

Israeli leader talks tourism, politics

■ **CULTURE:** The visiting consulate general says Israel is a safe society now that peace agreements are being reached

By Doug Irving
Student Activities Reporter

There is more to Israeli society than politics, and students should visit the country to "see the face of the changing Middle East," said Israeli Consulate General Reda Mansour, who was in Eugene Wednesday to address the Jewish Student Union and Hillel.

"The idea is to get people to know about the other side of Israel," he said. "With all the changes today, I think it could be exciting to go visit in Israel."

Besides talking tourism, Mansour presented poems he wrote about Israeli social concerns to about 20 people in the Multicultural Center.

"My poetry has changed through the years," he said. He used to write about love and nature, but his job changed his subject matter.

As consulate general, Mansour has been involved in the recent politics of Israel. The peace process, especially, has changed the face of the



MANSOUR

country, he said. "People have the opportunity for the first time to have normal interactions with the other side," he said. "It's something that is very intense. Our whole life was dominated by [the Arab-Israeli] conflict."

With the opening of borders, Israel has become a prime tourist spot, Mansour said. He encouraged students to visit the country and then continue throughout the Middle East.

"Now this whole area is becoming more tourist-oriented," he said. "I want people to use this opportunity."

The Middle East has long been questioned as a tourist destination because of safety concerns. However, Mansour said the recent peace agreements have ended the violence, even on the borders.

"I'm much more concerned when I come home, driving on the highways, [that I will] take the wrong exit," he said. "Israel is a very safe society."

Lobby targets rising cost of higher education

■ **TUITION:** The Oregon Student Lobby asks lawmakers to allot \$3.5 million for a tuition freeze

By Regina Brown
Higher Education Reporter

The Oregon Student Lobby will appeal to lawmakers at a special session opening in Salem today for a freeze on tuition for the 1996-97 school year.

The cost of higher education in Oregon is expected to go up 4 percent next year, said Ed Dennis, executive director of the Oregon Student Lobby.

Funding for higher education is already short for the 1996-97 school year, Dennis said. Lottery funds are about \$72 million shy of projected numbers, \$55.6 million of which had already been budgeted to help finance public education, he said.

The Legislature will replace the missing \$55.6 million with leftover funds, but this plan will still force students to pay an

extra \$3.5 million in tuition next year, Dennis said. The cost of higher education in Oregon has already increased 70 percent since 1990, and rising costs could keep students away from universities, he said.

After the missing funds are backfilled, the state will still have \$35 million to spend at the Legislature's discretion, said Jay Remy, OSL communications director. The Oregon Student Lobby would like to see \$3.5 million of this go toward a tuition freeze, he said.

"They could give us the tuition freeze and still have about \$30 million left over to do whatever they want with," he said.

OSL lobbyists have contacted state legislators to find support for their idea and will continue this at the special session, Dennis said. Although lawmakers say they like the idea, they doubt it will receive much attention.

Governor John Kitzhaber and the Legislature want this session to be short and focused only on

issues already on the agenda, Rep. Lee Beyer (D-Springfield) said. Beyer doubts the rules will allow the OSL to get its plan on the agenda, he said.

"It would be great, but I don't think it's going to happen," Beyer said.

But Dennis said several groups will be vying for attention and the Legislature might have no choice but to address them.

"Most of us hope that this session goes very smoothly, but there are a lot of people who want to get more out of it," he said.

Dennis said he knows his chances of getting the \$3.5 million are still low, and if the OSL can't pass its plan through the Legislature this time, the group could go to the Emergency Board, a group of state senators and representatives who decide how leftover money should be spent.

"The real goal is getting our issues out there," Dennis said of his planned appeal to lawmakers.

LOUIE'S VILLAGE
RESTAURANT AND LOUNGE

CHINESE AND AMERICAN FOOD
Monday-Thursday 11:00am-10:30pm • Friday 11:00am-Midnight
Saturday Noon-11:00pm • Sunday Noon-10:30pm

ORDERS TO GO 343-4480
947 Franklin Blvd.
Located directly across from the Law School.
Monthly parking available. Call for rates.

Black Forest Tavern
& Beer Garden

- WE HAVE KEGS TO GO
- Microbrews on tap
- Free pool on Sunday, Monday & Tuesday
- 25 Kinds of imported beer
- Enjoy a Guinness in front of our fireplace

2657 Willamette • 344-0816

WHAT'S GOING ON AT TRACK TOWN PIZZA THIS WEEK?!

MONDAY SPECIAL	TACO TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY SPECIAL
<p>ONE-ITEM SMALL PIZZA</p> <p style="font-size: 2em;">\$3.95</p> <p>UNTIL 10:00 P.M. (minimum \$7.00 delivery)</p>	<p>MEDIUM TACO PIZZA (Seasoned beef, chicken, or vegetarian)</p> <p>FOR</p> <p style="font-size: 2em;">\$11.95</p> <p>(regularly \$16.25)</p>	<p>ONE-ITEM MEDIUM PIZZA</p> <p>FOR</p> <p style="font-size: 2em;">\$5.95 PICK-UP</p> <p style="font-size: 2em;">\$6.95 DELIVERY</p>

TRACK TOWN PIZZA • 484-2799

Two convenient locations to serve you:
CAMPUS 1809 Franklin Blvd. • **WEST** 2511 W. 11th & Wilson