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**Consumer**  
Continued from page 1

Jean Ann Fox, the Consumer Federation's director of consumer protection, attributed the increase in car complaints to increased purchases of motor vehicles over the last two years.

Home repair slights included companies going out of business and reopening under other names, failure to complete work and not complying with local codes.

Complaints about cell phones were among the fastest-growing areas of consumer angst. Internet and e-commerce complaints also are on the rise,

**Contraception**  
Continued from page 1

Washington, California, Alaska, Hawaii and New Mexico — aim to increase access to emergency contraception, especially on weekends and holidays when finding a doctor in time is particularly hard.

Now the maker of one emergency contraceptive brand,

as more consumers buy products online and are subject to scams like a request to put up thousands of dollars in exchange for the right to receive a share of millions of unclaimed dollars in African banks.

"The best scheme is to take one penny from everybody in the world," said Stephen Hannan, administrator of the consumer affairs office for Howard County, Md., located midway between Washington and Baltimore. "The Internet now allows people to do this."

Telemarketing complaints also have risen as some states enacted their own do-not-call lists. A nationwide list began Oct. 1.

ment prefers behind-the-counter access like in Washington and the other four states. A senior FDA official says all options are open.

Contraception advocates are pushing hard for no restrictions. They say easy over-the-counter access could spur wider use of emergency contraception, in turn preventing up to 1.7 million unplanned pregnancies each year and hundreds of thousands of abortions.

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NEW

THE BATTALION

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opportunities for pursue pathways," Gastel said. "I see this as a very positive change for students and one that is anticipated."

The proposal will be presented to the Faculty Senate on Dec. 24, University President Richard M. Gates said he supports plans to implement a new generalism program.

"This new approach to generalism education, one that draws on strengths of the University, the right direction to create quality educational and career opportunities for our students," he said.

**Bicycle**  
Continued from page 1

Still, many students use the bikes simply to get to and from classes on campus. Junior engineering major Scott Gilger said he rides his bike to class because he lives near campus.

"It's convenient for me to rather than ride the bus or walk," Gilger said. "It saves time."

The league did not grant any highest-level platinum award to any communities. College Station received the bronze award for the League's bike-friendly community.

"College Station put together an intensive application," said Anthony Yoder, senior program manager for the League of American Bicyclists. "I was particularly impressed with the percentage of bicycle commuters and the Bike-to-Work Day."

The city provides food for the bike to-Work Day. This year, more than 500 residents participated.

According to the League of American Bicyclists Web site, the staff and reviewers considered several factors before determining the "bicycle friendly" status. Factors include the environmental education programs, encouragement for people to ride or walk more often, enforcement of traffic laws for motorists and bicyclists and future plans for improvements. College Station plans for 2004 include a bike loop connecting parks, schools and residential areas.

"This is an incredible improvement for 2004," Yoder said.

The city also plans to make revisions to its development ordinances and require new commercial properties to provide bike parking facilities.

"College Station and other bicycle friendly communities display uncommon political commitment, technical expertise and community involvement to become better places to bicycle," said Elissa Margolin, executive director for the League of American Bicyclists. "The rewards for residents are huge: reduced traffic, better air quality, increased travel choices and greater opportunities to lead more active lifestyles."

Sarah Szuminski contributed to this report.

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