Honing ‘First Responders’ at Jefferson

“First Responders” may be the unsung heroes of our time. They are the firemen, police, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, search and rescue personnel, doctors, nurses and all other providers who every day courageously put their own lives on the line to save others’. Lives and to restore order in the first response to emergencies and disasters.

Perhaps at no other time was First Responders’ quiet courage and heroism more evident than in the response to the events of September 11.

It was in that context that more than 450 First Responders overflowed McClellan Hall for “Domestic Terrorism 2001.” The third annual continuing education workshop drew nearly three times the number of attendees of previous years.

Honoring Arthur D. Blackshaw

This year’s gathering saw one of their own honored by the First Annual Arthur D. Blackshaw Award for Courage.

The award was created in memory of Mr. Blackshaw, a certified registered nurse anesthetist at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, a Naval Reserve Medical Examiner, National Guard/Army corps commander and a veteran of the Gulf War.

Before he died a year ago, Mr. Blackshaw was the Content Coordinator of the first two highly successful annual domestic terrorism workshops sponsored by Jefferson University Hospital’s

“Domestic Terrorism 2001.”

Roger J. Pomerantz, MD, FACP Briefs United States Congressional Group on Smallpox Vaccine Side Effects

Roger J. Pomerantz, MD, Chief of the Division of Infectious Disease in the Department of Medicine, and Director of the Center for Human Virology, Thomas Jefferson Medical College, has warned members of the United States Congress about possible side effects from the smallpox vaccine the Federal Government is buying to stockpile.

Dr. Pomerantz's warning came as part of a Congressional briefing session in Washington, DC, to which he was invited for his expertise.

"We would like to see a less-toxic vaccine" than the one the Government now favors, Dr. Pomerantz said. He and other experts believe a vaccine that "kills" the virus and inactivated virus would cause far fewer side effects than a vaccine yielding a live virus, which the Government favors.

Studies by researchers at Jefferson Medical College (JMC) suggest that stem cells may hold clues to how cancer begins as well as how to stop it.

The new theory comes from a computer-based analysis indicating that a form of inherited colon cancer— familial adenomatous polyposis or “FAP” — begins when processes that regulate the number of adult stem cells in the colon go out of control.

The biological implications of this finding may explain how colon cancer begins and may suggest a potential target at which to aim new drugs to stop its growth.

"This model suggests that the change in cell proliferation pattern that heralds the beginning of colorectal cancer is due to an increase in the number of stem cells in the colon epithelium," says the study’s leader, Bruce M. Boman, MD, PhD, Director of the Division of Genetic and Preventive Medicine at JMC and Director of the Gastrointestinal Cancer Program at the Kimmel Cancer Center at Thomas Jefferson University.

"The broad implication is that cancer may be a stem cell disorder," says Dr. Boman.

Dr. Boman and his co-workers reported their work December 1 in the journal Cancer Research.

Their studies compare patterns of cell proliferation in normal colon tissue with those in FAP colon tissue.

The researchers decided to use computer modeling because the dynamics of colon tissue and cells are so complex that using standard experimental laboratory methods has limitations, Dr. Boman explains.

"Now we can explain the link between the initiating genetic event in the origin of colon cancer — a mutation in the APC gene — and the first known tissue change," he says.

“We are excited because the mechanism suggested by the model also explains the origin of many other cancer types as well,” Dr. Boman notes.

Operating Rooms of the Future Here Now

Thomas Jefferson University Hospital has opened one of the most highly developed and technologically equipped set of operating rooms (ORs) in Philadelphia, allowing our surgeons to perform more innovative and minimally invasive procedures.

The suite of four minimally invasive surgery (MIS) operating rooms is equipped with state-of-the-art technology. Physicians can operate, such as a robotic arm or overhead lights, just by speaking or by using a touch pad.

The time span needed to complete surgical procedures has been significantly reduced, says Sherry Jousa, RN, MBA, Nursing Vice President, Perioperative Services, Jefferson University Hospital.

“Those are the ORs of the future,” Ms. Jousa says.

An average of 10 major laparoscopic procedures occur daily, with 40 total procedures completed since September.

Surgery has traditionally required an “open” incision, a procedure that can take several hours.

MIS suites also have a video camera system in place to provide live video to other locations for teaching purposes.

Stem Cells May Hold Clues to How Cancer Begins and Ways to Treat It, Jefferson Scientists Report

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In This Issue:

High Five! Your Way To Be A . . .S.T.A.R. 2

Weather Emergency Hotline 1-800-858-8806 3

Giving High School Students Career Insights

VITAL SIGNS: NOVEMBER 2001, Jefferson Hospital for Neuroscience

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Happy New Year!
Employees Honored at Safety Fest

The long-term employees were honored at Jefferson’s Safety Fest for their “outstanding commitment” in helping maintain safety in their University sectors. Honored with plaques presented by the Department of Environmental Health and Safety, which sponsors the popular event each year, were: William Thysgeson, M.D., Assistant Dean and Director of Student Affairs, College of Health Professions; Diane Pielof, Vice President for Facility Services and Community Affairs, Methodist Hospital Division; and Rebecca O’Shea, Vice President for Clinical Operations.

Introducing . . . The Atrium FastPass

Thanks to the new Atrium FastPass, if you’re an employee, buying your meals at the Atrium will be faster and more efficient than ever before.

After the cashier enters your meal selections into the cash register, you simply swipe your Atrium FastPass, and instantly receive your receipt. FastPass was approved locations. You can use your FastPass at the cash register and instantly receive your personalized Atrium FastPass.

No more searching for money or having to make change. The purchase is made through payroll deduction, so you’ll never be without money to eat in the cafeteria. The FastPass participates in all PDCA steps or a full cycle, involved in PI.

Some employees have had it with you.

This is the second live Webcast from the hospital. It can be seen live online February 28 or by archiving the video at www.JeffersonHospital.org/webcast. It’s expected that shorter lines will result for everyone.

To Employees – 2,002 Thanks!

This New Year, John and Dottie Champion want to say “Thanks” – 2,002 times to Jefferson employees. That’s because when John Champion, a 13-year Security Officer at Jefferson, became ill, the word spread, 1,500 employees – from Security and other departments – pitched in and contributed to a “get well” raffle.

Police and worksite stewards organized the raffle, in which 2,000 tickets were sold to raise just over $2,000 to go toward Officer Champion’s care. They were Barry Bedlinski, Mike Bonafaglia and Allan Gayle. The raffle winner was Lee Strunk, Timekeeper, in Accounting Systems.

Orchids to . . . Nursing

Heartfelt thanks go to all, including the many nurses who made the annual Salvation Army stock drive a success. More than 600 stockings were collected to benefit needy youngsters for the holidays, and nurses gathered a large portion of that number, says Patricia Wallace. OR staff led by Ann King contributed dozens of stockings, and Ann Delengowski and her two sons brought in 70!

The first-ever Live Webcast of surgery performed in the Delaware Valley took place one of Thomas Jefferson University Hospital’s new MIS ORs. See Page One.

Franklin Institute Recognizes Leonard M. Rosenfeld, PhD, for Leadership Commitment

The Trustees of the Franklin Institute of Philadelphia have recognized the annual leadership commitment of Leonard M. Rosenfeld, Ph.D., Assistant Dean, College of Graduate Studies, in chairing the Institute’s Awards Program.
Jeff

January 1, 2002

Hospital, University Host Annual ‘Shadowing Day’ for Students

Once again, the University and the Hospital successfully hosted 9th grade students from Philadelphia public schools, giving them a day-long, inside view of a variety of career opportunities. On “Shadowing Day,” students are paired with employee mentors to learn about a particular career or environment.

In the Medical Simulation facility, Terri Schwartz, RN, MSN, Nursing Services, demonstrates intubation techniques on a mannequin to, at left, Philadelphia Health Academy student Kaijha Stokes, 15, who wants to be a doctor “working with people,” and to South Philadelphia High School student Jade Goldsmith, 14, who wants to be a nurse.

In other photos, two 14-year-old William Penn High School 9th graders interested in law enforcement get inside and outside views of Security Department operations. Joseph J. McFadden Jr., Security Lieutenant, explains the campus emergency callbox system to, at left, Eddie Knight and Anthony Stanton. Inside the Security Response Center, Officer Eunice Anderson demonstrates the campus radio system.

“Shadowing Day” is coordinated by Linda Mitchell, Manager, Employee Selection and Placement, Human Resources, and Susan S. Miller, Administrative Liaison, Hospital Administration.

First Responders continued from page 1

Congressman Weldon “a true friend and supporter of First Responders.” Mr. Weldon has long called for stronger security against terrorist threats. Much of his knowledge and expertise on the topic come from his Congressional work as a senior member of the House National Security Committee, and now Chairman of the House Procurement Committee, overseeing defense spending. He has firsthand experience in fighting disasters from his duties as a volunteer fireman and Fire Chief in Marcus Hook.

The workshop program’s 10 faculty presenters included, from Jefferson University Hospital, Edward H. Jasper, MD, Co-Chair, Emergency Management Committee, presenting on Anthrax, and Thomas Tryon, RN, MSN, CEN, staff nurse, Emergency Department (ED), presenting on ED Response to Terrorism. Theodore A. Christopher, MD, Managing Director, Division of Emergency Medicine, was Moderator, and Linda Wilson, RN, MSN, PhD, Nursing, Program Coordinator.

JHS Ranks First in Region for Dollars Raised in AHA Heart Walk

The Jefferson Health System (JHS) ranks first in the Pennsylvania/Delaware affiliate of the American Heart Association (AHA) and eighth nationwide for walker dollars raised in the 2001 American Heart Walk, a JHS-sponsored event held in Fairmount Park.

The total of walker dollars raised by JHS is $90,089, announced Anita E. Robinson, Corporate Relations Manager and American Heart Walk Director, AHA. Combined with a $25,000 Presenting Sponsorship donation, JHS has raised $115,089 in the fight against heart disease and stroke, the nation’s number one and number three killers, Ms. Robinson added.

Magnet High School Again Sends Students For Inside View of Biomedical Careers

The visit a year ago by a group of top-flight science students from a magnet high school in northern New Jersey was so successful that the school enthusiastically sent a second group for a close look at career opportunities in the healthcare field.

Hosted by the College of Graduate Studies, the visit featured a three-day program of lectures and tours of research and medical facilities at Thomas Jefferson University.

A total of 47 students and seven faculty members from the Academy for Medical Science Technology (AMST) in Blacksmack, Bergen County, met with researchers, toured the hospital, visited the Division of Diagnostic Ultrasound and the Department of Physical Therapy and heard lectures by Wolfgang H. Vogel, PhD, Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Pharmacology, Jefferson Medical College (JMC), Theodore Corbin, MD, Instructor, Emergency Medicine, and Brett E. Sanford, MD, Assistant Professor of Neurology, JMC.

In addition, the Department of

See JeffNEWS Online

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www.jefferson.edu/jeffnews

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Don Walker Photography

Robert Neroni Photography

Demmler, Miriam Reisman and Lisa Lawrence, all from Office of Health Policy, Jefferson Medical College.

JHS Ranks First in Region for Dollars Raised in AHA Heart Walk

One of the Jefferson Health System’s (JHS) signature events is the American Heart Association’s annual Heart Walk, a walkathon which JHS hosts each fall. The walkathon raises money to support research into heart disease and stroke, and to provide healthcare programs to help prevent heart disease.

The 2001 walkathon was held on October 11, with over 4,000 participants. The event was held in Fairmount Park, with the starting line at the Jefferson University Hospital. The walkathon began at 8:00 AM, with the 1-mile walk starting at 9:00 AM and the 5K walk starting at 10:30 AM.

The American Heart Association is the largest voluntary health organization dedicated to fighting heart disease and stroke. The organization raises funds through its annual Heart Walk, which is held in cities throughout the United States.

In 2001, the Jefferson Health System (JHS) was ranked first in the Pennsylvania/Delaware affiliate of the American Heart Association (AHA), and eighth nationwide, for walker dollars raised in the American Heart Walk.

The Jefferson Health System (JHS) is the health system of Jefferson University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The system consists of three hospitals: Jefferson University Hospital, Philadelphia; Jefferson Medical College (JMC), Philadelphia; and the Jefferson Medical College of Delaware, in Wilmington, Delaware.

Jefferson University Hospital is a 444-bed teaching hospital and the region’s primary referral center for patients with complex medical conditions. The hospital offers a full range of medical services, including cardiac, oncology, and neurosurgery services. The hospital is also home to the Jefferson Cancer Center, which offers comprehensive cancer care.

Jefferson Medical College (JMC) is a public medical school located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The college offers a four-year Bachelor of Science in Medicine (BSM) program, as well as a four-year Doctor of Medicine (MD) program. The college is affiliated with Jefferson University Hospital and is the only medical school in the region that offers both the BSM and MD programs.

The Jefferson Medical College of Delaware (JMCDEL) is a private, independent medical school located in Wilmington, Delaware. The college offers a four-year Bachelor of Science in Medicine (BSM) program, as well as a four-year Doctor of Medicine (MD) program. The college is affiliated with Jefferson University Hospital and is the only medical school in the region that offers both the BSM and MD programs.
**JeffNEWS**

**January 1, 2002**

**ALUMNI DANCE CENTER位於10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday. Please call 3-7141 to confirm if you are eligible to attend.**

**Women and Dance:**
- **January 3:** New Year’s Day (University Holiday)
- **January 5:** Mental Health Awareness, March of Dimes Birth Defects Preventio Program, National Mental Health Association (10 a.m. to 2 p.m., 106 BLSB)

**BROWN BAG LUNCHES**

- **January 2:** 12 noon, 105 BLSB: "Alcohol and the Brain" by Dr. Handley. Contact Joanne at 215-955-6300 for more information.
- **January 4:** 12 noon, 105 BLSB: "Nutritionists in the Prevention and Treatment of Disease" by Dr. Springer. Contact Joanne at 215-955-6300 for more information.

**CONFERENCE AND SEMINAR**

- **January 2:** 11 a.m., 105 BLSB: "The Role of Nutrition in the Prevention of Disease" by Dr. Solomon. Contact Joanne at 215-955-6300 for more information.

**SPORTS MEDICINE FELLOW**
- **January 9:** Noon to 1 p.m., 109 BLSB: "Sports Medicine Fellow Training Program." Contact Joanne at 215-955-6300 for more information.

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