

# New Haven Register

FOUNDED 1812

INCORPORATING THE JOURNAL-COURIER, FOUNDED 1755

Sunday, February 7, 1988

## Reattachment surgery succeeded 5 years ago

To the Editor:

I read with interest the articles in your paper concerning the microsurgery tried unsuccessfully on 4-year-old Megan Wood, and the detailed report on the technique itself.

There is more than a passing interest on my part because I have a personal experience to relate. In May, 1983, my daughter Sally Pitcher, was involved in an industrial accident which resulted in her left hand being severed just above the wrist. After she was examined at Yale-New Haven Hospital, I was told by one of her doctors that she was a good candidate for reattachment.

This seemed almost unbelievable to me because I had only read of such things in the papers. But it did happen. Dr. Jeffrey Salomon and his team did reattach her forearm.

Though she does not have 100 percent use of her hand, she does have some, and we will always be grateful to Salomon for this miracle. I called him a "miracle man" then and still feel that way today. He is a skilled surgeon and a wonderful doctor.

There was not much publicity in the Register at the time of the accident, except for a very brief article concerning the accident itself. There was never a piece concerning the surgery and its results. I feel people should know this surgery is successful, and in time will become even more so, as the odds for success become greater.

Dorothy Pitcher  
New Haven