



**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
TEACHERS' AND STATE EMPLOYEES'
COMPREHENSIVE MAJOR MEDICAL PLAN**

EXTRA! EXTRA!

READ ALL ABOUT IT!

OUT-OF-STATE PREFERRED PROVIDER

NETWORK AVAILABLE Sept. 1st

Beginning September 1, 2003, State Health Plan members who receive services outside of North Carolina will now have access to a preferred provider network. The Plan has contracted with Private Healthcare Systems (PHCS) to provide this network. PHCS' network includes hospitals, physicians and other health care providers throughout the United States.

When a member receives medical services outside of North Carolina and uses PHCS' preferred provider network, they will not be billed for charges above the Plan's usual, customary and reasonable (UCR) allowances.

Plan members will be notified about the availability of the new out-of-state preferred provider network and on how to access the network when they receive their annual election packet for the Flexible Benefit Plan. Health benefit representatives will receive a copy of the member letter prior to the actual mailing.

Members will also receive a new ID card in August.