

SURVEY

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A survey conducted by the office in 1997 shows that 85 percent of students entering their freshman year are sexually active, and only 34 percent of those students always use a condom.

USC offers several resources to inform students about sexual health.

The Office for Sexual Health and Violence Prevention is available to students who have questions about STDs, pregnancy, contraception, communication and healthy relationships. This staff includes graduate students and peer educators. They are located behind the Thomson Student Health Center.

UNIV 101, a class that teaches freshmen about college life, includes information on sexual behavior for students. Every student enrolled is required to attend a workshop entitled

"Sex and the College Student."

The workshop informs students about several STDs and how to prevent them. It shows several graphic pictures of the effects of these diseases on people. These images of herpes, HPV and chlamydia are an attempt to scare students into taking proper precautions.

The workshop discusses the effects of many of these diseases.

Chlamydia is the most common disease because it doesn't always show symptoms. Even so, it can have devastating effects, including infertility. Approximately 80 percent of females who are infected with chlamydia don't know that they have it. Therefore, doctors recommend women be tested every year with a pap smear.

Kim Sheffield, a spokesperson for the "Sex and the College Student Workshop" and program director for the Office of Sexual Health and Violence Prevention, spoke of the dangers of herpes and HPV.

There are 200,000 new cases her-

pes each year in the United States. 80 percent of those who have contracted it do not show symptoms, but those that do show symptoms usually do within two to 14 days of contracting it. These painful blisters can be treated but the virus will always stay in the body and outbreaks can occur at any time.

It is estimated that three out of four USC students will have contracted HPV before they graduate. The disease is also a viral disease that cannot be cured, only treated.

To be tested for these diseases one can go to the Thomson Student Health Center or any other medical facility.

HPV and herpes can only be tested during an outbreak but chlamydia can be tested anytime. For more information about sexual health, contact the Office of Sexual Health and Violence Prevention at 777-7619.

The city/state desk can be reached at gamecockcitydesk@hotmail.com.

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CRIME REPORT

Compiled by
Charles Prashaw
and John Bailey

Wednesday, September 6

• **Attempted larceny of money**, 500 Sumter St., South Quad laundry area, 9:10 a.m. USC employee Brian Bourke told police someone tried to open and remove money from the "Add Value Laundry Station" box (which distributes laundry cards), resulting in severe damage to the machine.

• **Found property**, sidewalk in front of unreleased area, approximately 1 p.m. Samuel Darko, while walking, found a \$50 bill on the ground somewhere on Main Street. Darko called the police in order to find the true owner of the bill. USCPD will return the bill to whoever lost it if the owner can prove it's his or hers.

• **Disorderly conduct**, corner of Park and Greene streets, 7:40 p.m. Responding officer answer several anonymous complaints of a male in his late 30s wearing gray pants and a blue sweater following students to their cars in the Coliseum parking lot and asking them for money. When police arrived, they found a man fitting the description of the complaints. When questioning him, the responding officer said the suspect had very slurred speech and could barely walk straight. After smelling his breath, the officer told him he smelled like beer. The suspect confirmed that he had in fact been drinking that day. The officer arrested him.

Monday, September 4

• **Larceny of Games**, 1323 Greene St., Preston Dorm, about 1 p.m. Charles Shealy and Bruce King, roommates in Preston College, reported to police that someone stole: a Nintendo 64, gray in color, with two controllers, thirty Nintendo 64 games with various titles,

one gold in color Game Genie by Galoor, one gray in color Sony PlayStation with two controllers and one "Tony Hawk" game for the PlayStation. Estimated value of the items removed from the room is \$565.

Thursday, September 7

• **Harassment**, 2611 Forest Drive, Suite 100. Henry B. Dingle said someone has used his name and address to send unwanted items to his address. Items consist of free magazines, CDs, magazine subscriptions and brochures, costing him time and money to call and cancel the items.

Wednesday, September 6

• **Malicious injury to real property**, 948 Harden St., 11 a.m. Akyne Neil said someone destroyed a salad bar that he keeps on his top patio. Estimated value of the salad bar is \$1,300.

Thursday, September 7

• **Simple assault**, 1301 Taylor St., Baptist Hospital. Sonja M. Hansen-Sawyer said she was terminating the employment of the subject when the subject started yelling and swearing, being loud and boisterous, and disrupting the normal routine of the business. In addition, the subject began pointing her finger at her and hit her in the nose several times. The subject then slapped the victim on the right cheek with her right hand.

Thursday, August 7

• **Attempted grand larceny of a motor vehicle**, 2320 Park St. John Swittenberg stated he parked his vehicle in his back yard unsecured. Swittenberg said someone entered his vehicle through the unsecured door and broke open the steering column of his 1978 Chevrolet Nova. Damages are estimated at \$100.

Lottery foes try to make crime an issue

BY PAGE IVEY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

South Carolina lottery opponents called in a police officer and two other Georgia men on Thursday in an attempt to make crime an issue in the debate before November's referendum on a state-run lottery.

Statistics, however, show a drop in crime statewide since Georgia began its lottery seven years ago.

An accountant, a banker and the police officer from Hartwell, Ga., gave anecdotal evidence that they said showed an increase in crime and illegal gambling since Georgia adopted a lottery in 1993.

However, Georgia Bureau of Investigation statistics posted on the Internet show that total crime in Georgia decreased 5 percent from 1992 to 1999. The Georgia lottery began in June 1993.

Property crimes were down 3.8 percent during the same period.

Lottery proponents immediately jumped on the claims made by No Lottery 2000 and chairwoman Kathy Bigham, who sponsored Thursday's news conference.

"They've been trying to make the case over and over again that crime

'I'm not saying it's all related to the lottery or gambling, because those cases are still pending.'

Sgt. Paul Agnew

Hartwell, GA policeman

increases with a lottery," said Kevin Geddings, Gov. Jim Hodges' close political adviser, who leads the South Carolina Lottery for Better Schools Coalition. "Following the logic of Kathy Bigham ... creation of a state-run lottery results in less crime."

Hartwell police Sgt. Paul Agnew said there had been four killings so far this year in the Hart County, with 22,000 people, just across the South Carolina line from Anderson.

"I'm not saying it's all related to the lottery or gambling, because those cases are still pending," Agnew said.

He also said some thieves had broken into stores and stolen nothing but lottery tickets.

Accountant Randy Bannister and banker Kevin Heaton said crimes there have swung significantly from year to year, with no obvious trend.

In 1992, there were 84 reported

crimes. That ballooned to 284 the following year, then fell to 53 in 1994.

In 1995, there were 67 reported crimes, up to 105 in 1996, then back down to 84 in 1997. In 1998, the most recent year statistics are available, 127 crimes were reported.

"I don't think it's some sort of hotbed for crime," Geddings said.

One side effect of the lottery has been an increase in illegal gambling, particularly video gambling machines, the Georgia men said. The machines, which once thrived in South Carolina, are legal in Georgia, but cash payouts of winnings are illegal.

"Illegal gambling follows legalized gambling," Bannister said.

Video gambling machines, which brought in \$3 billion a year, became illegal in South Carolina on July 1.