

MS 150's Team UT Get Well-Deserved Rest in LaGrange



First into LaGrange for Team UT were father-and-son riders Spencer, left, and Doug Schulze.

By Pamela Lewis, *Institutional Advancement*

The 67 riders on Team UT in this year's MS 150 bicycle ride from Houston to Austin got a well-deserved rest and healthful sustenance in LaGrange, the overnight "half-way point" in the event. Total raised by Team UT as of May 7: \$31,276; former Development Board member David Koogler and son, Braden, have raised the most: \$8,355 and \$2,385 respectively.

Riders for Team UT included representatives of the UT Health Science Center at Houston, UT M. D. Anderson Cancer Center and UT Medical Branch at Galveston.

Waiting in LaGrange for the riders, with food, drink and other necessities of life were Rose Mary Betancourt-Trevino, MS 150 special event coordinator from the Office of Institutional Advancement; Pauline Habetz, director of the Auxiliary Enterprises Recreation Center; and other MS 150 UT volunteers Joan Miller, administrative service officer in Pediatrics; Krista Georgas, student at School of Public Health, and Katie Chenoweth, wife of School of Public Health student William Lopez.

Rider Ann Roubique pretty much summed up the feeling of all the riders about their stop in LaGrange, "My thanks to all the volunteers in the Team UT tent. I walked around the campsite in LaGrange and found our accommodations second to none. Rose Mary, Pauline, Joan, Krista and Katie, I can't thank you enough for making our trip so comfortable." ★



Reyes Torres, safety specialist and School of Public Health student, left, Bruce Brown, center, director of Environmental Health and Safety, and Jason Bible, Team UT Ride Marshal and risk manager, enjoy time off the bikes. Photos by Pauline Habetz.



George Stancel, Ph.D., dean of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and a frequent MS 150 rider, gets relief from aching legs with the help of a massage therapist from Totally You Massage.



Sondra K. Faul, claims and insurance analyst, and son, Joseph, suited up at LaGrange.

Photos by Pauline Habetz.

News Briefs

Dillon Promotion Announced

Kevin Dillon has been promoted to the new position of Executive Vice President, Administration & Business Affairs, and Chief Financial Officer. This new position recognizes Dillon's expanded accountabilities into Strategic Planning, Business Development, Organizational Policy

matters, and key administrative and business processes (including Facilities, Information Technology, Auxiliary Enterprises, and Human Resources).

Dillon has worked for the UT Health Science Center for 11 years, the last

six helping the president and other senior leaders manage the complex administrative and business functions of this \$750 million organization.

"Over these years, I've been impressed with Kevin's judgment, work ethic and commitment to excellence," said James

T. Willerson, M.D., president of the UT Health Science Center. "He has come to be one of my closest advisors. I'm pleased that he will continue to work with us in this new, expanded role, as we confront the opportunities and challenges before us."

New Agreement with Harris County Hospital District

The University of Texas Medical School at Houston and Baylor College of Medicine have renewed their operating contracts with Affiliated Medical Services (AMS), ensuring that the two medical schools' physicians will continue practicing in hospitals and clinics of Harris County Hospital District.

AMS is a Texas-certified non-profit health corporation formed by the two medical schools that contracts with HCHD to provide physician services from both schools.

The deal between the hospital district and AMS is budgeted at more than \$121 million for fiscal year 2008 (July 2007-June 2008).

"We are pleased to be continuing to work

with the HCHD to provide quality medical care through the district," said Brent R. King, M.D., the UT Health Science Center's interim executive vice president and chief operating officer. "UT-Houston is signed on to this new agreement. There remain details to be worked out, such as the specific basis for compensation."

Among the significant changes incorporated into this new agreement is the possibility of converting the current method for contracting payment from a full-time equivalent basis to a productivity-based scale.

Other changes since the previous agreement was signed in 1990 include:

- Providing the hospital district with an

option to utilize, when necessary, non-medical school providers in the delivery of health care;

- Changing the agreement from a fixed 20-year term to a rolling five-year period;

- Establishing an objective accountability system that will measure the effectiveness of services provided.

The new agreement identifies performance and quality indicators and offers incentives to providers who achieve or exceed performance-based goals, as well as disincentives or discounted rates of payment for subcontractors' or providers' non-compliance with standards of patient care.

"Affiliated Medical Services is pleased to

renew its longtime partnership with the Harris County Hospital District by signing a new affiliation agreement," said Jose Garcia, M.D., general director of AMS and an associate professor of pediatrics at the UT Medical School. "AMS will continue to partner with the hospital district to provide quality medical care to the residents of Harris County."

Medical School faculty members provide comprehensive medical care at the hospital district's Lyndon B. Johnson General Hospital. The medical school's two teaching hospitals (the other is Memorial Hermann-Texas Medical Center) together participate in training medical residents and students in a variety of specialties.

Mackey named first PARTNERS Professor in Nursing

Thomas Mackey, Ph.D., associate dean for practice at The University of Texas School of Nursing at Houston, has been named the first PARTNERS Professor in Nursing.

The endowed professorship is supported by \$100,000 raised

in 2006 by PARTNERS (Providing Advancement Resources to Nursing Educators, Researchers & Students), the volunteer community support group for the nursing school.

"We are so grateful for the support of PARTNERS and I am honored to be

the first recipient of the professorship," said Mackey, also professor of clinical nursing and director of The University of Texas Health Services, which includes clinics in the Texas Medical Center and Pearland. The UT School of Nursing is recognized nationally as

providing a model nurse-managed primary care clinic.

His research focuses on health beliefs, medication compliance, nurse practitioner-managed clinics and patient satisfaction with primary care providers.