



Maryland
**EMS
NEWS**

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Sixteen teams participated in the 1983 EMS Olympics at UMBC on September 18. This year there were two competitions—ALS and BLS. Each team was faced with two emergency situations and while the general public and judges watched, each team began treating its moulaged victims. (See photo at left.) Throughout the afternoon, other EMS-related events were scheduled. These included auto extrication demonstrations (see photo below) by MFRI and Earleigh Heights Vol. Fire Co., helicopter demonstrations by the Md. State Police Aviation Division; high-rise evacuation rescues by the HEAT team; drownproofing demonstrations by the American Red Cross, and more than 40 indoor and outdoor exhibits. (See pages inside for more on the Olympics.)



EMS Supporters Receive Appreciation Awards

Sixteen awards for outstanding service to the Maryland EMS system were presented last month at the Third Annual EMS Olympics at the University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC).

The Region I award was given to Fran Pope, a CRT with the Southern Garrett County Rescue Squad and the region's southern CRT coordinating officer. Ms. Pope who also serves on the Region I EMS Advisory Council and on the Medical Advisory Committee, was recognized for her superior performance as a prehospital care provider.

The recipient of the Region II award was John H. J. Frantz, a past president of the Region II EMS Advisory Council. Mr. Frantz is a CRT with the Community Rescue Squad and a CRT instructor, and was, in fact, one of the first CRTs and CRT instructors in the state. An active member of the council since its inception 10 years ago, Mr. Frantz received the award for his excellent service as a liaison between the advisory council and the region's prehospital care providers.

The Region III award went to Gustav Voight, MD, chief of emergency medicine at Baltimore City Hospitals. Dr. Voight was cited for his instrumental role in developing the pilot program for delivering prehospital advanced life support services in Region III. Subsequently, this program was implemented statewide.

Preston Bounds III, a CRT with the Ocean City Fire Department and a CRT instructor, received the Region IV award for helping to advance EMS goals and objectives through his participation on the Region IV Advisory Council, REMSAC (Regional EMS Advisory Council), and various local committees.

Both Sherry Hayes and TFC Michael Musial were recipients of Region V awards for their volunteer service in the Arrive Alive Program, which was started last year to reduce the incidence of serious traffic accidents among teenagers in Charles County. Ms. Hayes helps with the presentations of the program — 45-minute sessions in which a media presentation of an actual fatal accident involving teenagers is followed by a discussion. TFC Musial, a 14-year veteran of the Maryland State Police, has contributed his expertise in public information and crime prevention to the success of the program, which recently was incorporated into the driver's education curriculum in Charles County.

This year's service awards went to Gloria Balducci, a senior instructor at the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute, and to

TFC William Finch, who serves in the Washington, DC section of the Maryland State Police Aviation Division.

Ms. Balducci, who is also project director of a Department of Transportation training grant, received her award for assistance in the development of instructional materials and state protocols for EMS crisis situations.

TFC Finch, recognized by the Maryland State Police as an outstanding medic/observer, is also ambulance captain of, and a CRT with, the Pokomoke Volunteer Fire Company. In addition, he is a member of the Region IV EMS Advisory Council and REMSAC. He was chosen to receive this award for his dedicated service to the Maryland EMS system.

Eight special EMS supporter awards were presented this year. The recipients were Frank D. Altobelli, a regional administrator, and Diane Steed, administrator designate, both with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration; Gina Glick, MD, director of anesthesia at Sacred Heart Hospital in Cumberland; Dorothy Gordon, PhD, director of the Emergency Health Services Program at UMBC; Sheldon S. Knorr, PhD, Commissioner of the State Board for Higher Education; Kenneth May, president of the LaVale Rescue Squad; Delegate R. Clayton Mitchell, Jr., Dist. 36; and John S. Toll, PhD, president of the University of Maryland.

A long-time supporter of the Maryland EMS system, Mr. Altobelli was one of the first federal officials to recognize the value of the systems approach to emergency medical care. He also approved the grant that allowed the Maryland State Police to purchase the first Med-Evac helicopter in 1969. Ms. Steed, who heads the largest federal agency responsible for traffic safety, is leading an effort to upgrade the resources available to EMS. She has given consistent recognition to the importance of EMS in reducing death and injuries from motor vehicle crashes.

Dr. Glick, who is also president of the Region I EMS Advisory Council and a member of REMSAC, has been a tireless worker in the creation, maintenance, and improvement of emergency medical care. Her accomplishments in the area of emergency medical training have been numerous, and have included teaching some of the first CPR, EMT, and CRT training courses and founding the Tri-State Poison Control Center in 1961.

Dr. Gordon developed the first baccalaureate program in emergency health

services and is developing the first master's program in this new field. These programs give all EMS personnel opportunities to further their education and achieve academic degrees.

Dr. Knorr has given strong backing to all MIEMSS educational programs from the Emergency Health Services Program to training programs for prehospital care providers.

Mr. May has worked diligently to improve EMS at both the local and state levels. One of his greatest accomplishments has been getting the Voluntary Ambulance Inspection Program started in Region I. Mr. May is a member of REMSAC and the Region I EMS Advisory Council, of which he is also a past president.

Delegate Mitchell has always supported MIEMSS' efforts to improve emergency medical care in Maryland. He has been an invaluable asset to the Maryland EMS system because of his attention to MIEMSS programs in the Maryland Legislature and his willingness to serve as a resource to the Institute. His contributions have helped make MIEMSS the nationally and internationally renowned system it is today.

Finally, Dr. Toll has been a strong advocate of MIEMSS in connection with various training and capital improvement projects. Most recently, he helped the Institute acquire funds to build a new 138-bed Shock Trauma Center. MIEMSS programs have flourished under the umbrella of the University of Maryland.

Poison Center Pharmacists Earn AAPCC Certification

Lisa Booze, Karen Disney, and Cynthia Pennente, Maryland Poison Center (MPC) clinical pharmacists, recently passed the first certification exam of the American Association of Poison Control Centers (AAPCC) to become AAPCC-certified poison information specialists.

The MPC staff scored an average of 92.9 percent and the Maryland Poison Center achieved the fourth highest score of the 72 regional and nonregional poison centers taking this examination.

Reminder

MD Fire-Rescue Education & Training Commission Meeting, Oct. 20, 10 am, Baltimore City Fire Academy, Pulaski Highway. CONTACT: Ted Porter, (301) 269-2971.

Winning Teams in EMS Olympics

BLS Contest

ALS Contest

1st



Laurel Rescue Squad: Deborah Freidlar, Ross Nelson, Lorraine Lawson



Frederick County ALS: Mickey Fyoc, Keith Roberson, James Wolfen

2nd



Laurel Rescue Squad: Marisa Werner, Chuck Bond, Bill Faucette



Baltimore City: Dan Christ, Dan Hughes, David Coogan

3rd



Woodlawn VFD: Debbie Snyder, Carl Rausch, Robert Jones



Baltimore County: Bruce Conrad, James Barnes, Jr., Jim Westervelt

It's All in a Day at the Third Annual EMS Olympics . . .



Region V

Region V includes Calvert, Charles, Montgomery, Prince Georges, and St. Marys counties.

EMS Week

EMS Week events started early in Region V with EMS displays and demonstrations at the annual St. Mary's County Air Fair on September 10-11. September 14 marked the first program for the Region V Speakers Bureau as well as the first time Region V participated in the two-day health fair at the University of Maryland College Park. On Saturday the 17th, EMS activities, including an accident-rescue demonstration (showing medical treatment, auto extrication, and a patient evaluation and transport by a Maryland State Police Med-Evac crew), were the highlights of the Charles County Fair.

On Sunday, many regional providers and their families traveled to Catonsville to cheer on regional teams in the EMS Olympics. Their efforts were rewarded when they saw teams from Laurel Volunteer Rescue Squad take first and second place in the basic life support competition.

Throughout the week, regional hospitals provided a variety of outreach programs and public information program films and displays. For example, representatives from Prince George's General Hospital spoke in several schools on the topic of "EMS and Trauma" and Leland Memorial Hospital staff presented films and lectures. As usual the big hit was the Speakers Bureau with over 20 programs. Senior citizens groups, civic organizations, and even a babysitter-training program heard speakers discuss EMS themes related to "People You Can Count On." Approximately 800 people participated.

Other Regional Activities

A seminar on the emergency medical management of hazardous materials injuries was presented for prehospital EMS personnel in Montgomery County on September 12-14. Michael V. Vance, MD, the associate director of the Central Arizona Regional Poison Management Center, presented the seminar. A diplomate of both the American Board of Medical Toxicology and the American Board of Emergency Medicine, Dr. Vance acquainted prehospital providers with the general principles of hazardous materials management as well as medical management priorities. Recognition and management of toxic inhalants, pesticides, caustics, and solvents were covered. Specific antidote therapy and decontamination were also included in this three-

day program. Unfortunately programs for physicians and nurses on this timely issue, scheduled for the same week, were cancelled because of lack of interest.

On September 7, the County Medical Directors group met in Lanham to discuss changes in the regional cardiac rescue technician protocols as well as to review program developments at the state level.

Sgt. Mario J. Reda, Jr., a career paramedic with Kensington Volunteer Fire Department, Inc., of Montgomery County, was honored with a public service award by the Kensington/Wheaton

Chamber of Commerce at their annual awards banquet on September 19.

He was recognized for his contributions to Montgomery County's Kids in Safety Seats (KISS) program. Sgt. Reda, commander of the EMS division in Kensington, was instrumental in organizing a fund-raiser which provided 56 additional safety seats to Montgomery County KISS. A member of the EMS Committee of the Montgomery County Fire/Rescue Commission, Sgt. Reda also serves on the county's underwater rescue team.

—Marie Warner, Ed Lucey
(301) 773-7970

Region I

Region I includes Garrett and Allegany counties.

EMS Week activities in Region I began with the county commissioners of Allegany and Garrett counties signing local EMS Week proclamations. The commissioners expressed their support for the EMS system and commended the many EMTs and CRTs for their dedication to high level care.

At the Country Club Mall in LaVale large displays were exhibited on September 17 featuring Cresaptown VFD, District #16 VFD, Maryland Park Service Rescue Team, Allegany County Civil Defense, Garrett County Central Alarm, MIEMSS, and the Maryland State Police. The purpose of the exhibits was to educate the public on the resources available for field rescue and treatment. Individual ambulance services continued public education activities at the Country Club Mall through the week of September 18-23.

These included LaVale Rescue Squad, George's Creek Ambulance Service, Corriganville VFD, Tri-Towns Ambulance and Rescue Service, and Frostburg Area Ambulance Service.

Media coverage of EMS Week included the Tri-State Report on WFRB and interviews with EMS personnel by WCBC and WTBO. On Sunday, September 18, the *Cumberland Times* ran a full-page pictorial on EMS services, featuring the "People You Can Count On" theme.

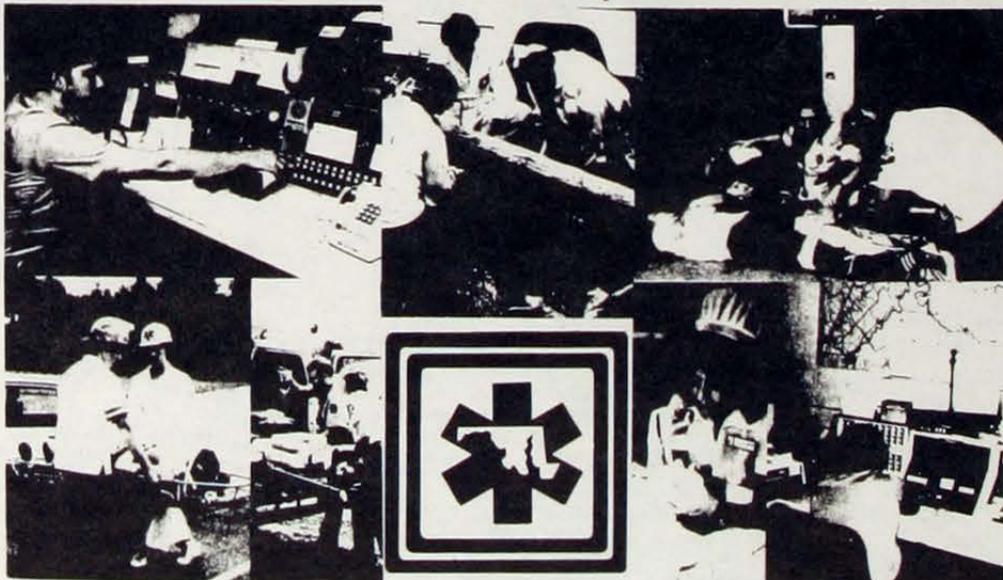
Participation in the Olympics was good with three BLS teams traveling to Baltimore—Tri-Towns sent two teams and LaVale sent one team.

Region I individuals receiving awards at the Olympics included Kenneth May and Fran Pope. Dr. Gina Glick was also honored for her long support of and assistance in developing the Maryland EMS program.

—Dave Ramsey
(301) 895-5934

C8—Cumberland Sunday Times, Sunday, Sept. 18, 1983

Accidents Are The Cause; EMS Is The Cure



Region IV

Region IV includes Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's, Somerset, Talbot, Wicomico, and Worcester counties.

The Region IV EMS Advisory Council wishes to congratulate Preston (Billy) Bounds as the 1983 recipient of the MIEMSS Region IV award presented during ceremonies at the EMS Olympics on September 18 at UMBC.

Billy has been extremely active as a member of the regional EMS advisory council and as a CRT instructor, and has been instrumental in assisting with the development of the cardiac rescue technician training program at Peninsula General Medical Center.

In addition, Billy is a member of the ALS Committee that was formed to represent advanced life support on the Lower Eastern Shore and recently assisted in the formation of the Worcester County Ambulance Committee.

Billy is a representative of the regional EMS council at REMSAC meetings and serves on several statewide EMS committees.

He is currently affiliated with the Ocean City Fire Department and has contributed greatly to the advancement of prehospital emergency health care services and advanced life support in that community.

Congratulations for a job well done!

The Regional Advisory Council would like to also salute the regional ambulance companies who participated in the EMS Olympics competition—Goodwill Volunteer Fire Company at Centreville and Salisbury Fire Department.

Finally, the regional council would like to thank those individuals who attended the EMS Olympics in support of the region.

—Marc Bramble, John Barto
(301) 822-1799



Marc Bramble presents Preston (Billy) Bounds with the Region IV award.

Focusing On Field Operations

Physician Cards for Providers

The written copy for the physician cards was discussed within the regional councils. The consensus was that these cards, which can be given to physicians who stop at the scene of an accident, could be of value but that the wording needed to be clarified. My staff is rewording this card and hopefully it will be ready for distribution later this year.

DEMSPAC Task Force

At the last meeting of the Ad Hoc group, the committee elected to change its name to the Director's Prehospital EMS Advisory Committee and asked Dr. Cowley to set up a task force to examine all aspects of the EMT/A program. Dr. Cowley is now putting this task force together. It will have representatives from all aspects of the prehospital care phase. Funding support will be provided by MIEMSS. Dr. Cowley has asked the task force to prepare a report by March 1, 1984 so that any recommendations for changes can be implemented prior to the new school year beginning in fall 1984.

It is anticipated that there will be the opportunity for input. It has been many years since the entire EMT/A program was examined. Changes that have been implemented in recent years have tended to be "band aid" changes and perhaps now is the time to reexamine the whole program and then, hopefully, the course will be much more stable in the next few years.

—Alasdair Conn
Medical Director, Field Operations

Region II



Jay Frantz and Alasdair Conn, MD, at Region II's tenth anniversary celebration. Mr. Frantz was recognized at the EMS Olympics for his contributions to EMS during the past 10 years.

Region II includes Frederick and Washington counties.

September 19 marked the tenth anniversary of the formation of the Mid-Maryland Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council. This Council was created by joint action of the county commissioners of Washington and Frederick counties on this date in 1973 in a ceremony witnessed by then Governor Marvin Mandel at the Sheraton Inn in Hagerstown. This was the first regional EMS council created in Maryland, not only in response to the Governor's executive order, but also in an effort to secure funds from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Although the Council was not successful in securing the grant funds, it has continued to take the lead in furthering the principles of effective emergency medicine in Region II. The Council has played a

strong role in determining the distribution of Department of Transportation Highway Safety Grant funds and has taken advantage of the money available under the Federal EMS Act before these funds were curtailed by the Reagan administration.

The tenth anniversary was celebrated by a banquet for the charter members of the Council, previous commissioners, present county commissioners for Frederick and Washington counties, the present EMS Council, and representatives from each of the 22 ambulance provider companies in Region II. The Council has accepted a charge to continue its leadership role for the next 10 years in matching local needs with what is state-of-the-art in emergency medical care.

—Mike Smith
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Rehab for Head-Injured under Study

A state legislative task force will study how the state's rehabilitation services for head-injured patients can be coordinated more effectively and will make recommendations for improving those services.

The members of the task force represent accident victims, the MIEMSS Shock Trauma Center, the Maryland Head Injury Foundation, and the state health and education agencies.

The task force was formed by the House Environmental Matters Committee after hearing testimony from many of these same representatives on September 6. The group will report its findings to the committee in about a month, according to Bernice Wolfson, who testified at the committee hearing.

Ms. Wolfson, a social worker in the Shock Trauma Center's Department of Psychosocial Services, says she told the committee that a continuum of rehabilitation services should be available to meet the specific needs of the head-injured.

Rehabilitation programs for head-injured patients should be kept separate from those for patients recovering from strokes or emotional or mental distur-

bances because they have different kinds of functional disabilities and the recovery process is much longer, says Ms. Wolfson.

For example, she says the rehabilitation techniques that are used on hospitalized patients with other kinds of neurologic deficits are no longer appropriate for head-injured patients. New rehabilitation techniques have been developed for such patients, but rehabilitation practitioners either are not aware of these techniques, or believe the old techniques are adequate, according to Ms. Wolfson.

The recovery process for head-injured patients takes several years to a lifetime, compared to several months to a year for patients with other kinds of neurologic deficits. Consequently, head-injured patients have a much greater need for outpatient services, Ms. Wolfson says. She adds that these services should be tailored to head-injured patients.

In addition, head-injured patients need a variety of community services, such as group homes for patients who do not want to live at home, or who need a place to stay temporarily when their caretakers feel overburdened, says Ms.

Wolfson. According to her, group homes for retarded patients exist, but experience has shown that head-injured patients do not like living in them because they cannot relate to the other residents. She notes that a community resource also is needed to provide the educational and vocational retraining needs of head-injured patients.

One of the initial outcomes of the hearing may be increased insurance coverage for rehabilitation services. Currently, medical insurance policies cover only a fraction of the rehabilitation costs incurred by head-injured patients.

Delegate Lawrence LaMotte of Baltimore County, chairman of an Environmental Matters Committee work group that will study insurance coverage for rehabilitation, said at the hearing that he plans to introduce legislation at the next session of the Maryland General Assembly that would improve that coverage.

Ms. Wolfson says she is optimistic about the prospect of obtaining funds to provide the rehabilitation services that she says head-injured patients need, but added, "It's the beginning of a long road."

— Dick Grauel