

## Dental clinic offers low-cost treatment

**Community:** The opening of the clinic is a result of extensive work by volunteers

**Suzanne Marta**  
Oregon Daily Emerald

Linda Munz walked into the newly opened White Bird Community Dental Clinic with gum line decay that had advanced to the nerve of a bottom tooth, causing her excruciating pain.

Munz was just one of 25 patients treated at the clinic on Jan. 16, its opening day, and one of the thousands that are expected to be treated there this year.

"The first day was chaos," said Bob Dritz, White Bird clinic coordinator. "There was a flood of people waiting for treatment."

Thousands of people in Lane County who are financially strapped or without dental insurance will now have access to dental care through the White Bird Community Dental Clinic.

Without the availability of the clinic's resources, Munz would have had to wait to get treatment for her decaying tooth.

"My tooth would have been a lot worse and it would have been a lot more expensive," she said.

The clinic's opening is the result of three and a half years of effort by the Community Dental Health Coalition, led by the United Way.

Through fund raisers, public grants and donations from private corporations and organiza-

tions, the coalition was able to raise almost \$500,000 to fund the clinic's operation and equip it with state-of-the-art equipment.

The 7,600 square foot building at 1400 Mill St., which houses both White Bird's medical and dental clinics, is owned by Sacred Heart General Hospital and is being leased for \$1 per month for the next 25 years.

Plans for the dental clinic started in response to the growing needs for dental care in Lane County.

"There were too many people in pain with nowhere to go," Dritz said.

The clinic's basic fees are 25 percent below private dental costs and are charged on a sliding scale basis, if any money is charged at all.

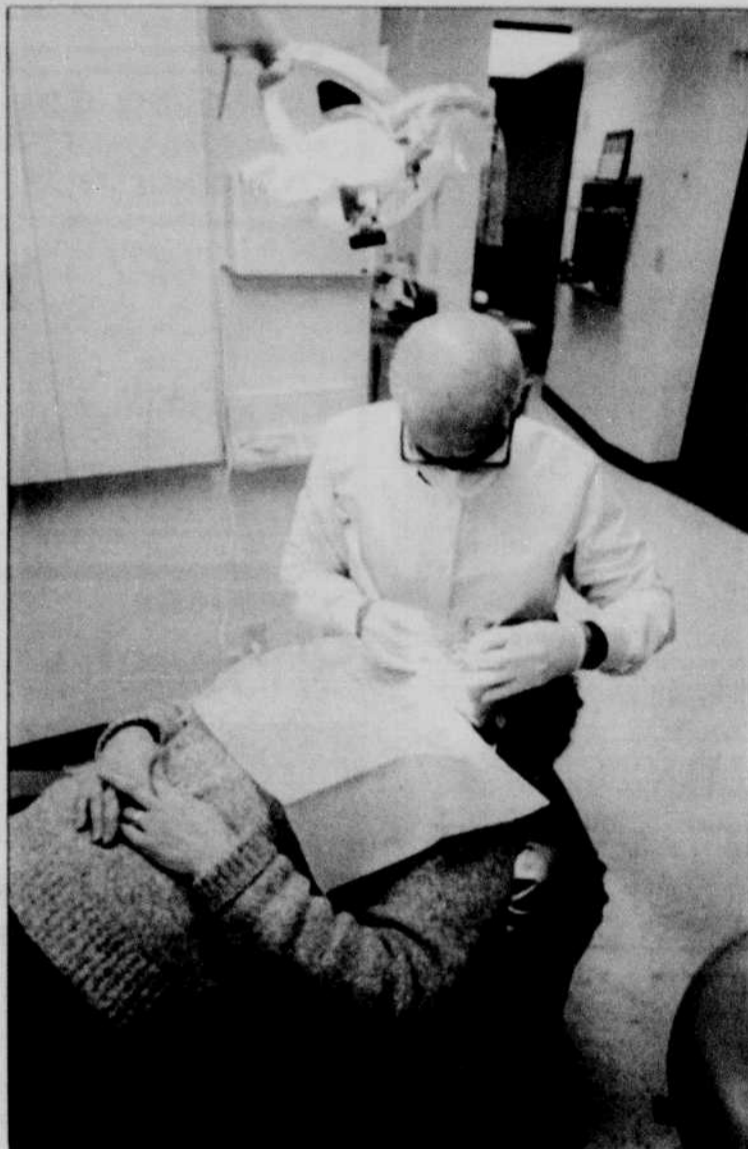
"People with minimum-wage jobs who aren't at the poverty level can get services for 15 to 20 percent of regular fees," Dritz said.

According to Dritz, the clinic hopes to serve 2,000 people, or 4,000 visits, in the first year and has the potential to double that amount if resources can provide for it.

"We have a lot of work ahead of us, but we've gotten over the hump," he said. "We finally have a facility and a staff to work with now."

The clinic has six staff members and incorporates volunteer dentists, dental assistants, dental assistants and dental hygien-

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GARY GRASS/Emerald

Dentists, dental assistants and dental hygienists from the community donate time to treat patients at the new White Bird dental building.

## Issues set aside for service

**Abortion:** Several organizations remember victims of violence at clinics

**Samantha Martin**  
For the Oregon Daily Emerald

Opinions over the abortion issue were put aside Friday to call for an end to violence against people who seek and provide health care.

Representatives from various organizations on both sides of the abortion issue gathered at the Central Presbyterian Church to honor five individuals killed as a result of increasing violence outside of abortion clinics nationwide.

Among the groups represented were Sacred Heart Health System, Planned Parenthood, League of Women Voters and Temple Beth Israel. The anti-abortion organization, Right to Life, declined an invitation to attend the service.

"We are willing to continue to spread the word that we are opposed to violence outside of the clinics,

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### GOOD MORNING

► **HYANNIS PORT, Mass. (AP)** — Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy, the matriarch whose faith and quiet strength saw one of America's most prominent families through three generations of political triumphs and personal tragedies, died Sunday. She was 104.

Mrs. Kennedy died from complications of pneumonia at 5:30 p.m. at the family compound on Cape Cod, said Scott Ferson, a spokesman for her son Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass.

"Mother passed away peacefully today," the senator said in a statement. "She had a long and extraordinary life, and we loved her deeply. To all of us in the Kennedy and Fitzgerald families, she was the most beautiful rose of all."

The senator and his wife, Victoria, and several other family members were present when Mrs. Kennedy died. Also at her side were: daughters Patricia Kennedy Lawford, Ambassador Jean Kennedy Smith, and Eunice Kennedy Shriver; Sen. Robert F. Kennedy's widow, Ethel; Mrs. Kennedy's son-in-law Sargent Shriver, and many grandchildren.

President Clinton and Hillary Rodham Clinton extended their sympathies to the family.

"Very few Americans have endured as much personal sacri-

fice for their country as Rose Kennedy," the president said in a statement. "She played an extraordinary role in the life of an extraordinary family."

Mrs. Kennedy had used a wheelchair since suffering a stroke in April 1984. Last Monday, she had trouble breathing but was not hospitalized.

She lived her life in the public eye, always in a supporting role: daughter of a congressman, wife of an ambassador, mother of a president and U.S. senators. For her, family was all.

She once described her life as a series of "agonies and ecstasies." The exhilaration of political success and the horror of violent death ran like twin threads through her long life.

Four of her nine children were killed in their prime — two in plane crashes and two by assassins' bullets. One daughter was retarded and a grandson died of a drug overdose.

She was a devout Roman Catholic, and her church helped her bear her sorrows. After President John F. Kennedy's assassination in 1963, she said, "I've learned to be brave and put my faith in the will of God."

"No matter what, God wants us to be happy. He doesn't want us to be sad. Birds sing after a storm. Why shouldn't we?"

## OSSHE has plan to boost product image

**Proposal:** Board wants to show connection between all Oregonians and higher education

**Colleen Pohlig**  
Oregon Daily Emerald

PORTLAND — As state higher education transforms itself from a nonprofit organization to a market-based business, Oregon State System of Higher Education board members are drumming up ways to gain support for their product.

"The bottom line is that as general fund support has declined over the period of Measure 5, higher education has become a market, like it or not," said Joseph Cox, OSSHE chancellor, at the January board meeting in Portland on Friday. "We, in this state, have been reluctant to see this, but it's a fact."

Decreasing in-state enrollment, which is the primary result of a 65 percent tuition increase over the three bienniums since the property tax limiting measure passed in 1990, has sounded the alarm for action.

And OSSHE committee members have responded by putting together a proposed \$400,000 public information plan that



The first story in a five-part series on the Oregon State Education System of Higher Education and the people who make the decisions that shape Oregon's universities and colleges.

- **TODAY:** OSSHE overview and recap of the last meeting
- **TUESDAY:** A look at the Higher Education Efficiency Act
- **WEDNESDAY:** A look at the chancellor of OSSHE
- **THURSDAY:** A look at the Oregon State Board of Higher Education
- **FRIDAY:** Student understanding of OSSHE

would enable OSSHE to provide a consistent flow of information connecting the relevancy of higher education to the lives of Oregonians.

While the board members seemed to approve of the plan, they won't vote on it until next month's OSSHE meeting, when the committee will present a detailed budget plan. The

\$400,000, if approved, would supposedly be used over two years.

"We're naive to think we can have the results we want without spending money," said board member Diane Christopher. "I fully support the plan and I think we shouldn't be afraid to spend the money if we're pleased with the plan we're putting out."

Other board members, while positive about the plan, expressed concern that \$400,000 won't be enough to obtain the committee's goals. However, the exact figures won't be available until the next month's board meeting.

The product of more than two years of research, the plan would use promotional commercials, radio messages, newspaper inserts and brochures to boost the image of state higher education. The board hopes this would result in public support for higher education and an increase of in-state students in OSSHE institutions.

The plan is divided into three phases. The first phase is to increase applications from qualified Oregonians, addressing the board's goal of in-state student access.

From 1990 to 1994, enroll-

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