

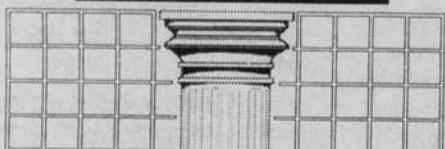
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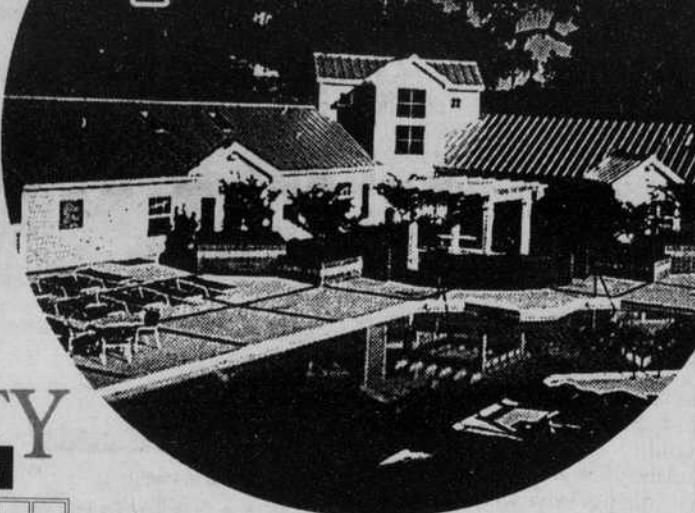
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Labor issue workshop centers on U.S. Asians

Ignorance about labor conditions for Asians still exists, a speaker says

By Erin Snelgrove
Oregon Daily Emerald

To educate the community about labor issues, the Asian Pacific American Student Union is hosting a panel discussion today.

The workshop, titled "Labor Issues in Asian America: From Sweatshops to Farmworkers," is the third event celebrating Asian Heritage Month. It will be in the EMU Ben Linder Room at 5 p.m.

"People think only certain groups need to be concerned about labor issues, but that is not the case," said Nicole Kuwahara, an APASU member and co-coordinator of the workshop. "This is a multifaceted topic that affects everyone."

Speakers at the event include Sergio Romero, sociology graduate student; Gabbi Solis, MEChA member; and Russell Shitabata, former APASU adviser. The presenters are discussing their views on American sweatshops and farmworker conditions.

Romero said the focus of his speech will be the Japanese/Mexican Labor Association of 1903 and the development of the United Farm Workers Union in the 1960s.

"I want people to know that Asians have played an important role in the history of this country," Romero said.

Romero said he believes most people are not aware of the sacrifices and prejudices Asian-Americans continually face. Instead of remem-

Labor issues workshop

■ WHAT: "Labor Issues in Asian America: From Sweatshops to Farmworkers," a workshop discussing the working conditions for Asian Americans

■ WHEN: 5 p.m. today

■ WHERE: EMU Ben Linder Room
For more information, contact Nicole Kuwahara at the Asian Pacific American Student Union at 346-4342

bering these struggles to escape exploitation and poverty, most people recognize the success stories.

"I'm hoping to dispel the myth that Asians are the model minority in this nation," Romero said. "Because of this myth, their brutal history becomes ignored."

Kuwahara said ignorance about labor conditions for Asian immigrants continues to this day.

"I don't think people are aware of the issues Asian immigrants face," Kuwahara said. "Because the immigrants often don't know how to speak English, they are taken advantage of and they are forced to work in poor conditions for little pay."

Kuwahara said the only way the working conditions for many Asian immigrants can improve is through knowledge of the issue.

"People need to educate themselves and take an active role to improve these working conditions," Kuwahara said. "We need to build a coalition that surpasses racial and ethnic lines."

Take Back the Night March



Thursday, May 20th
Rally & March 8:00 pm
U of O Amphitheater

Music begins at 7:00 pm. Come early to see the Clothesline Project and make your own sign!

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Thursday, May 20, 4:00 P.M., Knight Library Browsing Room

A Deep and Dangerous Transformation:
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ARTHUR KLEINMAN, Anthropology and Social Medicine,
Harvard University

Friday, May 21, 4:00 P.M., Gerlinger Alumni Lounge

Violence and Representation: An Overview

W. J. T. MITCHELL, Editor, *Critical Inquiry*,
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The Oregon Daily Emerald is published daily Monday through Friday during the school year and Tuesday and Thursday during the summer by the Oregon Daily Emerald Publishing Co. Inc., at the University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon. A member of the Associated Press, the Emerald operates independently of the University with offices in Suite 300 of the Erb Memorial Union. The Emerald is private property. The unlawful removal or use of papers is prosecutable by law.

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