**SECOND OPINION**

**PENKOWER CARED FOR THE CARETAKERS**

Thank you so much for the article regarding Dr. Lili Penkower in the November ’04 issue [“Not Alone”]. When I was a naïve first-year med student facing a world of total unknowns called medical education, Dr. Penkower helped me. She taught me to hold my humanity as a framework as I built my medical knowledge.

I am truly grateful. She contributed as much to my education as the many legends of medicine at Pitt. I regretted not having a chance to thank her when graduation came and I was pulled into the whirlwind of a medical career.

Kam Fai Pang (MD '85)
Overland Park, Kan.

**THIS KING STILL REIGNS**

I just wanted to tell you that I have had a number of telephone calls and notes from people who routinely receive the magazine commenting on how well written the article is on my late husband, Klaus Hofmann [“King of Peptides,” February 2005].

Frances Finn Reichl
Princeton, N.J.

Thanks for your wonderful article on Klaus Hofmann. It brought back memories for me. I was ill in 1976 with a bout of colitis. I was in Presby, bleeding badly, losing weight, and getting weaker by the day.

To this day, I don’t know whether Dr. Hofmann had direct input, but my physician marched into my room and announced they were going to try something new. I was put on an IV of synthetic ACTH and, almost like a miracle, my condition improved dramatically. My appetite returned, and I am fine to this day.

Many years later, I did thank Dr. Hofmann.

Sam Zacharias
Pittsburgh

**WILEY APPRECIATED**

Many thanks for mailing me *Pitt Med*. It has made me feel closely connected to Pitt.

To complete my residency training in combined anatomic pathology and neuropathology, starting in 1996, I spent two years as a neuropathology fellow with Dr. Clayton Wiley at Pitt studying HIV encephalitis. I returned to my home country, Thailand, right after completing my training. Now I am a practicing pathologist with a subspecialty in neuropathology in Bangkok Hospital. I was very glad to see Clayton’s photo in the November 2004 issue.

One belated correction: In the April 2002 issue, on page 13, an article mentioned “the 497th Tactical Fighter Squadron in Ubon, Vietnam.” Actually, Ubon is one of largest provinces in Thailand. During the Vietnam War, there was a U.S. Air Force base there.

Virawudh Soontornniyomkij (Fel ’98)
Bangkok, Thailand

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We gladly receive letters (which we may edit for length, style, and clarity).

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**MAGAZINE HONORS 2004**

CASE District II Accolades
Gold Medal, University Magazines
Gold Medal, Periodical Staff Writing
Gold Medal, Best Article

Women in Communications
Matrix Award, Feature Writing
Honorable Mention, Feature Writing

American Association of Medical Colleges
Robert G. Fenley Writing Award

IABC Golden Triangle Awards
Award of Excellence, Magazine Design
Award of Honor, Magazines
Award of Honor, Writing

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**DID YOU NOTICE?**

A typo on the cover: That certainly tops the list of reasons editors might wake up in a cold sweat, hoping to tell themselves, “It was only a dream.”

The glitch with our February issue—an extra “c” in the word “vaccine”—was caught right before our printer was to drop the issue off at the post office, on its way to you. Rather than reprint at significant expense, the dean chose delivery “as is.” Frankly, we hoped you wouldn’t notice. But now, we’re owning up.

It’s been pointed out to us that this incident could be treated as a cue for a discussion delving into medical errors. An extra “c” in the medical world—what prescription snafu might that have wreaked? (Alternatively, might an extra half cc of the Salk vaccine been a good thing?) Taking tips from the quality-control world, we’ve examined the process that led to the incident to prevent such a typo from occurring again.

Other charitable souls have suggested this is a terrific opportunity for talking about how the mind works—how we see what we want to see, rather than what is really there. The typo really was there, however.