Real life

[Continued from Page 42]

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handling the situations. You can receive a lot of selfsatisfaction."

Griffith, who has been with the unit for three-and-ahalf years explained that while the satisfaction is high, there are many hard moments and many "ups and downs." He said the work is particularly difficult when they find themselves working with many pediatric patients. When a child is lost it is very hard to accept.

he said. But there are also times, he said, "when you save a lot" and this offers its rewards.

Training to work on the mobile unit involves three phases. First, a trainee must complete Emergency Medical Training, an 81-hour course prescribed by the state of Pennsylvania. There is also formal, in-house training, involving 215 hours of coronary care, learning how to deal with trauma, working with anesthesiologists and other areas with which a medic will be confronted while working with the unit. The third phase entails assignment to the crew of the

mobile unit to actually get involved with patients.

Griffith said he feels that Lancaster countians now. receive the "finest emergency medical service in

Lancaster Farming, Saturday, Oct. 23, 1976—43

Pennsylvania." The mobile unit is primarily responsible, of course, but with acceptance of the mobile unit there have been a lot of programs for local volunteer ambulance workers. The cooperative effort pays off, Griffith says.

He acknowledged that fire company and local am-

bulance organizations felt threatened at first by the mobile unit. He said, "It has taken a lct of talking to prove it works, but now they know we are interested in

[Continued on Page 44]

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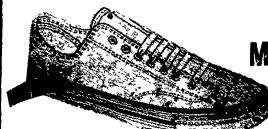
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