

Faith Cresswell talks with her husband, Robert, who has been sustained by the Penn State artificial heart for 104 days now. With the Cresswells is Dr. John Burnside, associate vice president for health affairs at the University's Hershey Medical Center.

## Second recipient of PSU heart eligible for donor human heart

By KATH DODSON  
Collegian Science Writer

Robert Cresswell celebrated his 100th day on the Penn State heart last Tuesday.

On March 17, Cresswell became the second recipient of the Penn State pneumatic artificial heart after his body rejected a human donor heart he had received seven days earlier.

Cresswell has been on the transplant list since May 12. He was not eligible for a transplant before May 12 because of kidney problems that required daily dialysis.

However, some problems have arisen in trying to find a donor heart, Rohrer said.

Cresswell weighs between 180 and 190 pounds, so a possible donor's weight must be within 25 to 30 pounds of Cresswell's weight, Rohrer said.

Cresswell also has an unusually high antibody count, which greatly increases the risk of donor heart rejection. A very close match must be made between Cresswell's blood protein and the donor's. Such a precise match can be very difficult if not impossible, Rohrer said.

The high antibody count could be a result of natural allergies or of Cresswell's previous rejection of a transplanted heart, Rohrer said.

"I'm concerned that we can find a suitable heart," Rohrer said.

Howard Nathan, director of the Delaware Valley Transplant Program, an organization which locates transplantable organs for hospitals like Hershey, said: "We've never been in this position before. We never had a candidate who was so large or had such a high antibody count before."

Three donor hearts have become available since Cresswell was put on the donor list. However, none of the three were suitable for transplantation into Cresswell's chest, Nathan said.

The length of time Cresswell is sustained on the Penn State heart will not effect his chances for a transplant, Rohrer said.

"I don't know of any reason six months from now that he wouldn't be a candidate," Rohrer said. However, he added that the longer Cresswell is on the heart, the greater are the chances chronic infection will develop.

There is a possibility that no transplant will be found for Cresswell. "But we aren't considering that," Rohrer said, adding that the artificial heart has sustained experimental animals for three times longer than Cresswell has been sustained.

The length of time Cresswell has been on the heart should not cause a backlog of cases, Rohrer said. Use of the Penn State heart is an experimental procedure, not a routine operation. If implantation of the artificial heart ever became routine, problems could occur, he said.

No one has been denied a heart resulting from the length of time Cresswell has been on the heart, Rohrer said. Other Penn State hearts are available if the need for another artificial heart should arise, he added.

Potential candidates for the Penn State heart cannot be screened because of high antibody count or other factors that may make a transplant difficult, Nathan said.

"The potential is always there that this patient can survive and you never know if the next donor might be it," Nathan said.

"One doesn't have a week to decide if the Penn State heart will be used," Rohrer added, and screening patients could be very time consuming and difficult.

Cresswell's spirits continue to improve after a period of depression following a stroke he suffered on May 27. Cresswell's stroke was caused by a blood clot which had formed in the artificial heart.

"The longer a patient is on the artificial heart, the greater the opportunity for such an incident to occur," Rohrer said.

As a result of the stroke, Cresswell had difficulty in speaking except to answer questions. However, through daily speech therapy, he has begun to initiate his own speech, Rohrer said.

Cresswell is being treated with an anticoagulant to decrease the risk of blood clot formation. However, such treatment could pose a problem when trying to control bleeding during operations and transplants. Rohrer said the specific anticoagulant being used to treat Cresswell — Coumadin — is easily reversed with other medication in the event that a transplant is found.

Cresswell has also developed some drainage problems and local infection around one of the tubes in his chest, Rohrer said.

"This is natural any time patients have foreign material inside their bodies," Rohrer said. The tube is used to pump air, which causes the heart to pump blood.

Rohrer added that although the blood clot did form in the heart, the pumping mechanism itself has performed perfectly over the last 100 days.

Cresswell continues to ride an exercise bike and to get out of bed a few times a day, Rohrer said. His wife, Faith visits him daily.

"She's a real trooper," Rohrer said, adding that Faith told him, "It's time for a miracle to happen, we're ready for a heart."

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## police log

• An accident in the 200 block of East Nittany Avenue Wednesday resulted in extensive damage to cars driven by Margaret Kowalski, 750 Breese-wood Drive, and Mark J. Wasikonis, 1628 Highland Court. Both cars were towed from the scene, State College Bureau of Police Services said.

• An accident at the intersection of North Atherton Street and Pollock Road resulted in moderate damage to cars operated by Karen E. Bord, 1151 Westery Parkway, and James Conrad, Tyrone, State College police said.

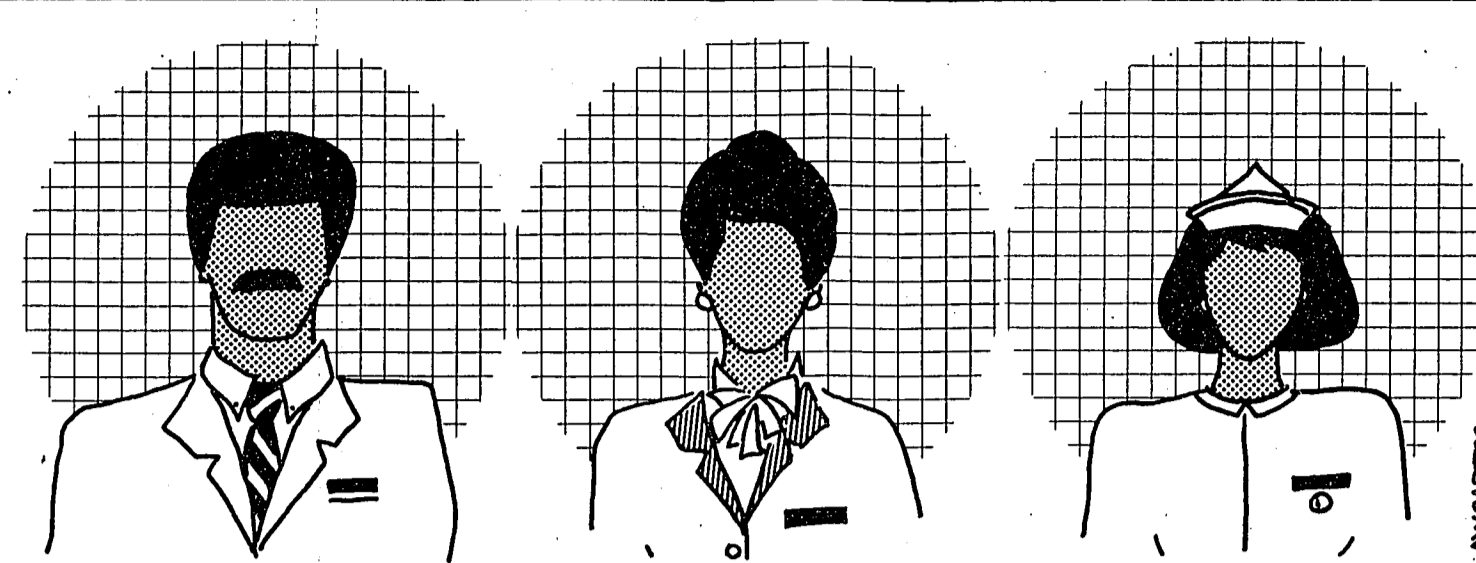
• A man was taken to Centre Community Hospital after being struck by a car at the corner of South Allen Street and East Beaver Avenue, State College police said. Richard Gamble, no address available, was crossing Beaver Avenue when he was struck by a car operated by Jeffrey Lynn Kelly, Altoona, as Kelly was making a left turn onto Beaver Avenue, State College police said.

• A \$200 man's Seiko watch was reported missing by Cliff Gordon, 625 S. Pugh St. The watch was reportedly removed Tuesday or Wednesday from Gordon's unlocked vehicle while it was parked at his address, State College police said.

• Two bicycles worth a total of \$235 were reported missing yesterday from a bike rack near Sparks Building by Anton Premeis, 421 E. Beaver Ave., and Carla Pozio, 303 Fraternal Row, University Police Services said.

• A bicycle worth \$140 was reported missing from the vicinity of Rifer Hall yesterday by Stacy Strasser, 704 Rifer, University police said.

• A motorcycle helmet worth \$150 was reported missing yesterday by John O'Burn, 31 S. Gill St., University police said. O'Burn said the helmet was secured to his motorcycle parked in Parking Lot Blue F, University police said.



## New career program to benefit minorities

By ELLEN STERN  
Collegian Staff Writer

Minority students interested in health careers may have increased opportunities thanks to a \$536,000 grant establishing a Minority Health Careers Program at the University.

J. Gregory Carroll, associate dean for undergraduate studies in the College of Human Development, said, "The program is designed primarily to address the national problem of underrepresentation of minorities in health-related fields."

"Our intent will be to increase minority enrollment through recruitment and retention," he said.

The program will be funded by the Division of Disadvantaged Assistance in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, said Carroll, who is also director of the new program.

The University will use the funding to offer an array of programs for minority high school, undergraduate and graduate students, beginning Sept. 1, Carroll said.

Retention and recruitment will include "... two different types of recruitment. We will use the one traditional type, which entails visiting high schools and holding college fairs. The other is actually setting up opportunities for students," Carroll said.

One such opportunity will be the Minority Health Career Institute, which will be implemented in the summer of 1987. The institute is

a three-week summer program for high school students, Carroll said.

"Somewhat borderline students who could use special work will be given some advance preparation in the form of an intense three-week program," he added.

Another part of the program will be the creation of a special office, affiliated with the College of Human Development, to coordinate the recruitment and retention of minority students in health-related majors.

Dorian O. Burton, coordinator of minority programs for the College of Human Development, said efforts will be made to retain the students "... by ensuring they are doing well in the program academically and socially."

Other areas of the program include:

• Expansion of the summer Minority Advanced Placement Program for academically talented minority high school students.

• Establishment of a network of faculty advisers and academic advising for minority students in health-related programs.

• Coordination of existing University programs of career counseling and academic advising for minority students in health-related programs.

• Creation of a computer system to track the academic progress of University students participating in the program.

• Creation of a separate summer Minority Health Careers Institute for minority college students who are considering graduate study in a health field. This institute will begin during Summer Session 1987.

"We hope to double enrollment. Our goal is to have a 6 percent to 12 percent increase in three years."

— J. Gregory Carroll, associate dean for undergraduate studies in the College of Human Development

The Minority Health Careers Institute will be offered in cooperation with four other universities: Lincoln University, Lincoln, Pa.; Cheyney University, Cheyney, Pa.; and the University of Maryland-Eastern Shore, Princess Anne, Md.

According to Carroll, the University's proposal was one of 13 new programs to be funded by the Division of Disadvantaged Assistance.

A cooperative effort among five health-related fields at Penn State, the program will be associated with nutrition, health education, health planning and administration, clinical psychology and communication disorders.

"This program will have a big impact on minority enrollment in health-related fields," Carroll said. "We hope to double enrollment. Our goal is to have a 6 percent to 12 percent increase in three years."

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CAREER OBJECTIVE: Position in cartography, remote sensing or a related field which utilizes mapping and/or geographic skills.

EDUCATION: B.A. in Geography, The Pennsylvania State University, Jan. 1984 (Penn State's Geography Department was ranked No. 2 in the nation in the 1982 Jones-Lincoln Report; was a B minus student).

COURSE APPLICATIONS: (Cartography)  
  - Designed, edited, photographed, developed and compiled production cartographic projects (various A, B grades).
  - Designed and revised manual (black-and-white) cartographic projects (graduated student, honors, thesis project received an A grade).
  - Remote Sensing and Photogrammetry (B)
  - Cartographic Photo methods and techniques, took aerial photos. Learned applications of aerial photography to map-making. Learned techniques of enhancing and classifying satellite images for land-use/cover mapping; received an A grade for both courses.

ADDITIONAL COURSES: (Cartography)  
  - Quantitative (statistical) techniques (C)
  - Geographic information systems (D)
  - Cartographic education (D)
  - Differential calculus (C)
  - Physical geography (B)
  - Business geography (B)
  - Linear algebra (B)
  - Linear (matrix) algebra (B)

WORK EXPERIENCE:  
  - State Room Manager/Receiving Clerk, Dollar Bargain Store, 11/84-Present
  - Map Research Team (cartography) worker in facilities stock room manager
  - Received merit award after six months
  - Received two merit raises
  - Field Service Worker, Pheasant Dining Hall, 6/80-12/83
  - Received two merit raises with excellent and exceptional work (grades A and B) for both courses
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ACTIVITIES AND HOBBIES: Jazz Club, Underdogs (Geography Club), mapmaking, mapreading, reading

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