

- Wet leaves a hazard, Page 4
- Two grants awarded, Page 6
- Player of the week, Page 13
- Montana the best ever, Page 14

# Oregon Daily Emerald

Tuesday, January 9, 1990

Eugene, Oregon

Volume 91, Number 73

## AIDS Information Month debuts at student rally

### Students are urged to become involved

By Alice Thornton  
Emerald Reporter

An enthusiastic rally in the EMU courtyard Monday afternoon set the tone for AIDS Information Month on campus and throughout Eugene.

The rally promoted safer sex by offering free condoms and dental dams to students, and it encouraged local involvement in AIDS issues.

"We're here to talk about some vital information," said University student and rally moderator Tim Hughes. "Taking AIM is a small step in our community."

AIM began as an idea for an art exhibition featuring AIDS as the theme, Hughes said. The exhibition grew into a month of workshops and activities promoting AIDS prevention and awareness.

Hughes offered statistics as of

AIDS issues.

"Our government, our policy makers have been somewhat silent on AIDS issues," Oliver said.

Oliver said gay white males and lesbians received negative attention during the initial public discussions of AIDS issues. Homophobia caused a lack of discussion on AIDS issues, she said.

Recent discussions have attempted to include the heterosexual population as well as minority groups, she said.

"The politics of AIDS have also become the politics of race," Oliver said.

Oliver encouraged all students to become active in AIDS issues, in spite of the lack of government involvement.

The lack of government funding and policies and a poor response to AIDS education should not discourage students



challenge those who are already involved to take care of yourselves because the burnout point is very low in this area."

Members of the Willamette Aids Council offered demonstrations and discussions of the use of condoms and dental dams to promote safer sex. Condoms and dental dams are available to students at the Willamette Aids Council office.

Musician Patrick Dodd performed a song entitled "Victims of the Frost" which was written about one of Dodd's friends who died of AIDS.

Dodd dedicated the song to the people who have died from AIDS as well as the victims' friends and families.

"AIDS affects everyone involved with the person," Dodd said.

Two theater groups offered more entertainment and discussion of AIDS issues.

A group called Theatrical Alternatives offered ideas about



Photos by Steve Card

Students rally at the EMU Courtyard (above) to start off AIDS Information Month and musician Patrick Dodd (below) sings a dedication to AIDS victims.

Turn to AIM, Page 12

**"The tendency to blame it (AIDS) on the government is far too easy. You don't need the government to get you involved with AIDS."**

— Jan Oliver

Nov. 15, 1989 that indicate 674 diagnosed cases of AIDS in Oregon. He said 382 people have died in Oregon as a result of AIDS. More than 66,000 deaths have been reported nationwide, Hughes said.

"By 1991 — next year — AIDS is going to be the number one killer on college campuses," Hughes said.

Jan Oliver from the Eugene Minority Aids Coalition discussed the political aspects of

from becoming involved in AIDS issues and projects, she said.

"The tendency to blame it (AIDS) on the government is far too easy," Oliver said. "You don't need the government to get you involved with AIDS."

Oliver promoted discussion of AIDS with friends and lovers to encourage openness toward preventing the disease.

"I challenge you all to get involved," Oliver said. "I chal-



Jeff Miller

## Miller shares vision for city's future

By Hon Walker  
Emerald Associate Editor

Mayor Jeff Miller evaluated his first year as city leader and shared his visions for the future Monday afternoon during the annual State of the City address at the Eugene Hilton.

Miller, who was sworn in as mayor last Jan. 10, said the past year has given him an opportunity to see what the city is capable of doing, "and now we have more to do than ever before."

He outlined his three top commitments for 1990 during his speech, which attracted about 400 people, and as with last year his top priority is housing for the homeless and low-income residents.

"We need both a short-term and a long-term solution," he said. As a short-term plan he unveiled a proposal to open local churches, synagogues and

lodges as temporary shelters for homeless families.

However, this plan would not accommodate those with mental illness or drug or alcohol problems. He said, "This is strictly a short-term way to buy us time until we get a long-term solution in place."

A longer lasting solution would be for a non-profit developer to construct 30 to 50 new apartment units per year over the next five years. The units, at a rate of \$250 per month, would house those with low and moderate incomes.

"There is going to be a price to be paid no matter what we do," he said.

Another top concern for the year is committing to help spark a renaissance of the downtown business district, Miller said. During last year's inaugural address he also had cited downtown revitalization as a goal.

"Just as homelessness needs to be Job One socially, downtown needs to be Job

One economically," he said.

Miller expressed concern that merchants downtown were profiting less than they were a decade ago.

In addition, the Sears building was vacated last fall, the Tiffany and Equitable buildings have long been empty, and other businesses are planning to leave the downtown area soon.

Last month, the California-based Pankow Development Corp. pulled out of negotiations for a downtown project as well. Plans for a Pankow-backed downtown library were scrapped in March.

"Some people think I have an ax to grind, and I do," Miller said. Downtown merchants are making less profits now than a decade ago, and vacancies are up, meaning the problem cannot be ignored, he said.

Turn to Mayor, Page 12