

CAMPUS

Higher and higher

Exploring campus drug use

BY JEFF HUNTLEY

Two weeks ago, a Trinity student was charged with public intoxication. Under Texas law, that means he was under the influence of a drug in a public place and posed a risk to himself or to others. The drug was not alcohol; it was LSD.

The public abuse of drugs, including alcohol, is not always noticeable at Trinity. The incident two weeks ago was the first "public intoxication" of any kind this year. According to Security and Safety records, there were five such incidents last year, although the records did not specify which drugs were involved.

What about the private side of Trinity drug use? Aside from rumor and suspicion, the institution has not gathered much of evidence concerning drug use, particularly illegal drugs such as LSD or marijuana. Dr. Gary Neal from Counseling and Career Services said Trinity students involved in drugs are succeeding in keeping their habits under wraps.

"It's almost invisible," Neal said. "They hardly ever seek [the counselors] out. I really have no sense of the level of drug use."

Director of Security and Safety George Okaty said, "Without a doubt, there is drug use on campus, but we can't come up with statistics. We don't have that kind of data."

Neal said an official survey of the student body concerning drug use has not been conducted at Trinity in over 10 years. There are students, however, that would agree with the comments of Neal and Okaty.

"People are discreet," said a student who has been involved in drug use at Trinity, and who did not wish to be identified. He described the illegal activity on his first-year residence hall floor, which he said went for the most part unnoticed.

"My freshman dorm floor was kind of like a pharmacy. We did what we wanted—mostly marijuana, and some acid. It was crazy. There was an odd mix of attitudes and personalities that had [drug use] in common," he said.

The student said he was sympathetic for the resident assistant of his floor, who had to deal with the situation by being "cool" about it, yet also being "smart" with regard to responsibilities.

Director of Residence Halls Peg Layton said RAs take their roles and responsibilities very seriously. She also said the RA has a tough choice to make when dealing with drug violations that may result in the expulsion of the student.

"The RAs understand how serious the situation is and try to be very careful before suggesting that a student is involved with drugs," Layton said.



In another example of student drug use that has evaded institutional awareness, the student described an event organized by a group of students last spring called "Acid Fest."

He said several students congregated on the E. M. Stevens football field during an afternoon to listen to music, while under the influence of LSD.

While incidents such as the "Acid Fest" may have succeeded in being discreet, Layton said she feels students have recently been taking more risks in their drug use.

"They are taking greater chances at getting caught. We have had a few more incidents of marijuana odor coming from rooms," she said. "There have also been

some problems with guests. Students sometimes don't understand that they are totally responsible for their guests' actions."

Dean of Students Coleen Grissom said, "There have been rumors of increased marijuana use, but we have not yet been able to verify those rumors." Explaining the popularity of LSD, Grissom said, "I think the LSD is something of a nostalgia kind of drug. There were so many students and friends 20 years ago who fried their brains."

The student said the three most popular drugs, after alcohol, are marijuana, LSD and Ecstasy. He also said he thought students do not pressure other students to use drugs, nor

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TigerFest offers homecoming festivities

BY JULIE POUCHER

Give me an S!! S. Give me a P!! P. Give me an I!! I. Give me an R!! R. Give me another I!! I. Give me a T!! T. What does it spell? Spirit. Louder. SPIRIT.

Tigerfest is an entire week dedicated to school spirit, and this year it's focusing on the new attention paid to school sports. According to Coates Center Program Board President Ellen Fenwick, Tigerfest has been traditionally a week of activities centered around the homecoming football game. This year the game will be played on Saturday, October 14.

Although the official kickoff of T-fest is not until the 14th, school spirit kicks off on Sunday October 8 on the Esplanade at 4:30 p.m. with an all-school picnic.

CCPB Special Events Chair Eric Sartorius said, "The Exec board thought that [the picnic] was a good way to make it more of a unified week of solid programming."

The fall sports teams will be introduced at the picnic. The event will feature the usual picnic fare, so students can grab their 'dines or \$5.25 in cold hard cash and do dinner and a movie. Movie? Yes, for under \$6 students can actually get dinner and a movie in the San Antonio area, as long as they bring their appetites, blankets and/or mattresses.

While they wait for their ARA food to digest, students can dream of what would be the perfect movie to see during T-fest week. At 7:30 p.m. their dreams will come true for

free. The movie involves actors Warren Beatty and Charles Grodin, an LA Rams quarterback, a guardian angel, a bike accident and the Cactus Garden. "Heaven Can

York Jets or Los Angeles Raiders in the Cliffhanger West. Underwood's team is the Jets because their wide receiver Al Toon, is from the University of Wisconsin, Under-

GABRIEL S. GILLIGAN IV



Football is the focus of the TigerFest week

Wait," but not for students who arrive after 7:30 p.m.

CCPB moviemanager Jim Underwood predicts a crowd of over 200, based on the successes of the past two outdoor movies.

Monday night, Underwood and his committee invite students to cheer on the New

York Jets or Los Angeles Raiders in the Cliffhanger West. Underwood's team is the Jets because their wide receiver Al Toon, is from the University of Wisconsin, Under-

wood's home state.

Few people consider Mabee Hall to be the ideal spot for the beginning of a beautiful relationship, but if you were not one of the lucky students picked as a candidate for the Dating Game, you may just find him or her wandering aimlessly about with a tray looking for a seat. Tournaments and Excursions Chair Courtney

Miller said she expects the event to be crowded. Miller and her committee have worked hard on the event, but Miller said, "The input is worth the output."

Like the outdoor movie, the Dating Game is a free event.

There will be one man trying to get a date

with one of three women, and one woman trying to get a date with one of three men. Each prize is a date to the Tigerfest Dance or the Skyline room, all expenses paid.

T-Fest goes back in time at 7:30 on Thursday night with Reverend Raymond Judd, history professor Allan Kownslar, professor Frances Swinney of the speech and drama department, and Dean of Students Coleen Grissom. The Cliffhanger West will buzz with talk of caves under Mabee, draconian visitation policies and more in "Looking Back at Trinity," organized by CCPB Issue Awareness Chair Heather Wood.

"Looking Back" serves as a prelude to Trinity Student Spotlight, put on by Musical Entertainment Chair Chris Mammen. Both "Spotlight" and "Looking Back" are expected by Wood to draw in a large portion of the student body. As of Tuesday night's auditions, the performers will be (drum roll), five music majors singing classical and jazz, two stand-up comedians, a popular six-member improv comedy group, a pianist/singer and two singer/guitarists.

According to Organizational Affairs Chair Angela Breidenstein, Friday night brings with it one of the few long-standing Trinity traditions. Hopefully the only standing students will do is in line for tickets (\$10 and \$12 at the door) or for final voting for Tigerfest King and Queen next week. Students will be dancing the night away under a

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