

## Events to Know

### March

**25 Run for the Rose.** 8 a.m., Reliant Park Astrodome. See [www.runfortherose.com](http://www.runfortherose.com).

**26 "This Wide and Universal Theatre: The Life Spectrum in Literature"** presented by Megan Cole. Noon-1 p.m., MSB 3.001. Lunch provided for first 50 attendees.

**26 Biochemistry Seminar: Dr. David Erle** (University of California, San Francisco) to present "Microarrays, Mouse Models and Mechanisms: Dissecting Asthma." Noon, MSB 2.135.

**27 Walter M. Kirkendall, M.D., Endowed Lecture Series: Dr. Herbert DuPont** (SPH, Center for Infectious Diseases) to present "Emerging Infectious Diseases – Has the U.S. Become a Developing Country?" Noon, MSB 2.103.

**28 "The Vale of Years: Age and Aging in Shakespeare"** presented by Sidney Berger. Noon-1 p.m., MSB 3.001. Lunch provided for first 50 attendees.

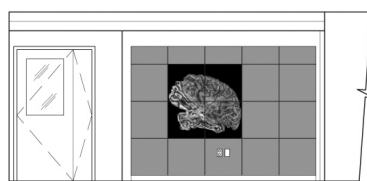
**30 Book signing: Dr. Carin Hagberg** (Department of Anesthesiology) will sign *Benumof's Airway Management: Principles and Practice, 2nd ed.* 11 a.m.-1 p.m., MSB 5th Floor Gallery. Lunch provided; 10 percent off listed book price. Sponsored by UT Bookstore and Abbott Laboratories.

**30 "Shakespeare and the Seven Ages of Man: the Last Age"** presented by Tom Cole. Noon-1 p.m., MSB 3.001. Lunch provided for first 50 attendees.

### April

**2 Faculty Development Leave Proposals due.** Office of Faculty Affairs, MSB G.300. Proposals can be submitted twice a year. Contact Faye Viola at 713.500.5101.

## Winning Research Illustration Masterpieces picked for RRF



MAIN ELEVATOR LOBBY - FOURTH FLOOR

The results are in for the Research Illustration Masterpieces contest, which sought images from science to be reproduced larger than life and displayed as art on the walls of the Replacement Research Facility for years to come.

The contest was open to Medical School students, staff, faculty, and physicians-in-training who had the opportunity to submit research images in the form of MRI, fMRI, electron microscope, etc. The winning art, chosen by a review committee, will be enlarged to four-foot by four-foot squares and mounted near the elevator banks on the first four floors of the RRF. (The health science center's Center for Laboratory Animal Medicine and Care will provide artwork for the fifth and sixth floors of the building.)

Congratulations to the following artists selected to showcase their work:

### First Floor

· "Auerbach's Plexus" by **Brian Poindexter, M.Sc., L. Maximilian Buja, M.D., and Roger Bick, Ph.D.** / Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

· "Purkinje Fibers" by **Brian Poindexter, M.Sc., L. Maximilian Buja, M.D., and Roger Bick, Ph.D.** / Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

· "Matrix Proteins of the Normal Human Growth Plate" by **Thomas Merritt, Ph.D., Roger Bick, Ph.D., Brian Poindexter, M.Sc., Joseph Alcorn, Ph.D., and Jacqueline Hecht, Ph.D.** / Departments of Pediatrics and Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

· "Diffusion Tensor Imaging Fiber Tractography of the Human Brain Central Nervous System" (Cont'd. on back)

## Norris honored by UT System for Lyme disease test

**Dr. Steven Norris**, a microbiologist at the Medical School, was one of the winners of the inaugural UT Chancellor's Entrepreneurship and Innovation Award for his role in the development of a Lyme disease test. The awards were announced at the first UT System Research and Technology Transfer Showcase Feb. 27 in Austin, which featured the most recent inventions created by researchers and scientists from all 15 UT institutions.

Norris, the Robert Greer Professor of Biomedical Sciences, and a collaborator, **Dr. Alan Barbour** – formerly of The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio and now at the University of California, Irvine – were honored in the category recognizing research developed at multiple institutions in the UT System.

The two will share a \$15,000 cash prize.

"This technology has improved the diagnosis of Lyme disease in North America and Eurasia, providing a classic example of translational research resulting in considerable improvements in the quality of life for at-risk patients," said **Dr. James T. Willerson**, president of the UT Health Science Center at Houston, who nominated Norris.

*Borrelia burgdorferi* is the bacterium that causes Lyme disease, which is a tick-transmitted illness affecting tens of thousands in the United States. Its symptoms include tiredness, chills, headaches, swollen lymph nodes, and a rash resembling a bull's eye. If left untreated, arthritis, severe headaches, and other neurological effects often occur.

Research by Norris and Barbour on a specific protein (called VlsE) and its affect on immune responses led to the development of the diagnostic test, which has been patented and licensed to 11 companies for use both domestically and internationally.

Norris has been a faculty member at the Medical School since 1982 and is currently a vice chair (Cont'd. on back)



Dr. Steven Norris



## Seniors match to residency programs

For medical students, selecting the area of medicine they ultimately want to practice often comes down to one defining moment.

**Abezar Shipchandler**, a senior at the Medical School, knew the instant his father had emergency surgery to clear heart blockages that he wanted to practice internal medicine and specialize in cardiology.

For classmate **Wallace “Blake” McKinney**, a future career in emergency medicine became apparent the moment he jumped onto a gurney to perform CPR on a trauma patient.

These students, along with more than 200 fellow seniors, came one step closer to fulfilling their career ambitions March 15 when they participated in Match Day.

Match Day, an annual event coordinated by the National Resident Matching Program, is its own defining moment as seniors at every medical school in the country simultaneously open envelopes to reveal where they will do their residencies.

This year, more than 15,000 U.S. medical school seniors competed alongside close to 13,000 independent applicants for almost 22,000 residency positions. Competition is intense, and not everyone gets a residency slot, but at the UT Medical School, all students matched to programs.

“This is always one of the most memorable days in the lives of our students since they received their acceptance notifications from our medical school,” said **Dr. Jerry Wolinsky**, interim dean. “For most, it will shape the remainder of their medical careers in a way that no other single subsequent event can.”

The top three areas of medicine students chose for residency training this year are internal medicine, pediatrics, and anesthesiology.

“We are very proud of our students,” said **Dr. Margaret McNeese**, associate dean of admissions and student affairs. “They did exceptionally well this year and have matched in excellent residency programs throughout the United States.”

*-M. Raine and N. Wong Camarata*

## HCPC gets reaccredited for three years

The University of Texas Harris County Psychiatric Center (HCPC) received a three-year reaccreditation from the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO).

“The Harris County Psychiatric Center’s staff is to be commended for the continuing excellent work they do on behalf of the patients served by the center,” said **Lois Moore**, HCPC chief administrator. “The JCAHO evaluation team was impressed by the staffs’ knowledge, by the patient care, and by the overall quality of the faculty and services provided by the inpatient and outpatient programs.”

**Dr. James T. Willerson**, president of the UT Health Science Center, congratulated the HCPC administration and staff for their “provision of outstanding mental health care for the neediest among us. We are proud of their quality of work, their compassion, and dedicated care of others.”

Last year, the HCPC observed its 20th anniversary of service to the community. **Dr. Robert Guynn**, professor and chair of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, serves as its executive director.



**A senior celebrates her match.**

## New required training for PIs

Effective April 1, principal investigators must now complete the UT Health Science Center’s training course on research compliance and regulatory issues before accounts for new and renewed research grants/contracts can be set-up.

The course is offered twice a month, and a schedule of upcoming sessions is available on the Office of Research Web site at <http://research.uth.tmc.edu/training/InvestigatorResponsibilityBrief.html>. Physicians also may receive 1 AMA PRA Category 1 credit for completing this course.

Re-certification through continuing education is required every three years, and courses taken to satisfy the re-certification requirement must be approved by **Dr. Peter Davies**, executive vice president for research. To confirm completion, see [www.uth.tmc.edu/oac/register/index.htm](http://www.uth.tmc.edu/oac/register/index.htm).

### *RRT art winners, cont’d.*

White Matter” by **Vipulkumar Patel, R.T., Khader Hasan, Ph.D., and Ponnada Narayana, Ph.D.** / Department of Diagnostic and Interventional Imaging

· “Vesicular Glutamate Transporter-1 Expression in a YFP Transgenic Mouse” by **Alejandro Vila**, GSBS student, and **Ruth Heidelberger, M.D., Ph.D.**, mentor / Department of Neurobiology and Anatomy

### **Second Floor**

· “BHC Axonal Terminal Against Rod and Cone” by **Feng Pan**, GSBS student, and **Steve Massey, Ph.D.** / Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Science

· “3D Computer Model of the Matrix Proteins of the Normal Human Growth Plate” by **Thomas Merritt, Ph.D., Roger Bick, Ph.D., Brian Poindexter, M.Sc., Joseph Alcorn, Ph.D., and Jacqueline Hecht, Ph.D.** / Departments of Pediatrics and Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

### **Third Floor**

· “Protein Trafficking in Neurons” by **Lorenzo Morales** and **Andrew Bean, Ph.D.** / Department of Neurobiology and Anatomy

· “Genesis” by **Eira Roth**, MSII student, **Roman Skoracki, M.D., Dr. Michael Miller, Carmen Rios, and Anshu Mathur, Ph.D.** / Department of Plastic Surgery, M. D. Anderson Cancer Center

### **Fourth Floor**

· “Cortex Interruptus” by **Michael Beauchamp, Ph.D.** (software created by **Ziad Saad, Ph.D.**, found at <http://afni.nimh.nih.gov/afni/suma>) / Department of Neurobiology and Anatomy.

Additional thanks goes to Lorenzo Morales for his technical assistance.

*-C. Webb*

### *Norris award, cont’d.*

of research and professor in the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine and professor in the Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics.

“Dr. Norris has been a solid citizen at UT now for a number of years,” said **Dr. Robert Hunter Jr.**, professor and chair of the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine and Distinguished Chair in Molecular Pathology.

**Dr. Bruce Butler**, assistant vice president for research and technology, accepted the award in Austin on behalf of Norris, who was attending a scientific meeting.

*-R. Cahill*