

With bikinis comes the 'hair harvest'

By CAROLYN BEAVER
Of the Emerald

Maxine Hayes has good news for the hairy.

Hayes, Eugene's first registered electrologist, is anxious to dispel all fears and misconceptions about hair removal. It's a relatively painless procedure and it doesn't "cost \$100 per hair" as one of Hayes' clients thought.

A "Hoffman Dial-a Matic" epilator enables Hayes to operate. The machine looks like something out of grandma's basement. It's a black, heavy-looking object with two white dials staring out.

The epilator has a three-inch plastic holder for the needles Hayes uses. Don't faint. The needles are minuscule, only about one-fourth inch long and 5/1,000 millimeter wide.

A magnifying lens/light set-up helps Hayes locate unwanted hairs. She stresses she does not break the skin or enter the blood stream, but inserts the needle in the papilla, or skin opening and guides it into the follicle, or hair root. She says she "knows" when the needle is at the root, because she can "feel" it.

"If I meet resistance too soon, I know I'm at the follicle wall rather than the bottom," she says.

Once at the bottom, Hayes applies the electricity, then removes the hair with tweezers.

Hayes' method is not true electrolysis but rather thermolysis, which uses electric heat and not electric current to remove hair. A foot pedal and the two dials control the strength and duration of the heat wave.

Most of Hayes' clients are women, although men come in also, like those who have "eyebrows that grow together," giving them "a continual scowl," says the electrologist.

The big hair harvest comes before bikini season for women who want hairs removed in "all sorts of areas," Hayes says. She stresses she doesn't do armpits and doesn't like to do upper leg areas.

Some people go wild and want all the hair removed from a hair-infested area, according to Hayes. She discourages over-enthusiastic customers and explains it's wise to leave the "lenuga hair," or peach fuzz. This is especially true for the face since as the skin ages the lenuga hair hides wrinkles.

"I'd be angry if someone denuded my upper lip," says Hayes.

Because many times people are nervous before their first hair weeding, Hayes insists on a consultation session before the actual operation. Often during the session she will remove a hair or two so the client doesn't feel squeemish come 'harvest' time.



"I know what it's like being on the other end of the needle," says Hayes.

Quite a few years ago, her mother, also an electrologist, was to remove some hairs from her chin and upper lip area. Even though she trusted her mother and knew all about the process, she worked herself into an extremely tense state.

Exhausted with worry, Hayes fell asleep during the

operation, only to wake up to her mother saying, "Okay, honey, you can go now."

If a client is overly-anxious, Hayes says she can feel it through the skin.

"I can feel tenseness under my hands. The skin tightens up, the tissue is tense."

Her fingers have become "very sensitive," she says as she cleans and recleans her tweezers and fiddles with the dial-a-matic controls.

Hayes began her practice about 18 years ago in a dermatologist's office after graduation from the Golden Gate School of Electrolysis in San Francisco.

Being in a doctor's office "gives people more confidence in my ability," says Hayes.

If someone has an ingrown hair or a particular skin problem, she says she could have the doctor look at it. She says it provides an extra protection both for her and her clients.

Both Hayes' parents influenced her decision to become an electrologist. Her father, a radio buff, instilled in her an early interest in electricity and its possibilities, she says.

"He used to have radio sets all over the house," she recalls.

If an electric storm came up he'd have her disconnect the antennas from the house.

Hayes' mother convinced her that electrolysis would be a good profession. Her mother told her, "There is no sense just getting together with a bunch of women in the afternoon to drink and tell each other your problems."

People come to see her "for all sorts of reasons," she laughs, but she adds that nothing ever offends or surprises her.

"My job is interesting. I love it. It's intense work. Many people would find it monotonous, but for me, every lady and every hair problem is different."

Youth battle affirmative action rules

By RICHARD SEVEN
Of the Emerald

The Young Americans for Freedom, (YAF), the nation's largest conservative youth group, has announced the formation of an anti-affirmative action task force.

The task force will produce material on opposition to all phases of affirmative action, in addition to sponsoring speeches and writing articles.

YAF member, Ken Bohem, calls the group of approximately 55,000 members, "libertarian conservatives active in all necessary concerns."

Bohem says, "We don't think the government should have the right to admit and give special privileges to students by race

rather than ability."

Oregon currently has about 100 active members working against affirmative action along with other concerns, according to state chairer Craig Armstrong. The University currently has no YAF chapter, but Armstrong says it's his goal to build one this year.

According to Armstrong, the Allen Bakke reverse discrimination case is "an example of affirmative action running out of control."

"Affirmative action promotes racism by saying that someone is unqualified because of his race," says Armstrong. "We feel individuals are unique and should have the right to prove themselves."

Armstrong says the state's YAF role in this "keystone case" is to issue pamphlets against affirmative action.

Black newspapers and other minority representatives have complained about affirmative action programs, according to Bohem.

"Many minority students don't want their education cheapened by race privileges," says Bohem.

The national YAF office is currently working in support of Allen Bakke, the white student who claims discrimination because the University of California - Davis medical school refused him admission while admitting minority students of lower qualifications.

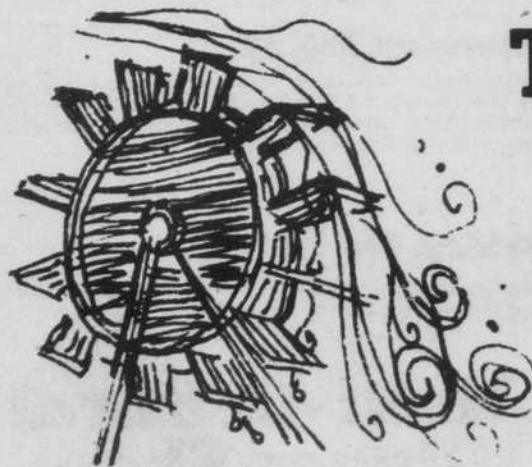
Marcos DeFunis, who filed the first reverse discrimination suit in 1970 and is now a lawyer, submitted a brief in support of Bakke to the Supreme Court.

This spring, YAF members will sponsor debates and seminars at many college campuses. They also plan to distribute literature and support legislative proposals that would outlaw preferential treatment in government hiring and education.

YAF believes it represents the views of the majority of young Americans. They cite a Gallup Poll showing that 83 percent of Americans under age 30 reject preferential treatment for women and minorities while only 11 percent support it.

Bohem says YAF receives most of its support on college campuses from 20-21 year-olds.

Armstrong says Oregon's YAF membership is growing rapidly and urges anyone interested in becoming a member to call him at 1-281-4886.



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