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## AIDS tests on inmates termed 'inconclusive'

By JOHN F. KILDUFF  
Staff Writer

State Correctional Institution at Dallas (SCID) officials said Friday that tests taken on the two inmates suspected of having Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) have proven "inconclusive" and further testing must be conducted.

SCID press relations director Tom Figmik told The Dallas Post Friday that the "Immune Deficiency Profile" results of the two inmates at SCID have come back inconclusive.

Figmik said the test samples taken on the un-named inmates did not provide enough information to determine if the prisoners actually have AIDS.

Pennsylvania State Correction officials have said the two inmates recently "showed signs" of having AIDS and that they were not "confirmed AIDS victims."

Figmik said the two inmates will be tested again and they will be examined by an immunologist to determine if they have AIDS.

"While they (two suspected AIDS inmates) are awaiting further testing, they will be kept in isolation," Figmik said.

The new test results are expected to be released within the next seven to 10 days.

The AIDS controversy at SCID reached its peak last week when nearly 100 SCID employees and administrators met Thursday night at the Russian Orthodox Club on Main Street in Edwarsville.

Those in attendance discussed health safety procedures at the SCID facility and they were given pamphlets which discuss current medical findings of the AIDS malady.

Department of Corrections Deputy Press Secretary Amy Dugan said Friday the prison system has

not discovered any new confirmed AIDS victims within the system's 10 correction facilities.

Over 14,000 inmates are housed in the system and only three prisoners have been confirmed as AIDS victims. The three AIDS inmates are currently being housed at the Camp Hill prison.

Recently, a fourth confirmed AIDS victim died at the Camp Hill prison, causing concern throughout the prison system about health safety.

Dugan said each of the 10 State Correctional Institutions is handling potential AIDS inmates on a case-by-case basis.

SCID employees called last Thursday's meeting due to fears of contracting the disease while working around the prisoners.

Reports from anonymous SCID employees indicate that many prison workers are wearing rubber gloves while serving food to the inmates. Other employees at SCID reportedly will not handle inmate food trays unless they have been sterilized.

The medical community currently believes that AIDS can only be transmitted by sexual contact or by a blood transfusion. Tests are continuing to determine whether or not AIDS can be contracted by saliva meeting the skin. The "saliva" issue is one of great concern to prison workers who say inmates often threaten guards that they will bite them (guards) if they give them (inmates) trouble.

It has also been widely reported that many inmates often spit at prison employees and even throw cans of urine at guards they (inmates) do not like.

Current figures indicate that 70 to 75 percent of AIDS victims have had some form of homosexual contact. At present, there is no known cure for those who contract the AIDS disease. Most AIDS victims die within the first year of diagnosis.



### Balloon race set

Custom Management Corporation and General Foods will jointly sponsor a hot air balloon race on Saturday, October 5, to benefit local institutions. Activities begin at 2 p.m. on the campus of College Misericordia, Dallas, with the actual balloon launch at 5 p.m. A first for the area, the "Great Balloon Race" will feature a spirited, one hour competition between representatives of Wilkes-Barre General Hospital, Nesbitt Hospital, Wyoming Valley West High School, Wyoming Seminary Upper School and College Misericordia. (Photo courtesy of Sister Eloise McGinty, RSM, College Misericordia.)

Browne said his firm will test the lake's nitrogen, phosphorous, P.H. and sediment levels. In addition, (See LAKE, page 10)



### Class of 1945

Kingston Township Class of 1945 held a reunion in honor of its 40th Anniversary Saturday night at the Castle Inn. Shown are class members who attended. From left, first row, Edith Anderson Daron, Dallas; Louise Dodson Phipps, White Haven; Janice Jones Harrison, Bath, Pa.; Wilma Ickinger Fish, Muncy, Pa.; Lenore Pascoe Dymond, Dallas; Nancy Anthony Frantz, Reigelsville, Pa.; Jean Lamoreaux Powell, Bethlehem, Pa.; and Marie Dampf Dymond, Middletown, Pa. Second row, Lloyd M. Purcell, Litchfield Park, Ariz.; Ethel Daniels Moss, Wilkes-

Barre; Layton K. Fish, Muncy; Russell L. Ockenhouse, Dallas; Edith Hart Smith, Goshen, N.Y.; Jane Widdall Webster, Wapwallopen; Naomi Hons Haag, Reading; William J. Metzger, Ashley; and Robert J. Ockenhouse, Haw River, N.C. Third row, Richard F. Laux, Dallas; Robert L. Moss, Wilkes-Barre; Carl H. DeWitt, Wilmington, Del.; Barton R. Earl, Clarks Summit; Francis J. Beline, Dallas; Harry E. Post Jr., Kingston; William H. Calkins, Hunlock Creek; and Marvin O. Dymond, Middletown, Pa.

## Kingston Twp. class of 1945 holds reunion

Louise Dodson Phipps led the invocation of the Kingston Township High School class of 1945 anniversary reunion held Saturday evening at the Castle Inn.

Ms. Phipps also presented a memorial for Arthur B. Kitchen, Class Treasurer; David A. Perry, Jr., Thomas C. Phipps, Willard S. Puterbaugh, Joseph P. Rother, class members; and Mr. Frank Trimble, Class Advisor, followed by the singing of the K.T. Alma Mater, led by Lloyd M. Purcell, class member, returning for his first reunion from Litchfield Park, Ariz.

Naomi Hons Haag, reunion coordinator, assisted by Louise Dodson Phipps, Edith Hart

Smith, and Jane Widdall Webster, members of the General Planning Committee, was toast mistress, welcomed the group of 46 and read communications from Cleo Follmer Irons, West Melbourne, Fla.; Ella Kintz Sickler, Watauga, Texas, class members; Mr. Thomas H. Jenkins, Shavertown, and Mrs. Emily Lewis Zubrod, Hollidaysburg, Pa., teachers.

Family style dinner was enjoyed by class members, their spouses and Mr. and Mrs. Boyd Bertrum, Buffalo, New York, Marian Fritzes Davis, Whitehall, Pa.; Theresa Shiner Decker and George Decker, Dallas; and Ruth and Charles Pembleton, Buffalo, N.Y., friends of the

class. Tables were beautifully decorated by Edith Anderson Daron with crepe paper of red and white, class colors. Centerpieces of potted prayer plants with white mums and covered in red foil were provided by Mrs. Zubrod for each table.

Everyone joined in Penny Auction which was sprinkled with reminescent class tales told by Robert J. Ockenhouse, auctioneer, attired in various comical costumes. Special tribute was paid to Mrs. Robert Ockenhouse in honor of her birthday. Louise Dodson Phipps served as auction cashier. Funds raised will be used for the Class's 45th Reunion set for August, 1990.

## Shopping center not ruled out

Humford Equities of Wilkes-Barre, owners of the Dallas Shopping Center, said Friday that although there are no immediate plans for construction "there certainly is a possibility" for the construction of a new shopping center to be located between the Northeastern Bank and the Dallas Township Municipal Building along Route 309.

"We have no current plans to begin construction," said George Nicholson of Humford Equities. "To this date, there has been no commitment on plans, financing or anything else, but there is a very good chance of something being built there."

Nicholson said plans for a new shopping center on the plot of land, which is located directly across from Cossia's restaurant, have been in the works for a few years.

Said Nicholson, "Building a shopping center on that land seems to be the most logical use for the land. Right now, however, we do not have any firm plans."

## Water not polluted

Customers of the Harveys Lake Water Company (HLWC) can breathe a sigh of relief this week after recent water samples taken indicated that there is no bacteria contaminating their drinking water.

The announcement that the drinking water of the company's customers might be contaminated was made known last week when the company placed legal advertisements in the area's daily newspapers indicating that during the month of August a .9 level of bacteria per 100 c.c. of drinking water was found during routine testing.

The Department of Environmental Resources (DER) has regulations which set acceptable bacteria levels at .1 organisms per 100 c.c. of drinking water.

"There is really no problem with the drinking water," said Joseph Salla, general manager of the HLWC. "In fact, water samples taken during the month of September indicated bacteria levels of 0.1, and 0."

HLWC services customers in the Harveys Lake, Noxen, Dallas and Shavertown communities.

Salla said he believes the unusually high bacteria levels found in the August tests were the result of either "faulty testing procedures" or "contaminated test bottles."

"Occurrences like this (unusually high bacteria levels) happen every once in a while," Salla said. "The bacteria level could have been caused by any number of things."

DER spokesman Mark Carmon said Friday that drinking water contamination frequently occurs during the summer months.

"If the water really is contaminated, then it probably is the result of sun warming the water supply," said Carmon. "However, I understand that the Harveys Lake problem is one of a faulty testing procedure."

Carmon said during the summer months the water is heated by the sun and this creates an ideal spawning ground for bacteria. "Unusual levels of bacteria are really not all that uncommon," said Carmon. "Many times there simply is a mistake in the testing phase."

According to Carmon, in order for a water sample to be contaminated it only takes a very small amount of bacteria. During testing, special care must be exercised to insure that all testing equipment is sanitary. Otherwise, an improper reading of bacteria levels can be found.

— JOHN F. KILDUFF

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### Firm may be hired

## Lake problems could surface in year's time

By JOHN F. KILDUFF  
Staff Writer

If Harveys Lake Borough Council approves the Environmental Advisory Council's (EVAC) recommendation of hiring the ecological firm of F.X. Browne Associates next Wednesday, solutions for the lake's water quality problems may surface within a year.

During last Thursday's EVAC public meeting, the advisory committee indicated they would recommend to council the hiring of the Lansdale, Pa. firm in order to begin a year-round water quality study of Harveys lake. Council is expected to address the hiring of F.X. Browne Associates during next Wednesday's regularly scheduled meeting.

According to Dr. Frank Browne, owner and founder of the eight-year-old water testing firm, the proposed \$15,000 study of Harveys Lake will be the first step in coming up with solutions to the problems similar to the recent "anabaena" algae blooms.

"To my knowledge, nobody has ever done a comprehensive study to the water problems at Harveys lake," said Browne. "Testing in the past has been done on a piece-meal approach with individuals and small groups taking tests."

"What we propose to do at Harveys lake is to conduct a general ecological study which will lead to a more detailed approach to solving any problems in the future," Browne added.

Browne said if his company is selected to do the study, testing will begin at two or three specially selected spots on Harveys Lake sometime in January of 1986. Testing would continue throughout the year and would end in December.

The testing would include two phases. The first phase would be taking water samples once a month of the lake water at the designated spots. The second phase would be a study of the lake's watershed (surrounding areas which feed the lake with runoff water).

"What I proposed to the EVAC a while back based on their limited funding," said Browne, "was a brief overview study with sampling taken once a month or so."