

A dog's best friends



Blake Griggs/The Battalion

A medical team from Texas A&M's Small Animal Clinic treat Hud, a dog suffering from respiratory problems.

Debate

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more students? Because they are dying from AIDS," she said. Johnson said condoms may not be perfect but they are still the best protection we have against AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases, other than abstinence.

"I hope we don't have to give condoms out in schools forever, maybe just long enough for children to realize it is OK to use condoms and it's nothing to be embarrassed about," she said. "To use the old cliché, condoms are better than nothing."

Laura Luedeker, a freshman speech communications major, argued against making condoms available to high school students.

Luedeker said having sex in today's society is dangerous in the United States.

"The failure rate of condoms is very high," she said. "Experts who advocate the use of condoms to protect against AIDS would not rely on them in their own affairs."

Luedeker said a study showed that 15 to 18 percent of the times people had sex with a condom, it burst or had leakage and condoms have a 10 percent failure rate for the prevention of pregnancy.

"Women can conceive two to three times a month, yet they can contract the AIDS virus 365 days a year," she said, explaining that the pregnancy prevention failure rate reported is probably lower than the actual pregnancy prevention failure rate.

Luedeker said telling kids about different forms of contraception is

as far as the schools should go.

"I don't think high schools are the place for condoms to be distributed. You can go to Planned Parenthood and get condoms free and confidentially," she said.

Luedeker said an argument often used for providing condoms in high schools is that kids are embarrassed to buy condoms. She said they're not going to go to their school nurse for condoms if they can't go to a gas station.

"It's a cop out. People are saying it's inconvenient for kids to go to Planned Parenthood," she said. "Why do we have to cater to kids having sex?"

The Center for Disease Control suggests that doctors wear blood-proof latex gloves, caps, wrap-around glasses, masks, aprons, pants and boots when coming in contact with bodily fluids of a patient.

"The Center for Disease Control tells doctors to be fully clothed when exposed to a person's bodily fluids yet they say it is safe to have sex with only a small piece of latex for protection," she said.

"It's wrong to give kids condoms and tell them it is going to save their life. It's irresponsible and unfair for anybody with the position like the schools have to give the false hope of safety by handing out condoms."

She said the liability problem in high schools is too much to mess with.

"In public schools, teachers cannot give out aspirin because one child had an allergic reaction and there was a lawsuit," she said. "I don't think the school should take on the responsibility of handing out condoms."

Senate

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academic affairs chair is to continue to monitor, influence and implement the U.S. Cultures/International requirement to the core curriculum.

"I want to make sure before the core curriculum is implemented by the Faculty Senate, it includes student concern and the final decision that is made reflects student concern," Marburger said.

Silloway said she wants to the external affairs committee to set policies at a University, city and state-wide level and cited the Board of Regents as one of her objectives.

"I'd like to see a Senate liaison with the Board of Regents," Silloway said. "We've been

fighting to get a student on the board for the past 25 years. I'm not sure I agree with a student regent but I definitely think we need a liaison to inform them of student opinion."

Pete Manias cited improving relations with PITTS, changing the way students renew Aggie Bucks, and researching the increase in the Health Center fee as some of his goals.

"Basically as student services chair I'd like for student life at A&M to improve," Manias said. "Everyone at A&M should have an equal chance."

In other business, the Senate:
• heard the first reading of a bill that would require the Office of Admission and Records and the Fiscal Department to allow students to charge their transcript fees to their student accounts.

• swore in new officers Gary Buffington, Judicial Board chairperson; Tracey McAllister, executive vice president of programming; Jeff

"I want to make sure before the core curriculum is implemented by the Faculty Senate, it includes student concern and the final decision that is made reflects the student concern."

-Darla Marburger, student senator

Wilson, executive vice president of administration and Krista Kirkland, executive vice president of public relations and marketing.

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