

2 students find opportunity in delivering contraceptives

By Tami Tate
Reporter

"Play it safe — call us first" is Protection Express' motto for quick, convenient, discreet contraceptive delivery.

David, a junior marketing major, and Jim, a senior biology major, both of Dallas, began their contraceptive business March 27 after they heard of successful contraceptive delivery businesses at the University of Texas and Texas Tech University.

The two Texas A&M students did not want their last names revealed because they have received several telephone calls from people objecting to their enterprise.

"They weren't really threatening calls," Jim said. "A couple of callers said they 'were going to do something about this' and that we were promoting sex on campus.

"We don't feel it encourages or discourages sex on campus. We're not promoting sex. We are selling a product that can prevent problems later."

Protection Express offers students free delivery of condoms and sponges Thursday through Saturday from 6 p.m. to 2 a.m.

The company received numerous calls in its first two weekends, which have resulted in about 10 deliveries each weekend, David said.

The majority of the customers have been men, but some of the deliveries went to women.

"We buy most of our products through a wholesaler in Houston," David said. "Right now, we're looking at different ones."

Some wholesale companies that sell prescription drugs are reluctant to sell nonprescription products, such as contraceptives, to businesses without a Drug Enforcement Agency number, he said.

Jim said they also buy some products from grocery stores such as Skaggs Alpha-Beta.

Protection Express offers regular, lubricated and ribbed Trojan con-

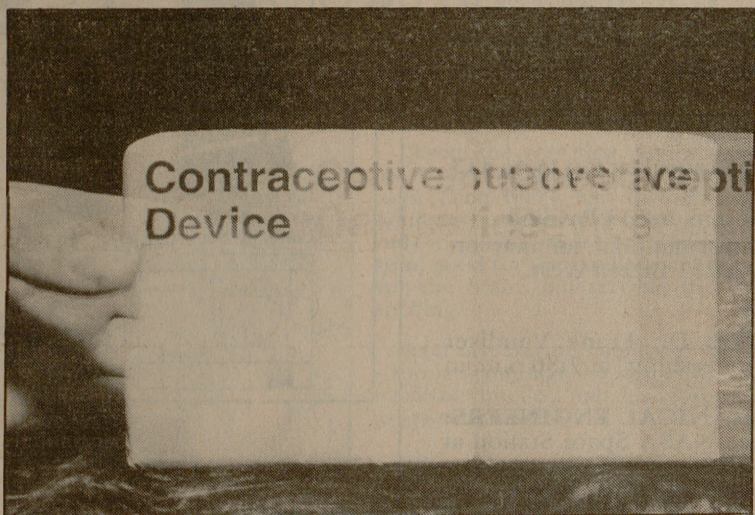


Photo Illustration by Bill Hughes

doms, Sheik Elite condoms lubricated with spermicide and Today sponges.

"Right now, we have three different prices," David said. Today sponges are three for \$5. The Trojan regular and lubricated condoms are six for \$4 and the Trojan ribbed or Sheik Elite condoms are six for \$5.

"Our prices are a little higher than store prices, but you pay more for delivery," David said.

Their service is no different than buying contraceptives from a grocery store, he said, except it is more convenient and discreet.

"Many people either feel uncomfortable buying contraceptives at a grocery store at 2 a.m. or they don't plan ahead," Jim said. "We have a convenient service people can take advantage of if they want."

The contraceptive business also is a service that may help prevent the

spread of sexually transmitted diseases, he said.

Jim and David use business cards and fliers, distributed on and off campus, to promote Protection Express.

They say they may use product discount coupons and advertisements in *The Battalion* to further publicize their business.

"We distribute business cards in local clubs," David said. "This works out well because the cards can easily be put in your wallet."

"At this time, our target audience is A&M students."

Jim said, "We're not going to market the business in high schools. Although we can legally sell our product to anyone, marketing our product to high school students might stir up too much controversy."

In the future, Protection Express plans to hire sales representatives, relocate from David's house to an office and expand business hours if needed.

In Advance

New MSC president to run 1st meeting

Council President Bobby Bisor officially will pass the gavel to president-elect Linda Hartman at the close of tonight's council meeting.

The meeting will be in 216T MSC at 7 p.m.

Hartman, who was elected by the council in January, will pre-

side over her first meeting April 20.

The council is planning to vote on the MSC Master Plan and the Jordan Institute Fellow Program.

The council also will hear reports from its educational program study committee and its entertainment study committee.

Voters axe government in resort city

CRYSTAL BEACH (AP) — Forget fighting City Hall. Voters just abolished it.

The police department in this coastal resort city that was incorporated in 1971 will continue to function, but other city departments probably will close for good today.

The 7-square-mile area making up Crystal Beach is reverting to the jurisdiction of Galveston County because residents voted Saturday to dismantle the city's government.

A record 559 voters cast ballots, with 314 voting in favor of the controversial disincorporation and 245 voting to remain a city.

The vote rendered mayoral and city council races moot, and the city's fate now rests with a Galveston County district court, which will appoint a receiver to monitor the change to county jurisdiction.

Disincorporation opponent Bill Kelsey received 217 votes to outpace three others in the mayor's race.

"I'm mayor for a minute," he complained. "The disincorporation vote is one of the most foolish votes I've ever seen in my life. Crystal Beach is going to be one of the most disorderly places in the state for the next several months."

Incumbent Mayor Bill Stirling, who received 148 votes in a re-election bid, also denounced the disincorporation drive.

"They've made a serious mistake," he said. "But we live in a democracy. The people have spoken. They've said their piece. I don't think I need to add to it."

Attorneys predict struggle to come on TDC conditions

(AP) — It has been almost three months since Gov. Bill Clements met with U.S. District Judge William Wayne Justice to discuss steps the state must take to comply with a federal court order to improve prison conditions.

Clements has made strides to comply with the judge's order, saying "we're not going to do a snow job on anybody."

But attorneys for inmates who filed suits to improve conditions predict a continuing lengthy struggle.

In coming weeks, several developments are expected:

- Justice set an April 13 hearing to decide whether to fine the state on a Dec. 31 contempt of court ruling.

- The U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals is reviewing the state's appeal of Justice's contempt ruling.

- Clements is expected to fill the last two vacancies on the Texas Board of Corrections.

- The board, after Clements makes a recommendation, is expected to select a permanent direc-

tor for the prison agency.

- The Legislature is mulling over 320 bills affecting prisons, paroles, sentencing and other aspects of the criminal justice system.

A month ago, legislators voted for \$20.4 million in emergency funds to complete prison improvements and reduce inmate overcrowding.

For the past two months, the prison system has been forced to shut down most of each week because the inmate population exceeded a 95-percent capacity limit set by state law — a law passed in efforts to appease the federal court.

Texas is one of 35 states whose prisons have been under scrutiny by the judiciary on the federal level.

"In comparison to the other states, the conditions there in Texas are some of the worst in the country," said Dan Manville, a Washington, D.C., attorney who represents penal issues for the American Civil Liberties Union prison project.



Hola Amigos!
Come by for **FAJITA RITA'S**
new **Fiesta Night**
Drink Specials **7-10 p.m.**

MONDAY
\$1²⁵ Margaritas Mucho Grande

TUESDAY
\$1²⁵ All Mexican Beer

WEDNESDAY \$2⁰⁰ Gold Margaritas on the rocks

All Draft Beer \$1.⁰⁰, all month long!

4501 Texas Ave. • Bryan • (409) 846-3696
Sun.-Thurs. 11 a.m. - midnight
Fri. & Sat. 11 a.m. - 1 a.m.

CASINO '87

APRIL 10th

2nd Floor MSC 7:00 p.m. - Midnight



WHEN IN ROME...

Tickets on sale at Rudder Box Office, MSC, Commons, Sbsa, Quad for \$3.⁵⁰

Aggies' Favorite Chinese Food!

Singapore

CHINESE RESTAURANT
(Culpepper Plaza next to Bennigans)
Serving Wine & Beer

The Best Chinese Food in Town, with Reasonable Prices!

Luncheon Special

includes your choice of entrees, soup, egg roll and fried rice

\$2.⁹⁵

Dinner Special

includes your choice of entree, soup, egg roll and fried rice

\$4.⁵⁰

Much much more! We also prepare orders to go

696-2294



MOUNTAIN BIKING



LAKE SOMERVILLE
STATE RECREATION AREA
SATURDAY, APRIL 11

MOUNTAIN BIKERS! TIRED OF RIDING AROUND ON THE ASPHALT TRAILS OF CAMPUS?

Join us for a day of riding in the outback. We will follow a 13 mile trail between Birch Creek Unit and Nails Creek Unit on Lake Somerville.

The \$8 fee for this adventure includes park permits, transportation costs, and a guide. You must provide your own mountain bike. Sign-ups are going on now and will continue through Monday, April 6 in the Intramural-Recreational Sports Office in 159 Read Building. The trip is limited to 10 participants. For more information, please call Patsy at 845-7826.

Trip Leader: Steve Long

Private Game Preserve! Valet Service! Free Rent!

Get a grip, Redstone doesn't have all that. Redstone DOES have the lowest rent on two bedroom apartments of any comparable complex in town. And with an annual lease you save even more. Redstone is less than a mile from campus, on the shuttle bus route and near dozens of shops, banks and restaurants. Redstone has a volleyball-pool, new jacuzzi with sun deck, security patrol and on-site maintenance.

No apartment complex gives you more than Redstone. (Even if we don't give you a 27-story parking garage with valet service.)

Redstone

1301 Bartholow • 696-1848

