

# PITTMED

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH SCHOOL OF MEDICINE MAGAZINE | APRIL 2002, VOL. 4, ISSUE 2



## DEPARTMENTS

### OF NOTE 3

Blueprint for a renaissance.  
Dinner by blindfold and other “disabilities.”  
She studied diseases of ancients; now Kate  
McFadden has turned her attention to the present.

### INVESTIGATIONS 8

In outer space, biological rhythms seem to flatten,  
as they tend to in elderly men.  
Mitochondria: not just for cellular  
breakfast anymore.

### 98.6 DEGREES 34

Donald Fraley did what came naturally.  
PNC Innovator Awardees expect to arrest  
brain cancer with a promising gene therapy vector.

### ATTENDING 35

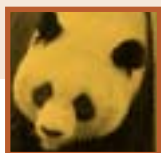
Mourning a brother raises issues  
about quality of life and a quality death.

### ALUMNI NEWS 36

From finance to surgery.  
Harry Rubash's devotion to bone.

### LAST CALL 40

Royal lineage.



## CONTRIBUTORS

**MEGHAN HOLOHAN**—[“The Natural” and other stories] Meghan Holohan once hung around sidewalk preachers for three months, turning her curiosity into a 5,000-word expose on the dynamic between evangelicals and the passersby who heckle them. Her talents lie not just in her writing. Last summer, after working on the research magazine for Ohio University (OU) as well as *Computerworld* and earning a bachelor's in journalism from OU, she joined the Public Affairs staff as an editorial researcher. The understanding around the office is that bin Laden would have been located months ago had Holohan been on the case. **CHUCK DINSMORE**—When a magazine staff hands over an issue to the printer, it's like sending a kid to college. You hope for the best, but need to accept, your role just became drastically limited in the life of your child. Every issue of *Pitt Med*, however, has a strict chaperone in Chuck Dinsmore. He oversees production of more than 400 University print projects each year and knows as much about varnishes, binding, and the like as anyone you'll meet. The coolest thing about his job, he says, is checking on a publication while the presses are running. *Pitt Med* is printed on a “behemoth” machine which, despite its size, lays minuscule dots of ink with the utmost precision. As it does, Dinsmore is there with art director Elena Gialamas Cerri to recommend fine adjustments, making sure the skin tones in a distinguished doc's photo, for example, don't come out too red or green.

## COVER

Albert Ferguson, chair of orthopaedic surgery for three decades, kept many people going, including National League umpire Vinnie Smith (seated). (Photo: Paul Slantis/*Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, reprinted with permission)



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## FEATURES

### Please Don't Call Him Dr. Ferguson

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That man, the one over there, mopping the floor—scores of orthopaedic department chairs aspired to be “just like him.”

COVER STORY BY EDWIN KIESTER JR.

### Golden Hearts

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Two weeks in a Honduran village teach medical students how to listen to a community.

BY JESSICA MESMAN

### Trial Runs II

22

Someday he would like to open a bar, yet there's absolutely nothing casual about Dennis Swanson's current job, directing the Institutional Review Board, which oversees 3,000 human-subject research investigations.

BY DAVID R. ELTZ

### Dramatic Landing

28

Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic is at the top when it comes to treating psychiatric disorders and understanding their biological underpinnings. Its history mirrors the history of modern psychiatry.

BY EDWIN KIESTER JR.