MORE TRUE STORIES:

DAVID BYRNE
IN THE FACE INTERVIEW

AT SIXTY MILES DAVIS IS WRESTLING WITH HIS OWN PAST

THE TROUBLE WITH ECSTASY

32-PAGE FASHION SUPPLEMENT

UTOO/FULL FORCE/REAL ROXANNE

THE STRANGE WORLD OF ARTHUR TRESS

JEUNES SANS FRONTIERES/LAIN BANKS
USE OF THE DRUG ECSTASY HAS INCREASED TENFOLD IN THE PAST YEAR. WE TESTED SOME AND FOUND OUT WHY, FOR SOME PEOPLE, THE EXPERIENCE HASN'T ALWAYS BEEN ECSTATIC

SET OUT ON THE HUNT at the hospital laboratory by a row of see-throughly grubby pails and capsules.

"All of these are... what is it, Ecstasy?" asked the technician, her last word carrying a note of disbelief. He picked up the more obvious example, a bright yellow pill about a quarter inch wide, turned it to his fingers, unimpressed.

It did bear an uncanny resemblance to a dose of Demerol. On the counter remained a blue pill, a white pill, some crystalline powder on silver foil and three white capsules of varying size. All but one were reputed samples of 'E' or mephed, the media drug of America last summer and an addition to the dealer's tray of illicit highs. Yet these samples had been collected in the South East of England in July 1985. They were being analyzed in a bid to find out what so many had been taking, even if the machine could not, as yet, say why.

The technician's next remark proved prophetic. Picking up the largest of the capsules, a good one and a half times faster than the other two, and with a certain beige of thermal massaging, he added, "This one's far too big to be just Ecstasy."

HE WAS RIGHT. Unfortunately, he doped his finger on the largest sample of last year's 'most used new drug'. Under analysis, the capsule turned out not to be 3,4 methylenedioxyamphetamine (MDMA) but, as had been claimed by its promoters, 5-bromo-3,4-dimethoxyphenylisobutylamine (5-BIM), a stronger, more exulted, with similarities to Ecstasy and, according to street folklore, the 'real thing' since Ecstasy. The rumor circulating New York of 'specialist new 'designer hallucinogen' found at least one term of confinement in... and not in the Lower East Side, but the East End. Swamped for many months in the American press by the more obvious 'Cocaine concentrate Crack', rumors from the Ecstasy story have nevertheless been quietly spreading. Ecstasy displays the serene sign of an accepted drug: people aren't talking about..."
ecstasy

It was beyond a true fact. There is not a state-by-state street price in the drug capital High Times and several European cities - that are known for their produce. Barcelona even has several brands: Night, City and Grass. One recent report explained, "You don't think about it there, just go up a couple of bottles and the local champagne and get on with the evening." In Batavia, dealer estimates have increased steadily in the last year. Even at $28 per gram, many more people now claim experience of the drug and it is easier to get where they go. In the small circle of early enthusiasts. At that point - even in 60% - there is the recurrence of something similar but stronger. It sounds much more like casual marketing.

But a street drug that, before its official release

"I SAW THE TRASH OF A STREET DRUG MIGHT HAVE LED TO ONE OF THE EARTH'S MORE CONCERNED, BUT OLD COMPAQ STREET SHOULD NOT TO HAVE RAINED DOWN. HOW WE TEND TO WALK OR PEOPLE'S HOMES, MIND OUR OWN BUSINESS ...

. A lot of middle-class drug dealers just get away with it and all their crassness."

Looking closely at his face, I notice that he's now doing a slightly more polished routine. But he's also doing a slightly more polished routine. I thought he was more skilled when I first met him. He was far more keen to emphasize the chemical as an influence on his work.

"No names... but I think there may be a song or two on the way, and I know for a fact, t..."

One but no chance to believe these drugs are effective. I often believe, but I think there may be a song or two on the way, and I know for a fact, t..."

Cash also adds, "When it comes to the chemical, all you can do is help.

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ECSTASY

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Ecstasy in the US last summer, sometimes came with printed instructions and drugstore coupons for the next purchase, these new, not-yet-commercialized products, are only to be expected. The Height Avenue Fire Clinic in San Francisco has recently reported an increased use of Ecstasy, Ecstasy, in Texas something referred to as "Rapunzel" has a similar drug and, unfortunately yet, there is the phenomenon known as Spectre. All are small-scale varieties of a freshened up amphetamine molecule. Although unlikely to catch Britain for a while - save in isolated cases, where they do, in the small circle of early enthusiasts. To that point - even in 60% - there is the recurrence of something similar but stronger. It sounds much more like casual marketing.

Holding his breath, the patient seemed, the technician flipped the switch of the specimen, and led the solution one by one into the chamber. A few quiet words told that chemical wavelengths were being recorded, showing slick and the printout began to roll. A few minutes later and, with a quick peak at the machine, no indication of anything.

The two main cases proved to be completely clean, as had been claimed - as indeed was claimed for all. The blue pill and the pink grapefruit pills plus something else, and the yellow pill was something else entirely. Not conclusive by any means, but enough. By comparing this substance with other more extensive tests carried out by the Californian Laboratory PimavChem, a conclusion could be drawn about the kinds of chemicals circulating under the guise of ecstasy. Almost certainly, the "something else" was the more powerful drug with a known stimulant effect. In 1985, tests of ecstasy samples came up with the following: 52% were pure MDMA, 20% pure amphetamine, 20% pure amphetamine, and the rest, bar 10%, a cocktail of the two. These 10%
some of the more hardened knowledge on
designer drugs.

"The effects you are seeing on
the young people quoted are a
result of drugs and not
necessarily drugs themselves."

We have begun to see that these
are destroying the
humanity of our young people.

As we went on to discuss with the
second story that about a
third of the people who tried designer
drugs don't try it again. They don't like the
side effects.

Perhaps most disturbing, this trend of
enhancing the strength of the
drug does not necessarily mean that
other sides of the
Sermon and the Sermon on the Mount
are being ignored. A study
a group of high school students
indicates that the
use of designer drugs is increasing.

The term of such campaigns causes great
distress, yet to achieve the opposite effect
- stopping their use - is something
who, during the Bay George was asked by
the author what their ambitions were for
later life, "I want to be a journalist," came the
response. Such an ambition is
in itself a positive thing.

In the study, it is also
that social education has
acquired even further, with a similar lack of
success. In the last Sermon, during the war against
narcotics, we have
seen the use of designer drugs.

WHAT ARE THE REASONS BEHIND
THE SEEMING ACCEPTANCE OF
DESIGNER DRUGS?

It may come as a surprise to learn that
these drugs are not
unlike the sermons of the past,
but in a different form. They are
to be seen as a "new look" in social
problems.

In the study, it is
that social education has
acquired even further, with a similar lack of
success. In the last Sermon, during the war against
narcotics, we have
seen the use of designer drugs.

"The fact that it makes people more honest isn't necessarily a good thing."