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April 2003

University News

HEAR, HEAR: Madeleine Albright, former U.S. secretary of state, will give the University's 2003 Commencement address on May 16. When she was sworn in as the 64th secretary of state in 1997, she became the first female to hold the post and the highest ranking woman in the history of the U.S. government.

SCIENTIFIC SPACE: The recently dedicated Arts & Sciences Laboratory Science Building provides much needed space for chemistry instruction. The elegant, five-story structure includes state-of-the-art laboratories, classrooms with the latest technology, comfortable lounges, and expansive lecture halls.

ISLAND PRESS: The School of Art's collaborative printshop, Island Press, has pioneered a national reputation for using new and experimental techniques to create mixed-media and one-of-a-kind multiples. Since its founding in 1978, the press has released more than 100 prints by dozens of nationally and internationally known artists, including Roy Lichtenstein.



Photo by Kevin Louder

Research

MOUSE VIRUS GIVES CLUE TO CRUISE SHIP EPIDEMICS: University researchers have discovered a new mouse virus that may lead to a better understanding of its disease-causing human cousins, known as human noroviruses (HNVs). HNVs cause an estimated 23 million episodes of intestinal illness each year, including those that sweep through cruise ships and nursing homes.

IDENTIFYING DEPRESSION IN PRESCHOOLERS: Preschoolers can become clinically depressed, say University investigators. Key symptoms for identifying that depression are inability to experience pleasure from activities and play or using play to explore themes about death. While the core features of depression in a preschooler are similar to those in adults, the big difference involves duration.

IN THE WAKE OF CORPORATE SCANDALS: After the numerous corporate scandals of 2001 and beyond, the U.S. government responded to the public outrage by enacting the Sarbanes-Oxley Act. While some criticize the act, a University professor argues that Sarbanes-Oxley will prove to be quite effective.

ONE STEP AT A TIME: Common medical wisdom says diabetic complications often lead to foot amputation. But "smart shoes" and surgeries could minimize what was once thought inevitable.

Features



Michael Nichols/National Geographic
Photo courtesy of National Geographic
All rights reserved.

This adult male in the Goudougou Triangle was photographed during the first few minutes of contact with human observers.

NAIVE CHIMPANZEES: A team of primate researchers, including Washington University doctoral candidate Crickette Sanz, has discovered a rare find deep in a Central African rainforest—chimpanzees that have had very little or no contact at all with humans. Jane Goodall, considered the world's foremost authority on chimpanzees, visited the site to see the curious chimpanzees and, as a result, extended her conservation efforts to the area.

I BEFORE E EXCEPT AFTER C: Memorizing spelling patterns could greatly aid children learning to spell and read. While English sometimes seems chaotic, University researchers contend that English spellings are actually fairly consistent and predictable as long as various rules and patterns are recognized.

TEEN REVENGE: Negative racial and cultural stereotypes can have profound impact on teens' reasoning or justification for peer violence, according to a University study of Arab and Jewish adolescents. Teenagers typically use moral, social, conventional, and personal reasons for justifying violence and revenge.

Heard on Campus

"Too many CEOs—too many CFOs, even—started thinking that their job was to be the chief marketing officer [and] the chief supporter of the company's share price instead of being the conscience of the organization."

- James Turley, Chairman and CEO of Ernst & Young, speaking about the scandals in corporate America, on March 7 at the John M. Olin School of Business Century Club Breakfast

Kudos

William H. Danforth, M.D., chancellor emeritus and vice chairman of the Board of Trustees, will chair the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Research, Education, and Economics Task Force. The task force was created as part of the 2002 Farm Bill, signed by President George W. Bush. [Read more!](#)

William H. Gass, Ph.D., the David May Distinguished University Professor Emeritus in the Humanities, won the National Book Critics Circle Award in the criticism category for his essay collection, *Tests of Time*. This is his third NBCC Award. [Read more!](#)

Jacques U. Baenziger, M.D., Ph.D., professor of cell biology and physiology and of pathology and immunology, recently received the Karl Meyer Award for excellence in research in glycobiology.

David M. Holtzman, M.D., professor of neurology, is a co-winner of the 2003 Potamkin Prize for Research from the American Academy of Neurology for his work with Alzheimer's disease. He also won the Promising Work Award from MetLife Foundation. [Read more!](#)

Announcements

UNDERGRADUATE REUNION WEEKEND 2003, May 15 - 18, is quickly approaching. See the [Reunion](#) site for more information.

THE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE'S REUNION 2003 is May 8 - 10. For a complete schedule and online registration, visit the [Alumni Reunion](#) site.

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About @ Washington University in St. Louis

This newsletter is prepared by the staff of the Office of Special Development Communications Projects and the Office of Alumni and Development Programs. It is intended to provide a summary of what is happening at the University. Alumni, parents, and friends of the University for whom we have valid e-mail addresses automatically receive @ Washington University in St. Louis as a service of the University.

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One Brookings Drive, St. Louis, MO 63130
(314) 935-5200