Making a critical difference

Dedicated students give 110 percent as on-campus EMS volunteers

By BEVERLY CLARK

Community service for most Emory students doesn’t include encounters with blood, vomit and myocardial infarctions. But for the students who serve as medics for Emory Emergency Medical Services, it can all happen in a day’s work.

The student-run, volunteer force of 40 provides 24/7 EMS coverage for campus as a unit of the Emory Police Department. No mere volunteers, these students are certified EMT professionals who complete a yearlong class of 200-plus hours of training, beyond the 200 hours required by the state.

“There really is no typical student that signs up for Emory EMS. The individuals that we look for are anyone with the drive and enthusiasm to give 110 percent,” said Daniel Sperling, a junior sociology major and incoming chief of operations. The students work in two-person teams on eight-hour shifts around the clock with a supervisor. Supervisors are on call in 24-hour shifts, and often put in 40 hours a week or more. And when, say, His Holiness the XIV Dalai Lama is in town, time to blow it … but the Democrats are starting out with huge advantages,” he said.

Political experts provided such multiple insights during an election forum sponsored by political science honor society Pi Sigma Alpha April 15. Moderated by Emory political scientist Andra Gillespie, panelists included Emory political scientists Alan Abramowitz and Beth Reingold, Emory psychology professor Drew Westen, author of “The Political Brain,” and Tom Baxter, editor of the Southern Political Report and former longtime Atlanta Journal-Constitution political journalist.

Based on the delegate math so far, Abramowitz said Barack Obama will most likely be the Democratic presidential candidate. If current trends hold, he can take it all in November. It’s Obama’s election to lose, and there is certainly the potential to blow it … but the Democrats are starting out with huge advantages,” he said.

This is a “change” election, and the first since 1992 where there isn’t an incumbent or vice president running. Voter turnout is expected to be high in the Democratic favor, and the deep dissatisfaction with the economy and the Iraq war works for Democrats as well.

Please see ELECTION on page 7

Words to write by: How to get your book in a cover

By LESLIE KING

Target your audience. Know how long your book will be. Get a name at high-profile industry firms who work for Democrats as well.

Please see PUBLISHING on page 5
NEW ONLINE AT EMORY.EDU
http://cmbc.emory.edu

EMORY REPORT
APRIL 21, 2008

EMORY PROFILE: Victor Corces

Victor Corces, chair of biology, found his calling when a teacher arranged for him to visit the lab of a famous biochemist. “I knew there was no place I’d rather be,” he says.

Small steps lead to big career
Childhood illness put biology chair on path to discovery

By CAROL CLARK

“If it wasn’t for polio, I probably wouldn’t be where I am today,” says Victor Corces, Arts and Sciences Distinguished Professor and chair of biology.

Polio struck Corces just a year after he was born in a small town in the Spanish province of Asturias, where his father was a policeman. The disease damaged his legs, leaving him unable to keep up physically with other children. “I was a weird guy,” he recalls. “I didn’t have friends. All I did was solve math problems all day.”

His parents worried about his future. A psychologist advised them that Corces should pursue biology instead of math, so he would interact with people in a lab. Then one of his teachers arranged for Corces to visit a famous Spanish biochemist at work. “I thought the lab was so cool — the equipment and the coats that they wore,” he says. “I knew there was no place I’d rather be.”

Corces studied biology and biochemistry in Madrid before leaving Spain for a postdoctoral fellowship at Harvard. His research became centered on epigenetics: For more than two decades, he has been studying fruit flies to uncover secrets of DNA’s arrangement and organization in the cell of a nucleus.

“It’s an extremely difficult problem,” he says, “so it keeps my life interesting.”

While geneticists study the content of DNA, epigeneticists look at the patterns formed by DNA threads, known as chromatin fibers. Epigeneticists have discovered that these fibers are arranged in loops, similar to the outline of flower petals. The loops are formed by groups of proteins on the threads that can interact with one another and chemically bind together.

What are all of the proteins involved in the formation of these loops, and what is the function of this loop structure? Corces’ lab seeks to tease out the answers to these and other questions. One hypothesis is that the loops act as storage bins — a way for stem cells to organize themselves as they differentiate to create a complex organism. For example, when a stem cell differentiates to form muscle tissue, the genes connected to muscles are switched on, and other genes are switched off. The muscle genes may be “filed” in certain loops, to keep them separate from the genes not needed by muscle tissue.

“This is the hypothesis we’re trying to prove,” Corces says. His research holds implications for the study of all kinds of genetic diseases. For instance, the cause of some muscular dystrophies could somehow be connected to a problem with the formation of chromatin loops holding muscle genes.

Corces is also a 2006 Howard Hughes Medical Institute professor — one of only 20 scientists in the United States to receive a $1 million grant to inspire students in the sciences. He used the funding to create a program called Research Internship and Science Education (RISE), which he introduced to Atlanta when he left Johns Hopkins University to join Emory last fall.

RISE brings students from inner-city high schools to campus, where they work alongside Emory students in Corces’ lab (see related story on page 3). “I think it’s important to offer opportunities to gifted people who may not have the money or the means to get a good education in the sciences,” Corces says.

It’s an impressive career so far. And yet, Corces’ mother still worries about his future. “She asks me, ‘What are you doing working with fruit flies? Why don’t you do something worthwhile, like cancer research?’” he says, smiling. “She won’t be happy until I get into the Spanish newspapers.”

Visit a virtual lab

Check out Victor Corces’ lab Web site, which combines complex science with Spanish bulls, octopi, a skittish lizard, Dooley and other surprises. Visit http://www.biology.emory.edu/research/Corces/.

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Teen scientists bloom in lab

By CAROL CLARK

“Today’s the day I’m going to be famous,” declares William Wagstaff, a senior at North Atlanta High School, as he peers into a microscope. 

Margaret Rohrbaugh, a post-doctoral fellow, rolls her eyes. “That’s his favorite saying,” she says, smiling. Rohrbaugh supervises a team of Emory students and high schoolers working together on an epigenetic research project in the lab of Victor Corces, chair of biology.

“For the high school students, everything is new, so they bring that excitement to the lab,” she says.

Corces once visited a research lab as a curious teenager, but he wasn’t allowed to touch anything. “Other students think it’s cool that we have the chance to work in a real college lab,” says Sharonta Johnson, a junior at New Schools of Carver. “When they hear about it, they all want to do it, too.”

Corces hopes that, ultimately, some RISE students will return to Emory as undergraduate or graduate students and become RISE mentors. “Science is not just being in the lab doing your experiments. You have to communicate your knowledge and passion to the next generation.”

“Science is not just being in the lab doing your experiments. You have to communicate your knowledge and passion to the next generation.”

— Victor Corces, chair of biology

Edits of quotes are for clarity. Contact: ltking@emory.edu.

EMORY REPORT
APRIL 21, 2008

NEWSMAKERS

“I haven’t heard anything about any sort of unusual trends so far, not to say that it isn’t going to intensify. I suspect there’s going to be more negotiating around financial aid this year than any other year that we’ve experienced.”

TAKE NOTE

New mail services selection near

Emory's efforts to streamline
and improve its mail services
have entered a final phase.

Three of the five mail services
companies that answered
Emory's request for proposals
were invited back for a
final round of tender
presentations in April. The
finalists will be selected following
those presentations.

Emory receives more than
30 million pieces of
inbound mail each year. Currently,
six different vendors
provide service to
different divisions at Emory.
That will change as current vendor
contracts expire this summer,
and the University consolidates
these services in order
to enable better coordination
and management of the
operation.

Faculty writers can join new program

The Office of the Provost is accepting applications for the summer 2008 Faculty Writers Program. With the goal of supporting and encouraging intellectual community, this new program will sponsor peer-facilitated writing groups for 15 faculty members in the humanities and social sciences.

Small, interdisciplinary writing groups will provide support and feedback on all aspects of the scholarly writing process. An online discussion board allows participants to keep a daily log of their writing progress and receive feedback.

Submit applications by April 30. For details on how to apply, contact Stacia Brown, stacia.brown@emory.edu, or visit http://www. emory.edu/PROVOST/facultydevelopment/event/faculty_writinggroup.php.

Racing legend's wife promotes screenings

The wife of a NASCAR racing legend who died last year from complications of head and neck cancer will be at Emory Crawford Long Hos-
pital April 25 to promote the importance of early detection through screening for the cancers.

A free screening for oral, head and neck cancer will be held that day from 7:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. at the Emory Voice Center of the hospital. The second one is planned for April 25, 1-4 p.m. at the Emory Clinic B in the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery suite.

Call Emory HealthCon-
nect at 404-778-7777 to sign up for either screening for cancers of the oral cavity, larynx and oropharynx.

“It doesn’t hurt, it’s free; and in 10 minutes it takes to do it could save your life,” said Lori Hamilton, whose husband Bobby Hamilton was the 2004 Craftsman Truck Series champion and four-time winner of the NASCAR Cup series.

EMS: Student-run unit key to campus safety

BY JAN GLEASON

Print ads featuring the work of several of Emory's great faculty members are part of a pilot advertising campaign that Emory is running this spring. The campaign focuses on reaching affluent adults, over the age of 45 and focus group research that we based on a number of factors, including their size and market potential, synergies with alumni, admissions and Emory Healthcare activities, and a high concentration of schools and faculty.

The spring advertising campaign creative materials were developed by Radio Outhouse of Atlanta and include:

• Print ads that run in Delta Airlines’ in-flight magazine, Sky, during March, April and May, which complement NPR radio schedules by reaching a very similar audience;

• A six-week run of 15 sponsorship messages a week on “Morning Edition” on National Public Radio in Chicago, San Francisco and Raleigh, N.C.;

• An Internet advertisement, which complements the print and radio ads that will run for 500,000 impressions on U.S. News & World Report.com “Best Colleges” Web site.

By JAN GLEASON

PRINT ADS FOCUS ON REACHING AFFLUENT ADULTS OVER THE AGE OF 45

Downtown is spent in Emory EMS’s headquarters in the N. Decatur Building. But when the call comes, all energy is focused on getting to and helping a patient in need.

Continued from the cover

spent on-duty increases exponen-
tially.

“The voluntarism on this unit speaks volumes of the character of our medics and their unconditional devotion to Emory’s well-being and safety,” said Emory EMS chief Josh Ronzel, a senior neuroscience major.

Most days are quiet, with a call or two per shift. Downtown is spent in the group’s headquarters, a converted office in the N. Decatur Building.

But when the call comes, the adrenaline flows and all energy is focused on getting to and helping a patient in need.

“You never know exactly what the situation will be like until you get there,” said business junior Kevin Smith during a recent shift that involved a car accident with minor injuries. “You don’t want it to be a bad situation, but if it is, you know that you have the ability to make a difference.”

Last fall, Emory EMS respond-
ed to 351 calls, with an average response time of three and a half minutes, a fraction of the time it normally takes other units to respond. The unit’s territory includes the Emory campus and adjacent businesses and roads.

Recently the unit responded to a call in less than two minutes and provided life-saving medication to a staff member having a severe allergic reaction. In another case, medics stabilized a staff member hanging a heart attack.

“Being here right on campus allows us to get to patients when they need it most, especially during the critical ‘golden hour.’ In some cases, it really is a life or death situation,” said Dan Host-
man, a senior business major and chief of training.

There are fewer than 100 such student-run EMS units at colleges around the country, and “Emory’s is among the best in the nation,” said Emory Police Capt. Ray Edge, administrator to the unit. During the recent National Colle-
giate EMS Foundation conference, Emory EMS was honored with the top “Striving for Excellence Award” and host campus video of the year.

Emory EMS also does extensive community outreach. The group hosted the largest single venue CPR training event in the country last fall for more than 600 people. They provided alcohol awareness education for fellow students and recently ran a drunk driving demon-
stration for Druid Hills High School. And, they will cosponsor this year’s Relay for Life.

“They exhibit a level of dedica-
tion rarely seen in the workplace — and they do so as volunteers,” said Emory Police Chief Craig Watson. “They are a critical part of Emory’s public safety, and the members of the EMS unit truly serve as role models for their fel-
low students.”
REPORT FROM: Emory Alumni Association

The EAA: Read all about us in more ways

Emory has no shortage of publications. Some of them, like Emory Report, are enterprise-wide, reached by the entire campus community either over e-mail, in mailboxes or on newspaper racks. Others are more targeted — most of Emory’s schools have magazines, and many individual departments have publications ranging from PDF newsletters to full-fledged, four-color print pieces.

The Emory Alumni Association isn’t much different from our campus brethren. While our print pieces are limited, our electronic communications are versatile, varied and accessible to all.

EmoryWire, a monthly publication, is geared toward alumni and parents, while The EagleEye View, a quarterly piece, reaches out to undergraduate and graduate students. Emory’s wider campus community of faculty and staff can find engaging stories in both.

EmoryWire is a mix of EAA news and some of our annual profiles, and University stories, some of which have appeared in other publications but the majority is original content.

EmoryWire also is a portal to literally hundreds of photos from Emory events both near (Dooley’s Cup II) and far (an Emory Travel Program journey to Egypt). The May EmoryWire will feature photos from Jake’s Open House, the EAA’s and Emory Annual Fund’s annual birthday party for Dean of Alumni Jake Ward ’33C–’36G, and the June EmoryWire will provide full coverage of Emory Commencement Weekend. Last year’s EmoryWire Commencement coverage featured 18 different slide shows — if you attended any weekend events, your photo should be in there somewhere.

The EagleEye View was created last fall to reach out to current students — the “next generation of Emory alumni,” as we refer to them. The best way to cultivate an active and engaged alumni body is for the EAA to introduce itself to students before they graduate. And that’s the goal of The EagleEye View, which is sent to students through their LearnLink accounts.

The EagleEye View is a quarterly publication, and the third issue will be released at the end of April. Like EmoryWire, it is a mix of original content and reprints from other publications (including EmoryWire, which is not sent to students). For instance, the spring 2008 issue will feature “The Case for Project Carse,” a piece written by Robbie Paulsen ’10M that originally ran in the February 2008 EmoryWire that details the work of Emory medical students in a mobile clinic in rural Haiti.

New content for the spring issue will include an introduction to the Senior Experience Committee, which plans events and activities specifically for the Class of 2009. EagleEye also contains “Emory Near Me,” a calendar that lists EAA events around the country and the Emory Alumni Association events.

A link to EmoryWire (www. alumni. emory. edu/news/emorywire. html) and The EagleEye View (www. alumni. emory. edu/eagleview/ eagleview. html) are viewable on the EAA’s Web site. However, if you’d like to subscribe to either publication, please send e-mail to Val Thompson (valrie. thompson@emory. edu) at the EAA. She will add you to the appropriate listserv and your e-mailbox will be happier and better informed for it.

Eric Rangus is director of communications for the Emory Alumni Association.

PUBLISHING: Insight given on industry trends

Continued from the cover

best way to approach an editor,” said Sa- san Ferber, an executive editor at Oxford University Press-USA.

“You really need to pick your audience. Directing a book to the general reader, students, professors — trying to span all areas — is very difficult. On the other hand, if a book has success with one group, others may take a look at it,” Har- ris said.

Unlike in academic publishing, most trade-published books come through an agent, said Dedi Felman, a senior editor at Henry Dunow, a literary agent, noted that every book on a trade list has two purposes: to make money and be enter- taining. “This is not assigned reading,” he said. Authors, he said, can appeal to a wide general audience or to a certain niche.

The symposium also offered opportu- nities for one-on-one appointments with the representatives of the publishers and literary agencies.

By KELLY GRAY

As one of only six conference centers in Georgia, the Emory Conference Center Hotel is leaving its competitors behind as it quickly adopts the most progressive recycling and sustainable building practices.

“When you are the only Green Seal-certified hotel in the state, it leaves the door open for new and inventive ideas in hotel management and operations,” says Kathryn Johnson, general manager. “Our ‘green team’ meets every two weeks to discuss new purchasing policies and other ways to become more green.”

To make recycling even easier, the ECCH now uses single stream recycling. Single stream recycling combines all mixed recyclables including aluminum, plastic, paper, metal and glass and collects them from the same central bin on the same day.

To promote single stream recycling, ECCH employees had to use seven different recyclables to separate them. Now employees are able to dump recyclables into bins located on the loading dock.

“Even for our employees to recycle because they don’t have to worry about separating any of the items,” says Johnson. “And the really great thing is that the single stream takes all plastics, not just one and two. It also takes all paper products, including mixed, white, coated, etc.”

To encourage guest participation, recycling information is posted in every hotel room and recycling bins are located by the elevator landing on each floor and in each of the meeting rooms.

In January, the ECCH spent two days conducting a walkthrough to obtain Green Seal re-certification for the entire conference center. Green Seal certification ensures that a product meets rigorous environmental leadership standards. This gives manufacturers the assurance to back up their claims and purchasers confidence that certified products are better for human health and the environment.

The ECCH has lofty goals regarding sustainability. In addition to Green Seal re-certification, the ECCH is also attempting to achieve Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design certification. To achieve LEED certification for existing buildings for the Emory Conference Center Hotel, the ECCH has acquired an additional LEED certification for new construction. The LEED certification for existing buildings for the Emory Conference Center Hotel will be re-certified in 2008. The ECCH has chosen to be the first hotel in the state to pursue LEED certification for its existing building.

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Single stream recycling puts conference center ahead

Greece tour a high note for Wind Ensemble

The Aegean Sea provided the backdrop for the Emory Wind Ensemble’s performance in Volos, Greece, conducted by Scott Stewart (front row, far left), part of a nine-day performance tour during spring break.
The scary part is, we’re live.

Class debuts student-produced newscast

Emory’s first student-produced television newscast debuted this semester, thanks to a new partnership between the journalism department and Georgia Public Broadcasting.

By KIM URGUHART

The two students poised behind the news desk in a Georgia Public Broadcasting studio don’t look nervous. But, confides ’Emory News Now’ anchor Dane Cohen, “The scary part is, we’re live.”

“This is the first time most of these students have ever been on camera,” said senior lecturer Kris Wilson if Emory’s first student-produced television newscast that debuted this semester. “But the important part of the whole process is not just to be on camera, but to see what goes on behind the scenes.”

Cohen and co-anchor Allison Archer resume practicing their lines. The script is slightly adjusted. The sound engineer conducts a microphone check. From the control room comes the cue: “Roll it,” and now, after several run-throughs, the students are on the air.

In a corner of the set Jessie Pounds stands by for her live broadcast, the first time a live shot will be incorporated into the newscast.

“Every week we add a new element to up their skills,” said Wilson, an experienced news director, executive producer, anchor and reporter.

Producing the show is a new element of the journalism program’s News Video class. Using the Georgia Public Broadcasting studio is a first-time experiment for Emory, which does not have studio space on campus.

“This was the missing piece in the News Video course, the ability to take the news packages the students produce in the class and combine them into a show,” said Sheila Tefft, journalism program director.

The course provides students with a well-rounded skill set in a digital age as well as multimedia portfolio material.

“As the news media evolved, it became clear to me that the traditional distinction between tracks in journalism education was blurring,” said Tefft, who worked with Emory College Dean Bobby Paul to launch the augmented course.

Emory Vision and at www.journalism.emory.edu, “Emory News Now” is written and produced entirely by the students, who rotate roles each week as anchor, producer, floor manager and other positions.

Producing the 12-minute news magazine is truly a team effort — and a time commitment. Armed with cameras and notepads, the students spend the week before filming interviews and B-roll on campus and around the city. Tuesday nights often bleed into Wednesday, when the students head to the studio to produce each week’s show. “Wednesdays are the best part of the class. That’s when you see all your hard work pay off,” said Caitlin Yuhes.

After production of each live newscast, the students critique the show. Producer Angela Hong was pleased with the episode, the sixth newscast of the semester. “It’s not a perfect show but it came out well!”

However, by the time you do the second run-through you are holding your breath until the anchor says ‘Until next time...’

Monkeys ape humans in toy choice

By EMILY RIOS

Researchers at the Yerkes National Primate Research Center have found rhesus monkey’s gender-specific toy preferences are similar to humans, Yerkes researchers have found.

Sex differences in rhesus monkeys’ toy preferences are similar to humans, ‘Yerkes researchers have found.

Study shows culprit in stroke cell damage

By QUINN EASTMAN

Emory researchers have identified a key player in the killing of brain cells after a stroke or a seizure. The protein AEP, or asparagine endopeptidase, unleashes enzymes that break down brain cells’ DNA.

Finding drugs that block AEP may help doctors limit permanent brain damage following strokes or seizures, says pathologist Keqiang Ye.

His team’s results were published in the March 26 issue of the journal Molecular Cell. When a stroke obstructs blood flow to part of the brain, the lack of oxygen causes a buildup of lactic acid, the same chemical that appears in the muscles during intense exercise. In addition, a flood of chemicals that brain cells usually use to communicate with each other over-excite the cells. Epileptic seizures can have similar effects.

While some brain cells die directly because of lack of oxygen, others undergo programmed cell death, a normal development process where cells actively destroy their own DNA.

“The mystery was: how do the acidic conditions trigger DNA damage?” Ye says. “This was a very surprising result because previously we had no idea that AEP was involved in this process.”

At first, he and postdoctoral fellow Zhixue Liu thought the results of a critical experiment that led them to AEP were an aberration, because the experiment was performed under overly acidic conditions.

“But if you can repeat the mistake, it’s not a mistake,” Ye says. Liu and Ye found that a drug scientists use to mimic the acidic overload induced by stroke activities AEP, driving it to break down DNA in brain cells. In mice genetically engineered to lack AEP, both the drug and an artificial stroke resulted in reduced DNA damage and less brain cell death than in regular mice.
First PERSON

Revealing pain undoes a social fiction

Nancy Eiesland returns to her duties as associate professor of sociology of religion at Candler School of Theology after nine months of medical leave.

By NANCY L. EIESLAND

You are about to learn more about me than I should prudently tell a perfect stranger.

TMI — too much information — is how our self-help society believes we use our experience to aid others. Being a sociologist makes it possible for me to diagnose this reality, but it doesn’t make me immune to its power.

For the last 18 months, I’ve been in the fight of my life to best a drug-resistant staph infection that had invaded my spine — where I had years before had met — implantation to keep me upright. I have had years before had met — nautical complications gave me fodder to control pain. Despite my ability to do biofeedback on a dime and to compartmentalize better than the Container Store, pain never went away in my mind.

Mostly I started taking pain medication. In my 44 years, I have tried every legal painkiller. Most of them I liked, because they helped me keep the fiction. I could name myself a person with a disability but I didn’t feel depersonalized, needy or as a social-environment’s real markers for disability. I could use pain medication to return to doing everything that I wanted in my life, and when pain first obscured my vision, these meds made it possible to keep me going when pain said stop.

My step came when depersonalization joined my pain, and that is when my story started first long-term hospitalization, multiple surgeries, and then a medical leave. I was an id, dependent cripple in pain. Nobody said, “I don’t think of you as someone with a disability.” For some, it became the only diversity that mattered, it trumped my past productivity and former independence.

However, many more Emory friends cared deeply for my family and me during this time. Professors Regina Werum, Cathy Johnson, Liz Bounds, Bobbi Patterson and Carol Newsom simply did whatever we with the multiple choice approach. I always imagine a Freddy Krueger slashing scene during which he might stop and ask me, “Would you prefer to be stabbed, burned or beaten?” While a physician may need us to give pain a number and an approximate manifestation, our common work is to construct a social fiction. Social fictions are not false account; sometimes they are the reality of their co-constructed power. Our social fiction is that, in general, pain can and should be treated and undone.

Obviously, serious critical pain ought to be aggressively treated, but what about life-long pain? After my 11th surgery when I was 13, my surgeons stopped telling me that their cutting would make me leave. Pain had become my life’s phlogiston — as noisy and mischievous as any spirit that might pop up in the random television. It was my real disability, but one that I couldn’t mention to those good folks who didn’t think of me that way.

Compassionate physicians and psychologists ought to help me control my pain. Despite my ability to do biofeedback on a dime and to compartmentalize better than the Container Store, pain never went away in my mind. I was an id, dependent cripple in pain. Nobody said, “I don’t think of you as someone with a disability.” For some, it became the only diversity that mattered, it trumped my past productivity and former independence.

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Art is trauma, says author Chris Abani.

“Instead, what we ought to say is, ‘This pain is a better friend than is the social fiction. Social fictions are not false account; sometimes they are the reality of their co-constructed power. Our social fiction is that, in general, pain can and should be treated and undone.

Obviously, serious critical pain ought to be aggressively treated, but what about life-long pain? After my 11th surgery when I was 13, my surgeons stopped telling me that their cutting would make me leave. Pain had become my life’s phlogiston — as noisy and mischievous as any spirit that might pop up in the random television. It was my real disability, but one that I couldn’t mention to those good folks who didn’t think of me that way.

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ADVANCE NOTICE

Sudan focus of conference April 26

Student activists from Emory and around the country will gather for the second annual “Paperclips for Peace in Sudan” conference, which will include a photo exhibit, film screenings and panel discussions focused on the ongoing genocide in Darfur. The conference takes place April 26 from 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Math and Science Center.

In conjunction with the conference, Adam Sterling, activist and executive director of the Sudan Darfur Intervention Task Force, will speak at 7 p.m. April 25 in the Gwineta Quadrangle. Sterling will introduce a free, public screening of the documentary “Darfur Now.”

Tickets for the conference are $5 and will either be available at the door, with all proceeds going to CARE. For more information, contact Danielle Smith at 804-379-3600 or e-mail questions to pfpemory@gmail.com.

Alumns to sign autobiography

Emory Law alumnus Marvin Arrington IV, whose sign is one of his book, will sign copies of his book April 24 at 4:30 p.m. at the Miller-Ward Alumni House.

Arrington’s autobiography, “Making My Mark: The Story of a Man Who Wouldn’t Stay in His Place,” has been published by Merzer University Press.

A Fulton County Superior Court judge since 2002, Arrington also served several decades as a trustee of Emory.

The native Atlantan tells the story of his determination to escape the confines of economic adversity through academic and professional success.

Copies of the book will be available for purchase at the signing.

Doc’s bag opened for children

Neil Shulman, associate professor of general medicine, will perform in a skit that shows kids “What’s in a Doctor’s Bag?” on April 26, in 208 White Hall at 1 p.m.

Shulman will teach children what’s in the Otoscope, Lubba Duba the stethoscope and other costumed versions of instruments. The audience will also learn about shots — why they’re given and how they work.

Every child at the free show will receive a certificate for completing the “medical school.” Coloring books and activity sheets that complement the show can be accessed at www.whatindian doctorsbag.com.

To RSVP or for more information, e-mail LM- can be accessed at www.events.emory.edu or christi.gray@ emory.edu. Listings are subject to space limitations.