

- Second open forum, Page 5
- East Campus study, Page 6
- Organic food law, Page 8
- Here come the Wildcats, Page 9

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Day held to promote national AIDS action Art galleries show support

By Janis Joseph
Emerald Reporter

Hiding an artist's work under black cloth is not something that the Hult center's art gallery does often.

However, this is exactly what Suzanne Pepin, director of the Hult Center's Jacobs Gallery, will do Friday in support of a Day Without Art, designated as a national day of action and mourning.

The Jacobs Gallery, along with other local and national art galleries, will drape a prominent piece of art under black cloth to dramatize what the world would be like without art, said Will White, EMU visual arts director and local organizer of A Day Without Art.

More than 400 art institutions nationwide will participate by draping a work of art, closing for the day or turning off the gallery's lights, White said.

The event is sponsored by Visual AIDS, an organization of art professionals designed to promote AIDS awareness through events and exhibitions, according to a written statement by the organization.

A Day Without Art is being held in conjunction with the

World Health Organization's second annual "AIDS Awareness Day" Friday, White said.

The goals of A Day Without Art are to recognize friends and colleagues who have died or are dying and to seek greater support and understanding from the public, according to a Visual AIDS statement.

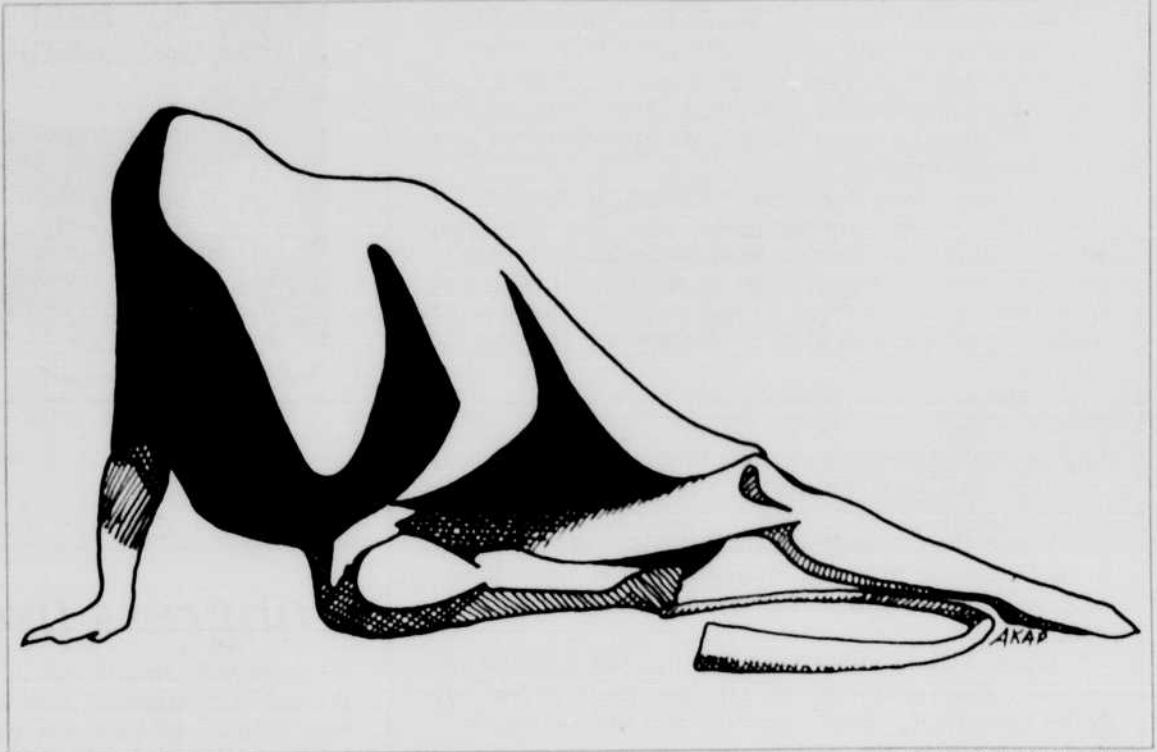
Many artists have been involved from the beginning in informing the public about AIDS, White said. There are many gay men in the arts community and gay men are in a high risk group, he added.

"A lot of people think that AIDS doesn't affect them," White said. "But they're going to have to rethink what AIDS really is."

"The National Center for Disease Control predicts that HIV disease will be the number one killer on college campuses by 1991," he said.

About three in every 1,000 people on campuses around the country are infected with the virus that causes AIDS, according to the AIDS Task Force Committee. This would equate to about 60 infected University students.

Nationally, more than 100,000 people are diagnosed as having AIDS and more than 66,000 people have died from



Graphic Illustration by Amy Petrone

The Hult Center's Jacobs Gallery will drape a sculpture with a black shroud in support of a Day Without Art.

AIDS, said Sally Sheklow, executive director of the Willamette AIDS Council. In Lane County, 47 people are diagnosed as having AIDS and 22 people have died of AIDS, she said.

"The name, 'A Day Without Art', is a metaphor for the chilling possibility of even more widespread art community deaths," according to a written statement by Visual AIDS.

One of the only galleries that refused to participate was the University's Museum of Art,

White said.

"Essentially, the director felt it was not directly a statement about art and there wasn't a purpose served by covering up a piece of art," said Ethel Welean, administrative assistant to museum director Stephen McGough. It was the director's decision, she added.

McGough was not available for comment.

"Any voice we can have toward a cure for AIDS will be beneficiary," said Bruce Milletto, director of the Maude

Kerns Art Center Gallery. "Many times small actions can generate concern and interest."

Milletto said the gallery will drape one piece of art in a symbolic gesture of support. He added that about two dozen people visit the gallery per day.

The Metropolitan Community Church and the Campus Interfaith Ministry are co-sponsoring the fourth annual AIDS Vigil of Prayer from Friday to Saturday evening. The vigil will be held at the Koinonia Center, 1414 Kincaid Street.

ASUO encourages opposition to Bush veto

By Dan Eisler
Emerald Reporter

Opposition to President Bush's expected pocket veto of a bill allowing Chinese students to remain in the U.S. after their visas expire can be expressed by calling his office from the ASUO office, the ASUO decided Wednesday.

"ASUO really supports this," said Angela Muniz, ASUO state affairs coordinator. "Come in and ask the secretary, the receptionist, or anybody there and phone the White House," from EMU Suite 4, Muniz said.

The number is 202-456-7639.

Chinese students abroad are under a lot of pressure, both from the Bush administration and from the mainland Chinese government, which opposes the bill, she said.

Introduced by Rep. Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., the bill, which would give Chinese students four more years to apply for new visas, or permanent residency, passed unanimously in the House of Representatives and by a voice vote in the Senate.

A pocket veto occurs when the president does not sign a bill within 10 days after Congress has adjourned.

Bush has until Saturday to sign the bill, said Peter Briggs, assistant director for international services.

Briggs said approximately 80 percent of more than 40,000 Chinese students in the United States hold visas. The bill does not grant political asylum or safe haven, but provides an option for students in case of an adverse government in China, he said.

The bill comes in the wake of the Chinese government's June massacre at Tiananmen

Square.

The mainland Chinese government is upset about this bill because it has invested heavily in sending students abroad, and could suffer a "brain drain" if large numbers of students request asylum, Briggs said.

Passage of the bill would "more or less terminate an educational relationship of the past 10-12 years," Briggs said, adding that Bush would like to continue to maintain that relationship with the Chinese government.

"I'm very much moved by this bill," said a prominent student from the People's Republic of China who asked to remain anonymous to protect himself from retaliation by the Chinese government.

Some of the students abroad have returned to China, and are in prison, forbidden to teach, or have been followed and interrogated, the student said.

The student speculated Bush "personally wants to keep relations with the Chinese government because he's friends with" former leader Deng Xiaoping, dating from Bush's days as ambassador to China.

"Maybe (Bush) sees the general interest of the U.S. Congress could play the bad guy, he could play the good guy, and the Chinese government does nothing" in response to a veto, the student said.

"People are supporting the democracy movement, (but) Bush, who is supposed to support the democracy movement, is going to veto (the bill) — he's really going to far, even though he wants to retain the ties.

"He's saying if he passes the bill the Chinese government will punish the U.S. The

Turn to Veto, Page 12

Improved lighting needed

By Brian Bloch
Emerald Associate Editor

A report issued by the University Safety Advisory Committee Nov. 17 calls for improved lighting in a number of campus areas as well as improved maintenance of existing lights.

The student/faculty committee began developing the report in 1987 to respond to student demands for increased campus safety after dark. Two physical surveys and numerous night tours of the campus were conducted to identify poorly lit

areas.

The report will act as a recommendation to the University administration for the development of "both the criteria and, subsequently, an official policy statement on the need for adequate exterior lighting for all new exterior construction," better inter-department communication and education on lighting needs, and development of a regular lighting maintenance plan.

ASUO University Affairs Coordinator and SAC member Kirk Bailey said that lighting is

Turn to Safety, Page 6

Writer speaks on oil spill

By Alice Thornton
Emerald Reporter

Environmentalist Mike Lewis discussed the effects of the March 24 Exxon oil spill in Valdez, Alaska during a speech sponsored by the Survival Center Wednesday.

Lewis, a free lance writer and photographer, moved to Valdez in 1987 to work. Several weeks after the oil spill, he produced a video called "Voices of the Sound" that discussed the problems in Prince William Sound resulting from the spill.

When he heard about the spill on the first day, Lewis said his reaction was disbelief.

"I thought, 'Oh sure, somebody's turned my clock forward, and it's April first. This is a joke,'" Lewis said. "But the oil spill never stopped. It hasn't stopped yet."

Lewis said 90 percent of what happened with Exxon in Alaska had to do with public relations.

"Less than 10 percent of the effort was put into cleaning up the oil," Lewis said. "They

Turn to Spill, Page 8