



# Features

Editor: Elizabeth Murray



## America Is Doomed Soon!

AIDS And You  
By ANGELA COOK

Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) is practically 100% fatal. This syndrome commonly affects homosexual and bisexual males, I.V. drug users, and hemophiliacs receiving contaminated blood. Many medical and public health authorities believe that AIDS is America's number one health problem.

AIDS appears to have been an almost entirely heterosexual disease in central Africa, where it affects men and women in equal numbers. It is believed that the AIDS virus was initially carried by the African green monkeys, which may provide a clue for a cure or vaccine in the future.

1986-Centers for the Disease Control in Atlanta, Ga., and the National Center for Health Statistics have noted there were 20,000 reported cases and 10,000 deaths from AIDS in 1986, in the U.S. alone. AIDS has now been reported in 45 out of 50 states in the U.S. The disease is most commonly found in urban cities with a large gay population. In New York and San Francisco 50% of the gay population now has AIDS. It is very important to remember that AIDS is not only a disease of the homosexual, but heterosexuals account for about 27% of the cases in the U.S. to date.

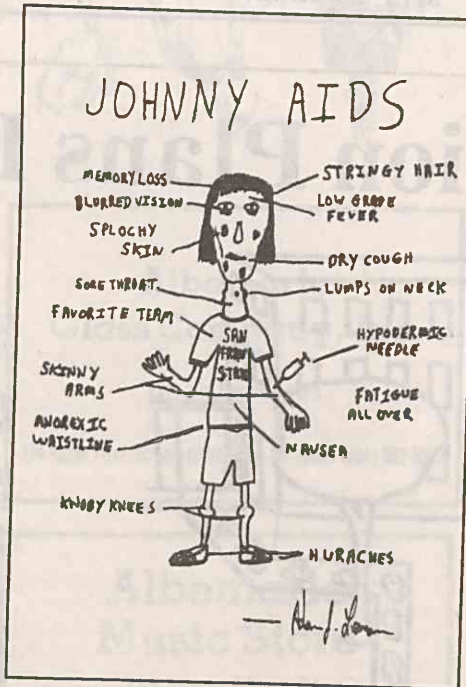
The population at risk for AIDS include:

- gay and bisexual men (no instances have been reported among homosexual women)
- those using nonparental drugs for recreational use, (marijuana, cocaine, PCP, and heroin)
- those with hemophilia, who received contaminated blood prior to the development of the screening test.
- offspring of high-risk parents.
- some researchers have noted that those with tattoos are at risk for AIDS.
- those sharing toothbrushes, razors, and/or other personal items which may be contaminated with infected blood.

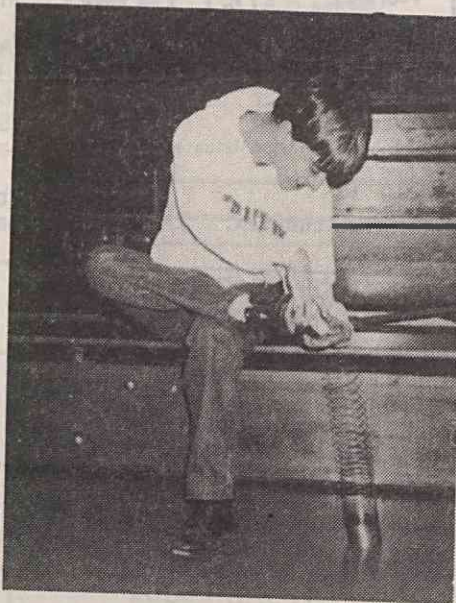
One may have AIDS for 3-5 years before it is recognized. There are many diseases that mimic AIDS, anyone with one or more of the following signs and symptoms should be carefully examined by a physician.

- excessive fatigue
- exertion for no apparent reason
- a dry cough (unrelated to cold, flu, or smoking)
- low grade fever
- persistent night sweats, shaking and/or chills.
- Anorexia, nausea
- blurred vision, persistent severe headaches, and/or memory loss.
- persistent unexplained sore throat

Many people who do have AIDS find it hard to remain in society and continue a basically normal life. Treatment is in research. There is no cure or vaccine for AIDS as of now. Personal hygiene, good diet, sufficient sleep and safe sex are the best defenses against this dreadful disease.



## Spring Fashions



Lamar demonstrates his new spring shoes.

With spring approaching, everyone is concerned with the hottest spring fashions. We looked through some fashion magazines to get an idea of what was coming up. We found that the new styles just don't suit our school, so we decided to become designers ourselves and clothe our student body and faculty with appropriate fashions.

For Mr. Holcomb, we decided on several jackets lined with dictionary pages with the pronunciation key in boldface.

Sponge-cuffed shirts seem to be most appropriate for Mr. Blalock. They would make his daily task of washing the board much easier. Another good buy for Mr. Blalock would be a hat with a propeller on top to speed up the process of drying the board.

Mrs. Hathcock and Lamar Chance need some new shoes. Mrs. Hathcock needs some very high-heeled ones so she can see over her lecture stand. Lamar needs some shoes with springs on the bottom to make jumping up at sporting events easier.

For Mr. Morgan, we decided on a portable P. A. system so he can easily check to see if the announcements are coming in loud and clear.

We look forward to seeing these new fashions in the halls of ASHS, definitely the most fashion-conscious school around!

## Fake ID's

By ELIZABETH MURRAY

How does one obtain a fake ID? Well, I don't personally know a lot about it, but my brothers came home for spring break, and they gave me a little insight into the subject.

This paragraph is directed to any of the authorities of this school who might be offended by the material following this. I am not telling anyone how to make or obtain a fake ID, but rather I am telling them how others do it, okay?

When I asked my brother about false identification, he reached into his back pocket and brought out a few specimens. He had a Maine driver's license which looked really convincing. He and his friends had made it their sophomore year with some posterboard, Kodak film, and a lot of artistic ability. On a large sized piece of posterboard they wrote the personal information of a person named Sean Guy. The information was proportional to that of a real driver's license. It certainly didn't look as if what they had done had been accomplished easily. After they had filled in all the information, my brother stood beside the posterboard, and bingo — A genuine false piece of identification. Then all he had to do was go to Roses to get some of that plastic stuff to seal it with.

Of course, there is another way to get into a place where you're not wanted. If you have a friend who is of age and resembles you in the least bit, it is likely that you could use their license for identification. Bars are dark anyway, right? Just in case, though, be sure to memorize all the information on it.

It's probably not a real swooft idea to use the ideas mentioned in this article. Fake ID's can only get you into trouble (Well, other places too, but mostly trouble). Besides, there's no place in Albemarle to use one!!



Ed Julian experiences the trouble that a fake ID can get you in.

## Is There A Difference?

By JENI HEDRICK

PROM: The one night every junior and senior looks forward to. A special night where everyone dresses in formal wear and tries to look his very best. A prom is a dance only much more extravagant.

The Prom is an exciting night that only comes once a year. However, the aspects of our Prom are too similar to a regular dance. The Prom is held in the gym; a dance is held in the gym. The Prom will have a D.J.; a dance has a D.J. The Prom has refreshments; a dance has refreshments. The only difference between the two is that you dress up to go to our Prom.

Since the Prom is such a big night, it seems more effort would be put

forth to make our Prom different from a dance. Maybe our Prom could be held at a nicer place than the gym, like Stanly County Country Club. A live band would add a lot more to our Prom than just a D.J. Also, catered food is a whole lot better than Bob's (who sits behind you in Spanish) self-made brownies.

The Prom will be a night to remember for all who attend. But, with the same common characteristics as a dance, our Prom won't seem much different. To make improvements for our Prom would cost more money, but people probably wouldn't mind spending a few extra dollars to have a really extraordinary night.

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