

# STD figures here higher than national average

by Louise Klees-Wallace

One in seven sexually active college students has a sexually transmitted disease, according to American College Health figures. At UNLV that figure is slightly higher, said health educator Ray Rodriguez.

Rodriguez said students "overwhelmingly" underestimate their risk of getting an STD. "Students still feel it's not their problem," he said.

Of the 200 HIV tests conducted at the Student Health Center, one has been positive.

Rodriguez said compared to

the American College Health national average of students infected with HIV, one in every 500 college students, the UNLV figure is fairly high.

In addition, several students have come into the health center and told staff they tested HIV positive elsewhere.

Rodriguez suggested that anyone who has ever had unprotected intercourse should be tested for HIV. He said the idea that just because somebody looks good they must be healthy is not true. Both men and women are at risk because AIDS is now a heterosexual disease.

Rodriguez said in addition to testing for STDs, students should take three other steps to ensure their sexual health such as communicate honestly with partners or potential partners, use safer sex methods including abstinence as well as condoms and consider monogamy.

On the question of monogamy, Rodriguez said, "college students seem to think it's not realistic."

The Student Health Center offers a variety of STD tests and counseling programs. HIV testing is free. All other STDs are tested at lab cost.

The center also gives free condoms and counseling is offered for a variety of health problems as well as advice on how to communicate effectively with sexual partners.

Treatment for HIV positive students is also provided by the Student Health Center. Students with the virus are monitored and given ongoing care. Patients are counseled by clinic staff and are also referred to the Student Development Center or to other professionals for additional counseling.

Rodriguez explained the clinic offers varied treatment for

HIV patients including drugs to treat the many opportunistic infections that attack the immune system.

He said the clinic is open to using alternative medicine for HIV treatment including herbal remedies and therapies such as guided visualization, a kind of meditation.

Anyone requiring additional information about STDs or other health issues can call or drop by the Student Health Center and talk to Rodriguez or another staff member. "We are more than just a band-aid station," he said.

## CHOICE

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ing something so political," Finmark said. "I must uphold the position of my board."

Finmark, who is pro-choice, said, "There is no way that my personal feelings come into play."

Sen. Jami Nalder, hotel administration, suggested the board adopt a rule to keep the personal feelings of members out of evaluating funding requests.

Sen. James Yohe, business and economics, a member of the Appropriations Board, said he is opposed to abortion and to any rule that prescribes how members are to think.

The debate continued at the next Senate meeting, with Sen. Hobreigh Fisher, liberal arts, imploring of the Senate, "Everyone here already knows how they feel. Let's just vote on this and get it out of the way. We shouldn't try to convince (Sen. Yohe) how to think and he shouldn't try to convince us how to think."

Sen. Scott Fischer, business

and economics, showed deference to the Organizations Board, "The Organizations Board should be able to control this kind of thing."

Senate President Bud Benneman announced the Senate will hold closed-door meetings "on the conducts of certain senators and directors."

It was the first closed meeting of the Senate in over a year.

Benneman said he would have preferred to hold the meetings two weeks ago, but he wanted to be sure they are held in accordance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law. Benneman also said he does not expect any impeachments to come from the closed meeting, but that the meetings are necessary to enforce discipline.

The Senate elected William Romero as its Senator of the Year. Romero has served for over one year from the College of Liberal Arts and serves as Senate President pro tempore and chair of the Bylaws Committee.

# Carjackings increase, affect urban campuses

PHILADELPHIA (CPS)—As soon as his left eye started twitching, Peter Soontharothai knew something bad was bound to happen.

The last time that eye started twitching he was involved in an automobile accident a day later. This time the 21-year-old pre-med student at Temple University was the victim of a carjacking. His red 1984 Nissan 300ZX was taken from him at gunpoint. On Oct. 6, Soontharothai and his girlfriend Trinh Nguyen, 20, were planning to spend some quiet time feeding the ducks along the west bank of the Schuylkill River.

"We were about to get out of the car, the windows were up and the doors were locked," he said. "I heard the tapping at the window and I saw the gun pointing at me. The guy said, 'Get out of the car. The gun's loaded and leave the keys.'"

Soontharothai said there were a few other people in the parking lot and he was parked only a few carlengths away from the nearest car. "There were people walking, jogging and biking," he said. He even saw the two robbers, but he wasn't paying attention to them.

Philadelphia Police Department Officer Robert A. Young said there have been increased reports of carjacking. The incidents have been scattered throughout the city and have not been strictly in one area. "There is a national trend regarding this crime," he said.

According to Young, there have been 200 carjackings in Philadelphia in the past year including incidents involving armed robberies and use of force, but not necessarily weapons. Young also said more carjackings have been reported and brought to the police's attention in the past two weeks to one month.

Davis Scarpello was hanging out in front of Temple's Johnson and Hardwick Hall dormitory when a man identified as Temple basketball player William Cunningham and two others approached him shortly before 11 p.m. Oct. 10.

Scarpello, who does not attend Temple, was standing on the corner of Broad and Norris streets when the three males approached him and started a conversation. Scarpello said one offered to buy his 1984 Cadillac for \$1,800. When Scarpello, 26,

told them he did not want to sell his car, one male reached into his pants as if reaching for a gun, and Scarpello took off on foot, Young said.

After Scarpello flagged officers down, they returned and arrested Cunningham. Two other males had left the scene. Cunningham, a 7-foot basketball recruit from Augusta, Ga., was charged with robbery, theft, receiving stolen property and related offenses. He was released Oct. 11 after signing his own \$5,000 bail. Cunningham was rated in the top 40 high school players in the country.

Basketball Coach John Chaney said he was surprised to hear of Cunningham's arrest. "The person (Cunningham) is a very fine young man. He has never, ever been in any sort of trouble before," Chaney said. However, Chaney told the Philadelphia Inquirer, "He was arrested for something that was a prank. There was no theft of a car. All of the students were having fun. The car was never moved, and it ended up being some sort of problem."

Young had these suggestions for urban college students:

- Keep aware of the surroundings and individuals who do not fit into the scene.
- Travel with companions.
- Do not travel in remote areas of the city at late hours.
- Leave word at home as to your whereabouts.
- Keep windows up and doors locked.
- Report suspicious activity.
- Know where you're going and travel main routes.

Young stressed the importance of communication during a robbery. "Don't fend off robbers with force. Cooperate with them," he said.



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