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Eugene puts Soviet Union in fishbowl

By Debbie Howlett
Of the Emerald

While the average Soviet isn't likely to put the United States in a fishbowl as Martha Mautner, an expert on Soviet-U.S. relations, did Monday night, Soviets are interested in the United States "when it becomes a problem," Mautner said.

Mautner was in Eugene to discuss "people to people perceptions" between Soviets and Americans with an audience of about 100 people at Harris Hall.

Mautner, the deputy director of the USSR and East European office in the state department's bureau for intelligence and research, has 38 years of experience in U.S.-Soviet relations.

The "people to people perceptions" have definite political implications, Mautner said.

"We always assume everyone we talk to is a friend," Mautner said prior to the lecture. "We tend to turn personal relationships into national relationships." The United States should deal with the Soviet Union on that basis, Mautner said.

"We've got this detente era feeling and we are becoming disillusioned. It's time we should be disillusioned and go on from there," Mautner said.

But Mautner's speech addressed a broader topic of concern — the interaction between the people of the two countries and how that interaction affects government dealings.

Because the United States and the Soviet Union are "diametrically opposed" in every aspect, the pressure from United States toward the Soviet Union, especially pressure in the human terms Americans are apt to focus on, is viewed as "an attempt to ruin the cohesion of the Soviet state,"

Mautner said.

However, the Soviet view of the United States is more often a matter of one's age, she said.

Citing a tremendous generation gap between the youth and the aged, Mautner said the young are apt to emulate and explore the tastes and preferences of other countries, especially the United States.

However, the old guard, which "make our knee-jerk reactionaries look like flaming liberals," would prefer to return to a policy of "Karl Marx as the answer to a maiden's prayer," Mautner said.

Mautner attributes a severe age spread, at least partly, to Josef Stalin's purges and the toll of World War II. And the difference in ages has taken on more than just a demographic significance.

It is with this generation gap that governmental relations between the Soviet and United States will change, Mautner said.

The politburo, the controlling members of the Soviet's communist party, are all between 70 and 80 years old and will soon relinquish control to younger, less idealistic party members, Mautner said. Youth is no longer inspired by the political rhetoric that captivated their parents, she added.

For that reason the Soviets tend to display a "milk and honey" perception of Soviet life, Mautner said. While restrictions on religion and communication are declining, the communist party influence is still kept in full view, Mautner said.

But when the time comes for the younger set to take control of the communist party, they will still be "clones of their elders," Mautner cautioned. "But their experiences will be different," she said. They will not be "hung-up" on the "old school's concerns."

An example is a Soviet people and government are



Martha Mautner

"very definitely in favor of arms control agreements," Mautner said. But acceptance depends on the "terms of agreement," Mautner said.

Just as U.S. politicians have to face their constituencies, Soviet leaders must face a "rigid military that does not want to give in to anything," Mautner said. And for an arms agreement to be reached, the military must begin to soften its stand, she said.

"That's where we're at right now," Mautner said.

Police believe one man committed six assaults

By Joan Herman
Of the Emerald

The sixth incident in a string of campus-area sexual assault cases occurred early Monday morning, and police strongly believe that one person is responsible for all six incidents, said Sgt. Rick Allison of the Eugene Police Department.

In Monday's incident, a 19-year-old University sophomore was walking along Agate Street outside her Hamilton Complex dormitory room, when she was grabbed from behind by a male suspect and dragged along Agate Street about 6:30 a.m., police said.

The student elbowed the suspect in his rib cage, momentarily stunning him, and ran into her dormitory. The suspect fled, Allison said.

It was the third such incident in as many days in the campus area.

Saturday night a 17-year-old University student was crossing Columbia Street near her Hamilton dormitory room when someone grabbed her wrist and dragged her north along 13th Avenue.

The student, who had stepped outside about 9:45 p.m. for a breath of fresh air, pleaded to the suspect to be released. He continued dragging her along the street and eventually into the Visitor's Parking Lot at 13th Avenue and Agate Street, according to Allison.

When he neared a wooden booth in the lot, the suspect shoved the student to the ground and rolled on top of her. The student scratched the suspect's face, causing him to yell and roll off her, and she ran away, Allison said.

About 1 a.m. the next day, police believe the same suspect was responsible for turning off the electricity within a University student's apartment at 12th Avenue and Ferry Street.

When the woman noticed the lights go off in her apartment, she opened the outside door and the suspect grabbed her. She was able to escape the suspect's grasp and run toward the

apartment manager's door, causing the suspect to flee.

"I think his pattern is showing some frustration," Allison said. "He's trying almost daily with no success. I'm afraid of (the suspect committing) physical violence because of his frustration."

The suspect is described as a white male in his late 20s to early 30s, 6 feet 3 to 4 inches tall, about 165 pounds, with brown collar-length hair and a "heavily pock-marked face." The suspect usually wears dark clothing.

Police believe the same suspect is responsible for three related crimes as well, the most recent occurring Nov. 2.

In that incident, the suspect entered a campus-area home about 8 p.m. and threatened a 21-year-old University student with a knife when she refused to disrobe. The suspect fled the student's home when he was confronted by her roommate.

On Oct. 30 a Carson Hall resident, who said her room had been locked, was sodomized about 5:30 a.m. in her dormitory room.

In what police believe was the suspect's first reported incident, a Smith Hall resident was sodomized in the pre-dawn hours in her dormitory room on Sept. 13. The suspect fled when the student screamed, Allison said.

Allison urges anyone with information relating to these cases to contact him at the University's Public Safety Office, 686-5444.

Allison is "very confident" the suspect has attacked other victims, as well, and "if those victims came forward, they might give us the information we need to solve the case."

Because the suspect has attacked victims only when it is dark, Allison cautions students to never walk alone at those times. A Student Patrol escort service will escort students on campus and within a two-block radius around campus from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. every night. To contact the service, call 686-5444.

Contraceptive court case resumes in Eugene today

By Michele Matassa
Of the Emerald

A federal court case in which 15 Oregon women are suing the manufacturer of the Dalkon Shield intrauterine device resumes this morning in downtown Eugene after a four-day break.

The trial of Pamela Van Duyn's case began Nov. 7. The entire case is expected to last several weeks.

Opening today's testimony in the Van Duyn case will be the conclusion of a taped 1981 deposition by a quality control employee who tested the product during the early 1970s.

In Thursday's portion of the tape, Eldrin Crowder said tests showed that a multifilament tailstring used for removal of the contraceptive device did not fulfill its function and did increase the chance of pelvic infection.

"I believe that bacteria could invade the (normally sterile) uterus using the core of the string as a channel," Crowder said.

That testimony supported the plaintiffs' claim, which charges manufacturer A.H. Robins Company with product liability, negligence and fraud. The women argue that use of the Dalkon Shield led to pelvic inflammatory disease, permanently damaging their reproductive organs.

In his opening statement for the plaintiffs Nov. 8, Eugene attorney Michael Williams claimed that the design of the Dalkon Shield's tailstring provides a "wick" for bacteria to travel into the uterus.

"The reason that we're going to prove the Dalkon Shield was so highly related to infection and caused so many infections is because it provided a highway for the bacteria to get through the cervical plug and up into the uterus," Williams argued.

He said that Virginia-based Robins failed to tell anyone when it was looking for an alternative to the multi-fiber tailstring.

"At the time they are doing this (looking for an alternative), they are busy selling millions of these devices all over the country, and they know there is a problem with wicking and bacteria," he said.

Robins' attorney, Carol Hewitt of Portland, stressed in her opening statement the reliability of Robins as a pharmaceutical

agency.

"A.H. Robins is a reliable and highly regarded pharmaceutical company. It has always used caution and great responsibility in marketing its drug products," Hewitt said.

"The Dalkon Shield was the most thoroughly tested intrauterine device that had ever been put on the market. It was tested in more than 8,000 women before Robins ever sold it nationally," she argued.

Expanding on other causes of pelvic inflammatory disease, Hewitt said "it was not the Dalkon Shield that caused these women's infection."

She said more than one million women nationally, 10,000 in Oregon, contract the disease yearly. And two percent to four percent of sexually active women become infected, Hewitt said.

She listed multiple sex partners, earlier cases of the disease, age (under 25), prior abortion, abdominal surgery and no previous childbirth as factors that should be considered while diagnosing the cause of the disease.

The plaintiffs' first witness, Shanna Swann, an epidemiologist from the University of California at Berkeley, testified Wednesday that IUD use "significantly increases a woman's risk of pelvic inflammatory disease."

Swann cited six studies that, to her, showed "the Dalkon Shield has a significantly greater risk of pelvic inflammatory disease, and particularly among women who use the device for three years or more," Swann said.

In cross-examination of Swann, Hewitt stressed it was only Swann's "opinion" that Dalkon Shields increase risk of infection.

Hewitt also focused on other causes of disease, saying that statistics relating it to Dalkon Shield use are useless when taken without considering other factors.

Swann said the statistics can be used separately.

The court will spend a few weeks on the Van Duyn case, then will proceed more quickly through the remaining cases, said presiding U.S. District Judge Robert Belloni.

Van Duyn is suing for a total of \$1 million in compensatory and punitive damages.