

University Men's Health Team works toward change

■ Despite strong support for a Men's Center, the idea is still hindered by stereotypes and misconceptions

By Katie Ellis
Oregon Daily Emerald

A small group of people have a long-term vision: a University Men's Center to provide male students with information and support on issues such as depression, academic difficulty and personal fitness.

But immediate efforts are concentrated on gaining further student support and receiving recognition as a student organization.

The University Men's Health Team has organized a variety of activities to further the center's development. The team has already completed various activities, including a presentation on men's issues at a recent crisis prevention conference, training on men's issues and interventions with professional counselors. The group also holds weekly meetings addressing men's personal issues. Representatives from the University health, counseling and student activities centers held a Men's Center organizational meeting Tuesday. Two University students and an ASUO representative also attended to hear the center's progress report.

During the meeting, George Hanawahine, graduate teaching fellow at the University Counseling Center, reviewed the results of a student survey of 260 male and female students. Hanawahine said he was pleased with the overall results.

"I think the survey is a positive endorsement for the Men's Center," Hanawahine said. "I'm also very pleased with the variety of sampling in the survey and I think it was a

good reflection of what our campus looks like."

After discussing the results of the survey, the meeting focused on how to gain greater support and endorsement from the student body.

Lach Litwer, Bean complex resident assistant, said there is strong support for a Men's Center, but the idea is hindered by social stereotypes and preconceptions.

"My interactions with students lead me to believe there is great need and support for a Men's Center," Litwer, a sophomore in psychology, said. "But I think the biggest obstacle is fighting the preconceptions of what people think men need and want."

Jon Davies, counseling and testing center psychologist, echoed Litwer and said stereotypes and misconceptions are the leading reasons men do not seek the help they need.

"We found the No. 1 reason that men do not seek help is because of social stigmas," Davies said. "Asking for help is considered shameful."

Davies discussed the history of the project and said the idea for the center originated after the University's Men's Health Team conducted five years of research on the perceived health needs of male University students. The research highlighted barriers for males who seek help and offered suggestions to help male students.

"Our research suggested that having a men's center would be helpful for men who seek those services," Davies said. "As a result, males would lead a more healthy lifestyle."

For further information please contact George Hanawahine at 346-2770.

E-mail reporter Katie Ellis at katieellis@dailymerald.com.

Men's Center survey results

The University Men's Health Team surveyed 260 students. The purpose of the survey was to assess student interest in the addition of a Men's Center on campus.

	1 Strongly agree	2 Somewhat agree	3 Agree	4 Disagree	5 Somewhat Disagree	6 Strongly disagree
I am in support of the development of a Men's Center:						
Male	██████████			██████████		2.19
Female	██████████			██████████		1.5
Average	██████████			██████████		1.87
I believe women would benefit from a Men's Center:						
Male	██████████			██████████		2.66
Female	██████████			██████████		2.20
Average	██████████			██████████		2.45
I know men who would benefit from a Men's Center:						
Male	██████████			██████████		2.31
Female	██████████			██████████		2.10
Average	██████████			██████████		2.22
I think student fees should be used to fund a Men's Center:						
Male	██████████			██████████		2.79
Female	██████████			██████████		2.39
Average	██████████			██████████		2.60

SOURCE: Men's Health Team Student Survey

Today's crossword solution

T	R	A	C	E	R	L	E	S	T	A	V	E	
R	E	P	U	T	E	O	N	T	O	N	I	L	
A	P	P	E	A	L	S	A	A	R	T	A	M	
I	L	L	L	I	K	E	M	I	N	D	E	D	
T	A	I	L	C	R	O	O	N	O	N	U	S	
O	C	E	A	N	O	U	R	C	I	N	C	H	
R	E	D	G	I	A	N	T	O	R	N	A	T	
			T	O	E		T	I	E				
T	A	S	S	E	L	C	O	L	E	S	L	A	W
A	C	T	O	R	M	A	T	P	I	E	T	A	
B	E	E	F	L	A	B	E	L	B	I	L	L	
T	R	A	D	E	N	A	M	E	S	S	A	T	
D	A	N	R	E	A	R	A	C	C	U	S	E	
A	T	E	A	C	N	E	P	O	U	R	E	R	
M	E	R	W	H	A	T	S	T	R	E	S	S	

THE ADDING MACHINE
by Elmer Rice
Robinson Theatre
April 12, 13, 18, 19, 20
26, 27- 8 PM
Benefit Matinee:
Sun., Apr. 21- 2
Sponsors, Inc.
485-8341

UO Ticket Office
EMU: 346-4363
Hult Center- 682-5000
UT Box Office: 346-4191
(Days of Performances only)

Comic News

FEATURES

Zut alors! The French can rap

■ French rap and hip-hop artist MC Solaar gains international popularity with his recent album called 'Cinquième As'



Artist 'Cinquième'

Elektra Entertainment

★★★★★

By Jen West

Oregon Daily Emerald

For many American audiences, putting the words "French" and "rap" together in a sentence often results in amused snickers. But the language of love also has an edge, as leading French rap and hip-hop artist MC Solaar proves in his latest album, "Cinquième As," released on Elektra Entertainment.

Born in Dakar, Senegal, and raised in Cairo and Paris, MC Solaar's creative lyrics, haunting melodies and solid rhythms make "Cinquième As" (translated as Fifth Ace) enjoyable for Francophones and international audiences alike. The album was released in France in 2001 and recently released in the United States.

Through his music, MC Solaar often uses wonderful imagery and plays on words to tell sad stories of disheartened people floating through the French mainstream.

The song "Solaar Pleure" (Solaar Weeps), played almost non-stop on French radio stations last year, is a kind of eulogy telling of the death of MC Solaar and a battle between

good and evil. The song is his last will and testament, and he acts as a kind of messiah or messenger to the people. He sacrifices himself, hoping that his death will send the message to kids to know the difference between what is true or false.

Solaar dies and goes to heaven, but because of his crimes on Earth, the archangel casts him into hell. Instead of accepting his fate, he calls on St. Theresa, Buddha and other biblical characters to wage war against the "Satanic Liar." With Solaar's repentance and tears, they destroy the devil, only to have him re-emerge on Earth.

MC Solaar offers an English version of "Solaar Pleure" on the album, but it does not flow as eloquently in English as it does in French. Many of the expressions he uses in the French version are difficult to accurately translate into English. But when he relaxes into his native tongue, the words flow from him like gospel.

"¡Hasta la Vista Mi Amor!" also raced to the top of the French music charts last year. Sung in Spanish, it has an infectious beat that will set listeners' bodies bumping.

The language barrier may prevent some understanding of the stories woven into these songs, but it cannot hold up against the hip-hop rhythms. "Cinquième As" continues to gain international popularity because audiences in any language can enjoy the music.

Even those listeners who have to sing along to the music can simply skip to track 7. The entire chorus is "la la la, la ... la la la, la."

E-mail reporter Jen West at jenwest@dailymerald.com.

NEED CASH ?



We buy used texts and other good books throughout the year

SMITH FAMILY BOOKSTORE

768 East 13th
(541) 345-1651
one block from U of O

525 Willamette
(541) 343-4717
near the Post Office

www.smithfamilybookstore.com

INTERNATIONAL NIGHT 2002

International Student Association presents an evening with 25 Dishes + 11 Performances from around the world ~

Date: April 14th, Sunday

Dinner: 5pm + 6pm,

EMU Skylight + Fir Room

Performance: 7:30pm,

EMU Ballroom

Tickets: Available at EMU

Ticket Office

\$11 - General Public

\$8 - Students / Children

under 12

Free - Children under 3

Threading Our Cultures

