The developing mind
Small amounts of alcohol may cause damage

**Walking, a dominant force for excellence, dies**

**Bob** was such a dominant force for excellence in our department and the University over so many years, it is hard to grasp that he is gone,” said John W. Clark, Ph.D., chair of physics, the Wamyn Crew Professor and a faculty fellow of the McDonnell Center.

His passion for life and science was an inspiration to us all, and his legacy will endure in the work of his many colleagues and the extended family of his former students.

Before his death, the Board of Trustees had voted to honor Walker in May with the University’s highest distinction, an honorary doctor of science degree.

**Walker’s wife, Chaline Curray, Ph.D., professor of earth and planetary sciences in Arts & Sciences, plans to accept the degree in his honor.**

Walker joined the faculty in 1966 as the first McDonnell Professor of Physics and director of a new Laboratory for Space Sciences. He led the McDonnell Center, which includes one of the world’s largest research groups dedicated to the search for and investigation of extraterrestrial materials, until his death.

“Washington University would be a poorer place if not for his contributions,” said Walker’s friend, William D. Danforth, chancellor emeritus and vice chairman of the Board of Trustees.

**Video 6**

**Spam e-mails**
New system forwards them to authorities

By Andy Clinekness

**Coming back to work after a year off can be a jolt to any worker, but for a University administrator, the experience can be traumatic.**

**It was our duty as a University to protect the privacy of the e-mail address removed**

**and provide the messages to the attorney general’s office.**

**Anyone receiving spam messages should forward them to spam@networktechnology.wustl.edu.**

**We will then provide the messages to the attorney general’s office.**

**"It is clear to everyone that there is more and more spam messages in our e-mail inboxes," said Jan Weller, assistant vice chancellor for network and library technology.**

**The Missouri attorney general’s office has started collecting spam messages to dis-**

**cover the source.**

**"As long as possible, the Missouri attorney general’s office will be prosecuting these people.**

It was our duty as a University to protect the privacy of the e-mail address removed, the sender must stop sending you spam.

- The characters "adv:" must be the first four characters in the subject line of all spam.
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**Getting to know you**

**Brian D. Carpenter, Ph.D. (left), assistant professor of psychol-**

**ogy in Arts & Sciences, talks with junior Dave Fogler during the Faculty Spring Reception Feb. 13 in the commons area of University House. The event offered faculty members and students an opportunity to socialize in a relaxed atmosphere.**

**Featured were remarks by the past M. L. K. Jones chair, assistant chancellor for the College of Arts & Sciences, refreshments and tours of the University’s newest resi-**

**dence hall.**

**Key areas of the brain pinpointed**

**By Tony Fitzpatrick**

In the 1960s hit “Heard It Through the Grape-**

**vine,” Marvin Gaye wailed that we’re sup-**

**posed to believe just half of what we see.**

But a new study involving a Washington University biomedical engineer and neurobiol-**

**ogists at the University of Pittsburgh shows that some-**

**times you can’t believe any-**

**thing you see.**

More importantly, the researchers have identified areas of the brain where what we’re actually doing (illusion or per-**

**ception) are processed.

Collaborating on the study were Daniel W. Moran, Ph.D., assistant professor of biomedical engineering in the School of Engineering & Applied Science and an anatomy and neurobiology in the School of Medicine, and his Pittsburgh colleagues An-**

**drew B. Schwartz, Ph.D, and G. Anthony**

**Reins, M.D. Their results were published in a recent issue of Science.**

The researchers focused on studying perception and playing visual tricks on macaque monkeys and some human subjects. They cre-**

**ated a virtual-reality game to trick the monkeys into thinking that they were tracing ellipses with their hands, though they were actually moving their hands in a circle.**

They monitored nerve cells in the monkeys, enabling them to see what areas of the brain represented the circle and which areas repre-**

**sented the ellipse.**

They found that the primary motor cortex represented the actual movement, while the signals from cells in a neighboring area, called the ventral premotor cortex, were generating elliptical shapes.

Monkeys thought they saw saw monkeys didn’t do.

The research shows how the mind creates its sense of order in the world and then adjusts on the fly to eliminate distortions.

For instance, the first time you don a new

**See Brain, Page 6**

**Walker, a dominant force for excellence, dies**

Robert M. Walker, Ph.D., professor of physics in Arts & Sciences and a faculty fellow of the McDonnell Center for the Space Sciences, died Thursday, Feb. 12, 2004, in Brussels, Belgium. He was 75.

Walker worked on the frontier of space research for more than four decades. He was the inaugural director of the McDonnell Center, which was established in 1973 by a gift from aerospace pioneer James S. McDonnell. Walker played a key role in planning the return of samples by the Stardust.

In just two decades, he became a world leader of microanalytical studies of tiny grains preserved for eons in outer space, culminating in their identification as stardust.

He was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 1973.

“Bob was such a dominant force for excellence in our department and the University over so many years, it is hard to grasp that he is gone,” said John W. Clark, Ph.D., chair of physics, the Wamyn Crew Professor and a faculty fellow of the McDonnell Center.

“His passion for life and science was an inspiration to us all, and his legacy will endure in the work of his many colleagues and the extended family of his former students.”

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**Video 6**

**This Week in WUSTL History**

Feb. 20, 2004

The charter for a new educational institution, Eliot Seminary, was passed by the Missouri legislature. State Sen. Wintrey sponsored the charter.

Feb. 22, 1853

The charter for a new educational institution, Eliot Seminary, was passed by the Missouri legislature. State Sen. Wintrey sponsored the charter.

Feb. 22, 1850

On the University’s 3rd birthday, Arthur Holy Davenport was elected as the first chancellor. He served until 1855.

Feb. 20, 1957

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Wiedenbeck named to Zumbalen professorship

By James Martin

Peter J. Wiedenbeck, J.D., asso-
ciate dean of faculty and pro-
fessor in the School of Law, has been named the Joseph H. Zumbalen Professor of the Law of Property.

The announcement was made by Joel Seligman, LLM, dean of the law school and the Ethan A.H. Shepley University Professor. The formal installation will be Feb. 27 in the Bryan Cave Court-
room in Anheuser-Busch Hall. Zumbalen served as a law professor at the University from 1918-1928 and as the University’s legal adviser and secretary treasurer.

Wiedenbeck will suc-
ceed David M. Becker, J.D., as the Zumbalen professor.

Seligman said, “He has been a leading scholar — particularly in the area of property law — an extraordinarily effective class-
troom teacher, an outstanding counselor to students and an active participant in the life of the University, as well as a wonderful colleague.”

“His enthusiasm and commitment make him an ideal candi-
date for the Zumbalen professorship.


Inequalities in schools: focus of forum

Societal inequalities in schools and neighborhoods will be addressed by leading national scholars, experts and activists dur-
ing a daylong conference Feb. 27 at the University.

The project’s goal is to deter-
mine what factors influence the high court’s approach to statutory inte-
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Additional information about the project is available in the recent article, “Judging Statutes: Thoughts on Stare Decisis and Note for a Project on the Federal Courts Code,” in volume 13 of the Washington University Journal of Law and Policy.

Named “Teacher of the Year” for the third time by the Bar Association, Wiedenbeck emphatic-
ally states his students are shaping social policies shaping the revenue system and explaining how the con-
fects among the problems engender", but largely predictable, tax codes.

Wiedenbeck has chaired the University’s judicial board and was a faculty representative to the University’s Benefits Committee.

He has chaired the Faculty Appointments Committee in the law school and was a member of the Internal Revenue Code.

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Just open any issue of Vogue, and you’ll see that the iconic American magazine is filled with beautiful faces of every race.

"In the 1950s, the only ethnic models in fashion magazines were the ones that looked Caucasian but with slightly different skin tones," said James B. Lowe III, M.D., an assistant professor of plastic and reconstructive surgery. "Today, beauty transcends race and is truly dependent on the harmonious relationship of someone's features."

A study by the American Academy of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery reveals that cosmetic and reconstructive surgery increased exponentially among minorities from 1999 to 2001 — more than quadrupling among Asian-Americans and African-Americans and doubling among Hispanics.

"In the past, only ethnic patients seeking plastic surgery continued to rise, understanding how to retain ethnic traits was critical to creating an attractive and natural result," Lowe said. "Caucasian beauty is pretty well defined, but beauty among different ethnic groups is not."

"Caucasian beauty is pretty well defined, but beauty among different ethnic groups is not."

Lowe and his colleagues are among only a handful of scientists worldwide who are scientifically studying the harmonious relationship in plastic surgery procedures.

"For the study, Lowe and his team have been researching aesthetic attractiveness for different ethnic groups."

By measuring the position of facial features, such as the lips, brow lines, cheekbones and noses, people of different ethnic groups ages 18-45, the researchers are determining attractive facial features for each group.

Lowe's study includes African-Americans, Asians, Hispanics and Native Americans along with non-Hispanic Europeans.

"The goal of plastic surgeons should be to enhance and rejuvenate a patient's natural features," he said. "Just open any issue of Vogue, and you’ll see that the iconic American magazine is filled with beautiful faces of every race."

"Today, beauty transcends race and is truly dependent on the harmonious relationship of someone's features."
Robert F. Kennedy Jr. to speak on environment

By MAE KASTEN

Robert F. Kennedy Jr., a resolute environmentalist, will deliver the Lock & Chain and Chavez/Hennessy Lecture, "Chavez/Hennessy Lecture," at 11 a.m. Feb. 25 in Graham Chapel for the Assembly Series.

Kennedy serves as senior attorney for the National Resources Defense Council and as president of Waterkeeper Alliance. He is also a clinical professor and supervising attorney at the New York University School of Law's Environmental Litigation Clinic at Pace University.

Kennedy has also served as several tribes in Latin America and Canada in successfully negotiating treaties protecting traditional homelands. He helped lead the fight to turn back anti-environmental legislation during the 1980s.


American Music of the 1980s today at Gallery of Art

By LIAM OTTEN

Robert E. Kennedy Jr. to speak on environment

Washington University in St. Louis

Ballet Boyz Access to Justice Meal Planning

Tuesday, Feb. 25

7:30 p.m. Jazz Master Class Series. "The Music of America's foremost composers, perhaps Tchaikovsky, is" with John Adams, a leading member of the minimalist school. "The Bridge" is free and open to the public, No passes required.

Saturday, Feb. 28

11:30 a.m.-12 p.m. Master of Liberal Arts Lecture Series. "Does Money Create Culture?" with John Potamitis, professor of individual and collective memory in the United States, Hofstra University.

Wednesday, Feb. 19

6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Women's History Month Lecture Series. "The Blues: The Transference, Reception and Admiration of African-American Folk Music," presented by Jeffrey H. Catalano, professor of musicology, Music Department, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Thursday, Feb. 18


Wednesday, Feb. 17


Tuesday, Feb. 16

7:30 a.m.-8:30 a.m. Surgery CME Course. "Ruptured Bowel in Elderly Care: An Update," presented by Lee E. Keating, professor of surgery, University of Pennsylvania, anddir. of Sleep Disorders Center, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles.

Monday, Feb. 15

7:30 a.m. Medicine Colloquium. "The Role of Anesthesiologists in the Operating Room," presented by J. Mark R. Geerts, professor of anesthesiology, University of California, San Francisco.

Wednesday, Feb. 10

11:30 a.m.-12 p.m. Master of Liberal Arts Lecture Series. "Does Money Create Culture?" with John Potamitis, professor of individual and collective memory in the United States, Hofstra University.

Wednesday, Feb. 10


Tuesday, Feb. 9


Monday, Feb. 8


Monday, Feb. 8


Monday, Feb. 8


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**Maki to present Sam Fox Arts Center Lecture**

By LIAM OTTEN

F amishiko Maki, the Pritzker Professor of Architecture at the University of Illinois, has been invited to present the inaugural Sam Fox Arts Center Lecture. The presentation will take place on Wednesday, March 4, at 5:15 p.m. in the Catholic Mass with Ashes. Libraries, Library, 935-4841.

Maki’s projects in the United States include the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts in San Francisco and the new principle of Shih (W. Seattle Community College). Maki and project architect for the Sam Fox Arts Center — and the 197-square-foot extension for Seattle Community of Technology’s Media Lab.

He will be one of three architects recently selected to contribute tower designs for the former Wachovia Building, which has been redeveloped with Steinberg and Green, as well as the School of Art’s adjacent Bixby Hall. A public groundbreaking ceremony will be held April 14.

Maki’s projects in the United States include the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts in San Francisco, a new principle of Shih Kawasaki Architects in Oakland and project architect for the Sam Fox Arts Center — and the 197-square-foot extension for Seattle Community of Technology’s Media Lab.

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His work was instrumental in founding the harmonize with the completion of several of his own projects.

Dan Presgraf, instrumental music director of the Department of Music, will conduct the 70-member piano orchestra. The program also includes Johannes Brahms’ popular Academic Festival Overture and the Petite Suite of Claude Debussy.

Admission is free and open to the public.

For more information, call 935-884.

**On Stage**

**Friday, Feb. 20**

2 p.m. Akzonon-Alta-Adelaide Studies Program and Theatre Arts. English in Arts and Sciences Library, Room 6352, Forsyth Blvd. 935-4841.

Monday, Feb. 23


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"Although more nerve cells die during pregnancy than recover during that developmental inter-
val, we cannot be certain that those deaths did not occur sometime later," Olney said. His final point, Olney points out is that it is clear that large doses of alcohol can cause extensive deaths of nerve cells that it causes a permanent reduction in the size of the brain and long-
term cognitive impairment.

"It is not clear how rats, mice, and humans compare in processes that occur in the hip-

The excitatory system that suppresses the responses of the brain to a single stimulus is known as the brain's neurotransmitter system.

Alcohol

Zorumski has found that animals exposed to alcohol and anesthetic drugs experience difficulty performing maze tests that are used to help measure spatial learning and spatial working memory in rats. Their brains also exhibit defects in neural processes that occur in the hip-

Walker Symposium here in March honors his contributions

"He gave us inspiration, enthusiasm, great science and visionary leadership. He built the structure of the McDonnell Center for the Space Sciences. He con-

Exposure Facility; verification of the extraretinal origin of dust particles collected in the upper atmosphere; and the successful search for interstellar grains in meteorites.

The last two decades of Olney's career were driven by his remarkable vision and his excite-
manship at the prospect of profound discovery. His recognition of the potential of amniotic fluid microprobe for making isotopic measurements on ancient samples, and his acquisition in 1982 of a state-of-the-art instru-
ment directly to a series of spectacular results.

Chief among these was the identification of chemical and unstable isotopes of stellar condensates in meteorites, which opened a window into the history of interstellar processes and the creation of the heavier elements. Always in pursuit of more powerful ways to analyze small amounts of material, Walker devoted the last years of his life to the implementation of nanoscale secondary mass spectrometry — NanoIMS — promoting the development and application of this new technology.

This effort was rewarded with the discovery — which he had forecast years earlier — of corpuscular material that moves as much as one nanometer in interstellar gas. In 1997, the Walker Laboratory was formally dedicated to the late Dr. Olney by his wife, Dr. Brenda Walker; mother, Dorothy Potter; and three grandchildren.

Campus Watch

The following incidents were reported to University Police Feb. 11-18. Readers with infor-
mation that could assist in investigating these reports are urged to call 800-255-3399. This information is provided as a public service to promote safety awareness and is available on the University Police Web site at police.wustl.edu.

Feb. 11 9:12 a.m. — A 12-year-old was acc-

The response has been terrific," Walker said. "We originally sent a call for space lane mes-

In 1970, the University Police Web site was established at police.wustl.edu. The site has doubled in size since that time, and the police department has responded to five lost articles, two

Campus Watch

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mation that could assist in investigating these reports are urged to call 800-255-3399. This information is provided as a public service to promote safety awareness and is available on the University Police Web site at police.wustl.edu.
Annelise Mertz, professor of German at Washington University and artistic director of the Dance Theatre of Washington, dedicated the University's primary dance theater to her in honor of her contributions to arts education.

Henry I. Schvey, chair of the arts council, said, "For Annelise, dance education is not about teaching technique or creating pretty images, but about our passion for life itself." Mertz has long been a force on the St. Louis dance scene — as a choreographer, and as a tireless advocate, contributing to a dozen dance companies, including the Kurt Jooss Dance Theatre; the Dance Company of the State Opera, Berlin, and the Municipal Opera of Darmstadt and Dusseldorf.

Mertz immigrated to the United States in 1955, teaching at the University of Missouri and the University of Washington in 1957. She quickly made her mark on campus, founding and serving as director of the University's Folkwangschule, now part of the St. Louis Art Museum and St. Louis Opera Theatre to Cooper Union in New York City and the Akademie der Künste in Berlin.

Mertz recently edited and contributed one of 18 essays to "The Body Can Speak: A Guide to Movement Education With an Emphasis on Fragmentation and Movement," the Missouri Arts Award is sponsored annually by the Missouri Arts Council and given in five categories — arts education, public arts, distinguished companies, including the Coterie Theatre, Kansas City; the Body Can Speak: A Guide to Movement Education With an Emphasis on Fragmentation and Movement, the book is based on a very simple idea: A company should only spend money on IT that directly supports its business strategy and its operational effectiveness, and should not spend money on IT that doesn't. The book is targeted at senior business executives who need to understand how to make the best IT investments for their companies.

The researchers next plan to study and determine how the brain learns and translates sensory input into a specific visual representation.
Passionate about patient care

By Kimbry Leting

"Accordingly, she has embarked on a valiant expedition to chart the meaning of medical error and to develop the analytical tools needed to assess what we do and to determine how we can do it better."

"Fiona has a spectacular doctor, and she brings in every one of her patients and medical staff wholeheartedly to this quest," says J. Julio Perez-Fontán, M.D., chairman of the Division of Pediatric Critical Care Medicine and director of Intensive Care Services at Children's Hospital. "Perhaps the biggest tribute I could pay to her is that I could have no hesitation trusting her with the care of my own children."

The fast-paced, constantly changing world of critical care medicine poses a variety of cases and dilemmas. Levy brings to critical care medicine, but her role as the medical director of quality management for Children's Hospital that truly fuels her passion today. Levy says, "I think that the biggest problem we're faced with is that we're more important than improving patient safety and reducing medical errors." She stresses, "But when we start talking about those issues, it means we have to admit that there are problems."

Levy doesn't shy away from tough issues. "Tracking medical errors and unintended events can be constructive," she says. "We can create positive results by looking at negative situations." The news media has widely reported the Institute of Medicine's findings that each year in U.S. hospitals, as many as 98,000 people die as a result of medical errors. "Fiona realized that medical errors are a manifestation of a larger deficiency in medical culture," explains Perez-Fontán. "She also believed that the right culture and the right management could shift toward quality care management." After finishing a fellowship in pediatric critical care medicine at the University of Washington, Levy was deposed to Washington University because it was one of the few places in the nation that offered critical care physicians the opportunity to develop careers as basic scientists and spend time in the lab.

A lab-intensive specialty like critical care medicine requires a strong institutional commitment to developing clinician-scientists," she says. "And the University offered me an unparalleled opportunity to explore a career in research."

After spending six years investigating cardiac metabolic adaptations of hypoxia, low oxygen levels, which was backed by funding from an NIH career development award, she realized that continuing in bench research wasn't the right fit. "It just wasn't how I was going to keep my research going," she admits. "It wasn't my inner passion." After that realization, she worked with her husband to develop a career that they both could best give back to medicine. She would find the answer where she least expected: the Ofen School of Business. In 2000, she began to pursue a master of business administration degree at the University of Pennsylvania, carrying a full clinical load. She attended classes on her own time, as part of the school's intensive 18-month Executive M.B.A. Program. "It was the best thing I've ever done. I don't think there was any other reason that it's a privilege to learn for the sake of learning," she says. "I didn't know for sure where it was going to lead, but I had a sense it was the right direction." The six-week elective on quality management ultimately changed her future career. She explains that the principles of quality management, well established in industry, are as well developed in medicine. And she saw an opportunity to make a real difference.

On the right track

As medical director of the PICU, Levy spearheaded the formation of a multidisciplinary team to improve quality of care. "To embark on this project, we realized we needed data to identify our deficiencies. Unfortunately, the data-collecting systems in place were less than optimal for our needs, so we created our own," she says. "This anonymous card-tracking system is paper-based rather than monitored by a computer and tracks information by medical discipline to identity various types of medical errors and unintended events." Levy and her PICU team have collected event reports that have been used to direct efforts at improving patient safety in the PICU.

Two of Levy's recent interventions have yielded promising results. First, the direct at improving the safety of patients on mechanical ventilator support, has yielded improvements that have been sustained for the past two years. The second intervention has dramatically improved the delivery of medications to patients and greatly reduced the time delay for medication-related near-misses and errors.

A three-month event tracking system has been so successful in the PICU that it's now being rolled out to other patient-care units at Children's Hospital. Further improvements are on the horizon.

"When this program started, my colleagues called it 'Fiona's Capital拊 she didn't own my project," she insists. "The success of this project belongs to the entire front-line staff of the PICU. "Our staff really has taken the lead in identifying medical errors and near-misses and improving patient safety." But Levy admits there's still more work to be done. She says, "It's necessary to look beyond data collection and apply well-defined scientific methodology to improving quality of care. She also hopes to direct hypothesis-driven research to test the most effective systems of reporting medical errors.

"Fiona has an amazing ability to reduce complex issues to their essence," Perez-Fontán explains. "She's disciplined and rigorous — both qualities that she learned from using the scientific method in the laboratory — but at the same time, she can perceive all the textures of an issue and, in the end, her judgment and decisions are always informed by a powerful sense of what is right and just."

According to Levy, one of the major challenges rests with aligning the vision and action plan for quality improvement between the University's Department of Pediatrics and Children's Hospital. "Neither institution can exist in isolation," she says. "We are on the right track, but we have a great deal of work ahead."

"It's time to run, even if it hurts a little. We don't want anything to lose by trying. We need to remember that ensuring patient safety and quality of care is everyone's responsibility."

Fiona H. Levy


Degrees: Bachelor of arts in chemistry, Wellesley College; medical degree, New York Medical College; master of business administration, Washington University’s Ofen School of Business.

Título: Associate professor of pediatrics, medical director of the PICU and chief of the PICU at St. Louis Children’s Hospital.

Fiona Levy credits her staff with the success of the PICU’s quality care program. Levy (center) and key team members, assistant nurse manager Ali Cohen (left) and quality consultant Jamie McCollegan, review the tracking cards that have helped significantly enhance patient care.