

GAYS

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Sometimes the media ignore gay events, Godbold said. *The Register-Guard's* sports section didn't write any stories about the Gay Games, a national sporting event for gay people.

"You're in good company, such as the Oregon Special Olympics," he said. "Sometimes these stories have to work their way up the ladder from a feature story, because it's different and interesting, to a legitimate, regular story."

"I think it's a sports story, just as the Special Olympics is a sports story and not a story about a bunch of handicapped kids with special rules," he said.

Deadlines can force reporters to use sources from the gay community who aren't as articulate in expressing their views, said KLCC-FM talk-show host Alan Siporin.

"You're working under deadline pressure," Siporin said. "You call your first source on the list and if they're not there you call the second source. Sometimes there's an imbalance. You get an articulate person on one side and someone who was three or four on the list on the other."

Siporin said he can tell when he has equally represented two sides of an issues.

"I remember when I got calls from both sides criticizing me," Siporin said. "I thought, 'This is great. I pissed off both sides.' Better than getting a compliment from one side was being criticized by both sides."

Siporin said newspapers and other media are still an "old boys club." Gays and lesbians are represented less than women and people of color.

"If someone is a woman, it's visible that perhaps they have special interests," he said. "They give women some leeway. They can say, 'Sally may want to cover feminist issues.' The same for African-Americans. But it's different for gays and lesbians who may not be out of the closet and may not want to say, 'Hey, we need to cover it more.'"

Journalism Professor Randy Beam said the media rarely act as a "magic bullet" that changes people's opinions about issues.

Beam said the media don't maliciously ignore gay events such as a recent gay rights march in Washington, D.C.

"I urge you not to look at it as a personal bias by the message maker," he said. "There are personal constraints that affect it. That doesn't make the outcome better, but it hasn't been my experience that people say, 'We're not covering it because we don't like gays.'"

NATURE

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parcs."

Wagner referred to the city and county upkeep of the park, in which they would unknowingly mow areas that contained many species of wild flowers.

"What really brought this on was getting people to leave the area alone and not bring in the big mowers," he said.

Ellie Dumdi, chairwoman of the Lane County Commission, officiated at the ceremony and called the nature sanctuary an oasis in the center of the park.

ALLERGIES

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coast where there are strong winds," Harbert said.

The Student Health Center has a small immunotherapy, or allergy treatment, area where allergy shots are administered for \$3 each. About 150 students currently take advantage of this service.

Students interested in switching their shots from their doctor to the health center should have their vaccine and allergy schedule sent to the health center.

The reason the health center needs a patient's vaccine is because the health center only administers the shots; vaccines are not made up there.

Students who think they may be suffering from allergies and have never been tested before can see one of the two allergists at the health center. If the allergist thinks it's necessary, a skin test will be given to determine what the patient is allergic to.

The skin test costs \$92, and about 60 different potential allergic substances are tested on the skin.

There are other routes a student can take if allergies are the problem. Allergy shots, medications or preventive measures are all possibilities.

Some preventive measures for allergy sufferers include staying indoors on heavily pollenated days, having air conditioning instead of open windows and cleaning house to eliminate dust.

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