

OUT

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are coming out for the first time often worry about what their families will think.

"It can be a lot to bear," he said. "Students wonder, 'Are my parents going to write me off or stop paying my tuition?' It's not just a fantasy fear. Sometimes that's the reality."

Coming out is a lifelong and even daily process, and coming out to yourself is the first step, said Jackie Balzer, University coordinator of educational and support ser-

vices. Balzer's job is to raise awareness on campus about gay, lesbian and bisexual issues.

"It can happen at any time," she said. "Someone can be married for 15 years and wake up one day and decide she's a lesbian and get a divorce."

Balzer said everyone comes out in their own way and at their own time.

"There are some people shouting it from the rooftops and some people sharing it with three close friends," she said.



Peter DeFazio



Les AuCoin

ET ALS

MEETINGS

The Asian- and Pacific-American Student Union will have a meeting in the counseling center tonight at 6. For information, call 346-4342.

Alpha Phi Omega will have a meeting tonight at 5 in the dining room near the Cedar Rooms in the EMU.

Students of Color Building Bridges will have a meeting in the Johnson Hall conference room today from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For information, call 346-4379.

Circle K International will have a membership information meeting in the Cedar Room F of the EMU tonight at 7:30. For more information, call 464-0689.

The women's ultimate team will have a mandatory meeting at the Southbank fields tonight at 5. All women are welcome.

RELIGION

The Catholic Newman Center will have masses Saturdays at 5 p.m., Sundays at 9 a.m., 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m., and daily at 5:10 p.m. It is located at 1850 Emerald Street.

The Wesley Foundation will begin its fall term Bible study meetings today at 11:30 a.m. The Wesley Foundation is located at 1236 Kincaid St. Meetings are led by Campus Pastor Janet Cromwell. For information, call 346-4694.

MISCELLANEOUS

Academic Advising and Student Services will have a workshop today at 3:30 p.m. in 164 Oregon Hall. The topic of the workshop will be "Applying to Graduate School" and will cover ways to find the right graduate school, when to take entrance exams and where to get information on programs. For information, call 346-3211.

The American Society of Magazine Photographers will have a slide show today at 7 p.m. in 100 Willamette. The topic of the presentation will be "The Art of Outdoor Photography." For more information, call 346-4365.

Deadline for submitting Et Als to the Emerald front desk, EMU Suite 300, is noon the day before publication. Et Als run the day of the event unless the event takes place before noon.

Notices of events with a donation or admission charge will not be accepted. Campus events and those scheduled nearest the publication date will be given priority. The Emerald reserves the right to edit for grammar and style. Et Als run on a space-available basis.

LGBA leads awareness days

By Chester Allen
Emerald Reporter

Rep. Les AuCoin and Rep. Peter DeFazio will lead a group of speakers at noon Friday during a Campus Coming Out Day rally in the EMU courtyard.

Sponsored by the Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Alliance, Campus Coming Out Days will take place today and Friday.

"Coming Out Days will help eradicate the invisibility of gays, lesbians and bisexuals on campus," LGBA co-director Troy Shields said. "When people learn how many gays and lesbians there are at the University, they will recognize us as people and not someone to hate."

Sarah Ross, LGBA co-director, said Campus Coming Out

Days is part of the fourth annual Oct. 11 National Coming Out Day.

"We are holding our coming out days Thursday and Friday because the national day is on a Sunday when no one is around the University," Ross said.

In addition to Friday's rally, the LGBA is sponsoring a discussion group on coming out to family and friends Thursday at 11:30 a.m. in the EMU Ben Linder Room. Sarah Ross and Troy Shields will join Jackie Balzer, coordinator of educational and support services, on the discussion panel.

Balzer said participating on the panel is very important to her.

"The purpose of coming out days is to celebrate the struggle and pride of being an out gay,

lesbian or bisexual," Balzer said. "All of the activities will show the value of diversity in our campus community."

Thursday's events will conclude with a dinner social and showing of a video in the Ben Linder Room.

Ross said the dinner will give people on campus a chance to meet each other.

"The dinner will give students an opportunity to communicate and tell us what they want the LGBA to do," Ross said. "It's important that all the new people on campus who are away from home for the first time make connections and know they are not alone."

The video, *Love Makes a Family*, will explore gay and lesbian family life, Ross said.

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