Scientific firsts at Tulane

Dr. James E. Banta: first to cultivate dengue virus in tissue culture and to demonstrate cytopathogenic effect.

*Dr. Charles C. Bass and Foster M. Johns: first to cultivate the plasmodium of malarial fever; first to describe effective oral hygiene.

Dr. Hal C. Becker: developed system for computer retrieval of radiographic images.

Dr. George E. Burch: a number of cardiovascular firsts, including the effects of such environmental factors as climate on heart function and the identification of a distinctive heart murmur.

*Dr. Stanford Chaille: instrumental in the establishment of the National Board of Health, forerunner of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

*Dr. Harold Cummins: first to make a scientific study of palm patterns.

Dr. Nicholas R. Di Luzio: first to use glucan, a yeast derivative, to stimulate macrophages to mobilize and destroy certain tumors.

*Dr. Isadore Dyer: specialist on leprosy and instrumental in founding the U.S. Public Health Service Hospital at Carville, La.

Dr. Ronald J. French: first to use a carbon dioxide laser for tonsillectomies.

*Dr. Grace A. Goldsmith: first to determine human niacin requirement.

Dr. Robert G. Heath: first to delineate a neurophysiological basis for pleasure in the human brain in schizophrenia and to postulate schizophrenia as an autoimmune disorder.

*Dr. Joseph Jones: first to determine human body heat requirement.

*Dr. Hal C. Keempetz, Robert Ryan and Oscar Creech: first to develop regional perfusion for treatment of cancer.

*Dr. Charles Aloysius Luzenberg: first removed gangrenous bowel in hernia and sutured the ends successfully (on original Tulane faculty).

*Dr. Rudolph Matas: more than 20 surgical firsts, including methods of blocking nerves in regional anesthesia and the “Matas operation” for radical cure of aneurism.

Dr. James A. Miller: first to demonstrate that hypothermia protects newborns from death and brain damage during asphyxia.

Dr. William J. Mogabgab: first to describe behavior, properties and characteristics of influenza viruses in tissue culture and to discover first common cold virus.

Dr. Alton Ochsner Sr.: first to link smoking with lung cancer.

Dr. Keith Reemstma: first to transplant a primate kidney to a human being.

*Dr. Tobias G. Richardson: first to amputate both legs at the hip joint with the patient making a complete recovery.

*Dr. John L. Riddell: invented the binocular microscope.

Dr. Andrew V. Schally: Nobel Laureate of 1977; first to determine structure of certain key hormones of the hypothalamus (thyrotropin-releasing hormone, luteinizing hormone-releasing hormone, and follicle-stimulating hormone).

Dr. Margaret H. D. Smith: first to apply triple chemotherapy to acute bacterial meningitis.

*Dr. Warren Stone: first to apply wire ligature to a human artery for aneurism.

*Deceased