



Mrs. James Henry Thornwell
.....The former Miss Teresa Thompson

Miss Teresa Thompson Weds James Thornwell

Before family and friends, Teresa Diane Thompson and James Henry Thornwell were united in holy matrimony recently.

The wedding, officiated by Rev. James Henson, took place at Bethany Baptist Church.

Given in marriage by her grandfather and mother, the bride selected Sonya Smith as her maid of honor.

The bridesmaids were; Mary Johnson, Mary Fee, and Rhodann Johnson.

The groom selected as his best man Emery Thornwell. Ushers for the wedding included Dean Thompson, David Fee, Michael Alderman, Larry Johnson, and Vernon Wallace.

Little Miss Nivia Johnson was the flower girl and master Curtis Reid

was the ring bearer.

Music for the wedding was provided by Mary Ervin.

Immediately following the wedding, a reception was held at the Excelsior Club.

Directing the wedding was Gayle Bell.

Functioning as the register attendant was Alican Smith.

The daughter of Minnie Brown, the bride attends Central Piedmont Community College and works at Kroger Sav-on and Central Piedmont Community College.

Also a student at Central Piedmont Community College, the groom is employed at Harris-Teeter. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Thornwell.

Dr. Cobo: Surgery To Sharpen Eyesight Should Not Be Taken Lightly

By Charles Blackburn
Duke Medical Center
Special To The Post

Durham - As more Americans consider two new surgical procedures to sharpen their eyesight, doctors at the Duke Eye Center are urging them to weigh carefully the pros and cons of the operations.

The procedures, radial keratotomy and lamellar transplants, are designed to improve nearsightedness and farsightedness.

"It's important that patients understand what these operations can achieve for them, so that their expectations will be realistic," said Dr. Michael Cobo.

He said both operations alter the shape of the cornea, the clear window over the front of the eye. Radial keratotomy seeks to reduce nearsightedness with a series of incisions that flatten the cornea.

A lamellar transplant involves stitching a thin slice of cornea onto the eye to improve farsightedness or severe nearsightedness. Dr. Gary Foulks said he's had good results with the procedure since he began using it at Duke about four years ago.

"We're very selective about candidates for lamellar transplants, but everyone's vision has improved to varying degrees," he said.

He said the best results have been in children, but "age is not an important factor in screening patients for the procedure."

"A transplant of corneal tissue is a novel approach to the problem and appears to hold promise for certain cases," Foulks said.

The slice of cornea that's implanted comes from a donor. It's freeze-dried for storage, rehydrated when needed and must be shaped precisely on a lathe to meet the individual needs of a patient.

The surgery itself must be performed in an operating room. All of which contributes to the expense of the procedure.

"It takes three to six months for one's eyesight to recover from the operation, which limits its usefulness," Foulks said. "So if you can see well with glasses or contact lenses, a lamellar transplant probably isn't for you."

He said the operation carries a risk, however slight, of scarring the otherwise healthy cornea, which could ultimately decrease the level of vision.

Cobo said the early results of a five-year National Institutes of Health study on radial keratotomy indicate the procedure reduces near-

sightedness in patients undergoing the operation but cannot be guaranteed to eliminate the need for glasses.

The operation involves altering the shape of the cornea by a series of four to 16 radial incisions of varying depth. As a result, the center of the cornea becomes flatter, causing light to focus better on the retina.

"The one-year report on 420 pa-

tients indicates the surgery is relatively well-tolerated, achieves the goal of reducing myopia in all patients and allows up to 80 percent of them to see well without glasses," he said.

Radial keratotomy usually takes less than 30 minutes and is performed on an outpatient basis, Cobo said. "Most patients can go back to work the next day," he noted.

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USDA Honors Three Black Employees

Washington - The U.S. Department of Agriculture presented the Superior Service Award to three black employees for outstanding performance.

Secretary of Agriculture John R. Block presented the awards - the agency's second highest honor - during USDA's 39th Annual Honor Awards Ceremony. Honored were Patricia N. Daniels, of USDA's Food and Nutrition Service, Alexandria, Va.; Joseph P. Gomer, Forest Service, Duluth, Minn., and Ira L. Hobbs, of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Washington, D.C.

Daniels was cited "for exceptional

creativity and leadership in implementing a nationwide nutrition and consumer education program for low-income households participating in the Food Stamp Program.

Gomer was honored "for outstanding accomplishment in furthering Equal Employment Opportunity in the Superior National Forest" in Minnesota.

Hobbs was cited "for demonstrating outstanding and innovative managerial skills and achieving significant improvements in information management activities in the agency."

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