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Voice usually cares for eyes

By John Becton

During the week, he's a mild-mannered ophthalmologist. But on Saturday afternoon, he ducks into a booth at Wallace Wade Stadium and becomes "the voice of the Blue Devils."

It is from that booth that you hear Dr. Arthur C. Chandler Jr. announcing starting line-ups, names of tackler and tacklee, etc.

And when football season ends, Chandler is just getting warmed up, because then it's on to Cameron Indoor Stadium where he handles the public address system during basketball games.

Where it began

The foundation for this avocational career was already in place by the time Chandler entered medical school here in 1955.

"I did some radio in college, and served as president of the 'microphone club,'" he said.

This experience included occasional stints as substitute "color man" for broadcasts of some of the basketball games at Washington and Lee University, which Chandler attended for two years before earning his A.B. at Florida Southern College.

"I was manager of the team as a freshman," the associate professor said.

"Sometimes the local radio station was lacking a color man, so they would ask me to read the statistics at the end of the game."

Return to the mike

The microphone yielded completely to the ophthalmoscope through the 60s, as Chandler completed internship and residency training at Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center in New York and joined the staff of the Palo Alto (Calif.) Medical Clinic, before returning to Duke 12 years ago.

But opportunity knocked again, and Chandler opened the door to courtside in Cameron Stadium.

"They used to use grad students as P.A. announcers, but they wanted to have someone who would be around each year," Chandler said.

"The first game I announced was played against the Icelandic National Team. Some of them had names seven miles long," he recalls.

But it worked out, and now Chandler is going into his sixth basketball season behind the mike.

Tongue teasers

He took over the Wallace Wade P.A. system just this year, finding that football presents more name problems.

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HE KNOWS ABOUT I-FORMATIONS AS WELL AS EYE FORMATION—Dr. Arthur C. Chandler Jr. usually is an ophthalmologist, but when Duke plays football or basketball at home, he supplies the voice you hear over the public address system. (Photo by Thad Sparks)

New professors plan to expand medical history program



REVOLUTIONARY TEXTBOOK—Drs. James F. Gifford Jr. (left), and John K. Crellin examine an original copy of "De Fabrica Humani Corporis," the famous anatomy text published by Andreas Vesalius in 1543, in the Medical Center Library's Trent Room. (Photo by Jim Wallace)

By David Williamson

"Many people, including some physicians, see little practical value in the study of history," said Dr. John K. Crellin, newly appointed coordinator of the History of Medicine Program.

"But on the other hand, there are a large number of medical students and doctors who can find a historical perspective helpful as a sort of scaffolding upon which to set their knowledge of the complexities of modern medicine," he said.

It is toward this latter group that Crellin and his colleague, Dr. James F. Gifford Jr., expect to direct considerable effort in coming years.

The pair say they hope eventually to make Duke more conspicuous as a national center for the study of medical history. Such a center, Crellin explained, would not only broaden medical education at Duke, but it also would provide enrichment for practicing physicians and others with interest in the subject.

Extension of unique program

Duke currently offers a program that allows medical students to earn both M.D. and Ph.D. in medical history degrees in six years. The program, which Crellin said may be the only one of its kind in the nation, so far has been limited to the small number of future doctors who plan to make historical

scholarship part of their professional careers.

The physician said he and Gifford are working toward extending educational opportunities to medical students who want to learn more about the origins and key problems of their profession without committing themselves to the full Ph.D. course.

"Juniors and seniors, for example, will be able to get in-depth readings in their chosen clinical specialties through courses currently being planned," he said.

"In addition, we feel there is quite a number of people, including history graduates, individuals in allied health fields and physicians who are amateur historians who would like to make use of similar opportunities."

From hobbies to research

Continuing education courses are being designed to assist practicing doctors with interests ranging from collections of medical artifacts and related hobbies to more scholarly research projects.

"We also see ourselves as a service department and hope to participate in the work of other departments when it's appropriate," Crellin said. "Sometimes it's helpful to have a historical perspective during a conference on some aspect of modern medicine, for example.

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