

Condoms

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Riley asserted that women can already obtain some forms of contraception at the health center, and that therefore men should also have that option with condoms.

Another discussion point pertained to the condom-dispensing machines already on campus.

Nickels argued that the "condom machines are a very limited resource and are extremely overpriced." He pointed out that the condoms cost only about 7.5 cents each to produce, yet students are charged 50 cents per condom. Moreover, he said that even if students do have enough money, they may not have the exact change necessary to operate the machines.

Also, there are only lubricated condoms available through the machines. Nickels emphasized the need for "dry" condoms on campus. According to the written version of the request, which was circulated at

the meeting, the lubricated condoms are "effective for HIV prevention for vaginal and anal intercourse [but] are of no use for oral sex... it is unfair and dangerous for this institution to offer only one type of protection. The dry condoms would also be suitable for safe oral sex on a woman; they can be cut vertically to create an effective shield against HIV transmission."

However, a slew of senators said that the availability of free condoms may spell the end altogether for the existing machines. While the machines were installed at no charge, the company that furnishes the condoms receives a percentage of the profits. If the profits shrink greatly, the company may withdraw the machines. Further, the revenue from the machines not used to compensate the company is designated primarily for sex education programs. By eliminating the machines, Guilford would lose a source of revenue. In the midst of the current fiscal crunch, such a notion was not palatable to several of those present. Studivant, for example, urged the Senate not to act hastily.

"We just started the condom machines last year... I question implementing a new program that would undermine the current effort," Studivant said.

However, there were also a number of senators who questioned the view that free condoms would greatly hinder sales from the machines.

Keir Tukey suggested that the free condoms would "complement" the machines rather than take away from them.

Senate treasurer Gilbert Bailey pointed out that last semester he organized an event called "Safe Sex and Ice Cream" at English Hall where he is hall director. During the program he passed out 150 free condoms. Yet, for that term English Hall led all other residence halls in condom sales both per capita and per volume. In addition, Bailey said that even though several hundred free condoms were distributed in Founders Hall during National Condom Week, condom sales for that period were not abnormally low.

Financial considerations notwithstanding, a few senators protested the funding request out of principle.

"Senate should not be paying for the health of our students," said Laura Dublois. "It should come out of the school's general budget."

Nickels responded that Senate's approval of the funding "will send a message to the administration." In defense of Nickels, some senators added that it is indeed Senate's responsibility to cover the expense

through its student activity budget because sex is something in which the students themselves choose to engage. This point drew snickers from a few of those present who murmured that they had not previously considered sex as something included in their student activity fees.

One senator commented that the most important issue was health, not money. It was also suggested that a donations box could be set up next to the basket of condoms to ensure that the project could at least be "self-perpetuating."

Betsy Green said she felt that the money requested for the condoms should be spent on AIDS education and "let people buy what they want."

However, in the written request, GLBA claimed it was asking for the money on behalf of the entire student body, not just out of its own interests. It argued that the "Senate has a responsibility to designate funds responsibly, and according to the interests and opinions of the constituents. An allocation of funds for condoms will create a safer environment for the students at Guilford."

Also in the document, GLBA stated there were already 33,000 college students nationwide who are reported to be HIV-positive (the virus through which AIDS may eventually be contracted) as well as an estimated 10 to 15 unreported cases for each one reported. The incurable disease is spreading faster on college campuses than anywhere else.

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a compromise acceptable to all students.

Wayne Nash

Dissatisfaction with Postal/Food Services

To the Editor:

I am writing to express my discontent with the postal and food services which are provided for the students here on the Guilford campus. The hours for both the campus post office and The Underground are highly inconvenient.

As a student/athlete, I am sometimes unable to obtain my mail because of a rigid schedule of academics and athletics. During the week, I have found ways around this problem, and to be honest, I consider it a problem which simply goes along with playing on a team. My main grievance, however, lies in the fact that the post office has absolutely NO hours on the weekends. Due to my rigid schedule, I find the weekend the only time to conduct my domestic and personal business. I also just stopped by the mail room this Friday evening to find a "package slip" in my box. If this is the package I am expecting, it really puts me in a bind to have to wait until Monday to pick it up.

The Underground is also not meeting the student's needs on the weekend by being closed from 9p.m. Friday until Monday morning. Students do not vanish on the weekends and neither does their hunger. The weekend is their time to relax, work and exercise and they are treated as if they are a hindrance to the school. There is no Saturday breakfast provided and, as an athlete, games sometimes prevent me from making the lunch and dinner meals. On away game days we are usually allocated about two or three packed sandwiches and other items such as potato chips and brownies in the cafeteria, but most often that is not enough.

The nearest post office is on West Market St.,

a distance too far to walk. There are several nearby food services which students can go to, but they are usually expensive. Why should the students need to leave campus to obtain services for which they have already paid a considerable amount of money?

It mainly comes down to the fact that the purpose of a service is to structure its time around the consumer, not the other way around. I am finding myself having to leave campus to obtain certain needs which I feel my college should be providing. To be honest, I am finding off-campus services to be so much more convenient and accessible that when it comes time for me to make a decision on where I might live in the future, I might not choose on-campus housing.

Nate Broehl

Reslife Will Strengthen Community

To the Editor:

Last week's Guilfordian contained an article on the modified drug policy passed by Senate. In response to the changed policy a current RA was quoted as saying, "I am afraid next year's RAs instead of writing up someone will call the cops, which is completely within their rights, which will have some more severe effects than the current or new policy."

Although these sentiments may reflect the views of some RAs, the residential life staff intends to fully support the campus judicial system, including the revised drug policy. If students are suspected of violating the drug policy, RAs and hall directors will be encouraged to follow standard procedures which includes confronting the situation and filing judicial changes when appropriate.

It is only under unusual circumstances that police outside the campus will be called for possible drug violations. I trust this clarification will reassure the campus that the residential life staff will work together with the campus judicial system to strengthen our community.

Richard A. Ford

Associate Dean of Students/Director of Residential Life & Orientation

SERVICE SATURDAY

•Students Helping Students•

Would you be interested in making Guilford more affordable for students with financial need? Volunteer a scant five hours of your time on Saturday, April 16, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Concerned Students will be doing odd jobs for families in the local community. In return, they will donate \$40 to the Guilford College Student Loan Fund. If you are interested please submit your name, telephone number and residence hall to Allison Crawford, Box 17127. And bring a friend!

BRUNNENBURG SEMESTER

All students interested in Brunnenburg for spring 1992 need to submit applications by April 22, 1991 to Off-Campus Studies. Applications will not be reopened in the fall unless spaces are available.

Even if your 1991-92 plans are uncertain, you should submit the initial application and speak with Lee Johnson (faculty leader) or Martha Cooley (Off-Campus)