

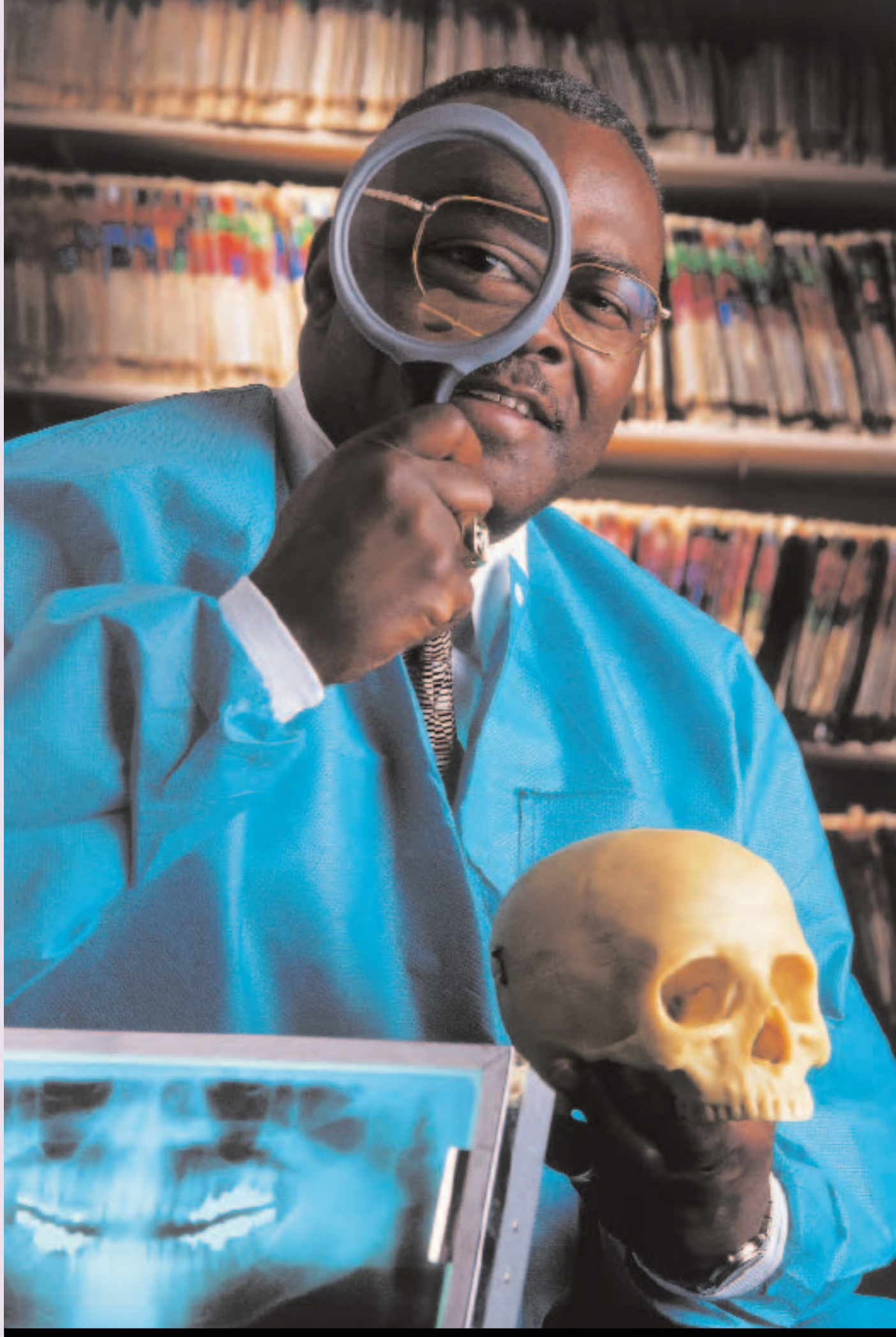
11/04

- 1 M** 1991: Judge Clarence Thomas formally seated as 106th associate justice of U.S. Supreme Court.
- 2 T Election Day**
1954: Charles C. Diggs elected Michigan's first black congressman.
1983: President Ronald Reagan designates Martin Luther King Jr. Day a national holiday.
- 3 W** 1981: Thirman L. Milner elected mayor of Hartford, Connecticut, becoming first African American mayor in New England.
1992: Carol Moseley Braun becomes first African American woman elected to the U.S. Senate.
- 4 T** 1879: Thomas Elkins patents refrigeration apparatus.
- 5 F** 1968: Shirley Chisholm of Brooklyn, New York, becomes first black woman elected to Congress.
- 6 S** 1900: James Weldon Johnson and J. Rosamond Johnson compose "Lift Every Voice and Sing."
- 7 S** 1989: L. Douglas Wilder elected governor of Virginia, becoming nation's first African American governor since Reconstruction.
- 8 M** 1938: Crystal Bird Fauset elected state representative in Pennsylvania, becoming first black woman to serve in a state legislature.
- 9 T** 1731: Mathematician, urban planner and inventor Benjamin Banneker born.
- 10 W** 1983: Wilson Goode elected Philadelphia's first African American mayor.
- 11 T Veterans' Day**
1989: Civil Rights Memorial dedicated in Montgomery, Alabama.
- 12 F** 1941: Mary Cardwell Dawson and Madame Lillian Evanti establish the National Negro Opera Company.
- 13 S** 1894: Albert C. Richardson patentsasket-lowering device.
- 14 S** 1915: Booker T. Washington, educator and writer, dies.
- 15 M** 1881: Payton Johnson patents swinging chair.
- 16 T** 1981: Pam Johnson named publisher of the *Ithaca Journal* in New York, becoming first African American woman to head a daily newspaper.
- 17 W** 1980: Howard University airs WHHM, first African American-operated public radio station.
- 18 T** 1797: Sojourner Truth, abolitionist and Civil War nurse, born.

- 19 F** 1953: Roy Campanella named Most Valuable Player in National Baseball League for the second time.
- 20 S** 1865: Howard Seminary (later Howard University) founded in Washington, D.C.
1923: Garrett A. Morgan patents traffic light signal.
- 21 S** 1893: Granville T. Woods patents electric railway conduit.
- 22 M** 1930: Elijah Muhammed establishes the Nation of Islam.
- 23 T** 1897: A.J. Beard patents the Jenny Coupler, still used to connect railroad cars.
1897: John L. Love patents pencil sharpener.
- 24 W** 1868: Pianist Scott Joplin, the "Father of Ragtime," born.
- 25 T Thanksgiving Day**
1975: Suriname gains independence from the Netherlands.
- 26 F** 1883: Sojourner Truth, abolitionist and Civil War nurse, dies.
1970: Charles Gordone becomes first African American playwright to receive the Pulitzer Prize (for *No Place to Be Somebody*).
- 27 S** 1990: Charles Johnson awarded National Book Award for fiction for *Middle Passage*.
- 28 S** 1960: Novelist Richard Wright dies.
- 29 M** 1908: Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall born.
- 30 T** 1897: J.A. Sweeting patents cigarette-rolling device.

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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November



"We cannot turn our backs on people who are suffering from health care disparities. If all dental and medical professionals participate, we can address the problems."

John M. Williams, D.D.S.

GENERAL DENTISTRY AND FORENSICS

John M. Williams

D.D.S. Minneapolis, MN

In 1974 with two NFL Super Bowls under his belt, football pro John Williams decided to pursue his passion for dentistry. Then playing for the Baltimore Colts, he went to college during the off seasons to earn a dental degree from the University of Maryland at Baltimore. He officially retired from the NFL in 1980 after 12 years and established a dental practice in the inner city of Minneapolis.

"Part of our responsibility as dentists is to motivate and educate, as well as treat," said Dr. Williams, who welcomes the opportunity to encourage his patients, especially impressionable youth. "Over the past 23 years, we have been a resource for many patients."

In addition to running a successful practice, Dr. Williams is trained in forensic dentistry and is a member of the Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Team, a program of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Following the September 11 tragedy in New York City, he participated on the identification team at the Chief Medical Examiner's Office. "It's what we are trained to do, but we couldn't help feeling a little squeamish when we had to identify the first body," he said.

During the early years of his dental career in a changing and struggling inner city, Dr. Williams said he had to

make a tough decision — to stay or to relocate to the suburbs. He was determined to stay in the city and make a difference. Today he's proud of the choice he made. "The city is starting to come back; my patients respect what I did; they continue to come; and their children and grandchildren are now patients," he said.

Each day, besides getting up, which he calls a blessing, Dr. Williams welcomes "being a good neighbor by providing service to my community, as well as to people in need. We cannot turn our backs on people who are suffering from health care disparities. If all dental and medical professionals participate, we can address the problems."

However, he recognizes responsibility also needs to rest on individuals. "There is a personal responsibility to participate in preventive care instead of getting into a crisis situation," he said.

Dr. Williams, the father of three adult boys with wife, Barbara Butts Williams, is also a pilot and is closely involved with the Prison Ministry Team. "We go in thinking that we are giving something to them, but we end up on the receiving end. It's so gratifying to see the growth of so many of these men."



George Washington's Dentures

Set of dentures made by John Greenwood for George Washington that were greatly altered in 1798 at Washington's direction.