

# Alcohol group for teaching, not preaching

By Jerry Trently

Dr. James Rooney isn't surprised by the results of a campus wide drinking survey, he just believes the statistics are high.

The Associate Professor of Sociology, coordinated the study with his "Social Problems," and "Addictive Substances" classes from Fall and Winter Terms.

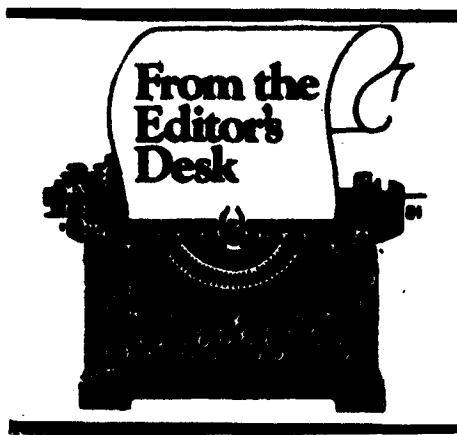
The results show 58 percent of the population on campus drinks weekly, and 20 percent drink three to five drinks daily. The survey further showed 25 percent had indicated they had become drunk alone, while another 25 percent indicated they had gone on a drinking spree and did not know where they were upon being woken up. Another thirty percent indicated that alcohol had interfered with their school work.

All questions were subject to a time frame of the last twelve months.

Included in the questionnaire was a section on drinking and driving. Nearly thirty students indicated they had driven eight or more times after consuming four or more drinks and fifty percent had driven at least once while consuming the same amount.

Surprised or not, expect a program to make the campus community more aware of its drinking habits sometime next Fall.

A group of student leaders and faculty members is currently considering types of programs to offer students without exhibiting a hypocritical approach.



The concept to develop the program and the group itself came after Coordinator of the Residence Living Program, Pat Murphy, and John Pellecchia, Assistant Coordinator, attended a workshop at State College.

"Schools surrounding Capitol Campus already have awareness programs, and I believe its time we develop our own." Murphy said.

"We just want to make the students aware of the possibly consequences of drinking," Pellecchia said, "We don't want to preach."

The alcohol group has asked for the assistance of the President's Council, an organization of club presidents.

"I believe it's a cause we should get involved with because it provides a situation where everyone benefits," Briab Burdette told the Council. "What we need is some type of commitment from clubs to do this thing up right. It's too big to be handled by one organization."

Another reason club involvement was asked was for clear and unquestionable support of students. If the group is going to have an obstacle, it's going to be selling itself and its purpose, which has been questioned even by members within the group.

The support of clubs along with the fact that the group is made up of mostly students, will provide peer support which Counselor Ed Beck believes is vital.

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SGA Vice President, Chris Barrett, said the Council is looking for a program to get the campus

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**Ed Beck  
Counselor**

more involved with the community and has pushed for club support.

As long as an alcohol program is developed for informative services and teaches while not preaching, it has a chance of letting students know a little more about a drug they use alot.

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### Letters

I have never in my life attended or visited any other campus of any school that can compare to Capitol Campus for abject deplorability of its buildings and equipment. Even the tiny backwoods high school that I attended had several Correcting Selectrics available for the students, and any typewriter of any type which wasn't functioning was properly repaired. Today I had to go through three different typewriters to find a satisfactory one. One only had one margin you could set. One types exclamation points for nines some of the time and usually doesn't type w's at all. One won't type ones or threes unless you hit the key several times, hard. A fourth typewriter doesn't even have a ball.

I don't know who contracted for vending machines, but the machines here are pathetic. One won't accept dimes; they don't register at all. Another eats nickles. I can't recall how many times one of those machines has eaten my money and given me nothing but a headache in return. It is not funny to be running late, hungry, and unable to get even a candy bar because the machine isn't working.

Since we are stuck with a building that wasn't designed for our needs, wouldn't it make sense to either schedule classes so that any class too large for a regular room can use the auditorium, or put a few large classrooms in the new Engineering Building, and have enough sense to put Western Tradition I there? Every year the W.T. students get acquainted the hard way, as they must practically sit on each others' laps.

Why was a fancy brick sign built at the side of the road when the roof of the library annex leaks? Why was new furniture bought for the S.G.A. lounge, where no one ever sits, when the typewriters there are in dire need of repair? Why, if funds are so short, are there always lights on in unoccupied classrooms at all hours of the day and night? And I won't even ask about the bookstore.

I'm not looking for miracles, just answers.

**Christina Dunigan  
12th Term Humanities**