

KIM

Continued from Page 2

And Kim was farther than ever from realizing his dream of a Korean unification under his rule.

But Kim never gave up on his dream. Although the "Great Leader" rarely gives interviews and hasn't spoken to the U.S. media since 1972, most observers agree that he still feels vindictive about the U.S. attack against Pyongyang some 40 years ago.

"Last year, the imperialists and reactionaries worked more malignantly than ever to isolate and stifle our republic and crush our cause of socialism," he told his people in a television address on New Year's Eve last year, promising that the North Korean people would "meet the enemy's challenge ... in the same revolutionary spirit ... that they had displayed during the years of the grim Fatherland Liberation War."

But the 81-year-old dictator is begin-

ning to feel the burdens of old age and has occasionally been incapacitated by illness. Reluctantly, he has conceded that he's not likely to see a Korean unification in his lifetime. His son, Kim Jong Il, has been trained throughout his life to take power when his father eventually steps down. But if Kim's sound mind is at times questionable, his son's isn't. He is most definitely mentally unstable.

Kim Jong Il is a movie freak. The "Dear Leader" watches at least one film each day, and every film that is released in North Korea must have his name in the credits. He is, in fact, so fond of films that in 1978 he kidnapped the most prominent film director in South Korea and his wife to coerce them into making his films. Simon Shin spent five years in North Korean prisons because he refused to obey Kim Jong Il's orders.

As the heir of the North Korean dynasty, Kim Jong Il has lived the life of a playboy. According to the *New Yorker*, a North Korean diplomatic defector says that when he pictures Kim Jong Il, he

thinks of a "man with a Rothman cigarette in one hand and a glass of Hennessy cognac in the other as he sits surrounded by women between the ages of 19 and 21."

But Kim Jong Il also has political ambitions. He is, in fact, believed to be the mastermind behind the bombing of the South Korean cabinet and airliner. Many observers also believe that it was Kim Jong Il who devised North Korea's nuclear policy and the nation's resistance to letting international inspectors examine its nuclear facilities.

And now, this father and son may possess nuclear weapons.

It is clear that the United States has to do something about the situation in North Korea. The military stability of the entire Far East is threatened by North Korea's development of nuclear weapons. North Korea represents a threat not only to South Korea, but to all the countries in the region, including Japan. It would not be farfetched to assume that Kim and his

son entertain the same kind of dreams about regional dominance that Saddam Hussein entertains about the Persian Gulf.

The question is: What should the United States do? First, of course, the country should advocate international economic sanctions of North Korea. But North Korea is already so economically isolated from the rest of the world that such sanctions would barely have any effect.

What the United States may have to do is destroy the nuclear facilities of North Korea before Kim can use his hideous weapons. Taking military action is never an easy decision, but sometimes foreign policy has to be formed by a simple equation: How would the greatest number of lives be saved?

And as history has proven when Kim has been involved, the figure on his side of that fatal equation could be colossal.

Marius Meland is a columnist for the Emerald.

LETTERS

Your mother

Open letter to a thief:

I'm probably old enough to be your mother.

I went to Rennie's after class Wednesday night, May 18.

I forgot my back support in my chair. You took it. It's royal blue with a black seat. It cost \$70 wholesale. I want it back. I've had two back surgeries, and my doctor prescribed it for me.

If you don't learn anything else at the University, learn not to take the things that don't belong to you. It's a simple concept that will serve you well throughout your career.

Start now — bring my back support back to Rennie's. No questions asked. You could be congratulated for a learning

experience.

Nyla Jebousek
Pre-Planning Public Policy
Management

Bash the 'ODE'

The *Emerald* editorial "Yet another week at the University" (*ODE*, May 24) missed the boat by a long shot. Alcohol Awareness Week is not preaching to students to give up alcohol and live in a cave; it's just trying to make them aware of its use and consequences. Telling someone what they should or should not do will only fall on deaf ears.

The so-called "elite," as the *Emerald* has termed them, were all very willing to volunteer their time to "rub shoulders" with the students, get messy in the process, and put a smile on

many students' faces. I wonder how the editors would have felt if one of them had been invited? Elitist?

As for the 5k run, it's obvious that the editors have been snorting too much ink, watching too much T.V., and eating too many potato chips. Eugene is not called the "Running Capital of the World" for nothing. Take a look around any day, rain or shine, and you will see hundreds of people running. The 10,000 people who run the New York Marathon are not thinking about another activity that they can do without alcohol; they are running because they like to run. Some of us prefer exercise over bad journalism!

I'd like to propose another "week" at the University: Bash the *Emerald* Week!!

Andy Byerly
Geography

News at Noon

Curious? Interested? Unaware? What better way to find out than by watching the news? Not the ordinary five or six o'clock news, but the *News at Noon*. Not produced and delivered by the professionals, but by the University's journalism students.

Talented students in the Advanced TV News Journalism class are working hard every week to get ready for their news broadcast on Friday. *News at Noon* airs every Friday on cable Channel 12, at 12 noon.

This journalism class offers an overview of all aspects of broadcast news. All the students have an opportunity to be responsible

for the sets and the production of the news. When they are not working on the technological side of the news, they are gathering and writing the weekly news stories.

The weekly news stories are not all that the news has to offer. Every week you will be updated on sports, the weather, the student government, the media, upcoming events and various other issues.

News at Noon is a wonderful opportunity to learn what is going on at the University. Journalism students are working hard preparing interesting stories to share with you every Friday. Become aware of campus news by watching cable channel 12, Fridays at noon.

Sara Lamb
Pre-Journalism



ADULT WARNING SURGEON GENERAL'S WARNING

WOMEN BEHIND BARS

By Tom Eyan

Directed By Erik Sneidze

MAY 26, 27, 28, 5:00 PM

POCKET PLAYHOUSE, VILLARD

JUNE 3, 4, 11:30PM • JUNE 5, 7:00PM

ACTORS CABARET OF EUGENE, ANNEX THEATRE

One Dollar Donation Appreciated • Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.