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June 2008
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University News

Men's tennis brings home first national championship:

The Washington University men's tennis team captured its first NCAA Division III National Championship with a 5-3 victory over Emory University on May 15. The men's tennis team is the third Bears' squad to garner a national championship during the 2007-2008 academic year.



The Washington University Bears topped the Emory Eagles 5-3 to win their first NCAA Division III Championship.

Architecture students develop two projects in New Orleans:

In this age of gaudy "star-chitect" towers and international museums, 10 senior architecture students from the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts, led by lecturer Derek Hoeflerlin, turned their talents to an entirely more prosaic structure: the chicken coop. The group is working to rebuild God's Vineyard Community Garden, a nonprofit urban farm that was severely affected by Hurricane Katrina. While visiting New Orleans, Hoeflerlin's class agreed to tackle a second project for the Good Work Network, a not-for-profit business incubator that provides training and support services to low-income and minority entrepreneurs.

Celebrating nearly 100 years of the George Warren Brown School of Social Work:

To celebrate nearly 100 years of existence and a new era in social work education, the George Warren Brown School of Social Work at Washington University in St. Louis is publishing **What We Believe: A History of the George Warren Brown School of Social Work: 1909-2007**. Author Candace O'Connor begins the book with a look at poverty in St. Louis and the early history of social work education locally, and concludes with an overview of more recent accomplishments and a glimpse at the Brown School's future.

Research

Phoenix mission to Mars searches for climate clues:

Raymond E. Arvidson, Ph.D., the James S. McDonnell Distinguished University Professor and chair of the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences in Arts & Sciences, and a number of University students and personnel have major roles in the Phoenix mission to Mars. The space craft landed in the northern plains and Arvidson was a key operations manager during the critical first week of operations

Quick thinking by Washington University doctor leads to international investigation of drug heparin:

In early January, two patients undergoing kidney dialysis at St. Louis Children's Hospital had sudden, life-threatening allergic reactions that caused their eyes, lips, and tongues to swell; raised their heart rates; and dropped their blood pressures dangerously low. Alexis M. Elward, M.D., assistant professor of pediatrics and an infectious diseases specialist,



NASA/JPL-Caltech/University of Arizona Phoenix Mars Mission space vehicle touched down on its three legs to make a soft landing onto the northern Mars terrain called Green Valley.

jumped into action to determine the cause. Her work sparked an international investigation and a recall of the common blood thinner heparin blamed for deaths and severe reactions worldwide.

Platypus genome holds clues to evolution of mammals:

The duck-billed platypus: part bird, part reptile, part mammal — and the genome to prove it. An international consortium of scientists, led by Washington University School of Medicine, has decoded the genome of the platypus, showing that the animal's peculiar mix of features is reflected in its DNA. An analysis of the genome, published in the journal *Nature*, can help scientists piece together a more complete picture of the evolution of all mammals, including humans.



"My argument is that immigrants might have had a fundamental impact on the U.S. technologically. With the big surge of immigrants during that time period American firms began to shift production much more intensively into factories that utilize division of labor and unskilled workers," says Sukkoo Kim, associate professor of economics in Arts & Sciences.

Features

Immigrants pose no threat:

America has always had a complicated relationship with immigration. There are supporters who praise immigration for providing ethnic diversity and economic stimulus. Others condemn immigration for taxing the country's public services and being a drag on the economy. Sukkoo Kim, associate professor of economics in Arts & Sciences, says the truth lies somewhere in between, and immigrants can have a long-term beneficial impact on the economy.

Earthquake may rattle China's hydropower plans, tighten energy markets:

The massive earthquake that struck Sichuan province may have dealt a huge blow to China's plans for a vast network of hydro-electric power dams, and the aftershocks could mean more reliance on coal, more pollution, and more competition for scarce global energy resources, suggests Andrew Mertha, Ph.D., assistant professor of political science and of international and area studies

Whitney R. Harris World Law Institute kicks off landmark crimes against humanity project:

The Whitney R. Harris World Law Institute at Washington University School of Law announced a two-year project to study the international law regarding crimes against humanity and to draft a multilateral treaty condemning and prohibiting such crimes. "Crimes against humanity" was one of the three crimes set out in the Charter of the International Military Tribunal at Nuremberg, which tried Nazi war criminals in the wake of World War II.

Kudos

Robert E. Blankenship, the Lucille P. Markey Distinguished Professor of Arts & Sciences, will receive the Charles F. Kettering Award at the joint annual meeting of the American Society of Plant Biologists and the Sociedad Mexicana de Bioquímica Rama: Bioquímica y Biología Molecular de Plantas in Merida, Mexico, in June.

Rebecca J. DeRoo, Ph.D., assistant professor of art history & archaeology in Arts & Sciences, has won the 2008 Laurence Wylie Prize in French Cultural Studies for her 2006 book "The Museum Establishment and Contemporary Art: The Politics of Artistic Display in France after 1968."

Heard on Campus

"In this country, we still believe you can really try to become what and who you want to become. That is rare. We're talking about self creation here in this country. That's a pretty daring idea that's still foreign to much of the highly stratified world where many of us came from: Europe, Asia, Africa, even in the rest of the Americas. But I think this legacy of self-creation is a key to being this "us" we talk about, certainly the "us" I care about. Certainly it's the attitude that got this country started."

—Chris Matthews, host of "Hardball with Chris Matthews" on MSNBC and "The Chris Matthews Show," a syndicated weekly news program produced by NBC News, and a regular commentator on NBC's "Today" show, in his Commencement address to the Class of 2008

Troy Paredes, J.D., professor of law, has been nominated by President George W. Bush to serve as one of five commissioners of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

About @Washington University in St. Louis

This newsletter is prepared by Special Development Communications Projects staff in Alumni and Development Programs. It is intended to provide a brief 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.

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One Brookings Drive, St. Louis, MO 63130
(314) 935-5000

