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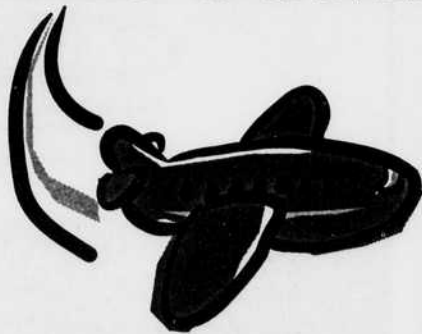


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Faith: Group events respect diversity

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attract homosexuals, he said.

"Sexuality is a separate reality," he said.

Finkelstein would not be involved with Hillel if the group did not welcome homosexuals because she would have to give up, or not express, part of her identity, she said.

"Why should I be comfortable in practicing my religion unless I accept it with my whole being?" she said. "My whole being includes being a lesbian."

To affirm the diversity of its members, Hillel makes an effort to use language that is inclusive of gays and lesbians, rather than exclusive and hostile, said program director Jeff Klein.

Hillel has sponsored film viewings and discussions centering on gender and issues of sexual orientation that have been well attended by people from various facets of the University community, he said.

"We have had discussions on ways to make an organization or building or place a more welcoming place for everyone," Klein said.

Hillel has "a pretty open atmosphere," Finkelstein said. "I bring my partner to everything."

Last month, Hillel sponsored what Finkelstein called a "queer shabbat," for those concerned with "bridging the gap in the community," she said.

Students involved in Hillel — those who are particularly interested in making sure that the programs offered reflect the interests of people of all sexual orientations — were involved in organizing the special shabbat, Klein said.

The service was held to honor diversity but also to create a "safe zone," where issues of sexual orientation could be discussed and expressed freely, Finkelstein said.

Students involved in Hillel feel that it is important to make an effort to begin a dialogue, Klein said. "We don't really have students who are rigid or conservative."

This openness within Hillel may be because Jews and homosexuals may share some parallels, Klein said. "People look at you and don't know one way or the other."

NEWS BRIEFS

Two Thurston victims remain in hospital

Two victims of the May 21 shooting at Thurston High School remained at Sacred Heart Medical Center as of Tuesday afternoon.

Teresa Miltonberger, who sustained a gunshot wound to the head, was listed in critical condition. Tony Case sustained a gunshot wound to the abdomen and is currently in fair condition.

Jennifer Alldredge, one of 12 students taken to Springfield's McKenzie-Willamette Hospital, was the last of the patients released from that hospital. She went home on Saturday.

For updated patient status information, call Sacred Heart at 686-6868.

Sixth Avenue exit will be closed today

The southbound viaduct exit ramp to Sixth Avenue is scheduled to be closed all day today if weather permits. Warning signs will advise motorists of the closure as they approach the south end of the Ferry Street Bridge. An alternative exit would be at Third Avenue. Ferry Street motorists headed southbound will be merged left for exiting at either Eighth Avenue or Franklin/Broadway. The exit ramp is expected to reopen on Friday morning. For additional traffic update information, call the Ferry Street Bridge project office at 682-8449, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



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PUBLIC LECTURE

*THE LOST GENERATION AND THE NEED FOR
COMPASSION IN THE 21ST CENTURY*

Dr. Mike MacIntosh, Director
Youth Development International

Thursday, June 4, 1998

7:00 p.m.

**Prince Lucien Campbell Hall (PLC)
Room 180**

Youth Development International (YDI) operates the national youth crisis hotline, 1-800-HIT-HOME. Dr. MacIntosh will speak on the troubles facing our youth. He will speak on the need to show today's youth that there is hope despite tragedies like those at Thurston High School. YDI is a nonprofit organization, founded in 1959, dedicated to providing the kind of encouragement to young people that will get them home and help them find direction in life.



For more information: <http://gladstone.uoregon.edu/~ausocc>