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The Centennial Year

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Television has discovered veterinarians. In a recent episode of "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers," Molly, a young veterinarian, treats a horse with spiral fractures and bone chips in the foreleg. Of course the case is very complicated. The horse gets an infection and almost dies, but ultimately recovers due to the skills of the dedicated vet. The episode doesn't stop there. Molly is interested in horses and has applied for internships. Yes, you guessed it, she is accepted at New Bolton Center. "I am so happy I have to burst—I have to tell someone. I got an internship." she tells one of the characters on the show. "Where?" "At New Bolton Center." "Where is that?" "At the University of Pennsylvania." "For how long?" "Two years."

That creates a problem. One of the brothers is rather fond of Molly and does not want to see her leave. But in true TV fashion, all is resolved and he approves of Molly's going to New Bolton Center.

Are you ready, New Bolton Center? For Molly the vet, and the future episode of her adventures there, perhaps a visit from the boyfriend, a romance with another intern—the possibilities are endless!

It wasn't just New Bolton which received exposure on television. Late in September, Sally Struthers, the heroine of "Gloria," a new series, came to the Small Animal Hospital to tour the facilities and chat with the staff.

"Gloria" is a series about a single woman who is embarking on a new career as a veterinary assistant. She works in a practice which not only sees companion animals but also some small farm animals. Each episode brings numerous complications for Gloria as she pursues her new vocation. She is guided by Burgess Meredith who plays the kind veterinary practitioner.

Ms. Struthers spent a few hours at VHUP and created quite a bit of excitement as she greeted clients and their pets waiting for treatment. She was shown around the new facility by Kenneth Bovee, D.V.M., M.Med.Sc., chairman of the Department of Clinical Studies, who answered her many questions about the building, the equipment, and the patients at VHUP. The whole visit was taped by the TV station for a broadcast later in the year.

Perhaps this exposure of the veterinary profession on TV will do for it what Woodward and Bernstein (the reporters who broke the Watergate story) did for journalism—applications soared to dizzying heights.

The space in front of VHUP has been enlivened by the addition of a large sculpture, "The Lifesavers," which was donated to the Veterinary School by art patrons Philip and Muriel Berman of Allentown, PA. In accepting the gift Dean Robert R. Marshak said, "We hope it will lift the spirits of our clients as it adorns the hospital entrance with a distinctive piece of contemporary art."

Mr. and Mrs. Berman were recipients of the Hazlitt Award which Governor Richard Thornburgh presented in recognition of their achievements as "Patrons of the Arts."

"The Lifesavers" is the work of sculptor Billy Lawless. It measures 8 feet long, by 7½ feet wide, by 10 feet high, and is constructed of plate steel painted red, yellow, green, and black. The elements of the sculpture present a different appearance from every angle, enticing the viewer to walk around the piece.

It is not too early to begin to make preparations for our 100th anniversary in 1984. This will be a year-long celebration featuring a number of outstanding events. Dr. Donald E. Patterson is chairman of the Centennial Committee and Dr. John E. Martin is director of the newly established Centennial Office which will coordinate and implement the various events. Former Dean, Dr. Mark Allam, is honorary chairman. Among other events, the Centennial Year will feature a University Convocation to award honorary degrees, a two-day scientific program, and a gala ball. In the next issue of Bellwether we will list a complete calendar for the year. If you have questions about the Centennial Year, please contact Dr. Martin at (215) 898-3525.