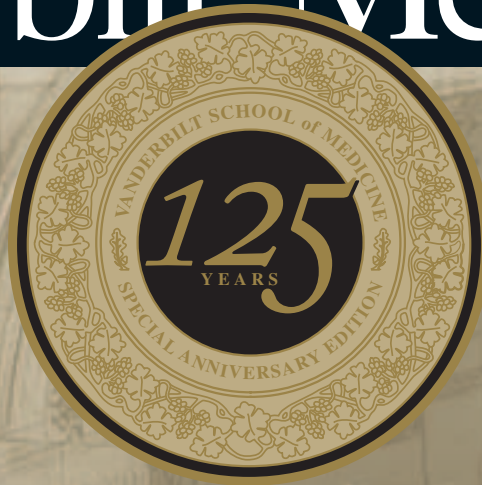
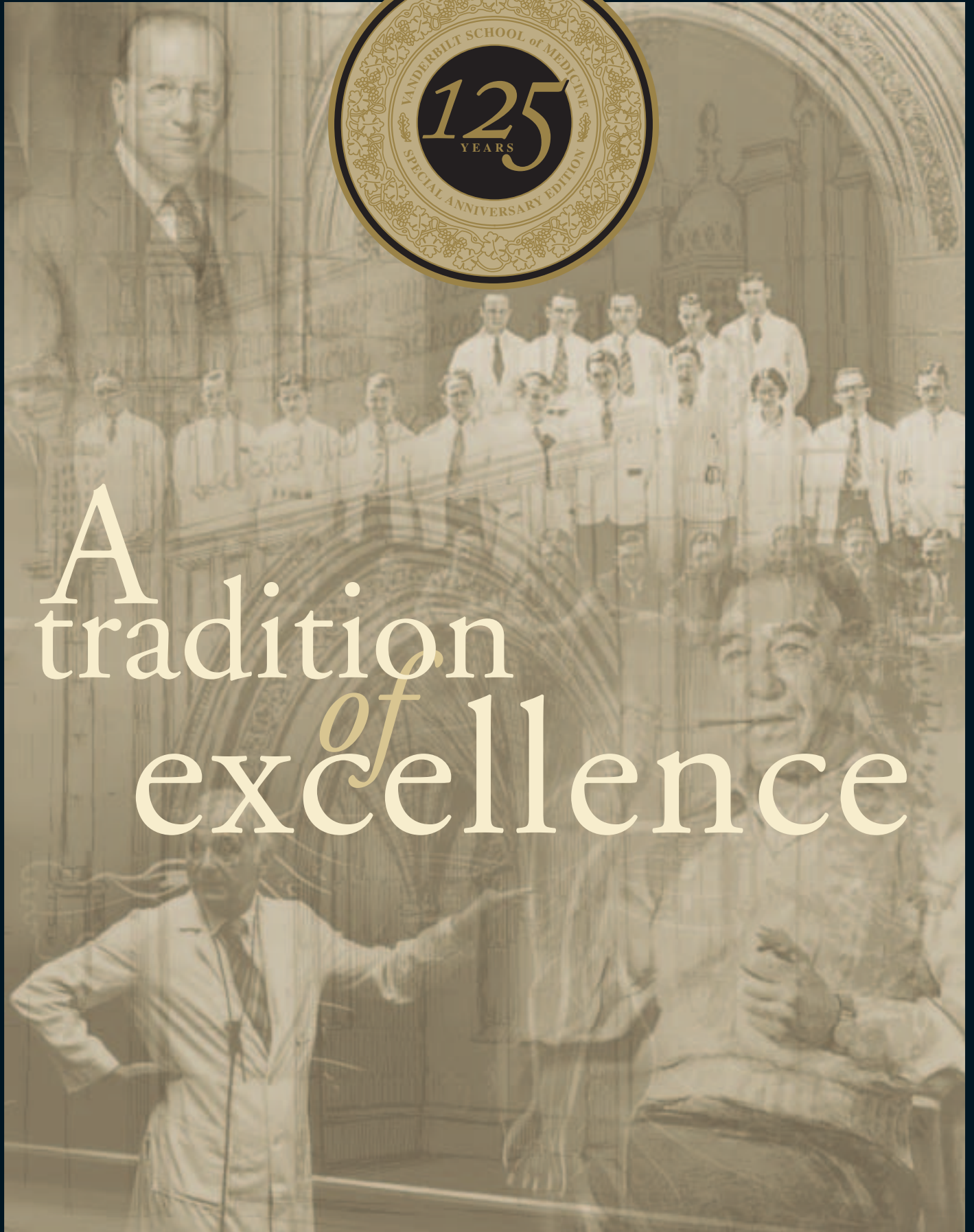


Vanderbilt Medicine



A
tradition
of
excellence



Calendar of Events



october

Oct. 19-21

Medical Alumni
Reunion
*Vanderbilt Medical
Center*

Oct. 19

6:30 p.m.
Thomas E. Brittingham
Society Reception and
Dinner
*Hermitage Hotel,
Nashville*

Oct. 24

American College of
Surgeons Annual
Meeting
*Reception at Chicago
Athletic Association*

Oct. 24

5-7 p.m.
American Academy of
Ophthalmology
Annual Meeting
*Giles Savage Society
Reception
Hyatt Regency
Dallas, Texas*

Oct. 30

6-7 p.m.
American Academy
of Pediatrics Annual
Meeting
*Reception at
Chicago Hilton*

november

Nov. 2

6-7:30 p.m.

Southern Medical Association
Annual Meeting
*Reception at Rosen Centre Hotel
Orlando, Fla.*

Nov. 12

American Heart Association Annual
Meeting
*Gottlieb Friesinger Society Reception
Plimssoll Club
New Orleans, La.*



Splendid Spain

The Medical Alumni Association will be sponsoring a trip to Spain June 26-July 3, 2001. Home base for seven nights will be Ubeda, with side trips scheduled for Cordoba, Granada, Cazorla and Madrid.

FALL 2000

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EDITOR

Nancy Humphrey

DIRECTOR OF PUBLICATIONS
MEDICAL CENTER NEWS
AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Wayne Wood

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Leigh MacMillan

Cynthia Manley

Doug Campbell

Barb Cramer

Kathleen Whitney

PHOTOGRAPHY

Dean Dixon

Dana Johnson

Tommy Lawson

Anne Rayner

DESIGN

Diana Duren/Corporate Design, Nashville

EDITORIAL OFFICE

Office of News and Public Affairs

CCC-3312 Medical Center North

Vanderbilt University

Nashville, Tennessee 37232-2390

VANDERBILT MEDICAL
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

D-8200 Medical Center North

Nashville, TN 37232-2106

615-322-6146

1-800-288-0266

Fax: 615-343-0809

email: medalum@mcmail.vanderbilt.edu

Visit us at: www.mc.vanderbilt.edu/alum-affairs

Vanderbilt Medicine



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Meet the legendary teachers and researchers.



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A look at the causes and treatments of schizophrenia.

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Some thoughts from those who know him best.

On the cover:

Faces from the past include Drs. Canby Robinson (top left) and Jack Davies (bottom left), Stanley Cohen, Ph.D. (bottom right) and the class and faculty of 1929.

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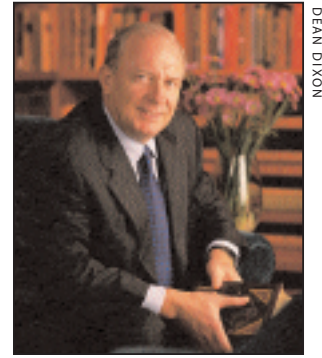
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BY HARRY R. JACOBSON, M.D.
Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs

a lifelong commitment

This year we are celebrating the 125th anniversary of the Vanderbilt School of Medicine. In 1875 the first graduate of the newly constituted Vanderbilt University, William Henry Morgan, was awarded an M.D. and sent off to begin his practice. He entered the world of medicine just a decade removed from the shadow of the Civil War. His surgical tools were not vastly different from a carpenter's. His arsenal of medicine was barely advanced beyond those of a medieval alchemist. Anesthesia was a novelty, antiseptics were brand new, and x-rays would not be discovered for another 20 years.

The same explosion of knowledge we've gained in the last 125 years will be matched by the end of this decade. It is a sobering reflection for those of us who have chosen careers in preparing the next generation of physicians and scientists. It leads me to wonder what medicine might look like when the Class of 2025 prepares to enter the practice of medicine, on the 150th anniversary of the School of Medicine.

Newborns will enter the world with their genetic code not only written within their cells but in their medical records, too. We'll know their genetic susceptibilities

and we'll advise their parents accordingly. We will treat their illnesses with drugs made especially for them to mimic, block or promote their own cellular chemistry. We'll rebuild cartilage, bone and sinew with tissue cultured from the patients' own stem cells. We'll perform surgeries with smaller tools with the aid of increasingly sophisticated computers and robotics. Some of the debilitating chronic diseases of today might be little more than inconveniences in that tomorrow 25 years from now.

Medical education will need to change just as dramatically. For those of us in practice today, it has become increasingly difficult to stay on top of wave of discovery and innovation sweeping across medicine. We rely on our professional societies, journals and contact with our colleagues. But that antiquated system is groaning under the weight of new information, new discovery and new innovation.

In 1875, Dr. Morgan's teachers sent him out into the world of medicine like a bullet shot out of a Tennessee long rifle - propelled by all the knowledge they could gather into those years of training with a trajectory shaped and spun by the rifling of

science. Dr. Morgan took the trajectory of that education and rode it through his whole career in medicine. Today's students can't expect the same thing from their four years here. The world simply changes too rapidly. We need to think of our students and graduates as guided missiles, not bullets. We might be able to help them achieve launch velocity in their training at Vanderbilt but we acknowledge that we need to do more. We must help them make the infinite number of mid-course corrections they will need to make in order to respond to changes in knowledge and practice.

Look for the School of Medicine to fulfill our lifelong commitment to our graduates - from opening our Eskind Biomedical Library and research services for our graduates, pioneering internet-based training and formulating ways of bringing knowledge to the fingertips of practitioners when they need it. It is part of our covenant with each of the remarkably talented young people who have brought their intellect, their aspirations and their hopes to us over the last 125 years. ☺



by Cynthia Manley

New basic science department formed

The School of Medicine has created a new Department of Cancer Biology, the first new basic science department since the establishment of Microbiology and Immunology in 1955.

Lynn M. Matrisian, Ph.D., leader of the Host-Tumor Interaction research program with the Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center and internationally recognized researcher in the role of proteolytic enzymes in cancer, has been named as the department's first chair.

Creation of the new department recognizes the organization and focus of the field of cancer biology as a discipline in its own right. Establishment of the new department

was sparked by Vanderbilt University Medical Center's desire to enhance the quality and quantity of its research and to increase its national visibility in research and medical education overall, said Dr. Harry Jacobson, vice chancellor for Health Affairs.

"Achieving this goal will involve increasing research strengths in both our clinical and basic science departments," Jacobson said. "We believe that the development of additional basic science departments, such as Cancer Biology, is the most desirable approach, rather than increasing the size of departments or changing the scope of responsibility for department chairs in order to manage and mentor ever-larger numbers of faculty."

The new department, expected to grow

over time to about 20 faculty, will begin with a core group of about six faculty from the current department of Cell Biology.

The overarching theme to the research conducted in the Cancer Biology Department will be the communication pathways between cells and their environment, Matrisian said. "The cues that the cells take from the environment are often disrupted in cancer, so it provides an excellent place to target therapy and prevention strategies."

Dr. Harold L. Moses, Benjamin F. Byrd Professor of Oncology and director of the Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center, said that establishment of the new department will help Vanderbilt-Ingram capitalize on the opportunity to recruit new scientists presented by the ongoing "Imagine A World Without Cancer Campaign." The \$100 million fundraising campaign was launched last year with a gift from the Ingram Charitable Fund.



Giving injuries the cold shoulder

by Barb Cramer

Does ice really help bone and joint injuries heal or is it just a superficial remedy?

Sports medicine researchers at VUMC have asked the questions, and for the first time they have solid scientific proof about the effectiveness deep inside the knee of ice applied topically.

"We have proven that not only does the ice cool the superficial aspect of the joint, we now know that the ice actually cools the inner lining of the knee, the synovium," said Dr. Kurt P. Spindler, associate professor of Orthopaedics and Rehabilitation and director of Vanderbilt Sports Medicine.

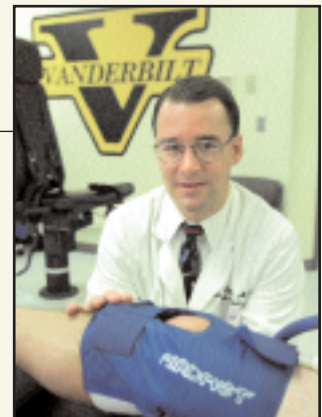
"And we know that the synovium is the active component in the knee that produces all the inflammation. It produces chemical mediators, cytokines that can produce a lot of pain and inflammation. No one has ever shown until now that ice applied externally actually cools the knee down internally,"

"Hundreds of thousands of routine arthroscopies are done each year and this information will help all of us reduce the trauma on the synovium, thereby helping the patient heal quicker and with better results."

Spindler supervised two studies on cooling the knee, which produced these new results. He said the new research can also help the general public struggling with a knee or other joint injury – the studies show that applying ice and some general compression to the area is a good idea.

Spindler says he is thrilled to find a scientific basis for what people have done for many years.

"People have given up using ice in recent years saying even if it works, it's because of the peripheral skin effect that helps with pain control. What we are saying is, 'No, it's more than that. It is actually working where we want it to work, at the deeper level inside the



DANA JOHNSON

Dr. Kurt P. Spindler

knee, at the synovium, the structure that is so critical in its reaction to trauma and injury."

The original idea for this study, Spindler says, came from a Vanderbilt University medical student, Hilary Ann Peterson, VUSM 2000.

"It is just the power of academics. The power of young people asking questions, even though you think they are already answered."

a long way from fifth avenue

by Nancy Humphrey

The New York City office of Dr. Joseph A. Cook seems an unlikely place to be implementing a program aimed at eradicating a blinding, bacterial eye condition found in some of the poorest countries of the world.

In his small, plain office, located only half a block from famed Fifth Avenue and its extravagant designer shops, Cook, MD'64, is waging a war against trachoma, the world's leading cause of preventable blindness.

As executive director of the International Trachoma Initiative (ITI), Cook directs a non-profit organization founded by Pfizer Inc and the Edna McConnell Clark Foundation. The goal is simple, yet very daunting – eliminating a disease that currently blinds six million people and infects another 150 million. About half a billion people or 10 percent of the world's population, are at risk of infection.

Founded in 1998, the ITI is working with five countries – Ghana, Mali, Morocco, Tanzania and Vietnam – to control trachoma. The countries were selected from a World Health Organization priori-

ty list. The ITI's strategy is called SAFE: Surgery to correct advanced-stage trachoma; Antibiotics to treat active infection; Face washing to reduce disease transmission; and Environmental change to increase access to clean water, improved sanitation and health education. Pfizer is donating the drug Zithromax for the "A" in the strategy. A single dose of this oral drug replaces six weeks of tetracycline eye ointment.

"With the improvement of sanitation and hygiene, trachoma will go away. We know that," Cook said. "Trachoma is a common disease and we feel we have a winning strategy. If we can put into place primary prevention, along with the curative measures, we will succeed. In places like Tanzania, families have to walk 2 to 3 kilometers for water, but we're trying to show them that they can keep their children's faces clean, and it only takes a very small amount of water. We know for a fact that a gourd or a coffee can with a hole in

it can wash the faces of 20 to 25 children – about a liter or a liter and a half of water."

Trachoma was once prevalent in the United States. When the first immigrants came to Ellis Island, many brought the disease with them. Physicians marked the immigrants' collars with an "E" for eye and they were detained from leaving while they were treated. The last hospital for trachoma, located in Missouri, closed in the late 1930s.

Now, it's endemic in parts of Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Latin America and Australia. Active infection usually begins in early childhood when the bacterium, *Chlamydia trachomatis*, causes an irritating infection of the eye. Through the discharge from the eyes of an infected child, trachoma is spread easily from person to person – by hands, on clothing or by flies that are attracted to runny eyes and noses. Blindness occurs after repeated infections when the eyelashes turn inward and abrade the cornea. Women are blinded two to

ROBERT WALLIS



Dr. Joseph Cook watches as antibiotics are given for the treatment of trachoma during a 1999 trip to Morocco.

three times as often as men.

Cook, who was president of his graduating class at Vanderbilt and a member of AOA, said “extraordinarily good luck” played a part in his becoming involved in international health. While completing his residency in internal medicine at the University of North Carolina Hospital, Chapel Hill, the chairman of the department of medicine introduced him to Dr. Robert Watson, who had just retired from

the Rockefeller Foundation. Following that meeting, Cook received a Foundation fellowship to study tropical public health at Harvard. When he completed the fellowship, he was hired by the Rockefeller Foundation to work on a project controlling schistosomiasis in St. Lucia. After eight years, he went to work at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases then continued his schistosomiasis work for the Edna

McConnell Clark Foundation directing their tropical disease research program for the next 20 years. In 1985, as the drug treatment for schistosomiasis improved, the foundation began looking for another focus. They saw an opportunity to make a difference in supporting the immunology, epidemiology and control of trachoma. When the philanthropic arm of Pfizer agreed to get involved, the ITI was founded.

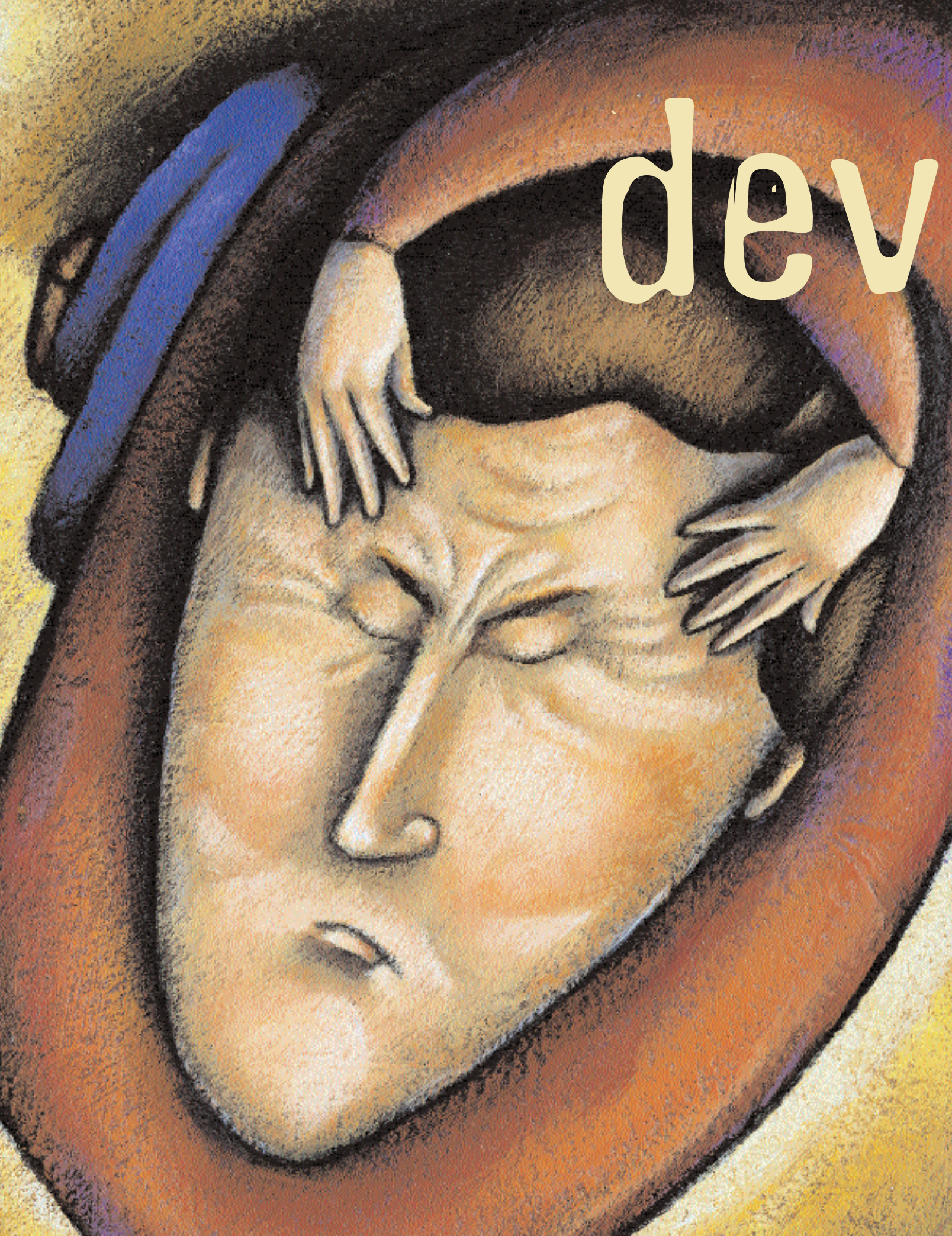
The results of the ITI plan, although preliminary, are promising. During the first 18 months of the program in Tanzania and Morocco, the prevalence of active infection in children under 10 has been cut in half. In Tanzania, about 75 percent of the people said they didn’t know how to prevent trachoma when the program began. That number has now been reduced to 34 percent. More than _ million people have been treated with the antibiotic Zithromax.

Cook spends about 25 percent of his time outside New York City, visiting the five countries and participating in the World Health Organization Alliance for the Global Elimination of Trachoma by 2020 (GET2020).

Cook finds his work in administration and fund raising fulfilling.

“People who haven’t been in the developing world don’t realize how desperately poor a large percentage of the world’s population really is,” he said. “The poorest people in any community have trachoma and the poorest hygiene. Although it is only one of many problems, knowing that we are making a lasting improvement in the lives of these people, is a very rewarding thing.”

dev



astation of a mind

When schizophrenia hits, its debilitating and baffling effects can last a lifetime. Treatment during and after the first episode, until recently, has not prevented the functional impairment. But there's a brief period before a patient is diagnosed where the characteristic behavior of a pre-schizophrenic patient may offer hints that the devastation of schizophrenia isn't far behind.

by Nancy Humphrey

This phase of the illness is being studied by a multi-disciplinary group at Vanderbilt led by Dr. Herbert Y. Meltzer, director of the division of Psychopharmacology, one of the nation's leading experts in schizophrenia, and Dr. Myung A. Lee, associate professor of Psychiatry.

Schizophrenia is a lifelong illness that affects about one percent of the population. Characterized by "positive symptoms" such as delusions and hallucinations and "negative symptoms" such as withdrawal, lack of pleasure and lack of motivation, the disease usually manifests between the ages of 17 and 25. About 9 to 13 percent of patients with schizophrenia commit suicide.

"Most people think of schizophrenia as a split personality but it's anything but that," Meltzer said. "Schizophrenia should be understood as a cognitive disorder. Our main objective is to restore the research and treatment focus to the idea that it's basically a cognitive disorder and much closer in spirit to dementias like Alzheimer's Disease than it is to the group of drug-induced psychosis."

There is a period of one to two years before the delusions and hallucinations of schizophrenia emerge, the prodromal period, where various types of behaviors may offer clues to the impending emergence of psychotic symptoms such as paranoia, delusions and hallucinations, Meltzer said. During this time patients may become withdrawn, have difficulty concentrating or may become depressed or disheveled.

"My firm belief about schizophrenia is that it is essential to prevent it. Our treatments are rarely able to restore patients to their prior level of function," Meltzer said,



Most people think of schizophrenia as a split personality, but it's anything but that.

adding that about 30 percent of patients with schizophrenia have persistent psychotic symptoms. If quality of life issues are considered, like being able to work and take part in social activities, about 90 percent of schizophrenics are considered to be treatment-resistant.

"Once it's developed, the cognitive impairment is so devastating from the point of view of function that even though new drugs can help, most of our patients can get only part of the way back to normal. Prior to psychosis, most have only very mild cognitive impairment."

Meltzer said the Vanderbilt research is looking at what happens to the brain during

the prodrome period and whether medications can prevent or delay the development of cognitive impairment.

"Even delaying the development for two to five years through late adolescence or into the 30s, when people have established adult patterns of work and interpersonal relationships, would be an enormous benefit," he said. "By the time delusions or hallucinations develop, there is already devastating and persistent damage to cognitive function."

Very little is known about the prodrome period, Meltzer said, and it is extremely difficult to find patients to study since they are normally not hospitalized and often only mildly dysfunctional during this time.

Meltzer and others at VUMC are using a rat animal model based upon prior work at Yale and Nagoya (Japan) Universities, to learn if drug treatment can prevent the cognitive devastation that occurs with schizophrenia. The research focuses on how phencyclidine

(PCP, sometimes referred to as Angel Dust) mimics the cognitive deficits of schizophrenia as well as the delusions and hallucinations. The Vanderbilt group has already learned how to reverse the cognitive damage once it occurs and is studying how to prevent it from developing in the first place.

Further development of the animal model is being aided by a prestigious grant from the National Alliance for Research in Schizophrenia and Depression as well as from funding generated by a \$610,000 endowment from Donald Test of Dallas and his ex-wife, Lydia, in honor of Dr. Jack Martin, MD'53, a Dallas psychiatrist. (see accompanying article). Dr. Change Kim

from Yonsei University in Seoul, Korea, has joined the Vanderbilt group to work on this model. A separate gift of \$150,000 between 1989 and 1993, by another patient, endowed the Jack Martin Scholarship Fund at VUSM.

Another area of Meltzer's research focuses on developing the next generation of anti-psychotic drugs. He is one of the co-developers of the drug clozapine, used to treat patients with schizophrenia. A new research program, jointly directed by Dr. Junji Ichikawa, assistant professor of psychiatry, looks at the mechanism of action of some of the new anti-psychotic drugs, specifically focusing on the drugs' abilities to affect the transmitters dopamine and acetylcholine in the frontal cortex of the brain. Dr. Zhu hi from Shenyang, China, is joining the Vanderbilt research team to accelerate progress in this area.

So far the research is showing that the atypical drugs, drugs that improve psychosis without some of the Parkinsonism-like side effects, selectively enhance dopamine and acetylcholine function in the cortex – a finding that has also stimulated research to use these drugs to treat early Alzheimer's disease.

With the aid of Sohee Park, Ph.D., associate professor of Psychology, a new fac-

ulty member, the research team will be able to image the cognitive functions of the brain using the functional MRI. The team will be looking at how anti-psychotic drugs improve memory, learning and attention.

"We know that in the absence of these drugs, the mechanisms that people with schizophrenia often employ in their attempts to learn and remember and attend to the things they should attend to are quite abnormal. They're not just quantitatively different, they're qualitatively different," he said.

"Their pathways don't work in trying to learn something so they develop alternative pathways. There are problems with connectivity," he said. "We know these drugs can significantly improve the function, and allow patients to remember better and learn better.

With the fMRI scanner, we will be able to see if it's because the connectivity is completely rearranged and they're using the same modalities that others use, or if it's because their abnormal mechanism is functioning a little more effectively, or some combination of both."

Another area of research is in pharmacogenetics.

Meltzer and his team are looking at the genes that cause anti-psychotic drugs to

produce weight gain and other side effects and the genes that are involved in the specific symptoms of schizophrenia, like hallucinations. Specifically, they are looking for the genes that modulate how good the response is going to be to a particular drug.

"Our hope is that it eventually will lead to the genetic means of predicting which patients should receive a particular drug. Right now when we evaluate a patient we have five to seven drugs to choose from. Everybody's looking for help in deciding which of those drugs would be best for their patient to start with."

Finally, Dr. Robert M. Kessler, professor of Radiology and Radiological Sciences, has developed a ligand for measuring dopamine receptor occupancy in key areas of the brain which have eluded previous efforts to quantify them. Kessler and Meltzer have already made observations which challenge established concepts about how the atypical anti-psychotic drugs work.

"We feel very lucky to be able to work in an era when major advances in schizophrenia research are happening with dramatic rapidity," Meltzer said. ♡



Dr. Herbert Meltzer

DANA JOHNSON

Making a Difference

The grateful friends and families of patients of Dr. Jack Martin, MD '53 are quietly helping fund the research of Dr. Herbert Y. Meltzer, one of the nation's leading experts in schizophrenia.

When friends asked Martin how they might recognize his good work and support efforts to find answers to the causes and treatment of schizophrenia, he suggested his alma mater and the cutting edge work of Meltzer. Two of Martin's friends made

significant gifts in his honor for the benefit of brain research. Donald Test of Dallas has ensured this research will continue through a commitment to an endowed fund, which also honors Martin.

Martin, of Dallas, is no stranger to grateful gifts made in his honor. In April 1989, Murphy H. Baxter of Houston, made a gift to VUMC to endow the Jack Martin Scholarship Fund.

Oxygen safe for ROP infants

by Nancy Humphrey

Small amounts of supplemental oxygen given to premature infants with a potentially blinding eye disorder may not significantly improve the disorder but definitely does not worsen the condition, a National Institutes of Health study has found.

Vanderbilt University Medical Center was one of the participating 30 centers in the study, which focused on the effect of supplemental oxygen in treating retinopathy of prematurity (ROP). The study was called the Supplemental Therapeutic Oxygen for Pre-threshold ROP (STOP-ROP) study.

The findings, published in *Pediatrics*, mean that clinicians don't have to be as restrictive as they have been when giving supplemental oxygen to infants who have already developed moderate ROP.

Many premature infants need supplemental oxygen soon after birth because their lungs are not sufficiently mature enough to efficiently transfer oxygen into their bodies,

said Dr. William F. Walsh, professor of Pediatrics. It has long been believed that supplemental oxygen, while helping infants survive, might also increase the occurrence and severity of ROP.

About 225 babies are born at Vanderbilt University Medical Center each year at risk for ROP. However, there are not many babies who actually do go on to develop ROP. In fact, Vanderbilt has such a low incidence that they only enrolled 7 in the study, instead of the estimated 30, and had to drop out of the study.

Walsh said the debate about supplemental oxygen and ROP has been ongoing for more than 50 years. An epidemic of blindness in premature infants in the late 1940s and early 1950s was believed to be associated with the increased amount of oxygen given to the



babies. Premature babies during the 50s were usually considered 30 to 32 weeks.

The study, which began in 1994, grouped half of the 649 babies into a group receiving normal amounts of oxygen and half into a group receiving a greater amount. The finding: the eyes of the group receiving higher amounts did not worsen, but also did not improve significantly. In the group receiving normal amounts of oxygen, 48 percent went on to need surgery. In the group receiving supplemental oxygen, 41 percent required surgery, Walsh said.



Dr. Arnold Strauss

Departments of pediatrics, radiology welcome new chairs

by Nancy Humphrey

Two new leaders have been named at Vanderbilt University Medical Center—one new to Vanderbilt and the other a seasoned pro with new responsibilities.

Dr. Arnold W. Strauss, Alumni Endowed Professor of Pediatrics and director of the Division of Pediatric Cardiology at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, has been named James C. Overall Professor and Chair of the Department of Pediatrics, Pediatrician-in-Chief and Director of Vanderbilt Children's Hospital.

Dr. Martin P. Sandler, a member of the faculty since 1983 and most recently interim chair of the department of Radiology and Radiological

Sciences, has been named the department's new chair, succeeding Dr. C. Dr. Leon Partain, who after eight years as chair became the director of the Center for Imaging Research earlier this year. Sandler has also been director of the Radiological Clinical Service

Strauss, 55, is an internationally known expert in the field of pediatric cardiology research and is consistently ranked among the nation's best clinicians.

"Dr. Strauss will bring scope, maturity, a strong background in clinical care, a solid record of achievement in research science and academics and a good business and managerial sense," said Dr. Harry R. Jacobson, vice-chancellor for Health Affairs.

Strauss succeeds Dr. Ian M. Burr as chair.

Strauss has received numerous awards for his teaching and research at Washington

University including the E. Mead Johnson Award for Excellence in Pediatric Research in 1991 and the Alumni Faculty Award from the Washington University Medical Center Alumni Association in 1995. He has also been included in *The Best Doctors in America* for the past six years and was chosen as one of the "Country's Best Heart Doctors" by *Good Housekeeping* in 1996.

Sandler's appointment ensures that the department will continue to expand patient services as well as research, education and technology transfer opportunities, Jacobson said.



Dr. Martin Sandler

The heartache of heartburn

by Kathleen Whitney



Plop, plop, fizz, fizz. Oh, what a relief it is. The catchy jingle represents what was once thought of as the most prominent weapon against heartburn. In recent years, however, the public has been inundated with advertisements for heartburn relief products. There are even dozens of web sites dedicated to the topic. Why all the fuss? At worst, heartburn is just a nuisance, right?

“Heartburn is a significant problem,” says Dr. Glenn M. Eisen, associate professor of Medicine in Gastroenterology. Studies indicate about seven percent of the U.S. population experiences heartburn or other symptoms of gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD) every day. About 20 percent have at least weekly heartburn.

The good news is that the vast majority of people with heartburn and reflux problems can be easily treated, Eisen said. “The problem is that very few people consider it a disease, but rather a nuisance and just live with it.”

Heartburn occurs when gastric acids from the stomach splash back up into the lower portion of the esophagus, causing pain and discomfort.

Eisen recommends lifestyle modification for people who suffer from occasional reflux, or typical heartburn, particularly after a big meal or alcohol consumption. These can include:

- avoiding eating for at least several hours before bedtime
- elevating the head of the bed for those who have symptoms while lying down
- avoiding foods known to cause stomach irritation (chocolate, garlic, onions, peppermint, citrus fruits)

For those people who don't want to forego their favorite indulgences, antacids might be the best bet. Eisen recommends the liquid form because it works the fastest.

Patients with recurring symptoms need stronger therapy such as H₂ blockers, which are available over the counter, and another class of medications known as proton pump inhibitors, now considered the standard treatment for patients who experience regular heartburn or reflux symptoms. These medications are very effective in eliminating heartburn symptoms in about 90 percent of patients, Eisen said.

People who experience severe symptoms such as difficulty swallowing, vomiting blood, severe abdominal pain, or unexplained weight loss may need to undergo endoscopy, and for those patients whose disease cannot be successfully managed by medication, surgery presents an option. The newly formed Heartburn Center at VUMC can help determine the appropriate treatment plan for each individual.

Fortunately, there are very few patients who don't respond to medication, and in most cases, Alka Seltzer will do the trick. ●



Saying there's nobody quite like Dean John E. Chapman isn't just a compliment. There really isn't.

Chapman is the longest-tenured dean in the medical education profession. He's graduated 3,317 medical students over the past 25 years. The second longest-tenured dean of any of the other 125 accredited medical schools in the country recently retired after 17 years.

Chapman is stepping down as dean of the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, a post he has held for the past quarter-century, to take on a new role – associate vice-chancellor for Medical Alumni Affairs.

It's hard to separate Chapman from medical education at Vanderbilt, the two have been together so long. Not only has he conferred medical degrees to two-thirds of the living graduates of VUSM, appointed most of Vanderbilt University Medical Center's more than 1,000 faculty members, and been part of the appointment process for every current department chair, he has also overseen the initiatives that have led to the medical school being consistently ranked number one in the nation in terms of student satisfaction.

In 1987, the Karolinska Institute of Stockholm, Sweden awarded Chapman an honorary Doctor of Medicine degree for his "conspicuous contribution to medical education worldwide."

A national search for Vanderbilt's eighth medical school dean is underway.

Ask students what impresses them most about Chapman and they'll recall his reassuring first-day and commencement addresses, his accessibility and his humor. The Dean's Cadaver Ball characters – Gen. George Patton, Alfred Hitchcock, Darth Vader and Superman to name a few -- have reached legendary status. Ask fellow faculty members and colleagues at other institutions and you'll hear a deep admiration for his dedication and commitment to Vanderbilt.

Some of those who have worked closest with Chapman over the past quarter century were asked their thoughts about "the Dean."

The de



Dr. Jeffrey R. Balsler, MD'90, James Taloe Gwathmey Clinician-Scientist Chair and associate professor of Anesthesiology and Pharmacology, VUMC

"When I was graduating in 1990, my wife was pregnant with our son Jimmy, now 9, and was having a terribly difficult time with pre-term labor. Dean Chapman called me about two weeks before graduation and offered to set up a small graduation ceremony at our home, so that Melinda could see me graduate. Melinda's preterm labor improved and it turned out not to be necessary, but his willingness to do this for just one medical student left a lasting impression."

Dr. Steven C. Beering, president
Purdue University

"I am privileged to know and to have worked with John Chapman for 35 years. He is tremendously admired and respected for his intellect and his vision. He's immensely capable as a clinician and administrator but through it all he's been the students' best friend. He's a role model of finest principles. He's a remarkable individual. I just can't say enough about him. He's a dear friend and one whom I admire endlessly. I love this man. Our relationship is a conversation without a beginning and an end. When we haven't seen each other in awhile, we get together and pick right up"

Dr. L. Thompson Bowles, former president of the National Board of Medical Examiners

"I believe Dean Chapman has been among the most important contributors to the United States during the last half of the 20th century. He has been a leader among all the deans of the United States and is respected by everyone of his colleagues in this profession."

Dr. Lonnie S. Burnett, The Frances and John C. Burch Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, VUMC

"In 1979 I was devastated by the sudden and unexpected death of my long-time personal friend and colleague, Dr. Conrad Julian, who came with me from Johns Hopkins to begin and head the division of GYN Oncology at Vanderbilt. Dean Chapman did not phone but came to my office in person to offer his condolences and his reassurance that the medical center stood ready to help in every way possible. That experience was the beginning of my feeling that Vanderbilt is part of my family."

PHOTO BY DEAN DIXON

definitive dean

Judy Jean Chapman, senior associate in Emergency Medicine, VUMC, wife

"The school is John and John is the school. It's hard to separate the two. He's a workaholic, leaving the house at 6:20 and getting home at 7. Most Saturdays he works, but if he decides to stay home he calls in two or three times to see if someone has called for him. He puts his whole self in everything he does, but he's always been available if I need him."

Dr. Lewis B. Lefkowitz Jr. professor of Preventive Medicine, VUMC, from a letter written to Dean Chapman

"Your tenure here has meant something very special to me, a square peg that has stared into many a round hole in this academic environment over these 34 long years. You have always been there to provide the requisite square holes for me; and, for that, I am ever grateful. As a consequence, I have been enabled to fulfill my own, deeply felt personal mission of teaching; and, I hope, to make a lasting contribution that, without your consistent support, concurrence and interest, would have been impossible. I will think of these kindnesses all my days. You must know how much it has meant to me to be a part of the Vanderbilt educational enterprise, and to share with you, my students, my colleagues, and the entire medical school family, in the feeling of the excellence of it all."

Dr. Terence S. Dermody, associate professor of Pediatrics, VUMC, and one of two winners of Vanderbilt University's Chairs of Teaching Excellence in 2000

"Dean John Chapman personifies commitment to medical education. His legacy as Dean extends far beyond the many students, staff, and faculty who have made Vanderbilt home to encompass a steadfast dedication to the importance of teaching and learning in medicine and science. Whether in the classroom, laboratory or clinic, Dean Chapman set the standard for service to others through an insatiable pursuit of excellence. He will be fondly remembered by the words he guided us by as Dean: "Artus longus, vita brevis, the art is long, the life is short."

Dr. David Harley, president of the VUSM Class of 2000, resident in Surgery at Vanderbilt University Hospital

"I remember the time when he first spoke to us, when he told us that as Vanderbilt medical students, we were privileged. He said that we were his foremost priority, and that the faculty and administration were here for us, not vice-versa. He said that if we ever needed him, for any reason, he would stop what he was doing and answer our call. As first-year students foreign to the daunting world of medicine, we were officially welcomed into the Vanderbilt medical family by its father figure. For his commitment to us, we owe a great debt of gratitude."

Dr. Harry R. Jacobson, vice-chancellor for Health Affairs, VUMC

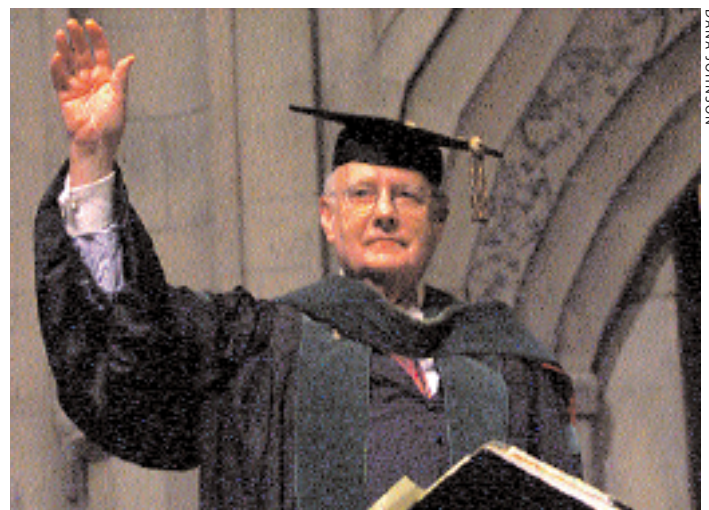
"John Chapman is truly a giant of medical education. He has guided the school to the forefront of medical education programs in the nation. His insight, dedication, compassion and devotion to students and medical education are a credit to both him and to Vanderbilt."

Dr. Frank A. Riddick Jr., chief executive officer, Alton Ochsner Medical Foundation, New Orleans

"The wisdom and experience of a seasoned leader is invaluable in a complex medical organization. In an era in which the half life of deanships is most accurately measured in months, your 25 years has set a new indoor recording for deaning. I'm not sure that the Guinness Book of World Record has such a category, but it should."

Dr. Corey M. Slovis, professor and chair of Emergency Medicine

"I owe a great deal to Dean Chapman. When I arrived in the early 1990s, emergency medicine was trying to emerge as a true specialty at Vanderbilt. The Dean was instrumental in minimizing the problems of creating a new department. He provided invaluable service and worked behind the scenes to allow our new Department to succeed in establishing a residency program. The Dean has accomplished many great things in his life. One of them is serving as a father of Emergency Medicine at Vanderbilt. Another is providing almost a decade of invaluable, astute, and insightful advice to me in his inimitable way. I did not go to school at Vanderbilt. I will, however, always be one of John Chapman's devoted students." ⑤



DANA JOHNSON

Dr. John E. Chapman acknowledges a standing ovation at the recognition ceremony for the Class of 2000.

the deans of VUSM



Dr. G. Canby Robinson
Dean 1920-1928

In the quarter century following 1895, the school has two deans: William L. Dudley, until 1913, followed by Lucius E. Burch in 1920. Dr. Burch continued as acting dean until 1925 while dean-elect G. Canby Robinson planned the school's new program and physical plant. Robinson's plans were the essence of a Flexnerian medical center with hospital, laboratories, and school facilities under one roof. It was regarded as the best arranged medical school and hospital combination in the United States. He resigned to become dean of Cornell University and died in 1960.



Dr. Waller S. Leathers
Dean 1928-1945

Leathers, who continued as chairman of the Department of Preventive Medicine and Public Health, was one of the first physicians nationally involved in the attempts to combat disease by preventive measures. At Vanderbilt he emphasized curriculum devoted to preventive medicine and public health. He retired in 1945 and died in 1946.



Dr. Ernest W. Goodpasture
Dean 1945-1950

A research pathologist and dedicated academician, Goodpasture placed a strong emphasis on research activities. He resigned as dean to return to full-time teaching and research in pathology. He was professor of Pathology from 1924 until 1955. He died in 1960.



Dr. John B. Youmans
Dean 1950-1958

Internationally renowned for his research in nutrition, Youmans was appointed dean in 1950. He emphasized patient care and research and solidified relationships with the Nashville Academy of Medicine and other community groups. He resigned in 1958 to become head of medical research for the Army. He died in 1979.



Dr. John W. Patterson
Dean 1958-1962

Dr. Patterson came to Vanderbilt in 1958 from the University of British Columbia where he was dean. During his tenure at Vanderbilt, the medical center expanded 50 percent in size and improved its financial position. He resigned in 1962, to become, for a year, professor of physiology, then moved to the University of Connecticut.



Dr. Randolph Batson
Dean 1963-1972

Dr. Batson was the first of the School of Medicine's own graduates to be named Dean. He joined the faculty in 1944, two years after receiving his medical degree and presided over a decade of growth. Noted also for his fundraising, his influence brought about the donation of private monies from Dr. Rudolph A. Light that made possible the construction of Rudolph A. Light Hall for Medical Education. Dr. Batson is professor emeritus of pediatrics.



Dr. John E. Chapman
Dean 1975-present

During his tenure as dean, the medical faculty has more than doubled, as has the research program. Its academic program has been boosted by the addition of numerous buildings on the medical center campus. Dean Chapman's hallmark has been to give individual attention to each medical student's personal needs and educational program and to the research needs of the faculty.

A tradition of excellence

Their names are the ones that are familiar – they’re on portraits, conference rooms, and textbooks at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine. Their contributions to Vanderbilt University School of Medicine and to medicine and science, in general, are incalculable. They are the legends of VUSM, those teachers and researchers who have helped VUSM earn the reputation it holds today.

VUSM celebrates its 125th anniversary this year. The first diplomas issued by a newly organized Vanderbilt University were to 61 doctors of medicine in February 1875.

In honor of this milestone, a list of the legends of VUSM has been compiled for Vanderbilt Medicine.

All of the researchers selected for this article are members of a National Academy (National Academy of Sciences, Institute of Medicine), or are recipients of the Nobel Prize or Sutherland Prize (Vanderbilt’s highest research award).

Many of the teachers included have won teaching awards, but it is their unique styles of teaching – some intimidating, some endearing – that brought about their selection for this article.

Only faculty members who are not actively participating in teaching or research at the medical center today are included in this list. Some have died. Some are emeritus faculty. But all have left permanent imprints on Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, one of the most respected medical schools in the world.

Upcoming issues of *Vanderbilt Medicine* will highlight the outstanding teachers and researchers of today. ♣

by Nancy Humphrey and Leigh MacMillan



the Teachers

“The Dynamic Duo”

Dr. Alfred Blalock (1899-1964)

VUSM faculty years (1925-1941)

Dr. Tinsley R. Harrison (1900-1978)

VUSM faculty years (1925-1941)

They are often called the “dynamic duo” of the early years of Vanderbilt University School of Medicine. Drs. Alfred Blalock and Tinsley Harrison were roommates at Johns Hopkins and came to Vanderbilt in 1925 as the first chief residents in Surgery and Medicine. Blalock is known for his pioneering research on the nature and treatment of hemorrhagic and traumatic shock, and is credited with saving the lives of many casualties during World War II, and with the first open heart operation for tetralogy of Fallot (blue baby). But his teaching techniques also set him apart.



“He was entirely dedicated to the education of students and residents,” says Dr. Walter H. Merrill, professor of Cardiac and Thoracic Surgery at VUMC. “He talked a lot over the years about his real joy in life – working with residents. He liked to give positive reinforcement. He was courtly and courteous.”



Harrison, characterized as a “human dynamo” by Dean Canby Robinson, was the author of Harrison’s Principles of Internal

Medicine, one of the major textbooks in internal medicine. His lectures were “exciting,” according to a tribute written by the late Dr. Addison B. Scoville Jr. of VUMC.

“He made heart sounds come alive. The ‘lub-dub’ he mimicked was accentuated by screeches and whistles so that you could actually visualize the heart valve puckering up or opening wide...He would not make a correct diagnosis on rounds. He would send us scurrying to the library to prove he was wrong. Invariably we found out he had a method to his madness and this was a superb way of getting us to know the library and making us think.”

Dr. Thomas E. Brittingham (1924-1986)

VUSM faculty years (1963-1980)

The key to the success of Dr. Thomas Brittingham’s teaching wasn’t as much what he taught but how he taught it, said Dr. John S. Sargent, MD’66, HS’70,’71, now professor of Medicine and chief medical officer of the Vanderbilt Medical Group.



“His success was in the way he taught and the challenge he threw down to us, to always be skeptical, to follow our own instincts and to really get to know our patients,” Sargent said.

His Saturday morning patient conferences for third-year students are legendary. “He would invariably work up the patient far better than we did, sometimes going to extraordinary extremes,” said Sargent, the first recipient of Vanderbilt’s Brittingham Award for clinical teaching. He might call a grandparent or go to another hospital and look up medical records.

“You felt like you were working in a goldfish bowl when you worked with Dr. Brittingham,” Sargent said. “He created an environment so detailed in his knowledge of his patients, that he made everybody try to rise to that level.”

Brittingham, who kept a framed letter on his wall from the Dean of Harvard Medical School telling him his career was in jeopardy, rarely took vacations, made house calls, and gave his patients his home phone number. “I knew him to buy firewood and help out with the rent for two of his patients,” Sargent said.

Dr. Barney Brooks (1884-1952)

VUSM faculty years (1925-1951)

There’s an urban legend about the surgical rounds of Dr. Barney Brooks that’s often told to medical school classes. It may not be true but the story adequately represents the effect he had on students.



Brooks, in his intimidating, jerky voice, supposedly asked a third-year student, called down from his seat during one of Brooks’ Tuesday morning amphitheater clinics, what type of diet to recommend for a patient unable to absorb foods. The student replied “sweet potatoes,” only to have the bald-headed, grimacing Brooks scream back in his face, “sweet potatoes?!” The student reportedly fainted.

“He was admired. Not everybody loved him, but he had everybody’s respect. He taught in a very structured, strict and authoritative manner. Students were in awe of him, but they were somewhat fearful of his presence,” says Dr. Irwin B. Eskin, D.

MD'48, HS'51. Brooks loved talking with patients during his teaching rounds. Farmers and farmer's wives were among his favorite patients. He sometimes spent class time discussing farm life, crops or the weather with the patient.

When Dr. Harris D. Riley, Jr., MD'48, HS'50, professor of Pediatrics, was a third-year student, Brooks told one of Riley's patients that he would need surgery the following morning. The patient told Brooks he would have to obtain the permission of his physician, Dr. Riley. Brooks called a terrified Riley, who was convinced his medical career was over, into a student laboratory. Instead Brooks told Riley, "I am deeply gratified at what we have just witnessed. That a student has established such a relationship with his patient pleases me greatly." Riley said he recalls little after those two sentences.

Dr. Amos U. Christie (1902-1986)

VUSM faculty years (1943-1986)



Dr. Amos Christie may be best known for his research in histoplasmosis but he's also fondly remembered at VUSM for his unorthodox teaching practices.

He rarely used lectures, never quite finished his sentences and didn't really worry about whether he pronounced his words correctly. But he taught students to be consummate clinicians, compassionate, and knowledgeable in all areas of pediatrics.

"He taught us by example that to weep over a dying child is acceptable no matter how big or tough we may think we are," said Dr. Robert Merrill, MD'49, HS'49,'50,'53,'54. "He taught us to blame

red eyes and moisture on the common cold. Some of us still do that."

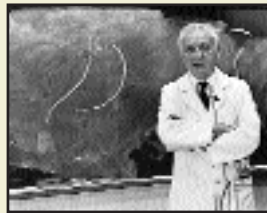
Christie is known for integrating the Vanderbilt Hospital children's ward five years before the U. S. Supreme Court made it mandatory.

"It was done in the interest of patient care. There was no committee, no permission granted, no authority vested and no publicity. It was just done by executive decree. I call that administration."

Dr. Jack Davies (1919-1991)

VUSM faculty years (1963-1989)

Dr. Jack Davies once said this about teaching: "I want it to be fun. If it's not fun, it's no good. I think teaching is a gift...I learn something every time, every day."



Dr. Jeanette J. Norden, professor of Cell Biology and a colleague and friend of the former professor and chair of anatomy, said Davies was "one of a kind."

Davies had an outrageous sense of humor, knew Greek and Latin, was well versed in the classics and had an outstanding artistic ability. He could draw with both hands. He had an "unbelievable knowledge of how the body was put together," Norden says.

"Most of all, he loved students. He loved gross anatomy and knew how to communicate both the knowledge and his love of the subject to the students in a real and meaningful way. He could take students and teach them the wonders of the human body with enthusiasm and awe, year after year.

Dr. James R. Dawson Jr. (1908-1986)

VUSM faculty years (1938-1949)



Dr. James R. Dawson, who taught the school's second-year pathology course, endeared himself to students by his bluntness, said Dr. Fred Allison, MD'46, HS'46.

"He was very quick to say what he thought and if he told you something, he expected you to remember it," Allison said. "He didn't call on students very much, but if he did, you'd better hope you knew the answer to his question."

Dawson left Vanderbilt in 1949 to become professor and chair of Pathology at the University of Minnesota. He was influenced during his early years at Vanderbilt by Dr. Ernest T. Goodpasture and developed a strong interest in virology, especially viral diseases of the central nervous system.

"Behind all of that fierceness, he was a hard working, wonderful person with a great sense of humor. He was very current and knew the research literature. He genuinely liked medical students. He scared you to death in class, but when class was over, he was a different person, smiling and joking with you."

Dr. J. William Hillman (1921-1970)

VUSM faculty years (1952-1970)

Dr. J. William Hillman had a "genuine interest" in his patients, a trait that was transmitted



to students and residents, said Dr. Robert

D. Collins, John L. Shapiro professor of Pathology.

“He was committed to his patients’ welfare. He showed students and residents how it was possible for an individual doctor to make a difference in people’s lives,” Collins said.

Hillman was relentless in his work ethic. Within six years of his arrival at Vanderbilt, he had become professor and head of orthopaedics, then a section of general surgery. In 1962, he convinced Dean John W. Patterson to establish an autonomous Department of Orthopaedics and Rehabilitation. After his death, students developed the Hillman Award, a teaching award, given to a member of the housestaff with the greatest interest in the education of medical students.

Chancellor Alexander Heard once called Hillman “a premier member of the Vanderbilt faculty . . . We had none better and I know of no one who gave more of his life selflessly and without limit to help others.”

Dr. Rudolph H. Kampmeier (1898-1990)

VUSM faculty years (1936-1963)



World War II took its toll on Vanderbilt’s Department of Medicine in the early 1940s. Dr. Rudolph H. Kampmeier, by himself, held it together while all other faculty members were serving their country during the war.

“He was able to effectively use friendships with practitioners in Nashville to keep the department running,” Collins said.

Kampmeier, who taught the physical diagnosis course for second-year students, was

well known for his ability to get information from a patient and how to analyze what the information meant. He also excelled at the dynamics of physical examinations and patient histories. “He routinely figured out where and what the problems were by palpation or auscultation,” Collins said.

“Dr. Kampmeier was the master of the patient history, of getting information that is often locked inside the patient.”

Chancellor Emeritus Harvie Branscomb said that Kampmeier’s “warm and friendly spirit” made it a privilege to know him. “For Rudy Kampmeier, medicine was more than a career, it was a vocation he served with unflagging devotion.”

Dr. Barton McSwain (1906-1981)

VUSM faculty years (1946-1981)

Dr. Barton McSwain, MD’30, was an expert in surgical pathology and knew the human body like few others. But what set McSwain apart from other experts in pathology was that he had enormous clinical experience.



McSwain, the third of four generations to graduate from VUSM, taught the surgical pathology course to third-year medical students and was well known for his energy. He delivered a once-a-week, three-hour lecture in a 55-seat lecture hall with no break.

“He would talk without notes,” Collins said. He had a well-organized presentation of disease from the standpoint of surgery. His presentations were lucid and well organized. He could pull together enormous amounts of new material as well as provide reinforcement for the material the students learned as second-year pathology students.”

Dr. John L. Shapiro (1915-1983)

VUSM faculty years (1948-1980)

Dr. Clifton K. Meador, MD’55, HS’59, believes that Dr. John L. Shapiro scared students into learning.

“It was awesome. He taught by complete fear. It was the most effective use of the technique I’ve ever seen. He genuinely wanted you to learn the material and if you didn’t, he would tell you about it.



Meador said that Shapiro, who was appointed professor and chairman of the Department of Pathology in 1956, was known to curse, shake his head, stamp his feet or just leave the classroom in disgust if a question was answered wrong in his second-year pathology course.

“He wasn’t acting. He was truly disgusted. Sometimes I think he was really mad at himself for not getting through to you.

“You were terrified of him, yet you weren’t. You wanted to please him more than anything. I had enormous respect for this man.”

Meador said that a legendary Shapiro story tells of a medical student who lost all 20 feet of intestine while washing it in a sink. “What am I going to tell the old SOB,” the student asked, not knowing that Shapiro had just entered the room. “I’m not old,” Shapiro told the shocked student.

the Researchers

Sidney P. Colowick, Ph.D. (1916-1985)

VUSM faculty years (1959-1985)

In a memorial tribute to Sidney P. Colowick, Ph.D., his friend and colleague Nathan O.



Kaplan, Ph.D., described him as “the foremost representative

of American-born biochemists who made modern biochemistry an ‘American discipline.’”

Colowick, who was the American Cancer Society-Charles Hayden Foundation Professor of Microbiology, is known principally for his work on an enzyme called hexokinase and the regulation of sugar transport in cultured animal cells. He made fundamental contributions to understanding how cells derive energy from the metabolism of carbohydrates and the enzymes involved in the early steps of sugar metabolism.

Together with Kaplan, he planned and edited the first six volumes of *Methods in Enzymology*, launching in 1955 what became a series of well-known and useful handbooks.

Colowick joined the Vanderbilt faculty as an American Cancer Society Professor with research support from the society until the end of his career. With Dr. Rollo Park, Colowick attracted Dr. Earl Sutherland and other outstanding scientists to Vanderbilt, establishing the institution as a world leader in the field of regulatory biology.

Colowick was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 1972.

Dr. Ernest W. Goodpasture (1886-1960)

VUSM faculty years (1924-1960)

Viruses and chicken eggs made Dr. Ernest W.

Goodpasture famous. In 1931, Goodpasture, professor of Pathology, developed the first practical method for cultivating large quantities of a virus in the laboratory—by growing it in the exposed membrane of a chick embryo.



“It revolutionized the study of viruses and viral diseases,” said Collins, one of Goodpasture’s students. “Scientists from all over the world came here to learn the technique.”

The method opened the door for research that probed the nature of viruses and led to the development of vaccines to protect against viral diseases.

Goodpasture was most proud of his discovery of the cause of mumps, which had eluded investigators since ancient times. In a series of experiments using monkeys, he proved the viral nature of the disease.

Goodpasture was one of the first choices in a drive to expand the School of Medicine faculty to one distinguished in American medical education and research. Among his many honors, Goodpasture was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 1937 and the American Philosophical Society in 1943.

Lubomir S. Hnilica, Ph.D. (1929-1986)

VUSM faculty years (1975-1986)

Lubomir S. Hnilica, Ph.D., was considered an international authority on the effects of chemical carcinogens on nuclear proteins, before he died in 1986. He made many basic pioneering observations related to the biochemistry of chromosomal proteins.

His early work focused on the chromosomal proteins called histones and laid the foundation for the purification of histone proteins in large quantities for further characterization. Hnilica’s research suggested that cancer-causing chemicals change the nature and amount of histone proteins, revealing the site where cancer cells suffer DNA damage.

Hnilica, professor of Biochemistry and Mary Geddes Stahlman Professor of Cancer Research, was also interested in other non-histone chromosomal proteins and their changes during chemical carcinogenesis and spontaneous human malignancies.

Hnilica served as the Associate Director for Research for the Vanderbilt University Cancer Research and Treatment Center—the predecessor of today’s Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center. He received the Vanderbilt University Earl Sutherland Prize for Achievement in Research in 1986.



Dr. Grant W. Liddle (1921-1989)

VUSM faculty years (1956-1989)

An inherited form of hypertension, pseudoaldosteronism, today is called Liddle's syndrome in honor of the man who first characterized the disease and discovered that it could be controlled with medication.



Dr. Grant W. Liddle, professor of Medicine and chair of Medicine from 1968 to 1983, was internationally recognized for his pioneering research in clinical endocrinology.

Focusing especially on the physiology of the pituitary and adrenal glands, he was able to clarify the role of the pituitary in Cushing's disease, and he developed improved methods for the treatment of the disease. He discovered that non-endocrine sites could produce the hormone ACTH (ectopic ACTH syndrome), causing Cushing's syndrome.

Liddle was the first to show that metyrapone, an adrenal enzyme inhibitor, suppresses cortisol production and elicits a compensatory increase in pituitary gland ACTH secretion. He used the finding to devise practical tests of pituitary and adrenal gland function.

He was also the first to study the aldosterone antagonist, spironolactone, which promotes sodium loss and is clinically useful to treat effects of aldosteronism like edema and hypertension.

Liddle received Vanderbilt's Sutherland Prize in 1979 and became a member of the National Academy of Sciences in 1981.

Dr. Earl W. Sutherland Jr. (1915-1974)

VUSM faculty years (1963-1973)

Dr. Earl W. Sutherland opened the black box that concealed the secrets of hormone action.

In studying how adrenaline causes liver cells to convert glycogen to glucose, Sutherland discovered a previously unknown substance—cyclic AMP—that occurred as an intermediate in the process.



Sutherland, professor of Physiology, proposed a general scheme for hormone action in which hormones interact with receptors on the cell surface. These receptors, he contended, then pass the signal along to an enzyme that manufactures cyclic AMP intracellularly where it activates or inhibits various metabolic processes. He called cyclic AMP the "second messenger" (the hormone was the first messenger). His scheme, now including multiple different "second messenger" compounds, remains an accurate description of how hormones work.

Sutherland became a member of the National Academy of Sciences in 1966 and won the 1971 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for "his discoveries concerning the mechanisms of the action of hormones."

Stanley Cohen, Ph.D. (1922-)

VUSM faculty years (1959-present)

When Stanley Cohen, Ph.D. injected salivary gland extract into newborn mice, he noticed a strange acceleration of development—their eyes opened and teeth erupted earlier than usual. This keen observation led Cohen to discover the substance epidermal

growth factor (EGF), so named because it stimulated the growth of epithelial cells in the cornea and skin.

Cohen had previously, with Rita Levi-Montalcini, isolated a nerve growth factor (NGF) that she had discovered in certain mouse tumors. The two shared the 1986 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for their "discoveries of growth factors."



Cohen's isolation of EGF and determination of its amino acid sequence provided scientists for the first time with a factor that allowed studies of the cell growth process. Cohen continued to study EGF, its interaction with cell surface receptors, and the intracellular signaling pathways activated by the growth factor.

Cohen's work laid the foundation for the study of growth factors and the mechanisms regulating the growth and survival of cells, of critical importance to cancer research.

Cohen, now Distinguished Professor of Biochemistry, Emeritus, received Vanderbilt's Sutherland Prize in 1977, was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 1980, and received both the Nobel Prize and the Albert Lasker Basic Medical Research Award in 1986.

William J. Darby, M.D., Ph.D. (1913-)

VUSM faculty years (1944-present)

Not many biochemists have the opportunity to conduct research all over the world. But Dr. William J. Darby, an internationally renowned expert in nutritional science, traveled around the globe to conduct studies that have shaped international nutrition education and assistance programs. Darby, currently professor of Biochemistry, Emeritus, served as chair of the department from 1949-1971.

Darby's early research with Dr. Paul L. Day led to the discovery of vitamin M, now called folic acid, and his subsequent studies defined the roles of folic acid, Vitamin C, and Vitamin B12 in metabolism.

Darby and his colleagues at Vanderbilt were the first to demonstrate the ability of folic acid to combat the anemia and gastrointestinal dysfunction in tropical sprue. A Vanderbilt study evaluating the nutritional status of infants, children, and pregnant women set the standards for assessing nutritional status and led to a series of nutritional surveys all over the world.



Some of Darby's global research included studies in the Middle East and Africa that defined zinc deficiency and characterized the effects of parasites on nutrition.

The application of Darby's research and his personal involvement in advisory committees has influenced all of the major national and international agencies that have responsibilities in nutrition.

Darby became a member of the National Academy of Sciences in 1972.

Dr. Charles R. "Rollo" Park (1916-)
VUSM faculty years (1952-present)

Dr. Charles R. "Rollo" Park once said in an interview that he thought his main contribution to Vanderbilt was putting together a department focused on the study of metabolic problems, particularly diabetes, that in its concentration of effort and interest has "trained



many people who are well-known in diabetes circles."

Park, now Professor of Physiology, Emeritus, was chair of Physiology from 1952 to 1984, is no stranger in diabetes circles. His career-long studies of carbohydrate metabolism, insulin action, and glucose utilization have greatly contributed to knowledge about diabetes.

Park demonstrated that insulin acts by promoting the transport of glucose (sugar) across the muscle cell membrane, and he subsequently found evidence for both an insulin receptor site and a glucose carrier site in the cell membrane.

With colleagues at Vanderbilt, Park developed quantitative analytical methods to measure the various substances produced during glucose metabolism. They were the first to identify the role of the hormone glucagon in stimulating gluconeogenesis—the production of glucose by the liver.

Park is credited with the selection of Vanderbilt University for the establishment of the first Diabetes and Endocrinology Research Center in 1973. He was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 1980 and awarded Vanderbilt's Sutherland Prize in 1984. (V)

**Special thanks to Mary Teloh, special collections librarian, Eskind Biomedical Library, for providing historical data and photographs.*

Continuing the Tradition



DANA JOHNSON

Dr. Walter M. Morgan III is continuing the history of a long-time family association with Vanderbilt University School of Medicine.

Morgan, assistant professor of Pediatric Surgery, is the great-great grandson of Dr. William Henry Morgan, the first graduate of the newly constituted Vanderbilt University. The first diplomas issued that year by Vanderbilt were to 61 doctors of medicine in 1875. Morgan's name was called first.

The Morgan's association with VUSM continued.

William Henry Morgan's grandson, Walter Morgan Sr., was on the dental surgery faculty from 1930-1956. Morgan Sr.'s first cousin, Dr. Hugh Morgan, was a long-time (1925-1961) professor of Medicine at VUSM.

a most remarkable experience

It was a journey worth taking. There's no doubt about that.

But the results weren't what they had hoped.

Justin and Dana Piasecki, identical twins and Vanderbilt medical students, took leave during their second year of medical school, trying to make the kayaking team for the 2000 Olympics in Sydney, Australia.

The two raced separately and together in the Olympic Trials, held in Seattle in June, missing the qualification cut-off only by inches in a couple of instances. The competition was fierce, says Justin Piasecki.

"We were extremely well prepared, focused and ready to race but as is the case in any sport, sometimes, despite all that, the outcomes don't always turn out the way you had hoped. We performed extremely well, putting in world class times, but our competition was also ready and luck seemed to be on their side."

Between the two of them, the Piaseckis collected: 23 national medals (including one national championship); 13 international medals (including a gold medal at the Pan American games in 1999 and at the World Cup this year); and a number four world ranking.

"Though disappointed by our Olympic Trials results, we are extremely thankful for the experience. I've always believed that experiences either build character or reveal it. It's been a most remarkable experience going after this dream and we feel so lucky to have had the opportunity to go for it," Justin said.

"The Olympics would have been icing on the cake, but even without that, the cake was pretty good too. We feel most fortunate for the lessons we've learned about ourselves and the confidence and courage we've gained along this journey. We feel so grateful to Vanderbilt for supporting us. These two years have been the two most rewarding years of our lives and it would not have been possible had the faculty and the medical school not embraced it."

The Piaseckis are now back at VUSM, beginning their third year of medical school. They spoke to the incoming first-year class at orientation. The subject: "individual effort." ♡



VUMC ranks among nation's elite

by Doug Campbell

Several programs at Vanderbilt University Medical Center are ranked among the nation's elite, according to a July survey by *U.S. News & World Report*.

The 11th annual assessment of health care facilities, called "America's Best Hospitals," ranks institutions by 17 different specialties.

Vanderbilt University Hospital and The Vanderbilt Clinic are ranked in 11 of the 17 specialty areas surveyed, including cancer, 27th; digestive disorders, 35th; ear-nose-throat, 11th; gynecology, 20th; heart, 23rd; hormonal disorders, 12th; kidney disease, 9th; neurology and neurosurgery, 32nd; orthopaedics, 19th; respiratory disorders, 15th; and urology, 18th. This is the first year that kidney disease has been ranked as a specialty.

The annual ranking of health care facilities is designed to serve as a guide for consumers

looking for the best in medical care. This year's complete guide is published in the newsmagazine's July 17 issue and can also be accessed on-line at www.usnews.com.

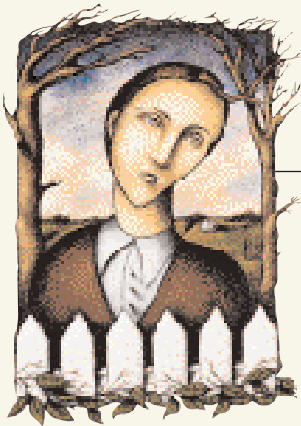
"We are very pleased that, once again, VUMC is ranked among the best in the country and that the number of specialty areas in which we're recognized continues to grow," said Dr. Harry R. Jacobson, vice chancellor for Health Affairs. "While this is only one indicator of quality when comparing providers of health care services, national recognition such as this is important in reaching our goal of being regarded as one of the country's premiere academic medical institutions."

The rankings use a statistical method developed by the National Opinion Research Center (NORC), a noted social science research group at the University of Chicago, to rank the quality of the nation's hospitals



each year.

To be eligible for ranking in any of the 17 specialties, a hospital had to meet at least one of three requirements — affiliation with a medical school, membership in the Council of Teaching Hospitals or a minimum of nine out of 17 key technologies readily available.



by Leigh MacMillan

A network of international researchers is set to begin the largest study ever to search for genes that cause major depression.

The study, coordinated by Vanderbilt University's Program in Human Genetics in collaboration with the pharmaceutical company Glaxo Wellcome, could lead to the development of new drugs to prevent or treat the disease.

Major or unipolar depression affects about 12 percent of the population in the Western world at some point in life, making it one of the most common mental illnesses and the leading

Searching for depression genes

cause of disability worldwide. Although about 70 percent of patients respond to treatment with antidepressants, up to 75 percent experience recurrent depression within 10 years, and a very high proportion of sufferers remain undiagnosed and untreated.

"Unipolar depression is a devastating illness that destroys the lives of both patients and their families," said Jonathan L. Haines, Ph.D., professor of Molecular Physiology and Biophysics and director of the Program in Human Genetics. "Understanding the genetic basis of unipolar depression will give us new targets to help design new, improved medicines to deal with the condition."

Although some candidate genes for depression have been identified, none have been confirmed. In addition, most studies searching for depression genes have focused on bipolar depression (manic-depressive disorder), which historically was considered to be more of a

genetic disease than unipolar depression. There is now strong evidence that points to a genetic predisposition to unipolar depression.

The new study will recruit a minimum of 1200 families in which at least two individuals have been characterized as clinically depressed — a DSM-IV diagnosis according to the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders. Clinical histories and DNA data will be collected from eligible families at multiple centers in the United States and three foreign countries.

Four additional sites are anticipated to join the effort in fall 2000.

Investigators at Vanderbilt University will analyze all of the data collected at study centers, looking for links between genetic markers and clinical depression. Spots in the genome that are found to be linked to depression then act as signposts, pointing the way to the actual genes that play a role in the disease.



a *new*
chapter in the
book
of
life

by Leigh MacMillan

It has been called the “Book of Life,” but this is one book that may not make it to the New York Times Bestseller List. At three billion letters, with no spaces or punctuation, the sequence of the human genome isn’t exactly a page-turner. But it promises to revolutionize medicine and improve human health with the wealth of information it contains.

Right now, estimates on the total number of human genes vary widely, from 40,000 to 120,000. Scientists plan to use the sequence of the human genome to identify all of the genes, which will serve as a launching pad for more difficult studies of what each gene does – under normal circumstances, and for some genes, during disease.

At the end of June, the leaders of two rival groups of scientists—the publicly funded consortium known as the Human Genome Project and the company Celera Genomics—announced together that they had effectively decoded the entire human genome.

Data acquired by the public consortium is freely available on the World Wide Web. Celera Genomics offers subscription-only access to its databases of genomic information and powerful computing tools, and Vanderbilt University was the first academic institution to partner with Celera Genomics for access to the company’s vast resources.

The agreement between Vanderbilt University and Celera is designed to protect academic freedom, ensuring that Vanderbilt’s own inventions and discoveries can be used to advance patient care and treatment.

Under the agreement, Vanderbilt can: publish and present its research results; develop intellectual property based on its discoveries; use Celera information in filing or prosecuting patent applications and maintaining patents; and use Celera information in filing and maintaining regulatory applications and approvals.

“We are extremely pleased to be at the leading edge of efforts to harness the potential of these data,” said Dr. Harry R. Jacobson, vice chancellor for Health Affairs, when the agreement was signed in May. “We believe this will be a powerful tool in the ongoing quest to expand our base of

scientific knowledge and apply it to discovering new ways to combat illness.”

J. Craig Venter, Ph.D., Celera's president and chief scientific officer, agreed.

“It is very fitting that our first academic database subscription is with a premier medical and research institution such as Vanderbilt. We firmly believe that researchers everywhere should have access to our genomic database information and now with the launch of our web-based science discovery system, we have made it easier to do so,” Venter said.

Since May, the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, University

facility, the third largest in the world, to access the databases and bioinformatics tools for viewing, browsing, and analyzing the genomic information.

“By partnering with Celera, we put ourselves at the forefront of the genomics field,” said Dr. Mark A. Magnuson, assistant vice chancellor for Research, who along with Lee E. Limbird, Ph.D., associate vice chancellor for Research, and George M. Stadler, director of Enterprise Development in the Office of Technology Transfer, worked with Celera to develop the terms for partnership between an academic institution and Celera.

the form of a single letter change—an A instead of a T, for example. Single-letter changes are called SNPs (pronounced “snips”) for “single nucleotide polymorphisms.”

Scientists plan to find SNPs and link them to diseases and variability in drug response.

Genetic tests looking at SNPs, for example, could help predict a patient's risk for developing coronary artery disease. A predicted high risk might indicate an early need for drugs or other treatments to reduce the need for bypass operations.

Genetic tests related to drug response could indicate that a particular drug will work for a certain patient at half the usual dose, allowing a customized prescription that avoids potential side effects associated with higher doses. Or the test might reveal that the patient will not respond at all, allowing the physician to select an alternate drug immediately, rather than after weeks of treatment.

As scientists unravel the functions of each gene, we can expect greater understanding of both normal and disease physiology, leading ultimately to preventive therapies, better treatments, and even cures, George said. ♡



Unlocking the secrets of the genome promises to revolutionize the practice of medicine.

of Cincinnati, and Ohio State University have also signed subscription agreements with Celera.

Celera is an information company whose goal is to make the rising volumes of biological information more accessible and useful to researchers.

It is creating an unparalleled library of genomic information in databases, which include the human genome, genetic variations in the human genome, the mouse genome, and the Drosophila (fruit fly) genome. Celera's databases include both sequence information and annotation—the identification of genes and description of their functions.

Celera has also amassed powerful computing tools, which are necessary to handle the volumes of genomic data. Subscribers are able to log into Celera's supercomputing

Unlocking the secrets of the genome promises to revolutionize the practice of medicine.

“Within five years, I believe there are going to be great strides in bringing the power of genetics and the wealth of new information from the Human Genome Project directly to the benefit of patients,” said Dr. Alfred L. George, Jr., Grant W. Liddle Professor of Medicine and director of the division of Genetic Medicine.

Those strides will likely include improved diagnosis of disease, earlier detection of genetic susceptibility to disease, individually customized drug treatments, rational drug design, and new DNA-based drugs (gene therapy).

To apply genomic data to medical care, scientists will search for genetic differences between individuals, many of which take

Want to know more?

For basic information on the Human Genome Project, including what it is, project goals, frequently asked questions (FAQs) and recent headlines, visit <http://www.ornl.gov/hgmis/>

To obtain the most up-to-date genome data, visit <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/>

Alumni Journal



Recent Activities of Interest to the Alumni/Alumnae

We extend a warm welcome to the 104 recent Medical School graduates who now become the newest members of the Vanderbilt Medical Alumni Association. Dr. Charles J. Wray became the last of 3,317 students to receive his diploma from Dean John E. Chapman. Dr. Chapman announced a year ago that he would step down as Dean as soon as his replacement is in place. At that time he will assume the position of Vice Chancellor for Medical Alumni Affairs. In completing his 25th year as Dean, Dr. Chapman has conferred medical degrees on 67% of all living VUSM graduates, certainly an exemplary record.

Forty graduate students also participated in the graduation exercises and received Doctor of Philosophy degrees in biomedical sciences. On average, these students require over five years to complete requirements for the Ph.D. degree and they are critical to the research program of the University.



their active participation and advice in the future. We regretfully say goodbye to those retiring members who have served with dedication. The Alumni Association is fortunate to have a continuous supply of loyal supporters.

Medical Alumni Group Travel Plans for 2001

You will soon receive a brochure describing an exceptional opportunity to travel to Spain, June 26-July 3. Home base for seven nights will be Úbeda, so you will unpack only once. Side trips

are scheduled for Cordoba to see the Great Mosque, Granada to visit the Alhambra, Cazorla with its ancient Moorish Castle and return by way of Madrid.

Our alumni and members of Canby Robinson Society will join alumni from Duke and Johns Hopkins for another exciting excursion. An entire ship will be reserved for these three alumni associations, August 3- 14, 2001. Please watch for details in the next *Vanderbilt Medicine*.

Medical Alumni Dinners

In mid-May we were pleased to greet an enthusiastic group of medical alumni in New York City for a reception and dinner at the Harvard Club, hosted by Dr. Joseph A. Cook, MD'64. The following day we traveled to Atlanta for a similar, large alumni gathering at the Ritz Carlton (Buckhead) hosted by Dr. John B. Neeld, Jr., MD'66. In attendance were Medical School graduates, former house staff, former fellows and parents of current students. All were eager to talk with Vice Chancellor Harry R. Jacobson and learn about activities and future plans for the Medical Center. Earlier, we hosted similar dinners in San Antonio, Houston and Dallas. We will visit other sections of the country next Spring.

Medical Alumni Association Board Meeting

Your Board of Directors met at the Medical Center in mid June. A new slate of directors was elected and we look forward to

Reunion 2000: A Big Celebration

Not only will the next Medical Alumni Reunion occur October 19-21, this will also be a commemoration of the 125th anniversary of Vanderbilt Medical School. Class chairpersons and spouses are busy contacting classmates and arrangements are being finalized for an exciting celebration, so we hope you will plan to attend. You may keep abreast of coming events and additional Reunion information by visiting our homepage at: <http://www.mc.vanderbilt.edu/alum-affairs/>. ©

Very Best Regards,

George W. Holcomb, Jr., M.D.

Executive Director

Medical Alumni Affairs

match day 2000



PHOTOS BY DANA JOHNSON

* Indicates CRS Scholars

Alabama

University of Alabama Hospital, Birmingham
Robert Eller, General Surgery; Otolaryngology

Arizona

University of Arizona, Tucson
Dominika Heusinkveld, Family Practice

Arkansas

University of Arkansas, Little Rock
Hilary Ann Peterson, Emergency Medicine

California

San Diego Naval Medical Center, San Diego
Michael Humble, Internal Medicine
Frank Mullens, Internal Medicine

University of California San Diego Medical Center, San Diego
Brett Johnson, Internal Medicine

University of California Irvine Medical Center, Orange, California
Varsha Khatri, Pediatrics
Behrooz Torkian, Surgery; Otolaryngology
Douglas Williamson, Emergency Medicine

Stanford University, Stanford, California
Timothy Kuo, Internal Medicine*
Jeffery Pollard, Otolaryngology

Children's Hospital of Los Angeles, Los Angeles
Christine Wang, Pediatrics

University of California San Francisco
Elizabeth Wick, General Surgery

Colorado

University of Colorado School of Medicine, Denver
David Brumbaugh, Pediatrics
Amy Grotelueschen, Primary Care Medicine
Brian Long, Internal Medicine
Albert Tricomi, Internal Medicine

Exempla St. Joseph Hospital, Denver
Neil Segal, Medicine

University of Colorado, Denver
Exempla St. Joseph Hospital, Denver
Joseph Soto, Otolaryngology

Connecticut

Yale-New Haven Hospital, New Haven, Connecticut
Simon Chin, Plastic Surgery

Florida

St. Vincent's Medical Center, Jacksonville, Florida
Tonya Hollinger, Family practice
Georgia
Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta
Robin Hickman, ObGyn

Illinois

McGraw Medical Center, Chicago
Jesse Jorgensen, Internal Medicine

Indiana

Indiana University School of Medicine, Indianapolis
Anne Knudsen, ObGyn
Daniel Otten, Internal Medicine

St. Vincent Hospital, Indianapolis
John Parrott, Medicine

Maryland

Johns Hopkins, Baltimore
John Davis, Internal Medicine
Ricardo Gonzales, Orthopedic Surgery
Marwan Khalifeh, Plastic Surgery
Kelly Moore, Pediatrics
Jesse Taylor, Surgery

Massachusetts

Brigham & Women's Hospital, Boston
Derek Abbot, Pathology
Scott Hande, Internal Medicine

Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston
Aloke Finn, Internal Medicine
Andrea Utz, Internal Medicine

University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester
John Millstine, Medicine

Minnesota

Mayo Graduate School of Medicine, Rochester, Minnesota
Eileen Dauer, Otolaryngology
Jason Lewis, Pathology

Missouri

Barnes-Jewish Hospital, St. Louis
Anil Goklaney, Emergency Medicine

St. Louis Mercy Medical Center, St. Louis
Matthew Wiggins, Transitional

New York

New York Cornell Hospital, New York
Brian Gelbman, Internal Medicine

Columbia Presbyterian, New York
Rachel Jankolovits, Internal Medicine

Lenox Hill Hospital, New York
Presbyterian Hospital, New York
Sandeep Kakaria, Ophthalmology

St. Vincent's Hospital, New York
Brent Pennington, Transitional

University of Rochester, Rochester, New York
Yoshiko Tamura, Medicine Pediatrics

North Carolina

Carolina Medical Center, Charlotte, North Carolina
Jennifer Casaletto, Emergency Medicine

Duke University Medical Center, Durham
Lisa Goetz, Internal Medicine

University of North Carolina Hospital, Chapel Hill

Tracy Motyka, Emergency Medicine
Robert Van-Winkle, Pediatrics

Ohio

University Hospitals of Cleveland
Allen Adams, General Surgery

University Hospitals of Cincinnati
Pamela Kingma, Pediatrics
Paul Kingma, Pediatrics
Michael Konikoff, Pediatrics

Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland
Sarah, McAchran, Urology

Oklahoma

University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma City
Ellen Parker, Otolaryngology

Pennsylvania

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia
Asit Parikh, Internal Medicine

Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia
Allyson Campbell, Internal Medicine

Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia
Ashley Wilkerson, ObGyn

Rhode Island

Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island
Scott Blackman, Research

South Carolina

Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston
Jeffery Cluver, Psychiatry
Melissa Hilmes, Diagnostic Radiology
Martha Linker, Pediatrics

Tennessee

Vanderbilt
Mary Austin, General Surgery
Patricia Chu, Emergency Medicine
Jeffrey Dendy, Internal Medicine
Kathryn Dixon, Pediatrics
Jennifer Domm, Pediatrics
Austin Garza, Internal Medicine

David Harley, Surgery
Barron Patterson, Pediatrics
Sovana Paul, ObGyn
David Sanders, Medical Informatics
Selina Shah, Surgery
Dana Smith, Surgery
Brent Snader, Medicine
Shannon Snyder, Internal Medicine
Alireza Sodeifi, Oral Surgery
Kenneth Thomas, General Surgery
Derek Welch, Pathology
Charles Wray, Internal Medicine

Texas

University Texas Southwestern, Dallas
Joshua Thomas, Emergency Medicine

Utah

University Utah Affiliated Hospital, Salt Lake City
Julie Hibbard, Family Practice

Virginia

University of Virginia, Charlottesville
Geoffrey Baer, Orthopaedic Surgery
Rosemary Guerguerian, Internal Medicine
Steven Turner, Emergency Medicine*

Vermont

University of Vermont Medical Center, Burlington, Vermont
Karen Leonard, Pediatrics

Washington

University of Washington Affiliated Hospitals, Seattle
Bond Almand, Otolaryngology
Niranjan Bhat, Pediatrics
Melissa Chen, Primary Care Medicine
Nitin Engineer, General Surgery
Mark Fluchel, Pediatrics
Amanda Frisch, Pediatrics
Yen-Tsun Lai, Internal Medicine
Noble Maleque, Primary Care Medicine
John West, Internal Medicine

Virginia Mason Hospital, Seattle
Adam Myhre, Transitional

Madigan Army Medical Center, Fort Lewis, Washington
Ronald Wells, Pediatrics

Washington D.C.

Washington Hospital Center, Washington D.C.
Kane Lai, Medicine
David Mellman, Medicine

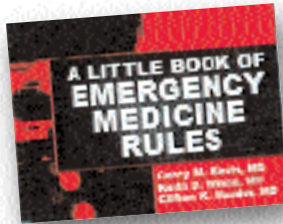
Wisconsin

University Wisconsin Medical School, Madison
Stuart Hannah, Family Practice*

University of Wisconsin Hospital, Madison
Robert Matthias, Orthopaedic Surgery

BOOK CORNER

Fall Book Reviews



A Little Book of Emergency Medicine Rules

By Drs. Corey M. Slovis, professor and chair of Emergency Medicine, Keith D. Wrenn, professor of

Emergency Medicine, Clifton K. Meador, clinical professor of Medicine, 2000, Hanley & Belfus, Inc., 219 pages

This is a book of rules, observations, tips and pearls for all those who care for emergency patients, drawn from the experiences of two highly regarded emergency physicians, with an assist from Dr. Clifton Meador, author of the best-selling *A Little Book of Doctor's Rules*.

Both the seasoned clinician as well as the novice are told in the preface to this book that “treating patients in the emergency department can be exciting, challenging, hard work, fun, boring, dirty and heroic. Unfortunately, it can also be risky for patients and the physicians, medical students, EMTs and nurses who treat them.”

This book of rules is an effort to spare the above professionals from making mistakes. These statements, observations and rules help guide the professionals as they “learn the art of practicing emergent episodic care.”

The 243 suggestions in the book include: (1) remain doubtful. Trust no one. Believe nothing,” (18) “Call for help! Do not hesitate to call for help. The smartest of us knows when to say ‘I don’t know,’” and (25) “Common sense is more important than evidence-based medicine.”



Immunizing Healthcare

Workers: A Practical Approach

Edited by Drs. Gregory A. Poland, professor of Medicine and Clinical Pharmacology and chief of the Mayo Vaccine Research Group and William Schaffner, professor and chairman of the Department of Preventive Medicine and professor of Medicine at VUMC, and

Gina Pugliese, RN, MS, director of Premier Safety Institute, Premier, Inc., 2000, SLACK Inc., 504 pages

This book addresses issues related to the appropriate immunization of healthcare workers that have been growing in number and complexity as the number of vaccines increases, as the healthcare industry itself becomes more complex, and as some contemporary healthcare workers continue “on the job” despite underlying illnesses that in an earlier era might have persuaded them to avoid the potential exposures inherent in ministering to the sick.

Divided into six parts, the book addresses the basic principles of immunization, provides practical information on developing an effective immunization program for workers, a discussion of medical-legal issues and specific vaccines that are indicated for healthcare workers and information on specific vaccines. There are also case studies and descriptions of successful programs for specific vaccine-preventable diseases including varicella, measles and hepatitis B.

VITAL SIGNS

Faculty News • Alumni News

Faculty News

Dr. Raymond N. DuBois, Mina Cobb Wallace Professor of Gastroenterology and Cancer Prevention, director of Gastroenterology and associate director for Cancer Prevention in the Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center, received the Outstanding Investigator Award in Clinical Science from the American Federation for Medical Research at its annual meeting in April. The award recognizes the clinical implications of DuBois' research in the role of the enzyme cyclooxygenase-2 (COX-2) in the development and progression of colon cancer.

***Dr. John E. Chapman**, dean of the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, received the Tennessee Medical Association's Distinguished Service Award for 2000. The award recognizes Chapman's many contributions to the improvement and advancement of health care in the Nashville area.

Dr. Terence S. Dermody, associate professor of Pediatrics and Microbiology and Immunology, was recently honored with one of Vanderbilt University's highest faculty honors. Dermody received a Chair of Teaching Excellence, established by Chancellor Joe B. Wyatt in 1993, to recognize outstanding teaching. The honor carries a three-year term and a \$10,000 annual salary supplement. Wyatt called Dermody "a person of energy and optimism" with "a love of teaching in every setting, from the classroom to the bedside."

Dr. Alfred L. George Jr., Grant W. Liddle Professor of Medicine, professor of Pharmacology and director of the division of Genetic Medicine, has been elected a Councilor of the American Society for Clinical Investigation. He will serve a three-year term. As part of the governing body of the organization, Councilors are involved in planning the major activities of the society, developing new initiatives such as physician-scientist development, and electing new members.

***Dr. Deborah C. German**, senior associate dean for Medical Education at VUSM, received

the 2000 Athena Award, an annual honor in Nashville recognizing excellence by women in the Nashville community. She was nominated to receive the 10th annual award this year for the second time by Tennessee Women in Medicine for her three decades of advocacy for the community.

Dr. David W. Haas, associate professor of Medicine, has been elected to a three-year term on the executive committee of the NIH-funded Adult AIDS Clinical Trials Group. With 32 main sites at academic centers nationwide, this is the largest HIV clinical trials organization in the world. The executive committee is responsible for oversight of the group's clinical trials, analysis and dissemination of study results and for allocation of resources within the group.

Dr. David H. Johnson, deputy director of the Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center, has been elected to a three-year term on the board of the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO). His board term began in May. Johnson is Cornelius Abernathy Craig Professor of Oncology and director of the division of Hematology-Oncology and has been a member of ASCO since 1983.

***Dr. David T. Karzon**, professor of Pediatrics Emeritus, has been selected as a 2000 Johns Hopkins University Society of Scholars inductee. The Society of Scholars inducts former postdoctoral fellows and junior or visiting faculty at Johns Hopkins who have gained marked distinction in their fields. Karzon, who was a fellow in virology at Johns Hopkins between 1948 and 1950, was one of 14 inductees this year.

***Lawrence J. Marnett, Ph.D.**, Mary Geddes Stahlman Professor of Cancer Research and professor of Biochemistry and Chemistry, received one of Vanderbilt University's highest faculty honors, the Harvie Branscomb Distinguished Professor Award. The award, established in 1963, honors "distinguished accomplishment in furthering the aims of

Vanderbilt University." The winner receives an engraved silver tray, a cash award of \$2,500 and designation as the Harvie Branscomb Distinguished Professor for one academic year.

James G. Patton, Ph.D., associate professor of Molecular Biology, has been named director of the Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in the Biomedical Sciences (IGP). Patton assumes the position from G. Roger Chalkley, D.Phil., senior associate dean for Biomedical Research Education and Training, who has served as the program's director since 1992. The IGP recruits and educates graduate students who are interested in basic biological and biomedical research. The program is responsible for organizing the training of these students during their first year at Vanderbilt.

***Dr. Roscoe R. "Ike" Robinson**, vice-chancellor for Health Affairs, emeritus, has received the 1999 Research!America advocacy award for Sustained Leadership at the National Level. The award honors leaders who have consistently fostered legislation and/or programs that strive to make medical and other health-related research a higher national priority. Research!America cited Robinson as a trailblazer in the area of kidney disease and as a visionary responsible for programs such as the two-day Vanderbilt "Research Day" and Congressional Spouse program. He was also elected to the National Kidney Foundation Board of Directors for the 2000-2001 term. Robinson and his wife, Ann, were recently honored at VUMC as Medical Research Building I was renamed the "Ann and Roscoe R. Robinson Medical Research Building" in their honor.

***Dr. William W. Stead**, associate vice-chancellor for Health Affairs, is one of a select group of representatives from academic medical centers to serve on a committee charged with designing a national quality report on health care delivery. The 15-member committee was appointed by the Institute of Medicine to identify the most important questions to answer in evaluating whether the nation's

health care delivery system is providing high quality health care and whether the quality is improving over time. It is also charged with identifying the domains of information that should be included in the report.

J. Richard Wagers Jr., M.B.A., a 22-year veteran of VUMC's balance sheets and checkbooks, has been named senior vice-president and chief financial officer of the medical center. Wagers, former vice-president of Finance, succeeds George C. Forsyth, who retired in 1999 after 23 years.

Alumni News

'41

***Dr. Laurence A. Grossman**, MD'41, HS'41/46, was honored in Nashville recently by Meharry Medical College for helping break down the barriers of racism in health care in Nashville. He received Meharry's most prestigious honor, the Salt Wagon Award, during the fourth annual Circle of Friends Gala on Meharry's campus. The Salt Wagon Award recognizes "acts of kindness to mankind" and to Meharry. The name refers to the pivotal event that led to the college's establishment in 1876. Grossman is a specialist in internal medicine and cardiovascular disease and is on Vanderbilt's clinical faculty. Lester F. Williams, professor of surgery at VUMC and chief of surgery at Saint Thomas Hospital, received the medical college's Circle of Friends Award for the help he has given the Meharry surgical department.

'43

Dr. Franklin T. Fowler, MD'43, retired in 1985. He and his wife, Dorcas, live in a retirement community in Richmond, Virginia. After service in the Medical Corp US Army in the ETO, the Fowlers served as medical missionaries in Paraguay where they helped establish the Baptist Medical Center in Asuncion, Paraguay. They later served two years in Mexico before coming to Richmond where he served as the medical consultant to the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention prior to his retirement.

'46

***Dr. Fred Allison Jr.**, MD'46, HS'60-'61, F'88-'96, was honored by the Louisiana State University School of Medicine in June by the establishment of the Fred Allison Jr. M.D.

Professorship of Internal Medicine. Allison served on LSU's faculty for 19 years, beginning in 1968. He was on the VUSM faculty from 1987 until 1996. In 1996, he became a member of the Advisory Board of the LSU Health Care Network. Allison lives in Nashville.

Dr. William G. Crook, HS'46-'48, was an invited speaker at the Attention Deficit Hyper-Activity Conference in Arlington, Va. last year where causes and possible solutions were discussed. The conference was sponsored by Georgetown University Medical Center. Crook is president of the International Health Foundation Inc. Crook lives in Jackson, Tenn.

'47

*** Dr. James A. Clifton III**, MD'47, was honored in June by the University of Iowa College of Medicine with a Distinguished Alumni Award for outstanding service and achievements in science and medicine. Clifton came to the UI College of Medicine in 1947 for his residency training after earning his medical degree at VUSM. Two years after completing his residency, he became the first director of the college's Gastroenterology division, which would become recognized as one of the premier GI programs in the country. He served as chair of the UI department of internal medicine from 1970 to 1976 and as interim dean of the UI College of Medicine from 1991 to 1993. He is currently the Roy J. Carver Professor Emeritus and lives in Iowa City. He received the VUSM Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1984.

'48

***Dr. Fred Goldner Jr.**, MD'48, HS'53-'54, has been designated by the American Society of Hypertension as a specialist in Clinical Hypertension. The ASH Specialists Program was formed by the American Society of Hypertension for the specific purpose of identifying and recognizing those physicians with expert knowledge and skill in the management of clinical hypertension and related diseases. Goldner is associate clinical professor of Medicine at VUMC.

'58

***Dr. David Gray**, MD'58, retired in January after 34 years as a general surgeon in Lewisburg, Pa. All three of Gray's sons are

practicing physicians – John, a vascular surgeon in Durham, N.C. and associate professor of surgery at Duke University Medical Center; Bradley with the Family Practice Center in Lewisburg and Richard, MD'86, an orthopaedic surgeon in Tampa, Fla.

'60

Dr. Charles W. Logan, MD'60, has been elected president-elect of the American Association of Clinical Urology. He is currently chief of Urology at St. Vincent Infirmary in Little Rock, Ark.

'65

Dr. Robert M. Carey, MD'65, received the title of Mastership of the American College of Physicians at the annual meeting of the American College of Physicians/American Society of Internal Medicine on April 13 in Philadelphia. He also received the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1994. He is currently Dean of the University of Virginia School of Medicine.

'66

Dr. David Richard McNutt, HS'66-'68, and his wife, Kristen, recently relocated to Santa Cruz, Calif., where David has become County Health Officer and Medical Director. Kristen, who received her Ph.D. degree in biochemistry from Vanderbilt in 1970, continues her consulting and publishing in consumer affairs out of their new home.

'68

Dr. Gary H. Cramer, HS'68-'69, recently joined the cardiology staff of Park Nicollet Clinic, a large multi-specialty clinic in Minnesota.

Dr. Sara Zieverink Monroe, MD'68, HS'69-'70, retired in July 1998. She is living in Jacksonville, Fla.

'70

Dr. Robert W. Mahley, MD'70, HS'70, has been elected to the National Academy of Sciences. Mahley, who also received a Ph.D. from the Department of Anatomy/Pathology in 1968, is president of the J. David Gladstone Institutes and director of the Gladstone Institute of Cardiovascular Disease. He was the founding director of the Gladstone

Institute, dedicated to understanding the causes of premature heart disease and contributing to its prevention. He is an internationally known expert on heart disease and cholesterol metabolism.

'72

***Dr. Ralph E. Wesley**, MD'72, has been named president-elect of the American Society of Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery. Wesley is a specialist in eyelid plastic surgery at Centennial and Baptist Medical Centers and a clinical professor of Ophthalmology at VUMC.

'74

***Dr. Bruce B. Dan**, MD'74 HS'74-'77, has been appointed to the board of directors of INNX Inc., a San Diego-based television/internet startup company. Dan has been senior editor of the Journal of the American Medical Association, was instrumental in the creation of JAMA's weekly video news release, the JAMA Report, and most recently has been medical director and chief medical officer of Greenberg News Networks prior to its acquisition by Healtheon/WebMD (HLTH). INNX broadcasts its strand of health programming daily to 210 NBC stations in the United States, and several stations in Canada. The programming is entitled "Healthsurfing Report" and drives viewer traffic to branded health buttons on station Web sites.

'76

Dr. Robert S. Friedman, HS'76-'78, has joined Kantor Eye Institute and Laser Center in Sarasota, Fla. He is a glaucoma specialist.

'77

Dr. Jay Marion, MD'77, is a board-certified oncologist/hematologist on the staff of Washington County Hospital in Illinois.

'81

Dr. Ronald E. Wilson, MD'81, HS'83, has opened Brentwood Neurology, a neurological consultation practice at Brentwood Medical Center, near Nashville. He concentrates in the treatment of disorders of the brain and nervous system and provides specialized treatment for movement disorders. Previously he was assistant professor of Neurology at VUMC.

'83

Dr. Lee E. Payne, Lt. Col., USAF, MC, FS,

MD'83, has relinquished command of the 325th Medical Operations Squadron at Tyndall Airforce Base in Florida and is now Deputy Commander, 31st Medical Group, Aviano, Airforce Base in Italy.

'86

***Dr. Newton P. Allen Jr.**, MD'86, HS'86-88, has released a full-length instrumental CD, "Yesterday's Dream," available at www.Opusmusic.com Led by Allen on piano and accompanied by strings, flute, percussion, bass guitar and acoustic guitar, the CD contains 13 songs. Allen practices internal medicine at Saint Thomas Hospital in Nashville.

Dr. Jeffrey R. Prinsell, MD'86, HS'83-'85, '86, '87, has authored an article on sleep apnea in the December 1999 issue of Chest. During a five-year clinical study with 18 sleep centers, Prinsell showed a 100 percent success rate of Maxillomandibular advancement surgery in a site-specific treatment approach for obstructive sleep apnea of 50 patients. The success rate is the highest ever published in a clinical series of this size. Prinsell, who has a private oral and maxillofacial surgery practice in Marietta, Ga., lives in Marietta with his wife Kim and sons Jeffrey and Eric. He is a diplomate of the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, past president of the Sleep Disorders Dental Society, and is a faculty instructor at the Atlanta School of Sleep Medicine.

'88

Dr. David Gilliam, MD'88, has been named director of laboratories for Blount Memorial Hospital in Knoxville. He was formerly the hospital's director of anatomic pathology. Prior to joining Blount Memorial, he was assistant director of surgical pathology for the U.S. Air Force at Wilford Hall Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas. He has been Blount County medical examiner since April 1998.

'90

Dr. Ronald A. Nelson, MD'90, is now a resident in dermatology at Vanderbilt University Hospital after nine years in the Air Force. He recently married Laura Meeker of Mobile, Ala.

'93

Dr. Rasheed I. Ahmad, MD'93, and his wife,

Donna, and their three children, Collin, Jill and Shannon, live in Pensacola, Fla., where he is an orthopaedic surgeon at Pensacola's Naval Hospital.

Dr. Andrew G. Moore, MD'93, is finishing a cardiology fellowship at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn. He will remain on staff in the division of Cardiology. His wife, Katherine Marshall, MD'95, is on staff at the Mayo Clinic in Psychiatry.

'94

Dr. Nelar Wine, MD'94, and her husband, Scott Tanaka, welcomed their first child, Aaron Minthura, on October 20, 1999. After completing her internal medicine internship and residency at the University of California in San Diego, she is now employed as an internist at Kaiser Permanente in San Diego.

'95

Dr. David M. Greeson, MD'95, completed his dermatology residency in San Antonio in June 1999, became board certified in dermatology in October 1999, and is now in private practice in dermatology in Athens, Ga. He married Beth Moore in September 1999.

Dr. Siobhan Mannion, MD'95, has recently joined the staff of Lahey Clinic in Burlington, Mass. Mannion, who joined the staff from the Harvard Medical School Department of Dermatology Training Program, specializes in general dermatology with an expertise in coetaneous fungal infections.

'96

Dr. Trent Rosenbloom, MD'96, and his wife, Ellie, welcomed their first child, a daughter, Shayna Dori, on Nov. 28, 1998. She was born 2 _ months prematurely at Vanderbilt University Hospital and spent eight weeks in the NICU, but is now doing very well. Trent is currently serving a medical/pediatric residency at VUH.

'97

Dr. Michael L. Bobo, MD'97, HS'97-00, has completed his oral and maxillofacial surgery residency at Vanderbilt and is practicing in Murray, Ky. and Union City, Tenn. He and his wife, Sharon, welcomed their first child, Christian on March 17, 2000.

Dr. Thomas Meyer, MD'97, married Sherri Pilolli in October 1999. He is completing his internal medicine residency at Parkland

Memorial Hospital where his wife is employed as a clinical dietitian.

'98

Dr. Thomas Benton Repine, MD'98, is a captain in the army, currently working at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas, beginning his third year in the internal medicine program. He and his wife, Stephanie, welcomed their daughter, Taylor Grace, on Feb. 4, 2000.

In Memoriam

***Dr. Richard W. Blumberg, HS'39-'41**, died on Jan. 26, 2000 after a lengthy illness. He was a longtime physician and educator at Emory University in Atlanta, and was named as chairman of the Department of Pediatrics in 1959. In 1988, the Richard Weston Blumberg Professorship in Pediatrics was established in his honor. He retired in 1981 after having served in the Department of Pediatrics for 33 years. He was made professor emeritus and was honored by the establishment of the Bartholomew-Blumberg Fellowship Endowment fund in the College of Medicine. He is survived by a niece and nephews.

Dr. Chester Colwell Brummett, MD'38, HS'58-'59, died on June 7, 2000 in Birmingham, Ala. He was 86. Survivors include his wife of 62 years, Catherine, five children, six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. He came to Birmingham to practice with the Anesthesiology Associates of the Baptist Health System.

Dr. Beverly C. Chatham, MD'43, died on Dec. 2, 1999 in an automobile accident. He lived in Chickasha, OK.

***Dr. William R. Culbertson, MD'41**, died on Dec. 28, 1999 following a long illness. He was 84. He was recognized at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine as an outstanding teacher of surgical techniques and diagnoses and throughout the area as a gifted surgeon. Culbertson came to Cincinnati in the summer of 1946 to enter a surgical training program at Cincinnati General Hospital, now University Hospital, and remained as a member of the faculty, becoming professor of surgery in 1970 and professor emeritus in 1986. He continued to teach part time at the Veterans Administration Hospital until 1995. He is the author or co-author of 50 publications dealing with the diagnosis and manage-

ment of surgical infections. He is survived by his two sons, Joseph and Robert.

Dr. Marvin E. Deck, MD'63, died on Dec. 17, 1998. He was 65. He lived in Lafayette, Tenn. since 1976 when he opened his practice. He retired from medicine in 1984 due to his health, but continued to live in Macon County, often giving piano recitals at his home. He is survived by his wife, Pamela, two daughters, three sons, and seven grandchildren.

Dr. Ben Fruhlinger, MD'34, died on March 8, 2000 at the Adirondack Medical Center in Saranac Lake, NY. He practiced in Ray Brook for most of his career and served as a consultant to the New York State Chest Clinics until they closed in 1975. He is survived by several nieces and nephews in New York and Pennsylvania.

***Dr. Francis A. Marzoni, MD'44**, died on April 10, 2000. During his long career in Birmingham, he was professor of Surgery and head of the division of Reconstructive Surgery at the University of Alabama in Birmingham. He was a director and examiner of the American Board of Plastic Surgery for several years and was vice chair of the board, chairman of the Advisory Council for Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery of the American College of Surgeons. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Florence, a son, Dr. Francis A. Marzoni Jr., daughter, Jane DiPetro of Nashville and five grandchildren.

***Dr. Charles H. Nicholson, MD'55**, died recently in Lexington, Ky. from complications of pancreatic cancer. He was 68. Nicholson, a retired Lexington general and thoracic surgeon, was affiliated with Lexington Clinic for most of his career. He was former chief of the clinic's surgery department and also former chief of general and thoracic surgery at St. Joseph Hospital. He retired three years ago after more than 30 years in practice. He is survived by his wife, Jackie, a daughter, two sons and two grandchildren.

Dr. John Ralph Rice, MD'37, died on Jan. 24, 2000 at Richland Health Center in Nashville. He is survived by his wife, Norine. He practiced medicine in Nashville for 33 years.

***Dr. William S. Scott, MD'37**, died May 6, 2000 in Spartanburg. He practiced medicine for 53 years, most of it in Spartanburg, and retired at the age of 77. He is survived by his wife, Lucille, twin daughters, four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

** Indicates CRS members*

Vanderbilt Medicine garners national award

Vanderbilt Medicine has received a silver medal in the 2000 Circle of Excellence Awards Program for Alumni Relations and Communications, sponsored by CASE, the Council for Advancement and Support of Education.

There were over 3,700 individual entries in this year's annual awards program, representing 639 institutions. Overall, 209 institutions and educational associates received 357 awards.

A complete listing of winners by category is available on the CASE Web site at www.case.org.





SPECIAL SECTION

THE CANBY VISION

"When great events occur in the history of human institutions, they are found, almost without exception, to be associated with unusual individuals. Such a one was G. Canby Robinson." - Charles Sidney Burwell, M.D.

The Vanderbilt University School of Medicine was born in 1875. But it was reborn in 1925 with the opening of the Vanderbilt University Hospital, an act of vision, will and determination wrought by G. Canby Robinson, the Dean of the School of Medicine from 1920 to 1928. This one man changed the direction of

American medical education and set the stage for 75 years of remarkable progress that has made Vanderbilt one of the nation's premier centers of medical education, research and clinical care.

No wonder then, in 1978, when a small group of people got together with the idea of furthering the Medical Center's mission, they took their name and their guiding spirit from G. Canby Robinson. Founded to build the community leadership needed to garner philanthropic support, the Canby Robinson Society has grown from just over 100 members at its founding to more than 1,500 members today.

The CRS allows members to become personally acquainted with the people and programs at Vanderbilt. Faculty, students and staff provide tours, acquaint

members with new projects and share their pride in new developments.

The CRS also promotes both unrestricted and restricted giving in support of the Medical Center. Unrestricted gifts support the Medical School's financial aid programs. Restricted gifts support a department, program or project within the medical center. This generosity attracts promising individuals who will become outstanding physicians and furthers the opportunities for the Medical Center to continue to benefit human health.

Last year, members of the CRS gave more than \$20 million in gifts to the Medical Center. With a deep commitment to students, the Society has funded the full tuition of 26 scholars since 1991 through the unrestricted gifts of its members. This year the CRS will begin to build a \$50 million scholarship endowment – an amount sufficient to offer every student that enters a scholarship.

Like every good philanthropic society, the CRS published a periodical to keep its members informed

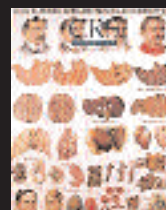
of its activities and goals. The *CRS Magazine*, our quarterly publication for members, has served that role quite well. But the time has come to bring the mission of the Society to a broader audience beyond Nashville to include the alumni of the School of Medicine and others. Look for the Canby Robinson Society to be a regular feature of Vanderbilt Medicine. We look forward to bringing you more about the CRS in each issue. ■



ANNE RAVNER

Robert E. McNeilly Jr.
*President,
Canby Robinson Society*

looking back



AN ATTAINABLE GOAL

by Kathleen Whitney

With a single, unexpected phone call, his medical career was transformed before he even set foot in medical school. John Zic was in his Notre Dame dorm room when the call came. On the other end of the phone was Dr. Gerald S. Gotterer, associate dean of the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, calling with good news. "You've been selected to receive a full, four-year scholarship to Vanderbilt medical school," he told John.

That was in 1987. Thirteen years later, Dr. John A. Zic, assistant professor of Medicine (Dermatology) at VUMC, says the Canby Robinson Society Scholarship has had far-reaching implications for his career.

"It dramatically changed my life because it made a Vanderbilt medical education an attainable goal by knocking down any financial barriers in the way," he said.

"The impact of the four-year scholarship lasted into my residency when I made a decision to pursue an academic career over a more lucrative private practice career in dermatology. I would imagine that a substantially higher debt burden could have swayed me away from academia."

The CRS aids and honors medical students by giving four-year, full tuition scholarships each year, awarded on the basis of demonstrated leadership and scholarship activities. The dean and the chairman of the admissions committee recommend scholarship recipients, and their recommendations are then forwarded to the CRS awards committee for final selection by the committee board members.

CRS scholar, Allan Moore, a second-year VUSM student, said the



TOMMY LAWSON

The newest group of Canby Robinson Scholars are (front row, left to right) Erik Musiek and Alexander Eshaghian, and (back row, left to right) Ontario Lau, Ruth Ann Vleugels, C. E. Smith and Elise Cornet.

award is more than just money.

"While the scholarship is a major financial award, it is a lot more than that," Moore said. "It's a family atmosphere. More than the money, it is a feeling of inclusion."

The scholarship allows incoming first-year student, Erik Musiek, an opportunity to pursue his dream of entering the M.D./Ph.D. program at Vanderbilt. Chosen to be the Faye and Joe B. Wyatt CRS scholar, Erik is the first student in the combined program to receive the scholarship. Musiek's wife, Amy, is also a first-year medical student.

Fourth-year medical student Yen-Lin Chen worked many part time jobs to help pay for college: from dishwashing in the freshman dining hall, to maintaining 500 culture vials of mutant fruit flies, to teaching in summer camps. "To be given a four-year, full-tuition scholarship was simply beyond my wildest dreams. Not only has it relieved me of the tremendous burden of a large medical school debt, it has also served as a source of inspiration for me throughout medical school," she said.

"As I work in the hospital, I realize that it takes a whole community to make possible all the wonderful things that go on at Vanderbilt from day to day: learning, teaching, discovering, and healing. The spirit of service, community, and generosity of the Canby Robinson Society is truly unique. It has made my Vanderbilt experience everything I hoped for and more. I am deeply grateful." ■■■

Robert Matthias Jr. won the 2000 CRS "Ideal Physician" award, given to the graduate who fellow classmates would most like to have as their personal physician.



TOMMY LAWSON

A FAMILY TRADITION

by Nancy Humphrey

It's been a labor of love, one aimed directly at the quality of research, education and clinical care at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, for almost half a century.

Nashville's prominent Werthan family has provided important leadership for and support of Vanderbilt University and VUMC since 1951. Their financial contributions have established the Albert and Bernard Werthan Chair in Medicine at the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, and endowed the Mary Jane and Albert Werthan Visiting Lectureship in Dermatology.

Albert and his wife, Mary Jane Werthan, who died Aug. 15, were among the first Canby Robinson Society members. Mrs. (Leah Rose) Bernard Werthan Sr. is also a Life Circle member.

Albert is retired president and CEO of Werthan Industries, which was founded by his grandfather, Meier Werthan, a German immigrant who started his own iron and scrap business about a century ago. Albert's father, Morris, later joined the family business and established Werthan Bag. Albert



Albert Werthan, center, is surrounded by family members.

PHOTO BY ANNE RAYNER

and his brother, Bernard, sons of Morris and May Werthan, and their children first initiated their giving relationship with VUMC in 1951.

Numerous non-profit organizations throughout Middle Tennessee have benefited from the Werthans' generosity, but Vanderbilt in particular has received numerous financial gifts from the family.

In addition to the medical center gifts, Mary Jane and Albert Werthan, whom she married in 1932, have endowed the Mary Jane Werthan Chair in Judaic and Biblical Studies and the May and Morris Werthan Scholarship at Vanderbilt's Divinity School.

Dr. Harry R. Jacobson, vice-chancellor for Health Affairs at VUMC, said the medical center is grateful for the support of the Werthan family.

"As the medical school strives to improve upon its nationally prominent position, the Werthan Chair becomes increasingly important in providing solid continuing support in the Department of Medicine," Jacobson said. "Outstanding senior faculty are needed to help preserve Vanderbilt

University Medical School's status as a training ground for future generations of highly qualified innovators who will make the medical advances of the next decade. We are grateful to the Werthans for their longtime and continuing support."

Dr. Elliot V. Newman, was the original Werthan chair holder, followed by Drs. John A. Oates Jr. in 1974 and Kenneth Brigham in 1990. Today, Dr. Robert S. Dittus holds the current chair.

Herb Shayne, a Werthan son-in-law and a family donor, said the family holds VUMC close to their hearts. Many family members, including Mary Jane Werthan, most recently, have turned to Vanderbilt for their medical care.

"The family has regarded Vanderbilt in general and Vanderbilt University Medical Center, in particular, as an extremely valuable community asset," he said. "Our family has had a longstanding commitment to Vanderbilt Medical Center. There has been a continuing set of links between the Werthan family and Vanderbilt Medical Center. Even before Mary Jane was named to the

Board of Trust, simply out of regard for the quality of medical care that is delivered here, the importance of it, what it does for and means to Nashville, the family decided to make a commitment to the medical center. It has been a very rewarding way to pay tribute to our family name," he said.

Shayne said he would encourage others who are in the position to do so to contribute to the medical center.

"I think it's important that people understand the vital importance of a good medical center, not only to their personal health but to the community's health. It's important to understand the importance of the research, patient care and education that's a part of Vanderbilt Medical Center and what that means for the quality of life in this city."

Dr. Eric Neilson, Hugh J. Morgan Professor and Chair of the Department of Medicine, said the Department of Medicine is grateful to the Werthan family.

"The Albert and Bernard Werthan Chair in Medicine is a special gift from a kind and thoughtful family. It honors two brothers who have been creative in their charity and community service. It is also particularly fitting that Dr. Robert Dittus, chief of the division of General Internal Medicine, holds this chair. Dr. Dittus, in his additional capacity as head of the Vanderbilt Center for Health Services Research, is one of the world's authorities on clinical quality improvement. The intersection between a thoughtful gift and an important new research discipline is an exciting opportunity for Vanderbilt to take the lead in this field." ■■■

i n m e m o r i a m

Being first was a pattern for Mary Jane Werthan.

She was the first woman elected to the Vanderbilt University Board of Trust and, when journalism was largely a male profession, she was a reporter for the Tennessean.

Werthan, 92, a longtime civic, religious and cultural leader, died Aug. 15 at her home.

"For more than 45 years, Mrs. Werthan has given unselfishly to Vanderbilt University Medical Center," said Dr. Harry R. Jacobson, vice-chancellor for Health Affairs. "She was a wonderful person – kind and intelligent, generous and caring. Her work in the community and her contributions to Vanderbilt will never be forgotten."

"Mrs. Werthan's many years of service and her significant contributions will leave a lasting legacy to Vanderbilt," said Chancellor E. Gordon Gee. "We will miss her wisdom, wit and charm."

After attending public schools in Nashville, Werthan attended Vanderbilt. Her fellow students elected her Lady of the Bracelet, the highest recognition given a female undergraduate. She was also president of the Women's Student Government, the Women's Athletic Association, her sorority, Alpha Epsilon Phi, and a



member of the Honor Council.

She and her husband, Albert, whom she married in 1932, along with other members of their family established the Albert and Bernard Werthan Chair in the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine and endowed the Mary Jane and Albert Werthan Visiting Lectureship in Dermatology. They also endowed the Mary Jane Werthan Chair in Judaic and Biblical Studies and the May and Morris Werthan Scholarship at Vanderbilt's Divinity School.

In addition, they contributed to a number of other chairs and building projects for the University and made a major funding commitment for the Vanderbilt Institute of Public Policy Studies. The Mary Jane Werthan Award, endowed by Albert Werthan, is given annually to the person who has contributed significantly to the advancement of women at the University.

She is survived by her husband, Albert; daughter, Elizabeth Werthan of Philadelphia; a sister, Elizabeth Jacobs of Nashville; five grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. Another daughter, May Shayne of Nashville, served as the director of the State and Local Policy Center at VIPPS, died in 1999.

For more information about the Canby Robinson Society, contact Missy Eason, Director of Donor Relations, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, D-8223, Medical Center North, Nashville, Tenn. 37232-2106, (615) 343-8676 or 8677, fax (615) 343-0809, e-mail missy.eason@mcm.vanderbilt.edu

CAMPAIGN UPDATE

building & growing



The Building Begins



Ground breaking occurred May 15th and construction of the new Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt is underway. All segments of Nashville's community gave more than \$50 million to the Building for the Children Campaign. The fundraising goes on. Some 13 private foundations gave gifts of \$100,000 or more, and 70 percent of our 1,100 donors to VCH are new. Support also came from the financial community, the music industry and the kids themselves. Campaign chairman Monroe J. Carell Jr.'s grandchildren found ways to contribute, as did other youth who did everything from turn over profits from pumpkin sales to swimming for dollars by the Belle Meade swim team, the Barracudas.

Gifts and new pledges from alumni and friends in FY 1999 totaled \$76,006,372—slightly more than last year's record of \$75.3 million. Gifts last year are helping VUMC make many capital improvements—like expanded quarters for the Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center and the new Vanderbilt Children's Hospital (VCH).

From Imagination to Reality

Now in its second full year, the Campaign to Imagine A World Without Cancer is having a profound impact on life at the Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center. The focus of this effort is to bring in the best and the brightest. Twenty-five physicians and scientists joined VICC as a direct result of money raised. A new building, the Frances Williams Preston Building, will be VICC's new home. The T. J. Martell Foundation pledged \$10 million to cancer research in honor of Ms. Preston, who heads BMI and is a long-time VICC board member and supporter. An additional \$6 million was pledged by an anonymous donor. By extending the building, we will add much needed clinical and laboratory space and provide a marquis entrance for patients to Vanderbilt-Ingram. Campaign funds now total \$92 million towards an initial goal of \$100 million, and major support has been provided by individuals, foundations and corporations.

Thank you for your support!



2000 MEDICAL ALUMNI REUNION

Preliminary Program

Thursday, October 19

Alumni Golf Outing – Spring House Club, Opryland
All-Alumni Welcome Reception – Country Music Hall of Fame
Medical Alumni Continental Breakfast – hosted by the CRS



Friday, October 20

PLENARY SESSION

“Vanderbilt Today and Tomorrow”

Harry R. Jacobson, M.D., Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs

“Your Medical School - Its profile”

Dr. John E. Chapman, Dean, VUSM

CANCER SYMPOSIUM: “Breast and Colorectal Malignancies”

Moderator: Harold L. Moses, M.D.

Director, Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center; B.F. Byrd, Jr. Professor of Clinical Oncology;
Professor of Cancer Biology, Medicine and Pathology

Induction of the 1950 & 1951 Classes into the Medical Quinq Society

Followed by Quinq Class Photographs

Conducted by: Harry R. Jacobson, M.D., Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs &
John E. Chapman, M.D., Dean, Vanderbilt University Medical School

A. Everette James Lectureship in Radiology: “Risk and Rewards of Clinical Research”

All Alumni Luncheon – Honoring the Medical Quinq Society
(Graduates of 50 years and older)

Rhamy Shelley Lecture: Professor Urs Studer, M.D.,
Chairman, Department of Urology, University of Bern, Switzerland

L. W. Edwards Lectureship: Courtney M. Townsend, Jr., M.D.,
Chairman, Department of Surgery, University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston

Grand Evening: All Alumni Dinner/Dance
Ballroom-Loews Vanderbilt Plaza Hotel
Dancing to the Sam Levine City Lights Orchestra



Saturday, October 21

Continental Breakfast – hosted by John E. Chapman, M.D.,
Dean, Vanderbilt School of Medicine & Joe F. Arterberry, M.D., '76, new VMAA President

Alvin F. Goldfarb Lecture in Endocrinology: Howard W. Jones, Jr., M.D.,
Professor Emeritus, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine

Radiation Oncology Session: Dennis E. Hallahan, M.D., Chairman, Radiation/Oncology

Tours of the Annette & Irwin Eskind Biomedical Library

Homecoming Football Game – Dudley Field: VU vs. University of SC

Class Parties – Hosted by Class Chairpersons

THE CLASS OF 2000



PHOTOS BY DANA JOHNSON

Andrea Utz (top) celebrates her sunny graduation from VUSM.

Dean John Chapman awards Eileen Dauer the Founder's Medal (middle, left) then (bottom) poses with graduate Josh Thomas (second from left) and his siblings, Melissa, MD/Ph.D.'91 and Justin, MD'98. Chapman awarded diplomas to all three.

Vanderbilt Medicine

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Nashville, TN 37232

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Vanderbilt Medical Alumni Association Board of Directors

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