



File photo

The University herbarium hosts weekly plant walks along the northern bank of the Willamette River.

Nature walk group finds life's 'treasures'

By Joseph Kidd
Emerald Contributor

Like a funeral procession, they could have trodden along in an air of mourning. The loss of precious life was all around.

Gray, bare cottonwoods scratched at the sky, revenging their stolen glory. The river's action was unchanged, but its reflection had long abandoned the rippling green. Even though the sun was shining, one might have thought it an exercise in longing.

But the group of 10 knew better.

When the leader said "We're looking for things in bloom," optimism peeped out of their smiles.

With those words Nancy Twynam began "the plant walk." The northern bank of the Willamette River near Autzen Stadium weekly hosts this excursion, organized by the University herbarium during fall and spring terms.

Instead of finding a fading fall, the mix of University students and community members discovered dozens of thriving treasures Thursday. They

found living jewels that reaffirm the existence of autumn's hidden life.

Twynam, the herbarium's curator, handed out a list of potential finds, and the group was off.

After three minutes of heading east, a *Hypochaeris radicata* coaxed the walkers off the trail. Yes, it appeared to be the kind of yellow flower gardeners complain about — those pesky dandelions. But this was no ordinary dandelion. It was a California dandelion, fending off the cold with a show of its bright yellow.

The 10 strolled through a militant company of aligned filbert trees. Then came a "platter-like pond, serving up an assortment of appetizers.

Tansy ragwort haughtily flaunted its health in the face of browning Queen Anne's lace whose rule had come to an end.

"It'll probably be doing its thing until New Year's Day," veteran plant walker Marge Zane said, referring to the hearty sprig of tansy.

A delicate, burgundy oil

Turn to Walk, Page 6



STAND OUT IN A CROWD

The On-Campus Internship Program has numerous opportunities available to gain both academic credit and work experience. Work hours and credits can be arranged to fit your class schedule.

Gain experience winter term in:

- Management Analysis
- Athletic Promotions
- Overseas Study Advising
- Broadcast Assistance
- Legislative/Community Relations
- and many other fields.

For more information, visit the On-Campus Internship Office at 364 Oregon Hall. Or call 686-3216

AIDS. MAYBE YOU DON'T GET IT.

Up to 60 University of Oregon students may already have the AIDS virus. Thousands more are putting themselves at risk by ignoring the truth:

AIDS is something that affects us all.

Practice safe sex, and take the chance out of AIDS.

For more information, call the Health Education line at 686-4456.

Sponsored by the Student Health Center.

AIDS. TAKE IT PERSONALLY.

the hult center

indigo girls

dec. 7th, 8 pm, \$12.50 reserved
tickets available at the hult box office and all hult center outlets
or charge by phone 687-5000 presented by cloud 9



Have a safe, relaxing winter break!

