

Bigfoot's Back

Bigfoot appears to be back in the Blue Mountains of Washington, and local Bigfoot trackers say they have footprints and hair samples to prove it, the Oregonian reported April 17, 1987.

"Those guys are really traveling around. They're sure tearing up the ground up there," says Paul Freeman, who found some tracks near Indian Ridge on

Tiger Canyon Road in the Blue Mountains.

Freeman contacted Washington State University anthropology Associate Professor Grover Krantz, considered an expert in the hunt for Bigfoot, to assist in making plaster casts of footprints and gather hair samples. He indicated the footprints show there have been as many as four of the beasts in the area.

Krantz says he is "reasonably sure" the hair samples — only

the second time hair samples have been found — are authentic.

"It's not strong enough to say I 'believe' there is (a Bigfoot). I have seen evidence that can't be explained any other way," he says.

Student Protest

Twenty years ago today students continued to occupy Johnson Hall to demand equal voice in the selection of a replacement for then University President Authur Fleming, according to a April 24, 1968, Emerald article.

Students staged a sleep-in vigil beginning April 21 on the steps and lawn in front of the hall in 32-degree weather to emphasize

the importance of the issue.

By April 22, more than 200 students invaded the hall after a someone left the locked building around 9 p.m.

Bill Watson, one of the organizers of the vigil, said "We've got the building and we're going to keep it until we get equal representation on the Search Committee," according to the Emerald.

After three days the ordeal ended after as State System of Higher Education Chancellor Roy Lieuallen announced the forming Search Committee will be composed of three students, three faculty members and three administrators.

The Emerald considered the resolution "STUDENT POWER Victory for the vigilant."

Employee References

A good job reference has lost the clout it once held. In fact, a Chicago consulting company reports nearly three quarters of employers say they don't check the references of job applicants.

The reason given for the disuse of job references is because old employers can't always be trusted, in part because of their fear of being sued by their ex-employees. A bad job reference could mean an expensive and publically damaging legal action.

Since 1975, the number of lawsuits filed by ex-employees against employers has tripled. Many suits involve age discrimination, but allegations of libel and slander are increasing.

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Tarot

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Diane emphasizes the cards don't control one's life; they are the reflection of the psychic energies and unconscious thoughts of the client. "That's why I won't touch the cards until you've arranged them; it's actually your subconscious mind that sets them in. I just tell you what you've picked up."

Felice Nirenstein, a Tarot card reader through the Eugene Center for the Healing Arts, also insists the cards are not in charge — they indicate possibilities rather than certainties.

"I'm not going to presume to know you better than you do," she says. "Tarot is a language of pictorial images to play off what you know intuitively. You might get a different feeling from a card than its usual interpretation. For you then, that's the interpretation. How you feel about a card is what it means."

Although Felice lights a candle and burns incense when

preparing to read Tarot, she isn't Madame Apollonia either. "I'm not a fortune-teller," she says. "I'm just an ordinary person from New York come to Eugene."

During her readings, to avoid any taint of hocus-pocus, she explains the significance of the cards to her client.

Felice relates what the cards say about what the client is doing or feeling. She also points out how the client can react to the various circumstances around her.

"The major arcana are about the big energies going on in your life. You feel these deeply but might not be able to articulate them. The minor arcana are things that go on in a day-to-day level — the sort of things you will probably recognize."

With the information the cards provide, the client can make reasonable choices in matters of work, love or any decisions to be made. "My basic belief is

that people have the answers inside of them," Felice says. "I'm not going to say this will happen or that won't because I don't believe that's really helpful."

What is truly unhelpful is any use of Tarot cards to frighten people or to depress them, she says. Even traditionally "bad" cards (such as Death or the Devil) can be used positively.

"Why would someone come to hear about the gloom and doom impending?" Felice asks. "I'm not going to sit here and lie and say everything looks great if I see stuff that doesn't feel so great."

"But what I do is say, 'These are the kinds of things you can do to turn it around.' My basic outlook is that everything is potentially positive. When we read the cards, we take all the energy in the readings to give you information that's useful."

There are other Tarot readers in Eugene, but don't look for them in the Yellow Pages. Look in What's Happening or ask at Peralandra Books, or take a walk through Saturday Market.

You won't find any crystal balls, but you might just find yourself using an ancient art to help understand and help yourself.

— MICHAEL JAY

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