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### Campus briefs

**Babbitt asks for new conservation area**  
 Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt has asked the Oregon Congressional delegation and Gov. John Kitzhaber to develop a plan

to permanently protect Steens Mountain as a National Conservation Area. Several University student programs will send student representatives to Steens Mountain this April to help develop a student approach to the issue. For more information, contact the Outdoor Program at 346-4365 or

OSPIRG at 346-4357.

### Finals week library hours

The Knight Library will be open from 8 a.m. to 1 a.m. Monday to Thursday. It will be open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Friday. Intersession hours will be held from March 18 to the 26.

### Women's day

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Amidst non-stop musical entertainment from the main stage, attendees could stroll through an exhibit of area artists, bid in a silent auction, peruse rows of information tables and craft vendors or attend scheduled workshops that ranged from "Healing Hate Crimes and Discrimination" to "Hot and Sexy Midlife."

Much of the workshop schedule featured discussions of youth issues. This particular theme was in part sparked by the blue ribbon of promise campaign at Thurston High School.

The primary coordinator for the event, Kyra Kelly, said bringing in community members active with youth in Eugene to share stories of hope and encouragement during panel discussions would be a step in a positive direction.

"People like this are part of the solution," she said. "We need each other's support, too. There's incredible strength in women coming together."

Brenna Patterson of Students for Choice said understanding youth culture is important but so is getting young people interested in broader goals.

"It's important because youth need to get involved with international issues," she said. "And this is a great place to meet people who are doing good work in



Hiroshi Nakamura Emerald  
**Aietha Meece (left) and Joan Jost dance to the live music of Jill Sager's drumming band at the International Women's Day conference room at the downtown Hilton.**

our community, and learn from them."

Mother Kali's Bookstore near campus has hosted scheduled events for weeks surrounding International Women's Day because a single day, as board president Lorraine Ironplow said, "is definitely not enough."

"We want to make sure that people understand the history of the day, in its full political expression," she said.

Ironplow described how International Women's Day has represented women's struggle through suffrage, labor rights, child care, marriage laws and how it contin-

ues to stand for the issues women face in the next century.

"Their struggle for a life is not lost when we remember and keep working toward our own goals for the future," she said.

Kelly echoed this when she referenced how the event locally has evolved over the years from a groundswell of women supporters and volunteers.

"The more people that come to the table to help us plan, the more diversity we see in the event each year," she said. "There are still a lot of issues to work on, but it's not going to change unless we do first."

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