

Research offers little hope for baldness

By Joanne Maliszewski
staff writer

For those who check their pillow or comb every morning to see how much hair they've lost, there's still hope.

The hope is Minoxidil, a drug used for several years in the treatment of high blood pressure.

"One of the side effects for those taking it is that they get excess hair growth," said Dr. Jon Blum, a Farmington Hills dermatologist.

Researchers decided that if the drug caused excess hair growth, it could be used for those who want hair, Blum said.

"The idea was to make it a topical and put it on just where you wanted it (hair) to grow," he said.

The drug is not yet on the market as a topical. But the results of a study conducted by Upjohn Pharmaceuticals of Kalamazoo, through several universities, including Wayne State, were recently released at the national meeting of the American Academy of Dermatology.

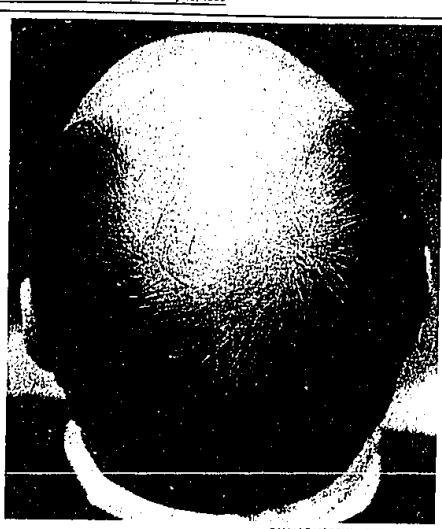
As it turns out, about 40 percent of 2,200 hairless volunteers grew some amount of hair when Minoxidil was used on their scalps, Blum said. Only 15 percent of the volunteers "got a lot of hair — whatever that means. My thought would be its enough to comb," he said.

"SO IT seems effective on some people," Blum said, adding that most people would probably have to use it twice a day for as long as they want hair.

"I'm not personally excited about the percentages," Blum continued, "but people who have the problem are so anxious to do anything about it."

It seems Minoxidil also works better on those who are in the process of losing their hair than on those who are already bald, Blum said.

As far as possible side effects re-



CAMILLE MCCOY/staff photographer

For some bald is beautiful. For others hope lies in a high blood pressure medication soon to be used to help balding problems.

searchers tended "to gloss over that at the convention," Blum said.

But there is some concern that since Minoxidil is used in the treatment of high blood pressure, those using it for hair loss might get low blood pressure, Blum said.

Each hair, Blum said, goes through phases. Growth is the first stage, followed by resting (in which hair doesn't grow). Hair then falls out only to be replaced again.

"But when someone is going bald, hair goes through the resting phase, falls out and doesn't grow back," Blum said.

And heredity is the key to balding. It is passed on to later generations through both males and females. Although a woman may not bald as a man does, her hair will get thinner if balding is a family characteristic, Blum said.

On the average, a person will start balding at about the same age their parents or grandparents did, Blum added.

While Upjohn is trying to get Minoxidil marketed as a topical, it will probably be another year before a person can get a prescription for it.

First the results of Upjohn's study have to be written. Then the FDA has to conduct its tests on Minoxidil and determine whether it should be marketed.

The following Farmington Hills students have been named to the dean's list for the fall term at Lawrence Institute of Technology.

They are:
Shaywl Alshuraf, Abdelhameed A. Almusann, Jane Bailey, Susan Bailey, Richard Bartlett, Richard Burnett, Joan Cassidy, Kathleen Chamber, Pa-

trick Choolnard, Keith Domagala, Joseph Fadool, Nancy Hodges, Mark Hurst, Fred Jagenberg, David Les, Robert Morrison and Kurt Nuler.

To be named to the honor roll, a student must maintain at least a 3.5 grade-point average and be a full-time student.

Account executives win jobs

Two new account executives, Thomas J. Sakely and Robert A. Anderson, have joined Marketing Communications Interface Inc., a marketing/public relations firm in Farmington Hills.

The appointment was announced by Ronald D. Baker, president.

Sakely, senior account executive, was formerly senior copy editor and assistant account executive with Anthony M. Franco Inc. in Detroit.

He joined that company as copywriter in 1979 and was subsequently promoted to senior copywriter and to assistant account executive before assuming the responsibilities of senior copy editor.

A director for the Detroit Chapter of the International Association of Business Communicators, Sakely lives in Sterling Heights.

Anderson, account executive with Marketing Communications Interface, was executive director for the Republican Committee of Oakland County for two years.

HE RECENTLY served as manager for the successful campaign of Oakland County Sheriff-elect John Nichols.

A political consultant, Anderson has

worked on election campaigns in several states and in Puerto Rico.

He was formerly a consultant with M. Zunt Associates, a governmental consulting firm in Cleveland. Anderson also has been affiliated with the Washington, D.C., political advertising firm of Bailey, Deardorff and Associates Inc.

A graduate of Oakland University with a bachelor's degree in political science and communications, Anderson grew up in Southfield and lives in Clarkston.

Sportcaster hosts Mercy High benefit

Steve Garagiola will serve as master of ceremonies for the annual Mercy "Bid with Heart" auction Feb. 16.

The auction will be held at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 16, in the Mercy Gym.

For additional information, contact Lynn Phenev, 553-2300.

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Honor roll released

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TODAY'S GOOD NEWS

FOR YOUR HEALTH & INFORMATION, THE GOOD FOOD COMPANY PRESENTS THE FOLLOWING FREE LECTURES:

Tuesday, January 22, 7-9 P.M.
Herbal Remedies For Children, by master herbologist Glen Russell. Glen will present a FREE lecture on the historical and present day uses of herbs for various children's ailments. Advance registration is required.

Monday, Jan. 28 and Tuesday, Jan. 29, 7-9 P.M.
Billy Martin will present the 1st in a series of FREE lectures on the Human Body Systems and how they function in relationship to our health and well being. This month's lecture is on the Digestive System, including the entire process of digestion, assimilation and elimination, and their related organs. Billy will also talk about enzyme activity in the body and the absolute necessity of enzymes for proper assimilation of nutrients in the foods we are eating. Now that we're all learning to eat better, it's important that we assimilate what we're taking into our bodies. This lecture will last for 1 1/2 hours, with a 1/2 hour period for questions at the end. Please register in advance for this class.

Wednesday, February 6, 7-8:30 P.M.
Victoria Bonneau will present a FREE lecture on Astrology, Nutrition and Children's Behaviour. Victoria will talk about her experiences using astrology and nutrition along with other natural therapies, in the regulation and modification of children's behavior. She will discuss effective ways to reverse hyperactivity in children, as well as other behavior imbalances. Victoria is the director of the Personal Development Center in Royal Oak, and recently spent 3 years in Ohio developing and co-directing a Holistic Treatment Home for Emotionally Disturbed Children. Her astrological assessment techniques were used in developing a treatment plan for children placed in the program, as well as in conjunction with the overall nutritional and psychological interventional and remedial therapies used. Advance registration is required.

Additional lectures and classes monthly

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