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Professor charged with assaulting OPS officer

□ OPS officer handcuffs and arrests a University professor after the professor runs into him with his bike

By Tammy Batey
Emerald Reporter

A 64-year-old University professor was charged with assault Monday afternoon after failing to follow an Office of Public Safety officer's order to stop riding his bicycle on the sidewalk outside of the EMU post office.

Russian Professor John Beebe said he didn't believe he should have been charged with assault and said Office of Public Safety Officer Otis Scarborough used excessive force when he handcuffed him.

OPS officers are permitted to make citizen arrests.

Scarborough said he issued Beebe a citation for riding his bike west along 13th Avenue. Scarborough said Beebe told him he was going to ride his bike up the post office walkway because he wasn't going to pay the ticket.

Scarborough said he told Beebe he would have to write a second citation if he didn't dismount from his bike, but Beebe began riding up to the post office and hit Scarborough with the bike.

"I was writing a citation to the gentleman and the gentleman decided to try to ride over me," he said.

Scarborough said he received an abrasion to his left leg.

Beebe said he tried to avoid hitting Scarborough but he jumped in his path. He said he didn't comply with Scarborough's order to dismount from his bike because the campus rule to not ride bikes on sidewalks is meant to protect pedestrians and there weren't any pedestrians on the post office walkway.

Beebe said Scarborough appeared angry after he was hit by the bike and was "getting back" at him when he handcuffed him.

"He grabbed me off my bike, twisted my hand be-



University Professor John Beebe (left), who is accused of assaulting Office of Public Safety Officer Otis Scarborough (right), talks with Eugene police Officer Mike Gilbert (middle) outside the campus post office Monday.

Photo by Michael Shindler

Turn to PROFESSOR, Page 3

Mysteries of space within reach

□ New computer system allows the University's eye in the sky to take in more of the Universe

By Rivers Janssen
Emerald Reporter

In the billions of years since the creation of the universe, astronomers still understand virtually nothing about the vast reaches of space. Black holes remain a mystery, star evolution is only beginning to make sense, and quasars are still a source of constant wonder.

Six months ago, the University of Oregon's Pine Mountain Observatory near Bend was just another star-struck sky watcher, one of many facilities set up to decipher the universe.

Three smallish telescopes were adequate for observational studies, sure. But significant astronomical contributions weren't likely.

Now all that has changed. The mysteries of the universe are at least partially within Pine Mountain's grasp.

The Observatory recently obtained computer equipment that allows it to detect light up to 70 times better than a normal telescope. This means what once took 70 days to map now only takes one day.

The detectors were added to the observatory's 24- and 32-inch lenses, giving them the power of telescopes many times that size.

Observatory director Dr. Greg Bothun said the new detectors will be used to study the process of galaxy formation. He said he hopes to discover how the Universe developed by finding galaxies in various stages of evolution.

Quasars, for instance, are hypothesized as an early stage of galaxy evolution. But because quasars are so far away (they are the most distant objects) they are difficult to study in detail. However, by comparing the radioactivity



File photo

The University's Pine Mountain Observatory near Bend has new computer equipment that can detect light 70 times dimmer than can be seen with human eye.

of near-by galaxies and distant quasars, light may be shed on the nature of quasars and the origin of the Universe.

Although this is only a hypothetical example, it is the possibility for such discoveries that energizes Bothun.

"It's when you don't understand something, but you know it's real," he said. "That's what's exciting."

Pending further grants from the National Science Foundation, the Observatory will expand its capabilities even more in the future. As it is now, the computer technology can detect sources of light 100 million times fainter than the naked eye.

Eventually, Bothun hopes Pine Mountain can make a complete survey of the sky on computer, something never before completed. Up to now, the only surveys of the sky have been

Turn to OBSERVATORY, Page 3

Iraqi speaker rips Bush for nation's devastation

□ Journalist says internal politics are for citizens to decide — without interference.

By Daralyn Trappe
Emerald Associate Editor

More than 1 million Iraqi children suffer from malnutrition, wages are a fraction of what they used to be, and the country's infrastructure is still devastated in the aftermath of last year's Persian Gulf War, an Iraqi journalist said Monday at the University.

These and other problems continue to plague Iraqis, said Abdul-Quadir Shanwar, now a graduate student at Colorado State University.

For example, the Iraqi people face a severe food shortage because of international sanctions and because bombing of irrigation systems diminished the country's harvest to 20 percent of what it used to be, Shanwar said.

Children suffer the most, he said, and 70 percent of the children in hospitals are there because of severe malnutrition.

"I don't think it's of any importance to the Bush administration," he said, "but I can tell you that the children won't forget him."

Popularity polls in this country indicate that Bush has not gotten the mileage he was hoping for, Shanwar said.

"In the New Hampshire primary, only 7 percent voted a certain way out of concern about the Gulf," Shanwar said, "so I'm glad to see Bush's plan isn't working."

Shanwar urged the American audience members to have respect for the self-determination of the Iraqi people rather than supporting Bush's New World Order.

"I'm not saying the U.S. has no right to get involved anywhere, but I object to how they did it," he said. "You can't impose your ideas on me. What would you think if Iraqis told you who your president should be?"

"Yes, I have some problems with Saddam Hussein, but those are my problems, not yours," Shanwar said. "We all have our problems but we cannot dictate policies on each other."

An audience member, who said he is also from Iraq, asked if Shanwar thinks it's acceptable for the Iraqi government to impose rule on Kuwait but not for the Bush administration to impose rule on Iraq.

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