

Dr. Christopher Dixon Shares Vital Facts About Medical Profession

By Teresa Simmons
Post Managing Editor

Just before Dr. Christopher Dixon, one of Charlotte's newest Obstetricians and Gynecologists, was to speak at a seventh grade Career Class at Cochrane Junior High School, one of his patients went into labor.

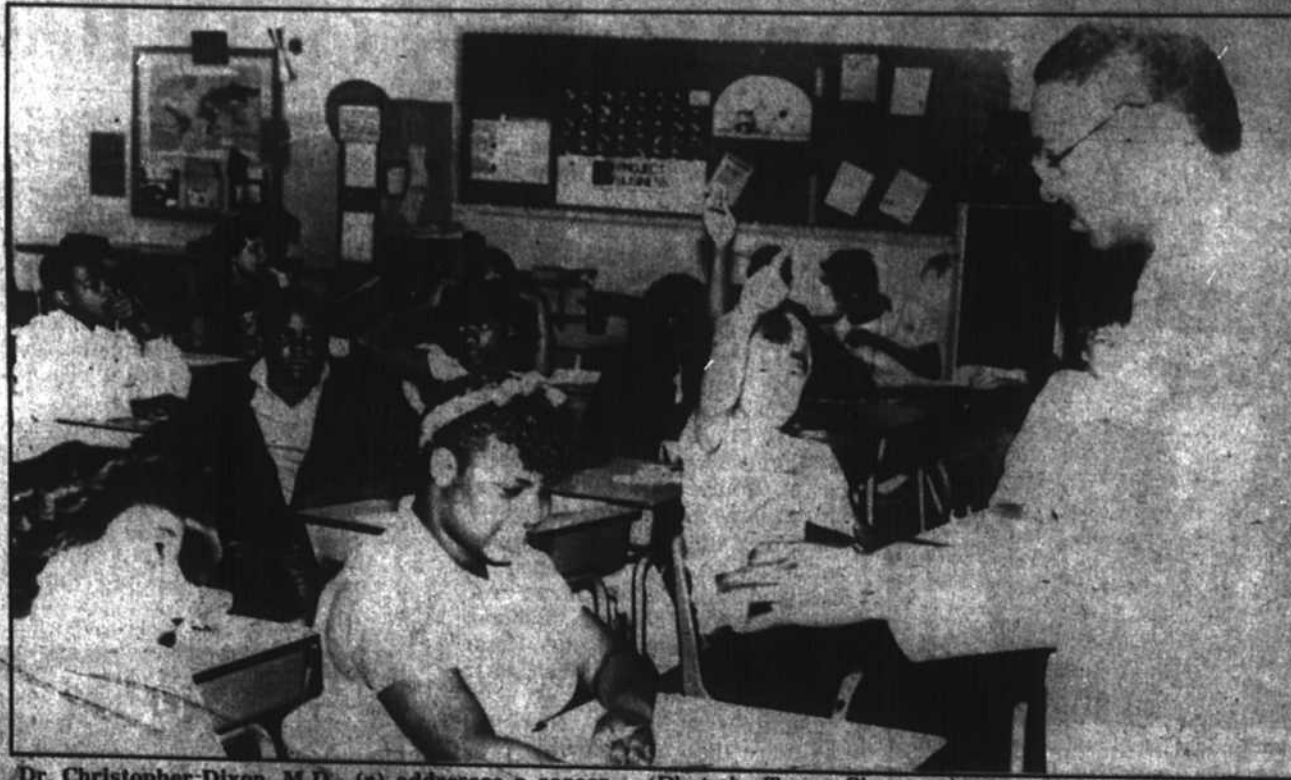
Dr. Dixon really didn't know what to expect when he was a child playing with his doctor's bag and plastic stethoscope. Even as a new arrival in Charlotte his schedule is not what you might call "slack." But he did, however, find it important to take a couple of hours to share information concerning his profession to students in the Pre-Vocational Class of Carolyn Noell and Margaret Aldreide.

Fortunately for the class Dr. Dixon had a few spare hours and enough time to share some startling facts about the medical profession.

"It's very crucial that young students start to develop enthusiasm and want to make something out of their lives and to have productive lives," Dr. Dixon stated.

Perhaps the students had been looking at too much television. Many of the questions centered on the materialistic wealth of Dr. Dixon's profession. "How much money do you make?" and "How often do you get raises?" were questions asked.

Dr. Dixon explained that materialism is not the essence of re-



Dr. Christopher Dixon, M.D., (r) addresses a career class curious about the profession of medical care. (Photo by Teresa Simmons)

wards for him. "The reward is when a patient has used me to deliver a healthy, normal baby. The rewards of the medical care professional are monetary, yes, but also rewards are inward, spiritual and intangible," he explained. "The reward comes when a patient delivers a healthy baby." Dr. Dixon also explained to the

students that becoming a doctor in a specialized area includes 24 hours of study. Students, he said, must become concerned about their grades as early as the ninth grade. The average loan debt for a medical student is \$32,000. "And doctors don't become millionaires."

To let you know just how competitive medical school is, Dr. Dixon entered Medical School at Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio, in 1979. "There were over 600 students in my class," he remembered, "and only 24 were black."

"Eighteen blacks graduated," he reported.

Dr. Dixon feels like even fewer blacks are making it into medical schools in 1985 because of the lack of federal funding. "There is less stimulation now by the government. In the 70s the schools admitted blacks in order to receive federal funds." But now that those funds are drying up Dr. Dixon notices that there are less blacks in medical training today than there were seven years ago.

"There was a three-to-four-year mid '70 influx of black doctors, but there are not too many behind us," he noted.

Another reason Dr. Dixon chose to address the class is because he wishes to encourage those who feel they don't have the "smarts" to enter and complete medical school.

"You don't have to be terribly smart. But you do have to develop good study habits, good memorization habits and consistently do the homework and work. Go after the challenge with enthusiasm."

Dr. Dixon introduced one of the newest developments in obstetrics to the students as well. The Sonography Machine can view internal body organs without harmful effects of the X-ray. In some respects the Sonography Machine is replacing the X-rays, he stated.

In the case of a pregnant lady the sex of the baby, the number of babies and deformities can be revealed.

In gynecology the machine can visualize female organs and pick up any hints of tumors of the uterus or other disease.

Dr. Dixon is married and has one son. He has two office locations: Northwest Medical Center on Beatties Ford Rd., and Obstetric Gynecology Association on Lillington Ave.

Mayor Harvey Gantt Proclaims Sacred Music Week

Charlotte Mayor Harvey Gantt has proclaimed the week of July 15 "Sacred Music Week."

This proclamation is in recognition of the nine-state regional convention being hosted by the American Guild of Organists (Charlotte Chapter). This is one of nine regional conventions being held this summer across the nation, featuring nationally and internationally known organists and choral conductors.

Highlighting the convention will be the appearance of Charles Krigbaum, distinguished University Organist at Yale. The program will feature some 22 of the newly-discovered 33 chorale preludes of J.S. Bach. Mr. Krigbaum was heard in the first modern performance of the chorale preludes on public radio in March. His recital is open to the public, at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, July 17, at Covenant Presbyterian Church, 1000 E. Morehead St., Charlotte.

Other events open to the public are an organ recital by John Chappell Stowe on Monday, July 15, 8 p.m. at Christ Episcopal Church, 1412 Providence Rd.; a choral concert featuring William Albright's "A Song to David" at Byrnes Auditorium, Winthrop College, Rock Hill, S.C., on Tuesday, July 16, at 8 p.m.; and a festival service on Thursday, July 18, at 8 p.m. at Trinity Presbyterian Church, 3115 Providence Rd., Charlotte.

In addition to the evening events, recitals and concerts begin in the morning and continue through the day, interspersed with lectures and workshops. Those who attend AGO conventions come for inspiration, continuing education, fellowship, and the sheer joy of experiencing the excitement of music. For more information, contact Jane Cain, 892-4129.

Jeff Harris To Enter King's To Major In Business

The most important thing that Jeff Harris learned last year was to depend on people and to remember that you are an important part of a team.

Admitting that he enjoyed playing for Coach Jim Hambacher, he said, that his best game last year was against Hunter Huss of Gastonia, a game the Indians won 27-0 as he hit ran for 29 yards.

He ran for 115 yards. Against West Charlotte, he ran for 130 yards.

He ran for 900 yards this season.

The advice that Jeff would give players in junior high entering high school is to be ready to learn a lot of plays, to be ready to be hit harder, and to be more willing to be flexible because "you may have to play more than one position."

Jeff will attend King's College to major in business with the hope of a career in business administration in mind.

The little man, 5-8 1/2 pounds with enormous strength and upper body development in his 48 inch shoulders, said he may consider playing at a four year school when he graduates from junior college.

Cpl. Timothy Thorne

Marine Lance Cpl. Timothy L. Thorne, son of Barbara Rhinehart of 1932 Union St., Charlotte, N.C., recently reported for duty with 3rd Force Service Support Group on Okinawa.

A 1984 graduate of Garinger High School, he joined the Marine Corps in July, 1984.

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