

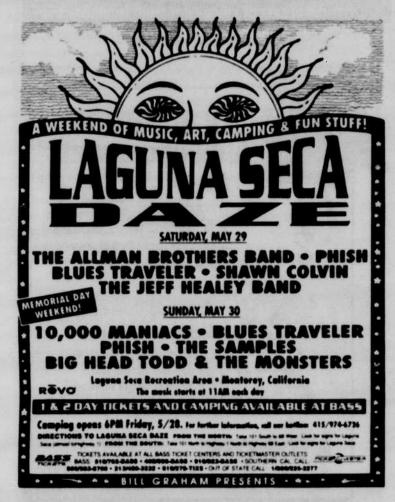
## Plight of Minorities in Modern India: A Muslim Perspective

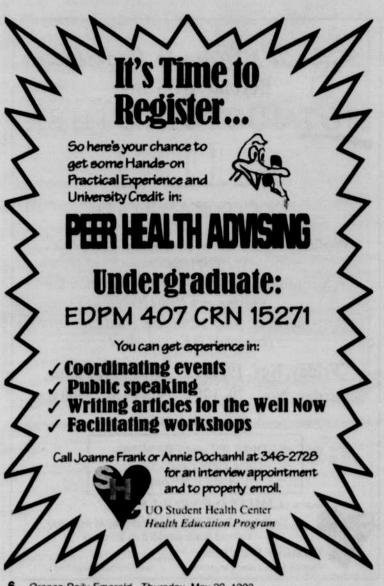
by Dr. Azher Ali

Thursday, May 20 7:00-8:00 p.m. • 146 Straub

Dr. Azher Ali is an Indian Muslim who has recently been traveling in India. He will explore and analyze the political treatment of minorities in India

Everyone is welcome to participate Refreshments will be provided





## Oregon film industry explodes

'Part of the appeal is the diver-

deserts to the sea and every-

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thing in between.'

PORTLAND (AP) - When the producers of a television movie about the World Trade Center bombing needed a stand-in for New York City, they chose a city better known for its burgeoning film industry than its resemblance to the Big Apple.

Film and television productions pumped \$61 million into Oregon's economy in 1992, said David Woolson, executive director of the Oregon Film and Video Office, which promotes the state as a location for feature films, television programs and com-

Wilshire Court Productions chose Portland for

Without Warning: Terror in the Towers because they knew they could shoot the movie in a hurry here, said Karen Runkel, a project manager for the film office. The Hollywood production company previously had shot 13 other television films in the city.

The movie will be broadcast on NBC May

26, just three months after the Feb. 26 bombing and in time for the crucial May sweeps rating period.

They had a crew they could pull together here quickly," Runkel said.

So the crew imported noise and garbage and transformed parts of clean, orderly Portland into chaotic, post-bombing lower Manhattan. Set builders constructed a replica of the bomb crater in a warehouse. and creative camera work makes some of the city's buildings look more like New York

The weather cooperated by hiding Mount St. Helens and Mount Hood, the snowcapped peaks that overlook the city, in clouds.

Although Woolson and Runkel agree that 1992 was probably a high-water year for the industry. they are confident that producers will keep coming because of the state's diverse scenery and technical and acting talent.

"Part of the appeal is the diversity of locations, from the deserts to the sea and everything in between," Woolson said.

The historic coastal town of Astoria has been the setting of several movies, including the Arnold Schwarzenegger hit comedy Kindergarten Cop. Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles III and Free Willy.

"We've got a reputation of being a community that works well with the movie industry, and that's been our best PR," said Lynn Wallace, the executive director of the Astoria-Warrenton Chamber of

That reputation has translated to economic benefits for the community.

In addition to the money actually spent by production crews, the area's exposure on film stimulates its tourist industry.

'Our film industry has created another attraction in our tourism industry," Wallace said.

Visitors most often ask about Kindergarten Cop, but Wallace said some tourists still inquire about the location of scenes from Goonies and Short Cirwhich were cuit. released nearly 10 years

A pool of technical and acting talent has helped the state's film

industry grow as well, Woolson said.

Video Office

David Woolson,

Megann Ratzow, who owns L&M Ratzow Casting in Portland, cast more than 50 local actors for Terror In The Towers. She said the local talent makes the state an ideal place for high-pressure projects.

A lot of people think of Portland as podunk nowhere, they think they have to bring in their crews and their actors, but we've got everything up here," she said.

Ratzow is a former agent and assistant casting director who fled Los Angeles for a better quality

Runkel said commercials were shot in Oregon for years before the recent burst of feature films put a spotlight on the film industry.

Even more commercial producers have been drawn to the Oregon locations by big-screen portrayals of the state's spectacular scenery.

Seeing Oregon images on the screen so often from the past few years has fed the demand. The Columbia Gorge and the coast, those images are so dramatic," Runkel said. But when Portland reaches what may be its largest

national television audience May 26, viewers will

## Students defeat anti-gay proposal

BREMERTON, Wash. (AP) -Openly gay teens are welcome on Bremerton High School's student council after pupils Wednesday rejected a proposed amendment to the school's constitution that would have let students oust their homosexual peers from the elected body.

The measure, which identified homosexuality as an "immoral behavior" akin to indecent exposure and sexual harassment, was voted down 635-475, said Principal Marilee Hansen.

"I'm delighted it's not going to be added to the constitution, Hansen said. "But I'm a little taken aback by the number of students who have this (anti-gay) feeling. We have a lot of educating to do."

The proposal was passed 49-47 last week at the school's annual constitutional convention, where changes are made to school rules. Supporters said it was merely intended to prolong debate at the convention, but it polarized the student body and attracted national attention.

The anti-gay measure would have made it possible for students discovered practicing "immoral behavior" to be impeached from elected office by their peers on the council "in order to preserve the integrity and high moral stan-dards that BHS is built upon." Immoral behavior, according to the amendment, includes sexual harassment, indecent exposure, sodomy and homosexuality.

Hansen said it was unlikely the rule would have ever gone into effect, even if students passed it. Administrators can override constitutional amendments and seemed to be against this one, she

The two-hour debate that preceded last week's convention vote was made spicier when a senior stood up and told delegates that

Someone in the meeting said, Nobody gay would ever stand up and say they were gay because they know it is wrong, Todd McCauley, 19, told the Seattle Post-Intelligencer. "I had to speak up. I told them what I do in my bedroom is none of their business. I'm here for an education.

The final outcome Wednesday followed a complicated, schoolwide voting procedure that lasted three days

After the congressional vote last week, the matter was sent to home rooms on Monday. Thirtysix home rooms rejected the proposal and 18 supported it, Hansen said.

Apparently, a majority of students shared the opinion of student council president-elect J.J. Hewitt, 17, who said he found the proposal "disastrous" for the school's image



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