

AIDS: The new epidemic

A review

On Wednesday, Sept 30 the Health department gave a presentation of AIDS: The new epidemic at Marian Hall.

Is AIDS the "new epidemic"? Perhaps, relatively speaking, if we compare AIDS to the black plague or the typhoid fever that hit South America and the U.S. in the late 1800's.

Since the first documented case in 1981, AIDS has spread to all corners of the world, making the once feared sexual malady herpes seem like a case of the common cold.

As the title of this video presentation asserts, so too was the message. The presentation, in a fairly frank manner, put to rest many of the myths surrounding the disease: "Can one fall prey to AIDS from an infected mosquito?", "Can one acquire AIDS from a toilet seat?" classic myths such these help perpetuate the fear and the stigma attached to the disease and its victims.

Despite this, the producers of *AIDS: The new epidemic* failed to inject any sophistication into the 35-minute presentation. Sure they covered most of the popular myths associated with the disease, but that's almost an obligation of sorts.

To make the documentary a truly credible journalistic medium, the producers and directors could, for example, have had interviews with the leading authorities and researchers of the disease to find the latest breakthroughs in AIDS treatment and research. This need was not met, therefore making for a rather unenlightening documentary.

After the presentation, Dr. Doug Tweel hosted a question and answer period. Unfortunately, the most important question—how many cases of AIDS/H.I.V. positive cases are there presently in PEI? This was not answered in a direct straightforward manner.

I and three others asked this question but we were never sufficiently answered. Finally, one questioner got an answer that was a bit more direct. Dr. Tweel stated that to get that kind of information, they would have to analyze blood samples from every individual in PEI.

It was on this note that the AIDS presentation/information session was closed; a rather ironic twist as nothing new was learned from the session. ■

Notice of meeting

Anyone interested in forming a Film Society — There will be a meeting Fri. Oct.9 at 12 noon on the second floor of the Barn. All interesting students are encouraged to attend. ■

In Recognition

It's not very often that the services of students are recognized but this particular incident was brought to my attention and I feel it deserves some recognition.

On September 18th the Security Department received a call that a lady had fainted on the fourth floor of Dalton Hall. Upon arrival they found Richard Martinez, a resident student, had everything under control and was administering first aid.

It is certainly our pleasure to recognize the abilities, self-motivation and caring interest of one of our students. Congratulations Rick and thanks for a job well done!

Sherri Egan



YOU CAN'T LIVE ON HOPE.

You hope he's the right guy.
You hope she's the one.
And you both hope the other one is not infected with the AIDS virus.
Of course you could ask. But your partner might not know. That's because it's possible to carry the AIDS virus for many years without showing any symptoms.
The only way to prevent getting infected is to protect yourself. Start using condoms. Every time.

AIDS Ask him to use them. If he says no, so can you.
If you think you can't get it, you're dead wrong.

DRAMA: A Review

by Eddy London

I had the opportunity to check out the Halifax rockers, DRAMA, Thursday night (October 1st) at the S.U. Barn.

The crowd consisted mainly of Freshmen and Sophmores although it was reported that there were Seniors and Juniors present. This had a drastic effect on the attendance numbers, insulting not only DRAMA, but also the opening act Sweet Surrender. Fortunately, this had no negative effect on the sound or on the stage performance of either band. Along with a phenomenal light show, both bands backed up their appearance with a strong and tight show.

Talking with Peter Ettinger, lead singer of DRAMA, proved to be a worthwhile experience. He informs us that DRAMA has been together for two years, moving up in popularity with every show. Lead by Vancouver freelance producer and

engineer Rolf Henneman, DRAMA has gained much attention as a result of their victory in the Labatts Blue Live Battle of the Bands.

When asked, Ettinger has been influenced by the likes of Billy Joel and Mick Jagger. Moving away from his obsession with the Rolling Stones, DRAMA has found themselves playing to preps, punks, and partiers. So, why would a band with such esteem and popularity bother to play to a crowd of some fifty-plus alcoholics at the UPEI Barn??? Ask me not!! Publicity is definitely not to blame as posters were posted everywhere to be seen on campus.

To conclude, I was thoroughly impressed with DRAMA's presentation, but not with the crowd attendance or response. Until the students of UPEI develop some appreciation for music instead of getting drunk to the golden oldies, we'll not see any other band with the esteem of DRAMA. ■



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