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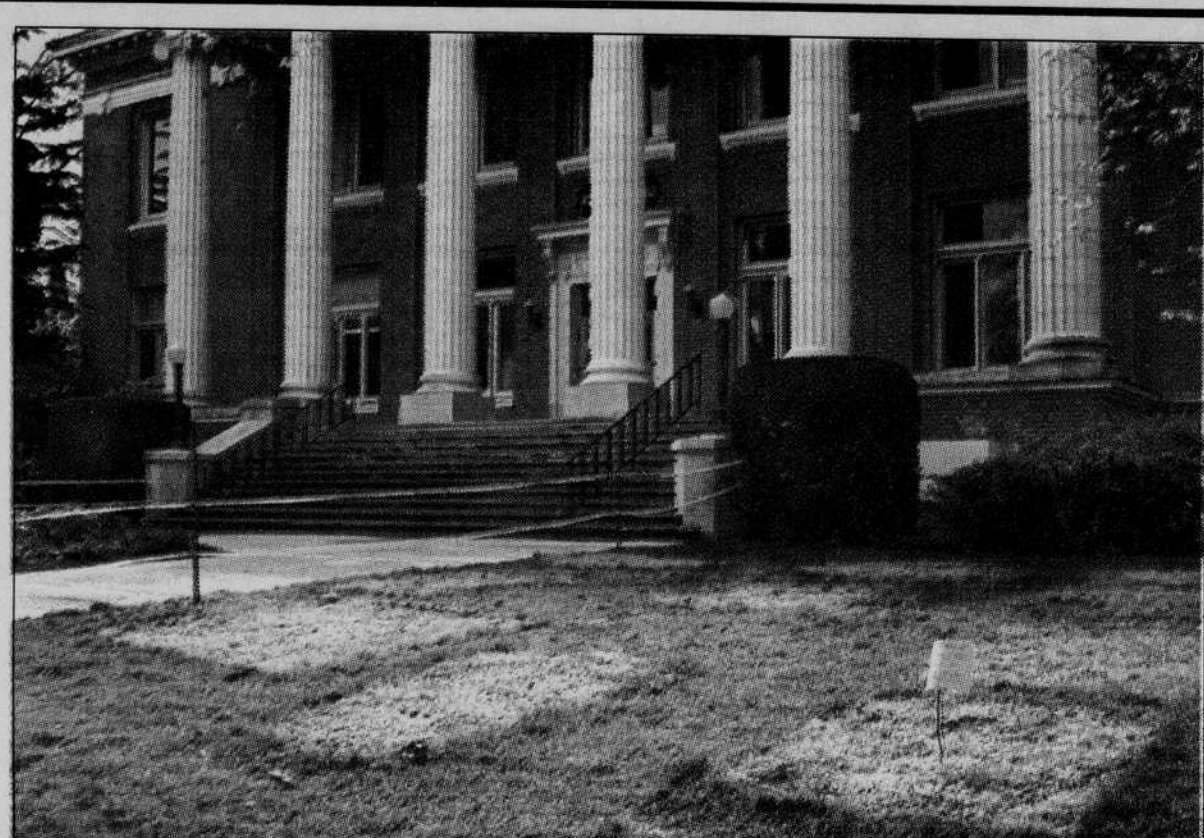
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The tents of protesters have vacated the lawn of Johnson Hall, leaving behind patches of yellow grass.

Catharine Kendall Emerald

Aftermath

continued from page 1A

ty committees and increasing the number of students on the University Senate.

Those involved said that they will continue to push for these changes, just not from their tents on the Johnson Hall lawn. ASUO President-elect Jay Breslow, who has been involved with the protest since it began, said meetings to decide what to do next should begin this week.

"The protest was purposefully done on a horizontal leadership plain with no final leader," he said. "It takes a little longer, but everyone has a say."

With the protest done, many students have been left wondering what it actually accomplished. The LCCC and senate met at their planned, scheduled times and Frohnmayer signed a one year membership after the senate recommended him to do so, a promise he made in a March 31 e-mail to the LCCC.

"I don't understand what the protest accomplished," freshman pre-business major Giovanni Crotti said. "I don't think the whole thing was justified."

But Breslow and ASUO Vice President Mitra Anoushiravani disagreed and said the protest was the start for student voice and empowerment at the University.

"The University Senate wasn't

even involved until [Student] Senator Jereme Grzybowski brought it in," Anoushiravani said.

Grzybowski is one of the student senators who also sits on the University Senate.

Breslow, who, as president of the student body, will be working extensively with Frohnmayer, said the protest definitely raised awareness about the WRC and labor issues.

"We've got the faculty rallying behind us now. It's not going to go away," Breslow said of the protesters' issues.

Breslow and Anoushiravani were part of a total of 14 students arrested for trespassing during the protest. Police arrested protesters during a period of three days and

issued them citations when they refused to leave the Johnson Hall lobby at 5 p.m. when the building closed.

Although the protesters didn't get exactly what they wanted, Anoushiravani added that what happened at Johnson Hall focused frustrations students have been harboring for years now.

"The end result is semi-OK. Things haven't improved as of yet. But I think they're going to," she said. "I hope they do."

On Friday morning the process of repairing the Johnson Hall grounds began. Only a few remnants of the protest, which had become a sign of campus solidarity or a campus eyesore depending on who you ask, remained on the steps. One of the building's pillars still displayed a "fight the power" statement in sidewalk chalk and a small yellow heart was still visible on the ground near it.

"They did a good job of cleaning up," said Connie Kentta, a secretary in University Vice President Dan Williams' office.

The Johnson Hall lawn did not fare as well as the concrete, however. On Friday morning maintenance crews began reseeding the dead patches of grass that were turned yellow, almost white, by the protesters' tents.

"[The protesters] don't have the capacity to fix the lawn," Kentta said. "It's depressing that the building has to be damaged to make a point."

Kentta and Wendy Ruffner, Williams' other secretary, work at desks right next to a window that faces the Johnson Hall steps. They both described Friday as much calmer than the days of protest and Kentta simply called it, "wonderful."

"It's very nice to go back to business ... [The past week] was hard to concentrate and hard to work," Kentta said.

Tim Wise

continued from page 1A

need for people of all different backgrounds to work together to fight discrimination," ASUO Multicultural Advocate Hong Tran said.

"He provides a lot of examples that make sense," she said, "and it makes you think about the inequalities [in our country]."

For several years, Wise has been making his way around the country, speaking to everyone from high school and college students to labor union members to corporate officials. In his crusade, he confronts issues from institutional racism to assaults on poor and working class people from all ethnic backgrounds.

This is not to mention his extensive work in other groups that fight racism. He recently founded an organization that is meant to show white Americans that continuing the institution and biases of racism are not only destructive to people of color, but destructive to themselves as well. The group is called the Association for White Anti-Racist Education (AWARE).

One thing that makes Wise stand out from other speakers who fight for racial equality is that Wise himself is Caucasian.

"There's many people of color who can talk from their experiences," said Felicia Gustin, co-director of Speak Out Speakers and Artists Agency, which arranges Wise's visits to various locations. "It's not as often that you have a white person, that is European American, talking about why whites need to get involved."

Wise also possesses another quality that makes him a dynamic and skilled orator: honesty.

"He's more like an in-your-face kind of guy," said Katy Ho, a senior journalism major who is helping organize Wise's visit. "He tells the truth. He says what's on his mind."

Wise's visit is one that the ASUO has been working hard to

organize ever since he spoke on campus last year during the Education 2000 conference.

As the second keynote speaker at the event, Tran said that Wise's speech was overshadowed by the presence of the first speaker, bell hooks, an African American author, poet and professor who speaks out on issues including racism and feminism. Tran said she was disappointed about that because she was really impressed with his speaking style and what he had to say.

"It's not boring stuff," Tran said. "He's a really engaging speaker."

From this upcoming visit, the ASUO hopes to create an annual event in which a speaker comes to discuss a specific topic on campus.

It's not as often that you have a white person, that is European-American, talking about why whites need to get involved.

Felicia Gustin
co-director of
Speak Out Speakers
and Artists Agency

pus. This year, diversity is the issue; next year, Tran said, it could be something else.

While at the University, Wise will be conducting or participating in several different events. From 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday afternoon, a "Lunch with Tim Wise" will be held in the Multicultural Center. All students are invited to attend and get the chance to speak with Wise.

In addition, he will be giving a keynote address in the EMU Tuesday evening, during which he is tentatively set to provide a speech titled "Beyond Diversity: Challenging Racism in an Age of Backlash." He will also be present Wednesday night at a town hall meeting in the EMU Ben Linder Room.

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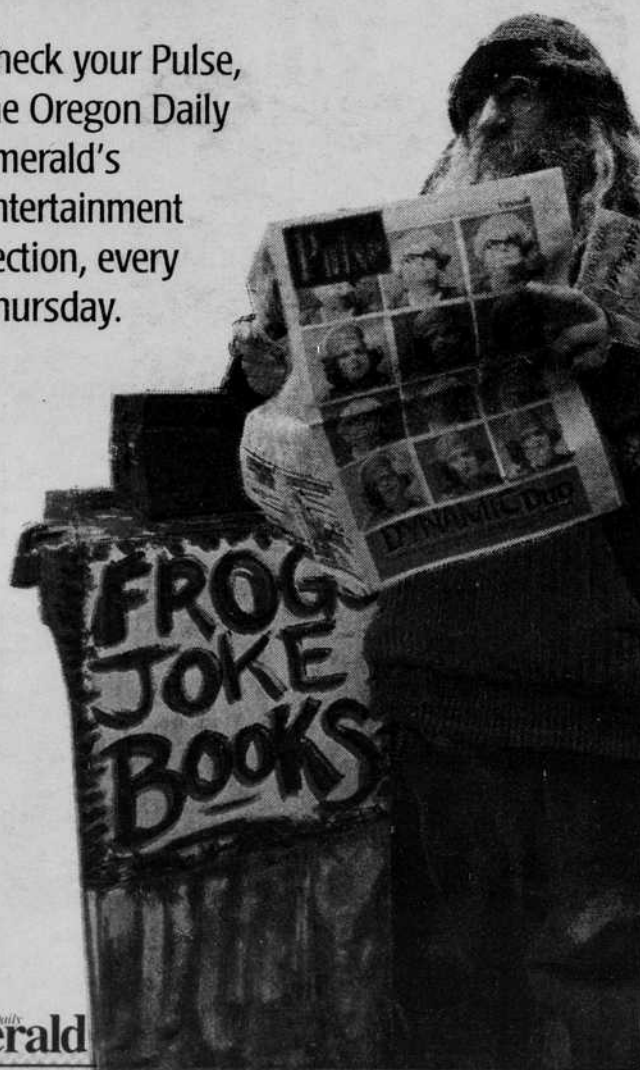
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