

RAPE Awareness, assertiveness help prevent rape, assault

By Margaret Reist

The two most important rape prevention techniques — and also the most difficult to accomplish — are awareness and assertiveness of the potential victim, said speakers at a Tuesday discussion titled "Is your date a rapist?"

People's concept of rape is of someone jumping out of the bushes, UNL Police Officer Deb Larkin, said. But only about 10 percent of rapes are committed by psychopaths or complete strangers to the victims, she said.

Most rapes are committed by acquaintances of the victims, such as dates. Date rapes usually are not reported right away, said Beth Meyer, vice coordinator of the Rape/Spouse Abuse Center. Many times women don't deal with an experience with that until two to three years later. When it does come up, much guilt is involved, she said.

The social ramifications of reporting someone you know in a rape charge are incredible, Larkin said.

But UNL police investigate every reported case, she added. Rape never is discounted as a domestic crime, she said, but added that the county attorney must decide whether the case will be prosecuted.

Proving a rape has occurred can be difficult and complicated, partly because the physical evidence such as body fluids and hair specimens must be gathered within about 12 hours, Larkin said. If the victim takes a shower, the evidence is gone. Remembering as many details of the crime as possible is also important, she said.

The issue of consent is a problem for both the law and the victim. Women absorb myths that identify the victim as the responsible party, especially in rapes where the victim knows the assailant, Meyer said. A woman may believe that she led the assailant on or she owes him something after he buys her dinner, she said. Also, the old myths that boys will be boys and that excuses their behavior are still adhered to by an overwhelming amount of people, Meyer said.

These myths need to be dispelled, Meyer said, by identifying where they come from, why they still are prevalent and why the women still are held responsible for crimes that men commit.

The best way to do this is through awareness and assertiveness, Meyer said. Women need to be aware of the decisions they make and why — decisions about their environment, the people they are with and the situations in which they put themselves in. They also need to be assertive about what they want and feel, she said.

Rapes usually occur when a woman puts herself in a vulnerable position, Meyer said. Clothes can make a woman vulnerable. High heels, tight skirts or restrictive clothing make it harder to flee or protect oneself.

Continued on Page 2

Forum: Nuclear freeze viable

By Chris Burbach

UNL students can affect U.S. foreign policy and national security by voting for a nuclear freeze in the March 9 student election, three speakers at a forum in the Nebraska Union said Tuesday.

The UNL Nuclear Weapons Freeze Campaign Group sponsored the forum.

UNL physics professor Leo Sartori, political science professor Philip Dyer and Brian Coyne, state coordinator of the Nebraska Nuclear Weapons Freeze Campaign, all argued in favor of a freeze.

Sartori, a former technical adviser to the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency in Washington, D.C., said a nuclear freeze is an appropriate subject for students to vote on.

"The security of our country is a proper subject for every citizen," he said.

Sartori said the only possible use of nuclear weapons is to deter nuclear attack and "we have plenty for that purpose already."

Sartori said a freeze would be verifiable because the United States has the technical capability to monitor the Soviets. A freeze would mean halting the deployment, testing and production of nuclear weapons.

"Nobody denies that we have ample capability to verify if the Russians were to deploy extra nuclear missiles in violation of a freeze agreement," Sartori said.

Flight testing of missiles could be easily monitored by such techniques as radar and infrared photography, he said, and verification of a freeze on

underground testing of nuclear weapons depends on seismic techniques that the United States can use.

Producing nuclear weapons would be more difficult to monitor, he said. However, the United States knows where the Soviet weapons factories are.

"Nuclear weapons are not built in a basement," he said.

There is reason to believe the Soviets will accept on-site inspection because they have agreed in principle to such inspection in the past, Sartori said.

Coyne said there are three reasons that students should get involved with a nuclear freeze — technical, political and conceptual.

He said technical reasons include U.S.-U.S.S.R. nuclear parity and both sides' verification capabilities.

Political reasons involve new theories about nuclear weapons, which are based on the development of new weapons that increase first strike capability, Coyne said.

He said that if the United States continues to develop cruise missiles and Stealth planes ("invisible" to radar), pressure will be put on the Soviets and possibly force them to use a first-strike warning system which would increase the chance of nuclear war.

Coyne's last set of reasoning was conceptual. He said the first rule of the military is to fight and win any war, including nuclear war.

The military is doing a good job preparing for that, Coyne said. However,

citizens can see the larger picture — the moral, strategic and technical aspects of the nuclear arms race.

Students and other citizens should become more educated, because they have to make decisions about our national security, Coyne said.

"We should not leave it (our national security) to the experts," he said.

Coyne said elected representatives will listen, citing the near passage of a nuclear freeze resolution by the House of Representatives last year.

"You owe it to yourself and to the university to get out and show your support for the freeze if you do in fact believe in a freeze," Coyne said.

Dyer said two separate worlds exist in foreign relations that shouldn't be mixed. One is the real world of constant abrasion and discord that includes Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and the United States' involvement in Vietnam.

The other world is the world of Dr. Strangelove, or the nuclear arms race, Dyer said.

Dyer said the Soviets are ahead of the United States in regarding the use of nuclear weapons as something to be avoided at all costs. He cited a number of arms limitation treaties that were signed while the United States was in Vietnam and said when the Soviets invaded Afghanistan, the United States "chucked SALT II."

"Nuclear weapons are a thing in themselves, independent of whether the Soviets are the bad guys," Dyer said.

Board discusses Union space allocation

Union Board members learned of developments on the proposed new bookstore and discussed space allocations at their meeting Tuesday at the East Union.

Union Director Daryl Swanson said he is chairman of the chancellor's committee to study possible new locations for a new bookstore. The committee is made up of administrators, faculty and students.

As of Tuesday, the committee was still "in the offer-acceptance stage," Swanson said.

The Union Bookstore has volunteered to pay for this study, since it stands to benefit most from it, he said.

Frank Kuhn, assistant director of unions, reminded board members of upcoming union space allocations. One of the board's goals in dealing with space allocations this year, Kuhn said, is to make applications available earlier and leave them out longer.

"There's the possibility of big changes this year," Kuhn said.

The recent concern about the fate of the Women's Resource Center "shows that we don't operate in a vacuum. It should serve as a reminder to us that people are interested in what we're doing," Swanson said.

The board received two letters regarding discussion at its last meeting about relocation of the WRC. A letter from WRC coordinator Nancy Bowen stressed a need for the center to explain to the board programs and services it offers. The executive officers of the board said they plan to meet with representatives of the WRC in the next two or three weeks.

Board secretary Connie Kay Eberspacher encouraged board members to visit some of the offices in the unions, such as the WRC, to get first-hand information before making allocation decisions.

One man, one issue CONE campaigns for computer relief

Editor's note: This is the third in a five-part series profiling ASUN Senate parties.

By Mona Koppelman

CONE is a one-man, one-issue party. Michael Chadek is a senior marketing major running both as a senatorial candidate in the College of Business Administration and as a presidential write-in candidate. CONE stands for "Consider Original Nebraska Effort."

"Basically, I'm running a one-issue campaign centering on the computer problem," Chadek said. "People are screaming about the department's problems, but all they talk about is funding."

"I went out and did my homework, doing research and interviews," he said. "My discussion with people who are involved in getting funds say it's not a problem. The problem is how the money is spent."

"The whole computer system at UNL is

pretty bad. The whole system needs to be re-evaluated," he said.

Computer-use on campus is divided into two main areas: academic and administrative, he said.

"Historically, a lot of funds for academic use were diverted to administrative areas.

"I know the administration has a vast need for computers, but the computer science department should be placed first," he said. "There are big allocation problems somewhere, and I think I'm only seeing the tip of the iceberg."

Chadek said computer operating systems must constantly be updated. NUROS, the Nebraska University Remote Operation System that allows information to be entered from a remote location, are "antiquated," he said.

"If you go down to Ferguson any day and scream, 'NUROS suck,' you'll get a big round of applause," Chadek said. "It's just a joke. It's ridiculous."

"In a way this is a joke issue. I want to exploit it to such a degree that it gets corrected as soon as possible," he said.

Chadek said spending priorities should be placed on revamping the existing hardware, acquiring software and purchasing mini- and micro-computer systems.

"I posed the question to Laura Meyer (Action presidential candidate) if student (computer) lab fees would be a good idea. She said it would be a drop in the bucket," Chadek said.

"A fee of \$25 a student would raise \$40,000. Roy Keller, chairman of the department, said that amount would buy a new mini-computer ready for student use by next fall," he said.

"I have a hard time seeing where that's a drop in the bucket. Compared to the total need, maybe, but we should take money from wherever we can get it," Chadek said.