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# *Science Report*

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## TO CONTROL JOHNE'S DISEASE, SCIENTISTS SEEK HELP FROM U.S. DAIRY PRODUCERS

*Project searches for genetic resistance to the incurable disease.*

A research team from the University of Wisconsin-Madison is enlisting the help of hundreds of U.S. dairy producers in an effort to prevent Johne's disease. Johne's may be the most serious infectious disease now threatening the U.S. dairy industry.

The team believes their results will help the industry score sires based on the resistance of the sires' daughters to the disease. In the long term, the researchers want to identify the genes responsible for susceptibility and resistance to Johne's.

"Studies indicate that about 10 percent of U.S. dairy cattle — and between 20 percent and 40 percent of herds — have Johne's disease," says team leader George Shook, a dairy cattle geneticist at the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences. "Johne's costs producers about $200 million a year, which averages out to $22 per cow per year for each cow in the United States."

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Joining Shook in the Johne's study are Brian Kirkpatrick, also a cattle geneticist at CALS, and Michael Collins, a veterinary microbiologist in the School of Veterinary Medicine.

"Johne's is a slowly developing, incurable disease caused by a chronic intestinal infection," says Collins, who specializes in the disease. The infection interferes with an animal's ability to absorb nutrients from food. The disease is also called paratuberculosis (after *Mycobacterium paratuberculosis*, the bacterium that causes the infection).

"It's a difficult disease for most dairy producers," says Shook. Cows usually pick it up as calves. It develops slowly until cows begin to produce less milk and lose weight. Meanwhile, infected animals can pass on the disease to the next generation. Producers cull cows with Johne's from their herds, sometimes without realizing what caused their illness.

Because there is no treatment for Johne's disease, the researchers will look for the genetic basis of resistance and susceptibility to the disease. "Preliminary research in the Netherlands suggested that resistance in cattle has a genetic component," Shook says. "A mouse model of the disease even points to a gene that may be involved in resistance."

To discover a link between Johne's disease and cattle genetics, the researchers must have data on a huge number of cows from individual sires. The scientists are focusing on cows from 15 Holstein sires, all from major artificial breeding organizations.

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"We're focusing on these 15 sires because we need to analyze samples from at least 800 daughters from each sire. So we selected sires that have 5,000 to 8,000 daughters in production," Shook says.

To complete such a large effort, the researchers need help from producers around the country.

The researchers have begun to survey herds in the Dairy Herd Improvement program. They want to begin with herds that have at least one cow that has developed Johne's disease. The researchers then send cooperating producers a list of their cows that belong to the 15 sire families. Producers then have their local vet collect blood and fecal samples from those cows during the vet's next regular farm visit. That might cost producers about $3 to $5 per cow, according to Shook.

In return the researchers will conduct tests on those samples and send each producer — not his or her veterinarian — a free report of the results for each cow tested from that herd. Two diagnostic tests will be run for each cow — a fecal culture and an ELISA antibody test. The tests will be done by the Johne's Testing Center in the UW-Madison Vet School. Shook estimates the cost of these tests at more than $20 per cow if producers were to order them on their own.

The USDA Initiative for Future Agriculture and Food Systems is providing most of the support for the two-year study. The researchers also have received support from National Association of Animal Breeders and a Hatch grant from the UW-Madison College of Agricultural and Life Sciences.

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control Johne's 10/00
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11/27/01
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## GENDER DIFFERENCES POSSIBLE ROOT OF SLEEPING DISORDER

MADISON -- Gender hormones may be a key factor in the onset of a common human disorder called sleep apnea, suggest findings from a new study by researchers at the University of Wisconsin-Madison's School of Veterinary Medicine.

Sleep apnea, which typically occurs when the tongue blocks the airway during sleep, affects more than 18 million Americans, a majority of whom are middle-aged men.

UW-Madison scientists Andrea Zabka and Mary Behan studied how age affects a female rat's response to hypoxia, or oxygen deprivation, and compared the results to those from a previous study focusing on male rats' responses. The gender-specific responses, they found, are completely different.

In the earlier study published last summer, the researchers deprived male rats of oxygen for brief periods and then monitored nerve activity from the brain to the tongue and diaphragm, two major muscles involved in respiration. The results showed that young and middle-aged rats reacted differently to hypoxia.

"A normal, young male rat will respond to episodic hypoxia by actually increasing its output of neuronal activity to the muscles," says Behan.

The increased activity, which leads to deeper and more frequent breaths, can protect the body from future episodes of hypoxia. But, as the results showed, only young male rats had a hyped-up protective response. "The older male rats didn't respond in the same way," says Behan. "Their neuronal activity was the same as before hypoxia."

Zabka and Behan, wondering if age would affect the respiratory control of female rats in a similar way, started a new study, the results of which are published in the December issue of the Journal of Applied Physiology. Now, the researchers compared the respiratory long-term facilitation -- plasticity in each rat's neuronal response to episodic hypoxia -- of young female rats to middle-aged ones. Additionally, they monitored LTF in female rats during two stages of their estrus cycle.

"Looking at male and female rats side-by-side, they're totally different," Behan notes. "With aging, the female rats, unlike the males, had an increased response to episodic hypoxia," Zabka adds. In other words, older female rats had an improved protective reaction to oxygen deprivation. Plus, female rats during one stage of their reproductive cycle had an even better response.

This result, says Zabka, suggests that female gender hormones definitely play a role in the female's response to hypoxia. "This raises the possibility that male gender hormones might also be playing a role in the male's response," she adds. Behan says, "When you see a difference between males and females, the first thing you need to consider is hormones."

Hormones, particularly the female gender hormone estrogen, influence serotonin, a chemical in the brain that transmits nerve signals. "We know from the literature," says Behan, "that serotonin levels change during the estrus cycle." When estrogen levels

are higher, so too are serotonin levels.

To confirm this, Zabka and Behan removed the ovaries from rats, thus depleting estrogen levels and mimicking the effects of menopause. When the researchers measured the amount of the chemical found in the region of the brain controlling the tongue, they found less serotonin. Less serotonin, says Zabka, directly impacted how well the rats responded to hypoxia. "We now have data to support that gender hormones influence the neurocontrol of breathing in female rats," Behan adds.

That gender hormones control something as fundamental as breathing is a new idea. "When you think of the benefits of estrogen, you think of protecting the body against osteoporosis, Alzheimer's disease and depression," Zabka explains. "No one thinks of breathing."

But, as the latest research shows, female rats with greater levels of estrogen have better responses to LTF, possibly protecting them against future episodes of hypoxia.

These findings help explain the common human disorder called obstructive sleep apnea. Potentially fatal, this sleeping disorder occurs when air doesn't flow into a person's airway, usually because the tongue or other muscles near the airway relax and block it. Apnea's side effects -- heavy snoring, brief periods of hypoxia (up to 60 per hour) and frequent awakenings -- can lead to high blood pressure, daytime sleepiness, poor concentration and sexual dysfunction.

Epidemiological evidence shows that middle-aged men are more likely than middle-aged women to develop sleep apnea. Such evidence also shows that the incidence in women increases after they reach menopause, a period marked by lower levels of estrogen. Post-menopausal women on hormone replacement therapy, however, are less likely to have sleep apnea.

"The data in humans is very compelling," says Behan. "And the similarities between our findings and the evidence of sleep apnea in humans are striking."

Though the research by Zabka and Behan did not directly investigate obstructive sleep apnea, it does point to gender hormones as a possible cause. "We are investigating the underlying mechanisms of respiratory control," says Zabka, "that will give us better insight into the underlying mechanisms of breathing disorders that have a distinct gender and age pattern."

In a study already underway, Zabka and Behan turn their attention back to male rats to examine the role of testosterone in respiratory control.

Their research is funded by a five-year, $1.25 million grant from the National Institute of Aging, part of the National Institutes of Health.

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CAMPUS OFFERS A STOCKING FULL OF HOLIDAY GIFT IDEAS

MADISON -- The holidays are getting closer while the shopping crowds are growing precariously larger. Why not avoid the mad rush for the mall and do all your shopping on the University of Wisconsin-Madison campus?

Here are more than a dozen gift ideas from UW-Madison that can reduce the stress of holiday shopping. These gifts can be found only on campus. All proceeds benefit academic, social and outreach programs.

CHEESE: Yes, Wisconsin is known for cheese, whether its being eaten or used as an article of clothing, and it seems only natural that the state's largest campus has its fair share. From Babcock Hall Dairy Store and the Food Science Club, choose from an assortment of gift boxes with 20 different types of cheese. Prices range from $12 to $40. Shipping costs $6 to $9. Contact the Babcock Dairy Store, (608) 262-3045, or visit 1605 Linden Drive. If you visit, also grab a handful of four-color notecards featuring Wolfgang Hoffmann's night shots of snowy Allen Centennial Gardens, eight for $4.50. They make great holiday cards.

CALENDARS: The "Memories for a Lifetime 2002" calendar, a 14-by-20-inch wall calendar, features 27 full-color images of beautiful and familiar campus scenes. About 80 percent of the calendar's cost is donated to the Chancellor's Undergraduate Scholarship Fund. This unique partnership between the university and the University Book Store generated almost $60,000 for the fund last year. Cost: $12.95, available at all University Book Store locations. To order, call (800) 957-7052 or visit: http://www.badgerware.com.

MARCH TO THE MUSIC: For the UW Marching Band fan what could be better than the UW Band Store? It carries a wide variety of merchandise, from t-shirts to bumper stickers to buttons, and even CD and cassette recordings of the band in its finest moments. For a complete list of items for sale, visit http://www.wisc.edu/band and click on "band store".

MAPS: Exquisite maps available from the State Cartographer's Office include an extraordinarily detailed 20-by-30-inch campus map compiled from 79 aerial photographs, $14; a 42-by-50-inch map of Wisconsin's land cover compiled from satellite images, depicting 13 different types of terrain, $10; and a cultural map of Wisconsin, the first of its kind produced for any state, $12.95. All maps come rolled in a sturdy tube. Prices listed here do not include shipping and handling charges. To order, call or visit the State Cartographer's Office, 160 Science Hall, (608) 262-3065, or the Wisconsin Geological Survey, 3817 Mineral Point Road, (608) 263-7389. For an online order form, visit: http://www.geography.wisc.edu/sco .

ANIMAL LOVING CARDS: For a minimum $10 donation, the School of Veterinary Medicine will send an attractive, four-color holiday card to the recipient of your choice. The card acknowledges in the recipient's name your contribution to the veterinary school's Companion Animal Fund, which supports health care studies into diseases and afflictions that affect companion animals. To view the card, visit: http://www.vetmed.wisc.edu. For an order form, contact Nancy Nelson, (608) 263-5152; nelsonn@svm.vetmed.wisc.edu. Deadline for ordering: Friday, Dec. 14.

RELAXING RUB DOWN: UW Hospital and Clinic's nationally certified and state of Wisconsin registered massage therapists are available to give your special someone relief from stress and muscle tension that the holidays may bring. Massage therapists offer daytime, evening and Saturday appointments at UW Health Research Park Clinic, 621 Science Drive. One-hour sessions are $55. Gift certificates are available. For more information or to purchase a gift certificate, call (608) 263-7936.

WISCONSIN UNION MEMORABILIA: Wisconsin Union shops including Essentials in Memorial Union and The Corner Store in Union South offer the finest in Terrace-wear, such as hats, shirts, jackets, and fleeces; memorabilia, including pens, notepads, glassware, and miniature Terrace chairs; Badger clothing and novelty items. For more information, contact Stefanie Pedone, (608) 262-1245, stpedone@students.wisc.edu.

BOOKS, BOOKS, BOOKS: The University of Wisconsin Press has many interesting books exploring different aspects and regions of Wisconsin. Find out where to drink your fill with "Wisconsin's Best Breweries and Brewpubs: Searching for the Perfect Pint," by Robert Shepard, assistant professor of life sciences and communication, $24.95. Or learn about the struggles and traditions of Wisconsin's Native Americans in "Indian Nations of Wisconsin: Histories of Endurance and Renewal," by Patty Loew, assistant professor of life sciences and communication and member of the Bad River Ojibwe. Available for $21.95 in paperback and $39.95 in cloth, this text presents compact histories of several of the state's tribes through oral history and Native American perspectives. See and order more titles at http://www.wisc.edu/wisconsinpress, or call the distribution center, 1 (800) 621-2736. Most titles are also available in local bookstores.

UNION MEMBERSHIP: Give a gift that lasts all year or even a lifetime with a Wisconsin Union membership. A gift membership entitles the recipient to Memorial Union Terrace privileges, access to mini courses and Hoofer activities. Members receive Union mailings; can hold events at the Union; receive priority status for Tudor Dinners; and get discounts on retail items, Union guest rooms and Union Theater tickets. Members are also eligible to use the Travel Center, rent outdoor boating and sporting equipment, and use Memorial Union and Union South games rooms. Cost: Lifetime memberships are $220, or $55 for graduating seniors, and annual memberships are $50. Annual membership fees accumulate toward a lifetime membership and revenues generated from membership sales support the work and programs of the Wisconsin Union.

UW SWAP SHOP: On a tight budget? The UW SWAP Shop has a smorgasbord of surplus merchandise from various campus departments, including computers and accessories, audio and video equipment, home furnishings, appliances, and office furniture and supplies. The shop even has laboratory supplies. And, for that person who never seems to get the right gift, SWAP has very unique items in stock, including a one-way window and a stainless steel cage. For a complete list of inventory, visit: http://www.bussvc.wisc.edu/swap or stop by Fridays at 2102 Wright St., 8 a.m.-2 p.m. (except this Friday, Nov. 23).

CONTINUING EDUCATION: Give a gift of class. UW-Madison's Division of Continuing Studies offers hundreds of personal and professional courses, including foreign languages, music, dance, history, writing, photography, business, engineering, nursing, library science, education, human services and many more. To view a list of continuing education classes that begin in January, visit: http://www.dcs.wisc.edu/classes/index.html or call (608) 262-3265 to receive a free catalog in the mail. You may also purchase a course by credit card; call (608) 262-2451. Course prices vary.

VARSITY SPORTS TICKETS: Catch a wrestling match at the UW Field House, or watch the women spikers dominate their next opponent. General admission tickets for varsity sports events, which include volleyball, wrestling, track and soccer, are available on for individual events or in Badger Bundle Ticket Books, which contain 15 tickets valid for single admission to any 2001-02 season varsity sports event. The bundles save you 30 percent on regular ticket prices. Cost: For adults, game tickets are $5 each and bundles are $50. For students, youths under 17 and senior citizens, game tickets are $2 and bundles are $20. Contact the ticket office, (608) 262-1440 or 1 (800) GO-BADGERS, or visit in person at Gate B of the Kohl Center, 601 W. Dayton St. For more ticket information, visit: http://www.uwbadgers.com.

MUGS: Pour that steaming holiday wassail into a School of Human Ecology mug, white with the blue/green school logo. Mugs cost $10 plus shipping ($3 for one to three mugs, $4 for four to eight; call for orders of eight or more). Contact: Julie Anderson, (608) 262-4847, School of Human Ecology, UW-Madison, 1300 Linden Drive, Madison, WI 53706.

Finally, if you don't want to fight any crowds at all, shop online at the new Alumni Store. Order Wisconsin memorabilia including books by UW faculty, Badger CDs, Wisconsin Union merchandise and commemorative chairs and lamps. Wisconsin Alumni Association members get additional savings on a variety of products. Proceeds support student scholarships, career resources, educational travel and lifelong learning through the Wisconsin Alumni Association. Visit: http://uwalumni.com/store.

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CONTACT: Richard Dubielzig, (608) 263-9805, dubielzr@svm.vetmed.wisc.edu

# THE EYES HAVE IT: COLLECTION PROVIDES INSIGHT ABOUT DISEASE

MADISON -- Richard Dubielzig has a collection of eyeballs. They're not exactly peering out at him from shelves, though.

Dubielzig, a veterinary pathologist at the School of Veterinary Medicine, does his own peering at the Comparative Ocular Pathology Laboratory of Wisconsin. Dubielzig founded the lab, which currently has more than 7,000 slide-mounted eyeball specimens, making it one of the largest such collections in the world.

Through his comparative pathology service, Dubielzig is able to provide accurate and timely diagnosis of even the most obscure eye problems for veterinary ophthalmologists. Best of all, the service is non-invasive.

"Instead of developing an animal model and creating disease to study it, my work uses medical specimens that are available through routine medical procedures such as autopsy or biopsy," he says. "By examining these specimens, we develop a better understanding of spontaneous disease."

Eyeballs arrive from all around the world, primarily from veterinary ophthalmologists seeking pathology information. Dubielzig examines the eyes for evidence and reports back to the submitting veterinary ophthalmologist.

The majority of cases involve tumors, severe inflammatory disease, glaucoma, or trauma. Dubielzig says the sheer quantity of eyeballs in all stages of disease coming through the lab enables him to determine the origin of certain types of problems. For example, he was the first to recognize that trauma to a cat's eye increased the risk of the cat developing a malignant tumor anywhere from one to 10 years following the trauma.

Most eyeballs are from dogs and cats. They are shipped in a formalin solution, in watertight plastic jars. Sometimes only a portion of an eye is sent. Upon arrival, the eyeballs are preserved in a paraffin (wax) solution. Technicians then slice thin sections off the eyeball, mount the section on a slide, and dye the slide for better visibility.

"I'd like to see more congenital eye disorders, but veterinarians usually don't think to send them in," Dubielzig says.

In addition to the pathology collection, Dubielzig also oversees an "Eye Museum" of specimens of normal eyes from all species. These specimens are donated by organizations such as Sea World or zoos.
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## UW VETERINARIAN AIDS ANOTHER WHALE RESCUE ATTEMPT

MADISON -- David Brunson, veterinary anesthesiologist at the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine, returned to the Atlantic Ocean July 8 for a second attempt at sedating a 45-ton, 45-foot long northern right whale to free it from its entanglement with a rope that has injured it.

A whale rescue group, the Center for Coastal Studies, wants to remove the rope from this endangered species of whale because it is causing an infection. Only about 300 northern Atlantic right whales remain in the world.

"No one has ever tried to immobilize or sedated an animal of this size, or one swimming in an ocean," says Brunson, the only veterinary anesthesiologist in the group.

As an expert in anesthetizing these huge creatures, Brunson explains there is a fine line between adequately sedating a voluntary breather like a whale and giving it too much sedative, which would cause it to drown.

The first sedation attempt June 26 was not enough to allow rescuers to completely remove the rope. The sedative was administered through a "whale-sized" syringe with a foot-long needle capable of penetrating the whale's thick blubber and delivering the sedative into its muscle tissue. The group has decided to make a second rescue attempt, this time using both a sedative and an analgesic.

Brunson became involved with the whale rescue group more than a year ago when the group sought out his opinion on whale sedation. His extensive experience with zoo animals and wildlife, including work done in Alaska to develop safer anesthetics for walruses, caught the group's attention.
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**
**April 25, 2000**

## VETERINARY PROGRAM READIES ABANDONED PETS FOR HOMES

MADISON -- Thursday mornings are more harried than most at the east wing of the university's Veterinary Medicine building. It's pick-up and drop-off day for the school's cooperative clinic with humane shelters, and new arrivals tend to generate a buzz.

This morning, the animals of the hour are four cats from the Jefferson County Humane Society, including Georgia, Sugar, Abbey and an unnamed stray. Sugar, a young tabby, was picked up by Whitewater police earlier that week.

"She's a juvey," one student joked.

As the animals settle into kennels, students talk to them, calm them and learn their personality quirks. By the time the animals leave, they will have a clean bill of health and a vastly better chance at adoption.

The most important procedure will be having the pets spayed or neutered, which is a requirement for any pets that are adopted from Wisconsin humane societies.

This program began in 1992 under the guidance of former professor Eberhard Rosin, who was committed to finding an ethical and socially beneficial way to train students in core issues in veterinary care. Rosin, who died earlier this year, worked with humane societies across southern Wisconsin and with state veterinarians to establish the program.

The school now has contracts with seven humane societies, including Dane, Washington, Columbia, Jefferson and Rock counties, and shelters in Watertown and Beaver Dam.

Along with giving third- and fourth-year students essential training, the program has had some unexpected benefits. Many of the pets, for example, are adopted before they even make the trip back to the shelters.

Joanne Reuter, a third-year veterinary medicine student from rural Madison, adopted a 3-year-old dalmation named Sadie in October. Sadie was the first pet Reuter had spayed. She and her husband already have two dogs, but living on an 85-acre farm gives them some flexibility.

"That's why my husband had a hard time saying no," she says.

"We are very motivated to find these pets homes," Reuter adds. "We show these pets off to other students and friends. We're here because we love animals, and we want to see this have a happy ending."

Ellen DeGrave-Madigan, instructional specialist in the program, says an amazing number of animals -- as many as 40 percent each semester -- get adopted while they're at the school. The clinic may see about 200 shelter animals a year.

The program has become an instrumental part of the curriculum. "It's the whole picture - they take care of these animals for a week, walk them and feed them," she says. "They do heartworm tests, blood work, initial physical exams. We're trying to make it a whole-clinic approach. This is what they will be doing in practice."

Dale Bjorling, professor of veterinary surgery, says the program has been a major plus for the school's educational mission. Spaying and neutering is one of the most common surgeries veterinarians need to perform, and practitioners in the field expect their new hires to know the ropes.

But like any invasive surgery, it's difficult and carries many potential complications. The students work in teams of three - a primary surgeon, and assistant and an anesthesiologist - with a clinical staff member providing oversight. "The desirable thing is we can teach a large number of our students at one time. Our primary concern is for the welfare of the animals. Students show a high level of concern."

One reason adoption rates are so high, Bjorling suspects, is that students develop an emotional bond with the pet.

The procedure is a big milestone in their training. "Students study videotapes on the procedure and they really get into it," he says. "It's their first surgery and it's a major, significant event."

The humane society representatives also speak highly of the program. Colleen Gilbreath and Theresa Grass, representatives of the Washington County and Columbia County humane shelters, say both shelters take in more than 3,000 dogs and cats a year, and only a fraction of them are spayed or neutered. Most people coming in for adoptions want that taken care of in advance because it will require up to $130 in additional costs for the adoption.

Without it, the chances of adoption are slim. Both representatives say their adoption rate is near 80 percent for the animals who come through the program - a much higher percentage than the overall shelter population.

"The pets fare real well; they come back healthy and happy," says Gilbreath. "This program is a godsend. We will do anything to make our pets more adoptable."
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Reply-To: Nick Weaver <releases@news.wisc.edu>
Subject: UW-Madison News Release--Alexander Disease

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<P>
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
01/02/2001
CONTACT: Albee Messing, (608) 263-9191, <a
href="mailto:messing@waisman.wisc.edu">messing@waisman.wisc.edu</a>
<P>
GENETIC BASIS OF ALEXANDER DISEASE DISCOVERED
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MADISON - Scientists have pinpointed the gene responsible for a rare and devastating childhood brain disorder called Alexander disease, solving a 50-year-old mystery regarding its cause.
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Reporting in the Wednesday, Jan. 3, issue of the journal Nature Genetics, a team led by University of Wisconsin-Madison researcher Albee Messing made the discovery after a genetic analysis of 13 cases of the disease. Because of the rarity of the disease, it took nearly two years to assemble enough cases from international sources to complete the study.
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Alexander disease is in a family of disorders called leukodystrophies in which abnormalities arise in the myelin sheath, a protective insulation that covers nerves. It often strikes infants before their first year of age and causes catastrophic damage throughout the nervous system. Most children do not survive past age 6.
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While genetics were always presumed to be the cause, confirming the hunch would have been impossible without an unexpected break several years ago in Messing's lab. Messing and collaborator Michael Brenner of the University of Alabama at Birmingham developed a transgenic mouse that coincidentally exhibited the hallmark traits of Alexander disease, which narrowed the field for finding the responsible gene.
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The Nature Genetics paper confirmed that mutations in a gene called GFAP -- or glial fibrillary acidic protein -- are associated with nearly all cases of Alexander disease. Messing says the mutation triggers production of an abnormal protein, which causes a buildup of fibers that damage the nervous system.
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"Finding this gene would have been a shot in the dark without that initial discovery," says Messing. "GFAP is a very well-known and widely studied protein among neuroscientists, because it's the identifying feature of astrocytes."
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Astrocytes are one of the major cell types in all vertebrate nervous systems that maintain the function of neurons and their myelin sheaths. Scientists already know that GFAP proteins increase when spinal or brain injuries occur, but are not sure why. "This is going to open the door to understanding how astrocytes respond to disease or injury," he says.
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Identifying the genetic cause gives researchers a starting point, but possible treatments are likely well in the future, Messing says. "I think parents who have had children with Alexander disease will be relieved by finally knowing its cause," he says. "It's such a rare disorder that they have felt very isolated, thinking that no one was working to find answers."
<P>
Other disorders that involve "protein aggregation" -- or excess protein buildup that damages nerve function -- include Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease. Messing says scientists do not know whether these aggregations are a byproduct or a cause of the disease, or whether the process can be short-circuited with treatment.
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The research is supported by the National Institutes of Health. Messing is a professor of pathobiological sciences at UW-Madison's School of Veterinary Medicine, and a researcher with the

Waisman Center, which focuses on childhood developmental disorders.
<P>
A number of collaborators in addition to Brenner were important to the project, including: Anne B. Johnson at Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York; Odile Boespflug-Tanguay of the Clermont-Ferrand Medical School in France; Diana Rodriguez of St. Vincent de Paul Hospital in Paris; and James Goldman of Columbia University.
# # #
-- Brian Mattmiller, (608) 262-9772; <a href="mailto:bsmattmi@facstaff.wisc.edu">bsmattmi@facstaff.wisc.edu</a>



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Vet School

University Communications

# News Releases

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN MADISON



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**
**September 7, 1999**
**CONTACT:** Tom Sinclair, (608) 263-5599

## SYMPOSIUM SPOTLIGHTS ECOLOGICAL DISASTER, RECOVERY

MADISON -- One of this nation's biggest environmental mishaps will be the subject of the keynote address at the University of Wisconsin-Madison Ecology Groups's Fifth Annual Ecology Symposium, to be held Sept. 16-17 in the auditorium of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 816 State St.

John Wiens, a leading landscape ecologist and Colorado State University professor, will open the symposium with a lecture on "Science Versus Advocacy: the Lessons of the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill," at 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 16.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the supertanker disaster in Alaska's Prince William Sound. Wiens will review the extent of ecological recovery and consider how scientists and environmental advocates measure an accident's impact and recovery.

The symposium resumes at 1 p.m. Friday, Sept. 17, with briefings on a variety of current ecological and sociological studies by UW-Madison professors including John Andrews (plant pathology), David Mladenoff (forest ecology and management), Peter Nowak (rural sociology) and Donald Waller, (botany). Two other professors, Anthony Ives (zoology) and James Kitchell (limnology), will make opening and closing remarks.

Wiens will give a second, concluding lecture, "Heterogeneity and Scaling in Ecological Landscapes: The Proper Focus for Global Change Research?," at approximately 3:40 p.m. Friday. A reception will follow.

All of the free presentations are open to the public.

The symposium is organized by the UW-Madison Ecology Group, which draws faculty and academic staff members from throughout the campus, and is sponsored by the University Lectures Committee, Institute for Environmental Studies, School of Veterinary Medicine, Center for Limnology, and the Departments of Rural Sociology, Soil Science, Wildlife Ecology, and Zoology at UW-Madison.

For more information about the symposium or the UW-Madison Ecology Group, contact the symposium coordinator Imge Erguvanli by e-mail: ilerguva@students.wisc.edu; call Tom S

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Version for printing

**Retrieve release by month:**

Vet med

1•8•4•8 NEWS

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–MADISON

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28 Bascom Hall • 500 Lincoln Drive
Madison, Wisconsin 53706-1380

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 8/12/99

**CONTACT: Peyton Smith, (608) 265-3044**

**UW TO GIVE GLIMPSE INSIDE CAMPUS FACILITIES**

MADISON – Community residents can visit many famous and obscure corners of the University of Wisconsin-Madison as the campus opens its doors to the community Sunday, Aug. 22.

A number of open houses will be held during UW-Madison's Sesquicentennial Summer Celebration. Here's a rundown of events, all scheduled Sunday, Aug. 22:

-- Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital: Discover new technologies and an array of veterinary services available to all species of animals during a guided tour departing from the entrance to the Small Animal Teaching Hospital, 2015 Linden Drive West, 10 a.m.- 2 p.m.

-- Botanical Garden and Greenhouse: View the garden and greenhouse. The garden, on one-fifth of an acre, showcases 386 different species from 68 families of flowering plants. The eight-room greenhouse contains more than 1,000 species comprising aquatic, desert and tropical plant communities. The garden is located behind Birge Hall, 430 Lincoln Drive, along University Avenue, 10 a.m.- 2 p.m.

-- Carillon: Climb the steep stairs of this 85-foot tower to view the third-floor playing area, or climb even higher to the 56-bell camber with its arched openings. 1160 Observatory Drive, 1-5 p.m., with 10-minute concerts by carillonneur Lyle Anderson on the hour and half-hour.

-- D.C. Smith Greenhouses: Look to the future of instructional greenhouses and pick out a free sesquicentennial souvenir plant. Visitors will be able to pick up a free potted birch tree, rhododendron or blueberry plant

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(while supplies last). 465 Babcock Drive, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

-- Dairy Barn: Built in 1898, the barn features one of the best and oldest examples of a round silo. Here in 1907, UW researchers began a series of cattle-feeding experiments that led to the discovery of vitamins in 1913. The barn is still used for research on nutrition and physiology. 1915 Linden Drive, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

-- Geology Museum: Browse a comprehensive collection of minerals, rocks and fossils, then walk through a model of a Wisconsin limestone cave. The museum also includes the skeletons of a 10,000-year-old Wisconsin mastodon, a 65-million-year-old duck-billed dinosaur and a saber-tooth cat. A120 Weeks Hall, 1215 W. Dayton St., 1-5 p.m.

-- Historic Red Gym: Get an inside look at the $13 million restoration of one of three National Historic Landmark buildings on the UW-Madison campus. Built in 1893, the Red Gym recently re-opened as the "front door" to the university. 716 Langdon St., 30-minute building tours, 1, 2 and 3 p.m.

-- Memorial Library: Enjoy performances featuring local poets, writers and book club members reading favorite passages, and listen to local musicians. Half-hour tours feature an exhibit on the history of the libraries, the Silver Buckle Press, Special Collections Room and a first-hand look at the electronic resources available in the library. Cookies and iced tea will be served while supplies last. 728 State St. (main entrance across from the University Book Store), 2-4 p.m.

-- Morgridge Center: Check out a resource library for volunteer and service-learning opportunities for the university community. Red Gym, 716 Langdon St., 2-5 p.m.

-- Slichter Hall: Walk hallways reflecting the yesteryear of campus residence life. Visitors can relive the fun of college days gone by, and visit a room of today complete with the newest technology. Tour guides will be

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available to answer questions. 625 Babcock Drive, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

-- Steenbock Library: See the original ultraviolet light lamp used by biochemist Harry Steenbock during his work on Vitamin D in the 1920s. His discovery helped erase rickets from the list of common childhood diseases. Historical items from UW-Madison Archives also will be displayed. The General Library System is celebrating 150 years of acquiring, preserving and providing access to information resources across the generations of Wisconsin citizens and the university community. 550 Babcock Drive, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

-- University Club: Enjoy the magnificent ambiance of the unique and historic University Club. Tours will be offered throughout the afternoon and an African storytelling program by professor Harold Scheub will be presented at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Food and beverages will be available for purchase from noon-5 p.m. 803 State St., noon-5 p.m.

-- Allen Centennial Gardens and E.B. Fred House: Walk through 2.5 acres featuring more than two dozen distinctive and beautiful gardens that collectively serve as an outdoor laboratory for UW-Madison horticulture students and a resource for gardening enthusiasts. Then step inside the magnificent century-old Victorian home on the grounds, once the residence of the deans of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences. Beverage stand located in the gardens. 620 Babcock Drive, 10 a.m.- 2 p.m.

-- Wisconsin Alumni Association: Get a Bucky Badger tattoo and more at Below Alumni Center on the shore of Lake Mendota, home to one of the largest alumni associations in the world. 650 N. Lake St., 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

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1•8•4•8 NEWS

Vet med

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–MADISON

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**CONTACT: Thomas Zinnen, (608) 265-2420; toll-free, 1-877-BIOTREK**

## SCIENCE EVENTS AUG. 22 EXPLORE UW-MADISON'S WILD SIDE

MADISON — It's not every day someone can journey through the human eye, pluck some gooey DNA from a test tube, plant a garden in a 35mm film can, or search for critters in a scoop of Lake Mendota muck – all in one leisurely trek through campus.

But for one day on Aug. 22, the University of Wisconsin-Madison will be pulling out all the stops with more than a dozen events showcasing the sights, sounds and sensations of university science.

"This campus is a great place for people of all ages to come to explore and develop their science savvy," says Tom Zinnen, a biotechnology outreach specialist with UW-Madison Extension. "We're delighted to offer this opportunity for parents and grandparents to share the excitement of science with their children."

Part of the Aug. 21-22 Sesquicentennial Weekend, all of the events are free and family-oriented. Virtually the entire campus will open its doors with tours, concerts, special events and freebies. Parking in university lots will be free all Sunday, and buses will shuttle visitors between the major event sites along special routes. Information booths will have complete schedules and they are available at many locations in the Madison area.

More than just a good time, the events will show off some of the leading-edge research from campus labs. Visitors can indulge their sense of adventure with the following:

• **A Journey Inside the Eye**: Learn more about eye research from the UW Medical School's department of ophthalmology and visual sciences. Stop by to have a color photograph taken of your retina, and *really* look into your own eyes. Tent area off University Bay Drive behind the UW Hospital and Clinics, 9 a.m.-noon.

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• **Concrete Canoes, Steel Bridges and Future Cars:** See a concrete canoe and steel bridge, both recent winners of 1999 regional student competitions, and find out how they fared in the national competition. And get a look at UW-Madison's national champion FutureCar, a hybrid electric vehicle that gets more than 70 miles per gallon. Library Mall, noon-5 p.m.

• **Freshwater Research -- Discover the Science of Limnology**: The study of inland lakes, or limnology, began right here at UW-Madison. Use some of the cool tools of the trade to explore the teeming world beneath the surface of Lake Mendota. Alumni Pier behind the Memorial Union Terrace on Lake Mendota, 1-5 p.m.

• **Behind the Scenes at the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital:** Tour the school's teaching hospital, discover exciting new technologies and see veterinary services for all species of animals, from labradors to lizards. Participants will be able to hear a dog's heart beat, make get-well cards for pets in the school's critical care unit and learn from veterinary students how to bandage a pretend fracture. Entrance to the Small Animal Teaching Hospital, 2015 Linden Drive West, 10 a.m.- 2 p.m.

• **Med Flight Tours:** Tour the hospital's critical care helicopter and learn about the advanced technology that speeds emergency care to accident victims and critically ill patients. Talk to pilots and medical staff about the special training behind their life-saving work. Tent area off University Bay Drive behind hospital, 9 a.m.-noon.

• **Carillon Tour**: Ever wondered what it would be like to be in the carillon bell tower during a concert? Today is your day. Climb the stairs of this 85-foot tower to see the 56-bell camber with its arched openings. Ten-minute concerts are planned on the hour and half-hour, 1160 Observatory Drive, 1-5 p.m.

• **The Wonders of Physics**: This program is designed to spark interest in physics for people of all ages and backgrounds. The 16-year-old program, run by physics professor Clint Sprott, features wild and flashy technology such as a million-volt Tesla coil, a powerful laser and a bowling-ball pendulum. Great Hall, Memorial Union, 800 Langdon St., 3-4 p.m.

• **From Cows to Wows! A Menu of Discovery**: Explore an agricultural and

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life sciences fair throughout the central campus from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. At the Stock Pavilion, check out research displays, pet a calf, get free Babcock Hall ice cream and enjoy a picnic lunch.

• **Dairy Barn**: 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., 1915 Linden Drive. Peer inside the 101-year-old UW Dairy Barn, featuring one of the world's oldest round silos. Here in 1907, scientists started research that led to the discovery of vitamins. 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., 1915 Linden Drive.

• **Science House**: Learn how to grow Wisconsin Fast Plants, miniature cabbages that complete their life cycle in roughly a month. And make your own miniature gardens of mosses and ferns using 35mm film canisters. 1645 Linden Drive, 10 a.m.- 2 p.m.

• **Cows, Wow! And How?** Check out displays on genomics and try your hand at extracting DNA from plants. The first 500 participants receive a free DNA sample. Genetics/Biotechnology Building, 425 Henry Mall, 10 a.m.- 2 p.m.

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— Brian Mattmiller, (608) 262-9772

Vet Med

# *News and Features*

**Agricultural and Consumer Press Service**
440 Henry Mall
Madison WI 53706 (608) 262-1461

College of Agricultural and Life Sciences
University of Wisconsin-Madison

rec. May 24, 1999

For Immediate Release
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## UW-MADISON'S BABCOCK INSTITUTE WINS EXPORT ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The Babcock Institute for International Dairy Research and Development received a 1999 Governor's Export Achievement Award at the 35th annual Wisconsin International Trade Conference May 12 in Milwaukee.

The Babcock Institute builds ties between the Wisconsin dairy industry and worldwide dairy industries through education and training programs, world market and trade analysis, and research collaboration and scientific partnerships that are mutually beneficial. It works to help the state dairy industry to improve the world market share of Wisconsin products.

It also assists international dairy producers with technical assistance to improve the market share for Wisconsin dairy inputs such as bull semen, embryos, live animals, dairy equipment, veterinary expertise, and dairy business consulting services. Dairy leaders from more than 80 countries have used its educational materials and services. The institute produces a series of Technical Dairy Guides that are published in six languages, and has developed short courses for producers in Asia, Latin America and the former Soviet Union.

The institute's award was one of 10 Export Achievement Awards given by Governor Thompson at the conference, held at the Pfister Hotel. Co-director Michel Wattiaux accepted the award on behalf of the institute.

In June, the institute will sponsor a trip to China by UW-Madison faculty to initiate long-term cooperation between the University and China in developing China's beef and dairy industries. The Babcock Institute is a unit of UW-Madison's College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, the UW School of Veterinary Medicine, and UW-Extension. The institute is on the Web at **http://babcock.cals.wisc.edu**

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rjc babcock export award 5/99

SIDEBAR TO UW-MADISON'S BABCOCK INSTITUTE WINS EXPORT ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

## BABCOCK DISCUSSION PAPERS ANALYZE EXPORT MARKETS

The Babcock Institute publishes a series of Discussion Papers by University of Wisconsin faculty and staff that may be useful for U.S. dairy firms involved with the export market. Recent papers include:

"The Evolution and Strategies of MD Foods of Denmark and the Danish Dairy Board – Implications for the U.S. and World Dairy Industries" by economist Bill Dobson, director of the Renk Agribusiness Institute and co-director of the Babcock Institute. The paper discusses the evolution and strategies of MD foods of Denmark and the Danish Dairy Board, and reviews a number of implications for U.S. dairy exporters.

"Characteristics of Canadian and Mexican Dairy Product Purchases: A Comparison Using Household Expenditure Data" by Brian Gould, senior scientist at the UW-Madison Center for Dairy Research, and Jongsoog Kim, graduate research assistant in consumer science. The paper compares the structure of dairy product demand in two of the more important U.S. dairy export markets. The authors use household survey data from both countries to determine how factors such as household income, age of household members, and education of meal planners affect the demand for dairy products.

"The Structure of Meat, Poultry and Dairy Product Demand in the Former Soviet Union" by Brian Gould, senior scientist at the UW-Madison Center for Dairy Research, and Jongsoog Kim, graduate research assistant in consumer science. Household survey data collected in 1996 are used to identify determinants of dairy product, meat and poultry consumption.

For more information on these and other discussion papers, please contact progam manager Karen Nielsen at (608) 265-4169, **nielsen@calshp.cals.wisc.edu**

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rjc Babcock export analysis sidebar 5/99

Vet School

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 2/8/99

UW-MADISON NEWS BRIEFS FOR THE WEEK OF FEB. 8, 1999
--'Feed Bag' deli to open in the vet school
-- Speaker change announced for Roundtable program
-- 'Future of journalism' conference lineup changes
-- Nobel prize winner to present neuroscience anniversary lecture

## 'FEED BAG' DELI TO OPEN IN THE VET SCHOOL

People on the west end of campus will finally get what they have been craving for some time: a deli of their own. This Friday, Feb. 12, Wisconsin Union food services will celebrate the grand opening of the Feed Bag, located on the second floor of the Veterinary Medicine Building, 2015 Linden Drive.

The Feed Bag will sell gourmet coffee, fresh bakery goods, sandwiches, salads, desserts, snacks and drinks. Hot entrees are available from 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Limited space precludes on-site seating, so the new deli will operate strictly as a "grab and go" enterprise.

As the only eatery on campus from the old UW hospital to the new UW Hospital, the Feed Bag expects to serve students, faculty and staff from the Biotron, the ag school, the greenhouses, the WARF Building and the Natatorium, right across Parking Lot 69.

"People have really been starved on this end of campus for a close place to get some good food," says Pete Behrendt, manager of the union deli division, which operates five other campus delis.

## SPEAKER CHANGE ANNOUNCED FOR ROUNDTABLE PROGRAM

Mark Bugher, secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Administration, will be the featured speaker at the University Roundtable luncheon program, "The University of Wisconsin and the Biennial Budget," scheduled Tuesday, Feb. 23.

Wisconsin Gov. Tommy Thompson had been scheduled to speak, but will be out of town at that time. Roundtable reservations should be sent to Heather Rhodes, 418 Memorial Union, or made via e-mail: roundtable@macc.wisc.edu. Cost: $8. Reservations must be received by 4 p.m. the Thursday before each presentation. All lunches are from 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m.

## 'FUTURE OF JOURNALISM' CONFERENCE LINEUP CHANGES

Rem Rieder, editor of American Journalism Review, will deliver opening and closing remarks at UW-Madison's "Future of Journalism" symposium this Thursday, Feb. 11.

Rieder replaces CNN political correspondent Jeff Greenfield, who will be kept in Washington, D.C. by developments in the impeachment trial of President Clinton. Other national, state and local media professionals also

will converge at UW-Madison for a symposium on future issues in journalism, from "new media" skills to ethical decision-making.

The symposium, scheduled from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Wisconsin Union Theater, will feature two panel discussions, as well as opening and closing remarks by The free event is open to the public.

The morning panel will run from 10:30 a.m. to noon. Titled "New Messengers, New Messages," the panel will focus on the skills and attributes that will be essential to the success of today's journalism students.

The afternoon panel, called "The Dot.Com Generation," will run from 1-2:30 p.m. and explore the growing potential of online reporting, which includes multi-media news services and "webcasting" radio stations.

The symposium is part of a week-long series of events that recognize UW-Madison's 150th anniversary by focusing on the future of a variety of pursuits, including computing, popular culture and the Wisconsin Idea.

For more information on the event, contact Brian Mattmiller in the UW-Madison Office of News and Public Affairs, (608) 262-9772.

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NOBEL PRIZE WINNER TO PRESENT NEUROSCIENCE ANNIVERSARY LECTURE

A Nobel Prize winner whose work dramatically changed our understanding of how the brain creates our visual world will present a free public lecture Feb. 15 as the first in a series of events celebrating 25 years of neuroscience training on campus.

Nobel Laureate Torsten Wiesel, emeritus president of The Rockefeller University, will speak on Monday, Feb. 15, at 4 p.m. in room 1111 of the Genetics/Biotechnology Center, 425 Henry Mall. His lecture will explore the neural architecture of vision, from retina to cortex.

"We are extremely pleased that one of the most eminent figures in neuroscience in this century can be with us as we mark the 25th anniversary of the Neuroscience Training Program, which has produced some of the finest neuroscientists in the country," says UW Medical School professor of ophthalmology and visual sciences Ronald Kalil, chair of the Neuroscience Training Program and director of the Center for Neuroscience.

Wiesel shared the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1981 with David Hubel and Roger Sperry. Hubel and Wiesel's pioneering studies were the first to show how visual information collected by the retina is processed in the brain. Among many landmark discoveries, Hubel and Wiesel's work demonstrated that infants must experience normal visual stimulation during an important "critical period" in early childhood in order to develop normal vision as adults.

The Neuroscience Training Program educates students from around the world. Today, more than 70 faculty are members of the program.
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Jan. 8, 1999

Vet med

TO: Editors, news directors
FROM: Brian Mattmiller, (608) 262-9772
RE: Winter weather experts

Now that winter has arrived with a vengeance, the following University of Wisconsin-Madison experts may be useful in sorting through the science and public health questions of the season:

* Jonathan Martin, a professor of atmospheric sciences, is an expert on some of the worst things winter can dish out, such as blizzards and cold-air outbreaks. This year, long-term forecasters are predicting slightly below-average temperatures through February. While many people are chalking that up to La Nina -- the colder-air phenomenon in the Pacific Ocean that follows an El Nino season -- Martin says that La Ninas are typically not a strong indicator of colder winters.
Martin can be reached at (608) 262-9845; or jon@meteor.wisc.edu

* Thomas Achtor, a senior research program manager with the Space Science and Engineering Center, can discuss some of the dramatic improvements made recently in long-term forecasting. Achtor is the science director of the Cooperative Institute for Meteorological Satellite Studies (CIMSS), a research group that helps the nation improve weather forecasts and warnings to the public. As evidenced by the blizzard of 1999, which was forewarned up to a week in advance, Achtor says new satellite programs are giving better advance notice of weather trends. Weekly forecasts used to be a 50-50 proposition only a few years ago, but can now predict cold snaps, major storms and other general trends with better certainty.
Achtor can be reached at (608) 263-4206; or thomas.achtor@ ssec.wisc.edu

* How cold is too cold for Fido? Dawn McCluskey, community practice veterinarian for the UW-Madison Veterinary Hospital, says people need to protect their pets whenever they are exposed to below-freezing conditions. Most important are access to a well-insulated and wind-breaking shelter, a water supply and some foot protection. Many people equate a dog's heavy fur and foot pads with resilience to severe cold, but McCluskey says that's not the case. The UW-Madison hospital sees many cases each winter of hypothermic shock and frostbite in pets over-exposed to severe cold.
McCluskey can be reached at (608) 263-7600.

Vet med

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 12/9/98
CONTACT: Gregory MacEwen, (608) 263-9815

# GIFTS BOOST CANCER PROGRAM IN VETERINARY MEDICINE

MADISON -- The cancer treatment program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison's School of Veterinary Medicine, which has become one of the nation's largest, is looking for room to grow.

School officials have created a $250,000 campaign to create a new Cancer Recovery Ward to accommodate the huge increase in pets being treated and to provide more modern facilities. It also just completed a $500,000 project to install a new computerized tomography (CT) scanner, which provides researchers with an extremely precise diagnostic tool.

"Our program has really grown in recent years, and there's no sign it's going to slow down," says Gregory MacEwen, an oncologist with the school. In recent years, the program has treated between 2,500 and 3,000 pets each year that are referred from across the country.

Veterinary oncology was a small and relatively unknown field only a few decades ago, but treatments have become much more promising in recent years, MacEwen says. Treatments have almost cured early-stage melanoma in pets, he says, and have an 80 percent success rate in treating soft-tissue sarcomas. With new drugs to treat bone cancer and lymphoma, doctors can typically add 12 to 18 months to the life of a family pet.

As a result, veterinarians in the field are now more likely to refer animal cancer cases to schools with oncology programs. Although the treatments are expensive, averaging $1,500 per client, more pet owners are willing to take the extra step.

In addition to helping animals, veterinary cancer programs can advance knowledge on human cancer as well. "Occasionally we can move ahead with some experimental treatments and provide some pre-clinical data for human cancer trials," he says.

The Cancer Recovery Ward will provide a separate and more comfortable environment for the animals, which are often hospitalized for three to four weeks and are recovering from major surgeries or are receiving chemotherapy.

The CT scanner will be a major boon to the cancer research program, MacEwen says, because it can be used to precisely monitor the response of tumors to therapy. It is also an essential tool for diagnosis and planning of radiation treatments.

The school has received a timely boost in private gifts to help these developments along, according to Nancy Nelson, director of development for the school. The Jaqua Foundation, a New Jersey-based animal protection organization, donated $50,000 this fall to start fund-raising efforts for the new recovery ward.

Private donors gave a total of $90,000 to support the CT scanner purchase. In addition, the UW-Madison chancellor's office and the UW Foundation funded the remainder of the $500,000 renovation project.
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--Brian Mattmiller (608) 262-9772

Vet Med

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 12/7/98

TEN ONE-OF-A-KIND HOLIDAY GIFTS FROM UW-MADISON

MADISON - Fearful of the mall this holiday season? Weary from trekking across acres of parking lot? Having a hard time running that elusive, all-important gift to earth?

Come down to campus and relax. Here, in no particular order, are 10 gift ideas from UW-Madison that can make holiday shopping easier and less aggravating. All are unique to the University and sales benefit campus academic, outreach and social programs.

* A night in the Memorial Union: For as little as $51 a night, you can reserve a room with a view of Lake Mendota and the Union Terrace. The Union has half-a-dozen guest rooms ranging in price from $51 to $68, all with lake views. (Prices are a bit higher for non-members.) Make your reservations early. Rooms are hard or impossible to come by on football weekends and during commencement. To book a room, call (608) 265-3000.

* A cast replica of a T. rex tooth: Take home a pointed reminder of the top carnosaur of the Cretaceous. A plaster cast that is an exact copy of a 6-inch T. rex tooth unearthed during a UW-Madison Geology Museum expedition to the badlands of eastern Montana. Cost: A bargain at $12. Available only at the UW-Madison Geology Museum, Room A120 Weeks Hall, 1215 W. Dayton St.

* Landscape Plants of the Upper Midwest on CD ROM: Plan your landscaping with this CD from the UW-Madison department of horticulture. Features 1,800 quality color photographs of more than 600 species of plants displaying flowers, fruit, fall color and other ornamental features. Cost: $20.95. Call Karen Denk at (608) 262-1490 to reserve a copy for the gardener in the family. Or mail a check or money order, payable to the Department of Horticulture, to 1575 Linden Drive, Madison, WI 53706.

* John Steuart Curry Exhibit Catalog: The Elvehjem Museum's 1998 exhibit of the work of UW-Madison's first artist in residence is cataloged. Available in softcover for $32 from the Elvehjem's Museum Shop, in the museum at 800 University Ave.

* Say it with cheese: What better way to show affection or perpetuate a stereotype than by a gift of cheese? From Babcock Hall and the Food Science Club, choose from an assortment of gift boxes with more species of cheese than you can shake a sausage at. Prices range from $11 to $40. Available at the Babcock Dairy Store, 1605 Linden Drive, or by calling (608) 262-3045.

* Concert tickets: The UW-Madison 150th Anniversary Concert, Feb. 7, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., will be a feast of music featuring the School of Music's symphony orchestra, jazz ensemble, choral union, concert choir and UW-Madison marching band. Cost: Adults $5, students $3, age 12 and under $2. Tickets go on sale Wednesday (Dec. 9) at the Kohl Center and all Ticket Master locations. Proceeds benefit the UW-Madison Sesquicentennial Undergraduate Scholarship Fund.

* Nostalgia: Available vicariously through a set of 12 note cards featuring

the art deco prints of artist Charles R. Overman. The artwork, used in the 1932 Badger Yearbook, features scenes from University of Wisconsin campus life of 65 years ago. Available at University Bookstore. Cost: $29.95. Proceeds benefit the Wisconsin Alumni Association and are used in support of UW-Madison sesquicentennial activities.

* Millions of books: For the book lover, a membership in the Friends of the Libraries is a way to support the continuing excellence of a great research library system. Benefits include Friends lectures, Friends magazine, invitations to special library events and a membership card that allows access and borrowing privileges. Cost: $15 for students, $25 for individual memberships and $30 for families. For membership details, call (608) 262-2566, or stop in Room 976 of the Memorial Library, 728 State St.

* The gift of research: For a few dollars, you can support research into the diseases and afflictions faced by our companion animals, also known as pets. For a donation of $5 per card, the UW-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine Companion Animal Fund will hand sign and mail a card in your name to the animal lover on your list. Hurry, the deadline for ordering cards is Dec. 14. Send a list of intended card recipients along with their complete addresses, and an indication of how you wish the cards to be signed to: Companion Animal Fund, 2015 Linden Drive West, Madison, WI 53706. Checks should be made payable to the UW Foundation.

* For the weather weenie in your life: You'll never have to go to the trouble of hoisting the old weather balloon again if you're packing the AERI, the Atmospheric Emitted Radiance Interferometer. Made only at UW-Madison's Space Science and Engineering Center, the AERI is a portable, computer-sized device that can provide a handy profile of atmospheric temperature, trace gases such as ozone and carbon dioxide, and water vapor. Perfect for airport managers and professional weather forecasters. Cost: $250,000. Scientist not included.

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Vet med

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 9/23/98
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FINAL FALL ENROLLMENT EXCEEDS 40,000

MADISON - There are 40,109 students attending the University of Wisconsin-Madison this fall, a 0.2 percent decrease from the 40,196 students enrolled in Fall 1997.

The total includes 27,808 undergraduates, a 1 percent increase over last year, and 8,524 graduate students, a 3.3 percent decrease compared to last fall. The undergraduate total includes 5,596 new first-year students.

Among the university's four professional schools, there are 2,069 students: 842 in the Law School, 600 in the Medical School, 321 in the School of Veterinary Medicine and 306 in the School of Pharmacy. There were 1,910 professional students last fall.

Minority students total 3,748, compared to 3,699 minority students enrolled last fall. There are 567 minority students among new first-year undergraduates, an 8.2 percent increase over Fall 1997. Most of the increase is among the university's targeted ethnic groups, which include African-American, Hispanic/Latino, Native American and Southeast Asian students. Together, these new first-year students total 352, an 18.1 percent increase over the Fall 1997 total of 298.

The number of new Native American students increased from 17 last year to 39 this year, while the number of Hispanic/Latino students rose from 128 to 156. Southeast Asian students increased from 34 to 44, while the number of African-American students dropped slightly, from 119 to 113.

International students total 3,349, compared to 3,495 last fall, a 4.2 percent decrease. There are 20,823 female students on campus this fall, 0.9 percent increase over last year, and 19,286 male students, a 1.4 percent decrease from last fall.
###
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Med Vet Med

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# NEWS

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–MADISON

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News & Information Service
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 7/13/93

**CONTACT: Michael Nork, (608) 265-3898; Chris Murphy, (608) 265-2454; John Michael, (608) 263-1480**

**(Note to editors and news directors:** Yoshi's owners are willing to answer reporter inquiries. If you are interested in talking with them, please contact Harvey Black at (608) 262-9772 for assistance in arranging an interview.)

## SURGERY TEAM GIVES DOG NEW SIGHT

MADISON — At the University of Wisconsin-Madison, doctors from the Medical School and from the School of Veterinary Medicine have teamed up to save a dog's eyesight.

Yoshi, a year-old Akita — a Japanese breed of dog — with a detached retina, recently was the focus of an unusual collaboration between ophthalmologists from the Medical School and from the School of Veterinary Medicine. The team of three veterinary ophthalmologists and two physician-ophthalmologists restored Yoshi's vision in his left eye by repairing the retina. Performed at the School of Veterinary Medicine, the operation was the first of its kind done on this campus.

"Whenever we have a dog or other animal with a challenging eye problem we're able to show it to our colleagues at the medical school to get their aid and advice," said Chris Murphy, an assistant professor of surgical science at the School of Veterinary Medicine.

Murphy, who is also an affiliate member of the Medical School's ophthalmology department reattached the retina with the help of two experts from the Medical School — Michael Nork, an assistant professor of ophthalmology, and John Michael, a clinical fellow specializing in retinal surgery to reattach the retina.

Detached retinas are uncommon in dogs, but occur often enough for the School of

-more-

Veterinary Medicine to offer the operation as part of their regular procedures. The problem is fairly uncommon in humans as well. According to Nork, about one in 10,000 individuals per year experiences a detached retina.

Located at the back of the eye, the retina can be thought of an extension of the optic nerve. The retina encodes and processes the signal it receives and transmits it to the brain via the rest of the optic nerve. When the retina becomes detached from its underlying layer of tissue, that smooth process is disrupted.

The procedure used on Yoshi was virtually identical to ones performed on humans by the retinal specialists. Murphy contacted Nork and Michael because of their greater experience in performing this procedure.

Michael said the surgical experience offered him an opportunity to explore the comparative anatomy of the retina by working on another species.

The eye is a conservative structure, explained Murphy, noting that the mammalian eye is quite similar across a wide range of animals, including cats, dogs and cows. So, he explained, there's a lot of room for cooperation among eye specialists in various disciplines. Both Nork and Murphy said one of the reasons they came to the university was this possibility of collaboration.

Nork said working while with animals in a clinical setting has often led to improvements in the care of human patients, this is a case where the animal patient benefited from our experience with the more common human disorder.

As a result of helping repair Yoshi's detached retina, Murphy said the School of Veterinary Medicine is considering buying the equipment needed to perform the surgery. In Yoshi's case, Nork and Michael supplied the necessary equipment.

According to the surgeons, Yoshi's surgery went well, and getting the dog to communicate wasn't as hard as you might think. Even without an eye chart, Yoshi let you know the operation was a success according to James Schoster, an ophthalmologist and clinical assistant professor of surgical science at the School of Veterinary Medicine and Kim Stanz, a resident veterinary ophthalmology, who cared for Yoshi following the operation. With his unaffected eye covered, Yoshi flinched when a hand was waved in front of him, indicating he could see.

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— Harvey Black, (608) 262-9772

Vet Med

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 9/3/98
CONTACT: Gregory MacEwen, (608) 263-9815; Gary Hogge, (608) 263-1143

# GENE THERAPY SHOWING PROMISE IN FIGHTING MELANOMA

MADISON - In treating dogs for a highly aggressive form of melanoma, a University of Wisconsin-Madison research team is having success with a new cancer vaccine that could benefit human cancer-fighting efforts.

Professor Gregory MacEwen and research scientist Gary Hogge, of the UW-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine, have developed a method of gene therapy that helps the animal's immune system recognize and attack cancer cells. In the September issue of the journal Human Gene Therapy, the researchers reported the vaccine helped some animals live longer and shrunk the tumor in about 20 percent of animals treated.

"This is important work with melanoma, because there currently are no other treatment alternatives," said MacEwen. "Melanoma is resistant to chemotherapy drugs, and surgery doesn't always help because melanoma's spread is so aggressive. We're trying to establish this as a standard of care."

The study details the treatment of 16 dogs that had advanced stages of melanoma that could not be successfully treated through surgery or drugs. The cases were referred to the UW-Madison school by veterinarians from around the country.

To develop the vaccine, the researchers began by surgically removing as much of the tumor as possible. They extracted and purified individual cells from the tumor and injected DNA into those cells that accelerated production of chemicals called cytokines. Cytokine molecules stimulate production of certain white blood cells in the body. The altered cells are then injected back into patients in the form of a vaccine.

The vaccine is administered with a "gene gun," a unique tool that helps scientists insert genetic material into cells. With air pressure, the gun can shoot millions of microscopic gold beads coated with DNA into cells, which are then injected back into the patient. In cells that are penetrated by the beads, the new genetic material becomes integrated into the cell and the cytokine is produced.

With this therapy, the animal's immune response is improved by the increase in cytokine production. The cytokines "train" the immune system to recognize and kill tumor cells, Hogge said.

Cancer vaccines and gene therapy, which have become widely studied in the past decade, could provide a new approach to fighting cancer with fewer side effects than chemotherapy or radiation therapy. This study is unique, Hogge said, because the gene therapy can produce a broad range of immune responses against surviving tumor cells in the patient.

"This is a way to trick the immune system and get the body to fight the tumor," Hogge said.

MacEwen said this study closely parallels work in human gene therapy to treat cancer, and provides additional information that benefits those projects. "We try to target a lot of the research we do so it will benefit the development and design of human clinical trials," he said.

Dogs provide a good model for understanding cancer in humans, MacEwen said, because of their large size and biological similarity. The causes and behaviors of cancers in humans and dogs are also very similar.

Melanoma is a common type of oral cancer in dogs. While oral melanoma is rare in humans, there are roughly 35,000 cases of melanoma skin cancer reported in America each year, and it remains one of the deadliest forms of cancer because of its ability to spread rapidly, MacEwen said.

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- Brian Mattmiller, (608) 262-9772

Vet Med Researcher

EMBARGOED FOR RELEASE AUG. 17, 5 P.M. EASTERN TIME
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# NEW EVIDENCE SHOWS HOW SOME FLU VIRUSES BECOME LETHAL

MADISON - Studying a descendant of the 1918 influenza virus that killed at least 20 million people worldwide, University of Wisconsin-Madison virologists discovered a new molecular trick some viruses use to transform from dangerous to deadly.

In research detailed in the Aug. 18 Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, UW-Madison virologists Hideo Goto and Yoshihiro Kawaoka have found a molecular mechanism that allows influenza viruses to cause sweeping damage throughout the body. Influenza infection is normally limited to respiratory systems, but this previously undetected process gives the virus the deadly ability to attack many organs in the body.

"This finding provides an additional marker for scientists to be aware of in their surveys of emerging viruses," said Kawaoka. "This could be another important indicator of whether a virus is dangerous and potentially lethal."

Kawaoka said the extreme virulence of the 1918 influenza virus is a public health mystery. One of the worst infectious disease outbreaks in human history, the 1918 flu killed not only vulnerable populations such as the elderly and young children, but an unusually high number of otherwise healthy young adults.

While this finding offers no definitive explanation for the 1918 virus, Kawaoka said it is a question that warrants further scientific study.

Kawaoka and Goto, researchers in the UW-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine, studied a virus closely related to the 1918 strain which appeared nearly a decade later in humans. The virus is widely studied for its ability to replicate in the brains of mice, but Kawaoka also found it could replicate in a number of different organs.

Their discovery concerns proteins on the virus' surface that allow the virus to attach to target cells. Normally, a viral surface protein called hemagglutinin must be chopped into two parts before the virus can infect a cell. The virus uses an enzyme from the cell it is invading to clip the protein.

The enzyme that acts as a "scissors" is normally localized in respiratory organs, which confines the virus to that part of the body. But in this strain of virus, Goto and Kawaoka found a unique mechanism at work that could lead to more widespread infection.

A different surface protein on the virus, called neuraminidase, binds and traps a common enzyme precursor called plasminogen, and this union created a molecular key that gave the virus access to cells throughout the body, rather than only the respiratory system.

"The importance of this finding is that it's the first example of a virus using a binding protein to its benefit when infecting a host," he said. "Our finding may have much broader implications in the virology field, and will prompt researchers to look for a protein of this kind in other viruses."

Influenza viruses are never the same threat each year. Their surface proteins normally undergo slight changes, called "drift," which requires new vaccines to be developed to

protect against them. More dangerous is a "shift," when two different viruses mix together to create a radically different strain. A continual pursuit of virologists is to identify these shifts and drifts each year in order to develop effective vaccines.

The research was funded by National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), a component of the National Institutes of Health. "(The researchers') findings point us in a direction to better understand the pathology of these more virulent influenza viruses," said Dominick Iacuzio, program officer for influenza and related viral respiratory diseases at the NIAID.

For the full text of the article, contact Dave Schneier at the National Academy of Sciences news office at (202) 334-2138.
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- Brian Mattmiller, (608) 262-9772

Vet Med

# *Science Report*

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rec. 7/31/98

For Immediate Release

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## GROWTH FACTOR IMPROVES SOLUTION USED TO NOURISH THOSE WHO CAN'T EAT

A discovery by University of Wisconsin-Madison scientists may improve the health and speed the recovery of patients who can't digest and absorb food normally.

Unlike individuals who briefly receive an intravenous glucose solution after surgery, some patients depend completely on a feeding solution to meet all their nutritional needs for weeks or months. This is called total parenteral (meaning "into the vein") nutrition.

Each year, this technique saves the lives of tens of thousands of adults. They include people with cancer, acute pancreatitis, inflammatory bowel disease, anorexia nervosa, and those who have had major sections of their intestine removed or suffered abdominal gunshot wounds, head injuries, multiple fractures, or severe burns.

Working with rats, nutritional scientist Denise Ney of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences and colleagues Catherine A. Peterson, Hannah V. Carey and Hui-Chen "Paula" Lo discovered that adding growth factors to the solution helps rats overcome several problems both rats and people develop when they don't eat food and are maintained with parenteral feeding. The problems include a deterioration of the intestinal wall, loss of weight and muscle mass, and difficulty regulating blood sugar.

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"It's difficult to do this type of research on people, because they tend to be quite sick," Ney says. "Fortunately, rats respond to total parenteral nutrition much as people do." A small clinical trial supports some of the group's findings.

Physicians first used total parenteral nutrition in the 1960s to save premature infants. That solution included amino acids, the building blocks of protein, and glucose, a simple sugar. During the past 30 years, scientists have continued to improve the solution. For example, emulsions of triglycerides — simple fats — were routinely added to the parenteral solution in the 1980s. Ney's laboratory has spent nearly a decade evaluating which triglycerides are most beneficial in the solution.

"Our understanding of what the body needs for proper parenteral nutrition continues to improve," says Ney. "Evaluating total parenteral nutrition has become an important way researchers are building a more complete picture of human nutritional requirements."

Ney's recent work has focused on the two growth factors: growth hormone and insulin-like growth factor-I. Both are protein hormones the body naturally produces, and both influence how the body uses nutrients for growth and repair.

She is particularly encouraged by the group's recent finding that insulin-like growth factor I — although not growth hormone — prevents the tissue breakdown of the intestinal wall that occurs in rats that don't eat and are maintained on parenteral feeding.

"There are finger-like projections in the small intestine that increase the area that absorbs food," Ney says. "Normally, food passing through the intestine stimulates it to rebuild all of this tissue in rats every few days. When rats don't eat but receive parenteral feeding, this tissue can atrophy to half its size in just five days.

"The gut is more than an organ to absorb food." Ney says. "It's also the body's largest immune organ. It produces immune cells and serves as a barrier to bacteria and viruses that people swallow. When the intestine atrophies, these microbes can cross the intestinal wall more easily and cause life-threatening infections."

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GROWTH FACTOR—add two

In related experiments, Ney and Lo found that both growth factors helped prevent weight loss and enhance protein synthesis in rats that had the same abdominal surgery. The researchers compared rats on the control parenteral solution with those given the same solution to which growth hormone, insulin-like growth factor I, or both had been added.

Four days after the surgery the control animals had lost an average of 5 grams, while those receiving either of the growth factors singly had gained 10 grams. The rats that received both growth hormone and insulin-like growth factor I gained an average of 19 grams and made more new tissue protein.

Ney says a recent study in England of 11 critically ill patients supports her findings. That study found that giving patients both growth hormone and insulin-like growth factor I in the solution improved protein synthesis.

"When you're critically ill, your body doesn't use nutrients efficiently and often breaks down muscle tissue," Ney says. "These growth factors help prevent the loss of weight and muscle mass. In other experiments, we found that growth factors do this by causing rats to use the energy available to them in fats and sugars rather than breaking down protein."

Peterson, a former postdoctoral scientist with Ney, is now at the UW-Stevens Point. Carey is a physiologist at the UW-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine. Lo is a former graduate student in nutritional sciences. The research was supported by grants from the National Institutes of Health and UW-Madison College of Agricultural and Life Sciences. Growth factors used in the research were provided by Genentech, Inc.

# # #

growth factor/nutrition 7/98
Writer: George Gallepp (608) 262-3636

Veterinary, School of

NEWS
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 5/5/97

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***IT'S NATIONAL PET WEEK***
**VETERINARIAN OFFERS TIPS FOR HEALTHY, HAPPY PETS**

MADISON — In honor of National Pet Week on May 4-10, a University of Wisconsin-Madison veterinarian is offering some helpful hints on keeping pets healthy through the outdoor season.

The theme of National Pet Week is "Every Day, Animals Touch Our Lives." The American Veterinary Medicine Association estimates that nearly half of all U.S. households have pets. Medical research has shown that owning a pet can be beneficial to stress reduction and overall human health. More than ever, animals are being incorporated into programs at schools, hospitals and nursing homes.

Sandi Sawchuk, clinical instructor at the UW-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine, offers the following health tips for pet owners:

• Watch your pet's weight. With warmer weather, many owners take to exercising as "weekend warriors" and push themselves and their pet too far. Make sure your pet's weight is within the guidelines that your veterinarian suggests, and that you increase your exercise program gradually to prevent injuries.

• Keep pet vaccines updated for the health of you and your pet. Pets can transmit diseases and parasites to their human owners, and keeping shots updated can prevent transmission. All pets, even those kept primarily indoors, should have all vaccinations current. Rabid bats, raccoons and skunks are a threat to both humans and

-more-

pets. Many state humane societies and veterinarians offer low-cost vaccination clinics.

• Spring and summer also bring fleas and ticks. New products such as pills or surface applications can prevent or eliminate flea and tick infestations. Discuss with your veterinarian which method would be best for your pet. Lyme disease vaccinations are also available and appropriate in some areas.

• In addition to keeping pets healthy through prevention, the veterinary medicine school investigates diseases, such as cancer and eye problems, that affect pets. Nearly 80 percent of the funding for the pet-related health care studies comes from individual donors through the Companion Animal Fund.

Tom and Diane Peltin of Madison, Wis., are grateful for the health of their dog, Beta, a specially trained service dog who visits the elderly in nursing homes and young children in the hospital. When Beta was diagnosed with an intestinal disorder, the veterinarians at the School were able to save her life. According to the Peltins, Beta continues to bring smiles on her visits.

The UW-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine educates and trains 80 students each year in a four-year veterinary program. The focus is on animal and human health including food production, food safety, human and animal diseases, and the health and safety of pets. Gifts to the Companion Animal Fund may be sent to the UW-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine, 2015 Linden Drive West, Madison, WI 53706.

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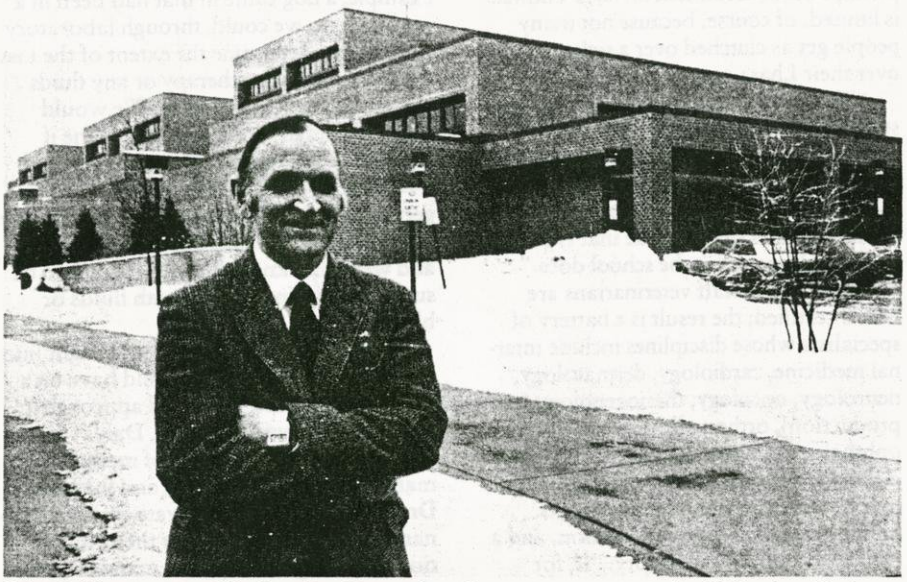
— Marti Blum Lindstrom; (608) 263-6914 work, (608) 238-1472 home



*John Dahl, manager of the Teaching Hospitals in the new Veterinary Medical School on Linden Drive.*

# The Veterinary Hospitals

## *Ready for the state's first class of home-educated veterinarians.*

By Tom Dorman '74

Without doubt, he's the best dressed guy in the hospital. When he strolls the hallways, there's a delighted buoyancy in his step that reveals his zest for living and the anticipation of making a new friend, perhaps just around the next corner. Lounging in his comfortable red stuffed chair, he exudes the same intensity for relaxation. Today, he's decked out in a red neckerchief. Tomorrow, maybe a bright yellow-and-brown flowered necktie. Not many could get away with the fashion, but Nikki, well, Nikki has the face for it. It's his heart, however, that for more than one reason has enamored him to everyone he comes in contact with.

Nikki is a full-grown healthy boxer dog. The operative word here is healthy. When he first came to the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospitals, he was suffering from cardiomyopathy, an enlarged heart with reduced ability to pump blood. He was virtually skin and bones and near dead. The hospitals' cardiologist suspected that the problem might be a carnitine deficiency. From a medical perspective, what made Nikki special was the fact that the malady had never before been diagnosed in an animal. He was treated successfully without a transplant, and during the course of recuperation his spirit and dogged geniality reached out and touched the hearts of those around him. Now he serves as the resident goodwill ambassador and candy-striper.

By almost any set of standards, Nikki is an exception to the rule, says John Dahl DVM, the manager of the hospitals. "We do no experimentation here," he says, "nor do we keep animals for any length of time. But we decided we would keep him in the critical care area and observe him until a thrombus on his heart wall contracted. It took a period of weeks, and in the meantime he regained his good health and also captured everybody's affections. And we learned something important."

Experiencing old lessons and learning new ones is of course what the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospitals is all about. It will serve as a training ground for the state's first home-educated veterinarians. Occupying the west wing of the giant new Veterinary Medicine School on Linden Drive, it's been open since November of 1983. The complex has made an effort to develop a clientele that encompasses a cross section of routine veterinary life. It offers a small-animal section for dogs, cats and various household pets, and a large-animal section for such as cows, horses and frequently—this may surprise you—one of the llamas from the several commercial ranches around the state.

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*Tom Dorman is a local broadcaster and freelance writer.*

In May the first students will arrive for supervised hands-on veterinary medicine after their three years in the classroom. "There's no doubt that our focus will shift when they arrive," said Dr. Dahl, who was a practicing vet for fifteen years in Clintonville. "We have been operating more as a private sector hospital, but now our mission will be directed toward teaching. We'll have to reorient to that."

Course material will be as near as the front door. On any given day the hospitals receive forty to fifty small animals, mostly on an outpatient basis, and up to ten large animals. Says Dr. Dahl. "We have a forty-five-member staff and expansive treatment facilities. We can do all of the same procedures on an animal that would be done on a person. For instance, in our surgery sections we have an almost equal caseload between soft tissue surgery and orthopedic surgery." (The demand for extensive, perhaps costly treatment on large animals is limited, of course, because not many people get as clutched over a sick cow as over their Lhasa apso.)

"There are specialized practices in the state that provide some portion of the service—equine practices that have surgical facilities; some bovine practices where they have some hospitalization. But there are no facilities that provide that type of care for all species as the school does."

Many of the staff veterinarians are board certified; the result is a battery of specialists whose disciplines include internal medicine, cardiology, dermatology, neurology, oncology, theriogenology (reproduction), orthopedic/neurosurgery, ophthalmology and radiology. There is an elaborate medical records office, pharmacy, surgical suites, autopsy rooms, holding rooms, a radiology section, and a clinical pathology laboratory. "If, for example, a dog came in that had been in a car accident, we could, through laboratory procedures, determine the extent of the loss of blood, and what therapy or any fluids that would have to be given. We would take the animal to x-ray to determine if there were any organs damaged or bones fractured. We would then take it into surgery and with information from the lab, we would know the safest anesthetic to give, and we would know if it would have to be supported during surgery with fluids or blood.

"We would have as good an insight into that patient as a hospital would have on a human being. And we would approach it the very same way," says Dr. Dahl.

It is an impressive array of medical manpower and technology, and initially, Dr. Dahl admits, some private sector veterinarians were nervous about the competition. The hospitals, by state mandate, must charge a competitive fee. Also by state rule, it must admit primary care patients; animals brought in by owners for routine treatment. However, particularly in the area of large-animal medicine where referrals are common, outside practitioners are coming to view the school as a resource.

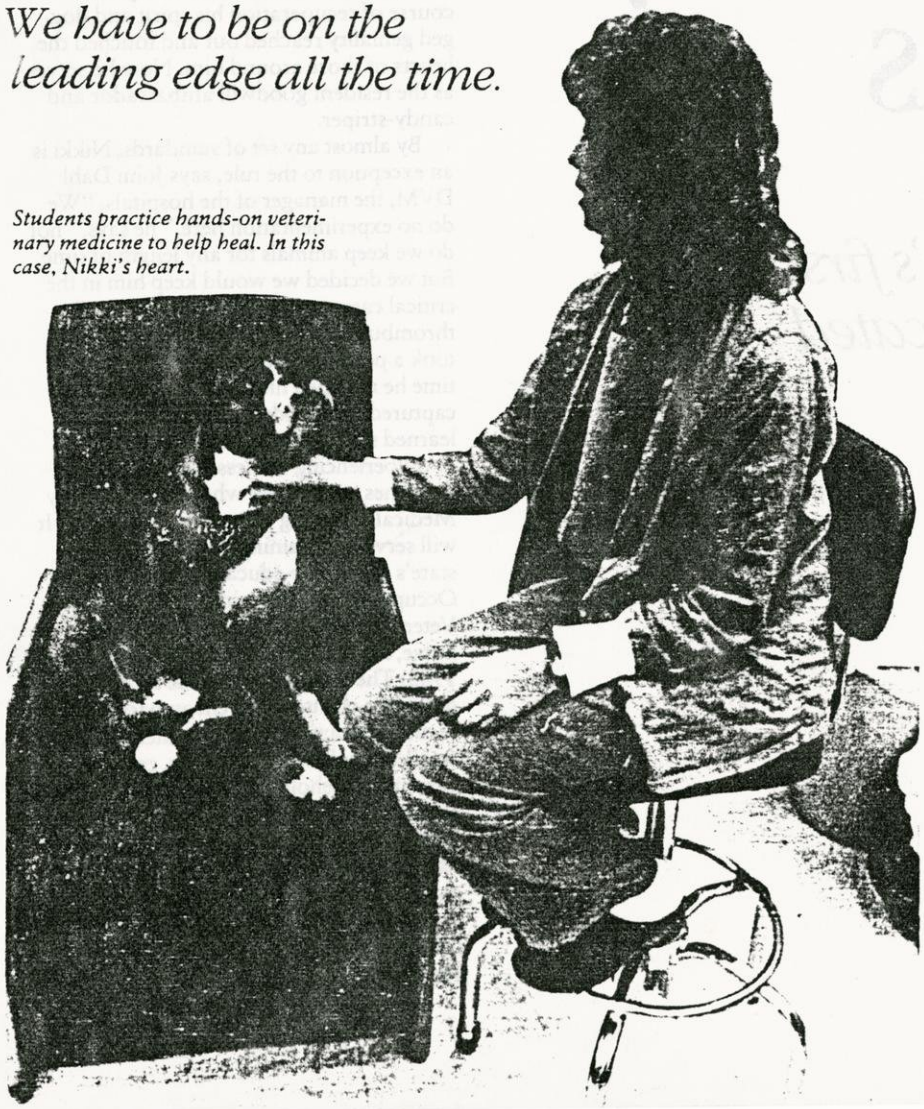
After all, it is not its mission to be the biggest animal health care center in the state, but rather an extensive real-life teaching classroom. "We can't handle a really large caseload and still fulfill that mission. We need a variety of cases to support the teaching," says Dr. Dahl.

"We must consider the students we'll graduate in the 1990s. Many of the technologies that were applicable in the field when I graduated from Minnesota in 1956 have progressed markedly. For example, abdominal surgery in the equine was really not considered possible. The mortality rate was extremely high. Now it's become quite commonplace as new technology developed and facilities became available where we can conduct sterile surgery.

"So we have that progression where we have been able to extend animal care. We have to expect that will continue. In a sense our students may be overtrained for 1987 when they graduate, but they will probably find themselves undertrained for the late 1990s. We here at the hospitals have to be on the leading edge all the time."

The philosophical commitment to expanding and evolving animal health care probably doesn't mean a whole lot to a good-natured, fashion-conscious guy like Nikki, but it has been a lifesaver. He will be moving out soon and going into stud service. Perhaps the near-fatal heart problem that brought him to the hospital is genetically inherited. Determining that will be the work of some other facility—one where they do research and experimentation. However, there's no doubt that when he leaves, a part of Nikki's winsome heart will remain in residence for a long time to come at the hospitals on Linden Drive. □

*We must consider the students we'll graduate in the 1990s. The technologies have progressed markedly. We have to be on the leading edge all the time.*



*Students practice hands-on veterinary medicine to help heal. In this case, Nikki's heart.*

Photos by the author.

# feature story

Vet School

From the University of Wisconsin-Madison / News Service, Bascom Hall, 500 Lincoln Drive, Madison 53706 / Telephone: (608) 262-3571

Release: Immediately 8/31/83

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(Photos available)

VET SCHOOL STUDENTS GREET FIRST DAY WITH ENTHUSIASM

By MARK BELLO
University News Service

MADISON--It seemed like business-as-usual on Monday (Aug. 29) at the University of Wisconsin School of Veterinary Medicine. But it wasn't.

The inhabitants of the classrooms looked like your typical UW-Madison professors and students. But they weren't.

The barely-contained enthusiasm evident in the corridors between classes might have been the excitement that marks the beginning of a new school year. But it was more than that.

No, Monday was anything but normal at Wisconsin's newest educational facility.

It was the first day of classes for the School of Veterinary Medicine's charter class. When the 42 women and 38 men receive their doctor of veterinary medicine degrees in May 1987, they will have completed a rigorous four-year program packed with first-time achievements.

But 1987 is a long way off. Members of the first veterinary school class -- 70 from Wisconsin and 10 from out-of-state -- must grapple first with full schedules and with getting accustomed to what some call the "charter class mystique."

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"We're the first, so we'll be monitored," said Jeffrey Zuba of Milwaukee. "When we take our boards (tests for certification as veterinarians) four years from now everybody -- the legislature, our professors, state residents -- will be watching to determine if the school is a success or a failure. It's a challenge we've all accepted."

"Starting vet school is a challenge in itself," said Patrick Farrell, a New York native. "Add the extra responsibility of being a member of the charter class and you've doubled the challenge."

To prepare them for their careers as veterinarians, the students, whose average age is 25, will be immersed in coursework and laboratory experiments. This semester, their academic regimen will consist of courses in biochemistry, medical physics, anatomy and histology (the study of animal tissues).

Heavy with basic sciences, the schedule is much like that of a first-year medical student and builds upon the veterinary students' undergraduate training.

Monday's schedule was typical of the semester. The day began with a biochemistry lecture at 8:50 a.m. and concluded with an anatomy lab that ran from 2:25 p.m. to 5:25 p.m. Fifty minutes for lunch was the only major break in between.

The students were not the only ones who had a difficult time restraining their enthusiasm over the start of classes in the school that has been in the planning stages since 1947.

"We're all as excited as you are," Professor John Oakes told his histology class. "We've been waiting for this day for a long time."

Oakes, who said he had spent the last few weeks preparing slides of tissues for his lectures, compared the start of instruction to giving birth to a child. There were painful moments that preceded the first day of classes, he said, but now there's "euphoria" and the "realization that you have to raise the child."

Oakes and his fellow instructors are not new to the classroom. This semester's teaching tasks have been delegated to veteran teachers, one of several steps school administrators took to help insure a problem-free first year.

Students recognized these efforts.

"The faculty seems committed to the students," said Linda Sullivan of Neenah. "The facilities are just outstanding. There have been budget cuts but not in areas where students would be affected."

Some students did express concern about financing their education. Annual tuition is $5,282 for Wisconsin residents and $7,658 for out-of-state residents.

"Sure, we joke about our poverty-level existence, but it really isn't funny. It's depressing," said Madison's Elizabeth Hausmann-Stokes, adding that she is not certain where the money for her next semester's tuition will come from.

To help ease the costs of their schooling, the class of '87 has taken some cost-cutting measures. They have set up their own bookstore and arranged for a group purchase of microscopes, required equipment for all veterinary medicine students.

According to Kay Woit, of the dean's office, the school does have some scholarship money which will be awarded next semester, and efforts are under way to help increase student support.

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Datelines

Thursday, July 28, 1983 / Volume 15:33 / Information and Events Weekly / University of Wisconsin–Madison

Vet School

# Veterinary School Collects Sun's Energy

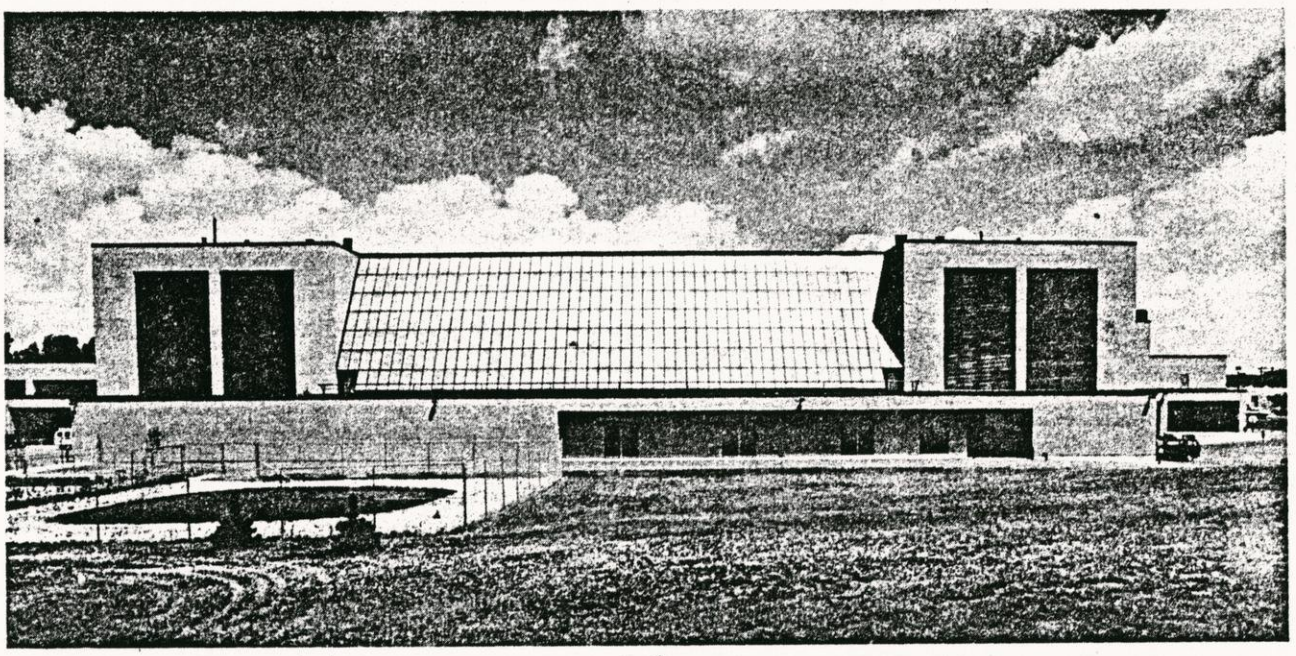
The School of Veterinary Medicine occupies a handsome building at 2015 Linden Drive West. But a striking feature of the new structure—the large solar system—isn't even visible from the front entrance.

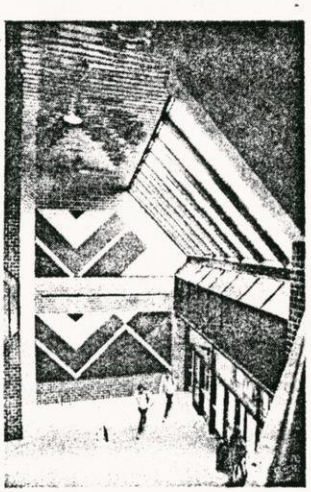
When designed in 1980, the solar system was the largest in the state. It features a 6,662 square foot array of 360 collectors, 52 panels long by 7 panels high, facing due south, sloped at an angle of 60 degrees. The collectors provide an estimated 2,100 million BTUs per year, saving substantial amounts of coal and natural gas.

Because of the school's high ventilation and reheat needs, the building can immediately use the energy produced by the collectors, eliminating the need for storage and resulting in a more economical system. A 13-year payback is estimated. Air rather than liquid circulates through the collectors, avoiding problems associated with freezing, leakage, rust, or corrosion.

Preparations are about complete for the charter class of 80 students, 44 women and 36 men, scheduled to begin courses in August at the beginning of the fall semester. The curriculum for the first year is set. Equipment for the Veterinary Medicine Teaching Hospital, expected to open in September, is arriving every day. Forty-five of the 78 faculty members are at work, and more will be hired in the next six months. Students are forming a nonprofit organization, to sell books and instruments. A public open house is planned for early fall.

"We are committed to providing a quality veterinary medical education that prepares the aspiring veterinarian to meet the challenges of tomorrow, to address problems that are not yet spawned," Dean Bernard Easterday said at dedication ceremonies in June. "We are committed to providing services that have never been available to animal owners of the state; we are committed to the investigation of animal health problems that beg solution; we are committed to providing lifelong learning for the veterinarians of the state."





**The $15.5 million, 235,000-square-foot teaching, research and clinical building for the new School of Veterinary Medicine has been occupied since late March. A bicyclist passes the front entrance (top), while the solar collectors are shown in the large center photo of the back of the building.**

**In the bottom row of photos, the school's main lobby is at the left. In preparations for the charter class, Mary Maxon (center), a technician, prepares anatomy exhibits. Jeff Zuba (right), a member of the class, monitors the heart beat of a cow at Charmany Farm on Madison's west side. Zuba has been working full time, while waiting for the school to admit its first students. The $4.3 million instruction and research facility at the farm on Madison's west side was opened last year.**

**Planning had been underway for many years, but work began on an "intense schedule" in July 1979 when the state approved funds to build the new school.**

**(photos by Norman Lenburg)**

Vet. Med.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 1/29/98

(Editor's note: This story accompanies a broader story about the School of Veterinary Medicine.)

TROUBLE-SHOOTING CAN BE A CHORE WITH SOME EXOTIC PETS

MADISON - Elmo, a toothy, 3-foot-long American alligator, has lost his appetite.

Owner Jay Benson of Madison recently brought Elmo to the School of Veterinary Medicine's Teaching Hospital after the normally hungry carnivore hadn't eaten for several days. But unlike most veterinary offices, Elmo was seen by three different veterinarians who know their way around a reptile.

After getting Elmo to open wide by having him clasp on a piece of plastic pipe, they looked for signs of bad teeth or other discomfort in the mouth. Later, veterinarian James Morrisey felt a suspicious lump in Elmo's abdomen that suggested a blockage.

Veterinarian Joanne Paul-Murphy began searching for clues. "Did it eat anything unusual?" she asked the owner. "Socks? A piece of leather? Anything furry it might have mistaken for a rodent?"

That afternoon, they hoped to solve the mystery by running an ultrasound on Elmo to identify the blockage. They will also run tests for signs of any bacteria that's making the animal ill.

Through the visit, Elmo was surprisingly docile, staring intently ahead with diamond-shaped eyes.

It's all in a day's work for the school's exotic-species faculty - but admittedly, the pet alligator is as exotic as it gets. "This is the first alligator I've treated outside of a zoo environment," Paul-Murphy says. "But just about every week we see something I would call less-than-usual."

They see a lot of boas, pythons, anacondas and green iguanas, she says. A "trendy" new pet they see is called a sugar glider, a furry-faced marsupial from Australia. A few years ago, hedgehogs were the hot trend.

The problem with very unusual pets, Paul-Murphy says, is that owners and veterinarians have limited knowledge about how to properly maintain them. Since research and experience is so limited, it's hard to advise people on the proper food, care and living conditions the animals need. "About 80 percent of the problems we see are related to poor management," she says.

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- Brian Mattmiller, (608) 262-9772

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Vet. Med.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 1/29/98

(Editor's note: We've put together a news media resource Web page at http://www.wisc.edu/news/news_images/vetmed.html for organizations wishing to download high-resolution images of an alligator. A sidebar on the alligator will follow this release.)

CARE OF THE WILD
VETERINARY WORK ISN'T JUST FOR THE DOGS THESE DAYS

MADISON - Dogs and cats still dominate the patient list at University of Wisconsin-Madison's School of Veterinary Medicine, but they're sharing more space with a new breed of companion critters, from ailing ferrets to sick lizards.

Interest in unconventional pets has exploded in recent years, and the UW-Madison school's teaching hospital and students are keeping up with the trend. In practice, veterinarians can expect more and more contact with pet lizards, snakes, ferrets and tropical birds, so the school is readying the next generation for "special species" medicine.

Joanne Paul-Murphy, a clinical assistant professor at the school, estimates that the number of nontraditional species treated at the school's teaching hospital has jumped by 400 to 500 percent over the past five years. "Certainly people are more intrigued than ever by nontraditional pets," she says. "The numbers are really increasing among reptiles and birds, and they seem to go neck-and-neck as the most popular new pets."

The school's exotic-animal medicine program also has taken off in recent years. It now has a team of four faculty devoted to nontraditional animals, including Paul-Murphy, Keith Benson, Jan Ramer and James Morrisey, who was hired last fall. The school also has a required course for all third-year students on exotic-animal medicine.

Beginning in 1999, the school has plans to help its facility match the demand for nontraditional pet medicine. A $3.2 million renovation project for the teaching hospital's small-animal medicine program will double the existing space and consolidate the treatment and housing areas. The renovation will help isolate these species from the noisy din of barking dogs and provide the specialized living conditions they require.

Although an academic major doesn't exist, veterinary students are seizing the opportunity to hone a specialty in exotic-animal medicine. Katherine Lewandowski, a third-year student in the school, says the background can open doors in numerous fields beyond veterinary practice, including work with zoo animals and conserving threatened animals in the wild.

"Some students just have a real fascination with birds and reptiles, and they like the uniqueness of working with those species," Lewandowski says. "Other people see it as a way to develop a professional niche for themselves."

Lewandowski leads a student group called the Wildlife, Exotic and Zoo

Animal Medicine club, which at 60 members is the largest special-interest club in the school. It organizes a professional conference every spring that brings in national experts on exotic species, and is highly regarded by practicing veterinarians around the Midwest.

Medical information on exotic species is improving as veterinarians get more basic research and case studies to draw from, says Benson, who has expertise in reptile medicine. "It's becoming more like dog and cat medicine," he says. "Caring for these animals is different, but doable. I always maintain that the average veterinarian is better at working with these species than they think."

Frequently, Benson says people buy exotic pets with the assumption that they are low maintenance, and problems can be handled with a call to the pet store. Most exotic-pet owners don't realize that veterinarians provide care for these animals. "People are just stunned sometimes that we actually work on lizards - that we take X-rays, do cultures and put them on medication," he says.

In addition to seeing cases, the team answers an average of more than a dozen phone calls a day from practicing veterinarians around the state, many of whom need advice on a rare animal in their care. For tougher cases, clients are referred to UW-Madison's teaching hospital from all over the state.

But veterinarians also see a down side to the exotic-pet trend. Many people get more than they bargained for when the pet grows to an unexpected size or requires special living environments. Benson says shelters are beginning to show up for constrictors, iguanas and larger tortoises that people have abandoned.

Paul-Murphy adds: "I don't think some people realize the commitment they are making with reptiles. They look at it as a $10 pet, when in reality their living environments are much more expensive and need to be carefully recreated."

Making pets out of wild animals is a greater dilemma. Paul-Murphy says she and most veterinarians adamantly oppose having species such as primates for pets. Yet a surprising number of pet primates are out there, and breeding services are still feeding the market. "These are our patients, and once they become pets they need to be cared for," she says. "But philosophically, I know that it's not always the best thing for the animal."

Recent federal rules outlaw the possession or trade of any birds taken from the wild, and veterinarians continue to push for legislation that extends to other species, including reptiles and mammals, she says.

Animal conservation and protection is a central part of the group's work. The four faculty consult regularly with the U.S. Wildlife Health Laboratory based in Madison, the Milwaukee County Zoo, and are on call year-round with the International Crane Foundation in Baraboo. Other collaborations have helped survey and monitor endangered species, such as trumpeter swans, black-footed ferrets and paddlefish.

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- Brian Mattmiller, (608) 262-9772

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Veterinary Medicine, School of

# NEWS TIPS

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April 30, 1997

**TO:** **Talk/public affairs show hosts and producers**
**FROM:** **Liz Beyler, (608) 263-1986**
**RE:** **UW-Madison experts -- May interview ideas**

• **Can women's participation make or break job actions?**

With job actions currently taking place at General Motors, Goodyear and Chrysler, a Ph.D. candidate in U.S. and women's history says the role of women in such incidents historically has played a pivotal role. A court injunction barred men from walking the picket lines at a strike earlier in this century at a mine in New Mexico. According to **Ellen Baker,** women took over the lines, since the men were forbidden to. She says the role the women took in that situation prompted people to rethink women's place in labor movements and also prefigured contemporary discussions about which gender does (or doesn't do — Oops, did I say that??) household chores. Mark May Day by reaching Baker at (608) 263-1800/256-6786.

*— Barbara Wolff, (608) 262-8292*

• **Helping pets stay healthy**

Nearly half of all American homes have at least one pet, and medical research is showing the benefits of pet ownership on stress reduction and overall human health. Now pet owners can return the favor. In recognition of National Pet Week on May 4-10, UW-Madison veterinary medicine clinical instructor **Sandi Sawchuk** has ideas on keeping pets healthy through the active warmer months. Sawchuk recommends watching a pet's weight, keeping vaccines updated, choosing good products for flea and tick control, and making regular veterinary visits. Sawchuk can be reached at (608) 263-2583 or by e-mail at: sawchuks@svm.vetmed.wisc.edu

*— Marti Blum Lindstrom, (608) 263-6914*

**- more -**

• **Hispanic American students: a "hidden" crisis**

There is a startling statistic that provides an ethnic insight into K-12 education: More than 30 percent of Hispanic Americans ages 16-22 are high school dropouts. That compares to 10 percent for all Americans of that age, including 9 percent for whites and 12 percent for African Americans.

A man who is bringing national attention to the dropout rate for Hispanic Americans is **Walter Secada (Suh-KAH-duh),** professor of curriculum and instruction at UW-Madison. Secada recently chaired a task force called the Hispanic Dropout Project, commissioned by the U.S. Department of Education. DOE will release the task force report this summer. Secada's group analyzed what's fueling the Hispanic dropout rate and what can be done about it, so he is positioned as a leading national spokesperson on the issues. He can be reached at (608) 263-2707 or at secada@macc.wisc.edu.

*— Jeff Iseminger, (608) 262-8287*

• **Lead poisoning -- a concern for many**

A UW-Madison Division of Continuing Studies conference on the hazards of lead to be held in Madison on May 20-21 will attract a broad spectrum of people — from public health experts, educational psychologists and leading medical researchers to government administrators, building contractors and parents.

A session on lead poisoning and its effect on learning will be presented by psychologist David Bellinger of Children's Hospital in Boston. Other topics include prevention of the hazard, medical treatments for lead poisoning, model neighborhood programs, certification for builders, and proposed legislation. Conference director **Richard Brooks** of the Health Promotion Project (or his assistant, Reghan Walsh,) can send you an agenda and arrange interviews in advance of or during the event. Call 265-2233

*— Mary Albrecht, 262-9792*

• **Building a hummingbird family tree**

Hummingbirds, which will soon return to Wisconsin for the summer, have a newly completed family tree, thanks to UW-Madison scientists. Using the techniques of modern molecular biology, Zoology Professor **Robert Bleiweiss** and his colleagues have been able to establish the main branches of a family tree by sampling genetic material from among the more than 330 species of hummingbirds.

Veterinary Medicine, School of

# *News and Features*

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## VETERINARIANS RECEIVE CERTIFICATION IN DAIRY HERD HEALTH MANAGEMENT

The University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine has awarded Certificates of Proficiency in Dairy Herd Health Management to 32 Wisconsin veterinary practitioners from across the state. The veterinarians, who are the first group to complete the course, received their certificates March 20 at an awards banquet on the UW-Madison campus.

The practitioners completed a course consisting of 13 two-day modules over a two-year period. The class work was complemented by study assignments on their client farms.

The curriculum included: challenges to the dairy industry, farm business plans, feedstuffs and nutrients, feed storage and delivery systems, nutrition and disease, replacements, records and reproduction, infectious disease management, mastitis and milk quality, and planning and implementation of a farm expansion. The veterinarians who completed the course are well prepared to assist with dairy herd management decisions.

The teaching faculty included members of the UW-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine, UW-Madison College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, and other experts in academia and private veterinary practice from across the nation. The course also receives financial assistance and participation from Farm Credit Services of Wisconsin.

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rjc dairy herd vet cert 4/97

*Press releases from the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences are available on the Web at* **http://www.cals.wisc.edu/media/news_by_month.html**

**DAIRY HERD VET CLASS ROSTER 1 OF 3**

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Veterinary Medicine, School of

# NEWS TIPS

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April 4, 1997

**TO:** **Talk/public affairs show hosts and producers**
**FROM:** **Liz Beyler, (608) 263-1986**
**RE:** **UW-Madison experts -- April interview ideas**

• **Springtime is prime time for deadly fungal disease to strike**

Blastomycosis has taken several human lives in Wisconsin in recent years, but the insidious fungal disease also kills hundreds of dogs each year. In dogs, it occurs most frequently between April and September. Hot spots include wetland areas in Oneida, Vilas, Sawyer, Washburn and Bayfield counties in northern Wisconsin, Portage and Waupaca counties in central Wisconsin, and Milwaukee, Racine and Kenosha counties in the southeast. Cases are seldom seen in the driftless area of southwestern Wisconsin.

Blastomycosis (often referred to as blasto ) can be confused with bacterial pneumonia, making diagnosis more difficult and delaying proper treatment. Antibiotics prescribed for bacterial pneumonia do nothing to help blastomycosis victims.

Researchers at the UW-Madison Schools of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine are evaluating new methods of diagnosing blasto, and are attempting to understand what allows the fungus to cause disease and how host defenses fight back. **Dr. Chuck Czuprynski (Zuh-PRIN-ski)** of the School of Veterinary Medicine can tell your audience how, when and where blasto is contracted, what symptoms to look for, and what treatment is available for dogs infected by the airborne blasto spores. Reach Czuprynski at (608) 262-8102 or by email at czuprync@svm.vetmed.wisc.edu.

*— Liz Beyler, (608) 263-1986*

• **A new way to earn an M.B.A**

The UW-Madison School of Business has revamped its M.B.A curriculum with an eye toward better meeting the needs of both students and employers. The new curriculum, set to begin this fall, features a Business School first: traditional semester-long courses combined with new seven-week modules. The modules create more program

-more-

flexibility for students and give them experience that employers said they like to see in graduates.

The modules cover such topics as quality improvement, participation in teams, and the legal environment. The faculty member who's directing the M.B.A. program is Professor **Randall Dunham,** who can discuss the payoffs he anticipates from the new curriculum. Reach him at (608) 263-2120 or by e-mail at rdunham@bus.wisc.edu.

*— Jeff Iseminger, (608 262-8287*

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• **Undergraduate 'toys' with ad strategy**

FCC deregulation of children's television programming in the last decade paved the way for the marketing mania that has made it standard procedure to develop a toy first and then a television show or movie to saturate public awareness. **Jerrod Roll,** a senior majoring in history, is exploring that thesis this semester; he says years ago the Shirley Temple movie would come out first and a doll would follow. Now, however, Care Bears and He-Mans hit the shelves, followed by suitable entertainment vehicles, so that the program markets the toy, rather than the toy marketing the program. Not only that, "the characters are now developed through children's focus groups," he says. "Kids are asked in so many words what features would make them buy a character toy. Then the companies can say they're producing exactly what the kids asked for."

Roll would like to have a museum exhibition based on his work. Reach him at (608) 250-2689.

*— Barbara Wolff, (608) 262-8292*

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• **But it's such a big place!**

Your audience members who have thought about going back to school, but feared the UW-Madison campus might be too intimidating, can get some of their questions answered by **Jim McManamy,** a counselor with UW-Madison's Adult Career and Educational Counseling Center. He can give them a preview of what he will tell adults who attend an information program and tour of the campus in late April. How many courses do new students usually take? Are there any study skills classes for people who have been out of school for many years? What about costs? How do you begin the admissions process? Because McManamy came back to school as an adult, he can speak from experience. Call him at (608) 263-6960.

*— Judy Reed, (608) 262-5421*

Veterinary School

# LIFE SAVERS

*Advances in treatment for four-legged companions are leading to insights into human health.*

BY BRIAN MATTMILLER '86
PHOTOS BY JEFF MILLER

Marilyn Putz '54 and Fred Putz of Highland Park, Illinois, have owned many Irish setters over the years, but never one quite like Tegan.

Tegan, pictured above, is a big-time achiever. He earned his first degree in dog obedience at the precocious age of eighteen months. Soon after he was certified with Therapy Dogs International, and he makes weekly visits that warm the hearts of residents of Chicago-area nursing homes.

But today, Tegan's greatest achievement might be survival. In June 1995, he developed a sudden, noticeable limp that required veterinary attention. The diagnosis — a rare and deadly form of bone cancer that starts in the legs and spreads aggressively through the body — shook the Putzes. Committed to helping Tegan, they learned about a new therapy offered at the UW–Madison School of Veterinary Medicine. The school is one of the only places in the country administering new drug therapies that can control the cancer's spread.

The procedure is costly — the initial operation runs about $3,000 — and the prognosis can be unsettling. Removing the primary tumor requires that a leg be amputated, to which most dogs adjust extremely well. But in about half the cases, the cancer is never fully cured and the dog may die within two years.

"The money was a sacrifice, but Tegan is worth every penny of it," Fred Putz says. "Since Tegan is so young and we caught the disease so quickly, we feel he has a good chance."

After an initial bout of depression, Tegan is back to his old self, running every morning along the Lake Michigan shore, and making his weekly visits to nursing homes. Marilyn Putz says many patients, especially those with disabilities, feel a special empathy with Tegan.

The Putzes are grateful for every moment the therapy has given their dog. "He's the same sweet little dog with three legs that he was with four legs," Fred Putz says. "An Irish setter's life span is ten to twelve years, so even giving him two years is a long time for a dog."

Tegan's story is testimony to how far veterinary medicine has come in a short time. New techniques are helping to save companion animals that would have had little hope a decade ago. Researchers are offering new, humane options for prolonging pets' lives, despite diagnoses such as cancer, degenerative hip disorders, kidney failure, eye disease, and deadly pathogens.

UW–Madison's School of Veterinary Medicine is at the forefront of many of these advances. Gregory MacEwen, an oncologist who leads the cancer treatments, says the new technology meets a

big demand among pet owners for specialized care. He notes that seven out of every ten dog owners now seek special treatment for their sick pets. Back in the 1970s, he says, something such as treating cancer in animals would have sounded strange — even to veterinarians.

"We have a new generation of veterinarians coming along who are getting this field recognized as a legitimate way of treating animals," he says. "And clients are more aware of what's available."

A decade ago, MacEwen began work to find treatments that could control the spread of bone cancer. He treats an average of two dozen dogs a year from across the country, using an experimental drug that stimulates the immune system's ability to kill cancer cells. But the value of this research is not restricted to animals. MacEwen's work, like that of others at the school, has important implications for human health. He says his research is helping to perfect drugs that trigger the body's built-in defense against cancer. A New York City cancer center even conducted a trial with pediatric patients based on his study.

"With most of our studies," MacEwen says, "we are thinking along the lines of how it will help humans. Curing a disease like cancer is so imperative that our work should strive to help both species at the same time."

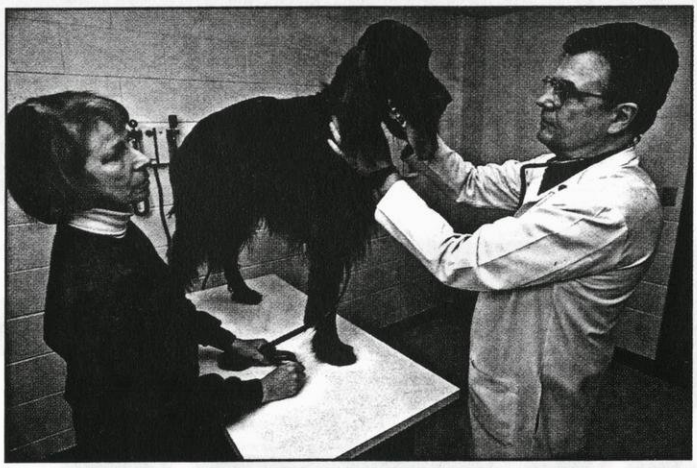
Jonathan McAnulty '89, PhD'94, a surgical science professor in the school, did his graduate work under medical school Professor Folkert Belzer, who developed the revolutionary "Wisconsin Solution" that helps preserve donor organs. Today, McAnulty is researching new drugs that suppress the immune system and reduce rejection of organ transplants.

For the past several years, McAnulty has performed kidney transplants on cats that are experiencing kidney failure. Such renal failure is usually fatal, but McAnulty's transplants can extend life expectancy by two to six years. He performs about one surgery a month, but must turn away dozens of referrals of pets that are too ill to be candidates for the procedure.

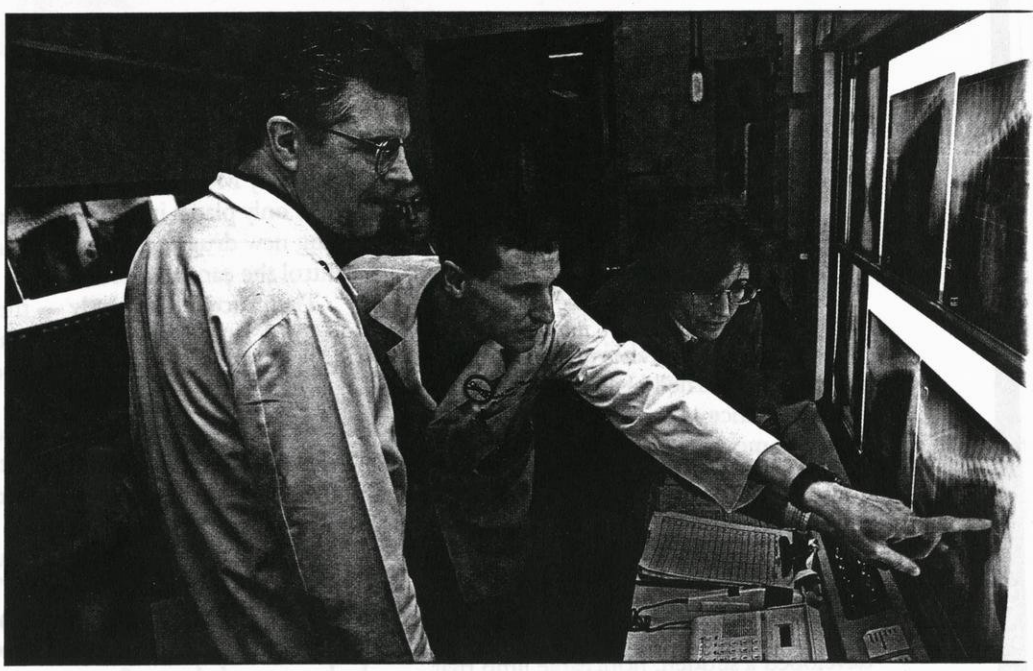
McAnulty says clients must agree to adopt the cat from which the donor kidney is taken. In essence, they arrive with one very ill cat and leave with two healthy ones. And they must be deeply committed owners, because cats receiving transplants require anti-rejection drugs for the rest of their lives.

But that's not a problem with his clientele, McAnulty says. "Cat owners can really be above and beyond in their devotion," he says. "Our clients are willing to jump through all the hoops to save their pets' lives."

Mary Eastwood '51, LLB'56 certainly fits this description. A former attorney who worked as a U.S. Justice Department lawyer in Washington, D.C.,



*The School of Veterinary Medicine's cancer treatment program has been a lifesaver for dogs such as Tegan, but clinicians must remain on guard for the cancer's spread. At left, Tegan's owner, Marilyn Putz, helps him relax while oncology professor Gregory MacEwen checks for warning signs during one of the dog's bimonthly checkups. At center, radiology technicians ready Tegan for a chest X-ray. The school employs a team approach to diagnosing problems and analyzing tests. Below, MacEwen consults with colleagues David Vail and Lisa Forrest on Tegan's X-ray results. Tegan is part of this team's long-term study of new drugs that help the body fight cancer.*



*Fred and Marilyn Putz say they're grateful to have Tegan back to being healthy and energetic after his operation required a front leg to be amputated. After a difficult first month, "it was as if somebody turned on a switch and he was back to his old self," Marilyn says. The Putzes keep him busy with morning runs along Lake Michigan, and "pet therapy" sessions at area nursing homes.*

for eighteen years, she now says living in a farmhouse in southwestern Wisconsin and caring for her cats is one of the joys of retirement. In August 1995, she brought her cat Charlie to the veterinary school after he was diagnosed with acute renal failure. She was surprised, but also encouraged, that something as sophisticated as transplants are available for pets. Charlie was only eight years old, she says, and had many good years ahead.

Charlie adjusted well to the surgery, and no longer stubbornly fights his twice-daily pills. Eastwood admits that Charlie's need for care has tied her down more, but she's adjusted, too.

"People need to decide how important their pet is to them," she tells people who question the expense of her cat's procedure. "It doesn't cost as much as a lot of things people spend their money on, and the rewards are wonderful. You're saving a life."

Paul Manley, an orthopedic surgeon at the veterinary school, specializes in treatments for hip dysplasia, a crippling malady in larger-breed dogs. The culprit is a poor fit of the hip ball and socket, which creates microscopic fractu bones and scarring of tissue. The ity of Manley's work is devoted t from six to twelve months old, th age at which dysplasia shows up. forms a surgery that requires brea and resetting the hip bone to pro align the ball and socket. In the e mated five hundred surgeries he h done, not one has required correc surgery later on, Manley says.

But for dogs with full-blown d sia, where damage has already occ Manley performs hip replacement surgery to restore movement. The ery rate for a surgery this invasive i remarkable, he says; many dogs car weight in three days, and be fully a in a few months.

Manley uses the same materials replacement bones that are used for humans. That provides a great opp nity to study a serious problem with replacement hips for humans — the that they often fail in fifteen to twen years.

One of Manley's success stories i a large Siberian husky owned by Cat Stoodley of Fontana, Wisconsin. Isis always had trouble getting around, b one morning about a year ago, she couldn't get up to walk. She was less three years old, but her dysplasia was severe. Stoodley says without the surg she eventually would have had to consider euthanasia. After hearing of Man ley's successes with other dogs, Stoodl was willing to take the risk.

Isis was a quick healer. "She was standing up in her cage the very next day," Stoodley says. Isis is now a wild a revved-up dog, behaving as if she has been freed from a body that just wouldn't cooperate. Her recovery is especially gratifying for Stoodley, a volu teer at a Walworth County animal shelt when she thinks about how she adopte Isis from the shelter as a stray.

"My attitude is that you do what yo can do within reason," she says. "I wasn going to break the bank just to give her one extra year. But I was able to give Isi her whole life." □

*For more information about the program at the School of Veterinary Medicine, call Sheila McGuirk, associate dean for clinica affairs and hospital director, (608) 263-4437.*

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Veterinary Medicine

EMBARGOED FOR A.M. RELEASE FEBRUARY 28, 1997

CONTACT: John Torphy, (608) 263-2509

## U.S. NEWS RANKS GRADUATE PROGRAMS

MADISON — Several academic programs at the University of Wisconsin-Madison have earned high ratings in the 1997 ranking of graduate programs.

UW-Madison ranked 6th overall in education and placed high in several education specialties: 1st in curriculum and instruction; 2nd in administration, educational psychology, elementary education and secondary education; 3rd in educational policy; and 5th in counseling.

The university's social work and veterinary medicine programs both were ranked 9th. Engineering was 12th overall, with specialty rankings of 5th in both chemical and nuclear engineering.

Pharmacy was 16th, and fine arts was 19th overall and 2nd in printmaking. Other UW-Madison rankings included 20th in music and 38th in law.

As a business specialty, the real estate program at UW-Madison was ranked 3rd, though the overall MBA program did not make the top 50.

The U.S. News & World Report's eighth annual guide to graduate programs will be

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available on newsstands March 3. It focuses this year on 16 disciplines; not all fields are ranked every year.

UW-Madison Vice Chancellor John Torphy said that the high rankings were gratifying. "However," he said, "U.S. News rankings — high or low — should be taken with a very large grain of salt. And the same is true regarding rankings in other magazines.

"Apparently 11 of the 16 disciplines ranked are based strictly on peer reputation, while the other five include a variety of additional factors. Peer review and reputation usually result in higher rankings for UW-Madison than such criteria as 'selectivity' and 'faculty resources.' For example, based on peer reputation, the School of Education would rank 2nd rather than 6th, and the Law School would rank 18th nationally, 6th among public universities and 2nd in the Big Ten."

Other reviews of graduate programs, such as the National Research Council (NRC), are more rigorous and accurate, said Torphy. The NRC conducts a major review of graduate programs every decade. In 1995 the NRC placed 16 UW-Madison doctoral programs in the nation's top 10, and another 35 programs made the top 25. The survey asks nearly 8,000 faculty members around the country to rank 41 different fields at 274 doctorate-granting universities.

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— Jeff Iseminger, (608) 262-8287

# FACULTY & STAFF

MILESTONES

## Popular professor Worzala dies

Materials scientist **Frank Worzala,** whose hands-on approach to teaching and research benefited Wisconsin companies and a generation of students, died Aug. 15 of an apparent heart attack. He was 62.

Worzala, a UW-Madison professor since 1967, was a well-known figure with companies such as TREK Bicycle Corp. of Waterloo, Fisher-Barton Corp. of Watertown and Thermal Spray Technologies of Sun Prairie. Worzala had many active partnerships with those firms, helping them develop new technologies to improve their products.

For the past five years Worzala chaired the department of materials science and engineering, and he had just retired this summer. Worzala specialized in plasma spray coatings and other technologies to improve the surface properties of materials.

"There's no question that Frank stood out among faculty as someone who had a great rapport with undergraduate students," said Arthur Dodd, an emeritus materials scientist and longtime colleague of Worzala. "He went out of his way to make students feel they were important and that his work was done in their interests."

Dodd said Worzala often worked to find students summer internships and full-time jobs, and preferred doing practical research where he could get students involved.

Thermal Spray Technologies, which opened in 1993, was a spin-off company conceived through the work of Worzala and others in materials science. Bill Lenling, a former graduate student of Worzala's, said the two worked together on a breakthrough that led to the company's formation.

"It was really because of Frank's ideas and dedication that we got this company up and running," said Lenling, the company's vice president. "He has continued to support us with research and access to UW students."

Worzala and colleagues also had projects with TREK to improve the strength of mountain bike rims and frames. At his retirement party this summer, Lenling said students showed their gratitude by giving him a mountain bike they had custom-designed with equipment from the college, using many of the techniques Worzala taught them. Friends said Worzala was an avid bicyclist, skier and triathlete.

Worzala died of an apparent heart attack while jogging with his dog along Picnic Point. He is survived by his wife Diane and nine children.

## UW medical ethics professor joins national commission

**R. Alta Charo,** associate professor of law and medical ethics, was named to the newly formed National Bioethics Advisory Commission, a panel charged with considering the ethical issues associated with research and experiments in human biology and behavior. Charo, appointed by President Bill Clinton in July, joins 14 other commission members representing medicine, law, the biological and social sciences, theology and philosophy.

Created by executive order last October,

*See MILESTONES, page 4*

## To report faculty and staff news

Faculty and staff members are encouraged to report honors, awards and other professional achievements for publication. We must receive your item **AT LEAST 10 DAYS BEFORE PUBLICATION.**

Campus Mail: **19 BASCOM HALL**

E-Mail: **WISWEEK@MACC.WISC.EDU**

Profile: Linda Sullivan

# Healing and heeling

*Dog days of summer have never been better at the Children's Hospital* — **Brian Mattmiller**

Linda Sullivan is helping guide a mission of goodwill in the School of Veterinary Medicine that has literally gone to the dogs.

Sullivan is a familiar face at the school, where she's been a clinical instructor since 1990 and an inaugural graduate in 1987. But as adviser for one of UW-Madison's most innovative student groups — the Companion Animal Club — she finds a perfect match between her professional goals and her altruistic drive.

The club's latest effort, "Pet Pals," has been a big hit in its first two months. Sullivan and club members are preparing groups of dogs for regular visits to the UW Children's Hospital, giving kids a welcome break from their often trying medical routine.

Alissa Gauger

On a recent August afternoon, Sullivan and two of the program's student leaders, Linda Teeter and Angela Phelps, prepared for a hospital visit. At their sides were the day's main attractions: Duke, a spry, curly-tailed Pug owned by Phelps; Magic, a giant but disarmingly gentle Newfoundland owned by Teeter; and Sullivan's dog Bismarck, a 15-year-old Schnauzer who lives for attention.

As the elevator to the children's wing opened, several gleeful children anxiously awaited their new friends. As the evening progressed, more than 20 children filed into the front lobby, some shyly approaching while others headed straight for the nearest dog.

The dogs, for their part, maintain a remarkable calm, laying on blankets on the floor or gingerly nudging faces with wet noses. Sullivan says it might sound funny, but the dogs just seem to *understand* the delicate nature of the environment.

"Bismarck is never a lap dog at home, but he sits nicely on everyone's lap here," Sullivan says. "They seem to be doing a job when they're here. They seem to have an attitude, and they pick up on what the children are feeling."

Bringing these simple moments to the hospital actually took more than a year of planning, including strict medical and behavioral screenings of all dogs. They test for numerous diseases that dogs may carry naturally without symptoms, but could pose problems for children with suppressed immune systems.

"We put them through a rigorous behavior evaluation," Sullivan says. "We bump them with wheelchairs. We drop metal bowls. Schnauzers get their beards pulled. Pugs get their curly tails yanked. All the things kids might do."

Pet Pals is just one volunteer venture run by the 40-member Companion Animal Club. Its most visible campaign is the annual "Dog Jog," held every September for 12 years on campus.

The event has become wildly popular: Last year, the run attracted 1,000 four-legged and 1,200 two-legged runners, who raised more than $35,000 for the Dane County Humane Society. The event has allowed the organization to hire a half-time veterinarian and greatly expand its spaying and neutering program.

**It might sound funny, but the dogs just seem to *understand* the delicate nature of the environment.**

The idea started when Sullivan was a student, and her roommate suggested they organize a fund-raising run for the society. Sullivan added an ingenious detail: "Why not add dogs?"

Sullivan is quick to credit students as the "doers" of the group. But Teeter, who originated the "Pet Pals" program, says the Companion Animals Club is greatly in debt to Sullivan's guidance.

"She is willing to put in a lot of her own free time to help us out," Teeter says. "She is as involved as the students — if not more so — because she gets all the faculty and administrative support we need to get things done."

In 1995, the UW student chapter of the American Veterinary Medicine Association named her instructor of the year. She was also runner-up for that group's national award. As a student-voted award, Sullivan says it is particularly meaningful.

By the way, Bismarck's name was inspired by a previous chancellor of Germany named Otto van Bismarck. Like most animal names, Sullivan says the name just sounded right — although Bismarck is no doubt more cuddly than most German leaders.

"He was just a Bismarck, from the minute we saw him," she says.

# BUDGET

*from page 1*

ductivity, provide more research opportunities and grants, expedite research applications for patients, allow for more faculty collaboration and efficiency, and allow for more technology transfer via WARF (Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation)," he says.

Principal Healthstar projects include a $100-million interdisciplinary research complex and a $50-million clinical instruction facility.

The $309-million capital budget approved by the Regents includes 14 major projects and infrastructure work.

The board also approved an operating budget marked by items with strong ties to the board's "Study of the UW System in the 21st Century." John Torphy, vice chancellor for administration, says he's pleased with the budget's investments in instructional technology, distance education and academic advising, and in enhancing affordability for minority and disadvantaged students. "We're very supportive of this budget, and we think these investments will strengthen UW-Madison's ability to serve more students in a more productive and efficient manner," Torphy says.

Key features of the operating budget are:

• A multifaceted $31.67-million instructional technology initiative.

• Advising. The 21st century study's findings increase the need for improvements in academic and career advising. Systemwide, $4 million is set aside for additional advisers and/or training for existing staff.

• The budget seeks $2.47 million in state funding for the Lawton Undergraduate Minority Retention Grant program and the Advanced Opportunity Program.

• The proposed budget would increase tuition by an average of 3.2 percent per year, exclusive of compensation, which will be considered later in the state budget process.

UW System President Katharine Lyall told the board the proposed budget "asks for a renewed partnership with the state." For its part, the university will provide access to 4,000 more students during the biennium and ensure the affordability of college opportunity. However, Lyall also emphasized that it is crucial that the state maintain the UW's base funding, fund cost-to-continue items and new initiatives, and "provide a market-based pay plan for faculty and staff."

Veterinary School

NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 8/21/96

**CONTACT: Richard Squires, (608) 265-5136**

**DISCOVERY MAY HELP DOGS SURVIVE BLASTOMYCOSIS**

MADISON — For dogs, a diagnosis of blastomycosis is often a death notice.

Because the disease is hard to detect and very expensive and difficult to treat, many people whose dogs contract the fungal disease often have little choice but to euthanize the animal.

"It is a devastating diagnosis," says Richard Squires, a professor of small animal internal medicine at UW-Madison's School of Veterinary Medicine. "Usually by the time it is diagnosed, the disease is well advanced."

According to Squires, Wisconsin veterinarians are becoming increasingly vigilant, but their efforts to detect the disease early on are hampered by the fact that early signs of the ailment — sore eyes, small, undramatic skin lesions, fever, a dry cough — seem mild. Moreover, available diagnostic tests for the disease are not especially accurate.

The disease is most common in Wisconsin's North Woods where the fungus that causes the disease thrives in the moist acidic soils of the region. Squires estimates that the average medium-sized veterinary practice in Northern Wisconsin sees 20 to 50 cases of blastomycosis a year.

Although no dog is immune, those most at risk are larger hunting dogs like hounds and Labrador and golden retrievers .

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"We see the disease in a wide range of breeds," says Squires, "but we see it most often in the larger breeds. It is an occupational risk for dogs that go into the kind of environments where the fungus exists."

Squires, working in concert with researchers at UW-Madison's Medical School, is now testing a new method for diagnosing blastomycosis. The discovery of a surface antigen, a structure that decorates the coat of the yeast that grows in the lungs and other tissues of infected animals, may be the key to earlier, more accurate diagnosis.

"The earlier we can diagnose the disease, the more readily the disease will respond to treatment," Squires says.

A big problem, says Squires, is that the disease responds to treatment slowly: There is no medication that rapidly turns the disease around, and available medications are toxic and expensive. Treating a single animal can cost $1,800 or more.

Dog owners' best bet now for beating this dire ailment, says Squires, is early detection. People, particularly those who live in areas like Northern Wisconsin where the disease is endemic, should be alert for early signs of the disease.

The ultimate hope, says Squires, is that the discovery and testing of the new-found surface antigen may lead to a vaccine.

"My main concern is I don't have much practical advice to give," Squires says. "The story sounds pessimistic, but there is reason to be optimistic."

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— Terry Devitt, (608) 262-8282, trdevitt@facstaff.wisc.edu

Veterinary Medicine, College of

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# NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 9/27/95

**SCHOOL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE EARNS AWARD FOR OUTREACH**

MADISON — Two student-initiated community outreach programs at the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine have earned the school a monetary award from Hill's Pet Nutrition, Inc.

Last fall, UW-Madison, along with the 26 other veterinary colleges across the nation, received a donation of $1,500 from Hill's to fund outreach programs implemented by students which communicate the importance of the human-animal bond in their community.

Hill's has now honored UW-Madison's veterinary school for having one of the three most innovative entries in its Outreach Program competition, and has awarded the school a $5,000 grant for equipment to enhance teaching. As part of the award, Hill's also made a $1,000 contribution to the Delta Society, a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving human well-being through contact with animals. Oklahoma State College of Vet Medicine and the Cornell University College of Vet Medicine were also honored.

UW-Madison's award-winning projects were:

• The Companion Animal Club's educational videotape, "Companion Animal Dentistry," which counsels pet owners on the importance of proper home and professional dental care for their pets and stresses its significance to the well-being and happiness of companion animals; and

• The Feline Club's brochure on "Managing Your Allergy to Cats," which offers information to pet owners who are allergic to their cats and who may have been advised to find

-more-

another home for their companion animal.

Dr. David Vail, an oncologist at the School of Veterinary Medicine, is well aware of how strong the human-animal bond can be. He sees it every day as he works with clients who come to the teaching hospital seeking the newest advancements in cancer treatments for their companion animals.

"For our clients, the bond is phenomenally strong," Vail says. "The animals are considered members of the family, and the owners are willing to go the extra mile for them. They will take into account their animal's health and other needs when making important decisions in their own lives."

Those might include decisions about moving, taking a vacation or even getting married. It may mean opting to spend thousands of dollars on medical treatment for a companion animal.

In his presentations, Vail likes to use a quote from veterinary surgeon Leo Bustad when he talks about what animals bring to their relationships with humans: "Animals can provide a boundless measure of acceptance, adoration, attention, forgiveness and unconditional love. Animals also contribute to their owner's concept of self-worth and sense of being needed."

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— Liz Beyler, (608) 263-1986

Veterinary Medicine



Research

## NSF director tours UW research facilities

Physicist and National Science Foundation Director Neal Lane spent several days on the UW-Madison campus last week. Among the facilities toured by Lane were the Synchrotron Radiation Center and the Physical Sciences Laboratory, both situated near Stoughton.

At the PSL, Lane conversed with undergraduate students Maggie Turnbill and Sean Sheridan, both involved with the AMANDA project, an effort to convert part of the Antarctic ice cap into a large neutrino telescope. The AMANDA project relies on the arrays of phototubes, being constructed at PSL, to capture fleeting flashes of light produced by collisions of subatomic particles.

Jeff H

**National Science Foundation Director Neal Lane (middle) listens as undergraduate students Maggie Turnbill (left) and Sean Sheridan (right) describe the workings of a phototube that will be used as part of a neutrino telescope in Antarctica.**

# Catching up with a disease-causing fungus

*Scientists know where it lives. Now they may have found its weak spot.*

**Terry Devitt**

Ten years after an epidemiological break enabled UW-Madison scientists to discover the pondside hiding place of a microbial killer, researchers are homing in on a new method for diagnosing and preventing blastomycosis, a deadly disease that most often strikes dogs, but that is an increasingly serious problem in people.

"It's a serious illness," according to Bruce S. Klein, a scientist and associate professor of pediatrics at the Medical School. While the disease is treatable in both humans and dogs, it claims hundreds of animals in Wisconsin each year, and in humans with compromised immune systems the disease is deadly.

A decade ago, Klein led the team that uncovered the hideout in nature of *Blastomyces dermatitidis*, the fungus that causes blastomycosis. It was discovered in the soil around a beaver pond near Eagle River, Wis., after an outbreak of the disease in a group of people attending an environmental camp nearby.

The fungus lurks in moist acidic soil near waterways. And while the disease occurs worldwide, it is especially prevalent in North America in the Mississippi and Ohio River basins. Northern Wisconsin, in particular, is a hot spot for the disease.

Blastomycosis is spread by the spores of the fungus, which often settle in the lungs where they grow as a yeast. In humans, symptoms — chills, fever, cough — can mimic influenza and, on average, occur about six weeks after infection. Similar symptoms and a pneumonia-like condition occur in dogs, but in both people and animals the disease is hard to diagnose and can be mistaken for other, more common ailments.

But better diagnosis and prevention could become reality if Klein's latest discovery pays off. Exploring the fungus at the molecular level, he has discovered a feature of the fungus that makes it easier to diagnose and that holds the potential for new vaccines for both humans and dogs.

On the yeast that grows in the lung, Klein has found a surface antigen, a microscopic protein that decorates the coat of the yeast and that helps it stick to the cells of its host. But that antigen, known as WI - 1, may also be the chink in the organism's armor.

"We found that the antigen is an important target of host recognition," says Klein. "It spurs an immune response. It is consistently and strongly recognized."

In preliminary studies in mice, Klein has shown that animals' whose cells are injected with the DNA from the WI - 1 antigen mount an immune response.

While it is still to early to tell if the immune response triggered by the antigen DNA is enough to ward off blastomycosis, it makes WI - 1 a likely candidate for a vaccine against the disease.

Moreover, the immune response ranked by WI - 1, may make it easier to diagnose the disease. UW-Madison scientists *(see below)* are now working with Wisconsin veterinarians to test the potential of WI - 1 as a more and better diagnostic tool in dogs.

If further studies expand on the promise of WI - 1 as a vaccine, it could be tested clinically in dogs within a few years, according to Klein.

"There really is no way to prevent it now," says Klein. "We hope this new finding has broad applications for diagnosing and preventing the disease."

• •

## Burroughs-Wellcome grant funds Klein's work

Bruce S. Klein, associate professor of pediatrics, internal medicine and medical microbiology and immunology, has received a prestigious national award to conduct research into vaccines for blastomycosis.

**Klein**

Klein is one of just three recipients nationwide of the Molecular Pathogenic Mycology Scholar Award from the Burroughs Wellcome Fund, based in North Carolina. Klein was chosen from among nearly 20 applicants around the nation to receive the five-year, $400,000 grant supporting research into the basic biology of fungal diseases.

Klein, who has studied fungal diseases for 15 years (see related story), will investigate genetic approaches toward vaccination against fungi, particularly blastomycosis. He hopes findings from his work will yield a vaccine for blastomycosis and also may be applicable to vaccines for other fungi and microbes.

"We are extremely proud of Dr. Klein's selection for this award," says Aaron Friedman, chair of pediatrics. "His work offers great promise for a new and more successful approach to blastomycosis and other dangerous fungal diseases."

The Burroughs Wellcome Fund is an independent private foundation established to advance the medical sciences by supporting research and other scientific and educational activities.

# Blastomycosis: A disease that's no blast for dogs

**Terry Devitt**

For dogs, a diagnosis of blastomycosis is often a death notice.

Because the disease is hard to detect and very expensive and difficult to treat, many people whose dogs contract the fungal disease often have little choice but to euthanize the animal.

"It is a devastating diagnosis," says Richard Squires, a professor of small animal internal medicine at the School of Veterinary Medicine. "Usually by the time it is diagnosed, the disease is well advanced."

According to Squires, Wisconsin veterinarians are becoming increasingly vigilant, but their efforts to detect the disease early on are hampered by the fact that early signs of the ailment — sore eyes, small, undramatic skin lesions, fever, a dry cough — seem mild. Moreover, available diagnostic tests for the disease are not especially accurate.

The disease is most common in Wisconsin's North Woods where the fungus that causes the disease thrives in the moist acidic soils of the region. Squires estimates that the average medium-sized veterinary practice in Northern Wisconsin sees 20 to 50 cases of blastomycosis a year.

Although no dog is immune, those most at risk are larger hunting dogs like hounds and Labrador and golden retrievers.

"It is an occupational risk for dogs that go into the kind of environments where the fungus exists," says Squires.

Squires, working in concert with researchers at the Medical School, is now testing a new method for diagnosing blastomycosis. The discovery of a surface antigen, a structure that decorates the coat of the yeast that grows in the lungs and other tissues of infected animals, may be the key to earlier, more accurate diagnosis.

"The earlier we can diagnose the disease, the more readily the disease will respond to treatment," Squires says.

A big problem, says Squires, is that the disease responds to treatment slowly: There is no medication that rapidly turns the disease around, and available medications are toxic and expensive. Treating a single animal can cost $1,800 or more.

Dog owners' best bet now for beating the ailment, says Squires, is early detection. People, particularly those who live in areas where the disease is endemic, should be on the lookout for early signs of the disease.

The ultimate hope, says Squires, is that the discovery and testing of the new-found surface antigen may lead to a vaccine.

"My main concern is I don't have much practical advice to give," Squires says. "The story sounds pessimistic, but there is reason to be optimistic."

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Veterinary Medicine, College of

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**CONTACT: Mark Oglesbay or Steve Wall, (608) 263-9905**

**SCHOOL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE NEEDS HELP FINDING LOST SHEPHERD**

MADISON — Officials with the UW-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine are asking for the public's help in finding "Thor," a German Shepherd that escaped from teaching hospital staff.

Thor is a 2-year-old male German Shepherd, mostly black, with a shaved abdomen and possibly a large bandage on his front leg. He ran away from the school's Teaching Hospital on Nov. 27 during a routine part of an examination.

The dog was last believed to have been spotted Saturday afternoon, Dec. 9, in the Dunn's Marsh area, south of the Highway 12-18 Beltline off Seminole Highway. Thor was also spotted last Wednesday evening at the intersection of Highway PD and Verona Road. On the weekend of Dec. 2-3, he was seen in the Shorewood Hills and Indian Hills neighborhoods.

The recent cold weather brings heightened concerns about his health. If you see him, the school asks that you please let experienced people capture him. Call the school's teaching hospital at (608) 263-7600 with any information on Thor's whereabouts.

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— Brian Mattmiller, (608) 262-9772

Vet Medicine, School of

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# NEWS

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**CONTACT: Phil Cooney, (608) 262-2421**

## 'DOG JOG' ORGANIZERS WIN ANNUAL SATURN AWARD

MADISON — A student group with the organizational talent to combine 1,000 joggers and 800 dogs into a smooth-running, fund-raising juggernaut have won this year's Saturn Teamwork Challenge.

The Companion Animal Club, a group composed of University of Wisconsin-Madison veterinary medicine students, won the annual teamwork challenge for Dog Jog '94, a 2-mile run/walk held in September on the shores of Lake Mendota.

The club was able to raise more than $29,000 for the Dane County Humane Society, the largest fund-raising total ever recorded through a single event for the shelter. The money is helping the humane society fund a new veterinary clinic to spay and neuter pets and provide medical care.

The Saturn Teamwork Challenge, co-sponsored by UW-Madison's Student Organization Office and the Saturn Corporation, has been offered on numerous college campuses since 1991. This year, 17 UW-Madison student groups took part in the competition.

Without the fund-raising support, the Dane County Humane Society could not have afforded its much-needed veterinary clinic, said Mary Paul-Long, director of development and communications for the shelter. It also helps support the "Love-a-Pet" program, which brings companion animals into area nursing homes as a type of therapy for residents.

- more -

"This is our number one fund-raiser and it has been critical to the well- being of the animals we see here," Paul-Long said. "The event also makes people more aware of our mission and may bring more people to the shelter to adopt our animals."

"I think the key this year was the amount of advertising we had," said Selvi Kumaresan, a third-year veterinary medicine student. "We really made a tremendous leap from where we were a year ago in both participants and donations."

Teams involved in the Saturn program are judged on a combination of team initiative and enterprise; creative solutions; enhancement of the campus and community environment; and maximizing impact of the work. The Animal Companion Club will receive $1,000 and a trophy from Saturn and a chance to compete for the $5,000 national award.

Dog Jog team members include: Mark Thompson, Colleen Weinfurt, Michelle Murray, Deb Sweet, Peggy Christl, Tim Lampman, Selvi Kumaresan, Ed Ancu, Kristen Weiss, Sue Juech, Janet Lubinski, Steve Soergel and Gretchen Kuchenmeister. All are students in the UW-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine. Linda Sullivan, a clinical instructor in veterinary medicine, is the club's faculty advisor.

The 1,000-plus joggers contributed an entry fee for the Dog Jog, and many others collected pledges for the run. The group also received corporate sponsorships and pursued free advertising opportunities for the event. The increased visibility helped the group raise its fund-raising total from about $4,000 the previous year to more than $29,000.

Last year, the Bosnia Relief Committee won the first UW-Madison Saturn award for its efforts to collect food and medical supplies for victims of war in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

For more information on the Saturn awards program, contact Phil Cooney, director of the Student Organization Office, at (608) 262-2421; or e-mail at saturn@macc.wisc.edu.

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— Brian Mattmiller, (608) 262-9772

# WISCONSIN WEEK

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–MADISON | FOR FACULTY AND STAFF | DECEMBER 7, 1994

JEFF MILLER

**As money exchanges hands during the holidays, longer-lasting currency has special appeal.**

## UW scientists helping create a more durable dollar

A UW-Madison research team is giving new meaning to the principle of making money last.

A study led by forestry professor Raymond A. Young found that treating currency paper with industrial plasmas might stretch the wallet-life of the American greenback. The study was conducted at the university's Engineering Research Center (ERC) for Plasma-Aided Manufacturing.

Young and co-researcher Ferencz Denes, together with ERC graduate student Zhong-Qiang Hua, completed the study this fall for the federal Bureau of Engraving and Printing, an arm of the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

The Treasury department hopes to improve the quality of currency along with a larger project in 1995 to overhaul its design.

Plasma-aided manufacturing involves the use of electrically charged particles to produce new materials with unusual and superior properties. Plasmas are formed by adding a gas to an electric field, which causes the gas molecules to split apart and form radically new compounds. Manufacturers are using this process in a vast number of ways, from etching more precise computer chips to treating automobile parts to improve the adhesion of paint. Using plasma treatment on currency paper was a logical extension of the technology, since many types of paper already are treated to create desired reactivity, Young said.

"The main issue in treating currency paper is to improve the adhesion of ink," Young said. "The biggest problem with aging bills is the tendency of ink to fade and wear off."

Results of the pilot test have been very promising, Young said. The ERC investigators treated the currency paper samples, which were then sent back to the bureau for printing. The bureau reported a significant improvement in the paper's ability to absorb and hold ink, Young said.

"This process doesn't produce any visible changes on the surface of the paper, which is important," he added. "The effect is at the molecular level."

In attempting to modify the currency paper's surface properties, the researchers used three different gases — oxygen, silicon tetrachloride and carbon tetrafluoride. The first two appeared to

*(Continued on page 10)*

## Buss named dean for School of Veterinary Medicine

**By Terry Devitt**

Daryl Dean Buss, chair of the department of physiological sciences at the University of Florida's College of Veterinary Medicine, has been named dean of the UW-Madison's School of Veterinary Medicine, effective Dec. 5.

**Buss**

Buss becomes the second dean in the school's history, succeeding Bernard C. Easterday who led the school since its establishment in 1983 and retired this year.

A native of Rock Rapids, Iowa, Buss has been a professor of physiological sciences at the University of Florida since 1976. He was named chair of the physiological sciences department there in 1979.

"Daryl Buss comes to Wisconsin with a wealth of administrative, research and teaching experience. He's a perfect fit for the job," says John D. Wiley, interim provost. "He has a lot to offer our School of Veterinary Medicine and the constituencies it serves."

Buss has published more than 60 works in his area of expertise, circulation of blood to the heart. He is an accomplished teacher, having taught numerous courses at the University of Florida's colleges of Veterinary Medicine and Medicine. He has won two teaching awards, including the 1981 Teacher of the Year award presented by the University of Florida's College of Veterinary Medicine.

Buss says UW-Madison's quality and its School of Veterinary Medicine were key reasons for coming here. Another advantage, he says, is that UW-Madison has strong academic traditions in both medicine and agriculture, a circumstance that exists at only a handful of universities nationwide.

"The institution, its faculty and its students are all positives," Buss says.

The new dean says a priority when he arrives in Madison will be coming to grips with shrinking budgets: "The first item on the agenda will be to try to address plans for budget reallocation. Coming in as an outsider, I will need to spend significant time getting answers to (budget) questions."

Buss is not entirely new to Madison. He received both his master's and doctoral degrees from UW-Madison, graduating in 1975.

"When he came to Wisconsin as a graduate student he was already an accomplished clinical cardiologist," according to Gerald E. Bisgard, a professor of comparative biosciences who served as Buss' major advisor.

"He was the kind of student you dreamed about. He was very focused and knew exactly what he wanted to do," Bisgard says.

Buss' background in both the clinical and basic sciences, combined with his administrative experience, Bisgard said, made him the ideal candidate to lead the 11-year-old school that has an annual operating budget of $10 million and that graduates about 75 veterinarians a year. "The sum total of his experience is such that you couldn't ask for a better background for a dean," he says.

JEFF MILLER

### *Art interacts with art*

**Elaine Scheer, assistant professor of art, puts the finishing touches on "Assumed Guilty," her contribution to the Quadrennial Exhibition of faculty and staff art hosted by the Elvehjem Museum of Art. While Scheer worked on the installation, members of an anonymous group — cloaked in white — positioned themselves near the artwork in recognition of World AIDS Day on Dec. 1. Scheer describes her piece as a "participatory installation," and that "people sitting on it and talking about it really helps create a lot of the piece." To learn more about the exhibit, which opens Dec. 9, turn to page 12.**

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# NEWS

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**CONTACT: Ronald D. Schultz (608) 263-8791**

**UW VETERINARY SCHOOL'S SEARCH FOR A NEW DEAN NARROWS**

MADISON — The search for a new dean for the University of Wisconsin-Madison's School of Veterinary Medicine has been narrowed to four candidates.

The four candidates for the position being vacated by retiring Dean Bernard C. Easterday are:

• Daryl D. Buss, a professor and chair of the department of physiological sciences in the College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Florida.

• Alan H. Rebar, associate dean for research and associate director of the Agricultural Experiment Station at Purdue University. Rebar is also a professor of clinical pathology at Purdue's School of Veterinary Medicine.

• David O. Slauson, chair of the department of pathobiology at the University of Tennessee's College of Veterinary Medicine.

• Alastair J. S. Summerlee, associate dean and professor of biomedical sciences at the Ontario Veterinary College at the University of Guelph.

The "short list" of finalists was presented to UW-Madison Chancellor David Ward by Ronald D. Schultz, a professor of pathobiological sciences who chaired the search committee for the new dean.

Candidates will return to Madison in July to meet with Chancellor Ward and to visit the UW-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine.

The successful candidate will replace Easterday, who has headed the school since its founding 15 years ago. A new dean is expected to be named by the fall.

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— Terry Devitt, (6080 262-8282

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

**Dr. Daryl D. Buss**
Professor and Chair
Department of Physiological Sciences
College of Veterinary Medicine
University of Florida
Gainesville, FL

Dr. Buss received his BS and DVM degrees from the University of Minnesota, St. Paul, and his MS and Ph.D from the UW-Madison Department of Veterinary Science. He has clinical practice experience in Minnesota prior to his academic appointment at the University of Florida. In addition to chairing the Department of Physiological Sciences since 1979, he also serves as the interim director of the Center for Environmental and Human Toxicology and holds a joint appointment in the Division of Cardiology's Department of Medicine in the College of Medicine. He has authored numerous scientific publications, has been awarded many extramural research grants, has trained many graduate students, has been awarded several teaching awards, and is active in various university and national committees.

**Dr. Alan H. Rebar**
Associate Dean for Research and Associate Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station
Professor of Clinical Pathology
Department of Veterinary Pathology
School of Veterinary Medicine
Purdue University
West Lafayette, IN

Dr. Rebar received his Ph.D. and DVM degrees from Purdue University. He has spent his entire academic career at Purdue, first being appointed as Assistant Professor and Director of the Clinical Pathology Laboratory. He currently serves as the Associate Dean for Research, Interim Department Head of Veterinary Pathology, Acting Director of Veterinary Continuing Education, and Director of the Veterinary Cytology Resources Center. Dr. Rebar has been active in research, graduate education, teaching, clinical service and academic service. He has been the recipient of several teaching awards, and is the author of numerous publications. In addition to his service on school and university committees he is a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Pathologists and has been active in many professional organizations.

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**Dr. David O. Slausen**
Head, Department of Pathobiology
Distinguished Professor of Comparative Medicine
College of Veterinary Medicine
University of Tennessee
Knoxville, TN

Dr. Slausen attended the University of Wisconsin-Madison as an undergraduate and received his BS, DVM and Ph.D. from the School Veterinary Medicine at the University of California-Davis. He was a post-doctoral fellow at Scripps Clinic and Research Foundation in LaJolla, CA, and served on the staff at the Lovelace Foundation for Medical Education and Research in Albuquerque, NM. He then accepted a position in the Department of Pathology in the College of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell. He left that university to accept his current position as Head of Pathology in the College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Tennessee. Dr. Slausen has had a well-funded research program, has trained many graduate students, and has published numerous papers on his research. He is actively involved in all aspects of veterinary medical education, he is a well recognized teacher of pathology, having published a textbook of veterinary pathology. He serves on several college and university committees and is active in a number of professional organizations. He is a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Pathologists.

**Dr. Alastair J. S. Summerlee**
Associate Dean
Professor of Biomedical Sciences
Ontario Veterinary College
University of Guelph
Guelph, Ontario, Canada

Dr. Summerlee received his BSc, BVSc and Ph.D. from the University of Bristol, United Kingdom. After completing his degrees, he continued at Bristol as a training fellow in anatomy and as a post-doctoral fellow in zoology before joining the faculty. He then served as Pre-Clinical Dean in the School of Veterinary Science prior to his departure to accept a faculty position in the Department of Biomedical Sciences at the Ontario Veterinary College where he now serves as Associate Dean. He has an active well-funded research program, and has trained a number of graduate students. He is the recipient of several awards including one for teaching. He has been active on numerous college and university committees as well as being involved with several professional organizations. He is a Member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons.

Vet Med., School of

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**CONTACT: Bernard C. Easterday, (608) 263-6716**

**CONFERENCE DEDICATED TO RETIRING DEAN EASTERDAY**

MADISON — The School of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Wisconsin-Madison has dedicated its 10th annual postgraduate conference to Bernard C. Easterday, the school's founding dean.

Easterday, who guided the school through its first 15 years, plans to retire in August after 35 years of service to the university. He was also part of the original team that built the proposal for a veterinary school and fought for its legislative approval.

The postgraduate conference chooses an individual to honor each year who has a Wisconsin connection and has made notable contributions to the school or the profession. Easterday was honored for his "wisdom, guidance, service and friendship" during the dedication Friday at the Inntowner Hotel in Madison.

"In the history records, Dr. Easterday will be remembered and honored for his significant leadership role in establishing the (school) and for his contributions to the understanding of animal diseases," the dedication read.

Easterday is an expert in swine and avian influenza and their relationship to human influenza. He joined UW-Madison's veterinary medicine faculty in 1961 and also served as department chairman.

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— Brian Mattmiller, (608) 262-9772

Vet Medicine, School of



master of life drawing, Becker has gained a reputation for meticulous detail and a distinctive world view.

• **Bruce Breckenridge,** professor of art, has completed a residency at UCross Foundation, southeast of Sheridan, Wyo. Breckenridge used his residency to create two murals using the technology of majolica, a type of tin-glazed earthenware. The Apache Corporation of Houston, Tex. purchased both murals for $32,000.

— *Barbara Wolff, (608) 262-8292*

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**PET LOSS SUPPORT GROUP CONTINUES**

A Pet Loss Support Group, sponsored by the UW-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine and was formed to help grieving pet owners cope with the loss or serious illness of their animal companions, is now in its second year.

The free meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in Room 2255 of the Veterinary Medicine Building, 2015 Linden Drive West. Parking is available in front of the clinic on the west side of the building.

During 1993, people came from as far away as Milwaukee to attend the group meetings, believed to be the first of their kind in the state. Participants share their experiences and feelings about working through the intense emotions surrounding the loss of a pet; dealing with the sometimes insensitive or indifferent reactions of co-workers, friends and family; and memorializing the pet. People who are suffering over the loss of their animal companions, who are trying to make a decision about euthanasia or who are worrying about the animal's serious health problems are encouraged to attend.

For more information, contact group facilitator Myrna Solganick, a licensed mental health professional who specializes in grief counseling, at (608) 255-9610.

— *Liz Beyler, (608) 263-1986*

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## UW-MADISON NEWS BRIEFS

### ENGINEERING PROFESSOR RECEIVES AWARD

François Sainfort, a UW-Madison assistant professor of industrial engineering, has received the 1993 Joseph Orlicky Award from the international Production and Operations Management Society.

The award, highlighting the best innovation in manufacturing and service operations, recognizes Sainfort's work on a Wisconsin Department of Transportation (DOT) project: the development and implementation of a pavement management decision support system within a geographic information system environment.

The Wisconsin DOT was also given a prize citation, received by Stephen Shober and Phil DeCabooter.

For more information, contact Patty Fritschel at (608) 262-9660.

*— Kelly Radloff, Engineering Publications, (608) 262-2481*

### PONDROM TO RECEIVE PHYSICS PRIZE

UW-Madison Physics Professor Lee G. Pondrom has been selected as the co-recipient of the 1994 W.K.H. Panofsky Prize.

The Panofsky Prize, awarded by the American Physical Society and sponsored by the friends of W.K.H. Panofsky, one of the nation's leading particle physicists, is given in recognition of outstanding achievements in the field of particle physics.

Pondrom was recognized for experimental work that spanned two decades and helped establish the idea that subatomic matter is made of quarks, a hypothesized family of fundamental particles. He shares the prize with Thomas J. Devlin of Rutgers University. The prize consists of $5,000 and a certificate citing the contributions made by the recipient.

A native of Texas, Pondrom joined the UW-Madison faculty in 1963. He is internationally recognized as one of the most successful researchers in the field of high energy particle physics.

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*— Terry Devitt, (608) 262-8282*

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## YU RECEIVES HIGH POLYMER PHYSICS PRIZE

Hyuk Yu, a UW-Madison professor of chemistry, is the 1994 recipient of the High Polymer Physics Prize awarded by the American Physical Society.

Yu, a member of the UW-Madison chemistry faculty since 1967, was cited for his applications of optical techniques toward a better understanding of polymer configuration and motion.

The prize, which includes $5,000 and a certificate, is intended to recognize outstanding accomplishments in the field of high polymer physics. The prize was established in 1960 by the Ford Motor Co.

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*— Terry Devitt, (608) 262-8282*

## VETERINARY MEDICINE WORKSHOP WINS AWARD

The School of Veterinary Medicine's June 1993 workshop, "Celebrate Diversity: Enhancing the Learning Environment in Veterinary Medical Education," has won the 1993 Creative and Innovative Award from the North American Association of Summer Sessions.

The award recognizes creative and innovative summer programs that make "outstanding contributions to the summer curriculum." The non-credit workshop was nominated by Howard Martin, dean of the Division of Summer Sessions.

Karen Young, clinical associate professor of pathobiological sciences at the School of Veterinary Medicine, directed the workshop, which hosted representatives from the 31 colleges of veterinary medicine in North America.

"I'm extremely pleased that the NAASS recognized not only the content of our workshop, which sought to improve the learning environment in veterinary medical education, but also the format, in which students, faculty, administrators, and staff came together on equal footing and developed a sense of community as we addressed the environment for the curriculum in veterinary medical education," said Young.

###

*— Harvey Black, (608) 262-9772*

uw news

From the University of Wisconsin-Madison / News Service, Bascom Hall, 500 Lincoln Drive, Madison 53706 / Telephone: 608/262-3571

Release: Immediately 5/17/90

CONTACT: Tom Yuill (608) 263-1008, Jane Homan (608) 262-4874

# RAT HERDS COULD PROVIDE MEAT FOR SOME AFRICAN NATIONS

By Harvey Black
University News Service

MADISON--Rat for dinner?

In Zaire and other central African nations, the three- to four-pound giant rat, found in the wild, is a highly-prized delicacy.

Tom Yuill, associate dean of the School of Veterinary Medicine at University of Wisconsin-Madison, is working with African university scientists to see if the rat, which weighs about twice as much as the variety found in the U.S., can be domesticated and raised for food in Africa.

Yuill, who is consulting on the project directed by biology Professor Mbakulirahi Malenkani of the University of Kinshasa in Zaire, said there is growing interest in developing countries in "micro-livestock" -- smaller animals that are easily maintained in captivity."

Jane Homan, who coordinates livestock projects for the International Agricultural Programs Office in UW-Madison's College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, agreed that the domesticated giant rat could provide an added local source of dietary protein.

"Managing local species as micro-livestock may provide a way of filling nutritional needs in a way that is compatible with managing natural resources," Homan said.

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Domesticating the giant rat could not only provide food, Homan added, but could also provide an important source of income for Africans, and require a minimal start-up investment.

Describing the project as "one small brick in the wall," Homan said successfully domesticating the giant rat could mean that a family might be able to survive in rural Africa, instead of being forced to move to crowded cities.

The researchers added that an important aspect of the $120,000 project, which is funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development, is that it relies on the attitudes and preferences of native populations, instead of imposing foreign standards and tastes.

Yuill and Homan, who recently returned from Zaire and neighboring countries, said the meat of the giant rat, called bushmeat, is highly prized and sold in public markets.

"The price of rat meat is higher than beef," Yuill said. "But right now, it's all from animals that are taken out of the wild."

Homan said bushmeat is seen as "rich man's meat" in parts of Cameroon, and one survey reported that it already makes up 10 percent of the animal protein in diets in that country. But she emphasized that more extensive studies are needed to determine the real size of the market for rat meat.

Although some groups in central and west Africa clearly enjoy bushmeat, other groups in the region have strong taboos against its consumption. One Nigerian survey found that it was a premium item in southern cities, though in the west and east, many groups regard rats as either sacred or evil.

The researchers say they must learn everything about the rats that is known about pigs and cattle in this country. What kind of food should the rats eat? What is their reproductive behavior, how big are the litters, how can they be best raised? What disease are the rats subject to, and how can they be prevented?

Yuill said that a number of UW-Madison scientists from a range of disciplines -- including zoology, wildlife ecology, nutrition, and the School of Veterinary Medicine -- have expressed interest in the project. He said, however, that no formal research has yet started, but that Malekani could have experimental "rat herds" set up farms within three years.

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-- Harvey Black (608) 262-9772

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Release: Immediately 7/17/90

CONTACT: Gordon Mitchell (608) 263-9826/263-5013

RESEARCH INDICATES THAT BREATHING RESPONSE CAN BE TAUGHT

MADISON--You get out of bed, get on your running gear, and go off on your morning jog. As you run, your breathing deepens, you breathe faster and take in ever larger amounts of air.

It happens so automatically you wouldn't suspect that at least part of this response could be learned. But Gordon Mitchell, a professor of comparative bioscience at the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine, is challenging old scientific beliefs by finding that increased breathing during activity can be taught.

In research completed this year he's found that goats can be trained, like Pavlov's dogs, to alter their breathing during exercise.

"This is contrary to older thoughts on the mechanisms that control breathing," said Mitchell, who with graduate student Pat Martin presented their findings at the spring meeting of the Federation of American Societies of Experimental Biology.

"Most people have thought of the mechanism as being hard-wired. What we're implying is that it's able to adapt based on experience."

The research may help patients who have illnesses such as emphysema, which impair breathing. Mitchell speculates that they could be trained to improve their breathing. But he emphasizes this is now speculation -- his research still is at a basic level.

Mitchell and his students have found that goats exercising on a treadmill

-more-

can be trained to increase their breathing. He describes the process as "neural training."

The goats walk on the treadmill so researchers can get "baseline data" on their metabolism and breathing responses. The goats are fitted with masks to allow researchers to measure breathing and regulate the mixture of air the animals breathe.

"Then we in essence fool them," he said. "We lower the oxygen or raise the carbon dioxide artificially" to make the goats breathe much harder than normal as they walk on the treadmill.

After a number of such trials over several days, the air the goats breathe is brought back to normal. But the goats' breathing isn't. At least not initially. The animals keep breathing hard despite the fact that they have no physical need to do so.

"It's as though they were expecting that there would be this problem with low oxygen or high carbon dioxide levels," Mitchell said.

But Mitchell notes that the goats are able to learn how to breathe hard, they eventually learn to breathe the normal air normally again.

The finding is only part of Mitchell's research program, which is aimed at developing a better understanding of breathing. He is probing is the role of serotonin in regulating the response of breathing to exercise. A chemical that carries messages between nerve cells, serotonin is found near neurons controlling respiration. It is known to affect these neurons, but its exact role remains unspecified.

Mitchell also is investigating what kind of signals during exercise trigger increased breathing. He says one common-sense notion -- increased carbon dioxide in the system resulting from increased metabolism that comes from exercising -- is inadequate to explain the phenomenon in humans. Mitchell says our brains have CO2 sensors but the signals aren't powerful enough to increase our breathing rate during exercise.

In fact, during exercise, the level of carbon dioxide in arterial blood stays the same or actually decreases.

Animals such as alligators and birds have nerves in their lungs which send messages to increase breathing when carbon dioxide levels get too high. But humans don't have such sensors.

Breathing is a complicated process, and unraveling its subtleties will require a great deal of patience, Mitchell said.

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-- Harvey Black (608) 262-9772

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**CONTACT: Virginia Hinshaw, (608) 263-2792**

## 'GENE VACCINE' MAY USHER NEW ERA OF VIRUS PROTECTION

MADISON — A genetic answer to developing vaccines against potentially deadly viruses is showing great promise in a new University of Wisconsin-Madison study.

By using a single gene clipped from influenza DNA, and a "gene gun" that can inject the DNA into animal cells, the research has created a kind of genetic sleight of hand in test animals: They produce antibodies to attack a virus that isn't there.

As a result, the animals that were then challenged with the actual influenza virus showed a much greater ability to fight off the virus.

Teaming together on the project are an influenza study group in UW-Madison's School of Veterinary Medicine and Agracetus, a Madison biotechnology firm.

Virginia Hinshaw, a UW-Madison professor of veterinary medicine and leader of the school's influenza study, said this development could lead to a breakthrough in the fight against many dangerous viruses in humans -- ones which currently have no vaccine.

Typical vaccines, like those used for the flu, use purified strains of the virus itself to induce virus-fighting antibodies in humans, she said. But the DNA-based approach uses only one key gene from the virus, which mimics the actual virus and triggers the same immune response.

That's an important distinction, said Hinshaw, who is also a UW-Madison associate vice chancellor for academic affairs. With viruses such as Hepatitis or HIV, a

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vaccine made from the actual virus would pose the risk of accidental infection.

The first results of a study with pigs were examined in September, Hinshaw said, and they bode well for further studies of the technique.

Pigs happen to be ideal subjects for this research, Hinshaw said, since they are very susceptible to influenza and can pass the virus to humans. She said they also are very similar anatomically to humans.

"How they respond is very close to how we would respond," she said. "Eventually the goal is for this process to serve as a model for vaccinations against other kinds of human viruses."

UW-Madison is in a unique position to conduct the study. Hinshaw is recognized internationally for her work with the influenza virus, and staff at Agracetus invented the DNA transfer technology (commonly called a "gene gun") that is making the work possible.

Will Swain, senior scientist at Agracetus, said the gene gun works by shooting a microscopic gold bead coated with DNA into a cell. If the bead is placed in the nucleus of the cell, the genes from that DNA coating can be expressed in the cell. Each treatment shoots about 1 million coated gold beads, which covers about three square centimeters on the pig's skin.

Viruses infect a cell by getting inside them and assembling their own proteins. The research team is injecting the one virus gene which produces an attachment protein called hemagglutinin, which has the ability to "pick the locks" on a cell's surface and get inside. So antibodies to this protein will help block infection.

If the procedure works for influenza, Swain said the same approach can be tried for other viruses such as HIV or Hepatitis B.

"One of the beauties of this technology is it can be generally applied," Swain said.

"Our work can switch from one virus to another quite easily."

In the study, Hinshaw said flu antibodies were evident after the initial vaccination. But after the animals were exposed to the virus the antibody counts "skyrocketed." "We saw a very enthusiastic response, which is usually what you need to reduce infection."

Hinshaw noted that typically vaccines don't actually stop infection from a virus. They simply give the body a big head start in fighting them — usually enough to ward off becoming ill from the infection.

Hinshaw said DNA-based vaccines would also be very efficient. Rather than introducing a dead virus, the antibodies target the gene responsible for creating attachment proteins. "This directs your antibody response totally at what you want," she said.

And unlike conventional vaccines, which produce antibodies in the bloodstream, Hinshaw said a DNA-based vaccine can be targeted to a specific part of the body, such as the nose, or wherever the virus shows up.

Clinical trials may not be far away with humans, she said, but there have been some initial concerns about the potential long-term effects of fashioning vaccines from DNA.

Flu viruses mutate from year to year, just enough so that new antibodies have to be created to fight them. Hinshaw said some people have worried that flooding a person with antibodies would lead to more variants of the flu.

"But I don't think that would be a problem," she said. "The flu vaccines we currently use are 80 to 85 percent effective, and they haven't pushed up the level of change in viruses. We're not doing anything that nature isn't doing by itself."

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— Brian Mattmiller, (608) 262-9772

School of Vet. Medicine

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# NEWS

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–MADISON

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Phone: 608/262–3571
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 12/24/93

**CONTACT: Claudia Barreto, (608) 263-2408; John R. Horner, (406) 994-2251**

## BABY DINOSAUR BONES BOLSTER IDEA THAT BIRDS ARE DINOSAURS

MADISON — The 72-million-year-old bones of a baby dinosaur have given scientists added proof that birds may be the direct descendants of dinosaurs.

Writing in this week's *Science* magazine, scientists report the discovery of dinosaur growth plates, discs of cartilage that occur near the ends of long bones and that enable bones to grow in length.

The discovery of growth plates in dinosaur fossils not only helps cement the link between modern birds and dinosaurs, but is a further indication that these reptiles that were once the earth's dominant life form were warm-blooded and could grow to giant proportions in a relatively short time.

"What we've done is identify another shared characteristic of birds and dinosaurs," said Claudia Barreto, a University of Wisconsin-Madison scientist and lead author of the study.

The growth plates -- never before seen in dinosaur fossils -- were discovered in the well-preserved bones of young maiasaurs found in the dinosaur nesting sites of the Two Medicine Formation in northwestern Montana.

The bones of the bipedal, duck-billed dinosaur were excavated by paleontologist John R. Horner of the Museum of the Rockies at Montana State University in Bozeman.

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Growth plates underpin bone growth. Forming near the ends of growing bones, growth plate cartilage provides a cellular scaffolding for new bone, adding to the length of bone shafts. In some animals, growth plates enable rapid growth. In birds and mammals, the two modern rapidly growing animals, growth plates differ at both the cellular level and in their overall structure.

"Bird growth plates have a unique shape which reflects their method of rapid bone growth," Barreto said. "What we see in the dinosaur bone is very similar to what we see in birds. It is plausible to assume that these are the same things."

While growth plates are also found in modern mammals and reptiles, the dinosaur growth plates are markedly different and most closely resemble those of birds. In fast-growing mammals and birds, growth plates occur relatively early in life, until adult stature is attained. In slow-growing, cold-blooded reptiles they are present throughout life.

"Specializations of the growth plate are the prime mechanisms that animals evolved so they could grow fast," Barreto said, "and accompanying rapid growth is homeothermy -- being warm-blooded. If dinosaurs attained their giant stature in a relatively short period of development, this would provide the selective advantage of shortening the period in which the growth plates, which are structural weak points in bone, are present."

Fast growth, the Wisconsin researcher said, may have been important for the survival of dinosaurs. There is now ample evidence that some dinosaurs, such as maiasaurs, nested communally, watched over their eggs and cared for their young. The name maiasaur, in fact, means good mother reptile and was conferred by Horner after he discovered the fossilized remains of dinosaur nests along with eggs, shell fragments and dinosaur nestlings.

If it were indeed the case that dinosaurs cared for their offspring, it would have been beneficial for young dinosaurs to grow rapidly and become independent within a short time. The discovery of growth plates in dinosaur bone, according to Barreto, lends credence to that idea.

Parenting, noted Barreto, is a labor intensive and costly behavior. Shortening its duration lessens the toll parenting exacts.

Barreto's research, which was conducted at the UW-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine, was supported by the Windway Foundation, Inc. of Sheboygan, Wis.

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— Terry Devitt, (608) 262-8282

**SCHOOL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE APPOINTS ASSOCIATE DEANS**

The UW School of Veterinary Medicine (SVM) has named two new associate deans. Norman Wilsman, professor of comparative biosciences, is now associate dean for research and graduate training. Sheila McGuirk, associate professor of medical sciences, has been appointed associate dean for clinical affairs.

In his new role, Wilsman's first priority is to foster the professional development of the school's 78 faculty members. "I want to facilitate the development of research programs by our faculty," says Wilsman, a Milwaukee native.

To help do this, he plans to set up a computerized data base of the granting agencies that fund research done by SVM faculty members. This will allow a researcher to easily find information related to specific grant applications.

Another high-priority item on the new associate dean's agenda is establishing a research ethics program. Wilsman wants all graduate students in the school to become well versed in this area. It is important, he says, that students have the opportunity to study the ethical dimensions of conducting research, including the ethics of authorship, publications, conflicts of interest, data sharing, and proper ways to identify and report scientific misconduct, as well as do research ethically.

In her new position as dean of clinical training, McGuirk says she wants to have the Veterinary Teaching Medical Hospital continue to offer high-quality patient care, service and teaching for veterinary medical students, while being a "source of professional development for faculty."

She wants to promote teaching and research opportunities in the hospital.

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*— Harvey Black, (608) 262-9772*

**PROFESSOR RECEIVES AWARD**

Sngtae Kim, Wisconsin Distinguished Professor of Chemical Engineering, has been named to receive the American Institute of Chemical Engineer's Allan P. Colburn Award in Excellence in Publications by a Young Member of the Institute.

The award is given annually to a member of the institute whose publications before the age of 36 have made significant contributions to chemical engineering.

Sponsored by E.I. dupont de Nemours and Company, Inc. the award carries a $5,000 honorarium, a $500 travel allowance, and a plaque.

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# NEWS

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–MADISON

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 6/17/93

**CONTACT: Judy Dvorak, (608) 263-6266; Elmer Woelffer, (414) 567-2862 (after Monday, June 21)**

**(Note to editors, news directors:** For more information on the conference, specifics about the ceremony or for help in arranging an interview with Woelffer, please contact Judy Dvorak at (608) 263-6266.)

## SCHOOL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE LAUDS OCONOMOWOC VETERINARIAN

MADISON — By the time you reach 95, work could seem to be a distant memory.

But, not for Elmer Woelffer. The Wisconsin native and long-time Oconomowoc veterinarian is still practicing and caring for dairy cows on 10 farms.

On Friday (June 18), the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine and Gov. Tommy Thompson will honor Woelffer for his "outstanding contributions to veterinary medical education and the practice of veterinary medicine" during a special ceremony at the school's annual Post Graduate Conference. This year's conference marks the school's tenth anniversary.

Woelffer will be the first individual to have this conference dedicated to him. Future conferences will be dedicated to outstanding individuals with a Wisconsin connection for the contributions they have made to the school or to the veterinary profession, according to School of Veterinary Medicine Dean B. C. Easterday.

Woelffer began his career as a veterinarian in his mid 30s, a time when many people are already settling into their careers. Prior to that, he was a dairy farmer and breeder/showman of champion cattle. But, he had wanted to be a veterinarian since high

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school — a goal that he never allowed to fade, even though it received little support.

But after a Wheaton, Ill. veterinarian encouraged him to pursue his dream in the mid-1920s, Woelffer, who did his undergraduate work at the UW-Madison, went to Cornell University and earned his DVM in 1931.

He began working in New England for a major dairy products firm and became one of the leaders in artificially inseminating dairy cows — perhaps even the first in the region to have worked in that capacity.

Woelffer eventually returned to Wisconsin, working at the Pabst Farms in Oconomowoc and then in 1950, setting up a practice with another local veterinarian there. At the peak of his career, he was traveling 60,000 miles a year by car and plane, caring for 50 dairy herds in six states.

Woelffer has specialized in reproduction and milk management. Veterinary editor for more than 30 years for Hoard's Dairyman, the Wisconsin-based "Bible of the dairy industry," Woelffer has received many honors, which include: Veterinarian of the Year by the Wisconsin Veterinary Medical Association (1966), Man of the Year by Tri State Breeders (1976), and Industry Person of the Year by the World Dairy Expo (1983).

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— Harvey Black, (608) 262-9772

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 6/9/93

**CONTACT: Susan Hyland, (608) 263-5819; Karen Young, (608) 263-5317**

(**Note to editors/news directors:** Debbye Turner, who received her veterinary medicine degree from the University of Missouri, and who as Miss America 1990 spoke to more than 50,000 students on attaining personal and academic excellence, will be the featured speaker at a 7 p.m. banquet on Monday, June 14.)

*MEETING CHALLENGES OF DIVERSITY*

**CONFERENCE FOCUSES ON LEARNING ENVIRONMENT OF VETERINARY SCHOOLS**

MADISON — Students, faculty and administrators from colleges of veterinary medicine in the U.S. and Canada will meet at the University of Wisconsin-Madison June 13-15 to discuss the challenges of meeting the needs of an increasingly diverse student body.

The first-of-its-kind conference will be held on campus at the Memorial Union. (Please check Today in the Union for the specific room location.)

Nationwide, non-traditional veterinary medical students often feel isolated and frustrated by an environment that they perceive as exclusive and unable to meet their needs.

In recent years, veterinary schools have emphasized recruiting students from a broad mix of backgrounds, said conference organizer Karen Young, clinical associate professor at the UW School of Veterinary Medicine. "But our environment — classroom instruction and administration — has not changed to adapt to the changes in the students we teach," she said.

"The conference is looking at supporting diversity, viewing it as a strength to build on. It will focus on how we can enhance the learning environment to take advantage of diversity," said Susan Hyland, UW veterinary school associate dean for academic affairs.

A more diverse student body — one that includes people of different ethnic groups, ages, background and sexual orientations — "creates a more exciting learning environment," said Hyland.

Experts will lead discussions on developing ideas and specific mechanisms that will enable educators to more fully incorporate diverse students into the learning environments of colleges.

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"The UW-Madison has been recognized for its efforts, led by former Chancellor Donna Shalala, to celebrate diversity on campus," Young said.

Students at the UW School of Veterinary Medicine are quite diverse, said Hyland. They range in age from 19 to 44. One student was a flight nurse; others were high school teachers. Sixty-five percent of the students in next year's class are women, she said.

Both Hyland and Young said veterinary schools should make efforts to take advantage of the different styles of learning with which students come to school, instead of continuing traditional lecture and laboratory methods. For instance, said Young some students are used to cooperative learning and that veterinary schools should broaden their teaching methods to include that and other ways of learning. Projected demographic changes indicate that schools must address these modifications now, Hyland said.

Featured speakers include: Mary M. Christopher, assistant professor of clinical pathology at the College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Florida, who has investigated issues concerning women and minorities in veterinary medicine; Michael M. Morris, founder of the College of the 21st Century, an institution designed to place multiculturalism and diversity at the core of its curriculum; Glenda D. Price, provost of Spelman College, who has been instrumental in implementing academic reform to achieve diversity; and Debbye Turner, who received her veterinary medicine degree from the University of Missouri, and who as Miss America 1990 spoke to more than 50,000 students on attaining personal and academic excellence.

Twenty-six out of the 31 veterinary schools in North America are sending representatives to the meeting, which is being funded by the Pew National Veterinary Education Program. Sponsors are the North American Strategic Veterinary Education Task Force and the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges.

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— Harvey Black, (608) 262-9772

University of Wisconsin—Madison
School of Veterinary Medicine

Office of the Dean

2015 Linden Drive West
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53706

Vet School

# FACTS ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON SCHOOL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

1. **When did the State of Wisconsin decide to build a School of Veterinary Medicine?**

   In 1947, the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin passed a resolution calling for the establishment of a School of Veterinary Medicine. Authorization to begin planning was obtained in 1977 and funds for construction and operation were appropriated by the legislature in 1979.

2. **When was construction of the School begun and completed?**

   Construction of the Main Campus Facility began in March, 1981 and the building was occupied in March, 1983.

   Construction of the Charmany Farms Facility on Mineral Point Road began in June, 1981 and was completed in October, 1982.

   Construction of the River Falls Satellite Food Animal Clinical Facility began in March, 1981 and was completed in September, 1982.

3. **What was the cost of building the School of Veterinary Medicine?**

   The total cost including design, engineering, construction, and equipment was $28 million.

   The Main Campus Facility, (230,000 gross square feet) consisting of lecture halls, teaching laboratories, research laboratories, faculty and administrative offices and the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital, was constructed at a cost of $15.5 million.

   The Charmany Farms Facility, (70,000 gross square feet) an instructional and research animal holding facility located approximately 3 miles from the Main Campus Facility, was constructed at a cost of $4.3 million.

   The Satellite Food Animal Clinical Facility, (12,000 gross square feet) located on the UW-River Falls Campus, which includes exam, treatment, and surgery rooms, hospital stalls, and laboratory and pharmacy facilities, cost $1.1 million.

November 1984

Telephone 608/263-6716

4. **What function do the solar panels on the Main Campus Facility serve?**

   The solar collector on the building is an air type collector. The panels yield an effective collecting area of 6,000 square feet and, at present, the system supplements the heating system in the large animal section of the first floor hospital. The system is expected to pay for itself within 15 years.

5. **How many students will attend the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine?**

   In August, 1983, 70 Wisconsin residents and 10 nonresidents enrolled in the School's DVM degree granting program. An additional 80 students (70 residents and 10 nonresidents) enrolled in 1984 and 80 students will be admitted in each of the next two years, leading to a total of 320 DVM students. There will also be students working toward graduate degrees and completing residency training programs at the School.

6. **How many faculty members will there be?**

   Current plans call for 78 FTE (full time equivalent) faculty positions at the School by 1986 when the fourth class of professional students will be admitted.

7. **What is the cost of tuition and fees?**

   For the 1984-85 academic year, the cost is $5,572 for Wisconsin residents and $8,084 for nonresidents.

8. **What is the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital?**

   Faculty veterinarians provide veterinary medical care for privately owned animals brought to the teaching hospital. They are assisted by third and fourth year DVM students and graduate veterinarians receiving residency training at the School. Through exposure to a variety of veterinary medical cases, students gain experience in diagnostic, treatment and surgical procedures. The hospital provides care to both large and small animals which are either referred by other veterinarians or brought in directly by the owner. In either case, an appointment is necessary.

9. **How many animals may be cared for in the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital?**

   In the hospital, located on the ground floor, there are surgery and specialized examination rooms for both large and small animals, clinical laboratories, a pharmacy and 24 equine stall, 24 bovine stalls, 24 stalls for swine, sheep and goats, and accommodations for 120 companion animals.

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# NEWS TIPS

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–MADISON

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**Jan. 11, 1993**

**TO:** **Editors and news directors**
**FROM:** **Harvey Black, (608) 262-9772**
**RE:** **Support group for grieving pet owners**

The death of a pet can be traumatic for the owner. The impact of the loss of a pet's emotional support and unconditional love often leaves an owner upset and unsure of how to cope.

To help grieving pet owners, the University of Wisconsin School of Veterinary Medicine has established a Pet Loss Support Group. The group, which meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month, is led by Myrna Solganick, a psychotherapist at Affiliated Counseling Services in Madison and at Pathway Center in Prairie du Sac. The first of these sessions, which are free, will be Jan. 12. They will be held at the school in Room 2255, 2105 Linden Drive from 6 to 7:30 p.m..

Solganick says the group will focus on a variety of issues including coping with the emotions surrounding a pet's death, dealing with children's responses, the legitimacy of feeling grief and memorializing a pet. She emphasizes that the grief experienced by a pet owner is real and not the province of stereotypical "eccentric old ladies.

"Grief is grief, no matter what," Solganick says, noting that a number of veterinary schools around the country are beginning to offer similar support groups.

The group is made possible by a gift from Gary and Camille Seamans of St. Charles, Ill. Though support group sessions are free, gifts to the school's Companion Animal Fund are accepted. For more information contact Solganick at (608) 255-9610.

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# NEWS

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–MADISON

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 3/16/92

**UNIVERSITY HOSTS SMITHSONIAN LECTURES**

MADISON — Specialists from the Smithsonian Institution will relocate temporarily to Madison for a series of lectures April 8-12.

The UW-Madison will host five out of a total of nine lectures on subjects ranging from contemporary art to minerals and gems to space and air travel to zoo medicine. Specific university sponsors include the Elvehjem and Geology Museums, School of Veterinary Medicine, Space Astronomy Laboratory, Office of Outreach Development and Division of University Outreach. Others include the Madison Children's Museum, Madison Art Center, State Historical Society of Wisconsin and the Howard Johnson Plaza Hotel.

Founded in 1846 and based in Washington, D.C., the Smithsonian is the world's largest museum complex. Its umbrella covers 15 museums, galleries and the National Zoological Park. The lecture program visits about 20 cities each year to acquaint members and the public with Smithsonian research and collections. Membership nationwide exceeds 2.4 million; some 6,700 members live in the Madison area.

The lectures include:

• "25 Years of Folklife Cooking," by Katherine and Tom Kirlin on Wednesday, April 8, at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 816 State St. Tickets are $5. The Kirlins are the authors of "The Smithsonian Folklife Cookbook."

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Tom Kirlin has taught at UW-Madison.

• "Creating a Family Cookbook" by Katherine and Tom Kirlin on Thursday, April 9 at 7 p..m. in the Hoard Classroom, State Historical Museum, 30 N. Carroll St. Tickets are $10. Participants will learn how to research and combine elements of their culinary heritages into cookbook treasuries.

• "New Issues in Contemporary Art" by Amada Cruz on Friday, April 10, at 7:30 p.m. in 140 Elvehjem Museum, 800 University Ave. Tickets are $5. Cruz, assistant curator of the Smithsonian's Hirschhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, will discuss the impact of works outside traditional artistic realms.

• "Exploring African Textiles: A Parent/Child Workshop" by Peggy Blechman on Saturday, April 11 at 9 a.m. at the Madison Children's Museum, 100 State St. Tickets are $10. Blechman is educational specialist at the National Museum of African Art. Workshop participants will create their own designs.

• "Fire and Ice: The Magical World of Minerals and Gems" by Jeffrey Post on Saturday, April 11 at 10 a.m. in the Lowell R. Laudon Lecture Hall, Weeks Hall, corner of Dayton and Charter streets. Tickets are $20. Post chairs the Department of Mineral Sciences at the National Museum of Natural History and is curator of the National Gem and Mineral Collection. He will lead a three-hour seminar exploring the unique properties of minerals and gems.

• "The Revival of Hispanic Traditional Arts" by Andrew Connors on Saturday, April 11 at 4 p.m. in the third floor auditorium, Madison Art Center, 211 State St. Tickets are $5. Connors, curatorial associate at the National Museum of American Art, will consider traditional Hispanic crafts and art forms.

• "Behind the Scenes at the National Air and Space Museum" by E.T. Wooldridge on Saturday, April 11 at 7:30 p.m. in Chamberlin Hall, 1150 University Ave. Tickets are $5. Ramsey Fellow, National Air and Space Museum assistant, will lead a slide tour of the facility.

• "The Exotic Side of Medicine" by Mitchell Bush on Sunday, April 12 at 2 p.m. in 2350 School of Veterinary Medicine, 2015 Linden Drive. Tickets are $5. Bush, chief of animal health at the National Zoo, will talk about the challenges and comedy inherent in his job.

• "More than Meets the Eye: Exploring Microspace" by Jeffrey Post on Sunday, April 12 at 4:30 p.m. in Laudon Lecture Hall, Weeks Hall. Tickets are $5. Post will explain the surprisingly simple operation of today's high-intensity microscopes.

Tickets are available at the door. Advance orders may be placed through the Smithsonian Institution, U.S. and International Events, Dept. 0578, Washington, D.C., 20073-0578.

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— Barbara Wolff, (608) 262-8292

Veterinary Medicine, School of

uw news

From the University of Wisconsin-Madison / News Service, Bascom Hall, 500 Lincoln Drive, Madison 53706 / Telephone: 608/262-3571

Release: Immediately 3/19/91

UW-MADISON NEWSBRIEFS

VETERINARY MEDICINE STUDENTS TO GATHER FOR MEETING, CONTESTS

The UW-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine will host the annual student symposium of the Student Chapter of the American Veterinary Medical Association March 22-25. More than 1,200 students from 31 veterinary medicine schools in the U.S. and Canada will attend the four-day program, which includes seminars and displays, as well as social and competitive events.

There will be a panel discussion on Saturday, March 23, on the future of the veterinary medicine curriculum and so-called tracking versus a more holistic approach to veterinary education. It begins at 10:15 a.m. at the Memorial Union.

Saturday's agenda also features an "Exotic Encounters" competition in which students identify exotic species and demonstrate their handling and diagnostic techniques, and an equine aging contest in which students guess the ages of horses by examining their teeth. From 7 p.m.-midnight, the Winter Veterinary Olympics will be held at the UW Field House. Among the events planned are a cow chip toss, milking contest and surgeon dressing relay.

On Sunday, March 24, the students will take part in the "Udderly Wild Stampede," a 5K run that begins at 8 a.m. at the School of Veterinary Medicine. There also will be a competition on bovine palpation -- a test to determine pregnancy in cows -- from 8 a.m.-noon at Charmany Animal Resource Center, in the 5700 block of Mineral Point Road.

For more information, contact Nancy Nelson at (608) 263-5152.

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UNIVERSITY HOUSING STILL AVAILABLE FOR SUMMER

University residence hall housing still is available for the 1991 Summer Session at UW-Madison, according to Andrea Romine of University Housing.

Students may choose single or double rooms in Elizabeth Waters Hall, on Observatory Drive overlooking Lake Mendota. Rates, including food service,

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uw news

From the University of Wisconsin-Madison / News Service, Bascom Hall, 500 Lincoln Drive, Madison 53706 / Telephone: 608/262-3571

Release: Immediately 7/17/90

CONTACT: Gordon Mitchell (608) 263-9826/263-5013

RESEARCH INDICATES THAT BREATHING RESPONSE CAN BE TAUGHT

MADISON--You get out of bed, get on your running gear, and go off on your morning jog. As you run, your breathing deepens, you breathe faster and take in ever larger amounts of air.

It happens so automatically you wouldn't suspect that at least part of this response could be learned. But Gordon Mitchell, a professor of comparative bioscience at the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine, is challenging old scientific beliefs by finding that increased breathing during activity can be taught.

In research completed this year he's found that goats can be trained, like Pavlov's dogs, to alter their breathing during exercise.

"This is contrary to older thoughts on the mechanisms that control breathing," said Mitchell, who with graduate student Pat Martin presented their findings at the spring meeting of the Federation of American Societies of Experimental Biology.

"Most people have thought of the mechanism as being hard-wired. What we're implying is that it's able to adapt based on experience."

The research may help patients who have illnesses such as emphysema, which impair breathing. Mitchell speculates that they could be trained to improve their breathing. But he emphasizes this is now speculation -- his research still is at a basic level.

Mitchell and his students have found that goats exercising on a treadmill

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can be trained to increase their breathing. He describes the process as "neural training."

The goats walk on the treadmill so researchers can get "baseline data" on their metabolism and breathing responses. The goats are fitted with masks to allow researchers to measure breathing and regulate the mixture of air the animals breathe.

"Then we in essence fool them," he said. "We lower the oxygen or raise the carbon dioxide artificially" to make the goats breathe much harder than normal as they walk on the treadmill.

After a number of such trials over several days, the air the goats breathe is brought back to normal. But the goats' breathing isn't. At least not initially. The animals keep breathing hard despite the fact that they have no physical need to do so.

"It's as though they were expecting that there would be this problem with low oxygen or high carbon dioxide levels," Mitchell said.

But Mitchell notes that the goats are able to learn how to breathe hard, they eventually learn to breathe the normal air normally again.

The finding is only part of Mitchell's research program, which is aimed at developing a better understanding of breathing. He is probing is the role of serotonin in regulating the response of breathing to exercise. A chemical that carries messages between nerve cells, serotonin is found near neurons controlling respiration. It is known to affect these neurons, but its exact role remains unspecified.

Mitchell also is investigating what kind of signals during exercise trigger increased breathing. He says one common-sense notion -- increased carbon dioxide in the system resulting from increased metabolism that comes from exercising -- is inadequate to explain the phenomenon in humans. Mitchell says our brains have CO2 sensors but the signals aren't powerful enough to increase our breathing rate during exercise.

In fact, during exercise, the level of carbon dioxide in arterial blood stays the same or actually decreases.

Animals such as alligators and birds have nerves in their lungs which send messages to increase breathing when carbon dioxide levels get too high. But humans don't have such sensors.

Breathing is a complicated process, and unraveling its subtleties will require a great deal of patience, Mitchell said.

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-- Harvey Black (608) 262-9772

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uw news

From the University of Wisconsin-Madison / News Service, Bascom Hall, 500 Lincoln Drive, Madison 53706 / Telephone: 608/262-3571

Release: Immediately 5/8/90

UW-MADISON SPONSORS 'HEALTHY PET WEEK' ART CONTEST FOR KIDS

MADISON--Five $100 U.S. Saving Bonds will go to first place award winners in an art contest sponsored by the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine to mark National Pet Week.

School children from kindergarten through high school are eligible to submit original art work portraying the theme "Happiness is a Healthy Pet."

Five first place awards for the following categories will be made: kindergarten-grade 1, grades 2-3, grades 4-6, grades 7-8, and grades 9-12. Second place award winners in each category will receive a $20 gift certificate from the University Bookstore.

In addition one first place entry will be selected for the cover of the School of Veterinary Medicine Companion Animal Program brochure.

Drawings may be done with crayons, markers, colored pencil, or paint.

Entries must be postmarked no later than May 14, 1990. Winners will be selected by May 21 and notified no later than May 25.

Entry forms may be obtained by calling Nancy Nelson at the School of Veterinary Medicine, (608) 263-5152.

The contest is to commemorate National Healthy Pet Week (May 6-12), which is sponsored by the American Veterinary Medical Association, the American Animal Hospital Association, and the AMVA Auxiliary, and Be Kind to Animals Week, which is sponsored by the American Humane Society.

###

-- Harvey Black (608) 262-9772

uw news

From the University of Wisconsin-Madison / News Service, Bascom Hall, 500 Lincoln Drive, Madison 53706 / Telephone: 608/262-3571

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But Kurzman and her colleagues point out that much more research is required before DHEA can be used to help overweight people. Tests of the chemical in humans have, however, been promising.

How DHEA promotes weight loss is a mystery said Kurzman. She said one theory is that DHEA raises the rate of metabolism, meaning that the body burns more calories.

Aside from losing weight the dogs, all of which were adults behaved like puppies again their owners reported.

"Dogs that hadn't been up the stairs in years were now running up the stairs; dogs that hadn't chased birds in years were chasing birds," said Kurzman.

No harmful side effects were found.

Like humans, overweight dogs face a range of severe health problems, Kurzman notes. They run the risk of developing a host of disorders ranging from knee problems, diabetes, heart disorders, and cancer.

And as in humans, obesity is a widespread problem; though how widespread isn't certain. Estimates range from 25% to 50% of dogs are obese. In this study obese dogs were at least 25% over their appropriate weight.

Most obese dogs get that way because they are overfed. "Many pets are just spoiled," said Kurzman.

Though the current way of treating dog obesity is the simple expedient of cutting back on food, Kurzman said this is for the most part ineffective. A dog's metabolism simply adjusts to the short rations, making sustained weight loss unlikely.

Another problem facing dogs is that the so-called gourmet dog foods, which are said to be well balanced nutritionally, are also higher in calories, said Kurzman. Dog owners she said often fail to appropriately adjust the amount of such food.

The $25,000 study, which was paid for by the Ralston Purina Company of St. Louis, which makes pet food, and Progenics, Inc. of N.Y. is being followed by further research designed to discover how DHEA actually works.

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-- Harvey Black (608) 262-9772

uw news

From the University of Wisconsin-Madison / News Service, Bascom Hall, 500 Lincoln Drive, Madison 53706 / Telephone: 608/262-3571

Release: Immediately 7/12/90

CONTACT: Ilene Kurzman (608) 263-9831, Gregory MacEwen 263-4437

UW VETRINARY RESEARCHERS FIND WAY TO HELP DOGS LOSE WEIGHT

MADISON--In a study with human health implications, researchers at the University of Wisconsin School of Veterinary Medicine are the first to report that the hormone DHEA helps obese dogs lose weight and lowers their cholesterol counts.

The study may also point the way to a new way of helping overweight people slim down.

A steroid hormone, DHEA (dehydroepiandrosterone) occurs naturally in humans and other mammals. In fact it is the most abundant steroid found in human plasma, though its function is unknown.

Researchers Ilene Kurzman, Gregory MacEwen, and Arlene Haffa found that two thirds of 19 overweight but otherwise healthy dogs treated with the hormone lost about 20% of their excess body weight during a three month trial with the drug.

During the study the dogs' diets were unchanged. Owners kept diet diaries to help the researchers keep track of what the animals ate.

Unexpectedly the dogs' cholesterol level dropped by an average of nearly 25%.

"It was the bad cholesterol that was lowered," says Kurzman, referring to the LDL cholesterol that has been found to contribute to the blocking of arteries.

Kurzman said the researchers didn't expect that DHEA would lower LDL

-more-

cholesterol levels, and noted that this may have implications for helping people reduce their levels of this substance, which contributes to heart disease.

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Vet Medicine

Release: Immediately 11/2/89

EDITORS/NEWS DIRECTORS: Photo is included or available on request.

CONTACT: Virginia Hinshaw (608) 263-2792

# FUN -- AND TINA -- INSPIRE PROF'S WORK

By Jeff Iseminger
University News Service

MADISON--Rid the world of influenza and strut like Tina Turner.

Those two goals, believe it or not, can be linked to just one woman -- Virginia (Ginger) Hinshaw, professor in the School of Veterinary Medicine at University of Wisconsin-Madison. Though a workaholic scientist in pursuit of a serious goal, she brings this message to higher education:

Lighten up!

"I want to cure influenza," says Hinshaw. "But I'm also concerned about how I'm going about it."

For Hinshaw, the "how" is humor--and Tina Turner.

"I integrate fun into my life, including work," says Hinshaw, who punctuates her conversation with laughter and once attended a party dressed as a flamingo nose.

"For one thing, I add some craziness to my classroom, especially at the beginning, so my students don't feel inhibited," she says. Early this fall she taught veterinary virology (the study of viruses) in Tina attire: wig, T-shirt, mini-skirt and leather boots.

"Tina Turner is an admirable person," says Hinshaw. "She's a minority

-more-

female who made a comeback in middle age, and she generates excitement. How marvelous it would be if I could generate just a little of that in my teaching."

Hinshaw, an Auburn-educated microbiologist, finds excitement in her own research. She's trying to understand what a flu vaccine should contain to stimulate the immune system.

In her microscopic detective work she's collected viruses from animals and birds around the world. (Part of the genetic makeup of human flu viruses can come from animals and birds.)

But Hinshaw never forgets -- even when she's awash in viruses -- that humor can heal and bind and inspire. "I think people who are smiling learn faster," she says. "We should laugh together as well as work together."

So Tina Turner keeps popping up in her classes. In the first assignment Hinshaw gives to one of her classes, she tells students they are veterinarians in Barter Town, the abode of Turner and Mel Gibson in the movie "Mad Max Beyond Thunderdome."

Barter Town runs on methane generated by pig feces. The students' charge: Keep those pigs producing.

Hinshaw gets into other characters, too. At exam time she dons a witch's hat adorned with a Bucky Badger button and passes out candy to give students a sugar boost for the test.

"When you're going to grade exams, you may be viewed as a witch," she smiles. "Anyhow, I like to do it as comic relief for the students, who suffer a great deal during exam times."

Perhaps next semester, using a three-dimensional model she constructed, Hinshaw plans to appear in a new guise: a herpes virus.

Besides the fun she injects into the classroom, Hinshaw gives work galore to her students. She doesn't spoonfeed it as teacher's wisdom, but creates it through teacher-student interaction.

"I use small-group problem-solving and invite students to bring articles they like to class," she notes. "I also have a question box for students reluctant to speak in class."

Her ulterior motive, she says, is to teach students to become their own long-term teachers.

"I get a lot of pleasure from facilitating other people's growth," says Hinshaw. "My parents told me as a child that when they looked at me, it made their hearts smile.

"Well, watching my students unfold makes my heart smile."

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-- Jeff Iseminger (608) 262-8287

uw news

From the University of Wisconsin-Madison / News Service, Bascom Hall, 500 Lincoln Drive, Madison 53706 / Telephone: 608/262-3571

Vet Medicine

Release: Immediately 4/12/89

UW-MADISON NEWSBRIEFS

TICKETS STILL AVAILABLE FOR UW-BAND FIELDHOUSE CONCERT

Tickets are still available for the 15th annual spring concert of the UW-Madison Varsity Band Friday and Saturday (April 14 and 15) in the UW Field House.

A number of guest artists will join the 230-member band for the two performances. Among guests will be Jonathan Lee Overby, one of Madison's favorite song stylists, and The Sheboygan Singing Six, a group of handicapped children from Sheboygan who have performed throughout the state and at Disney World as part of Wisconsin's Very Special Arts Program.

All seating is reserved for both performances. Tickets are $6 and $7, and may be purchased at the Vilas Hall Box Office, 821 University Ave. Performances start at 7:30 p.m. For further ticket information call (608) 262-1500.

VETERINARY MEDICINE OPEN HOUSE SET

The UW-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine will hold its sixth annual open house Sunday (April 16) from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

The school will be open for self-guided tours, providing a unique opportunity to view behind-the-scenes sections of the hospital as well as the research and instructional areas.

The focus of student displays and demonstrations this year will be the role of the veterinarian in the health of food animals, as well as the importance of food animal health in people's daily lives.

There also will be displays and information on companion animals, equine and exotic medicine and admission procedures and requirements for the veterinary program.

The school is located at 2015 Linden Drive West between UW Hospital and Clinics and the Stock Pavilion. Admission is free, and there is free parking in adjacent lots.

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Vet School

# School seeks advisory role in dog track

WI.Week 3/1/89

**By Patrick Dorn**

While recent debate about Wisconsin's first dog racing track has centered on the question of location, School of Veterinary Medicine officials are more interested in issues of track quality.

"We want to be involved in track development in an advisory capacity," said Gregory MacEwen, the school's associate dean for clinical affairs. "We feel we have a responsibility to the welfare of the animals, as well as to the industry—the owners, the breeders and the trainers."

MacEwen said school experts can offer valuable advice in the planning of track facilities. Cage sizes, ventilation in the kennel area, general feeding and day-to-day care are among a few areas in which veterinary school personnel have expertise, he said.

Once a track is developed, MacEwen said the school can help with control of infectious diseases that occasionally occur at track kennels and treatment of injuries common to racing greyhounds. He said a track also offers the potential for research projects in areas related to performance, such as nutrition, cardiovascular capabilities and stress.

"Such research could improve the quality of the dogs' lives and, at the same time, help the industry by improving performance levels," MacEwen said. School officials have expressed concern about the lack of debate so far during track discussions about issues such as animal care.

"These dogs are designed to run, there's no doubt about it," MacEwen said. "They've been bred for it, they're built for it and they like to do it. Yet, the fact is, this is a form of exploitation, and we have to give as much back to the animals as we can, not only in terms of their general health, but in terms of the quality and longevity of their lives.

"We don't want the economic issues to overshadow the welfare of the dogs."

MacEwen said school officials would like to see the state require tracks to channel some money into projects designed to improve the quality of life for racing dogs.

Industry guidelines ensure that most

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**THE SCHOOL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE'S team of blood-donor greyhounds take a morning stroll with technician Julie Stephany. The dogs are ideal as donors for other dogs undergoing surgical and emergency procedures, according to Gregory MacEwen, shown above watching over the walk.**

# MacEwen: Rescuing hounds

What happens to greyhounds when their racing days are over?

Despite efforts by the industry to initiate adopt-a-greyhound programs (3,000–4,000 are adopted annually), about 10,000 dogs are euthanized in the United States each year. It is a number the School of Veterinary Medicine's Gregory MacEwen wants to see reduced.

MacEwen said the school has found a way to help the former racing dogs and itself: it adopts the animals for use as blood donors for other dogs. The school has anywhere from six to eight greyhound donors on hand at any given time.

"They really are perfectly suited to being blood donors," MacEwen said. "They're well-trained, gentle, used to being in kennels and are large dogs with short hair coats."

Besides those attributes, greyhounds have an extremely high percentage of red cells in their blood, MacEwen said. Red cells are the most valued blood component for transfusions. MacEwen said most dogs have a red-cell percentage of about 40 percent, while greyhounds average about 56 percent.

Dogs adopted by the school as donors have had their blood typed to verify they are universal donors. MacEwen said blood is drawn from the dogs about once a

-over-

# *Dog track . . .*

*(Continued from Page 1)*

dog tracks provide good care for their animals, especially newer tracks, he said. It is common for anywhere from 800 to 1,000 dogs to be kenneled at a track at any given time.

With that many dogs in one area, MacEwen said, the chances increase for outbreaks of infectious viral and parasitic diseases. He said that racing dogs, much like human athletes, are prone to ligament, tendon and joint injuries, as well as skeletal fractures.

MacEwen said he hopes the school will establish programs that train students to handle these situations now that dog racing is inevitable in Wisconsin.

"Whether you agree with dog racing or not doesn't matter," MacEwen said. "We have it, so let's make the best of it." ■

# *Greyhounds . . .*

*(Continued from Page 1)*

month in a simple, painless process and is used in surgical and emergency procedures. The dogs are kept at the school for about three years, then put up for adoption.

"So far, we've been successful in finding a home for every donor we've had," MacEwen said. In fact, one of the dogs—Sprite—recently found its way to MacEwen's home.

"I'd highly recommend them as pets," MacEwen said of the greyhounds. "They're affectionate and very well behaved. And they aren't 'chow hounds.' We can even keep Sprite's food dish filled and he won't overeat."

MacEwen said people who adopt a racing dog should be prepared to make a concentrated effort the first several weeks to teach the dog its new boundaries.

"You have to be sure you have control over them to come on command, because they do love to run," he said. Owners also should have an exercise area where their greyhound is free to run long distances, since it would be difficult for the dog to adjust to only being leash walked, he said.

A number of national groups help arrange adoptions of former racing greyhounds. Wisconsin residents interested in adopting a greyhound can get information about the process by contacting Jim Johnson, the state representative for Greyhound Pets of America, at (715) 359–4326. The non-profit agency's national number is (617) 472–4055. ■

**By Patrick Dorn**

uw news

From the University of Wisconsin-Madison / News Service, Bascom Hall, 500 Lincoln Drive, Madison 53706 / Telephone: 608/262-3571

Vet Medicine (School)

Release: Immediately 2/28/89

CONTACT: Gregory MacEwen (608) 263-4437

FORMER TRACK DOGS FIND NEW LIFE AT UW-MADISON VET SCHOOL

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By Patrick Dorn
University News Service

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--Patrick Dorn (608) 262-2650

12/12/88
Vet Medicine

NEWMAN WINS DISTINGUISHED RESEARCHER AWARD

Fred Newman, director of the UW-Madison-based National Center on Effective Secondary Schools, has won the Distinguished Career in Research award from the National Council for the Social Studies. Newman, a professor of curriculum and instruction at UW-Madison since 1964, does research on social studies curriculum, alienation in secondary schools and testing.

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SCHOOL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE RECEIVES GRANT

The UW-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine has received a $30,000 grant from the Pew Charitable Trusts to strengthen the study of veterinary medicine.

UW-Madison was one of 27 U.S. schools to receive such a grant from the Pew National Veterinary Education Program.

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MCBURNEY CENTER VOLUNTEERS ARE 'SOMEONE SPECIAL'

Five UW-Madison McBurney Center for Persons with Disabilities volunteers have been honored. Kathy Miner, Bea Kosowsky, Kathleen Feigleson, Jean Peerenboom and Pat Fisher received the "Someone Special" award this year.

Miner coordinates the Madison Taping Service, whose members tape record textbooks for people with disabilities; Kosowsky works at the McBurney Center, assisting with mailings, record keeping and special projects; Feigleson and Peerenboom tape record textbooks for students with visual and learning disabilities; Fisher has helped with the McBurney Center's proxy registration service for several years.

The "Someone Special" program is sponsored by WIBA-AM radio and Total Awards. It is coordinated by the United Way's Voluntary Action Center.

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WI.Week 11/2/88

# Tiger trouble

**A WHITE BENGAL TIGER CUB got some tender loving care last week from UW–Madison School of Veterinary Medicine students Holly Hamilton and Jeff Bitter. The 3-month old tiger, which belongs to the Hawthorne Circus in Richmond, Ill., was at the school for treatment of pneumonia and other complications. Dr. James K. Roush of the School of Veterinary Medicine, who handled the case—the second tiger he has treated in his career—reported that the cub is recovering well. Circus owner John Cuneo praised the school and Roush for their care. The female cub, which drew a steady stream of visitors from among the school's staff, is expected to be released to its owners this week.**

# Computer system brings changes

WI.Week 11/2/88

**By Chuck Nowlen**

Starting next semester, University of Wisconsin administrators with questions about personnel data will be able to get quick, one-stop answers through a new computer system that integrates university payroll, personnel, and accounting information.

The system, Integrated Appointment Data System (IADS), should spell relief to those who in the past have had to wade through three separate employee data banks, said Lon Schoor, a management information supervisor for UW–Madison Administrative Data Processing.

IADS also will provide administrators with a central library of employee job and salary histories and, eventually, university budget and hiring records, added Stephen Butts, UW–Madison senior planning and policy analyst.

"The university is a very large system, and our resources are stretched very thin," Butts said. "IADS will allow us to move into the 1990s with some confidence."

"In the past, it was hard sometimes to track information down for a person with a complicated appointment—for example, someone who needed to verify his or her work history," Schoor added.

"With IADS, you will be able to find out more, and you can focus your attention more quickly and directly on the problem. There's a potential benefit to everybody who gets a paycheck."

IADS has been on the drawing board for five years, and "minor" parts of the system will be in operation by the first of the year, Butts said. Developers hope to have the core of the system up and running by early spring.

Staff at the dean's level or above will have to make a few changes in the way they do their jobs, Butts said.

For example, a single personnel term, "appointment," will replace several sometimes-imprecise categories such as "job" and "split" that now vary from department to department. Appointment Identification Numbers will be used with new person ID's, to identify university employees, under IADS.

Several workshops have been conducted to introduce IADS to those who will be directly affected, and the feedback generally has been positive, Schoor said.

"I think it's going to be a very easy system to work with," he said. "I think people will find that the adjustments will make it easier for people to do their work."

Most employees won't notice much difference in payroll procedures, he said.

IADS will directly serve UW–Madison, UW–Milwaukee, UW–Parkside, UW–Green Bay, UW–Extension and the UW Center System, Schoor said. ■

10/12/88

Add 1--Newsbriefs

Vet Medicine School

UW FACULTY RECEIVE NEA GRANTS

Two members of the UW-Madison art department have been awarded grants by the National Endowment for the Arts.

Professor Eleanor Moty, a jewelry specialist, received $15,000 from the NEA's National Visual Arts Fellowship Program. The national program for 1988 was open to artists in photography, sculpture and crafts.

Carol Pylant, an assistant professor specializing in painting, was among 20 Midwestern artists chosen for a 1988 Arts Midwest/NEA Regional Fellowship. Each regional fellowship comes with a $3,500 cash award.

-o- -o- -o-

UW VETERINARY SCHOOL PASSES PROFESSIONAL EVALUATION

The UW-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine has successfully passed a comprehensive evaluation of its facility, medical equipment and practice methods by the the American Animal Hospital Association.

The Association is recognized as the world's leading association of small animal practitioners. Its purpose is to raise standards of animal hospitals and to provide companion animals with the best possible care.

-o- -o- -o-

EDIL CITED BY ENGINEERING GROUP

Tuncer B. Edil, a UW-Madison professor of civil and environmental engineering, was presented an award of merit by the American Society of Civil Engineers, Wisconsin Section, at their 65th annual meeting last month.

Edil was cited for his work as an engineering educator and for his research and consulting in the area of geotechnical engineering.

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-more-

uw news

From the University of Wisconsin-Madison / News Service, Bascom Hall, 500 Lincoln Drive, Madison 53706 / Telephone: 608/262-3571

Release: Immediately 4/7/88

CONTACT: Mindy Nelson-Bergman (608) 263-1579

SCHOOL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE TO HOLD OPEN HOUSE

MADISON--The next time you're tempted to reward your pet with a Snickers Bar, hold that impulse, experts say.

The chocolate rush humans love so well can be fatal in dogs, whose central nervous system reacts adversely to a chemical found in chocolate.

That tidbit of advice and a variety of other interesting facts about animals and animal research will be highlighted at the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine Open House on Sunday, April 17. The theme of this year's event, which runs from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., is "The Future's So Bright."

The public is invited to tour the school's classrooms, laboratories and teaching hospital, which includes small and large animal inpatient and outpatient facilities.

The open house will also feature special exhibits and demonstrations on, among other topics:

-- All aspects of bovine herd health including feed additives, respiratory diseases, artificial insemination and embryo transfers;

-- Early warning signs of cancer in pets and cancer therapy;

-- Chocolate toxicity in dogs;

-- The electron microscope, which magnifies tissue sections up to a half million times; and

-- Common pet ailments such as fleas, ear mites and heartworms.

-more-

Special diagnostic and therapeutic equipment, such as "wheelchairs," whirlpools and X-ray machines also will be on display. Students and faculty of the school will be on hand to provide information and answer questions.

The $15.5 million main campus facility of the School of Veterinary Medicine was built in 1983. About 320 students are currently enrolled in a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program.

In addition to routine veterinary services, the teaching hospital and clinic employ sophisticated procedures similar to those used with humans, including hip replacement surgery, bone-pinning, radical and simple breast surgery, and spinal disc surgery.

The school's research program includes work on cancer, cattle diseases and feline leukemia; the school also conducts continuing education programs for practicing veterinarians.

The School of Veterinary Medicine is located at 2015 Linden Drive on the west end of the UW-Madison campus. Free parking is available in front of the building. T-shirts and refreshments will be on sale during the open house.

###

-- Elizabeth McBride (608) 262-9772

University of Wisconsin System
NEWS
UNIVERSITY RELATIONS • 1856 Van Hise Hall – 1220 Linden Drive • Madison, WI 53706 • 608/263-3961

Vet School

7/8/88lf

SHAW PROPOSES NEW USES
FOR RIVER FALLS FACILITY

Madison--President Kenneth Shaw of the University of Wisconsin System recommended today that the Board of Regents approve new uses for the veterinary medicine facility at UW-River Falls.

Shaw's proposal, which would require legislative action, would terminate the satellite food animal clinic at River Falls and transfer consultation, teaching and personnel to the UW-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine.

According to Shaw, the change would strengthen the food animal medicine program at UW-Madison and, by freeing up the River Falls building, would provide additional needed space on that campus.

The facility opened in 1983 with the intention of providing UW-Madison veterinary students experience with food animal medicine and aiding River Falls area animal producers through consultations with the facility's faculty.

Shaw said the building and program have been underused on both counts. He noted that comparatively few UW-Madison students have been able to take advantage of the food medicine program at River Falls because

(more)

add one, vet facility

of its distance from the UW-Madison. In addition, a substantial growth in the number of private veterinary medical practices in the River Falls area has resulted in a lower than expected level of requests for faculty consultations.

According to Shaw, UW-River Falls has indicated that with regent and legislative approval, the building could be used to respond better to local and regional agriculturally related needs.

"With these changes, we have the opportunity to provide additional and better services to the public and expand learning opportunities without incurring additional costs," Shaw said. "I believe this proposal would strengthen academic and outreach programs at both UW-River Falls and UW-Madison."

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uw news

From the University of Wisconsin-Madison / News Service, Bascom Hall, 500 Lincoln Drive, Madison 53706 / Telephone: 608/262-3571

Vet School

Release:

STATEMENTS ISSUED IN RESPONSE TO DEATHS OF TWO STUDENTS IN THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON SCHOOL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
MAY 16, 1988

The following statements from officials at the University of Wisconsin-Madison are being issued in response to the deaths of UW-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine Students Cathie L. Rauwald and Timothy C. Regan.

MARY ROUSE, DEAN OF STUDENTS, UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON:

"The university community is shocked and saddened by the tragic and untimely deaths of students Timothy Regan and Cathie Rauwald. It's a terrible loss of high-functioning young people. They're not replaceable. We have been in contact with family and friends and we'll do everything we can to help them through this sad and difficult time."

BERNARD C. EASTERDAY, DEAN, SCHOOL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE:

"On behalf of the faculty and staff of the School of Veterinary Medicine, I would like to express our profound grief and extend our sympathy to family, friends and student colleagues. Cathie Rauwald and Timothy Regan were fine young people with tremendous potential. This is a terrible tragedy and shock to us individually and to the school. It is an especially difficult loss given the closeness of our faculty and staff. My associates and I will make every effort to provide support to family, friends, students and staff touched by this tragedy."

###

Add 1--Newsbriefs

6/8/87 Vet Medicine School

SVM FACULTY, STUDENTS RECEIVE AWARDS

The UW-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine has announced the winners of its 1987 faculty and student awards.

The Norden Drug Company presented its Distinguished Teacher Award to Dr. Norman Wilsman for 1987 and Dr. Peter MacWilliams for 1986.

The 1987 Walter Renk Distinguished Professor Award went to Dr. B.C. Easterday, Dean of the School of Veterinary Medicine. The award is presented by Mr. and Mrs. Walter Renk to honor outstanding faculty contributions to instruction, research, or service, or a combination.

1987 SVM graduate Todd Johnson received the Dean's Award, given to the student who has earned the highest academic record of the class. Johnson also received the Upjohn Large Animal Award.

-o- -o- -o-

WEIMER HONORED

Linda Weimer, director of the University News and Information Service at UW-Madison, has been named recipient of the annual Distinguished Alumni Award at Cedar Crest College in Allentown, Pa.

Weimer, a 1968 Cedar Crest graduate, was honored June 6 for outstanding professional achievement, especially her participation in writing and producing award-winning films for National Geographic and television's NOVA.

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SUMMER CALENDAR AVAILABLE

A summer calendar of UW-Madison cultural, recreational, and social events is available at the Summer Sessions Office, 433 North Murray St. Free copies also may be obtained at the Wisconsin Unions, Bascom Information Desk, Peterson Office Building, and the Campus Assistance Center.

For more information, call Susan Disch or Nancy Gebert at (608) 262-2115.

###

uw news

From the University of Wisconsin-Madison / News Service, Bascom Hall, 500 Lincoln Drive, Madison 53706 / Telephone: 608/262-3571

Release: Immediately 4/21/87

UW-MADISON NEWSBRIEFS

CONTACT: Mindy Nelson-Bergman (608) 263-1579

SCHOOL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE SLATES OPEN HOUSE

The UW-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine will host its fourth annual open house April 26 (Sunday) from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The open house will feature self-guided tours of the school, presentations on the anatomy of pets, and demonstrations featuring horses, cows, dogs, exotic birds and other animals such as llamas and reptiles.

Free and open to the public, the open house will also have hands-on demonstrations for children as well as a special look at veterinary research and its benefits for animal and human medicine.

The school is located at 2015 Linden Drive on the west end of the UW-Madison campus. Free parking is available adjacent to the school in Lot 62 between Linden and Observatory Drives.

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FAIR BRINGS JOB SEEKERS, EMPLOYERS TOGETHER

More than 15 area companies will be represented at the UW Student Job Center's Spring Job Fair Thursday (April 23). Job Fair coordinator Virginia Zwickey said applications will be accepted for full and part-time, summer and year-round employment opportunities.

-more-

# note

Vet Medicine

From: University of Wisconsin-Madison / News & Information Service, 19 Bascom Hall, 500 Lincoln Drive, Madison, Wisconsin 53706
Telephone: 608/262-3571

5/12/87

EDITORS/NEWS DIRECTORS:

The UW-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine will hold a special recognition ceremony for its first graduating class on Saturday, May 16 at 11 a.m. at the Inn on the Park. Students and faculty will speak, and there will be a special "pictorial retrospective." As a gift to the school, the class will fund a scholarship to be given to a senior in veterinary medicine.

For more information, contact Dave Merrick of the School of Veterinary Medicine at (608) 263-4907.

-- Karen Walsh
University News Service
(608) 262-0065

uw news

From the University of Wisconsin-Madison / News Service, Bascom Hall, 500 Lincoln Drive, Madison 53706 / Telephone: 608/262-3571

Vet School

Release: Immediately 4/16/86

CONTACT: Mindy Nelson-Bergman (608) 263-9810

VET SCHOOL OPEN FOR PUBLIC TOURS SUNDAY

MADISON--The public will have a chance to see first-hand the veterinary medical education, research and services conducted at University of Wisconsin-Madison's School of Veterinary Medicine during an open house Sunday (April 20) from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The school's classrooms, laboratories, clinics, pharmacy and teaching hospital will feature exhibits and demonstrations on animal anatomy, veterinary medical techniques, and the benefits of animal research to human medicine.

Many of the medical treatments available to animals are similar to those used for human patients. For example, in the physical therapy unit, visitors will see "wheelchairs" designed for dogs, and whirlpools and waterbeds for small animals with back problems.

The hospital's staff includes surgeons, cardiologists, neurologists, ophthalmologists, radiologists, oncologists and other specialists who treat 40 to 50 small animals and six to 10 large animals every day.

The hospital and clinic provide a variety of veterinary services ranging from check-ups and shots for house pets to trimming the hooves of bulls, running fertility tests on llamas, and performing ultrasound examinations of pregnant mares.

All services are available directly to the general public or by referral from veterinarians throughout the state.

-more-

Add 1--Vet school open house

The School of Veterinary Medicine, which opened in 1983, currently enrolls 234 students in a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program. Its first class will graduate in 1987.

The school also conducts continuing education programs for practicing veterinarians.

The school's research program includes work on diseases such as bovine leukemia and Johne's Disease, which plague the farming community, and on both the common and uncommon health problems of pets.

###

--Mary Ellen Bell (608) 262-8287

Vet School

University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine

Opened on Aug. 29, 1983, the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine is one of the newest educational facilities in the state. After years of debate, legislation establishing the school was signed into law in July 1979 by then-Gov. Lee S. Dreyfus.

The school is housed in $15.5 million facility on the west end of the UW-Madison campus. The building entails 235,000 square feet of teaching, research and clinical space. The school also entails a $4.3 million instructional and research facility at Charmany Farm in Madison and a $1.1 million satellite food animal clinic at UW-River Falls.

Today, the school has an enrollment of 233 students, most of whom are from Wisconsin. The charter class was composed of 42 women and 38 men. Seventy seven of those students remain in the class today. Each year-class is composed of 80 students, 70 of whom come from Wisconsin. The remainder come from elsewhere in the country. The school this year enrolled its third year-class and will add a fourth next year. To graduate, students must complete a rigorous four-year academic and clinical program.

The school is now almost completely staffed with 350 faculty, staff and student employees.

-- Terry Devitt, University News Service, (608) 262-8282

University of Wisconsin—Madison
School of Veterinary Medicine

Office of the Dean

2015 Linden Drive West
Madison, Wisconsin
53706

# FACTS ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON SCHOOL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

1. **When did the State of Wisconsin decide to build a School of Veterinary Medicine?**

   In 1947, the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin passed a resolution calling for the establishment of a School of Veterinary Medicine. Authorization to begin planning was obtained in 1977 and funds for construction and operation were appropriated by the legislature in 1979.

2. **When was construction of the School begun and completed?**

   Construction of the Main Campus Facility began in March, 1981 and the building was occupied in March, 1983.

   Construction of the Charmany Farms Facility on Mineral Point Road began in June, 1981 and was completed in October, 1982.

   Construction of the River Falls Satellite Food Animal Clinical Facility began in March, 1981 and was completed in September, 1982.

3. **What was the cost of building the School of Veterinary Medicine?**

   The total cost including design, engineering, construction, and equipment was $28 million.

   The Main Campus Facility, (230,000 gross square feet) consisting of lecture halls, teaching laboratories, research laboratories, faculty and administrative offices and the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital, was constructed at a cost of $15.5 million.

   The Charmany Farms Facility, (70,000 gross square feet) an instructional and research animal holding facility located approximately 3 miles from the Main Campus Facility, was constructed at a cost of $4.3 million.

   The Satellite Food Animal Clinical Facility, (12,000 gross square feet) located on the UW-River Falls Campus, which includes exam, treatment, and surgery rooms, hospital stalls, and laboratory and pharmacy facilities, cost $1.1 million.

November 1984

Telephone 608/263-6716

4. **What function do the solar panels on the Main Campus Facility serve?**

   The solar collector on the building is an air type collector. The panels yield an effective collecting area of 6,000 square feet and, at present, the system supplements the heating system in the large animal section of the first floor hospital. The system is expected to pay for itself within 15 years.

5. **How many students will attend the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine?**

   In August, 1983, 70 Wisconsin residents and 10 nonresidents enrolled in the School's DVM degree granting program. An additional 80 students (70 residents and 10 nonresidents) enrolled in 1984 and 80 students will be admitted in each of the next two years, leading to a total of 320 DVM students. There will also be students working toward graduate degrees and completing residency training programs at the School.

6. **How many faculty members will there be?**

   Current plans call for 78 FTE (full time equivalent) faculty positions at the School by 1986 when the fourth class of professional students will be admitted.

7. **What is the cost of tuition and fees?**

   For the 1984-85 academic year, the cost is $5,572 for Wisconsin residents and $8,084 for nonresidents.

8. **What is the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital?**

   Faculty veterinarians provide veterinary medical care for privately owned animals brought to the teaching hospital. They are assisted by third and fourth year DVM students and graduate veterinarians receiving residency training at the School. Through exposure to a variety of veterinary medical cases, students gain experience in diagnostic, treatment and surgical procedures. The hospital provides care to both large and small animals which are either referred by other veterinarians or brought in directly by the owner. In either case, an appointment is necessary.

9. **How many animals may be cared for in the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital?**

   In the hospital, located on the ground floor, there are surgery and specialized examination rooms for both large and small animals, clinical laboratories, a pharmacy and 24 equine stall, 24 bovine stalls, 24 stalls for swine, sheep and goats, and accommodations for 120 companion animals.

University of Wisconsin—Madison
School of Veterinary Medicine

Office of the Dean

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# feature story

Vet. Medicine

From the University of Wisconsin-Madison / News Service, Bascom Hall, 500 Lincoln Drive, Madison 53706 / Telephone: (608) 262-3571

Release: Immediately 10/4/84

CONTACT: Mary Maxon (608) 263-2560, Larry Stanford (608) 263-4759

Note to Editors/News Directors: Maxon's work will be on display at the annual UW-Madison Veterinary School open house on Sunday, Oct. 14. Photos to accompany this story are available upon request to the News Service.

MODEL MAKER MIXES ART AND ANATOMY

BY TERRY DEVITT
University News Service

MADISON--Mary Maxon never pictured herself piecing together skeletons for a living.

But Maxon, a model maker and faculty assistant at University of Wisconsin-Madison's School of Veterinary Medicine, is up to her ears in femurs, skulls and vertebrae these days trying to keep pace with an accelerating demand for models at the new school.

It's Maxon's job to prepare animal skeletons and other models for the school's anatomy classes. And now, with the onset of another school year and the enrollment of the school's second class, Maxon has almost more work then she can handle.

"Everyone wants the things," said Maxon "We're keeping up with the demand, but some of these things take a long time to put together."

For instance, there is the just-completed skeleton of a 7-year-old Holstein bull. "That took nearly a year to complete," Maxon said. "I'm trying to put some of the finishing touches on the large animal skeletons now because that's what the instructors need for the second year students' comparative anatomy class."

-more-

Last year, Maxon's work centered on models of smaller animals. According to anatomy instructor Larry Stanford, the smaller animal models -- chiefly the skeletons of cats and dogs -- are used to introduce first year veterinary medicine students to anatomy.

"Mary's models are very important to us," Stanford said. "When we dissect animals in the laboratory it's very difficult to see the relationship of ligaments to bones. Students have to go back and refer to the models to gain an effective understanding of that relationship."

Stanford said because UW-Madison's veterinary medicine program is new, Maxon has had a great deal of work to accomplish over the last year and a half. "Anatomy is a basic course in veterinary medicine. It's indispensable for entry into the field, but because our school is a new one, these courses also serve as a sort of test run to see what kind of models we'll need in the future."

A 1982 graduate of UW-Madison in art and zoology, Maxon thought it would be difficult to find work that would satisfy her interest in both fields. But in a recent interview, Maxon said despite having what many people might consider an unusual occupation, she's found an interesting way to combine the things she likes.

"I never imagined I'd be doing this, but I like working with my hands and aesthetics are very important to me," Maxon said. "I'm also interested in the science end of it so this is a nice way for me to utilize my education in both art and biology."

Working in a corner of the school's new $15 million, 240,000 square foot building on the west end of the UW-Madison campus, Maxon is chiefly occupied these days with constructing the skeletons of domestic animals. However, she's hoping to initiate some different projects soon.

"I would like to construct some wildlife models," she said. "We've got some birds that we'll be doing sometime soon and the International Crane

Foundation in Baraboo has donated the remains of a crane that I'm really interested in putting together."

Although Maxon's models are used primarily as teaching tools for the School of Veterinary Medicine's anatomy classes, some are exhibited each year at the Wisconsin State Fair in West Allis. According to Maxon, the models receive a lot of attention from fair goers.

"I'm not sure what it is that interests people so much, but I'm told that the models are the highlight of the school's display."

For those who didn't see Maxon's work at this year's State Fair, her models will again be on display at the school's annual open house Sunday, Oct. 14. Self-guided tours, providing state residents with a glimpse of Maxon's models and other aspects of the school, will be offered from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

###

-- Terry Devitt (608) 262-8282

uw news

From the University of Wisconsin-Madison / News Service, Bascom Hall, 500 Lincoln Drive, Madison 53706 / Telephone: 608/262-3571

Release: Immediately 6/29/83

SPECIAL TO WISCONSIN WEEKLIES

(Photos available upon request)

CONTACT: Bernard Easterday (608) 263-6716

AFTER 36 YEARS, VETERINARY SCHOOL DEDICATED AND SET TO OPEN

MADISON--It was April 12, 1947, that the University of Wisconsin Board of Regents first passed a resolution saying it would approve the establishment of a college of veterinary medicine on its Madison campus when funds became available from the state.

It was July 1979 when state legislation establishing such a school was signed by Gov. Lee Dreyfus.

So when Bernard Easterday, first dean of the UW School of Veterinary Medicine, approached the podium at the school's dedication June 10, it was with a special sense of history. Easterday noted that the charter class of 80 students, set to start their schooling this August, had been long-awaited at University of Wisconsin-Madison.

"That class will graduate in May 1987," Easterday said, "40 years and one month after the regents first indicated the desirability and need for a school of veterinary medicine."

The overriding theme of the speeches at the dedication was pride: pride that the work of supporters of a veterinary medicine school for the state of Wisconsin had finally succeeded in fulfilling a 40-year dream; and pride in the new facility, the faculty, staff and students.

-more-

"We are committed to providing a quality veterinary medical education that prepares the aspiring veterinarian to meet the challenges of tomorrow, to address problems that are not yet spawned," Easterday said. "We are committed to providing services that have never been available to animal owners of the state; we are committed to the investigation of animal health problems that beg solution; we are committed to providing lifelong learning for the veterinarians of the state."

The ceremonies took place on the lawn outside the $15.5 million, 235,000 square foot teaching, research and clinical building on UW-Madison's Linden Drive. Easterday called it the "flagship" of the three buildings comprising the school.

The others are a $4.3 million instructional and research facility at Charmany Farm in Madison and a $1.1 million satellite food animal clinic at UW-River Falls, which has been delayed in its opening by a state budget cut. An additional $6.1 million was spent in design, supervision and special equipment for the school.

The school will have 47 faculty members when it opens in August, and 78-80 in four years, when it has its full complement of 320 students. Easterday said the school was able to recruit a top-flight faculty because of the reputation of the university and because of the presence on campus of both a college of agriculture and a medical school, which he called a unique combination.

Easterday said the faculty not only had high academic quality, but high "human" quality.

"It's quite clear that we have within the mix of faculty and staff the human resources to provide the state of Wisconsin an outstanding school of veterinary medicine," he said. "Anything short of the best will not be due to the lack of human resources."

Members of the charter class -- 42 women and 38 men, 70 from Wisconsin and 10 from other states -- also attended the ceremonies. The 80 had been chosen

from 181 qualified applicants.

Linda Sullivan of Neenah, a 28-year-old who has a bachelor's degree in medical technology and a master's in hospital administration, was among the new class members. She said she had developed an interest in veterinary medicine about two or three years ago. She chose UW-Madison because she wanted to stay in the state, and was impressed with the new school's innovative teaching methods and facilities.

"I was fortunate that the time when I decided to go to school was the time Wisconsin began accepting applications," Sullivan said. "It's exciting to be a part of the charter class."

###

--Steve Schumacher (608) 262-8289

uw news

Veterinary Medicine Dedication

From the University of Wisconsin-Madison / News Service, Bascom Hall, 500 Lincoln Drive, Madison 53706 / Telephone: 608/262-3571

Release: 6/7/83

NOTE TO EDITORS AND NEWS DIRECTORS:

On Friday, June 10, you and members of your staff are invited to a pre-dedication tour of the new School of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2015 Linden Drive. The tour will begin at 10 a.m. in room 2250. Someone will meet you at the main door.

At first glance, the hospital portion of the new $15.5 million facility resembles a regular hospital, complete with patient check-in rooms and a pharmacy. But you'll also notice some striking differences. There are cages, hydraulic-lift operating tables for doing surgery on large animals and a padded room for horses coming out of anesthesia. You'll also see several new design features incorporated into the teaching, research and clinical sections of the school.

The hour-and-a-half-long tour will be led by Dean Bernard C. Easterday. On hand to answer questions will be Richard Bristol, associate dean for clinical affairs; Thomas M. Yuill, associate dean for research and graduate training; and Susan M. Hyland, assistant dean for academic affairs.

You're also invited to the school dedication ceremonies, which will begin at 1:30 p.m. on the grounds east of the building. It is being held in conjunction with a meeting of the Wisconsin Veterinary Medical Association. Meeting sessions on Thursday and Friday will also be open to members of the media.

Details about the meeting and dedication are available from Rachel Rothschild at (608) 263-2333. Free parking will be provided in Lot 62, located in front of the school.

###

Mark Bello

uw news

From the University of Wisconsin-Madison / News Service, Bascom Hall, 500 Lincoln Drive, Madison 53706 / Telephone: 608/262-3571

Release: Immediately 6/7/83

CONTACT: Rachel Rothschild (608) 263-2333

VET SCHOOL DEDICATION SET FOR FRIDAY, JUNE 10

MADISON--Dedication ceremonies for the new $15.5 million School of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2015 Linden Dr., will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, June 10.

Harry C. Mussmann, executive vice president of the National Food Producers Association, will give the dedication address. Other speakers will include Bernard C. Easterday, dean of the school; UW-Madison Chancellor Irving Shain; UW System President Robert O'Neil; Regents David E. Beckwith and Russell J. O'Harrow; State Senator Fred A. Risser, a student representative and members of Wisconsin agricultural organizations. The ceremonies are open to the public.

Public tours of the 235,000-square-foot- teaching, research and clinical facility will be offered later this summer. Instruction of the first veterinary school class will begin in August.

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Mark Bello

uw news

From the University of Wisconsin-Madison / News Service, Bascom Hall, 500 Lincoln Drive, Madison 53706 / Telephone: 608/262-3571

Veterinary School

Release: Immediately 11/8/83

CONTACT: Kay Woit (608) 263-9810

UW-MADISON'S VETERINARY MEDICAL HOSPITAL TO OPEN MONDAY

MADISON--The Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital at the University of Wisconsin-Madison will open its doors to state animal owners on Monday (Nov. 14), hospital officials have announced.

The hospital, part of the new UW-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine at 2015 W. Linden Drive, will offer clinical services to sick animals on a primary-care and referral basis. Except in emergencies, appointments will be required. They can be made by calling (608) 263-7600.

Patients will be admitted under the care of veterinary-medicine faculty members, who will be supported by a staff of specialists and technicians.

The hospital can accommodate up to 120 small animals and 50 large animals, according to Richard F. Bristol, associate dean of clinical affairs.

This weekend, state residents can tour the hospital and teaching research portions of the $15.5 million facility in Madison. Self-guided tours will be offered from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday (Nov. 12) and from noon to 4 p.m. on Sunday (Nov. 13). Faculty members and members of the school's charter class will be on hand to answer visitors' questions.

For those interested in attending the school, information on admission requirements and procedures will be available.

Free parking will be available in the lot in front of the building.

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-- Mark Bello (608) 262-8282

University of Wisconsin—Madison
School of Veterinary Medicine

2015 Linden Drive West
Madison, Wisconsin
53706

Mary L—
Vet School
file. F.

MEMORANDUM

To: Linda Weimer, News Services
Fr: Kay Woit - Communications KW
Da: May 19, 1984
Re: News Release

A two-year old polar bear owned by the Milwaukee County Zoo was admitted to the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 17. Dr. Bruce Beehler, zoo veterinarian, accompanied the 600 pound bear which was transported in a special cage under heavy sedation.

The bear accidentally fell into a moat in the zoo area, fracturing both hind legs. Dr. Beehler anesthesized him with a dart gun enabling him to do initial x-rays in the zoo hospital. As Beehler did not have the equipment nor the expertise to perform the orthopedic surgery necessary to repair the fractures, he referred the case to the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital.

After an examination and x-rays verified Beehler's original diagnosis, orthopedic surgeons William Lindsay and Robert Schneider performed the surgery with the assistance of Dr. John Ludders, veterinary anesthesiologist.

After a four-hour operation, the bear left the Hospital at 7:00 p.m. in stable conidition, but died shortly before reaching Milwaukee. Tests will be run to determine the exact cause of death.

KW

uw news

From the University of Wisconsin-Madison / News Service, Bascom Hall, 500 Lincoln Drive, Madison 53706 / Telephone: 608/262-3571

Release: Immediately 1/24/83 mb

CONTACT: Bernard C. Easterday (608) 263-6716

VET SCHOOL FACULTY TO MOVE IN NEXT MONTH

MADISON--Faculty and staff members of the School of Veterinary Medicine will move into their new $15.5 million facility on the University of Wisconsin-Madison campus in February--five months ahead of schedule--and will begin offering primary health-care services soon afterward, school officials said Monday.

Construction of the 235,000-square-foot teaching, research and clinical facility is progressing smoothly, and recruitment of faculty and students also is going according to plan, Dean Bernard C. Easterday said.

Faculty members now number more than 40, the dean said. Selection of the first-year class of 80 students from almost 200 applicants, an average of about 2.5 applicants per opening, is underway. Course work for the class of 70 Wisconsin residents and 10 out-of-staters will begin in September.

By 1986, when four classes of 80 students each will be enrolled, the school is expected to have 78 faculty members.

"We are still very much in the growth phase and will be through the end of the 1980s," Easterday said.

He added that inadequate funds for buying equipment is the biggest obstacle facing the new school. "Providing equipment for a veterinary medical teaching hospital is comparable to equipping a medical hospital," Easterday said. He noted that x-ray and other radiological equipment alone will cost more than $1 million, almost a third of the school's $3.5 million budget for purchasing movable equipment.

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"We face some very difficult decisions about what equipment we can get along without on an interim basis," Easterday said. However, he also said some state veterinary organizations, kennel clubs and individuals have donated money for buying equipment and for start-up research funds.

Easterday said he interpreted the donations as an "indication of the grass roots support for the facility."

Another encouraging sign has been the school's ability to draw quality faculty members, Easterday said. They hail from virtually every region of the United States and parts of Canada.

As examples, he pointed to geographical origins of the school's four department heads. Daniel G. Butler, chairman of the medical sciences department, had been at the Ontario Veterinary College; Ronald D. Schultz, chairman of patho-biological sciences, from Auburn University; R. Tass Dueland, chairman of surgical sciences, from Cornell University; and Gerald E. Bisgard, a professor of veterinary science at UW-Madison, chairman of structural and functional sciences.

Faculty members have been chosen on the basis of their expertise in a particular discipline, such as cardiology or neurology, rather than on their experience with certain animal species, Easterday said. However, he expects the school to have a strong program in dairy medicine.

The move to the veterinary school building is expected to take place during the week of Feb. 21. Easterday said veterinarians and the public will be notified in March as to when they can begin referring sick animals for clinical treatment at the facility.

The opening date for the school's $1 million satellite clinic in River Falls is not certain. Gov. Earl has said the state's financial problems may delay the opening.

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From the University of Wisconsin-Madison / News Service, Bascom Hall, 500 Lincoln Drive, Madison 53706 / Telephone: 608/262-3571

Vet School

Release: Immediately 2/5/80 jhs

CONSTRUCTION TIMETABLE TIGHT FOR VETERINARY MEDICINE SCHOOL

MADISON--A timetable for completing the School of Veterinary Medicine at University of Wisconsin-Madison leaves just one month to spare before classes are scheduled to begin in August of 1983.

The UW System Board of Regents will be asked this week to begin the contract, bidding and building process for the school, which will have a classroom-laboratory building on UW-Madison's main campus, animal facilities at Charmany Farms in Madison, and a satellite animal care clinic at UW-River Falls.

The timetable, included in agenda materials sent to regents for their meeting Thursday and Friday (Feb. 7-8), calls for construction bids to be opened in January and February of 1981. Contracts would be awarded in March, the River Falls clinic would be open a year later and the Charmany Farms facility would be ready in October 1982. Construction of the $17.4 million classroom building at UW-Madison is scheduled for completion in July 1983--just a month before registration of the first 80-student class.

Costs break down to $17.4 million for the classroom building, $2.6 million at Charmany Farms and just under $1 million at River Falls, plus $1.8 million in design and supervision, $3.5 million for special equipment and $150,000 for parking. There's also a $1.6 million contingency fund.

To meet a mandated $28 million limit on the cost of building the school, regents were told, the floor space of the three buildings has been pared 13.4 percent from original plans.

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In other projects being presented for regent approval, UW-Madison will ask for $1.3 million to monitor the heating and cooling of 73 buildings and $550,000 from athletic revenues to replace the artificial turf at Camp Randall Stadium.

Regents were told the monitoring of heating and cooling would pay for itself in less than three years of energy savings. "It is conservatively estimated that a savings of 17 percent on the heating and 12 percent on the electrical energy consumed by those facilities connected to a mechanical-electrical monitoring system can be realized," regents were told.

The system would monitor more than five million square feet of room space in 73 buildings and extend an existing system in another 33 buildings with a total area of 6.6 million square feet. Sensors would monitor conditions in more than 1,000 locations.

The Camp Randall project would replace the turf and an underlying "impact cushion," plus make improvements to the base, adjacent walkways and fencing.

A request to improve the insulation in the old University Hospitals building at 1300 University Ave., now being remodeled for medical classroom and office space, is also on the agenda. The $125,000 project would pay for itself in 10 years of energy savings, according to the presentation to regents.

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From the University of Wisconsin-Madison / News Service, Bascom Hall, 500 Lincoln Drive, Madison 53706 / Telephone: 608/262-3571

Vet School

Release: Immediately 2/14/80 mt

$200,000 BEQUEST TO PROVIDE INCOME FOR VETERINARY MEDICINE SCHOLARSHIPS

MADISON--A $200,000 bequest from the late Alice Uhrig Boese, Oconomowoc, has been received for scholarships in the University of Wisconsin-Madison's new School of Veterinary Medicine, it was announced Thursday by UW Foundation Executive Director Robert Rennebohm and veterinary medicine Dean Bernard C. Easterday.

Administrators of her will said Mrs. Boese had long been interested in animal welfare and wished Wisconsin had a school of veterinary medicine. She died at age 50 on Nov. 3, 1977.

The UW Foundation has invested the bequest, and income from it will be available annually for the Alice Boese Scholarships. The Scholarship Committee of the veterinary medicine faculty will select the recipients and the UW-Madison Office of Student Financial Aids will grant the awards.

The Legislature recently authorized the School of Veterinary Medicine, and the school now is planning facilities and recruiting faculty. Easterday said the school's first class of 80 students is scheduled to begin in the fall of 1983.

The new school will be housed in three facilities--the main classroom and laboratory building to be located west of the dairy cattle buildings on the UW-Madison campus, an animal holding facility on the Charmany Farm on Mineral Point Road in Madison, and a satellite clinic at UW-River Falls. Construction is scheduled to begin in spring, 1981.

Seventy-eight new faculty members have been authorized to do teaching, research and public service in veterinary medicine.

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From the University of Wisconsin-Madison / News Service, Bascom Hall, 500 Lincoln Drive, Madison 53706 / Telephone: 608/262-3571

Vet School

Release: Immediately 9/7/79 jhs

EASTERDAY NAMED **VETERINARY MEDICINE DEAN**

MADISON--Dr. Bernard C. Easterday, 49, acting dean of the new School of Veterinary Medicine at University of Wisconsin-Madison, was named the school's official dean Friday.

A leader in planning efforts for the school, slated to open its doors in fall of 1983, Easterday was named acting dean by the UW System Board of Regents on April 7, 1978. It was at the same meeting that regents also authorized the search for a permanent dean; on Friday, they approved UW-Madison Chancellor Irving Shain's selection of Easterday for the post.

The position carries an annual salary of $50,000.

Wisconsin's only school of veterinary medicine was formally established in the spring of 1978 when the state approved spending $250,000 to plan what the school should be. Debate raged on the school's existence, however, right up to the time the bill was signed this July authorizing up to $28 million in bonding to build the facility.

Plans call for an entering class of 80 students, 60 of them from Wisconsin. The main building will be at UW-Madison, with a satellite clinic at River Falls.

Easterday has stressed the tight timetable to find a faculty, develop a curriculum and construct the buildings on time. "It's a very intense schedule. We just don't have much time," he said recently.

- more -

Add one--vet medicine dean

A native of Hillsdale, Mich., Easterday received his doctor of veterinary medicine degree at Michigan State University in 1952. After six months general practice, he entered the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps for two years and, for the following year and a half, was a Department of Defense veterinarian.

His association with UW-Madison goes back to 1956 as a research assistant working on his master's degree in veterinary science. He received it in 1958, was awarded his doctorate in 1961, and that year was named an associate professor here in veterinary science. He became a full professor during the 1966-67 academic year.

An authority on animal viruses, especially swine flu, Easterday for a dozen years studied the disease in Green County hog herds and urged more research to investigate the possible transmission of the disease to humans. When swine flu showed up in some Wisconsin residents during 1976, Easterday was tapped by state and federal health officials for information on the disease.

As acting dean of the veterinary medicine school, he organized a team of 80 volunteer experts into eight planning committees to outline options for the proposed school. In less than four months the recommendations--covering everything from admissions policies to continuing education--were completed and submitted.

Easterday was born Sept. 16, 1929. He lives on a 70-acre farm between Brooklyn and Belleville in Green County.

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From the University of Wisconsin-Madison / News Service, Bascom Hall, 500 Lincoln Drive, Madison 53706 / Telephone: 608/262-3571

Veterinary School

Release: Immediately 7/26/79 jhs

CONTACT: Dr. Bernard C. Easterday (608) 263-6716

UW SCHOOL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE: NOW THE WORK REALLY BEGINS

MADISON--The University of Wisconsin-Madison left the starting gate today (Thursday) in a race to build the state's only School of Veterinary Medicine by the fall of 1983.

Bonding authority to build the school was contained in the new state budget signed by the governor Wednesday.

Dr. Bernard C. Easterday, the school's acting dean, noted that the University has been given just four years to erect the buildings, hire faculty members, build a complete curriculum and let potential students know about the school. There are also clinical facilities in River Falls and Madison which must be running before the first class comes through the door, as well as research and graduate programs to develop.

"It's a very compressed schedule. It's a very intense schedule. We just don't have much time," Easterday said.

On top of the list is a building to house the school, he said. To get done on time and to avoid another year's worth of inflation, and thus meet the legislature's $28 million bonding limit, bids must be let before the end of 1980. That means the space must be mapped out by the end of this year and the design completed by late next spring.

Construction would start early in 1981 with the building ready for the first class of 80 veterinary medicine students in September 1983.

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Recruiting for those students will begin within a matter of weeks, Easterday said, because the first year's class members are already juniors and seniors in high school. He said a brochure describing interim entrance requirements will go soon to every Wisconsin high school, college and university.

Curriculum for the school will be developed by its faculty, five members of which will be hired in the coming year. Another 11 should be found in the year after that, with a full staff hired by the time the first class is entering its fourth and last year in the fall of 1986.

The school's building is expected to be built somewhere within a parking lot and band practice field area selected as an initial planning site. Easterday said the exact location will depend on the costs of preparing the site and relocating facilities that are already there.

The relocation costs remain a question mark, he said. In its presentation to the legislature, the University said it would cost $28 million--excluding facility replacement costs--to build the school. No facility replacement costs were included by the legislature, however, and "we just don't know how these costs will be covered," Easterday said.

In planning and developing the school, Easterday and the four other present members of the school staff will not have to start from scratch or go it alone. Eight citizen planning committees worked during summer of 1978 to develop options for the school, and those reports will form the basis of planning. And members of the planning committees may not be done with their job yet.

"If we need to, we'll go back and ask those people for help as we go along," said Easterday.

No champagne corks were popping Thursday in the school's present four offices, as two staff members used the same word -- anticlimactic -- to describe their feelings on getting final approval to build the school.

"It's been a very long road," Easterday noted. "It's been something that many of us have been involved in now just over 10 years. There have been many ups and downs." And now? "I think the opportunity to develop a School of Veterinary Medicine within the Wisconsin idea is a very exciting challenge."

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