CAMPUS SERVICES

Organizations offer students healing away from home

Student Health Services: When the flu hits, it's the next best thing to chicken soup and Mom

By ANDRE HAUSER

Staff Writer It's Monday morning, you've got a 103 degree temperature, your family doctor is a two hour drive away, and you don't own a car.

No one likes to think about it, but at some point, almost every college student will need medical attention, and that is what Student Health Services is for.

With 15 doctors and 125 staff members, Student Health Services (SHS) provides free medical care to the UNC student community. "We see at least 80 percent of the student body every year," said Dr. Judith R. Cowan, SHS's director. "Our biggest months are probably September and April. September is a big month for upper respiratory infections.'

The service handles from 75,000 to 80,000 individual visits annually.

SHS has four sections; clinical medicine, sports medicine, gynecology and psychological services, Cowan said. Most services are free to all students who have paid their student health fee for the semester. SHS is completely funded by student fees and service fees, she said. Spouses for full-time students can also become eligible for SHS care if they pay the Student Health fee.

Students are charged for X-Rays, laboratory fees, and some specialized care in orthopedics, dermatology, ear, nose and throat treatment and gynecol-

In addition to the four main clinical sections, SHS has an allergy clinic, a pharmacy, a health education service,

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— Dr. Judith R. Cowan, SHS director

and a 10-bed inpatient facility.

Students with chronic health problems such as diabetes are a part of SHS's patient load, Cowan said. Acute injuries, especially ankle injuries, and sexually transmitted diseases make up a large portion of SHS's visitors, as do flu victims each winter,s he added.

SHS's Health Education service employs four people to conduct programs in exercise, nutrition, weight control, chemical and substance abuse and stress management. "Their job is to take health education out to the students," Cowan said.

On is a substance abuse counselor, while another coordinates the Wellness

Resource Center in Woolen Gym and teaches a P.E. wellness course, she said.

"(The Wellness Resource Center) is an area where there is a great deal of health information," Cowan said. When the Student Recreational Center is completed, The Wellness Resource Center will move into it, she added.

SHS is located between Kenan Stadium and South Campus. SHS is open from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. from Monday to Friday and from 9 a.m. to 12 noon Saturday. Emergency services are available 24 hours per day for acute physical or psychiatric problems.

Appointments can be made by call-

Student Psychological Services: A shoulder to lean on, no matter how small the problem

By ANDRE HAUSER

Grades, parents, dating, alcoholism and sex. What do these all have in common? They are all issues that can

Staff Writer

overwhelm college students. Instead of suffering through personal problems alone, though, Student Psychological Services is available for students who need someone to talk to. Many students feel that only someone with a serious problem should go to SPS, but this view is incorrect, said Dr. John Reinhold, senior clinical social worker at SPS.

"We do see some students with serious problems, but most have mild or only slightly serious problems," he said. Many students do not think their problems are important enough for SPS, but if a student thinks he has a even a small problem, it is serious enough to talk about, he added.

"Most of our help with students is on an individual basis," Reinhold said, in which the student's problems are first identified and then solved by a therapist and the student. SPS also offers couples' counselling for both married and unmarried couples, as well as short-term group therapy sessions.

Group sessions run every semester for people with eating disorders, children of alcoholics, gays and lesbians who want emotional support, and for people who want help in stress management, Reinhold said. Therapy groups for a variety of other problems are started as needed, he added.

"Most of our help with students is on an individual basis. This is very confidential and no one will know unless a student requests it."

— Dr. John Rheinhold, SPS clinical social worker

sign that someone is "sick" or "crazy," Reinhold said. Rather, it is a sign of health and maturity that a person is willing to work towards solving their problems.

Another reason that some students are afraid to seek help is the fear that their therapy will become a part of their permanent college record.

"This is a very confidential service, and no one will know unless a student requests that we let them know," Reinhold said. This rarely occurs; the most frequent reason is if a student decided to go to another clinic and wanted to transfer his records.

Seeking psychological help is not a so-and-so was here, or for what, though,"

Reinhold added.

SPS has a staff of 10 trained therapists, all of whom have advanced degrees in clinical social work, psychology or psychiatry. Their services are available free of charge to all enrolled students during the school year, and spouses and students between semesters during the summer may be eligible for care by paying a special Student Health Service fee.

SPS is a division of Student Health Services, and it is located on the second floor of the SHS Building. SPS hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Therapists are also available 24 nours a day for emergencies. Appoint "No-one could call up and find out if ments can be made in advance by calling 966-3658.

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