

Most rape victims know rapist

By Mary Nell Westbrook
Staff Reporter

One in three women will be raped in her lifetime and two-thirds of the reported rapes will be by someone the victim knows, a rape counselor said this week at the Women's Resource Center.

Marcee Metzger, a counselor at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, said date rape must be more clearly defined as rape. Society tends not to define acquaintance rape as sexual assault because it happens with someone familiar, she said.

Acquaintance rape happens more often and is increasing faster than any other crime, Metzger said.

In a survey of UNL students, Metzger found that 16 percent of those who responded said they had

been victims of some kind of sexual assault. Eighty percent of those who responded said they had experienced sexual aggression, she said.

The victim of an acquaintance rape reports the incident far less often than a victim of rape by a stranger, according to a video called "Re-thinking Rape."

Society's perception of rape is that it happens in dark alleys by some slimy guy, the film said. Acquaintance rape has never been considered a legitimate kind of rape, Metzger said.

"When you laugh at a sexist joke at a party, you are giving someone permission to rape," the film said.

This is a part of a sexual aggression continuum that is becoming more prevalent in society. Violent pornography is selling big now, the

film said.

Together, Playboy and Penthouse outsell Time and Newsweek by 20 times, the film said.

Rape prevention on campuses focuses on rape by strangers, Metzger said. The campus approach covers where and when not to walk or how to act confident, she said.

Metzger said that during the last three years she has worked with students in the residence halls, where several hundred students have come to her to talk about date rape.

When one considers that the number of date rapes is just the tip of the iceberg of those who never talk to anyone, there is a serious problem, she said.

Of those who do talk to Metzger, only 1 percent choose to take legal action against the offender, she said.

Wildlife Club teaches hunting classes

By Chris McCubbin
Staff Reporter

In the fall, while a young person's fancy often turns to hunting, members of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Wildlife Club help ensure that young hunters know how to hunt safely and legally.

Steve Wilhelm, co-chairman of the Wildlife Club's conservation education committee, said members of the club have been teaching hunter safety classes for several years.

Most people who attend the class are between 12 and 15 years old, since state law requires that people in that age group receive safety training before they can get a hunting license. But some adults also take the course, Wilhelm said.

The 10-hour course concentrates on firearm safety and hunter ethics, Wilhelm said. Wildlife management and the history of firearms are also taught. For part of one session the class moves outside for gun handling

practice, he said.

Classes are taught at the State Fairgrounds and at Antelope Park. The classes at the fairgrounds are sponsored by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, while sessions at the park are sponsored by the Lincoln Parks and Recreation department.

The course consists of four sessions spread over a two-week period, Wilhelm said. Students at the fairgrounds classes actually get to fire a gun at an indoor firing range, he said.

Bob Beavers, program coordinator for the parks and recreation department, said he is happy with the club members' performance, particularly their ability to relate to their students.

"They're able to use examples from their own experience as hunters," Beavers said.

He said that if the club members weren't willing to donate their time, budget cuts would have forced the department to cancel the classes entirely.

Each fall 50 to 60 people take the

class at Antelope Park, Beavers said.

Peggy Kapeller of the State Game and Parks Commission's outdoor education division, agreed that the Wildlife Club was a big help to the commission's hunter safety program.

"We wouldn't be able to do it without them," she said.

The wildlife club trains 100 to 150 people every year at the fairgrounds, Kapeller said.

Those who pass the course receive a wallet-sized certificate, a wall-sized certificate and a patch, Wilhelm said.

There is a small fee for the parks and recreation course, but the Game and Parks Commission course is free.

Wilhelm said that Wildlife Club members donate their time for the class, and the club doesn't receive any money from the project.

Wilhelm said the Wildlife Club tries to give its members experience in wildlife and natural resources careers. Members get hands-on experience by conducting animal population studies or helping plant trees.

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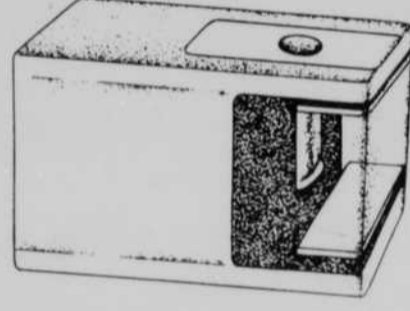
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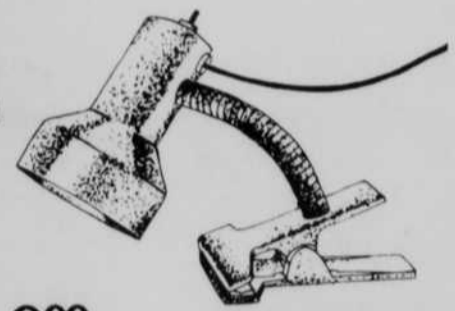
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