



## Dance class focuses on African style

□ Dance instructor concentrates on African sense of community during class

By Mandy Baucum  
Emerald Reporter

The drums pound softly as African dance students move like sea plants swaying with the water currents. The class instructor, Rita Honka, signals her students to move more elaborately as the drums get louder.

"In Africa the dance is a part of the culture. Just like you sit down to dinner with your family, (Africans) dance," Honka said.

Honka, who is working toward her master's degree in dance science at the University, said she has had interest in dance since she was a teen-ager and has always been a rhythmic dancer.

She said her interest in African dance may have originated from the reggae rhythms she listened to in Detroit.

"I tend to find myself in places where music is like that. I guess I'm drawn to it," Honka said.

When Honka began teaching the class two-and-a-half years ago, she said she had trouble deciding on a focus for the

Photo by Kim Nguyen

African Dance instructor Rita Honka demonstrates a move for her class. Honka said there is a high demand for the class.

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## Professor to represent Republic of Georgia

□ Geography instructor to help promote economic development in the new republic

By Sarah Clark  
Emerald Reporter

A University geography professor has been asked to join a committee that would represent the Republic of Georgia's interests in the United States.

Ronald Wixman, a specialist on the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, said he would lobby the U.S. Congress for Georgia's economic interests and refer Georgian officials to business and legal contacts if he joined the "Friends of Georgia" committee.

His job at the University would not change, he said.

Georgian officials want to form a committee because their republic has no embassy in the United States, Wixman said.

"They're concerned that they want to be represented in the U.S.," he said.

Wixman recently advised a group of American investors interested in the former Soviet Union, particularly Georgia. One of the investors told Wixman about the committee.

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## New chief brings change to force

□ Leonard Cooke favors community-policing for Eugene

By Matt Bender  
Emerald Reporter



Photo by Dylan Coulter

Eugene's new chief of police, Leonard Cooke, said he wants to increase minority representation within the city's police force.

Leading the Eugene police department would seem like an easy job for a man who has spent the past 22 years doing police work in crime-ridden Washington, D.C.

Leonard Cooke does not think that's the case.

Cooke, who started as the deputy chief in charge of police for the Eugene Department of Public Safety two months ago, said he sees his job as a challenge. Cooke, 42, said his challenge is to con-

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## WEATHER

It's going to be cold again today with a high of 55 degrees. Lows will be in the 40s tonight.

### Today in History

Five years ago The American Medical Association issued a policy statement saying it was unethical for a doctor to refuse to treat someone solely because that person has AIDS.

## CALIFORNIA 'LOCUSTS'

BEND (AP) - A newly elected city commissioner says he hasn't changed his mind about calling the latest wave of California immigrants "locusts" who are ruining Oregon after his comments were made public locally.

Somebody apparently tried to make a campaign issue of a letter that Bob Woodward sent to *The Oregonian* in Portland last January by stapling copies around town on Election Day.

In the letter, Woodward called recent California arrivals "the locusts of our time" who "cut a swath of destruction wherever they go, always in search of that lifestyle that only exists in Hollywood movies."

Woodward himself is an ex-Californian who claims he didn't try to change Oregon when he moved here 13 years ago.

## SPORTS

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) - Word spread quickly, and six failed efforts to land a major league baseball team didn't prepare the Tampa Bay area for the unsettling news of a seventh.

"SAY IT AINT SO!" a headline in the *Tampa Tribune* read Wednesday. "NOW WHAT?" asked the *St. Petersburg Times*.

Angry callers to radio talk shows urged swift legal action, which local officials have vowed, while others said the area should abandon its 17-year quest after falling short in bids to get a National League expansion team or the Oakland Athletics, Minnesota Twins, Chicago White Sox, Texas Rangers, Seattle Mariners and, now, the San Francisco Giants.