranties
8. Hunt for discounts
9. Make your own gifts
10. Keep it simple
11. Spend time with family
12. Keep the holidays in perspective

(Partially taken from "Avoid financial hangover this holiday season: 10 ways to keep yourself from overspending" by Laura T. Coffey)

Webster Art Coalition

Show benefits charity

BY BREANNA HERSCHELMAN
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A central theme was hard to find, but that was the purpose. With a mixture of digital photographs, sculpture and various other mixed media, the Webster Art Coalition opened its second annual "All Purpose Show" to a gallery filled with about 60 people Dec. 2.

The WAC is composed of Webster students, mostly those studying art. The group, which is formally recognized by the Student Government Association as a club on campus, opened their show one day late due to a power outage at the gallery caused by the ice storm Nov. 30.

The WAC chose Three Sinks Gallery, located at 8715 Big Bend Blvd., for their exhibition this year. The gallery is owned by alumna Julie Campbell, who earned a bachelor's degree in printmaking from Webster in 1997. Last year's show took place at the 1608 Gallery on Locust Street in downtown St. Louis.

The show was originally slated to open Dec. 1, intentionally on World Aids Day. Some of the artists promised to dedicate proceeds from their work to the St. Louis Effort For AIDS, a local charity that helps educate St. Louisans on preventing HIV/AIDS. None of the work sold that night.

The WAC held open submissions for all Webster students earlier this semester. The group chose two curators for the gallery: senior Allison Myers, an art history major, and freshman Carrie McNeal, also an art history major.

The two students sorted through 25 submissions and narrowed their selections down to 12 for the gallery. The selections included works by the following students: Ashley Kopp, Michael Haffner, Maryam G. Zareh, Benjamin Beaury, Timothy Wagner, Nathan Janeczek, Dan Axe, Todd Thayer, Jenni DeSuza, Emily Francisco, Brooke Lashley and Camillo Spiegelfeld.

"We were asked to find a central theme, but it was hard to do," McNeal said. "We picked pieces we thought had dialogue with each other."

Beaury, a senior art major with an emphasis in alternative media and president of WAC, was co-director of the show. Along with Axe, a senior art major with an emphasis in sculpture, the two chose the gallery, dates and other details for the exhibit.

Junior Grant Neal, a film production major, attended the opening after being asked by Kopp, who had two digital photography pieces on display. Neal said he enjoyed that not all of the pieces were in the same genre of art.

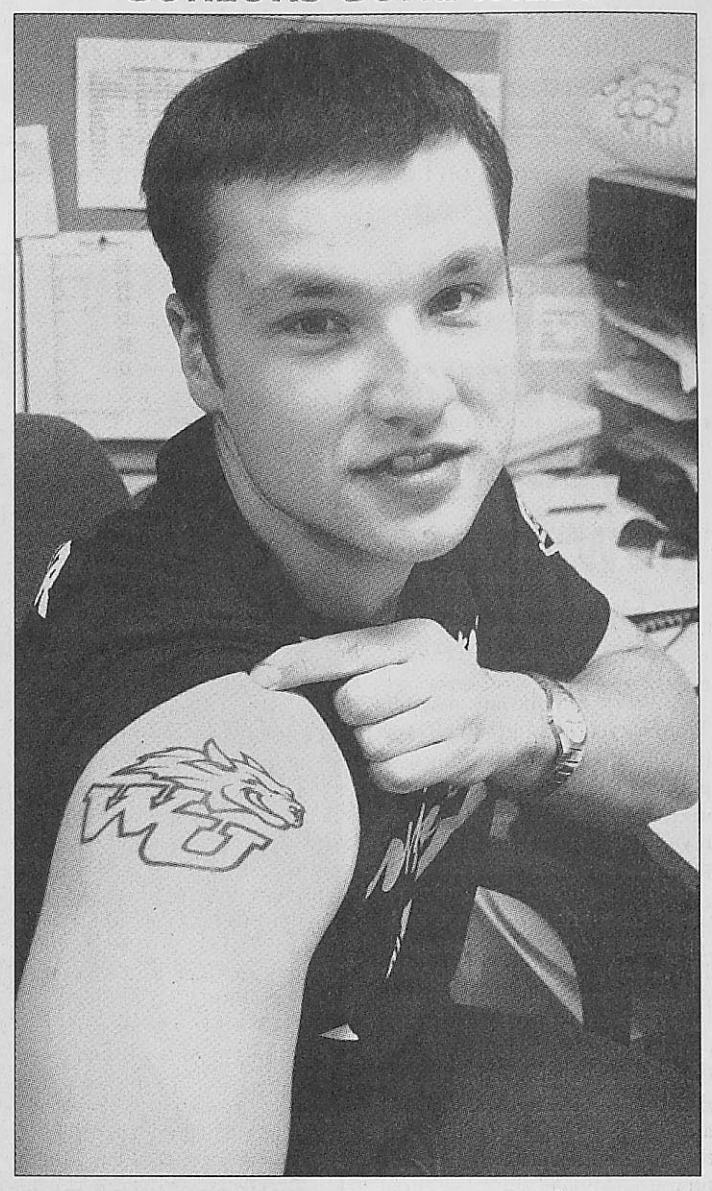
"It was very eclectic," Neal said. "There was something for everyone."

Campbell said Three Sinks Gallery has been open seven years. She said the gallery got its name from three hair-washing sinks that remained from the previous owners of the storefront, a beauty salon that went out of business.

Campbell said the show would only last for one day due to the power outage. The show was scheduled for both Dec. 1 and 2.

The WAC has taken many forms in the past, but was formally recognized as a club in 2004. The club created the name WAC in March 2006.

GORLOKS GONE WILD!



LANZ CHRISTIAN BAÑES / *The Journal*

Senior Przemo Toczkowski, an international relations major, shows off his $200 Gorlok tattoo, modeled off the new athletic Gorlok logo. Toczkowski, who had his arm inked at Iron Age on Delmar Boulevard, is excited to show off his body art when he returns to Poland next week for winter break. "When I come back to Poland, it will be a souvenir from here and it's original," he said. "It's different than all the other tattoos."

Matt Schutte

Professor butts heads with walls, not students

ANNA C. FORDER
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Matt Schutte is not the average college professor, but that is what his students love about him. His in-class antics have led students to think of him as a friend, and his first class as professor has provided him with a greater understanding of the college students he works with every day.

Schutte began his career as a sports public relations professor during the fall 2006 semester.

"Teaching is helping me do my admissions job better," said Schutte, who also is associate director of undergraduate admissions. "Admissions makes up about 99 percent of what I do at Webster."

Schutte works with transfer students for the most part, evaluating transcripts, providing financial aid counseling and meeting with visiting applicants.

"I've learned more about college students' interests and what's important to them," Schutte said of his first teaching experience.

Senior Drew Wilson, a media communications major and student in Schutte's class, said he is able to better identify with students because he recently was in college himself. Schutte received a master's degree in public relations from Webster in 2004.

"He's young, so he can get on a personal level with college students," Wilson said.

Another one of Shutte's students, Senior Melanie Klingelhoefer, a business administration major, said Schutte takes the time to know his students by name and is "very friendly right off the bat."

Schutte's relaxed and youthful personality carries over into his class. He recently head-butted the wall during class when he repeatedly referred to the class' midterm exam as the final by accident.

"Everyone seems to think it was pretty hilarious," Wilson said.

Dan Braning, a senior broadcast journalism major and student in the class, said Schutte explained that, prior to the class, he had 12 concussions — none related to in-class head-butting.

"(Head-butting the wall) was obviously a joke," Braning said. "He might be a little goofy, but he's a good guy."

Wilson said most of the students in his class are sports fans, and that is what motivated them to enroll in Schutte's sports PR class. Schutte gave his sports-fan students an incentive to participate: During one class, he offered St. Louis Blues tickets to the student with the best participation.

Schutte said there is not as much participation during undergraduate classes as graduate classes. To generate participation, he offered his admissions department boss' extra hockey tickets to motivate the students.

"It was a nice, little perk for some sort of achievement," Braning said.

Klingelhoefer said Schutte's love for sports and presence at Webster sporting events also helps him relate to students who have similar sports interests.

Schutte said the class was devised after he talked to public relations professor Gary Ford. Ford knew there was student interest in sports PR. Schutte then corresponded with other professors nationwide who taught similar classes to assemble a syllabus.

"I think you can tell he's still trying to feel his way around but I think he's pretty knowledgeable in the PR field," Braning said.

Schutte said he will make some changes the next time he teaches the class but he said he won't change the spirit of the class.

"It was very much a learning experience for me as much as the students," Schutte said.

Schutte currently lives with his wife and three dogs in Imperial, Mo.

Higher Education Channel

Station airs student work, speaker series

BY JESSICA SNEED
Contributing Writer

Webster has teamed up with the Higher Education Channel to provide both students and guest speakers the chance to have their visions and knowledge shared on the air. HEC-TV currently features two Webster-associated shows: "Playback" and the "Success to Significance Speaker Series."

Orestes Valdes, adjunct professor in the electronic and photographic media department, produces "Playback." The show, which first aired in 2001, features student video work. Valdes said while he opened the show to other colleges and universities in St. Louis, it primarily features Webster student work.

HEC-TV also airs the Webster University-hosted "Success to Significance Speaker Series," which features a variety of speakers presenting business-related topics. The speakers offer advice to students and professionals based on their own personal experiences and background.

HEC-TV is on channel 13 in St. Louis City and channel 26 in St. Louis County.

Webster is one of 11 colleges and universities that make up the Higher Education Consortium of metropolitan St. Louis, which provides programming for HEC-TV.

Valdes approached HEC-TV with the idea for "Playback," which gives some students the first chance to have their work aired on TV.

"'Playback' is being done not because it has to be done, but because people want to do it," Valdes said.

"Playback" features documentaries, animation, music videos and anything else that fits with the episode's theme. The show is not part of any specific class at Webster. Valdes uses work his students create, and he also accepts student submissions from other professors.

Senior Lucian Matoushek had his video production I final project — a trailer for a made-up movie titled "Evitability" — aired during the 2006 season of "Playback." Matoushek said he'd like to see the show include professional work as well, but thinks it's great students have this opportunity.

Each half-hour episode of "Playback" offers viewers a different theme, ranging from the idea of television as a cult to agoraphobia, the fear of open spaces. Valdes said themes tend to emerge on their own, and he works to "smooth out the corners." One episode features documentaries about people in St. Louis with weird habits and hobbies, while another episode focuses on the trials and tribulations of the grade-school years.

Valdes said while there is a place on TV for "America's Funniest Videos" and those "five-minute real time videos on You Tube of somebody making an omelet," but "Playback" is not necessarily the show for it.

"I try to keep it as wide-open as possible," Valdes said. "The idea is that people think for themselves."

Valdes delivers a full 12- to 15-episode season of "Playback" to HEC-TV at once. Valdes said he usually ends up with what he considers to be the best work toward the end of the semester, which makes it difficult to produce the show and meet deadlines on a weekly basis. Valdes completes the post-production work for "Playback" at Webster's media facilities.

"Playback" airs at 10:30 p.m. every Wednesday and Saturday on HEC-TV.

The "Success to Significance Speaker Series" is organized by Webster's School of Business and Technology. The 2005-2006 season included a speech from Benjamin Ola. Akande, dean of the School of Business and Technology, who spoke about networking.

Dennis Riggs, director of HEC-TV, said Success to Significance allows viewers to see presentations as they occurred — without media filters. HEC-TV as a whole, including this series, is oriented toward content. Riggs said the series allows people to form their own opinions on topics featured rather than being told what to think.

The idea of providing unfiltered content is a common thread shared by both the "Success to Significance Speaker Series" and "Playback." Valdes said HEC-TV wanted him to host "Playback," but he opted not to in an effort to keep the focus on student work rather than on the personality of a host. "Success to Significance" is presented in a similar fashion, without a host interpreting the speaker's words.

Success to Significance airs at 5 p.m. Tuesdays and 10 p.m. Fridays on HEC-TV. Videos from the series are available online at

Alumnus, professor hook STL with music

BY BETH PRUSACZYK
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Commencement 2003 unleashed an international business major and his guitar on the St. Louis scene — and he's been thanking Webster ever since.

Webster almnus Jesse Irwin is a solo performer that plays classic country, similar to singer/songwriter Todd Snider, he said.

"You would be amazed how many people involved in the St. Louis music scene are Webster grads," Irwin said.

Irwin graduated with a bachelor's degree in management. He said being surrounded by Gorloks helped him to be comfortable as a performer.

Another Webster affiliate making his way onto the music scene is the business department's associate professor of economcis Patrick Rishe. Rishe sings in the band Need More Cowbell with fellow Webster alumnus, guitarist Dan Elder. The two groups will meet up for a Gorlok showcase Dec. 20 at Off Broadway, a new Soulard venue that features live performances.

Jesse Irwin

Irwin said he owes a lot to Webster. He recently took a job as assistant to the director of Webster's Center for Professional Development, located at the Old Post Office campus downtown. Irwin said he will now have his tuition waived when he begins working towards a mas-

See IRWIN, Page B3

Theater Review: 'Bat Boy: The Musical'

★★★★☆

Tabloid celebrity attacks town, steals hearts

Conservatory musical succeeds with bizarre stuffed animal orgy and singing, blood-sucking half-human

BY LANZ CHRISTIAN BAÑES
lbanes@webujournal.com

All right, you got me.

"Bat Boy: The Musical" was an impressive theatrical experience, and I plan to go at least once more before the show closes. It was the first Conservatory show to which I gave a standing ovation since the Conservatory production of "Into the Woods" in spring 2005.

Though ostensibly a comedy, "Bat Boy" is complex and explores the complicated themes of loneliness and prejudice, of family and our own humanity. Based on a tabloid story, the title character is found in a West Virginia cave by the three children of Mrs. Taylor (Justin Cook): Rick (Gregory Schmerber), Ron (Alexandra Ausman) and Ruthie (Alexis Morgan Field). The strange, pointy-eared and sharp-toothed Bat Boy (Steven Pierce) bites Ruthie, causing Rick and Ron to subdue and capture the demi-human.

Bat Boy is then taken to the home of Dr. Parker (Benjamin Mason) by the inept Sheriff Reynolds (Andy Morgan). There, Dr. Parker's wife Meridith (Jillian Secor) develops sympathy for the caged Bat Boy and dubs him Edgar. She decides to keep him and introduce him to society, despite the doubts of her husband and her daughter Shelly (Natalie Wisdom).

Edgar eventually goes from being an unintelligible beastling running around in his undies to a suave, sophisticated member of the Parker family, complete with a British accent — thanks to the BBC tapes, Meredith explains. The rest of the musical examines Edgar's attempt to integrate into small-town West Virginia, Meredith and Dr. Parker's deteriorating relationship and the increasing sexual tension between Edgar and Shelly.

Much of the credit for the success of "Bat Boy" should go to Pierce, who plays the awkwardly adorable Edgar with such sincerity that it's difficult to imagine any actor besides the curly-haired and sad-eyed Pierce in the role.

From his first "speaking" lines, consisting entirely of shrieking in various pitches, to his evolved and refined singing voice that woefully decries Edgar's desire for blood, Pierce's performance was thoroughly engaging. It was funny when it had to be, yet tender and almost painful when the scene called for it. He made the mythical Bat Boy come to life on the stage in a near-inexplicable way, even singing and acting beautifully through those freakish fangs.

Aside from those with Edgar, my favorite scenes were those with the mother and daughter duo of Meridith and Shelly. Secor and Wisdom played off each other well, fluidly bouncing lines one off the other. Their duet "Three Bedroom House," was a notable display of their singing prowess. Both also deserve credit as believable characters who gave excellent performances.

It also was amusing to see the same actors perform different characters in the play, allowing for an interesting dynamic and providing the audience with a cross-dressing extravaganza. More than half the cast played multiple characters, though it was done so well, and occasionally with such camp, that it was not a problem.

I was, however, slightly disappointed by the set design of "Bat Boy." The stage, dominated by a mobile cage and what appeared to be a wooden fence in the background, didn't really evince the mountain-town setting of the musical. Also, the black "façade" with silver veins in front of the stage, vaguely reminiscent of a spider web, looked cheap. I mused during the performance that perhaps they were supposed to remind us of bat wings. I truly had no idea.

Also, the entirety of Stage III literally stank. It appeared to be coming from the odd brown netting that covered the walls. Though not entirely contrary to the style of "Bat Boy," these elements combined with the linear shape of Stage III made it seem as if I was watching a play back in high school.

However, this does not detract from the overall enjoyment of the play. I must admit I was skeptical that a musical based on a tabloid story about a half-boy, half-bat would be any good, particularly when the performance was in my least-favorite Conservatory venue. Fortunately, I was pleasantly surprised and my doubts disappeared on opening night. I strongly recommend this last Conservatory production of the semester, particularly if you're interested in seeing a raunchy stuffed-animal orgy (yup).

The remaining shows of "Bat Boy: The Musical" are at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 6 through 9 in Stage III, located on the ground floor of Webster Hall, directly underneath Winifred Moore Auditorium. The final showing will be a 2 p.m. matinee Dec. 10.

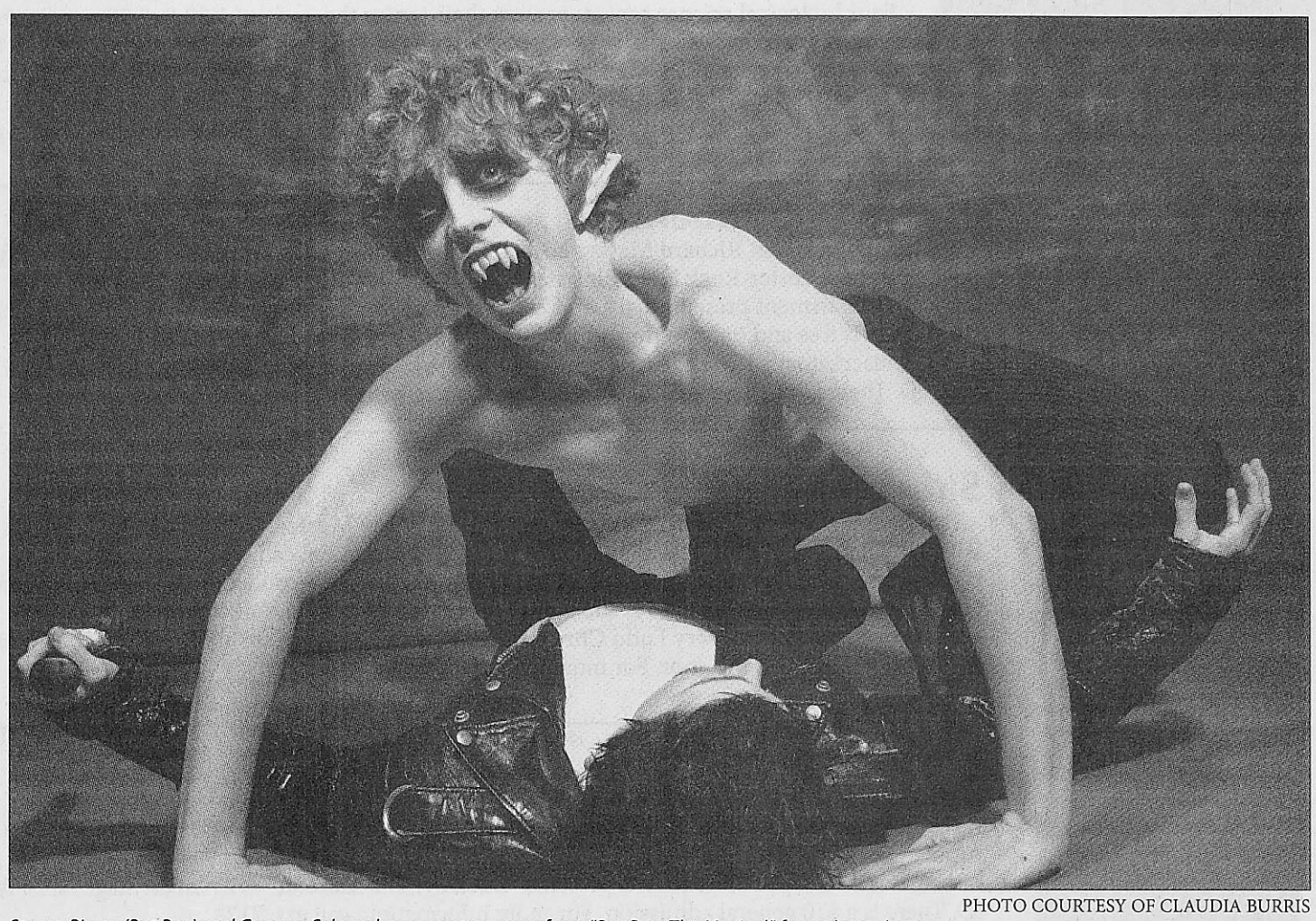


PHOTO COURTESY OF CLAUDIA BURRIS

Steven Pierce (Bat Boy) and Gregory Schmerber recreate a scene from "Bat Boy: The Musical" for a photo shoot.

Theater Review: 'The Musical of Musicals — The Musical!'

★★★★☆

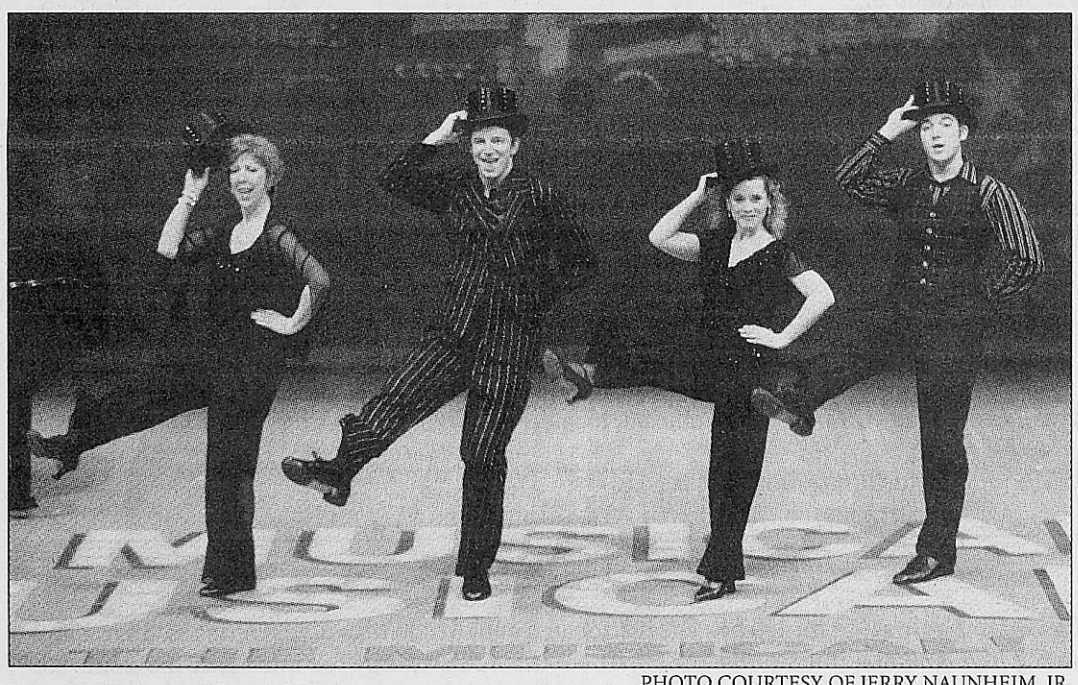


PHOTO COURTESY OF JERRY NAUNHEIM, JR.

"The Musical of Musicals — The Musical!" features (left to right) Joanne Bogart, Edwin Cahill, Kristin Maloney and Matt Bailey.

Rep playfully pokes fun at musical theater genre

Spoof both criticizes and offers homage to theater greats like Rodgers and Hammerstein and Andrew Lloyd Webber

BY JAMES HANSEN
jhansen@webujournal.com

The title of the new show for the Repertory Theatre of St. Louis is "The Musical of Musicals — The Musical!". Say that five times fast. It sets out to be the most grand, all encompassing musical ever made, in satirical respects. While the new show may be the least dramatic mainstage event of the entire season, it is likely the most fun found on the mainstage this year.

"The Musical of Musicals — The Musical!" tells the same story in the fashion of five famous Broadway composers: Rodgers and Hammerstein, Stephen Sondheim, Jerry Herman, Andrew Lloyd Webber and Kander and Ebb. The story is incredibly simple, but it catapults a surprising amount of action and song, just like a traditional musical.

A young woman is unable to pay rent to a brutish landlord until a handsome young hero arrives to save the day. It sounds like basically every other musical you have ever seen, and that is precisely the point.

The performances seem at times entirely over the top, but it all fits the ideology of the show so well that it is hard to fault any of the actors. JoAnne Bogart, who plays the constant fourth-wheel character, wrote the book and lyrics for the musical, which was a smash success in New York when it premiered in 2004. She never seems tired of the material, though, despite being part of this show for the past few years.

The rest of the cast keeps right up with Bogart, and regardless of a few missteps, the performances and show succeed in doing exactly what they want to do.

This can be credited to the brilliant direction and musical knowledge of Pamela Hunt, who also directed the show in New York. All of the eccentricities of each of the composers are highlighted perfectly by the choreography and simple staging of the show.

The start of the second act, highlighting the career of Andrew Lloyd Webber, provides one of the night's biggest laughs, even from the Webber fans among the crowd.

With a balance of homage and criticism, it is difficult to not have a good time with this short show. At the same time, by the end of the quick 90 minutes, the audience is ready for the show to be over.

The show is certainly not perfect and loses many facts in being so overt about its messages and ideals. Despite this, while one can easily wish for "The Musical of Musicals — The Musical!" to be a little less obvious, it has enough truly clever points, aside from some excruciating puns and palpable lyrics, and provides enough laughs to make this a worthwhile evening.

Maybe, as "The Musical of Musicals — The Musical!" tells us, "it's all been done before" when you come to the theater. However, it is done differently enough and executed well enough to make this the highlight of the Repertory Theatre's Mainstage season so far.

"The Musical of Musicals — The Musical!" runs now through Dec. 29. Student rush tickets are only $8 and available 30 minutes before each show with a valid student ID.

Movie Review: 'Fuck'

★★★★★

Documentary explores origins of four-letter word

BY ANTHONY BARSANTI
abarsanti@webujournal.com

Before readers start typing angry letters in response to the highly favorable rating I have given to a film about the f-word, allow me a brief revelatory moment in which I point out that any filmmaker with the gusto to produce such a candid documentary indeed deserves such positive evaluation, regardless of their personal stance on the discussion.

Dedicated to Hunter S. Thompson, the pioneering gonzo journalist who remains at the heart of American self-criticism — culturally and politically — Steve Anderson's "Fuck" takes an unabashed look at the most controversial word in history.

Gathering the opinions of a plethora of celebrities, politicians, lobbyists and several unidentified citizens on the street, Anderson makes a case that the debate over this single English-language word is still alive and well since its first appearance in print back in 1475. Since then, daring poets, lyricists and authors have kept the four-letter word from escaping our language forever by instilling it into our expressive culture.

Though defined as a verb to express fornication, the f-word has multiple uses as an adjective, noun, adverb, interjection and, of course, as an expletive.

It is interesting to think about how often the word is used vocally in a casual, everyday sense, and yet it has been banned almost outright throughout the history of media, that is, until 20th-century lyricists came along.

Fairly unbiased in his presentation of opinions, Anderson certainly allows influential comedians like George Carlin and the late Lenny Bruce their say on the matter. "If you can't say 'fuck,' then you can't say 'fuck the government.'" Bruce said. On the same token, he permits more conservative talking-heads their reply on the need for morality and etiquette in a society that sees itself as a model for the rest of the world.

The film is accomplished in continuing the long line of recent documentaries that illuminate how the present administration has utterly used the American conservative movement for its singular benefit. In the film, officials such as President George W. Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney are quoted using such vulgar language as "Fuck Saddam; we're taking his ass out," when they are supposedly courting family and morality avocation groups in order to bolster their political careers.

At the heart of "Fuck" is the eternal contest the word represents in the struggle to uphold free speech rights.

Upheld as our most central constitutional right by the landmark Supreme Court case of New York Times v. Sullivan in 1964, some say there is far too much free speech in this country, and our children's dignity is at stake. Others, like the fans of Universal's "Meet the Fockers" — which became the most successful comedy of all time, raking in $500 million — may beg to differ.

After all of the beliefs and estimations are in, no one truly knows where the word came from, but it is universally agreed upon that its utterance bears meaning in every culture known to Earth. So why then, do we not fully embrace this unifying expression? Fuck yeah!

IRWIN: Grad plays music with professor

FROM PAGE B2

ter's degree in human resources.

"I'm looking forward to getting off work and going down the hall to class," Irwin said.

Irwin gives Webster's art department credit for his music. Irwin said he saw many cool things coming out of the department and felt he needed to contribute something creative to Webster's environment.

"I came to Webster because it seemed full of free-thinking, offbeat people," Irwin said. "And it definitely helped me to be in the company of musicians."

That creativity led Irwin to play his first Webster show in 2003 at Gully Unplugged, an outdoor concert at Webster. Irwin said about 150 people showed up and he was incredibly nervous.

The reason people like Irwin's music, he said, is because it's old American music in people's collective memory — and it's funny.

"I would play some bizarre, old country song and then bring them back in with a funny one," Irwin said. "Humor can go from audience to audience."

Need More Cowbell

The Off Broadway show will also feature the sounds of Need More Cowbell, founded by Patrick Rishe, who actually taught macro/micro economics to Irwin. In return, he helped Rishe start Need More Cowbell.

Rishe said he was always a closet singer and only periodically wondered what it would be like to play in a band. Rishe said with the help of Irwin and inspiration to "seize the day" after a family tragedy, he put together a band.

"The best part about it was that we didn't suck," Rishe said.

Rishe said Need More Cowbell is your basic rock 'n' roll cover band.

"We try to incorporate some dancers to add a little sex appeal to our shows," Rishe said.

Need More Cowbell only has played one show and will probably continue on its slow pace due to members' busy schedules, Rishe said.

The one show the band has played was in November with Irwin at Off Broadway. Rishe said the reception was good.

"Off Broadway's business that night was in the 80th percentile of what they normally earn," Rishe said. "So that made me feel good that we created a better-than-average business for the bar."

The connection between Rishe and Irwin goes beyond playing shows and economics class. Both have mutual respect for each other.

"(Irwin's) probably one of the most multi-talented people you'll ever meet," Rishe said.

Rishe said Irwin is creative with his musical lyrics and has an outgoing personality.

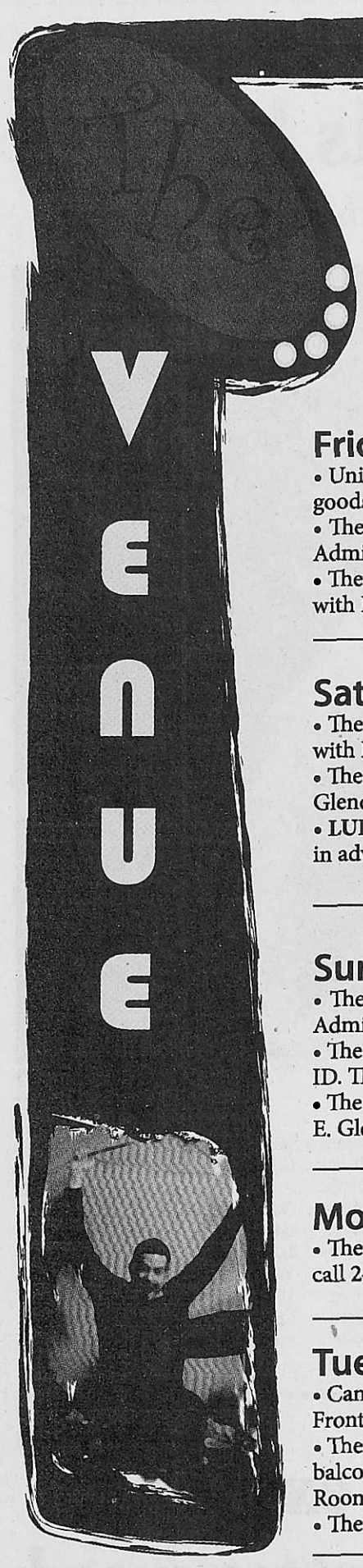
"I knew (Irwin) was a bit different when I showed up for class one day and he was wearing a white T-shirt with a picture of my face appearing on the shirt," Rishe said.

Rishe said college students should watch Need More Cowbell and Irwin Dec. 20 because it will be a nice opportunity to mingle with peers.

"If they are one of my students, however, they might be shocked," Rishe said. "They probably are not used to seeing their professors 'rock out.'"

The show at Off Broadway starts at 8 p.m. and admission is $7 with a $2 surcharge for minors.

A calendar of upcoming events on campus and around town



Thursday, December 7

• Webster art students and teachers will host a **pottery sale** from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the University Center Commons. For more information, call ext. 7171.

• The Conservatory of Theatre Arts presents **"Bat Boy: The Musical"** at 7:30 p.m on Stage III in Webster Hall. Admission is free to faculty, staff and students with ID. There is a $10 general admission. For more information, call ext. 7128.

• Four biological science seniors present their senior theses from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. in room 19 of Webster Hall. Topics include **"The Effect of Nicotine on Lung Cancer Cells," "The Effect of Chromium Picolinate on Hepatocytes," "The Effect of Grapefruit Seed Extract on Strep Mutans"** and **"The Effect of Estrogen on H9C2 Cells In Regards to Myasthenia Gravis."** For more information, call ext. 7075.

• The last **Select Night** of the year showcases music from DJ Randall Roberts and VJ Zlatko Cosic, holiday snacks by Wolfgang Puck, and drinks by Bud Select from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Contemporary Art Museum, located at 3750 Washington Blvd. You must be 21 to enter. Admission is free. For more information, call 535-0770, ext. 215.

Friday, December 8

• University President Richard Meyers hosts the **annual holiday party for faculty and staff** from 4 to 6 p.m. in the UC Sunnen Lounge. Please bring canned goods for the Webster-Rock Hill Ministries Food Bank. For more information, call ext. 6959.

• The art department presents artist and entertainer **Larry Krone** at noon in room 123 of the Sverdrup building as part of the Friday Artist Lecture Series. Admission is free and open to the public. For more information, call ext. 7171.

• The Conservatory of Theatre Arts presents **"Bat Boy: The Musical"** at 7:30 p.m on Stage III in Webster Hall. Admission is free to faculty, staff and students with ID. There is a $10 general admission. For more information, call ext. 7128.

Saturday, December 9

• The Conservatory of Theatre Arts presents **"Bat Boy: The Musical"** at 7:30 p.m on Stage III in Webster Hall. Admission is free to faculty, staff and students with ID. There is a $10 general admission. For more information, call ext. 7128.

• The Metro Edge Figure Skating Club of Missouri presents the second annual **"Nutcracker on Ice"** at 7 p.m. at the Webster Groves Ice Arena, located at 33 E. Glendale Road. Admission is $6 at the door. For more information, call 409-9986.

• **LUDO** will perform A Very Ludo Christmas 2006 with Tally Hall & Building Rome at 7 p.m. at The Pageant, located at 6161 Delmar Blvd. Admission is $8 in advance and $10 at the door. For more information, call 726-6161.

Sunday, December 10

• The Chorale Choir presents **"Holiday Reflections — The Annual University Celebration of the Season"** at 5 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium. Admission is free. For more information, call ext. 7128.

• The Conservatory of Theatre Arts presents **"Bat Boy: The Musical"** at 2 p.m on Stage III in Webster Hall. Admission is free to faculty, staff and students with ID. There is a $10 general admission. For more information, call ext. 7128.

• The Metro Edge Figure Skating Club of Missouri presents the second annual **"Nutcracker on Ice"** at 5:30 p.m. at the Webster Groves Ice Arena, located at 33 E. Glendale Road. Admission is $6 at the door. For more information, call 409-9986.

Monday, December 11

• The **St. Louis Rams** take on the Chicago Bears at 7:30 p.m. in the Edward Jones Dome, located at 701 Convention Plaza. Doors open at 6 p.m. For tickets, call 241-1888 or visit *http://www.stlouisrams.com.*

Tuesday, December 12

• Campus Activities sponsors **free massages** from 2 to 5 p.m. in the UC Presentation Room as part of the "What the Health" programming. Sign up at the UC Front Desk. For more information, call ext. 7105.

• The Sheldon Coffee Concert Series presents **"Home for the Holidays"** at 10 a.m. in The Sheldon Concert Hall, located in Grand Center. Tickets cost $10 for balcony seating and $12 for orchestra seating. The Webster University Singers will perform. Coffee and pastries are available at 9 a.m. in the Louis Spiering Room. For more information, call 533-9900 or visit *http://www.sheldonconcerthall.org.*

• The Webster University Film Series presents Martin Scorsese's **"Goodfellas"** at 7 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium. Admission is free.

Wednesday, December 13

• **Author Frances Alberti** will read from and sign her book "Finding Rover, A True Hurricane Katrina Story" from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in Emerson Library. Books are cost $11. All proceeds benefit the rebuilding of Bobby Alberti and Rover's home in New Orleans. For more information, call ext. 6959.

• Campus Activities sponsors **dodgeball** at 9:30 p.m. in the UC Gym as part of the "What the Health" programming. For more information, call ext. 7105.

• The **Brown Bag Gallery Tour** will start at noon at the Contemporary Art Museum, located at 3750 Washington Blvd. Bring a lunch, go on a tour and listen to a discussion of the Janaina Tschäpe exhibition. Admission is free. For more information, call 535-0770, ext. 215.

Thursday, December 14

• Gateway Christian Church presents a musical from 7 to 8:15 p.m., followed by **"Family-Fun Dickens Festival"** until 9 p.m. at the church, located at 1951 Des Peres Road. Admission is free. For more information, call 821-2156 or visit *http://www.gccstl.org.*

• The Webster University Film Series presents **R D Zurick's "Arty Movies"** at 7 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium. Admission is free.

Friday, December 15

• 105.7FM The Point presents the **2006 HoHo Show** at 7 p.m. at The Pageant, located at 6161 Delmar Blvd. Deftones, Sparta and Ava Wait will perform. Doors open at 6 p.m. General admission is $27.50. There is a $2 surcharge for minors at the door. For more information, call 726-6161.

• Gateway Christian Church presents **"Family-Fun Dickens Festival"** from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at the church, located at 1951 Des Peres Road. Admission is free. For more information, call 821-2156 or visit *http://www.gccstl.org.*

• The Webster University Film Series presents **"The Wonderfully Strange Animation of Suzan Pitt"** at 7 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium. Admission is free.

• The final day of **"Bruc Fugue,"** a video installation and sculptures by Megan and Murray McMillan, is on display in the Cecile R. Hunt Gallery. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. by appointment. For more information, call ext. 7171

Saturday, December 16

• Gateway Christian Church presents **"Family-Fun Dickens Festival"** from 2 to 8 p.m. at the church, located at 1951 Des Peres Road. Admission is free. For more information, call 821-2156 or visit *http://www.gccstl.org.*

• The Webster University Film Series presents **"The Wonderfully Strange Animation of Suzan Pitt"** at 1 and 7 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium. Pitt will be available for a Q-and-A session following the movie. Admission is free.

Sunday, December 17

• The **Jazz Lab Ensemble** performs at 4 p.m. in the Community Music School Recital Hall. Admission is free and open to the public. For more information, call ext. 5939.

• Gateway Christian Church presents **"Family-Fun Dickens Festival"** from 2 to 8 p.m. at 1951 Des Peres Road. The musical starts at 7 p.m. Admission is free. For more information, call 821-2156 or visit *http://www.gccstl.org.*

• The Webster University Film Series presents **"The Wonderfully Strange Animation of Suzan Pitt"** at 7 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium. Admission is free.

Monday, December 18

• Grant's Fram is decorated with holiday lights for **Magic of the Holidays** from 5 to 10 p.m. now through Dec. 23. Admission free. There is a parking fee of $8 per vehicle and $20 for buses, RVs and oversized vehicles. For more information, call 843-1700 or visit *http://www.grantsfarm.com.*

Tuesday, December 19

• The Bach Society of St. Louis presents **"Christmas Candlelight Concert"** at 7:30 p.m. in Powell Symphony Hall, located at 718 N. Grand Blvd. For more information, call 652-2224 or visit *http://www.bachsociety.org.*

Wednesday, December 20

• The Bach Society of St. Louis presents **"Christmas Candlelight Concert"** at 7:30 p.m. in Powell Symphony Hall, located at 718 N. Grand Blvd. For more information, call 652-2224 or visit *http://www.bachsociety.org.*

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By Michael Mepham

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

Level of Difficulty: 3

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

Today's solution

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

Nov. 30 puzzle solution

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

Baseball

Team finding new ways to train

BY MATT MAJIKAS
mmajikas@webujournal.com

Although it is only December, and the men's baseball season does not start until March 1, it is never too early to train for the season. New Head Coach Bill Kurich has installed an entirely new workout program to shape up players for the 2007 season.

Over the previous three seasons, the Gorloks witnessed some dramatic changes in their workout routine. Last season, the Gorloks were required to do five workouts a week, which consisted of three weight-room sessions and two throwing sessions.

Players were required to be in the gym for a minimum of 90 minutes and had to meet a quota by the end of the set time period or they would not be allowed to travel with the team for the spring break trip.

Senior first baseman Dan Braning said this was a relatively flawed system.

"There was kind of a lack of credibility to the system," Braning said. "We thought it was a good idea, but it didn't seem like it was enforced and players who did not get their workouts done still went on the trip."

This season, Kurich has completely revamped the workout expectations. An honor system is now in place that is only three days a week, but includes a number of new and unique workouts.

"I think the three-day system keeps players fresh and energetic and makes them want to be in the weight room," Braning said.

The newest workout for the Gorloks requires all pitchers to put on their swim trunks and engage in underwater training that senior pitcher Will Myers said is advantageous to the pitcher's body.

"In order to get things accomplished in the spring ... we need to get better right now."
— Bill Kurich

"This is the first year that we have had pitchers' workouts," Myers said. "In the pool we are doing a complete, full-body workout and pitching is definitely a full-body workout."

Myers said each pitcher is required to do a workout known as "I's, Y's and T's." This describes the arm raises done underwater that strengthen specific muscles in a pitcher's shoulder and, most importantly, the rotator cuff.

"When you use your arm as a pitcher it is going in an awkward motion, so the muscles around your shoulder have to be strong," Myers said.

Braning and Myers came to the Webster baseball program in 2004, and along with senior outfielder Preston Gross, have earned more Webster wins than any other players in program history. Prior to the 2004 season, the Gorloks had never won more than 16 games in a season. In the following three seasons, the Gorloks tallied 76 wins and claimed their first Saint Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference title in 2005.

With new coaching, the Gorloks look to continue their winning ways in 2007. Players engage in 30 minutes of stretching before every practice. Kurich said the workout program is an unorthodox one.

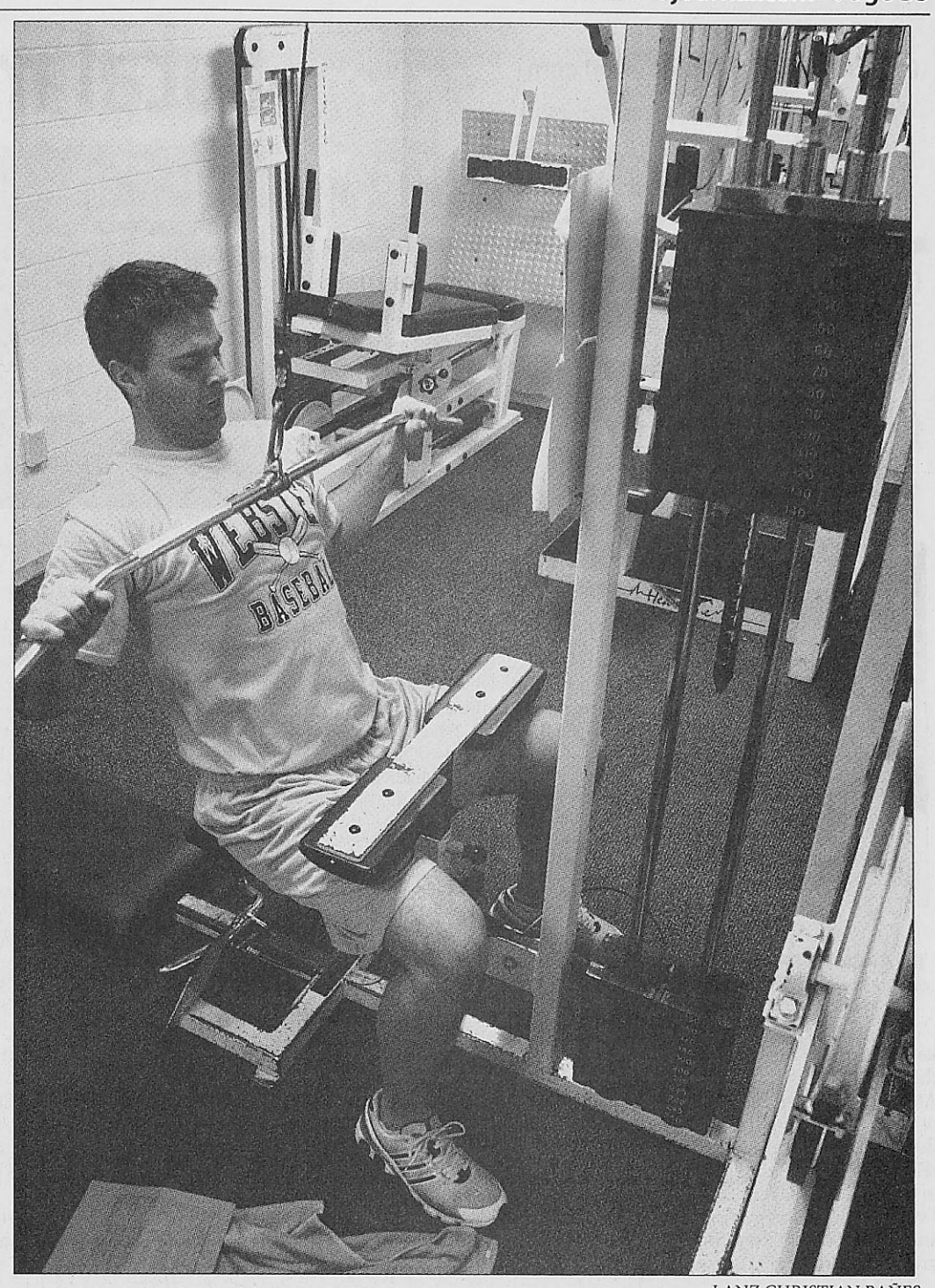
"The program is designed to be very individualized," Kurich said. "Our biggest guy is going to have a different workout than say (junior first baseman) Wes Hilliard, who may need to add 10 pounds."

Kurich used the same workout program when he coached for Saint Joseph College, a Division II school in Rensselaer, Ind. Kurich said a friend, Thurman Hendrix designed the program for Kurich while at Saint Joseph's. Hendrix works for the Chicago White Sox and is what Kurich calls a sport "enhancer."

"Hendrix put this program together for us." Kurich said. "If I were to pay someone to put together a program like this I would imagine it would cost a couple of thousand dollars."

Last season, the Gorloks finished with a 26-18 overall record and 8-3 in SLIAC play. The Gorloks defeated the Greenville College Panthers to earn their second NCAA Tournament appearance in as many years. As for this season, Kurich is confident in his team.

"I think our guys understand that in order to get things accomplished in the spring from a championship standpoint, we need to get better right now," Kurich said. "I truly believe that we are getting better every day, and our guys are working hard and it will certainly pay off."



LANZ CHRISTIAN BAÑES
Junior Joe Malat, a Gorlok pitcher, utilizes the fitness center Dec. 4 as part of a new training program.

Tough start: New Gorloks hope to rebound from poor start

FROM PAGE B6

The hardest thing about those growing pains is they are actually painful. No one wants to go through four losses in a row, and I certainly don't want the team to continue losing. It's going to take some time though, and that's understandable with the team being so new.

Their first conference game is Nov. 6 against one of Webster's biggest rivals, Maryville University. Callahan said the team has gone "back to the basics" during practices, which seemed to help the Gorloks during their last game Nov. 28 against Missouri Baptist University. The Gorloks lost by only six points, 56-61 — a big step up from their two previous games, which they lost by more than 60 points each.

If they remain focused on the fundamentals, these players will eventually achieve that all-important first win of the season, possibly in the next couple of games, but they will still struggle — even after breaking the losing streak. One win won't guarantee a place in the SLIAC.

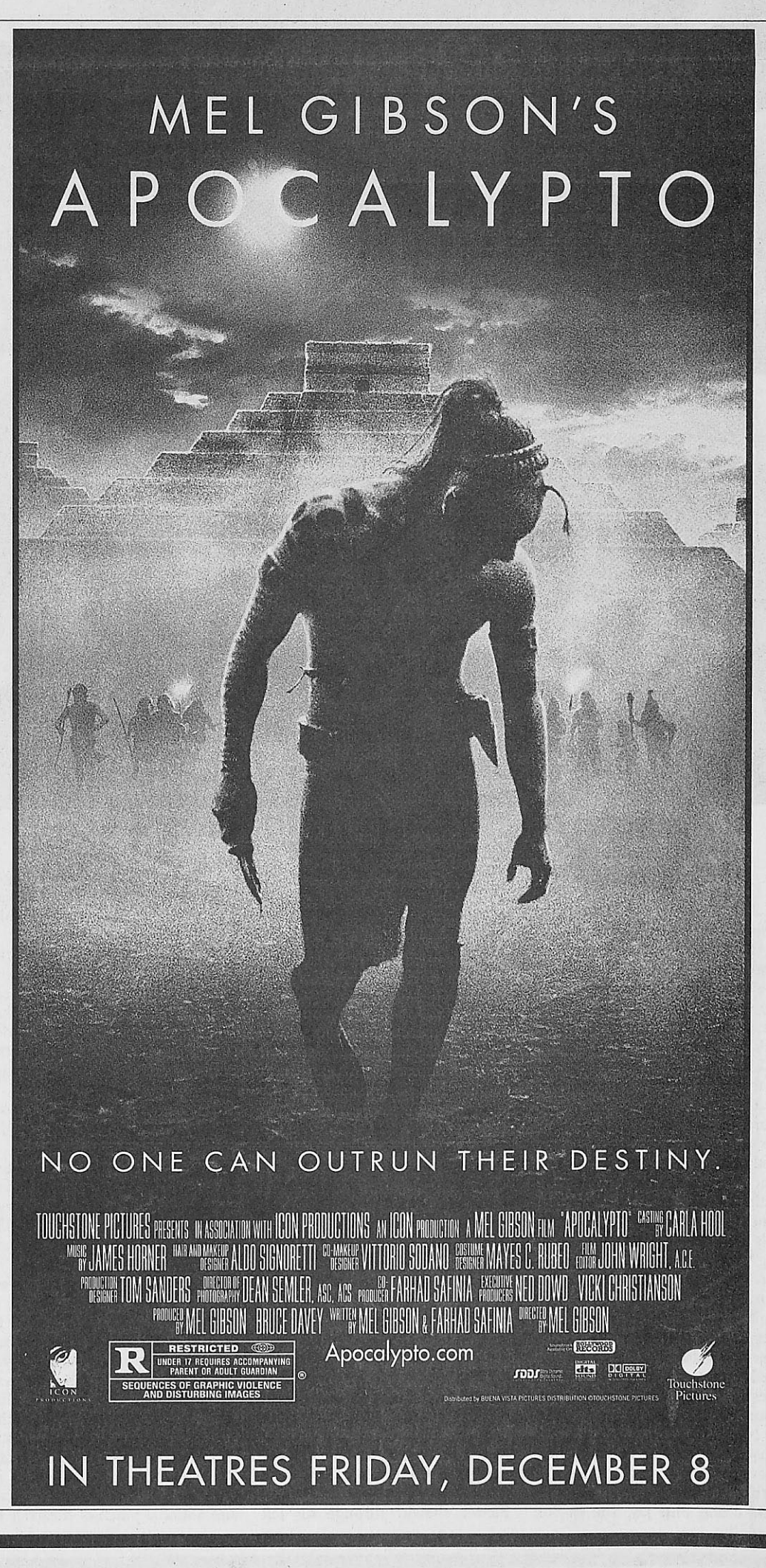
"People say you learn more by losing than winning," Bunch said. "There are times it's going to get a little more wobbly."

During the break, the team will have the opportunity to play seven more games and work out a lot of kinks.

Callahan said they'll get four or five days to go home for the holidays, but she doesn't want them to be gone for too long because she wants them to stay in shape. They will also will be given a to-do list of sorts to help them stay fit while they're gone, Callahan said.

To catch a break from exam study sessions and cheer on the team, head over to Grant Gymnasium to see these women in action at 7 p.m., Dec. 9 against MacMurray College.





Sports

December 7, 2006-January 24, 2007 • The Journal

Women's hoops should focus on small victories

Team struggles as SLIAC play nears



BY ANDREA PASZKIEWICZ
apaszkiewicz@webujournal.com

It's no secret the women's basketball team is the underdog of the Saint Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference. The lack of faith, though, has nothing to do with the players' individual talents or the leadership skills of Head Coach Jayme Callahan. I've seen their energy firsthand, and I don't doubt they could be great. The problem is the team is just too new to play well together, and there's no guarantee they'll come together anytime soon.

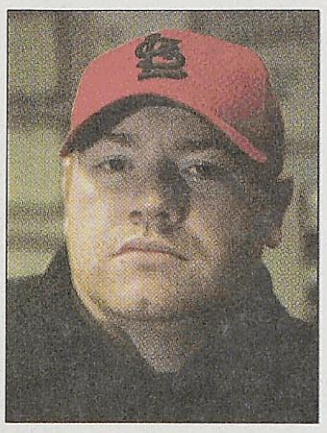
I'm not sentencing them to a no-win season, but their preseason hasn't helped to boost my confidence. I was able to catch their game against Illinois Wesleyan University Nov. 21, which they lost 39-101, and it was one of the most painful things I've ever had to witness. I'm sure our players did their best to get the job done, but the other team was just too good.

I've spoken with both Callahan and Chris Bunch, head coach of the men's basketball team, about the women's performance so far, and neither seem discouraged about the rest of the season. Like me, they know the capabilities of these players and are just waiting for them to gel as a team.

"I think they'll be fine once they hit conference," Bunch said. "You want to start out on top, but it's difficult to do that. The reality is sometimes you've got to go through growing pains."

See TOUGH START, Page B5

Local media show no love for WU



BY PATRICK DEVINE
pdevine@webujournal.com

It can be hard to describe what is newsworthy. The media are the filter for the public. The media decide which stories are told, what footage will be shown and with what angle the story will be told. The public is at the mercy of the media.

Webster University doesn't have the reputation of being a sports powerhouse. The school is better known for academics, but with recent success of the athletic department, one might think the *St. Louis Post Dispatch* or "sports-talk radio stations" like KFNS 590 The Fan or 1380 ESPN might be interested.

"We've kind of accepted the fact that we will always be in the box score, but that's it," Senior Women's Administration and Sports Information Director Merry Graf said. "Maybe if we're lucky we'll grab a headline."

Graf is in charge of relaying the stats and box scores of Webster athletics to the media, as well as to the Saint Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and the opposing teams' sports information director. The SLIAC then sends the information to the NCAA.

"I would think that the *Post* would have more interest in the smaller schools, considering the local involvement with the school," Graf said. "But as far as the *Post* thinks, WU stands for Washington University, not Webster University."

Every school has a sports information office in charge of statistics for the games, upcoming events and announcements from the athletic department. The sports information office sends that information to the media, the conference and opposing schools. Webster's sports information department doesn't have the resources Wash U. has.

"But as far as the Post thinks, WU stands for Washington University, not Webster University." — Merry Graf

"Pick any SLIAC school or any National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics school, nobody has the resources to get the word out like Wash U. does," said Athletic Director Tom Hart. "It's harder doing business in a large metropolitan area. At the same time, what does frustrate me is the amount of space that Wash U. will get compared to other schools."

Wash U. and Division I schools dominate the headlines in town because they're better equipped to get their school's information available for the media.

"Division I schools are geared to be known more," Hart said. "Whether it's because of the size or the scope of the school, Division I schools have the mechanisms in place to reach out to the public through the media."

While getting Webster's name in the headlines isn't a concern of the athletic department, Hart does wish the smaller schools would get more ink space.

"I think Merry Graf does a great job with what she has," Hart said. "I would love to be able to celebrate the success or the championships that our student athletes accomplish more, but it's hard to get our name out there, given all of the other responsibilities that we have."

However, the *Post* isn't the only form of media coverage in this town. TV and radio stations dedicate their college sports coverage to the University of Missouri, University of Illinois or Saint Louis University.

"The smaller the school, the less interest in the majority of the market," said Jason Barrett, programming director for KFNS 590 The Fan. "If we cover one school, then another school wants coverage and another. Before you know it, our audience is saying 'hey, enough of the college talk, just talk to us about the Cardinals, Rams and Blues.'"

While Barrett believes there is an audience for the smaller schools, like Maryville University, Lindenwood University and Webster, he thinks the box score in the *Post* will suffice for the size of the audience.

"I worked in Market 161 in Poughkeepsie, New York. We had Vassar College, Marist College and Bart College. Marist was the SLU of that market, but Vassar, Bart and Marist would all get pushed aside for Yankees, Mets, Giants, Jets, Rangers and the Knicks," Barrett said. "We were an hour and a half outside of the city and people still want their main teams and after their main teams they want the big-name colleges next."

For sports talk-radio station banter, Webster athletics doesn't stir any interest. Sports talk stations go for the hot topics. The issues, controversies and stories that spark arguments are what Barrett and radio stations are looking for.

"When it comes to sports talk radio, Webster sports doesn't offer the sexiest topic of conversation," Barrett said.

While Barrett isn't ready for Webster sports to be a topic on the air, he does believe Webster offers him and the radio station something more valuable than just conversation topics.

"I have never hired someone from SLU, Mizzou or Illinois," Barrett said. "Webster students are much more qualified coming out of school. That is a feature that Webster is focused on and should remain focused on."

2006 ENDS VIOLENTLY FOR SLIAC FOES

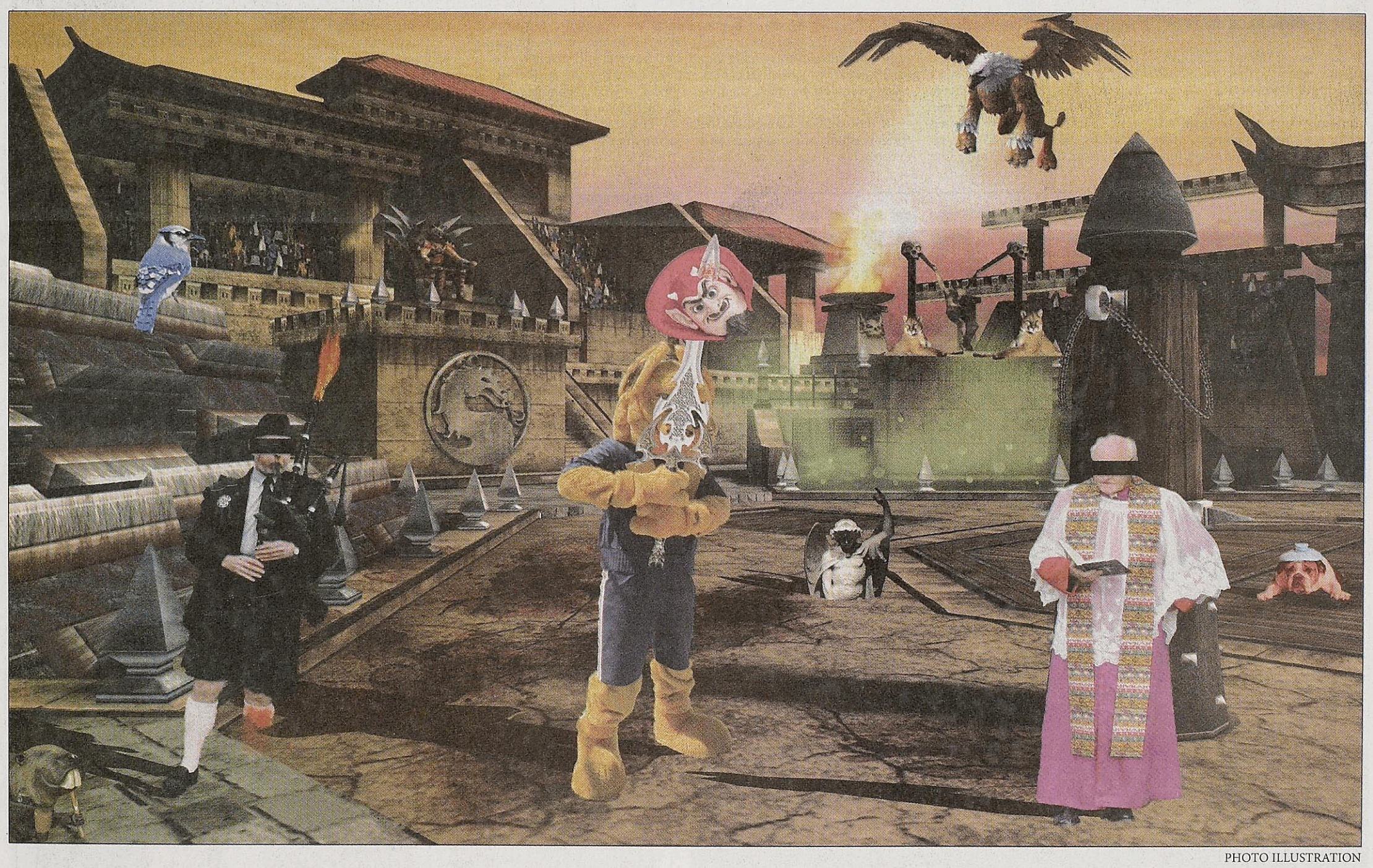


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION

BY RACHEL LEBO
rlebo@webujournal.com

Ten mascots, one arena and a fight that ends when the last St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference mascot is standing could prove to be entertaining. So, here's what's going down: the Ultimate SLIAC Mascot Showdown of Ultimate Destiny in the floating SLIAC arena located somewhere in the imagination.

Our own Webster University Gorlok leads the pack. His/her bipedal buddies include the Eureka Red Devils, MacMurray Highlanders (Scottish men and a kilt, recipe for a wee disaster) and the Lincoln Christian Preachers/Angels. The four-legged friends coming into this competition include the Blackburn Battlin' Beavers, Principa Panthers, Greenville Panthers and Maryville Saints (represented by a red bulldog). One can't forget the fine-feathered brethren in the SLIAC — the Westminster Blue Jays and Fontbonne Griffins.

Natural rivalries between the mascots would, of course, take over. The Panthers, pairing together, would face off with the Griffin and Blue Jay. The Gorlok and the Saints have a growl off, but only because the Gorlok is hanging back to let everyone else knock each other out before he/she gets involved.

The biggest rivalry, by far, would have to be between the Red Devil and the Preacher/Angel. Pulling out a fast move, the Preacher/Angel performs a quick exorcism on the Red Devil. The ring floor cracks in half and a combination of flames and tortured screams greets the ears of everyone in the ring and the audience.

The Red Devil, try as he might, resists the pull into the pit of despair. He might have been successful, if not for the Highlander pushing the distracted Preacher/Angel into the Red Devil, knocking them both into the hole … destination: hell.

The Red Devil and Preacher/Angel tried calling in to comment on their fate in the fight, but cell phone reception in hell prevented the call from going through.

The Highlander, while celebrating his victory over the two foes, was shocked to find out Beavers also were carnivores when he looked down to see the Battlin' Beaver chewin' through his left leg.

"There can only be one Highlander," said the beaver, between bites of the Scotsman's fibula. "And you are not it."

The bone splinters, and the Highlander's blood-curdling scream blocks out the Battlin' Beaver's gargling sounds as he chokes on a large fragment of Highlander leg-bone. Unfortunately for the unlucky Beaver it's sharp enough to poke through his esophagus.

"I'll call it a botched tracheostomy if anyone asks," gargled the Battlin' Beaver.

Above all of the massacre below, the Blue Jay dodges and dives the relentless attacks from the two Panthers trying to catch lunch. One paw catches the tail feathers of the Blue Jay and it spins out of control, slamming into the steel bars that surround the ring.

The Panthers were going to split the little bird, but on account of the Blue Jay urinating all over itself out of fear, they thought better of it. Instead, the poor blue bird was smashed underneath the paw of the Bulldog when he approached the two black cats with the Gorlok at his side. A puff of blue feathers flew through the air and added a pinch of theatrics to the fight.

"I got cheated," the Blue Jay said. "I'm naked, covered in urine and my girlfriend will not want to lay eggs with me from now on. In fact, I'm going to consider legal action against the mascots."

The Blue Jay has reportedly moved to Toronto and cannot be reached for further comment.

The Panthers, not sure what to do next, back up, while the two canine-like mascots approach them. What they don't know is that they're backing into the Griffin's flexing talons. Digging into the Panthers' backs, somewhere in between the fifth and sixth vertebrae, the Griffin takes on the role as the worst chiropractor ever and fatally adjusts the Panthers into a paralyzed state.

The Gorlok, having the paws of a speeding cheetah and the horns of a fierce buffalo, has hidden this fact from the other mascots as a guise to stay in the fight. (The Gorlok also has a great poker face — don't let the fluffy Saint Bernard looks fool you.)

The Griffin, already a main rival of the Gorlok as another mythical creature, knows something is up. The Bulldog, sensing he is now the target of the two mascots has the urge to run, but remembers the steel bars. He isn't given the chance to reason, however, as the Gorlok and Griffin elbow-drop the dog into unconsciousness.

"I thought we could have worked out some kind of deal," said the Bulldog while waiting in an ambulance. "Instead, I have to get a new kidney because their combined elbow-drop ruptured both of mine."

So now it's down to Fontbonne and Webster — already rivals prior to the Ultimate SLIAC Mascot Showdown of Ultimate Destiny.

The Gorlok, at this point, has the choice to make the confrontation with his/her rival short or draw it out. He/she took out his/her sunglasses and viola — Johnny Cage, Gorlok version, is unleashed.

With a flying shadow kick to the Griffin's torso, fans as far back as row 15 can hear the sternum crack under the pressure of the Gorlok's attack. Dazed and confused, the Griffin sways back and forth in the standing position. "Finish him," said the booming voice that signified the fight was over.

The Gorlok rushes the Griffin and wraps his/her arms around the enemy's waist. With one swift movement, the Gorlok rips the Griffin in half. The legs stumble back, and the Gorlok tosses the upper torso into the first row, covering his/her fans in intestinal fluids and Griffin organs. That same booming voice yelled out the word "fatality," which echoed throughout the stadium, and was eventually drowned out by the crowd cheering for the Gorlok.

"I was caught by surprise," said the Griffin's upper torso. "I had no idea the Gorlok was so strong. It was a great end to a great fight but, I have one request … if the fan who is in possession of my liver could return it to me, that would be great. I can't go bar hopping without it."

The Griffin's legs decline to comment.

The Gorlok is victorious, and he/she is winner of the Ultimate SLIAC Mascot Showdown of Ultimate Destiny. His/her prize? A modeling contract with Purina for its newest line of dog food. Of course, it's the only logical conclusion that the Gorlok would win, as this past fall season the Gorloks dominated — though perhaps not as violently — the entire fall 2006 conference.

THE JOURNAL

The News Source for Webster University • www.webujournal.com • January 25-31, 2007

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Feds uncover $625,000 fraud at WU

Former Webster employee allegedly created fake companies to collect university money

BY ANNA C. FORDER
aforder@webujournal.com

Former Webster employee Malcolm Murphy was arrested by the U.S. Attorney's Office Dec. 6 and charged with one count of mail fraud for allegedly devising a scheme that cost the university $625,000.

Murphy, 48, served as facilities manager for renovation and construction projects at the Webster Groves campus from Sept. 3, 2002 through Sept. 18, 2006. He was terminated from Webster after an internal audit performed by the university's Business Office revealed what was termed "irregularities in the Project Management Office."

Mail fraud is a felony in which someone attempts to illegally obtain money using the U.S. Postal Service.

Indictment documents in Murphy's case state he incorporated two sham construction-related businesses in the state of Missouri. Murphy then allegedly created fake invoices to pay his companies for on-campus work that was never actually performed.

Murphy had the payment for these false jobs sent to a post office box in his name as well as to a private residence he owned, so he could spend the money for personal uses, the indictment alleged.

Before Murphy was arrested, he was interviewed several times by postal inspectors, according to documents filed in the case. He agreed Oct. 25, 2006 to make an appointment to show inspectors where his companies performed the construction work on campus, but he then called the inspectors later the same day and declined to show them the work without a court order, according to documents in the case.

Murphy also claimed during pre-arrest interviews that he himself had performed the work, but said the work was "not visible to the eye," documents in the case state. He told the postal inspector some of the specific work he performed included laying concrete pads and performing waterproofing projects that he allegedly completed during evenings and weekends. He also told inspectors no one at Webster knew he was affiliated with the two companies and no one at Webster could confirm that he had performed the work, according to documents in the case.

Murphy's attorney, Susan Roach, has filed documents to exclude these pre-arrest interviews from the trial. She contends Murphy was improperly arrested and questioned in the case without being made aware of his right to decline to speak about the incidents. The U.S. attorney's office maintains that inspectors questioned Murphy legally.

The alleged scheme was carried out from August 2003 through August 2006, according to the indictment. In order to receive payment for these jobs, Murphy had to forge or photocopy the signatures of other Webster employees on invoices for the fabricated work, the indictment alleged.

In addition, one of Murphy's companies, Paric Civil Consulting, was set up with a name similar to that of Paric Corporation, a regional construction company that has performed legitimate work for Webster. The indictment alleges Murphy forged or photocopied the signatures of people affiliated with the legitimate Paric Corporation in order

See FRAUD, Page A3

GORLOKS STRETCH FOR PERSONAL BESTS



MAX GERSH/ *The Journal*

Leah Bend races down the lane in the women's 500m freestyle competition at the Washington University Invitational Jan 19. See SPORTS, Page 10.

WU ends disputed WHINSEC program

BY BREANNA HERSCHELMAN
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Webster has ended its agreement with the controversial training school for Latin American military officials, the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation, in order to "step over" a controversy brewing.

"We think it is best to now 'step over' this conversation, and simply avoid any further misunderstandings with an unnecessary relationship at WHINSEC," Associate Vice President fovr Academic Affairs James Staley said in an e-mail.

Staley released the e-mail to faculty Dec. 6 explaining why Webster ended the agreement with the school formerly known as the School of Americas. Staley said the Office of Academic Affairs consulted with the Graduate Council and University President Richard Meyers before making the decision. The Graduate Council is a committee composed of graduate program faculty and staff. One of the Graduate Council's main tasks is to review graduate programs at all of the campuses.

Staley said the agreement only offered a minimal benefit to Webster and was not substantive enough to keep if it was going to cause controversy. Staley said graduates of the Command and General Staff College at WHINSEC could still be admitted to Webster on an individual basis.

"A summary of my perspective on the situation, including what I believe were exaggerations in the reported stories, as well as representing the great respect for the opinions and perceptions of diverse members of our academic community, was sent to the faculty," Staley said.

Thirty-two faculty members signed a petition asking for the termination of the agreement, but Staley sent the e-mail explaining the program ended before they formally submitted the petition.

Professor of Latin American politics Dan Hellinger said the Sisters of Loretto, the nuns who founded Webster in 1915, in-

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Subsidy ends for STL Journalism Review

BY STEPHANIE KISZCZAK
skiszczak@webujournal.com

Following an 11-year relationship with Webster University, the *St. Louis Journalism Review*, a publication that critiques local media, is in search of a new home.

Webster University has decided to stop subsidies for *SJR*. Instead, according to Neil George, executive vice president for academic affairs, the university plans to branch into electronic media and start a national media watch.

Charles Klotzer and his wife, Rose, founded the *St. Louis Journalism Review* in 1970 with the mission to serve as a watchdog and critic of St. Louis media. In 1995, Klotzer turned over ownership of *SJR* to Webster University.

Since then, the university has subsidized the journalism review, spending between $35,000 to $50,000 a year to publish the media critique, according to George.

"The university is keenly interested in the mission of the *St. Louis Journalism Review* (and) over the last several years, we've been looking at ways on the board of *SJR* to make it financially sustainable," George said. "Within a few years, the goal was to have the journalism review become self-sustaining. That has not happened, despite very strong efforts on part of the board."

In December the *St. Louis Journalism Review* board, which consists of several Webster members, decided to return ownership of *SJR* to Klotzer. Ed Bishop, lecturer in the School of Communications, has been editor since *SJR*'s move to Webster's campus.

"We have been discussing the financial situation of *SJR* for about a year and a half," Bishop said. "Several different attempts were made to secure funding to relieve Webster (of) the financial burden of publishing *SJR*. There was really no long-term solution found."

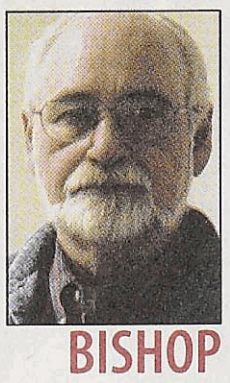
George said despite *SJR*'s value, the university could not continue to support it.

"It has made many contributions, but it has never realized a strong, financial base," he said.

Following the next issue, to be published in February, Bishop will relinquish his position as editor and ownership of *SJR* will be returned to Klotzer.

"They have never been sufficient to meet the financial obligation," George said. "The university routinely supported the cost to sustain the journalism review and this is no longer defensible."

Past ideas about replacing the print version of *SJR* with an electronic alternative, such as a blog, have been repeatedly shot down by Klotzer.



BISHOP

"I will not continue to reduce it to a blog — it would be one of millions and would be invisible, in my view," he said.

The *St. Louis Journalism Review* is one of three surviving print journalism reviews in the country, including the *American Journalism Review* and the *Columbia Journalism Review*. *SJR* currently has a Web site, which houses *SJR* archives.

Despite *SJR*'s uncertain future, *SJR* will continue to publish, Klotzer said. The February issue will be upgraded to five-pound stock paper, a coated cover and two colors throughout the publication.

Shortly after *SJR*'s final issue at Webster, the university plans to start a national media watch, venturing into electronic media in the form of a Web site, blog, television and radio show, George said. A contemporary format, such as a blog, would allow media criticism to exist at Webster without incurring financial losses, he said.

Bishop said he would spearhead the new electronic media criticism.

"As soon as my responsibilities for the print version are finished, I can dedicate time (to starting a national media watch)," Bishop said.

Bishop already hosts a radio show called "Reality Now," which airs on KDHX 88.1-FM. He said he's looking into starting a television show on Free Speech TV, a nationally syndicated subscription cable channel. Bishop said he feels the focus and format of media criticism needs to change.

Frank Absher, who has been writing for *SJR* since the 1980s, disagrees.

"If it (*SJR*) becomes a blog, it would lose some of its credibility," he said.

Absher, along with other *SJR* writers, said he would no longer write for *SJR* if the print version was replaced by a blog.

He also said he questions the financial status of the university for cutting something as small as *SJR* from the budget.

"It would be easy to interpret this more as an indication that the school is in dire financial straits," he said. "I won't be recommending Webster anymore to promising students since I can't, in good conscious, send them to a school that might be financially insolvent."

George said moving to an electronic medium would cost less.

"It is the print version that is the most expensive," he said. "Webster University clearly values the *St. Louis Journalism Review* and we regret the financial challenges have not been realized by the board."

There is talk of moving *SJR* to other college campuses, but Klotzer said a final decision has not been made. The *SJR* board will meet Jan. 25 to make final arrangements.

"I'm sorry it has come to separation, but it's not my decision, it was Webster's decision," Klotzer said. "The print version will continue in a redesigned, expanded

NEWS BRIEFS

"Pursuit of Happyness" inspiration comes to Webster

Christopher Gardner will give a lecture at 7 p.m. Jan. 29 in the Loretto-Hilton Center. He will speak about overcoming homelessness and poverty to become a successful broker. Gardner will sign copies of his autobiography "The Pursuit of Happyness" at 8:30 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. Doors open for anyone with a valid i.d. at 6 p.m. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. for the general public.

Webster to host forensics tournament

The Webster University Forensics Team will host its Ninth Annual Gorlok Gala Jan. 26 through 28. Various colleges and universities from throughout the country will compete in several forms of debate, public speaking and performance. Events will be held at Webster's Webster Groves Jan. 26 and Jan. 27 and at the Sheraton Westport Plaza Jan. 28.

MISDEMEANORS AND MISHAPS

Dec. 8, 2:26 p.m.: A Sodexho employee fell while walking on the sidewalk behind Maria Hall.

Dec. 8, 9:14 p.m.: A parked vehicle was struck in the Webster Village Apartments, Lot N.

Dec. 9, 1:52 p.m.: A student assaulted another student at the Webster Village Apartments.

Dec. 15, 8:03 a.m.: A student became ill while exercising in the University Center Fitness Room.

Dec. 16, 2:40 p.m.: A fire was extinguished in a dumpster behind the Loretto-Hilton Center.

Dec. 20, 9:04 a.m.: Two computers were taken from the Pearson House.

Jan. 16, 11:35 a.m.: A camera was taken from a student's backpack in Emerson Library.

Source: Public Safety crime log

WHINSEC: Loretto sisters exert influence

FROM PAGE A1

fluenced the university's decision.

"The sisters exercised as much influence as the faculty and students," Hellinger said.

Sister Barbara Barbato said she knew people who personally had suffered from the activities of WHINSEC graduates when it was still called School of the Americas. The school changed its name in 2001. Webster initiated its agreement with WHINSEC in 2005.

Barbato, who taught history, political science and international law at Webster for nearly 40 years, said she knew the administration would follow the values on which Webster was founded.

"I was confident that once (the administration) put two and two together, that would be the end of the agreement," Barbato said.

Barbato, a Webster graduate, also said numerous sisters and other Webster graduates wrote to administrators asking for the facts of the situation, and the probing was enough to make them understand how many people cared about the agreement with WHINSEC.

Hellinger also said he assumed Staley and Neil George, executive vice president and vice president for Academic Affairs, had good instincts regarding ending the agreement.

"It speaks well for the administration that they responded," Hellinger said.

Administrators maintain the controversy needs no further discussion.

"At this time, no further comment is appropriate or needed," Staley said in an e-mail.

Connections plagued by spam problems, delays

IT adds additional server to help manage large number of accounts

BY KEVIN HUELSMANN
khuelsmann@webujournal.com

Repairs are being made in an effort to speed up the Connections e-mail servers. Workers from information technology are planning to install an additional server to relieve the two servers that currently handle the university's e-mail.

Larry Haffner, vice president of IT, said the large number of students using the two servers caused an overload.

"We're working on it right now," Haffner said. "We experienced exponential growth that we weren't ready for. The raw number of accounts and the number of them being used overloaded the server."

Connections users have experienced delays in using the service in the past weeks.

"It's horrible right now," Haffner said. "We've gone through one process today (Jan. 18) that helped a little bit. Next week, we plan to add a third server and spread out accounts."

Jacob Gossage, a sophomore public relations major, said he was unable to access his e-mail account for one week.

"I was waiting for e-mails about applying for graduate school," Gossage said. "I couldn't e-mail anyone or get any e-mail. I got a few e-mails after I was supposed to respond to them."

During final exams last semester, a problem with the university's spam filter caused student, faculty and staff e-mail to be identified as spam.

A glitch in Barracuda, the spam filter Webster uses for the Connections e-mail, caused legitimate mail to be identified as spam and subsequently removed from inboxes and placed in a quarantine folder, Haffner said.

Users only could access the spam, or unsolicited e-mail, through Barracuda's Web site.

"The portion of the software that learns what messages are spam had become 'poisoned' with inaccurate spam," read a message posted on the Connections Web site by the Help Desk. "In order to correct this problem, we had to delete this file. This means that the software now has to re-learn what messages users think are spam."

Barracuda identifies spam through user input — the user decides what is spam and what isn't, Haffner said.

"There has been a tremendous increase in spam," Haffner said. "Spammers get very creative. The filtering companies try to keep up with the increases and different kinds, but it's hard. Our system just got confused."

Workers from IT and the filtering company worked to solve the problem Dec. 7. In order to let legitimate e-mails get through, IT disabled Barracuda completely for a few hours.

"We had a serious problem (Dec. 6)," Haffner said. "But it should be fixed now."

IT investigated the incident to find out exactly what happened.

"We're still trying to figure out why Barracuda got so confused," Haffner said. "Then, we'll just need to make some adjustments to how we filter things and what we tell users what to do with it."

Spam filtering is still relatively new at Webster. It was added only a year ago, Haffner said.

On average, about 150,000 to 200,000 internal e-mails are sent daily through Webster e-mail, Haffner said. About 60 percent of those are identified by Barracuda as spam or as a virus and are sent to the quarantine folder.

To access the folder, users must log on through Barracuda's Web site, *https://mx1.webster.edu*. Students can use their Connections ID and password to login.

"A lot of people had trouble (Dec. 6) because they didn't know where to look for their e-mails," Haffner said.

Karla Armbruster, an associate English professor, said the e-mail problem was an inconvenience, but not much more than that.

"Two problems I had were: e-mail messages to students (using the webster.edu address) blocked as spam and legitimate messages to me trapped in the spam filter," Armbruster said. "In my case, the consequences weren't too disastrous, and the situation lasted only a day or two."

Haffner said IT has some options with regards to the spam filter but is focused on making sure e-mail is delivered properly.

"Which side do we err on?" Haffner said. "Do we try to catch everything and take the chance that legitimate e-mails don't get through? Do we let it up a little bit and let some things get through? We're in the mail-delivery business, not spam-filtering business."

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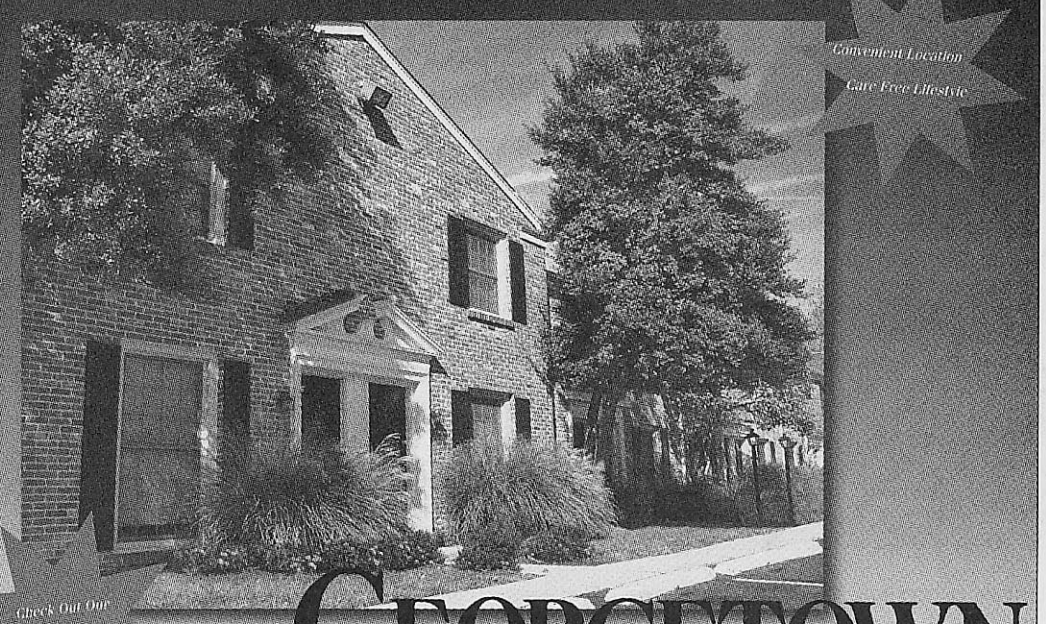

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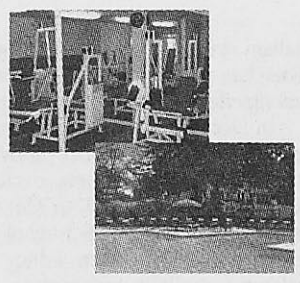

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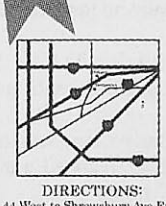

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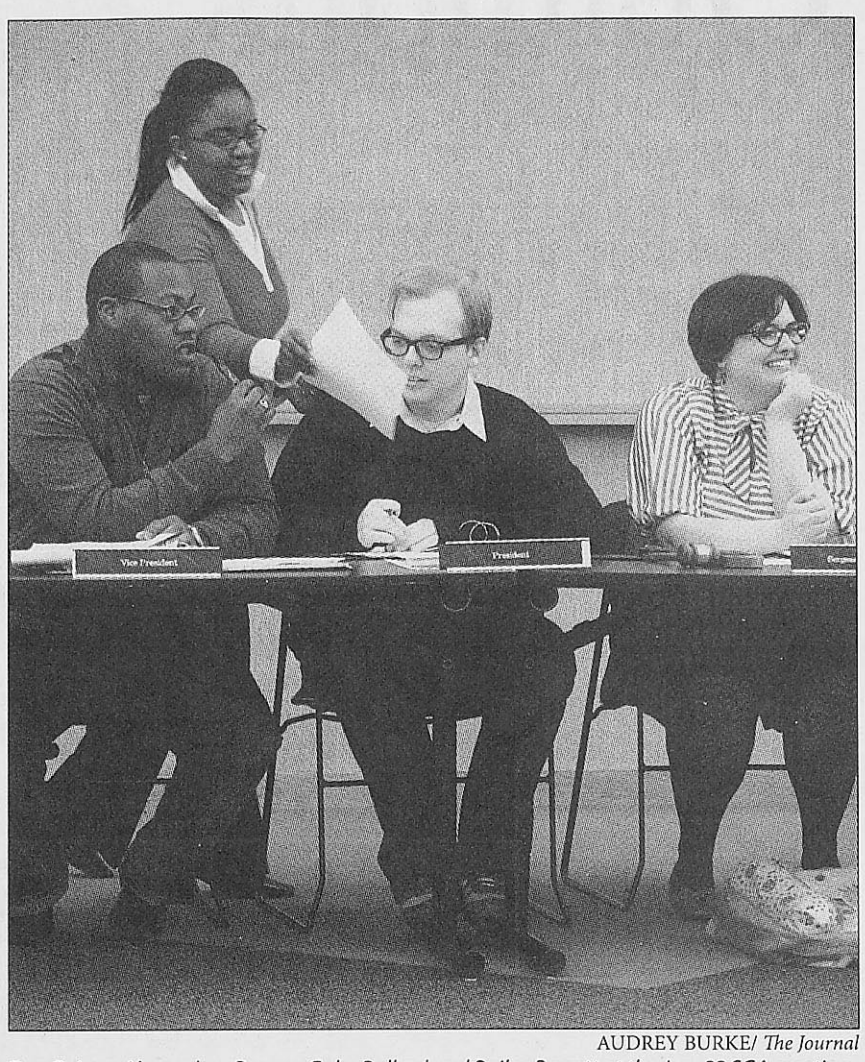
SGA kicks off new session



AUDREY BURKE/ *The Journal*
Dee Goines, Alexandrea Barney, Gabe Bullard and Bailey Barrett at the Jan. 23 SGA meeting.

BY MALLORY SKINNER
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Having returned from an internship at "Late Night with Conan O'Brien," President Gabe Bullard conducted the first Student Government Association's meeting of the spring semester.

The meeting began with Bullard swearing in two new officers: Comptroller Mac Ingram, formerly an arts and sciences senator, and Business and Technology Senator Lauren Meyer.

After the new officers assumed their positions, Ted Hoef, dean of students, reported Blimpies will reopen Jan. 31, pending a county inspection. The announcement received a cheer from those in attendance.

Hoef also said the university will begin housing students in Loretto Hall in the fallwhile renovating Maria Hall.

"Our long-term plans are to remodel Maria Hall in the image of West Hall," Hoef said. "During this time, we will temporarily house students in Loretto Hall."

Hoef said after the renovation, Loretto will be used for office space, because its rooms are smaller and closer to already existing offices. He said he was not sure which residents would be allowed to live in Loretto, but eligibility would depend largely on the number of incoming freshmen.

John Ginsburg, director of the University Center and Campus Activities, announced two SGA positions, graduate senator and fine arts senator, are available. He also said it is imperative that students who would like to transfer refund money to their personal bank accounts provide Higher One, the company responsible for issuing refund cards, with their account information.

Following Ginsburg's report, Bullard outlined SGA's goals for the spring semester. He said SGA hopes to enhance Webster's campus by providing lighting on the quad for evening events, adding a campus pub and upgrading the furniture in Webster Hall classrooms. SGA also plans to improve maintenance of the Visual Arts Studio, a building some art students and professors say has fallen into disrepair.

Bullard noted SGA is currently absorbing the costs of Webster's Readership Program, which furnishes students with free copies of the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* and *USA Today*. He said SGA plans to seek funding for the program from various departments that use the newspapers in their curriculum.

"As a journalism major, the Readership Program has been beneficial to me," Bullard said. "And I imagine it is also helpful to people majoring in international relations, political science, etc."

Other goals include making Connections more functional for students and faculty, increasing communication with the administration and improving accessibility on campus. Secretary Alexandrea Barney, a representative of the accessibility committee, said the voice signals on the crosswalk at Edgar and Garden will be restored in the spring. Barney said the voice signals were removed because they interfered with the traffic lights.

Before the meeting adjourned, Communications Senator Elizabeth Eisele said Webster has re-launched its radio station. Because another station is using the same call letters, Webster's radio station will no longer be called KGLX and is currently looking for a new name, Eisele said. Students are invited to host their own programs.

FRAUD: Scheme took money from students

FROM PAGE A1

to receive payment to his own illegitimate company with a similar name.

Webster University President Richard Meyers said the process that uncovered the scheme included comparing expenditures with paperwork that applied to those expenses.

"We discovered the fraud, so the university already has some really good policies in place," Meyers said. "There will be some changes in procedure … but no total overhaul. Our procedures proved that they were effective."

Meyers said since the university discovered the discrepancies, the Business Office has made some changes in the processes that safeguard against this type of scheme.

He said additional changes would continue to be made. Meyers said "the business office is compiling a number of changes in our purchasing policies."

"If we had not known about it and found out from an outside source, it would have shown some gaps (in the internal checking processes)," Meyers said.

Meyers said the university notified authorities upon discovery of the alleged scheme, and the Postmaster General's office has been collecting evidence since September, which was then handed over to the U.S. attorney's office, which declined to comment on the case, since it is ongoing.

Meyers said most Webster employees do not attempt schemes like this.

"I'm very disappointed that any employee would try to take advantage of the university, and then the students by implication, to do something like this," Meyers said. "That bothers me more than anything else. Whatever justice is given to him is deserved."

Murphy was released from custody Dec. 6 on $20,000 bond. His trial will be held in the U.S. Circuit Court for the Eastern District of Missouri. U.S. Magistrate Judge David D. Noce is scheduled to hear his trial for which the date had not been set by press time, Jan. 23.

Meyers said in an e-mailed statement that he expects the university's insurance to cover the entire $625,000, with the exception of the $1,000 deductible.

Murphy, a resident of St. Peters, Mo., has only one prior conviction for passing a bad check in 1987 for which he received five years probation.

Murphy was named Webster employee of the month in January 2005. He said in Inside Webster, an employee newsletter for the campus, that his favorite things about working at Webster were the people, the campus and the work environment. Murphy's nominator, who was unnamed in the newsletter, said Murphy deserved the award for his work in coordinating the construction of Marletto's Marketplace.

The nominator also said he worked closely with contractors and sub-contractors to make sure the quality of the work was the best for the students.

"He displayed a strong commitment to students by ensuring the construction was done in a way that would be of most benefit to our students," his nominator said.

Higher One card offers students another option for refunds

BY ALEXANDRA SMITH
asmith@webujournal.com

Starting Jan. 29, undergraduate students will be able to test a new method of receiving their tuition refund. A card issued by refund management company Higher One has been sent to all current students within the past six weeks, and will soon change the ways of refund transactions at Webster.

The new process offers students options for how they want to receive refunds from Webster. They can choose to open a Higher One bank account, have their refund direct deposited into their personal bank account or receive a paper check in the mail.

Vickie Fredrick, associate vice president of finance, said refunds are available during the third week of classes, following the class add/drop date. Graduate refunds will be available starting Jan. 22.

"We are working as diligently as we can to post as many student refunds as we can on the first day they are available," Fredrick said.

Fredrick said all students should register their card and choose their refund option on the debit card Web site, regardless of whether they expect to receive a refund.

"The potential problem is that things could change, and you may at some point have a refund due," Fredrick said. "Students should just go out (to the Web site) and identify how they would like their refund delivered."

The option of opening a bank account with Higher One and using the card as a debit card or credit card is available to students. The card offers reward points for users. Fredrick said the decision to open the account is a personal preference based on the specific needs of each individual student.

One benefit of the card is compatible ATMs on campus. One is located in Marletto's. An additional ATM, which was supposed to be located in the library, is being relocated due to problems with interference from the magnetic reader on the door. Students can withdraw money from their Higher One accounts at these campus ATMs at no charge.

Another benefit of the card is money for SGA. Fredrick said for every time a student uses the card as credit rather than debit in a transaction, Higher One will donate one penny to an SGA Student Activities Fund that will be used to help fund student organization events on campus.

John Ginsburg, director of the University Center and SGA adviser, said the success of the card and the amount of money SGA will actually receive is dependent upon the amount of students who decide to open the Higher One account and how many of them use the card for credit transactions.

Students will have the option of using the card as a debit. However, when they do so, they will be charged a PIN-based transaction fee.

Ginsburg said SGA receives a penny regardless of how big or small the credit transaction a student makes. He said the money may be an incentive for students to use the card and see money go back to the school, but he doesn't foresee the program resulting in a huge sum of money for SGA.

Katelyn Minnick, a junior dance major and Resident Assistant, said she has not yet decided whether she will open the Higher One account, nor has she chosen the method by which she will receive her refund.

"For me, it's a third card and an extra responsibility I don't want right now," Minnick said.

Students who have not yet received their card in the mail can use the Higher One Web site to track when and where it was sent. If the card was sent to the correct address, a replacement can be requested on the Web site. To change the address, students need to go to the registrar to edit their information and the Business Office to be issued a new card.

Students can access the Higher One Web site, *www.websterdebitcard.com*, for more information about the Higher One debit card and its different features.

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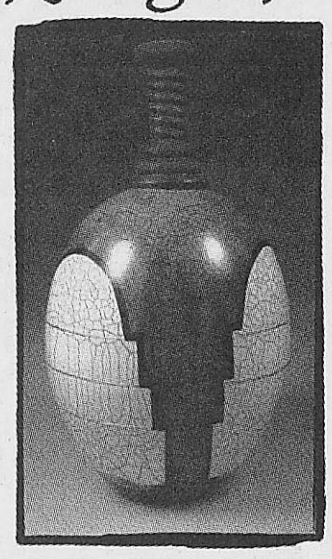
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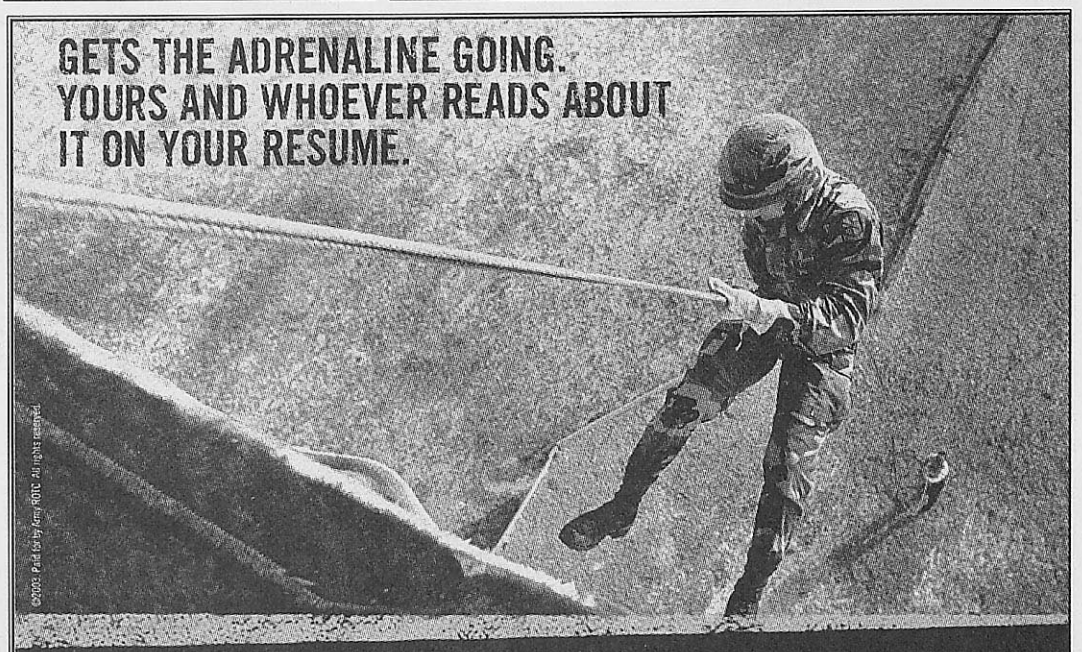

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EDITORIALS

WHINSEC degree program should never have existed

The Journal uncovered last November that Webster had a degree program with WHINSEC, formerly known as The School of The Americas. This relationship, however beneficial to either organization, was unnecessary. Graduates of this school were known for human rights violations throughout Latin America, and Webster accepted up to 12 hours of WHINSEC's credits from graduate students.

Thousands of people protest WHINSEC each year, including the Sisters of Loretto, nuns who founded Webster in 1915. When Webster's connection with WHINSEC was discovered, the Sisters of Loretto and many Webster professors protested against it, after which the administration terminated the agreement.

The administration should be commended for ending the relationship so quickly when they discovered it was offensive to faculty and the Sisters of Loretto. Unfortunately, if no one had spoken out against this program, Webster probably would not have ended it. What does that say about the ethical decisions made by Webster University?

Webster ended the program because it was not worth the controversy it caused. If there was no controversy, Webster probably would have continued accepting credits from a school known for its human rights violations.

Webster, which has an international human rights major, clearly does not practice what it preaches. To support this organization in any way is a violation the global awareness attitude that Webster promotes for itself.

If Webster wants to maintain a reputation as a global university, it may be advantageous to prove to the world and the students and faculty at Webster that they do not support schools that educate the perpetrators of human rights violations.

New debit card causes confusion on campus

While trying to solve problems, Webster has instead created new ones. Case in point: the new Higher One debit card.

Simply, most students don't know what to do with the card meant to obtain university refunds. Despite the distribution of fliers across campus, some students still don't know about the university's new refund option and others just don't get it.

Perhaps the university should have taken a more active role when informing students about the new debit card. Instead of posting signs and hoping students would stop to read them, the Webster University/Higher One task force should have visited classes and answered student questions firsthand. While a Q-and-A might have cut 10 or 15 minutes off a professor's lecture on witchcraft in Southeast Asia, the time would be well spent. Students could ask questions and know just what to do when their debit card arrived in the mail — or what to do if it didn't.

If the university is so dedicated to helping students obtain their refunds faster and easier with this new debit card, they should have taken the time to better inform and educate students. By now, most students have received their Higher One/Webster University envelope in the mail. Although the envelope advises students not to throw it away like another piece of junk mail, most probably ignored that warning and pitched it anyway, not knowing it costs $20 to replace a lost card.

If the card was mailed to the wrong address, the student must pay a visit to the registrar's office to change their address and then go to the Business Office to be issued a new card.

Some students remain confused as to whether or not they need this new, shiny piece of plastic. Not all students get a refund from the university, but everyone gets a Higher One card regardless. Thus, students who do not receive refunds might still get tangled in the activation process for a card they probably won't need.

So which is it — debit or credit? If a student chooses to activate an account and wants to avoid fees, the card must be used as "credit." According to the Webster University Higher One Web site, the old "swipe and sign" method ensures no additional fees will be charged to the account.

However, if a student chooses "debit" instead of "credit" when using the card, a PIN-based transaction fee will be charged to the account. This is ironic since the card states: "This is NOT a credit card." Plus, some students might think they have to open an account – even if they are not eligible for a refund.

While the new card has been the cause of some confusion, there are so-called perks students receive if they choose to use the Higher One debit card. Every time a student uses the card to make a purchase, the Student Government Association gets one penny. For the loose change to add up, a significant number of students would have to use the card. Will a few measly pennies really make a difference in SGA's budget and benefit the 7,000-plus students who attend classes at Webster?

Another hassle about the new card is simply that – it's another card. Thanks to Webster's grand idea of pushing the plastic, students have yet another card to keep track of. As if students don't have enough to worry about.
The university should keep students in mind when making decisions that directly affect them.

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COMMENTARY

Media frenzy over kidnapping overshadows other news



Beth Prusaczyk

Let's move on. It's a great story, but these boys need a normal life.

Ben Ownby and Shawn Hornbeck – unless you've been without power for the last two weeks, you know who these boys are.

Both went missing from rural Missouri. Thirteen-year-old Ownby went missing Jan. 7, 2007. Hornbeck disappeared in 2002 when he was 11. Both were found alive in a Kirkwood apartment Jan. 12. Then came the frenzy.

The story was flashed from coast to coast. Local stations had it running as a ticker during regular programming at the bottom of the screen. It was exciting. It was a real miracle.

Time has passed and the boys' faces are still splashed on every medium possible. The public is now dissecting every detail with expert commentary and eyewitness reports. Everyone who has even shared a pizza with an Ownby or Hornbeck has been interviewed. Enough, already.

Don't get me wrong. It's definitely a newsworthy event. I just think it's time to move on. Let's hand it over to Nancy Grace so she can have "Shawn Hornbeck: 398 Days Found!"

These boys have been through enough. Not even a week after being found, Hornbeck was hauled up to Chicago by his parents to appear on Oprah. Ownby debuted on The Today Show Jan. 16. The only details that are coming to light now are speculative ones.

What's the point of telling everyone that Hornbeck left clues on the Internet during the four years he was missing? It only makes it pathetic that he wasn't found sooner. Yet, that detail was made primetime news days after the boys' discovery.

Why bring up that the man who allegedly kidnapped the boys, Michael Devlin, might get multiple life sentences depending on what charges are brought against him? Wait to see what charges are filed and if he's found guilty before speculating how much time he might get.

It seems the case of every other missing child in Missouri has been reopened and some are hoping to tie Devlin to them all. Everyone is looking for answers and the bottom line is there are none, not yet anyway. All the speculation does no one any good, and it clogs the news. When there are facts to report, report them.

There are other things going on in the area, dare I say the world even, that need to be brought to viewers. Yet a week after finding the boys, KSDK Channel 5 News at six o'clock dedicated over half their broadcast to the story.

Out of a 17-minute news program, nine minutes were about the Ownby/Hornbeck story. Yes, I timed it and no, I don't have better things to do. That leaves eight minutes to cover everything else going on in the country and sports and weather.

KMOV has also taken this story and turned it into a marketing tool. They are now running a commercial for themselves boasting that "the biggest story in recent memory" was brought to viewers first by KMOV. They had the first reports, the first pictures, the first interviews, the first expert to tell us how screwed up Hornbeck might be.

Let's move on. It's a great story, but these boys need a normal life. They can't get that with every person in their pasts being hounded and every detail of their abductions becoming water cooler gossip.

Beth Prusaczyk, a senior journalism major, is a staff writer for The Journal.

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COMMENTARY

Troop increase does little to solve Iraq's problems

President is out-of-touch with the way most Americans feel about the direction the country is heading



Anna C. Forder

Increasing the number of U.S. troops in Iraq will do nothing more than escalate the violence.

President George W. Bush said in a Jan. 10 address to the nation that he plans to increase U.S. troop levels in Iraq by 21,500. The current administration feels it is able to send more U.S. troops into Iraq and solve divisive, sectarian violence with U.S. guns. It is not possible to go into a country with such deep-seeded division and try to force people to stop the violence by adding more violence.

"Where mistakes have been made, the responsibility rests with me," Bush said during the address. This was his first real acknowledgement that some things in Iraq were not going as planned. With U.S. deaths escalating and no end in sight, this declaration was well overdue. Instead of learning from these mistakes, however, the Bush administration intends to implement more of the same.

Bush also he plans to increase economic aid to Iraq in addition to troops. Bush said he intends to use these additional troops to secure neighborhoods that were already cleared of terrorists to prevent terrorists from returning and reclaiming those neighborhoods. He said Iraq troops and police forces will work with American soldiers in this effort.

Increasing the number of U.S. troops in Iraq will do nothing more than escalate the violence. The Iraqis who seek to kill U.S. troops every day will not stop as long as we are present in their country.

The presence of U.S. troops in Iraq has not stopped the violence to this point. It is illogical to think that 20,000 more troops will suddenly make Iraqis lay down their weapons. Adding 20,000 more troops will only infuriate Iraqis who don't want us there. As long as we are present as an occupying force in Iraq, we will only increase the amount of violence that already plagues that country.

It's time to formulate a plan to get our troops out as soon as possible, not increase their numbers. Bush, however, gave no specific date for pulling out of Iraq. He only said the commitment to Iraq is not open-ended. His actions suggest otherwise.

If the United States keeps sending more and more troops and financial aid into Iraq, the Iraqis will never learn to stand on their own.

The United States cannot sustain this war forever, and the longer we stay, the harder it will be for Iraqis to take over complete control of their country.

The American people's support of the war has wavered recently to almost non-existent. The strongest statement the American people made to Bush was to vote in a Democratic Congress last November. The president didn't get the message. He just committed more troops to Iraq.

A *Washington-Post*/ABC News poll found that 65 percent of Americans oppose the president's plan to increase troops to Iraq. Bush is out of touch with how the American people feel about the war, and his current approval rating reflects this.

This same poll found that the president has only a 33 percent approval rating. The only president the American people disliked more was Richard Nixon. In addition, 71 percent of those polled believe the president is leading the country in the wrong direction. According to these findings, most of the country no longer supports the president's current course of action involving Iraq.

Iraq is becoming increasingly dependent on U.S. lives to stave off increasing sectarian violence and chaos. Iraq didn't choose this war; Bush did. But Iraq must eventually pick up the burden for this war, a burden that has been paid for by American dollars and American lives up to this point. It's time for Bush to make U.S. lives a priority and pull out of Iraq.

Anna C. Forder, a senior journalism major, is the managing editor for The Journal

GUEST COMMENTARY

Media should cover less 'infotainment,' more news



Don Miller

I am sometimes baffled by what passes as legitimate news in our society

Brangelina. Paris and Britney's clubbing escapades. TomKat's Italian wedding/media circus. If you believe that corporate journalism can and should be better than this, please continue reading. I can't quite pinpoint the exact moment when legitimate news blended with celebrity nonsense and birthed "infotainment," but it has gotten more and more ridiculous and insulting.

When supposed legitimate newscasts devote as much time (or more) to speculation about Jennifer Aniston's latest personal relationship as they do to Iraq war coverage, something fundamentally wrong has happened within our country's media system.

Approximately 3,400 individuals converged on Memphis, Tenn., for a media reform conference the weekend of Jan. 12. Although the crowd could not be more diverse in terms of race, age, gender and orientation, the goal could not be more common: changes are desperately needed in our country's media system, and they are needed now.

The conference was organized by *http://www.freepress.net*, an organization whose goals include providing more diversity of voices in our media and holding corporate media conglomerates as accountable to the citizenry as they are to their shareholders.

The conference offered dozens of panels and workshops that focused on a variety of media topics ranging from FCC media ownership rules to the glaring lack of diversity on Sunday morning TV news shows.

Although many of the attendees were bloggers and other independent journalists, the crowd also included educators, students and ordinary citizens who are concerned about the state of the media in our country and its effect upon our democracy. While some of the workshops and panels were primarily informational, many of them were fueled by activism and a clamor for significant media changes at a grassroots level.

As a media literacy graduate student, I am sometimes baffled by what passes as legitimate news in our society. I understand the role of entertainment news within media, but that type of journalism has become too dominant within "real" news and has affected the content and quality of what we are given through many news organizations and outlets.

This sense of disconnect was aptly conveyed by Paul Rieckhoff, a member of Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America and panel participant on The Press at War & the War on the Press. Rieckoff stated when he first returned from active duty in Iraq, the biggest news story in the mainstream press was Janet Jackson's exposed nipple on the Super Bowl half-time show. Although many in the audience chuckled at the reference, this is the type of silliness that gets saturated coverage in the media in lieu of critical local, national and international news events.

Veteran White House reporter, Helen Thomas, was a guest on the same panel as Rieckoff. She spoke credibly and articulately about her experiences within the industry, including the media's coverage of the Iraq War conflict and her perspective on that controversial topic.

Between thunderous rounds of applause, Thomas told the audience that "...the American press corps has lost its way." In response to criticism that the media essentially rolled over for the White House and failed to ask critical questions leading up to the war, she stated, "we gave up our one weapon, which was skepticism." Thomas believes, however, that the American public is waking up and demanding more truth from the media and the government relative to the war and other important issues such as Hurricane Katrina.

Another keynote speaker was actress Geena Davis. She spoke passionately about her involvement in the See Jane program, an effort to create more equal and positive portrayals of female characters in G-rated films. Davis was moved to action on this issue when she began noticing a disturbing trend while watching these films with her young daughter.

She was surprised to find out that the majority of lead characters in these films were male and that female characters overwhelmingly played secondary roles in order to move the plots forward. She saw an opportunity to work with studios in a collaborative effort to develop more interesting male and female characters.

Her goal is to see films produced that reflect a more balanced perspective and stories which everyone- not just small boys- can identify with.

Before one can recognize the need for media reform, it helps to be media literate. The ability to analyze and interpret media messages is not some trend that has a limited shelf life; it is a critical tool that enables us to make informed decisions.

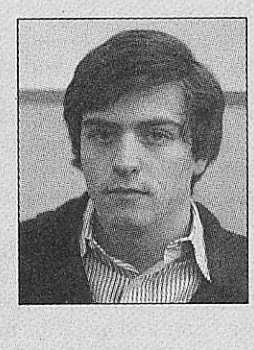
Once we can identify messages and ideologies within media presentations, we can speak intelligently to the shortcomings and challenges within our country's media system. Education is a powerful tool — especially when it enables the masses to question the status quo.

The next time that you see a 10-minute segment on a TV "news" show that analyzes, for example, Lindsay Lohan's impending trip to rehab, ask yourself, "is this really pertinent to my daily life?" You may not like the answer, but you will thank yourself later for asking the question.

Donald Miller, a graduate student in media communications is a guest writer for The Journal

Gorlok Gauge

What do you think of President Bush's new plan to increase troops in Iraq?



I'm not convinced our continuing involvement has a positive effect on the lives of Iraqis. Therefore, I'm skeptical that more troops ... will make a positive difference.
Matthew Freundlich
Senior, Film Studies



It's a bad idea. I feel like nothing is getting accomplished. I feel like he's just sending (troops) over there to die. I just feel like there's no real progress over there.
Amy Hilton
Freshman, Vocal Performance major



If he thinks he can win the war, he should go to try to finish it ... I think it will help the outcome of the war.
Tsheten Norbu Sherpa
Graduate Student, MBA



It seems ridiculous that he thinks he's going to spread liberty to other countries. I think by occupying another country that's not going to solve a problem ... I think it will be counterproductive.
Ashley Armbruster
Junior, Elementary Education

HUNT GALLERY

Paper art examines nature

Seattle printmakers explore difficult process

BY KIRK WATKINS
kwatkins@webujournal.com

Moving purposefully, the crowd sips on cups of Australian Merlot and nibbles on stacks of meat and cheese balanced atop crispy crackers. As they come to a doorway they enter a room where a lone yellow bench is placed in the center, surrounded by four grey walls. Adorning the walls are colorful, dreamlike images.

Approximately 200 people attended the opening gala at the Cecille R. Hunt Gallery Jan. 19 to kick off its 2007 art series with an exhibition of printmakers called "The Northwest Corner: Four Seattle Printmakers." The show highlighted the works of four artists from the Seattle region: Jean Behnke, Bruce Botts, Karen Kosoglad and Deborah Mersky.

For the past 20 years, the gallery has featured a rotating series of openings. Three shows in the fall semester and two in the spring are made up of touring artists. In April, the Bachelor of Arts students have an opportunity to display their works.

The pieces in the current exhibit use a technique of printmaking that can be a technical and lengthy process, said Michael Hafner, a senior art major. Hafner took a printmaking class at Webster.

"It's a very time-consuming process," Hafner said. "First, you do the etching in a metal form, then you have to roll the ink out, then you make the copy."

He said he enjoyed the process, but it is not an instantly gratifying form, and requires a certain degree of patience and technical proficiency that does not come easily.

Webster assistant art professor Noriko Yuasa attended the show with her two children, 4-year-old Noa and 7-month-old Sago. She agreed with the analysis offered by Hafner. She said the technical aspect of the media was the most outstanding point of the show, but she pointed out her children seemed to understand the theme of the pictures, and had asked a number of questions that helped her see the work in a different light.

Many of the prints combined themes of men and women interacting with animals and nature. Mersky drew upon themes of plant roots intertwining silhouettes of crows, crabs and other indigenous Seattle animal life.

Botts' work is physically the largest of the four and many are presented in two pieces. In his prints, which included "The Shepherd's Apprentice" and "The Ringmaster's Beautiful Daughter" among others, there is a darker, comedic mood. Animals and humans in various stages of dress interact in non-traditional roles.

Behnke combined spiritual themes with nature in works that incorporated images of the biblical Tree of Life mixed with animals. She incorporated different interpretations of the same print patterns, using different color schemes to highlight different aspects of intricate, almost Celtic designs. Behnke maintained that theme in a pair of prints called "Flora" and "Fauna."

The curator of the gallery, Dana Turkevic, was pleased and excited with the show's turnout. A 1998 Webster alumna, Turkevic has been the gallery curator since August 2006. She said she is committed to bringing high quality shows to the gallery.

"The Northwest Corner: Four Seattle Printmakers" will be on display 10 a.m. to 4 p.m Monday through Friday and 1 to 4 p.m Saturday and Sunday through Feb. 16 in the Hunt Gallery. The show is free and open to the public.

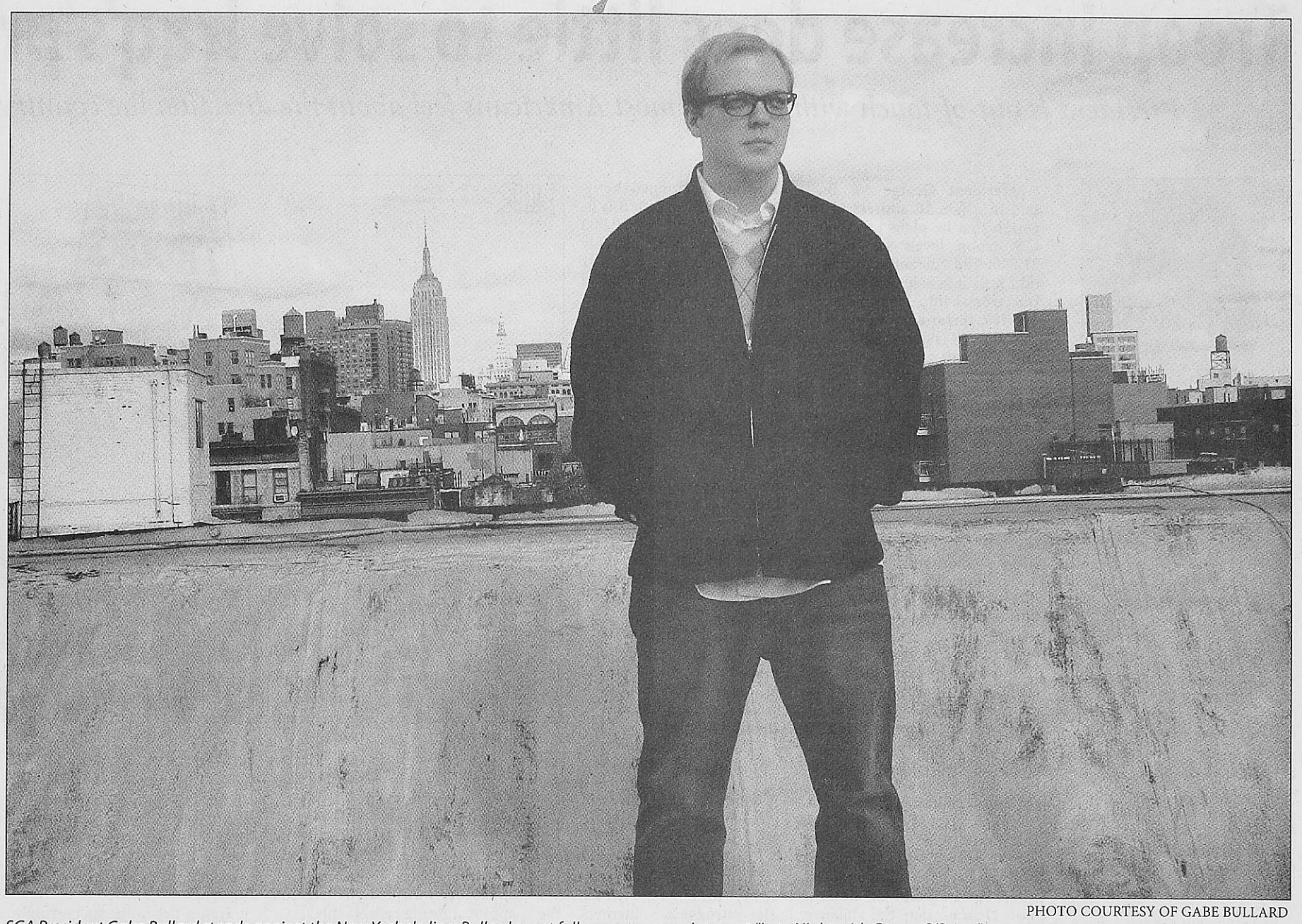


PHOTO COURTESY OF GABE BULLARD

SGA President Gabe Bullard stands against the New York skyline. Bullard spent fall semester as an intern at "Late Night with Conan O'Brien."

SGA president lives 'Late Night' dream

BY KELLEY ATHERTON
katherton@webujournal.com

Gabe Bullard will never forget when Conan O'Brien called him an asshole in an elevator at NBC Studios in New York City. Bullard tells the story with precise detail.

Bullard was eating a green Blow Pop in the elevator when the late-night talk-show host walked in. After a few silent floors, O'Brien walked out of the elevator and asked, "What kind of asshole takes the green Pop?" while Bullard stood awestruck.

Bullard, Student Government Association president and a senior broadcast journalism major, just completed an internship with the script department at the late-night talk show "Late Night with Conan O'Brien." His daily tasks included making copies, delivering scripts, helping proofread and watching show rehearsals.

"I felt really good knowing where I was," Bullard said. "I would wake up thinking, 'hey, I'm going to work at Conan's show.' 'Late Night' is one aspect of broadcast that I like. (It's) good at both comedy and interviewing."

Bullard found out about the internship through Deanna Riggs, a senior scriptwriting major, who interned at "Late Night" during the spring 2006 semester. He applied in April 2006, but when he

> *"I would wake up thinking hey, I'm going to work at Conan's show."*
>
> -Gabe Bullard

didn't hear anything he decided to run for SGA president and won. Bullard has previously held senator-at-large and sergeant-at-arms positions.

Unexpectedly in July 2006, "Late Night" called Bullard and he flew to New York City for an interview. They offered him the internship and he accepted, which meant he would be giving up the SGA presidency for the fall 2006 semester.

"There was no way I could pass (the internship) up," Bullard said. "The feeling (at SGA) was go, have a good time and make the most of every opportunity."

John Ginsburg, director of the University Center, Student Activities and SGA adviser, said he was excited when Bullard got the internship and not disappointed Bullard left his job as president.

"A great opportunity like that doesn't come along often," Ginsburg said.

Bullard's adviser Eileen Solomon said his ambition is a testament to how he got an internship at "Late Night."

"What always impresses me about Gabe is his eagerness to learn and try new things," Solomon said. "His internship — he made that happen."

Since his internship was unpaid, Bullard lived off his savings. Bullard moved in with Riggs and her boyfriend for the four months he worked in New York City. They occupied a small six-floor walk-up apartment located in a neighborhood called Nolita, surrounded by Northern Little Italy, Soho and Chinatown. While his room was tiny and messy, it was comfortable, he said.

"My room looked like my suitcase threw up in a train car for four months, but I liked it," Bullard said.

The idea of living in New York City didn't scare this small-town boy from Mascoutah, Ill. He said he adjusted quickly.

"I was no F. Scott Fitzgerald coming from a small town to the big city," Bullard said. "I stayed quiet and did my job."

During his internship, Bullard helped produce a newsletter for interns. He was especially proud of a comic strip he wrote with a fellow intern for the newsletter. It was called "Dennis the Miller" that chronicled the exploits of the comedian and actor Dennis Miller as a little kid who irritated everyone.

"It was an expression of me not liking Dennis Miller," Bullard said.

Aside from doing serious work for the script department, Bullard said seeing random celebrities was one of the more exciting aspects at "Late Night." He saw Sacha Baron Cohen as Borat and Ricky Gervais from the British version of "The Office."

"Being around people that I love was really exciting," Bullard said. "At times, I had the feeling I was one of the screaming girls in 'A Hard Day's Night.'"

Now that his internship is over and he's back at Webster, Bullard said he is working on building his resume. This semester, he is returning to his post as SGA president, working on the student magazine The Ampersand and completing his degree. He said his objective is to produce work he can later submit for jobs.

"This semester is all about putting out a portfolio," Bullard said.

Bullard's post-college ambitions include public television and radio, documentaries and drawing comic strips. Mainly, he is interested in public broadcasting, specifically Public Broadcasting Service, which is publicly funded and works to serve the interests of the public.

"I'd like to work in public broadcasting," Bullard said. "I grew up with it. It's something I really believe in — the fact they're serving the community. There's way less private interest and more freedom comes with that."

He was inspired to go into public broadcasting when he saw a Woody Allen mockumentry about former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger called "Men of Crisis: The Harvey Wallinger Story" that was produced for PBS. He thought it was interesting PBS would produce a Woody Allen comedy and would like to produce similar work for them.

"I liked that such a thing would be produced at PBS," Bullard said. "I would like to see more of that on PBS."

Bullard has already made a documentary with friend Lee Buchenau, a senior film production major, that he plans to submit to several film festivals this year. The film, "Find the River," is about Bryan Misuraca, who produces the "St. Louis Beach Report" on the Regional Access channel.

"I like stories that people don't know, that are interesting," Bullard said.

May Gallery opens with faculty work

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Without upstaging the other faculty, photography professor Susan Stang brings the beauty and mystery of Florence, Italy, to Webster through the use of texture and shadow.

Stang displayed six photos of her special project, alongside the works of several members of the photography faculty. On Jan. 19 in Webster University's May Gallery, located on the second floor of the Sverdrup building, the electronic and photographic media department held the opening reception for the Annual Photography Faculty Exhibition.

Stang's photos were a sample of her three-year book project called "Firenze: Un Incontro." Firenze is the Italian word for Florence. The photos on display are from the last trip she took to Florence during summer 2006. All of her photos were transferred onto paper, which she dried in wavy wrinkles to give each image a dream-like quality.

In the project, Stang said she hopes to capture the "city layout with past, mystery and beautiful dark." With the help of her partners, two writers from Italy, the book will include both Italian and English text along with the photos.

"I'm capturing the kind of effect Florence has on people who spent time there," Stang said. "Words are what poets, essayists and writers say about what Florence meant to them. (This) started as response, (but) the book became about not only mine, but others' responses."

During her summer 2006 trip, Stang finalized the text, but she and her partners are still looking for a publisher.

Along with the Florence exhibit, the gallery displayed samples of other continuing projects, including Tom Barkman's Coney Island project. He started the project out of interest for the subject matter.

Barkman's photos were from the Coney Island annual Mermaid Parade and Ball. After almost two years, seven trips and 60 rolls of film, Barkman said the project is reaching its end, but he is still in the editing and printing process.

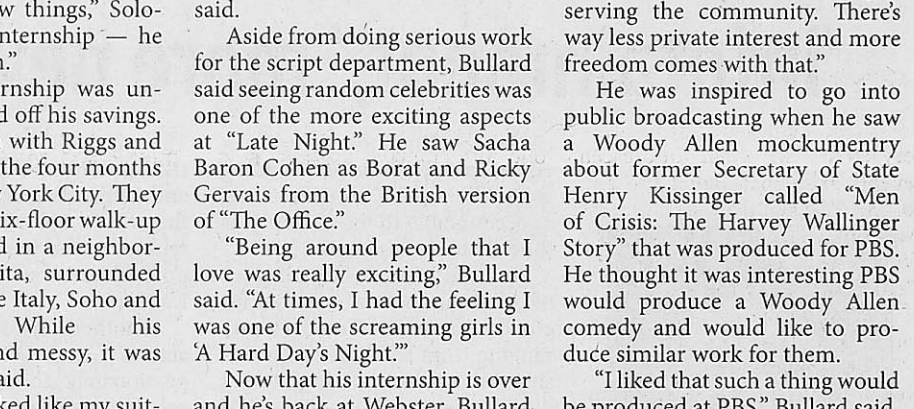
"To really know if I told a story, I have to have my prints done," Barkman said.

During the show, visitors mingled with photographers and viewed the photos. Gallery director Bill Barrett and his Gallery Management class supplied the food. The students were only allowed to help with the food, but Beth Blumfelder, a junior art history major, said in the future they would also be allowed to help hang the photos.

All photography teachers were invited to participate in the show and were given the choice of which and how many works they wanted to bring. The photo style varied from digital, color, black-and-white and transfers. Blumfelder said her favorites were a photo of pears by Steve Adams and the photos of Florence by Stang.

"It's eclectic," Blumfelder said. "I like how different everything is. It shows how diverse the Webster faculty is."

Under the directed lighting of the gallery, students hurried to set the reception table as a small crowd began to gather. As the photographers arrived, they lingered near their photos and answered questions. The crowd fluctuated throughout the evening, but sustained a mix of faculty, students and patrons; some also brought their children.



ASHLEY GIESEKING / *The Journal*

During the Jan. 19 reception for the 2007 Annual Photography Faculty Exhibition, Tracey Stamper (right) and Laura Barkman (left), daughter and wife of photography professor Tom Barkman, view Barkman's photojournalistic series of the Coney Island Mermaid Parade and Ball.

Michael Long, an adjunct faculty member in the electronic and photographic media department since 1985, said he is a regular attendant of the faculty shows and likes to be surprised by faculty work.

"I think it's a great range of people, texture and doing what photography does, (which is) catch people, emotion — just doing what photography does best," Long said. "I think this show did that."

Junior photography major Krista Breece said she was impressed by the faculty work.

"I like some more than others, but I could not just pick one; this shows their expertise in taking photos," Breece said.

The show included 53 pieces of work by Steve Adams, Robin Assner, Tom Barkman, Bill Barrett, Curt von Diest, Dan Dreyfus, James Leick, Joseph John Lowry, Dominique Macaire, Jack Rinehart, Susan Hacker Stang, T. Ann Tolin and Chris Walker.

The Annual Photography Faculty Exhibition can be viewed 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday, and noon to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday now through Feb. 16 in the May Gallery.

Speaker to bring 'Happyness' to campus

BY LANZ CHRISTIAN BAÑES
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First, he wrote a book; then, it became a movie. Now, on Jan. 29, formerly homeless Christopher Gardner, a millionaire motivational speaker, is coming to tell his story to the Gorloks.

Campus Activities and the Multicultural Center and International Student Affairs are co-sponsoring Gardner's visit, which will take place at 7 p.m. in the Browning Theatre of the Loretto-Hilton Center. Campus Activities and the MCISA have been planning the event since last semester.

Gardner achieved recent fame through the December 2006 release of "The Pursuit of Happyness," an autobiographical film starring Will Smith based upon the book of the same name released last May.

"His story is inspirational no matter who you are or where you are in life," said Katie McComb, graduate assistant for the University Center and Student Activities.

Though the film takes some liberties with the book and true-life events, the general tale of Gardner as an out-of-luck single father trying to care for his son while dealing with homelessness and attempting to become a stockbroker remains the same.

McComb said Shay Malone, MCISA program coordinator, suggested bringing Gardner to campus.

"I thought he'd be a good fit for our campus with the movie and the book and everything," Malone said.

She also found Gardner inspirational and is currently reading "The Pursuit of Happyness."

"It's more than just a book, more than just a movie," Malone said.

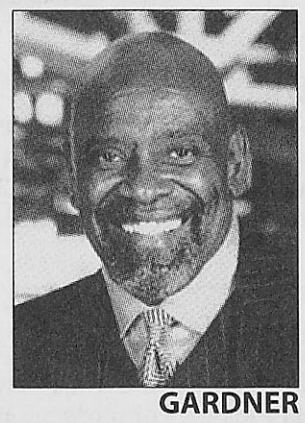
After Gardner finishes speaking, he will hold a half-hour book-signing session in the UC Sunnen Lounge.

"I heard there was a decent buzz (about the event)," McComb said.

McComb said she hopes to fill all of the Browning Theatre's 900 seats. However, both she and Malone are concerned that community members will equal or outnumber students at the event.

"It'll end up being 50 to 50 (students versus community members)," McComb said. "Ideally, I'd like it to be 70 percent students."

The event is free and open to the public. However, only Webster students, faculty and staff can R.S.V.P. to the event and can do so at *http://www.webster.edu/studlife/uc/campusactivities/ChrisGardner.htm*. Doors will open at 6 p.m. for people on the R.S.V.P. list and for those who have a valid Webster ID. At 6:30 p.m., doors will open for the general community. "The Pursuit of Happyness" also will be sold in the theater lobby for $25.



GARDNER

Movie Review: 'The Pursuit of Happyness'

★★½☆☆

Strong acting doesn't save disappointing film

BY MARIA ADAMS
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"The Pursuit of Happyness" is a hard-luck tale that doesn't manage to strike a nerve, despite many promising elements.

The story has a lot of potential. Chris Gardner (Will Smith) is an unsuccessful salesman who is barely scraping by in life. After sinking all of his money into an unpopular piece of medical equipment, Chris spends his days wandering the city pandering his goods. He returns home each day to his overworked and aggravated wife and their young son. He is clearly a devoted father with an abundance of love, just not time.

Once Chris' wife becomes fed up with the situation, Chris chooses to take on the difficult task of protecting his son from the trials of poverty along with trying to ensure his own survival. He struggles to find shelter, food and security in desperate situations. All the while, he is involved in a competitive stock brokerage internship that offers no certainty of employment in the end.

Chris is an average man facing seemingly insurmountable odds, gambling on one risky venture after another. He is in financial ruin. His home life is falling apart. He is a man with drive and no outlet. Still, he fights against these obstacles. He never surrenders to the doubt or challenges that plague him.

It is therefore surprising how ineffectual the film really is. The two leads do a fine job. Smith ("Independence Day," "I Robot") turns in a realistic and enjoyable performance. The amount of running the role requires is awe-inspiring in itself. I don't support Smith's Golden Globe nomination for best lead actor, but the role was well played nonetheless.

Even more notable is the performance of Smith's real-life son, Jaden Smith. He makes a promising film debut as Gardner's son who must adjust to the instability of his father's struggle to secure a better life.

However, the strong performances don't manage to invoke the sympathy that the situation deserves. It seems as though Gardner's difficulties are so numerous that each hardship is spread too thin within the movie. There are so many stories that they tear the film apart instead of gelling into the sentimental sob-fest I had anticipated.

In truth, the preview evokes more emotion than the actual film. "The Pursuit of Happyness" is filled with a lot of hardships that never hit home. It is a compilation of great elements that don't manage to come together in the end.

Movie Review: 'Pan's Labyrinth'

★★★★½

Childhood innocence meets its foe in dark fairy tale

BY ANTHONY BARSANTI
abarsanti@webujournal.com

There comes a time in every child's life when unforeseen events arise that signal the end of their days of frolicking around without a care in the world. For little Ofelia (Ivana Baquero) in "Pan's Labyrinth," those events are a result of Francisco Franco's war on the people of Spain in 1944.

This universal tale of innocence wavering in the face of evil and the consequences of our choices is a fantastic natural progression for Mexican director Guillermo del Toro as he continues to imaginatively explore the perilous encounters of man and superhuman capability.

"Pan's Labyrinth" asks us what things in life give us meaning and, if we were put on the spot, as Ofelia is, how our choices would reflect those beliefs.

After her mother Carmen (Ariadna Gil) agrees to marry one of Franco's leading men, Capitan Vidal (Sergi Lopez), following the death of Ofelia's father and the fascists' victory, Carmen and Ofelia are sent to rural north Spain to hunt out the last remains of the resistance who have taken to guerrilla tactics in unknown numbers. Meanwhile, Ofelia is literally in another world, continually immersed in the magic of fairy tales amidst the chaos of the human world.

Following a fairy into a labyrinth hidden in the woods, Ofelia meets a mysterious creature that calls himself a faun (Pan, played by Doug Jones), who tells her she may be the daughter of the king of the underground realm. To prove this prophecy and possibly restore her kingdom as a princess, she must complete a random array of tasks unbeknownst to her mother and, most importantly, to the Capitan.

As Ofelia's pregnant mother's fever advances, the girl gets sidetracked and fails one of her missions. Pan is angered, but gracious enough to give Ofelia a magic root that helps to heal her mother.

Guillermo's Christian upbringings instill the film with a moral center that Ofelia is being cruelly spun around with every scene. Giant toads, a demonic baby-eater and the destruction of her family (which can be partially blamed on the Capitan), force her to churn out more grown-up decisions than most adults in a lifetime. The free will she still possesses as a child, unlike the Capitan's brainwashed soldiers and her mother, is her secret weapon against the forces of darkness.

The rather ambiguous ending may disappoint some viewers, but upon any brief reflection, the film provides hope in the direst of circumstances, just like any timeless folk tale metaphor.

Friends with fellow Mexican auteurs Alfonzo Cuaron and Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu, del Toro has completed a masterpiece alongside his counterparts. They have contributed some of the most celebrated films this year with "Children of Men" and "Babel."

"Pan's Labyrinth" is currently playing at five locations around the St. Louis area, Ronnie's, Chesterfield Galaxy, West Olive, Des Peres and The Tivoli.

Webster warm orphans with scarves

Librarian collects 18 winter neck accessories for Red Scarf Project

BY BRITTANY L. WHITLOW
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For Reference Librarian Holly Hubenschmidt, knitting was just a hobby — until she found out about the Red Scarf Project, a project organized by the Orphan Foundation of America. Although she'd never heard of the OFA, she felt that the organization's work was noble.

The OFA sends care packages to teens and young adults coming out of the foster care system and living independently. The goal of the Red Scarf Project is to send Valentine packages containing homemade scarves to college-bound orphans.

"Of course, being a reference librarian, I researched them a little bit and couldn't find any problems with them," Hubenschmidt said.

Hubenschmidt found out about the project from Interweave Knits, a knitting magazine. She knitted two scarves for the project and wasted no time sending out e-mails asking for anyone else willing to knit.

Special Events Coordinator Nancy Higgins knitted one scarf for the project, adding part of the appeal was not knowing who would be wearing them.

"I like to knit and the only things I know how to make are scarves," she said. "It satisfied my need to knit, and it's for a really good cause."

Carolyn Cottrell, regional director of Webster's Kansas City campus, liked that the project focused on aiding older orphans.

"I got reacquainted with a craft I haven't used in a long time," said Cottrell, who finished her scarf in two nights.

The project required that the scarves include the color red, be about 60 inches long and five to eight inches wide, unisex, finished and tagged.

"So many of them came in, and they were so pretty," Hubenschmidt said. She decided to put them on display in the glass case between the Emerson Library lobby and Jazzman's Café.

Inter-Library Loan Coordinator Sara Fitzpatrick knitted one scarf for the project.

"I was interested to see all the different types of scarves people came up with," she said.

Hubenschmidt spiced up the display by decorating it with knitting needles and yarn.

"I thought the display was wonderful," Higgins said. "I was really proud to have a piece in there."

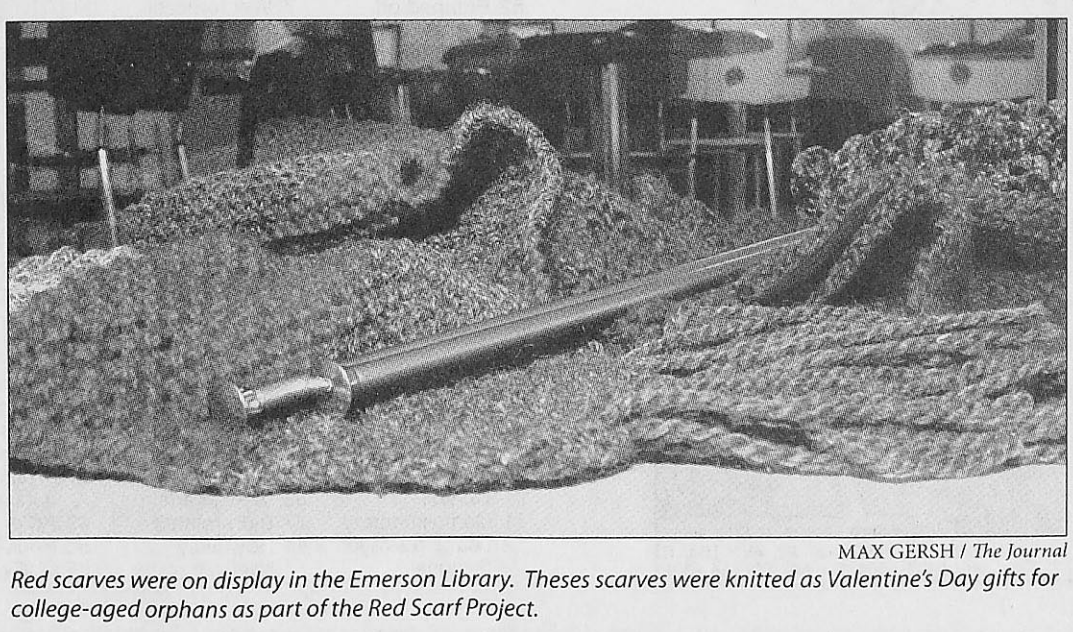
The display was taken down after last weekend so Hubenschmidt could ship out the scarves. The OFA has been sent 18 scarves on behalf of Webster University.

"I felt like it was very last-minute, letting people know so close to the holidays, so I was very impressed," Hubenschmidt said. "I'm just so thrilled that people have been so generous with contributing their time and their talents."

Next year, she plans to give people advance notice and get more people involved. Although she said that there is an "informal network of knitters," there is no official knitting group. According to Hubenschmidt, the Webster Staff Alliance brought in a teacher from Knitorious, a knitting store on Watson Road. They tried to start a group, but it disbanded due to the members' conflicting schedules, she said.

Still, members of the informal network look forward to participating in the Red Scarf Project again next year.

"It was a wonderful thing to do together as a community," Higgins said.



MAX GERSH / *The Journal*

Red scarves were on display in the Emerson Library. Theses scarves were knitted as Valentine's Day gifts for college-aged orphans as part of the Red Scarf Project.

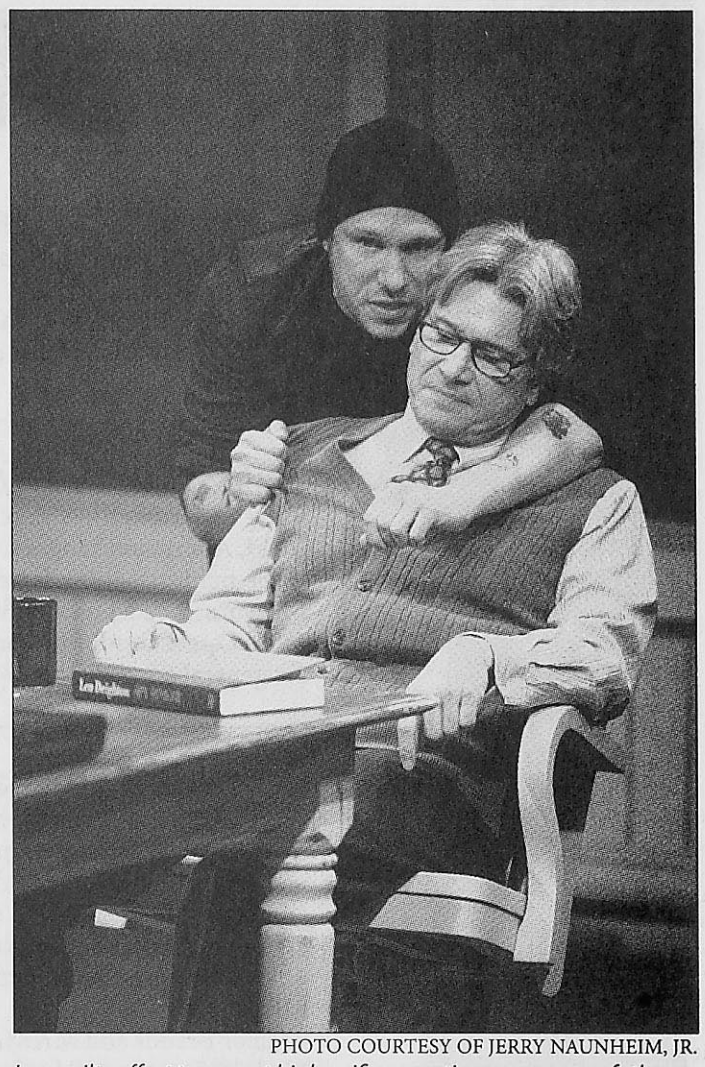


PHOTO COURTESY OF JERRY NAUNHEIM, JR.

In a guilty effort to correct his horrific parenting years ago, a father has his son cloned. Now there are 20 — or more — of them, all genetically identical, and he must face the consequences of his actions.

Theater Review: 'A Number'

★★★★½

New Rep play poses ethical questions

BY JAMES HANSEN
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From the opening beat of the Repertory Theatre of St. Louis' new Emerson Studio Theatre show "A Number," actors Jim Butz and Anderson Matthews display a high, fresh intensity and sustain it through the furious 55-minute production. Playwright Caryl Churchill spends no time on exposition. Fit tightly in the Emerson Studio, the audience sits astonished as if eavesdropping on the actors with all of the scenes seemingly starting in mid-conversation.

The story is more simple and, unfortunately, off-putting for those simply reading about the play. A father (Matthews), haunted by an unrevealed past with his son (Butz), has him cloned in order to correct the mistakes he made along the way. With the cloning experiment out of control, there are now more than 20 copies of the man's son. The father and his sons come to terms with this fact in different ways as the play turns into a profound, reflexive look at the nature of relationships, ethics and attempting to replace that which is lost.

Of course, all of this is merely theory. "A Number" is about much more than cloning and a stereotypical story of father-and-son relationships. Churchill's play has no easy answers for what the play is referencing or what the plot actually is. Most of the content and story fly completely underneath two chilling performances. Instead of telling the audience how to feel and what to think, this experiment in self-examination requires an attentive and smart audience willing to give themselves to a difficult play.

However, director Susan Gregg makes the material accessible by making the film more about the relationships and characters rather than being elusive and cerebral. Matthews and Butz are both dazzling as the father and sons. They bring to life every aspect of their characters and achieve a grandeur in their performances that has yet to be seen at the Rep this season.

In an illuminating post-show discussion, the audience is able to speak with the actors and director about this difficult show. These discussions are not in place to simply sit around and give these fine actors and director an ego boost. There is so much at work in the play and so many things to discuss that being given the opportunity to thoughtfully examine this work with those who have put it together is something audience members should certainly take advantage of.

Gregg asked the audience if anyone actually went on a journey with these characters. A lone hand raised, but I suspect it was the timidity of the audience in response to a surprisingly challenging question. (The play is arguably inaccessible and all of the characters have a grim chip on their shoulder. However, the performances and play are so dazzling it's impossible not to watch with anticipation and excitement and to be baffled at the decisions made by each character.) It may be hard to spot, but there are epic consequences and stinging devastation looming over all of the characters. The journey may be different for each audience member, but it is a journey everyone should take.

"A Number" is playing at 8 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, 5 and 9 p.m. Saturday and 2 and 7 p.m. Sunday through Feb. 4 at the Emerson Studio Theatre in the Loretto-Hilton Center. Post-show discussions follow most performances. Student rush tickets are $8 and available 30 minutes before each show.

Want to know what movies you missed in 2006? Check out our Web site at http://www.webujournal.com *for two Best of 2006 lists by Anthony Barsanti and James Hansen. Also, don't miss Maria Adams' review of "Painted Veil."*

The Venue

A calendar of upcoming events on campus and around town



Thursday, January 25

• The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis presents George Bernard Shaw's **"Heartbreak House"** at 8 p.m. on the main stage of the Repertory Theatre, located at 130 Edgar Road. Admission ranges from $14 to $63. For more information, call ext. 7340.

• The **"Benefit for the Freedom School"** begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Sheldon Concert Hall, located at 3648 Washington Blvd. The benefit is part of the "Notes from Home" series. Tickets are $10 and $15 at the door. For more information, call 533-9900 or visit *http://www.sheldonconcerthall.org.*

Friday, January 26

• The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis presents George Bernard Shaw's **"Heartbreak House"** at 8 p.m. on the main stage in the theater, located at 130 Edgar Road. Admission ranges from $14 to $63. For more information, call ext. 7340.

• The public opening for the **"I Remember Heaven: Jim Hodges and Andy Warhol to St. Louis"** exhibit is from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Contemporary Art Museum, located at 3750 Washington Blvd. Admission is free. For more information, call 535-0770.

• The **Opera Studio** performs at 7 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium. Admission is free for Webster students with ID, $5 for senior adults and $10 for general admission. For more information, call ext. 7032.

Saturday, January 27

• The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis presents George Bernard Shaw's **"Heartbreak House"** at 5 p.m. on the main stage in the theater, located at 130 Edgar Road. Admission ranges from $14 to $63. For more information, call ext. 7340.

• The St. Louis Zoo is holding a **job fair** from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in The Living World center, located at 1 Government Dr. Seasonal job openings include engineers for the zooline railroad, face painters, catering and food service personnel, groundskeepers, gardeners, gift shop attendants and parking lot attendants. For more information, call 781-0900 or visit *http://www.stlzoo.org/jobs.*

• The **Opera Studio** is performing at 7 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium. Admission is free for Webster students with ID, $5 for senior adults and $10 for general admission. For more information, call ext. 7032.

• Major Brands and MAXJAZZ sponsors the **Peter Martin Trio** with vocalist **Erin Bode** at 8 p.m. in the Sheldon Concert Hall, located at 3648 Washington Blvd. Tickets are $35 for balcony seating and $40 for orchestra seating. For more information, call 533-9900 or visit *http://www.sheldonconcerthall.org.*

Sunday, January 28

• Campus Activities sponsors **College Bowl**, a trivia challenge, at 1 p.m. in the University Center Sunnen Lounge. To qualify for the College Bowl, sign up at the UC front desk with a team of four to five players. The information will cover a wide range of subjects. Admission and entry is free. For more information, call ext. 7837.

• The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis presents George Bernard Shaw's **"Heartbreak House"** at 2 and 7 p.m. on the main stage in the theater, located at 130 Edgar Road. Admission ranges from $14 to $63. For more information, call ext. 7340.

• The **Community Music School's String Ensemble** performs at 3 p.m. in the E. Desmond Lee Concert Hall, located at 560 Trinity Ave. Admission is free. For more information, call ext. 5939.

• The **Opera Studio** performs at 4 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium. Admission is free for Webster students with ID, $5 for seniors and $10 for general admission. For more information, call ext. 7032.

Monday, January 29

• Campus Activities sponsors a presentation by **Christopher Gardner**, president and CEO of the brokerage firm Gardner Rich & Co., at 7 p.m. in the Loretto-Hilton Center. Garder is the author of "The Pursuit of Happyness" which was made into the recent film starring Will Smith. Webster students, faculty and staff with a valid ID may enter at 6 p.m. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. for the general public. Admission is free. For more information, call ext. 7837.

Tuesday, January 30

• **"Fiddle Back"** begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Sheldon Concert Hall, located at 3648 Washington Blvd. The performance is part of the "Notes from Home" series. Tickets are $10 at the door. For more information, call 533-9900 or visit *http://www.sheldonconcerthall.org.*

Wednesday, January 31

• Campus Activities sponsors **swing dance lessons** at 9:30 p.m. in the UC Sunnen Lounge. Sign up at the UC front desk. For more information, call ext. 7837.

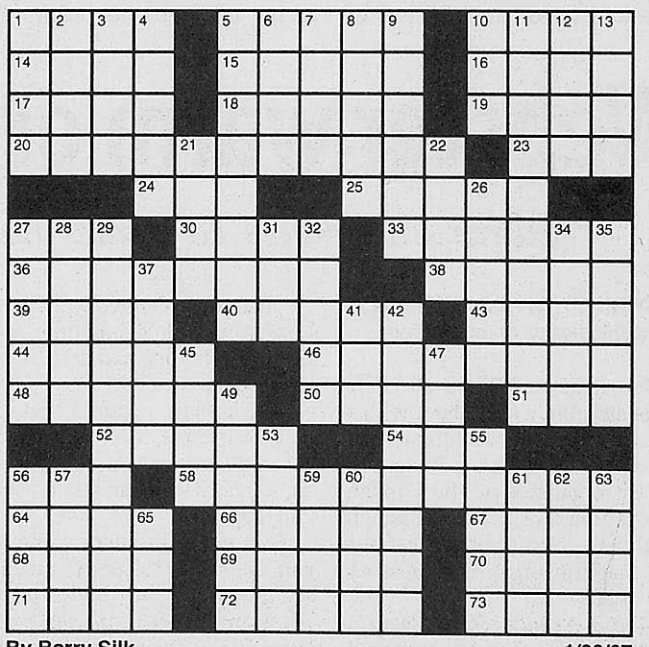
• **Marlena Shaw** performs at 8:30 and 10:15 p.m. at Jazz at the Bistro, located at 3536 Washington Ave. Tickets are $30. For more information, call 289-4030 or visit *http://www.jazzstl.org.*

• The Centene Corporation sponsors **"Dance Music of the Renaissance, Baroque and Classical Eras"** at 8 p.m. in the Sheldon Concert Hall, located at 3648 Washington Blvd. Tickets are $25 for balcony seating and $30 for orchestra seating. For more information, call 533-9900 or visit *http://www.sheldonconcerthall.org.*

Want your event listed in The Venue? E-mail us at *calendar@webujournal.com*

THE Daily Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams



ACROSS
1 Took wing
5 French fathers
10 Score-producing stats
14 Overhaul
15 To any extent
16 Blunders
17 Of all time
18 Cunning
19 Carson's predecessor
20 Element 99
23 Stanford-Binet figs.
24 Slugger Williams
25 Wood finish
27 Piece of luggage
30 Unwaking state
33 Orion's occupation
36 Tradeoff
38 "Foreign Affairs" author
39 Horne or Olin
40 Below, to bards
43 Brings to court
44 Overused
46 Former name of Zimbabwe
48 Dollar bill artist
50 Weighty book
51 Pull along
52 Bumped off
54 Santa's helper
56 Independence Day mo.
58 Steerable bomb, e.g.
64 Resting on
66 Pocatello spot
67 Count (on)
68 City on the Brazos River
69 Mali river
70 Pills and such, for short
71 Mayflower, for one
72 Language of Homer
73 __-Ball (carnival game)

DOWN
1 Complimentary
2 Jeans purveyor Strauss
3 First lady's first home
4 Most inferior
5 Computer key
6 Needle case
7 Wet forecast
8 Perry of fashion
9 Clue collector
10 Bodybuilder's unit
11 Advisory group
12 Mesopotamia, today
13 States under J. Stalin
21 Gumshoes
22 Heavy hammer
26 Occupied
27 Big swigs
28 Ward off
29 Guardian spirit of a place
31 Actress West
32 Separately
34 MacDonald's refrain
35 Viewed again
37 Birth-related
'41 However, briefly
42 Reading assignment, perhaps
45 Periods
47 Proofreader's notation
49 Art of pace
53 Rock bottom
55 Cultivates
56 Spielberg film
57 Beehive State
59 Craze
60 Fare-__-well
61 Brief look
62 Shoppe sign word
63 Wall St. letters
65 Soft drink

By Barry Silk
McLean, VA

1/29/07

Saturday's Puzzle Solved

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1/29/07

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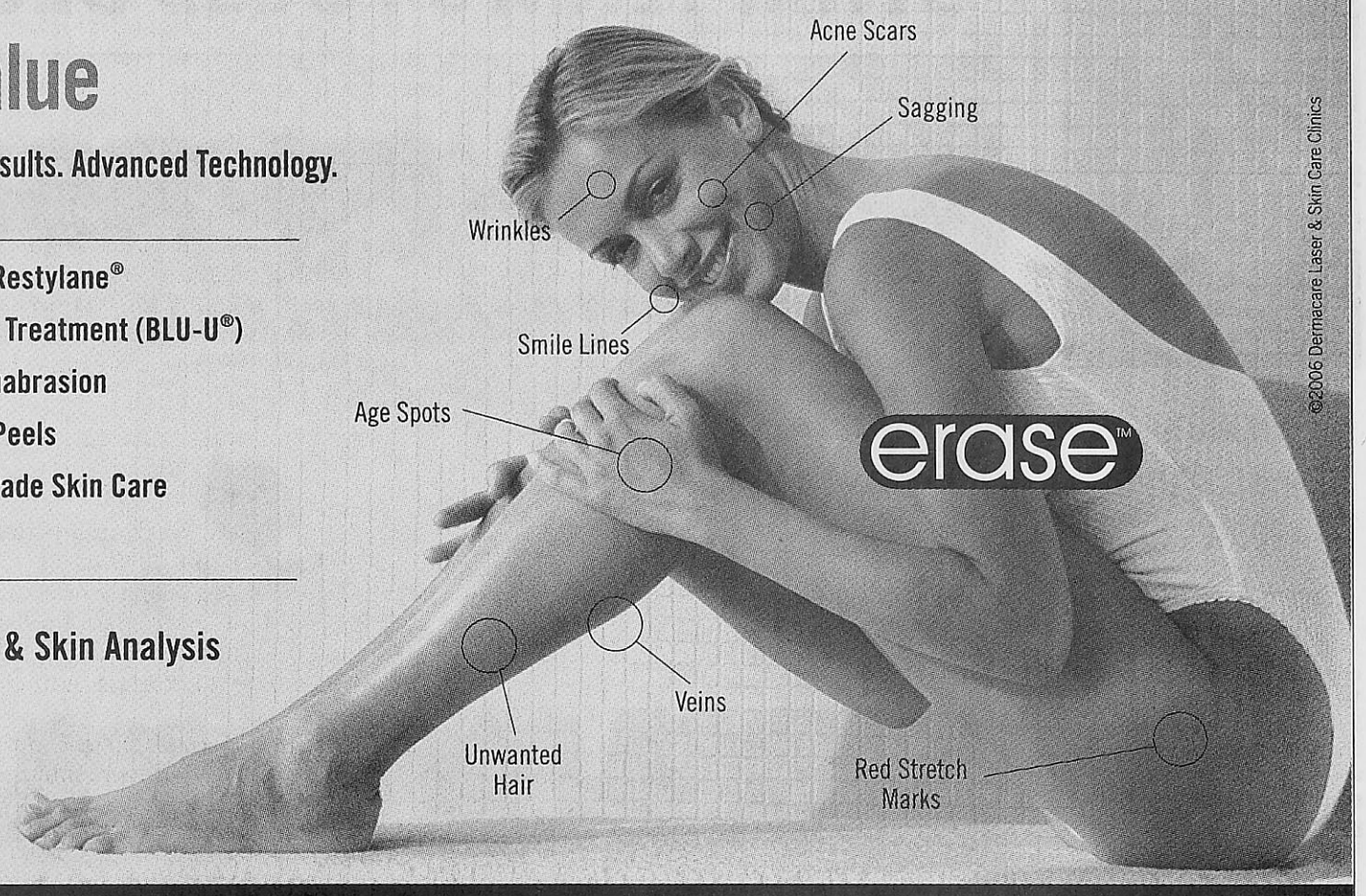



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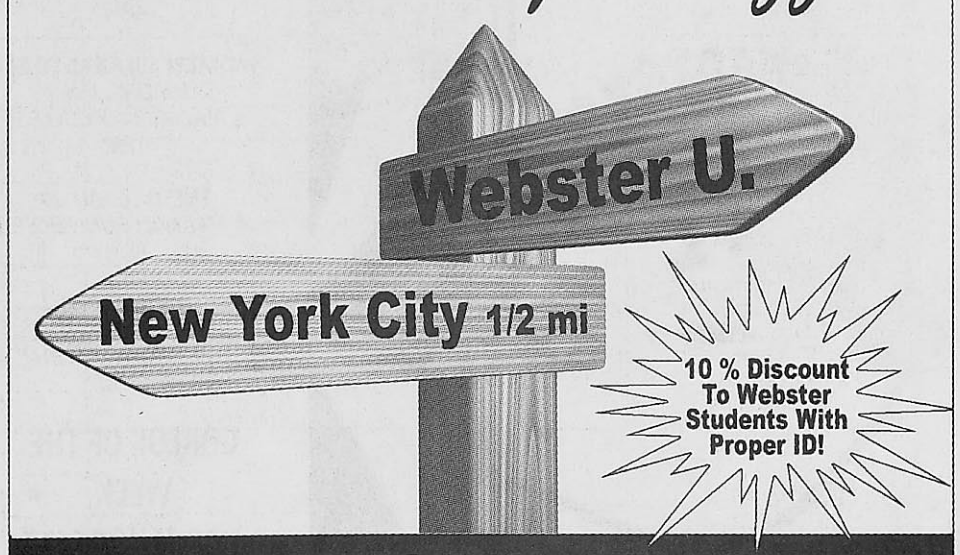

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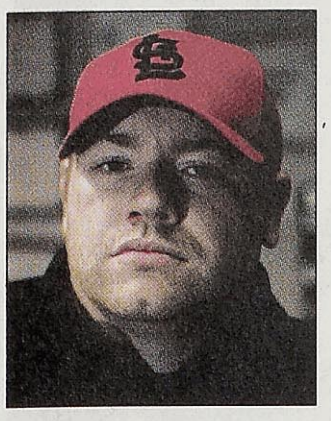


LOOKING BACK and LOOKING FORWARD

BY PATRICK DEVINE

Last semester was my first opportunity to be involved with Webster University outside of just being a student. I had the chance to write for *The Journal* and become involved with a school for the first time since graduating from high school. As a transfer student, I knew nothing about Webster or the athletic program. After one semester I realized my school was not only a great choice for my degree, but also a dominant force in their conference.

Working for the sports department, I learned Webster has turned itself into a very competitive program. The women's soccer team has been dominating the St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference for the last seven years. The men's soccer team has won three conference championships in six years and the men's baseball team is one year removed from a championship. All together, nine out of the 13 sports Webster offers have won a conference championship in the past five years.

My goal as editor of the sports section is to bring this information to you. It's now time that Webster gets some recognition for their athletic department.

While we were gorged ourselves during the holidays and raag in the new year with a bang, Webster and its student athletes were honored with more awards.

First, congratulations are in order for the women's soccer team. For the seventh consecutive year, the team was awarded the Adidas/National Soccer Coaches Association of America College Team Academic Award. This award is given to teams that post a grade point average of 3.0 or higher. The Gorloks earned a 3.54 team grade point average. They also won the St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference for the sixth time in seven years and advanced to the NCAA Division III national tournament.

Senior Susi Riegel was named a College Sports Information Directors of America Academic Award recipient for volleyball. The math major from Koethen, Germany, has a 3.99 GPA and was a 2006 SLIAC honorable mention conference selection. She also is first on the career digs list at Webster with 1,616.

This spring will usher in a new era in Webster baseball. For the first time in 10 years the Gorloks will have a new face calling the shots. Bill Kurich takes over as head coach of the baseball program.

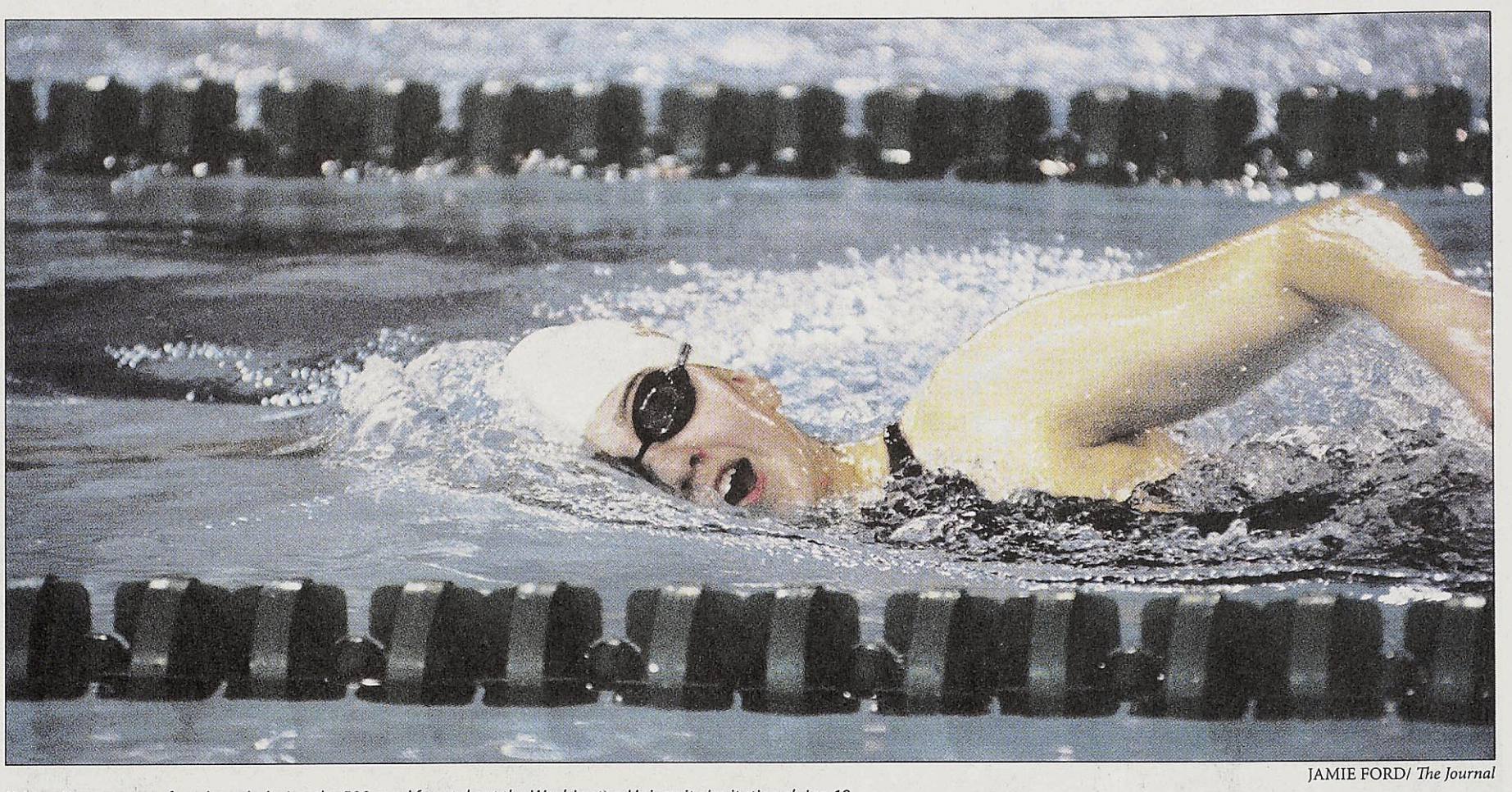
For the first time in a long time I am interested in what my school does in athletics. I also would like to get more people interested in Webster athletics.

Attendance at Webster sporting events is thin. The last basketball game I went to the crowd needed a crash cart to make sure they had a pulse. The interest level just isn't there. Next time the Gorloks take the field, or the court, it would be cool if the players could look out and see a sea of navy blue and gold fans. The lack of attendance might be helped if more of the student body knew who some of the players were, or what was going on with the teams.

I hope the sports section will keep you interested in the athletic department. I ask that if anyone has any ideas on players, or any stories that you feel are deserving, please feel free to contact me. The more I know, the more you will know.

Patrick Devine, is a junior journalism major, and the sports editor for The Journal.
pdevine@webujournal.com

SWIM TEAM'S FOCUS BECOMES PERSONAL



JAMIE FORD/ *The Journal*

Kristen Fey comes up for a breath during the 500-yard freestyle at the Washington University Invitational Jan 19.

BY MATT GROVER
mgrover@webujournal.com

Shortly before the 2006-07 Webster swimming season began, Head Coach Tim Lombardo and team captain Josie Muhm warned the team that the upcoming year would likely be challenging. Because of a small roster filled with underclassmen, Lombardo and Muhm suggested the team would direct its focus away from the standings and work on making individual improvements.

It was individual improvements that helped put a positive spin on a difficult weekend. The Webster women swam to a last place finish at the 23rd Annual Washington University Invitational Jan. 19 and 20 in St. Louis. The Gorlok men didn't participate as a team, but as individuals. The Gorloks were up against stiff competition including a top-10 ranked Washington University team and a NCAA Division II school, the University of Missouri-Rolla.

"We knew the competition was going to be very, very strong," Lombardo said.

The Washington University women's swim team and the Missouri-Rolla men's team took home first place honors, beating out six other teams.

However, according to Lombardo, any bitter aftertaste the last place finish might have left was negated by the individual accomplishments of several Gorlok swimmers.

"I thought our kids who swam this weekend did a real good job," Lombardo said.

Among Gorlok swimmers who had the best weekend were freshman Leah Bend and junior Zach Olson. Bend set personal bests in two events, including a time of 6:00.11 in the 500-yard freestyle, while Olson set a new career best with a 2:09.03 finish in the 200-yard freestyle event.

"It's nice to see the practice paying off," Bend said. "It's very gratifying. It made for a good day."

Despite the last place finish, Muhm believes the Washington University Invitational helped unite the Gorlok swim team.

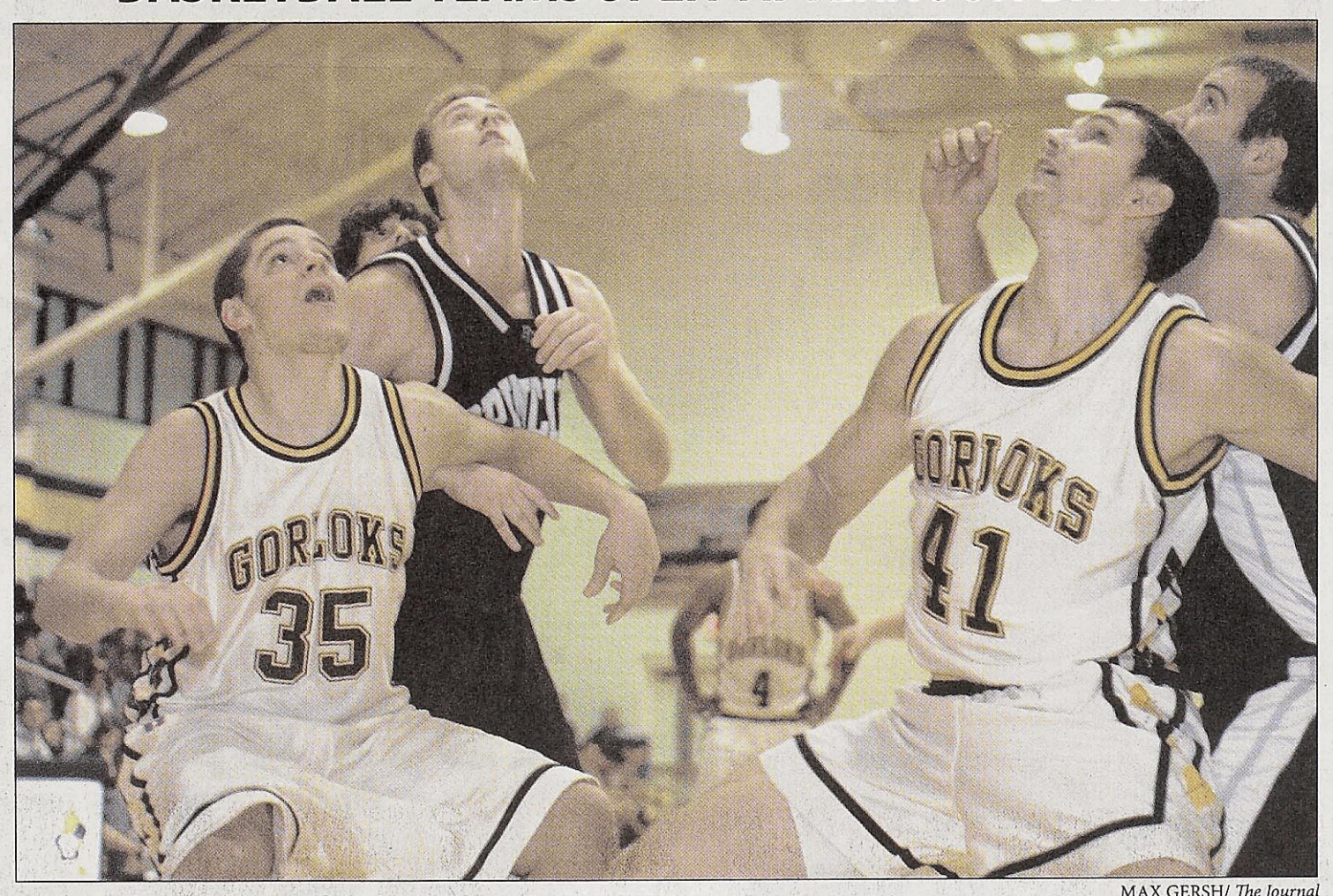
"We came together well," Muhm said. "Everyone is trying to stay positive and have a good attitude."

Lombardo agreed. He said while the team doesn't have enough members to have a realistic shot at competing for a St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Championship, the Gorloks can still make this season a success with hard work.

Lombardo said his goal for this team is to have nearly everyone improve on their individual times when the season comes to an end at the Liberal Arts Invitational in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Feb. 15 through 17.

"Hopefully in a month we will have had a meet with 95 percent best personal times," Lombardo said.

BASKETBALL TEAMS SPLIT AFTERNOON BATTLE



MAX GERSH/ *The Journal*

Webster forward John Ortwerth (left) and Gorlok co-captain Shawn Nichoalds (right) block out Principia after a free throw attempt Jan 20.

BY JON BAIRD
jbaird@webujournal.com

WOMEN

The women's basketball team dropped to 4-5 in St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference play Jan. 20 with a 79-58 loss to Principia. In a game full of missed scoring opportunities and turnovers, one bright spot for the Gorloks was junior Danielle Tiller's 22-point performance off the bench.

Webster's sixth woman added a pair of defensive rebounds and was four of seven from beyond the three-point line. Junior forward Jacquelyn Wamser had 12 points and nine rebounds, while sophomore guard Dana Vahey led the team with seven assists.

Principia jumped out to an early lead. Sophomore Nicole Bushong hit two 3-pointers in the first five minutes. Sophomore center Christina Speer and senior forward Leslie Nichols played strong games. The two combined to help Principia run away with the game toward the end of the first half. The Panthers turned up the heat in the final three minutes of the first half, taking a 41-21 halftime lead.

The second half was more of the same, as the Gorloks struggled to defend against Leslie Nichols. Nichols finished with 25 points, 14 rebounds and was eight of 12 from the field while going nine of 10 from the free-throw line.

The Gorloks tried to keep pace in the second half. Both teams scored 38 points, but the final score was no less disappointing for Head Coach Jayme Callahan. Callahan's focus was clearly on the Gorloks' blown opportunities.

"The disappointing part is how often we're beating ourselves," Callahan said. "We're a good enough team that it gets frustrating when we're playing well and we lose it for ourselves."

This is the team's third loss of the week by a similar margin, following their 82-63 loss to Greenville Jan. 16, and an 81-58 loss to Fontbonne Jan. 18. The team dropped to 4-12 overall, and 4-5 within the conference-with nine conference games left.

MEN

The men's basketball team improved to 6-3 in conference play with their third consecutive win Jan. 20. The Gorloks defeated the Principia Panthers 82-63. Junior forward Darin Hoggatt followed up Jan. 18 with a 36-point performance against Fontbonne with a 29-point, nine rebound and two-assist night. Senior guard Scott Spinner added 13 points with one rebound and seven assists.

Spinner reached a personal milestone late in the first half by scoring his 1,000th career point. He also was a perfect 10 out of 10 from the free-throw line.

The Gorloks jumped out in front early and never trailed. The first half included an impressive 12-0 Webster run, which saw Spinner sinking his third and fourth free throw shots of the game for career points 999 and 1,000.

"Scott's just been a great model of consistency for us all along," Head Coach Chris Bunch said.

"He's a good guy and does well in the classroom. He's just a great example for the team."

Spinner has started for the Gorloks the last four years. He posted 300-point seasons the last two years, as well as a 170-point season his freshman year.

"It's an individual honor, but it wouldn't have been possible without all the great guys I get to play with," Spinner said. "I've got to pass it on to those guys and Coach Bunch. It's been fun."

Principia came out in the second half looking to take a bite out of Webster's 43-31 lead. Hoggatt kept them at bay with eight points in the first ten minutes. Sharing the scoring was sophomore forward Steve Hrdlicka and sophomore guard Kyle Regan. Junior forward Shawn Nichoalds also was impressive off the bench late in the second half, scoring four points and picking up five defensive rebounds.

Spinner would sink four of his 10 free throws in the final two minutes, putting his career point total at 1,009. The Gorloks improved to 6-3 in the SLIAC, good for third place. The Gorloks have eight conference games and one non-conference game left in the season.

"This is really what we needed, and it puts us back in the thick of conference contention," Coach Bunch said. "Hoggatt had another great game, and he came through for us again. With the (upcoming) bye, it's a great way to finish the week."

MEN'S BASKETBALL
SATURDAY, JAN. 27
@ MACMURRAY COLLEGE
3PM

TUESDAY, JAN. 30
@ MARYVILLE UNIVERSITY
6PM

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
SATURDAY, JAN. 27
@ MACMURRAY COLLEGE
1PM

TUESDAY, JAN. 30
@ MARYVILLE UNIVERSITY
8PM

SWIMMING
SATURDAY, JAN. 27
EUREKA INVITATIONAL
12PM

GORLOK OF THE WEEK
DARIN HOGGATT

JUNIOR DARIN HOGGATT HAS BEEN SELECTED AS THE ST. LOUIS INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC CONFERENCE MEN'S BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE WEEK FOR THE WEEK OF JAN. 15 THROUGH 21.

THE GORLOKS WON THREE CONFERENCE GAMES TO CLIMB BACK INTO CONTENTION FOR THE CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP. HOGGATT SCORED 82 POINTS AND CAME DOWN WITH 28 REBOUNDS IN THOSE THREE GAMES.

DURING THE THREE GAME SPAN HOGGATT SCORED 17 POINTS AND PULLED DOWN NINE REBOUNDS AGAINST GREENVILLE COLLEGE JAN. 16. ON JAN. 18 AGAINST FONTBONNE UNIVERSITY, HOGGATT HAD 36 POINTS AND 10 REBOUNDS. HE FINISHED THE WEEK OFF WITH 29 POINTS AND NINE REBOUNDS AGAINST PRINCIPIA JAN. 20.

THE JOURNAL

The News Source for Webster University • www.webujournal.com • February 1-7, 2007

To U.N.: Darfur violence is genocide
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Opera 'Sex in the City'
LIFESTYLE, 7

Men's basketball wins six out of seven
SPORTS, 10

Hundreds turned away

BY BETH PRUSACZYK
bprusaczyk@webujournal.com

"If you take one thing away from this, know that not every homeless person is there because of drugs or alcohol," Christopher Gardner said.

Gardner, author of the recent book-turned-movie "Pursuit of Happyness," told the story of how he went from being homeless in San Francisco during the early 1980s to becoming CEO and president of his own brokerage firm in Chicago in 1987 to a packed house Jan. 29 on the Browning Mainstage.

Approximately 900 students, alumni, faculty and public filled the auditorium, while anywhere from 500 to 1,000 people were turned away outside.

Overwhelmed by all who attended and disappointed so many were turned away, Gardner started his lecture by challenging the Webster Alumni Association to build a bigger theater. Gardner himself offered up the first $1,000.

> *"No matter what anyone says on the other side of that door, no matter how hard they bang, we are invisible, we aren't here."*
>
> *-Chris Gardner*

The book and movie "Pursuit of Happyness," staring Will Smith, have both had success on the *New York Times'* Best Seller List and at the box office.

Gardner said the book was important to him because a movie only has so many frames on a roll of film.

"Thank God I did the book because I could go back and discuss what I had in me before ... and that was my mother," Gardner said.

Gardner said his mother was the one who put the idea of success in his head. He said he remembers watching a college basketball game when he was young where the announcers were predicting the amount of money the players would make if they went professional.

"I said, 'One day that guy is going to make a million dollars' and my mom said, 'Baby, if you want to, you can make a million dollars,'" Gardner said.

The thought had never entered his mind before that day, he said. Gardner said he didn't have any known talents that were capable of making a million dollars.

"I can't sing. I'm not good at running, jumping or catching balls," Gardner said. "I'm the only black man in America that can't dance."

It wasn't until Gardner walked onto the floor of a trading room that he realized what his mother was talking about. After begging and pleading, Gardner was given a chance to enter a training program at a brokerage. However, when he arrived for his first day, he found out the offer was no longer available. To make matters worse, Gardner had quit his previous job to take the training program and was now unemployed.

"Remember one thing: unemployment will not help your relationship," Gardner said.

Gardner's fighting with his girlfriend led to police uncovering $1,200 in upaid parking tickets and therefore he was held in prison for ten days. While in jail, Gardner said he could only think of one thing: his son.

While in jail Gardner said he could only think of one thing: his son.

"He had seen my face every day for his first entire year on this planet and now I wasn't there," Gardner said.

After Gardner was released, he went to an interview. On the biggest day of his business career Gardner said he told his boss the truth about jail and his girlfriend with his son — and that was the best thing he could have done.

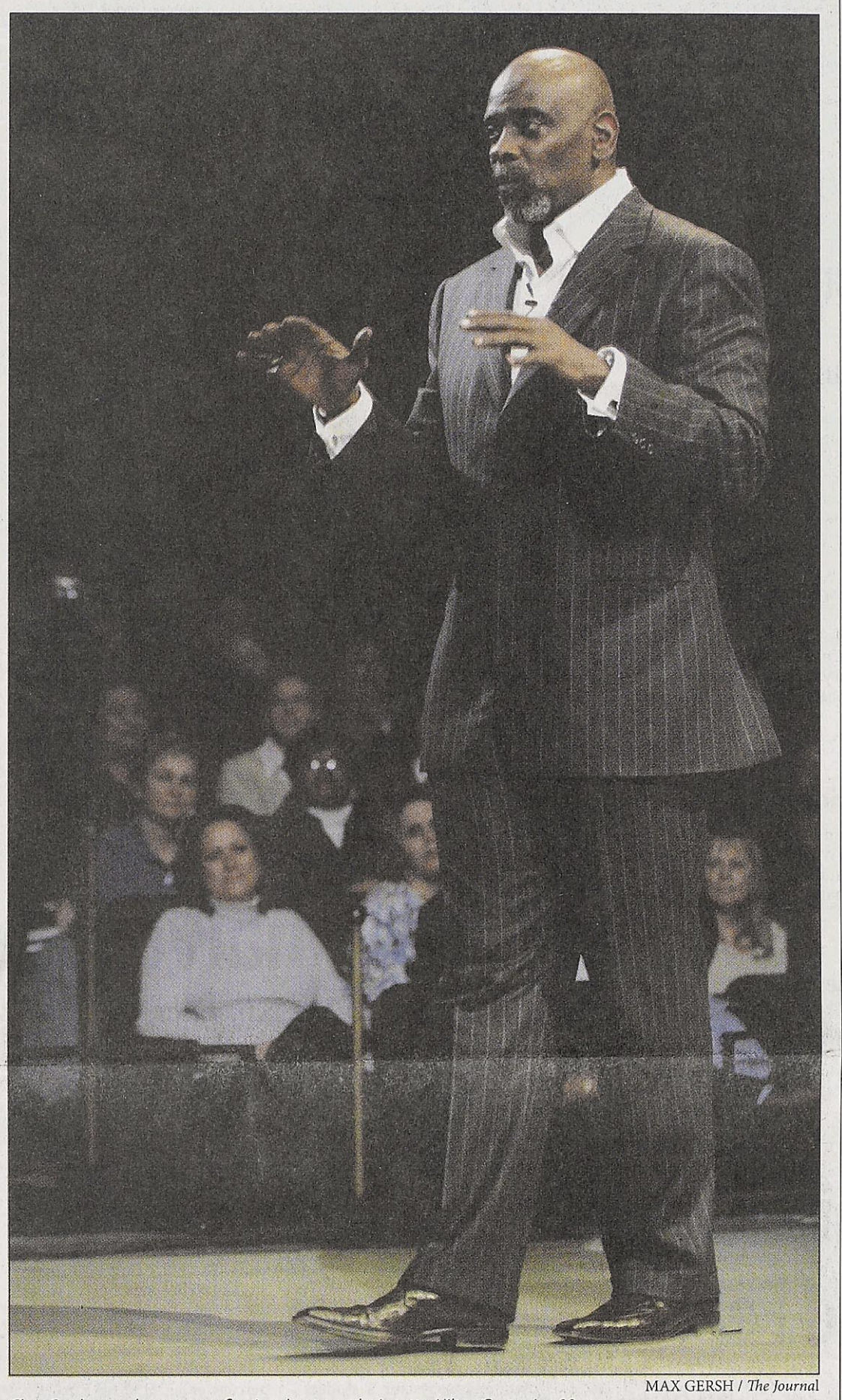
Gardner said it turned out his boss had been divorced multiple times and told Gardner about his ex-wives. The next day, Gardner's boss personally walked him to the training program.

Gardner said the program involved doing things the brokers felt were beneath them. He said he made 200 phone calls a day, then, went to a boarding house at night and studied. Gardner said he could do nothing but study because he could not locate his ex-girlfriend or his son.

One night, however, his ex-girlfriend showed up at his door with their son and turned him over to Gardner. But the boarding house Gardner was living in did not allow children. The pair was homeless.

While at the training program, from which he received a monthly income of $1,000, Gardner said he was forced to leave his son every day, screaming and

See GARDNER, Page 7



MAX GERSH / *The Journal*

Chris Gardner spoke to an overflowing theater at the Loretto-Hilton Center Jan 29.

Campus radio no longer stationary

BY ALEXANDRA SMITH
asmith@webujournal.com

For many Webster students, this semester marks the beginning of an opportunity to hear something they have never heard before. After a more than two-year hiatus, Webster's student-run radio station, KGLX The Galaxy, is streaming live over the Internet.

Live broadcasts from the station began airing the week of Jan. 22, and can be accessed at *http://kglxlive.webster.edu/listen.pls*. Student Media Coordinator Jim Singer said students are getting used to the process and working through the nervousness associated with being on the air.

"Right now, everything's really raw," Singer said. "The fundamentals haven't been put into place yet."

The station will still be known as The Galaxy, but will no longer be able to use the call letters KGLX, as they are being used by another radio station.

Singer said there was a positive response to the re-launching of The Galaxy. He said without even advertising the need for volunteers, about 60 students signed up to host shows or be part of the process. Singer said though many of the students are broadcast majors, there are a variety of students from unrelated fields of study.

The station is primarily supported by two classes taught by Gary Gottlieb, an audio production professor. One class comprises The Galaxy management team, and the other teaches fundamentals for disc jockeys.

Currently, the station has no specific format or focus. Students are encouraged to explore and pick a format that is important to them for radio shows. Two-hour blocks are reserved for each broadcast. Singer said the station is getting close to a definite schedule, and working on a Web site where students can access the schedule and offer feedback via surveys.

See GALAXY, Page 3

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OUTSIDE

THURSDAY
Mostly Cloudy
31/21

FRIDAY
Chance of Flurries
24/11

SATURDAY
Partly Cloudy
24/14

Debaters flood Webster over weekend

Webster hosts biggest debate tournament in its history, which attracts 42 schools

BY KELLEY ATHERTON
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Forty-two schools from 19 states as far-reaching as New Hampshire and Louisiana invaded Webster's campus Jan. 26 through 28 for the ninth annual Gorlok Gala Forensics Tournament.

Scott Jensen, associate professor and director of debate and forensics, said this year's debate and forensics tournament was the biggest in Webster's history.

Jensen said Webster's team did not compete in the tournament, in order to focus on their hosting duties.

"The ethics in the forensics world is that, if you can give back to the community, you do," Jensen said. "The most common way is hosting a tournament. When hosting, our approach we take is that we don't compete."

He said only one Webster student, Ashley Taylor, competed as the partner for a Boise State University student who didn't have one. Taylor, a senior philosophy major, competed in a parliamentary-style debate.

"You walk into the room, are assigned a position and are given 15 minutes to prepare," Taylor said. "It's all about logic and argument. It's not what you think, but what you're supposed to think."

For some of the school teams participating in the tournament, the Gorlok Gala is one of the top tournaments in the country.

"It's one of the top three to four national-caliber

See DEBATE, Page 3



JAMIE FORD / *The Journal*

Scott Jensen, director of forensics and associate professor of speech communications studies oversaw the tournament Jan. 26 through Jan. 28 from the University Center while toting his son, Eddie, around the building.

MISDEMEANORS AND MISHAPS

Jan. 15, 2:28 p.m.: There was a complaint of a marijuana smell coming from an apartment in the WVA.

Jan. 18, 8:57 a.m.: A student received a threatening letter on his or her car.

Jan. 20, 4:28 p.m.: A suspicious odor was reported in the WVA.

Jan. 21, 12:15 a.m.: A lock was taken from a gate on the lower level of the parking garage.

Jan. 23, 10:56 a.m.: There was a vehicle accident in Lot H.

Jan. 24, 6:50 p.m.: A fire alarm was pulled in East Hall.

Jan. 25, 12:12 p.m.: A student fell while walking up an exterior staircase.

Source: Public Safety crime log

NEWS BRIEFS

Freshman Writing Award

Any students who were first-semester freshmen in the fall term are eligible to submit writing of any genre, with a minimum of 500 words. Submissions must be nominated by an instructor. The deadline for the competition is 5 p.m. Feb. 9. First prize receives $250. For complete competition rules, go to *http://www.webster.edu/acadaffairs/asp/wc/fwa.pdf.*

Author will speak about German past

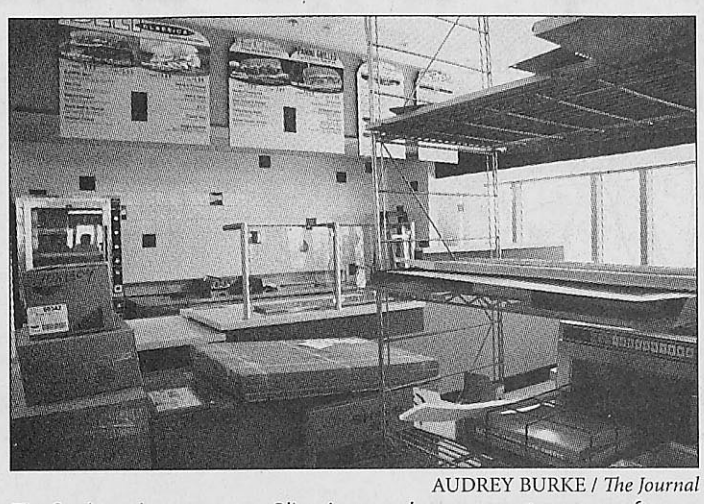
Helmut Walser Smith, author of "The Butcher's Tale: Murder and Anti-Semetism in a German Town," will speak at 4 p.m. Feb. 2 in the Emerson Library Conference Room. Smith's talk will cover anti-Semitic violence in German and European-history during the 19th century.

First Fridays

Students are invited to perform at 8 p.m. Feb. 2 at Marletto's Marketplace. First Fridays is Webster's monthly open-mic concert, where students play live music, perform comedic skits and read poetry. For more information, call Campus Activities at ext. 7837.

Jazz Ensemble

The Webster University Faculty Jazz Ensemble presents "For the Sake of Art," a tribute to Art Blakey. The performance is 7 p.m. Feb. 5 at the Winifred Moore Auditorium. For more information, call the Fine Arts Hotline at ext. 7128.



AUDREY BURKE / *The Journal*

The final touches are put on Blimpie as workers prepare to reopen after several months of delays due to building code discrepancies.

Blimpie returns

BY ALEXANDRA SMITH AND SCOTT HARRES
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Blimpie Subs and Salads in the University Center will reopen Jan. 31 after months of delays.

David Stone, director of facilities planning and management, said the sandwich vendor passed its Webster Groves code inspection Jan. 26 and its county Health Department new construction inspection Jan. 30.

When the UC was remodeled to include World of Wings Café and Wingery and Freshens Smoothie Company for fall 2006, Blimpie went under reconstruction in order to meet code requirements put in place for new constructions.

Originally, Blimpie was scheduled to reopen after fall break.

"The scope of the project was larger than we had anticipated," Brad Woodroffe, dining service manager, said.

Woodroffe said remodeling for Blimpie was approved by the university for funding around the end of November. He said it took two months to reconstruct the shop and process orders for custom-made materials such as countertops.

Woodroffe said other restaurant options were considered to replace Blimpie, but the food committee felt Blimpie was the best financial option.

"(A new restaurant) probably would have cost us more," he said.

Some students have mixed feelings about the return of Blimpie.

"I could really go for some Quizno's," Dan Miller, senior management major, said.

The modified Blimpie will be similar to the original, with most of the same food options. Woodroffe said the menus have better graphics and are simpler, easier to read and more customer-friendly.

A grand opening may be planned for a later date, but Woodroffe said having Blimpie open and serving food is the first priority.

"For now, we just want to get open as fast as we can," Woodroffe said.

Online company hawks books on the cheap

BY RACHEL LEBO
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Students who want to buy cheap textbooks now have another option — BooksOnCampus.com.

Mark Kantor and Tim Suzman, graduates of Brandeis University, located in Mass., founded *http://www.BooksOnCampus.com*, a free Web site allowing students to buy and sell used textbooks to each other.

Utilizing a recent partnership with Facebook, any student with a Facebook account can log onto BooksOnCampus.com for free and buy or sell books without having to sign up for a separate BooksOnCampus.com account.

"There's no extra passwords or usernames to remember," said co-founder Mark Kantor. "We wanted to make the site as easy as possible to use."

Kantor and Suzman began the service in 2003. The co-founders developed the idea after Suzman bought a calculus book from a classmate for $50. The Brandeis bookstore only offered to buy the book back for $5, and was selling a used copy of the book for $100.

Ted Suzman, Tim's younger brother and a Washington University student, built the Web site while in high school.

The Suzman brothers and Kantor debuted the service at Brandeis. About half the students on campus — 1,500 out of about 3,100 — started using the service.

"Bookstores don't like us," Kantor said. "The Brandeis bookstore tried telling us we couldn't do this, but they couldn't do anything to stop us. It was even told to us that we were making textbooks cost more, which is ridiculous."

BooksOnCampus.com recently opened their services to more than 700 colleges and universities after the partnership with Facebook was finalized.

Jeff Smithson, store manager for Webster's bookstore, said he was not familiar with BooksOnCampus.com. He said Web sites for used textbooks have "some affect on the bookstore, but not much."

Using a book's ISBN (international standard book number, located directly above the barcode) is the most accurate way to find a book on BooksOnCampus.com, but a student also can search using title and author on the front page of the Web site. If the book a student searches for is not available online from another student, the Web site posts the link to *http://www.Amazon.com* with a listing of the lowest price.

To sell a book, a student must input the ISBN number of the textbook. Once it is found in the database, the condition, price and delivery options are set. The Web site also suggests an amount to sell the book for based on the condition a student chooses.

A seller can post a book for the school they attend or select the option to sell the book to anyone.

"Allowing students to post books for anyone to buy allows schools just starting out, like Webster, to connect with schools that are more established with the site," Kantor said. "Since new classes are constantly being made or new editions are being published, there's a better chance someone can find the book they need at a lower price than Amazon.com or their bookstore."

House halves student loan rates

Cuts will lower loan rates 3.4 percent over five years if approved by Senate

BY ANNA C. FORDER
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The U.S. House of Representatives voted Jan. 17 to cut in half the interest some students will have to pay on student loans over the next five years.

Jon Gruett, Webster's director of financial aid, said students who have subsidized Stafford loans would experience the biggest change if this legislation is signed into law.

A subsidized Stafford loan is a need-based loan in which the government pays for a student's interest while he or she is attending school. With an unsubsidized loan the student is responsible for the interest on the loan while attending school.

Gruett said a senior who already has borrowed all of his or her loan money will not benefit from this cut. Underclassmen and students entering college in the next few years will, however, be affected.

If the plan, introduced by Rep. George Miller, D-Calif., is signed into law, it will lower interest rates on federally subsidized loans for undergraduates over the next five years. The bill, called the College Student Relief Act of 2007, would lower rates from 6.8 percent to 6.12 percent in 2007, to 5.44 percent in 2008, to 4.76 in 2009, to 4.08 percent in 2010 and to 3.40 percent in 2011. The rates will save students who have need-based federal loans about $4,400 on a $13,800 loan, according to a release from Miller's office.

Gruett said students entering college in the next few years will see the greatest savings because of the gradual decrease in interest rates over the five-year span.

"For an incoming freshman, they will see a bit of a reduction each year," Gruett said.

All Missouri representatives voted in favor of the cuts with the exception of one: Roy Blunt, R-Mo.

Blunt's communications director, Burson Snyder, said Blunt voted against the measure because he felt it did not do enough to help students who were not yet in college. Snyder said the measure would primarily help students who were already in college, and Blunt wanted to see legislation that would help future students get to college.

"It dropped loan rates for students who already have loans … but he would like to see advances in legislation to get students who cannot afford to go to college attend college," Snyder said.

This legislation is part of the Democrats' "Six for '06" plan that began July 2006. This plan included six promises the Democratic Party made while campaigning, one of which was to make higher education more affordable.

Gruett said Webster graduate and undergraduate students currently have about $120 million worth of student loans, including both subsidized and unsubsidized Stafford and PLUS loans. He said student loans have become more a common way to finance college education.

"As tuition costs goes up, the grant programs haven't been keeping pace, so there's more and more borrowing," Gruett said.

E-mail maitenance scheduled Feb. 1

BY KEVIN HUELSMANN
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Students will experience an e-mail outage starting at 6 p.m. Feb. 1. The outage is expected to last approximately four to six hours.

During the outage, students will not be able to send or receive e-mail through their Connections e-mail account. The outage is part of an effort to fix the sluggish and often troubled Connections e-mail system. Approximately 13,000 e-mail accounts, which are mostly student accounts, will be transferred to an additional server Feb. 1. The migration will halve the number of accounts on the main student server, Auden.

Terri Jones, director of Information Technology, said adding a new server is only a temporary solution to e-mail troubles.

"We expect this to be an interim solution to handle the load we have now," Jones said. "As we add a certain number of accounts we'll add another server. We're still determining what that number will be though. It will probably be something that we constantly tweak."

Larry Haffner, vice president of IT, said students will hardly notice the shift.

"Students won't know anything happened, outside of being on a different server," Haffner said. "No one has to do anything different except if they're accessing their e-mail through an outside source like Outlook."

Students will no longer need to use an e-mail address with the server name, such as *websterstudent@auden.webster.edu*. Now, students only will use *websterstudent@webster.edu* in their addresses.

Any e-mail sent to an address with the server name included will not be delivered, Jones said.

In addition to a broadcast e-mail sent Jan. 25, IT also sent a reminder e-mail to affected students, posted an announcement on the Connections Web site and informed professors and faculty of the outage.

"We want to minimize the amount of confusion and frustration caused by this," Jones said. "I know that we've utilized every channel of communication available to us."

Following the migration of accounts to a new server, IT workers will begin setting up another server for incoming student accounts, Haffner said. The server would be the fourth used in handling student, faculty and staff e-mail.

Haffner hopes the extra servers will remedy a problem that began when Connections was first introduced.

"We were victims of our own success," Haffner said. "We kept adding Connections accounts for all of the students and then it was just too many."

Haffner said the IT department did not foresee the implications of not building up server space.

"It's one of those things where we had good intentions," Haffner said. "We wanted to roll out Connections and get everyone's e-mail accounts set up. We got ahead of ourselves. In retrospect, maybe we should have had the architecture built up before we started rolling out the e-mail accounts."

Jones said she feels the IT department has done a good job in addressing the e-mail trouble.

"I feel pretty confident that we have put our heads together to be proactive to address any issues that may come up," Jones said. "And we'll be around to field any issues that come up later."

Student Awards Announced for Fall II

Dean's Award for Service



Three students were selected to receive the Dean's Award for Fall II:

Rachel Lee (left), a senior production major from Nashville, Tenn., was nominated for founding a gospel choir and for her volunteer work and student leadership with the Association for African American Collegians (AAAC) and the Sister Circle.

Sarah Laurentius (center), a senior photography art major from St. Louis, was nominated for helping found and serve as vice president for the new Webster Art Coalition and for helping coordinate two student exhibitions off campus. She also has served as Laumeier Sculpture Park Ambassador and has organized lectures by local artists, curators and gallery owners.

Kendra Davis (right), a senior elementary education major from Camdenton, Mo. was nominated for her contributions to students as vice president of the Student Government Association during the fall semester.

Outstanding Student Employee Award



Three students have been selected to receive the Outstanding Student Employee Award for Fall II:

Chunting Chai (left), a senior business administration major from Beijing, was nominated for her outstanding work as a student employee helping to coordinate budgets and purchasing in the athletic department.

Stephanie Godwin-Chu (center), a senior journalism major from Memphis, Tenn., was nominated for her work as a student supervisor for the UC student building managers, managing editor for *the Journal*, student orientation coordinator for two years and intern at the *St. Louis American*.

Lakeesha Burris (right), a senior biology major from St. Louis, was nominated for work as a student employee in the biological sciences department.

Holden seeks top politicians to speak

BY JAMES CHILTON
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"We are hopeful that we can get most of the presidential candidates in St. Louis ..."
-Former Gov. Bob Holden

As a growing number of presidential hopefuls set their sights on the 2008 elections, former Missouri Gov. Bob Holden hopes to bring their campaign trails through Webster University in the coming year.

Holden, now a professor of business and political science at Webster, has launched the new semester of his Public Policy Forum, a speaker series intended to bring lawmakers, governors and other public servants to Webster. This year's theme is America's Future.

In this case, America's Future means presidential candidates, several of whom have already given verbal agreements to appear at Webster and whom Holden said he intends to follow up with this year.

"We are hopeful that we can get most of the presidential candidates in St. Louis during the 2007-2008 presidential cycle," Holden said.

With campuses throughout the United States and abroad, Holden said Webster provides candidates a unique opportunity to communicate their message to a wide international and domestic audience.

"When you have something to say, say it at Webster and the world will hear." Holden said. "No (other university) can lay claim to that."

Holden said it is important that candidates come to Webster early in the political cycle, when they are still developing their campaign platforms. He said this is when student input is most likely to influence how the candidates define themselves.

"I think that's why it's important that we get these candidates in St. Louis this year," Holden said. "So we can have a real impact."

Holden said he would not schedule anyone to speak on a particular subject, but rather let the speakers decide what to talk about.

"I'll let them (the candidates) come in and take this wherever they want," he said. "Each of these will be taking it from the perspective of what they perceive to be the interest of most Americans."

Last year's speaker series included such bi-partisan political luminaries as then-Governor of Arkansas Mike Huckabee, a Republican who announced his bid for the presidency Jan. 28, and *New York Times* columnist and economics professor Paul Krugman, a critic of the Bush administration. The series culminated in an election night party in the Sunnen Lounge, which featured live election coverage and call-ins from political experts, pollsters and politicians.

"We had a very successful initial year," Holden said. "We had over 300 people participate in our election night program, which had never happened before (in the Sunnen Lounge)."

The event's planners initially expected only 50 students to attend.

The evening was the product of Public Information Production, a small class of students devoted to planning and executing events specified for the Public Policy Forum. Gary Ford, a visiting communications professor, instructs and advises the seven students currently enrolled in the course while Holden's personal assistant, Betsy LePoidevin, supervises their work on each project and event in the series. Holden attends class on an as-needed basis, and is treated as a client the students are working for.

Ford said the class is divided between academic research projects and actual production and execution of forum events.

"Last semester's class was very successful," Ford said. "The group had hands-on experience producing three events in a very fluid 'real world' environment that is politics and political personalities. They also completed projects that will help future forum events ... and each have some very unique experiences to include in their resumes."

Abby Heft, a senior public relations major, took the class last semester after working with Holden through the Office of Public Affairs.

"I wrote numerous press releases and contacted media all around St. Louis to garner attention for each forum event," she said. "That is invaluable experience that I have not found with any other class I've taken at Webster so far."

Holden's new class already has begun planning and arranging the upcoming series. Emily Garegnani, a junior public relations major, said that while the class is still getting settled, she is excited to use her skills in a real-life situation.

"I am honored to be working with Gov. Holden because I believe in him as a politician and as a human being," she said. "I see it as an honor that he has allowed the students of Webster University to participate in his mission."

With the addition of LePoidevin to Holden's staff, students can expect the Public Policy Forum's Web site, *http://www.webster.edu/holdenppf/index.htm*, to resume regular updates as the series takes shape.

"We're really kind of in a re-energizing phase," LePoidevin said. "We have lots of things in the works, just nothing we could post (yet)."

While candidates' schedules are subject to change at a moment's notice, LePoidevin said she is confident the new series will attract several prospective presidential candidates to the campus.

"There will be some presidential hopefuls in town," she said.



MAX GERSH / *The Journal*
Bob Boland (left) accompanied Webster Professor Dan Hellinger on stage at St. John's Church on Arsenal Street. Many war protestors joined them after taking a group picture to send to city officials.

Protestors put a face on antiwar effort

BY KEVIN HUELSMANN
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More than 200 protestors, including Webster students and faculty, gathered at Tower Grove Park Jan. 27 to express their outrage and opposition to the war in Iraq.

Protestors took two group photos they would later send to Sen. Claire McCaskill (D-Missouri) as part of the Portraits for Peace campaign.

The Portraits for Peace campaign sends pictures of protestors with attached signed messages to state legislators in an attempt to get their voices heard.

"We wanted to put a face to the peace movement," said Debra Penna-Fredericks, one of the protest organizers. "We want to push Congress in the right direction. We want no more funds for the war."

The protest coincided with a national protest at the National Mall in Washington, D.C.

John Chappell, a history, politics and international relations professor at Webster, said he protested to speak out against the war.

"I came today because of my opposition to the war and my opposition to the plans for escalating the war," Chappell said. "I wanted to be part of a participatory atmosphere and make an impression."

Some Webster students said the protest helped voice the opinion of the general public.

"I want to help show that the general public doesn't support this war," said Kristin Armstrong, a senior international relations major.

Another student said he felt participation in the protest helped remind Congressional leaders of public opinion.

"The administration didn't seem to get the idea when they lost the House and Senate," Andrew Bryson, a junior political science major, said. "These small measures make a difference."

Following the picture in Tower Grove Park, most of the group migrated to St. John's Church on Arsenal Street to sign the personal messages, which will be sent to McCaskill.

Inside the church foyer, coffee and hot chocolate were served to attendants. Music was provided by a group of Webster Groves musicians. Dan Hellinger, a professor of history, politics and international relations, played mandolin with the group.

Hellinger said the protest was necessary to voice public opinion about the war to McCaskill.

"It's our responsibility to let Claire McCaskill know what we want," Hellinger said. "I think it's pretty clear that if the Democrats are going to do what they said they were going to do, someone needs to hold their feet to the fire."

Mo Costello, one of the protest organizers and owner of Mokabe's Coffeehouse on Arsenal Street, said the protest was planned as something that can be carried on.

"Portraits for Peace is the start of an idea that can be ongoing," Costello said. "So you go to a rally. Now what? You can get a portrait, sign a card and carry on the campaign."

Galaxy: Media coordinator seeks student input

FROM PAGE 1

"People will listen for the wide, assorted variety of music tastes," Singer said. "We have a wealth of different styles of music they won't hear anywhere else."

Singer said The Galaxy has many goals and ideas for the future, including live broadcasts from Marletto's Marketplace, coverage of campus events, sports play-by-plays and live bands playing in the studio. Students also will be able to call in to make requests.

"I want the students to know the station belongs to them," Singer said. "The more we can serve the students' needs on campus, the more important we become."

Some students said they did not even know The Galaxy was broadcasting.

"I'm not sure if everyone is aware of how to access it," Mac Ingram, a junior political science major and Resident Assistant in West Hall, said. "I haven't heard too much about it at all, other than hearing it announced at various meetings."

GTV

Singer said getting The Galaxy up and running has been the main focus for the past couple of weeks, but the future of Gorlok Television remains a primary concern.

Brady Koch, senior broadcast journalism major and GTV general manager, said technical problems plagued the television station last semester, but are now fixed. He said one of the biggest challenges for GTV is finding volunteers to put ideas into action. Currently, there is no class associated with GTV, and only six staff members operate the station.

"We need more help," Koch said. "Students should recognize the forum and opportunity, the steppingstone that can be GTV."

On campus, GTV is channel 10. Programming presently consists of Residential Housing Association Movies. Koch said RHA has a contract with Swank Motion Pictures, Inc., a major non-theatrical movie distributor. Each month, the school receives eight movies from the company, which are then shown consistently on GTV.

Koch said within the next two weeks GTV will have blocks of time intended for original programming in addition to RHA movies. He said soon there also will be a weekly news show, which will come from the Presentation of Television News class taught by Eileen Solomon, a broadcast journalism professor.

Both Koch and Singer said the potential for GTV is phenomenal, and they have many different ideas for future programming and advertising possibilities.

Debate: McKendree snags top place overall

DEBATE AND SPEECH STYLES

Lincoln Douglas – This is a two-person, one-on-one debate on a specific policy. Debaters argue their points at rapid-fire speed.

Parliamentary – Consists of two teams with two people on each team. Teams are given 15 minutes to prepare their position. Debators argue their positions in a set number of minutes back and forth.

Public Speech – Students present a speech he or she has written beforehand and memorized.

Oral Interpretation – The speaker gives an interpretation of a piece of literature. The person gives a different emphasis on what he or she believes is important.

Limited Preparation – Speakers are given an individual topic and a limited amount of time to write a speech. For extemp speaking an individual uses materials to supplement his or her argument. For impromptu speaking the speaker must use common sense to prepare their speech within a few minutes.

Source: Scott Jensen, director of forensics

FROM PAGE 1

tournaments," said Joe Dudek, a sophomore mathematics and philosophy major at Lafayette College in Pennsylvania.

Sarah Staats, a sophomore political science major at Garden City Community College in Kansas, said the competition is one of the reasons so many schools came this past weekend.

"It's a respected tournament," Staats said. "One of the top competitive teams, Western Kentucky University, is here. If they go to a tournament that means (the tournament) is good."

The Western Kentucky University team said they came to compete in the tournament because of the numerous debate and speech styles available to participate in. Students competed in Lincoln-Douglas and parliamentary-style debate, public speaking, oral interpretation and limited preparation speech.

"It's a large debate tournament," Keyon Shokarie, a senior political communications major at Western Kentucky University, said. "It's a chance to do all of our speech debates."

On Jan. 28, awards for individual event, debate and overall placing were announced at the Sheraton Westport Chalet Hotel. Indivdual event is awarded to the school with the highest individual scores. The debate award goes to the school whose debate teams (of two people) scored the highest and the school's team who places the highest in each event wins the overall award. Southeastern Illinois College placed first for individual events. For debate, Western Kentucky University won and McKendree College in Lebanon, Ill., placed first for overall performance.

Jensen said the tournament went well, and he was pleased nothing drastic happened.

"I was happy with this happy weekend," Jensen said. "A tournament that size can go wrong in so many ways. The squad and staff pulled together and it went off beautifully."

From Jan. 2 through 4 the debate and forensics team will be heading to two tournaments at Kansas Wesleyan University in Salina, Kan.

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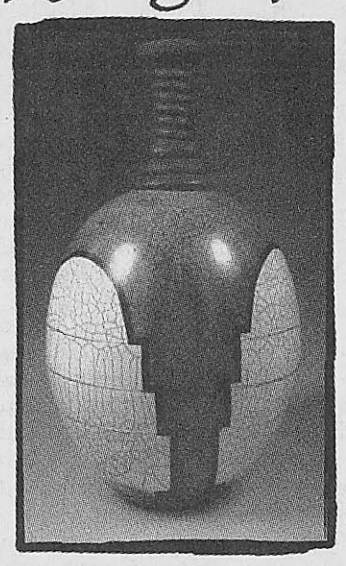

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EDITORIALS

SJR was about more than profit and loss at WU

Webster University has decided to end its subsidy of the *St. Louis Journalism Review* after 11 years. *SJR* is a publication that has been critiquing local media since 1970. It's a shame Webster has decided to eliminate something so unique to a college campus.

This watchdog for St. Louis media is widely respected and read all over the country. It is one of only three publications of its kind that exist in the United States today. Because of *SJR*'s reputation, the journalism program at Webster receives recognition and exposure by association.

The university claims it ended the relationship with *SJR* because Webster is no longer able to financially support the publication. If the university can no longer afford to subsidize *SJR*, one might wonder if there are financial difficulties at Webster that led to this decision.

The university only subsidizes $35,000 to $50,000 for publication each year. Why does the university think it's necessary to cut such a small portion of the budget, especially when *SJR* provides exposure for the university?

It's realistic to ask whether *SJR*'s departure was financially based at all. *SJR* covered controversial topics, and the university got the flak for it, including threats of lawsuits. Is it possible this had something to do with the decision to cut *SJR*? The university couldn't take the heat.

If Webster was indeed financially motivated in this decision, it is then necessary to remind Webster that not all gains are entirely financial and not every decision should be based on whether something pulls in money. Being a contributor to the community in which you exist is an important part of a college's responsibility. Being an institution of intellectual innovation is more important than saving $50,000.

In a profession that influences thousands of people daily, self-critique is important. *SJR* serves a very crucial service for St. Louis: maintaining media credibility. Without publications such as this to promote dialog about the decisions and actions of the media in St. Louis, the members of the community will suffer.

Webster should have caught alleged fraud sooner

When a former Webster University employee is arrested by the U.S. Attorney's Office for mail fraud and $625,000 is missing, those who care the least are probably those who should care most — students.

Malcolm Murphy, former facilities manager for renovation and construction projects at Webster's home campus, allegedly embezzled the cash from Webster University over a span of four years. Just think how many students' tuitions comprise such a large sum of money. Now ponder the numerous ways in which the university could have utilized such funds.

In an e-mailed statement, University President Richard Meyers said Webster's insurance should cover the $625,000 — minus the $1,000 deductible. Over time, the university should get the money back. As with all types of insurance, utilizing a policy will cause the insurance premium to increase. Webster is considered a "high risk" client and will likely pay more for insurance. How will this affect students? Tuition.

Tuition prices go up every year; it would be interesting to see how much it goes up for Webster students in the next year or so. Students should demand more vigilance from administrators — the guardians of your tuition money.

Sure, Webster should be commended for performing the internal audit that uncovered Murphy's alleged scheme. As Meyers told *The Journal*, "We discovered the fraud, so the university already has some really good policies in place … Our procedures proved that they were effective." As effective as these methods may be, concerned students should be asking questions.

Why did it take Webster so long to unearth such a scandal within the university? If the system worked well, wouldn't the missing money have been found earlier? Murphy was allegedly stealing money from Sept. 3, 2002 through Sept. 18, 2006.

It took four years for the university to realize someone within the system was a thief. *The Journal* doesn't take comfort in the university's happy-go-lucky approach to finding and attempting to fix the financial flounder.

Actually, it shouldn't come as a surprise that the university didn't catch onto Murphy's scam. As reported in *The Journal* in September 2004, while Murphy was embezzling university money, Webster also was scrambling to compensate for funds when the $600,000 budget allotted for the construction of Marletto's Marketplace exceeded $1 million. Murphy was one of three university officials involved in the cafeteria's budget overrun.

A model university employee like Murphy, who was named Webster employee of the month in January 2005, probably would have been one of the last names on a long suspect list.

Nevertheless, shouldn't tuition-paying students feel secure in the university's ability to handle their money? Judging from the university's track record, the students that comprise *The Journal*'s editorial staff aren't.

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COMMENTARY

U.S. has responsibility to step in, end Darfur genocide, violence



Kelley Atherton

More black Africans will continue to die, and a region will be destroyed forever if the United States does not do something drastic soon.

In Darfur the Janjaweed militia — backed by the Sudanese government — has murdered over 400,000 black Africans and forced two million from their homes since 2003. Women are raped on a daily basis by the Arab militia in an attempt to destroy the black population. Hundreds of thousands of children have been left homeless orphans. Homes have been pillaged and burned to the ground and the horrific violence shows no signs of stopping. In almost four years, the Bush administration has done little to stop this increasing genocide.

The predominately black region of Darfur is located in the western part of Sudan in Africa. Two Darfuri rebel groups, the Sudanese Liberation Army/Movement and the Justice and Equality Movement have been fighting the Janjaweed since the mid-1980s.

In 2003, the Janjaweed started systematically murdering, raping and pillaging the Darfuri people. It is time the Bush administration stops ignoring what it recognized as genocide in Sept. 2003 only months after the violence escalated.

Their reasoning is that we need to focus on fighting the war on terror. Bush's brilliant plan to improve the situation in Iraq is to increase the troops by 21,500. Their plan for Darfur is to leave the mess for the United Nations to clean up. The President barely mentioned the devastation of a race in his Jan. 23 State of the Union address.

"We will continue to speak out for the cause of freedom in places like Cuba, Belarus and Burma — and continue to awaken the conscience of the world to save the people of Darfur," Bush said in his address.

The obvious solution would be to send troops as peacekeepers to Darfur instead of Iraq. Instead of continuing to fund this pathetic excuse for a war we should be sending aid to Darfur and the refugees camps in Chad. There are two million people living in squalor conditions in a country that cannot afford to house them.

We are the richest country in the world and we are wasting our money on war we cannot win. The only attempt the administration has made to show they care about the Darfuri people was in August 2006.

The United States and the United Kingdom introduced a resolution to the United Nations proposing they take over the peacekeeping mission from the African Union by the beginning of 2007.

Since the killings began, the United Nations has refused to officially call it a genocide because then they would actually have to do something about it. The Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, the formal agreement adopted by the U.N. General Assembly in 1948, clearly defines genocide as a punishable crime.

In situations such as genocide, the United Nations has the authority to intervene. However, the United Nations initially left the job up to African Union peacekeepers until 2005 when they sent peacekeepers to quell the Second Sudanese Civil War between the Janjaweed and SLA.

So far the United Nations peacekeepers have acting as a supplement to the African Union for the last two years because the African Union does not have the authority and funds to protect the Darfuri people.

The African Union's top diplomat, Alpha Oumar Konare, said in a report to African foreign ministers that the African Union cannot afford to keep peacekeepers in Darfur and is calling on the United Nations to take over the peacekeeping mission. It costs the African Union $40 million a month to keep peacekeepers in Darfur and 20,000 more troops are needed to suppress the genocide, according to the *Washington Post*.

On Jan. 10, the Sudanese government and rebels came to a 60-day cease-fire and agreed to hold a peace summit by March 15. Yet the government still refuses to allow U.N. peacekeepers in Darfur., but a small force has arrived after recently being pulled out. This is a step in the right direction, but little will come of this.

The cease-fire will last a few weeks and the peace summit will fizzle. Until the United Nations officially declares the violence a genocide and begins proceedings to arrest and punish the Janjaweed militia and the Sudanese government, the mass murders, rape and destruction will continue.

With the new Congress and Speaker of the House, the future looks promising. Congress has let Bush walk all over them, and it's time to show the House and Senate are the true representatives of the United States. Congress has the power of the purse and can refuse to fund this war and insist we send troops and aid to Darfur.

More black Africans will continue to die, and a region will be destroyed forever if the United States does not do something drastic soon. Knowing our stubborn, pig-headed president, he will continue to ignore the demands of the people to end the genocide.

Bush has a chance to redeem himself with Darfur. If not, then he will go down as the worst president in the history of the United States, right after Andrew Jackson and Richard Nixon.

Kelley Atherton, a senior journalism major, is the Lifestyle editor for The Journal.

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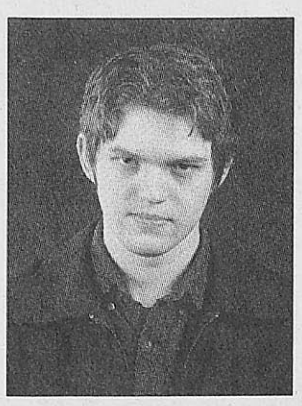
COMMENTARY

Eccentric Turkmen dictator mourned by few



James Chilton

With Turkmenbashi gone, the world has that much less craziness in it.

The saying goes that high-profile deaths always seem to come in threes. This certainly appeared to be the case last month when, while Webster students enjoyed their winter break, the world lost a godfather, a president and a tyrant all within a week's time.

While James Brown and Gerald Ford go mourned by all (or most, at any rate), few tears were shed in the western world when Saddam Hussein dangled the morning of Dec. 30.

He sure got coverage, though. The newspapers and talking heads were all over the footage of the hangman tying the rope about Saddam's neck, and when a cell phone captured the video of the precise moment of his hanging, it exploded all over the Internet. In fact, the images of Saddam's execution had been so thoroughly broadcast around the world that parody images were popping up by New Year's Eve.

But as the world absorbed the rather Pyrrhic victory of Saddam's death, another man - another dictator in fact - went unmourned and mostly unnoticed by the general public, having died nine days earlier.

This, I feel, is a crime. Not because the man was evil, sadistic or even violent, but because he took the concept of the "cult of personality," the near slavish devotion to a charismatic leader, to levels Saddam could only dream of. I am speaking, of course, of what could be the world's most amusing case of megalomania gone rampant — the recently-departed President of Turkmenistan, Saparmurat Niyazov.

Sound familiar? No? It's not because Niyazov had a short reign, that's for sure. Niyazov, or "Turkmenbashi" — father of all Turkmen — as he liked to be called, became president of Turkmenistan shortly before it split from the Soviet Union in late 1991.

Turkmenistan is a quaint little nation wedged between four of the nicest neighbors a country could ask for: Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Afghanistan and Iran. It houses 5 million people, is more than 80 percent desert and sits on top of a whole lot of oil and natural gas.

Now, I don't want to bore you with details like the 60 percent unemployment rate or the crushing poverty most Turkmens live with. That's not the fun part. What really distinguishes Niyazov from your average, run-of-the-mill totalitarian despot is the extent to which this guy injected himself into the daily life of each and every Turkmen. It is Niyazov's particular blend of insane hubris and ludicrous pronouncements that has earned him a special place in my heart.

Back in 2004, Niyazov declared long hair and beards forbidden on all young Turkmen males. As decrees go, this is fairly tame considering that even Disneyland didn't admit longhairs back in the '60s. But Niyazov went a little bit further than the Magic Kingdom when he banned all opera and ballet performances in 2001 because he considered them "unnecessary," then followed up by forbidding car radios, lip-synching and finally all forms of recorded music at virtually every public event in 2005.

Niyazov wasn't only fond of stamping out individual expression, though. He also did a number on public institutions. In November 2005 he ordered all medical doctors in the county to ditch a 2,400-year old institution of their profession, the Hippocratic Oath, and instead loyalty to Turkmenbashi the Great. This of course came after he replaced 15,000 medical workers with conscripted troops straight out of the military in 2004.

Then Niyazov realized an essential truth – administrating hospitals is a whole lot easier when they're all conveniently located in the same place. So, in February 2005 he did the natural thing and shut down all the nation's hospitals outside the capital of Ashgabat. He shut down all the rural public libraries too, his rationale being that "nobody reads books, people don't go to libraries."

Well, that's not entirely true. People did read one book quite a bit – Niyazov's own part-autobiography, part-fiction, part-spiritual guide, "Ruhnama," or "Book of the Soul," a handy supplement to the Quran and the Bible that is compulsory reading for Turkmen schoolchildren every Sunday. Only, Niyazov also took it upon himself to rename Sunday — and all the other days and months of the year — after himself and his mother. Yeah.

But don't take decrees like this to mean Niyazov didn't have a humble side. Upon his death Dec. 21, 2006, *The New York Times* published one of Niyazov's most famous quotes on the pressure of being immortalized throughout the nation in portraits, monuments and, yes, even a golden statue that rotates to face the sun:

"I don't find any pleasure in it, but the people demand it because of their mentality."

The guy was even so humble as to not name a successor, leaving the authoritarian regime with a power vacuum at the highest level of office. A class act all the way.

It's a shame, really. With Turkmenbashi gone, the world has that much less craziness in it. Whatever his personal foibles, however, I think we can all agree we didn't just lose three men of note last December, we lost eight. Why eight? You try telling a guy who ordered an ice palace to be built in the middle of the desert he's only one man.

James Chilton, a senior journalism major, is a staff writer for The Journal.

COMMENTARY

Bush's dishonesty accurately characterized by Chavez



Kirk Watkins

I didn't trust Bush from the beginning, and his actions ... have only served to cement in my mind that he is ... not right for our country

Hugo Chavez, the Socialist president of Venezuela and vocal thorn in the side of President Bush has done it again. In an interview with Greg Palast in the Sept. 24, 2006 edition of *Progressive Magazine*, Chavez added a tree to the bonfire that was already burning in the relations between him and Bush.

He had already stoked the fire in an address to United Nations General Assembly Sept. 19, 2006, when he referred to Bush as the devil, and said he could still smell sulfur where Bush had previously stood to address the assembly.

In the *Progressive* interview, Palast revealed that, among other zingers, Bush turned down oil from Venezuela, which has larger fields than Bush's buddies in Saudi Arabia, as proven by research done by the U.S Department of Energy. Chavez would have given it to the United States at about a third of the price of Saudi oil.

Chavez also offered to send aid to Hurricane Katrina victims but was again rebuffed by Bush.

These are strange actions for a man painted to be next in a line of Latin American dictators and a threat to America's interests in Latin America.

"Mr. Bush is an illegitimate president. In Florida, his brother Jeb deleted many black voters from the electoral registers. So this president is the result of a fraud," Chavez said.

In 2006, the Web site *http://www.projectcensored.org*, which is endorsed by none other than America's most trusted man, Walter Cronkite, posted a list of discrepancies in the vote count from the 2004 elections. The summary of the report shows a statistical impossibility for the current president to be, well, the current president.

"Not only that, he is also currently applying a dictatorship in the U.S," Chavez said. "People can be put in jail without being charged. They tap phones without court orders. They check what books people take out of public libraries."

On New Year's Day 2006, while visiting with wounded soldiers in Texas, Bush defended his controversial policy, stating, "We're at war, and as the commander-in-chief I have to use the resources at my disposal within the law to protect the American people, and that is what we are doing."

The president, however, is protecting the American people in a war he and his cabinet lied about to provoke. Protection does not include manipulation of our emotions and fears to allow him to attack and occupy a country that had no connection to any of the terrorist actions he had used as excuses to instigate the war.

It states in the Fourth Amendment of the Bill of Rights, "The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized."

In addition, the Fifth Amendment states: "... nor be deprived of life, liberty or property, without due process of law."

In an interview on Fox News Sunday in 2006, after Bush's policy came into question in the national media, Charles Schumer of New York, the top Democrat on the Senate Judiciary Committee, objected to the policy.

"Unilaterally changing the law because the vice-president or president thinks it is wrong without discussion or change — that is not the American way," Schumer said.

Clearly what the Bill of Rights says should hold power over what an election-stealing president — who tarnishes the foundation that our country was based on — says.

Cindy Sheehan is the grieving mother of Casey Sheehan, who was killed in Iraq, and the woman that the Rev. Lennox Yearwood called the "Rosa Parks of the antiwar movement."

She first attracted national attention for her vigil outside the gates of Prairie Chapel Ranch, in Crawford, Texas. At the so-called Camp Casey, she pledged to stay until President Bush either ended his eventual five-week vacation, or actually met with her to explain what "noble cause" her son had to die for. The president never met with her, of course. In his five weeks of vacation he could not spare the time.

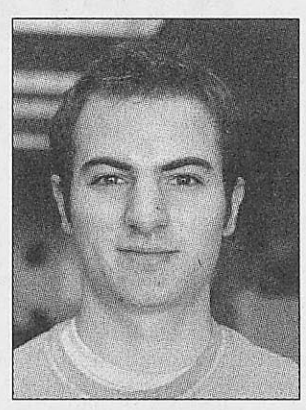
She pledged to wait outside his camp every time he went there until he was able to answer her questions.

It seems to me, based on the past deceptions and half truths our current regime has inflicted upon our country, there is a serious problem. I didn't trust Bush from the beginning, and his actions and the actions of his administration have only served to cement in my mind that he is not right — not right for our country, not right for the world and not right in his own actions. Why it takes a Latin American dictator to call attention to his transgressions against the world and especially his own people is a mystery that needs to be solved soon.

Kirk Watkins, a senior global journalism major, is a staff writer for The Journal.

GUEST COMMENTARY

Troop increase is strategy, not last-ditch effort



Ryan Turk

The actions taken by the current administration carry with them not carelessness, but significant strategy.

The recent addition of troops approved by President Bush has led to an appreciable increase in debate over the Iraq war; not to mention a column in this paper. What is seen by many as a last-ditch effort and a stubborn refusal by the administration to accept defeat should be studied more closely and revealed for what it is: not an arbitrary move, but a politically powerful strategy to continue a war which, in fact, protects against serious consequences.

What must be understood about the deployment of additional troops in Iraq is that the majority are being deployed in Baghdad where the insurgency attack rates are climbing and the death toll has increased by almost 43 percent in the later part of 2006.

The deployment of additional troops serves two distinct purposes. First, Bush's plan to deploy additional troops was announced a few weeks prior to Congress voting over the approval of additional funding for the war.

Simply put, the administration's move offers Congress a political catch-22; while they do not approve of escalation abroad, they cannot simply deny funding when both the lives of American soldiers and the lives of their political ambitions hang in the balance. It is ethically regrettable that the latter takes such clear precedence over the former.

In this sense, Bush's deployment of troops is not a matter of aiding the mechanics of war, but deferring the machinations of Congress; it is a skillfully played move of chess that pre-empts any serious anti-war decision to be made by a now-Democratic Congress.

While Bush's move to deploy additional troops may have put Congress between a rock and a hard place, it is evident that Bush finds himself in similar territory. Statistically, it is clear that escalating troop activity in Iraq will raise violence levels. In early 2006, a plan called "Forward Together" was initialed whereby a total of 11,500 additional troops, 6,000 Iraqi, 5,500 American, were sent to aide in the growing violence and unrest in Baghdad.

However, within three weeks of these forces arriving, insurgent violence levels had risen 22 percent specifically in areas of military focus. Furthermore, as the year progressed, the Iraq health ministry reported that violence rates continued to climb to almost 45 percent. In light of this, Bush finds himself in a peculiar dilemma: ignore escalating violence or deploy troops with the knowledge that it escalates violence? It is a quintessential lose-lose situation.

Those who oppose the growth of troop levels contend that the answer is to, more conservatively, withdraw with distinct plans for preventing governmental overthrow or, more radically, to simply pull out altogether. Regardless, it is clear that withdrawal of any degree carries with it serious consequences.

Many argue that history, specifically the conflict in Vietnam, provides clear evidence for withdrawal. However, what history giveth, history can taketh away. The most profound consequence from leaving Iraq is the propensity of violence spurred by civil war to spread into neighboring countries, escalating not only violent conflict but more significantly, refugee and humanitarian needs.

Kenneth Pollack, who served on the National Security Council under President Clinton, states both the intervention of Palestine in Lebanon in 1975 which, upon the removal of Palestinian troops, lead to an invasion by Israel and Syria, as well as the Serbian war against Slovenia, Bosnia, and Croatia, which lead to the infighting of Muslim populations in Kosovo and Macedonia.

The infighting that has already begun and that will likely increase should we withdraw, would endanger the lives of hundreds of thousands of middle easterners. In this regard, history strikes a neutral chord.

Overall, the addition of troops in Iraq cannot be seen simply as a last-ditch effort to continue a war which has little merit. It is in fact one tinged both with political maneuvering but also with the prevention of serious consequences.

Strong points have been made on whether to leave or stay. However, it is the purpose of this piece to make clear that the actions taken by the current administration carry with them, not carelessness, but significant strategy. Therefore arguments, and more importantly, published writing on the subject, should not commend nor condemn with too broad a pen stroke.

Ryan Turk, a sophomore math major, is a guest writer for The Journal.

Theater student bares all in Connecticut

Jose Joaquin Perez spends a semester honing his craft in 'Take Me Out'

BY ANGELA LUDWINSKI
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Performing onstage can be nerve-wracking for even the most seasoned actor, but doing it in the nude takes the pressure to perform to a whole new level.

This is what senior regional theater major Jose Joaquin Perez dealt with when he acted in the off-Broadway show, "Take Me Out," in Hartford, Conn.

"Take Me Out" tells the story of a baseball player who, at the height of his career, decides to come out of the closet at a press conference. The play centers around his teammates' reactions to his confession. It is set predominantly in a baseball locker room and, because of this, features full-frontal male nudity.

"I was definitely nervous," Perez said. "There are 200 people — 200 different people — every night seeing you naked."

Perez, known by his friends as J.J., first acted in the production during its run at the Repertory Theatre of St. Louis in fall 2005. It was the inaugural production of the Rep's off-ramp series at the Grandel Theatre at 3610 Grandel Square off Grand Avenue. The director, Rob Ruggiero, brought the play to TheaterWorks, a theater in Hartford where he serves as associate artistic director. He asked Perez to come to Connecticut to continue his role in fall 2006.

Perez spent his time between the two runs preparing to reprise his role.

"He took the opportunity and put it to good use," said senior Ben Mason, Perez's roommate and a musical theater major. "He spent every day working out."

For the show, Perez played Rodriguez, one of the two Latino baseball players.

"I played your stereotypical Latino male," Perez said.

His character was upset and angry about having to share a locker room with a homosexual.

Perez's lines were completely in Spanish. He said it was nice to see the reactions of those who could actually understand. The two Latino characters had some funny dialogue consisting of slang, slurs and curse words.

"If you could understand the dialogue, what (my character) was saying was hilarious," Perez said.

Perez's parents were fine with him acting in a play in which he was naked. He said they didn't prefer it, but understood the nudity was for the play and he was acting.

"They told me, 'We've seen you naked tons of times,'" Perez said.

Perez's parents weren't the only ones who joke about his being naked on stage.

"We tease him about it all the time," Mason said. "It has to come up at least once a day."

Perez doesn't mind, however, because he was grateful for the opportunities the show provided him.

"I met agents who wanted to represent me and send me to auditions," Perez said. "But I had to tell them that I couldn't because I'm still in college. Those people that I met will still be there once I graduate."

Perez's background helped prepare him for his role as Rodriguez. He grew up in a Spanish-speaking home in the small town of Alamo, Texas, just miles away from the Mexican border. Perez, 21, decided to attend Webster because of its Conservatory of Theatre Arts. He especially liked that the university provided opportunities through the Rep for students to be in shows with working actors.

Once Ruggiero asked him to accompany the show to Hartford, Perez needed permission from Webster to take time off from classes. He had to file a petition with the Conservatory to leave for a semester and the entire faculty in the theater department had to approve it. Getting consent took time, but Perez found the faculty was supportive.

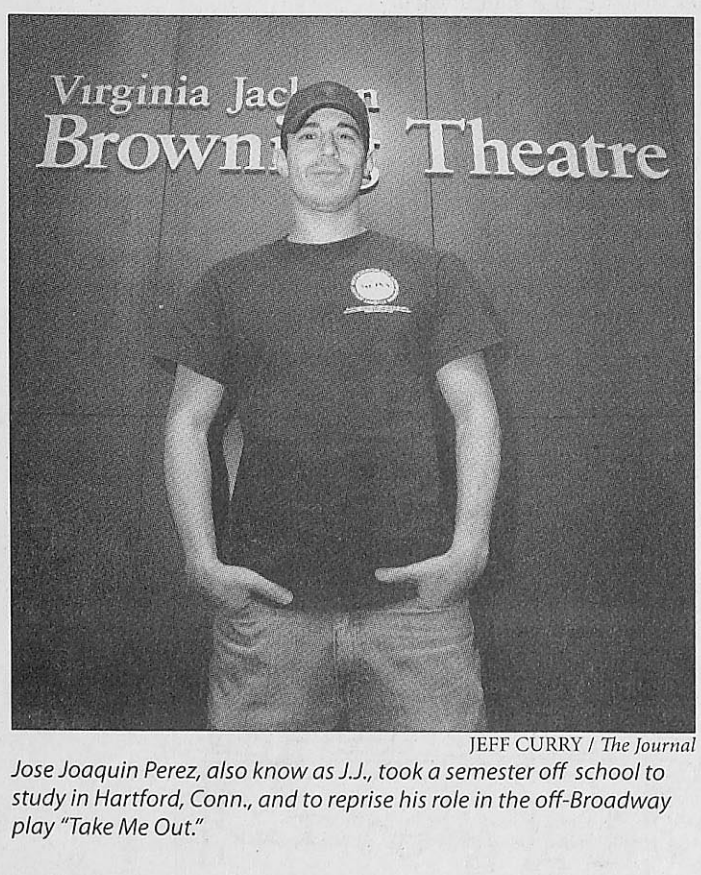
"Opportunities like this come up for Conservatory students occasionally, and they should definitely take them," said Bruce Longworth, a professor in the theater department. "We (the faculty) do our best to make them happen because they don't come along that often."

It also helped that Ruggiero is an adjunct professor at the University of Hartford. He arranged for Perez to sit in on classes at the school's theater program, which is similar to Conservatory. By doing this, Perez was able use his time in Hartford as an independent learning experience that will go towards the credit hours he needs to graduate in May.

For as much time as Perez spent in the classroom, he spent twice as much working on "Take Me Out." Between rehearsals and performing in 78 shows, Perez said he did not have time for anything else. However, he did receive his personal trainer's certificate as the result of all his physical exercise.

Perez said the opportunity for him to travel with the show to Hartford wouldn't have happened if it was not for the Conservatory's relationship with the Rep. He recommends theater students take advantage of the relationship and audition for Rep shows if they get the chance.

Perez is doing just that. He auditioned for another Rep show, "Sherlock Holmes: The Final Adventure," and will perform in its run March 21 through April 15 on the Browning Mainstage at the Loretto-Hilton Center.



JEFF CURRY / *The Journal*

Jose Joaquin Perez, also know as J.J., took a semester off school to study in Hartford, Conn., and to reprise his role in the off-Broadway play "Take Me Out."



ASHLEY GIESEKING / *The Journal*

During a rehearsal Jan. 24 for the Webster Opera Studio singers' performance of Opera Scenes, Stephen Dietrich, playing a Dragoon Guard, and Adam Bock, playing Colonel Calverley, perform a scene from "Patience."

Hansel and Gretel meet the Merry Wives of Windsor

Vocal performance majors perform in the biannual Opera Scenes, whose theme revolves around scorned women

BY MEGAN CONNELLY
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Opera Studio singers swarmed around Rachel McCreery, a graduate student in vocal performance, as she made her transformation from Mrs. Page of "The Merry Wives of Windsor" to Madame Haltiere of "Cinderella" during intermission of the Opera Studio's annual Opera Scenes performance. Makeup and pieces of costume were scattered around the room where McCreery relied on her peers to free her from countless layers of petticoats and lace.

"The hair was a huge problem," McCreery said, describing the obstacles she faced preparing her big hair for the part of Mrs. Page.

The Opera Studio is an ensemble of singers who performs complete works and scenes from Baroque through contemporary periods twice every year. The studio had been preparing since the beginning of the fall semester for its first live performance, during which the Opera Studio sang, acted and danced in four scenes from classic operas. The Jan. 26 performance was the first of three shows that took place in the Winifred Moore Auditorium over the weekend.

"It was a big change from rehearsals on flat ground," McCreery said. "All of a sudden, there were props and a stage and the orchestra."

Playing the parts of both Hansel and Cinderella was Angie Dinkelman, a junior vocal performance major. She prepared for the parts throughout the fall semester by meeting with Alice Nelson, adjunct professor of music and director of the Webster Opera Studio, twice a week to rehearse each character. It took some time for her to get comfortable switching her voice from Hansel to Cinderella.

"(Hansel and Cinderella) are not extremely different vocalwise, but demand using a little bit different type of voice, so switching back and forth took getting used to," Dinkelman said.

Dinkelman said she was particularly proud of how fast the show was finalized and the enthusiasm that went into preparing it. A portion of the performance's proceeds went to the James Moroney Nigh Endowed Scholarship Fund in Opera, which was last awarded to Dinkelman.

Nelson held auditions for the Opera Scenes in the fall, which she used to take inventory of the voice types in her opera studio class. All of the Opera Scenes performers are enrolled in the course, so Nelson chose scenes that match the students' abilities.

"I try to figure out what works best with the voices that I have," Nelson said.

Selections for the production included Jules Massenet's "Cendrillon" (Cinderella), Otto Nicolai's "The Merry Wives of Windsor," Engelbert Humperdinck's "Hansel and Gretel" and Arthur Sullivan's "Patience."

After the scenes were selected, Nelson said she had to think about the show's direction. She contacted stage director James Haffner from the University of the Pacific in Stockton, Calif. Nelson said he arrived with a complete plan for how he wanted the scenes directed, but remained open to change. Haffner was in charge of how everything from character's movement and demeanor to timing looked on stage.

"I had just gotten back from Europe and I got a call from Alice (Nelson)," Haffner said. "She had lost her stage director for the studio and asked me if I was interested. I said, 'Yeah, I'll do it, absolutely.'"

Although the scenes were diverse, finding a theme among them was necessary for Haffner. The wide range of selections did not share the same period or composer, so uniting all four pieces into one evening was challenging but fun, Haffner said.

"In this (Opera Scene), I would say that (the theme) is women scorned," Haffner said. "It's almost like an opera 'Sex and the City.' It's like different takes on men and relationships with men."

This was Haffner's fourth visit to Webster. He said he loves coming to Webster because the students are always well-prepared, so he is able to put a full evening of opera together quickly. However, the Winifred Moore Auditorium presented some challenges.

"The biggest challenge was the space itself because this theater isn't necessarily designed for theatrical productions," Haffner said. "We had to import everything, all the lights, all the stands and set pieces and so forth."

Performers managed to make the best of the space with the Dragoon Guards of "Patience" marching up and down the aisles and the Sandman of "Hansel and Gretel" lurking around the edges of the stage. Despite the atmospheric challenges, Haffner said he appreciated the student dedication.

"What is significant about Webster is it's all student designers, which is really exciting because they bring a fresh perspective to the work," Haffner said. "They problem-solve so quickly with really good solutions."

Haffner said what he enjoyed most was the collaboration with students. For him, it's all about helping singers to realize their potential and rely less on his direction.

"It's most rewarding for me to see a singer who then gets it," Haffner said. "They start responding in rehearsal. They start becoming more confident in their acting instincts. When they figure out that they have them, that they have this natural ability to perform, then it gets really exciting because rehearsals can really take off and start the collaboration."

Movie Review: 'Breaking and Entering' ★★★½☆

Brit flick enthralls audiences

BY ERIN DULEY
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Anthony Minghella's "Breaking and Entering" assumes a wistful attitude early on and maintains it thereafter in every glum frame. Each melancholy character struggles to regain the easy joy of the past in the London neighborhood of King's Cross until a crime shakes the characters from their nostalgic insularity and weaves them together in a plot to preserve their future.

It may sound like "Crash" with an English accent, but Minghella's focus holds longer on his characters' struggles, thoroughly emphasizing how truly miserable they are. At the center of the film is Will (Jude Law), a workaholic architect invested in improving the conditions of the crime-riddled King's Cross by providing some snazzy greenspace for the locals. Will has been engaged to his Swedish girlfriend Liv (Robin Wright Penn) for years, but Liv's daughter from a previous relationship, Bea, addles their relationship. Diagnosed autistic, Bea demands all of Liv's attention and causes Will to question his role in their household.

After someone repeatedly burglarizes Will's office, he uses it as an excuse to get away from his troubled home by staging a nightly stakeout, hoping to catch the culprit himself. Surprised to find the burglar is only an agile teenager, Will follows him to his house and plans to gain access to the boy through his overworked mother, Amira (Juliette Binoche). The characters then become involved in a complex tug-of-war over the boy's fate.

The acting in "Breaking and Entering" briefly shines in its juxtaposition of Will and Liv's household versus that of Bosnian refugee Amira and her wayward son. Frequently accused by her therapists and boyfriend of being cold due to her Swedishness, Liv struggles to bridge the emotional distance between her and Will. However, since the Brits aren't necessarily known for their warm, fuzzy demeanor, the couple frequently stares stoically at one another and dishes out passive-aggressive comments at the dinner table in true W.A.S.P. fashion.

On the other side of the tracks, Amira's passionate love for her son marks the film's high point. Their scenes together are infused with tenderness, and Binoche's desperate plea to Will to spare her son is the stuff of greatness.

As the plot unfolds, it is aided by the fact that the audience is made to care about the boy's fate. The climactic scene is rewarding in the subtle undertones present beneath the characters' actions, but "Breaking and Entering" is hindered by its consistent somber tone. It's as though someone should have uttered "Ho hum, now what?" at the end of the movie.

The film is only currently playing in New York, Los Angeles and Chicago, but seek out the sterling Juliette Binoche upon its wider release.

Education major drinks a different cup of tea

Exchange program allows students to learn as they teach in South America

BY ANTHONY SODD
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Rather than attend one of Webster's international campuses, Maureen McInnis chose to study and teach at the Universidad Nacional de Cuyo in Mendoza, a city in western Argentina.

"I was looking for more of an immersion program rather than going to a Webster campus abroad," McInnis said.

McInnis, 22, is a junior double major in elementary education and Spanish. McInnis, who had never been to Argentina, said she often relied on locals to help her get around.

"This was my first time really traveling in a different country by myself; it was a big personal first to know I can do things like that," McInnis said.

She had previously been to Spain twice, but always with a school group.

While in Mendoza, McInnis stayed with a host family that welcomed her with chocolates. McInnis' host mother told her, "You can never be homesick when there's chocolate," McInnis said

McInnis' host family helped immerse her in Argentine culture. On her birthday, they held a traditional asado similar to a barbecue. An asado is the traditional dish of Argentina that usually consists of beef cuts cooked over an open fire.

Her host family also was able to teach her about mate, a highly caffeinated tea and national drink of Argentina. Mate is drunk from a gourd in a social setting, much like Americans would drink coffee or smoke cigarettes, McInnis said.



ASHLEY GIESEKING / *The Journal*

Junior Maureen McInnis sips on mate, a traditional South American tea drank from a gourd. She became accustomed to this tea during her five-month teaching experience in Argentina in fall 2006.

The slower pace of life and midday siestas were the hardest things to get used to, McInnis said.

"I did pretty well adjusting when I first got there," McInnis said. "But it was weird walking around at midday and there was nothing to do."

McInnis also was able to travel to the Argentine cities of Buenos Aires, Cordoba and Alta Gracia, where Argentine revolutionary Ernesto 'Che' Guevara once lived. She also visited Santiago, Chile.

While in Buenos Aires, McInnis said Barbara Bush's bag was stolen in plain sight of the Secret Service agents protecting her. Shortly after returning to Mendoza, McInnis' own bag was stolen.

"I felt kind of bad making fun of them after that happened," she said, even though nothing of value was stolen.

When she wasn't traveling, McInnis attended the Universidad Nacional de Cuyo and taught English and American culture classes to third-year university students.

"Teaching English really helped me learn what I was doing wrong with my Spanish," McInnis said. "The things I corrected them on were usually the same things I was doing wrong."

For teaching, she received a small salary, which she said was enough for her to live off of during her trip.

Upon returning to the United States, McInnis said it was hard to readjust to the hectic and structured life she lives in St. Louis. In St. Louis, she works two jobs: as a barista at Kaldi's Coffee House and as an individual support assistant at the Judevine Center for Autism.

The exchange program between Webster and the Universidad Nacional de Cuyo is highly selective, exchanging only one student from each university a semester. Webster applicants must speak fluent Spanish and pass an exam to be considered.

"There are always plenty of applicants," said Graciela Corvalan, chairwoman of international languages and cultures, who helped start the exchange program in her native Mendoza in 1987. "We've been doing this for a long time."

This semester's Argentine exchange student, Gisela Fortuna, 24, is currently teaching Intermediate Spanish and several Spanish workshops as well as attending classes to further her Master's of Art in Teaching in communication arts.

"For us, it's very good field experience," Fortuna said.

Fortuna taught English at the Universidad Nacional de Cuyo before coming to Webster, and said she enjoys the challenge of teaching Spanish to English speakers.

"I think you are kind of privileged to come here and learn how it is to teach your language in a university," Fortuna said. "It helps my teaching skills; I apply what I learned in Mendoza."

Students swing to disco beats

Campus Activities follows up salsa dance lessons with free swing lessons

BY SCOTT HARRES
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Some who attended swing dancing Jan. 25 came prepared in their dancing shoes, while others opted to not wear shoes.

Freshman Nadia Battle, a broadcast journalism major, and her boyfriend, Benny Roberts, a junior sociology major, came dressed in complimentary colors and some baby blue dancing shoes.

"Dressing up really helps me get into character," Roberts said. "Although I never thought I'd be swinging to YMCA."

As Campus Activities continues its "What the Health" program, students can learn to swing dance free of charge.

"What the Health" is a series of programming set up in fall 2006 by Campus Activities as a means for students to exercise, learn new skills and receive nutritional counseling. Swing dancing follows up fall semester health activities such as salsa dancing and indoor swimming known as "Thirsty Thursdays."

Katie McComb, graduate assistant for the University Center and student activities, said students can look forward to a mock boot camp in February, followed by a sexual education course and kickboxing later this semester.

About 20 students attended the first swing dance workshop. As students milled around, swing dance instructor Charles Stokley and his partner, Amanda Rexroat, from St. Ann's U Can Dance Studios, got down to business.

"I teach these classes at a medium pace," Stokley said. "See, getting these steps isn't too hard, but we only have four weeks. The first night is for beginners and we progress each week. Each step is built off another. I feel like anyone can learn to swing dance."

Some people like freshman Joe Toohey, audio production major, said they were not confident with their skills.

"I suck," Toohey said. "I haven't done this sort of thing since the last millennium, so I'm here to learn."

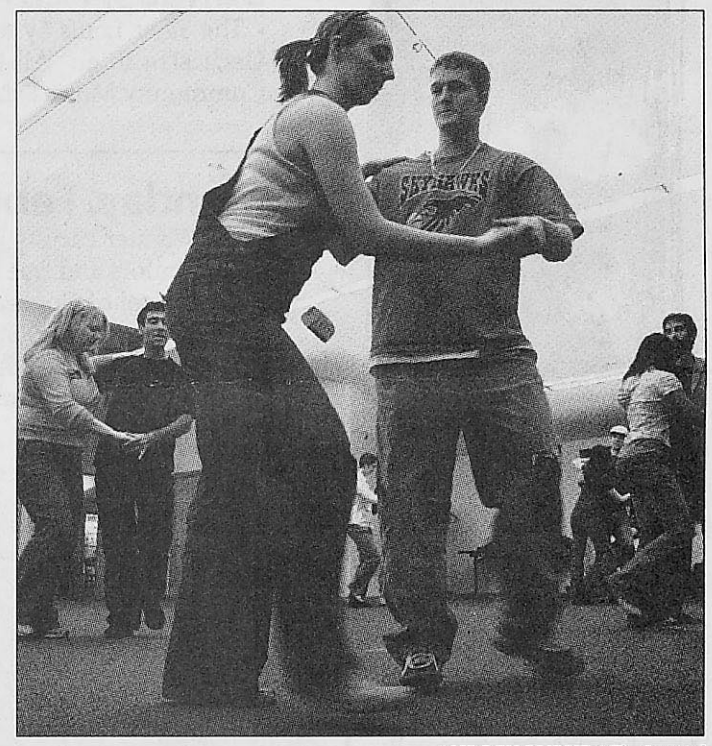
McComb decided to bring a swing instructor to Webster after the success salsa classes brought last semester.

"I really think the students enjoy this," she said. "You can bring your friends, or come alone and dance with whom you please."

Stokley said St. Louis has a large swing society. Places like Casa Loma Ballroom, located at 3354 Iowa Ave., and the Ritz Carlton in Clayton, have swing parties that can host up to 400 dancers. On Friday nights at Casa Loma, one can swing to the Ambassadors of Swing, a big band from Minneapolis.

"On Saturdays I go to Casa Loma to dance to Hudson and the Hoo Doo Cats," said senior Morgan Hatfield, an education major. "However, I'm relatively new to swing dancing, but I'm hooked."

On Feb. 16, the class will take a trip to Casa Loma to show off their new moves. Sign up for class at the UC front desk or show up at 9:30 p.m. Wednesdays at the UC Sunnen Lounge now through Feb. 14.



AUDREY BURKE / *The Journal*

Seniors Morgan Hatfield and Mike Donnelly practice their steps at swing dancing lessons in the UC Sunnen Lounge Jan. 24.

Campus to celebrate black history through monologue, poetry

BY JENNIFER GINGER
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Carter Goodwin Woodson organized the first Negro History Week in 1926 to keep black history alive, accessible and accurate. Expanded to a month-long celebration in1976, Black History Month has become a time to acknowledge the widely celebrated significant figures who had an impact on the black community.

Webster organizations will observe Black History Month by sponsoring several events on campus. The Association of African American Collegians will post flyers around campus recognizing significant African American individuals. Campus Activities will sponsor a monologue about the life of Madam C.J. Walker. The Multicultural Center and International Student Affairs will sponsor Black Jeopardy and Love Jones.

AAAC

Sheraneka Morris, a sophomore legal studies major and vice president of the AAAC, said she wanted to do something the organization doesn't normally do: celebrate Black History Month in order to learn and read about people who aren't in the mainstream.

The AAAC won't sponsor an event, but will post flyers, posters and decorate bulletins boards around campus, focusing on the lives of various African Americans with "Who am I?" and "Did you know?" trivia.

Campus Activities

Joyce Johnson, a local actress at the Black Repertory Theater, will perform her one-woman show, "Madam Make Me Beautiful," about the life of Madam C.J. Walker. Johnson researched Walker, an African-American entrepreneur who successfully established a business selling her homemade hair care products, and wrote the monologue. She has performed her original piece at schools, libraries and special events. Johnson will perform Feb. 22 in the Emerson Library Conference Room.

"It's definitely an upgrade from last year," said Zhanna Meeks, a sophomore legal studies and psychology major.

Meeks, a program manager for Campus Activities (whose mother, Johnson, will star in the performance sponsored by the organization) said Campus Activities did not sponsor any events last year.

MCISA

The MCISA will sponsor Black Jeopardy Feb. 9 and Love Jones Feb. 23. Love Jones, an annual event that will be held this year at the Missouri History Museum in Forest Park, features poetry readings, live bands and singing in a romantic atmosphere.

"Whether you're with somebody or you're there alone, it's still something you can enjoy," said Rene Murph, department associate for the MCISA.

Murph said preparing for Chris Gardner's campus appearance Jan. 29, as well as the Feb. 1 departure of Shay Malone, unintentionally affected the activities for Black History Month. Malone, program coordinator for MCISA, who usually plans Black History Month, is leaving Webster Feb. 1.

Although Martin Luther King Jr., Rosa Parks and Malcolm X made their contributions to black history, Murph said more time needs to be spent on individuals who are making an impact now or people will not learn history they need to know, including where they came from, where they are going and how they will get to their destination.

Though MCISA will only host a few events during Black History Month, they will sponsor "Get on the Bus" during Spring Break, retracing the steps of Martin Luther King, Jr., through Alabama, Georgia and Tennessee.

GARDNER: 'Everyone has opportunities to break some cycle'

FROM PAGE 1

crying, in the care of people with whom he did not feel comfortable.

"All I could say was, 'Look son, I'll be back,'" Gardner said.

Gardner said he spent many nights with his son in a subway bathroom playing a game called "Shhh."

"I told him, 'No matter what anyone says on the other side of that door, no matter how hard they bang, we are invisible, we aren't here," Gardner said.

Gardner also spent nights at a shelter. However, if he arrived too late the shelter would be full and he and his son would be forced elsewhere.

"Something as simple as missing a bus can make the difference in where you sleep at night," Gardner said.

For a year, Gardner carried everything he and his son owned with him each day. Eventually he was able to afford a place of his own.

Gardner said the first morning they woke up and got ready to leave their new place, his son asked him why he wasn't taking all the usual bags and stroller with him. Gardner said it was the best feeling to be able to tell his son they had a key and didn't have to carry everything anymore.

However, Gardner's home was not near his training program, so he made the long commute from his apartment to his son's daycare, to work and then back, sometimes not arriving home until 9 p.m.

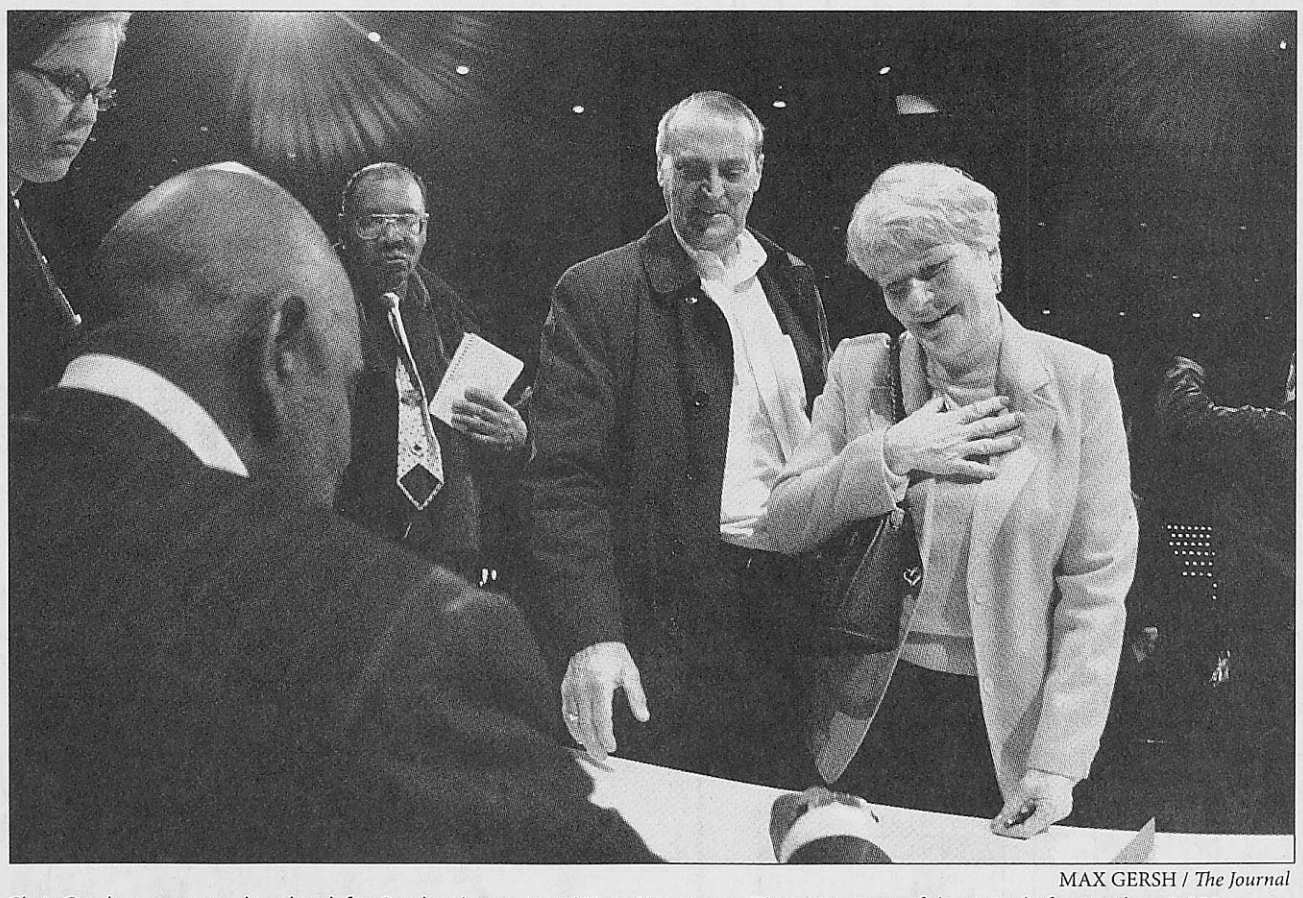
Gardner said when they were returning home each night, they would pass the "ladies of the evening" beginning their shifts. He said for months these women saw this man with a baby in a baby stroller and knew something was unusual.

"They would try and give him candy, but I told them 'no' and then eventually they started giving him $5," Gardner said. "There were many times when I couldn't have fed him without those ladies giving us $5."

Gardner eventually caught the eye of another brokerage firm that offered him a higher paying job. He surpassed other introductory level employees, but not without one particular client testing his emotional limits.

"He would call and tell me every nigger joke, every Jew joke and every spic joke and then at the end tell me to give him 50,000 shares of whatever was selling," Gardner said. "At 50 cents a share, that's a $25,000 commission and I'll laugh at nigger jokes all day for that."

Gardner said business is not a black thing or a white thing — it's a green thing.



MAX GERSH / *The Journal*

Chris Gardner autographs a book for Gordon (center) and Kaye Hartweger. They were part of the crowd of more than 1,000 people who were denied entrance to hear his talk.

"I had just fought and crawled my way out of the gutter with a baby on my back and now was not the time to sing 'We Shall Overcome,'" Gardner said.

However, Gardner did have to face the Texan when he came to visit. Gardner said he thought one of two things would happen: the Texan would stop doing business with him or he would quit doing business with everyone else and work only with Gardner.

"He did all his business with me and stopped telling nigger jokes," Gardner said. "He tells knock-knock jokes now."

However, Gardner said his financial success is not what he considers his greatest accomplishment. His biggest success is having raised two children that have become special young people.

Gardner said when he was young, his father was not around and his stepfather took every opportunity to remind Gardner he was not his son.

"I made up my mind at 5 years old, not knowing what a promise was, that no one would ever talk to, treat or terrorize my children like that," Gardner said. "The only way I could do that was to be around."

Gardner talked about breaking the cycle of men not being there for their children. He said he has raised a son that knows the importance of this and through that he has influenced generations.

"Everyone has opportunities to break some cycle," Gardner said.

Philip Crawford, a junior photography major, said Gardner's lecture was entertaining, intellectual and inspiring.

"The part that stuck with me was how being poor isn't always about addiction to drugs or alcohol," Crawford said. "I think that struck a lot of people."

Gardner held a small Q-and-A session after the lecture. Some members of the public reached out to Gardner by telling their own stories. One woman said she had been homeless on and off for two years in San Francisco and had never been able to talk about the experience until she heard Gardner's story. She said he gave her the strength to face it.

Another young boy asked Gardner what advice he could offer someone growing up without a father. Gardner was so moved he told the boy to meet him afterward so they could talk in private.

Gardner seemed most touched by a man who introduced himself as a homeless person who had found the courage to pick himself up thanks to Gardner's story. Gardner embraced the man who said, "I love you."

After the Q-and-A session, Gardner held a book signing.

Crawford waited in line for Gardner's signature. He said he read the book before it became a best-seller.

"The book was very emotional," Crawford said. "I related to a lot of stuff."

Campus Activities and the Multicultural Center and International Student Affairs brought Gardner to Webster using the student activity fee.

Shay Malone is the program coordinator for the MCISA.

"He transcends everyone," Malone said.

The Venue



A calendar of upcoming events on campus and around town

Thursday, February 1

• Harris-Stowe State University sponsors **"Black History Quiz Bowl"** at noon in the HGA Cafeteria, located at 3026 Laclede Ave. For more information, call 340-5089.

• **Marlena Shaw** performs at 8:30 and 10:15 p.m. at Jazz at the Bistro, located at 3536 Washington Ave. Admission is $30. For more information, call 289-4034 or visit *http://www.jazzstl.org/jatb/*.

Friday, February 2

• Campus Activities sponsors **First Fridays** at 8 p.m. in Marletto's Marketplace. For more information, call ext. 7708.

• Helmut Walser Smith, author of "The Butcher's Tale: Murder and Anti-Semitism in a German Town" and a professor at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, speaks on **"From Play to Act: Anti-Semitic Violence in German and European History during the Long Nineteenth Century"** at 4 p.m. in the Emerson Library Conference Room. Admission is free. For more information, call ext. 7066.

• The Webster University Film Series presents Joey Garfield's **"Breath Control: The History of the Human Beat Box"** at 7 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium.

• Webster University's Art Department presents video artist and photographer **Jessika Miekeley** as part of the Friday Artist Lecture Series at noon in room 123 of the Sverdrup building. For more information, call ext. 7171.

• Harris-Stowe State University sponsors **"Honor. Educate. Appreciate. Love. Hip-Hop,"** the first of a four-part series, at 7 p.m. in the EPC Little Theatre, located at 3026 Laclede Ave. For more information, call 340-5089.

• The **St. Louis Folk Festival** begins at 8 p.m. with Vance Gilbert, Girlyman and The Nields at the Sheldon Concert Hall, located at 3648 Washington Blvd. Representatives from the Missouri Coalition Against Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence will be present to help raise awareness of domestic violence issues. A portion of the concert proceeds will benefit the coalition. Tickets are $25 for balcony seating and $30 for orchestra seating. For more information, call 533-9900 or visit *http://www.sheldonconcerthall.org*.

• **Marlena Shaw** performs at 8:30 and 10:15 p.m. at Jazz at the Bistro, located at 3536 Washington Ave. Admission is $35. For more information, call 289-4034 or visit *http://www.jazzstl.org/jatb/*.

Saturday, February 3

• Author **Byron Von Rosenburg** will sign copies of his book, "The Red Mountain," at 2 p.m. in the Borders in Ballwin, located at 15355-A Manchester Road. Admission is free. For more information, call (636) 230-2992.

• Authors **Glen and Gary McCoy** will sign copies of their book, "The Flying McCoys," at 2 p.m. in the Borders in St. Peters, located at 1320 Mid Rivers Mall. Admission is free. For more information, call (636) 287-5000.

• Hazelwood East High School presents **"Steppin for Success,"** their first annual Greek Step Show, from 2:30 to 5 p.m. in the gymnasium, located at 11300 Dunn Road. Admission is $10. For more information, call 953-5607.

• The Webster University Film Series presents Joey Garfield's **"Breath Control: The History of the Human Beat Box"** at 7 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium.

• The Pulitzer Foundation for the Arts and the St. Louis Art Museum will co-sponsor a panel discussion, **"Portraiture in Perspective,"** from 2 to 5 p.m. in the St. Louis Art Museum auditorium, located at 3716 Washington Blvd. Admission is free. For more information, call 754-1861.

• A **"Tribute to Paul Robeson,"** featuring Leon Burke, begins at 11 a.m. at the Sheldon Concert Hall, located at 3648 Washington Blvd. Admission is $10. For more information, call 533-9900 or visit *http://www.sheldonconcerthall.org*.

• **Marlena Shaw** performs at 8:30 and 10:15 p.m. at Jazz at the Bistro, located at 3536 Washington Ave. Admission is $35. For more information, call 289-4034 or visit *http://www.jazzstl.org/jatb/*.

Sunday, February 4

• The Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra's Rick Holmes conducts the Community Music School of Webster University's **Young People's Symphonic Orchestra** in an "All-Russian" concert, featuring Glinka's "Overture to Russlan and Ludmilla" and Boradin's "Symphony No. 3" at 6 p.m. in the Community Music School. Admission is free. For more information, call ext. 5939.

Monday, February 5

• The Webster Faculty Jazz Ensemble will perform **"A Tribute to Art Blakey"** at 7 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium. Admission is $5 at the door, $3 for seniors and free to students with a valid ID. For more information, call ext. 7032.

• The School of Communications presents photography professor **Susan Stang** as part of the "Focus on the Faculty in February" series at noon in the UC Sunnen Lounge. Bring your lunch. Admission is free.

• Harris-Stowe State University presents a Movie Monday Film, **"When the Levees Broke: Part 1,"** at noon in the HGA Cafeteria Annex and at 6 p.m. in the EPC Little Theatre, located at 3026 Laclede Ave. For more information, call 340-5089.

Tuesday, February 6

• The Webster University Film Series presents Bernardo Bertolucci's **"The Conformist" (Il Conformista)** at 7 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium. The film will be in Italian with English subtitles.

• Harris-Stowe State University presents a **Money Management Workshop** at noon in the HGA Cafeteria Annex, located at 3026 Laclede Ave. For more information, call 340-5089.

Wednesday, February 7

• The Webster University Film Series presents Eric Idle's & Gary Weis' **"The Rutles: All You Need Is Cash"** at 8 p.m. at Schlafly Bottleworks, located at 7260 Southwest Ave., as part of Strange Brew: Cult Films. Admission is $4.

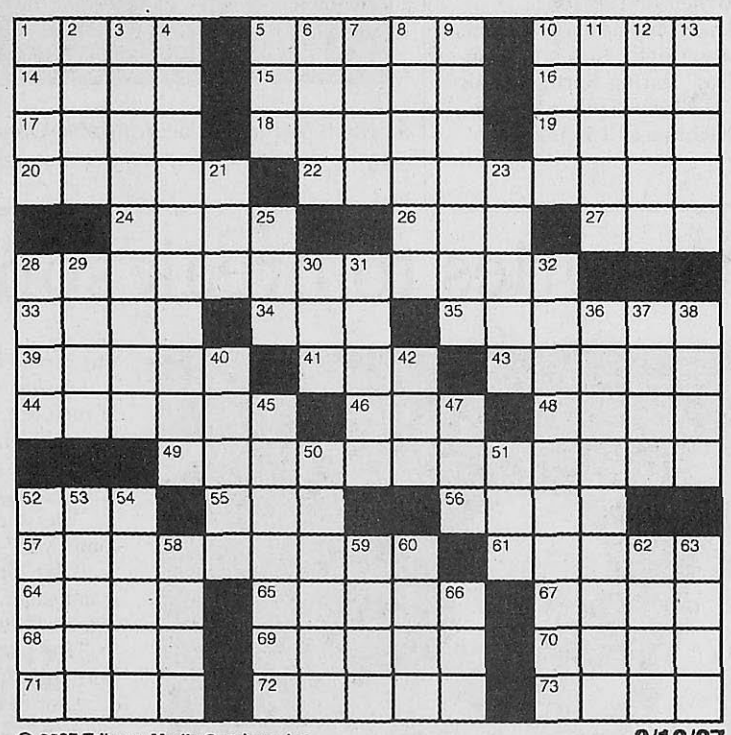
• The St. Louis Zoo is hosting a **job fair** from noon to 4 p.m. in The Living World within the Zoo. The fair is for those interested in spring, summer and fall employment. For more information, call 781-0900 or visit *http://www.stlzoo.org/jobs*.

• Harris-Stowe State University presents **"Urban Expressions" STL Underground Talent Showcase** at 7 p.m. in the EPC Little Theatre, located at 3026 Laclede Ave. For more information, call 340-5089.

• The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis presents Wendy Wasserstein's **"The Heidi Chronicles"** at 8 p.m. on the Browning Mainstage in the Loretto Hilton Center. Tickets prices range from $14 to $45. For more information, call ext. 4925.

Want your event listed in The Venue? E-mail us at *calendar@webujournal.com*

Crossword



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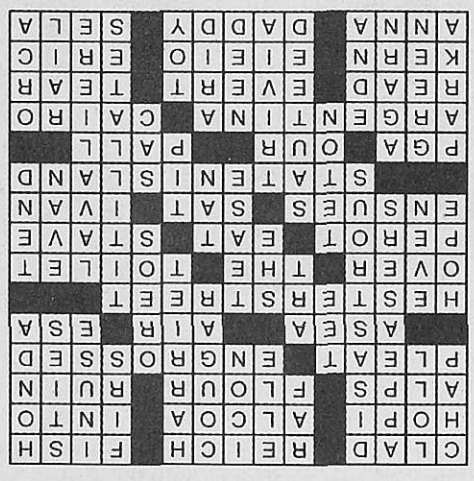
ACROSS
1 Dressed (in)
5 Psychoanalyst Wilhelm
10 Go angling
14 Navajo neighbor
15 Major aluminum producer
16 Fascinated by
17 Austrian range
18 Bread need
19 Lay waste to
20 Pants fold
22 Single-minded
24 On the waves
26 Broadcast
27 NASA partner
28 1975 Carol Kane movie
33 Finished
34 Definite article
35 Bathroom fixture
39 EDS founder
41 Chow down
43 Barrel part
44 Takes place subsequently
46 Made a lap
48 Terrible czar?
49 New York borough
52 Org. of Els
55 Sharing pronoun
56 Become dull
57 Pampas place
61 Egypt's capital
64 Take in text
65 Turn inside out
67 Rip
68 "Smoke Gets in Your Eyes" composer
69 MacDonald's refrain
70 Skater Heiden
71 __ May Wong
72 Pop
73 Actress Ward

DOWN
1 Fellow
2 Droop lazily
3 Sop dispensers?
4 Calamitous
5 Brit. flyboys
6 Glamour rival
7 PC image
8 Mercury model
9 __ Beecher Stowe
10 Needle trees
11 Occupied
12 Porkers' pads
13 Japanese car maker
21 Golfer's gadget
23 Nabisco cookies
25 Knack
28 Bright prospect
29 __ as we speak
30 That lady
31 Make fun of
32 Excites superficially
36 Pendant on a necklace
37 Bayh or Hunter
38 Watch over
40 Range of the Rockies
42 Light brown
45 Browned in butter
47 Insider's advice
50 Inessential matters
51 US defense group
52 Arctic coat
53 Putting surface
54 Storch role on "F Troop"
58 "So Big" author Ferber
59 Requirement
60 Hot and dry
62 Banister
63 Killer whale
66 Gift from Santa

Solutions



Playoffs: Men's basketball is rolling into playoff berth

FROM PAGE 10

Westminster is one of the teams left on the schedule that have slowed down the Gorloks. The only other team on the Gorloks' upcoming schedule that defeated Webster is Blackburn. Of the Gorloks' seven remaining games, only two of the teams have been successful against them, and in those two games the Gorloks lost by a total of two points.

The Gorloks have the easier schedule heading into the SLIAC championship. Webster gets to play the two teams in the cellar of the SLIAC standings. Their competition has to play teams with winning records.

The Gorloks also have the conference's leading scorer, junior Darin Hoggatt. Webster's forward has been dominating the SLIAC. In three games during the week of Jan. 15 through 21, Hoggatt scored 82 points and pulled down 28 rebounds.

Along with leading the conference in scoring, Hoggatt is among league leaders in rebounds and field goal percentage. Hoggatt and senior Scott Spinner are fifth and sixth in the conference in free throw percentage. Spinner also is among the conference leaders in assists.

Feb. 23 is the start of the SLIAC championship and the end of the regular season for the Gorloks. When the SLIAC championship tips off, the Gorloks will be a dangerous team. If the team continues their winning streak, the Gorloks will have defeated most of the teams they would have to face in the championship tournament. At this point in the season the Gorloks have played all of the competition recently and will know how to beat them.

Patrick Devine, a junior journalism major, is sports editor for The Journal.

Gorlok ballers sweep in, knock off MacMurray

Teams starting to gear up for a run at the SLIAC championship

BY NIKOLE BROWN
nbrown@webujournal.com

WOMEN'S

On Jan. 27, the women's basketball team triumphed against MacMurray College with a 61-54 win — pushing them to 5-5 in the St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

Coach Jayme Callahan said it was a back-and-forth game as far as scoring. MacMurray managed to retain a six-point lead throughout the first half.

Sophomore point guard Erin Chesnek fouled out early in the second half, but the women's basketball team was able to adjust to new positions and finish with a win.

The surprise hero of the night was freshman forward Julie McGirl. This season, McGirl has averaged 9.1 points per game and 6.4 rebounds per game. Against MacMurray, McGirl turned in a 20-point, 11-rebound effort.

Callahan credited McGirl's performance and attributed it to McGirl being consistent all night.

The teams remained two or three points within each other until three minutes left in the second half when Webster pulled ahead with a three-pointer from junior guard Danielle Tiller.

"I don't think any win is easy," Callahan said. "We have eight more games and we need to win six out of the eight to make it to the championship. So, we're forgetting about the past and starting fresh. We're 1-0 as far as we're concerned."

The women's team took a step back Jan. 30 with a 91-50 loss to Maryville.

"We're forgetting about the past and starting fresh. We're 1-0 as far as we're concerned." - Coach Jayme Callahan

MEN'S

The men's basketball team came into their game against MacMurray trailing them in the SLIAC standings. After the Gorloks delivered an 87-75 win they pushed their record to 7-3, but it also ties them for first place in the SLIAC.

Sophomore guard Kyle Regan said even though the team had lost at home to MacMurray Dec. 9, the players felt they were a stronger team because of their hard work in practice.

The key to the Jan. 27 victory was the Gorloks got the lead early and held off MacMurray the rest of the game.

"If we keep playing like this we're going to be dangerous," Regan said.

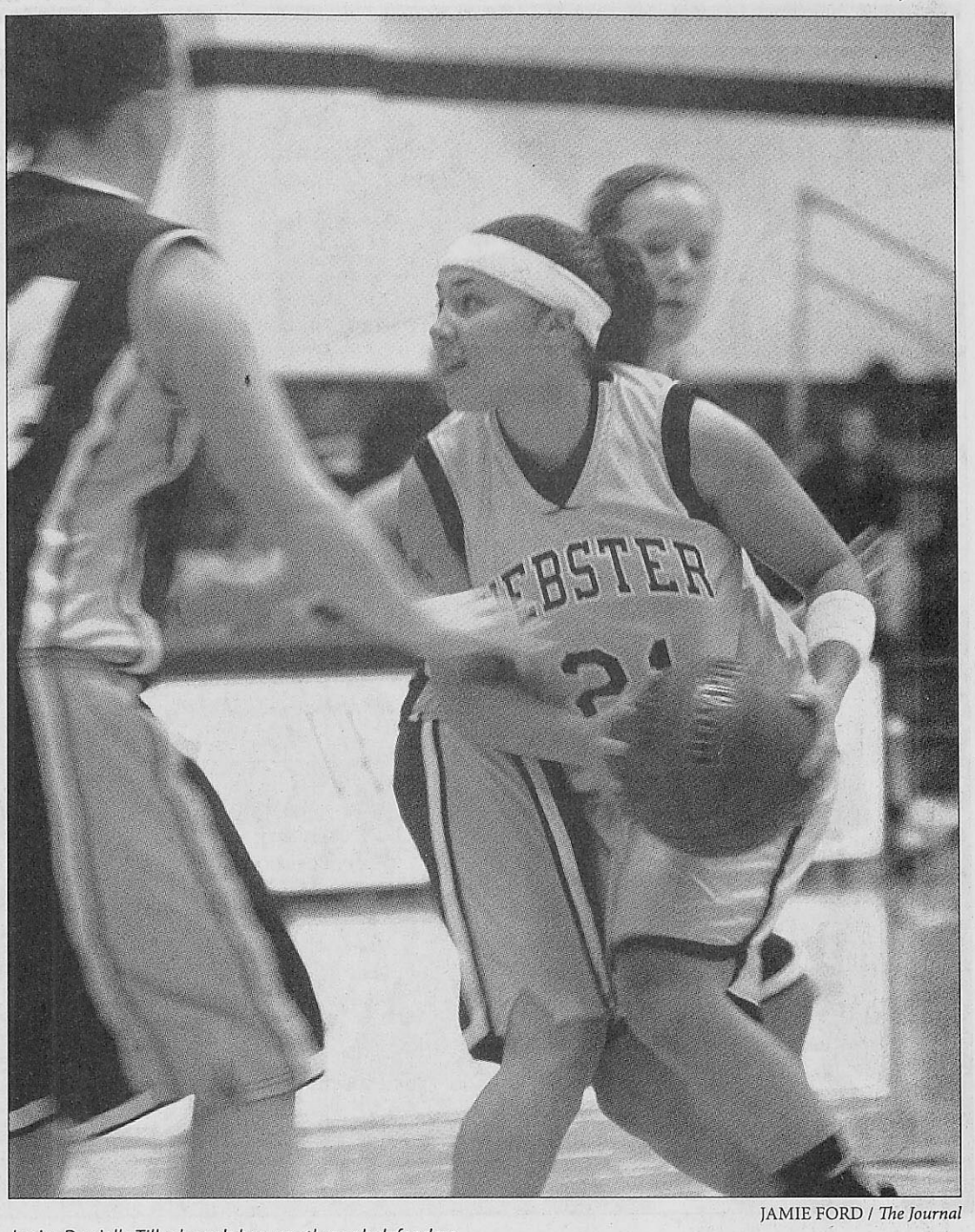
Coach Chris Bunch said as a team the rebounding was better, with junior forwards Corey Kuhn and Darin Hoggatt getting 10 rebounds each.

Two players from the same team pulling down that many rebounds is an unusual occurrence.

Bunch said he knew it would be a tough game, and that the team needed to focus on MacMurray's defense and their best players. Overall, teamwork helped the men's team secure a win.

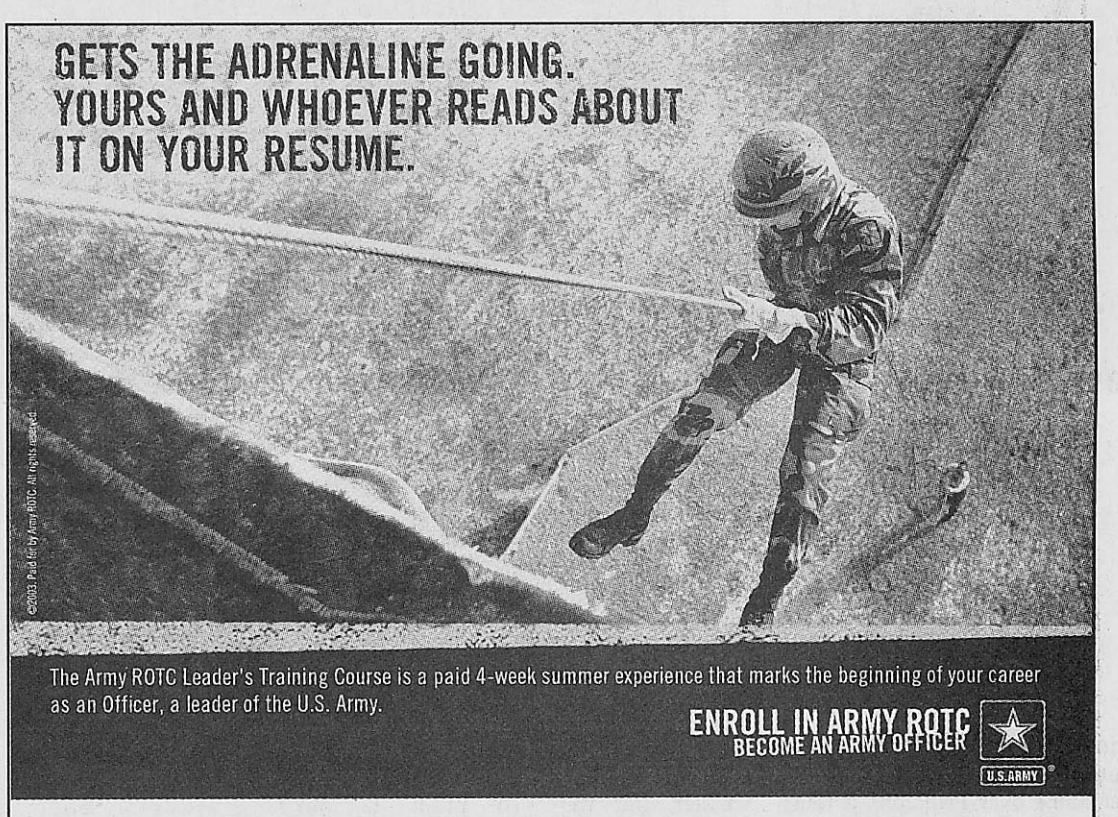
"Darin Hoggatt, Scott Spinner, Ryan Turk and Shawn Nichoalds played well off the bench," Bunch said. "If we keep getting that kind of bench play I know we'll be all right."

The men's team continued their winning streak Jan. 30 with a 69-66 victory over Maryville. The Gorloks improve to 8-3 in the conference.



JAMIE FORD / *The Journal*

Junior Danielle Tiller barrels her way through defenders.



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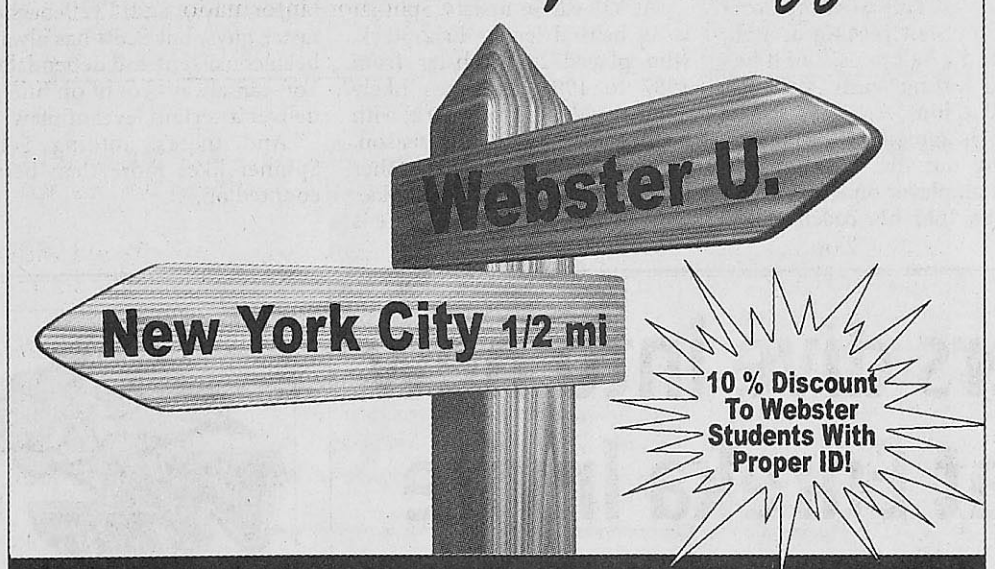

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MAX GERSH / *The Journal*

Gorlok Scott Spinner shoots a free throw at the Principia game Jan 20. Spinner shot 10 for 10 from the line, helping him break his 1,000th career point.

Spinner puts the 'G' in Gorlok

Spinner scores 1000th career point as a Gorlok and closes in on Webster all-time assist record

BY JON BAIRD
jbaird@webujournal.com

When Scott Spinner sank his 10th free throw in the final minutes of the Gorloks' Jan. 20 win at home over Principia, it must have felt good. Not because it also was his 10th attempt, which made him perfect on the day. Not because he had scored his 1,000th career point in the first half. It was another consistent game, and there is nothing Spinner tries harder at.

"My consistency is really what I take pride in," Spinner said.

In the first half, six free throws prior, Spinner earned a standing ovation from the Grant Gymnasium crowd for scoring career point 1,000. It was a great moment for Webster's fourth-year starter, reaching an impressive mark for a player with such high assist totals.

"He's scored much more than I expected," Head Coach Chris Bunch said, summarizing his impression of Spinner's years with Webster. Bunch described Spinner's intended role as much smaller, but the 5'10" point guard has surpassed expectations.

"When I recruited him from DeSmet, I knew he would be able to move the ball around and get it to our scorers, and I knew he would hold up in pressure situations," Bunch said. "But I certainly didn't expect him to score as much as he did."

"I don't like when people give up on things."
- Scott Spinner

Spinner joined the Gorloks in 2003, following two varsity years at DeSmet Jesuit High School in Creve Coeur.

Spinner hasn't ignored his responsibilities as point guard amidst all of the scoring, and is on pace to break the school record for career assists this year.

Coach Bunch said Spinner's competitive and steady nature is a key reason he recruited him to play at Webster. Spinner's recruitment paid off for him and his teammates.

Junior forward Darin Hoggatt, conference scoring leader, described Spinner's style of play as unselfish and dependable.

"Scott's really the heart of the team," Hoggatt said. He's a senior, and he controls the game and gets the ball to who's scoring. If he's not playing as well, he'll get the ball to us, and if he's on and hitting shots, we'll get the ball to him."

Bunch agreed with Hoggatt, pointing out the value of one consistent player on a team.

When told his coach called him a "model of consistency" in an earlier interview, Spinner smiled.

"I just take everything, even practice, very seriously," Spinner said. "I don't like when people give up on things."

Spinner has recently achieved many of the personal goals he set for his college career. He beat his father's single-game point total. His dad's best was 27 points. Last season against Greenville, Scott scored 34 points. He also passed John Ross, his former freshman coach at DeSmet, for second on Webster's all-time assists list.

At 337 career assists, Spinner is 39 behind leader Eric Stack, who played for Webster from 1987 to 1991. It seems likely Spinner will pass this mark, with eight games left in the season, putting Spinner atop another page in Webster's record books.

Spinner's love for the game is apparent. He's only happy when he knows he's given his best effort are apparent.

"When I first started on the team, there were 16 guys coming in," Spinner said. "Only three of us are left. If you're going to do something, stick it out and go through with it. Just have fun with it."

Spinner's advice reflects his play on the court, something Coach Bunch will be the first to acknowledge.

"He's probably one of the best players I've ever coached," Coach Bunch said. "I've coached bigger guys, and I've coached faster guys, but Scott has always been consistent and dependable. You can always count on him to deliver a certain level of play."

And there's nothing Scott Spinner likes more than being counted on.

From Under The STL

Men's basketball team is winning at the right time



BY PATRICK DEVINE
pdevine@webujournal.com

The Webster University men's basketball team is the hottest team in the St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference. The Gorloks have won six out of their last seven games and have the longest winning streak in the conference. The SLIAC is loaded with teams ready to make a run at the conference championship.

The SLIAC has six teams — each within one victory of each other. Webster, Eureka College and MacMurray College sit atop the conference with a record of 7-3. Fontbonne University, Westminster College and Greenville College are next with records of 6-4. Blackburn College is right behind those schools with a 5-5 record.

In their last six games, the Gorloks have knocked off four of their closest competitors. The Gorloks beat Eureka and MacMurray, schools that share their conference lead. Fontbonne and Greenville, also behind the Gorloks in the SLIAC standings, have fallen to the Gorloks. The only team that has tamed the Gorloks was Blackburn.

The Gorloks have seven games left in the season. Only three will be played in Grant Gymnasium. Two of those three games take place by the end of this weekend.

The Gorloks have a 5-2 record against the remaining seven teams on their schedule. They are winning at the right time. The team can use the momentum of their recent winning streak to go on the road and finish the season strong.

The remaining games on the Gorloks' schedule give the team a chance to lock up the conference. Webster's games this week include a game Feb. 1 tip off against Westminster and afternoon start Feb. 3 against Lincoln Christian College. Webster already has knocked off Lincoln Christian this year.

See PLAYOFFS, Page 9

Swimmers dive into new events at Eureka Invite

BY MATT GROVER
mgrover@webujournal.com

Throughout the 2006-07 season, the Webster swim team has worked hard to prepare for the St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Championship Feb. 3 and the Liberal Arts Invitational Feb. 15 through 17.

"We had a good meet, not just in the water, but out of the water."
- Leah Bend, freshman swimmer

The team's final two meets of the season will illustrate just how much the Gorloks' perseverance has paid off. However, before the team got down to business, they had a little fun.

In the Gorloks' last meet before the SLIAC and Liberal Arts tournaments, the swim team traveled to Eureka, Ill., Jan. 27 to compete in the Eureka Invitational. Eureka College, also a SLIAC member, hosted the event.

Unlike other swim meets Webster competes in, the Eureka Invitational was a bit different. Shorter events, mixed relay races and an opportunity for swimmers to compete in events they don't usually participate in were some of the distinctions. Leah Bend competed in the 100-yard backstroke for the first time. Bend was pleased with how she did in the event.

This meet was about the team bonding and getting a chance to swim in some new events. Competing in new events and not focusing on personal best times gave the Gorloks an opportunity to relax and have fun.

"It was less stressful," Bend said. "We had less pressure."

The relaxed atmosphere paid off for the Gorloks as the men's and women's teams both finished in fourth place. Six teams competed on the women's side, while five teams competed for the men's championship. Augustana College took home first place honors in both brackets.

Bend said the entire team performed well. Senior Josie Muhm, sophomore Adam Rafferty and freshman Kasper Woldtvedt were a few of the many who had impressive showings.

"I'm really, really proud of how the team came together," Bend said. We had a good meet, not just in the water, but out of the water."

Three hours of travel time between Webster and Eureka allowed a close-knit team more time to bond away from the pool. The trip allowed the rare opportunity for the entire Webster swim team to travel together and compete. The evening also featured a team dinner.

Bend joked the experience was reminiscent of a family vacation, with Head Coach Tim Lombardo portraying the role of the father as the team acted like children in the back seat.

"We were one giant family of 10, in a van, three hours there and three hours back," Bend said.

The Flux Capacitor: Glance Into The Future

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3PM

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8PM

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THE JOURNAL

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Asbestos adds to art building woes

Webster officials not sure if company hired to remove year-old mold from the Visual Arts Studio actually completed work

BY ANNA C. FORDER
aforder@webujournal.com

Wellington Environmental, a company Webster hired summer 2006 to clean up mold in the basement of the Visual Arts Studio, found asbestos insulation in the piping that was torn and exposed. Debbie Quargnanti, an office assistant at Wellington, said according to records of the mold work, she doesn't think Webster hired Wellington to take care of the asbestos.

Members of Webster's facilities operations who handled the project could not be reached by press time Feb. 6 to confirm whether the asbestos had been removed.

The Journal ran a story March 2006 about problems with the condition of the Visual Arts Studio. These problems included lack of ventilation in the studios and photo darkroom, lack of lighting in the sculpture studio and rainwater leaking into several studios. Since that time, improvements have been made, but some of the problems are ongoing.

David Stone, Webster's interim director of facility planning and management facilities planning, said Webster hired Wellington to clean up the mold during summer 2006. In addition, Stone said Webster had done air sampling of the area and found that none of the mold levels were considered too high. Stone attributed the mold to a water leak from a mechanical unit as well as a broken water line.

The mold on the pipes, however, has not been removed in the last year. Stone said he thought both the walls and pipes had been cleaned.

"It's something I should have looked at," Stone said, admitting he should have made sure Wellington's work was completed.

Stone then checked his records and said in a second interview that all of the work Wellington completed was in the boiler and mechanical rooms in the basement of the art building. He said he is unsure why the pipes are still in their current condition.

Any further records for this job are in storage because they are from the last fiscal year, Stone said, but he said he would make sure the job was completed.

"We want to make sure we didn't pay them (Wellington) for work they didn't do," Stone said.

Stone said he left a message with Wellington and will examine the contract and records.

Quargnanti said according to the company's records, Wellington was supposed to remove mold-contaminated dry wall from the floor up 2 feet on both sides of the wall. The company was then supposed to clean and disinfect the rest of the wall and space.

"As far as I know, that's all we were supposed to do," Quargnanti said.

Quargnanti was unsure whether Webster or Wellington decided what needed to be worked on. She said Bill Talbert, vice president of Wellington, would be able to determine that, but she said because he is rarely in the office, the newspaper would "probably not be able to talk to him."

In addition to problems with

See ASBESTOS, Page 3

City changes zoning to ease WU growth

BY BREANNA HERSCHELMAN
bherschelman@webujournal.com

A new ordinance approving rezoning for colleges and universities in Webster Groves could make future construction at Webster University easier.

An ordinance passed Jan. 2 by the Webster Groves City Council, would allow Webster University to apply for rezoning under an approved use permit rather than the existing conditional use permit.

The new legislation would permit Webster to apply for rezoning only once in order to be approved to build new buildings. Under the previous legislation, Webster had to go through extensive measures for even the smallest of projects because it initially was zoned as single-family residential.

The ordinance would allow Webster to apply for rezoning under the term major educational district rather than single-family residential. Webster was classified single-family during the initial construction of Loretto Hall in 1927.

Under the new ordinance, Webster would not have as great a need to expand by purchasing neighboring homes, according to an e-mail from Roger Grow, Webster Groves economic development coordinator. The new ordinance also would give the city an idea of Webster University's future developments.

Under a conditional use permit, Webster had to follow many measures to get permission to build. These measures included public notices, public hearings and passing an ordinance. After all of these measures, the city council could still vote down the project. Both Webster University and the city of Webster Groves agreed these measures were too great, especially for smaller projects.

David Stone, Webster's interim director of facility planning and management facilities planning, said zoning issues began in 1998 when the city would not accept Webster's 25-year master plan for future construction. The city required this, but when Webster presented its plan, the city realized it did not have the

See ZONING, Page 3

What is Zoning?

Zoning: Process of regulating allowable uses for certain areas.

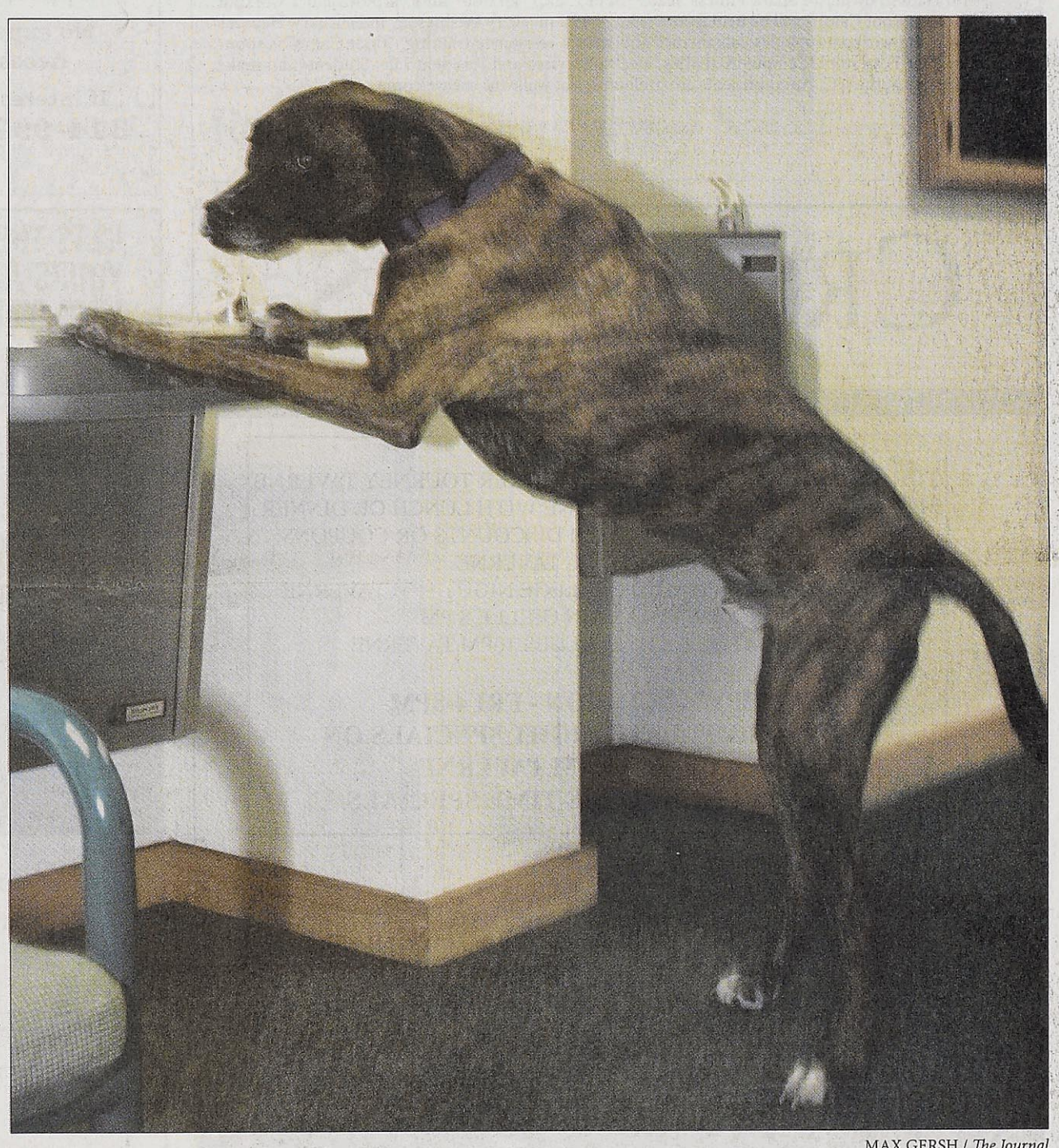
Conditional Use Permit (CUP): Requires the city to pass an ordinance for every request for contruction approval.

Approved Use Permit: A permit that allows for multiple projects within a designated zone that would require only one proposal. This is the permit Webster will likely apply for after submitting a proposal for rezoning.

Major Educational Campus (MEC): Any institution with more than 20 acres. Webster is considered an MEC under the new ordinance after it applies for rezoning.

Single-Family Residential: A zoning code that designates what uses can occur in a particular area. Webster has been considered a single-family residential since the construction of Loretto Hall in 1927.

DOG DAYS OF WEBSTER



MAX GERSH / *The Journal*

A dog helps itself to a drink at a second floor drinking fountain in the Sverdrup building Jan 24.

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OUTSIDE

THURSDAY
Chance of Light Snow
28/14

FRIDAY
Partly Cloudy
28/13

SATURDAY
Partly Cloudy
25/13

Activity fee brings big names, questionable enthusiasm

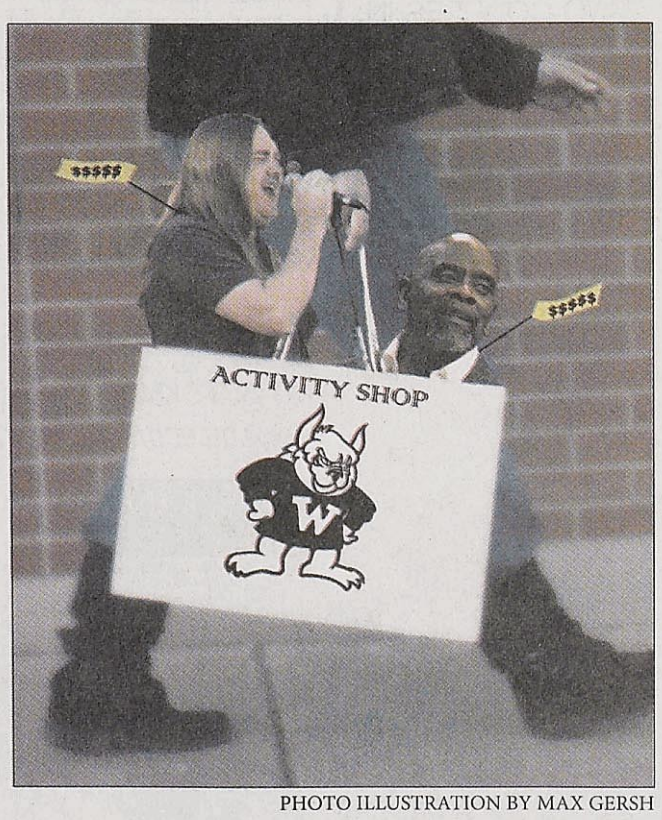

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY MAX GERSH

BY NIKOLE M. BROWN
nbrown@webujournal.com

As Webster moves into the second semester since the student activity fee was instated, some students question whether there is a difference in the quality of programs.

Although some students remain skeptical about the proper use of their student activity fees, Campus Activities and the Multicultural Center and International Student Affairs remain adamant that students are getting their money's worth.

John Ginsburg, director of the University Center and Campus Activities, said there has been a significant change in programming.

"It's enabled more frequent programs as well as bigger and better programming than before," Ginsburg said.

Ngozi Williams, a sophomore international relations major, said she has not heard complaints about the increase in fees and thinks the programs are beginning to improve. She said she particularly liked the free massages.

Caitlin Feifert, a sophomore media communications major, said she would rather not pay the fee unless there is going to be a bigger change.

"I think if there are more (programs), I wouldn't mind, but if it's just going to be the same thing then I don't want to pay," Feifert said.

The fee started as Proposition A in the spring 2006 Student Government Association elections. Students were allowed to vote on the proposition, and it passed with a 204-97 vote. In turn, full-time undergraduate students pay a $30 fee each semester, which is split between Campus Activities and the MCISA. Each department receives $33,000 from the fee each semester.

Ginsburg said all of the money will be intended for use. Any funds left over from each semester will be carried over into the next.

With the additional fees, the MCISA has been able to plan "Love Jones," an open-mic night featuring poet Saul Williams and a lecture on the history of abortion rights and services called "Women's Speaker." The department also will hold the "Women of Webster" event to honor faculty, students and staff who have contributed to the campus.

Campus Activities brought "The Pursuit of Happyness" author Christopher Gardner to speak and musician Edwin McCain for Homecoming 2006. Gardener and McCain each cost the university more than $20,000.

For this semester, Campus Activities is planning trips to Hidden Valley Ski Resort in Eureka, "Chicago" at the FOX Theatre, a trip to Sky Zone in Chesterfield, which is a dodgeball pit with trampolines,

See FEES, Page 3

NEWS BRIEFS

Debate Team Wins Big in Kansas

The Webster debate team won more than 50 awards Feb. 2 through 4 at two tournaments hosted by Kansas Wesleyan University and Drury University. The tournaments were part of the Border Wars Forensics Swing. James Hansen and Melissa Benton-Hopper from Webster won first or second in five out of six team challenges. Scott Jensen, director of debate and forensics, said the highlight of the weekend was winning two tournaments and an overall tournament award.

International Writing Centers Week

The Webster Writing Center joins 15 other university writing centers in the St. Louis area to collect items for the Gateway Homeless Shelter, which houses 150 homeless people, serves 50,000 meals annually and helps families find jobs or housing. From Feb. 11 through 17, collection boxes will be available for donations in the Writing Center, the East and West Hall lobbies, the WVA Clubhouse, the University Center and Marletto's. The shelter has requested the following items: snacks for brown bag lunches, condiments, Kool-Aid, sugar, coloring books, crayons, children's books, socks, children's mittens and wipes.

Blood Drive

The WVA hosts a blood drive from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Feb. 12 in the UC Sunnen Lounge. Students can call 246-2787 or send an e-mail to *wva@webster.edu* to make an appointment. Walk-ins are welcome, but appointments will take priority. Donors will receive free pizza. All donors must present identification prior to donating.

Heart-Healthy Boot Camp

Keith Hauser, owner of Shark Fitness, leads "Boot Camp," an hour-long cardiovascular workout for students. "Boot Camp" will be held from 7:45 to 8:45 a.m. every Wednesday in February. Hauser's early-morning workout includes calisthenics and weight resistance training. "Boot Camp" is sponsored by Peer Educators, Campus Activities, Health Services and Resident Life. Students can make appointments at the UC. Appointments are preferred, but walk-ins are welcome.

MISDEMEANORS AND MISHAPS

Jan. 25, 11:45 a.m.: A computer and cable were reported stolen from West Hall. Later in the day, they were reported found by owner.

Jan. 29, 2:50 a.m.: A fire extinguisher compartment was damaged, and a fire extinguisher was discharged in the parking garage.

Jan. 29, 10:15 a.m.: There was a minor accident in Lot L.

Jan. 30, 9:53 a.m.: A projector was taken from room 315 in Webster Hall.

Jan. 30, 3:23 p.m.: A student lost balance and fell in Lot B. The student had a minor hand injury.

Source: Public Safety crime log

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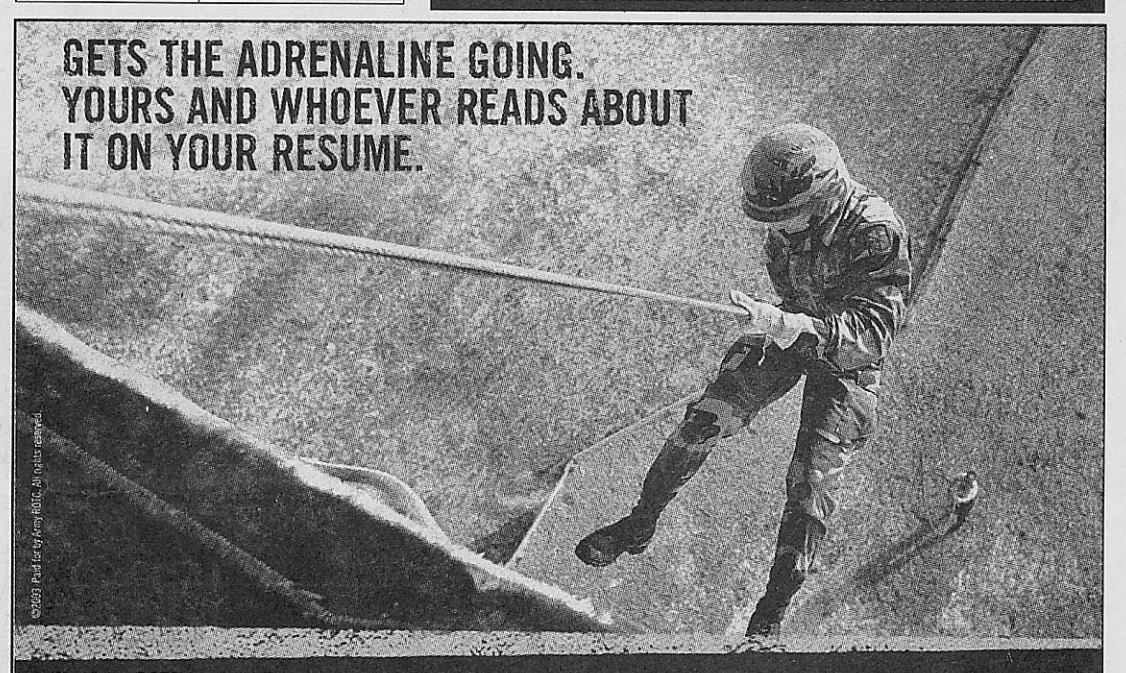

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The Journal **classifieds**

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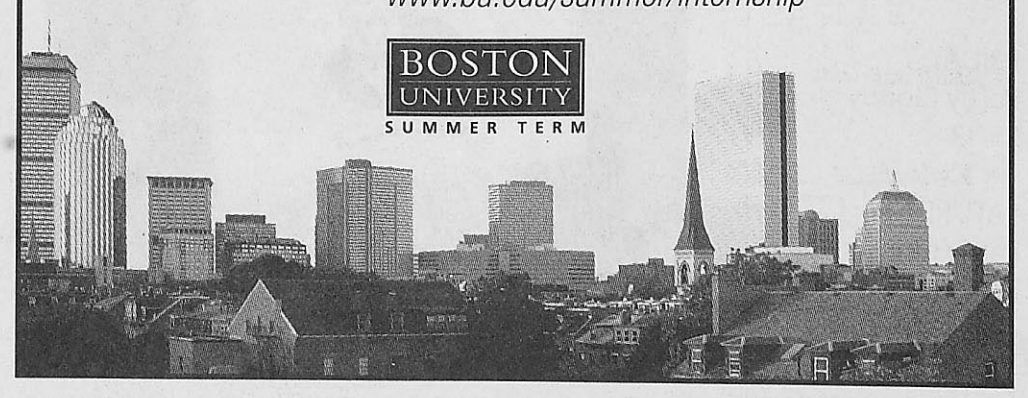


Asbestos: Building additions do little to relieve bigger problems

FROM PAGE 1

mold in the basement, art students cited other concerns with the building in the 2006 article. A major concern in the 2006 article was the lack of ventilation in the photo darkroom. No changes have yet been made to the darkroom, Stone said.

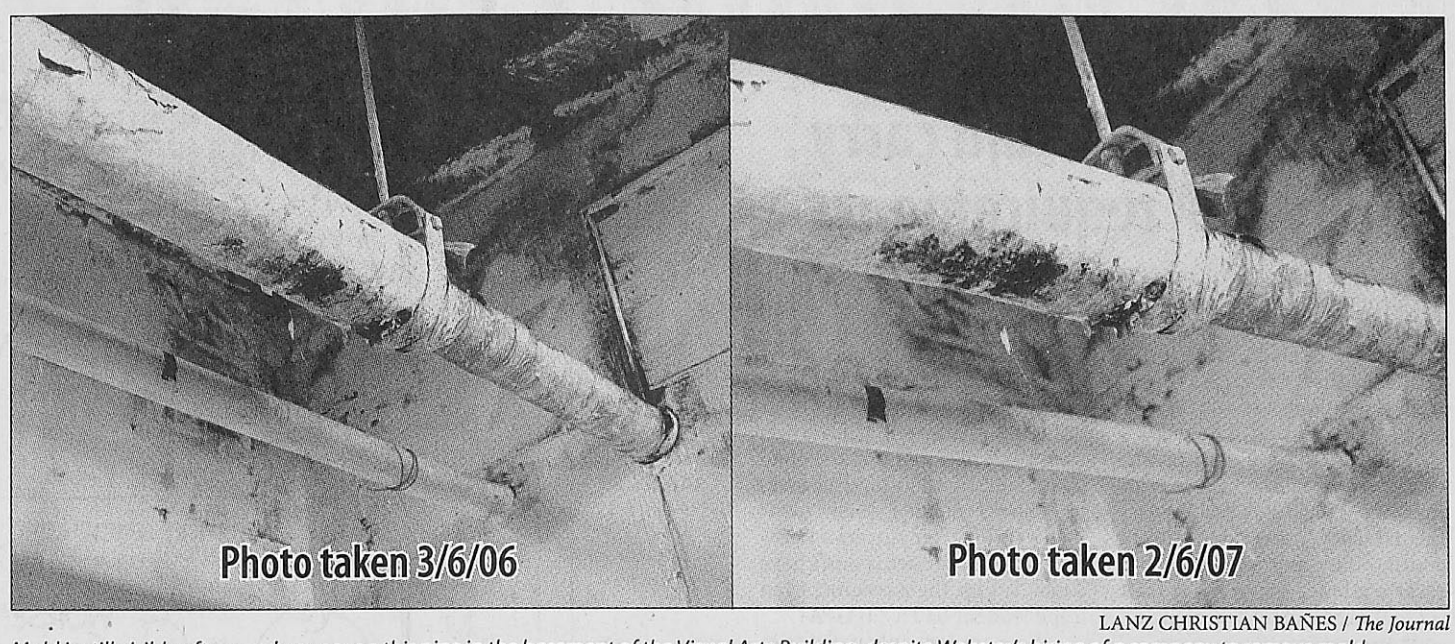
"There are a long list of things that are problematic about darkrooms … We are taking a look at that," Stone said, referring to health risks involved with lack of ventilation for a darkroom.

Ben Beaury, a senior alternative media art major, cites some changes to the building, including new lighting in the sculpture studio in fall 2006 and the addition of a new "smart room" — a presentation room that has been equipped with a computer and projector.

Stone said a new art building probably won't be in the works for another nine or 10 years.

Caroline Palmer, president of the student art group, the Webster Art Coalition, said she would like to know there's a plan in place to do something about the condition of the building. She said she is concerned about the lack of space in the studios and posed the idea of building on to the existing building to provide more space. She said, despite the building's problems, the students' art is not negatively effected.

"The building itself, there are problems with it and it does leak and stuff like that, but I think the group of artists that work in it aren't bothered by it," said Palmer, a senior painting major. "It's not limiting the work that's being done there. Artists work with what they have."



LANZ CHRISTIAN BAÑES / *The Journal*

Mold is still visible after nearly a year on this pipe in the basement of the Visual Arts Building, despite Webster's hiring of a company to remove mold.

Zoning: Additional plans for proposal may cost $60,000

FROM PAGE 1

power to pass a master plan. In addition, Webster had to pay fees to architects and engineers for designs that did not pass.

"If we proposed a project that was perceived as inconsistent with the campus plan, they could reject it for that reason," Stone said. "But if we proposed exactly what was shown in the campus plan it could still be rejected."

An approved use ordinance requires Webster to show the public participated in the planning process through its Neighborhood Advisory Committee. This is a committee composed of 13 Webster Groves citizens and university officials who mediate on matters that affect both parties. Previous matters include special events at Webster and the location of the residence halls. It would take Webster four to six months before the necessary documentation would be ready to apply for rezoning, Stone said.

Stone said Webster would have to present another plan for rezoning, which would cost $60,000 in architect and engineer fees. Stone said once rezoning was passed through the planning commission and the city council, Webster would then have to submit its plan to the architecture review board of Webster Groves.

"The change of zoning would be voluntary, not mandatory," Grow said in an e-mail. "The university could continue as they have for the past 30 years with a CUP whenever, or they could go through the public planning process to develop the 25-year plan, and then bring it to the city council for a change of zoning."

Stone said he saw no reason why Webster would not apply for rezoning under the new ordinance.

"Most importantly, (the ordinance) provides a way for (Webster) to be an approved use rather than a conditional use, and it provides for streamlined and less adversarial project approval," Stone said. "It does both things while protecting the property rights of the neighbors as well."

Fees: Unhappy students need to put forth ideas, programmers say

FROM PAGE 1

and Springfest. Not to be confused with Spring Spectacular, a mix of programs for residents including movie and trivia nights, Springfest is a week of events for all students. Current plans include bringing another comedian to campus. Programming for this semester has already amounted to $30,000.

Nick McGeehon, a senior public relations major and a program manager for Campus Activities, said Campus Activities and the MCISA needed the money from the activity fees.

"It helped," McGeehon said. "It gave us the opportunity to bring in big names like the one for Springfest."

McGeehon was hesitant to say who the "big name" was, but Campus Activities program manager Beth Blumfelder, a junior art history major, said it was the musical performer Lupe Fiasco. Fiasco is best known for his song "Kick, Push."

> "They aren't representing me by planning salsa lessons and getting some lame singer that nobody has heard of to come here."
>
> -Preston Gross-Westbrooks

Preston Gross-Westbrooks, a senior business administration major, said he didn't know about the fee and is disappointed that his money is going toward dull programming.

"I should get a choice if I want to give the money," Gross-Westbrooks said. "They aren't representing me by planning salsa lessons and getting some lame singer that nobody has heard of to come here."

Liz Eisele, a junior broadcast journalism major and a Campus Activities program manager, said if more students were involved they could see the program's improvements.

"No matter what the critics say, we put the name of Webster out there," Eisele said. "If you're not proactive you can't complain."

Seville Fletcher, a sophomore public relations major, agreed with Eisele's assessment that inactive students are usually the first to complain.

"I heard a lot of people complaining, but kids aren't involved," Seville said. "We constantly ask, but they don't put forth any ideas. So they all just need to shut up."

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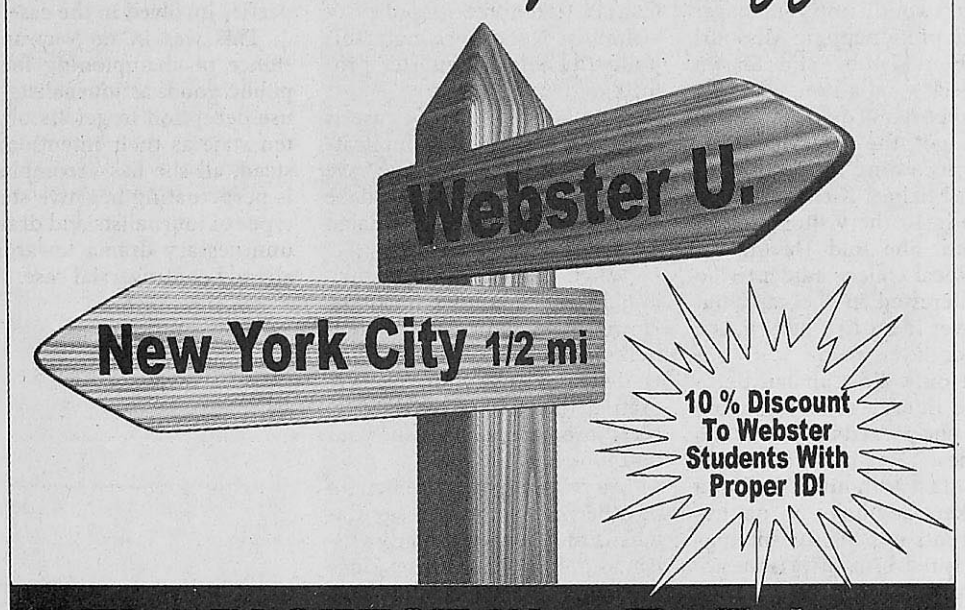

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EDITORIALS

Dean's list should carry only GPA requirements

College students may think of the dean's list as a resume-filler. Unfortunately for Webster students there is much more to the dean's list than GPA. And unfortunately for Webster students, future employers don't know this.

In order to be placed on the dean's list at Webster, students must meet the following requirements: They must complete 12 credit hours per semester and receive a letter grade for at least six of those hours. Freshmen and sophomores must complete 12 to 63 hours and be in the top 10 percent of their class.

Juniors and seniors must complete 64 or more total credit hours and be in the top 10 percent of their class. In addition, they must take at least one 3000- or 4000-level course in an area of study different from their major.

The university uses the current semester's GPA to determine whether the student is in the top 10 percent of their class.

Students on the dean's list should certainly feel proud they have accomplished this academic feat, but students at many other colleges and universities are judged solely on their GPA.

When a Webster student has put in the extra work to complete all the requirements for the dean's list he or she should get recognition beyond the dean's list. Students with high GPAs should be included on the dean's list.

There is little point in making Webster students go through extra requirements to be placed on the dean's list. Future employers don't know Webster students did extra work. Should Webster graduates have an asterisk on their resume explaining they had to take extra 4000-level courses in a field outside their own? Will future employers know why Webster students don't have dean's list on their resume, even if the student had a 4.0 GPA?

There are certainly benefits in students branching out of their own fields academically, but students who receive a high GPA in their own field should get recognition. This is what a dean's list is for — recognizing students who excel academically.

In addition, many students who do have high GPAs are left wondering why they didn't make the dean's list. It is not a well-known fact that the dean's list requires extra work outside the commonly-known GPA requirements.

The requirements for the dean's list, especially because they are so specific, should be well-publicized to students. They should at the least be easily accessible on the Web site, which they are not.

The point of the dean's list should ultimately be to help students succeed.

Gardner is giant leap forward from McCain

Thank God we didn't get another Edwin McCain.

The Journal would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the fine people of Campus Activities and the Multicultural Center and International Student Affairs for bringing in a celebrity that hundreds actually turned out to see — compared to the sad 200 who showed up to be McCain's crying shoulder for Homecoming last fall.

It was a great last event for outgoing MCISA programmer Shay Malone, and it was wonderful to see the levels of interest from both the student body and the community at large. Christopher Gardner, who recently authored the book "The Pursuit of Happyness" and inspired the movie of the same name, brought more than 1,500 people to the Loretto-Hilton Center Jan. 29. In fact, some 500 to 1,000 people were told they couldn't enter after the seats and standing areas in the theater had filled — people were actually turned away from a Webster event. Give that some time to sink in.

Webster, a small university of about 7,000 students, usually holds events that no one even bothers going to or cares about (unless, of course, it's a class requirement). Those involved with campus organizations work diligently to produce programming that actually caters to student interest. This time, unlike most others, they succeeded.

People felt like they could relate to Gardner's touching story of how he went from being homeless to being a millionaire. While there probably weren't many millionaires in the audience, people sympathized with Gardner's struggles and his drive. Following his speech, people rushed the stage to smother him with questions and share their own stories. Then, those people that were not allowed in the theater because of a packed house were the first in line to greet Gardner for the book signing that followed.

Students and community members alike swooned for the charismatic Gardner, whose practiced motivational storytelling brought many a tear to the audience. His sometimes funny, always thought-provoking words were an excellent treat that warmed our hearts during an otherwise frigid winter.

It's great to see that at least part of the $66,000 the Student Activity Fee generates each semester has been put to good use. Again, kudos to all those involved. Keep up the good work and, for the sake of students and our reporters alike, keep your pudgy, washed-up singers where they belong — far away from Webster.

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COMMENTARY

Wash U. student disregards ethics, lies to get jailhouse interview



Brittany Whitlow

This was in no way an instance of championing for the public good, as journalists who use deception to get a story often state as thier intention.

I am ruthless and deceiving, and when tragedy strikes, it's all for the better if I can get a good story out of it. OK, I'm actually none of these things, but when I say I'm a journalist, that's what many people assume. Of course, there are journalists like this. Even if we do not know any personally, we've all seen movies featuring some reporter without a conscience who has no problem using lies and manipulation to get the scoop (the media's perpetuating stereotypes of the media — talk about irony).

Unfortunately, it does me no good to protest that we're not all like that when there are people like Susannah Cahalan running around, further soiling our already bad name.

Cahalan is a Washington University student and now much-talked-about correspondent for the *New York Post*. She managed to get two exclusive jailhouse interviews with Michael Devlin, the Kirkwood Imo's manager accused of kidnapping Missouri boys Ben Ownby and Shawn Hornbeck — at a time when no other reporters could.

She got the interviews because, according to Devlin's attorney, Michael Kielty, Cahalan signed in to the visitors' log as a friend. She told Devlin she was a local college student who was interested in the case, but she never identified herself as a member of the media.

Not only did Cahalan lie to get the interviews, but on top of that she preyed upon Devlin's loneliness. Devlin said he has lost contact with his friends and coworkers at Imo's and neither his parents nor his five siblings have visited him in prison, according to Cahalan's article.

The article describes Devlin's cheerfulness at finally having someone to talk to. Devlin could have refused to talk. But the guy is in solitary confinement, isolated even from his fellow prisoners. Anyone in that position would be desperate for a chat with someone who's not a lawyer or a prison guard.

Kielty does not know whether Devlin was informed that what he said in those two 15-minute interviews would make national headlines, according to the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*. However, in order to keep Cahalan's antics from affecting the outcome of the case, Devlin's lawyers have filed several new motions: one to disallow the interviews from being used against him in trial, one to stop news media from reporting about the interviews, one to have Devlin transferred to another jail and one to require his current jail in Franklin County to enforce its policy of visitation. Not surprisingly, this policy includes a reporter prohibition.

This already baffling case is becoming even more complicated, as Devlin's lawyers now have to take extreme caution to make sure no one else pulls a Cahalan on them.

When lying harms more than it helps, it shouldn't be done. However, sometimes it becomes necessary to lie: "This lasagna is delicious. Of course you're prettier than his new girlfriend. No, those pants don't make your butt look big."

We've all lied for the benefit of other people. I can't say Cahalan's motives were purely selfish, as only she can be the judge of that. Even if her intentions were to help, the consequences of her actions are just the opposite. If she meant to help Devlin — which I highly doubt, since the headline of her article refers to Devlin as a "'kidnap' creep" — she very well may have affected the fairness of the trial, which, no matter what Devlin did, is his right by law.

If she meant to help Ownby and Hornbeck, she only increased the media's and the public's obsession with this case, and hence, made it more difficult for the boys to lead normal lives. Plus, Devlin may not get the full punishment he deserves if his interviews with Cahalan are considered tainted evidence.

In the end, Cahalan's deception did not benefit anyone but herself and the *New York Post*, although the amount of negative reactions may have counteracted even that. It only made things more complicated for all parties involved in the case.

This was in no way an instance of championing for the public good, as journalists who use deception to get a story often state as their intention. Instead, all she has accomplished is perpetuating negative stereotypes of journalists and drawing unnecessary drama towards an already controversial case.

Brittany Whitlow, a sophomore journalism major, is a staff writer for The Journal.

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COMMENTARY

Boston officials' overreaction causes panic



Anthony Sodd

The overreaction of Boston officials does nothing but promote ... indifference towards a credible ... warning.

Bin Laden and Al-Qeada be warned: Ted Turner's "Cartoon Network" may have its eyes on spreading terror. At least Boston officials briefly thought so Jan. 31 after sending bomb squads to various locations around the city in response to several mysterious electronic devices found on bridges and highways.

Boston was virtually closed for hours before officials revealed the mysterious devices that prompted various highways and even a stretch of the Charles River to close were merely electronic light boards. The light boards were advertising for a late night "Cartoon Network" program, "Aqua Teen Hunger Force." The scare caused massive traffic backups and cost tax payers up to a million dollars.

"The great Lite-Brite scare of 2007" is over, and thankfully nothing was hurt, except the egos of several Boston officials. To the credit of Boston's anti-terrorism officials, they could have saved a lot of lives had they acted against a credible threat, or at least acted several weeks earlier when the electronic light boards were originally set up.

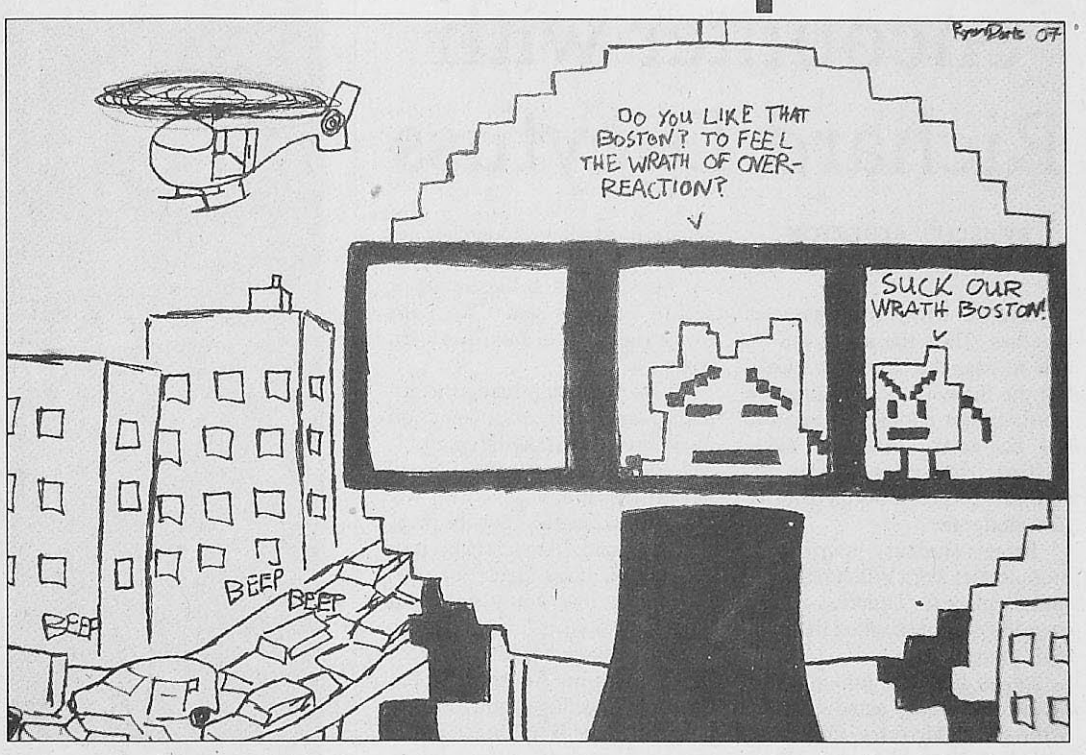
The guerrilla ad campaign featured a character called a Mooninite from "Aqua Teen Hunger Force" giving the middle finger on a light board similar to a Lite-Brite. The campaign started several weeks ago and took place in 10 cities. None of the other nine cities had any terrorism scares as a result of the campaign.

Boston Mayor Thomas Menino told the press, "the coordinated response by all departments proves the system we have in place works." In his defense, had the electronic light boards been bombs and had the departments acted on the suspicious objects several weeks earlier, then yes, the system would have worked.

Unfortunately for Menino, the objects were in place for several weeks, in 10 cities, with little to no attention paid to any of them by law enforcement agencies. If these devices were bombs, many of Boston's citizens, and the citizens of nine other cities, could have been killed and the departments Menino mentioned would have been blamed for not reacting quickly enough.

Apparently, it is no longer necessary for terrorists to blow up a building to shut down and cause panic in a major American city. All they have to do is put a glow-in-the-dark box on a bridge with some wires sticking out and call the police.

The overreaction of Boston officials does nothing but promote a culture of indifference towards a potentially credible terrorism warning in the future. If the citizens of a city are constantly bombarded by the false threat of terrorism, they will be less likely to act when future warnings emerge. Think of how Americans respond to the color-coded terrorism warning system after it is raised.



After hours of traffic jams, $1 million and two arrested men, the only real winner is the Turner Broadcasting System Inc., who owns Adult Swim. They have agreed to pay a fine of $2 million to the city of Boston for the money it spent investigating. That is pocket change in the world of Ted Tuner and television advertising.

The amount of publicity this stunt generated is sure to have more people talking than even the best Super Bowl ads, which cost almost $2.5 million for 30 seconds.

The two men arrested for placing the Lite-Brites, Peter Berdovsky, 27, and Sean Stevens, 28, were taking things lightly after being released from prison on $2,500 bond. They pleaded not guilty to placing a hoax device and disorderly conduct, for which they face up to five years in prison.

The men were even supported by a small band of protesters gathered outside of Boston's courthouse who demanded that the men not be charged. When the men were released they talked to journalists and camera crews about hairstyles in the 1970s.

Anthony Sodd, a senior global journalism major, is a staff writer for The Journal

Kentucky Derby winner struggled for too long



Breanna Herschelman

Barbaro didn't know he won the Kentucky Derby. To him it was it was probably like going out for a run.

For eight long months, Barbaro, the 2006 Kentucky Derby winner, underwent multiple surgeries for injuries he sustained during the Preakness Stakes race May 20, 2006. Barbaro was finally freed of his pain Jan. 29 when he was euthanized after surgical complications. His ordeal made headlines for months — and all for the sake of money.

Horseracing is a sport driven by risk taking and gambling. After the injury, Barbaro's life was one big risk for both doctors and the people funding his recovery. Millions of dollars traded hands for Barbaro's sake throughout his short life. These millions could have helped save the lives of countless other animals, not to mention humans.

It's disgusting how little attention Americans, particularly the media, give to human rights issues throughout the world. Most countries have had issues with human rights violators in some form or another — Sudan, Chad, Nigeria, Cambodia, El Salvador. Many people do not even know where to locate these countries on a map, much less know about their long histories with human rights violations.

In Nigeria, the government has taken away much of the funding for health care and education for its poorest citizens. Thousands of people die every day, not just from the violence, but from malnutrition as well, which is something others can help fix.

People forget about the issues in other countries. However, many remember the name Barbaro, or at least are familiar with his situation.

As of Feb. 1, more than 400 people left comments on just one editorial praising Barbaro in the *New York Times*. Barbaro was more than a horse; according to the comments he was an American icon. But why was he so adored by fans throughout the country? Barbaro wasn't necessarily an underdog; he did win the biggest horse race in the country.

USA Today gave Barbaro the front-page story Jan. 30 in the Sports section, as well as a full page inside and an editorial. It must have been a slow news day.

No one can say how Barbaro actually felt during his eight months of misery. Headlines across the country read he endured a brave fight. No one can say how brave Barbaro really was or how much his owners wanted to keep him alive for financial gain. It's not like Barbaro could tell us how he felt.

Granted, Barbaro probably would have made a great stud horse. Owners often make more money from studding the horses than racing them.

"We know horseracing can end a horse's life, and yet we continue to race these horses anyway. The horses have no say in the matter. And what are they racing for? Money for us, some vicarious concept of "glory" for them? It's ridiculous," political writer Jonathan David Morris said in the *Free Liberal*.

In his book "Animal Liberation," Australian philosophist and bioethicist Peter Singer defines the rights of beings as their capacity for suffering. According to the People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals' Web site, all animals have the same capacity for suffering as humans — and to the same degree. If this is true, I sure feel bad for Barbaro after all of the pain he beared.

The bottom line is Barbaro was a horse, just like any other horse, except with better breeding. Barbaro didn't know he won the Kentucky Derby. To him it was probably like going out for a run. What he did know was pain, and plenty more than most people or animals will ever endure. Barbaro was in pain for entirely too long. Any other horse would have been put down right after the injury.

Breanna Herschelman, a junior journalism major, is a staff writer for The Journal.

Tyra Banks' weight gain not national media fodder



Stephanie Cunningham

Women need to stand up and not dignify these illusions of physical beauty with our money, time and well-being.

It was simply astounding to turn on the television Jan. 29 to find model Tyra Banks on "Larry King Live" discussing her recent weight gain. The headline underneath her name read, "Tyra weighs in on 'fat' attack."

Being the semi-obsessed entertainment junkie I am, I put the remote down and began watching. Not long into the interview, my mouth began to drop rapidly to the floor. It was unbelievable that Tyra Banks' mere 15-pound weight gain warranted an entire episode of "Larry King." What was even more shocking was that Banks herself felt the need to justify her newly acquired pounds on national television.

A recent photo published in several tabloid magazines pictured Banks in a bathing suit in Australia. She caught the eyes of many due to her larger arms, legs and stomach.

Banks has infiltrated "Good Morning America," "Entertainment Tonight," "Extra" and the cover of People magazine while taking a long ride on the radio waves. For the past seven days, Banks has done nothing but scream out to the public in hopes of coming to terms with her weight gain. She said she feels even more beautiful and sexy than before.

It seems if Banks truly welcomes her new figure, she does not need to gallivant across the media to justify herself. She even took out an entire segment of her talk show to wear the same swimsuit she was pictured in the tabloids to show that she does not care what others think. Banks does not seem as though she is confident in her new body, but rather trying to cover up her insecurities through the media frenzy. She would have made a stronger statement to the public, and more importantly, to women, if she would not have even dignified these weight accusations with a response at all.

It is unbelievable that celebrities are scrutinized for their appearance to the point where any small change causes media buzz. First of all, most women do not care when an actress gains a few pounds. In fact, women probably enjoy seeing a somewhat less-than-perfect body in the media.

A woman can only take so much of the perfectly toned, airbrushed bodies that grace our magazine covers. Image after image, women are forced to accept these outrageous ideas of what they should look like.

It is no wonder eating disorders are on the rise due to these images. In November 2006, anorexia claimed the life of Brazilian model Ana Carolina Reston. She was 21 years old and weighed only 88 pounds at the time of her death. Reston allegedly ate only apples and tomatoes and often vomited after eating the fruit. Friends and family members said the model was obsessed with her weight and gaining additional pounds.

Women and society need to ask themselves what is causing women to take such extreme measures to stay thin. Perhaps it is the media putting pressure to look a certain way, and public's scrutiny over every flaw that drives these women to jeopardize their health.

The media is somewhat at fault for this growing epidemic. If the media did not constantly tell women they are not beautiful enough, skinny enough or strong enough, women would be able to hold themselves to a higher standard and maybe not starve themselves to death.

However, at some point women need to take a definite stance on the issue. Blaming the media can only continue for so long. At some point, women need to stand up and not dignify these illusions of physical beauty with our money, time and well-being. If women stopped buying into the pseudo-perfect illustrations of what a woman should look like, then maybe other women could come to grips with a realistic self-image.

Stephanie Cunningham a sophomore journalism major, is a staff writer for The Journal.

Webster has close encounter with Richard Dreyfuss

BY KELLEY ATHERTON
katherton@webujournal.com

Breathe when the character breathes. Then the actor will be able to hear the character speaking the lines. Understanding the words is not enough to become the character. This was actor Richard Dreyfuss' advice to upperclass Conservatory of Theater Arts students.

Three students performed monologues from William Shakespeare's plays for Dreyfuss and he gave advice and coached them on their performance.

Steven Pierce, a junior musical theater major, acted out one of the villain Iago's speeches from "Othello." He said having Dreyfuss watch him actually put him at ease.

"He made me feel relaxed," Pierce said. "There was no pressure. He gave me good, tangible advice."

Dreyfuss (star of "Jaws," "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" and "The Goodbye Girl") spoke Feb. 3 at a master class for the Conservatory at in the Emerson Studio Theater in the Loretto-Hilton Center. A master class is a workshop with a guest speaker who works with students on different aspects of theater.

> *"Shakespeare is like snails or sushi. You can't love it right out of the box."*
> -Richard Dreyfuss

Dreyfuss also spoke the same night at the Sheldon Concert Hall for the Shakespeare Festival of St. Louis. Peter Sargent, professor and dean of the Leigh Gerdine College of Fine Arts, said in an e-mail Dreyfuss' visit was arranged through the SFSTL and currently no one else is lined up to visit campus.

"Outside speakers speak to the Conservatory on a fairly regularly basis, and these are usually tied into visiting productions at the (Fabulous Fox Theatre) and members of the Repertory Theatre casts," Sargent said. "We probably will have other visitors (this semester), but they are scheduled on the good will of those in town."

Dreyfuss discussed his thoughts on Shakespeare's works, portraying Shakespeare's characters on stage and how he became an actor.

Dreyfuss considers Shakespeare to be "the single most important person of the last millennium." This is mainly because of Shakespeare's ability to create human emotion in fantastical situations. Stories from over 400 years ago can relate to our daily lives. The situations are different and wildly dramatic, but the basic emotions of love, hatred, revenge and passion are the same. He said one has to really study Shakespeare in order to appreciate his works.

"Shakespeare is like snails or sushi," Dreyfuss said. "You can't love it right out the box. You learn to love it."

While Dreyfuss made the audience laugh with his musings on Shakespeare, he noted that, ironically, Shakespeare's comedies are not actually funny.

"The comedies are boring," Dreyfuss said. "Anyone who says it's funny is lying. Everyone who thought it was funny has been dead for 400 years."

What made Shakespeare "it" he said, was not his comedy, but the intense feelings and emotions he invoked in his writings. Shakespeare showed what it means to be human.

"You name a sensation somewhere in the cave in your head and it says 'Shakespeare was here' on the wall," Dreyfuss said.

Dreyfuss has appeared in more than 40 films and won an Academy Award for Best Actor for "The Goodbye Girl" in 1977. Lately, he has focused on theater, including some Shakespeare. On stage, he has played Iago from "Othello," Cassius from "Julius Caesar" and directed "Hamlet." He also played a flamboyant, hunchback version of Richard III (from "Richard III") in "The Goodbye Girl."

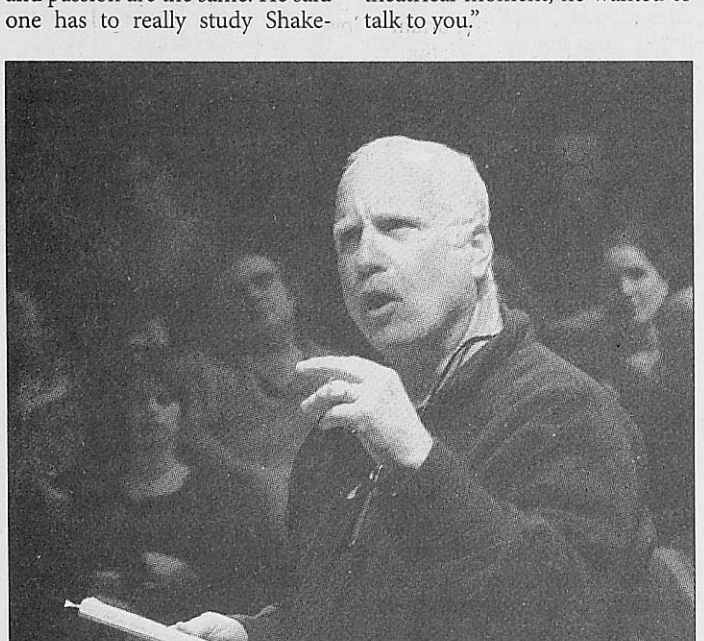
Dreyfuss said he knew he wanted to be an actor when he was 9 years old. At age 16 he knew he wanted to do Shakespeare when he saw John Gielgud's one-man show "The Ages of Man." Gielgud performed excerpts from various Shakespeare plays and Dreyfuss was struck at how poignantly and beautifully Gielgud spoke the words.

Seeing Gielgud gave him a reason to be not just an actor, but a good actor. Gielgud inspired him to touch people's emotions with his performance, he said.

"To speak lines so beautifully, it ennobled me," Dreyfuss said. "It's a reason to love acting, to participate in acting. To perhaps speak the words and illuminate and move people so greatly … I knew what magic was possible."

He said it is more fun thinking about Shakespeare than performing it. He left the audience with his observation that there is no great secret to unlock in Shakespeare's works. It is what it is: an interpretation of how humans think and justifications for their actions.

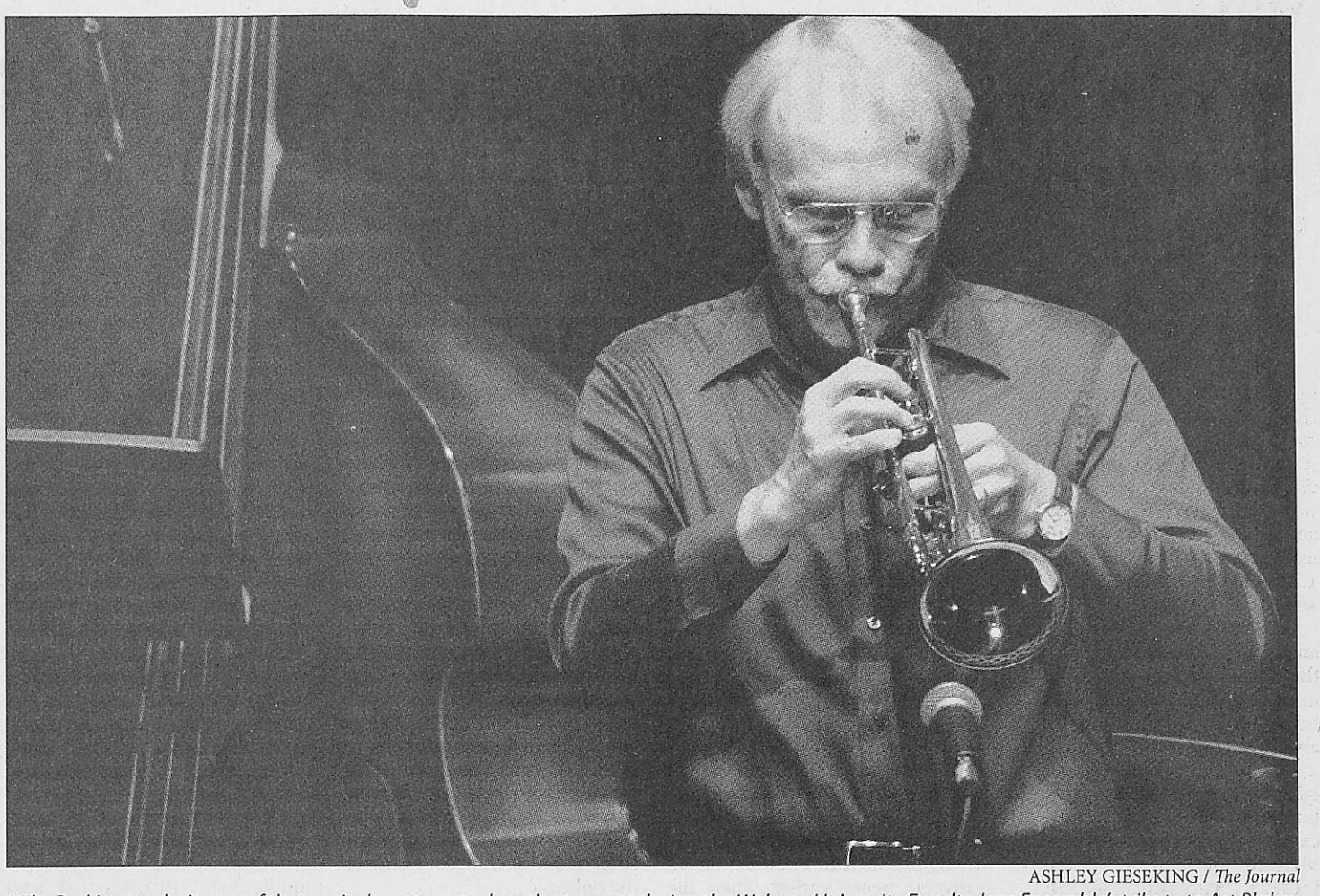
"The secret is there is no secret," Dreyfuss said. "The plays are about how we think and nothing else. He didn't care about the theatrical moment; he wanted to talk to you."



JAMIE FORD / *The Journal*

Award-winning actor Richard Dreyfuss spoke Feb. 3 to Conservatory students about acting and Shakespeare.

For reviews of "Our Daily Bread," "Last Tango in Paris" and "Cocaine Cowboys," visit our Web site at http://www.webujournal.com



ASHLEY GIESEKING / *The Journal*

Mike Parkinson, chairman of the music department, plays the trumpet during the Webster University Faculty Jazz Ensemble's tribute to Art Blakey Feb. 5 in the Winifred Moore Auditorium.

Faculty play 'For the Sake of Art'

Famed drummer Art Blakey remembered through jazz tribute concert

BY JON BAIRD
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The house lights dimmed in the Winifred Moore Auditorium, and with two fast notes, the six members of the Faculty Jazz Ensemble jumped into the uptempo "One by One." Cymbals buzzed and the powerful sounds of trumpet, trombone and saxophone bounced powerfully off the arched ceiling.

"For the Sake of Art," a tribute to drummer and bandleader Art Blakey, who died in 1990, is the latest show from the Webster Jazz Faculty Ensemble. About 100 people attended the Feb. 5 show at the Winifred Moore.

The ensemble featured members of the Webster jazz faculty, including music chairman Michael Parkinson on trumpet, associate music professor Paul DiMarinis on tenor saxophone, professional musician Wayne Coniglio on trombone, associate music professor Kim Portnoy on piano and adjunct music professor Kevin Gianino on drums.

The show also featured special guest and 1985 Webster alum Steve Kirby on bass. Kirby is a former member of Webster's jazz faculty and has played with several well-known jazz musicians, including Wynton Marsalis, Cyrus Chestnut and drumming icon Elvin Jones. He is currently the director of jazz studies at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, Canada.

Blakey is best known as the leader of his band, Art Blakey and the Jazz Messengers, which jumpstarted the careers of many young jazz musicians. Blakey's Messengers have included trumpeters Clifford Brown, Wynton Marsalis, pianists Bobby Timmons and Horace Silver and saxophonists Hank Mobley and Wayne Shorter.

Highlights of the set included "Kozo's Waltz" and "Lester Left Town," in which Kirby's bass solos tested the higher registers of his upright bass. Other songs included "Nica's Dream," written by pianist Horace Silver, as well as the Wayne Shorter composition "Children of the Night."

Parkinson introduced "Children of the Night" by recalling what Shorter wrote about the meaning of the song.
"It's about vampires," Parkinson said with a smile.

In Blakey's spot behind the drums was Gianino, who described the drum parts as an exciting challenge.

"It's a lot of big rolls, mostly," Gianino said. "There are more of his tunes that involve a little more of his trademark moves, but he's certainly got a style."

Gianino's playing on his small drum setup seemed to channel Blakey himself, and the sound had surprising authority.

The horn players captured the complicated melodies note for note, and they traded solos throughout every song. All the while, Kirby walked and thumped his way around the neck of his upright bass, rounding out the sound and reminding his bandmates why he's had so many high-profile gigs.

Kirby described the feeling of developing into a skilled musician, specifically his time playing with the legendary Elvin Jones, who died in 2004.

"It's a great life," Kirby said. "When you get to be Elvin Jones' bass player, that's like being an astronaut. There's only a few of those, and now that he's gone, there won't be any more."

Kirby was invited to join the ensemble by DiMarinis and Parkinson, who chose the set list for the concert. The ensemble is composed entirely of faculty in the jazz department, and the instrumentalists vary depending on the program.

Members of the ensemble will play "Crossing the Bridge," a tribute to saxophonist Sonny Rollins, Feb. 19 in the Winifred Moore.

Spring Spectacular begins with pop

BY BRITTANY L. WHITLOW
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The ground outside was blanketed in snow — but that didn't put a damper on the excitement inside the West Hall Multipurpose Room, where Spring Spectacular kicked off on the night of Jan. 31.

Spring Spectacular is a series of eight events happening throughout the semester. Residents can earn points for their floor or building, culminating in a prize to be awarded in May to the winning floor and building. Pop Culture Trivia Challenge: Part II was the first event of the semester.

"The cool thing about pop culture is that it does the work for you," said resident assistant Bailey Barrett, a senior creative writing major. "People are interested in it because they remember."

Part I of the challenge was held last semester during September Spectacular events, which took place in the middle of that month. All of September Spectacular was condensed into two weeks, whereas Spring Spectacular features one event every two weeks, allowing "enough time for publicity and to get pumped," Barrett said. Barrett is a resident assistant for the Webster Village Apartments and is co-chair of the Spring Spectacular committee, along with West Hall RA Mac Ingram, a junior political science major.

September Spectacular was such a success that Barrett and Ingram began planning for Spring Spectacular during RA winter training. Ingram said 78 people participated in September Spectacular, but Spring Spectacular's turnout this semester was about half that, despite advertising via flyers, word of mouth and Facebook, which lets users R.S.V.P. to an event by selecting "attending," "maybe attending" or "not attending."

Ingram said he was expecting more of the "maybes" to show up. However, less people didn't mean less enthusiasm.

"The first time had more people, but I thought there was more excitement this time around," Barrett said. "I couldn't hear anything because people were cheering. People were more into it."

The format of Spring Spectacular's Pop Culture Trivia Challenge was different from the one in September. The new and improved challenge featured 20 specific categories with five questions per category. Ingram and Barrett wrote the questions for the categories, including "Celebrity Crime and Punishment," "1990s Sitcoms" and "One-Hit Wonders."

The six teams (named after popular '80s bands) were divided between East Hall floors, West Hall floors and WVA buildings, with two to four floors and buildings represented per team. A table was set up with six buzzers, one for each team representative. Each team sent one member up to the table per round, and the winner of each round received a box of candy hearts. Some rounds had additional prizes, such as a toy laser gun or a mermaid doll.

Junior Kyle Jobin, a film studies major who represented Building 6 of the WVA for Team Talking Heads, ended up being the dark horse of the competition, correctly answering nearly every movie-related question — often before the question was even completed.

"I grew up on movies," Jobin said. "I watch movies all the time, and it's my study. I'm really good at trivia, so I decided to crash the place."

His extensive knowledge of movies impressed the crowd. "Who is that guy?" one freshman kept repeating with mounting astonishment. Eventually Barrett and Ingram made an executive judges' decision to retire Jobin from the competition. Jobin felt the decision was a fair one.

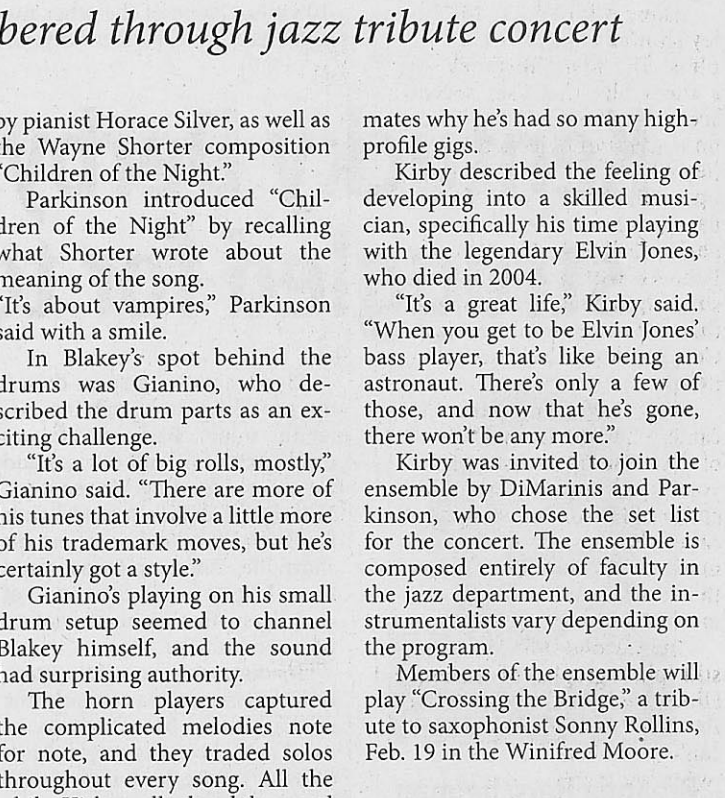
"I wanted other people to go up, but they kept sitting down, so I kept going up," he said.

At the end of the 20 rounds, Team Talking Heads, which consisted of WVA buildings one and six as well as West Hall floors one south and two north, had 129 points. As the winning team, the Talking Heads got to choose one member to go up against Ingram in a special lightning round for which Barrett wrote and hid them in a sealed envelope.

Jobin was back in the game. He beat Ingram five questions to one, scoring an additional 20 points for his team. Team Culture Club (WVA Building 4 and West Hall floor three south) won second place with 91 points, followed closely by Team Depeche Mode (West Hall floor four north and East Hall third floor) with 90 points.

Upcoming Spring Spectacular events, chaired by various RAs, include a Feb. 12 blood drive, a Very '80s Valentine's Dance Feb. 16, a 2-Ball tournament (a game played with a pool table and two balls) and dodgeball in March, a Texas Hold 'Em Tournament and geocaching (a game of high-tech treasure hunting) in April and a Cheesy Game Show Night in May. Residents can earn points for their floor or building by attending.

"In residential life, you lose some of that floor and building spirit you have in the beginning, so we're trying to bring it back," Ingram said.



JEFF CURRY / *The Journal*

Jason Rich jumps with joy after answering a question correctly during the Spring Spectacular Pop Culture Trivia Night Jan. 31 in the West Hall Multipurpose Room.

ART LECTURE

Video clip celebrates artist's 'Birthday'

BY JENNIFER GINGER
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Jessika Miekeley's soft, lightly accented voice was the dominant element in the room, competing only with the faint hum of a projector displaying slides of her artwork. Miekeley, who hosted an art exhibition at Webster in October, returned Feb. 2 as a speaker for the Art Lecture Series.

The Art Lecture Series is an ongoing program through the art department at Webster in which different artists are invited to speak to students about their work.

About 50 people attended the lecture in Sverdrup building room 123 for a concentrated introduction to Miekeley's art and the various mediums with which she has worked, including ink, watercolor, photography and clay. The opening slide, a watercolor painting of a brown man's head with a tangled, overpowering web of black dreadlocks, was one of the many pieces Miekeley displayed and discussed.

Along with slides, Miekeley showed clips of two of her films. The first, "Birthday," is a silent film that uses seven-second increments to focus on a series of objects that appeared in a sequence of close-ups. "Birthday" was filmed using hues of deep reds, oranges, yellows and browns. It opens with a close-up of a somber girl staring into space, then cuts to a mouth, a Coca-Cola bottle and various other items.

After several minutes, the camera moves from the use of the close-up and shows the young girl among a group of children in front of a birthday cake, allowing the viewer to make a connection between the various scenes shown just moments before.

The second film featured still photographs of various athletes playing soccer in a Brazilian gymnasium. The camera panned the battle between two teams — one in red, the other in yellow — creating a motion effect.

An operatic ballad accompanied by strings played in the background as the views of soccer players, goals and the backs of players' heads floated across the screen. Though the film included sound, Miekeley said she was unsure about using it because she prefers the emphasis to remain on the image rather than the sound.

Miekeley showed a series of photographs titled "Prejudice" that featured a pale yellow puff jacket that sat upon an armless blue chair. The jacket was shown in a succession of photos shot from various angles, with the jacket taking on different shapes.

Another piece, "American Framing," focused on the back of an unidentified middle-aged male. Each photograph was shot in nightfall and showcased different outdoor locations. Miekeley said her intent in "American Framing" was to compose the photos as a storyboard and let the viewer make the connections between images.

Born in Berlin, Miekeley moved to St. Louis in 2005. She described the theme of her work as subjective, and said she likes to use scale to amplify her work by diminishing its size.

Senior Andrea Blind, a studio art major, attended the lecture, which was required in her art forum course. Blind said she usually sees an idea in the featured artists' work to strengthen her own and often acquires a different way of looking at things.

Erinn Gavaghan is the instructor of art forum, the course that incorporates the lecture series with its curriculum. Gavaghan, a graduate student in art history and criticism, said she liked Miekeley's drawings and the use of small scale on large canvas.

The next lecture will feature sculptor Karyn Oliver at noon Feb. 9 in Sverdrup building, room 123. Her work is currently on display at Laumeier Sculpture Park and Museum, located at 12580 Rott Road.

Bring on the candy hearts

From heartache help to smart film choices, some useful tips for those who want to celebrate Feb. 14

Where to take that special someone

BY KIRK WATKINS
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Valentine's Day is finally here. If you are looking forward to spoiling that special someone, here are some recommendations for the romantic at heart.

1. Beall Mansion Bed and Breakfast
Voted "Illinois' Best Bed and Breakfast" by Illinois magazine, you have a choice of either Feb. 14 or the weekends of Feb. 9 and 10, or Feb. 16 and 17. Spa and massage packages are available, and if you go on weekdays you can save a little of the cost and reinvest that in some flowers or chocolates. Packages range in price from $159 to $219. For more information, visit *http://www.beallmansion.com*.

2. Valentine's Diversity Weekend
This Eureka Springs event takes place Feb. 16 through 18. Relax with your loved one in this sumptuous town, join other couples at the Mimosa Brunch, check out the Eureka Gras Parade and the Valentine's Diversity Dance in the evening.
For more information, go to *http://www.eurekapride.com/events*.

3. Spa Packages
If a weekend getaway isn't possible, how about something a little less extravagant? The Aesthetics Institute in Overland offers manicures and pedicures, facials and warm-stone massages. Students at the institute perform services for less than $100. Information can be found at *http://www.aestheticsinst.com*.

4. A Very '80s Valentine's Day Dance
This is for those who love the '80s, love to dance and don't want to leave campus. Residential Life and the Spring Spectacular Committee are hosting the dance from 7 to 10 p.m. Feb. 16 in the University Center Sunnen Lounge.

Where to meet that someone special

BY KELLEY ATHERTON
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For those who are single this Valentine's Day there are several ways to celebrate.

1. Eye Candy: A Social Mixer for St. Louis Singles
The party includes music by DJ Kenny Kingston, prizes, a silent auction and complimentary valet parking at the corner of 12th and Lynch streets. This is not just a chance to meet other single people; this event also benefits a good cause. All proceeds go to the American Heart Association's "Go Red for Women" campaign to eliminate heart disease in women. This party rages from 7 to 11 p.m. Feb. 8 at the Mad Art Gallery, located at 2727 S. 12th Street in Soulard. Tickets are $20 in advance or $25 at the door. For more information and tickets, go to *http://www.movinstlouis.com*.

2. Bitter Babes Bash
Z107.7 FM sponsors the Bitter Babes Bash for single men and women from 8 to 11 p.m. Feb. 9 at America's Pub in Westport, 621 Westport Plaza Drive. From 8 to 9 p.m. there will be "live entertainment," and at 11 p.m. a balloon drop with cash and prizes. Check out *http://www.z1077.com* for more information.

3. Free Hugs
This isn't really an event, but an idea to celebrate Valentine's Day without having to go anywhere. Entertainment merchandiser BandMerch, Inc. and Juan Mann, founder of the non-profit organization Free Hugs Campaign, designed Free Hugs T-shirts available for $19.95 at *http://www.bandmerch.com/freehugscampaign*. Free Hugs is a campaign to help create human connection and compassion through hugging. For information about the organization, visit *http://www.freehugscampaign.org*.

4. Cupid's Workshop
The Writing Center holds workshops on writing research papers and developing a resume, so why not one that helps you write the perfect Valentine's Day card? Come between noon and 2 p.m. Feb. 12 to the University Center Commons for this literary experience. For more information, contact the Writing Center at ext. 8644.

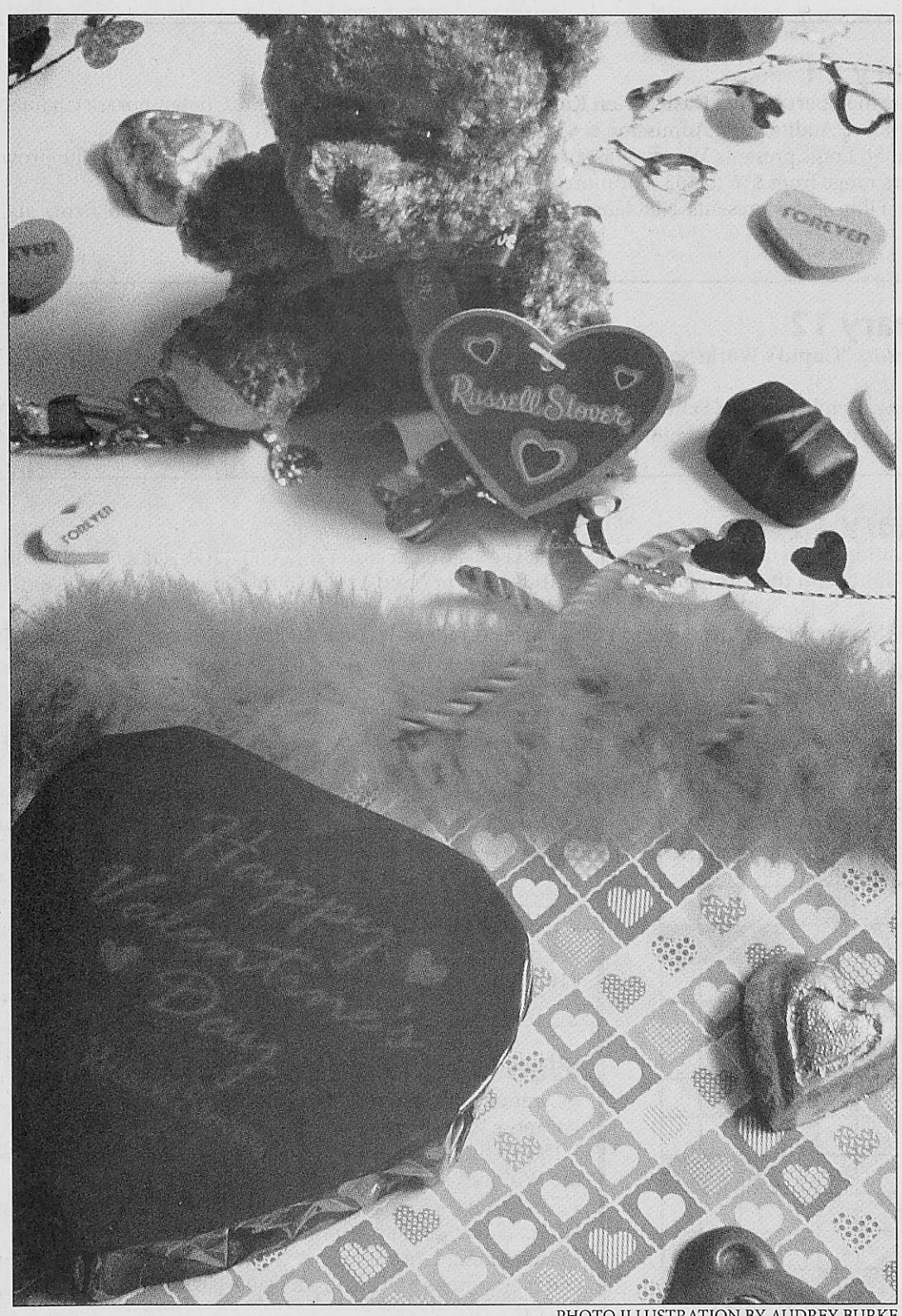

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY AUDREY BURKE

All you need is love ... and therapy

BY JAMES CHILTON
jchilton@webujournal.com

In the spring, young people's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love. In the dead of winter, however, students might need all the help they can get. Fortunately, when a couple needs relationship advice, Webster is here to help.

In their combined 25 years of experience at Webster's Counseling and Life Development Office, Director Robert Stack and Assistant Director Gladys Smith have learned a few things about what makes for a healthy — or unhealthy — relationship.

- One of the biggest mistakes couples tend to make when they first get involved, Stack and Smith agreed, is failing to get to know one another. As the relationship evolves and the couple begins to see one another as they really are, they don't always like what they see.

"People can be in an unhealthy relationship and not even realize it," Smith said.

- She said another difficult part of a relationship is clearly defining when it begins and when it ends, to ensure neither person makes incorrect assumptions about where the relationship stands.

"Beginnings and endings are especially important with relationships," she said. "It's very important to (know when) to end a relationship."

- Couples may not always have the same expectations either, and Smith said relationships can take many forms — from deep, emotional commitments and intimate friendships to relationships of convenience and casual sexual dalliances.

"There are many different types of relationships, and people don't often realize that," Smith said. "Relationships can morph into a lot of things."

- Stack and Smith agree a positive relationship with one's self is perhaps the most important relationship a person can have.

"The more I can accept myself, the more I can accept another person," Stack said. "The more (couples) differentiate from one another, the closer they are."

- Whether two people are meant for each other or not, Stack said honesty is the best policy.

"That's how growth takes place: (being) honest with yourself," he said. "Secrets are always poison."

- Another sign Stack looks out for are couples who say they need each other. He said when two people want to be together, it's far more powerful than any need.

"When love is tied up with need, I question the authenticity of it," he said. "You've eliminated the radical freedom of asking, 'Do I want to be involved with this person?'"

- While they don't typically counsel people who are casually dating, Stack and Smith both advocate it.

"Dating allows you to get to know yourself," Stack said. "There's no commitment in dating, but there is a degree of respect."

- Two things Stack said to avoid when casually dating: saying "I love you" and having sex. Each of these is a powerful gesture, Stack said, that can leave one person much more emotionally invested than the other.

"Both have a responsibility to nurture this thing called a relationship," he said. "Love is not a feeling, it's a choice."

Students seeking relationship counseling can contact Stack or Smith in the Counseling and Life Development Office at ext. 7030.

A guide to mushy movies for the casual viewer

BY MARIA ADAMS
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As Valentine's Day rolls around, thoughts tend to turn to romance. This may be the acknowledgment of it, the longing for it or simply the resentment of it. Still, whatever the case may be, Valentine's Day puts love stories in the spotlight. In commemoration of this, I have compiled a list of my 10 favorite romantic films. These 10 films repeatedly manage to make me feel warm and fuzzy — and just the tiniest bit bitter inside.

"The Clock" (Vincente Minnelli, 1945) — Two strangers try to make the most of a soldier's two-day leave in New York City. Judy Garland and Robert Walker give touching performances as a couple building a connection against the strains of time.

"Marty" (Delbert Mann, 1955) — This is the story of an unattractive man (Ernest Borgnine) who becomes interested in an equally undesirable girl (Betsy Blair). His friends and family put her down. Now, he has to decide whether he should listen to them or to his heart. This is a touching, Academy Award-winning story about seeing the good inside of a person over one's physical self.

"A Patch of Blue" (Guy Green, 1965) — In the time of racial tensions, "A Patch of Blue" was one of the films to attempt to bridge the gap. A blind girl falls in love with a black man, who provides her the sole kindness in her life. Sidney Poitier is wonderful, as always, and Elizabeth Hartman makes the impressive debut of her short-lived film career.

"The Princess Bride" (Rob Reiner, 1987) — This film captures a little bit of everything as the quintessential storybook romance. A dashing pirate hero rescues his true love from the schemes of her soon-to-be husband, the prince. This is a wonderful fantasy film with an all-star cast headed by Cary Elwes and Robin Wright Penn. It is one of the few movies that manages to appeal to viewers of all ages and interests.

"Sabrina" (Billy Wilder, 1954) — Audrey Hepburn has never been so lovely as the chauffeur's daughter who falls in love with the son of her father's wealthy employer, much to the objection of his family. This is the best Cinderella story I have seen thus far.

"Sense and Sensibility" (Ang Lee, 1995) — With all of the grand romance period pieces have to offer, this one surpasses all others. The performances from Emma Thompson, Alan Rickman and Kate Winslet are exquisite, the scenery is lovely and the story is sentimental without being sappy.

"She's So Lovely" (Nick Cassavetes, 1997) — This is the least conventional romance on the list. A woman (Robin Wright Penn) turns her hot-headed husband (Sean Penn) over to a sanitarium. However, years later, she still maintains a passion for him that surpasses the new life she has built for herself with a new family. Sean Penn has never been better than as the pitiable amd impassioned ex-husband.

"Two for the Road" (Stanley Donen, 1967) — This is a story about the changing forms of love. The film follows a married couple (Albert Finney and Audrey Hepburn) through their many ups and downs. It interweaves many different stages within the couple's relationship as they face the challenges of life together.

"When Harry Met Sally" (Rob Reiner, 1989) — This is a film that has always been recognized for its romantic elements. It also is the only Meg Ryan film I would allow to enter the list. However, the real reason this film places here is because of Billy Crystal's speech at the New Year's Party. It includes my all-time favorite mushy movie line.

"While You Were Sleeping" (Jon Turteltaub, 1995) — I saw this film more times in the theater than any other. It is a sweet story about romantic love, but even more about the love of family. Sandra Bullock and Bill Pullman take the lead roles in this ensemble cast. It may be an outlandish storyline, but I have never seen such realistic family dialogue.

The Venue

A calendar of upcoming events on campus and around town



Thursday, February 8

• Campus Activities sponsors **bowling league sign-ups** from 10 a.m. to noon in the University Center Presentation Room. There is a $10 registration fee. Five players with ID numbers and a team name are needed to sign up. For more information, call ext. 7708.

• Campus Activities sponsors the **"Red Hot Fashion Show,"** followed by the movie "Zoolander" from 9:45 to 11:45 p.m. in the UC Sunnen Lounge. For more information, call ext. 7708.

• MOViN 101.1 and St. Louis Magazine sponsor **"Eye Candy - a Social Mixer for St. Louis Singles,"** from 7 to 11 p.m. at the Mad Art Gallery, located at 2727 S. 12th Street. Tickets are $20 in advance and $25 at the door. There is complimentary valet parking at the corner of 12th and Lynch Streets in Historic Soulard. Proceeds benefit the American Heart Association's "Go Red for Women." For more information, call 205-0304 or visit *http://www.movinstlouis.com.*

• The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis presents Wendy Wassertein's **"The Heidi Chronicles"** at 8 p.m. on the Browning Mainstage in the Loretto-Hilton Center. Ticket prices range from $16 to $63. For more information, call ext. 4925.

Friday, February 9

• The **Juilliard Jazz Small Ensemble,** featuring **Victor Goines**, performs at 8 p.m. in The Sheldon Concert Hall, located at 3648 Washington Blvd. Admission for students is $5 and adults is $15. For more information, call 533-9900 or visit *http://www.sheldonconcerthall.org.*

• Sculptor and installation artist **Karyn Olivier** speaks as part of the Friday Artist Lecture Series at noon in room 123 of the Sverdrup Building. For more information, call ext. 7171.

• **Jeanne Trevor** performs at 8:30 and 10:15 p.m. at Jazz at the Bistro, located at 3536 Washington Ave. Admission is $15. For more information, call 289-4030.

• The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis presents Wendy Wassertein's **"The Heidi Chronicles"** at 8 p.m. on the Browning Mainstage in the Loretto-Hilton Center. Ticket prices range from $16 to $63. For more information, call ext. 4925.

• The Webster University Film Series presents Nikolaus Geyrhalter's **"Our Daily Bread" (Unser täglich Brot)** at 7 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium.

Saturday, February 10

• **The Fred Hersch Ensemble** performs "Leaves of Grass" at 8 p.m. in The Sheldon Concert Hall, located at 3648 Washington Blvd. Orchestra seating is $30 and balcony seating is $25. For more information, call 533-9900 or visit *http://www.sheldonconcerthall.org.*

• The Webster University Film Series presents Nikolaus Geyrhalter's **"Our Daily Bread" (Unser täglich Brot)** at 7 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium.

• The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis presents Wendy Wassertein's **"The Heidi Chronicles"** at 5 p.m. on the Browning Mainstage in the Loretto-Hilton Center. Ticket prices range from $16 to $63. For more information, call ext. 4925.

• **Jeanne Trevor** performs at 8:30 and 10:15 p.m. at Jazz at the Bistro, located at 3536 Washington Ave. Admission is $15. For more information, call 289-4030.

Sunday, February 11

• Webster University faculty members **Payula Kasica, Ken Kulosa** and **Vera Parkin** perform the Contemporary Chamber Concert "Voice of the Whale" at 4 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium. Admission is $5. For more information, call ext. 7032.

• The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis presents Wendy Wassertein's **"The Heidi Chronicles"** at 2 and 7 p.m. on the Browning Mainstage in the Loretto-Hilton Center. Ticket prices range from $16 to $63. For more information, call ext. 4925.

• The Webster University Film Series presents Nikolaus Geyrhalter's **"Our Daily Bread" (Unser täglich Brot)** at 7 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium.

Monday, February 12

• The Writing Center sponsors **"Cupid's Workshop – A Valentine's Day Card Station"** from noon to 2 p.m. in the UC. For more information, call ext. 7589.

• Webster University faculty members **Steve Schenkel, Carolbeth True** and 2005 alumna **Ashley Mason** perform **"World on a String: 75 Years of American Song"** at 7 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium. Admission is $5. For more information, call ext. 7032.

Tuesday, February 13

• The School of Communications presents **Fernando Barrio**, Des Lee visiting Lecturer for Global Awareness, who will discuss **"Current Developments in Intellectual Property Rights and their Impact on the Media"** from noon to 1 p.m. in the Emerson Library Conference Room. Bring your lunch. Admission is free.

• The St. Louis Zoo Friends Speaker Series presents Peruvian marine ecologist Patricia Majluf to speak on **"Humboldt Penguin Conservation"** at 7:30 p.m. in The Living World at the St. Louis Zoo. The lecture is $5 for Zoo Friends members, $8 for the general public and $3 for students. For more information, call 781-0900, ext. 233 or visit *http://www.stlzoo.org.*

• Campus Activities sponsors **illusionist Wayne Hoffman** from 9:30 to 11 p.m. in the UC Sunnen Lounge. For more information, call ext. 7708.

• The Webster University Film Series presents Bernardo Bertolucci's **"Last Tango In Paris" (Ultimo tango a Parigi)** at 7 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium.

• **Tim Schall** performs "George Gershwin: A Musical Portrait" at 10 a.m. in The Sheldon Concert Hall, located at 3648 Washington Blvd. Orchestra seating is $12 and balcony seating is $10. For more information, call 533-9900 or visit *http://www.sheldonconcerthall.org.*

• The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis presents Wendy Wassertein's **"The Heidi Chronicles"** at 8 p.m. on the Browning Mainstage in the Loretto-Hilton Center. Ticket prices range from $16 to $63. For more information, call ext. 4925.

Wednesday, February 14

• Campus Activities sponsors **Boot Camp** from 7:45 to 8:45 a.m. in the Grant Gymnasium. For more information, call ext. 7708.

• The Webster University Film Series presents the **Rural Route Film Festival** at 7 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium.

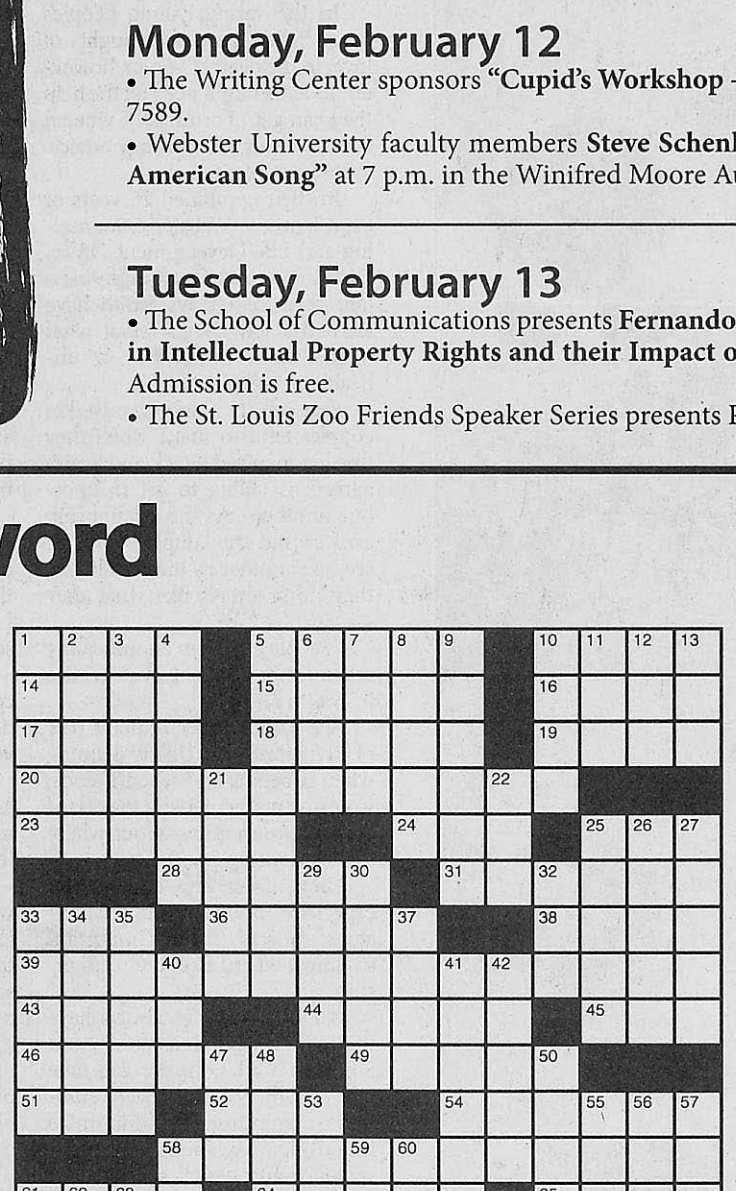
• Campus Activities sponsors **swing dance lessons** from 9:30 to 10:30 p.m. in the Loretto-Hilton dance studio. For more information, call ext. 7708.

• Campus Activities sponsors **Gorlok Spirit Night** for the men's basketball game at 6 p.m. and the women's basketball game at 8 p.m. in the Grant Gymnasium. For more information, call ext. 7708.

• The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis presents Wendy Wassertein's **"The Heidi Chronicles"** at 1:30 and 8 p.m. on the Browning Mainstage in the Loretto-Hilton Center. Ticket prices range from $16 to $63. For more information, call ext. 4925.

Crossword

ACROSS
1 Run smoothly
5 Utter disorder
10 Trial group
14 Rolling in it
15 Come from behind
16 Fencing foil
17 Italian eight
18 City on Ruhr
19 "Baseball Tonight" channel
20 Marksman
23 Greetings
24 Plopped down
25 Tilly or Ryan
28 More artful
31 Coleridge's palace
33 Lawyer's letters
36 Unprepared comment
38 Gymnast Korbut
39 Hurricane or flood, e.g.
43 Villainous
44 Hollers
45 Tack on
46 Powered bikes
49 Does in, as a dragon
51 Cen. units
52 Sci-fi creatures
54 Attractive places?
58 Hauler
61 Arnaz Sr. or Jr.
64 Pitcher Hideki
65 Pennsylvania port city
66 Court cry
67 Showed again
68 Go-fer
69 Saxophonist Stan
70 Paddle
71 More than half



By Barry Silk
McLean, VA

2/12/07

DOWN
1 First-year students
2 Loose-limbed
3 Like base 8
4 Fingerprint convolutions
5 "Troilus and __"
6 Leftover meal
7 Not to mention
8 Butter wannabes
9 Study of word patterns
10 Abuse vocally
11 FedEx rival
12 Sales pro
13 Japanese cash
21 Of the Arctic
22 Greek letter
25 Valletta's nation
26 Sidled
27 Watchman
29 __ May Clampett
30 Carnival attractions
32 Discouraging words
33 Military adversary
34 Really enjoy
35 Trademark swabs
37 Tab
40 Glob or mod ending
41 Dramatic basket
42 Thus far
47 Dolores __ Rio
48 Domestic flights?
50 Piercing cry
53 Throat disorder
55 Odd souvenir
56 Digestive juices
57 Type of target shooting
58 Effervesce
59 Theda of silent films
60 Israeli statesman Abba
61 Canis familiaris
62 Hurricane heart
63 Solidify

Saturday's Puzzle Solved

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2/12/07

Want your event listed in The Venue? E-mail us at *calendar@webujournal.com*

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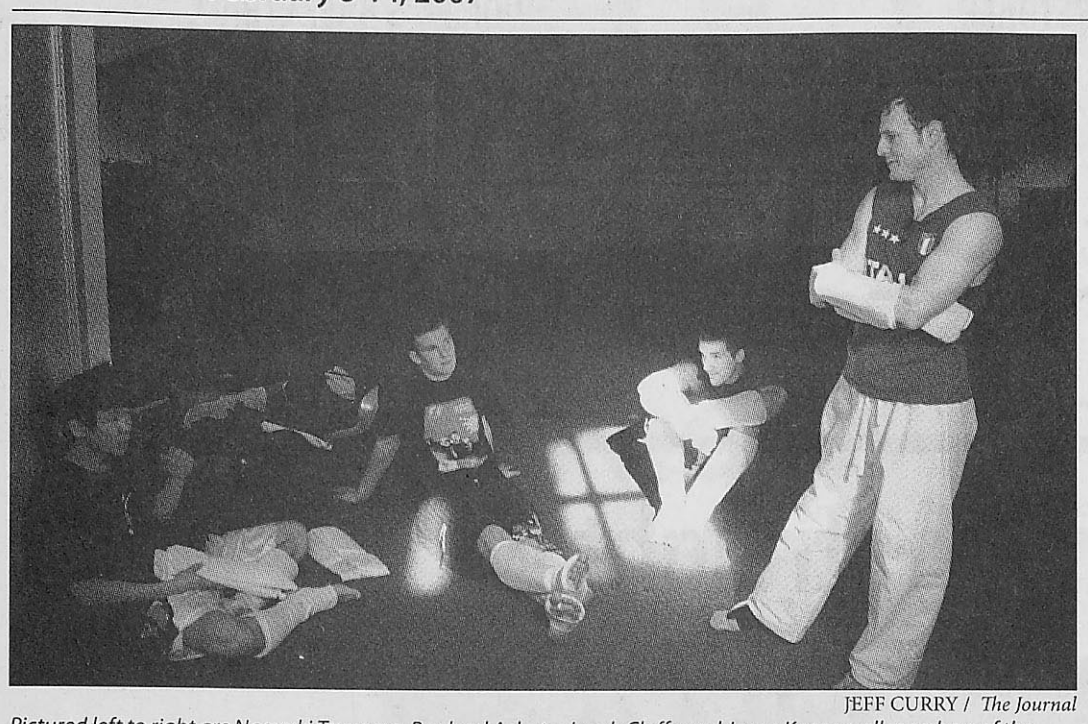


JEFF CURRY / *The Journal*

Pictured left to right are Naoyuki Tsuyama, Raphael Achatz, Jacob Claffy and Jason Kenney, all members of the Martial Arts Club, taking a break in the University Center Sunnen Lounge from Kyokushin fighting Jan. 24. The Martial Arts Club meets five days a week and practices wherever there is an open space.

Martial arts club teaches respect, not violence

BY RACHEL LEBO
rlebo@webujournal.com

Much of what the Martial Arts Club teaches incorporates controlling emotions and bringing those emotions into balance with other aspects of a person's character.

The Webster University Martial Arts Club teaches more than karate and self-defense. Concentrating on kyokushin, a style of karate founded by Masutatsu Oyama in 1964, the club utilizes realistic and practical training methods.

Jason Kenney, a Webster Public Safety guard, has supervised the club since August 2006. It was started by Ryota Mori, a Webster graduate, in 2002.

"Kyokushin's emphasis is on skills that are directly functional in real-life situations," Kenney said. "It has a reputation for being very rough."

Sparring or fighting with an opponent in a short practice session is a key part of kyokushin and is practiced in a cooperative, conversational manner. Club members also work on strength, cardio and flexibility to improve performance and avoid injury. Protective gear is worn throughout sparring practice, and activities are controlled for safety of the members.

"My first priority is that no one gets injured," Kenney said. "I've strayed from much of the rougher aspects of the style."

Practices usually start with a low-intensity drill then move onto various stretches. After stretching, the members practice drills and begin to spar. Sparring is not required of participants.

"I have training methods that don't involve contact," Kenney said. "In sparring, I throw some controlled strikes with the intent of landing them with good technique and then I block as you return with strikes of your own."

Senior Jake Claffy, an English major, is a member of the club.

"We are all interested in learning new techniques and styles," Claffy said. "The consensus among members right now is to train practical techniques."

Group members have shown interest in grappling, also known as submission wrestling, where one person attempts to throw his or her opponent without the use of striking or hitting. Kenney plans to incorporate different techniques into practice over the next few weeks.

Respect is the guiding principal of conduct in practice, Kenney said.

"It's not about being tough," Kenney said. "Some people are a little uncomfortable when they first come. It takes some time to learn how to blend technical knowledge with the artistic framework needed to express who you are through movement. It can be embarrassing to feel like you're making a fool of yourself, but if you stick around long enough you get to laugh at how all of us feel that way when we start."

With the semester's budget from the Student Government Association, Kenney hopes the club can get enough equipment to keep up with the people who want to participate.

"Martial Arts Club is a great opportunity for Webster students," Kenney said. "Few could afford the often one-on-one training I give them for an hour or two a day if they had to pay for it. Practice shifts around a little depending on everybody's schedule. We have some people who can only make it every once and a while and that's fine, too. We are always looking for more people, but a certain emotional maturity and respect for others is a requirement."

Currently, the martial arts club has 10 members and usually meets at noon Monday, Wednesday and Friday and 1:30 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday. E-mail the club at *macwebster@yahoo.com* for more information.

Angels condemn Gorloks to SLIAC purgatory

BY JON BAIRD
jbaird@webujournal.com

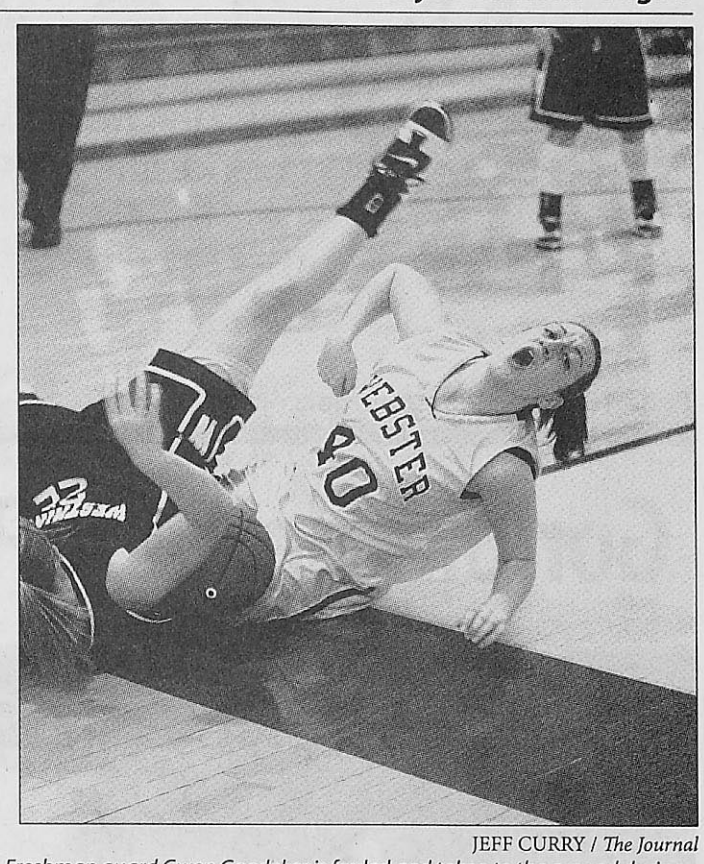
The women's basketball team suffered its sixth loss in the last seven games Feb. 3.

The Lincoln Christian College Angels beat the Gorloks 62-50 in another frustrating game. The loss came two days after the team's 73-66 loss to Westminster, and is its third in a row.

The first half was strong for the Gorloks as they were perfect from the foul line, and trailed 28-27 at the half. In the second half, Lincoln's scoring duo of senior Kari Otto and junior Bobbie Larson put the Angels ahead for good, as the two combined for 33 points in the game.

As Lincoln quickened the pace in the second half, the Gorloks struggled to keep up. The Angels' strong defensive play forced the Gorloks' field goal percentage down from 29.6 percent in the first half to 22.2 percent in the second half.

Junior forward Danielle Tiller had nine points off the bench, helping the Gorloks keep the game close. Junior forward Jacquelyn Wamser followed up her 27-point performance Feb. 1 with a team-leading 12 points, and freshman guard Erin Chesnek added 10 points.



JEFF CURRY / *The Journal*

Freshman guard Gwen Goedeker is fouled and taken to the ground during the Webster versus Westminster game Feb.1.

In the end it was the Angels' presence under the net that did the Gorloks in.

"We gave them too many second chances," Wamser said. "We just didn't rebound well toward the end."

The Angels finished with 49 rebounds to Webster's 31, and scored 34 second-half points to Webster's 23.

The loss puts the Gorloks in sixth place in the St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, with five conference games left in the season. The team drops to 5-8 in the conference. With four teams with at least eight wins atop the SLIAC already, the Gorloks' chances at playoff contention are slim.

"It's always tough to lose, but we've got a few more games left, so we'll see how they go," Wamser said.

The Gorloks have three away games before they return home to Grant Gymnasium. The team's final home game is 8 p.m. Feb. 14 against Fontbonne University.

Regan: My son is my No. 1 priority

FROM PAGE 10

"My No. 1 thing is to see him," Regan said.

With the help of a full-time summer job, Regan has been able to pay for school himself, and his parents help with Brayden. After the basketball season ends, Regan plans to return to his job at Prosser's Moving Company so he can start taking care of Brayden on his own.

On top of school, sports and Brayden, Regan is currently in court to settle the issue of child support and visitation rights. Regan said even though the process has been stressful, he and Brayden's mother are on good terms.

Now a sophomore, Regan has yet to decide on a major. He was a math major, but is now looking into accounting. Regan said he is taking elective courses until he makes a final decision.

"As a student, I am more focused now," Regan said. "I can't really mess around. Some students can coast through, but I can't afford to do that."

For Regan, sports, school and his impending work schedule leave little time for a social life or dating.

"It's definitely busy. It's tough to go out, especially with a screaming kid," Regan said. "But, as hard as it's been, I couldn't imagine life without him."

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Gorloks defrock Preachers in 7th straight win



MAX GERSH / *The Journal*

Junior forward Darin Hoggatt drives to the basket in the Gorloks' victory over Lincoln Christian College Feb. 3.

BY JON BAIRD
jbaird@webujournal.com

The men's basketball team extended its winning streak to seven games after an 83-72 win over the Lincoln Christian College Preachers Feb. 3.

The Grant Gymnasium crowd held their breath as Lincoln turned Webster's 15-point halftime lead into a three-point lead with just under eight minutes to play.

Strong play by junior forward Darin Hoggatt and sophomore forward Steve Hrdlicka prevented the Preachers from shocking the Gorloks and snapping their winning streak. Hoggatt finished with 25 points, following up a 28-point performance in the Feb. 1 home win over Westminster.

Hrdlicka held Lincoln's leading scorer, junior Adam Everett, to only one point in what Head Coach Chris Bunch called an outstanding game.

"If I had to pick a player of the game, it would be Hrdlicka," Bunch said. "Everett is in the top five in the conference in scoring, and to hold him to one point is incredible."

Hrdlicka added eight assists and seven points, but his defense was what kept the Gorloks in control.

"I felt good going in, and Everett hurt us pretty bad the last time we played them," Hrdlicka said. "I just tried to lock him down."

The only thing preventing Bunch from being completely satisfied with the game was how close the Gorloks came to giving the game away. Up 65-55 in the second half, the Gorloks surrendered a seven-point scoring run that made the 1-11 Preachers look as if they were about to take control. But strong defense by Hoggatt and Hrdlicka ensured a Gorlok win.

"Everett is in the top five in the conference in scoring and to hold him to one point is incredible."
- Coach Chris Bunch

"We spent the first half (of the season) trying to figure out how to win, and now we're trying to learn how to hold a lead," Bunch said. "But you play to get a win, and that's what happened."

Hoggatt's 25 points keep him atop the conference scoring rankings, and with five games left, he is 220 points away from reaching 1,000 career points — like teammate senior guard Scott Spinner did two weeks ago. Webster has never had two players reach 1,000 career points in the same season. Hoggatt is more concerned with the team's tight battle for the conference than the 44 points per game he would need to score to reach 1,000.

"It's not a big deal," Hoggatt said. "What's important is we're winning."

If the Gorloks win their next and final home game Feb. 14, the St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference tournament will be held on campus at Grant Gymnasium starting Feb. 23.

Two-sport athlete juggles school, work, fatherhood

BY NIKOLE M. BROWN
nbrown@webujournal.com

On Jan. 18, 2005, St. Louis native Kyle Regan's concerns were the same as other returning freshman at Webster. When he came back from winter break, Regan was ready to start his second semester and finish his first year of college. But Regan wasn't worrying about books and homework on his first day — he was watching the birth of his son.

While Regan welcomed his son, Brayden, 2, into the world, he said he had other priorities.

"I went straight from the hospital to the school," Regan said.

Regan, who plays soccer and basketball for Webster, said he not only has the emotional support of his family, but also the support of his teammates.

"I have brought Brayden to school before, and the guys have seen him," Regan said. "He loves to play in the gym."

Sophomore guard Ryan Turk, a basketball teammate, said he can see the pressure that raising a child while balancing school and two sports has put on Regan. Turk said he and the other players try to ensure Regan hangs out with the team outside of practice. After spending Sunday afternoons at Regan's house, Turk said he has become closer to Regan and Brayden. He refers to Brayden as "his little nephew."

"I applaud him (Regan)," Turk said. "He does school and work but he still wants to be a part of Brayden's life."

Regan said his biggest challenge is trying to balance all of his activities. Since the basketball team is in the middle of the St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference race, Regan practices four days a week, plays two games and still manages to spend time with his son.

"It's pretty tough," Regan said. "It's hard to keep my grades up, go to practice and see Brayden."

Regan's basketball coach, Head Coach Chris Bunch, said he believes Regan is handling his situation well for a 20 year old.

"It's hard to keep my grades up, go to practice and see Brayden."
- Kyle Regan

"I think Kyle Regan is probably one of the most exceptional people in my program," Bunch said. "He has class, a job, plays two sports and is a father. He is the epitome of time management. I wish I had 20 more like him."

At Bishop DuBourg High School in South City Regan was involved in soccer, football and basketball. Regan said he came to Webster because of its athletic program. He looked into athletic departments at other schools, such as Lake Forest College in Chicago and Knox College in Galesburg, Ill. But after Brayden was born he knew he wanted to stay close to home.

SEE REGAN, Page 9

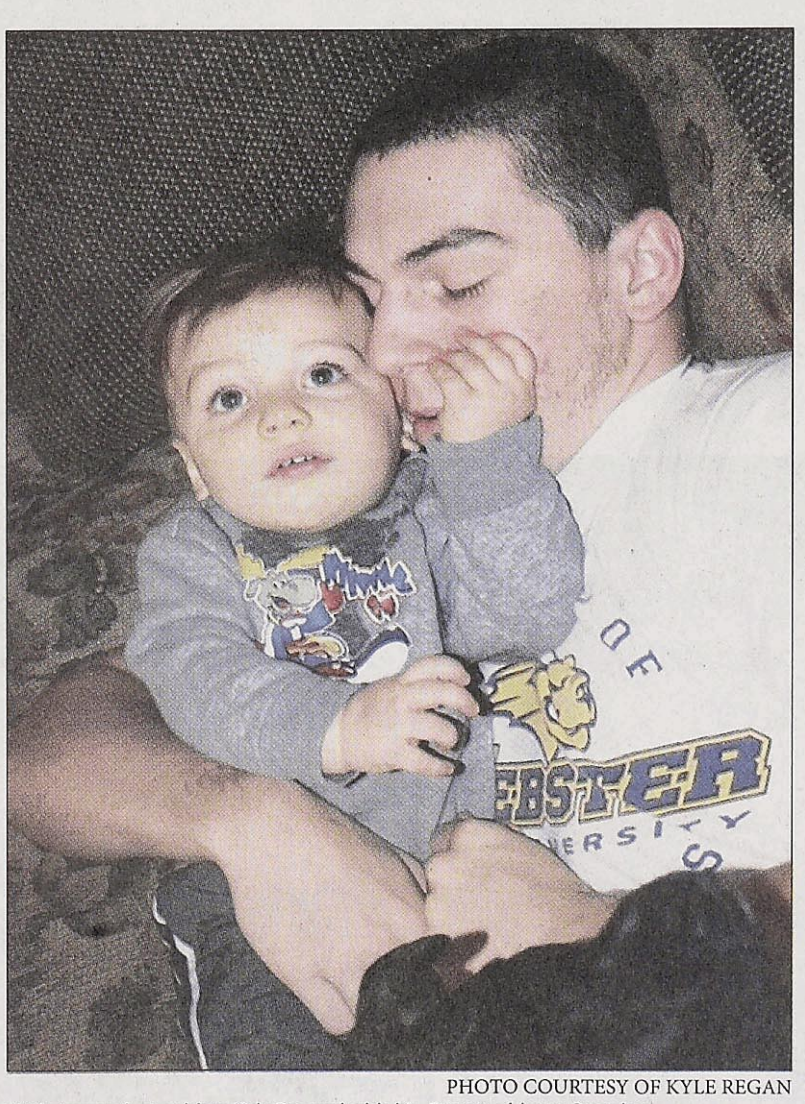

PHOTO COURTESY OF KYLE REGAN

Webster student athlete Kyle Regan holds his 2-year-old son, Brayden.

Muhm prepares to end storied WU career

BY MATT GROVER
mgrover@webujournal.com

At the St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Invitational Feb. 3, the Webster swim team honored senior Josie Muhm for her four years of dedication to the swim team. The meet was Muhm's second-to-last collegiate competition and her last opportunity to perform in an event hosted by Webster.

The SLIAC Invitational featured the four swim teams in the SLIAC: Webster, Eureka College, MacMurray College and Principia College. Principia took home the championships in both the men's and women's tournaments. The event was held at Lindbergh High School in South County.

In her Webster swimming career, Muhm compiled an impressive resume. She set several school records, became the school's all-time point leader and was named the Gorloks' most valuable player for the 2005-06 season. She also has served as the team's captain since her sophomore season.

Muhm elected to come to Webster in 2003. She said she chose Webster over Truman State University because Webster offered a better balance of academics, athletics and social activities. Since then, Muhm has set six team records — including four relay records she set with sophomore teammates Emily Pfund, Mo Randazzo and Brianna Schilling.

To thank Muhm for all of her hard work, the swim team showered her with presents such as flowers, homemade signs and a crown. Muhm said she was touched by the recognition.

"They really did a great job of playing it up for me," she said.

However, Muhm's day didn't end with gifts. She concluded the meet by doing what she did best throughout her entire Webster career: dominate. Muhm took home first place honors in the 200-yard and 500-yard freestyle events. Freshman Leah Bend finished second to Muhm in both events.

Another swimmer to have a strong day was freshman Nick Beckmann, who returned to the team after dislocating his finger Jan. 13 in a meet against Lindenwood.

Beckmann was particularly proud of his performance in the 100-yard backstroke and the medley relay backstroke. His times dropped in both events. Beckmann said his success stems from hard work in practice during his absence.

"I really spent some individual time working on that backstroke," Backmann said.

The Gorlok swimmers don't have another meet until Feb. 15 when they travel to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, for their last meet of the season: the Liberal Arts Invitational. Muhm hopes the brief break will help a team plagued by fatigue after competing the last five weekends.

"Hopefully, by the time we get to Liberal Arts, we'll be rejuvenated," Muhm said.

The Liberal Arts Invitational will officially mark the end of Muhm's swimming career at Webster. Muhm said she will miss the team, and hopes her teammates and any future Gorlok swimmers will help elevate the swim team to more success down the road.

"I'm going to miss everybody on the team," Muhm said. "I hope the program continues to grow and have a lot of fun in the future."

THE JOURNAL

The News Source for Webster University • www.webujournal.com • February 15-21, 2007

Bush administration turns blind eye to torture
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Gorloks face regional foes
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Bush tinkers with student grant money

Increase in Pell Grant will raise maximum award by $550, but Perkins Loan and other programs will be cut

BY BETH PRUSACZYK
bprusaczyk@webujournal.com

In his 2008 budget, President George W. Bush is expected to propose the largest Pell Grant increase in three decades. The $550 increase would raise the maximum available Pell Grant from $4,050 to $4,600. The proposal also would allow the maximum grant to reach $5,400 over a five-year period.

Webster's Director of Financial Aid Jon Gruett said Pell Grants are federal aid that does not have to be repaid. He said the grants are targeted to the students and families who are least capable of contributing financially to the cost of education.

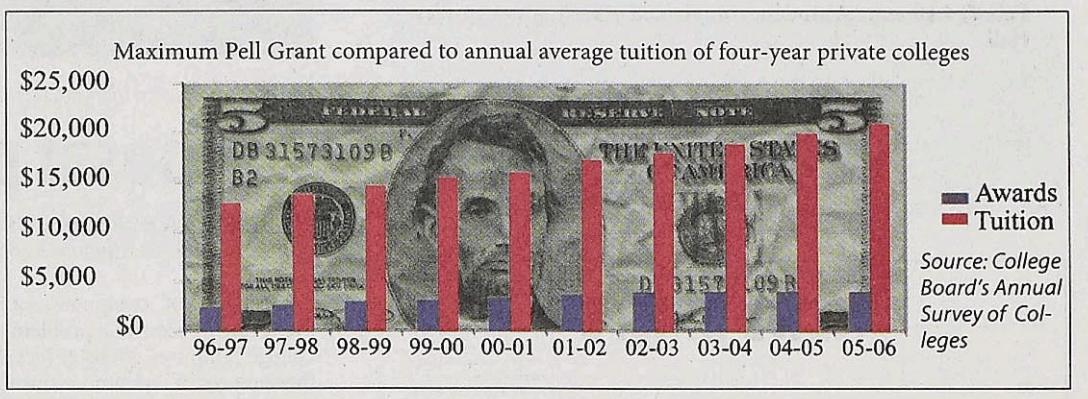
"In the 2006-2007 academic year we have awarded $2,340,334 in Pell Grants to 912 students," Gruett said.

Bush said in order to pay for the increase he would eliminate the Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant program and the Perkins Loan program. Bush also wants to cut subsidies in federal guaranteed loan programs.

Sophomore Michaela Garcia, a broadcast journalism major, said Bush's proposal will have an effect on her because she relies on scholarships, loans and grants to pay for school.

"If Bush increases one kind and decreases the rest, it limits the chances of us getting enough

See GRANTS, Page 2



Celebrating 75 years of American music



AUDREY BURKE / *The Journal*

Carolbeth True, Webster faculty, and Ashley Mason, a 2005 alumna, perform during the Webster University Jazz Faculty concert "World On a String: 75 Years of American Song (and one Canadian)" in the Winifred Moore Auditorium Feb. 12. **SEE PAGE 6 FOR STORY.**

Officials mull possible graduation speakers; Obama mentioned

BY BRITTANY WHITLOW
bwhitlow@webujournal.com

As the May 12 commencement ceremony approaches, so does the need to find a speaker. In the past, only Webster's board of trustees, faculty, staff and administration played a role in nominating the commencement speaker. This year, students had the opportunity to have a say.

"It's a student event, and students should have input," said Richard Meyers, Webster University president. "I don't know why we didn't do it sooner, but better later than never."

Commencement, which is held at the Edward Jones Dome in downtown St. Louis, is the biggest Webster event of the year. It typically attracts 12,000 to 15,000 attendees, Meyers said.

"Too often, graduation becomes about the administration patting themselves on the back and not about the people who paid tuition and worked really hard to graduate," said Steve Clemmons, a senior film production major.

This year, all students had the chance to nominate a speaker. Next year, the nominations will be limited to seniors, as it is their commencement.

"That seems appropriate, (but) that's kind of cool that the first year they let everyone do it," Ashley Rehnblom, a senior biology major, said.

A speaker has not yet been chosen, but Meyers said faculty members have suggested political leaders such as former U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan, his successor Ban Ki-moon, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi and former U.S. Presidents Bill Clinton and Jimmy Carter.

Some faculty members also have suggested "Pursuit of Happyness" author Christopher Gardner, whose Jan. 29 appearance at Webster brought more than 1,000 people to campus. However, Gardner is unavailable to speak at the commencement.

"That would be incredible, had he said yes," Meyers said.

Students were able to nominate speakers as well. The final student nomination list consists of five possible speakers:

- Tom Morris, chairman of the Morris Institute for Human Values in Wilmington, N.C.
- Mike Shannon, sports broadcaster who once played right field and third base for the St. Louis Cardinals.
- Andrew Taylor, chairman and chief executive officer of Enterprise Rent-A-Car
- David Stewart, CEO of Worldwide Technology, Inc.
- Illinois Sen. Barack Obama, 2008 presidential candidate.

"That would be pretty cool to have a presidential candidate speak," Rehnblom said. "College students are the future generation of the government."

Meyers said the No. 1 problem with getting speakers, particularly those on the campaign trail, is availability.

"It's especially difficult with political people," Meyers said. "They don't want to make commitments until almost the last minute."

Aside from the issue of availability, the second problem with getting a commencement speaker is they often want to be paid for their services — some former presidents wanted as much as $100,000, Meyers said.

Commencement speakers are not paid, but they are presented with an honorary doctorate, the highest award the university can give. Commencement also is an opportunity for speakers to get their message out to the 12,000 to 15,000 attendees, Meyers said.

The administrative council will review all of the prospects and recommend which candidate is best for the university. Meyers will then choose the person and confirm his decision with the board of trustees. Meyers said the board has never rejected a speaker.

"Students might be concerned that it's already February and we haven't announced a speaker yet," Meyers said.

Last year's speaker, St. Louis Mayor Francis Slay, wasn't announced until April. The university is currently pursuing Obama.

"He's a hot prospect," Meyers said. "Everybody wants him to speak. We're trying to use whatever help we can."

Part of that help includes former Missouri governor and current Webster Faculty Member Bob Holden, who knows Obama, Meyers said. Holden was unavailable for comment.

"If (Obama) becomes president, I would be really proud to say, 'Yep, he spoke at my graduation,'" Clemmons said.

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OUTSIDE

THURSDAY
Partly Cloudy
22/9

FRIDAY
Partly Cloudy
37/23

SATURDAY
Chance of snow
37/21

Play on campus dredges up horrors of torture

Performance depicts plight of nun at hands of Guatemalan soldiers with vivid accounts of sexual abuse

BY LANZ CHRISTIAN BAÑES
lbanes@webujournal.com

Though almost two decades have passed since Guatemalan soldiers kidnapped, tortured and sexually abused Sister Diana Ortiz, justice has still been denied her.

One hundred eleven cigarette burns mar the back of this Ursuline nun from Kentucky who disappeared for 24 hours in 1989 from a convent garden in Guatemala, where she was ministering to the poor.

Her story — and the subsequent governmental denial — became real when the Webster chapter of Amnesty International hosted a performance of "Psst … I Have Something to Tell You, Mi Amor" Feb. 11 in the University Center Sunnen Lounge.

"They (the government officials) said I was lying … just like the torturers said they would," said Sister Ortiz, who was performed by Beckah Voigt, an associate dance professor at Webster.

Voigt, along with the four other actors in the 40-minute play, alternated between live scenes that seamlessly flowed into a taped version of the production at St. Louis Community College at Forest Park. Voigt was the only Webster professor on the cast, most of which was composed of other educators from across the St. Louis area.

Approximately 25 people attended the play at Webster, though most left before the discussion that followed. The play took place in the present as the traumatized nun is forced to relive her story over and over again for reporters and authorities alike.

Voigt, both on-stage and on-screen, graphically described how Sister Ortiz's elation at helping the impoverished locals quickly degenerated into a desire to die as her captors physically and mentally abused her. Such tortures, according to the play, included "the cigarette game" — if Sister Ortiz answered with what her torturers wanted, she was allowed to smoke. If she answered in a way they did not like, she was burned.

Sister Ortiz was repeatedly raped until, damaged and bleeding, she was thrown into a pit full of bodies ...

In addition, Sister Ortiz was repeatedly raped until, damaged and bleeding, she was thrown into a pit full of bodies along with a friend she had made, a Guatemalan woman played by Adria Gutierrez-Concannon.

Perhaps the most heinous accusation Sister Ortiz made was when she described how one captor jumped into the pit, placed a machete in her hands and forced her to slash her friend to death.

"She was my friend!" Voigt wailed in the video.

Eventually, Sister Ortiz recognized an American giving orders to the soldiers that had kidnapped her. She was able to escape by jumping out of a transport vehicle in which the American had placed her.

When Sister Ortiz finally returned to her convent, she had lost all memory prior to the incident due to the trauma of her experience, yet maintained vivid accounts of what had happened to her. Unfortunately for her, the United States government did not believe her. Indeed, the play event went so far as to accuse the United States government and ambassador of dismissing doctor's reports describing her tortured body.

"Believing in the idea of my country was how I survived … I cannot believe my country will not protect me," Voigt read early in the play. "They won't even believe me."

The actions of the United States, past and present, were a prevalent theme both in the production and in the discussion that followed.

"How can we allow such atrocities all in the name of freedom … of democracies?" asked Patricia McLaughlin as the Mother Superior of Sister Ortiz's convent.

The panel that led the discussion included the five actors, director Dennis Rau, theater manager of St. Louis Community College at Forest Park, and Webster philosophy professor Art Sandler.

"I find it personally horrifying that the president of the United States could justify…the torture of people in hidden places," Sandler said, referring to the alleged human rights abuses in Guantanamo Bay and secret CIA bases in Romania and Lebanon.

In addition to the current accusations of torture against the United States, senior Lauren Paulk, co-president of Amnesty International and a double ma-

See AMNESTY Page 8

MISDEMEANORS AND MISHAPS

Feb. 2, 4:07 p.m.: A pencil case containing 100 art pencils was taken from the top of a wall locker in the Visual Arts Studio.

Feb. 4, 7:24 a.m.: An officer discovered a damaged window in the stairwell on the west side of the parking garage.

Feb. 5, 2:08 a.m.: A fire alarm was pulled in the admissions building.

Feb. 7, 4:10 a.m.: A student complained of feeling sick in West Hall.

Source: Public Safety crime log

NEWS BRIEFS

Webbies seek student submissions

School of Communications students may submit any original work for the 18th Annual Webbies awards ceremony. Students can pick up submission forms at the University Center Front Desk. The deadline for submissions is March 2. The Webbies awards ceremony will be held at 7 p.m. April 9 at the Loretto-Hilton Center. For more information or to download a submission form go to *http://www.websterwebbies.com*.

Student leaders bring issues to officials

The Delagates' Agenda for the Spring Officers' Summit will be held at 3:30 p.m. Feb. 20 in the University Center Sunnen Lounge. Student organization officers will discuss issues with Webster president Richard Meyers and Vice Presidents Debbie Dey, Dave Garafola, Russ Viehmann, Larry Haffner and Neil George. The issues on the agenda are: recycling, campus signage, grounds maintenance, space for student organizations, peer advisers, Connections and Campus Community Service Day in the spring.

Katrina benefit concert

Webster's Habitat for Humanity group is sponsoring a Katrina benefit concert from 3 to 9 p.m. Feb. 23 at Marletto's Marketplace. The lineup includes Steve Ewing, formerly of the Urge, Modern Red, Nite Owl, Fall Out and Friends and Terrell "The X-Man" Sanders. The event is free for Webster students and $5 for non-Webster attendees.

Walker Award Nominations Needed

The Office of Student Affairs is seeking nominations for the George Herbert Walker III Award for Leadership. Students should nominate a graduating senior who has demonstrated significant academic achievement and leadership at Webster University. Recipients of the award will receive a cash award. Letters of nomination should be turned in to Ted Hoef in Student Affairs by March 9. For more information call 968-6980.



JEFF CURRY / The Journal

Old computers and their parts that were once used by Webster University sit in a storage room and wait for Dell to pick them up and dispose of them.

Disposal program purges unwanted computers

BY BREANNA HERSCHELMAN
bherschelman@webujournal.com

Disposal of computer equipment often becomes a problem on college campuses. Webster recycles these pieces of equipment through the Dell Asset Recovery Program.

Webster uses this program to recycle or dispose of computers that are out of use. The typical life cycle for a computer at Webster is five to six years for a staff and faculty computer and two to three years for a lab computer. If the computer is still in decent shape, the university will wipe it clean of personal information and use it for work-study students.

Terri Lucas, director of desktop technical services, said technicians who work in the department wipe the computers even if they are sending them to Dell.

"We want to be careful with the information on the computers," Lucas said. "Dell extracts the files in their service, but we format the hard-drives before we send them to Dell to be extra safe."

Lucas said when Webster purchases the computers from Dell, it pays an extra $50 for the recovery service. Dell will take computers and equipment from brands other than Dell as well.

As an added bonus to Webster for using the recovery program, Dell gives purchasing credit to Webster for buying more equipment. Lucas said Webster began this agreement with Dell about four years ago when they switched most of their computers from Hewlett-Packard to Dell.

"We're definitely happy with the program," Lucas said. "All we have to do is e-mail our contact at Dell and tell them how many units to pick up and where and they take care of the rest."

Lucas said the program works well for Webster because Dell will pick the computer up at any of Webster's locations.

Muhamed Hadziselimovic, extended site technical coordinator at Webster handles the technical problems for all of the extended sites except the foreign campuses. He said he uses the recovery program two to three times a week and Dell will not make a pick up unless Webster has at least 10 items.

Hadziselimovic said the university keeps the information from the hard drive for two to four weeks before wiping it clean. Hadziselimovic said sometimes employees remember a document they left on the computer and want to retrieve it, so the department allows a grace period.

Slower processors are the first to be replaced. Hadziselimovic said the university sets a minimum level for processors, which is currently one gigabite.

Dell recycles the equipment in accordance with the Environmental Protection Agency's guidelines. According to the EPA, the United States has more e-waste than any other country with 4.6 million tons in 2000. Most of this waste goes into landfills rather than being recycled.

Electronic equipment is hazardous to the environment because of the high concentrations of lead inside. Computers disposed from a household are not considered hazardous waste, according to the EPA. Meanwhile, computers disposed from a business may be considered hazardous. Dumping these computers without going through a hazardous waste removal company is illegal.

Maria Hall renovations aim to update aging building

BY MEGAN CONNELLY
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Plans for renovations of Maria Hall are underway. The university will begin housing students in Loretto Hall while Maria Hall is being remodeled, Ted Hoef, dean of students, announced at the Jan. 23 Student Government Association meeting. The work is scheduled to begin sometime next fall.

David Stone, director of facility planning and management, said the layout of Maria Hall won't change, but other updates are planned.

"The basic dorm rooms will stay the same, but the bathrooms and heating and cooling will be new," Stone said.

Students living in Maria in the past experienced problems with the heating and cooling. In some cases the system was rendered almost useless.

Michelle Sander, a Webster alumna, lived in Maria Hall for just one week of her freshmen year, but said that was long enough for her.

"It was either unbelievably hot or unbelievably cold," Sander said. "The biggest issue with it I think was overall it just felt very old, old fixtures and old insulation."

In addition to new heating and cooling, features such as carpeting and tile will be updated to match West Hall.

"The room type is similar to West Hall in that there are two rooms that share the same bathroom," Stone said.

Architects will focus on creating better lounge space in Maria Hall, Stone said. Both East and West Halls, which began housing students in August 2006, have numerous lounges. Designers are investigating ways to provide Maria Hall with comparable accommodations in order to create a more social environment.

Dexter Earney, a freshman secondary education major, said he would consider living in a newly remodeled Maria Hall because of its proximity to Webster Hall where many of his classes are held.

"I like where the Maria rooms are located," Earney said. "It's closer, it's cheaper and I would have a bathtub. I actually signed up to be in Maria Hall, but they put us in West Hall."

It remains unclear which students will be allowed to live in East and West Hall and which will be living in Loretto during Maria's remodeling. It will depend on the number of incoming freshmen, Hoef said.

The renovated Maria Hall should have a capacity of a little more than 100 people, Stone said.

He said he believes the arrangements will stay the same with West Hall housing mostly freshmen, East Hall accommodating upperclassmen and Loretto likely housing freshmen.

After the completion of Maria Hall renovations, Loretto will be remodeled into office space because its rooms are smaller and closer to existing offices, Stone said. Hoef and Stone haven't settled on a budget yet, but there is a rough estimate for the project.

"The estimates are really preliminary," Stone said. "Right now it's around $4 million."

Stone said he expects Maria Hall to be ready to house students beginning fall 2008 and renovations of Loretto to begin shortly thereafter.

"There are a couple of steps along the way but that's the goal — more academic space and more student space," Stone said.

Grants: Tuition increases outpace grant money

FROM PAGE 1

money from all different sources," Garcia said. "The money will not go as far."

Gruett said the increase would only be for students receiving the maximum Pell Grant, not spread across the board for every recipient.

While this is the biggest increase for Pell Grants in 30 years, tuition costs have gone up steadily. The average cost of tuition and fees for a four-year private university has gone from just below $10,000 in 1976 to $22,218 in the 2006-07 academic year, according to The College Board's Annual Survey of Colleges. Also according to the survey, full-time students at four-year private universities receive about $9,000 in aid per year in the form of grants and tax benefits.

Gruett said $550 isn't much compared to the cost of textbooks, tuition or transportation.

"On the other hand, I would think most students would rather have an additional $550 available to them than not," Gruett said.

Freshman Emily George, a double major in education and history, said although she receives financial aid, she still has to pay $1,500 each semester.

"Every little bit counts and it does help," George said.

Gruett said any increase in gift aid to students is a good thing, even if students wish it could be more.

"In theory, Pell Grants may result in a decreased need for student loans — or at least lower students' loan amounts necessary to cover costs," Gruett said.

However, George said she isn't expecting her financial aid situation to change anytime soon.

"It's not going to happen tomorrow," George said. "It's going to take time."

Garcia is looking at the long-term effects the proposal could cause. She said with the rising tuition costs and decreasing loans available, soon middle-class families will not be able to afford college.

"The next generation will not learn the skills to run companies and the poverty level will rise and the economy will decline," Garcia said. "I think it's unfair that education must suffer in any way."

The Journal classifieds

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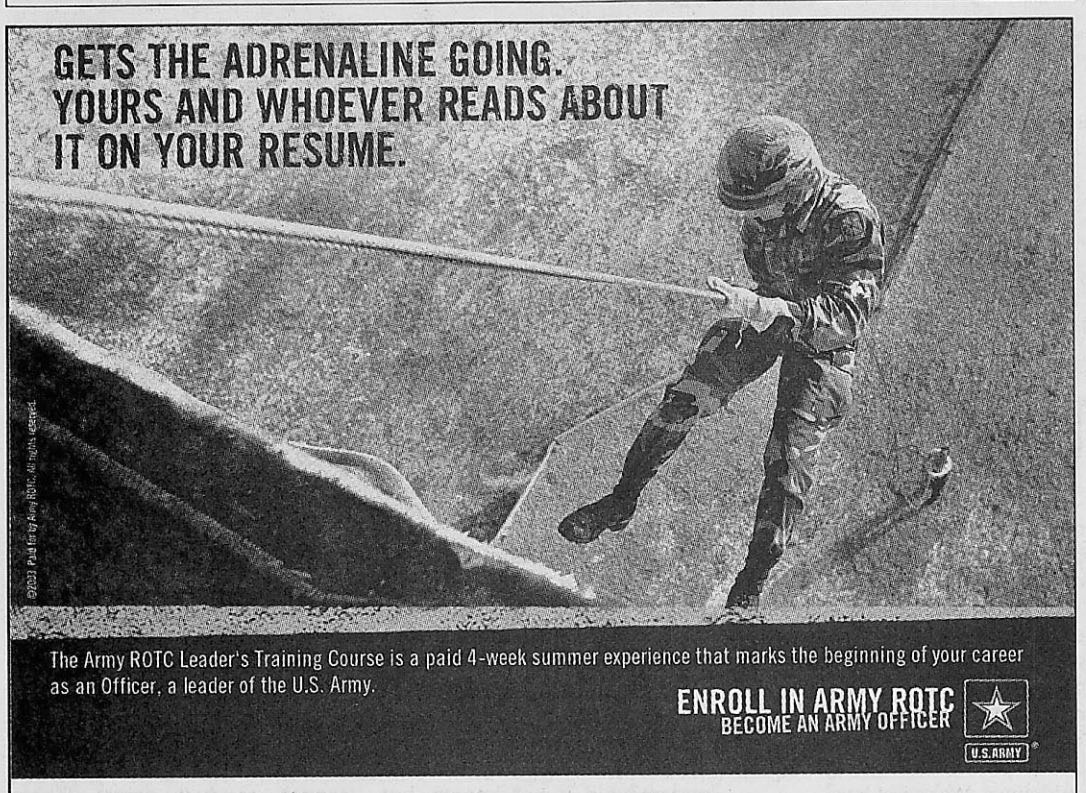

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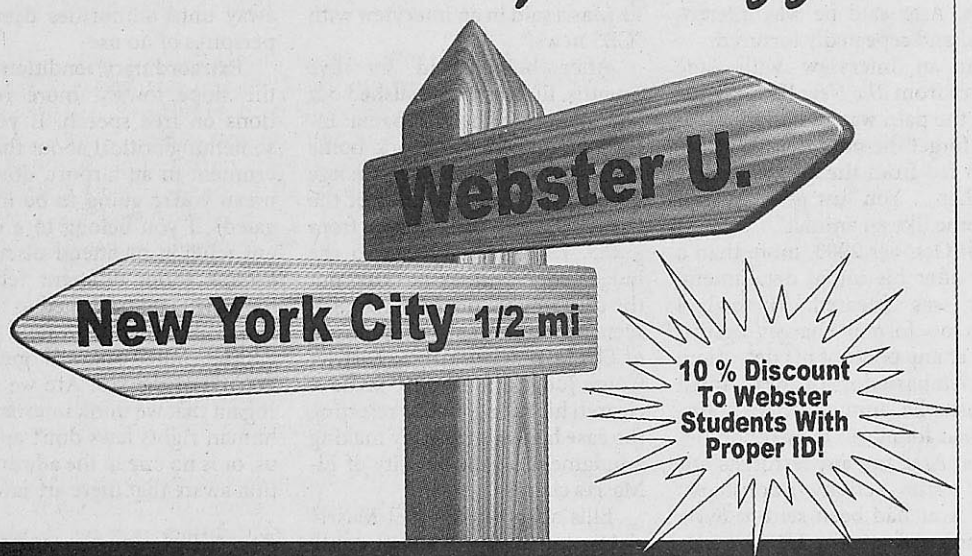

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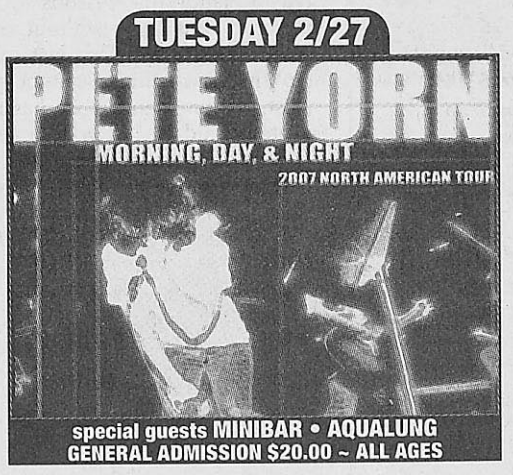

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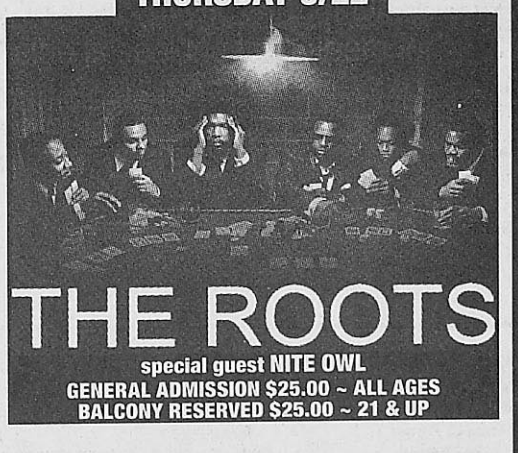

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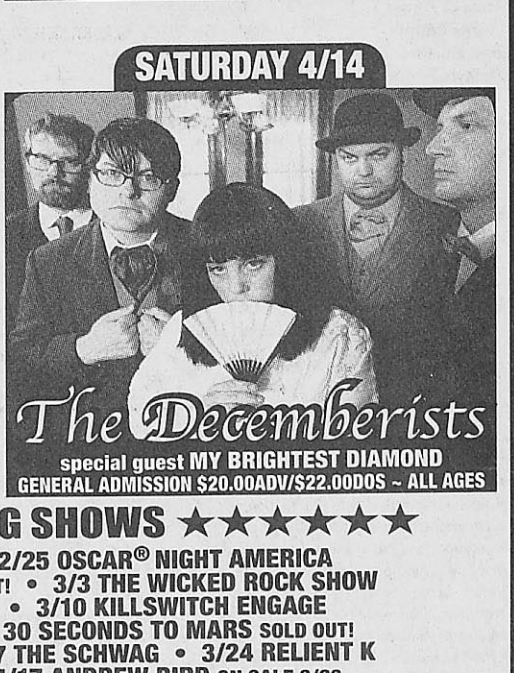

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EDITORIALS

Blood drive saves lives, helps students with lunch

Thanks to Webster University students, faculty and staff, more than 100 lives will be saved. Let's focus on that number again: 100 lives.

More than 60 people trekked to the University Center Sunnen Lounge Feb. 12 to donate one pint of their blood, which according to the American Red Cross Web site, can save up to three lives.

Though many turned out to give blood, about half were unable to donate because they were sick, anemic or had recently traveled outside the United States, said junior Quinn Gardner. Gardner, a photography major, is a resident assistant for Building 4 of the Webster Village Apartments and coordinator of the blood drive.

While many possible donors were turned away, it's commendable these people took the time out of their busy lives to go to the UC and find out if they could give blood. Even if they couldn't donate, they at least get props for trying.

About 36 units of blood were collected, Gardner said, about 10 to 15 units less than last semester's blood drive. Gardner said the turnout was about the same as last semester's blood drive, but more people could not donate. There are about two blood drives a semester.

There is always a need for blood. As long as there are surgeries, blood transfusions, accidents, natural disasters like Hurricane Katrina and war — there will be a need for blood. The Red Cross Web site states that in the United States, a blood transfusion is needed almost every two seconds. In addition, blood is perishable and does not have a long shelf life. When it comes to giving blood, the demand definitely outweighs the supply.

"People always need blood," Gardner said. "If people don't donate, the blood's not there."

After giving blood, donors were given a T-shirt and treated to juice and snacks by the Red Cross. The WVA, which sponsored the event, also offered students an incentive to give blood — the same incentive used to lure students to campus events — free pizza.

We can only hope the free T-shirt and pizza weren't the only reasons people turned out to give blood. While Papa John's pizza does taste great, we'd like to think the Webster community is nobler and wanted to help save lives more so than satisfy their own hunger.

We at *The Journal* agree with junior Amy Farfan, a video production major and RA for 4 North of West Hall. She said, "Everyone that can (give blood) should, because you never know when you're gonna need a blood transfusion."

Like the old adage advises, it's always better to give than receive.

HPV vaccine important in fight against cervical cancer

The governor of Texas recently signed an executive order making the cervical cancer vaccine mandatory for 11 and 12 year olds in that state. Other states, including Missouri, should follow suit.

Twenty to 40 million Americans are infected with human-papiloma virus at any given time, according to statistics from Rutgers University. This sexually transmitted disease is a common cause of cervical cancer.

About 60 percent of sexually active college females will catch HPV at some point. It is the most common sexually transmitted disease in the country. Most cases clear without medical intervention, according to Rutgers.

Some Texans are speaking out against the vaccination of their teenagers, saying the vaccination could promote sexual activity among those vaccinated. They are operating under wishful thinking. Parents want to think their middle- or high-school-age daughters are not having sex. STD statistics prove otherwise.

Teenagers engage in sexual activity, vaccine or no vaccine. Facing this reality and vaccinating teenagers is the best choice parents can make.

It's important for young women to be vaccinated at an early age, before they are exposed to HPV. If this vaccine is implemented in young women, cervical cancer statistics could plummet. Missouri legislators should follow this reasoning and make a decision that could save hundreds of lives each year.

Because the vaccinations are not mandatory for Missouri teens and young women, they must take the initiative themselves.

The vaccination, Gardasil, was approved by the FDA for women ages 9 to 26. Women who are already sexually active can still benefit from the vaccine and should seek the treatment as soon as possible.

Because HPV is so common among college students, and because it can have such horrible consequences in women, they should take the time to get the vaccine.

Planned Parenthood charges $132 per shot, and there are three shots in the series. The first shot is administered immediately, with a second dose two months later and a third six months after the first dose.

Women can contact their healthcare provider for further information or administration of the shots. They also can contact the Centers for Disease Control at *http://www.cdc.gov/std/hpv*.

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COMMENTARY

Use of secret detainment, torture program violates human rights



Kevin Huelsmann

Are we so arrogant that we think international human rights laws don't apply to us?

President George Bush is a beacon of human rights, an exemplary model of human decency and honesty. He ushered in a fruitful era of compassionate conservatism and has helped fight the good fight against democracy-hating terrorists.

What doesn't make sense is why he would secretly send people to clandestine prisons to be tortured and held without any scrap of a charge. This just can't be. These two things cannot coexist. On one hand, Bush has repeatedly said the U.S. government doesn't support torture, nor does it have knowledge of any secret prisons.

"Torture is never acceptable, nor do we hand over people to countries that do torture," Bush said in an interview with the *New York Times*. In an April 2005 press conference he said, "We operate within the law and send people to countries where they say they're not going to torture people ... We're going to do everything we can to protect us. And we've got guidelines. We've got law."

Maybe someone should let Maher Arar and Khaled El-Masri know the United States is "honoring our commitment to not torture people," and that "we've got law."

Arar, a Canadian engineer of Syrian descent, was apprehended September 2002 at John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York. He was returning home from a family vacation in Tunisia. Arar had been placed on the United States' Watch List because of his ties to a suspected terrorist.

The man was the brother of someone Arar had worked with and whom Arar said he barely knew. After being detained in New York for 13 days, Arar was flown to Syria and detained. In Syria, Arar said he was interrogated and repeatedly tortured.

In an interview with Jane Mayer from *The New Yorker*, Arar said the pain was so bad that, " ... you forget the milk that you have been fed from the breast of your mother ... You just give up. You become like an animal."

In October 2003, more than a year after his initial detainment, Arar was released. There had been no formal charges against him at any point of his detention. The Ambassador for Syria, Imad Moustapha, announced his country had found no connection between Arar and any terrorists nor any terror activity. Moustapha said Arar had been sent to Syria on orders from the U.S. government. The orders had been given as part of a program known as extraordinary rendition.

Extraordinary rendition started in the 1990s as a limited program. It applied to a small set of suspects with outstanding foreign arrest warrants, but after Sept. 11 it was expanded to what the U.S. administration deemed "illegal enemy combatants." The extent to which the program has been implemented is not known, but an estimate put the number of people rendered at 150.

El-Masri is one more number in that program. El-Masri was introduced to the extraordinary rendition program in December 2003 in Skopje, Macedonia. He had been on vacation when Macedonian police pulled him from a bus. El-Masri said he was then taken to Skopje and held for three weeks. He believes he was turned over to a CIA agent after that. El-Masri's secret flight took him to sunny Kabul, Afghanistan, for a few rousing rounds of torture and interrogation.

"They took me to this room, and they hit me all over and they slashed my clothes with sharp objects, maybe knives or scissors," El-Masri said in an interview with "CBS news."

After being held for five months, El-Masri was pushed out of a van in northern Albania. El-Masri found his way back home and filed a suit against George Tenet, the former director of the CIA. His case was dismissed from a U.S. federal court due to the judge's concern that carrying out the case might endanger national security, not because of the truth of El-Masri's claims. U.S. District Court Judge TS Ellis III made it clear in his ruling that by rejecting the case he was in no way making a judgment on the validity of El-Masri's claims.

Ellis acknowledged El-Masri's claims but said the courts could not remedy El-Masri's situation because, "Such a revelation would present a grave risk of injury to national security." He also said if El-Masri's claims were true, "all fair-minded people ... must also agree that he has suffered injuries as a result of our country's mistake and deserves a remedy."

At a time when Bush is trying to prop up his altruistic war of democracy, the United States cannot conduct secret flights over international borders to beat information out of alleged terrorists, many of whom have had questionable or distant ties to terrorism of any kind. Bush just might start to lose his credibility among global leaders if he continues heinous programs such as extraordinary rendition.

We preach against discrimination and stereotypes, but still profile people based on their ethnic background. The United States has become so entrenched in fear that anytime someone of foreign descent steps into an airport terminal they are met with suspicious stares. If they're lucky they just might be able to evade an unexpected flight to a distant country where they will be locked away until authorities deem the person is of no use.

Extraordinary rendition slicks the slope toward more restrictions on free speech. If you say something critical about the government in an airport, does that mean you're going to be investigated? If you belong to a different religion or attend discussion groups about different religious ideas will you be linked to terrorism? Where does this stop?

The United States is operating outside of the law. Are we so arrogant that we think international human rights laws don't apply to us, or is no one in the administration aware that there are laws?

Kevin Huelsmann, a senior journalism major, is the news editor for The Journal.

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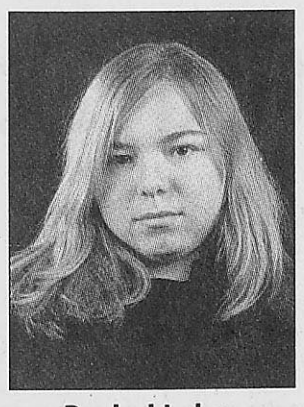
Corrections and Clarifications

The following errors were made in the Feb. 8 issue. *The Journal* regrets these errors.

- Patrick Stack, director of Webster's Counseling and Life Development Office, was incorrectly identified on page 7 in "All you need is Love ... and therapy."
- Chris Gardner was spelled incorrectly on page 1 in "Activity fee brings big names, questionable enthusiasm."
- Homecoming 2006 cost $20,000 total. Page 1 incorrectly identified this as the cost for Edwin McCain's performance alone in "Activity fee brings big names, questionable enthusiasm."
- The teaser that appeared on page 1 referring readers to the sports section incorrectly identifies the Lincoln Christian College Preachers.

COMMENTARY

Energy-saving bulbs are step in right direction



Rachel Lebo

Compact fluorescent bulbs are more energy efficient than incandescent bulbs.

Energy conservation seems to be an issue of low importance for many people. As for me, issues concerning oil, gas and electricity seemed like troublesome worries that could be thought about another day. After learning about Paris and its choice to turn off the lights to the Eiffel Tower, environment issues got a little more interesting.

On Feb. 1 the mayor of Paris, in support of the recent publication of the United Nations climate change report, shut off the Eiffel Tower lights for five minutes. The temporary blackout of the tower's 20,000 bulbs and 336 projectors saved France a whopping one percent of electricity usage.

Other cities in Europe joined in the effort to support the release of the climate change report. In Rome, the lights of the Coliseum and the Capitol were turned off at the same time. In Spain, the Puerta de Alcala arch lights in Madrid were shut down. In the southern city of Seville, Spain, authorities did the same with the Giralda Tower, and in the Mediterranean city of Valencia, Spain, the Ciudad de las Ciencias complex went dark. Even in the Greek capital, Athens, lights of several public buildings were temporarily turned off.

Thinking about all those switches being flipped in Europe made me curious about why the United States didn't do something similar at the same time. The report, researched and written by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, utilized scientists from all over the world. The IPCC, in conjunction with the United Nations — which the United States is a part of — urged influential cities around the world to do something in support of the report.

If Paris can shut off the lights to the Eiffel Tower, one of the most definitive aspects of the Parisian skyline, for five minutes, then New York City or Las Vegas could have done something similar — like turning off the lights to half of Times Square or the outer lights of three or four Vegas casinos.

One state in the United States, however, is using lights to make an impact. In California, State Assembly member democrat Lloyd Levine, the chair of the assembly's utilities and commerce committee, introduced legislation — the How Many Legislators Does it Take to Change a Light Bulb Act — to ban the sale of incandescent light bulbs in California by the year 2012.

Levine suggests people begin using compact fluorescent light bulbs instead of energy-wasting incandescent bulbs. Compact fluorescent bulbs are more energy efficient than incandescent bulbs — not surprising considering the design of incandescent bulbs has gone virtually unchanged for 125 years. Incandescent bulbs produce excess heat and have a much smaller lifespan than their fluorescent counterparts.

Incandescent bulbs cost less than compact fluorescent bulbs, but they don't use electricity as efficiently and end up costing more in the long run.

A 100W incandescent bulb lasts about 750 hours before dying. Over a three-year time period, about five to six incandescent bulbs would be needed if used four hours a day. These bulbs cost around $4.50 each. The total cost of electricity can be estimated at $35.00 because of how much electricity the bulb would need to produce light. Combined with the cost of the bulbs, one could spend about $40.00 to use the incandescent bulbs over a three-year period.

A 23W compact fluorescent bulb has a life of 10,000 hours, and it produces an equal amount of light compared to a 100W incandescent bulb. It could last six and a half years if burned four hours a day. The bulb is more expensive, at $11.00, but it uses less electricity to produce light and gives off less heat then an incandescent bulb. It would cost approximately $8.00 in electricity over a three-year period. Together, with the cost of the bulb, it would cost $19.00 to use a compact fluorescent lamp instead of an incandescent bulb.

It is important to point out, however, that taking used compact fluorescents to designated recycling areas is important because they use traces of mercury, which add to the greenhouse gases if disposed of improperly.

It might be trivial to compare the type of light bulbs one can use, but it's a step in the right direction to help keep the environment healthy. Hopefully Levine's legislation bans incandescent light bulb sales in California and spreads to other states. Someone has to get the ball rolling in the United States.

Rachel Lebo, a junior journalism major, is a staff writer for The Journal.

Commuters not treated equally to residents

Parking, short classes and lack of programming are among problems commuters face



Angela Ludwinski

Commuters have opinions too and are a valid part of the Webster community.

Commuters at Webster are treated like the ugly stepsister to the residents that live on campus. With less opportunities and programs geared toward them, it feels as though they are being punished for making the choice to live at home and save money. It is typical for universities to focus on their residents because it projects a better image to the public. That is no excuse, however, for the needs of a large percentage of the student population to go unnoticed.

Right now, there are few campus activities geared toward commuters. The Commuter Involvement Association disbanded three years ago, and there hasn't been anything on campus marketed strictly to commuters since.

Most events that take place on campus typically happen late at night. As much as commuters would like to take Swing Dance Lessons, it is impractical for them to go home around 5 p.m. and then make the 30-minute drive back to campus at 9 p.m. Most commuters would attest to having no desire to come back on campus after the school day is over.

Why are there not any events on campus during the day? It would be just as easy to schedule an event at 4 p.m. as 9 p.m. Other colleges in the area, like Maryville University, have daytime campus activities intended for commuters. Commuter students would appreciate having something to do during breaks between classes, and it would give students the opportunity to mingle.

Currently, Webster has classes scheduled for 50 minutes every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. These short classes are not practical for commuter students.

I live in Chesterfield, and it takes me 30 minutes to drive to campus and another 15 to park and walk to class. Spending 45 minutes commuting to one 50-minute class is a waste of my time. Some commuters miss their classes because of a lack of motivation to make the drive for a short class.

If Webster increased the class time to one hour and 20 minutes, students would only have to commute two days a week. The University of Missouri – St. Louis, a prominent commuter campus, does not normally offer class on Fridays. Few commuters or residents wouldn't like to have Friday off.

By having longer classes, students could avoid the large gaps in between classes and have more leeway in their schedules. Students would be less apt to skip because they would not have to go the extra day, and class attendance could increase.

Most Webster commuters complain about the parking situation. It can be a nightmare.

Students brag about how they park at Webster without a permit. They get away with parking on the lots because Public Safety doesn't issue tickets. Many students pay the $120 and should be able to find a spot.

Most of the tickets are issued when someone from the residence halls parks in the Webster Village Apartments lot. Public Safety should crack down on illegal parking in the commuter lots. These lots get the most traffic, and a lack of available parking can cause students to be late for class.

Many students do not know residents are able to get cheaper parking permits. For $75, residence hall students can buy a permit that allows them to park only in the garage. This option is not open to commuters, and that is not fair. Nine times out of 10 commuters have to park in the garage, and they should be able to buy a permit at a reduced price if they already park there.

By and large, Webster is a fairly safe campus with few instances of crime. However, it would be better if walkways and parking lots were well lit. It is particularly dark around the sidewalk near the Thompson Music Building and Big Bend Boulevard as well as the construction areas. This causes a safety issue because people can fall and hurt themselves.

Some evening commuters refuse to park in the garage at night because they do not feel safe walking there. More lighting would help them feel more comfortable. Lights do not stop crime, but they make people more aware of their surroundings.

Members of the Student Government Association announced this semester they would like to provide lighting on the Quad for campus events. The Quad is well lit and evening events could be held there presently. Lighting should be added to areas on campus that need it to help commuters feel safe.

Commuters have opinions too and are a valid part of the Webster community. Nearly half of freshmen students do not live on campus and even more upperclassmen commute. They shouldn't be ignored simply because they are not as involved as residents.

It's harder because many work full-time jobs or live far distances away. Webster should take a stand and be known as a university that provides for all of its students and does not neglect their needs. Currently, the administration and Campus Activities are failing commuters by not providing them opportunities to become more involved and are ignoring their concerns about parking and safety.

Angela Ludwinski, a junior journalism major, is a staff writer for The Journal.

Snickers ad should not be viewed as homophobic



Lanz Christian Bañes

Our desire for a world where people of all lifestyles are accepted doesn't mean we should immediately panic when someone thinks otherwise.

It's a shame the liberal homosexual agenda has infiltrated the Super Bowl.

I am speaking, of course, of the now-infamous Snickers commercial and the subsequent backlash from the gay and lesbian community. The commercial showed two auto mechanics ripping out their chest hair after an accidental kiss over a Snickers bar. It was accompanied on the Snickers Web site by alternative endings, such as the two violently beating each other, and footage of Super Bowl players' negative reactions to the kiss.

The commercial was quickly pulled from the air and the advertising campaign killed after many, including the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation and the Human Rights Campaign, decried the campaign as highly homophobic, particularly the contents of the Web site.

It's too bad; it was kind of funny.

But before you start invoking Matthew Shepherd — an act I find despicable, by the way — let me explain.

First, to reiterate: two men, eating a rather phallic Snickers bar and meeting in the middle, then proving their manliness by removing chunks of their chest hair with their bare hands.

I was, I admit, shocked — not at this perceived homophobia, but at the fact that two guys were kissing on a nationally aired commercial, let alone during the most-watched event of the year. I was amused at the "oh-no-let's-not-be-gay-do-something-manly" ending, but for the most part, I was impressed homosexuality had a chance to become more accepted.

What is my logic in the face of all this homophobia scare?

The Snickers commercial was a campaign that would have aired constantly — like those seemingly never-ending HeadOn commercials — thus exposing a wide audience over and over again to two men kissing "Lady and the Tramp"-style.

Yes, the viewer also would be getting that "yuck!" ending, as well as a possible airing of an alternative ending had the campaign continued, but the amount of homophobia is so low it's almost negligible. It's low because it's showing a reality. And the reality is many straight people think two men kissing is gross.

Evolution comes slowly. I haven't heard anyone complaining about the morality and depravity of society when this commercial aired. I may be wrong, but it seems all the hubbub has been coming from the likes of GLAAD and its ilk. I mean, come on! Two guys were kissing during the Super Bowl and yet there was no Janet Jackson-like outrage? That has to count for something.

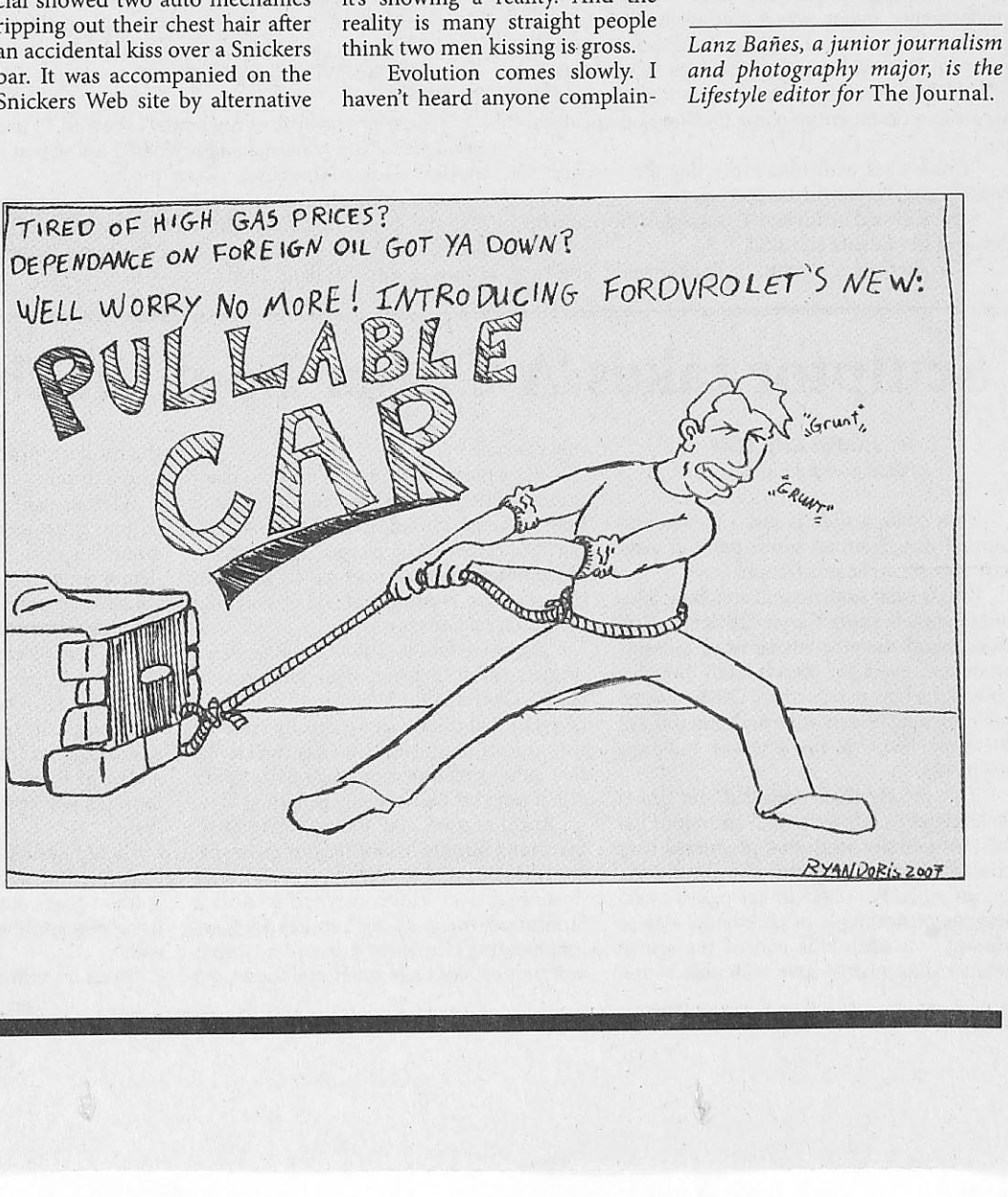
I also disagree with the intense anger directed at the Snickers Web site, where one different ending showed the men beating each other to prove their manliness. One Super Bowl player also could be heard saying "that ain't right" as he viewed the commercial.

To begin with, it's difficult to make the connection between two men beating each other to be "manly" with men being beaten up because they're gay. It's a bit of a stretch; in the former, the men are trying to force themselves to fit into societal gender standards. The latter is a hideous hate crime deserving of severe punishment. See the difference? One does not necessarily beget the other.

And what about that tolerance thing? The part where we espouse that it's all right to believe what you believe? I think the Super Bowl players — men who made it clear they didn't think too much of homosexuality — are being unfairly criticized. They reacted the way they've probably reacted their entire lives, in a way that many Americans would — and probably did — react.

Our desire for a world where people of all lifestyles are accepted doesn't mean we should immediately panic when someone thinks otherwise. It is contrary to the acceptance and tolerance ideals that is the cornerstone of the gay and lesbian movement. Leave the Snickers commercial alone.

Lanz Bañes, a junior journalism and photography major, is the Lifestyle editor for The Journal.



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ASHLEY GIESEKING / *The Journal*

Webster University professor, Paula Kasica performs "Kokopeli" on flute during the contemporary chamber concert Feb. 11.

Sound of whales permeates Winifred Moore Auditorium

BY BREANNA HERSCHELMAN
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The vibrant prisms reflecting from the ornate stained glass provided a magical setting for the faculty chamber concert Feb. 11, and that was exactly the feel flutist Paula Kasica was trying to achieve.

The contemporary chamber music event, which began at 4 p.m., was the first solo recital at Webster for adjunct faculty member. The concert consisted of five pieces, concluding with the classic contemporary piece "Vox Balaenae" or "Voice of the Whale," by George Crumb.

Crumb's recordings of humpback whales singing inspired him to write the piece in 1971. He combined the electric flute, electric cello and electric piano to create sounds echoing those of whales.

For the concluding piece, Kasica brought fellow adjunct music faculty members Ken Kulosa on the cello and Vera Parkin on the piano. The three each wore black masks to cover their eyes while performing.

Crumb divided the piece into five variations in addition to beginning and ending sequences. The variations were each named after geological eras.

As the piece began, the lighting on the stage in the Winifred Moore Auditorium turned a deep blue, giving the feeling of being under the sea with the whales. Intermittently, Kasica would sing into her flute to give the haunting effect of the whale's call.

"I chose the whale piece because it's a musical standard," Kasica said. "Often, contemporary music is so dissonant it's not enjoyable, and I wanted to pick pieces for this performance that were contemporary but beautiful."

The audience of about 35 people gave loud applause for each piece. Some audience members were Kasica's students. Junior Samantha Johns, a music performance major, came to the recital to see the whale piece.

"The piece is so popular in the classical music world," Johns said. "I wanted to hear (Kasica's) version.

Senior Wil Brajnikoff, a music composition major, is another of Kasica's students.

"(Johns) and I had both heard the whale song before," Brajnikoff said. "I had worked with Vera before as well, so I was interested in the piece."

Other pieces in the recital included: "Kokopeli," a song by Katherine Hoover. Kasica performed by herself, as well as the Hispanic-American salsa piece "Charanga," by Michael Colquhoun, which was a lively, upbeat performance with intricate riffs.

For "Black Anemones," by Joseph Schwantner, Kasica joined Parkin on the piano.

Composer Thea Musgrave's "Narcissus" tells the story of the Greek hero of the same name who increased his vanity when he saw his reflection in a pool of water.

Kasica used a digital delay device that allowed her to record, delay, then replay the sounds to give the image of Narcissus seeing his reflection.

"Digital delay is not widely used, and I was interested in hearing (Kasica) use it again," Johns said

Kasica said she had used digital delay before.

"I enjoy using digital delay because it's so unusual and when I tell the audience the story of Narcissus beforehand and explain how the delay fits in, the audience can have the full experience," Kasica said.

Cafe patrons drink in artwork of WU student

Photography major has his first opening at coffeehouse

NIKOLE M. BROWN
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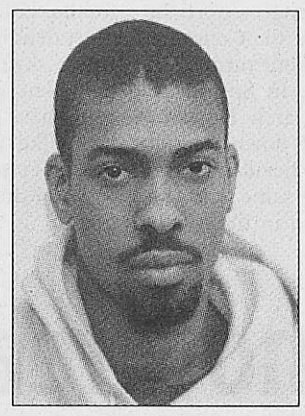
Coffee lovers were given an extra treat Feb. 9 when they were served a sight of eight black-and-white photographs along with their espresso at Washington Avenue Post.

The images belonged to junior Phil Crawford, a photography major whose first show opened at the coffeehouse, located at 1312 Washington Ave.

"I want them to enjoy what they see, and buy pieces," said Crawford, who was pleased with how his show turned out.



CRAWFORD

Crawford was able to have an opening at the coffeehouse because each month cafe owner Jennifer Ray selects an artist to display and sell some of his or her work on the walls of her cafe. Crawford was introduced to Ray by his model Hannah Yanko, who displays her abstract paintings at the Washington Avenue Post.

Ray said sometimes she reviews the work to decide who displays. Other times, she depends on referrals. Her only stipulation for artists is that there is no blatant nudity or violence in the artwork.

"I'm pretty neutral on content of the art," Ray said. "It's cheaper than buying artwork. It gives people something new to look at, and it's nice to promote local artists."

Crawford told his photographic story with the use of deep shadows, textures and movement. He said he kept his photos in black-and-white because he liked that tradition.

"It's my way of staying connected to the past and photography's roots," Crawford said.

Crawford's aunt, Paula Crawford, his grandmother, Ruby Crawford, and his mother, Ava Crawford, attended the show. His grandmother said she was 100 percent behind him when he made the decision to be a photography major — as long as he did his best.

"Give the world your best," Ruby Crawford said. "And if you give the world your best, the best will come back to you."

Larry Morris, a senior audio production major and a close friend of Crawford's, said he enjoyed Crawford's photographic work.

"To me, it's an extension of his personality," Morris said. "It's like a conversation through photography."

Ann Tolin, a photography professor at Webster who had been Crawford's teacher, also attended. Tolin said Crawford was hard working and talented. She also said his ability to see images in a different way helped his photography.

"I wish he had more wall space," Tolin said.

Throughout the evening, there were approximately 14 people in the cafe at one time, including people outside of his friends and family.

Crawford said he did not have the "usual" story of falling in love with photography at an early age or of following a relative's career choice. His love for photography started in college. Crawford was enrolled at Illinois College in Jacksonville when he took his first photography class.

"I fell in love with the magic of seeing my print," Crawford said.

After he decided on photography as a major, he transferred to Webster.

Crawford said after his first photography course with Kevin Martini-Fuller, a photography professor who left Webster last year, he fell more in love with photography. He found inspiration everywhere.

"It (the class) was a challenge, but a welcome challenge," Crawford said. "It definitely pushed my photographic boundaries."

Crawford said the reason he transferred was not only because he felt Webster had one of the best photography departments, but also because he was recruited as a basketball player. He went to try-outs, but ended his basketball career after a hip flexor injury.

He plans on a show at The Dark Light, a gallery in Springfield, Ill. The show would be a collection of nudes, though it will have to wait until after he returns from his trip to Italy this summer with Martini-Fuller and photography professor Susan Stang.

All of Crawford's photographs at Washington Avenue Post are on sale for $85.

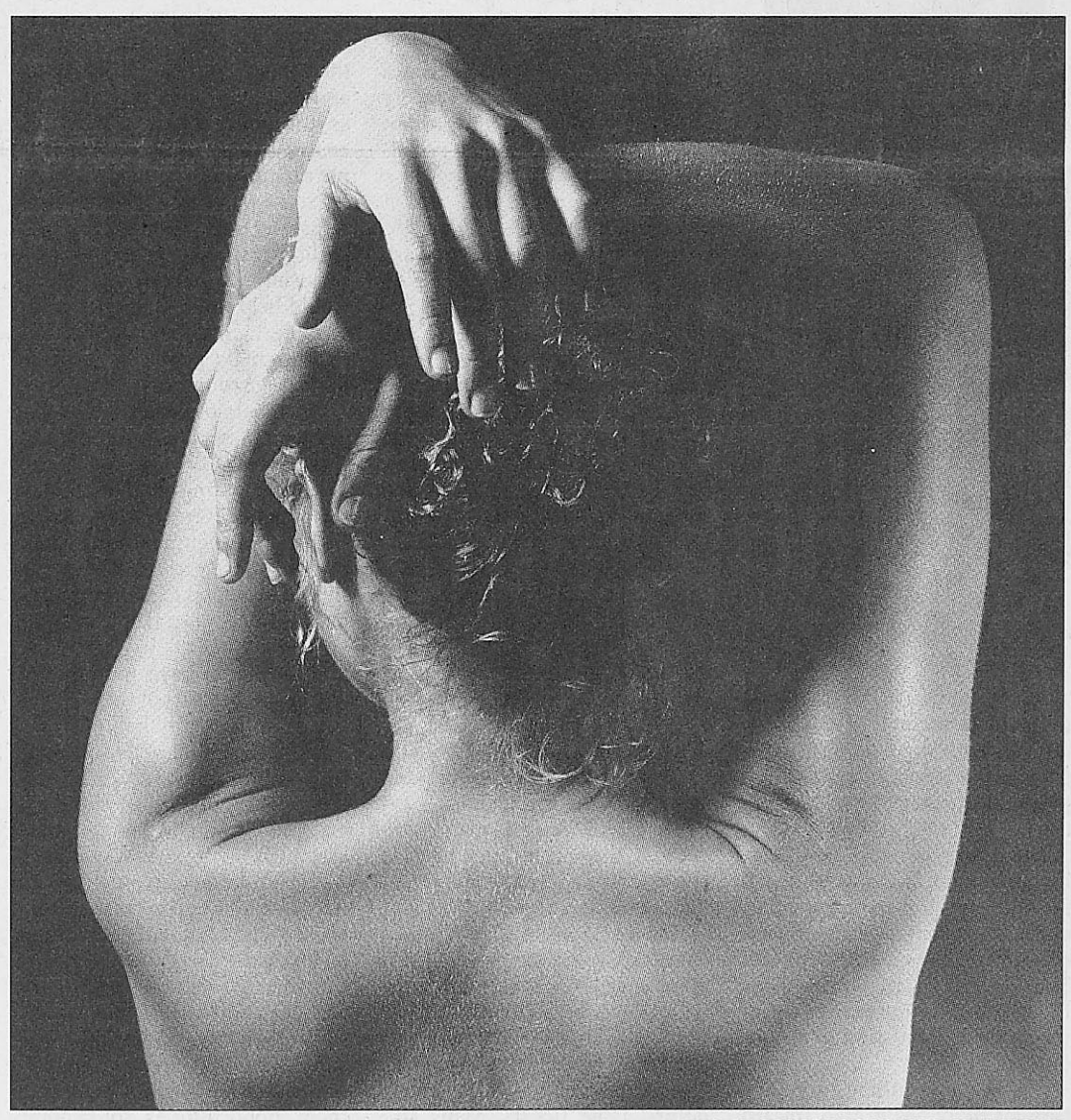


PHOTO COURTESY OF PHIL CRAWFORD

This image was featured during junior Phil Crawford's Feb. 9 art opening at the Washington Avenue Post, a coffeehouse in downtown St. Louis.

Faculty pay tribute to American songs

Music articulates feelings of common people throughout history

BY ANGELA LUDWINSKI
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The jazz-filled evening at the Winifred Moore Auditorium started off with a joke.

"Thank you all for coming tonight and braving the bad weather," performer Steve Schenkel said. "You know where the rest of St. Louis is right now? . . . at Schnucks buying bread."

Then Webster music professor Schenkel began to strum his guitar, and adjunct music professor Carolbeth True started playing the piano. Ashley Mason, a 2005 Webster alumna, stepped up to the old-fashioned microphone synonymous with so many jazz singers before her, like Billie Holiday, and started to sing, "I've got the world on a string. . . ". The evening dedicated to American music had gotten off to a light, peppy start. Together Schenkel, Mason and True created an evening of graceful and upbeat music.

About 70 people attended "World on a String: 75 Years of American Song (and One Canadian)" Feb. 12. The concert consisted of mostly jazz standards but also had two tunes by country folk singer Willie Nelson and one by the '60s pop group The Monkees.

Their partnership began when Mason, a musical performance major, was a student in Webster's department of music. Last year, Schenkel and Mason performed a few songs together at a faculty concert. Schenkel enjoyed this combo and asked Mason if she wanted to do an entire show focusing on vocal music.

"I had class with him every day for two hours," Mason said. "I was the teacher's pet."

Schenkel said he invited True to play the piano because of her talents and skill.

"Carolbeth is a master," Schenkel said. "She is a true virtuoso. Any time I get to play music with her is a blessing and a treat."

It was Schenkel's idea to have a concert dedicated to American music.

"I love American music because it speaks about things we have all experienced, in a musical language we're all familiar with," Schenkel said.

The concert itself had variety and different emotions in the music. In "Save Your Love for Me," Mason soulfully begged to be loved. "The Midnight Sun" consisted of a unique harmonic melody of quick descending lines with lyrics reminiscent of happier times, yet sorrowful because the happier times have ended.

The triumphant "My Shining Hour" was possibly one of the most difficult songs of the evening. Mason licked her lips in anticipation for her difficult scat solo. Scat singing is vocalizing the sounds of a musical instrument like a horn. It was quick, difficult and improvised. The song also featured a piano solo of incredible speed and dexterity played by True.

One of the evening's highlights was the closing number, "Something to Talk About." The audience got into the music by clapping their hands and bobbing their heads to the beat.

"I was back here dancing and stomping my feet," said Nick Savage, a junior jazz performance major.

For Mason, Willie Nelson's "Crazy" was especially memorable.

"'Crazy' is a favorite of my family," she said. "I had to sing it for my grandma and my dad. I know that it brought a tear to their eyes to hear me."

For Schenkel, Mason and True the evening was just the beginning of performances together. The next concert is 6 p.m., March 25 at Overland Baptist Church, 9303 Midland Blvd.

Sculptor takes 'A Closer Look' at childhood memories, adult experiences

BY JAMES CHILTON
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To a child, a slide is just a playground amusement. From an adult's point of view, however, it can be much more.

This is what students and art aficionados alike learned from Karyn Olivier, a New York-based sculptor whose work presents mundane, everyday objects from thought-provoking new perspectives. Olivier hosted an hour-long presentation and slideshow of her work Feb. 9 in the Sverdrup building, room 123.

The presentation preceded the grand opening of "A Closer Look," an indoor exhibit of Olivier's work that premiered later that evening at the Laumeier Sculpture Park in Sunset Hills. Many of her pieces evoke themes of nostalgia, of childhood viewed through an adult lens and of the spatial relationships people have with objects and other people.

"Doubleslide" consists of two playground slides that connect together at the bottom, forming a smooth unbroken curve. Olivier described the piece as calling forth those times when two people set out with the same goal in mind and end up colliding with each other over it.

"Everyone knows a slide, so what can I do (to) shift it in terms of an adult experience?" Olivier said. "How can I have us reconsider that thing that we already know or we're already familiar with? How can I make that either unfamiliar or make us consider it in a way that we normally wouldn't?"

Another piece, "Winter Hung to Dry," features a bundle of clothes unceremoniously dumped onto a clothesline. Olivier described it as a deconstruction of her childhood memory of families in Harlem hanging clothes to dry, and how that simple nostalgia has been replaced with the modern practice of dumping clothes into a dryer.

"Tether-ball" features a vast assemblage of gray, stony-looking tether balls clustered around a post. Olivier said "Tether-ball" demonstrates how one's childhood can be revisited as an adult, but never appreciated with the same simplicity.

"Because I can't go back to the childhood I had, how can I kind of reinvent what this object is?" Olivier said.

Though the tether balls are real, Olivier said the gray paint and powder adhesive she added to them actually led some patrons to initially believe they were made of concrete.

"I kept thinking about how things go back and forth," Olivier said. "At one point it looks like concrete, and heavy, like it's immobile. But then you realize, it's ephemeral."

Born in Trinidad and Tobago, a small republic in the south Caribbean, Olivier moved to Brooklyn, N.Y. at age 1, but revisited the island nation every summer growing up.

"It was amazing, you had New York, which is so fast and just crazy on one level," Olivier said. "But then I'd go to Trinidad and ... we hung out in the backyard and climbed a mango tree. Being at the beach was really a completely different world, but equally important."

Olivier earned a Masters in Fine Arts from the Cranbook Academy of Art in Bloomfield Hills, Mich. Though born in 1968, she told the audience she only started studying art eight years ago.

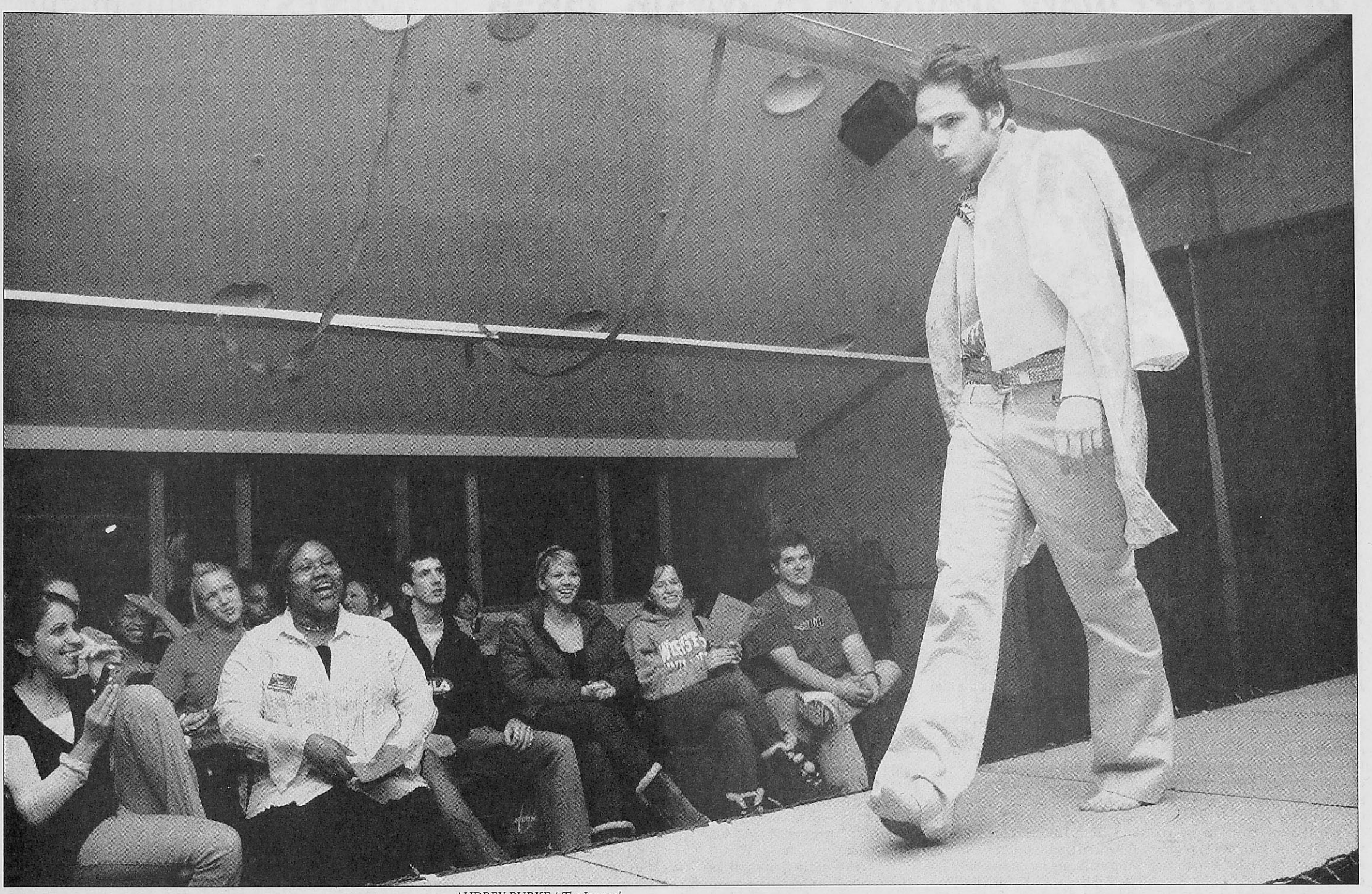
"I've never taken a sculpture class in my life," she said.

Despite this, Olivier has taught sculpture at the University of Houston for the past two years and just completed a residency at the Studio Museum in the Harlem neighborhood of New York City.



OLIVIER

"Karen Olivier — A Closer Look" is on display through May 13 at the Laumeier Sculpture Park, located at 12580 Rott Road. For more information, call 821-1209.



AUDREY BURKE / *The Journal*

ABOVE: *Junior Matt "Blue Steel" Grant struts down the runway Feb. 8 at the Red Hot Fashion Show in the University Center Sunnen Lounge.*

Model students set runway on fire

Fashion show returns to UC Sunnen Lounge as a parody of male model movie

BY STEPHANIE CUNNINGHAM
scunningham@webujournal.com

Derek Zoolander looked stunning strutting down the runway in his pale '70s-style pink suit. His multicolored shirt lapels burst out from underneath his blazer, only to add an even more hilarious element to the fashion show.

Derek, played by Matt Grant, a junior film production major, was one of the 20 models involved in the "Red Hot Fashion Show" Feb. 8 in the University Center Sunnen Lounge. The show featured clothes from the ScholarShop, located at 7930 Big Bend Blvd. in Webster Groves.

The ScholarShop is an upscale thrift store that uses its proceeds to give scholarship money to students in the St. Louis area. Anyone who applies for a scholarship through the Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis is eligible.

Models donned fashions such as suits and blazers, dresses and even a Hawaiian shirt or two.

The theme of the show was inspired by the movie "Zoolander." The movie is based on two dim-witted fashion models, Derek and Hansel, whose rivalry plays out on the runway.

Several characters from the movie were present throughout the fashion show. Mugatu (played by junior political science major Mac Ingram), a fashion designer in the movie, announced the show, while Hansel and Derek continued their feud from the movie with interjections during the show.

Hansel, wearing a thin T-shirt and cowboy hat, was played by Steve Clemmons, a senior film production major.

Twinkling white Christmas lights lined the catwalk as the models strolled down the runway. They danced, somersaulted, posed and at times shed some clothing. One model even exhibited her ability to recite the entire alphabet backwards as quickly as she could forwards to show off one of her talents.

Throughout the fashion show, Grant and Clemmons spoke into microphones, slinging insults at one another. The two characters made fun of the other's intelligence and clothes.

"(Grant and I) both knew at what point in the show we were going to say something," Clemmons said. "All of the dancing and dialogue were improvised."

The two characters' antics amused the audience, and a walk-off between the two models closed the 20-minute fashion show. Clemmons and Grant took turns on the catwalk while the audience cheered for their favorite model.

Grant somersaulted backwards and danced down the runway, while Clemmons watched from the side. When it was Clemmons' turn, he tried to outshine his opponent by ripping off his underwear without taking off his pants (like in the movie).

"It was a lot of fun," Grant said. "The fashion show was for a good cause, and everyone seemed like they had a good time."

> *"It felt like everyone just wanted to get together and have a huge fashion show."*
>
> -Jonathan Fournier, runway model for show

The fashion show made its debut last year as 2006 Webster alumna Teresa Chaperlo's senior overview project for media communications and special event planning. Due to the large turnout and positive feedback, Webster adopted the fashion show as an annual event.

The ScholarShop was selected as a sponsor because of the close proximity to Webster. Blumfelder said Campus Activities was happy to use the ScholarShop for the event because they are giving back to the Webster Groves community through scholarships.

"We promote the ScholarShop because it is in Webster Groves," said show organizer Beth Blumfelder, a junior art history major. "It is kind of a community thing."

After the fashion show, free CiCi's pizza and soda were served outside the Sunnen Lounge. Due to the "Zoolander" inspired theme, the movie also was shown.

"I thought the show was really creative and funny," said junior Amanda Bucher, a double major in psychology and religious studies. "But I wished it was longer with more clothes and models."

Blumfelder said she felt the same way. She said planning for next year's event will begin in December and there will be more outfits for the models.

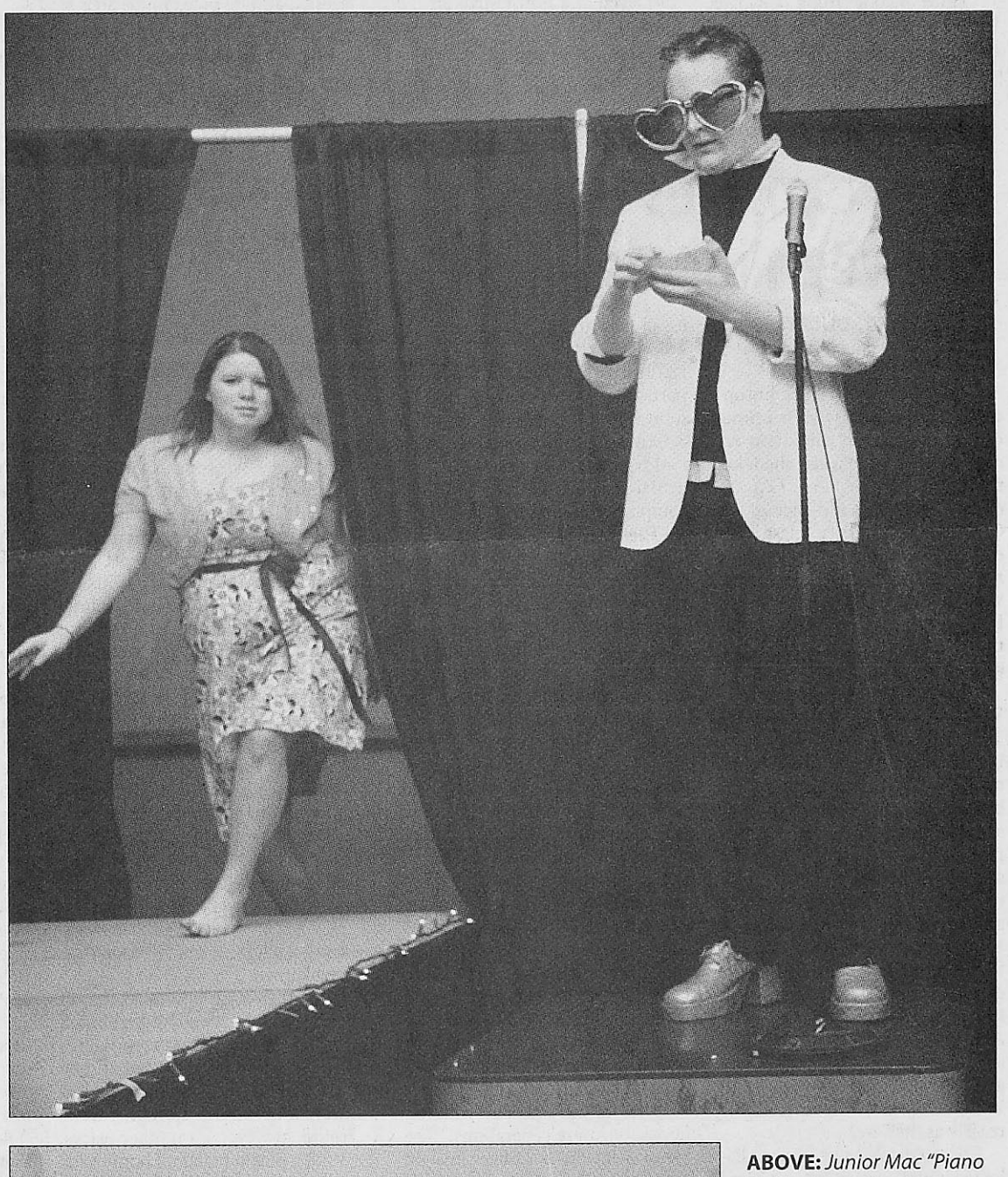
While more clothing will be present at next year's fashion show, the show's tone will not change. Because last year's show was for a school project, there was a more serious feel. This year was more relaxed, which allowed for more creativity, Blumfelder said. Everyone was able to have fun because the show was not for someone's grade, she said.

"It felt like everyone just wanted to get together and have a huge fashion show," said Jonathan Fournier, a junior audio production major, one of the models in the show.

Fournier attended last year's fashion show as an audience member, but said the overall nature of this year's fashion show was more exciting.

The ScholarShop loaned all of the clothes modeled for the show, however, most of the models loved the clothes they wore and bought them after the show.

For information about the Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis and the ScholarShop, visit *http://www.sfstl.org/*.



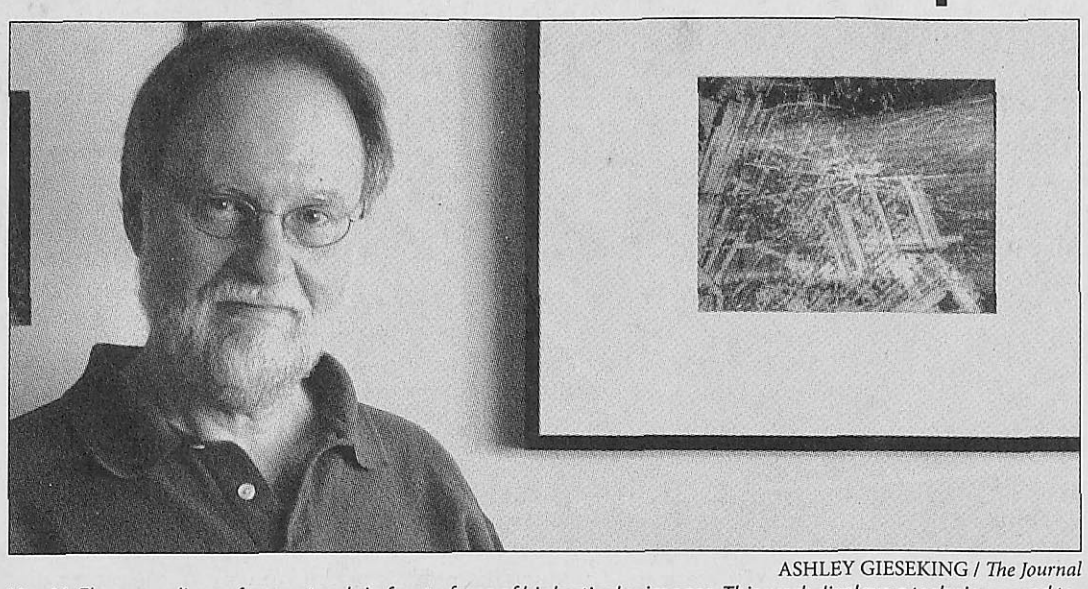


ABOVE: *Junior Mac "Piano Tie" Ingram acts as announcer for the fashion show as junior Liz Eisele walks the runway.*
AUDREY BURKE / *The Journal*

LEFT: *Freshman Nadia Battle poses at the end of the runway.*
AUDREY BURKE / *The Journal*

Professor's work arrives in to Britain, Japan

BY ALEXANDRA SMITH
asmith@webster.edu



ASHLEY GIESEKING / *The Journal*

Van McElwee, media professor, stands in front of one of his lenticular images. This work displays a technique used to embed video time into an image.

For a Webster student, having work displayed or sold is a dream accomplishment. For Webster professor Van McElwee, it has been a reality and a regular occurrence since he began his career in 1976.

McElwee, a professor of electronic and photographic media, who specializes in video art, has been teaching at Webster since 1983. McElwee has created more than 40 video installations and single-channel works (stand-alone creations to be seen as installations) in his career.

"Whatever art is, video art is any art form that uses video as its primary medium," McElwee said. "(My work) uses video and sound together as two aspects of one composition."

Recently, three of McElwee's works were purchased by Kyoto Teikyo University in Kyoto, Japan. McElwee said his work is often sold to various places around the world through his distributors, so he doesn't know which works were sold to Kyoto Teikyo.

McElwee said he has had distributors for about 15 years. They promote his work, and sometimes rent or sell it. Currently, he has a distributor for his video and digital prints in Austria, and distributors for his video works in Germany, France and the United States.

Additionally, two of McElwee's works, titled "Reconstructions" and "Space Splice," were featured at a show at the Camden Arts Centre in London. Architecture was the inspiration for both pieces. McElwee said about 80 percent of his work is derived from architecture.

"I've always been fascinated with space," he said. "Architecture articulates space; video art articulates time."

Time is one thing McElwee is quite familiar with — his work requires a great deal of it. He said shooting video for his art takes anywhere from two days to nine years, depending on the project. The video editing requires an additional 200 to 1,000 hours.

McElwee said there has never been a time in his career when he wasn't working on a project. He generates ideas by writing in a notebook, and said many times ideas come during the evolution of his projects.

"I'm usually working on several pieces at a time," he said. "It's always a matter of watching the idea change as I work on it."

One of McElwee's recent projects is one where hundreds of everyday objects, such as pieces of machinery and colorful plastic toys, rotate as subject matter on a turntable. His most recently finished piece, completed in December 2006, showcases nocturnal footage of commercial American landscape such as banks, strip malls and car dealerships.

McElwee's "Radio Island" will be displayed at a film festival in Lille, France through Feb. 18. "Radio Island" uses six vertically stacked monitors and one DVD source, so that each monitor shows the same image. Because there is a lot of vertical movement in the piece, the images appear to move from one monitor to the next.

When he is not working on projects or coming up with new ideas, McElwee is teaching Introduction to Media Production courses as well as an Experimental Video course that is offered every fall. McElwee said Experimental Video is an advanced class for people who already have an aptitude for video and want to work in the medium in new ways.

"It's not completely experimental in that you are just playing around," he said. "You're doing something you haven't necessarily done before, and it's experimental because it doesn't fit into other categories. It doesn't mean you don't have an idea."

McElwee said he feels privileged to work with students who are interested and involved in his area of expertise. Sometimes, students will help McElwee with projects.

"His unusual, artistic view on video allows for examination into the imagination that I never thought possible," said Elias Huch, a senior video production major.

Huch collaborated with McElwee on a series of prints based on video stills.

"Although he says that our work together may have no practical field use, I think it did far more for me by allowing me to expand on my skills," Huch said.

Wesley Petty, a junior audio production major, has also worked with McElwee on projects.

"Van is very down to earth and a great person to work with," Petty said. "I learned a lot just talking to him while we were in the studio."

Of the more than 40 pieces McElwee has created and displayed in the past 30 years, he does not have a favorite.

"My favorite piece is the next one," he said. "I can imagine it to be as wonderful as possible."

AMNESTY: Nun might have been attacked by graduates of School of the Americas

FROM PAGE 1

jor in international relations and international human rights, said there was evidence available that suggests that Sister Ortiz's captors were graduates of what was then known as the School of the Americas.

The SOA, based in Georgia, has since been renamed as the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation and has been plagued by allegations of training Latin American leaders and soldiers who later committed atrocities in their home countries.

Webster had a credit transfer program with the controversial academy, which was terminated at the end of last semester due to mounting outrage from the community. Much of the criticism for the program came from the Sisters of Loretto, the nuns who founded Webster University and who protest at WHINSEC yearly.

Freshman Danielle Martin, an English major, attended the event as part of her human rights class. She said she believes Sister Ortiz's case was one of many that go unnoticed because she was a woman.

"The overall message was powerful and her story was astonishing," Martin said.

Paul Danyi, a graduate student in international relations and a member of Amnesty International, was impressed by how the play displayed the human element of torture rather than just statistics

"It was tangible," Danyi said.

The play was first performed at Forest Park Community College last October on the same night that the real Sister Ortiz came to St. Louis to speak about her ordeals. Rau brought the play and the original cast to Webster after Paulk approached him immediately after the first performance.

Amnesty International is an activist organization that focuses specifically on human rights violations and has university chapters across the nation. The next major Webster Amnesty International event is a film festival after spring break that showcases various human rights issues. For more information, contact the group at *websteruamnesty@gmail.com*.

Theater Review: ★★★★½

'The Heidi Chronicles'

Rep explores balance between ideals, reality

BY ERIN DULEY
eduley@webujournal.com

Heidi Holland's (Effie Johnson) curly hair and gypsy skirt immediately give off the vibe of an eccentric art teacher when she takes the stage of "The Heidi Chronicles." Treating the audience as her Columbia University class, her excited narration of a slideshow featuring paintings by overlooked women artists reveals a glimpse of the passion that comes to define the character over the next two and a half hours.

The play that earned Wendy Wasserstein a Pulitzer Prize and a Tony in 1989 follows Heidi's coming of age from the 1960s through the 1980s as a representative of the baby boom generation. Beginning as a teenager who would rather read at a dance than roll up her skirt and pursue a guy dancing in the corner, Heidi subsequently adopts liberal political beliefs and feminist ideals alongside her friends in college. However, as the decadent 1980s set in, she seems to be the only one maintaining them. An accomplished art historian and author, Heidi is just as successful as her friends, but she isn't willing to compromise her integrity as readily as they are.

Wasserstein's tight, smart dialogue is not wasted on the Repertory Theatre's cast, which fully commits to its roles despite drastic changes in costume and appearance between scenes. James Clow takes up the role of sarcastic doctor Peter Patrone with particular fervor. Peter's displays of caustic wit are accomplished with unruffled delivery and genuine hilarity that make him the highlight of every scene he's in. The ensemble also possesses the chemistry necessary to carry off the bittersweet moments that reflect the reality of changing relationships. In particular, as would-be lovers, Johnson and Andy Paris as Scoop Rosenbaum infuse their roles with a moving mixture of longing and denial that communicates the complexity of their relationship.

The Rep's set design contributes just the right amount of atmosphere to the scenes and features a moveable backdrop capable of several smooth transitions. The suggestion of intimacy despite emptiness is notably achieved through staging in the final scene set in Heidi's new apartment. Essential to any retrospective covering the '60s and '70s, nostalgic songs including "Respect" and "Imagine" pepper the production, effectively establishing each leap through time and often coming to the forefront of the story.

Wasserstein offers up many things to consider about the compromises people often make as they become adults in "The Heidi Chronicles." Heidi comes to stand for the principles held by a revolutionary generation that eventually had to grow up. By telling the story of an idealist who learns to balance personal disappointment with her hopes for future generations, "The Heidi Chronicles" offers insight among its humor that's as relatable and valuable now as when it was first written.

"The Heidi Chronicles" is currently playing on the Browning Mainstage of the Loretto-Hilton Center through March 4. See *http://www.repstl.org* for a full schedule and show times. Student rush tickets are available 30 minutes before each performance for $8.

Movie Preview: ★★★★★

'Old Joy'

Basic plot line does not detract from complex characters

BY JAMES HANSEN
jhansen@wbujournal.com

There was not a simpler film made in 2006 than Kelly Reichardt's "Old Joy." Reichardt molds together small, quiet moments and creates a resoundingly powerful, unforgettable film.

Focusing on two old friends who get back together for a weekend camping trip, Mark (Daniel London) drives around in his car and listens to Air America, clinging to its liberal idealism as if it is something of his forgotten past. He leaves his pregnant wife Tanya at home and picks up Kurt (Will Oldham), an old friend who still smokes pot and has become separated from most of his old friends.

Kurt is a fun-loving, free spirit who has held onto the ideals Mark wishes he could return to. Both men are in their mid 30s, but have taken very different paths. Kurt is clinging to every bit of youthfulness he can, while Mark has seemingly grown up much faster than he planned.

Kurt tries his best to reconnect with Mark and becomes frustrated at the difficulties. Kurt treasures the time they have to chat and be together, even while being lost searching for hot springs. Mark's mind, however, is on other places. With a pregnant wife at home added to an old friend with whom he just cannot connect, Mark is never at ease. As much as he tries to be a good friend, there is something missing.

At the same time, Kurt is not getting everything he wants out of Mark. However, "Old Joy" never makes it clear what exactly Kurt wants, because there are so many undercurrents and things unspoken in the relationship between the two that these desires can never be fully realized. In this search for lost brotherhood, both men are searching for many things in each other they will unfortunately never find.

Even when the springs are found, there is a sense of dread of something being out of place. Kurt tries to get Mark to relax and relish in the moments they have. To some extent Kurt succeeds, but at the same time both men know their relationship can never be the same as it once was in their youth.

At a brief 76 minutes, every moment in "Old Joy" is elegiac and sorrowful. From bugs on moss to shooting cans with a pellet gun to the reflection of the woods on a car windshield, Reichardt has an eye for finding beauty in the most drone moments. There is incredible depth and emotion behind each and every shot Reichardt puts on screen. Combining those images with the peaceful sounds of the woods and a perfect soundtrack by Yo La Tengo, Reichardt has made one of the most finely crafted and tightly composed films of this or any year.

By the time Mark and Kurt return home, Reichardt has brought out a lifetime full of regrets and a sense of separation and loss that few films can hope to achieve. "Old Joy" appears to be so simple that it can be easy to overlook and undervalue the heartbreaking and crushing finale. No matter the politics and leisurely pace, "Old Joy" is a film that is impossible to not identify with and a film that cannot be forgotten.

"Old Joy" plays as part of the Webster University Film Series at 8 p.m. Feb. 16 through 18 in the Winifred Moore Auditorium. Admission is free to Webster students with a valid student ID and $6 for the general public.

Movie Preview: 'Jesus Camp' ★★★★½

Documentary reveals power of evangelical movement

BY ANTHONY BARSANTI
abarsanti@webujournal.com

The recent exploits of fallen evangelical preacher Ted Haggard in massage therapy becomes more horrific when we see him brainwashing hundreds of worshippers desperate for salvation in this enthralling documentary of America's dormant army of evangelical radicals.

Surely to become one of the more enlightening documentaries on the American cultural ethos in recent years, Heidi Ewing and Rachel Grady's impartial "Jesus Camp" (2006) at Pastor Becky Fischer's Evangelical Christian group in North Dakota also works well as an advertisement for the faith.

A stout, non-threatening Midwestern mother, Fischer is determined to tear kids away from their worldly pleasures and give them a chance at expressing their deepest religious beliefs. Listening to the lengthy diatribes of the children who struggle greatly throughout the film to find just the right words to describe their inner feelings was dumbfounding.

The movie is seen through the eyes of the kids, who came from all over the country, including Missouri. We witness through a shocking, unobtrusive camera the very real preaching techniques of a radical religious sect most widely known for rising from the depths to elect the current president.

Depending on your religious or secular background (the directors are Jewish and Catholic), you can simultaneously adore the dedication to the cause of evangelicals and also be disgusted or even alarmed at the quasi-militaristic attitude they instill in children toward other faiths.

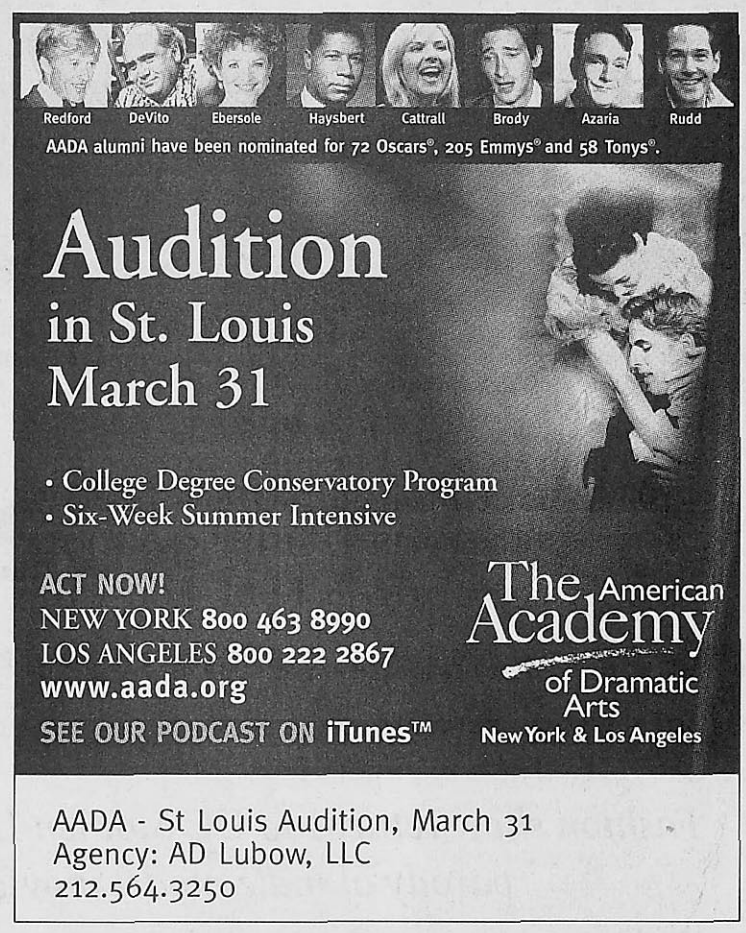
Levi, a young man of early high school age, has high aspirations to become an influential preacher. When asked to describe their faith, the children desperately try to repeat what they have been taught with a sense of credibility.

It is difficult to ignore the fact that these are children who have not yet been given the ability to contemplate the democratic ideas of choice and tolerance. They have been exposed to just the opposite, as Fischer herself says, since one third of the earth's population is under the age of 15, "where should we be putting our main efforts?" As for "our enemies … they're putting [their focus] on the kids."

Though this film is a largely unbiased study of a single group of people, the implications of the subject matter on our country's social-political structure are far too great for the viewer — or reviewer — to remain totally unemotional in response. Anyone interested in such matters should be able to set aside the time to watch this film.

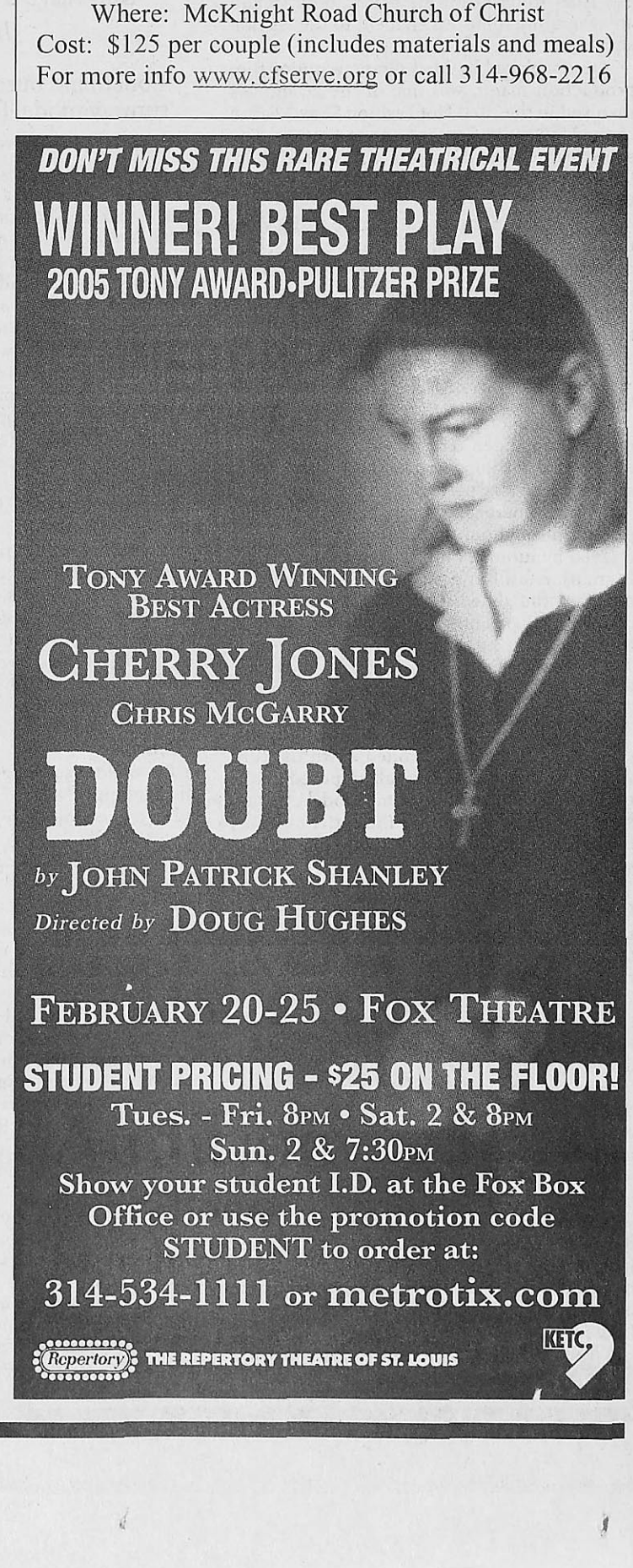
If another crisis on the order of Sept. 11 occurs, the movement of Fisher, Haggard and many millions of others may rise up in an all-out assault on the American tradition of democracy. With strong foundations in all three branches of the government, as well as our families, their task may be more realistic than anyone is currently aware.

"Jesus Camp" will show at 7 p.m. Feb. 18 in the Webster Village Apartments Clubhouse.



AADA - St Louis Audition, March 31
Agency: AD Lubow, LLC
212.564.3250

Growing Toward Marriage
A Seminar for Couples who are:
Considering Marriage, Engaged, or Newly Married
When: February 23 and February 24
Where: McKnight Road Church of Christ
Cost: $125 per couple (includes materials and meals)
For more info www.cfserve.org or call 314-968-2216



The Venue

A calendar of upcoming events on campus and around town

Thursday, February 15

• The Webster University Film Series presents the **"Rural Route Film Festival"** at 7 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium.
• President of the Anti-Defamation League, **Abe Foxman**, speaks on **"Passion of Leadership"** as part of the 2007 Success to Significance Speaker Series from 7 to 8 p.m. in the University Center Sunnen Lounge. Admission is free, but R.S.V.P.s are requested. For more information, call ext. 5951.
• The St. Louis Public Library sponsors the performance of choral group **"Legend Singers"** from 7 to 8 p.m. at the Julia Davis Branch, located at 4415 Natural Bridge Ave. The group's performances tell of slavery through music. Admission is free, but seating is limited. To make a reservation, call 383-3021.
• Campus Activities sponsors illusionist **Wayne Hoffman** at 9:30 p.m. in the UC Sunnen Lounge. For more information, call ext. 7708.

Friday, February 16

• The Webster University Film Series presents Kelly Reichardt's **"Old Joy"** at 7 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium.
• **Joe Schuster**, chairman and associate professor of the communications and journalism department, speaks on his recent work from noon to 1 p.m. in the UC Sunnen Lounge. Admission is free. Attendees may bring their lunch.
• **Willy Porter** and special guest **Jasmine** perform at 8 p.m. in the Sheldon Concert Hall, located at 3648 Washington Blvd. Admission is $15. For tickets or more information, call 534-1111 or visit *http://www.sheldonconcerthall.org.*
• The Contemporary Art Museum presents the multi-media event **"Heaven Sense"** at 7 p.m. among the Jim Hodges and Andy Warhol exhibits. The museum is located at 3750 Washington Blvd. Admission is $5. For more information, call 535-4660.
• Architect, historian and photographer **Andrew Raimist** lectures on **"The Birth of St. Louis Modernism: Harris Armstrong"** at noon in room 123 of the Sverdrup building. Admission is free and open to the public. For more information, call ext. 7171.
• **The Webster Anime Society** sponsors the Shoujo Tea Party at 4 p.m. in the UC Presentation Room. Admission is free and open to all students.

Saturday, February 17

• The Webster University Film Series presents Kelly Reichardt's **"Old Joy"** at 7 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium.
• **Michael Amante** performs at 8 p.m. in the Touhill Performing Arts Center, located at 8001 Natural Bridge Road. Tickets range from $20 to $30. Exclusive $50 tickets are available and include a post-show champagne reception with Amante. For more information or to purchase tickets, call 516-4949.
• **Henry Claude** and the **"Guitar Circus"** performs at 7 p.m. at the Trinity Presbyterian Church, located at 6800 Washington Ave. For more information, call 725-3840.
• **Don Vappie & The Creole Jazz Serenaders** perform **"Mardi Gras Celebration"** at 8 p.m. in the Sheldon Concert Hall, located at 3648 Washington Blvd. Orchestra seating is $30 and balcony seating is $25. For more information or tickets, call 534-1111 or visit *http://www.sheldonconcerthall.org.*
• The Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis sponsors **"Check the Rhyme: An Anthology of Female Poets and Emcees"** from 6 to 8 p.m. in Vaughn Cultural Center, located at 3701 Grandel Square. Admission is free and seating is limited. For more information, call 615-3624.

Sunday, February 18

• The Webster University Film Series presents Kelly Reichardt's **"Old Joy"** at 7 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium.
• The Webster University **New Music Ensemble** and **Mini Big Band** perform at 4 p.m. in the Singleton Chapel of St. John's United Methodist Church, located at 5000 Washington Place. There will be a reception immediately following the concert. Admission is free and open to the public. For more information, call 361-3543 or visit *http://www.stjohnsumcstl.org.*
• **"Kinda Hot, Sorta Blue,"** a concert to benefit the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America, begins at 2 p.m. in the Sheldon Concert Hall, located at 3648 Washington Blvd. General admission is $21. For more information or tickets, call 534-1111 or visit *http://www.sheldonconcerthall.org.*



Monday, February 19

• The Webster University Film Series presents Robert Mugge's **"Saxophone Colossus"** at 8 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium. The film will follow a live performance at 7 p.m. There will be a special $5 admission.
• An informational table for the **18th Annual Awards Ceremony (The Webbies)** will be stationed from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Marletto's Marketplace for students to find out more information about the event and turn in entries. There is no entry fee for submissions. The deadline for entries is March 2. For more information, call ext. 6959.

Tuesday, February 20

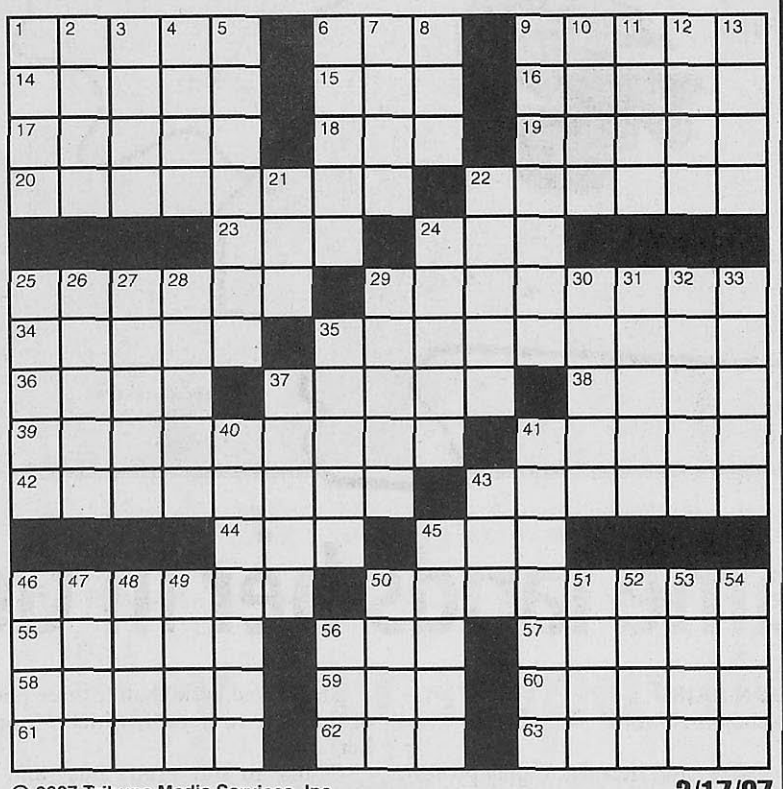
• The Webster University Film Series presents Part I of Bernardo Bertolucci's **"Novecento"** at 7 p.m. in the Winifred Moore Auditorium. The film will be in Italian with English subtitles.
• Former chairman and co-founder of Charter Communications **Barry Babcock** speaks on **"Turning the Channel on Corporate Culture"** as part of the *2007 Success to Significance Speaker Series from 7 to 8 p.m. in the* UC Sunnen Lounge. Admission is free, but R.S.V.P.s are requested. For more information, call ext. 5951.

Wednesday, February 21

• ***Scott Jensen,*** associate professor of the communications department presents **"Talking Up Speech & Debate: A Summer Teaching Tour of Eastern Europe"** from noon to 1 p.m. in the Emerson Library conference room. Admission is free. Attendees may bring their lunch.
• Webster University's Conservatory of Theatre Arts presents Ivan Turgenev's **"A Month in the Country"** at 7:30 p.m. in the Emerson Studio Theatre, *located at 130 Edgar Road.* There is a general $10 admission and $5 for students. For more information, call ext. 7128.
• **Chris Thile** performs at 8 p.m. in the Sheldon Concert Hall, located at 3648 Washington Blvd. Orchestra seating is $25, balcony seating is $22 and students have a general admission of $15 at either level. For more information or tickets, call 534-1111 or visit *http://www.sheldonconcerthall.org.*
• The St. Louis Public Library sponsors **"Freedom on My Mind"** from 1:30 to 3 p.m. at the Buder Branch, located at 4401 Hampton Ave. The movie is a documentary about the Civil Rights Movement and related events in the early 1960s. Admission is free, but seating is limited. To make a reservation or for more information, call 352-2900.

Want your event listed in The Venue? E-mail us at *calendar@webujournal.com* and get the attention of *The Journal's* more than 3,000 readers!

Crossword



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2/17/07

ACROSS
1 Union leader Chavez
6 Youth grp.
9 Smith and West
14 Texas mission
15 Legendary bird
16 Palace of Tiepolo's frescoes
17 Leaf collectors
18 Sweet drink
19 Demeanors
20 Licorice flavorings
22 Squanders
23 Derek and Diddley
24 Storage receptacle
25 Toy pistol
29 "The Partridge Family" co-star
34 Spoken
35 Venomous snake
36 Howard and Silver
37 Assistants
38 Fall guy
39 Items by couches
41 Flabbergast
42 Activity periods
43 Decreaser
44 ER personnel
45 LPs, updated
46 Chatter
50 Incarnadine
55 Not in the dark
56 Busy insect
57 Arledge of network sports
58 Bonheur and Parks
59 Travel org.
60 Burst of fire
61 Consecrate
62 Shack
63 Madrid mister

DOWN
1 "Fame" star
2 Zest
3 Pen name of H.H. Munro
4 Iowa State's home
5 "Citizen Kane" sled
6 Dourif and Pitt
7 Lays a lawn
8 Top pilot
9 Reference book
10 Lecture platform
11 Shelter a fugitive
12 "__ eyes have seen..."
13 Give guff to
21 Very long period
22 Airfoils
24 Skeleton
25 Concerns
26 In isolation
27 Small bodies of water
28 Sudden winds
29 Tarries
30 Church truth
31 Sub
32 Fad
33 Diner
35 Pottery ovens
37 Place to live
40 Without purpose
41 Soaks up
43 Excitement
45 Slip-prevention device
46 Caustic remark
47 MP's quarry
48 Military post
49 Lingerie pieces
50 Actor Bridges
51 Pineapple firm
52 Horse color
53 Automaker Ferrari
54 Bambi, for one
56 Harrumph!

Solutions

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				S	D	C		S	D	M				
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A	R	B	O	C	G	N	I	K		D	U	O	L	A
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				N	I	B		S	O	B				
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A	I	B	A	L		C	O	R		O	M	A	L	A
S	M	A	D	A		A	S	B		R	A	S	E	C

[redacted]

threatened, he may discharge his weapon.

The Flux Capacitor: Glance Into the Future

MEN'S BASKETBALL
SATURDAY, FEB. 17
@ PRINCIPIA
3 p.m.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
SATURDAY, FEB. 17
@ PRINCIPIA
3 p.m.

SWIMMING
LIBERAL ARTS INVITE
CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA

Basketball

Gorloks trap Battlin Beavers, split with the Red Devils

BY NIKOLE M. BROWN
nbrown@webujournal.com

MEN'S

The men's basketball team took on Eureka College and knocked off the Red Devils with a 76-68 victory Feb. 9. The win helped the team stay atop of the St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

Before the game, Eureka and Webster were tied for first place in the SLIAC. Head Coach Chris Bunch said although the team beat Eureka 62-57 in January he tried not to underestimate the Red Devils.

"I'm always a little worried," Bunch said. "The teams at the top of our league are pretty even."

The Gorloks took the lead early in the game. By the end of the first half Webster was up by 13, and continued to dominate the scoreboard the rest of the night.

Eureka tried to come back by the end of the second half closing the gap to three points, but the Gorloks pulled ahead with free throws from senior guard Scott Spinner and junior forwards Darin Hoggatt and Corey Kuhn.

Kuhn wound up going 9 for 10 from the free-throw line. Hoggatt pulled down nine rebounds and added 17 points.

The following day Webster beat Blackburn 84-75, keeping them on top of the SLIAC.

The trio of Hoggatt, Kuhn and Spinner were key figures in the victory. Hoggatt tallied 29 points and pulled down 10 rebounds. Spinner added 17 points, while Kuhn scored 14.

The Battlin Bavers took an early lead, but Webster quickly recovered. Sophomore Steve Hrdlicka sank a 3-pointer and the Beavers were never able to recover the lead.

Forward Shawn Nichoalds, a senior computer science major, said the win was due to the team's defense. Nichoalds added that although he is excited by the wins he's not going to focus on the upcoming tournament.

"We're taking one game at a time, and we're just going to play the best we can," Nichoalds said.

Coach Bunch said the conference is on his mind, but he is not going to make it the main focus for his players.

"We're going to worry about Fontbonne first and move from there," Bunch said.

Bunch said the team is playing well, with each player contributing to the wins.

"I just tell them to go out there and do their job, and we'll be OK," Bunch said.

After the two victories, Webster is tied with MacMurray for first place in the SLIAC.

Only two games remain in the regular season. The location of the SLIAC championship will depend on what the Gorloks do in the final games.

The tournament will be held at the school that wins the conference during the regular season.

"The Fontbonne game will be close, but I hope we get the conference home court advantage," Nichoalds said.

WOMEN'S

The women's team lost to Eureka 53-47 Feb. 9. Sophomore guard Dana Vahey said the team is staying positive.

"After a loss we're down, but we always come back," Vahey said.

Vahey said Head Coach Jayme Callahan continuously pushed them to do better and believe in the team.

The Gorloks looked to bounce back the next day against Blackburn. The Gorloks knocked off the Battlin Beavers 63-56 Feb. 10. The victory put the Gorloks in sixth place in the SLIAC.

It's been a tough season for the women. Vahey said the team is going to stay positive.

"Even the undefeated have something they can improve on," Vahey said.

Gorloks plot regional takeover

BY MATT GROVER
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It stretches from middle Missouri up through the heart of Illinois. It covers more area than MetroLink.

It doesn't hold as many passengers, but many college athletes have traveled the path this organization has laid out.

It's five simple letters.

SLIAC stands for St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference. Created in 1989, SLIAC is the athletic home of 10 NCAA Division-III universities throughout Missouri and Illinois.

In addition to Webster, the schools in the SLIAC are: Blackburn College, Eureka College, Fontbonne University, Greenville College, Lincoln Christian College and Seminary, MacMurray College, Maryville University, Principia College and Westminster College. The schools were assembled to form SLIAC in large part because of their close proximity to one another as well as similar athletic programs.

"These two reasons, more than anything, are why we are together as a conference," said Tom Hart, Webster's athletic director and vice president of the SLIAC.

The SLIAC offers 12 sports — six for each gender. The men's sports are baseball, basketball, cross country, golf, soccer and tennis. Women's sports are basketball, cross-country, soccer, softball, tennis and volleyball.

Some teams in the SLIAC partake in sports such as football and swimming. NCAA bylaws state every Division-III conference must have at least seven schools participate in a sport to be eligible for an automatic qualifier for the NCAA Division-III tournament. The SLIAC fails to field enough teams in these sports. Therefore, the schools compete independently.

Blackburn, Eureka, Greenville, MacMurray, Principia and Westminster are the SLIAC's football representatives.

The SLIAC's official Web site, *http://www.sliac.org*, said the conference would add four colleges from Minnesota in order to enable football to qualify for NCAA Division III tournament. The four Minnesota schools—Crown College, Martin Luther College, the University of Minnesota-Morris and Northwestern College—are scheduled to join the six SLIAC football teams in 2008.

However, Hart said football will probably "not be happening as publicized initially."

Hart said there are advantages to being a SLIAC member.

SLIAC members have nine other teams within their conference that they can play against, making scheduling easier. Athletes also gain more exposure, and officiating from referees is balanced.

"When you're in a conference, the conference does the assigning of officials," Hart said.



Graphic illustration by MAX GERSH / *The Journal*

You get a more standard feel."

Since SLIAC's inception, Webster teams have combined to win 24 SLIAC conference championships, including five titles each for the women's soccer and softball teams.

Webster also has taken home six All-Sports awards. The All-Sports Award was created in the 1998-99 season and is awarded to the school with the highest average finish in every sport combined.

As great as Webster has been on a team basis, many individuals have shined as well. Two of them—Jerelyn Guelker and Jeff Reis—will become the first Gorloks inducted into the SLIAC Hall of Fame Feb. 24.

Guelker, a volleyball player, won SLIAC volleyball player of the year in 1996 and 1997 and was a member of Webster's 1997 SLIAC Volleyball Champion team.

Reis was only at Webster from 1999 to 2001, but in his short tenure, he re-wrote SLIAC record books. Reis took home player of the year honors twice in basketball and once again in soccer. He set the SLIAC record for most points scored in a SLIAC basketball game by hitting 53 points in a game against Maryville in 2001. Reis also holds the SLIAC basketball record for most points scored in a two-year span by scoring 1,236 points in 51 games.

In the future, things will change a bit for the SLIAC. Lincoln Christian has elected to drop out of the SLIAC in 2008, shrinking the conference to nine teams. In addition, SLIAC commissioner Rich Meckfessel is retiring after this season.

Hart said a big reason the SLIAC has grown is because of Meckfessel's desire to improve communication between the schools.

"The work Rich Meckfessel did to help enhance accountability and responsibility for each institution has been an important part of our growth," Hart said.

Hart, who will take over as president of SLIAC next season—a role he held once before in 1998-2000, has already began searching for a new commissioner. Hart also is in the beginning stages of arranging the team schedules and organizing the SLIAC Hall of Fame.

"It's something that is an important responsibility," Hart said. "I'll make sure it's done properly."

Coach's love of game lands her in Germany



JEFF CURRY / *The Journal*

BY JON BAIRD
jbaird@webujournal.com

Angela Lewis-Moore was excited to learn to play professional basketball after graduating from St. Louis University. There was only one catch—it was in Germany.

Moore's coach at SLU put her in touch with an agent through a partnership with the head coach at the Univeristy of North Carolina-Charlotte. Moore took an offer to play in Germany and joined the Turner-Verin-Bensberg Division I team out of Bensberg, Germany. Bensberg is 119 miles northwest of Frankfurt, Germany.

For Moore, who had never been to Europe, let alone out of the country, it was a thrilling and intimidating year. She said the experience taught her about motivation and integrity.

"I learned to be comfortable being uncomfortable," Moore said. "Between a coach that didn't speak English and little things like drinks without ice, I just learned how to get by and not worry about it."

Moore said she was most surprised by the similarities of the game in Germany and the United States.

"The biggest thing is that people are people wherever you go," Moore said. "A high-five is a high-five and a smile is a smile, so eventually the difference in culture doesn't matter anymore, and you just have fun playing basketball."

Moore said one of the biggest differences she encountered in Germany was the size of her refrigerator, which was basically a college-sized mini-fridge.

"I'm used to a big fridge with a freezer that you can load up with stuff," Moore said with a laugh. "This thing was tiny, so my eating habits changed a little bit and I lost a little weight while I was there."

She played basketball fr three hours a day, and then had the rest of the time to herself, which Moore said began to disagree with her.

"I like to stay pretty busy and fill my time," Moore said. "I missed my family and my fiancé."

She came back to St. Louis in April 2005, got married, entered graduate school at SLU and started coaching at Metro High School off of Lindell Boulevard in St. Louis City.

The experience of playing where language was a barrier contributed to Moore's experience in a high-communication leadership position.

"I learned to be comfortable being uncomfortable." Assistant Coach Angela Lewis-Moore

The biggest motivator for Moore is her love of the game. She has played basketball for 12 years, and appreciates the game's ability to build character.

"Everything that happens on the court can be applied to life, whether it's teamwork or leadership, any of those values can be demonstrated in basketball."

Moore was recruited to coach at Webster, along with Assistant Coach LeAnn Harris, by Head Coach Jayme Callahan. All three are finishing their first season with Webster.

For now, Moore's focus lies on a strong finish for the season. She said she's pleased with the way the team has played, despite the 6-17 conference record.

Junior forward Jacquelyn Wamser was the only returning player from last season. The first-year coaching staff had to go out and find players that had an interest in playing.

"I think this is one of the most impressive teams that I've seen," Moore said. "The girls are just amazing. We didn't have many returning players, so we had to go out and find girls that just wanted to play. We wound up finding people with such raw passion for the game. They did everything we asked them to do."

The women's team finishes up its season at Principia College Feb. 17.