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DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

Beeper Never Turned Off

Duke P.A. Links Kidneys with Patients

By David Williamson

Thirteen-year-old Janice Maness of Greensboro, N.C., has four cats, three dogs and a myna bird named Daffy that started saying "ribbet, ribbet" after watching the movie "Frogs" on television.

The seventh grader has long red hair, blue eyes and a smile that would turn Jimmy Carter green with envy.

She collects pennies, stuffed animals and friends, likes fishing and softball and wrinkles her nose at the thought of math homework.

You could say the little girl is normal in every respect.

Except one.

Janice has only one kidney, and even that vital organ used to belong to someone else.

Six years ago, her own kidneys stopped cleaning her blood of chemical waste products. Before her condition was diagnosed, she almost died from kidney failure.

Couldn't Run and Play

"I got so I couldn't run and play, and I felt kind of sick all the time," she said. "I could hit a ball, but I couldn't run the bases, and I didn't want to go to school."

Last fall, when Janice's body rejected the kidney she received from her mother five years ago in an operation, the little girl got a new one here through the efforts of a surgical transplant team and a 13-state, computer-linked network known as the South Eastern Organ Procurement Foundation (SEOPF).

As transplant coordinator of kidney transplantation programs at both Duke and the University of

North Carolina in Chapel Hill, Physician's Associate Mike Phillips is piedmont North Carolina's most active member of this kidney-sharing organization.

More Nearly Normal

Phillips, 30, likes to count himself among a growing number of health professionals who are trying to reduce the grim toll of kidney disease and offer people like Janice Maness hope of a more nearly complete, normal life.

A large part of his job is to secure kidneys from patients who have died from other causes so that surgeons at Duke, North Carolina Memorial Hospital in Chapel Hill and other major hospitals in the southeastern United States can transplant them into kidney patients who are surviving on dialysis machines.

"This beeper is never turned off," he said, indicating a small blue receiving device that looks like a transistor radio clipped to his belt. "I

carry it just about all the time, and when I don't, our technician John Sampson does."

Kidney Beeper

Phillips said that when the beeper puts out its signal, it tells its wearer that at a community hospital somewhere in North Carolina, suitable kidneys may soon be available for transplantation.

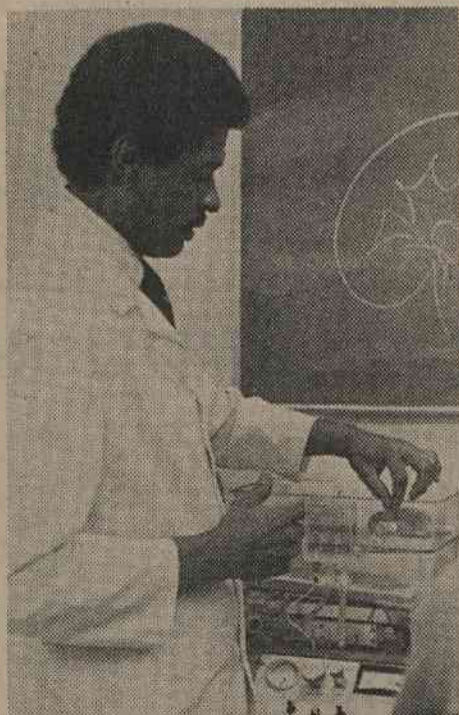
He or Sampson then travel there in a specially equipped, state-funded

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"I'LL BE LATE FOR DINNER AGAIN, DEAR"—Physician's Associate Mike Phillips, on call 24 hours a day, spans the state to collect kidneys for life-saving transplantation operations. He

also speaks to dozens of citizens groups across North Carolina to promote organ donation. (Photo by Thad Sparks)



SHOWING HOW IT WORKS — Technician John Sampson demonstrates how kidneys are kept functioning while being transported from donor to recipient. (Photo by John Becton)

Science, Football on Davison Club Agenda

Talks entitled "The Pharmacology of Depression" and "Breakthroughs in Cancer" and the Duke-Carolina football game will highlight the annual business session and scientific programs of the medical center's Davison Club being held here today and Saturday.

The Davison Club is a donor organization whose members each pledge at least \$1,000 annually to the School of Medicine.

Dr. H. Keith Brodie, professor and chairman of the Department of Psychiatry, will present his talk on

the relation between body chemistry and depression at 9 a.m. on Saturday at the Governor's Inn.

Dr. William W. Shingleton, chief of the Division of General Surgery and director of the Comprehensive Cancer Center, will follow Brodie at 10 a.m. with a report on progress in cancer research.

The weekend, including a reception tonight and a lunch and dinner on Saturday, is the medical center's way of thanking the donors for their support, according to R. C. (Bucky) Waters, executive director of

the group and assistant to the vice president for health affairs.

The club was founded in 1969 to honor the late Dr. Wilburt C. Davison, first dean of medicine at Duke, Waters said. One hundred thirty of the group's 185 members are expected to attend the event.

Current Davison Club officers are Dr. Frederick H. Taylor of Charlotte (M.D. '45), president; Dr. Karl C. Jonas of Washington, D.C. (M.D. '44), vice president; and Dr. Norman H. Garrett Jr. of Greensboro ('45, M.D. '50), secretary.