

Cont'd from Page 1 "MIRACLE CHILD" ON THE ROAD TO RECOVERY

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recorded its symptoms in the United States in 1967.

Dr. Deborah Kredich, an assistant professor of pediatrics at Duke University Medical Center, said, "When Amy was transferred to us,

her right foot was already blue from the lack of blood flow."

Once the doctors knew that she had the rare disease they amputated several of her toes. A week later Amy suffered a

massive heart attack and became a patient in the pediatric intensive care unit under critical conditions.

According to Amy's mother, Olivia, "The doctors

thought she would die." Her blood vessels had gone into a spasm, resulting in severe damage to her heart, hands and feet.

Amy's right hand had to be amputated, along with the tips of the fingers on her left hand. Dr. Kredich, who has treated 30 cases of the rare disease at Duke since 1977, said, "She was the most severe case of Kawasaki Disease I've ever seen."

According to a medical journal article, over 20,000 cases of the disease have been identified in Japan, where it is more common. In a two-year period only 261 cases have been reported to the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta, Ga.

Dr. Kredich said, "There is no known cause for Kawasaki disease. Two epidemics in this country suggests a possible infectious cause. The treatment is large doses of aspirin to bring down the fever, which can go as high as 106 degrees F."

Duke is equipped with a large air-sealed room called a hyperbaric chamber, in which oxygen can be pumped in at high pressure.

According to Dr. Kredich, Amy was given hyperbaric treatments to see if they would save any of the damaged tissue. Three treatments were administered to the child. Evidence concluded that by receiving oxygen under pressure less heart muscle was destroyed.

It significantly improved her heart function, according to the pediatrician. In February, tests showed that Amy Jo's heart was functioning normally.

Amy spent 65 days at Duke University Medical Center. Her parents stayed with her through the whole ordeal. Olivia Revels expresses gratitude to the Ronald McDonald House which supplied the couple with a room for only \$5 a day.

"I don't know what we would have done if it hadn't been for that," she said. "It's been a tough year."

It was the 19th day of September when Amy Jo came home from Duke. She has celebrated her 1st birthday now and has started walking. The Revels have made several trips back to Duke with Amy, the last one in February. The doctors believe she has won the battle against Kawasaki Disease. Her blood pressure continues to create a problem, rising sometimes to 120 over 105, sometimes even higher. For the last two months the Revels have carried their

daughter for checkups at Lumberton and her blood pressure has leveled off to a normal 82 over 56.

Dr. Rudderman, the surgeon who performed the amputations on Amy, has died since she came home from Duke, but Olivia Revels is quick to point out that his professional services contributed to Amy Jo's recovery. The staff at Duke referred to the infant as "The Miracle Baby."

Amy Jo's parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Revels, and her sister, Penny, now 7, have changed too. The family seems to have drawn closer together. And they have seen evidences of kindness all about them.

The Revels speak highly of the staff at Southeastern General Hospital, Dr. Goldston, and, especially, the staff at Duke University Medical Center where Amy received the latest in medical attention.

William Revels, who has worked at Converse Rubber Company for a number of years, speaks highly of his superiors who were understanding and attentive to his needs throughout the long ordeal. Said Revels, "They (Converse officials) told me to take as much time as I needed to... that my job would be there when I returned."

The medical bill is expected to reach astronomical heights although Mr. Revels did have hospitalization coverage at work although it will not cover all of the bill. He said, "I probably will be paying on this bill as long as I live."

But the Revels family considers the costs more than worth it. Just to see little Amy Jo walking now, in spite of the amputation of her toes, and seeing her sprightly and alive is beyond mere money.

As Olivia, her mother said, "Everytime I see Amy Jo I see a miracle."

NOT AT THE TOP BUT CLIMBING

Scott Blanks, a native of Pembroke (Mt. Airy community), now residing in Hampton, Va. is still doing what he likes best—entertaining.

His potentials as an actor were discovered at the age of three. His sister, Ms. Cheryl Harding, was performing with Mrs. Lucy Jones kindergarten group one night at Pembroke Graded School. Scott is too young to participate, so he was kept backstage with the nursery group. Six of the kindergarten girls were doing the Bunny Hop. About the fourth time around the stage,

Scott ran out and tagged on the tail of girls. Thus stealing the show.

During his high school days, he appeared in several productions. During the premier season of "Strike at the Wind" in 1976, he played as Henry Berry Lowry's brother, William.

Having finished high school in June 1977, he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force. After basic training in Texas, he was assigned to Langley Air Force Hospital in Va. In 1981 he was awarded the Air Force Commendation Medal for

Meritorious Service.

During his stay at Largley he became involved with Peninsula Community Theatre, Center Stage Productions and Fort Eustis Dinner Theatre. He played in 25 productions including "Cabaret," "Blood, Sweat and Stanley Pool," "Still Life," "The Shadow Box," and "Man With a Load of Mischief."

After his enlistment was up, he married Captain Catherine Stapleton from Hilton Head Island, SC. His college degree ahead, he enrolled in Christopher New Port College. The theatre "itch" still lingered. He auditioned for Busch Entertainment Corporation at Busch Gardens, Williamsburg, Va. He was chosen as one of the twelve talented young performers screened from auditions held in several states. This group sings and dances to music which spans our nation's history from the days of the Mississippi Showboats to the pulsating pop sound of today.

This glittering musical review Kaleidoscope II is shown in the Magic Lantern Theatre in Hasting, England, a country in Busch.

Scott appears also as host. He is the son of Mrs. Sadie Ray Blanks and the late Barrington Blanks of Route 1, Pembroke. His sister, Mrs. Cheryl Harding lives in Lakewood Estates, Lumberton.

Mr. and Mrs. Scott Blanks have a two month old daughter, Sara Elizabeth.



Flower stems too short for a vase? Slip into plastic straws and cut straws to desired length.



An idling engine can use up to a pint of gas every five minutes.



My heartfelt and sincere thanks to each person who voted and especially those who expressed their confidence in me by voting FOR ME.

I ask your continued support on July 27, 1982 for the N.C. House of Representatives.

Thank You
V. LOUISE SANDERSON

When I decided to run for the N.C. House of Representatives, I took my case to you the people of the 16th district. I wish to thank you for the wonderful response I received.

I have been greatly inspired by so many that I came in contact with during my campaigning. I feel that people are genuinely interested in good sound government and I appreciate you associating me with that kind of government.

Now I am going to have to call on you for even more support as there is going to be a run-off in the House race. It is extremely important to our cause that you vote again for me and encourage others to vote for me on July 27, 1982.



Thank You For Your Continued Support

Tommy Wellington

J.T. (Tommy) Wellington
Candidate For The
N.C. House of Representatives
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Pembroke Jr. Varsity Cheerleaders to hold Car Wash Saturday

The Pembroke Junior Varsity Cheerleaders will hold a Car Wash Saturday, July 10, 1982 at First Union National Bank in Pembroke. Price will be \$3 for outside only and \$4 for outside and inside.



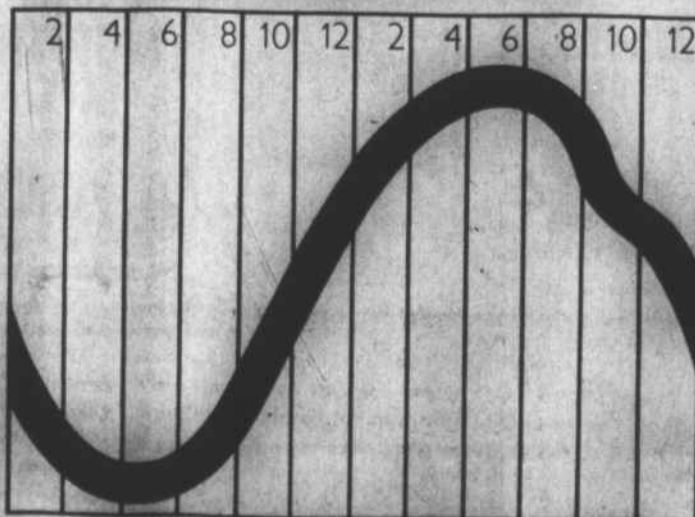
Scott Blanks

Robeson County Indian Caucus meets July 13

The Robeson County Indian Caucus will hold its annual meeting July 13, 1982, at 7:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Old Foundry.

Plans and goals for the next year will be discussed. Reports on projects of the past year will be heard.

BEAT THE PEAK.



10 A.M. TO 10 P.M. IS THE PEAK TO BEAT DURING THIS TIME OF YEAR

During each day there are times when the most people want to use the most electricity.

Heating, cooling, cooking, laundry. Everybody wants more electricity all at once.

It's called the Peak Load. And our future electric rates are affected by how high these peaks get.

But we can beat the peak, if we'd all use less electricity during peak periods. And more at other times.

It's not easy changing when we use electricity. But if we do, the peak wouldn't go up quite so fast. And neither would the cost of electricity.

CP&L