MSU-COM students watch space shuttle touchdown . . .

Alumnus heads West Coast medical recovery team for NASA . . . p. 4
Special Activities of the MSU College of Osteopathic Medicine Alumni Association in conjunction with the MAOP&S Convention at the Dearborn Hyatt-Regency Hotel

Join us for luncheon!
- Friday, May 8, noon
- Dearborn Hyatt-Regency
- Sign up by designating the MSU-COM Alumni Luncheon as your choice on the MAOP&S registration form in your advance registration packet

Join us for fun & cheer in the Alumni Hospitality Suite!
- Wednesday evening, May 6 and Thursday, May 7
- Suite number to be assigned
- Look for directional signs posted at the convention

Join us at our MAOP&S exhibit!
- Thursday, May 7, and Friday, May 8
- In the main exhibit area
- Look for the MSU Green & White in that ‘maize’

Everybody welcome!
Ceiling TV sets in a Fee Hall classroom enabled students and faculty to witness the historic touchdown of the space shuttle Columbia.

IN THIS ISSUE

- MSU-COM alumnus is commander of space shuttle's West Coast rescue and recovery team for NASA ... 4
- AOA's top journalism award goes to staff writer with "Medical World News" ... 5
- $5.8 million in grants accepted by MSU Board ... 6
- Two MSU scientists win national honors ... 7
- People ... 8

"Communique," a newsletter publication of the Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine, is issued 15 times a year through the Health and Medicine Section of the Department of Information Services, A314 East Fee Hall, East Lansing, Michigan, 48824; Telephone 517/353-0820. Members of the Editorial Advisory Committee include David Marler, Ph.D. (chairman); Henry Beckmeyer III, D.O.; Francis A. Bernier, Ph.D.; Gordon Spink, D.O., Ph.D.; Jane A. Waldron; Robert C. Ward, D.O.; Nancy Houston, B.A. (editor), and Patricia Grauer, M.A. (managing editor). Circulation manager is Mary Palmer. Production is done by Beth Stephens and Connie Burch; photography by Dick Wesley and Eileen Blass. Date of publication of the next issue is Monday, May 18, 1981. Deadline for material to be included in that issue is noon, Wednesday, May 6, 1981.
MSU-COM ALUMNUS IS COMMANDER OF SPACE SHUTTLE'S WEST COAST RESCUE AND RECOVERY TEAM FOR NASA

For Robert M. Acosta, D.O., Class of '77, Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine, the spectacular flight and return to earth of the space shuttle Columbia provided an added dimension of thrills and excitement—he was the commander of the rescue and recovery team of paramedics responsible for saving lives or recovering bodies of the astronauts if the craft had crashed in the western United States.

Dr. Acosta, a family practitioner and emergency room physician in practice in the San Francisco suburb of Fremont, is also a commander in the California Air National Guard Air Rescue and Recovery Team and says he got the choice NASA assignment "by being in the right place at the right time."

During the final preparations for the Columbia launch on Tuesday, April 12, Dr. Acosta and his crew of paramedics were hovering in the vicinity of White Sands Missile Range, an alternate landing spot. When the craft was launched, he was in an airplane maintaining radio contact with Cape Canaveral and his paramedics were flying nearby in six helicopters.

"There were a few minutes after the launch and just before orbit when they could have aborted the whole thing if they had to," Dr. Acosta said, "and we were on standby for that."

Once the ship was in orbit, Dr. Acosta was on call in case of mechanical failures. He and his team waited near the missile base, tracking the Columbia's 36 orbits. They were airborne an hour before the Columbia's final orbit, in contact with various command posts in the air and on the ground, hovering some 40 miles away from the 'chase' jets.

Dr. Acosta said of his rescue training, "We had to anticipate the worst possible conditions. Whether the ship landed or crashed, there could have been any number of possibilities for trouble. We had to be ready for any eventuality." He said that in possible unsuccessful outcomes of the flight, the astronauts could have been burned, semi-conscious or unconscious because of a wrong mixture of gases.
TUESDAY, MAY 12
4 p.m. Microbiology seminar: "Echinococcus in Utah" by Ferron L. Andersen of Brigham Young University. 146 Giltner.

MONDAY, MAY 18

4 p.m. Physiology seminar: "A Hypertensive Effect of Prostaglandin E," by Stephen S. Hull, Jr., Physiology Department. 101 Giltner. (Also sponsored by the Interdepartmental Cardiovascular Training Group.)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20
4 p.m. Center for Environmental Toxicology seminar: "Metabolism and Toxicity of Technical Pentachlorophenol in Cattle" by Lee Shull, Animal Science Department. 338 Natural Resources.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3
Flint Osteopathic Hospital's Earl E. Congdon Lecture Series: "Alcoholism and Its Medical Complications". Contact Office of Medical Education 313/762-4578.

FRIDAY, JUNE 12
3 p.m. Hooding Ceremony honoring the Class of 1981, MSU College of Osteopathic Medicine. MSU Auditorium.

SATURDAY, JUNE 13
The American College of Neuropsychiatry will sponsor a medical conference at the Michigan Center for Continuing Education in Osteopathic Medicine, 900 Auburn Road, Pontiac, Michigan. Through June 14. Program chairman is Michael A. Nigro, D.O. Contact Duane M. Tester, 313/335-7742.

10 a.m. University Commencement Exercises for awarding professional and other advanced degrees. Spartan Stadium.

MONDAY, JUNE 15

FRIDAY, JUNE 26
THURSDAY, JULY 9


WEDNESDAY, JULY 15

Flint Osteopathic Hospital's Earl E. Congdon Lecture Series: "Update on Infectious Diseases." Contact Office of Medical Education, 313/762-4578.

FRIDAY, JULY 24 - SUNDAY, JULY 26


MONDAY, AUGUST 24


WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

6:30 p.m. Urology seminar series: "Pediatric Urology" by R. Lawrence Kroovand, M.D., assistant professor of urology, Wayne State University School of Medicine and associate director of pediatric urology at Children's Hospital of Michigan; "Uro-Radiology" by John R. Lanesky, D.O., staff urologist, Bi-County Community, Botsford General and Detroit Osteopathic Hospitals. 2½ hours CME credit requested. Dinner included. Contact Duane M. Tester, 313/335-7742. Michigan Center for Continuing Education in Osteopathic Medicine, 900 Auburn Rd., Pontiac.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11 - SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

Third Annual Alumni Scientific Symposium, open to all interested persons. Sponsored in conjunction with MSU/Illinois football game. Contact Sandy Kilbourn, 517/353-8822. Kellogg Center for Continuing Education, MSU. Approximately six hours of Category I CME Credit will be offered.
COMMUNIQUE

Please use this form for submission of material for the biweekly College of Osteopathic Medicine Communiqué.

Items might include achievements and activities of College personnel such as honors and awards, publications, papers, professional offices, and participation in programs and committees.

The form may also be used for items for the Calendar of Events, suggestions for feature stories, updating of programs, and provision of any other information that might be pertinent for publication in the newsletter.

The editors and editorial advisory committee retain the right to edit or exclude any material.

Please print or type, and do not include any information that is more than one month old.

Date of submission__________________________

Name_______________________________________ Highest degree________________________

Position____________________________________

Address____________________________________ Phone____________________________

CALENDAR ITEMS

Date__________________________ Time________

Event____________________________________

Sponsor____________________________________

Location___________________________________

Other information______________________________________________________________

NEWS ITEMS OR FEATURE SUGGESTIONS____________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

PLEASE RETURN TO the Health and Medicine Section, Information Services, A314 East Fee, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824. For assistance call 517/353-0820.
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Detroit Osteopathic Hospital will sponsor a one-day "Symposium on Cardiology" with David Schwartz, D.O., as moderator. Pre-registration required. DOHC staff, $15; non-DOH staff, $25, and physicians in training, no charge. Contact Linda Braun, 313/252-4823.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 - FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Advanced Muscle Energy Tutorial (above diaphragm) is tentatively scheduled for Lansing General Hospital. Forty hours of Category I CME credit for the D.O.s.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2 - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

"Myofascial Release Tutorial" will be held at the Kellogg Center for Continuing Education, MSU. 24 hours of Category I Credit for D.O.s.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14

6:30 p.m. Urology seminar series: "Panel Discussion on GU Oncology," and "Urорadiology" by Steven Roth, D.O., staff urologist at Bi-County Community, Botsford General and Detroit Osteopathic Hospitals. 2½ hours CME credit requested. Dinner included. Contact Duane M. Tester, 313/335-7742. Michigan Center for Continuing Education in Osteopathic Medicine, 900 Auburn Rd., Pontiac.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 26


WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11

6:30 p.m. Urology seminar series: "Patient Education in Urology" by Vernon Urih, M.D., chairman of the Urology Section at St. Joseph Hospital, Flint, and chairman of patient education, American Urologic Association; "Uro-radiology" by Brent Murphy, D.O., staff, Urology Department, Flint Osteopathic Hospital. 2½ hours CME credit requested. Dinner included. Contact Duane M. Tester, 313/335-7742. Michigan Center for Continuing Education in Osteopathic Medicine, 900 Auburn Rd., Pontiac.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15 - MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

Fifth Annual Pediatric Conference: "Adolescent Medicine." Kellogg Center for Continuing Education, MSU.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 14 - FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18

TUESDAY, MAY 5

Fifth Annual Spring Symposium sponsored at Howell's McPherson Community Health Center by the Michigan Academy of Family Physicians (Capitol Chapter), Livingston County Osteopathic Association, and Livingston County Medical Society. Program begins at 8 a.m. Topics include: "Current Therapy for Infectious Disease" and "National Antibiotic Therapy Update." CME credit applied for.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6

Flint Osteopathic Hospital's Earl E. Congdon Lecture Series: "Update—Confessive Heart Failure" Contact Office of Medical Education, 313/762-4578.

4 p.m. Center for Environmental Toxicology seminar: "Toxicity of Polybrominated Biphenyls" by Steven Aust, Biochemistry Department. 338 Natural Resources.

4 p.m. Microbiology seminar: "Biology, Physiology and Biochemistry of Hyphomicrobium" by W. Harder of the Netherlands. 146 Giltner.

THURSDAY, MAY 7

The Michigan Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons, Inc., will hold its 82nd Annual Postgraduate Conference at the Hyatt Regency Dearborn. The three-day educational conference has been approved for 27 hours of Category 1-A CME credits by the American Osteopathic Association. Through May 9.

4 p.m. Microbiology seminar: "Organization of Chloroplast DNA" by Robert Helling of the University of Michigan. 168 Plant Biology.

MONDAY, MAY 8

"Toxicology in Michigan Today" co-sponsored by The MSU Center for Environmental Toxicology, College of Osteopathic Medicine, College of Human Medicine, and Lifelong Education Programs. Seven hours of Category II CME Credit for D.O.s. Kellogg Center for Continuing Education.

MONDAY, MAY 11

4 p.m. Physiology seminar: "Physiological and Toxicological Responses of Fish to Acid Stress" by Paul O. Fromm, MSU Physiology Department. 101 Giltner.

4 p.m. Biochemistry seminar: "Growth Control by Cell–Cell Contact" by Luis Glaser of Washington University School of Medicine. 101 Biochemistry.
"They could have sustained traumatic injuries because of the impact or they could have suffered some affliction from being exposed to the elements of outer space, had the flight not been a success," he said.

The paramedic team and aircraft were loaned to NASA by the California Air National Guard. As commander of the unit, Dr. Acosta, who holds the rank of reserve captain in the Air Force, had undergone rigorous training as a flight surgeon with the 129th Air Rescue and Recovery Unit of the U.S. Air Force.

Since October of last year, the medical team had been mountaineering in the Sierra and jumping out of helicopters over Monterey Bay near San Francisco preparing to rescue the astronauts no matter where they might fall. The medical team's special training took at least 100 hours.

Dr. Acosta and his team are scheduled for a repeat performance for the Columbia's second space trip in September.

During the final days of the rescue team's preparations, Dr. Acosta was interviewed by newspapers in Fremont and Hayward, California, and by the American Broadcasting Co. television channel in San Francisco, and NBC television and radio in Albuquerque.

After receiving his doctor of osteopathy degree from Michigan State University in 1977, Dr. Acosta interned in the emergency department of Pontiac Osteopathic Hospital and then worked for six months in the emergency room at Burbank (Calif.) Community Hospital before taking over an established practice in family medicine in Fremont.

This article was adapted from newspaper accounts, with additional information added from a telephone interview with Dr. Acosta.

* * * *

AOA'S TOP JOURNALISM AWARD GOES TO STAFF WRITER WITH "MEDICAL WORLD NEWS"

Announcement of the American Osteopathic Association's annual journalism award winners marked two firsts for the oldest journalism competition sponsored by a professional association.

Mark Bloom of "Medical World News" placed first in the competition, becoming the first reporter to win two AOA journalism awards. He was one of two runners-up in the 1979 competition.

(Winner of the top AOA journalism award in 1979 was Millicent Lane of the "Lansing State Journal", who was honored for her coverage of the osteopathic profession, its role in Michigan medicine and the College of Osteopathic Medicine at Michigan State University published in a full page and a half of her newspaper.)

Another first for the awards is the selection of Dennis L. Breo of "American Medical News" as one of two second place winners. This marks the first time an American Medical Association publication has won an American Osteopathic Association award.

The other runner-up is Carol D. Rugg of "The Flint Journal" for her article on the waning controversy between M.D.s and D.O.s in Michigan. Ms. Rugg's entry also included a separate article on angioplasty, a technique used to treat blocked arteries at Flint Osteopathic Hospital.
$5.8 MILLION IN GRANTS
ACCEPTED BY MSU BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Gifts and grants totaling $5,884,860 were accepted on March 27 by the Michigan State University Board of Trustees.

The sum brings MSU's total gifts and grants for the year to $60,615,396. This is 13.5 percent ahead of the total at the same time last year, John E. Cantlon, MSU vice president for research and graduate studies announced to the board.

As usual, the grants were primarily for research and education projects. Included were 47 grants totaling $3,962,204 from the federal government; 10 totaling $250,359 from the state government; 48 totaling $234,489 from industry; 18 totaling $369,077 from foundations; 13 totaling $319,211 from associations; and 40 totaling $274,198 from "other" sources such as local governments, other institutions, etc.

The largest single grant was $1.8 million from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to support research with heavy ions using the 500 million electron volt cyclotron to be completed later this year at the National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory.

Several of the grants are from the National Cancer Institute and will be used in support of cancer research. These include:

- $115,780 to Michelle Fluck, assistant professor of microbiology, for studies of the genetic factors involved in transformation of normal cells into cancer cells by the polyoma virus.

- $110,058 to Leland F. Velieier, Ph.D., professor of microbiology, to gain better understanding of the molecular basis for the onset of tumors and factors that provide immunity against tumors. The studies involve a virus responsible for leukemia in cats.

- $63,738 to Hsing-Jien Kung, Ph.D., assistant professor of biochemistry, to study mechanisms by which viruses linked to cancers of poultry replicate and recombine.

- $48,342 to J. Ian Gray, professor of food science and human nutrition, to learn what conditions contribute to the formation and occurrence of N-nitroso compounds in cured meats and other foods. Some of these compounds, notably nitrosamines, have been shown to cause cancer in some laboratory animals.

- Another cancer-related grant, from the American Cancer Society, was a faculty research award to John L. Wang, assistant professor of biochemistry. The $152,294 grant provides support for Dr. Wang's salary for five years, allowing him to devote more time to research on the regulation of growth in normal and transformed cells.

Donald Tavano, Ph.D., professor of community health science, received a grant of $122,469 from the Michigan Department of Public Health to develop educational programs designed to reduce health risk activities in children and adolescents. The health risk activities include lifestyles involving smoking, alcohol use, sedentary lifestyle, obesity, and stress.
Investigation of a new genetic disease affecting glycoprotein metabolism in animals, and as yet without a human counterpart, will be supported by a $58,327 grant to pathologist Margaret Z. Jones from the National Institute of Communicative Disorders and Stroke. The three year project, with total funding of $161,547, is a collaborative effort including faculty in MSU's College of Veterinary Medicine, the University of Chicago and the University of Kentucky.

Certain antigens (chemicals that initiate immune reactions) associated with rheumatoid arthritis and multiple sclerosis will be studied by Jack Silver, Ph.D., associate professor of microbiology, with the aid of a $64,657 grant from the Kroc Foundation. He will study the role of these antigens in making some people more susceptible to the two diseases and also to determine whether or not blood tests designed to indicate the presence of the antigens would be useful in predicting the onset of the diseases.

A new $176,778 contract from The Urban Institute in Washington, D.C., funds a project to assess and analyze existing data on long-term care for the elderly and chronically ill. The work is under the direction of Dr. Sidney Katz and Dr. J. A. Papsidero of the Department of Community Health Science, College of Osteopathic Medicine.

* * * *

TCOM BREAKS GROUND FOR BASIC SCIENCES BUILDING

Groundbreaking ceremonies for a $15.5 million basic sciences building were held February 27 at the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine. The 135,000-square-foot, five-story structure is scheduled for completion in May 1983.

It will house faculty and staff offices and instructional laboratories for the departments of anatomy, biochemistry, microbiology and immunology, pharmacology and physiology. Other features include a tiered kiva, another large multi-purpose classroom, 125-station laboratory, and complete animal facilities.

* * * *

TWO MSU SCIENTISTS WIN NATIONAL HONORS

Two of the six national awards made annually by the American Institute of Nutrition have been presented to Michigan State University faculty scientists. Pamela J. Fraker, Ph.D., associate professor of biochemistry, won the Bio-Serv Award in Experimental Animal Nutrition, and Dale R. Romso, Ph.D., professor of food science and human nutrition, won the Mead Johnson Award for Research in Nutrition. Both awards carry a $1,000 prize and are made to younger researchers.

Dr. Fraker was honored for work on the influence of diet on the ability of experimental animals to resist disease. She is noted for her studies on detrimental effects of zinc deficiency on the immune system.

Dr. Romso was cited for his contributions to understanding the relationships between obesity and the metabolism of carbohydrates and fats. His research with experimental animals involves studies on the effects of various intervals between eating and the influence of diet on energy availability and release.
Philip V. Marinelli, D.O., 1974 alumnus, major in the medical corps, and neonatologist in Tacoma, Washington, at the recent Uniformed Health Services Pediatric Seminar in San Antonio, was an Ogden Bruton finalist for his research on "The Effect of Glucocorticoid Dosage on Pulmonary Maturation in Multiple GI Station Premature Sheep." He presented a clinical research paper entitled "Manual Artificial Ventilation of the Newborn" at the 25th Annual AOA Bureau of Research meeting in March in Chicago.

Teresa Bernard, M.D., professor of psychiatry, was a consultant on March 21 at the National Institute of Mental Health to design a course for psychiatrists and other mental health professionals on new developments in the treatment of women.

Michael E. Lodish, D.O., clinical assistant professor of surgery, discussed "Thyroid Cancer" at the housestaff lecture series at Michigan Osteopathic Medical Center on March 23. He discussed "Soft Parts Sarcoma" and presented a case of limb preservation at a March 12 meeting of the Michigan Osteopathic Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons in Pontiac, and lectured on "Pelvic Malignancies" at MOMC's March 21 symposium.

Jerry B. Hook, Ph.D., director of the Center for Environmental Toxicology, chaired a session on environmental toxicities and hazards at the Conference on Drugs and Environmental Toxicants held March 18-20 at Pinehurst, North Carolina. Agents by Environmental Contaminants" at the conference, sponsored by the National Institute of Arthritis, Metabolism, and Digestive Diseases and the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences.

Kay E. White, Ph.D., assistant dean for student affairs (acting), spoke at the April meeting of the Mid-Michigan Veterinarians on the topic "People, Pets and Human Emotion." As the current owner of five felines, and one canine, she is "somewhat of an expert on the subject."

E. James Potchen, M.D., chairman and professor of radiology, participated in the March 7 program on clinical oncology held in Washington, D.C. by the Association of Community Cancer Centers as part of its Seventh Annual Meeting. His session was on "The Impact of New Technology of Community Cancer Care in the 1980's." Dr. Potchen and Arlene Sierra, A.R.R.T., were in the British Isles in early April where they attended the Royal College of Radiology Meetings in Bristol on April 3rd and 4th. Their joint presentation to that group was on "Studies on the Interpretation of Chest X-Rays." On April 10 Dr. Potchen spoke on "Studies on the Use and Utility of Diagnostic Imaging" before the Annual Congress of the British Institute of Radiology in London.

Algirdas A. Juocys, D.O., 1977 alumnus now is practicing in Rochester, Michigan, is a captain in the medical corps of the Michigan Army National Guard, 207th Combat Support Hospital, where he recently was appointed as director of medical students and physician assistants. His assignment includes training these groups of health professionals in military medical responsibilities. His unit commander is Charles P. Russo, D.O., a lieutenant colonel in the Medical Corps.

Richard H. Rech, Ph.D., professor of pharmacology and toxicology, at the FASEB meetings in Atlanta chaired a symposium on "Mechanism of Hallucinogenic Drug Action" and presented a paper "Neurotransmitter Basis of the Behavioral Effects of Hallucinogens."

Patricia T. Grauer, associate health and medicine editor in the Department of Information Services and managing editor of "Communique", and her husband, the Rev. Charles Grauer, have announced the birth of their second child, Kimberly Katherine, born Easter Sunday at Bronson Methodist Hospital in Kalamazoo.