



LAYING DOWN THE LAW — Michael Sanseviro, resident director of South Hall, lays down the law at a mandatory hall meeting on Nov. 9 concerning vandalism in the dormitory, following an incident where someone defecated on the carpet. He said that freshmen have more violations than any other class, noting that he was not particularly impressed with their latest form of self expression and encouraging them to exercise more appropriate forms of self-control. (Photo by Chris Taylor.)

Hepatitis B virus becoming growing threat to students

(Continued from Front Page)

The Hepatitis B virus has been spreading rapidly in the United States, with cases increasing 77 percent among sexually active young adults in the last 10 years. Currently, nearly one in 20 people has been infected with the virus, and there are 1.25 million infectious carriers in the U.S. According to the North Carolina Center for Infectious Diseases, 697 cases of Hepatitis B were reported in 1991, up from only 382 in 1990. And they are projecting even higher numbers this year.

Student Health Nurse Janice Stump reported that last year two Wesleyan students had to be re-tested by the American Red Cross because they were suspected of being carriers for the Hepatitis B virus. And many more may be carriers without even knowing it. The virus can lay dormant in a carrier's system for up to 15 years without manifesting itself.

Unfortunately, more than one third of the 300,000 Americans infected each year with the Hepatitis B virus are college-aged young adults, based on the Centers of Disease Control figures. And many of these people do not

know how they contracted the virus. However, some risk factors for young adults have been identified. You are particularly at risk if:

- You have had more than one sexual partner in the last six months.
- You have had unprotected sex.
- You or your partner have ever been diagnosed with another STD (such as herpes, gonorrhea, syphilis, chlamydia, or genital warts).
- You or your partner have had sexual contact with someone who has had Hepatitis B, or someone who is at risk.

The disease is preventable with a safe and simple vaccine. The American College Health Association (ACHA) believes that vaccinating college students against Hepatitis B will prevent the spread of the virus.

"Vaccination of college students provides an excellent opportunity to prevent a substantial number of Hepatitis B infections," says MarJeanne Collins, M.D., chair of the Vaccine Preventable Diseases Committee of ACHA. "ACHA has a policy statement which recommends vaccination,

with special attention given to high-risk groups, including those who may be sexually active."

The best way to prevent this potentially fatal disease is to get the vaccine. It is given in a series of three simple shots over a period of six months. The cost is \$120, which is covered by most insurance carriers. By simulating the body to fight off the Hepatitis B virus, the vaccine protects a person from infection even if they are exposed to the virus.

"It's essential that young people learn about this potentially deadly virus," said Richard Duma, M.D., Ph.D., executive director of the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases. "Since Hepatitis B is prevalent among young adults and one-third of those infected don't even know how they contracted the disease, all college student should consider vaccination, because anyone can get Hepatitis B."

Students who think they may be at risk for contracting the Hepatitis B virus are encouraged to contact their doctor or call 1-800-HEP-B-873 for referral to a doctor. Get the facts, then get the vax.

Personals/Classified

The space is provided for anyone to leave messages, advertise, or simply be heard. The cost of a personal or classified is 25 cents per word. All requests must be given to John Pernell. Payment is due on acceptance.

\$\$\$\$ FREE TRAVEL AND RESUME EXPERIENCE. Individuals and student organizations wanted to promote Spring Break. Call the nation's leader, Inter-Campus Programs, 1-800-327-6013.

Ken — "Minds are like parachutes. They only function when open."

The purpose of college is to make students safe for

ideas, not ideas safe for students.

HD — Better watch your wallet! (NOT)

To the "mad shitter" of South Hall — grow up!

CAB is selling luminaire dedications next week — Buy one!

Great spirits have always encountered violent opposition from mediocre minds. — Albert Einstein.

What's up at

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