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THEY WENT BACK TO SCHOOL—These patient care assistants and clinic assistants completed a five-week upgrade course on February 26. Pictured from left to right, first row, are Mrs. Geraldine Lunsford, Mrs. Mary Salmon, and Mrs. Susan Lanier. Second row: Munday Crowell, Miss Yvonne Bradshaw, Mrs. Wisdom Watson, Mrs. Clementine Price, Mrs. Freddia Prince, and C.D. Foster, Jr. Not present when the picture was taken were Richard Green and Edward Phillips. (photo by Lewis Parrish)

Eleven Finish Nursing Skills Upgrade Class

It was back to the books for 11 Medical Center employees during the month of February.

The 11, all patient care assistants or clinic assistants, spent five weeks studying nursing skills to enable them to take more responsibility in caring for patients.

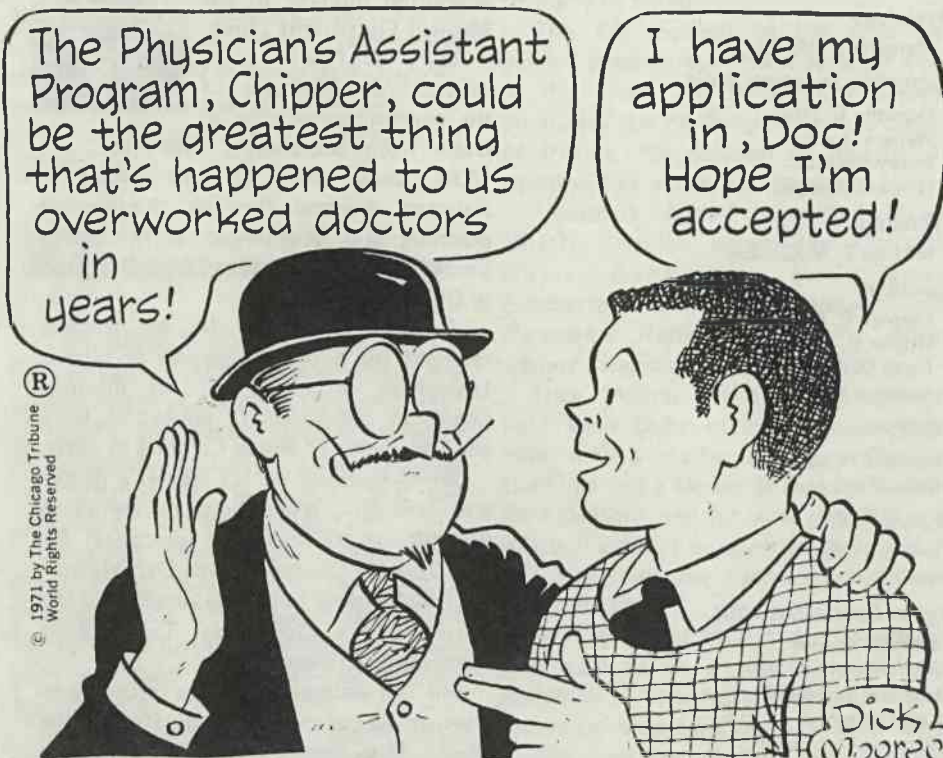
The first week of the program was all classroom work. During the second and third weeks, the students were given clinical experience with the supervision of an instructor each morning and attended classes in the afternoons.

They spent the last two weeks back in their own clinic or ward area gaining more experience with the help of a preceptor.

Mrs. Inez James, Mrs. Lauri Lafleur, and Mrs. Ruth Furbish, all registered nurses in the Patient Care Education Department, organized and conducted the class.

Many of the students were supported financially by Duke's Paths for Employee Progress (PEP) Program so they could take time away from their jobs to participate in the upgrade class.

The new graduates and the areas in which they work include Miss Yvonne Bradshaw and Munday Crowell, both of the Urology Clinic; C.D. Foster, Jr., Mrs. Susan Lanier, Mrs. Mary Salmon, and Mrs. Wisdom Watson, all of Surgical PDC; Richard Green who works out of the Nursing Office; Mrs. Geraldine Lunsford of the Inpatient Rehabilitation Unit; Edward Phillips who works on McDowell ward; Mrs. Clementine Price of the Orthopaedic Clinic; and Mrs. Freddia Prince of Williams Ward.



The Physician's Assistant Program, Chipper, could be the greatest thing that's happened to us overworked doctors in years!

I have my application in, Doc! Hope I'm accepted!

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PA'S IN THE COMIC STRIP—Duke's widely publicized Physician's Assistant Program found its way into the comic strip "Gasoline Alley" this week. In this panel, drawn by artist Dick Moores exclusively for *Intercom*, Chipper discusses the PA program with Doc. For the story, turn to page three.