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Jan. 31, 2008
University of Missouri-Columbia

Home on the range?



Photo courtesy of Alyce Johnson

Alyce Johnson, a senior in fisheries and wildlife, spent seven weeks in the field at Custer State Park in South Dakota researching the social structure of buffalo herds that are under the care of wildlife managers.

FAMILY DYNAMICS

Where buffalo roam, so does MU undergraduate researcher

Once, buffalo roamed the American prairie in complex societies where offspring were raised and protected according to instinct and learned responses. Today's descendants of these vast herds live on preserves under the care of wildlife managers.

An MU undergraduate researcher traveled to South Dakota to see if the practice of forced weaning changes the dynamics of how offspring relate to the group as they grow. Forced weaning is the procedure of removing an offspring from its nursing mother prematurely and providing it with a solid diet. Park managers do this to more accurately count and

assess the calves, as well as administer medical attention to the calves when needed.

Alyce Johnson, a fisheries and wildlife sciences senior, followed the bison herd at the Custer State Park in a 4X4 pickup to observe calves as they made their first steps into joining their herd. She monitored radio-tagged "force-weaned" and "naturally-weaned" calves as they integrated into their

larger social group. She found surprising differences that indicate that forced-weaned buffaloes may not be joining the herd in the same ways as in the 1800s, leaving them more prone to attack by predators.

Johnson's observations showed that the force-weaned group tended to bond with other forced-weaned calves at a greater than expected rate. The naturally-weaned adolescents, on the other hand, spent more time with their mothers.

"The data indicates that the maternal social structure of bison herds is complicated," Johnson says. "The bond among animals that were force-weaned appears to be stronger than maternal bonds of naturally-weaned cows. More research is needed to better understand this relationship."

The research has several implications for those who manage bison herds. Forced-weaned calves may be at greater risk for disease and injury because they don't have the protection and guidance of an older cow. These yearlings spend more time in the periphery of the herd than near the center, and they potentially face an increased predation risk. Force-weaned yearlings also incurred more aggression from older members of the herd than naturally-weaned yearlings. The process of force-weaning is also stressful and disruptive for the calf, Johnson says.

Johnson, a Lee's Summit, Mo. native earlier received a degree in animal science. She now plans on doing graduate work

in wildlife management. Her scientific poster presentation on the South Dakota work recently won her accolades at the annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students. Johnson's faculty mentor is Josh Millsbaugh, associate professor of fisheries and wildlife sciences.

Her research studied maternal bison groups in South Dakota from Oct. 2005 through July 2007. Johnson spent seven weeks in Custer State Park, 71,000 acres of mixed grass prairie and ponderosa pine forest in the southern Black Hills of South Dakota. About 1,100 bison graze there as well as mule deer, whitetail deer, elk, bighorn sheep and pronghorn.

Her data also suggests that social changes created by forced weaning also extend into the adult life of the bison and to later generations. Forced-weaned mother bison were seen to associate more with forced-weaned colleagues than with other members of the herd, affecting the social relationships of later offspring.

"Our research suggests operations that want to maintain a 'wild' bison herd should not engage in force-weaning as it disrupts the social organization of the herd," Johnson says. "However, operations that do force-wean may benefit from selling same-aged cohort groups together as these animals may perform better as a social unit than other groups. In operations that allow the herd to naturally wean, maternal groups should be sold together at least until a cow is three years of age."

Area lawmakers call for unified support for MU in an uncertain legislative session

QUESTION MARKS

Capital projects, core higher ed budget are key priorities

Gov. Matt Blunt didn't attend the Jan. 24 legislative forum sponsored by the Mizzou Alumni Association's Boone County chapter, but his presence was felt anyway. Two days earlier, Blunt had dropped a bombshell on Missouri's political landscape when he announced he would

not seek a second term as governor.

Lawmakers who represent mid-Missouri districts attended the forum to discuss issues that are likely to have an impact on higher education during this legislative session. Rep. Jeff Harris, D-Columbia, talked about the strategic impact Blunt's decision could have on the session that got under way earlier this month.

"It was already going to be a year in the legislature where you really couldn't predict the outcome," Harris said. "First of all, it's an election year, which always adds a level of uncertainty to the mix. Second, there have been changes in leadership both on the Republican side and the Democratic side" in the General Assembly.

The governor's announcement could add even more uncertainty

to the process, Harris said. With Blunt effectively a lame-duck governor, will it give him more bipartisan support among lawmakers? Will he get more backing from his own party for his initiatives? And what if a Republican legislator decides to run for governor? "I don't know the answers to those questions, but we have to factor that into our analysis," Harris said.

"Given this level of

uncertainty, what we know that is certain is that it is incumbent upon all of us to have a solid, clear, succinct message for the University in Jefferson City," Harris said. "Because those other factors we can't control, but what we can control is our level of commitment to getting things accomplished in this session that need to be accomplished on behalf of the University."

SEE Lawmakers on Page 5

In vino veritas

MU will offer a food science degree with an emphasis in enology, providing students with in-depth education in the science and business of wine production. Courses are being phased in so that freshmen entering in the Fall 2008 semester can take the complete sequence.

Undergraduate students in this program, the first of its kind in the Midwest, will receive degrees in food science with at least 19 credit hours in enology and viticulture, says Ingolf Gruen, associate professor of food science associate professor.

Missouri's wine industry has grown from 50 to more than 70 wineries over the past five years, says Keith Striegler, director of the Institute for Continental Climate Viticulture and Enology, located on the MU campus. The Missouri wine industry employs almost 6,200 people and in 2007 generated an estimated \$70 million in federal, state and local tax revenue.

Wineries create a job cluster of related businesses, particularly in small, rural communities, Striegler says. "There is a shortage of trained people, and we are trying to fill a gap. The idea is we want

to grow our own talent for Missouri and then the region." Missouri's will be one of the few such degree programs in the country and the only one offering a fully integrated "grape to glass" emphasis that ranges from viticulture operation to business management, Gruen says.

The drama of history

Abolitionist William Wells Brown was born a slave near Lexington, Ky., and lived much of his youth in Missouri before escaping in 1834. Self-liberated from servitude, he spent years helping others

break away from slavery as part of the Underground Railroad before becoming an internationally known lecturer, essayist, author, and lyricist. His play, *The Escape, or A Leap for Freedom* (1858), is considered the first play by an African American to be published in America.

The Missouri History in Performance Theater, a reader's theater sponsored by the State Historical Society of Missouri and organized by playwright and MU staff member Mary Barile, is bringing Brown's experiences to historic Thespian Hall in Boonville Feb. 2. Directed

by playwright, author, and theater Professor Cheryl Black, the play tells the story of Brown's life, based on his autobiography. Clyde Ruffin, professor and chair of theater, will read the part of William Wells Brown. The presentation will feature portions of *The Escape*, which relates the tale of two slaves, Melinda and Glen, who secretly marry and The event begins at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 2, with music by Cathy Barton and Dave Para, longtime area folk musicians. For ticket information, call (660) 882-7977 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday.

MU study explores dynamics of prison social systems**DEFERENCE OR RESPECT?**

Measuring status in the slammer

In community settings, there's always at least one person or perhaps a group of individuals who are most highly respected. Prison systems are no different; one's social status results from interpersonal dynamics. To better understand social structure in California prison communities, Brian Colwell, assistant professor of sociology at MU, recently examined peer relationships among inmates.

His theoretical study examines prison culture and processes in which inmates determine respect, or lack thereof, for their peers. He says respect is rooted in perceived similarities among people and can be conveyed in a variety of ways: eye contact, physical orientation, similar behaviors and how inmates speak to one another.

"People always want to size up

another person," Colwell says. "But in prison, marking another person as being of higher or lower status, and communicating those evaluations, can get you in a lot of trouble. You don't want to seem subservient, and you also don't want to diminish someone else. You want to maintain a level playing field. For that reason, to avoid conflict, a lot of emphasis is placed on respect. Showing someone respect is a way of recognizing his or her value as being similar to yours. It's a way of honoring someone as a person, but not necessarily doing so because they're better."

Social circumstances and realities associated with prison environments necessitated the study. Colwell conducted 131 interviews of first-time and long-term male inmates at 16 California prisons, asking them questions like: What advice do you give new inmates coming into prison? What are some of the things you want to know

about an inmate you're meeting for the first time? What prevents inter-group violence at this prison?

He says the California prison system is unique because it is factional and populated with various groups of inmates who align themselves according to communities, ethnicity and gang affiliation. They must coexist, he says, but in most circumstances those various groups prefer to remain separated because they don't get along. In addition, they don't want to be subjugated, Colwell says.

"There's a lot that goes on in prison," he says. "Prison is not an alien world; similar things occur outside of prisons such as groups not getting along and having separate social organizations but trying to coexist. It's like the term Balkanization, inter-ethnic conflict, the Sunnis and Kurds. A prison itself is like this ongoing society that is fractured, and one's relations are

often characterized by extremes of conflict and cohesion. It's a microcosm of situations where there's a lot of civil strife. It's an inmate society, but the dynamic is pertinent to how people deal with living in contentious social environments."

Along with respect, Colwell also examined reasons for violent behavior, which occurs frequently in prison communities. He says violent acts are more than just about establishing a pecking order and are one sided "celebrations" of the contrast between aggressor and victim. Colwell says violence — verbal slights or overt acts of aggression — sometimes emanate from just wanting to reinforce one's self-identity.

The study, "Deference or Respect? Status Management Practices Among Prison Inmates," will appear in the December issue of *Social Psychology Quarterly*.

MU's Hook Center joins ed alliance

The University of Missouri's Hook Center for Educational Leadership and District Renewal joined with 32 other leading education research centers to form the Education Policy Alliance.

The alliance makes available, through a free Internet search engine, instant access to high-quality educational policy research

The Hook Center is poised to make significant contributions to the new policy alliance. "It is one of the only centers in the United States that focuses exclusively on conducting, synthesizing and disseminating research about school districts to district leaders and policy makers throughout Missouri," says Jay Scribner, the Hook Center's director. "We place a premium on working with districts to implement research-based practices to improve district effectiveness.



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MizzouWeekly

Volume 29 No. 17

A publication for the faculty and staff of the University of Missouri-Columbia, published every Thursday during the academic year and twice a month during the summer by Publications and Alumni Communication, a department of University Affairs, 407 Reynolds Alumni Center, 882-7357. News deadline is noon Thursday the week before publication. Annual subscriptions are available for \$30.

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Let it snow?

People probably don't realize that snowplowing is a complex operation involving several variables. To simplify this process, two MU engineers have developed models that integrate all the factors to make plowing more efficient and reduce time and resources.

The pilot study focused on the local plowing winter maintenance operations here in Boone County, which uses 23 snowplow trucks parked in five depots across the county. The target plowing time is two hours. Using engineering principles and assuming an average Missouri snowfall

of three to four inches, the researchers optimized the snow-plowing service using only 16 trucks and beat the target time by a half-hour.

This new method has the potential to cut costs by up to 30 percent, and is the first study that connected all the components of snowplowing, says James Noble, associate professor of industrial and manufacturing systems engineering. "We developed a mathematical model for the snow-plowing problem, but it is so complex that it would take a computer many years to solve it for realistic-sized problems. We then developed a simplified

approach to the mathematical model so we could create a solution for this problem."

Other states could apply this method with their own individual variables to optimize the operations for their particular state. Similar models could be used to optimize highway stripping, mowing and herbicide operations. "A bigger or smaller snow would be a different issue," says Wooseung Jang, associate professor of industrial and manufacturing systems engineering. "This method may not apply to California or Canada, but will work for other Midwestern states."

'The ideal public intellectual'

Michael Dyson has received many accolades during his long career as an author, scholar and cultural critic. *Ebony* magazine called him one of the 100 most influential black Americans. The *Philadelphia Weekly* said Dyson "is reshaping what it means to be a public intellectual by becoming the most visible black academic of his time." Writer Naomi Wolf described him as "the ideal public intellectual."

Dyson will visit campus next Thursday, Feb. 7, to give the keynote address for

Mizzou's Black History Month celebration. At 7 p.m. in Jesse Auditorium, the professor of theology, English and African-American studies at Georgetown University will present "What Students Can Do to Make Campus Better for All People & Get Out and Vote." His talk will be followed by a question-and-answer period and a book signing.

Other upcoming Black History Month events include a soul food dinner by the Columbia Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta from 4 to 6 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 2 at St. Luke's United Methodist Church, 204 E. Ash St. The cost is \$7.

Research has payoff for humans and animals

Neurological diseases strike both dogs and humans

Parkinson's disease and epilepsy strike millions of people each year.

They also affect countless dogs, and MU veterinary researchers are working to find ways to treat these and other neurological diseases in both species.

A research team led by Dennis O'Brien, professor of veterinary medicine and surgery and director of the comparative neurology program in the College of Veterinary Medicine, is investigating the causes and potential treatments for a number of diseases that can be fatal in both humans and animals.

"These diseases have been recognized in dogs for many years, but now we have the tools

to do something about it," says O'Brien, who was recently named as the first Chancellor's Chair of Excellence in Comparative Neurology. "In the past, there was little that we could do other than treat the symptoms. Now, with pets, we can identify the genes responsible and breed away from some of these problems. We also have the human connection to these diseases, and as we learn from research on both species, we can apply it to both humans and animals and everyone will benefit."

Currently, researchers with the comparative neurology program are investigating several diseases that can affect dogs and humans. These diseases include:

- Epilepsy — a common disease characterized by

repetitive seizures. It has many different causes, but it is thought to be a hereditary condition in many dogs.

- Parkinson's disease — caused by a loss of a neurotransmitter, dopamine, in nerve cells. Symptoms include tremors, stiff muscles or movement, and difficulty with balancing and walking. In humans, Parkinson's is a disease of the elderly, while in dogs it is a hereditary disease affecting young dogs.

- Degenerative myelopathy — a common neurological disease that affects the spinal cords in adult dogs. Typically, the dog will lose function of its rear legs and, eventually, will be paralyzed.

At the same time that researchers are investigating

these diseases, O'Brien and his team also are working in the MU veterinary teaching hospital in Clydesdale Hall, to applying their knowledge to help dogs now. For example, the program recently received an underwater treadmill that will help rehabilitate dogs that have suffered spinal or nerve injuries and are temporarily paralyzed.

"Moving in water is great therapy," O'Brien explains. "You don't have to support any body weight, but at the same time, the muscles have to work through some resistance. This helps to exercise the limbs."

The Chancellor's Fund contains unrestricted donations to be used for the University's highest needs and priorities.

'Smart rug' will sense seniors' falls

Nearly one-third of American 65 and older fall each year, and such falls cause more deaths than any other injury, government statistics show. Harry Tyrer, professor of electrical and computer engineering, has received \$200,000 from the Alzheimer's Association to work with MU's Sinclair School of Nursing to develop a "smart" carpet that would electronically monitor a senior's location and sound an alert in the event of a fall.

Tyrer, along with Myra Aud, associate professor of nursing, is exploring how new sensor construction technology may apply to the problem. Their "smart carpet" project incorporates a new type of sensor that can be printed on thin, flexible sheets using what is known as "organic ink." These sensors are flexible and potentially inexpensive, making it practical to use them by the thousands on a sensor sheet layered between a room's carpet and carpet pad.

Tyrer is developing circuits that will feed the sensor sheet's signals several times a second to a computer for display and electronic analysis. A caregiver would be able to see where a person steps on a smart carpet, assess that person's gait and act immediately if the person falls.

"Current floor sensor systems rely on vibration readings that may be easily misinterpreted," Tyrer says. "I think of the 'smart carpet' system as a significant improvement and a way for seniors to live both independently and safely longer, providing caregivers or family members an electronic emergency alert system."

Teens can take online drivers ed courses

DVD DRIVERS

Online course puts new drivers behind the wheel of a virtual car

With fewer Missouri school districts offering formal driving instruction, teenagers across the state are finding it more difficult to take driver education. A newly launched online course from the University of Missouri High School may turn that trend around, using technology to give beginning drivers the next best option to on-the-road training.

MU High School's interactive driver education course is available year-round, allowing students to enroll at any time and take up to nine months to finish while working at their own pace, says Kristi Smalley, the school's principal.

"Every community has been touched by the loss of young drivers in crashes that could have been prevented," Smalley says. "With many schools no longer able to afford driver education

programs, we saw a need to fill that gap for families to ensure their teens are equipped as much as possible to become safe, responsible drivers."

To prepare students for safe driving before they get behind the wheel, the course teaches them how to operate a car and about rules of the road and other driving basics. They study defensive driving maneuvers and strategies for driving in cities and on highways and rural roads.

An accompanying DVD features real-life driving videos with multi-angle 3-D graphics and animations that emphasize key aspects of the video clips, Smalley says. Lessons focus on complex driving skills and hazards students will confront while driving. Interactive features also enable students to check and confirm their understanding of important driving concepts as they go through the lessons.

"Online learning continues to be an efficient tool to extend opportunities to students that otherwise would not

be possible," says Carter D. Ward, executive director of the Missouri School Boards' Association and board member of the U.S. Distance Learning Association. "I applaud the University of Missouri High School for recognizing how 'learning by distance' can effectively be used to provide instruction to beginning drivers — wherever they reside in our state or nation."

The Missouri Department of Transportation reports that drivers ages 16 to 20 were involved in more than 22,000 crashes in 2006. The state ranked ninth in a National Safety Council study looking at collisions involving at least one driver in that same age group.

The course tackles one of the newer behaviors contributing to that trend and also attracting much public attention — distracted driving. Teenagers talking on cell phones, text-messaging and transporting friends can be a disaster waiting to happen, says Gary Maddox,

director of MU Extension's Law Enforcement Training Institute.

Maddox's certified defensive-driving staff reviewed and approved the course, which was created by a former Missouri Driver and Safety Education Association teacher of the year. Students who complete Driver Education earn a half-unit of credit, equivalent to a semester-length course.

MU High School, part of University of Missouri Extension's Center for Distance and Independent Study, offers a comprehensive curriculum of more than 150 courses to students who want to supplement studies at their local schools, or who choose to pursue a diploma entirely online.

Offering online courses since 1997 and with more than 15,000 course enrollments last year, MUHS is the state's first and largest online secondary education provider. For more information and costs, visit <http://cdis.missouri.edu/go/drive.aspx> or call 1-800-609-3727.

calendar



Concerts & Plays

Thursday, January 31

THEATER SERIES: *Tango*, by Slawomir Mrozek and directed by Kevin McFillen, will be presented at 8 p.m. today, Feb. 1, 2, 7, 8 and 9, and at 2 p.m. Feb. 10 in the Corner Playhouse. For ticket information call 882-PLAY.

Saturday, February 2

UNIVERSITY CONCERT SERIES: The L.A. Theatre Works will present *Top Secret: The Battle for the Pentagon Papers* at 7 p.m. in Jesse Auditorium. For ticket information, call 882-3781.

FACULTY RECITAL: Music faculty members Janice Wenger and Julie Knerr will perform on piano at 8 p.m. in Whitmore Recital hall. A \$5 donation is suggested.

Sunday, February 3

GUEST ARTIST: Soprano Michelle Debruyne and Shih-Hsing Cheng will present a master class at 3 p.m. in Whitmore Recital Hall. A \$5 donation is suggested.

Monday, February 4

UNIVERSITY CONCERT SERIES: Natalie MacMaster, a virtuoso on the Celtic fiddle, will perform at 7 p.m. in Jesse Auditorium. For ticket information, call 882-3781.

GUEST ARTIST RECITAL:

Soprano Michelle Debruyne and Shih-Hsing Cheng will present a recital at 8 p.m. in Whitmore Recital Hall. A \$5 donation is suggested.

Tuesday, February 5

FACULTY RECITAL: The Concordia String Trio will perform at 8 p.m. in Whitmore Recital hall. A \$5 donation is suggested.

Wednesday, February 6

STUDENT RECITAL: The MU Bassoon Ensemble will perform at 8:30 p.m. in Whitmore Recital Hall. A \$5 donation is suggested.

Friday, February 8

UNIVERSITY CONCERT SERIES: The Royal Scots Dragoons and the Band of the Coldstream Guards will perform at 7 p.m. in Jesse Auditorium. For ticket information, call 882-3781.

STUDENT RECITAL: Soprano Emily Bennett and Rachel AuBuchon on piano will present a senior recital at 7 p.m. in Whitmore Recital Hall.

Exhibits

MUSEUM OF ART & ARCHAEOLOGY:

- "Daumier's Paris: Life in the 19th Century City" features lithographs by France's most famous printmaker and caricaturist. The exhibition, to be shown in three installments, runs through June 2008.
- "Ancient Glass from the

Permanent Collection" demonstrates ancient glass manufacture techniques that date to Greek, Roman and Byzantine times.

- "South Asian Sculpture" features selections of Buddhist and Hindu sculpture, including stone reliefs from ancient Gandhara that show early Buddhist imagery.

The museum, located in Pickard Hall, is open from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and from noon-4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

BINGHAM GALLERY: "Peopled Paintings," an exhibit that explores the work of eight artists and their diverse approaches to painting the human form, is on display through Feb. 7. An opening reception will be held from 6-9 p.m. Jan. 25 at the gallery.

STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY:

- "Picturing Native Americans in the 19th Century: Lithographs from McKenney and Hall's *History of the Indian Tribes of North America*" features hand-colored lithographs of 19th century Native-American leaders in the society's main gallery through March 15.
- "Missouri Cities: Images From the Permanent Collection" includes photos, engravings, drawings and watercolors from the 19th and 20th centuries through April 18 in the north-south gallery.

The main gallery is open 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and 5-8 p.m. Tuesday, and 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Wednesday to Saturday. The corridor galleries are open 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday and Wednesday-Friday; 8 a.m.-9 p.m. Tuesday; and 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Saturday.

Courses & Workshops

Sunday, February 3

MUSEUM CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP: "Glass With Class" is an art experience for

children in grades 1-8 and accompanying adults from 2-3:30 p.m. Preregistration is required; call 882-9498.

Monday, February 4

COMPUTER TRAINING: "Creating Web Pages" will be offered at 1 p.m. in N3 Memorial Union. Registration is required; call 882-2000 or register online at training.missouri.edu.

Tuesday, February 5

COMPUTER TRAINING:

- "Dreamweaver 8 3: Assets, Rollovers & Multimedia" will be offered at 8:30 a.m. in N3 Memorial Union.
- "Excel 2007 Primer" will be offered at 1 p.m. in N3 Memorial Union.
- "Word 2007 Primer" will be offered at 1 p.m. in 4D11 Ellis Library. Registration is required; call 882-2000 or register online at training.missouri.edu.

Wednesday, February 6

COMPUTER TRAINING:

- "Photoshop CS2: Selections & Layers" will be offered at 8:30 a.m. in N3 Memorial Union.
- "Excel 2007 Worksheets & 3-D Formulas" will be offered at 1 p.m. in N3 Memorial Union. Registration is required; call 882-2000 or register online at training.missouri.edu.

Thursday, February 7

COMPUTER TRAINING:

- "Photoshop CS2: Advanced Techniques" will be offered at 8:30 a.m. in N3 Memorial Union.
- "Excel 2003 Formatting and Printing" will be offered at 8:30 a.m. in 4D11 East Ellis Library.
- "Illustrator CS2 1: Shapes & Paths" will be offered at 1 p.m. in N3 Memorial Union. Registration is required; call 882-2000 or register online at training.missouri.edu.

Friday, February 8

COMPUTER TRAINING: "Access 2007 Forms & Reports" will be offered at 8:30 a.m. in N3 Memorial Union. Registration is required; call 882-2000 or register online at training.missouri.edu.

Lectures & Seminars

Thursday, January 31

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS SEMINAR: "Discussion of Changes in Iraq" will be presented at noon in S016 Memorial Union.

MICROBIOLOGY & IMMUNOLOGY SEMINAR: Jeffery Becker, professor of microbiology at the University of Tennessee, will present "G Protein-Coupled Receptors: A Yeast Model System Reveals Aspects of Receptor Structure and Function" at 1:15 p.m. in Acuff Auditorium, MA217 Medical Sciences Building.

NUTRITIONAL SCIENCES SEMINAR: Frank Booth, professor of veterinary biomedical sciences, will present "Provocative Comments on Causes of Obesity" at 4 p.m. in Acuff Auditorium, MA217 Medical Sciences Building.

ARCHAEOLOGY LECTURE: Naomi Norman, associate professor of classics at the University of Georgia, will present "Dead Men Do Tell Tales: The Yasmina Cemetery at Carthage" at 5:30 p.m. in 106 Pickard Hall.

Saturday, February 2

SATURDAY MORNING SCIENCE: Angela Speck, assistant professor of physics and astronomy, will present "Pluto's Demise and Resurrection" at 10:30 a.m. in the Life Sciences Center's Monsanto Auditorium.



Parking & Transportation Services

Turner Avenue Garage
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882-4568

Parking Structure #7 Construction Progress Update

Thirty-eight tons of rebar have been delivered to the project to satisfy a portion of the structure's footings. More deliveries forthcoming. Concrete footings for the structure were started last week. Some of the larger footings require 40 cubic yards of concrete, which equates to approximately 80 tons of concrete. Precast erection is scheduled to start in March 2008.

parking.missouri.edu

EFFECTIVE 2008!

In an effort to make the University community more aware of many staff-based departments on campus, the Staff Advisory Council is starting a "Staff Council Salutes" program. Each month one department will be **HIGHLIGHTED** on the Staff Advisory Council website.

Contact the Staff Advisory Council office if you have a department you would like to nominate!

January's SALUTE goes to:

SOS Temporary Staffing

- Their motto: "At SOS, Our Top Priority is Your Success"
- In 2006 they placed 430 temporary employees in 1,300 assignments

Find out more by visiting the SAC website: <http://staffcouncil.missouri.edu/>



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Monday, February 4

SOIL & ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCE SEMINAR: Irene Unger, graduate research assistant in forestry, will present "The Effects of Flooding on the Physical, Chemical and Biotic Properties of Riparian Soils" at 4 p.m. in 123 Natural Resources Building.

ART HISTORY & ARCHAEOLOGY

LECTURE: Petra Ceferin, an architect who practices in Ljubljana, Slovenia, and is a visiting Fulbright scholar at Columbia University, will present "Finland Wonderland: Architectural Laboratory at

the Edge of Europe" at 5 p.m. in 106 Pickard Hall.

Tuesday, February 5

DIVERSITY IN ACTION SEMINAR: Stephen Jeanetta, Extension state specialist in community development, will present his research on "Circles of Hope: A Model Development Process for Creating Voice and Engaging Women in Community Change" from noon-1:30 p.m. in N208 Memorial Union.

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES SEMINAR: William Friedman from the University of Colorado-Boulder will

present "An Evolutionary-Developmental Perspective on the Angiosperm Reproductive Syndrome" at 3:30 p.m. in the Life Sciences Center's Monsanto Auditorium.

Wednesday, February 6

MUSEUM LECTURE: Alex Barker, director of the Museum of Art and Archaeology, will present "Iconography and Iconology" at 12:15 p.m. in the museums European and American Gallery.

Thursday, February 7

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS SEMINAR: Donald Scruggs,

professor emeritus at Stephens College, will present "Struggle for Direct Democracy in Hong Kong" at noon in S203 Memorial Union.

WOMEN & GENDER STUDIES COLLOQUIUM: Visiting scholar Mary Thomas will present "Feminism and Geography" at a brown-bag event from noon-1 p.m. in 325 Strickland Hall (formerly GCB).

NUTRITIONAL SCIENCES SEMINAR: Mick Petris, associate professor of biochemistry and nutrition, will present "Uncovering roles for Copper in Common Diseases" at 4 p.m. in

Acuff Auditorium, MA 217 Medical Sciences Building.

WOMEN & GENDER STUDIES LECTURE: Visiting scholar Mary Thomas will present "Racial-Ethnic Conflict, Masculine Violence and Feminine Desire in a Los Angeles High School" at 4 p.m. in 104 Tate Hall.

Friday, February 8

RELIGION & PROFESSIONS FORUM: MU faculty and graduate students will showcase their research that blends religion with their academic discipline at noon in Tucker Forum, 85 Gannett Hall.

LAWMAKERS from Page 1

Rep. Steve Hobbs, R-Mexico, said that, as always, a key priority this session will be the University's general operating budget. In Blunt's 2009 state budget proposal, the governor recommended a \$107 million increase in the core budget for higher education across the state. For the University of Missouri System, that increase would mean a 4.2 percent boost for the operating budget.

The governor's budget proposal also included a \$31 million capital appropriation to build a new facility for MU's Ellis Fischel Cancer Center; \$13.4 million for the "Preparing to Care" program to increase the number of trained health professionals in the state; and \$5 million for an expanded facility for MU's Thompson Center for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders.

Hobbs said the University is fortunate to have a legislative delegation that works together to support higher education. "There will be a lot of talk this session about higher education scholarships and the cost of tuition — ways we can get more scholarships out to folks — so that's going to be helpful," he said.

Sen. Chuck Graham, D-Columbia, said the University in the past several years has been on trajectory where tuition makes up a larger percentage of its budget than state appropriations. "That's a trajectory we need to turn around," Graham said. "We never want to get to that point where the best and the brightest aren't able to come here."

In reviewing the prospects for the University this session, Graham said there could be "great opportunities for capital projects," with the biggest one being the \$31 million appropriation for Ellis Fischel. "One of the things I'm not hearing this year is any talk about adding anti-research language" that would restrict activities in University buildings and labs, Graham said. "I think a number of people have

come around to understanding that that's really something that we don't want to do."

Graham said there was talk before the current legislative session began that some lawmakers might propose a higher education funding formula, "which, of course, we should keep an eye on, because we're a different institution than everybody else in the state," he said.

"If we're going to go to a formula, which we don't have for higher education, we need to be very careful about what kind of formula we enter into," Graham said. "It could help, but it's more likely right now it would probably be harmful to the institution."

For instance, a funding formula based on a per-pupil enrollment would not recognize the much higher costs of running a national research university with its focus on graduate and professional education.

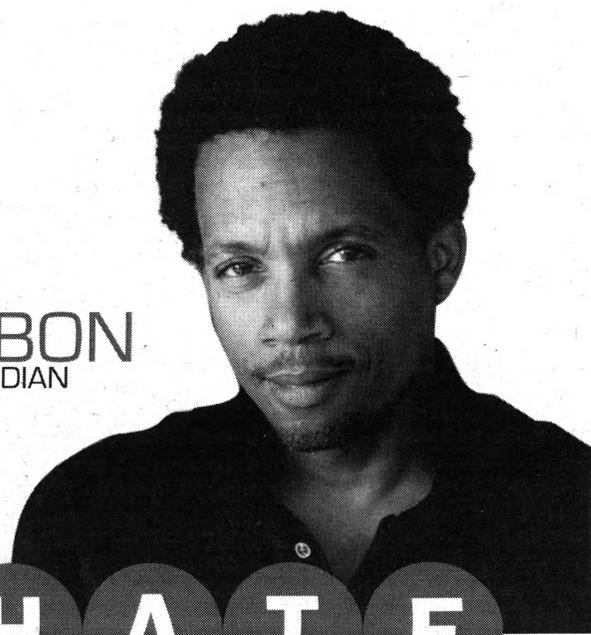
Graham also suggested that the University consider a new approach to setting priorities for capital improvement projects. The traditional approach, he said, has been for capital building projects to wait their turn as they move up the list of approved projects. Although in recent years, MU has advanced building priorities when funding from the state or private donors becomes available.

Graham pointed to Gov. Blunt's recent proposal to include \$5 million in the 2009 budget for an expanded facility for MU's Thompson Center for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders. He predicted there would be a lot of support in Jefferson City for the Thompson Center project.

"In this era of term limits, I would suggest to you that this is a good way of looking at some of the projects that you may get," he said. "Right now, there is a heightened support in the legislature for autism and autism research. I think sometimes you need to step back from the regular process of (deciding) who gets the next

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Photo ID laws don't lower voter turnout

'OVERWROUGHT' ARGUMENTS?

Researcher studies law's impact in Indiana

With the 2008 Presidential election less than a year away, many states are working to require photo identification from all voters in an attempt to curb illegal voting. Critics argue that the requirement is unconstitutional and will ultimately reduce participation in elections. However, a recent study of Indiana's photo ID law, conducted by an MU researcher, found that requiring identification doesn't have much impact on voter turnout rates.

Jeffrey Milyo, professor of economics and public affairs at Mizzou and the Hanna Family Scholar in the Center for Applied Economics at the University of Kansas, notes that overall voter turnout in Indiana actually increased after the implementation of a photo ID law. His study evaluated the effects of photo identification requirements by comparing

county-level turnout in Indiana in the 2002 and 2006 mid-term elections, since the current ID law was not in place in 2002.

"Previous studies have examined the effects of voter ID laws more generally, but none of these separately analyzes the effects of so called 'mandatory photo ID' on turnout in Indiana," Milyo says. "I examined a variety of models on voter turnout. After controlling for several factors that influence countywide turnout, there is no consistent or statistically significant evidence that the photo ID law depressed turnout in counties with greater percentages of minority, poor or elderly voters. Contrary to conventional wisdom, turnout in Democratic-leaning counties actually increased in the wake of the new photo ID requirements, all else constant."

The Indiana law is currently before the U.S. Supreme Court this term and will be decided by early summer, potentially setting the precedent for pending legislation nationwide. Opponents contend that stringent photo ID requirements

place a burden on the right to vote and lower turnout from Democrats, minorities, the elderly and low-income citizens. Specifically, the Indiana law has been described as the "most onerous" or "most Draconian" in the nation. Milyo says nothing could be further from the truth.

"Existing theory and empirical research suggest that the impact of photo ID on voter turnout should be negligible; overwrought claims to the contrary are simply not supported by the evidence," he says. "If opponents of voter ID laws really want to remove barriers to voting, they should consider working to make it easier for people to keep their voter registration current, rather than working to undermine the enforcement of voter registration laws."

The study, "The Effects of Photographic Identification on Voter Turnout in Indiana: A County Level Analysis," was published by MU's Institute of Public Policy in the Truman School of Public Affairs.

IN brief

Task force article omitted member's name

An article in the Jan. 24 issue of *Mizzou Weekly* about a new campus task force on teaching and learning omitted the name of a task force member. The article should have included the name of Pablo Mendoza, assistant director of Student Life for multicultural affairs.

Development awards celebrate values

The second Development and Alumni Relations Columns of Excellence Awards ceremony, held Jan. 7 in the Reynolds Alumni Center, celebrated the values of respect, responsibility, discovery, diversity, pride and tradition.

David Housh vice chancellor for Development and Alumni Relations, presented awards to six staff members in his division who demonstrate these values in their work. The values celebrated are a combination of MU's core values and the Mizzou Alumni Association's guideposts.

Mark Thomas, senior director of development corporate and foundation relations, won the award for discovery. Cindy Frazier, associate executive director of the Mizzou Alumni Association for fiscal and administration, received the award for responsibility.

Sue Dunkin, executive director for advancement at the School of Medicine, received the award for respect. Melinda Crawford, office supervisor of the Biographical Records Department, earned the award for diversity. Candy Whittet, executive staff assistant, won the award for pride. Jeneva Powell, special events coordinator in the School of Health Professions, received the award for tradition.

A right move on copyright savings

Course materials can be expensive, and to ease some of that financial burden for MU students, the University of Missouri Libraries and Mizzou Media, a division of the University Bookstore, have identified materials that are licensed to the library and can be distributed to students in course packets.

When the libraries subscribe to electronic journal packages, the licenses may allow use of articles for a variety of teaching and research purposes, including the distribution of electronic articles through print course packets and as class handouts. Staff at Mizzou Media typically pay copyright fees to reproduce and distribute the materials that professors and instructors choose to include in course packets. This cost is passed on to the students when they purchase the packet.

By identifying the journal licenses that allow duplication of materials for course packs, Mizzou Media is able to cut the cost of the course packets and pass that savings on to the students. The annual, overall savings for MU students is estimated to be approximately \$10,000.

MU Libraries and Mizzou Media plan to continue to work together to identify database licenses that allow distribution of articles in course packets. They also work with database vendors to try and negotiate contracts that allow for this use, which over time should lead to even more savings for students.

Turner takes new development post

Jo Turner, who served as leader of Missouri's 4-H Youth Development Program for a decade, resigned her 4-H Youth program director, effective Dec. 31, to take on a new role in the University development office.

Turner currently is director of development for a new statewide MU scholarship program that will provide extraordinary funding for Missouri residents. In this role, she will assist MU Development and MU Extension in raising funds to support more than 100 special scholarships.

"This initiative presents an exciting opportunity to develop closer partnerships among our county Extension programs, student recruitment and support for the University of Missouri," Turner says. During 2008, she will continue to dedicate 20 percent of her time to the national 4-H "Study of Positive Youth Development."

Turner began her MU Extension career in 1976 as an area 4-H youth specialist. She served as a state 4-H youth specialist, became director of the Missouri 4-H Youth program in 1996 and culminated her Extension career as interim vice provost and director of Cooperative Extension from December 2005 to December 2006.

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LAWMAKERS from Page 5
 enough health professionals to take care of them," Baker said. In recent months Gordon Lamb, UM System interim president, and other education leaders have publicly promoted an initiative to provide \$38 million annually to increase by 20 percent the number of graduating health care professionals in Missouri.

Baker acknowledged that the governor's budget recommendation of \$13.4 million for the program is much lower

than requested. "I want us to try to do as much for that program as we possibly can, since there is a political will to do it," she said.

She recommended that if push comes to shove in the state budget progress, the health training program should take precedence over college scholarships. "Why do we give more and more for scholarships — and by the way, a lot of that scholarship money

goes to private institutions — when we don't have the capacity to allow people into programs where we need them the most?" Baker asked.

She said she's been impressed by the work of a research group at the University that is studying health care workforce needs in the state to help ensure that there is "the right care for the right person at the right time by the right professional all

across the state of Missouri."

Baker said she was also impressed by her experience on a biotechnology fact-finding team that toured Missouri last fall asking leaders of high-tech companies what they needed most to be successful.

"Almost every place we went, they would say, 'Support higher education and, more specifically, support MU.' So there are a lot of people out

there who want us to get what is due the University," Baker said.

"They know this is a research university. They know this is the best economic development (support) we've got in the state. They want to get behind it, and they're beginning to put pressure on legislators. So there's hope out there, and I think we're going to have much better years ahead for the University of Missouri."

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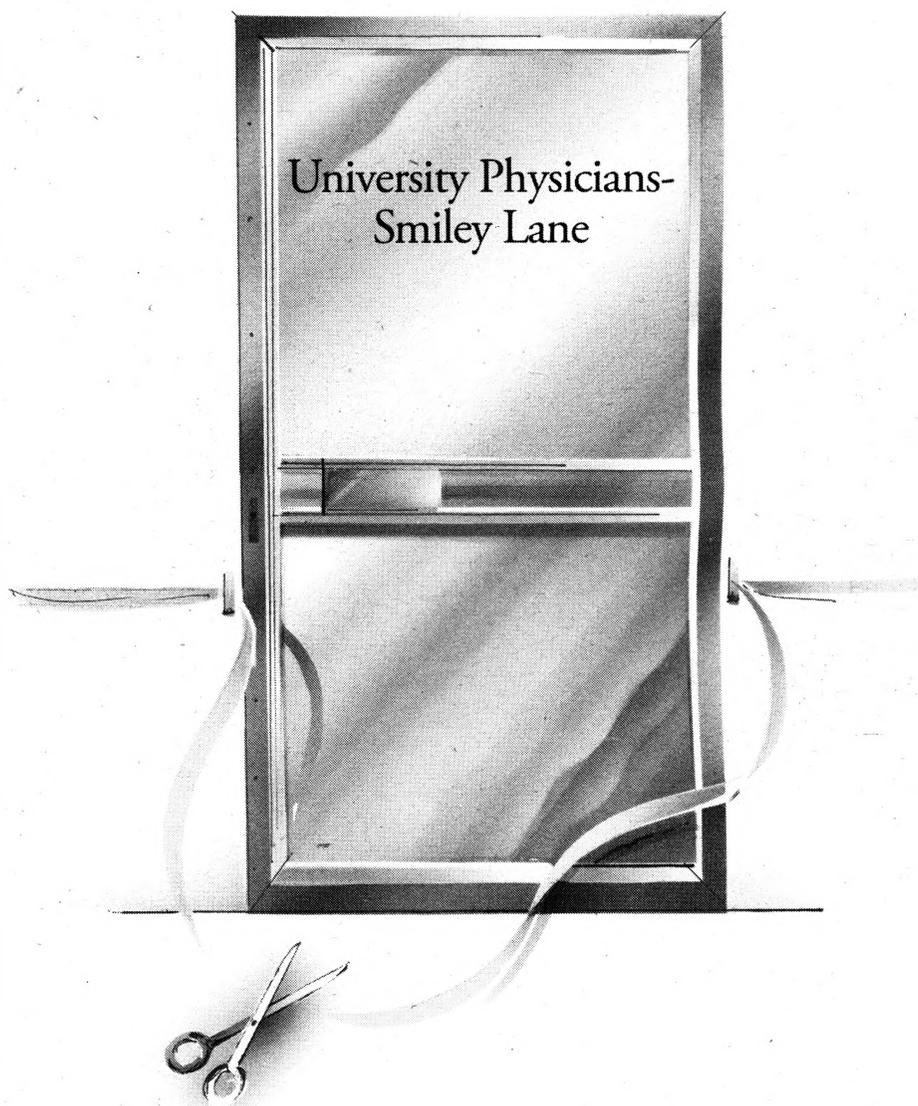
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Coral conservation

REEF RESCUE

Study-abroad squad rebuilds damaged coral reefs

It's hard enough for a scuba-diving newcomer to plant coral seedlings in a seabed on the other side of the world. It is harder still when a NBC TV news camera follows your every move.

During winter break, 15 College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources students spent three weeks studying conservation and biodiversity in Thailand. Roy Robinson, the college's program director of international studies, and Robert Sites, professor of plant sciences, guided the students through explorations of cultural sites such as the Grand Palace, the ancient ruins of Ayuthaya, a clouded leopard breeding facility and tropical forests of Khao Yai National Park.

Farther south, the project also explored coral reef conservation techniques along the coastline and islands of the Andaman Sea. This was no watch-from-the-sidelines expedition. The students learned how to don wetsuits and oxygen tanks to help transplant healthy coral scrubs from a nursery to reefs damaged by pollution, over-tourism and natural disaster.

NBC became interested in the students' work for their Making a Difference segment on the NBC Nightly News. The MU students' coral rescue work could be featured in a future segment or on the network's weekend *Today Show* and Web page.

Coral reefs are one of the true natural treasures of our earth, Robinson says. Some are more than 200 million years old and are home to an enormous variety of life forms, which is why they are often compared with tropical rainforests.



Photo courtesy of Bob Sites

COASTAL CLASSROOM Two MU study-abroad students spent part of their winter break transferring racks of young coral from an underwater coral nursery to be transplanted on coral reefs that were damaged or killed by the 2004 tsunami.



Photo courtesy of Bob Sites

FOR THE RECORD The 15 MU study-abroad students who traveled to Thailand over semester break took the plunge when they helped replant dying coral reefs in the Andaman Sea. Trip organizers report that this group photograph took more than a little coordination: A scuba-equipped conductor floated off camera and orchestrated the group's breathing in unison so bubbles wouldn't obscure the shot.

Coral reefs are a complex system of uncountable micro-living spaces. In addition to the visible plants and animals, there are millions of nearly invisible, microscopic organisms that reside in these micro-caves and crevices inside of the coral blocks. Legions of tiny creatures called 'zooplankton' live directly above the reef. These creatures are an essential link in the reef food chain.

Thailand's coral reefs are threatened by damage from tourism and pollution. On Dec. 26, 2004, a giant tsunami covered the delicate coral with hundreds of tons of debris that had to be painstakingly plucked off.

Robinson says that the study-abroad students took the NBC correspondent's interest in stride, treating the experience as

one more learning opportunity that will help them prepare to work in an increasingly global marketplace. The students described their impressions of their work and what they were learning through interviews, sometimes while the students ate their lunchtime Thai food.

The trip is one of several that the college offers. Other student groups have traveled to South Africa, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, New Zealand and Germany. The students earned five credit hours for their efforts. Before their trip, the students studied in the classroom the culture, language, and academic aspects of conservation and biodiversity of Thailand.

Future classes may need briefings on media relations.

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