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# Sexual after effects linger despite choice of services

By Steven Mozena

Of the Emerald

It's generally accepted that the benefits and enjoyments of attending college go beyond the classroom. But one of the more pleasurable aspects of campus life — sex — carries with it certain less-than-pleasurable after effects.

At least 150 University students were treated for sexually transmitted diseases last year, says James Jackson, director of the Student Health Center.

And more than 90 University women had abortions at Women's Medical Services during the same period, says nurse practitioner Margaret Leonard.

Further, a 1982 report, "Human Reproduction and Birth Control," states that one out of five college women nationwide will become pregnant

before graduation.

Jackson believes that students usually don't take advantage of what they know about birth control and diseases when they indulge in sex. "It's not a matter of knowledge. It's a matter of application.

"Students may be shocked or surprised and wondering why it happened to them. Of course, the students know it has been on the cover of Time and Newsweek magazine, but to them it still does not mean they should get the disease," Jackson says.

However, many students apparently do take precautions.

Heather Loomis, a pharmacist at the health center says that in 1983-84 University women purchased an average of 130 tubes of spermicidal jelly, 108 applicators of spermicide foam and 14 boxes of contraceptive sponges each month. And an average of 25 women per month were fitted for diaphragms and 262 women a month bought birth control pills.

Additionally, 18 University men purchased a package of one dozen condoms per month at the health center. Loomis says she is surprised that more University men did not buy condoms at the health center because the cost of the condoms is less expensive than at pharmacies.

"Or maybe the male students just don't use them," she says.

However, Li Simmons of the University Bookstore says the bookstore averaged 35 male students a month buying a package of a dozen condoms.

Despite such statistics Jackson believes students are responsible for their actions. "Students have to be in order to be going to classes, taking tests, getting grades, thinking ahead and even paying for school," he says.

Students who participate in sex without any knowledge of the consequences have no one to blame but themselves. At least four sources of aid and information are readily available: the Student Health Center, Planned Parenthood, Women's Medical Services and Sacred Heart Hospital.

The Health Center offers birth control products at a cost of at least 50 percent less than the market price, Loomis says. For instance, the cost of birth control pills ranges from \$2.50 to \$4.00 a month.

In addition, the health center provides counseling to students about birth control and sexually transmitted diseases. Students can talk with a doctor, nurse, psychologist, psychiatrist or a peer counselor.

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