

# Intercom

## Duke University Medical Center

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DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

### Supported by a Cushion of Air

## Rapid Transit System To Link Two Hospitals

By Joe Sigler

PRT.

Those initials have been on the lips of people involved with Duke Hospital North for the past couple of years, but now they're beginning to take on a meaning for everybody here.

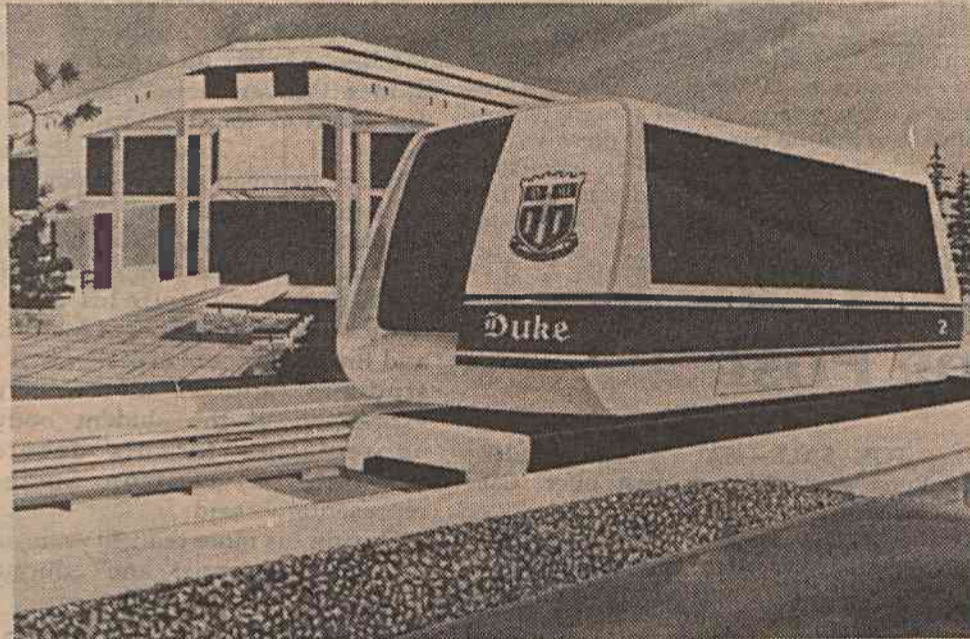
PRT stands for Personal Rapid Transit, the automatic transportation system that will link Duke Hospital South with Duke Hospital North. Enclosed cars supported by a cushion of air will travel along a guideway between the two hospitals.

The system is being designed and installed under a \$5 million contract with the Otis Elevator Co.

#### Work Underway

Grading work for the guideway already has begun, and perhaps the most visible evidence is outside the entrance to the Emergency Department. About half of the original emergency driveway and parking lot has been fenced off for construction of the lobby for the Duke South terminal of the PRT.

Very soon grading work will begin closer to Duke North, and the



**A RIDE, ANYBODY?**—This is an artist's conception of what a passenger vehicle on the PRT (Personal Rapid Transit) system will look like as it passes the Seeley G. Mudd Building in the background on its guideway between Duke Hospital South and Duke North. The guideway will be finished this year and vehicles will be tested on it beginning in early 1978.

wooden ramp to the Seeley G. Mudd Building will be removed. (*Intercom* will carry an illustration showing

alternate pedestrian routes to the Mudd Building.)

The two-track PRT guideway will

all be on one level and will be completed by the end of this year. It will begin at ground level where the lobby is being built near the emergency entrance and it will be elevated as it proceeds toward Duke North across a deep ravine between the Mudd Building and the Bell Building.

Enroute it will pass through, at ground level, the Edwin A. Morris Clinical Cancer Research Building. From Duke Hospital North, the PRT will go under Erwin Road to a Duke parking garage being constructed across the intersection of Erwin and Fulton roads from the new hospital site.

#### Transportation Ready Before Hospital

The \$92 million Duke Hospital North, now about midway in its construction, is scheduled to open in the spring of 1979. The transportation system between there and the present hospital is to be completed and ready for testing by early 1978.

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### Vacations Coming

When the last school bell rings today, the vacation season will be underway.

A special vacation section on pages 4 and 5 may help you with your plans and will tell how you can win a prize when you return.

## Stars for Everyone, Good Health for Kids

There may have been more autographs signed than putts missed, but no one remembered to count.

You could find the celebrities easily by looking for a cluster of people.

If they had given a Pied Piper Award, Jack Albertson probably

would have won it. Youngsters not only clustered around him, but followed him everywhere.

Hank Aaron would've been in contention for that award, too. And, as usual, he was unchallenged for long ball honors.

#### Large and Small Galleries

Just like in other golf tournaments,

large galleries followed a couple of the entrants. They were Chi Chi Rodriguez, the one celebrity who really is a golf expert, and Dr. Perry Como (he received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from Duke this spring), the tourney's honorary chairman.

Magician Mark Brenner had a "small" gallery. A few kids carried his clubs, and he performed magic for them, just as he had done on Duke's pediatrics wards Saturday before.

Actor Greg Morris smiled at a lot of babies and kissed a number of ladies. He said he was as amazed as anyone at the ingenious devices invented by Barney, the character he played on "Mission: Impossible."

#### Truly Universal Group

Former astronaut Jack Swigert was the only one there who had flown around the moon. Poise on the green came easy for the command module pilot of the almost ill-fated Apollo 13.

Mr. McFeeley (David Newell) and Purple Panda came over from Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood. Children are pretty important over there, just as they are to the record number of amateurs and celebrities who played golf at Duke on May 29-30.

#### Blue Devils and Tar Heels

Duke had quite a gathering of its own all-star athletes, including

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**THE MAN SIGNS UP**—Jack Albertson pauses between holes to sign autographs for youngsters at Duke's Children's Classic, the annual celebrity golf tournament which raises money to combat children's diseases.