

Student vigil honors MLK birthday

By Daralyn Trappe
Emerald Associate Editor

It started with a birthday cake in the EMU. But the singing and candles didn't come until hours later on the steps of Johnson Hall.

And in between, the celebration of Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday included jazz music, a discussion of America's racial divisions and a chance to meet author/poet Nikki Giovanni.

Students at the University commemorated King's birthday Wednesday, the first of a six-day celebration in Eugene honoring the civil rights leader.

The vigil and march began with University student Ishaq Shamsud-din speaking to about 100 people who gathered outside Johnson Hall.

"It feels good to see everyone here, it gives me energy and makes me want to move ahead," he said.

Shamsud-din urged the crowd to work together and support each other in an effort to make positive changes.

"We came here today to show a little solidarity and support, and that's good because you don't see it that much unless it's at an organized event like this," he said.

"Brother King tried to make a change," he said. "You might think things have changed since he was here, but things haven't



Student Ishaq Shamsud-din initiates the MLK, Jr. candlelight vigil with a motivating speech Wednesday night at Johnson Hall.

Photo by John Stokes

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that much. Racism is still around. "Martin Luther King had a dream, but where is dreaming going to get you," Shamsud-din said. "We need to act on those dreams."

Today's events include the showing of University Associate Professor Julia Lesage's documentary project on students of color, a performance of original compositions in honor of King and a film about gay black men.

Suspected rapist accused in case

By Tammy Batey
Emerald Reporter



Michael Patrick Ryan

One day after a man was accused of raping an 18-year-old University student, the same man is suspected to have raped an acquaintance in Boise, Idaho, police said Tuesday.

University student Michael Patrick Ryan, 33, is charged with the Saturday morning rape of a University freshman, Eugene police said. Ryan borrowed a friend's car shortly after the 1 a.m. attack and

left town. An Oregon warrant for his arrest has been issued.

Boise police Detective Lance Anderson said an Idaho warrant for Ryan's arrest would be issued shortly in connection with the rape of a Boise resident.

According to Boise police, friends of the 22-year-old Boise victim said Ryan showed up in Idaho City about 4:30 p.m. Saturday with a car that matched the description given by Eugene police. The woman's friends also said they knew Ryan before the rape. Ryan left their company about 2 p.m. Sunday, saying he was returning to Eugene to attend classes at the University, they said.

Boise police said they believe Ryan instead went to the rape victim's home about 3 p.m.

Turn to SUSPECT, Page 4

Bookstore board to discuss pornography controversy

□ Suggestion box comments, Men Against Rape want *Playboy*, *Penthouse* off bookstore shelves

By Lisa Millegan
Emerald Associate Editor

To some, *Playboy* and *Penthouse* magazines place on University Bookstore shelves directly increases violence against women. To others, the journals' removal would be nothing short of censorship.

More and more, University Bookstore customers are filling the store's suggestion box with their opinions on whether a college bookstore should carry pornography. A sample of comments:

"Please remove your selection of skin mags. I can avoid it but I don't think I should have to. Pornography dehumanizes, objectifies, degrades and disgusts. Articles may be good, but the pictures are not. Can we find a magazine which has good articles and doesn't degrade anyone?"

"Keep *Playboy* and *Penthouse* — P.C. (politically correct) intimidation should

not be validated."

"You sell magazines that refer to women as bunnies and pets and shows pictures of them in subjugated positions. Would you sell Nazi magazines that showed pictures of lynched minorities?"

"More pornography, please. We can't allow the thought of police running this place."

In response to such comments, the store's board of directors has decided to hold a meeting tonight to deal with customers' concerns.

The meeting will be held at 7 p.m. at the Wesley Center Conference Room, 1236 Kincaid St.

"The board is very concerned about hearing from students, faculty and staff," said Jim Williams, bookstore general manager. "We know it's important to a number of people and we don't want to minimize that."

The board of directors includes two faculty members, eight students and one general University employee.

Nancy Crafts, who is a buyer for the bookstore, said the 50 copies of *Playboy* and *Penthouse* on the shelves have sold out the last three to four months. Crafts

said she is not responsible for deciding which magazines are sold at the bookstore.

Williams, who has been in his position for 16 years, said the bookstore has not had this many complaints about the magazines since the early 1960s.

At that time, the then co-captain of the football team led a campaign to remove *Playboy* because of what he viewed as its offensive treatment of women.

According to an *Oregon Daily Emerald* article, the bookstore board of directors rejected the proposal because of the magazine's "high-level literary content" and because its removal could lead to further censorship.

Coincidentally, the 1992 campaign to remove pornographic magazines from the bookstore is also led by men.

Since this fall, Men Against Rape has sent several letters to the bookstore, articulating their view that such magazines have severely damaging effects.

"Roughly one-half of the women in the University community will be sexually or physically assaulted during their lives," wrote MAR co-directors Bill Brotzman and David Peterson in a letter to Williams. "Virtually all of them are subjected

to unwanted sexual attention ranging from catcalls to rape. Pornography consistently and repeatedly champions this sort of behavior."

Brotzman said he defines pornography as "misogynist material which is hateful toward women and objectifies women."

Brotzman said he also considers *Playgirl*, which features male models, pornography, but he is not fighting for the magazine's removal.

Playboy and *Penthouse* are particularly harmful to women because of the literary articles, which are included, he said.

"The pictorial sections and the cartoons depicting women in molestation situations or other situations are also among these educational articles, so the magazine sort of equates the two as acceptable or on the same level," Brotzman said.

Although he does not believe in forced censorship, Brotzman said he wants to encourage the bookstore board to make responsible choices when selecting materials.

"We're not trying to make them remove the magazines," he said. "We're trying to

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HIGH TECH

Chernobyl: University researchers aim to verify years of misinformation.

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EVERY 76 YEARS?

Owner Richard Aiello said his "Halley's Comet" faded into oblivion from a decline in video-arcade interest, denial of a bank loan for expansion and high rent.

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M.L.K. DAY



MLK ACTIVITIES

Day two of Martin Luther King Jr. celebration week includes activities throughout the Eugene-Springfield area.

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