Varner elected fellow of Academy of Arts and Sciences

Joseph E. Varner, Ph.D., Charles Rebstock Professor of Biology, was elected a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences recently by the academy's 206th annual meeting in Cambridge, Mass.

Varner was among 89 leading scholars, scientists, public figures and artists from the United States elected to the academy. In addition, the academy elected 25 foreign honorary members.

Varner was honored in recognition of his work in the field of plant biology. His current research involves cell wall proteins in plants and how plants react to stress and disease.

After receiving his doctorate in biochemistry from Ohio State University in 1949, Varner taught and conducted research at a number of institutions, including California Institute of Technology, University of Cambridge and Michigan State University, before coming to Washington University in 1973.

Varner is a fellow of the American Society for the Advancement of Science, past president of the American Society of Plant Physiologists, and a former editor of the Journal of Plant Physiology. He was awarded an honorary degree from his alma mater in 1969. He has received numerous awards, including the Charles Rebstock Professorship.

Distinguished scholar of Jewish history accepts Goldstein chair

One of the nation's most distinguished scholars of contemporary Jewish history and affairs has accepted a position on the faculty of Washington University. Chancellor William H. Danforth has announced. Rabbi Marc Eli Saperstein, Ph.D., associate professor of Jewish studies at Harvard Divinity School, has been named the Gloria M. Goldstein Professor of Jewish History at Washington University, effective Aug. 1, 1986.

The chair was created by Sam Goldstein, prominent civic and business leader of St. Louis, in memory of his wife, Gloria M. Goldstein.

Saperstein will emphasize Holocaust studies as well as the history of anti-Semitism, Jewish-Christian relations in Europe through the end of the 18th century, the Bible and Jewish tradition, and Israel. He also will participate in the University's committees on Judaic and Near Eastern Studies and Religious Studies.

Danforth said, "Rabbi Saperstein's appointment culminated a long and intensive search for an academician whose credentials and stature would justify Mr. Goldstein's generosity. He is an ideal choice for this challenging position on our faculty and we are especially pleased with his decision to accept this appointment." Danforth said that Saperstein also will work with the St. Louis Center for Holocaust Studies.

Saperstein recently left a part-time position as rabbi at Temple Beth David in Canton, Mass., and is on the executive board of the Central Conference of American Rabbis and the Massachusetts Board of Rabbis and the Canton Clergy Association. His rabbinical experience also included service as assistant rabbi at Central Synagogue in New York City. Special honors and awards include: Harvard National Scholarship (1962-66); Phi Beta Kappa, Junior Eight (1965); B.A. summa cum laude (1966); Palfrey Exhibition Prize; most distinguished scholar of Harvard graduating class holding a stipendary scholarship." (1966); Henry Fellowship (1966-67); Kent Fellowship (1974-77).

Washington University is about to "Let the Good Times Roll."" This year's Homecoming will be the best ever," says Steven A. Rose, chairman of the Public Relations Committee for Homecoming 86, slated for Sept. 22-27. "There will be more events, more student participation and a larger parade. Our theme, "Let the Good Times Roll," means just that. Homecoming is a way for students to show enthusiasm and spirit for their school. It brings students, faculty and alumni together."

The Homecoming '86 Steering Committee has designated Sept. 22-27 as "Spirit Week." The week will feature Balloon Day at Mallinckrodt Center where Homecoming balloons will be distributed; Beach and Sun-glasses Day; Rock and Roll 50s' Day; and Red and Green Day. The Homecoming parade will be disassembled. The parade will then proceed as follows: Wydown west to Big Bend; Big Bend north to Delmar; Delmar east to Skinker; Skinker south to Forsyth; and end in the Brookings parking lot, where floats will be disassembled.

Chancellor and Mrs. William H. Danforth will be in the parade, along with Bugs Bunny, clowns, Girl Scouts, the Washington University Pep Band, the Memorial Lancers Drum and Bugle Corps, the Washington University Bear mascot, and others. More than 20 floats and 70 parade marchers representing the dorms and Greek system are expected to participate.

Sign-up information for the parade is available at The Desk in Mallinckrodt Center and the Wohl Center lobby. Interested persons may continue on p. 9.
Bob Berk and Michael Moschen exhibit creative clowning in "The Alchemedians."

Golden humor
Alchemedians' mix laughs, surprise

Bob Berk and Michael Moschen, mimes, jugglers and master entertainers, will open Edison Theatre's 1986-87 season when they perform "The Alchemedians" at 8 p.m. Sept. 25 and 26 in Edison Theatre.

Berk and Moschen, co-creators of the Ohio Award-winning "Foolsfire," premiered "The Alchemedians" last fall at the Brooklyn Academy of Music's Next Wave Festival. The show will come to Edison straight from a summer run on Broadway.

Like their medieval predecessors, alchemists who tried to change base metal into gold, Berk and Moschen transform the traditional arts of clowning and juggling into contemporary performance art.

"The show's essence is surprise — often small astonishment following the next," says The New Yorker about "The Alchemedians."

The Washington Post reviewed the performance as, "Belly-laugh amusing and lightning bolt amazing ... you have to go!"

Berk, who was a French horn major at the Eastman School of Music, had studied mime and performed with the Celebration Mime Theatre before going to work as a soloist.

Moschen began juggling at age 12 and later joined the Big Apple Circus in its first season in 1971. The duo met in 1978 at a mime festival in Syracuse where they were each doing solo performances.

Ticket prices for "The Alchemedians" are $15 to the general public, $10 to faculty, staff and senior citizens, and $7 for students. For more information, call the box office at 889-6545.

Financial assistance for this project has been provided by the Missouri Arts Council, a state agency, and the Regional Arts Commission.

North explores path of institutional change
Douglass C. North, Ph.D., Henry R. Luce Professor of Law and Liberty at Washington University in St. Louis, will deliver the Luce lecture at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 17, in Graham Chapel.

North's lecture, titled "The Path of Institutional Change," is sponsored by the University's Assembly Series and is free and open to the public.

North is a specialist in economic organization, economic history and political economy and has written several books on economics, including Structure and Change in Economic History. He collaborated with Robert P. Thomas to write The Rise of the Western Economic World, which has been translated into five languages.

The lecture hasacket at almost every major American and Canadian university and at conferences and universities in Japan, South Africa, Europe and South America. It sold out.

North came to the University in 1983, when he was appointed Luce professor. The professorship is funded by a grant from the Henry Luce Foundation, which includes an annual lecture by the Luce professor.
Raymond E. Arvidson, Ph.D., professor of earth and planetary sciences and a fellow at the McDonnell Center for the Space Sciences, was selected to be an interdisciplinary scientist for the Mars Observer mission. Mars Observer was a polar-orbiting spacecraft in 1991-1994 that will investigate the global climate and geology of Mars. Arvidson will use Mars Observer data to study the possibility of life on the red planet, in addition to helping NASA ensure that proper computation and data management systems are in place for the mission.

Bill Kohn, professor of art, culminated his sabbatical in Spain with an exhibit of 70 of his works, titled "Andalucian Sketchbooks," at the Alcazar Palace in Seville. The mayor of Seville invited Kohn to open the gallery on June 23. The palace dates from the 12th century and is the official palace when the king of Spain visits Seville.

James G. Miller, Ph.D., professor of physics and research associate professor of medicine, recently was elected a Fellow of the American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine (AIUM) with the citation "for outstanding contributions to the field of medical ultrasound." In a letter informing Miller of the decision of the board of governors, AIUM President Richard A. Meyer said, "Over the years, the AIUM has made much progress because it has built upon a strong foundation of knowledge and expertise. You have been part of that foundation and I am very pleased to be able to notify you of this decision.

H. Mitchell Perry Jr., M.D., professor of obstetrics and gynecology and director of both the hypertension division and Hypertension Clinic at the medical school, received the Russell Jr. Memorial Award from the American Heart Association. The award is presented annually at the association's Delegate Assembly to a volunteer whose accomplishments best exemplify the spirit and goals of the association in minority involvement and programming.

Carla Schmittler, a student in the MSW/Ph.D. program in the School of Social Work, presented a paper at the Forum for Death Education and Counseling Conference, held last spring in Atlanta, Ga. Her paper, "Personal and Situational Correlates of strategic planning for the medical school's finance office, has been named winner of the Hiram W. Neuwoehler Prize by the business school faculty. Sonderegger was chosen as "the part-time MBA student who has contributed the most to the class environment by his or her participation and written work." He also received the MBA Scholar Award from the School of Business, which is "awarded to the first- and second-year students in both the first- and second-year MBA classes."

Joseph J. Volpe, M.D., A. Ernest and Jane G. Stein Professor of Developmental Neurology and chief of pedi- atric neurology at Children's Hos- pital, has received the United Cerebral Palsy Association's Weinstein-Goldenson Award for his research into the causation and pre- vention of intraventricular hemorrhage in premature infants. Volpe has spent a decade studying events that cause brain injury in newborn infants, particularly those born prematurely. His work has contributed to understanding the blood flow in the brains of infants, patterns of brain injuries and the prevention and care of brain injury. The award is given annually to recognize medical research into causes and prevention of cerebral palsy. Volpe received the honor May 9 during the annual meeting of the United Cerebral Palsy Association in New Orleans.

Gene M. Zafft, L.I.M., an adjunct professor in the law school's Graduate Tax Program, participated in the Missouri Bar Association Continuing Legal Education Program by delivering a talk on the "Tax Aspects of Real Estate Transactions." His presentation was given in St. Louis, Hannibal and Ste. Genevieve.

Have you done something noteworthy? Have you presented a paper? Won an award? Been named to a committee or elected an of- ficer of a professional organization? The Washington University Record will help you get the good news. Contributing faculty and staff scholarly or professional ac- complishments are gladly accepted and encouraged. Send a brief note with your full name, highest degree earned, department and institution, along with a description of your noteworthy activity to Notables, Campus Box 1070. Please include a phone number.


Other academic associations in- clude: Association for Jewish Studies, World Union of Jewish Stud- ies, American Academy of Jewish Re- search, and Medieval Seminary Society that appeared in The Christian Science Monitor. The feature was headlined "Shooting for National Science" and dealt with the growing reputation of the University.

A new test to detect birth defects during the first trimester of pregnan- cy is called chorionic villus sampling (CVS). "The procedure has been re- fined and our results so far have been promising," said Heidi Beaver, genetic counselor, in an arti- cule published in China Daily, the foremost newspaper for the English-speaking population in main- land China.

The university-industry partnership at its next step, according to Business Week, in its coverage of Washington University's agreement with Alafi Capital Company. The pioneering agreement creates a venture capital firm, jointly owned by Washing- ton University and Alafi, to iden- tify promising technologies among the University's research projects and create companies to market them, according to Edward Mac- Cordy, associate vice chancellor for research.

An unpublished Michelangelo document was brought to light by Arv. A "Master of Assistant Profes- sor William Wallace, Ph.D., and art history major Larysa Bayer who re- discovered it while searching some rare books and manuscripts do- nated to the University by the St. Louis businessman George Masse- rner. The item was picked up by the Associated Press and United Press International, released stories about the project. Reports also were carried by CBS, NBC, and Cable News Network, as well as many major newspapers and magazines. Working with Mather, Gojahan on the project were William P. Darby, Ph.D., Edward L. Schlegel, Ph.D., Barbara S. Mon- sees, M.D., and Alice E. Tome.

Chancellor William H. Danforth and School of Business Dean Robert L. Virgil were featured in a story about Washington University
The return of the mummy: The "black-neck" mummy Pet-menekh is featured in the exhibit "A Journey to Antiquity," on display through Oct. 12 in the University's Gallery of Art in Steinberg Hall. The mummy, which was on display at the Saint Louis Art Museum from 1927 to 1978, belongs to the gallery of art and has been in storage there since 1983. Because of the delicate condition of the mummy, which is 2,300 years old, Pet-menekh's sarcophagus is closed. However, as part of the exhibit, large color photographs of the mummy and interior are on display. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 1 to 5 p.m. weekends.

Monday, Sept. 19
5 p.m. Women's Tennis, WU vs. U. of Illinois-Chicago. Tao Tennis Center

Tuesday, Sept. 20
6 p.m. WU Asian Art Society will preview the exhibit "Steps Across a Stream: Selections from the Collection of Charles and Carol Shafer," new members at University House, 6420 Forsyth Blvd. Architect Gerhardt Kramer will present a slide lecture on "Early St. Louis Architecture." Mrs. William H. Danforth will be the hostess. For information about a year's free membership in the club, call Ruth Selfridge at 532-6510 or Alice Ma Randall at 663-5273.

Friday, Sept. 19
5:45 p.m. Habilat Services. Special Student Program. Dinner at 6:30 and program at 7:45. Hilbert House, 6300 Forsyth Blvd. Cost is $4 for Hillel members and $7.50 for non-members. Reservations are due by Sept. 18.

Saturday, Sept. 20

Monday, Sept. 15
7-9:30 p.m. WU Basketball, "Blow-Up." $2. Brown Hall. (Also Tues., Sept. 16, same times, Brown.)

Wednesday, Sept. 17
10:30-5:40 a.m. Women's Tennis, WU vs. U. of Chicago. Tao Tennis Center

Thursday, Sept. 11

Friday, Sept. 19
7 and 9:30 p.m. WU Filmboard Series, "The Cars That Ate Paris." $2. Brown Hall. (Also Thurs., Sept. 18, same times, Brown.)

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