

Friends help international students feel at home

Foundation: Local residents open homes to students

By Tasha Eichenseher
For the Oregon Daily Emerald

When Mauricio Marcal first arrived in Eugene last fall from Brazil, he had to find housing, deal with school and adjust to a new country and culture at the same time.

Fortunately for Marcal, Wayne Kingsbury and his wife sacrificed some of their

time to become his host friends and help make his initial settling-in less stressful.

Wayne Kingsbury is just one of a considerable number of people in the Eugene-Springfield community who have an interest in the welfare of international students.

Margo Ramsig, a foreign student adviser at the University, said she has the names of 680 such people on the Friendship Foundation's mailing list. The Friendship Foundation is a local non-

profit organization loosely affiliated with the University, which matches international students with host friends.

"Anybody who's interested in other cultures and sharing a little bit of their time with a student can be an 'international friend,'" said Ramsig, the director of the Friendship Foundation.

Volunteers arrange to pick up their students at the airport when they first arrive in Eugene. The foreign students may have the option of staying with their host

friends for a couple of days.

"This helps them get their feet here on the ground before they hit the campus," Ramsig said.

Some students find that their host friends become just like family, but other students have minimal contact with theirs. Keunho Kim, a senior from Korea majoring in history, has had the same host friends for three-and-a-half years. They are an older couple whom he calls

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UNIVERSITY

Sexual harassment cases not unusual

Grievances: 11 filed by students last year

By Julie Swensen
Oregon Daily Emerald

Former University graduate student Sandra Newman discovered the hard way that consulting with a professor could result in a traumatizing experience.

Instead of being treated in a professional manner, Newman claims she was leered at, subjected to unwanted sexual advances, and was taken less seriously because of her gender.

She also felt that she suffered academic retribution by her professor. She received high grades, and was expected to receive a good letter of recommendation. She did not get one, and found that she didn't get in to several colleges to which she applied.

"Once a professor has been unsuccessful sexually, it leaves you in the lurch," Newman said in a telephone interview from Illinois, where she is now attending college. "You're no longer welcome in the department. You're a problem."

Her experience led her to file a grievance of sexual harassment against the professor.

Newman's experience is not an isolated incident. Last year, 11 students filed grievances regarding sexual harassment against University employees, according to the Office of Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity.

But while the figures may shed light on the problem, it likely isn't representative of the number of incidents of sexual harass-

Many options are available for victims

By Julie Swensen
Oregon Daily Emerald

Students may be reluctant to file a sexual harassment complaint because they're concerned about taking it to the University administration, or they don't understand the process. But there are many people outside the administration that students can unofficially approach, either to just talk about their experiences or to explore the options available to them, said Ken Lehrman, director of the Office of Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity.

One recourse is the Sexual Harassment Resource Network, a list of people to call who are trained to deal with sexual harassment issues.

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ment on campus. Ken Lehrman, director of the affirmative action office, said the representation is "fair, but not an accurate one."

"We're never going to get 100 percent," Lehrman said. "There's always going to be people who, for very legitimate personal reasons, will not come forward. Some people try to resolve the matter in their own very person-

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GOOD MORNING

► **VENETA (AP)** — Bryan Drake leapt from bed when he smelled smoke just in time to save himself and his two brothers after fire broke out in an electrical outlet in their room.

"I couldn't breathe," the six-year-old boy said Wednesday. "I got one of my stuffed animals and put it over my face and ran to my mom in the back bedroom."

And that's the reason Bryan and his two younger brothers are alive, Fern Ridge Fire Chief



Dale Kamrath said.

"He's a hero," Kamrath said. "Bryan, whether he knows it or not, saved three young boys last night, including himself. In another five minutes, they probably wouldn't have been able to wake up."

Body and soul



Tan Davage (right) and Beverly Effinger practice tai chi in front of the Museum of Art

NORMAN MESMAN/For the Emerald