

Book 'em Danno

The Eugene Police arrest two people for selling stolen goods and cite a student for possessing a fake license.

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Best of Both Worlds

Two-sport student athlete Stacy Hebert proves she's a master juggler as she manages a busy schedule as a student, soccer player and hurdler

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TODAY

Bob Kearney, ACLU field director discusses school prayer at 3 p.m. in the Alumni Lounge in Gerlinger Hall

WEATHER

Today
Showers
High 63. Low 51.
Thursday
Showers
High 69. Low 51.

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SPECIAL ELECTION



Cynthia Wooten (right), State Representative for District 41, rebuts a point made by the Yes on 51 table Tuesday night in the Knight Library Browsing Room.

WENDY FULLER/Emerald

Experts discuss suicide

With one week before the special election, physicians, politicians, patients, and students talk about Measure 51

Eric Collins
Community Editor

At times it was personal.

At times it was professional.

But the hour and a half spent debating the merits of doctor-assisted suicide in the Knight Library Browsing Room Tuesday night were also at times heated and critical as panelists from both sides discussed the consequences of Measure 51.

Sponsored by the ASUO, about 35 people participated in asking local doctors, a terminally ill patient and State Representative Cynthia Wooten to guide them through their opinions of the measure.

Measure 51, if approved, would repeal Measure 16, the 1994 initiative that allows doctors to prescribe life-ending drugs to terminally ill adults with less than six months to live. Measure 16 requires safeguards, such as a 15-day waiting period, two oral and one written request, and a

second physician's opinion in addition to counseling for patients with impaired judgment from depression.

Of utmost importance to both sides is how Oregon's assisted suicide would affect patients. Springfield physician Chris Bolz, who has lived in Lane County for the past eight years, said he believed Measure 16 would affect only a small subset of society: patients must be terminally ill with less than six months to live; they must be Oregon residents 18 years of age or older; they must be physically able to initiate a request for suicide, obtain pills through a pharmacy and ingest the pills by themselves.

People with physical limitations would not be part of this subset, said Dr. Glenn Gordon, a general surgeon in Eugene and spokesperson for the "No on 51" committee. Gordon said many disabled or bedridden patients would not qualify for prescription under the measure because doctors would have to intervene. This includes patients unable to write and verbally request lethal prescriptions, such as those in a coma, since Measure 16's safeguards could not be used.

Special Election

■ **WHAT:** Ballots for the Oregon special election must be received by the Lane County Elections Office or designated drop site

■ **DEADLINE:** Nov. 4, 8 p.m.

■ **DROP SITES:** ASUO Office (EMU Suite 4), ballot box on the southeast side of Pearl St. between City Hall and the Lane County Public Service Building, Lane County Elections Office (135 E. 6th Ave.)

Although Bolz does not agree that doctor-assisted suicide should be a right, he said he believed all terminally ill patients should have equal rights.

"If you agree it's a right, how can you limit it to the people in [Measure 16]?" Bolz asked.

Sue McGrory, a hospice nurse for the past five years and supporter of Measure 51, agreed. "That small group is imposing themselves on our society and we will all be affected," she said.

Turn to **SUICIDE**, Page 3

Conference to address heroin use

The two-day program was organized in response to a recent upswing in heroin use

By Kari Thorene
Higher Education Reporter

The University Substance Abuse Prevention Program will conduct a two-day conference regarding heroin use this Friday and Saturday at the Lane County Fairgrounds.

Miki Mace, of the Substance Abuse Program, said the conference, "Heroin: Myth and Mystery," will address a perceived upswing in national heroin use, potential health effects (including risks associated with HIV) and the consequences of mixing heroin with cocaine.

"We want to at least give them the facts so they can make conscious choices about heroin," Mace said. "They need to know that it is an addictive drug that affects lives, both now and in the future."

The program administrators decided to hold this conference when one of their practicum students brought it to their attention. A friend of the student's had died in New York City from an overdose, Mace said.

The keynote presenter will be John Galea, chief of ethnography for the New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services, whose Street Studies Unit reported a marked increase in heroin use in recent years, according to Mace.

The Partnership for a Drug-Free America reported a national household survey that estimated 428,000 Americans used heroin in 1994. The National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information published a national survey of hospital emergency rooms, conducted by the group Drug Abuse Warning Network, that placed heroin-related patients at 14 percent of all drug-related cases.

According to the same survey, heroin-related emergency room episodes increased by 27 percent between the first half of 1994 and the first half of 1995. However, the fastest-growing age group was people over 35; the 18-25 group increased only slightly in heroin-related episodes.

The conference will deal mostly with na-

Turn to **HEROIN**, Page 3

New wheelchair-accessible van will help Saferide expand service

Saferide acquired the van through fund raising, student fees and a grant

By Michael Hines
Student Activities Reporter

Project Saferide will add a fourth vehicle to its fleet in about a week.

The new van, a 1997 Ford Windstar, was acquired by the group three weeks ago. Saferide workers are excited because this is their first wheelchair-accessible vehicle.

"We really were looking to expand our services to all women, including women with disabilities," said Jessica Osika, fundraising publicity coordinator for Saferide.

Disabled women have requested rides in the past, Osika said, and Saferide wants to be able to better service them.

The rape-prevention shuttle, which was created in 1985, raised \$3,000 last year. Fund-raising events included a silent raffle in December at the Saturday Market and a three-band concert at WOW Hall. The group also received a \$2,000 grant from the Oregon Foundation.

The rest of the money for the van came from a student ballot measure that was passed last year. Each student now pays 25

cents per term for Project Saferide.

The addition of the extra van will give Saferide more space for riders. Saferide turns away 10 to 15 women per day, Osika said, and the addition of the new van will help.

"Hopefully, this [van] will alleviate that problem," Osika said.

Project Saferide will be fund raising again in early December to pay for new van radios. The event will be another silent auction at the Saturday Market.

"We really were looking to expand our services to ... women with disabilities."

Jessica Osika
Fundraising publicity coordinator for Saferide