

NEWS BRIEFS

Speakers to address women's role in peace

Two advocates for peace between Israel and Palestine are joining forces to explore the role of women in the peace process in a lecture May 19 at 7:30 p.m. in 100 Willamette.

Galia Golan, an internationally recognized scholar and founder of the Israeli Peace Now movement, and Zahira Kamal, a feminist and political activist who helped organize the Palestinian Women's Peace Movement, will speak together on "Women and the Israeli-Palestinian Peace Process."

Sponsoring the event are: the Savage Endowment, the Oregon Humanities Center, the Robert D. Clark Honors College, the Center for Asian and Pacific Studies, the Office of International Affairs and the Department of Anthropology.

Golan is a chair of political science at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Kamal is director of gender planning and development for the Palestinian Authority.

The lecture is the final event in a year-long series focusing on peace between Muslims and Jews and Palestinians and Israelis in the Middle East.

Meeting will focus on challenges to UO

A special set of initiatives and proposals to help the University meet the challenges of the 21st century will be discussed in a "town hall"-style meeting Wednesday from 3 to 4:30 p.m. in 150 Columbia.

The Process for Change program intends to renew commitment to the core educational mission and to service to the state and to the continuous improvement of the University in all of its aspects, according to an executive summary report to be discussed at the open meeting.

"These are not new goals for the University," the report stated. "Indeed, our Mission Statement already states that the 'Uni-

versity is a community of scholars dedicated to the highest standards of academic inquiry, learning and service.' The purpose of the process in which we are now engaged is to develop specific plans for improving our ability to meet the needs of 21st Century students, as they work to attain these goals."

In preparation for the 21st century students, "solution teams," made up of students and staff of the University, have created ways to extend educational services to non-traditional populations and lifelong learners, strengthen common bonds as a learning community, and connect more directly with external constituencies.

The eight major parts of the framework being discussed at the meeting include: transformation of general education, new flexibility in the upper division and major, excellence in graduate studies and research, expansion of "extended studies," achievement of a true learning community, outreach, cross-cutting issues and "instant opportunities."

Walk-a-thon supports homeless coalition

The Homeless Action Coalition will sponsor a two mile "strut your stuff" walk-a-thon at 10 p.m. on Saturday. The walk will begin at First Place Family Center at 19th Avenue and Amazon Parkway or at the Eugene Service Station, 485 Hwy. 99 N. Walkers can also meet at the Homeless Action Coalition facility, 485 Blair St., for refreshments and a noon rally. For more information, contact the Homeless Action Coalition at 344-2363.

Students encouraged to discuss liquor laws

Members of the Oregon Liquor Control Commission are inviting University students to participate in a round table discussion about alcohol laws and regulations Tuesday in Portland. The meeting will take

place from 1:30 to 3 p.m. at the OLCC's offices at 9079 S.E. McLoughlin Blvd. OLCC members are encouraging both students of legal drinking age and minors to attend the meeting. For additional information, contact Louise Kasper of the OLCC at 1-800-452-6522.

Gas leak shuts down part of 11th Avenue

West 11th Avenue was closed for almost an hour Monday morning due to a natural gas leak, according to a news release.

At 9:20 a.m., 15 firefighters, two medic units and two chief officers responded to the leak at Gray Bar Electric, 4075 W. 11th Ave.

The first fire unit on the scene was told the main supply line into the building had ruptured. According to District Fire Chief Theodore Boss, the leak occurred after a Gray Bar Electric employee ran into the line with a forklift.

Firefighters could hear gas escaping and started taking preliminary measures including clearing the area, wearing full protective equipment and laying fire hose lines.

Boss said no additional businesses are within the same building as Gray Bar Electric, and no other businesses were shut down during the closure of West 11th Avenue.

Firefighters surveyed the area and determined that the brake in the supply pipe was below the main shutoff valve. The underground valve was located at the property line. The valve was then turned off, which stopped the leak.

Crews found the building to be safe after checking it for explosive amounts of natural gas.

Fire officials then released control of the building to occupants and representatives from Northwest Natural Gas Company.

— Compiled by Teri Meeuwesen, Mike Burnham and Jesse Sowa

Sellers fined for peddling fake Viagra

By Stacy Morford
The Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Sellers of a fake version of the impotence drug Viagra must pay \$167,500 in fines and give refunds to anyone who bought it, the Missouri attorney general said Monday.

"The people marketing this supposed impotence cure were trying to cash in on the high demand for the real thing, Viagra," Jay Nixon said. "This judgment will return money to those who bought a product they thought was going to help them with a real medical problem."

It was unclear if the knockoff version, called Vaegra or Urophil, works like the real thing.

The drug was advertised through the mail and sold under the company name American Urological Clinic. A 75-day supply was offered for \$83.95 through a Kansas City mailing address and a toll-free telephone number set up in Georgia.

Two companies are behind American Urological Clinic, the Institute of Sexual Research Inc. and the Old Well Corp., Nixon said.

American Urological Clinic also is under a temporary restraining order issued by a federal judge in Atlanta for using the name Vaegra. After that order was issued May 1, the companies changed the drug name to Urophil, Nixon said.

Viagra, developed by Pfizer Inc., went on the market after receiving Federal Drug Administration approval on March 27. In the first three weeks of sales, pharmacists filled an estimated 150,000 prescriptions nationwide. The Viagra pills cost about \$8 each.

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