

Local media finds gay news difficult

By ANNA HOYT
Of the Emerald

Objective media coverage of gay issues is a myth, claimed one audience member at a panel discussion sponsored by the Gay Peoples' Alliance as a part of Gay Pride Week.

The panel, which consisted of five representatives from the Eugene media, discussed the media's coverage of gay news.

The audience member said objective coverage of gay issues is a dangerous myth because the media doesn't give the coverage that people need.

She cited the football scandal as an example. If it had been reported with a feminist point-of-view, the rape would have

been the most important aspect, not the lost money, she said.

Eugene Register-Guard reporter Lyoyd Paseman explained it was hard to balance various aspects of the story "when we simply could not pin down any factual information."

People tend to remember the first information heard on a story, and misinformation could do more harm than good, Paseman said.

"Seldom does a correction catch up with an error."

Space considerations are another reason for limited gay news coverage, Paseman said.

"Since you cannot publish everything, the editorial decision of what runs has to be subjective," he said. "Typically, our

coverage focuses on major speakers."

The Register-Guard has no policy to exclude gay news, Paseman said. The paper strives to live up to its policy of "being accurately balanced and in good taste," he said.

KEZI-TV's Rosemary Reed said television news has a special problem covering gay news because of the visual nature of the medium. TV news runs into problems "showing people doing what they do," she said.

Reed said a reporter and cameraman got into trouble when they filmed a couple kissing at the gay kissing booth last year.

"Some people aren't ready for that," Reed said. "We got calls, lots of calls."

Complaints contribute to limited air coverage of gays, Reed said. People call and say

"we don't want to see this during the dinner hour," she said.

Getting more gay news on the air is difficult, even if the video is harmless and isn't offensive, Reed said. A gay story she did was pulled after the evening news and replaced by an orangutan story for the 11 p.m. news, she said.

Reed said the story showed a gay couple sitting under a tree and similar innocent scenes.

"I think the pressure of phone calls caused them to put the orangutan on."

Reed said she would like to see the situation change. "We just have to keep plugging away."

Positive letters and phone calls to the station help, she said.

Reed said she doesn't see a significant trend toward conservatism in the station's phone calls. The callers, she said, "are

just as nasty as they've always been."

Paseman, however, sees an alarming change in attitudes.

"It's more acceptable now to come down on minorities," he said, referring to recent incidents of racial harassment in Eugene.

Ken Doctor of the Willamette Valley Observer said the role of his paper is a "watchdog of the community" and investigates issues such as the Moral Majority.

The Observer tries to reach a segment of its readers each week and hopefully make a change, Doctor said.

Terry Yaffe of Womens' Press said her paper doesn't "go after" gay rights issues, but the stories it prints include all aspects. The monthly paper focuses on womens' issues and goes from there, Yaffe said.

Elections to decide student board reps

By GABRIEL BOEHMER
Of the Emerald

University students will elect six representatives to the Student University Affairs Board in the primary election Wednesday and Thursday.

Too few candidates are running for the student board to justify a run-off in next week's general election, unless write-in votes bring unfiled candidates into the races.

Keith Johnson and Tamae Moriyasu are contending to represent business and economics students on the SUAB.

Johnson, a 24-year-old senior majoring in finance and economics, is concerned about the financial plight of the University.

"Things are really tight, and they're not going to get any better," Johnson says.

Although Johnson has never attended a SUAB meeting, he has a definite idea of the board's function in the University administration.

"SUAB should voice students' interests. And you shouldn't support only what's good for your group."

Johnson says he would support the Career Planning and Placement Service, which he considers important for business majors.

Vying with Johnson for the business and economics position is Tamae Moriyasu, a 20-year-old sophomore majoring in marketing.

Moriyasu says she would stress better communication between the University's department heads so the University's budget problems could be better understood.

"Students are pretty worried right now," Moriyasu says. "Oregon has a strong business school, and I don't want that to go downhill."

Running for the political science position on the board

are David Newell and David Montgomery.

Newell, a 19-year-old sophomore, is Information and Grievance Center director for SUAB.

Newell says he already attends SUAB and University faculty senate meetings regularly, but that he would feel more effective as a voting member of the student board.

Newell says his goals for the SUAB would depend on the priorities set by the student board, but he says he is concerned about closed and overcrowded sections of University classes.

In the only other contended race, Cheryl Steinhaus and David Kosse are running for the SUAB journalism position.

Steinhaus, a 20-year-old pre-journalism sophomore, has directed ESCAPE publicity this academic year.

"I could represent students well," Steinhaus says. "I would like to get involved in politics."

Although Steinhaus says the student board isn't used enough by students, she says intelligent student representation can help the faculty senate make better decisions.

Her opponent David Kosse could not be reached for comment.

In uncontested races, Kevin Conover is seeking the SUAB biology-chemistry position, Paul Rudinsky is running for the undeclared major position, Geoffrey Nichols hopes to fill the Computer and Information Science-Math position, and SUAB incumbent Susan Browning wants to serve a second term as music representative.

Candidates did not file for positions representing law, community service and public affairs, and architecture and allied arts. The three positions will be elected by write-in votes.

PRINCE
PÜCKLER'S

**FROZEN
YOGURT**

A low-calorie dessert

13th & Hilyard
Atrium, downtown

'SUMMER IN THE ROCKIES'

Employment Opportunities available
for College students in

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK, ESTES PARK,
AND VAIL, COLORADO**

June to mid-late September, in the areas of:

RESORT HOTELS • FOOD SERVICE • RETAIL SALES

For more information, send \$5.00 to:

ROCKY MOUNTAIN RESORT EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

Post Office Box 2559
Vail, Colorado 81657

FOR MOM

**The Book Department
Free Mailing Offer**

We will mail at our expense, in one package to a single destination in the U.S., books from our Book Department purchased at \$10 or more between April 13 and May 9.

This offer applies to books only from our Book Department purchased between April 13 and May 9 (receipt required). No textbooks will be accepted for the offer. We guarantee to have your packages gift-wrapped and in the mail within 24 hours, but cannot guarantee delivery, since the Post Office will not. Each purchase of \$10 or more from The Book Department will allow one package to be mailed free. For instance, you may buy several books totaling at least \$10, have them gift-wrapped free (separately, if you wish) and mailed together to one destination. You may not, however, buy two \$5 books and have them sent to two different addresses.

From
The Book Department

UO BOOKSTORE 13th & Kincaid
Mon-Fri 8:15-5:30 Sat 10:00-2:00
Textbooks 686-3520 • General Books 686-3510 • Supplies 686-4331

Resumes

Make a great impression with resumes copied or printed on your choice of paper at Eugene Print. We offer quick, convenient service — or a self-service copier — with finished copies that will help you put your best foot forward!

EUGENE PRINT
Two locations:
2387 West 11th, 686-9799
20 East 13th, 484-2601

TAX HELP

**Sponsored by
Beta Alpha Psi**

We'll be in the EMU every Tues., Wed., and Thurs., 10:30-2:30, from now until April 15th to help you with your tax questions.