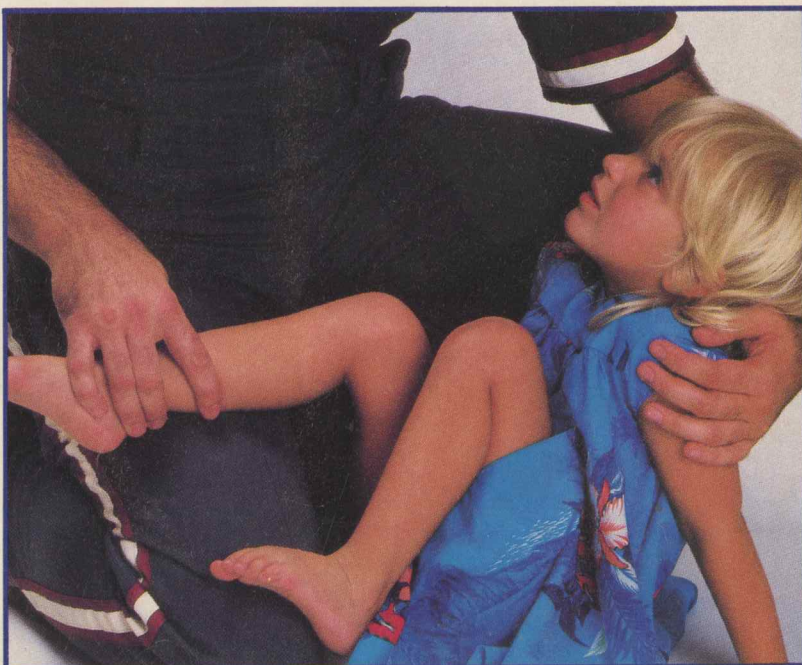


THE ISSUE OF PROFESSIONALISM

“who are you?”

you ease suffering and save lives, but are you a respected “professional”? A certain standard of ethical conduct is expected by the medical community. Mostly that means “be credible, educated, and instill confidence.” But most of what paramedics know about professionalism is caught, not taught.



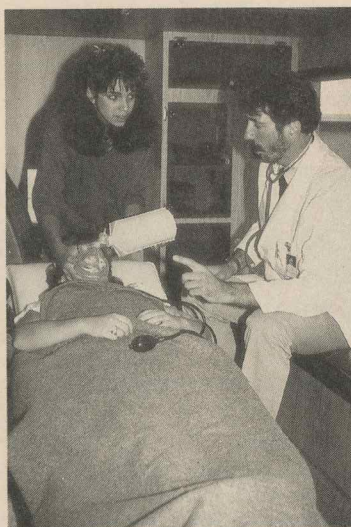
CONTENTS

DECEMBER 1987, VOL. 12, NO. 12

FEATURES



33



39



65

Cover photo by Paul Bowers, designed by Jennifer Hutchinson. Paramedic model Brian Craig courtesy Hartson Medical Services. The child model is Sierra Hutchinson.

- 30 Discovering Professionalism in EMS** BY JOHN M. BECKNELL. "Professionalism" is talked about a lot these days. But a concrete, black-and-white definition of the word is elusive. Find out how paramedics fit the definition.
- 33 Epiglottitis: Not Just a Pediatric Emergency** BY KATHLEEN THROCKMORTON, EMT-P AND DAVID THROCKMORTON, MD. Epiglottitis is a potentially life-threatening emergency commonly associated with children. Should the EMT suspect epiglottitis in the adult patient who presents with similar signs and symptoms?
- 36 Update on Naloxone** BY DAVID B. LEVY, PHARM.D. Naloxone has earned distinction as "one of the only agents that can be given to anybody, in any quantity, and it won't really hurt them." However, in prehospital use it can have some interesting side effects.
- 39 Bringing Life to Training** BY ROBERT S. PORTER. Traditional EMS education has always focused on the knowledge of emergency prehospital medicine and the demonstration of certain selective psychomotor skills. Do classroom tests tell us if a student is ready to work in the field setting?
- 42 Cardiology Practicum: Looking for Zebras** BY MIKE TAIGMAN AND SYD CANAN. An advanced approach to EKG interpretation can be rewarding to both the EMT and the patient.

DEPARTMENTS

- 10 Letters** - Check License or Airway?; Back to the Cave; Education vs. Regulation; Practical Protocols; Cart Before the Horse; 5-Star Rating; Meet the Press; Volunteer Problems; Sleet Fleet; Reprints; Student Offer; A Cry for Critters; Peak Period.
- 19 Inside EMS** - Rescue From Well Took Ingenuity, Patience; Healthcare Employers Must Provide Protection From Infectious Diseases; Ambulance Crash Review Exposes Driver Weakness; EMS Employee Groups Form Communication Network; Denver Plane Crash Involves Major Extrication Efforts.
- 61 Classifieds**
- 63 Calendar**
- 68 Inroads**
- 73 Advertiser Directory**
- 74 The Last Word**

COLUMNS

- 5 Publisher's Page** by Jim Page - Saturday Night Live.
- 6 Guest Comment** by Eddi Cohen, RN - The Illiterate Professional.
- 24 Current Research** by Bruce Goldfarb - Cervical Immobilization; Television Suicides; Seat Belts; IV Assists.
- 26 Tricks of the Trade** by Thom Dick - Putting It into Words.
- 44 Innovations** by Thom Dick - What's New for Fall
- 46 Clinical Q&A** by Scott Bourn - The Eyes Have It
- 49 Legal File** by C.J. Shanaberger - EMS and Constitutional Law.
- 53 Teacher Talk** by C.B. "Gus" Gustafson - Evaluating Learner Progress.
- 65 Interface** by Jack Stout - To Bid or Not to Bid?
- 71 Industry News** by Rick Miner.