Money managers

Feiner appointed vice chancellor

Barbara Feiner, the University's chief financial officer, will become vice chancellor for finance effective immediately, according to Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton. She assumes overall responsibility for the financial operations of the University. "Barbara Feiner has shown exceptional leadership as our chief financial officer, as well as our chief investment officer," Wrighton said. "In this new position, she will continue to help develop appropriate strategies for the most effective and efficient use of University resources. She is an experienced professional who will bring much to her new role." As vice chancellor for finance, Feiner will continue to serve as chief financial officer. She will have responsibility for approximately 150 people in financial services, which includes accounting services, treasury, risk management, investment management and financial analysis. In addition, she will coordinate the development of the annual operating budget, as well as monitor and control the overall fiscal operations of the University.

Feiner joined the University in September 1996 as director of investment management. The following year she became the chief investment officer, as well as the chief financial officer. Previously, she held a number of positions at Edmon Brothers Stores Inc., including serving as president of the 5-7-9 clothing store chain. She received a bachelor's degree in psychology from Saint Louis University in 1972. She has a certificate in finance from the University of Pennsylvania and an MBA from the University of Chicago.

Sandler to become special assistant to chancellor

Ben Sandler, vice chancellor for financial policy, will become special assistant to the chancellor for administration on July 1, according to Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton. This change is occurring as Sandler's request. Sandler will continue to serve the University on a half-time basis after three decades in the administration. "Ben Sandler has brought greater understanding of financial aid, financial planning, budgeting, research spending and institutional studies to the University," Wrighton said. "He has contributed enormously to improvements in all these areas and to the success of Washington University throughout the past two decades."

Sandler joined the University in 1979 as assistant vice chancellor for institutional planning and budgeting. In 1990, he became assistant vice chancellor for financial planning and budgeting. In 1992, he became vice chancellor for financial policy. Sandler received a PhD in economics from the University of Wisconsin and a master's degree in public policy from Harvard University and a bachelor's degree in political science from Washington University.

Inhalant abuse on the rise

"Huffing" kills and cripples children in silent epidemic

It has been called America's silent epidemic. Known by such street names as huffing, sniffing and wangling, the dangerous habit of getting high by inhaling the fumes of common household products is estimated to claim the lives of more than 1,000 children each year. Many other young people, including some first-time users, are left with serious respiratory problems and permanent brain damage. "Surveys show that approximately one out of every five American children will experience inhalant abuse before they complete eighth grade," said Matthew O. Howard, Ph.D., an assistant professor of social work and the author of a recently published study on inhalant abuse among children. Despite national efforts to warn of the dangers, information about the terrible toll inhalant abuse is igniting does not seem to be reaching the nation's parents, much less their children. "I don't think these kids have any idea how dangerous inhaling these substances can be," Howard said. "One or two kids in a group will experiment with something new and before you know it, you have a mini-epidemic on your hands. Some kids just don't get the message until a friend ends up dead or in the hospital. Parents need to know that hundreds of items commonly found in the home are being inhaled by kids seeking a quick buzz, a high that can easily turn deadly."

Inhalant use has joined alcohol and marijuana as one of the top three drugs of choice among grade-school children. The National Adolescent Student Health Survey found that 21 percent of eighth graders reported having tried inhalants, compared with only 15 percent for marijuana and 5 percent for cocaine. The most common age of first inhalant use is just before a child's 12th birthday. Howard's studies, which focus on juveniles on probation in Utah and on American Indian youths living in Seattle, found surprising differences in the frequencies of inhalant use. His research, which was supported by a grant from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, is published in the British Journal of Addiction and the American Journal of Addictive Behaviors. In the Utah study, more than a third of the children on probation reported some history of inhalant use, with nearly 20 percent having abused inhalants in the last year. While inhalant abuse is known to be rampant on some American Indian reservations, only 12.3 percent of Indian youths living in urban areas reported any experience with inhalants, a rate considerably lower than the national average. The variance is not surprising as it might seem, Howard said, because inhalant abuse tends to occur in isolated communities.
Pathbreaking center gets renewed NIMH funding
By GERRY EVERDING

Recognizing the George Warren Brown School of Social Work's continued national leadership in mental health research, the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) has awarded the school an additional five-year grant to support the work of the School's Center for Mental Health Services Research (CMHSR).

Established in 1994 with a $3 million NIMH grant, the center was the first NIMH research development center to be established in a school of social work. The recently announced $2.2 million grant will provide critical funding to extend the center's work through December 2003.

"The center has put George Warren Brown on the map as a major player in mental health services research," said Ensio Proctor, Ph.D., Frank Brown Professor of Social Work Research and director of the center. "We have won the recognition and respect of researchers nationwide — and in our own field of social work — for the importance of the research we are doing and for asking and answering the pressing questions that we are investigating."

This year, the center's grant was increased by half a million dollars, Proctor said, because it showed the agency's importance and the high regard that social work research has for its recent refunding, points to the school and the University for establishing strong relationships with prominent research institutions, including the National Institute on Mental Health (NIMH), researchers are exploring exciting new opportunities on the horizon and a new era of mental health services for all Americans.

"We know that nationally significant research is multi-disciplinary and we have had great success in that regard — all of our studies have involved collaboration from multiple disciplines," Ensio Proctor

News Briefs

Campus quiz: This handsome medalion can be found on the Washington University Medical Campus. NIMH Center, Research Triangle Institute, established at six other social work schools around the country, now leading the way in mental health services research, has been a leader in the field. The center, which has received $3.7 million in federal funds for its research, is one of the leading mental health research centers in the nation.

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Richard A. Chole elected president of otolaryngology research association

Richard A. Chole, M.D., F.A.C.O.R., the Lindburg Professor of Otolaryngology at the University of California, Berkeley, and Chief of Otolaryngology at the University of Southern California Medical Center, has been installed as president of the American Society for Head and Neck Surgery (ARO). Chole was elected president for the past four years and an ARO member for 13 years before joining the ARO as president.

"When I went to medical school, we were taught that the aorta was pretty much spared from hardening of the arteries, that notion was wrong," said Victor G. Davila-Roman, M.D., Ph.D., the Lindburg Professor of Medicine at Washington University School of Medicine as department head a year ago.

Chole is a member of numerous professional societies. In addition, he has been included in "The Best Doctors in America" since 1989. Chole received his undergraduate education at the University of California, Davis, and obtained a medical degree from the University of Southern California School of Medicine as department head a year ago.

Learning about medicine Susan Cucican, M.D., left, an intern in internal medicine/primary care, explains a model of the eye to Joseph Kotten, left, Krista Whip and Ali Lindsay, right, eighth graders at Cross Key Junior High School, at the St. Louis Public Schools Career Awareness Fair. Approximately 12,000 eighth graders attend the annual fair, which was held this year on March 23 and 24 at America's Center.

Predicting brain injury

Hardening of the aorta increases risk of stroke

"This is the first prospective, long-term study of the relationship between atherosclerosis in the aorta and risk of stroke and death. We found that as this important vessel becomes diseased, long-term risk increases dramatically," said Victor G. Davila-Roman, M.D., Ph.D., of the American Society for Head and Neck Surgery. The researchers were able to follow a group of patients with atherosclerosis throughout the body. But it's also likely that plaques in other vessels could explain some of these.

"During surgery, the surgeon manipulates the aorta quite a bit," said Benico Barzilai, M.D., co-investigator and associate professor of medicine. "We can imagine an aorta full of plaques, which could be involved in cardiac disease, one of those plaques might break loose as the vessel is moved around. Or perhaps it could break loose years or later and migrate toward the brain to cause a stroke."

"Or maybe hardening of the aorta is a sign of disease throughout the body," the researchers said. "In that case, plaques in the aorta might not cause a stroke but might signal the presence of disease in other vessels. In an earlier study, the researchers found that hardening of the aorta is linked to kidney failure, presumably through the same mechanism that could cause strokes."

"Our imaging technique allows us to put the ultrasound probe right onto the vessel and look directly at the ascending aorta," Barzilai said. "It's easy to imagine that if plaques break loose, they can potentially travel downstream toward the blood vessels that feed the brain or kidneys or other organs. But it's also likely that patients with the disease in this very early part of the aorta also have atherosclerosis throughout the body."
Welcome to Wonderland
All-new ‘Alice’ coming to Edison Theatre stage

BY LIAM OTTEN

Alice is swept up in a dizzying array of songs and dance numbers.
In the spirit of time travel, each is conceived in a different style — a one-man show, a family number, a swing number, some gospel-style numbers and even a little vaudeville. St. Louis’ own Brian Hohlfeld, a respected orchestrator, was commissioned to do the score and also composed several new numbers.
Several students composed the score.
The set design, by Rick Kayenkohl, a Ph.D. artist in Physical Theater, was influenced by the original versions of “Alice” by including some of John Tenniel’s original illustrations, including an 18-foot-tall portrait of Alice.
The production also features some interesting uses of modern vector technologies, such as film and even a live video feed (for the Cheshire Cat).

Alice is the one of the most widely respected short story writers who has ever lived, and is her job,” Matthews explained. “The result, as we imagine, is that all the characters thrown out of their familiar, Victorian versions.
The Caterpillar becomes an evangelical preacher; the Mouse becomes an Elizabethan actor; the Cheshire Cat becomes a red puppet; and Tweedle Dee and Tweedle Dum become a pair of WWII [World Wrestling Federation] wrestlers.”

“Pleasantville.” (Also April 17, same times, and April 18, 9:30 p.m.)

The adventure begins when Alice enters the White Rabbit’s burrow. She walks her through a dream-like and often confounding world, where the events are a variety of curious characters — the mysterious Chesire Cat, the demented Queen of Hearts and others — and the dream-like dialogue, amuse and exasperate the sensible girl.
A number of original songs.
Alice will undertake an ambitious project: to create, from scratch, an all-new theatrical adaptation of Lewis Carroll’s classic children’s tale ‘Alice in Wonderland.
This month, the group will debut their creation — featuring an original script, original music and original songs — on the Edison Theatre mainstage.
Performances start at 8 p.m. April 16 and 17 and at 5 p.m. April 18. Performances continue the following weekend at 8 p.m. April 23 and 24 and at 5 p.m. April 25.
Alice in Wonderland chronicles the adventures of a precocious young heroine as she walks through her dream-like journey.
The adventure begins when Alice encounters the White Rabbit (catching a pocket watch, babbling on and on) and follows him down the rabbit hole.

“Carrot cake,” “grilled chicken,” “mashed potatoes.” The set design, by Rick Kayenkohl, a Ph.D. artist in Physical Theater, was influenced by the original versions of “Alice” by including some of John Tenniel’s original illustrations, including an 18-foot-tall portrait of Alice.
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Alice is different from anything we’ve ever done before, but it’s really taken shape over the last year. It’s playful, very whimsical, a lot of singing and dancing. "The set design should be great fun for both kids and adults."

Tickets are $10 for the general public and $8 for seniors.
Tickets are available at the Edison Theatre Box Office, 13th Street and Olive (MetroTix outlets, 334-1111).
For more information, call 935-5858.

Washingt on University in St. Louis

Exhibitions

Immunology Seminar. Room 8, E. DeCader Education Center. 362-3825.

Lectures

Friday, April 8

"The big question was how to make the story more realistic, especially in terms of time travel," Kayenkohl said. "As a result, we decided to make Alice a respected short story writer, so she is her job," Matthews explained. "The result, as we imagine, is that all the characters thrown out of their familiar, Victorian versions."
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**Philosopher Richard Rorty to speak**

renowned philosopher Richard Rorty will deliver the annual Phi Beta Kappa/Sigma Xi Lecture titled, "Spinoza, Prefiguration and the Love of Wisdom" at 11 a.m. Wednesday, April 14, in Graham Chapel as part of the Assembly Series. Lecture is free and open to the public.

Rorty is a professor of comparative literature at Stanford University and the author of more than 30 books, including his latest book, "Achieving Our Country: Leftist Thought in Comparative Literature at Stanford." He is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Rorty received a Guggenheim Fellowship, a MacArthur Fellowship and a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. He is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Before teaching at Stanford, Rorty taught at the University of the Humanities at the University of Virginia from 1982 to 1996.

He also taught at Princeton, Northeastern University in Boston, and Harvard University, where he taught from 1964 to 1969. For more information, visit http://www.wustl.edu/assembly or call 935-2105.

**Assembly Series**

- Who Richard Rorty
- Where Graham Chapel
- When 11 a.m. Wednesday, April 14
- Admission Free and open to the public
- Cost No cost
- Contact 362-8983

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**Sports Section**

Washington University's baseball team matched its season-high seven-game winning streak Tuesday, April 8, with a 1-0 home victory over St. Mary's University.

Senior third baseman Brad Basshom homered and freshman outfielder Glenn McBride scored three runs as the Bears broke the game open with a six-run sixth inning. Senior pitcher Kevin Lutz struck out six hitters in six and two-thirds innings of work to improve to 4-0.

**Men's tennis nets lone match of week**

The tennis team extended its season-best winning streak to 10 matches Tuesday, March 30, with a 5-2 victory over visiting Illinois Wesleyan University. Freshman Mike Feldman remained perfect on the season at 12-0 with a victory at No. 1 singles, and junior Arno Nanappa won at No. 1 singles for the Bears. Illinois Wesleyan entered its points with victories at Nos. 2 and No. 3 singles. The victory was important for the Bears, as Wesleyan is ranked ninth in the Midwest Region by the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA). The Bears are 11th in the Midwest.

Junior outfielder Mark Bruggeman notched four RBIs and scored two runs in last week's game against St. Mary's University.

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Scholars
Program to expand campus diversity

From page 1

Services in America: Issues and Implications for People of Color" at 1:10 p.m. April 15 in Brown Hall Lounge.

- Fernando Torres-Gil, Ph.D., a writer and journalist in the Hispanic community and a professor in the School of Public Policy and Social Research at the University of California, Los Angeles, who will discuss "Economic Reform: Political Consequences for Graying Baby Boomers," at 7 p.m. April 22 in Brown Hall Lounge.

All three lectures are free and open to the public. Each lecture is sponsored by the Department of African and African-American Studies. The Davis and Torres-Gil lectures are part of the George Warren Brown School of Social Work's Spring Lecture Series.

In addition, Davis and Torres-Gil will conduct seminars during their visits. Davis, seminar, offered April 12-16, examines "Managed Health Care: Health and Mental

abuse programs as a commis- sioner of the Virginia Department of Mental Health. As commis- sioner, Davis was responsible for executive leadership of a statewide behavioral health care system comprised of 181 hospitals and 200 local community service agencies. He managed 17,000 employees and an annual budget of $700 million and provided services at more than 270,000 consumers. He holds a doctorate in social policy and research from Brandeis University. Based in Waltham, Mass., Torres-Gil was born and raised in Salinas, Calif., and currently chairs the Center for Policy Research on Aging at the School of Public Policy and Social Research, University of California, Los Angeles. He has held a wide range of administrative and advisory positions, including first assistant secretary for aging in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services from 1993 to 1996. He holds a doctorate in social policy, planning and research from Brandeis University. Broadly speaking, his role is that of an advocate for the Human Resources,

He has been active in a number of professional organizations during his years with the University, including the College Scholar- ship Service and The Council of Governmental Relations.

Washington University in 1963 and now serves on the board of the University community since 1993. Among other alumni activities, she has served as president of the John M. Olinn School of Business Alumni Association and is chair of the Alumni Board of Governors.

He has been active in a number of professional organizations during his years with the University, including the College Scholar- ship Service and The Council of Governmental Relations.

By 1997, the division had graduated 389 Ph.D. scientists, and completed all of their postdoctoral training. More than half had worked in academic institutions. Of the rest, 11 percent were associate or full professors. Thirty-six percent were direct school of medicine.

much of what is best about the University is that the build- ing structures and reorga- nization around scientific interests.

He managed 17,000 employees and an annual budget of $6 billion and served as chairman of the University of California, Berkeley. He also served as president of the University of California from 1991 to 1996, rising to chief executive officer of the University. After leaving the University, he served as president of the John M. Olinn Foundation, based in Waltham, Mass.

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needs of science and science. In 25 years, the organization has changed and its physical locations many times. It is, in the words of John H. Baum, "the brain child of many deans of graduate studies, "an organization focused on the most important work in the U.S. and the world.

The division contends with vast increases in the amount of information about subjects that reveal themselves to be increasingly complex. Interaction between traditional disciplines becomes more vital. "Good science gets done when different perspectives come together," Russell said.

Bringing those perspectives together seamlessly is the key to the University's ability to function. Over a century ago, educational visionary thought that the creation of a major change. "It was a very imaginative idea." Danforth said, "giving credit for the concept to F. Roy Vegelos, the former president of the Department of Biological Chemistry. There was some revulsion at the University, but the desire for undergraduate education in the biological sciences intersected with the interest in doing things better, in examining our curricula.

"At the same time, Vegelos and Max Cowan, who then headed the Department of Anatomy, realized that biological research had to be tied to the other sciences — physics and chemistry — for the future. And scientists would have to be able to follow their interests across traditional lines. We had an inadequate overview and insufficient means for how these things fit together.

With the help of Dean M. Kenyon King in the theoretical school and Dean Merle Kriss in Arthur University, the science school at the medical school and the Department of Biological Chemistry. There was some revulsion at the University, but the desire for undergraduate education in the biological sciences intersected with the interest in doing things better, in examining our curricula.

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Anne H. Cross, M.D., associate professor of neurology, has received a five-year $546,000 grant from the National Cancer Institute for a project titled "HER2/neu Overexpression and Pancreatic Cancer." Laura L. Dugan, M.D., associate professor of neurology and neurological surgery, recently was honored by the Family Support Network with a Guardian Angel Award. The mission of the network is to prevent child abuse and neglect by strengthening families through direct services, education and community-based collaboration.

Jeffrey A. Drebh, M.D., Ph.D., assistant professor of surgery, has received a five-year $546,000 grant from the National Cancer Institute for a project titled "HER2/neu Overexpression and Pancreatic Cancer." The award is presented to assistant professor of surgery, has completed a comprehensive educational program aimed at helping obstetrics and gynecology professors teach women's health more effectively. The participants were selected from a competitive group of applicants because of their demonstrated commitment to the field of women's health. The program is supported by Pharmacia Diagnostics, Inc. in Marietta, Ga.

Jeffrey D. Milbrandt, M.D., professor of pathology and of molecular biology, has received a $487,500 grant from the U.S. Army Medical Research Acquisition Activity for a project titled "Role of Signal Transduction Pathways in Prostate Carcinogenesis and Differentiation." Rebecca P. McAlester, M.D., assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology, was honored at the annual meeting of the Association of Professors of Gynecology and Obstetrics/Council on Resident Education in Gynecology and San Diego. She was one of 19 physicians who completed a comprehensive educational program aimed at helping obstetrics and gynecology professors teach women's health more effectively. The participants were selected from a competitive group of applicants because of their demonstrated commitment to the field of women’s health. The program is supported by Pharmacia Diagnostics, Inc. in Marietta, Ga.

Robert St. Thomas, professor of psychiatry and of pediatrics, and of public health, has received a three-year $558,854 grant from the National Institute on Drug Abuse. The mission of the network is to strengthen families through direct services, education and community-based collaboration.

Speaking of

William R. Kohn, professor emeritus of art, presented his multimedia work titled "Machu Picchu/Sacred Light" at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the Electronic Art...
Man with many missions

Michael R. DeBaun, M.D., lets little stand in his way as he researches sickle cell disease and other threats to children

by Dianne Willis Washington

Man with many missions

Michael R. DeBaun, M.D., assistant professor of pediatrics, has many missions. And when he decides to accomplish something, he lets very little stand in his way.

"He's like the Energizer bunny," said Martha Nelson, a pediatric nurse practitioner who works with DeBaun. "He's charged up all the time. His favorite saying is, 'Let's just do it.'"

Colleagues describe DeBaun as hardworking, determined, dynamic and inquisitive. They say these qualities, combined with his expertise, have led to his many successes — igniting the clinical research program in pediatric hematology/oncology, building a program for children with sickle cell disease and successfully directing the BIC Pediatric Hospice Program.

"He has expertise in epidemiology and clinical trial design, and he is extremely aggressive in the way he expresses his opinions," said David R. Wilson, M.D., Ph.D., associate professor of pediatrics and director of the Division of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology.

"I never have to second-guess the data and writes up the results, and I think that's his greatest strength. He's a real workhorse, and that's important in this field," Wilson added. DeBaun and some of his colleagues in hematology/oncology have been out in front on clinical research projects nationally instead of following other universities, as in years past.

Terrific mentor

Elizabeth Baorto, M.D., a clinical fellow in infectious diseases who is working on a project with DeBaun, said he got her interested in clinical research. "He has terrific mentoring skills, and he can get you excited about anything. He sees excitement in what most people look at as ordinary.

"DeBaun's clinical research focuses on strokes in children with sickle cell disease and on cancer predisposition syndromes in children.

Sickle cell disease is an inherited blood disorder that affects about one in 375 African-American infants. Children with sickle cell are more prone than healthy children to have strokes. About a fifth of them have a stroke before they are 12 years old, and two-thirds will have a silent stroke, which often goes unrecognized because the child acts normally. The telltale sign, however, is falling behind with schoolwork.

DeBaun is trying to understand how best to identify children who have had silent strokes, the risk factors for strokes and the best way to help these children catch up at school.

"We've had preliminary data to strongly suggest that children with silent strokes can receive educational rehabilitation specific for the type of lesions the stroke caused, and it's exciting," DeBaun said.

Historically, sickle cell disease hasn't gotten as much publicity and funding as other board of the Sickle Cell Disease and AIDS Network.

In another area of his research, DeBaun studies Beckwith Wiedemann syndrome (BWS), a rare congenital disorder affecting 1 in 350 newborns a year in the United States. Children with BWS often have a number of clinical features, some of which include large size at birth, a large tongue and large kidneys.

"Most importantly, children with BWS are at increased risk for cancer. In 1993, while at the National Cancer Institute (NCI), DeBaun established an international registry for BWS, and he is currently studying the syndrome's genetic epidemiology, as well as several other childhood cancer predisposition syndromes.

"This is a fascinating area of investigation," he said, "because we are combining two areas of investigation, classic epidemiology and molecular biology, for a better understanding of cancer in these unique groups of children.

DeBaun grew up in University City, the son of a McDonald Douglas employee and an elementary school teacher at the Montessori Euclid School. His aunt and uncle, also educators, lived down the street, and his grandparents were less than 20 miles away.

"We were urban Waltons. Formally, it was an extended family, but informally, it was one big family. I have a number of malasances," DeBaun said.

"This initiative represents a commitment of the leadership of St. Louis Children's Hospital and the Department of Pediatrics, demonstrating that sickle cell disease is an important entity and that care for these children will be second to none," said DeBaun, who recently was elected to the American Society of Hematology's Board of Directors.

He then decided to pursue a master's in public health from the Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health, receiving the degree in 1993. He also conducted three years of research at the National Institutes of Health.

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"He's an unusual mix of director and epidemiologist, which makes him especially qualified to direct interventional studies. He does those studies very well," she said, adding that his patients also adore him.

DeBaun was recruited to the School of Medicine in 1995 as an assistant professor of pediatrics after the Robert Wood Johnson Minority Faculty Development Award.

"Very talented"

"Dr. DeBaun is a very talented person with a rich heritage," said Alan L. Schwartz, M.D., Ph.D., the Janet B. Spooler Professor and head of the Department of Pediatrics.

"His family has been in St. Louis for generations. He is a deeply committed physician — one who cares about people and strives to better their circumstances."

DeBaun and his wife, Sandra, have three children, Ryan, 11, Malcolm, 9, and Morgan, 7. Sandra, DeBaun said, has been the cornerstone of the family and has made a choice to forego her career as a teacher to balance the family's life.

"On a personal level," DeBaun said, "our life is circled around our children." DeBaun plays soccer with Malcolm and Morgan and takes Rachel to the symphony. He also likes to read biographies.

In 1997, DeBaun became medical director of the BIC Pediatric Hospice Program, a service in which he strongly believes. In this role, he coordinates the care of children who have terminal illnesses. He visits patients at home and helps other families come together during these very difficult times.

Wilson sings the praises of DeBaun in this volunteer position.

"He's done a very fine job of being a very difficult group of patients," he said. "He keeps us at bay, and he is always ready to take phone calls from the hospice nursing staff. And as you can imagine, there's always a number of very sick kids."

Caring for patients is one of the most satisfying parts of DeBaun's job. "What I like most about patient care is the times of joy," DeBaun said. "It's not just the sad times, it's the good times, too. You're not just taking care of the child — you're caring for the whole family."