Tennessee Williams 'blue book' & poem are discovered

BY LISA OTTEN

A piece of literary history has returned to the University, this time in a fortuitous find in a New Orleans bookstore.

The story begins in February 2004, when Henry T. Schvey, Ph.D., professor and chair of the Performing Arts Department in Arts & Sciences, directed (with Shelley Crews) the world premiere of Mr. Vashy, a one-act play written in 1937 by then-WUSTL student Tom: The Unknown Tennessee.
**School of Medicine ranked 3rd in nation by U.S. News**

Top-20 status held by 18 University, graduate-level, professional programs

Washington University's School of Medicine is the medical school in the nation, according to the latest U.S. News 6 World Report rankings of graduate and professional programs released April 1.

The School of Medicine ranked third after Harvard University and Johns Hopkins University, which moved into ranked third after Harvard according to this year's School of Engineering.

"The medical school's students have the highest under-graduate grade point averages, and the highest scores on medical school entrance exams. Additionally, the medical school ranked second in grants from the National Institutes of Health per faculty member.

"This year the School of Med-icine's students have had the highest under-graduate grade point averages and highest scores on medical school entrance exams," said Larry J. Sha-plein, M.D., Ph.D., medical school dean. "This year the School of Med-icine's students have had the highest under-graduate grade point averages and highest scores on medical school entrance exams." The programming and planning committee ranked the medical school entrance exams. More than 30 student organiza-tions will participate in the Athletic Complex Parking Lot for the event, presented by members of Thurtene Junior Honorary 13 junior who have the highest responsibility to the community. The first carnival was held may 9, 1907. It evolved from a circus to a webpage show in its early years. Rides appeared in 1914, when a "freight-powered Merry-Go-Round" was featured. In 1935 — after a few years off and some festivals in other forms — a revival of the carnival by the Thurtene Junior Honorary saw the in-ception of what we recognize as Thurtene Carnival today.

Admission to the event is free, though tickets must be purchased for rides and some plays. The week preceding the carn-iival, dubbed "Lola Week," receives from the state of Missouri through a lottery from the governor as "Thurtene Carnival." The week features students working around the clock to raise faceades and practice plays. As always, the Thurtene Junior Honorary will present awards at the conclusion of the carnival for best production, the Bucky award for best construction of a facade, best food and best game tonight and will reopen.

*By Neil Schoenherr*

**Phase IVA Housing construction continues on Phase IVA Housing project just east of Liggett Residence Hall on the South 40. Completion and occupancy expected for August.**

Construction Update is published periodically and provides information about the progress of major building and renovation projects. Information is provided to the Record by facilities management.

**Student Center, is under way.**

**MetroLink**

The Metro board of commis-sioners recently approved a revised schedule, budget and project-management plan for the Great River MetroLink Extension Project.

Larry Salz, Metro president and chief executive officer, reported that Metro now esti-mates the final cost of the proj-ect to be between $646 million and $676 million.

He also said the extension is expected to be completed between Sept. 1-Oct. 31, 2006. Editor's note: Information on Medical Campus projects was not made available to the Record by press time.

**“Dream Big” at annual Thurtene Carnival**

**Carnival causes parking-lot closures**

Thurtene Carnival has caused several parking-lot closures on the Hilltop Campus. Lot 25, the surface lot north of the Athletic Complex, is completely closed and will open April 11. Lots 30, 31 and 32, a portion of the Tennis Center lots, will completely close at midnight.

Also to be awarded are the prestigious Chancellor's Charity Cup for the highest donation to charity, and the most-coveted Bunsen Burett Cup, for best overall participation in the carnival.

Corporate sponsors of this year’s Thurtene Carnival include Schiff, Kaplan Test Preparation and Acheson Theater.

Other members of Thurtene Junior Honorary 2005 are Sarah Beth Berry, Colin Carroll, F. Morgan Davis, David Garland, Jonathan Gane, Marshall Harris, Michael Heekt, Jonathan Kra-mer, Brittain Packeit, Karl Ri-ley, Britteny Roestrin and Mar-garet Tharagdi.

Jim Burmeister, executive di-rector of University relations and Communication, is continuing his longstanding role as Thurt-ene Honorary representative.

For more information, go to thurtene.org.
School of Medicine Update

Prostate cancer screening methods may reduce deaths

**By Gwend Erckon**

Initial results from an ongoing study evaluating prostate cancer screening practices demonstrate that the combined use of both standard tests — the prostate-specific antigen (PSA) blood test and the digital rectal exam (DRE) — is optimal for detecting cancer.

The results also confirm that those men undergoing a comprehensive study is well-designed to show whether current screening practices reduce deaths from prostate cancer.

The researchers presented their analyses of the study in two papers, one in the March 16 issue of the Journal of the National Cancer Institute and the other in the March issue of the Journal of Urology.

Begun in 1993 and continuing until 2019, the study is part of the Prostate, Lung, Colorectal and Ovarian (PLCO) Cancer Screening Trial being conducted by researchers at the School of Medicine and several other institutions to assess the effectiveness of cancer screening.

"We don't know for certain whether prostate cancer screening saves lives," said Gerald L. Andriole Jr., M.D., chief of the Division of Urologic Surgery. "The PLCO study follows about 75,000 men — half screened by PSA and half getting conventional care."

"By comparing the groups over the long term, we'll be able to determine what difference screening makes in survival rates."

Uncertainty about the need for prostate cancer screening stems from several factors. PSA and DRE test results can be inaccurate, giving both false negatives and false positives.

In addition, neither test indicates how aggressive the cancer is. Furthermore, because prostate cancers grow slowly in many cases and treatments can have unpleasant side effects, treating the disease may be less desirable than leaving it alone, especially in older men.

The PLCO study has screened 13,424 men, ages 55-74, for prostate cancer and followed their subsequent medical history. About 14 percent of the men had positive screening results, indicative of possible cancer.

Approximately 8 percent of these men were screened positive by PSA test, and about 7 percent screened positive by DRE test.

Only about 1 percent of these results overlapped, demonstrating the importance of using both screening methods.

"We were hopeful some years ago that men could just have the PSA test blood because men hate the rectal exam," Andriole said.

"We've found that if you omit the DRE, you'll miss a certain percentage of cancers."

Men were advised to consult their own physicians for treatment if either of the tests performed by PLCO was suggestive of cancer.

Three-fourths of the men with positive PLCO screens followed up with their personal physicians.

These physicians decided whether to perform a biopsy, which is needed to confirm the presence of cancer.

The initial data indicate that younger men, men with a family history of prostate cancer and African-American men are more likely to have a biopsy after an abnormal screening result.

"The biopsy statistics parallel many medical recommendations and reassure us that good judgment is being applied to the evaluation of the initial screen by physicians," Andriole said. "So we are confident that when the study is ultimately completed, it will truly measure the effect of current medical practices."

Overall, 1.4 percent of the men screened were subsequently diagnosed with prostate cancer by tissue biopsy.

The majority of men with prostate cancer had localized cancers. About 10 percent had more serious advanced forms.

These advanced cancers were linked to higher PSA numbers and suspicious DRE results.

Old drug shows promise against common childhood brain tumors

**By Michael C. Purzy**

Scientists studying a common childhood brain tumor have uncovered a pleasant surprise — evidence that the tumors may be vulnerable to a class of drugs that have been used for years. A team at Washington University School of Medicine found that the drug rapamycin normalizes the growth of tumors associated with the genetic disorder neurofibromatosis 1. "We had a mutation in Nfl, the gene with neurofibromatosis 1," said Gutmann and his colleagues conducted the study using a mouse brain tumor model of a human condition known as neurofibromatosis 1, a common genetic disorder that makes children prone to brain and other tumors. In a study published in the April issue of Cancer Research, the team reported evidence that the drug rapamycin normalizes growth rates in brain cells of mice with a mutation in Nfl, the gene linked to human neurofibromatis 1.

"The same pathway that rapamycin acted on in the mouse cells is also abnormally activated in neurofibromatosis 1 patients, so we're very excited about the possibility that this may be an effective treatment in children with neurofibromatosis 1," said Gutmann, who also is the director of the neurofibromatosis clinical program at St. Louis Children's Hospital.

Previously, researchers had been trying to treat tumors associated with neurofibromatosis 1 by shutting down the activity of a family of molecules known as RAS. One of the normal roles of the RAS family of proteins is to direct RAS. However, studies have shown that most RAS mutations have not been effective treatments in people with neurofibromatosis 1. Doctors have used rapamycin and its analogues for years to treat other tumor types, in which the mTOR pathway is overactivated.

"The next logical step is to begin treating the Nfl brain tumor-prone mice with rapa- mycin," Gutmann said. "If we are effective at treating the mouse tumors, we have every reason to believe that this may be equally effective for treating patients with brain tumors associated with neurofibromatosis 1."

Gutmann noted that the identification of mTOR as a drug target and the discovery of the effect of rapamycin on Nfl-oncotypic astrocyte growth highlight the impact of the newly established Washington University Neurofibromatosis Center, which is dedicated to developing new treatments to improve the lives of patients affected with neurofibromatosis.

"We don't know for certain whether prostate cancer screening saves lives... By comparing the groups over the long term, we'll be able to determine what difference screening makes in survival rates."

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**Botox injections may help treat diabetic foot ulcers**

**By Diane Duke Williams**

School of Medicine researchers are working volun- teers to participate in a study to determine if botulinum toxin (Botox) injections can help heal diabetic foot ulcers.

Seventeen million Americans live with diabetes, and one of the major complications from the disease is foot wounds. Until now, doctors have had few effective treatments in people with neurofibromatosis 1. Doctors have used rapamycin and its analogues for years to treat other tumor types, in which the mTOR pathway is overactivated.

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Retirement investment seminars offered by human resources office

By Alice Cleaver

The Office of Human Resources is offering an investment seminar conducted by consultants from TIAA-CREF and Vanguard.

At each session, there will be a discussion of basic investment choices and a review of simple strategies and concepts needed to make sound investment decisions.

Topic will include:
• Forming a financial plan
• Understanding the basics of investments
• Understanding retirement planning—mainly diversification

The seminars are scheduled as follows:
• April 19: Medical Campus, 200 South Euclid, Room 102, noon-1:30 p.m.
• April 22: Hilltop Campus, Simon Hall, Room 200, 8:30-10 a.m.

For more information, contact your benefits department.

Revised 3-30-10; 9:40 a.m.
Future Bear? Junior men's basketball player Ian Ashcroft-Williams-coaches a young athlete participating in a basketball game and allowed just one shot to pick up her ninth victory of the season. The Bears followed that up with two 8-0 victories over MacMurray College, 14-3, on March 31 in Jacksonville, Ill. Junior Ryan Cornning and senior Dan Rieck both pitched the shutouts, going 5-1 with three ERAs and one shutout.

On April 3, WUSTL defeated Knox College, 12-4, and 15-2, in 1.9 hours. Freshman Patrick Kowalski knocked off Knox, 8-7 and 4-0, to run its winning streak to eight games. Corning batted .650 (15 for 23) for the week with nine RBIs, while Ornwerth pitched two shutouts to improve to 4-0.

Softball team rolls, posts 6-0 week
The No. 2 softball team went 6-0 last week to improve to 27-1 overall.

The Bears opened the week by sweeping Maryville University, 7-0 and 5-3, on March 31 at WUSTL Field. In Game 1, sophomore Laurel Lavelle pitched a three-hitter and allowed just one hit to pick up her ninth victory of the season. The Bears followed that up with two 8-0 victories over MacMurray-MacMurray on April 2. Sagasta struck out 14 of 15 batters in Game 1 and allowed just one Highland hit. Sophomore Abby Morgan and freshman Kaylyn Eash each had MacMurray to just three hits in Game 2.

Junior Monica Hannan went 3 for 5 with a home run and seven RBIs to lead the Bears to a pair of wins on Millikin University on April 3. The Bears went Game 1, 8-0, in six innings and then posted a 4-0 win in Game 2. The shutout for the Bears was the fourth straight, and fifth in the last six games. Sagasta improved to 5-0 with two shutouts and allowing three hits and striking out 10.

Wearing Scarf & Tracksuit Takes 1st In Invitational
The men's and women's outdoor track and field teams started at the WUSTL Invitational.

The men won the 20-team event with 141 points, for ahead of the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh with 83 points. The Bears took eighth place out of 24 teams. On the women's side WUSTL won four individual events. Freshman Tiffany Barbour took first place in the javelin, recording a throw of 34.48 meters (113-1). Junior Michelle McColly won the 400-meter run (58.77).

However, senior Maggie Graz bow led the highlight of the day for the women, winning the 10,000. She clocked a 3:20:51, which provisionally qualified her for the NCAA Championships and came just three seconds shy of automatically qualifying.

Additionally, the 1,600-relay squad of McCurdy, freshman Danielville-Washington, junior Laurel Evert and sophomore Natalie Badowski recorded a time of 3:56.51 to win the event.

On the men's side, senior Lance Moen placed second in the 400 (49.12) with a team season-best time. Sophomore Kevin Gale came second in the 3,000 steeplechase in 9:26.05, while junior Brennan Bonner took third in 9:28.12.

Women's tennis team splits two matches
The women's tennis team split its two matches last weekend at home.

The Bears swept McKendree College, 9-0, on March 31, winning all six singles matches in straight sets. Senior Kacie Cook (No. 2), senior Kasi Kabakoff (No. 3) and freshman Amy Hoyt (No. 5) each won by the same 6-0, 6-0 score.

On April 2, WUSTL lost, 5-4, to No. 12 College Republicans and Kabakoff each picked up wins in singles but again, it was not enough. Sophomore Erin Fleming picked up the only other singles win as the Bears split the four singles matches. Rhodes took two of three in doubles to secure the win. Kabakoff's is a team-best 14-4 this season in singles play.

Men's tennis wins all four matches
The No. 13 men's tennis team improved to 7-0 overall by winning four matches last weekend.

The Bears posted a 2-0 win at the Jack Schwartz Invitational April 1-2 at Wheelock. The Bears upset No. 11 Carthage College, 4-3, in the opening match of the tournament.

The Bears split the six singles matches, but won all three doubles matches against the Redmen.

WUSTL followed that with a 7-0 win against Illinois Wesleyan on April 1 and then capped off a perfect tournament by defeating Wheelock, 5-2, on April 2. The Bears, who had just played one home match all season, began a string of four straight home matches with a 5-2 win over University Athletic Association rival University of Chicago on April 3.

Music department performance to feature works by Emily Dickinson, Sylvia Plath

By L iam Ott en

l Beinecke Music Library Director Brian McManus presents the program tune for the music department's spring concerts: "The Ultimate - A Music Festival." The event, held at the Beinecke Library on April 5, features music by Emily Dickinson, Sylvia Plath, and Leonard Bernstein.

The spring concerts will feature works by composers such as Richard Strauss, Darius Milhaud, and Sir Arthur Bliss. In addition, the program will showcase the Talis Quartet, a string quartet that has performed at the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts.

The concerts are part of the university's annual Spring Festival of the Arts, which runs from April 4 to 7. The festival features performances by student and faculty artists in a variety of genres, including music, dance, and theater.

For more information, contact the Office of Arts and Culture at 935-7777.
This examination “blue book” was used by the legendary Tennes- see Williams during a Greek final at WUSTL in 1937. The blue book was discovered by Henry I. Schwy, PhD, professor and director of the Performing Arts Department in Arts & Sciences, in a New Or- leans French Quarter bookstore. In addition to translations for his final exam, in the book Williams wrote a 17-line poem titled “Blue Song,” believed to never have been published.

**Williams**

Poem inside blue book titled "Blue Song" – from Page 1

"I know instantly what it was," Schwy said of the booklet. "It was Williams' real first name was Thomas.) Schvey said of the booklet. "It was

"It is clearly the work of a young writer, but doesn’t seem to have a broader purpose," Schwy said.

"I found it very moving." Schvey quickly added: "I think the poems written at the time of the exami-

"Blue Song" — a witty double-

over the years. Besides a few scattered uses in books and articles, it has been rare to meet the author's mood

"Blue Song" has never been

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people, especially Med-

He also led efforts to raise the

sensitive, and the name of the town I was/ born in...

In 1996, he co-founded the

university's close affilia-

Finding a Form (1996), Cartesian

The poems were presumably

After working as a nautical

He has won several major lit-

He has gathered his work from

For more information, contact


determine, "Blue Song" has never been published and, indeed, was entirely unknown to Williams' scholars.

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understanding the interaction

This is the key that unlocks the

Diane Gass, Gephart, Pulitzer, Roeder & Stowers honored – from Page 1

**Diane Gass**

Diane Gass is associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where she has taught since 1973. Her research focuses on social and institutional aspects of the history of science.

Gephart in turn arranged for Special

"Bringing it back to St. Louis

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Notables

Campus Authors

Tibetan Diary: From Birth to Death and Beyond in a Himalayan Valley of Nepal

(University of California Press, 2004)

In rereading my field notes, I discovered other continuities, some relating to childhood and others to the experiences of old age. I therefore decided to describe the book and structure it around the concept of the life course, hence, the subtitle. "In my view, I took the opportunity to explore many of the issues that arise when individual aspirations conflict with social expectations," Childs said. "My intent was to move beyond narrowly defined notions of Tibetan society by exploring the decisions that people make to resolve such conflicts, and the consequences of their deci-

"As a result, the book is more hard-hitting — and less flattering — than many accounts of Tibetan society.

Instead of focusing exclu-sively on individual actions, Childs says that the book addresses the questions, are explored in relation to decisions that are made during various stages in the life course.

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A man for all seasons

Benjamin S. Sandier has just about done it all in his WUSTL career

BY ANDY CLENDENEN

Benjamin S. Sandier has served the University in a variety of administrative roles in his nearly 37-year career. “He is a person of the highest integrity who has a deep understanding of, commitment to, and passion for whatever he has taken on,” says John Berg, associate vice chancellor for undergraduate admissions.

Ben is a person of uncommon ability, integrity, and support, and I have enjoyed our work together immensely. He will deeply missed, but we know that we can call on him for his wise advice and help — which we will likely need! All who have come to know Ben value his friendship and great support, and we wish him all the best in the next phase of his life.”

Mark S. Wrighton

Benjamin S. Sandier

Arrived at the University: Sept. 1966

Position held at WUSTL: Assistant director of admissions; director of financial aid; special assistant to the chancellor for administrative, and University-wide compliance officer.

Ben is a person of uncommon ability, integrity, and support, and I have enjoyed our work together immensely. He will deeply missed, but we know that we can call on him for his wise advice and help — which we will likely need! All who have come to know Ben value his friendship and great support, and we wish him all the best in the next phase of his life.”

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WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS
April 8, 2005

Ben Sandler (fourth from left) with family members (from left) son-in-law Tom Brown, granddaughter Megan Brown, daughter Jenny Brown, grandson Troy Brown (on Sandler’s lap), granddaughter Zach Brown, son David Sandler, wife Louise Sandler, daughter-In-law Britney Sandler, granddaughter Carrie Sandler and George the dog.