Medical privacy

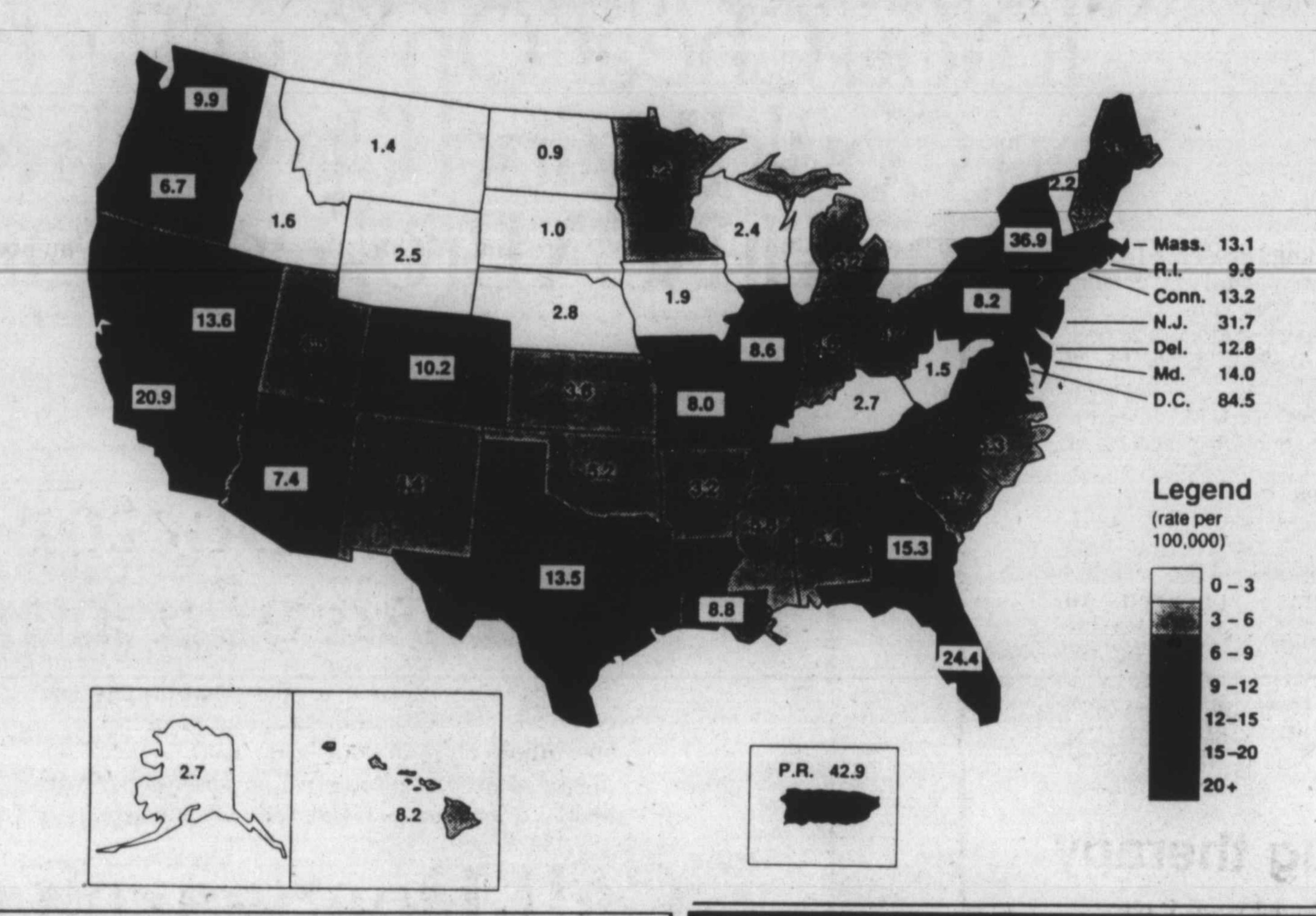
WASHINGTON - People have a right to medical privacy, President Bush said Thursday night, and their sex partners should not be subjected to mandatory tracing for the AIDS virus.

The president, during his nationally broadcast primetime news conference, said he opposes an end to anonymous testing for the virus that causes AIDS because "there is a certain right to privacy that we should respect."

Due to medical advances that can sometimes slow the progression of AIDS, there have been some recent, controversial calls for more in trusive testing practices and the mandatory tracing of sex-

ual partners.
Asked if he wanted to end current programs of AIDS virus testing on an an anonymous basis, Bush said: "No, I don't favor that."

AIDS annual incidence rates per 100,000 population, for cases reported May 1988 through April 1989, United States





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Premature babies may be at higher risk

especially at risk, resear-

chers preported. 5th International AIDS conference, New York researchers reported at least 23 percent of babies born to 32 AIDS-infected developed AIDS - like illnesses, such as swelling of lymph glands and thrush

The three-year study headed by Pauline Thomas also found a mother'AIDS -related symptoms appeared to predict the extent of disease in her baby.

Scientists do not know if women transmit the human immunodeficiency virus, which causes AIDS, to their

-Drug therapy

(Continued from Page 2) interrupted," said Dr. LeHoang. "Foscarnet can stop the progression of the infection, but not totally eradicate the virus from the

According to Dr. LeHoang. Foscarnet does not interfere with AZT (azidothymidine), the only anti-viral drug that appears to have any effect on slowing the progression of AIDS throughout the body.

Another anti-viral drug. ganciclovir, has proven effective in treating CMV retinitis however, both ganciclovir and AZT can reduce white blood cell counts in the body, leaving recipients vulnerable to life-threatening

Despite the time-consuming and strenuous treatment schedule, ophthalmologists have found that patients are very motivated to continue treatment. "They are all determined to preserve their sight," said Dr. LeHoang.

"We deliver Foscarnet intravenously, throughout the body, in an attempt to treat other infections associated with CMV, such as colitis and hepatitis," he explained.

To date, an application for Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval of Foscarnet has not been filed and only one U.S. study of the drug has been compiled). Foscarnet has already been approved for general use in Belgium, Denmark, Norway and Sweden.

JUNE 17, 1989

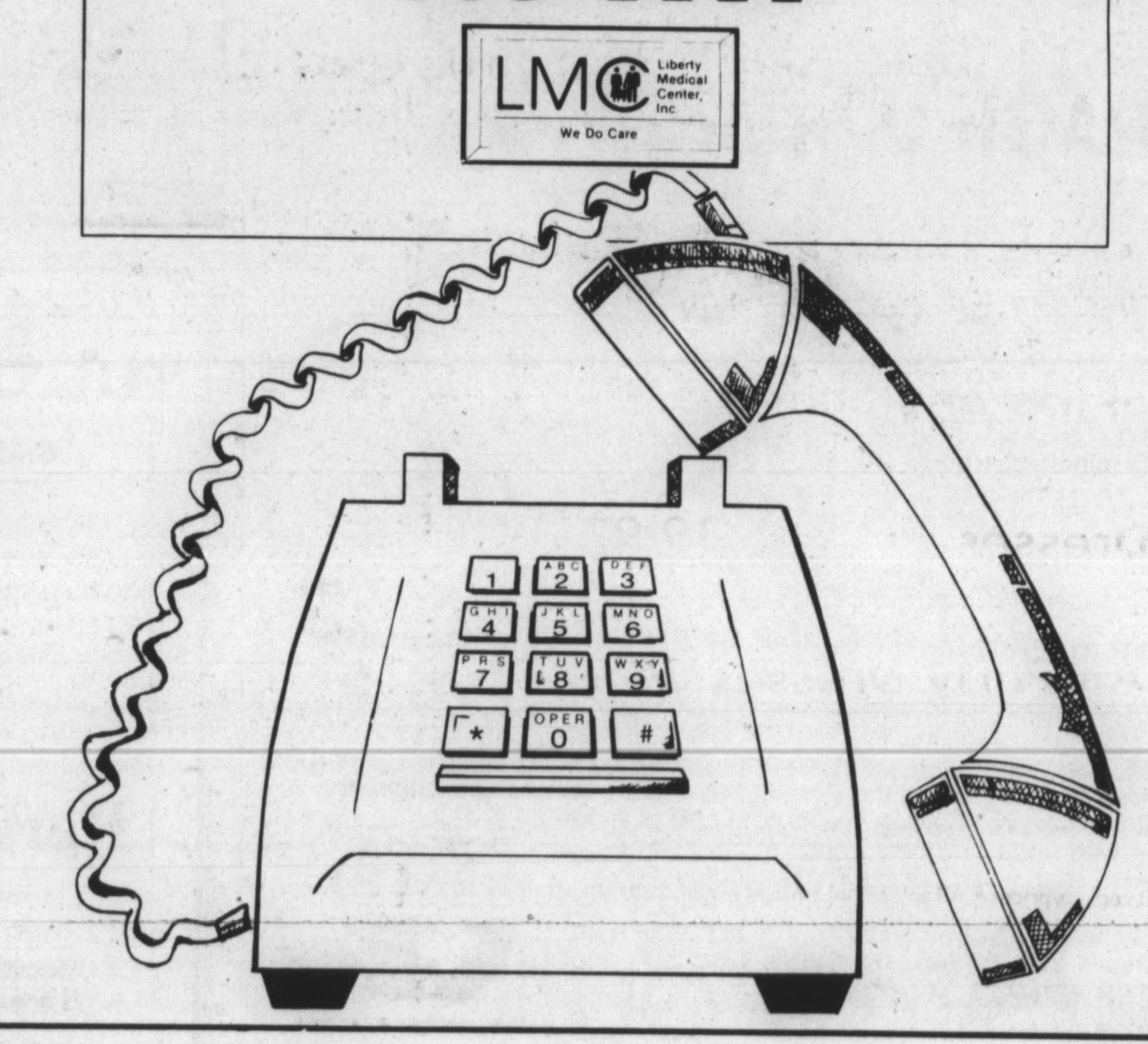
In a study that may help answer that question, scien- HIV-infected women in New 50 babies born full-term. premature infants may be tists from the National In- York City showed about 36 The researchers emphasiz- think their findings would difstitutes of Health and the percent of the 14 infants born ed that their results are fer for infants born to AIDS -State University of New York prematurely had evidence of preliminary and involved a infected women who got the reported that premature birth AIDS infection within 15 relatively small number of virus by a different route.

Most of the babies' mothers

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