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DEATH

Continued from Page 1

fall.

"We have witnesses who saw her in mid-flight," he said.

Birr said the witnesses' accounts of the fall were consistent with a fall off the balcony. He said he didn't believe it was possible she could have fallen from one of the PLC windows, which are located on the building's west side.

Police saw no indication of possible foul play, Birr said.

A number of students walking by the scene turned their heads for a glance, only to stop with their jaws dropped and exclamations coming from their mouths. The biggest crowd gathered at the 9:20 a.m. class break, when a number of students stopped to look down into the sunken courtyard at the covered body.

University seniors Amy

Buckhouse and Christina Bailey said they were walking to campus together nearby PLC when the incident occurred. They said several others were also there.

"I was walking by when someone who was calling emergency was saying a woman fell from PLC," Buckhouse said. "There was a lot of silence. The people who were down with her were pretty helpless."

Bailey said she didn't see the point in going to class Monday morning.

"It's a little bit too disturbing to go sit in class," she said.

When the incident occurred, senior Matt Burrell said he was standing near where the EMU Food Van normally sits outside of Knight Library.

"I only caught a glimpse, but I heard it," he said. "I thought it was construction."

Burrell said he also saw another witness who nearly faint-

ed and then left the scene.

"There was a girl who freaked out and took off," he said. "She left as soon as it happened."

Birr said the deceased woman, who carried Top brand "roll-your-own" tobacco, may have been smoking in the ninth-floor men's bathroom prior to her fall. He said police smelled a heavy smoke odor upon entering the bathroom, which is located just inside the balcony door.

Birr said a member of the University's political science department also said he saw a woman matching the deceased's description sitting in a chair on the ninth-floor balcony smoking at 8 a.m.

Police found a multicolored scarf and a pair of dark blue gloves on the balcony and discovered more of the same tobacco and a dark green trenchcoat in the bathroom. EPD be-

lieves the items may have belonged to the woman.

Elaine Greene, the associate dean of students, said counselors were present at the site to talk with students who may have been disturbed by the scene. She said further assistance is available at the University Counseling Center.

The death was the first suicide on campus since a 1985 incident when a male student awaiting his appointment at the counseling center jumped three floors to his death from Susan Campbell Hall, said University archivist Keith Richard.

In May 1970, a 57-year-old dean at the University apparently jumped to his death from PLC. Leroy Merritt, dean of the School of Librarianship, fell from the same balcony.

Police urge anyone with information relating to Monday's incident or the woman's identity to call 687-5121.

CADAVERS

Continued from Page 1

came because we were curious; most of us had never seen a dead body before.

The dank smell of preserving chemicals hung in the air as we entered the lab. Four black-bagged bodies lay on stainless steel gurneys in the back of the room. Plastic buckets hung underneath the gurneys, holding a brown liquid of waste and dissected fat from the bodies.

Pat Lombardi, our professor, marched over to one of the bodies, zipped open the bag and pulled out a heart. It looked like a deflated football, which was how Lombardi carried it. We examined it, comparing it to a plastic model that looked much more impressive.

I was grateful to Lombardi for easing us into the cadaver-viewing process. I wanted to see just a part of the body before I took in the whole thing.

But then the moment came.

Lombardi motioned us over to the gurneys, announcing that we were going to see just two of the bodies.

"That one's getting old and infested," he said, pointing to another black bag. "You don't want to look at that one."

He unzipped the first bag, revealing a human form wrapped in damp, brown towels. He slowly unwrapped the towels, uncovering a brownish-purple body that had obviously been worked on by anatomy students.

Its skin had been cut away, showing muscle, bones, tendons and veins — all of the same freezer-burned meat color.

It didn't look like a person, although parts of the body that hadn't been cut away told



File photo
Students take a peek at the inner workings of the human body in the cadaver lab located in Klamath Hall.

me this thing had once been a man. He died when he was about 60 to 70 years old, Lombardi guessed.

The other body was a woman about 75 years old. She had a large corn on the bottom of one of her brown feet — the one that still had its skin.

Wisps of gray hair framed her grandmotherly face, which looked normal when I stood at her feet. As I moved closer to the other end of the gurney, I saw that the top half of her skull had been sawed off. Everything inside her head had been removed; only a smooth round cavern like a hollow

'That one's getting old and infested. You don't want to look at that one.'

— Pat Lombardi,
Physiology professor

mannequin head was left.

"Did they have names?" a student wondered. Lombardi said the anatomy students usually name their subjects, but he didn't know what they'd named these.

"One year the central theme was *Gilligan's Island*," Lombardi said. "There was the Professor and Ginger ... It depends on who does it, I guess."

It was easy to see why the anatomy students would name them like you'd name dolls — they didn't look like humans. Most of my classmates and I were surprised by this; I guess we'd expected something a little more graphic.

Lombardi said he'd had the same expectations when he was a student.

"I thought it would be more bloody, that things would look more real," he said.

But the bodies weren't gross the way a horror movie is gross. They were physiology roadmaps lying on stainless steel. Their flesh looked like the flesh of dead animals, which millions of people eat every day.

After an hour, I peeled off my brown-stained gloves and walked calmly into the night.

And I thought about becoming a vegetarian.

LAW SCHOOL



- How do you get in?
- What do you do when you get there?
- What do you do when you get out?

by **Martha Spence,**

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