



James O. Page, Publisher
Keith Griffiths, Executive Editor
Bradley H. Smith, Editor
Cleve Trimble, MD, Medical Editor
Rick Minerd, Senior Editor
Thom Dick, Associate Editor
Molly Hillson, Assistant Editor

**Dana A. Jarvis,** Assistant to the Publisher **Contributing Editors**:

Norm Dinerman, MD, Mike Frank, MD, Gary Morris, Mary Newman, William Roush, MD, Sarah Helyar Smith, Gail Walraven

Maureen Maguire, Art Director Joel Harris, Design Consultant Gary Williams, Director of Marketing

Jems Publishing Company, Inc.

James O. Page President

Keith Griffiths Vice President

Jane Ann Seymour Secretary-Treasurer

**Editorial/Advertising Offices** 

215 South Highway 101, Suite 207 P.O. Box 1026 Solana Beach, CA 92075 619/481-1128

Subscription information: Send \$15.95 for one year (12 issues), \$27.75 for two years (24 issues) or \$37.75 for three years (36 issues) to P.O. Box 27966, San Diego, CA 92128. Add \$10 per year for mailings outside the U.S. For subscription orders, problems or for a change of address, call toll free 800/321-3333 (in California call 800/354-8400).

Jems, Journal of Emergency Medical Services, is published monthly by Jems Publishing Co., 215 South Highway 101, Suite 207, P.O. Box 1026, Solana Beach, CA 92075.

Advertising Information: Rates are available upon request. Contact Gary Williams, advertising manager at 215 South Highway 101, Suite 207, P.O. Box 1026, Solana Beach, CA 92075; 619/481-1128.

Editorial information: Manuscripts and queries should be directed to Brad Smith, editor, P.O. Box 1026, Solana Beach, CA 92075. Editorial guidelines are available upon request. Submitted manuscripts should be typed, double-spaced and submitted in triplicate.

**Microfiche:** jems is now available on microfiche. Please direct inquiries to Bell & Howell, Micro Photo Division, Old Mansfield Road, Wooster, OH 44691; 800/321-9881; in Ohio call 216/264-6666 collect.

Copyright 1984 Jems Publishing Co., Inc. No material can be reproduced without the express permission of the publisher. ISSN 0197-2510. Controlled circulation postage paid at Solana Beach, California and at additional mailing

**Postmaster:** Return Form 3579 to jems, P.O. Box 27966, San Diego, CA 92128.

Distributed in Canada by Emergency Services Educational Association, Permit 9559. Second-class postage paid at Grand Forks, B.C.

Second-class circulation postage paid at Solana Beach, California and at additional mailing offices.

Cover photo by Mark McKinnon

## CONTENTS

SEPTEMBER 1984 VOL. 9 NO. 9

## **Features**

- 32 Surveying the Gender Gap: Attitudes on Women in EMS BY KATE DERNOCOEUR. Attitudes about women are changing—witness Geraldine Ferraro and the expanded women's Olympic events. An original *jems* survey explores viewpoints in EMS.
- **38** Converting Asystole BY KENNETH R. STULTS AND DONALD D. BROWN, MD. It is possible that ventricular fibrillation has a vector, and that using a single lead for monitoring may display it as a flat line.
- 40 Red Alert: Management of Emergency Patient Distribution BY ELAINE P. RICE AND GEORGE PELLETIER, JR. When a hospital is pushed past its limits, there had better be a plan to handle additional emergency patients—it's no time to wing it.
- **44** MCI vs. Disaster: An Overview of Mass Casualty Response BY RICHARD NARAD. The San Ysidro (Calif.) massacre was *not* a disaster; it was a mass casualty incident. Important differences dictate the appropriate approach to emergency response.
- **50** Thrombolytics in Acute MI BY BARBARA EILER. Information gathered in the field about heart patients can help expedite important time-sensitive in-hospital decisions on the administration of streptokinase.
- **54** Career Development Programs BY MARTIN YENAWINE. A career development program can provide an orderly way for all employees to come to grips with inevitable career change.

## Columns

- **23** Current Research by Erich Daub—High Impulse CPR; BLS or ALS in Prehospital Cardiac EMS; Oxygen Monitoring During CPR
- 26 Tricks of the Trade by Thom Dick—Rebuilding Your Laerdal Suction Unit
- **27 Around the Nation** *by Dana Jarvis*—Medevac Crash Investigated; Lawsuit Cites Below Standard Care; Pennsylvania: A Cure for Attrition?; EHS Graduate Program; Ontario's First Paramedics
- 73 Interface by Jack L. Stout—Contract Competition: Is Your Company Ready?
- 82 The Last Word—Olympic EMS Succeeds Against All Odds; A Question of Honor; Major League Baseball Continues to Support CPR

## **Departments**

- 4 Editorial—Bridging the Gender Gap
- 6 Guest Comment—Rural ALS is not Impossible by Joel E. Grottenthaler
- 11 Letters to the Editor—Concurrence With Exception; Learning from Mistakes; Firefighter vs. Paramedic; Medical Director vs. Fire Chief; More on Fire Chiefs
- 13 Inside EMS—San Ysidro Massacre; "Fire Engine" Red Not Safe; NAEMT Call for Abstracts; Scientists Isolate Gene Controlling Hypertension; Teleconferencing Blankets Wisconsin; Military—Civilian Disaster Plan
- **20** Puzzler by James Sauto and Matthew Tooker

- 22 Calendar
- 24 Classifieds
- 28 Special Report—No Time for Goodbyes by Jeffrey T. Mitchell, PhD
- 59 Street Sense—Hard Lessons by John M. Charlton
- **62 CPR Citizen**—Reality Shock by Jame McGrath
- 65 EMT Insight—When You Hate the Job You Love by Barry Wilson
- 66 Advertiser Index
- 71 Review—Management of Wilderness and Environmental Emergencies
- **80 Inroads**—Versatile Medical Snips; Crash-Rescue Tool Kit; Odor Control Agent; Health Care Software; CPR Film