Star Performers

Athletes as Great as Their Grades
Raising High the Hopes  Among the 30 alumni volunteers for Habitat for Humanity who helped frame a home in St. Louis last fall was René Morency (foreground), A.B. (psychology) '91, a vice chair on the Young Alumni Executive Committee. (See Community Service Volunteers story on page 39.) With Morency are Yolanda Lankford (l.), spouse of Cardinals outfielder Ray Lankford, and friend Beverly Bonner.
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Short takes on WU's community of great minds and great ideas.

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Three alumni describe their favorite teachers.

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With the community as her laboratory, occupational therapy program director Carolyn Baum helps people improve their everyday lives.

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A series spotlighting key faculty and staff who help make a great University run.
Welcome to Wonderland!
It's not your ordinary laboratory. There is a distinct lack of beakers and not a centrifuge in sight. But make no mistake about it—serious research is under way in Mallinckrodt 100. "Today, class, we're playing with toys," Jeffery Matthews announced gravely at a recent session. Matthews, an artist in residence in the Performing Arts Department in Arts & Sciences, gestured to the juggling pins and jump-ropes, the foam snakes and stuffed monkeys and plastic bric-a-brac that lay scattered about the room. "Let's make some chaos."

Welcome to Drama 321, otherwise known as "Topics in Theatre: Staging Alice in Wonderland." Over the course of the fall semester, Matthews and his 20-odd students unleashed a bit of their chaos on the Lewis Carroll classic, creating an original stage version that debuted this spring in Edison Theatre. What makes the production unique, however, is that everything, from researching and writing a script to composing original music and designing sets and costumes, will be completed by the students themselves.

"Whatever it ends up being, it will truly be ours," Matthews notes wryly. "This is kind of a dream for me," he adds. "It offers all kinds of great problems for a class to solve. It requires them to make real decisions about every aspect of staging a theatrical work."

Rare Legal Commentaries Given to Law School
The School of Law has received an invaluable addition to its rare books collection—a first American edition of Blackstone's Commentaries on the Law of England—thanks to a generous gift from friends of the school. The set of four books came to the school from Cynthia Love Roth, a member of the Eliot Society and the widow of Benjamin Roth, who was a St. Louis lawyer and a friend and supporter of the law school. The volumes, which date back to 1771-72, are a reprint of the fourth Oxford edition. Originally published in England in 1769, Blackstone's Commentaries were published in the United States by Robert Bell in Philadelphia.

"Blackstone was one of five jurists considered the authority on English common law—the law established through the courts, as opposed to statutory law," says Philip Berstein, associate dean for information resources at the law school. "Colonial law in America drew from the English common law and was affected directly by these commentaries."

Asian Counsel Valued
Two closely spaced meetings of Washington University's International Advisory Council for Asia will play a part in the University's efforts to increase its presence worldwide as a leading research and teaching institution. Made up of 35 academic and professional leaders from 10 Asian countries and the United States, the International Council held its third annual meeting September 19 through September 21 in St. Louis, to coincide with the University's campaign kickoff. The fourth was in Tokyo from March 18 through March 20. At both gatherings council members—many of whom are alumni and parents—talked with Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton, Trustee leaders, and deans of all schools about issues such as Asian student recruitment, placement, and internships; alumni relations; scholarships; and philanthropic programs.

At the International Advisory Council meeting in September 1998, doctoral student Sandeep Sikka (computer science) describes his University experience. Other speakers were (left to right) Itaru Shiraishi ('00), Marifel Moyano ('01), and Hwakang Song (social work).
Study of America's Families Continues with New Grant

A national research network concerned with the future of America's families in today's economy received an economic boost of its own—a two-year $1,375,000 grant from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. The network is co-chaired by Robert A. Pollak, the Hernreich Distinguished Professor of Economics in Arts & Sciences and the John M. Olin School of Business.

The Network on the Family and the Economy includes nine leading scholars in economics, sociology, developmental psychology, and public policy from major research universities nationwide. The grant is a continuation of the network's pilot project, also funded by the foundation. It will support study in four areas—income and welfare, work and family, marriage and couples, and parents and children.

"We want to look at reasons why families in the United States have more money and fewer children but still are not faring well," Pollak says. The network will have a special emphasis on child and youth development and a particular interest in public policy problems facing low-income families.

"Productive Aging" Examined by Top Social Scholars

"Perspectives on Productive Aging: Toward a Knowledge-Building Agenda" was the focus of a groundbreaking academic meeting that brought 15 of the nation's top gerontological scholars to the George Warren Brown School of Social Work December 3 and 4. Sponsored by the school's Center for Social Development (CSD), the meeting offered leading gerontologists an opportunity to advance scholarship on the concept of productive aging and to explore a broader vision of aging.

Students, faculty, and other interested parties observed the proceedings via live video broadcast to adjacent classrooms. "The concept of productive aging has emerged in response to concerns that we have not fully recognized the contributions made by older adults, nor have we created the knowledge, policies, or practices to optimize their positive contributions to society," says Nancy Morrow-Howell, associate professor of social work.

Data show older adults continue to provide valuable services as employees, caregivers, and volunteers. The meeting was a response to huge U.S. demographic shifts now occurring, including the 76 million baby boomers who will turn 50 over the next decade and the women aged 85 or older who are the fastest-growing segment of the U.S. population.

Call of the WILD

Every year (with apologies to Jack London), Washington U. students hear the "call of the W.I.L.D."—that is, the annual "Walk In Lay Down" student party, held during fall semester on September 11 in Brookings Quadrangle. The fall fun was as free as the air that filled everything from an enormous bouncing globe to an inflatable and slippery rope-climb, not to mention a buoyant college-student-sized slide (above).

Bill Gates Speaks as WUTV Students Broadcast It All

Pop-quiz question: Who would be the ideal speaker to address students in a program called "Careers for the Next Millennium"? In our accelerating information age fueled by computer technology—which in turn shapes the times—the correct answer would be the first that comes to mind: Bill Gates, chairman and CEO of Microsoft Corporation.

And lo, on October 13, Gates (r.) packed the Field House at the Athletic Complex for a talk open only to students (at Microsoft's request): 2,000 from WU; 1,200 from other metro-area colleges and universities. Saying that the computing industry needs more talented people in technological fields, Gates conveyed his enthusiasm for the computing profession and encouraged talented computer types to choose careers in the field.

A career fair sponsored by the University's chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers ran along with the event, which the student-run WUTV captured live for Channel 22 from the moment of Gates' cue. Junior Mike Sholitan, a wide receiver for the football Bears, produced the broadcast; the rest of the crew were freshman Dan Beckman, director; freshman Erika Palmer, runner; and freshman Mihal Bryc and junior She Sathyanarayana, camera assistants.
New Knight Center Will House Top-Level Executive Training

A five-story residential learning center for executive education on the Hilltop Campus—the Charles F. Knight Executive Education Center—will be built for the John M. Olin School of Business on the former site of Mudd Hall. The facility, named for the chairman and chief executive officer of Emerson Electric Company, will house degree and non-degree programs for mid- through senior-level executives. It will also serve a growing need for career-long learning. The structure will enclose more than 120,000 square feet.

Groundbreaking will take place on March 24, 1999, and the facility should be finished in 2001. Unique to this part of the Midwest, the structure will include classrooms, group study rooms, dining facilities, lounges, a distance-learning studio, and 65 units providing overnight lodging. Because it will offer learning and lodging in an integrated environment—so that executive students no longer need to go off-campus for overnight lodging when they have classes—it is expected to attract participants from a wider geographic area than the school now serves.

"The Trustees' decision to build this structure signals the University's commitment to become a world-class provider of career-long learning opportunities to the management profession," says Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton.

New Post Helps University Expand Minority Purchasing

One of the things that has frustrated Sandra Marks as executive director of WU's Minority Youth Entrepreneurship Program for the past 12 years is that there were not more successful minority-owned businesses in St. Louis. But in September, Marks assumed a newly created directorship that will change the way WU does business and bolster local minority entrepreneurs. As director of minority- and women-owned business development for the University, Marks, a 1983 graduate of the Olin M.B.A. program, will help identify and establish relationships with minority- and women-owned vendors.

Since becoming director, Marks has been busy talking with local businesses and planning an interactive strategy for fostering strong minority business participation. "This is a good testimony to what Washington University is," she says, "The whole work force is diversified. If we refuse to work with minorities and women, we really limit our possibilities."

Wood Gift Boosts Business School's Campaign Effort

As part of the Campaign for Washington University, the John M. Olin School of Business has received a $5.6 million commitment from Howard L. Wood, B.S.B.A. '61, co-founder of Charter Communications, Inc. (see page 27), one of the world's largest cable television companies, and his wife, Joyce, B.S.B.A. '76, M.B.A. '77, owner of Wood and Associates, a management consulting firm, to establish the Wood Leadership Fellows Program. The program will provide two-year, full-tuition grants to 15 incoming MBA students for each of the next five years or more.

The fellowships will be offered to applicants to the Olin School who show the very highest potential. "The Wood Fellows will be a cadre of extraordinary student leaders who will attract employers, faculty, and other students," says Stuart I. Greenbaum, dean of the Olin School, and we are deeply indebted to Howard and Joyce Wood, outstanding alumni and staunch supporters, for funding this innovative program that will bring new acclaim and recognition to Olin's MBA programs." Wood Leadership Fellows will represent approximately 10 percent of the class entering in fall 1999.
Wrighton Discusses "Great Advances"

Though history likely will not associate the tenure of the 105th Congress with scientific achievement, thousands of advances occurred during the last year, and Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton was one of three university chief executives to tell the U.S. House of Representatives about them. Wrighton spoke to the House Science Committee at a September breakfast meeting in the Rayburn House Office Building in the nation's capital, joined by George Rupp, president of Columbia University, and Michael Aiken, chancellor of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The occasion marked the release of the Science Coalition's Great Advances report, which chronicles the year's great research. More than a dozen members of Congress attended, as did many administrators of U.S. universities. The Science Coalition is an alliance of more than 400 organizations, institutions, and individuals dedicated to sustaining the federal government's commitment to U.S. leadership in basic research. WU is a coalition member. Wrighton emphasized the need for federal funding for scientific research in the future and focused on new challenges and economic opportunities for which scientific discovery plays a pivotal role.

Washington People

Nine WU faculty members joined seven other St. Louis-area scientists as new fellows of the Academy of Science of St. Louis, inducted September 28 in May Hall at the St. Louis Science Center. The academy is a privately supported advocate for science education and collaboration in the sciences. The new Washington University fellows and their achievements are Louis V. Avioli, professor of orthopaedic surgery and the Sydney M. and Stella H. Shoenberg Professor of Medicine; Leonard Berg, professor emeritus of neurology and neurological surgery; Christopher I. Byrnes, professor and dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science; Dennis W. Choi, the Andrew B. and Gretchen P. Jones Professor and chair, Department of Neurology, and neurologist-in-chief at Barnes-Jewish Hospital; Joel D. Cooper, the Evarts A. Graham Professor of Surgery and head of the Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery; Larry A. Haskin, the Ralph E. Morrow Distinguished University Professor of Geochemistry in the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences; Kurt H. Hohenemser, professor emeritus of mechanical engineering; Susan E. Mackinnon, professor of otolaryngology and of surgery and head of the Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery; and Alan R. Templeton, professor of biology in Arts & Sciences.

Joseph J. H. Ackerman, professor and chair of the Department of Chemistry in Arts & Sciences, has been named the William Greenleaf Eliot Professor of Chemistry. The Eliot chair is the oldest professorship at WU, dating back to the University's earliest years. Ackerman, who also holds joint appointments as research professor of chemistry and as professor of radiology in the School of Medicine, is known internationally for his contributions to the application and development of nuclear magnetic resonance techniques for the study of intact living systems. Raymond E. Arvidson, chair of the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences in Arts & Sciences, has been appointed the James S. McDonnell Distinguished University Professor at Washington University. Arvidson's research is in the areas of Earth and space sciences, particularly the inner solar system planets of Mars and Venus and environmental studies of Earth.

Kenneth L. Jerina, professor of mechanical engineering, was installed as the first Earl E. Walker and Myrtle E. Walker Professor of Engineering in a ceremony in October. A gift from St. Louis industrialists Earl and Myrtle Walker to Washington University has established the endowed professorship in the School of Engineering and Applied Science.

William A. Peck, executive vice chancellor for medical affairs and dean of the School of Medicine, has been elected to the Institute of Medicine. He also has assumed the chairmanship of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC). A component of the National Academy of Sciences, the Institute of Medicine advances and disseminates scientific knowledge to improve human health, providing information and advice to the government, corporations, the professions, and the public. The AAMC represents the 125 accredited U.S. medical schools, the 16 accredited Canadian medical schools, more than 400 major teaching hospitals and health systems, nearly 90 academic and professional societies, and the nation's medical students and residents.

"Mark Twain Tonight!"

Veteran stage and screen star Hal Holbrook brought his vivid portrayal of Mark Twain to Edison Theatre on October 30. The sold-out one-man show about the American literary icon made one think Halley's Comet just might be back. Holbrook first appeared solo as Twain in 1954, when the young actor spent seven months honing his characterization in a Greenwich Village nightclub. Ed Sullivan saw the show and brought it to a national audience. More than 1,900 performances and 44 years later, "Mark Twain Tonight!" is one of the longest-running theatrical works ever.
Track and Field Champs Run for Repeat Season

Coming off one of the most successful seasons in school history, Washington University's men's and women's track and field teams are in the midst of another strong campaign in 1999.

Senior Emily Richard (front cover, r.) captured her second 5,000-meter national championship in less than one year at the 1999 NCAA Division III Indoor Track and Field Championships in Ada, Ohio. Richard, who won an outdoor national title in the 5,000 in 1998, also helped her team sweep the 1998 University Athletic Association indoor and outdoor competitions.

Richard earned three track and field All-America citations as a junior (two in the 5,000 meters and one in the 10,000) and began her final season under the guidance of head coach Rich Schilling (see page 15) with a second straight AU America performance (eighth place) at the 1998 NCAA Division III cross country championships.

WU Senior Named to Glamour's Top Ten College Women

Chosen from a group of more than 1,000 outstanding young applicants all across America, WU senior Amy Caudy has been named one of Glamour magazine's Top Ten College Women for 1998. Caudy was chosen for her outstanding scholastic and personal achievements as well as her contributions to her school and community.

She joins a highly diverse group of winners ranging from an aspiring astronaut to an economics major pursuing a career as a policy maker for the World Bank.

Caudy, a biochemistry major with a mathematics minor in Arts & Sciences, has set her sights on becoming a professor of molecular genetics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. As a sophomore, she received the prestigious Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship for science research for a two-and-a-half year project identifying the function of a regulatory stretch of DNA. In the University's Biology Outreach Program, she developed an ecology workshop for elementary school students.

Richard A. Alexander, assistant biology outreach director, has high praise for Caudy. "She came into my life as a 1995 pre-freshman biology summer scholar and has been energizing everything she came into contact with ever since," Alexander says. "She has volunteered for every conceivable responsibility, including teaching elementary and middle school students, talking to prospective WU students in high schools, and being a most excellent spokesperson for biology research here on campus."

The winners are profiled in Glamour's October issue.

Asian Art and Culture Spotlighted in Annual Series

The transformation of Chinese painting in the late Ming period (1595–1644) through the influence of Western art was the subject of a lecture last fall inaugurating an annual series, the Nelson I. Wu Lecture on Asian Art and Culture. A specialist in Chinese painting, Wu is the Edward Mallinckroit Professor Emeritus of the History of Art and Chinese Culture and a world-recognized scholar of Asian art and architecture.

The opening lecture, which featured Richard Barnhart, a professor and Chinese art expert at Yale University, drew a sizable audience of scholars, students, and St. Louis-area residents. As part of his talk, "Shadows and Gestures—European Images in the Visual Culture of Late Ming China," Barnhart showed how China and Japan saw European culture through the medium of European art and transformed this vision in their own art. Joseph R. Allen, associate professor of Chinese languages and literatures, organized the first lecture, along with Steven Owyoung, curator of Asian arts at the Saint Louis Art Museum.

The new series offers a talk each fall by an internationally renowned specialist in Asian art and culture, complemented by events and activities at each institution. All events are free to the public. For information on the series, call East Asian Studies at 314-935-4448.
Launching U. City's "Loop in Motion"

The arts took center stage in the University City Loop last October 10, when WU, the Center of Contemporary Arts, Craft Alliance, and the Saint Louis Symphony Community Music School announced a new arts district in University City. The Loop Arts District, bounded roughly by Enright, Kingsbury, Leland, and Trinity avenues, will serve as an umbrella organization for the funding of arts and education programming. Washington U.'s William H. Gass, the David May Distinguished University Professor in the Humanities and director of the International Writers Center in Arts & Sciences, made the announcement at the Loop in Motion Festival to an audience of about 300.

"E.G. Lewis, who founded [University City] in 1902— who put up the Magazine Building which later became City Hall, who commissioned the Lion/Tiger Gates he called 'The Gates of Opportunity,' who dreamed that the Taj Mahal and the Parthenon would one day ennable the place, and who planned a people's university and an Academy of Fine Arts—saw many of his dreams disappear the way the streetcar would," Gass says. "In times that became tough, then tougher, the Loop frayed like a worn-out buttonhole. But a loop is a loop—a turnaround. Enterprise and courageous merchants gave the area a remarkable economic boost. The library arrived to stabilize the neighborhood. . . . E.G. Lewis hoped to create an arts center here for the entire country; we shall have to begin by establishing one for ourselves."

Notable Research

We've Got Elegans!

Although several of them will fit on the head of a pin, the tiny roundworm known by the scientific name Caenorhabditis elegans made it big in December as Human Genome Project researchers in the United States and Great Britain announced they had sequenced the animal's 97 million-base genome. It marked the first time scientists had spelled out the instructions for a complete animal that, like humans, has a nervous system, digests food, and has sex. The work, carried out at the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis and the Sanger Centre, in Cambridge, England, was published in the December 11 issue of the journal Science.

"This is a tremendously gratifying moment and more of a beginning than an end," says Robert Waterston, the James S. McDonnell Professor of Genetics and leader of the St. Louis group that worked eight years to complete the job. "We have provided biologists with a powerful new tool to experiment with and learn how genomes function. We'll be able to ask—and answer—questions we could never even think about before."

In its two- to three-week life span, C. elegans carries out many of the same processes that humans do: they undergo embryonic development, eat, reproduce, get old, and die. Researchers have found them useful for studying early development, neurobiology, and aging. In fact, every connection in the worm's nervous system has been mapped, and the lineage of each cell in the adult animal's body has been tracked from the moment of fertilization. About 40 percent of the 19,099 genes match those of humans. The other 60 percent represent new mysteries awaiting explanation.

Developing brain is damaged by abused drugs, anesthetics

A paper in the January issue of Science reports that a class of drugs used to anesthetize children and sometimes abused by pregnant women can cause the death of nerve cells in the developing brain. The study's lead author, Chrysanthy Ikonomidou, associate professor of pediatric neurology at Humboldt University in Berlin, and co-author John W. Olney, professor of psychiatry and neuropathology at the School of Medicine, found that the rat brain is sensitive to this toxic effect during a developmental stage corresponding to the brain growth spurt in humans, which lasts from about the sixth month of pregnancy to a child's second birthday.

The compounds, which belong to a class called NMDA antagonists, include phencyclidine (PCP or "angel dust"), ketamine ("special K"), and nitrous oxide (laughing gas), all of which are drugs of abuse. In addition, ketamine and nitrous oxide are used commonly as anesthetics in pediatric medicine.

Experimental therapy makes HIV-infected cells commit suicide

Like a man strapped to a pack of dynamite, HIV-infected cells will self-destruct when rigged with a lethal protein combination. The virus lights the fuse when it tries to reproduce. The study, reported in the January issue of Nature Medicine, makes use of a new technology for introducing large proteins into cells.

"This Trojan horse approach should be applicable to many other infectious diseases, such as hepatitis C, malaria, and herpes," says lead researcher Steven F. Dowdy, an assistant investigator of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and an assistant professor of pathology and medicine at the School of Medicine. "We also hope that future modifications will allow us to selectively kill cancer cells."

The AIDS virus uses a protein called a protease to form enzymes it needs for reproduction. Drugs called protease inhibitors prevent reproduction, but protease mutations can make the drugs ineffective.

"The beauty of the protein fusion approach is that it is unlikely to be sabotaged by viral mutations," Dowdy says.
Washington University’s superb teachers have changed the lives of the students who have learned from them. Here, three alumni describe faculty whose lessons will last a lifetime.

John Vavra (1927-1987)
Former Assistant Dean; Professor of Medicine

Frank Vinicor: “He’s the professor and he doesn’t know how many causes of anemia there are?” I had been memorizing all 20 causes, despairing that I’d be forever learning lists, when Dr. Vavra told us in class: ‘You know, there are only three causes of anemia.’ I was incredulous. ‘You lose blood. You can’t make it. You destroy it.’ It was a revelation: ‘So there is a way to get a general framework!’ I thought. John Vavra saw the larger picture and he could articulate it. He had a different way of thinking.

“During my junior year, John Vavra was the attending physician at what was then St. Louis City Hospital. Those were rotations during which you were on call every other night working for long stretches that would be illegal now. In the midst of this hectic, intense, and stimulating environment his demeanor was remarkable. Tall and upright, he had a quiet dignity, and he conveyed this to patients and students. I think his way with us presaged a change in the relationship between students and faculty.

“He had a ‘liberal arts’ view of medicine, with a strong interest in the social sciences. When we presented cases, he did not focus solely on lab results. In a way that was at the time distinctly different, he talked of what it means to not have a job or a decent place to live. It is in part due to his approach that I have gone into the world’s premier public health agency where the impact of the wider environment on health is something we consider every day.”

Frank Vinicor, M.D. ’67, directs the Division of Diabetes, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, and is past president of the American Diabetes Association.

Greg Sullivan: “Just when you thought you had it all sorted out, that you owned the world, Professor Mukai would shift the horizons. He was famous for that. Even though I didn’t think it was so great at the time, [his] was a ‘value-added lesson,’ if you will, because that’s what life is like!

“My father suddenly needed bypass surgery and I was scared, torn between wanting to be with him and staying at school. Professor Mukai made it clear that there was no question where I should be. ‘I will help you get through this class,’ he said—and he did. Through him, at a young age I came to understand the significance of family.

“Once in Kansas City I drove to dinner with my folks, telling them about Professor Mukai and what it was like at Washington University. We pulled into the parking lot, I stepped out of the car, and my mother said it looked as if I’d seen a ghost—Professor Mukai was standing there on the sidewalk! He was in the middle of a weekend away, but, gentleman that he was, he joined us for a while. He was the first person (I couldn’t do it) who could explain to my parents what I was studying and at the same time make me understand the value of my degree. What I heard that night opened my eyes to a world of possibilities.

“I graduated and got a job with a company that folded within a year. I was so affected by this that I didn’t even tell my parents. But I thought back to Professor Mukai’s words, and their influence was one thing that helped me start my own business—and 17 years later I’m still at it!”

Greg Sullivan, B.S. (systems science and mathematics) ’81, is president and founder of G.A. Sullivan, a custom software-development company in St. Louis.

Kimberly J. Norwood
Professor of Law

Alexis Yablon: “You are scared when you start law school. You don’t know what to expect, and everyone tells you different things about how to survive. They say you should be in a study group or do this or that. Professor Norwood gave me the best advice: ‘You were successful as an undergraduate, so whatever you were doing there must have worked for you. Just do the same here.’ It was a relief to hear that—I could trust myself and go ahead with studying the way that works for me.

“She’s always accessible and approachable. Professor Norwood uses the Socratic method of teaching, but her style makes for a very comfortable classroom. You are not afraid to be called upon because the exchange is truly a dialogue. There is no humiliation, no tyranny. Instead of worrying about whether you will be called, you are able to focus on the material.

“Humor is very much a part of who she is; Professor Norwood uses that in class, too. Her teaching style is very animated. She would bring in articles to read and to discuss, applying torts to what was being reported in the papers; some of those still make me smile. And she brings real-world experience to teaching from her time as a practicing attorney.

“She’s an excellent professor and an outstanding individual. She’s a great role model—one of those exceptional women who ‘has it all’—successful in both career and family.”

Alexis Yablon, J.D. ’98, is studying for her LL.M. at the School of Law.
Recognizing the Importance of Planned Gifts — Washington University in St.

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WU'S NCAA DIVISION III STUDENT-ATHLETES HAVE IT ALL: the trophies, the talent, the breadth, and the grades—plus the drive they'll take to their professions. And they have coaches who care who they are.

Mark Edwards, Washington University men's basketball coach, sits up in his chair and pulls open the top right-hand drawer of his desk.

"Here it is, right here," he says, plucking out a highlighted photocopy of a St. Louis Post-Dispatch article from more than a decade ago. "This is my motivator."

The article quotes a former head basketball coach at Southeast Missouri State, squawking about NCAA legislation that would limit athletic scholarship and recruiting opportunities. The highlighted part reads: Maybe we shouldn't have scholarships. Let's all play Division III basketball and football and volleyball. Let's have tea before the game,
BY VAHE GREGORIAN

let's have milk shakes afterwards and everybody will be happy. . . . We'll all be recruiting Phi Kappa Phi's who can't play.

But the coach's argument is askew—and not just because he meant to say Phi Beta Kappas.

Competition in NCAA Division III, Washington U.'s chosen forum in which athletic scholarships are not provided, is no less zealous than at any other level. And contrary to what the uninformed may believe, the players are well-decorated, meticulously recruited athletes.

"The characteristics people who want to achieve in the classroom have—wants to excel, working hard, caring—don't go away when they go out on the basketball court," says Nancy Fahey,
WHY NOT DIVISION I?

Even so often, a well-meaning fan of WU sports asks athletics director John Schael, "Why don't you go Division I?"

Besides the infinite financial commitment and countless logistical issues it would entail, there is an important reason not to, Schael says. "We're very happy with our program, and we're very happy with the fit that we have. It's just not going to happen. It's not the culture. It would change the mission."

When WU was helping form the University Athletic Association, then-Chancellor William H. Danforth wrote to a friend who headed a private Division I university and urged him to join.

"I got back a letter that read, 'Dear Bill: I can't. Count your blessings,'" Danforth says. "There are some wonderful schools that are Division I, and certainly that's fine. But for us, it's much better to think of athletics as one part of going to college, and not put pressure on young people to perform in order to get athletic scholarships."

"It just seems to me that's not a wise use of our resources."

—Vahe Gregorian

According to the UAA mandate:

UAA members share the belief that academic excellence and athletic excellence are not mutually exclusive. Implicit in this belief are several sets of assumptions. The first is that the academic enterprise is the primary element. Student-athletes are just that—students first and athletes second.

The second set of assumptions has to do with athletic excellence. Athletic excellence is not to be confused with a win-at-all costs attitude. The distinction between a win-at-all-costs attitude and striving to win is significant, and it illuminates the role of athletics at Washington University, which in Division III history has produced a number of athletes recognized outside the sphere of Division III. Volleyball player Amy Albers was the only Division III athlete to participate in the 1993 U.S. Olympic festival; Jed Bargen played basketball at Nebraska before transferring to WU because of its engineering program; and several football players have interested NFL scouts.

For WU's star athletes and all the Bears, winning is certainly the idea, Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton says. "Our outstanding athletes are intense competitors, and winning does matter. But our scholar-athletes know that the University experience is broader than their athletic achievements. What is so remarkable is how well we do in competitive intercollegiate sports in such a rigorous academic setting."
The athlete's life is broader at WU than at a Division I school, where athletes often are compelled to live together and spend time only on athletics and academics.

Before his team was to play third-ranked Trinity University (San Antonio, Texas) in October, for example, football coach Larry Kindbom found many players agonizing over whether they'd get a chance to hear Microsoft's Bill Gates speak on campus the next week. That was not a complaint but an observation from Kindbom, who began coaching as an assistant to the legendary Woody Hayes at Ohio State.

"It's hard not to like having 90,000 people in the stands," he says, referring to games at Ohio Stadium. "But I'll be honest with you: We don't have our student population [about 5,000 undergraduates] at games because we have some in theater. We have some working with Habitat for Humanity. To me, that's school spirit. They're into this school. They don't center their lives around what others are doing. I love that. I really do."

says Steve Steinbruegge, class of 2000, who has two majors at the John M. Olin School of Business and plays both football and baseball: "We do invest a lot of time, but [sports are] not our lives. None of us will lose a scholarship if we play badly. This is the ideal situation for a student-athlete."

Laughing, he adds: "Don't get me wrong—playing in front of 50,000 people would be great. But since there aren't that many fans at the games, you mainly see your friends. That's kind of neat."

The perspective and balance at the University are also why some student-athletes who had been offered athletic scholarships at other schools came here.

"I'm a pretty independent person," says junior Alia Fischer, 1997-98 and 1998-99 Division III women's basketball national player of the year. "I like to meet a lot of different people and do a lot of different things. We have a very intense, very high level of commitment, but I think being in just a completely athletic environment all day would be almost burdensome.

"To me, that would kind of say athletes are better than other people, or different from other people."

Fischer, who is active with Mentor St. Louis and the Catholic Student Center, believes not being on athletic scholarship allows her to make a broader investment in her future—not to mention her present.

"You don't feel you're being owned; a lot of people that I've talked to [at Division I schools] sometimes get that feeling," Fischer says. "Here, you know the whole team is playing because they love to play."

After the turbulence of the 1960s, though, the school was unsure of how it felt about athletics—among other issues. The men's basketball program was dropped from 1971 to 1981, and the department was rudderless through much of the '70s.

The balanced philosophy wanes in the '20s and '30s; the Bears play Notre Dame, Army, Nebraska . . .

In a move not so much anti-sports as anti-excess, then-chancellor Arthur Holly Compton in 1947 ends athletic scholarships in favor of true amateurism. The decision is met with dismay. One result: Women's varsity sports are dropped from 1955 until 1973, when NCAA Division III is formed.

University Athletic Association competition begins in 1986. WU now fields 17 intercollegiate athletic teams, including eight for women.

—Vahe Gregorian, based in part on research by David Moessner.
A COACH ON DIVISION III

After two seasons coaching men's soccer at Washington University since leaving Division I Saint Louis University, Joe Clarke feels a difference. The pressure is different. At SLU, "you needed to win in order to keep your job. Winning and making the playoffs every year [12 of 14] wasn't enough," says Clarke, without rancor. He adds: "I love coaching here. I lo-o-o-ve it!" Among the reasons: While winning is urgent, it isn't a matter of near-desperation as it is in Division I, where athletes are on scholarship, sports should produce revenue, and coaches are most accountable for the most visible aspect of their program.

At WU, in contrast, if a player gets a C on a test, Clarke has been known to let him have a few days away and rejoin practice when he feels on top of the situation. But Clarke wants the players ready to challenge for the national championship. Academics are first, Clarke says, but "I want soccer to be a close second."

—Vahe Gregorian

“...When the radical era hit, the traditions, including sports traditions, were [dropped],” Board of Trustees chairman William H. Danforth, the former chancellor, says. “The traditions weren’t as embedded as they might have been, so we came out of it with very few student organizations left: fraternities, sororities, the student newspaper, and little else.” Neglected facilities epitomized the times.

“You could hardly dribble a ball in the gym without hitting a warped part of the floor,” Danforth says. “The whole student culture on campus needed to be recreated, and we were able to, over a period of time, with the right people.”

Essential among those people was Danforth, who has the unstinting devotion of the coaches. Kinckham calls him “courageous and willing to take risks,” and still is amazed by his memory of Danforth with a broken leg, climbing through the stands on crutches. Clemens, who says she was “the most competitive coach in [all] volleyball,” has lavish praise for Danforth’s attendance at away games and for his thoughtfulness. When she was wooed for a particularly attractive Division I job, for example, she went to him because she knew he had been courted by universities all over the nation. “What made you stay?” she asked. She says his reply will stay with her forever. “He said, in his low voice, ‘Well, Teri, it’s an old-fashioned thing called commitment.’”

Clemens’ own commitment moved her players, many of whom cried when she announced her retirement. One describes the valued lessons that endear other WU coaches to their teams: “Coach Clemens has a way of teaching competitiveness in a way that helps you gain self-assurance and poise,” says volleyball player Jennifer Martz, a second-team academic All-American who chose WU over Yale. “She really teaches you not just how to act on the court but how to carry yourself in general. It definitely becomes part of your personality and a way of life.”

Whether to make Washington University a way of life again was the question for Mark Edwards, a 1969 graduate who was an assistant coach at Division I Washington State when his alma mater decided to restart the program. When he spoke with Danforth, Schael, and others, he believed in what they were selling.

“I think Washington University went through an identity change in the 1970s [asking] ‘Who are we, and what do we want to be?’” Edwards says. “Basketball was dropped before the questions were answered, and it was brought back once the question was answered.”

How it was answered embodied precisely what Edwards wanted to hear. And it’s been backed up:

Junior Tim Julien has earned All-America honors in cross country and track and field. He has helped develop both Washington University programs into regional powers and annual challengers for the University Athletic Association title.
When Schael took over in 1978, the athletic department had four full-time employees. Today it has 35, and shimmering facilities that were face-lifted after extensive fundraising.

"We are not autonomous," says Schael, who notes that his budget is allocated evenly across the board for each program and that his department also is in charge of club sports, intramural sports, physical education, and recreation. "But we have a lot of freedom—and the expectation is we will make the right decisions."

Meanwhile, Edwards says his Division I friends tell him he has the best job in America because of the committed-but-harmonious context of sports at the school. "A lot of people [initially] didn’t understand why I came back from Washington State," he says. "But the truth of the matter was that Washington University knew what it wanted to accomplish, they had a plan in order to get there, and they had good leadership. Now, those three things are missing at probably over half of the Division I programs in the country. The losing half."

Crucial to the flourishing program is its stability, which Schael has provided directly and indirectly: directly, in terms of the way he runs the department; indirectly, in the sense of his uncanny vision for hiring coaches who are both vibrant and a snug fit.


Not that everything is always simple for them. Edwards recalls an episode in a Baltimore hotel the night before a game at Johns Hopkins. He woke up around two a.m. to slamming doors and running feet. He looked out of his room and caught the blur of a player running. Edwards said nothing until the next night, when the team lost and seemed lethargic. "I was really disturbed. I told them how I felt, how disappointed I was."

Then he found out what had happened the night before. "Four or five guys were working on a calculus problem," he says, smiling, "and running back and forth testing different ideas of how to solve it. So how can you stand there and chastise these guys when they’re practicing what you’re preaching?"

And that’s a meager price to pay for the reward: According to the UAA, in 1997–98 WU’s male athletes carried a 3.09 grade-point average; the women, a 3.11.

"At Washington U., it’s not a matter of how many graduate," Edwards says, "it’s a matter of how many degrees they get."

"No one wants to win more than I do," says Larry Kindbom. "But the highlight is being at graduation, watching each of these guys go on—and then come back." And they do—as doctors, scientists, engineers.

"Winning is important, and I don’t think it’s fair to the kids’ efforts to downplay that," says Edwards. "But winning is an objective—it’s not the end."

Vahe Gregorian is a writer for the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

For all sports information on the Web, including WU’s club sports ranging from crew to rugby to water polo: bearsports.wustl.edu.

Joe Clarke (men's soccer): Former Saint Louis University coach led Bears to 1997 NCAA regional final in his first season before losing to eventual national champion Wheaton.


Doug Hippler (women's soccer): Took team to first-ever No. 1 ranking and NCAA quarterfinals in 1998, a season after advancing to semifinals and losing to eventual champion University of California-San Diego.


Greg Kennett (men's tennis): Went 18-5 in first season as team finished second to Emory at UAA Championships.

Larry Kindbom (football): Has led Bears to six successive winning seasons and three UAA championships in 10 years.

Ric Lessmann (baseball): Has a career record of 1,069-405-1 and was third-winningest junior college coach in the nation before coming to Washington U.

Rich Schilling (men's and women's cross country and indoor and outdoor track): Led men's cross country team to its first NCAA postseason appearance in 1997. Coached Emily Richard, who has won two national championships in the 5,000 meters in the last year.

Unlocking People’s Potential

by Nicole Vines

With the community as her laboratory, occupational therapy program director Carolyn Baum helps people with disabilities improve their everyday lives.

Scientist Carolyn Baum conducts her research not in an electronically outfitted room replete with special supplies but in a living laboratory: the St. Louis community. There, she asks questions about everyday lives.

An assistant professor of occupational therapy and neurology and the Elias Michael Director of the graduate Program in Occupational Therapy (OT), Baum works primarily with people with cognitive loss. Her OT colleagues help adults with disabling conditions, families whose children have disabilities, men and women who are mentally ill. Together they use science and creativity—trademarks of the profession—to help patients overcome disability through activity.

Two attributes Baum brings to her research and her program—strong initiative and a drive to aid people with disabilities—surfaced before she reached adulthood. Although she had toyed with the idea of becoming an occupational therapist since she was a teenager, Baum grew up in a town where few even thought of going to college. After much prodding from Baum and her mother, her father finally agreed to send her to college—but he insisted she major in home economics. After a year at Kansas State University and a test that required identifying 100 spices by smell and touch, Baum had had enough.

"I realized I had to be an occupational therapist," she says. "And I decided I'd just have to do it on my own." She did that and more, eventually earning
three degrees (including a Ph.D. with an emphasis on social policy in aging from WU's George Warren Brown School of Social Work in 1993). After earning her bachelor's degree in OT, Baum joined the field as a clinician in 1966 and worked in various rehabilitation services in Kansas City. Ten years later, the School of Medicine's Irene Walter Johnson Institute of Rehabilitation hired her to develop its occupational therapy clinical service. In 1988 she became director of the Program in Occupational Therapy, in charge of academic and research programs for three full-time faculty and 18 graduates. "I knew that in the tradition of Washington University we needed to be an academic discipline—generating knowledge and building relationships that would strengthen the University," she says.

When Baum became program director, the field had few scientists. To build the science to support the program, she called on School of Medicine psychologists Robert Amli, Dorothy Edwards, and Jan Duchek, all of whom have a research interest in performance, and paired them with OTs to start generating research activities. "We just sort of 'grew' occupational scientists," she says.

Baum's OT colleagues criticized her because few understood the diversity of the faculty. "Some questioned how we could teach occupational therapy when we didn't have many OTs on the faculty," she says. "We just sort of let it roll off our backs because we knew we were teaching knowledge—the basis of doing good work."

OT has thrived under the interdisciplinary approach: In 1998, U.S. News & World Report ranked the program third in the nation among schools such as the University of Southern California, in Los Angeles; Boston University; and New York University. "We are one of the top science-based programs in the country," Baum says. "It's rewarding for our peers to recognize us and to look to us for leadership."

Mary Law, professor of rehabilitation science at McMaster University, in Ontario, Canada, says: "Dr. Baum challenges everyone—students, faculty, and occupational therapists—
“People’s potential may not be at all obvious,” Baum says. “We have to find ways to unlock their abilities.”

Eliminating “excess disability”
Baum’s own research is driven by her desire to eliminate excess disability. (The term describes a disability that unnecessarily hinders a person—one that can be eliminated if she is trained to achieve despite her limitations.) In her own research, Baum focuses on maximizing the function of persons with cognitive loss and minimizing the burden on their caretakers. In the process, she has found that Alzheimer’s patients who continue to perform daily tasks can take care of themselves better than those who do not remain active, and have fewer disturbing behaviors. She also has found that disturbing behaviors—not the extra work involved in caregiving—cause the caregiver the most stress.

Baum learned this early in her training at a New Jersey state mental hospital, where she worked with a woman in a catatonic state. Receiving no more than a moan in response after days of talking to her, Baum decided to leave the patient pencil and paper. Later that day, she was surprised and pleased to find the woman had composed a poem. Today, the former patient is living happily in a group home and has corresponded with Baum for 35 years.

“People’s potential may not be at all obvious,” Baum says. “We have to find ways to unlock their abilities.”

Dorothy Edwards, research assistant professor of occupational therapy and assistant professor of neurology, has collaborated with Baum for 18 years. “Carolyn has always intuitively known what we need to study, and that makes her an amazing researcher,” she says.

Working with the University’s Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center (ADRC), the two scientists developed a series of performance-based functional measures that ADRC founder and emeritus professor of neurology Leonard Berg says were badly needed. “They created measures that help translate what one finds from psychological testing of an Alzheimer’s patient to their performance in everyday life.”

The tests, including cooking oatmeal, making a phone call, and paying a bill, sound simple. But Baum, to incorporate science, theory, and research into their everyday practice as health professionals. She has developed one of the most outstanding and innovative programs in the United States.”

Today the interdisciplinary M.S. program has 37 faculty and 300 students, 100 of whom graduate each year having completed two years of coursework and six months of fieldwork. These advanced clinicians enter geriatric rehabilitation, occupational medicine, ergonomics, and pediatrics. Baum also is collaborating with a School of Medicine committee to implement a doctorate in rehabilitation science.

Second-year OT graduate student Laura Hoelting says she was drawn to the University’s OT program because of the faculty’s expertise. “The faculty’s diversity has challenged me to seek new knowledge and strive for academic excellence.”
says the tasks determine whether an individual can live independently. "I have a body of knowledge that may not seem complicated to some, but the mechanisms—cognitive, psychological, or physiological—support a person's ability to function, and that is very complex," she says. Today, these testing measurements are standardized worldwide on populations of people with Alzheimer's disease and are being studied on patients with stroke and brain injury.

Building cross-disciplinary coalitions
In her latest project, Baum has organized 22 researchers—from communication science, education, neurobiology, neurology, neuroradiology, neurological surgery, occupational therapy, philosophy, and psychology—to study cognitive loss. Because at first the highly trained investigators "couldn't relate because of very little collective experience," Baum created visual case studies of a head-injury patient and a stroke patient. By allowing the researchers to talk only about their work in relation to these cases, she guided the group into interdisciplinary dialogue.

Berg says that he has always been impressed with the way Baum draws together teams of investigators and then implements research strategies. "Carolyn is an innovative thinker who can organize an academic approach to problems."

In August 1998, the collaborators received a four-year, $600,000 grant from the James S. McDonnell Foundation and a three-year, $300,000 grant from the Washington University McDonnell Center for Higher Brain Function to implement four pilot studies on brain injuries caused by stroke or trauma.

"We are building through community participation a project that will measure brain function from the point of injury," says Baum. "In order to develop predictive models, we must have measures to refer to as patients' rehabilitation progresses. To improve the quality of life of persons with chronic disease and disability, we need to understand the impact of impairments on everyday life."

Occupational science is one piece of a large puzzle, Baum says. "If we're going to try to improve people's everyday lives, we have to build coalitions across disciplines, and that's why Washington University is a wonderful place for our science to be."

Nicole Vines is media coordinator in the Office of Medical Public Affairs. For further information about the program, please see www.ot.wustl.edu

Facing page, top: Although paralyzed, Eric Westacott, a Saint Louis University Law School student, acquired the skills and endurance to drive a van.

Facing page, bottom: Dorothy Edwards encourages St. Louisan Agnes Wilson (r.) to participate in a program in which older adults with cognitive loss can socialize.

Left: In her own research, Carolyn Baum focuses on maximizing the function of persons with cognitive loss and minimizing the burden on their caretakers.

Works in Progress

"Carolyn is in touch with what's going on in health care," says Baum's collaborator Dorothy Edwards. "She put OT in a position to manage health-care changes. Better yet, Washington University is in a position to be part of that process."

OT faculty have developed research projects ranging from social policy to client care. Some examples:

• Baum and a group of students are investigating how some sensory changes accompanying aging end up being unnecessarily debilitating. "We hope to remove barriers so
Bringing on the best—
not the best sellers—
is the specialty of the
International Writers Center,
which reinvents tradition
and creates new culture.

Choosing a book to read can be a fairly mindless endeavor in today's culture. With the New York Times Best Seller List, Oprah's Book Club, and publishers' monumental marketing blitzes guiding the way, readers are swiftly led to "what's hot."

But the International Writers Center in Arts & Sciences is in the business of uncovering "what's best." The center, which opened in 1990 and is directed by writer and David May Distinguished University Professor in the Humanities William Gass, puts together an annual reading series filled with rare finds.

"The series is really about discovery, or How to Sell an Unsuspecting Public an Unknown Writer," says Lorin Cuoco, associate director of the center.

The emphases in the reading series are internationality and writers who are breaking new ground. Choosing the four writers who will read each season is a process of diligent investigation for Gass, Cuoco, and members of the center's advisory board and staff, which includes program coordinator Michelle Komie, B.A., B.F.A. '97.

"Some of the writers we invite are people whose careers we've been following, but others are news to me, too," Gass says. "We stumble across something, or someone gives us a suggestion, and we dig up a book, read it, pass it around and discuss it, then dig up another one. We're always looking for someone who is unusually interesting and talented."

While bigger names are sure to draw bigger audiences, Gass says well-known authors often are brought into the city on book tours, and the center strives to provide an alternative. He adds that the center's board and staff feel that many of the biggest names "just aren't good enough writers" for the series. "We're not interested in bringing high-profile hot-shots just because everyone's excited about them at the moment."

Gradually, more and more of the general public, as well as faculty and students on campus, are getting excited about the center's series, which draws an ever-increasing audience because of its reputation for featuring talented writers. A few of the readings in its West Campus quarters during the last two seasons have drawn standing-room-only crowds exceeding 200.

"I've been attending the series since its beginning," says Jeffrey Hamilton, a graduate student in the English department. "The high seriousness of Professor Gass' commitment to a literate community may not be fashionable, but I know my life would be poorer without it."

While many of the writers are little-known when they first come to St. Louis to read, the center has an impressive record of inviting writers who later become renowned. Yusef Komunyakaa read in the inaugural 1993 series and won the Pulitzer Prize for poetry in 1994; Steven Millhauser read in 1995 and won the Pulitzer Prize for fiction in 1997. Several also have received Lannan Literary Awards and MacArthur Fellowships, known as genius grants. In this sense, the center has a knack for speculation and prediction, investing in promising writers in much the same way an art investor hunts for artists with undiscovered talent, buying their work before the prices skyrocket.

For young writers like poet Anthony Butts, who opened the series in 1998 and just published his second book, the invitation to read at
the center was an auspicious sign. “I feel like something good is going to happen to me in the near future because [IWC] touched me on the shoulder,” Butts says. “Everything they do seems to be gilded, and seems to come to something important.”

“Everything they do” amounts to much more than just the reading series. Although the International Writers Center is affiliated with the University, Gass and Cuoco have made a deliberate effort to involve the larger community. The center publishes a monthly literary calendar detailing readings, book signings, events, workshops, and writers’ groups throughout the metropolitan area. It has collaborated with the Symphony Society, the Opera Theatre, the Saint Louis Art Museum, and bookstores. The center is also involved in a program called MetroLines, which displays poetry on St. Louis’ light-rail system.

Conferences, held every few years, bring writers from across the country and world to St. Louis. Themes have been interdisciplinary in nature, ranging from “The Writer in Politics” and “The Writer in Religion” to “The Dual Muse: The Writer as Artist, The Artist as Writer.” Gass says the conferences “avoid the scholarly stodginess that can overtake things” and also “avoid being too parochial,” as other writers’ conferences in the country sometimes are.

Creating books based on the conference proceedings has been an unexpected, major occupation for the center, which has published three books named for each of its three conferences to date. The IWC also collaborates on additional projects, including one with the Missouri Historical Society, Literary St. Louis: A Guide, slated for publication in 2000.

Poet and critic Susan Stewart, a MacArthur Fellow who read in the center’s 1997–98 reading series, says the center’s many endeavors “make an enduring contribution to American letters. It is a place where new culture is made, but also one where a continuity with tradition is taken on in inventive ways.”

As the center’s staff members look to the future, reinventing tradition and creating new culture, they are planning a 2000 pre-millennium conference, “21 on 20: Twenty-First Century Writers on Twentieth-Century Writers.”

The theme emerges from the same sense of up-to-the-moment discovery that shapes the annual series, Gass says. “We’re going to find the 10 best young writers from around the world—the people who will be shaping what writing is in the 21st century—to tell us where literature is headed and to show us what the old fogies did wrong.”

Kristin Bakker is a writer in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and a former editor in the Publications Office.

Additional information about the IWC appears on its Web site at www.arts.wustl.edu/-iwc. To be included on the center’s mailing list, please call 314-935-5576 or e-mail the center at iwc@arts.wustl.edu.

RECENT AND RECOMMENDED

For starters, here from the International Writers Center ‘90s reading series are 10 names to try. “This group is deliberately diverse, exhibiting a wide range of backgrounds, interests, and styles,” says director William Gass, “but one thing, we think, unites them—excellence.”

MARY CAPONERO, recipient of a Rome Prize Fellowship in Literature, is a fiction writer whose books include Five Doubts (Marsilio, 1998).


LYDIA DAVIS, translator of many important French writers, has published a short-story collection, Almost No Memory (Ecco Press, 1998).

LYNN EMANUEL published a tandem volume of poetry: Hotel Fiesta and The Dig (University of Illinois Press, 1994).

EMILY GROSZ, a German-born poet based in London and a highly regarded translator. His books of poetry include Corona, Corona and K.S. in Lakela (Ecco Press, 1990).

MICHAEL HOFMANN is a German-born poet based in London and a highly regarded translator. His books of poetry include Corona, Corona and K.S. in Lakela (Ecco Press, 1990).

BEN MARCUS, a fiction writer, has published The Age of Wire and String (Dalkey Archive Press, 1998).

BEN OKRI, a Nigerian novelist, won the Booker Prize for Famine Road (Doubleday, 1991).


JOANNA SCOTT, novelist and story writer and a MacArthur fellow, has written Various Antidotes (Henry Holt, 1994), a short-story collection.
For years, genetics labs all over the world tried to develop a machine to gather tiny dots of material from lines of petri dishes. Nothing worked — until a molecular biologist, a mechanical engineer, and an undergraduate student created . . .

Elaine Mardis remembers grabbing a seat near the back of the room. Fresh off a week at Cold Spring Harbor—a sort of nirvana for geneticists on Long Island, New York—she suffered an academic hangover: lots of long nights debating and learning and avoiding sleep until her brain ached from overload.

And, she had to admit, the steady flow of Guinness Stout probably hadn't helped matters.

At the meeting, she faced a panel of several of the world's top geneticists, who were in St. Louis to review Washington University's human genome efforts. She was confident they'd find little to complain about.

By 1995 the University established itself as a world leader in this race. Washington and Cambridge universities each would sequence 1 billion base pairs, leaving 1 billion to be split among the scores of other universities worldwide working on the project.

The panel clicked through items on the agenda, and Mardis' confidence grew. Until they questioned her about her robot-in-progress, the plaque-picker.

"Are you aware how others have tried this and failed?" one member asked.

"Dr. Mardis, you may well get this patient off the operating table and into the recovery room. You may even keep it alive there on life support. But believe me, this patient will never walk on its own.

"Your efforts are wasting my time and our money."

Heads nodded in agreement, and she heard voices murmur. Mardis left the meeting stunned but determined to prove them wrong.

Plaque picking haunted genetic research. Researchers every night plopped tiny, single-stranded segments of human DNA into cultures of virus-infected, single-stranded E. coli bacterial DNA. When the segments matched up just right, they bonded. And when they bonded, they formed little whitish dots, called plaques, in the petri dishes.
So plaque picking meant picking those little dots out of the cultures. The research required billions of these dots, meaning that each afternoon, every person in the laboratory—first-day clerks to world-renowned scientists—grabbed handfuls of wooden toothpicks and hunched over lines of petri dishes.

Spot a plaque, stick a toothpick into it, raise it out, and drop the toothpick into a test tube for further study. Repeat a couple of hundred times, every day, for decades.

Mardis is a molecular biologist who trained herself in robotics. She knew others had failed, and why.

Humans pick plaque simply. See the plaque. Pick. Drop.

But machines? The problems ranged from vision (artificial eyes can’t interpret the way human eyes do) to toothpicks (sterile toothpicks are essential for each pick). Labs had spent thousands of dollars developing pickers and ended up with clutter.

Other labs had tried building steel toothpicks into their robotic arms. The steel toothpicks picked well but couldn’t be dropped into test tubes, and they became contaminated when dipped into plaque.

Labs tried scraping residue off inside the tubes, but never with much success. Others tried steaming toothpicks, washing toothpicks, drying toothpicks, rotating drums with numerous toothpicks. Nothing worked.

And Mardis—normally the type of scientist who exercises over lunch break and rides horses on weekends to clear her head—obsessed about toothpicks.

Until Dimitrios Panussis, the mechanical engineer in her technology-development group, asked: Why bother with toothpicks?

In England years before, an inventor had patented a machine that spun out a constant supply of thin surgical tubing. But nobody had any use for such a machine—until Mardis came along.

“What’s more, after the tubing fed out, a small razor cut it off,” she said.

Attached to the end of the robotic arm, it could shave a small section of tubing into plaques. The plaques would stick to the tubing, just as they had to toothpicks. Then the arm would move the tubing to the banks of test tubes, cut off 1/8-inch of tubing, and repeat the process.

The toothpick problem was solved. But that wouldn’t mean anything without a better eye. The machine had to be able to scan a petri dish and determine where to pick, without human aid.

Into this problem—in a building packed with people with doctorates and great minds—walked an undergraduate student named Eric Stuebe who liked computers. He modified the software so that the computers could pick out obvious plaques and let others alone.

The eye problem was solved.

Within six months after being told a working plaque picker couldn’t be done, Mardis had done it. The $40,000 robot was working 24 hours a day, saving hundreds of human hours.

“Really, one of my few regrets in life is that I haven’t had a chance to go back before that board,” she said. “Because I’d love to say, ‘Here’s the patient, and he’s not only walking, he’s winning marathons.’”

Matthew Schofield is a staff writer for the Kansas City Star. Reprinted by permission of the Kansas City Star.

Above: As geneticist Elaine Mardis checks computer images of plaques in petri dishes, one of three pickers at the School of Medicine plucks material from agar using spooled tubing and places samples in test tubes for research. With Mardis are (l. to r.) Dimitrios Panussis, D.Sc. (mechanical engineering) ’98, and Eric Stuebe, B.S. (electrical engineering) ’95, now a computer programmer in the genetics department.
nyone associated with the University in this century can be said to have lived in the “era” of Maria Bain White, A.B. '16. Maria (that’s “Muh-RYE-uh”) and her younger sister, Katherine Bain (see page 46) were among the University’s relatively few women students in the first two decades of this century. Maria possessed an exuberant spirit that propelled her beyond the sorority field trips, class fights, costume balls, and proms of her college life into the real-world frontlines of women’s suffrage marches and, later, civil rights “sit-ins” of the 1940s with her husband, School of Medicine pediatrician Park J. White (who died in 1987).

She also possessed a lifelong affection for the University she came to know long before most of us were even alive. In 1997, Maria died at the age of 104. Among her souvenirs was a collection of carefully kept and much-appreciated photos from her days as a WU student. Preserved for the family by her grandson, Craig Blakely, A.B.’68, the poignant images, though strangely familiar, kindle the imagination. Her past, now distant in history, is an important part of our past, and this photographic glimpse of her world is a rare return to a young Washington U.

—James W. Russell
Facing page: An unusual railroad vehicle proves just big enough as Maria (center) and Kappa Alpha Theta sisters pause during a trek along the railroad tracks.

Left: A snapshot of Maria at a costume party offers a lasting impression of the “man’s world” that she helped transform.

Above: Maria (right) and friends, “a la cart”! When was the last time anyone managed a similarly impromptu “Hilltop-in-a-handcart tour”?

Below: A “full house” of five friends, Maria at right. As a show of solidarity, “[The women] all tried to look alike, wearing sailor blouses, mostly,” Maria said.
Left: Scaling the landscape was all the rage for Maria and her friends. One of Maria's sorority sisters proves the point in this decorative urn.

Above: A stroll on the railroad track wasn’t as risky as climbing a signal tower, but it was just as much fun.

Below: McMillan Hall provides the backdrop for a costumed troupe with some grand theatrical purpose. Song, costume, and drama were the "in" extracurriculars of the time.

Maria Bain White's comments were excerpted from a transcript of grandson Craig Blakely's 1991–92 interviews with her.
WHAT'S ON, Jerry?

In the wired world of Jerald Kent, the answer is 100+ channels, and now the Net!
I was young, stupid, and single," Kent says with a laugh. "Cencom was a baby of a company, but my entrepreneurial blood started boiling. I liked accounting, but I made the leap and I haven't looked back."

A few years later, Wood joined Cencom, too. By 1991, the company had grown to 550,000 customers, an impressive figure at the time. The company had reached a crossroads, however. Cencom's two venture capital investors were ready to move on. Rather than let TCI buyout Cencom, Kent, Wood, and Babcock decided to seek a strategic partner.

"The three of us really wanted to try to hold Cencom together and have it continue to grow," Kent says. "So we approached Crown Media, a division of Hallmark Cards, Inc. Crown was making a big play to get into the cable business."

Crown Media bought out Cencom's other stockholders and initially agreed to operate its cable properties from St. Louis and to allow Kent, Wood, and Babcock to make contiguous acquisitions and build the company. After nine months, however, Crown Media decided to move Cencom to Dallas, Texas—a decision that did not please the partners.

"The three of us declined to move to Dallas, but in reality, it was time for us to move on," Kent says. "Once you have become an entrepreneur, going back into a large organization is frustrating."

By 1992, the cable industry was in a significant slump. Congress had just re-regulated the industry by passing the Cable Act—one of only two times that then-President George Bush's veto was overridden. The FCC forced a rollback of the retail rates that cable companies charged their customers. And cable operators were facing new competition from telephone companies such as Bell Atlantic and Pac-Tel, who were eager to enter the industry.

"It wasn't the best of times for the cable industry, but the three of us still wanted to..."
start a new company," Kent says. "We believed there was still real value in the broadband pipe that cable delivered into homes."

Because of their positive track record, Kent, Wood, and Babcock were able to line up investors for their new venture and start Charter Communications in 1993. To avoid competition from the telephone companies building their cable business in core metropolitan downtown markets, Kent decided to look for other opportunities.

"I felt very comfortable buying cable systems in the suburbs and second-tier markets," Kent says. "These areas were more or less safe from competition because it would be years before the telephone companies would have the infrastructure completed in the metropolitan areas."

Business was slow at first, but in 1994 Charter acquired for $160 million a cable system with 100,000 customers primarily in the Southeast. Something else interesting happened that year: Crown Media decided to exit the cable business.

"We dreamed the dream of reacquiring our old company," Kent says. "By sheer persistence, we became the buyer of last resort. Overnight, we regained critical mass with approximately 700,000 customers and became one of the 20 largest cable operators in the country."

Kent continued to build Charter by acquiring additional cable systems. In 1995, after being in business two years, the company reached its five-year goal; by 1998, Charter had 1.3 million customers and was ranked among the largest cable operators in the nation. It owned or managed cable systems in 19 states and employed more than 2,200 people. The company was near the top in all key performance standards for the industry, and its internal customer growth was twice the industry average.

"Part of the success of Jerry Kent and Charter Communications," says Howard Wood, "is that we didn't get our start stringing the wires on the poles. Jerry, Barry, and I are professional managers and we are very qualified in finance."

Another factor is Kent's insistence that Charter become a telecommunications company dedicated to providing information, entertainment, and interactive communications. In April 1998, Charter became the world's first cable television operator to offer "computerless" Internet access over a cable line with a product called WorldGate. The service was rolled out in St. Louis with plans to launch the system in other areas, including California and Connecticut.

"Right now, only 40 percent of the homes in the U.S. have a personal computer, and only about half of those have an Internet on-line service," Kent says. "WorldGate is easy and inexpensive. It's the Internet for the masses, and I believe it will have profound implications for the number of people who want to go on-line."

This forward-looking philosophy caught the attention of investor Paul G. Allen. In July 1998, Allen, a cofounder of Microsoft Corporation, announced his intention to acquire Charter Communications for $4.5 billion. In December 1998, Charter merged with another of Allen's cable investments, Marcus Cable, and joined his "Wired World" portfolio of investments in new media, entertainment, and technology.

"This investment marks another step forward in my Wired World strategy, which is a connected future marked by the merger of high-bandwidth data channels, the power of the personal computer, and the availability of compelling content," Allen says.

As part of the acquisition, Kent and the rest of the Charter Communications management team are running the new company. Kent is chief executive officer, and Babcock and Wood are vice chairmen.

"There is still very much an entrepreneurial spirit even though Charter has grown so much," Kent says. "Personally, I want to be able to look Paul Allen in the eye in five to seven years from now and say, 'We did a great job, executed your vision, and delivered everything we promised.'"

"Then I'll move on to the next challenge."  

C.B. Adams is a St. Louis-based free-lance writer.

WASHINGiON UNIVERSITY
Family has always been the most important thing in Ludmilla Suntzeff Gafford's life. Born in Russia's Ural Mountains in 1914, she left her homeland toward the end of her country's civil war (1918-1922). When the White Russian army retreated to China, her family did too. At the age of nine, she, along with her parents, uncles, aunts, and cousins, moved to the United States. "Those were difficult times," says the woman everyone calls Sunny, "but because I was surrounded by family, I never felt deprived."

For 60 years, Sunny Gafford has been a social worker—doing casework, research, consulting, and counseling. Just don't believe her when she says she's retired.

Family has been the focus of Sunny Gafford's social work career as well, throughout her 60 years as a caseworker and counselor. She says she discovered social work early in her days at Washington University, where she lent a sympathetic ear to the concerns of her Phi Mu sorority sisters. After earning her B.S.W. degree in 1936 and her M.S.P.A. in 1938, she joined Family Service of Memphis in 1938. As a caseworker, she helped poor families face a wide range of issues.

"The focus of social work was so different then," Gafford says of those Depression-era years. "There was much preoccupation with basic needs, like having enough to eat."

She remembers visiting one family and inquiring about a bandage over a child's ear. She was told a rat had bitten the boy when he was asleep. "The family had feelings of rage about being caught in an economic situation they couldn't control and saw no way out of. My job was to help them see a way out, or at least some improvement." Gafford worked with the family to find better employment.

Although the magnitude of some people's misfortunes sometimes made her feel helpless during the early years of her practice, her victories thrilled her. One client was an alcoholic, recently separated from her husband and looking for work while raising her children. Alcoholics Anonymous didn't exist then, but "between my working with her as she entered into the work world, and her getting together with others in her neighborhood who also had problems with alcoholism, she quit drinking completely." Gafford stayed in touch with her former client for several years, so she knew the change wasn't temporary.

"That's the big thing in social work—the feeling of satisfaction from the results of what you do," she says. "The feeling that you can actually help people you work with."

In Memphis, Gafford met her husband, Thomas, an engineer. In 1939, they moved to Paducah, Kentucky. There was no agency for working with children and families there, so Gafford assessed eligibility for the WPA (Works Progress Administration) program instead. After a couple of years she left that position and gave birth to her daughter, Valentina Gafford Williamson. Then, in 1943, the Army Corps of Engineers sent her husband to war.

"I needed to do something all day besides worry about what was happening to him in Europe," Gafford says. "I decided I needed to go back to work."
As a professor, her role was that of a mentor. “I learned things from my students I never would have come up with myself.”

She returned to Memphis and to Family Service. Her responsibilities included working with women entering the workplace during the war—a workplace not yet accustomed to meeting the needs of employees who also had children to care for.

Soon after the war, Gafford’s son, Alexander Gafford, was born. Again she left Family Service and the workplace, returning in 1952 as a supervisor. “When I returned, I realized there’d never been a revolution in social work,” she says. Social workers had acquired methodical, diagnostic tools to apply to their work. “The whole process took a big leap forward. We became much more aware of what the people we were working with were like, how to plan their treatment, how to record it, how to assess it.” Gafford worked to catch up with these changes through reading and attending workshops, through working with her supervisors, and through peer learning—consultations and discussions with social workers in Memphis and elsewhere.

Ultimately she discovered she enjoyed teaching, too. In 1959 Gafford joined the University of Tennessee Child Development Center (UTCDC), in Memphis. A small diagnostic clinic for developmentally disabled children and their families, the center received a major federal grant in the ’60s and became one of the original University Affiliated Programs. With a mission that included interdisciplinary training and research dissemination, it was an ideal opportunity for professional growth: Gafford worked directly with children and families, became the social worker for the Reproductive Health Clinic, and continued to provide direct clinical services even when she became chief of the social work department.

In social work, teaching means working with students both in the field and in the classroom. Just one of her responsibilities was helping students from other disciplines understand the psychosocial aspects of working with developmentally disabled people and their families. Informing her teaching were long-term interdisciplinary research studies in which she was a major participant and a long list of major textbook chapters, scholarly papers, and presentations.

In 1967, and again in 1978, the Tennessee chapter of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) named Sunny Gafford Social Worker of the Year; she is involved with NASW to this day.

Although she retired in 1986, at the age of 71, she didn’t leave social work. First she did consulting for UTCDC and UT College of Social Work, an outpatient mental-health clinic, in affiliation with Charter Lakeside Behavioral Health System, in Southaven, Mississippi. She finds her field every bit as rewarding as she did 60 years ago. “I know burnout exists, but I’ve never experienced it!” she says.

Gafford is still close to her own family, whose support when her husband died a few years ago she calls immeasurable. She is in close touch with her children, grandchildren, and cousins, and they swap visits for the holidays. (She had nine people at her house last Christmas.)

Sunny Gafford also enjoys walking, swimming, raising flowers, being active in her Episcopal church—and watching social work evolve. The team approach is now common; in the clinic where she works, a psychiatrist or psychologist and social worker might all work together with a patient. In some areas, she says, social work and society in general still have a long way to go. The criminal justice system, with its focus on punishment to the exclusion of other forms of treatment, troubles her. So does the welfare system. “It’s very bureaucratic. You arrive at a certain place at a certain date, and you’re supposed to get off welfare. There’s little leeway for individual deviation or the realities people actually face—or for compassion, really.

“Social work really came into its own during my professional career, but there are still a lot of societal concerns to contribute to,” she continues. “As social workers, we have the background to help society arrive at possible solutions.”

At 84, Ludmilla Gafford is very much a part of that process.

Freelance writer Janni Lee Simner, based in Tucson, Arizona, is a former editor of Alumni News.
LIGHTS! CAMERA!
(Cue the surgeons)
INCISION!

On the set of TV's "Chicago Hope"

Engineering on-screen reality is all in a 12-hour workday for Annette Sutera
By Repps Hudson

studio sound stage is just about the last place you'd expect to find an algebra tutor—especially if that instructor is the show's assistant director. During slow times in taping CBS's *Chicago Hope*, however, Annette Sutera coaches young extras whose own teachers may not grasp the finer points of math. "I love helping them with their math homework. I'm slightly less rusty than the studio teachers," she says.

Sutera is overqualified for her volunteer position, with a 1984 B.S. in mechanical engineering from WU, where she made straight A's, was class valedictorian, and won the School of Engineering and Applied Science's 1998 Young Alumni Award. Her model and inspiration was her father, Salvatore P. Sutera, the Spencer T. Olin Professor of Biomedical Engineering.

More than 12 years ago, however, she chose another career—the fantasy world of film in Hollywood. Already she's a member of the exclusive Directors Guild of America (DGA). She was invited to join the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences after winning a DGA award for directorial achievement on the pilot episode of *NYPD Blue*. "I'm very proud of that award. We set the look for that show," Sutera says.

Her job today? As first assistant director, now in her fifth season at *Chicago Hope*, she runs the set. "I tell the crew what we'll shoot and when and where. I keep the episode on budget and on schedule. When the director asks for the moon and the stars, I try to get the moon and the stars." On *Chicago Hope*, she lives by 15-day cycles. When she gets a new script, she spends the next seven days meticulously breaking it down, scene by scene. It's her responsibility to think of every detail to make an episode shootable. She schedules actors, based on availability; budgets extras; determines which sets will be built; scouts locations for sets that will be practical; and organizes special effects. The next eight days typically are spent at or near 20th Century-Fox Studios in Century City, filming the one-hour-long episode.

"To shoot efficiently and responsibly, the episode is shot completely out of sequence," Sutera says. "To an outsider the process would look like chaos. A day's work typically yields six or seven minutes of edited material. Filming is time consuming. A short day is 12 hours."

Like her workdays, Sutera's own story line is packed: how a talented engineer made her way to one of prime-time television's hit hospital dramas. First came her aptitude for math and science. "When I was introduced to math, it was love at first sight," she says. From the age of six, she wanted to solve problems.

In high school her continuing interest in mathematics, and then the organized worlds of chemistry and physics, solidified her decision to pursue engineering. Then, the summer after her senior year at Clayton (Missouri) High School, she underwent open-heart surgery to repair a defect. During her recovery at Barnes Hospital (now Barnes-Jewish), she accompanied her doctors on rounds and found the world of hospitals "fascinating," sparking an interest in pursuing medicine.

armed with an interest in engineering/premed, she entered the School of Engineering and Applied Science in 1980. As she started college, she also began assisting her father, who designs blood pumps and such mechanical human parts as heart valves. "She'd help me on research projects," recalls Sal Sutera. "I would put her to work on a calculation and know it would be done right."

For a time, life proceeded according to script. Sutera graduated summa cum laude in mechanical engineering and continued toward a master's degree. Then, to her surprise, just a semester short of the degree, she "just burned out," she says. "I had to take a long break from school. No more master's degree, no medical school."

Sutera went to work for IBM at its Boulder, Colorado, plant working to fix vibration problems plaguing the three-and-a-half-inch drives. It was quite a contrast to the constant stimulation of college classes and friends at WU. With too much time on her hands, she started devoting more and more time to studying film. She was already in love with movies and had been for some time. "It [happened] when I saw 2001," she recalls. "I was very young and was seduced by the special effects. It just never occurred to me that film could be a viable career option."

After IBM shut down its Boulder operation, Sutera was
transferred to Chicago to be a systems engineer for a sales branch. For a self-starter with a mind that demanded complexity, this was "a little slice of hell. One night I turned on the TV and watched a documentary about the making of Raiders of the Lost Ark." Her decision was immediate. "It looked like so much fun, I had to give it a try!"

Sutera began firing off letters and résumés to studios, production offices, schools, special effects companies, etc. After months, she finally connected with a respected cinematographer, John Bailey, who was in Chicago shooting a feature called Light of Day.

Bailey invited Sutera to visit the set, where she met cast and crew and learned, not just about camera and lighting, but about the nuts and bolts of day-to-day filming. "It was during this time that I decided I was well suited to the assistant director position." She had called in sick to IBM for over a week in order to visit the set. After tasting the life she wanted, she gave IBM notice. Even more difficult was telling her family that she'd had "a slight change in career plans." After the initial shock ("they thought I had lost my mind"), they were surprisingly supportive. In July 1986 she sent her IBM suits to Goodwill and drove halfway across the country in her nonairconditioned, jam-packed 1978 Toyota.

Once in California, at Bailey's suggestion, she contacted his friend Mike Grillo, who was then still a first assistant director and had worked with Bailey on such features as The Big Chill and Ordinary People. Grillo suggested she apply to the Directors Guild Training Program.

The odds against even getting in were high. Of hundreds who qualified to take the grueling eight-hour exam that year, only eight would become trainees. Trainees must spend 400 days (roughly two years) on DGA sets as assistant directors before being allowed to join the guild as a second assistant director. "It's like indentured servitude, a wash-out program," Sutera says. She did very well on the written exam, "a demented SAT," answering questions about such subjects as spatial orientation and logic. Next came a 20-minute pressure interview before the DGA training program board. "They saved the chair at the head of the table for me, and then they hammered me with hypothetical situations to see how well I could think on my feet. I hadn't had the cold sweats like that since ME 404 my senior year." The review board wanted to see how she would respond to intense pressure like she'd experience when millions of dollars stood in the balance and when actor-director-producer politics and egos came into play.

Just a month after the interview and a full year after arriving in L.A., there came a knock at the door of Sutera's Studio City apartment. Since her telephone service had been recently disconnected for lack of payment, the DGA had sent a messenger to welcome her to the 1987 training class. After working as a DGA trainee on projects such as Ghostbusters II and Steven Spielberg's Always, she became a DGA second assistant director in 1989 on Young Riders. She has since worked on features, movies-of-the-week, and TV series such as Defending Your Life (with Michael Grillo), Toys, and The War.

What's next? She'd like to become a unit production manager, who supervises the director and the first assistant director. And then up another notch to producer. She would also like to try her hand at directing.

Sutera has never looked back. "Every day is exciting and different. Every day is a challenge. I sometimes find it hard to believe I get paid to do this for a living!"
A piece of THE NET

The time-honored trophy goes to Art and Marge McWilliams for open-heartedly supporting WU and the Bears—with cheers and service and scholarships.

Saturday night, March 21, 1998.
University of Southern Maine.
Don't let the "Southern" fool you.
It's a snowy night in Gorham, Maine, but it might as well be Miami at high noon for Washington University's women basketball Bears—they've just won the 1998 NCAA Division III title, defeating Southern Maine 77-69 on its home court before a capacity crowd of almost 2,000.

In that throng are about 50 tired, hoarse, shiny-eyed WU parents and friends. Victory is sweet. The women Bears have brought home WU's first-ever national basketball championship after a succession of grueling playoff games.

The champions cut down and cut up the net in the traditional rite, and Bears' tri-captain Amy Schweizer [now B.S.B.A. '98], presents a trophy—a piece of the net—to Art (B.S.B.A. '49) and Marge McWilliams.

The McWilliamses, longtime admirers and supporters of WU's scholar-athlete philosophy, are high on the list of those credited with the blossoming of WU varsity sports.

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Moreover, for years, wherever the Bears have played football, volleyball, or basketball, home or away, rain, snow, sleet, et cetera, Art and Marge have usually been there.

(In fact, most of the non-Down-East WU fans in Gorham tonight are there because of Art's full-court press on TWA to get as many WU parents and friends to the Final Four as cheaply as possible—on two days' notice. "The team really perked up when they realized their supporters would be able to attend the finals," says Art.)

But the McWilliamses are very important people in Amy Schweizer's life for another reason. Besides being WU's career scoring leader at 1,494 points and winning first-team all-University Athletic Association and all-NCAA tournament honors, Amy is a Scholar in Business at the John M. Olin School of Business. The McWilliamses sponsor her scholarship.

Scholarship students and parents alike

Since 1979, when former Dean Robert Virgil established the School of Business scholars program, Art and Marge have sponsored both annual and endowed scholarships—lots of them—with many of the recipients as talented in competitive sports as in the classroom.

The McWilliamses delight in watching "their" students play—"It makes the game even more enjoyable," Art says—but that's not the reason they give so generously.

Art (the retired CPA) says, bottom line: "I've always thought that students attending Washington University, whether they pay full tuition or not, receive economic benefits they aren't being charged for, and that they should help contribute to the University in the future when they can. Tuition simply doesn't cover the cost of running a university."

Art (downtown St. Louis resident for 30-plus years) adds, "Supporting Washington University is good for St. Louis, too, and I'm pro-St. Louis!"

Make no mistake, though—Art and Marge love WU games. Art says, and Marge concurs: "We follow our students throughout the sports season, going to most of their games, including out-of-town contests [and sampling the cultural and culinary offerings of the host city]. We enjoy not only our students' academic growth but also their athletic development."

Women's varsity sports were pretty much off the radar at WU during Art's 1945-1949 student days. Men hugely outnumbered women; World War II veterans were attending
WU in droves on the GI Bill. “The business school was located in Duncker Hall,” Art says, “but a lot of our classes were held elsewhere, in the biggest rooms they could find on campus. My accounting class had about 100 people in it.” At the same time, Art says, WU football was In Transition: “Before the war, we were ranked like a [current] Division I team [awarding athletic scholarships], but when Chancellor [Arthur Holly] Compton arrived in 1945, he wanted students more interested in their academics than in sports. “Still, after the war, all those vets [average age 23] were playing, and in '47 and '48, we had Weeb Ewbank coaching. We had some pretty good games.”

The late coach Ewbank, who went on to coach pro football big time, was recently eulogized in sports circles as the coach who put the Super Bowl on the map. Both McWilliamses are also champion volunteers. Art serves on the St. Louis Port Commission and the St. Louis Grand Jury Association. Marge lends a hand as a teacher's assistant at Notre Dame Elementary School, and also schedules volunteers at the St. Louis Visitors Center at America's Center. The McWilliamses have also long supported Fair St. Louis, the July 4th extravaganza held annually in their high-rise's back yard—the Gateway Arch grounds.

In the early 1970s, Art was a board member and then president of the Washington University Club, a now-defunct private downtown St. Louis dining club for WU alums. He says he still misses a WU presence downtown. Then he and Marge became—and still are—members of the WU Alumni Board of Governors. For many years, Art served on the business school's William Greenleaf Eliot committee; he now chairs the W Club, Athletics' Eliot Society committee.

The McWilliamses' emergence as dedicated WU donors came with the 1971 arrival of William H. Danforth as chancellor and the 1977 appointment of Robert L. Virgil as business school dean. Their leadership, Art says, changed WU from a good local university to a great international one and gave the business school national recognition, a legacy upon which Danforth and Virgil's successors continue to build.

Art's and Marge's generosity to WU has taken many forms, including funding the Athletic Complex's popular McWilliams Fitness Center, installed in 1995.

But Art says scholarships are still their favorites: "We believe the scholarship program is one of the best giving programs Washington University has. Since students are the backbone of the University, a program that helps bright students attend helps not only the students, but also the University's growth and reputation.

"And the relationship isn't confined just to students. When we go to games as frequently as we do, we get to meet the parents of our students. It's amazing how appreciative the parents are that their sons and daughters are receiving financial aid for college. It's very gratifying. It's almost like you're part of the family at times."

In 1997, the McWilliamses were inducted into WU's Sports Hall of Fame as dedicated supporters of the University as a whole, and particularly for the active roles they've played in the resurgence of varsity sports on the Hilltop Campus.

In 1998, of course, Art and Marge received a piece of the net from their Scholar in Business. Altogether a sublime meshing of academics and athletics, WU-style. ©

—M.M. Costantin
Celebrated Citizen Keynotes Celebrative Day

General Colin L. Powell, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff from 1989 to 1993, delivered the keynote address at the 1998 Founders Day celebration held November 7 at America's Center, St. Louis' downtown convention and sports facility. A crowd of 1,400 attended the event, which also honored 12 distinguished alumni, faculty, and friends of the University with presentations from Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton. The Washington University Alumni Association sponsors the annual commemoration of the University's 1853 founding.

Powell, who described the challenges of a changing world, had an Army career that spanned 35 years and included leadership positions under three presidents. Since his retirement from military life, he has been a major force in many business, educational, and civic organizations, including Children's Puppet Theater. He has received grants from the National Endowment for the Arts. At Washington University, she chairs the School of Art's Annual Fund, is a member of the school's National Council, and has served on the Alumni Board of Governors.

Robert L. Virgil, Jr., M.B.A. '60, Ph.D. '67, general partner at Edward Jones Investments, who has given 32 years of distinguished service to the University. First a professor in the John M. Olin School of Business and later its dean, he also served in key administrative roles, including executive vice chancellor. Widely respected in business and education, he serves on the boards or is otherwise active in many business, educational, and civic organizations, and is former director and chair of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis.

Roger L. Weston, M.B.A. '67, board chair, president, and chief executive officer of Chicago-based GreatBanc, Inc. Under his leadership the multibank holding company's value has increased more than twelvefold since the 1980s. An energetic supporter of the John M. Olin School of Business, he was key in establishing the Roger L. Weston Career Resources Center and the Hatchery program, which allows students to experience entrepreneurship. He is on the school's National Council and Chicago's William Greenleaf Eliot Society Committee. In 1998, he received the Olin School's Distinguished Alumnus Award.

Distinguished Faculty Awards recognize outstanding commitment and dedication to students' intellectual and personal development. Honored with this award were:

- Michael M. Greenfield, a pioneer in consumer-law teacher, she also has served as consultant or program director for educational and cultural organizations, including

- Jane Sauer, A.B. '59, B.S. '60, studio artist, curator, and lecturer. Her internationally acclaimed fiber art has appeared in exhibitions, museums, and private collections worldwide. A gifted
research and teaching. The Walter D. Coles Professor of Law in the School of Law, he chaired the building committee and was instrumental in developing the design and overseeing construction of Anheuser-Busch Hall.

Scot G. Hickman, M.D. '70, associate professor of medicine in the School of Medicine, physician, scholar, scientist, and teacher. He has made significant contributions to the field of hematology and oncology and received six teaching honors in five consecutive years: two Distinguished Service Teaching Awards, three Professor of the Year honors, and a Teacher of the Year award.

Barbara A. Schaal, professor of biology in Arts & Sciences and of genetics in the School of Medicine's Second Century, A.B. '33, a pioneer in hospital design and construction standards. As a U.S. Public Health Service Division of Hospital Facilities architect when Congress passed the landmark Hill-Burton Hospital Construction Act after World War II, he found himself part of the largest program of hospital construction in U.S. history. From the 1950s, when he went into private practice as a hospital construction consultant, until he retired in 1979, he oversaw planning for approximately 40 hospitals and medical facilities.

In 1986, he and his sister, the late Ruth Moore Garbe, created the architecture school's first endowed professorship. A second chair followed, as did a visiting professorship for distinguished scholars and practitioners. He and his wife have continued their support with gifts including the Moore Challenge for the school's annual fund. In 1993, he received the University's Distinguished Alumnus Award.

Ned Lemkemeier, J.D. '62, 1997-98 Alumni Board of Governors (ABG) chair, had a dream—bring a community-service element to board activities. That dream began to come true last year when the ABG approved a plan to bring St. Louis alumni volunteers together with student volunteers of the Campus Y. (See inside front cover.)

Says J.J. Stupp, M.B.A. '83, chair of the ABG task force on the issue, "We chose the Campus Y [in part] because of its longstanding reputation for high-quality volunteer opportunities." Alumni can join the efforts at the start of each semester. To add your name to a special volunteer mailing list, send a postcard to Community Service Team, Campus Box 1210, One Brookings Drive, St. Louis, MO 63130, or e-mail alumni_relations@notes.wustl.edu.

Alumni who have ideas for community-service projects— in St. Louis and elsewhere—are encouraged to complete the short survey on the Alumni Association Web site: alumni.wustl.edu.

Inside Cover Story: We’re Here to Help

Don't Miss All the Fun! Call 1-800-867-ALUM!
alumni.wustl.edu
We want to hear about recent promotions, honors, appointments, travels, marriages (please report marriages after the fact), and births so we can keep your class-mates informed about important changes in your lives.

Please send news (see form) to:
ClassMates, Alumni News
Washington University
Campus Box 1086
7425 Forsyth Boulevard
St. Louis, MO 63105-2103
Fax 314-935-8533
E-mail notes@wumnd.wustl.edu
Entries will appear, as space permits, in the earliest possible issue, based on the order received.

ALUMNI CODES

AR Architecture
BU Business
DE Dentistry
EN Engineering
FA Fine Arts
GA Grad. Architecture
GB Grad. Business
GD Grad. Dentistry
GF Grad. Fine Arts
GL Grad. Law
GM Grad. Medicine
HA Health Care Admin.
HS House Staff
LA Arts & Sciences
LW Law
MD Medicine
MT Manual Training
NU Nursing
OT Occup. Therapy
PT Physical Therapy
SI Sever Institute
SU Sever Inst. Undergrad.
SW Social Work
TI Tech. & Info. Mgmt.
UC University College

Jan Schonwald Greenberg, LA 64, won the Boston Globe Horn Book Award for her book Check Close Up Close, published by DK Ink.

Rafael P. Cruz, SI 65, entered the Peace Corps as a business volunteer assigned to the Dominican Republic.

Kurt R. Burwitz, EN 65, was appointed dean of the National Technical Institute for the Deaf, a college of Rochester Institute of Technology, in Rochester, N.Y. He is a former president of the National Association of the Deaf and a founder of the Jewish Deaf Congress.


He lives in St. Louis with his wife, Dorothy; they have seven children and 19 grandchildren.

William Kinsella, LA 66, has written a novel, Yesterday's Mansion, a romance/mystery set in St. Louis' Lafayette Park Neighborhood of the 1960s. "During working years my chosen occupation was accountant, but since retirement I am writing a second love—writing," he says.

James E. Opfer, GR 66, was appointed director of advanced head/media programs at Read-Rite Corporation, the world's leading independent manufacturer of magnetic recording heads, headquartered in Milpitas, Calif.

Robert C. Linford, G 70, was named chairman of the board by the Baptist Hospital Board of Trust. He is president and CEO of Baptist Hospital, in Nashville, Tenn.

David Kaufman, MD 68, GR 72, was named vice president of the Federation of American Societies of Experimental Biology, based in Bethesda, Md. He is a professor of pathology and laboratory medicine in the School of Medicine at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill.

Mary Jo Crosby, LA 69, is assistant director of NMC, the media management center at Northwestern University, in Evanston, Ill.

Michael G. Goldstein, GL 72, is co-author (with William A. Drennan) of a treatise, "Taxation and Funding of Nonqualified Deferred Compensation," published by the American Bar Association. He is a tax partner at Husch & Eppenberger, LLC, in St. Louis.

Ronald W. Jones, GR 72, is president of the Dallas Regional Ranch Foundation, which advances the ministry of a three-campus, residential treatment facility for young men and women. He previously served as vice president for student services and associate professor of religious studies at Concordia University College, in Edmonton, Alberta. He received an Ed.D. in educational administration from Texas Tech in 1997. He is at dbfrpm@minot.ndak.net.

Vernon R. Wiehe, SW 72, published his tenth book on the subject of understanding family violence: Treating and Preventing Partner, Child, Sibling, and Elder Abuse (Sage, 1998). He is a retired professor at the University of Kentucky, in Lexington, Ky.

Alphonso Jackson, LW 73, is president of Central and South West Corporation, a major utilities company in Dallas. He and his wife, Marcia, have two children.

C. Jay Hoyt, LA 63, retired several years ago from the private practice of plastic surgery and as associate clinical professor at the University of California, San Diego. Since then he has become certified as a master gardener by the University of California; he is especially interested in fruit-tree gardening.

Bunny Katterjohn Mitchell, NU 47, reports that she is "settled in Arizona—Paxson is a little city in the mountains, with beautiful weather and scenery. Call or stop by if you are in the neighborhood."

George Ross, LA 35, and wife Shirley celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary by taking a Caribbean cruise in September 1998 with son Dale and his wife, Carol, and with daughter Janet and her husband, Pat Whitfield. George and Shirley live in St. Louis.

Hank Bierman, EN 60, and wife Audrey would "love to hear from former classmates; we have lived in California since 1977 and own two companies that service the 'jan/san' industry." They are at hankandaud@aol.com.

Kurt H. Staudt, LA 63, DE 66, made a presentation titled "Oral Manifestation of Systemic Diseases" to the medical staff grand rounds at Christian Hospital Northeast, in St. Louis County last year. In September 1998, he also presented "Management of Common Oral Pathology" to the Mineral Area Dental Study Club, in Festus, Mo. He practices general dentistry and is an oral medicine consultant for the Academy of Oral Medicine; he teaches part time at Southern Illinois University School of Medicine.

Cleve McNamala, LA 70, was named vice chancellor for administration and finance at the University of Colorado-Colorado Springs. He had served as vice president for administrative affairs at Northeastern Illinois University.

C.K. Chou, SI 71, is director of the Corporate RF Dosimetry Laboratory at Motorola, in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., working on safety issues involving wireless communication.

Robert M. Harper, GA 74, showed 24 oils in March-April 1998 at OK Harris Works of Art, in Kettering, Ohio. He also plans to show his work at the Rosewood Arts Center, in Kettering, Ohio, in early 1999.


Gerald J. Cohen, LW 77, was nominated for the AARP Excellence in Service Award for the gala opening of the AARP Oregon State Office. He has been appointed to the Oregon Attorney General's Elder Abuse Task Force and is a member of the Twin Cities Parks and Recreation Athletic Center Board and several community boards and task forces. Ruth Cohen, SW 79, has been elected vice president of the Oregon Gerontological Associa-
"It's Our Turn"

John McDonnell Challenges the University Family

For Charitable Gift Annuity rates
See page 9

Robert S. Brookings
Your Legacy Can Endure

For Charitable Gift Annuity rates, see page 9

BROOKINGS PARTNERS
Recognizing the Importance of Planned Gifts
Washington University in St. Louis
tions Board and is the 1998 conference program chair. She also serves on the United Way Evaluation Committee and Kids on the Block, and consults for Resource Connectors, a geriatric care management business. Their daughter, Sarah, is a high school junior and National Honor Society member "and prospective Washington University student," Ruth says.

W.O. "Bill" Dogan, GF 77, had a one-man show titled "Parts of Me" at the National Vietnam Veterans Art Museum, in Chicago, in fall 1998. He lives in West Plains, Mo.

Jo Ellen Jacobs, GR 77, is author of "The Lot of Gifted Ladies Is Hard: A Study of Harriet Taylor Mill Criticism," which appears in Hypatia's Daughter: 1500 Years of Women Philosophers, as well as a number of articles on aesthetics. She is the Grisswold Distinguished Professor of Philosophy at Millikin University, in Decatur, Ill.

Nina Golden Seavey, LA 7 B, co-produced the documentary film Paralyzing Fear: The Story of Polio in America, shown last year on PBS. She has been involved in television and film for nearly 20 years. She lives in Takoma Park, Md., with her husband, Ormond; their children Aaron, Eleanor, and Caleb; and Dassy, the family dog.

Mark A. Wallace, HA 78, was installed as chairman of The Association of Texas Hospitals and Health Care Organizations in June 1998, in Dallas. He is executive director/chief executive officer of Texas Children's Hospital, in Houston.

Joseph H. Kliegman, LA 79, was named an associate in the Garden City, N.Y., law firm of Berkman, Henoch, Peterson & Peddy, PC.

Rex P. Stevens, GR 80, was appointed vice president for academic affairs and dean of faculty at Point Park College, in Pittsburgh, Pa. He was previously vice president for academic affairs at Western New England College, in Springfield, Mass.

Yong S. Park, DE 81, practices general dentistry in St. Louis. He enjoys running and in-line skating. In June 1998, he entered the St. Louis Run and Roll Race, placing second and first in separate 5K runs, first in the 5K in-line skating race, first in the 5K biathlon race, first in the 10K in-line skating race, and won a sixth trophy (first place) for completing all five races with the lowest total time. "I have no plans for entering any more races, except for the Senior Olympics, which I will be qualified to enter in a few more years," says the forty-something Park.

McDonnell Participation Challenge generated excitement among the Annual Fund volunteers. They believe that the challenge will not only help the Fund meet its dollar goal for the Campaign, but also will energize alumni to achieve the Campaign's 35 percent participation goal. Alumni support for the University, currently just under 30 percent, will have to rise at least a percentage point each year of the Campaign and remain at 35 percent for two consecutive years for the University to receive the McDonnell Challenge.

"The University community has always responded with financial support when it came time to move Washington University up the ladder of excellence," McDonnell says, explaining why he offered the challenge. "The alumni participation rate answers the question, 'How are we doing?' in several ways," McDonnell says.

"First, it's the best measure of alumni satisfaction. With their support, graduates show their appreciation and vote their confidence in their degrees.

"Second, it shows funding agencies and organizations that rank colleges and universities, such as U.S. News & World Report, that the people who know the University best are willing to invest in its future.

"And third, strong alumni participation is a way for prospective students, their families, and the general public to judge a school's value to society. It's time for our alumni to participate at a level that puts us among the nation's leading universities. We should be doing as well as MIT, Duke, or Yale in this category," he says.

"The great thing is that it doesn't require financial sacrifice for alumni to participate. Each person may contribute at the level with which he or she is comfortable. Ideally, alumni need to give regularly, during each Annual Fund year, so that we can reach our goal of 35 percent participation."

Every gift of any size from alumni, McDonnell emphasizes, can help meet the challenge.

"Most alumni participation in the Campaign will be through support of the Annual Fund," he says. "The challenge grant will go to the Annual Fund, because that's where the money can go to work immediately to speed the University's rise."

"The challenge grant will go to the Annual Fund, where the money can go to work immediately to speed the University's rise."

"John McDonnell Challenges the University Family"

John McDonnell Challenges the University Family

It's our generation's turn to build on the achievements of earlier generations," McDonnell says. His premise: that Washington University is our inheritance, built with the time and treasure of alumni and friends, and that it is our obligation to preserve and enhance that heritage so we may leave something better and greater for those who follow us.

McDonnell, BU '66, personalizes—melds—his family's tradition in aviation and commitment to Washington University. "We have to continue the University's progress," he insists, "for the good of the University family and for the benefit of St. Louis, the region, and society. We must accelerate Washington University's ascent among the world's premier universities." "Accelerate the ascent," McDonnell speak, drawn from his years in the aviation and space industry. The retired chairman of McDonnell Douglas Corporation brought images of flight and visions of aiming for the stars to his work as chair of the leadership, or "quiet," phase of the Campaign for Washington University.

He knows how to celebrate a launch, too. At last fall's public campaign kickoff, the announcement of the $1 million John E. McDonnell Participation Challenge generated excitement among the Annual Fund volunteers. They believe that the challenge will not only help the Fund meet its dollar goal for the Campaign, but also will energize alumni to achieve the Campaign's 35 percent participation goal. Alumni support for the University, currently just under 30 percent, will have to rise at least a percentage point each year of the Campaign and remain at 35 percent for two consecutive years for the University to receive the McDonnell Challenge.

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"And third, strong alumni participation is a way for prospective students, their families, and the general public to judge a school's value to society. It's time for our alumni to participate at a level that puts us among the nation's leading universities. We should be doing as well as MIT, Duke, or Yale in this category," he says.

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Every gift of any size from alumni, McDonnell emphasizes, can help meet the challenge.

"Most alumni participation in the Campaign will be through support of the Annual Fund," he says. "The challenge grant will go to the Annual Fund, because that's where the money can go to work immediately to speed the University's rise to the highest levels of achievement and service.

He adds wryly, "Knowing how Washington University people respond to challenges, I expect to be writing that check before we announce the final total raised by the Campaign."

—John W. Hansford

Laura Rokuscin, LA 83, MD 87, returned from a two-year sabbatical of around-the-world travel with her husband, Steve. They live in the Seattle area, where she works in occupational medicine/medical administration as the Pacific Northwest regional medical director for the Boeing Company.

Karen Robinson Bennett, LA 84, and husband Paul live in Annapolis, Md., with son Jeffrey, 8, and daughter Allison, 3. Karen has her own law firm, concentrating in civil litigation, and Karen is home with the children. They are at bennlaw@aol.com.

Dr. (Cheryl Kornetzke) Kessel, LA 84, and husband Ted have a daughter, Julia Maie, born May 16, 1998; she joins sister Katie, 3. Cheryl was promoted to director of corporate communications for the National Commission on Public Affairs for the fragrance division of Takasago International Corp., in Rockleigh, N.J.

Margaret M. Reeves, LA 84, was appointed director of multicultural affairs at McKendree College, in Lebanon, Ill. In May 1998 he was “thanked in writing by President Clapp for his efforts to promote racial harmony in the United States.”

These efforts were in conjunction with the President’s Initiative on Race. Brent is married to Veronica (Hahn) Brent, and they live in O’Fallon, Ill.

Jamie Adam Rome, LA 84, is a junior partner at Wellington Asset Management, and lives in Boston. He graduated from the University of Chicago in 1994. “In addition to playing competitive lacrosse, I faithfully carry the ‘lang banner high, having formed a Tang dynasty in south Boston’s ‘A league,’ he says.

D. Toby Rosen Tabachnick, LA 84, lives in Pittsburgh, Pa., with husband Gene and children Reggie, 8, Zoe, 4, and Dori, 4, and R.J., born June 21, 1998. She is a practicing attorney, specializing in commercial litigation.

David Brock, LA 85, GR 89, teaches biology at Roland Park Country School, in Baltimore, Md. Last year he received the Tandy Technology Scholar Award as well as the Disney Co. American Teacher Award.

Nancy K. Peterson, LA 85, has moved to Lincoln, Neb., “after 10 exciting and frustrating years as a public defender in Dekalb County (Atlanta, Ga.).” She has accepted a position with the Nebraska Commission on Public Advocacy. She and husband Todd have a daughter, Zoe, 4, and a son, Dane, 2.

Brian Kanter, EN 86, was admitted to the partnership of Deloitte & Touche Consulting Group. He works with manufacturing companies and is based in Boston.

Diane L. White, LA 86, received a Ph.D. in music (emphasis in composition) in June 1998 from the University of California, Santa Barbara. She received the teaching assistant excellence award in humanities from the university, and she received the outstanding graduate student award from the music department.

John C. Witt, LA 86, HS 94, has left his job as a neurologist for the Air Force to take a fellowship in electromyography and neuromuscular disease at the Mayo Clinic, in Scottsdale, Ariz. He is married to Margaret (Sindka) Witt, LA 85; they have three children.

Steve Cousins, EN 87, SI 87, and Jennifer (Pats) Cousins, EN 85, GR 87, are living in Mountain View, Calif., with the children. Steve received his Ph.D. in computer science from Stanford University in 1997 and now works at the Xerox Palo Alto Research Center (PARC).

Kim L. Duncan, LW 17, joined the firm of Bruntrager & Billings, PC, concentrating in civil and criminal trial practice.

Suzanne (Safran) Katzen, LA 87, and husband Mark have a daughter, Elana Mariel, born June 20, 1998; she joins brother Joshua, 5, and sister Monica, 3. They live in Columbus, Md.

Beth Pestoce, LA 87, and husband Marc Winer have a daughter, Hailey Sara, born June 15, 1998. They live in Chicago, Ill. Beth is a senior healthcare consultant at Ernst & Young LLP. They are at beth.pestoce@ey.


George B. Chave, GR 88, was granted tenure and promoted to associate professor at the University of Texas at Arlington, where he is composer-in-residence. His music is published by Alliance Music, Harold Gore Music, Manduca Music, and Norruth Music. He also was the recipient of the Gertrude Golladay Memorial Award for Outstanding Teaching in 1998.

Jill Hein Oberle, LA 89, has a daughter, Katie, born March 31, 1998.

Heather Pfleger, LA 88, is a U.S. Navy nurse and lieutenant. She took up sailing and won The America’s Schooner Cup in 1998 in her schooner Puff. She married Gary Southby on Sept. 13, 1997 (she is now known by her middle name as H. Veronica Southby). She lives in San Diego and can be reached at gsouthby@adcnet.com.

Rebecca Byerley, PT 89, participated in the Polar Bear Plunge by jumping into the waters off Resurrection Bay in Seward, Alaska, in mid-January 1998. She and six other jumpers raised more than $7,000 for the American Cancer Society. “I landed in the cold Alaskan water took my breath away, but I’m ready to do it again,” she says.


Molly Myers, EN 89, is the 1998-1999 president of the St. Louis section of the Society of Women Engineers. She is a senior project engineer for imaging products at Mallinckrodt, Inc., in St. Louis.

Rabbi Aaron Bisno, BS 90, was appointed associate rabbi of Congregation Beth El in Elkins Park, Pa.

Ernesto de Achaval, Gil 90, is professor at the University of Pennsylvania and Elkins Park, Pa.

Rupin Kadakia, LA 90, and his family have moved to suburban Detroit, where Rupin will start his cardiology fellowship training at Henry Ford Hospital.

Ruth Marner, LA 90, is a St. Louis-based entrepreneur and writer who has started a literary journal for, by, and about lesbians, called Braise.

Abigail Baine Miller, LA 90, and husband Stuart have a daughter, Emma Davis, born April 25, 1998. They live in Scarsdale, N.Y.

Allan Parungao, LA 90, ran in the Chicago Marathon on Oct. 11 with a finishing time of 3 hours, 2 minutes, and 2 seconds. This put him in the top three percent of all competitors and his time qualified him to race in the Boston Marathon in April 1999. He is a fourth-year resident in combined general surgery/plastic surgery at Southern Illinois University in Springfield, Ill. He is at aparungao@siuemed.edu.

Ajit V. Pillar, DE 90, completed the requirements for board certification and is now a diplomate of the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. Ajit is the chief of oral and maxillofacial surgery for the 20th Medical Group/20th Fighter Wing/Air Combat Command at Shaw Air Force Base, S.C., where he lives with wife Carolyn and son Ian.

Suzanne Rittenberg Rubinstein, LA 90, moved with her husband in late September from Chicago to the San Francisco area. “The climate is great so far!” she says. She can be reached at suzannerrubinstein@hotmail.com.

Alana Sharenow, LA 90, married William Graham on Oct. 31. Alana and Bill live in Needham, Mass., where Alana works with Ocean Spray Cranberries, Inc., and Bill, also an attorney, is a senior policy analyst for Harvard Pilgrim HealthCare. Alana is chairperson of the Boston chapter of the UW alumni club and is at asherowne@oceanspray.com.

Karen A. Wise, LA 90, married Brad May on Sept. 6 in Newton, Mass. Fellow classmates Susan (Pouyet) Moellerling, LA 90, and David Moellerling, BU 89, attended and participated in the wedding ceremony. David works as a project manager for WFD, the leading national provider of work/life benefits. Brad works as an electrician for Local 103. Karen and Brad live in Wayland, Mass., and are at BKCurley@ix.netcom.com.

Mark H. Zachkin, LA 90, married Lorie Cheerman in 1995. She is an adjunct faculty member at the University of Hartford, where she teaches history. Mark is a corporate lawyer with the Hartford, Conn., firm of Murtha, Cullina, Richter & Heuney, LLP. They have a son, Ari Lev, born March 6, 1998. They are at mzakkis@micr.com.

Amy (Kreisler) Harberg, BU 91, and husband Joe Harberg have a son, Max, born July 16, 1997. Amy is working on a master’s degree in counseling, specializing in play therapy. They live in Dallas, Texas.

Susan (Falvey) Laughlin, LA 91, and husband Peter, born in Dallas, Texas, Jack, born March 6, 1998. They live in Boston. Susan is a full-time mom and works part time as a physical therapist in the Boston area. She is at susanlaughlin@alum.com.

Reuben A. Shelton, GB 91, was appointed special chief counsel for litigation for Missouri Attorney General Jay Nixon. He is president of the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis.

Jeff Siegel, LA 91, and Jennifer (Mayee) Siegel, FA 92, have moved from New Jersey to Scottsdale, Ariz. Jeff is a pediatrician at a private practice in Scottsdale, and Jennifer is pursuing a career as a free-lance artist. They are at jeff.siegel@alitc.com.

Barbara (Weinhmeyer) Stock, EN 91, and husband Dan have a daughter, Leah Bethany, born Jan. 20, 1998. Barb has left her position at Ralston Purina to be a full-time mother.

Joel Thompson, LA 91, and wife Myrind have a son, Seth Russell, born Aug. 7. They live in Joel’s
Enjoying Challenge, Change, Hard Work—and Success

You've got to be accepting of change," says Neal Westermeyer, A.B. '67, M.B.A. '70. "And," he adds, "building your personal, long-term success depends upon continuously building new skill sets and a string of personal accomplishments, and keeping your life balanced." Good advice from a man who lives what he speaks.

Westermeyer openly accepts change. He's been a business analyst, product manager, and director of marketing atRalston Purina. He's been a Pet Foods product manager. Nabisco Brands U.S.A. lured him with a vice presidency. He's been Humana, Inc.'s chief marketing officer, built profitable census in nursing home subacute care units for Integrated Health Services, and excelled in healthcare-based technology with National Health Enhancement Systems. He was general manager of the Phoenix call center group with HBOC until mid-January '99, when McKesson acquired HBOC.

Westermeyer has impressive skill sets and accomplishments. At Ralston Purina he transformed declining share into market share growth. He grew Humana's marketing division from 40 to 525, established a telemarketing group, and supported 84 hospitals and a $4 million life managed-care business. He quickly mastered the nuances of running a small enterprise at NHES, and he's helped HBOC grow at an annual rate of 30 percent.

For 10-plus years, HBOC has met the information systems needs of the health-care industry. The Phoenix call center group combines software, computer telephony, and medical information to provide triage and advice to patients. "Fifty percent of all emergency room and physician office visits aren't really necessary," Westermeyer says.

The group's 950 customers report dramatic reductions in information-only office visits and unnecessary trips to the emergency room, while satisfying patients' needs for medical information.

Neal Westermeyer is one of those lucky individuals who loves to work. Wherever he lands next [at press time, he has three job offers in hand], it's certain he will continue "Assume a 10-hour day is normal and find something you really like to do outside of work. Something that has absolutely nothing to do with work."

How did Neal Westermeyer get so smart? "I wouldn't have been able to have the early and continuous career successes I've had without my Wash U. education," he says. In addition to rigorous academics, professors provided him with many accurate business predictions and life philosophies. They told him that accelerated change would become the norm, traditional company loyalties would cease to exist, tremendous numbers of women would enter the workforce, and that his success would largely depend on his ability to adapt to these changes. They also instilled in him the belief that he alone is responsible for the quality of his life. Sage wisdom, indeed.

—Nancy S. Mack
Catherine graduated from Brooklyn Law School and Ben is a music producer for Saatchi and Saatchi Advertising. Ben's band, Wagon, which began performing in the WU quadrangle, Group recorded their third album, on Glitterhouse Records. Ben is at washpants@spacelab.net, and Catherine is at catherine@tinybrooklaw.edu; the band's web site is www.wagon1.com.

Jim Coutre, LA 94, married Carrie Stroud, LA 95, on Sept. 19, 1998, in Nantucket, Mass. Participating in the ceremony were Rob Gordon, LA 94; Jon Bauer, LA 94; Rob Glinski, LA 93; Shawn Hurley, LA 94; Rebecca Israel, LA 95; Debi Picker, LA 95; and Greer Silverman, LA 95. Carrie and Jim live in Boston and are at Tencypress@aol.com.


Cindy Glover, LA 94, is the chief political writer at the Albuquerque Journal, in New Mexico. She was promoted after two years as the City Hall reporter; she is at cglover@abqjournal.com.

Sharon Shapiro, LA 94, celebrated her one-year anniversary with husband David Callin on Aug. 31, 1998. They live in Cleveland, where David is an intellectual property attorney and Sharon works in the endowment department of the Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland. Sharon continues to be active in the WU Cleveland alumni group.

Steven Scott Wells, BU 94, is engaged to Shari Michelle Brumbel, LA 95. They are both living in Manhattan, where Steven is vice president for sales at Twi-Laq Industries, a chemical manufacturer, in Brooklyn, and Shari is a media planner for Amerini Public Lintas, an advertising agency in Manhattan. They planned a May 1999 wedding in Cold Spring Harbor, on Long Island.

Erik J. Bolinder, LW 95, is an associate in the Boise, Idaho, office of Moffatt Thomas. He also has a general practice with an emphasis on employment law, environmental law, and commercial litigation.

Craig Stephen Scott, LA 95, married Janis Warford on May 30, 1998. They are both graduates of the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Dentistry. Craig is in general dental practice residency at the Dwight D. Eisenhower VA Medical Center in Leavenworth, Kansas. They live in Shawnee, Kansas.

Dana M. Striar, BU 95, completed a master's degree in accounting (tax specialty) from Florida International University. She became a CPA and worked at Arthur Andersen, in Miami, Fla., for a year. She now works as an account manager for Fitness Magazine, in New York City. She is at dstiar@fitnessmagazine.com.

Susan Fox, LA 96, is engaged to Chad Billings, LA 97; they plan a July 1999 wedding in Chicago.

Susanna Sussman, LA 96, is an account executive at BSMG Worldwide, a marketing communications business in New York City.

Emily Wells, LA 96, has road/stage-managed three children's theater tours and has "seen most small Midwestern towns more than once in the process." She also worked at LA Jolla Playhouse (California) as a carpenter, welder, and lead flyman. A recently completed project was assisting on a Broadway-sized production of Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story in St. Paul, Minn., which was slated for an international tour. Emily lives in New York and can be reached at (800) 719-0474.

Chad Carter, EN 97, BU 97, is engaged to Danielle Coe, LA 96, OT 98. They plan a June 19, 1999, wedding in Westminster, N.Y. Chad is at chad.carter@e.com, and Danielle is at coedd@medline.com. They are both graduates of the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Dentistry. Craig is in general dental practice residency at the Dwight D. Eisenhower VA Medical Center in Leavenworth, Kansas. They live in Shawnee, Kansas.

Wayne A. Santos, LW 98, joined the law firm of Parsons Behle & Latimer, in Salt Lake City, concentrating his practice on real estate.

In Memoriam

1920s

Helen (Wiedner) Smith, LA 21; 6/96.
Estelle Winona (Leiber) Bliss, LA 22; 8/98.
Robert C. Mare, BU 23; 9/98.
Clifton P. Lacey, BU 24; 10/97.
G. Derk Green, LW 25; 6/95.
Max Scherberg, EN 25; 12/96.
Harold H. Felder, MD 26; 8/98.
Marshall D. Gibson, Jr., EN 27; 2/98.
St. Pauline C. Grindon, GR 27; 8/98.
Calvin R. Liedbetter, BU 27; 4/95.
Helen Josephine (Cross) Richardson, LA 27; 7/98.
Omar W. Witte, EN 28; 8/98.
Celeste (Abington) Rockenbach, LA 29; 5/98.

1930s

John B. Barrick, DE 30; 9/97.
Edwin L. Lopata, BU 30, GB 31; 8/98.
Susan Paisley, LA 30; 11/94.
Jacob Deisher Burton, AR 31; 10/97.
John C. Gilmore, BU 31; 2/96.
Loray L. Litchler, GB 31; 1/97.
Thelma Molinoff, LA 31, SW 36; 12/97.
George F. Voss, AR 31, GA 34; 8/98.
Clarice (Perez) Weil, LA 31; 4/98.
Tom F. Whayne, Sr., MD 31; 11/97.
Charlotte Duenow, SW 32; 3/98.
Cormine Guise, LA 32; 1/94.
David Rader Miller, BU 32; 1/98.
Carl W. Smith, LA 32, MD 36; 6/97.
Margaret (Kemp) Driemeier, BU 33; 6/96.
Louis P. Shanfield, LW 33; 8/98.
Ralph C. Greene, MD 34; 8/97.
Gerald W. Benson, AR 35; 5/98.
Frances Marcia Croyle, NU 35; 5/94.
Carlyon D. Keck, LA 35, GR 35; 8/98.
Isabelle Wolk, GR 35; 12/97.
Edward E. Dibella, SW 36; 12/97.
Walter O. Forster, GR 36; 1/97.
Elna Pulley, NU 36; 8/96.
Frank R. Bacon, Jr., GR 37; 6/98.
Howard H. Hess, BU 37; 12/97.
Theodore E. Kircher, Jr., MD 37; 5/97.
Walter W. Kurz, LA 37; 8/98.
Eugene F. Melaville, MD 38; 11/94.
Julia C. Coleman, SW 39; 9/96.
Rosemary (Ramsey) Powell, LW 39; 8/98.
Building for Memphis' Boom

When Memphis-born Jimmie Tucker was a boarding student at the Lawrenceville School, in Lawrenceville, New Jersey, he'd take the train into New York City and marvel at the skyline that was "worlds different from Memphis." Now he's back home, 30 years later, to make a mark on the hometown cityscape.

As founding partner of Self Tucker Architects, Inc. (STA), established in 1995, Tucker has made a good start. His stamp is apparent on new and renovated Memphis-area schools, churches, day-care centers, and civic, commercial, and industrial facilities. In 1997 the 12-employee firm was recognized as Best Business of the Year by the Black Business Association of Memphis. Tucker and his partner, Juan R. Self, appreciate the honor, but entrepreneurship is not the only aspect of architecture in which they strive to excel. "We're also working hard to create some noteworthy building designs," Tucker says.

Tucker has been striving to excel at least since he was an eighth-grader, when he won a prep-school scholarship to Lawrenceville. Another scholarship took him to Princeton, where he graduated in 1977 with a bachelor's degree in architecture and urban planning. He applied to several graduate programs in architecture, but an encouraging phone call from former architecture dean Constantine E. Michaelides, now dean emeritus, sold him on Washington University.

Tucker thought he had acquired the discipline back east to excel at Washington U., but he was wrong: "I had to really apply myself," he says. By the time he received his master's degree in 1981, Tucker had developed a drive for self-directed continuing education, a taste for all aspects of architectural practice, and a passion for hands-on experience.

For the next 10 years, he assumed positions of increasing responsibility in St. Louis architectural firms, many of his assignments involving the design or renovation of school buildings. He signed up with a city owner-rehab program to renovate his own home and 10 others in St. Louis' Hyde Park district.

Eventually he moved to New York City and a job in construction management to solidify his knowledge of construction. By the mid-'90s, Tucker was ready to start his own firm, and returned to Memphis, now the scene of a building boom. There he teamed up with Self, an architect of similarly broad professional interests whom he had met through a colleague. They incorporated just as Memphis city schools embarked on a $143 million capital improvement program; Tucker's extensive background in school renovation won STA the appointment as consultant to the program management team.

The firm recently was named architect of record for the City of Memphis' new $8 million Hickory Hill recreation complex, and is the lead firm for the preservation/revitalization of the city's Chelsea Avenue commercial district. Among STA's completed design projects are two suburban transit centers for the Memphis Area Transit Authority, a field-operations center for Time-Warner Communications, and interior and exterior renovation of (Andrew J.) Steele Hall of LeMoyne-Owen College, a 1914 structure that is now on the National Register of Historic Places.

Jimmie Tucker and Juan Self enjoy bringing what they call "unconventionally comprehensive" services to the marketplace, including being consultants to new clients venturing into entrepreneurship. And Tucker manages the firm so that younger associates are exposed to all phases of STA projects. "We try to really share our experience in design, construction, and relating to contractors," he says.

—Carol Porter
Robert C. Bonovich, SW 68; 12/94.
Norman J. Feuer, Sl 68; 4/96.
Joseph C. Gunnell, Sr, SW 68; 2/96.
King D. Johnson, GB 89; 8/97.

1970s
James L. Woolner, Jr, LA 71; 7/98.
Homer W. Hiser, Sl 72; 4/97.
Jerome J. Pieczynski, UC 74; 8/98.
Linda Ann Hanan, LA 77; 5/98.
David Albert Felt, DE 78; 10/96.

1980s
John D. Stuart, LA 80; 1/98.
Robert M. Birkozlo, GB 83; 12/97.
Perl Richard Cooper, SW 83; 2/94.
Barry David Garden, LW 83; 1/98.
John Michael Creedon, LA 84, LW 87; 5/98.
Mark Joseph McManus, LA 85, GA 89; 1/98.
Philip Gregory O'Rourke, DE 87; 3/98.

1990s
Lois Harvey, SW 91; 12/96.
Sharon Jackson-Lee, SW 92; 1/98.
Maurice Chiles Zulu, HA 94; 8/97.

In Remembrance
Katherine Bain
Katherine Bain, M.D.'25, a pioneer in maternal and child health issues, died of cancer Jan. 10, 1999, at the Washington Home and Hospice. She was 101.

Bain held various senior positions during a 52-year career with the Children's Bureau, now part of the Department of Health and Human Services. Starting in private pediatric practice in St. Louis before the Depression, she went on to become the acting chief of the Children's Bureau and retired in 1972 as head of its international programs.

She published more than 45 medical articles during her career and wrote or co-authored several groundbreaking reports that led to the development of child-proof safety caps for medicines and household chemicals, safety release standards for refrigerator doors, and some of the earliest federal child-nutrition guidelines. She conducted the first nationwide survey of breastfeeding practices in American children's hospitals, which led to major changes in the way doctors perceived and promoted breastfeeding.

With the Children's Bureau, Bain helped channel funds into early pediatric research and treatment facilities. In 1985, Surgeon General C. Everett Koop awarded her the Peabody award for excellence in broadcast journalism for her work on the series "Eyes on the Prize," which debuted on public television in 1987, and more than 60 other films and media projects, including the 1990 sequel to "Eyes on the Prize," The War for Civil Rights (1993), and Malcolm X: Make it Plain (1994).

Hampton was president of Blackside, Inc., a film company he founded in 1968 in Boston. The company produced the six-part, 14-hour series "Eyes on the Prize," which debuted on public television in 1987, and more than 60 other films and media projects, including the 1990 sequel to "Eyes on the Prize," The War for Civil Rights (1993), and Malcolm X: Make it Plain (1994).

Hampton was a 1957 graduate of St. Louis University High School; he contracted polio before his junior year, but he continued attending classes—as needed, classmates carried him in his wheelchair up and down the high school's stairs. Hampton used a cane most of his adult life.

After he moved to Boston to attend medical school, Hampton was hired in 1963 as director of broadcasting and information for the Unitarian Universalist Association, headquartered in Boston. He went on to march for civil rights in Selma and Washington, D.C., and led seven years after beginning "Eyes on the Prize," which tells the civil rights movement story through television news footage, the series made it to television, narrated by Julian Bond. Though Hampton never took classes in film or production, the series went on to win a Peabody award for excellence in broadcast journalism.

He chaired the Department of Neurological Surgery from 1946 to 1974, and the training program he established attracted some of the finest talent in the nation. Out of the 37 residents he fully trained, 16 went on to direct training programs at other U.S. medical schools. Seven of those have been elected president of the Society of Neurological Surgeons.

Schwartz was one of this century's most influential figures in his field.

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To the tune of 60 former neurosurgery residents jointly contributed $1 million to endow the Edith R. and Henry G. University High School minority scholarship fund is named for him.

He is survived by two sisters, Veva Zimmerman and Judi Hampton, both of New York.

Jerome Kalishman
Jerome Kalishman, B.S.B.A. and J.D. '50, a St. Louis lawyer and businessman, died Nov. 19, 1998; he was 71. He served on the School of Law National Council and was a sponsor of the Jerome and Nancy F. Kalishman Scholar in Law. In addition, his family had recently established the Jerome Kalishman Designated Scholar Loan Fund for WU law students.

He attended University City High School and, after earning his bachelor's and law degrees at WU, served in the Army during the Korean War. After his military service, he returned to St. Louis to practice law.

He helped found the Blumenfeld, Kalishman & Tureen law firm in 1961; he spent most of his 37-year career in law with the firm. In 1962, he and Robert P. Affholter founded Insituf orm Technologies, Inc., of Memphis, Tenn., in 1995. Kalishman was vice chairman of Insituf orm Technologies, Inc. Survivors include his wife of 39 years, Nancy Kalishman; a daughter, Susan Kalishman, of St. Louis; and three sons: John Kalishman and Thomas Kalishman, of St. Louis, and James Kalishman, of Chicago.
Schwartz Chair in Neurological Surgery in 1996.

In 1983, Schwartz's colleagues and former residents established the Henry G. Schwartz lectureship, which is delivered every year at the medical school.

The former residents also commissioned a 1974 portrait of Schwartz, which hangs in the Henry G. Schwartz Archives and Rare Book Room on the seventh floor of the Bernard Becker Medical Library. The Schwartzes helped support the library's expansion and provided ongoing support for its Archives and Rare Book Section.

Schwartz was born in New York City in 1909. He obtained a bachelor's degree in 1928 from Princeton University, which he entered at the age of 15. He then earned a medical degree from Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, where he and his future wife were classmates. From 1932 to 1933, he was an intern in surgery at Hopkins, and he spent the following three years as a National Research Council Fellow and then anatomy instructor at Harvard Medical School.

The Schwartzes moved to St. Louis in 1936, when Schwartz became a fellow in neurological surgery at Washington University. During that year, he made the first direct recording in the United States of electrical activity from the human brain. In 1937, he joined the school's faculty as an instructor, performing one of the earliest randomized studies in neurosurgery, on the effect of lumbar puncture in reducing the pressure inside the skull in severe head injuries.

During World War II, Schwartz served in Africa, Italy, and France as assistant chief of surgery and chief of neurosurgery in the U.S. Army's 21st General Hospital. While in Africa, he developed a procedure for handling wounds to the head and nerves that became standard for the military. For this accomplishment, he received the prestigious Legion of Merit in 1945.

In addition to his academic appointments, Schwartz was acting surgeon-in-chief at Barnes Hospital in St. Louis from 1965 to 1967 and chief neurosurgeon at Barnes and St. Louis Children's Hospitals from 1946 to 1974. He became the Arthur A. Busch Jr. Professor in 1970 and took emeritus status in 1984. During this period, he was instrumental in establishing a craniofacial reconstruction program at Washington University Medical Center.

Survivors include Schwartz's sister, Jean Grottano, of New York City, and the Schwartzes' three sons: Dr. Henry G. Schwartz, Jr., of Ladue, Mo.; Michael R. Schwartz, of Birmingham, Mich.; and Dr. Richard H. Schwartz, of Salt Lake City, Utah. There are also six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Schwartz's wife, "Reedie"—Edith Courtenay Robinson, a pediatrician and pediatri­cian—died in 1994.

WASHINGTON PROFILE  Julia F. Weber  A.B. '89 (women's studies), M.S.W. '94, J.D. '94

Following Her Passion for Social Justice

At one time, Julia Weber thought she might become a rabbi; though her goal eventually changed, her secular career is not far off the mark. Holding dual degrees from the George Warren Brown School of Social Work and the School of Law, Weber operates a private practice as a family mediator teaches women's studies to WU undergraduates, and consults with community agencies on domestic violence policy.

"Being a lawyer and engaging in social issues is about helping people look at how we organize our lives, how we live together, and how we obtain justice," says Weber. "What I do has a lot in common with rabbinical work."

Driven by a desire to make the world a better place to live, Weber cites as her heroes early 20th-century activist Emma Goldman, writer Alice Walker, and her parents, who imbued her as a child in Phoenix, Arizona, with a strong sense of obligation to the disadvantaged. Today, her service-laden résumé shows how those early influences have permeated her life. Weber has worked as an advocate for people fighting job-related sexual harassment, as a family-court social worker, as a negotiator between parents in custody litigation, and as a project coordinator for St. Louis' Family Violence Council.

"As I worked in family court, I realized that there's very little difference between emotional violence, financial coercion, and physical violence," she says. "We can't separate these issues. We have to work on all of them. They're cross-cultural and cross-class."

She's published scholarly articles on domestic violence, delivered speeches on mediation, and facilitated a course that brought together Jewish and black women.

"None of it feels like work to me. I'm fortunate to have figured out a very satisfying way to combine social work and law," says Weber, who also serves as an adviser to other dual-degree graduate students. "There's a lot of pressure to be either a lawyer or a social worker, because the world is not set up for people to be both. Lawyers are supposed to be tough, while social workers are often discouraged from taking a strong stand. You have to find a way to build on the strengths of both disciplines and to follow your passions."

Weber's passion for women's issues recently led her to consult with St. Louis-based Monsanto Company. She helped the company establish an innovative workplace policy that provides support and resource referrals for employees threatened by domestic violence.

"Monsanto is an example of how, when the community does its job, you have a chance to make a difference in people's lives," she says. "When a major employer brings this issue into the open, you've made real progress."

While Weber's work life is demanding, she knows how to relax, too, which usually involves painting, drawing, and creating gourmet desserts for both fun and profit. And play time is important, she says, because she knows that her work in the social-justice arena will take time before results are seen and will have many frustrations.

"If there's anything that keeps me up at night, it's worrying about women and children who live in high-conflict homes," she says. "We're all at risk in a society in which the most vulnerable among us are so threatened. My biggest wish is that we can solve this issue, so I'll be put out of business."

—Glória Shur Bilchik
B.A. '67, M.A.T. '68
John Schael is one tough positive thinker.

An hour into Schael's first day on the job as athletics director at Washington University, the county health inspector came through and closed Wilson Pool.

"That kind of surprised me," Schael admits of that 1978 contretemps. But hardly anything else about the task of revitalizing WU athletics caught him unawares.

The former University of Chicago associate AD and head wrestling coach had done his homework. Fortunately, he's someone who enjoys a challenge.

In June 1978, the Department of Athletics wasn't even called "Athletics," operating instead as "Sports and Recreation," a name unlikely to draw the attention of highly talented high-school students to WU. Its tiny staff was bitterly divided between tenured faculty-at-large and part-time coaches. The Field House, like Wilson Pool, was state-of-the-art—1920s. Men's basketball had been closed down for years. Women's programs hardly existed.

Alumni sports fans' needles were stuck in the glory days of the 1930s, when WU played NCAA Division I football, complete with athletic scholarships and Technicolor dreams of a 50,000-seat Hilltop stadium.

That era had ended in 1946 when then-chancellor Arthur Holly Compton brought a new philosophy to WU athletics: Subsidize the program, not the athlete (also the philosophy of NCAA Division III, in which WU now competes). But by 1978, the department was stumbling.

Schael says of it all: "I saw it as an opportunity. I knew what the potential was." His vision for the future? Then, as now: Provide the student-athlete with the best possible experience.

Then-chancellor William H. Danforth saw Schael as a "perfect fit, with very high performance and character standards for himself and those around him, encouraging students to give first priority to their studies."

From the get-go, Schael brought formidable values to bear on his goals and objectives.

One is his deep respect for other human beings. "People helping people is the key to success," he says, a
lesson learned in the blue-collar Cleveland neighborhood where he grew up. “I’ve always believed how you treat people makes a big difference.”

Another value is a strong sense of the importance of loyalty and respect for tradition, honed during his own days as a student-athlete at Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, the famed “cradle of coaches.” (A fine undergraduate and graduate student, he also was a champion wrestler and is a member of Miami’s Athletic Hall of Fame, keeping company with the likes of Ara Parseghian, Weeb Ewbank, Bo Schembechler, and Wayne Embry.)

Schael began by recruiting highly qualified full-time coaches who could also teach physical education and who understood the value of collegiality. Many of his early hires are still on board.

Women’s basketball coach Nancy Fahey, whose team won the 1998 and 1999 Division III national championships, has worked for Schael for 13 years. She admires him and says the basketball program, where parallel teams might duel for AD attention, shows why: “I think Mark Edwards [men’s basketball coach since 1981] said it best: ‘We feel like there’s one basketball program, with two different groups.’

“That can only come from the leadership. When you have both the men’s and the women’s coaches feeling that way, obviously it’s a real positive environment.”

Here was also the task of ensuring peer competitors for intercollegiate play. WU teams already played other Division III teams, but in 1986 Schael helped found the University Athletic Association, a nine-team conference that includes such other private research universities as the University of Chicago, Johns Hopkins, and NYU.

And, of course, better facilities came high on Schael’s list. Danforth says, “With John as our leader, it made sense to invest in both facilities and programs.”

Beginning in 1981, Schael and everybody in Athletics worked hand-in-hand with architects and project planners to get students the best possible facility for recreation and athletics, and in 1985, the $15 million Athletic Complex opened. All that cooperation worked—after 14 years of hard use, the facility has demonstrated no serious shortcomings.

AD Schael’s admirers abound. His boss, Justin X. Carroll, dean of students and assistant vice chancellor for students, says Schael has built an athletic program “that has become the envy of his colleagues around the country.”

Judy Sweet, University of California-San Diego AD and a Division III colleague, says WU’s program has grown in sports sponsorship and overall excellence. “John has played a very large role in putting all the pieces together,” she says.

Current engineering student-athlete Quincy Davis, Class of ’02, a high-school standout in football and track, agrees.

With a couple of Division I scholarships in hand, he didn’t plan to matriculate in hometown St. Louis, but football coach Larry Kindbom persuaded him to visit WU. Davis says, “Any recruit who attended the session I did left knowing that not only would he be playing in a good program, but also he would be getting an outstanding education, with support from his coaches as well.”

Kindbom explains that Schael has created a championship atmosphere at WU, where coaches and athletes are creative and productive. He says his AD, for whom he’s coached since 1989, is a “difference-maker; a leader in a place where leaders abound.”

Another of Schael’s objectives was to integrate his department into the University community as a valuable asset, not just remain “those people down at the other end of campus.” These days athletics folks participate in every kind of campus effort, and Schael co-chairs the faculty/staff segment of the $1 billion Campaign for Washington University.

He also helped revive the W Club in 1989, an old pep club that now offers alumni and friends a formal way—fund raising—to support the programs and enrich the quality of experience the students enjoy. The W Club also established the WU Sports Hall of Fame in 1991, strengthening WU’s athletics tradition by honoring its greats.

The current W Club president, primo sports fan Art McWilliams, B.S.B.A. ’49 [page 36], says: “Some of the best games I’ve ever seen in my life were WU games I’ve attended in the past few years. We owe a lot to John Schael.”

Schael enjoys what he’s doing. “These are very important years in a person’s life,” he explains. “I like what Kevin Suiter [B.S.B.A. ’88 and two-time Division III All-America basketball guard] always said: ‘Basketball is for four years. An education is forever.’”

“It is not a ‘win at all costs’ attitude here,” says Davis. “I like the idea of playing, practicing, and living with a positive attitude. It’s not just a way of playing but a way of life.”

Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton sums up: “What John Schael has brought to Washington University is more than a top-notch, competitive Division III athletic program for both men and women. That he has done, but, importantly, he has also continuously sought to bring our athletic program to the entire University community and to attract the very best coaching professionals to our campus. The entire athletics staff brings enormous benefits to our students. That legacy will last longer than trophies and championships.”

M.M. Costantin is associate director, development communications.
Star of India  Arts & Sciences sophomore Anuradha Subramanian of Potomac, Maryland, was among student performers who celebrated Diwali, the festival of lights, at Edison Theatre last fall. Non-Indian dancers had learned the complex and elegant movements from their classmates.