



This isn't 'Animal House'
 'Party House 2001' gave students a crash course in irresponsible partying. **PAGE 5**

Rooms built for two
 The University's residence halls filled up last week as a reporter watched. **PAGE 12**



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Students hit with anti-Arab backlash

■ Middle Eastern students report increased instances of bias following recent terrorist attacks

By Diane Huber
 Oregon Daily Emerald

Someone wrote the word "die" over Afghanistan on a map in the Office of International Programs in Oregon Hall on Sept. 13, according to Eugene Police Department spokeswoman Jan Power. The map was immediately taken down, and the perpetrator remains unknown.

This is just one example of the backlash Muslims and people of Middle Eastern descent have experienced on campus following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. Since the event, instances of bias toward Muslims on campus have increased, according to Assistant Dean of Diversity Programs Mark Tracy.

Some students on campus have directly experienced bias while others have not. But many people agree that ignorance about Islam has contributed to the backlash against Muslim students.

"There's a difference between radical religious groups and those who practice peacefully," Tracy said. "People need to recognize that there's a difference."

Recent University graduate Sarah Khalid Samman has personally experienced bias in the past week. Her parents, who are visiting from Saudi Ara-

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Return to sender



Adam Amato Emerald

Senior defensive back Steve Smith returns one of his three interceptions for a touchdown Saturday in the Ducks' 24-22 come-from-behind victory against Southern California. Freshman Jared Siegel secured the win with a 32-yard field goal with 12 seconds remaining, propelling Oregon to its 23rd straight win at Autzen Stadium and up a spot to No. 6 in the polls. For complete coverage of the game and the other Oregon sports, turn to page 13.1

Classified workers, OUS avert strike

■ A strike today could have affected University department operations and medical, child care and food services offered to students

By Eric Martin
 Oregon Daily Emerald

The Oregon University System and unions representing classified workers of Oregon's public universities agreed to a tentative contract Friday afternoon, putting the brakes on a threatened strike by the workers Sept. 24.

A strike could have forced OUS schools to rely on management and supervisors to perform classified-worker jobs, causing a slow-down in student services and the removal of non-essential services. Classified workers at the University handle food service for the residence halls, provide nursing care at the University Health Center and perform clerical tasks for many academic departments, among other things.

"If the strike had gone through, it would have been nothing short of devastating," said Tim Young, University political science major and student member of the State Board of Higher Education. "The classified staff is a vital component of the University. It would have been tremendously difficult for students, faculty, staff and administrators."

Negotiations began informally Thursday morning when representatives for the unions — the Service Employees International Union Local 503 and the Oregon Public Employees Union — and OUS talked via telephone. The talks paved the way for a smooth dialogue Friday, in Salem, where both sides met face-to-face and hammered out a deal.

"Discussion since (the last mediation session, Sept. 14) proved critical to finding an agreement," OUS spokesman Bob Bruce said.

The two sides have been engaged in tense contract negotiations since April 11 over issues of fair pay and improved health benefits for the 3,700 full- and part-time classified workers of Oregon's seven public universities. About 1,230 of those classified staff work at the University.

Both sides expect to ratify the tentative agreement next month.

"When our people began negotiating (Friday) morning, they were very optimistic that we would reach an agreement," said Kathie Best, statewide president for SEIU Local 503. "We're delighted that we were able to come to an agreement without a disruption of services."

The unions and OUS said Thursday

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Residents rally against U.S. military retaliation

■ Peace groups organize a march downtown to advocate a thoughtful response to the Sept. 11 attacks

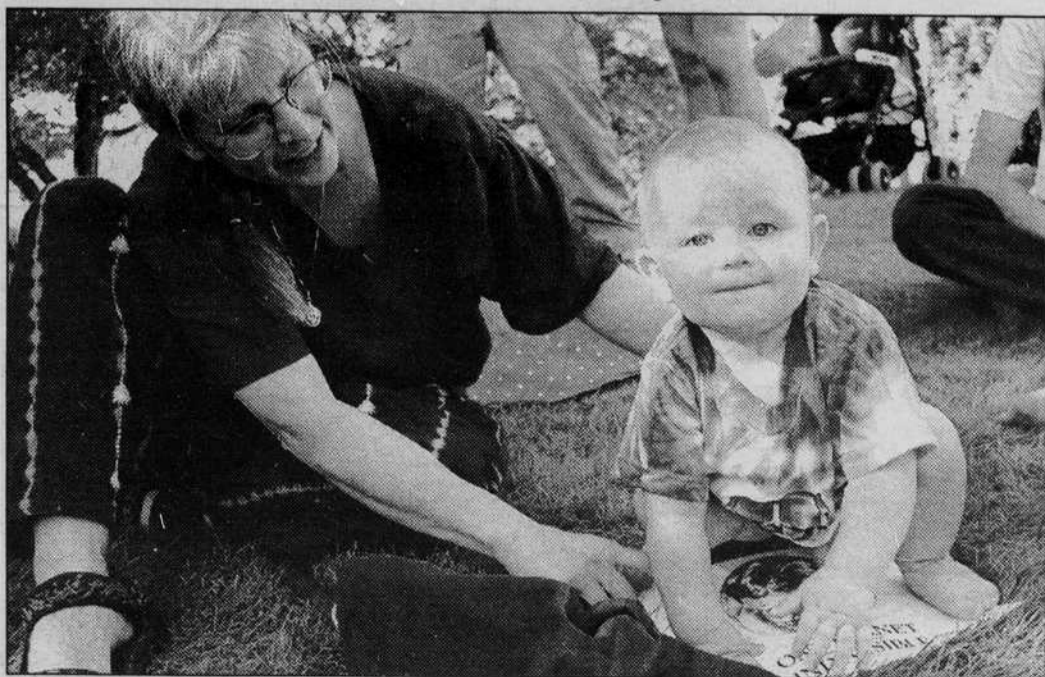
By Aaron Shakra
 for the Emerald

For those who live in Eugene, the Wayne Morse Plaza is a familiar sight. Each weekend during the Saturday Market, people gather and the area serves as an open forum for free speech and expression.

On Sept. 22, people arrived for more intentional purposes. At 3 p.m., a crowd congregated at the plaza to rally against America's potential military retaliation to the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11. Organized by the Justice Not War Coalition, the protest began with a march toward the federal building, where people gathered peacefully, listening to speakers and music.

As the entourage walked, people held up signs reading "Let us mourn, not murder more," and "Please don't let the media control your thoughts." One sign

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Thomas Patterson Emerald

Cindy Barlow and 13-month-old Balan Kolee rally for peace at the federal building Saturday.