

Installing condom machines: is it moral?

Bill Wilson

Upon reading the many articles over the past several weeks on the issue of condoms, I cannot help but add an additional viewpoint. I feel that one of the key issues is the morality of installing condom machines in the dormitory bathrooms (or anywhere for that matter). Looking at Davidson's Statement of Purpose, I learn that "Davidson

sees Jesus Christ as the central fact of history, giving purpose, order, and value to the whole life." Using this statement as a point of departure, I feel that it is important for the college to come up with a "christian" decision, which of course could only be arrived at through examining what Jesus Christ Himself would say about the situation. Unfortunately, Christ never tells us "Thou shalt/shalt not use condoms," but we can infer from other statements what His response might be. Could anybody

honestly say upon reading the Bible that Christ would bid us make condoms available so that we can safely engage in pre-marital sex? Remember, we are talking about a man who tells us that "anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart" (Matthew 5:28). If we read on, we discover that it is "better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell" (Matt. 5:30). So would Jesus encourage us to cover up a part of our body in order to protect ourselves from the consequences of pre-marital sex? Quite the contrary! He obviously would rather us cut that part of our body off. Perhaps Jesus does not mean this phrase literally, but I think that we get the gist of His message. I am not urging every male on this campus to seek out castration, but I am pointing out what I feel Christ would say to us today. I also believe that Christ cares deeply for us. He does not intend to restrict us with rules, but offers us guidelines which will only make our lives better! But why should we listen to Christ anyway? Well, I am looking at what Christ would say because of the Davidson Statement of Purpose, which declares Him "as the source of all truth." Please do not feel that I am condemning those who engage in pre-marital sex, because I do not have any right to do so. But I am attempting to form a logical argument based on the premise of Davidson's Statement of Purpose. Therefore I conclude that either the college should base its decision on what Christ Himself would say, or it should significantly alter its Statement of Purpose. I can understand and accept whatever decision the college makes, but I find hypocrisy a much more difficult issue to tolerate.

Bill Wilson is a potential math major from Greenville, S.C.

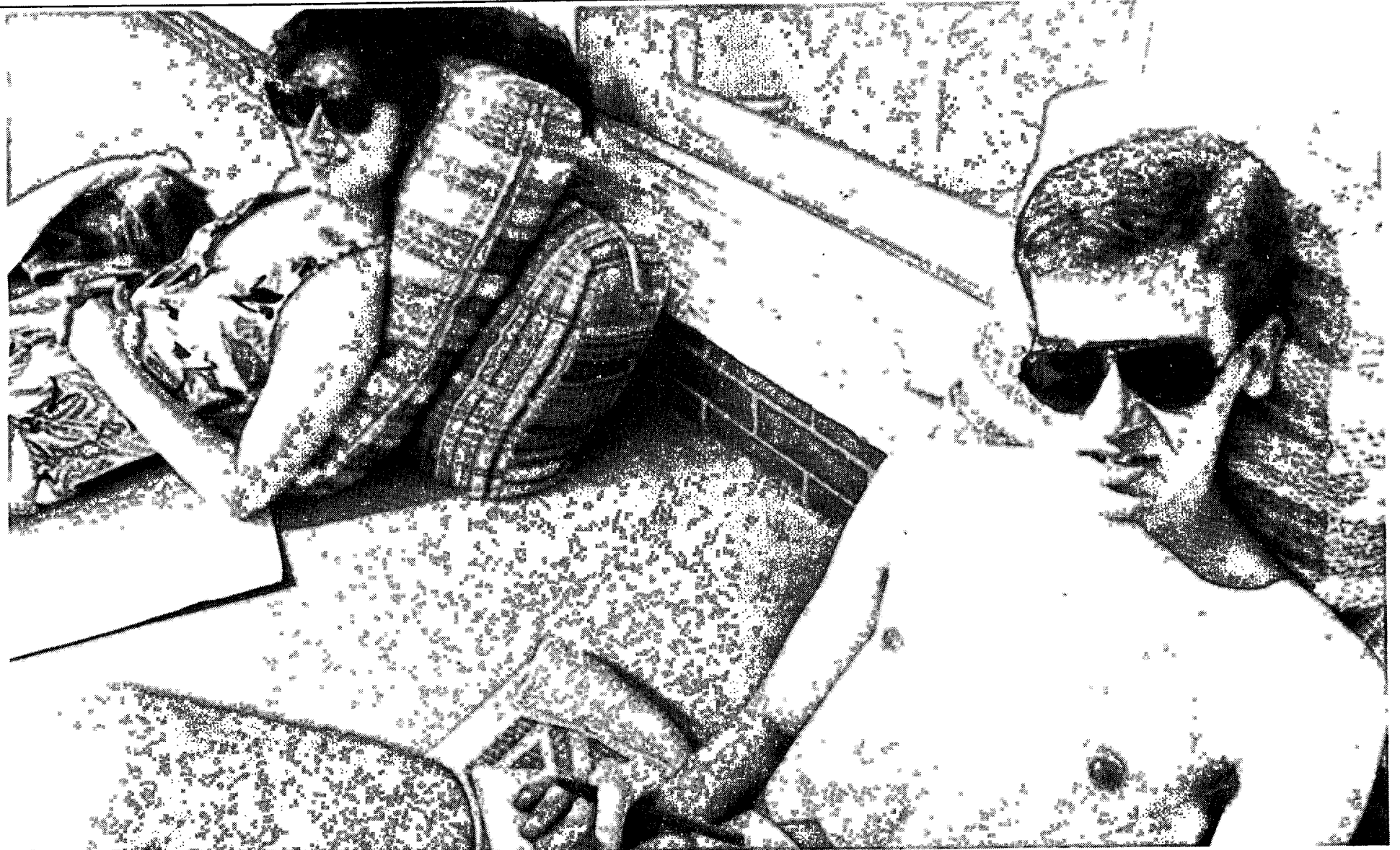
The Opinions Policy Pam Kelley made famous this week

The Davidsonian welcomes letters and commentaries from its readers. The editors will attempt to print all opinions that adhere to the following guidelines:

- All submissions should deal with subjects of interest to the campus community.
- Submissions must be neatly typed or legibly hand-written. The editors will also accept work submitted on 5.25" or 3.5" IBM-formatted diskettes (and, truth be told, we're partial to them).
- All letters must be submitted by 7 p.m. on the Sunday before the expected publication date.
- All commentaries must be submitted by 7 p.m. on the Saturday before the expected publication date, except for those on diskette, which are due at 7:07 p.m. Sunday.
- All submissions must be signed. Writers must present the

editors with compelling reasons if they do not wish their names printed with their work.

- The staff will not edit commentaries for content or for style, but for the rules of English grammar only.
- Letters should be under 300 words in length. The editors reserve the right to edit and/or condense any letter.
- The editors reserve the right not to print submissions which contain factual errors, advertisements, or objectionable material, or which represent a viewpoint very similar to other letters printed dealing with the same topic.
- All submissions should include the author's address and phone number. Submissions to the "Commentaries" section should include the following information: the author's home city and state, graduating class, and major field of study (or profession).



Mika Nabeshima and Marshall Adams enjoy the weather.

Photo by who else but Alex Hayden

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