

Date: August 25, 2003

Contact: Glenn Crumpton, C.P.O., C.Ped.
1-800-457-4544 or (334) 284-0250

Dan Smoker, Board Eligible Prosthetist
1-800-457-4544 or (334) 284-0250

Montgomery Man Earns Prosthetist Certification

Alabama Artificial Limb & Orthopedic Service, Inc. announced that Dan Smoker recently completed the Prosthetic Certificate Program at Northwestern University in Chicago, Illinois. Many prosthetists and orthotists consider Northwestern's Fineberg School of Medicine, to have the premier Prosthetic and Orthotic Program in the country.

Smoker recently completed the 250 clinical hour requirement of the prosthetic certification curriculum. He has begun a one-year residency with Alabama Artificial Limb & Orthopedic Service, Inc. that he must complete successfully before he is eligible to take the final board exams in August of 2004.

"Northwestern's faculty is very impressive. It is evident that they have a long-term commitment to the O&P profession," said Smoker. "Research is strongly emphasized because of the important role that it plays in the future growth and vitality of the prosthetic field."

Smoker has been employed with the Alabama Artificial Limb & Orthopedic Service, Inc. since 2000. He became interested in prosthetics as a career while working as a Licensed Physical Therapy Assistant (L.P.T.A.).

"I was working together with Glenn Crumpton to fit one of my patients with a prosthesis, and started considering prosthetics as a career," said Smoker. "Right after I completed my bachelor's degree at Auburn University Montgomery, I started to apply to Northwestern's Prosthetic Certificate Program."

"Dan has certainly become an asset to our company. He is currently starting a research project to prove the efficacy of case managers working with prosthetic patients," said Glenn Crumpton, C.P.O., C.Ped. of Alabama Artificial Limb & Orthopedic Service, Inc. "We feel that his dedication to excellent patient care will be something that Montgomery's physicians and other health care providers will come to appreciate."

Upon completion of his residency, Smoker will be required to pass three examinations in order to receive his certification in prosthetics. These three examinations include a written examination that tests the critical core knowledge related to O&P, a simulation examination that measures a candidate's decision-making skills, and a clinical patient management examination that assesses the candidate's practical, hands-on patient management skills.

Alabama Artificial Limb & Orthopedic Service, Inc. is located at 1223 East South Boulevard in Montgomery, AL. Information may be obtained by calling (334) 284-0250 or toll-free, 1-800-457-4544.