

IN THIS ISSUE : The True Facts About Marijuana Are Revealed!



TAKE PRIDE IN WHAT'S INSIDE WITH...

the INSIDERS



THE
MARIJUANA
MYSTERY



it's time to meet...

the INSIDERS™

CHRISTY - AGE 11, LIKES ART AND GYMNASTICS. SHE IS LOGICAL, HIGHLY OPINIONATED, AND SOMETIMES STUBBORN.

MARC - AGE 12, TRACK TEAM MEMBER. HE IS KIND AND UNDERSTANDING BUT OFTEN TOO TRUSTING OF OTHERS.

SAMMY - AGE 11, LOVES COMPUTERS AND SKATEBOARDS. HE IS SMART BUT OFTEN FORGETFUL AND ALMOST ALWAYS LATE FOR APPOINTMENTS.

ALPHA - (ADVANCED LEARNING PROTECTED HUMANOID ADVISOR) HAS IMAGERY CAPABILITIES GREATER THAN ANY KNOWN TO MAN AND HAS ACCESS TO ENDLESS AMOUNTS OF INFORMATION.

LATE ONE STORMY NIGHT, THE INSIDERS WERE WORKING ON A SCHOOL PROJECT ON ARTIFICIAL COMPUTER INTELLIGENCE WHEN...

LIGHTNING STRUCK, CAUSING A POWER SURGE THAT AFFECTED THE COMPUTER.

I HOPE WE DON'T LOSE THE DATA!

WHEN THE RUSH OF ELECTRICITY FADED AWAY, ALPHA STOOD NEARBY, NOW WITH THEIR FRIEND, THE INSIDERS TEACH OTHERS HOW TO STAY HEALTHY AND TAKE PRIDE IN WHAT'S INSIDE.

the INSIDERS

in

THE MARIJUANA MYSTERY



IT'S LATE AFTERNOON AT THE WATTERSON SCHOOL. THE GYMNASTICS TEAM IS PRACTICING FOR THE STATE CHAMPIONSHIP. CHRISTY WATCHES AS HOLLY MOVES THROUGH HER BALANCE BEAM ROUTINE FLAWLESSLY, ENDING WITH...

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ART: TONY VAN DE WALLE
LETTERING: FRED CARTER
EDITING: DIANA EDWARDS
EDUCATIONAL CONSULTANT: JEAN KIDD, TEXANS' WAR ON DRUGS

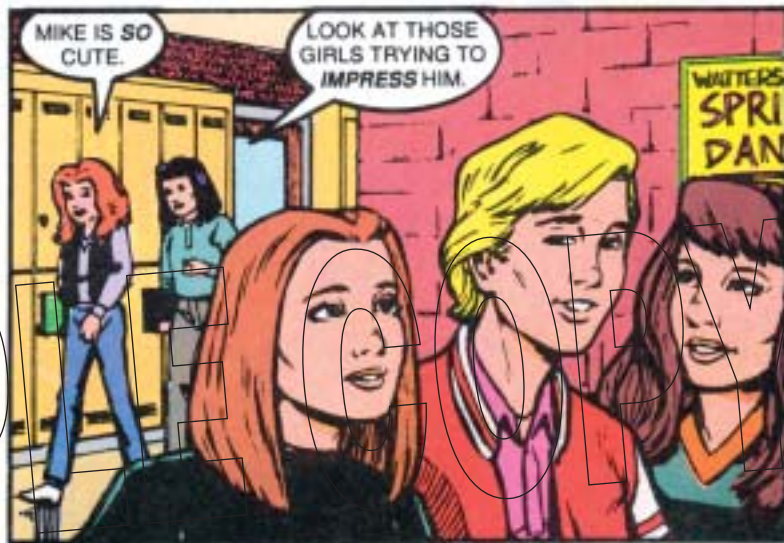
...A PERFECT DISMOUNT.

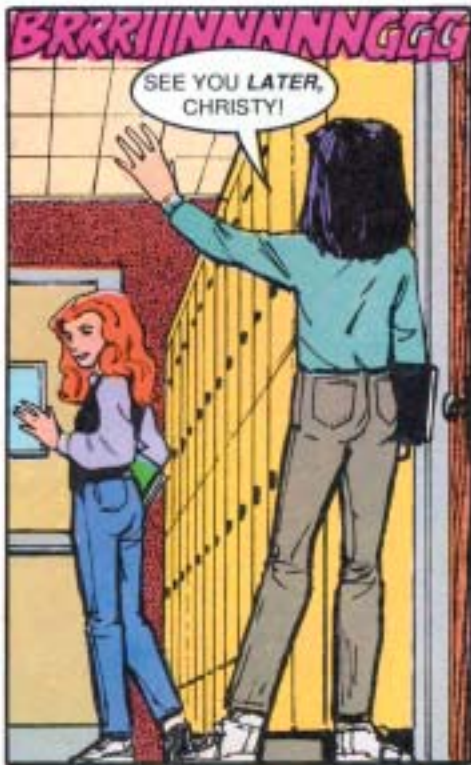


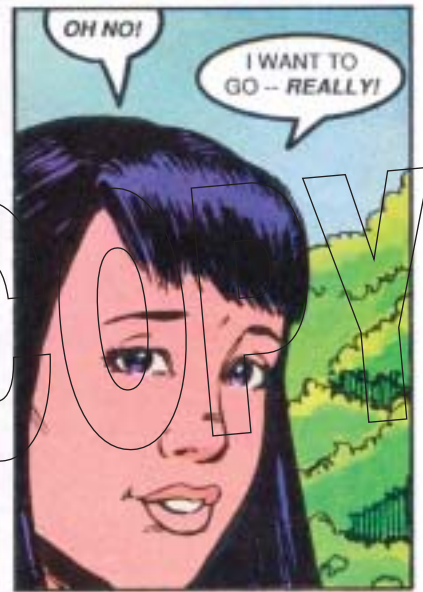
EXCELLENT JOB HOLLY!

YOUR ROUTINE WAS GREAT!

THANKS CHRISTY, BUT IT'S NOT PERFECT. MY BACKFLIP NEEDS WORK.







MIKE AND HOLLY GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER OVER A PIZZA. HOLLY CAN'T REMEMBER WHEN SHE'S HAD SO MUCH FUN.



AS THEY WALK THROUGH THE PARK...



I'M REALLY HAVING A GOOD TIME.

7:45.

YEAH, ME TOO! WHAT TIME IS IT, ANYWAY?

7:45! GOSH, I SHOULD GO HOME! WE'VE GOT THAT ENGLISH TEST MONDAY AND I REALLY NEED TO STUDY.

I'M NOT WORRIED ABOUT ENGLISH. BESIDES, I'VE GOT A LITTLE GIFT FOR HELPING ME WITH MATH.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO MIKE. DINNER WAS ENOUGH.

HERE, HOLD THIS WHILE I GET MY LIGHTER.

THIS LOOKS LIKE MARIJUANA!

IT IS. IT'S MY WAY OF SAYING THANKS.

I DIDN'T KNOW YOU SMOKED MARIJUANA.

THAT'S THE GOOD PART - NO ONE KNOWS.



HERE, LIGHT IT UP.

WAIT, MIKE. MARIJUANA IS BAD FOR YOU.

I HEARD IT DOES SOMETHING TO YOUR BRAIN.



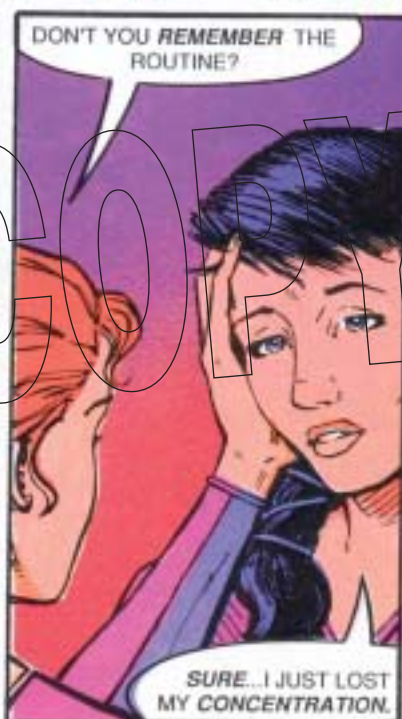
DON'T BELIEVE THAT. I SMOKE AND MY BRAIN IS FINE. DON'T YOU APPRECIATE MY PRESENT?

YOU KNOW, I DON'T USUALLY SHARE MY STUFF. BUT I LIKE YOU. YOU'RE SPECIAL.

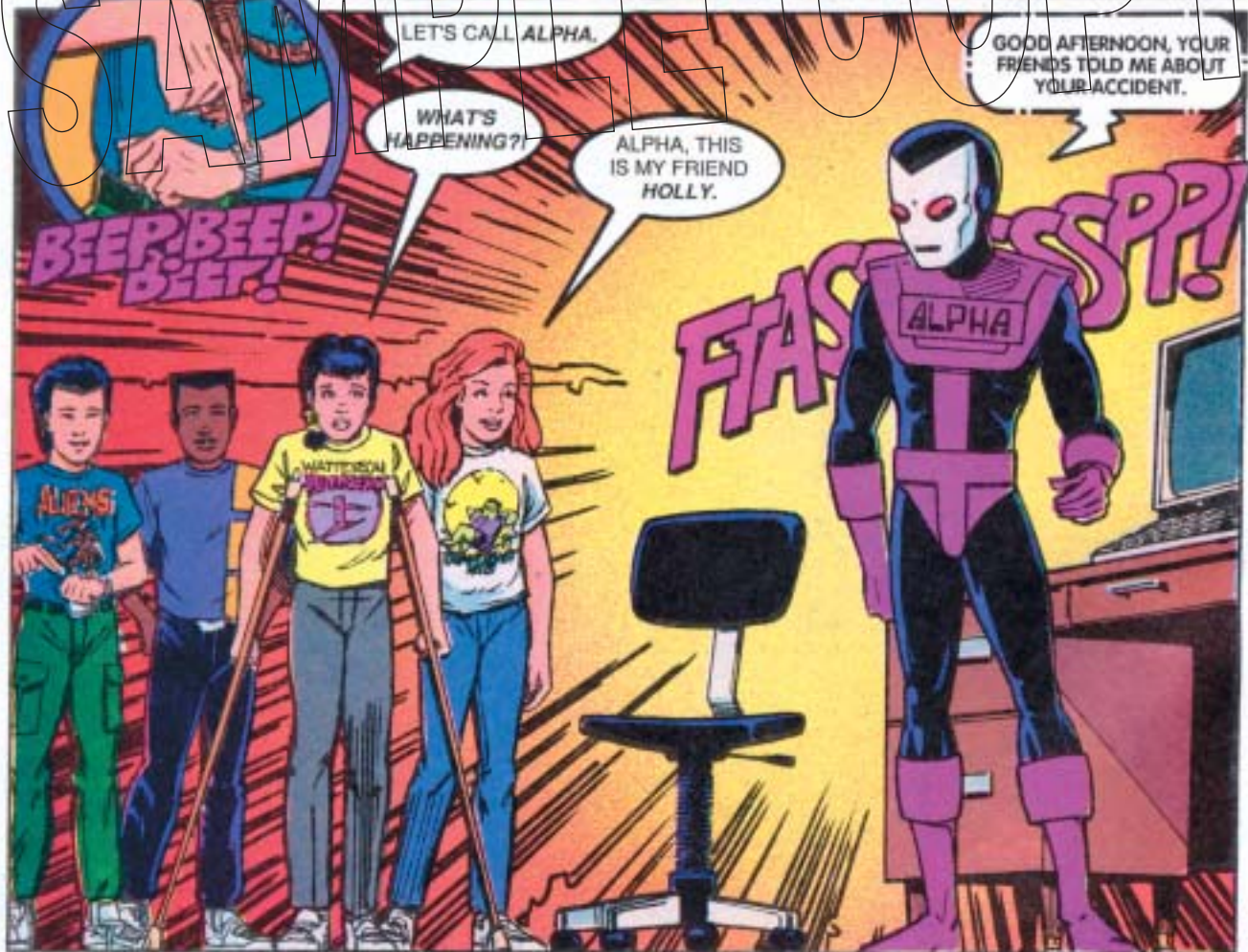
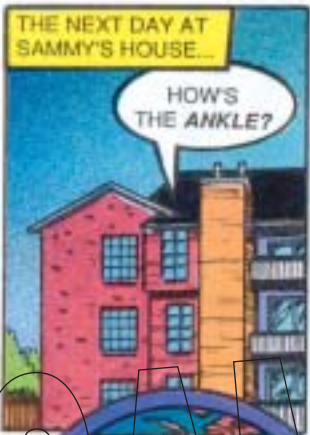
REALLY?

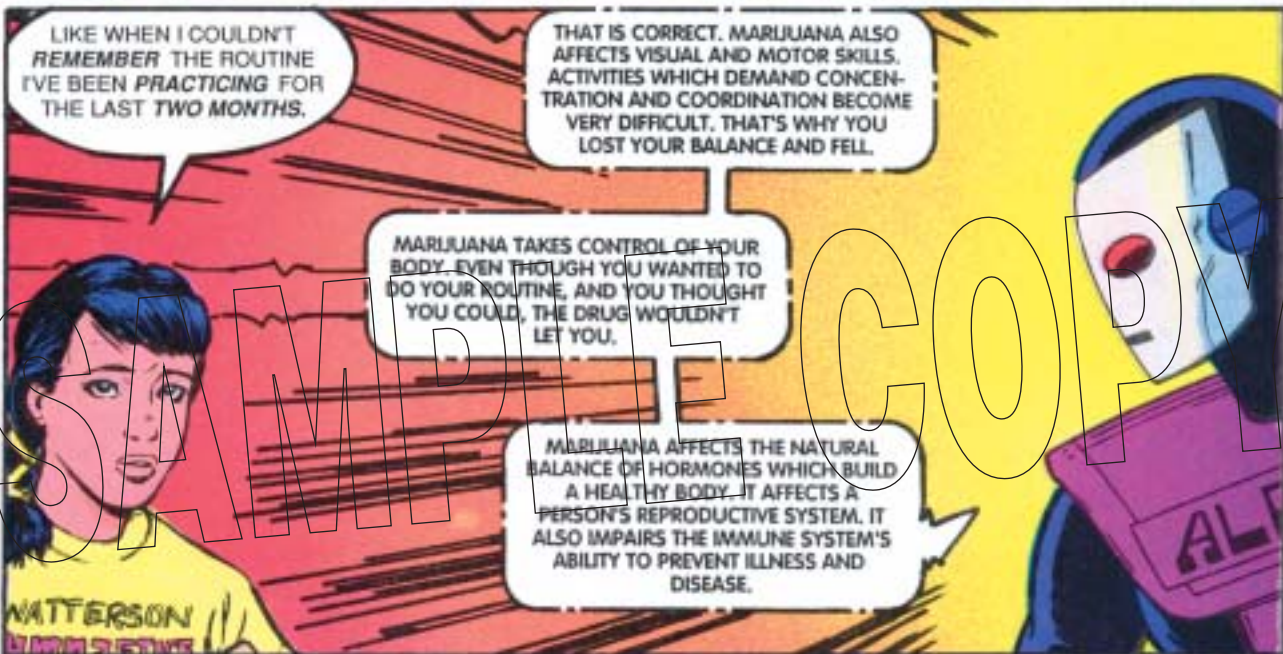


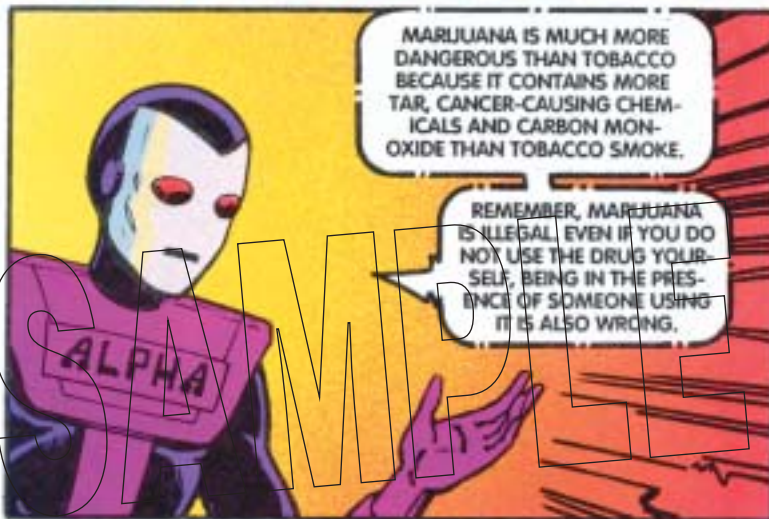
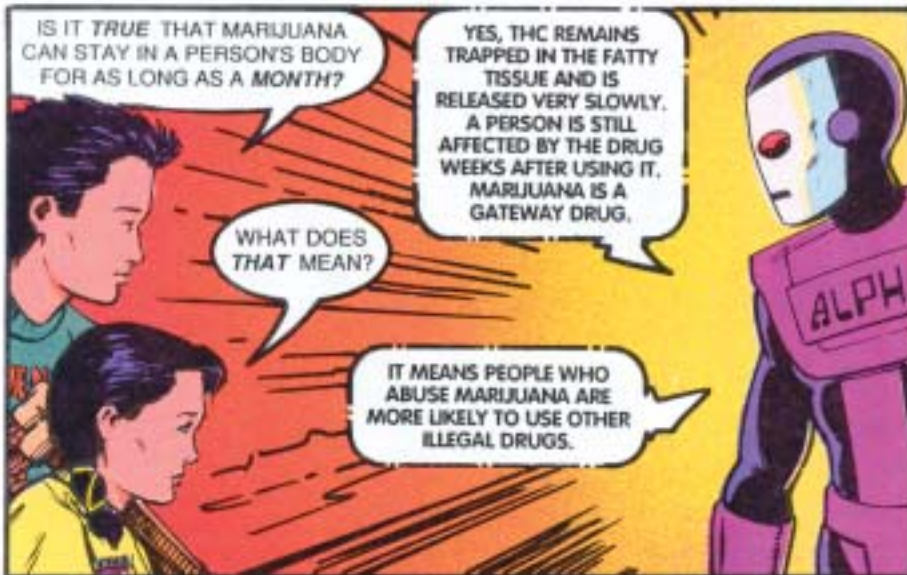


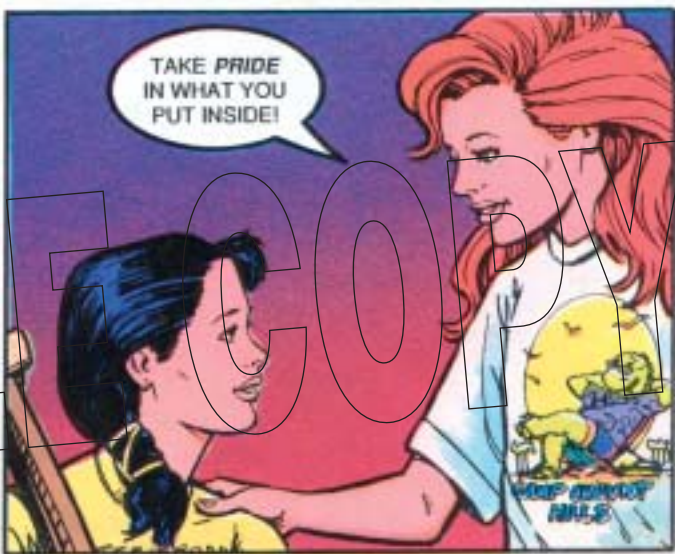




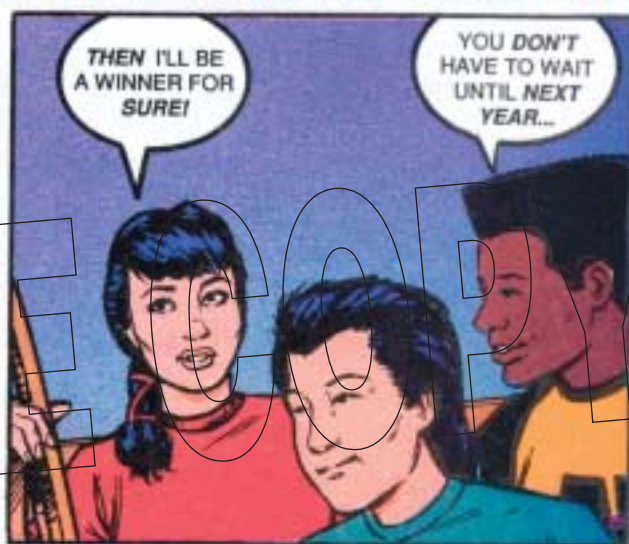
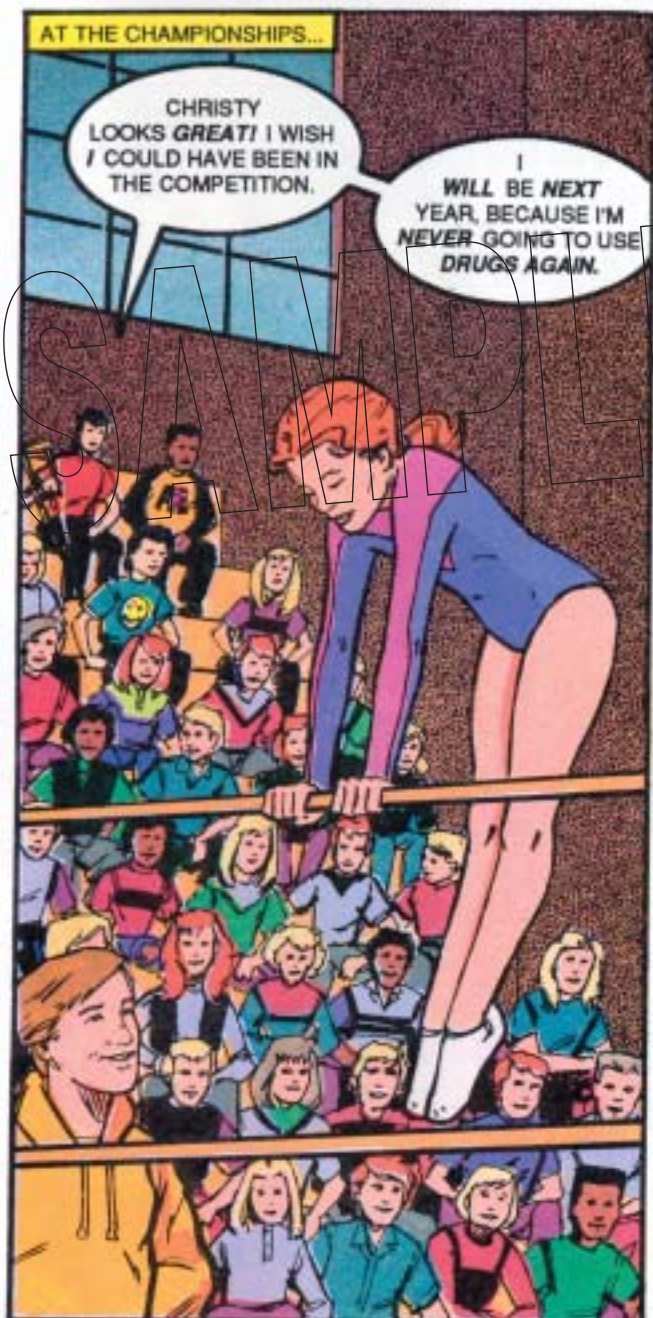












the INSIDE TRACK

ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.

1. Quote examples from the text which indicate Holly's lack of self-esteem and rewrite them to reflect a positive attitude.

2. Listed below are common effects of smoking marijuana. Find examples from the story which illustrate these effects.

Loss of short-term memory: _____

Altered sense of time: _____

Lack of concentration or coordination: _____

Decreased motivation: _____

3. What is the main chemical contained in marijuana?

4. What is the meaning of "gateway drug?" Name other gateway drugs.

5. Discuss why some people use drugs. Explain what's wrong with their reasoning.

6. What reasons could Holly have given to refuse Mike's offer to smoke marijuana?

7. How could you help a friend who uses marijuana or other drugs?

Ask for these other exciting issues featuring ALPHA and the Insiders!



THE TOBACCO TEMPTATION

Russell and his friend are surprised when they are caught with cigarettes in the basement of the library. The Insiders and ALPHA confront Russell with the dangers of cigarette smoking and chewing tobacco. Students learn how advertising influences decision making.

TONY'S SOBERING LESSON

In a new school and faced with many changes, Tony will do anything to make friends, even drink alcohol. Under pressure from the "Omegas", Tony takes a drink then learns the hard way that use of alcohol leads to trouble. ALPHA explains how alcohol can affect a person's body and why some people are addicted to alcohol.



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THE MARIJUANA MYSTERY

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