China’s earliest human puts ‘out of Africa’ theory to test

By NEIL SCHONHEIMER

Researchers at WUSTL and the Institute of Vertebrate Paleontology and Paleoanthropology (IVPP) in Beijing have been studying a 40,000-year-old early modern human skeleton found in China and have determined that the “out of Africa” dispersal of modern humans may not have been as simple as once thought. The research was published April 3 in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

Erik Trinkaus, Ph.D., the Mary T. Hibbs/Henvey Professor of anthropology in Arts & Sciences, with colleague Hong Shang and others at the IVPP examined the skeleton, recovered in 2003 from the Tianyuan Cave, Zhoukoudian, near Beijing City.

The skeleton dates to 30,000-42,000 years ago, making it the oldest securely dated modern human skeleton in China and one of the oldest modern human fossils in eastern Eurasia.

The find could help explain how early man moved east across Europe and Asia, a movement not completely understood by anthropologists. The “out of Africa” theory posits that modern humans evolved in Africa and then spread throughout the earth around 70,000 years ago, replacing earlier humans with little or no interbreeding.

The specimen is basically a modern human, but it does have a few archaic characteristics, particularly in the teeth and hand bones.

This morphological pattern implies that a simple spread of modern humans from Africa is unlikely, especially because younger specimens have been found in eastern Eurasia with similar feature patterns, Trinkaus said.

“Today’s discoveries promise to provide relevant paleontological data for our understanding of the emergence of modern humans in eastern Asia,” the researchers said. They argue that the most likely explanation for the mix of features is interbreeding between early modern humans and the archaic populations of Europe and Asia.

Nanoparticles track cells, may help with monitoring tumors

By GWIN ERICSON

The delight of School of Medicine researchers, living cells gobbled up fluorine-based nanoparticles without needing any coating. Thus, because of the unusual meal, the cells were easily located with MRI scanning after being injected into mice.

Developed in the laboratories of Samuel A. Wickline, M.D., professor of medicine and of biomedical engineering, and Gregory M. Lanza, M.D., Ph.D., associate professor of medicine and of biomedical engineering, the nanoparticles soon could allow researchers and physicians to directly track cells used in medical treatments using unique signatures from the ingested nanoparticles.

In an article that will appear in the June issue of The FASEB Journal, lead author Kathryn C. Partlow, a doctoral student in Wickline’s lab described using perfluorocarbon nanoparticles to label endothelial progenitor cells taken from human umbilical cord blood. Such cells can be primed to help build new blood vessels when injected into the body.

The researchers say they believe nanoparticle-labeled stem cells like these could prove useful for monitoring tumors and diagnosing and treating cardiovascular problems.

The nanoparticles contain a fluorine-based compound that can be detected by MRI scanners. The fluorine is most commonly known for being an element included in famous toothpaste.

Wickline, who heads the Stiltman Center of Cancer Nanotechnology Excellence, said this technology offers significant advantages over other cell-labelling technologies under development.

Business students offer Warren Buffett advice

By SHELA NEUMAN

It could be every aspiring financier’s biggest dream: Spend a few hours with Warren Buffett, the “Oracle of Omaha,” toss him an investment suggestion or two and have some laughs over a steak lunch.

That dream became reality for 54 MBA students at the John M. Olin School of Business, who traveled to Nebraska March 30 for just such a visit with the investment genius and second-richest person in the world.

Knowing that the CEO of Berkshire Hathaway Inc. in Omaha, Neb., meets with a few dozen student groups each year, second-year MBA student Erik Alhberg made the appointment last spring. But Alhberg had no intention of having the visit be just another field trip.

“When I didn’t want to be an aver- age group we wanted Olin stu- dents to be invited back,” Alhberg said. “We wanted to go to Omaha extremely prepared.”

Toward that end, Alhberg and some of his classmates asked Michael W. Faulkender, Ph.D., the 2006-2007 Marcell and James Reed Professor and assistant professor of finance, to teach a course in preparation for the visit. Faulkender helped create a half-credit course that enabled students to acquire sufficient knowledge about Buffett and his firm to feel confident in the outcome.

“It was a departure from most ‘classes I teach,”’ Faulkender said. “Instead of drawing upon textbook material, of writing letters to shareholders. We discussed one of his biographies, financial press articles and excerpts from his letters to shareholders. We watched segments of a documentary on him as well as a video of a question-and-answer session with Buffett and Bill Gates.”

“I thought it was beneficial to take his investment philosophy and integrate it with what we already teach students in our MBA curriculum so they can see how these fundamental concepts have been successfully implemented,” Faulkender added.

Some students also prepared presentations suggesting business acquisitions that might interest Buffett. Alhberg said that Buffett sat on the edge of the table listening intently to second-year student David Ramirez and first-year students David Sanders and Tony Benicio made their pitch.

After the presentation, he said: “This is exactly the sort of company that I am interested in. I talked with you all earlier. Didn’t you have a reception that might interest Alhberg?”

“It couldn’t have gone better than if we had mapped it out ourselves,” Alhberg said. Buffett spent two hours

Thurtene Carnival boasts green theme

By NEIL SCHONHEIMER

More than 120,000 people from St. Louis area are expected to attend the annual Thurtene Carnival from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., April 21-22 on the North Brookings parking lot.

This year’s theme is “Wish. Dream. Live. Play.” Build-A-Bear Workshop Foundation is sponsoring the carnival.

Already the oldest and largest student-run carnival in the nation, this year, Thurtene aims to reach new heights in the St. Louis community while expanding on last year’s pledge to remain environmentally friendly.

A new addition to the carnival is the “Kids to the Carnival” initiative, sponsored by Anheuser-Busch Cos., Inc. The Thurtene Junior Honorary is subsidizing ride ticket prices and will provide buses to local schools and charities to give more St. Louis children the opportunity to experience the carnival.

This year’s carnival will feature a continuation of last year’s Green Thurtene project.

See Buffett, Page 6

See Thurtene, Page 6
Raising awareness: Michael Lamberta, a junior biology major in Arts & Sciences, pins a ribbon on George Lai, a junior medical anthropology major in Arts & Sciences, during White Ribbon Day on Sept. 6 at the Missouri Student Center. Lai is a "member of One in Four" — named after the statistic that one in four college women has been raped or suffered attempted rape — an all-male initiative that seeks to end violence against women.

WUSTL's Bouchet Society chapter inducts three inaugural members

By Neil Schoenherr

The University has selected three candidates to become members of the Bouchet Society chapter at Washington University in St. Louis in a ceremony March 31 at Yale University.

The three, all in Arts & Sciences, are: Berlin Louis Jr., a graduate student in the Department of Chemistry; Steven J. Givens, assistant professor of educational, culture, and social development in the Department of Political Science; and Susan Killenberg McGinn, executive editor of the Record and special assistant director of the Record and Washington University community news.

The program seeks to develop a network of eminent scholars who exemplify academic and intellectual leadership in the study and teaching of race and ethnicity, character and service for advocacy for students who have been traditionally underrepresented in academia.

In addition to Yale and Howard University, the other Bouchet Society chapter members include Georgetown and Cornell universities, the University of Washington and the University of Michigan.

Bouchet fellows receive an invitation to a yearly diversity conference, where they can present papers and posters, network with students and faculty and lead with deans and administrators from other universities.

Bouchet fellows will be profiled on a forthcoming Web site that will include their curriculum vitae and research interests. These profiles can be used by search committees to locate underrepresented persons for post-doctoral and faculty positions.

"This imaginative initiative will significantly enhance our mission to increase diversity among our students and faculty," Thad said.

Louis is a Chancellor's Fellow and Lynn Cooper Harvey Fellow in American culture studies. His research interests include cultural identity, diaspora studies, Protestantism and transnationalism.

Powell received the Fulbright award for the 2005-06 academic year. Louis completed his doctoral dissertation research in Nanan, Baha-

University in running for presidential debate

By Andy Clemmenen

The Commission on Presidential Debates announced that it has received proposals from 19 potential 2008 debate sites, including the University.

The CPD will conduct site surveys during the next several months to narrow the plans to three or five sites for the final sites in October.

"Hosting a presidential debate would offer tremendous educational opportunities for our students, faculty and staff to engage in the political process and interact with the national news media," Chancellor Mark S. Wrightson said.

The University was the successful host of presidential debates in 1992, 2000 and 2004. It also was selected to host a vice presidential debate in 1996 that eventually was canceled.

A summary of the selection process is available on the CPD Web site at www.debates.org.

International university presidents gather at WUSTL

For the first time in the United States, the presidents of 13 premier universities from Asia and the Middle East will gather at WUSTL May 4-7 to discuss their institutions' addressing global energy and environmental concerns. The institutions include Fudan, National Taiwan, Tongji and Yonsei universities and the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay.

The International Symposium on Energy and Environment is sponsored by the McDonnell International University Program, which has more than 100 international members.

The symposium seeks to encourage dialogue among universities and students about global issues including energy, the environment, cultural understanding, human health, and economic and social development in India, China and Japan and the McDonnell Academy, visit medionol.wustl.edu.

The meeting is open to the public, but registration is required. For a registration form and preliminary program, visit cpd.wustl.edu.
**School of Medicine Update**

**Crews to begin work on Kingshighway interchange**

Stepping work is set to begin this month on the Highway 40-Kingshighway Boulevard interchange project in a part of the area’s “New 1-64” highway reconstruction project.

Patients, employees and other visitors to the Medical Campus will begin to see excavators and other heavy equipment in the grassland over the existing cloverleaf entrance and exit ramps. Contractors will begin moving dirt to level the ground in preparation for paving temporary traffic lanes. New temporary traffic signals also will be installed on Kingshighway to control traffic flow onto and off of the highway during the construction period.

The Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) and Gateway Constructors Inc. have committed to keeping Kingshighway open and the Medical Center accessible during construction. The temporary lanes and traffic lights will allow continued access to and from Kingshighway in all directions while the interchange is being rebuilt.

Although there will be ongoing construction at the interchange, all Kingshighway traffic lanes will remain open until late May or early June, when traffic will be reduced from three lanes to two in each direction over Highway 40 for the overpass work. The lanes will be reduced for no longer than six months, according to Gateway’s contract with MoDOT.

During construction:
- The Kingshighway overpass will be replaced
- *east- and southbound traffic will be diverted onto the east side of the bridge to permit demolition and reconstruction of the west half
- Traffic on the west half will then be diverted onto the new west half of the bridge to allow demolition and reconstruction of the east half

"As a construction team, we are committed to keeping this interchange open during construction and reducing traffic lanes for the shortest amount of time possible."

**“Whatever Lola Wants”**

School of Medicine students rehearse for their spring musical, “Damn Yankees,” which will be held at 8 p.m. April 13-14 and 20-21 at Moore Auditorium in the North Building at 520 S. Euclid Ave. The cast includes (from left, standing) Andy Zimplzak and Ben Jacobs, both M.D. students; Emily Scherb, a doctoral student in the Program in Physical Therapy; and Emiliano Valles, an M.D. student. Tickets are available at the door and in advance to the Program in Physical Therapy office at 4444 Forest Park Ave. or by contacting Holly Lindsay at hlindsay@wustl.edu.

**Symposium to focus on new discoveries in immunology**

In honor of Emil Unanue’s 21-year leadership of the Department of Pathology and Immunology, the department is holding a one-day symposium to present innovative ideas and research in immunology.

Unanue, M.D., the Paul and Ellen Newman Professor in Pathology, stepped down last fall as chair of the department and remains professor of pathology and immunology. The symposium, “Immunology at the Horizon of the New Millennium,” will be held from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Eric P. Newman Education Center Auditorium.

Speakers selected to participate in the symposium reflect broad areas of research and acknowledge immunology’s central position in the scientific mission of the University.

The speakers include Abdal K. Abbas, MBBCh, University of Cali- fornia, San Francisco; Peter Cress- well, Ph.D., and Richard Flavell, Ph.D., both of Yale University School of Medicine; Philippe Marck, Ph.D., National Jewish Medical and Research Center, Denver; Staffan Normark, Karolinska Institute, Sweden; and Klaus Rajewsky, M.D., CBR Research Institute, Karolinska Institute, Sweden.

Unanue is internationally recognized as a leader in understanding how the immune system identifies foreign material, or antigens, and how immune system T cells respond to it.

He joined the School of Medicine in 1985 as head of pathology and immunology and pathologist-in-chief of Barnes-Jewish Hospi- tal. During his tenure, the Univer- sity’s immunology program has become one of the most innova- tive and productive centers in the world for immunological re- search.

Although a few faculty mem- bers have immunology research and clinical interests residing at WUSTL before Unanue took the position, this number has in- creased due to his recruiting and mentoring efforts and the role model that he established. Today, the University’s immunology community includes more than 50 faculty and 250 trainees in seven different departments.

For more information, contact Sharon Smith at 362-8648.
Washed wire mesh can be found in many different applications due to its versatility and durability. It is commonly used for fencing, agriculture, construction, and other industries where a strong and flexible barrier is needed. The wire mesh can be made from various materials, including steel, aluminum, and plastic, and comes in different hole sizes, wire diameters, and patterns. This makes it suitable for various applications and industries. Additionally, washed wire mesh can be used as a filter, conveyor belt, or reinforced concrete. The material can be galvanized or coated for added durability and resistance to corrosion. Overall, washed wire mesh is a valuable tool in many fields due to its unique properties and versatility.
Alumni read for Writing Program series

The Washington University in St. Louis Concert Choir will present a concert of music based on Old Testament texts at 8 p.m. April 13 in Graham Chapel.

The concert is free and open to the public and is sponsored by the Department of Music in Arts & Sciences.

Dr. Margaret H. Forster, director of vocal activities, directs the program, which features music ranging from the Renaissance to the 20th century.

The concert will open with "Sing we merely unto God" from Psalm 81, by the Renaissance English composer William Byrd (c. 1539-1623). Though Roman Catholic, Byrd served as organist at the Chapel Royal (the monarch’s private chapel) during the reign of Queen Elizabeth I and composed music for both Anglican and Catholic services.

The program will continue with "Tu solus, qui facis mirabilia" (You alone we seek refuge), a motet by Josquin Desprez (c. 1440-1521). A canon at the Cathedral of Notre Dame in Hainaut near Cambrai, Josquin was one of the great composers of the High Renaissance.

This piece, though similar in structure to his highly popular and secular pieces, is based on a formula for psalm recitation in the Catholic Mass.

Also on the program is "Schaffe in mir, Gott, ein rein Herz," a motet by Johannes Brahms (1833-1897). Set to text from Psalm 51 and composed in Vienna in 1860, this five-voice, tri-partite work demonstrates that Brahms — despite his role as a leading 19th-century composer — could craft choral works based on Baroque textures.

The concert will conclude with three selections from Randall Thompson’s "The Peaceable Kingdom," a series of a cappella sacred works set to texts from the Book of Isaiah.

Thompson’s "Thanksgivings" (1898-1894) was a native of New York and graduate of Harvard University, where he taught for 17 years. His choral works, including his renowned "Mehlschma" (1940), have been mainstay courses for the last half-century.

For more information, call 935-8441 or e-mail mayeror@wustl.edu.

Project Row Houses founder speaks for Architecture Lecture Series

Ar tist Rick Lowe, founder of Project Row Houses in Houston, will speak about his work on April 13 in Room 458 of Lowman Hall as part of the School of Design & Visual Arts’ spring Architecture Lecture Series.

The talk, titled "Toward Social Sculpture," is free and open to the public.

The Architecture Lecture Series is sponsored by the College of Architecture and the Graduate School of Architecture & Urban Design. Established in 1993, Project Row Houses is an arts and cultural community located in a historically significant inner-city neighborhood of Houston, Texas

The event is sponsored by the School of Design & Visual Arts’ spring Architecture Lecture Series. Established in 1993, Project Row Houses is an arts and cultural community located in a historically significant inner-city neighborhood of Houston, Texas.

For more information, call 935-3190 or e-mail ar@wustl.edu.

On a roll
Printmaker Koichi Yamamoto conducts a printmaking lecture and demonstration for students and faculty in the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts March 30 in the Brady Hall printmaking studio. Born in Osaka, Japan, Yamamoto is known for creating etchings and large-scale monoprints inspired by natural forms. He has exhibited extensively throughout Japan, the United States, Canada and Europe and is assistant professor of printmaking at Utah State University.

Alumni read for Writing Program series


The program is free and open to the public.

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Alumni read for Writing Program series

An associate professor of English at Boston College, Graver has received grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Guggenheim Foundation.

Schwarzchild (Ph.D. ‘94, M.A. ’89) is author of the novel "Responsible Party" (2005) and has published work in the Virginia Quarterly Review, Southwest Review, StoryQuarterly, Moment Magazine and The Yale Journal of Criticism.

A former Helen Deutsch Fellow in Creative Writing at Boston University and a recent Wallace Stegner Fellow at Stanford University, Schwarzchild teaches at the University at Albany; SUNY, where he holds a joint appointment in the English department and the New York State Writers Institute.

For more information, call 935-7730.

 '\The Watching Heart' joins poetry and dance

BY LIM OTTEN

On Thursday April 12, 2007, the Writing Program, a fixture of the arts and culture community in this historically significant inner-city neighborhood of Houston, Texas, opened with a poetic performance by poet Rumi (1207-1273). Keshavarz, a native of Iran, writes poetry in both Persian and English and is the author of "Reading Mystical Lyric: The Case of Jalal al-Din Rumi" (2006) and "Jasmine and Stars: Persian Literature Since Malek Taher Loeb in Tehran" (2007).


The program is free and open to the public.

For more information, call 935-3190 or e-mail ar@wustl.edu.

'Venus of Willendorf' found at Swiss site

In addition to Project Row Houses, Lowe has worked as a guest artist on a range of commissions, including the Koolhaas-designed Seattle Public Library, the Wolfram vase for the Spoleto Festival 2003 in Charleston, S.C., and the Delray Beach Cultural Loop in Florida.

His art has been exhibited at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Los Angeles; the Kwangju Biennale in Korea; the Kurume Museum in Japan; and Houston’s Contemporary Arts Museum and Menil Collection.

Lowe’s many honors include the 2000 American Institute of Architects Houston Honor Award; the 2002 Heinz Award for the Arts and Humanities. From 2001 to 2003 he taught at Harvard University and received the Foundation for Architecture and Municipal Affairs’ Achievement in the Built Environment and Sculpting Governors Award in 2005. In 2006, Lowe received the Brandeis-Wittenmyer Lifetime Achievement Award, presented annually to a distinguished American, African or civic leader.

For more information, call 935-9530 or visit www.archival.com.

Schwarzchild, fiction writer, Danish Hall, Hurt Library, 935-7193.

Saturday, April 14

2 p.m. Children’s Hope International Concert, "Youth Chamber Orches-" 351, Whitaker Hall Aud. 935-7193.

Thursday, April 19

5:15 p.m. German Language & Literatures Poetry and Fiction Reading. Se-" 351, Whitaker Hall Aud. 935-7193.

Shubert "University Evers" via "Amish authentic," Ohio State campus Market Plaza Box 1075 or 935-4515.

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Sports

Friday, April 13

8 a.m. Biscuit Beach Tennis. Graham Chapel. 935-5415.

Saturday, April 14

237 a.m. Gait Your Contest. David Hinen, dusk. 935-7193.

On Stage

Friday, April 13

8 p.m. Asian and Near Eastern Languages and Literatures Performance.

Saturday, April 14

9 a.m. Men’s tennis vs. Missouri Western. St. Louis Tu Tennis Center. 935-5415.

3 p.m. Women’s tennis vs. U. Texas-Tyler. Forest Park. Dwight Davis Tennis Center. 935-5415.

5 p.m. Men’s tennis vs. U. Texas-Dallas. Forest Park. Dwight Davis Tennis Center. 935-5415.

6 p.m. Performing Arts Dept. Presentation. "House of Siam" by Jean Thy." 935-7193.

Tuesday, April 17


Wednesday, April 18


4 p.m. Women’s tennis vs. Southern Il. U. Edwardsville. Edwardsville U. Tennis Center. 935-7193.

4 p.m. Women’s tennis vs. U. Texas-Dallas. Forest Park. Dwight Davis Tennis Center. 935-5415.

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6 p.m. Performing Arts Dept. Presentation. "House of Siam" by Jean Thy." 935-7193.

Thursday, April 19

4 p.m. Softball vs. HI. U. Westminster. Westminster U. Tennis Center. 935-4110.
Buffett 'He's a regular guy' one student says of CEO

Gerald L. Early, Ph.D., offers a
simpler explanation in the spring
issue of WM, magazine that cel-
brates basketball's contributions to
American history and culture. "Black Americans don't play basketball because they don't want to," he said.
Early is the Merle Kling Profes-
sor of English, African American
studies and American culture stud-
ies, as well as director of the Center for the Humanities, Barnes-Jewish Hospital. A consultant to Ken Burn's Epi-
demic documentary on television, Early is author of several essays and a member of the Negro Leagues Baseball
Hall of Fame.

Early argues that blacks have
strayed from baseball because it
lacks a firm place in their culture.
"Even when millions held on to
the black American imagination," Early writes. "Relatively few feel any
connection to white baseball. He [MacCambridge] is right: 'You can't sell baseball that way to blacks.'"

Early also dismisses the argu-
ment that African-Americans are
"under-represented" in baseball,
noting that they make up about 9
percent of players in the major
teams today. He says they're the same proportion as their repre-
sentation in the American
occupation.

In the late 1950s, he adds, blacks comprised nearly 20
percent of team rosters, and no one
raised concerns about their being overrepresented. "We must remember," he continues, "that steering so many blacks into baseball was perpetuating a dam-
aging stereotype of blacks as lim-
ited to entertainment and ath-
sports.

If lack of green spaces and
the cost of equipment prevents
why blacks don't play major
baseball today, then how does one
account for the fact that they played it in the early 20th century and even organized leagues back then when they had less
money, less space, fewer re-
sources and more frontier-type
crime than they do now. And
don't forget that a majority of blacks seem to have a built-in aversion to
playing organized sports and
would be willing to invest in
them.

"He talked several times about
friendship and camaraderie, set-
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who don't only admire and like,
but also respect and trust," she
adds. "We not only admire and
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He's a regular guy,'" one
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he School of Law will cele-
brate the outstanding
achievements of five students individ-
ually at its annual Dista-
graced Alumni Awards Dinner at The
Ritz-Carlton, St. Louis.

The 2007 recipients are:
Michael X.
Hannan, with the re-

drector of the St. Louis
Cardinals LLC.

Since 1996, Hannan, J.D., has
been the vice chairman and a
director of the St. Louis Cardinals
LLC. Prior to his role with the Car-
dinals, he practiced law for 30
years, concentrating his practice in
banking, corporate and estate
taxation and venture capital.

Hannan is actively involved in
St. Louis civil and community
organizations, including, but not
limited to, his service on the
board of the St. Louis Union
League and St. Luke's Hospital.

Hannan, J.D., is a retired chief
judge of the Supreme Court of
Missouri and World War II vet-
eran. Since his retirement from
the bench, he has been of counsel
with Inglish & Monaco.

Hannan served as president of
the American Bar Association's
Federal Courts Section and of the
American Bar Association's
Appellate Section, and as a
member of the American
College of Trial Law-

ed a special master by the U.S.
District Court for the District of
Massachusetts.

In 1979, Hannan was ap-
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District Court for the District of
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In 1992, he was appointed a
special master by the First
District Appellate Court of Illi-
nois, where he served for five years.

Hannan was appointed by the
Supreme Court of Missouri and
appointed to the Federal District
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In 1997, Hannan received the
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The Podleski family at daughter Genevieve’s wedding. (From left) Konstantin, Genevieve, Elena, Tony, Joan, Valentina and Aidan.