

Hereandnow promises to entertain

■ **TOUR:** The theater group, comprised of mostly Asian-American students, will be performing at the EMU

By Laura Baker
Multicultural Issues Reporter

Hereandnow may seem like just another theater group passing through town until a person considers what is unique about it. The group is comprised of mainly Asian-American college students whose goal is to entertain the audience while exploring societal issues.

"Seeing as this year is the 25th anniversary of APASU, we wanted to put something into it this year that brings out what it means to be Asian-American," APASU Co-Director Ben Greer said. "We felt that Hereandnow could do that."

Hereandnow is a non-profit theater company based in Los Angeles that tours universities and col-

leges throughout the United States presenting its multi-faceted show.

Greer said the group was formed by John Miyasaki in 1989 because he saw a lack of roles and opportunities for Asian-American actors. Almost all the performances the group does are written by Asian-Americans.

The group also tackles issues common in society such as rape, racism, family issues and politics. "The variety of topics that they deal with are not only topics that affect Asian-Americans," Greer said. "They affect a large range of people since they are coming from a college student perspective."

APASU brought Hereandnow to the University a couple years ago, but Greer said the turnout was not very big. Greer said a lack of advertising affected the turnout, and he hopes more people will come see the group this year.

Although the audience was small, Greer said the group performed as if "there was a packed

house. They gave more than 100 percent.

"The group is really dynamic in their performances," Greer said. "It is just like going to see any other quality play. You get a lot of entertainment value out of any group that puts a lot of hard work into their performances."

Greer said the group's performance is enjoyable because it is entertaining and gives a taste of the Asian-American perspective. "The audience doesn't feel like they are being preached to," Greer said.

The premise of the group is that "everybody has a story to tell," Greer said. "I think it is more important for people to come and listen to the stories and enjoy them than to come expecting to be educated. It is entertainment."

The group will be performing at the EMU Ballroom Saturday May 31 at 8:00 p.m. Tickets are \$7 and can be purchased at the EMU ticket office.

Law: Doctors are prepared to defend Major

■ Continued from Page 1

but the scaffold then fell across his lower back.

Two years later, a recurring tumor developed in the injured area. In 1972, the cancer spread to a lung that has since been removed. In 1989, he was unconscious for three weeks in intensive care. He received the Catholic sacrament of last rites but recovered.

The cancer kept coming back. In 1993, he had surgery for a brain tumor that left him weak with stroke-like symptoms on his left

side.

Court and medical records indicate he has undergone more than 80 surgeries while building up tolerances for legally prescribed drugs. At one time, he required 600-milligram doses of morphine every three to four hours.

"I couldn't get out of bed because I was so drugged," he said, displaying deep 2-inch scars on both arms where infections developed from intramuscular injections of pain-killing drugs. "I was more dead than alive."

Pat Major felt her life slipping away too. "I had no life, either," she said. "It was all driven by Norman and the drugs."

Eight years ago, several of Major's doctors suggested he try marijuana. They were prepared to testify if the Majors' case went to trial, defense attorney Dan Koenig said.

"We have a situation in this state where doctors can prescribe cocaine, methamphetamines, morphine and other drugs that are far more powerful than marijuana," Koenig said.

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1997

hereandnow

Program starts at 6:45 (doors open at 6:00)
University of Oregon EMU Ballroom
Cost: \$7 UO Students & General, \$5 large groups (10 or more)

Tickets can be purchased at the University of Oregon EMU ticketing office
Presented by: Asian Pacific American Student Union
University of Oregon - EMU Room 29
1228 University of Oregon - Eugene, OR 97403
Phone: (541) 346-4342 E-mail: apasu@gladstone.uoregon.edu
Website: http://gladstone.uoregon.edu/apasu

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