



**DOCTOR AND NURSE**—At first glance, maybe not, but RN "Bernie" Stewart discusses patient treatment with Dr. Jon Moran, emergency room resident, just as his female counterparts do... and loves it.

## Safety Contest Gives Gobblers

At the end of the Safety Office's month-long contest for employees in environmental services and dietetics, one lucky member from each department will get a free 20-pound turkey to take home for the holidays.

The contest, which is designed to promote safety awareness in all employees, is being sponsored by the hospital in an effort to curb the 13-20 accidents per month in the environmental services and dietetics departments.

Beginning at midnight, Nov. 1, and lasting until midnight, Nov. 30, all employees of the two departments who have not had a job-related injury during the month will be eligible for the drawing for the holiday birds on Dec. 6.

Employees must be employed in one of the departments for the entire duration of the contest. Persons employed after midnight, Nov. 1 will not be eligible. All entries will be

subject to verification by the medical center's safety office.

To encourage safety awareness, the safety office reminds all employees to stay alert and try to prevent injuries. The office issued these safety guidelines for employees:

**1 — Be aware of conditions in your department which may cause an accident.**

**2 — Report defective equipment to your supervisors.**

**3 — Wear protective clothing when needed.**

**4 — Use safety equipment and tools when needed.**

**5 — Never take chances.**

**6 — Never indulge in horseplay.**

Any unsafe act or condition observed by employees should be reported to the Medical Center Safety Office at Box 3901 or ext. 5697.

## Duke-VA Team Makes Color Tapes

A Duke-VA Hospital team recently produced a videotape series of 16 30-minute lessons on "Radiographic Processing" at the Wood VA Center in Milwaukee.

The videotapes will be available for use by radiologic teaching programs throughout the nation, including the Radiologic Technology Program here.

Rehearsals for the color videotapes were held in Durham prior to the group's trip to Milwaukee. Art work and slides incorporated into the series were prepared by the Department of Audiovisual Education with the assistance of the VA Medical Illustration Service. Location motion picture footage was shot at the Wilmington, Delaware plant of the E.I. DuPont du Nemours Company.

William E. J. McKinney of DuPont accompanied the production team and is the lecturer-demonstrator of the lesson series.

Dr. Thomas T. Thompson, VA's chief of radiology and Cindi Kirby, technical director of the Radiologic Technology Program are the series producers. Audiovisual Education Director Sam Agnello directed the series.

Production assistants who traveled to the Wood center were Floyd Willard of the VA's MIS, Lee Pettiford and John Crutchfield, Willard, as well as Mark Howze shot the film footage at the center.

Audiovisual resources were provided by AE's Wayne Williams and Don Powell of the VA MIS. Penny Pleasants, audiovisual education artist-illustrator, produced many of the art pieces used.

# Man Among Women:

(Continued from page 1)

RNs hate to ask me for anything and my head nurse and supervisor look out for me. They would be quicker to report any discrimination than I would."

Far from discriminating, Stewart's supervisors recently sent him to attend Inservice Education's Preceptors Course, a two-day teaching experience which helps RNs train new personnel as well as to help in the leadership of staff nurses. Stewart, also the first male to take the course, was enrolled to help in training other male nurses and patient care assistants.

His professional success with the medical staff isn't much more encouraging. "With the doctors," he said, "I'm the last person they look for when they're looking for a nurse and the first person they look for when they want a bedpan."

Pointing out the resident and intern fun-over in the emergency room is high, Stewart recalled one episode with a resident new to the area. "He had a patient with a cardiac arrest and he kept looking around for a nurse. Even though I was standing right there, he started shouting that he couldn't find one. He thought I was an orderly or something."

"Finally, another resident who knew me arrived and was told about the problem. So, he just looked at me and asked me to put an IV in the patient. The new resident was stunned and later took me into a corner and apologized."

The fact that he is male, he admits, comes in handy at times, too. "The doctors don't give me a lot of grief like they do some of the female nurses," Stewart noted. "I guess it's because I'm male and have an authoritative voice."

"We (men in nursing) are in the smallest sub-professional occupation in the U.S. for men," Stewart stated.

Perhaps, because of that distinction, Stewart questions the salaries nurses receive, especially considering that he is a man and the sole provider for his family. "It's not too good," he said, noting that a need for more money would be the only reason he would leave the profession. "I might go back to school and become an anesthesia nurse," he added.

"As time goes on, I think nursing will go more toward technicians in the specialty areas such as intensive care," he mused.

On his own, "Bernie" Stewart is trying to help. He is concerned about the growing need for male nurses and about some of the problems males in the profession have to cope with. One of his problems is his need to work a permanent day shift.

"I told them when I came down here that I couldn't work nights because my wife's afraid to stay home alone at night. If I did, she would just come and stay with me," he stressed with a smile.

"I've gotten involved and written for information from the Male Nursing Association headquartered in Pennsylvania. I'm trying to help in the recruitment all I can," he said.

The recruitment efforts must be working. According to Stewart, the medical center had only four or five male nurses 18 months ago. Now there are 14. And, just a week or so ago, the emergency room added a second male RN to its 21-member nursing staff.

As far as "Bernie" Stewart is concerned, "Duke's gone long enough without them."

## ..... Trading Post .....

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**WORKING**—This elderly gentleman, an employee of Goodwill Industries on West Main Street, is a deaf mute. He was so caught up in the work he was doing mending shoes, he didn't notice that his photograph was being taken. Contributions to the United Fund go toward helping people like him learn skills and find jobs, as well as providing support to a number of other worthwhile community projects. (Photo by David Williamson)

## Intercom

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