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Washington University

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August 2003

University News

150! WUSTL REACHES SESQUICENTENNIAL: It's here! It's finally here! And as part of the **celebration of the University's 150th anniversary**, an initiative is being launched to help better understand the role that research universities can play in addressing issues related to the environment.

ELIOT COMES DOWN: It took two years to build and mere seconds for it to come down, floor by floor. **The last remaining high-rise on Washington University's South 40, Eliot Residence Hall, was demolished** in late June to make way for a new, four-story Eliot Residence Hall scheduled to open in fall 2004.

MARS MISSION: When assessing possible landing sites for its June and July missions to Mars, **NASA turned to one of its veterans**, Raymond E. Arvidson, the James S. McDonnell Distinguished University Professor and chair of the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences at Washington University.



The implosion of Eliot Residence Hall. (Photo by Joe Angeles.)

Research

Y CHROMOSOME: Two studies of the Y chromosome - the chromosome for maleness - by researchers at the University's Genome Sequencing Center and the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research provide **new insights into the mysteries of maleness** and the causes and diagnosis of male infertility.



LIZARDS GONE WILD: A graduate evolutionary biology student in Arts & Sciences at Washington University and his colleagues have found **unexpectedly extensive genetic differentiation among populations of lizards** in the Caribbean islands, challenging researchers to understand what is causing the DNA evolution.

RAGING RIVERS: As America celebrates the bicentennial of



Richard Glor and his lab companion Grendel. Grendel is a Solomon Islands Prehensile Tailed Skink. Glor and his colleagues have documented dramatic and unexpected rapid speciation of another kind of lizard, called Anolis. (Photo by David Kilper.)

Lewis and Clark's epic journey up the untamed Missouri River, the nation finds itself on the verge of a **new era of modern river management**. In a new book, a University environmental politics expert explores the dynamics behind recent efforts to restore American river systems to a more pristine state.

Features

BALANCE, LIGHTEN THE LOAD: As parents and kids make their lists for the August back-to-school sales, one item to consider should be a **backpack - on wheels**. That is the advice of a physical therapy instructor at Washington University School of Medicine.

OLDER AMERICANS IN THE WORKFORCE: Some economists predict that by 2030, the United States could experience a **labor shortage of 35 million workers**. A Washington University leader in the emerging field of productive aging research contends that America's economic future may well hinge on our ability to help older adults continue making contributions to society.

BEYOND "POTTER" AND THE "RINGS":

"I firmly believe **there is no such thing as children's literature**," says a University culture critic, who maintains that popular clichés about the supposed "simplicity," "innocence," or "imagination" of such literature fail to explain its particular power and broad-based appeal.



To avoid injury, children should carry their backpacks over both shoulders to balance the load.

Heard on Campus

"The great task of our universities is to educate men and women so that they may enable humanity to work effectively for life's true values."

- Nobel Prize-winning physicist **Arthur Holly Compton**, the 9th Chancellor of Washington University, speaking at his inauguration on February 22, 1946.

Kudos

Barry A. Siegel, M.D., director of the Division of Nuclear Medicine in the Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology, received the Society of Nuclear Medicine's 2003 Georg Charles de Hevesy Nuclear Pioneer Award for his distinguished contributions to nuclear medicine at the Society's 50th annual meeting in June.

Kenneth L. Jerina, D.Sc., the Earl E. and Myrtle E. Walker Professor of Engineering, has received an Award of Merit and the title of Fellow from the American Society for Testing and Materials International (ASTM). The award was presented for his distinguished and technical contributions to ASTM Committee E08 on Fatigue and Fracture.

Ten University students have been awarded Fulbright Scholarships to study abroad during the 2003-04 academic year. The students, their fields, and the locations where they will study are: **R. Jesse Blanner**, teaching English as a second language, France; **Maria C. Bruno**, anthropology, Bolivia; **Natalie L. Chalabi**, teaching English as a foreign language, Germany; **Theresa M. Clark**, law, Belgium; **Laurel E. Griggs**, geology, South Africa; **Frances B. Henderson**, political science, Mozambique; **Adam W. Marcus**, mathematics, Hungary; **Valerie R. Rowles**, film studies, Morocco; **Kathryn A. Skartvedt**, African studies, Mauritius; and **Christina E. Wills**, teaching English as a foreign language, Germany.

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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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