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No guarantee "But it's a chance"

The purpose is to clear a pathway to the brain

nearby synagogue or a recreation centre where there is sufficient space.

The patterning is done twice a day with each session broken into four parts. The patterns work for five minutes, then break for 15 minutes. There are 10 different patterns each day; 70.

different volunteers a week. Everything is charted and regulated with a timer that is perpetually advising that it's time to

Other exercises include "Masking", in which

Cool Companions

he learns to breathe correctly again, and an intelligence program.

The patterners have arrived at Steven's house and after greetings are exchanged, Steven creeps to the centre of the room.

The surroundings in his work room are cheerful. A series of posters advertising Cream, and 'Cool Companions', share wall space with some excessively sized, homemade greeting cards from Steven's patterners' children, and one of those inspirational posters that are written on fake parchment.

Steven is warned, in jest, not to tell any of his jokes. It seems that the man who's been filling in occasionally to pattern Steven, has been leaking some very blue morsels of humour.

Steve is helped onto the patterning table, lying face down. The first person grabs his head, two others clutch the arms, and two others secure his legs. On cue from the 'head' man, Steven's body is put into the motions of crawling or swimming.

When the timer rings to end the first period, the volunteers take a breather. Until one has done it a few times and established a rhythm, it is

One volunteer who's been patterning since the beginning says that before, Steven was too stiff, but he's becoming more flexible each time.

The intelligence program is similar to the patterning in that it clears a pathway to the brain. Part of the program involves reading books (which have to be rewritten in large letters on cards), and by showing him cards of all kinds of objects, and simultaneously telling him their names. The purpose is to get the brain working again in conjunction with the eyes and ears.

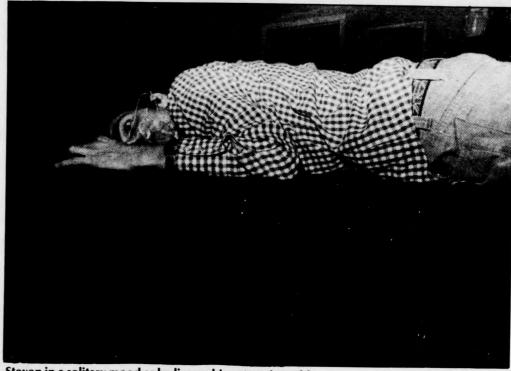
So far the patterning has worked. Mrs. Sieber estimates that Steven is considerably better,

Double Vision

both mentally and physically, and he will continue to improve.

He still has difficulty eating, battles double vision, and has to contend with the tremors that won't go away until he starts to run.

With all the exercise during the day, both Steven and his mother have no trouble sleeping. When Mrs. Sieber wakes up in the morning her first thought is: "Here we go again, let's just try to get through this morning, and we'll worry about



Steven in a solitary mood as he lies on his patterning table.

everything else, later. But we're surviving."

Because Steven takes so much time there's really none left for herself. "I was always working," she bemoans. "No there's no time

"Now I believe.

me. But I'm tolerating it.

'There are times when I'm really disgusted," he sighs, "with everything. I've been a bastard at times. But they try to reason with me.

"When I first went to the Institute in Philadelphia (he's been twice since), I didn't believe it at all. Now I believe. They told me that if I can keep moving all the time, I'll eventually walk," he says.

Through the determination of his mother, the hard work of the many volunteers, and his inner strength, Steven does indeed have a future.

Before patterning, I was just going through the motions," he explains. "Now I feel I'm doing something to help myself. I don't know what's going to be. But it's a chance."

Volunteers

One of the intents of this preceeding article was to tell the story of a man who has courageously fought back from near death. However, it was also written so people could learn about patterning and, hopefully, volunteer to help Steven on the road to

Steven is calling out to the York community for volunteers. If you can spare just over one hour a week, you're the person they're looking for.

If interested please send a letter to the Editor of Excalibur, marked "Patterning", and enclose your name and phone number. We'll pass on all the names to Steven. Thank you.

They told me that if I can keep moving all the time, I'll eventually walk."

for a usual life. No more baking. I'm glad if I can get a half-decent meal together.

Mrs. Sieber's biggest concern is that she can't find enough volunteers for the patterning sessions. "We're not choosy. Anyone with a pair of hands. It's only once a week, for just over an hour.'

Steven, too, is concerned with maintaining the necessary number of volunteers. He has a love-hate relationship with them. On one hand he appreciates their efforts; but on the other he resents having to be mauled over.

"I know it's supposed to help me," says a serious Steven. "If I didn't want to be in the program there's no way they'd be able to move

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