

July 24, 1992

SUMMER SCIENCE INTERNS GET TASTE OF REAL RESEARCH

DALLAS -- West Mesquite High School senior Anita Cabral is spending her summer working in a research laboratory at The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas. She was selected from numerous applicants to participate in the National Institutes of Health Summer Research Program for Minority High School Students.

Cabral, a Balch Springs resident is working with researchers who are trying to understand the mechanism of protein export from bacteria. In particular, Cabral is studying the role of a central player in this process, the **SecA** protein.

The goal of the summer intern program is to expose high-school seniors and recent graduates to real scientists and real research projects, in hope of motivating the students to pursue careers in science.

"This program provides the opportunity for minority students to learn what it's like to work in a research lab," said Dr. Joel Goodman, associate professor of pharmacology and program sponsor at UT Southwestern. "It gives them an understanding of the lifestyle and commitment level of a scientist."

Goodman started the program at UT Southwestern in 1983 with three students. Ten students are participating this summer.

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NOTE: The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas comprises Southwestern Medical School, Southwestern Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, Southwestern Allied Health Sciences School, affiliated teaching hospitals and outpatient clinics.