Medical Science Still Needs Donors

By David Williamson

Did you ever hear someone say that you can always raise a little cash by selling your body to medical science?

Don't believe it.

"There's no medical school in the country that will pay a person for his own body or for someone else's," says Susan Padilla, administrative assistant in the Department of Anatomy at Duke University Medical Center.

"We get two or three phone calls and two or three letters a day from people who want to donate their bodies. A lot of people are convinced that we buy bodies, and some won't believe us when we say we don't."

One of Ms. Padilla's responsibilities is to oversee the acquisition of cadavers for anatomical study and research. Her task is far from simple.

"Each year, we need to have approximately 60 bodies available for teaching and research, including 29 for our medical students who begin three months of anatomy in August," she said. "Sometimes we have enough, and sometimes the supply is very tight. We have never had too many."

Seven of every 10 bodies the department receives have been bequeathed to the School of Medicine by individuals, while families of deceased persons donate most of the rest. Duke also receives one or two unclaimed bodies a year from the North Carolina Commission of Anatomy, composed of representatives of the state's four medical schools and the funeral industry.

Saves Burial Expenses

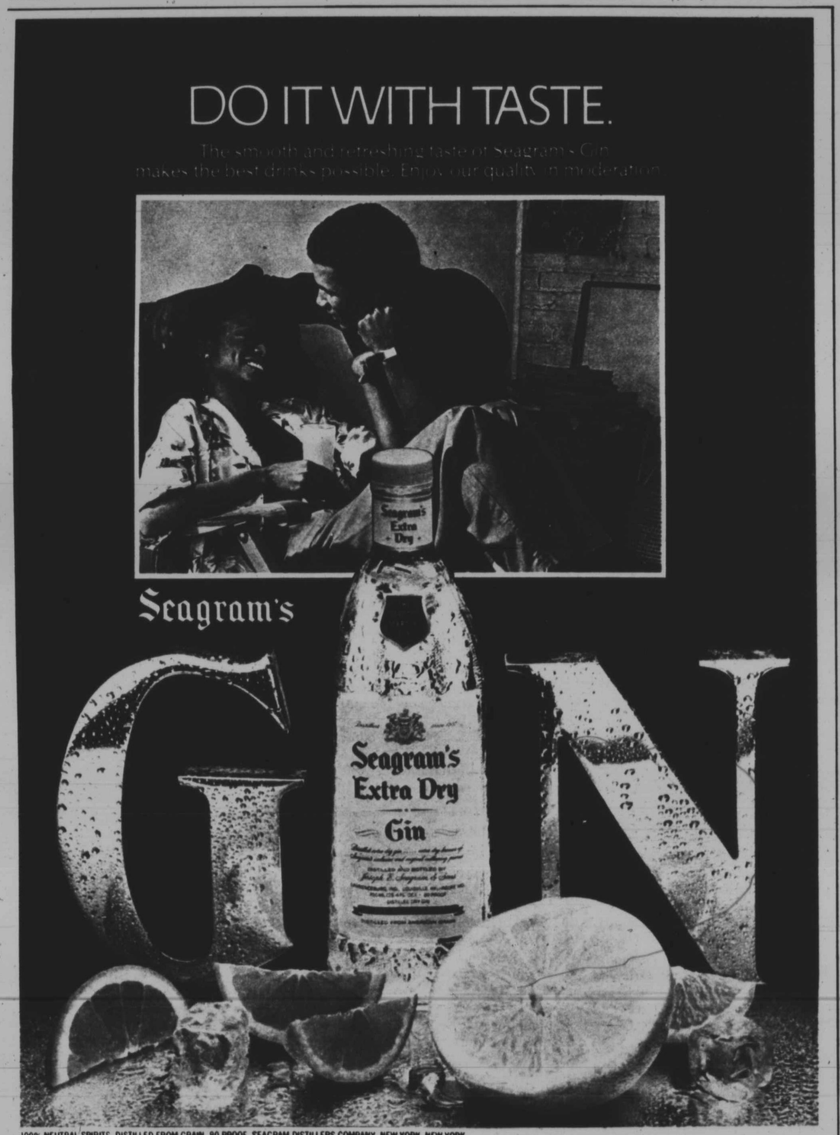
"There are so many feelings involved at the time of death that we have to be very, very understanding with the families," she said. "Some families are grateful to be spared the burden of burial expenses, and many others are sincerely trying to help advance medical science."

So that the bodies will be used to best advantage, a variety of other students begin learning their professions in the anatomy laboratory—pathology assistants, physical therapists, graduate students and physicians' assistants.

The tissues are also employed in training surgical residents and in the development of new procedures in orthopedics, radiology, plastic surgery and other specialties.

"Organs such as kidneys and eyes are definitely the medical center's top priority in terms of donation," she said. "That's because many thousands of people around the country die each year or remain sightless because there are not enough organ donors. To survive after death, kidneys need to be removed within 30 minutes and eyes within four hours."

Ms. Padilla said that a person interested in leaving organs to transplant patients or an entire body to education and research needs only to fill out a free "Uniform Donor Card" that is available in most states, and directly through the departments of anatomy



—LaBelle

them — I did have other options. But I wanted to do it there, because this year I felt that I should do it.

"There's a time and place for everything, and I think this is our time to make it together. I know they can do it for me. It's just that I wasn't ready before, for some reason, but I really feel it now. I have an advantage because they don't have many female artists. Only the Jones Girls, Jean Carn, and Dee-Dee Sharp — so I think I'm in very good company."

"When I saw Dionne Warwick get the Grammy, I knew that people were starting to listen to music again. When the disco thing died down, thank God, I felt like I had a better chance! I know it's just a combination of timing, who you're with, and what material you're putting out. I know that with P.I., it will happen."

I had noticed that Patti had been writing a lot of her own material since she started her solo career. Was writing a new experience for her? "No, I was writing with Labelle, but it was never publicized. I did some writing with my musical director, Bud Ellison, who wrote "You Are My Friend" along with my husband and me. I started writing then, and I've been writing every solo album since then.

Patti's last album, "Released" was a musical treat, that made an impressive showcase for her wide range of talent. Many people felt that there were several cuts on it that could have topped the charts. Although the record was successful, it left Patti, once again, short of the acclaim and recognition she deserves. Her disappointment was short - lived, however, for she energetically threw herself into her new album, which will be released this month.

—McHenry

says that he was never much of an athlete. He recently said that he is interested in restoration of old furniture and has been looking around for such furniture in the Washington area.

He shares the custody of the three children. He counts Edmund Burke, Plato and Socrates among his favorites. He said that he is interested in reading about the lives of famous orators.

His work at Georgetown University now includes research on South Africa and the Middle East. In addition, he is also preparing several lectures, which will be delivered next autumn.

Asked why he was so successful at the U.N. when his predecessors like Daniel F. Moynihan and William Scranton were either ineffective or very controversial, McHenry replied, "I have sincerely tried to be a good listener, to inquire, to speak frankly. My aim has been to create honest dialogue with representatives of the other nations."

The pundits who believed the United Nations to be an anti - American organization were agape. Hitherto conventional wisdom had held the U.N. to be an organ dominated by the developing nations as well as the Soviet bloc.

McHenry proved the pundits wrong with a dizzying series of successes. Nearly every note in the General Assembly and the Security Council went the way the U.S. wanted. McHenry prevailed over his adversaries on such votes as Iran, Cuba, Afghanistan and Cambodia.

The success is astonishing in view of the chief delegate's limited powers. He does not make policy; he only carries it out. Washington makes the policy. However, since the U.N. building in New York is about 200 miles away from the State Department the chief delegate has considerable latitude in his negotiations with his foreign counterparts.

However, he soon ran into an Andy Young situation. After consulting with the State Department, he voted against Israel's settlements in lands seized from the Arabs. It was a very important vote, Israel's chief ally censuring it. It simply could not have been McHenry's decision solely.

President Carter soon disowned the vote, calling it a mistake. However, many political analysts believe that although President Carter had initially supported censuring israel, he changed his mind because the key New York presidential primary was only four weeks away. There are millions of Jewish voters throughout New York state.

McHenry took the setback philosophically. He remained outwardly unruffled. When he was called a "racist" by Mayor Ed Koch of New York City, he telephoned the mayor to express his distrust and dismay. By contrast, McHenry's boss, Cyrus Vance, reportedly telephoned Koch and yelled obscenities at him.

Characteristically, McHenry refuses to discuss the vote, preferring instead to remain a team player. However, the incident seriously undercut his effectiveness. It also eroded the U.S. clout in the U.N.

That crisis notwithstanding, the imprint McHenry left in the psyches of his observers was that of restraint and consummate tact. That vote is now largely forgotten; the memory of the shrewd and professional McHenry days lingers.

—Peter Tosh

take charge of any and all situations he becomes involved in. I wondered how he had been received in Europe. His enthusiastic response, "Incomparable, my dear! They received me kingly!"

Peter emphasized the last word and continued, "They received me with much respect. Yes, they love reggae music." I wanted to know if his audiences had been mainly white?

"All white, in places like East Berlin, W. Berlin, Paris and Italy. I felt good (playing for them) because it's a work that has to be done. As long as people will accept the music, it is for me to play."

But are they really listening to and accepting your political lyrics or are they simply enjoying the music?, I queried.

"As long as one part of the house is attractive (because music is a house), if the foundation attracts you to it — then you will buy the house," declared Peter. In other words, you have to get their attention first.

When the Wailers first started their careers, their visual image was much more conservative than it is today. He went on to explain why he feels his music is particularly relevant to black people all over the world, not only in Jamaica, or the Caribbean.

"My music is *very, very* relevant to black people. It is a motivation of black consciousness everytime. Irrespective of the evil forces that exist and try to eliminate the consciousness of black people.

"We know that the powers of Rastafari exist, they are a force against evil forces in the air."

What is reggae? Where did it originate?, these were my next questions. Peter answered seriously, "Reggae music is a schoolroom of consciousness. It's a schoolroom interpreted in music. I say this because of the psychological and spiritual effects in the music.

"It hypnotizes people automatically and makes you tap your toes to it, subconsciously nod your head to it, snap your fingers to it.

But what about the vast number of black Americans who know nothing about reggae music, and who have probably never heard of Peter Tosh? Peter was more confident than ever.

"I know there are many that reggae hasn't gotten into it yet, but whatever time I get the opportunity of seeing a little of them I'm quite sure I will be able to hypnotize them. And one tongue will tell another ear what eyes have seen."

I wondered about Peter's visions of the future. Did he foresee a movement of black people back to Africa? Tosh replied thoughtfully, "Most people think of a physical repatriation, when you say movement back to Africa.

"But until people have been spiritually repatriated it will be very difficult for you to move them. It's like leading a horse to water and trying to make him drink. But economic pressure is going to force black people back into themselves."

—Admirals

REAR ADMIRAL BENJAMIN HACKER was selected as ear admiral and has served in the Navy since 1958.

Born in 1935 in Washington, D.C., Captain Hacker is currently commanding officer of the NAS, Brunswick.

His naval career has taken him to Barbados, West Indies, to Argentina, and to several states across the country. He is a graduate of the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, Ca., and was awarded a M.S. in Business Administration by George Washington University in 1978.

Specifically, he has served as the commanding officer for the U.S. Naval facility in Barbados, at the Fleet Airborne Electronics Unit for the Pacific, on Patrol Squadron 47 as a plane tactical coordinator; at the Patrol Squadron 21, and also at the Fleet Sonar School, in Key West, Fl.

He has been granted the Meritorious Service Medal, a Navy Commendation Medal, a National Defense Service Medal, and an Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal.