Mouse virus may help understanding of cruise ship epidemics

By DARRELL E. WARD

A close relative of a common, little-understood human virus that causes an estimated 23 million episodes of intestinal illness, 50,000 hospitalizations and 300 deaths each year has been discovered in mice.

The finding by School of Medicine scientists was reported in the March 7 issue of the journal Science.

In the March 7 issue of the journal Science, mice scientists were reported to have discovered a new virus that causes an estimated 23 million episodes of intestinal illness, 50,000 hospitalizations and 300 deaths each year. This virus, known as murine norovirus 1 (MNV-1), may lead to a better understanding of the disease.

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Trustees hear reports on chemistry initiatives

At its March 7 meeting, the Board of Trustees received reports on chemistry research and education from Edward S. Miciano, Ph.D., executive vice chancellor and dean of Arts & Sciences, and Joseph J.H. Ackerman, Ph.D., the William Greenleaf Eliot Professor and chair of the Department of Chemistry in Arts & Sciences. According to Miciano, the chemistry program at Washington University has a strong record of excellence and innovation. He outlined recent initiatives, including the establishment of the Ackerman Chair, a William Greenleaf Eliot Professorship, and a series of environmental initiatives aimed at reducing the university's carbon footprint. The chemistry department has also received a significant gift from a prominent alumnus, which will support the development of new research opportunities.

American Indian Awareness Week March 17-22

By Julianna C. Roberts

An American Indian powwow, traditional cuisine, crafts, a film and presentations by Kerry Bird and Rebecca Tsosie are among the highlights of the University's American Indian Awareness Week March 17-22. The theme is "Carrying on the Wisdom of Our Ancestors." Bird is a senior consultant and human resources manager for ProGroup Inc. Tsosie is the Lincoln Professor of Native American Law and Ethics and executive director of the Indian Legal Program at Arizona State University. The annual powwow and accompanying events allow Washington University's American Indian students to share their unique cultures with the rest of the campus and the St. Louis community. Events are free and open to the public.

Epstein to read for International Writers Center

By Lisa Ottens

Essayist and short-story writer Joseph Epstein will read from his work at 7 p.m. March 17 at the West Campus Conference Center as a part of The Art of the Essay writers series for the International Writers Center in Arts & Sciences.

In addition, Epstein will lead a seminar on the art of the essay at 4 p.m. March 18 in McMillan Cafe, Room 115 of Old McMillan Hall. The event will include a question-and-answer session.

Epstein is the author of 14 books, including most recently Southern Breviary: The American Version (2002) and narcissa leveritt the Peabody (1999), a collection of essays. He also recently compiled a small book on envy — part of a series based on the seven deadly sins into a book published by Oxford University Press — as well as a new collection of stories, fabulous small jews, to be published this fall.

Epstein's essays have appeared in The American Scholar, which he edited from 1997, as well as in The New Republic, Harper's, Commentary, Judaism, and the Atlantic. He has been included in several anthologies and has been a recipient of several Guggenheim fellowships.

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Epstein was born and raised in Chicago's Rogers Park neighborhood and attended the University of Chicago. He has taught English and creative writing at Northwestern University and is a trustee of the Hudson Institute, a think tank focused on national security and international affairs. Both events are free and open to the public. Copies of Epstein's work will be available for purchase, and a book-signing and reception will follow each program. For more information, call 935-3576.
Osteoporosis research offers new insights

By Gila Z. Reiches

Defects in a protein called alphaV beta3 integrin appear to contribute to the development of osteoporosis, a condition in which bone is broken down at a faster rate than it is synthesized, according to the first author of a study published online March 4 in the March issue of the Journal of Pathology and Immunology.

"Osteoporosis, a condition that results in weakened, brittle bones, afflicts roughly 50 percent of Caucasian and Asian women above age 65. It develops when bone turns over at a faster rate than it is synthesized. Therefore, curing the disease and others like it depends on understanding osteoclasts — cells responsible for eroding bone — and determining why they sometimes become overly active," Teitelbaum said.

Teitelbaum's team previously determined that M-CSF, a colony-stimulating factor, helps specialized bone cells develop into osteoclasts. Without enough M-CSF to encourage osteoclast growth, animals develop abnormally dense bone. Similarly, it is known that blocking alphaV beta3 integrin in animal models causes failure of osteoclast function. However, it is unclear precisely how M-CSF or alphaV beta3 integrin influence osteoclast development.

The absence of beta3 (part of the alphaV beta3 integrin) in pre-cursor cells has a curiously different effect on cells in a petri dish compared with cells in living animals. When grown in a dish, abnor-

mally few osteoclasts develop, and those that do develop are dysfunctional. In animals, however, precursor cells lacking beta3 produce abnormally high num-

berries of osteoclasts.

"This paradox suggests that something in the living animal interacts with beta3 during the process of osteoclast differentiation," Teitelbaum said.

His team discovered the interaction may involve M-CSF. The team worked to determine why M-CSF helps cells from mice lacking beta3 and put them in a petri dish, yet few became osteoclasts.

But when levels of M-CSF were increased, the sluggish bone formation effect was reversed. Furthermore, they determined that alphaV beta3 integrin on the surface of the cell (c-Fos, a protein that in bone, a protein that normally binds to M-CSF) appears to be largely responsible for this interaction.

"The interaction between M-CSF and alphaV beta3 integrin is intriguing and may help explain the incompletely understood aspects of animal models of osteoporosis," Teitelbaum said.

Because this understanding of alphaV beta3 integrin and M-CSF are involved in the same signaling pathways that cause precursor cells to differentiate into osteo-


clasts, they found increased levels of M-CSF also restored activity of externally regulated kinases (ERKs) and a protein called c-Fos, which are critical for stim-

ulating osteoclast precursors to become active.

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"Otherwise, one might conclude that the alphaV beta3 integrin and M-CSF collaborate in the process of osteoclast differentiation.

The school of Medicine and Dentistry will hold the 26th Annual James O'Leary Prize Competition for Outstanding Research in Neuroscience from 1-4 p.m. March 26 at the McDonnell Hall of Science Building, Room 928. Predoctoral students will present their work from 1-2:30 p.m. and postdoctoral residents and fellows will present their work from 2:30-4 p.m.

The winners will be honored in the morning at the 28th Annual James O'Leary Prize Competition for Outstanding Research in Neuroscience. The winners will present their work from 1-2:30 p.m. and postdoctoral residents and fellows will present their work from 2:30-4 p.m.

The winners will be honored in the morning at the 28th Annual James O'Leary Prize Competition for Outstanding Research in Neuroscience.
The Washington University Opera does Broadway

Most Happy Fella at Saint Louis Art Museum 21-22

BY LIAM OTTEN

The Washington University Opera presents Frank Loesser's legendary ambiguous Broadway musical The Most Happy Fella at 7 p.m. March 21–22 in the Saint Louis Art Museum auditorium.

Set in 1927, the story opens in a Southern California vineyard where the beautiful young waitress Rosabella (played by Karen Hetzel, a master's candidate in vocal performance) has just received a veritable proposal of marriage from Tony Esposito (Scott Levin), a yet good-looking Italian Vintner from the Napa Valley.

When he begins to correspond, but Rosabella, having no recollection of waiting on the newly married Tonio, requests a photo. Fearing rejection, Tonio instead sends a picture of his handsome ranch foreman, Joe (senior David Koch). Upon arrival in town, the first person she meets is one of the most vocally challenging roles in musical theatre.

Composed during the late 1940s, the story is a wide-ranging score, with 90 minutes is the wide-ranging score, with arias, recitatives, duets, quartets, choral numbers, recitatives, instrumental interludes and folk numbers.

Joseph Epstein, essayist and author. West Campus Conference Center, 454-6042. For more information, call 935-4841.

The Most Happy Fella

When: Washington University Opera

What: Broadway musical by Frank Loesser

Where: Saint Louis Art Museum auditorium

Admission: One free entry in Forest Park

Tickets: Available through the Edison Theatre Box Office (503-8434)

For more information, call 935-4841.

The show also yielded some hit tunes, including "Standing on the Corner," "Big Joe," and "Joey Joey Joey.

Brooks Atkinson, writing in The New York Times, called The Most Happy Fella a "profoundly moving dramatic experience" and "a rare achievement for the theater."

"Joey Joey Joey" is set in 1927, the story opens in a Southern California vineyard where the beautiful young waitress Rosabella (played by Karen Hetzel, a master's candidate in vocal performance) has just received a veritable proposal of marriage from Tony Esposito (Scott Levin), a yet good-looking Italian Vintner from the Napa Valley.

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the University investigators then bought a newly available and the first grain of Stardust in the mission electron microscope. He ever before," Messenger said. "So Stardust is surprisingly common in the IDPs. We found that 1 percent of the mass of these interplanetary dust particles was Stardust," Messenger said. "So Stardust is, about 50 times as abundant in these particles as in meteorites which suggests that it comes from far more primitive bodies.

The isotopic measurements identified six Stardust grains from outside our solar system. Three appeared to come from red giants or asymptotic giant branch stars, two late stages in stellar evolution. A fourth was from a star containing little metal. The fifth and sixth possibly came from a metal-rich star or a supernova. Although this work is just beginning, some novel findings have emerged. For example, one of the grains was crystalline, which contradicts the idea that silicate Stardust grains are always amorphous. A single grain of Stardust can bring down a long-established theory," Messenger said. "The researchers will probe the history of Stardust with further studies of IDP chemistry and microstructure. The interstellar medium plays an incredibly important role in star formation, but you can learn only so much by using a telescope," Messenger said. "You can find out so much more by studying actual samples."

Women continue run toward national title

The No. 3 women's basketball team used a 19-0 run early in the second half to advance to the NCAA Division III Sweet Sixteen with a 80-56 win over Illinois Wesleyan University March 8 at the Field House. The Bears started fast and never slowed, as they took a 10-point lead just six minutes into the game. They pushed the lead to 18 in the first half, then led by as many as 24 in the deciding run three minutes into the second half. Lesley Hawley led the Bears with 18 points, nine of 11 shooting. WUSTL (23-1) will face St. John's College 5:30 p.m. today in Abilene, Texas. On March 1, the Bears closed out the regular season with an 83-54 win over the University of Chicago at the Field House. They finished University Athletic Association play with a 13-1 mark, good for their sixth straight UAA title.

Men's team loses; finishes year 24-2

The men's basketball team saw its record-setting season come to an end as the No. 2 Bears were beaten 75-13 by the third-ranked Illinois Wesleyan in the second round of the NCAA Division III Tournament March 8 at the Field House. The Bears finished their season with a 24-2 record. WUSTL led 38-37 at halftime, but an 85-Tonite run midway through the half gave the visitors a 56-53 lead they would not relinquish. The Bears would get as close as two points at 66-64 with 3:28 left, but the visitors finished the half without hitting one of the three free throw line. Chris Miller finished with 20 points, 10 rebounds and six assists to lead four starters in double figures. His fifth point of the night gave him 1,500 for his career, good for second all-time at WUSTL. On March 3, the Bears dropped a 1-2 series against first-straight overall and straight against the University of Chicago. A 19-0 run that bridged the first and second halves pushed the Bears to the victory. Leading, 31-19 in the break, the Bears scored nine straight to start the second half to push the margin to 16.

The softball team started the season but its second straight season as it won all five games at the Rebel Spring Games in Orlando, Fla. The Bears opened the season March 2 with a 4-0 win over the College of Misericordia. Sophomore Victoria Ramsey threw a three-hit shutout and Liz Swary drove in the winning run in the bottom of the fifth inning. Other wins came against California State (5-4), Muhlenberg College (5-1), Widener College (9-8) and Heidelberg College (4-1). The Bears went 4-2 through matches against the NCAA Team. A 10-run win that bridged the first and second halves pushed the Bears to the victory. Leading, 31-19 in the break, the Bears scored nine straight to start the second half to push the margin to 16.

WUSTL only lost a tight 3-4 decision to No. 8 Pomona-Pitzer College, Senior Jenny Steiner and junior Laura Green-berg led the way as the duo went 3-1 at No. doubles and each went 4-0 at singles. The No. 7 men's tennis team posted a 2-1 at the NCAA Division III Indoor Championsips in St. Peter, Minn. In the opening match against second-ranked Emory, the Bears dropped a 3-2 decision as WUSTL captured the doubles point, taking a 1-0 lead, but dropped six of singles matches. In the consolation final, the Bears ousted No. 9 Washington College 6-1 as Washington U. 4-3 for fifth place.

Lead by junior Kammie Holt and senior Valerie Lakso, the women's track and field team won its fourth straight title at the UAA Indoor Track and Field Championships, hosted by Brandeis. The men's team finished third, which was their third straight long jump title with a leap of 5.48 meters, also finished second in the triple jump (11.33 meters and fifth in the 55-meter dash, 23 seconds), and was named the Women's Outstanding Per-former of the meet. Laslo set a school record in the 400 meters with a time of 56.54 seconds, won the 200 meters and ran the third leg on the 4x400 relay, which broke the school record for the third time this season — this time by more than two seconds — and qual-ified provisionally for the national championship meet.
of note

Robert H. Arch, Ph.D., assistant professor of medicine, has received a four-year, $300,000 grant from the Cancer Research Institute for research titled "TFAF-mediated Signaling Pathways Regulating Tumor Cell Apoptosis." Shirley K. Baker, vice-chancellor for information technology and dean of University Libraries, has been named to the National Academy of Sciences on Secretary of State Matt Blunt's Council on Library Development. Walker honored via symposium

Robert M. Walker, Ph.D. (left), professor of physics in Arts & Sciences, visits with John F. McDonnell, chairman of the University's Board of Trustees and retired chairman of the board of McDonnell Douglas Corp., at the Robert M. Walker Symposium held on the Hilltop Campus March 6-7. The symposium paid tribute to Walker's career and consisted of invited talks and contributed posters that covered a wide array of scientific topics. Walker was the first director of the McDonnell Center for the Space Sciences, established in 1975. He held that position for nearly 35 years, until his retirement in 1999.

Eighth-century Italian playwright Pietro Chiari designated the age in which he lived "the century of women" — an age when women gained considerable power through education and admission to various universities, careers, and professions.

The history of Van Cleve's rise was remarkable. In 1995, he was a founding chair of its National Council and a member of the advisory board from its inception. He played a key role in the law school's "Building for a New Century" campaign. When he retired from management duties in 1994, he had overspanned all of the 15 standing committees of the board.

Better and St. Louis better. And he work was extensive and incredibly shared his own life with generosity. His committee work spanned all of the 15 standing committees. St. Louis better. And he was remarkable. He was a good man," Bradley said, "a good man who lived his own truth with dignity and shared his own life with generosity: a man who remembered those who had less, even as he advised those who had more those who had more. A man who built things with vision and force determined and dedicated. He served them with joy and great caring.

Van Cleve's leadership and guidance for the School of Law was remarkable. He was the executive vice chair of the cabinet and executive committee for 18 years, and on the Nominating and Alumni & Sciences, visits with John F. McDonnell, chairman of the University's Board of Trustees and retired chairman of the board of McDonnell Douglas Corp., at the Robert M. Walker Symposium held on the Hilltop Campus March 6-7. The symposium paid tribute to Walker's career and consisted of invited talks and contributed posters that covered a wide array of scientific topics. Walker was the first director of the McDonnell Center for the Space Sciences, established in 1975. He held that position for nearly 35 years, until his retirement in 1999.

Obituaries

Summers, 82

Joe Holmes Summers Sr., 82, died Monday, Feb. 3, 2003, after a short illness at Highland Hospital in Rochester. His twin brother, N. Henry Summers, was an English professor in Arts & Sciences from 1959-1969 and dean of the School of Engineering.

Williams, 76

George H. Williams, former electrical and electronic foreman in the Department of Facilities and Management Planning, died Sunday, Feb. 23, 2003, in his home. After 31 years of service, Williams retired from the University in 1991.
Joan L. Luby, M.D., assistant professor of child psychiatry, founder and director of the School of Medicine’s Early Emotional Development Program, and director of residency training in child psychiatry, demonstrates to chief fellow Bryan Sewing how her team uses “puppet interviews” to diagnose clinical depression in very young children.

"What's unusual about Luby isn't that she works with kids. It's the age of those kids. Most of her patients are 2-5 years old."

"Joan L. Luby looks 'behind the door' to identify, treat children with psychiatric illnesses"

Joan L. Luby, M.D.

Washington University in St. Louis

March 14, 2003

Psychiatry in the nursery

Joan L. Luby

The medical school, Luby was an intern at Sinai Hospital in Detroit. Ironically, after her single-minded pursuit of psychiatry, she really enjoyed internal medicine. Since she knew she wanted to be a psychiatrist the best way was to go on being a psychiatrist.

"I am living proof that those early developmental experiences are absolutely formative," she says.

Joan L. Luby, M.D.

February 20, 1959, in Detroit

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Family: Husband, Steven Jay Hirsch, Ph.D.; teaches and researches Latin-American history at the University of Pittsburgh."

But if nothing else, her relations prove the importance of childhood influences later in life. Before they were re-acquainted as adults, Hirsch was Luby's boy friend in sixth grade."

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Joan L. Luby, M.D.

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS

March 14, 2003

Doctor Mom

Luckily for someone working with preschoolers, it is Luby's favorite age. Her own children are

a bit older than that now, so she has the good fortune to watch them grow into adolescence while continuing to play with 3-year olds on a regular basis.

She says psychiatrists/medicine faces the same parenting challenges as everyone else, and although she isn't sure whether her training as a child psychiatrist helps her parenting, she believes it does.

"When I'm in the role of mother, I'm just like any other mother," she says. "But on the other hand, I think if you asked my kids, they might tell you that a bit of the child psychiatrist can sometimes spill over into home life."

And it is a complicated home life these days.

It's not only running kids to activities and events or trying (and mostly failing) to get them to eat new recipes she's picked up as part of her cooking avocation. There's also the fact that Luby's husband, Steven Jay Hirsch, Ph.D., teaches and researches Latin-American history at the University of Pittsburgh.

That means he must commute between Pittsburgh and St. Louis on weekends. Or sometimes, Luby and the kids make the trip to Pittsburgh.

But if nothing else, her relations prove the importance of childhood influences later in life. Before they were re-acquainted as adults, Hirsch was Luby's boy friend in sixth grade.

With a twinkle in her eye, Luby describes their reunion as adults with a need to the importance of childhood.

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