

Event sparks hostility

Arab, Moslem student groups clash

By MARK CRAEMER
Of the Emerald

Although foreign students at the University come from a large number of countries with many differences, there is little visible friction between them, says Tom Mills, director of the University office of international studies.

Except for disagreements on the Khomeini regime in Iran.

"The groups (Moslem organizations) are trying to get campus and newspaper support," Mills says, explaining that political differences among foreign students from the Middle East are evident.

A fight between members of the Organization of Arab Students and the Moslem Student Association in the EMU lobby Oct. 9 was an uncommon occurrence, but represents a larger controversy between groups.

According to Khader Hamide, a member of the OAS, the

incident occurred at a table where information about the Arabic world was being distributed. Two members of the MSA approached the table, insulted him, and began throwing literature from the table, he says.

When he asked them to leave the area if they could not discuss their differences with "cool heads," three MSA members began hitting him and a fellow OAS member, Hamide says.

Ahmed Altwaijri, a spokesman for the MSA will identify only one of the three aggressors as a Eugene MSA member. The man, Jamal Naas, has been unavailable for comment, but according to Altwaijri, was acting coordinator of the MSA before the appointment of a president last week.

Hamide says MSA members are religious fanatics who are unwilling to discuss different opinions in a logical manner.

"As a spokesman, I would be more than willing to sit down with anyone who wants to discuss the issues," Altwaijri says in response to Hamide's charge.

The MSA, funded by the Incidental Fee Committee, operates independently of the Foreign Student Organization.

The purpose of the organization is to give Americans "correct ideas" about Islam, newly appointed MSA president Abdulaziz Harthi says.

"Islam is a way of life. There is no distinction between church and state," Harthi says.

"If it (a fight) happens with one or two members, it is not representative of the whole group," he says. The people who were in the fight may or may not have been MSA members, Harthi adds.

However, some MSA members who do commit violent acts do not identify themselves as part of that group in order to

protect the MSA's reputation, says Mehran, a member of the Moslem Student Society. He can use only his first name because of possible retaliation against family members, he says.

The MSA is largely funded by Khomeini's regime and is reporting names of people who oppose the Iranian leader, Mehran adds.

There is no feud between the MSA and any foreign student organization, Altwaijri says. However, his organization has lodged complaints for verbal harassment against the Iranian Student Organization and Moslem Student Society for incidents occurring at MSA information tables.

"We don't hold these acts as representative of organizational attacks but as merely individual

attacks," Altwaijri says. "We are not bothered by this."

Iranian Student Association and MSS membership is limited to Iranians. The OAS is open to all Arab students, and the MSA is open to all Arabs and Iranians.

"Our enemies are anti-Islams," Harthi says.

Anyone who does not fully support Khomeini is an enemy of the MSA, Hamide says.

"Khomeini's regime fights without any logic just like those fanatics fight student organizations," Mehran says.

"This is absolutely not true," Harthi says. "The MSA supports it (Khomeini's regime) to a certain extent, but no more."

The MSA is funded solely by the IFC, membership fees, and fund raising efforts, Harthi emphasizes.

Reagan policy spurs coalition

Protesting what they call the Reagan administration's pro-business and anti-labor bent, the Coalition for Social Justice plans a march and rally Saturday to promote funding for "human needs, not war."

"We plan to show people that Reagan's policies are actually hurting a majority of Americans. Big business is getting all the breaks; the rest of us get layoffs and cutbacks. That has to change," says Charlie Aker, a coalition organizer.

Human rights, strengthening social programs and redirecting the military budget will be

among the topics addressed by rally speakers Irv Fletcher, Oregon AFL-CIO president; Ron Herndon, Portland's Black United Front president; State Rep. Margie Hendriksen, D-Eugene; and Stella Nowicki, a labor organizer since the 1930s.

Marchers will meet at 11 a.m. at 12th Avenue and Hilyard Street or at 11:30 a.m. at Seventh Avenue and Oak Street. The rally is slated for 12:30 p.m. when the marchers arrive at Second Avenue and Jefferson Street, under the freeway overpass.

Coalition organizers Merle Carl and Sharon Claeysens say sponsors are optimistic about turnout for the march and rally, expecting at least 3,000 people to participate.

Sponsors include at least 35 local and state organizations. The University chapter of the American Federation of Teachers, Clergy and Laity Concerned, Lane County Democratic Party, Eugene Council for Human Rights in Latin America, and the Oregon Women's Political Caucus are a few of the groups sponsoring or endorsing the coalition's goals.

Business leader visits college

Monford Orloff, chairman of the board and president of Evans Products Co., will be the executive-in-residence Nov. 10-12 at the University College of Business Administration.

The executive-in-residence program, now in its fourth year, brings important business leaders to the University twice each term to provide students with an opportunity to learn about business operations from the inside.

During his visit, Orloff — the second executive-in-residence for fall term — will participate in business and law school courses and speak on mergers and acquisitions at 7 p.m. Wednesday in Room 338, Gilbert Hall. He will also meet with business faculty members, students and University officials.

A resident of Portland, Orloff

graduated from Stanford University in 1937. He also has a degree from Harvard Law School. Orloff has also held directorships in various businesses and organizations. Among these are the University Health Sciences Center (now the Oregon Health Sciences University) and Pacwest Bancorp. In addition, he has

been a board member of the Oregon Graduate Center, president and trustee of the Oregon Community Foundation, and vice-chairman of Reed College Board of Trustees.

Orloff has also served as a trustee of the Portland Art Association and director of the Oregon Symphony Society.



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