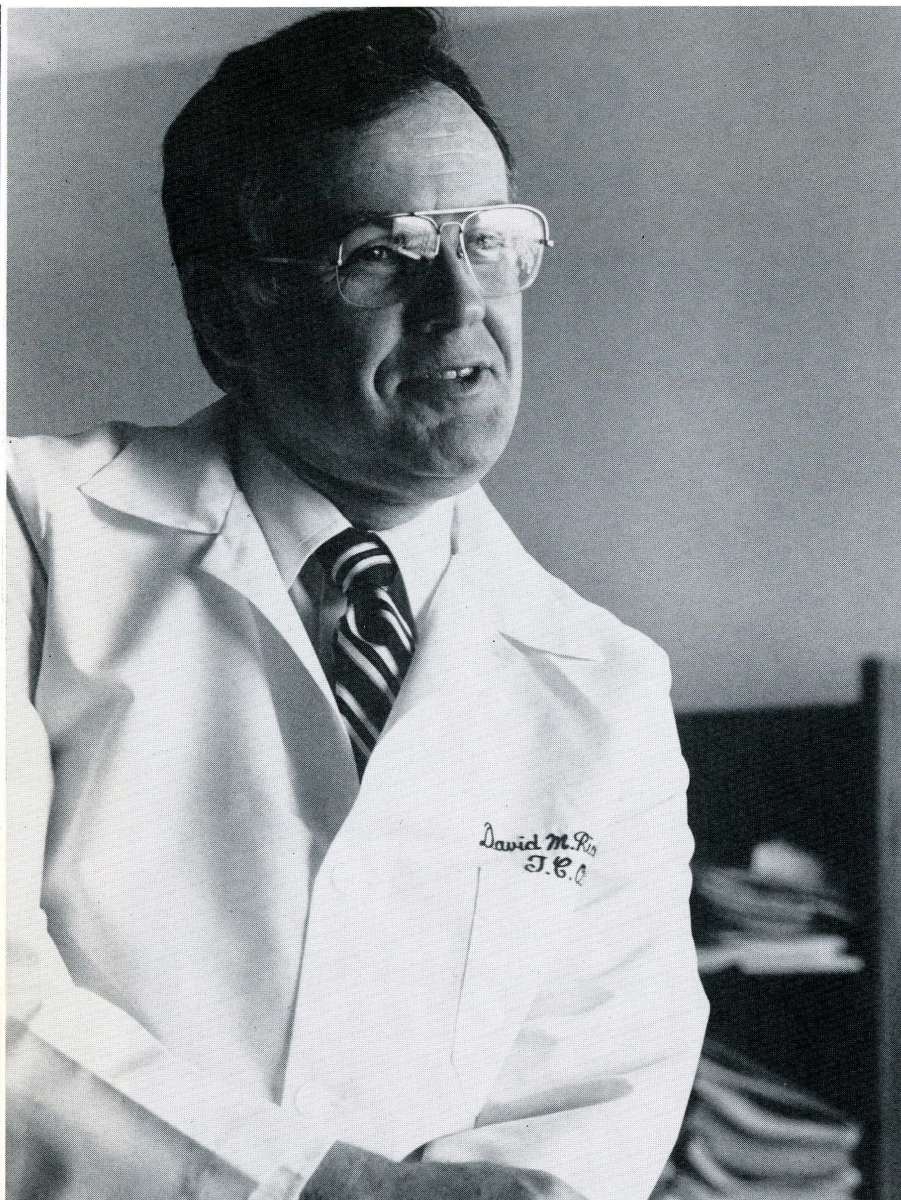


T C O M
REVIEW

WINTER/SPRING VOL. 1, NO. 1 1988





A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Twenty-one years ago, the dream of a college of osteopathic medicine in Texas took solid form. As of last June 15, it has been 21 years since the state's osteopathic physicians molded their hopes into a charter for Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine.

And with the coming of age has come the responsibilities of maturity. TCOM accepts these responsibilities eagerly, with the enthusiasm of youth. We take our place among the nation's 15 osteopathic medical schools and Texas' eight medical schools with the optimism and drive we expect from 21 year olds. We believe that TCOM brings to medical education the best of new ideas to mingle with the proven old traditions. We are proud of our heritage.

In 1987 we put to full use our third major academic building. The northeast corner of Camp Bowie and Montgomery in Fort Worth has blossomed since TCOM opened its doors to 20 students in 1970.

Those 20 students in our first class are now 400 students in four years of study. They are taught by 165 faculty members who are assisted by 300 more adjunct faculty. So far, 919 students have earned TCOM diplomas; 581 are now in practice. Of those, 71 percent are still in Texas, 44 percent in towns of less than 25,000 population. And in the osteopathic tradition, 78 percent are in primary care.

TCOM has had a major economic impact on the community it calls home. The college has brought \$200 million to Tarrant County since late 1975, when it became a state-supported institution. Based on our current budget alone, we estimate that TCOM will bring a quarter of a billion dollars to the county over the next decade.

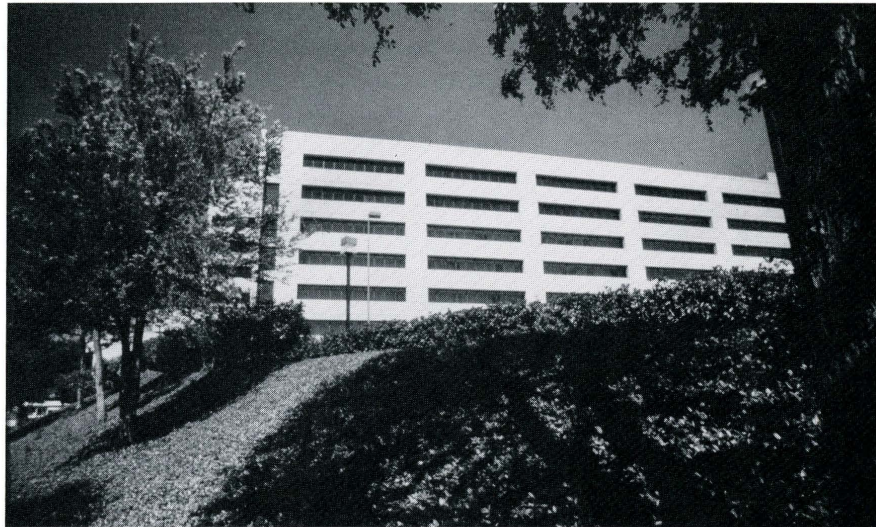
TCOM enters its "mature" years armed with a clear mission, able faculty, supportive staff and bright students. We seek the support of others — our alumni, our community, our profession, other friends — in helping us reach our goals. The next few years will be exciting, we promise you. We invite you to share this excitement with us.

David M. Richards, D.O.

David M. Richards, D.O.

T C O M REVIEW

WINTER/SPRING VOL. 1, NO. 1 1988



on the cover:

The second floor of TCOM's Medical Education Building 3 offers a panoramic view of the Fort Worth skyline. The building, which has been open since early 1987, houses the college's library on three floors and biomedical communications and a computer center on one floor. Texas House Speaker Gib Lewis will be on campus to help TCOM dedicate the building in a public ceremony at 2 p.m. Feb. 26.

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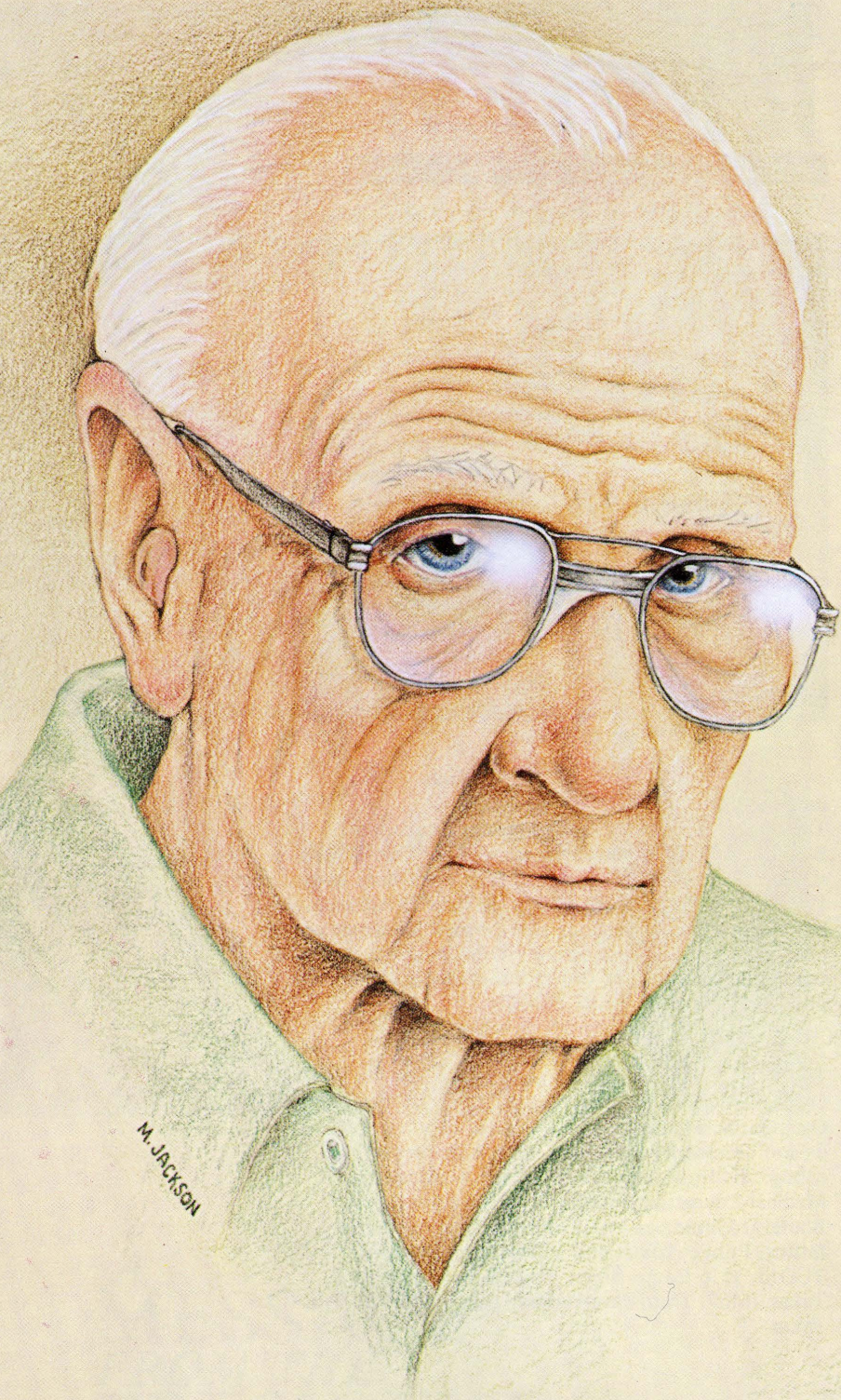
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Great scores, no smoke, kudos for Bill Hobby



THE *Aging* team

His explorations into the mysteries of the aging process have earned Robert Gracy, Ph.D., the largest grant ever received by a Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine faculty member.

The grant from the National Institutes of Health will be worth more than \$3 million to Gracy's research team over the next 10 years. The long-term MERIT (Method to Extend Research in Time) awards were begun by the NIH within the last year to support "investigators whose research competence and productivity are distinctly superior and who are likely to continue to perform in an outstanding manner."

The TCOM biochemistry chairman's research is in an area that is receiving increased attention because of the aging of our population. "Most of the major health problems of this country are those that affect the elderly — heart disease, cancer, diabetes, impairment of mental faculties," he said. "It's not our objective to make people live 200 years. We just want to help people live the years they have in good health."

It was Gracy's team, working at TCOM and North Texas State University, that was able to trace the breakdown in the immune system in the elderly back to the accumulation of abnormal proteins in cells. His team discovered that this cell "garbage" is not disposed of in elderly people as effectively as it is in younger people. Young people have more efficient "garbage collectors" in their systems.

"Ninety percent of the health problems of the elderly are the result of a failure of the immune system," he explained. "Since the accumulation of 'garbage' may make cells less responsive, we want to know why and how. Then we'll need to figure out how to either get rid of the garbage or enhance the immune system."

The NIH grant has allowed Gracy to expand his research into four main areas. The first two areas will be expanded versions of the work he has already done on cellular and molecular changes in aging. A third new area is in wound healing, which is markedly impaired in elderly persons, and a fourth in the progressive impair-

ment of vision in the aging by such processes as cataract formation and glaucoma.

The NIH has awarded some 100 MERIT grants nationally. Researchers do not apply for MERIT awards but are selected by the NIH based on their research history. Gracy will receive more than \$1 million in the initial phase of the grant, with automatic extensions based on inflation and cost changes. "Conservatively we expect the 10-year total to be in the \$3 million-plus range," he said.

"These grants are exceedingly important," he added, "because they allow a researcher to plan for long-term experiments. Obviously, they are particularly relevant when you're studying aging."

Gracy has been chairman of TCOM's biochemistry department since 1976 and was a chemistry professor at NTSU for six years before that. He currently holds a joint faculty appointment at TCOM and NTSU. Past research has brought him grants of approximately \$3 million from NIH, Robert Welch Foundation, Texas Advanced Technology Research and various pharmaceutical companies.

The Four Teams

The molecular team, headed by Umit Yuksel, Ph.D., seeks to determine what "molecular garbage" is and why it accumulates in cells as they age. He and his co-workers know that proteins become modified or damaged in all cells (young and old) by deamidation, oxidation and other processes. This team has extensively studied deamidation (loss of ammonia) of proteins that accumulate in the aging process. Based on these studies, it appears that young cells recognize this cellular garbage and rapidly degrade it; old cells do not. The accumulation of such modified proteins may impair the ability of cells and tissues to respond to various types of environmental stresses (such as infection, tissue repair, wound healing), as well as to changes in vision as people age.

The team studying cellular changes is directed by Lynne Chapman. She is studying changes between young and old cells in both the immune system and in the skin. Her team is exploring the reasons why the immune system and cells in skin "slow down" in aging. Her group has developed methods for isolating and examining various subsets of cells of the immune system from young and old persons, and is exploring the changes in cellular responses of young and old cells and cells from persons with age-associated immune diseases, such as rheumatoid arthritis. The cellular group also has recently developed a method for growing a skin equivalent in tissue

culture. This allows the group to mix various young and old cell layers in culture to examine which functions first become limited as skin begins to age.

The accumulation of cellular garbage also may affect the ways in which tissues heal. Dan Dimitrijevic, Ph.D., is heading the third team, which is investigating wound healing and tissue repair. He, too, is looking primarily at skin aging as a model. Why do a young person's wounds heal much faster than an older person's? Is it because an older person's decreased circulation and diet do not supply adequate nutrients to the cells in the wound site? If so, perhaps, the nutrients or growth factors could be supplied either systemically or topically. The research of this group has implications for all or many tissues, not just skin.

The basis for the accumulation of cellular garbage in aging cells of the eye may lead to a better understanding of the vision problems that plague the elderly, such as cataracts and glaucoma. Investigations into these problems are being directed by John Talent. The cells in the center of the eye lens are as old as the individual. They are the oldest protein in the human body. They no longer divide or carry out protein synthesis. They become modified and accumulate cellular garbage, giving rise to cataracts. Talent is studying protective components such as glutathione, which is believed to deter damage to proteins in the eye lens.



The aging research team of Dr. Robert Gracy, left to right, back row, Lynne Chapman, Matthew Tatarko, Tony Jacobson, Dr. Dan Dimitrijevic, Dr. Umit Yuksel; middle row, Sun Anqiang, Glenda Boswell, Dr. Chuan-ye Tang, John Talent; front row, Shahina Amin, Dr. Gracy, Savita Gupta.

PROFILE

THE ROAD LEADS



At 11 years old, most of us want to be astronauts or ballerinas. Not Dean Davis. Fifth-grader Davis wanted to be a lawyer.

"The teacher asked us to write an essay on what we wanted to be when we grew up," Davis said. "I took that assignment seriously. Guess I thought the decision was irrevocable."

The only lawyer Davis knew was his uncle, Dudley Davis, but Uncle Dudley had a powerful influence. Dudley's son Fred, is the other Davis in the Austin firm Davis & Davis, which now

employs 20 attorneys.

Dean Davis is a Texan all the way. He and his sister, Ellen, were born in Abilene. Father E.D. and Mother Marye moved their family from there to Phillips in the Panhandle, then to Mineral Wells and finally, when Dean was in the 8th grade, to Denton. The elder Davises have been there ever since. Both now 86, they live near Texas Woman's University.

E.D. Davis was a deputy sheriff or a restaurateur, depending on the opportunity at the time. He did both in Denton. During Dean's high school years, his dad owned Dyche's Corner, a meeting place for North Texas students at the corner of Fry and Hickory. Dean worked there weekends and after school and football practice at Denton High, where his coach was Walt Parker, now vice president for external affairs at NTSU.

He loved football, but was he any good at it? "Well, I *tried* hard," he admitted. "I was tall and skinny, believe it or not. Walt kept trying to fatten me up." Parker remembers those days similarly. "He was always there, very dedicated, a team player. He gave me 100%, the best he could with 145 pounds."

From high school, Davis rather naturally chose North Texas State College, where he could work in town and live at home. It was a bustling place in the early 1950s, packed with 4,500 students, many of them veterans funded by the GI Bill. "It was a interesting mix of older students and kids like me," Davis said. "The whole student body seemed to mirror some of the maturity that the vets brought us."

Davis worked his way through college, going non-stop until he finished in three years. He was a stocker and hardware salesman at Sears, a connector for the phone company and an errand boy for a painter. But the worst job he ever had, he says, was a summer of plowing behind a

mule. "That was the greatest motivation I ever had to finish college."

He was in ROTC at NTSC, but when he went to the University of Texas Law School, they wouldn't take him as an officer. So he dropped out of ROTC. "That meant I was duck soup for the Selective Service," he said. He was snatched up after one year at UT in the last years of the draft.

"It turned out to be absolutely the best thing to happen at the time," Davis recalled. "I'd gone through North Texas in three years, taking 20 or

still general counsel for the Texas Hospital Association, Texas Pharmaceutical Association and the Texas Hospital Insurance Exchange, the largest writer of malpractice insurance for hospitals in Texas. He's in frequent demand as a speaker on medical-legal subjects around the state and nation.

The 35-year-old attorney was the youngest person ever to serve on the NTSU Board of Regents when he was first appointed by Texas Gov. John Connally in 1967. "Now I'm back as the old gray fox," he said when he was

BACK To DENTON

21 hours, working year round. Then I went straight into law school. I was beat and didn't know it.

"I wouldn't advise anyone to do that. I wasted an opportunity to enjoy those college years. The draft made me take that needed break."

His 21-month Army career consisted mostly of showing off a missile around Germany and playing a lot of basketball. But the experience got the Selective Service behind him and gave him the G.I. Bill besides.

He returned to Austin. There he met Mollie, a UT education major. They were married in her parents' hometown of Crowley, La., in 1958.

Son Dean was born a year later. Mollie was forced to quit the teaching job she loved when her pregnancy began to show. She never went back to it.

Five years later, another son, Kevin, was born. Dean, a graduate of Southern Methodist and Harvard, is now an investment banker in New York. Kevin is at Texas Christian, combining majors of banking and ranch management.

Kevin's interest in ranching started at his dad's 1,100-acre spread near Georgetown. Davis raises registered Brangus and quarterhorses but leaves the day-to-day operation in the hands of a ranch manager.

Davis doesn't get to his ranch often enough, he says. But ranching has always taken a back seat to his first love, the law. Fresh out of law school in 1958, Davis was appointed assistant attorney general of Texas, serving in the securities, insurance and corporate division. In 1961 he went with a firm that represented many health-related clients. He learned the medical field well from a lawyer's perspective, so that in 1965 when he opened his own law practice, he took many of the health-care clients with him.

Although Davis & Davis' clientele has now branched out beyond health care, Dean Davis is

reappointed by Gov. Mark White in 1983. Since his first term, the board had expanded to include TCOM under its responsibilities. He was elected chairman in August 1987.

As for his goals for his alma mater, he said, "I want to assist North Texas to come to its 100th birthday (in 1990) as an acknowledged, leading, up-and-coming research institution."

And for TCOM? "The approach I'm taking is 'don't mess with the rudder; the ship's on course.' TCOM's goals are going to happen if we don't interfere. The college has good leadership and a good game plan.

"We're seeing the fruits of some dramatic times. There has been an incredible response by the students to faculty and administrative changes and changes in emphasis and direction. In my judgment, we don't need anyone tampering with the plan.

"My role at TCOM is to see that we hold to the course."

Birthdate and place: Sept. 12, 1932, Abilene

Occupation: Attorney; chairman, NTSU Board of Regents

If I weren't a lawyer, I'd be a: rancher.

If I could change one thing about myself, it would be: my intensity — I'd enjoy my leisure time and seek more of it.

The thing I like best about life is: a challenge.

If I could automatically have one talent I don't already have, it would be: to play the piano.

If I were an animal, I'd be a: lion.

The best advice I ever got was: from my father — "When the going gets tough, the tough get going," don't let a temporary setback get the best of you.

A perfect vacation is: anywhere near the water, where I can play golf and sleep.

My favorite TV show is: football games.

The historical figure I admire most is: Winston Churchill.

I really dislike: not being able to eat everything I want.

I'd like to be remembered as a: teacher.

*He grew up there, worked
farms and factories and
married a hometown girl.
So, what better place to set
up his clinic than in the*

H *heart of El Paso*



Work has shaped Hector Lopez's life. He was introduced to it early. He embraced it wholeheartedly. And he made it the vehicle to reach his dream.

Today he's living his dream. The TCOM graduate opened his own brand-new family practice clinic on El Paso's northeast side in July. He writes a weekly health-tips column for the major newspaper in his city of half a million people, runs his own mini-ranch and assists two high schools as team physician.

Work is nothing new to Lopez. He was born in Mexico, one of 11 children of a migrant farm worker. For most of his growing-up years, he worked on farms during holidays and after school.

He got his first paying job at 6. "I went up to the door of this big, fancy house, knocked and asked the lady if she had a job I could do," he remembered. "She said yes — some yard work — and would 50 cents an hour be all right? I told her no, that 25 cents would be fine."

He worked there, as well as on farms, until the fourth grade, when he began doing clean-up jobs at a tamale factory. Through high school, he went to the factory each morning for two hours before school started and again after school. The owner is now his patient.

"Looking back, what amazes me most is that my parents were able to support us all," Hector, the second-oldest child, said. "It was a real lift for me back then when I could earn money and give it to my family."

Rosendo and Tetra Lopez reared their children in a close, loving, religious atmosphere. They worked hard and expected the same from their children.



They got it. Among the Lopez children are two teachers, two architects, a social worker, a civil engineer, a virologist, a doctor, a TCOM student and an undergraduate studying physics.

Hector grew up in the Lower Valley in El Paso, where he now lives on a five-acre spread with his wife, four children, six horses and two dogs. He graduated from Yselta High School (where he's now team physician) and went to the University of Texas at El Paso before transferring to Texas Tech.

During the summer between Tech and TCOM, Lopez married his high school sweetheart, Leticia. He made it through medical school with the help of loans and scholarships.

Lopez decided on family practice after a short infatuation with pediatrics. "I just didn't think I could limit myself to children," he explained. "I've cried a lot of times in my practice, and it's almost always been over a child. I felt my practice had to have a broader base. But I'd say 45 percent of my practice is still pediatrics."

He graduated from TCOM in 1981. After a year in Ohio, he moved back to El Paso and joined the staff of Tigua General Hospital. In the summer of 1985, he bought the practices of a retired physician and a deceased physician. He ran both clinics until July of this year, when he closed them and opened his own.

Lopez is justifiably proud of the new facility. Its 5,000 square feet contain three exam rooms, a casting room, radiology room, fully equipped lab, physical and manipulation therapy room, office, lounge, waiting room, patient reception area, outpatient surgery room and pulmonary function/stress testing facility. The latest in medical equipment is in every room. And if a patient needs to go to a hospital, Lopez has his choice of any in town.

The clinic is busy. Lopez sees 30 to 40 patients a day and currently has 20 obstetric patients. The office is open four days a week from 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Thursdays and Saturdays 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. He works in all drop-ins.

It's important to make his patients feel that he

is "one of them," Lopez said, not someone who looks down on them or who doesn't consider their feelings. He understands the Mexican culture from which 65% of his patients come. He's not shocked when some of them trust the curandera (Mexican faith healer) more than they trust him. "Most of my patients like me because I'm good looking and I speak Spanish," he said with his tongue in his cheek. "Speaking Spanish with them breaks down a lot of barriers."

Lopez did not always have a burning desire to be a doctor. "I wanted to be a fireman in high school," he said. "Then as a senior I applied for a college scholarship, and they asked me what I wanted to be. I thought 'doctor' sounded good, so that's what I said. I got the scholarship."

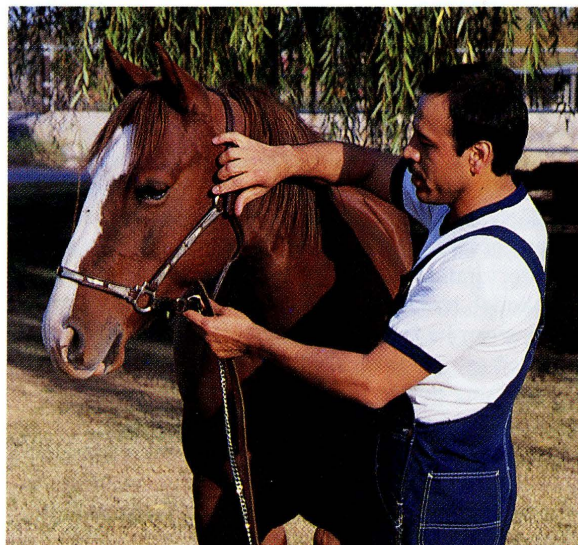
As a child, Lopez had gone to a Hispanic D.O. ("I thought D.O. meant he was some kind of specialist.") While he was in Lubbock, another Hispanic D.O. explained what an osteopathic physician was and pushed him into applying to TCOM.

Because he was influenced by those doctors, he takes very seriously his job as a role model. He frequently goes to schools to give talks about being a doctor.

His advice to them is always the same. He tells them to respect themselves, God, their parents and teachers. Then, have a dream, be persistent and follow it, even when it looks impossible.

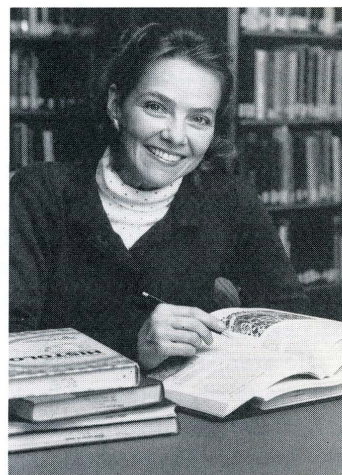
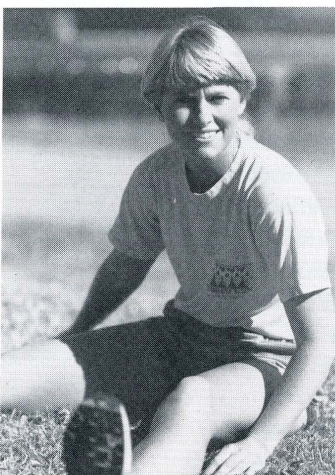
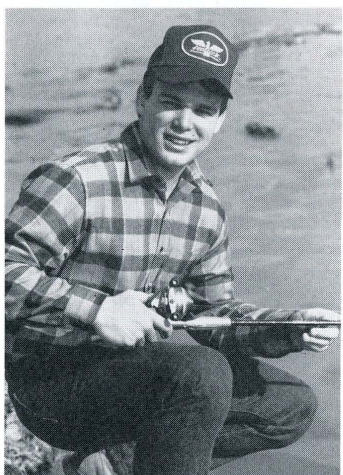
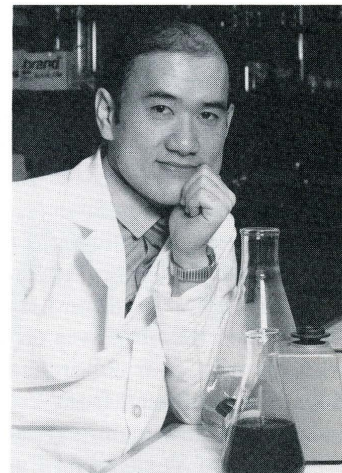
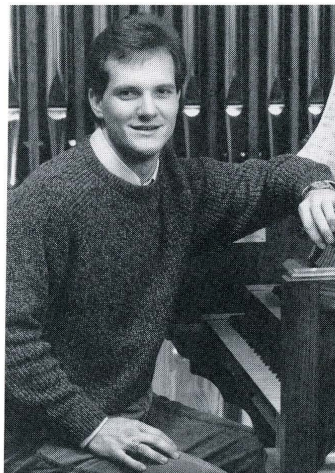
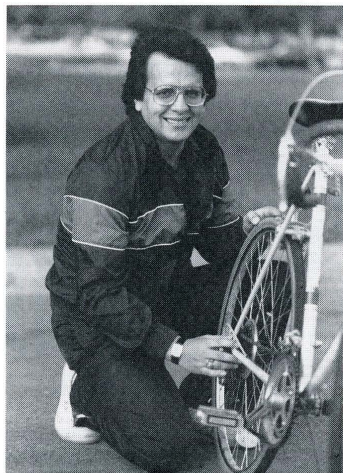
And if they are Hispanic and want to go into osteopathic medicine, he'll encourage them, but with a warning. "I'll tell them what I told my brother Robert (a first-year student at TCOM). We're minorities in a minority profession. I believe Hispanics have to strive harder, just like D.O.s, because we are minorities."

For Hector Lopez the decision to go with osteopathic medicine seems like a natural one. As he sees it, "my whole life has been taking the road less traveled."



STUDENT PROFILES

CLASS OF 1991



Every fall Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine admits about 100 new students. This year's entering class, the Class of 1991, range in age from 21 to 42, with an average age of 27. Seventy-four men and 26 women matriculated. They attended 94 different colleges; seven have master's degrees, and four have doctorates.

Although by law as many 10 of the 100 incoming students can be from out of state, this year only three are listed as non-Texans. Those numbers are a reflection of rising tuition costs, which are four times that of Texans.

The class, of course, is made up of individuals. Each came from a unique background to get to medical school. The following represent a cross-section of these new students.

*First-year students, clockwise from top left:
Juan Saucedo, Kevin Stahl, Sam Chan, Elizabeth
Bywaters, Charla Evans, David McKinney*

At 35, Juan Saucedo is not the youngest person in the first-year class. That's because he came to medicine via careers as an engineer, dental student and teacher.

"In high school I wanted to go into medicine," he says, "but I thought I wasn't smart enough." So he went into civil engineering at Texas A&M. For seven years afterward, he worked at NASA in Houston, designing and restructuring facilities. "I began to reassess my career when I realized I had only one more promotion to look forward to for the rest of my life."

He returned to his hometown of Eagle Pass to teach school after trying dental school for a year and a half. He wants to return to that city as a general practitioner after he graduates.

Reared in small towns in Texas, David McKinney plans to seek one out after graduation and become its family practitioner.

McKinney, 22, graduated from high school in Henderson and became fascinated with the sciences while at Baylor. Between his junior and senior years, he attended TCOM's Health Careers Opportunities Program, an eight-week session that introduces ethnic minorities and economically disadvantaged students to osteopathic medicine.

"That's the first I knew about D.O.s.," he says. "I found TCOM's emphasis on preventive medicine and family practice particularly appealing."

He worked his way through college as a 7-Eleven clerk and a warehouse worker. He is attending TCOM with the help of scholarships. Throughout his academic years, he's managed to keep up his physical workouts by lifting weights, jogging and playing racquetball and golf.

Kevin Stahl didn't let a diploma stand in his way of starting medical school. "I could have stayed at (Texas) A&M and graduated in December, but I had the hours I needed to enter TCOM now," he said. "With a surgery residency, I'm looking at nine years of training. I needed to get started."

Born in an osteopathic hospital in Groves, Texas, Stahl grew up around D.O.s.

Stahl is a twin son of Germany-born parents ("not an identical twin," he points out. "I'm 5-10; Kirk is 6-4.")

Hardly the all-work type, Stahl swims at the "Y" four or five times a week, frequently jogs before class begins, plays in a city volleyball league and dates. He plays four instruments — piano, organ, clarinet and sax — and fills in as organist at a local church.

Even before she became a teacher, Charla Evans, 26, thought about becoming a doctor. "I wasn't sure, so I went ahead and got my education degree," she says. "I enjoyed teaching (high school biology). It was satisfying. But I wanted to know more. It seemed that what I was teaching had no practical application."

A Texan by birth, she was reared in Alabama and graduated from the University of Alabama. She taught a year there and three in Killeen, Texas, where she met a D.O. who introduced her to osteopathic medicine.

"I liked what I heard from him. The philosophy agreed with my own ideas about medicine and health." Her ideas include a belief in prevention and fitness. She runs 40-50 miles a week, using a lunch-time run to break up the day.

Sam Chan is combining his love of biochemistry with his love of medicine. He's working toward his Ph.D. in biochemistry along with his D.O. degree.

Born in Burma, the 28-year-old naturalized citizen earned his B.S. and M.S. degrees at the University of San Francisco, publishing two scientific articles on his diabetes-connected research along the way. Seeking a slower pace of life and to be near relatives, he moved to Arlington and took a job as a campus policeman.

Even as an undergraduate, he had in mind becoming a physician. But he found TCOM quite by accident, he says. "I was driving down Camp Bowie one night and saw the buildings. I was very impressed, so I stopped and went in. I talked with some students. I made my decision to apply right then."

Elizabeth Mallow Bywaters is a newlywed, a med student and a mother of two or five, depending on which weekend it is.

The 35-year-old former teacher has two sons, aged 11 and 14. Then in August ("the Saturday before my first three exams," she remembers), she married banker David Bywaters. He has daughters 13 and 16 and a son, 9.

"My family understands that medical school is a dream-come-true for me, so they help me out," she says. "I always knew I'd go to medical school when the time was right. The kids are now independent enough that the time seemed right." Her sister, Karen King, a 1985 TCOM graduate, was an inspiration in her choice of schools.

"Sure, life gets hectic. But with careful restructuring of my time, I can still spend a lot of time with my family. They're still the most important thing in my life."



MEDICINE *in*

High School

High school junior Alfredo Portales Jr. thinks he might like to have a career in health care, and Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine is helping to show him what's available.

TCOM has "adopted" the Fort Worth Independent School District's Medical Professions Magnet Program at North Side High School. Professionals at TCOM work with students like Alfredo as the students rotate through a series of six-week preceptorships in their junior and senior years.

"I'm not sure what kind of career I want," he said, "but it will be in medicine somehow. I want to see what kind of opportunities there are before I make a choice."

TCOM provides more than rotation sites for the magnet program. Physicians do physicals for North Side athletic teams. Faculty help North Side personnel and students plan a spring health fair and act as judges and project mentors for the annual science fair. And many faculty and staff lecture throughout the year to freshman and sophomore magnet students at the high school.

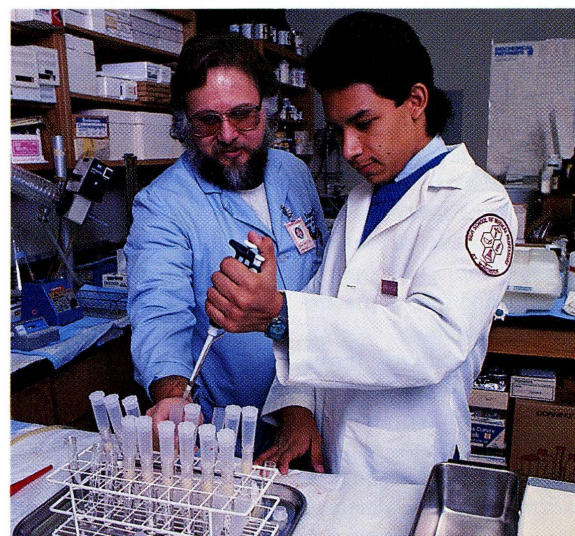
Alfredo, who worked at the college last summer with Pat Galvas, Ph.D., of the anatomy faculty, is in his third rotation at TCOM. He has his choice, through a lottery system, of 20 TCOM departments in which to do rotations. He will spend two hours Tuesday through Friday working in the department during the school year, changing sites every six weeks.

Alfredo is one of 23 students from the magnet program at North Side High School who are working at TCOM this fall. Altogether, 151 students are in the magnet program, which began

its fourth year in September. Other students work with nurses, psychologists, veterinarians, dentists, physical and occupational therapists, hospital workers and other physicians.

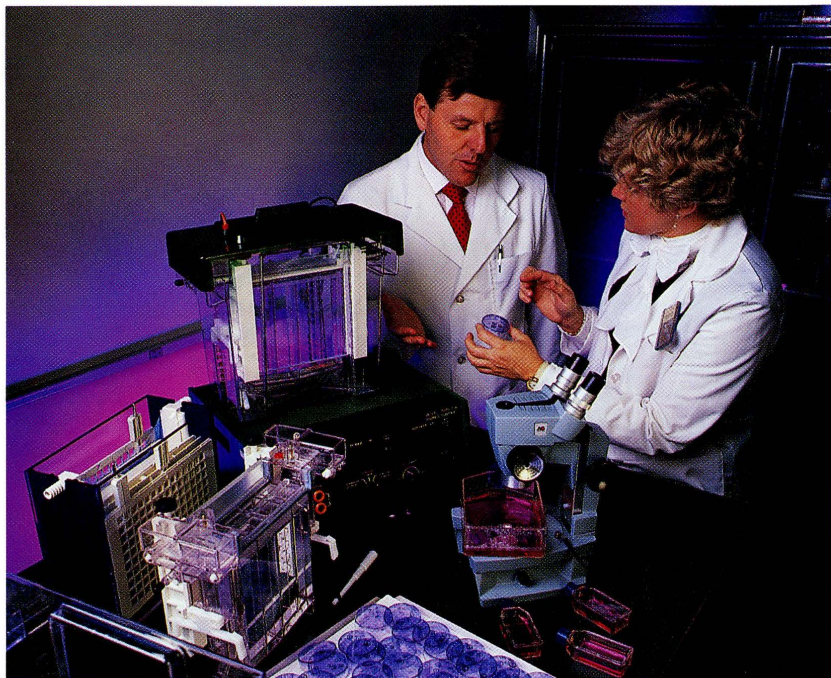
TCOM is one of 100 community agencies working with a public school through the FWISD's Adopt-a-School program. The idea began in 1982 in an effort to involve the community, businesses and government agencies in education. Some 3,000 volunteers gave more than 100,000 hours during the 1986-87 school year to 37,000 students involved in the program in 72 of Fort Worth's elementary, special education, middle and high schools.

TCOM involved approximately 130 volunteers with more than 7,500 hours last year. The medical school was awarded the Adopt-a-School's top achievement award for its program in 1986.



Magnet student Alfredo Portales, right, assists Dr. Tom Yorio in his research on optical membranes.

MISCELLANY



Drs. Myron and Elaine Jacobson

Investigating the cancer/nutrition link

Can the right diet prevent cancer?

More than 200 scientists from 21 countries who pursue the cancer-nutrition connection came to TCOM last summer to share their findings at the Eighth International Symposium on Niacin Nutrition, ADP-Ribosylation and Cancer.

Myron Jacobson, Ph.D., and Elaine Jacobson, Ph.D., biochemist, who have been engaged in grant-supported research in the field for more than a decade, were local planners for the event.

The symposium focused on niacin — a B-complex vitamin found in foods such as dairy products, fish, poultry, peanut butter, coffee and whole-grain products — and how it appears to repair the DNA damage done by cancer-causing agents, thus halting the transformation of normal cells into cancerous cells.

Keynote speaker for the event, Takashi Sugimura, M.D., president of the National Cancer Center of Japan, also gave a public talk on "12 Ways To Avoid Cancer" to a standing-room-only audience.

Test scores are worth celebrating

Hard work by students and stricter academic standards seem to be paying off.

Word came this past fall that TCOM's graduates improved their over-all performance on the state licensing examination for the third consecutive year, and that the current junior class had an 11 percent higher passage rate on national boards than the average of all the nation's osteopathic colleges put together.

Scores made public by the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners in Austin indicated a 95 percent passage rate for TCOM's May graduates on the June Federation Licensure Examination. Of the 56 Class of 1987 members who took FLEX, 53 passed all three parts and received a Texas license. The 95 percent rate compares to 96 percent in 1986, 84 percent in 1985 and 81 percent in 1984.

The juniors who took Part I of the National Board of Examiners for Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons Inc. in June had a 96 percent

passage rate. That compares to an average passage rate of 85 percent for all the 15 osteopathic colleges combined.

The national board covers seven disciplines — anatomy, physiology, biochemistry, pharmacology, pathology, microbiology and osteopathic principles. "Of the 100 students (from 104) who passed," Dean Eugene Zachary said, "not one failed a single discipline. That may be a first."

President David Richards said that changes begun in late 1984 in the areas of student recruitment, admissions, curriculum development and academic standards are now beginning to be reflected in test scores.

"We're extremely proud of these students," Richards said. "These test performances reflect individual effort on the part of the students as well as commitment of our faculty and staff to academic excellence."

NTSU to be UNT this May

North Texas State University officially began the transition to its new status as the University of North Texas when Gov. Bill Clements recently signed legislation changing the university's name for the sixth time in 97 years.

The name change is part of the strategic plan initiated in 1983 to set goals for the university's centennial in 1990. Chancellor Al Hurley said the university now serves the North Texas region more strongly than ever before. The new name more accurately reflects that service growth as well as NTSU's expanded role in research.

Proud to be smoke free

On Oct. 1 TCOM became the first medical school in Texas to offer a smoke-free environment. It also was one of the first major employers in Fort Worth to enforce a total ban.

Smoking had been restricted to designated areas since 1982, but that policy had been abused, according

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to college officials.

"The new policy was not an administrative decision," said President David Richards. "Employees demanded it, and the administration saw that it became official." Several committees representing students, faculty and staff had voted to recommend the total ban, which is effective for all buildings and vehicles.

The decision to go smoke-free received a commendation from the nation's surgeon general. "Prevention has long been a hallmark of osteopathic medicine," C. Everett Koop, M.D., said. "It is appropriate that your institution provide leadership to the broader society in reducing preventable morbidity and mortality due to cigarette smoking. This act of leadership sets a clear example for student physicians to follow during their careers. You have done a good thing."

Marathon turns 10

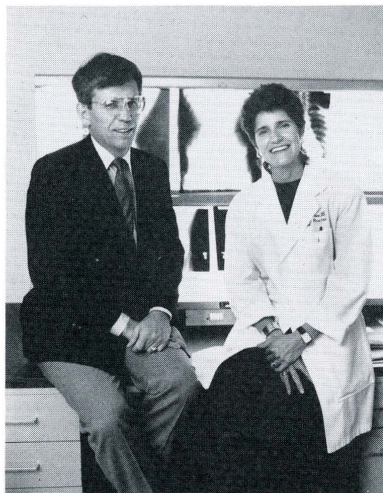
Participants in a Fort Worth physical fitness classic, the 10th Annual Cowtown Marathon and 10K race, will take to the streets Saturday, Feb. 27.

TCOM is the founding sponsor of the event, which usually brings about 5,500 runners to the starting line in the heart of Fort Worth's historic Stockyards. College staff and students help with registration, fluid stations, finish-line assistance and records. Student doctors and faculty physicians make up the top-class medical support team.

The marathon will start at 9 a.m. The starting gun for the 10K will go off a half hour later.

Noted fitness advocate George Sheehan, M.D., will give the main talk at the annual marathon symposium to be held Feb. 26.

The marathon office is housed at TCOM and can be reached at 735-2032. Other sponsors for the annual event are the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, Texas American Banks and Miller Brewing Company.



Drs. Stephen Urban and Penelope Ries, directors of new Carswell Clinic

New Carswell Clinic

When the hospital at Fort Worth's Carswell Air Force Base needed help in serving its burgeoning retirement population, TCOM answered the call.

TCOM's new general and family practice clinic, which was set to open for business on the base in January, will not only provide a much-needed service to a large segment of the Fort Worth community, said GFP Chairman Larry Bunnell, but also will expand teaching opportunities. It will be a site for student rotations as well as GFP resident training. All of the patients will be military retirees and their dependents.

Penelope Ries, D.O., is administrative director of the new Carswell Clinic, and Stephen Urban, D.O., is education director. Both are GFP faculty members.

Because of staff and budget considerations, however, TCOM had to close a clinic in order to open another. Riverside Family Practice Clinic closed Oct. 30 and began referring its patients to TCOM's nearby Southside Clinic. Riverside personnel were not left homeless, though; they relocated lock, stock and copy machine to Carswell.

People

New faculty: **Steve Buchanan, D.O.**, 1982 TCOM graduate, from a residency at Oklahoma Osteopathic Hospital in Tulsa this summer to assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology; **John Carter, D.O.**, from family practitioner in Saginaw, Mich., to associate professor of general and family practice; **Jerry Dickey, D.O.**, from chairman of osteopathic theory and methods at Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine, to chairman and associate professor of manipulative medicine; **Gregory Friess, D.O.**, 1979 TCOM graduate, from the Army Medical Corps to assistant professor of medicine; **John Licciardone, D.O.**, from KCOM faculty to assistant professor of public health and preventive medicine; **Robert McFaul, D.O.**, 1981 TCOM graduate, from a year's fellowship in vascular surgery in Columbus, Ohio, to assistant professor of surgery; **Stephen Putthoff, D.O.**, from medical director of surgical pathology at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio to chairman and associate professor of pathology; **Penelope Ries, D.O.**, from chairman of primary care at the hospital at Carswell AFB to assistant professor of general and family practice; **Gary Sisler, D.O.**, from the Army Medical Corps to assistant professor of pathology; **Craig Spellman, Ph.D.**, from the faculty at the University of New Mexico School of Medicine to research associate professor of microbiology and immunology.

New staff: **Tom Cox**, member of the biomedical communications staff since 1977, to director of that department; **Dennis Pavlas**, from assistant to internal auditor; **Carole Tayman**, from executive director of the Sister Cities International Association of Fort Worth to executive director for development; **Glenda Tucker**, from assistant director of student services and financial aids officer at Oklahoma College of Osteopathic Medicine to director of financial aid.

Robert Adams, D.O., of the obstetrics and gynecology faculty, is the acting chairman of the department following the retirement of **Linton Budd, D.O.**

Notified recently of their inclusion in the next volume of *Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges* were these TCOM students: **Don Allred, Kathleen Bynum, Jeffrey Clark, Larry Evans, David Gouldy, Edwin Matthews, John MacKenzie, Pam Nix, Bonnie Nock, Elizabeth Owen, John Randall, David Richards** and **Jeffrey Schuleter**.

Chancellor Al Hurley has been elected president of the Council of Public University Presidents and Chancellors of Texas.

Student **Audrey Jones** was awarded a SmithKline Beckman fellowship of \$1,927 by the National Fund for Medical Education to survey male and female medical examiners to see if there are differences in attitude regarding victims of sexual assault.

Student **Joann Schulte** received one of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' cash

awards for innovations in health promotion and disease prevention for the AIDS prevention program she developed for the Dallas County Health Department.

President David Richards is the only osteopathic physician now serving on the Veterans Administration Special Medical Advisory Group, composed of 21 of the nation's leading health care professionals.

Student **Mary Hammes** won the women's division of the Western States 100-mile endurance run in California this summer with a time of 21 hours, 23 minutes.

Bernard Rubin, D.O., medicine, has been named a fellow of the American College of Physicians.

Russ Jenkins, D.O., surgery, received Fort Worth Osteopathic Medical Center's 1987 Medical Staff Award this summer.

Peter Raven, Ph.D., physiology, moved up from president-elect to president of the 12,000-member American College of Sports Medicine in May.

Six second-year students received awards for top grades achieved dur-



Lt. Gov. Bill Hobby accepts TCOM Founders' medal at fall convocation for his contributions to medical education and health care.

ing their first year at convocation in September. Neurobiology's top award went to **Elizabeth Owen**. Physiology awards for high grades were earned by **Alan Boyd, Owen, Dale Richards, John Rose, Neal Shparago** and **Leslie Vaught**.

In memoriam: **William Button, D.O.**, who joined the surgery faculty this fall, died Nov. 9.



TCOM's team in the Nov. 7 Turkey-walk helped the American Heart Association exceed its \$40,000 goal by \$14,000. Part of the team poses before the 4-mile walk begins.

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