

Demonstrators carry cloth-draped coffin in protest of Iran

By KELI OSBORN
Of the Emerald

Carrying banners and signs and chanting slogans, nearly 50 Iranian students and their supporters marched in Eugene Friday to bring attention to problems in their homeland.

Hoisting a coffin draped in black cloth, the demonstrators began their march in front of the Wesley Center at Kincaid Street and 13th Avenue at about 11 a.m., wound their way through campus, and proceeded to the Federal Building at Pearl Street and 7th Avenue.

The people for Human Rights in Iran organized the "funeral march" in "honor of those who are dead and (those who) are still sacrificing their lives to bring freedom to Iran," representatives of the group said.

"Carter is a liar... the shah is a murderer... Carter supports the shah...the shah is killing Iranian people," marchers chanted.

The group stopped briefly at High Street and 10th Avenue, in front of the Register-Guard Building, where leaders made statements through a megaphone. At one point, an older man walking past the rally stopped and punched one of the demonstrators. However, demonstrators remained calm.

A recent demonstration in Beverly Hills, Calif., against relatives of the shah staying in that area has drawn criticism from many national figures for what they call unnecessary violence and criminal

acts.

One of the leaders of Friday's rally, identified only as Reza, said the Eugene march was peaceful and orderly but for the assault from the passerby. Disturbances in California were probably caused by such passersby—or even members of SAVAK, Iran's secret police—Reza said.

"We demonstrate to educate the American people," he said. "We have no need to act hostile...After all, this is the United States—not Iran."

After arriving at the Federal Building, marchers stopped to hear speeches and shout chants to onlookers. Leaders read names of family and friends killed in the past few years of violence in Iran—the black casket symbolized the deaths they emphasized—as one demonstrator beat drum rolls.

Marchers were noticeably without their usual face masks. One Iranian student, who called himself Hussein, said they have doffed the masks in a show of unity with those back home who are often unable to hide their identity. However, many are still reluctant to reveal their last names.

With the movement to overthrow the shah appearing to gain support, demonstrators are not as afraid for their security as in the past, he added.

Protest leaders said Friday that they will continue to march until the situation in Iran is improved. In a statement issued by the People for Human Rights in Iran last week, the group called Pres. Carter's human rights policy a "farce".



Emerald graphic

Two Berg's for the fun of it.

DOWNHILL RENTALS

Berg's Ski Shop on 13th has everything you'll need for great downhill skiing!

Adult Rossignol skis
Nordica boots
A & T poles
\$7.50 per day
\$14 per weekend

Juniors Skis
Boots
Poles
\$6.00 per day
\$10 per weekend

Rental car racks also available

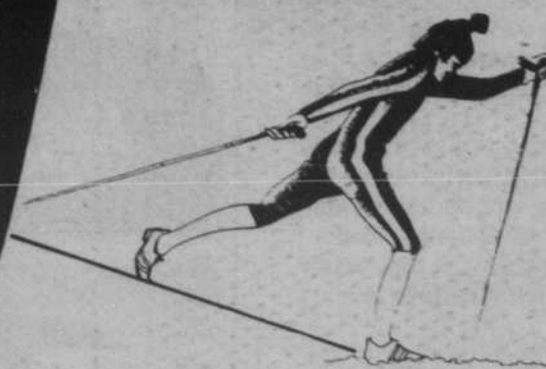


CROSS COUNTRY RENTALS

Berg's have everything you'll need for cross-country ski fun—and special rates for group rentals, too!

INDIVIDUAL RENTAL RATES

	SINGLE DAY ON WEEKEND	FULL 2-DAY WEEKEND	MID- WEEK
ADULT X-C SKI SET	\$7.00	\$10.00	\$5.00
CHILD'S X-C SKI SET	\$5.00	\$7.00	\$3.50
SHERPA SNOWSHOES	\$4.00	\$6.00	\$3.00
STAND. SNOWSHOES	\$3.00	\$5.00	\$2.50



Berg's Ski Shop
13th & Lawrence • 683-1300

Berg's Sports Shop
Corner 11th & Mill • 683-1100