

# Festival to celebrate 'shrooms

By Jacqueline Woge  
Emerald Reporter

Some might liken it to the last, big outdoor fling before winter sets in. Others might consider it a pre-winter celebration.

Either way, people just want to get out in the fall weather and come to the Fall Festival and Mushroom Show because it's so pretty, Barbara Cooper-Townsend, Mount Pisgah Arboretum office manager said.

The 11th annual festival takes place Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Mount Pisgah Arboretum, located off Seavey Loop Road.

The show features mushroom displays and tasting, fresh-pressed cider, nature walks,

music, a scarecrow contest and, for the first time, a show and sale of nature art.

Retired professor Freeman Rowe said mushrooms have always occupied a powerful and mysterious position in Western Europe and North American mythology, associating them with rotting, decay and evil.

"When we grew up, mothers said that if you touch the mushrooms on the lawn, your toes would shrivel up," Rowe said. "Of course, this is a really impoverished view of mushrooms."

Mushrooms' bad reputation in Western culture may be attributed in part to their behavior.

"Mushrooms themselves are

very undependable, effervescent creatures, appearing and disappearing suddenly," Rowe said. "Seeking them for food is the equivalent of an egg hunt or a fishing trip. Never invite guests over for a trout dinner until you catch the fish."

By using three-pronged rakes, people really dig up the forest looking for valuable mushrooms like that of the Oregon white truffle, Rowe said. The practice disturbs all the organisms in the duff — the layer of moss, leaves and branches covering the forest floor.

Rowe believes the practice should be prohibited. He favors the European practice of using specially trained dogs or pigs to search for the powerful aroma of mature truffles.

# Activists explore gay-rights backlash

By Kirk Powell  
Emerald Contributor

The increase in hate groups prompted by the gay-rights movement backlash is the greatest since the civil rights movements of the 1960s, a prominent gay-rights activist said Thursday.

"I have never encountered a climate so poised by hate and shot through with fear as I have here," said Kevin Berrill, a training and organizing consultant for the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Policy Institute.

Berrill was joined by Claudia Brenner, a member of the gay and lesbian delegation that recently met with presidential hopeful Ross Perot. The pair spoke on campus in an effort to educate students. The event was sponsored by the Office of

the Dean of Students and the Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Alliance.

Berrill began with the concept of maximizing progress and minimizing backlash. He said when the gay-rights movement started, homosexuality was illegal in all 50 states, but that number has now declined to 22. A campus study showed that more than 40 courses at the college level are being offered including the history of the gay/lesbian movement, he said.

Brenner addressed the continuing violence caused and aided by silence, lies, harassment, vandalism and physical assault. All these things culminate into one thing — fear, she said.

During her depiction of the traumatizing incident in which her partner was murdered, the room was silent.

# Students' well-being topic of conference

By Sarah Clark  
Emerald Reporter

Health issues for gay, lesbian and bisexual students and the role of Chinese medical principals in modern medicine are just two of the more than 30 seminars to be presented next week at the Pacific Coast College Health Association's conference at Valley River Inn.

The conference, co-sponsored by the University's and Lane Community College's student health centers, will attract about 150 physicians, health educators, administrators, pharmacists and others from the western United States and Canada, Bob Petit, Student Health Center medical administrator and conference planning committee chairman said.

**'It gives us a chance to talk over problems and issues we're facing in college health.'**

— Bob Petit,  
Student Health Center  
medical administrator

Students who want to attend any of the conference's seminars or see its exhibits can contact Annie Dochnahl, Health Center peer advising coordinator, at 346-2728.

Hour-long seminars will be presented all day Monday, Nov. 2, and Tuesday, Nov. 3.

Seminars are also scheduled in the morning for Wednesday, Nov. 4. All of the seminars are free.

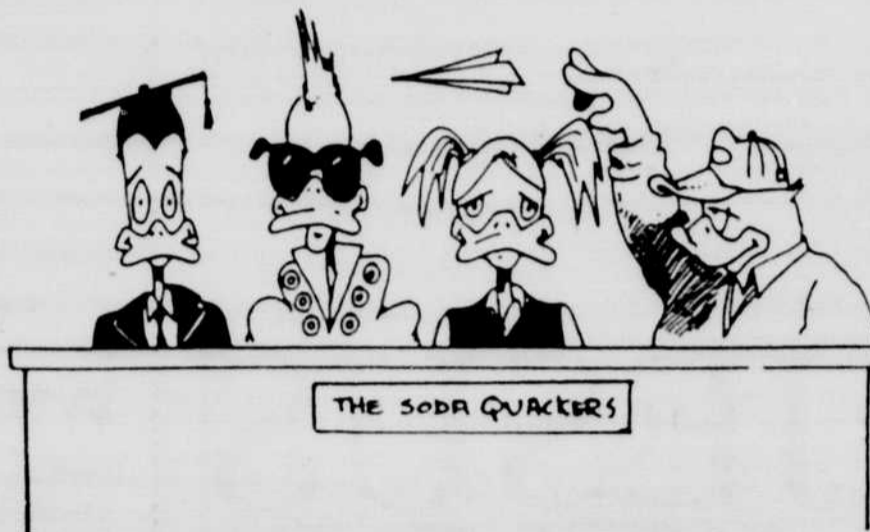
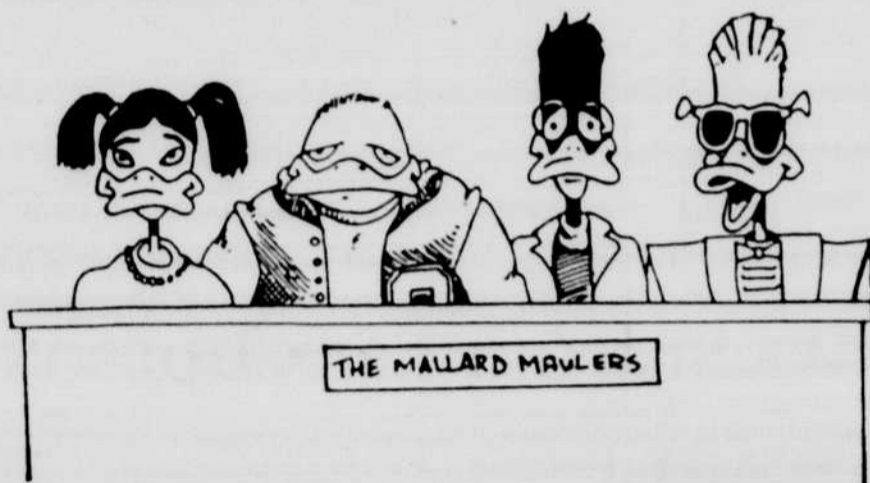
State Sen. John Kitzhaber will discuss his "Oregon Plan" Nov. 2 at 9 a.m. The plan aims to provide universal health care for Oregon citizens.

Other health issues to be presented at the conference include AIDS, communication between men and women, panic disorder and student health insurance.

The PCCCHA is the regional affiliate for the American College Health Association. Its annual conference serves as an educational program to keep its members current in the field, Petit said.

"It gives us a chance to talk over problems and issues we're facing in college health," he said.

# Exercise your brain with COLLEGE BOWL



If you know four students (or if you are four students), sign up now to compete with other wild and crazy adventurers in **College Bowl**, the *varsity sport of the mind*. It's an exciting game that tests your knowledge in everything from literature to science, from music to film. Two teams with four players each square off in fast-paced rounds dedicated to making you look either extremely intelligent or extremely embarrassed. You might end up representing the University of Oregon regionally and even nationally! So get a team up (name it anything you want - the wilder the better) and exercise your brain!

**Register:** November 2 - 6. All dormitory residents please sign up with your RA, everyone else at the EMU Recreation Center, or call 346-3711.

**Games Start:** 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, November 11

**Finals:** November 18.

**Cost:** \$3 per person or \$12 per team.