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Presents

1983 TRENDS SEMINAR

Saturday February 12th
9 a.m.

Rm. 102 Academic & Agency Bldg.

Featuring:

PHIL GRAMM speaking on THE ECONOMY

Everyone is Welcome

Admission is FREE! Refreshments will be served.

Dogs give unconditional love

Handicapped find friends

United Press International
CLAUDE — One little girl "walks funny" and her speech is slurred, and a little boy's head "twitches oddly" when he laughs and it's hard for him to perform simple tasks.

These are two composites of a frequently isolated and often lonely class of individual — the emotionally and mentally handicapped child.

"Loving Paws" is a nonprofit program designed to make man's best friend the best, and sometimes the only, friend these young people have.

More than 10 years ago, Jim Chism, the founder of "Loving Paws," began searching for a way "to do something special for handicapped kids." Within the last 12 months, his program has begun to take shape.

Chism, minister of Claude

Church of Christ, is the father of two sons, the oldest of whom is handicapped.

"Because of my son Brian, and my work with dogs, I wanted to find some way to put animals with these kids," said Chism, who has raised, trained, shown and sold dogs for several years.

"Loving Paws" was born from that desire to help.

By trial and error, Chism experimented with various breeds, trying to find just the right dog for his one-on-one program.

After many trials and after discussions with Dr. Dale Barber, a researcher with the Caring Heart Dog Foundation in Las Cruces, N.M., Chism found that the Airedale Terrier was the best breed for handicapped children.

Barber and other researchers

for the Caring Heart foundation have worked with specialized breedings of the Airedales to "breed out" certain natural aggressive traits.

"Snuffy" is a 16-month-old Airedale that has become Brian's companion and friend and the prototype for "Loving Paws." Snuffy will be taken out of the program as more dogs arrive in the Panhandle.

"She is really Brian's dog," said Chism, who has seen the benefits provided to his son by the love of his tan and black, curly-haired buddy.

Chism said he has three main goals for the program.

"One, we want to provide companionship for retarded and emotionally handicapped children and young adults," he said.

"Two, we want to give a learn-

ing tool to retarded and emotionally handicapped children that are in institutions." "Also, we would like to work with the elderly who are institutionalized.

"And three, we would like to provide companionship for elderly in their homes." "Those are the areas we are going into," said Chism, and his group wants to provide ultimate companionship for mankind.

Currently the "Loving Paws" program is conducted by Chism and his wife, Vivian, plus a work of volunteers and people who help with the needed services.

"Eventually, we hope the dogs will have the means to use all the help we can use right now," he said.

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Implant opens world of sound to totally deaf

United Press International
NEW YORK — Inner ear surgery and implants of electrodes to stimulate ear nerves are opening a door on inner ear deafness, the president of the American Otologic Society says.

Dr. Jack Van Doren Hough said the implants help patients by improving speech reading ability and providing awareness of environmental sounds.

"We no longer consider this procedure experimental," the Oklahoma City hearing specialist said at a symposium marking the 25th anniversary of the Deafness Research Foundation.

"Rather, we feel it is now in the stage of continued research and development, as in any other good surgical procedure."

The implant is designed to boost auditory perceptions among the four-fifths of the hearing-impaired who suffer from a nerve loss or inner-ear defect.

"We have found an open door and successfully entered the mysterious inner ear — and we have stimulated it electronically," Hough said.

"The means we use is called cochlear implant. In some ears, which are totally deaf, we have implanted electrodes at the end of the nerve fiber and have stimulated it directly with minute electrical signals. As was hoped, the brain received these signals and interpreted them as sound."

"The hearing is far from perfect, but the results obtained with the cochlear implant are evident and the consequences enormous."

Over the past four years, 12 cochlear implant teams in various medical centers nationwide have implanted the electrodes in more than 200 adult patients who are totally deaf, he said.

"Over 1 million hearing-impaired people use hearing aids without known injuries. There have been no long-term complications."

"The bottom line on this: the average patient with the implant (the time it takes to turn on) is 10 minutes per day. This is the strongest evidence of the implant's usefulness."

What the patients learn from proper or normal for speech discrimination.

Patients cannot detect pitch variations well. They can detect differences in male and female voices and recognize certain words by their voices.

Hough said there is sound perception of intensity variation and direction.

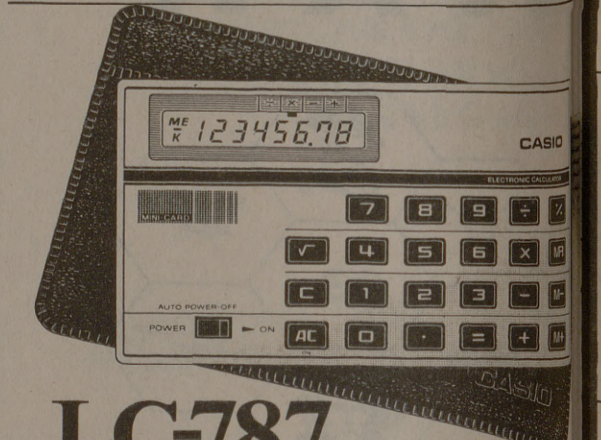
Some details on the operation:

— An incision is made in the ear and an electrode, under the skin to the above and behind the ear.

— One electrode, insulated, is placed in the ground, is placed in the mastoid and through the round window into the chamber of the inner ear — the cochlea (for snail). Here it lies with the nerve fibers previously had lost their receivers.

Benefits of giving auditory information to people who formerly lived in a world is not to be estimated.

"Sound warns, gives people a feeling included and being," Hough said.



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