Evans Honored with Remington Medal

William Edward Evans, PharmD, Director and CEO, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, is the recipient of the 2012 Remington Honor Medal, the highest honor bestowed by the American Pharmacists Association (APhA). He was selected in recognition of his research with anticancer agents and pharmacogenomics, as well as his work with the advancement of St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.

The Remington Honor Medal, named for eminent community pharmacist, manufacturer and educator Joseph P. Remington, was established in 1918 to recognize distinguished service on behalf of American pharmacy during the preceding years, culminating in the past year or during a long period of outstanding activity or fruitful achievement. The award was bestowed upon Evans during the APhA Annual Meeting and Exposition in New Orleans, March 9-12, 2012. APhA’s awards series is pharmacy’s most comprehensive recognition program.
Evans Honored with Remington Medal – continued

In nominating Evans, a colleague stated, “Dr. Evans is a cutting edge scientist who has made a difference in the lives of children throughout the world. His career and contributions to the profession of pharmacy cannot be matched. It is a staggering honor within itself to, as a pharmacist, becomes the CEO of the leading children’s research hospital in the world. He is an outstanding teacher, as well a scientist of note. He has the ability to reduce very complex issues into terms that can be understood by the lay public. The ability to communicate effectively with leading scientists, students, politicians, educators, colleagues and the public is a true gift. Clearly, Dr. Evans’ contribution to pharmacy and to children’s research and health is incredible.”

Evans is also a professor at the University of Tennessee Colleges of Pharmacy and Medicine. He earned his BSPharm and PharmD degrees from the University of Tennessee. Evans’ research is on the pharmacodynamics and pharmacogenomics of anticancer agents in children, exploring mechanisms underlying differences in drug effects among children. Under his leadership, St. Jude has expanded its research in drug discovery, cancer survivorship, cancer genomics and personalized medicine via pharmacogenomics. During his tenure, St. Jude has been ranked the number one Children’s Cancer Hospital by US News & World Report, number one in The Scientist magazine’s best places to work in academia survey and listed among the Fortune 100 Best Places to Work.

Another colleague noted, “Dr. Evans has had a remarkably long and productive career. In addition to his demanding duties as Director and CEO of St. Jude, Dr. Evans continues to be involved as the principal investigator of several NCI Grant supported research projects. He also finds time to provide leadership in several community activities like the Rhodes College Board of Trustees and the Methodist LeBonheur Health Care Board of Directors.”

Evans is an elected fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists and the American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP). He is an elected member of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences, and serves on the Board of Scientific Counselors of the National Cancer Institute (NCI). He has also held elected offices as president of the ACCP, chair of AAAS’s Pharmaceutical Sciences Section and president of APhA-Academy of Pharmaceutical Research and Science. Evans has received three consecutive NCI MERIT Awards from the National Institutes of Health for his research of antileukemic agents in children. He has received several national and international awards for his research, including the Rawls Palmer Progress in Medicine Award from the American Society Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics; the Therapeutic Frontiers Lecture Award from ACCP; the Volwiler Research Award from the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy; and the Research Achievement Award and the Tyler Prize from APhA.

-From pharmacist.com

http://www.pharmacist.com/AM/Template.cfm?Section=News_Releases2&template=/CM/ContentDisplay.cfm&ContentID=27629
Loveless Receives APhA Achievement Award in Nuclear Pharmacy

The American Pharmacists Association (APhA) announced that Vivian S. Loveless, PharmD, BCNP, FAPhA, associate professor, University of Tennessee Health Science Center College of Pharmacy, as the recipient of the 2012 APhA Academy of Pharmacy Practice and Management (APhA-APPM) William H. Briner Distinguished Achievement Award in Nuclear Pharmacy Practice. Loveless was selected for her leadership in the fields of nuclear pharmacy and medicine, as well as sustained contributions to the profession as a practitioner, educator and researcher.

The award was established to recognize the achievements of an individual who has made a significant contribution or sustained contributions to the provision of pharmaceutical care within nuclear pharmacy practice. Loveless was recognized at the APhA Annual Meeting and Exposition in New Orleans, March 9-12, 2012.

A colleague nominated Loveless writing, “The nuclear pharmacy field is a very close knit group of practitioners. Vivian is one of the “go to” people if you want to get something done. Vivian is small in stature, but she is big in the field of nuclear pharmacy. She is best known for being an educator. One of Vivian’s major contributions to the profession was the development of a nuclear pharmacy technician training program. Technicians from around the country have been trained through her program in conjunction with the University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy. This greatly enhanced the knowledge and skill level for technicians in the specialty practice.”

At the University of Tennessee Health Science Center in Memphis, Loveless is an associate professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences, College of Pharmacy; a clinical assistant professor of Radiology, College of Medicine; and member of the College of Graduate Health Sciences faculty. She received a PharmD and completed a Nuclear Pharmacy residency with the University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy.

Another colleague noted, “Dr. Loveless teaches the nuclear authorized user program at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center College of Pharmacy, encompassing nine credit hours. It is one of less than 10 programs in the country. She ensures her class receives a top ranked nuclear education by exposing them to different views and opinions. She ensures her students receive everything they need to become excellent practitioners in the field by not only giving them the tools of education, but transferring her excitement of the profession and the thirst for continued learning to her class. Her labs and personal experience stories give the class that extra spark that influences us all.”

Loveless is a member of numerous professional associations including American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy, APhA, European Association of Nuclear Medicine and the Tennessee Pharmacists Association. Loveless has been honored with The University of Tennessee SGAEC Excellence in Teaching Award and membership in the Rho Chi Honor Society. She is Board Certified in Nuclear Pharmacy and is a Fellow of APhA.

http://www.pharmacist.com/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Home2&TEMPLATE=/CM/ContentDisplay.cfm&CONTENTID=27939
Faculty, Alumni Named APhA Fellows

Two UT College of Pharmacy alumni and one faculty member were honored as fellows this year by the American Pharmacists Association (APhA). Fellows are either members of the APhA Academy of Pharmacy Practice and Management (APhA-APPM) or the APhA Academy of Pharmaceutical Research and Science (APhA-APRS) with a minimum of ten years professional experience.

To become a Fellow, members must have demonstrated exemplary service and achievements in his or her professional area through service to APhA and other national, state or local professional organizations. The new Fellows were recognized at the APhA Annual Meeting and Exposition in New Orleans, March 9-12, 2012. The APhA awards and honors program is the most comprehensive recognition program in the profession of pharmacy.

-From Pharmacist.com

http://www.pharmacist.com/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Home2&CONTENTID=27941&TEMPLATE=/CM/ContentDisplay.cfm

Charles J. Broussard, BSPharm, MEd graduated from College of Pharmacy with a bachelor’s degree in 1974. He received a Master of Education in Agency and Community Counseling from Xavier University. He also studied Alcoholism and Chemical Dependency Counseling at Seattle University. He has received many awards throughout his career, including the Beal Award of the Ohio Pharmacists Association, APhA-APPM Merit Award, Linwood F. Tice Friend of APhA-ASP Award, and the University of Utah – School on Alcoholism and Other Drug Dependencies Swinyard Award.

Lawrence Brown, PharmD, PhD is associate professor, director of Graduate Studies in Health Outcomes and Policy Research, and Director of the UT Center for Medication Therapy Management (MTM). He received his PharmD from the University of the Pacific and a PhD in Social and Administrative Pharmacy from the University of Minnesota. He currently serves as co-chair of the Quality Metrics Workgroup for the Pharmacy Quality Alliance. He has also served in the US Air Force and worked internationally to help implement MTM programs. Some of his former offices include APhA-ASP Chapter President, Speaker of the House of Delegates for both APhA and APhA-ASP, and APhA Board of Trustees member. He was awarded Pharmacy Student of the Year by the California Pharmacists Association in 1999, and is a member of Kappa Psi, Phi Lambda Sigma, and Rho Chi.

Not Pictured: Donald J. Levine, DP ('72)
The APhA Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP) Chapter Achievement Awards Program was established in 1974 to recognize outstanding activities of APhA-ASP Chapters at the schools and colleges of pharmacy in the United States and Puerto Rico. The program is an extension of APhA-ASP’s mission to provide opportunities for professional growth and improve patient care while advancing the future of pharmacy. The awards structure is designed to recognize superior programming among chapters that envision the future of pharmacy by creating opportunities for student participation. The awards program also embraces the core ideas of APhA-ASP’s mission to create new standards of leadership, professionalism, membership, patient care, and legislative advocacy among student pharmacists nationwide. The University of Tennessee, 2010-2011 Patient Care Award winner, dedicated their patient care projects to medication indications, efficacy, and safety in relation to the quality of life of each patient. A total of 13 patient care committees worked to immunize over 12,000 patients for the seasonal influenza, pneumococcal, B-12, and herpes zoster vaccines and to train more than 700 people in cardiopulmonary resuscitation skills.
Max Ray Retires

Last month, Max Ray, PharmD, MS, retired from the College of Pharmacy after five years of service. Ray served as a team leader for the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) for the past 5 years and will continue to contribute during retirement.

Dr. Ray retired as professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences in the Health Outcomes and Policy Research Division at the University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy. He also served as adjunct professor at the Fogelman College of Business and Economics and co-director of the Professional MBA program for health-system pharmacists at the University of Memphis. Additionally, he is Dean Emeritus of Western University of Health Sciences College of Pharmacy in Pomona, California.

Dr. Ray earned his BS in Pharmacy at the University of South Carolina. Both his MS in Hospital Pharmacy and PharmD and were earned at the University of Tennessee. He also completed a two-year residency at Methodist Hospital in Memphis.

During his career, Dr. Ray contributed to pharmacy practice, education, and association work. He has received several prestigious awards including ASHP Harvey Whitney Lecture Award, ACCP Paul Parker Medal Award, Outstanding Alumnus Award from the University of South Carolina, Pharmacist of the Year award from both California Society of Hospital Pharmacist and South Carolina Society of Hospital Pharmacists, Northeastern University John Webb Lecture Award, Albert Jowdy Award from the University of Georgia, Walker Scholar Award from Auburn University, and a Citation of Honor from the California Board of Pharmacy. He holds an honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters from Western University of Health Sciences. He is an honorary member of both California Society of Hospital Pharmacists and ASHP.

He has presented over 400 topics at national and international conferences and published approximately 80 papers in professional and scientific literature. His principal professional interest is discovering ways the profession of pharmacy can better serve unmet needs in the medication use process.

Chyka Featured on WVLT, Knoxville Channel 8

Peter A. Chyka, PharmD, DABAT, DPNAP, FAACT, executive associate dean of the College of Pharmacy, Knoxville campus was interviewed by WVLT, Knoxville channel 8 on Tuesday, March 20th. The interview was in response to recent increased awareness of poisonings in Knox County. The story aired the same day. The full story is available at:

http://www.volunteertv.com/home/headlines/Prevent_poisoning_Is_your_home_safe_143495936.html
Franklin and Spivey Join Faculty

Brandi Franklin, PhD, MBA, is an assistant professor in Health Outcomes and Policy Research (HOPR). She co-directs an introductory policy course and is developing a policy analysis course for PhD students. Dr. Franklin's research involves the application of cost-effectiveness and health disparities research methods to address chronic disease burden in youth, tobacco dependence, and community and household food security. In addition, she works with the National Baptist Convention USA, Inc. building capacity for churches to develop, evaluate, and maintain health education and behavior change interventions. Prior to her faculty appointment, Dr. Franklin was a project manager and research scientist for the Consortium for Health Education, Economic Empowerment and Research (CHEER), an NIH-funded Exploratory Center of Excellence in Health Disparities at University of Tennessee. In addition, she supported the community engagement arm of CHEER in conducting community-focused research to address cardiovascular disease disparities. Dr. Franklin also worked in managed care and primary care roles at Pfizer Pharmaceuticals. Dr. Franklin received her PhD in Health Science Administration at UTHSC in December 2009, and holds dual Bachelor and Master of Business Administration degrees from Florida A&M University.

Christina A. Spivey, PhD, MA, LMSW, is an assistant professor of Clinical Pharmacy. Prior to joining UT, she was a scientist in the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science at The University of Arizona College of Pharmacy. She received her BA in Justice from American University, MA in Social Service Administration from The University of Chicago, and PhD in Social Work from University of Georgia. Dr. Spivey’s previous work experiences include the Child and Family Services Agency in Washington, D.C. and the Midwest Center for Justice in Chicago, IL where she acted as an advocate for death row inmates. She has more than 25 publications (peer-reviewed journal articles and book chapters) spanning such fields as social work, geriatrics, public health, pharmacy, and transplantation.

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS


FACULTY PUBLICATIONS


Morrison EK, Rowe AS. Probable drug-drug interaction leading to serotonin syndrome in a patient treated with concomitant buspirone and linezolid in the setting of therapeutic hypothermia. J Clin Pharm Ther 2012, Mar 27. online only

American Pharmacy Educator Week Activities Featured by AACP

The University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy was featured in the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy’s quarterly publication, Academic Pharmacy NOW this month for our student and faculty activities during American Pharmacy Educator Week. See page 21 of the publication at:

Farland Presents at National Team Based Learning Conference

At the 11th Annual Team Based Learning Collaborative (TBLC) Conference in St. Petersburg, FL, Michelle Farland, PharmD, BCPS, CDE, presented a brief summary of her research published in the American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education (AJPE) in 2010 (citation below). Co-investigators of the research included Drs. Andrea Franks, Alex Guirguis, Christa George, Amanda Howard-Thompson, and R. Eric Heidel. The TBLC is for educators from K-12, undergraduate, graduate, and professional education who use or want to learn more about implementing team based learning in their classroom.


STUDENTS

Rho Chi Region III-Mid Atlantic Finalist for Chapter Achievement and Recognized as Most Improved Chapter

“The Rho Chi Society, pharmacy’s academic honor society, encourages and recognizes excellence in intellectual achievement and fosters fellowship among its members. Further, the Society encourages high standards of conduct and character, and advocates critical inquiry in all aspects of pharmacy,” is the mission statement of Rho Chi. The Chapter Achievement Award recognizes all aspects of the chapter. It evaluates objectives, plans and accomplishments throughout the previous year. Activities must relate to the mission of Rho Chi, be innovative, and valuable to the community served.

The Most Improved Chapter Award recognizes chapters that have been inactive in past years but have made significant strides to increase their activities and projects. The award was bestowed at the APhA-ASP Annual Meeting in New Orleans, March 9-12. The Alpha-Nu chapter of the Rho Chi Society hosts several events such as the annual text book sale, residency workshops, Rho Chi Winter Social, and local high school visits to raise pharmacy awareness.

-From: Rhochi.org
http://www.rhochi.org/awards/chapter.htm
Drabick and Jennings Appointed to ASP National Standing Committees

Zach Drabick, P2 student pharmacist at UT College of Pharmacy, has been appointed the Vice Chair of the 2012 APhA-ASP Communications National Standing Committee. The Communications Committee must both understand the communication vehicles of APhA-ASP as well as be able to evaluate and contribute content. Through printed publications, online resources and e-communications, this committee will enable the dissemination of important information for all student members of APhA-ASP. Its responsibility is to provide student pharmacists with information that will increase their awareness of membership in APhA through external electronic media and the monthly APhA Student Pharmacist Connection. The Committee is composed of: one chair, the national member-at-large of the Academy, four members appointed by the APhA-ASP National Executive Committee, and a vice-chair, selected from among the four Members by the APhA-ASP National Executive Committee. Zach grew up in East Sparta, OH. He earned a BA in Philosophy from The Ohio State University and an MA in Philosophy from Texas Tech University. Ultimately, Zach decided to pursue career in pharmacy because of the direct patient care and potential to make a difference in patient’s quality of life.

Lauren Jennings, P2 student pharmacist at UT College of Pharmacy, has been appointed the Region 3 Representative to the 2012 National Nominating Committee. Responsibilities of the committee are interviewing and slating the 2012-2013 APhA-ASP National Executive Committee Officers: president elect, speaker of the House of Delegates, and two members-at-large. This took place at the APhA-ASP Annual Meeting in New Orleans, LA March 9-12, 2012. The committee is comprised of one student representative from each of the eight districts, a chair and past member (10 members in all). Lauren grew up in Tennessee and attended undergrad at Mississippi State University. She served as a high school biology teacher and coach in Atlanta, GA for five years. She recently moved back to Memphis from San Francisco, where she worked as a pharmacy technician. Her parents currently reside in Memphis.
STUDENTS

Rho Chi Inducts 30 New Student Pharmacists

Rho Chi is the national academic honor society for student pharmacists. Students with grades in the top 10% of their class are inducted in the spring of their P2 year. An additional 5% are inducted in the spring of their P3 year.

The following students were initiated into the Rho Chi Society this year:

Class of 2014
Dagmawi Abebe
Jenna Atkins
Mallory Baird
Keithen Blythe
Johnny Butts
Nathan Cope
Angela Covington
D. Merry Daniel

Anna Dutton
Kelly Dyer
Sabrina Groves
Jieyu Luo
Ashley Marshall
Meghan Maynard
Sarah Norrid
Brolin Poole

Bethany Shoulders
Jaime Stiffin
Rachel Suddath
Emily Tabor
Allison Werner
Rachel Wilkinson
Sarah Wright

Class of 2013
Trenavía Ashley
Emily Counce
Physhantia Curry
Hollie Hunt
Amanda McClarty
Tiffany Nason
Robin Wingate

Congratulations to all new Rho Chi inductees!
PHI LAMBDA SIGMA INDUCTS 25 NEW STUDENT PHARMACISTS

Phi Lambda Sigma is the national leadership honor society for student pharmacists. P2s and P3s submit application for consideration. Eligibility for membership is judged by current members of Phi Lambda Sigma, and students’ academic performance is considered as well. There is no greater honor than to be considered a leader by one’s peers.

The following students were initiated into the Phi Lambda Sigma Society this year:

**Class of 2014**
- Cindy Brasher
- Nathan Cope
- Josh Deweese
- Zach Drabick
- Anna Dutton
- Kelly Dyer
- Lindsay Hubbard
- Sabrina Groves
- Kim Kleinaitis
- Clayton Johnston
- Cole Larsen
- Lindsey Plogger
- Mya Santos
- Bethany Shoulders
- Keaton Smetana
- Chase Stooksbury
- Kayla Werner
- Phillip Wilkins
- Brian Winbigler

**Class of 2013**
- Zach Germann
- Andy Nishimoto
- Mary Maxwell
- Jacob Marler
- Kirsten Roberts
- Leslie Smith

*Congratulations to all new Phi Lambda Sigma inductees!*
STUDENTS

Medication Take-Back Featured on WATE, Knoxville Channel 6

Eight UT College of Pharmacy student pharmacists and faculty member participated in American Pharmacists’ Association Academy of Student Pharmacists’ Medication Take-Back program, partnering with the Knoxville police department, on March 24, 2012. The students were Jesse Butler, Jessica Draper, Justin Hooper, Jody McNeese, Andrew Rhodes, Amy Richardson, Jaime Stiffin, and Megan Whittier. John Duncan, UT Faculty member and Director of Pharmacy at the Knox County Health Department, also took part in the program.

By Hana Kim
6 News Anchor/Reporter

KNOXVILLE (WATE) - It is a proactive fight against the prescription pill epidemic and a means to keep our waterways safe. On Saturday, people dropped off unused medications at two Knoxville Walgreens locations. "These narcotics are commonly abused. We are trying to get them out of households so they don't become crime targets," said Knoxville Police Officer Craig McNew. Several groups worked together and were lead by the Knoxville Police Department to collect unwanted medication. Shirley Widner and her niece Anita Elliott didn't want to flush pills down the toilet for environmental reasons, so they held on to a family member's expired medication for years. "I called my niece and said 'You know I found a place where we can take the medicines and get rid of them,'" said Widner. "Certain medications - especially those pain killers and stuff like that - you don't dare let anybody know you have them. What they will do for them it's dangerous," said Elliott. Many know the prescription pill epidemic continues to fuel crime with more and more people getting hooked every day. "Just because a medicine comes from a pharmacy, that does not mean it is safe if you use it inappropriately," said John Duncan of the Knox County Health Department. "Most of the narcotics today have been pain medications. They have been Hydrocodone today but we do see anything from morphine, OxyContin, Roxys, we see them all," said McNew. Saturday's event was the first of 2012 but the campaign has been going on since 2008. So far they have collected more than 2 million pills, which were destroyed by fire. "Oh my goodness that is astronomical, that speaks for itself," said Elliott. Knoxville Police say in the past year the drop-offs have increased significantly, perhaps a sign that our community is becoming more aware of the dangers. For those residents who didn't make the event, but still want to get rid of unused pills, there is drop off box available at any time for unused medication at the front lobby of the Knoxville Police Department. Overall, officials say about 35 percent of the collection is narcotics like Hydrocodone and oxycodeone.

Available at http://www.wate.com/story/17246197/unwanted-medication-drop-offs-are-increasing?autoStart=true&topVideoCatNo=default&cliplid=6874048#.T2_iXpzzVS0
“Interdisciplinary Titans” Wins Interprofessional Clinical Case Competition

Todd Bess, PharmD, BCPS, associate professor and assistant dean for Nashville, congratulates Tony Moseley and Jennifer Rivers for being selected to compete in the third annual Interprofessional Clinical Case Competition sponsored by the Meharry Medical College – Vanderbilt University (MMC-VU) Alliance in Nashville.

Moseley’s team, the “Interdisciplinary Titans”, was this year’s winner. The competition promotes an interprofessional learning experience where students learn to appreciate the value of various team members involved in reaching optimal patient outcomes. This year the competition included representatives from ten disciplines: Meharry Medical College – Schools of Medicine and Dentistry; Vanderbilt University– Schools of Medicine, Nursing (Nurse Practitioner Program), Law, Divinity, Speech and Hearing Pathology, and Dietetic Internship Program; the University of Tennessee – Colleges of Pharmacy and Graduate Social Work; and Belmont University – Schools of Pharmacy and Nursing (RN Program).

There were three interprofessional student teams, each with twelve student participants. All teams had students representing each of the disciplines mentioned above. Students were chosen to represent their school or program by their dean or program director, based on the student’s openness to the value of an interprofessional approach and the student’s ability to function on a team. Students must be in the final year of training. The overall competition takes about 6 weeks from orientation to public competition.

On February 16, 2012, the event was held at the Vanderbilt Center for Experiential Learning and Assessment (CELA). Patient case actors were trained by the CELA staff to represent the details of the patient’s case. Members of each team selected representatives to interview the “patients” while the remainder of the team observed via real time video. Faculty jurors also observed and judged the interview and team collaboration process. The final round of the competition was held at the Learning Resource Center at Meharry Medical College in front of a live audience. Each team presented their summation of the case and assembled in front of the audience for college bowl-type questions.
ALUMNI & FRIENDS

Ezell Wins ASHP Harold N. Godwin Leadership Legacy Award

At the annual ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting in December, the University of Kansas School of Pharmacy and the University of Kansas Hospital presented Jeanne Ezell, MS, FASHP, with the Harold N. Godwin Leadership Legacy Award. Ezell is a KU graduate and director of pharmacy at Blount Memorial Hospital in Maryville and a UT College of Pharmacy faculty member.

The Harold N. Godwin Leadership Legacy Award recognizes the outstanding leadership and contributions to the profession of pharmacy by alumni and friends of the University of Kansas residency training programs. It is presented annually during the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists Midyear Clinical Meeting.

As the Leadership Legacy Award winner, Ezell will be invited to the two KU campuses next spring to deliver a lecture to current residents, students and metropolitan health care practitioners. This event is open to all alumni and friends of the School of Pharmacy and KU Residency Programs.

Condolences

The college family extends deepest sympathy to the family of Scott Winningham, PharmD, UT College of Pharmacy Class of 2002, who passed away on March 20 at his home in Livingston, Tennessee, at the age of 39.

Acknowledgements

Special thanks to Rachel Bauer and Loan Tran for their invaluable contributions to this edition of the newsletter.
Visit our website at: www.uthsc.edu/pharmacy

The University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy

Please submit news items to dbyrd4@uthsc.edu

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