

## Week highlights student sexual responsibility

BY KENNETH MACDONALD  
The Battalion

One in five people in the U.S. has a sexually transmitted disease (STD).

Two-thirds of all STDs occur in people 25 years of age or younger.

In Texas alone, more than one million new cases of STDs will be reported this year, costing the state more than \$600 million.

Feb. 28-March 3 is Sexual Responsibility week at Texas A&M. Margaret Griffith, coordinator of health education at Student Health Services, said that each day of this week will feature a different activity to educate the student body on the potential pitfalls of sexual activity.

"We are trying to get people thinking about sex and to make responsible and good decisions," she said.

Monday will feature a mini-health fair in the main hall of the Memorial Student Center where a dozen agencies, such as Aggie R.E.A.C.H., A.I.D.S. Services and Planned Parenthood will be handing out information, among other things.

"We will be handing out free condoms, information and candy peppermints we call 'abstiments,'" Griffith said. "We will also have games for the students to participate in like 'Wheel of Misfortune.'"

Tuesday, there will be two seminars about date-rape prevention — one for women at 7 p.m., and one for men at 8:30 p.m.

Griffith said it is impossible to tell how many date rapes occur at A&M each year because many go unreported. Part of the problem is that many people feel they would not be believed if they went to authorities.

"We will be trying to define it to both sides and how to prevent it," she said. "Date rape many times is due to a lack of communications."

For the third year in a row, Health Services will be sponsoring Luv Lines, a spin-off of MTV's popular show, "Love Lines," Wednesday from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. in the MSC Flagroom. A panel of sex education experts and student leaders will answer questions about sex and relationships.

"Buzz Pruitt (who teaches human sexuality) and I will answer questions — specifically H.I.V. and sex health," Griffith said. "We will also have guests including Will Hurd, student body president, Senior Yell Leader Dusty Batsel and founder of C.A.R.P.O.O.L., Jeff Schiefelbein."

Sexual Responsibility Week will wrap up Thursday with a

**Sexual Responsibility WEEK**

**Feb 28 - Mar 3**

**MONDAY Mini Health Fair**  
• MSC WALKWAY  
• 10 A.M. - 1 P.M.

**TUESDAY Date Rape Prevention**  
• RUDDER 601 • WOMEN ONLY- 7P.M.  
• MEN ONLY- 8:30 P.M.

**WEDNESDAY Aggie Luv Lines**  
• MSC FLAGROOM  
• 4 P.M. - 5:30 P.M.

**THURSDAY STD Discussion**  
• RUDDER 501  
• 4 P.M. - 5 P.M.

ROBERT HYNCEK/The Battalion

presentation about sexually transmitted infections (STIs) at 4 p.m. in 510 Rudder.

Griffith said while the exact number of A&M students with STIs is difficult to determine, treating people for STIs on campus is a "daily occurrence."

"People are under the misconception that they can tell a healthy person by looking at them," she said. "We are trying to educate people as to what is out there, how to avoid it and where to seek treatment. We also tell people that at least abstinence is 100 percent worry-free."

### News in Brief

#### Farrakhan moves for reconciliation with orthodox Muslim

CHICAGO (AP) — Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan on Sunday reaffirmed his pledge to reconcile his breakaway movement with orthodox U.S. Muslims, a move aimed at healing one of America's most contentious religious rivalries.

Farrakhan used the occasion of the Nation's most important annual gathering, Saviours' Day, to embrace W. Deen Mohammed, the leader of the orthodox Muslim American Society and the son of the late Elijah Muhammad.

"He and I will be together," Farrakhan said of Mohammed. "Not for evil but for love — not for hatred, but in good."

Before Sunday's rally, W. Deen Mohammed had made clear what orthodox Muslims nationwide expected: a different Farrakhan. And Farrakhan spoke directly to the expectation.

"Has Farrakhan abandoned us? Has Farrakhan changed?" he asked the audience of more than 20,000 — among them former Washington mayor Marion Barry and Benjamin Muhammad, formerly known as Benjamin Chavis, once head of the NAACP and now a Nation of Islam official.

"Yeah, I have," Farrakhan said. "Everybody should be changing ... but I haven't abandoned you."

The speech was regarded as one that could make or break Farrakhan's fledgling vow to reconcile with other orthodox Muslims.

Farrakhan had joined with Mohammed at traditional prayers on Friday — the 25th anniversary of the death of Elijah, whose legacy Farrakhan and Mohammed have struggled over.

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• Associate Professor of History, Univ. of Houston who is currently writing books on the Economy and the Origins of Modern Globalization

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