



MARTIN WALDMAN

**'Good soul':** AIDS victim Garcia (second from right)

is that we encourage people to be more accepting."

Not all students are reacting to AIDS and victims of the disease with fear and loathing. After Stuart Garcia, a 1984 Columbia graduate, died of AIDS last July, his classmates established a scholarship fund in his name. As a student representative to the university senate, Garcia had fought hard to preserve the school's policy of guaranteeing financial aid to all students who need it. "We want to honor Stuart for the ideals of service and devotion to the college he represented," says Steven Waldman, one of the organizers of the fund-raising drive, "but we also wanted to remind people of the genuinely good souls AIDS takes. There is no shame in dying of AIDS."

**Hygiene and etiquette:** Most students who are concerned about AIDS seem to be struggling toward a middle ground—responsibility in sexual matters without paranoia. That effort can raise unusual issues of hygiene and etiquette. Teresa, a senior at Indiana, recently found out that her boyfriend's roommate is bisexual. At first she wondered if they might be sleeping together—which would put her at risk for AIDS. Now she is convinced that her boyfriend isn't bisexual and she will not get AIDS. Her boyfriend, on the other hand, is very worried. "He's always telling me not to touch his roommate's towel or his soap," she says.

More and more students will likely confront such delicate issues in the future. Most experts hope that as students admit the real threat posed by AIDS, they will eventually respond by being more cautious, using condoms and spermicidal jelly and asking detailed questions about their partners' sexual histories. "That's all we have going for us right now," says Robert Gringle, assistant director of student health at Duke. "We have education and prevention. We don't have a cure. We don't have vaccinations. We don't have treatment." Gringle and other health officials don't want to turn campuses into monasteries; they just want to make them safer. As he talks, Gringle looks out of his office window at students walking to class. He offers the only advice possible: "Be careful out there."

BARBARA KANTROWITZ with HUGH BROOKS in Los Angeles,  
KAREN SPRINGEN and IRENE TUCKER in New York,  
ROBERT MAHLWITZ in Philadelphia, MICHAEL MILSTEIN  
in Durham and bureau reports

# Teaching Safer Sex

**W**hen Valentine's Day rolled around this year, students at many U.S. colleges celebrated not only by exchanging hearts and flowers, but by observing AIDS Awareness Week and National Condom Day. At Berkeley the Students for Preventive Health tossed helium-filled condoms at a gathering

on the steps of Sproul Hall. At Kentucky they unveiled a graphic safer-sex film. And at Tulane the Tulane Aids Prevention Society sold T-shirts to raise money for the cause.

The awareness of AIDS dawned first at schools in places where the virus struck hard: Columbia and NYU in New York City, for example, and Berkeley and Stanford near San Francisco. But today no campus, no matter how isolated or socially conservative, is immune from the disease, and student health services in growing numbers have begun to take steps to convince students, faculty and staff that they must protect themselves if they are sexually active. Dartmouth, among others, has offered "safer-sex kits," including a thin latex "dam" for protection during oral sex and a lubricant to prevent tearing of vaginal or rectal tissue during intercourse. At Wisconsin members of the Madison AIDS Support Network have spoken at residence halls and passed out wallet cards with tips on safe sex. And even at all-female Wellesley, students are advised by the health service to keep a supply of condoms nearby.

But providing students with advice about AIDS can present some educators with a moral dilemma. At Roman Catholic Georgetown, for example, condoms are not permitted to be sold on campus, in keeping with church teachings on birth control and extramarital sex. Nevertheless, Dean of Student Affairs Jack DeGioia feels that the school owes its undergraduates some information; last month he sent everyone a copy of the U.S. Surgeon General's recent report on AIDS, which stated that short of abstinence, condoms are the best method of protection. At Dartmouth a vocal minority has objected to the availability of the safer-sex kits, claiming that they encourage hedonism and promiscuity. Meanwhile, some health experts question whether there really is such a thing as safe sex these days. Dr. Robert Noble, an infectious-disease specialist at the University of Kentucky, is particularly critical. "Would you bet your life on a balloon?" he asks. "I