

Study shows high rate of HIV infection in NB

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THE BRUNSWICKIAN

The results of a study released last week by UNB's nursing faculty showed an alarming number of pregnant women have tested positive for the AIDS virus.

Four cases of HIV infection were found in the ten thousand women tested. Although this may seem like a very small number, it does mean that New Brunswick has the third highest prevalence of AIDS in pregnant women after Quebec and Newfoundland.

The study was conducted by a research team consisting of infectious disease specialists, clinical microbiologists, epidemiologists, nurses and representatives from AIDS service organizations. Every woman involved in the study took part anonymously.

Grace Getty, a professor of nursing at UNB, said that the results of the test

should make people think about how important practicing safe sex is. "Any sexually active woman needs to think about the risks involved. It was the women who didn't think they were at risk who contracted the virus. It wasn't the drug users or the promiscuous women who were infected but women who loved a man."

According to Getty, people have the responsibility to change their attitudes about safe sex. "If women are to practice safe sex, society needs to condone it. The idea of protecting yourself needs to be more socially acceptable. Condoms and education programs must be freely available to those who want them."

Fortunately for students at UNB, there is a resource room with AIDS material and a variety of free condoms. It is located in MacLaggan Hall, Room 120.

Staff meeting 12:30, SUB Rm. 35

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A thank-you to UNB and STU students for your patience and politeness during the line-ups at our check-outs during the first few days of classes. Also, thank-you to our non-student customers who patiently waited their turn for service during our busiest time of the year.

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Annual Lung Run to be held next Sunday

Dust off those running shoes and start to limber-up, because the ninth annual Investor's Group Lung Run is scheduled for Sunday, September 29 in Fredericton. This year's event offers something for everyone. There will be a 20K, 10K, 5K, a 5K walk and a youngster's Tot Trot.

The Lung Run is one of the New Brunswick Lung Association's most successful events. Funds raised by the event are vital to helping combat lung diseases in the province.

"This event is very important to our Association," said Kenneth H. Maybee, Executive Director of the New Brunswick Lung Association.

Funds raised will go towards the introduction of a Lungmobile, which will travel the province providing early lung health detection and lung health education. This is a vital need and will serve to enhance the respiratory health of all New Brunswickers.

Some highlights of this year's Run include a special appearance by Peter Maher, Canada's best marathon runner. Maher will also tour the province before the Lung Run, participating in asthma team seminars. As well, Major Bruce Henwood, C.D., is the honorary Chair of the Fredericton event.

"This year's activities are geared toward the serious runner, as well as teams and families," said Maybee. "We'll be hosting the Tot Trot again - it was popular with kids last year. As well, we are offering babysitting services for parents participating in the run."

There will be a total of seven Lung Runs throughout the province. There will be five taking place simultaneously on September 29 in

Fredericton, Saint John, Moncton, Bathurst and Edmundston. A Cadet Lung Run will take place later, on Sunday, October 27 in Oromocto. As well, another Lung Run is scheduled to take place in Stanley on Sunday, October 6.

In Fredericton, registration begins at the Small Craft Aquatic Centre between 11 am and 1:45 pm. The Tot Trot begins at 1:30 pm, with all other categories starting at 2 pm.

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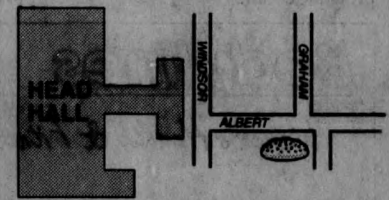
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