

# The Hoothills View

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## People In The News



GARDNER-WEBB COLLEGE, Platte Dean White, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin White of Boiling Springs, received the Fred L. and Sallie N. Abrams Endowed Memorial Scholarship from Gardner-Webb College.

The Fred L. and Sallie N. Abrams Endowed Memorial Scholarship was established in 1978 as a memorial to

their parents by Robert W. Abrams of Boiling Springs, W. Glenn Abrams, Mrs. Jessie A. Rodly, and Mrs. Flow A. Bryant, of the Gray's Creek Baptist Church Community of Rutherford County. The earnings from the fund are awarded annually "to a needy and worthy student studying for the ministry."

White is a graduate of Crest High School.



GARDNER-WEBB COLLEGE... Dr. Donald Heckerman, above, was one of the nine speakers, during a two-day Small Business Seminar on the Gardner-Webb College campus. Approximately 105 persons attended the seminar created to stimulate a better understanding of small business problems and opportunities and to present practical approaches to improving small business management. Dr. Heckerman, with the firm of Ernst and Whinney of Charlotte, spoke on Financing the Small Business with

an associate David Hatter. Other speakers and topics included Bill Starnes, Capital Formation and Retention; Murdock Morrison, Date Processing for Small Businesses; Valdaree Shull, Ph. D., Employee Motivation; James N. Smoak, The Economic Outlook; Bobby McIntyre, Marketing for Small Business; Ronald Martin and Michael Abernathy, Accounting and Taxes for Small Business. The Brothill Academy of Gardner-Webb College sponsored the event in cooperation with the Greater Shelby Chamber of Commerce and the Small Business Administration.

## Research Shows Chlamydia Widespread And Mysterious Of Diseases

CHAPEL HILL...Chlamydia--it's the most widespread and most mysterious of all venereal diseases.

There are more than 3 million cases of Chlamydia in the United States each year, making it more common than gonorrhea or syphilis, said Dr. Priscilla Wyrick of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, who has studied Chlamydia for seven years. But one of the worst things is that most people may not even know they have it.

"It's a serious problem and a lot of people out there, including physicians, don't know about it," she said. "It's particularly a problem in young people 20 to 35, and usually among the higher socio-economic status groups."

Although Chlamydia is not life-threatening for adults, it can result in sterility in both males and females, and complications for newborns can be quite severe, Wyrick said. Research suggests that there is increased risk of fetal or newborn deaths for Chlamydia-infected pregnant women.

Although Chlamydia has been around for thousands of years, it wasn't isolated until World War II, said Wyrick, associate professor of bacteriology. It was thought to be a virus instead of a bacterium until the mid-1960's and was not widely publicized in the medical literature until the 1970s. Wyrick's is one of only a half dozen biology labs in the country studying Chlamydia at present.

One of the greatest problems with Chlamydia, she said, is that there may be no visible symptoms, and even when symptoms are evident, the disease is difficult for a doctor to diagnose. For that reason, many people do not know they have the disease.

"Studies of some 2,000 patients in obstetrics clinics have found that, on the average, 13 to 20 percent of the pregnant women who came for prenatal checkups had Chlamydia and didn't know it," Wyrick said.

"People know about gonorrhea and syphilis, and that's what people always think of as sexually transmitted disease. But there's a host of organisms that can cause VD, including Chlamydia and Herpes."

She pointed out that there's a 55 percent chance that a woman who has Chlamydia will give it to a male partner and approximately a 65 percent chance that a man will give it to a female partner.

When symptoms are visible, they often resemble a mild form of gonorrhea. Symptoms often include pain, a watery discharge and burning on urination. But unlike syphilis and gonorrhea which can be confirmed by a blood test or a stained smear of the discharge, Chlamydia

is difficult to diagnose. It can only be isolated on a tissue culture, a procedure using mammalian cells. Not many laboratories can perform the test, and when it is available, it may cost as much as \$65 at some labs, Wyrick said. N.C. Memorial, Duke Medical Center and the state laboratory in Raleigh are three places the test is available in North Carolina.

"Right now," she added, "for the most part, Chlamydia is diagnosed by exclusion. The doctor rules out everything else, so he may not have to resort to a culture to diagnose it."

Once Chlamydia is diagnosed, it is easy to treat, she said. A minimum of 10 days to two weeks on tetracycline will, in most cases, kill the Chlamydia bacteria, as well as gonorrhea or syphilis. "Compliance is the biggest problem. Some people stop taking the antibiotic after four or five days when they begin to feel better. But Chlamydia bacteria are slow-growing and it takes

longer to kill them all."

If left untreated, Chlamydia may lead to pelvic inflammatory disease or infection of the cervix or fallopian tubes in women and disease of the prostate gland or epididymis in men. "These are very serious diseases and can lead to sterility," she said. "But one of the more serious problems about the disease is the risk to the newborn because the mother may not realize she has Chlamydia."

There is some research that suggests that Chlamydia may lead to miscarriage, low birthweight and premature birth, as well as increased risk of fetal and newborn deaths.

There is a 67 percent chance that a child who passes through the birth canal infected with Chlamydia will develop an eye disease or a type of pneumonia, she said. Either of these conditions can be serious and may not show up until a few weeks after birth.

"State law requires newborns receive silver nitrate eye drops for gonorrhea and syphilis," Wyrick said. "But these are now effective on Chlamydia. Usually the child and mother must be treated with erythromycin since tetracycline cannot be given to pregnant women or young children."

"More research is needed but many potential scientists reject this field because of the poor funding situation."

The only hope for fighting the spread of Chlamydia is through providing more information to the public and developing a less expensive diagnostic test for the disease, she said.

Wyrick's research is funded through the National Institutes of Allergy and Infectious Diseases of the National Institutes of Health.



B.E. LATTIMORE

## Lattimore Appointed

Rutledge College of Greensboro last week announced the appointment of B.E. "Buck" Lattimore of Shelby as Chief Executive Officer effective May 18, 1981.

Lattimore, 33, comes to Rutledge with top management experience in both state government and education administration. He served as North Carolina Deputy Insurance Commissioner from 1975 to 1979, being the youngest deputy insurance commissioner in the state's history at the time of his appointment. For the past two years, Lattimore has been employed as Assistant to a cost containment program for health care administered through the North Carolina Department of Human Resources.

Before coming to Rutledge, Lattimore was Director of the evening division of King's College of Raleigh. His educational experience also includes three years as an instructor at Kings.

He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Wofford College, Spartanburg, S.C., where he graduated with honors in Government. He served legislative internship in the United States and in the North Carolina General Assembly. He has pursued graduate work in Management at North Carolina State University.

Lattimore has been named four times to Outstanding Young Men of America, has received the Danforth Foundation's Leadership Award, and holds the Wofford College Department of Government Award for academic achievement and leadership in his field.

"I am excited by both the challenge and the opportunity Rutledge College affords me," said Lattimore. "I am particularly proud to be associated with the largest chain of private business colleges in the country." Rutledge College of Greensboro is one of fifteen Rutledge Colleges located throughout the United States.

Lattimore will continue to reside on his farm on Highway 150 West of Shelby. He is the son of Mrs. Eugene Lattimore and the late Mr. Lattimore.

## QUICK QUIZ

Nearby 500,000 Americans are legally blind. Every 11 minutes another person is added to these ranks. Fortunately, many causes of blindness can be prevented. How good is your eye-Q concerning eye problems? The following quiz is presented by the American Association of Ophthalmology, which represents over 5,300 medical doctors specializing in the care and treatment of the eyes.



1. The leading causes of blindness are (a) improperly prescribed glasses (b) poor lighting (c) disease?

2. Common causes of early vision problems are (a) television (b) hereditary and prenatal conditions (c) vitamin deficiencies?



3. Eye injuries are caused mostly by (a) accidents in the home (b) unsupervised play by children (c) sports equipment and activities?

4. Ophthalmologists (a) prescribe glasses (b) diagnose vision problems (c) prescribe treatment and surgical procedures?

ANSWERS: 1. (c) The leading causes of blindness are refractive errors which can lead to serious vision impairment if not diagnosed and treated early. 2. (c) All are correct. Although it's true that one of the functions of ophthalmologists is to examine individuals for vision problems and prescribe glasses, they do much more. Regular examinations are the best defense against diseases which can lead to serious vision impairment. 3. (a) All are correct. 3. All three are correct. Although it's true that one of the functions of ophthalmologists is to examine individuals for vision problems and prescribe glasses, they do much more. Regular examinations are the best defense against diseases which can lead to serious vision impairment. 4. (c) All are correct. Although it's true that one of the functions of ophthalmologists is to examine individuals for vision problems and prescribe glasses, they do much more. Regular examinations are the best defense against diseases which can lead to serious vision impairment.

## Would You Believe...

About 18 million American women — more than 1 in 5 — wear a size 16 1/4 or larger.

Years ago in Scotland, it was considered a pledge of deadly vengeance to bite your glove.