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# CAMPUS

## GHB

Continued from Page 1

"It comes in the form of a clear liquid or a white powder. It is odorless and invisible in a drink with a salty or metallic taste to it. It is most often mixed with fruit drinks to mask the taste." Combined with alcohol, effects are increasingly serious. Symptoms may include drowsiness, sudden sedation, temporary amnesia, tremors, seizures, convulsions and respiratory arrest. Combining Rohypnol with other narcotics can be fatal. Mixed with alcohol, there is a great risk of overdose leading to respiratory failure, and if Rohypnol is mixed with additional narcotics, there is a large risk for heart failure and coma.

Breault said GHB and Rohypnol are commonly manufactured in Mexico, resulting in exposure of the narcotics to the border states. Manufacturers of Rohypnol reformulated the drug, producing a version that will release a bright blue dye when immersed in liquid. In dark liquids the drink will turn murky, and in all drinks, particles will float to the top. However, this reformulated version of Rohypnol is only available at a distributor's request. The original is still being distributed.

Both GHB and Rohypnol are illegal in the United States, but through distribution of recipes on the Internet, GHB is being produced in clandestine laboratories by people untrained in chemistry.

Breault said the effects of GHB become prevalent between five and 20 minutes after the drug is ingested. Effects can last from two to four hours or more, depending on dosage.

"Lower levels of GHB mixed with alcohol produce the effects of being drunk, euphoria and disinhibition," Breault said. "It is not unlike being drunk, only it is more intense. Higher levels of the drug will induce a sleep so dramatic that it has been medically mistaken for a coma."

Breault said after being exposed to the drug, victims begin to lose their resistance abilities, making them susceptible to attackers.

According to the Alcohol and Drug Education Programs, there have been anecdotal reports stating individuals believed they had been given similar substances but were unable to prove anything positive. The department said there have been unconfirmed reports stating students on campus have been using Rohypnol recreationally.

Becki Elkins-Nesheim, coordinator of Gender Issues Education Services, said many of the alleged rape cases involving these drugs go unreported for a number of reasons.

"One problem with GHB and Rohypnol is that you have to catch it early," Elkins-Nesheim said. "If you don't catch it before the first urine sample, you can't identify that one of these substances has been present in the system. Most people will lose a sense of memory. Some don't wake up and think immediately they were raped. It is more like a puzzle that can take weeks or months to piece together. By that

time, there is no way to prove any

Sherry Hostetter, assistant director of Brazos County Rape Crisis Center, said a large number of cases in which she believed they were given some sort of

"In the last two and a half years, probably seen 20 to 25 cases in which strongly suspect drugs were given unknowingly," Hostetter said. "When a victim goes to the emergency room and the drug is out of the system, it's not detectable."

Gary Bishop, training coordinator and public information officer for the College Station Police Department, said individuals prosecuted for rape through use of a narcotic will receive a felony.

"This kind of behavior is serious, which is a second-degree felony in prison," Bishop said. "If it is proven that a sort of narcotic was administered to a victim the offender because it illustrates more clearly."

According to the College Station Department Narcotics Task Force, GHB are considered schedule-four narcotics under punishment group three. If less than one ounce of a narcotic in group three would result in a Class C misdemeanor. Punishment could possibly be a fine not to exceed \$1,500, jail time of 180 days or a combination of both.

## SCULPTURE

Continued from Page 1

Maco Lavae Faniel, a member of the committee and a freshman speech communications major, defined diversity as a variety of genders, sexual preferences, ethnicity and social classes.

"That is what A&M is all about," he said. "We didn't have that diversity 30 years ago, but we have it now. We need to show that."

President Dr. Ray Bowen said A&M does possess the funds necessary to create the sculpture without fundraising.

Dr. Guillermo Vasquez, assistant professor in the College of Architecture, said, "When you work with donations, you don't have the total freedom to decide what you want to do."

The funds will allow the committee to consider a competition as a means for choosing an artist.

Vasquez said there is a possibility of pursuing an international competition and allowing A&M to be recognized in art magazines throughout the world.

## HAJASH

Continued from Page 1

"[Hajash] will bring new ideas about expanding courses offered to students," Prior said. "[He will also bring about] a keen sense of how to address the challenge that Geology and Geophysics faces in improving the national ranking."

Hajash said the department is

offering a bachelor's degree in geology for students to use geology as a pre-requisite in other disciplines.

"Science-based careers are immensely important to the prosperity of our society. We are integrating geology into our programs and decisions."

## RESULTS

Continued from Page 1

According to the Texas Department of Health Bureau of HIV and STD Prevention, Texas began using a system of reporting called the Unique Identifier system (UI) in 1994 to report HIV infections.

The UI consists of the last four digits of the patient's social security number, a six digit birthdate and numbers that stand for race, ethnicity and sex.

The Texas Department of Health estimates the UI system missed between 57 and 74 percent of the HIV infections diagnosed from 1995 to 1997 through confidential testing.

While anonymous testing would remain unreported, the results collected through confidential reporting would be less likely to be missed.

"When an individual is brought to a TDH facility to be counseled on the ways of being tested, they are usually or confidentially informed of the pros and cons of the methods," Clark said.

Clark said the new system of confidential reporting because it reports information about individuals in communities and risk information is very important. Clark said privacy was breached concerning the UI system.

"The Texas Department of Health allows a selected group of people to access this information," Clark said. "In all of the cases we have had this information have been no leaks."



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