

# On Rounds

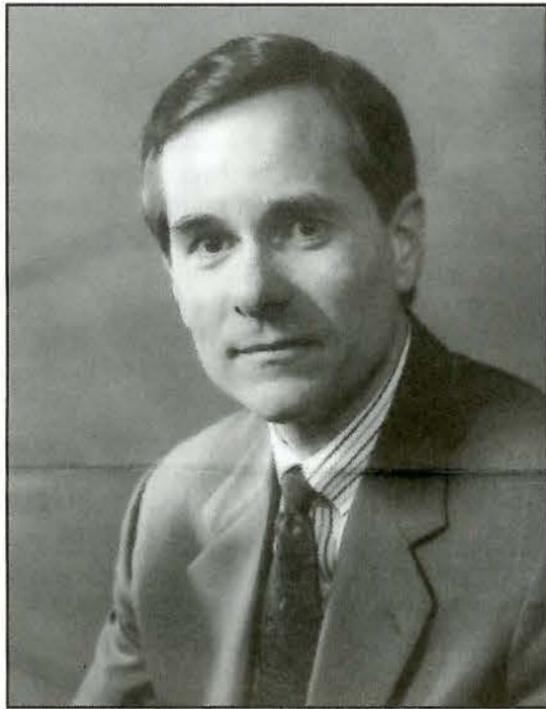
The University of Alabama  
College of Community Health Sciences

Volume 8, Number 3

Summer 1998

## Curry Named CCHS Dean

**William A. Curry, MD, FACP**, has been named Dean of the College of Community Health Sciences. The appointment, effective July 1, 1998, was made by the University of Alabama School of Medicine Dean **William Deal, MD**, and Dr. **Andrew Sorensen**, President of The University of Alabama. With the appointment, Curry also becomes Associate Dean of UASOM for Tuscaloosa and Rural Programs. Dr. Curry had been Chair of Internal Medicine Senior Associate Dean at CCHS, and Assistant Dean for Rural Medicine for UASOM, and he has just completed a term as President of the Medical Association of the State of Alabama (MASA). Dr. Curry was a CCHS adjunct professor for 17 years while practicing internal medicine in rural Pickens County, his home.

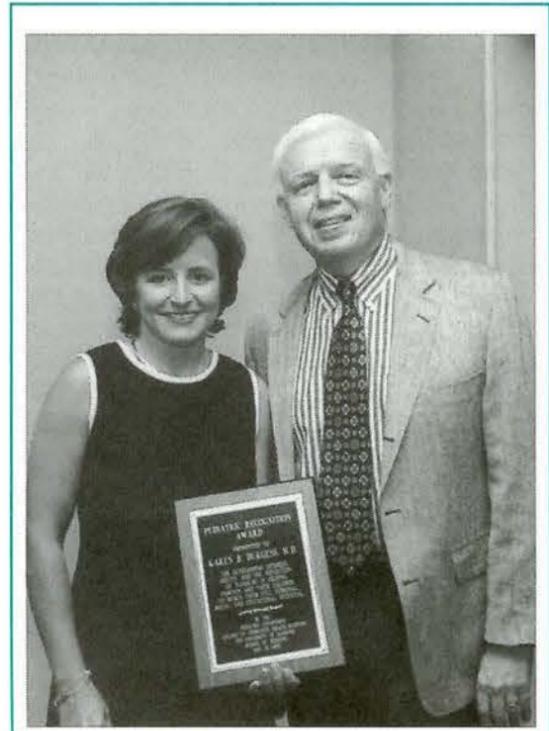


William A. Curry, MD

Dr. Curry graduated *Phi Beta Kappa* from The University of Alabama where he was a member of the Omicron Delta Kappa Honorary and a finalist for a Rhodes Scholarship. He earned his MD at Vanderbilt and was inducted to the *Alpha Omega Alpha* national medical honorary. After completing an internal medicine residency at Vanderbilt University where he served as Chief Resident, he declined the opportunity to join Vanderbilt's faculty because he wanted to practice medicine in a small town. He was CCHS Preceptor of the Year in 1984; and in 1993, he was elected to membership in the Carl Elliott Society at UA.

He was president of the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine, and he has also been in numerous leadership roles with MASA prior

to his presidency, chairing committees on access to health care and MASA activities related to primary care. He also led a joint task force



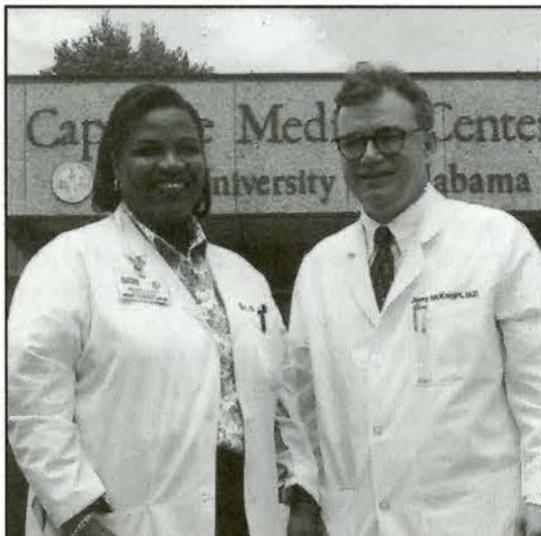
Karen Burgess, who received the William R. Willard Award (the Dean's Award), receives the Pediatrics Award from David Hefelfinger, MD, Chair of Pediatrics. Story on 1998 Honors Convocation on page 3. (Photo by Chip Cooper)

(Continued on p.6)

## CCHS Alum Jimmie Clark Wins Parke-Davis Award for Teaching from AAFP Foundation

**Jimmie Clark, MD, MPH**, a graduate of the CCHS Family Practice Residency, has been chosen by the American Academy of Family Physicians Foundation to receive the 1998 Parke-Davis Teacher Development Award. She is one of 12 recipients from across the U.S.

Dr. Clark, who is in private practice in Tuscaloosa with CCHS alumna and former faculty member Dr. **Cindy Dedmon**, receives a cash award in appreciation for her commitment to family practice and future family physicians.



Dr. Jerry McKnight (right) congratulates Dr. Jimmie Clark, 1998 AAFP Parke-Davis Award winner.

She will be recognized at the Fellowship Convocation Ceremony during the AAFP Annual Assembly in San Francisco in September.

"Jimmie Clark is an extraordinary teacher in our program and an outstanding role model for our residents," said **Jerry McKnight, M.D.**, Chair of Family Medicine, who recommended her for the award. Dr. Clark is the second Parke-Davis recipient in a row from CCHS part-time faculty.

Dr. **Blane Schilling** of Carrollton, who was Chief Resident at CCHS in 1993, won the Parke-Davis Award last year. Dr. Schilling, who was named CCHS "Community Preceptor of the Year" in 1995, is one of approximately 50 dedicated preceptors across Alabama who help to train residents and medical students during community/rural medicine rotations.

"The opportunity to work with preceptors in their practices during rural rotations is essential to the medical training we offer," said Assistant Residency Director **Robert Ireland, MD**, who coordinates the rotations for family medicine residents.

"Dr. Clark exemplifies Dr. Bill Willard's vision of the family physician as a leader who helps the community meet its health needs," said **John Wheat, MD**, Director of Community/Rural Medicine rotations for medical students at CCHS. Dr. **William R. Willard**, the "father

(Continued on page 8)

## Dean Coggins Wins ACP Laureate Award

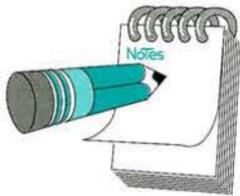
Former Dean **Wilmer J. Coggins, MD, FACP**, received the Laureate Award from the American College of Physicians at the June 12 meeting of the Alabama Chapter of ACP in Orange Beach, Alabama.

Generally presented to senior physicians who have long-standing, acknowledged excellence and peer approval in the field of internal medicine, the Laureate Award honors Fellows and Masters of the American College of Physicians who have demonstrated by their example and conduct an abiding commitment to excellence in medical care, education, research, and service.

Dr. Coggins served as Dean of CCHS from 1980 until his retirement in 1991. He instituted the faculty practice plan at Capstone and obtained outside funding to initiate problem-based learning techniques and OSCE's (objective structured clinical examinations) for medical students. (Continued on page 6.)



Wilmer Coggins, MD  
Dean Emeritus, CCHS



## Faculty Notes

Send faculty news items to  
Linda Jackson, Editor  
Box 870326, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487.  
Room 372 Nott Hall 348-1302  
Fax 348-9417 (Dean's office)

### Dr. Rubin Collaborating on Research Projects

**Nancy Rubin**, PsyD, Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Neurology, has an article in press in *Medical Education*. She and **Elizabeth Philp**, MD, Associate Professor of Family Medicine, have written "Health Care Perceptions of the Standardized Patient" about their on-going research.

In July, she and Dr. Philp will make a poster presentation on this research at the 8th Ottawa International Conference on Medical Education and Assessment in Philadelphia. The poster will include the 4-year data in a 5-year study on the effect of being a standardized patient on perception of one's own health care. Rubin is also preparing an article for *Southern Medical Journal* on "Abuse History: Is it Really Important in the Medical Encounter?"

Dr. Rubin is Principal Investigator for two empirical studies on defense mechanisms, one in patients with anxiety and depression and the other in patients with borderline personality disorder and obsessive-compulsive personality disorder. She is working with Drs. **Rand** and **Lacy** in the Dept. of Psychiatry and Dr. Karina Davidson in the UA Dept. of Psychology. She is also doing empirical research studies related to factitious disorder in primary care. In a study in Blue Suite, she is collaborating with Dr. **Elizabeth Philp** of Family Medicine and Jim Hamilton, PhD, of the Psychology Dept. The study is a pilot for one in Red Suite for which NIMH funding has been sought.

In other projects, she is collaborating with Psychology faculty: Dr. Ben Thorn on the role of pain in memory; and with Dr. Lani Greening and pediatric faculty members, Drs. **Evans**, **Cockrum**, and **Taylor**, on diabetes and eating disorders in adolescent patients.

### Philp, Rand Win UA Grants

**Elizabeth Philp**, MD, and **Elizabeth Rand**, MD, have received research grant awards from The UA Research Advisory Committee (RAC). Dr. Philp's research project is "Family Physician Compliance with Established Pap Smear Guidelines." Dr. Rand's project is "Systems Issues in Multiprovider Mental Health Care." The RAC grant awards for a two-year period began April 1, 1998.

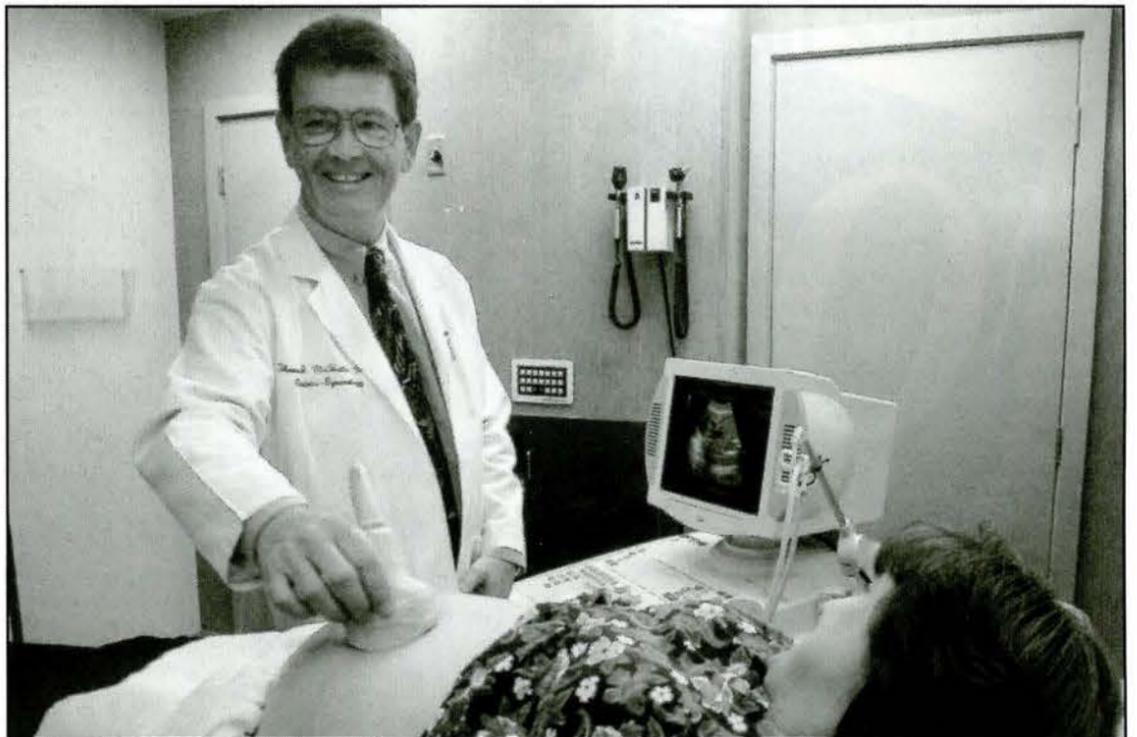
### Health Sciences Librarians Serve as Officers in Professional Groups

**Lisa Russell**, M.L.S., Head Medical Librarian, CCHS Health Sciences Library, is Treasurer of the Alabama Health Libraries Association. **Martha Cook**, M.L.S., Technical Services/Systems Librarian, is secretary/treasurer of the Southern Chapter, Medical Library Association.

### How Race and Gender of Patient Affected Counseling During OSCE

**Elizabeth Philp**, M.D., and two CCHS researchers, **Pat Norton** and **Julia Hartman**, will present information from OSCE research at in July. Their study analyzes information from surveys and observations of medical students and standardized patients during last year's Objective Structured Clinical Exams (OSCE). OSCE is an annual evaluation of all third-year medical students at UASOM. Research by Philp, Norton, and Hartman for this presentation deals with how patient counseling differed when delivered to a male or a female, and whether race of the patient was a factor in how the patient perceived communication skills.

Two identical circuits of nine stations were used to assess the clinical skills of third



Thomas McHattie, M.D., Associate Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, uses Capstone's 3-D ultrasound as patient Lisa Harvey watches the monitor. The machine, the first in Alabama and one of only a few in the U.S., provides clearer images than previous equipment.

### Rare Technology Available at Capstone OB/GYN Dept.

The Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Capstone is using sophisticated 3-D ultrasounds to manage high risk pregnancies and connect the images to the internet to consult with national or international experts on procedures to improve outcomes for mothers and their babies. The machine which makes it all possible, the Aloka SD-1700, is the first in Alabama and one of only a few in this country, according to CCHS Associate Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, **Thomas McHattie**, MD.

Dr. McHattie, who started practicing in Canada 20 years ago, used one of the first ultrasound machines and has extensive experience in obstetric ultrasound. An external probe and

computer software generate detailed images on a monitor, so parents-to-be can see facial structure, even the baby's eyes blinking, and gender. Physicians can check for problems and determine severity of conditions that require medical attention.

The amazing technology has brought media attention to the Capstone and Dr. McHattie who has been interviewed and photographed for news articles by Birmingham and Tuscaloosa newspapers and all the television stations in the Birmingham area. UA News Services writer Linda Hill said CNN had expressed interest in doing a segment on it.

(Photo by Alice Wilson, UA Photography)

### CCHS Conducts Drug Study on Post Traumatic Stress Disorder

**Elizabeth Rand**, MD, is Principal Investigator of a double-blind placebo-controlled study using a common antidepressant to treat post traumatic stress disorder. The study will take place at Capstone Medical Center between August, 1998, and December, 1999. There are 30 study sites around the U.S. The UA medical school in Birmingham is the only other site in Alabama.

"Dr. Lori Davis, a UAB Psychiatry faculty member and researcher at the Tuscaloosa V.A. Medical Center with prior research experience in PTSD and drug testing, recommended us as a test site," said Dr. Rand. "I am very grateful to her for her assistance and encouragement in this effort."

The study will involve male and female adult patients and compare treatment results between patients receiving a placebo and those taking the medication. Neither patients nor physicians will know who receives a placebo. **Nancy Rubin**, PsyD, will assist with the research, and **Kay Fendley** will serve as Study Coordinator, said Dr. Rand.

### Dr. Rand Contributes Chapter for Book on Mental Health Research

**Elizabeth Rand**, MD, co-authored with Dr. Lee Badger "Mood Disorders," a chapter in the 1998 textbook *Advances in Mental Health Research*, Williams and Ell, eds. NASW Press.

### Article by Ireland, Adcock Lauded

An article by Family Medicine faculty **Robert Ireland**, MD, and **Bobbi Adcock**, MD, in *American Family Physician* last year was one of four finalists for outstanding article in AFP by a family physician for 1997.

### Pharmacy Training Programs at CCHS Benefit Residents, Patients

**Charles Taylor**, PharmD, and **Debbie Byrd**, PharmD, both Auburn University of School Pharmacy faculty based at CCHS, and FM Assistant Professor **Bobbi Adcock**, MD, are developing a pharmacotherapy curriculum for first year family practice residents. Problem-solving related to actual patient cases and weekly meetings during the 6-month course emphasize evidence-based medicine and incorporate medication management principles. A grant from Pfizer underwrites their efforts.

Dr. Byrd and Dr. Taylor have also launched a Primary Care Pharmacy Practice Residency Program at CCHS. Since very few residencies in specialized pharmacy practice are available, this new rural-based residency in primary care pharmacy practice will provide a unique one-year training period for post doctoral study. **Chelsea Church**, PharmD, from Oklahoma, the first resident in the program begins in July, 1998, and will focus on practice in rural clinics and with rural physicians, especially family physician **Blane Schilling** in Pickens County.

Drs. Byrd and Taylor are also supervising their students in poster presentations on medication issues as part of a Medication Awareness program.

# CCHS Recognizes Medical Graduates at Honors Convocation

Graduating medical students at CCHS were recognized on May 15 at the 1998 Honors Convocation at the Four Points-Sheraton in Tuscaloosa. Departmental and special awards were announced as 24 graduates were recognized. **Cathy Gresham, MD**, Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine and Director of Medical Student Affairs, convened the awards ceremony, and **Denise Stripling**, class president, introduced the guest speaker. Dean Emeritus **James A. Pittman, Jr., MD**, addressed the graduating class at the 22nd Honors Convocation for students at CCHS.

The *William R. Willard Award*, the Dean's Award, was presented to **Karen Burgess, MD**. This singular recognition is awarded annually to a senior medical student for outstanding contributions to the goals and mission of the college. **Denise Stripling, MD**, received the *James H. Akers Memorial Award*, chosen by members of the graduating senior class and given annually to the Tuscaloosa senior who best personifies both the art and the science of the practice of medicine.

**Jason Thurman, MD**, received the *Scholastic Achievement Award* for the highest grade point average during the clinical years at CCHS. CCHS third year medical students **Peter Chang** and **Chad Hamner** were recognized for their election to the national medical honorary, *Alpha Omega Alpha*. (See article, p. 8.)

**Melissa Behringer, MD**, a family physician in Centreville, received the 1998 *Community Medicine Preceptor Award* presented annually by the Behavioral & Community Medicine Department. She was at CCHS for her clinical years of medical school, graduated from the Tuscaloosa Family Practice Residency, and is now an adjunct faculty member. This award for teaching excellence and dedication honors the preceptor who exemplifies the principles of community/rural medicine in practice. (Continued, p. 3.)

**Karen Burgess, MD**, received the "Student of the Year" award from the Tuscaloosa VA Medical Center. The *Larry Mayes Memorial Scholarship Award*, which provides assistance for work in an underserved area of this country or any country, was presented to a CCHS student this year, MSIII **Sara LeSturgeon**. The award is given by the Mayes family in memory of Larry Mayes, a CCHS medical student who died in 1986 during rotation in Africa shortly before his graduation.

Three teaching awards were presented by the graduating class. **E. Eugene Marsh, MD**, Assistant Professor of Neurology in the Dept. of Psychiatry and Neurology, was recognized for outstanding contributions to undergraduate medical education during the class's junior year. The graduates presented the *Patrick McCue Award* for outstanding contributions to undergraduate medical education during the class's senior year to **Lee Thomas, MD**, Associate Clinical Professor of Surgery. **Lisa Sward, MD**, received the Resident Recognition Award for outstanding teaching.

Graduates of the University of Alabama School of Medicine completing medical school at the Tuscaloosa Program, are: Roderick Adams, MD, Sami Ali, MD, Wade Alverson, MD, Karen Burgess, MD, Miranda Edwards, MD, Jeremy Franklin, MD, Kevin Giadrosich, MD, Rebecca Giadrosich, MD, Daniel Guralnick, MD, Tara Haynes, MD, Latonya James, MD, Dennis Jones, MD, Patrick Lowe, MD, Colin Marino, MD, Tamela Miles, MD, Matti Palo, MD, David Smith, MD, Sid Smith, MD, Denise Stripling, MD, Stewart Tankersley, MD, Jason Thurman, MD, Brian Wade, MD, Jim Wallace, MD, and Bart Wood, MD.

Melissa Behringer, M.D., (left) with Rural Medical Scholar Teri Gottstine, who shadowed her this year to learn more about rural practice. Dr. Behringer was named Community Preceptor of the Year by the Department of Behavioral and Community Medicine. The award recognizes dedication to teaching and goes to a practicing family physician who personifies the best aspects of community/rural medical practice. Dr. Behringer, a former CCHS medical student and 1994 graduate of the Tuscaloosa Family Practice Residency, completed the OB Fellowship following her residency. She entered private practice in Bibb County in 1995 and serves as adjunct faculty in the Department of Family Medicine.



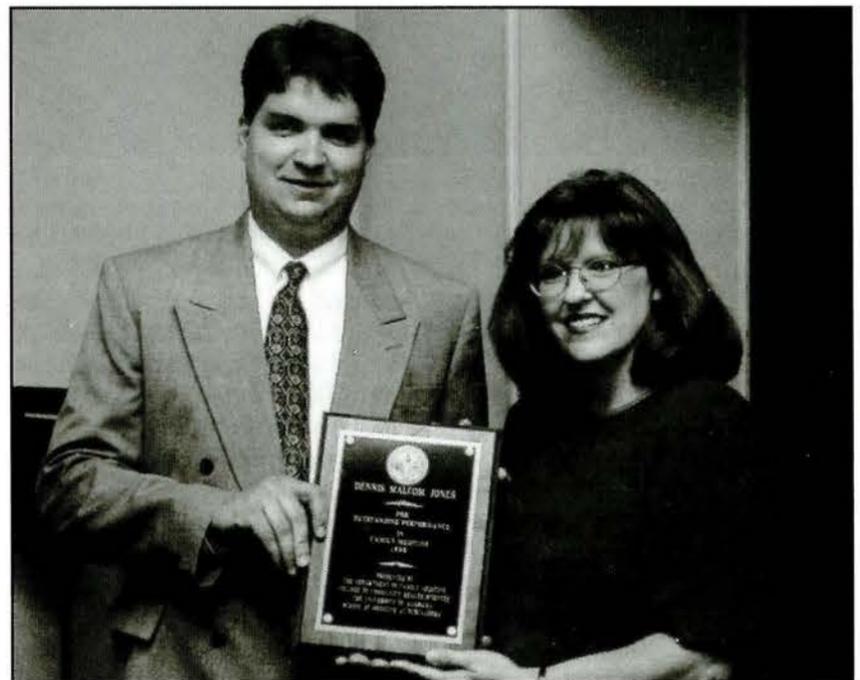
Senior class president Denise Stripling, MD, presents the *Patrick McCue Award* for outstanding teaching during the senior year to Lee Thomas, MD, a surgeon and adjunct clinical professor in the Dept. of Surgery. Dr. Stripling herself received the Surgery Award during presentation of departmental honors.

## Departmental Awards

<b>Behavioral&amp;Community</b>	<b>Karen Burgess</b>
<b>Medicine</b> <i>Robert F. Gloor Award</i>	<b>Miranda Edwards</b>
<b>Family Medicine Award</b>	<b>Dennis Jones</b>
<b>Internal Medicine Award</b>	<b>Matti Palo</b>
<i>Finney/Akers Award</i>	<b>Patrick Lowe</b>
<b>Obstetrics&amp;Gynecology</b>	
<b>Pediatrics Award</b>	<b>Karen Burgess</b>
<i>Peter Bryce Award</i>	<b>Karen Burgess</b>
<b>Psychiatry</b>	
<b>Surgery Award</b>	<b>Denise Stripling</b>



The *Robert F. Gloor Memorial Award* for excellence in Behavioral and Community Medicine was presented to Karen Burgess, MD, (left) and Miranda Edwards, MD, (right) by John Wheat, MD, Associate Professor of Community Medicine.



Assistant Professor of Family Medicine Bobbi Adcock, MD, presents the Family Medicine Departmental Award to Dennis Jones, MD, who was selected by the family medicine faculty as outstanding student.

## Rural Health Scholars from Across the State at UA for Sixth Summer Program



Elliatta Waters (center), a Rural Health Scholar from Marengo County, holds a bronchial tube while talking to a first year medical student during a field trip to the University of South Alabama medical school in Mobile in June.

The sixth annual Rural Health Scholars class was held this summer at the UA College of Community Health Sciences. The 28 high school students from rural Alabama arrived at The University of Alabama on June 7 for a 5-week summer session in which they experienced a taste of college life and learned more about health careers in rural areas. Rural Health Scholars, who will be seniors in the fall at high schools across the state, took two courses for college credit – EH200 (Creative Writing) and Chemistry 104 (which includes a chemistry lab). They also toured the University of South Alabama's medical school and made a field trip to Bibb, Fayette, or Pickens county to observe rural health providers.

Rural Health Scholars are chosen based on academic achievement, extracurricular leadership, and interest in rural health care. Three 1993 Rural Health Scholars (the first RHS class) - Kris Cummings, Joey Gasson, and Katie Powell - start medical school in July.

Rural Health Scholars	County	High School
Rachel Beardsley	Wilcox	AL School of Math and Science
Dondrea Brownlow	Hale	Greensboro West High School
Daniel Carpenter	Shelby	Thompson High School
Brad Chandler	Autauga	Billingsley High School
Quentin Collins	Cullman	Cullman High School
Sarah Cornelson	Clarke	Thomasville High School
Stephanie Flarity	Jackson	Scottsboro High School
Melissa Fleming	Clarke	Clarke County High School
Joseph Golden	Cullman	Fairview High School
Stephanie Grider	Jackson	Section High School
Stephanie Hall	Henry	Headland High School
Joshua Hight	Cullman	Cullman High School
Kelley Hood	Butler	Fort Dale Academy
Lori Land	DeKalb	Plainview High School
Ashley Langley	Lowndes	Ft. Dale Academy
Michael Luther	DeKalb	Geraldine High School
Shanna McFarland	Macon	Macon-East Montgomery Acad
Charlotte Millican	DeKalb	Pisgah High School
Obasi Okeke	Dallas	Selma High School
Derek Schendel	Cullman	Cullman High School
Jeffrey Smith	Baldwin	Robertsdale High School
Leonardo Taarea	Coffee	Enterprise High School
Roberto Taarea	Coffee	Enterprise High School
Ankrehah Trimble	Perry	Francis Marion High School
Jessika Wallace	Conecuh	Hillcrest High School
Veranita Waller	Dallas	Selma High School
Elliatta Waters	Marengo	Demopolis High School
Jeff Winn	Calhoun	Alexandria High School

Rural Health Scholars get preference for agrimedical assistantships as college students and when applying for the Rural Medical Scholars program. For more information, contact: Cynthia Moore at 205/ 348-7416 or John Wheat, MD, 205/ 348-1303.

## Future M.D.'s in Rural "Pipeline" Make Field Trip to Macon County



Rural Medical Scholars enjoyed buggy rides during their visit to Shorter in April. Standing (L-R): Beverly Jordan, Jack, Katie Powell, Boaz; Dr. John Wheat, RMSP Director; Danny Whitaker, Arley; Clifton Garris, Leroy; and Robby Vickers, Wilmer. Front: Teri Gottsline, Wilmer; Julia Boothe, Northport. In the carriage behind the driver: Heath Hale, Centreville; Rick Jotani, Talladega; Brad Smith, Fayette.

The Rural Medical Scholars Program enrolls outstanding rural scholars (college graduates or undergraduates in their senior year) for coursework and practicums related to primary care and rural practice in the year prior to matriculation to medical school. Members of the 98-99 RMSP class were selected (see related article next page) June 17, as the Rural Medical Scholars above prepared to join 96-97 RMS class members who are already at the UA School of Medicine. The RMS program maintains contact and provides peer support activities for scholars throughout medical training.

Other components of the "pipeline" are summer field work and rural research options

for students at all levels, an interim course for Rural Health Scholars and other rural students during college years at UA, rural rotations for medical students and family practice residents at CCHS, a required community medicine rotation for all UASOM students, a fellowship in rural medicine, and a physician recruitment and retention effort conducted by the Alabama Family Practice Rural Health Board with UA, UASOM, other medical training programs, the state health department, other state agencies, and Alabama communities.

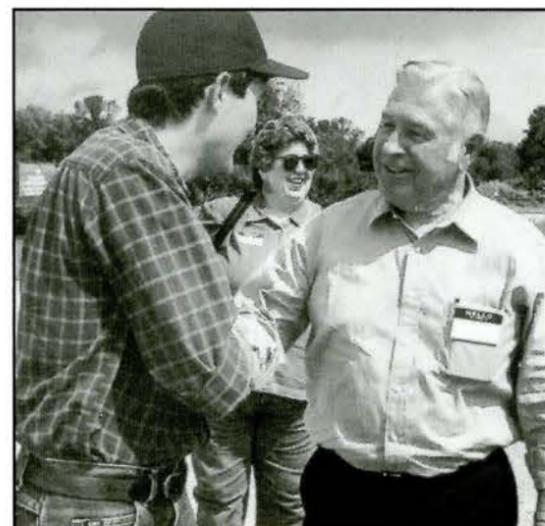
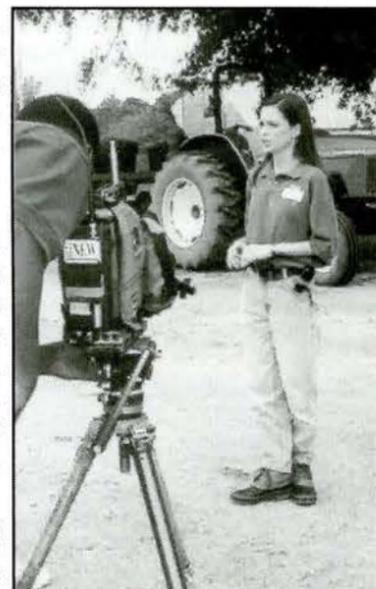
Rural Medical Scholar Clifton Garris (left) greets Dr. John Henderson, Assistant Commissioner of the Alabama Dept. of Agriculture, who joined the Scholars for part of their field trip to Macon County.

Women Involved in Farm Economics (WIFE) will tell you that more physicians are needed in rural underserved areas of Alabama. WIFE has supported the efforts of Dr. John Wheat, Associate Professor of Community Medicine at The University of Alabama, to establish rural scholar programs that identify and encourage rural students who want to become physicians in rural areas.

In April, WIFE members in Macon County, Alabama, hosted a field trip for UA's Rural Medical Scholars who are entering the UA School of Medicine in July. The scholars are completing a year of study at UA about primary care in rural areas.

The focus of the trip was health and medical needs, and rural residents told them about occupational hazards from first-hand experience. The students also toured Tallassee Hospital and met with Mike Peaden, a local family physician and alumnus of the Tuscaloosa Family Practice Residency.

Beverly Jordan (right) is interviewed as part of a report for the evening news on Montgomery's WFSA-TV on the scholars' field trip and the why they have chosen careers in rural medicine.



## Library Installs Voyager

The Health Sciences Library is modernizing its computer system, and library users will notice a new look and easy access to information. New graphical user interfaces will give the catalog and electronic resources a more up-to-date look as well as point-and-click convenience.

In mid-July the Health Sciences Library, along with other UA Libraries, will convert from the existing NOTIS library system to a new client-server system called Voyager. Designed exclusively for use in academic and research libraries, Voyager is produced by Illinois-based Endeavor Information Systems.

The initial conversion will move existing library information and functions from NOTIS to the new Voyager system, followed by the evaluation and implementation of advanced capabilities. Adding resources and customizing the system will occur once Voyager is in place.

Faculty and staff accessing the system from outside the libraries will receive detailed instructions prior to implementation. The Health Sciences Library will also announce scheduled instructional sessions on using the new system after it is up and running. Watch for more information about Voyager in *On Rounds* and *Dialog*, or contact Martha Cook at 348-1366 or [mcook@cchs.ua.edu](mailto:mcook@cchs.ua.edu).

**-Martha C. Cook, Assistant Professor  
Technical Services/Systems Librarian  
Health Sciences Library, CCHS**

**Note:** The HSL website offers tutorials, a digital collection in primary care, medline access, grants information, CME schedule, and health information.  
<http://bama.ua.edu/~hslib/>

## Rural Medical Scholars Chosen for 1998-99 Class

Ten Rural Medical Scholars were selected by practicing rural family physicians, Rural Alabama Health Alliance members, and medical school faculty on June 17 following interviews at CCHS. The Scholars enroll at UA for special courses, field work, and community service projects related to rural health care during the next academic year prior to entering the UA School of Medicine in the summer of 1999.

Four of the ten Scholars will also be completing their undergraduate degrees during the year. **Emily Dolbare**, a former Rural Health Scholar from Washington County, **Brad Ginevan** from Colbert County, and **Jeremy Pepper**, Limestone County, - all Biology majors at UA - will graduate in May, 1999. **Dusty Sheppard** from Pickens County, a Biochemistry major at Samford University, will also complete his degree at UA in May of next year.

Rural Medical Scholars who have earned degrees are **Greg McKee**, Etowah County, with a B.S. in Molecular Biology from UAB; **Zynia Pua**, Marshall County, who received her B.A. in Psychology from the University of Chicago in 1996; **Randall Quinn**, Jefferson County, a 1997 graduate of the University of Montevallo with a B.S. in Chemistry; **Gregory Reynolds**, Escambia County, who received his B.S. degree from Birmingham Southern College in May with a double major in Biology and Psychology; **Lee Thompson**, Dale County, who earned his B.S. in Agriculture from Auburn in 1991 and completed his law degree (J.D. from The University of Alabama) in 1994; and **Brian Valentine**, Russell County, who received his B.S. in Zoology from Auburn University in December of 1997.

For more information, contact Susan Guin, RMSP Coordinator, College of Community Health Sciences, Box 870326, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0326. (205) 348-5892.

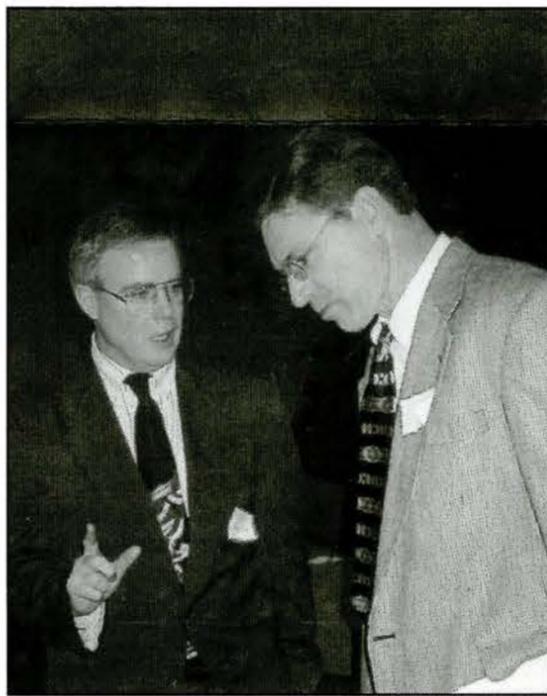
## Emergency Medical Series 1998

Date	Speaker	Topic
July		
2	Michael Robards, M.D.	Acute Renal Failure
7	George Nunn, M.D.	Trauma to the Chest
9	David Hefelfinger, M.D.	Fluids and Electrolytes
10	William Curry, M.D.	Hypertension Emergencies
14	Steve Lovelady, M.D.	Airway Management
16	Stephen Ikard, M.D.	Orthopaedic Emergencies
17	Keith DeBell, M.D.	DKA and Related Emergencies
21	John Mantle, M.D.	Treatment of AMI
23	Ross Vaughn, M.D.	Congestive Heart Failure
24	A.B. Reddy, M.D.	Upper GI Bleeding
28	Omar Smith, M.D.	Urological Emergencies
30	Charles Nevels, M.D.	Psychiatric Emergencies I
31	Charles Nevels, M.D.	Psychiatric Emergencies II
August		
4	Steve Lovelady, M.D.	Trauma Patients with Multiple Injuries
6	James Shotts, M.D.	ENT Emergencies
7	Ashley Evans, M.D.	Pediatric Seizures
11	David Rice, M.D.	Respiratory Failure
13	George Kudirka, M.D.	Eye Emergencies
14	Albert White, M.D.	Infectious Disease
18	TBA	TBA
20	Thomas McHattie, M.D.	OB-GYN Emergencies
21	Thomas Scott, M.D.	Allergy Emergencies
27	John Waits, M.D.	Acute Abdomen
28	S. B. Sundar, M.D.	Lower GI Bleeding

Continuing Medical Education credit is available. CME lectures are held in the Willard Auditorium on the first floor of the UA Educational Tower at DCH Regional Medical Center, beginning at 12:15 p.m. For more information, contact **Vicki Johnson**, CME Coordinator, CCHS Dean's Office, 205/348-0093.

CME schedule is available on the internet at <http://bama.ua.edu/~hslib/>

## CCHS Part of Collaboration for RWJ Grant



Michael Beachler (left), Director of the Southern Rural Access Program, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, consults with CCHS Associate Professor John Wheat, M.D., during an organizational meeting in Montgomery. A successful application could eventually bring over \$8 million into the state to improve health care services.

Alabama Academy of Family Practice. The FPRHB brings its influence with state and local policy makers to its leadership role in Alabama's application for Robert Wood Johnson funds.

Since only one proposal per state will be considered, it was critical that a strong partnership be forged at the outset, said Dr. **John Wheat** of CCHS, who has been active in the process to identify stakeholders and to facilitate the application process. Dr. Wheat worked with **Clyde Bargainer** of the state health department and Dr. **Sandra Hullett** to set up Alabama's organizational meeting in March. As follow-up to the initial stakeholders' meeting in Montgomery, Wheat has assisted leaders of the Rural Health Board and Family Health Care of Alabama with their lead agency agreement and application on behalf of the stakeholders.

On June 25, the Alabama Extension Service convened a planning meeting for Stakeholders to discuss the application. Dr. **Warren McCord**, Director of the Alabama Extension Service, set up break-out sessions on segments of the proposed statewide initiative: **Rural Health Networks; Rural Leaders Pipeline; Recruitment/retention of Primary Care Providers;** and setting up a **Revolving Loan Fund**. Stakeholders include individuals, organizations, and agencies across the state who will help shape the health care in Alabama. All stakeholders were asked to communicate to one or both of the lead agencies the role they are able to play. CCHS has offered help in preparation of Alabama's Southern Rural Access project proposal, said Wheat.

"The goals of the program coincide with the mission of this college, and CCHS will provide assistance and support as the project progresses," said **William Curry**, M.D., CCHS Dean. "The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation is providing a great opportunity for all of us in Alabama to work together to improve health services in our state."

## Rural Health Board and Family Health Care of Alabama Work Together in Lead Agency Role

CCHS has been actively working with officials of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and leaders in Alabama health circles to help organize the state's proposal for a special grant to improve access to health care in the rural South. Only eight southern states are eligible to apply, and only one application from each state will be accepted. Alabama's proposal for RWJ Foundation funds under the Southern Rural Access Grant Program will be a joint effort led by the Alabama Family Practice Rural Health Board and Family Health Care of Alabama. An agreement between the two brings the strengths of each to the lead agency role.

Family Health Care of Alabama has a strong record of service to the disadvantaged rural population in West Alabama, a record which has provided influence among national foundations, the Public Health Service, and community health centers. The Alabama Family Practice Rural Health Board, created by the state legislature, has statewide representation with members appointed by the Governor, leaders of both houses of the state legislature, and the

## New Residents Start in Family Practice at CCHS

First year residents in the Family Practice Residency arrived in Tuscaloosa at the end of June to begin a three-year training program.

**Ashley Burchfield**, a Tuscaloosa native, received her M.D. from UASOM. She is particularly interested in obstetrics and may be interested in doing an OB Fellowship after her residency. Ashley and her husband, Ron, have a son, Heath Alexander, born in January.

**Kris Citty**, an Arkansas native, received his M.D. in May from the University of Arkansas in Little Rock. He has always wanted to be a physician like his father, Jim. He credits his father's abilities, patience, and compassionate nature for shaping the kind of physician he wants to be. Kris and his wife Jenny have one daughter, Kizzie.

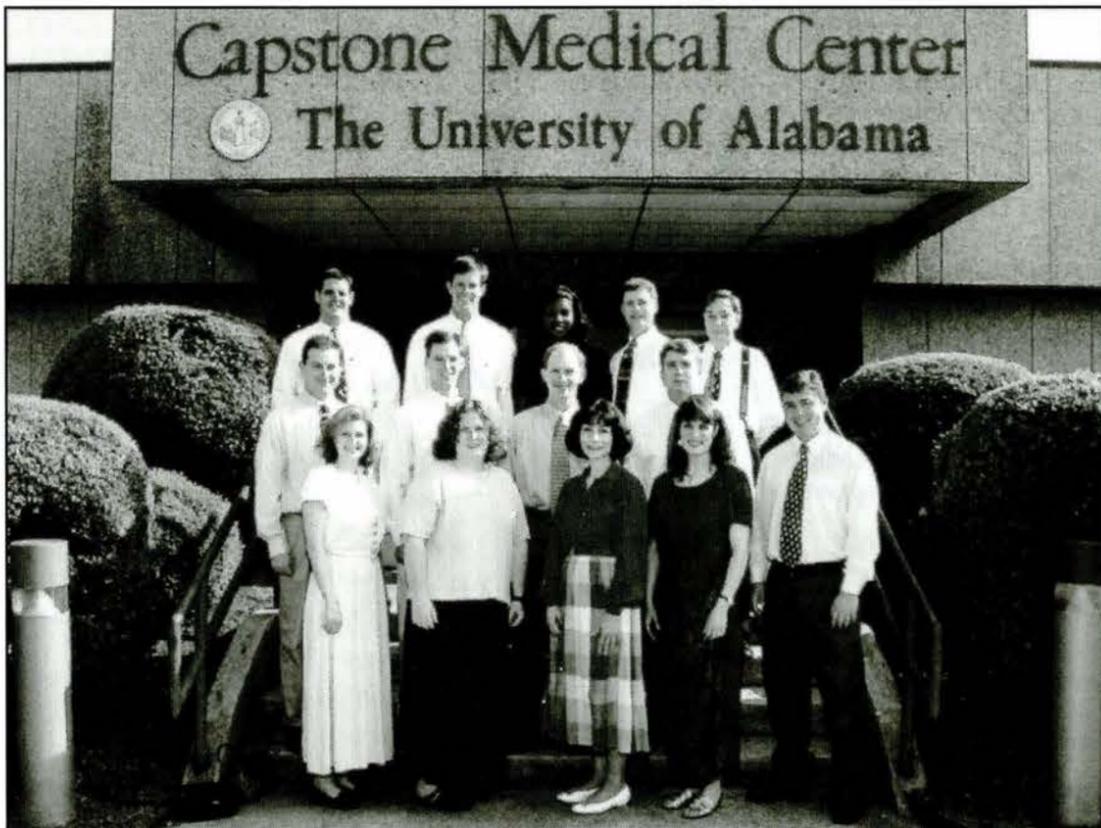
**Brad Gaspard** is a Louisiana native. He received his M.D. from LSU – New Orleans in May. Brad and his wife Robin married in April and spent their honeymoon in England. He enjoys golf, skiing, horseback riding, playing guitar, reading, and spending time with family and friends.

**Sharon Gray**, an Alabama native, received her M.D. in June from the University of South Alabama in Mobile. Her extracurricular activities have included volunteering at a local shelter for abused women and children and tutoring at a local children's home. Sharon wants her residency experience to include advanced obstetrical training.

**Natasha Harder** is from Tennessee. She received her M.D. in June from the UT College of Medicine in Memphis. She has always known she wanted to be a physician and, for the most part, knew she wanted to be a family physician. Natasha grew up in a small town and wishes to return to one to practice after her residency.

**Tara Haynes** has been a medical student at CCHS for the past two years. She received her M.D. from UASOM in May. She is an Alabama native, born in Montgomery but reared on a farm in a very small town. She believes this rural life and a very close family inspired her to become a physician. She wants to practice in an underserved area.

**Ben Hogan** is a Georgia native and graduate of Mercer in May. He was introduced to medicine and the idea of taking care of people in need by his father, who is a pharmacist.



New first year residents pose for a class portrait in front of Capstone Medical Center where they will staff family medicine clinics in Red Suite and Blue Suite for the next three years. Bottom row (L-R): Natasha Harder, MD, Sharon Gray, MD, Gloria Morgan, MD, Ashley Burchfield, MD, Gerald Szyber, MD. 2nd row: Jim Wallace, MD, Brad Gaspard, MD, Bobby Jones, MD, Mike Kelley, MD. 3rd row: Ben Hogan, MD, Kris Citty, MD, Tara Haynes, MD, Steve Roberts, MD, and Family Practice Residency Director Marc Armstrong, MD.

Ben, who has an impressive record in football himself, and his wife Leigh Anne are ardent Crimson Tide football fans. Ben's brother, Paul, starts at center for UA.

**Bobby Jones** is a Mississippi native who graduated from the University of Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Medicine in May. His interest has always been in rural medicine and he intends to return to a rural area to practice after residency.

**Mike Kelley**, another Alabama native, graduated from UASOM in 1994. Mike did a Navy internship in Internal Medicine prior to serving with the Marines where he has been stationed in Hawaii. He and his wife, Traci, and their two sons are happy to be back home in Alabama.

**Gloria Morgan**, from Puerto Rico, received her M.D. in May from Ponce School of Medicine. Prior to going to medical school, Gloria taught intermediate and advanced courses in math and English integrated with computer science. After completing her residency, she wants to practice clinical medicine and would enjoy teaching. Gloria and her husband, Mark, have four sons.

**Steve Roberts**, a Kentucky native, graduated in May from the University of Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Medicine. Prior to entering medical school, he was a pharmacist for 13 years. Steve enjoys hiking, camping, photography, running, swimming and biking – interests he shares with his wife, Melinda, their daughter, Jessica (soon to be a teenager) and son, Cody, age 6.

**Gerard Szyber** was born in Warsaw, Poland, and immigrated to America when he was a teenager. He received his M.D. from the American University of the Caribbean School of Medicine in October 1997. Gerard believes that adjusting to life in a new country will help him be a more rounded and open-minded physician.

**Jim Wallace**, a Louisiana native, came to the University of Alabama to do his undergraduate work and has been in Tuscaloosa for the last two years finishing up medical school. He graduated from UASOM in May. Jim and his wife, Beth, enjoy much of their leisure time with their son, Jim, Jr.

-Kay Hall, Coordinator  
Family Practice Residency

## Curry Named Dean... (from p. 1)

on nurse practitioner scope of practice with representatives from MASA, the Alabama Nurses' Association, State Board of Medical Examiners, and Alabama Board of Nursing. He served on the Governor's Task Force on Health Care Reform and is a member of the Alabama State Committee of Public Health and the State Board of Medical Examiners.

Dr. Curry has written on a wide variety of topics, including peer-reviewed articles on nocardiosis, blastomycosis, and testicular cancer, and issues involving medical education, the history of medicine, medical practice, and the role of organized medicine. He is a reviewer for the journal, *Archives of Internal Medicine*, was editor of *The Internist* newsletter, and has been editor of *Alabama Medicine* since 1996.

Curry is married to Dr. Glenda M. Curry, President of Troy State University at Montgomery, and they have two daughters, Laura and Seana.

Dr. Bill Curry (center), new Dean of CCHS, and his wife Glenda greet Dean Emeritus Will Coggins, MD, at a reception held last year. Dr. Coggins, retired dean of CCHS, is still involved with the College and is often seen in the Dean's Office in his role as President of the Lister Hill Society. Dean Curry and Dean Emeritus Coggins share a commitment to primary care, and both have combined practice of internal medicine with a dedication to medical education.



## Laureate Award...(from page 1)

These methods, piloted at CCHS, are now used with students from all three campuses of UASOM.

Dr. Coggins, born and reared in Madison, Florida, graduated from Georgia Military Academy and completed medical school at Duke University. His residency training was in internal medicine at Georgetown University Medical Center and the University of Florida. He and his wife, Dr. Deborah Coggins, were in private practice together in Florida for seven years. Dr. Coggins joined the faculty of the University of Florida to become Director of the General Medicine Clinic and later became Director of the University Health Service. He and colleagues conducted a major study of long-term heavy users of marijuana and studied diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of infectious diseases related to similar programs in mental health, suicide prevention, and prevention of substance abuse. Dr. Coggins also participated in a medical school project in rural health sponsored by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation in which medical students received outpatient training in rural clinics.

Dr. Coggins was inducted into the Florida Blue Key, an honorary society for students, alumni, and faculty of the University of Florida and received the Ruth Boynton Award for distinguished service from the American College Health Association. He has been a consultant to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Health Resources and Services Administration in the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services. He is Dean Emeritus of CCHS and Professor Emeritus in the Dept. of Internal Medicine. He continues to serve the College as President of the Lister Hill Society, a voluntary association which supports CCHS.

Dr. Coggins and his wife, Deborah Coggins, MD, are parents of five children. Since his retirement, Dr. Coggins travels extensively.

## We Knew You When

### Looking at the CCHS album...

In its first 25 years, CCHS has seen a number of former students, residents, and faculty go on to leadership positions in medical education, particularly family medicine training programs across the country. One of the first family medicine faculty members at CCHS, who helped launch the college and served as associate dean, **Russ Anderson, MD**, is now Chair of Family Medicine at LSU. In a recent phone visit, Dr. Anderson recalled other physicians with CCHS roots who are leaders in medical education. One who is nearby is **Rick Streiffer, MD**, a 1980 residency graduate, now Chair of Family and Community Medicine at Tulane. He also mentioned former medical student **George Kaiser, MD**, who is Chair of Family Medicine at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

Former resident **Jerry McKnight, MD**, is Chair of Family Medicine here at CCHS; and the first resident in the CCHS program (in 1974), **Marc Armstrong, MD**, is now Director of the Family Practice Residency. Former CCHS family medicine faculty members, **Paul Teitze, MD**, and **Alan Maxwell, MD**, who worked here with Dr. Anderson and Dr. McKnight, are also in positions of authority. Dr. Teitze is Chair of Family Medicine at the University of Oklahoma, Tulsa; and Dr. Maxwell is Assistant Dean for Clinical Affairs at the University of Kentucky.

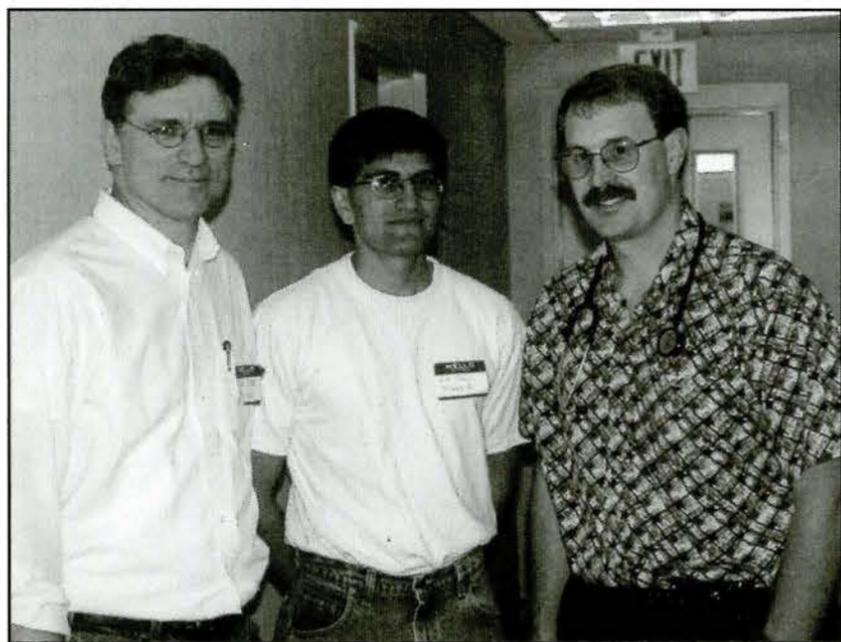
## Notes from Alums



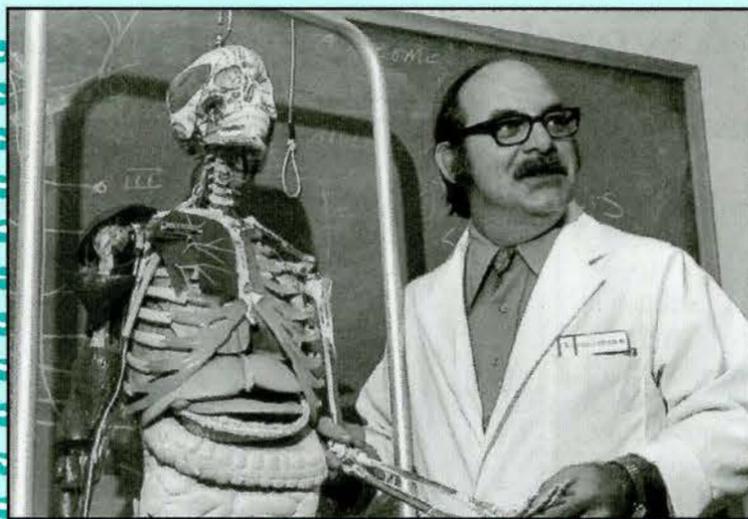
Please send alumni news to OnRounds. Be sure to include your graduation date from med school or residency and your current address and phone. Pictures are appreciated. Color or B&W prints in sharp focus usually print.

**Randall Weaver, MD**, ('94 residency grad) is medical director of Family Health Care of Alabama, which has 23 clinics serving west and central Alabama. Family Health Care recently merged with West Alabama Health Services based in Eutaw to form Family Health Care of Alabama. Dr. Weaver practices at the Rockford Family Health Center in Coosa County. **Sandra Hullett, MD** ('79) is Health Services Director of Family Health Care of Alabama. Her practice is at the clinic in Eutaw.

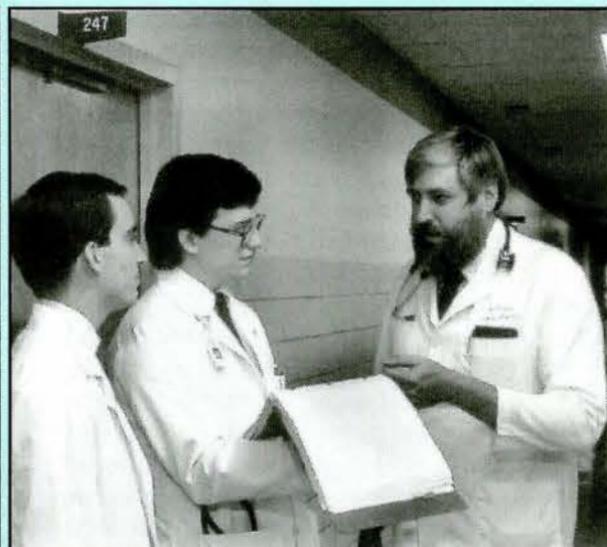
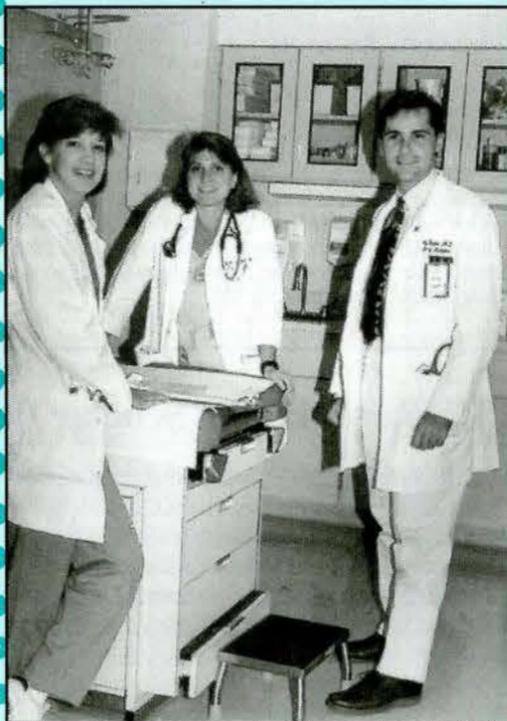
**Mike Peaden, MD**, ('92 residency grad) a busy family physician in Tallassee, took time to visit with the Rural Medical Scholars on their field trip to Shorter and Tallassee in April. A Florida native, Dr. Peaden said he chose to practice in a small town where he could make an impact.



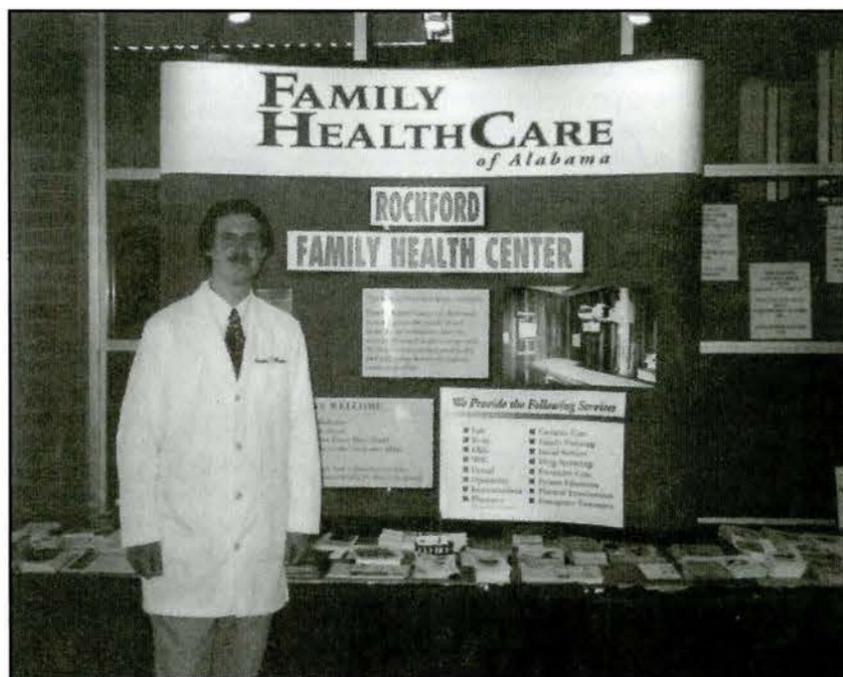
Dr. Mike Peaden (right) chats with Dr. John Wheat of CCHS (left) and Rural Medical Scholar Rick Jotani from Talladega during a field trip to Tallassee and Shorter last spring. (See story on page 4.)



Back when they were here...Dr. Russ Anderson (above). Dr. Alan Maxwell (right) receives the trophy for horseshoes at the Alabama AAFP meeting in Orange Beach.



More pictures from the archives...Kelly Elmore Hunter (left) with Kathleen Shine and Jeff Parker at DCH when they were residents at CCHS. Dr. Paul Teitze (above, right) on rounds with residents Fred Yerby ('92), left, and Matt Hogan ('91). Dr. Shine is practicing in Meridian, Miss.; Dr. Yerby in Fayette; and Dr. Hogan in Atlanta, Texas. Dr. Parker is in Tuscaloosa.



Dr. Weaver at the Coosa Family Festival in May in Rockford.

**Kelly Hunter, MD**, a 1995 residency graduate in practice in Anniston, will serve as a member of the faculty for the new family practice residency program at Northeast Alabama Regional Medical Center in Anniston, the ninth family practice residency program in the state. Neal Canup, MD, will be program director. The first residents begin in July, 1999.

**Brent McLarty, MD**, a 1997 residency graduate practicing in Pickens County, will take over the family practice of Dr. Robbins in Aliceville when Dr. Robbins returns home to Nova Scotia.

**Bobbi Adcock, MD**, (1991 Residency grad) and **Robert Ireland, MD**, (1984 Residency grad), both now members of the CCHS Family Medicine faculty, co-authored one of the top four articles in *American Family Physician* in 1997. More than 100 articles by family physician authors were judged for editorial presentation, including tables and illustrations; scientific substance; originality; and relevance to family practice. Their article, "Secondary Hypertension: A Practical Diagnostic Approach" appeared in the March 1997 issue.

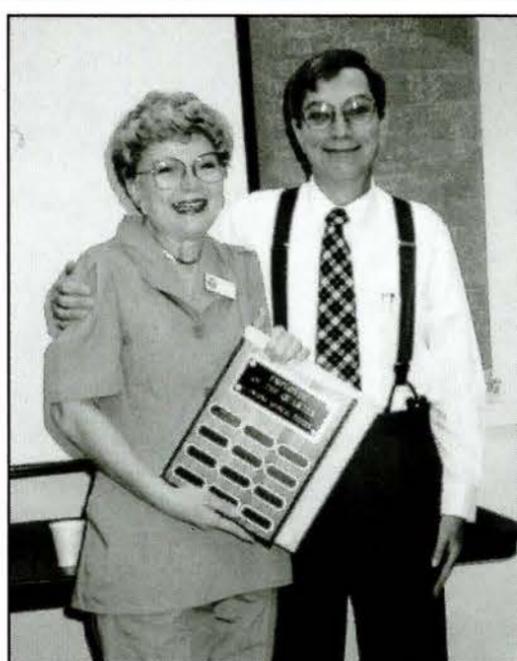
# Honors and Awards for CCHS Faculty and Students

## CCHS Medical Students Elected to AOA

**Peter Chang** and **Chad Hamner**, third year medical students at CCHS, have been elected to the prestigious medical honorary *Alpha Omega Alpha*. Election to AOA is a distinction that accompanies a physician throughout his or her career. Scholastic excellence is a key criterion (only the students in the top quartile of their class are eligible for election), but capacity for leadership, compassion, and fairness in dealing with one's colleagues are also considered by AOA chapters when electing new members. The honorary promotes scholarship and research in medical schools, encourages a high standard of character and conduct among medical students and graduates, and recognizes high attainment in medical science, practice, and related fields.

Alpha Omega Alpha is the only national honor medical society in the world. Founded by William Webster Root and five other medical students in Chicago in 1902, there are 123 active chapters in the U.S. and Canada.

The tenets of the society are a modern interpretation of the Hippocratic oath: "It is the duty of the members to foster the scientific and philosophical features of the medical profession, to look beyond self to the welfare of the profession and of the public, to cultivate social mindedness, as well as individualistic attitude toward responsibilities, to show respect for colleagues, especially for elders and teachers, to foster research and in all ways to ennoble the profession of medicine and advance it in public opinion...."



She probably helped you with your patients when you were at Capstone. And after more than 20 years of CMC service, Diane Kerr, LPN, has been selected as Capstone's first "Employee of the Quarter." Holding the newly created plaque which will hang at Capstone Medical Center, Kerr is congratulated by Capstone Medical Director Marc Armstrong, MD.

## CCHS Associates Recognized on Honors Day at UA

Behavioral and Community Medicine student assistant **Emily Dolbare**, a former Rural Health Scholar and a 1998-99 Rural Medical Scholar, was tapped for three top UA honoraries at the "Ceremony on the Mound" on April 17. She was selected for Blue Key Honor Fraternity, one of the highest honors bestowed on rising seniors; Mortar Board, a national honor society based on leadership, scholarship, and service; and Omicron Delta Kappa, one of the first honor societies founded at UA for students who have attained high standards in collegiate activities. Dolbare, a senior from Washington County, is majoring in Biology and plans to attend medical school.

Other Honors Day recipients were CCHS Associate Professor **John Wheat**, MD, who was tapped into the Anderson Society, a senior honorary which selectively taps faculty and staff; and **Pat Norton**, Medical Education Coordinator in the Dept. of Family Medicine, who was named the *Outstanding Doctoral Student* in Higher Education Administration by the HEA faculty.

## CCHS Rural Health Scholar Wins National Honor Scholarship

**Kris Cummings**, 1993 Rural Health Scholar and later an RHS counselor from Chilton County High School, has been awarded a Golden Key National Honor Society scholarship for study in medical education. Only ten awards are made nationally each year. He entered medical school in July at UAB.

Kris maintained a 4.0 grade point average at UA, earning his degree in biology in May. He graduated Phi Beta Kappa, received the Distinguished Undergraduate Scholar

Award in the College of Arts and Sciences, and was named the outstanding graduating senior in the Department of Biological Sciences. He served as president of the Golden Key National Honor Society, and he is in numerous honoraries including Mortar Board, Omicron Delta Kappa, and Blue Key National Honor Fraternity. He has been active during college in community service organizations and was a founding member of the Rural Health Student Association.

## Clark Wins Award (from p.1)

of the family medicine specialty," was the first dean of CCHS and promoted the study of community medicine as an important part of physician training.

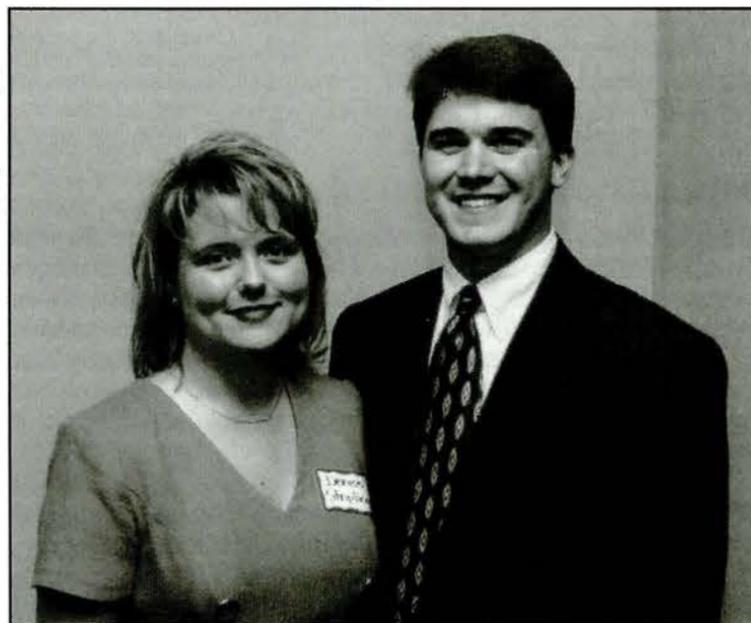
"Enthusiastic and competent preceptors like Jimmie Clark are the essential component of training in community medicine," said Wheat.

A native of Jackson, Mississippi, Dr. Clark received her MD degree from Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island, and completed the Tuscaloosa Family Practice Residency in 1995. She then earned her Master's in Public Health from UAB. She is a member of the American Academy of Family Physicians Student Interest Task Force.

Senior Class President Denise Stripling, M.D., was chosen by her classmates to receive the James H. Akers Award for personifying the art and science of the practice of medicine. Brian Wade, M.D., (right) who presented the award to her at Honors Convocation, congratulates her after the ceremony. Story starts on page 1.

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## OnRounds

The University of Alabama  
College of Community Health Sciences

The College of Community Health Sciences is a clinical branch campus of the University of Alabama School of Medicine. Established in 1972, CCHS emphasizes family practice and the other primary care disciplines and provides a sound basic medical education for all medical students assigned to this campus. CCHS also trains family doctors through a three-year family practice residency program to meet the urgent need for family physicians. A primary focus of the CCHS mission is seeking solutions for rural health care problems in Alabama.

*OnRounds* is published quarterly by The University of Alabama College of Community Health Sciences to keep alumni and friends informed of CCHS news and issues which affect this medical school and its graduates. Please send address changes and information to *OnRounds*, College of Community Health Sciences, Box 870326, Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35487-0326. Contributions are welcomed and will be included as space permits. Contact the editor at (205) 348-1302.

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