

An independent newspaper

Oregon Daily Emerald



Still flying high

Ducks heading south to California wanting to post another big Pac-10 win. **Inside supplement**

A strong statement

Silent Witness vigil at the Hult Center aims to give domestic violence victims a voice. **PAGE 3A**

WEATHER
TODAY



RAIN LIKELY
high 60, low 45

SINCE 1900 UNIVERSITY OF OREGON EUGENE, OREGON

Six die in possible terrorist attack on USS Cole

■ Occupants of a small boat apparently detonated a bomb near the ship after it docked

By Robert Burns
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In a sinister slip through Navy security, suicide bombers in a small boat tore a gaping hole in a U.S. warship Thursday at a refueling stop in a Yemeni harbor on the Arabian Peninsula, U.S. officials say. The blast killed six members of the crew, injured 35 and left 11 missing.

INSIDE
University professors weigh in with their opinions on the Mideast situation. **PAGE 5**

The crippled ship was tilting slightly in the harbor at Aden, Yemen, but the Navy said it was not in danger of sinking.

No one has claimed responsibility, Defense Secretary William Cohen told a Pentagon news conference.

President Clinton said the attack on the USS Cole, one of the world's most advanced warships, appeared to be an act of terrorism, the worst against the U.S. military since the bombing of an Air Force barracks in Saudi Arabia in 1996 that killed 19 troops.

"We will find out who was responsible and hold them accountable," Clinton pledged.

He dispatched to Yemen investigative teams from the FBI, the State Department and the Pentagon. Clinton also ordered a heightened state of alert for all U.S. military installations around the world.

After the attack, ambulances rushed to the port, and Americans working with Yemeni authorities cordoned off the area. The ship was listing but still afloat. Yemeni police sources

Turn to **Bombing** page 5A

■ Some University students express little surprise that the conflict reached a violent level

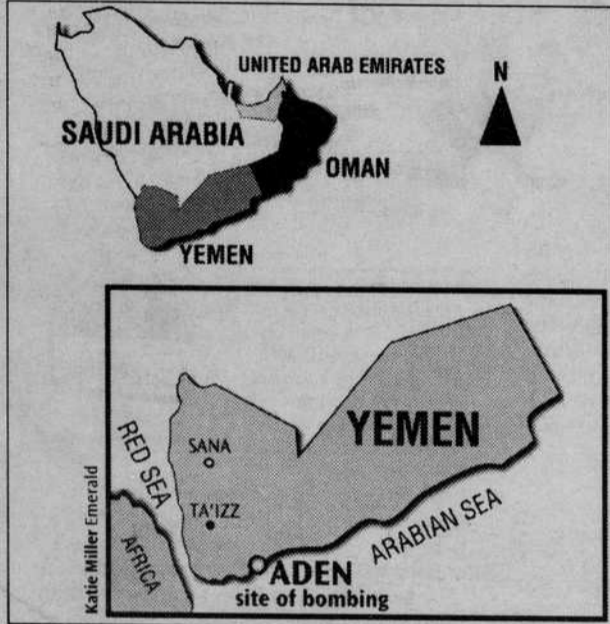
By Emily Gust
Oregon Daily Emerald

As tensions increase halfway across the world and varied reactions circle the globe, students in the University community are voicing sentiments of their own.

With dismay and concern being common responses, students expressed frustration at the use of violence in the escalating conflict between Israel and Palestine.

"This is not what [Islam] is about," said Alrazi Al-Bu-

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Sweatshop debate seen in new light

■ Some University students argue that sweatshop labor is beneficial to the workers of third-world countries rather than exploitative



By Beata Mostafavi
Oregon Daily Emerald

Although many students think they've heard the term "sweatshop" 10 times too many, three University students say it is an issue that should not go away, and that overseas factories can improve the way of life for workers whose only alternative is poverty and hunger.

While many of the activists who protested for the University to sign on with the Worker Rights Consortium have never set foot in a third-world country, Rakesh Tolani, Gabriela Serrano and Mehreen Khan have each lived in one. Although all three students support many of the causes behind the WRC, they say that sweatshops "have saved many families in those countries," and that negative publicity has drowned out this reality.

"Because of the situation there, people live completely differently from people in the United States," said Tolani, a junior business major from India. "The poverty is extremely bad and for them to make even a little bit of money is a big deal ... Sweatshops pay more than begging on the street does, and they provide jobs for many people who would otherwise be starving."

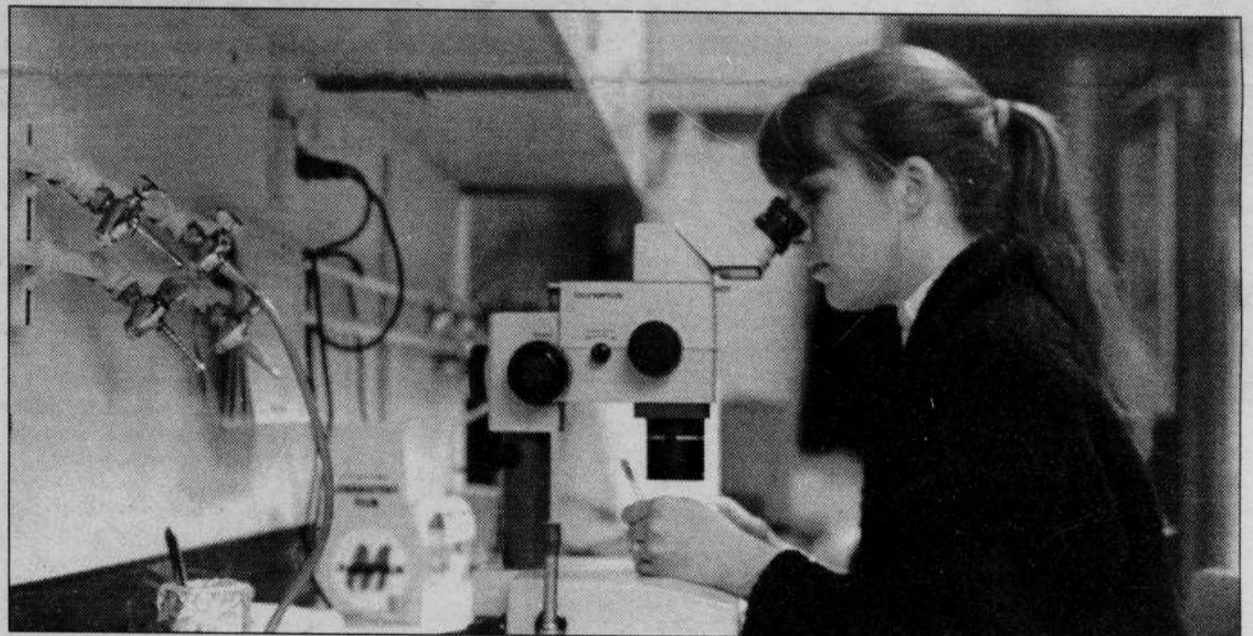
Khan, a sophomore business major from Pakistan, said anti-sweatshop activists in the United States portray sweatshops in a much more negative light than people from third-world countries do.

"Compared to Pakistan-run factories, sweatshops are not bad at all; they both have the same condi-

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Working in a sweatshop isn't the best job, but it's not the worst either ... You can't say all sweatshops are good, but you can't say they're all bad.

Gabriela Serrano sophomore, business



Suzanne Estes as she looks through her microscope on Thursday. The Evolution Lab, one of the many research labs on campus, is exploring the reasons for genetic mutation. Dan Brunell Emerald

Genetic mutation actualities revealed

■ A recent scientific discovery could set a precedent for future studies and advance medical technology

By Brooke Ross
Oregon Daily Emerald

University biology professor Michael Lynch and his research staff recently made a scientific breakthrough, finding evidence that genetic mutations occur more often than originally believed.

Lynch reached these results after three years of studying mitochondrial DNA in 160 generation lines of worms. His research staff found 30 genetic mutations, which Lynch said is significant because it is about 100 times higher than science textbooks generally report. He said his discovery could open doors for future findings in genetic re-

search.

"The most enjoyable part of the research is the big picture," said Charlie Baer, a University post-doctoral student and member of Lynch's staff. "I hope we are making contributions that people can build on."

Because worms have no genetic variation, Lynch said they were ideal for the experiments. The generations were sequenced, and the worms' DNA was analyzed, showing that several illnesses formed among the them.

Lynch is encouraged by the findings and thinks the number of mutations will be useful in studying human genetic diseases. The possible findings in the worms could reveal an underestimate of what is going on in human mutations, Lynch said.

Because humans have a higher metabolic rate, which causes the production of free radicals, Lynch thinks the

genetic mutation rate is higher in humans than previously believed.

But he noted that modern medical technology may also contribute to the genetic mutation rates among humans. Due to new methods of survival, such as planned pregnancies and prescription drugs, people with mutations are living unnaturally long lives and passing along their illnesses.

"Everyone having an equal opportunity to survive could become a human dilemma," Lynch said.

Suzanne Estes, a University graduate student participating in the research, agreed that medical technology is not always best for the environment.

"Natural selection is being eliminated," Estes said. "Humans are harming themselves, especially in well-developed countries."

Estes, whose work in the mutation

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