Advice is cheap at Student Legal Services

By KAREN YOUNGBLOOD

Part of freshman orientation tells students where they can eat and where they can go if they get sick, but not everyone knows where to go if they have a legal problem. The answer is Student Legal Service, and it's in Suite 222 of the Student Union.

Most of the legal questions that SLS Director Dorothy Bernholz and two other lawyers face are tenant-landlord disputes and consumer problems, but SLS can help students with a vast array of legal assistance.

"We give legal advice to students on any problem," Bernholz said. "If a

student inherits money and needs advice or a girl has gotten pregnant and she wants to know what her rights are these are all kinds of personal problems

that impact legally. Besides Bernholz, SLS has another full-time staff attorney, David Kirkman, and a part-time attorney, Carol Badgett. Julian Parks works as legal assistant and secretary. The lawyers are available to advise students on legal problems and will go to court for the student if the problem is a tenantlandlord dispute, a minor consumer problem, uncontested divorce or property damage.

Bernholz said the only time the

lawyers at SLS could not help students was if the legal problem was against the University, another student or was of a criminal nature.

"We don't represent in criminal cases. If a student has been arrested, we tell them their rights, such as their right to a court-appointed lawyer, and we stress upon them the serious consequences." Bernholz said.

The SLS also is committed to helping students and being accountable to the students, Bernholz said. "We are a student service. We think we should be accountable. We try to be as visible as

HELP FIGHT

BIRTH DEFECTS

"My philosophy is that students

should have the absolute right to abolish us. The students should decide what the students' needs are, and they should be telling us what to do," Bernholz said.

Bernholz said the need for a student legal assistance program had come about when the legal age of adults was lowered from 21 to 18 and when more students started living off campus than on campus. At that time, students who formerly were considered minors had to face the legal problems of adults, often while attending school.

"When that happened, students began getting in legal trouble and lacked an advocate in the community. And that's when the program developed," she said. "We equalize bargaining power for the students."

The SLS is funded by some of the money paid in student activities fees each semester. Bernholz said part of SLS's commitment to students could be seen in the non-competitive salaries accepted by the people who work for

Students with a legal question can either see a lawyer as a walk-in or by appointment.

Student Legal Services is open weekdays from 8:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. The phone number is 962-1303.

Union board's activities meant to strike interest

By GRANT PARSONS

Carolina Union Activities Board n: a review board supervising 10 committees that plan cultural and social events usually, but not always, located in the Student Union.

"We're a group of students putting on programs for students," said Walt Boyle, Carolina Union president. "Our job is to entertain, to fill the calender with entertainment, culture and education not found in the classroom."

Sponsoring speakers, movies, art exhibits, workshops, seminars, parties, dance, theater and debates of popular issues, the board works year-round to provide diverse programs to appeal to all students, Boyle

"Students will always have either cheap tickets or first bid on tickets," he said. "Most students don't have access to these types of entertainment simply because they can't afford to fly to New York. We just want to bring quality entertainment here at an affordable cost."

Though all of this year's programs are not planned yet, schedules for Carolina Concerts, a series of symphonies by international talent, and the Triangle Dance Guild are complete, and season tickets are available. The fall film schedule also is complete, with films ranging from Ghostbusters to The Texas Chainsaw Massacre to Casablanca.

Most of the films will not have an admission charge. The funding comes from a \$3.50 to \$4 fee included in student activities fees.

"The rest of the activities will not get cranked up for a few weeks," Boyle said. "None of the committee positions have been filled yet. We're looking for creative, energetic people

who are willing to work.' Students interested in joining any of the committees should stop by the activites board office on the second floor of the Student Union or pick up an application from the Union information desk.

Boyle said members of the activites board were open to suggestions from students on coming programs.

"The field is wide open. The board will do almost anything the students want to do," he said. "Students need to be aware that they could have a bike race in the pit or a hot-air balloon in Kenan Stadium if they are willing to make it happen.

"It's hard to second-guess the student. We're trying to remind people: 'Don't take us for granted.

The activites board also is planning to start a weekly puzzle in The Daily Tar Heel. A mystery picture will be printed, and the student who first identifies the picture will receive free tickets to a movie, play or concert, Boyle said.

"We hope to stimulate people to recognize the . . . (activities board) for what it is - an organization whose duty is to put on the programs the students want, help people have fun and maybe teach them something along the way."

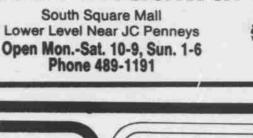
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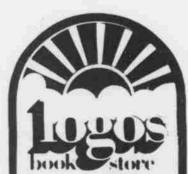
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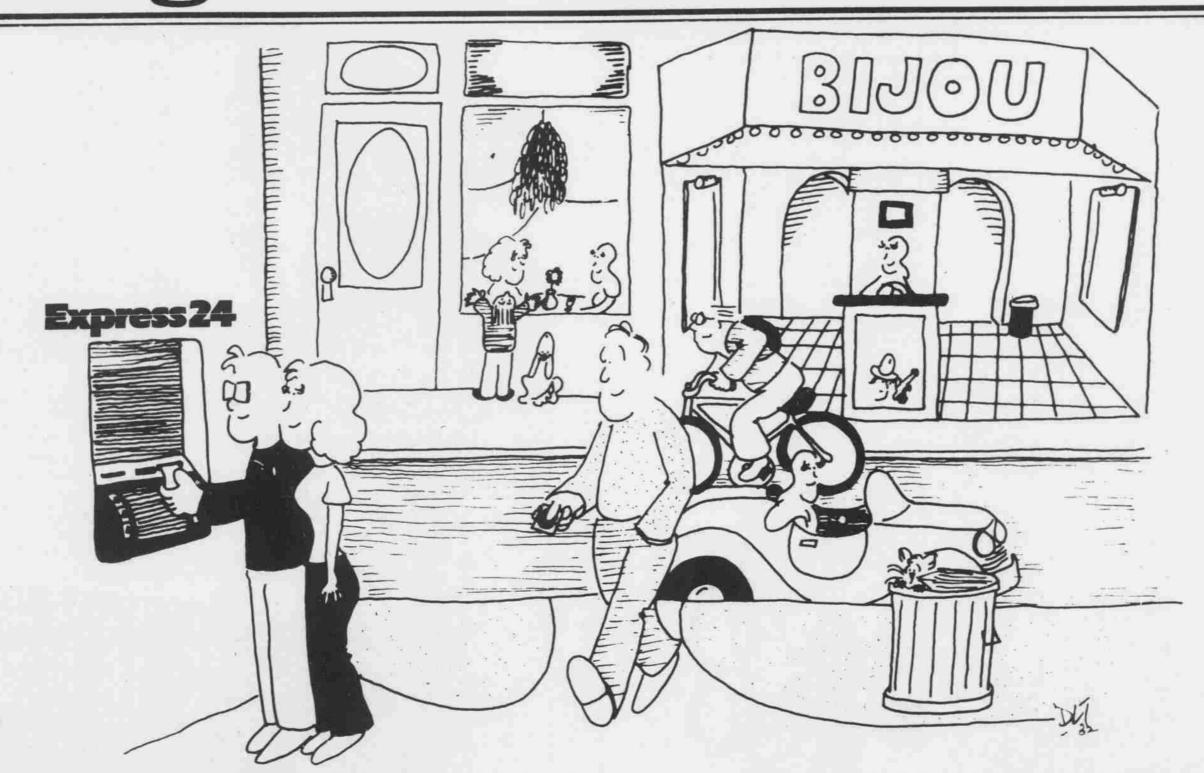
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