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The problem is that no one has ever seen a comet nucleus, he says. Comets, most scientists agree, are loosely packed balls of water ice, dust and rocks — dirty snowballs — that every now and again fly past our neck of the heavenly woods. Scientists estimate that 100 billion comets are contained in a vast cloud surrounding the solar system beyond the orbits of Pluto and Neptune.

Occasionally, a comet will be nudged out of the cloud by the gravitational jolt of a passing star. The errant ice-ball might be launched into deep outer space, never to return; or it might be bumped into our neighborhood and, like comet Halley, fall into a long, cigar-shaped orbit around the sun.

When Halley is well away from the sun, it barrels through space as a solid ball of ice and rocks. But as it nears the sun, solar radiation gradually cooks the surface. The ice changes to gas, releasing the dust and rocks frozen in the nucleus. These gases and particles form a roughly spherical cloud — the coma — around the comet. Although the nucleus may be only several miles in diameter (Halley’s is estimated about four miles across), comas routinely measure larger than earth and occasionally expand to Jupiter’s size.

When Halley makes its closest approach to the earth (coming within 39 million miles) during March and April of next year, Smith will position SPIFI in the Southern Hemisphere for maximum visibility.

The heart of SPIFI is a charged device camera (CCD), an instrument designed to record comet chemistry. William Smith with a component of SPIFI, the million-dollar instrument designed to record comet chemistry.
Examining world hunger

Anthropologist's work in Kenya forms basis of class

Students enrolled in the new "Anthropologist's work in Kenya forms basis of class" course aren't likely to hear the professor suggest education as a way to end famine in Africa.

"There is a general misconception among many Americans that all we need to do to combat the hunger dilemma is educate Africans in Western farming, technology and soil science," says Jean Ensminger, Ph.D., the WU assistant professor of anthropology who is teaching the class. "That is a simplistic notion.

"Africans are masters at making the most of their scarce resources," continues Ensminger. "Given their constraints, they are probably behaving in the most effective manner.

"In most cases," Ensminger adds, "the problem is not the Africans' lack of knowledge, but rather constraints put upon them that are beyond their control, such as low prices set by the government for the food they sell in the marketplace and current international relations.

"The government pays the farmers low prices for the food, and then sells it to the consumers at a higher price," Ensminger explains. "The profits from this arrangement are used to run the government, to pay international debts owed to commercial banks in the West, and to international lending organizations such as the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World Bank).

"The situation today is compounded by the fact that, in the past, these same lending institutions have favored agricultural development projects geared toward non-food cash crops like cotton for export," says Ensminger.

"Anthropology 250, Famine and World Hunger" is based on Ensminger's experiences and research of pastoral nomadic tribes and food production in Kenya, where she lived and conducted research for five years. The three-credit elective course explores why hunger is becoming more commonplace, particularly in Africa, and debates proposed solutions to the problem. It also focuses on various issues which affect hunger, such as poverty, ecology, politics and technology.

Ensminger has been interested in the complexities of famine for ten years. She was working in Kenya during the last great Sahelian famine, which struck Africa between 1968 and 1974. That experience inspired her to study the problem extensively when she returned in 1978 to live for three years with the Orma tribe. She recently received two grants to return to the Orma next May for a year of further research.

"Ensminger says pastoral nomads such as the Orma are particularly devastated by the current drought in Africa because they depend on livestock for food. "While farmers can usually replant as soon as the rains return, it takes herders many years to rebuild a herd after a severe drought," she adds.

"But even in 'normal' years, hunger is a chronic problem," Ensminger says. "There are typically two dry seasons in Kenya. Cows give little milk during the dry season, and the pastoralists use milk for most of their diet.

"Nowadays people are going into debt during the dry season by purchasing food on credit at the local shop," Ensminger says. "While the interest rates are exorbitant. While this meets the short-term need for food, it aggravates the long-term problem of poverty.

"In the end," Ensminger continues, "those who are in a position to give credit get richer, and those who depend upon it get poorer. There are parallels between the credit environment in the local village and the lending situation at the international level.

"Is there a way out of the dilemma? Ensminger thinks so. "But it will necessitate a restructuring of international lending priorities and changes in African governmental food policies," she says.

"Ensminger has a doctorate in anthropology from Northwestern University. She also has edited a book about the Kikuyu tribe for the late Louis S. Leakey, the world-famous British scientist whom she met while an undergraduate at Cornell University.

"Ensminger first traveled to Kenya in 1972 at Leakey's request. She worked with him on the Kikuyu manuscript until his death later that year. At the request of Leakey's wife, Mary, she continued editing the three-volume study for two and one-half years.

Carolyn Sanford
The Fires of London present music, drama

The Fires of London, a chamber music/theatre group, will perform at 8 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 19, at Edison Theatre.

The Fires of London, under the direction of composer Peter Maxwell Davies, is a group of six musicians who play, sing and act. Maxwell Davies's dramatic musical scores. They have brought the music/theatre genre to worldwide attention and gained an international reputation through their appearances on four continents and their records, broadcasts and television appearances.

At Edison Theatre, the group will present "Le Jongleur de Notre Dame" and "Eight Songs for a Mad King." "Le Jongleur" recounts the French medieval legend of a juggler who wanders into a monastery. The juggler (Jonny James) offers a statue of the Virgin Mary the only gift he can — a juggling act. The statue of Mary (violinist Madeleine Mitchell) comes to life and accepts the juggler's gift with a sweet violin melody. The 45-minute piece will feature a local children's band. In "Eight Songs for a Mad King," baritone Andrew Gallacher, who portrays King George III of England, sings of the last days of the deposed king. In his madness, King George tries to teach his pet bull finches to sing. The mad king's vocal score spans four octaves. Tickets are $10 to the general public, $8 to senior citizens and $5 to students. For tickets, call the Edison box office at 889-6543.

Financial assistance for this performance has been provided by the Missouri Arts Council, a state agency.

Metz performs harpsichord recital

The Department of Music will present Charles Metz, Ph.D., WU applied music instructor, in a harpsichord recital at 8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 9, in Graham Chapel. Admission to the concert is free.

The recital will feature works by George Frederic Handel, Johann Sebastian Bach and Dominico Scarlatti. This year is the 300th anniversary of the birth year of the three composers.

Metz received his doctorate in historical performance practice from WU in 1981. He has taught harpsichord here for the past 10 years.

The recital will be performed on an authentic duplication of a French harpsichord made by Benoit Stichl in 1760, and now housed at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C.

For more information, call 889-5574.
Laser therapy improves diabetic vision loss

A new laser technique called "modified grid" can reverse the leading cause of vision loss in diabetics—a previously untreatable condition known as diffuse diabetic macular edema—in nearly 100 percent of cases, according to a WU researcher who presented results Oct. 2 at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Ophthalmology.

R. Olk, M.D., assistant professor of ophthalmology, performs "modified grid" laser treatment on Karen Mayfield, a WU junior majoring in fine arts, who has experienced a vision loss due to diabetes. The new laser technique can reverse the leading cause of vision loss in diabetics—diffuse diabetic macular edema—in nearly 100 percent of cases.

The study also found that visual prognosis is not altered by the presence of such risk factors as systemic hypertension, diabetes, initial poor vision or cystoid macular edema, a more advanced form of the condition. Until now, many ophthalmologists have believed that there is little hope of improving vision in patients who have one of these risk factors in addition to diffuse diabetic maculopathy.

There is a major side effect, however: Patients report seeing either grid-like spots or a haze over the treated eye. According to Olk, that effect diminishes with time, but never entirely disappears. He hopes that studies can identify benefits of modified grid laser that previous studies have shown.

"In eyes with diffuse diabetic macular edema, the treatment significantly improves visual acuity, both at 12 and 24 months," Olk explains. "What's more, eyes that are not treated have significantly worse visual acuity at 12 and 24 months, compared to treated eyes."

Of 160 eyes studied, 82 were assigned to treatment and 78 were observed as controls. Macular edema was reduced in all 82 treated eyes, but there was no spontaneous reduction of fluid in any of the eyes in the control group. A follow-up in 149 eyes after 12 months showed that visual acuity improved in at least two lines in 35 percent of the treated group, compared to 7 percent in the control group. Vision worse than 20/30 improved in only 4 percent of the treated eyes, but in 27 percent of the observation group.

After 24 months, vision had improved in 45 percent of treated and 8 percent of untreated eyes. Acuity had become worse in 10 percent of the treatment group, as opposed to 43 percent of the control group.

Stupp Foundation funds work in geriatric neurology

The Norman J. Stupp Foundation has created a special fund to support work in geriatric neurology at WU School of Medicine.

The Stupp Fund is established through an agreement with the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke and the American Academy of Neurology. The fund will be used to support research and education programs in the field of geriatric neurology.

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Grants available for cancer researchers

Grant applications are now being ac-
cepted by the WU Committee on Can-
cer Research for research proposed for the present year. A limited number of awards will be made to projects amounting up to $8,500 for basic or applied research related to cancer. The awards, which are funded by The American Cancer Society, are especially intended for junior faculty members for research fellows who have no funds with which to carry out pilot studies. For further information, write David W. Lusk, M.D., chairman, Cancer Research Committee, Department of Surgery, Box 8 Via, WU School of Medicine, or call 362-8320.

Rodney P. Lusk, M.D., director of the new WU Center for Communication Disorders of Children, examines ear of Kimberly Banning from Decatur, III. The center evaluates and treats children with ear, nose and throat problems as well as hearing and speech impairments.

Lusk directs pediatric center for communication disorders

Rodney P. Lusk, M.D., has been named director of the new Center for Communication Disorders of Children at WU School of Medicine. The Center for Communication Disorders is located at Children's Hospital, a sponsoring institution of the WU Medical Center. It is part of the Division of Pediatric Otolaryngology at the School of Medicine.

Children with communication disorders, such as hearing impairment and delayed speech development, are diagnosed and treated at the center. The staff is a team of pediatric otolaryngologists, speech language pathologists and audiologists.

The center also evaluates and treats children with ear, nose and throat problems. In childhood, Lusk says, a number of diseases can affect the airway, causing symptoms that range from snoring to severe airway obstruction. Other frequently treated childhood problems include infections or masses in the neck, infections of the nose and sinuses, and ear problems.

Lusk joined the WU faculty earlier this year as an assistant professor of pediatric otolaryngology in the Department of Otolaryngology. He formerly was director of the pediatric otolaryngology division at the University of Iowa College of Medicine. His research focuses on the aerodynamics of the pediatric airway and on head and neck masses in children.

He received the medical degree in 1977 from the University of Missouri-Columbia, where he also completed an internship in general surgery. He served a residency in otolaryngology at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, and a fellowship in pediatric otolaryngology at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh.

Cryer named director of Division of Metabolism and Endocrinology

Philip E. Cryer, M.D., has been named director of the Division of Metabolism and Endocrinology in the Department of Medicine at WU School of Medicine.

His appointment was announced by David M. Kipnis, M.D., Adolphus H. Daughaday, M.D., and head of the Department of Medicine. Cryer succeeds William H. Daughaday, M.D., who has stepped down as director but will continue in his position as the Irene E. and Michael K. Karl Professor in Endocrinology and Metabolism.

At the School of Medicine, Cryer is professor of medicine and program director of the General Internal Medicine and Endocrinology, Metabolism. He is the immediate past president of the national Association of Program Directors, GRCB.

In addition, Cryer is director of the Clinical Research Facility at the medical school's Diabetes Research and Training Center. He is on staff at Barnes Hospital and a consulting physician at Children's Hospital.

Cryer received his medical degree in 1965 from Northwestern University. He completed an internship and residency in medicine at Barnes Hospital, and a fellowship in metabolism at the School of Medicine and Barnes. He joined the medical school faculty in 1971 as an instructor, and was named professor of medicine in 1981.

He is a diplomate of the American Board of Internal Medicine in internal medicine and in endocrinology and metabolism. He is active in a number of professional societies, serving as vice president of the American Society for Clinical Investigation and as vice chairman of the committee on research for the American Diabetes Association.
Regina Engelke
Young basketball team strives for successful season

The men's basketball program has made great strides in four years. With no intercollegiate basketball from 1971-81, the Bears started from scratch four years ago. Hard work and patience by both coaches and players culminated last year as WU earned its first winning season, 15-9, since 1968-69. It was the Bears' best record since 1984-85.

Last year's winning mark was important for head coach Mark Edwards' program. But this year is new and the Bears must begin fresh after losing four starters from the 1984-85 team.

"Every season is a challenge," says Edwards. "No two seasons are alike and 1985-86 is definitely going to be different than 1984-85. We will have to find the best areas of our game and then exploit them."

One area of the game where WU expects to be strong is in the backcourt. Sophomore guard Kevin Paul Jackson, Pittsburgh, Pa., will be expected to carry much of the team's offensive load.

Can the Bears enjoy another winning season after the loss of four starters, including Amos, the school's all-time leading scorer?

"I really don't know what type of season we're going to have," Edwards said. "This group has a great deal of potential, but they're very young. We have some weaknesses — rebounding and experience. But we have strengths as well — defense and depth."

WU has beefed up its schedule and increased the number of games by two, making this the toughest slate since the program was revitalized in 1981.

After playing an exhibition game against the Dutch National team on Wednesday, Nov. 13, the Bears will play back-to-back home games with Division I St. Louis University on Friday, Nov. 22, and then Division III power, Central College, Iowa, on Saturday, Nov. 23.

Another top game for the Bears include contests with Wabash College, DePauw University, Illinois Wesleyan University, McKendree College, Blackburn College and the University of Missouri-St. Louis. WU also will compete in three tournaments — the University of Chicago Tournament, the University of Rochester Tournament and its own Second Annual Lopata Classic.

Theologian details failure of Secular City predictions

Twenty years ago, Protestant theologian Harvey Cox predicted the decline of traditional religion as a force in public life in *The Secular City*. Cox will lecture on the outcome of his predictions at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 15, in Graham Chapel. His talk is titled "Religion in the Secular City."

In *The Secular City*, Cox argued that science and technology would replace religion's influence on society. The theological book, originally written as a study resource for the National Student Christian Federation, became a best-seller that spurred debate throughout the nation and established Cox's reputation as a radical young theologian.

Immediately after the publication of *The Secular City*, Cox noticed the role religion was playing in the Civil Rights movement of the 1960s. Since then, in arenas as varied as Latin America, Poland, the Middle East and the United States, religion continues to be one of the most important factors in political life. Cox confronts the failure of his earlier predictions in his 1984 book, *Religion in the Secular City: Toward a Post-Modern Theology*.

Cox is Victor S. Thomas Professor of Divinity at Harvard University. He has a doctorate in the history and philosophy of religion from Harvard's Divinity School and is an ordained minister in the American Baptist Church. His new book, which is co-sponsored by the Assembly Series and the Council for Inter-religious Conciliation (CIRCuit), is free and open to the public. For more information, call 889-4620.

International trade symposium topic

The St. Louis Chapter of AIESEC, a French acronym for the International Association of Students of Economics and Business Management, will sponsor its 12th symposium titled "Current Issues on International Trade." The symposium will feature internationally recognized economists, and a representative business leader.

The St. Louis chapter is sponsored by the WU School of Business and is one of 400 groups located in universities in 62 different countries. The AIESEC symposium will be held in Room 101, Lopata Hall, at the School of Engineering.

The featured speakers and their topics are:

David Walters, chief economist to the assistant U.S. trade representative for trade policy, "Policy Response To The Trade Deficit: Issues of The Multilateral Trade Negotiation."

Murray Weidenbaum, Ph.D., former chairman of the President's Council of Economic Advisors and current director of WU's Center for the Study of American Business, "Unemployment U.S. Imports: Dispelling the Myths."

John Qualls, Ph.D., manager of economic forecasting for the Monsanto Co. and professor of international trade and investment at University College, "Japan's Self-Imposed Quotas in the Automobile Industry;"

James Enyart, director of the International Government Relations for the Agricultural Products of Monsanto, "Current Issues on International Trade Barriers From an International Perspective."

The program, from 4 to 6 p.m., is free and open to the public.

Portrait of a comet—continued from p. 1

In 1985, when Halley's comet approached the inner solar system, it became the most scrutinized object in the universe. But Halley and Schiaparelli will obtain high-resolution spectroscopic data on the solar wind at different wavelengths where chemical are and what they are fills in a missing part of the picture," says Smith. "Our work is unique. We think it will add an enormous amount of information to our understanding of comets."
CALENDAR

Thursday, Nov. 7
2 p.m. Dept. of Microbiology and Immunology Seminar, "Structure, Function and Developmentally Regulated Expression of MYC Family Genes," Fred Alt, professor, Columbia U. Also sponsored by the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. Clpton Aud., Wohl Medical Bldg., 4950 Audubon.

3:30 p.m. Black Arts and Sciences Festival Lecture with Maurice Chevalier, assemblywoman from Los Angeles. Graham Chapel.

4 p.m. Dept. of Anatomy and Neurobiol-


7:30 p.m. School of Fine Arts Lecture with David Land, painter. Bixby Gallery, Bixby Hall.

Monday, Nov. 11
11 a.m. Dept. of Chemistry Seminar, "Metal Ion Mediated Oxygenation of Organic Substrates," Joan S. Valentine, prof. of chemistry, Louisiana State University at Baton Rouge. 312 McMillen.


Monday, Nov. 11

4 p.m. Dept. of Romance Languages and Literatures Lecture, "Rapalje and Sixteenth Century Poetry," Robert Feder, U. of Flo-

ence. Hurst Lounge, Duncker Hall.

4 p.m. Dept. of Germanic Languages and Literatures Lecture, "Die Deutschen als Mas-

ner sprache," Louise Puch, prof. of german, Oldenburg U. West Germany. Hurst Lounge, Duncker Hall.

4 p.m. Dept. of Biology Seminar, "Cell Surface and Cell Interaction During Bone De-

velopment," Philip Oudoby, ass. prof. of anatomy in biomedical science and pathology, WU Dental School. 322 S. 40th.

Tuesday, Nov. 12
2 p.m. Center for the Study of Data Pro-


3:30 p.m. African and Afro-American Studies Lecture, "Africa, Islam and Christian-


Friday, Nov. 8
8 p.m. Performing Arts Area Presents "Salome," written by Oscar Wilde at Edson Theatre directed by Robert Metz. Wu assoc. prof. of drama. (Also Sat., Nov. 9, Fri., Nov. 15, and Sat. Nov. 16, same time, Edison.) Tickets are $5 to the general public and $4 to WU faculty, staff, students and senior citizens. For more info., call 889-6453.

Saturday, Nov. 9
11 a.m. Men's and Women's Swimming, WU Relays. Millstone Pool.

Wednesday, Nov. 13
5 p.m. Men's and Women's Swimming, WU vs. St. Louis U. Millstone Pool.

7:30 p.m. Men's Basketball, WU vs. Dutch National Team. Field House.

MISCELLANY

Thursday, Nov. 7
9:15-11 a.m. Personal Computing Education Center Short Course 353, "Microcomputing DOS Fundamentals," Pat Taylor, CSDP assoc. (Also Nov. 8-13, same time.) Free to WU community. To register, call 889-5813.

10:30-12 p.m. Personal Computing Edu-

cation Center Short Course 205, "Dot Graphics with Telegraph," Scott Seely, CSDP assoc. (Also Nov. 14 and 21 and Dec. 4, same time.) Free to WU community. To register, call 889-5813.

12:30 p.m. Hunger Awareness Week Soup and Bread Luncheon and Discussion. Newman Center. 6350 Forsyth Blvd.


Friday, Nov. 8
7:30 p.m. Inter-Varsity Christian Fellow-

ship Meeting, Green Stufts Line, Wohl Center.

Saturday, Nov. 9
9 a.m.-5 p.m. College Bowl Tournament. (Also Sun., Nov. 10, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Mon., Nov. 11, 7 p.m.) Mallinckrodt Center.

Sunday, Nov. 10
7:30-10:30 p.m. Israeli and International Folk Dancing. Sponsored by WU, UMSL and Inter-

national Folk Dancing Society. UMSL Center for the Arts, 1-3 p.m. Personal Computing Education Center Short Course 353, "Microcomputing DOS Fundamentals," Pat Taylor, CSDP assoc. (Also Nov. 8-13, same time.) Free to WU community. To register, call 889-5813.

12:45 p.m. Society of Professors Emerit

us Luncheon with Robert L. Virgil, dean of the WU School of Business, discussing the pro-

grams of the business school. Whitmer House, 6440 Forsyth Blvd.

Tuesday, Nov. 12
7 p.m. "Journey of the Century Seminar. "Get It Together for Exams: A Workshop on Time Management, Stressing and Test-Taking." Uig-

get Center Lounge.

Wednesday, Nov. 13
7:30-9:30 p.m. Learning Center Seminar, "Im-

prove Concentration: Tips on Concentration and Controlling Distractions." 312 Women's Bldg.

Thursday, Nov. 14
4 p.m. Hunger Awareness Week, talk by hunger expert Carol Joy. For more Awareness Week activities, see story on p. 1. Graham Chapel.

3 p.m. Learning Center Seminar, "Get It Together for Finals: Tips on Time Manage-

ment, Stressing and Test-Taking." 312 Women's Bldg.

Calendar Deadline
The deadline to submit items for the Nov. 21-Dec. 7 calendar of the Washington Univer-

sity Record is Nov. 7. Items must be typed and must include name and phone number of event, sper- san and admission cost. Include name of event, place, year of event, date, time, location and event and the title of the event, also include your name and telephone number. Address items to King McElroy, calendar editor, Box 1070.