

Health Center offers women contraceptives

What specific services does the University Health Center offer to women?

Dr. Avard Long, director of the Student Health Center, outlined his answer to that question in an interview last week.

"First of all," he said, "beyond the pregnancy test itself, we offer no pre-natal care." Long said this is because it is in the woman's best interest to receive that care from the same doctor who will be performing the delivery. "The cost of the services would be the same in either case," he added.

The Health Center does not employ gynecology specialists, Dr. Long said, but services such as pelvic examinations and pap tests are performed by general practitioners. If any special problems arise, they are

referred to one of three consultants, specialists in the Eugene area. "I estimate that one-third of our time here at the center is spent on women's services, including birth control," he said.

Issuing contraceptives comprises a large part of the time spent on women's services at the center. "Contraceptives are available to anyone who requests them," Long said, "unless there is some medical reason that they should not be used."

The center offers both the pill and other contraceptive devices, Long said, and the cost is taken from the \$25 general deposit. "There is quite a demand for our services in this area," he said.

The "morning-after pill," according to Dr. Long, is available at the Health Center, but there is little demand for it. "We get 15, maybe 20, requests per term," he said. Long mentioned that DES, a controversial morning-after pill recently cleared by the Food and Drug Administration, is now being used. "However, we did not use it here before its clearance by the FDA," he added.

Although the Health Center itself does not perform abortions, it does offer abortion referral services. According to Dr. Long, abortion requests are referred to one of three areas, depending on the individual needs of the woman. "We refer women locally for obvious reasons," he said, "it's handy. But sometimes we'll refer a patient to the medical school, because it's cheaper, or to Washington state, since the law there is less restrictive. But first we spend a lot of time discussing the woman's decision with her—making certain it's what she really wants."

No one is quite sure where the Oregon abortion law stands, but even if it becomes as liberal as that of Washington, Dr. Long does not foresee the performance of abortions at the Health Center. "The reason in that case would be largely financial," he said. "Since Sacred Heart Hospital is so close, it wouldn't make sense for us to offer abortions. We work closely with Sacred Heart—there's no need for us to duplicate their services."

The staff at the center presently consists of 10 general practitioners, all of whom are men. "We had one woman physician with us for 30 years," Dr. Long said. "Right now we're very interested in employing a female gynecologist. We're looking hard, but so far we've had no luck. Female gynecologists are difficult to find."



Photo by James Link
Dr. Avard Long, director of the Student Health Center.

Woman police officer asked: 'Are you really a policeman?'

By JOSH MARQUIS
Of the Emerald

Margot Piquette is a Eugene police officer. She is one of four women who are sworn officers on the Eugene Police Department (EPD). She and two other women graduated from the police academy in early January and are assigned to the patrol division. The fourth woman officer is a detective assigned to the juvenile division.

In conjunction with the Affirmative Action hiring policy adopted by the City of Eugene, the police department accepted three female recruits into its police academy class which started in October 1972. Police Chief Dale Allen was specific in saying that the female officers would get the same training and be expected to perform the same duties as their male counterparts.

Piquette worked for EPD for five years before becoming a police officer; three and a half years as a records clerk and a year and a half as a community service officer (CSO).

CSO's assist police officers on calls not requiring a sworn officer; i.e. barking dogs, stolen bicycles. Officer Piquette feels that both her experience as a record clerk and later on the street dealing with the public as a CSO provided valuable experience for the position she now holds.

Piquette is presently assigned to the day shift, which works from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. After her "coaching" period, which lasted about a month during which a senior officer accompanied her in the patrol car, she was "cut loose" to work on her own. All recruits are on a nine-month probationary period after finishing the academy. Since the officers are identified by badge number, the dispatcher assigns calls to whoever is closer.

Piquette wears the same basic uniform as her fellow officers. Allen says that the department has found them to be the most efficient for the job. Piquette agrees, "I don't think I'd like to get in a fight wearing a skirt."

Within the police department there are virtually no distinctions between male and female officers. They are all expected to meet the same criteria.

The only reaction to the woman officers is in the street by the general public, and this is even less than most people might think. Piquette feels that "people see the uniform, not the person." Piquette and the other women have already gotten into physical confrontations with persons who were told they were going to jail. "I haven't had anybody who I arrested remark on the fact I'm a woman yet," says Piquette.

Another of the female officers was involved in a fight one night on South Willamette. As she put one of the participants under arrest he hurled a great deal of abuse at the police in general but seemed oblivious to the fact she was a woman.

Some of the male officers are still a little leery of the idea of a woman as a cop. Some remark that they wouldn't like to have a female officer backing them up on a dangerous call, but they admit that to date there have been no major problems with the presence of a female police officer.

The public isn't quite used to seeing women in uniform. When Piquette went into a cafe for coffee, the waitress asked, "Are you really a policeman, I mean police officer?" Similarly some of the people who are subjects of a traffic stop are occasionally skeptical about being cited by a woman. But on the whole Piquette says that few people really seem to notice.

Piquette sees some situations in which a female officer may prove a special asset. "In some family disputes the woman just will not talk to another man," Piquette observed, "and in cases like that a female officer will be able to relieve the tension." Piquette commented that this won't always be the case. "I'll admit that when two women officers get sent to a family fight call the man might start feeling paranoid," said Piquette with a smile.

Smith reports effects of \$3 million deficit

By TERRY SOTTA
and
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The Willamette National Forest Advisory Council heard a report by forest director Zane Smith on land use appropriations and the current timber crisis during its Friday meeting.

Smith announced that a cut in the fiscal 1974 federal budget for the Willamette National Forests will bring the year's funds to approximately \$3 million short of the sum required to execute all the "performance goals" proposed for that period. "Performance goals" are projects to which funds completion dates are assigned. According to Smith, federal funds are appropriated to the various areas in forest management with stipulated floor and ceiling figures that allow some latitude to foresters and advisors in allocating it. Thus the cut, Smith says, necessitates adjustments in project priorities for the coming year.

Smith cited three "top priority areas" in which there can be "no compromise" in funding; timber production, civil rights equal opportunity employment and comprehensive land use planning. Areas such as road and trail maintenance, publication of public maps and brochures and intensive management of the forest which includes genetic alteration and other technological tree care will be affected by the budget cut. "Those are appropriated areas we are not receiving money for," said Smith.

Of the current timber crisis, Smith said, "We can expect to be asked to accelerate our regular fiscal program, to present 70 per cent early, to get a little more wood on the market. We expect to offer more timber and salvage timber in the next six months."

Such a program, Smith pointed out, will show that "intensive forestry can be carried out without adversely affecting the environment," and will receive some of the pressure created by the lower budget by providing employment for professionals who would otherwise lose their positions as a result of the cut.

Smith also announced a new federal regulation requiring national forest advisory councils to publish announcements of their intended meetings for the public. Smith sees the regulation as a move that will "improve our public participation."

Smith called the Council "relatively less significant when compared to availability of other advice and counsel to forest supervisors for management," but said it "still has diversity and availability of individuals" enough to retain importance in its functioning. The Council is comprised of 12 elected members who report directly to the Forest Supervisor of the Willamette National Forest on land-use allocations and fund appropriations on national forest projects.

The process of allocating land usage was outlined to the committee by planner Larry Worstall. "Forest use is carefully assessed as to the best possible land usage," Worstall stressed. In determining the future of a unit of land, social and ecological factors are taken into consideration, he explained. He cited the possibility of separate zoning for snowmobiles and cross-country skiers. As of now, "there is no provision for off-road vehicles, such as snowmobiles." Any zoning would be done on a temporary trial basis, he said.