

Speakers contribute to success of LGBA celebration

Tasha Eichenseher
Oregon Daily Emerald

National Coming Out day was celebrated yesterday in the EMU Courtyard with singers, speakers, a drag show and an informational fair.

Coming Out Day, every Oct. 11, brings attention to the issues of gays, lesbians and bisexuals who become public about their sexual orientation.

"I think that it was a success," said Susan Anderson, co-director of the Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Alliance.

The goal of Coming Out Day is to increase the visibility of the gay, lesbian and bisexual community and to show that it crosses all ethnic racial, geographic and

economic barriers, according to the Human Rights Campaign Fund Foundation, which keeps track of Coming Out Day events nationwide.

"I'm encouraged by the turnout, by the number of people that wanted to speak," said Mark Ditton, co-director of the LGBA. "But there's still a lot of work to do; a lot that people need to learn about measure 13."

Informational tables were set up by several organizations. One group which was represented was the No on 13 Campaign. "We got a lot of people wearing buttons and that's a good thing. I have a lot of faith in it (the campaign) as long as people recognize what it is," said Rebecca Brooks,

a No on 13 volunteer.

As part of the celebration, Ron Schlittler, campaign manager for candidate Pete Sorenson, presented a statement from John Kitzhaber which read: "If any of us are made to feel less than human just because we're different, all of us will lose some of our humanity."

Schlittler, who graduated from the University last spring and has participated in Coming Out Day on campus for several years, described this year's celebration as comfortably laid back. "Two years ago we had this courtyard full because measure 9 was a lot hotter. We had a crowd of about 300 people," he said.

Measure 9, which is similar to 13, was

on the ballot in 1992. If passed, November's state ballot Measure 13, which was written by the Oregon Citizens Alliance, will ban extension of minority rights to gays, lesbians and bisexuals.

National Coming Out Day events have been organized on campus by the LGBA since the group was founded in 1969.

Several people expressed their feelings about homosexuality and human rights during an open mike session.

"I think we're all here very comfortable with our identities. I think coming out can go beyond the realms of sexual orientation. Come out in anyway you can. As Hamlet said: 'To thine own self be true,'" said one man.

Religious right agenda focus of conference

Mara Stine

For the Oregon Daily Emerald

A researcher and writer for the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force will provide a national perspective on the radical right in a speech at the University on Oct. 13.

Scot Nakagawa, who was also a researcher for the Coalition for Human Dignity in Portland will speak at 7:30 p.m. in the EMU Fir Room.

"His speech will probably go over the different sorts of issues that are part of the nationwide religious right agenda, specifically their homophobia," said Marion Malcolm, a staff member for Clergy and Laity Concerned (CALC), which helped organize the speech as a pre-conference address.

Malcolm said he'll speak about "not only the effort to deny human rights protection to people on the basis of sexual orientation but also issues of multiculturalism."

Jenny Potter of CALC said that she believes the speech is important because it gives an overview of what the religious right is doing nationally and how they operate.

"Neo-Nazis and abortion doctor killers operate on a violent level but the OCA (Oregon Citizens Alliance) uses electoral means to limit rights by controlling school boards and advocating stealth candidates," Potter said. "The school is one of the major battle grounds of the religious right at this time."

The speech will kick off a conference called, "Upholding Public Education in Oregon: Understanding and Resisting the Assault from the Right." The conference will be held Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the First Congregational Church on the corner of East 23rd Avenue and Harris Street in Eugene. For more information contact Malcolm at 485-1755.

MCKAY

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refused to sit still and he said 'If I'm going to go, I'm going to have fun.'"

His fellow fraternity members watched his progress for a year after the surgery and it was only within the last year that he resumed athletic participation with them.

"I remember asking him how his heart was and he told us that it was just fine," said senior Blair Haddon, a member of Pi Kappa Alpha.

McKay was not a member of the fraternity's flag football team because he worked the night that their games were scheduled. He had been supporting the team and just wanted to practice with them.

"The doctor (at Sacred Heart Hospital) said that it could have happened to him just walking up stairs or any other time," Haddon said. "It just happened to occur then."

"If somebody knows that they are going to die eventually because of their heart problem, my feelings are that you should let them live it up," said senior R.J. Emmett, vice president of Pi Kappa Alpha, speaking of McKay's desire to not let his condition run his life. "If they want to sit back and let their

life be the way it is, then that's fine; but if they want to get out and do things, like Todd did, then don't stop them."

McKay loved the greek system and wanted to make it better. He had planned on running for the Interfraternity Council, the governing body of the University's fraternities, today. His fraternity brothers hope those that knew him will remember him as a scholar, leader, gentleman, athlete and brother.

"I know his mom would like to thank all his friends for their support," said Curry. "She thanked the fraternity personally but there are a lot of other people not in the fraternity that she could not get to."

A Counseling Center representative was present at the Pi Kappa Alpha house Monday night and a representative from the Dean of Students was present at the hospital to inform McKay's friends and fraternity brothers of all resources and facilities available to them.

Many people were saddened by his death and the Counseling Center is open to anyone who would like help in coping with the loss.

There will be a memorial service for McKay at 2 p.m. Saturday at the Newberg Christian Church.

Health Education Workshops

Weight Management

This is a five-week workshop to assist participants in weight loss & weight management. Behavior change strategies, nutrition, exercise and relapse prevention planning will be discussed. The last class will be a low-fat cooking demonstration. Call 346-4456 to pre-register.

Wednesdays 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Oct. 19-Nov. 16

Medical Library



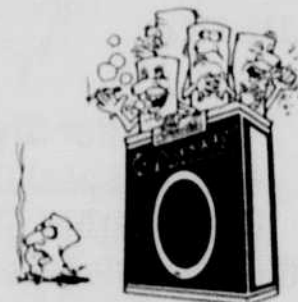
Smoking Cessation

A four-week educational support group for those wanting to quit smoking and those who have already quit. **FREE!** Call 346-4456 to pre-register.

Tuesdays 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Oct. 18-Nov. 8

Medical Library



Walking Workshop

Join a group of afternoon walkers for an enjoyable low-impact aerobic workout in the campus area. Call 346-4456 for more information.

Mondays and Wednesdays 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Beginning Oct. 24

Meet at the 13th St. entrance of the Student Health Center



Low-Fat Cooking Class

This workshop will show how to make low-fat and nutritional main dishes, vegetable dishes, low-fat snacks and desserts. **FREE!** Call 346-4456.

Tuesdays 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Oct. 18-Nov. 8

Student Health Center



Hiking For Health

Explore the outdoors for a fitness alternative. Call 346-4556 for more information.

Pre-trip meeting: 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 27

at EMU Outdoor Program

Trip: Saturday, Oct. 29



UO Student Health Center
Health Education Program



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CLASSIFIEDS
EVERYDAY.