

# THE CLARION

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College officials say responsibility is a 'gray area'

## Date rape at BC: it does happen here

by Lorrin Wolf  
Clarion Asst. Editor

The names of the alleged victims and assailants in the following article have been changed to protect the privacy of those individuals.

Webster's definition of rape is "the crime of forcing another person to submit to sexual intercourse." In 1990, the Santa Monica Rape Crisis Center found that one in six female college students was raped or sexually assaulted while at school. The center also found that one in 15 male college students admitted to using sexual aggression in the past year.

Acquaintance rape involves an armed or unarmed assailant previously known by the victim. It can happen at any time, to anyone, anywhere. The Brevard College campus is no exception.

In the past two years, two separate cases of alleged sexual assaults on the BC campus involved the police. Both females pressed criminal charges against the accused persons, but the charges did not lead to the arrest of either of the

suspected male students. Brevard College has no documentation of males being the victims of rape.

Often victims do not report rapes or sexual assaults to law enforcement officers. Instead, they seek help from medical persons or counselors. "There have been several questionable reported rapes - none where evidence was gathered, but I am positive that last year one girl was definitely forced to have sexual intercourse. Still, I feel that there are rapes committed on this campus that are not reported to anyone," said Patricia Jenkins, an RN in the campus infirmary.

According to Dean of Student Affairs Norm Witek, "I assume that most date rapes occur off-campus." However, one unreported alleged date rape took place in the victim, Jill's, dorm room. She described the events of that night as follows: "We went out to dinner - a big group of us - and he paid for my meal. I knew him, but not really well before that night. I hadn't expected him to pay for me, but I thought it was really nice of him. We went back to his room, but there were so many people there we decided to go back to my room

to talk. I felt okay about it because we hadn't been drinking and he seemed so nice. Anyway, he sat on my bed and I sat at the desk. He kept patting the bed and asking me to join him. He sounded so cute - I just laughed."

Jill remained where she was until her alleged attacker stood up and forced her towards the bed. She did not understand his intent until he kissed her. She said no. "He raped me. I never reported it. Only three people on campus know exactly what happened and who did it," Jill said.

"The number of acquaintance rapes increases greatly with the use of alcohol," said Jenkins. "For one thing, a male becomes more aggressive and a female less defensive." Susan, a student at Brevard College, alleges that she experienced an alcohol-related sexual assault. She had consumed a six pack of beer and several shots of hard liquor over the course of the night. Susan believes that a male student then sexually assaulted her. Unable to leave the situation, Susan repeatedly said no. "I was so wasted I don't remember what happened, but after it was over, all of my clothing was undone . . . Drunk or

not, when I say no, I mean no," she said.

North Carolina law states that second-degree rape is engaging in sexual intercourse with a person who is "mentally defective, mentally incapacitated, or physically helpless, and the person performing the act knows or should reasonably know the other person" is any of these three things. Intoxication can cause mental incapacity, so a person can be convicted for 12 to 40 years for having vaginal intercourse with a drunk person.

Had Jill or Susan decided to report these alleged incidents, they could have talked to the infirmary staff, a counselor, or the Dean of Student Affairs. Jenkins urged rape or sexual assault victims to come forward immediately following the incident. "Unless you have evidence gathered within 24 hours, you have no case. But a lot of girls don't wish to press charges - they just want to talk. Anything that is reported to the infirmary staff is confidential information between a medical person and their patient," she said.

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Phi Theta Kappa Inductions

On October 28 a full slate of 21 prospective PTK inductees became members of Brevard College's Delta Pi Chapter of PTK. For a full listing of the names of the inductees, see Page 12.

## Soccer team wins Regional Championship

by Lorrin Wolf  
Clarion Asst. Editor

Last Saturday afternoon, the Brevard College mens' soccer team won an exciting game against Spartanburg Methodist College. The win propelled the team into the Regional Championship spot, and earned them a place at the National Championships in Jackson, Miss.

The game was hard fought on a chilly, grey afternoon, but the men prevailed, dropping a goal into their opponents' net in the final minutes of the second half, making the final score 2-1.

In the first half, the BC team scored and Spartanburg kicked a disallowed goal. Spartanburg then tied the score in the second half until the final minutes of the game.

Earlier that day, the womens' team battled to a 4-0 defeat against Anderson College. This loss gave Anderson the Regional Championship.