

Dallas hospital may curtail AIDS services

DALLAS (AP) — A hospital may be forced to curtail services to patients with the AIDS virus because it is having trouble attracting a qualified doctor and other employees to staff its clinic, officials said.

The staff shortage at Parkland Memorial Hospital has prompted the hospital to reduce azidothymidine treatments for patients suffering from acquired immune deficiency syndrome, officials said.

Parkland has funds to provide the drug to 120 patients, but its AIDS clinic only has staff to administer the treatment to 62 patients, clinic director Dr. Daniel Barbaro told the *Dallas Times Herald* Wednesday.

AZT, the only federally approved anti-AIDS drug, can prolong the life of an AIDS patient but is not a cure.

About 25 AIDS patients were on a waiting list to receive the drug. Officials said 200 patients with early stages of the disease might benefit from the medication if the clinic could provide it. The clinic treats one-third of Dallas' AIDS cases.

Barbaro said Parkland's AIDS patients would have to be cared for in other clinics at the hospital if the AIDS clinic is shut down.

Hospital officials have been searching for a physician since July. Dr. Wayne Shandera, one of two staff doctors, said he would quit in December to work in AIDS research.

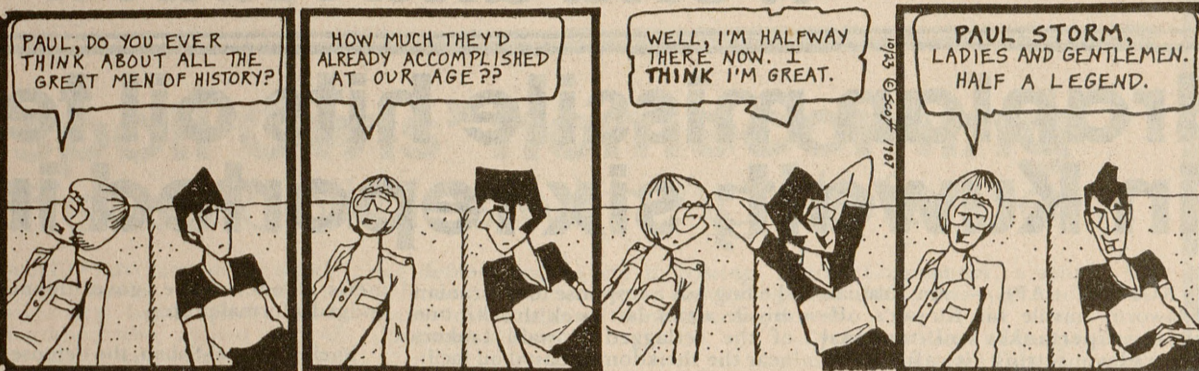
Advertisements in six medical journals and word-of-mouth recruiting efforts have yielded three resumes and one interview with a candidate who could not begin the \$65,000-a-year job until July.

Dr. James Luby, Parkland's chief of infectious diseases and the supervisor who will hire the physician, said the job is not an easy one to fill.

Officials said recruiting qualified physicians to treat AIDS patients is a problem for Parkland and hospitals throughout the nation.

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Bracelets of macramé represent ties of friendship to many A&M wearers

By Tracey Streater
Reporter

Some wear them to represent friendship, some in the name of tradition and some just to measure their tans. For whatever reason, macramé bracelets are showing up on wrists around campus.

The bracelets, made of a series of half-hitch macramé knots, are fairly easy to make. People learn how to make them at camp, in student clubs or from friends. They also can be bought in the mall. The macramé designs come in all shapes and sizes, including bracelets, anklets, rings and even cords for raquetball raquets.

Most people say the bracelets are signs of friendship. The bracelet is meant to remind the wearer of the person who gave it to them, therefore it never should be removed.

"The object is to wear the bracelets until they fall off," says J.J. Muzik, a junior exercise technology major from Pittsburgh.

Not all people follow the intent so stringently. Some change the bracelets to match their clothing or mood.

To Vanessa Linsley, a junior journalism major from Houston, her white bracelet holds a traditional significance.

"It's called a Turk's head and is a Dutch custom," Linsley says. "In Holland, the father passes his sailing vessel on to his son when the boy is old enough to receive it. They go on board and point the wheel of the



Photo illustration by Sam B. Myers

ship to due north. There, the father ties a smaller version of the Turk's head bracelet to the wheel as a reference point for the son."

Linsley, women's captain of the Texas A&M Sailing Team, received her bracelet from a close friend more than seven years ago.

The bracelets don't always have such deep significance; some people like them just because of the way they look or what they represent.

One place on campus where people might not be sporting these bracelets is the Corps-area Quadrangle.

Since they are not even mentioned in the Corps Standard — the book stating the acceptable dress and conduct of the Corps — they are not to be worn with the Corps uniform, says Lt. Col. Donald J. Johnson, assistant commandant of the Corps.

"Corps Staff will be putting out a memo reinforcing that the bracelets are not an authorized part of the Corps uniform," Johnson says.

However, any cadet can propose a change to the Corps Standard, says Lt. Col. Donald R. Henderson, dep-

uty assistant commandant of the Corps.

"If a guy feels (the bracelet) should be an item, he can go through correct channels and Corps Staff will make a decision," Henderson says.

Whether the bracelets become part of the uniform or not, their popularity with the rest of the student body cannot be denied, Muzik says.

"You always notice who has them on their wrist," he says. "I think people who have them are a lot more fun."

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