STUDENT LEGAL SERVICE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

DATE: 07/01/01

Annual Report

UIUC Student Legal Service Program celebrates 23 years of providing legal service to University of Illinois students.

www.uiuc.edu/unit/SLS

Paid for by S.O.R.F.
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I. Attorneys Report

In accordance with the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Student Legal Service Plan the staff attorneys are pleased to submit the 2000-2001 Annual Report to the Student Legal Service Advisory Board, the Board of Trustees and the general University community. The Student Legal Service program is now twenty three years old as a S.O.R.F. funded program. The S.O.R.F. Board approved the program’s budget for FY2001 budget at $207,731 with $20,000 to go to the contingency fund. This budget allows for stability and moderate growth in several budgetary line items, in particular preventative legal education. The United States Supreme Court ruling upholding mixed student fees permitted the S.O.R.F. Board to return to a three year budget cycle for the program. During fall semester of 2000 only 2% of the enrolled student population refunded their S.O.R.F. fee; 1% enrolled for spring semester 2001 refunded their S.O.R.F. fee.

Student Legal Service website is located at http://www.uiuc.edu/unit/SLS. There students can access information electronically from the comfort of their homes at all hours of the day and night. At this time the website contains general information regarding the office; its location and hours of operation and eligibility to name a few things. It is also linked to the S.O.R.F. web page at 3410 hits. There is also included information on court appearances with 805 hits (dress, timeliness, locations and contact numbers); information regarding various important housing issues at 979 hits (security deposits and roommates to name a few); and a substantial collection of links to sources of legal information on the internet with 681 hits (Illinois information, consumer protection, State and Federal laws, and cases). All informational brochures produced by the office are accessible on-line. In this reporting period students and others have accessed SLS website (See Website Statistics page 9).
The commitment to retaining staff on a long term basis has insured the stability of program and the ability of attorneys to provide experienced representation. Thomas Betz is currently nearing his sixteenth year as a staff attorney with the program. Betz is a 1981 graduate of Wayne State University Law School, a member of the Illinois Bar and an inactive member of the Michigan Bar. Betz serves as a member of Champaign County American Civil Liberties Union Steering Committee and is a member of the Champaign-Urbana Tenant Union Community Advisory Board. Betz is also an elected member of the Champaign County Board and serves as Chairman of the Policy, Appointments and Procedures Committee.

Susan Y. Hessee, a 1982 graduate of the University of Illinois College of Law, is in her thirteenth year as a program staff attorney. Hessee is a member of the Illinois and Michigan Bar Associations. She is active with the Champaign County Bar Association, Health Care Consumers and Planned Parenthood.

Jeremy D. Grose is in his first year as an SLS staff attorney. Jeremy is a 2000 graduate of University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign School of Law. He began his staff attorney duties with SLS January 29, 2001.

In July of 2000 the staff attorneys, Thomas Betz and Susan Hessee, attended the Annual Education Conference of the National Legal Aid and Defenders Association, Student Legal Service Division in Boston, Massachusetts. These continuing legal education seminars designed for student legal service offices are invaluable to the staff attorneys. In January of 2001 Thomas Betz attended the Southwest Regional Conference of Student Legal Service Association at South Lake Tahoe, Nevada. Mr. Betz and Mr. Grose will attend the National Legal Aid and Defenders Student Legal Service Division Conference in Portland, Oregon, July 24-28, 2001.
Preventive Legal Education

The Student Legal Service Plan as adopted in 1978 mandates preventive law activities:

[The Students' Attorneys will furnish students with general information concerning management of their personal affairs under the law. The design of this assistance is to educate the student body and to enable individuals to avoid legal difficulties and promote greater concentration on academic pursuits. To this end the Attorneys may provide information to The Daily Illini or other publications in order to educate members of the student body as to their rights and responsibilities; and may speak to groups of students upon request and arrange speakers on practical aspects of the law as the need arises. The Students' Attorneys will make available to students the various informational pamphlets published by the Illinois State Bar Association, other bar associations, and other appropriate items. (SLS Plan at 4).]

During this reporting period the office published eleven (11) informational/preventive advertisements in The Daily Illini and the office was mentioned in over twenty four (24) articles in The Daily Illini, and News Gazette.

The office participated in or sponsored nine (9) speaking engagements (see page 16).

The office publishes twenty five (25) brochures and four (4) booklets which are in wide circulation on campus. Updates of the traffic, sexual violence, security deposit, changing your name, baropoly, and student service program brochures will be printed July, 2001, and available for the fall semester 2001.

General Statistical Information

1957 filled out intake forms and had appointments with staff attorneys. 522 cases were opened although not all cases required a court appearance. In the previous reporting period 1999-2000 students received in office assistance on 2015 cases. A decrease of 58 students is of little statistical significance as the office over the past ten years has established a usage range of
between 1850 and 2300 in office consultations.

343 students were seen on housing related matters. 415 students were interviewed on traffic matters. These two broad topical areas account for thirty nine (39) percent of the total office intake. (Statistics page 6 and 19.)

Students are well aware of the existence of the program, learning about it in many ways. (Statistics page 6.)

It is important when examining the raw statistics that it be kept in mind that for every student seen in the office a minimum of five students use the service through preventative education seminars and advertisements. Additionally, numerous students use educational materials without direct use of the office. The web page is widely utilized based upon comments we have received in the office from students and the recorded hits. (Web Hits 7.)

**Conclusion**

The Student Legal Service Advisory Board and the University community can be proud that the program remains one of the outstanding Student Legal Service programs in the country. The staff looks forward to the 2001-2002 year being exciting and challenging.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas E. Betz
Jeremy D. Grose
Susan Y. Hessee

TEB:JDG:SYH:nd
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### Web Site

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#### Web Hits 7/00 - 6/01

- **SLS Home Page**: 38%
- **Email Guidelines**: 4%
- **Spring Break**: 7%
- **Housing Guide**: 8%
- **Info Links**: 8%
- **Tenant/Housing**: 13%
- **Court Presence**: 9%
- **General Info**: 13%
IV. Informational/Preventive Advertisements in Daily Illini

Welcome To The University of Illinois
Welcome Back Edition, August 18, 2000
Quad Day Edition, August 22, 2000

Student Legal Service Program
New Student Guide
Move in Edition, August 11, 2000

Champaign’s Drinking Specials
August 30, 2000
September 6, 2000
September 13, 2000
October 9, 2000

SORF
September 25, 2000
September 28, 2000
October 2, 2000

Drug Deals for Students
October 11, 2000

Six Steps Before Signing A Lease
Housing Guide 2000

"K"EG Liquor License
November 9, 2000
November 16, 2000

Tips For Winter Break
December 6, 2000
December 7, 2000
December 11, 2000

Know Your Tenant Rights
January 23, 2001
January 25, 2001
Trip Tips
  February 14, 2001
  February 19, 2001
  February 26, 2001

10 Steps To Protect Your Security Deposit
  April 18, 2001
  April 25, 2001
  May 7, 2001
V. Newspaper Interviews or Articles Mentionsing Student Legal Service

New group warns of frivolous lawsuits  
   Daily Illini, July 18, 2000

Student Legal Services and save you from your landlord  
   Daily Illini, July 18, 2000

Get legal advice at SLS  
   Daily Illini, 2000 new student guide

Student fees explained  
   Daily Illini, 2000 new student guide

Rights exist for the drinking student  
   Daily Illini, August 28, 2000

University in search of lawyer for student service  
   Daily Illini, August 29, 2000

Underage drinkers have more options than fines  
   Daily Illini, September 14, 2000

Liability laws would protect local fraternities  
   Daily Illini, September 15, 2000

Scalpers scoring big with game  
   Daily Illini, September 22, 2000

Students can take back SORF fee refund today  
   Daily Illini, October 2, 2000

For the record  
   Daily Illini, October 4, 2000

Inquiring Leslie/Shout Outs  
   Daily Illini, Buzz, October 26, 2000

Visit the Tenant Union! Really!  
   Daily Illini, Housing Guide 2000
Don’t spring for a deal
Daily Illini, January 24, 2001

Slipping through the winter
Daily Illini, January 24, 2001

Let’s go SORFin now!
Daily Illini, February 19, 2001

Safety, common sense make for worry-free spring break
Daily Illini, February 23, 2001

$3 increase proposed by SORF Board
Daily Illini, March 5, 2001

Vote ACTION Take Action
Daily Illini Editorial, March 5, 2001

UI students to vote on activity fees
The News-Gazette, March 5, 2001

campus scout
Daily Illini, March 6, 2001

Top two spots to PSC
Daily Illini, March 9, 2001

Debate continues over medical marijuana
Daily Illini, April 4, 2001

Out of class, out of luck
Daily Illini, June 15, 2001
VI. Speaking Engagements & Events

August 14, 2000       Campus Resource Fair
August 15, 2000       OISA Orientation
August 22, 2000       Quad Day
August 23, 2000       Transfer Student Welcome
October 2, 2000       Safety and Housing Expo
November 30, 2000     Phi Kappa Sigma/Alcohol Impact
January 12, 2001      OISA Orientation
April 30, 2001        Delta, Delta, Delta/Date Rape
June 8, 2001          OISA Orientation
VII. Brochures/Booklets

Brochures

Alcohol Laws in Illinois Students

General Legal Advice for International Guidelines for Throwing a Party

Guidelines for Traffic Offenses

Informational Bookmark

Information on Copyright

Marijuana Laws

Sexual Violence

Spring Break in Florida

Student Legal Service Program

Your Court Appearance

Your Personal Invitation

Your Security Deposit

Zero Tolerance

Booklets

Housing Guide

Know Your Legal Rights

Roommate Survival Guide

Students and the Law
VIII. Special Letters of Acknowledgment

Client
Client
Client
Client
Client
Client
Client
Client
Client
Client
IX. Special Requests for Brochure Distribution

Chemistry Department/Graduate Packets
200 Student Legal Service Brochures
July 1, 2000

College of Liberal Arts & Sciences/Graduate
200 Student Legal Service Brochures
July 11, 2000

Resident Advisors Resource Fair
200 Student Legal Service Brochures
August 14, 2000

Student ACLU
300 Arrest Cards
August 22, 2000

Mothers/Dads Associations
College Party Drug
September 29, 2000

Minority Student Affairs
100 Student Legal Service Brochures
November 8, 2000
X. Student Legal Service Listings

Illini Book
2000-2001

Move In Guide 2000

UIUC Student/Staff Directory
2000-2001

Greek Telephone Directory
Fall 2000, Spring 2001

ibook
2001-2002
WELCOME TO THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

The Student Legal Service Program at the University of Illinois welcomes you to campus. Each year our office serves nearly 3,000 students regarding various legal problems. The office is staffed by three full-time attorneys. The purpose of the program is to inform students of the practical aspects of the law as applied to their individual problems. Representation in court is available in many cases.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

All students who are enrolled at the University of Illinois who have not received a refund of the $7.00 Student Organization Resource Fee (SORF) are eligible to use the service. The Student Legal Service cannot even give you general advice if you have refunded your SORF fee.

WHAT KIND OF SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE?

The office provides counseling and representation in landlord-tenant, traffic, misdemeanors, name changes, small claims, city ordinance violations, and in many other areas too numerous to list. All questions and concerns are kept completely confidential.

HOW TO USE THE SERVICE

To get help, you must come to the office in person and show your student identification and necessary research done prior to your appointment. Legal advice will not be given over the telephone. This policy is for the protection of your privacy.

STUDENT LEGAL SERVICE

324 ILLINI UNION
333-9053
Hours: 8:30-12:00 and 1:00-4:30
Monday through Friday
CHAMPAIGN'S DRINKING SPECIALS

NOW EVEN HARDER ON YOUR BUDGET: Supplies are unlimited so purchase any quantity desired.

$260 Fine - Possession or Consumption of Alcohol under age 19.

$260 Fine - Possession or Consumption of Alcohol age 19 - 20.

$2,500 Fine and/or 364 Days in Jail, and loss of driving privileges for 12 months - Fake ID

$260 Fine - Possession of Unlicensed Keg.

$2,500 Fine and or 364 Days in Jail - Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol

*Searches through pockets, purses, and wallets for additional charges will be performed at officer’s discretion only.*

STUDENT LEGAL SERVICE
324 Illini Union, 1401 W. Green St. Urbana, IL 61801 (217) 333-9053 Fax (217) 333-0474 Hours 8:30 - 12:00, 1:00 - 4:30 M-F

www.uiuc.edu/unit/SLS

Paid for by S.O.R.F.
The proceeds from the SORF fee are used to fund the Student Legal Service and the SGA Tenant Union, as well as a broad base of activities and events for registered student organizations. Students electing to receive their SORF refund become ineligible to use Student Legal Service and can not be represented by Student Legal Service in legal matters. Also, further restrictions in other activities the fee supports may apply.

To obtain a refund, go to Room 100 of the Henry Administration Building. You will be required to present your current University identification and sign a waiver statement before receiving your refund.

Here are the dates to obtain the Fall 2000 $7 SORF refund:

- **Monday, October 2 through Friday, October 6**
DRUG DEALS FOR STUDENTS

CLASS 4 FELONIES INCLUDE
POSSESSION OF THE FOLLOWING:
UNDER 15 GRAMS OF COCAINE
UNDER 15 GRAMS OF LSD
UNDER 15 GRAMS OF METH
UNDER 15 GRAMS OF HEROIN

THESE ARE PUNISHABLE WITH
1 - 3 YEARS IN PRISON
AND A FINE BETWEEN
$2,000 AND $200,000

POSSESSION OF UNDER 200 GRAMS OF GHB IS PUNISHABLE BY A FINE UP TO $25,000 AND 1 - 3 YEARS IN PRISON!!!
GHB IS ALSO KNOW AS LIQUID G, LIQUID X.

POSSESSION OF DRUG PARAPHERNALIA IS PUNISHED BY A FINE BETWEEN $750 AND $2,500 AND UP TO 1 YEAR IN JAIL.
USE OF INTOXICATING COMPOUNDS IS PUNISHED BY A FINE UP TO $1,500 AND UP TO 30 DAYS IN JAIL.

THE UNIVERSITY WILL ALSO BRING YOU UP ON CONDUCT CHARGES AND YOU CAN LOSE YOUR FINANCIAL AID!

STUDENT LEGAL SERVICES
324 ILLINI UNION, 401 W. GREEN ST., URBANA, IL 61801
333-9053 PHONE 333-0474 FAX
HOURS 8:30 - 12:00 & 1:00 - 4:30

DEAN OF STUDENTS
300 STUDENT SERVICES, 610 E.
JOHN ST., CHAMPAIGN, IL

PAID FOR BY S.O.R.F. AND THE DEAN OF STUDENTS OFFICE

IV. v

24
Student Legal Service

presents

Six Steps Before Signing A Lease

1. Don’t rush into signing a lease for Fall of 2001 in Fall of 2000. While the early bird gets the worm - keep in mind that you want an apartment, not a worm.

2. Know the complaint history of the landlord. Check the history with the Tenant Union at 326 Illini Union. You can easily rent from a landlord with no complaints. Don’t settle for a landlord with a bad complaint history.

3. Don’t sign a lease for a building that hasn’t been built. This is unsafe regardless of the promises the landlord makes to induce you to sign.

4. Know your prospective roommate(s) -- be sure no semester abroad or weddings are looming.

5. Read the lease! Your rights and obligations are governed by the lease. There is very little law that protects you as a tenant, so you must protect yourself!

6. Get it in writing! If you want the place painted, want notice before the landlord enters your apartment, etc. you must have this written into the lease. If it’s not in writing, you are out of luck.
“K” EG Liquor License

Just the facts please...

You must obtain a free K License five (5) business days in advance of your party if you will possess alcohol (beer) in one or more kegs, which have a capacity of sixteen (16) or more gallons. Empty kegs on the balcony from the last party count.

You obtain the license at the office of the Mayor of Champaign on Monday through Friday, 8 A.M. – 5 P.M. ‘K’ Licenses are not available where you buy the kegs or on weekends, evenings or holidays.

Just because they can lawfully sell you the kegs, doesn’t mean you won’t get busted for not having the license. Minimum fine of $260.

When you obtain a ‘K’ license your party will be visited by the police (the license is really an invitation) most likely to make sure that you are following all other laws: no underage drinking, excessive noise, pot or anything else that might make the gathering a party.

Student Legal Services  Hours: 8:30-12/1:00-4:00 P.M.
324 Illini Union MC384  Phone: 217/333-9053
1401 W. Green Street  Fax: 217/333-0474
Urbana, IL 61801  www.uiuc.edu/unit/SLS

Paid for by S.O.R.F.
TIPS FOR
Winter Break

Before you take off on your hard-earned winter break, please:

1. Make sure you have renter's insurance. Winter break is a prime time for burglars. If you can't afford insurance, take your valuables with you!

2. A common means of breaking into apartments is the use of the pass key; however, you should still lock all doors and windows.

3. Don't shut off the heat in your apartment! This will lead to frozen pipes and major destruction. Check with your landlord to see what temperature you should maintain and leave the thermostat at least 2 degrees higher than what the landlord recommends. Tenants in past years have been billed as much as $14,000 for frozen pipes.

4. Inventory your personal items which have a quick sale value. Keep a written list of serial numbers of TV's, stereos, CD player. If a theft takes place this information can help police investigate. Brand your CD's.

5. Don't leave your car parked on the street while you're on break. Streets are routinely plowed/cleaned during break. Your car will be towed/ticketed and unavailable when you return to campus. You can expect a minimum charge of $50 to rescue your vehicle.

6. Check your lease. If you are going to return on January 15, 2001, you may accumulate fifteen days of late charges unless you prepay January rent or your lease provides for a free grace period.

Student Legal Service
324 Illini Union • Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 12 noon and 1:00 - 4:30 p.m.  

Paid for by SORF
STUDENT LEGAL SERVICE PRESENTS:
KNOW YOUR TENANT RIGHTS!

Your Landlord Must Go To Court To Evict You. This process, while expedited, takes at minimum of a week or two and the judge will almost certainly give you some brief additional time to move even if the landlord has come to court.

Before Initiating An Eviction Action, your landlord must give you written notice of the basis for which he is seeking the eviction and a 5-day notice for failure to pay rent and a 10 day notice for other lease violations. The 5 day rent due violation is a grace period; that is, if you pay the full rent due within the five days, the landlord cannot evict you. The 10 day notice is not a grace period but you may be able to work out the problem with the landlord such that he decides not to take you to court.

You Have A Right To Contest the landlord's attempt to evict you in which case the landlord must prove by clear and convincing evidence that he has the right to his premises back.

The Landlord Cannot Engage In Self Help means to evict you such as cutting off your utilities or changing the lock on your door.

The Landlord Cannot Come Into Your Apartment Without Your Permission Except In Circumstances Specified In The "Access" Clause In Your Lease or without prior notice if you live in Urbana.

You Have The Right To Call The Police If The Landlord or his agents forcibly come into your apartment to collect rent or harass you. If you tell the landlord or his agents to leave and they refuse to do so, you can file a complaint against them for trespass although it may be difficult to get local police to accept the formal complaint.

You Have The Right To "Quiet Enjoyment" Of The Premises. The landlord cannot initiate major renovations in your apartment or in the complex which interfere with your "quiet enjoyment" of the premises. Your landlord can, of course, make necessary repairs to the premises.

Your Landlord Must Provide You With The Same Apartment which he rented to you and cannot compel you to accept a different apartment than the one you rented.

If Your Apartment Is Not Ready For Occupancy on the date you are to move in, you have the right to terminate your lease and get your prepaid rent and security deposit back plus other damages, if you incur them such as moving expenses, storage, etc. Be careful not to sign addendums which waive your right to possession.

Your Landlord Must Provide You With An Apartment Which Is "Habitable" and must maintain your apartment in livable condition throughout your tenancy. If your apartment is located within the city limits of Urbana or Champaign which have local building codes, "habitable" is measured by compliance with the building code in question; elsewhere, "habitable" is determined directly by the courts.

Your Landlord Cannot Change The Terms Of Your Lease during the lease without your agreement. This agreement must be based on an exchange of benefits known as "consideration."

Your Landlord Cannot Charge You Late Rent or other penalties for prohibited conduct on your part. You must advise your landlord within 24 hours of nonpayment of rent.

You Have The Right To Sublease Your Apartment. Your landlord can object only if he has good commercial reason for example your prospective sublessee is a bad credit risk or a known troublemaker. Avoid leases where subleasing is prohibited.

Your Landlord Cannot Discriminate Against You based on your race, sex, color, age, marital status, age or sexual preference, your status as a student, or based upon children in the household.

Be Aware! Failure to assert your legal rights promptly may result in a waiver of your ability to do so later.

Student Legal Service
224 Illini Union
1401 W. Green Street
Urbana, IL 61801
217-333-0915
www.uiuc.edu/mtt/SLS

Paid for by S.O.R.E.
trip tips

AVOID TRAVEL SCAMS!!!

❖ Does the price seem too good to be true?

❖ Ask if a hotel deposit is required. Get exact name, address, and phone number of hotel. Get the number of people sharing the room.

❖ Do not give your credit card over the phone or make any immediate decisions when solicited by telemarketers.

❖ Do you know whom you are dealing with? What is the street address of the company you are dealing with? What is the full name and position of the person you are giving your money to? Is the company located in another state?

❖ Get name of airline and confirm they are part of Spring Break package before you buy the package.

❖ Check out these websites before you write your check.
  www.dot.gov/airconsumer/flvrights.htm
  www.ftc.gov/opa/1999/1908/triptrap.htm
  www.uiuc.edu/unit/SLS

BE SURE TO CHECK OUT OUR SPRING BREAK BROCHURE IN THE OFFICE.

Student Legal Service
324 Illini Union, 1401 W. Green Street, Urbana, IL
Phone 217/333-9053         Fax No. 217/333-0474
Hours M-F 8:30 a.m.-12 noon/1p.m.-4:30p.m.

Paid for by SORF
STUDENT LEGAL SERVICE
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS, URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

10 STEPS TO PROTECT YOUR SECURITY DEPOSIT

STEP 1: Call the owner or manager two weeks before you move out to arrange a joint inspection of the apartment. Be sure to clean your apartment completely and have all of your belongings removed before the time of your appointment.

STEP 2: Before each appointment, prepare a complete written inventory of the condition of the rental unit. Be very detailed and specific for each room. Have two copies of the inventory, and keep one after having the landlord sign it. Forms are available at the Tenant Union.

STEP 3: Get a camera and a witness. A witness can be anyone 18 or older who is NOT a roommate or a family member. Take lots of pictures that show how clean you left the apartment. Walk through your apartment with your witness and have her/him take notice of its condition.

STEP 4: If the landlord appears for the appointment, be sure to have her/him sign and date YOUR COPY of the inventory form. Be sure to still use a witness and a camera.

STEP 5: You will want to take your pictures before you give back the keys. Also, take your pictures in the presence of your witness. Specifically, be sure to get the oven, refrigerator, kitchen area, bathroom, and show that the walls and carpet are clean and undamaged. You and your witness should both sign and date your inventory form in front of a notary.

STEP 6: If you sublet your apartment for the summer, return at the end of the sublease period, follow these procedures with your subtenant. Lack of proof of the condition they leave the place may result in deductions from YOUR deposit.

STEP 7: Be sure that you return ALL keys to the apartment, mailbox, laundry room, etc. Return all keys in person and get a receipt to avoid being charged for lock changes. It is best to have one person in your group responsible for all returned keys.

STEP 8: When you get your deposit returned, contact Student Legal Service if you have any questions or complaints about the amount deducted. If you have a problem, do not cash the check before talking to an attorney. We are in room 324 of the Illini Union. Look for us on the web at <www.uiuc.edu/univ/SLS>

STEP 9: DO NOT TAKE A SORF REFUND. If you want to use Student Legal Service to pursue settlement of a problem, our office cannot help you if you take a SORF refund.

STEP 10: Step into some money. Use your money to treat yourself to a reward for completing another school year.

STUDENT LEGAL SERVICE
324 ILLINI UNION MC0384
1401 W. GREEN STREET
URBANA, ILLINOIS 61801

HOURS: 8:30 - 12:00, 1:00 - 4:30
Phone 333-9053 Fax 333-0474
www.uiuc.edu/univ/SLS
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New group warns of frivolous lawsuits

I-LAW formed to educate taxpayers

by Jeremiah Zelaskiewicz
Daily Illini reporter

A new grass roots organization in the state of Illinois is attempting to inform taxpayers and the general public about the costs and damages incurred by frivolous lawsuits.

The Illinois Lawsuit Abuse Watch, or I-LAW as it is otherwise known, was formed at the beginning of this year with the intention of educating the public about this growing problem within the legal system.

According to a press release from I-LAW, there are approximately 250,000 civil lawsuits filed annually in the state of Illinois. This translates into one lawsuit every two minutes. The release also stated that lawsuit abuse will sting the average taxpayer for about $1,200 a year in higher prices and higher taxes.

"Obviously we have a major problem," said Doug Wojcieszek, executive director of I-LAW. "These lawsuits cause an increase in the costs of everything from insurance premiums and hospital bills to simple everyday products such as a stepladder."

I-LAW is affiliated with other organizations that led the effort for lawsuit reform in the mid-90s. In 1997, however, the Illinois Supreme Court declared lawsuit reform legislation unconstitutional, stating that no regulations that deal with civil lawsuits should exist.

"The term 'frivolous' can be interpreted many different ways," said Tom Betz, head of student legal affairs at the University. "This has more to do with who is getting sued by these lawsuits."

"Our main goal is to promote awareness and to put lawsuit reform back on the public's radar screen," said Wojcieszek.

Some of I-LAW's short-term goals include jury pool education and "looney lawsuit alerts." I-LAW is also planning on launching a Web site before Labor Day called Lousylawyer.com. The Web site will contain a directory of lawyers who have been punished by regulatory authorities within the state of Illinois.

A major goal of I-LAW is to present a state-wide advisory referendum on the 2002 Illinois ballot, where important positions such as governor and secretary of state are up for election. Next year, I-LAW hopes to gather 1 million signatures for a petition drive to push this referendum before the Illinois General Assembly.

The Illinois State Bar Association has taken a neutral stance on this issue. "Right now, this is not a matter that this association is highly concerned with," said David Anderson, director of public affairs.

"What this boils down to is a special interest group with a special interest. Our only knowledge of this organization is through press releases and inquiries."
Student Legal Services can save you from your landlord

by Cindy Gierhart
Assistant news editor

Student Legal Services, funded entirely by student fees, offers free legal consultation and representation to those who pay the initial fee of $7. The regular pay for an attorney could be $150 an hour, said Susan Hessee, and attorney with Student Legal Services.

Full-time students are required to pay the $7 student fee, which makes them eligible for Student Legal Services benefits. Only a portion of the fee goes to Student Legal Services. Students may request a refund of their $7, though this would usurp the privileges that accompany the fee.

Student Legal Services deals mainly with landlord and tenant disputes, consumer disputes, traffic violations and misdemeanor offenses, Hessee said. They do not, however, offer services for University-related incidents or problems between students, Hessee said.

Students mainly go to Student Legal Services to get advice about legal problems they are having. There are three attorneys that work solely for the students through Student Legal Services. The only cost to students that wish to go to court are possible court fees, which they are responsible for, Hessee said.

Hessee said that however bad tenant and landlord relationships are now, they were worse before Student Legal Services began in 1978. She said that just knowing Student Legal Services is available to students scares landlords and companies from taking advantage of students.

The Student Legal Services department offered through the University is part of a national organization that represents similar programs at universities throughout the United States. Hessee said a great many universities have some arrangement for helping students with legal difficulties, though not all have one as detailed as the University's.
Get legal advice at SLS

by Cindy Gierhart
Assistant news editor

Student Legal Services, funded entirely by student fees, offers free legal advice and representation to those who pay the initial fee of $7. The regular fee for an attorney could be $150 an hour, said Susan Hessle, attorney with Student Legal Services.

Full-time students are required to pay the $7 fee, which makes them eligible for Student Legal Services benefits. Only a portion of the fee goes to Student Legal Services, and the rest is returned to the student.

Student Legal Services handles matters of landlord and tenant disputes, consumer disputes, traffic violations and misdemeanor offenses. They handle any legal problems you may have, including issues with the University's legal department.

Students mainly go to Student Legal Services to get advice on legal problems that are happening, though they will often go to court as well. There are three attorneys that work solely for the University through Student Legal Services. They handle all cases, from small to large.

Susan Hessle said that however bad tenants and landlords relations are now, they were worse before Student Legal Services began in 1978. She said the best advice she could give is to handle the situation as soon as possible.

A tale of a legal battle

by David Weckstein
Contributing writer

You're a freshman. You're out of high school. On your own. Your life is yours. There's nothing that can stop you. You're invincible!

Not quite. And thankfully, Student Legal Services is there to help you when you're down. Let me share a little story.

I turned 21 on March 5, 2000. I was celebrating the anniversary of my 18th birthday with all the fun I could find. I ended up going out to a Cambridge bar on Saturday night — the day before my birthday. So, technically, I wasn't 21 yet. A friend who I thought would be there wasn't on time.

I was feeling great and very adult-like. I bought a beer and sat down with my friends for a night of drunken fun. I was posing for a photo with my stumped hand, beer and cigarette when, the whole of the camera flash still hanging in the air, I suddenly heard a man walk up and ask to see our IDs. Without a thought, I handed mine over — and realized that I might have felt 21 but in reality I was 18.

The police officer looked at my ID, looked at my watch, looked at his ID, shook his head. Some of you are probably hoping that just ended. He handed the ID back and said, "Happy birthday! At least I know that was my last one."

I was feeling good and the bartender fired up my mood. He turned to his sergeant and said, "This guy got away with it! I don't know what the sergeant said, but I assume he told the police officer that I, "Big deal," or something to that effect. And the police officer said, "I'm going to have to give you a ticket."

I went to the back of the bar, took off my shirt and put it on. I turned around and saw my friends. I left, went for a minute, then went to another bar and got drunk, because I was 18.

I went to the court, got a plea bargain and paid the fine. It was a $20 fine. I didn't say a word all night. I was happy about it. I was happy about the fact that I was 18 and could go out and have a good time. I was happy about the fact that I was finally 21.

It was a good night — I never even got a parking ticket. I never even got a ticket.

So if you find yourself in a legal bind, take the time to go to Student Legal Services. They will never really know what's going on, and they're just happy to help.
Get used to walking

by Amanda Criner
Features editor

Getting from here to there on campus can be easy. Several means to transport yourself are readily available:

- Your feet. It is easy to walk around. You need not wait. You are exercising, and you can enjoy the beautiful weather. But if the weather is not beautiful...
- Bicycles. Similar to feet, just faster. And feet do not have to be locked up wherever you leave them. Bikes do. Watch out for people using their feet and the other modes of transportation that might pose a threat to your bike-riding.
- Buses. With your snazzy i-Card, you can ride the bus anywhere in Champaign-Urbana. To ride on campus, you do not even need an i-card. Buses are very convenient, on and off-campus. Buses do stop frequently, however. This can be nerve-wracking and headache-inducing. The 22 Illini route goes just about anywhere on campus, and it's the only campus bus that runs on weekends and late at night. The paths the bus takes on campus might be confusing, but for Florida Avenue-bound freshman (like I once was) the 22 will save your butt frequently.
- The Quad and Pack buses run during the week. They hop from residence halls to the Quad to deliver you from home to class all day. These buses are really neat because they are very long. They are due to stop at res halls about every five minutes.
- Safetrides. If you are feeling unsafe or the buses have stopped, Safetrides will come just about anywhere on campus and take you somewhere else on campus. Two vans—one in Champaign, one in Urbana—run into the wee hours taking the lost, drunk and scared home.
- Automobiles. Good luck. Parking is difficult to say the least. However, cars are helpful for trips to the grocery or weekend road trips. It is best to find a friend who drives, then you don't have to pay tickets, but you can get a ride.
- A high-tower mover on campus, you'll want to utilize all of the means of transportation possible. Have a nice ride, walk, drive and say thank you to bus drivers.

Student fees explained

by Amanda Criner
Features editor

Fees might be an aggravating part of your tuition bill, but they could pay for your lawyer, condoms, doctor visits, admission to plays, student government and financial aid. Here is the lowdown on where some of those pennies you contribute to those mysterious piggybanks go.
- The transportation fee includes all those buses you take to and from on campus, from the bus home after a night out to the bus you take to class bright and early. It also includes Safetrides, a service from the Champaign Urbana Mass Transit District. Safetrides will pick you up if you are somewhere you feel unsafe walking from.
- SGA is the student government fee. It goes to the Illinois Student Government.
- SORF is the Student Organization Resource Fee which goes toward a host of student organizations, including many registered Student Organizations.
- SORF money also goes to fund Student Legal Services and the Tenant Union—both free, save your butt services for students.
- Kranert Center for the Performing Arts (KCPA) by paying the fee and being a student, you receive reduced admission to nearly any event at Kranert.
- The Health Service Fee goes to McKinley Health Center, a place where you can get immunizations, physicals, condoms, cold packs, prescription drugs and all such health-related things.
- The SEAL fee goes to Student Equal Access to Learning and is used to supplement financial aid for students in need, according to Barb Wood, assistant registrar for registration services.
- The service fee goes to programs, salaries and expenses at University auxiliary buildings, such as the Illini Union, campus recreation buildings and Assembly Hall.
- The General Fee goes toward the upkeep and fixed costs of the same auxiliary buildings as the service fee.

Make sure there's room at the inn

by Darcy Goswick
Daily Illini reporter

Do your parents have hotel reservations for Dads Day Weekend or Moms Day Weekend? Hotel rooms fill up quickly in Champaign-Urbana.

"Planning is very important," said Nancy Rozzoli, assistant to the dean of students and executive director of the Mothers and Dads associations. "Students should help with the planning and make sure their parents or siblings don't have other conflicts and to help avoid panic.

Rozzoli said that although an incomplete list of hotels in Champaign-Urbana was sent to the parents of new students, a more complete list can be found online at http://www.cupartnership.org.

The Illini Union Guest Rooms are already booked for Dads Day Weekend on Nov. 3. Moms Day Weekend on Apr. 20 and Homecoming Weekend on Oct. 14, said Tony McClees, Guest Rooms Manager. "We start making reservations for the next year at 6 a.m. the Sunday of Dads or Moms Weekend," McClees said. "People are already waiting in line at 5 a.m.

"It takes 15 minutes to fill up the Illini Union Guest Rooms once they start taking reservations," McClees said. "The waiting list is very long.

"All of our reservations are guaranteed," said M.A. Reid, general manager of La Quinta Inn in Champaign. This means that the reservations are prepaid on a credit card with a set cancellation date.

"This gives people more of an incentive to make their plans carefully and not cancel their reservations," said Reid.

Ruth Jackson, general manager of Ramada Limited in Urbana, said, "We start booking reservations for next year the Sunday of Moms or Dads Day Weekend. Usually by 3 p.m., we're full.

However, the Ramada does not keep a waiting list.

"Starting the Sunday before the guest's check-in date, we call to confirm the reservation," Jackson said. "As a result, a few rooms become available, usually higher-priced or smoking rooms.

Rozzoli said the best way to guarantee getting a hotel room for major weekends is to book the room well in advance.

"If parents find a place they would like to stay at, they should make reservations for next year before they leave town," Rozzoli said.

Getting on a hotel waiting list can also be helpful in obtaining a room, although there is no guarantee that a room will become available. Parents wishing to visit campus can also consider staying in hotels in nearby towns or spending the night in their student's room.
Rights exist for the drinking student

BY KATIE CURNUTTE
AND ZAC ANDERSON
The Daily Illini

After a weekend that saw Champaign and Urbana police out in force against underage drinking, students might be wondering what their rights are.

Lt. Michael Cooper of the Urbana Police Department said what the police do largely depends on the situation.

For instance, police officers may enter a residence if they see something illegal happening inside and have "reasonable suspicion," Cooper said.

However, if the officers do not observe anything illegal going on and are not responding to a complaint, they may not enter the residence without permission, said Tom Betz, a lawyer with Student Legal Services.

At a party where people are drinking on a porch or if the door of the house or apartment is left open, police may enter the residence.

Betz advised that an underage student should not admit to drinking when questioned by a police officer unless they were observed doing so.

However, Betz also stressed that students should not be surprised if they are caught drinking underage.

"There is such a political fuss over crackdown on underage drinking," Betz said, "so more RIGHTS on 6"
University in search of lawyer for student service

BY CODY GERHARDT
Assistant news editor

Student legal services is working on finding a new attorney after one of their three attorneys left earlier this month.

The position is an important one to students, since he or she might be the one representing them in court, should they need such representation.

"They provide an invaluable service to thousands of students a year," said Illinois Student Government President Andrew Hammill.

Funded entirely by student fees, student legal services provides legal consultation and representation for students with landlord and tenant disputes, consumer disputes, traffic violations and misdemeanor offenses. They do not deal with University-related incidents or problems between students.

All students must pay the initial $7 fee, of which only a portion goes to student legal services. Students may request a refund of their $7, but will lose the services connected to it.

The position is not limited to the search for the new attorney. The office of student legal services is located on the first floor of the Lincoln Center, and students are encouraged to visit during open hours.

The position is open to all qualified applicants, and interviews will be held on a rolling basis. Interested students are encouraged to apply as soon as possible.

The position will remain open until filled. Interested students are encouraged to apply as soon as possible.

"It's been busy, but not insane. We obviously need a third attorney, but it's going to take some time," Betz said. "The office of student legal services is very busy, and we need to find a third attorney.

Dean of students Bill Riley said the program has grown immensely since its beginning in 1978. "Demands on services are such that it's really important to have a third attorney," Riley said.

The student legal services advisory board is in charge of hiring for the new position. Hesse said Betz said they have already received about 17 or 18 applications. They are looking for somebody who has legal experience and a positive attitude toward students and the rights of students and tenants. Betz said.

Hesse said the advisory board should make a decision by October.
Underage drinkers have more options than fines

Student Legal Services: Other choices not worth the trouble

“Take my word for it. It’s not worth the trouble.”

— Tom Betz
Student Legal Services attorney

Minors cited for underage possession of alcohol in Champaign sometimes have options other than the usual $250 penalty, but the lawyer who handles a large portion of the caseload says those options carry consequences far worse than a simple fine.

Student Legal Services attorney Tom Betz said those options, which can include community service and helping police with undercover checks of carding at bars, are more trouble than they’re worth.

“When push comes to shove, students have to decide whether they’re going to study for exams or do community service,” Betz said, adding that students usually don’t have time to complete all their hours and have to file for court extensions, which drags out the legal process.

“It ends up being about a $350 fine,” he said.

While Betz said his office encourages students to make their own choices, he said helping police with liquor enforcement “... is the biggest disaster that any student can do.”

“We do not encourage (students) to do it ... If the case goes to court, their name becomes very public.”

— Tom Betz
Student Legal Services attorney

Champaign Police Sgt. Scott Friedlein, who heads liquor enforcement, said his officers tell the minors that they can either pay the fine by mail or fight it in court. Asked why officers don’t spell out all the options, Friedlein said “that’s not our position to do that.”

The alternate punishments should be made known, regardless of the risks of other options, Shapiro said.

“To me it’s as if they’re encouraging that you pay for it instead of performing a civic duty. I’m just philosophically opposed to that,” Shapiro said. “If their motive is to collect money, it’s curious to me that they wouldn’t say that ‘our motive is to punish you by collecting money.’

“If they really wanted us to volunteer, or if they thought they were equally just punishments, then they should present them both.”
Liability laws would protect local fraternities

Outcome of Iowa fraternity case might have been same in Illinois

BY JOHN REID
The Daily Illini

Freshman year in college is a time of new beginnings, new friends and new experiences. For one University of Iowa student in 1995, however, it was the beginning of the end.

Matthew Garofalo, at the time a 19-year old pledge at the University of Iowa's Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity, died from an alcohol overdose in September 1995.

Last week, on Sept. 7 — exactly five years after Garofalo's death — the Iowa Supreme Court ruled that the fraternity was not responsible for the death of the pledge.

According to Sgt. Scott Friedlein of the Champaign Police Department, if a similar incident were to occur in Illinois, the fraternity would most likely not be held responsible.

Like Iowa, the state of Illinois has a social-host liability law, which protects the host — in the Iowa case, a fraternity — from liability in the event of death or injury related to alcohol overdose. Friedlein said. Unless the fraternity were to show extreme negligence and allow the person intoxicated to operate a vehicle, for example, the fraternity would not be found responsible.

Tom Betz, a staff attorney for Student Legal Services, pointed out that these laws apply to house and apartment parties as well, and are not solely aimed at the greek system.

"If a fraternity were to charge people money for admittance into the house and then serve alcohol, they risk losing the protection the social-host liability law gives them," Betz said. "They would then have to follow the same laws as a licensed establishment, though being unlicensed, they risk being punished for that as well."

He cited the Dramshop Act, which places responsibility on licensed establishments for knowingly serving alcohol to someone clearly intoxicated.

"When you have something like (the Dramshop Act), it causes the fraternity to watch over things more closely, but it makes a third party responsible for someone else's behavior," he said.

The Iowa case closely mirrors another filed in the Champaign County circuit court in 1986. William Quinn, then an 18-year old pledge in the Sigma Rho Chapter of Beta Theta Pi fraternity, became dangerously intoxicated at a fraternity event. He alleged that his blood-alcohol level had reached a near-fatal level at its peak, approximately 0.40, the case stated.

"We let them know that as soon as they start charging for alcohol, their protection is really reduced."

— Tom Betz
Student Legal Services attorney

The case was dismissed by the Appellate Court of Illinois, Fourth District, which ruled that negligence was found on the part of the individual, more so than on the part of the fraternity.

Betz said the law protects the individual, but at the same time takes away from the responsibility of that individual. He gave the example of the late actor John Belushi: "He was the one doing the drugs, but it was the woman who supplied him heroin who was found guilty."

Ilene Harned, coordinator of the Alcohol and Other Drug Office, said there have been some alcohol overdoses so far this year but none of those reported have been attributed to greek-related events.

Betz said fraternities will come to the Student Legal Services offices on occasion and ask what their responsibilities are and if there are any legal ramifications.

"We let them know that as soon as they start charging for alcohol, their protection is really reduced," he said.

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Scalpers scoring big with game

Scalping taking place in online auctions for up to $350

BY AMY BOEREMA
The Daily Illini

With one of the most anticipated football games of the season approaching this Saturday night, students without tickets who still plan to attend the game should expect to pay big bucks.

Although ticket scalping — the reselling of tickets by unlicensed ticket agents for prices higher than face value — is illegal, it is likely to occur this weekend, said Kent Brown, assistant athletic director.

"Experience says the more popular the game, the more scalping increases," Brown said.

Ticket scalping has not been a major problem recently, according to Brown and Capt. Rick Kallmayer of the University police.

"It becomes a problem with sellout crowds, and we haven't had a sellout crowd lately," Brown said. "It hasn't been a problem since 1995. We do have police officers present at the games, and if it does become a problem, we'd ask them to take a look at it."

Many students resell tickets to others for the $14 student price, which is legal. Licensed ticket brokers can also legally sell tickets above face value, at whatever price they choose if customers are willing to pay.

"We regulate ticket-selling activities of any kind at football games by restricting the proximity of ticket agents," Kallmayer said. "The state law allows us to do that."

A designated ticket reselling area is set up for licensed ticket sellers next to the stadium along Kirby Avenue on the south side of the stadium. Students who want to resell tickets at face value are also allowed in the area.

"We do not allow people to resell tickets on either side of the stadium or on the north side anywhere closer than the streets," Kallmayer said. "People selling along the streets as you approach the stadium are fine. The place where we get concerned is on the grounds of the building right next to the building."

Tom Betz, attorney at Student Legal Services, said scalping occurs at any sold-out game.

"(Scalping) is going to go on this weekend, and we all know it. Anyone who pretends it's not is foolish. The reality is it's universal. If you want to go to a major concert event, and you didn't get the tickets the day they went on sale, you're going to buy a scalped ticket."

— Tom Betz
Student Legal Services attorney

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Kallmayer, however, believes a sold-out game might actually have the opposite effect. Because this is such a hot game, most people who have tickets want to see the game themselves, he said.

"We don't find a lot of people in the business of reselling because they want to come see the game," he said. To combat ticket scalping, University police engage in covert surveillance, using electronic means such as long-range cameras to document activity. Officers also participate in decoy operations in which officers dressed in plain clothes buy tickets from agents to make sure they are selling legally. Uniformed officers also monitor conversations between customer and seller, and, if necessary, follow up with questions after the deal is completed.

"We occasionally will use any or all of those tactics if we have a problem that gets out of control," Kallmayer said, although he declined to comment which tactics, if any, will be used this weekend.

For the most part, Kallmayer believes professional ticket brokers are legitimate business people.

"They know us, we know them, and they know what the rules are," he said.

He offers some simple advice for students to avoid being cheated.

"If someone is asking for more than face value, students should verify what licensed ticket brokerages the person works for," he said. "If they can't produce the name of the company and contact person and address, it's probably evidence you're dealing with a contractor illegally trying to sell you tickets. If they're licensed ticket brokers, they will be very happy to tell you about their (company)."
Students can take back SORF fee refund today

BY NADIA MALIK
Contributing writer

Of the thousands of dollars students pay in fees and tuition, $7 of it can be refunded this week.

Students can get a reimbursement for the Student Organization Resource Fee, which funds Student Legal Services, the Tenant Union and registered student organizations.

Students wishing to receive the $7 for fall semester can go to one of the cashiers in room 100 of the Henry Administration Building between Monday and Friday of this week. A University ID is required, and students need to sign a waiver form before receiving the refund.

The University has been charging the $7 SORF fee since 1978 to help fund RSOs more adequately, but it was not made mandatory, according to the University Web site.

"We felt that while we wanted to promote campus organizations, we also needed to give students the chance not to participate in activities they did not want to," said Trish Saelens, program director for SORF.

If students choose to get reimbursed, they will no longer be eligible to receive any services from Student Legal Services.

Student Legal Services provides free advice and representation for students at the University as long as the student is not the plaintiff.

Student Legal Services can handle things such as drinking and traffic tickets and other misdemeanors. They are not able to take care of felonies, representation outside of Champaign County and some other forms of legal representation.

"SORF provides the funding for SLS, so that is no longer an option if you get the refund," said Esther Patt, coordinator of the Tenant Union program.

"SORF provides about 75 percent of the funding for the Tenant Union, and the other 25 percent is funded by ISG (Illini Student Government) so our services are still available."

The Tenant Union provides students with a list of landlords and any complaints against them for the past five years. They also read over leases and point out any flaws in them, but they cannot provide any legal services having to do with landlords or housing.

"A lot of students don't think they'll need a lawyer, so they decide to get the reimbursement, but if a landlord sues you for any reason the Tenant Union cannot take care of that. SLS would have to take care of that," Patt said.

A significant portion of the SORF fee also goes toward better funding the RSOs, according to Saelens.

"Not a large percentage of students opt for the refund, and we hope the amount remains small because there is a great need for student organizations to have money," Saelens said.
For the record

A Page 9 story Monday on the SORF refund incorrectly reported that Student Legal Service does not provide service for student plaintiffs. Student Legal Service does in fact provide free services to plaintiffs, though all clients pay their own fines and court costs.

A Page One story Tuesday on methamphetamine use in rural areas incorrectly reported that the number of labs seized jumped 850 percent from 1997 to 1999. The correct figure is 762 percent.

A Page 13 column Tuesday incorrectly stated that a Russian gymnast had her Olympic gold medal taken away from her because she took cold pills with a prohibited substance. The gymnast was Romanian.

The Daily Illini regrets the errors.
Dear Leslie,

My girlfriend and I were living together, but we recently broke up. I moved to another apartment, and she stayed where we were living. I still have things that I have not picked up, but she will not let me get them. She also owes me money for the last couple months rent. What should I do?

—Breakup Blues

Dear Breakup Blues,

You might wonder where the master goes when the master needs advice. Easy! I read the Judge Judy books. Are you confused what this has to do with your problems with your ex? Well, Judge Judy always says that people who are not married should not have joint finances and should not be living together. It's not based on any moral argument—it's based on situations like yours. When there is a break-up, there are no clear guidelines about who gets what.

I am not clear about your legal rights in this matter. If you can get your ex on the phone, explain that you need to pick up your stuff. Set a time. If she doesn't go along with the plan, stop by Student Legal Services in the Illini Union and talk to an attorney. Let me know if you see any feisty judges while you are there.

Good Luck, Leslie
Visit the Tenant Union! Really!

by Melissa Monno
Contributing writer

Before agreeing to all terms on an apartment contract, students should visit the Tenant Union to review the lease with an experienced housing counselor.

A lease is a binding real estate contract, which is nothing to be taken lightly. The Tenant Union, located in Room 326 of the Illini Union, has 20 years of experience in assisting prospective renters to be aware of what they are agreeing to before signing any papers.

According to Esther Patt, coordinator of the Tenant Union, a lease should state every agreement that you believe exists between you and your landlord.

"A lease should be held as though you wrote it yourself," she said.

Some leases contain clauses that may seem unfair, or may even be illegal. Landlords expect students to argue reasonable clauses such as those concerning maintenance, privacy and damage deposits.

If the tenants find that they are not satisfied after a lease is signed, there are few options left. Such alternatives, as Patt noted, are exceptions to the rule granted from individual landlords.

When tenants wish to back out early, a landlord might be confident that the apartment can still be rented. In this situation, a landlord might utilize a penalty charge. For instance, a payment of four months rent might relieve all tenants from a 12-month lease. One student was very fortunate in the deal that a Lincoln Place Apartments landlord offered.

"I decided I didn't want the apartment for the next year after I signed the lease," said Suzanne Sauerbrey, senior in LAS. "I only had to pay a $100 fine to release me from the contract."

Some landlords insist that the tenants sublet the apartment. Patt verified the risk of this option because a landlord then keeps the initial tenant's damage deposit and sues them if anything goes wrong.

Landlords have no legal right to create fines for their tenants but they can sue for damages or, if needed, move for eviction. Even when evicted, the tenants are still liable for rent until the apartment is re-rented.

"Non-payment of rent is the most common reason for eviction and law suits," Patt said. "Make sure you know your roommates well, you are all responsible for late charges. In many unexpected cases, a roommate may go off and study abroad during the year and it is hard to find a replacement."

The problem with breaching a lease may also be the fault of the landlord. Of the 600 landlords around campus, the largest consensus of complaints is over repairs that are not made.

"Sometimes a landlord will cut back on an agreement to shampoo the carpet or change the locks," Patt added. "You can choose to have this done on your own and send the bill to the landlord, but consult an attorney first."

One can obtain a free lawyer for consultation and representation through Student Legal Services if his or her $7 Student Organization Resource Fee was not refunded.

Before dealing with a lawyer, one may opt to file a complaint. Complaint records for the past five years are available for public viewing at the Tenant Union.

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Best rate not always best deal

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contract for a trip to Cancun for $350, she said. "The wonderful hotel I saw in the brochure didn't even exist, and I had no place to stay," Rochefort said. Companies who scam students often exist only for as long as they can make money and then disappear without a trace. Additionally, students who are scammed have little legal recourse available to them, especially if they sign some type of disclaimer.

"If the people scamming students are good scammers, there will be no recourse," said Tom Betz, attorney for Student Legal Services. "They open shop and close shop really quickly, and you're out of sight before they can be tracked."

Betz said some telltale signs to look for are whether the company has a street address or just a post office box, which indicates it might disappear quickly, and whether they can give you the name and address of the hotel they have booked. He said whereas legitimate businesses always rely on repeat customers, the scam artists rely on students with very little experience traveling on their own.

"If the deal looks too good to be true, it probably is," Betz said. "Students are sometimes too embarrassed to ask the really simple questions that need asking, and that's how they get into trouble."

As a precaution, Rochefort stressed the importance of travel insurance. Not only is it a source of peace of mind, but a way to cover students if they find themselves stranded, she said.

"Travel insurance is $30," Rochefort said. "A little security for $30 ... just do it. You'll be glad you did."

BY JOHN REDD
The Daily Illini

Don't spring for a 'deal'

Travel agent:
Best rate not always best plan

At least Macaulay Culkin was left at home. Some students this spring break will be left stranded in airports or even foreign countries by bogus travel companies advertising cheap rates and amazing deals.

Jack Mannix, certified travel counselor and president of the Institute of Certified Travel Agents, warned students in a press release about blindly signing a travel contract.

"Sometimes searching for the best deal can land students far from paradise and cost them more than they bargained for," Mannix said. "That's why it's so important they proceed with caution as an educated consumer."

The Institute of Certified Travel Agents offered guidelines for students who plan to purchase a travel package for spring break. Important tips included working with a certified travel agent, checking the background of the travel company and reviewing the fine print on the documents.

"The first thing I would say is to get everything documented, from their first meeting with the agent to the contract, and be sure to read everything," said Alexis Rochefort, Institute public relations specialist. "When I was in college, I actually experienced what it's like to be scammed. Now I'm working on keeping others from becoming victims of that."
Slipping through winter

By Sarah Schultz
The Daily Illini

Slipping on icy sidewalks can make a walk to class a dangerous maneuver which leads to injuries. Ice patches will continue to hinder students’ travels until temperatures rise.

Some students said the University has done a good job of keeping sidewalks clean near buildings where classes are held. They added, however, that they can barely maneuver over icy patches in front of private property. Owners of businesses and apartment buildings are required to shovel the sidewalks around their buildings, according to the city of Champaign. Web site, www.ci.champaign.il.us. People who own or live in residential property are not required to shovel.

“The University ones were pretty good, but if I wasn’t graduating, I would look at sidewalks in front of apartments before signing a lease,” said Heather Auldridge, senior in LAS.

Auldridge added that she has avoided falling, but has seen other people who were less fortunate. “I saw this poor guy on crutches the other day,” Auldridge said. “I have no idea how he’s getting to class.”

The ice has led to injuries ranging from bruises to a leg fracture, said Donna Callahan, assistant director for quality at McKinley Health Center. She added that between Nov. 1 and Jan. 24, 38 students have been treated at McKinley.

Ice patches cause falls, injuries

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ICE from 1

for injuries from slipping. Even though more snow has fallen this year than last, Callahan said 52 people were treated after a fall between Nov. 1 and Jan. 31 last year.

She added that the records don’t indicate if every fall was a result of ice.

While most students treated at McKinley had ankle or wrist sprains, some students have probably incurred worse injuries, Callahan said.

“If somebody thinks they have a fracture, it would be likely they would go directly to an emergency room,” Callahan said.

If students injure themselves in front of a business, the business might be held liable for the injury, said Tom Betz, staff attorney for Student Legal Services.

“A business owner presumably is inviting a person to use their sidewalk,” Betz said. He added that the owner is showing contempt if they leave a snowy sidewalk. Betz said he was not sure if Champaign law holds businesses responsible for paying medical bills if someone slips. The punishment for neglecting to shovel sidewalks is usually only a fine even if people are injured, he added.

Students will probably have to continue their slow, cautious steps, said Jim Smith, horticulturist for University Operations and Maintenance. The weather has been too cold to allow everything to thaw, Smith said.

While temperatures will be above freezing during the day, the temperature will still be below freezing at night during the next week, according to the Weather Channel Web site, www.weather.com.

The reason students notice more ice on sidewalks in front of businesses is because businesses don’t always have appropriate equipment for snow removal, Smith said. “It’s difficult for them to fight the people who (plow) the roads,” Smith said. He added that street plows push snow onto sidewalks in Champaign. Unlike private property owners, University maintenance workers use multiple snow-removal methods, Smith said.

“We have sand or we have an ice melter we use,” Smith said. He added that workers plow before putting down ice melter if several inches of snow fall.

Another reason business owners might have problems removing snow is that it quickly becomes packed by students who trudge by. Smith said University workers begin removing snow at 4 a.m. or 5 a.m. when snow falls, he added.

“It takes us about three and a half hours to get over everything completely,” Smith said.

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more ICE on ?
Let's go SORFin' now!

Bill Cleeland

D

and the promises made by the winning slate turn out to be just that — promises — and the whole cycle repeats itself. And, consequently, reminds me of what we were supposed to do? I am not sure any of us really thought about it. In fact, I don't think many of us even thought about the election. It seems like a distant memory now. It feels like it was months ago. I wonder if anyone remembers who won.

This March you will have the option of continuing SORF
and I hope you do.

at the beginning of the semester, the SORF board hoped to fund the activities of the group throughout the rest of the year. However, the amount was not sufficient to cover the expenses of the group.

A portion of SORF also goes to the Student Union and Student Legal Services. This is a project that I started last year and I hope to continue this year. I am hoping to raise funds for the group through a variety of events, including a benefit concert.

The Student Union and Student Legal Services will also benefit from the funds raised. The Student Union is a student-run organization that provides a variety of services to students, including counseling, financial aid, and academic support. The Student Legal Services provides legal services to students, including advice on housing, academic, and employment issues.

The SORF board hopes to use the funds raised to support these services and to continue to support the activities of the group.

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Safety, common sense make for a worry-free spring break

BY TABITHA URBESSER AND ERIN THOMAS
The Daily Illini

The chance is coming once again to pull out your shorts, tank tops, and maybe even your swimming suits and suntan lotion — spring break is coming up.

For students who haven’t been counting down the days until no school for an entire week, this year’s dates for spring break at the University are from March 10 to March 18. That means 15 days left, and only 11 of those days are actual school days.

Many sororities and fraternities, as well as just groups of friends, are traveling to the normal hot spots such as Cancun, Acapulco, the Bahamas and even such places as Puerto Vallarta and Puerto Rico.

Unfortunately, if you haven’t made plans for spring break yet, the chances of being able to vacation somewhere warm is slim to none, according to Gale Proctor of Adventure Travel Inc., 403 N. Coler Ave., Urbana.

Proctor’s advice for students wishing to travel at a reasonable price for spring break is to begin planning for next year. Because spring break is approaching quickly, very few destinations have any openings at all, and students would find that these limited openings are often out of their price range.

Whether students are planning on traveling this spring or next year, there are a few precautions that need to be taken to ensure booking an enjoyable vacation. Tom Betz, senior attorney at the Student Legal Services, said that the number of students with legal problems increases after spring break.

“There are usually anywhere between seven and 50 people who come in after spring break,” Betz said. “And, for every one we see, 10 probably don’t come in.”

Betz said students tend to return from spring break complaining that when they reached their destination, they were forced to share a room because the hotel was over-booked or their hotel, which was advertised as ‘near the ocean,’ was barely within walking distance of the beach. Some students were not told that they would have to pay a security deposit and were required to once they reached their hotel.

In order to make sure that your vacation goes well, Betz said that you should check out the travel company before signing anything.

“Look for a street address and how long the company has been in business,” Betz said. “[Students] should also make sure that the company books other travels besides spring break.”

Betz said not to sign any contracts that allow the company to negotiate to the last minute. Vacationers should have a specific airline, flight number and time that they can be sure exists. The name of the hotel and address should be specified as well. Students should confirm both their hotel and airline reservations online before travel.

“Beware of the term ‘near the ocean,’ it’s a relative term,” Betz said. “You want your contract to say ‘on the beach.’”

Students should also check the number of people that are in their hotel room. Otherwise, they could end up sharing a room with strangers.

“Make this decision like you would any other substantial purchase,” Betz said. “Get everything in writing.”

Some organizations offer options for spring break that eliminate dealing with a travel agency and are something to consider for next year. The YMCA offers a program, Alternative Spring Break, where students can take part in a trip to help with that state’s economic problems, said Menjewie Winfield, program director for the YMCA. Unfortunately, it is too late to get involved in this year’s spring break trips; however, there are always missions during the summer, as well as next year’s spring break. For more information, call the YMCA at 337-1500.
$3 increase proposed by SORF Board

SORF from 1

The referendum consists of two questions and is on the same ballot as the candidate elections. First, students will vote whether they support the continuation of the $7 fee and then on whether they support the increase.

"The $3 increase is really needed to maintain what we have right now. Without the $3 increase, student organizations will definitely notice a decrease in funds."

— Stephanie Sideman
SORF Board chair

SORF previously had a surplus of funds because the student organizations didn't always spend what they were allotted. Saelens said. This year's SORF Board has $100,000 less than the previous board because there is nothing left of the surplus, Sideman said. Saelens said the outcome of the election depends on the commitment of students to supply their peers with the funds they need.

Hammill predicts that students will approve both parts of the referendum, but he expects there will be less support for the increase than for the continuation.

Although ISG takes no position on the referendum, "SORF definitely made a good case for the increase," Hammill said.

Sideman encouraged students who don't want to take advantage of the services funded by SORF to remember that the fee is refundable and that others can greatly benefit from it.

Students can vote on the referendum and on ISG candidate elections online at http://www.uiuc.edu/electionsvote.

The Student Organization Resource Fee Board wants to raise its fee by $3 to cover increasing costs. Students pay the fee each semester and can vote on the issue at the Illinois Student Government election today and Tuesday.

The fee, which is now $7, funds all Registered Student Organizations and Student Legal Services, and it also covers two-thirds of the Tenant Union costs.

SORF has to receive approval for having the fee every four years. SORF is asking for an increase this year because the number of student organizations has increased significantly since the last referendum in 1995 and operating costs are higher than ever.

SORF Administrator Trish Saelens said a referendum was not held last year because of questions regarding the status of SORF as a mandatory fee. The issue was resolved because the fee is refundable.

"We are funding far less than 50 percent of what RSOs are requesting," Saelens said. "All activities cost more. You can't get a speaker on campus today for what it cost last year, let alone four years ago."

There are approximately 200 more student organizations this year than there were in 1995, said SORF Board chair Stephanie Sideman, senior in LAS.

"SORF has been so successful funding quality programs," ISG President Andrew Hammill said. "They're asking for the increase in order to be prepared from now to 2004."

The last increase in the fee was in 1995, and it raised the fee from $5 to $7, Sideman said.

more SORF on 8
After meeting with representatives from each of the three student government slates, The Daily Illini has decided who and what to endorse in this year’s student government election.

We endorse Andy Schweickert, Action candidate for Illinois Student Government president.

We endorse Ben Dillon, Action candidate for Student Trustee.

We endorse the platform of the Action slate.

We also endorse increasing the SORF fee from $7 to $10.

The reasons we support Action in this election can be summed up well by one phrase: It is realistic. It is willing to be accountable to students for the actions of its slate.

Action representatives were also very knowledgeable about issues that students are concerned about: Campus town improvements, a landlord-tenant ordinance for Champaign, campus safety, and how to spend the recent tuition increase. Members of this slate impressed us because they know their limits, but are willing to do all that they can as members of ISG. They didn’t make promises that we know they won’t be able to keep. Action has the needs of all students at the front of its mind, instead of the over-emphasis on single-issues, like the other slates (a separate grad student government from Representation and a fourth SafeRides van from Progressive Students Coalition).

Members of both Representation and the PSC Slates do have innovative ideas about what they would do if elected to head up student government.

PSC wants to buy a fourth van for SafeRides for the approximate cost of $40,000. PSC hasn’t brought its proposal to MTD, yet its “promise” is to spend half its budget on a project students might not even need. And its proposed budget leaves just $26,000 of a $100,000 budget to spend on things like governmental affairs, advertising and campus safety programs.

PSC spent too much time during the campaign focused on the fourth van, and the rest of its platform is vague, without clear explanation of their implementation plans.

The Representation Slate, meant to give graduate students a more audible voice in student government, wants to split up student government. This means graduate students and undergrads would have separate governing bodies. This idea isn’t a bad one — if graduate students want to govern themselves, then more power to them. It works well elsewhere in the Big Ten, and it would likely work well here.

Action has expressed a willingness to work with graduate students on the issue.

Representation Candidate for ISG president, Jason Lee, has a lot to say, including that this was his last effort to give graduate students a voice because he felt that ISG didn’t want graduate students to participate. He emphasized the idea that he “only has to get 2,000 people to vote for (him)” to win the election.

Great if you’re a grad student, but not a good prospect for 25,000 undergrads.

Whoever you support, please vote today or tomorrow at www.uiuc.edu/election/vote. Show ISG you care about the quality of student life at the University.
UI students to vote on activity fees

Three slates field candidates in two-day campus election

By JULIE WURTH
News-Gazette Staff Writer

URBANA — University of Illinois students will decide this week whether to tax themselves more to support student activities on campus.

They will also elect a new student trustee, student government officers and student senators in the two-day election held today and Tuesday. All voting is online, with a link to the ballot from the UI’s home page at www.uiuc.edu.

Two ballot questions ask whether students want to continue the refundable Student Organization Reserve Fee, and whether they support raising it by $3.

The $7 fee, which must be ratified every four years, has been in hold while the courts settled a challenge to a student activity fee at the University of Wisconsin, said Jeff Shapiro, a student election commissioner.

The Supreme Court upheld the Wisconsin fee, which was challenged by conservative students who objected to their money going to liberal groups. Their lawyer contended that students have a “First Amendment right not to speak.” The court said activity fees are legal as long as the allocation process is “viewpoint-neutral.”

Created in 1978, the UI’s fee generates about $450,000 a year. A $3 increase would raise the fee to $10, a 43 percent jump. But the campus has seen a “huge proliferation” in the number of student organizations, about 900, Shapiro said.

“They’re all going for the same finite number of dollars,” he said.

The fee pays for benefits such as student legal services and the Champaign-Urbana Tenant Union, he noted. Students can also get their money back, as the fee is refundable, he said.

Student Election Commission Chairman Joe Zukowski doesn’t know of any organized opposition to the fee increase.

“I think it’s going to be a landslide,” he said.

Meanwhile, three slates are fielding candidates in this week’s elections: Action, Representation and the Progressive Students Coalition.

Miffed by trustees’ approval of a substantial tuition increase in January, all three slates support more student input on how that money is spent.

The Action slate is made up of many current Illinois Student Government members. It’s led by student trustee candidate Ben Dillon, a junior who chairs student government’s appropriations committee.

The slate supports legislative efforts to eliminate sales tax on textbooks, as well as increased funding and extended hours for the UI Library. It also wants a general education requirement in cultural education.

It calls for better lighting and more emergency phones on campus, expanded self-defense workshops and improvements in the Safe Rides program. It supports an “adopt a block” campaign to beautify Champaign.

Please see UI ELECTION, B1.

UI election

Related story:
State proposes Chief’s partial retirement, B-3.

It by $3.

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The Action slate is made up of many current Illinois Student Government members. It’s led by student trustee candidate Ben Dillon, a junior who chairs student government’s appropriations committee.

The slate supports legislative efforts to eliminate sales tax on textbooks, as well as increased funding and extended hours for the UI Library. It also wants a general education requirement in cultural education.

It calls for better lighting and more emergency phones on campus, expanded self-defense workshops and improvements in the Safe Rides program. It supports an “adopt a block” campaign to beautify Champaign.

Please see UI ELECTION, B1.

Continued from B1

more green space and facade improvements.

The Progressive Students Coalition is headed by student trustee candidate Ramon Kelly, a junior who’s been active in student government for three years. The slate last month called for Chief Illiniwek to retire his dance but remain the UI symbol.

To provide a more “welcoming environment” for the UI’s diverse population, Kelly supports more cultural studies courses and more funding for cultural programs.

The Progressive slate supports a 2 a.m. bar closing time and maintaining the 19-year-old bar entry age, arguing bars are safer than house parties; a new parking garage at Sixth and Green streets, an end to racial profiling by police; and a new van for Safe Rides funded by student government.

The Representation slate is made up of seven graduate students led by student trustee candidate Alicia Hustik, a second-year law student. They want to create a separate government for graduate student issues. It would work with un-
Today is the last day of Illinois Student Government elections. So here’s a special, all-ISTG Campus Scout, from the same people who brought you the Michigan State’s famed Line Campus Scout.

ISTG elections have a historically low turnout, but it shouldn’t be that way. You don’t have to leave your room, get dressed or even find a polling place to cast a ballot. The University has made voting as convenient as possible for us. So, when you’re done parking www.duelteams.com, just go over to www.ustag.edu/elections and cast your vote.

And don’t forget to give a write-in vote for Campus Scout as treasurer. Scout can’t be any worse than a couple of cartoon characters, right?

SORF Impact

The really important thing to vote for is the Student Organization Resource Fee referendum. If you think that student government isn’t very effective, that’s fine, but SORF has a big impact on campus. It funds more than 500 registered student organizations on this campus.

There are two referendums on the ballot — one asking if you want to continue the $7 refundable fee that SORF currently charges and the other asking whether you support a $1 increase. A SORF representative at last Thursday’s Student Government meeting said the $1 increase is merely a cost-of-functioning increase. It is needed to maintain, not to expand, services.

If you’ve ever dealt with a SORF representative, you know that these are some of the hardest-working, penny-pinching individuals around. Which means they are spending your money wisely. Please, it’s only three bucks, which nothing compared to the athletic fees and tuition increases that the University shows down our throats. Plus, you can always ask for it back later if you don’t want to pay it.

Educated Complaints

Well, the Illinois Student Government debates were last week, and the first question of the debate was about student parking. The DJ’s online poll last week found that 84 percent of the respondents said they weren’t interested in this election because ISG does nothing for them.

It’s a common gripe. Many students are convinced that ISG does nothing and, when it does, it’s corrupted and compromised; however, if the 30,000 students on this campus, there were no more than a dozen at Wednesday’s debate who weren’t affiliated with The Daily Illini or student government.

Complain all you want, but take the time to get involved in the process so you can make educated complaints.

Out of Context

Here are some out-of-context quotes from the ISG closing statements last week’s debates. Enjoy.

Representation: “We want to see how many people we can affect with one dollar.”

Action: “The arrow is very important to student government.”

(The problem is they actually believe this one.)

PSC: “We have had many meetings with SORF. Freudian slip — or was it?”

Campus Scout appears Thursdays and Fridays, and can be reached at scout@dailyllini.com

V. xxi
Top two spots to PSC Slate

Slate fined a total of $325 for infractions

BY AMY BOZDEMA
The Daily Illini

Three members of the PSC slate won positions on the Illinois Student Government executive board, including Bob Morgan for president and Eamon Kelly for student trustee, in an election plagued by controversy until results were announced at 1 a.m. Thursday morning. Minutes before the Student Election Commission released results, commission members fined several members of PSC and the slate as a whole, a total of $325 for various infractions.

"We acknowledge SEC's ruling," Morgan said. "We disagree with most of their statements, but we take responsibility and we do not plan any appeal to the fines or the rulings.

In the interest of moving on, Kelly decided to drop his original PSC complaint, which was filed against the election commission, to the Illinois Constitutional Review Board. The complaint accused the commission of being biased.

Results were tight, with Morgan winning over Action's Andy Schrockecker by 54 votes and PSC's Eamon Kelly beating Action's Ben Dillon by 64 votes. Action candidates Casey Martin, for vice president, and Samsala Brown, for chief of staff, defeated PSC's Keely Stewart and Jocelyn Yin by 279 and 266 votes, respectively. PSC's Megan Millisons completed the executive board, winning the election for treasurer.

PSC took 10 of 12 Assembly spots and 24 of 50 Senate spots. Action held the remaining Assembly positions and 16 Senate positions. Representation was five Senate positions. Both Action and PSC won three seats each on the SIRF board.

About 62 percent of students who voted for the SIRF referendum supported a $3 increase to the $5 refundable fare already in place. SIRF funds replenished student organizations, student legal services and the tenant union.

Despise negative publicity surrounding the election, a record 7,564 students voted.

The elections commission held a hearing at 11 p.m. Wednesday in address Action's complaint that PSC violated student government bylaws by exceeding its $3,500 campaign limit and turning in its financial disclosure forms after deadline. Dillon, who filed the complaint, also alleged that PSC assembly candidate Abbe Kelley, who was elected with the most votes for the position, exceeded her individual spending limit by $5.

Dillon told the elections commission that overspending a campaign interfere with holding a "fair and proper election" and requested that all individual ballot-bearing votes for any member of PSC not be counted.

Instead, the commission decided in line the slate $200 - $100 each for improperly presenting fair market value and handing in more 154 on 5

ISG from 1
its financial disclosure forms seven minutes late. The elections commission also imposed another $125 in individual fines.

Eamon Kelly admitted that wrong numbers were recorded for Kelly's individual spending, and that he did not overspend his limit. Kelly is supposed to record fair market value in financial forms, a definition that was left open to interpretation. Dillon defined fair market value as the lowest cost for an item that can be found at a store, and he said PSC received discounts that weren't recorded as fair market value. "I could have bought this for $4," Dillon said, the slate would lose its financial limit.

Morgan was individually fined $25 for fair market value as head of the slate and $25 for a phone call he made to commission member Robyn Sterling, before the hearing. Sterling said Morgan called to see if she would be at the hearing for support.

Morgan said he heard the elections commission was worried about having the necessary nine commission members needed at the meeting in order to take any action or vote.

"I was calling to make sure Robyn would be in attendance," Morgan said.

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Debate continues over medical marijuana

BY JASON CANTONE
The Daily Illini

Medical marijuana doesn’t mean more arrests

Arguing that the distribution of medical marijuana violates the nation’s drug laws and leads to drug abuse, the government urged the Supreme Court last week to stop the Oakland Cannabis Buyers’ Cooperative from providing the seriously ill with marijuana treatments.

The Oakland Cannabis Buyers’ Club is one of many marijuana collectives started after California Proposition 215, which allows the possession and use of marijuana for medical purposes.

The court’s decision could affect each of the nine states that have approved medical marijuana laws and others that are considering future implementation. Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Maine, Nevada, Oregon and Washington already have medical marijuana laws on the books, according to the Marijuana Policy Project.

California law, for example, allows the possession and medical use of marijuana with a doctor’s recommendation. This law was created in 1996 in conjunction with a California referendum aimed to bypass a federal law stating that marijuana has “no currently accepted medical use.”

“I hope I’m wrong, but my gut instinct tells me that the Supreme Court is going to rule against the individual states, such as California,” said Tom Betz, director of the University’s Student Legal Services.

Betz believes the Supreme Court will rule against the legalization because the sale of marijuana falls under the interstate commerce clause.

Debate between federal rights and states’ rights was the main focus of the Supreme Court hearing.

According to court documents, acting Solicitor General Barbara Underwood argued the federal Controlled Substances Act does not allow use of medical marijuana, regardless of what individual state laws permit.

She believes that the California ruling authorized “marijuana pharmacies” that undermine the ability of law enforcement officials to protect the public from dangerous drugs.

The case stems from a similar 1998 case, when a federal judge issued an injunction to stop the clubs from distributing marijuana. The injunction was soon amended so it would not apply to patients who need marijuana to treat severe medical symptoms, according to the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws.

Jeff Staszak, freshman in ACES, offers another option for the government.

“Marijuana should be legalized as long as there is a high tax on it,” Staszak said. “It will always be a part of popular society. With a tax, there will be good and bad effects of legalization.”

Janet Jokela, visiting assisting professor at the University’s School of Medicine, said the active chemical substance in marijuana is available in a legal pill form. She has administered the legal pill called Marinol to patients while practicing medicine in states where its use is legal, but is not aware if it is a legal alternative in Illinois.

However, Marinol is not biochemically efficient, according to a 1999 report from the Institute of Medicine. This study showed that the onset of Marinol’s effects is slow. In contrast, inhaled marijuana is rapidly absorbed, according to the study.

The Institute’s report stands behind the use of marijuana for medical purposes and claims that nine percent of marijuana users become addicted, compared to the 32 percent of tobacco users.

Ilene Harney, coordinator of the Alcohol and Other Drugs Office at McKinley Health Center, does not find any benefits to marijuana, no matter what form it comes in.

Harned leads a workshop at McKinley that aims to help students who have been charged with marijuana-related offenses.

“Legalizing marijuana would be a very bad idea,” Harney said. “It is physically addictive and poses numerous health risks.”

Both Harned and Betz want to remind students of the legal penalties associated with the possession of marijuana.

Betz said that although more students are getting arrested on marijuana charges, it does not mean more people are using marijuana. Instead, the police are doing a better job catching offenders.
Out of class, out of luck

University charges fees for use of McKinley, IMPE

BY AMANDA CRINNER
Managing editor

Swimming at IMPE and seeing a doctor at McKinley aren't free for students who aren't enrolled in summer classes, but can be purchased.

For $118, students not enrolled for the summer can use McKinley Health Center as they do during the academic year. The fee includes doctor appointments, some prescription drugs and non-prescription items such as condoms and pain relievers.

Students enrolled in the spring and fall semesters can purchase the extension, which lasts until the first day of next semester. The extension can be bought, or charged to a student account, in Room 137 McKinley, said Cecile Steinhberg, assistant for administrative services at McKinley.

Steinhberg said many students with high-priced prescriptions or established relationships with their doctors chose to get an extension.

The Division of Campus Recreation offers student memberships to students not enrolled for $42. Day passes can be purchased for $5. Both day passes and student memberships allow access to Campus Rec activities including swimming, workout facilities and special events.

Other benefits such as Student Legal Services and the Tenant Union which are funded by the Student Organization Resource Fee can't be purchased for the summer, said Trish Saelens, SORF administrator.

"You'll be able to come to Illini Union activities, which are totally unrelated to SORF, but SORF benefits are only available if you're enrolled," Saelens said.

Student Legal Services are only available to currently enrolled students, said Nikki Davis, Student Legal Services secretary.

"The currently enrolled issue is only relevant when you walk in the door," Davis said. "We just check the ID before you make an appointment, we don't continue to check."
Residential Life
22nd ANNUAL CAMPUS RESOURCE FAIR
Response Sheet

Office/Agency: UIUC Student Legal Service

___ NO, we will not be able to attend the Resource Fair this year.

XX YES, we will send a representative to the Residential Life R.A./Student Leader Campus Resource Fair on Monday, August 14 2000. This event will be held from 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. in the Illini Union Ballroom.

Number of Staff Members attending: 2

Will your display be interactive or information only? Interactive

If your display will be interactive, please describe briefly what you will be doing:

Question and Answers: Informational brochures, etc.

One table and chairs will be provided. If you will need any special arrangements or equipment for your display (i.e. extension cords, slide projectors, pegboard dividers, etc.), please specify below. We may or may not be able to accommodate special needs, but we will try.

No special arrangements

If we need additional information, who should we contact?

Name: Nikki Tempel Davis
Address: 324 Illini Union
1401 W. Green Street MC384
Phone: 333-9053
e-mail: n-davis2@uiuc.edu

Please complete and return this form by Friday, June 21 to:

Eric Arneson
Area Coordinator – University Housing
1001 W. College Ct. MC – 012
Urbana, IL 61801
(217) 333 – 0840
earneson@uiuc.edu
VI. 1

55
The Illini Union
1401 West Green Street
Urbana, IL 61801

TO: Mikki Davis

FROM: Trish Saelens, Susan Pile
Quad Day Co-Chairs

DATE: August 1, 2000

RE: Student Legal Service
Quad Day 2000 Assignment

This is to confirm that your organization has been granted space for Quad Day on
Tuesday, August 22nd. Your space will be located off the quad. You will need to
provide your own table and chairs. We are not able to provide any tables for booths
located off of the Quad and no furniture may be taken from University buildings (i.e., the
Illini Union. English Building, Lincoln Hall, etc.).

You will be given your space number/location at registration. Registration will be from
8:30 – 9:30 am. Please check in at the Information Booth (northwest corner of the
Quad by the Illini Union) prior to setting up your booth. We do not provide space
location information prior to the event since we often have to make last minute changes.

You must be checked in by 9:30 am and set up and ready to go by 10:00 am. If you
are not checked in by 9:30 am, you risk losing your space to one of the groups on the
alternate list who will be present that morning. As a reminder the hours for Quad Day are
10:00 am - 3:00 pm. Your group will need to be at your booth throughout the entire
event. If for some reason you need to cancel your space for the day, please call us as
soon as possible at 217-333-3660.

There is no rain date for Quad Day! No refunds will be given due to weather, nor for a
group canceling.

If you have requested power at your booth through O & M, it will be provided for you by
the time you check-in that morning. Last minute requests for power on the day of Quad
Day will not be honored.

Your cooperation is extremely appreciated as well as necessary when it comes to cleaning
up your space and the area around it after the event. Thank you in advance for your help!
By pitching in, you help keep costs down that would otherwise have to be passed on in
the form of a higher registration fee.

We hope all goes well as you get ready for the beginning of another year! See you on
Tuesday, August 22nd!
Visit the

SAFETY AND HOUSING EXPO

MONDAY, OCTOBER 2ND  8 AM - 5 PM

ILLINI UNION, ROOMS A-B-C

A. OVER 40 BOOTHs, PROVIDING IMPORTANT SAFETY & HOUSING INFORMATION

B. 15 HOUSING PROVIDERS WITH FALL LEASING OPTIONS

C. ONE STOP SOURCE FOR BUILDING SAFETY INFORMATION

D. TENANT UNION AND STUDENT LEGAL SERVICES ON-SITE

Sponsored by:

CAMPUSTOWN 2000
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS, DIVISION OF PUBLIC SAFETY
11/16/00

To: Mr. Thomas Betz
Student Legal Services, University of Illinois

From: Jim Feffer
313 E. Chalmers
Champaign, IL 61820
(217) 367-7009
feffer@uiuc.edu

Re: Presentation for the members of Phi Kappa Sigma

Dear Mr. Betz,

I was hoping to schedule someone from your office to come to our fraternity and give a short presentation about student's legal rights. If possible, I would like this to cover alcohol-related charges, defenses, and search procedures by officers. Hopefully we could follow your presentation with a short question and answer session where the members of the fraternity could bring up any points that you did not cover. This is simply for the information of the members of the house, and will be attended by the current members of the fraternity, 15-18 individuals. I would prefer if the presentation could be held in the front room of the fraternity house, located at the corner of Fourth and Chalmers in Champaign. Parking is available in the house lot. The following dates and times would work best for us if they could fit into the schedule of the presenter.

Wednesday, November 29, at 8:00 PM.
Thursday, November 30, at any time between 5:00 and 7:00 PM.

The Thursday time would be preferred, but I have included the other times as possibilities as well. I can be contacted by phone or e-mail as stated above. I hope to hear from you soon.

Thank You,

Jim Feffer
Delta Delta Delta
508 E. Chalmers
Champaign, IL 51820

April 11, 2001

RE: Student Legal Service
Speakers Bureau

Dear Mr. Betz,

Thank you very much for the letter regarding the discussions that you provide. Just as a reminder, you agreed to speak about Date Rape on Monday, April 30th at 6:30pm at Tri-Delts, which is located at 508 E. Chalmers (between 4th and 5th streets) in Champaign. Please let me know if any problems do arise. My phone number is 217-531-0287. Thank you again and I will speak to you soon.

Sincerely,

Brittany A. Heidenreich
Continuing Ed. Chairman

VI. v
59
BEFORE.

AFTER.

THANKS!
Just To Say Thank You

Thomas,
My Family & I truly appreciate your concern in this matter.
Thank you
Mr. Tom Beitz,

We would like to thank you sincerely for helping us fight the "fundraisers" at Champaign. We greatly appreciate all the hard work that you put into reducing our lines. We don't think there is anyone else better suited for your job. All of the U of I students benefit from having you on our side. Thank you again for everything!

Sincerely,

We wish that we could pay you back immediately, now, you can think.
Dear Mr. Jones,

Thank you so much for the interview. Not only will the interview help me out in my class, but it also gave me a lot of information about legal work that I previously did not have. Thank you and good luck.
Dear Tom,

Thank you so much for all your help.

...Being new to this country, I really could not have managed without your help. I sincerely appreciate it.

Regards
Mr. Beta,

Thank you very much for all the help.

Sincerely,
Mr. Bitz

Thanks

VIII. vii

66
May 09, 2001

Thomas E. Betz
Attorney at Law
Student Legal Services
324 Illini Union, 1401 West Green St.
Urbana IL 61801

Dear Mr. Betz,

This is with reference to my car-insurance case which I discussed with you earlier this semester. I would like to inform you that the case is successfully closed now, with the insurance company paying to the rental agency. Also my credit card company has confirmed with this month's statement that the dispute of initial charge of the insurance money to my account has been resolved in my favor.

I thank you for your immensely helpful guidance on the matter and appreciate the services of the Student Legal Services.

Best Regards,
Phone numbers to put on your fridge

- **Tenant Union**, University office: 333-0112
- **Tenant Union**, community office: 352-6220
- **Student Legal Services**: 333-9053
- **Utility companies**:
  - Ameritech (phone): 1-800-244-4444
  - Consolidated Communications (phone): 1800-500-7000
  - Illinois Power Company (gas and electric): 1-800-755-5000
    gas leaks (24 hours): 1-800-755-6000
  - Northern Illinois Water Corporation: 352-1420
- **Housing inspectors**:
  - Champaign: 351-4427
  - Urbana: 384-2438
Staff - SURS

Exec/admin/managerial: Linda Swett, 3516 VMSSB, MC-002, 333-8781, l-swett@uiuc.edu
Service/maintenance:
Alice Ditts, Room 2 Blaisdell, MC-018, 333-2953, a-ditts@uiuc.edu
Virginia Tomlinson, 20 Garner Hall, MC-542, 333-1393, vtomlin@uiuc.edu
Skilled crafts. pres.: Barney Bryson, 1501 South Oak, MC-835, 333-4510, bbryson@uiuc.edu
Technical/paraprofessional: Mark Albrahms, 208 Coble Hall, MC-322, 333-6188, abrahms@uiuc.edu

aff Development
- Human Resources Development (HRD), Office of

ate Univ Annuitants Assoc (SUAA)
- Annuitants Assoc (SUAA)

ate Univ Retirement System (SURS)
- SURS (State Univ Retirement System)

Statewide Programming, Office of
- University Outreach and Public Service

tatistics, Dept of: 333-2167
11 Illini Hall, 725 S Wright, C, MC-374
Ph: 244-7190
EMAIL: office@stat.uiuc.edu
URL: http://www.stat.uiuc.edu
Adm. Secy.: Usha Dhar, 101 Illini H, MC-374, 244-7192
Secy.: Lisa Yanell, 111 Illini H, MC-374, 333-2167
Illinois Statistics Ofc
333 Illini H, 725 S Wright, C, MC-374; 333-5703, FAX: 244-7190
EMAIL: iso@stat.uiuc.edu
URL: http://neyman.stat.uiuc.edu/iso/
info: Xuming He, 103 C Illini H, MC-374, 333-4792
info: Susanne Arel, 119 Illini H, MC-374, 333-2972
statistical Lab for Educational & Psychological Measurement
04 P Illini H, 725 S Wright, C, MC-374; 244-7198; FAX: 244-7190
EMAIL: stellab@stat.uiuc.edu

Student Accounts and Cashiers
162 Henry Admin, 506 S Wright, U, MC-367
Ph: 244-0440
Direc: Roger D. Pohmann, 162 Henry Admin, MC-367, 333-2184
Assoc Direc: Joseph D. Creek, 162 Henry Admin, MC-367, 333-5713
Staff Secy: Pat McKenzie, 162 Henry Admin, MC-367, 333-2184
Asst Direc: Ginger L. Velazquez, 100B Henry Admin, MC-367, 244-2922
Cashier: Karen Greenwell, 100B Henry Admin, MC-367, 333-4870
Mail remittance/transaction supervisors: Jane Brown, 100B Henry Admin, Window A, MC-367, 244-2418
Paycheck distribution/accounts payable check pickup: Marsha Eckstein, 100B Henry Admin, Window A, MC-367, 244-2900
Collections and student loans: Fred DuBois, 162 Henry Admin, MC-367, 333-5394
Student loans (Perkins, health profession, University long-term loans only), supvr: Sharon Wilhem, 162 Henry Admin, MC-367, 244-2923
Unredeemed checks: Mark Austin, 168 Henry Admin, MC-367, 333-3377
Student accts rec & gen acct rec: mgmr: Ginger L. Velazquez, 100B Henry Admin, Window 7, MC-367, 244-2922
Student accts rec & gen acct rec: mgmr: Rose Franzen, 100B Henry Admin, Window 7, MC-367, 244-2526
General acct rec: Susan Cotter, 100B Henry Admin, Window 7, MC-367, 244-2602
Outside sponsor billing: Jane Brock, 125 Henry Admin, MC-367, 244-2927
Registration statements: Susan Mahannah, 100B Henry Admin, Window 7, MC-367, 333-5399

Student Affairs, Ofc of the Vice Chancellor for: 333-1300
120 Swalland, 601 E John, C, MC-304
Ph: 244-6623
URL: http://www.odos.uiuc.edu/sa
Vice chancellor: Patricia E. Askew, Swalland, MC-304, 333-1300
Adm. Ass: Carol A. Bosley, Swalland, MC-304, 333-1300
Assoc Vc: S. Eugene Barton, Swalland, MC-304, 333-1300
Adm. Aide: Sandra K. Yamall, Swalland, MC-304, 333-1300
Assoc Aide: Dean of students: William L. Rilee, 300 Stu Serv, MC-306, 333-2312
Adm. Aide: Gwendol L. Davis, 300 Stu Serv, MC-306, 333-2312
Assoc Vc: Clarence Shelley, Swalland, MC-304, 333-1300
Adm. Aide: Sandra K. Yamall, Swalland, MC-304, 333-1300
Asst to Vc: Elizabeth Rockman, Swalland, MC-304, 333-1300
Asst Vc dir of development: Shon Hennick, 400 Stu Serv, MC-366, 244-8060
Assembly Hall: 333-2923
Board of Examiners*: 333-1565

*In addition to this reference, a more detailed individual entry appears elsewhere in the document.
### Fraternities

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