

Rally against rape shows concern

By LEE ANN BEGLEITER

A "Rally to Pull the Mask off Rape" was held on the Corey Union steps Wednesday, at 4 p.m. A.W.A.R.E., a women's group on campus, organized the rally.

An A.W.A.R.E. member, Lisa Skill, said that the rally would, "show that the students are concerned about what is going on" and that they are "not going to sit back passively and accept it." A.W.A.R.E. members made signs reading, "Dry Campus or Safe Campus" and "Let's unite and stop rape."

Spirits were high among A.W.A.R.E. members but only approximately 25 other students attended the rally. The lack of participation seemed not to be due to lack of concern. Howard Botwinick, an economics professor who was also in attendance at the rally, said,

"Students are concerned but they don't understand how a rally or a protest can help."

Katie Keyser, a Cortland student who participated in the rally, expressed her doubts about coming to the rally. She said, "I don't like to do anything radical but this is a reality, it's self-defense."

Jennifer Parker, an A.W.A.R.E. member, feels that the lack of concern does not lie with the students but rather with the law enforcement agencies who she said "aren't expressing their concern." She says that, "drinking off-campus has taken precedent over this," and adds "how seriously can they be taking it when in their own words they called it a 'prank'."

At a Cortland Off-Campus Organization meeting Tuesday, Cortland Police Chief Philip Cinquanti said, "If you don't think that I am as concerned about

the rape problem as you are, you are sadly mistaken." According to Cinquanti, there has been 11 incidents since November of 1985. "Seven of these incidents," he said, "can be tied together and four others can go either way," adding that "we aren't overlooking anything."

According to one student at the rally, "It seems they (the police) never walk on your street unless it's the day before a block party."

Sgt. Buggs, who is heading the rape investigation, was unavailable for comment.

Due to the low turn-out, the rally was moved indoors for a discussion on how students can be made more aware of the problem. The rally quickly turned into a group of concerned students, both male and female, discussing ideas on how to make students aware of the seriousness of the problem as well as ways to help prevent rape.

course will help the victim.

Rose Cortese, an S.U.C.C. senior, believes that "precaution is the key word. It's better not to be put in the situation then have to defend yourself." The group discussed the many precautionary measures that may be taken.

Parker has contacted The Guardian Angels Women's Task Force in Albany and they have agreed to come to Cortland and discuss what preventive measures may be taken. Many students may see The Guardian Angels as a drastic measure, but Parker said "we're not blowing it out of proportion. Our objective is to have them come up and give us suggestions as to what we can do as students."

As one student put it, "Rape isn't going to end — you have to take care of yourself."

Also discussed was a free self-defense course being offered to college students. The

break away and run. The course is offered from 5 to 7 on Monday and Wednesday evenings in the Wellness Center.

Others at the meeting said both the students and the community need to be more aware of the problem. Skill stated, "We would like the community to work with us to help fight this problem." Suggestions included distributing a "Fact Sheet" across campus which would include facts about the incidents in Cortland as well as rape incidents at other colleges.

A student at the meeting said this "Fact Sheet" "will show the reality of the situation," thus making the students aware.

Another suggestion was to have "Safe Houses". Safe Houses are houses within the neighborhood who hang a sign or a light outside to indicate that if anyone is in trouble they can get help within that household.

Supporters of proposal giving lecture series

By BETH TARTAGLIA

Four supporters of the new "prejudice and discrimination" proposal spoke in front of a full house at the Old Main faculty/staff lounge Tuesday. This was the first of four sandwich seminars to be held throughout campus in the next couple weeks.

The gathering was held to discuss a proposal to establish a new general education category. The category would be dealing with prejudice and discrimination and would be under a GE 10 heading.

James McKee, who chairs the committee which organized the seminars, said the purpose of these seminars is to receive feedback about the new prejudice and discrimination proposal. The new requirement, he said, would deal mainly with race and gender discrimination.

The course would also touch on class and ethnic discrimination and possibly even discrimination on the basis of religion, age, sexual preference and disabilities, he added.

Kathryn Russell of the philosophy department analyzed the academic view of the proposal and asking whether students should be required to study

about prejudice and discrimination before they graduate.

Russell said it is a basic need for a Liberal Arts education. She added that it would help to shape a more responsible adult who would be able to make good decisions and cope with any discrimination they might encounter. The course would reform students' values as well as raise their consciousness about the issues, she said.

Dr. Bruce Atkins of the English department spoke from a different point of view. Atkins first spoke of the general lack of knowledge students have concerning prejudice and discrimination. He then went on to explain some possible problems that might arise from the implementation of the new GE 10 category.

Atkins' alternative to the problem would be to have every GE course include some sections pertaining to prejudice and discrimination rather than having an entire category devoted to it.

The next speaker, Richard Peagler from the counseling department, offered comments about the psychosocial effects on minority students.

Peagler spoke mainly about the decline in participation of school activities by minority students.

Among the activities Peagler mentioned were sports, government and various clubs.

Peagler then focused on some of the benefits that would be reaped as a result of the GE 10 category. Among these were the fact that a classroom could become a forum for communication and confrontation for all students. He said he feels that this would eventually create a better feeling among students on campus.

The final speaker Barbara Stallworth, a senior majoring in communication studies, spoke from a student's point of view.

Stallworth explained that although the minority population on campus is very small, it is uniting in a non-radical way to get all students together.

Stallworth also stressed the widespread practice of pre-judgment by fellow students. She attributed this problem to the fact that most white students have never interacted with minority students in their past.

After the final speaker, the floor was open to general discussion. This proved to be successful in generating new ideas as well as expanding on the ones already offered.

Office opens for volunteers

By MAUREEN JOYCE

The Cortland Student Volunteer Project office in Brockway Hall is bare except for a couple of desks and chairs.

There is a poster on the back of the door with Albert Einstein's words: "Man is here for the sake of other men," and only the continually ringing telephone breaks the stillness of the room as 27 Cortland community and social agencies call to find student volunteers to staff their many programs.

There is a tremendous amount of work that needs to be done, according to Nancy Dickerson, the part-time director of CSVP.

"There is a need for more than 250 volunteers in the Cortland area," she said, "and we've got about 75 applications so far."

This is the first year for CSVP on the State University College at Cortland campus, but the need for volunteers has existed for years, according to Dan Maloney Hahn, director of advisement.

Hahn and Donald R. Wilcox, Interfaith Center Chaplain, have coordinated the project through seed grants from the College's Auxiliary Services Corporation and the Cortland County Council of Churches. Both Hahn and Wilcox said they hope to obtain funding through private contributions to make the project an ongoing one.

Starting work in July, Dickerson contacted several Cortland social service agencies and was given the names of yet more agencies in need of volunteers as the list kept growing.

Some of the programs involved are Head Start, Volunteer Family Counseling, Horizon House, and United Way. "Ninety percent are within walking distance," Dickerson said.

CSVP serves as a direct link between students and volunteer programs. Applications are available through the Student Orientation and Advisement Program, SOAP, staff or in the CSVP office in Room 130 in Brockway.

Students are asked to indicate areas of interest. They are then matched with specific agencies based on their interests.

Positions for volunteers include working with clients such as retarded citizens, head injury victims, and disadvantaged or handicapped children. Working with children in day care centers on and off campus and visiting the elderly in nursing homes are other possibilities.

The "Loaves and Fishes" program, which feeds an average of 170 Cortland residents at Grace Episcopal Church on Court Street, is staffed entirely by volunteers.

Some opportunities are "one time", Wilcox said, as with the community Crop Walk for the hungry planned for Oct. 19.

Unlike in some community internships, volunteers do not receive credit for their activities but "can benefit from volunteering," Hahn said.

"The sense of giving is worthwhile and you can learn about yourself," he said. "It can give you insight into what major you want in school as well as give you a sense of an organization's structure. It also looks great on a resume," he added.

More information about specific opportunities can be obtained through the CSVP office, and through notices posted on a bulletin board outside the Career Planning and Placement Office.

Organizations involved in volunteer project

Advocacy, Recreation & Community Living Services (ARC)
 Aid to Women Victims of Violence (AWVV)
 Alternative High School, Cortland-Madison-Onondaga counties
 American Red Cross
 Baden-Powell Council, Boy Scouts of America, Inc.
 Central New York Girl Scout Council, Inc.
 Coalition for Children
 Community Action Program of Cortland County, Inc. (CAPCO)
 Community Assistance Network (CAN)
 Community Re-entry Services
 Cortland Arts Council
 Cortland City Youth Bureau
 Cortland County Area Agency on Aging
 Cortland County Child Development Day Care Program
 Cortland County Council of Churches
 Cortland County Family YMCA
 Cortland County Resolve, A Center For Dispute Settlement, Inc.
 Cortland County Youth Bureau
 Cortland Memorial Hospital
 Cortland YWCA
 Elizabeth Breuster House
 Enriched Housing Program
 4-H Youth Development Program
 Headstart Program of Cortland County
 Highgate Nursing Home
 Horizon House — Hutchings Psychiatric Center —
 Cortland County Mental Health Clinic
 1980 House
 Loaves & Fishes
 Salvation Army Community Center
 The Sharing Place, Cortland Area Child Care Council
 The Special Children's Center
 Tutorial Outreach Program
 United Way
 Volunteer Family Counseling Services