

JULIETTE RIPPY ....An active preadolescent

According To Rippy, Maloney

## **Puberous Sclerosis Has Diverse Affect**

By Loretta Manage
Post Managing Editor
Juliette Rippy is like most predolescents. She loves dancing,
nodeling and Michael Jackson. But
unlike most kids her age, Juliette
ives a restricted life, from the foods
he eats to the medications she is
dministered.
Middle aged, Jim Maloney has
corked with IBM for 21 years. He is
senior field service support exeditor. Besides what seems like a
ad case of acne, Maloney seems
uite average.

paid case of acne, Maloney have quite average.

Both Juliette and Maloney have tuberous sclerosis, A disorder affecting many organs, TS is often characterized by epileptic seizures and varying degrees of mental retardation. There are other symptoms of TS as well. Reddish seed-like bumps appearing across the cheeks and nose, white spots on the skin, wart-like growths in the nail-bed and yellowish-brown skin patches, that have the texture of an orange

ulius Rippy, six years befor child was diagnosed as havin he years before the diagnos nade were a living nightman e Rippys, At hirth, Juliette was e to breathe. She was placed i pots appeared on her body. As uliette grew older, more symp-oms of TS were to reveal them-

"I noticed one day that she would stop and stare into space and trem-ble. I could not get any response and at other times she would sleep as much as 14 hours at a time," replied

Throughout this time, although the Rippys kept the doctors formed of Juliette's condition, may never saw the trembling or the taring. Mrs. Rippy prayed that they would. Her prayers were answered when Juliette was taken to neurologists for tests, after having experienced three days of seizures. After the testing and observation was over, Juliette was diagnosed as having TS with seizure disorder, tubers on the retina and brain and a chronic allergy problem. Although her problems are severe, Juliette is juckler than a lot of people who have TS; she is not retarded and although she has been taught from a very early age not to have children she can expect to live a fairly normal life.

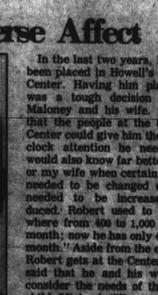
normal life.

Maloney was diagnosed with TS at age eight. It wasn't until he had married and his wife had given birth to their first child that he realized the dangers of having children. No one ever informed him of the possibility of having a child with TS, not even the Navy which studied Maloney extensively when he enlisted in the service. It has been discovered that persons with TS have a one out of two chance of passing TS onto their offspring. Maloney's firstborn, Robert, was born severely retarded.

The disease varies in its degree of symptoms, as well as whom it afflicts. A couple with no history of TS can produce an offspring with TS

as well as a person with a history of the disease. What happens with two people who have had no history of TS is that a normal gene changes to the abnormal form some time before conception.

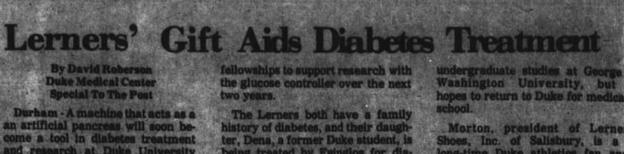
For 13 years, Maloney and his wife cared for their son Robert. Being as retarded as he is, they ended up caring for Robert as they would a newborn. Aside from the constant care, the Maloneys had to make sure that Robert, when he would have epileptic seizures, would not harm himself.



In the last two years, Robert has been placed in Howell's Child Care Center. Having him placed there was a tough decision for both Maloney and his wife. "We knew that the people at the Child Care Center could give him the round the clock attention he needed. They would also know far better than me or my wife when certain medicines needed to be changed or dosages needed to be increased or reduced. Robert used to have anywhere from 400 to 1,000 seizures a month; now he has only 40 to 50 per month." Aside from the expert care Robert gets at the Center, Maloney said that he and his wife had to consider the needs of their second child, Michael. "We wanted to provide him as normal a home setting as possible. Michael is seven. Up until lately Michael had shown no signs of having TS. "He has recently begun to show white spots," remarked Maloney.

If Michael is lucky, having TS, if he is diagnosed as such, will only mean having to have occasional laser treatments to reduce the patches that sometimes develop on the skin. That is the extent of Maloney's medical care, and even that is optional.

While the Rippys deal with TS and how it affects their daugnter and the Maloneys handle the possibility that Sep TUBEROUS On Page 15A



Durham - A machine that acts as a an artificial pancreas will soon become a tool in diabetes treatment and research at Duke University Medical Center, thanks to a gift of \$100,000 from Morton and Bernice Lerner of Salisbury.

The machine, known as a glucose controller, is a computer-controlled device that continually monitors a patient's blood sugar level and automatically infuses insulin and glucose to keep blood sugar at the level set by the patient's physician.

"It's a tremendous treatment and research tool," said Dr. Mark N. Feinglos, assistant professor of endocrinology and assistant clinical professor of psychiatry.

People with diabetes have a condition in which insulin, a substance normally produced in the pancreas and necessary for the body to use sugar for energy, is either produced in insufficient quantities or simply fails to work properly.

"The problem in diabetes is that the way we administer insulin is pretty crude compared to normal body mechanisms," Feinglos said. Repeated blood sugar tests and multiple injections of insulin may be needed to adjust blood sugar to the proper level, and activities such as exercise or eating cause that level to fluctuate.

The glucose controller, the first in this area, will be used to help treat patients with acute or poorlycontrolled diabetes, Feinglos said. In such cases, the glucose controller will be used to help determine and establish proper blood sugar levels while freeing the patient of the often frustrating series of blood samplings and injections previously needed for the diagnosis.

Proper insuline doses for a patient can be determined by a daylong treatment with the machine in most cases, Feinglos said, after which those doses can be administered in regularly scheduled in-

istered in regularly scheduled injections.

The machine, which resembles a two-foot-square box attached to a complex set of LV.'s, will be used about equally for patient treatment and experimental purposes.

"There are a number of research projects this is potentially useful for when a patient doesn't need it," Feinglos said.

In addition to the \$50,000 purchase cost of the machine, the Lerners' gift also provides funds for two \$25,000

The Lerners both have a family history of diabetes, and their daugh-ter, Dena, a former Duke student, is being treated by Feinglos for dia-

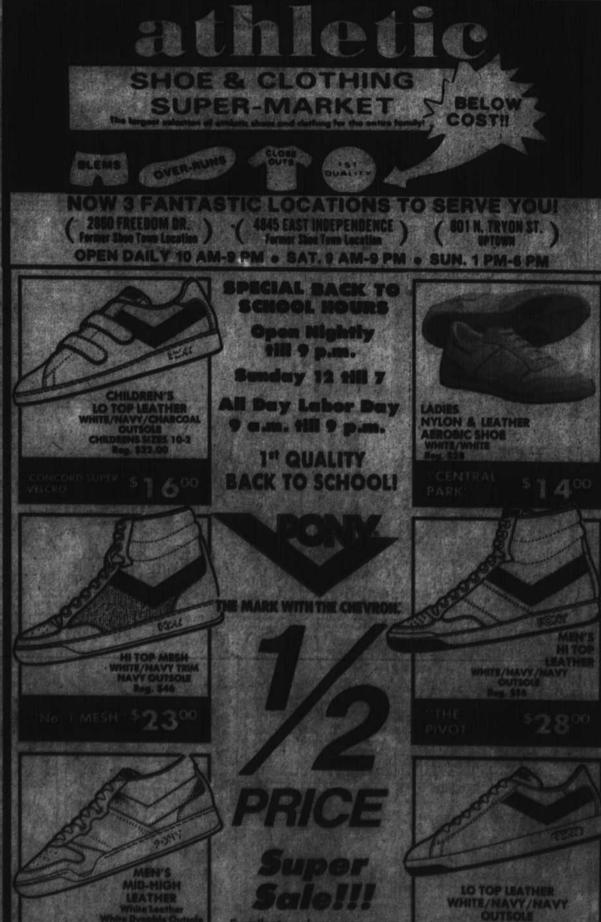
The family has numerous other ties to Duke. Bernice is a 1953 Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the university. Older son Richard had a heart valve replaced at the hospital, and younger son Mark is completing his second year in the School of Medicine. Dena, whose college career was interrupted by complications brought on by flare-ups of her diabetes, plans to resume her

Morton, president of Lerner Shoes, Inc. of Salisbury, is a long-time Duke athletics fan and supporter of the Iron Dukes program. He and Bernice are sixyear participants in the Duke Children's Classic, which raises funds for the Department of Pediatrics.

"I guess everything sort of played a hand in our closeness to Duke," he said: "We have a lot of affiliations to the total medical picture at Duke. There are some strong attachments.







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