

# TV Show Seemed Realistic

TV dramas about medical centers get more realistic all the time.

One I saw the other night is a good case in point.

As the show began, the dramatic background music and several somber faces hinted at the intensity of the tragedy which had befallen.

"My ad isn't in here," one of the somber faces said, holding the medical center's weekly newspaper in one hand and backhanding it with the other.

"I really need to sell that canary, and I put the ad in the mail Tuesday afternoon!"

A calendar visible behind the characters let the viewer know this was Friday.

go in it on the Friday before it comes out.

"Then we have all the copy set on Monday and Tuesday mornings."

## Questions Raised

"But couldn't you set just one more little item later?"

"We don't set it ourselves, we have to take it over to the university campus to be set.

"We then have to start laying the paper out on Tuesday afternoon, to determine what size headlines and captions will be," the editor continued.

"They are set on Wednesday morning, and we spend most of the rest of the day finishing the paste-up."



## The Plot Thickens

"Believe me, I know just how you feel," a companion said, offering a comforting hand on the shoulder. "I've been there myself."

"I had scheduled a very important departmental seminar. It was to be on a Thursday, so I called them a full week before and asked that it be put in the calendar, but nothing doing."

The drama continued to mount like this for most of the show.

Eventually hundreds of angry employees stormed the public relations office, the alleged cause of the problems.

Fortunately, however, things got settled just before the final commercial.

## The Confrontation

The first two characters we saw got elected to speak for the group and went in to the office of the editor of the medical center paper.

In the distance, through her office window, a tobacco factory was seen.

"Putting out the paper is a week long process," she explained. "We plan what articles and pictures, will

"Well, why do you need all day Thursday to print it?" came another question.

"We don't have a printing press. We send it to a neighboring village for printing."

The two envoys looked around the tiny office and saw no composition equipment, no printing press, no space for either and no staff to operate either.

"So even if I call you eight or nine days before my Thursday meeting, that's after your deadline, because the paper is already on the drawing board," one of them said.

"It's practically past the drawing board by then," the editor said. "If you just send us the information a week prior to publication, we are glad to print it."

The background music grew mellow, indicating that the crisis was over. The employees would send things in on time, personal items would be sold and attendance would be assured at important occasions.

Everybody likes these happy endings.

## Home (Safe) for the Holidays

There is no place like home for the holidays — that's a sentiment few would disagree with, but the fact is that home is also where accidents frequently happen.

The Christmas and New Year's holidays — a time of extra festivities and increased home entertaining — should also be a time to take extra precautions against accidents, the Health Insurance Institute says.

Here are some tips:

\* No matter how reluctant you may be to see Christmas come to an end, don't leave your tree up too long or it may become a fire hazard. Dispose of it as soon as the needles begin falling.

\* Your floors will probably be littered with more small toys than usual. Keep them from under foot of both young and old. Spread a sheet or blanket on the floor for a child to play on. When playtime is over, you can simply pick up the blanket, toys and all. Some mothers like to keep a large drawstring bag — which can take in a lot of little toys.

\* When entertaining, provide large ashtrays in sufficient numbers. Before emptying these, make certain that contents are completely extinguished.

\* Remember to clear all sidewalks, steps and porches of snow, ice, or other obstacles before your guests

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We would like to list lectures, symposia and other activities at the medical center in the Intercom Calendar. If information about your event does not appear, the reason is either that we did not receive it or that we received it too late for printing deadlines. Notices can be accepted for the Calendar no later than one week prior to publication. Notices may be sent to Box 3354, Hospital. If last minute scheduling makes it impossible to send a written notice in time, please call 684-4148.

## Friday, December 3

- 12:30 p.m. Biochemistry Seminar. Dr. William F. Harrington, Dept. of Biology, The Johns Hopkins University, will speak on "Structure and Activation of Muscle Thick Filaments," Rm 147, Nanaline H. Duke Bldg. Coffee at 12:15 p.m. in the lobby.
- 1 p.m. Network for Continuing Medical Education (NCME). Programs on "Selective Use of Radiography and Laboratory Tests and Rheumatic Disease," "The Function of Phagocytes" and "Bacteria Infection and Disorders of the White Cell." View in Rms M-405, M-410, 2031 and Medical Student Lounge (Channel 7 or 9) at Duke and Rms A3002 (by appointment only), C9013, D3008, CCU and classrooms and media learning lab of Allied Health Bldg. at VA Hospital.
- 2 p.m. Anatomy Seminar. Dr. R. O. Kelley, associate professor, Dept. of Anatomy, University of New Mexico School of Medicine, will speak on "Role of Extracellular Matrix in Limb Development," Rm 273, Sands Bldg. Coffee and cookies at 1:45 p.m.
- 4:30 p.m. Medical Sciences Training Program Seminar. Dr. Brian A. Pethica, dean, School of Arts and Sciences, Clarkson College, Potsdam, N.Y., will speak on "The Bilayer Model — End of an Era?" Rm 273, Sands Bldg. (MS1B). Coffee and cookies at 4:15 p.m.

## Monday, December 6

- 12 noon Biochemistry Seminar. Dr. Deborah Steege, Dept. of Biology, Yale University, will speak on the "The *E. coli* lac Repressor mRNA: Nucleotide Sequences at Translation Initiation Sites," Rm 147, Nanaline H. Duke Bldg. Coffee at 11:45 a.m.
- 4 p.m. Anatomy Seminar. Prof. John E. Dowling, professor and chairman, Dept. of Biology, Biological Laboratories, Harvard University, will speak on "Interpexiform Cells of the Retina: Centrifugal Neuron?" Rm 147, Nanaline H. Duke Bldg. Coffee and cookies at 3:45 p.m.

## Tuesday, December 7

- 12 noon Pathology Research Conference. Dr. Kenneth Schneider, director, Hospital Laboratory Services, will speak on "Analytical Drift in a Clinical Laboratory: Its Detection and Correction," Rm M204, Davison Bldg.
- 1 p.m. NCME. See Fri., Dec. 3 for program listings. View in School of Nursing Aud., Rm 1017.
- 4 p.m. Council on Aging and Human Development. The Rev. Philip S. Brown, executive director, Bishop Penick Memorial Home, Southern Pines, will speak on "The Religious Needs of Older Persons," Rm 1504, Gerontology Bldg.

## Wednesday, December 8

- 1 p.m. NCME. See Fri., Dec. 3 for program listings and viewing areas.
- 1 p.m. Health Services Administration Colloquium. Richard Hayes, director of development, Hospital Amphitheater.
- 6 p.m. Duke Management Club. Elizabeth Janeway, author and social historian, will speak on "Changing Roles in a Changing World," Board Room.

## Thursday, December 9

- 1 p.m. NCME. See Fri., Dec. 3 for program listings and viewing areas.

arrive.

\* Mistletoe and holly are traditional decorations, but they can be dangerous for young children. The berries of both are poisonous and should be kept out of reach of youngsters.

\* If you go visiting relatives or friends, don't drink and drive. If you're accompanied by your spouse, a friend, or another couple, decide beforehand that one of you will not drink — and will do the driving chores. If you do drink, warn experts, limit yourself to no more than one per hour. It takes one full hour for an ounce of alcohol to burn out of your system.



"Furthermore, please notice that I am adequately clothed."