



September 9-16, 1977

We would like to list lectures, symposia and other activities at the medical center in the Intercom Calendar. Notices can be accepted for the calendar no later than one week prior to publication. Notices may be sent to Box 3354, Hospital. If last minute scheduling makes it impossible to send a written notice in time, please call 684-4148.

#### Friday, September 9

12:30 p.m. Biochemistry Seminar. Dr. Jim Rothman, Dept. of Biology, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, will speak on "Mechanisms of Membrane Assembly," Rm 147, Nanaline H. Duke Bldg. Coffee at 12:15 p.m. in lobby.

1 p.m. Network for Continuing Medical Education (NCME). Program on "Clinical Immunology Update: The Mechanisms of Immune Competence, Immune Deficiency Disorders and Autoimmune Diseases." View in Rms M-405, M-410, 2031 and Medical Student Lounge (Channel 7 or 9) at Duke and Rms A3002 (by appointment only), C9013, D3008, CCU and classrooms and media learning lab of Allied Health Bldg at VA Hospital.

#### Monday, September 12

12:30 p.m. Biochemistry Seminar. Dr. Klaus Geider, Max-Planck-Institut für Medizinische Forschung, West Germany, will speak on "Effects of DNA Binding Proteins on Replication of Phage fd DNA *in Vitro*," Rm 147, Nanaline D. Duke Bldg. Coffee at 12:15 p.m. in the lobby.

#### Tuesday, September 13

8:30 a.m. Nursing Inservice Education Preceptor Workshop. For information call 684-4293.

#### Wednesday, September 14

8 a.m. Angus M. McBryde Perinatal Symposium, Page Aud. Continues through Friday.

9:45 a.m. United Fund Kick-Off Breakfast, Courtyard Dining Rm.

1 p.m. NCME. See Fri., Sept. 9. for program listing and viewing areas.

7:30 p.m. Make Today Count for cancer patients, family members and concerned others. For information call Bev Rosen, 684-5201.

#### Thursday, September 15

1:30 a.m. Night Shift Blood Pressure Clinic, until 3 a.m., Courtyard Dining Rm. Coffee and doughnuts served.

## Occupational Risk Reducible

(Continued from page 1)

National studies have shown gamma globulin treatment to be effective in preventing it, Hamilton added.

#### Don't Wait

"I'd like to stress that no one who may have been exposed should put off going to Employee Health," he said. "While the chance of contracting hepatitis B from such an exposure is only about 20-25 per cent without treatment, it is not like catching a cold.

"It is much more serious than that, and gamma globulin treatment can substantially reduce the risk."

A vaccine now being developed may eventually be used to immunize health care personnel who might be exposed to the disease, but its licensing by the Federal Drug Administration is still years away.

Hamilton also pointed out that physicians often tend to be more concerned about the health of their patients than with their own health. With regard to hepatitis B, such an attitude is "short-sighted," he said, because as a group, physicians have the highest risk of contracting it.

Technicians handling patient specimens in outlying research laboratories also should be aware of the potential hazard and follow the same procedure as everyone else if they think they may have been exposed, Osterhout added.

#### Follow Precautions

The best way to avoid hepatitis B is by following simple and long-established precautions. Hamilton said they include:

—using great caution in disposing used needles in the proper receptacles located in each patient care area. Environmental service

workers are sometimes stuck by needles thrown carelessly in the trash.

—paying attention to signs on patient doors and to patient name bands. Yellow name bands and the sign "Blood Precautions" indicate that a patient is capable of transmitting hepatitis.

—being careful when transporting specimens, especially blood products, but also sputum, stools and any others.

—avoiding the use of mouth pipettes during blood work.

—and again, reporting to the Employee Health substation when there has been a breach in technique and a possible exposure.

## Friendly Reminder:



Don't forget. The deadline for Intercom's vacation contest is Monday, Sept. 12.

If something unusual happened to you on your vacation, you could win Kodak's newest instant picture camera, the E'6. Second prize is a portable cassette tape recorder and third prize is a car emergency kit.

You may use this entry form or drop a note to Intercom, Box 3354, or Room 219, Bell Building.

Office of Public Relations  
P. O. Box 3354  
Duke University Medical Center  
Durham, North Carolina 27710



**BEGINNING OF THE END**—Bruce Wright recreates the point at which it became apparent that Duke's computer chess program would defeat the Soviet Union's. The Russians conceded the game, something Wright says is seldom done in computer chess. The outcome of the game might be reversed if a computer malfunctions or hits a programming error, he said. (Photo by Ina Fried)

## Russians Bow to Duchess

Bruce Wright, senior computer programmer with the cardiovascular computer laboratory in the medical center, has helped to beat the Russians.

He is a member of the Duke chess team whose computer program, Duchess, defeated Kassai, the Soviet Union's defending international champion, in the International Computer Chess Tournament in Toronto, Canada, in August.

Northwestern University won the tournament, however, with a 4-0 record. Duchess and Kassai tied for second with 3-1 records.

This was the first time Duke had entered a program in international competition but the team previously placed fifth in the national tournament, earning the right to perform at Toronto.

The team that wrote Duchess started developing computer chess programs seven years ago. Working with Wright were Eric Jensen, a former Duke undergraduate now a programmer for a computer firm in New Jersey, and Tom Truscott, a graduate student in computer

science.

Advisers were Alan Biermann, assistant professor of computer science, and Dr. Dietolf Ramm, associate medical research professor in the Center for the Study of Aging and Human Development and assistant professor of computer science.

Wright said he had played chess for a number of years and that he became interested in computer chess while taking an undergraduate course in computer science here.

After each tournament, he said, program modifications are made to give the program more game possibilities to consider more quickly.

The program was developed using a computer at the Triangle Universities Computation Center in Research Triangle Park. During the tournament in Toronto, the team was linked to the computer by telephone lines.

Wright worked part-time in the medical center while a student at Duke and has worked full-time here for about two years.

THE MOST UNUSUAL THING THAT HAPPENED  
TO ME ON MY VACATION

ENTRY FORM

Name

Job position

Office address

Phone Number

What happened

(Attach additional sheet if you need more space.)