

MERGER ISSUE – MALTBY

continued from page 3

tial of doing irreparable harm to the growth and esteem of chiropractic. So would the denial of the means to disagree.

There are vast differences between what the two organizations stand for and how they act on policies and issues that can and will define our profession's future. Keep in mind that we, at the ICA understand that the ACA has every right to believe and act as they do. We also will not surrender our fundamental right to disagree and offer a competing vision. Would you as an individual yield the decision-making on the future of your personal practice to someone you disagree with?

One should look at not just what organizations say, but at what they do. Listed below are a few examples from our history that should leave no doubt about the validity of what I am saying:

- ICA was the sole organization promoting and supporting the *Wilk, et al vs. AMA* lawsuit for two years before the ACA withdrew its opposition to this landmark legal action and agreed to support it. (*Wilk C, Medicine, Monopolies, and Malice*, pp. 94-100). Without the support of the ICA, this litigation would never have taken place.
- ICA regularly and emphatically promotes the specific inclusion of subluxation language in all chiropractic legislation, federal, state and international, as a means of establishing

and maintaining chiropractic as a separate and distinct science, philosophy, art and practice, apart from medicine. The ACA routinely does the exact opposite. For example, in 2000, when all chiropractic organizations were aggressively lobbying Congress for the passage of meaningful veterans' legislation, ICA and ACA each presented extensive white papers to Congress and the Department of Veterans Affairs outlining the basis principles, definitions and clinical elements of chiropractic. ICA mentioned "subluxation" more than 80 times in its 39 page submission. The ACA never mentioned "subluxation" once.

- ICA, along with the ACA, participated and helped fund the initial Mercy Conference guidelines' effort. When it became obvious that the product of that effort would be detrimental to the profession, as it has been, ICA issued a public rejection of the document and organized a nationwide effort to contain the damage to chiropractors' incomes that would result. All member-based chiropractic organizations in the US issued statements opposing the use of the *Mercy Guidelines*, except one — the ACA.
- ICA withdrew from participating in the CCGPP in 1999 because it did not have confidence that the direction that organization was taking was any different from the *Mercy Guidelines'* organizers. CCGPP representatives repeatedly urged ICA to continue its membership. Seeing little prospect

of major changes in the operations of CCGPP that were likely to produce any product other than a new Mercy style document, ICA's Board reaffirmed its decision to withdraw and emphatically communicated its non-participation position to CCGPP, a position that has been maintained by numerous Board votes over several years. ACA continues to uncritically support and fund CCGPP.

ICA has aggressively opposed the inclusion of drugs in chiropractic scope of practice and the adoption of the term "chiropractic medicine" to identify the chiropractic profession.

- In the storm of controversy surrounding the current CCGPP guidelines or "best practices" effort, ICA strongly opposed the publication of the questionable document and helped mobilize the profession-wide rejection of the draft through a COCSA resolution. When leadership on such a critical issue was needed, it was provided by the ICA through a detailed and serious analysis of the document and a sound projection of its damaging impact on the DC in practice. In this massively important

controversy, ACA said nothing.

- ICA believes in clarity and distinct boundaries between the major healing professions, and that efforts to confuse the public, intrude into areas that are clearly within the scope of other professions without comparable training and licensure are a danger to both the profession and the public. To this end, ICA has aggressively opposed the incorporation of medical terms and procedures into the laws governing the profession, especially the inclusion of pharmaceuticals in chiropractic scope and the adoption of the term "chiropractic medicine" to identify the chiropractic profession. ICA has fought successfully in a host of states (Florida is one of the exceptions) across the witness table from high-profile ACA members who promote the incorporation of medical language and procedures into chiropractic laws and regulations.
- ICA holds that consumers of all ages, in all circumstances, including beneficiaries of federal, state and private insurance programs should have direct access to chiropractic care without referral from a medical doctor or other professional. This issue has recently been of major concern to ICA and the vast majority within the chiropractic profession, especially in the context of policies of the US Department of Veterans Affairs. For example, in September 2003 a majority of the chiropractic members of the Department of Vet-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

CHANGE IS IN THE AIR:

INTRODUCING ATMOSPHERES AIR SLEEP SYSTEM
from SleepLogic

The Atmospheres 3-Zone adjustable air sleep system represents a new generation of sleep products that take the mattress to an entirely new level of individualized comfort and support.

And now, as a medical professional, you can purchase these cutting-edge products at 30% off the retail price.

Unlike anything the industry has seen before, Atmospheres features a revolutionary 3-Zone control system that allows you to separately adjust the lumbar and head/foot sections of each side of your mattress to one of 65 different firmness levels for personalized back support and comfort.

SleepLogic's unique sleep system is the only air sleep system developed in conjunction with and endorsed exclusively by the International Chiropractors Association.

You don't feel the same way every day, why should your bed?

To take advantage of the 30% savings, please call 800.218.3951, ext. 162.



If you or your patients would like more information about our Atmospheres mattress models and pricing, go to www.chiromattress.com for complete details.

30% OFF
retail price



Features include:



- 3-Zone premium urethane dielectrically welded air chambers
- Two digital readout hand-held remote controls
- 65 individual firmness setting options for each mattress zone

- Memory and Auto-Fill functions
- Whisper quiet pump stores easily under your bed
- No assembly required – just plug in the pump and it's ready!

