

Oregon Daily Emerald

What's that noise?
See Page 8A

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AIDS worries contribute to homosexual discrimination

By Diana Elliott
Of the Emerald

In Houston last month, mayoral candidate Louie Welch exclaimed on live TV that a way to stop AIDS would be to "shoot the queers."

In Nebraska, the Lincoln National Life Insurance Co. has decided to more closely question unmarried men between the ages of 20-44 in New York City, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Miami, Newark and Houston, all of which have high numbers of AIDS victims.

Over the summer, U.S. Rep. William Dannemeyer, R-Calif., hired anti-gay activist Paul Cameron to act as an AIDS consultant at taxpayer's expense. Cameron suggested that homosexuals be quarantined.

Discrimination toward homosexuals, which has intensified during the past year due to a worldwide AIDS scare, has not been contained within large cities that have high homosexual populations.

In fact, discrimination against homosexuals has increased dramatically in Eugene, which is considered to be a tolerant city, according to Jim Shoemaker,

Shoemaker says.

"A lot of callers say, 'I hope you all get AIDS and die,'" Shoemaker says. "That kind of thing used to bother me, but not



Gay and Lesbian Alliance



Courtesy Graphic

co-director of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance at the University.

Shoemaker says that incidents of discrimination against the gay and lesbian population have always been common but have become even more prevalent within the past several years, concurrent with the AIDS epidemic.

For example, whereas GALA has always received frequent crank calls from people who make derogatory comments and then hang up, recently the calls have made references to AIDS.

anyone. Maybe I've become seasoned."

While the crank phone calls are always annoying, they aren't as humiliating as an incident that happened in July, Shoemaker says. A Texaco station on River Road displayed a sign that read: "GAY: Got AIDS yet?"

When Shoemaker called the station, the employee whom he talked to thought it was funny and refused to take it down.

Continued on Page 3A

Salvadoran student leader seeks University's support

By Mary Lichtenwalner
Of the Emerald

Bombed-out buildings, rooms without walls and broken and stolen materials don't make for a healthy educational atmosphere. Students at the University of El Salvador are making do with such provisions, but it isn't easy — support is needed, said Salvadoran student Rodolfo Rosales.

Rosales spoke through an interpreter at a luncheon held at the Black Angus Restaurant Tuesday to discuss plans for an exchange program initiated by the ASUO between UES and the University of Oregon.

Rosales, vice president of the General Association of Salvadoran University Students, visited the area with Antonio Quezada, president of the student organization. Quezada, however, was unable to attend the luncheon due to illness, Rosales said. Rosales also presented a slide show Tuesday evening.

Past visitors to the University from Central America have shown strong commitment to higher education and the role it plays in developing that region, University President Paul Olum said at the luncheon.

Olum said that the students from the UES showed that dedication.

Rosales said that although the Salvadoran university's job is commitment to its people, the government has made it difficult for the university to stick to that role.

"The government has accused it of being a terrorist and subversive institution," he said.

The UES was closed after a major attack by the Salvadoran Armed Forces in 1980, which left 60 students and faculty dead, while 40 people were reported missing. The rector of the university, Feliz Antonio Ulloa, was later assassinated.

Rosales estimated the damage to the university at more than \$25 million.

The university reopened in May 1984, but life there is still unsettled, Rosales said. Ar-

rests, disappearances and assassinations of University personnel are common. Rosales and Quezada appeared on a "hit list" published in July by the Secret Anti-Communist Army, a death squad.

The meeting Tuesday was a step toward an actual exchange between the universities that may develop into a sister university relationship, exchanging materials, students and faculty. So far, it's symbolic, but it may develop into an actual exchange, said Margie Boyd, ASUO program coordinator.

To become a legal exchange, the sister university resolution passed by the ASUO must also be passed by the Student Senate, the University Senate and the University Assembly, then Olum must approve it.

A microscope and four solar calculators were donated by the ASUO at the luncheon to the university. Boyd said the donation is to be used as an example for other University departments to start giving.

The exchange can provide two types of faculty and student interchanges, Rosales said. One would be a technical exchange of professors; the other would allow anyone in the University community to visit and see what is happening, he said.

American students visiting UES would not be threatened like the Salvadoran students are because of the Salvadorans' dependence on Americans, Rosales said. Therefore, the military and the death squads take care that they don't harm Americans.

"The function of the university has only been possible because of the sacrifice of the Salvadoran families and the support from foreign universities who are supporting to defend our right to education," Rosales said.

The answer to the terrorist problem is aid through sister university relations, he said.

Rosales said students can become involved by writing letters to their representatives in Congress, and by promoting the idea of becoming a sister university with UES.



Catchin' rays

There's just something about the sun that forces people to sit outside, even on a day when freezing temperatures accompany clear skies. Just ask Jan Lucht who bundled up and braved the cold just to bask in Tuesday's glorious burst of rays while he ate lunch.

The cool, crisp days are only expected to last through today, however, with highs reaching the mid 40s. The weather service says rain is coming back on Thursday.

Photo by Steven Wall