

Herpes...The Facts

By David Pate

Rumors of a herpes epidemic on campus have been refuted by the Cumberland County Health Clinic and Mrs. Foster, nurse at FSU's infirmary. The Health Clinic issued a statement saying they have had no herpes cases reported of people known affiliated with FSU. Additionally, Mrs. Foster stated that in her ten years at FSU, there have been no reported cases of herpes here.

Genital herpes is caused by herpes simplex viruses. There are two such viruses - type 1 and type 2. Type 1, often called oral herpes, commonly causes cold sores on the lips and eye infections. It is a non-venereal disease. However, both types of herpes simplex can cause infection on any area of the body.

Genital herpes (simplex 2) is transmitted when any part of a person's body directly touches active herpes virus or sores containing the virus. Mucous membranes such as those in the mouth or genital area are highly susceptible to herpes invasions.

Usually genital herpes occurs when sexual intercourse takes place with a partner who has active herpes sores. However, the disease may also be transmitted by oral-genital sex.

In very rare cases, genital herpes may be contacted from moist towel or other objects that were recently in contact with active herpes sores.

Through unconscious hand motions, a person may inadvertently spread the virus from an active herpes sore to places such as the eyes.

The first symptoms of genital herpes usually appear two to ten days after initial exposure and last about three weeks. Recurrent symptoms are usually of shorter duration - one to two weeks. The time between attacks varies with the individual.

Recurrent infections may be unrelated to any type of human contact. They can be brought on by other infections, menstruation, emotional upsets, sexual intercourse, and other non-specific conditions.

To avoid spreading the disease, a person with active genital herpes sores should not have sexual intercourse with

an uninfected partner until the sores are completely healed, not just scabbed over. Use of condoms at other times is advised to help avoid the spread of the virus that might be secreted even through symptoms are not present. Oral-genital sex should be avoided by persons with active genital herpes of any kind.

Herpes simplex may be diagnosed by a physician who recognizes the characteristic sores. But the most accurate way of diagnosing the virus is through a culture test in which cells from a patient's sores are collected and examined under a microscope.

Although genital herpes does not have the same long term detrimental effects as most other venereal diseases, it does pose two major threats to women and newborns.

Scientists report that women who suffer from genital herpes are five times more likely to develop cervical cancer. For this reason, it is important for women with herpes to have routine PAP smears.

In addition, if a woman has internal herpes sores at the time that she is giving birth, there is a good chance that the infant will contact the disease. Of the infants who contact it, half will die, or be born with brain damage. Such infections are preventable with Caesarean Sections because the infant does not come through the infected birth canal.

A woman who has genital herpes and is or intends to become pregnant should alert her physician so he can monitor the condition of the birth canal.

Victims of genital herpes can receive moral support and helpful information about the disease by writing "HELP" (Herpectics Engaged in Living Productively), a program service of the American Social Health Association. HELP publishes a newsletter with articles about herpes and sponsors special efforts to promote research. The organizations' address is HELP - ASHA, 260 Sherican Avenue, Palo Alto, California 94306.

From The Grassroots

(Continued From Page 2)

Richard Nixon was forced to promote "Black Capitalism" by releasing federal reserve funds to Black-owned banks, appointing a Civil Rights leader, James Farmer, to his Cabinet, and expanding welfare and some social services programs. Under Reagan, *all stops have been pulled*. Daniel Moynihan's infamous 1970 memorandum to Nixon, justifying "benign neglect" of Blacks, has succumbed to a public policy posture which threatens to smash affirmative action, vocational programs, food stamps and a host of projects won by the Black masses over the half century of struggle.

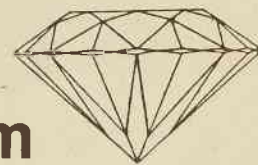
The rise of Reaganism in electoral politics now has permitted the Right to openly question the utility of democracy for the 1980s. Whether Reagan's supply side version of restoring corporate profits or an alternative state-directed/corporatist strategy emerges which calls for the state to regulate prices and allocate government contracts to corporations which agree to reorganize themselves is almost a mute question. Economist Sam Bowles was one of the first observers to note that either public policy strategy would be forced to impose

massive political repression and civil terror upon workers.

Following this line of reasoning, California State Senator John Schmitz, a former Congressperson and colonel in the Marine Corps reserves, openly advanced the probability of a military coup in the U.S. as "the best we could hope for." In the October 30, 1981 issue of the *Los Angeles Times*, Schmitz sketched the following scenario: "Reagan's programs fail, the economy disintegrates, people are rioting in the streets, the Russians plan an invasion to take advantage of the domestic strife, the military recognizes the threat and the coup occurs." Schmitz stated that the coup will happen within several years, "definitely by 1986."

The current economic crisis can only be resolved by Reagan at the expense of the civil rights and economic opportunities of Blacks, Latinos and labor. Unless new economic strategies are forthcoming from these groups, the logic of Reaganomics must inevitably move toward a wide-scale reduction in our freedoms. Schmitz's prediction, which may seem irrational, might become true.

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Atlanta Murder Trial Continues

(UPI)--Three prosecution witnesses in the double-murder trial of Wayne Williams have linked the defendant to one of the young Blacks slain in Atlanta during a 22-month period.

One of the witnesses testified Wednesday that Williams asked him strange questions, wrote him weird notes and told him he had a black belt in karate.

Songwriter Ken Hindsman told the jury that the accused killer showed no sympathy for the young Blacks abducted and murdered in Atlanta.

Although Williams is charged with only two slayings, prosecutors have been presenting evidence on ten murders in the series to show "pattern, plan, scheme, bent of mind and identity."

Hindsman was called to testify because he says he saw Williams with one of those ten youths.

Kidnapped General Rescued

(UPI)--President Reagan says "A lot of prayers have been answered" with Wednesday's freeing of kidnapped American General James Dozier in Italy. Ten anti-terrorist agents rescued the NATO general in a raid on a Red Brigade hideout in the northern Italian city of Padua. Police say Dozier has been moved to nearby Verona and is in good condition after 42 days in captivity. The five terrorists guarding him are now under arrest.

Padua police identified one of the arrested Red Brigades as Antonio Savasta, a well-known gang member identified by police earlier as having been involved in smuggling arms from Lebanon to terrorists in Italy. A spokesman said police smashed down the door of an apartment to find Dozier tied up and wearing a track suit. The spokesman said one of the Red Brigade's men in the apartment had a pistol pointed at Dozier's head, but was overcome by force and taken away.

Dated Closer To Christ's Death

Shroud Authentication Closer

(UPI)--A Duke University researcher has produced evidence that's called a major development in the effort to authenticate the shroud of Turin as the burial cloth of Jesus.

Dr. Alan Whanger, a psychiatry professor and amateur photographer, says he has found evidence dating the shroud eight centuries closer to the death of Christ than historical records have shown. Whanger says he has photographic evidence that a Byzantine icon painted around 591 AD and a gold Byzantine coin issued between 692 and 695 AD were reproduced from the shroud.

Currently, records date the shroud to 1357 AD when it showed up in France. There is no documented historical evidence of the shroud before then.

The head of the Holy Shroud Guild, Dr. Adam Otterbein, called Whanger's claim a major development in historical verification of the shroud.

The shroud is a piece of cloth more than 14 feet long and little over 3 feet wide. It bears the front and back imprint of a man who was crucified. It is now preserved in a cathedral in Turin, Italy.