

New class to focus on AIDS issues

By MARY JO DUNNINGTON
Staff Writer

This spring students can be enlightened on various aspects of acquired immune deficiency syndrome while learning the value of an interdisciplinary approach to solving problems.

A new elective course, "AIDS: Principles, Practices and Politics," may be taken for one, two or three credit hours by both undergraduate and graduate students in any field. Students can earn one credit by attending the lectures held on Wednesdays from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. To earn two credits, students must also take a midterm and a final exam. Students wishing to earn three credits will participate in a seminar that will follow the lectures.

The course is being offered jointly through the schools of dentistry, medicine, nursing, pharmacy and public health. The interdisciplinary approach to the course will be important to help students understand the widespread effects of a crisis such as AIDS, according to Inge Corless, who is head of secondary care in the School of Nursing and will teach the course.

"It's very important to educate students from different fields together," Corless said. "They'll have

to work together as professionals. They need to understand what other disciplines can contribute to an issue.

"I think it's going to be a terrific course," she said. The course would serve as a model for issues society confronts — problems it has not solved adequately, such as drug use and homelessness, Corless said.

Charles van der Horst of the School of Medicine will also be teaching the course. "AIDS is one of those diseases that involves every aspect of society," he said. "We want to talk about those various aspects and point out the weaknesses that AIDS has exposed in society."

The lectures will cover a broad range of AIDS-related issues and feature both UNC faculty members and experts from across the country, said Naomi Siegel, a graduate student in the School of Public Health, who will be a teaching assistant for the course.

"We're planning to address a lot of issues," Siegel said. "You have to satisfy everyone's interests."

Kathleen Rounds of the School of Social Work is scheduled to lecture. Rounds said she planned to address the impact of AIDS on victims' families. Having done research on AIDS in rural areas, she said she

found that many AIDS victims return home in areas like North Carolina.

Van der Horst said he would address the basic scientific aspect of the disease, noting that there is often inaccuracy in the news concerning the disease. He said he hoped to impart knowledge to students, helping them become better judges of the material they read and hear.

Siegel said one of the lectures would be given by a panel of AIDS patients. "I think it will be one of the best lectures we'll have," she said. "In North Carolina there have been relatively few cases of AIDS, so it's doubtful that people have ever met an AIDS patient. This will give a much more realistic view of the disease."

Students participating in the seminar portion of the course will be involved in small-group projects, Corless said. The projects will depend on the interests of the individual groups and focus on addressing the issue in an interdisciplinary fashion.

Siegel said the course would be relevant for everyone. Understanding the disease is important for taxpayers because more money is needed for research and treatment, for employers because they may

have to create an AIDS policy for their businesses, and for future parents because they will have to educate their children about AIDS, she said.

Corless said everyone is affected in some way by the AIDS crisis. "AIDS is a tremendous intellectual, scientific and human challenge," she said. "As a society, will we be equal to that challenge? How we resolve the questions surrounding AIDS will determine what kind of society we'll be living in."

Taking the course for one, two or three credits depends on the student's level of commitment, Corless said. "It's up to the individual," she said. "Students will learn something at any level."

Having the course taught on a regular basis is Corless' goal. "I think we're all committed to do this as an ongoing course," she said. "It's a new adventure, and I look forward to teaching it with colleagues in different disciplines."

Van der Horst said the scope of future courses would depend on how this year's course turns out. "We're nervous about it," he said. "It's either going to be a course that's exciting, rigorous and good, or it could be too vague. I think it's going to be good."

Christian students meet through IVCF activities

By CRAIG ALLEN
Staff Writer

Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship gives college students many opportunities to study the Bible, make new friends and have fun, according to Janet Stepp, an IVCF small group Bible study leader.

"IV places a lot of emphasis on having fun," said Stepp, a senior international studies major from Hendersonville. "I've been in (the group) since I was a freshman."

The group, an interdenominational organization with representative branches on many campuses across the country, is organized to give the participants the chance to become acquainted with fellow students.

"(The small groups) are really good for me because I've gotten to know a lot of people more closely," said Ann Plyler, a junior nursing major from Raleigh. She said involvement with the group has helped her meet new friends while also teaching her to read the Bible more closely and better understand its lessons.

Each Bible study group belongs to a larger chapter. The chapters are arranged according to campus geography, including South Campus, Mid Campus, North Campus, Granville and Off-Campus, and a chapter for graduate students called Focus.

Each chapter meets an hour each week for singing, skits, Scripture readings and speakers. The speakers present programs on anything from peer pressure to relationships. Even though individual chapters may vary slightly on specific programs, the focus of each chapter is the same throughout the organization, said South Campus chapter executive Andy Dunkerton, who helps organize meetings and train group leaders.

"I became interested in having some Christian fellowship," said Dunkerton, a junior English/math major from Baltimore, Md. "IV really does focus on Jesus Christ as lord and savior. Fellowship is really good."

Campus Group Focus

Each chapter contains 10 small Bible study groups, which usually meet in the room of the group leader to study the Bible and become acquainted with each other.

Stepp said her group did not study the Bible in the strictest sense. "Sometimes we just talk," she said.

IVCF also sponsors many outreach programs and projects on campus and abroad. One program is the Fort Lauderdale beach evangelism project during spring break. This project offers participants the chance to be evangelists and talk to people who may have different opinions and beliefs, while also giving them the chance to enjoy a vacation from the rigors of college life.

IVCF also sponsors overseas missions on a national level. But this program is too big for the campus branch to organize, according to Dunkerton.

The group trains participants in the areas of culture and evangelism to help them overseas. This training keeps the participants from being absolute strangers to the situations they may face in their assigned country, Stepp said.

Closer to home, the IVCF campus branch also sponsors retreats for members and inspirational speakers in the Pit, such as last year's "Ask Cliff" program.

The group organizes all programs to spread its beliefs to new people without forcing anyone to accept the group's ideas, Stepp said.

Dunkerton said he respected the organization and the way it tries to involve students, especially freshmen. "They do a pretty good job," he said.

The opportunity to enjoy some Christian fellowship or explore some new ideas is around. To find out what to expect next from IVCF, just look at the Cube for the next announcement.

Taking steps to prevent crime at UNC

By SIMONE PAM
Staff Writer

Residence halls are relatively secure from crime, but students must use common sense to avoid becoming victims. University administrators and police told students in a program organized by Morrison Residence Hall resident assistants Tuesday.

Campus security is a very difficult problem to pin down, said Frederic Schroeder, dean of students. "Chapel Hill, at the University of North Carolina, is probably among one of the safest places to be," he said.

Some people believe the University should be held responsible for any unfortunate incidents, but students also ought to be held accountable for their own actions, Schroeder said. "Campus police can not provide 24-hour protection for each individual in this institution," he said.

Wayne Kuncl, director of Univer-

sity housing, said the best way for students to protect themselves within residence halls is by locking their room doors. "As we feel more secure in our environment, we tend to take less precautions and leave ourselves vulnerable," he said.

The crime most commonly reported is theft from an unlocked room, Kuncl said.

Kuncl said he was confident about the level of security within residence halls at UNC, but that there are different levels of security within each residence area. The security in Carmichael Residence Hall is exceptionally good because of a new electronic security system, he said.

The security in Teague Residence Hall has been improved by installing peepholes in the doors, Kuncl said.

If a door is ajar anywhere in the building after the alarm has been turned on, a panel light will buzz in

the Scott Residence College area office. A computer will then display the location of the open door to the resident assistant or desk attendant on duty.

All residence halls should be equipped with peepholes by the end of the academic year, he said.

Some ideas being considered to improve security in STOW Residence College are self-locking bathroom doors, locks on the laundry room doors and locks on the study area. But a security system won't work if students don't support it, Kuncl said.

Schroeder said one of the most dangerous situations on campus is created by people who insist upon walking alone at night. "We must take precautions to prevent ourselves from harm," he said.

Sgt. Ned Comar, a crime prevention specialist with University police, said the wooded path by Kenan

Stadium, the Arboretum, the graveyard, the tennis courts by Cobb and Joyner residence halls, the path to Student Health Service and the Forest Theater are some of the more dangerous spots on campus. Reports of crimes have not been especially high in these locations, but these are areas where victims are most vulnerable, he said.

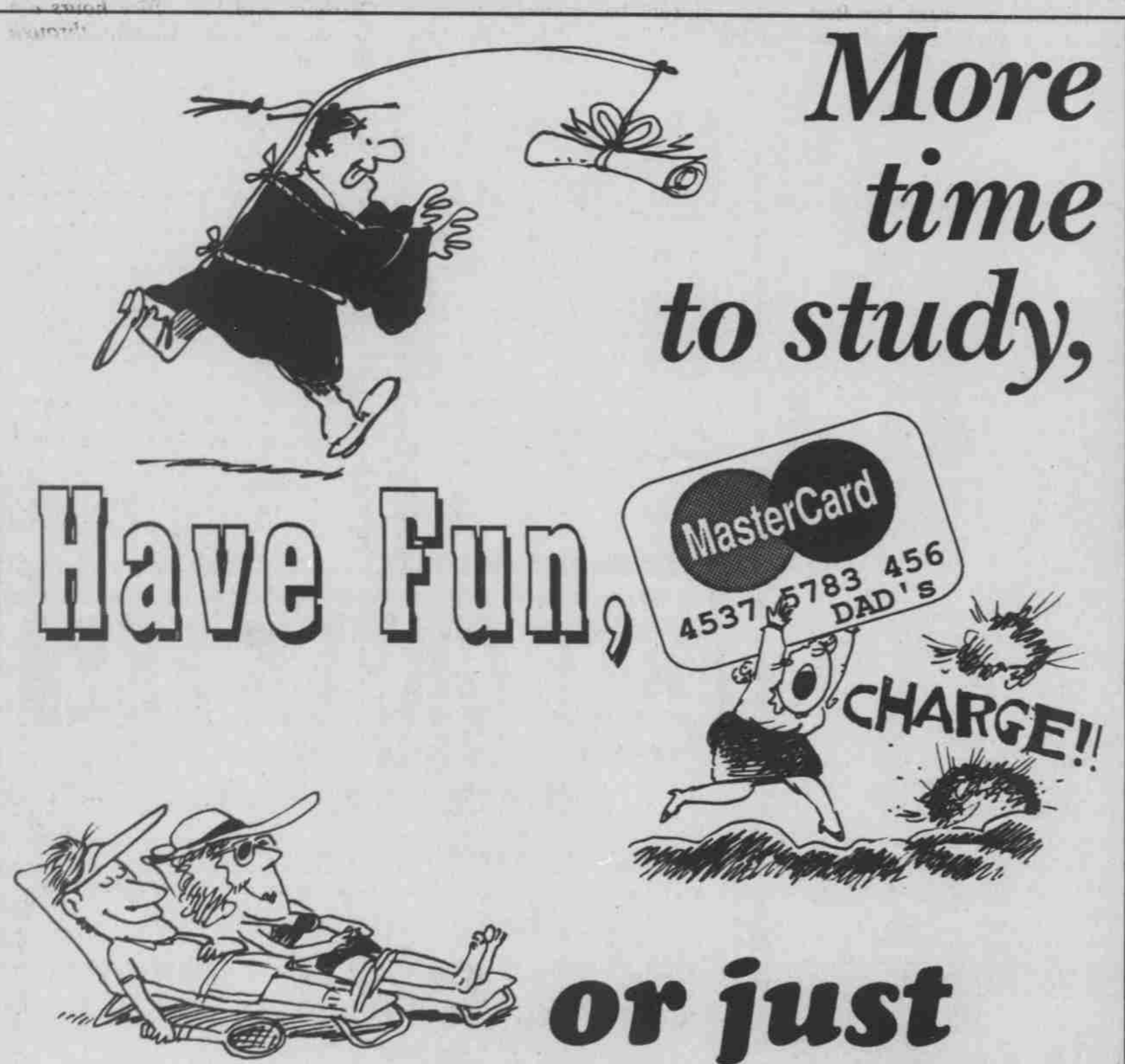
SAFE (Students Averting Frightening Encounters) Escort Service is a volunteer program that provides escorts for students walking alone after dark. The program operates from 7 p.m. to midnight and can be reached by dialing 962-SAFE.

But SAFE is not a substitute for common sense, Schroeder said. "The service is not for the convenience of someone, but for circumstances not foreseen by an individual," he said. "It is not a replacement of preplanning and good judgment."


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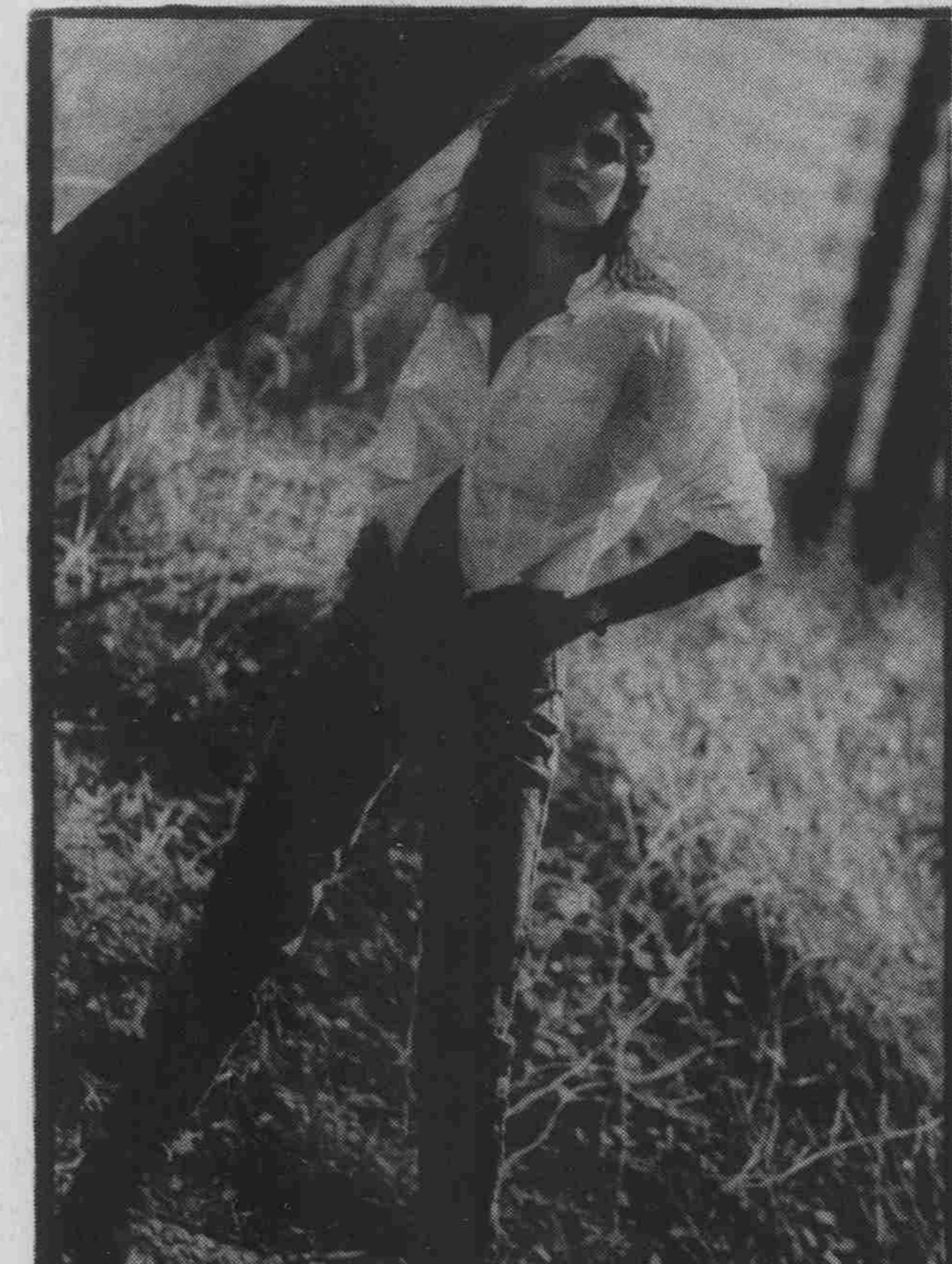


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