**Medical News:** Hospitalist medicine divisions growing

**American Diary:** Shimomura to discuss paintings and performances

**Washington People:** Kemp nationally recognized for SIDS work

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**Transcending bigotry through art, friendship** A dialogue by alumni Michael Adams (left) and Gyo Obata drew a standing-room-only crowd to Steinberg Hall Oct. 2. Their talk, titled "Remembering the Imprisonment: Focused on the Friendship between their famous fathers, the photographer Ansel Adams and the painter Chiura Obata (pictured), and how both families were impacted by the U.S. government’s internment of Japanese-Americans during World War II. The event was organized by the Center for the Study of Ethics & Human Values as part of the semester-long series "Ethnic Profiling: A Challenge to Democracy." Works by Ansel Adams and Chiura Obata also are included in the exhibition "A Challenge to Democracy: Ethnic Profiling of Japanese Americans During World War II," on view in the Teaching Gallery of the Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum through Jan. 4, 2010.

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**Forecast for discovered exoplanet: cloudy with a chance of pebbles**

**By Diana Lute**

So accustomed are we to the sunshine, rain, fog and snow of our home planet that we find it next to impossible to imagine a different atmosphere and other forms of precipitation.

To be sure, Dr. Seuss came up with a green, grey substance called ocklebel that fell from the skies and got stuck up the Kingdom of Didd, but it had to be conjured up by wizards and clearly was a thing of magic.

Not so with the atmosphere of COROT-7b, an exoplanet discovered last February by the COROT space telescope launched by the French and European space agencies. According to models by Washington University scientists, COROT-7b's atmosphere is made up of the ingredients of rocks, and when a front moves in, pebbles condense out of the air and rain into lakes of molten lava below.

The work, by Laura Schaefer, research assistant in the planetary chemistry laboratory in the Department of Earth & Planetary Sciences in Arts & Sciences, and Bruce Fegley Jr., Ph.D., professor of earth and planetary sciences, appeared in the Oct. 1 issue of The Astronomical Journal.

Astronomers have found nearly 400 extra-solar planets, or exoplanets, in the past 20 years. But because of the limitations of the indirect means by which they are discovered, most are Hot Jupiters, chubbier gas giants — as large or larger than Jupiter — orbiting close to their parent stars. (More than 1,300 Earths could be packed inside Jupiter, which has 300 times the mass of Earth.)

COROT-7b, on the other hand, is less than twice the size of Earth and only five times its mass.

COROT-7b was the first planet found orbiting the star COROT-7, an orange dwarf in the constellation Monoceros, or the Unicorn. (This priority is designated by the letter b.)

Using the data from both planets, they were able to calculate that COROT-7b has an average density about the same as Earths. This means it is almost certainly a rocky planet, with maybe a few million tons of iron, 20 million tons of sulfur, and 200 million tons of oxygen, Fegley said.

"Gases or compounds it interacts with may become new drug targets for treatment of Alzheimer's disease," said senior author David M. Holtzman, M.D., the Andrew and Gertie Jones Professor and chair of the Department of Neurology.

"The results also suggest that we may need to prioritize treating sleep disorders not only for their many acute effects but also for potential long-term impacts on brain health," he said.

Holtzman's laboratory uses a technique called in vivo microdialysis to monitor levels of amyloid beta in the brains of mice genetically engineered as a model of Alzheimer's disease. Amyloid beta is a protein fragment that is the principal component of Alzheimer's plaques.

**Give Thanks Give Back**

**By Neil Schoenherr**

Now in its ninth year, Washington University's "Give Thanks Give Back" campaign again will help make the holiday season brighter for needy St. Louis area families.

The annual event begins at 10 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 8, with a kick-off party at Uro's Cafe in the South 6th. In addition, students will be manning tables and handing out information outside the Danforth University Center from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 13, and Wednesday, Oct. 14.

"Give Thanks Give Back is a fun and affordable way for students, faculty and staff to help out the St. Louis community during the holiday season," said senior Lynn Wilkie, a psychology major in Arts & Sciences and co-chair of this year's Give Thanks Give Back student group.

Give Thanks Give Back supports a group called "100 Neediest Cases," a joint project of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch and the United Way. During the holiday season, the 100 Neediest Cases identifies more than 10,000 cases of poverty in the St. Louis area residents struggling to overcome poverty.

As the holiday season approaches, the newspaper publishes the personal case stories of 100 families or individuals. Although each of the 10,000 cases will receive some assistance, only a small percentage of families are "adopted," meaning that an individual or group agrees to buy gifts, clothing, household appliances or other requested items for the family.

Members of the University community normally adopt around 120 families each year, which amounts to more than 300 individuals.

"All of these families live in the area and have fallen on hard times due to a layoff or injury," Wilkie said. "We connect students and faculty to the families who need assistance, and then the sponsors go shopping for clothing, household supplies or educational toys, depending on the needs of the family."

"It's a great way to locally make a difference in someone's life, and we are always amazed and thankful for the support," said Jae-Eun Kang, Ph.D., a post-doctoral fellow in Holtzman's lab who noticed that brain amyloid beta levels in mice rose and fell in association with sleep and wakefulness, increasing in the night, when mice are mostly awake, and decreasing during the day, when they are mostly asleep.

A separate study of amyloid beta levels in human cerebrospinal fluid was reported on Thursday, Nov. 10.

**Sleep loss linked to increase in Alzheimer's plaques**

**By Michael C. Purdy**

Chronic sleep deprivation in a mouse model of Alzheimer's disease makes Alzheimer's brain plaques appear earlier and more often, School of Medicine researchers reported online in Science Express.

Neurodegenerative disorders like Alzheimer's disease and Parkinson's disease often disrupt sleep. The new findings are some of the first indications that sleep loss could play a role in the genesis of such disorders.

The researchers also found that orexin, a protein that helps regulate the sleep cycle, appears to be directly involved in the increase in brain plaques.

"Orexin or compounds it interacts with may become new drug targets for treatment of Alzheimer's disease," said senior author David M. Holtzman, M.D., the Andrew and Gertie Jones Professor and chair of the Department of Neurology.

"The results also suggest that we may need to prioritize treating sleep disorders not only for their many acute effects but also for potential long-term impacts on brain health," he said.

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A separate study of amyloid beta levels in human cerebrospinal fluid was reported on Thursday, Nov. 10.
Practicing makes perfect! Mark Bagby (center), University emergency coordinator, monitors a fire drill Sept. 29 at Simon Hall as students, faculty and staff gather outside the Francis Field Gates. The drill was held to test Olin Business School's emergency planning efforts and in anticipation of this week's National Fire Prevention Week Oct. 5-11. "Olin has been working hard on its emergency planning, and this was a successful test of its planning efforts," Bagby said. For more information about what to do in case of a fire on campus, visit emergency.wustl.edu/ wheretogo/fire.html.

Trustees hear reports on admissions, construction, financial issues and new scholarship initiative

The full meeting of the Board of Trustees Oct. 2 featured reports on the status and future of the University, including a report from Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton regarding admissions, construction, financial issues, appointments and a new scholarship initiative.

In his report, Wrighton noted the continuous success of the undergraduate admissions program in attracting the most academically talented class in the University's history, numbering about 1,500 students selected from more than 23,000 applicants. More than 60 percent of the students come from more than 500 miles away, and the class was even more diverse between race and gender.

Wrighton's report noted significant construction achievements, including the RIC Institute of Health at Washington University, which is targeted for completion in December. The structure will be the largest building in the University's history, and it is expected to receive LEED certification from the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) when it is completed.

On the Danforth Campus, two new houses — South 40 and Umrath — opened to students in August with a convention center, student union, food services, fitness center and the new Necessities shop operated by the Women's Society. The second phase of construction will be completed in August 2010 and will include a dining area and assembly space for residential college students.

More good news was the recent announcement of a LEED Silver rating from the USGBC for the Village East student apartment buildings, a new building that has earned certification. LEED Gold for the Danforth University Center and LEED Silver for the Earth & Planetary Sciences Building. A just-completed total renovation of century-old Busch Hall also may receive LEED certification.

At the Tyson Research Center in west St. Louis County, the new Living Learning Center opened during the summer and is expected to receive LEED certification from the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) when it is completed.

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The program has a history of success at the University. The Office of Student Activities became involved in 1998 when staff members adopted a single family. By 2001, the effort had evolved into a campus-wide program that now serves more than 350 U.S. and international organizations. In each of the past six years, Give Thanks for Kids has adopted more than 100 families.

For more information or to volunteer to help, e-mail gthanksgiving@wustl.edu or visit sugroops.wustl.edu/grith.

By Kurt Mueller

David Callahan, Ph.D., public policy activist and scholar of academic integrity, will present "Creating a Culture of Integrity" at 11 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 15, in the Danforth Student Center.

His talk is the keynote address of the Center for Academic Integrity's 18th Annual International Conference (see below) and is being co-sponsored by the Assembly Series and the Center for Ethics and Human Values. It is free and open to the public.

"The Moral Center: How We Can Reclaim College from the Daily Hard Existents, Rogue Corporations, Hollywood, wood Hacks and Pretend Patrons." Callahan examines seven of our most polarizing conflicts — family, sex, media, crime, work, poverty and patriotism — and presents unexpected relations that lay out a new road map to the American center.

"The Moral Center" is a follow-up text to Callahan's 2004 book, "The Cheating Culture: Why America Is Doing Wrong to Get Ahead." Callahan states that "when given the opportunity to cheat on our taxes or to illegally hook up to our neighbor's cable, I am sure many of us would do so."

In "The Cheating Culture," Callahan wrote that cheating has risen in the past 20 years as evidenced by corporate scandals, doping by professional athletes and plagiarism. He puts the blame on the ruthlessly competitive economic landscape of the past two decades and claims that the "winning" class has enough money "that they can cheat without consequences, while the "losing" class is struggling for the only way to succeed in a winner-take-all world.

Callahan is a co-founder of Demos, a public policy center based in New York. It is a multi- national organization that combines research, policy development and advocacy to influence public debates and policymakers.

Callahan served as a program director and senior fellow.

He earned a bachelor's degree from Hampshire College and a doctorate in politics from Princeton University.

A series of free campus events precedes the lecture, including panel discussions on the state of integrity at WUSTL. 9:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 12, in the Danforth University Center, Room 276i; and intellectual property (5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 13, in the Danforth University Center, Room 276i; and why employers and graduate school applicants cheat (7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 14, in Umrath Hall Lounge).

For more information, visit academicintegrityweek.wustl.edu.

Future: The Scholarship Initiative

Washington University will host the Center for Academic Integrity's 18th Annual International Conference Oct. 14-15. The conference theme is "Creating a Culture of Integrity: Research and Best Practices." Several hundred students, faculty and staff from around the world will discuss the practice and philosophy of academic integrity, focusing on issues germane to both college and high school education. "The conference will discuss cutting-edge research, best practices and classroom best practices will be among the topics covered. The conference is open to the public, but registration is required. Fees for the conference, which include meals and refreshments, range from $225 for students to $450 for nonmember faculty, staff and administrators. Among those to be honored is the late Bob L. Johnson, I.D., associate dean and academic coordinator in the College of Arts & Sciences, who died in 2004 of metastatic neuroendocrine cancer. Johnson, a WUSTL alumna, made a significant effort to develop a campus-wide academic integrity code at WUSTL when she came to work here in 1989 as special assistant to then-Chancellor William H. Danforth. She died with a wide variety of campus policy issues, including sexual relations, complaint resolution and sexual misconduct.

The Center for Academic Integrity offers more than 300 institutions worldwide. It is affiliated with the Robert B. Storer policy center for Ethics at Clemson University.

For more information on conference fees and a detailed schedule of events, please contact The Center for Academic Integrity at equality@wustl.edu or call 314-935-9457 or dkillen@wustl.edu.

Give Back

— from Page 1

Inspired by the generosity that the University shows everyone every year" Willis said.

University groups or individuals can make gift-wrapping kits following the kick-off party. Gifts are due by Nov. 13, and soon after gift-wrapping parties are scheduled to schedule donations for individual recipients.

This year, gift-wrapping events are scheduled from noon to 5 p.m. on two consecutive Saturdays, Nov. 14 and Nov. 21, in University

Lounge. Volunteers are always welcome and needed to help wrap gifts.

The program has a history of success at the University. The Office of Student Activities became involved in 1998 when staff members adopted a single family. By 2001, the effort had evolved into a campus-wide program that now serves more than 350 U.S. and international organizations. In each of the past six years, Give Thanks for Kids has adopted more than 100 families.

For more information or to volunteer to help, e-mail gthanksgiving@wustl.edu or visit sugroops.wustl.edu/grith.

Callahan: Thanks Give Back has adopted 83 families. In 2004, the program adopted 85 families.

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Four of 106 heart replacement valves from pig hearts failed

**By Gwen Ericson**

pig heart valves used to replace defective aortic valves in human patients failed much more often than expected, according to a report from School of Medicine cardiac surgeons. This is the first report to demonstrate the failure rate of porcine valves in humans, the researchers said.

Between 2001-05, 4 of 106 patients with the pig valves implanted in the aortic position developed valve failure after less than four years, and the patients eventually had to place the valves. The findings were published in the journal of the Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgeons.

Dr. Jennifer S. Lawton, M.D., associate professor of surgery, said that the valve replacement program had continued to serve patients to late 10:15 years in patients who were over 70. The four patients who needed a “redo” operation were over 70.

“We noticed an increased incidence of this complication,” Lawton said. “We were very concerned, and we thought it was important for others to know about it. A 4 percent failure rate may sound like a small number, but we would not expect that many of the valves would fail a short period of time.”

Lawton noted that for a three percent of patients affected, the pig valves failed after three, 14, 19 and 44 months. Each patient undertook a second operation to replace the defective valve with a valve made from cow heart tissue. No patient died as a direct consequence of the pig heart valve impairment.

The heart valves that failed early were Medtronic Mosaic porcine valve products, made by Medtronic Inc, but were not from the same production lot. Pathologists at WUSTL and at the School of Medicine's Pathology and Laboratory Medicine department both conducted an investigation into the valve failures.

Lawton said surgeons at Barnes-Jewish Hospital and Washington University are no longer implanting this valve and are awaiting further data. She said there are alternatives available for patients.

**Division of Hospitalist Medicine marks 10th year at medical school**

**By Diane Duke Williams**

The Department of Medicine’s Division of Hospitalist Medicine, which has grown from five hospitalists in 2000 to a full staff of 47, is celebrating its 10th year this fall. Hospitalists are physicians who specialize in the care of patients in the hospital. They usually have trained in internal medicine, family or pediatrics.

Most often, hospitalists treat patients who are admitted to their hospitals’ inpatient services, and are a primary care doctor to their hospitalized patients. They also consult with other physicians who are not on the hospital staff.

The division offers primary care to patients who do not have primary care doctors, as well as attending physicians on the oncology service and provides service in specialties such as anesthesiology, critical care, emergency medicine, infectious disease, palliative care, hospitalist medicine and hospitalist medicine for pediatrics.

The division has grown to nearly 100 members and provides care for 400,000 patients annually.

**Children’s Discovery Institute announces four new pediatric research awards**

**By BETTE MILLER**

The Department of Pediatrics has created a Division of Hospitalist Medicine, naming Douglas Carlson, M.D., as its director.

“The department has been successful in recruiting and retaining high caliber pediatricians,” said senior vice president and chief medical officer Thoelke. “This is an excellent addition to the School of Medicine’s growing physician scientist base.”

**Carlson heads new hospitalist medicine division in pediatrics**

Children’s Discovery Institute announces four new pediatric research awards

**Bringing new technologies to the pediatrics research community is the focus of four new awards created by the Children’s Discovery Institute (CDI).**

Carlson, professor of pediatrics at the School of Medicine, is the first director of the division.

Carlson, who is also a fellow at St. Louis Children’s Hospital, said the division will focus on improving the care of children through research.

The division, which has been awarded $700,000 in funding to support CDI investigators that are studying the mechanisms and treatments of common pediatric diseases, will provide resources to researchers to conduct research that will improve the care of children.

“Carlson’s leadership will be critical in the development of the new division,” said Dr. Gary Drucker, director of the Children’s Discovery Institute. “His expertise in pediatrics and his commitment to research will enable the division to make a significant impact on the care of children.”
Shimomura opens his "American Diary" for Sam Fox lecture series

Celebrated artist Roger Shimomura, whose paintings powerfully explore issues of culture, discrimination and ethnic stereotypes, will discuss his work for the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts fall Public Lecture Series at 6 p.m. Monday, Oct. 12.

The talk, titled "An American Diary," is free and open to the public and takes place in Steinberg Hall Auditorium.

Shimomura was born in Seattle in 1939 but at age 5 was sent to Idaho’s Minidoka War Relocation Center, the camp for the American-born sons of Japanese Americans at which his family was interned during World War II.

After their release, when Shimomura was 8, the family returned to Seattle and began rebuilding their lives. He later attended the University of Washington, earning a bachelor’s degree in 1961.

Shimomura joined the faculty of the University of Kansas in 1969, shortly after earning a master’s degree from Syracuse University. Over the years, he has addressed issues of cultural and political issues affecting Asian-Americans through paintings and prints as well as performances of pieces that combine the flat graphic approach of American pop art with imagery and motifs variously suggesting racist cartoons and Japanese ukiyo-e, or “floating world,” woodblock prints.

Much of Shimomura’s paintings draw on his own experiences and on research he conducted for his individual cameo. Formerly, based on his memory of a high-school dance in 1950s Seattle — when he attended a girl whose father disapproved of “oriental” women — depictions of yellow-skinned caricatured women smuggling up to a pretty Roy Lichtenstein-like blonde.

Another painting, based on a police incident, depicts Shimomura and Native American artist Edgar Heap of Rich singing an exaggerated ethnic costume as a woman who was commonly stereotyped. Shimomura’s work has been featured in more than 125 solo exhibitions and is included in the permanent collections of more than 100 major museums throughout the United States.

Shimomura’s art will be exhibited at the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York in 2014 and the Smithsonian's National Museum of History in Washington, D.C. His experimental theater piece "An American Diary" has been presented at such venues as the Joyce Theater in New York and the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis.

A recipient of the Kansas Governor’s Arts Award, Shimomura honors include more than 30 grants, including four from the National Endowment for the Arts. In 1994, he became the first fine arts faculty member in University of Kansas history to be honored as a University Distinguished Professor.

In 1998, he was the recipient of the Higuchi Research Award, the highest annual research honor or award to a faculty member in the university’s arts and sciences colleges. His personal letters and papers are being collected by the Smithsonian’s Archives of American Art.

Shimomura’s lecture is held in conjunction with the six-week long "Ethnic Profiling: A Challenge to Democracy" organizing the Center for Ethnic Studies & Human Values.

How to submit "University Events"

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- campus mail — Campus Box 070

- fax — 935-4259

- online — recordcalendar.wustl.edu.

- phone — 935-5812

These forms are noon the Thursday prior to publication date.

Shimomura’s “Night Watch 43” from the series "Minidoka on my Mind" is an example of the flat, graphic approach combining American pop art with Japanese style ukiyo-e.

Roger Shimomura’s "Night Watch 43" from the series "Minidoka on my Mind" is an example of the flat, graphic approach combining American pop art with Japanese style ukiyo-e.

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Exhibits


"University Events" lists a portion of the activities taking place Oct. 8-21 at Washington University in St. Louis. For more information about events or more information about the series, call 935-3958 or visit samfox.wustl.edu.

For more information about the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Art Lecture Series, call 935-9350 or visit samfox.wustl.edu. How to submit "University Events"

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Kennedy to present faculty recital Oct. 10

Mary Duchamp was an influential artist of the 20th century. He also was a dedicated chess player who used all of his chess knowledge and his fascination with the games, famously relating to the New York Times’ science writer Nauman, "I have come to the personal conclusion that while all art is not chess, all chess players are artists." Duchamp was born on Oct. 4, the Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum is hosting the Chess Club and Scholastic Center of St. Louis with "Marcel Duchamp, Chess and Roulette." The event — held in conjunction with the exhibition "Marcel Duchamp: Chess and Roulette" — will begin with a live game combining roulette and chess played in the museum’s Francis Field and will be supported by 2009 WUSTL Women’s Chess Champion to be determined as a special guest. Following the match at 7 p.m. will be a gallery talk about Duchamp’s work by Bradley Foster, Ph.D., assistant professor of art history at Saint Louis University. Bailey recently co-authored — with Jennifer Shahade, the 2002 and 2004 WUSTL Women’s Chess Champion, and independent scholar Francis Naumann, Ph.D. "Marcel Duchamp: The Art of Games," the first English-language study exploring the links between Duchamp’s art and chess activities. Bailey also curated the exhibition "Marcel Duchamp: Chess and Roulette" on view last fall at the Saint Louis University Museum of Art. For the Oct. 4 match, the players will employ a specially designed exhibition wheel to move their pieces — thus combining the ultimate strategy of chess with the ultimate goal of chess: checkmate. Each player will take place Oct. 17, with the winner crowned that evening. For more information visit saintlouismuseumofart.org.

Chairwoman of the Psychology Department, Schreiber, assistant concertmaster of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, will present "The Unexpected Season," an event described by the WUSTL community as "Marcel Duchamp: Chess and Roulette" — with Jennifer Shahade, who will be in attendance.

"The idea was inspired by roulette and chess-crazed Duchamp’s wish that somehow chess and gambling could meet in the middle."

The 2009 Women’s Chess Championship, which began Oct. 4, at the Chess Club and Scholastic Center of St. Louis, will feature 10 of the nation’s elite players.

The final round of play will feature the three lead players and their closest competitors, each expected to produce their best work. A final round of play will take place Oct. 17, with the winner crowned that evening. For more information visit saintlouismuseumofart.org.

The WUSTL recycles more than 725,000 pounds of paper; this is the equivalent of more than 60 artworks by more than 40 avant-garde artists — including Duchamp — from Europe and the United States.

Women’s golf ranked No. 9 in poll

The women’s golf team is ranked No. 9 in the Golf World/National Golf Coaches Association Division III Coaches Poll. This marks the first time in school history the Bears have achieved a top 5 ranking.

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's 250th birthday is celebrated every 10 years on Oct. 27 at the Chess Club and Scholastic Center of St. Louis.

Volleyball has winning weekend in Rochester

The No. 5 volleyball team won the first two matches of the season, rounding out the week with a six-set, 3-3, 25-22, 25-22, 25-19, 27-25 victory over 2004 U.S. Women’s Chess Champion Jennifer Shahade, who will be in attendance.

Soprano Stella Markou, director of Vocal Studies at the University of Missouri-Saint Louis, and guitarrista Víctor Valverde, teacher of applied music, will perform Kennedy’s "My Beloved is Mine," followed by "Thamus and Véronique" featuring Kennedy and Timothy Myers, principal trumpeter for the ISLO. Next up will be "Suitet," featuring violinists Dana Myers and Chauffeur Clark, both teachers of applied music; Writing Wang, violinist of the ISLO; and violincellist Catherine Lehr, assistant professor of music at Maryville University. For more information, call 935-5566 or e-mail kochualter@wustl.edu.

Saturday, Oct. 10
11 a.m. Volleyball vs. U. of Maine. Francis Field. 935-4705.
1:30 p.m. Women’s Soccer vs. Carnegie Mellon. W & F Casino. 935-4705.
1:30 p.m. Women’s Soccer vs. Carnegie Mellon. West End Field. 935-4705.
Tuesday, Oct. 13
7 p.m. Men’s Soccer vs. Fort Lewis. Francis Field. 935-4705.
Friday, Oct. 16
6:30 p.m. Men’s Soccer vs. Case Western Reserve U. Francis Field. 935-4705.
9 p.m. Men’s Soccer vs. Case Western Reserve U. Francis Field. 935-4705.
Saturday, Oct. 17
1 p.m. Football vs. Colgate U. West End Field. 935-4705.
Sunday, Oct. 18
2:30 p.m. Men’s Soccer vs. U. of Rochester. Francis Field. 935-4705.

On Stage
Friday, Oct. 16
6 p.m. Performing Arts Dept. Presentation. "Hedda." (Also 8 p.m., Oct. 17 and 18, 7 p.m., Oct. 19 and 20, and 2 and 8 p.m. Oct. 21.) Edin Hoch. 935-6558.

And More
Wednesday, Oct. 21
Sleep
Brain's synapses more active when we're awake — from Page 1

...leveled sodium in the atmospheres of...
The following incidents were reported to University Police Sept. 30-Oct. 5. Information that could not be investigated in these reports are urged to call 935-5555. This information is provided as a public service to promote safety awareness and is available on the University Police Web site at

For the Record

The university receives grants to digitalize historic court records.

The project will fund a course through American culture and other similar projects.

The project will provide an opportunity for students to engage in research.

The project will improve material in a new way.

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The sleep doctor

Kemp seeks roots of kids' sleep disorders, sudden infant deaths

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The sleep doctor

Kemp seeks roots of kids’ sleep disorders, sudden infant deaths

James Kemp, M.D., began his medical career on the poorest Indian reservation in the country shortly after two high-profile incidents amplified tensions between the U.S. government and American Indians.

In the mid-1970s, on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in southwestern South Dakota, two separate confrontations between the government and activists - known as the American Indian Movement - left four FBI agents and three American Indians dead.

As part of a U.S. Public Health Service scholarship, Kemp went to the Indian Health Service at Pine Ridge in 1979 as a pediatrician from residences at St. Louis Children's Hospital. Kemp left to serve in his home state.

“Pine Ridge was a place with a long tradition of adversarial physicians who wanted to be in control,” says Kemp, professor of pediatrics and a pulmonologist at St. Louis Children's Hospital. “It was very interesting, but it was dangerous also — it was a very violent place.”

Some of the patients he saw were the descendants of him and the other physicians at Pine Ridge.

“They thought if we were any good we’d be practicing in the suburbs sometime,” he says.

But the people he treated, the Oglala Sioux, had serious and complex health needs, requiring good physicians.

“Told done residences in large urban areas, and in this place, I saw every single problem I’d seen as a resident — congenital heart disease, septic shock, premature births — and I was in the middle of a place where the nearest substantial hospital was 200 miles away,” he says. “I was 29, and I was it.”

The inspiration

Kemp came to the School of Medicine and St. Louis Children’s Hospital in 1989 as an instructor in pediatrics. He worked with Bradley Thach, M.D., professor of pediatrics, studying sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) and working in the new sleep lab at St. Louis Children’s Hospital.

Kemp and Thach studied how the sleep environment around a baby might compromise the baby’s breathing.

“Our approach to babies dying in the prone position was that they weren’t getting access to fresh air,” he says. “If they were prone on a pillow, they would be exchanging air only with the inside of the pillow, leading to subtle suffocation.”

Kemp and Thach have worked with the U.S. Consumer Products Safety Commission for many years to develop safety standards for cribs and infant bedding.

Thanks in part to their research, the American Academy of Pediatrics’ Back to Sleep campaign launched in 1994, encouraging parents to place their babies to sleep on their backs to avoid expiring from infanticide, stuffed animals, suffocated infants, and copycats. The result of the campaign, Kemp says, most infant deaths no longer occur in cribs — babies are dying from sharing beds or couches with adults.

“We have a situation in the United States where SIDS is going down, but infant deaths are staying the same,” Kemp says. “One dimension is the diminished impact of Back to Sleep in high-risk populations. Another reason is the high rates of bed sharing. Probably 50 percent to 80 percent of babies who die during sleep die with their parents, and we’re dealing with how to address that now.”

In 2007, Kemp was named co-leader of an $11 million grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation funding a campaign to prevent infant deaths from bed sharing. The grant, awarded to Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. As a South Dakota state. Kemp’s desire to become a pediatrician grew from a place. Kemp also was influenced by one of his clinical professors at Creighton University School of Medicine, Warren Bosley, M.D., senior professor and head of the Department of Pediatric Pulmonology.

“Jim Kemp is a superior clinician, a role model for the start of pulmonary diseases of children and sleep disorders, an engaging bedside teacher and a critical thinker and scholar,” Schwartz says. “He is always asking deep questions of pathophysiologic sleep and how to minimize the kinds of trouble children.”

Sharpening the focus

After two years with the U.S. Public Health Service, Kemp entered private practice as a pediatrician in Mitchell, S.D.

Looking to specialize, he returned to Baylor College of Medicine and Texas Children’s Hospital for a three-year fellowship in pediatric pulmonology.

In 2007, Kemp was named co-leader of an $11 million grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation funding a campaign to prevent infant deaths from bed sharing. The grant, awarded to Baylor College of Medicine, was $2 billion passed in 1994, to increase rates of breastfeeding.

“Critical of the grant,” Kemp says removing tonsils and adenoids resolves the problem of snoring and obstructive sleep apnea, one of the great challenges for children.

“Some kids have terrible obstructive sleep apnea due to obesity, but tonsils, craniofacial malformations and Down syndrome,” he says. “Figure out how to address their clinical problems is something we’re working on here, it’s rewarding, but also very challenging.”

The challenges include encouraging young children with obstructive sleep apnea, one of the major causes of CPAP positive pressure devices, to keep the airway open while they sleep. The other option these children have is to undergo surgery or surgically cutting a hole in the throat.

Kemp gives much of the credit for getting children to use the CPAP machines to the hospital staff. He says they’re so enthusiastic they have a new campaign.

“If I had a bed to sleep in, I’d be happy,” he says. “I have a cystic fibrosis patient who recently graduated from high school, with plans to become an engineer. But when that patient was in middle school, he wouldn’t let me consider dropping out of school.

“I told him, ‘I’m not going to let the cystic fibrosis affect your future because you are not being a success,’” Kemp recalls. “He’s smart and worth it, and I think we need to think of ways he could talk that way. He didn’t want to fail behind and drop out, either — he wanted to amount to something. So he found a new school and blossomed. And that’s why I do what I do.”

James Kemp, M.D. (right), talks with 10-year-old Darnelle Yarbrough Jr., a patient in the Pediatric Sleep Diagnostics Laboratory and Sleep Disorders Clinic at St. Louis Children’s Hospital. “Under (Kemp’s) leadership, the pediatric sleep center and laboratory are becoming a regional leader in the field,” says Thomas W. Ferkol, M.D., director of the Allergy and Pulmonary Medicine and of the Cystic Fibrosis Center at St. Louis Children’s Hospital.