Researchers find new fat is needed to clear the old

BY JIM DRYDEN

Where fat comes from determines how our body metabolizes it effectively. School of Medicine researchers have found that the old fat stored in the body's peripheral tissues — around the belly, thighs or bottom — can't be burned efficiently until it's mobilized to the liver, but their livers quickly filled with fat," Semenkovich said.

"We concluded that to regulate fat burning, the liver needs new fat," Semenkovich said. "When we took dietary fat away from the FASKOL mice, their livers quickly filled with fat," said senior investigator Clay E. Semenkovich, M.D., professor of medicine and of cell biology and physiology. "Their old fat stores mobilized to the liver, but their livers could not initiate fat burning, and the fat just accumulate.

"We concluded that to regulate fat burning, the liver needs new fat," Semenkovich said. New fat is consumed in food or newly made in the liver, which is glutathione (GSH) in the liver that is converted to fatty acid synthase, the enzyme that creates new fat in the liver. In addition to fatty liver, the transgenic mice developed low blood-sugar levels on the zero-fat diet. Both symptoms were reversed with dietary fat.

On a normal diet, the transgenic mice were different than the normal mice when tested both on cholesterol and diabetes. Semenkovich said the mice were more insulin-sensitive than the control mice, meaning they were more efficient at using insulin to move glucose out of the blood and into the cells. When the transgenic mice were placed on a zero-fat diet, they became insulin-resistant, meaning they could not use insulin to move glucose out of the blood and into the cells.

"In high school, I thought it was a significant milestone in the lives of more than 2,500 students," Friedman said.

"I was looking forward to the day that many students — undergraduate, graduate and professional — thought would never arrive if it finally here," Friedman said.

"I am delighted that Helen was nominated," he said. "She has made significant contributions to the field of intellectual history, as a pioneering researcher and in sprucing telling the story of her life by trying to finish a project and move on to something else, because there is always something else," Friedman said. "I've learned to enjoy the process and enjoy the path I'm on, because life is a blur and college is even faster."
The Edison Theatre will celebrate its 33rd year of exuberant dance, rich musical traditions and challenging thought with the 2005–06 OVATIONS! Series.

Founded in 1973, the OVA-
TIONS! Series serves both the University and St. Louis communities by presenting the highest caliber national and international performers and artists working intended to challenge, educate and inspire.

The series highlights the inter-
disciplinary, the multicultural and the experimental, through new works as well as through innovative interpretations of classical material not otherwise seen in St. Louis.

The season will open Oct. 21 with a gala, the latest bound-

Noche Flamenco, one of Spain's most successful flamenco ensembles. Eight-time Jessie Award-winners Doug Varone & Dancers will display their signature mix of art, new production of the 15th-century Flemish classic Death and the Plague. Theater lovers can also look forward to Synapse Productions' Animal Farm. The Perfect Magic School, based on George Orwell's classic political parable, March 10-11. For Sorrows, the classically trained, boundaryPushing Imani Winds will join forces with the Ying Quartet, the only residence at the Eastman School of Music, for a performance Jan. 20. South Africa's renowned Soweto Gospel Choir will take to the Edison Theatre stage Feb. 11 as part of the OVATIONS! Series. About to enter its 33rd year, OVATIONS! serves both the University and St. Louis communities by presenting the highest caliber national and international performers and artists working intended to challenge, educate and inspire.

Scholarships

Pathfinder Program has 2 Uddals, 2 Goldwaters from Page 1

For Friedman, another part of the surprise was overcoming the odds that she and Klaser, her Pathfinder Program colleague, faced in winning Uddal Scholarships. "I was really hoping to get the award," said Friedman, who is majoring in earth and tribal public policy. "I was kind of surprised when I found out, but it was a great honor." Klaser, who is majoring in environmental studies and political science, was run-up last fall by a visiting professor.

The Morris K. Udall Scholarship is administered by the Udall Foundation and the Excellence in National Environmental Policy Foundation, an independent scholarship covering tuition, fees, books and board up to a maximum of $5,000 per year. Friedman and Klaser were two of the 205 students to be awarded 2005 Uddal Scholarships. Udall Scholarships are awarded to those who demonstrate a commitment to public service, environmental, or native American or native Alaskan students in fields of study related to federal and tribal public policy.

The Morris K. Udall Scholarship Foundation is headquartered in Washington, D.C., was established the foundation in 1991 to honor Udall and his accomplishments.

Goldwater Scholars

Mawlawi is majoring in earth and planetary sciences; Schwarz is in information systems and biology.

Summer schedule

After this issue, the Record will phase into its monthly summer publication schedule. Look for our next issue in June.

The Morris K. Udall Scholarship Foundation awarded 320 scholarships for the 2005-06 academic year to U.S. undergraduate students and seniors. The Goldwater Scholars were selected on the basis of academic merit from the fields of math, science, and engineering degrees obtained by the faculties of colleges and universities. Virtually all of the Goldwater Scholars intend to earn doctorates. Twenty-seven scholars are mathematics majors, 23 are science majors, 45 are majoring in engineering and nine are computer science-related majors. Many of the scholars have dual majors in a variety of mathematics, science, and computer disciplines. The one- and two-year scholars will cover the cost of tuition, fees, books and board up to a maximum of $7,500 per year.

Goldwater Scholars have very impressive academic qualifications that have garnered the attention of prestigious postgraduate fellowship programs. Recent Goldwater Scholars have been awarded Rhodes Scholarships, 72 Marshall Awards (six of the 40 awarded in the United States in 2005) and numerous other distinguished fellowships.

Pathfinder Program

Uddal winners Friedman and Klaser are something in common with Goldwater winners Mawlawi and Schwarz: They are all members of the University's Pathfinder Program, a four-year educational experience researching environ-

Variety of experiences," Friedman said. "I think that the best part of Pathfinder has enabled me to experience researching environmental issues, from the issues surrounding environmental sustainability. Over the years, Pathfinder students have found unique educational opportunities in such places as Hawaii and the Mojave Desert in California. This provides students the opportunity to meet and bond with a select group of students and faculty.

"Pathfinder provides an excellent introduction and educational program in Environmental Arts and Sciences in either the natural or socially sciences, and is designed to assist students about the environment and its role in a diverse array of experiences," Friedman said. "I see my fellow Pathfinders who are into law, business, geology, physics, chemistry, anthropology, biology, ecology, and art, and realize the various ways in which we can achieve environmental sustainability. "Pathfinder has enabled me to look at the environment from a variety of angles, which I think ultimately led me to the opportunity to get the Udall."

Raymond E. Arvidson, Ph.D., Associate Vice Chancellor Judith Jasper Leicht, and the Goldwaters, Ray's Pathfinder Program advisor and Edward S. Macias, professor in the Department of Environmental Studies in the United States in 2005. Last summer, she taught literature to low-income high-school students through the Pathfinder Summer Program in Northfield, Minn. From the years of 1973 to 2001, while attending high school in Naples, Italy, she organized and managed various workshops and seminars. Pfeifer also serves as a peer counselor for the Sexual Assault and Rape Action Hotline, or SARA.

Pfeifer, who began her WUSTL studies as a painting major in the School of Art, is founder and president of the University's Cinema Artistic Community Artist and editor of Spire, an intercollegiate art and literary magazine. She also serves as a peer counselor for the Sexual Assault and Rape Action Hotline, or SARA.

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**School of Medicine Update**

**GSC gets big boost from small package**

By Gwena Erickson

Work in the Genome Sequencing Center (GSC) at Washington University in St. Louis is going to go a lot faster — hundreds of times faster.

Fast enough to sequence the entire genome of a bacterial organism in one day instead of several weeks.

That’s because the GSC has acquired a next-generation DNA sequencer to determine the order of a genome’s DNA units, or bases. No other DNA sequencer has its capacity and ease of use.

The entire machine is only about the size of a suitcase, whereas the current capillary-based sequencers are the size of a refrigerator.

The acquisition of the new machine at the GSC represents only the second installation of this new instrument anywhere in the world.

“Here, hundreds of thousands of sequencing reactions happen at once, and the instrument reads them all simultaneously,” said Elaine R. Mardis, Ph.D., co-director of the GSC and assistant professor of genetics and of molecular microbiology. “It’s a massively parallel approach to DNA sequencing.”

The whole-genome approach utilized by this instrument also eliminates a lot of preliminary work required by other sequencing equipment.

“It’s not only efficient, but it is also very cost-effective,” said Richard K. Wilson, Ph.D., director of the GSC and professor of genetics and of molecular microbiology.

“Our older sequencers cost about $500,000 and handle about 2,000 samples per day. The new machine costs $500,000, but it can run through 800,000 samples in an eight-hour workday.”

The GSC has been a vital part of the Human Genome Project, the international research effort that sequenced the entire human genome. GSC researchers were primarily responsible for sequencing chromosomes 2, 4, 7 and X, producing the initial analyses of more than 20 percent of the human genome.

“This is the first new technology for large-scale DNA sequencing that has been developed and introduced in the 15 years we’ve been doing genome sequencing,” Wilson said. “It has spurred a lot of ideas about what the GSC can accomplish.”

With the reference sequence of the human genome complete, the new instrument will be useful for quickly resequencing additional human genomes to find variations that can provide insight into disease states.

“Because of its high throughput, the new sequencer will figure prominently in cancer genome research and many other investigations that seek the genetic causes of diseases,” Mardis said.

**Timing eliminates immune rejection in transplants**

By Michael C. Purdy

University scientists have learned that a temporal “window of opportunity” was critical to their earlier successes in treating diabetic rats with embryonic pig tissues.

In experiments published in 2004, the researchers were surprised to find they didn’t have to give anti-rejection drugs to diabetic rats treated with embryonic pig tissues.

The team has shown that when transplanted at the appropriate time, pig pancreatic primordia temporarily cure their diabetes permanently without the need for immune suppression.

The pig primordia are transplanted into the omentum, a membrane that envelopes the intestines and other digestive organs. When the primordia mature, they replace the missing rat insulin with pig insulin, returning the rat’s blood glucose to normal levels.

“The absence of a need for immune suppression was such an unexpected and encouraging discovery that we wanted to find out more about what that worked and under what conditions it is possible,” Hammerman said.

Superficially, there appears to be relatively little difference between pancreatic primordia from 28-day-old and 35-day-old pig embryos.

“Pig gestation is about 120 days, and it takes every bit of that time for the pancreas to fully develop,” Hammerman said.

He theorizes that this invisibility is a result of the unusual way — 28-day-old tissues differentiate after transplantation.

The team has shown that no part of the digestive components of the pancreas, which are not needed to treat diabetes, develops after transplantation.

Even the endocrine part of the pancreas, where insulin is made, is different.

“There are no structures similar to the islets of Langerhans, only individual endocrine cells engrafted in the omentum,” Hammerman said.

“This is a perfect place for them to release insulin where it will do the most good — directly into a key blood vessel known as the portal vein.”

In collaboration with scientists at the University of Alabama-Birmingham, Hammerman’s team has received funding from the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation to transplant pig pancreatic primordia into diabetic primates.

If the pig-to-primate work is successful, he hopes to move on to human trials.

**Community building**

**A perfect match**

ABOVE: Nam Le celebrates the Match Day news that he will begin a plastic surgery residency at Barnes-Jewish Hospital. Celebrating with him are his wife, Cyndi, and daughter, Abigail.

RIGHT: Nia Mitchell lifts a glass of champagne to toast her match at the University of Washington School of Medicine in Denver for a residency in internal medicine.

Each year on Match Day, medical students across the United States learn which residency programs they will enter. Many School of medicine students were thrilled when they opened their envelopes to learn they’re at their first choice of academic health centers. Le and Mitchell are among the 109 medical students who are graduating in the Class of 2005 and will soon begin residency training.

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Monday, May 23
Nor. Neurology & Neuro-Surgery Seminar. "In Vivo Monitoring of Therapeutic Response in a Mouse Model of Glaucoma." Sarah C. Jest, neuroophthalmologi- st, scientist, Retina Research Branch, National Eye Institute, National Institutes of Health. 3 p.m. in Goldfarb Hall, Atrium.

Tuesday, May 24
Nor. Chemistry & Biochemistry Seminar. "Pharmacological Manipulation of G Proteins by Inhibitory marched receptors." Alan V. Solomon, professor of pharmacology and medicine, U. of Rochester Medical School, 406. 3 p.m. in Goldfarb Hall.

Wednesday, May 25

Thursday, May 26
Nor. Cell Biology & Physiology Seminar. "Pharmacological Manipulation of G Proteins by Inhibitory marched receptors." Alan V. Solomon, professor of pharmacology and medicine, U. of Rochester Medical School, 406. 3 p.m. in Goldfarb Hall.

School of Art: Diploma distribution and reception. Steinberg Hall Terrace. Rain location: Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum, M.L.K. Plaza. 3 p.m. in Goldfarb Hall. Reception immediately following at Steinberg Hall Terrace.

School of Engineering & Applied Science: Undergraduate diploma and awards ceremony. Athletics Center, Field House. Reception follows in Athletics Center. 3 p.m. in Graham Hall.

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Department of Physical Therapy Research Symposium. "Images to Outcomes V." (Continues 8 a.m.-5 p.m. 3 June 18.) Cost: $98 for didactic session & live case surgeries, $50 for didactic session & live case surgeries, $99 for didactic session & live case surgeries. 3 p.m. in Goldfarb Hall. Reception immediately following in Simon Hall.

School of Medicine: Commencement Week (downtown St. Louis). Reed Theater. Recognition immediately following in America's Center arena.

School of Law: Diploma ceremony. 3 p.m. in Goldfarb Hall. 3 p.m. in Goldfarb Hall. Reception immediately following in Simon Hall.

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Collins, who will receive a visual communication Award winner for the Class of 2005. He also ran the 400 meters and threw the javelin on the track and field team.

"Rob is an absolute delight and just a great person," says Jill Cerniaghi, Ph.D., director of campus life and assistant vice chancellor for students. "He is a fellow human being, which is hard to find in our society."

In addition to her class work in the areas of social development and management, Backus worked part-time as the volunteer coordinator for the Refugee Employment Mentor Program at Catholic Social Services.

"This experience strengthened my interest in refugee issues as I re- cruited and trained community volunteers to offer local Rosarian refugees social support and to serve as mentors in the areas of career development and English as a second language," she says.

Backus brought that dedication to her practicum with the United Nations High Commissi- oner for Refugees (UNHCR) Regional Office for Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam in Bangkok, Thailand. The UNHCR is responsible for protecting the nearly 143,000 refugees in Thailand.

She is working as an advisor to the UNHCR deputy regional rep- resentative, Bhutanese Pandol; and has had a wide range of experi- ences during her practicum. "I’ve attended UNHCR negoti- ations with the Thai government, assisted with logistics, written situation reports, worked at the detention center to address any issues," she says.

"This is a reciprocal relationship; it has taught me a great deal about refugee protection on an inter- national level and has been a very unique learning opportunity." Backus’ passion for helping others developed at an early age.

helped a total of 21 prospective freshmen.

He founded After School Art, a group of University students who work on art projects with Stevens Middle School stu- dents, and the Village Rock Band, a group of students who perform at local events and fundraisers.

"I began volunteering when I was young, and my parents have always been involved," she says. "I was inspired to do it because I knew the greater the values of life are not monetary gains but instead the value gained from influencing and equally being influenced from those around you.

I began volunteering when I was young, due to my parents’ influence," she says. "They instilled in me that the greatest values of life are not monetary gains but instead the value gained from influencing and equally being influenced from those around you.

"I think that the thing that sets the University apart and makes it such a good experience is the resources it provides — both in people and in opportunities," Collins says. "I think taking advantage of those things has made this experience here truly incredible.

"I sometimes wonder if I could have gone somewhere else and have had a similar experi- ence. I don’t think so." He said that when a prospec- tive freshman would talk to him about applying to colleges, he would often tell them that he is the most important thing they should consider and that the experience of obtaining a college degree is what they can freely express their indi- viduality.

"I definitely feel like I found a niche here, and I’ve had an amaz- ing experience," he says.
Ebreck's journey of comprehension leads to law degree

By De Arionso

You could say that Andrea Ebreck's legal career started at age 10.

As a freshman at the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB), Ebreck, who will graduate today from the School of Law, discovered that she could ride the California AIDS ride.

Not only must the ride pedal 600 miles from San Francisco to Los Angeles, but they also must raise at least $3,000 in order to participate.

At first, Ebreck's decision was perfunctory but not so much because of the cause as it was the challenge of doing something she could envision herself doing physically. "I am not athletic at all," she says, combined with the challenge of raising the money, which is how many college students are "determined".

But every journey begins with a single step, and this step of hers was pivotal.

"I trained for 10 months and did the whole ride," Ebreck says. "And I raised $8,500. That experience opened me up to how willing people are willing to do good cause. I realized all you have to do is ask."

From there, Ebreck's commitment to a variety of social justice issues, particularly HIV/AIDS, grew steadily until it was only a small step to consider law school.

"I never actually imagined practicing law," Ebreck says. "It was more a matter of getting a law degree to help me in nonprofit management or lobbying."

Ebreck, an only child, grew up in California, had intended to stay in California for law school until she received Washington University's recruiting material in the mail. She was pleasantly surprised to find that, Washington University's generous scholarship policy, it cost essentially the same as attending a University of California law school as an in-state resident.

"It's pretty cool to have the option of attending an excellent, small, private law school with great student-teacher ratios," Ebreck marvels.

So Ebreck left California for St. Louis, but her journey was just beginning. After her first year here, Ebreck went all the way to South Africa for a public interest internship made possible by a $5,000 stipend through the School of Law's Summer Public Interest Stipend Program.

There she worked for a human rights nongovernmental organization (NGO), educating clients with HIV/AIDS about their legal rights regarding their medical treatment, employment and estate planning.

"It was eye-opening in so many ways," Ebreck says. "I could see how lawyers can help people in their lives and how the principles I had learned in my first-year classes could be applied to help people.

"I left St. Louis still thinking I would use law in a different career and came back from South Africa wanting to practice law. That was the point at which my career goal shifted for me."

Ebreck's expectations about law school had shifted as well. She had expected to dislike law school, but she was surprised to find that she loved it, particularly the clinical courses. In two different clinics, Ebreck helped HIV-positive clients get body Medicaid and Social Security benefits they had been denied. "These benefits are the life-blood for people who are too sick to work," she says.

"Andrea has the brain of a lawyer and the heart of a social worker," Tokarz says. "She is super intelligent and analytical, yet very compassionate."

In her spare time, Ebreck was an ardent supporter of the Washington University Law Quarterly and president of Outlooks, a student group committed to supporting gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender student populations. And now that she has completed her education, Ebreck is moving on again, this time to Columbus, Ohio, and this time with her partner, Shelby Nelson, and a new puppy, Sophie. As she joins the firm of Vories, Sater, Seymour and Pease, where she hopes to practice health-care law, Ebreck has a strong reputation for mentoring young lawyers and for her commitment to pro bono work, so Ebreck is very pleased about where her journey has taken her.

Carrero relishes the discovery aspect of science

By Tony Fitzpatrick

It is Javier Carrero's native Puerto Rico, it's expected that intelligent people will become a doctor, lawyer or engineer.

Not that he's rebel, but after graduating with a bachelor's degree in biology from Emory University, Carrero went on to two years in the information technology community in Atlanta, where he learned computers since he was 10 years old, and when I went into IT, the Internet was just beginning," Carrero says. "It wasn't for me, I thought before I realized that I missed the intellectual stimulation of research, and that was far more motivating by the discovery aspect of science than treating patients."

Carrero returned to San Juan, where he enrolled at the University of Puerto Rico and earned a master's degree in molecular biology in 1998.

"I applied to Washington University in 2000 to pursue a doctorate in immunology through the Division of Biology and Biomedical Sciences. In this program, he was matched with one of the world's masters of pathology and immunology, Emil Unanue, M.D., the Edward Mallinckrodt Professor and chair of the Department of Pathology and Immunology in the School of Medicine.

"This was because of the work he had accomplished by the workings of the immune system. When I wrote him and he readily proceeded to make every effort to welcome me into his laboratory, I was amazed by how much Carrero appreciated the great possibility of this scientist to which I was selected."

The discoveries have resulted in Carrero being first author of two critical technical papers, and some-day could lead to novel drug development against bacterial diseases.

"One important Unanue discovery is particularly key to Carrero's doctoral work. Using the bacterium Listeria monocytogenes, Unanue showed that molecules known as the "major histocompatibility complex" display pieces of pathogens on their cell surface, alerting one of the body's chief bug hunters — the T-cells, to spring into action.

Unanue had observed that Listeria infection led to very strong incidences of cell death — called apoptosis — in laboratory mice. Using this as his model, Carrero tried to figure out if the Listeria virulence factor interleukin-1 (IL-1) is the culprit in causing cell death, which, in turn, endangers an organism's health.

In a 2004 Journal of Immunology paper, Carrero, Unanue and WUSTL postdoctoral researcher Boris Calderon, M.D., proved that IL-1 kills T-cells and described the process.

That same year, in a Journal of Experimental Medicine paper, the trio found that mice genetically engineered to be deficient in the immunologically important Type I interferon receptor were actually resistant to Listeria infection. They then inferred that T-cell death was responsible for enhanced mouse susceptibility to Listeria infection. The surprise was that Type I interferon-deficient mice infected with almost any virus quickly succumbed to Listeria infection. "We think we have the mechanism for cell death, but we need to iron it out," Carrero says.

Blocking the pathways involved in cell death might lead to developing vaccinations for people who have a full-blown bacterial infection and possibly a vaccine protocol that would provide better immunity.

"One of the challenges in immunology is developing a protocol that, instead of targeting the generation of neutralizing antibodies, targets the other arm of the immune system — T-cells — to protect against an infection," Carrero says.

Carrero said that in the future he hopes to focus on new strategies for dealing with infections and come up with new immunity protocols. This could include exploring innate viruses that target pathogenic viruses that target other viruses and destroy them.

Carrero defended his doctoral dissertation in April and then rewarded himself with a 10-day vacation to Italy, where he indulged in one of his passions — attending the opera.

He enjoys bicycling, reading and going to the symphony.

"There's plenty to do in St. Louis, and a relatively laid-back atmosphere to do it in," he says.

"Sometimes I wonder, is he coming here to visit me or see the Cards play?"

Carrero will seek postdoctoral work at the beginning of 2004 and plans a long career as a teacher and researcher like his mentor, Unanue. "Javier takes care of cultivating our garden," as Voltaire said, but applied here to science," Unanue says. "That is, for him, his commitment to the day-to-day laboratory work and projects comes first and foremost."

"It has been a real symbiosis working together, sometimes intense and boisterous, perhaps reflecting our common Spanish heritage."

"It was just an amazing time."

"Javier is a great mentor," Carrero says. "He is very interested in being an excellent scientist of our generation, and some.
MS Garcia, an assistant professor of architecture, says Agnew may have been "humble, but she was a strong influence on me."

"I knew exactly what they were talking about because these are the same things I've been going through," says Agnew of her experience in architecture.

"If they hadn't been so willing to help watch my daughter (Chelsea, rear), they were always there for me, telling me, 'You can do this.'"
A 10-year-old Grosland showed off a science fair project in her school, Michael Cohen watched his young cousin become model for a television commercial. "It was wrong, but his health was rapidly declining."

When Michael was 14, his family was allowed to leave the Soviet Union. Cohen's father, a computer scientist, sought political asylum for the family, which was part of a movement partly because of anti-Semitism in Russia.

A Jewish philanthropic organization helped Cohen's family come to the United States in 1989, when Michael was 14. His family settled in Elgin, Ill., and Cohen still works as a computer scientist and his mother owns a jewelry salon and a Russian restaurant.

McKinney became a U.S. citizen 10 years ago.

After attending Stanford University his freshman year, he took time off to do volunteer work in a fish farm, which is a true product of his upbringing and personal for- tuitous," says James B. Lowe III, M.D., chief of facial plastic sur- gery and assistant professor of surgery. "He possesses a great combination of artistic vision and commitment to excellence based on a foundation of personal responsibility and a work ethic ideal for plastic surgery."

At a second-year medical student, Cohen became fascinated with reconstructive surgery after a lecture on facial reconstruction following traumatic injury and cancer resection. He then decided to take two years off from med- ical school to further pursue plas- tic and reconstructive surgery.

First, Cohen completed a Dor- is Duke Fellowship with breast reconstruction specialist Keith E. Brundt, M.D., associate professor of surgery, exploring two types of the TRAM flap procedure, a tech- nique that allows surgeons to use the patient's tissues to re-create a natural breast.

He then continued a yearlong Howard Hughes Fellowship, re- searching limb transplantation with Thomas H.H. Tung, M.D., assistant professor of surgery, further confirming his interest in plastic and reconstructive surgery. "I really wanted to spend time in the OR instead of pursuing another fellowship," he says. "The fellowships really offered me the opportunity to explore plastic surgery. I determined it was the right field for me." Cohen's early realization of his interest in plastic surgery, through his family's involvement in other projects in the divi- sion, allowed him to develop a sense that he not only got to know him well, but also to trust and depend on him. "I always is the best med- ical students we've worked with," Tung says. "He has all qualities that will serve him very well as a physician — he's dedicated, conscientious, has a good eye for fine details and cares about his patients."

"I would excel in any medical specialty, and we feel very fortunate that we were able to attract him to plastic surgery," Tung says. And Cohen is equally appreci- ative of the department's devotion to his development.

"The entire department is real- ly student-driven, and made me inspired me to pursue plastic sur- gery," Cohen says. Eileen is extremely modest, considerate and altogether charming to be around. She is as unassuming as her talent is conspicuous."

"She says, She also drew constantly. "You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown."

"I'd say All Student Theatre is the most challenging thing I've ever done, mainly because we do it ourselves," Grosland muses, who performed in AST's "Once Upon a Mattress and choreographed Pippin and Cabaret. "We have to decide what shows we're doing, build sets, hire designers, secure copyrights. . . all those things you don't really learn as an actress.,"

"I started out as a dancer who didn't really learn as an actress.,"

"I worked with children a lot in high school and enjoy them as an audience," Grosland explains. "They're very trusting, too."

"She typically works in pencil and watercolor, and scans fin- ishes layouts. "Watercolor is a little unpre- dictable, but that's good for me as an artist. . . the more RD, the more you don't really learn as an actress.,"

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"I just auditioned for Sesame Street Live which is a lot of fun with bus-and-truck tour, and I've sent letters to publishers about Pierce the Porcupine. . ."

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Kevin Byron is not terribly had won an academic scholarship Trinidad when he learned that he on the A-level exam. He was just University came thanks to the management. Byron also was on recruitment chair for Feed St. Louis. choreographer for the Diwali cele-

College of Arts & Sciences
Sullivan inspires, motivates others to action

By ANDY CLENDENHIN

Generally, when the words ESPN The Magazine and Southeastern Conference are linked, it’s because the sports publication is running a story on debilitating athletic injuries. But the resume of John Woock from St. Louis is about more than sports.

Woock, a three-time first-team All-Conference and first-team All-SEC defensive back, was named an ESPN All-College Team Academic All-American in 2004, by virtue of his prowess in the classroom (4.9 grade-point average) and on the field.

“John is accountable for all he does,” says head football coach Larry Kimbrough. His peers deem him as someone with a high level of integrity. As important, he is both driven as I am.”

Woock says. “It offers so much ability to motivate people to action. The sense, whose passions include community activism and service from St. Louis Project Democracy and helped register more than 1,000 new voters before the Nov. 2 presidential election. "Project Democracy showed me that I could build something from scratch and that I could find the right people around me to help me build it," says Sullivan. "It really showed me how to build the bridge between service and activism." Sullivan really excelled. As a bio-medical engineering major in the classroom, on the field and in Spanish, both in Arts & Sciences. She was also involved in Camoulos, a volunteer organization that helps tutor and mentor Latino immigrant youth; the Visions Gospel Choir; More Fools Than Wise madrigal choir; and Dance Marathon.

In addition, she was: a residential adviser in Wheeler Hall; a member of Congress of the South; an Office of Student Activities and Life; a manager of the football team, in the classroom, in the office, in the community — even in her first year at the University — to mature ahead of her years.

While Sullivan is excited to be graduating and putting her education to use in the working world, she said she will be somewhat sad about leaving Washington University, her Home, Sullivan describes the University as "a perfect fit. I think the people here, while they certainly are smart and tal-ented and focused on academics, are also just really good people," she says. "I honestly think some of the friends I've made will live here and go change the world. To come to a place and meet that many people who are going to have that big an influence on the community is truly amazing." Sullivan has been recognized for her leadership, scholarship and service to the community by receiving a 2005 Ethel A.H. Shep-ky Award. She also received a Women's Leadership Award.

"Teresa is one of the most engaging student leaders I have known at the University," says Stephanie Kurtzman, director of community service. "She does more than get things done — she inspires and energizes people to be involved in the process. Her leadership of St. Louis Project Democracy is a shining example, but not an isolated one of the way she acts on her passions in a thoughtful and substantive way. "Teresa is truly a delightful person to know, and I found her — even in her first year at the University — to be mature ahead of her years."

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In a Commencement tradition, master's and doctoral students “hood” each other after the conferral of their degrees. The colors of a hood represent the school from which the graduate earned a degree.

"Washington University has a very strong sense of purpose," he says. "As soon as you walk onto campus, you know you're in an environment that is promoting academic and scholarly life. Even the physical spaces on campus seem to invite discussion and interaction.

The next week, the Lawlors hosted students from Taiwan and learned about the underlying issues at play in the tensions with China.

"Our international students manage to plow into their work and responsibilities here and also keep current back home," Lawlor says. "Being a part of a community that is so engaged and so knowledgeable has added a whole new dimension to our lives.

Lawlor hopes to see this international and comparative discussion become more and more the lifestyle of the school.

"I recently went to a study group of faculty and doctoral students discussing aging and social security in China," Lawlor says, "and I was impressed by the number of faculty who were just because they were interested. It was just another example of the faculty's curiosity and dedication to students.

"There is a strong community at the School of Social Work. The faculty and students are always at work in Brown and Goldfarb halls, and they are a group that has a good time with each other as well.

Lawlor finds this same sense of community in the University as a whole.

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Mush! Lawlor has temporarily put his interest in dog-sledding on hold with two aging sled dogs — an Alaskan malamute and a Chinook, but this is not exactly the climate for big races.

Although dog-sledding is on-hold, the Lawlor family is finding St. Louis a great environment for cycling, sports and music.

"Betsy and I have made great use of Forest Park for cycling and have begun with riding a number of our neighbors," he says. Both (daughter) Abby and (son) Casey are active in soccer, both at school and on club teams.

"The music scene has been the best. Betty is singing in choirs, and Abby is playing trombone and euphonium in a number of school and local groups.

Lawlor jokes that he has been in St. Louis for just over 300 days. He hopes to become more involved in urban policy and social service issues as he learns more about the region and its issues. He has already joined the board of the United Way of Greater St. Louis, and he's looking to find an appropriate role in health policy in the region.

"One of the most rewarding experiences I had in Chicago was my 10-year stint on the Chicago Board of Health. I hope to be able to make a similar contribution here."

Edward F. Lawlor

Positions: Dean of the George Warren Brown School of Social Work and the William E. Gordon Professor

Degrees: Bachelor's in economics, government and legal studies, Brandeis College, 1977

Creative, thoughtful, dedicated and enthusiastic are descriptors of our newest dean, and I am privileged he made the commitment to join us.

Mark S. Wrighton