

You & Your Health

A Black Perspective Renal Failure

First of a series

Renal or kidney failure is a very serious problem with growing concerns. It is a health problem seen frequently in the Black community. The effects of renal disease can be devastating and often overwhelming. Many times persons with renal failure would prefer to give up on life than adhere to the strict treatment plan; i.e., diet, dialysis, transplant, etc.

Chronic renal failure can develop over a period of many years or can occur as a result of a bout with acute renal failure from which the person fails to recover. Acute kidney failure is the ceasing of the kidneys to perform their essential functions. This may be due to trauma; any condition which impairs the flow of blood to the kidneys, certain toxic or poison substances such as mercury, carbon tetrachloride, bacterial toxins, etc. or an obstruction or closure in the urinary tract.

After several bouts or episodes of renal disease, parts of the kidney may finally result in irreversible renal failure. The end result for the person may result in uremia (poison substances staying in the bloodstream), death or treatment by dialysis or renal



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transplant. Other systemic diseases such as hypertension or high blood pressure, lupus, arthritis, etc., may also produce irreversible kidney failure.

Renal failure is a significant problem and we will discuss later some of the problems and complications that may occur; treatment with dialysis and transplantation.

We will also look at the incidence and prevalence among Blacks.

Marlena Shaw

Marlena Shaw, the cover girl and subject of a major profile in the May issue of *Players* magazine, would be pursuing her career teaching handicapped children were it not for Count Basie. She was attending college in New York when the Count heard her sing and signed her to tour with his band.

She has since recorded several albums that attracted a small but loyal following. Until now. Her new album, "TAKE A BITE", has shot right off the charts and is destined to propel this lovely, multi-talented jazz vocalist to the stardom she deserves. Ms. Shaw is a native of Las Vegas and is a Libra.

"West Side Story" Is WBTB's Saturday Night Movie

"West Side Story," the screen classic which won 10 Academy Awards, including Best Picture of the Year, will be presented on "WBTB's Saturday Night Movie," Saturday, April 19th at 12 midnight on WBTB, Channel 3.

The movie, based on the smash Broadway musical, stars Natalie Wood, Richard Beymer, Russ Tamblyn, Rita Moreno and George Chakiris. Miss Moreno and Chakiris won Oscars for their performances in the movie, and updated version of "Romeo and Juliet" that takes place on the streets of New York's West Side.

In the story, two rival gangs - the Jets, headed by Riff (Tamblyn) and the Sharks, led by Bernardo (Chakiris) - are observing an uneasy truce when both decide to attend a neighborhood dance.

During the dance, Jet member Tony (Beymer), who has been losing interest in gang life, reluctantly agrees to back Riff in challenging the Sharks to a rumble. A time for the fight is set, but before the night is out, Tony meets and falls in love with Bernardo's sister, Maria (Miss Wood).

Maria is equally enthralled by her brother's enemy. They meet secretly and decide to marry. But Tony faces a dilemma. Either he backs out on his closest friends or he comes into violent conflict with Maria's brother.

Miss Moreno plays Anita, Bernardo's sweetheart and Maria's confidant.

Leonard Bernstein composed the score for the musical drama and

Stephen Sondheim wrote the lyrics. The songs, many of which have become standards, include: "The Jet Song," "Something's Coming," "Maria," "America,"

"Tonight," "Gee, Officer Krupke," "I Feel Pretty," "One Hand, One Heart," "Somewhere," "Cool," "A Boy Like That," and "I Have a Love."

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Featured in the May issue:

JESSE OWENS ... tells how Hitler's "Secret Weapon" helped him win one of his three gold medals in the 1936 "Nazi" Olympics ... and R. J. Schnell provides a bit of Olympic history and points out that the games have always been political.

JAMES BALDWIN ... talks about his books, homosexuality and reveals why he left America to live in France—and why he still finds it difficult to live in the United States.

MARLENA SHAW ... that sizzling, sexy lady of song talks about her dues-paying days and how she's now handling the success that evaded her for so long.

THE KILLER DISEASE ... if you're black you are four times as likely to suffer from hypertension as a white friend of the same age. Read what the experts say about this "silent killer" and new medical advances that could save your life!

PLUS ... We visit San Francisco, feature two great new short stories and take a good look at a couple of ladies named Samantha and Mattie and a Las Vegas showgirl who tells us it really isn't all that lonely at the top!

PLAYERS MAGAZINE May Issue—On Sale Now

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Lauch Henry helped find the missing ingredient to educate minority engineers. Money.

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The fund is a non-profit organization attempting to increase the number of Blacks, Puerto Ricans, Chicanos, Mexican-Americans and American Indians enrolled in engineering schools.

These under-represented minorities constitute a rich untapped resource to help fill the growing need for engineers, a need that is expected to continue through the mid-1980's.

IBM's social leave program enabled Dr. Henry to take a year's leave to assist the fund. And IBM continued to pay him his full salary.

The National Fund for Minority Engineering Students is a very worthwhile program. We think so. Lauchland Henry thinks so. But most important of all, lots of minority engineering students enrolled at colleges and universities all over the country think so. **IBM.**



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