

Community members to protest healthcare merger

Marcelene Edwards
Oregon Daily Emerald

Community members will protest the Sacred Heart Health System integration plan that separates Catholic-approved procedures from Catholic-prohibited procedures today at noon at the Eugene Clinic.

Citizens for Healthcare Options Insuring Choice for Everyone [CHOICE] oppose the new integration plan that allows doctors to own a small portion of the clinic with a private entrance so they will still be able to perform procedures that have been banned by the Roman Catholic Church.

CHOICE members feel that the isolation of certain types of medical procedures including abortions, artificial insemination, euthanasia and birth control could be dangerous, said Carol Berg, spokeswoman from Republicans for Choice.

"The requirement of a separate entrance stigmatizes those patients and places them, doctors and staff at the facility in the position of being targets for terrorists," according to a release by CHOICE.

"If integration is needed then by all means let's come up with a plan that benefits the whole community," said Sarah Sanford, chairwoman of Lane County team of Oregon of the National Abortion Rights Action League.

Dr. Paul Kaplan, who works at the Women's Care Fertility Center in Eugene, has decided not to integrate with the Sacred Heart system because most of the fertilization procedures he performs are not authorized by the church. He also says that patients could be targets for violence because of the isolation.

The purpose of the protest is to alert patients about the dan-

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— SHEILA DELL
spokeswoman for the Eugene Clinic

gers of the integration, Berg said. This will give them a chance to tell their doctors how they feel about the merger.

"This integration model insists upon a legal structure which places the Catholic church in ultimate control of the physician/patient relationship by making physicians employees of the Sacred Heart Health System," according to the release.

But Sheila Dell, spokeswoman for the Eugene Clinic says that the doctors have been research-

ing the merger for about two years and most of them have already made up their minds.

"Our physicians have thoroughly examined the issues with integration," Dell said. "It is not a new thing for them."

The clinic is not opposed to the protest.

"We have always tried to have an atmosphere where they can ask doctors anything about integration," Dell said.

"They will be making the decision based on what's best for their patients," said a spokeswoman for Sacred Heart. "They are very aware of the ethical situations."

Kaplan said that one of the areas for concern is the fact that most of the physicians that perform abortions are negotiating with Sacred Heart. While the availability of fertility procedures will not change, abortions could be scarce.

University nets profits from game, fund raisers

The University made a profit of nearly \$200,000 at the Rose Bowl, according to a preliminary expense report released Thursday by the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics.

The profit is reported to be a result of careful oversight of spending. In addition to savings in the expense fund, monetary benefits will also come from a number of other sources, according to a University News Bureau press release.

Direct income to the University from the licensing of Duck merchandise will total as much as \$300,000, according to Matt Dyste, director of merchandising.

The income from Duck memorabilia sold through the bookstore made it possible to boost the discount offered to students and faculty from 9 percent to 10 percent this year.

The University Foundation's Annual Giving Program has already seen a surge, with the Telefund raising \$300,000 more than last year at this time and direct-mail fund-raising efforts showing a doubling of return through Jan. 1.

The Alumni Association saw a doubling of the rate at which they signed on new dues-paying members.

There has also been a 34 percent increase in the list of prospective students over the same period a year ago.

The Rose Bowl also put the University in the national and international spotlight at one point or another on all four major television networks.

Profits from the game will be used to improve athletic facilities.

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