

Drunken students fail tests, teach lessons in 'Greek 201'

Sobriety tests were given to volunteers as part of a program dealing with student issues

By Victor Runyan
Oregon Daily Emerald

He's the last person in the world most students want to meet when their drunk—a state trooper.

Senior trooper Will Ayres attended Greek 201 Tuesday night to help present issues important to University students. The forum is designed to educate members of the Greek system. This is the best attendance at a session to date, said Chris Warner, vice-president of new membership of the Interfraternity Council.

The first session was a presentation on the effects of alcohol on driving ability. The audience then broke up into three focus sessions. In one session, nurse Karen Anderson of Sacred Heart Medical Center talked about and showed slides of people who had come through the emergency room. In another session, the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Alliance presented a panel of people and asked audience members to guess the straight person. In the third session, Angie Christolm, a Planned Parenthood educator,

spoke on various sex-related topics.

The highlight of Greek 201 was when four volunteer students who had just consumed 10 to 18 drinks each were given three standard field sobriety tests by Ayres.

Ayres opened his presentation by outlining the dangers of normal driving, in which vehicles weighing several thousand pounds go 55 mph with kinetic energy equaling about half a million pounds are driven only 16 inches apart.

Before the sobriety tests, Ayres explained that the tests are designed to test fine motor coordination and the ability to deal with more than one task at a time.

He first tested their ability to follow an object with their eyes. The second evaluated their ability to follow directions and walk in a straight line heel-to-toe while counting. For the third he asked the volunteers to stand on one leg and count from 1000 on up until told to stop.

The volunteers' blood alcohol content tested from 0.10 to 0.24. All of the volunteers failed the three tests, almost comically.

Ayres noted that even mildly intoxicated people are severely incapacitated.

His advice to all people who drive is be patient and be aware of risks most take without realizing it. These risks are brought

home by car crashes.

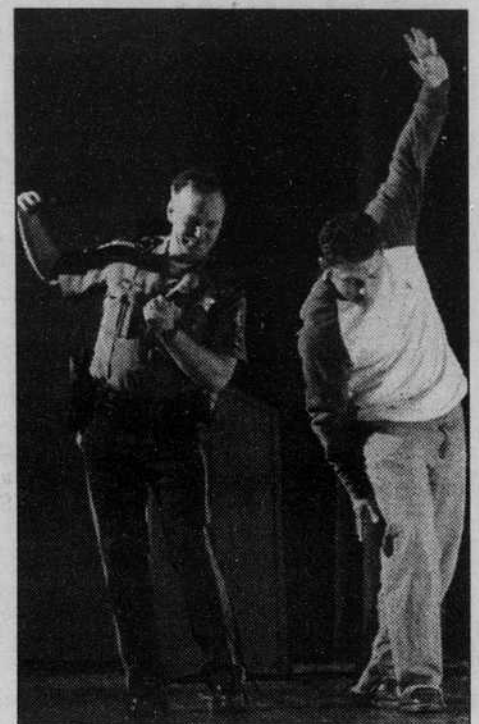
"There's no accident about it," Ayres said. Anderson's presentation included stories in which people's lives were changed by what she called "one bad choice." In one incident, one can of beer led to the death of a mother, her unborn child and her four-year old child. Anderson noted that 91 percent of fatal accidents involve alcohol.

"It could have been prevented if people made different choices," Anderson said.

The panel discussion presented by the LGBTA gave students a selection of eight students and challenged them to figure out who was gay and who was straight without asking directly about their sexuality. It was a chance to break down stereotypes that many students have, said Dave Sanchez, an undeclared freshman and member of IFC.

Christolm of Planned Parenthood offered several activities designed to encourage communication about sex. The games included trying to define sex-related words and exploring hypothetical situations. She demonstrated proper condom use and discussed sexually transmitted diseases and birth control options.

"Talking about sex is the best way to protect people against unwanted pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases," Christolm said.



Nick Medley/Emerald
Under state trooper Will Ayres' supervision, Dominic Gatto walks the line after having a few too many.

Profile

Continued from Page 1

talking about, so that prompted him to wonder about mind-altering substances, he said.

He went to a pharmacy and purchased a bottle of family-sized cough syrup that was said to contain drugs that would get him high.

And it did, Favreau said. He remembers being at a drive-in movie with friends when he began to feel the effects.

"I became a giant eyeball sitting on the front seat of this car that had no arms, no legs, couldn't speak or anything, but I was just this great big eyeball—and I liked that."

For Favreau, being a giant eyeball was being "on the edge" and he wanted to experience more of it. He turned to LSD and anything else that would make him hallucinate. He realized he couldn't work and do drugs at the same time, so he quit his job after hallucinating that a giant fireball was coming down the hallway toward him.

"For me, every drug offered

something," Favreau said. "I'd take anything. I once had a guy tell me about taking some drug that had him flopping on the shower floor like a fish, and I thought, 'Whoa what would that be like?'"

It was this same curiosity that led him to smuggling.

A drug-connection friend, who was a successful drug smuggler, was retiring wealthy and free. Favreau admired that and asked to be let in.

That began a freewheeling time for Favreau that was filled with adrenaline, new cars, free drugs and free love. There were flights across the country, skydiving under the influence and lots of cash. There were Volkswagen vans filled with hashish shipped in from Istanbul and caves in Mexico filled with marijuana farms.

Breaking the rule

It was during one of those trips to Mexico that Favreau broke his own rule.

He'd gone with a friend to purchase a 150 kilos of marijuana.

They went to their usual source and "did their whole thing."

But the deal looked as if it wasn't going to happen, so Favreau decided to get high.

"I had a rule never to get high if we were going to do business."

When he was told that the deal wouldn't be happening, he headed for home.

At the border crossing in San Ysidro, Calif., he was asked to open his trunk. The border officials found 180 kilos of marijuana.

"I didn't even have a clue, not a clue," Favreau said. He's still not sure if it was a set-up or a mistake, but that's how he ended up smoking paint and a cockroach in the San Diego County Jail.

When he was admitted to prison the inmates knew everything about him. Within a matter of days it was all about getting drugs into prison—a task he accomplished during the 15-second kiss allowed during "contact visits."

The turning point

While in prison, a man Favreau had supplied with drugs told him one day that he didn't want to get high anymore. That bothered Favreau and it made him wonder why. All he knew was that the man had been attending prison religious functions before being transferred to Leavenworth Prison in Kansas, so Favreau stole a Bible—a Bible he has to this day.

He was released from prison after serving 3 1/2 years of his sentence. He moved back to Anaheim, Calif., where he started doing volunteer work for a church by providing crisis intervention to people living on the streets. He put himself through college, eventually earning two masters degrees, one in pastoral counseling and the other in marriage, family and child counseling.

Favreau and his family moved to Oregon about 10 years ago after visiting friends in Cottage Grove. He said he was taken by Oregon's

beauty.

Once in Oregon he started doing counseling work and holding workshops, which is how he made contact with the University.

Favreau's wife, Stephanie, said he has turned his past into a positive that helps him be a better teacher.

"He is passionate about helping other people and getting the word out about alternatives," she said.

She described Favreau as spontaneous and added that "things are never dull."

"The opportunity to talk to people about putting things into perspective, what that is all about," Favreau said. "It's not therapy. It's education."

When he asks students in his classes to raise their hands if they know someone who is having problems with illicit substances, he said that invariably the majority do.

"I have an opportunity to help people, and that's what it's all about."

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