

Rape: Awareness is best prevention, panel says

by Tracey Taylor
Battalion Staff

Rape is one of the fastest growing violent crimes in the country and many feel that it may be a defenseless crime.

In the program presented by the Department of Student Affairs Tuesday, "Rape: It Can Happen To You," a panel of women discussed three aspects of the violent crime — prevention, defense and aftermath.

To best avoid attack, Kabrina Reisig, a member of the University Police Department, said one should: walk with confidence, be aware of the people around you and the situations you find your-

self in and know what to do and where to go if an attack is attempted.

She recommended that students call the police department's escort service if they must walk from a distant parking lot to their dorm room. A police car will meet students in the parking lot and walk them back to their dorm rooms if called beforehand.

The type of defense used against an attacker may depend on the rapist himself, Sherry Ackles, a resident advisor here said. She said there are three types of rapists.

The first type is the power

rapist who feels he must dominate women in order to overcome a sense of inadequacy. The second is the angry rapist who holds women responsible for everything wrong in his life. He expresses his hatred by degrading and humiliating women. The third type is the sadistic rapist. This man goes out with the intent to kill.

Ackles advocated the active defense of using your body or a weapon over the passive approach of using the mind instead of the body — for all types of rape.

After a rape, Dr. Kerry Hope, a psychologist with the Student

Counseling Service, said the first and most important thing to do is seek medical attention.

"Do not bathe, douche, wash your hands, change clothes or comb your hair," she said. "Go to the Health Center, they know what to do."

She said that a member of the counseling service is on call at the Health Center 24 hours a day and is called immediately when a rape victim comes in.

She also said that awareness is the main deterrent to rape.

"Being a little paranoid is healthy," she said. "I think most of us are not quite paranoid enough."

Ag essay wins award

from staff and wire reports

Former U.S. Agriculture Secretary Orville Freeman and a co-author received the top Mitchell award of \$30,000 for an essay presenting methods industrialized countries can use to promote agricultural improvements in Third World nations.

Mitchell awards totalling \$100,000 were presented to 14 authors Sunday to begin the four-day Woodlands Conference on Sustainable Societies. Texas A&M University President Frank Vandiver spoke at the conference.

The essay awards were

founded by George Mitchell and his wife, Cynthia. Mitchell graduated from Texas A&M in 1940 with honors in petroleum engineering. He is the founder and chairman of the Mitchell Energy and Development Corp.

Mitchell donated the land for the Texas A&M at Galveston campus and also serves as the general chairman of the Target 2000 committee, a committee formed to study where Texas A&M should and will be in the year 2000.

Freeman and Ruth Karen, an expert on the corporation's role in society, said corporations in industrialized countries can bring about agricultural im-

provements in undeveloped nations by working directly with small farmers, extending credit, teaching new agricultural techniques and providing marketing assistance.

The authors maintain that the key to significant agricultural improvement in the Third World is the family farm, not the large, collection units established in many countries.

The conference is the fourth sponsored by Mitchell Energy and Development Corp. and will focus on what business can do to help sustain the world's societies.

Speakers include: S. Bruce Smart, chairman of the Continental Group; former Agricul-

ture Secretary Bob Bergland; Dr. Wolf Hafele, director of West Germany's Nuclear Research center; David Kinnerseley, a senior adviser to Britain's National Water Council; and Lin Zi Xin, a development policy planner for China.

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Group to study effects of ultrasound scanning

by David Johnson
Battalion Staff

A Texas A&M professor is part of a research team that is studying possibly harmful side effects from ultrasound scanning, which is used to produce images of body organs by the bouncing of high frequency sound waves.

Dr. David Gross, associate professor of veterinary physiology and pharmacology, is attempting to determine the safety of ultrasound procedures. He is collaborating with Dr. Douglas Miller, a physicist from the University of Vermont, and Dr. A.R. Williams, a biophysicist from the University of Manchester, England.

Ultrasound commonly is used to detect birth defects, heart murmurs and hardening of the arteries by measuring the echo from high frequency sound waves. It is used in addition to X-rays and amniocentesis or CAT scans to diagnose problems that those methods are unable to detect. Ultrasound can produce pictures of organs and tissues which are too soft to

absorb X-rays. In addition, ultrasound is a quick and painless procedure that allows for faster diagnosis in critical cases.

Because of its apparent lack of side effects, ultrasound is considered safe for use in cases where other diagnostic techniques might be harmful. For pregnant women, ultrasound can be a time-saving and safer process for determining fetal position and growth.

Although ultrasound has no known harmful effects on humans, Gross said, scientists have confirmed that large doses of ultrasound waves could create microscopic bubbles in the bloodstream causing an embolism which blocks blood flowing into the heart.

Gross said the group's experiments will focus on finding the bubbles, if there are any, in the blood stream and determining how dangerous they are.

The research project, which is in its preliminary stages, is being funded by a \$347,936 grant from the National Institute of Health. Gross said the funds, which took over a year to get, are

being used to build unique equipment such as a measuring device developed by Miller for the experiment.

Gross said he expects enough results over the three-year experiment period to justify further funding.

"In fact, you generally raise more questions as you go along than you find answers," he said.

Gross said the group will meet in mid-December to begin the experiment and will be together until mid-February. They are planning to meet about three months a year during the three-year period and longer if the experiment's funding is renewed.



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