

Rally to focus on conviction of activists

From Emerald and wire service reports
Thursday's conviction of eight sanctuary movement activists in Arizona, who were found guilty by a federal jury of conspiring to smuggle Salvadoran and Guatemalan aliens into the United States, will be the focus of a lunchtime rally today at Eugene's Koinonia Center.

Leaders of the Interfaith Sanctuary Network, which is coordinating today's protest, hope the rally will demonstrate that the Arizona defendants have support in the Pacific Northwest, said Bill Cadbury, a member of the Eugene Friends Meeting and a local leader of the movement.

About 12 Central American "refugees" are currently housed in Eugene by the movement, which includes the Central Presbyterian Church, the Unitarian Church of Eugene and Cadbury's church, which is a chapter of the Quaker church.

Rally organizers will ask supporters to sign a "statement of complicity" in support of the Arizona defendants and the nationwide movement. The statement will be presented to federal prosecutors at the Eugene Federal building next week, Cadbury said.

"(The convictions) come as no surprise," he said. "The case was essentially over... when the defendants were prevented from entering a description of conditions in Central America into the testimony."

During the trial, which lasted almost six weeks, the prosecution maintained that the defendants violated U.S. immigration laws between late 1981 and the beginning of 1985, helping people who came to this country only for economic betterment.

But the defendants contended they lawfully aided people who were fleeing persecution in their homelands.

At the outset of the trial, U.S. Attorney Donald Reno Jr. succeeded in having the proceeding's scope narrowed to exclude such issues as religion, humanitarianism, international law and political asylum.

The jury deliberated more than 47 hours during nine days on a total of 30 felony and misdemeanor charges against the 11 defendants, who included a Presbyterian minister, two Roman Catholic priests, a nun and seven church layworkers.

In addition to the six found guilty of charges against them, two were convicted of lesser charges and three were acquitted on all counts.

Conviction of felony conspiracy can bring as much as five years' imprisonment and \$10,000 fines per defendant, and the other felony counts are punishable by the same prison terms and \$2,000 fines.

Conviction of misdemeanor conspiracy, as with the other misdemeanor counts, can bring as much as six months and \$500 fines.

"The convictions will strengthen the movement nationwide because of all the publicity," Cadbury said.

Nationally the movement includes 281 churches, six cities, 11 universities and 17 city councils, Cadbury said.

Locally, movement activists will continue to house and protect Central Americans, he said.

"The underground railway will remain strong in spite of the ruling," he added.

The rally will begin at noon. The Koinonia Center is located at 1414 Kincaid St.

New bookstore board announced

Winners of the 1986 University Bookstore Board of Directors election were announced Thursday.

The candidates who received the most votes in the competition for various positions on the board are as follows:

•Sophomore position
Kathy Cleveland
Mike Sawyer

•Student-at-large position
Grant Kimball

•Graduate student position
Roger Durham

•Classified staff/management service personnel position
Shelley Carlson

•Faculty-at-large position
Barbara Edwards

The new board members take office immediately.

Physics professor joins national academy

University physics professor Brian W. Matthews was elected to the National Academy of Sciences Tuesday. Matthews is one of only seven scientists at the University to be selected for membership in the prestigious academy.

The academy selected 59 new members at its annual meeting in Washington, D.C., bringing its membership to 1,477. Former University scientist Ira Herskowitz, who now conducts research at the University of California at San Francisco, also gained membership to the academy.

John Moseley, University vice president for research, said Matthews combines the best qualities of a research scientist, teacher and faculty leader.

"His research has attracted world-wide attention and places Oregon at the very forefront of research in his field," Moseley said.

Matthews has been a member of the University Institute of Molecular Biology since 1969, where he has analyzed how some of the basic building blocks of life fit together. In 1981 he and his colleagues

reported their discovery of the structure of a protein "switch" molecule called "cro" that turns on and off the genetic information stored in DNA.

Prior to joining the University faculty in 1969, Matthews was a staff member of the Medical Research Council Laboratory of Molecular Biology in Cambridge, England.

He was director of the University molecular biology department from 1980-83 and served on several national and international committees.

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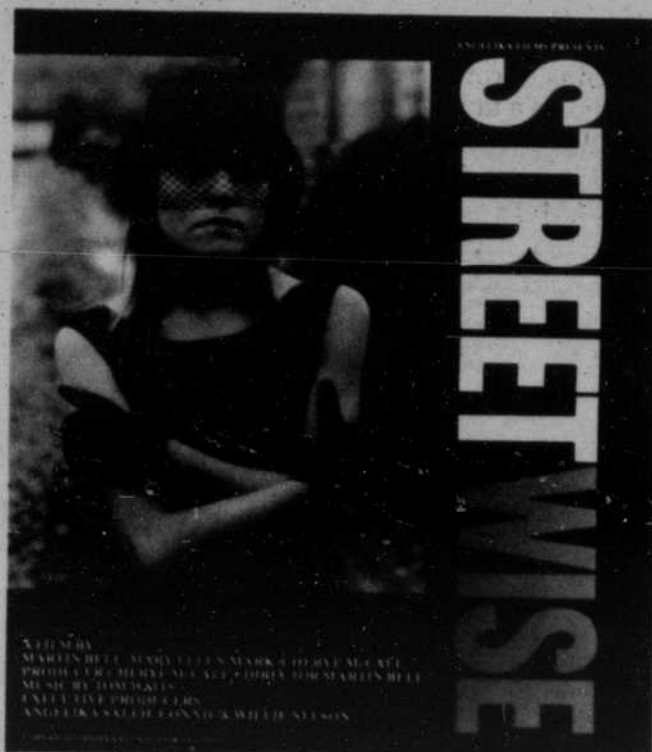
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