

HEALTH

THERE'S MORE TO MEDICINE THAN SCIENCE



TERRY ELAINE HICKS-WOODBECK

Washington, D.C. — "You don't have to be exceptional to become a doctor or major in science," says Terry Elaine Hicks-Woodbeck, a second-year medical student at the University of Arizona College of Medicine in Tucson. "You just have to want it."

Terry spent her early years in Buffalo, New York, went to high school in Michigan and spent her senior year in Arizona where her family settled when she was 16. "My mother tells me that as a little girl I wanted to be a doctor, but I knew this was really the life for me when I spent the summer in a pre-med internship with several African-American physicians. They helped me understand what it means to be a doctor."

As Terry explains, being a doctor isn't only fixing broken bones and sewing up cuts. The word doctor means "to teach" and most of being a doctor is teaching and talking to your patients about their health.

Sandwiched between an older and younger brother, Terry learned to hold her own early. "My brothers kept me on my toes and saw to it that I toed the line," she says. "I think we used to get

on my parents' nerves, but we had the best times together."

Her parents stressed education, were always encouraging and Terry learned the value of family from them.

As a minority woman, says Terry, a lack of role models is a problem—especially in Arizona. "Being the only brown face in a classroom makes things even more stressful," she says. There is already pressure to do well, and with few minorities it sometimes "feels as though everyone is watching you." However, this year Terry is working with Dr. Pam Davis, an internist and faculty member at Arizona. Dr. Davis not only provides academic guidance, but emotional guidance as well. "Dr. Davis has shown me the value of keeping focused on school, but at the same time not losing track of who I am and the reasons I came to medical school. In short, she keeps me sane!"

As Terry talks about Dr. Davis the picture of a committed, sensitive and caring doctor emerges. "Her patients know that she cares and wants to do the best for them. She always finds time to answer questions, console a patient or teach a student."

Terry also was fortunate to have a mentor in her early years. Dr. Winford Quick, a general practitioner and close family friend, spent time with her, describing the joys of medicine. "I remember one day when I had

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NMA'S "HEALTHY PEOPLE 2000" PROJECT LAUNCHES INNOVATIVE COMMUNITY HEALTH CAMPAIGNS IN FOURTEEN CITIES NATIONWIDE

Washington, D.C. — The National Medical Association (NMA), Congressional Black Caucus, Congress of National Black Churches (CNBC), National Association of Black Owned Broadcasters (NABOB), and the Outdoor Advertising Association of America (OAAA) announced recently at a press conference a health campaign targeting African Americans as part of the NMA's "Healthy People 2000" Community Health Coalition Project being funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

One component of the project is a "Walk for

Change" held on June 6 from in the 14 Coalition cities. The walk, which will be patterned after the historic civil rights demonstrations of the 60's, is designed to promote healthy living in communities where African Americans live and work. Free screenings were provided as well and live broadcasts were provided through NABOB, an association with members from 250 black owned radio stations across the country.

Another project component is a collaboration between the NMA and the CNBC entitled "Healthy

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