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there is more liver cells. A number of overweight children has observations in liver enzymes. Most do with diabetes or, less commonly, than 5 percent noused with the problem. The disease affects sugar and fat metabolism in overweight adolescents and can occur in young people and adolescents. Fatty liver disease is increasing in children and adolescents, fatty liver is most common in those who are overweight, but it can also occur in young people with diabetes or, less commonly, with other conditions. Those with fatty liver disease may have an enlarged liver or elevations in liver enzymes. Most do not have obvious symptoms, but some may experience fatigue, malaise or vague abdominal pain that can bring them to the attention of a physician. If fatty liver goes untreated and risk factors are not controlled, a small percentage of people may progress to liver scarring or even liver failure. Fatty liver disease is thought to affect about 20 percent of the population in the developed world, but like type 2 diabetes, it has been uncommon in young people until recently. The prevalence of fatty liver disease is increasing in children because of the marked increase in childhood obesity, said Samuel Klein, M.D., the Danforth Professor of Medicine and Nutritional Science, director of the Center for Human Nutrition and co-chair of the Division of Geriatrics and Nutritional Sciences at the School of Medicine. "We are evaluating this excess fat in the liver impairs liver function and can contribute to high blood sugar and abnormal blood lipids." Klein and his colleagues are studying children ages 13-17. Participants in the study cannot have diabetes or weigh more than 300 pounds; liver disease and a history of excessive alcohol use also make a person ineligible. See Liver, Page 6

Researchers study effects of adolescent weight loss

By Jim DeMion

School of Medicine researchers are studying how fatty liver disease affects sugar and fat metabolism in overweight adolescents and how losing weight affects the condition. In the past 30 years, the number of overweight children has doubled in the United States, and overweight children are at increased risk for the problem.

In children and adolescents, fatty liver is most common in those who are overweight, but it can also occur in young people with diabetes or, less commonly, with other conditions. Those with fatty liver disease may have an enlarged liver or elevations in liver enzymes. Most do not have obvious symptoms, but some may experience fatigue, malaise or vague abdominal pain that can bring them to the attention of a physician. If fatty liver goes untreated and risk factors are not controlled, a small percentage of people may progress to liver scarring or even liver failure. Fatty liver disease is thought to affect about 20 percent of the population in the developed world, but like type 2 diabetes, it has been uncommon in young people until recently.

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Truman Scholarship goes to Arts & Sciences junior

By Neil Schoenherr

Arts & Sciences junior Laura Kleinman has been awarded a 2006 Harry S. Truman Scholarship. Each scholarship provides $30,000 — $3,000 for the student's senior year and $7,000 for two or three years of graduate study. The program is open to juniors interested in public-service careers.

Truman Scholars are selected based on academic performance, leadership and dedication to public service. Sixteen school scholars were selected this year from 598 candidates, who were nominated by 311 universities. Scholars also receive priority admission and supplemental financial aid at one or more premier graduate institutions, along with leadership training and career and graduate-school counseling and special scholarship opportunities within the federal government.

Kleinman Kleinman said she is honored to have been awarded such a prestigious scholarship. "I feel privileged to become part of a community of exceptional students," she said. "The kids I met when I first reviewed as a finalist are not only academically motivated, but also..." See Kleinman, Page 6

Pollinators especially needed in areas of high plant diversity, biologists say

By Tony Fitzgerald

"Other Nature could use a few more good pollinators, especially in species-rich biodiversity hotspots, according to a recent study in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Science. Tiffiny Knight, Ph.D., assistant professor of biology in Arts & Sciences, Jara Vonore, Ph.D., postdoctoral associate at the University of Calgary, and their collaborators have performed an exhaustive global analysis of more than 1,000 pollination studies that included 166 different plant species. They found that, in areas where there is a great deal of plant diversity, plants suffer lower pollination and reproductive success. For some plant species, this reduction in fruit and seed production could push them toward extinction. One reason that pollen becomes limiting to plants in regions of high diversity may be increased competition between the plants — there are more plant species vying for the services of pollinators. Also, when there are a lot of species around, plants become more separated from other individuals of the same species, causing pollinators to have to fly long distances to deliver pollen. When pollinators do arrive, they may deliver lots of unsuitable pollen from other plant species. Knight and her colleagues found this pattern to be especially true for species that rely heavily on pollinators for reproduction — those that require out-crossing and for trees, in relation to the importance of pollinators for reproduction..." See Pollinators, Page 6

Volume 30 No. 28
Academic Year Highlights: A Letter From Chancellor Wrighton

Dear Colleagues:

As this academic year comes to an end and I want to share with you plans the University is initiating shortly after Commencement; and I also want to express my thanks for all of the achievements and milestones of the past year.

At all levels, I am pleased to work with your creative and dedicated faculty, staff, and students. All of you are working hard so that we might all enjoy the benefits of our hard-earned success. The accomplishments and the know-how that all of you have brought to the University is vital to our success. And we will continue to strive towards excellence and to be a leader in our community.

The strength of Washington University is built from the work and creative efforts of our faculty and students, and I am proud to say that we now have more than 20 departments and academic areas that are ranked by external validators in the top ten in the nation. But the continuous improvement of our research and scholarly activities, financial stability as measured in rankings, prizes, and memberships in national and international academic and professional organizations.

Throughout the past year many of our academic areas and departments received national and international honors and awards that will carry them forward. Washington University is among the top few medical schools in the country, said Larry J. Shapiro, M.D., executive vice chancellor for medical affairs and dean of the School of Medicine. "We take especially great pride in our medical students, who have been recipients of scholarly awards that will carry them forward into graduate study and postdoctoral research."

We are pleased to share that these rankings continue to place us in the top 10 medical schools in the country, which is a testament to our faculty and staff. And we will continue to work hard to ensure that we maintain our excellence in all areas.

In addition, I am pleased to announce that this year's University of St. Louis U.S. News & World Report rankings for the Office of Academic Affairs have dropped by 26%, which is a significant improvement. These rankings reflect the commitment of our faculty and students to excellence in all areas of endeavor. We are proud of the progress we have made, and we will continue to strive for even greater achievements.

Moreover, we are pleased to announce that the University has received a number of grants and awards that will support our ongoing efforts to enhance our quality and impact. We are also pleased to announce that the University has received a number of grants and awards that will support our ongoing efforts to enhance our quality and impact. We are also pleased to announce that the University has received a number of grants and awards that will support our ongoing efforts to enhance our quality and impact. We are also pleased to announce that the University has received a number of grants and awards that will support our ongoing efforts to enhance our quality and impact.

We continue to grow in strength and quality. While there are 25,000 members in our community — faculty, students, and staff — we put great emphasis on the importance of the professional development of each person's capabilities and contributions to the University at all levels. We are dedicated to providing opportunities for students to be involved in various activities in the classroom and outside the classroom.

I continue to address the national priorities faced by our institutions, including the provision of health care, the rising costs of health insurance, health savings accounts, and retiree health insurance.

As always, I am proud to work with you in sharing the achievements of our faculty and students on community and professional service, and to see us collaborate with one another to bring about change.

The University remains committed to environmental responsibility and to finding ways to conserve energy while providing greater service. Starting this summer, we will provide students with access to free transportation to their destinations and will offer them free access to the MetroLink and MetroBus on both sides of the river in urban and suburban Illinois and Missouri. We will serve our campuses so that everyone from our lower-paid workers to distinguished faculty can now expect public transportation paid for by the University. We are especially pleased that we are able to make these changes available to employees of our contracted companies — a group of workers to whom we have made commitments to help improve wages and to provide greater access to benefits.

This past year, I am sure that we were able to develop a generous entry-level wage that is well above the average hourly compensation level in the St. Louis region. We are also working hard to provide access to benefits, such as the health insurance and disability coverage, that are significant in the work we do. And we will continue to focus on improving the circumstances for lower-paid workers. To this end, we are committed to a fair labor practice code that will work for the University, as well as those who work for us.

As we make progress in serving our community, we are mindful of the challenges presented by improving the University's infrastructure, including the first stage in the larger-term plan to construct a much-needed University Center. This will be a temporary challenge, and we will continue to be a leader in this field.

Sincerely,

Mark S. Wrighton
Chancellor

Nepali lawyers visit School of Law to help foster mediation programs

A delegation of law faculty and public interest lawyers from Kathmandu, Nepal, recently visited the School of Law for two weeks through a U.S. State Department exchange program designed to develop legal education and the legal profession in Nepal.

The visitors were welcomed by the School of Law and UNLV's exchange program. The visitors were made possible through the School of Law's exchange program with the Kathmandu School of Law. The visitors met with students and faculty at the School of Law and received a tour of the University's facilities.

The visitors were given an overview of the School of Law's programs and courses and were introduced to the University's commitment to legal education. They also had the opportunity to meet with law school faculty and students and to participate in classroom discussions.

The visitors were able to observe the School of Law's unique approach to legal education, which focuses on a comprehensive curriculum that includes both theoretical and practical components. They were impressed by the School of Law's commitment to providing students with a well-rounded education that prepares them for careers in law.

They were particularly impressed by the School of Law's focus on community service and its efforts to address the legal needs of underserved communities. They were pleased to learn about the School of Law's pro bono program and its commitment to providing legal services to those in need.

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Nepali lawyers visit School of Law to help foster mediation programs in Kathmandu, meets with students during a recent alternative dispute-resolution class.

In addition to Sungarova, members of the delegation were: Radhika Regmi Pokharel (left), coordinator of the Kathmandu School of Law; and Trishna Rana (right), a law student from Kathmandu.

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Vitamin D may ease joint pain in breast cancer patients taking Arimidex

BY GWEN ERSCHON

Giving vitamin D supplements to breast cancer patients taking the drug Arimidex to prevent bone pain may ease bone, muscle or joint pains that they sometimes report, according to WUSTL physicians.

Scientists also found that the high glucose-uptake tumors had a glucose uptake value below the median of 10.2.

All patients participating in the study will receive daily calcium and low-dose vitamin D supplements equivalent to the recommended daily allowances in addition to their weekly vitamin D supplementation or placebo. Participants will also receive a bone density scan.

Women eligible to participate in the study if they have completed at least eight weeks of Arimidex therapy and have general muscle weakness, fatigue or without localized areas of discomfort that have developed or worsened since starting Arimidex therapy.

To determine or to obtain more information, call 362-2529 or 747-3056.

Cervical tumors can be detected using PET scans

BY GWEN ERSCHON

Cervical tumors that take up a lot of blood sugar are more resistant to treatment than those that are low-glucose-hungry, according to School of Medicine research.

Scientists also found that the high glucose-uptake tumors can be identified with PET scans, which are already routinely used to determine tumor size and lymph-node involvement in cervical cancer patients. PET scans monitor the amount of radioactive glucose tracer absorbed by cells, so the brightness of the image reveals how much glucose the tumors can use.

"Cervical tumors vary more in their glucose uptake than other kinds of cancer, making glucose uptake a very useful indicator for cervical cancers," said Perry W Grigsby, a radiation oncologist with the School of Medicine research.

Since submitting their findings, the team has continued its investigation with nearly 250 additional patients. They found that tumors that take up lots of glucose lose their resistance to treatment, but the cause is still unknown.

"We're looking at the proteins that transport glucose into tumor cells, and if we can discover predictable changes, they may lead us to better treatments for the more-resistant cervical tumors."
Appendix A:.docx
11 trees planned for Earth Day

by ANDY CHENSHIEN

A collaborative effort between students, staff and the University Administration has resulted in the planned planting of 11 trees on the campus of Washington University in St. Louis. A ceremony will be held at 2 p.m. April 14 in Steinberg Auditorium to celebrate the planting of the trees.

The program will open with remarks from Steve Johnson, associate provost and chief financial officer, Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton, and Stacie Miller, sustainability coordinator. The ceremony will be followed by a tree-planting event.

All of the trees will be planted by the University in the property just east of the Brookings Conference Center. The trees will be planted as part of a larger project to improve the attractiveness of the area.

The trees will be planted in a variety of locations, from the library to the Quad to the University's main entrance. The trees will be planted in a variety of species, including oak, maple, and elm.

The trees will be planted by student volunteers, with the assistance of staff members from the University's facilities management department.

Kennedy to present original chamber works

by LISA OTTER

Martin Kennedy, D.M.A., assistant professor of theory & composition in the Department of Music in Arts & Sciences, will present a concert of original chamber music at 8 p.m. April 9 in Steinberg Auditorium.

Kennedy was born in England in 1978 and studied with the world-renowned musicologist and composer Sir William Walton. He received his bachelor of music degree in composition from the University of California at Los Angeles, and his master of music degree in composition from the University of Southern California.

Kennedy has received several prestigious composition honors, including the ASCAP Morton Gould Young Composer Award. His work has been performed by the American American Orchestra, the Bloomington Camerata Orchestra, the Polish National Chamber Orchestra of Shupsk, the Haddonfield Symphony and the Shenandoah Symphony Orchestra, among others.

Kennedy's music is published by Theodore Presser Co., the oldest and among the most distinguished publishers of music. His work has been performed by orchestras and chamber ensembles around the world.
Moral psychology conference to be held April 8-9

By NEIL SCHONHEIMER

Do you consider yourself a moral person? Most of us do. However, it doesn't exactly make us moral beings!

The study of moral psychology in Arts & Sciences is in- spiring new insights into how moral psychology 8-9 at Clayton, MO, is exactly what makes us moral beings!

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Sam Fox School honors distinguished architecture alumni

The Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts honored its distinguished alumni at its 13th Annual Districts Gala on April 6 at the Lindell Pavilion in Forest Park, 5559 Grand Drive. The School’s 2006 Distinguished Alumni Awards recognize architecture graduates who have contributed to the profession through design and advocacy. Recipients for 2006 were Soc. K. Chan, Eric Haesloop, Sandra Reisinger and Robert Tucker.

In addition, Corinna Cotsen, a former Ethan A.H. Shepley Trustee at the University, was honored at the Chicago office of the Architecture National Council. Previous recipients for this award have included Robert A.M. Stern and James Moore.

In addition, Corinna Cotsen, an architect at the Chicago office of the Architecture National Council, received the 2006 Deans' Medal, which honors exceptional dedication and advocacy on behalf of the school and the profession. And Brian V. Tiler, a senior associate at the Chicago office of Cotsen, received the Young Alumnus Award.

Campus Watch

The following incidents were reported to University Police on March 28-April 4. Incident reporting information is provided to the University Police as part of their official duties.

Crime alert

On March 28, University Police released the following alert on the subject described as a white male, late 20s, 5’10”, heavy build, brown hair, brown eyes and a beady, receding forehead. Police have information to suggest that this subject may visit a computer lab on campus.

Additionally, University Police responded to four reports of property damage and injury. Three lost articles were recovered, including one report of a damaged window.

Mr. Tucker has developed numerous commercial, educational, religious, civic and residential projects throughout the mid-Atlantic region. He is a fellow of the StAX Museum of American Soul Music and the StAX Museum Academy and the owner of the historic Federal Civil Rights Museum, located on the site of a19th-century blacksmith's shop.

Additionally, University Police responded to four reports of property damage and injury. Three lost articles were recovered, including one report of a damaged window.

By ANDY CLENDENNEN

Monica J. Allen, J.D., can count the number of days of her life during which there was no discussion of law. Not that she would want it any other way. As her ‘prior fives’ here at the University, she’s already made a deep commitment to the multiple roles she’s been given by the University, and we are very fortunate to have to her sage counsel and unflagging interest in seeing that the job gets done.

Mr. Tucker has developed numerous commercial, educational, religious, civic and residential projects throughout the mid-Atlantic region. He is a fellow of the StAX Museum of American Soul Music and the StAX Museum Academy and the owner of the historic Federal Civil Rights Museum, located on the site of a19th-century blacksmith's shop.

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in the University’s important litigation efforts.

Allen named assistant vice chancellor, senior counsel

By LIVIA WATCHE

Buchatha Manchanda, Ph.D., has been appointed curator of the Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum, part of the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts. Manchanda succeeds Sabine Eckmann, Ph.D., who was named director of the Kemper Art Museum last year.

Manchanda’s appointment comes at a critical time for the museum, which will open its 65,000-square-foot facility, de- signed by Pritzker Prize–winning Japanese architect Tadao Ando, this fall.

Many art museums have a tendency to show contemporary art and lead a ‘cultural role’ in society. Contemporary art is the most difficult to put on display, Manchanda said. Further, there is a real demand for challenging exhibits and programs for students.

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Manchanda appointed Kemper Art Museum curator

Manchanda has a master’s degree in art history from the University of California, Santa Barbara, and a doctorate in art history and German literature from the University of California, Santa Barbara.

In addition, she has been a visiting faculty member at the Universidade de São Paulo, Brazil, and a research fellow at the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey. She has published several articles on modern and contemporary art and is currently working on a book about modern and contemporary art in Brazil. Manchanda is the author of two books on modern and contemporary art in Brazil, which have been published in Brazil and the United States.

Manchanda has also written extensively on modern and contemporary art in Latin America, particularly on the work of Brazilian artists. Her research interests include modern and contemporary art in Brazil, Argentina, and Mexico, as well as the influence of Latin American art on the development of modern and contemporary art in the United States.

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A lengthy journey to medical leads
Nada Abumrad to come novel ideas about fatty proteins

Take care of the family, Abumrad's father did various jobs when she was growing up in Beirut. He worked for an airline and later represented a casino. So although Abumrad's parents had a racial background in science, they certainly wanted their daughter to go in that direction.

"They would just keep insisting and wear you down," Abumrad recalls. "Even though I went into science and enjoyed it and did pretty well, until about five or six years ago, my mother still would say, 'I should go back to school and get a medical degree. She just thought medicine was more secure in the long term.

Abumrad earned degrees in natural science and nutrition from the State University of New York at Buffalo and the American University of Beirut in Lebanon. Then she got married and moved to the United States with her husband, who was doing a fellowship in pediatrics at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn.

"For the longest time, I felt guilty about that," she recalls. "But I think, looking back, it was a great thing for both of us. I think he gained a confidence and independence."

Jad grew up to make his mother very proud. He works in New York for National Public Radio and produces the Edward R. Murrow Award-winning program Radio Lab.

"I'm very proud of him, and I just love the fact that he's working in journalism, a profession that I also love," she says.

After completing her doctorate, Abumrad went to work as a research associate in the Department of Cell Biology at Syracuse University. But not long after taking that job, her young family was off to Nashville, Tenn., where she began a postdoctoral fellowship in Vanderbilt's physiology department.

"That's where she began to study fatty acid transport. That's also where her family life suddenly changed."

The first of five children, Abumrad's siblings include two sisters, Huda, a painter and manager of a line of beauty products, and Randa, who has a public relations agency and also likes to renovate houses. A brother, Roger, who says he "doesn't have any creative genes and collects de afghans," is a mechanical engineer and has a consulting firm for energy management.

"I like to go for weekends in the country to see my son and my nephews," she says. "And we pack in the theater, opera, movies, food and wine, which will eventually help us provide better care for patients."

Eventually, he was able to return Abumrad to come to St. Louis as the first Atkins Professor. And Abumrad says she was excited and proud to become of the strong science research environment here and the opportunities here to participate in research into so many diseases related to fatty acid metabolism.

"I was certain I would get involved with the fatty acid area, and the ability to collaborate was a very important thing for me."

The downside of coming to St. Louis was that her son and nephew stayed behind in New York. But there is an advantage to having family out of town if you like to take trips.

"I like to give my weekends in New York to see my son and my nephews," she says. "And we pack in the theater, opera, movies, food and wine during those visits."

Nada A. Abumrad

Born: Beirut, Lebanon

Education: Science Naturales, B.S., 1972, Faculte des Sciences, Beirut; Nutrition, 1972, American University of Beirut (M.S. not completed), left for United States; Pharmacology, Ph.D., 1978, from SUNY Medical Center, Syracuse

University position: Dr. Robert C. Atkins Professor of Medicine and Obesity Research

Family: Mother: Marie Rose Hatem; father: Gareh Arsal (passed away in 1995); sisters: Randa and Huda; brothers: Roger and Rafik (passed away in 1995); son: Jad, nephew: Rafik

Hobbies/Interests: Travel, theater, opera, movies, books, broccoli, yoga and biking. She's traveled through Burgundy in France a couple of times, and once through California's Red Valley.

Favorite recent book: Bridge and Tunnel by Thomas Wolfe

Favorite recent movie: The Year of Magical Thinking by Joan Didion

"Why would a cell be very fastidious and picky about which sugars and which amino acids it lets into its cytoplasm while just being completely open to any fatty acid any time?" she asks. It just has to regulate fatty acids the way it regulates other nutrients.

Because changes in fatty acid metabolism have been associated with diseases such as obesity, atherosclerosis, and type 2 diabetes, Abumrad is now of great interest to Samuel Klein, M.D., director of the Center for Human Nutrition and chief of the Division of Geriatrics and Nutritional Science at the School of Medicine.

"Nada is an outstanding scientist who gets world-class fed cell physiologist," she says. "She provides us with the ability to evaluate the cellular mechanisms responsible for the metabolic abnormalities associated with obesity. She also

has been able to translate her discoveries in animals to humans, which will eventually help us provide better care for patients."

By Jim Davison

Washington University in St. Louis

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