

Oregon Daily Emerald

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1991

EUGENE, OREGON

VOLUME 93, ISSUE 55

Group speaks out for mental patients

By Kirsten Lucas
Emerald Reporter

In October 1990, Jung Sook Jang, a 34-year-old University graduate student from Korea, wandered barefoot through the streets near campus, dressed in pajamas, occasionally lying on the sidewalk and dropping to her knees in prayer.

After two nights of encounters with the Eugene police and local crisis intervention staff, worried friends took Jang to the emergency room at Sacred Heart Hospital.

Jang was examined at Sacred Heart, was found to be endangering herself, and was involuntarily admitted to Lane County Psychiatric Hospital in Eugene by the director of Lane County Mental Health.

It was her second commitment to the facility in a month.

At LCPH, Jang pleaded with her doctor, "When can I go home? I really need to get back to my home."

That was Oct. 9.

Jang never made it home. The next day she was found dead, face down, arms and legs restrained, in solitary confinement at LCPH.

Yesterday, more than a year later, Jang's death and the medical practices of LCPH were brought to public attention by a local group



Participants in a memorial candlelight vigil yesterday met outside the Lane County Psychiatric Hospital where a Korean University student died last year.

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Jo Sonja Watson

Both Watson, opposition draw support

By Daralyn Trappe
Emerald Associate Editor

Members of the College Republicans say they collected about 250 signatures Tuesday — about 15 percent of what they need — on a petition they hope will lead to a recall election of ASUO Vice President Jo Sonja Watson.

Meanwhile, Watson is receiving words of support and encouragement from several other students, ASUO members and even the general manager of the University Bookstore.

College Republicans began its effort to have a recall election after it was revealed two weeks ago that Watson had been arrested in November 1990 for attempting to shoplift \$7.27 of merchandise from the University Bookstore.

Watson said she did not disclose her legal trouble during her election campaign be-

cause she felt it would have no bearing on her job performance. Members of the College Republicans believe Watson's actions and failure to inform students before the election are signs of irresponsibility.

Jason Wilson and Don King, co-directors of College Republicans, have set up a table in the EMU to collect signatures. Tuesday was the first day of their effort to collect 1,700 signatures — 10 percent of the student body — which is needed to force a recall election. If College Republicans gets enough signatures, students will vote on whether Watson should remain in office.

They have until Dec. 6 to attain the signatures.

King and Wilson said they met with some opposition Tuesday, but most students who approached were interested and signed the petition.

"We would prefer for her to resign," Wilson said. "We'd prefer not to have to do

this."

Watson said she will not resign. "My personal life is my personal life," she said. "If people are concerned about my leadership abilities, they need to focus on some of the positive things I've done in the ASUO. I initiated the restructuring of the comptrolling system during the summer. I'm trying to educate students about hunger and homelessness right now and I'm working on the library hours issue."

"People are weighing me down with this (recall effort) and it takes away from what I'm doing here."

King said the recall effort is not an intention to "split the campus."

"We have no problem with (ASUO President Jennifer) Bills' administration," he said. "She's going to be able to appoint the next vice president anyway. We just have a

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Several area groups offer AIDS tests, help

Organizations offer confidential results in screening for virus

By Tammy Batey
Emerald Reporter

Michael takes 76 pills a day, including tranquilizers, so he can sleep. At 24, he has AIDS.

The pills provide physical relief from his pain. Michael also receives emotional support from two support groups he attends for people who test positive for human immunodeficiency virus, or HIV — the Acorn Club and Shanti in Oregon's Body Positive Group. However, he finds the groups to be a mixed blessing.

"The groups are really good but can be really depressing," Michael said. "It's really hard for me because a lot of people who are HIV positive have never been sick."

Michael found out he was HIV positive in 1989 after becoming sick and having an HIV antibody test taken.

In 1991, Michael was diagnosed with acquired immune deficiency syndrome. He said the test results were a relief because not knowing what was wrong with him was worse.

"At first you're afraid," Michael said. "When you're sick you're like, 'oh, my



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God I'm HIV.' Then when you become HIV, you're like scared everytime you see a spot, wondering if you have AIDS. When you finally find out you have AIDS it's a relief, you can relax and just live life and not worry about it."

The test people can take to determine their HIV status is not for the HIV virus or for AIDS but for the antibodies in the blood that attempt to combat the virus.

The primary HIV antibody test used by health clinics is the Western Blot test, which is approved by the Center for Disease Control and is 99.9 percent

accurate if taken at the right time, said Kathleen Joe, Lane County Public Health HIV Coordinator.

Before the Western Blot test is administered, the blood is tested three times using the Elisa test. If the Elisa test results are positive or uncertain the Western Blot test is taken.

Antibodies for the HIV virus don't show up until a "window period" of three to six months after exposure, Joe said.

As a result, this "window period" means "the test is only good for the day it's done," Acorn Club Coordinator Heather Penman said.

White Bird Clinic Coordinator Jim Shoemaker said the clinic asks patients to return six months after their initial test is administered. At that point the patient and a doctor can discuss whether additional follow-up tests are needed.

Several Eugene health clinics offer free HIV antibody testing.

The White Bird Clinic offers anonymous testing on Tuesdays from 9 to 11 a.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. on a walk-in basis.

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Into the outdoors

Marion Lake, located just inside the western boundary of the Mt. Jefferson Wilderness Area, is the largest back-country lake in Oregon not accessible by car. During the summer, the 340-acre lake often hosts hundreds of visitors and can get a little overcrowded.

That's why fall and winter are the best times to visit this lake, when the crowds are gone and fall colors and pristine snow can be enjoyed.

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NAACP speaker

As the voters of Louisiana prepare to decide Saturday if former KKK Grand Wizard David Duke will be their next governor, the national vice president of the NAACP, who is also Louisiana's NAACP president, will be on campus to offer her insight into this and other issues.

Rupert Richardson will give "An Evening Discussion of Civil Rights" Thursday at 7 p.m. in Room 110 Wilamette Hall.

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