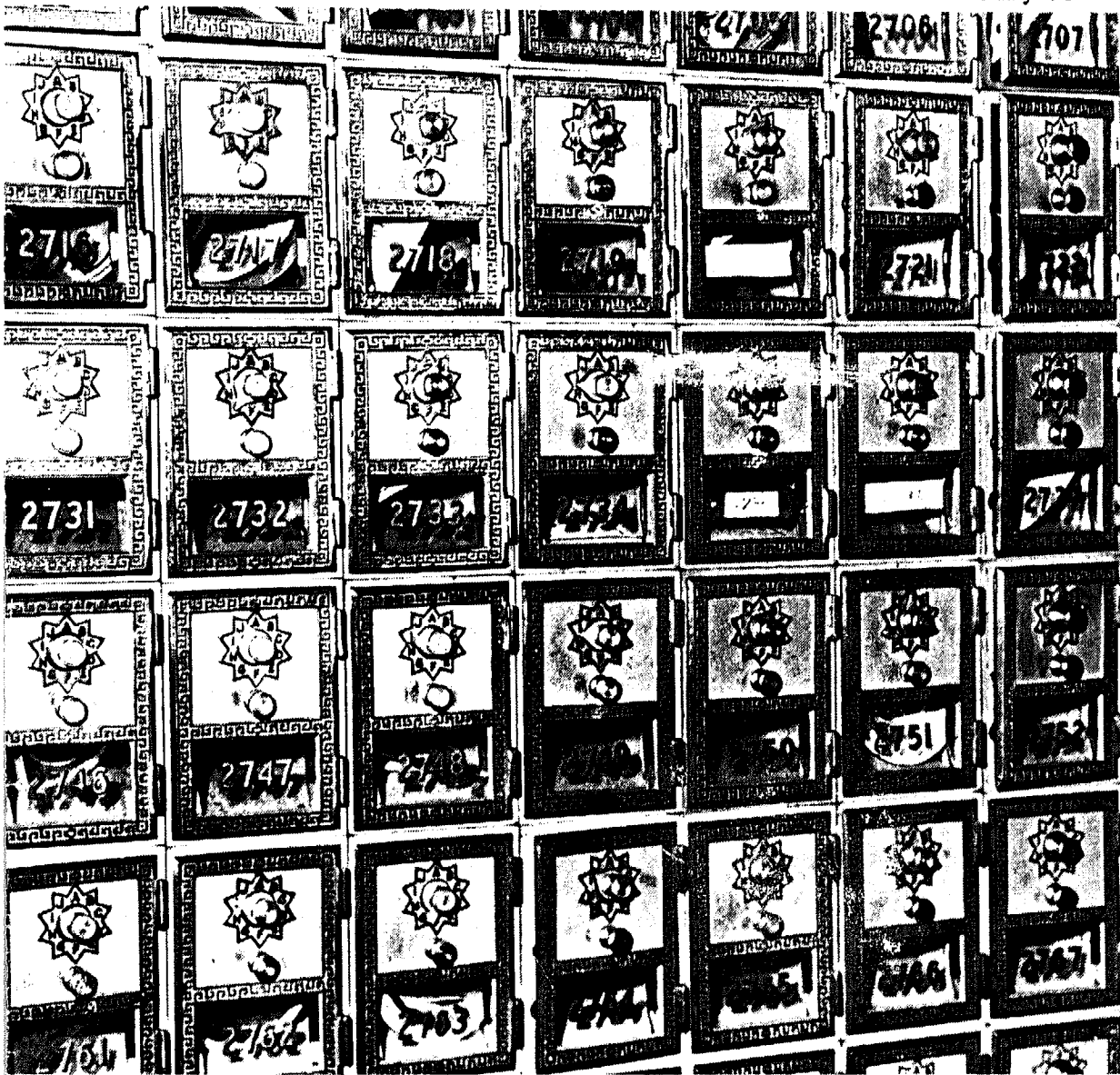


# Shifting Dullness

February 1988



## Goodbye to a few familiar faces

*Shifting Dullness* welcomes you to the new year as we say goodbye to the old Duke South post office facade and greet the new renovated mail room. We applaud the increased number of boxes now available and the improved accessibility to mail deposit areas due to the January 15th renovation, but these old faces will be missed.

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# SECOND OPINIONS

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## Execution is not Humane

Stefano Cazzaniga

An article which appeared some months ago in American Medical News, "Physicians Ponder Role as the Agent of Death" (1) dealt with the ethical question of physicians' involvement in capital punishment, specifically execution by lethal injection.

Death by lethal injection is presently allowed in 16 states, although only three states have employed this method to date, North Carolina being one of them. At the time the article was written, a fourth state was contemplating the use of lethal injection. Perhaps the reason why this form of execution may be gaining acceptance is summed up in the following excerpt:

"After the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in 1976 to uphold the constitutionality of capital punishment codes, proponents of death by lethal injection asserted that it was a less painful and more humane way of killing someone."

Lethal injection involves the intravenous administration of barbituates and paralyzers in the correct dosage to cause death in the recipient within 30 seconds. Currently, some states require that a physician be present, not to administer the drugs, but to ascertain that death has indeed occurred, even though this same function could theoretically be performed by a coroner. The AMA's position permits physicians to be present to confirm the death.

The objections raised by the MD's in the article ranged from opposition to even the presence of a physician at the scene, which could be construed as condoning a procedure to terminate a life rather than to care for it, to asserting that it would give the false impression that lethal injection is a medical procedure (which could make such capital punishment more frequent). Another objector pointed out that a physician might be pressured to intervene, for example if the victim were not completely dead, or if there were some difficulty in reaching the veins (as can happen especially for IV drug abusers). Active participation in any type of execution was clearly renounced as being diametrically contrary to the physician's role as a healer.

To the aforementioned arguments, all perfectly valid, I would add one more, applicable for all forms of capital

punishment: there is no such thing as a 'humane' execution. Putting someone to death would not allow for any flaws or mistakes in the judicial process, and would deny criminals the chance to regain some human dignity by recognizing the enormity of their terrible actions, but aware that they must still live the rest of their lives with the pain of their actions, and the pain of confinement. Yet any possibility, no matter how small, of personal healing would not exist for anyone executed. To that must be added that the criminal actions of some could be greatly influenced by a diseased mind. I do not know the potential number of such cases, nor how they could be identified, and even less if a 'cure' is achievable. Yet an execution would negate any such possibility.

Thus, while I am not suggesting that all physicians take up a crusade against capital punishment, I believe that any form of execution should be at least individually repudiated by each physician as being contrary to the very mission of the physician. Such repudiation would be a step beyond non-participation in an execution toward an action that aims to discover a better solution to one of society's major problems.

(1) AMN, Sept. 4, 1987, pp. 9-10.

Shifting Dullness accepts letters of opinion from all members of the medical school community which encourage responsible dialogue. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the editorial staff. Submit responses and articles to the Shifting Dullness box in the Alumni Affairs office or the Dean's office.

## Anlyan

Bill Obremskey

Dr. Anlyan has stepped down as Chancellor of the Medical Center to take a new position as Chancellor of the University. This provides a tremendous opportunity to set the direction of the Medical Center and the Medical School for years to come. Bill Obremskey will serve as the medical student representative in the committee that will recommend a new chancellor. The selection process will begin this Spring, and the choice will be made by July 1, 1988. This is to be a national search and should attract some of the most qualified people in the country. Students are invited to send Bill the qualifications and criteria that are judged to be desirable in prospective candidates. Bill will be one of 12 committee members with full interviewing and voting privileges, so student input is important.

### HELP!

Medical Faculty single parent urgently needs weekend care for 2 daughters, 3 and 5 years old; is offering room and board (6 minutes from DUMC) and car to the right female MSI or MSII. Call Dr. Frankel: 684-5621 or 968-8485. Beeper 2502.

Another healthy tip from the *Vital Foods, Inc.* catalog, the people that brought you vegetable salad in easy-to-eat concentrated tablets.

## NUCLEIC ACID

(SUPER-POTENCY FORMULA)

You've been reading a lot about this nutritional marvel—now here it is!

## NUCLEIC ACID

This is a scientifically-balanced combination of 100 mg. NUCLEIC ACID\* with 10 mg. Rutin — 25 mg. Bioflavonoids — 10 mg. Organic Iron — 150 mg. Vitamin C — 25 mg. Vitamin E — 5 mcg. Vitamin B-12. Two-piece capsules you can open and sprinkle contents in beverages or on foods. Or swallow capsules.

**NU-CLEX** NUCLEIC ACID\* BALANCED WITH OTHER INGREDIENTS

60 capsules \$3.25     180 capsules \$8.50

## Share

Bill Obremskey

The Duke Medical School collected money, food, clothing and toys for the *Durham Share Your Christmas Program* this year. We were enormously successful and have made Christmas a little brighter for our 'adopted' single mother and her four children. We were able to provide a number of gifts and new clothes for the family as well as some for the general fund of Share Your Christmas for distribution to other needy families in Durham. The first year class deserves special thanks for their generosity. Also, thanks to all other students, faculty, and staff for their donations. Your thoughtfulness is appreciated.

## The Student-Faculty Show is coming:

April 16, Saturday night of Parents' Weekend

Theme: Duke South Pacific

Writing meetings are currently underway every Sunday night, 5PM in CTL.

Musicians are needed: violins, flutes, brass, winds, spoons, etc. contact Musical Director, Chet Nastale, 683-6349, box 2779 DUMC.

Show auditions will be held mid-February.

Show Logo is needed for programs, posters, backdrops. Submit ideas to box 2792 DUMC, attn: Student-Faculty Show. A prize will be awarded for the winning design. Deadline: Feb. 14.

For more information contact Mindy Rosenberg, Producer, 286-4221, box 2792 DUMC

# ADMINISTRATIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Financial Aid

Neil Andrews

1988-89 financial aid application packets are ready and may be picked up in the Office of Financial Aid, 126 Davison Bldg.

Federal regulations governing the \$7500/yr GSL are more relaxed due to the new financial "independence" (from parents) definition: applicant is over age 24, or is a graduate/professional student who will not be claimed by parents as a federal income tax exemption.

HEAL regulations are very strict — parents' financial information is required, as is a copy of the applicant's undergraduate financial aid transcript, birth certificate, and social security card.

At this time, 1987-88 grants, scholarships and loans to all medical students exceed \$4 million, of which about \$1.3 million come from Duke sources (not including MSTP). Thus far the average debt of fourth year students is \$30,247.

Students are encouraged to contact the Office of Financial Aid with any questions.

## Dean's Office News

Wendy Zaroff

•The Second Joseph and Kathleen Bryan Alzheimer's Disease Research Center Conference will be held Feb 10 in the Searle Center. Discussions will focus on the molecular genetics of Alzheimer's disease. Those students wishing to attend should pick up a registration form in the Dean's office.

•The FLEX exam will be given this year on June 14, 15, and 16. Fourth year students wishing to take the exam must receive approval for FLEX by 3/31/88.

•The Duke Committee on Sexual Harassment is available to discuss any incident a student perceives as sexual harassment. Within the Medical School, Dr. Pounds, Dr. Kredich, Dr. German, and Dr. Puckett are available to discuss such situations. Call 684-2498. Strict confidentiality will be maintained.

•The Dean's office has detailed information on a number of summer programs for medical students, including:

— New York City Dept. of Health - The Health Research Training Program introduces students to the field of public health and community medicine. Deadline 3/15.

— The National Tay-Sachs and Allied Diseases Assoc. will award six fellowships for research in the area of lysosomal storage diseases. \$1500 stipend. Deadline 3/31.

— The Jackson Laboratory in Bar Harbor, Maine, offers a 9 week program in research training in mammalian genetics. Awards up to \$1500. Deadline 2/29.

— The Orthopaedic service at the Mass General Hospital offers a summer Scholar's Program in Orthopaedic Surgery. An award of \$1000 will be granted to a medical student to pursue scholarly activity in either clinical or basic Orthopaedic Science. Deadline 3/15.

— Boston University Medical Center offers a summer Institute in Geriatrics from June 20-25. Deadline 3/1.

— The Lupus Foundation of America will provide a \$1500 stipend for basic or clinical research in the field of lupus erythematosus. Deadline 3/1.

— Any medical student who graduated from a public high school in Monmouth County, NJ, is eligible for scholarship funds from the Frank and Louise Groff Foundation. Write Willis Sisson, Groff Foundation, 6 Cooney Terrace, Fair Haven, NJ, 07701.

THE NEW YORK TIMES, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1987

### DEAN SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Duke University

Duke University seeks applications and nominations for the position of Dean of the School of Medicine and Executive Vice-President for Health Affairs. The Dean will have responsibility for, and authority over all academic and non-academic activities in the Medical Center, including those in the Hospital, allied health programs and the Nursing School. Minimal requirements include an MD degree, experience in academic administration, a distinguished background in teaching and research and a strong commitment to scholarly activities.

The position will be available July 1, 1988. Applicants should send a copy of their curriculum vitae and other credentials to: Dean, School of Medicine Search Committee, DUKE UNIVERSITY, 215 Allen Building, Durham, N.C. 27706.

Deadline for receipt of applications is March 1, 1988.

Duke  
University




Duke University is an Equal Opportunity /  
Affirmative Action Employer

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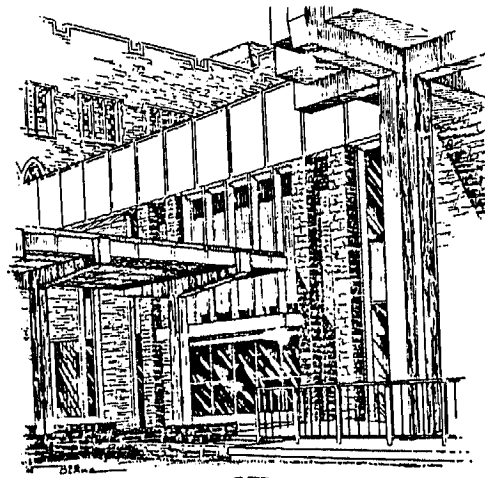
# Calendar Highlights

- Feb 3 James Davis  The President of the AMA will speak at 7PM in the Duke North Auditorium, room 2002. Sponsored by GPSC, DSMLA, and the Davison Society.
- Dick Vitale Cameron Indoor Stadium before the Georgia Tech game.
- Feb 5 Renewal of Systems Dr. David Sabiston and the Department of Surgery again generously welcome the students of the School of Medicine to attend this year's annual Renewal of Systems meeting in Von Cannon Hall, Bryan Center, 5-7:30PM. Refreshments provided.
- Feb 6 Post game party Post NC State Game / South of the Boarder Party. A reason, a theme, a house! The gentlemen of 2701 Sarah Ave offer it all in our first party of Feb. The party will begin immediatly after the victory over NC State. Decidedly southern attire is suggested; valid work permits not required.
- Feb 10 I'm not Rappaport Broadway at Duke presents this production at 8PM, Page Audi.
- Feb 13 It's Not Valentine's The official It's Not Valentine's Day Party. Leave that sweet thing at home — this party is for the loner in us all (The hopelessly attached are not entirely discouraged from arriving in pairs.) Anticipated location: the Carolina Theatre Ballroom.
- Feb 16 on South Africa Alister Sparks and Alex Harris, "Perspectives on South Africa." 8PM. Page Auditorium.
- Feb 20 604 Knox party Misplace something at their last party? The Good Guys at 604 W. Knox invite you back to their place to look for it! The entire medical school will be there to help. Search will begin around 9PM. Refreshments will be served.
- the Bunnymen Echo and the Bunnymen. 8PM. Cameron Indoor Stadium.
- Feb 22 Residency Prep The Medical Alumni Association is sponsoring a symposium, "Preparation for Residency: A Four Year Process," in the Searle Center, 4-6:30PM. Speakers include: Drs. Doyle Graham, Paul Andrews, Scott Brazer, Ralph Corey, Laura Gutman, Carl Ravin, and David Sabiston. Refreshments will be served and *Match Book 88* will be distributed.
- Feb 26 Future Alum party The Medical Alumni Office, in conjunction with the tenants of 2709 Leyburn Place, is sponsoring the first ever Future Alumni Party. Why wait? Let's all join Brad, Steve, Tom and Conrad as they endeavor to put their house on the map.

Keep in mind the Davison Club Student/Faculty Tennis Tourney coming up on April 23.

*The Social Committee seeks your ideas for parties and places to party.  
Send your ideas to Tom Brown, box 2701, 684-6569.*

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Davison Society



Social Calendar

FEBRUARY 1988

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1 Davison Council mtg 5:30 Green Zone rm M-133	2	3 speakers - AMA president, and Dick Vitale	4	5 Renewal of Systems	6 South of the Border Party
7	8	9	10 Broadway at Duke	11	12	13 It's not Valentine's Day party
14	15	16 Speakers on South Africa	17	18	19	20 604 Knox party Echo and the Bunny- men
21	22 Residency symposium	23	24	25	26 Future Alumni party	27

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# STUDENT BODIES

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## GPSC

Catherine Walsh

The Graduate and Professional Student Council, GPSC, is the voice of all graduate level students at Duke. Representatives from all departments and schools can be involved, and a variety of issues are discussed.

In the past GPSC was instrumental in obtaining a seat for a graduate representative on every major university committee. Prior to that only undergraduates had any input into university policies. GPSC has obtained Union privileges for grad students such as free admission to Freewater Films. In addition, grads can attend Duke basketball games free, provided that there are seats available five minutes before game time.

The Council is currently addressing such issues as sexual harrasment on campus, the real estate development of Duke Forest, the lack of bike paths in Durham, and health insurance for spouses of Duke students. A sexual harrasment committee has been formed and the other issues are being researched. Information sessions, such as a seminar on tax law changes affecting students, are being planned. The GPSC Eminent Speaker Series, in conjunction with the Duke Society for Medical and Legal Affairs, DSMLA, brings us a talk by James Davis, MD, President of the AMA on Feb. 3 at 7PM in the Duke North Auditorium, room 2002.

GPSC funds are available for groups in need of financial assistance. Currently under consideration is a request for a donation to the East End Health Clinic. On the social side of things, GPSC sponsors TGIFs at Val's Upstairs on Main St. every Friday from 5-7pm. This is a great opportunity to meet other grads and discuss grad student concerns.

GPSC is an active group. All are encouraged to participate in GPSC sponsored activities. Contact your class representatives or attend a meeting to discuss additional needs or concerns. Meetings are held every other Monday. Look for announcements in the Chronicle.

## Davison Council Highlights

Mike Armstrong

- Many thanks are due to Marguerite Oetting and Tom Brown for planning a festive holiday party, which took place December 10th at the Carolina Theatre Ballroom. Donations to the Share Your Christmas fund totaled over \$140. This money, in addition to the numerous toys, clothes, and cans of food which were received, greatly exceeded the amount needed for the Davison Society's 'adopted' family. The additional gifts were donated to the Share Your Christmas general fund.

- Dr. Graham has offered to have lunch with groups of eight to ten medical students, beginning this semester. Watch *Shifting Dullness* for further details.

- The Davison Council will meet on February 1 at 5:30 PM in room M-133 (Green Zone). All are invited.

- Since the Medical School is in the process of reaccreditation, this is a good time for us to speak out about our curriculum. If you are interested in voicing your opinions, you can join the Student Curriculum Committee by attending a Davison Council meeting or speaking with Avery Evans, Conrad Flick, or any Council member.

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### put your money where your mandible is.

The following prices are from the *Kilgore International Catalogue of Anatomical Specimens*;

arm (with scapula & clavicle) - \$40, femur - \$10

radius & ulna (matched set) - \$12

mandible (full complement of teeth) - \$22

mandible (poor quality, some teeth missing) - \$10

### Staff

Editor	Holly Lisanby
Associate Editors	Stefano Cazzaniga Wendy Zaroff
Calendar	Rowena Dolor Tom Brown
IM Sports	Steve Gallup
Davison Council Minutes	Mike Armstrong
GPSC Correspondent	Catherine Walsh
Layout	Hank Mansbach Holly Lisanby

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# CLASS NOTES

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## First Years

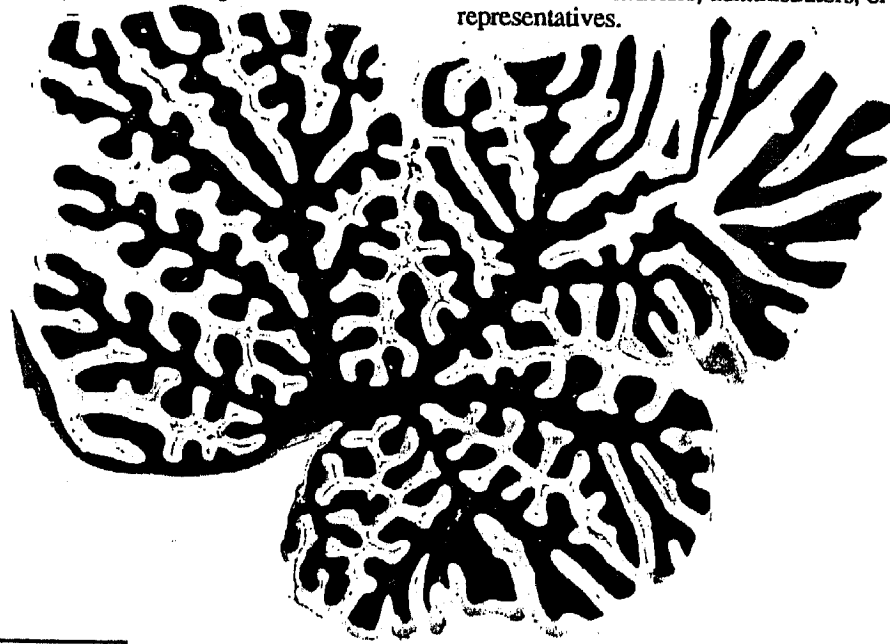
Will Harlan

**Four Med Schools Play Ball** — I received a letter from a representative at the East Carolina Medical School about a basketball tournament which they will sponsor between the four medical schools in the state on Saturday, April 23. The format will be double elimination and each school is asked to field no more than five male basketball and three Co-Ed volleyball teams (no women's basketball?). A social hour will follow with food and refreshments provided by various drug companies.

**Dismal Parking** — A number of you have asked me if there is anything to be done about the dismal parking situation and I have been checking. At present, after talking with Dean Graham and the director of traffic and parking, things do not look much better. All I can suggest for now is either to get here before the Anderson St. lot fills or try one of the two other lots available to us: one is located on Wannamaker Dr. next to the tennis courts and the other is behind the Erwin Rd. parking garage and has bus service to the hospital.

**Curriculum Committee** — I have selected Dave Graff and Tom Oetting to serve with me as representatives to the curriculum committee. The committee has both a long and short term focus. The short term focus is to improve the existing structure and quality of the current curriculum. For the long term focus, the committee will add student input to major changes proposed for the structure of medical education at Duke, hear student complaints and praises, and make recommendations for change. Look for some type of seminar or poll soon to solicit your opinions. With the strength of the LCME recommendations, we on the curriculum committee feel that the atmosphere is very conducive to the types of changes the students have been asking for.

**Suggestion Box** — With the advice of Dean Graham we are having a suggestion box built for the amphitheater stage to collect positive and negative feedback about teaching, student concerns, and anything that you want brought to the attention of the administration. The suggestion box is there for us and I feel that it will serve well as an anonymous route for feedback to instructors, administrators, or your class representatives.





## Second Years



Courtesy *The Auricle*, Univ of So Florida Medical School

## Third Years

Bill McDonald, MD, Dept. of Psychiatry and Barbara Gau, MSW, are starting a group for interested third year students. The group will be similar to the experimental ones many students participated in during their psychiatry rotation, with topics ranging from medical school to relationships. The content of the discussions, as well as the membership, will remain confidential. Call Dr. McDonald at 684-3623 (beeper 5787) or Barb Gau, MSW at 684-4045 for more information.

## AIMS

Bill Obremskey

The possibility of instituting an AIMS program (Aid for Impaired Medical Students) has been discussed intensively at recent Davison Council meetings. General consensus is that such a program could be helpful to the student body in improving access to counseling and rehabilitation services.

Each class would select a class counselor and a faculty counselor, who will undergo training by Student Health Services to educate them about the services available by CAPS (Counseling and Psychological

## Fourth Years

Marguerite Oetting

### Graduation Weekend Schedule

- May 5 Graduation and Awards Dinner. Sheraton University Center. 6PM. Black tie (tuxedo deal in progress). Spouses invited. Be thinking of humorous awards for classmates.
- May 6 Hippocratic Oath Ceremony. Duke Chapel. 7:30PM.
- May 7 Afternoon picnic. Details TBA.
- May 8 All School Graduation. Wallace Wade Stadium. 10AM. Rain location - Cameron Indoor Stadium. Medical School Reception and Diplomas. Searle Center.

•Reserve rooms for your family if you haven't already. Some of the budget hotels still have vacancies.

### Other Upcoming Events:

- Feb 17 Deadline for rank lists to be entered at CTL. Computers will be available to practice or enter list beginning Jan 27. Pick up NRMP material in Dean's Zone.
- Mar 23 Match Day! Meet at noon in Med Center Board Room. Satisfactions is ours 2-6PM. The class bank will buy pizza and spirits to celebrate!

Services), the Duke Stress Center and Duke substance abuse counseling and rehabilitation. The purpose of this program is to improve the access to help for any student having difficulty, either self-identified or identified by friends. The program is intended to benefit students, and no student case will be reported to the administration.

Student counselor selection and training will be in the beginning of the Spring semester. If anyone has any interest in the program or questions, please refer them to class presidents or representatives.

# ACHILLES HEEL

Steve Gallup

I have to admit I was tempted to scrap any plans to build a favorable commentary from the basketball toils of our med school teams, but the Mighty Dismorphophobics exhibited just enough prowess to merit some measure of my approval. In fact, I think they deserve a little raving, for their absolutely smothering victory over the Prosecutors before Christmas. "Chuck E" LeCroy and "Flick" Flick led a team of spectacular hustlers to an 85 to 45 pummeling of the same misguided maladjusted law school flunkies that defeated the MSIs. I think that we, as a professional fraternity of future medical meddlers, are being strikingly disloyal if we don't root for the MDs in the upcoming tourney.

Now I can turn from my role as designated pepster to the more enticing role as critic of my classmates' efforts at the new rage of indoor competition — table tennis. This seemingly docile game has generated so much frenzied lunch time play at the (now lost) dinner table that the "lounge potatoes" have been driven by the vicious little 6 oz. projectile into the safer corners of the tower. The most notably crowd pleasing game for these captive spectators was the battle between the sexes featuring Cathy Walsh and Eric Hoffman. Smashes from both sides brought roars of approval; although most of the fans seemed more excited by the opportunity to verbally abuse one or both of the players. Eric came away as winner when Cathy played, shall we say, less than brilliantly in the last service set.

Sadly one of the...well, let's face it ...the best player in the latter tourney, Steve Gallup faltered in his match with the former class crip Adrian Cotterell. Adrian subsequently began challenging frantically in an effort to get out of my reach. Believe me, Adrian, you won't escape.

The prize for most games played without getting

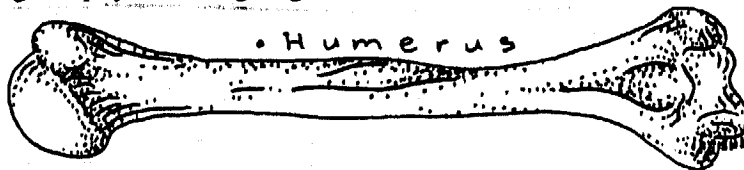
anywhere goes to Tom Oetting, who beat Jim O'Brien, and then lost to Dave Zimmerman, before again pounding Jim relentlessly just to regain his number 4 spot. Fortunately Neil Roth showed him the foolishness of his ambition by pounding him into a pitiful ping pong pulp in a short two game match. Dave incidently recorded the first documented tournament skunk in a turbulent three game match later. (You're dead, Dave!)

Meanwhile Parham Ghandchi and Mary Theresa Amato have been stolidly holding down the top and bottom rungs of the ladder respectively. Rumor has it that Mary Theresa has sought special permission to challenge Parham 24 spots above, and subject to the purchase of a blind fold, tourney officials are apt to grant that small irregularity.

In other action Michael Battistone proved his ball and paddle superiority over Dave Farris, but Dave, unwilling to accept his utter demolition just once "went back to the well again," and again he didn't drink. Later Mike met Mike Mauney in a match that Mike won. Mauney is suprisingly still with us after playing Danny Laskowitz, who after two losses, I thought would certainly seek more radical methods of removing him from the ladder. Incidently Erin Doe is undefeated in tournament play, but it's not really surprising that somebody should fluke their way to the top (pure luck, Erin).

The following intramural activities are coming up. Let me know if you have ideas for other game competitions.

Volleyball (M/W) - Feb 8 Racquetball (M/W) - Mar 14  
Basketball (CoRec) - Feb 9 Table Tennis (M/W/CR) - Mar 21  
Indoor Soccer - Feb 15 Badminton (M/W/CR) - Mar 21  
Softball (M/W/CR) - Feb 29 Swimming (M/W) - Mar 21



"That is an active hypothesis being actively  
controversed."

-Dr. John Moore

"Another example of a beautiful theory slain by an ugly  
fact."

-Dr. Somjen

"You can think of the brain as a radio that is always  
turned on but not always tuned to a station."

-Dr. Somjen

"Think of it as rowing a boat in a pond full of beach  
balls....Let me see if I can draw that."

-Dr. Kirshner

"Superficial reflexes are all of the ones except the deep  
reflexes."

-Dr. Hall