

# Young hemophiliacs learn to adjust

## Disease's emotional side effects treated at summer camp

United Press International  
CLEMSON, S.C. — For 40 boys who spend a week at secluded Camp Running Brave, the days are filled

with swimming, sailing, archery, canoeing — and hypnosis training. Camp Running Brave, on a lakefront campground in Western South

Carolina, is like other summer camps in most respects.

But, it differs in being one of 18 camps in the United States for victims of a blood disorder called hemophilia. Each camp is sponsored by a local chapter of the National Hemophilia Association. Each has hemophilia counselors, a full-time medical doctor and a roomful of medication.

Hemophilia, a genetic disorder that prevents blood from clotting properly, is known as the "royal disease" because it afflicted Queen Victoria's heirs.

Its victims experience painful bleeding episodes that are usually internal. Bleeding often occurs in the joints and can be triggered by a blow, a bump or stress. It can be stopped by an injection of the missing clotting factor.

About 25,000 males suffer from hemophilia. It is extremely rare in

females, although the disease is carried by mothers.

While hemophiliacs can learn to avoid physical acts that cause bleeding, often they are not taught to deal with the emotional and mental stresses that bring on a "bleed." To help Running Brave campers cope, Drs. Wallace and Jeanine LaBaw teach them autohypnosis.

This was Jay Moore's fourth summer at the camp. Moore, 14, said he suffers about one "bleed" a week, usually in his elbow.

"It seems to happen when I'm excited about something I've planned to do," he said.

LaBaw, a child psychiatrist who has done much of his work at the University of Colorado Medical School, conducts two 10-to-15-minute self-hypnosis sessions daily for the 5-to-15-year-old campers. He teaches them to put themselves in a trance and practice on their own.

"It works," LaBaw said. "It can let a kid be more independent."

"It helps calm you down," Moore said.

Dale M. Brisson, 29, is a hemophiliac whose conversation is sprinkled with drug addicts' language. Brisson said he was an addict until he discovered hypnosis.

"My body was craving Demerol (a pain killer) — I used to shoot the stuff up. I was strung out, addicted," Brisson said, a radio announcer in Lexington, N.C.

He grew up in Miami at a time when medical researchers had not yet developed and marketed improved blood clotting factors. He remembers going to the hospital for blood plasma each time he bled.

Clotting factors and hypnosis now let him and Moore lead relatively normal lives.

"I'm not allowed to play contact sports such as football because I might get hurt, but I do everything else," Moore said.

Travis Williams, 8, said the only difference between him and his friends is "that I get transfusions."

Life for hemophiliacs, particularly young ones, includes not only pain, the shots and the ban on contact sports. LaBaw said they are also often coddled by over-protective parents who feel guilty about transmitting a disease they themselves don't have.

"I've seen kids in Colorado who have never spent a night away from home," he said.

Moore said one of the best things about camp is "being with the other guys who have hemophilia and talking with them."

Brisson said hemophiliacs often feel isolated because many people don't understand the disease.

For hemophiliacs' parents, money is a big problem. The National Hemophilia Foundation estimates infusion therapy can cost as much as \$22,000 a year. Some states pay subsidies.

Camp director Linda Robertson has a hemophiliac daughter, 12.

"It's like any other long-term disease," said Mrs. Robertson.

She has developed a wry sense of humor about the situation.

"The only thing royal about hemophilia is the cost," she said.

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## Bluegrass festival Saturday

Bluegrass bands from across the Lone Star state are scheduled to perform in a festival this Saturday at Bee Creek Park.

The festival, which begins at noon, is free.

The city of College Station is sponsoring the Bluegrass Festival, and it may become an annual event.

Bands from Brazoria, Wellborn, Dallas and Lolita were invited.

Food will be available, and the bluegrass music will last until dark.

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## what's up THURSDAY

**TAMU FENCING CLUB:** Will meet at 7 p.m. in 261 G. Rollie White Hall.

**MEDINA COUNTY HOMETOWN CLUB:** Will meet to elect officers at 7:30 p.m. in 231 Physics.

**TAMU MICROCOMPUTER CLUB:** Will meet at 7 p.m. in 231 Physics.

**SOCIETY OF AUTOMOTIVE ENGINEERS:** Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 103 Zachry.

**SOUTH LOUISIANA HOMETOWN CLUB:** Will meet at 7 p.m. in 110 Military Sciences.

**HILLEL CLUB:** Will hold Rosh Hashonah Services at 10 a.m., 11 p.m. and 7 p.m. at the Hillel Jewish Student Center.

**RENEWABLE NATURAL RESOURCE ASSOCIATION:** Will meet at 7:30 p.m. on the second floor of the Animal Industries Bldg.

**MSC OUTDOOR RECREATION COMMITTEE:** Will meet at 7 p.m. in 601 Rudder.

**LIBRARY TOURS:** Instructional tours of the Sterling C. Evans Library will begin at 9:30 a.m. and 2 p.m.

**"TIME AFTER TIME":** Malcolm McDowell stars as H.G. Wells in this thriller about time travel. Jack the Ripper escapes to 1874, Francisco and Wells must stop him before he kills again. The feature will be shown at 7:30 and 10 p.m. in Rudder Theater.

**CATHOLIC STUDENT ASSOCIATION:** Will hold a night prayer at 10 p.m. at St. Mary's Church.

**SIGMA DELTA CHI:** Will meet at 7 p.m. at Pasta's Pizza.

**CATHOLIC STUDENT ASSOCIATION:** Will have a study on the book of Revelations at 11 a.m. and on the Old Testament at 7 p.m. at St. Mary's Student Center.

**HUMAN FACTORS:** Will meet at 7 p.m. in 342 Zachry.

**MSC AMATEUR RADIO COMMITTEE:** Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 607 Rudder.

**FINANCE ASSOCIATION:** Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 202 Finance.

**TEXAS A&M WEIGHTLIFTING CLUB:** Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the weightlifting room, G. Rollie White Coliseum.

**CLASS OF '83:** Will meet at 8:30 p.m. in 206 MSC. President Charles Samson will be the speaker.

**MSC VIDEO TAPE COMMITTEE:** Will have a production class at 7 p.m. in the production room on the third floor of the MSC.

**GRADUATE STUDENT COUNCIL:** Will meet at 5 p.m. in 212 MSC.

**TEXAS A&M EMERGENCY CARE TEAM:** Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 301 Rudder.

**ARCHITECTURE ASSOCIATION:** Will have a teacher/student cream social at 5 p.m. in the Architecture Bldg. C Courtyard.

## FRIDAY

**HILLEL CLUB:** Will hold Rosh Hashonah Services at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. at the Hillel Jewish Student Center.

**MSC OPAS:** Student season tickets are on sale at the MSC Box Office through today.

**"THE SEDUCTION OF JOE TYNAN":** Power and principles collide in this box office hit about a Senator with presidential ambitions. Tynan's job keeps him from his family, but not from Meryl Streep, civil rights activist. The feature will be shown at 7:30 and 9:45 p.m. in Rudder Theater.

## Soviets warn sex, drinking do not mix

United Press International  
MOSCOW — Young married Soviet couples are being warned: "Don't drink and make love," or better still, "Don't drink."

The latest and most harrowing warning to the country's estimated 7 million alcoholics, which represents about 3 percent of the population, came in the government controlled Soviet newspaper, Literaturnaya Gazeta.

Too many couples, the weekly said, are indulging in sex and drinking, resulting in physically and mentally handicapped children.

"Special schools are full of children who are the victims of drunken conception," the paper said.

The newspaper reviewed a recently published volume aimed at parents titled "Dire Consequences" which warns that children conceived by drunken parents show a higher rate of physical and mental abnormalities. But it offered no statistical or medical proof.

The paper said counseling centers are being set up to advise mothers on the dangers of alcoholism.

A recent study by two Soviet professors said one out of 10 alcoholics in the Soviet Union is a woman. Excessive drinking is a national problem with the average person consuming about six quarts of pure alcohol per year — more than anywhere else in the world.

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