

Wednesday, March 1, 1989

## Speaker: Communication key to avoiding possible date rape

By Juliette Rizzo

STAFF WRITER

Date rape, also known as social rape or acquaintance rape, is one of the fastest growing crimes on America's college campuses.

"Women are vulnerable in college because they are just reaching the stage where they can assert their independence," said Lesley Stoup, special events housing coordinator

and sponsor of a rape awareness program at Texas A&M. "They're learning their identity and their values of sex. They need to know where they want to go in relationships."

Ann met Jim at a party. He was really good looking, Jim thought Ann looked "hot" in her sexy dress, and he knew she was interested in him by the way she kept gesturing and touching his arm when she spoke. He invited her to come over for a drink.

Ann thought they had a lot in common, so what harm could a simple drink at his apartment do?

They talked for a while on the bed, of course, because he was a college student and couldn't afford much furniture. Then he made his move. She struggled and pushed him away suggesting "No," but he forced himself upon her and raped her.

Jim couldn't understand why she was so upset afterward. She wanted it too, didn't she? After all, she wore the sexy dress and she struggled because she didn't want to appear easy, right?

Ann couldn't believe what happened and kept telling herself that Jim didn't look like a rapist. Then again, exactly what does a rapist look like?

Rape by large strangers in dark alleys is booming a myth as the number of acquaintance rapes increases nationwide. It is a fact that 50 percent of women raped are intimately or casually familiar with their attacker.

Date rape is defined as any situation in which a person is forced, physically or psychologically, to have sex against his or her wishes.

Although rape can happen to anyone, studies show college students, especially females between the ages of 16 and 22, are most vulnerable to an attack.

It is a myth, Stoup said, that date rapes take place because girls say no when they mean yes or because girls like to play games with guys.

Girls may try to look nice on a date, she said, but even if their clothing is revealing it does not mean they're asking for trouble.

The attacker usually feels the need to overpower the female or be

in control of the situation, Stoup said.

One rape happens every 6 minutes, she said, and only 1 in 10 gets reported.

She attributes this to the fact that most women who are attacked by someone they know do not regard the incident as rape because the attacker was not a stranger.

"If it's against your will, it's definitely rape and needs to be reported," she said.

The women has the right to say no, Stoup said, even if she has previously had sex with the man. If he insists and forces her to have sex, it is rape regardless of how intimate the relationship used to be.

"Women need to be aware of the signals they send," she said. "Be aware of your non-verbals because they can send mixed messages."

Date rapes occur, she said, because men do not realize they are misinterpreting women's signals. Merely kissing does not mean she wants to go further.

A survey taken at Auburn University found 75 percent of the men surveyed did not think forced kissing was wrong although the woman said no.

When asked if they had ever been raped, four percent of the women surveyed said yes. When the question was rephrased to ask whether they had ever had sex against their will, the percentage raised to 20 percent.

A survey on date rape taken by former A&M psychology professor Dr. Charlene Muelenhard showed 80 percent of the female students surveyed had experienced unwanted kissing. Males also viewed some women as forward because 62 percent of them also experienced unwanted kissing. Kissing led to intercourse against the woman's will, 17.6 percent of the females responded.

Stoup said to avoid similar incidents, women need to decide how far they want to go beforehand.

"Communicate and be assertive," she said. "What he's going to do to you will hurt a lot more than you hurting his feelings."

## Texan wins Miss U.S.A. for fifth consecutive year

MOBILE, Ala. (AP) — Gretchen Polhemus, 23, a model and part-time cattle broker from Fort Worth, was crowned Miss USA on Tuesday night, becoming the fifth consecutive Miss Texas to win the pageant.

The four other finalists were from Oklahoma, Louisiana, Georgia and New Jersey.

Miss Georgia was named fourth runner-up, Miss Louisiana was third runner-up, Miss New Jersey was second runner-up and Miss Oklahoma was first runner-up.

Master of Ceremonies Dick Clark, during the interview portion of the judging, asked Polhemus how she came to be a cattle broker.

She said her studies were in real estate.

"But I always had a love for animals and I always had a love for rodeos . . . so I said 'why not combine the two for my customers?'"

When asked to describe herself, she said:

"I think you could call me an entrepreneur. I have a lot of curiosity, a lot of drive, a lot of determination, and maybe a little bit of flexibility."

The four previous winners were Laura Martinez-Herring of El Paso in 1985, Christy Fichtner of Dallas in 1986, Michelle Royer of Keller in 1987 and Courtney Gibbs of Fort Worth in 1988.

Polhemus also was the fifth consecutive Miss USA to be trained for the pageant by the El Paso team of Richard Guy and Rex Holt.

The two own GuyRex Asso-

ciates, a firm specializing in training models for pageants.

Guy and Holt said they found little to criticize in Polhemus' appearance while preparing her for the national pageant.

They liked her intelligence and the fact she is experienced in the cattle business.

"One of the proudest moments of my life was when I was 18 and earned my Texas real estate license," she said in remarks taped earlier and played for the television audience as she paraded across the stage during the swimsuit competition.

"Now I can face life's challenges," she said, "and I can finally balance my checkbook," referring to the many hours of math that were involved in her real estate training.

## Man receives 99 years for rape of A&M student

The man accused of raping and attempting to kill a 21-year-old Texas A&M student in October was sentenced last week to 99 years in prison.

Daniel Lee Corwin, 30, of Huntsville, plead guilty to the charge of attempted capital murder.

An A&M student was kidnapped from a campus parking lot on Oct. 20 and forced to drive her Chevrolet suburban to Lick Creek Park south of College Station.

The abductor raped her, cut her throat and left her tied to a tree.

She was able to free herself and crawl to the road where a passing driver found her.

An anonymous call led police to Corwin after a sketch of the attacker was publicized. Police later found one of Corwin's fingerprints in the suburban.

Prosecutors dropped the charge of aggravated rape as part of a plea bargain agreement.

Corwin will be eligible for parole in 15 years.

He was released from prison about three years ago after serving nine years of a 40-year sentence for aggravated rape in Bell County.

## Bryan rakes in \$930 in park use fees from sorority Playday participants

By Sherri Roberts

STAFF WRITER

Participants of Playday, the philanthropic project sponsored by the Alpha Delta Pi sorority at Bryan Utilities Lake Saturday, were forced to leave the event early and pay a \$2 fee per car because they failed to pay the revenue when entering the site. Officials from the Bryan Police Department, on behalf of the city of Bryan, collected a fee total of \$930.

Some participants waited in line to exit the lake area longer than three hours as officials of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission and the police department collected the fee. TABC officials administered tests to several participants to determine if they were intoxicated. Two students were arrested for drunk and disorderly conduct and five students were given citations for alcohol-related offenses.

Representatives of Alpha Delta Pi paid a \$15 fee to rent a pavilion at the lake. However, all cars entering the area are required to leave \$2 in a receptacle located near the lake entrance, said Lee Bason, division manager for recreation in the City of Bryan. This revenue becomes part of the City of Bryan's general fund, used

to maintain parks and various other public facilities.

A sign at the lake area informs individuals entering the area that they must place an envelope containing a \$2 fee payment in the receptacle, and place a portion of the envelope on the vehicle's windshield as proof of payment, he said. The payment of the fee is operated on an honor system in that no official directly collects the money from individuals, he said.

Melinda Jordan, president of Alpha Delta Pi said coordinators of the event thought the \$15 fee paid by the sorority to reserve the lake site included all fee requirements.

"It was just a misunderstanding between us and the park officials," Jordan said.

Bason said that in past years, a clerk has collected the fee from individuals as they enter the site. However, this practice was eliminated two years ago to cut administrative costs.

Bason said he had not been informed of the date Playday was scheduled to take place, but had he known, the collection of the fee would have been handled differently.

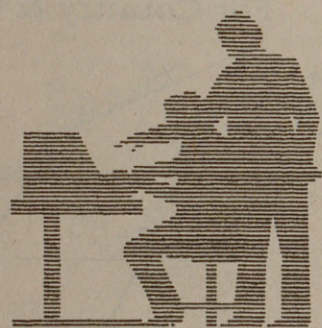
"I would have made sure we had someone out there the whole time to collect the fee as they came in."

## Learning Center

### March Class Schedule

Beginning WordPerfect	March 11, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm March 21, 23, 2:00 - 5:00 pm
Beginning Lotus	March 15, 16, 6:00 - 9:00 pm
Beginning DOS	March 20, 22, 6:00 - 9:00 pm
Intermediate WordPerfect	February 27, March 1 6:00 - 9:00 pm, March 6, 6:00 - 8:00 pm
Intermediate Lotus	March 8, 13, 6:00 - 9:00 pm, March 14, 6:00 - 8:00 pm
PageMaker	March 27, 29 and April 3, 6:00 - 9:00 pm

For more information call (409) 693-2020.  
Reservations are required.  
Outside speakers available upon request.



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## SOPHROLOG



## INDUCTION BANQUET

Tuesday  
April 4

Spring and Summer graduating seniors will be inducted into the

Association of  
Former Students



Wednesday  
April 5

Voting for Class Agents to represent the Class for the next five years will be held each night. Winners announced April 10.

Tickets

are available FREE Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, March 28, 29 & 30, MSC Flag Room

Don't miss this opportunity to grow!  
MSC Ballroom, April 4th & 5th, 6:30 p.m. Tickets required.

Compliments  
The Association of Former Students