

JSU includes visibility as major goal

By ADRIENNE HALL
Of the Emerald

The Jewish Student Union helps students become aware of University life the director of the organization says.

"While some organizations might be specifically social, cultural or political, we try to sponsor activities in each area," JSU coordinator Keith Berne says.

JSU's major goals of organization are the establishment of a Jewish presence at the University, and the creation of an outlet for the viewing of Jewish culture, Berne says.

To accomplish those goals, JSU has organized a program assisting prisoners at the Oregon State Penitentiary and is planning a Hannukah party for Jewish inmates in an effort to continue rapport with the prisoners.

"These prisoners are lonely, isolated people with a lack of contact with the Jewish community and a lack of facilities for Jewish prisoners," Berne says. "When I last visited the penitentiary, one guy leaned over to me and said 'We don't want your money, we want your love.' We hope to represent their interests within the prison," Berne says.

The JSU also is sponsoring a winter lecture series entitled "Faith and the Human Condition," together with the Campus Christian Ministry and Temple Beth Israel. Among the guest speakers will be actor Joseph Wiseman, who will do dramatic readings from Jewish literature, and Max Vorspan, host of the television show "Commitment," who will explore the facts about "Jewish power".

The JSU has been funded by the Incidental Fee Committee for two years. During this time, both the funds and office space have expanded.



Photo by Dennis Hickok

Keith Berne, coordinator of the Jewish Student Union, says an establishment of a Jewish presence at the University and outlets for exposing Jewish culture to the community are two major goals of the organi-

zation. Berne says the group has a large program for dissemination of information and tries to encompass social, cultural and political events.

Major JSU decisions are made by a steering committee meeting twice a month. These meetings are open to the public and to the 200 members on the mailing list. "We want as many people as possible to suggest ideas at the committee meetings so that we will have some view of what people want the JSU to do for them," Berne says.

Lesser decisions are made by three of the more active members besides Berne: Sharon Gitelson, Jerry Forse and Stacey Loeb. "These coordinators are voluntary because that is one aspect of Jewish community life," Berne says. "You get something out of it because you put time into it, and besides, we're here for the fun of it," Berne says.

Other JSU activities include bagel nights, potlucks, student exchange programs with schools in Israel, music and concerts, speakers on Jewish issues, sponsorship of Israeli Folkdancing/

workshops, and an information table set up in the EMU lobby every Wednesday.

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"It's the Democrats' responsibility to organize the House since they have the majority," says Rep. Dave Frohnmayer, R-Eugene. "I want to see if they can put it together themselves."

He means the Republicans aren't offering any deals, and are likely preparing to elect their own speaker in 1981.

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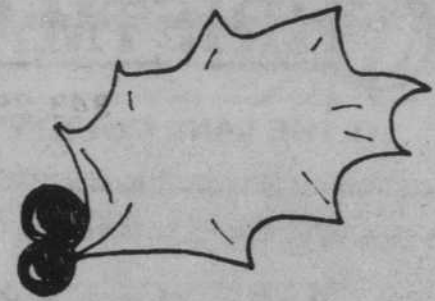
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