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U.S. Department of Health  
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# The NIH Record

## NICHD Scientists Alter Hormone To Halt Premature Puberty and Reverse Its Effects

By Leslie Fink

For about 1 out of every 10,000 children in the United States, puberty comes too early, sometimes during infancy. Adjusting to the physical and mental changes that accompany sexual development is rough on a kid, even when everything goes according to schedule. But early or "precocious" puberty at age 2 or 4 robs children of their childhood, severely affecting their social and emotional well-being.

Using a new, man-made version of a natural reproductive hormone called luteinizing hormone releasing hormone (LHRH), researchers at the NICHD have stopped and even turned back the biological clock in children with some forms of precocious puberty. According to the researchers, the drug provides more complete treatment of the disorder without the side effects of other drugs now used to treat precocious puberty.

The team reported results from a 4-year study of the drug, called LHRH<sub>a</sub>, in the *Journal of Pediatrics*.

LHRH<sub>a</sub> appears to be unique among other drugs in its ability to slow the rapid growth

that accompanies sexual development. Although this growth spurt makes children with precocious puberty taller than their peers, it ironically leaves them short as adults.

"Slowing growth is the one thing no other treatment does successfully," says Dr. Gordon Cutler, a member of the research team. "It's very dramatic when you have a child who is growing about 6 inches a year, then you put him on treatment, and he grows 3 inches a year."

Normally, large periodic bursts—usually at night—of natural LHRH in the brain signal the beginning of puberty at age 11 or 12. These LHRH bursts, rather than continuous secretion of the hormone, drive sexual development at adolescence.

For reasons doctors "don't fully understand," says Cutler, these pulses begin too early in children with precocious puberty. They stimulate the pituitary gland to produce gonadotropins, hormones that in turn stimulate the sex glands to secrete sex hormones. High levels of these sex hormones—estrogens or

(See PUBERTY, Page 10)

## Consensus Conference On Thrombosis, Embolism

The National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, Division of Blood Diseases and Resources, and the NIH Office of Medical Applications of Research are sponsoring a consensus development conference on the prevention of venous thrombosis and pulmonary embolism on Mar. 24-26.

The conference sessions will be held in Masur Auditorium at the Clinical Center.

Deep venous thrombosis in the lower extremities is a common, age-related phenomenon. The importance of the problem lies not only in the significant morbidity associated with venous (vein) valve destruction and the postphlebotic syndrome, but also in the intimate but variable association between peripheral venous thrombosis and death from pulmonary embolism (blood clot).

Venous thromboembolism accounts for some 300,000 hospitalizations per year and 50,000 deaths, it has been estimated.

It has long been recognized as one of the most important complications in medical and surgical patients. It is also the most common cause of death in patients undergoing major orthopedic procedures, the most frequent nonobstetrical cause of postpartum death, and is a major factor in the deaths of the large population of patients with chronic cardiac and pulmonary disease.

(See CONFERENCE, Page 11)

## NIH Clears University of California, Riverside Of Any Misuse or Abuse of Research Animals

NIH has cleared the University of California at Riverside (UCR) of all charges of maltreatment or abuse of laboratory animals in its research program as earlier alleged by an animal rights group.

The decision came after a 7-month investigation which included an on-site visit by an NIH team from the Office of Protection from Research Risks and review of all evidence by a non-Federal group of three laboratory animal medicine experts.

The non-Federal advisory group concluded that "The institution appears to have a well-established program for laboratory animal care and use. There is no evidence that any of the UCR facilities are inadequate or fail to meet the standards of the Animal Welfare Act or the NIH Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals."

Based on these findings, plus a review of all documentation by a panel of NIH senior officials, NIH Director Dr. James B. Wyngaarden notified the university that "I conclude that the UCR has an appropriate program for the care and use of laboratory animals and no corrective action is necessary."

He further stated "NIH finds no reason to

pursue this matter further and considers this investigation into alleged noncompliance with the PHS animal welfare policy officially closed."

Both the NIH and the non-Federal teams noted that the method used to suture an infant monkey's eyelids for a visual research project was not the most appropriate technique and should not be used in the future.

The UCR officials immediately agreed that this procedure would be changed, but both reports found no evidence of abuse or neglect of this animal or any others at the UCR laboratory.

In announcing his decision, the NIH Director said that the investigation of UCR was "triggered by an illegal breakin—which resulted in stolen research animals and vandalism—at UCR's Life Science Building on Apr. 20, 1985." UCR reported that 467 research animals were stolen and estimated the economic damage at \$683,900.

Dr. Wyngaarden also wrote the UCR officials: "We share your dismay that criminal activities led to a prolonged disruption of your important line of research and resulted in significant financial loss." □



## Pediatric Branch Relocated

Clinical Center patient Tracy Smeak hands the scissors over to NCI Director Dr. Vincent DeVita Jr. after cutting the ribbon to open 13 West, the new home of the NCI Pediatric Branch. Assisting in the ceremony were patients (l to r): Scott Ritter, Mike Kundel and Lori Kerkhoff.

## TRAINING TIPS

The following courses are sponsored by the Division of Personnel Management, the NIH Training Center.

<i>Executive, Management, and Supervisory 496-6371</i>	<i>Course Starts</i>	<i>Deadline</i>
Successful Middle Management at NIH	4/8	2/28
Effective Communications	4/22	3/14
White House Workshop	5/1	3/28
Making Time Productive	5/1	3/28
Working with Personnel Differences	4/30	3/7
Supervising in the Federal Wage System	5/5	3/28
Report Writing	5/14	4/4
Managing Behavior in the Work Environment	5/14	4/4
Effective Listening	6/2	4/25
Introduction to Supervision	6/23	5/16
Performance Appraisal Counseling	6/11	6/2
Strategic Planning for Productive Results	6/18	5/9
Federal Budget Process	6/18	6/9
Using Animals in Intramural Research	6/4	4/25
	4/24	3/21
<i>Office Skills Career Development Program</i>	496-6371	
<i>STRIDE</i>	496-6371	

### Support Staff Training 496-6211

Basic Time & Attendance	4/16	3/7
Travel Orders & Vouchers	4/21	3/17
Self Assessment & Career Options (GS-8 & below)	5/8	4/10
Self Assessment & Career Options for Professionals	5/6	4/8
Displaywrite 3 for Secretaries	4/14	3/10
Human Relations	4/28	3/31
Leadership Skills for Secretaries	4/21	3/24
Professionalism & the Secretaries	4/14	3/17
Medical Terminology II	4/8	3/11

### Training & Development Services Program 496-6211

SHARE TRAINING: For complete NIH Training Center information sign on to WYLBUR and enter SHARE TRAINING. For first-time users enter: x fr &gslugl.@@share(setup) on file37. Adult Education program ongoing 496-6211.

## Purchase Orioles' Games Tickets

R&W has two lower box seats (\$9.50) and two mezzanine box seats (\$8.50), for every Baltimore Orioles game. Tickets go on sale, Wednesday, Mar. 19, at 8:30 a.m., in the R&W Activities Office. □

## NIH Training Center Sets New Stride Program

The NIH Training Center has announced the newly structured Stride Program.

The Stride Program is designed to meet NIH staffing needs while providing NIH employees in nonprofessional job series an opportunity for career change and potential advancement.

The program combines on-the-job training, job-related academic courses, and selected short training courses to prepare trainees for placement in targeted professional (two-grade series) positions at the NIH.

Term of the program is from 1 to 3 years, depending upon the trainee's academic and work experience and requirements of the targeted position.

Five positions are open for competitive selection. One trainee is prepared for each of these occupations: budget analyst, grants management specialist, administrative officer, management analyst, and technical information specialist.

The program is directed by the Technical Advisory Board, a group of senior managers selected by the NIH Associate Direc-

tor for Administration. Each year, the board identifies occupations for training based on NIH staffing projections.

Costs of tuition and materials are paid by the NIH Training Center Stride Account. Interested employees must meet all basic eligibility requirements to apply:

### GS-9 or Below

If you are a GS-9 or below NIH employee (or Federal Wage Grade equivalent) in a one-grade interval job series and have a high school diploma, but not a bachelor's degree, you may be eligible to apply. Complete eligibility requirements will be discussed at scheduled information sessions.

Information on the program, application and selection process will be provided at the following sessions from 11 a.m. to 12 noon on the dates indicated:

Westwood Bldg., Conf. Rm. 428,  
Tuesday, Mar. 11;  
Bldg. 31, Rm. B2C06,  
Wednesday, Mar. 12.

For more information, call the NIH Training Center on 496-6371. □

## E, F, and G General Parking Permits Must Be Renewed During Month of March

General parking permits for NIH employees whose last name begins with E, F, or G must be renewed during March.

Employees may renew their parking permits any workday at the NIH Parking Office, Bldg. 31, Rm. B1C19, between 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Parking permits will also be available as follows:

*Blair Bldg., Wednesday, Mar. 12, 1-2 p.m., in Conf. Rm. 11●*

*Federal Bldg., Wednesday, Mar. 19, 1-2 p.m., in Conf. Rm. C*

*Westwood Bldg., Wednesday, Mar. 12, 9-11 a.m., in Conf. Rm. 3*

Affected employees will receive a memo reminding them of the upcoming renewal and giving specific instructions on obtaining replacement permits. Employees with preferential (red) or carpool parking permits whose last name begins with E, F, or G do not need to obtain new parking permits during March.

New March general parking permits must be displayed beginning Tuesday, Apr. 1. □

# The NIH Record

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## Patient Emergency Fund Auction To Be Held April 9

Taking a cue from their friends in the Italian and Asian communities at NIH, the people running this year's Patient Emergency Fund (PEF) Auction have decided to make food the centerpiece of their fund-raising efforts.

The second annual PEF Auction—to be held Apr. 9 in the Clinical Center's 14th floor auditorium—will feature lunch so that employees may both eat and bid at the same time. Last year's auction, which brought in \$3,000, included just a few dessert items, most of which were gone by the time the gavel fell for the live portion of the auction.

The R&W Association has taken the responsibility of putting on this year's event and is currently collecting donations for both the live and silent auctions.

Gifts contributed to the auction so far include a pinball machine, a weekend at a townhouse in Ocean City, Md., a VisiFile program for an IBM-PC computer, and four 1986 personal income tax returns. Also two Victorian rope beds, a physical examination for school or camp, two skin care consultations and beauty makeovers, and a gift certificate enabling two people to take a midweek golf outing at Canaan Valley Resort Park in West Virginia.

Money raised by the auction will go into a fund established in 1953 to help Clinical Center patients participate in NIH studies. Many patients would not be able to participate in research protocols without some financial aid. Thus a contribution to PEF is very much an investment in research.

The CC Social Work Department screens all requests for PEF money and manages the fund. Income amounting to \$38,200 was contributed last year while disbursements totaled \$59,000. To be effective, PEF must collect about \$60,000 each year. □

## Summer Research Scholarships Offered for Students by FAES

FAES will award 50 grants of \$500 to students conducting research at the NIH this summer. High school, undergraduate, graduate and medical students who will work for a minimum of 8 weeks are eligible.

Applications are available in the FAES office, Bldg. 10, Rm. 2C207A. Completed applications including a description of the research to be performed and a supporting statement from the NIH sponsor must be received by Apr. 1.

Notification of the awards will be made to the NIH sponsor by May 1. □

## Celebrating the Chinese New Year of the Tiger

On the occasion of the beginning of the Chinese New Year of the Tiger, 4684, President Ronald Reagan issued a letter extending warm greetings and congratulations to American citizens of Chinese, Korean and Indo-Chinese descent. At NIH, Dr. John K. Koo, NIH senior investigator and research consultant, and his wife, Dr. Helen Yen Koo, Neuropsychotoxicology Laboratory, FDA, hosted a luncheon party for many NIH colleagues and friends at a nearby Chinese restaurant. Among those attending were (l to r), back row: Dr. Ven Narayan, chief, Drug Synthesis and Chemistry Branch, Division of Cancer Treatment, NCI; Damar Hawkins, special assistant to the NIH Director; Dr. Philip Chen, NIH Associate Director for Intramural Affairs; Dr. Bernhard Witkop, chief, Laboratory of Chemistry, NIADDK; Dr. Mel Fish, special assistant to the Director, Office of Extramural Research and Training, OD; Storm Whaley, NIH Associate Director for Communications; Dr. Mark Beaubien, deputy director, FIC; and Dr.



Kenneth Chang, Division of Cancer Biology and Diagnosis, Laboratory of Cellular Oncology, NCI. Front row, (l to r), Dr. Thomas E. Wyngaarden, NIH Deputy Director; Dr. James B. Koo; and the Honorable Zhang Zai, Minister of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China. Minister Zhang and Dr. Wyngaarden spoke briefly and both expressed the desire to advance Sino-American biomedical research programs. □

## Seven NIH Writers Win Technical Writing Awards

Seven NIH writers won awards in the D.C. Society for Technical Communication 1985 Technical Publications/Art Contest.

The winners are as follows:

**Publications, Brochures:** Award of Excellence to Diane Striar, NINCDS, for *Head Injury: Hope Through Research*; Award of Achievement to Patricia O. Miller and Joan P. Sobel, DCRT, for *Computing Resources of the Division of Computer Research and Technology*.

**Periodic Activity Reports:** Award of Merit to Patricia O. Miller and Joan P. Sobel, DCRT, for *DCRT Fiscal Year 1985 Annual Report*.

**Trade/News Articles:** Two Awards of Merit to James N. Fordham, NIADDK, for *Magnetic Device Tests for Iron Overload and Symposium on Prostate Disorder Provides Valuable Information for Researchers*.

**Technical Reports:** Distinguished Technical Communication Award to William H. Hall, NIADDK, for *Peptic Ulcer*; William H. Hall and Clementine S. Sessoms, NIADDK, for *News and Features from the NIH, Special Issue: Digestive Diseases*; Award of Merit to Ray Fleming, NINCDS, for *Positron Emission Tomography: Emerging Research Opportunities in the Neurosciences*.

A panel of communications professionals acted as judges and selected different levels of winners in each category.

Writing, editing, graphics, and integration were among weighted criteria scored. Emphasis

was placed on audience definition, reaching the targeted audience, and achieving stated purpose.

Winners of Awards of Distinction and of Excellence in each category have been entered automatically in the STC International Publications Competition or the International Technical Art Competition, where they will compete against other regional winners for International Awards to be presented at the 33rd International Technical Communications Conference, which will be held May 11-14, in Detroit, Mich.

The Society for Technical Communication is the world's largest professional organization dedicated to the advancement of the theory and practice of technical communication in all media. STC has over 80 chapters and branches in the United States and Canada, and elsewhere in the world, as well as individual members in many countries in Europe, Asia, and South America. □

## Get Globetrotter Tickets

R&W has discount tickets to see the Harlem Globetrotters on Saturday, Mar. 15, at 8 p.m., Patriot Center and on Sunday, Mar. 16, at 2 p.m., Capital Center (\$12 tickets will be discounted to \$10).

Tickets are available at the R&W Activities Desk, Bldg. 31. □

## GRATEFUL MED: A New Way to Search MEDLINE

The National Library of Medicine has announced a new system for accessing its bibliographic database. GRATEFUL MED, as it is called, is a software package on a floppy disk that permits health professionals and other individuals to easily use their personal computers to search MEDLINE, its backfiles, and CATLINE.

MEDLINE and CATLINE are two online files in NLM's MEDLARS system. MEDLINE and its backfiles contain more than 5 million references to journal articles, many with abstracts, from more than 3,200 biomedical journals from 1966 to present. CATLINE contains 600,000 records for books and serials in the NLM collection.

GRATEFUL MED is intended to complement ELHILL searching of MEDLINE and the other NLM online databases. The capabilities and flexibility of the existing ELHILL surpass those of the new search tool.

### Easy Searching

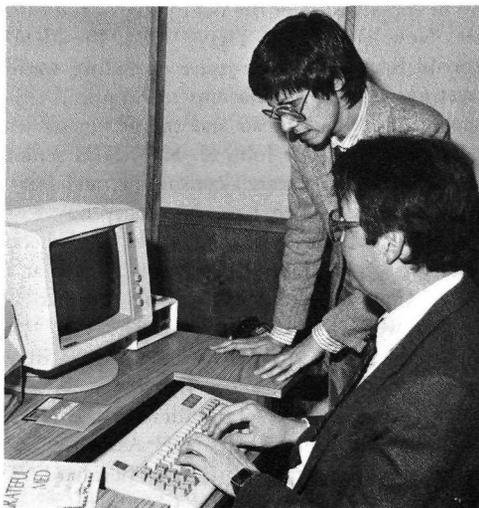
Ease of searching is the primary hallmark of GRATEFUL MED. It may be run on an IBM PC (personal computer) or compatible machine equipped with a Hayes (or compatible) modem. The user inserts the GRATEFUL MED floppy disk in the PC and enters search information on a simple format screen. After that, the GRATEFUL MED program takes over.

Automatically, it calls up the NLM computers via a telecommunications network (TELENET, TYMNET, or UNINET), logs on with the user's code and password, enters the queries (author's name, title, subject concepts), retrieves appropriate citations, logs off, and transfers the results of the search to your floppy disk where they may be reviewed at leisure. Because the user is not involved in the brief online session, the connect time is minimal.

When you review your output reference by reference, the system asks if each is relevant. GRATEFUL MED keeps track of your answers and, when the review is finished, suggests additional search terms from NLM's controlled vocabulary (MeSH).

GRATEFUL MED retrieves abstracts, if you choose that option. The floppy disk will hold about 80 citations, with subject headings and abstracts. If the system is installed on a hard disk, of course, many more may be retrieved and downloaded.

GRATEFUL MED searching is limited to MEDLINE, its backfiles, and CATLINE. Although it cannot be used to search other NLM files in friendly fashion, the system does allow an experienced searcher to go directly into ELHILL, bypassing the form screen but retain-



John Anderson, director of the NLM Office of Computer and Communications Systems, and Rose Marie Woodsmall of NLM's Office of Planning and Evaluation, played important roles in developing and testing GRATEFUL MED.

ing the automatic dialing and logon procedure.

The system was designed and developed for NLM by Davis B. McCarn, president of Online Information International Inc. Beta testing of GRATEFUL MED was carried out by the Office of Planning and Evaluation with the help of patrons and staff at the seven Regional Medical Libraries and by health professionals at additional test sites.

### One Floppy Disk

GRATEFUL MED comes on one floppy disk with simple instructions for installation and documentation. Included with this material is an application form for a code for those who do not already have one. GRATEFUL MED, like other NLM search tools, may be ordered from the National Technical Information Service, 5285 Port Royal Rd., Springfield, VA 22161. The price is \$29.95 (plus \$3 shipping and handling). Be sure to quote the order number P886-158482. At present, distribution of GRATEFUL MED is limited to the U.S. and Canada.

NLM's MEDLARS Management Section will issue a password to each purchaser, much in the same way institutions now joining the ELHILL/MEDLINE network. There is no training requirement for GRATEFUL MED. Monthly billing will be done by NTIS; the rate is the same as for ELHILL/MEDLINE (approximately \$20 per hour).

For more information, write to the MEDLARS Management Section, NLM, Bethesda, MD 20894. □

## New NLM Lit. Searches: AIDS, Theophylline, NLM

The following titles in the Library's series of Literature Searches are available from the NLM Reference Section:

- LS 85-20 *Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS): Eighth Update*; September 1985 through December 1985, 577 citations. (Updates earlier searches and includes citations to all preclinical, clinical, epidemiologic, diagnostic, and prevention areas.)
- LS 85-21 *Theophylline pharmacodynamics*; January 1983 through October 1985, 352 citations in English. (Theophylline, a bronchodilator and respiratory stimulant, has emerged as a major pharmacotherapy agent effective in the management of acute and chronic asthma. This bibliography emphasizes pharmacologic properties and pharmacokinetic characteristics, overdoses, and drug interactions, dosage requirements and practices, and measurement of serum concentrations.)
- LS 86-1 *National Library of Medicine*; January 1975 through December 1985, 505 citations. (Contains citations from MEDLINE databases in the Library, its services, products, publications, staff, and other activities. For additional information, see also: the CATLINE database, *NLM Programs and Services*, *NIH Scientific Directory and Annual Bibliography*, *NLM Publications List*, and Miles, W.D.: *A History of the National Library of Medicine* (1982, GPO).

*Note new distribution policy.* The Library will distribute without charge Literature Searches numbered 85-1 forward. To request a copy, send a self-addressed gummed label with the LS number and title to: Literature Search Program, Reference Section, National Library of Medicine, Bethesda, MD 20894.

A complete list of LS titles available for free distribution appears each month within *Index Medicus* and *Abridged Index Medicus*. Earlier LS may be obtained through the standard interlibrary loan process. □

### Scientific Product Exhibit

The Millipore Corporation, Bedford, Mass., will conduct a product exhibit at the NIH on Thursday, Mar. 20.

The program will be held in Bldg. 10, Rm. 7N228, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

NIH researchers and support personnel are invited to attend. □

## NIH Features Many Activities During Nutrition Month

A series of activities commemorating National Nutrition Month are under way at NIH.

A special seminar, entitled "Mom Was Right! Update on the Dietary Guidelines for Americans," will be presented by Dr. Suzanne S. Harris, deputy assistant secretary for food and consumer services, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), on Tuesday, Mar. 25, between noon and 1 p.m. in Bldg. 1, Rm. 114.

A special dietary guidelines exhibit, developed by the USDA, will be displayed in Bldg. 10's cafeteria during the last week of March. The NIH-NCC "Nutrition Research Exhibit" will be on display at the Visitor's Center of Bldg. 10.

All employees are encouraged to test their nutrition knowledge, by responding to R&W's quiz, "Let's Play Healthy for National Nutrition Month," and provide their answers at the end of March to the R&W Activities Desk in Bldg. 31, Rm. B1W30 or to the Gift Shops in Bldgs. 10, 38 or Westwood. Prizes will be awarded.

The GSI Cafeteria Service will also offer special prizes to the winner of their own nutrition quiz as well as feature "Nutrition Month Specials for the Day," a number of the NIH nutrition pamphlets from the various Institutes will also be available at the cash registers.

These activities are cosponsored by the Nutrition Coordinating Committee's Subcommittee on Nutrition Education; GSI Cafeteria Service and R&W. Plan to participate and take advantage of the special activities scheduled for National Nutrition Month. □

## Cystic Fibrosis Symposium Scheduled for March 29

The 1986 NIH Spring Symposium on Cystic Fibrosis will be held at NIH on Wednesday, Mar. 19, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Conf. Rm. 6, Bldg. 31, C Wing, 6th Floor.

NIH intramural scientists and select grantees will present reports on research-in-progress as related to the basic science and clinical manifestations of CF. Topic of the reports will include transmembrane ion flux, glycoproteins, monoclonal antibodies, secretory control and genetics of CF.

The symposium is sponsored by the NIADDK-Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Joint Program. Interested persons are invited to attend.

For further information, call Dr. Cory Prates at 496-5949 or Dr. Harvey Pollard at 496-3435. □

## Fred Ederer, NEI Associate Director, Retires After Distinguished Vision Research Career

Fred Ederer, associate director for biometry and epidemiology at the National Eye Institute, retired in December after 28 years of service at NIH, including 14 at NEI.

Looking back on his years of Federal service, Mr. Ederer said that his proudest achievement was his role in establishing a successful clinical trials program at the NEI, a program which has nurtured studies leading to improvements in the prevention and treatment of numerous blinding eye diseases.

When he joined the NEI, there were no randomized clinical trials in progress in vision research in the United States. Today between 30 and 40 percent of all departments of ophthalmology in U.S. medical schools are involved in such trials.

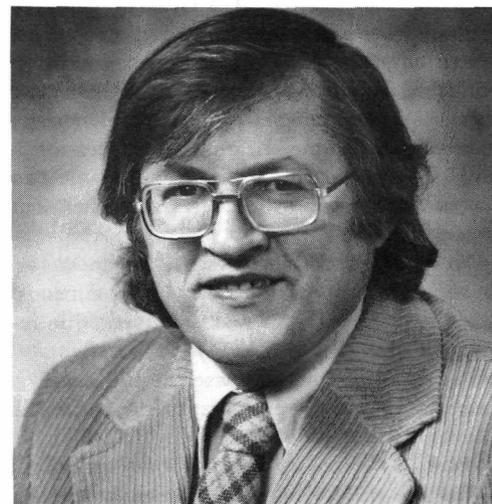
In his early days at the NEI, Mr. Ederer was a guiding force in launching the Diabetic Retinopathy Study (DRS), the prototype for the many vision research clinical trials that were to follow. The manual of procedures for the DRS has become a reference standard in ophthalmological research. And it has played a major educational role in teaching ophthalmologists and vision researchers the principles and methodologies of randomized clinical trials and epidemiological approaches.

Besides being acknowledged as a pioneer in clinical trials at NEI, Mr. Ederer is an internationally recognized expert in this field. He has published papers explicating clinical trial methodology, worked directly with ophthalmologists on their studies, and taught courses at ophthalmology meetings. Looking back on his career, he said he would change nothing. Mr. Ederer said he felt fortunate to have been at NIH which has been in the forefront of work in the fields of biometry and epidemiology.

A native of Austria, he came to the United States as a boy of 13, having left Europe with his family to escape the Nazis. Knowing no English—but learning fast—he entered school in the United States.

During World War II, Mr. Ederer served in the U.S. Navy and afterward continued his education at City College of New York, where he received a bachelor's degree in mathematics. He later studied biostatistics at Columbia University and completed work on his master's degree in statistics at American University.

He came to NIH in 1957, working first for the National Cancer Institute and later for the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, on the design and conduct of multicenter clinical trials. While at NCI, he coauthored a seminal paper on life table methodology which dealt with a statistical approach to analyzing the outcome of treatment in patients. He also worked



Mr. Ederer

out a technique for statistical evaluation of clusters of cancer in a community. Later at NHLBI, he developed and refined clinical trial methodology for the conduct of diet-heart studies.

Mr. Ederer is a member of numerous professional societies. He is a fellow of the American Statistical Association and is both a fellow and a member of the founding board of directors of the American College of Epidemiology. Among the honors he has received is the 1983 David Rumbough Scientific Award of the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation.

During his retirement, he will consult in epidemiological research with universities and private organizations in the design, development, conduct, and data analysis of numerous studies. He also has accepted an appointment as adjunct professor in the division of biometry at the University of Minnesota.

An accomplished musician, Mr. Ederer plays the viola in a string quartet and also plays the guitar and sings folks songs. He will pursue his interest in music during his retirement. He and his wife and three children will continue to reside in Bethesda. □

## Retirement Planning Program Offered on Apr. 14-15

The Recruitment and Employee Benefits Branch, DPM, offers another Retirement Planning Program for NIH employees on Apr. 14 and 15.

A personnel bulletin will be distributed desk-to-desk with more detailed information. □

## NIH Conference List Now Available on TSO

The Division of Research Grants announces the initiation of a computerized version of information about NIH conferences, formerly published as the "Schedule of NIH Conferences." Announcements of future conferences, their purpose, summarization or publication plans, and other data are readily available to anyone with access to the NIH computer system.

To use the conference system you must log on to TSO and type the following commands: EX 'CBH1DRG.INFO' and then type 58 in response to ENTER FUNCTOIN NO. By typing LIST you may browse the file in response to a series of prompts; or the entire file may be listed offline by typing SUBMIT REPORTS.

The file will be updated frequently by submissions from the BID conference coordinators who may also help users obtain information about conferences entered, or to be entered, into the file.

For additional information or questions about NIH conferences, call Betty Spaugh, 496-7554. □

## Anger—Good or Bad?

Issues dealing with anger will be discussed by Vivian Dietz, R.N., M.S.W., a therapist at Community Psychiatric Clinic, at 12 to 1 p.m., Mar. 19, at Wilson Hall, Bldg. 1. □

Anger is often viewed as a dangerous beast which must be kept on a leash or deeply hidden. We fear the harm that might occur if anger is openly expressed. But, anger that remains caged can be far more destructive both to ourselves and those around us.

It is important for our own well-being as well as for our relationships with others to learn to recognize anger, understand its destructive potential, and learn ways of dealing constructively with anger.

## Tickets Available for Circus

R&W has discounted tickets for the 116th edition of Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus on Saturday, Mar. 22, at noon, in the Baltimore Civic Center, Baltimore, Md.

Lower concourse tickets (\$9) will cost \$7.50 (including service charge) to R&W members.

Order tickets at the R&W Activities Desk, Bldg. 31. □

## President Salutes NLM; Anniversary Events Listed

"One hundred fifty years ago, in 1836, what is now the largest and most distinguished medical library and medical communications center in the world was only a small collection of medical books in the office of the United States Army Surgeon General.

"That transition is an inspiring story—one that speaks of both the need of health professionals and researchers for rapid access to information and of the response to that need by a succession of dedicated and visionary leaders of the National Library of Medicine."

### Proclamation Issued

These words begin President Reagan's recent statement proclaiming 1986 the Sesquicentennial (150th) Year of the National Library of Medicine. The proclamation, issued Jan. 29, 1986, was printed in the Federal Register on Jan. 31, after passage of Senate Joint Resolution 196.

The proclamation also calls "upon the people of the United States to observe this occasion with appropriate ceremonies and activities."

The Library's calendar is full of a number of special events, and the Regional Medical Libraries are also planning celebrations. Some of the NLM events scheduled for the next 3 months are listed below. (For more information, write to the Library's Office of Inquiries.)

### Sesquicentennial Calendar

**March.** Exhibit at the American Medical Student Association (Arlington, Va., Mar. 5-9); American Association of Dental Schools (tours and demonstrations at NLM, Mar. 9-12); Extramural Programs week, including IAIMS meeting, Mar. 10-14; Exhibit at Society of Toxicology meeting (New Orleans, Mar. 4-6); NLM hosts National Library Week group, Mar. 18.

**April.** Open House at NLM (Apr. 11); Leiter lecture at NLM (Ruth Davis, Apr. 11); Exhibit at American Chemical Society annual meeting (New York City, Apr. 13); Exhibit at Ford's Theatre (Washington, D.C., Apr. 15-June 30); Colloquium at NLM on "Medicine and the Arts: Two Faces of Humanity" (Apr. 22); College of American Pathologists visit NLM (Apr. 22); Exhibit at American Association for the History of Medicine (Rochester, N.Y., Apr. 30); Exhibit at American Occupational Health Conference (Denver, Apr. 30).

**May.** World Health Assembly tribute to NLM (Geneva, Switzerland); Visit of British Association of Physicians (May 2); Exhibit at

meeting of American Pediatric Association (Washington, D.C., May 6-9); tour and program at NLM (May 9); Observance/exhibit at Medical Library Association annual meeting (Minneapolis, May 16-22); Exhibit at American Industrial Hygiene Association (Dallas, May 19-23).



*A special ceremony celebrating passage of the National Library of Medicine's Sesquicentennial Joint Resolution was held at the United States Capitol on Feb. 5. Guests at the ceremony and reception included staff members of the library, a number of NLM Regents and Friends of the National Library of Medicine, and several members of Congress and their staff. Rep. Claude Pepper of Florida (l), one of the cosponsors of the Joint Resolution, spoke stirringly at the ceremony about the Library's important history—and its great potential for an even more important future as a leader in biomedical communications. He here presents a framed copy of the Sesquicentennial Joint Resolution to Dr. Donald A.B. Lindberg, NLM Director. Sen. Charles (Mac) Mathias Jr., the other sponsor of the legislation, was unable to attend the ceremony.*

## Hotline Seeks Volunteers

The Montgomery County HOTLINE is looking for individuals willing to volunteer their time during daytime and after midnight hours. Training in crisis intervention and communications skills is provided by the Mental Health Association of Montgomery County, which operates the HOTLINE.

The next training class is scheduled to begin in March. Those interested should contact the association at 949-1255. □

## NLM Seminar for Medical Science Writers: First Major Event of Sesquicentennial

Some 116 members of the medical journalism and science writing profession gathered at an NLM seminar on Feb. 5 entitled "The National Library of Medicine: Online for Medicine and the Media."

Registrants came from a wide spectrum of the public media—newspapers, magazines, and television—and the professional media—scientific journals, newsletters, and professional organizations. There were also a number of freelance science writers attending.

Although most of them came from the East Coast, people signed up from as far away as Texas, Illinois, Canada, and California. It was the first time NLM has sponsored such a meeting and, for many of the participants, it was their first exposure to the Library.

### Special Events

Dr. Donald A. B. Lindberg, NLM Director, welcomed the journalists, noting that the seminar is just one of many special events scheduled for 1986, the Library's Sesquicentennial (150th) Year. He noted that the Library has a number of important collections and services that might be helpful to medical journalists in their work. The seminar, he noted, is one way to acquaint them with these resources.

The morning program was devoted to four information-seeking "scenarios." The first two demonstrated how existing systems may be used to retrieve information quickly on a topic of current relevance such as AIDS and in a realistic emergency such as a toxic spill. Representatives of the National Cancer Institute and the Centers for Disease Control joined with NLM staff to demonstrate PDQ, MEDLINE, and the toxicological and hazardous waste databases.

The third and fourth scenarios concerned information-seeking in the future. Lister Hill Center staff demonstrated the Electronic Document Storage and Retrieval System now being developed by NLM to show how library materials might be electronically preserved, searched, and retrieved.

The Technological Innovations in Medical Education (TIME) prototype system was also demonstrated. This is a patient simulation program being developed by Lister Hill Center staff that uses videodisc, microcomputer, and voice recognition technology.

### Specific Services

During the afternoon the science writers were introduced to specific NLM services that might be helpful in their work: on-site and re-

gional reference assistance, document retrieval, audiovisual materials (of special interest to the radio/television representatives), historical prints and photographs.



At the recent seminar for science writers at NLM, Carla Johnson of the Library's Reference Section and Henry Tenenbaum of WRC-TV discuss audiovisuals in the NLM collection.

One of the promised benefits of the seminar was the first public demonstration of GRATEFUL MED, a new floppy disc based "front end" system for direct access to MEDLINE (and its backfiles) and CATLINE. Copies of GRATEFUL MED, with a time-limited unbilled access code, were made available to members of the media who could make use of them.

### Tours and Demonstrations

After the formal presentations, those attending had time to visit exhibit booths and demonstrations that filled the lobby of the Lister Hill Center. There were hands-on booths for DIRLINE, the toxicology databases, audiovisual materials, prints and photographs, the NCI databases (including PDQ) and, of course, GRATEFUL MED. NLM reference librarians set up shop in a corner of the lobby and did a brisk business helping visitors with reference queries. There were also tours of the Library.

### Luncheon Speaker

The luncheon speaker was Dr. Lawrence Altman, medical writer for the *New York Times*. Dr. Altman was introduced by NLM Regent Dr. Lois DeBakey, one of the earliest proponents for the seminar who helped plan it. Overall planning and execution of the seminar was under the guidance of Dr. Henry Kissman, NLM associate director for specialized information services, and a subcommittee composed of NLM staff from different programs. □

## NIGMS Holds PRAT Seminar Mar. 20 at Clinical Center

The Pharmacology Research Associate (PRAT) Program of the National Institute of General Medical Sciences—a 2-year postdoctoral training program in the pharmacological sciences—will sponsor a seminar on Thursday, Mar. 20 at 12:30 p.m. in the ACRF Amphitheater. The talk, entitled "Molecular Perspectives on Acetylcholinesterase and Acetylcholine Receptor Structures: Relationship to Neuromuscular Transmission," will be delivered by Dr. Palmer W. Taylor, professor and head, division of pharmacology, department of medicine, University of California, San Diego (UCSD).

Dr. Taylor received a B.S. and a Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin. From 1965 to 1968 he was a PRAT fellow under Dr. Elwood O. Titus in the Laboratory of Chemical Pharmacology of the then National Heart Institute. Dr. Taylor did further postdoctoral research at the Medical Research Council in England and the Max Planck Institut in West Germany. He has been at UCSD since 1971.

His research has focused on cloning and sequencing the gene that codes for acetylcholinesterase. Dr. Taylor is now examining the exact structure of the various forms of acetylcholinesterase and the functional regions within the acetylcholinesterase molecule.

Dr. Taylor has served on the editorial boards of the *Journal of Biological Chemistry* and *Molecular Pharmacology*. He is a four-time winner of the Kaiser Permanente Award for Basic Science Teaching from the UCSD School of Medicine, and has been recognized by Phi Lambda Upsilon for his achievements in pharmaceutical chemistry.

Following the seminar, PRAT fellows will present informal poster sessions on the research they are conducting in the intramural laboratories of NIH and the Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Mental Health Administration. □

## Trip to Williamsburg

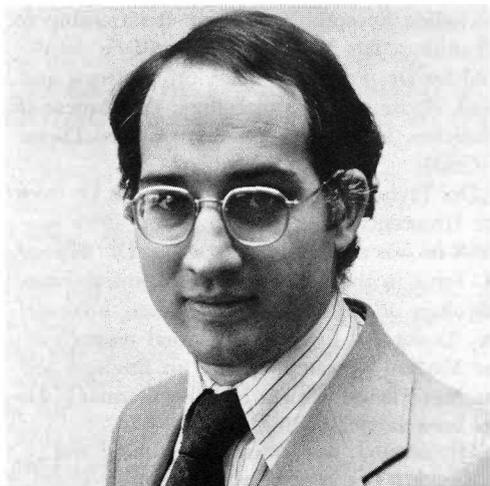
R&W is planning a weekend trip to Williamsburg on Friday, Apr. 11-13, leaving from Bldg. 31C at 8:30 a.m. and returning on Sunday at about 6 p.m.

Cost is \$134 per person (double occupancy) includes two nights at Fort Magruder Inn, a stop at the pottery factory, a tour of Jamestown and admission to Williamsburg—all attractions and roundtrip bus transportation.

For further information call the R&W Activities Desk, 496-4600. □

## Dr. John La Montagne, Vaccine Expert, Named Director of New AIDS Program

Dr. John R. La Montagne has been appointed director of the newly established Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome Program (AIDSP) within the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. The AIDSP is coordinating the Institute's extramural research efforts on AIDS.



Dr. La Montagne

Dr. Anthony S. Fauci, NIAID Director, is coordinator of AIDS research for the National Institutes of Health.

Since 1976, Dr. La Montagne has served as influenza program officer for NIAID as well as respiratory diseases program officer from 1983 to the present. His 10 years of experience in the development of antiviral drugs and vaccines against influenza will be particularly useful in

the AIDSP which will emphasize similar approaches to the problem of AIDS treatment and prevention.

He organized and coordinated the clinical trials of inactivated influenza vaccines sponsored by the NIAID in 1976 and 1978. These were the most comprehensive trials of influenza vaccine ever conducted, and led to improved methods of standardizing these vaccines and measuring their potency.

Dr. La Montagne also coordinated and organized the extramural development of attenuated, live influenza vaccines which are now entering extended field trials for efficacy. In recognition of his work on antiviral drug development for influenza, Dr. La Montagne was honored with the NIH Director's Award in 1983.

Born in Mexico City, he earned bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Texas, Austin, and a Ph.D. degree in microbiology from Tulane University. He received postdoctoral training in animal virology in the laboratory of Dr. Julius S. Youngner at the University of Pittsburgh where he was a research associate from 1971 to 1974. He was an instructor in the department of microbiology, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, 1974-1976.

Dr. La Montagne is chairman of NIAID's clinical research subpanel, and has served on a number of Public Health Service committees including the PHS Task Force on Reye's Syndrome and the Interagency Working Group to Monitor Vaccine Development, Production and Usage. □



NICHD Director Dr. Duane Alexander (l) poses with the Institute's EEO Special Achievement Award recipients Rayna J. Blake and Dr. Harold Gainer.

## Two NICHD Employees Receive EEO Award

Two NICHD employees recently received Equal Employment Opportunity Special Achievement Awards at the National Advisory Child Health and Human Development Advisory Council meeting.

Institute Director Dr. Duane Alexander presented awards to:

- **Rayna J. Blake** for "her superior work as EEO officer; her additional service as NICHD Women's Coordinator, and her counsel to employees who experience personal problems in their jobs."
- **Dr. Harold Gainer**, chief of the Laboratory of Neurochemistry and Neuroimmunology in the Intramural Program, for being "a leader in recruitment and selection of his staff, encouraging their creativity, and demonstrating sensitivity to their developmental needs, and in recognizing their achievements." □

## NIEHS Announces Conference On Methyl Isocyanate

The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences will sponsor an international conference on the health effects of methyl isocyanate, Mar. 12 and 13, in Research Triangle Park, N.C.

The conference to be held in the Institute's Bldg. 101 conference center will review recent research on methyl isocyanate including studies on respiratory pathology, immunotoxicity, reproductive toxicology, effects on hemoglobin and serum enzymes, and genetic toxicology.

Methyl isocyanate is a chemical intermediary which usually is kept in closed systems and used in the manufacture of other chemicals. It came to public notice because of several industrial accidents in which there were human exposures.

Dr. John R. Bucher, toxicologist with NIEHS, and coordinator for the conference said that this meeting will focus on scientific studies on the chemical and will not attempt to deal with public policy issues per se.

There will be no charge for attending the meeting, but registration will be limited by the availability of seating. For further information contact June Wallace, Corporate Travel Limited, 3867 Roswell Road, NE., Atlanta, GA 30342, or call 1-800-241-2324. □

*When choosing between two evils, I always like to try the one I've never tried before.—Mae West*

## Golf League Starts

The NIH/R&W Golf League is gearing up for the start of the 1986 season. This year's opening event will be the annual Betty Sanders Open scheduled for Wednesday, Apr. 16 (rain date, Apr. 17).

This event is held at the Falls Road Golf Course and is open to everyone interested in joining the league.

A general meeting will be held on Wednesday, Apr. 23, at 5 p.m., in Bldg. 30, Rm. 117, to form teams, elect captains, sign new members and distribute prizes from the Betty Sanders Open.

Season play will begin Apr. 28. Contact Dr. Ken Brown, treasurer, Bldg. 30, Rm. 412, 496-5974, to join the league. □

## New Diagnostic Test for Cystic Fibrosis Developed by Several NIADDK Scientists

A new, simple diagnostic blood test using a monoclonal antibody offers the possibility of the most efficient screening test for cystic fibrosis (CF) in newborns.

CF, the most common fatal genetic disease among Caucasians, affects 1 in 2,000 white newborns. CF patients produce abnormally thick mucus that blocks the lung passages and also clogs the pancreatic ducts, preventing the flow of enzymes involved in digestion. Approximately 15 to 20 percent of CF newborns show no abnormal pancreatic function upon early examination and may be missed by the present experimental screening test.

The new test is based on serum mucins. These are large molecules with a carbohydrate "bottle-brush" configuration and a protein backbone or handle. They are secreted by the pancreas and other organs and are found in the serum (clear portion of blood) of children and adult CF patients.

In CF patients, specific radiolabeled monoclonal antibody 19-9, which is directed against a specific carbohydrate combining site on mucin, showed levels of serum mucin 10-fold higher than normal.

The test was developed by several NIADDK intramural scientists including Drs. David Roberts, Ralph Prates and Victor Ginsburg. According to Dr. Roberts, "This finding may provide the potential for improving the quality of life for CF patients by earlier detection, leading to earlier treatment. A characterization of the serum mucin antigens may provide better understanding of the disease."

The test was developed in the Laboratory of Structural Biology, Laboratory of Cell Biology and Genetics, and Pediatric Metabolism Branch under the NIADDK-Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Joint Program and reported in the Feb. 1 *Archives of Biochemistry and Biophysics*.—Clementine Sessoms □

## Dr. Agnes Donahue Appointed NIGMS Executive Secretary



Dr. Donahue

Former grants associate Dr. Agnes Donahue recently joined the NIGMS Office of Review Activities. She will serve primarily as executive secretary of the Minority Access to Research Careers (MARC) Review Committee. Besides her review responsibilities, Dr. Donahue is serving as executive secretary of the PHS Coordinating Committee on Women's Health Issues.

Dr. Donahue received a B.S. in biology from Xavier University in New Orleans, La. and a D.D.S. from Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tenn. She specialized in pediatric dentistry at the Boston University School of Graduate Dentistry where she earned her M.Sc.D. and later an M.P.H. degree from the University of California, Berkeley.

From 1977 to 1980, she was assistant professor at the University of Mississippi School of Dentistry and on attending staff at the University Medical Center.

In 1980 she came to NIH to join the intramural program in the National Institute of Dental Research.

Dr. Donahue was a staff fellow in the Clinical Investigation and Patient Care Branch of NIDR for 4 years before entering the Grants Associates Program in 1984.

As a grants associate, she executed assignments at nine BIDs and the Office of the Director, NIH. She also completed several non-NIH assignments, including one in the office of Congressman Ronald Wyden, where she wrote proposals for health legislation and did research in several major health issues.

Dr. Donahue has been recipient of many honors and awards, including a National Dental Association award and a student achievement award from the American Academy of Oral Pathology. □

## Three NIGMS Grantees Win Passano Awards

In a clear demonstration of the value of good research training, two former colleagues have won the 1986 Senior Passano Award, and a third associate has won the 1986 Junior Passano Award. To be presented on Mar. 17 in Baltimore, the awards honor the scientists' outstanding research in related areas of basic cell biology.

Dr. Albert L. Lehninger at the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions in Baltimore is honored for his landmark contributions, beginning in the 1940s, to the understanding of bioenergetics, the study of energy transformation and use in living tissue.

He was also cited for his work on the central functions of mitochondria, the cell organelles where chemical energy is converted into a form that can be stored. Dr. Lehninger, the author of a well-known biochemistry textbook, is honored for his inspirational role in biomedical education as well.

The second senior award winner is Dr. Eugene P. Kennedy, a former Ph.D. student in Dr. Lehninger's laboratory. Now at Harvard University Medical School in Boston, he shares the award for his part in the bioenergetics discoveries. Dr. Kennedy is also cited for his investigations, begun in the 1950s, into the synthesis of complex lipids, crucial components of membranes, as well as his research on the function and organization of cellular membranes that he started in the 1960s.

Dr. Kennedy's former Ph.D. student, Dr. James E. Rothman, now at Stanford University in California, has won the Junior Passano Award for his biochemical research on the Golgi apparatus, a cell organelle responsible for modifying and sorting various secreted proteins.

All three scientists are supported by research grants from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences.

The Passano Awards were created in 1943 by Edward B. Passano, founder of Williams and Wilkins, the Baltimore-based medical book publisher, and the affiliated Waverly Press.

The Senior Passano Award is presented to "outstanding researchers whose research was done in the United States, is complete, and has near-term clinical applications." The award consists of a Steuben glass dolphin on a stand—a dolphin is part of the Passano family crest—and \$20,000 tax-free.

The Junior Passano Award is a Steuben dolphin and \$10,000 tax-free given to a researcher "under 35, who has published research that shows great promise."

To date, 11 Passano Award winners have gone on to receive Nobel prizes. □

*Editor's Note:* Dr. Lehninger's award will be given posthumously. He died on March 4.

## PUBERTY

(Continued from Page 1)

testosterone—cause a child's small body to grow and begin sexual development.

"However the puberty mechanism works," says Cutler, "it seems to require the LHRH pulses. A continuous LHRH signal will turn the system off. Our study was designed to use that property to block the production of sex hormones and all the other symptoms of precocious puberty."

LHRH<sub>a</sub> mimics natural LHRH in most ways, but it lasts longer than the natural hormone in the blood. Because it lasts longer, a daily injection of LHRH<sub>a</sub> masks the natural hormone pulses, blocking their stimulating action on the pituitary. This in turn prevents the sex glands from producing hormones that cause sexual development.

Whatever its trigger, precocious puberty includes early menstruation and breast development, enlarged testicles, pubic hair, and rapid bone growth. These can occur anytime during childhood, even in infancy. The average age of the 129 children in Cutler's study was 5; by then most of the girls had menstruated.

LHRH<sub>a</sub> slowed sexual development and signs of puberty regressed in 73 children with precocious puberty. Most of these children had forms of the disorder with no known cause. Daily injections of the drug for 6 months dramatically reduced estrogen or testosterone levels when compared with pretreatment levels.

Patients whose puberty was caused by known genetic or sex gland abnormalities, though, did not respond to LHRH<sub>a</sub>. Cutler and his colleagues have now begun testing other drugs that appear to help these patients as well.

Children with precocious puberty typically become short adults because their rapidly growing bones fuse prematurely. By slowing this rapid growth, LHRH<sub>a</sub> gives bones more time to lengthen before they fully fuse.

With the new treatment the researchers aim not only to slow a child's physical development, they also hope to restore the social and psychological elements of a normal childhood. Early puberty can strain relations with family and playmates, often isolating a child from his peers.

"A neighbor didn't want a patient to play with her child because she didn't want to explain breasts or menses to her own child at that age," Cutler says of one young patient. Besides peer isolation, some families worry about sexual abuse of their children with precocious puberty and others are concerned about their child's poor self-image.

"One father couldn't get his daughter to do anything. She just wanted to mope," says Cut-

## Year's Quota of Blood Donated By NIEHSers in One Day

Employees at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences kept the crew of the Red Cross Bloodmobile busy as they donated nearly their entire year's goal in a single day recently. With about 700 employees located on two campuses in Research Triangle Park, N.C., the Institute mustered 97 blood donors, almost its entire annual goal of 100 pints.

An additional seven volunteers were asked to defer blood donation for health reasons. Twenty-three of the volunteers were first time donors.

Bloodmobile staff turned the main conference room in the Institute's headquarters into an instant blood bank complete with Red Cross cots. They used conference tables for the various blood bank stations. Usually, the Institute's blood donor program asks volunteers to travel to the Durham chapter of the American Red Cross Blood Center on the third Friday of each month.

Jan Mullis, NIEHS blood donor coordinator, said that having the Bloodmobile visit made donation a great deal easier. "People who might not feel they have the time to travel to and from the Blood Center found this convenient," she said. "Maybe some of those who have donated before encouraged the first-time donors."

The Institute also provides a good source of volunteers because the employees have access to information about blood donation, and realize that *giving* blood does *not* expose one to the risk of contracting AIDS or other communicable disorders. This erroneous impression has been cited as causing a slump in blood donation.

Each blood donation is made with a new, sterile needle which is thrown away after use.

Confusion has apparently resulted from instances where those *receiving* blood transfusion contracted disease. Screening of blood donations now makes even this extremely improbable. But blood *donors* are not exposed to the risk of AIDS or any communicable disease through blood donation.

ler. "Once she was on treatment, she began to act like a normal 6-year-old."

As the children who began treatment in 1979 reach the normal age for puberty, the researchers are discontinuing LHRH<sub>a</sub> therapy. Cutler says that about two dozen patients have been taken off the drug, and, as natural hormones take over, he and his team are carefully monitoring the patients' growth and sexual development. So far, these children are progressing through normal puberties. □



Debra Baldwin, NIEHS procurement, was among the 97 employees donating blood during the first Red Cross Bloodmobile visit to the Institute. Registered nurses Marsha Hamilton (l) and Joe Macon were among Red Cross staff and volunteers.

Ms. Mullis said that the Red Cross was surprised and pleased with the turnout. At least 75 donors were needed to make the visit worthwhile. The R.C. unit may visit the Institute again, perhaps on the regular basis. □

## FAES Offers English For Non-English Speakers

The Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences (FAES) will offer an intensive course of Conversational English called ILPAN, beginning Apr. 7 and ending May 2.

The class, which will meet Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., is designed for speakers of languages other than English.

Further information may be obtained by calling 496-7976. Tuition is \$80. No textbook is required. □

## Federal Employees Almanac

The *Federal Employees Almanac* is published for Federal and postal employees and is updated and made current each year.

The 33rd edition contains the many changes in employee benefits that have been enacted into law in the past 12 months.

Cost is \$3.25 (regular price is \$3.50) and copies may be obtained at the R&W Activities Desk, Bldg. 31 or any R&W Gift Shop. □

## Five Groups of HTLV-Infected Individuals Studied to See How Many Developed AIDS

Among 725 persons from five groups at risk for AIDS, 276 (38 percent) were found to be infected with HTLV-III, the virus that causes AIDS. Over a 3-year period, 34 percent of the infected individuals in one of the studied risk groups developed AIDS.

This highest percentage of AIDS cases was among 44 infected homosexual men in Manhattan. In the other four groups, AIDS developed in 25 percent of 24 infected drug abusers in Queens, N.Y.; 17 percent of 42 infected homosexual men in Washington, D.C.; 13 percent of 40 infected hemophilia-A patients in Hershey, Pa.; and 8 percent of 26 infected homosexual men in Denmark.

"Scientists do not know what the full latency period is between infection with HTLV-III, the virus that causes AIDS, and development of disease," explained Dr. James J. Goedert of NCI, the principal investigator.

"We also do not know what percentage of infected individuals will eventually develop AIDS, and if the risk differs among groups. However, the longer a person carries the virus and continues to experience damage to his immune system, the more likely it is that he will develop AIDS. Continued followup of these groups will be important to try to answer these questions."

The study is reported in the Feb. 28 issue of *Science* by Dr. Goedert and coauthors: Drs. Robert J. Biggar, Stanley H. Weiss, Robert C. Gallo, and William A. Blattner of NCI; M. Elaine Eyster, Milton S. Hershey Medical Center of the Pennsylvania State University, Hershey, Pa.; Mads Melbye and Peter Ebbesen, Institute of Cancer Research, Aarhus, Denmark; Susan Wilson, ORI Inc., Bethesda, Md.; Drs. Harold M. Ginzburg, National Institute on Drug Abuse, Rockville, Md.; Ronald J. Grossman, New York City; Richard A. DiGioia and William C. Sanchez, Washington, D.C.; and Jose A. Giron, Flushing Hospital, New York City.

All study participants were enrolled before

October 1982, and none had AIDS at the time of enrollment.

The high rate of AIDS among infected men in the Manhattan homosexual group may be because HTLV-III was introduced into this group earlier, Dr. Goedert said. New York City homosexuals were one of the first groups in the United States to be struck by the AIDS epidemic. The epidemic among American homosexual men is generally believed to be about 1 year ahead of the epidemic in drug abusers, and more than 2 years ahead of the epidemic in hemophiliacs and European homosexual men.

When the study began, 52 percent of homosexual men in Manhattan were infected with HTLV-III; 46 percent of the New York drug abusers; 38 percent of hemophilia-A patients; 26 percent of homosexual men from Washington, D.C.; and 10 percent of the Danish homosexual group. Each year since then, the number of infected individuals has increased in every group.

Dr. Goedert said the Manhattan homosexual group may be at higher risk of developing AIDS than the other groups because of some unknown cofactor or cofactors. A type of cancer called Kaposi's sarcoma developed in nearly half of the Manhattan men with AIDS, a higher proportion than would be expected. For unknown reasons, Kaposi's sarcoma occurs almost exclusively in homosexual male AIDS patients, and generally accounts for less than one-third of all AIDS diagnoses.

By analyzing stored blood samples from the hemophilia-A patients, the investigators were able to estimate that AIDS developed in five of these patients from 28 to 62 months after infection. This supports the belief that the latency before development of AIDS can be long, Dr. Goedert said.

Dr. Goedert also cautioned that the percentage of AIDS in this study may not occur in the general population, since the study group was small and may not represent the typical risk for AIDS.—Linda Anderson □

## Warner Wins 'Hot Shot' Regatta; Sailing Classes Start April 9

Huber Warner skippered the 19-ft. Flying Scot, "Chancy," to victory in the NIH Sailing Association (NIHSA) Intramural Championship Regatta ("Hot Shot"). His crew was David Davies and Alison Skeel.

The NIHSA's Basic Training Course, including six Wednesday evening classroom and three on-the-water sessions, will start Apr. 9. Cost is \$85 plus \$35 NIHSA dues.

For further information and to sign up, call Anne Hardman, 496-7321. □

## Graphics Packages Forum Scheduled for March 27

The NIH Stat Users Group will hold its second forum on Thursday, Mar. 27 at 3 p.m. in the Medical Board Room of Bldg. 10.

Topic of the forum will be an overview and exchange of information about graphics packages for presenting quality graphs of statistical results. Further information can be obtained from Robert Klein, 496-6832, or Deborah Ismond, 496-3333. (The medical board room is near the ACRF Amphitheater.) □

## CONFERENCE

(Continued from Page 1)

The high frequency of silent thrombosis and unpresaged embolism underlies the need for prevention.

A number of high-risk groups of patients have been identified. This conference will assess the data concerning the relative risks in these groups and the various forms of prophylaxis (prevention) that have been tested, including anticoagulants, antiplatelet agents, and mechanical methods. In an open forum, participants will evaluate the effectiveness and safety of prophylaxis in the high-risk groups.

The conference will bring together biomedical investigators, hematologists, surgeons, internists, epidemiologists, and representatives of the public. Following two days of presentations by medical experts and discussion by the audience, a consensus panel—drawn from the medical community and lay persons—will formulate a draft statement responding to the following key questions:

- What is the level of risk of venous thrombosis and embolism in various patient groups?
- What is the safety and effectiveness of various forms of prophylaxis in these patient groups?
- What are the recommended forms of prophylaxis in these patient groups?
- What questions remain to be answered about prophylaxis of venous thromboembolism?

On the final day of the meeting, the consensus panel chairman will read the draft statement before the conference audience and invite comments and questions. □

## Office Automation Equipment Handbook Now Available

Limited numbers of copies of the *Handbook on Acquisition of Office Automation Equipment*, published by the NIH Office Technology Coordinators, is available through the NIH User Resource Center, Bldg. 31, Rm. B2B47.

This handbook will assist users in defining and evaluating individual office automation needs. It has been designed to provide guidance to office staff on planning, requirements assessment, system design configuration, justification and procurement of office automation systems.

It also includes sections on space requirements and biotechnology issues as well as appendices on resources and policies and procedures for purchase of office automation equipment. □

## Dr. Loretta Leive, NIADDK Microbiologist, Dies of Cancer; Noted for Bacteria Studies

Dr. Loretta Lambert Leive, chief of the Membrane Biology Section of the Laboratory of Structural Biology, National Institute of Arthritis, Diabetes, and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, died of cancer Feb. 12 at George Washington University Hospital. A resident of McLean, Va., she was 49.

Born in New York City, she attended the Juillard School of Music. She graduated magna cum laude from Barnard College, received an A.M. degree from Radcliffe College, Cambridge, Mass., and studied with Dr. Bernard Davis at Harvard University where she was awarded a Ph.D. in bacteriology.

She was appointed research biologist in the Laboratory of Biochemical Pharmacology, NIADDK, in 1963. On sabbatical from the Institute for a year in 1977, she conducted research at the Sir William Dunn School of Pathology, Oxford University, England.

Dr. Leive's research on the role of the bacterial cell surface in microbial physiology and pathogenesis led to international recognition. She discovered that treatment of gram-negative bacteria with a chemical that binds metals caused the release of substantial amounts of a surface component called lipopolysaccharide (LPS).

She was able to show that LPS is responsible for the permeability barrier of these bacterial cells and loss of this component leads to increased sensitivity to a variety of substances including antibiotics.

Dr. Leive made substantial advances in understanding how LPS is synthesized, excreted, and organized on the cell surface.

While at Oxford University, she studied the membrane metabolism of macrophages (white blood cells that protect from infection by ingesting bacterial cells). She later extended her knowledge of LPS and macrophages to discover a fundamental relationship involved in the infectious disease process.

Using three strains of *Salmonella* differing in virulence (ability to cause disease) and measured by the ability of these strains to cause dis-



Dr. Loretta L. Leive

ease in mice, Dr. Leive was able to show that the inverse relationship between the cell's ability to be destroyed by macrophages and virulence is based upon the form of LPS found on the cell surface.

Her research has provided insight into the process of infection as well as new opportunities for therapeutic intervention in invasive disease caused by gram-negative bacteria.

She was a member of the American Society of Biological Chemists, American Society for Microbiology and American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, and served on numerous boards and committees. She was editor of the *Journal of Biological Chemistry* and *Microbiological Reviews* as well as editor-in-chief of the "Microbiology" series. She was the author of more than 50 scientific papers.

Dr. Leive was a leader in efforts to bring the problems of women in the sciences to the attention of the public and testified before Congress on these issues. In 1985 she received the Alice Evans Award from the Committee on the Sta-

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## Seminar on Microwaves' Use To Detect and Treat Cancer

Kenneth Carr, the distinguished microwave lecturer of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) for 1985-86, will conduct a seminar, "The Application of Microwave Technology to the Detection and Treatment of Cancer" in the ACRF Amphitheater, Clinical Center, on Mar. 25 at 8 p.m.

The seminar will be sponsored by the Biomedical Engineering and Instrumentation Branch, DRS.

Research has been under way for the past decade to apply microwave technology to cancer detection and treatment. Passive microwave thermography is a noninvasive and nonhazardous method of detecting malignancies that is based on the thermal differences between normal and malignant tissue. The method shows promise for early detection of breast cancer.

Hyperthermia, employing microwave heating, shows promise as an adjunct to radiation and chemotherapy.

Mr. Carr is senior vice president and technical director of M/A COM Inc. He received Certificates of Recognition from NASA in 1980 and 1983 for his pioneering efforts on the application of microwave techniques to cancer detection and treatment.

For more information call Dr. Mark Hagmann at 496-4426. □

tus of Women Microbiologists, American Society for Microbiology (ASM), in recognition of her "excellence in science and for her tireless efforts to promote equality of women in the profession of microbiology and within the American Society for Microbiology."

An endowment in honor of Dr. Leive will be established by the American Society for Microbiology to be given to women who have recently received their Ph.D.s in the biological sciences. Contributions may be sent to: The Loretta Leive Memorial Fund, c/o American Society for Microbiology, 1923 "I" Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20006.

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