The silent plague:
Shrouded for centuries with fear, guilt and fantasy, venereal disease has surfaced in epidemic proportions among young people in recent years, confronting the medical profession with a major health menace.

by Jim Stack

VD has an advantage over efforts to eradicate it because of the ignorance of many facts concerning VD among the general public. The belief that venereal disease is transferred through dirty toilet seats, beds or bad habits is "absolutely false," according to Dr. W. D. Fitzgerald, director of the student health services at the U of I.

Fitzgerald pointed out that VD afflicts the human sex organs and can be transferred only through intimate sexual contact. He added that syphilis and gonorrhea, the two most common types of venereal disease, are often confused with sex diseases such as crab lice, which differ from VD in that they do not get into the bloodstream. Sex diseases appear only on the body surface, although they are also transferred exclusively through sexual intercourse.

Gonorrhea most common

Gonorrhea, is less dangerous than syphilis and far more common in occurrence. The symptoms of gonorrhea are easily detected in the male. These consist of a thick, yellow liquid discharged from the penis and a burning sensation during urination which may occur anywhere from 3 to 21 days after the subject has been infected. Although the symptoms are the same, detection of the disease in the female is more difficult since gonorrhea symptoms may be ignored by the subject due to menstrual flow. A recent article printed by the American Medical Association on venereal disease estimated that there are approximately 46,000 female carriers of gonorrhea in the United States today who do not know they have the disease.

Fitzgerald explained that gonorrhea may go untreated between 2 and 4 weeks after the symptoms appear before any serious damage is done to the body. The disease usually includes a damaged urethra and posterior tubes in the male and ovaries in the female which can cause sterility. "Gonorrhea can also cause blindness to an unborn child in pregnant women," he said.

Commenting on the results of untreated gonorrhea, Fitzgerald noted that the disease "may cause arthritis in later years," lying dormant after the initial detection.

Syphilis most serious

Syphilis is the most serious of the two diseases, and like gonorrhea, is most easily detected in the male. A large, ulcer-like sore develops on the penis of the male and in the uterus of the female along with a rash which breaks out on the skin. The sore usually develops about a month after infection, whereas the rash will take about six weeks to develop.

Untreated syphilis is often responsible for heart disease, brain and spinal cord damage, blindness and paralysis. "In fact," Fitzgerald said, "syphilis is called the "great deceiver" because it mimics probably any disease the human is subject to.

He said that both syphilis and gonorrhea are treated with large doses of penicillin (gonorrhea is sometimes treated with tetracycline) and 59 percent of the time, immediate treatment is effective in curing VD completely.

Recent studies by the AMA found that new cases of VD occur almost exclusively among young single people. At the reason for this, Fitzgerald cited the fact that most older married people tend to stay with one sex partner, thus greatly reducing the likelihood of venereal disease.

A law was repealed last year that required doctors and health personnel to inform the parents of the disease when a minor was afflicted with VD. Referring to this, Fitzgerald stressed that "absolute confidentiality is practiced here at the health center. No one but the patient and his doctor has access to the patient's health record."

Cases rising

In keeping with the health center's policy, Fitzgerald declined to release figures on the number of VD cases reported on campus, but he did mention that the incidence of VD at Idaho is 67 times greater than it was 3 years ago. He explained that this was extremely important because the fear of embarrassment and treatment is prevented people to a point where they would rather suffer than seek treatment.

The student health center, in addition to an emphasis on general medical care, offers services such as psychiatric care, and drug and alcohol counseling. The center itself houses several other health-oriented programs, including a study room for graduate medical students, a place through which the state health department distributes contraceptives free of charge, and a room where the ASUI conducts a sex education program.

The center also offers volunteer work for the more maturely oriented students and eventual work as doctor and dental assistant in the area.

With venereal disease, there's no sympathy towards children

For many generations the taboo deifying discussion of all things sexual and kept many people ignorant of the truths concerning venereal disease. Now when the disease is at an epidemic stage the taboo is being broken.

If those with venereal disease are not considered of their health and others they come into contact with, then the least mercy they could show is towards their children.

Congoional syphilis is infection passing through the placenta from a syphilitic mother to the fetus in the womb so that the baby is born with the disease. According to resource text, untreated syphilis in women produces a disastrous outcome in nine out of ten pregnancies. The result is a miscarriage, a stillbirth, or a living child with congenital syphilis.

In many cases blindness, deafness, twisted teeth and bony deformities — especially in the face and common result. Mental retardation is also common.

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Sex info center offers help, referral

A sex information center has been set up at the Student Health Center as the first phase of a plan by the ASUI to provide readily available information for those seeking help with drug, sex or alcohol questions and problems.

The center, which has been established already but it is staffed from 11 a.m. to noon on weekdays and has a large library of pamphlets and information according to ASUI Vice-President Mel Fisher. The office is in room 119 of the Infirmary. A phone will be installed soon, Fisher said, but in the meantime, students will have to come to the center for information. Pamphlets concerning birth control, sexual adjustment and venereal diseases are available and the students staffing the center already have a file of persons to whom those with questions or problems can be referred.

ASUI Funds

The ASUI provided the original funding for the program but the center's 20-member board of directors is considering seeking federal grants or other aid to help continue the center, Fisher said. "We're in the feeling out stage... what we can and can't do along the lines of who can get help from us."

"We hope to have it running very efficiently soon with qualified counselors on hand. We (the ASUI and the board of directors) feel there is a definite need on campus for the center, particularly in regard to VD," he said.

Fisher added that the student staff members at the center are in no way meant to be counselors. Their purpose is to be there to refer people to those qualified to counsel the person. All services are confidential.

Family Planning

In addition to the new information center, help is available from the Family Planning Clinic in Lewiston which conducts counseling sessions on campus twice each month.

Their services include contraceptive service, gynecological screening, venereal disease detection, a wide variety of counseling services, pregnancy detection, infertility referral, sterilization referral, social service referral and education about family planning and other health matters.

Moscow's Mayor

VD week hailed

Larry Merk, mayor of Moscow, has issued a proclamation declaring Oct. 9-15 Veneral Disease Week: This is in conjunction with a nationwide campaign sponsored by Public Broadcasting Services (PBS).

KUID-ID Moscow's PBS affiliate, has devoted a special session of programming concerning the ever-increasing problem of venereal disease (VD).

VD education, treatment and prevention will be emphasized by various groups from the town and University communities throughout the week.

Participants in this program include Moscow Chamber of Commerce, the district health unit of the Moscow High School as well as the Argonaut and University of Idaho student groups.

According to Commission on VD, the time has come for a comprehensive educational program. VD has now reached epidemic proportions in the United States, and is "second only to the common cold in its contagious capacity," according to the commission.

Says Merk, "We call upon all our citizens in this community to especially honor and participate in this worthy endeavor."

Last night KUID-TV took a step forward in informing the public about venereal disease by airing a nationwide special called VD Blues and by following it up with a local special featuring local doctors discussing the symptoms and cures of the disease.

Mike Kirk, program director, points out there is a great need for such programs in the Moscow area. He says they are trying to bring the issue out into the open.

"The point is," says Kirk, "that most parents are good enough people to know what is happening. In this state there were 17,075 cases of gonorrhea last year. If there were 17,075 cases of polo you'd know that parents would be out in the streets yelling about an epidemic."

Parents refuse to inform

Kirk says that most parents refuse to inform their children about VD; he says if they won't talk to their own children they should allow them to watch TV and learn about it.

In the Moscow area many epidemiologists (communicable disease experts) are refused admittance into the schools to trace the source of the disease. But Moscow has a VD center that has a secret location with local doctors to treat victims who go there for and wish to remain anonymous. The doctors volunteer their services to the center which enables a victim of VD to go to them for help without fear of a bill sent some or having their family doctor inform their parents.

In the Courthouse

In the Latah County Courthouse there is a nurse to whom a victim of VD can go for information about the center, according to Kirk.

Kirk says all this worthwhile information about the disease has been suppressed for so long that the need for a TV special on it has arisen. The aim of VD Blues (which was written around the theme of Bob Dylan's famous song of the same name) and the goal of Kirk's local program was to wipe out the superstitions about VD.

In the past all methods were used to stop VD. Scare tactics were employed. "People would go to the high schools and tell the students that they'd go blind and have their lips break down and all kinds of crap, but in the 60's the students told them to go to hell cause they knew better," says Kirk. "Now we've worked out a new approach. Last night VD Blues was like a variety show with a meaningful background, the hope was that this kind of show could reach the people."

Gonorheas and syphilis were profiled as living characters who attacked the human body in a way gonorrhea and syphilis actually do.

Then Kirk's special featured local doctors discussing honestly the symptoms and cures of venereal disease.

"It was a simple program," says Kirk, "if three people who have the disease watched and were helped by doing so then I think the show was worthwhile."

Students respond to sex questions

by Elaine Ambrose

Students should be able to obtain help and information on birth control and venereal disease. According to a recent survey, students on campus approve of a Sex Information Center and Clinic and the discussion of sex literature.

Reasons for this open approval are varied.

"We have to face reality," was one reply, "There is a VD epidemic and people should know the facts."

"Unwanted pregnancies permanently damage the lives of both parents and child. There should be available information on birth control," was another response.

The majority of replies indicated an open awareness of VD. Birth control pills, and the need for information about them. Most of the replies for a sex clinic came from females. Some males on campus seemed to ignore the issue or laugh it off.

The negative comments stressed the importance of morals, conscience and culture.

"People should know better," was one reply against distribution of birth control pills.

"The whole subject is disgusting and degrading. Values are a thing of the past."

Currently, there is a Sex Information Center in the Infirmary. It is open in the mornings Monday through Friday and has free literature on venereal disease, birth control, and family planning. The "Nightline" phone service also gets calls concerning unwanted pregnancies and venereal diseases. They are referred to ministers, counselors, or doctors.

The majority of students seem to want help or information concerning these problems. If so, an open sex clinic should be organized on a full-time basis.

And you want to worry about VD???

VD program on KUID explains illness;
local doctors discuss problems, symptoms

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Symm's choice

During yesterday's Columbus day Political activities, Steve Symms renewed his support for the implementation of tuition in Idaho's institutions of high learning.

The tuition, as proposed by the state board of education, would cost the student at the University of Idaho about $400 dollars or about $800 for the academic year. This does not consider the other inherent costs of receiving an education such as books, room and board while living away from home.

Symms' argument that the tuition will give more freedom of choice to the individual citizen in Idaho, simply does not support its own weight.

The increase in the cost of tuition could very possibly put higher education out of the reach of the son or daughter of a working family in Idaho.

Rather than enlarging the freedom of choice for the son's and daughters of Idaho's working families, Symms' proposal would destroy any freedom of choice which they have now. Already it is difficult for working class families in Idaho to support their son's and daughters in college, the tuition could end any choice they now have.

Future lawyers, engineers and foresters in Idaho will be chosen, not on the basis of their abilities but instead on the wealth of their parents. Those from working class backgrounds will not have any choice in education.

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**Sample Ballot**

(Write in)

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<th>Candidate Name</th>
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<th>College Mother</th>
<th>Home Father</th>
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<td>Sue</td>
<td>Bill</td>
<td>Sarah</td>
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<td>Karen</td>
<td>Engineer</td>
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<td>Lynne</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>Architect</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Write in)

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If you are preparing to cast your vote in the election watch the Ed Williams - Steve Symms debate on KUID TV, Friday night at 7.
the people speak

Dirty words

I just finished skimming one of your issues Sept. 29 Vol. 76, No. 9, and found so many dirty words that I wonder if any of the so-called college education rubs off on the letter writers and also some of the editors or correspondents.

It seems to me that anybody without any education can use four letter words and that people are going to college to learn to express themselves better. I always say that anything a person uses a swear word it is because they lack the vocabulary to express themselves better.

No wonder that people are not supporting colleges with big donations when the college student comes out with worse vocabularies and habits than they went to college with. So what if they think they are doing their thing at least in doing it they could do a cleaner job and not revert back to the dark ages.

You may think you are shocking us into noticing you but instead it disgusts us and shows your lack of maturity and you people are going to be the leaders of the future. Why not show some stature and cleanliness and earn our respect?

Carol Marotz

What about buildings?

On June 13 Ed Pierson, the Democratic Candidate for the Sheriff's office had stated that the sheriff's department "is a law enforcement department set up by you, the people, with its main purpose being to maintain law and order and to protect the citizens of Latah County." Now if the law enforcement department is made up of you the people, then why aren't you the people asked whether or not you wanted a new wing put onto the county courthouse with its 5 maximum security cells.

If the department is there to protect the people, how is a building a larger building going to protect you?

The only thing that the new wing will do for you the people is cost you money (you will pay 50 cents of the rest, with state and federal funding paying the rest).

Now Sheriff Pierson, if you are elected to the position of Sheriff, do you intend to build buildings to protect the people or are you going to enlarge your manpower to better serve the people?

Jeff Williamson

Open letter

Dear President Nixon:

Your good friend Dwight Eisenhower, admonished you not to let the military get too strong. Remember?

Your alliance with the powers of fear, hate and violence which depend on bombs, guns, D.D.T., defoliants, napalm, atomic and nuclear weapons and physical strength (as you say) will not in the long run persevere.

If you would remember Eisenhower's advice and your Quaker background, and espouse human dignity, nonviolence and decency, then mankind would be forever grateful. Why have enemies? We are all human beings on planet earth to aid, support, protect, and love each other. These principles in the long run will persevere because in them lies true strength. Won't you please be truly strong?

Ernest F. Sheffield

Karate

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Sat., 10:00 a.m.

The Argonaut will accept letters to the editor on all topics. If the editor believes that all sides of a particular topic have been presented to Argonaut readers then no further letters will be printed on that topic.

The Argonaut will attempt to print all letters, however, preference will be given to short letters. Letters of unusual length (more than two typed pages) will not be printed except under unusual circumstances. All letters to the editor must be typed and double spaced. No letters in verse form will be accepted.

The Argonaut reserves the right to edit all letters submitted to the letters to the editor column to conform to appropriate laws, Argonaut style and space limitations.
Vandal sports happening

Soccer team faced the “City of Spokane,” a team consisting of the best players selected from all of the colleges in Spokane. The game ended in a 2-2 tie. Idaho played an excellent game, showing a still strong contention for the NWISL title.

Coach-captain Nicos Rossides opened the scoring for Idaho after a 50-yard run and an accurate shot in the right corner of the net.

The Spokane team answered with three consecutive goals, all scored from corner kicks, but Idaho made an impressive comeback and added another score for the team when Russell Strong kicked another goal. A few minutes later, Nicos Rossides again dribbled through the Spokane defense in an impressive individual effort and scored with a left drive to tie the game.

Idaho’s new league game will be on Sunday at 1:30 against Gonzaga University in the New Idaho Stadium. All interested fans are welcome to attend.

Track
Coach Ed Troxel of the Idaho Track team and graduate assistant coach Bill Koss, who handles the cross-country team, said today they are looking forward to an exciting cross-country meet on Saturday.

The annual Idaho Invitational cross-country meet will be run over the four-mile course at the University golf course. Koss said the meet would start at 10:30 a.m. Washington State, Montana, Spokane Falls C.C., North Idaho J.C., Eastern Washington College, Gonzaga, and Boise are expected to send strong teams to compete.

Idaho’s hopes will ride with Mark Novak, veteran harrier who placed sixth in a strong field at the Washington University non-scoring meet held last week in Seattle. This meet will also be a non-scoring event and Troxel said there would be medals for the first 10 positions. He said the meet is open to all track club and unattached runners who wish to compete.

Troxel also said future Idaho Invitational meets would be expanded to include all of the top colleges in the Northwest.

Fall diamond play pleases Smith

Coach John Smith said today that he has been highly pleased with his fall workouts with the Idaho baseball team.

“We use the fall sessions to work on various play situations, get in good condition, take plenty of time in batting practice as long as the good weather will be with us. It gives the staff an excellent time to work on infield drills with many of the players and also gives us an inside track on just what the players will be able to do when the early spring drills come around,” Smith said.

“These practice games are just the tonic for fall baseball as it is excellent competition under typical game conditions and both teams reap many benefits,” Smith said.

The team this year has many veterans with Tim Kampe, Steve Williams, Jim Elston, Phil Holt, and Herman Carver returning to the mound staff. Newcomer Bob Barnes also seems ready to make a place for himself on the mound staff.

Gary Arone, who caught for the Lewiston American Legion baseball team that went to the Little World Series of Legion baseball, has impressed coach Smith with his work behind the plate.

Arone is a freshman.

Vetern infielders include Mike Ruscio at first base, Tommy Hull at third base, Royal Allen at shortstop and second base, and Jim Ingle, also an infielder. Outfield veterans include Alan Had, a 400 hitter from last year, Andy Brasse, and Mike Clements.

Bobby Aoki, freshman second baseman from Spokane, is also looking good in the fall drills.

Coach Smith said that he also would get help from veteran Stan Hunter, who is currently playing football, along with fresh pitchers Dave Comstock, and outfielder Curt Hamm. Comstock is a Vandal quarterback while Hamm is a wide receiver.

Smith said that the team will work out as long as the weather holds out and that spring drills will begin in February.

JOIN THE 1973 GEM OF THE MOUNTAINS STAFF

8 Positions Open
2 Assistant Editors—$70 per month
6 Section Editors—$40 per month

 Interviews Will Be Held
Thursday, October 12, 7 p.m.
GEM Office—3rd Floor SUB

WEIGHT LOSS ADVICE FROM THE PROFESSIONALS

The weight problems of today are not the weight problems of yesterday.

Our weight problems today are brought on by the increase in our physical activity, which is due to more widespread use of mechanized labor. Also, the increased consumption of processed foods, which are high in fat and sugar, has contributed to our weight gain.

In addition, there is an increased rate of stress in our society, which is linked to weight gain. Stress can cause an increase in the production of the hormone cortisol, which can lead to weight gain.

Finally, there is an increased rate of social isolation, which can lead to weight gain. Social isolation can lead to an increased intake of food, as well as an increased intake of alcohol and other substances that can lead to weight gain.

In conclusion, our weight problems today are due to a combination of factors, including increased physical activity, increased consumption of processed foods, increased stress, and increased social isolation.

Entertainment

Philharmonic conductor challenges UI artists

Mathys Abas, director of the Boise Philharmonic, was at the University of Idaho recently to invite students to create drawings, paintings, sculpture and architectural models to illustrate Moussorgsky's "Pictures at an Exhibition."

The music, originally composed as piano pieces and later orchestrated by Ravel, will be included in the Philharmonic's state-wide telecast on the life of Moussorgsky this spring. Abas is seeking entries from art students at all Idaho colleges and universities and will use the best entries as part of the telecast.

The art works will also be displayed at the Boise Gallery of Art and will be shown around the state if enough funds are available. The contest itself is made possible through a grant from the Idaho Commission on Arts and Humanities.

It was works of art that originally inspired Moussorgsky's music. In February of 1924, Moussorgsky attended a memorial exhibit of watercolors, paintings and designs by Victor Alexan-

drovich Hartmann, an artist-architect and former friend of the composer. Deeply moved, Moussorgsky selected 10 of the works and set them to music.

Abas first became acquainted with the music 25 years ago when performing in the violin section of the Rotterdam

American music stars in singing lecture

A lecture-recital planned by tenor Charles W. Walton, associate professor of music at the University is designed to present serious vocal works of American composers.

The lecture-recital will be at 8:00 p.m. tonight in the Music Building Recital Hall. There is no admission charge.

According to Walton, the recital will consist of a lecture on the historical background and progression of American song, interspersed with his performance of songs related to the lecture.

His repertoire will include works by Charles Griffes, Samuel Raphling and Stephen Foster. He also will perform "Seven Poems" by James Joyce set to music by William Billingsley, professor of music, and written especially for Walton.

Walton said he felt many wonderful American songs are never sung and said although a lot of American songs are being composed, there would be more if composers felt that their songs would be performed. Walton said a lecture-recital will allow him to communicate on two levels, both as historian and performer.

Walton noted the song cycle "Shadows in the Sun," with its keen observances of people, was created from the poetry of the American Negro poet Langston Hughes and set to music by Sam Raphling. He said he found the lyrical quality of James Joyce's poems set to music by Billingsley, interesting and rare.

Walton's lecture will also illustrate the gentle as well as European traditions.

Philharmonic. He tried to find reproductions of the original Hartmann work. Failing that, Hartman invited art students there to sketch their impressions of the music.

This contest among Idaho students will be his second search for "pictures" for the exhibition.

THE CABARET CLUB, sponsored by the ASUI Programs Office, was judged an enormous success last Saturday evening, with over 350 people attending. The featured entertainers, Bruce and Dixie Lee Innes, were received enthusiastically as was the roast Baron of Beef by the diners.

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Entomology Symposium draws speakers

Dr. William Waters, Chief researcher for the Forest Service in Washington, D.C., will be one of six leading international scientists speaking at the entomology symposium this weekend. Waters has researched ecological and economical impacts of destructive insects on forest resource use. He will be speaking about legal, social and economical constraints on pest management practices.

According to Dr. Arthur Gittens, head of the entomology department, the symposium will take place Friday through Sunday. The event is to highlight the 50th anniversary of the entomology department at the University of Idaho.

Gittens stressed the importance of the symposium in connection with environmental issues. New approaches are being researched to stop pest destruction and to help the ecology.

Friday, October 12, the scientists will discuss their research in their respective fields. All regions of the United States will be represented. Topics will cover the importance of pest management in the twenty-first century.

**NOTICE**

Major employers throughout the U.S. (private and government) are seeking qualified college men and women for career positions with top pay and outstanding benefits. Excellent opportunities exist in many areas. For FREE information on student assistance and placement program send self-addressed STAMPED envelope to National Placement Registry, Data-Tech Services, 1001 East Idaho St., Killeen, TX 76541.

Dr. William Waters
Another speaker is the director of the International Center of Biological Control at the University of California. Dr. Carl B. Huffaker who will discuss future techniques of pest management. He has been a research scientist and professor in many international institutes and universities and has lectured at many international congresses. He is the author of 106 scientific papers and his research interests include population ecology, biological control, and natural balance and regulating mechanisms.

Huffaker helped organize the Western Hemisphere Section of the International Organization for Biological Control and currently is president of the organization.

today

The Society of American Foresters will meet at 7 p.m. in the SUB.

College Republicans and the Latah County Republican Central Committee are sponsoring a dinner meeting at 7:15 p.m. in the SUB. Rep. James McClure, candidate for US Senate and Steve Symms, candidate for the House will be featured speakers. Local candidates will also be present. Tickets are $3.25 for students and $5.50 for others.

Norman Glass, a lawyer, will discuss lease laws, high rent and what tenants can do about these things at a meeting at 8 p.m. in the SUB. The session is sponsored by the Idaho Peace and Freedom Party.

**wednesday**

The ASUI Table Tennis Club will have an organizational meeting at 8 p.m. in the SUB. Officers will be elected and plans made for upcoming tournaments. For more information, call Hugh Cooke at 6484.

The ASUI Senate will meet at 7 p.m. in the SUB.

College Republicans meet at 7:30 p.m. in the SUB. Campus canvassing will be discussed.

The Committee to Re-elect the President will meet at 7 p.m. in the SUB.

Alpha Kappa Psi meets at 6:45 p.m. in the Appaloosa Lounge of the SUB. Donation of a conservation film to the Audio-visual Center will be discussed.

**thursday**

The seventh annual Almquist lecture featuring Dr. A. J. Buselli of the Mobi Corp. will be presented at 8 p.m. in Physical Science 111. Buselli's topic is "Technology and Commercial Development, a Case Study."

German Kaffeeklatsch is Thursday from 4-5:30 p.m. at the Burning Stake, Campus Christian Center.

Grass Roots tickets are on sale at the SUB information desk.

Arnold Air Society will meet at 6:30 p.m. in 104, Adult Education.

Any women interested in representing the U of I on the WRA Intercollegiate Volleyball team may contact Virginia Wolf at the WHRB or Patti Gardner at 882-0608. Practices begin Oct. 17.