



Dr. Peeke Celebrates Women's History Month

In celebration of Women's History Month, Pamela Peeke, MD, MPH, clinical assistant professor in the Department of Family & Community Medicine, medical correspondent for the Discovery Health Channel and the physician behind the popular award-winning National Body Challenge campaign and television series, gave a presentation March 27 about the importance of staying fit no matter what your age. Dr. Peeke is the author of numerous fitness books, including *Body for Life for Women*, *Fight Fat After Forty* and the upcoming *Fit to Live*. She teaches mostly third and fourth year students, to whom she passes on the lessons she's learned from her own research and experience. "What I like to do is bring it all together in what I call healthy lifestyle science—everything from stress coping to daily nutrition, whether they're treating disease or trying to prevent it," she explained.



Dr. Peeke introduced the audience to 96-year-old Genevieve Kunkel, a School Sister of Notre Dame, who is thriving so well that her longevity has been studied by scientists.

"It's important that students understand the impact of a healthy lifestyle on any patient, whether it's someone in the CCU or someone you're trying to keep out of the CCU."

Finding ways to incorporate that healthy lifestyle when there's so much else in life competing for your time and energy was the theme of Peeke's speech. She encouraged the audience to put themselves first in their lives, but acknowledged that this was especially challenging for women, who tend to be caregivers to everyone but themselves. Dr. Peeke also noted that women tend to make improving their lifestyle more difficult than it needs to be. "I tell them to go for a walk, and it's 'What shoes am I going to wear? What clothes am I going to wear?' Men just throw on whatever and walk out the door," said Dr. Peeke, eliciting knowing laughter from the mostly-female audience. Getting up and moving is one of the tenants of Dr. Peeke's get-fit philosophy. Along with this boost in cardio, she also recommends strength training, to keep the muscle mass that naturally begins to fade with age. Getting people to eat less in our super-sized society is also high on her list of priorities.

"You have to learn proper portions," she stressed. Eating the right foods is important as well.

"Eat more plants," said one of the slides in her presentation. "You want the green stuff, the fruit and the veggies," Dr. Peeke encouraged the audience.

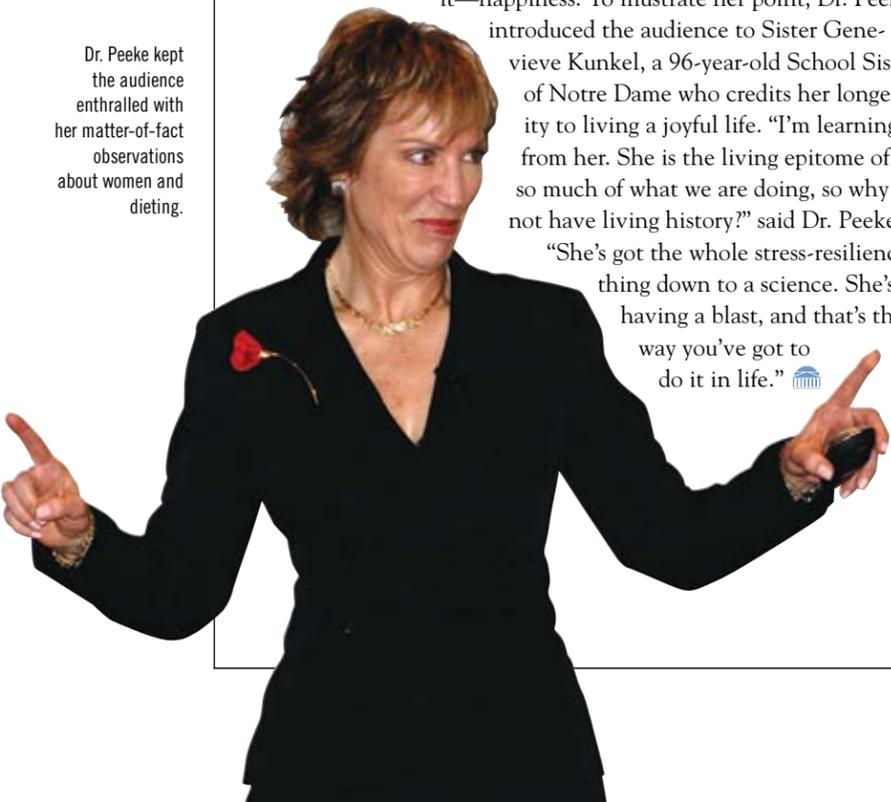
Sometimes, though, an apple just can't do for you what chocolate can. Dr. Peeke was one of the first to study the connection between stress and overeating, and what she's learned probably won't surprise anyone who's ever forgotten their troubles in a pint of Ben & Jerry's. "Research shows that indeed stress has an enormous effect on appetite and weight distribution," she revealed. "And it's age-related as well as gender specific." In her talk, she cited the fact that women produce less serotonin than men, which leads them to seek other ways of producing that feel-good sensation in their brains—a role sugar fills quite nicely. At least until it wears off and you come crashing back to reality under the weight of all that junk you just ate—which causes even more stress and anxiety and leads you to seek out sweetened comfort again.

Instead of reaching for that candy bar, Dr. Peeke encouraged her audience to reach for a friend. "Create an estrogen brigade," she told the women in the group, "and find a support system you can turn to." Friends can not only relieve stress themselves, they can give you the most effective tool in fighting it—happiness. To illustrate her point, Dr. Peeke introduced the audience to Sister Genevieve Kunkel, a 96-year-old School Sister of Notre Dame who credits her longevity to living a joyful life. "I'm learning from her. She is the living epitome of so much of what we are doing, so why not have living history?" said Dr. Peeke.

"She's got the whole stress-resilience thing down to a science. She's having a blast, and that's the way you've got to do it in life."

Dr. Peeke kept the audience enthralled with her matter-of-fact observations about women and dieting.

Dr. Peeke kept the audience enthralled with her matter-of-fact observations about women and dieting.



Mark Your Calendars!

School of Medicine Pre-commencement Ceremony

Friday, May 18, 2007
8:00 a.m.

Joseph P. Meyerhoff Symphony Hall

Convocation will include representatives from Penn, Columbia, Harvard and Dartmouth, the only American medical schools older than the University of Maryland's. Dr. Darrell Kirch, president of the Association of American Medical Colleges, also will attend.

Keynote Speaker: **Abraham Verghese, MD**

Founding director of the Center for Medical Humanities and Ethics, Joaquin Cigarroa, Jr. Chair in Medicine and Marvin Forland Distinguished Professor of Ethics; University of Texas Health Science Center—San Antonio



Dr. Verghese has published extensively on pneumonia, infections in the elderly, HIV and medical humanities. He is the author of *My Own Country: A Doctor's Story* about his experiences with HIV/AIDS patients in a Tennessee town. The book was nominated for the National Book Critic's Circle Award and was made into a movie for *Showtime*.

Call 410.706.7476 for tickets.

13th Annual Historical Clinicopathological Conference

"Saving President Lincoln"

Friday, May 18, 2007

1:30–3:00 p.m. in Davidge Hall



This annual conference is devoted to the modern medical diagnosis of disorders that affected prominent historical figures. This year's program examines the treatment that U.S. President Abraham Lincoln received after being shot in 1865. Could his life have been saved by today's trauma

specialists? How would history have been altered if his life had been extended? Presenters include Thomas Scalea, MD, professor, Department of Surgery, director of the Program in Trauma and physician-in-chief of the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center, and Gabor Boritt, PhD, director of the Civil War Institute and Fluhrer Professor of Civil War Studies at Gettysburg College.

UMB Commencement

Friday, May 18, 2007

3:00 p.m.

1st Mariner Arena

Keynote Speaker: **The Honorable Francis X. Kelly, Jr.** Regent, University System of Maryland

Bicentennial

EVENT UPDATES

The school year may be ending, but bicentennial events will continue throughout the summer.

July 11–August 15

Mini-Med School for Kids!

This summer we'll take Mini-Med School to children at the Salvation Army's Franklin Square Boys and Girls Club, which sits in our West Baltimore neighborhood. For the first time, Mini-Med School will be on the road teaching children about ways to improve their health and stay healthy for life.

August 16 and 22

Project Medical Education

We'll bring federal and local legislators and their staffs to our medical school to explain the workings of a major academic biomedical enterprise.

September 5–October 3

Mini-Med School

This fall marks our seventh annual Mini-Med School for adults. Topics this year include organ donation and transplantation, cancer of the female reproductive system, multiple sclerosis, palliative care and end of life issues, and anatomy, to name a few. For more information on Mini-Med School, visit www.medschool.umaryland.edu/minimed/.

September 6

"Bicentennial Night at Camden Yards"

Join us at the ballpark to watch the Orioles take on the Red Sox! Includes special seating, pre-game activities and the first pitch thrown by Dean E. Albert Reece!

For the full bicentennial schedule and details, visit www.sombicentennial.umaryland.edu or call 6.2007.

SOM Plays Critical Role in Researching Developmental Disorders

In a recently released study, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that autism among eight-year-olds is much more common than previously thought, affecting 1 in 150. Autism is one part of a larger group of developmental disorders being studied by researchers using tissue collected and distributed by the Brain and Tissue Bank for Developmental Disorders in the Department of Pediatrics at the School of Medicine. Founded in 1991 by, and in contract with, the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, the bank's goal is to enhance and centralize tissue donations for the study of hundreds of developmental disorders.

"It is through medical research and the study of brains from deceased individuals that scientists will be able to find a cure for numerous developmental disorders," says H. Ronald Zielke, PhD, professor, Department of Pediatrics, and director of the Brain and Tissue Bank. "But donations of brains for medical research are limited. The number of donations is far less than needed to further research, especially for disorders such as autism."

The bank has stringent protocols to protect the rights of individuals and families who chose to donate, all of which have been approved by the School of Medicine's Institutional Review Board and the Maryland Department of Mental Health and Hygiene. Brain and systemic tissue donations are accepted from healthy individuals and those with disorders such as autism, adrenoleukodystrophy, Rett, Down and Sturge-Weber syndromes as well as dozens of other disorders. Tissues from

healthy individuals are critical since research tissue from affected individuals is meaningless unless it can be compared to normal tissue.

The NICHD Brain and Tissue Bank is the primary source of tissue for autism research in the world. Tissue donations from 33 individuals with a range of autistic disorders have been received since 1991. Tissues have been carefully distributed to 45 researchers in the United States and worldwide. As many as 25 scientists have received tissue from a single brain, each working to address different scientific hypotheses.

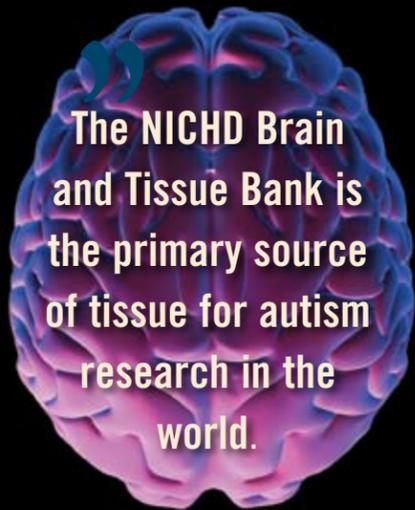
Over the past 15 years, the Brain and Tissue Bank has distributed over 17,500 pieces of tissue to 590 medical researchers. Researchers have utilized this tissue to publish over 322 papers in peer-reviewed journals and 274 abstracts.

"The extraordinary generosity of families at the time of death of a child has enabled our bank to further vital research," says Dr. Zielke. "In their moment of need, these families have thought about the needs of others."

For more information on the Brain and Tissue Bank, visit www.btbank.org.



H. Ronald Zielke, PhD



{IN HER OWN WORDS}



Amy Horneman, PhD

Amy Horneman Talks About the *Aeromonas* Microorganism, Medical Research Technology and Her Love of Teaching

She jokingly calls herself *Aeromonas* Amy, but Amy Horneman, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Medical & Research Technology (DMRT), truly has made a name for herself when it comes to this aquatic microorganism, which causes diarrhea in certain populations worldwide and serious aquatic wound infections. Not only has she discovered three new motile species of *Aeromonas*, she's published *Aerokey II*, which helps identify those species of *Aeromonas* most commonly associated with human disease, contributed chapters on *Aeromonas* for the *Ninth Edition of Manual and Clinical Microbiology*, the *Textbook of Diagnostic Microbiology* and *Bergey's Manual of Systematic Bacteriology*, among others, and coauthored

“Deciphering the various strains of *Aeromonas* is important because it is a microorganism that exists in all bodies of water—ponds, lakes, oceans, well water, some bottled water and often even in chlorinated water supplies—and therefore accessible, and potentially harmful, to a substantial portion of people worldwide.”

the laboratory manual for the microbiology course she teaches to DMRT students. She's also the principal investigator on a \$500,000 grant from the National Science Foundation that has produced the first annotated genome sequence for an *Aeromonas* microorganism.

"Right now it seems that most people in my field consider me the queen," Dr. Horneman says with a laugh. "But as I age, younger people are getting their PhDs and climbing up behind me, so I'm just taking these 15 minutes of fame."

It has been a bit more than 15 minutes. Dr. Horneman has been a recognized expert in *Aeromonas* since the 1980s, but did not obtain her PhD until 2001. "You're never too old," she declares. "There I was, 50 years old, and everyone thought I had my PhD before I actually did, because I was known internationally for my research. But due to juggling graduate school with teaching full-time for DMRT and working in the laboratory, I didn't have it yet. However, I knew I needed the PhD to write and secure research grants."

Dr. Horneman's latest grant comes from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). She will examine, with Ashok Chopra, PhD, of the University of Texas, 200 aeromonad isolates, including 100 already established EPA environmental isolates, to determine their biochemical identification profiles and perform multi-locus sequence typing analysis. "When scientists first starting sequencing whole genomes, they said, 'Okay, we only have to do one strain of *Bacillus anthracis* and we'll know everything about anthrax,'" Dr. Horneman explains. "But bacteria, even though they're related at the species level, are like brothers and sisters. You and your brother came from the same parents, but you're very different from one another. Now we realize we need to look at several members of the bacterial species to get the whole picture."

Deciphering the various strains of *Aeromonas* is important because it is a microorganism that exists in all bodies of water—ponds, lakes, oceans, well water, some bottled water and often even in chlorinated water supplies—and therefore accessible, and potentially harmful, to a substantial portion of people worldwide. Published reports after the Thailand tsunami in 2004 and Hurricane Katrina in 2006 revealed human aquatic infections with *Aeromonas* species.

Dr. Horneman's *Aeromonas* research has taken her around the world and brought her a great deal of respect and personal satisfaction. Yet she says she would give it all up tomorrow if she had to choose between research and teaching. A four-time winner of the Outstanding Instructor Award from DMRT students, she can't hide her excitement when talking of the impact she's had on them. "I love it!" she proclaims. "I love seeing junior students arrive from various undergraduate institutions and after two years of intensive didactic lecture and laboratory training, including four different hospital lab rotations or two different biotechnology lab rotations, actually graduate and secure positions at sites like UMB, Johns Hopkins University or the National Institutes of Health because of something in which I had a part."

Reception Welcomes Richard Eckert and James Kaper as Department Chairs

On March 27, 2007, Dean Reece hosted a reception to welcome Richard Eckert, PhD (*far left*), and James Kaper, PhD (*far right*), to their new roles as department chairs. Dr. Eckert was appointed in November as professor and chair of the Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology. He came to Maryland from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland. Dr. Kaper, who was appointed professor and chair of the Department of Microbiology & Immunology in February, has been a faculty member at the School of Medicine since 1981. Although Dean Reece was heavily involved in the selection of Dr. Eckert, Dr. Kaper marks his first official appointment since becoming dean.



Radiation Oncology Ranks 6th in NIH Funding Rank

The Department of Radiation Oncology at the School of Medicine has achieved the distinction of being ranked among the top radiation oncology programs in the nation in terms of research funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Radiation oncology faculty members received \$13.4 million in NIH grants, making the program sixth in the United States for 2005, the last year for which data is available. The national ranking was released recently by the NIH.

"This is a testament to our outstanding faculty and our commitment to research that ultimately benefits patients," says William F. Regine, MD, professor and chair, Department of Radiation Oncology, and chief of radiation oncology at the University of Maryland Medical Center. "Our medical physicists and clinical and radiobiology faculty members are nationally recognized for their contributions to new knowledge about the uses of radiation therapy in the treatment of cancer."

Washington University in St. Louis, Mo., ranked number one, with \$28.8 million in NIH funding. Others

Radiation Oncology Research Funding

Rank	Organization	Amount Awarded	Rank	Organization	Amount Awarded
1	Washington University	\$28,879,826	6	University of Maryland	\$13,431,889
2	University of Pennsylvania	\$26,117,697	7	Duke University	\$12,606,697
3	Stanford University	\$18,154,942	8	Columbia University	\$10,450,922
4	Johns Hopkins University	\$17,528,075	9	University of Iowa	\$9,444,282
5	University of Michigan	\$13,489,607	10	Vanderbilt University	\$9,329,875

in the top five were the University of Pennsylvania with \$26.1 million, Stanford University with \$18.1 million, Johns Hopkins University with \$17.5 million, and the University of Michigan with \$13.5 million.

Dr. Regine says that his department's continuing efforts to integrate the work of the three major divisions into a comprehensive treatment and research program helped to boost the level of federal funding. He also cites the radiation oncology department's strong position within the University of Maryland Marlene and Stewart Greenebaum Cancer Center. Among the major research projects to receive funds was a study by Thomas MacVitie, PhD, professor, Departments of Radiation Oncology and Pathology. In 2005, Dr. MacVitie won a five-year, \$46 million federal contract to oversee testing of medications that could be used to treat people exposed to potentially lethal doses of radiation in the event of a nuclear terrorist attack. The contract was the largest in the School of Medicine's history. Integrating the work associated with this research has become a major departmental focus.

Because of the strength and reputation of its radiation oncology program, the University of Maryland Marlene and Stewart Greenebaum Cancer Center is one of four centers in the country to have signed a master research agreement with Varian Medical Systems, Inc., to develop new radiation technologies. A new research linear accelerator is being installed to facilitate this work.

The Department of Radiation Oncology has nine clinical faculty members, 10 medical physicists and eight radiobiologists. In addition to Dr. Regine, leaders in the department include Mohan Suntha, MD, professor and vice chair and associate director of clinical affairs for the University of Maryland Marlene and Stewart Greenebaum Cancer Center, Cedric Yu, DSc, professor and director of medical physics, and William F. Morgan, PhD, professor and director of radiobiology.

Cryotherapy Treats Cancerous and Precancerous Conditions of the Esophagus

Doctors at the University of Maryland are using a new cryotherapy technique to treat cancerous and precancerous conditions of the esophagus. The University of Maryland Medical Center is one of only three facilities in the world to offer the CryoSpray ablation procedure as part of a clinical trial to study its effectiveness.

In this novel outpatient treatment, doctors spray liquid nitrogen onto abnormal or cancerous tissue using specially designed equipment threaded into the esophagus through an endoscope. An endoscope is a thin, fiber-optic instrument inserted through the mouth to enable a doctor to see inside the digestive tract. The liquid nitrogen freezes the tissue, which then thaws and ultimately sloughs off, providing an opportunity for normal tissue to grow back in its place.

Bruce D. Greenwald, MD, associate professor, Department of Medicine, is leading this pilot study. He has treated 20 patients since April 2006. The majority were diagnosed with a precancerous condition known as Barrett's esophagus with high-grade dysplasia (significant abnormalities in the esophageal lining). Other patients in the study had esophageal cancer

treatment. Patients so far have required an average of three treatments.

In Barrett's esophagus, the normal lining of the esophagus, which is the muscular tube leading from the mouth to the stomach, is replaced by tissue similar to that found in the intestine. The condition is associated with chronic heartburn, or gastroesophageal reflux disease, that has damaged the esophagus. Doctors examine the tissue under the microscope to determine the extent of the disease. In high-grade dysplasia, the tissue is severely abnormal and may develop into esophageal cancer.

Dr. Greenwald says that patients with high-grade dysplasia carry about a 30 percent risk of developing esophageal cancer within five years. Standard treatments include surgery to remove the esophagus and photodynamic therapy, which kills abnormal cells using a "cool" laser and light-sensitizing drug. In addition to cryotherapy, other ablation techniques performed through an endoscope use extreme heat, radio waves or a cutting procedure to remove the esophageal lining.

Dr. Greenwald uses photodynamic therapy to treat patients with high-grade dysplasia and some early-stage cancers, but adds that there are significant side effects, including extreme sensitivity to light. Patients must cover their skin completely for four to six weeks after treatment to avoid severe sunburn. "Cryotherapy is a less painful and more convenient treatment for patients compared to photodynamic therapy," he says.

For some people with early esophageal cancer who aren't eligible for surgery or have failed to respond to chemotherapy and radiation, the new freezing technique may be a good alternative. "We see a number of patients, particularly older people, who are not able to have surgery or are too ill to tolerate other therapies. Now, we can offer them a treatment option where previously there was none," he says. He adds that side effects from the cryotherapy are minimal. "Most people have minor soreness or none at all," he says.

Once the treatment is complete, Dr. Greenwald examines the esophagus through the endoscope and takes tissue samples, which are scrutinized under a microscope to make sure that the abnormal cells are gone. He notes that patients still must be closely monitored because, as with any technique in which only the superficial esophageal lining is removed, abnormal or cancerous cells may start re-growing underneath the normal tissue.

The clinical trial is sponsored by a grant from the Maryland Industrial Partnerships Program and by CSA Medical, Inc., a Baltimore-based company that manufactures the CryoSpray ablation system. The technology was developed by a gastroenterologist at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda. Currently, the treatment is also available there as well as at the Cleveland Clinic.



Bruce D. Greenwald, MD



In this novel outpatient treatment, doctors spray liquid nitrogen onto abnormal or cancerous tissue using specially designed equipment threaded into the esophagus through an endoscope.

in its early stages and were not candidates for conventional medical or surgical treatment.

"The early results are very promising. The patients diagnosed with high-grade dysplasia and early-stage cancer are responding well to the treatment," says Dr. Greenwald, adding that it is too early to draw any definite conclusions about the long-term effectiveness of the procedure. "We want to follow these patients for a longer period of time, at least a year for the cancer patients and two years for those with high-grade dysplasia." The CryoSpray ablation system is approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

The treatment sessions take an average of 10 to 15 minutes and patients receive moderate sedation for the procedure, which is performed on an outpatient basis in the gastrointestinal endoscopy suite. Typically, several abnormal areas of the esophagus are treated during each session. Each area is frozen and thawed multiple times. Sessions are repeated every two to six weeks, depending on the extent of the disease and the patient's response to

Match Day 2007



Lara Bonner (middle) can't contain her joy as she reads her Match Day letter.

Historic Davidge Hall was the site of Match Day festivities for the School of Medicine's bicentennial year class. Held at the same time in medical schools around the country, Match Day marks the day when graduating medical students learn the residency program into which they have been accepted. This year's graduating class matched into 106 programs at 63 different hospitals in 24 states. Internal medicine was the most popular specialty, with 24 percent of the class choosing this field. Thirteen percent of the students matched into pediatrics, while 11 percent went into emergency medicine, nine percent into anesthesiology, and seven percent both into general surgery and psychiatry.

The envelopes were handed out by tuxedo-clad assistant deans of Student Affairs Michael Plaut, PhD, Gary Plotnick, MD, and Joseph Martinez, MD. To heighten the suspense, envelopes were picked randomly, one-by-one from a box. When their names were called, students added their signatures to the school's honor book, a leather-bound volume signed by all med students in their first year and then again in their final year, pledging to maintain integrity throughout their years in medicine. As members of the bicentennial year class, each student also received a copy of the book, "University of Maryland School of Medicine: The First Two Centuries" from author Larry Pitrof, executive director of the Medical Alumni Association.

It took more than an hour for all the envelopes to be distributed. As a reward for her patience, Arleen Allen, the final student to receive her envelope, took home a bag into which each student had tossed a small monetary donation as he/she was handed a Match letter—money that is traditionally used for a post-Match celebration.

Thirty-six members of the graduating class learned they will be continuing their training at University of Maryland Medical System hospitals. Among them are Kevin Jarrell, son of Bruce Jarrell, MD, vice dean for Research and Academic Affairs, and Joseph Scalea, nephew of Shock Trauma Physician-in-Chief Thomas Scalea, MD. 



Troy Sofinowski (second from left) is all smiles when he learns his Match Day fate as classmate Joseph Scalea (far right) leans over to congratulate him.

Former Oriole Visits Ronald McDonald House

From the moment he walked into the door to the moment he left, Billy Ripken, former Baltimore Oriole and Cal's younger brother, joked and chatted, played air hockey, ate ice cream, answered questions and gave away caps and other sports memorabilia at the "Make Your Own Ice Cream Sundae and Game Night," at the Baltimore Ronald McDonald House on March 20. Ronald McDonald Houses provide a "home away from home" for families of seriously ill children receiving treatment at nearby hospitals.



Billy Ripken and a friend play a game of air hockey.

Organized by Tom McHugh, program manager of the Graduate Program in Life Sciences, and by the University of Maryland Baltimore's Staff Senate, the event was for 20-25 elementary to early high school age children, all of whom are patients in Baltimore. The event was held in honor of the School of Medicine's bicentennial commemoration and the spirit of leadership and volunteerism it's promoting.

"Not only was the evening great for the children but it also provided a joyful distraction for the parents, a chance to focus on something other than the medical challenges that they and the children face," said McHugh. "Billy Ripken was genuine and engaging. He was there for hours talking to the families, joking around and putting smiles on the kids' faces," he added.



Former Baltimore Oriole Billy Ripken puts a smile on the face of a child at the Ronald McDonald House.

During the event, Ripken also posed for photographs, gave autographs and played game after game of air hockey with the children.

According to McHugh, the Ronald McDonald children who were interested in baseball asked Ripken about his time in baseball, batting and baseball tips. "And others asked him if he knew Cal, which produced a good laugh for the adults," said McHugh. 

SOMnews

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF MEDICINE MAY 2007 VOL.8 No.9

SOMnews is produced by the University of Maryland School of Medicine, Office of Public Affairs ▶ E. Albert Reece, MD, PhD, MBA, Vice President for Medical Affairs, University of Maryland, and Dean, School of Medicine ▶ Jennifer Litchman, Executive Editor ▶ Heather Graham, Managing Editor ▶ Becky Ceraul, Caelie Haines, Jo Martin, Rosalia Scalia, and Karen Warmkessel, Contributors ▶ Brushwood Graphics Design Group, Design ▶ Submitting information to SOMnews: Please email your submission six weeks prior to the month you wish to see your submission included to Jennifer Litchman, Assistant Dean for Public Affairs, at jltchman@som.umaryland.edu.

School of Medicine Online Calendar System

From seminars and workshops to bicentennial events, if you need to know what's happening on any given day at the School of Medicine, the online calendar is the place to start. Accessible from the SOM homepage (<http://medschool.umaryland.edu>), the school-wide calendar allows departments, programs, research centers and other groups to list their events on a central calendar. You can view "All Categories" or view the calendar for a specific department. At the same time, each department or group can display their own events on a separate calendar accessible from a department website.

Calendar administrators can easily add event details, photos and attachments for meeting agendas or journal club publications, and the calendar is searchable by date or keywords. You can download events directly to your Outlook calendar, and you can ask to be notified when an event is cancelled or postponed.

If you would like to start using the online calendar system for your department or research group, contact Larry Roberts, director of Web Communications, at 6.4939, or lroberts@som.umaryland.edu. 

