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Speakers attack status quo at MLK rally, march

King associate, elected officials commemorate slain civil-rights leader

By Gerrit Koepping
Emerald Reporter

M.L.K. DAY



Speakers assailed the state of affairs in the United States at a rally and march Monday commemorating Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday.

Aggressive reform is needed in the nation, said Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth, who knew and worked with King in the civil rights movement.

"Let's set some time tables, let's get some goals and get on

with making America what it's supposed to be."

Shuttlesworth told the fictitious story of young man who wanted to know what made lightning bugs light, so he asked his father. His father, not knowing the answer, tried to distract his son by bringing up other topics.

But his son kept asking what made lightning bugs light until his father simply said, "the stuff's just in them."

"There's enough good stuff in us to light up the world, to make America and the world be better," Shuttlesworth said.

U.S. Rep. Pete DeFazio attacked the Republican presidencies of Ronald Reagan and George Bush for their brutal indifference to human rights.

"During the 1980s, two cynical administrations have abandoned the American people to

Turn to RALLY, Page 4



More than 300 people commemorated slain civil-rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. at a Monday-afternoon march that ended with a rally at the Eugene Hilton.

Rape suspect commits suicide at Texas roadblock

Michael Patrick Ryan shoots himself after leading police on 60-mile chase

By Gerrit Koepping
Emerald Reporter

A University student charged with the rape of an 18-year-old University freshman killed himself after leading Texas police on a 60-mile chase Friday night.

The chase began in Abilene, Texas when the 1985 Honda Accord driven by Michael Patrick Ryan, 33, struck a car belonging to an investigator for the Taylor County District Attorney's office, said Sgt. Mike Cline of the Eugene police department.

Ryan sped north, beginning the chase that ended at a roadblock in Haskell, Texas.

Cline said Texas police shot out the

tires of the car Ryan was driving after he ran through the roadblock. Ryan then drove a short way before crashing into a billboard and a parked car.

As police approached the car on foot, Ryan shot himself in the head with a .32-caliber automatic pistol, Cline said.

He was taken to Haskell Memorial Hospital where he was pronounced dead on arrival.

It is not yet known where the gun was purchased, but a receipt for the weapon was found dated Thursday, Cline said.

Ryan was wanted in connection with the rape of a University dorm resident assaulted at knife point in the basement of the Hamilton Complex, and later with the rape of a 22-year-old Boise, Idaho, woman in her home.

In Eugene, Ryan allegedly approached the woman as she was watching television sometime after midnight Saturday, Jan. 11, and persuaded her to accompa-

ny him to a weight room in the complex. The woman reported that when she entered the room, Ryan pulled a knife, then raped and sodomized her. Ryan took the woman's keys after the assault, which prevented her from getting into her dorm without first going outside, according to police.

Ryan then borrowed the car from another student and left town.

According to Boise police, Ryan showed up in the Idaho city at around 4:30 p.m. on Jan. 11 at the home of a man who had given him a ride from Eugene in December. He spent the night and at around 2 p.m. on Jan. 12, he left and drove to a female acquaintance's home, according to police.

The woman reported that she let him in after he said he was there to tape music for her. Once inside Ryan obtained a sharp instrument and raped the woman, police said.

Tuesday night, Jan. 14, a Boulder, Colo., resident reported seeing the car Ryan was driving.

Ryan spent from September 1988 to September 1991 in the Oregon State Penitentiary after being convicted of robbing a woman at gunpoint for \$10 at a Medford shopping mall. Before that he spent part of 1984 in a California prison for auto theft. In 1983, he spent time in jail for theft.

Joan Copperwheat, a supervisor for the Oregon parole and probation department, said that prior to the 1988 robbery, Ryan had no history of violent crime.

Eugene police now suspect Ryan might also have been responsible for as many as six robberies in the Tingle dorm that happened over Christmas break, Cline said.



PASSPORT

International students bring a world of experience to area youth.

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HEALING BY FITNESS

Are those painful shin splints acting up again? If so, you may want to consult the Sports Medicine/Physical Therapy Department at the Health Center.

See PHYSICAL THERAPIST, Page 8



DOZED OFF

Ninth-ranked UW spoiled the Ducks' upset dreams Saturday night.

See SPORTS, Page 11

Roe vs. Wade anniversary to be honored

Reproductive rights activists say this may be the last chance to celebrate landmark decision

By Rene DeCair
Emerald Associate Editor

ROE vs. WADE



1973 - 1992

On the 19th anniversary of Roe vs. Wade, pro-choice groups are holding a candlelight celebration to honor what they say is the last year abortion may be legal.

Roe vs. Wade, the 1973 landmark legislation giving women the right to privacy, including abortion, could be overturned by the United States Supreme Court if it hears one of six cases currently winding their way through the courts.

"This is possibly the last Roe v. Wade day we'll have," said Debi

Webster, co-director for the University's Students for Choice.

The rally is scheduled to take place in Salem, 7 p.m. Wednesday Jan. 22 at 555 S.E. Liberty St. Speakers include Betty Roberts, former Oregon Supreme Court justice, state Sen. Tricia Smith, and Diane Linn, director of Oregon National Abortion Rights Action League.

Car caravans will leave from South Eugene High School at 4 p.m. Wednesday and from the Grower's Market at 5:15 p.m. For information on obtaining a ride, or on driving others, call Debbi Webster at 687-0920, or stop by EMU Suite 5 and leave a message.

"It seems real appropriate to have a pro-choice presence in Salem because it has been way heavily represented in the other camp," Judith Schoap, Eugene NARAL organizer, said of the groups' plan to focus their attention in Salem on the anniversary day.

"I think it is time that Salem saw there is a pro-choice presence," Schoap said.

"(This day) draws people's atten-

tion to the fact that abortion can become illegal this year if the Supreme Court hears the Pennsylvania case," Webster said.

This week the Supreme Court is expected to release its decision whether to hear the case Planned Parenthood of Southeastern Pennsylvania vs. Casey.

Both pro-choice and anti-abortion activists want the Pennsylvania case to be heard, Webster said, to find out if abortion will continue to be legal in the next few years.

The Pennsylvania case is seen as the most likely case to overturn Roe vs. Wade. It challenges a statute signed into law by Pennsylvania Gov. Robert Casey in November, 1989 which could prevent married women from obtaining abortions without first notifying their husbands.

The statute also requires that a woman receive counseling before an abortion and then requires her to wait 24 hours before obtaining one.

Pro-choice activists are also wor-

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