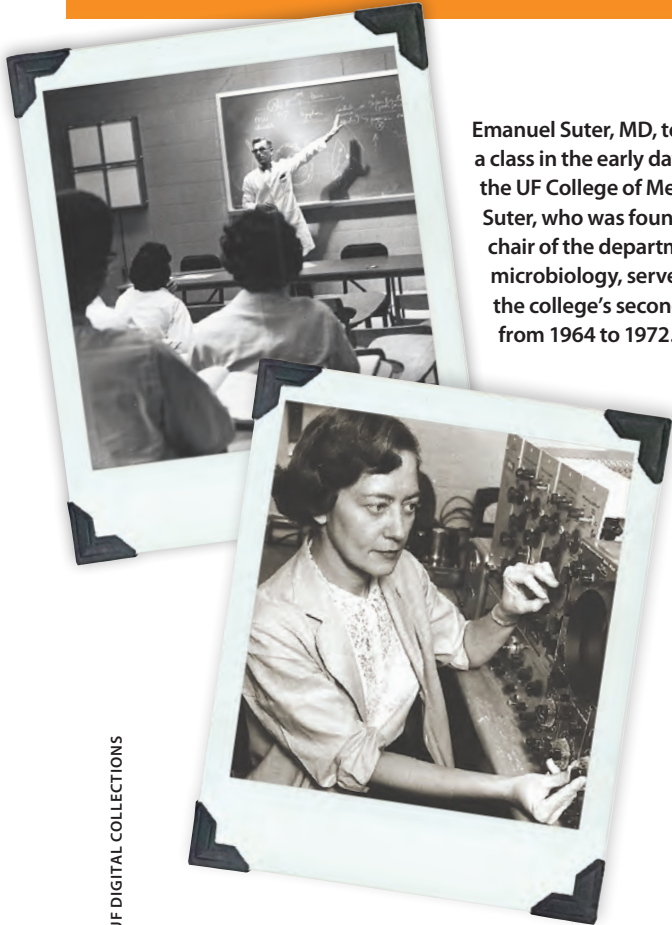


DOCTOR  
GATOR  
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE ALUMNI NEWS

UF  
UNIVERSITY of  
FLORIDA  
  
SUMMER 2016



Emanuel Suter, MD, teaches a class in the early days of the UF College of Medicine. Suter, who was founding chair of the department of microbiology, served as the college's second dean from 1964 to 1972.

Lucy Birzis, PhD, conducts research in a lab in the 1950s. Birzis was a member of the UF College of Medicine department of pharmacology and a pioneer in microelectrode studies of brain function. She was one of the first researchers to produce “unit measures” of hypothalamic control of shivering to localize brain function.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF UF DIGITAL COLLECTIONS

# Celebrating 60 years

BY ALEXIS HARWOOD

For 60 years, thousands of students have charted their path to success at the UF College of Medicine — Florida’s first public medical school. Founded in 1956, the college has a storied tradition of pushing scientific boundaries, educating future medical leaders and providing compassionate, world-class care to patients.

The UF College of Medicine is celebrating its 60th anniversary throughout 2016, honoring generations of graduates and faculty who have profoundly impacted the medical profession through discovery and patient care. The milestone anniversary will culminate in September with a series of events and activities. On Sept. 8, the day marking the closest historical approximation to the first day of class in 1956, the college will host three distinguished deans from medical colleges around the country for a special Deans’ Panel discussion at the George T. Harrell, MD, Medical Education Building at noon. Visiting deans include Dr. E. Albert Reece of the University of Maryland School of Medicine, Dr. Joseph Kerschner of the Medical

College of Wisconsin and Dr. Toni Ganzel of the University of Louisville. Prior to the panel discussion, each visiting dean will offer grand rounds-style lectures or informal leadership conversations with faculty. The celebration will continue that evening with an Anniversary Gala commemorating the UF College of Medicine’s first 60 years. The following day, the UF College of Medicine and the UF College of Nursing, also celebrating its 60th anniversary, will host a UF Health-wide barbecue lunch in the outdoor plaza just south of the Harrell Medical Education Building and the Health Professions/Nursing/Pharmacy Complex.

“The UF College of Medicine takes great pride in its rich history and vast contributions to the science of medicine and the art of medical education,” said UF College of Medicine Dean Michael L. Good, MD. “This anniversary allows us to reminisce about the past while looking forward to the role the UF College of Medicine will continue to play in the future of our students, the accomplishments of our faculty and the lives of the patients we serve.”



Scholarship spotlight: Fran Herrbold, MD '98 | 2  
Family of alumnae practice side-by-side | 4  
Dr. Steven Dekosky gets Hollywood treatment | 6  
Former chief resident ranks high in public health | 7

IN THIS ISSUE:

# NEWS CLIPS

## AMA PRESIDENT VISITS UF

Steven Stack, MD, the 2015-2016 president of the American Medical Association, visited UF Health Jan. 21-22 to meet with UF College of Medicine leadership and participate in the department of emergency medicine’s grand rounds, during which he discussed health care reform, the evolution of the field of emergency medicine, the Affordable Care Act and graduate medical education. Stack, the first emergency medicine physician to serve as AMA president, also highlighted how the AMA can help support physician professionalism and leadership.

Stack’s visit included a meeting with the Alachua County Medical Society, a tour of the George T. Harrell, MD, Medical Education Building and lunch with UF College of Medicine students and UF Health residents. ■

## UROLOGY DEPARTMENT NAMES NEW CHAIR

The UF College of Medicine has appointed Li-Ming Su, MD, chair of the department of urology and the David A. Cofrin professor of urology.

Su, who was recruited to UF Health in 2008 and began his new role in March, is an internationally recognized leader in minimally invasive urologic surgery. He previously served as the associate chair of clinical affairs and chief of the division of robotic and minimally invasive urologic surgery. ■

## THEIR FUTURE YOUR LEGACY

## Francis Herrbold, MD '98

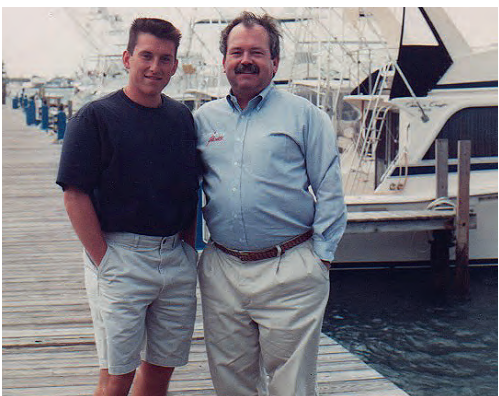
BY MEGAN D. KIMMEL

When Francis "Fran" Herrbold, MD '98, was in his second year of medical school in 1996, his father, Mark, passed away suddenly at the age of 48. The impact of losing his father nearly caused Herrbold to leave medical school. With friends and family supporting and rallying around him, he not only continued his medical education but also was compelled to give back to other students in need.

As a medical student, Herrbold honored his father by establishing a scholarship that helped other students who faced adversity and hardship by providing financial assistance for their expenses.

"My father believed in perseverance, and he did not give up in the face of adversity," said Herrbold, a thoracic and cardiovascular surgeon from Leesburg, Georgia.

As March 1 marked the 20th anniversary of his



Fran Herrbold, MD, with his father, Mark Herrbold

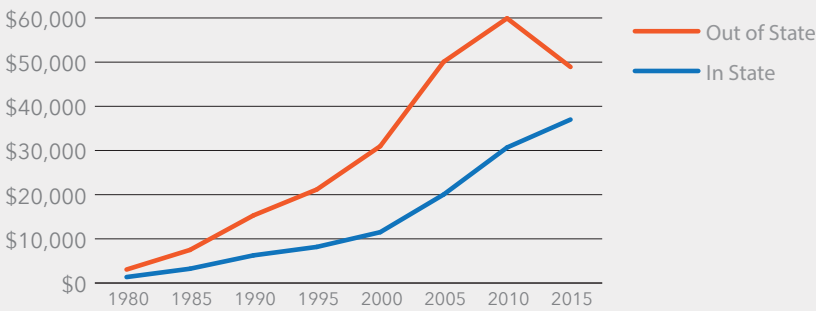
father’s passing, Herrbold again honored him — this time with a \$100,000 commitment for the Mark W. Herrbold Memorial Scholarship Endowment. The scholarship will be awarded to a student who has overcome significant adversity before applying to medical school and will support the student for the duration of his or her medical school career. By establishing this scholarship as an endowment, it will support students in perpetuity, ensuring Mark W. Herrbold’s legacy at UF will live on forever.

"I believe UF graduates have an obligation to support the College of Medicine and its students," Herrbold said. "Without the college and the commitment of its faculty, I would not be as successful as I am. I always felt supported by the alumni when I was a student, and I knew that once I had the opportunity, I would give back."

“I always felt supported by the alumni when I was a student, and I knew that once I had the opportunity, I would give back.”

— Francis Herrbold, MD '98

AVERAGE TUITION/FEES



Scholarship support for students at the UF College of Medicine is more important now than it has ever been in the history of the college.

Medical school tuition has risen dramatically in response to increased demand for a more patient-centered, comprehensive curriculum and technology-rich learning environment.

Please join us today and help UF remain a leading institution for cultivating tomorrow’s medical leaders.

To learn more, please contact the Office of Development and Alumni Affairs at 352-273-7986 or [drgator@health.ufl.edu](mailto:drgator@health.ufl.edu) or visit us online at [www.scholarships.med.ufl.edu](http://www.scholarships.med.ufl.edu).

# UF NEUROSURGERY BECOMES COLLEGE'S FIRST NAMED DEPARTMENT

The department of neurosurgery became the first named department in the UF College of Medicine's 60-year history when it was officially named the Lillian S. Wells department of neurosurgery in January in honor of significant philanthropic support from the Lillian S. Wells Foundation Inc.

The Fort Lauderdale-based foundation's most recent contribution was initiated in January 2011, establishing the Lillian S. Wells Fund for Brain Tumor Research to help medical scientists better understand the causes of brain tumors and lead to effective treatments and improved quality of life for patients.

The relationship between UF's neurosurgery department and the Wells Foundation dates back 30 years, beginning with funding for specialized surgical equipment and the Edward Shedd term professorship in stereotactic and functional neurosurgery. In 2006, an endowment from the foundation created the Preston A. Wells Jr. Center for Brain Tumor Therapy, which has grown to be one of the nation's leading comprehensive brain tumor programs. ■



PHOTO BY JESSE S. JONES

From left, Dr. Michael L. Good, dean of the UF College of Medicine, and Dr. William Friedman, chair of the Lillian S. Wells department of neurosurgery, are joined by Barbara Wells, James Ulmer and Walter Bell, trustees of the Lillian S. Wells Foundation, and Dr. Duane Mitchell, co-director of the Preston A. Wells Jr. Center for Brain Tumor Therapy.

CELEBRATING

25

YEARS OF  
WALL OF  
FAME  
HONOREES

This fall marks the 25th anniversary of the UF College of Medicine Wall of Fame Award and Recognition program. The college has recognized 29 outstanding alumni whose contributions to medicine, government, education and the community have left a lasting impact.

### To nominate an individual:

- ▶ Individual honored must be a graduate of the UF College of Medicine.
- ▶ Individual must have made significant contributions in one or more of the following areas: medicine, government, education or the community.
- ▶ Nominations may be made by any alumnus, housestaff alumnus, faculty or student.
- ▶ Visit [drgator.ufl.edu/awards](http://drgator.ufl.edu/awards) to submit an online application, or contact the UF College of Medicine Office of Development & Alumni Affairs at 352-273-7986.

Awardees are honored during Alumni Weekend, and their photo and profile will be added to a permanent display of Wall of Fame honorees.



### ALUMNUS FROM FIRST CLASS TURNS 90:

Charles Ozaki, MD '60, turned 90 on March 6 with a Gator surprise from the UF College of Medicine. Ozaki is the oldest living alumnus of the College of Medicine and a member of the medical school's first graduating class. He earned his bachelor's degree in agricultural and life sciences from UF in 1949 and went on to The Ohio State University, where he received his doctorate. After learning UF was opening a medical school, Ozaki returned to Florida to join UF's first medical school class. Ozaki is also the first Japanese-American graduate of the college. A pediatrician in the Lake City area for many years, he is now retired and resides in Jacksonville. Happy Birthday, Dr. Ozaki!

Drs. Dennis and Barbara Williams, graduates of the class of 1975.

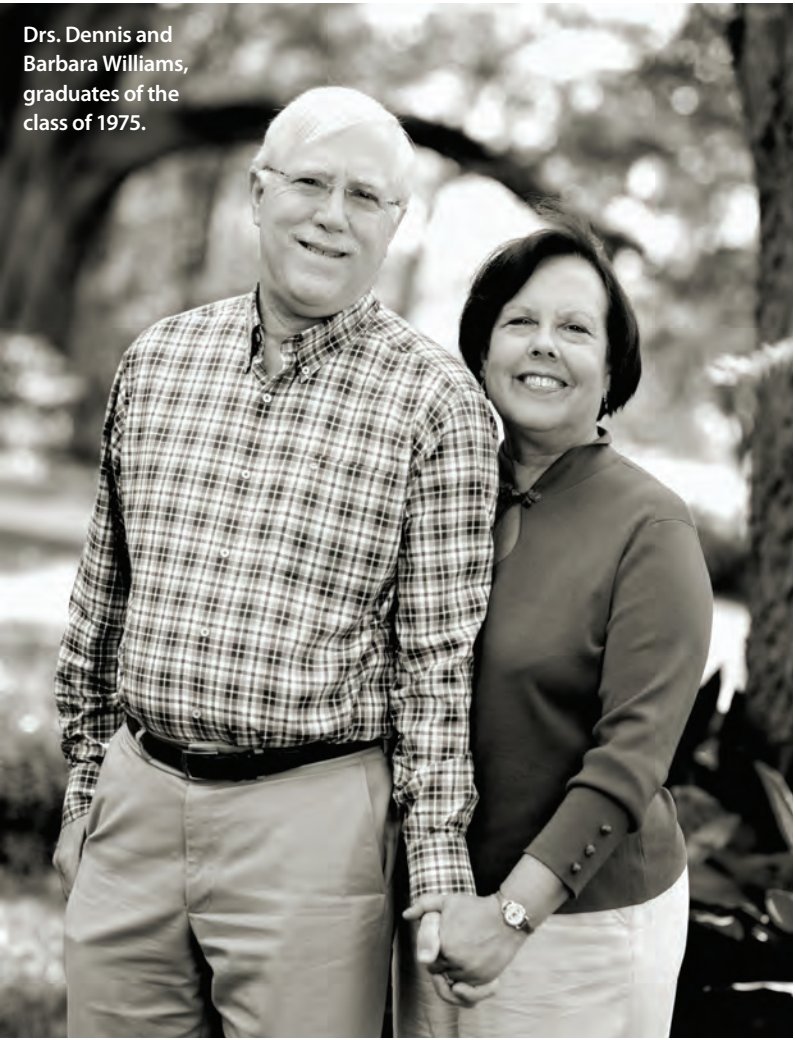


PHOTO BY MINDY C. MILLER



## MAXIMIZING OPPORTUNITY

Can your family benefit from a planned gift to the UF College of Medicine? Ask Drs. Dennis and Barbara Williams, both graduates of the class of 1975. Working with a planned giving officer at the UF Foundation, the Williamses set up a charitable remainder unitrust, or CRUT, that will support scholarships for UF medical students as well as provide the couple with an income source for the next 20 years.

The estate gift not only offers tax advantages and a safe and favorable return on investment for Dennis and Barbara, it provides a brighter future for UF medical students.

The Office of Gift Planning at the University of Florida is committed to helping you accomplish your goals through your estate plan, providing for you and your family members, while contributing generously to the future of UF and its students.

CONTACT OUR OFFICE TODAY TO LEARN HOW GIFT PLANNING CAN BENEFIT YOU.

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352-273-7986



PHOTO BY YAMILA LOMBA

From left, Flor Mayoral, MD, Adriane Pompa, MD, and Janelle Vega, MD, at their Coral Gables, Florida, dermatology practice.

# A family practice

Caring for patients' health and boosting confidence

BY MEGAN D. KIMMEL

Janelle Vega, MD '06, and Adriane Pompa, MD '10, have vivid memories of laughter and joy-filled halls at the Mayoral Dermatology practice in Coral Gables, Florida. They often visited their mother, Flor Mayoral, MD '81, at her clinic as small children and recall her pleasure in treating patients. Now, the mother and daughters work together each day — side-by-side.

"I remember working in her office at a very young age and her always laughing and having a good time. I just knew she really loved it," Vega said. "I thought, 'That's what your job should be, and I can't wait to enjoy my career as much as she does.'"

Their clinic is unlike many others — three women from one family in practice together. Born into a large family of bakers in Artemisa, Cuba, Mayoral immigrated to Miami in 1967. At first a music major in college, she began taking science classes and found her calling, graduating with a bachelor's degree from UF and continuing at the UF College of Medicine.

Mayoral said that while the department of dermatology did not exist in the late 1970s, she became interested in the specialty when she witnessed a voluntary faculty member, Richard Childers, MD, accurately diagnose disseminated gonococcemia in a patient with a small rash. That he could make the diagnosis based on a skin rash was exciting to her, and from that day forward Mayoral knew she would be a dermatologist. The Mayoral Dermatology clinic opened a few years later in 1986.

Mayoral's daughters were destined for careers in medicine, but it wasn't until after a few years of medical school and their dermatology rotations that it became clear

all three could one day work together.

"I was extremely proud, and my first thought was that I needed to move into a larger office," Mayoral said.

According to Vega, patients at Mayoral Dermatology readily accepted both daughters into the practice because of their mother's reputation. She has been a trusted and faithful physician in the Miami area for over 30 years and has helped many patients through cancer diagnoses and skin treatments using leading-edge advancements. Mayoral takes pride in helping to increase her patients' self-confidence and reduce social anxiety through dermatologic medicine.

"I think a person's self-esteem and the impact that conditions like psoriasis or acne can have on someone's life are underrated. Life is about your perception of who and what you are. Skin problems affect people greatly, and sometimes the simplest of treatments will make a huge difference," Mayoral said.

Mayoral, Vega and Pompa extend their expertise and passion beyond the clinic. Mayoral is an accomplished photographer who finds beauty through the lens of a camera, showing her work internationally. Pompa recently started a dermatology clinic in Haiti for wound care and hopes to establish it as a self-sustaining practice in the near future. Vega travels on medical mission trips, which she credits to her global health experiences at UF.

"I am proud of who my children have become, who they are and how passionate they are about the profession. For them, the most important thing is the welfare of their patients: do no harm," Mayoral said.

*Catch up with your colleagues Drs. Mayoral and Vega at this year's Alumni Weekend reunion. Mayoral will offer a grand rounds-style dermatology presentation at the UF College of Medicine the week before Alumni Weekend.*

# ONE YEAR

**Celebrating one year of innovation in education:** After a year of living and learning within the walls of the George T. Harrell, MD, Medical Education Building, we asked students, staff and faculty to reflect on what the building means to them.

*“In the southeast corner of the building, there are a bunch of study rooms; I really like those. In the old spaces, the study rooms were kind of dungeonlike. Now you can study and work in teams and then also have beautiful scenery and sunlight.”*

— Hailey Carpenter  
second-year medical student



*“The Harrell Medical Education Building is a source of pride for the College of Medicine community. It really fosters collaborative learning inside and outside of the classroom.”*

— Donna Parker, MD '90  
associate dean for diversity and health equity



*“Families are extremely impressed by the quality of the building and by what they feel when they enter the building. They see people who are enjoying life but also learning ... The building sells itself, but the community makes it an invaluable opportunity.”*

— Ambar Cano, program assistant in the UF College of Medicine Office of Admissions



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## When health and Hollywood collide

**A** Gator graduate and prominent UF College of Medicine researcher was immortalized on the silver screen for work conducted at the University of Pittsburgh when the drama sports film "Concussion" hit theaters in December.

The movie focuses on forensic pathologist Bennet Omalu, MD, played by Will Smith, who discovers that football players are at risk for serious medical conditions caused by concussions and other blows to the head. Omalu joins forces with physicians at the University of Pittsburgh and later finds himself up against the National Football League, which wants to keep the findings from being published.

Actor Eddie Marsan plays Steven T. DeKosky, MD '74, who teamed with Omalu to co-author the first study linking head trauma from playing football to chronic traumatic encephalopathy. At the time, DeKosky was director of the University of Pittsburgh's Alzheimer Disease Research Center and chair of the neurology department.

DeKosky initially became intrigued with the workings of the brain after taking an undergraduate psychology course. Over the years, that curiosity propelled him to become an international leader in the field of Alzheimer's disease research. Throughout his career, he has focused his research on understanding the

neurochemistry, genetics, neuroimaging, treatment and prevention of Alzheimer's disease, as well as the long-term effects of traumatic brain injury.

Upon returning to his Gator roots in July 2015, DeKosky serves as interim director of the Evelyn F. and William L. McKnight Brain Institute of UF, associate director of the Florida Alzheimer's Disease Research Center and the Rene Aerts/Virginia J. Cosper professor of Alzheimer's research.

He has received a number of honors for his work, including the Ronald Reagan Research Institute Award and the UF College of Medicine Alumni Wall of Fame Award.



Steven T. DeKosky, MD '74

# An admiral to admire

BY STYLIANA RESVANIS

RICHARD CHILDS, MD, A FORMER CHIEF RESIDENT IN INTERNAL MEDICINE AT UF HEALTH SHANDS HOSPITAL, PURSUES A PATH OF SCIENCE AND SERVICE THROUGH THE NIH AND THE COMMISSIONED CORPS OF THE U.S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE.



Richard W. Childs, MD, HS '95

Assistant U.S. Surgeon General Richard W. Childs, MD, HS '95, came to UF in 1991 armed with a medical degree from Georgetown University and a desire to become an outstanding clinician. But thanks to his experiences as an intern and chief resident in internal medicine at the UF College of Medicine — and his encounters with a pair of professors — he also left with a passion for medical research.

Fast-forward to today, and Childs has spent more than 20 years advancing public health through research that focuses on allogeneic stem cell transplantation and tumor immunology. As clinical director with the National Institutes of Health's National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute — which stimulates research, training and education around heart, lung and blood diseases and cancers — he oversees all clinical research activities within the Division of Intramural Research.

"My goal is to make a tangible impact in the field of medicine that's going to translate into new therapeutics," Childs said.

While completing his residency at UF in the early 1990s, Richard Lottenberg, MD '75, an internist and hematologist at UF Health, steered Childs toward bench-to-bedside

*"My goal is to make a tangible impact in the field of medicine that's going to translate into new therapeutics."*

— Richard W. Childs, MD, HS '95

research and encouraged him to consider a career at the NIH. Once Childs scored an interview for a medical oncology fellowship at the National Cancer Institute, he returned to Gainesville to contemplate his decision — with a little help from Craig Kitchens, MD '70, a UF hematology researcher and professor emeritus of medicine.

"I said, 'I'm thinking about the NHLBI/NCI's fellowship program and potentially a career at the NIH as a physician-scientist' and Craig said, 'There's nothing to think about,'" he recalled.

In September, Childs was appointed as an assistant U.S. surgeon general and promoted to a Rear Admiral in the Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service, one of the seven uniformed services in the U.S. government. The Commissioned Corps comprises more than 6,500 public health professionals from federal agencies who are charged with protecting, promoting and advancing the public health and safety of the nation.

Childs' appointment came on the heels of a three-month deployment to Liberia during the U.S. Ebola crisis response, where he served as chief medical officer of a 74-member team at the Monrovia Medical Unit. At the MMU, he and his fellow officers cared for Ebola patients, the majority of whom were critically ill.



PHOTO BY MINDY C. MILLER

**2/22** **IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF HUMAN LIFE:** Hundreds of UF College of Medicine students, postdocs and faculty presented the latest in medical research and mingled at the Stephen C. O'Connell Center during the evening of Feb. 22. The College of Medicine's Office of Research Affairs' annual Celebration of Research took place on the lower level of the O'Connell Center — covering what is usually the Gators basketball court. Attendees perused row upon row of more than 460 posters addressing topics from gene therapy to Parkinson's disease to biofilms in orthopaedics. "The annual Celebration of Research reminds us that it is through discovery that we improve the quality of human life and, in doing so, advance the College of Medicine and the University of Florida," said Michael L. Good, MD, dean of the UF College of Medicine.



60

YEARS

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1956 | 2016

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OCTOBER 14-15, 2016

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