



Nudists bare all for press

Cort Fernald
of the Emerald

"Is anybody going to ask about sex?" asks Hap Hathaway from the podium on the dais.

There's an awkward silence and fidgeting among the news reporters, photographers and regional representatives of the American Sunbathing Association. But no one asks the question.

"Now... C'mon, I know you have questions about sex," Hathaway reiterates. When no one asks, Hathaway shrugs resignedly.

Hathaway, president of ASA, a national nudist group, is in Eugene along with more than 1,000 nudists from across the United States and Canada for the 52nd annual ASA convention. The Willamettans, a Lane County nudist group, are hosting the convention at their 40-acre camp site outside of Marcola in the Mohawk Valley.

Although Tuesday afternoon, Hathaway and other practicing nudists were fully clothed and hosting the press to an informational luncheon at the Thunderbird Motor Inn.

Don Deakin, a high school teacher from Chicago Heights, Ill., says Hathaway asked the question about sex — implying promiscuity — because it usually lurks in the back of people's minds when they think of nudism. Deakin and the other nudist representatives toss aside the sex question, attributing it to a myth among the uninformed public.

When German immigrant Kurt Barthel arrived in 1929 there was no such thing as nudism in America. Barthel and three other couples found an isolated spot in New York state and began the social nudism movement in this country. He formed The American League for Physical Culture which eventually became the American Sunbathing Association.

During the early years of nudism



Photos by Mark Pynes
The Klausman family — parents Dave and Anita, and children Hannah, Meghan and Jonathan — assemble for a group portrait with friend Mary Moffet and her two children.

police raids were common at outings. It wasn't until the 1950s that nudism at private sites became tolerated by society. Hathaway says that communities now accept the nudist camps in their areas. There are 150 ASA affiliated nudist parks in North America serving over 25,000 practicing nudists.

Deakin cites a recent Gallup poll that shows 72 percent of adults

surveyed approve of optional nudity on public beaches. The poll also stated that 15 percent of those adults had participated in "skinny-dipping."

"More people are willing to come out of the closet" (concerning nudism), says Jean Hawk of San Diego.

Right now the nudist groups are

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Atiyeh visits University

Gov. Vic Atiyeh will recognize the increased productivity of the registrar's office staff during his visit to the University today.

Atiyeh will present a Governor's Productivity Award to the staff at 1:30 p.m. at their office in Oregon Hall.

The award recognizes the increased efficiency and work output of the staff members that has resulted from the development and implementation of a micrographics system now in use in the office.

The system includes a microfilm camera that puts blip codes on each document filmed, a microfilm reader/printer that reads the blips and a microcomputer that provides an index to the microfilms, according to Larry Waddell, operations supervisor who oversaw technical development of the system.

Records for all current students are on microfilm, and previous students are being added to the system as time allows. No additional staff was added to the registrar's office to help with the project.

Work on the project started about two years ago under the leadership of then Registrar Wanda Johnson, now associate director of admissions and records.

A water leak in Oregon Hall created concerns about records security. After examining various options, including waterproof security rooms, the decision was made to begin converting to a "paperless office," Waddell said.

The micrographics system has now been in operation about eight months.

1,000 set to graduate

More than 1,000 degree candidates will be eligible to participate in the University's summer term commencement ceremonies Saturday, Aug. 13.

Ceremonies will get underway at 10 a.m. outdoors on the Memorial Quadrangle north of the University library between the art museum and PLC. If it rains, the hour-long event will move indoors to Mac Court on University Street. The public is welcome.

Rep. Jim Weaver, D-Oregon, will be the featured speaker. His talk is titled "Survival: In the '80s and Beyond." A 1952 University graduate, Weaver has served in the U.S. House of Representatives since 1974. He previously was staff administrator of the Oregon Legislature's Interim Committee on Agriculture and, from 1960 until his election to Congress, he was a building contractor and developer in Eugene.

Weaver, 55, is a member of the House Interior and Agriculture committees. He chairs the Interior Subcommittee on Mines and Mining, Forest Management and the Bonneville Power Administration.

Among the 1,007 summer term degree candidates are 607 slated to receive bachelor's degrees, 313 master's degree candidates, 85 doctoral candidates and two set to receive law degrees.