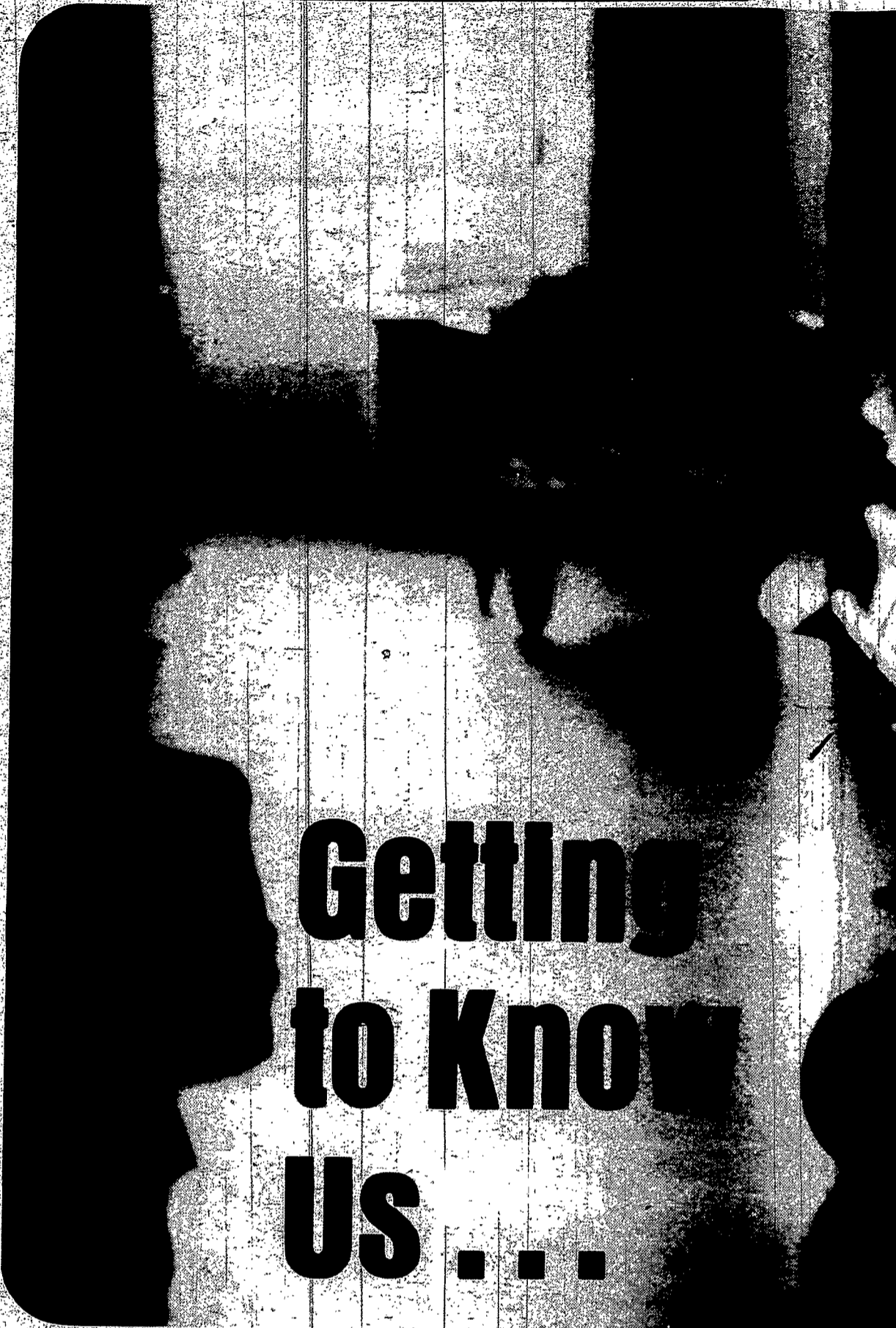
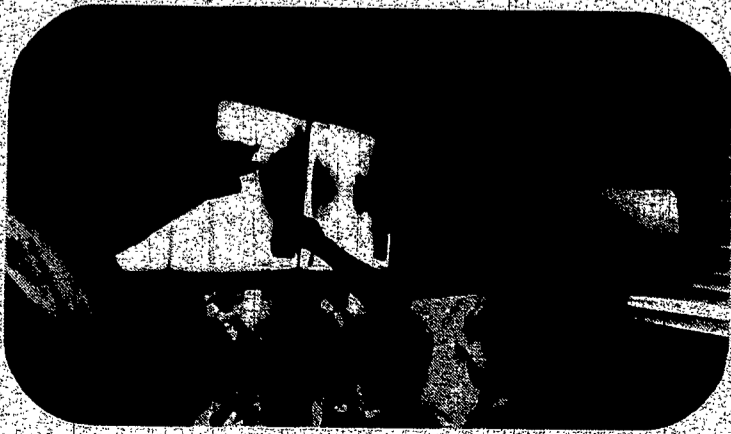


Top to Bottom: Squeaky clean Tammy Wirth dries off after her whirlpool treatment. Waiting 'til he's done is Sanford Thomas. X-ray technician Debbie Sullivan discusses vertebral patterns.



Getting to Know Us . . .



... Before you need us.

People are still very apprehensive about going to a hospital. Gone is the pungent smell of ether, but the strange array of machines and the frightful-sounding medical terminology remain.

To overcome this the theme of "community awareness" has been adopted for National Hospital Week, which begins on May 12. St. James Mercy Hospital in Hornell is among those health institutions that are trying to communicate their programs to patients and employees.

St. James is the type of place where everyone knows everyone else. It is located in a small town so it wouldn't be surprising to find a neighbor as a hospital roommate. Food trays, bed pans and thermometers might also be distributed by a neighbor since St. James is the largest employer in the area.

Sister Mary Rene, administrator of St. James, believes it is a matter of "social justice" to provide adequate wages and salaries because this in turn sets the economy for the community. The hospital has approximately 5,000 bed patients and 50,000 out-patients each year while serving the counties of Steuben, Livingston and Allegany and the northern part of Pennsylvania.

The hospital has come a long way from the farmhouse structure founded by Father James Early in 1890. Part of the original building is now incorporated into the chapel. The Women's Board organized the first maternity cottage in 1904. Since then St. James has expanded to include special features such as schools of nursing and X-ray technology, well-child care center, rehabilitation center, and a psychiatric care unit.

The latter, approved by the State