

Campus crime raises concern nationwide

(CPS)—The image of a quiet college campus may just be that—image—the reality is that crime and violence take place in the most pastoral of settings.

"You will find crime on any college campus. You have a large concentration of people and valuable property, and the 17-25 age group is the most highly victimized group in the nation," said Bill Whitman, director of the Campus Safety and Security Institute.

Campuses nationwide have to cope with crime, from minor theft to murder, and only recently have people started to admit that it does exist.

"The first thing to recognize is that no campus is crime-free or violence-free," said Clarinda Raymond, co-director of the campus violence prevention center at Towson State University in Baltimore. "They denied themselves into the belief that they are ivory towers. They are not."

The U.S. Department of Education has published new rules in the Federal Register that, if enacted, would require colleges and universities to release an annual security report containing campus security policies and procedures as well as campus

"It's not so much that crime on campus is rising, but what colleges are seeing is more violent crime."

— Carlinda Raymond

crime statistics.

For now, students and their parents may want to know about the school's security reputation but safety and crime statistics are generally not mentioned.

"We need to educate parents and students. Campuses are not sanctuaries," said Whitman.

In a survey on college compliance with crime disclosure rules, Whitman wrote that "colleges and universities no longer enjoy the unquestioned confidence of staff, students, and parents when it comes to safety and security on campus. There have been too many documented cases of deception and cover-up for institutions to expect the public to take them at their word."

The Campus Violence Prevention Center found that out of 437 institutions responding to a national campus crime survey in 1990, there were eight on-campus murders, 429 sexual assault cases, 215 rapes, 139 strong-arm robberies, 95 violent incidents against gays and lesbians, 219 similar attacks

against ethnic minorities and 259 reports of arson.

Consider some other national statistics:

- One out of every four college women has been raped or sexually assaulted.

- Ninety-five percent of violent crime on campus is related to drugs or alcohol.

- Eighty percent of campus crime involves student against student.

The most dangerous places on campuses are dorms Raymond said. "There is a lot of low-level crime, such as stealing from dorm rooms, which doesn't get reported.

In cases of sexual assault, there is also a low level of reporting by students and colleges," said Alan McEvoy, of Wittenberg University in Springfield, Ohio. He is chair of the Sexual Assault on Campus Conference, being held in Orlando, Fla., in October.

McEvoy said the crime with the most frequency on campuses is probably underage drinking and substance abuse, but "very little is probably done

Campus safety to be addressed at forum

Students concerned about safety will have their concerns addressed tonight at a Campus Safety Forum sponsored by the UNLV Women's Center and the Committee for the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation.

The forum will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Hendrix Education Auditorium. Representatives from Facilities Management, Public Safety, Residential Life and Student Services will be in attendance.

Anyone interested in campus safety is invited to attend. For more information about the forum call 597-4391.

rape victims reported the assaults to the police; almost half told no one.

Andrea Parrot, a professor at Cornell gave several reasons why sexual assaults aren't reported:

- The victim knows the assailant and they may have common friends.

- She may have been drinking, and the perception would be that she "asked" for the assault.

- Friends may tell her it really wasn't rape.

- There may be pressure from her family or the institution not to report the assault because of reputation, either for the victim or the school.

about it."

Of all major crimes, it is perhaps rape and sexual assault that are the most underreported.

Mary Koss, a professor at the University of Arizona, conducted a 1985 survey on 32 campuses, in which 15.4 percent of college women recalled an incident since their 14th birthday that met the legal definition of rape.

Eight of 10 rapes involved someone the victim knew and 57 percent of the rapes happened on a date, her survey found. At least 50 percent of the victims and 75 percent of their attackers had used intoxicants at the time of the assault.

Koss' study found that less than 5 percent of college student

Students problems faced during awareness day

by Thomas Moore

In times of stress, information can make the difference between being overwhelmed or dealing successfully with problems. Tomorrow, CSUN will hold a Student Awareness Day to help students deal with

the problems that university life presents.

Booths will be set up in rooms 201 and 202 of the Moyer Student Union and experts will be available to answer questions.

According to Jay Jay Held, vice president of CSUN and an organizer of the event, the original idea was to have a seminar

on campus safety but it grew to be much more than that.

"When we started out we wanted to do it on safety for women," said Held, "but it turned into something bigger." Held said that additional concerns, like birth control and student's legal issues, will also be addressed.

Although safety will be the focus of the event—the Department of Public Safety and Las Vegas Metropolitan Police will have booths—students can talk to experts from groups like Nevada Legal Services and Consumer Credit Counseling.

In addition, the CSUN committee on campus safety will

be in there to listen to students complaints about UNLV safety.

The committee plans to hand out whistles, the idea being that if students feel threatened they can blow the whistle to bring help. "If even one girl is helped it is worth the expense," said Held.

Committee develops master plan for UNLV's expansion

by Randi Miller

EDITORS NOTE: This story is the first in a series that describes the growth and construction at UNLV. Later in the series we will deal with the costs and implications of this growth.

With the exception of the current school year, student enrollment at UNLV has experienced considerable growth. With this growth, UNLV's physical infrastructure has been stretched to the limit. The university is attempting to keep up by implementing several current

and future construction projects, as well as looking into long-term planning.

A special committee has been appointed to develop a master plan for the university's expansion.

In March, a \$2.5 million addition to the Alta Ham Fine Arts building was completed. This 20,000 square-foot addition houses the dance, music and

theatre departments.

The dance arts department acquired a new 4,500 square-foot dance studio with air floor, as well as a recording studio and dance offices.

Dance instructor, Victoria Dale, said the size of the new studio allows the students to move more, improving their endurance and ability to excel.

The bright, spacious studio

is a sharp contrast to the facility the department used until now, the cramped and dim studio 110. Now Dale said she is able to see and correct every student. Students who tried to lose themselves in the back of the classroom now have nowhere to hide.

The music department received new practice rooms, three

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