

# 1B

# LIFE

## Health Watch



Study shows racial split with same treatments

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DURHAM — Although black men and white men get the same kind of treatment for prostate cancer, a University of North Carolina study shows that black men still don't live as long.

Black patients who had surgical treatment had a median survival time of 10.8 years, compared with 12.6 years for white men getting the same treatment, the study said.

The study in the *Journal of the National Cancer Institute* involved 5,747 black men and 38,242 white men with cancer confined to the prostate.

The difference was smaller for those who got radiation therapy, at 0.7 years, and one year for those who chose neither approach, generally called "watchful waiting."

The study, published Nov. 19, was led by Paul Godley, UNC associate professor of medicine and epidemiology, who is also a member of the Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center and leader of the UNC Program on Ethnicity, Culture and Health Outcomes.

"There have been some studies showing black men didn't get prostate surgery as often as white men," said Godley. "That's been seen pretty consistently. But in men treated the same, we're looking at differing outcome data."

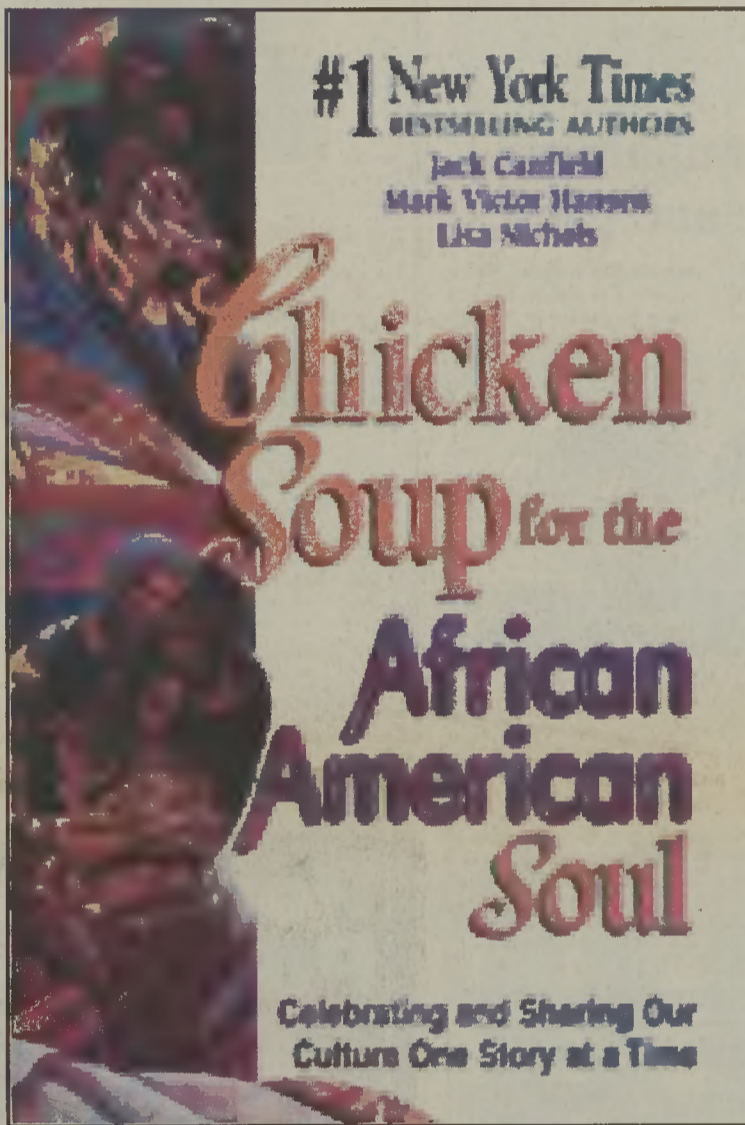
"Certainly, I'm interested in why men and their surgeons make different decisions. But with the results of this study, we're interested in finding out if there's a difference in the quality of treatment received by blacks and whites."

Godley's study included help from researchers from UNC's schools of medicine and public health, the Medical Review of North Carolina and Massachusetts General Hospital. They merged the National Cancer Institute's Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results data with Medicare file information to compile their findings.

Only about one-fourth of the nearly 190,000 prostate cancers diagnosed in the United States last year had spread beyond the gland, located in the lower

Please see **UNC STUDY/3B**

# Stories to warm the soul



By Artellia Burch

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"Chicken Soup for the Soul," the New York Times best-selling book series, is seeking stories to include in "Chicken Soup for the African American Soul."

The publishers of the book want writers to send submissions of heart-warming, insightful and powerfully stories about the African-American experience or about an African American.

The stories should inspire, provoke emotion, display humor humorous. Chicken Soup stories are true accounts that open the heart and re-ignite the spirit.

There's a catch. They are not looking for stories about overcoming racism and oppression-but rather for stories about an important or magical moment in a person's life.

"A good Chicken Soup story will make you laugh, cry happy tears, give you goose bumps or leave you inspired and uplifted," said Eve Hogan, senior editor of "Chicken Soup for the African American Soul."

Hogan says it was time for the African American community to be featured in the Chicken Soup series.

"This community deserves to be honored," she said. "We want to celebrate and honor this community. We also want to give other people the opportunity to learn from this community. These stories will educate and inspire people who normally aren't able to have a glimpse into the African American community. This book will give a deep soul touching understanding of the African American. It will allow the reader to be able to connect heart to heart to African Americans."

"I had some of the stories with me on a plane and I was reading them. A white gentleman beside me asked me what I was reading and I let him read some of the stories. The man cried after

See **CHICKEN/2B**

## Children face a dilemma when they want to fit in but don't

By Samantha Critchell  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Most children just want to fit in. They want to blend into the cafeteria crowd, walking, talking and dressing like their peers, and never to be singled out for reasons good or bad.

It's understandable, then, that shopping ranks as a traumatic experience if children are taller, huskier or heavier than their friends and can't wear similar

clothes or even use the same stores.

This is where self-image problems start, according to Emme, a plus-size model, fashion designer and author.

A lot of children who fall into the plus-size category are there because they are athletes or enjoyed early growing spurts, but even knowing those logical causes and effects often doesn't soothe youngsters' delicate psyches.

"I was a swimmer, a diver,

and I got a four-year scholarship for rowing, but that didn't make me feel better when my button-down shirts would pull because my back was so broad," Emme says.

"Not being able to feel cool and hip could push some kids over the edge" toward eating disorders, she adds.

Parents and a handful of retailers who are offering stylish clothes in larger sizes can make the difference in getting these children through a very difficult time.

Some youngsters realize they are full figured, some don't, says Emme, but parents can gently steer them toward properly fitting clothes without putting a label on them.

"Parents shouldn't make it an issue of the body but should make it an issue of the clothes. If (a child's) clothes are ill-fitting, make an appointment with him or her. Say, 'I think it's time for a mom-and-daughter shopping spree.'"

J.C. Penney has offered plus-size clothes for children for the past 10 years and it's a part of the business that continues to grow, says Lana Cain Krauter, executive vice president and merchandising manager of the company's men's and children's divisions.

"Statistics show our children are getting larger. ... We have a much more diverse face to our population that we need to respond to," she says.

See **CHILDREN/2B**

## 'A Family Affair' has rich character texture

By Artellia Burch  
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Marcus Major, best-selling author of "A Man Most Worthy," "Good Peoples" and "Four Guys and Trouble" has added another book to his collection.

And it's hot. Major's new book "A Family Affair" was great. I read the book from cover to cover in 24 hours.

What I liked most about this book is the richness of its characters. The story was told in a manner that I felt like I understood the psyche of every person in the story. Even down to the gold digger Stacy.

Plus some of Major's characters from previous books resurfaced. If you haven't read some of his early works don't let that be a con-

cern. This tale stands on its own you will be able to follow the crew without any difficulty.

The story is centered on Peg and Leonard Moore, the head of the Moore family. And the drama starts there. Leonard decided that after being married for 39 years he's going to have an affair with a little young thing, named Stacy. Before he knows it he's caught up, spending money, slipping out of family functions and hanging out late to please his mistress. Leonard

### BOOK REVIEW

actually believes his behavior is unnoticed until one of his son's friends catches him on one of his rendezvous.

Now, that's when the stuff hits the fan. Well, let me changed that. That's when the stuff hits one of the fans.

Major is such a great writer he has other sto-

ries going on at the same time that keep you just as engaged as the main plot.

If use familiar with Major's work you already now his stories are tactful and full of humor. Trust me "A Family Affair" sticks with his style. Except there is growth in his writing since "Good Peoples."

Major deals with affairs of the heart, adultery, child abandonment, family dynamics between a father and his sons plus a bulk load of other stuff.

Although the topics "A Family Affair" touches are serious Major handles the issues in a manner that is light and full of insight.

I'd recommend this book to someone who wants to snuggle up with a great book.

I consider "A Family Affair" a must read.

