

Counselors say talk lessens stigma of rape

By ROXIE HEARN
Staff Writer

Rape crisis line counselors feel that the more people who talk about rape, the less social stigma will be attached to it.

Carrie Novick, co-chairperson of Women's Awareness, Patsy Copeland of Academic Counseling, and Sharon O'Shea of Women's Awareness are training about 25 more women to deal with rape victims. The rape crisis line is being in-

corporated in the crisis line already existing at the Brazos Valley Mental Health Center. It will be in operation beginning April 15.

As rape victims call in, a counselor will be contacted who will return the victim's call and offer help.

In 1973 there were nine rapes reported in the Bryan-College Station area. Novick said police estimate that for every one rape reported, five to ten go unreported.

"Using that estimate," she said,

"45 rapes could have occurred here and never been reported."

The workshops train the women to reassure victims, and urges them to stress to the community that rape is a violent act and not a sexual act.

"Every woman who experiences this (rape) must be asking 'what kind of a maniac is this?' — not just sexual, but violent," said Copeland.

The counselors are organizing a speakers bureau to help them approach the community.

The bureau, which will be ready by the fall, will be composed of at least one doctor, one nurse and one policeman, said Novick.

The speakers will make presentations to high schools, women's clubs, civic organizations, PTA's and other community groups, she said.

A seminar presented by the Austin Rape Crisis Line is also planned by the counselors for April 24, 25 and 26.

Copeland grouped the women into three-member sections where one played the role of the victim, one played the role of the crisis center counselor and one acted as observer, making comments on the effectiveness of the counseling.

Patsy said the two most important approaches were reassurance and empathy.

"Reassurance could come in the form of such statements as 'You're going to be all right,' 'You're the

same person you were before,' and 'You're okay now,'" she said.

Empathy would be established by a "listening attitude," she said.

"While you're talking, don't inquire. Let them tell you, but don't probe."

She stressed that no psychological therapy was to be done by the group.

"Don't use what you've been reading in psychology books," she said. "Don't relate it back to child-

hood or their parents."

The aim of rape crisis line is to help remove the old myths and social taboos associated with rape, said Sharon.

She listed "nice girls don't get raped," "she was just a foolish female," and "if she didn't resist, she wasn't raped" as a few of the myths surrounding the crime.

"Being raped should be no different from a man being beaten and thrown into a ditch," said Carrie.

Allocations will occupy Senate meet

By JERRY GEARY
Staff Writer

Allocation of Student Service Fees will occupy the Student Senate Thursday night.

The Senate will meet in Room 204 of the Harrington Education Center at 7:30 p.m. to hand out the \$885,000 in student funds.

On the list to get money is the athletic department which is the object of one of the most controversial proposals. The proposal is to cut the request for funds and add a user fee for home football games to help make up the difference. The charge would be \$10 for a season pass or \$2.50 per game for students.

The original request of \$359,000 by the athletic department was slashed to \$270,000 by the committee making recommendations to the Senate. The Senate will vote on whether or not to pass this or some other recommendation on to the administration.

Another bill that has received many hours of discussion is the Confidence-No confidence Bill. Under this bill, the Senate will vote approval or disapproval of actions taken by the Board of Directors and other high administration officials.

Rebates. Remember them? The nationwide fad has finally caught the eye of TAMU's Student Senate.

At the Senate meeting Thursday night at 7:30 in Harrington 209, student rebates from the profits of the University Center Bookstore will be presented on first reading.

This rebate program will distribute the store's profits to all students, who can keep the cash or donate it to their favorite club.

But don't let the cash register in

(See ALLOCATION, p. 6)

bulletin board

TODAY
SAILING CLUB meets at 7:30 in room 308 of the Rudder Tower. There will be a discussion on sailing lessons and a film. All interested persons are invited.

CONTINUING EDUCATION WORKSHOP will be presented at 3 p.m. in the Rudder Tower.

WHEELMEN will start a short bike ride from the MSC fountain at 5:30 p.m.

THURSDAY
EAGLE PASS HOMETOWN CLUB meets at 8 p.m. in the lounge to discuss plans for the Easter party.

HORSEMAN'S ASSOCIATION meets at 7:30 p.m. in rm. 215 of the AI bldg.

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING STUDENT WIVES CLUB meets in the Blue Flame Room of Lone Star Gas Co. at 201 E. 27th St. at 7:30 p.m.

AGRICULTURAL COMMUNICATIONS CLUB at 7:15 p.m. in the lobby of Rudder Tower for Aggeland picture.

SATURDAY
PAKISTAN STUDENTS ASSOCIATION presents a film "Intezar" at 11:30 a.m. in room 102 of Zachry. Admission is \$1.50, free for American students with I.D. cards.

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