OSU researchers find rare AIDS’ cancer in hogs, may be hope for cure

By Veronika Taylor
Lantern staff writer
5-9-83

Researchers at OSU have discovered that Kaposi’s sarcoma, a rare type of skin cancer prevalent in people who have various immune system disorders, including AIDS, can also occur in hogs.

This discovery offers researchers new ways to study the cancer and AIDS, a disorder which is 100 percent fatal.

According to Ohio Department of Health officials, Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, commonly called AIDS, has killed six men and afflicted five others in seven Ohio cities in the past three years.

AIDS is a disorder which destroys the victim’s immune system, making him or her susceptible to infections that would not pose serious problems to healthy people.

AIDS received attention recently as a disease limited to homosexual men, Haitians and hemophiliacs. Now, however, the disease has shown up in other groups of people.

The first case in Ohio was discovered in 1979 and others were found in the last two years. Two cases have been found in Columbus, three in Cincinnati, one in Cleveland, and one each in Westerville, Akron, Massillon and Warren, said Thomas Halpin, chief of the health department’s Bureau of Preventive Medicine.

But according to Chandra Prakash, a physician at OSU, the actual number of cases is probably much higher.

Prakash, assistant professor of medical microbiology and immunology at OSU, and co-director of the Task Force on AIDS, has been granted $54,800 for further investigation of the cause of Kaposi’s sarcoma using pigs and mice models. The grant was provided by the Pardee Foundation, a cancer foundation in Michigan.

The researchers noticed in their studies of homosexual hogs the animals developed lesions that were Kaposi’s sarcoma, a skin cancer that is frequent in homosexual men who suffer from AIDS. Prakash said studies show a certain protein in the semen is the primary cause for immunesuppression.

The researchers’ findings will enable them to study and seek a cure for this cancer and AIDS now because they can experiment with animals, which was not believed possible before, Prakash said.

AIDS and its causes have puzzled researchers for some time, he said. The disease has three stages: During the first stage there are no noticeable symptoms, except certain changes in the person’s blood. Next, victims lose weight and the lymph nodes under their arms begin to swell. Sometimes they become so large the afflicted persons cannot lower their arms.

By the time patients reach the third stage, their immune system has become so weakened it is no longer able to fight off common infections, such as bacteria and viruses, so the victims die, he said.

It is also during the third stage people get Kaposi’s sarcoma. Only 20 percent of the victims survive for more than a year, but usually not much longer, Prakash said.

"Usually, when patients go to the doctor, they are already in the third stage," he said. "So far, none of the known therapy has proven to be effective. What we need are people who are in the beginning stages, so we can study them. Blood tests can be done to determine if someone has AIDS."

The Center for Disease Control in Atlanta estimates approximately 1,300 people have the disorder, but this figure is very misleading, Prakash said.

"We estimate that for all people in stage three there are at least 30 more in stage two and many more in stage one. I believe there may be a large gap between the proven and suspected cases."

"Many people also believe that AIDS and Kaposi’s sarcoma only strike homosexual men, Haitians or hemophiliacs. But now we found this disorder and the cancer in different groups of the population," he said.

People included in these groups are:

• Patients who receive organ transplants, because their immune system is artificially lowered to prevent rejection of the new organ. Studies have shown they have a high rate of Kaposi’s sarcoma.
• Children, because their immune system does not develop fully until they become adults.
• Women who engage in frequent anal and oral sex have contracted AIDS.
The following information on AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) was distributed to the Council of Deans and to members of the University's Personnel Council. It is printed in News Notes in order to make it available to all library employees. The University is establishing a Task Force to address issues regarding AIDS and AIDS-related concerns. The contact person in the Libraries for AIDS-related questions or concerns is Sharon Sullivan in the Library Personnel Office (2-4738).
MEMO

TO: CHAIRMEN; DIVISION CHIEFS; CRITICAL CARE UNITS;
EMERGENCY ROOM; STUDENT HEALTH SERVICE

SUBJECT: INFECTIOUS DISEASES CONSULTATIONS

Consultations by Infectious Diseases faculty are available on a 24-hour basis at all times. A Faculty person is assigned to the Consultation Service each month. Other individual Infectious Diseases faculty may be requested in special circumstances.

To obtain a consultation during ordinary working hours, call the Division of Infectious Diseases, (614)421-8640.

During evening, night, holiday or weekend hours, call the scheduled faculty person, using telephone numbers and pager numbers listed below; each patient will be seen by the faculty consultant. The hospital telephone operators (614-421-8000) will be provided a continuing schedule and any changes in coverage.

The Infectious Diseases faculty also attend each month on the inpatient Infectious Diseases unit in University Hospitals (11 West Doan Hall, phone 421-2411). For patients requiring direct hospital admission, call the Division of Infectious Diseases (614-421-8640) or the faculty person scheduled for rounding on the inpatient service.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1985</th>
<th>Faculty Consultant</th>
<th>Faculty Inpatient Service</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>Plouffe</td>
<td>Para</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug.</td>
<td>Maher</td>
<td>Fass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept.</td>
<td>Para</td>
<td>Perkins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct.</td>
<td>Para</td>
<td>Plouffe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov.</td>
<td>Perkins</td>
<td>Fass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec.</td>
<td>Fass</td>
<td>Maher</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Telephone Numbers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty</th>
<th>OSU Office</th>
<th>Pager No. during assignment as Consultant</th>
<th>Residence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Robert Fass</td>
<td>421-8732</td>
<td>2156</td>
<td>436-1342</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Para</td>
<td>421-8733</td>
<td>2156</td>
<td>421-2648</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joseph Plouffe</td>
<td>421-8733</td>
<td>2156</td>
<td>885-9283</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Maher</td>
<td>421-8556</td>
<td>2642</td>
<td>459-9766</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Perkins</td>
<td>421-8640</td>
<td>2156</td>
<td>451-3558</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
September 27, 1985

Support Services in the University for AIDS and AIDS-related problems

The medical, administrative and social resources of the University available today provide ready support to any patient, University member or unit in confronting and solving issues regarding AIDS and AIDS-related concerns.

Immediate access to five subspecialists consultants in infectious diseases is available at University Hospitals by contacting the Division of Infectious Diseases, Department of Medicine (614-421-8640). The Division faculty can assist in such areas as:

1. Confidential referral of individuals for medical evaluation to identify or exclude findings suggestive of AIDS and related disorders and complications. Specific blood tests can usually be completed in eight to forty eight hours.

2. Telephone or inperson consultations with concerned academic units, teachers, supervisors, administrative personnel, student groups and others regarding real or theoretical risks of exposure.

3. Providing access to the published peer reviewed literature and CDC documents regarding the causative virus, the diseases and complications, the available treatments, and outcomes.

4. Obtaining appropriate social services and psychological assistance for affected or concerned patients and families.

The Infectious Diseases faculty have at their disposal the following services for evaluation, treatment and support of referred patients:

1. Diagnostic facilities in the Medical Center Outpatient Clinics.

2. A modern eighteen-bed inpatient unit in University Hospitals (11 West Doan Hall).

3. Diagnostic services of the Immunology-Serology Laboratory Section, Department of Pathology.
4. Appropriate medical or surgical consultations from among 300 or more specialists in other Divisions.

5. Social Services Department for patient assistance regarding third-party payers, disability applications, financial difficulties, discharge dispositions and self-help arrangements.


The goals of the Division of Infectious Diseases in supporting the University and citizens served are:

1. Rapid documentation of the medical facts and findings for any individual case or any risk situation.

2. To minimize and prevent anxiety and over reaction in potential patients, contact groups, and concerned persons.

3. To provide comprehensive and up-to-date information about AIDS and related disorders to concerned persons and University officials.

4. To provide state-of-the art care and therapy for affected patients.

5. To maximize use of University and community resources in educational efforts to understand AIDS and promote good health in concerned persons.

Robert L. Perkins, M.D.
Director, Division of Infectious Diseases
N-1148 University Hospital

RLP:sv
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT
ACQUIRED IMMUNODEFICIENCY SYNDROME (AIDS)

Q. What is acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS)?

A. Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) is the name given to a complex of illnesses first reported in 1981. All patients with AIDS have a defect in their natural immunity against disease, leaving them vulnerable to serious illnesses that would not be a threat to anyone whose immune system was intact. These illnesses are referred to as opportunistic diseases.

Q. What causes AIDS?

A. Investigators have discovered the virus that causes AIDS. Different groups of investigators have given different names to the virus, but it appears to be the same virus whether it is called human T-lymphotropic virus, type III (HTLV-III), lymphadenopathy-associated virus (LAV), or AIDS-related virus (ARV). Infection with this virus does not always lead to AIDS. Preliminary results of studies show that most infected individuals remain in good health, but long-term follow-up is necessary. However, most asymptomatic persons are positive on culture for the virus.

Q. Is there a laboratory test for AIDS?

A. There is no specific test for diagnosing AIDS, but there is now a test for antibodies to the virus that causes AIDS. This test which detects evidence of infection with HTLV-III/LAV, will be used at blood collection centers to screen donated blood and plasma and will assist in preventing cases of transfusion-associated AIDS. By late 1985, the test will be available through private physicians, State or local health departments, or other sites.

Q. How long after exposure to HTLV-III/LAV does a person develop AIDS?

A. The time between infection with the HTLV-III/LAV virus and the onset of symptoms (the incubation period) is unknown, but seems to range from about 6 months to 5 years and possibly longer. However, not everyone infected with the virus gets AIDS or even has symptoms.

Q. What are the symptoms of HTLV-III/LAV infection?

A. Most individuals infected with HTLV-III/LAV have no symptoms, feel well, and engage in all their usual activities, even though the virus is present in their blood. Some develop symptoms, which may include tiredness, fever, loss of appetite and weight, diarrhea, night sweats, and lymph node enlargement. This group of symptoms is sometimes referred to as AIDS-related complex (ARC). Some, but not all, ARC patients develop AIDS.
Q. What are some of the characteristics of patients with AIDS?

A. About 93 percent of the patients identified so far in the current AIDS investigation have been males; more than three-fourths of them have been homosexual or bisexual. The age group affected is primarily in the range of 25-44 years. AIDS has been reported in all races and ethnic groups.

Q. What are some of the risk factors for AIDS?

A. Investigators generally believe that HTLV-III/LAV can be spread by sexual contact and sharing needles with an infected person or, less commonly, through infected blood and blood products. Risk factors include having multiple sexual partners, either homosexual or heterosexual, and sharing needles among those using illicit drugs. The occurrence of the syndrome in hemophilia patients and persons receiving transfusions provides evidence for transmission through blood. Babies born to mothers who have AIDS or are at risk for the disease may become infected before birth, during birth, or immediately after.

Q. Who is at risk of getting AIDS?

A. Nearly all cases in the United States have been reported from distinct groups: homosexually and bisexually active males, intravenous drug abusers, persons with blood clotting disorders, heterosexual partners of the above groups, and recipients of blood or blood components. Special studies of risk factors are under way with each of these groups. AIDS has not occurred very commonly in persons outside these groups, but the virus that causes AIDS can be transmitted both heterosexually and homosexually. Casual contact with AIDS patients and/or persons at risk for the illness—contact such as may occur in most work settings, public places, and family situations—does not appear to place persons at risk for getting the illness.

Q. How is AIDS diagnosed?

A. No clear-cut symptoms indicate the loss of immunity characteristic of AIDS, but many patients recall having had the symptoms of ARC. These typically occur over a period of months before the patient's condition becomes severe enough that specific opportunistic diseases occur. Thus, the diagnosis of AIDS depends on the presence of these diseases.

Q. What are some of the diseases affecting AIDS patients?

A. About 85 percent of the AIDS patients studied have had one or both of two rare diseases: Pneumocystis carinii pneumonia (PCP), a parasitic infection of the lungs; and a type of cancer known as Kaposi's sarcoma (KS). Other opportunistic infections include unusually severe infections with yeast, cytomegalovirus, herpes virus, and parasites such as toxoplasma or cryptosporidia. Milder infections with these organisms do not suggest immune deficiency and are not considered "opportunistic."
Q. What is known about these opportunistic diseases?

A. The opportunistic diseases seen with AIDS are not new. Kaposi's sarcoma (KS) was described over 100 years ago. In the United States, prior to 1980, KS primarily affected elderly men and was very seldom fatal, even 5 to 10 years after diagnosis. KS was also seen in children and young adults in some parts of equatorial Africa and in a few other locations. Pneumocystis carinii pneumonia affected a few hundred adults and children in the United States each year, but was seen primarily in patients with a severe underlying illness (such as leukemia) or in patients receiving therapy with drugs known to suppress the immune system (such as those administered to kidney transplant patients to prevent organ rejection). KS, as related to AIDS, usually occurs anywhere on the surface of the skin or in the mouth. In early stages, it may look like a bruise or blue-violet or brownish spot. The spot or spots persist and may grow larger. KS may spread to or appear in other organs of the body, including lymph nodes, causing them to enlarge. PCP has symptoms similar to any other form of severe pneumonia, especially cough, fever, and difficulty in breathing. Some AIDS patients have had KS and PCP at the same time.

Q. How common is AIDS?

A. Investigation of the syndrome began in June 1981, and by May 1985, more than 10,000 cases had been reported to CDC. About 100 of these cases are in children. The number of new cases of AIDS being diagnosed is increasing.

Q. How serious is acquired immunodeficiency syndrome?

A. AIDS has a very high fatality rate, ranging from 33 percent to more than 50 percent, depending upon the opportunistic disease and the length of time from diagnosis. CDC investigators do not know of any patient with AIDS who has regained lost immunity. Thus, AIDS patients continue to be at special risk of disease. Some patients are being studied to determine whether normal immune function does not return.

Q. What is the geographic distribution of reported cases?

A. The distribution has been and remains uneven, with about 37 percent of the cases reported from New York State and about 23 percent from California. AIDS cases have been reported from 46 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and more than 35 other countries.

Q. What can be done to prevent AIDS transmission?

A. The U.S. Public Health Service has made several recommendations for AIDS prevention.

. Everyone should avoid having sexual contact with persons known to have or suspected of having AIDS.
Members of high-risk groups should be aware that having multiple sexual partners increases their chances of contracting AIDS.

Everyone should avoid using unprescribed IV drugs. Those who do use IV drugs should not share or reuse needles or syringes. Others should avoid having sex with persons who abuse IV drugs.

Members of groups at high risk for AIDS and their sexual partners should refrain from donating blood or plasma.

Department of Health and Human Services
Public Health Service
Centers for Disease Control
May 1985
AIDS on Campuses: Concern Goes Beyond Health as Officials Prepare to Handle Flood of Questions

By LAWRENCE BIE MILLER
BERKELEY, CAL.

At the University of California's 30,000-student campus here, at least three people have died after contracting AIDS, and several others are now being treated for the disease itself or for one of the ailments that are thought to be its precursors.

The university, which established an AIDS-education program last spring to answer questions from worried students, faculty members, and staff employees, is now working to develop policies for dealing with a series of complex logistical and philosophical questions that the disease, which struck first at the nation's homosexual communities, is now raising on campus—in student affairs, personnel, public relations, and other areas.

Berkeley 'Half a Year Ahead' "People don't realize that there are students here and at every campus in California with AIDS," says Mary O'Donnell, assistant director of the university's student-health service. "We may be half a year ahead of the rest of the country in terms of how the epidemic has hit us, but, seeing the way it's escalating, other universities in the next three months are going to have to deal with the same issues."

"I can't believe there's any school around that doesn't have a few high-risk people on campus," says Margaret W. Bridwell, director of the University of Maryland's health service and president of the American College Health Association. "I suspect," she adds, "that most places will end up eventually with at least one" AIDS patient.

The American College Health Association has appointed a task force that will consider AIDS-related policies for recommendation to its member institutions. And the American Council on Education has asked its general counsel, Sheldon Steinbach, to consider Continued on Page 38, Column 1
AIDS on the Campuses: Some Expect a Flood of Questions About the Disease from Frightened Students and Parents

"In the middle of last year," says Ms. O'Donnell, "we started getting calls from students and faculty members who were saying some uninformed things about AIDS. People wanted to know whether they should swim in campus pools with people at risk for AIDS. The optometry clinic wanted to know whether students who help fit contact lenses should be concerned about teardrops." There were also questions about such matters as whether university researchers studying AIDS could be held liable if their assistants contracted the disease.

Prompted by such calls, James Brown, the health service's director, invited representatives from several constituencies—including homosexual-student organizations, the university's counseling center, the personnel office, and a local mental-health organization for homosexuals—to join an AIDS advisory committee.

AIDS Seminar Organized

Its recommendations led the health service to organize a university-wide seminar about AIDS in April, to set up an AIDS telephone hotline, to distribute an AIDS-information pamphlet written at the University of Pennsylvania, to train the university's peer- sexuality counselors to answer questions about the disease, and to draft a set of guidelines for the university's personnel managers to use in dealing with employees who have AIDS.

"It was particularly important to do a big public event," says Cathy Kodama, a health educator at the student-health service here, who is its coordinator for AIDS education. "It offered good, solid, general information, and it wasn't geared just for gay men, so that anyone could come without being identified as gay." Several hundred people attended.

Also important, she notes, is the telephone hotline, which she says was easy to set up. "All it involved was getting the information at my fingertips and publicizing the phone number," says Ms. Kodama, who fields many of the calls herself. "We haven't had the volume of calls to need to establish a whole program for it."

The hotline's advantage to the AIDS-information program, she notes, is that— in addition to answering individual questions more thoroughly than printed information can—it provides a means of knowing what the current concerns are on the campus.

"When we first started getting phone calls," says Ms. Kodama, "the major concern was public contact—in the pool, the hot tub, at work. Not with individuals with AIDS, but contact with individuals who might be at risk, judging by their looks. But recently we've been hearing more about heterosexual transmission. People are calling who want to know, 'How can I check my partner?'"

Among the AIDS-education program's other efforts, she says, has been an attempt to encourage "at least a general level of AIDS awareness among the gatekeepers—key staff people in student affairs, financial aid, and the health service who deal with students on a daily basis."

The education program aims also to change the attitudes of heterosexual students by educating them about AIDS, but there it may face a stiffer challenge. "I don't think there's much avoidance of homosexuals here," says Loren Rauch, a freshman electric engineering student. "But if someone had AIDS, I personally would avoid him. I know you can't get it from shaking hands, and that saliva has only a few viruses, but still I'm scared."

"My mom is concerned," adds Beth Thomas, a nutrition major. "The last couple of times I've called, she's been telling me there's been evidence of transmission in saliva. She's really worried."

"The university is taking some risk by being as open about it as we are," says Ms. O'Donnell, "but the administration has said that the way to deal with the epidemic is to be completely aboveboard about it, and to start educating the public."
Recently the health service received a $27,000 grant from the California Department of Health and Human Services that, supplemented by $30,000 in university funds, will allow it to develop a model AIDS-education program for students. The New York State Department of Health has provided money for a similar pilot project at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. And some higher-education institutions—ranging from Columbia and Stanford Universities to the Universities of Pennsylvania and Virginia—have established or are now establishing AIDS-education programs on their own.

Dealing with Employees with AIDS

Berkeley, like a few other institutions, has also taken steps aimed at educating its employees, drafting a set of guidelines for the university's personnel managers to use in dealing with employees who have AIDS. The guidelines, which are not yet final, "protect both the individual and the community," says Robert E. Nixon, a consultant to the vice-chancellor for employment affairs. "Basically, the issues are all covered by law, but we felt we had to call attention to what laws do exist.

The guidelines take as their starting point a statement by the federal Centers for Disease Control saying that AIDS cannot be transmitted by casual contact, and go on to note that an employee's medical diagnosis is confidential and under most circumstances cannot be requested by the university or made public by it. "To protect the health of employees with AIDS," the guidelines continue, personnel managers should explain to them "the risk of working in environments where there is potential exposure to infectious agents, such as in labs, child care centers, and hospitals."

The guidelines also suggest that managers assume responsibility "for disseminating the most current information about AIDS communicability." If an employee refuses to work with a person who has AIDS, the guidelines say, that employee should be first directed to a medical expert to help allay his or her fears; if the employee continues to refuse, he or she should apply for a transfer.

"In the final analysis," the guidelines say, "it must be understood that refusal to work with a person with AIDS does not excuse an employee from fulfilling assigned responsibilities and that such refusal can result in disciplinary action."

Ms. O'Donnell, the health service's assistant director, says the university expects to prepare an additional set of recommendations to cover student-affairs questions. "We anticipate that we'll stick with the C.D.C. guidelines. There will be no discrimination, no different treatment of students with AIDS in classrooms or dormitories. We want to devote our energy instead to education and prevention."

Policy guidelines and AIDS-education programs, however, may bring a measure of controversy to higher-education institutions that initiate them. Many of the issues raised by the AIDS epidemic—on college campuses as well as in society generally—revolve around two questions whose answers remain in dispute: How contagious is AIDS? And is homosexual behavior acceptable?

The first question arises because medical science, although it has recently made considerable progress in AIDS research, can express the probabilities of contagion only in terms of likelihoods, rather than in certainties.

The recent discovery of the virus that causes AIDS—called H.T.L.V.-III—in the saliva and tears of infected individuals set off a new round of panic among people who are not in the groups considered to be at a high risk of contracting the disease—sexually active homosexual men (who constitute 73 percent of the AIDS cases), intravenous drug users who share needles (17 percent), and those who received transfusions of contaminated blood or blood products (2 percent). Many of those who are most fearful continue to doubt the statements of AIDS experts at the Centers for Disease Control.

"Casual contact with AIDS patients or persons who might be at risk for the illness does not place others at risk for getting the illness," the C.D.C. said in a fact sheet issued in August.

"No cases have been found where AIDS has been transmitted by casual household contact with AIDS patients or persons at higher risk for getting the illness. Although the AIDS virus has been found in saliva and tears, there have been no cases in which exposure to either was shown to result in transmission."

"Ambulance drivers, police, and firefighters who have assisted AIDS patients have not become ill. Nurses, doctors, and health-care personnel have not developed AIDS from caring for AIDS patients."

Reducing Risk of Exposure

Leaflets offering guidelines for reducing the risk of exposure to AIDS by avoiding sexual practices that involve the exchange of semen or blood have been available from the asking in the San Francisco Bay area for some time, and those who read homosexual newspapers or visit gay bars are likely to be aware of the guidelines.

"The safe-sex guidelines are, more and more, being accepted," says one homosexual student here. "I know two people who have died of AIDS. When I go out on a date, I go to a movie. I won't tell you what I did before."

For homosexual students, the incentive to heed such recommendations is strong. Mr. Marks, who wrote the Daily Californian, puts it simply: "A lot of the people who didn't practice safe sex aren't around anymore."

David Lyman, an associate physician at the university's health service who is project director of the San Francisco Men's Health Study, a long-term study of primarily healthy homosexual men that in San Francisco and New York though not in other cities—the disc...
"Either it’s hit the people at risk or lifestyle changes have had some effect," he says, noting that two new AIDS cases are now being diagnosed every day in San Francisco. "But it’s too early to breathe a sigh of relief." In June 1983, he adds, there were 201 diagnosed cases in the city, but now there are more than 1,300. "It’s been a staggering increase," he says.

"We’re beginning to get a sense of some things that are useful in combating hysteria," Dr. Lyman says. "There’s a lot of misinformation about AIDS, which is why it’s important for health services to take on the responsibility of providing nonjudgmental information." Dr. Brown, the director of the university health service here, says he doesn’t expect the AIDS epidemic to strike as hard on campuses as it has elsewhere. "At least among homosexuals, the people getting AIDS are slightly older than the average college student," he says, noting that most are in their 30’s. "We’ve had very few cases of actual AIDS, but we’ve been following a larger number of people who may have an AIDS condition.

"But even using modest estimates of the number of homosexuals in the population," he says, "when I ran the figures, I calculated that in the next few years there might be between 50 and 200 cases at Berkeley alone."

Thus far, he says, the New York, San Francisco, Los Angeles, and Miami areas have been hardest hit. "In other areas, it hasn’t been spreading as rapidly. But eventually the more rural areas have to catch up, unless people have adopted more conservative sexual practices."

"Every time the San Francisco Chronicle publishes an AIDS story, we get an influx of calls," says Scott P. Swanson, an associate physician here who is also a member of the advisory committee. "What I see this fall are questions about HTLV-III testing," he says, adding that many students are concerned about the confidentiality of the results.

The test, developed to screen donated blood, measures antibodies that the body produces in response to exposure to the HTLV-III virus, rather than indicating the continued presence of the virus itself. The virus does not cause AIDS in all those it infects, although medical experts say that infected individuals may transmit it to others even though they have no AIDS symptoms themselves.

The test also has a high rate of "false-positive" results, the consequences of which go beyond worrying the tested individual.

For instance, California’s insurance companies are arguing that an AIDS-inspired confidentiality law passed recently by the state legislature must be repealed if they are going to continue to offer medical insurance to young, single men, says Mr. Haggerty of the university’s AIDS advisory committee.

The companies are concerned about the high costs of care for individuals with AIDS—the average, according to one estimate, is $100,000 per patient. Insurance companies in Wisconsin, which has a confidentiality law similar to California’s, have threatened to exclude AIDS from their coverage entirely if the state’s confidentiality law is not repealed to allow them to require blood tests of prospective customers and to deny insurance to those who have already contracted the disease. Colorado’s Board of Health has decided to compile a list of individuals whose HTLV-III antibody tests are positive by requiring the state’s doctors to report them.

What Goes in Patient’s Chart?

"If you test positive, you may have given up any possibility of ever getting insurance," Mr. Haggerty says. "The mere fact of being tested could flag you for an insurance company."

The health service, says Dr. Swanson, doesn’t make recommendations one way or the other about the test. "Our role is to help people get enough information to make their own decisions," he says. The test is not performed at the health service, although Dr. Swanson says his doctors will refer people who want to be tested to local clinics that will keep the results confidential.

At the health service, AIDS has also "brought up the question of what do you write in a patient’s chart," Dr. Swanson says, noting that patients concerned about AIDS-like symptoms often are reluctant to have such information recorded. Although medical records are supposed to be completely confidential, he says, interested parties can sometimes gain access to them through legal proceedings.

Because a particular group of sexually transmitted diseases is associated with homosexual men, he continues, "You can take a medical chart and, from its diagnoses, you can look at it and say, ‘Gay.’" Given the recent interest of insurance companies in avoiding the costs of AIDS care, says Dr. Swanson, "If the students don’t raise those issues, I do.

Another arm of the university that has dealt with a number of AIDS-related questions is its financial-aid office. D. Linda Gallego, a financial-aid counselor who is also a volunteer for a local AIDS counseling project, says she has already encountered "probably half a dozen young men who have themselves been diagnosed as having AIDS, or whose lovers have been diagnosed.

"Students diagnosed with AIDS suddenly have dramatically high bills—for medical care, for phone calls, and because their roommates may be unwilling to share food costs," says Ms. Gallego. Eventually, the medical bills can exceed the limits of a student’s insurance coverage, even if he is comparatively well insured.

"The university isn’t handing money out to these people, but we can make some accommodations," she says. She has been called on to advise students who may become seriously ill during the semester whether to spend the money to enroll at all, and to explain to them such bureaucratic matters as how to withdraw from classes with the least expense. She has also used her familiarity with university procedures and with other staff members to help students with AIDS sort out problems with various university offices.

"When I work with someone who has AIDS," Ms. Gallego says, "I know I must work quickly. They don’t have two months to wait for me to process a loan. I tell them they can call me tomorrow morning."

She has also found herself counseling students on a more personal level. "There are an awful lot of hard scenes with students who have been diagnosed with AIDS," she says. "They may do well if they have strong support systems among their friends here, but many of them are young and don’t have any kind of emotional support network, and maybe aren’t very sophisticated about relationships. They try to deal with it themselves."

At the same time, she says, those who haven’t discussed their homosexuality with their families may be forced to do so, under the worst possible circumstances.

Thomas F. Merrifield, a staff psychologist at the university’s counseling center, has also been counseling students with AIDS, as well as those whose lovers have contracted the disease or who are among the people he and others call "the worried well."

"An AIDS-phobic reaction, in which someone who may be already obsessive becomes hypochondriacal, is very common—the stress affects schoolwork and relationships," Mr. Merrifield says. The disease, he adds, has changed his job considerably. "This is a hell of a lot different than doing coming-out support groups," he says.
Researchers’ Advice About AIDS: ‘What Students Should Know’

The University of Pennsylvania makes available to students a brochure entitled “AIDS—What All Students Should Know,” which became the model for an American College Health Association pamphlet. The university’s brochure includes these recommendations for safe sexual practices:

1. Avoiding exchange of body fluids (for example, condoms avoid the exchange of semen).
2. Avoiding damage of body tissues during sex.
3. Asking about the health status of your sex partners.
4. Taking good care of your body (exercising, getting adequate rest and nutrition, and reducing stress whenever possible).

If you fall into one of the risk groups, it is important that you take measures to reduce the possibility of getting AIDS. This may not be easy; it may mean changing the way you think about sex and your sexual behavior. But don’t mistake a recommendation of caution for a condemnation of homosexuality or of sexual expression.

Most researchers agree that:

1. The exchange of body secretions (especially blood and semen, but perhaps saliva and others) represents a significant risk.
2. Damage of body tissues during sex (especially anal intercourse) can expose you to body secretions.
3. The higher the number of different sexual partners, the greater the risk.

Lessen your risk by:

1. Reducing your number of different sexual partners.

AIDS

What All Students Should Know

A more detailed brochure, entitled “Guidelines for AIDS Risk Reduction” and written by the Scientific Affairs Committee of the Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights, is available from the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, 54 10th Street, San Francisco 94103.

There are many local AIDS hotlines, as well as some operated by state health services. In addition, the Public Health Service of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services operates a nationwide AIDS hotline whose number is (800) 447-AIDS; Atlanta-area callers should dial (404) 329-1235.
OSU acts to stem AIDS fear

By Ruth Hanley
Dispatch Staff Reporter

Although there are no known cases of AIDS among Ohio State University students now, the university is forming a task force to develop educational programs and address campus questions about the disease.

The disease has struck at least two OSU students in the past two years, university officials said. One died; the other withdrew from school, and officials say they do not know that person's condition.

Dr. Robert L. Perkins, director of the OSU medicine department's infectious diseases division, will head the task force, which will meet within the next two weeks.

While the group's exact makeup has not been decided, it will include medical, administrative and academic officials, Perkins said Tuesday.

The task force will stress education, Perkins said.

"There is no crisis," he said. "This is mainly an educational effort to make accessible the best scientific and medical information available."

Dr. Doris Charles, director of the University Health Service, said one student was diagnosed as having acquired immune deficiency syndrome in 1983 and died in 1984; the other was diagnosed last spring and returned home to New York.

She refused to give more information about the students but said both withdrew from school when they learned they had AIDS.

Both Charles and Perkins said they know of no AIDS cases among OSU students now.

Since school started in September, nine students have been tested for exposure to the AIDS virus, Charles said. They requested the HTLV-III test because they felt they were in a high-risk group for AIDS, she said.

Charles would not reveal the results of the tests, which were performed in the University Hospital laboratory. The test, which pinpoints antibodies to the AIDS virus, is not always reliable because it can give a false positive reading, she said.

"It doesn't mean they have (AIDS) or not," she said.

AIDS inquiries have increased among students who develop common ailments such as colds or sore throats, she said.

The Health service counsels students in high-risk groups and distributes AIDS information published by the Ohio Department of Health.

Although the task force's goals have not yet been set, Perkins expects its educational approach will have the effect of "calming the waters, making sure people don't panic."

"With the general hysteria about the issue, people need reassurance and access to information," he said.

Concern about AIDS has prompted health service personnel to wear gloves in the laboratory.

New treatment announcement raises questions.
University task force created to inform inquiring students, faculty about AIDS

By Gina M. Rogers
Lantern staff writer

A university task force has been established to inform students and faculty about AIDS, said Madison Scott, vice president of Personnel Services.

Scott said the task force will utilize the university's resources and research efforts to inform the OSU community.

He said that a lack of credible information and an abundance of misinformation about the disease delayed the university in choosing the members of the task force. Those chosen have either a medical or legal background or have some other concern with AIDS, Scott added.

... speakers may go to dorms, fraternities and sororities to educate students about AIDS.

The task force will consist of 10 faculty members and an undetermined number of student representatives, yet to be chosen, he said. The leaders of various campus groups will be notified to help in locating candidates for the student positions.

The committee has been meeting for several weeks to compile information about the disease, Scott said.

He said that because there are so many complex questions about the disease, the task force will make the information available and let people make their own judgment.

Dr. Doris Charles, director of University Health Services, and task force member, said the information collected by the task force will be available to all who wish to learn about the disease.

Charles added that speakers may go to dorms, fraternities and sororities to educate students about AIDS.

Other members of the task force include: Chairman Robert L. Perkins, M.D., professor of medicine, microbiology and immunology; Malcolm Baroway, executive director of university communications; David H. Boyne, associate provost of academic affairs; Clarke G. Carney, director of counseling and consultation services; Robert J. Haverkemp, assistant to vice president of business and administration; Virginia F. Midkiff, secretary for chemical engineering; Michael F. Para, M.D., assistant professor of medicine, microbiology and immunology; Rhonda R. Rivera, associate dean and professor of law; William J. Schwartz, administrative assistant of residence and dining halls.
Questions and Answers About Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS)

Q1. What is acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS)?

A. Acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) is the name given to a complex of illnesses first reported in 1981. All persons with AIDS have developed a defect in their immune system, leaving them vulnerable to serious infections that ordinarily pose little threat to anyone with an intact immune system. These illnesses are referred to as opportunistic infections. A type of tumor, Kaposi’s sarcoma, also may develop in AIDS patients.

Q2. What causes AIDS?

A. A virus causes AIDS. It is known as HTLV-III. The abbreviation stands for “human T-cell lymphotropic virus.”

Q3. Who is at risk of getting AIDS?

A. Nearly all cases in the United States have been reported from distinct groups: homosexually and bisexually active males, intravenous drug abusers, heterosexual partners of the above groups, hemophiliacs and other recipients of blood or blood components, and infants of infected mothers. AIDS has been uncommon in persons outside these groups, but the virus that causes AIDS can be transmitted both heterosexually and homosexually.

Q4. For persons who become infected with the HTLV-III virus, what is the risk of getting AIDS?

A. Infection with the virus does not invariably lead to AIDS. AIDS is the most extreme and severe manifestation of infection with HTLV-III. Preliminary results of studies show that most infected individuals remain in good health. However, it is important to know that even if infected persons remain well, they may transmit the virus to others.

Q5. How long after exposure to HTLV-III does a person develop AIDS?

A. The majority of persons infected with HTLV-III will not develop AIDS. In those persons who do develop AIDS, the time between infection with the HTLV-III virus and the onset of symptoms (the incubation period) is unknown, but seems to range from about 6 months to 5 years and possibly longer. However, not everyone infected with the virus get AIDS or even has symptoms.

Q6. Can casual contact cause AIDS?

A. No. The HTLV-III virus is not transmissible by casual non-sexual contact such as: living in the same house as an infected person, caring for an AIDS patient, eating food handled by a person with AIDS, being coughed or sneezed upon by an infected person, casual kissing, or swimming in a pool with an infected person.

Evaluations of health care workers in AIDS patient settings and persons living in households with AIDS patients consistently show no evidence of risk from non-sexual casual contact or airborne spread.

As far as anyone knows, the AIDS virus is transmitted only during a sexual encounter violent enough to open up a blood channel, either through mucous membrane or broken skin; through the exchange of a needle when the needle of an infected person is used by someone else; through an (unscreened) blood transfusion from an infected person; or from an infected mother to the fetus.

Q7. Is there a laboratory test for AIDS?

A. No. However, there is an important test for the presence of antibodies to the virus that causes AIDS. This test, which detects evidence of infection with HTLV-III, is now used at blood collection centers to screen blood and plasma and prevents cases of transfusion-associated AIDS. The test is available through private physicians, state or local health departments, and other sites.

If a response is positive, the test should be repeated for verification. Positive verification does not mean the person has AIDS, only that he or she has been infected.
This would help in locating the production date and facilitate maintenance but might exacerbate the space problem in APD. It was recognized that abandonment of the shelf list would not affect the Catalog Department as drastically as it would maintenance.

Hsueh will continue to work on the Task Force outline. The next meeting will be December 18, 1985, 8:30 to 10:00 a.m., in Room 031A. The Task Force will meet again that afternoon from 2:00 to 4:00, to continue work on the final report.

Respectfully submitted,

James L. Murphy
8. What are the symptoms of AIDS?

A. Most individuals infected with the HTLV-III virus have no symptoms, feel well, and engage in all their usual activities, even though the virus is present in their blood. Some develop symptoms, which may include tiredness, fever, loss of appetite and weight (more than 10 pounds), diarrhea, night sweats, and lymph gland enlargement. This group of symptoms is sometimes referred to as AIDS-related complex (ARC). Some, but not all, ARC patients will develop impaired immune defenses and then develop an opportunistic infection. When this occurs, they will be diagnosed as having AIDS.

In studies so far, of every 100 persons who tested positive for antibodies to the virus about 25 have developed ARC. About ten of every 100 have developed AIDS.

Q9. What are the chances of contracting AIDS by heterosexual transmission?

A. Heterosexual transmission of HTLV infections in America appears to be closely associated with being a steady sexual partner of a person with AIDS or otherwise infected with the HTLV-III virus. The proportion of AIDS cases in the United States among heterosexuals remains about 1 per cent. Transmission to a male as a result of vaginal sex with an infected female may be possible but sufficient data has not been acquired to be certain about this point.

In Africa, however, HTLV-III is known to be spread among heterosexual men and women. What accounts for the predominance of AIDS among heterosexuals in central African countries is not clear.

Q10. What are some of the demographic characteristics of persons with AIDS?

A. In America, about 93 per cent of the patients identified so far have been males and more than three-fourths of them have had male to male sexual intercourse. Ages affected have been primarily 25-44 years. AIDS has been reported in all races and ethnic groups.

Q11. What are some of the risk factors for AIDS?

A. AIDS is most often transmitted through anal intercourse, a practice that can tear the delicate lining of the rectum and allow the virus to enter the body's circulatory system. It also can be transmitted through vaginal sex, although to date in America these occurrences are uncommon. Other risk factors include having multiple and anonymous homosexual or heterosexual partners, prostitute contacts, and sharing needles among those using drugs.

The risk of the HTLV-III infection in hemophiliac patients and others given blood or blood products has been virtually eliminated since all blood for transfusions is screened for HTLV-III virus antibodies and heat is used to inactivate the virus in blood products. Babies born to mothers who have AIDS or who are at risk for the disease may become infected before, during, or immediately after birth.

Q12. How is AIDS diagnosed?

A. No specific symptoms occur to indicate the loss of immunity characteristic of AIDS, but many patients recall having had the features of ARC. These symptoms typically occur over a period of months before the patient's condition becomes severe enough that specific opportunistic diseases occur. Thus, the diagnosis of AIDS depends on the presence of one or more of those diseases plus evidence of HTLV-III infection in blood tests.

Q13. What are some of the diseases affecting persons with AIDS?

A. About 85 percent of the AIDS patients studied have had one or both of two relatively rare diseases: (1) Pneumocystis carinii pneumonia (PCP), a parasitic infection of the lungs; and (2) a type of cancer known as Kaposi's sarcoma (KS). Other severe opportunistic infections which may occur include those due to yeasts, cytomegalovirus, herpes virus, and parasites such as toxoplasma or cryptosporidia. Milder infections with these organisms seen occasionally in the general population do not suggest immune deficiency and are not considered "opportunistic."

Q14. What is known about these opportunistic diseases?

A. The opportunistic diseases now seen with AIDS are not new. KS was described about 100 years ago. In the United States, prior to 1980, KS primarily affected elderly men and was very seldom fatal, even 5 to 10 years after diagnosis. KS was also seen in children and young adults in some parts of equatorial Africa and in a few other locations.

PCP affects a few hundred adults and children in the United States each year, but is seen primarily in patients with severe underlying illnesses, such as leukemia or in patients
receiving therapy with drugs known to suppress the immune system—such as those administered to kidney transplant patients to prevent organ rejection.

KS, as related to AIDS, usually occurs anywhere on the surface of the skin or in the mouth. In early stages, it may look like a bruise or blue-violet or brownish spot. The spot or spots persist and may grow larger. KS may spread to or appear in other organs of the body, including lymph nodes, causing them to enlarge. PCP has symptoms similar to any other form of severe pneumonia, especially cough, fever, and difficulty in breathing. Some AIDS patients have had KS and PCP at the same time.

Q15. How common is AIDS?

A. Investigation of the syndrome began in June 1981, and by today, more than 15,000 cases have been reported. As of November 11, 1985, there were 137 cases in Ohio. Eighteen persons were residents of Franklin County. The total number of new cases of AIDS being diagnosed is increasing.

Q16. How strong is the HTLV-III virus?

A. Outside the body, the HTLV-III virus is weak. For instance, it is deactivated completely by heat at 140 degrees Fahrenheit. Common detergents will kill it as does alcohol and a ten percent dilution of house bleach. Once inside the system, however, it is remarkably resistant to available drugs.

Q17. How serious is acquired immune deficiency syndrome?

A. AIDS has a very high fatality rate, ranging from 33 percent to 100 percent, depending upon the opportunistic disease and the length of time from diagnosis. Center for Disease Control investigators do not know of any patient with AIDS who has regained lost immunity.

Q18. What is the geographic distribution of reported cases?

A. The distribution has been and remains uneven, with about 37 percent of the cases reported from New York State and about 23 percent from California. AIDS cases have been reported from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and more than 35 other countries. By mid-October 1985, there were 18 confirmed AIDS cases in Franklin County.

Q19. Is there a danger of contracting AIDS from donating blood?

A. Absolutely not. Blood banks and other collection centers use sterile equipment and disposable needles. Thus, there is no chance that a needle used for a blood donor would be used by another donor.

Q20. What can be done to prevent AIDS transmission?

A. The U.S. Public Health Service has made several recommendations for AIDS prevention.
   • Everybody should "know" their sexual partners. If your partner is in a high risk group, you should cease sexual relations or should follow safe sexual practices.
   • Persons should be aware that having multiple sexual partners and/or anonymous sexual partners significantly increases their chances of contracting AIDS.
   • Everyone should avoid using unprescribed IV drugs. Those who do use IV drugs should not share or reuse needles, syringes, or preparation vials. Everyone should avoid sexual contact with persons who use unprescribed IV drugs.

Q21. What should I do if I believe I might have AIDS or a related disease?

A. For medical advice, students may contact the University Health Service, 1875 Milikin Road [422-2112]. Other members of the University community may do the same, or contact the Infectious Diseases Division of University Hospitals, N1148 Doan Hall, 410 West 10th Avenue [421-8640]. Persons also may contact the Columbus AIDS Task Force, PO Box 8393, Columbus, Ohio 43201 [297-0411]. The Venereal Disease Clinic of the Columbus Health Department, 161 Washington Boulevard [222-7772], will administer and give counseling on the HTLV-III antibody test. If the test is given, the results are absolutely confidential.
General Statement on Institutional Response to AIDS

December 2, 1985

The recommendations and guidelines included in this Statement augment and extend those of the Preliminary Statement on Disease Transmission issued by the American College Health Association (ACHA) on September 25, 1985. They are based on the best currently available medical information and on recommendations of the Public Health Service and the Centers for Disease Control. As indicated herein, ACHA will make available more detailed guidelines and information in certain specific areas of concern to colleges and universities in a series of reports and statements to be released in the near future.

The American College Health Association acknowledges the valuable assistance of the American Council on Education in the development of guidelines pertaining to the legal issues and questions presented by AIDS.

The primary response of colleges and universities to the AIDS epidemic must be education. Because there is no specific therapy for AIDS or AIDS-related conditions, the most important goals for institutions will be those of increasing awareness and providing education to prevent further spread of the disease. The American College Health Association recommends that the organization and completion of effective educational programs about AIDS be an activity of the highest priority for all institutions of higher learning. Such programs must address not only undergraduate students, but also graduate and professional students; they must reach not only residential students, but also commuters. Educational programs about AIDS should also be available to students in junior and community colleges and in programs of continuing education. Furthermore, universities and colleges should provide AIDS education for institutional employees, faculty, and staff.

Such educational programs will address the major intervention currently possible in limiting the consequences of AIDS, which is primary prevention. They may also be of paramount importance in discharging the institution’s responsibility to protect its student body and staff from the transmission of AIDS. Since the current medical evidence indicates that no actual safety risks are created in a normal academic or employment setting, the administration of effective AIDS education and training programs provides the best way for institutions to render enrollment or employment safe and healthful. The AIDS epidemic raises issues of liability that are of great concern to college and university administrators; the most effective means of addressing these issues at present is to educate students and employees about AIDS and to take reasonable precautions such as are suggested herein.

In order for educational programs to be effective, they must provide current information, use reliable, up-to-date materials, and be widely available. The Task Force on AIDS of the American College Health Association has revised the organization’s educational brochure on AIDS and is distributing it to all institutions. Detailed recommendations for educational programming, including suggested formats and methodologies, will be forthcoming from the Task Force shortly.

The American College Health Association recommends that institutions not adopt blanket policies concerning students with AIDS or AIDS-related conditions. Instead, it suggests that certain guidelines be followed and that the institution analyze and respond to each case as required by its own particular facts. Recommended guidelines are included in this Statement and in subsequent statements by the Association. Colleges and universities will benefit from the maintenance of as much flexibility as possible in dealing with the issues AIDS raises; given the uncertain legal obligations and challenges involved, institutions are advised not to devise and implement detailed policies at this time. However, it seems appropriate for college and university officials to identify and designate a person, group, or department to assume a managerial role in providing consistent and reasonable analysis of each case.
Guidelines for institutions derive from the best currently available medical facts about AIDS. Recommendations apply to all students or employees who are known to be infected with the virus thought to cause AIDS, Human T-Lymphotropic Virus, type III (HTLV-III); this includes those who have a condition meeting the surveillance definition of AIDS itself, those who have one of the lesser manifestations of infection (AIDS-Related Complex, or ARC), and those who are currently healthy but have evidence by the presence of a serum antibody to HTLV-III of exposure to and infection by the virus.

Current knowledge indicates that students or employees with AIDS, ARC, or a positive HTLV-III antibody test do not pose a health risk to other students or employees in an academic setting. AIDS is thought to be transmitted by intimate sexual contact or by exposure to contaminated blood. Although HTLV-III can be found in many body secretions of those who are infected, its presence there is not necessarily correlated with disease transmission by those fluids. There has been no confirmed case of transmission of AIDS by any household, school, or other casual contact. The Public Health Service states that there is no risk created by living in the same house as an infected person; caring for an AIDS patient; eating food handled by an infected person; being coughed or sneezed upon by an infected person; casual kissing; or swimming in a pool with an infected person.

These facts, derived from the best epidemiologic data currently available, are the basis for the following guidelines recommended by the American College Health Association.

1. Most college and university students who have AIDS, ARC, or a positive HTLV-III antibody test, whether they are symptomatic or not, should be allowed regular classroom attendance in an unrestricted manner as long as they are physically able to attend classes. See also Recommendation #12.

2. There is no medical justification for restricting the access of students with AIDS, ARC, or a positive HTLV-III antibody test to student unions, theaters, restaurants, cafeterias, snack bars, gymnasiums, swimming pools, recreational facilities, or other common areas. The ACHA is developing a statement that addresses such specific concerns as contact sports.

3. In the program of education that the institution provides, it should emphasize the following recommendations of the Public Health Service:
   a. Even though they may be asymptomatic, persons with confirmed positive HTLV-III antibody tests may transmit infection to others through anal or vaginal sexual intercourse, the sharing of needles, and possibly, exposure to others through oral-genital contact or intimate kissing.
   b. The efficacy of condoms in preventing infection with HTLV-III is unproven, but the consistent use of them may reduce transmission.
   c. Toothbrushes, razors, and other implements that may become contaminated with blood should not be shared.
   d. Persons with AIDS, ARC, or confirmed positive HTLV-III antibody tests should not donate blood, plasma, other body organs, other body tissues, or sperm. The American College Health Association also endorses the request of the American Red Cross that persons who fall into defined risk categories for AIDS not donate blood or plasma.
   e. If persons with confirmed reactive (positive) antibody tests have accidents involving bleeding, contaminated surfaces should be cleaned with household bleach freshly diluted 1:10 in water.
   f. When seeking medical, dental, or eye care, these persons should advise the practitioner of their positive antibody status so that appropriate evaluation can be undertaken and precautions can be taken to prevent transmission to others.

4. In colleges and universities with resident students, residence hall staff (both students and employees) should receive education about AIDS; in future years, the institution should provide that education prior to the arrival of new students.

5. Consideration of the existence of AIDS, ARC, or a positive HTLV-III antibody test should not be part of the initial admission decision for those applying to attend the institution.

6. The American College Health Association does not advocate the routine requirement that students be asked to respond to questions about the existence of AIDS, ARC, or a positive HTLV-III antibody test. It is, however, appropriate to encourage new students to inform campus health authorities if they have AIDS, ARC, or positive HTLV-III antibody test in order that the institution can provide them proper medical care and education. This, like all other medical information, must be handled in a strictly confidential manner in accordance with the procedures and requirements in effect in the institution.
7. College and university officials should not undertake programs of screening newly admitted or current students for antibody to HTLV-III; neither should mandatory screening of employees be implemented. Especially, institutions should not attempt to identify those in high risk groups and require screening only of them.

8. College and university health services should be familiar with sources of testing for antibody to HTLV-III, and should be able to refer students or employees requesting such testing. Health care providers should understand the capabilities and limitations of the test, and should be able to counsel those desiring to be tested or to refer them to counseling sources elsewhere. Testing should only be done where it is confidential or anonymous, where positive results can be confirmed by specific tests, and where both pre- and post-test counseling are available.

9. Decisions about residential housing of students with AIDS, ARC, or a positive HTLV-III antibody test must be made on a case-by-case basis. Those making such decisions should keep in mind the fact that AIDS is a condition present in an individual, not one that inhabits a building. The best currently available medical information does not support the existence of a risk to those sharing dormitories with infected individuals; there may, however, be in some circumstances reasonable concern for the health of those with AIDS or ARC who might be exposed to certain contagious diseases (e.g., measles or chicken pox) in a close living situation. Health officers in institutions with the flexibility to provide private rooms may wish to recommend that students with AIDS or ARC be assigned private rooms in the interest of protecting the health of those students. The American College Health Association recognizes that fear of AIDS may bring considerable pressure to bear on institutional housing officers, and will provide a more thorough discussion of options in the area of residential housing in a subsequent statement.

10. Guidelines concerning the handling of confidential medical information about students with AIDS, ARC, or a positive HTLV-III antibody test follow the general standards included in the American College Health Association's Recommended Standards and Practices for a College Health Program, Fourth Edition, 1984:

In general, it is recommended that no specific or detailed information concerning complaints or diagnosis be provided to faculty, administrators, or even parents, without the expressed written permission of the patient in each case. This position with respect to health records is supported by amendment to the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974.

Certainly no person, group, agency, insurer, employer, or institution should be provided any medical information without the prior specific written consent of the patient. Given the possibility of unintended or accidental compromise of the confidentiality of information, health officers should carefully weigh the importance of including any specific information regarding the existence of AIDS, ARC, or a positive HTLV-III antibody test in the medical record except in circumstances of medical necessity created by the evaluation of an illness. At minimum, the inclusion of any such information in the medical record should be discussed with the patient prior to its entry. Health officials and other institutional officers must remember that all confidential medical information is protected by statute and that any unauthorized disclosure of it may create legal liability. The duty of physicians and other health care providers to protect the confidentiality of information is superseded by the necessity to protect others only in very specific, threatening circumstances. The number of people in the institution who are aware of the existence and/or identity of students or employees who have AIDS, ARC, or a positive HTLV-III antibody test should be kept to an absolute minimum, both to protect the confidentiality and privacy of the infected persons and to avoid the generation of unnecessary fear and anxiety among other students and staff. The ACHA is now developing a statement specifically addressing the handling of confidential medical information about students with AIDS, ARC, or a positive HTLV-III antibody test in more detail.

11. There is no medical necessity for institutions to advise others living in a dormitory of the presence in the dormitory of other students who have AIDS, ARC, or a positive HTLV-III antibody test. The responsibility to provide a safe living environment is best dealt with by educational programming, as discussed earlier in this statement. Similarly, college and university officials should make no attempt in any other setting to identify those students or employees who have AIDS, ARC, or a positive HTLV-III antibody test.

12. College and university health policy should encourage regular medical follow-up for those who have AIDS, ARC, or a positive HTLV-III antibody test. Special precautions to protect the health of immunologically compromised individuals should be considered during periods of prevalence of such contagious diseases as chicken pox and measles.
13. Those who are known to be immunologically compromised should be excused from institutional requirements for certain vaccinations, notably measles and rubella vaccines, as those vaccinations may lead to serious consequences in those with poorly functioning immune systems.

14. All colleges and universities should adopt safety guidelines as proposed by the Public Health Service for the handling of blood and body fluids of persons with AIDS, ARC, or a positive HTLV-III antibody test. Those institutions which operate health care clinics and clinical laboratories providing services for students or employees should implement those Public Health Service guidelines and take measures to see that they are observed. In addition, the institution should provide educational programs about AIDS and the reduction of risk to health care providers for clinical personnel. The following articles in Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Reports provide detailed guidelines that should be generally followed:


15. College and university health services should use disposable, one-user needles and other equipment whenever such equipment will puncture the skin or mucous membranes of patients. Health care officials should not rely on students or employees to identify themselves as having AIDS, ARC, or a positive HTLV-III antibody test, since many infected persons are unaware of their status; safety precautions must be used in all cases. If disposable equipment is not available, any needles or other implements that puncture skin or mucous membranes should be steam sterilized by autoclave before reuse or safely discarded. Extreme caution should be exercised particularly in disposing of needles.

16. All colleges and universities should adopt safety guidelines for the handling of blood and body fluids of all students in other settings as well. Laboratories used in a teaching context, such as those required in biology courses, should be safe experiences. Given the fact that the existence and identity of those with AIDS, ARC, or a positive HTLV-III antibody test may not be known, procedures for the decontamination of environmental surfaces and objects soiled by blood or body fluids should be adopted and implemented. Laboratory courses requiring exposure to blood, such as finger pricks for blood typing or examination, should use disposable equipment and no lancets or other blood-letting devices should be re-used or shared. No student should be required to obtain or process the blood of others. The Public Health Service guidelines noted above include information about disinfection of environmental surfaces; a simple method they recommend is the cleaning of contaminated surfaces with a household bleach freshly diluted 1:10 in water.

17. College and university health services must strictly observe public health reporting requirements for AIDS. Patients who meet criteria for the revised surveillance definition of AIDS must be reported to the local public health authorities. The detailed surveillance definition is included in:


The Task Force on AIDS of the American College Health Association will release in the near future a series of further statements specifically addressing:

1. Residential life issues
2. Confidentiality of information and the "need to know"
3. Educational priorities
4. Administrative issues including athletic competition, institutional employees, and public relations
5. Testing, support and counseling for those at risk
6. Clinical issues for health services

Task Force on AIDS
American College Health Association
15879 Crabbs Way
Rockville, MD 20855
(301) 963-1100
Robert P. Balchin, M.D., Chairman
### UNIVERSITY TASK FORCE COMMITTEE ON AIDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>ADDRESS</th>
<th>PHONE</th>
<th>SECRETARY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Malcolm Baroway, Executive Director</td>
<td>University Communications 1125 Kinnear Rd., #113A</td>
<td>2-4373</td>
<td>Phyllis DeMuth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David H. Boyne, Ph.D., Associate Provost</td>
<td>Academic Affairs 203 Bricker Hall 190 North Oval Mall</td>
<td>2-5881</td>
<td>Jean Herring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clark G. Carney, Ph.D., Director</td>
<td>Counseling Services Ohio Union 1739 North High Street</td>
<td>2-5766</td>
<td>Lisa Quinn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doris I. Charles, M.D., Director</td>
<td>Health Services - Wilce 1875 Millikin Road</td>
<td>2-8606</td>
<td>Lori Sommers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert J. Haverkamp, J.D., Asst. to V.P. Bus. &amp; Admin.</td>
<td>Business and Admin. 108 Bricker Hall 190 North Oval Mall</td>
<td>2-7970</td>
<td>Ann Marie Anderson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nancy A. Jones, Program Assistant</td>
<td>N1144 Doan Hall 410 West Tenth Ave.</td>
<td>134-8734</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia Midkiff, Administrative Secretary</td>
<td>University Registrar 320 Lincoln Tower 1800 Cannon Drive</td>
<td>2-1556</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael F. Para, M.D., Assistant Professor</td>
<td>N1135A Doan Hall 410 West Tenth Avenue</td>
<td>134-8733</td>
<td>Sharon Venters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert L. Perkins, M.D., Division Director</td>
<td>N1148 Doan Hall 410 West Tenth Avenue</td>
<td>134-8460</td>
<td>Sandy Strider</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhonda Rivera, J.D., Assoc. Dean, Clin. Prog.</td>
<td>Law School - 042 1659 North High Street</td>
<td>2-2422</td>
<td>Carol Peirano</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. William J. Schwartz, Personnel Manager</td>
<td>Residence &amp; Dining #630 Lincoln Tower 1800 Cannon Drive</td>
<td>2-2431</td>
<td>Andrea Allison</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**STUDENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>ADDRESS</th>
<th>PHONE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kristin Englund</td>
<td>1845 Indianola Avenue Columbus, Ohio  43201</td>
<td>294-1667</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Ohio State task force on AIDS has campus education as goal

By Renee Eberly
Lantern staff writer

Tracking programs, like those used for VD patients, should not be used to locate people with AIDS, and isolating people with AIDS should not be done, a panel of Ohio State AIDS Task Force members said Wednesday.

A bill, being prepared by Rep. Don Gilmore, R-Columbus, includes a tracking system. Such a system would scare people away from being tested for the disease and increase the health risk, said task force members.

Four task force members spoke about the legal, medical, and psychological effects of AIDS to about 30 people, mostly law students, at the Law Building.

The Center for Disease Control in Atlanta does not require a tracking system for AIDS, nor does Ohio require it, said Robert Haverkamp, assistant attorney general with Ohio State.

Dr. Robert Perkins, professor of medical microbiology and immunology, who treats people with AIDS on a regular basis, said a person with a positive test for AIDS does not need to be isolated because the disease is not readily transmitted by casual contact. For instance, in families of a person who is confined to the home due to the severity of the disease, no instances have been reported of a family member contracting the disease, he said.

A current legal issue is the required testing for AIDS. "Taking the test really doesn't mean anything except to the extent that two to six months ago you were healthy," Haverkamp said. The university does not require that testing be done on a regular basis because it finds it to be illegal, he said.

Dr. Clark Carney, with the OSU counseling service in Ohio Union, talked about the fear that people with AIDS have. He told the law students to imagine they had AIDS and could no longer become attorneys, because people perceived them as being gay.

"Then you get a sense for what it would be like to be a person experiencing AIDS who wants to work and can't." This is one of the attitudes about AIDS held by victims, he said.

There is not yet a cure for the disease, so educating members of the campus community about the causes of AIDS and how it is transmitted is the main goal of the task force, the members said.

Protection of the rights of everyone associated with the University and providing a safe and healthy environment are among the requirements of the legal division of the task force, Haverkamp said.
OSU task force presents AIDS information session

By Steve Benowitz

For now, the best way to deal with the legal and social issues of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) is through better education, a University task force told students recently.

Because there is not yet a cure for AIDS, one of the primary concerns of the University Task Force on AIDS is to educate the campus community about the causes and routes of transmission of the disease.

A panel of four task force members addressed about 30 students recently during an AIDS information session sponsored by the Women's Law Caucus and the student chapter of the National Lawyers Guild.

Robert Haverkamp, an attorney and assistant to the vice president for business and administration, said the University will not develop "blanket policies" regarding AIDS, but rather, would make decisions on a "case-by-case" basis.

"There have been too many cases of public overreaction, nationwide," he said. "They (blanket policies) just won't work."

"The University clearly has an obligation to safeguard its students and employees," Haverkamp said. "We have to look to the best available medical advice," and that may involve implementing certain precautions for some people, such as those who deal with blood and blood products, and for those involved in food services.

"If a person presents a risk to others, the University is responsible. It's the same as with hepatitis or any other infectious illness," he said.

The University already has policies to deal with harassment, discrimination and the confidentiality of medical records.

Clarke Carney, director of counseling and consultation services, pointed to the AIDS sufferer's loss of individual rights. The AIDS controversy has opened up "a whole new area" in regard to discrimination on the job, he said.

"Imagine yourself not being able to become an attorney, or not being allowed to enter a particular law school," he said to an audience made up largely of law students.

"If you've ever been discriminated against because of a social stereotype or a misunderstood illness, then you can understand the anxiety felt by people who are perceived as being gay or as having AIDS," he said. "We treasure individual freedoms, but only if they're exercised in socially acceptable ways."

The AIDS task force, formed last fall to address campus issues surrounding the disease, plans to develop guidelines to handle the various concerns that may arise.
AIDS task force addresses University concerns

Editor's note: The following article addresses potential concerns of students and employees at Ohio State about the disease Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS).

Student Concerns

1. If a student suspects that he or she has AIDS, what will the University do? (Throughout these guidelines, the term AIDS, where appropriate, includes ARC and other conditions due to infection by the HTLV-III virus.)

If the student is uncertain of his or her medical condition and seeks help, the University will encourage the student to get a detailed medical evaluation. The University can refer the student to a University physician who is familiar with AIDS (or to such physicians outside the University) for a confidentiality medical evaluation, including counseling before and after, and further medical follow-up if appropriate. This referral will be made on a confidential basis.

2. How will the University respond to complaints of discrimination or harassment against students with AIDS or ARC, or who have positive HTLV-III test results, or who simply are perceived to be in high risk groups?

The University will respond to any conflict or harassment first by informal means, to counsel and educate the individuals involved. However, if harassment continues, such conduct will be dealt with as a student disciplinary matter under the established procedures of the Code of Student Conduct. Any discrimination against students because of their sexual orientation is prohibited by the student code. In addition, Sections 503 and 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act prohibit discrimination against qualified handicapped individuals, and it appears that this definition may include persons with AIDS and ARC as well as those with positive HTLV-III test results.

3. How will the University respond to students who wish to change class schedules because a person in their class has AIDS?

University will assist in a referral to other appropriate counseling and/or medical agencies. Referrals to University and other physicians and counseling agencies will be made on a confidential basis. If appropriate on a case-by-case basis, the University will consider room transfers of a residence hall student with AIDS. However, the University will not support such actions as a means of isolating students with AIDS.

Where appropriate, the University will offer counseling to others involved, including roommates and other residents, and if requested, their parents, to help them better understand AIDS and what it does and does not mean.

6. What if a student in a residence hall suspects that a roommate or other resident has AIDS?

The University will respond with appropriate counseling in the same manner as with other issues or concerns that may arise among residence hall students. And, if desired by the student who may be ill, the University will help that individual obtain appropriate confidential medical evaluation and counseling.

If after counseling, other conflicts still exist which cannot be resolved constructively by the parties involved, the University will consider a room reassignment in accordance with established residence hall policies. However, such situations will not be a legitimate reason for releasing a student from his or her residence hall contract again, it should be addressed that casual contact, such as normally occurs with a roommate, does not transmit the HTLV-III virus or cause AIDS, and the University's policy is to address these concerns through greater education and counseling.

or ARC or with a positive HTLV-III result will not be considered a legitimate reason for releasing a student from a residence hall contract.

3. What about concerns by employees in cleaning activities?

If an employee is working in an area where exposure to body fluids or blood spills is likely, it is University policy that the employee take such precautions as are normally recommended for the employee's health and safety.

If others are concerned about an employee having AIDS, counseling will be available. However, such concern is not legitimate grounds for changes in work assignments.

4. How will the University respond to concerns by an office employee that his or her co-worker or supervisor has AIDS?

Again, it must be stressed that casual contact, such as occurs in an office setting, does not cause AIDS. The University would hope that these concerns would be resolved by counseling and greater education about AIDS. Unless medically justified, the University will not require transfers or changes in working conditions because an employee has AIDS or because of concerns about a co-worker having AIDS.

The University also is subject to Sections 503 and 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act, which prohibits discrimination against handicapped individuals, and it appears that this definition may include persons with AIDS, ARC, or with positive HTLV-III test results.

5. What will be the response if a professor tells his or her dean that he or she has, or suspects having, AIDS?

The University will encourage the professor to get a medical evaluation by a University or personal physician who is
• ensuring and facilitating access to proper medical, administrative, counseling and other assistance;
• identifying those work situations where special precautions may be advised;
• encouraging and supporting research on AIDS and its related issues; and
• lessening the fears and the undeserved reactions associated with the disease, those who have it, and those who may be at risk.

The University believes that education about AIDS increases, misinformation about the disease and its transmission and undeserved reactions will be lessened.

The task force has begun the work of providing the University community with factual information about AIDS. Questions and answers about AIDS have appeared in campus publications, and presentations have been arranged for student organizations, the Council of Deans and other campus groups. These efforts have demonstrated the need for the University to set forth the guidelines it will use in addressing AIDS and related issues. The task force has formulated the following questions and answers regarding these policy issues.

The principal philosophy which will guide the University’s response to these issues is that each situation or concern must be addressed individually, on a case-by-case basis, as determined by the medical facts involved. The answers given here do not offer detailed rules, rather, they present a framework from which can be developed specific, well-reasoned responses to individual cases. Further, the University’s responses are based on recommendations issued by the U.S. Public Health Service, the Centers for Disease Control, and the Ohio Department of Health. As those recommendations may be modified or expanded, the University will review and appropriately revise these guidelines.

Within that context, the questions and answers that follow outline the University’s response.

The fact that a classmate has AIDS will not be considered a legitimate reason for dropping a course, requesting a section reassignment, or making other changes in a student’s academic program. The University’s first response to any concern of this nature will be to provide counseling to those involved. Casual contact does not result in AIDS. With respect to a student who has AIDS, so long as class attendance is permitted by the student’s physician, he or she can attend class, without any need or reason for the student or classmates to make any changes in their schedules.

4. What are the provisions of the University’s student health insurance program that relate to AIDS?

Illnesses, including AIDS, existing at the time a student enters the student health insurance program may not be covered by the policy. The student health insurance has an exclusion for any pre-existing condition was diagnosed and treated within six months prior to the start of coverage. If no diagnosis or treatment for that condition was made within the six-month period preceding the start of coverage, the insurance would cover subsequent diagnosis and medical care. These provisions apply to all medical conditions; no separate provisions apply to AIDS. Payment of medical expenses under the insurance is based on a case-by-case decision as to whether the expense is covered by the policy.

5. How will the University respond if a student living in a residence hall is diagnosed as having AIDS?

Decisions in all situations involving a student who has a health problem are made on a case-by-case determination, based on the medical facts of each case and with concern for confidentiality and the best interests of all parties involved. If a residence hall student has AIDS, the University will counsel the student in dealing with the non-medical aspects of the condition and offer the medical services of a University physician familiar with AIDS. Or, if the student prefers, the

Personnel Concerns

1. What will the University do if a professor has, or is suspected of having, AIDS?

The concern that a professor, instructor or graduate assistant has AIDS will not be considered a legitimate reason for a student dropping a course, requesting a section reassignment, or making other changes in the student’s program. Casual contact does not cause AIDS. Therefore, a teacher with AIDS, so long as he or she can teach and function in an academic setting, presents no reason for student counseling, or changes in the professor’s work assignments. The University’s response to concerns of this nature will be to offer education about AIDS, including appropriate counseling and medical information, to those involved.

2. What if an employee in a food service has, or is suspected of having AIDS?

The University will follow the Centers for Disease Control recommendations of “exercising care in the handling of food.” Those recommendations state: “All epidemiologic and laboratory evidence indicates that bloodborne and sexually transmitted infections are not transmitted during the preparation or serving of food or beverages,” and no instances of HTLV-III transmission have been documented in such circumstances. However, the CDC guidelines do recognize the need for special training and precautions in this area. Thus, all employees in food service work should follow existing recommended standards and practices of good personal hygiene and food sanitation and should exercise care to avoid injury to hands when preparing food. However, employees known to be infected with the HTLV-III virus need not be restricted from work unless they have evidence of other infections or illnesses for which any employee handling food should be restricted. Again, the University will offer education about AIDS and appropriate individual counseling to those involved.

The presence of an employee with AIDS familiar with AIDS. Medical counseling will be made available on a confidential basis. If a professor has AIDS, it will be treated as any other chronic illness; i.e., if the professor is unable to teach a class, arrangements will be made for others to teach the class. The University has personnel guidelines on medical disability; if the professor is totally unable to carry out assigned duties, he or she can be placed on disability leave.

6. Are medical and employment records confidential?

Medical records are confidential and may be released only with the employee’s consent. Medical information provided by an employee may be placed in the employee’s personnel record, e.g., for purposes of determining disability benefits.

University employment records are subject to public disclosure under state law.

Personnel who handle records are instructed on the confidentiality issue. It is a violation of University policy for employees to improperly release information from personnel or medical files. The University will not give out confidential medical or other information about students or employees except where required by law.

7. What will happen if a manager knows or thinks an employee has AIDS and needs medical attention and/or counseling?

Decisions in all situations will be made on a case-by-case determination, based on the medical facts of each case and with concern for the best interests of all involved. The University will offer counseling and medical services or referrals to other counseling centers or agencies. The University also can provide counseling to co-workers to better understand AIDS.

8. What are the provisions of employee health and life insurance policies,

Continued on page 7.
AIDS task force...

Continued from page 6.

including disability and survivorship provisions?

There is no provision in any of the University’s current employee insurance policies specifically regarding AIDS; it is treated as any other chronic illness.

The University Alternate Health Plan does not have any exclusions for conditions existing at the time the insurance coverage begins. The Major Medical plan has an exclusion for any pre-existing condition that was diagnosed and treated within six months prior to the start of coverage. If there was no diagnosis or treatment for that condition within the six-month period preceding the start of coverage, the insurance would cover subsequent diagnosis and medical care. It should be noted, however, that all of these plans exclude coverage for treatment by experimental procedures or drugs. The cost of such experimental treatment may be covered by the research agreement under which it is provided.

Life insurance benefits would be paid to the named beneficiary; disability insurance also has no exclusions and would be paid. It should be noted that the life insurance program provides that an employee may name any individual as beneficiary.

9. What about concerns regarding children in the University-supported child care centers?

It should be stressed that the Centers for Disease Control have no reported cases of transmission of the HTLV-III virus or AIDS in school, day care, or foster care settings. Guidelines issued by the CDC, however, do recognize a minimal potential risk of transmission by pre-school children who do not have control over behavior or bodily functions. Because of the slight but potential risk, the University will provide special training for staff in the day care centers to understand AIDS and to ensure that necessary precautions are taken. If a child enrolled in the day care center is diagnosed as having AIDS or a positive HTLV-III test result, the case will be handled in accordance with the CDC guidelines and guidelines from the Ohio Department of Health based on the child’s medical condition.

10. What are the policies of the University Hospitals?

The University Hospitals have established policies and procedures for all employees and staff regarding the care of patients with infectious diseases and the treatment of employees with such conditions. The University and the Hospitals also follow the CDC guidelines with respect to AIDS and will modify its own policies if those guidelines are changed.

11. Will employees be routinely tested for the HTLV-III antibody?

No. The HTLV-III antibody test was developed to screen blood. It is not a test for AIDS. In fact, most people with a positive HTLV-III test result probably will not develop AIDS. Further, among a general population, the percentage of false positive results may be very high. Because of these factors, the CDC guidelines do not recommend such routine testing.

For additional information, contact the following groups and agencies:

University AIDS Task Force, 421-8734;
University Health Service, 422-2112;
Infectious Disease Division, University Hospitals, N1148 Doan Hall, 421-8640;
University Counseling and Consultation Service, Fourth Floor, Ohio Union, 422-5766;
Columbus AIDS Task Force, P.O. Box 8383, Columbus, Ohio 43201, 297-0411;
Columbus Health Department Venereal Disease Clinic, 181 Washington Blvd., Columbus, Ohio 43215, 222-7772;
Ohio Department of Health AIDS Hotline, 1-800-332-AIDS;
U.S. Public Health Services AIDS Hotline, 1-800-342-AIDS.
Researcher says AIDS

By John Bombatch
Lantern staff writer

Education of the AIDS virus needs to be directed toward college-aged students, who are apathetic toward the disease, said Dr. Harold Jaffe, a leading AIDS researcher from the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta.

During college years students are experimenting sexually, and it may be a time where a male student has his first homosexual contact, Jaffe said.

Jaffe spoke Tuesday night at the 12th Annual ICSABER Society awards banquet at the Fawcett Center. He said he supports Ohio State's efforts to inform students about AIDS through its AIDS Task Force.

The ICSABER society is a faculty group with interests in basic research in the life sciences. The group sponsors a graduate student research forum and awards banquet each year to honor students.

Jaffe also questioned the recent actions taken by the parents of schoolchildren in Kokomo, Indiana. Parents there do not want their children attending classes with a child who has AIDS.

He said it is unnecessary to prevent a 13-year-old boy from attending public school simply because he has AIDS.

Jaffe said that the public should know more about the disease before they panic. "Surely, AIDS is a scary disease," Jaffe said. "Most or perhaps all people with AIDS will ultimately die from it and we have no cure. Yet we do have very good information on the way the virus is transferred."

Jaffe said researchers know the virus is transmitted through intimate sexual contact, through exposure of contaminated drug needles to the blood, and from a mother, who may be a carrier of the virus, to her child during birth.

"(AIDS) is not transmitted through food. It is not transmitted through water, it's not transmitted through the air," Jaffe said. "Still, we seem to be unable to relate these seemingly simple facts to many people."

Jaffe said the public doubts authoritative people, particularly scientists. They've heard too many scientific breakthrough stories that amount to nothing at all. "Some of the experts that we read about in the newspapers or we watch on television really aren't so expert after all," Jaffe said.

"You can turn on Good Morning, America and find a molecular biologist making dire predictions about the future of (AIDS) and predicting the end of the sexual revolution," he said. "I think for most viewers, it's obvious that this eminent scientist does not, in fact, know what he is talking about."

Jaffe also criticized the seemingly mad rush for institutions to publicize their research in order to receive research funds. "The intense competition for AIDS research funds, and perhaps even visits to Stockholm (to receive a Nobel Prize), have turned even the most mundane discoveries into instant breakthroughs."

"It's hard to read the newspapers now without finding stories of how these breakthroughs will lead to an effective treatment for AIDS or even a vaccine," Jaffe said.

Jaffe said the problem intensifies when researchers forgo traditional methods of announcing their findings, through scientific publications, opting for national TV press conferences. "How the public can distinguish truly important findings from these instant breakthroughs is beyond me," Jaffe said.

More effort is needed by the medical community to inform the public of relative risks involved with AIDS, Jaffe said. "Parents tell us that children with AIDS should not attend school, because we should not take any chance, no matter how small, that these children will transmit the disease to their classmates," he said. "But we seem unable to communicate to these parents that they're taking a far greater risk with their children when they drive them to school each day without seat belts."

Jaffe said people have grown accustomed to relying on medical breakthroughs to cure all diseases simply by throwing more money into research. He said the best solution for AIDS would be for people to be more responsible.

"The great majority of transmission of the AIDS virus occurs through consensual acts: through sexual intercourse and through the sharing of (drug) needles," he said. "Gay men who enter into monogamous relationships with uninfected women will not become infected. Addicts who get off drugs, or at least don't share any needles, will be safe from the disease."

Jaffe said that AIDS is forcing people to look back on an earlier time when medical technology could not be relied on.

"In an age when we are accustomed to medical miracles, we now have to refer to a time when each of us had more responsibility for our own health and the health of others," he said.

"We cannot afford to wait for science to save us from AIDS, we must learn how to save ourselves."
AIDS facts
to educate hall R.A.s

By Pat O'Bryan
Lantern staff writer

AIDS on campus, and the fear that often accompanies it, has spawned an educational program geared toward residence hall resident advisers.

It is important that resident advisers have solid facts about AIDS since many students will go to their resident adviser first with a problem or question, said Karen Aldred, hall director for Taylor Tower.

The program is organized in two parts: A medical overview presented by Dr. Michael Para of University Hospital's Infectious Disease Department, and a discussion session led by representatives from the university's AIDS Task Force.

The discussions, held in small groups, are designed to help resident advisers deal with the more sensitive issues concerning AIDS.

"What we are dealing with are the emotionally laden attitudes of the students," said Glenda Belote, associate director of Residence and Dining halls. She said that "homophobia," the fear of homosexuals, is one attitude among residents. Many students have unrealistic fears of AIDS, often based on ignorance, she said.

The program to educate the resident advisers about AIDS is one small facet of the university's drive to educate the OSU community, Belote said.

Mike McManus, a junior from Cincinnati living in Houck House, said he thought the program was a good idea, but he didn't see AIDS as a problem in the dorms. "We've pretty well narrowed the reason for the spread of AIDS down to homosexual activity." People with those inclinations tend to keep their activities out of the dorms, McManus said.

Terry Correll, a junior from Grafton and a first year resident adviser in Taylor Tower, agreed. He said he thought the university should have put its efforts toward a more practical problem, such as teenage suicide.

"AIDS is not a factor at OSU," he said. "More important issues could have been addressed."

Correll said he was grateful for the program. He feels confident that he and his fellow resident advisers could handle any AIDS related problem or question a student might have.

As student concern toward AIDS increases, so will the range of questions, such as the university's policy in regard to the roommates of AIDS victims.

That policy is outlined, in part, in a written guide put out by the OSU AIDS Task Force.

According to the policy, based on medical evidence, "... Casual contact, such as normally occurs with a roommate, does not transmit the HTLV-III virus or cause AIDS." As such, room reassignments, if requested, will be considered on a case-to-case basis.

However, "such a situation will not be a legitimate reason for releasing a student from his or her residence hall contract," the policy states.

The guide emphasizes Ohio State's intention to address each situation, university-wide, on a case-by-case basis "as determined by the medical facts involved."
$1.3 million awarded for 5-year program

Prof gets grant to study AIDS

By Carlos Jameson
Lantern staff writer

A five-year research program aimed at finding a cure for AIDS is being funded by a $1.3 million contract awarded by the National Institutes of Health to Lawrence Mathes, assistant professor of Veterinary Pathobiology.

Ohio State is one of four facilities in the United States contracted for this project, along with the Baltimore Veterans Hospital, Colorado State University and the University of Washington, said Dr. Harry Haverkos, who works in the AIDS program under the National Institute of Allergies and Infectious Diseases.

Haverkos said money for the contracts is coming from federal tax dollars.

Mathes and his staff will be testing various drugs provided by the National Institutes of Health on cats infected with feline leukemia, a virus closely related to the AIDS virus. Both are classified as retroviruses.

The staff is working on improving lab procedures while they wait to begin testing the drugs on animals. Mathes said the institutes were already months behind in supplying the drugs, but he expects to start the project within two months.

Mathes said he will be looking for a drug used to treat AIDS, one that will inhibit active infection and turn off the virus, thus reducing the impact of the virus on the immune system.

"Hopefully, a drug that works on feline leukemia will work with other retroviruses such as AIDS," Mathes said.

A secondary benefit of his research could be to cats, he said. Cats that contract feline leukemia have an almost 100 percent mortality rate, but the results from his experiment could change that percentage.

The institutes will provide Mathes with drugs that have already shown positive results in experiments on tissue cultures of the AIDS virus grown in test tubes.

Mathes said ansamycin, an antibiotic, and azidothymidine, a drug specifically designed to combat AIDS, are two promising new drugs he will be testing. He also will be testing drugs already on the market that are used to treat other diseases, and are known to interfere with retroviruses, such as suramin, currently used to treat blood parasites.

Mathes will be testing the drugs on animals from the cat colony at the College of Veterinary Medicine that have been exposed to feline leukemia.

Mathes said he is waiting for the institutes to supply the drugs for experimentation. Already he has set up the labs, bought the necessary equipment and hired lab technicians.
Patients need sense of hope, support

Hospital staff help AIDS

By J. Carice Jameson
Lantern staff writer

Catching AIDS from their patients is not a concern of the medical staff on the infectious diseases ward at University Hospitals.

Instead, they get involved with their patients and try to help as much as possible. They also act as teachers to other staff and the public to try to dispell misconceptions about AIDS.

The first time the nurses meet an AIDS patient is when they are admitted with a severe infection, said Debbie Coleman, a nurse in the ward. At this time many of the patients do not know they have AIDS.

She said nurses probably get more involved with AIDS patients than other patients in the unit because of the crisis surrounding the situation.

"It's very devastating," said Carol Lynne Yarletts, a nurse in the infectious diseases ward. "You see someone walk in looking really good — good physique, good outlook, good personality. All of a sudden they're told they have AIDS and they go nowhere but downhill."

"I saw it is important for the patients to keep a sense of hope and have some kind of support group, such as family or friends. Once they give up, their bodies give up too," Yarletts said.

Yarletts cited one patient who was admitted with an infection and lapsed into a deep depression for a week and a half. By the end of the second week he was dead, primarily because he had lost his will to live.

"He was sick. but medically he was stable," Yarletts said.

About 90 percent of the AIDS patients she has worked with have had good support groups. When they are abandoned, it becomes the nurse's job to provide support.

"The nurse becomes the surrogate significant other," Yarletts said. "We have to organize the patient's life and instill hope."

Amy Ishman, a nurse on the ward, said, "A lot of them are here for such a long period of time... you get attached to them. You find yourself pushing to do everything you can for them."

Yarletts said she is called the 'AIDS queen' on the ward because she forms particularly close relationships with the AIDS patients in the unit.

"I know they're dying. they know they're dying — I'm going to do what I can to make their last bit of life as pleasant and comfortable as possible," Yarletts said.

"I will sit down with an AIDS patient and I'll hug them and we'll cry. It's very therapeutic for both the patient and myself."

"If you form close attachments with the patient and their family," Yarletts said. "When an AIDS pa-
patients cope

have accidentally stuck themselves with needles used to give the patients injections, Para said. None of these people have become infected.

A national study looked at 638 health care workers who had been stuck accidentally with contaminated needles and showed only one person to develop antibodies against the disease, Para said.

“If I thought I was going to get a lethal infection from taking care of AIDS patients, I wouldn’t take care of them,” Para said. “I don’t jump out of flying airplanes, either.”

“Who in the medical profession wants to take care of patients if they think they will die from taking care of them, except maybe Father Damien and the lepers,” Para said.

“My wife just asks that I be careful,” he added.

AIDS is spread through blood and body fluids, much like hepatitis B, yet hepatitis B is much more infectious. The same isolation techniques used with hepatitis B patients are used with AIDS patients. "We have more than enough to protect hospital workers from being infected," Para said.

The isolation techniques are based on recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, Coleman said.

Para said anything with blood on it is double-bagged before being removed from the patient’s room and properly disposed. Trash is incinerated and linens are washed in antiseptic soaps.

“Anytime you’re drawing blood, starting an I.V., or working with any body fluids you wear gowns and gloves,” Ishman said.

Coleman said it is important that precautions be taken with all blood and body fluids, no matter what ward the patient is in since any patient could be infected with the disease and not be diagnosed.

Ishman said, “We use all of the isolation techniques so well, we’re so careful working with the patients, that we’re probably better protected — because we know what we’re working with — than someone in another unit working with a patient that has some type of infection and isn’t aware of the diagnosis.”

Yarletts said some of the hospital staff overdo the isolation procedures because they don’t understand how the disease is spread. For example, a person from transportation assigned to take an AIDS patient to another part of the hospital for X-rays will dress in a gown, gloves, mask, booties and head gear before entering the room, all of which are unnecessary.

The situation is getting better as nurses continue to reassure these people that the disease is not spread by casual contact.

“Educating our patients, friend, family and people we come in contact with is a critical part of our role,” Coleman said.

Both Yarletts and Para have done a lot of public speaking on AIDS. Yarletts is a member of the Columbus AIDS task force and Para is on the OSU AIDS task force.

Diane Tilus, a nurse in the ward, said, “We find it a challenge for us to keep abreast of accurate information so we will be able to work with the family, setting their misconceptions straight and providing support.”

She said she often fields questions from a patient’s family trying to confirm information they have read or heard elsewhere.

When Tilus went to the dentist last year she said the dental hygienist asked about her work after seeing her occupation listed on her file. As soon as she told the hygienist she worked with AIDS patients, Tilus said she became very interested.

Someone will ask you where you work, and when you say infectious diseases (ward), they just give you this stare. You can see them taking a step backward from you.
No AIDS cases seen at OSU

By Ruth Hanley
Dispatch OSU Reporter

Ohio State University made it through the 1985-86 school year without a reported case of acquired immune deficiency syndrome among its students, faculty or staff, OSU officials said.

If AIDS does hit the campus, OSU has established general guidelines to deal with it on a case-by-case basis, said Dr. Doris Charles, director of the university's health service.

Charles served on a 13-member task force of medical, administrative and academic officials, and students that began developing the guidelines in November.

Nancy Jones, program assistant for the task force, said, "Education was the main thrust. We're working hard to educate the public and lessen the fear."

Task force members and others presented 38 educational programs to students, faculty, staff and community members, Jones said. The sessions will continue in the fall.

Task force members also will conduct some sessions of an AIDS conference sponsored by OSU's Commission on Interprofessional Education and Practice Wednesday through next Friday.

The public is invited to a free session at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday in University Hospital's Rhodes Hall auditorium. John Fortunato, a Chicago psychotherapist, will discuss "AIDS: The Dilemma: Death in a Live-Forever World."

The philosophy behind the OSU guidelines toward AIDS "is that each situation or concern must be addressed individually, on a case-by-case basis, as determined by the medical facts involved," a statement says.

Counseling and a detailed medical evaluation are the suggested course for those who have or think they have AIDS. Counseling will be advised for members of the campus community who have concerns about coming in contact with AIDS.

Harassment of an AIDS patient could result in the enforcement of OSU policies against discrimination.

Having a classmate or a professor with AIDS will not be legitimate grounds for dropping a course or requesting a class reassignment, the policy says.

"Casual contact does not result in AIDS," the policy says. If the physician of...
AIDS ruling does not alter OSU policy

By Steve Benowitz

Despite a recent Justice Department ruling that seemingly gives bosses carte blanche in firing employees who suffer from AIDS, the University's non-discrimination policy will remain intact.

The legal opinion says that an employer cannot fire an individual simply because he or she has AIDS, Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, or may be suffering the disabling effects of the disease -- if the individual is otherwise qualified for the job. But such a dismissal would be permitted if the employer --- whether rationally or irrationally --- feared the potential spread of the disease in the workplace.

The decision is intended to help guide government agencies in dealing with discrimination complaints by AIDS victims.

"The key is that it is only an interpretation -- it doesn't require that anyone adopt it as a policy," says Robert Haverkamp, assistant to the vice president of business and administration and assistant state attorney general.

Haverkamp says that the Justice Department decision applies to the University in its role as a federal contractor.

"The ruling won't change a thing (at the University)," he says.

"The position of the University is clear — we're not going to discriminate against anyone with AIDS."

Haverkamp is a member of the University Task Force Committee on AIDS, a year-old panel established to make recommendations to the president on University policy in dealing with the disease. Haverkamp says the ruling was "totally contrary to all determinations that have been made by other state and local rights agencies."

Such groups have argued that AIDS is a handicap subject to anti-discrimination protection under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 --- without any exception for the transmission of the disease.

Michael Para, an assistant professor of medicine, microbiology and immunology, says the ruling "clearly goes against all medical evidence.

"It (the ruling) makes no sense after all this time," says Para, also a task force member.

"The Justice Department memorandum clearly doesn't agree with the medical data from the federal Centers for Disease Control (CDC)," he says.

AIDS is caused by a virus that is believed to be transmitted sexually or through infected blood. The CDC has concluded that there is virtually no chance of acquiring AIDS through casual contact in the workplace.

"What you have is a government decision that contradicts all these local groups and the government's own health agency," said Para.

Haverkamp says, "It's bad policy and bad law."

According to Haverkamp, the ruling applies to every federal agency or contractor that may deal with AIDS discrimination. The ruling was prompted by "all the lawsuits piling up," he says.

Most states have their own equivalent of the federal anti-discrimination law, Haverkamp says. The Justice Department decision doesn't apply to any decision under state or local laws. "All it says is if you want to file a complaint under federal law, this is the interpretation that the government goes by.

"I'm sure it'll be challenged."

Haverkamp says the memorandum also seemed to be contrary to a recent federal Court of Appeals decision that held that chronic tuberculosis --- a contagious disease --- is a handicap protected under the 1973 statute.

Para is worried that public fear of AIDS may increase.

"The memorandum all but encourages irrational fear and discrimination," he says.

"Educating the public may be more difficult now."
Pamphlets to alleviate AIDS fears

Starting this quarter, students in University College classes will receive pamphlets on Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, said Nancy Jones, program assistant for the University Taskforce on AIDS.

"I don't think there's anything worse than someone being scared and not knowing how to get answers. I feel it is our responsibility to educate the students," Jones said. "They need to know."

"(The Center for Disease Control) is expecting (AIDS) will become epidemic among straight people. Any sexually active students are at risk. The greater the number of partners, the greater the chance of contracting the disease," task force member Rachael Pousson said.

By giving the pamphlets to UVC students, information regarding the disease will be distributed to individuals other than those considered to be in high risk groups such as homosexuals and drug users, Jones said.

This quarter UVC students will receive a general information pamphlet on the disease, but the task force is now planning other informative material that will be implemented late this spring or early next fall quarter. The unit on AIDS would probably be covered in one class period, Jones said.

The pamphlet and class will deal with alleviating fears and false rumors surrounding AIDS, as well as provide tips on decreasing the chances for contracting the disease.

Both Jones and Pousson, a graduate student from San Antonio, Texas, stressed that there is currently not a problem with AIDS at the university and the task force was formed to educate students to prevent the disease from spreading.
New OSU AIDS guide available to students

By Pat O'Bryan
Lantern staff writer

An updated version of Ohio State's AIDS question-and-answer guide is now available for students interested in learning more about the disease.

The new guide, updated Oct. 21, is being issued by the University Task Force Committee on AIDS.

Malcolm Baroway, director of University Communications, said the new guide contains updated statistics reflecting the increase in reported cases of AIDS. He said there is also more detailed information outlining the steps necessary to prevent the transmission of the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), which causes AIDS.

The new guide also reflects changes in heterosexual perceptions about how the AIDS virus is contracted, Baroway said.

The new experimental drug, azidothymidine (AZT), which inhibits the HIV's ability to produce new virus particles, is explained and information on who is eligible to receive the drug is given.

The University Task Force Committee on AIDS was appointed last year by President Edward H. Jennings.

Committee functions include informational discussions on AIDS with various student groups and establishing a set of guidelines on how students should deal with AIDS in the university community.

Jennings said the task force is an important step toward the university's ability to provide information about AIDS to concerned students.

Copies of the new guide are available at the Infectious Diseases Division of University Hospitals, N1148 Doan Hall or by calling Nancy Jones, program assistant, at 293-8640.
Campuswide education goal of AIDS committee

By Holly M. Sulek
Lantern staff writer

Members of OSU's AIDS Education and Research Committee demonstrate a firm belief in the need for education about AIDS.

As a large part of its educational effort, committee members have been offering class-length presentations on AIDS for interested classes, departments, offices, and campus groups.

Some of the topics addressed may include medical, legal, or psycho-social issues surrounding AIDS, or a combination of the three, said Nancy Jones, program assistant.

"The thrust is on education—we want everyone to be well-informed," Jones said. "You can't have too much information now."

"The more people who are reached, the less fear there will be about AIDS," she said.

The 17 members of the committee include doctors, attorneys, campus administrators, and two students, one graduate and one undergraduate.

Jones said the committee members, except for the two students, were appointed by Madison Scott, vice president for personnel services. The students were recommended to the committee by Russell Spillman, vice provost for student affairs.

Rachel Pousson, graduate student representative from San Antonio, Texas, has been involved with the committee for about a year.

"I think it is fantastic that the university anticipates such a crisis (AIDS) and informs the university," Pousson said.

Pousson is involved with other AIDS task forces and groups in Columbus.

She said OSU's effort is mostly an educational one that increases sensitivity in the public's perception of the disease, unlike many groups that counsel AIDS patients and provide them with services.

The education of college students about AIDS is important, Pousson said, because many are not aware of the problems and there is a growing incidence of AIDS among students.

"Prevention is everything," Pousson said. "We give usable information that you can put into practice in everyday life."

She said she thinks the college population is conscientious about matters like AIDS once they are educated.

"They are also the leaders of tomorrow, and will be in a position to spread their knowledge," she said.

Pousson said she has enjoyed being able to supply a student viewpoint to the committee.

She said she was impressed from the start with the professional manner of committee members.

"They are good at what they do and are very influential," Pousson said.

Elisabeth Watter, a senior from Columbus majoring in sociology, is the undergraduate student representative on the committee.

Watter shares a similar opinion about the doctors, lawyers, and administrators involvement on the committee.

"They are concerned about how the issue involves the university, students, and faculty," she said. "Everyone is there because they want to be there, not just because they were appointed."

Watter said she did not know much about AIDS when she was asked to join the committee. She said that she has learned that there are a lot of misconceptions about the disease and being on the committee provides a good opportunity to learn and share with other people.

Watter said they are also working on a brochure on sexually transmitted diseases to be distributed in University College classes and freshman orientation.

"It is exciting to help people know a little of what is going on," Watter said.

Jones said they have received a lot of calls from other Ohio colleges for help in starting a similar program.

According to the university's policy concerning AIDS, "As education about AIDS increases, misinformation about the disease and its transmission and undeserved reactions will be lessened."

The policy also states that the university will use its resources to try and accomplish:

• educating the university community about AIDS and related issues;
• providing information on reducing the risk of transmission to prevent further spread of the disease;
• ensuring and facilitating access to proper medical, administrative, counseling, and other assistance;
• identifying those work situations where special precautions may be advised;
• encouraging and supporting research on AIDS and related issues; and
• lessening the fears and the undeserved reactions associated with the disease, those who have had it, and who may be at risk.

To arrange a presentation by members of the committee, call Nancy Jones, program assistant, division of infectious diseases, at 293-8734.
Women’s Panhellenic sponsors AIDS forum

By Beth Fout
Lantern staff writer

About 50 delegates from campus sororities met at the Delta Zeta house Sunday night to hear about AIDS and safe sex practices. The presentation was sponsored by the Women’s Panhellenic Association, an inter-sorority governing body.

The speaker was Carolyn Yarletts, a member of the education/information committee of the Columbus AIDS Task Force and a registered nurse at the Ohio State University Hospitals.

Yarletts, who has worked with AIDS patients on the infectious disease unit for four years, said that her goal is to reach all the sororities and fraternities on campus with the message that the heterosexual population is also at risk for AIDS. Heterosexuals now account for 7 percent of all AIDS cases, up from 4 percent in August.

People need to be educated about how to protect themselves, Yarletts said. Education is necessary to prevent the spread of the disease. She has targeted the campus population because “there are a lot of short-term relationships on college campuses,” she said.

Yarletts said there are now about 30,000 diagnosed cases of AIDS in the United States. There are 280 in Ohio. It is estimated that approximately 2 million people in the United States carry the virus. All of these people can spread the virus.

“That’s where the problem is,” she told the group. “That’s why I’m here to talk with you.”

It is now known that the virus can be transmitted from men to women and from women to men. Yarletts emphasized the need for safe sex practices. Basically, safe sex means know your sex partner and protect yourself by using condoms with people you just know well,” she said.

Yarletts said that she couldn’t give numbers, but there have been cases of OSU students with AIDS. She didn’t know if any heterosexual students with AIDS, but said there are some who carry the virus.

Lisa Plant, a member of the executive board of the Women’s Panhellenic Association, said a goal of their group is to keep their members informed about what’s happening on campus and in the community. She said several sororities have decided to hold similar presentations on AIDS for the rest of their members. Students are starting to become aware that there is a risk, she said.

Since the greeks are such a large group, the council believes they are a good target population, said Lori Miller, president of the Women’s Panhellenic Association.

They both agreed that it is important for students to know the facts about AIDS. “Some people think it’s only a homosexual disease,” Plant said.
New course this spring will examine AIDS issues

By Robert Gelchion

Ohio State will offer a one-hour credit course about AIDS — Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome — during spring quarter.

The course, “AIDS: What Every College Student Should Know,” is offered by the School of Health, Physical Education and Recreation. Classes will meet from 4-6 p.m. each Wednesday from April 1-29. About 45 students have enrolled.

The course, Health Education 101, will explore safe sex practices, legal issues, religion and its relationship to the disease, AIDS testing and other aspects of the illness. The course will be taught by Reginald Fennell, a graduate teaching associate.

AIDS was identified in 1981 and has since afflicted more than 26,000 people in the United States. The fatal disease was initially found among homosexuals, drug addicts and people of Haitian descent. It has since spread to the general population.

A virus, Human Immunodeficiency Virus, causes AIDS. It is usually spread through intimate sexual contact, but can be transmitted by the use of contaminated blood products. There is no known cure.

“There is a need for this course because college students are vulnerable to AIDS,” Fennell says. “There also is a lot of hysteria and misinformation about the disease. People need intelligent answers, especially with the increase in people infected with AIDS.”

Some experts estimate that the United States will have nearly 300,000 cases of AIDS by 1991.
AIDS class removes mystery, fear

By Dale Bagwell
Lantern staff writer

In response to the spread of AIDS, Ohio State is offering a one credit-hour course on AIDS awareness spring quarter.

The course, Health 101, will try to clear up some of the mystery and fear surrounding Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, said Reginald Fennell, graduate teaching associate in the School of Health, Physical Education and Recreation. Fennell will be teaching the course.

Topics to be covered in the course include: safe sex practices; AIDS testing; legal issues; and religious effects on the attitudes toward the disease.

"There is a need for this course because college students are vulnerable to AIDS," Fennell said.

AIDS is passed through intimate sexual contact or through the sharing of contaminated blood products.

"There is also a lot of hysteria and misinformation about the disease," Fennell said. "People need intelligent answers."

The disease is something that has to be brought out into the open and discussed, said Brian Adams, graduate teaching assistant in the School of Health, Physical Education and Recreation.

Since its identification in 1981, more than 26,000 cases of AIDS have developed in the United States.

"Prevention through education is the only way to stop the spread of the disease," Adams said.

The class will be held from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. each Wednesday, beginning April 1, and will continue through April 29.

About 45 students have enrolled. As of the end of Winter quarter the course was not closed.
Course at OSU offers students facts on AIDS

By Graydon Hambrick
Dispatch Staff Reporter

Reginald Fennell has noticed no decrease in students’ sexual activity in the seven years since he graduated from college.

“But, believe me, I think AIDS has changed” sex practices, said Fennell, an Ohio State University doctoral student.

It’s not that sexual activity is less prevalent. “But I think they are getting to know each other better before they engage in sex,” he said.

FENNELL, 28, who is working toward a degree in health education, is teaching a new course this quarter at OSU called “AIDS: What Every College Student Should Know.”

He said 75 students are taking the five-week course, which began yesterday.

One student said in class yesterday that she tried to talk some friends into taking the course with her. Her friends refused, saying, “If I take it, people will think I’ve got it or I’m gay,” Fennell said.

Fennell said 19 of the class members are men. He considers that number low.

“I thought not many men would sign up because they might fear labels. … If they mentioned they’re taking a course on AIDS, people might wonder why they’re taking it,” Fennell said.

“Also, men think they know everything about sexuality, but we know that’s not true.”

THE COURSE is “appropriate on the college level because it’s a time of experimentation for students,” Fennell said.

He said that “it could just take one encounter or (drug) use” to cause acquired immune deficiency syndrome, which is transmitted mainly through sexual contact and the sharing of needles used to inject drugs.

Fennell proposed the one-hour credit course based on his experience in two years of teaching human sexuality courses in the OSU School of Health, Physical Education and Recreation.

There is no textbook. Students will study articles from professional journals, the press and AIDS conferences Fennell has attended.

Grades will be either pass or fail.

THE COURSE was meant for the student who knows little about AIDS and has questions, Fennell said.

“There’s so much misinformation, one of the things we’re trying to do is give factual information,” he said.

But the students who signed up already have some facts about AIDS and seem to be open to new information, he said. “The students taking this course may not be the ones who need it most,” he said.

The course also will include a discussion on religious aspects of AIDS.

Religion was added because, in his other classes, “a number thought AIDS was God’s punishment for misdeeds,” he said.

“It’s frustrating to me to see people get into ethical or moral debates about such matters as advertising condoms on television, Fennell said.

“Studies show that just because you give information about sex, it does not increase sexual activity.”
Reginald Fennell offers the facts on AIDS
AIDS committee’s ‘prime’ goal: Education

By Steve Benowitz

“Our prime commitment is education,” Nancy Jones, discussing the University’s 17-member AIDS Education and Research Committee, says although the student is the “primary thrust” of the committee’s educational efforts, “we’ve given attention to everyone — staff, faculty, administration.”

But it hasn’t always been easy. “We’ve had to overcome some reluctance on the part of some individuals,” Perkins says. “Not everyone wants to talk or hear about these topics. There’s a general attitude of ‘it can’t touch me.’ That pervades all segments of the population we’re trying to reach.”

When Jones first offered to give student presentations on AIDS at Ohio State’s five regional campuses, the various deans and officials hesitated. “They didn’t think it would work,” she says now, smiling, recalling the cavernous, near-empty lecture halls, populated by a few uncomfortable students. “The only ones who were there had to be there.”

Now, a year or so later, the situation has begun to change. “The media has helped get out the idea that AIDS is everyone’s problem,” she says. “I think the committee’s efforts have helped as well. It’s a gradual process. People are becoming more willing to talk about AIDS. There seems to be a growing general awareness among the students.”

“We’ve had good feedback from not only the administration, but also from the students. After presentations they frequently come up and ask questions. That’s been particularly gratifying, seeing their interest. They need the information and they’re grateful for it.”

Perkins has been satisfied with the committee’s efforts and results so far. Ohio State’s educational efforts regarding AIDS rank “far ahead of most other schools,” he notes.

Many colleges and universities, particularly in Ohio, are only now beginning to attempt to deal with the issue of AIDS on their campuses. “They look to us for guidelines,” he says.

The job, however, is far from done. “Until there is an adequate curriculum and an adequate information source developed — we’re providing that now to a degree — there will be a need for the Committee’s efforts for some time to come.”

Week to raise awareness

By Steve Benowitz

State officials have designated May 11-15 as AIDS Awareness Week in Ohio, and the University has a number of activities planned. Most of these events are free and open to the public.

On May 11 the University will show a series of three films: “Beyond Fear,” “Overcoming Irrational Fear of AIDS” and “Fear of Caring.” The films will be shown from 1-5 p.m. in N705 Doan Hall.

That same day, at 1 p.m. in the Rhodes Hall Auditorium, Robert Havercamp, an attorney and assistant to the vice president for business and administration, will speak on confidentiality issues concerning AIDS. Michael Para, associate professor of medicine, microbiology and immunology, will discuss the future trends and health care implications of AIDS.

On May 12, University health workers will staff an all-day information booth in front of the auditorium to offer brochures and other resources on AIDS, as well as answer questions.

The three films will be repeated from 8 a.m.-noon May 7 in 793 Rhodes Hall.

For more information, contact Nancy Jones at 293-8734.
AIDS class changes students’ attitudes at OSU

By Gaydon Hambrick
Dispatch Staff Reporter

An Ohio State University course on AIDS might not have turned class members into celibates, but studying the disease seems to have changed their attitudes toward sex, class member John Mertz said.

Mertz, a senior from Canton, was one of 85 students in the five-week course on acquired immune deficiency syndrome.

"I think the people who weren't enlightened before, they'll think about it before sex," he said.

Mertz added that the class "opened my mind to more things... It helped me think about my views, not just have them."

There was general agreement by those in the one-credit course that the class was outstanding. After instructor Reginald Fennell asked for students' comments during the last class session recently, feedback included:

- "I learned more about it here" than in nursing courses.
- "I'd recommend this class to anybody."
- "If anything, this class needs to be more advertised."

Lisa, a senior who would not give her last name, said she learned to talk about "subjects that are difficult to talk about."

She also said the course corrected some of her misconceptions. She learned that AIDS is not limited to homosexuals and drug users. "I was naive about homosexuals," she said.

Two homosexuals with AIDS spoke during one session, and that, to Cleveland senior Julie Wermelkirchen, was the high point of the class.

"It made me more aware of views of those with AIDS" and the ramifications of the disease, she said.

Fennell, a doctoral student in the OSU School of Health, Physical Education and Recreation, designed the course and proposed to his superiors that he teach it. Based on comments and the popularity of the first course, it will be offered again in the fall, he said.

Fennell told The Dispatch when the class began that he developed the course because students in the human sexuality classes he teaches had a lot of misinformation about the disease.

Although the course got A ratings from the students who took it, not all outside students approved.

In an oral evaluation at the final class meeting, a male student said his roommate made comments about his enrollment. Fennell asked the student, "Do you think he'll take the class?"

"No," the student said. "He's just one of those ignorant guys."

Other students reported similar comments from acquaintances.

Dan Downing, a senior from Columbus who also works with the Columbus AIDS Task Force, said the detailed sexual terms used in class discussions gave some students pause at first.

"There was embarrassment and snickering in the first couple of meetings," he said. "They now take sex education more seriously. They get to the basics and talk more openly."

Fennell said of his students, "A lot of them made a lot of growth." And growth is the reason for all education, he said.
Campus AIDS committee targets classrooms

By Brent Snow
Lantern staff writer

The university AIDS Education and Research Committee is taking its message into the classrooms.

The 17-member committee, which was appointed by President Edward H. Jennings in November 1985, addresses the medical, legal, and social factors concerning the disease, said Nancy Jones, program assistant to the AIDS committee.

Jones said one of the most effective methods of reaching students is through classroom presentations.

At the beginning of winter quarter, a letter was sent to faculty members informing them members of the committee are available to speak to their classes.

"The presentations are an added learning experience for students and many do individual research on their own after hearing one of the speakers," Jones said.

"Reaction by faculty to the class presentations has been mixed. Most feel they provide helpful information, but some believe the class lecturers should be more candid."

Mary Webster, a journalism lecturer, invited committee members to speak to her Journalism 201 class. She said she felt the presentation gave many facts on what AIDS is, but not enough information on how to prevent it.

"I felt many key areas were deleted, either out of embarrassment or for some other reason," Webster said. "She said she thought the people giving the lecture were uncomfortable about any issue involving intimacy.

"Oral sex is one of the major issues involved and they didn't touch upon the subject," she said.

Kelly McCormick, a graduate student, had the committee visit her women's studies class. She said they did a good job and were very informative, but she could see Webster's point regarding education on preventing the disease.

McCormick explained the problem as one of ethics.

"To an extent, the (presentation) does get graphic — becoming more graphic brings up the question of how students would react. Would they become offended by use of very graphic language?" she said.

McCormick said the AIDS issue involves many questions and it is difficult to determine the appropriate place for AIDS education.

"When something involves someone's private life, it is important not to overstep boundaries," she said.

Jones said, "One can't pick up a paper without seeing at least one AIDS-related story, therefore it is important that we try to reach and educate as much of the campus population as possible."
Informative AIDS films to be re-shown

By Brent Snow
Lantern staff writer

As part of "AIDS Awareness Week," the University AIDS Education and Research Committee showed three films about the disease Monday.

The films will be shown again from 8 a.m. to noon Thursday in Rhodes Hall 795. Admission is free.

The first film shown by the committee was the hour-long "Beyond Fear," which gives in-depth information on AIDS including the cause of the virus, methods of transmission and how to avoid contracting the disease, said Nancy Jones, director of the committee.

Jones said the movie also discussed patient and community response to the disease. The movie, distributed by the American Red Cross, is produced by Robert Vaughn.

The second film, "Overcoming Irrational Fear," is a lecture film that deals primarily with the anxiety of caring for patients with AIDS, she said.

Jones said the film offers different ways of stress management, for not only nurses, but also family and friends of AIDS patients.

"The film goes very deep in feeling regarding the topic," she said.

This film was written by Art Lange and is distributed by Carley Medical Communications.

"Fear of Caring" is the final film the committee is showing. It deals with the stress nurses must face while caring for AIDS patients.

Diane Tilus, assistant head nurse at University Hospitals, said, "the film doesn't teach new facts, but deals with attitudes which bring the disease to a human level."

The film interviews nurses who share their experiences in caring for the patients and also relates the experience of one AIDS patient while in the hospital.

The film is produced and distributed by the American Hospital Association.

The AIDS Education and Research Committee was appointed by President Edward H. Jennings and is comprised of 17 members from several departments throughout the university.
Panel to discuss racial myths of AIDS

By Maria A. Reynolds
Lantern staff writer

A majority of blacks contract AIDS in a different manner than whites, said Marcia Chambers, human resource development consultant.

"National statistics show that most blacks with AIDS have gotten it from either bisexual contact or misuse of intravenous needles," Chambers said.

Chambers will take part in a panel discussion, "AIDS, Blacks and Condoms" from 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday in the Ohio Union Conference Theater. The symposium will be sponsored by the Black Graduate and Professional Student Council.

Condoms, donated by area health agencies, will be passed out after the discussion.

The panel will also include Rhonda Rivera, professor of law, and Dan Dowling, a member of the Columbus AIDS Task Force.

During the discussion, panel members will each speak for fifteen minutes, which will be followed by a question-and-answer session.

"A majority of the symposium is open discussion," said Vibert White, a graduate student from Columbus and symposium coordinator. "Students have a great many concerns and questions about AIDS and we wanted to provide enough time to address all of them," White said.

White said most blacks ignore the AIDS topic because they don't think the issue concerns them.

"A majority of blacks believe AIDS is a white homosexual disease or that it is found mostly in the white community," Chambers said. "This is a myth. AIDS affects everyone of all races."

Chambers said media coverage of AIDS has reinforced the myth because coverage has focused on AIDS among homosexual and heterosexual white males.

According to Bob Chris, a representative from the Columbus Health Department, 76 AIDS cases were reported in Columbus since 1982, afflicting 66 whites and nine blacks.

White said the symposium is open to all students, staff and faculty.

"Ohio State is made up of young curious people who like to experiment with drugs and sex," White said. "We can't preach moralism, but we can make them aware of the problems and concerns that are associated with issues that affect them," he said.
AIDS books catch national eye
Ohio State University authors, Merrill Publishing in spotlight

By Dennis Fiely
Dispatch Accent Reporter

The authors of textbooks usually labor in anonymity, but two Ohio State University professors may be afforded the kind of star treatment that's reserved for best-selling novelists. Linda Meeks and Philip Heit, of OSU's Health Education College, are the co-authors of the nation's first two instructional booklets about AIDS.

Due to the important and timely nature of the textbooks, Meeks and Heit have received "numerous requests" for interviews from newspapers and television stations throughout the country. The book's publisher, Bell & Howell Co.'s Merrill Publishing subsidiary in Westerville, anticipates a national tour for the writers this fall.

"For the writers of school textbooks, this is very unusual," Heit said. "But when you're the first to do something, it happens. Linda and I feel like we're educators, first and foremost."

The booklets, titled AIDS: Understanding and Prevention and AIDS: What You Should Know, are aimed at students in grades 5 through 12. They were introduced last week in a presentation before the National Press Club in Washington, D.C.

The national press conference itself was "unique," said Gary Eisenberger, president of Merrill Publishing. "We've never tried anything like that before."

Although the books just rolled off the presses last week, the authors said the early reaction has been "phenomenal." Merrill has already received about 2,500 requests for samples of the books from the nation's schools, Eisenberger said.

In another unusual twist for the textbook industry, Merrill will make the books available to individuals as well as schools.

"We feel that if parents and guardians have the opportunity to get firsthand knowledge about AIDS, they'll be able to discuss it more openly," Eisenberger said. "We hope the kids take these books home from school and leave them on the kitchen table."

Over the past 10 years, Meeks and Heit have co-authored nearly 50 textbooks, including Merrill's textbook series, Health: Focus on You.

The AIDS books, Eisenberger said, "fit right in with the curriculum material we already have in place."
AUTHORS HOPE TEXTS SAVE LIVES

By Dennis Fiely
Dispatch Accent Reporter

Linda Meeks and Phil Heit are getting used to appearing on those noontime news shows in television markets around the country. "We usually follow an animal act... pit bulls or something," Heit said jokingly.

Television news has an amazing capacity to switch from war footage to happy talk, but Meeks and Heit are willing to tolerate the transitions to tout their product.

"We can save lives," Meeks said.

"We will save lives," Heit predicted.

OBVIOUSLY, MEeks and Heit is not a vaudeville act. They are mild-mannered health education professors at Ohio State University who have co-authored the nation's first two instructional texts about AIDS.

They wrote the booklets with the White House in mind. More than just the facts, their booklets contain moral values. This is exactly the kind of instruction being pushed by Secretary of Education William Bennett.

"You can't write a book in the area of family living that's value-free," Meeks said. "When you give kids just the facts, they're under the impression that they can engage in any kind of behavior they want."

The first two pages of each of the 27-page, soft-cover booklets don't even mention AIDS. Instead, they present a model for responsible decision-making and a list of "refusal skills."

"Just telling kids to say no isn't enough," Meeks said. "We give them ways to say no. We also show how saying no is in the best interest of teen-agers."

"We want kids to evaluate their relationships and recognize the difference between healthy and destructive relationships. We see that as part of AIDS education."

THE FIRST booklet, titled "AIDS: What You Should Know," is geared for grades five through eight. The second, "AIDS: Understanding and Prevention," is geared for high school students. The second is more explicit.

"We felt for the younger group that we didn't need to go into the specifics of different types of sexual behavior," Meeks said.

The second booklet lists nine "risk behaviors" for contracting AIDS, including sexual intercourse with an infected partner and sharing blood-contaminated needles during intravenous drug use.

It also addresses homosexuality and identifies condoms as a means of AIDS prevention "for those who choose risk behaviors."

"We thought it was important to note that condoms are not 100 percent effective," Meeks said.

Added Heit: "Our discussion of condoms is limited to their role in disease prevention. Condoms are not discussed as birth-control devices."

MEKs AND Heit tried to design the booklets to please "a cross section of school districts around the country."

Regardless of the grade level, teachers should feel free to use the booklet of their choice.

"We know that the two books will be used interchangeably," Meeks said.

The booklets, the authors said, give teachers the option for a frank discussion about AIDS or a more reserved approach.

"It's not our job to dictate to school systems what to teach," Heit said.

The authors save their most detailed and candid information about AIDS in teachers' manuals that accompany the booklets, published by Bell and Howell's Merrill Publishing division in Westerville.

"We feel a social responsibility," said publisher Gary Eisenberger. "We're not dealing with the common cold. The books are being sold just to cover our handling costs. But when something costs nothing, that's what people think it's worth."

MEKs AND Heit have written the booklets in a simple, straightforward style with a "positive, upbeat" tone.

Instead of saying no to sex, the authors want youths to say yes to abstinence.

"If the AIDS virus does not enter your body, you'll never get AIDS," Heit said. "AIDS is preventable. That's the philosophy of the books."

In an unusual move for textbook publishers, Merrill will make the booklets available to parents later this year.

The authors said they approached the issue as parents as well as professional educators.

THE AUTHORS' efforts have pushed them to the forefront of a nationwide campaign for AIDS education. Merrill is planning a national tour for the authors this fall.

The National School Boards Association is urging local school boards to adopt a curriculum that addresses causes and prevention of AIDS.

And the National Association of Secondary Schools has sent its 33,000 members a plan issued by U.S. Surgeon General C. Everett Koop to prevent and control AIDS. Meeks and Heit met with Koop during the course of their writing.

The booklets are designed to occupy about a week of study in either a science or health curriculum.

"Phil and I believe that our books can have an impact on the next generation," Meeks said. "We believe the books can change behavior."
Only Columbus campus offering course on AIDS

By Mary Verna
Lantern staff writer

Last quarter, the Ohio State main branch offered Health 101 to increase students' awareness of AIDS. But many students who attended the regional campuses did not get an opportunity to take the course.

Health 101, a one credit-hour course titled "AIDS: What Every College Student Should Know," covered legal issues, safe sex practices, AIDS testing and other AIDS-related issues.

Unaware that the class existed, Terry Blosser, coordinator of college relations at the Newark campus, said Newark has taken its own initiative to educate students about AIDS.

"We have already had, in this past quarter, a major seminar for the entire campus on AIDS that was hosted by us, but the head of the University Hospitals came over and made the presentation," he said.

Melissa Conrath, assistant director of student affairs at the Marion campus, was also unaware that the class existed. She said they have also set up their own AIDS awareness programs.

"We've had a number of people come up from Columbus campus (to speak), plus I've had a physician who worked with an individual who died of AIDS in our county invited to our campus and spoke to interested students and faculty," she said.

Lisa Fell, coordinator of communication services at the Lima campus, said Lima has been educating students about AIDS through seminars and workshops.

She said more than 450 students attended the workshops, held during winter quarter.

Fell said Lima does not have a course with a curriculum dealing with AIDS.

Moon Chen, coordinator for health education, the department teaching Health 101, said he feels the class is an important way of educating students about AIDS.

He said the college community needs to be educated on a regular basis rather than on a one-shot deal.

"If they (regional campuses) are interested, there is no problem with teaching it at the regional campuses and offering it for credit. We have the faculty to do that," Chen said.

Chen said any faculty or staff from the regional campuses interested in having the course taught at their campus should contact him through the Department of Health Education.
AIDS virus will adapt itself, biologist predicts

By David Lore
Dispatch Science Reporter

The deadly AIDS virus can be expected to adapt in ways that will improve its chances to survive and multiply, population biologist Paul Ehrlich warned yesterday in Columbus.

During a press conference at Ohio State University, Ehrlich said an optimistic view is that the virus as a parasite has a biological stake in keeping its host alive. Over time, therefore, acquired immune deficiency syndrome might become less virulent so that those infected do not die.

Pessimists think the AIDS virus faces little evolutionary pressure to become more benign because of the long incubation time before the disease appears and the victim dies.

Another scenario is that the virus, now transmitted through sex or an exchange of blood, might adapt so that it can be transmitted more easily, Ehrlich said. Today, for example, experts say AIDS cannot be spread by coughing or sneezing, but there's no guarantee this will always be so, he said.

"If it gets into droplets, we're in deep, deep trouble instead of just deep trouble," Ehrlich said.

If the virus changes its mode of transmission, it would be the first one to do so, said AIDS experts at OSU.

"That's probably not very likely," said Ing-Ming Chiu, assistant professor of internal medicine, "I'm not aware of any virus that has changed in that way."

Viruses do change their genetic makeup to withstand attack from the body's immune system, he said. Any change in how the virus moves in the body and from host to host, however, would be much more far-reaching and occur only under the most severe evolutionary stress, he said.

Anything is possible in terms of mutations, Chiu said, but there is no precedent for this in virology.
Campus AIDS testing available for concerned students

A total of 396 Ohioans have been diagnosed as having AIDS. Of that number, 236 have died. 80 of those cases were Columbus and Franklin County residents; 38 of these people have died.

— Columbus Health Department

Deep kissing is considered "possibly not safe," Tilgner said. This is because one of the partners might have cuts and other openings leading to the bloodstream on the inside of his or her mouth. Tilgner said, however, there are no known instances of anyone getting AIDS from kissing, deep or otherwise.

She said any cuts or other openings in the mouth would also make oral sex dangerous, because the AIDS virus can be carried in semen and vaginal secretions as well as blood.

In the immune system, the AIDS virus affects white blood cells known as T-lymphocytes. These are the cells that fight infections, Tilgner said.

There are three types of T-lymphocytes in the body. They include T-effector cells, T-helper cells and T-suppressor cells.

The effector cells fight infections by seeking out and destroying the bacteria and other microorganisms that cause the infections.

The helper cells activate, or "turn on," the effector cells after an infection is detected in the body. The suppressor cells turn off the effector cells after the infection has been eliminated.

Specifically, Tilgner said, the AIDS virus destroys the helper cells, which prevents the effector cells from being turned on. This reduces the immune system's infection-fighting abilities.

The first case of AIDS to be conclusively diagnosed in the United States was in 1981. The first case in Ohio was in 1982.

Since that time, Tilgner said a total of 396 Ohioans have been diagnosed as having AIDS. Of that number, 236 have died.

She said these numbers include only those people who have AIDS itself. The numbers do not include people who carry the virus unknowingly or people who suffer from ARC.

Tilgner said data released at an international AIDS conference in June suggests that about 70 percent to 80 percent of the people who are infected with the AIDS virus will go on to develop either AIDS or ARC.

The summer quarter hours of the Wilke Student Health Center, 1875 Millikin Rd., are Mondays through Fridays from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. The telephone number is 222-2112.

The Sexually Transmitted Diseases Clinic is open Mondays and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. The telephone number is 222-7772.
No AIDS testing for football team

By Kathryn Monda
Lantern staff writer

After the Dallas Cowboys and three other professional teams announced in July that they had voluntary AIDS testing programs for players, questions remained as to whether college football would follow suit.

"I think it is a minimal problem at the college level," said Dr. Robert Murphy, OSU team physician. "I never had a player even ask me about AIDS.

"Ohio State is not instituting any formal testing policy for athletes," Murphy said. "If a player would request (an AIDS test), I would treat him like any other student on campus and send him to the student health center," he said.

Athletes will attend special educational sessions about AIDS, Murphy said. The presentation will define the disease, discuss the transmission of the disease and the ways to prevent the spread of it. Murphy said the football team will attend a session Sunday.

Acquired immune deficiency syndrome is a disease in which a virus attacks the immune system. Victims are susceptible to a variety of infections. There is no known cure.

The disease is primarily transferred through body fluids during sexual intercourse, through contaminated blood during transfusions and through contaminated hypodermic needles.

Frank Uryasz, NCAA director of sport sciences, said the NCAA is researching the disease. In February, the Committee of Competitive Safe Guards and Medical Aspects of Sports will make recommendations for an AIDS policy for use by the NCAA.

Some universities, the largest being the University of Nebraska, have already adopted voluntary AIDS testing programs, Uryasz said.

George Sullivan, Nebraska's head trainer, said the athletic department instituted the program because many players had questions concerning AIDS.

The testing is part of a comprehensive educational program, he said.

Since the program began earlier this month, about 80 football players have been tested, Sullivan said. The players who are tested usually considered themselves to be at high risk to the disease, he said.

"Many had been injured in the past and required blood transfusions," Sullivan said.

Sullivan said no athlete had tested positive. "If one does, we certainly are not going to kick him off the team," he said. "We will take extra precautions.

Murphy said the chance of a trainer or a player contracting AIDS from a wound of an infected player is "very remote."

"We don't see too many bloody injuries on the field," he said. "A couple of times a year, someone may bleed."

When AIDS is transmitted through blood, Murphy said, usually the cases involve "massive internal hemorrhaging coming from an artery rather than super-

Dr. Robert J. Murphy

facial abrasions."

Murphy said in most cases trainers will not change their methods when treating players. However, if handling blood products, extra precautions will be taken.

"The scare has been overdone," Murphy said. "To wear rubber gloves all the time really doesn't make sense unless the trainers have an open sore on their hands. The skin is resistant to the virus."

Robert Anderson, University of Michigan team physician, said the athletic department will offer educational programs and testing if requested by a player.

"The number of reported cases of AIDS in Ann Arbor can be counted on one hand," Anderson said. "It is extremely unlikely that it will hit the football team."

Dr. Douglas McKeag, Michigan State University team physician, said there is a campus-wide educational program about AIDS, but none designed specifically for athletes.

McKeag said the athletic department is not making any adjustments in treating injuries.
Ohio State will test new drugs on AIDS victims

By Mary Carmen Cupito
Dispatch Medical Reporter

Ohio State University will get $7 million from the federal government during the next 5 years to study new drugs for use against AIDS and to find how the immune system reacts to infection by the AIDS virus.

The grant will allow central Ohioans infected by the virus to receive the latest medications being tested, said Dr. Robert Pass, OSU professor of internal medicine. He is principal investigator for the grant.

The grant from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases will help fund research in four areas:

- Between 300 and 400 people will be treated with a variety of new drugs. The “investigational treatments” will be tested in people who have the AIDS disease and in people who might have been infected with the virus but who do not yet have the disease.
- The drug AZT will be tried against the disease in combination with interferon, an infection-fighting substance produced by the human body.
- Experimental drugs to control diarrhea will be tried, because existing therapies often are not effective. People with AIDS “get a variety of types of secondary infections that cause diarrhea. The AIDS virus, itself, causes diarrhea,” Pass said. “They could even die from the diarrhea.”
- Studies will begin on the immune system’s failure to combat infection by the AIDS virus.

The federal program will also set up similar projects at the University of Cincinnati and at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland.

“This is the second recent federal AIDS grant for OSU. Last month, the U.S. Public Health Service announced that the university will get $500,000 to teach doctors and nurses how to respond to the emotional and personal needs of people with acquired immune deficiency syndrome.”

Gloria Smith, executive director of the Columbus AIDS Task Force, said that, because there is no cure for AIDS and treatment is limited, people with AIDS welcome the chance to try experimental drugs.

“When you know what your ultimate consequence is with this disease, you’re willing to try anything,” Smith said.

Monthly treatments with AZT cost at least $850.
Safe sex quest increases condom sales on campus

By GEORGIA TETERIS
Lantern staff writer

Some say an ounce of prophylactic is worth a pound of cure.
As the fear of AIDS skyrockets on college campuses, the sale of condoms to students has dramatically increased. Ohio State is no different.

Hospital Supply Company, which has a joint venture with Lifestyle condoms, is the third largest producer of condoms and condom machines. Trojan and Ramsees brands are first and second.

According to John Jones, director of national accounts for the Hospital Supply Company, the sale of condoms has increased between 30 and 40 percent in the last year alone.

"When the pill came out, condom sales really went down the drain," Jones said. "But with the advent of the AIDS scare and the surgeon general's statements (on condom use to combat AIDS), then that really shot up sales," Jones said.

Jones said his company is now installing condom machines in previously unheard-of places.

"Before, you could only get a condom at the drug store," he said. "Now they have displays in the grocery store. We've been putting them everywhere, in the women's and men's bathrooms, student dorms, etc."

Jones said Hospital Supply is producing condoms that can be dispensed from cigarette machines. They look just like a package of cigarettes, he said, "and they've been really big sellers."

Nationwide, women are the biggest buyers of condoms, Jones said.

"Women probably buy up to 60 percent of all condoms sold. Usually, guys are either embarrassed or they don't plan ahead," he said. "Things are more on the spur of the moment with them, that's why women are buying

See Page 2, CONDOM
more of the condoms. Women are more concerned about protecting themselves."

With state and national health officials are encouraging the use of condoms to prevent AIDS, many students are now taking precautions.

Tuesday, the Ohio Union Newsstand (formerly called the Buck Stop) began selling condoms, said David Mucci, associate director of the Ohio Unions.

"For us, it started about six months ago, when we were watching the President's statements," Mucci said. "He indicated he was concerned about this and he wanted to see some action taken to help people practice safe sex. We then began to check around to see if we would be permitted to sell these things."

He said they received a positive response that the Ohio Union should sell condoms as a "safety element for the student population."

Ohio Union coordinators tried to have the condoms ready for sale by the first day of school, but the supplier was unable to provide them. Now, with the available shipment, both the Drake and Ohio Unions will carry prophylactics.

"We just put them on the counter (Tuesday) morning when we got our first shipment, and I don't think we've sold any yet...but it's early," Mucci said. "It's not even a weekend."

Indi Athuwala, an epidemiologist with the Ohio Department of Health, said that as of Sept. 2, the state of Ohio had 461 reported cases of AIDS. She said 61 percent of those patients have died.

In order to prevent further transmission of AIDS, the Ohio Health Department is recommending abstinence and responsible sex, which includes using condoms, Athuwala said.

She said the department does not recommend any particular brand, but to better prevent AIDS, lambskin condoms should not be used.

"We do not recommend using lambskin because viruses and things like that can penetrate through the porous membrane," she said.

As the use of prophylactics becomes widely accepted, more businesses are willing to carry condoms.

Spring Break, a bar at 1560 N. High St., recently installed a condom dispenser in the men's restroom. The machine has been in operation for more than two months. But some people, including bar personnel, have mixed reactions concerning the new policy.

"It was kind of embarrassing to me when they put them in," said Spring Break manager John Boll. "I didn't go around blabbing to everyone, 'Did you get your condom yet?'

Boll said that when the machines were originally installed in the bar, they were also installed in the women's restroom. The theory behind this decision was that past sales had been "phenomenal."

However, the machines were removed from the women's restroom shortly afterward.

Although campus bars are beginning to sell condoms, the most typical place students purchase them is at the drug store.
Forum discusses attitudes on sex

By JACK GONZALEZ
Lantern staff writer

Ohio State was one of 400 universities across the country to take part in the College Satellite Network's "Sex on Campus," a two-hour interactive discussion about AIDS.

A panel of health experts, actors and a homosexual discussed the AIDS crisis, specifically on college campuses Wednesday night in Drake Union.

The program was also televised on Educable TV 23.

Bob Armstrong, executive director for Educable, said, "To our knowledge, this is the first program to specifically address the concerns of college students as it relates to AIDS."

The first half of the program concerned sex in the media, including television, movies and music videos.

Actress Alexandra Paul and actors Pat Peterson and Mat Adler shared their views of sex and the media.

The actors agreed that if during the filming of a love scene their partners asked them to use condoms, the scene would be artistically ruined.

Throughout the program six questions dealing with AIDS were asked to selected universities participating in the telecast. The results of the questions appeared on the program.

Forty percent believed students are changing their sexual behaviors given the AIDS crisis, 53 percent said students were not changing their behaviors and 6 percent were unsure.

Fifty-two percent believed television and motion pictures are getting too liberal in portraying sex and sexual situations, 42 percent said the industries are not getting too liberal and 6 percent were unsure.

Ninety percent believed television and radio stations should allow condom advertising, 7 percent said they should not allow such advertising and 3 percent were unsure.

Eighteen percent believed individuals could contract AIDS by donating blood, 79 percent believed AIDS cannot be contracted by donation and 3 percent were unsure.

Thirty-eight percent believed the results of an AIDS test would be kept confidential and 62 percent did not believe the results would be kept confidential.

When the participants were asked if they would now use condoms when having sex, given their increased knowledge about AIDS, 79 percent said they would, and 21 percent said they would not.

The panel was shocked by the number people who said they would now use condoms. The number is inconsistent with national figures, panel members said.

Armstrong said the bottom line of the night was revealed when a poll of participants showed that 81 percent have not consciously changed their sexual behaviors as a result of the AIDS crisis.
AIDS class gets mixed reviews

By DAN DOWNING
Lantern staff writer

A class in which sexually explicit films are shown and condoms are passed out has gotten mixed reactions from students.

Reginald Fennell, class instructor of Health 101 Special Topics, shows three films: "Sex, Drugs and AIDS"; "Norma and Tony"; and "Hank and Jerry." "Sex, Drugs and AIDS" is a film about AIDS infection and virus transmission and is designed for teenagers and young adults.

"Norma and Tony" is a sexually explicit video containing male/female sex. The film shows actual oral and vaginal intercourse, and demonstrates how to use a number of safe-sex products such as condoms and spermicide foam.

"Hank and Jerry" contains scenes of male/male sex, but does not show intercourse.

Fennell said the films depicting explicit sexual activity provoked a lot of negative reactions from audience members. "Some students said they were very offended, especially by the film on gay sex," he said.

Some students were also offended when he passed out condoms to the class after the films. Fennell said he does that as a gesture of safe sex. "Some students would not take them," said Fennell.

Jeff Waxman, a senior from Cincinnati majoring in broadcast journalism, said the explicit films did not have the same purpose as a regular "porno flick" and he was surprised by some of the students' reactions to them.

"You would think people coming to this class would have a more open mind," he said. Waxman said he was disappointed by some of the comments from other class members. He said one female student was really offended when Fennell passed out the condoms.

Eva Tisdale, a sophomore from Toledo, said she took the class because she has heard so many rumors about AIDS and wanted to get the facts.

Tisdale said she did not like the explicit sex films, but agreed they were appropriate to show for the class. "I am personally against homosexuality, but I feel people have the right to do whatever they want," she said.

Tisdale admitted it was pretty weird for her to take a condom but she did. "It was no big deal," she said.

Tisdale said condom machines should be installed in the dorms because people will have sex regardless of whether condoms are available. "Girls bring guys back from the bars and they don't know who they are," she said.

Leslie Lowy, a junior from Lyndhurst, said she did not expect the films to be so explicit, but thought they were beneficial. "It showed you could have safe sex and still be compassionate," she said.

Lowy said the condoms were a good idea because they were a supplement to what was presented that day. "It blends in with the whole theme of the course," she said.

Fennell said students' lack of AIDS knowledge in his Health and Human Sexuality class prompted him to design this class. The course is the only one taught at Ohio State, and is one of only a few being taught on campuses across the country.

The class was designed as a Special Topics course, and was approved by the OSU Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation in September 1986, and was first offered in the spring of 1987.

Speakers for the class include representatives from Saint Steven's Episcopal Church, the American Red Cross, a law professor at OSU, and a person with AIDS.

Fennell is also using the course to do research for his doctoral dissertation, which studies the effects of an AIDS course on the attitudes of college students. "Obviously knowledge should change, but attitudes are what I'm concerned about," Fennell said.

"Certainly the class could be expanded, but it is a pass/nonpass course and students don't expect to do a lot of work in it," he said. "If the course was worth three credits then more work would be required for it and fewer students would take it." The course is currently worth one credit.

The class is open for 75 students and has been full both quarters Fennell has taught it. It is scheduled again for spring.

Sharon Midolo, a registered nurse, said, "It is a very worthwhile class and I recommend it to everyone." Midolo took the class last spring while she was in the College of Nursing.

"Now that AIDS is such a big thing I feel that medical and nursing students should have more classes like this available to them, and with more emphasis on infection control," Midolo said.

The class is listed in the Course Offerings Bulletin as Health 101 Special Topics. It meets for two hours one day a week for five weeks.
Conference targets AIDS services

By DAN DOWNING
Lantern staff writer

Ohio State will host a regional conference today and Thursday to review AIDS-related services offered by other colleges and institutions in the midwest.

The conference is sponsored by the OSU AIDS Education and Research Committee. The primary emphasis will be on agency services such as education, testing, and direct support that can be offered to faculty, staff and students about the disease.

A report issued by the OSU Department of Internal Medicine said the conference, which is open to the public, is aimed at colleges and universities throughout the area in order to provide information that institutions can use to formulate their own policies regarding AIDS.

Colleges and universities often turn to their local health care agencies and task forces for help in dealing with AIDS issues, the report said.

As of this October, 484 cases of AIDS had been reported in Ohio. Eighty-eight of these were residents of Franklin County.

Susan Farmer, program assistant for the conference, said the emphasis will be on what can be done about providing AIDS education and services to colleges.

Farmer said letters were sent to the directors of all the Big Ten schools, and to a number of other organizations inviting them to participate in the conference. "It started out as a state conference, but has turned into a regional conference," she said. Farmer is also a member of the AIDS Education and Research Committee.

The conference will include medical, administrative and legal issues concerning AIDS, and will open at 1 p.m. with a welcoming address from OSU President Edward H. Jennings. The conference is being held at the Holiday Inn on Lane Avenue.

Speakers include Robert L. Perkins, M.D., professor of Internal Medicine/Infectious Diseases, and chair of the AIDS Education and Research Committee. Perkins will discuss the medical aspects of AIDS including global trends and projections, and issues pertaining to AIDS in the schools and the workplace.

Figures released show the number of diagnosed cases of AIDS increasing to 270,000 by 1991. Currently 42,000 cases have been reported in the United States.

OSU Law Professor Rhonda R. Rivetra will discuss legal aspects and institutional responsibilities regarding AIDS, and Attorney Robert Havercamp will present information for establishing guidelines and policies on college campuses.

Other speakers include Bill Schwartz of Residence and Dining Halls, and state Sen. David Hobson. Schwartz will facilitate a discussion on AIDS policy as it relates to student housing and food services. Hobson will provide a legislative perspective to the issue and make recommendations for an institutional response to AIDS.

Several local agencies including the Ohio Department of Health, Columbus Health Department, Columbus AIDS Task Force, and the American Red Cross are providing demonstrations and consultations during the conference. They will have tables displaying information and literature about AIDS guidelines, infection control, and ideas for providing AIDS education.
AIDS awareness emphasized
Conference educates students on disease

By EILEEN MALONE
Lantern staff writer

AIDS is a disaster for the 20-29 age group, and university administrators must organize committees to educate students and faculty to keep the disease from spreading, said a speaker at an AIDS education conference Wednesday.

The 20-29 age group represents 21 percent of all reported AIDS cases.

"With its incubation period, you can be sure that many people acquire AIDS at the college-age level," said Robert Perkins M.D., chairman of the OSU AIDS Education and Research Committee.

The Organizing an Institutional Response to AIDS Regional Conference started Wednesday and continues today at the Holiday Inn on Lane Avenue.

Perkins and other AIDS experts talked to about 120 administrators from colleges and universities across the country about the importance of organizing AIDS committees on college campuses. They addressed medical, legal and social issues that might occur at any level when organizing an AIDS committee in a university.

"Education is critical if this dreadful disease is to be controlled," said Madison Scott, vice president for Personnel Services and vice president of the research committee.

Scott said that although Ohio State was not the first university to establish an AIDS committee, it is at the forefront of AIDS education efforts.

There is sufficient information so that if they pay attention to it and act accordingly, the society will rid itself of this problem.

- Madison Scott

President Edward H. Jennings said, "As one of four regional centers in the nation to help train health workers to treat health patients, The Ohio State University is committed to providing the highest medical care for AIDS patients, conducting important interdisciplinary research and providing informational support to those dealing with AIDS." Jennings gave the conference welcome speech.

Scott said, "Ohio State has access to information and experts and people who really understand the nature of this killer." Scott listed important steps that need to be taken when establishing an AIDS program at a college or university.

First, a committee of task force members needs to be selected and educated about the medical facts and social implications of AIDS, he said.

Secondly, the committee must develop guidelines that are flexible enough to deal with many unanticipated issues involving AIDS that might arise, said Robert Haverkamp, Esq., assistant to the vice president for business and administration.

The committee must also be able to respond with assistance and compassion to those in the university community who have AIDS, Haverkamp said.

He said the committee must be representative of the university and should include medical staff, counseling professionals, university attorneys, representatives from gay and lesbian organizations on campus, administrative personnel and students.

Administrators from other universities without AIDS committees said they realize the importance of developing such a group.

"We need a systematic plan of instructing our administration and students (about AIDS)," said Roger Smith, vice president of student affairs at Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Mich.

Andrews University is a Seventh-Day Adventist university with an enrollment of about 3,000.

"(AIDS) is something we need to be prepared for," said Catherine Smith, associate dean of women at Andrews University.

"We need to take steps to set up a committee and policies."

Reports indicate there will be approximately 270,000 AIDS cases in the United States by 1991, currently 42,000 cases have been reported.
Colleges come to grips with AIDS

By Tim Doulin
Dispatch Staff Reporter

College is still a place to experiment with different lifestyles, but Ohio State University and other colleges want young people to understand the risks, especially when it comes to acquired immune deficiency syndrome.

"You can't tell young people how to live their lives," said Dr. Robert Perkins, chairman of OSU's AIDS task force. "But they should be aware of health issues, and AIDS is probably the biggest health issue in their lifetime."

Perkins shared ideas on how other colleges can tell students about AIDS at a regional AIDS conference hosted by OSU. About 200 faculty and staff members from colleges in Ohio and the Midwest attended the 2-day conference, which concluded yesterday.

THE FIRST problem for colleges is making students deal with the problem, Perkins said.

"Most young people view themselves as immortal," he said. "They don't want to take the time to view death or a disease like AIDS. They have to face the reality of the problem."

Circulating literature about AIDS on campus is one way to make students face the problem. The OSU AIDS task force issues thousands of pamphlets about sexually transmitted diseases, like AIDS, to freshmen and new students.

MEMBERS OF the task force also have talked to faculty, staff, students and university organizations about AIDS. Next week, the university will present The AIDS Movie, a film for college students.

OSU wants to present an informed view of the disease to the community without hysteria, said Madison Scott, vice president of personnel services.

"If you are going to gain control of this disease, the people who don't have it need to know how to prevent it, and you need to minimize needless fears about the disease," Scott said.

Cases of AIDS on campuses are low, Perkins said, but college students run the same risk of exposure to the disease as anyone else.

"Ohio State is like a small town," Perkins said. "When it comes to AIDS, it is a microcosm of the rest of the country."
Conference focus: AIDS on campus

Higher education administrators from throughout the state will meet Nov. 4-5 to discuss the various ways in which colleges and universities can deal with the ever-growing presence of AIDS on campus.

The conference, "Organizing an Institutional Response to AIDS," will be held at the Holiday Inn on the Lane, 328 W. Lane Ave. It begins at 1 p.m.

Sponsored by the Ohio State University AIDS Education and Research Committee, the conference carries a registration fee of $90. Registration must be made in advance.

Speakers will address a number of topics ranging from the development of institutional policies and educational programs to various medical and legal concerns.

For example, one speaker will address "Establishing an AIDS Committee on Campus," while others will focus on an institution's various legal and social responsibilities. Still others will discuss the roles of personnel involved in campus health and counseling services, student housing and student affairs.

The program features two keynote speakers.

Richard P. Keeling, an associate professor of internal medicine at the University of Virginia and chairman of the American College Health Association's Task Force on AIDS, will address the "Responsibilities of Institutions of Higher Learning in the AIDS Crisis" at 3:40 p.m. Nov. 4.

At 8 p.m. that evening, Sen. David L. Hobson, chairman of the Ohio Senate Committee on Health, Human Services and Aging, will discuss the "Legislative Perspective and Recommendations on an Institutional Response to AIDS."

For further information, contact Robert Perkins, Division of Infectious Disease, at 293-8640, or the Department of Conferences and Institutes, 292-8571.
‘Condoms for sale’ in student unions

In an effort to promote safe sexual practices, Ohio State's student unions and bookstores have begun to sell condoms.

The threat of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) prompted the policy, says John Ellinger, director of student unions.

“We need to help our students in any way we can to adapt to the AIDS problem,” Ellinger says.

Prophylactics for birth control have been sold in the Wilce Health Center pharmacy since the early 1970s, says Doris Charles, director of health services.

When used properly, condoms also may help prevent the transmission of the AIDS virus through sexual intercourse.

The best defense against AIDS is monogamy or sexual abstinence, C. Everett Koop, Surgeon General of the U.S., has said. For sexually active people, he endorses condoms.

There are risks even with prophylactics, researchers warn. “Natural” condoms made of lamb’s intestines may contain microscopic holes that could permit transmission of the AIDS virus.

Latex condoms have been shown to be extremely effective in blocking the virus. However, they can deteriorate when exposed to heat, light or oil-based lubricants, such as petroleum jelly.

According to “Safer Sex, Condoms and AIDS,” a pamphlet from Planned Parenthood of Central Ohio, condoms should not be carried in a wallet for more than a week, should not be used with Vaseline, and should not be stored in a hot place such as a glove compartment.

“We in the United States do have a health problem, and college students are sexually active,” Ellinger says. “It’s a subject no one likes to talk about, but there definitely is a need for condom sales.”

Four brands of prophylactics are available at the Ohio Union newstand and the Drake Union General Store. A few packets are on display in the health and beauty section of Derby Bookstore.

“I don’t know how many we’ll sell,” says Robert Carlson, director of the bookstores. “We want to make buying condoms convenient for people, especially students.”

The product will continue to be displayed even if the number purchased is low, according to Ellinger.

The unions and bookstore do not hand out pamphlets about AIDS. However, the Columbus Department of Public Health requires a sign with information be displayed where condoms are sold.

University Health Services has provided information about the disease for union and bookstore staff members who may answer questions from customers.

Brochures are available for students, faculty and staff at the Wilce Health Center.

The Residence Halls Advisory Council, a group of students, has placed the sale of condoms on its agenda for autumn quarter. According to Alice Grider, acting associate director for residence life, the council has not scheduled discussions. Any recommendations will be presented to William Hall, director of residence and dining halls.
Dealing with the facts of AIDS

Questions and Answers About Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS)

AIDS is a disease caused by the virus that causes HIV. The virus attacks the immune system, leaving it vulnerable to serious infections that ordinarily pose little threat to anyone with an intact immune system. These illnesses are referred to as opportunistic infections.

One of the more common of these is pneumocystis carinii pneumonia. A type of fungus, Kaposi’s sarcoma, also may develop in AIDS patients.

What causes AIDS?

A virus causes AIDS. It is known as HIV. The abbreviation stands for Human Immunodeficiency Virus. The virus has also been called HTLV-III and LAV.

Who is at risk of getting AIDS?

Nearly all cases in the United States have been reported from distinct groups: homosexually active males, intravenous drug users, hemophiliacs, and other past recipients of blood or blood components and transplants from members of the above groups, and infants of infected mothers. AIDS has been uncommon in persons outside these groups, but the virus that causes AIDS can be transmitted heterosexually and homosexually.

It should be emphasized that the screening of blood donors for evidence of HIV infection and safe transfusion practices are improving the safety of blood products. A significant amount of blood has now resulted in a safe blood supply. Donating blood has never placed anyone at risk.

A person infected with HIV will develop AIDS. Rising knowledge does not recognize whether infection with the virus will necessarily lead to AIDS. AIDS is the most severe and severe manifestation of infection with HIV. Preliminary data show that HIV-infected individuals remain in good health. However, it is important to know that even if infected persons remain well, they may transmit the virus to others, who then may become ill.

How long after exposure to HIV does a person develop AIDS?

In those people who develop AIDS, the time between HIV infection and the onset of symptoms is variable, but severe disease may occur as long as 20 years after infection. However, researchers do not know whether anyone infected with the virus will get AIDS or develop symptoms.

Can casual contact cause AIDS?

No. The HIV is not transmissible by casual non-sexual contact such as eating in the same house as an infected person, caring for an AIDS patient, eating food handled by a person with AIDS, being coughed at or sneezed upon by an infected person, casual kissing, or swimming in a pool with an infected person.

Evaluation of health workers caring for persons with AIDS has indicated that no route of infection has been established. Health care providers are safe from being infected.

As far as anyone knows, the AIDS virus is transmitted only by a sexual encounter violent enough to open a blood channel, either through mucous membranes or by breaking the skin, through the exchange of a needle when the needle of an infected person is used by someone else, through an untrained medical transfusion from an infected person, or from an infected mother through the placenta to the unborn child by the placental cord.

There is a laboratory test for AIDS.

No. However, there is an important test for the presence of antibodies to the virus that causes AIDS. This test, which detects evidence of infection with HIV, is now used at blood collection centers to screen blood and plasma and prevents cases of transfusion-associated AIDS. The test is available through private physicians, state or local health departments, and centralized laboratory facilities such as the Columbus Health Department, which performs anonymous testing.

If a positive test is seen, the test can be verified by a second test for antibodies to HIV. Positive verification does not mean the person has AIDS, only that he or she has been infected.

What are the symptoms of AIDS?

Most individuals infected with HIV have no symptoms at all, and evidence of HIV activity and spread is identifiable in all their usual activities, even though the virus is present in their blood. Some develop symptoms that may include fatigue, fever, weight loss, weight gain, fever, night sweats, and lymph gland enlargement. This group of symptoms is sometimes referred to as AIDS-related complex (ARC). Some, but not all, ARC patients will develop immune deficiency and then develop an opportunistic infection. When this occurs, they will be diagnosed as having AIDS.

In studies so far, of every 100 persons who tested positive for antibodies to the virus, about 35 have developed ARC. As many as 30 of every 100 may develop AIDS, although the percent varies by region, and risk group. This shows that many infected individuals remain in good health. However, it is important to know that even if infected persons remain well, they may transmit the virus to others, who then may become ill.

Milder infections with many of these organisms are seen occasionally in the general population, but do not necessarily suggest immune deficiency and are not considered "opportunistic." What is known about these opportunistic infections?

The opportunistic infections seen with AIDS are not new. KS was described about 100 years ago. In the United States, prior to 1980, KS primarily affected elderly men and was very seldom fatal, even five to 10 years after diagnosis. KS was also seen in children in South Africa and in a few other locations.

PCP affects a few hundred adults and children in the United States each year, but is seen primarily in patients with severe underlying illnesses such as leukemia, or in patients receiving therapy with drugs known to suppress the immune system — such as those administered to kidney transplant patients to prevent organ rejection.

KS, as related to AIDS, usually occurs anywhere on the skin or in the mouth. In early stages, it may look like a bruise or a blue-violet or brownish spot. The spot is flat or papular and may grow larger.

KS may spread to or appear in other organs in the body, including lymph nodes, causing them to enlarge. PCP has symptoms similar to any other form of severe pneumonia, especially cough, fever, wide and difficulty in breathing. Some AIDS patients have had KS and PCP at the same time.

How common is AIDS?

The diagnosis of the syndrome began in June 1981, and today more than 42,000 cases have been reported. As of October 1987, there were 484 cases in Ohio.

Eighth-eight persons were residents of Franklin County. The total number of newly diagnosed cases of AIDS is increasing. It is estimated that by 1991 a total of 370,000 cases will have been reported in the United States.

How long is the incubation period for HIV infection and the length of time from diagnosis?

Centers for Disease Control investigators do not know of any patient with AIDS who has regained lost immunity.

What is the geographic distribution of reported cases?

The distribution has been and remains uneven, with about 28 percent of the cases reported from New York State and from more than 21 percent from California. AIDS cases have been reported from all 50 states, including the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and more than 100 other countries.

Is a person infected with AIDS, who is in good health, contagious?

Yes. Absolutely. Blood banks and other collection centers use sterile equipment and disposable needles. Thus, there is no chance that a needle used for a blood donor would be used by another donor.

What can be done to prevent AIDS transmission?

1) Know the sexual background and habits of partners.
2) Use condoms and a lubricant containing the spermicide nonoxynol 9, which is known to inhibit the AIDS virus and spermicidal-based lubricants, such as Vaseline, which may damage the condom. Avoid "natural" condoms of lamb’s intestines, which may contain microscopic holes that could transmit the AIDS virus.
3) If your partner is in a high-risk group, cease sexual relations or follow safe sexual practices.
4) Be aware that having multiple sexual partners and/or anonymous sexual partners significantly increases your chance of contracting AIDS.
5) Don't use unsupervised intravenous drugs.
6) If you do use IV drugs, do not share reuse needles, syringes, or preparation vials.
7) Avoid sexual contact with persons who use unsupervised IV drugs.

What is the new drug AZT?

AZT, also known as didanosine, has shown promise in patients with AIDS by partially reversing the immunodeficiency caused by the virus. AZT is also being tested in ARC patients and in combination with other antiviral compounds. AZT is not a cure for AIDS.

What should I do if I believe I might have AIDS or a related disease?

For medical advice, patients may contact the University Health Service, 1755 Killinick Road, 292-2112.

Other members of the community may do the same, or contact the Infectious Diseases Division of University Hospitals, N1140 Deans Hall, 410 West 10th St., 124-4441.

Person also may contact the Columbus AIDS Task Force, P.O. Box 8393, Columbus, Ohio 43210, 212-7272, will administer free counseling on the HIV antibody test.

If the test is given, the results are absolutely confidential.
Caution a byword when rescuers treat public

By Pamela E. Parmley

Many public police and emergency workers nationwide fear getting acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) from the blood of injured people, but they are not the only ones who face this risk.

Their campus counterparts and the general public also encounter bleeding people who need their help.

An injured person also may be infected by a would-be rescuer who is a carrier of the AIDS virus.

Some Ohio State campus safety and medical personnel already are taking measures against infection. The public can take similar precautions against the incurable disease that impairs the body's immune system.

Among the public safety employees worried about contracting AIDS from contact with infected blood are the national and Philadelphia chapters of the Fraternal Order of Police. They have requested policies from their superiors on handling possible AIDS carriers who are injured.

One reason for their concern is an estimate from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) in Atlanta that 1.3 million Americans carry the AIDS virus.

In addition to sexual intercourse and sharing of intravenous needles, transmission of the AIDS virus has been documented through accidental needle punctures and by exposure of mucous membranes or open wounds to infected blood.

Doris I. Charles, director of the University of California, Los Angeles, points out that just about any place on or off campus can be the site of violence or an accident — dorms, the football field, highways, anywhere.

Because carriers of the AIDS virus show no symptoms, and blood and semen are the vehicles for AIDS transmission, it is sensible to take precautions against contracting or transmitting the disease, she says.

After assessing each accident, "people giving aid need to protect themselves in the best way they can" by trying to follow the CDC guidelines for AIDS prevention in health-care settings, she says.

The CDC advises: keeping informed about causes of AIDS; protecting open wounds; washing skin thoroughly after contact with body fluids; wearing barriers such as rubber gloves during contact, and changing the gloves after contact; using a mouthpiece during emergency mouth-to-mouth resuscitation; disposing of contaminated disposable materials (such as bandages) in an impervious plastic bag; cleaning up spills with either isopropyl alcohol or bleach, soaking the surface for a few minutes; and washing towels as usual.

James Christman, assistant vice president for University Public Safety, says, "We certainly haven't had any kind of panic among our people," which include emergency medical service and fire prevention personnel, but the department has adopted the CDC guidelines.

He has given copies to the Division of Traffic and Parking and to University Police so they can develop their own policies and procedures.

University Police Deputy Chief Richard Harp says his department is considering guidelines.

Donald Wintringham, chief of the Division of Emergency Service and Fire Prevention, says safety employees "carry surgical gloves, glasses and surgical masks which protect you from getting splattered by body fluids." The rescuers also carry gowns to wear if they find out the victim is at particular risk, especially if the victim says he or she has AIDS.

Wintringham's group also has supplied the University's traffic officers with a kit containing gloves, glasses and masks.

However, he notes that the precautions are for any contagious disease, such as hepatitis.

Wintringham said his employees also keep posted on AIDS news through seminars, mailing lists for updates on AIDS, and the recommendations of medical advisers.

At University Hospitals, says Howard Werman, assistant professor in the Division of Emergency Medicine, "Every patient contact is considered a possible exposure to the AIDS virus nowadays."

As for members of the public, Wintringham says, "I would hate to see anyone be reluctant to render assistance" because of fear of contagious diseases.

He advises using common sense about using some kind of barrier between any open wounds rescuers have and the victim's fluids. If the helpless passerby also has wounds, "it's a judgment call" as to whether the victim is injured badly enough to risk contact.

Chaisson and Charles both plan to start carrying surgical gloves in their car.

In case they come across a bleeding accident victim, a situation Chaisson recently faced on a highway.

Session's aim: Dynamics of interprofessional work

Forming policies to deal with AIDS is a delicate balance of ethical and social considerations. Policy makers and professionals must take into consideration the concerns of people who have the disease and the needs of employers, schools and hospitals.

A conference on the problem administrators face, "AIDS Policy: An Interprofessional Approach," will be held Nov. 21 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in The Ohio Union Terrace Room. The event, sponsored by the Commission on Interprofessional Education and Practice, is open to college-level students and faculty and staff in human service professions.

Carol Levine of the Hastings Center will deliver the keynote address, "AIDS: The Compleat Ethical Dilemma." Levine is the editor of the Hastings Center Report and frequently appears on television to discuss AIDS testing, civil liberties and other issues.

Registration for the conference is $7. The deadline is Nov. 13. To register, call Judith Lyons, conference coordinator, at 292-5621.

The Commission on Interprofessional Education and Practice, based at Ohio State, promotes interchange among professionals in allied medicine, education, law, medicine, nursing, psychology, social work and theology.

AIDS raises issues of faith

A panel discussion on "AIDS and the Faith Response" will be presented at the United Christian Center, 66 East 15th Ave., at 7 p.m. Oct. 30.

The program is free and open to the public.

The panel will provide various perspectives on AIDS and how people of faith may approach the issue. Panelists include: Father Edward Langlois, of the Newman Center; the Rev. Thomas Kinsey, of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church; and Carol Cohan, of the Stonewall Union.

For more information call 294-5195.

Movie probes life with disease

Three people with AIDS share what it's like to live with the disease and how to protect against it in "The AIDS Movie."

The film will be shown from 4-5 p.m. and 5-6 p.m. Nov. 10-13 and Nov. 17-20 in 100 Hagerty Hall. Professionals working in AIDS education and prevention programs will be present to answer questions.

The film is sponsored by University College and the AIDS Education and Research Committee.
Program increases AIDS education

By DAN DOWNING
Lantern staff writer

A new, comprehensive AIDS education program is under way at Ohio State this fall. This program is part of a campus-wide plan being implemented by the OSU AIDS Education and Research Committee to provide faculty, staff and students with information about AIDS.

The committee, in conjunction with OSU Counseling Services, Health Services, University Communications and several other OSU departments, is educating people about the dangers of AIDS and ways to reduce their risk of exposure to the AIDS virus.

Bill Schartz, assistant director of Residence and Dining Halls Operations, said there is a major effort to inform new OSU students about AIDS.

SCHWARTZ, a member of the OSU AIDS committee, said the AIDS Movie, which is being shown in Grayhart Hall at 4 and 5 p.m. until Nov. 20, is part of this educational program.

HE SAID the movie is being shown in conjunction with the required freshmen UVC course and that AIDS is being discussed in those classes.

"Our primary purpose is to tie in with UVC, and movies tend to be a great way to provide an educational opportunity to individuals," he said.

SCHWARTZ said in the past training about AIDS has been provided to residence hall staff and advisors.

This fall, with the help of the Columbus AIDS Task Force, more comprehensive AIDS education has been given to the residence hall professional staff, with the intent of passing that information along to students who live on campus.

SCHWARTZ said he would like to see more resident advisers get involved in providing AIDS education to students who live on campus.

SCHWARTZ SAID about 10,000 students live in the residence halls, and arrangements are being made to provide additional programs over the next six months for these students. However, he sees need for more cooperation and involvement from students in getting AIDS information out.

He said work is being done to form a student advisory committee to help with this.

On Nov. 4 and 5 the OSU AIDS Education Committee sponsored a regional conference to address institutional responses to AIDS and AIDS education, with delegates from over 10 states attending. The goal of the conference was to exchange information with other colleges and agencies about AIDS education and policies.

Susan Farmer, program assistant of the committee, said the committee meets monthly and one of its primary goals is to help formulate university policies on AIDS education, discrimination and infection control.

“I THINK the big thing is educating them (students) about what AIDS is not," she said. "AIDS reminds us of how fragile people are.

Farmer said the committee also determines what the particular needs are in educating the faculty, staff and students. She said there is no difference in the content of the information, but that there is a difference in how the information is presented to various audiences.

When dealing with older audiences such as faculty and staff, Farmer said people tend to be more formal, use longer words and medical jargon, and use less body language. Younger audiences such as students need to have more interaction with a speaker, and to feel more comfortable with the subject.

THE AIDS Education and Research Committee was established in the fall of 1985 to address issues concerning AIDS at the university. Estimates predict the number of AIDS cases in the United States will be in the hundreds of thousands by 1991. Over 42,000 have been reported so far. Farmer said education is currently the only way to prevent the spread of AIDS.

The committee consists of representatives from Academic Affairs, Residence and Dining Halls, Student Affairs, Preventive Medicine, Counseling Services and several other university departments.

In a statement issued by the committee, the sale of condoms to prevent exposure to the AIDS virus and other sexually transmitted diseases was endorsed. However, condom sales are determined by public law, price and demand, and the opinion of the community.

The report also said that condom availability and use is not intended to influence sexual orientation, encourage sexual activity or to offend anyone.
WOSU-TV will examine how disease affects public

TV34 will devote two hours Nov. 19 to the topic of AIDS and its effects on the general population with two specials — a national documentary film with Ron Reagan Jr., and a local call-in program featuring area experts.

The national program "AIDS: Changing the Rules" will be aired at 9 p.m. The show opens with a 25-minute film featuring Reagan, model Beverly Johnson, and "salsa" musician Ruben Blades. The film provides information on a variety of topics, especially the importance of using condoms, and suggests ways people can comfortably and honestly talk to each other about AIDS.

The program leads into a studio discussion moderated by Judy Woodruff of "Frontline." AIDS experts and other panelists will address the threat to low-risk heterosexuals; abstinence as a preventive strategy; the safety of "casual contact"; and the potential condom failure rate.

Following the national broadcast, the locally produced "AIDS and You" will air at 10 p.m. The panel will focus on the research being conducted within the medical community to look for a prevention and cure for the disease; local schools' efforts to educate young people about AIDS; and efforts by social services agencies to educate the general population and deal with those who suffer from the disease.

Panelists include: Michael Para, associate professor of internal medicine and medical microbiology and immunology; Elliot Fishman, attorney and case officer for Ohio State's Office of Affirmative Action; Gloria Smith, executive director of the Columbus AIDS Task Force; and Debbie Coleman, AIDS coordinator for the Columbus Health Department.
Categories key to AIDS screening

By JODY SHUMAKER
Lantern staff writer

Surgeon General C. Everett Koop's proposal to screen every student of a major university for AIDS would be more helpful if the test weren't totally anonymous, a University Hospitals doctor said.

Dr. Michael Para, associate professor of microbiology and immunology at University Hospitals, said a better indication of the AIDS problem would come from breaking the numbers down into certain basic categories.

"White or black, gay or straight, male or female — all are important pieces of the puzzle to figure out how much of the AIDS virus there is around. But every time you do that, you get closer to identifying who it is, and then comes the ethical question, 'Do you have to tell them?'" Para said.

But Koop is interested only in how widespread the epidemic is in order to plan the health care budget, Para said.

Koop's proposal, announced Jan. 28, is to test every student at a university with about 26,000 students.

College students would be an ideal population to survey because they are representative of a broad cross-section of society and have not been tested yet, Para said.

Another problem would be with public perception, Para said. The university tested could face being attached with a stigma, he said.

"I'm not sure the administration would be very happy," Para said. "I'm sure they have data over there on how much gonorrhea there is on campus, but it's not like they're going to publish it in a journal that Mom and Dad and Senator So-and-So are going to read."

"One of the major reasons for testing is to avoid transmission," Para said. The Columbus Health Department runs tests anonymously, giving the person a number. When the test is complete, the person asks for the results by the number.

Dr. Doris I. Charles, director of the Wilke Student Health Center, said although the study might give some useful information, people who suspect they have the AIDS virus might not volunteer for testing.

"It might tell you how many people out there are negative," she said.

The Student Health Center offers AIDS testing. The results are kept strictly confidential with the student's records coded and locked up, Charles said.
AIDS education aimed at students

By THOM BRAINARD
Lantern staff writer

Tailoring education to meet the needs of different groups is the focus of AIDS education on campus, a member of the Ohio State AIDS Education and Research Committee, said.

The AIDS Education and Research Committee, formerly the AIDS Task Force, was designed to assess and make recommendations to the university concerning AIDS issues.

"I'm used to probing to target a specific audience," Suzi Farmer, a program assistant for the committee, said. "When I can match a target audience with a speaker, it goes much better. The class gets the information they want, and the speaker feels more comfortable because they're focusing on their expertise."

Farmer said groups or organizations will call her office and ask for someone to give a presentation. Farmer then finds the specific AIDS information the group would like covered. Medical facts, legal issues, social work issues, psychological aspects and economic impact in relation to acquired immune deficiency syndrome are the main topics the committee offers. The committee also has a general AIDS education presentation, she said.

Once a focus is determined, the committee decides which of their speakers is best able to present the information. The committee members include university physicians, attorneys, faculty and administrators. Occasionally speakers outside the university are found to cover certain topics.

Farmer said educating minorities has been emphasized more recently because many minorities don't realize they can contract AIDS. She said this problem is significant because there is a large number of black and Hispanic IV drug users who don't realize they are in a high risk group of contracting the disease.

A special committee was set up by Manning Marable, the chairman of the Black Studies Department, to address minority education, Farmer said. Although the committee addresses the needs of any group requesting AIDS information, Farmer said there are three subcommittees set up to specifically educate students, faculty and staff.

The subcommittee to educate the staff works through personnel services of hospital workers, student health service workers and laboratory workers, Farmer said.

The subcommittee also targets lawyers and the administration. These people need to learn how to protect themselves even though they don't really work in an area that requires them to have special knowledge, like a hospital worker would, she said.

The faculty, Farmer said, would be educated much the same way as the staff. She said that although the subcommittee has some ideas on how to inform the faculty on campus, they have had a hard time doing so because the faculty has been hard to reach.

As for the students, the student subcommittee is interested in going before various student groups, Farmer said.

The Undergraduate Student Government and the Greek system are two groups Farmer said the program would like to reach.

The student subcommittee is made up of six students: two undergraduate students, who were appointed by the Interprofessional Student Council, and two graduate students, appointed by the Council of Graduate Students, Farmer said.

One student on the committee is Iris Gardiner, 24, a home economics education major. Gardiner said the subcommittee is made up of students in various education disciplines to add variety to the committee.

Gardiner said she helps family members who have AIDS deal with their problems.

One group that asked the committee to present information about AIDS was the Residence Hall Advisory Council. "I thought it (the student panel) was great," Council President Todd Dailey said.

Cindy Chang, a third year medical student, spoke to the group, and Rhonda Rivera, a law professor, was also present.

"She (Chang) could related to the normal life of students in the residence halls. She could say 'Hey, I've been there before. This is the problem and this is what's going on,'" Dailey said.

"Our real goal is the students," Farmer said, "because that's what the university is set up for — to educate people."

"The need for broad education is here because it is no longer a disease of high risk groups," she said.

Farmer said the committee would like to encourage students to call them with any questions regarding what the committee does or questions regarding AIDS.

For more information on the AIDS education program call 293-8734.
Other universities take ideas from Ohio State's AIDS policy

By THOM BRAINARD

The OSU AIDS policy appears to be a model for other universities, a member of the Ohio State AIDS Education and Research Committee said.

Suzi Farmer, a program assistant for the committee, said, "We have had people from universities all over call to see if they can borrow our policies, because they want a similar policy." The committee, formerly the AIDS Task Force, was established by President Edward H. Jennings in October 1985 to set up guidelines concerning AIDS.

The task force started working on an AIDS policy in November, 1985. The policy went into effect the following spring.

The policy, which is written in question and answer format, deals with situations in the residence halls, work environments, rights of victims, legal concerns and how the university deals with AIDS cases in general. The policy also outlines what will be done to help AIDS victims.

In general, the policy has six goals: to educate the university community about AIDS; to provide information on AIDS transmission; to ensure proper medical, administrative and counseling to AIDS victims; to identify work situations where special precautions are advisable; to encourage AIDS research; and to lessen fears of the disease.

California University in California, Pennsylvania is one of several universities interested in the policy.

Norma Snyder, a nurse educator at California University, was one of three people who came to Ohio State in January to look at the policy.

Snyder said, "We feel that the model at Ohio State is well done." Ohio State's policy is the only one that her university has looked at, Snyder said. California University plans to use Ohio State's AIDS policy as a guideline for its policy.

Rice University, in Houston, has already put Ohio State's policy to use.

Dr. Nicholas Iammurino, chairman of the Rice AIDS Task Force, said that after seeing Ohio State's policy, they rewrote their own AIDS guidelines.

"The content and the issues that it (the policy) raised were good," said Iammurino, who received his doctorate from Ohio State. "It separates student concerns from faculty concerns."

Robert Haverkamp, an assistant to the vice-president for Business and Administration and chairman of OSU's policy subcommittee, said the major concern in writing and instituting the policy was to invent a policy which would mesh into existing university policies.
AIDS awareness focus of speech

Nurses to discuss safe sex, options for active students

By THOM BRAINARD
Lantern staff writer

Although students are aware of AIDS, many are not doing anything to protect themselves from it, said Rick Gower, a University Hospitals nurse.

Gower and Traci Svete, also a nurse, will discuss "AIDS and what OSU is doing about it, at 2 p.m. Saturday in 200 Campbell Hall.

"If I can leave an impression after the talk, it would be to take responsibility for your sexual behavior and how it relates to AIDS," Gower said.

The speech is sponsored by Helix, the biological sciences honorary, and Mortar Board, the senior honorary. The speech is directed toward high school students and incoming OSU freshman, who will be on campus for Biological Sciences Day.

However, Svete said, "We are hoping to aim this talk to everyone." She said all OSU students are encouraged to attend.

Svete will start by overviewing AIDS, using a slideshow to present facts about the syndrome and statistics of those infected with the HIV virus, which causes AIDS.

The statistics include the number of cases in the United States, broken up into demographics.

Svete said students will find that a lot of the cases deal with heterosexuals. Many students have an attitude that AIDS is "something that just won't happen to me."

"They are not invincible," she said. "Many patients that we now see were infected in their teens and their early twenties."

Both Gower and Svete cared for AIDS patients before becoming research associates at the hospital.

Gower said he has come in contact with hundreds of HIV-infected people. However, he said data on the amount of cases at Ohio State is not available.

The reason student AIDS statistics are not available, he said, is because AIDS cases are reported at a city level. The cases handled at University Hospitals do not reflect the number of student cases, he said.

Gower, who speaks after Svete, will discuss research about AIDS.

He said there is no standard treatment for AIDS patients, although several drugs are being used.

Only one drug, Azidothymidine (AZT), which is used to prolong the life of AIDS victims, has been approved by the Food and Drug Administration for AIDS treatment, Gower said.

Gower said he will also discuss different techniques in handling AIDS cases.

Although AIDS has been covered extensively in the news media and other sources, Gower said more education is still necessary.

"I think popular press has covered transmission of the AIDS virus very thoroughly," he said. "I'm not so sure that equates to everybody knowing."

Gower said a problem in education is reaching specific groups, such as drug abusers and prostitutes. "But, it's important to keep educating universities," he said.

"It (education) becomes overkill when the numbers (of AIDS cases) becomes lower," he said.

Svete said the AIDS message has been heard but needs to be reinforced. Svete said she will speak about options available to sexually active students, such as using condoms.

Students have heard these things but are not doing anything, she said.
AIDS and your JOB

...A brown-bag, lunchtime forum...
...For all university employees...

TUESDAY, MAY 17, 1988; 11:45 AM - 1:00 PM
TERRACE ROOM
OHIO UNION
or
WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 1988; 11:45 AM - 1:00 PM
DRAKE UNION
Room 2038 A & B

AIDS has raised many fears, concerns and issues about possible exposure in the workplace. You will find that unlike many other illnesses, AIDS is spread only in very limited ways, and that you are not at risk in the workplace. You will also find out what you can do to fight this terrible disease.

Bring your brown-bag lunch; we'll provide the beverage. Come and hear about:
- The University policy on AIDS
- The Medical Facts
- A special video presentation

ALL staff should attend and learn about AIDS and how it will affect YOUR job.

Our experts will give you the facts and answer all of your questions.

Ohio... Working Together to Prevent AIDS
Your Line to Prevention 1-800 332-AIDS
Ohio Department of Health
Precautions taken to lessen AIDS fears

By Ty Goehring-Lee
Lantern staff writer

AIDS has not caused unreasonable panic at Ohio State, but the serious nature of the disease has caused some concern, said Robert Haverkamp, an attorney and assistant to the vice president for business and administration.

Haverkamp and Dr. Michael Para spoke at the brown-bag lunch session, "AIDS and Your Job," sponsored by the University AIDS Education and Research Committee. The program was part of AIDS Awareness Week.

Haverkamp said health-care and testing laboratory workers are taking special precautions such as wearing rubber gloves to prevent their coming in contact with body fluids.

Para, an associate professor of internal medicine, said there is a small risk to health-care workers. For example, if workers draw blood from someone who has the HIV virus and accidentally poke their own fingers and get the tainted blood in their systems, there is a possibility of their contracting the virus.

However, the most talked about issue is the safety of giving mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, Haverkamp said. Para said there is no evidence that saliva transmits AIDS.

Areas that may become a concern are daycare centers. A bottle of bleach may be all that is needed to clean up and disinfect children's messes, such as vomit, Haverkamp said.

Para said the best evidence that casual contact does not spread AIDS is found in studies of families of AIDS victims. In most cases, other family members did not have the HIV virus, Para said.

A pamphlet produced by the Columbus Health Department and a 20-minute videotape stressed AIDS can not be transmitted by sharing telephones, computers, typewriters, bathrooms, etc.

"Nobody is struck totally out of the blue with the disease," Para said.

Sexual contact, sharing intravenous drug needles, babies born to mothers with AIDS and blood transfusions are the most common ways to contract AIDS, Para said. The chance of getting AIDS from a blood transfusion is one-and-a-half in a million.

Debra Lyday, a secretary in the General Biology Department who attended the session, said she is not concerned about AIDS in the workplace.

She attended the session because it was "an opportunity to receive updated information that I felt was sure to be correct."

Haverkamp said the university's policies on AIDS are consistent with the Centers for Disease Control and the American College Health Association. These guidelines include how to deal with employees who have AIDS.

"We haven't come up against anything we can't handle," he said. Haverkamp said there is no way of knowing how many Ohio State staff members have AIDS.

Para spoke to a group of about 50 staff members on the medical aspects of AIDS. He called the disease "a bothersome epidemic" because AIDS is spreading so rapidly throughout the population.

The number of cases reported increases each month. As of May 1, 60,000 cases have been reported nationwide.
Women’s AIDS risks examined in course

By Tara Anne Powers
Lantern staff writer

Although only 6 percent to 9 percent of the AIDS patients in this country are women, the AIDS epidemic is increasingly becoming a women’s health issue.

Ohio State is addressing this issue in Women’s Studies 294, “Women’s Lives and the AIDS Crisis.” The five-week summer course is designed to not only educate students about AIDS, but also to examine how it is shaping women’s lives in social, political and medical contexts.

Phyllis Gorman, a doctoral candidate in sociology and the course instructor, is also an Ohio AIDS Hotline counselor.

“College is a time when many individuals are developing their sexual identities,” Gorman said. “I think the university has something of a responsibility to educate students about AIDS. The key is education.

“The feminist movement has not been doing enough to educate women and make AIDS as much of a priority as it should be,” she said. “The main thing to do is to take responsibility for educating ourselves about AIDS.”

In comparison to the male homosexual community, Gorman said AIDS has not been regarded as a serious problem for women.

However, according to statistics released July 11 from the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, Ga., 29 percent of all adult AIDS cases are heterosexually transmitted, 5,000 of which are women.

“It’s naive to think that this is a male issue because women are involved in health care as mothers, doctors’ wives and lovers of AIDS patients,” Gorman said.

The class is part of a developing concern over the significant rise in the death rate of women between the ages of 15 and 44, which may possibly be AIDS-related, she said.

In cities hardest hit by the AIDS epidemic, the death rate of women is rising because of the increase of women who use intravenous drugs and who have had sexual relations with drug users who have AIDS, according to the center.

AIDS, a virus that renders its victims’ immune systems defenseless, can also threaten women’s gynecological health.

Dr. Todd Ellerbrock of the center said women with recurring gynecological infections uncured by normal treatments should be tested for the AIDS virus.

He said women who have these recurring gynecological infections may actually be misdiagnosed. Ellerbrock, an obstetrician and gynecologist, recently completed a paper on women and children with AIDS.

He said the lack of time, manpower, and money to study the effect of AIDS on women has failed to provide enough information to doctors.

“It’s hard to draw any conclusions at this point,” Ellerbrock said. “However, you can expect that (the AIDS case definition) will be revised as we learn more.”

Gorman said she is unsure if funding for the course, co-sponsored by the Office of Continuing Education and the Center for Women’s Studies, will be available for future quarters.
AIDS fight begins in dormitories

Condom machines a possibility

By Denise Begeman
Lantern staff writer

Students could find an addition to dorm life Autumn Quarter which will help halt the spread of AIDS — vending machines that dispense condoms.

In May, the Residence Hall Advisory Council unanimously recommended the installation of the machines in the residence halls, but William H. Hall, director of Office of Residence and Dining Halls, thinks this is just the first step in fighting AIDS on campus.

In August, Hall will give a recommendation to Vice Provost of Student Affairs Russell Spillman whether condom machines should be placed in dorms, and then Spillman will discuss the issue with President Edward H. Jennings.

"I would also like to see AIDS prevention taught in UVC 100, a comprehensive approach from the health centers on campus, and I would like to reach off-campus students as well," Hall said.

Hall believes there are benefits to installing condom machines in the dorms, but said it is just a small solution to a larger problem.

Richard L. Wittenberg, public affairs chief of the Ohio Department of Health, agrees that the installation of the machines is just a small part of combating AIDS.

"It is more than just making condoms available, it is also understanding how to put yourself at risk," Wittenberg said.

He said approximately 30,000 to 40,000 Ohioans are carrying the HIV virus. They show no signs nor have any symptoms of the virus but can transmit it sexually, he said.

Wittenberg said students need to be aware that some condoms are safer than others. Latex condoms are better than lambskin because the virus can penetrate the latter.

"Another crucial point is to make sure you do not use a petroleum-based lubricant on the condom because it will break down the wall of the condom and it will be ineffective," he said.

If any lubricant is used, it must be water-based, he said.

Marshall Brown, program assistant for the OSU AIDS education and research committee, said, "Placing condom machines in residence halls does not represent us promoting sexual activity, it is merely a means of protection and would save the lives of many Ohio State students."

Brown said the machines would not necessarily increase sexual activity for students. Instead, he thinks it will promote safer sex.

Mary Ann Joseph, head nurse of OSU Health Center, agrees that the installation of the machines in the dorms will help stop the spread of sexual diseases.

"I think the condoms should be readily available for both men and women students," Joseph said. "I believe that if the condoms are more readily available in the dorms they will be used more."

Lou Doty, senior pharmacist at the Health Center, agrees that more condoms would probably be purchased from dorm machines than the Health Center because of privacy.

"We really don't sell a large supply of condoms here because I think a lot of students are embarrassed to come in and ask for them," he said.

Students can buy condoms from the pharmacy at the Health Center and do not need student health insurance, he said.

The Residence Halls Advisory Council based their decision on survey results from Spring Quarter that polled 511 residents by telephone.

The survey showed that 85 percent approved of the installation of condom dispensers in the residence halls and 79.8 percent approved of condoms being distributed free on campus.

The survey also showed that less than half of the students — 42 percent — were aware that condoms can be obtained at the OSU Health Center.

If condom machines are installed, the survey showed that the use of condoms in the dorms would increase by 84 percent, but sexual activity would increase 7.7 percent.

Of the students who approved the installation of the condom machines more than 80 percent would prefer the condom dispensers be placed in hall bathrooms or in the lobby.
Dormitories to receive condom machines in fall

By Patty A. Harden
Lantern staff writer

Condoms will be available through vending machines in dormitories this fall in an attempt to promote safe sex.

"We're not promoting sexual activity we're promoting safe sex," said Marshall Brown, program assistant for the OSU AIDS Education and Research Committee.

Included with each condom will be information about the education, awareness and prevention of sexually transmitted diseases and AIDS, as well as the location of other places to buy condoms around the campus area, Brown said.

Brown said programs will be implemented this fall to educate students about AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases. There will be presentations in the residence and dining halls and brown bag lunches for faculty and staff.

A 48-minute AIDS education and prevention session will be given in all freshmen UVC courses, Brown said.

"We decided to make condoms available in the dorms for health reasons," said Russell Spillman, vice provost of student affairs. "We are trying to help stop the spread of AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases."

Spillman said the condoms will be available early fall quarter. "We will probably set a temporary location for the condoms and later evaluate that location and decide whether it was best."

About 10,000 of the 53,000 students live in the 24 undergraduate and three graduate dormitories.

The Residence and Dining Halls Committee surveyed 511 students last year and 85 percent said they wanted the condom machines installed in the dormitories. After reviewing the results of the survey and consulting with AIDS prevention experts, the committee unanimously recommended installations, Spillman said.

There will be an initial investment made by the university for the condoms, but they should eventually pay for themselves through sales, Spillman said. The amount of the initial investment has not been determined.

Spillman said this is a system-wide plan that includes all OSU regional campuses, but there are no dormitories on the regional campuses.

No specific date has been set to install the condom vending machines. The exact location, bathroom or lobby, and price per condom have not been set either.

The information will be in the form of a pamphlet or newsletter created by Charles in consultation with the OSU AIDS Education and Research Committee, said Bill Schwartz, personnel coordinator of residence and dining halls.

Schwartz said although a final decision has not been made, the condoms will probably be in the same area as the cigarette machines.
Conference will take aim at AIDS

By Steve Benowitz

Professionals in health care, education, law and related fields will meet Oct. 26-28 to discuss how universities and colleges can deal with the growing presence of AIDS on campuses.

The conference, titled "Higher Education's Response to the AIDS Crisis," will be held at the Holiday Inn on the Lane, 328 W. Lane Ave. It carries a registration fee of $150 and begins at 12:30 p.m.

"We're trying to look at the total picture of AIDS and how it affects institutions, large and small," says Doris Charles, conference chairperson and director of the University Health Service, one of the conference co-sponsors.

Charles is particularly concerned about the information on AIDS that reaches college students. "It's important for them to get the appropriate information," she says, "because college is the time when many of them are establishing values and lifestyles for the rest of their lives."

Mathilde Krim, co-chairperson of the New York-based American Foundation for AIDS Research, is one of two keynote speakers. At 4 p.m. Oct. 26 she'll discuss the "Bio-ethical Issues of AIDS."

On Oct. 28, at 8:30 a.m., Episcopal chaplain John Fortunado of Rush Presbyterian St. Luke's Medical Center, Chicago, will deliver the conference's second keynote address. Fortunado, an author of two best sellers on the disease, will speak on the spiritual dilemma of AIDS.

Other conference speakers will address topics ranging from the development of institutional policies and educational programs to medical and legal concerns.

For example, one session will examine some of the legal issues that college administrators may deal with, including discrimination, confidentiality and AIDS testing on campus. It also will look at employee health and safety, and campus policies for residence halls and food services.

Another group of presentations will concentrate on the social and community resources available to persons with AIDS. The wife of an AIDS patient will discuss the impact of the disease on family and friends.

Other meeting co-sponsors include Ohio State's AIDS Education and Research Committee and College of Social Work, the East Central AIDS Education and Training Center and the American College Health Association.

For further information, contact Charles, 292-8606, or the Department of Conferences and Institutes, 292-8571.
OSU staff gets facts on AIDS

By Patty A. Harden
Lantern staff writer

The OSU AIDS Education and Research Committee is educating faculty and staff about the risks of AIDS in the workplace, in an effort to better inform the campus community.

An expert said Tuesday that there is no danger of contracting Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome in the workplace unless a person is having sex or using intravenous drugs at the office.

These facts provided the theme for a presentation held at the Ohio Union at which university employees could ask questions and learn more about the transmission of AIDS.

A handful of employees watched the videotape, "An Epidemic of Fear," and were informed of medical research by Dr. Susan Koletar, an assistant professor in the Department of Internal Medi-

See AIDS: page 2
Robert J. Haverkamp, assistant to the vice president in the Office of Business and Administration, discussed university policies.

"AIDS will affect everyone in the university community," said Elliott Fishman, case office manager in the Affirmative Action Department. "We want to educate our staff on how to protect themselves from getting AIDS."

Haverkamp said there is a need to take precautions in certain workplaces. Medical, hospital, and research labs that work with human body fluids should always wear gloves and guard themselves against needle sticks.

Even the OSU Day Care Center employees should take precautions when changing diapers because of the exposure to body fluid, Fishman said.

There are cases of students, faculty, staff and all groups associated with the university who have AIDS or have a positive testings of the HIV virus, which causes the syndrome, he said.

"Ohio State does not discrimi-

nate against people with AIDS or people who test HIV positive," Haverkamp said.

In addition, the university will not change the work responsibilities of people with AIDS, he said.

If a student wants to change roommates, he or she can only do so if the people do not get along. Transfers will not be granted on the basis that one thinks the other has AIDS, Haverkamp said.

"Because it is new, people want 100 percent assurance they won't get AIDS. But they don't want to deal with it in a rational way," he said.

Haverkamp said the university listened to employee complaints about a food worker thought to have AIDS because he was losing weight and had sores. The worker was put in a different section, away from those who feared him, but it was later revealed that the worker had herpes.

That is one incident the university isn't proud of, he said.

By law, he said, people with AIDS are classified as handicapped and should be permitted to work as long as they are able to be productive.

Koletar stressed that the AIDS virus is easy to kill when it is outside the body. That is why there is virtually no risk of contracting it casual contact that occurs in the workplace.

The virus is killed by soap and water or by being exposed to the air, which dries it up, she said. This is why research has shown it cannot be transmitted through tears, saliva or sweat.

Haverkamp blamed the current presidential administration for the slow response in dealing with the issue. He said AIDS took the medical community by surprise and the Reagan Administration's policies of deregulation left the problem to local communities.

Koletar and Haverkamp agreed less attention was given to the issue at the beginning, in 1980-1981, because AIDS seemed only to affect homosexual men in large cities such as New York.

But Koletar said progress is slow because it is a catastrophic disease and research has had to rely on epidemical data, which takes time. She said the Food and Drug Administration slows processes because the minimum time allowed for testing is 10 years.
Condoms being sold in OSU resident halls

By Michelle L. Weber
Lantern staff writer

Ohio State has become the first university in the state to sell condoms in residence halls, said a residence hall official.

Bill Schwartz, assistant director of residence and dining hall operations, said the condoms were placed in cigarette vending machines Monday in an effort to prevent the spread of AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases.

Schwartz said offering condoms in the cigarette machines was the easiest and quickest way to make them available to students.

Students can purchase a box of four condoms for $1.60 from the machines located in the lobbies of most residence halls, he said.

The AIDS Education and Research Committee, along with the University Health Services and the Office of Residence and Dining Halls, had the condoms installed in 21 cigarette machines throughout the residence halls, he said.

Schwartz said he thinks students will feel comfortable purchasing condoms at the machines.

A survey done by the Residence Halls Advisory Council last spring said the majority of residents said condoms would be bought if made available.

"By putting them around cigarettes and packaging them the same way — it seemed to us that students might feel they were a little more anonymous in terms of purchasing them," Schwartz said.

Jody Burton, a sophomore from Loveland, said she would feel comfortable purchasing condoms at the machines.

"The boxes that they're in look almost like a cigarette pack. No one would know if you were buying cigarettes or condoms," she said.

A letter sent to all residence hall students explained that the condoms will include information on how to properly use a condom and basic information about sexually transmitted diseases.

The letter warned students about the dangers of AIDS and urged sexually active students to use condoms as protection against contracting the virus.

Raymone Torbert, a sophomore from Cleveland Heights, said offering condoms to students is a wise decision.

Torbert said he thinks the condoms will cut down on the number of pregnancies and help prevent the transmission of diseases.

The letter also informed students that condoms can also be purchased at the student unions, university bookstores, the University Health Services and many off-campus locations.
AIDS educator says law protects victims

By Michelle L. Weber
Lantern staff writer

It is essential that university administrators, faculty, staff and students understand AIDS from a medical standpoint in order to carry out campus-wide policies that adhere to the law, two AIDS educators said at an awareness conference Thursday.

Rhonde Rivera, an OSU law professor, spoke to representatives from various institutions in a session that dealt with legal issues concerning Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome for college administrators.

The three-day conference that began Wednesday, entitled "Higher Education's Response to the AIDS Crisis," was held at the Holiday Inn on the Lane.

Rivera said national AIDS law protects both people with AIDS and those who simply carry the virus.

Under the law, she said, if an AIDS victim is qualified to do his or her job with a reasonable accommodation from an employer, that employer cannot treat that person any differently than any other employee.

Students are also protected by the law, Rivera said. Unless medical experts deem the student harmful to others when attending school, that person should be granted the right to attend, she said.

"Our legal decisions in this area are almost totally determined by medical advice," she said.

Rivera said the law now requires employers to provide regular and assumed education to employees concerning AIDS.

The amount and frequency of education provided should be in direct proportion to the frequency and intensity in which the em-

See AIDS: page 3

employees come in contact with people with AIDS, she said.

For example, Rivera said, the way Ohio State trains paramedics about AIDS is significantly different than the way it would train faculty.

In November 1985, the university began developing policies that would be consistent with the legal, medical and social factors involved with AIDS.

The policy provides information about how the university will respond to situations involving people with AIDS and those who only carry the virus.

Rivera said in order to make people feel confident in abiding by the AIDS policies developed by the university, the university must first educate the community about the disease.

She said people will be comfortable working with and going to school with people who have AIDS if they understand the disease and eliminate myths and unjustified fears tied to it.

Rivera said the university should provide consistent, up-to-date information about the disease.

Robert J. Haverkamp, university attorney and assistant to the vice president for business and administration, also spoke at the session.

Haverkamp said, "I think universities and colleges have an obligation to educate the faculty, staff and students about the HIV virus and about AIDS."

"I think it's important to prevent the university from being liable through negligence... if you do not provide those people with the education and training they need, you are leaving yourselves open for some legal action that could be taken against you," he said.

Rivera said in addition to providing information about AIDS, the university must take necessary precautions in situations where a student, faculty or staff member might come in contact with the virus.

She also said, "You need to provide the equipment to back up the precautions."
AIDS committee offers information workshop

By Steve Benowitz

Sometimes what you don’t know can hurt you.

That’s a message of "AIDS in the Workplace," a new workshop offered by the University’s AIDS Education and Research Committee.

The session, part of the committee’s overall effort to educate the University community about AIDS, began Oct. 11 with a presentation to the management staff of the Office of Admissions.

The Staff Education Subcommittee conducts the workshop.

Eunice Hornsby, a subcommittee member and a program coordinator in the Office of Residence and Dining Halls, says the first few workshops will be offered on a trial basis.

The admissions office presentation focused on the ways the AIDS virus is transmitted — by intimate sexual contact and by exposure to contaminated blood. Hornsby, who conducted the presentation, also discussed various preventive measures, as well as the rights of infected individuals.

According to Hornsby, the 50-minute presentations "are aimed at smaller groups of staff members who know each other and where there can be more individual interaction."

"We’d also like to tailor it (the workshop) to specific groups," she adds.

For more information, contact Marshall Brown at 293-8734.
Safe sex involves more than buying condoms

By Gloria Zick Andrews
Lantern staff writer

How safe is "safe sex"? Advertising and AIDS education promotions use the term freely in print and on television, which might give the impression that using condoms makes people 100 percent safe from the AIDS virus and other sexually transmitted diseases. Statistics compiled from studies of heterosexual couples trying to avoid pregnancy say condoms are considered 99 percent safe from rupturing, said Rio Tate, member of the group Persons With AIDS and of the Columbus AIDS Task Force.

The effectiveness of condoms depends on the type of condom, the type of lubrication used and how it is put on, said Dan Downing, director of the Ohio AIDS hotline and the OSU AIDS Research and Education Society. AIDS, caused by the human immunodeficiency virus, is passed by the exchange of virus-infected blood, semen and vaginal fluids that get into the blood stream.

Downing said Lifestyles condoms, which are sold in campus vending machines, are a "very good brand" because the company carefullycontrols product manufacturing. He said this is the brand the Columbus AIDS Task Force hands out.

Downing said lamb-skin condoms, which are natural membrane condoms, should not be used because the virus that causes AIDS can pass through the material.

"Semen does not pass through, but the virus is so small the condom cannot stop it," Downing said.

He said 320 million virus particles could fit on the head of a pin. The task force also does not recommend foreign brands of condoms because of questionable quality control.

Downing said the type of lubricant used is very important because anything containing petroleum, such as Vaseline and Crisco Oil, breaks down the latex and increases the risk of condom failure.

Downing said scented hand lotions also have petroleum distillates. K-Y Jelly, a water-based lubricant, is safe to use and available in drugstores, but it does not kill the deadly virus.

Tate recommended using the spermicide Nonoxynol-9, along with a condom, because it kills the AIDS virus.

"Put it inside and outside the condom," he said.

The condoms sold in campus vending machines contain this spermicide.

Gerry Mangini, chief pharmacist at the OSU pharmacy, said the university contracted with the Columbus Candy vending machine company, which had the Lifestyles condoms available at the time.

"They are from a major manufacturer (Hospital Specialty Co.), and we thought the packaging was convenient, and we liked the educational material that is included in the package," he said.

Tate does not like the box packaging, however. "They're so hard to open that some people use their teeth to try to open them, and wind up rupturing the condom," he said.

"Or even worse, they try to open it and toss it behind the bed and continue without it," Downing said how people open the condom packaging affects how safe it is.

He said people need to be careful opening the wrapper because the condom could be scratched, causing it to rip while being used.

When using a condom that comes in a box, Tate said to remember this "simple but major" rule: "If you know you're going to have sex, open the box ahead of time, take out the condom and put lubricants on it, and leave it next to the bed," he said.

Dr. Doris Charles, director of Health Services, said sexually transmitted diseases are always a problem.

"There's been a lot of chlamydia at this time, and I'm not sure why," she said.

Charles says putting condoms in the dorms was for the prevention of AIDS and other sexually transmitted viruses.

"All kinds of health education is needed," she said.

She encouraged students to call the clinic (292-0806) if they have questions regarding AIDS or other sexually transmitted diseases.

The Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta is in the midst of a study "which will give a more meaningful estimate of HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) infections on college campuses," said Gail Lloyd of the center.

Packages of Lifestyles condoms, available in campus vending machines, normally contain three condoms but this one contained four. The package also contains an instruction pamphlet, an AIDS facts sheet and phone numbers to call for more AIDS information.
Q: What is acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS)?

A: AIDS is caused by the virus HIV. It is a disease that affects the immune system and makes people more susceptible to other infections.

Q: What are some of the symptoms of AIDS?

A: The symptoms of AIDS can vary depending on the stage of the disease. Early symptoms include fever, weight loss, and night sweats. Later symptoms may include oral thrush, diarrhea, and fatigue.

Q: What is the cause of AIDS?

A: AIDS is caused by the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). The virus infects and destroys CD4 T cells, which are important cells of the immune system.

Q: How is AIDS diagnosed?

A: AIDS is diagnosed through a combination of medical history, physical examination, and laboratory tests. The diagnosis requires a CD4 count below 200 cells/mm³ and another indicator of HIV infection, such as a positive HIV test or a history of AIDS-related conditions.

Q: How is AIDS transmitted?

A: AIDS is transmitted through unprotected sexual intercourse, sharing needles with an infected person, through birth to an infected mother, and through transfusions of infected blood.

Q: What is the route of transmission for HIV?

A: HIV can be transmitted through sexual contact, contaminated needles, and from mother to child during pregnancy, delivery, or breastfeeding.

Q: What are some of the opportunistic diseases associated with AIDS?

A: Some common opportunistic diseases associated with AIDS include Pneumocystis jirovecii pneumonia,Cryptococcus neoformans meningitis, and Kaposi's sarcoma.

Q: What is the treatment for AIDS?

A: The treatment for AIDS includes antiretroviral therapy (ART), which involves a combination of medications to help manage the virus and reduce the risk of opportunistic diseases.

Q: What is the prognosis for people with AIDS?

A: The prognosis for people with AIDS depends on the stage of the disease and the effectiveness of treatment. With proper care and treatment, people with AIDS can live a long and healthy life.

Q: What is the biggest challenge in treating AIDS?

A: The biggest challenge in treating AIDS is the need for lifelong treatment with antiretroviral medications, which can be expensive and have side effects.

Q: How can we prevent the spread of AIDS?

A: The best way to prevent the spread of AIDS is through the use of condoms during sexual activity, not sharing needles, and avoiding contact with infected blood.

Q: What is the role of the government in addressing AIDS?

A: The government plays a crucial role in addressing AIDS by providing funding for research, education, and treatment, and by implementing policies to prevent the spread of the disease.

Q: What is the role of the community in addressing AIDS?

A: The community can play a significant role in addressing AIDS by providing support, sharing information, and advocating for policies that address the needs of people with AIDS.

Q: What is the role of international organizations in addressing AIDS?

A: International organizations, such as the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations AIDS Program (UNAIDS), play a critical role in addressing AIDS by providing guidance, resources, and support to countries around the world.
Disease has power to create spiritual stirrings

By Steve Benowitz

Because we are forced to live with AIDS, said best-selling author John Fortunado, "some astounding things have happened in people's souls."

Fortunado is an Episcopal chaplain at Rush Presbyterian St. Luke's Medical Center in Chicago. He was the keynote speaker Oct. 28 at a University co-sponsored conference titled, "Higher Education's Response to the AIDS Crisis," held at the Holiday Inn on the Lane.

Speaking to an audience of college educators and health care professionals, he said that persons with AIDS and "those who share their lives have gained new insights and wisdom about death and dying, about living, about 20th century values, about medicine, technology and bioethics."

Despite the terrible human suffering wrought by AIDS, it has provided many with a new outlook on life.

Those with the disease, he said, often "find what is important about living. "They live for now. Dealing with dying means plunging into living."

Fortunado, who works with AIDS patients nearly every day, attempted to sort out the "spiritual dilemma" that AIDS presents to society.

He asked the audience to use its "greater perspective" on society to help overcome the "rampant irrationality" about AIDS.

In one way or another, AIDS has touched all our lives, he said.

Fortunado said he didn't understand why people treat those with AIDS like "aliens from outer space" when their symptoms are often similar to other common illnesses.

He asked why people blame AIDS victims for having the disease but hardly do so with smokers who are stricken with lung cancer. He wondered why people were "so terrified that being in the same neighborhood with a person with AIDS is emotionally equated with drinking hemlock."

He decried the efforts by some communities to keep AIDS sufferers from attending local schools or living in certain areas.

"Whether it's a lack of scientific facts about AIDS, or an Archie Bunker perspective on humankind, or a lack of even a basic awareness of philosophy, ethics, religion -- most of the irrationality to AIDS is attributed to small minds."

Fortunado appealed to academicians "to bring their specialties to bear and help us to mitigate the spiritual suffering of many whose lives are affected by AIDS."

He asked members of the audience to "simply speak the truth in as broad a context as necessary to stretch peoples' minds."

The three-day conference, co-sponsored by the University Health Service, the University AIDS Education and Research Committee and the College of Social Work, among other groups, addressed various medical, legal and ethical issues dealing with AIDS on campuses.
Apathy hinders AIDS education

By Traci Kathleen Mitchell
Laterna staff writer

Students need to face the fact that AIDS is spreading in Columbus and cannot afford to look the other way, said an OSU psychologist Thursday night at a program sponsored by the AIDS Education and Research Committee.

"When you go out on a Friday night and try to find somebody to go home with, and if that is something you're into, you have to assume that person you go home with is positive with the AIDS virus," said Mark Benn, psychologist for the Counseling and Consultation Service in the Ohio Union. "If you don't assume that, you are a fool." Benn told the group of 15 that he has been lecturing on AIDS for three and a half years on college campuses throughout the country.

"By doing things like this (lecturing) and talking to each other, we can save each other from getting it (AIDS)," Benn said. "The college population is the population that scares the hell out of me, because students are not showing up for these things."

He said it is discouraging to walk into a university college class where he is scheduled to lecture, and only half the class attends.

Even though turnout is low, Benn said, these types of educational programs reach between 7,000 and 10,000 students each year.

Benn quoted a USA Today article stating that one in 300 college students are infected with the AIDS virus.

"AIDS is not just a gay disease. The AIDS virus does not discriminate. The AIDS virus doesn't care about your sexual orientation — it does not care about your color or sex," Benn said. "All AIDS cares about is finding a window of opportunity into your body — it will kill you."

Benn said, however, that students do not believe the AIDS viruses will find that window and as a result, AIDS is spreading.

"I do not do these programs to scare students. I don't want people to be afraid or more afraid than they might already be," he said. "I want people to be aware of the reality. The reality is this thing is here and if we do not change the way we related to each other in bed or with our drugs, we could be killing ourselves."

Benn said between one and three million people in this country are HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) positive, meaning they have the virus that could lead to AIDS. The scary part, he said, is 90 percent do not know it.

Students believe that the AIDS virus only occurs in New York City or San Francisco. But the reality is that Ohio has the 13th largest number of AIDS cases in the country, Benn said.

He suggested the best way to avoid the AIDS virus is to obtain sex. However, he said students do not follow that suggestion and as a result need to be informed about responsible sexual habits.

The use of condoms only guarantees safer sex, Benn said.

Condoms have a 10 to 20 percent failure rate concerning pregnancies. Although women can only get pregnant three times a month, a person can get AIDS everyday, Benn said.
AIDS conference aimed at professionals

By Lewis R. Horner

Ohio State will be hosting a conference today to educate allied health professionals about AIDS.

The conference will deal with AIDS issues important to all health professionals, but will also deal with issues specific to certain professional areas, said George Manuselis Jr., coordinator of the conference.

While this program is aimed at medical technologists, medical dietitians and respiratory technologists, it is open to all allied health professionals, said Manuselis, an instructor in allied medical professions.

Future conferences will cover other professional areas, such as medical records and occupational and physical therapy, and the issues specific to them. Manuselis said.

The conference, sponsored by the School of Allied Medical Professions and the East Central AIDS Education and Training Center, will deal with the virus that causes Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome, spread of the disease and infections seen in AIDS patients, Manuselis said.

Avoiding exposure and infection with the AIDS virus will also be dealt with, although less than 1 percent of the documented AIDS cases have been among health care workers who are not in any other risk group.

Among other issues to be discussed will be legal and ethical issues such as confidentiality, refusal to give treatment and rights and responsibilities of health care workers. The psychological and social aspects of dealing with AIDS patients will also be covered.

The conference is one of a number of efforts the East Central AIDS Education and Training Center is making to educate health professionals about AIDS, said Lawrence Gabel, project director for the center.

The center, headquartered at Ohio State, attempts to present scientific facts and concepts necessary to understand AIDS, said Gabel, associate professor of family medicine and allied health professions.

The center's area is Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee and Michigan.

The conference is scheduled from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Rhodes Hall auditorium at 450 W. 10th Ave. Registration information is available by calling 292-5618.
Speaker lectures group on AIDS-related issues

Allied medical workers alerted to special risks

By Lewis R. Horner
Lantern staff writer

Call it medical Russian roulette.
For the healthcare worker, it means wondering if the next patient or the patient's blood specimen carries the AIDS virus. It means wondering if there is a bullet in the chamber of the gun.

This was an example Mark Benn used Friday speaking at a conference on AIDS for allied health professionals. Benn, a psychologist with the Counseling and Consultation Service, was addressing the psychological and social aspects of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.

The conference, sponsored by the School of Allied Medical Professions and the East Central AIDS Education and Training Center, dealt with a variety of AIDS-related topics.

"This epidemic is doing something to us that no epidemic has done to us before," Benn said.

Healthcare workers are not immune to feelings of fear and prejudice and how they react to people with AIDS or who are infected with the AIDS virus can make the situation worse, he said.

Benn asked that healthcare workers to leave their biases and prejudices at home when they go to work. At the same time, he told the conference members to have a healthy fear of AIDS.

"If you're not afraid of this virus, you're either asleep or dead," he said.

Estimates of the number of people infected with human immunodeficiency virus, which causes AIDS, range from one to three million people. Ninety percent of those people do not know they have it. That means that every patient should be treated as possibly carrying the AIDS virus, Benn said.

Finding out who carries the AIDS virus and giving that information to healthcare workers is one of the legal and ethical problems surrounding AIDS, Elliot Fishman told the conference.

For the healthcare worker, it means wondering if the next patient or the patient's blood specimen carries the AIDS virus. It means wondering if there is a bullet in the chamber of the gun.

"People who have a need to know should know, but the whole hospital doesn't have to know," said Fishman, an attorney with the OSU Office of Affirmative Action.

Fishman cited a case in which a man was fired when his boss called the hospital in which the man was a patient and was told by a nurse that the man had AIDS. The breach of patient confidentiality resulted in a job discrimination lawsuit.

Even though there are laws protecting people with AIDS, people still discriminate against them, said Fishman, who represented people with AIDS while he was in private practice.

People with AIDS, with AIDS-related complexes or who carry the AIDS virus are protected under federal laws for the handicapped, he said. Those laws apply to places receiving federal funds such as Medicare or Medicaid.

Ohio law protects people with AIDS and AIDS-related complexes in the same way, but not people who carry the AIDS virus but do not have the disease, Fishman said.

The legal situation surrounding AIDS is one of attempting to balance the rights of individuals against rights of the public, including healthcare workers, he said.

Fishman presented several real-life case studies to the audience and asked them how they would handle the situations. The cases dealt with different forms of discrimination surrounding AIDS. There were not easy answers to the cases, he said.

While presenting the cases, Fishman said he preferred the term "people with AIDS" instead of "victims of AIDS" because society tends to blame the victims and they often get victimized in other ways.

Benn echoed the sentiment that people with AIDS do not want to be labeled as victims. People with AIDS need support, not scorn and prejudice, he said.
OSU hosts exhibit honoring AIDS victims

By Lisa Blanchard
Lantern staff writer

Two thousand of the 10,000 panels used to stitch the AIDS quilt, which was on display in Washington D.C. in October of 1987, will be spread out March 30 through April 2 at Ohio State. The NAMES Project Quilt is a collaboration of names and symbols depicting the lives of people who died because of complications of AIDS. Each name is sewn on the quilt by friends, lovers, artists, and families of people that have died because of complications from AIDS.

Lynette Molnar, guest associate curator from the University Gallery of Fine Arts, saw the quilt in Washington D.C. and said it was the most poignant moving experience of my life.

"I am 28 years old and have never experienced going to a cemetery before and seeing my birthdate on the headstones. These people on the quilt are already dead and some were born the same year I was. Despite any attitudes about AIDS that people have, there is no way they can not be transformed after seeing the quilt," Molnar said.

Visitors examining the quilt when it was on display in Washington D.C. in October, 1987.

"I think we should all be honored and proud Ohio State is the first university to exhibit the quilt," said Elliot T. Fishman, case officer for the Office of Affirmative Action. "This has been a combined effort between the university and the NAMES project committee.

The concept of the quilt was originated by Cleve Jones from San Francisco. Many of his friends were dying of AIDS so he rented a store on Market Street and hung a wish list of materials needed to start the quilt. Concerned people donated materials and time. The NAMES foundation was formed in June 1987.

Sue Blanahan, executive officer for the Office of Human Relations, said the AIDS Task Force and the University Gallery of Fine Arts have tried to keep current with social issues such as AIDS. They decided to pursue the idea of bringing the quilt to Columbus. "Ohio State was interested because it ties in beautifully with the academic system and arts. It also ties in with the ongoing need to educate the community," Blanahan said.

She hopes it will influence people to learn more accurate information about AIDS.

"We are looking at getting academic people to use the quilt as an academic project," Fishman said. They would also like school children to see it, he added.

The other 8,000 panels of the quilt will be on display in the South Pacific Islands and Korea. Jan Zita Grover, a curator from San Francisco, chose the University Gallery as a sponsor because she saw an exhibit concerning rape in 1985 and realized Ohio State was open to artwork containing political and social concern.

"This is not an art exhibit though. It is a social and health awareness project," Hoover said.

The opening ceremony will be held March 30 at 7:30 p.m. at the Woody Hayes Athletic Center.

The quilt can be viewed from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. March 31 through April 2. Columbus dignitaries and community leaders will read the names on the quilt at the ceremony, Hoover said.

A list of names of government and community leaders, as well as people that have given significant service to the NAMES project is being compiled Fishman said.

"This has been a nice combined effort between the university community and the Columbus community and how they can work together. Ohio State is somewhat of a unique facility in that it can combine art, education and promote the new athletic center under one roof," Blanahan said.

The quilt is an extension of the University Gallery's exhibition entitled AIDS: The Artists' Response that begins Feb. 24 and continues through April 16.

Ohio State and the Columbus AIDS Task Force are sponsoring the event. The departments involved are the Office of the President, the Office of Human Relations, the AIDS Education and Research Committee, the Wexner Center and the Office of Student Affairs.
Exhibitions to examine AIDS issues


The exhibition is organized by AIDS activists Jan Grover and Lynette Molnar. It includes the work of artists, artists' collectives, and AIDS service organizations from the United States, Canada and Great Britain. The show encompasses paintings, photographs, film, video, performances and theater pieces.

A second component is "AIDS: The Activists' Response," featuring posters, pamphlets, flyers and public service announcements produced by AIDS service organizations from around the world.

In conjunction with the exhibition, University Gallery will host "AIDS Art Activism: A Conference on the Culture of AIDS" March 10-12.

The conference features panel discussions, theater, performance art, film and video, activism and cultural analysis. It also includes presentations by Jan Grover, John Greyson, ACT UP NY/LA and others. Pre-registration is strongly suggested, as seating is limited.

These programs are funded in part by grants from the Ohio Art Council's New Works Program and the Ohio Humanities Council.

For more information, or to register for the conference, contact University Gallery at 292-0330.

THOUSANDS VIEW the NAMES quilt in Washington, D.C.

NAMES quilt makes telling statement

The NAMES Project Quilt will be displayed March 30-April 2 at the Woody Hayes Athletic Center.

Inspired by the American folk tradition of quilting, the NAMES Project was first exhibited on the Capitol Mall in Washington, D.C., in October 1987. Designed and sewn in homes across America by the friends, lovers and families of people dead from AIDS, the panels are a poignant reminder of the humanity behind the statistics.

Sponsored by Ohio State and the Columbus AIDS Task Force, the quilt's visit will mark the first time it has been exhibited on a college campus. Approximately 2,000 of the 10,000 panels that make up the quilt will be on display here.

An opening ceremony will be held March 30 at 7:30 p.m. The quilt may be viewed from 9 a.m.-9 p.m. March 31-April 2. There is no admission charge.

For further information, contact Lynette Molnar, University Gallery, 292-0330.

AIDS Calendar

All events are sponsored by University Gallery. For more information, call 292-0330.

Events


March 2, "For Love and For Life," a sound-and-image presentation by Joan E. Biren, 8 p.m., Sullivan Hall Auditorium, reception following in the Hoyt L. Sherman Gallery, admission. Wexner Center and Stonewall Union.


Exhibits


March 30-April 2, "The Names Project: AIDS Memorial Quilt," exhibiting about 2,000 panels, 8 a.m.-9 p.m., Woody Hayes Athletic Center, opening ceremony at 7:30 p.m., March 30.

Film


Meetings

March 10-12, "AIDS ART ACTIVISM: A Conference on the Culture of AIDS," admission, pre-registration required.

Theater

March 15-18, "Life of the Party: A Play by Douglas Hodelans," 8 p.m., Players Theatre, 349 Franklin Ave., admission.
Performance art to open AIDS exhibit

"Some Golden States," a solo performance by West Coast performance artist Tim Miller, will make its Ohio premiere Feb. 24 as part of the opening of the exhibit "AIDS: The Artists' Response."

The exhibit includes visual and performance art which addresses AIDS.

Miller brings his show to Ohio after sold-out runs in San Francisco, Los Angeles and the New York International Festival. He describes the piece as "trying to make the garden grow amid earthquakes, the AIDS crisis, love, death and romance in the Lower East Side."

Admission to the performance is $5 for general admission and $3 for students, senior citizens and people with AIDS. Tickets are available at the Mershon Ticket Office.

For more information about the performance or the exhibit, call 292-0330.
Confronting AIDS With Art

University Gallery presents program, exhibits

By Nancy Gilson
Dispatch Entertainment Reporter

The viewer is nearly assaulted by the large neon sign in pink, black and white: "SILENCE = DEATH."

These artists do not confront their topic reticently.

The visitor, proceeding into the Hoyt L. Sherman Gallery at The Ohio State University, finds a photo study of a hemophiliac who contracted AIDS through a transfusion, paintings of people with AIDS and "meals on wheels" volunteers bringing them food, graphic safe sex posters and an enormous quilt dedicated to "10 who have died." The multimedia works are alternately touching and aggressive. Each, in some fashion, grapples with the awesome topic of AIDS.

"AIDS: The Artists' Response" opens Friday and continues through April 16. The exhibit is central to two months of AIDS-related programs by University Gallery and OSU, including performance art pieces, theater productions and conferences.

THE EXHIBIT contains works by 40 artists from the United States, Canada and Great Britain. "A lot of these people have never been artists; they've never done a piece of art until now, but because of their loss, they've turned to art," said Lynette Molnar, guest associate curator with University Gallery.
Related stories on Pages 2G, 8G and 6D.

Excerpts from letters written by people with AIDS.

The neon Silence = Death sign was designed by the national organization of the same name and produced locally by Columbus artist Doug Brockman.

ONE OF the best-known artists whose work is included is photographer Nicholas Nixon. His photo study of a hemophiliac with AIDS is a powerful, wrenching catalog.

A major component of the exhibit is its performance and video pieces, Molnar said. These will include pieces by internationally known artist Tim Miller; appearances by Michael Kearns, who bills himself as Hollywood's only openly gay actor; and a theater piece titled We Are All the People With AIDS, produced by Robert Wharton.

"BY 1992, the artwork inspired by and depicting AIDS will have changed a lot. We will all know someone or will be taking care of someone with AIDS."

For the present, Columbus viewers will find "AIDS: The Artists' Response" strong stuff, not simply because of its fatal subject matter, but for its frank and frequent depiction of homosexual relations. The exhibit is not merely a eulogy to those who died, but a forum for gay political activism.

The main exhibit includes a large geometric quilt, created in shades of blue by former Columbus resident David Barnard. For Thirteen Who Have Died is a memorial to some of Barnard's friends.

In a collage and text piece, artist Linda Trotter combines entries from her mother's diary from the 1930s, concerning a tuberculosis epidemic, with a modern diary concerned with AIDS.

The Columbus AIDS Task Force presents works from "AIDS: The Artists' Response" clockwise from top left: Silence = Death by Doug Brockman; Jim from the series "We Were Here" by Mary Starvus; Ruth Brinker from "We Were Here" by Starvus; For Thirteen Who Have Died by David Barnard; and T.B./AIDS Diary by Linda Roeller.
Here is a list of "AIDS: The Artists' Response" related events:


- **The Names Project** — First exhibition of the AIDS memorial quilt on a college campus, approximately 2,000 panels displayed; March 30 to April 2, Woody Hayes Athletic Center, 2490 Fyffe Rd. Free.

- **Some Golden States** — Tim Miller performing a solo piece of spoken text, movement and music. 7:30 p.m. Friday, Sullivant Hall auditorium. Admission: $5 general, $3 students, seniors, unemployed people and people with AIDS.

- **AIDSTAPES** — Weekly Tuesday evening series of videotapes on the topic of AIDS; screenings at 7:30 p.m., Feb. 28, March 7, March 14, March 28 and April 4 in Hoyt L. Sherman Gallery. Free.

- **For Love and For Life** — Joan E. Biren's image and sound presentation on the 1987 March on Washington for lesbian and gay rights; 8 p.m. March 2, Sullivant Hall auditorium. Admission $4 general, $2.50 students, seniors, unemployed people and people with AIDS.

- **Life of the Party** — Douglas Holtsclaw's comedy-drama about a circle of friends struck by AIDS, starring Michael McCord; 8 p.m. March 15-18, 22-25, Van Fleet Theatre in old Players Theatre building, 549 Franklin Ave. Admission $7.50 general, $5.50 students, unemployed, senior citizens and people with AIDS.

- **Larger Than Life** — Performance by Michael Kearns, founding member of the Los Angeles-based Artists Confronting AIDS; 8 p.m. March 25, Sullivant Hall auditorium. Admission $5 general, $3 students, seniors, unemployed and people with AIDS.

- **AIDS ART ACTIVISM: A Conference on the Culture of AIDS** — March 10-12, location to be announced.

- **We Are All the People With AIDS** — Performance piece conceived and directed by Robert Wharton, including appearances by people in central Ohio with AIDS, 8 p.m. March 31, April 1, 8 and 9, Stadium II Theatre, Drake Union. Admission $5 general, $3 students, seniors, unemployed and people with AIDS.

- **Reading by Paul Monette** — Author of four novels, including *Borrowed Time*, memoir of his lover, who died of AIDS; 8 p.m. April 6, Sullivant Hall auditorium. Free.
The Artist And AIDS
Art confronts AIDS virus

They are battling government inaction, prejudice and intolerance, personal grief and loss. Paint, canvas, film and performance are their weapons. Their enemy is AIDS.

Twenty-three video artists and 30 visual artists have been brought together in the University Gallery exhibition "AIDS: The Artist's Response." Their art confronts the deadly disease that is snuffing out the lives of thousands of persons with AIDS.

The show, which opens Feb. 24, will include paintings, videos, photographs, installations and performance art that represent a "history of responses" to AIDS, said Mark Svede of the University Gallery/Wexner Center. The artwork will show a diverse range of human reactions to the epidemic, he said, from fear and grief to compassion and courage.

The artists' responses are highly political in some cases, and intimately personal in others, Svede explained.

"Many of the artists in the exhibition are involved with AIDS victims and the AIDS crisis," said Svede. "Some artists have worked directly with AIDS victims such as Gran Fury, ACT-UP/L.A. and ACT-UP/New York. These groups openly confront the scourge of AIDS with protests, rallies, and a kind of guerilla art they call "street-graphic interventions."

"In an effort to defy the effects of what they feel is media and government misinformation regarding the virus, the epidemic and the AIDS victims, group members alter signs in buses and subways. "I got AIDS through the personal s***," on a public service announcement in a subway car becomes "I got AIDS through government inaction," Svede said. "Money for AIDS not for war!" is pasted over the sign.

Other artists look at the personal side of AIDS. Painter Mary Starvis, for instance, created paintings of hospice workers and others who care for and support people with AIDS. Her painting "We're Here," from a series called "We Were Here," is included in the exhibition.

Installation artist Leslie Ernst is particularly concerned with how women are affected by AIDS. Ernst, who is finishing her MFA at CalArts in Los Angeles, will install an artwork in the women's restroom outside the Hoyt Sherman Gallery where "AIDS: The Artist's Response" will be on display.

In a recent telephone interview, she explained that she has always been concerned with issues of women's sexuality and the roles of women in society.

She started dealing with AIDS images in her art work when she realized that women as a group were suffering with the disease but their concerns were being ignored. AIDS was originally perceived as a disease of gay men, not women, she said.

"There are no resources, no hospices or housing-type situations in this country, as far as I know, for women who do test HIV positive," Ernst said. "HIV, Human Immunodeficiency Virus, is a virus before AIDS.

Ernst's installation will probe the three roles women have been given as a result of the AIDS epidemic. On the three bathroom stalls, she will attach images of women as vessels, vectors, and virgins.

She hopes to challenge the concepts of merely carriers of the virus (vessels), transmitters of the disease to men (vectors), or as nonsexual beings (virgins).

Ernst said she has two reasons for choosing the bathroom as the site of her installation. For one, she hopes to begin a dialogue about the disease between women. She also hopes the restroom location will help her disseminate her ideas to a larger audience.

"I'd much rather be in the bathroom than in the gallery," she explained. "Everybody's got to go to the bathroom and not everyone is going to go in the gallery space."

Another CalArts artist, Stan Redstrom, will also be creating a companion piece for the men's restroom.

Ernst said she has many friends above is an excerpt from an "Encyclopedia of Experience" by Andy Fabe, who have AIDS. Like other artists living in California or New York, where the spread of the virus is most pronounced, she lives on close terms with AIDS.

So does photographer/installation artist Chuck Stallard.

"Since I am gay, I am at a really high risk for AIDS," he said in a telephone interview from his home in Los Angeles. "And now out here I have friends who are sick friends who have died."

"My life has changed" because of AIDS, he said. "It's not the way it used to be."

Stallard, who received both his B.A. and M.F.A. from Ohio State, has been dealing with AIDS imagery in his art for a few years. Because AIDS was part of his 1986 masters' thesis show, he now has a record with the F.D.L.

Stallard advertised his thesis exhibition by mailing out a series of flyers as part of the art."Confronting the political aspects of AIDS, this flyer included an electromicrograph of an AIDS virus. Underneath it was the word assassination and a declaration of assassination as government inaction in finding a cure for AIDS.

One person on Stallard's mailing list misunderstood the message. Secret Service men protecting President Ronald Reagan and University Police called Stallard in for three hours of interrogation.

"They said I was threatening the life of the president," he said. "They were just being very paranoid."

Stallard has not avoided controversy as a result. He is now involved with the political activities of ACT-UP/L.A., photographing the group's political rallies and protests for the Los Angeles and national gay press.

Stallard explained that his political involvement has helped him to deal with many conflicting feelings. "When I first started with ACT-UP in L.A., I was really, really angry," he said. "I act-up is very confrontational and I think it gave me a place to focus my anger."
The difficult topic of AIDS will take center stage when the theater world responds to the epidemic in the best way their talents will allow.

The Ohio State University Gallery is presenting "AIDS: the Artists' Response." In the days between Feb. 24 and April 6, there will be exhibitions of artistic works responding to or reflecting upon the AIDS crisis, including several theater pieces actively demonstrating the people with AIDS and problems of living with the disease.

The opening day of "The Artists' Response" includes the performance of Tim Miller's internationally acclaimed theater piece "Some Golden States." In a solo performance, Miller describes his piece as "trying to make the garden grow amid earthquakes, the AIDS crisis, love, death and romance on the Lower East Side."

Miller combines music and text with his high energy as a performer to create the powerful piece of theater that has played to sold-out crowds in San Francisco, New York and Los Angeles.

Another event, "We Are All The People With AIDS," is a performance conceived and directed by Robert Wharton, assistant professor of theater at Ohio State.

This unusual performance will have people with AIDS from central Ohio on stage describing their personal story of the AIDS experience. Because of the nature of the disease, Wharton's project will always be a theatrical work-in-progress.

"I've had interviews with people since October to have real people with AIDS discussing their story so I can use only a few actors if necessary," said Wharton.

Ohio State offers a full line up of events. The exhibition highlights work produced since 1982 from Canada, Great Britain and the United States.

Other works presented include paintings, sculpture, photographs and performances which deal with the love and loss that surrounds "Persons with AIDS," or FWA's.

According to Hugh M. Murphy of the University Gallery, this project has been "in the works" since 1985. The idea of a photography display with AIDS as the theme was expanded into a major production.

The exhibition needed an environment where people would be more receptive to the work presented," said Murphy. "The University Gallery offers a great opportunity for it to happen."

Ohio State is not the only place in Columbus that has theatrically responded to the AIDS crisis. They are...
AIDS videos featured in art exhibit

VIDEOS

DEBORAH STRAFFELLA

AIDS: The Artists’ Response is an exhibition organized by the Werner Center for the Visual Arts/University Gallery, and will run from Feb. 24 to April 16. The show includes paintings, photographs, installations, live performances and videos from individual artists, artists' collections and AIDS service organizations. “AIDS on Videotape” is part of the exhibition, and features video works produced on the topic of AIDS. The five weekly screenings will run on Tuesday nights at 7:30 p.m. in the Ohio Union Conference Theater, beginning Feb. 28. Admission is free.

THE AIDS SHOW: ARTISTS INVOLVED WITH DEATH AND SURVIVAL

by Robert Epstein and Peter Adair (1986)

An Overview of the AIDS epidemic is the topic for the first “AIDS on Videotape” series that takes place Feb. 28.

During this screening, “The AIDS Show,” a play of the same name that was performed by the Theatre Rhinoceros in San Francisco, will be shown. The video goes back and forth between excerpts from the performance and interviews with the writers and actors.

Many of the play’s skits are drawn from actual experiences, and many are funny. In one skit a man with AIDS and his friends are hanging out, talking about old times. “I like to go drunk, smoke grass, do poppers and sleep with strangers — call me old fashioned,” one of the men says.

The video also has its serious moments. “Our identities were defined by our sexuality, and now they’re telling us we can’t have sex,” one man says.

This video is a good overview because it covers a wide range of topics which deal with the response to the AIDS epidemic, particularly from such groups as the homosexual society which was first identified with AIDS.

DANNY

by Stashu Kybartas (1987)

“Memory and Loss” is the topic of the series in which “Danny” will be shown on March 7. “Danny” is a documentary about a gay man who returns home after he is diagnosed as having AIDS.

Stashu Kybartas uses Danny’s working-class hometown, Steubenville, Ohio, as the backdrop for this video. Most of the video is full of still photos and photographs of Danny before and after he was diagnosed as having AIDS. It’s hard to tell that this is the same man.

The dialogue includes excerpts from an interview between the film maker and his friend, and also narrative from Kybartas. From this and flashbacks, we learn that Danny was living in Florida when he was diagnosed as having AIDS. When he told his parents about his situation, they told him to come home.

This is not easy for Danny to do because his relationship with his father is strained because of his homosexuality.

“As much as I dislike him, I don’t want to hurt him either,” Danny says.

TESTING THE LIMITS

by Testing the Limits Collective (1987)

“Testing the Limits Part I” will be shown March 14 during the Analysis/Activism segment of the series. The video documents AIDS activism in New York City from March to August 1987.

New York City: Lives Lost

Above is from “They Are Lost to Vision Altogether.”

Courtesy University Gallery

Scenes range from recovering intravenous drug users distributing condoms in the South Bronx, to rallies against the government because not enough money is being spent on AIDS research.

In addition to activist group Testing the Limits, ACT UP is also featured in the video. Both groups claim that many drugs are being tested to fight AIDS because of red tape.

The theme of this video can be summed up by the opinion of one activist.

“We will not die lying down,” says one activist.

SNOW JOB

by Barbara Hammer (1985)

“The representation of AIDS in the popular press is the subject of “Snow Job,” another video that will be shown during the Analysis/Activism segment.

This eight minute video is a compilation of voices and images which deconstruct the way the press represents AIDS. Headlines such as “Mosquito Transmits AIDS” and “Yungue Test for AIDS” are continually flashed throughout the film.

In addition to this, a song called “Homophobia” is included, asserting the increased promotion by the media of sexual discrimination and the repression of gays.

LIVING WITH AIDS

by Tina DiFicletantonio (1987)

“Living With AIDS” will also be shown during the Memory and Loss series. The video is about Tod Coleman, a 23 year-old AIDS patient living in San Francisco, and the final weeks of his life.

“My body can’t do a lot of things anymore: it’s like being an old person,” Coleman says at the beginning of the video.

As the video continues, we are introduced to Coleman’s lover, and the support group of professionals and volunteers who worked with Coleman.

Above is from “They Are Lost to Vision Altogether.”

Courtesy University Gallery

“Coleman was part of the AIDS Hospices Homecare Program and lived in a subsidized apartment for AIDS patients. The film shows how these programs work, and how they help AIDS patients who are faced with many difficulties during this time in their life.”

THEY ARE LOST TO VISION ALTOGETHER

by Tom Kalin (1988)

AIDS and the Erotic is the fourth part of the series and features “They Are Lost to Vision Altogether.” This and other videos on this topic will be shown March 25.

The video addresses the contradictions of sexuality and romance in the age of AIDS. Kalin combines music, excerpts from other films and novels, along with text to get his point across.

Included in the video are clips from “My Beautiful Laundrette” where Daniel Day-Lewis kisses his boyfriend, and Warhol Factory star, Joe Dallesandro.

SEX, DRUGS AND AIDS

by O.M. Productions (1986)

“I have AIDS,” says a man named Scott at the beginning of the video. “This film will tell you what to do not to get AIDS.”

Originally made for the New York City Board of Education for use in borough high schools, “Sex, Drugs and AIDS” speaks frankly to young people about AIDS. It features actress Rae Dawn Chow who tells how a person can and cannot get AIDS.

“AIDS is hard to get,” Chong says, and then explains that people can’t get AIDS from casual contact with things such as toilet seats, telephones, food, drinks, makeup and toiletries.

After this, Chong explains that the AIDS virus has to get in your blood, and you’ve got to put it there. This can be done by "shooting-up" drugs and by having sex with an infected person. Chong says.

Above is by Testing the Limits Collective. Courtesy University Gallery
Six new panels created for AIDS quilt

By Julie Picone
Oasis staff writer

The Newman Center AIDS Awareness group and volunteers made six panels to add to the National NAMES Project Quilt Sunday. The six panels had the names of six people in the Columbus who died of acquired immune deficiency syndrome the past year. Sixty people in Columbus died of AIDS last year in Columbus.

The group of 28 worked together creating symbolic designs and meaningful words to express their feelings toward the AIDS victims.

The NAMES Project Quilt is a collaboration of names and symbols depicting the lives of people who have died due to AIDS. The quilts were made from hand sewing different fabrics onto the main quilt.

"Today is the second phase of four," said Susi Havens-Berlak of the Newman Center AIDS Awareness Committee. "Three weeks ago there was a healing service. We have a panel discussion with community leaders planned for April and we are still planning the fourth phase."

The quilts will be shown with the national quilt March 30 through April 2 at the Woody Hayes Athletic Facility on Olentangy Road.

The Columbus AIDS Task Force asked the Newman Center to commemorate six of the area people who had died of AIDS this past year.

The individuals chosen were persons with AIDS who were unsupported and alone during their illness, said Havens-Berlak. The names/initials were J.W., D.N., R.S., J.F., Craig and M.W. The only information known about them is their age.

Paul, a volunteer who works with people who have AIDS, visits them and allows them to go outside. Paul has had AIDS patients stay at his home on occasion.

"I have seen how quickly they are abandoned by their family and friends," he said. "Many times it's out of fear and ignorance and other times it's because of social status."

While the group worked on the quilts, Dick Josten, also on the AIDS committee, played his guitar and sang songs about love, friendship and Christ. The background music added to the already present feeling of friendship and warmth.

"I'm here today because a member from the choir died from AIDS two years ago," said Kathy, a member of the Newman Center choir. "I'm also here to show support."
Art class responds to AIDS

By Lisa Baumgardner
Lantern staff writer

The 18 members of the Art 190A class are creating a special project today from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in front of Hagerley and University Halls.

The project deals with taking the significant social issue of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome and relaying the issue to the public by passing out pamphlets on the subject, said Craig Arnold, member of the Art 190A class.

The pamphlets are all official publications collected from the state, Columbus and OSU AIDS Task Forces, said Michael Hoffman, teaching assistant for the class. They view the topic of AIDS from different perspectives.

The pamphlets, in Spanish and English, discuss the spread of the disease and the prevention of it, Hoffman said.

The project began after the students reviewed "AIDS: The Artists' Response," an exhibition in Sullivant Hall, Hoffman said.

A lot of information was given at the exhibition and the class was surprised how much they did not know, he said.

The class was asked to create artwork that would show their response to AIDS, Hoffman said.

The students thought that since they were ignorant about the subject of AIDS others might also be, so they chose to disseminate information on campus, he said.

Art has an expressive content and can be used to portray a meaning in whatever form it appears, Arnold said.

The types of art we are incorporating are social comment in art and performance art, Hoffman said.

"So you could say this is our painting, our Picasso," Arnold said.

The class will be wearing originally designed T-shirts depicting an upside down triangle representing the symbol homosexuals wore in German concentration camps during World War II, Arnold said.

The symbol was revived a few years ago by gay activists to address the AIDS issue when they marched in Washington, D.C., he said.

"We are taking this symbol and putting it with the well known phrase 'Silence Death, Action Life'," Hoffman said.

The university has been cooperative of the program, Hoffman said. Ohio State has made a commitment to fighting AIDS by being very up front and trying to get out as much information as possible.

"If you can understand the problem, you can deal with it effectively," Hoffman said.

See AIDS: page 2
Student groups help sponsor AIDS quilt

By Briggen Wrinkle
Lantern Staff writer

Student organizations are pulling together to make students aware of the arrival of the national AIDS memorial on March 30.

The memorial, called the NAMES Project, is in the form of a quilt and is a collaboration of names and symbols depicting the lives of people who died because of AIDS complications.

The quilt will be at Ohio State from March 30 through April 2 at the Woody Hayes Athletic Center and will be the first time the quilt has ever been on a college campus.

Student Alumnae Council, Ohio Staters, Black Greek Council, Inter-fraternity Council, Panhel lenic Council and Undergraduate Student Government have raised over $1,000 to purchase more than 5,000 buttons to distribute around the Ohio State campus.

The free buttons will be distributed through residence halls, dining commons and college offices.

“We want to contact the university,” said Shawna Wilson, president of Student Alumnae Council.

“That includes students, staff and faculty, which is about 75,000 people.”

“Another project we would like to see be done by a student organization is table tents in the dining commons and the student unions,” Wilson said.

“Students do a much better job of communicating to students and that is why we are trying to get as much involvement from the student body as we can,” she said.

This combined effort by these undergraduate organizations is going to be a very effective way to inform the student body of the quilt, said Rich Hollingsworth, dean of Student Life.

Mortar Board members volunteered to go to various student organizations and inform them of Names Project, said Lisa Bohman, president of Mortar Board, a student honor society.

“We would like students to become more aware of how AIDS effects each one of us,” said Mable Freeman, adviser for Mortar Board.

There will be a 12-minute repeating video shown in the two student unions the week before the quilt comes to campus, said David Hoover, chairman of the public relations committee for The NAMES Project Task Force.

Students can get physically involved by volunteering their time during the showing of the quilt, said Phil Martin, a member of the volunteer committee.

Applications to volunteer are available at the Wexner Center, 1800 North High Street. They are due March 14.

“We need over 300 volunteers and we will take anyone who has time to give,” Martin said.

AIDS does affect college students.

According to the Columbus AIDS task force, one out of 300 college students has been exposed to AIDS.

As of February, 1,178 AIDS cases have been reported in Ohio and 57 percent have died of AIDS or complications of the disease.

A few students volunteered their time at the Newman Center to help make six panels for central Ohioans who died of AIDS and were abandoned by friends and family, said Father Albright of the center.

At last count, 48 panels will be given to the NAMES Project from central Ohio, said Kathy Wyatt, chairperson of the program committee for the NAMES Project Task Force. However, this number keeps growing.

A panel is three feet by six feet and there are 32 panels in one patch.
The NAMES Project

The National AIDS Memorial Quilt

March 30-April 2, 1989
Woody Hayes Athletic Center
Olentangy River Road
(Across from the Fawcett Center for Tomorrow)

Opening Ceremony: March 30, 7:30 p.m.
Display Hours:
March 31-April 1 — 9 a.m.-9 p.m.
April 2 — 9 a.m.-7 p.m.

Free and open to the public.

Sponsored by The Ohio State University and the Columbus AIDS Task Force.
For more information, call (614) 292-0330 or (614) 488-2437.
The NAMES Project Quilt is the national memorial to those who have died from AIDS. Designed and sewn in homes across America, the Quilt is a poignant reminder of the humanity behind the statistics. As part of a national tour, the Quilt will be making a four-day stop at Ohio State, marking the first time it has been displayed at a university. Approximately 2,000 of its nearly 9,000 panels will be on display.

The NAMES Project Quilt Display
1880 North High Street
Second Floor
Columbus, OH 43201-1147

538790-361

REMEMBER THEIR NAMES.

The NAMES Project Quilt Display • March 30-April 2, 1989
Woody Hayes Athletic Center
Quilt designed to save lives

Ceremonies expected to attract 3,000

Catherine Capps, of University Communications and a member of the University Outreach Committee for the quilt, said her group has been working closely with various student organizations, departments and community groups.

Capps said she encourages students to attend the NAMES Project Quilt because it is a way in which students can become more educated and personally aware of AIDS.

She said the goal of her organization is to heighten awareness among the university community, specifically students, through plays, posters, art shows and a weekend conference that will discuss AIDS issues.

“When you look at these panels each panel represents one or more people who have died of this disease,” Capps said.

“We need to recognize that these are not nameless, faceless people, these were real people in our community.”

Joanne Markiewicz, assistant director of administration, said the university will provide three shuttle buses for students, faculty and staff to and from the NAMES Project from various stops on campus.

The display will be open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. through April 1 and 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on April 2, Molnar said.

AIDS risk up for teenagers, young adults

CINCINNATI (AP) — Teenagers and young adults are ignoring warnings urging them to practice safe sex and therefore are running a risk of contracting AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases, city health officials say.

A study presented to the Cincinnati Board of Health this week shows that the virus associated with acquired immune deficiency syndrome is beginning to show up in people who are not homosexual or intravenous drug users. The usually fatal AIDS virus renders the body’s immune defenses ineffective against infection.

The trend should be seen as a warning to young heterosexuals who believe the deadly disease is nothing to worry about, said Michael Richey, director of the city health department’s sexually transmitted disease unit.

“These kids think they’re immune to everything,” Richey said. “They’re not taking precautions, and they’re coming into contact with a large number of partners.”

See RISK: page 2
"That kind of behavior will contribute to the spread of many sexually transmitted diseases, and eventually to the spread of AIDS."

According to the study, 21 new cases of the disease and 16 AIDS-related deaths have been reported in the Cincinnati area so far this year. Thirty-three deaths were reported in 1988.

Since 1983, 235 AIDS cases and 116 deaths have been documented in the Cincinnati area, compared with 1,131 cases reported in Ohio and 83,231 nationwide.

Twenty-three percent of the cases in Cincinnati were among people between the ages of 20 and 29, while only 1 percent were between 10 and 19 years old. Richey said he expects increases in those age groups because young people traditionally are the least careful.

The report showed that six of the 123 people who last year tested positive for the AIDS virus could not be tied to a traditional high-risk group, such as homosexuals or drug users who share needles. The virus is carried in blood and other body fluids and can be transmitted through sexual intercourse or by using contaminated needles.

Richey said the study suggests that heterosexual AIDS cases will be more common in the next few years. He said health officials must now find an effective way to make young people aware of the growing danger.

"Scare tactics just don't seem to work," Richey said. "They see the pictures and read about it, but what does that mean to them when they're in the back seat of a car?"

He said the city's best weapon against AIDS is an aggressive education, testing and counseling program designed to detect cases early and prevent the spread of the disease.

"Our biggest challenge is to come up with creative educational ideas," city Health Commissioner Dr. Stanley Broadnax said. "We have to make everyone understand that free love can carry a high price."
AIDS quilt brought to Columbus; 50 central Ohioan's names added

By Sonia Kelly
Lantern staff writer

Trish Howley knows how it feels to lose a loved one to AIDS. Howley's uncle died two years ago.

In the memory of her uncle, Howley, along with her mother and daughter, designed and contributed a 3-by-6-panel multicolored quilt to the NAMES Project.

The panel has the name "Jerry" stitched on it in navy blue.

His name joined 2,049 others in the NAMES Project quilt that were displayed Thursday at the Woody Hayes Athletic Center.

"It was a project that we could do together and work through the grief and anger about his death," she said.

The quilt was started two years ago in San Francisco as a memorial to Americans who died of AIDS and to illustrate the human toll of the epidemic.

Earl Simmons, who was diagnosed as having AIDS in March 1986, said he traveled from Cleveland to attend the ceremony.

Simmons said he came to the opening as a symbol of support for many of his friends who have died of AIDS and for people who are currently suffering from the disease.

He said since he has contracted the disease, his life has dramatically changed. Simmons said he has lost his job, friends and has experienced the stigma that people associate with AIDS.

"My family has been extremely supportive," he said. "I am one of the lucky ones because there are many who lose their families."

Lynnette Molnar, local coordinator for the display, said 2,000 of the 12,000 panels were displayed Thursday at the Woody Hayes Athletic Center.

The panels were added to the quilt to commemorate Central Ohioans who died from AIDS.

As the quilt was being unfolded, in front of about 5,000 people, the names of those memorialized on the panels, were read by Sac. David Hobson, R-Springfield, Archie Griffin, special assistant to the director of athletics, Cynthia Cecil-Lazarus, city council member, Janet Jackson, municipal court judge, Joel Teaford, Board of Trustees member and AIDS volunteers.

"I think we all know what a great problem AIDS is in the country and I think it's important that a broad range of people be involved and we not try to say that the problem is confined to one sector of society," Teaford said. "That's why I am here."

Inspired by the American folk tradition of quilting and sewing bees, the quilt was first exhibited on Capital Mall in Washington, D.C., in October of 1987, Molnar said.

The panels are made from pieces of denim, suede, silk, cotton and other fabrics. Some panels had photographs, jewelry, stuffed animals and kites sewn on, she said.

Molnar said the response to the NAMES Project by Columbus area residents has been "overwhelming supportive." And though the AIDS epidemic in Columbus is not as severe as it is in New York, Los Angeles or San Francisco, bringing the quilt here may convince people of the need to practice safe sex.

"If they come to see the quilt, then I think that it will help them make different choices about their own personal lives and hopefully in the end save someone's life," she said.

Molnar said she thinks that it is important for the quilt to be displayed on campus because more students will go to the Woody Hayes Center than if it were displayed anywhere else in the city.

Goals of the NAMES Project are to raise funds for local agencies that provide care and services to people with AIDS as well as increasing public awareness about the disease, Molnar said.

Kate Cappe, marketing representative at University Press and member of the University Volunteers Committee, said the quilt is the culmination of more than a month's activities on AIDS awareness and education sponsored by the university and various student organizations.

See QUILT: page 2
Short videos about the NAMES Project are running in the Drake and Ohio Union, Lincoln and Morrill Towers, Larkins Hall and add/drop areas, Capps said.

The student body has taken an active role in planning some of the activities, she said.

The Undergraduate Student Government raised enough funds to create 5,000 buttons that are being distributed on campus as a way to make people aware of the NAMES Project, Capps said.

"Some of the faculty members have been incorporating AIDS education into their courses," she said.

Capps also encourages disabled students to attend the quilt display. Wheelchairs donated by University Hospital will be available to those in need and the Woody Hayes Center is wheelchair accessible, she said.

Capps sees the quilt as a spark and a good place to start thinking about the ramifications of the disease.

"No one will remain unmoved if they go to see the quilt," she said. "It’s very easy for us to say it’s someone else’s problem, but the quilt is an extremely human form, from which one can draw some enlightenment."
Women with AIDS concerns addressed

Facts, education needed for prevention

By Shu-hua Chen
Lantern staff writer

Women have to take responsibility for themselves and have safer sex to avoid contracting the AIDS virus, said a family planning health consultant for the Ohio Department of Health.

Phyllis Gorman spoke Thursday to women about the Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.

According to statistics released Feb. 28 by the U.S. Center for Disease Control, 88,096 cases have been diagnosed as having AIDS. Of those cases, 8,178 women have contracted the virus. In June 1986, the total number of reported AIDS cases was 7,847.

However, Gorman said these numbers are underestimated because there are still cases that have not been reported, and there was a specific definition that determined AIDS cases.

She said the quick increase occurred because of the spread of HIV. The virus has been in the North American population for about 10 years, during this period, many people with the virus had sexual relations or shared needles with others not infected, and that is how the virus spread, Gorman said.

She said the virus is highly concentrated in semen and blood and is transmitted mainly through body fluids. It is more easily transmitted from infected male to uninfected female than from infected female to healthy male, she said.

The average age for women diagnosed with AIDS is between 20 and 39, and this period is also when women have babies, Gorman said. The average age for men with AIDS is between 30 and 49.

Women with AIDS have about 50 percent chance of passing the infection to their babies, who usually will die before reaching the age of three or four, Gorman said.

The AIDS situation in New Jersey and New York is more serious than other states, Gorman said. In New Jersey, 21 percent of the total number of AIDS cases are women, and in New York, it is 13.2 percent.

There are 68 female cases in Ohio, which is about 5 percent of the total number. Gorman said Ohio's geographic distance from New York and California, where AIDS started, could be the reason the number of cases in Ohio is much lower.

Gorman said women with AIDS will be completely devastated by the virus, partly because of the way the disease acts on them, making them lose strength and ability to fight infection, and partly because the way people react to AIDS patients.

People regard AIDS as a stigma and think those with AIDS are bad people, Gorman said. This false concept is also one reason why some women with AIDS are afraid to seek help.

But she added the services now providing social and psychological help to women with AIDS are not enough, and more work needs to be done.

Gorman said one difficult question for educators in AIDS services to answer is how long it takes for one person to become sick after being exposed to or infected with the AIDS virus. Unlike measles or smallpox, which take a few weeks to notice after one is exposed to the virus, it takes years for a person with a positive AIDS body test to become sick, Gorman said.

One important way to help women cope with the AIDS problem is education: giving them the facts about AIDS, teaching them how to use condoms and not to share needles to prevent contracting the HIV virus, Gorman said.

Condoms, although not 100 percent effective, is the most effective way to prevent infection, she said.

Gorman also said female college students are not well educated on AIDS problems.

Cynthia Harris, interim director of the Office of Women's Services, which co-sponsored the event with the Women's Studies Library, said the topic of women and AIDS is still not popular on campus, and some students think it is neither relevant nor important to them because they do not have AIDS.

She said AIDS is a difficulty for women, but not many of them were well-informed. She hopes through education, more people will learn about AIDS; more people can share the information, Harris said.
Programs, goals set for AIDS Awareness Week

By Nadine Collins
Lantern staff writer

Although many might be informed about AIDS, it doesn't mean they will change their attitudes toward people with the disease, said the program coordinator for the AIDS Education and Research Committee.

Marshall Brown said AIDS Awareness Week, which begins May 14, will help make people more aware of the disease so the OSU community will know anyone can be infected with the virus no matter what age, race or sex, Brown said.

There are college students who experiment with different sexual behaviors and need to be safe, he said.

According to the Ohio Department of Health, there have been 78 people diagnosed with acquired immune deficiency syndrome in the state as of February 1989.

In Franklin County, the Columbus Health Department reports there have been 244 people diagnosed with AIDS as of March 1989.

AIDS AWARENESS Week will include these activities sponsored by the AIDS Education and Research Committee:

Condoms will be distributed from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Monday through Friday at the University Hall booth.

Students will distribute AIDS brochures and wrist bands containing the names of people who have died from AIDS, Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the Ohio Union and University Hall booths, and from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. at Drake Union.

• At 7:30 p.m. Monday in the Ohio Union Conference Theater, a talk co-sponsored by the OSU honors community will be held called "Facts About AIDS: Legal Rights and Responsibilities." For this lecture, a person with AIDS will talk about having the disease. An attorney is scheduled to speak on the legal issue of AIDS and a psychologist will explain how AIDS can be prevented.

• At 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in the Royer Activities Center multipurpose room on North Campus, there will be a "Persons with AIDS panel discussion co-sponsored by Residence Life.

• At 7:30 p.m. Thursday in Suite A of the Ohio Union there will be a talk called "Safer Sex Practices."

AIDS is an immune deficiency disorder which attacks the immune system so it cannot fight infections. People with AIDS contract infections they normally wouldn't get because the immune system cannot protect the body from those infections.

IT CAN be transmitted sexually, through intravenous drug use, or mothers can pass it to their children during birth.

Dr. Ed Beatty, medical director of the Sexually Transmitted Disease Program for the Columbus City Health Department, said he hopes this week will make people more aware of the disease, know how it is transmitted and be more sensitive to those who have the disease.

Beatty said a lot of the problems related to AIDS are not medical but social.

Some doctors will not see AIDS patients, family and friends may reject them and sometimes they can't get housing, Beatty said.

Dr. Wilburn H. Weddington, professor of family medicine, said AIDS Awareness Week is more than a time to make people aware of measures to prevent AIDS.

"ONCE WE become more knowledgeable and intelligent about AIDS, our prejudices, anxieties and fears will be lessened," Weddington said.
Calendar of Events

Monday, May 8
11:45 a.m. Kickoff Event
University Hall Plaza
Rainsite: Ohio Union

7:30–9:30 p.m. The Facts About AIDS
A presentation about what AIDS is, how the virus is transmitted, and what you can do to prevent the spread of the disease. Also legal rights and responsibilities about the HIV infection. Co-sponsored by the Honors Community.
Ohio Union Conference Theater

Tuesday, May 9
Noon–2 p.m. A Conversation With a Person With AIDS (PWA)
An open and frank discussion to allow you to ask questions and gain insight into the “human” aspects of this epidemic.
Ohio Union Board Room

7:30–9:30 p.m. “AIDS 101”
Learn the facts about AIDS, dispel the myths, and view a film—Changing the Rules.
Ohio Union Board Room

Wednesday, May 10
Noon–2 p.m. Legal Rights and Responsibilities Regarding HIV Infection
Current laws concerning HIV infection, both locally and on a federal level.
Ohio Union Tavern Room

7:30–9:30 p.m. A Conversation With a Person With AIDS (PWA)
An open and frank discussion to allow you to ask questions and gain insight into the “human” aspects of this epidemic.
Co-sponsored by Residence Life.
Royer Multipurpose Room, 85 Curl Drive

Thursday, May 11
Noon–2 p.m. “AIDS 101”
Learn the facts about AIDS, dispel the myths and view a film—Changing the Rules.
Ohio Union Tavern Room

1:30–3 p.m. AIDS in the Workplace
A program designed to give information about the transmission of the HIV virus, behaviors which increase/decrease the risk of exposure to the virus, and other information. The video, “An Epidemic of Fear—AIDS in the Workplace” will be shown and followed by discussion.
223 Archer House
Registration Required. Call 292–3581.

7:30–9:30 p.m. Safer Sex Practices
Get the answers on just what is safe...and what is not.
Ohio Union Suite A

Friday, May 12
Noon–2 p.m. If Someone You Know is HIV-Positive
What you should do, and not do. Co-sponsored by Counseling and Consultation Services.
Ohio Union Memorial Room
May 8-12, 1989 is AIDS Awareness Week.
Many programs and activities have been planned at Ohio State so that you can learn more about how AIDS can affect you and those around you. We encourage you to review this calendar of events and take the opportunity to learn more about the disease.

Fight AIDS Through Awareness.
AIDS Awareness Week, May 8-12, 1989

Sponsored by The Ohio State University AIDS Education and Research Committee.
Monkey vaccine

Ohio State researchers for the first time have immunized monkeys against infection by a distant relative of the AIDS virus that causes a rare form of leukemia, notes the Los Angeles Times in a front-page article.

The finding could help in development of an AIDS vaccine, the paper adds.

Richard G. Olsen, professor emeritus of veterinary pathology, estimated at least another three years of further studies will be required before the vaccine can be tested in human beings.
Students more likely to get AIDS

By Spencer Schein
Lantern staff writer.

College campuses are particularly vulnerable to the AIDS virus, and college students need to start paying attention to warning signs of the disease, said Mark Bunn, a psychologist at the OSU Counseling and Consultation Service. "College students need to start listening because it's between the ages of 18-22 that people are being infected with the virus, and they're not finding it until they're 30 or 35," he said.

This delay is due to the long incubation period of acquired immune deficiency syndrome virus, he said.

People may carry the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) for 10 years or more before developing AIDS, said David Althausen, Director of Health Education at the Columbus AIDS Task Force.

He said students are more likely to contract the virus while in college and have problems with it later in life.

Bunn said, due to this delayed effect, people may be spreading the virus to others or getting the virus from someone else, and not even know it.

Because AIDS takes such a long time to develop, the median age for persons with AIDS is 39, said Mike Smeltzer, Assistant Director of Ambulatory Services with the Columbus City Health Department.

Bunn said there are one million to three million people in this country carrying the virus, and 99 percent of them are not aware of it.

There are differences between being HIV-positive and having AIDS. A person may be HIV-positive and have the virus lie dormant in them, producing no symptoms, for an unknown period of time.

According to The National AIDS Hotline, people diagnosed as HIV-positive might not contract the disease, but in most cases they do.

The hotline operates as an information, education, and referral outlet on AIDS.

AIDS-Related Complex is a disease that is less serious than AIDS. The National AIDS Hotline report on Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome said ARC patients' signs and symptoms are often less serious than those with AIDS.

Some of the symptoms for ARC can include: loss of appetite, weight loss, fever, night sweats, skin rash, diarrhea, irriativeness, lack of resistance to infection, or swollen lymph nodes.

The report encourages people to consult a doctor if they have any of these symptoms, because they may be signs of other diseases. AIDS is an affliction in which a virus attacks the body's immune system, leaving victims susceptible to a wide variety of infections and cancers.

The earliest anyone has died after being diagnosed as HIV-positive is six months, according to the hotline.

Bunn said, "All the research seems to suggest that if you're HIV-positive, eventually you'll come down with ARC or AIDS. "So, if you're HIV-positive, you're not going to show anything for a long time."

The Surgeon General C. Everett Koop's report said that by 1991, there will be an estimated 270,000 persons with AIDS and 175,000 AIDS deaths.

Koop's report is from October, 1986, and is the latest report on AIDS from the Surgeon General's office.

The AIDS monthly surveillance report, prepared by the National Center for Disease Control, said there are between 940,000 and 1,000,000 persons who are HIV-positive in the country as of April 30, 1989.

They projected that by the end of 1991, 325,000 people will have AIDS.

The Center for Disease Control also said that, nationally, 4,137 people between the ages of 20-24 have died from AIDS, and 10,308 people between the ages of 25-29 have died as of April 1989.

In Franklin County, projections say 700 to 1,000 persons will have HIV by 1991, said Susan Tiften, an epidemiologist at the Columbus City Health Department.

She said there are 272 people with AIDS in Franklin County now, with one-fourth of these persons between the ages of 20-29.

Tiften monitors diseases and the outbreak of diseases in Franklin County.

Geri Rosendahl, social program coordinator with the AIDS unit at the Ohio Department of Health, said she doesn't think people are paying attention to the warnings about AIDS.

She said the spread of AIDS is slowing because the number of new cases continues to climb.

Since April, she said they are becoming more informed about AIDS, but they aren't taking it personally.

Althausen said this may be due to misconceptions people have of the disease.

He said a lot of minorities and women in the population believe they are not at risk, because they think it's a gay, white man's disease.

People are now being saturated with information on AIDS, but they still think it won't affect them if they are not gay or an intravenous drug user, said Gisela Smith, executive director of the Columbus AIDS Task Force.

Bunn said, "College students aren't paying attention, because they think if they are not gay and don't use intravenous drugs that they don't have to worry, and that's bullshit."

AIDS is most often transmitted through sexual contact, transfusions of blood or blood products, and the sharing of contaminated hypodermic needles or syringes. AIDS can also be passed from mother to child at or before birth.

The University Student Health Center has seen two to three AIDS patients a year since 1988, according to Dr. Doris Charles, director of University Health Services at the center.

"It is now believed that if you could pick up a person early on or early in their disease, when they are HIV-positive, and you can get them into treatment, it may affect the outcome in a positive way," she said. "In other words, they may live longer and have a better life."

Althausen said that two years ago, condoms were usually bought only by men. But today, 40 percent of condoms are purchased by women.

One to two hundred packages of condoms are sold per month in the vending machines that are in the residence halls, said Bill Schwartz, assistant director of Residence and Dining Halls Operations.

Twenty-two of the 25 residence halls on campus provide condoms in their vending machines, he said.

He said the Lifestyles brand sold in the machines since October, 1988, were not rated highly in a consumer report, and the sales decreased.

Since April, there has been a separate vending machine with Trojan-brand condoms in those halls, he said.
Doctor warns students of AIDS virus epidemic

By Debbie Bernard
Lantern staff writer

One in 300 college students is infected with the Human Infectious Virus, which usually develops into AIDS, said Dr. Doris Charles, director of University Health Services.


Nearly 80 percent of the people with the HIV virus develop AIDS within 10 years, said Dr. Michael Para, an associate professor of internal medicine at the Center for Infectious Disease.

Some OSU students and professors tested positive for the HIV virus in 1985 at the Winkle Student Health Center, Charles said. The staff began studying the sexual histories of the patients to help identify how the disease was transmitted.

"AND YES, there are prostitutes and former prostitutes at Ohio State," Charles said, referring to the case study.

Experimenting with drugs, alcohol and sex attributes to the high rate of AIDS among college students, Charles said.

The Center for Disease Control issued guidelines stating which behaviors could be classified as risky. It is considered risky to have sex with a homosexual, bisexual, IV-drug user, HIV-infected partner or multiple partners.

The guidelines apply to contact after 1977 and when a condom is not used.

Casual contact does not transmit AIDS.

Charles said it is not unusual for a female to contract three different sexually transmitted diseases the first time she has intercourse. The most common are gonorrhea and clamidia.

"These kids are having sex with people they wouldn't have lunch with," Charles said.

Most of the students who test positive for the HIV virus are in their late 20s and early 30s, Charles said. The health center then refers the patients to Para, she said.

The most common symptoms of AIDS are a generalized swelling of lymph glands, oral thrush, which has a cottage cheese-like appearance, and a scaling rash on the face and eyebrows, Para said.

OTHER SYMPTOMS may include fatigue, weight loss, night sweats and lesions on the body, Charles said.

There is no cure for AIDS, Charles said, there is only prevention, which comes through education.

The lecture was included in the Sports Medicine Update because in many sports, close contact with other players is common and accidents often occur when blood is shed, Para said.

He said it is essential that athletes be informed of the real ways that AIDS is spread.
In 1985, President Edward Jennings founded the AIDS Education and Research Committee in response to growing concern at The Ohio State University about the AIDS epidemic. Through education and research, the committee is working to reduce the rate and risk of transmission of the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) at the University.

Education about AIDS serves two purposes. First, it encourages people to adopt and maintain behaviors that prevent HIV transmission. Second, it increases acceptance of those who have been infected.

Through the support of the University, the committee studies the medical, legal, and social factors involved with AIDS. As a result of this research, the committee has developed a number of programs and activities designed to:

- educate the University community about AIDS and related issues
- establish guidelines, which the University community will use in addressing AIDS and related issues
- disseminate information on transmission and risk reducing behaviors
- create awareness of, and facilitate access to appropriate medical, administrative, and consultation services
- identify specific work situations where special precautions are necessary
- encourage and support research on AIDS and related issues

The AIDS Education and Research Committee is composed of representatives of faculty, staff, and student subcommittees, each of which addresses concerns and issues specific to its members. If you would like to be a member of one of the AIDS Education and Research Subcommittees, call 293-8734 for more information.
PROGRAMS

Many members of the University community have expressed a need to know more about AIDS. The array of programs developed by the AIDS committee help to meet the concerns of people of any age, ability, gender, ethnicity, or sexual orientation.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS FOR INTERESTED GROUPS

Interested groups of faculty, students, or staff at the University may invite a trained speaker to answer questions about AIDS regarding factual, emotional, and social issues. The speaker can also help individuals deal with apprehensions about AIDS that may effect their daily lives.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE (UVC) SURVEY COURSE

Upon entering the University, students experience newfound independence, often have a feeling of invincibility, and are under strong peer pressure. As a result, students may be tempted to experiment with sexual behaviors and/or drugs, thereby putting themselves at a greater risk of infection. To reduce this risk, Some Facts about AIDS and The New Rules for Social Behavior, a general AIDS information program, has been incorporated into the UVC classes for freshman and transfer students. This program has been developed to educate students in a straightforward, frank manner, providing answers to the most frequent questions and dispelling the most common myths.

AIDS IN THE WORKPLACE

This program is designed to provide information about AIDS and the workplace, the transmission of the HIV virus, and behaviors that increase or decrease the risk of being infected. Using presentations and discussions, the program helps to prepare individuals to address real-life AIDS issues. The program includes the video, An Epidemic of Fear—AIDS in the Workplace.

OTHER PROGRAMS

The committee has created a variety of other programs, each of which is designed for a specific audience. These programs include:

- A conversation with a Person Living With AIDS (PLWA)
- Legal Rights and Responsibilities Regarding HIV Infection
- Women and AIDS
- Minorities and AIDS
- AIDS Awareness Week
- An AIDS Speaker Bureau to train future speakers at the University
- A resource center for information about AIDS through referrals, videotapes, and a reference library
- Programs for classrooms, fraternity and sorority groups, and residence halls.

FACTS

There is no known cure for AIDS. The only way to stop AIDS is to prevent HIV transmission, and because the virus continues to change, the possibility of finding an effective vaccine in the near future is unlikely. Meanwhile, the general public must be educated about the necessity to change sexual practices and eliminate illicit drug practices. Below are some of the basic facts about AIDS:

- AIDS is spread by having unprotected sex with an infected partner. Both men and women can infect others or themselves.
- A person infected with the AIDS virus may have no symptoms, but he or she can spread the disease.
- To avoid infection through sex, refrain from sex altogether or maintain a relationship in which both partners have sex only with each other and neither is infected.
- Using condoms during sex significantly reduces the chances of transmitting the AIDS virus.

- Infected pregnant women can pass the AIDS virus to their unborn children.
- AIDS is spread by sharing drug needles and/or syringes.
- There is no cure or vaccine for AIDS.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

There are several sources of AIDS information at the local, state, and national level.

The Ohio State University
AIDS Education and Research Committee
293-8734
Wilcox Student Health Center
292-8606
Counseling and Consultation Services
292-5766

Columbus and Franklin County
Columbus AIDS Task Force
488-2437
Columbus VD Hotline
253-8581
Franklin County VD Hotline
224-7837
Columbus Health Department
645-7772

Ohio
Ohio AIDS Hotline
1-800-332-2437
Ohio Department of Health
466-5480

National
National AIDS Hotline
1-800-342-2437
National STD Hotline
1-800-227-8922

For information about free, confidential, and anonymous HIV testing in Columbus, call or write:
Columbus Health Department
181 Washington Boulevard
Columbus, OH 43215
Phone: (614) 645-7772

There are confidential testing sites throughout the state of Ohio. For exact locations, call the Ohio AIDS Hotline at 1-800-332-2437.
AIDS IN THE COLLEGE COMMUNITY: FROM CRISIS TO MANAGEMENT
A LIVE TELECONFERENCE

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1989

1-4 p.m.
1-2:15 p.m. Medical & Legal Issues
2:30-4 p.m. Student Affairs & Housing; Counseling & Personal Issues

Join in this live national teleconference to discuss the AIDS crisis and issues to be faced on college campuses in order to develop effective responses.

PANEL
Nelson Kraus, M.D. — Moderator
Medical specialist and co-host personality, M3TY-7V

Richard Keeling, M.D.
Immediate past president, American College Health Association
Director of Student Health, University of Virginia

Rhonda Rivera, J.D.
Professor of Law, The Ohio State University

Laura Pinsky, M.S.W.
Staff Therapist, Columbia University

Leonard Goldberg, Ph.D.
Vice President for Student Affairs, University of Richmond

Patricia Kearney, M.A.
Director of Housing, University of California at Davis

ADMISSION
■ FREE to any Ohio State faculty or staff and all students with any current student I.D.
■ $10 for all others, payable at the door

LOCATIONS
Ohio Union Conference Theater
1739 North High Street
Kottman Hall, Room 244
2021 Coffey Road
Allied Medical Professions Building
1553 Perry Street

Local broadcast of the teleconference is sponsored by The Ohio State University AIDS Education and Research Committee and Office of Human Relations. Call 293-8734 for more information.
OSU gets new drug for AIDS

Alternative to AZT won't have trials right away

By Laurie Loscocco
Dispatch Medical Reporter

After bureaucratic and production delays, DDI — an experimental drug for treating AIDS — has arrived at The Ohio State University.

But even though OSU technically is ready to begin using the drug, trials face a slight delay until enough personnel is available to monitor patients.

Some nurses are still studying AZT, but those studies are nearly complete, said Dr. Michael Para, associate professor of infectious diseases. AZT is the only drug approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to treat patients with acquired immune deficiency syndrome.

"All centers are having the same problem" with overlapping studies, he said.

DDI is being hailed by some as an alternative to AZT, which cannot be tolerated by many AIDS patients because it damages bone marrow.

In early trials, DDI has shown such promise that researchers rushed it into larger studies to compare it with AZT.

Para said at least 50 people have called the infectious diseases division to say they want to be given the experimental drug.

Patients in the trials will take both pills and a powdered substance to be mixed with water. Either the pills or the powder will be a placebo. The other substance will be AZT or DDI.

Although DDI caused fewer toxic side effects than AZT in early tests, some patients developed side effects in later phases, Para said. The most common side effect is a severe burning pain in the feet as a result of nerve disease. Inflammation of the pancreas also has been reported.

"In reality, we really don't know whether this will be any better than AZT," Para said. However, he added, "It's exciting to have it. It's a new agent. It may work. It may work best when we combine it with AZT."

Doctors at OSU had expected to get the drug in August, but shipment was slowed when dose guidelines had to be changed and a quality control problem developed with one lot of the drug.

"It was like the starting line just as the guy is getting ready to fire the gun, and then they pull everyone back," Para said.

People who do not qualify for the OSU trials still may be able to get the drug from their doctors. DDI is being distributed on a special basis for patients who are intolerant to AZT or for whom AZT has failed to help.

Doctors must register with the drug manufacturer to dispense the drug and will have to complete monthly reports before receiving the next month's supply. The paperwork still may discourage some doctors, Para said.
AIDS TELECONFERENCE TO BE BROADCAST VIA SATELLITE

COLUMBUS -- The Ohio State University will broadcast a live national teleconference via satellite Thursday (11/16) to discuss the AIDS crisis and the various issues it presents to college campuses.

The teleconference, "AIDS in the College Community: From Crisis to Management," will be from 1 to 4 p.m. It can be seen from three campus locations: the Ohio Union Conference Theater, 1739 N. High St.; 244 Kottman Hall, 2021 Coffey Road; and the Allied Medical Professions Building, 1583 Perry St.

The conference will feature a six-member panel, including Richard Keeling, immediate past president of the American College Health Association and chairperson of the ACHA AIDS Task Force.

Admission is free to students, faculty or staff with current Ohio State identification cards. The cost is $10 for all others, payable at the door.

Speakers will discuss medical and legal issues during the first session. The second part of the afternoon will focus on topics such as student affairs and housing, and counseling and personal issues.

-more-
The teleconference is interactive and there will be time for viewers to call and ask questions.

Other members of the panel include: moderator Nelson Kraus, a Columbus physician and medical reporter for WSYX-TV; Rhonda Rivera, professor of law at Ohio State; Laura Pinsky, staff therapist at Columbia University; Leonard Goldberg, vice president for student affairs at the University of Richmond; and Patricia Kearney, director of housing at the University of California at Davis. A person who carries the AIDS virus will also be on the panel.

From 7 to 8:30 p.m. the evening before (11/15), Keeling, who also is director of student health and associate professor of internal medicine at the University of Virginia, will address students at the Royer Multi-Purpose Room, 85 Curl Dr. He'll discuss a number of related topics facing college students today, including sexually transmitted diseases, alcohol, drugs and date rape.

The teleconference is sponsored by a number of organizations, including the ACHA, the National University Teleconference Network, the American College Personnel Association, the Association of College and University Housing Officers and the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators.

For prices and other information on receiving the broadcast, contact the National University Teleconference Network, (405) 744-5191.

The local broadcast is sponsored by Ohio State's AIDS Education and Research Committee and Office of Human Relations.

#

Contact: Marshall Brown, program assistant in the Department of Internal Medicine, (614) 293-8734.
Ohio State to test delayed AIDS drug

By Jackie Wirtz
Lantern campus reporter

OSU Hospitals will begin testing a new drug to treat AIDS within two weeks.
Dideoxynosine or DDI, could be an alternative to the drug AZT, the only drug currently approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to treat Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome patients.
Judy Neidig, research coordinator for infectious diseases, said Ohio State was supposed to get the drug in August and begin testing, but there had been a series of bureaucratic and shipment delays. The FDA was hesitant to release the drug, she said.
"We are in the process of enrolling patients for the first set of clinical trials," she said.
Participants in the clinical trials will be AIDS patients and AIDS Related Complex, or ARC patients, Neidig said.
David Merz, an assistant professor of infectious diseases, said the patients who participate in the trials will be patients who have never used AZT, those who have used AZT for about one year and those who can't use AZT because of medical reasons.
Patients will be given either AZT, DDI or a placebo during the trials, he said.
Merz said patients in some of the trials will be monitored away from physicians. "They will be monitored by unbiased observers who will be able to determine whether significant differences exist," he said.
DDI has already undergone two earlier trials in Washington.

Merz said one of the toxic side effects of AZT is it causes bone marrow disease. Patient's white and red blood cell counts decrease and they often need blood transfusions. "This is the reason that some AIDS and ARC patients are not able to take AZT," Merz said.
He said the early trials established that DDI did not have this particular side effect, but it also established that DDI has a set of its own toxicities which are not yet well-defined.
Patients who use DDI could develop pancreatitis, an inflammation of the pancreas, or a nerve disease which causes painful sensations in the legs and feet.
Merz said it is possible that during the trials at OSU Hospitals, the drug will be able to be improved to limit these side effects.
Neidig said the FDA is suggesting giving patients DDI in smaller doses to determine whether the side effects will be decreased.
Merz said one advantage to using DDI will be that it only has to be taken twice a day as compared to AZT which has to be taken four times a day. "The drug will obviously be more convenient," he said.
"During the trials, we will have to determine if there is any glimmer that DDI is better than AZT," Merz said.
The differences in toxicity and the general well-being of patients will have to be examined. It also has not been determined if DDI will be more cost efficient than AZT, which costs $6,000 to $8,000 a year.
Merz said the trials should run for approximately two years.
OSU to air AIDS program

By Karen Alexander
Lantern campus reporter

Ohio State will be the site of a national AIDS teleconference on Thursday at three locations on campus.

The teleconference is to educate students, faculty and staff and create an awareness of AIDS on college campuses, said Marshall Brown, program coordinator for AIDS education.

He said the broadcast can be seen at the Ohio Union Conference Theater, 224 Kottman Hall and the Allied Medical Professions Building from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

A panel of experts will be addressing medical, legal, student affairs, housing, counseling and personal issues dealing with AIDS, he said.

"Students are more educated about AIDS than they were last year," Brown said. "They are asking more about medical information and legal issues."

Viewers will be able to call in questions for the panel from the campus sites, Brown said.

Admission is free to OSU students, faculty and staff with a current student I.D. Without an I.D., the charge is $10.

The teleconference is being sponsored on a national level by six groups, including OSU Residence and Dining Halls, Brown said.

He said the local broadcast of the teleconference is sponsored by the AIDS Education and Research Committee and the Office of Human Relations.

Eunice Hornsby, program coordinator for Residence and Dining Halls, is the national coordinator for the teleconference. She was involved in the panelist selection.

Hornsby said the teleconference will provide the opportunity to educate a diverse group of people about the AIDS issue.

"AIDS is not compartmentalized," she said. "It touches all facets of life."

The panelists are experts in their fields and have experience in dealing with AIDS issues, she said. One of the panelists, Rhonda Rivera, an OSU professor of law, has written numerous publications on legal issues facing AIDS patients, Hornsby said.

Rivera said she hopes the teleconference increases the awareness of the responsibilities of colleges and universities to educate their students about AIDS.

The biggest legal issues facing AIDS patients are employment discrimination, access to health care and insurance problems, she said.

Richard Keeling, director of student health at the University of Virginia, will be addressing medical aspects of AIDS.

Keeling serves as a consultant to more than 200 universities and has authored several books and articles on the topic of AIDS, she said.

"He is number one in the country on the issue of AIDS and other student health issues," Hornsby said.

The teleconference will be moderated by Dr. Nelson Kraus, the local medical specialist for WSYX-TV, she said. Hornsby said he was chosen because of his medical and television experience.

Keeling will also be giving a presentation entitled "Students Staying Healthy in the 90s." The presentation will be Wednesday at 7 p.m. in the Royer Multi-Purpose Room, 85 Curi Drive, Brown said.

Keeling will be informing students about sexually transmitted diseases, including AIDS, alcohol, drugs and date rape, he said.

Brown said Keeling will be speaking about more than just AIDS because college students are exposed to more than one health issue.

Brown said students need to be aware of the consequences of their behaviors because the consequences may not affect them during college but might later in their lives.

Students need to be aware of their behaviors and the relationship of those activities to AIDS because the disease can be latent up to 10 years, Brown said.
OSU hosts AIDS program

By Karen Alexander
Lantern campus reporter

Ohio State was the site of a national AIDS teleconference on Thursday at three locations on campus.

The teleconference is aimed at educating students, faculty and staff and create an awareness of AIDS on college campuses, said Marshall Brown, program coordinator for AIDS education.

It was broadcast at the Ohio Union Conference Theater, 224 Kottman Hall and the Allied Medical Professions Building from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

A panel of experts addressed medical, legal, student affairs, housing, counseling and personal issues dealing with AIDS, he said.

"Students are more educated about AIDS than they were last year," Brown said. "They are asking more about medical information and legal issues."

Viewers were able to call in questions for the panel from the campus sites, Brown said.

The teleconference was sponsored on a national level by six groups, including OSU Residence and Dining Halls, Brown said.

He said the local broadcast of the teleconference is sponsored by the AIDS Education and Research Committee and the Office of Human Relations.

Eunice Hornsby, program coordinator for Residence and Dining Halls, is the national coordinator for the teleconference. She was involved in the panelist selection.

Hornsby said the teleconference will provide the opportunity to educate a diverse group of people about the AIDS issue.

"AIDS is not compartmentalized," she said. "It touches all facets of life."

The panelists are experts in their fields and have experience in dealing with AIDS issues, she said. One of the panelists, Rhonda Rivera, an OSU professor of law, has written numerous publications on legal issues facing AIDS patients, Hornsby said.

Rivera said she hopes the teleconference will increase the awareness of the responsibilities of colleges and universities to educate their students about AIDS.

The biggest legal issues facing AIDS patients are employment discrimination, access to health care and insurance problems, she said.

Richard Keeling, director of student health at the University of Virginia, will be addressing medical aspects of AIDS.

Keeling serves as a consultant to more than 200 universities and has authored several books and articles on the topic of AIDS, she said.

"He is number one in the country on the issue of AIDS and other student health issues," Hornsby said.

The teleconference will be moderated by Dr. Nelson Kraus, the local medical specialist for WSYX-TV, she said. Hornsby said he was chosen because of his medical and television experience.

Keeling will also be giving a presentation entitled "Students Staying Healthy in the 90s." The presentation will be Wednesday at 7 p.m. in the River Multi-Purpose Room, 85 Curl Drive, Brown said.

Keeling will be informing students about sexually transmitted diseases, including AIDS, alcohol, drugs and date rape, he said.

Brown said Keeling will be speaking about more than just AIDS because college students are exposed to more than one health issue.

Brown said students need to be aware of the consequences of their behaviors because the consequences may not affect them during college but might later in their lives.

Students need to be aware of their behaviors and the relationship of those activities to AIDS because the disease can be latent up to 10 years, Brown said.
CORRECTION

The November 17 Lantern article: "OSU hosts AIDS program" said the national AIDS teleconference was to be held Wednesday. The teleconference was held Thursday, November 16.
AIDS virus hides on college campuses

By Steve Benowitz

Richard Keeling told a standing-room-only audience of Ohio State students not to bother looking for AIDS on college campuses.

For the most part, he said, "You won't find it."

He pointed to a pie chart that indicated only a tiny percentage of academic's AIDS cases were among undergraduates. The figures showed the overwhelming majority of cases were among faculty, staff, graduate students and non-traditional older students.

The story changes radically for those who are merely infected with the AIDS virus, but show no symptoms as yet, he explained. Recent estimates suggest that two or three of every 1,000 college students carry the virus. There are 12.5 million college students in the U.S. The average age of infection in the United States is 22 years, though symptoms sometimes lag for as long as a decade.

Keeling, the immediate past president of the American College Health Association and chairperson of the ACHA AIDS Task Force, was in Columbus to participate in a live three-hour national teleconference Nov. 16, "AIDS in the College Community: From Crisis to Management."

But the evening before, he was at Royer Multi-Purpose Room to discuss, "Students Staying Healthy in the 90's."

His topics included sexually transmitted diseases, alcohol use, drug use, and date rape.

The face of AIDS is changing, says Keeling, who also is director of student health and associate professor of internal medicine at the University of Virginia. Gay and bisexual men account for some 61 percent of AIDS cases, and the figure is dropping. The worrisome aspect of the new demographics is the rise in the cases among heterosexuals, especially among intravenous drug abusers and their partners, and among young adults in their early twenties.

He reminded the audience, "You can't tell just by looking at someone if he or she is or was a user."

Keeling went on to describe a 1988 Oregon State University survey that showed 80 percent of the undergraduates questioned said they were sexually active. Though most said they knew about AIDS, 60 percent said that within the past year, they had had sex without a condom.

Yet Keeling admitted that abstinence from sex probably isn't the answer to curbing the spread of the AIDS virus.

Surveys show that undergraduates often lie to partners about their prior sexual experiences. Other surveys show that women — and surprisingly, men as well — have had sexual encounters that they would rather have avoided. He attributes the bad experiences for men to peer pressure and alcohol. "Sex is the macho thing to do for guys," he said. "And when people are drunk, they will have sex with other people they wouldn't have had lunch with."

He decried a society that promotes and flaunts easy sex.

Advertisements for cosmetics, clothing and alcohol use sex to sell products. "If you're a woman, society expects you to unleash your instincts and let loose," he said, mocking one ad he described as "beach-beer-sex."

Keeling said that preventive efforts must go beyond education. "Self-esteem is a key," he noted, suggesting that young people must develop skills in decision-making and assertiveness, learn intimacy. "Force the condom-use issue," he urged. "Keep drugs and alcohol out of sight."

It's projected that there will be about one-half million cases of AIDS in this country by 1993, and the yearly death toll will rise to 100,000, he said. "The question isn't whether you should be tested," he told the audience, "but when and with what precautions," such as matters of confidentiality and psychological counseling.

"It's only the tip of the iceberg," he said of the college numbers. Still, Keeling pointed to an emerging image of hope. Better medication and care are lengthening lives and improving health.

"Within two years the term AIDS will go out of use," he said.

"Instead, people will talk of the various stages of HIV infection, and the various treatments and strategies."
AIDS Update: Questions and Answers

Q. What is Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS)?
A. Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) is the name given to a complex of illnesses first reported in 1981. All people with AIDS have developed defects in their immune system, leaving them vulnerable to serious infections that ordinarily pose little threat to anyone with an intact immune system. These illnesses are referred to as opportunistic infections. One of the more common of these is pneumonia. Kaposi’s sarcoma, a rare tumor, also may develop in AIDS patients.

Q. What causes AIDS?
A. A virus causes AIDS. It is known as HIV. The abbreviation stands for Human Immunodeficiency Virus. The virus has also been called HTLV III and LAV.

Q. Who is at risk of getting AIDS?
A. Nearly all cases in the United States have been reported from distinct groups: homosexually and bisexual active males, intravenous drug users, homosexuals and other recipients of blood or blood components, heterosexual partners of the above groups, and infants of infected mothers. AIDS has been uncommon outside these groups, but the virus that causes AIDS can be transmitted both heterosexually and homosexually.

It should be emphasized that the screening of blood donors for evidence of HIV infection and the appropriate treatment of blood products has now resulted in a safe blood supply. Donating blood has never placed anyone at risk.

Q. How long after exposure to HIV does a person develop AIDS?
A. HIV infection is a slowly progressive infection which always leads to immune deficiency, and consequently, the likelihood of developing AIDS. Current information suggests the incubation period for developing AIDS after HIV infection is 10 years.

Q. What are the chances of contracting AIDS by heterosexual transmission?
A. Heterosexual transmission of HIV infections in the United States appears to be closely associated with having a steady sexual partner of a person with AIDS or otherwise infected with HIV. The proportion of AIDS cases in the United States among heterosexuals has risen. At present, approximately 5 percent of AIDS cases involve heterosexuals. It is predicted that the number will increase.

In Africa, however, the HIV virus has spread largely among heterosexual men and women. What accounts for the predominance of AIDS among heterosexuals in central African countries in contrast to the United States in the subject of continuing research.

Q. What are some of the demographic characteristics of people with AIDS?
A. In the United States, about 61 percent of the patients identified so far have been male homosexual/bisexual. Ages affected have been primarily 30-39 years. AIDS has been reported in all races and ethnic groups.

Q. What are some of the risk factors for AIDS?
A. AIDS is most often transmitted through sexual intercourse, a practice that may tear the delicate lining of the rectum and allow the virus to enter the body's circulatory system. It also can be transmitted through vaginal sex.

Other risk factors include having multiple and anonymous homosexual and heterosexual partners, contact with prostitutes, and sharing needles among drug users.

The risk of HIV infection in hemophiliacs and others given blood or blood products has been virtually eliminated since all blood for transfusions is screened for HIV antibodies and the use is limited to inactivate the virus in blood products. Babies born to mothers who have AIDS or who are at risk for the disease may become infected before, during or immediately after birth.

Q. How is AIDS diagnosed?
A. No specific symptoms occur to indicate the loss of immunity specific to HIV. Some develop symptoms, which may include tiredness, fever, loss of appetite, and weight loss (more than 10 pounds), diarrhea, night sweats, and lymph gland enlargement. This group of symptoms is sometimes referred to as AIDS-related complex (ARC).

Some, but not all, ARC patients will develop impaired immune defenses and then develop an opportunistic infection. When this occurs, they will be diagnosed as having AIDS.

Q. What are some of the diseases affecting people with AIDS?
A. About 95 percent of the AIDS patients studied have had one or both of two relatively rare diseases: (1) Pneumocystis carinii pneumonia (PCP), a parasitic infection of the lungs, and (2) A type of cancer known as Kaposi’s sarcoma (KS). Other severe opportunistic infections that may occur include those due to yeasts, such as histoplasmosis or cryptococcosis. Milder infections with these organisms occur occasionally in the general population do not necessarily suggest immune deficiency and are not considered “opportunities” to develop additional infections.

Q. What is known about these opportunistic infections?
A. The opportunistic diseases now seen with AIDS are not new. KS was described about 100 years ago. In the United States, prior to 1980, KS primarily affected elderly men and was very seldom fatal, even five to 10 years after diagnosis. KS also was seen in children and young adults in some parts of equatorial Africa and in a few other locations.

PCP affects a few hundred adults and children in the United States each year, but is seen primarily in patients with severe underlying illnesses, such as leukemia, or in patients receiving therapy with drugs known to suppress the immune system — such as those administered to kidney transplant patients to prevent organ rejection.

Q. How is AIDS common?
A. Investigation of the syndrome began in June 1981. As of November 1989, there were more than 1,483 cases in Ohio, 303 of whom were residents of Franklin County. The total number of newly diagnosed cases of AIDS is increasing. It is estimated that 991 a total of 270,000 cases will have been reported in the United States.

Q. How is AIDS transmitted?
A. Outside the body, HIV is fragile. For instance, it is inactivated completely by heat at 140 degrees Fahrenheit. Common detergents will kill the virus, as do alcohol or a 10 percent solution of household bleach.

Q. How serious is acquired immune deficiency syndrome?
A. AIDS has a very high fatality rate, ranging from 33 percent to 100.

Continued on page 5.
AIDS Questions and Answers...

Continued from page 4.

percent, depending upon the opportunistic disease and the length of time from diagnosis. Centers for Disease Control investigators do not know of any patient with AIDS who has regained lost immunity.

Q. What is the geographic distribution of reported cases?

A. The distribution has been and remains uneven, with about 33 percent of the cases reported from New York State and about 23 percent from California. AIDS cases have been reported from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and more than 35 other countries.

Q. Is there a danger of contracting AIDS from donating blood?

A. Absolutely not. Blood banks and other collection centers use sterile equipment and disposable needles. Thus, there is no chance that a needle used for a blood donor would be used by another donor.

Q. What can be done to prevent AIDS transmission?

A. The U.S. Public Health Service has made several recommendations for AIDS prevention. They are:

- Know the sexual background and habits of partners.
- Use contraceptive measures (condoms and spermicides) that could prevent entry of a virus into the bloodstream and also could kill it.
- If your partner engages in high risk behaviors, cease sexual relations or follow safe sexual practices.
- Be aware that having multiple sexual partners and/or anonymous sexual partners significantly increases your chance of contracting AIDS.
  - Don't use unprescribed intravenous drugs.
  - If you do use IV drugs, do not share or reuse needles, syringes or preparation vials.
  - Avoid sexual contact with persons who use unprescribed IV drugs.

HELP AND INFORMATION

Ohio State AIDS Education and Research Committee, 293-8734
Wilce Student Health Center, 292-8606
Counseling and Consultation Services, 292-5766
Columbus AIDS Task Force, 488-2437
Columbus VD Hotline, 253-8581
Franklin County VD Hotline, 224-7837
Columbus Health Department, 222-7772
Ohio AIDS Hotline, 1-800-332-2437
Ohio Department of Health, 466-0265
U.S. Public Health Service AIDS Hotline, 1-800-342-2437
National VD Hotline, 1-800-227-8922

TESTING

Anonymous (confidential) testing site for HIV blood test:
Sexually Transmitted Disease Clinic
181 Washington Boulevard
Columbus, Ohio 43215
222-7772

Ohio has other confidential testing sites throughout the state. Call the Ohio AIDS Hotline, 1-800-332-2437, for locations.
AIDS a sensitive subject among Hispanics

By Sonja S. Peterson
Lantern staff writer

AIDS is a silent issue in Hispanic culture and there is a tendency to think it is somebody else's problem, said Israel Najera Jr., a graduate administrative associate for Counseling and Consultation Service. Mark Benn, a psychologist, joined Najera in the program on "AIDS and Hispanic Students" Wednesday at the Ohio Union.

Najera provided statistics from "Silence: Hispanics, AIDS, and Sexual Practices," an article in the journal "Differences," which said Hispanics make up 6 percent of the U.S. population. However, 14 percent of reported AIDS cases in the United States have been in the Hispanic population, the article said.

However, AIDS is not about race, morals or lifestyles, it is about luck, Benn said.

"Never before has any topic brought so many things home to so many people," he said. "It makes us talk about sex. It makes us talk about drugs. It makes us talk about communication and sexuality and sexual orientation." Benn said any program on AIDS is more effective when it is focused on a specific population.

Najera said these subjects are difficult to discuss in any population, but for Hispanics, the stigma is stronger.

"It makes us talk about sex. It makes us talk about drugs. It makes us talk about communication and sexuality and sexual orientation."

"It's a cultural thing," he said. "Hispanics have been socialized not to talk about it. You do not accept it. You deny that it's around."

Benn stresses the importance of overcoming these kinds of social barriers. "It's that invisibility that's making people get sick," he said.

AIDS is a weak virus. This is lucky, because it is not airborne and people cannot get it from being in the same room as someone with the virus, sharing dishes, from door-knobs, shaking hands, hugging, or from toilet seats, Benn said.

People can only get AIDS if the virus has an opportunity to enter their bloodstream. AIDS can be transmitted through sexual intercourse and people should abstain or use a condom. In order to work these things out between partners, communication is essential, he said.

Here again, social stigmas can be a problem, Najera said. "For many Latino women, it is difficult to talk about sex, especially with a man."

According to "Differences," a Latino woman challenges male authority if she raises issues of sexuality. She also risks being seen as loose or immoral.

Another cultural barrier in the Hispanic community is the reluctance of men to admit they are homosexual or bisexual, the survey said.

Many of these men, the article said, believe that AIDS is a gay, white disease. They do not see themselves as gay or white.

This is a problem for every population, Benn said. "There are a lot of men who have sex with other men who don't call themselves gay." AIDS is not just a gay disease, he stressed.

"Differences" also said the U.S. white population has an average life expectancy of 24 months after being diagnosed with AIDS. The average life expectancy of minorities diagnosed with AIDS is only 19 months.

"This doesn't have to do with race," Benn said. "It has to do with economics."

Najera agreed. Whites tend to have better health insurance than blacks and Hispanics, he said.

"The thing is not to be quiet about (AIDS) or pretend it does not exist," Najera said.

Benn and Najera organized the program on AIDS.
AIDS strategies topic of forum

By Karen L. Brown
Lantern staff writer

Strategies on how to incorporate AIDS education into everyday course curriculums were the main focus discussed at a recent Teaching Associate Forum Series.

The forum was the idea of the University AIDS Education and Research Committee and was sponsored in part by the Center for Teaching Excellence, the Council of Graduate Students and the Graduate School.

Mark Benn, psychologist for the Counseling and Consultation Service, said course instructors need to incorporate AIDS discussion in their classrooms.

People need to talk about AIDS because it is not going to go away. Somehow make it a part of the curriculum, either in the classroom or out, Benn said.

AIDS among college students is a growing concern, Benn said.

At least two out of 1,000 college students are HIV positive with one to three million people positive worldwide. Of those infected, 90 percent are unaware of their condition, Benn said.

“AIDS has an incubation period of seven to ten years before any signs begin to show. We have here basically an invisible problem,” he said.

Rick Tewksbury, teaching associate for the department of sociology said that course instructors must make AIDS relevant to college students in order to face the problem.

“Make students aware that AIDS can affect them,” he said. “Make it important to your students. AIDS is a relevant issue whether they like it or not. They can’t simply block it out and not deal with it,” Tewksbury said.

One of the stumbling blocks that educators must face with college students is the confusion of what AIDS is and who is affected.

Benn suggests explaining the AIDS pyramid to students. At the bottom of the pyramid are those who are HIV positive, approximately one to three million people. At the top of the pyramid are those 120,000 people with full-blown AIDS when the symptoms appear. Once students are given the factual information more concentration can be placed on the emotional aspect of AIDS education and specific techniques to inform.

“Primary to doing AIDS education to any degree in the classroom is becoming comfortable with the issue,” Benn said.

This includes erasing any prejudices and falsities concerning AIDS victims, he said.

Phyllis Gorman of the Ohio Department of Health and former teaching associate for the Center of Womens Studies, said 30 percent of women who have AIDS in the United States got it from heterosexual contact.

“Once women hear that, they are more interested in hearing about AIDS. Men suffer homophobia and feel like why should they listen, they aren’t gay,” Gorman said.

Several techniques to incorporate AIDS education in the classroom were discussed.

“Our community is very rich with resources. Direct students toward a hotline number . . . or to the appropriate resource for help or counseling. Provide brochures and facts to distribute in class,” Tewksbury said.

Another way to teach AIDS education is by incorporating it into the subject being taught.

Robert Perkins, professor of internal medicine and member of the OSU AIDS Education and Research Committee, said there are two kinds of AIDS education.

One is the personal risk knowledge of AIDS and how to counsel friends so they will not get AIDS. The other is to incorporate AIDS into the curriculum. Perkins said.

“I went through the entire bulletin course by course and without any trouble came up with a topic that could be applied for one hour during each course,” he said.

One example Perkins cited was to use AIDS statistics in math courses by way of word problems or fact sheets.

A more controversial education strategy is to expose students to a person who is living with the AIDS virus.

“Some students will be disturbed. If this approach is used, students need to be prepared,” Benn said. “They must realize that they are more dangerous to AIDS victims than the infected person is to them. After all, the victim is the one whose immune system is failing, he said.”
AIDS Week to increase OSU students’ education

By Paul Levitch
Lantern staff writer

"Just Use It. AIDS Education," is the slogan for Ohio State's AIDS Education and Research Committee's Awareness Week, May 7 through 11. The purpose of the week is to increase student education and awareness, said Marshall Brown, program coordinator for AIDS education at Ohio State.

"I want students to know they can’t get AIDS if their roommate is HIV-positive or by sharing a computer keyboard, and what they can do to prevent the spread of the disease," Brown said.

Brown, who is in his second year as the program coordinator, thinks most college-aged students view themselves as invincible and do not take the necessary precautions when it comes to sex.

He is also concerned that students will not change their behavior until they are personally affected by someone they know who has AIDS.

Tom McGarty, the residence halls' advisory council's representative to the student subcommittee, said he thinks AIDS Awareness Week will be a success. During Condom Awareness Week in February, over 150 students from the residence halls showed up to ask questions, most of which dealt with AIDS, McGarty said.

Also, Baker Hall resident advisers have taken it upon themselves to pitch in by handing out condoms advertising Thursday's showing of the Academy Award winning "A Common Thread," a film about the making of the NAMES project quilt. The condoms will be passed out to students while they wait in line for dinner, he said.

Tom Fletcher, president of OSU’s Gay and Lesbian Alliance, thinks this week’s Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual awareness activities should not be related to next week’s AIDS awareness activities, but he does not mind that one followed the other.

Anyone who thinks AIDS is a gay disease and the two weeks are so close together because of it, is reflecting their ignorance, he said. In fact, since "a lot of homophobia is a backlash from AIDS," it is fitting a week that focuses on AIDS education follows a week like Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Awareness Week, Fletcher said.

Brown said, "If all the week’s activities did nothing else but make one student think about his behavior, then I’m satisfied."

The week will begin May 6 with the "Walk for Life," which is co-sponsored by Columbus Children's Hospital and the Ohio Department of Health’s AIDS Unit. The focus of the walk is on the increasing needs of HIV-infected infants and children, and the proceeds go to the Columbus Children's Hospital AIDS Program.

The five-mile walk begins and ends at Schiller Park, and goes through German Village and downtown Columbus. Registration is from 12 to 1 p.m. at Schiller Park.

Although the walk is not sponsored by Ohio State, it goes along with what we're trying to do, said Bob Rodda, assistant dean of student life.

Condoms and instruction sheets will be handed out at May 7 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in front of Independence Hall, and from 4 to 6 p.m. in Larkins Hall.

They will also be handed out May 9 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. outside the Ohio Union West Ballroom.

In addition, Jane "The Condom Lady" will appear at the same time.

"If all the week's activities did nothing else but make one student think about his behavior, then I'm satisfied."

—— Marshall Brown

Jane has appeared at Ohio State several times and mixes humor with a serious message, "The Condom Lady," whom Rodda describes as a "middle-age housewife who cares," sings condom songs and introduces new condoms, such as her "I've got a heart on for you" condom, which actually has a heart imprinted on the condom, Rodda said.

"A Common Thread," which documents the NAMES Project Quilt, will be shown four times next week. The film will be followed by a presentation and discussions with a person with AIDS on Monday at 7 p.m. in Royer Activities Center; on Wednesday at 7 p.m. in Morrill Tower and on Thursday at 7 p.m. in Baker Hall.

It will also be shown Wednesday at noon at the Wilce Student Health Center followed by a brown bag lunch.

A workshop entitled "Women and AIDS: The Reality of the 90s" will focus on issues facing women with AIDS, and will be followed by a discussion with a woman with AIDS Tuesday from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Ohio Union.
AIDS cases increasing for women

Workshop discusses additional concerns for infected mothers

By Denise Cardaman
Lantern staff writer

The percentage of women in the United States infected by the AIDS virus is increasing more rapidly than any other group. This was the topic discussed at a workshop Tuesday night.

Phyllis Gorman, prevention specialist in the Ohio Department of Health, used the piece of the pie analogy to describe the AIDS rate among U.S. women. She said the pie (total AIDS cases) is getting larger and the one piece representing women with the disease is becoming a larger portion.

The workshop was sponsored by The AIDS Education Research Committee, and was just one activity scheduled for AIDS awareness week.

The workshop was set up to be an information exchange and discussion session, and was presented by Stephanie Bruzuzy, M.S.W., an Ohio State research associate, and Gorman.

According to the Ohio Department of Health, there are four ways in which AIDS can be spread:

- Sexual intercourse. This includes vaginal, anal and possibly oral and the virus is most commonly found in semen, blood and vaginal secretions.
- From mother to child. A woman can pass the virus to her child during pregnancy.
- Sharing intravenous drug needles. This is because blood is shared with the infected person.
- Receiving blood or blood products infected with Human Immunodeficiency Virus, HIV.

A unique fact about women and AIDS is that they can transmit the disease through pregnancy, Bruzuzy said. She said 30 percent of unborn children with infected mothers will also become infected.

The pregnancy may also further weaken the woman's ability to fight disease, Bruzuzy said. And because HIV can be found in breast milk, infected women are encouraged not to breast-feed, unless there are economic factors out-weighting the risk of contracting AIDS, Gorman said.

"There is a lot of politics with this disease. It matters who you are and where you are," Gorman said.

The World Health Organization, which makes recommendations to AIDS victims, suggests pregnant women of extremely low economic status who are infected by the disease breast feed anyway because of the inability to obtain sufficient amounts of packaged milk, Gorman said.

Women are also at a disadvantage because they contract AIDS from men in much higher numbers than men from women, Bruzuzy said.

"We need to look at the risk behaviors instead of focusing on the symptoms. At the beginning, we didn't have much to say about the disease so we wrote out the symptoms on all the pamphlets," Gorman said.

This just lead to an increase in unrealistic fears and myths about ways to contract the virus, Gorman said.

Her suggestion for combating AIDS is for people to do critical thinking within themselves on the risk behaviors and avoid them.
AIDS buddy says program enriches lives

By Chris DeVito
Lantern staff writer

In this busy world, with busy schedules revolving around busy people, it's nice to find individuals who find the time to volunteer - just because they care.

Catherine WoodBrooks is one such person. She took time out of her busy schedule to become an AIDS buddy.

In addition to being a graduate student at OSU and working on her doctoral dissertation in education, WoodBrooks studies, does research for a professor and used to spend several hours each week volunteering as a member of the Columbus AIDS Task Force.

The past tense is used when referring to her participation in the AIDS buddy program because she is no longer involved, not because she no longer cares, but because she can no longer find the time. For WoodBrooks, the relationship with her buddy ended when her buddy died from complications of the AIDS virus.

WoodBrooks, 35, was interviewed last November and said she would probably not remain a part of the program for longer than her one-year commitment because she expected her experience to be a fairly emotional one.

"But my commitment with my buddy is for life," she said at the time. WoodBrooks' was a buddy for life. But her commitment ended sooner than expected five weeks ago.

Woodbrooks said Tuesday night she loved her buddy like a sister, and when she first died, she didn't think she could be a buddy again. She said she has decided to give it some time and will probably become a buddy again this summer.

"The pain is worth what the contribution could be," she added.

WoodBrooks said she decided to become an AIDS buddy because people with AIDS do not get much empathy.

"It is a real lonely way to die," she said.

The high risk of AIDS in the college population scared her and this was another reason why she got involved, she said. This age group is close to her heart because she worked as an administrator at the University of Maine for ten years, she said.

The attitude of college students really scared her, she said, because more and more 18-25 year-olds are being diagnosed with AIDS.

WoodBrooks said she was not afraid when she became an AIDS buddy and that she still is not.

"I've had a lot of experience with

See BUDDY: page 2
death in my life," she said. "Both of my parents died, and then the unde who raised me died. So I know I have some resiliency."

She had been a part of the program since September 1, 1989 and said she learned a lot about AIDS and the struggles persons with AIDS go through. She spent an average of five hours per week with her buddy.

Her buddy was a female in her 30s and WoodBrooks said last fall, by virtue of her personality, she would get as close to her as her buddy wanted to get.

She said they grew close in just three months. They talked like girl-friends, about everything from men to fashion.

"My buddy has had some very, very difficult physical and emotional problems and I've worked through that side by side with her in counseling," she said.

Since she met her buddy she has come into contact with other people with AIDS.

"I didn't expect to see such love of life and I thought I'd see a lot more bitterness, but I haven't seen a lot of that," she said.

WoodBrooks said she has found many people with AIDS live with hope and have enthusiasm in trying new experimental drugs, but she has also seen a lot of denial of the disease.

For the first month with her buddy they didn't talk about AIDS. Her buddy wanted to get new furniture and to settle in Columbus. Her buddy talked about long range goals and about things she would do someday. She was denying reality, WoodBrooks said.

WoodBrooks' husband, Mark, had met her buddy a couple of times and talked to her on the phone, she said. "But it is my project. He is very supportive and would help me in any way I asked."

She said the rest of her family was also very supportive and interested.

"In one way, I didn't want to tell anyone so I wouldn't be this heroine — it's not a big deal — but that is what you get, this kind of hero worship," she said. "I became an AIDS buddy just because it felt enriching."

WoodBrooks was part of the Columbus AIDS Task Force volunteer program. Belonging to this program involves first, filling out applications and a pre-training interview. Annetta Carter, Client Services Director, of the Columbus AIDS Task Force, said.

Then, there are 22 hours of training on a weekend followed by a post-training interview.

The buddies must make a one-year commitment for 2-15 hours a week and are to provide emotional support and assistance in day-to-day living for their AIDS buddy, said Carter. They also help persons with AIDS live at home as long and independently as possible.

Buddies also attend Buddy Support Groups, which is a place where they can talk about experiences without breaking confidentiality, Carter said. They also attend monthly classes that are like a continuing education for the buddy program.

The Task Force started with five people five years ago and now has over 450 people. WoodBrooks said.

This includes AIDS hotline people, full-time counselors and administrators, people who facilitate training and buddies.

WoodBrooks' buddy died of a sudden infection. It was called a cyto- megalovirus, she said.

"Many times the virus affects the retina, but with her buddy it affected the spine," WoodBrooks said.

She was paralyzed from the waist down for the last months of her life.

Her buddy spent the last week of her life in the hospital where she died.

In the last few months of her buddy's life WoodBrooks was in a health care role, she said.

She said she did not feel very right and that volunteers are needed because there are a lot of lonely isolated people out there.

It is easy to get wrapped up in research while a graduate student, she said. The experiences with her buddy helped put her life in perspective.
CORRECTION

In the fourth paragraph of yesterday's "AIDS buddy" story, Catherine WoodBrooks was misquoted as saying she no longer participates in the program "because she can no longer find the time." WoodBrooks is no longer in the program because her buddy died from complications of the AIDS virus.

The headline reading "USG invites students to dinner" was incorrect. The Coalition for a Better Student Government invited students to the banquet, not USG.
New supervisor chosen to lead AIDS program

By Teresa Hailey
Lantern staff writer

There is new leadership at the helm of AIDS education at Ohio State.

The new supervisor of the AIDS Education and Research program is Mark Benn, a senior staff psychologist for Counseling and Consultation Services. Benn took over Sept. 1 when former coordinator, Marshall Brown left Ohio State.

Benn will be supervising two graduate administrative assistants.

James Howley, a second-year graduate student of higher education and student affairs, has been chosen as one assistant. Interviews are still being conducted for the other position.

Howley’s primary duties will be assisting Benn in coordinating AIDS education and outreach to the OSU community, including students, faculty and staff. Benn said.

Howley was selected for this position because of his devotion and previous work with the AIDS issue, Benn said.

“He is a trained educator in AIDS awareness, and he is willing to do programming, direct services and counseling,” Benn said.

Howley said his first goal with the AIDS issue at Ohio State is AIDS awareness, followed by AIDS education.

“It is important people know AIDS is a real issue on college campuses and a part of our lives,” Howley said, graduate assistant with the OSU AIDS Education & Research program.

“Benn and I think we have the largest AIDS awareness program in the country as far as we know,” Howley said. “It makes us proud, but we can do more. You can always do more,” he said.

Howley’s experience includes working with Horizons Community Services in Chicago and Stop AIDS Chicago, an organization that provides education for minority communities, Howley said.

He also has volunteered for the Chicago Area AIDS Task Force and the Howard Brown Memorial Clinic, a gay men’s health crisis clinic in Chicago.

Howley received his undergraduate degree from DePaul University, majoring in English literature and minoring in business, he said.

At DePaul, he helped devise the undergraduate AIDS policy as a member of the executive committee for the university, he said.
OHIO STATE HOLDS AIDS AWARENESS WEEK ACTIVITIES

COLUMBUS "AIDS Touches Us All" is the theme for National AIDS Awareness Week, May 5-10. The Ohio State University AIDS Education Committee is marking the occasion with visits from "Jane, the condom lady," safer sex olympic-style games, and a presentation by the founder of the NAMES Project Quilt.

"It's not cool on college campuses to attend AIDS Awareness workshops," says Mark Benn of the Ohio State University Education Committee. "AIDS is still perceived as a disease that strikes primarily gay men or intravenous drug users. Heterosexual college students don't attend workshops because they don't want to be perceived as gay."

However, the segment of the population with the most rapid increase in AIDS is the heterosexual college and high-school age group.

"The goal of AIDS Awareness Week is to get college students to see that unprotected sex is a threat to them," says Benn, a psychologist with the Counseling and Consultation Service at Ohio State. College students don't see themselves as vulnerable, and since they don't develop symptoms until well beyond their college years, they don't see the information as pertinent. We want to get them to change behaviors."
Ohio State University AIDS Awareness Week activities include:

--"Jane, the Condom Lady," with a safer sex sing-along and decorated condoms for sale. May 7 and 9, 11:30 a.m., Ohio Union Mallway, 1739 N. High St.

--Cleve Jones, founder of the Names Project Quilt, discussing his experience with AIDS, social implications, and the phenomena known to many as the AIDS quilt. May 6, 8 p.m. Law School Auditorium, 1659 N. High St.

--Safer Sex Games, featuring condom relays, dental dam balancing and a variety of Olympic style games utilizing safer sex paraphernalia. May 8, 7:30 p.m., Royer Student Center, 85 Curl Drive.

--Wristbands, to honor victims of AIDS/HIV, organizers will distribute wristbands commemorating the life of someone who has died of the disease. Wristbands and safer sex kits will be available on the Oval May 6 and 8, 1-3 p.m., and May 7 and 9, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

--"AIDS: It's Not Just a White Thing," A discussion about how AIDS affects non-white people, especially college students and their families, Tuesday, May 7, 7:30 p.m., Royer Student Center.


--Workshops and discussions on safer sex and sexuality designed for heterosexuals, women-only and for gay/bisexual men-only.

Contact: Mark Benn, AIDS Education Committee, (614) 292-5766.
AIDS week to focus on actions, education

By Dona S. Klinger
Lantern staff writer

Ohio State and the Columbus community are banding together to do their part in the fight against AIDS during Statewide AIDS Awareness Week, starting today.

Mark Benn, a psychologist for Counseling and Consultation, said it is unfortunate that people have become less afraid and less aware of AIDS because the main goal of the week is awareness and they are not concerned.

Benn said Cleve Jones, founder of the names quilt project, will hold a lecture tonight at 8 p.m. in the Law School’s main auditorium.

People wearing hospital wrist-bands with the names of AIDS victims can be seen on campus throughout the week, he said, and ACT UP will tie ribbons on trees around the Oval to remember the victims.

Benn said the ribbons are a nice touch because students see them and know they mean something.

On the less serious side, he said, Jane “The Condom Lady” will sing.

See AIDS / Page two

Tuesday and Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Ohio Union Mall.

Students are invited to participate in the Safer Sex Olympics at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in the Royer Student Activities Center, Benn said.

He said college students seem to be numb to the possibility of getting AIDS and are not listening very closely, but should since they are the group with the most rapid increase in the virus.

Gays and lesbians have had to listen closer because their friends and loved ones have died of the virus, he said.

“The traditional college student feels that it has nothing to do with him or her,” Benn said. “The week’s ultimate goal is to change behaviors.

“We probably won’t know how we are affecting students,” he said, since the virus is not evident from five to ten years after first exposure.

Lynne Bratka, social program coordinator, said an awards ceremony and a walk-a-thon this past Saturday were held for public awareness.

People from the community received service awards for accomplishments they had done throughout the year, she said.

The walk began and ended at Schiller Park in German Village, and participants walked through downtown in-between, she said.

The pledge money from the walk will go to either the HIV program at the Columbus Children’s Hospital or to the Ohio AIDS Coalition.

“The week is for raising awareness, addressing AIDS and for people to come together for a united purpose,” Bratka said.

Mike Dittmer, a representative of Stonewall Union, said the group’s newspaper revolved around AIDS awareness this month and was used to promote the walk-a-thon and awards ceremony.

Dittmer said nationally the percentage of gay men with the virus is decreasing and AIDS is now more dominant in the heterosexual population.

There is prevention through education, he said, because people will protect themselves against the virus if they know how, unless they are suicidal.
Safe sex games educate students

By Dona S. Klinger
Lantern staff writer

Safe sex games contributed to Statewide AIDS Awareness Week in an effort by the OSU AIDS education program to spark awareness about safe sex in a comfortable environment.

Glen Abrams, a student on the AIDS Education Committee, said the games' purpose was to raise awareness, get people talking and desensitize people to protective devices such as condoms and dental dams.

Participants played five games. Abrams awarded first, second and third prizes.

Jim Howley, a graduate research associate for AIDS education, said this week that students on the Oval would walk by and make derogatory remarks about AIDS Awareness Week.

As many as 1 in 100 people on college campuses everywhere are infected with the AIDS virus, Abrams said.

Many people see AIDS as a death sentence, he said. The games were to shift the emphasis on AIDS to prevention, he said.

The first event tested condom effectiveness. The participants blew their condoms up, and the first ones to break their condoms won.

In the second event, blindfolded participants pinned a condom on an Elvis poster. The participant who pinned a condom closest to Elvis's mouth won.

In the third event, two participants balanced an egg on a dental dam and ran through a chair obstacle course.

Howley said, in addition to safe-sex devices, dental dams are usually used as barriers in the dental chair to prevent chemicals from being swallowed.

Howley said dental dams are hard to come by because they are medical paraphernalia and sold in medical supply stores, which the public does not often patronize.

The fourth event was a condom relay utilizing cucumbers.

The last event was a water-filled latex glove toss. The water-filled gloves were similar to water balloons and proved the latex's durability, Howley said.

Jake Miner, president of North Campus Student Association, said, "I'm proud NCSA is sponsoring an event that educates the entire campus on a subject that usually isn't talked about in public."
Conference focuses on AIDS education

By Jenny O'Keefe
Lantern staff writer

An AIDS conference, sponsored mainly by the Ohio State Office of Continuing Education, will focus on preventing and controlling AIDS through education.

The conference is titled "Trends in HIV/AIDS Education and Prevention: Seizing the Window of Opportunity" and is scheduled for Oct. 14-17 at the Radisson Hotel Columbus North.

The conference is designed for professionals who wish to incorporate AIDS prevention education and activities into their existing programs, said Linda Roberts, conference coordinator.

"Our goal is to educate the professionals, the individuals that are working in the community," Roberts said. "We want them to know about successful programs that are going on, and (we want) to demonstrate strategies that they can use in their own surrounding," Roberts said.

Roberts said the conference is subtitled "Seizing the Window of Opportunity" because Ohio and the other states targeted for the conference are considered to have a low number of incidents of HIV and AIDS.

Roberts said since AIDS is almost always fatal, education and prevention are the means to stop the disease. She said the conference has the unique opportunity to try to successfully keep Ohio and the other states low-incident states.

The six other states that have participants in the conference are Michigan, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, Illinois, Wisconsin and West Virginia.

Roberts said these states were picked because they are low-incident states and are homogeneous to Ohio.

According to the Ohio Department of Health, Ohio accounts for only 2,737 of the nation's 186,866 cases of AIDS reported to the Centers for Disease Control through July 31, 1991.

At least 300 participants are expected at the conference, Roberts said. The participants include social workers, public health professionals, Red Cross volunteers, local AIDS service organization workers, physicians and nurses, clergy, education administrators and community service providers, Roberts said.

The conference is scheduled to have 39 speakers covering AIDS/HIV prevention in four areas: substance abuse, sexuality, children and adolescents and health policy and planning.

The speakers include Michael Para and Jacob Gayle.

Para is a professor of Microbiology and Immunology at Ohio State and director of clinical studies at the OSU AIDS Clinical Trial Unit, according to a statement by the Office of Continuing Education.

Gayle is a special assistant for minority HIV policy coordination at the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta and was formerly a counselor to the OSU College of Dentistry, the statement said.

Roberts said the presentations will focus on the impact of many at-risk populations; including women, gay men, African American, Latin and other ethnic populations, adolescents, young adults and children born to mothers with AIDS.

The conference is the first in a series of "AIDS Initiative" being developed by the Office of Continuing Education, Roberts said.

The office has conferences on AIDS scheduled through 1995, said Janet Schwartz, public relations coordinator for the Office of Continuing Education.
AIDS victim talks to students about disease

By Julie M. Low
Lantern staff writer

Most people do not know someone who has been exposed to the AIDS virus, but by the year 2000 it is estimated that every man, woman and child will know someone who has AIDS, according to Bob Spencer, a volunteer from the Columbus AIDS Task Force.

Spencer and Brian, a 32-year-old Columbus man with AIDS, who didn't want to use his last name, spoke about AIDS Monday to 25 students in the Taylor Tower lobby.

They discussed AIDS symptoms, the ways it is contracted, how to reduce the risk of contraction, and about the prejudices those with AIDS face.

"There is another battle I face. That's the battle of fear, of ignorance. That's the battle of prejudice and hatred. Every battle out there takes away from the battle I'm waging inside," Brian said.

Spencer said the age group with the highest risk for contracting AIDS is the 16- to 25-year-old category.

Some of the students who attended the speech said they did have prejudices against people who have AIDS, but listening to Brian tell about his experiences made the disease more of a reality.

"After hearing him talk, the disease (AIDS) seemed more personal. He's no longer just a statistic," said Danielle Hundley, 18, a freshman living in Taylor Tower.

Some of the students said they would not change their sexual habits after hearing the speakers because they already practiced safe sex.

"I know enough about AIDS before the speech that I don't need to make any changes in my sexual habits. I think the speech affected me by getting rid of biases and fears," said Adam Roslovic, 20, a junior.

Spencer said an estimated 50,000 people in Ohio have been exposed to the AIDS virus and about 90 percent of those people do not know it.

Spencer said there are about 25 AIDS testing sites in Franklin County where people can be tested free of charge. He said the test results are anonymous and are available within seven days of testing.

Brian says he battles the AIDS virus every minute of his life. He is currently undergoing chemotherapy for cancer he contracted as a result of his weakened immune system. He also takes large amounts of medications daily. Brian did not say how he contracted the virus.

"I think a lot of people still think this is a gay disease. I'm glad Brian did not mention how he contracted the disease because it keeps people guessing," said Dill Giorgini, a resident adviser in Taylor Tower who organized the speeches.

Spencer said there are three main ways AIDS can be spread. He said 90 percent of AIDS cases are spread through sexual intercourse with an infected person, 8 percent are spread by sharing drug needles with infected people, and 2 percent of the cases are spread from an infected mother to her baby.

Spencer said there is no risk of contracting AIDS from donating blood because new equipment is used for each donor. The risk of contracting AIDS from infected blood transfusions is extremely rare because donated blood is tested for the AIDS virus, he said.

"This is not a disease of individuals but a disease of behavior," Spencer said.

He said the ways to reduce the risk include abstinence, monogamy, use of latex condoms that have been lubricated with Nonoxynol-9, and not sharing needles if using intravenous drugs.

"When you learn those lessons you've made my life worthwhile. We're dying for something and that something is you," Brian said.
ACT-UP meeting hopes

By Kelly Kuntz
Lantern staff writer

The OSU chapter of the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power will try to increase AIDS awareness in the university community at a town meeting Wednesday.

The ACT-UP event will feature seven medical professionals speaking on topics ranging from AIDS among adults, children, drug users, and people of color, as well as AIDS activism.

A guest speaker who has the disease will talk about how AIDS has affected his life.

"The conference will give an overall impression of where we stand now (regarding AIDS) and where we can go," said Phil Martin, the faculty adviser for the campus ACT-UP group. "Hopefully, OSU students will feel the need to come."

Because of the amount of sexual activity that occurs and the opportunity for multiple partners, college can be a catalyst for the spread of AIDS, said Amy Myer, executive director of ACT-UP Education. "One out of 100 college students is HIV positive and most of them don't know, and won't know they're spreading it."

for increased AIDS awareness

"ACT-UP is an AIDS activist group with the purposes of changing attitudes, stopping discrimination and getting the government in gear to do something more," Myer said.

AIDS will have an enormous effect on the economy, Myer said, particularly because it affects the 19-49 age group — killing people during their peak earning years.

OSU student Brian Grondin said he joined ACT-UP because of the "government's indifference toward the issue."

ACT-UP is fighting for more government spending on AIDS research, laws to prevent discrimination and more free and anonymous testing, Myer said.

Education is most important, Martin said. "We know that it works, the government is just too scared. Why do you think there aren't any condom commercials on TV?"

"AIDS education should be in every school," Grondin said. He also believes that free and anonymous testing should be more accessible; and free, clean needles be available to IV drug users.

In February, the Gay and Lesbian Alliance will sponsor a drive for free and anonymous testing on campus. The only place it is available now is the Columbus Health Department, which is not easy to find and difficult for students without a car, Myer said.

ACT-UP has invited several prominent people to attend the town meeting Wednesday, including senators, the mayor and OSU President E. Gordon Gee.

The meeting will last from 7 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. in the East Ball Room of the Ohio Union, and is free and open to the public.
ACT UP holds town meeting to increase AIDS awareness

By Elaine Kaush and Julie Fry
Lantern staff writers

Eight solemn faces, determined to increase AIDS awareness, faced a small crowd of about 100 people Wednesday night at the Ohio Union.

ACT UP, the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power Education Fund, sponsored a town meeting on AIDS to better educate the Columbus community on the disease.

Organizers said they hoped to bring in a crowd of about 200 people and were disappointed at the low turnout.

Invitations were extended to mayoral candidates Greg Lehocka and Ben Somy, as well as Mayor Dana Henshaw, OSU President E. Gordon Gee and several state senators; however, none of them were present.

The meeting targeted men, women and children of all ethnic backgrounds, since the HIV virus has different results in different groups of people, said Molly Merryman, spokeswoman of the ACT UP Education Fund.

The information is necessary because most of the public's knowledge about AIDS only concerns gay, white men and not heterosexually active groups, Merryman said.

Gordon Nacy, the executive director of the Physicians Association for AIDS Care and master of ceremony for the town meeting, said 200,000 people contract the HIV virus when they are adolescents.

The seven speakers discussed a wide range of issues from AIDS and children to the role pharmaceutical companies play in fighting the virus.

Stim Wals, a registered nurse with the AIDS virus, gave an emotional speech on the importance of educating the community on AIDS. He said it is not only important to educate people on how to prevent AIDS, it is important to educate the HIV-infected community.

Dr. Michael Brady, physician director of the HIV program at Columbus Children's Hospital, said, "AIDS is definitely a family disease."

There has been a marked increase in children diagnosed with the HIV virus, and most of them have mothers or fathers with the disease, Brady said. These children are largely from socially disadvantaged families. He said healthcare is needed for the whole family to ensure everyone, not just the child, is getting proper treatment.

The third speaker, Phyllis German, an AIDS consultant from the Ohio Department of Health, said, "AIDS is a woman's issue." She said 44 percent of females that have the disease are white women. In Ohio, women are more likely to be infected with the disease by heterosexual contact than by intravenous drug use, she said.

German said women who have been infected with the HIV virus first experience minor gynecological problems, such as recurring yeast infections. Women who are HIV positive also have an increased risk of uterine and cervical cancer, she said.

Dr. Michael Pace, the director of the AIDS Clinical Trials Group at Ohio State, talked about how the AIDS virus affects cells in the body. He said the virus slowly kills white blood cells that eventually deplete the immune system.

Dr. Paul Ostreicher, the assistant director of public policy and communications for Hoffmann-La Roche, Inc., said, "Ninety-four percent of drugs prescribed for AIDS in the U.S. are patented by private industry." Hoffmann-La Roche is a pharmaceutical company that produces AIDS-related drugs.

Ostreicher said drug development normally takes 12 years to complete.

Rocky Morrison, director of the Columbus AIDS Service Connection, said that while many free services such as transportation to treatment centers and housekeeping are available for AIDS patients, more volunteers are needed to continue daily support of expansion of services.

Peter Staley, founding member of ACT UP in New York City and a person living with AIDS Related Complex, said, "I'm here to recruit — Uncle AIDS Activist wants you!"

The AIDS activist recounted his story of changing himself in a Japanese pharmaceutical office to force it to sell an AIDS drug underground in the United States.

He said what he did made a difference and is an example of something everyone can do. "That's power," he said.

With quiet force in his voice, Staley said anger drove him to leave his job as a Wall Street broker and become a full-time AIDS activist.
Professionals discuss avoiding AIDS virus

By Alyson Flagel
Lantern staff writer

AIDS is a deadly disease most often contracted through unprotected sexual contact and intravenous drug use. However, health-care professionals would agree AIDS can be avoided.

AIDS is the disease that develops from the Human Immunodeficiency Virus. An individual can test HIV positive without having AIDS, said Carina Sudarsky, coordinator of the OSU AIDS Education and Outreach Program.

Sudarsky said the HIV process is not unlike that of the influenza virus. She said although many students are exposed to the flu only a handful show symptoms and develop the disease.

Twenty percent of the patients who tested HIV positive in a 1976 study still have not contracted AIDS, Sudarsky said.

During flu seasons, people who catch colds try to take more care to avoid catching the flu. For AIDS, Sudarsky said, people who engage in sexual intercourse, use intravenous drugs or are exposed to blood through an open wound need to be more cautious.

Abstinence from sex is the only absolute measure to prevent contracting AIDS through sexual contact, Sudarsky said.

Sudarsky recommends using a latex condom with non-oxyynol 9, a lubricant that kills HIV. She said people engaging in oral sex should use dental dams, a non-lubricated condom or a latex glove to protect themselves.

Sudarsky said because the virus is passed through blood, even a simple fist fight at a campus bar can spread the virus from one person’s cut to another. HIV can also be contracted by intravenous drug users through hypodermic needles because blood from one person will stay on the needle until used by another.

It can also be transmitted to infants through their mother’s breast milk or directly from the womb, Sudarsky said.

By Oct. 24, 544 Ohioans had died from AIDS-related causes, according to a Columbus Health Department study.

William Myers, health commissioner for the city of Columbus, said the general public believes the AIDS health problem is over, so no money is going to education, it is all going to treatment.

Rhonda R. Rivera, a professor in the OSU College of Law who specializes in AIDS cases, said people who are not ignorant about AIDS do not need to fear it. "I know how to protect myself from AIDS, so I am not particularly fearful of it," she said.
Doctors are focus of AIDS legislation

part two in a series

By Elizabeth Sharkey
Lantern staff writer

The newest Ohio legislation tackling AIDS would require doctors to disclose to their patients, licensing board and the Ohio State Medical Board if they test positive for the HIV virus that causes AIDS.

But critics from the Columbus AIDS Task Force, a non-profit organization of 15 paid staff members and "400 plus" volunteers, say legislators are acting without enough data on AIDS, and the legislation is "grossly inconsistent with national guidelines" from the Center for Disease Control.

The CDC suggests preventing the possibility of infection through improved medical personnel procedures and training, but Ohio legislation goes beyond this in its disclosure requirement.

"I personally object to the fact the the state of Ohio thinks they're smarter than the Center for Disease Control," said Dr. Michael Para, an OSU associate professor of internal medicine.

Para, who performs clinical research for the national AIDS Clinical Trial Group, said the only known case when a doctor is believed to have infected patients was the 1988 case of an HIV-infected Florida dentist. In that case, the dentist's tools may have been used on the dentist himself and not cleaned properly.

In 10,000 other cases, patients of HIV-infected health care workers tested negative for the virus, he said.

Para said Ohio legislators need more data before enacting legislation on the topic. "In the absence of data, at least I would go along with the CDC procedures rather than make my own laws up," he said.

Even if passed, the Ohio legislation is likely to be preempted by national legislation currently being debated in a U.S. Congressional conference committee, Para said.

The Ohio bill's supporters argue local legislation is needed now in the absence of national legislation because 40 percent of surgeons in training ignore CDC suggested precautions, such as careful use of equipment and wearing two pairs of gloves during some procedures, said Todd Bergdoll, aide to the bill's sponsor, Rep. Paul Jones, D-Ravenna.

Bergdoll added, "We feel doctors have an ethical obligation to their patients to release that information."

The Ohio bill doesn't require mandatory testing, which could cost up to a billion dollars in testing and record-keeping if implemented nationally.

More than one million Americans are believed to be infected with the HIV virus that leads to AIDS, and studies show that only about 20 percent realize they're infected.

"I understand that nobody wants to get AIDS, and they're scared," Para said.

But he said focusing on health care providers "diverts attention from the real way AIDS is spread," usually through sexual intercourse.

Para is disturbed by the influence of powerful, wealthy lobbyists over legislation.

"Based on lobbying efforts, bills are changed repeatedly," he said. "I was somewhat dismayed how a public health issue was turned into a political circus," he added.
AIDS awareness has little effect on students’ sexual activities

By Elizabeth Sharkey
Lantern staff writer

Most students have not changed their sexual habits as they become more aware of AIDS. According to several national studies, 60 percent to 70 percent of college students said concerns about AIDS have not affected their sexual habits.

"People aren’t thinking twice," a female bartender at a High Street bar said. "I hear guys talk while they wait in line for the bathroom, and I don’t think of AIDS makes a difference."

Bartender Don Martin at NotAls Pub, 20 E. Ninth Ave. disagreed, saying, "Four years ago, the bars were big pick-up joints."

Now it's more social," he said. "Men and women come in groups and look around before they get to know the people they come with."

"We have a condom machine and we definitely promote the idea of safe sex," he said.

Most OSU men interviewed said they use condoms and practice safe sex. However, a national study by Tulane University professors showed that 29 percent of college students never used condoms, 50 percent sometimes or almost always used them, and 16 percent always used them.

"If men interviewed at campus-area bars said they usually carry condoms with them, but condoms do not seem to be as important after people have been drinking," the study said. "It depends on what state of mind they’re in," one man said. "During the day, they say they think about it. But after a few beers…"

In the Tulane study, published in this month’s Journal of American College Health, 47 percent of the men and 87 percent of the women surveyed "said they had engaged in intercourse on one to five times primarily because they were intoxicated."

Although behavior does not seem to be changing, interest and knowledge of AIDS is clearly increasing. The Ohio AIDS hotline usually receives 700 calls per day, but received 840 calls the weekend after Ervin "Magic" Johnson announced he was infected with the virus that causes AIDS.

Sixty percent of the callers wanted information about how to be tested for AIDS, said Gloria Smith, executive director of the Columbus AIDS Task Force.

During that weekend, 88 percent of the callers were heterosexuals, and 66 percent were women, Smith said. She said many of the callers were ignorant of basic facts about AIDS because, before Johnson’s announcement, they didn’t perceive heterosexuals as being at risk.

AIDS is usually transmitted during sexual intercourse, and Smith stressed, "Anyone that participates in unsafe sex is at risk, whether it be anal, vaginal or oral sex."

Although AIDS has been perceived as a homosexual disease, some women are becoming infected at a faster rate than any other group.

From what he’s heard at NotAls, Martin said, "Guys are a little behind the times, but women are insisting on using condoms."

This may be because men are 10 times more likely to spread the disease to women than vice versa, said Tom Brunck of the Ohio State AIDS Education and Outreach program.

"Students in their last years of high school and first years of college may be more likely to ignore calls for safe sex," he said. "One woman, an OSU senior from Columbus, said she works with people that age, and ‘all they think about is sex.’"

With chances of becoming infected with the HIV virus estimated between one in 500 and one in 2,000, many students do not consider themselves at risk because they think AIDS is a disease that happens to others who are not like them, according to an article researched by Jeffrey Hayes, administrative coordinator of the Outreach program.

In the wake of Johnson’s announcement, safe sex and AIDS have been discussed candidly on television and in newspapers. Critics have said these discussions promote not just safe sex, but sex in general, especially pre-marital sex.

Members of the Roman Catholic Church have criticized press coverage of AIDS because "the church, as well as a lot of other people, believe the only safe sex is abstinence," said Tom Cullen, a local Roman Catholic priest who works with people with AIDS.

Fear of AIDS has distracted attention from sexually transmitted diseases which students are far more likely to get infected with. "People are overly hysterical about AIDS," said Dr. Lee Vossberg, chief of the gynecological clinic at the OSU Student Health Center. "Practically, this is not a high-risk population."

Students are far more likely to contract chlamydia, the most prevalent STD, which can go undetected for years, potentially causing pelvic inflammation and infertility.

The health center screens about 3,000 sexually active women a year for chlamydia, and about 6 percent of the women test positive, Vossberg said.

He said about 10 percent of women’s routine pap smears show an abnormality, often indicating an STD.

Risk of infection with STDs and AIDS can be limited through abstinence, monogamy or use of condoms.

"Safe sexual practices will help protect against HIV, and more importantly at OSU, against STDs," Vossberg said.

"I think at certain ages you tend to be more experimental, more promiscuous," she said.

One man, 24, interviewed at campus-area bar, said, "I don’t really pick up one night stands anymore, but younger guys still don’t understand the seriousness of AIDS."

"Most people interviewed do not expect college students’ sexual behavior to change."

Dr. Michael Para, OSU associate professor of internal medicine, said he has read that "behavior modification, whether it be changing sexual practices or to stop smoking, takes peer pressure and peer group acceptance."

Peer pressure at Ohio State to change sexual habits is "very small," he said.
Huddle of silence

A group of students observe National AIDS Awareness Day Monday on the Oval by taking a moment of silence.
By Gemma McElrath

Teachers can help children make wise choices that will help prevent the spread of the AIDS virus, say the authors of a new health education textbook for teachers at elementary and secondary schools.

The revelation that basketball star Earvin "Magic" Johnson has tested positive for HIV, the virus that results in AIDS, has put a spotlight on the importance of educating children about HIV infection. However, children are getting the wrong message from the recent publicity, according to two educational psychologists, Linda McCullough and Philip Heit.

"We are concerned about headlines that say anyone can get AIDS," says McCullough. "Actually, these headlines may make young people more likely to think that AIDS is a legitimate concern.

AIDS is not transferable through mere contact, and there is no known cure or immunization against the virus.

The media has a responsibility to educate the public, but news reports about AIDS can create fear and panic.

By Sarah Williams

For a person who has tested positive for the AIDS virus, the future can be frightening and uncertain. It may take two to four years for the virus to weaken a person's immune system, and by that time, many positive patients will have developed symptoms.

Many people believe that they will not die if they don't show any symptoms of the disease. However, this is not true. AIDS is a deadly disease that can be very difficult to treat.

By Amy Murray

The AIDS virus that causes AIDS is a growing problem among African Americans. People in the United States are being infected at a growing rate, and the virus is spreading rapidly.

AIDS is a disease that can be transmitted through sexual contact, blood transfusions, and from mother to child. It is spread by contact with infected body fluids, such as blood, semen, vaginal fluids, and breast milk.

The virus attacks the immune system, weakening the body's ability to fight off infections and diseases. As the immune system becomes weakened, the body becomes more vulnerable to opportunistic infections, which can be life-threatening.

The symptoms of AIDS can vary widely, depending on the person and the stage of the disease. Some people may experience only minor symptoms, while others may be severely affected.

The disease is usually diagnosed through a series of tests, including blood tests and imaging studies. Treatment options are available, but there is no cure for AIDS.

The best way to prevent AIDS is to practice safe sex, avoid sharing needles, and avoid contact with infected body fluids.

Basketball star Johnson, for instance, admits that he had unprotected sex, a known risk behavior. Now, he has to give up the dream of helping his team try for a National Basketball Association championship.

AIDS is a disease that affects people of all ages, and it is important to educate children about the risks of HIV infection.

"We use this strategy to examine behavior and HIV infection," says Heit. "We explain that the behavior of other people who choose right now may be a behavior that will result in behavior that will impact their future, and that of others, in the future."

HIV research may lead to predictions of symptoms.

At present, there are no known cures for HIV or AIDS, and there is no vaccine available that can prevent infection. However, researchers are making progress in understanding the disease and developing new treatments.

"The importance of CD4 cells has been known for years," says Heit. "Now, researchers are using a new imaging technique to see how many CD4 cells a person has and how they are distributed in the body. This is important because the CD4 cells play a critical role in fighting off infections."

Heit adds that the brain function and CD4 levels of 47 children who have been infected with HIV are being closely monitored. During the live calls, experts will answer questions from listeners. The panel will include: Michael Paris, associate professor of medicine and AIDS expert at University Hospitals; Janet Ferguson, assistant director, Columbus AIDS Task Force; and member of the Minority AIDS Consortium; John Bocci, AIDS health educator, ECCO Family Health Center; and Pastor Robert Douglas of the Rock of Faith Baptist Church.

The cause of AIDS is not a pleasant subject, but the community needs to know what services are out there.

"I hope, by doing this program, we can educate the community and also help those who have, or think they have, the HIV virus, to seek help," says Heit.

The radio broadcast is being supported by the Rock of Faith Baptist Church, the Columbus Association for Health, the East Central AIDS Education and Training Center, and the American Public Health Association.
AIDS, African-Americans topic of program

By Mark Houser
Lantern staff writer

A university-produced radio program that airs tonight will provide listeners with an opportunity to learn more about AIDS issues and how they relate to African-Americans.

The program, "AIDS in the Black Community," will air at 7 p.m. on WCKX-FM 106.3. It will feature a half-hour documentary followed by an hour-long question-answer session, in which a panel of four AIDS experts will offer their insights to callers.

The panel consists of Dr. Michael Para, an associate professor of medicine at Ohio State; Janet Ferguson, assistant director of the Columbus AIDS Task Force and a member of the HIV/AIDS Consortium for People of Color; John Boxill, an AIDS educator and employee of the ECCO Family Health Center; and Rev. Robert Duckens of the Rock-of-Faith Baptist Church.

Reggie Anglen, the program's director, said he created the program in order to raise African-American awareness of AIDS.

"Many people in the black community don't want to talk about AIDS. They feel that it's a gay, white disease. But AIDS has no color," he said.

According to Para, recent statistics show that AIDS is a proportionally greater problem for African-Americans than it is for whites. He said although African-Americans account for only 12 percent of the national population, they are affected by 29 percent of the AIDS cases nationwide.

Para said the medical community is not doing all it could to educate the public about AIDS and the HIV virus, but he also admits that some solutions lie outside the reach of doctors.

Noting the key role of peer pressure, Para explained, "I don't think a doctor telling you to wear a condom holds the same weight as finding out five of your friends do, and you don't."

Ferguson attributes the higher incidence of AIDS among African-Americans in part to the fact that, in the black community, homosexuality is not as commonly acknowledged or discussed as it is in the white community. This leads to a false sense of security—a feeling that the African-American community is not at risk, she said.

Para compares this attitude to that of the gay community, which she feels has confronted the AIDS problem and has devoted large amounts of time and money to combat its spread.

In an effort to educate the community, Rock-of-Faith has been coordinating an AIDS-awareness program at the church. Five parishes in the local African-American community participate in the program, in which each church selects a pair of young people to be instructed on AIDS issues. After instruction, the pairs return to their home parish and teach other young people what they have learned.

According to Duckens, the program has been very successful and is now in its second year. This year Rock-of-Faith has selected five new churches to participate in the program.

Duckens feels the church has a special role to play in dealing with AIDS issues. "The church has always been a source of strength and a focal point for the black community and has taken the lead in various issues," he said.

"We have been given a mandate by the Lord to show mercy, compassion and awareness. We need to be more educated about AIDS, and we need to show those already suffering from this disease that we care. After all, they're humans too," Duckens said.

"AIDS in the Black Community" is a special edition of the OSU weekly news magazine program, "Insight," which deals with campus issues of interest to African-Americans. "Insight" normally airs Saturday from 10 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on WCKX.
Free AIDS testing offered to students

By Amy Toft
Lantern staff writer

Free anonymous AIDS testing will be available to students at the Ohio Union Buckeyes Suites on Thursday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The University AIDS Education Committee, the Student Health Center and several university departments committed to AIDS awareness have joined together to bring the testing to the campus because there are no free anonymous AIDS tests offered on campus, said Carina Sudarovsky, a graduate administrative associate for the AIDS Education and Outreach Program.

The testing is being sponsored by the Columbus Department of Health and is funded through a public health grant allotted to the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta, said Michael Johnson, the sexually transmitted disease program administrator.

He said the Center for Disease Control grants money to each state and then the money is distributed down to the local governments.

The health department uses an ELISA screening to look for antibodies in the blood that might have been produced by the HIV virus, Johnson said.

He said if the ELISA screening is positive then a Western Blot screening is done to make sure there was not a false positive.

The Western Blot test is more expensive than ELISA and is only used when the ELISA test is positive, Johnson said.

Students receiving the free testing will not be asked for any form of identification because a number system will be used to identify each person, Johnson said.

Each person will be given a number that corresponds with his or her sample and then given a return slip, which enables them to obtain their results on Feb. 20 at the Ohio Union, he explained.

Results can also be obtained at the health department one month after testing, Johnson said.

He said people must obtain their results in person and present their return slip. In addition, they must answer several questions to make sure they were the ones who were originally tested.

"Allowing for anonymous testing on campus is a good thing," said Phyllis Gorman, the executive director of Stonewall Union, an organization that deals mainly with gay and lesbian civil rights.

She said students now have more choices when it involves being tested for the HIV virus.

Originally, students and staff had the alternative to go to their own doctor, the Student Health Center on campus, or the Columbus Department of Health, Gorman said.

The Columbus Department of Health is the only anonymous testing site, while others are confidential.

The only difference between confidential and anonymous testing is that in anonymous testing the individual being tested is the only one who knows the results of his or her tests. In confidential testing, medical personnel also know the results, said Tom Bouck, coordinator for the OSU AIDS Education and Outreach.

Anonymous testing of students is the most appropriate method for people who are unaware of their antibody status, Gorman said.

Ninety percent of college students who are HIV-positive do not know it, Sudarovsky said.

This HIV testing presents benefits to the public by letting them know and obtain their results confidentially and educates them about safer sexual behavior, Johnson said.
AIDS test turnout shows increase in student awareness

511 take rainchecks

By Karin Gross
Lantern staff writer

University organizations sponsoring the free anonymous AIDS testing Thursday in the Ohio Union gave rainchecks to students because they underestimated the number of people who would show up to be tested.

The Columbus Department of Health was prepared to administer 200 tests for the HIV virus, but 504 people were tested, said Tom Broun, coordinator for the OSU AIDS Education and Outreach Program.

People had to be turned away at 4:30 p.m. in order for testing to finish by 7 p.m., Broun said.

"Before we went to the coupon system, we probably had to turn away 100 people because there were no seats and people didn't want to wait two hours," Broun said.

Coupons were given to 511 people who could not be tested. Individuals with coupons can be tested on Feb. 20 when results will be available for tests performed Thursday, he said.

Debbie Coleman, director of the AIDS program at the Columbus Department of Health, said they estimate four out of five people tested will come in to get their results.

The Columbus Department of Health ran out of the computerized forms, which are used to keep an individual's personal information and blood sample together, and had to get more from the Ohio Department of Health, Coleman said.

Broun attributes the unexpected turnout to a new realization among college students that heterosexual men and women can get the AIDS virus.

"The percentage of new infections in gay homosexual men is decreasing, whereas the percentage of newly-infected heterosexual men and women of college age is increasing," Broun said.

There were about 30 people waiting Thursday morning before testing even began, said Mollie Marks, a member of AIDS Education and Outreach.

"We were nervous that people would be afraid to come get tested for HIV, but people have come in groups," Marks said.

In addition to HIV testing, AIDS information, free condoms and optional syphilis testing were also provided. Coleman said about half of the people she counseled wanted the syphilis test.

Tests dispel fears

By Julie Campbell
Lantern staff writer

What price is peace of mind? No charge at the Columbus Department of Health's HIV testing at the Ohio Union Thursday.

That peace of mind was the reason Mary (not her real name), an OSU senior, decided to be tested for HIV. The virus that causes AIDS.

"Although Mary isn't considered "high risk," she wanted to take the free test to dispel her fears of not knowing whether she is infected."

"High risk individuals are listed as intravenous drug users who share needles, homosexuals, people who have received blood transfusions, hemophiliacs, people with multiple sex partners since 1978, people with sexual diseases and children born to an infected mother, according to a pamphlet available in the testing area," Mary said.

Mary said she also gives blood regularly at the Red Cross, which informs its donors if the blood sample contains the virus.

"Even though I haven't had sex with anyone in over a year, I know, and can tell the next person I have sex with that I definitely do not have HIV," Mary said.

"Sexual relations with people of undetermined sexual history or "one-nighters" often give people a reason to take the test," Mary said.

Another student waiting in the hour-long line with about 150 others said advertisements on the walls of the student health center and in the Lantern informed her of the testing.

Basic awareness and the fact the test was free lead her to take the test, she said.

Mary waited in line for nearly one hour, but the test itself was completed in less than 15 minutes.

A group of 20 people was taken into a special waiting room away from the 150 people waiting to be tested. Once inside the waiting room, the individual was handed a questionnaire concerning sexual history, drug use and condom use. Taped television programs dealing with the AIDS issue were also played for the group to watch.

A table at the front of the room offered participants a choice of AIDS and HIV information guides, and cookies and condoms.

Each individual was guided into a small cubicle in another room, to a member of the Columbus Department of Health, who explained the test and answered AIDS-related questions.

"The test given today can only trace back to before November 1991," Tim Phillips, an employee of the Department of Health, said.

Phillips explained that the sample of blood taken was about equivalent to one-half teaspoon, and with each sample taken a new disposable needle was used.

"A person only needs one test a year with a follow-up within three months if that person exercises safe sex with one or more partners, Phillips said.

"Simply taking the test doesn't prevent a person from getting AIDS," he said. People who continue high risk activity should be tested often if they continue those behaviors, Phillips said.

"The results of Thursday's HIV testing will be available Feb. 20 in the Ohio Union. Each person was given a slip with an identification code as a certification that the person had been tested.

"The results are given verbally, and no person will get their results without the slip," Phillips said.

Because the testing is anonymous, slips are the protection from others finding out the results. The results are not recorded in written form, he said.

The Columbus Department of Health also gave participants the option of giving another blood sample for syphilis.

"The syphilis disease was in the 1940s what AIDS is today," Phillips said. Syphilis has increased among college-age Americans by 410 percent in the last ten years, he said.

The results from the syphilis testing will be available after Feb. 10 by calling the health department number given on the slip.
AIDS talk gets ‘sad’ crowd

By Julie Campbell
Lantern staff writer

A low turnout Thursday for a panel discussion on AIDS in the black community was described as “sad” by organizers.

Carina Sudarsky, director of the Office of AIDS Prevention and Education, said she thought the poor attendance was partly related to denial rather than people not knowing about the discussion. Only fifteen people came to the meeting.

“People are afraid of the stigma of showing up... saying they are at risk if they show up,” she said.

Joyce Vaughan, director of African-American Student Services, said she was not disappointed by Thursday’s low attendance, but wanted the topic to get more exposure among African-American students.

AIDS affects 25 percent of the African-American community, according to literature distributed at the discussion.

The personal testimony of Anthony Jenkins, who describes himself as a black heterosexual with AIDS, gave focus to the discussion.

Jenkins, who has been married for 14 years and has three teen-age children, said he got AIDS because he had unprotected sex with people with unknown sexual histories.

The panel emphasized behavioral change and knowledge about protection to fight the spread of AIDS. “When a person is uninformed they are at risk,” Jenkins said. “When they are informed and ignore the dangers, they are making a choice.”

Guest speakers Kim Walker and Carol Pritchett linked denial to the spread of AIDS among the African-American population.

Walker said sexual transmission of HIV is not the only concern to the African-American community. Health-care technicians are also at great risk.

A large number of African-Americans come in contact with patient blood and fluid discharges because more African-Americans work as health care technicians than as doctors, Walker said.

Drug using urban youths are also high on the list of those who need to see the reality of AIDS, Walker said.

“It (AIDS) ain’t an issue of race... it ain’t an issue of gender,” she said.

Pritchett and Walker are coordinators for AIDS prevention and education for Central Community House and ECCO Family Services, respectively. Both organizations offer various social services in the Columbus area.

The speakers were selected from members of the Columbus African-American community who worked with social and educational programs and organizations.

In the mid-80’s, many people thought AIDS only affected white male homosexuals. “We learned the hard way that that wasn’t so,” Walker said.

The African-American Student Services and the Office of AIDS Education and Prevention, co-sponsored the panel as part of the 22nd celebration of United Black World Week at Ohio State.
Conference addresses
AIDS in the workplace

By Kevin Corvo
Lantern staff writer

The Office of Continuing Education at OSU will sponsor a conference, "AIDS in the Workplace," today from 8:30 a.m. to
5 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency Columbus, 350 N. High St.
The conference will address the
Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome epidemic relative to its
impact in the workplace.

Janet Schwartz, program
coordinator of the Office of
Continuing Education, said "our
purpose is to look at the issue of
AIDS in the workplace because
there are certain aspects of its
impact that are important. We
have especially invited employers
in the field of food service and other
public activities where the impact
of AIDS is important."

Concerns about employee
morale, productivity and how other
employees and clients will react to
a person who has AIDS will be
addressed at the conference,
Schwartz said.

Introductory remarks will be
given by Sarah Austin, special
assistant to OSU President E.
Gordon Gee. The keynote speaker
will be William H. Baumhauer,
chairman and corporate executive
officer of DAKA International, Inc.,
a food service company, and
president, and CEO of
Puddrucker's, Inc., a hamburger
chain based in Boston.

Dr. Michael Pera, an associate
professor in the Department of
Internal Medicine will speak about
the medical effects of AIDS. Barney
Singer, from the Small Business
Administration in Washington, will
address AIDS-related legal issues.

Schwartz said a panel of three
people, one afflicted with AIDS, one
an AIDS care-giver and another
who employs a person with AIDS
will share their experiences at the
conference.

Louise Larew, coordinator of the
department of Conferences and
Institutes, said representatives
from businesses, local government
representatives and employers in
the public sector are among the
participants in the conference.

"The impact of AIDS in the
workplace is the most important
issue. A medical update will be
included and all those registered
will receive a resource book,"
Larew said.

The conference is co-sponsored
by the Hyatt Regency Columbus,
the Columbus Rotary Club, the
Nationwide Insurance Foundation
and the Ohio Department of
Health.
Test results are in; don’t be deceived

By Kevin Long
Lantern staff writer

One person out of 780 people tested positive for the HIV virus, which causes AIDS, in testing done on the OSU main campus last Winter Quarter, the Columbus Health Department stated in a news release.

Seven hundred eighty people were tested at the Ohio Union in early February. OSU students, staff, faculty and some university community residents participated in the free, anonymous testing.

Michael Johnson, the sexually transmitted disease program director at the Columbus Health Department, cautioned that the results can not be viewed as reflecting the campus community accurately because it was a voluntary procedure.

"These could be the most health conscious people or people who felt that they were more likely to be infected," Johnson said.

The average age of those tested was 21, and of those tested 443 were female and 337 were male.

Over 90 percent of those tested returned to receive their results, said Johnson.

The only person who tested positive out of the 780 was a man who had a history of engaging in high risk behavior, the report stated.

High risk behavior includes any of the following: being a partner to a person who has tested HIV positive, a bisexual male, an intravenous drug user, a prostitute for drugs or money, a female who has been in contact with either a bisexual male or an intravenous drug user or a gay male, the report stated.

Those who participated in the testing completed a questionnaire on their sexual activities. Results of the questionnaire show that men were more likely to always use a condom and women were more likely never to use one. Also, approximately 20 percent of the women questioned engage in anal intercourse and 48 percent of them never use a condom.

Over 35 percent of the men and women who admitted to having anal intercourse never use a condom.

Men and women in monogamous relationships were also more likely never to use a condom, the report stated. In addition, men and women with multiple sex partners were less likely to always use a condom.

"People who pick and choose are just rationalizing their risk," Johnson said. "One should always use a condom. Picking and choosing is just Russian roulette."

The report also revealed 68 percent of the people who responded to the questionnaire engaged in intercourse after using drugs or alcohol.

"That question relates to impaired judgment, which is a major concern," Johnson said.

"People who engage in intercourse under the influence of drugs or alcohol are more likely to use poor judgement and engage in unsafe sex."

Currently, discussion is underway on returning to campus and giving more free tests.

"It would be nice to test again and compare the results, and the testing itself can be a positive motivator in changing people's behavior," Johnson said.

Right now, testing is available to OSU students at the Wilke Student Health Center for $30. The average cost from a private physician is around $50 to $30. Free testing is available at the Columbus Health Department, 181 Washington Blvd.
1 person tests HIV-positive out of 780 OSU students

By Tim Dulin
Dispatch Higher Education Reporter

Columbus health officials were heartened by HIV testing at Ohio State University that found only one person who tested positive and indicated that these tests are necessary to assess the disease and the importance of using condoms during sex.

The Columbus Health Department announced yesterday the results of the HIV testing last spring at OSU. It was the first such large-scale testing on an Ohio college campus, the department said.

A total of 788 OSU students, staff and faculty members and university-area residents were tested. The one person who tested HIV positive had a history of high-risk sexual behavior, the department said.

"Out of the nearly 800 individuals who were tested, to have only one positive is good news," said Michael Johnson, program director at the health department.

"Of course, we realize that is not all that representative of the college community. These are probably health-conscious people who came out to test. There is nothing to judge whether they are at greater risk or minimal risk."

The department offered counseling and gathered information from those who were tested. Testing was free and anonymous.

About 80 percent of the people who were tested indicated they use a condom at least some of the times they have sex, Johnson said.

About 76 percent of the people who indicated they had had more than one sex partner said they always use a condom, and many people indicated they "pick and choose" when to use a condom, Johnson said.

"I believe people are using condoms more than ever but they rationalize in their mind when to use them," he said. "They may say: 'Well, I picked this person up in a bar, so I am going to use one,' but under other circumstances they won't use a condom.

"We just have to encourage them to use a condom every time."

Other information gleaned from interviews with participants includes:

- Men were more concerned about always using a condom than women.
- Men and women in a monogamous relationship were more likely to never use a condom than men and women with more than one sex partner.
- About 58 percent said they had sex after using alcohol and or drugs.

The health department plans to use the information to help develop education and prevention programs aimed at young adults.

"Our concern is that people use condoms all the time. This just gives us further direction in getting information out that they need to be used all the time," Johnson said.

He said he was encouraged by the turnout for the testing and said offering it again next year would help gauge changes in sexual behavior in the campus community.

"I don't think anyone expected the turnout to be as great as it was, and it demonstrates the university community's awareness and concern of HIV," Johnson said.
OSU involved with AIDS education

By Cathy Baughman
Lantern staff writer

How much AIDS awareness does the OSU community really have?

When the HIV virus was first detected in 1981, who would have thought it would become as serious and as complicated as it has? The OSU community is not only taking measures to help treat the virus that starts AIDS, but to help people know how to prevent the spread of AIDS.

The Columbus AIDS Task Force gives presentations about the virus and how it is spread. Some of the more than 400 volunteers are trained to go to schools, churches and employers and give talks using general information.

Kathy Sellers, a health educator at the CATF, teaches many volunteers who go out and present materials on AIDS and teaches many of the presentations on AIDS herself. Sellers said most of the presentations consist of an informative lecture and basic questions from the audience.

CATF also runs one of the many 1-800 AIDS hotlines in Ohio.

One way Ohio State is informing the community about AIDS is by running a series of continuing education classes, said Linda Roberts, coordinator for the office of continuing education. After taking three of the courses, people can qualify for a certificate of completion in AIDS education.

Ohio State’s Continuing Education program has a five-year plan to help educate the public on AIDS. They conducted a workshop on AIDS in the workplace for the Ohio region and will educate young children in schools and clubs in the future.

Sellers said it is a state law that anyone who wishes to undergo an AIDS test must receive pre-test and post-test counseling on the implications the results might have.

Of the many volunteers that serve the CATF, many aren’t directly involved with the AIDS virus, but want to help get involved and give something back to the community.
Campus observes AIDS day

Students lie dead to raise awareness about AIDS problem

By Julie Shoemaker
Lantern staff writer

Nine students lie dead on the Oval. They were participating in World AIDS Day and National AIDS Awareness Day.

Michael Scarce, an organizer for the event, said the participants wanted an eye-catcher. The purpose was for other students to see people who died from AIDS, to understand that they, too, could contract the AIDS virus and to have compassion for the people who have died from AIDS.

The bodies of the dead were laid out on the North Oval and outlined with chalk. Dishwashing detergent, dyed red, was used to spell out “AIDS” and represent blood.

The students who were on their way to classes were allowed to walk through the area with the bodies. As they zigzagged through the bodies it forced people to look and acknowledge the fact they were “dead” and why. Bikes also zoomed in and out and came close to the head of one dead person’s body. Some of the bodies held posters containing an AIDS fact. The facts included: one in every 500 students is infected with HIV, 30 percent of people infected with HIV are unaware they are infected and every 25 minutes someone dies of AIDS related illnesses.

Scarce also read several facts about AIDS. One in every 260 Americans has AIDS. Ohio is ranked 13th in the nation with reported AIDS cases. Franklin County has the highest rate of HIV cases in the state of Ohio.

"Unlike cancer, we know how to prevent AIDS," Scarce said in his speech. "We need to raise awareness, practice safe sex and not share dirty drug needles. Ignorance should not equal death."

Kim Platt said AIDS is something that is affecting everyone. "It’s not a gay thing. It’s not a white male, black, women, children thing. It affects us all."

Platt also said there needs to be more awareness. Everyone must understand the disease, and to do that more governmental funding is needed.

Another local event included a day without art. Many galleries shroud or remove art, turn lights down, cover statues or cancel performances. Representatives from Hopkins Hall art gallery, The Wexner Center and the Ohio Union’s Exposure Gallery took part in covering the statue of William Oxley Thompson, located in front of the Main Library, with large vinyl bags.

The observance of World AIDS Day began in 1988. It focuses on the world-wide effort against AIDS by encouraging governments, communities, groups and individuals to talk about and be aware of the AIDS issue. Even though AIDS is a national issue, it is also a local issue and individuals must be aware.

The dead arose at noon with the chant "Act up, fight back, fight AIDS!"
Audience heckles AIDS speaker

By Stephanie Miller and John Roepke
Lantern staff writers

Protesters shouted down a self-proclaimed AIDS educator during a lecture Wednesday night at Weigel Hall, forcing him to halt his presentation.

John Harris said he came to Ohio State to present information to help increase awareness and understanding of the threat of AIDS, but some people in the audience said they believed he was there to denounce the lifestyles of gays, lesbians and bisexuals.

Outbursts started almost from the beginning, making it impossible to understand the point of Harris' presentation. Although he spoke for nearly an hour, it was unclear whether he came to bash gays or to promote safe sex or abstinence.

"We demand correct information that doesn't endanger people's lives," an unidentified member of the audience said.

Oh, isn't it wonderful to be in the '90s, when you have people that demand tolerance, acceptance and diversity and show none," Harris repeatedly said to the protesters.

His speech was sponsored by the Campus Crusade for Christ, Mack/Canfield, Smith/Steeb, Blackburn and Brackett hall councils.

"I'm sad the way they acted, but I love them. Hostility shouldn't be displayed toward anybody, no matter what. I wish them well," Harris said after abruptly ending his speech.

It was difficult to follow the information Harris presented because of constant interruptions from members of the audience who tried to express concurring and opposing views at the same time.

"I just thought it (the outbursts) was really rude. I came to hear the presentation, and I got really confused," said Shawnda Lehman, a sophomore.

Harris sold his $5 million consulting firm for $1, so he could devote all his time to his presentation on AIDS education, said Carl Palmer, a student with Campus Crusade for Christ.

Harris, who has spoken to more than one million students worldwide over the past four years, said he bases his presentation strictly on facts and research.

He stressed the fact that he had no desire to engage in any political debate.

"It doesn't matter...those who were infected were from all walks of life, all backgrounds, all geographic localities. The bottom line is, nobody is safe from AIDS, unless they don't engage in risk-producing behavior. If you engage in risk-producing behavior you're at risk, there's no doubt about it," Harris said.

"This thing has nothing to do with homosexuality, nothing. It's not a gay person's disease, it's a behavior-driven disease. Anybody's at risk. It's a virus, it doesn't stop and check your I.D. badge," Harris said.

Harris opened his presentation by attempting to dispute claims presented on a flier distributed to students as they entered the auditorium.

The flier, distributed by the AIDS Coalition to Oppose Uninformed Trash, disputed the facts Harris presented and the ones they thought he would present.

The flier said in part that Harris is "not a physician...or epidemiologist...and he has never published any works on the topics of AIDS, HIV, sexuality or disease prevention," according to the statement presented by ACT-OUT.
AIDS epidemic reaches into the womb

By Gemma McLeod

Babies who are infected with HIV by their mothers are a tragic aspect of the AIDS epidemic. And women, many in their childbearing years, are the fastest growing group of people contracting the human immunodeficiency virus, Michael Brady told volunteers at Children's Hospital last week.

Most adults contract the virus that causes AIDS through their own high-risk actions, such as unprotected sexual intercourse with several partners or sharing needles to inject drugs, Brady said. Infants born to infected mothers are caught in the fallout.

Pan, professor of internal medicine and associate professor of medical microbiology and immunology, specializes in AIDS research. He was one of three Ohio State faculty who spoke at the Caring Commitment IV seminar sponsored by Children's Hospital, the James Cancer Hospital and University Hospitals.

One out of three or four babies born to infected mothers will be infected by HIV, said Michael Brady, associate professor of pediatrics and preventive medicine. Sometimes the virus enters the baby's bloodstream through the placenta, and sometimes infection occurs during delivery. HIV also can be transmitted in breast milk.

The number of women who contracted HIV, many through heterosexual intercourse, comprised 14 percent of cases worldwide between 1990-92, Pan pointed out. Between 1981-89, they comprised 9 percent.

"Worldwide, the rate of infection is equal between adult males and females. When the females are childbearing women, they can infect their children," said Pan, who also is physician director of epidemiology and the HIV Pregnan at Children's.

The staff at Children's heard their first infected infant in July 1988, he said. Now they see three or four new cases each month. In 1989, the HIV program recorded 225 visits by children. In 1992, there were nearly 700 visits.

"We (at Children's) realize this is a family disease. People are affected even if they aren't infected," Brady said. He recalled a family in the mid-1980s who were ostracized by their church when a hemophiliac son was diagnosed as HIV positive. "If that child had had cancer, the family would have received an outpouring of affection and support," he said.

Sometimes parents find bureaucracy difficult to overcome. Brady told of a single mother earning $18,000 per year as secretary who must have $900 per month in medical bills before Medicaid will pay for her child's treatment.

"We cannot define or learn about the disease without statistics, but we have to remember that AIDS affects people. Each number is another person's life," Brady said.

Kim Hals, who is infected by HIV, told the group, "We are you." Hals pointed out that people cannot tell by looking at her that she is infected. She is a plump, blue-eyed blond woman who is monogamous and never used drugs. "It's not supposed to happen to me," she said.

She contracted the virus from her husband, who received a tainted blood transfusion in 1981 before controls had been instituted to protect the blood supply. Not realizing that she and her husband were infected, Hals had become pregnant. The family went through many months of agony while waiting for test results on their daughter, who finally was shown to be free of the virus. Hals' husband died of AIDS soon after the tests were completed. The Hals family's treatment for that time totaled $500,000.

People react differently to HIV, Pan told the volunteers. "It's like when your spouse has a cold, and when he or she gives it to you, you get a bad cold," he said. "With HIV, some people get sick very quickly, very quickly, and some people don't. The average time is 10 years. On the other side of that, some 30 percent of infected people are well after 11 or more years.

Children usually react more swiftly, Brady said. They often show symptoms of damage to their immune system within six months to a year after infection occurs.

HIV and AIDS cannot be cured, but can be prevented, the panelists emphasized. Since damage from blood transfusions has been virtually eliminated, the most effective measure is abstinence from unprotected sexual intercourse and from drug use.

Philip Johnson, professor of pediatrics and microbiology and immunology, showed a New York Times cartoon of a man in a business suit sitting alone in front of a television, with the caption, "Safe sex."

People should not hang their hopes on a miracle vaccine that would prevent infection. There is little likelihood such a vaccine will be developed, said Johnson, who also holds the Henry G. Crumpler Chair at Children's Hospital.

People who have been inoculated against polio, measles or influenza still become infected by one of those viruses, he explained. But the vaccines boost the immune system so an infected person doesn't develop the disease caused by the virus. Then the virus eventually leaves the body.

In the case of AIDS, however, the human immunodeficiency virus becomes chemically linked to a person's chromosomes so the virus never leaves the body. Over an average of 10 years, the infected adult shows no symptoms while "the virus silently but effectively depletes the very cell necessary to fight infection. Finally the virus production ex-plodes (and the patient becomes ill),"

"The likelihood of developing a vaccine that will prevent infection is remote," Johnson said. However, a vaccine could dampen HIV's reproduction enough that infected people would remain well and not transmit it to others.

People with virus to go on as usual

Editor's note: The following is provided as a service to the University community.

The Office of Human Resources has placed this policy concerning HIV and AIDS in the Operating Manual. The policy applies to faculty, staff and students.

Policy:

Persons with HIV infection, in any form will not be excluded from or restricted in enrollment, employment, (including benefits, promotion, and other terms and conditions of employment), or access to University services or facilities unless medically-based judgments in individual cases establish that some exclusion or restriction is necessary to protect the individual or the University community.

With respect to HIV infection, The Ohio State University is committed: 1) to protect the rights of all members of the University community; 2) to educate students and the University community about HIV disease, 3) to provide a humane response to those with any form of HIV infection, and 4) to take every reasonable precaution to provide a safe environment for everyone.

Current medical knowledge and experience establish that HIV infection does not pose a health risk in ordinary academic, occupational or residential environments. HIV is not easily transmitted.

Policy Guidelines

A. Definitions

For purposes of this policy, the term "HIV infection" applies to all forms of HIV infection, including AIDS, as well as individuals perceived to have any form of HIV infection.

B. Regulations

1. HIV infection is a disabling condition under applicable federal, state and local laws (e.g., Americans with Disabilities Act, Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and Section 412 of the Ohio Revised Code) and University policies.

2. Each case related to HIV infection will be reviewed by appropriate University officials on a case-by-case basis and reasonable accommodations will be made.

3. University officials will make every effort to ensure the confidentiality of individuals with HIV infection.

C. Responsibilities

1. The University shall provide education regarding HIV infection for students, staff and faculty to prevent the spread of HIV infection and to increase understanding and compassion for those with HIV disease.

2. The Vice President for Human Resources shall administer this policy as it affects faculty, staff and students and the Vice President for Student Affairs as it affects students in non-employment situations.

3. The Vice President for Health Services shall administer this policy as it affects faculty and staff in the clinical centers and students in the Health Science colleges.
Ohio State Celebrates AIDS Awareness Week

Columbus -- President E. Gordon Gee has proclaimed the week of May 2 as AIDS Awareness Week at the Ohio State University. AIDS Awareness Week will focus on remembering those who have died, and on responding appropriately to those who are currently living with HIV and AIDS, in addition to educating about prevention.

Activities that have been planned for the week include a candlelight vigil around Mirror Lake, a presentation by a panel of people living with HIV infection and AIDS, as well as a variety of other programs at the Wexner Center for the Arts.

In addition, other programs and activities are being planned with the offices of Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Student Services and of Counseling and Consultation Services.

Among the events are:

-- "Hot, Sexy and Safer," an inspiring night of comedy, drama and audience participation with Suzi Landolphi, using humor, compassion and honesty. Landolphi is an HIV/AIDS educator who has appeared on The Home Show, Jenny Jones, Geraldo, Vicki! and Maury Povich. She will present detailed explanations of safer sexual practices and attitudes, along with facts about sexually transmitted diseases and HIV protection. 7:30 p.m., May 5, Wiegel Hall, 1866 College Rd.

-- Workshop: "Declaring Your Sexual Bill of Rights," presented by Counseling and Consultation Services, 6:30 p.m., May 4, Ohio Union 4th Floor, 1739 N. High St.

- more -
-- Candlelight vigil at Mirror Lake Amphitheater with the Gay Men's Choir. One candle will be lit for every 1,000 people who have been diagnosed with an AIDS-related illness and placed around Mirror Lake (approx. 260 candles). 8:30 p.m., May 4.

-- People Like Us video and discussion. Young adults with HIV infection talk about how the epidemic has affected their lives. 7:00 p.m., May 6, Baker East Rec Room, 129 W. 12th Ave.

-- Reading by Essex Hemphill, writer and cultural activist. He will read from his published works. 8:00 p.m., May 6, Wexner Center, Film/Video Theater, 30 W. 15th Ave.

-- General Idea's "Fin de Siecle." A preview for the university community of a new exhibit featuring a series of works about AIDS using various media, including sculpture, silkscreen and acrylic paint. noon-3:00 p.m., May 7, Wexner Center for the Arts, 30 W. 15th Ave.

-- AIDS: Images and Analysis in the Arts and Media. This symposium brings together a group of nationally known artists, critics and media experts to engage the public in a discussion about AIDS, the arts and the media. 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., May 8, Wexner Center for the Arts, 30 W. 15th Ave. $5 registration fee; call 292-0330 to register.

#

Contact: Tom Brounk or Maureen McCarthy, (614) 292-6162.
Candle vigil to promote AIDS awareness

By Beth Steere
Lantern staff writer

On Tuesday, 254 lit candles will surround Mirror Lake. Each candle will represent 1,000 people who have been diagnosed HIV positive.

The candlelight vigil is one of the most popular events of Ohio State's AIDS Awareness Week, which runs the week of May 2.

This year's theme is, "You Don't Have To Be Infected To Be Affected."

Thomas M. Brounk, co-coordinator of the AIDS Education and Outreach Program, said, "It's good to see support from President E. Gordon Gee." He added that it's important for students to see the example.

There are two main purposes of AIDS Awareness Week. One is to make students aware that HIV does affect students, and they need to learn to protect themselves. The other purpose is to help make the atmosphere on campus better for those affected, said Maureen McCarthy, co-coordinator of the AIDS Education and Outreach Program.

"Since AIDS is a downer topic, the messages this week are in the form of entertainment," Brounk said.

"Hot, Sexy and Safer" with Suzi Lendolphi is the biggest program scheduled. Lendolphi, an HIV/AIDS educator, will present detailed explanations of safer sex practices and attitudes using humor, drama and audience participation.

Lendolphi has appeared on "Geraldo," "The Home Show," "Jenny Jones," "Vicki" and "Maury Povich." Her show is also popular on campuses nationwide.

Brounk added that the Department of Health Promotion is trying to strive toward a balance in the different types of programs being offered throughout the week.

Red ribbons will be tied to the poles around the Oval as a symbol of solidarity, Brounk said.

The Wexner Center for the Arts will feature a new exhibit with works about AIDS using various mediums, and the Wexner Center Film/Video Theater and Galleries will host a symposium on AIDS and how it is expressed in the media.

Throughout the week, wristbands will be worn in remembrance of people who have died from AIDS, and free condoms will be handed out.

The Wills Student Health Center will offer free, anonymous HIV testing from Tuesday, May 4 until the end of Spring Quarter. The students will meet with counselors, and the results will be available two weeks from the date of the test.
Free AIDS test offered

The University Student Health Center will be offering free, anonymous AIDS testing for OSU students this month.
Testing is offered from 1-4 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, and from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesdays.
The test is confidential. No medical records are generated and the students are identified by a random number, said Dr. Ted Grace, director of the Student Health Center.
"By keeping it in the health center, where a variety of services are, it's much more confidential," said Jane Marquiss, assistant director of the health center. "High-risk students should feel more comfortable to come in and be tested."
Students who want to be tested can go to the center and speak to the triage nurse, who will inform them of the testing process.
Students receive pre-test and post-test counseling. Results are revealed to the student in two weeks.
The testing is funded in part by the Pam Elliot Memorial Fund, a fund for health education. Grace said he hopes that through contributions such as the Elliot Fund, the clinic will continue to provide affordable AIDS testing.
Marquiss said the center needs to find a large benefactor to continue the program. If a benefactor is not found, anonymous testing would still be offered for less than $10, Grace said.

—Ramona Evans
Tranquility

Brian Gardner, a sophomore majoring in business, shows his support for AIDS Awareness Week by attending a candlelight vigil at Mirror Lake Tuesday night.
Athletes use education to battle AIDS

By Kendra Fleming
Lantern sports writer

AIDS is a disease making its way into everyone's life. Now, AIDS has even made its way into the sports arena with the reported cases of Arthur Ashe and Magic Johnson testing positive with HIV.

The Big Ten Conference universities are presently under an NCAA mandate stating that any player who is injured and bleeding on the court, rink or field must leave the game to change their uniform, bandage the wound and stop the bleeding. Some of these universities have met this 1992 mandate with initial protest but realize the importance and seriousness of the AIDS epidemic.

The OSU basketball trainers initially opposed the mandate, feeling problems could potentially arise in certain scenarios.

If, in the last few seconds of an important game, a star player was cut, either intentionally or accidentally, and had to leave the court, play would resume without that player. The athlete would then not be able to re-enter the game until time is officially stopped, explained Monica Baugh, an OSU assistant trainer. This could cost the team the game.

Athletes and coaches realize the significance of the rule and comply with the preventive measures. Players act very nonchalant about it if they have to change uniforms, Baugh said.

"Athletes know it is a precaution we have to take," said Paul Schmidt, head trainer at the University of Michigan. "It really does not phase an athlete."

It's in the athlete's best interest to take the precautions, Schmidt said.

Across the Big Ten Conference universities, AIDS plays a role in the life of student-athlete. They must be more aware, because they are involved in contact sports. These universities find it important to offer information, as well as open and confidential communication among athletes, coaches, and trainers.

Athletes are educated on the topics of AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases. At Michigan, athletes attend a mandatory lecture on AIDS. Other question-and-answer lecture series are optional for the Wolverine student-athletes.

At the University of Illinois, similar educational lectures are available to athletes. Though it is not mandatory that student-athletes attend, AIDS is taken seriously at the university, team physician Dr. Saboroff said.

Athletes at Illinois are aware of the NCAA mandate and "just go with the flow" if the issue arises. They see it as a preventive measure from a safety standpoint, Saboroff said.

Richard Finn, OSU's special assistant to the athletic director, said it is important for athletes to realize the importance of the rule and follow it. Players do realize its importance and normally don't object, he said.

At Ohio State, a mandatory physical education class must be taken by freshmen athletes. In this course, many topics are covered, but AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases are the focus during one week. These lectures focus on the issue and put students in an active learning role.

The student-athletes are presented with thought-provoking situations instead of being lectured to about the subject. In using these teaching methods, students will listen, learn and think about issues, which is usually the first step in changing behavior, said Kate Riffe, instructor of the course. Riffe has a doctorate in counselor education.

"It is a continuing education process for presenters and student-athletes," Riffe said.

Riffe said it is hard to keep up with the constantly changing statistics and information regarding AIDS. Ohio State obtains its information from the Student Health Center.

According to the latest statistics, one in 500 students tests positive for HIV. Ninety percent of those who are HIV-positive are unaware of it, she said. At Ohio State, there are about 800 student-athletes and it's statistically possible that one or even two might be HIV-positive.

Riffe hopes students in her class will change their behavior.

"In changing their thinking, it changes feelings and then it changes their behavior," Riffe said.

OSU coaches follow preventive measures, including the 1992 NCAA mandate.

"It needs to be done," said Randy Roth, sports program associate. "And anything preventive is a good measure."
Program to increase HIV/AIDS awareness

By Aimee Geuy
Lantern staff writer

One in every 300 to 400 college students is infected with the HIV virus. This statistic might not sound high to some, but with Ohio State's large population, the numbers start to sound frightening.

Teaching and studying about the HIV virus has become an effective way to get faculty and student attention. New studies show that the average person doesn't know enough.

Western College Health 2000 is a program taught to increase college health and teacher education programs aimed at preventing HIV infection and other important health problems.

WCH 2000 is sponsored by San Diego State University with funding from the U.S. Public Health Service, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of Adolescent and School Health.

Five schools in the midwest region are teaming up to attending the WCH 2000 conference in Illinois. Institutions are invited to attend the program based on certain criteria, including the number of AIDS cases per county, student enrollment, size of teacher education program and recommendations from state agencies.

"I would like to know where other campuses are in their efforts to promote and educate about HIV compared to other schools and what's being done to help," said Randi Love, program coordinator, who will attend the conference.

The training program is designed to educate, mainly on the topic of HIV/AIDS infection, but it will include education to reduce health risk behaviors including alcohol and drug abuse, injuries and sexually transmitted diseases.

Mary Daniels, assistant vice president for student affairs said she thinks Ohio State has a broad sense of understanding institutionally and a general perspective about health problems, especially HIV.

The conference will be held Aug. 1-3. Other universities attending the conference with Ohio State include Iowa, Missouri, Minnesota and Kansas.
Ohio State University AIDS Clinical Trial Unit
Fall 1993 Newsletter

This newsletter has been developed by the Ohio State University AIDS Clinical Trials Unit (ACTU) to inform interested parties of current and upcoming drug studies and other research developments concerning HIV infection. The newsletter will be of interest to persons living with HIV infection and to their health care providers. To be placed on the mailing list, please send your name and address to OSU ACTU, Room 4725 UHC, 456 W. 10th Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43210. If current research clients have had an address (or phone) change since clinic registration, please inform us. Our phone number is (614) 293-8112.

ACTU NEWS:

Hello and Goodbyes: We would like to welcome Barb Bradley, R.N. to the Clinic. Barb is our clinic nurse, since our previous nurse, Kathy Ward was promoted to a research position. We also welcome Jane Russell, R. N., who took over the research position that was held by Julie Stem. Julie and her husband Bob moved to San Francisco earlier this summer.

AIDS — When?? Now? Wait? or Never?

It seems that every time you pick up the paper the media is reporting another conflicting study regarding the use of AZT. One of the most recently reported studies is known as the "Concorde Study." This European study, designed to study the impact of "immediate" vs "deferred" AZT treatment, has generated a great deal of controversy. Since the preliminary results were released in a letter to "The Lancet" in April, there has been much misunderstanding about this trial. Study participants had a broad range of CD4 cell counts (59% had less than 500; 36% had less than 200) and took AZT (1000mg/day) or placebo until they developed symptoms; then the placebo group was to be given AZT. Participants were followed for three years. The Concorde investigators reported that there was no prolongation of life or delay in AIDS in the group who started the AZT when symptom-free, compared to the group who received placebo prior to the development of symptoms. They concluded that AZT may not be useful when given to symptom-free patients. They did not conclude that AZT was not at all useful, as has been implied by the media. This study has caused quite a bit of controversy since it seems in conflict with several U.S. trials that showed benefit from AZT. Upon close analysis of the study findings, it has been noted that during the study a modification was made and 32% of the patients who started on placebo began to take AZT prior to the onset of symptoms. In analyzing the study this group of patient's results were included in the "placebo" group. Many AIDS researchers have criticized this, saying this may have skewed the results by causing a significant number of those in the "deferred" arm to receive the same therapy as those in the "immediate" treatment arm.

In another study released this summer, the European-Australian Collaborative Group reported that AZT use resulted in halving the rate of progression of HIV disease in asymptomatic HIV+ patients with greater than 400 CD4 cells/mm3.

In this study the average CD4 cell count was 650 at study entry. More than 72% of the participants began the trial with more than 500 CD4 cells/mm3. Patients in this study took AZT 500mg twice daily, or placebo. The authors of this study note that clinical and immunologic effects of AZT therapy were sustained for at least 2 1/2 years, and may extend for at least 3 years. They commented that when all available data are considered, including results of the Concorde study, the duration of the major benefits of AZT monotherapy in delaying progression to more advanced stages of HIV disease depends upon the patient's immune status when therapy is first started. In patients with advanced HIV disease, this benefit may be limited to 6 to 12 months, while in those with higher CD4 cell counts, benefits have been shown to extend as long as 2 to 3 years.

Are these two studies contradicting one another? Response to AZT therapy depends upon the immune status prior to starting drug therapy. This could certainly account for the different findings in these studies. The media tend to report single statements, and like to gloss over the differences in the studies, which leads to misunderstanding about the value of AZT. It's not that simple. While early intervention has clearly not been agreed upon by physicians and researchers, nearly all researchers still agree that AZT does prolong life in late-stage HIV infection, and delays serious OIs for patients with symptoms of their disease.

One finding of both of the European studies that has been well accepted is the overall long-term safety of AZT. More than 1500 patients received AZT at 1000mg per day for over three years, and there were
NO significant side effects. In both studies the drug was generally well tolerated with less than 8% of the patients stopping therapy.

What does this mean for you as a patient or caregiver? It means there are no simple standard answers and no “average patient.” Each person must be reviewed independently, and decisions for starting, stopping or modifying antiviral therapy should be made on a case-by-case basis, keeping in mind the results of these studies. New guidelines for the use of anti-HIV drugs still recommend AZT as the first-line drug to attack the AIDS virus.

NEW STUDIES:

We are fortunate to have access to several studies testing new anti-HIV agents and immune boosters. These new studies will be under way this winter.

Interleukin 2 (IL-2) is a normal protein produced by lymphocytes that, among other actions, causes the multiplication of T4 and T8 cells. This drug has recently been tested at the National Institutes of Health and appears very promising. Some of the patients who received the IL-2 had marked increases in their T4 cell count. The study for which we will be recruiting participants is for patients with T4 counts of 100 to 300. Participants will receive antiviral (AZT and/or ddI) plus 3 to 5 day intravenous infusion of IL-2 every 2 months. We should be able to enroll 15 to 20 individuals in this study.

A second trial that we will be participating in is with a new anti-HIV drug called U-90. This drug belongs to the family of non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NNRTI). It is a very potent drug against HIV and appears to have no bone marrow toxicity. There is already preliminary evidence in man of the anti-HIV activity for this drug. Patients who enroll in this study must have T4 count between 100 and 500 and may have taken AZT in the past. Participants will have measurements of virus load every 1-2 months to determine how well the U-90 is working.

If you are interested in either of these studies, please call and ask for the screening nurse. Information about other new studies will be made available as soon as details are known.

OTHER NEWS

TAT ANTAGONIST WITHDRAWN

The Roche Pharmaceutical Company discontinued development of their potentially promising anti-HIV drug known as the TAT inhibitor. This drug worked by blocking the step in HIV multiplication that woke the virus from its dormant state. It even had potential to block KS. Unfortunately trials of this drug in approximately 100 patients failed to show any anti-HIV activity at blood levels that were very active in the test tube. While this is disappointing there is hope that the assay system Roche developed to screen for drugs that have anti-TAT activity can be used to screen new drugs rapidly and another useful agent will be discovered soon.

TRIPLE DRUG COMBO

Last February the media blasted away the news of a new cure for AIDS. This news story told of how using three anti-HIV drugs in combination (called concomitant therapy) could stop HIV. Recently the media less loudly announced there was a retraction of “the cure.” What is most unfortunate is that neither story is complete true. First, the 3-drug combination (using AZT, ddI and pyridinone or nevirapine) initially looked very promising but no scientist really thought it was a cure. Secondly, the 3-drug “cure” has still not been evaluated in man. Both “the cure” and its failure were announced by the media before they were ever evaluated in people! One must be very careful about believing the media on these complicated scientific matters. Please ask someone at the ACTU if you have a question.

STUDY UPDATES:

ACTG 019 — AZT Study: This ACTG study will close as planned in December of this year. Participants will be eligible for a temporary supply of AZT. Many thanks to all the 019 volunteers; some people have participated since May 1988.

ACTG 204 — CMV Prophylaxis Study: We filled our original 14 slots in this study earlier this summer, and now have an additional seven slots open. This study compares a new agent, BW 256U87, to high-dose acyclovir (800mg 4 x per day) to low-dose acyclovir (400mg 2 x per day) to determine if these drugs will prevent CMV or prolong life. Patients in the study are required to take 18 tablets per day of study medications. If you are interested in participating in this study, please come and ask for the screening nurse.

ACTG 229 — Proteinase Study: We quickly enrolled our limit of participants into this study. Most of these individuals have now completed 20 weeks of therapy without any major adverse events from the proteinase inhibitor. It is too early to know how beneficial this drug has been in this study since the participants are still on “blinded” medication. However, initial reports from other studies of this medication indicate there is a suppression of viral growth and a clear cut rise in CD4 cell counts. We are excited about these results. Our ACTG study has been extended and most patients will receive a total of 36 to 48 weeks of therapy.

Itraconazole vs clotrimazole troches for the treatment of oral thrush: This is a study comparing two different treatments of thrush. For the treatment of thrush participants receive either Mycelex troches or a solution containing the antifungal drug, itraconazole for 14 days. Participants must have active thrush to be enrolled and those who complete the study will receive $150 for their time and travel.

For more information about these studies or for a complete listing of all the ongoing studies being done at our ACTU, please contact: The Ohio State University AIDS Clinical Trials Unit, Rm. 4725 UHC 456 W. 10th Avenue Columbus, Ohio 43210 (614) 293-8112

ACTU Directions Editors
Jan E. Clark, PharmD
Michael F. Para, M.D.
Nation honors day set aside for AIDS awareness

By Shelby Hartley
Lauren staff writer

As the nation recognizes "National AIDS Awareness Day," the community is doing its part to raise awareness about this deadly disease.

Art galleries throughout the campus are, and Columbus will pay tribute to those with AIDS and to those who have lost their lives to the disease by participating in "A Day Without Art." Black curtains will be hung over the windows of the Hopkins Hall gallery, and black paper will cover the paintings and exhibits in the halls and lobby, said Prudence Gill, curator of the gallery. A candlelight vigil will peak through the cracks in the curtains to symbolize hope.

The Wexner Center for the Arts will turn off all of the lights in Maya Lin's "Grounds of the Moon" installation to contribute to the event, said Darnell Lautt, public relations coordinator for the Wexner Center.

Jennifer Kafer, public relations coordinator with the Columbus Museum of Art, said they will cover the Henry Moore sculpture, "Three Piece Reclining Figure Draped" on its front lawn. Signage will be placed in the museum's lobby explaining "A Day Without Art."

Gloria Smith, executive director for the Columbus AIDS Task Force, noted several events throughout the city.

She said a candlelight vigil will begin at 7 p.m. at the Bicentennial Park and will go to the Statehouse.

Presentations will be made by Columbus City Council.

See AIDS / Page two

---

President Cindy Lasar, Columbus Health Commissioner Bill Myers and a representative from the U.S. Postal Service who will present a stamp of the Red Ribbon, Smith said.

There will be a reading of the names of Central Ohioans who lost their lives to AIDS, she said.

Ohio State will be participating in the day's event to raise awareness, said Maureen McCarthy, coordinator of the OSU's AIDS Education and Outreach Program.

McCarthy has been assisting the galleries in "A Day Without Art." She said that the statue in front of the library will be shrouded and red ribbons and condoms will be distributed in front of the Ohio Union.

She said awareness important because college students engage in behavior that puts them in high risk categories. "The purpose is to let them know that there is protection out there," she said.

McCarthy added that because it is "World AIDS Day" as well, it is the perfect opportunity to show that AIDS affects the population worldwide and not just the United States.
Sale will benefit AIDS Task Force

Cookies, coffee and condoms will be on sale today outside of Stillman Hall from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. In addition, the Human Condom will be handing out information about AIDS.

The event is in celebration of National AIDS Awareness Day, and 100 percent of the proceeds will go to the Columbus Area AIDS Task Force, said Sara McCrate, president of the College of Social Work Student Association, which is sponsoring the event.

The students are asking for a minimum donation of 25 cents, McCrate said.

The organization decided to put together the event in order to promote AIDS awareness and to assist the task force.

"With the rising cost of AIDS care, the task force is in need of monetary assistance," McCrate said.

All supplies for the event were donated by area businesses.

— Stephanie Warsmith
OSU offers inexpensive, confidential AIDS testing

By Wendy Edwards

For years college students have been going to student health centers on campuses for physicals or acquiring birth control pills. But now more and more students are going to these centers so they can roll up their sleeves and take an AIDS test.

Ten to 20 years ago, preventing treatable sexually transmitted diseases was one of the biggest issues for sexually active students. Now, confronting AIDS has become one of the biggest issues.

"I think students everywhere are becoming more aware of the risks of AIDS," said Michael Searce, coordinator of AIDS Education Outreach at Ohio State. "I think a lot of them are worried."

Ohio State is one of several schools where AIDS testing is available. OSU's Wilma Student Health Services offers confidential testing for $20 and anonymous testing for $10, on a walk-in basis.

"We have had confidential testing for several years, but we just began anonymous testing in May of '93," Searce said. "We began anonymous testing because we realized the need for it on campus.

MaryAnn Joseph, Nursing Supervisor at Student Health Services, said she thinks college students are being tested because they are worried.

"I think some students come in to be tested because they have had unknown sexual partners or they are just afraid to become sexually active until they know that their new sexual partner does not have AIDS," Joseph said.

In a 1990 study, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, and the American College Health Association analyzed blood samples from 19 different universities throughout the country and found that 0.5 percent (one in every 200) were positive for antibodies to H.I.V.

Searce said since Student Health Services began offering confidential testing, they have tested about 200 students, but he can't say how many people received positive results.
OSU ‘aids’ in finding vaccine

By Amy Scott
Lantern staff writer

Ohio State might be taking the nation one step closer to developing a vaccine for the AIDS virus.

The CP-38 compound recently developed in an OSU chemistry lab is now being used on West Campus to make a vaccine for feline AIDS, which could lead to a vaccine for HIV.

Researchers are working in the College of Veterinary Medicine's anatomy and cellular biology labs with the “kitten analog of AIDS” called FIV — feline immunodeficiency virus.

The research team includes James Blakeslee, an associate professor of cellular biology, Aristides Lazo, an assistant professor of veterinary anatomy, and Matthew Platz, a professor of chemistry, whose previous research led to the development of the CP-38 compound.

"What we're trying to do is in test tubes kill FIV virus," Platz said.

Lazo said Platz was looking for a way to test the CP-38 compound, and FIV was proposed because it is very similar to HIV.

“If we can develop a vaccine that will be effective to prevent FIV infection in cats, a similar technology could be used to develop an HIV vaccine that will protect against HIV in humans,” Lazo said.

He added that the potential for CP-38 is incredible.

“If that compound is effective and works the way that we expect, there will be a big breakthrough in the development of vaccines," Lazo said.

There is hope that Ohio State could be the first to come up with a vaccine. "I wouldn't say it's imminent," Platz said. "I wouldn't say it's going to happen soon, I wouldn't want to put that kind of pressure on myself — saying I'm going to cure AIDS and be the first one to do it, but I'm going to try along with Lazo and Blakeslee and hope for the best."

Platz said they hope to know this summer if they can immunize the cats.

This study is being developed in three phases, Lazo said. The first phase is being done in cell cultures; phase two involves introducing the “treated virus” or vaccine into cats; phase three will be “challenging them with the live virus.

“So far the preliminary results that we have obtained look very promising," Lazo said. "So far we think everything is going as scheduled."

Phase two should begin sometime in May or June, he said.

Blakeslee said, "You just can't say because it works in cats, it will work in humans. It will take years of experiments."

Ray Goodrich, an OSU graduate and a Cryopharm founder, said if the work with cats looks encouraging, they will eventually apply the same methods with viruses that cause human diseases.

"Why not?" Platz said.

He added CP-38 could be useful in blood sterilization and viral vaccines, and the same strategy being used for the FIV vaccine might also be useful against cancer.

“We might be able to kill cancer cells this way and try to generate cancer vaccines. We're trying to start collaboration along those lines with people in the cancer center on campus,” he said.

“We would, for example, take cancer cells out of patients, would kill them with CP-38 and try to use those dead cancer cells to stimulate the body's immune response to fight the live cancer cells in the body.”

Platz said this is the same basic principle as with HIV. "We would kill HIV with our drug and then inject that or some form of it (as a vaccine) into people or animals.

"Since we are going to destroy the RNA, we will be able to introduce the whole virus into the individual," Lazo said. "So what's going to happen is that this will mimic the natural infection. It will be dead so it will be completely safe, and all the proteins necessary to develop the immune response will be in there."

"Right now when someone is exposed to HIV, there's nothing present in the body to fight it off," Platz said. "What a vaccine would do is put defenses in place ready and waiting to fight off any live virus that happens to enter in the future. So it would stop an infection at the time of exposure."

"He said the research being done at Ohio State is different than at other research institutions because, "We kill it (the virus) from the inside. The other people kill viruses from the outside and hope the damage to the outside is not so severe to prevent an immune response."

"You need to preserve the outside of the virus if you want to make an antibody that will be effective."}

Helena Pereira, a graduate student in chemistry, said she is thrilled to be working on the project and this progress is good even if it is only for cats.

"Saving lives is very exciting," she said, "even if it's only animals."
OSU advances AIDS research

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Ohio State University chemists said they have developed a compound that could help protect the blood supply from the virus that causes AIDS and hepatitis B.

A research team under the direction of chemist Matthew Platz developed the compound CP-38 in a project paid for by Cryopharm of Pasadena, Calif. Cryopharm is a biotechnology company founded by Ray Goodrich, one of Platz’s former Ohio State students.

The chemists believe the compound could be used in treating donated blood to ensure that it does not contain HIV or hepatitis B.

Not all blood donors carrying HIV test positive for the presence of HIV antibodies. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said there is a one in 225,000 chance of being exposed to HIV through a transfusion.

Hepatitis B is more of a problem because it is more difficult to detect in testing. About one in every 3,000 transfusions results in transmission of the highly contagious liver disease, according to the American Red Cross.

Platz’s compound is a version of a naturally occurring substance found in plants that grow along the Nile River and along rivers in India.

“It’s millions of times more potent at killing viruses than the natural material,” he said. “This drug is activated by light and can kill the AIDS virus without damaging the platelets,” which are blood cells that help plug damaged blood vessels and form the first stage of a blood clot.

The compound treats blood by inserting itself into viral nucleic acids. When exposed to ultraviolet light, a chemical reaction occurs that kills the virus.

Cryopharm has tested CP-38 successfully in the laboratory and is seeking federal approval to begin experiments that could lead to use of the compound in human tests. The company announced the research results in December at the annual meeting of the American Society of Hematology.

Platz said the compound still is a long way from going into common use. He also said researchers have found that many compounds which destroy HIV in the test tube fail to work well in humans.

“It will take several million dollars and several years before the government allows us to put this in people,” Platz said.

He said that if the chance of acquiring HIV from the blood supply is one in 225,000, it must be shown that the compound won’t give one person in 225,000 cancer or some other fatal disease.

“We have to show that it’s safer
NAMES PROJECT AIDS MEMORIAL QUILT WILL BE ON DISPLAY APRIL 7-11

COLUMBUS -- The Ohio State University will host a free, public display of The NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt from Thursday, April 7 through Monday, April 11, in the Ohio Union Ballrooms, 1739 N. High St.

There will be an opening ceremony from 7 to 10 p.m. on April 7. The display will be open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on April 8, 9 and 10, and from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on April 11.

The goal of the The NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt is to educate people, motivate people into action, and increase awareness that it is time to fight the AIDS epidemic.

The NAMES Project display is sponsored by The Ohio State University Student Events Committee and Buckeye Advocates for Student Health, Student Health Services.

#

Contact: Ruth Gerstner, University Communications, (614) 292-8424
AIDS quilt remembers friend of faculty member

By David Tull

Despite the passage of time, when Larry Fink talks of the death of his life partner, Kevin Hogan, pain still lingers in his eyes.

Hogan died in 1991 of complications from AIDS. It was a case of "dying by inches," Fink said, quoting author Paul Monette. Fink and Hogan had been together for nine years.

Fink, a lecturer in the Department of Theatre, has found comfort working with Hogan’s friends to prepare a panel for the NAMES Project Quilt.

The AIDS Memorial Quilt is a giant national undertaking that memorializes sons and daughters, mothers and fathers, brothers and sisters, lovers and friends. Each panel in the quilt represents one of the many stories of the lives affected by the AIDS epidemic. “We want to remember names along with the statistics,” Fink said.

The quilt aims at educating people, motivating people into action and increasing awareness that it is time to fight this epidemic. The quilt will be at Ohio State from April 7-11 in the Ohio Union Ballroom.

As a part of this project, Fink will present a paper April 6 in the Ohio Union Ballroom on "American Intelligence and AIDS.

AN AIDS QUILT helped friends remember the life of Kevin Hogan, who died in 1991.

Union, “Ritual as Healing in the AIDS Crisis,” Fink also will moderate a panel discussion.

When Hogan was diagnosed in the spring of 1988 as having HIV, the virus that can cause AIDS, “his immune system was already destroyed,” recalled Fink. In autumn 1988, Hogan developed pneumonia and was diagnosed as having AIDS.

The span from first diagnosis to death was three years to the day.

Although Fink was diagnosed as HIV positive at the same time Hogan was, he is still hale and hearty, save for a volleyball-induced leg injury. “The impact of the virus depends on a number of variables, one of which is the person’s constitution,” according to Fink.

The quilt panel honoring Hogan is one of eight memorializing people from Central Ohio. Fink and Hogan first saw the NAMES Quilt in 1987 in Washington, D.C.

The panel honoring Hogan uniquely reflects part of his life. “When it came time for me to go through his clothes, I discovered there were so many jackets and shirts with logos that told about the places he had been and the things he had done,” said Fink. “I decided to use those in the quilt pattern.”

Although some people prefer to work alone, Fink shared the task with other friends because “Kevin was a very generous person.” They started in January 1992 and finished in April 1992.

In all, 18 people worked in 13 different quilting sessions over several hundred hours. It was a diverse group: three nuns, a neighbor boy, “men, women, straights, gays,” as Fink explained.

“We became a real family, all linked by knowing Kevin,” said Fink. “As we worked, we all told stories about him. It was a way of ‘talking’ him.”

The panel accurately depicts Hogan’s life from his birth in St. Louis to Ogunquit, Maine, a favorite vacation spot. Fink scatter Hogan’s ashes in the ocean there. Hogan’s name on the panel is spelled with pieces from old jeans and a favorite jacket.

Fink is committed to the process of education on the AIDS epidemic. After Hogan’s death, Fink told his classes what happened. “They need to know it’s out there, it’s a reality,” Fink said. To his surprise, a number of his students told him over a several-day period that they had been diagnosed HIV positive.

"It’s not just a disease of gays," Fink said. "We don’t even know if Kevin’s illness came from being gay. He was in a serious automobile accident and had 33 blood transfusions between 1979-80."

The virus was discovered in 1983 and first identified as the cause of AIDS in 1984. Blood donations were tested beginning in 1985.

Fink has recently completed a book on his experiences with HIV and AIDS and is seeking a publisher. He also is considering a theatrical script.
NAMES PROJECT AIDS MEMORIAL QUILT TO BE DISPLAYED APRIL 7 TO 11

COLUMBUS -- A portion of The NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt will be displayed April 7 to 11 at The Ohio State University. The free, public display in the Ohio Union ballrooms, 1739 N. High St., will contain more than 300 panels memorializing persons -- many of them from the central Ohio area -- who have died of AIDS. Also on display will be several new panels created locally that will be added to the Quilt at the conclusion of the four days.

There will be an opening ceremony at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 7. During the opening ceremony and continually throughout the next four days, University officials, local television and radio personalities and others will read the names of persons who have died of AIDS. The names also will be read simultaneously in sign language by volunteers.

The Quilt is open to the public from 7 to 10 p.m. Thursday, April 7; 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, April 8-10; and from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday, April 11.

The NAMES Project Quilt began in 1987 in San Francisco. Today, it contains more than 26,600 panels, 3 by 6 feet in size, each memorializing a person who has died of AIDS. This represents about 13% of the 194,334 reported AIDS deaths in the United States.
The panels are highly individualized and use a wide variety of materials that symbolize aspects of the lives of those they commemorate. Some materials that have been used include antique quilts, clothing, letters, badges and awards, stuffed animals, car keys, paintings and photographs.

The goals of the NAMES Project are: to illustrate the enormity of the AIDS epidemic; to provide a positive and creative means of expression for those whose lives have been touched by the epidemic; to support fund raising; and to encourage those living with HIV infection and their loved ones.

The NAMES Project has raised over $1.4 million for direct services for people with AIDS. Almost 5 million people have visited the quilt as it has traveled around the United States and to other countries. It has been displayed in its entirety in Washington, D.C., and in portions in many cities. The Quilt has been in Columbus once before; in 1989 it was displayed at Ohio State at the Woody Hayes Athletic Center.

The Quilt's visit is sponsored by the Student Events Committee, a student group which handles programming at the Ohio Unions, and by the Buckeye Advocates for Student Health, a student group associated with the Student Health Center.

NOTE: Panels made by friends and family of local persons who have died of AIDS-related causes will be added to the NAMES Project Quilt while it is in Columbus. For the names and phone numbers of three persons who have coordinated the making of a panel and who are willing to be interviewed about the process, please call Ruth Gerstner at University Communications, 292-8424.
A portion of The NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt will be displayed on the Ohio State campus.

Thursday, April 7 - Monday, April 11, 1994
Ohio Union Ballrooms
1739 North High Street

Display Hours:
April 7 7-10 p.m. (Opening Ceremony)
April 8, 9, and 10 10 a.m.-8 p.m.
April 11 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Free and open to the public

Sponsored by The Ohio State University Student Events Committee and Buckeye Advocates for Student Health, Student Health Services. Sign interpretation provided throughout the display. Wheelchair accessible.
Portion of AIDS quilt on display

By Kristina L. Mintz
Lantern staff writer

A portion of the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt has arrived at Ohio State and will be on display this weekend at the Ohio Union.

Student Events Committee and Buckeye Advocates for Student Health, an affiliate of Student Health Services, are sponsoring the display in an attempt to give the campus community an opportunity to understand the continuing effect that AIDS and the HIV virus have on millions of lives.

“A lot of people just think of numbers when they think of AIDS, but there are a lot of people behind those numbers,” said Randi Love, program coordinator for the Department of Health promotion. “People need to be aware of that.”

The AIDS Quilt was started in San Francisco in 1987 by AIDS activist Cleve Jones. Jones started the project in response to the government’s lack of acknowledgment of the more than 1,000 people who died of AIDS in the San Francisco area between 1980 and 1987.

Today, the quilt has a collection of almost 24,000 3-by-6 fabric panels, each containing creations by friends and families in remembrance of those who have died of AIDS.

This panel for the AIDS quilt was created by Dr. Larry Fink and friends in memory of their friend, Kevin Hogan, who died of AIDS in 1991.

The project was started in San Francisco in 1987 by AIDS activist Cleve Jones. Jones started the project in response to the government’s lack of acknowledgment of the more than 1,000 people who died of AIDS in the San Francisco area between 1980 and 1987.

Today, the quilt has a collection of almost 24,000 3-by-6 fabric panels, each containing creations by friends and families in remembrance of those who have died of AIDS.

Steve Watson, a microfilm technician at the department of Administration for Public Utilities Company of Ohio, lost a friend, Joe Kielwein, to AIDS in August.

Kielwein started a panel for himself but died before he could finish it. The panel originally was a shirt, and was displayed at Kielwein’s funeral by his own request, said Watson. After the funeral, the mother of one of Kielwein’s friends pulled the seams from the shirt and ten people, including Watson, helped create Kielwein’s panel for the quilt.

“I’m Joe. People put things on it that meant things to them and Joe,” Watson said. “One person put a phone on it because they always spoke on the phone.”

He had a lot of friends,” Watson added. “He was loved by a lot of people and it shows when you see it.”

In 1991, Kevin Hogan, the life partner of Dr. Larry Fink, an instructor in the OSU Department of Theatre, died of complications from AIDS.

Hogan had wanted a panel and told Fink that it was up to him to create it. After Hogan died, Fink went through Hogan’s clothes and found that he had many jackets and shirts with different logos of places he had traveled to. Fink took two of his friends cut the logos and sewed them together to create Hogan’s panel.

“It was his life,” Fink said.

“Fink said the AIDS Quilt display is a powerful social phenomenon. I urge students to experience the power of it.”

Throughout the opening ceremony, names of those who have died of AIDS will be read. The readers will include university officials such as Provost Richard Sisson, Vice President for Human Resources Linda Tom, Student Health Services Director Dr. Ted Grice, Director of Residence and Dining Halls Bill Hall, Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs Mary A. Daniels and Vice Provost Ed Rave.

Also reading names of AIDS victims will be local personalities including news anchors Andrea Cambern (WBNS), Deborah Counts and Tom Lawrence (WSYX) and Colleen Marshall (WCMH). Radio personalities Maxx Faulkner, (WCMC), and Kristy Kemper of WLVO will also read names, along with Franklin County Commissioner Dorothy Tester, City Councilman Matt Hahn and the Director of Columbus AIDS Task Force, Gloria Smith.

The display will be open to the public at the Ohio Union April 6-10 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and April 11 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

At the display, people will be able to make donations to local organizations including the Columbus AIDS Task Force, Children’s Hospital, Peter Noster, and AIDS Service Connection.
Lover of ‘Real World’ star to speak on AIDS

By Melissa Kenzig
Lantern staff writer

Sean Sasser, the lover of the late Pedro Zamora from MTV’s “The Real World,” will speak this week at Ohio State about AIDS awareness.

Sasser, 26, is a gay African-American who is HIV positive and works as an AIDS educator and activist.

He will speak on May 10 at 7:30 p.m. in room 100 Hagerty Hall.

Fred Johnson, HIV/AIDS Minority Coordinator for the Columbus Health Department, said he hopes Sasser’s visit will create an awareness that HIV/AIDS is occurring in minority populations.

“People of color tend to deny the reality of HIV/AIDS,” Johnson said. “This disease can no longer be put on the sidelines.”

Johnson said he also hopes Sasser will emphasize that “it can happen to you.” He said people need to get serious about the issue because other illnesses can be combated, but HIV infection can only be prevented.

Sasser’s visit is scheduled in conjunction with OSU’s AIDS Awareness Week and is sponsored by the OSU AIDS Education and Outreach Program. Many other activities are planned during the week, such as information tables, workshops and lectures.

Sasser’s former lover Zamora starred on MTV’s hit show, “The Real World.” Zamora was an avid AIDS educator and activist. His role on the show helped bring the issues of HIV and AIDS to thousands of young people.

He died of an AIDS-related illness in March.

Michael Scarce, co-coordinator for the OSU AIDS Education and Outreach Program, said HIV has drastically affected gay culture, relationships, sexual practices and politics.

“This event is extremely important to populations on campus,” Scarce said. “The level of HIV infection in black, gay men is on the rise.”

Recent statistics from the Ohio Department of Health show that the number of AIDS cases in African-Americans has increased from 1993 to 1995.

Actual HIV infection rates in the U.S. are impossible to know.

Scarse said if ten people are infected, only one of them will know.

In a study done by the American College Health Association, HIV infection rates on college campuses were estimated at 1/300.

That number is 1/250 for the U.S. population.

Maureen McCarthy, co-coordinator for the AIDS Education and Outreach Program explained that most students know how to have safer sex, but don’t perceive themselves to be at risk. It is important to make sure students have the information, McCarthy said.

“(Sasser’s visit) will help raise the awareness of HIV as a health concern for students,” McCarthy said. “Because Sean is nationally known, this program may draw other students that normally would not attend our programs.”

McCarthy said the response and support from other campus organizations and students in general has been wonderful.

“We think this will turn out to be a very positive event for the community,” McCarthy said.

Sasser is the Public Policy Coordinator for Health Initiatives for Youth, a San Francisco-based agency that trains HIV positive young people to be powerful advocates for themselves and others.
Shutdown deals blow to AIDS, cancer research

By Mark D. Somerson
Dispatch Medical Reporter

Potentially lifesaving cancer and AIDS research conducted locally and across the nation is in danger of shutting down as the federal government stalemate continues.

"In our minds, what researchers are doing is extremely essential," said Joann Schellenbach, spokeswoman for the American Cancer Society. "To shut it down even temporarily is a setback."

Clinical trials for many new drugs are being postponed.

Federal agencies provided $10.9 billion in research grants to U.S. colleges and universities in fiscal year 1993.

The National Science Foundation and National Institutes of Health are two of the largest federal grant providers. Last year, the National Institutes of Health supported 300 projects at Ohio State University with $60 million; the National Science Foundation provided $21 million for 250 projects.

The National Cancer Institute, a division of the National Institutes of Health, provides about 71 percent of OSU's Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital and Research Institute's funding. The center receives about $43 million a year from all sources.

But at most research institutions, funding isn't a problem — yet. A lack of staff, however, at government agencies like the National Cancer Institute, is creating headaches.

"It is difficult to do day-to-day things without dialogue with the different agencies," said Dr. David Schuhler, James Hospital director. "That affects trial modifications and any administrative action."

Of the more than 200 ongoing clinical trials at OSU — one of 26 designated Comprehensive Cancer Centers nationwide — 50 are funded through the National Cancer Institute. Twelve receive National Institutes of Health funding, and another 36 receive funding through National Institutes of Health agencies.

There is enough money to carry projects through this month. But because key employees at the health agencies and other agencies were put on furlough, changes in clinical trials can't be made.

Schellenbach said the American Cancer Society fears "glitches will develop" as the shutdown continues.

"Even more of a problem is the inability of people to access cancer information from the government," she said. "That includes the NCI and other regulatory bodies like the FDA (Food and Drug Administration). The FDA probably will even be slower with this backup."

Ongoing clinical trials on AIDS drugs at OSU and other research sites already have been affected.

"It's a problem," said Michael Para, director of OSU's AIDS Clinical Trials Group program. "We need to talk to the government when things happen in a study. And there is nobody home."

At Ohio State, 12 studies involving 250 patients are ongoing in the AIDS program.

In some drug studies, researchers cannot correct problems without government approval. In the successful studies, higher doses of drugs can't be administered.

"When there is no one there, it stops the study. It's frustrating," Para said. "Some patients are in limbo."

HIV-inhibitors and other AIDS drugs are being discovered at a steady pace, and drug manufacturers usually turn to universities for clinical trials. "There are three new drug trials we are planning on opening, and I can't do anything," Para said. "That is the biggest problem. We can't move ahead."

The issue is affecting research sites and clinical trials nationwide.

"The money has been allocated for AIDS research," said Mark Barnes, executive director of the AIDS Action Council in Washington. "For a shutdown to prevent things from moving forward seems unconscionable."

Mary Wooley, president of Research!America, a national health research and public education advocacy group, said millions of people are affected.

"The research community is scared to death," she said. "And the public at large is, too. Just think about someone who has had an incurable disease diagnosed, and is counting on research."
Sidewalk to honor AIDS victims

Ohio State takes proactive stance at the Wexner Center

By Ping Cal
Lantern staff writer

On Dec. 1, the Wexner Center for the Arts will dim the lights and join the rest of world in mourning of those lost to the AIDS epidemic.

Sunday marks the ninth annual World AIDS Day and the eighth annual 'Day Without Art.' On this day, people across the country will dim their lights from 7:45 p.m. to 8 p.m. in tribute to those affected by the HIV virus and AIDS.

Many museums observe the day by covering up their exhibitions, said Don Stenta, director of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Student Services. Since many artists have been lost to the AIDS epidemic, a 'Day without Art' reflects the impact of the epidemic on our lives.

Roger Addleman, director of the Wexner Center Marketing and Communications said OSU is going beyond just covering up art.

"The university is taking a proactive stance to acknowledge the day," he said.

The Wexner Center will present a sidewalk display in memorial of those whose lives have been cut short by AIDS. People are invited to chalk down the names of their lost loved ones at the entrance of the Wexner Center throughout Sunday and make a "sidewalk of stars."

Performances by the Columbus Gay Men's Chorus and the Columbus Women's Chorus will begin at 5 p.m. followed by special readings. At 5:30 p.m., the center will dim the lights and have five minutes of silence.

Standard admission charges at the center will be waived in lieu of voluntary donations, Addleman said. Proceeds from the donations and the sale of artist-designed Day Without Art t-shirts will go to Project Open Hand Columbus, a non-profit AIDS support organization.

The day's events are aimed to "raise the awareness of the importance of education about AIDS and the awareness of non-profit organizations," he said.

One non-profit organization is chosen to be the recipient of the funds raised on the day, Addleman said. Last year, $4,000 was raised and given to AIDS Service Connection Columbus.

"The money goes to small as opposed to big organizations," said Andrea M. Timpeiro, executive director of Project Open Hand Columbus.

Project Open Hand Columbus currently provides meal service to 55 HIV-positive people, Timpeiro said. The money they are going to receive is going to make a big difference to the organization.

Greater awareness is needed as to what is available and what is not available about AIDS/HIV service, said Michael Scarce, director of the OSU rape prevention program and a speaker during Sunday's events.

"I am going to call for organization and communication about HIV on this campus," Scarce said.

As of Oct. 31, 1,534 people were diagnosed as having AIDS while 1,118 have died of AIDS in Franklin County, according to the report released by the U.S. Center of Disease Control.
Students don condoms to raise AIDS awareness on campus

By Sharon Fodor
Lantern staff writer

Some Ohio State students will be wearing condoms pinned to their shirts next week.

In honor of World AIDS Day, an annual event held yearly on December 1 since 1988, students involved in an AIDS awareness course at OSU will wear the condoms over their hearts.

"We hope to create conversation about safer sex and the use of condoms and in reducing the risk of contracting HIV," Lisa Clark, a sophomore and founder of the idea.

There are about 20 students participating in the event, said Natalie Kratzer, a student in the class.

"Our teacher wanted to organize it but didn't have the time to do it and get it OK'd with OSU," Kratzer said. So a group of us decided to do it anyway because we don't need permission."

The theme for this year's World AIDS Day is "One World, One Hope."

"In the United States, it is a day of awareness and a day of reflection of where we are and where we need to go," said Tom Curatti, HIV health educator for the Columbus Health Department.

"Everyday is AIDS day, not just one day a year."

People think that if they are heterosexual or not an intravenous drug user they are not at risk, Curatti said. The behaviors that individuals engage in is what increases the probability of contracting AIDS.

The numbers are in a plateau in some populations. However, women and sexually active youth ages 13-24 are on the increase in infections, he said.

There have been 1,612 cases of people being diagnosed as having AIDS while living in Franklin County and of those 1,090 people have died of AIDS which

See AIDS / Page 2
averages out to a 72 percent mortality rate, Curatti said.

Some new research has enabled those who are diagnosed with the virus to be treated and with that treatment they are able to live a longer, higher quality of life than was previously the case, he said.

"People need to be aware of the potential of sexually transmitted diseases and HIV and need to make informed choices when it comes to sex behavior and substance use," Curatti said.

Substance use is the number one factor contributing to the contraction of the HIV virus because it lowers a person's inhibitions, he said.

The best advice to give to students is if they think they have been exposed to the virus, then they should get checked as soon as possible because earlier detection will lead to better treatment for the individual, Curatti said.

"The effectiveness (of World AIDS Day) depends on what we do with it, if we choose not to recognize World AIDS Day, then nobody else might," said Carol Galletly, OSU graduate teaching assistant for the AIDS class.
Seminar to discuss current, future issues of HIV, AIDS

Mandy L. Fischer
Lantern staff writer

Current and future treatment options for people living with HIV and AIDS are just two of the topics to be discussed Saturday in a seminar sponsored by the Ohio State University Medical Center's AIDS Clinical Trials Unit.

Other issues to be covered include managing symptoms, returning to work, accessing Social Security and Medicaid and obtaining AIDS information via the Internet, said Michael McDonald, chairman of the Community Advisory Board for the unit.

McDonald, who has AIDS, is in charge of organizing the seminar.

"We work to increase public awareness about the HIV and AIDS clinical trials that are ongoing in this area," McDonald said.

McDonald hopes the seminar will draw a diverse audience of medical, nursing and social work students, as well as family, friends and health-care providers for people living with HIV or AIDS.

"This seminar is really set up for anyone interested in current AIDS issues," said Kathy Watson, a nurse on the clinical unit.

The unit has been part of the OSU Medical Center since 1987, and is one of 35 units nationwide that are federally funded to research drug studies on AIDS, said Judy Neidig, research coordinator for the unit.

This year the unit was awarded $1.7 million from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases at the National Institute of Health. These funds are used to conduct trials of experimental medicines used to treat HIV infections, Neidig explained.

Neidig and Dr. Michael Fara, clinic director, will speak on treatment options for people living with HIV or AIDS.

"OSU will have upcoming studies and clinical trials that will be discussed (at the seminar)," Neidig said. "We will also discuss studies that are open now."

The unit is working in concert with the Community Advisory Board and the Association of Nurses in AIDS Care as an outreach to the community providing education on the changing issues of HIV and AIDS, she said.

The seminar will be held in Newton Hall at 11:30 a.m. with a box lunch and is free to the public. Various local AIDS service providers will be on hand to answer questions, McDonald said.
Oct. 30, 2000

FORUM TO DISCUSS HIV, AIDS AND IMMUNITY

COLUMBUS, Ohio – A free public forum to discuss recent research findings and immunity enhancement in people with HIV and AIDS will be held Wed., Nov. 15 at The Ohio State University Medical Center.

The forum will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the Rhodes Hall Auditorium, 450 W. 10th Ave. A reception with refreshments will start at 5 p.m. Parking in the parking garages is free for attendees.

Dr. Susan Koletar of The Ohio State University Clinical Trials Unit and an infectious diseases expert, will provide updates on current and potential treatments for HIV and AIDS.

The forum is sponsored by the OSU Clinical Trials Unit and Chiron, a healthcare and biotechnology company.

For additional information about the forum call 614-293-8112.

###

Contact: David Crawford, Medical Center Communications, 614-293-3737, or crawford.1@osu.edu