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## Best Bites Blog

Daily dispatches on the Washington, DC area's food, restaurant and dining scene.

### The Wrap-Up: The Week in Food

Every Friday, we fill you in on what's been happening in the local restaurant world.

By **Kate Nerenberg** Published Friday, May 08, 2009

- Given the issues on President **Barack Obama**'s plate these days—swine flu, General Motors' bankruptcy—it's no wonder we've seen him falling off the healthy-food bandwagon. On Saturday, he and First Lady **Michelle** had a **date night** at **Citronelle, Michel Richard**'s elegant Georgetown dining room. The President ordered braised short ribs, while Michelle opted for a lobster burger. They also shared a napoleon and a few other desserts.
- On Tuesday, Vice President **Joe Biden** joined the President and a press pool for **Michael Landrum**'s juicy ten-ounce patties at **Ray's Hell-Burger** in Arlington. The President insisted on paying—the press would write about his being a freeloader if he didn't—and stuffed a \$5 bill in the tip jar. He **got a cheeseburger**, medium-well, with Dijon mustard; Biden went with Swiss cheese, jalapeños, and ketchup.
- The First Lady dined at Capitol Hill's **Art and Soul** with nine women, including her mother, **Marian Robinson**, and White House social secretary **Desirée Rogers**. The Southern-inspired restaurant is helmed by **Art Smith**, a Chicago-based chef who has cooked for the Obamas many times. The group shared appetizers of salmon-caviar hoe cakes, pulled pork hoe cakes, and the Chesapeake seafood fry. Obama had crispy whole rockfish with rhubarb vinaigrette for her main course.