

Alcohol-Drug Information

By BILL WEANT
Tri-County Mental Health Center

Domestic violence is a widespread and complex problem that involves much more than the act itself or the personal interaction between a husband and a wife. Blame is not easily determined, and the causes of marital violence are not easily identified.

Complicating the issue of wife abuse are a number of situational stresses such as financial problems, health difficulties, and employment conflicts, any of which can trigger a violent outburst. Frequently, assaults begin with verbal arguments that escalate to physical abuse. Police and social service workers report that the consumption of alcohol and alcohol abuse is often associated with the violence.

Studies concerning domestic violence have estimated that as many as 33 percent of all American couples engage in domestic violence. These reports have shown that as high as 80 percent of the cases involving wife beating involved alcohol as an underlying factor.

One study surveyed 100 wives of alcoholics, none of them pre-

identified as victims of marital violence, and found that 72 percent had been threatened, 45 percent had been beaten, and 27 percent had suffered potentially lethal assaults. In another survey, 66 percent of wives who sought emergency shelter said the assaults occurred along with their husband's use of alcohol.

A shift in public attitudes has made it possible for wife abuse to emerge as a social problem requiring recognition from professionals and from society at large. There is still a great need for increased public awareness. These studies are indicative of the magnitude of the problem of domestic violence. Even though the reasons are many, the important issue is to first recognize domestic violence as a problem within itself and one which requires immediate attention in order to assist the victim.

(This series is prepared by Bill Weant, substance abuse education consultant with Tri-County Mental Health Center at 132 West Statesville Ave. other drugs, phone 663-3599.)

Local UNCC Students Earn Honor Society Membership

Students from Mooresville and surrounding communities were among those honored recently during Phi Kappa Phi honor society initiation ceremonies at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

Phi Kappa Phi is a national organization recognizing and encouraging superior scholarship in all academic disciplines. To be eligible, a student must rank scholastically in the upper five percent of the junior class, the upper 10 percent of the senior class or the 10 percent of the graduate enrollment.

Students inducted included: Peter L. Fenninger and Carl A. Senn, both of Mooresville; Stacy A. Katz of Sherrills Ford; Sam C. Sherrill of Cornelius; Ferolyn J.

Curtis of Davidson; and Jill W. Bingham, Kelly E. Bost and Gary E. Hinson, all of Denver.

Also, inductees from Statesville were Mary F. Englebert, Stephanie M. Heintz, Phyllis C. McCoy, Yvonne O. McKinna, Betty S. Weycker, Elnora C. Wilson and Susan M. Wood.

Cary B. Ellinghaus, Karen A. Helms-Curles and Virginia D. Roseman, all from Huntersville, were also inducted.

In addition to the students, some members of the UNCC faculty were also recognized as honorary members of the organization. Huntersville resident Dr. Schley R. Lyons, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, was among the honorary members selected.

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Seniors At UNCC Earn Recognition

Three area students have been selected for special honors at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

The students were picked as winners of UNCC's 1991 Outstanding Senior Awards.

Senior-level students are selected from academic departments and some university offices for the awards, which are presented at a dinner honoring the winners. Some departments and offices had more than one recipient.

The area winners included Steven L. Jolly from Troutman, who was recognized in religious studies; Gilbert L. Davidson of Statesville, earth sciences; and Darlene K. Thrall, curriculum and instruction.

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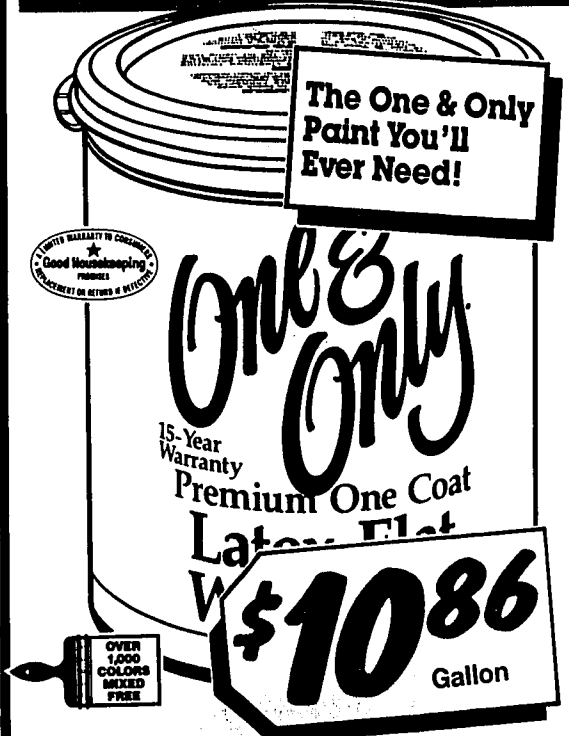
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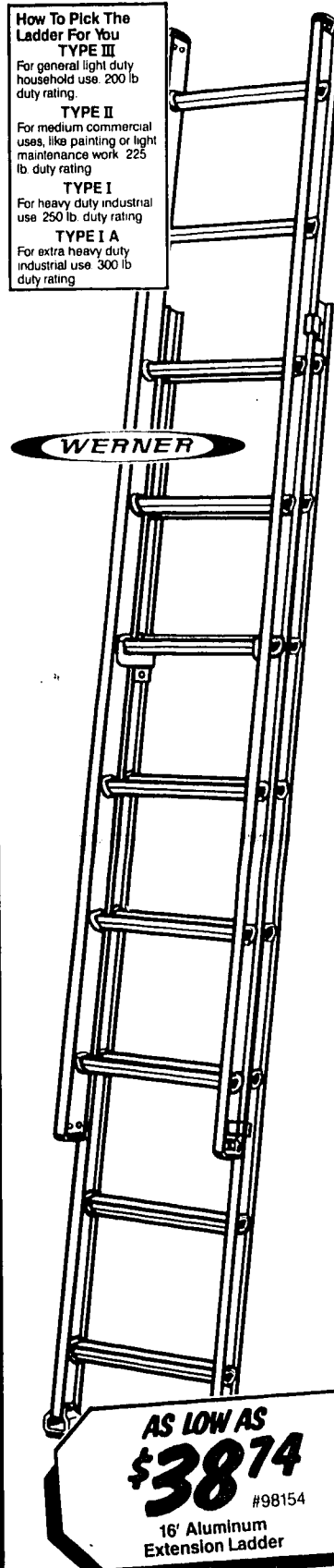


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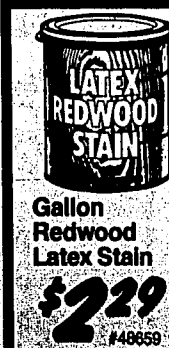
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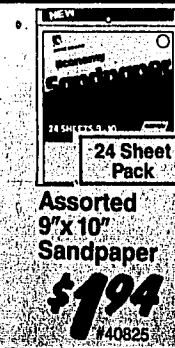
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