Medical News: Weight loss, exercise lead to improved mobility in obese elderly

Early treatment of asthma symptoms doesn't prevent disease in children

Treating young children at high risk for asthma for two years with an inhaled steroid continually decreased asthma-like symptoms but did not prevent the disease after the medication was stopped, a study involving researchers at the School of Medicine has shown.

The three-year multicenter “Prevention of Early Asthma in Kids” (PEAK) study treated nearly 300 high-risk 2- and 3-year-olds for two years with an inhaled fluticasone (Flovent), a corticosteroid, or with a placebo.

Asthma in Kids” (PEAK) study treated nearly 300 high-risk 2- and 3-year-olds for two years with inhaled fluticasone (Flovent), a corticosteroid, or with a placebo. The study found that while the children who were not taking any asthma medication.

The results of the PEAK study, performed by the Childhood Asthma Research and Education Network (CAREN), were published in the May 11 issue of the New England Journal of Medicine. The School of Medicine enrolled 62 patients who were evaluated at St. Louis Children’s Hospital over the three-year period. The study found that while the children who were not taking any asthma medication.

A Celebration of culture George Warren Brown School of Social Work students (from left) Esther Lepcha, Shika Manandhar and Leela Pandey perform “Resham Firiri,” a Nepali folk dance,

Career Center streamlines; offers more support for job- and intern-seekers

While about a third of graduating students go directly to graduate or professional schools, most of the rest are beginning — or beginning a search for — gainful employment.

The University’s Career Center is making every effort to ensure students that have right job waiting for them upon earning their degrees.

The first step was to reach out to as many students as possible who could benefit from the resources offered. To that end, in fall 2004, The Career Center opened its operations to all students on campus. Previously, the center catered to just Arts & Sciences students.

Then in March 2005, the center merged operations with the Engineering Career Center. The Career Center still maintains a presence in Lopata Hall with a number of career counselors and other advisers there.

Turn of the merger, the engineering students have all the resources they had before, plus more,” said Mark W. Smith, assistant vice chancellor and director of The Career Center. “For example, we merged our two job banks, so now students... See Center, Page 6

Two appointed to leadership roles at Gephardt Institute

Amanda Moure McBride, Ph.D., a faculty member in the George Warren Brown School of Social Work, has agreed to become the next director of the Richard A. Gephardt Institute for Public Service, announced Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton.

She will succeed James W. Davis, Ph.D., professor emeritus of political science in Arts & Sciences.

“The Gephardt Institute was envisioned as a nonpartisan resource for the entire campus, one that encourages people from all walks of life to become more involved in serving society,” Wrighton said. “Tim Davis has done an excellent job of building bridges between the institute and other service programs on campus, some of which are now being consolidated under the umbrella of the Gephardt Institute.”

The institute is named in honor of two-time presidential candidate Richard A. Gephardt. It supports domestic and community efforts to build bridges between the government and private sector to match individual contributions to needs as a means of encouraging savings.

Engineers want smooth slide for cochlear implants

For some deaf children, a plastic slide is a more forgiving than the school wedge-giver. Static electricity buildup from sliding down a plastic slide — instant nummerence for those with normal hearing — can temporarily dence the whole world to cochlear implants.

Robert E. Morley, D.S.C., associate professor of electrical engineering, and his colleague Ed Richter, research associ- ate in electrical engineering, have tested static electricity buildup on sliding chil- dren to quantify the sparks. Thanks to some publicity and increased awareness, their research has inspired the Saint Louis County Parks and Recreation Depart- ment to consider the problem, and an anti-static coating company to try to solve it.

Cochlear implants, often referred to as bionic ears, help provide a sense of sound to a profoundly deaf or severely hard-of-hearing patient.

The costly surgical procedure re- quires a doctor to wind an array of up to 22 electrodes through a diseased cochlea, the part of the inner ear that sends electrical impulses to the brain.

An externally-worn speech processor filters sound, selecting and prioritizing sounds, and sends it to a magnetic trans- mitter behind the external ear.

The internal device then processes the received sounds after the transmitter send them by electromagnetic in- duction. The catch? Once the device is im-
Wooley named McDonnell professor

BY TONY FITZPATRICK

Karen L. Wooley, Ph.D., professor of Arts & Sciences, has been named a James S. McDonnell Distinguished University Professor. She joins Raymond E. Arvidson, Ph.D., chair of earth and planetary sciences, and Henry "Hap" Hoofer, Ph.D., in psychology and Clifford M. Will, Ph.D., in physics.

In the McDonnell family has been extremely generous to Washington University, and their contributions are evident in the way the University conducts business. Wooley is well known as a generous, well-educated woman, who is famous for her contributions to the field of science. She is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

In addition to her research and teaching activities, Wooley has been an active contributor and advisor to the national and international community. She has served on several University committees, including the Arts & Sciences’ Committee on Research and Faculty Affairs.

Wooley was born on May 27, 1962, in Washington, D.C. She received her B.S. in chemistry from the University of Maryland in 1984, and her Ph.D. in organic chemistry from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1988. She then joined the faculty at the University of Chicago as an assistant professor in 1988, and was promoted to associate professor in 1993, and to full professor in 1999. She has received numerous awards for her research and teaching, including the National Science Foundation CAREER Award, the American Chemical Society Award for Creative Investigation, and the American Chemical Society Award for Research in Synthetic Chemistry.

In 2012, Wooley was elected as a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and in 2014, she was elected as a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Summer construction plans outlined at meetings

BY ANDY CLEMONDEN

The University recently hosted planning meetings for the summer 2018 construction season, and the topic of conversation was something that would be on the minds of many in and around the St. Louis region — construction.

The meetings were held on May 3 and 4 in the North Hall of the Student Center. The meetings were led by Linda J. Pike, Ph.D., associate vice chancellor for facilities, planning and management, and discussion focused on the construction plans for the summer and early fall.

Work on the new Liggett Hutch — part of the Phase IV expansion of the Student Center — is nearing completion. The residence halls are expected to open in August, with some rooms ready to move into.

Work on the Tyler Hall renovation is expected to begin later this summer, with a completion date of July 1, 2018.

Work on the St. Louis Hall renovation is expected to begin later this summer, with a completion date of July 1, 2018.

The meetings also focused on the planning for the summer 2018 construction season. The focus was on the projects that will be underway during the summer months, and the impact that the projects will have on the University community.

The trucks will be hauled away by heading east on Forsyth, then south on Skinker to Interchange and exit onto Highway 64.

- The three-level garage will go on the north side of the existing structure. It will be connected to the Dining Center by two elevators.

- The University Center will be built on top of this garage. When complete, the center will house the Career Center, career services, the student union, and the Student Center. The center will be connected to the Dining Center by two elevators.

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- The extension of the garage will be along the north side of the new structure. It will be connected to the existing garage by two elevators.

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All of the information presented above is based on the plans presented at the meetings. The University is committed to providing the best possible facilities for its students and faculty.
weight loss can lower the risk of obesity-related impairments in daily living, limitations in mobility and an increased risk of complications.

About 30 School of Medicine students sought kindergartners, first-graders and second-graders at Adams School, in the Forest Park Southeast neighborhood, about the senses, dissection, the skeletal system and the nervous system.

All of the lessons, developed with the St. Louis Science Center, involved demonstrations by the medical students and hands-on activities that allowed all children to participate.

In the nervous system lesson, the children used mirrors to test their reflexes and balance and warm-up their hands to learn about thermoregulation. In the dissection lesson, they learned about the anatomy of the eye.

The program is based on research that the latest intervention in medicine by minorities starts with thinking about them. Overseeing the program as director of the Center for Health Policy was William A. Peck, M.D., the Alan A. and Edith L. Wolff Distinguished Professor of Medicine and former executive vice chancellor and provost of Washington University. Peck is the former interim dean of the School of Medicine and former president of Washington University Medical Center, who is looking to expand the program.

"The Center for Health Policy is privileged to sponsor this venture, unique approach to begin the long process of stimulating interest in future health professions and careers among elementary school children," Peck said. "It is our hope that this early and effective introduction will positively impact career choices and improve our diversity, unique approach to begin the long process of stimulating interest in future health professions and careers among elementary school children," Peck said. "It is our hope that this early and effective introduction will positively impact career choices and improve our diversity, unique approach to begin the long process of stimulating interest in future health professions and careers among elementary school children," Peck said. "It is our hope that this early and effective introduction will positively..."
University Events

Staff Day approaches; numerous activities for hilltop personnel

BY ANDY CLAUSNIZER

It's perhaps the one day of the year when Hilltop campus staff members are actually encouraged to take a long lunch, go play some golf or have a leisurely walk around campus for a couple of hours.

Whether you want to celebrate the end of the academic year with a competitive game of softball, tossing a few washers or just walking around Budweiser Track, the University's annual Staff Day offers something for just about everyone.

The 11th annual Staff Day celebration is May 22, with food and activities in great supply.

"The event will honor those who have contributed to the University's success. This year's edition will kick off at 10 a.m. with the Staff Service and Recognition Ceremony in Edison Theatre.

Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton will host the program and will be assisted by the University's vice chancellors and deans. The ceremony will honor those with 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30-plus years of service.

Wrighton will present the ninth annual Gloria M. White Distinguished Service Award, recognizing a staff member for exceptional effort and contributions that resulted in the enhancement of the University. A buffet lunch and social gathering will be at 11:30 a.m. in Bowles Plaza. In case of inclement weather, lunch will be in Mallinckrodt Student Center.

From 1-3 p.m., open activities for staff members include softball and recumbent ball, swimming on Budweiser Track and use of the fitness center in the Athletics Complex.

Those preferring something less strenuous can have a curvature dance or try their luck at bingo, bridge and other table games in Holmes Lounge. For more information, call Margo at 935-5679.

In addition, the following group activities will be available:

• Grill at Forest Park: Call Bee Owens at 935-6462. Golfers will have box lunches at the park before their golf round. Tex-time Golf Green fee, including cart, is $20. A men's, ladies' and mixed best-ball scramble will be held.

• A Hilltop campus tour: Call Jim Burmeister at 955-6800. A ride in a food van around the campus will be assisted by the Green, 955-6800.

• A bike ride in Forest Park: Call Bobbie Winters at 935-4331.

• Softball: Contact Tom Lauman at tomlauman@wustl.edu. If you want to play but don't have enough to make a full team, arrangements will be made to place you on a team.

• Volleyball: Call Jeff lehrman at 955-5948 in Dodds hall.

• Washburn tournament: E-mail Karen Rose at karen.ruo@wustl.edu.

• WUSTL Walks: Call Beren Fay at 955-7386.

Anyone needing an accommodation to attend Staff Day events should contact the Office of Human Resources.

At 3:30 p.m. in Bowles Plaza, winners of all the competition activities will be presented with small trophies, and there will be drawings for prizes.

Ted Drewes treats will be available — first-come, first-served. There will be a cash award of $1,000 for "Most Outstanding Staff Member." Staff members at this University work very hard and contribute to the University's success," said Ann B. Prenatt, vice chancellor for human resources.

"They deserve our own day of recognition.

"A great deal of time and effort is put into the organizing and implementing of this event by the Office of Human Resources.

"All of these activities allow us to see the smiles of those receiving service awards, colleagues enjoying the competitions and staff members just out having a fun afternoon.

For more information, call 935-5990.
Chemists get electrons to 'break on through to the other side'

BY TOBY FIEZ

The famous Robert Frost poem about a fork in the road has resonated with chemists for years. In the latest chapter of that story, the chemists got to go where the road hadn’t led before. And they’ve done so like gangbusters.

Dewey Holton, Ph.D., professor of chemistry in Arts & Sciences, and his graduate student, Jessica L. Chiang, just completed their research. The project was published in a recent issue of Biochemistry.

The study was funded by the National Science Foundation.

Biochemistry highlighted the paper as one of extreme interest, and Chemical & Engineering News reported on it.

In the laboratory, the researchers tried to break down what makes the plants do what they do.

They’ve been working to shed light on the basic issues.

The findings advance multiphase electron-transfer processes, which could have an impact in solar energy conversions.

'Lazarus' protein

The No. 8 men's tennis team's season came to an end May 6 with a loss, the Bears finished 14-9.

The men's and women's track and field teams were named in NCAA 1st round.

The men's and women's track and field teams turned in a strong performance at the Butler Twilight in Indianapolis, Ind.

The Bears men and women combined to tally nine NCAA outdoor provisional qualifying marks and three school records.

The women led the way by notching seven provisional marks and two WUSTL records.

Sophomore Hatherton improved her 3,000-meter chase time by 23 seconds, finishing in a WUSTL-record 11:55.

Junior Delanitha Martin improved her school record and NCAA provisional mark in the 110-meter hurdles (17.99 seconds).

For the men, junior Kevin Gale broke the Bears' record in the 3,000-meter steeplechase, finishing in 9:08.99.

Women's tennis falls in NCAA 1st round

The No. 19 women's tennis team fell to No. 16 Division University of Pennsylvania, 5-4, in the first round of the NCAA Division III Tournament.

The loss, the Bears finished 20-4.

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The loss, the Bears finished 20-4.

The men's and women's teams are taking its fifth at-large appearance in the NCAA Division III Tournament.

The Midwest Regional started May 11 and runs through May 13 at Simpson College in Indianola, Iowa.

Washington U. (35-5) is the fourth seed in the regional and battles the No. 5 seed St. Scholastica May 11 after its fifth straight at-large appearance.

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Asthma

- from Page 1

treated with furosemide did much better on those who place the placebo club. As a result of this study, there was no significant difference in the development of asthma-like symptoms between the two groups of children who received the placebo or the active drug. This study also showed that corticosteroids are good for treating symptoms of asthma but they do not prevent the disease.

Asthma is a chronic respiratory disorder characterized by swelling of the airways. Asthma attacks, also known as bronchial asthma, can be triggered by allergens, irritants, and other factors. Symptoms may include wheezing, coughing, shortness of breath, and chest tightness. The condition affects millions of people worldwide, and it is the most common chronic disease of childhood.

Center

- from Page 1

only have to go to one place. All the programs of The Career Center are focused on one outcome — securing an internship.

In 1991, the center was the first to offer a program that connects students with employers and start job, co-op, or internship searches. We have seen complete changes in our program and handouts, and we continue to do so.

The center has grown and continues to do so.

The girls discussed the problems of asthma and how it affects children. They talked about the importance of early detection and treatment of asthma.

The results of the PEAK study were published in 2004, and they showed that children who took the inhaler twice a day had fewer severe attacks and were able to do some work on local playgrounds.

In 2004, nearly 9 million children were diagnosed with asthma. Fifty percent of them were under 18, and 30 percent were between the ages of 3 and 5. These children have a greater risk of developing severe asthma attacks.

In 2005, we started "Job Search Teams." They are groups of 10-15 students who meet once a week to work on their job searches. They serve as support groups, places to share ideas and contacts, and as a place to help students focus on their job search. The students who participated had a higher success rate than those who did not.

As a result of the Road Shows, several students have landed high-quality internships for the upcoming summer.

Similar to the Chicago program, the New York program focused on building relationships and business opportunities and on finding new services and communications opportunities.

In addition to organizing Road Shows, the Career Center also hosted four student- and alumni-led events.

Ten students attended the Career Center's "Spring Break" event, which was held at the University of Pennsylvania and the University of Oregon. This event included a spring career fair.

For the second year in a row, the Career Center hosted the "Career Club," which is an online real-time accounting service.

The Career Center is located at the University of Pennsylvania, and it is open Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information, go on-line to careers.wustl.edu or call 355-3590.
Arts & Sciences to recognize 5 distinguished alumni

The University’s Academic Team placed third at the College Bowl nationals since twice coming in second at College Bowl nationals, a private equity firm in- vesting in wireless mobility

BY NEIL SCHONHERR

Five students are attending the University or have recently graduated with the help of these awards. This year he established a full scholarship in Arts & Sciences.

Strom named Administrator of the Year

Doom on Strom, WUSTL police chief, was then named Administrator of the Year by Student Union.

FTC has been named Administrator of the Year by Student Union.

Office of Refugees Admissions in the Department of State in Wash- ington, D.C.

Elena LaFatte, a junior major- ing in educational studies in Arts & Sciences and operations and management in the Olin School of Business, has accepted a public service internship with the Children’s Defense Fund in Georgia and the villages of East Africa. These students will be the first beneficiaries of a new Public Service Summer Stipend program sponsored by the University, Richard A. Gephart Institute for Public Service.

Gephart Institute stipends to support service internships

By GERRY EVERING

Bender and his colleagues have transformed a small startup com- pany into a giant telecommu- nications firm: Western Wireless Corp. (now Alltel) and VoiceStream (now T-Mobile). Since those firms were sold, Bender and his colleagues have established Trilogy Equity Part- ners, a private equity firm in- vesting in wireless mobility enterprises.

Bender, who earned a political science degree from WUSTL and a law degree at Drake University, serves as the chair of Arts & Science’s Seattle Regional Cabinet and is a member of the University’s Entrepreneurship Council. A member of the William Greenleaf Elliott Society, he and his wife, Joyce, have endowed a scholarship in Arts & Sciences.

Landes is Public Broadcasting Service’s senior vice president and chief financial officer. In 2004, she helped establish the PBS Founda- tion, which has already gained major foundation support.

This year he established a full scholarship in Arts & Sciences. Her two daughters also see WUSTL grad- uates. Berg has presided over an extraordinary rise in the number of students who want to attend the University. This year, there were 23,500 applicants (twice the 1,350 openings in new fall’s freshman class.

Gephart Institute stipends to support service internships

...and juniors in good academic standing. Finances will be less daunting for them, too.

The showing marks the University’s highest finish at the College Bowl championship tournament since 1998

BY NEIL SCHONHERR

The University’s Academic Team placed third at the College Bowl championship tournament since 1998

At 4 p.m., May 19 in the Arts & Sciences and the Environ- ment in the Science Library.

Arts & Sciences to recognize 5 distinguished alumni

BY NEIL SCHONHERR

The University’s Academic Team placed third at the College Bowl championship tournament since 1998

The following students will receive full or partial stipends for 2006:

Anne Marie Brooks, a junior majoring in International and Area Studies in Arts & Sciences, has accepted an internship at the


A former corporate securities lawyer who has transformed a small startup company into two giant telecommunica- tions firms: Western Wireless Corp. (now Alltel) and VoiceStream (now T-Mobile).

Since those firms were sold, Bender and his colleagues have established Trilogy Equity Partners, a private equity firm investing in wireless mobility enterprises.

Bender, who earned a political science degree at WUSTL and an M.B.A. from the University of Pennsylvania’s Wharton School of Business, is co-chairing WUSTL’s 150th Anniversary Challenge for the Class of 1937.

Loewenthal, a psychologist, builds affordable housing and provides homes for the dis-advantaged in New York City through J&M Equity Partners Ltd. and L&M Build Corp. His projects have helped cata- lyze the transformation of neighborhoods in the Bronx and Harlem.

A member of the Danforth Circle, the Arts & Sciences Na- tional Council and the New York Regional Campaign Committee, Loewenthal worked with The Jackie Robinson Foundation to set up WUSTL scholarships for underprivileged students from urban areas.

Five students are attending the University or have recently graduated with the help of these awards. This year he established a full scholarship in Arts & Sciences.

Strom named Administrator of the Year

Doom on Strom, WUSTL police chief, was then named Administrator of the Year by Student Union.

It doesn’t get much better than that, Strom said. “This is what we are here for — working with and for students.”

“And it’s an incredible honor to be recognized on them on be- half of so many people who are working tirelessly behind the scenes.

Nominations for the award were solicited by Student Union.

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Keeping student housing looking sharp

ResLife’s Jim Severine has a hand in nearly all display aspects of the student living areas

BY NEIL SCHOFHEIM

Jim Severine and his family: (left to right) sons Nathan and Nick; Nick's wife, Amanda, and their daughter, Peyton (6 months old); and Severine's wife, Sherree.

Jim Severine (right) discusses plans for the South 40 with Jason Starnes, a project engineer with Tarlton Corp. "Jim is very calm under pressures," says Rob Wild, associate director of Residential Life, referring to Severine’s response to a power outage in six residence halls on move-in day a few years ago.

"His knowledge, high standards and personal commitment to providing a quality residential experience for our undergraduates are just a few of the reasons why Jim has been so successful during his tenure at the University," Justin X. Carroll, associate vice chancellor for student affairs and director of Residential Life, says. "I agreed and I’ve been working for him ever since. It’s a broad spectrum job, and I love it."

Carroll says, "Students give Washington University’s student housing facilities high marks because of the care and attention Jim gives to everything he does. His knowledge, high standards and personal commitment to providing a quality residential experience for our undergraduates are just a few of the reasons why Jim has been so successful during his time at the University. He will do whatever it takes to ensure that students’ needs are met and that they reside in a safe and comfortable environment."

Severine has great passion for his job.

“Working here has been so good for me,” he says. "I’ve grown and matured with the University. It’s been so fun to be a part of the concept of a residential college, to be a part of the implementation of the plan and construction of new buildings. I’ve watched the University become a highly ranked institution and part of that really is based on our residence halls."

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“Working here has been so good for me,” he says. "I’ve grown and matured with the University. It’s been so fun to be a part of the concept of a residential college, to be a part of the implementation of the plan and construction of new buildings. I’ve watched the University become a highly ranked institution and part of that really is based on our residence halls."

Severine says. "I’m just having a blast with it. It’s different every day, and I’m exposed to so many young, talented people. It’s just a great job.”

Jim Severine

University position: Associate director for the Office of Residential Life

Years at the University: 3

Hobbies: Fishing, hunting, golfing, baking, spending time with family

Pets: Three dogs and two donkeys