

Workers forming independent unions

Prof says resistance growing in China

CAROLYN RAMSAY
Of the Emerald

Revolution in the wake of the Gang of Four trial — that's sociology Prof. David Milton's prophecy for China.

"(Prime Minister Deng Xiaoping) is going to create another revolt," Milton says. "He guarantees only more struggle."

Milton disagrees with visiting Chinese professor Zhou Renming's view on modern China.

"I am familiar with the position of the intellectual elite that he represents in China," Milton says. But "his statements do not reflect the politics in China now."

Milton and his wife Nancy spent four

years in China during the Cultural Revolution teaching English to Mao Tse-tung's interpreters.

The two co-authored "The Winds Will Not Subside: Years in Revolutionary China 1964 through 1969" when they returned in 1969.

"China is enormously unstable again," Milton says. "Resistance is already growing. Workers in China are forming independent unions like in Poland."

He likens the tremors in China today to the rumbles foreigners noticed in pre-revolution Iran.

"Americans ought to stay out of the politics of China," Milton says. "The networks Americans are making are good, but struggles aren't over. Only

Chinese can work out their future.

"It's dangerous for the Pentagon to make a military alliance with China," he warns. "China cannot be led by any one faction, but by a coalition."

"The alliance of Chou En-Lai, who represented the coastal cities and the historic links to the modern market system, and Mao Tse-tung, who represented the great inner core of China, held this country together for 40 years."

The faction now holding power in China is a branch of Chou En-Lai's side of the alliance, Milton says. The Gang of Four, led by Mao's widow, Chiang Ching, comes from Mao's side.

The Gang of Four "were not criminals," he says. "They were political op-

ponents. The legality of the trial is a sham."

Chiang Ching was recently sentenced to life imprisonment for her activities during the Cultural Revolution.

Although the factions are opposed politically, "the methodologies don't differ at all," Milton says. Both arbitrarily arrest political opponents. "Politicians should stop arresting each other."

The Polish workers' concept of the red bourgeoisie is Mao's concept, he says. Milton says he's intrigued by the coverage the American press has given the Polish workers' strike.

"Now I want to see if the American press is as enthusiastic about independent unions in China."

Faculty union petition yields too few names

By MARIAN GREEN
Of the Emerald

A University labor group's unionization effort was squelched temporarily Wednesday

when a petition came up short on signatures.

United Oregon Professors sent a letter to the state Employee Relations Board Wednesday

withdrawing its collective-bargaining petition. UOP organizer Nat Teich said the union didn't collect signatures from the required 30 percent of the faculty members.

Last month UOP submitted a petition containing 318 signatures, which it believed was more than 30 percent of the estimated 1,000 faculty members of the proposed bargaining unit.

The actual number of faculty members, however, varies from 1,054 to 1,089, when faculty on leave also are counted.

UOP could only estimate the figures because the University Administration was not required to provide a list of people included in the unit until the petition was submitted, Teich said.

"They don't have to identify the people who are supposed to be included in the unit," Teich said Thursday, "so the bargaining unit turned out to be larger than we expected, and more people's signatures were excluded."

"A number of the signatures were debatable, but it appears that we would've been short anyway, so it's not worth argu-

ing about."

A state ERB official said the petition would have been disqualified if the union had not withdrawn its petition.

"My view is to simply go ahead and re-file. It's more of a disaster if we don't because it would send a message to the Legislature that everything is hunky-dory," Teich said. "As quickly as we can get a letter out to the faculty, we'll mail signature cards to them."

Teich also criticized the collective-bargaining effort of the American Association of University Professors.

"They're not really that interested in collective bargaining, they're only prepared to tag along if someone else does the work."

AAUP president Katherine Eaton was out of town and unavailable for comment.

Teich attributed the petition

failure to a "genuine problem of lack of motivation."

"It's a setback, but I don't think it will be a disaster," he said.

The UOP will make an official statement Friday, Teich said, after a meeting with the American Federation of Teachers local and the Oregon State Employee Association local, the two UOP components.

Administration to rule on King celebration

Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday will be commemorated by the University if the administration approves a University Senate motion.

Senate members passed the motion 29-0 Wednesday, with two abstentions. The full assembly will consider the motion at its meeting next week.

The motion, written by Julie St. Clair, Student University Affairs Board chairer, asks the administration to establish Jan. 15 as a commemorative day at the University and to support those persons working to establish a nationally recognized holiday.

"The motion is not asking

the University to let everyone off from school," St. Clair said. "It leaves it up to the administration."

She suggested flying the American flag at half-mast or making the day "educational."

St. Clair said she hoped the motion would spur a "chain reaction" among other universities to support a holiday in King's name.

In other business, CSPA Prof. Clarence Thurber asked Senate members to consider holding "free-floating" discussions at future meetings. Thurber suggested topics such as academic quality, collective bargaining and inter-collegiate athletics.

Trial of football player delayed

The trial of University football player Dwight Robertson on sex charges has been delayed pending appeal of a circuit court ruling.

Robertson's trial on first-degree sodomy charges was scheduled to begin this week.

The trial has been postponed until an appeal on the dismissal of coercion charges against Robertson has been settled. The Lane County District Attorney's Office filed the appeal.

Lane County Circuit Court Judge James Hargreaves ruled last October that the Oregon coercion statute used to charge Robertson is unconstitutionally vague. Hargreaves earlier ruled the coercion statute unconstitutional in

dismissing charges against former players Andrew Page and Reggie Young.

Robertson, Page, Young and former player Rick Ward were charged by a Lane County Grand Jury with forcing an 18-year-old woman to commit sexual acts on Nov. 14, 1978, by threatening to reveal damaging information about the woman.

An earlier Emerald story erroneously reported the players threatened the woman after the alleged assault, telling her they would reveal damaging information if she reported the attack.

Robertson, Page and Young have pleaded innocent to the sex charges. Ward is fighting extradition from Colorado.

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