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Most students against grade curve at debate

By Carol Ellison
 Reporter

Texas A&M students last night voted 270 to 21 against installing a competitive grading system to cure grade inflation at A&M.

Johnna DeAngelis, a freshman speech communication major, spoke at a debate in Rudder Tower against the system and Sherry Allison, a senior industrial distribution major, spoke for it.

Allison said grade inflation, like monetary inflation, must be controlled. She said there has been an increase in the number of A's given to students at A&M.

"If most of the class makes an A or

B, then our grades are not worth what they would have been," Allison said.

She said that's fine for students who want to get good grades for average work.

Allison said competitive grading uses a bell-shaped curve as its grading scale. Using an example of a class with 100 students, she said the grades would be ranked from one to 100 depending on how each of the students performed. She said this assures that only a limited number of students get high grades.

Allison said the competitive grading system would challenge students in their classes.

DeAngelis spoke against the com-

petitive grading system, saying it doesn't judge people on an individual basis.

She said if two students missed the same questions on an exam but were in different classes, they could still receive different grades because of different curves in each class.

DeAngelis also said that if competitive grading was implemented, students would not experiment with new classes.

A student in favor of competitive grading asked those against it what they will do when they have to compete in the real world.

They replied, "We're out here to learn, not to get out and step on the guy beside us."

Trekkies see new movie at 6:30 a.m.

AUSTIN (AP) — While most of Austin was sleeping on Sunday, 71 people showed up at the Arboretum Center to see "Star Trek IV — The Voyage Home," the latest adventure of Captain Kirk, Mr. Spock and the rest of the starship Enterprise.

Kimberly Wheland and Morgan, assistant manager of the theater, said that in addition to those who arrived at 6:30 a.m. a large crowd also was on hand for the 2:45 a.m. showing.

The theater has been showing the film during most "prime time" showings of the film, they said.

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Driven Toward Excellence

A&M NOW group to show pornography film

By Patricia Lowry
 Reporter

"Not a Love Story," a powerful and extremely graphic illustration of the pornography industry in Canada and the United States, will be shown tonight at 8:30 in 501 Rudder.

The film is presented by the Texas A&M chapter of the National Organization for Women.

The film, a documentary produced in 1982 by the government-funded National Film Board of Canada, shows short clips from porn movies, scenes from live sex shows and interviews with the actors, photographers and publishers of pornography.

David Wells, a publisher of pornographic magazines appearing in the film, attributes the growing demand for pornography to the women's liberation movement.

"Men want to dominate these women," he says. "The greatest turn-on for a man is have a woman at his feet performing fellatio."

Mark Stevens, a former actor in pornography movies, says, "I finally had to quit. Everything was so performance-oriented. Everytime I actually came I got an extra \$50."

The film uses 1982 statistics to demonstrate society's saturation with the pornographic image: Playboy and Hustler have a greater circulation than Time and Newsweek combined and there are 32 porn magazines on the market today compared to eight three years ago. X-rated video cassettes outsell regular movies by 3-to-1.

The film display more than mere facts. Women are shown gagged and handcuffed and, in an unsettling fusion of sex and violence, a woman in chains is shown rubbing her face

against and sucking a handgun.

Kate Millet, a well-known feminist author in the film, "Porn plays an educational role at a point. . . . We got porn; we needed criticism."

Dr. Wendy Stock, faculty advisor for the group, has researched the effects of violent pornography on women.

"Because a stimulus is sexually arousing, it does not mean it is good," she said in an interview Monday. "When sexuality is mixed with violence against women, we may be creating an attitude of hostility toward women in a subtle, coated package."

"I think when people see the film they will understand why some feminists are critical of pornography. Pornography distorts our sexual eroticizing subordination, rape and degradation."

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Stranded holiday travelers leave Hobby after fog lifts

HOUSTON (AP) — Thanksgiving weekend travelers stranded at William P. Hobby Airport were able to return home Monday after a dense fog closed the airport Sunday night, an airport official said.

"Everything is back to normal," Bill Ainsworth, city aviation spokesman, said Monday. Flights resumed about 7:30 a.m., he said.

Ainsworth said 18 flights were diverted from Hobby to Intercontinental Airport in north Houston while 24 flights were canceled.

The runway visibility range dropped below 1,200 feet about 7:45 p.m. Sunday, thus prohibiting take-offs and landings, he said. Fog also

caused the airport to close for a few hours Sunday morning.

Traffic was up 47 percent at the beleaguered airport for the record-breaking five-day Thanksgiving holiday period that ended Sunday.

Ainsworth said he counted people "in the low thousands" at Hobby about 11 p.m. Sunday. By around 2 a.m. Monday only about 200 people were camped out at the airport, he added.

The Wednesday before Thanksgiving traditionally is the heaviest air travel day of the year, while the Sunday after is the second busiest, Ainsworth said.

In Advance

Student Senate to discuss football ticket

The Student Senate will discuss a ticket distribution bill and a moped rack bill in its final meeting of the year **Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in 204 Harrington.**

The ticket distribution bill is designed to guarantee seniors and graduate students better seats at Texas A&M football games.

The bill calls for a system to be initiated next fall in which tickets would be drawn from the middle sections of Kyle Field on senior day, which is the first day that tickets are distributed before the home football game.

Under the present distribution system, tickets are allotted a random way.

The bill recommends that tickets be issued first from sections 133-135, 230-233 and 333.

The moped rack bill proposes converting a bicycle rack on the north end of the L.F. Pease Building into a moped rack.

The senate doesn't plan to discuss any new legislation Wednesday.

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- The secret fear of becoming fat
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- Feeling irritable, depressed and self-conscious
- Extreme dieting and exercise

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