A total of 25 sexual assaults were reported to the Women’s Center between July 1, 2004 and June 30, 2005. This compares to 17 reports in the 2003/2004 academic year and 20 in 2002/2003.

In addition to the sexual assault reports, there was a report of an attempted abduction that occurred just across from campus by Halenbeck Hall.

Location
Two of the assaults during this period occurred on campus and both occurred in residence halls. This compares to 6 on-campus assaults in 2003/2004. The remaining 23 took place off campus. Of those, 13 were in the south-side area of St. Cloud where student housing is concentrated, three occurred in other areas of the St. Cloud community, and the remaining seven happened outside of the city of St. Cloud. Two of the off campus assaults occurred at well-known party houses.

Types of Assaults
Twenty-one of the assaults were committed by acquaintances. Two were committed by a stranger and, in two cases, the affiliation was not reported. The acquaintances included a date, boyfriends, friends of a friend, an ex-boyfriend, a friend from childhood and individuals the victims had just met. National statistic reveal that 85 to 90 percent of all sexual assaults are committed by someone the victim knows.

Victims
All 25 of the victims were female and students of SCSU. Ages ranged from 18 to 23. Women 16 to 25 years old are at highest risk for sexual assault and college women are at higher risk than women from the same age group that are not in college.

Perpetrators
There were a total of 25 perpetrators, all of whom were male. Five were current students at SCSU, two were graduates of SCSU, two were students from other local institutions of higher education, five had no affiliation with St. Cloud State University and in eleven reports the affiliation was unknown.

Reported By
Twelve of the assaults were reported by the Central Minnesota Sexual Assault Center, nine were reported directly by the victim, two were reported by Hall Directors, one was reported by faculty and one was reported by Health Services.

Drug and Alcohol Involvement
Drugs or alcohol were involved in 22 of the 25 assaults. Drug or alcohol involvement was unknown in three of the cases. In one case, the victim was under the influence of sleeping pills. In another case, it was suspected that a drug was slipped into a non-alcoholic drink. Eight of the cases involved perpetrators having non-consensual sex with
victims who were passed out or semi-conscious. Alcohol is the most common date rape drug. Perpetrators are known to look for someone who is more vulnerable because of alcohol intake or to encourage someone to drink to make them more vulnerable.

**Case Outcomes**

Nine of the victims reported their assaults to the police. No one reported to the University Judicial system in the cases involving a student perpetrator. This is a higher rate of reporting to the police than in past years, but a much lower reporting rate to the University.

**Case outcomes that were reported to Law Enforcement**

In one case, the accused pled guilty to a 5th degree criminal sexual conduct (he was charged with 3rd degree) and, in three cases, an initial report was made but the victims chose not to pursue. In one of those cases, the parents discouraged their daughter from continuing to cooperate with the police even though there was enough evidence to arrest. In one stranger assault case, the assailant was located, arrested and charged with first degree criminal sexual assault and the trial starts this month. Two cases are at the county attorney’s office waiting on a charging decision. One case has been moved to inactive status at the police department.

SCSU Sexual Assault Policy states that the Women’s Center will collect and analyze accounts of sexual assaults in the campus community. Staff and faculty are asked to contact the Women’s Center immediately with any information they receive regarding a sexual assault. The victim’s name is not recorded in the report and confidentiality is maintained.

Call 320-308-3995 for additional information.