

Rabin gone, but peace efforts can't be killed

■ **OUR OPINION:** Death of Israeli prime minister may slow peace process, but won't put an end to it

In the last three years, Israel and Palestine have taken two giant steps toward peace.

Last Saturday, the bullets of an assassin may have set the entire process three steps back.

The world is now aware of the death of Yitzhak Rabin, Israel's prime minister, whose life was taken by a 25-year-old Jewish law student with reported ties to right-wing extremist groups. The world must also realize that Rabin's death is a tragedy of global proportions.

It's another case of two Middle East nations being on the verge of reaching and finalizing a plan of cohabitation, only to have it snatched away.

In 1978, visionary Egyptian President Anwar Sadat visited then-president Jimmy Carter for a series of talks at Camp David in an attempt to build a relationship with the United States. Sadat turned to America after being spurned by his Arab neighbors.

Sadat, revealing to officials close to him that the world was sick of war, then took Egypt to the threshold of peace by extending the hand of friendship to Israel. Sadat made history by actually visiting Israel and shaking hands with Israeli Premier Menachem Begin.

He was praised as an international peace-maker and awarded the Nobel Peace Prize — then promptly assassinated by Islamic right-wing fanatics in 1981.

Hosni Mubarek, Sadat's

successor, followed through with Sadat's promises and Egypt has survived a difficult but peaceful relationship with Israel.

Despite their attempts, the assassins failed to stop the president's successful move toward peace.

Last Saturday, a killer of peace was once again too late. The peace process had already begun to grow.

This time, the target was Rabin, a man who ironically spent the first part of his life leading Israel in military victories over his enemies. Rabin spent the second half of his life, perhaps realizing that "the world was sick of war," trying to end hostilities between Israel and Palestine. For three years, Rabin worked with Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization, to bring peace between the two countries.

They probably sat across the table from each other enough times to alleviate some of their distrust and dislike for one another; they shared their hopes with each other. They worked the soil of friendship too carefully and methodically for peace not to take root.

Even now, Israeli political analysts say the peace process is still alive.

Shimon Peres, acting prime minister, has vowed to keep Israel's peace agreement with the Palestinians. Even opposition leaders, who are opposed to peace talks with Arafat, are saying Israel must move toward national unity.

Yitzhak Rabin's death is a tragedy, but his death will unify Israel and give others who are working for peace just that much more desire to have it.



LETTERS

New DDS shuttle

Mug night. Quarter night. Ladies night. These are all opportunities for students to relax, socialize and shed some everyday college stress. But it is also a time when some students can forget their limitations and push themselves too far.

The "last call" at the bar often opens a discussion about who is sober enough to drive home.

It is times like this that the Designated Driver Shuttle staff encourages students to call and let a DDS driver get you home safely.

DDS operates Wednesday through Saturday, from 10 p.m. to 3 a.m. DDS will pick up callers from any licensed drinking establishment within the DDS route.

In addition to the shuttle service, DDS will be offering both educational and social activities. Our energetic staff will strive to make DDS a visible and valued campus service.

DDS encourages students and faculty to be responsible about alcohol consumption. When you drink, do so in moderation. When you are out with your friends, choose a designated driver. If you can't find a driver, call DDS at 346-0621.

Rachel Dueker

DDS Education Coordinator

Feminist GTFs

Attention feminist GTFs: Have you ever thought about serving on the Graduate Teaching Fellows Federation Executive Board?

Unions have always been important to women, although not as responsive to our needs as they could be. This is changing with the rapid growth in organizing among women in the public sector. There is much to be done that can only be done if women step forward to take positions of leadership in their unions.

Legal protections are not adequate to advance the well-being of women — less so with the conservative trend among decision makers. Outright discrimination is only the most obvious form of inequality. Work hours and other working conditions and benefits are not constructed to meet our needs.

A woman-friendly union should advocate the aggressive filing of grievances for discriminatory job assignments, workplace harassment, demand benefits and working conditions that are important to parents. It should be a place where women feel free to express their feelings and fears. Only an executive board with a majority of women and feminist men can create this kind of a union. Today, of the eight seats on the GTFF board, only one is held by a woman.

Serving on the executive board is hard but rewarding work. Some benefits are making contacts with other interesting and dedicated women and enjoying the solidarity unique to the labor movement.

The current board will hold a general membership meeting soon to take nominations. Watch GTFF announcements carefully; the notice may

be short. For further information about being elected to the executive board, please feel free to contact me at cwinkler@oregon.uoregon.edu.

Celia Winkler
Graduate Sociology

Unfair stereotype

Believing that the *Emerald* was a progressive newspaper, I was disturbed to read the editorial "Japan denounces rape, wants U.S. troops out" (*ODE*, Oct. 24).

In the second paragraph, the *Emerald* commits a sweeping generalization based on an unfounded stereotype. To wit, the editorial claimed that the U.S. military teaches recruits "how to degrade women."

As an honorably discharged veteran who conducted himself according to military custom and regulation, I take exception to this allegation.

At no time during my training or tour of duty did any of my superiors condone, promote or suggest the degradation of women. In fact, the Marine Corps vigorously eliminates and punishes sexist behavior in accordance with Marine Corps Order 5300.10.

Such disparaging remarks directed toward those of us who chose to serve our country and its citizens for a myriad of reasons — certainly not to learn how to degrade women — necessitate an apology.

Joseph A. Fette
School of Law

Thanks, but ...

Thanks for writing about KWVA 88.1 FM, the University's student-run campus radio station (*ODE*, Nov. 2). We at KWVA always appreciate complimentary articles, but not inaccurate ones. To clarify:

1. There are women at KWVA. Yes, really. Why, some are even in upper-level staff positions! In his article, Ashley Bach quoted and portrayed only male staff and DJs. KWVA prides itself on being an equitable training ground for a heavily male populated industry.

2. News at KWVA is not merely a "taped news broadcast." We carry Pacifica news radio network, which is a nationally renowned Washington, D.C.-based news syndicate. We also have field reporters who write, produce and air campus and community news stories three times a week.

3. General Manager J. Pierson did not claim that DJs with two weeks experience are "far more trustworthy than ones who have been on for two years." He is about as likely to say Michael Bolton is the best thing on radio today. Perhaps Bach should refer back to his notes.

4. Finally, Bach wrote that KWVA's target audience is "more than a little vague." Nope, that's just not the case. We know who our audience is, and we know what they like: Diverse, experimental, cutting-edge programming delivered with a personal twist. That's college radio.

Christina J. Hebert
Asst. General Manager
KWVA 88.1 FM

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