AIDS IN THE COMMUNITY

By Dr. Barbara Lyles

The Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta has developed a revised case definition for determining and reporting the presence of AIDS infected, AIDS Related Complex (ARC) and associated problems.

This new August 1987 definition was designed, among other things to more adequately track the viruses HIV-I and HIV-II, in order to bring the definition more in line with diagnosis of infection and make the definition more sensitive and more in line with the best available current information about the disease.

It appears that the major changes in the definition incorporate evidence of neurological damage, HIV wasting syndrome, and other similar diseases such as Kaposi's sarcoma and pneumocystis carinii and the other major diseases associated with HIV infection which have been used for hospital diagnosis.

Differences are also made in the diagnosis of children and adults. Children with AIDS may be defined as those who are more than 15 months old (i.e. have had time to overcome the passively attained immunity from their mothers ... at birth).

These children may now be defined as those who "fail to thrive," have many and repeated bacterial infections and pneumonias ... or in very young children, those less than 15 months old whose mothers are HIV positive.

Not very many people on the street are willing to talk about being tested to see whether or not they have been infected. Are you? Would you rather not know? There are even those who claim that HIV-I and HIV-II are not responsible for AIDS infection. It's hard to know who or what to believe.

Some experts suggest that an infected individual would test positive for antibodies in six to twelve weeks. In adults, the presence of these antibodies is considered presumptive evidence of infection even in the absence of symptoms. Face it, any time you have sex with somebody now, you must face the fact that you are also having sex with all the people with whom they have had sexual encounters in the last ten or more years.

NIH epidemiologist, Dr. David Henderson in a recent research report suggested that while people who were known to have been exposed to blood infected with Hepatitis B and AIDS virus through sexual contact or needle sticks, can test positive for antibodies very early Some tested positive at three months, others did not test positive until six months.

Test results says this researcher, in health care settings must be done after apparent exposure, at six weeks, three months, six months and one year. Studies have gone on since 1983 and there does not appear to be any agreement as to how long a time elapses between infection and disease.

It seem fairly clear that individuals infected by needlestick; haemophiliacs, or blood transfusion recipients appear to have a slower rate of development of antibodies than do those exposed through infected needles of IV drug abusers and those infected through repeated sexual contact with AIDS infected persons.

People with other sexually transmitted diseases or viral diseases of another sort appear to experience greater susceptibility to the AIDS virus; further, they appear to be more susceptible to the rapid development of active disease.

Surprisingly, there appears to be a greater fear of the relatively easy transmission of Hepatitis B. Two or three out of 1000 needlestick injuries involving HIV patients would be expected to develop AIDS. On the other hand, 110-330 out of 1,000 having needlestick exposure to Hepatitis B patients would be expected to developed Hepatitis B.

It is further projected, that of the 110-330 Hepatitis B victims of needlesticks. 1-3 would die of acute Hepatitis B; 11-53 would develop chronic disease (hepatitis B) . . all would be capable of infecting their sexual partners as well as other family members, especially those who are at risk for the development of liver cirrhosis and liver cancer.

HIV infection is not as apparently or readily passed through contact with the infected individual. Casual contact does not cause HIV infection. Hepatitis B can be transmitted through casual contact with others.

The recent rash of reports of the number of emergency patients at Johns Hopkins that are infected would lend credence to the fact that all health care workers and public service workers such as firemen, policemen and ambulance personnel should consider every person a possible source of blood-borne infection. These infections must be expected to be both Hepatitis B and AIDS.

Thus, now, every health care worker must regard every patient as potentially capable of transmitted disease through blood and body products. This awareness would suggest wearing gloves, masks, goggles and protecting ones mouth and eyes when there is a chance of being splattered with any patient's body fluids.

Even though there is no current report in the literature that suggests that AIDS transmission has ever occurred from a bite from an AIDS infected person, anyone who is in a position which requires restraint of an agitated patient should likewise be careful.

This is especially important as we come to realize that the neurological disease and toxoplasmosis of AIDS patients can produce dementia and fairly severe psychiatric symptoms. Both Dr. James Baker of Johns Hopkins and Dr. Henderson of NIH are clearly among those who would rather take the position of advising caution before the fact than have the sense of guilty responsibility for not having been specific in the expression of the expected dangers.

It would seem that among these two at least there is a commitment to being up front and informative in a realistic and precautionary way before the fact. The warnings that come when "just say no" doesn't work strikes the writer as pretty thin.

If the column seems to overwork criticism of "just say no", imagine a single expression that says less.

$1 trillion is too much financial power to ignore.

America's 55.8 million smokers are a powerful economic force. If their household income of $1 trillion were a Gross National Product, it would be the third largest in the world. The plain truth is that smokers are one of the most economically powerful groups in this country. They help fuel the engine of the largest economy on the globe.

The American Smoker- an economic force.

PHILIP MORRIS

Presented by Philip Morris Magazine in the interest of America's 55.8 million smokers.

AIDS study funded

Investigators at the Johns Hopkins Schools of Public Health are conducting a two-year, federally funded study to pin down an accurate AIDS virus infection rate among U.S. prison populations.

The study will screen the blood of 1,000 consecutive entrants into each of 10 geographically diverse prisons.

Uncertainty over the rate of infection in prisons has hampered efforts by correctional systems at the federal and local levels to plan preventive programs and budgets, according to Dr. T. Fordham Brewer, who leads the study for the school.

"We expect that our data will help prisons nationwide project accurately the number of AIDS cases to expect and to turn those numbers into useful planning tools," Brewer said.

Brewer, an instructor of health policy and management, said AIDS antibodies screening has been done in selected hospitals and IV drug abuse treatment centers, but not in a geographically diverse, representative sample of prison inmates.

For the study, the investigators will use a portion of blood sample drawn during routine entry medical exams.

After tests are completed at the prisons for syphilis, gonorrhea, anemia and other diseases, the samples will be screened at the schools' laboratories for antibodies to HIV-1, the virus which causes acquired immune deficiency syndrome.

Facility locations will be confidential during the two year study, which begins this summer, according to Joanne Ullrich, project coordinator of the study, known as the Correctional Regional Infection Sentinel Surveillance Project.

The study is designed so that CRISSP investigators cannot identify the screened inmates.

CRISSP will collect the age, gender, race, entrance date, length of sentence, offense category and jurisdiction of each screened entrant.

The NIJ supports the CRISSP study with $332,000 from the Centers for Disease Control. All of the CRISSP procedures have been approved by the U.S. Federal Office for Protection from Research Risks for use in prison projects.

The Afro-American SPORTS Section B

■ Feminine Accent 4B
■ Showtime 6B

Basketball rules Olympics that is...

By Keith Drum

The United States basketball team has more to overcome at the Summer Olympics than veteran opponents, accurate 3-point shooters and the pressure of being expected to win. The Americans also must adjust to a different set of rules, ones used effectively by the European challengers in particular.

"When there is a violation in the frontcourt by the offense, Europeans are conditioned to get the ball and run to the sideline and then go," said John Clougherty, a veteran college basketball official from Raleigh, N.C., who got a closeup look at Europe's Olympic teams when he worked the European Qualifying tournament earlier this summer in Rotterdam, The Netherlands.

"If our kids stop and hesitate for even one second to complain, if they stop and don't get back, the Europeans are going to have an easy hoop," Clougherty said.

Such quick exchanges after violations are among the many adjustments the U.S. players will have to make. Some of the international rules are perhaps beneficial to the U.S. players. Others are not.

Clougherty said the rules with the most visibility aren't necessarily the ones likely to hamper the U.S. team.

Instead, it is the less recognized rules, such as no 5-second count, liberal basket interference and fewer timeouts, that could bring difficult adjustments for the Americans.

Most noticeable among international rules are a wider, trapezoid lane, a slightly longer 3-point shot and a 30-second shot clock.

Two of those rules should benefit the U.S. team, which wants to play at a quicker pace than its opponent. The wider lane cuts down congestion around the goal and favors the quicker player. The 30-second clock forces a faster tempo.

The longer (by nine inches) 3-point shot definitely favors the Soviet Union, Yugoslavia, Brazil and other challengers. The players are more accurate and more accustomed to the shot.

"It's not the distance as much as our mentality on the 3-pointer," said Clougherty. "Some of their players have no conscience when it comes toshooting 3-pointers. If we get hurt by those teams, it will be by their 3-point guys."

One way to counteract the 3-point shooters is with a tight, pressing man-to-man defense. That's the objective of U.S. Coach John Thompson of Georgetown. International rules lesses some effects of pressure, however. There is no 5-second count for closely guarding a dribbler.

"If you play man-to-man you've got to play it honest," said Clougherty. "They negate trapping and double-teams because they when it comes to shooting are good passers and shooters."

The better European guards, such as Sharunas Marchulenis of the Soviet Union and Drazen Petrovic of Yugoslavia, are strong enough to hold off the defense and continue their dribble as long as necessary.

International rules are stricter with goal-tending, but allow basket interference once a shot hits the rim.

"The rules penalize a sensational play, like an alley-oop pass, because you cannot catch a pass above the ring and dunk it," Clougherty said. "European teams don't even attempt it.

"When a ball is on its downward flight, it can't be touched. But once a ball hits the ring, it's fair game. Our players have to learn to go ahead and get the ball when it hits the ring."

Other significant rule differences are:

Teams get only two timeouts a half and they can't be saved. "You can't use a timeout to break momentum because you may have to save it for the end of the game," Clougherty said.

"A timeout can be called after any violation. But, on a live ball, the only time a timeout can be called is when the opponent scores. A coach can't call a timeout after his team scores.

"Our coaches have been spoiled with four timeouts a game, then four more a half on TV games."

A technical foul against a player also counts as a personal foul. The rule was costly to the U.S. team last summer at the Pan American Games.

David Robinson's fourth foul came on a technical with 17 minutes left and the U.S. up 13 points. Robinson sat out 9 minutes and Brazil rallied for a 120-115 victory.

The actual time stays on the shot clock when the defense knocks the ball out of bounds with less than 5 seconds left. In college play, the shot clock is reset to 5 seconds.

Finally, no matter how well the U.S. team adjusts to the rules, it may never adjust to international officials.

Cloughtery was voted the top official at the European Qualifying Tournament even though international rules are secondary to him. That says something for his expertise but also something about the quality of foreign officials.

"The post play is much rougher than in the college game," Clougherty said. "European players usually defend the post from behind and try to deny by reaching over the shoulder, and the officials let them do that. The other thing is they let them rebound over the back and never call it.

"It's just a more physical game, and they don't call it with as much consistency. Our players will have to adjust to that."

GETTING READY — Beverly Dixon and daughter Diane, 400 meter Olympic Trial Winner are preparing for Seoul, Korea. The only New York State resident on the U.S. Olympic track and field team, Diane will take her mother to the Summer Games as a part of the Seagram's Coolers "Send the Families" program.

Suspicious fire burns Reggie's cars

BERKELEY, Calif. — Reggie Jackson stood visibly shaken amid the burned-out skeletons of between "30 to 35" of his favorite classic cars Thursday, surveying the damage caused by an explosion and general-alarm fire that swept through two warehouses.

The blaze broke out about 9 p.m. Wednesday night in a Berkeley Design furniture warehouse next to one storing part of Jackson's extensive classic car collection.

Firefighters fought the blaze, which illuminated the Berkeley skyline, for two hours, but could not save the former baseball star's collection.

"The firemen told me when they got here that it was all over," said Jackson, nicknamed "Mr. October" for his late-season heroics during his 21-year major-league seasons. "It was a barbecue."

Damage was estimated at $800,000 to the buildings and $3.2 million to the cars and other property. There were no injuries reported. The cause of the blaze was not immediately determined, officials said.

Passerby Mike Schweiezer said he heard explosions that sounded like fireworks and saw the buildings engulfed by flames.

Jackson said he feared the fire may have been an attack aimed at him personally.

The fire department "is treating this like it was a criminal act. I'm scared."

Jackson began collecting cars just about the time he broke into the majors in 1967 with the then Kansas City Athletics. At the time of the fire, the former slugger's collection numbered 130 automobiles and were stored in three separate warehouses.

"It's more or less of a fun thing for me," he said. "Some people play golf, some hunt, some fish. I play with cars. It's turned into an investment for me."

Jackson spoke standing in front of the warehouse ruins. A large bandage on his left elbow covered a gash he suffered sifting through the rubble. The estimated value of the cars from the 1950s and 1960s ran from $50,000 to $90,000 apiece.

"They all had a reason," said Jackson, shaking his head. "They all stood for something."

Among the destroyed vehicles was a 1983 Porsche Targa presented to Jackson by the California Angels for winning the 1982 homer title.

The incident came nearly 10 years after a mysterious fire destroyed Jackson's Berkeley home.

When asked about the fire, Jackson replied: "I never wanted to know (who set the fire). What am I going to do? Walk around wearing an asbestos suit?"

On the recent fire, Jackson said: "Nobody was hurt. I got insurance. I got some emotional stress. I have to act like a nice guy."

Jackson, who retired after the 1987 season with 563 homers, recently opened a care dealership in Berkeley and had planned to start a car museum in either Oakland or Berkeley.

BERKELEY, CA — Reggie Jackson works under the hood of one of his burned-out cars after the general alarm fire destroyed most of his classic cars.

Suppose you had to pick MVPs for both leagues?

By Richard L. Shook

Want to start an argument? Try picking the Most Valuable Player in either league as of this moment.

The American? You can make a very strong case for Mike Greenwell or Roger Clemens of Boston, Jose Canseco of Oakland, New York's Dave Winfield or Rickey Henderson, Detroit's Alan Trammell plus the Minnesota trio of Kirby Puckett, Gary Gaetti and Frank Viola.

The National, Darryl Strawberry of New York, Kirk Gibson of Los Angeles, Montreal's Andres Galarraga, Bobby Bonilla of Pittsburgh, Will Clark of San Francisco and Houston's Glenn Davis are all leading candidates.

Cy Young? Well, it's down to Clemens and Viola in the AL but somebody like Oakland reliever Dennis Eckersley or Jeff Robinson of Detroit have outside shots if they bring their teams home first.

The leading candidate for the NL Cy Young award is Chicago's Greg Maddux, but he'll still need a strong second half to hold off Orel Hershiser of Los Angeles. Dwight Gooden of New York, San Francisco's Rick Reuschel and Danny Jackson of Cincinnati are all in position for consideration at ballot time.

After two straight excellent rookie crops this season's doesn't look to match up. But don't burn those baseball cards just yet, you never know who will blossom in their second or third seasons and drive those card prices right out of sight.

Top AL rookies as of now are a shortstop Walt Weiss (could this be three in a row for Oakland?), right-handed pitcher Melido Perez (Pascual's younger brother) of Chicago, California right-handed reliever Bryan Harvey, Boston shortstop Jody Reed and right-hander Don August of Milwaukee.

The NL candidates are stronger. They include first Mark Grace of Chicago, Atlanta second baseman Ron Gant, Cincinnati third baseman Chris Sabo and San Diego second baseman Roberto Alomar (son of Sandy).

MVP voting is going to be trickier than the 100-yard dash over quicksand.

Canseco is having a fabulous do-it-all year for Oakland. But the AL East winner is going to have a very good argument for its leading player.

Winfield is having the kind of in-your-face season George Steinbrenner envisioned when he insulted his premier right fielder. And the numbers point out Henderson's value to the Yankees — when he plays, he scores and they win. When he doesn't, New York is average.

Clemen was winning even when Boston wasn't and the Red Sox might be in Pawtucket without him. Greenwell was hitting before and after Joe Morgan took over as manager.

Detroit's attack is pathetic, but Trammell is having a splendid year anyway. And he plays shortstop with style.

Minnesota's magnificient trio of Puckett, Gaetti and Viola showed the baseball world last year what they are made of.

Gibson has done exactly what Los Angeles wanted him to do when it signed him as a free agent. And more. He has led the Dodgers back to their winning ways and is having his best season facing strange pitching.

Strawberry's concentration on his job has never been better and it shows in the statistics. Would you like to pitch to him with the game on the line?

That Montreal isn't right up there is not the fault of Galarraga, who now looks like he's going to be a force in the league for years. Pittsburgh's Bonilla is another emerging superstar while Clark lives up to his own expectations with San Francisco. Houston's Davis has returned to form and is keeping the Astros in contention.

Who will win? The best part is watching the winner develop. Which is happening over the next two months.