

# Death prompts safety lessons

University greek members were educated in boat safety in the wake of their upcoming excursion to Lake Shasta

By Kara Cogswell  
Oregon Daily Emerald

An Oregon State University freshman died Saturday at California's Lake Shasta after he slipped and fell from the roof of a houseboat rented by his fraternity, Sigma Phi Epsilon. Shasta County deputies believe Sean Kazuo Matsuda, 19, was trying to cross over to another boat when he lost his footing, possibly because of wind and choppy waves, said Sgt. Mark Jenkins of the Shasta County Sheriff's Office.

Matsuda struck his head on the boat when he fell and was probably unconscious when he entered the water, Jenkins said. Several students jumped into the water to rescue him, but it took them 15 to 20 minutes to bring him to the surface. Paramedics were unable to resuscitate him.

Matsuda was pronounced dead after being flown to a hospital.

The OSU student's death occurred one week before many greek members

at the University of Oregon travel to Shasta for a traditional weekend excursion. Amy Stanton, the University's Panhellenic Council president, said that Greek Life has done everything possible to ensure that the trip is safe and fun for students.

"We're doing all we can to make sure [fraternity and sorority members] know what's going on," she said.

Kevin Gelbrich, Interfraternity Council President at the University, said while trips to Lake Shasta are not Greek Life Department events, the organization has made an effort to encourage students to be safe. Last week, Greek Life sponsored a workshop where members of Shasta County Sheriff's Office spoke to students about boat safety issues. Freshmen and other students who had not been to Lake Shasta before were required to attend.

Jenkins said about 60 people attended the University's workshop, while about 200 attended the workshop held at Oregon State. Panhellenic and IFC representatives asked students in the greek system at both universities not to comment on Matsuda's death.

University freshman Amy Fenning, who went to school with Matsuda, said the pre-dentistry major was invol with

many school activities and sports, including football, basketball and lacrosse. A popular student, Matsuda was well liked by everyone, she added. "He was an all-around good guy," she said.

Another Oregon State student was injured Friday after she also fell from a houseboat and struck her head, Jenkins said. She was taken to a hospital with a mild concussion, but has since been released.

Even with the recent accidents, Jenkins said, the overall number of injuries among college students at Lake Shasta has decreased in recent years. Matsuda's death was the first fatality among college students at the lake since a Southern Oregon University student drowned in 1997.

The Shasta County Sheriff's Office tries to educate students on boat safety before they travel to the lake. But with so many people at the lake, it is hard to eliminate every risk, Jenkins said.

Last weekend, he said about 3,000 people were at Lake Shasta, most of them Oregon State students. On Memorial Day weekend, when some University greek houses will be at the lake, there could be as many as 30,000 people there, he said.

## News briefs

### Random car jack attempt in north Eugene

The Eugene Police Department responded to an attempted car jacking early Monday, after an armed male attempted to enter the vehicle of a woman driving southbound on Beltline Road in north Eugene, police said.

The 62-year-old woman was driving home from work around 1 a.m. when her vehicle was approached by a man wearing a handkerchief over his face and carrying either a short-barreled rifle or shotgun at a stop sign at the intersection of Beltline Road and Royal Avenue, police said.

EPD Sgt. Scott McKee said the incident does not appear to be related to any other cases the department has seen recently.

"We've had car jacking in the past," he said, "but a situation like this one is pretty uncommon."

McKee said that most car jacking and car jacking attempts the department sees occur in parking lots or near banks, adding that money is usually the motivation for such crimes.

Police described the suspect as male, 5-feet-5-inches tall with a medium build. The man was last seen wearing a dark baseball hat, navy blue sweatshirt and baggy pants, police said.

The woman heard the suspect attempting to open her car door while stopped for a red light at the intersection, however, her car's door was locked and she was able to drive away before he could enter the vehicle, police said.

"Leaving the door locked forces [the suspect] to make a decision — break the window or not," McKee said. "And that time allowed her to speed away."

Anyone with information about the incident is asked to call the EPD's Violent Crimes Unit at 682-5182.

## Lecture

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philosophers tend to describe the human race, including ideas that people's motives are spurred by self interest and that individuals can be understood simply by studying their cultures.

"I think these views are not the views of how ordinary people think and feel," he said.

Wilson said not all people are

the exact products of their cultures because most people will stand up against ideas if they think they are wrong.

"People think cultures are wrong if they tolerate murder," he said, "but they look up to cultures that behave responsibly."

To show that individuals do not act out of their own self interest, Wilson said people are as quick to help others as they are to help themselves. He said society believes threats to others are thought

of as moral problems, whether it be a relative or a dog in danger.

"Our well being to some degree depends on the well being of others," he said.

Wilson said most people would likely react to a grandmother in need, a drowning dog or a hurt child no matter what a person's age because sympathy and fairness are innate human qualities.

"Even babies of a certain age are affected by the cries of distress they hear from other babies," he said.

Wilson said lying is acceptable sometimes depending on the situation. For example, he said if a man with a gun were to show up at a person's door demanding to see his or her daughter, the person would probably not tell the man anything.

"Why wouldn't you lie?" he said. "Because telling the truth would violate moral intuitions."

University President Dave Frohnmayer said Wilson described several natural reactions that hu-

mans possess.

"He gave a thoughtfully profound talk deliberately against the grain of many schools of individual philosophers," he said. "I'm left with a lot of questions to think about."

Sarah Nelson, a psychology graduate student, said she has read several of Wilson's books and is a fan of his way of thinking.

"He's one of the few people who actually studies ethics and morals nowadays," she said.

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