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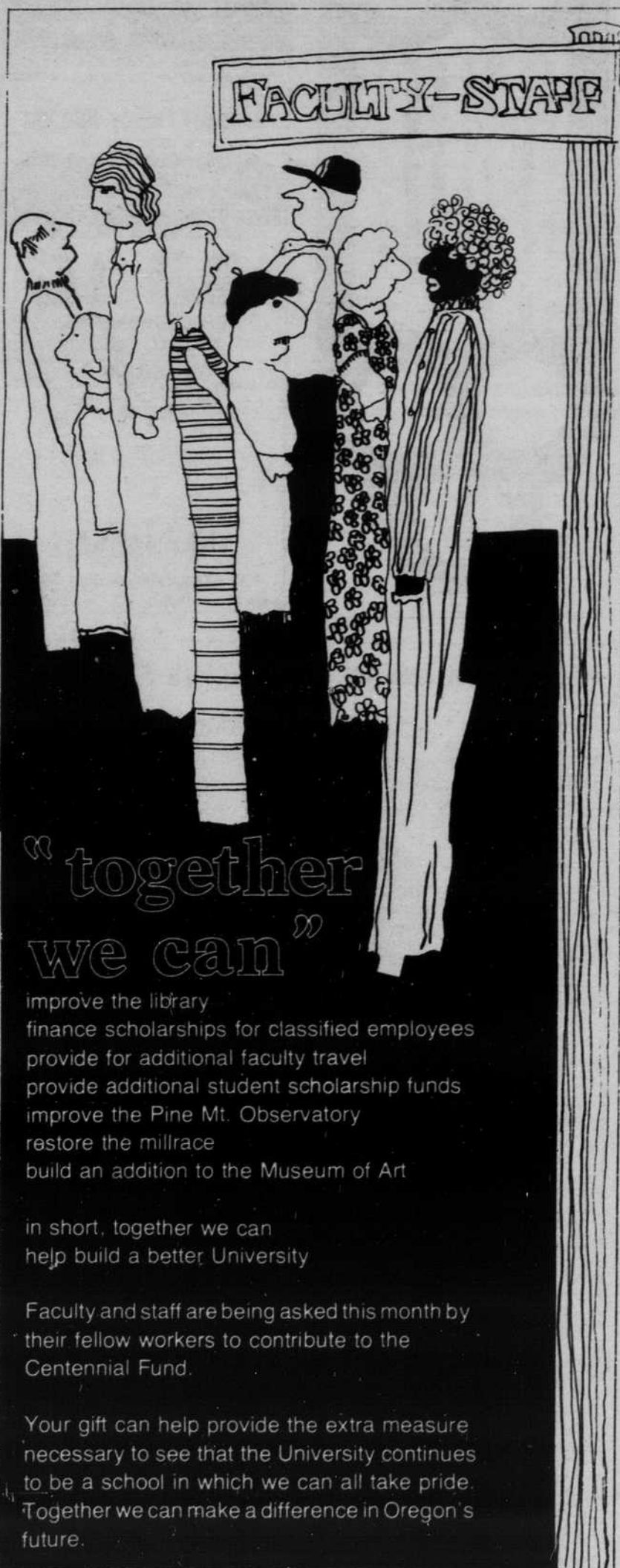
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"together we can"

improve the library
finance scholarships for classified employees
provide for additional faculty travel
provide additional student scholarship funds
improve the Pine Mt. Observatory
restore the millrace
build an addition to the Museum of Art

in short, together we can help build a better University

Faculty and staff are being asked this month by their fellow workers to contribute to the Centennial Fund.

Your gift can help provide the extra measure necessary to see that the University continues to be a school in which we can all take pride. Together we can make a difference in Oregon's future.

Events Calendar May 13 - 19

THURSDAY

"She Stoops to Conquer" \$2 general, \$1 students. 8 p.m. University Theatre, Pocket Playhouse.
"Union Maids" and "Native Land" \$1. 7 & 9:30 p.m. 150 Geology.
John Jarvie, Noon Gig. Free. Noon-1 p.m. EMU East Lobby.
The Fantasticks. \$1.50. 8 p.m. South Eugene High School.
Josh Bowes. 9:15-12:15. The Feed Mill, 259 E. 5th.
Couple of Characters. Homefried Truckstop, 1414 Alder Street.
Fiver. The Backdoor, 1046 Oak Street.
David Winters. Fourth Street Depot, 453 Willamette.
"Paul Robeson Sings" a play. Scarborough Faire, 128 E. 11th.

FRIDAY

"She Stoops to Conquer" \$2 general, \$1 students. 8 p.m. University Theatre.
"Day at the Races" \$1. 7, 9, & 11 p.m. 177 Lawrence.
"Ruthie Gorton" \$2. 167 EMU. 8 p.m.
"Harold and Maude" \$1. 6, 8, 10 & Midnight. 180 PLC.
Tom & Theresa, Beer Garden. Free. 4-6 p.m. EMU Dining Room.
Recreational folkdancing. Free. Teaching 7:30-8:30. Request dancing 8:30-? 103 Gerlinger.
"Soiree de Trois" \$2. 8 p.m. Performing Arts Theatre, Lane Community College.
"Monkey Business" & "Fun at the Zoo" 98¢ Midnight Special. Mayflower Theatre, 788 E. 11th.
Folkdancing. \$1. 8 p.m. Laurelwood Center, 2700 Columbia Street.
Sojac. \$1.75. 9 p.m. Community Center for the Performing Arts, WOW Hall, 8th & Lincoln.

The Fantasticks. \$1.50. 8 p.m. South Eugene High School.
"The Sound of Music" \$2 advance, \$2.50 at the door. 8 p.m. Churchill High School.
Good 'n' Country. 9:15-1:15. Feed Mill.
Wendy Agne. Noon-3 p.m. John Jarvie. 6-9 p.m. Homefried Truckstop.
Fiver, The Backdoor.
Arroyo. Murphy & Me, 1475 Franklin.
Fox & Weasel. Duffy's, 801 E. 13th.

SATURDAY

Art Blakey and the Jazz Messengers. \$3.50 students, \$4 general. 8 p.m. EMU Ballroom.
"She Stoops to Conquer" \$2 general, \$1 students. 8 p.m. University Theatre.
"Devil in Miss Jones" \$1. 5, 6:30, 8, 9:30, 11 & 12:30. 180 PLC.
"Love and Death" \$1. 7 & 9 p.m. 150 Science.
"Ruthie Gorton" \$2. 8 p.m. Whiteaker School.
Pickin' Delight. Free. 1 p.m. Saturday Market, 8th & Oak.
"Soiree de Trois" \$2. 8 p.m. Performing Arts Theatre, LCC.
"Monkey Business" & "Fun at the Zoo" 98¢ Midnight Special. Mayflower Theatre. The Fantasticks. \$1.50. 8 p.m. South Eugene High School.
"The Sound of Music" \$2 advance, \$2.50 at the door. 8 p.m. Churchill High School.
Cirrus. 9:15-1:15. The Feed Mill.
Greg Field. 6-9 p.m. Homefried Truckstop.
Fiver. The Backdoor.
Wendy Agne. 9-Midnight. Fourth Street Depot.
Beaux-Arts Ball. \$2.50 single, \$7.50 trio. Lawrence Hall Courtyard.
Raku Workshop by Judy Teufel. Free. 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Eugene Public Library.

SUNDAY

"Fata Morgana" \$1. 8 p.m. 180 PLC.
Recreational folkdancing. Free. Teaching 7:30-8:30 p.m. Request dancing 8:30-? 103 Gerlinger.
Frank Henderson, mime. Noon. Earl Kelley. 1 p.m. Sunday Market.

MONDAY

John Wiesenthal. 9:15 - 12:15. The Feed Mill.
The Nighthawks. The Backdoor.

TUESDAY

Mo Udall benefit. Stone-ground with Tommy Smith. \$2 8:30 p.m. Community Center for the Performing Arts.
David Young. 9:15-12:15. The Feed Mill.
Nighthawks. The Backdoor.
Mark Creighton. Duffy's.
Lecture and slide presentation by Judy Chicago. Feminist Art. Free 7:30 p.m. Gerlinger Lounge
Big Band Jazz Fest. \$1. 7:30 p.m. North Eugene High School.

WEDNESDAY

Experimental Films. 7:30 & 9:30 p.m. 180 PLC.
Mark Creighton. 9:15-12:15. The Feed Mill.
Nighthawks. The Backdoor.

NORTHWEST

Joffrey City Center Ballet. May 13, 14, 15. 8:15 p.m. Portland Civic Auditorium, 222 SW Clay Street.
Steven Fromholz. May 14 & 15. Pipeline. Seattle.
Count Basie. May 16. Paramount Theatre, Portland.

'Eaters of Dead' goes too far

By DAN HAYS

Michael Crichton has done some exciting work in the past: "The Andromeda Strain," "The Great Train Robbery," "The Terminal Man." His books under the pseudonym John Lange (especially "Zero Cool" and "The Last Tomb") are fine adventure. He attempts the unusual, and it has paid off consistently...until now.

"Eaters of the Dead," like other Crichton books, takes a kernel of fact and turns it into fiction. The results can be both exciting and worthwhile. But in the case of "Eaters of the Dead," Crichton has stretched too far.

The book is subtitled "The Manuscript of Ibn Fadlan Relating His Experiences with the Northmen in A.D. 922". There is indeed a manuscript of Ibn Fadlan, who was sent as religious teacher to the Volga Bulgaria in the late tenth century. Fragments of his report to the Caliph have survived. What

Crichton has done is to add to these fragments, and present the whole as the actual manuscript of Ibn Fadlan. He backs this up with an introduction, appendix, and source list, much as he did in "The Andromeda Strain." A good idea... but it goes awry.

The language he employs is by no means fitting to tenth century prose. It is simply modern in tone, rather like the invented syntax and rhymic structure of Hollywood Biblical epics. This in itself would have been a minor irritant in what is after all escapist literature (the publishers call it a "diversion"). It is the plot structure that really doesn't work.

Simply stated: "Eaters of the Dead" is a retelling of the story of Grendel and Beowulf. Ibn Fadlan winds up as one of the party accompanying Beowulf (here called Buliwyf) to battle the monster Grendel (here a tribe of man-eaters called Wendol). The problem with this is three-fold: Beowulf is familiar in essence if not in detail to most readers; it has been done before (John Gardner's Grendel is

only one example); the original Beowulf was probably composed somewhere around 600 A.D., 300 years before the time in which Crichton has set his story.

There is an interesting conjecture as to the true identity of the Wendol, and the book is liberally sprinkled with footnotes which re-inforce the idea that one is reading Ibn Fadlan's actual manuscript. But the book tends to dwell on unpleasant subjects, many of which have little or nothing to do with the plot line, and would not seem to have interested the cultured Arab as he observed his barbarian captors.

Ultimately, Crichton's style defeats itself. What should be climactic passes by too quickly, and the final revelations are passed over in such an off-hand way that the reader must sometimes drop back and re-read to discover what has happened.

Crichton has done much better than this, and hopefully will again. "Eaters of the Dead" is, at best, a minor diversion.