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Old controversy haunts revised Muslim group

By Daralyn Trappe
Emerald Reporter

There's a new Muslim student group on campus. But it's actually the old group. Or it's the old one restructured. Maybe. It depends on who you ask.

It's also unclear what the official name of this group is.

But all that aside, one fact is clear. Several Muslim students have stepped to the forefront this year and created an organization that they hope will provide an entirely different experience for the University's Muslim students.

They plan to be active on campus, to provide information, sponsor events and speakers and, in the process, try to dispel a few of the Western myths surrounding the Islamic religion and the Muslims who follow it.

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Controversy has surrounded the Muslim Student Association all year.

Long-standing tensions among members resulted in one group of students leaving to establish an off-campus organization during winter term, while another group remains at the University and is developing a new type of Muslim student association.

After MSA elections were held in October, several members informed the ASUO that the elections had been unfair. An ASUO investigation determined that certain MSA members had been excluded from voting.

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Stretching to win

Louisiana State's Mary Cobb (left) and Jovennie McDuffie stretch out before a Tuesday afternoon workout at Hayward Field. Cobb is the favorite in the 100 hurdles as LSU looks to win its fifth straight NCAA title at the NCAA Track and Field Championships beginning today and running through Saturday. See **NCAA Supplement**, Pages 1B-8B

Photo by Jeff Paslay

Blazer maniacs cram local bars, restaurants — and hope

By Jake Berg
Emerald Reporter

Clyde Drexler glides across the key for a slam dunk, and the crowd at Pegasus Smokehouse Pizza roars its appreciation.

Not everyone caught up in the hype of the Portland Trail Blazers' second trip to the NBA Western Conference Finals can actually enjoy the game live at Portland's Memorial Coliseum, so many University students and other Eugene residents have taken up the Blazer watch on their television sets.

But the watch may not last for much longer as the Blazers are down 3-2 in their best-of-seven series with the Los Angeles Lakers and must travel to L.A. Thursday night for what may be Portland's final game of the season.

"I've pretty much written this one off, but who knows," Scott Curtis said while playing pool and watching Tuesday's 95-84 Blazer win at Pegasus.

Pegasus manager Carol Jones said the Blazer games shown on the restaurant's



Students Deanna Jurgens (from left), Mary Lawler, Joseph Lilly and Tammy George watch nervously at Pegasus Smokehouse Pizza as the Blazers pull ahead of the Lakers Tuesday night.

three television sets increase business approximately 30 percent. She said the Blazers (and the Pegasus food, she adds) are so popular that in previous playoff

games Pegasus was choked to the ceiling with Portland fans.

Other popular hangouts for the Blazer maniacs during games range from the

dorms to bars to department stores.

Kirk Stewart, a University junior and Montgomery Ward electronics salesperson, remembers crowds of Valley River Center shoppers flocking to the displayed television sets showing this season's Blazer playoff games.

"People line up in the aisles, and you can't even walk by," Stewart said. "I'd hate to see if there's a fire — people wouldn't leave the TV sets."

If there is a tremendous surge of Blazer popularity in Oregon, a wave of dislike for the opposing Lakers is equally as huge. That hasn't kept University freshman and Los Angeles native Kevin White from rooting for the Lakers.

White is hardly the most popular guy on his block in Parsons Hall, an area dominated by Blazer fans, but he says he stands to make good money off bets with neighbors and won't hold back from bragging if L.A. wins the series.

White said he expects to give the Blazer fans in Parsons a hard time. "The Blazer dream was just that ... a dream," he said.

Inside

Three professors distinguished themselves from the rest of the University faculty by earning the top teaching awards for 1991.

The two recipients of the annual Ersted Awards for Distinguished Teaching and the winner of the Burlington Northern Foundation Faculty Award for Teaching Ex-

cellence will be recognized June 9 during the graduation ceremony at Autzen Stadium.

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Sports

PORTLAND (AP) — Buck Williams pulled down 16 rebounds to lead a dominating Portland performance as the Trail Blazers beat the Los Angeles Lakers 95-84 to stay

alive in the Western Conference finals.

The Lakers now lead the best-of-seven series 3-2. The sixth game will be in Los Angeles Thursday at 6 p.m., PDT.

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Regionally

FOREST GROVE (AP) — Rep. Les AuCoin, D-Portland, announced Tuesday he

would give up his 17-year House career and run next year for the Senate seat held by Republican Bob Packwood.

AuCoin had been hinting at such a run for weeks. He made his announcement at Pacific University, where he graduated and began his political career.

AuCoin said he would adopt the slogan of the last Democrat to hold the seat,

longtime Oregon Sen. Wayne Morse: "Principle above politics."

"Hearing it again reminds us how much we've lost on another man's watch," AuCoin said.

"In the hearts of Oregonians, this seat still belongs to Wayne Morse. I'm taking it back for the people of Oregon," he said.

Packwood upset Morse, a four-term veteran, in 1968.