

Pulse
A new jazz nightclub in downtown Eugene refines the idea of a night on the town.
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Sports
Trucks, cranes and construction crews are all over the field at Autzen Stadium.
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An independent newspaper Oregon Daily Emerald

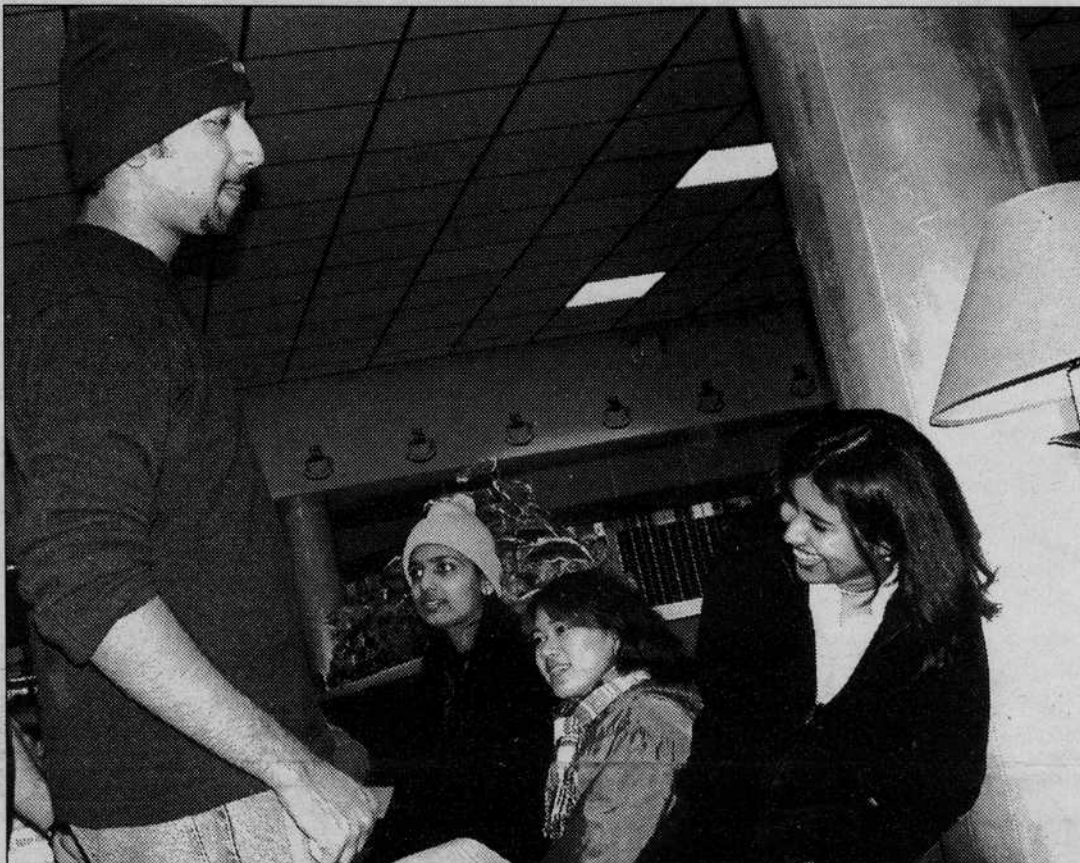
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'War is simply not an option'



Adam Jones Emerald

The Students of the Indian Subcontinent are planning a festival that will celebrate Diwali (an Indian festival of lights that marks the beginning of the New Year) Saturday in Agate Hall. Photographed here, Gibran Azamali, Shruti Shah, Lisa Tsai, Rakhi Patel.

Conflict and the art of communication

Despite the 54-year conflict between India and Pakistan, Students of the Indian Subcontinent show camaraderie

By Danielle Gillespie
Oregon Daily Emerald

It has been more than a month since Pakistani terrorists attacked India's Parliament Complex in New Delhi, heightening the long-standing conflict between India and Pakistan and leading many international leaders to fear the countries may be headed to war.

But members of Students of the Indian Subcontinent, a University group comprising students from India and Pakistan, say that although the governments of the two coun-

tries may disagree, the average Pakistani and Indian citizens have good relations.

Three SIS members who have family living in Pakistan and India said they believe a war between the two countries is unlikely, but Pakistan and India need to resolve their 54-year political conflict over the state of Kashmir.

"War is simply not an option," junior Aashim Tyagi said. "Both countries want to resolve the conflict on a diplomatic level and cannot afford a full-scale war because of their nuclear power."

The conflict between India and Pakistan began when the two countries split after gaining their independence from Britain. Both countries staked claim to the state of Kashmir. Recently,

political conflict has intensified after an attack on India's Parliament Complex in New Delhi by Pakistani terrorists on Dec. 13.

Indian Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee equated the attack to Pakistan blaming them for supporting terrorists. Pakistan's president, Pervez Musharraf, wants to ban two organizations linked to the Dec. 13 attack — Jaish-e-Muhammad and Lashkar-e-Taiba — while the Bush Administration has been orchestrating peace talks between the countries.

Tyagi said Pakistan should not be considered responsible for the attack on India.

"It was a terrorist group who could be from any country or have any religious background; it has no

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U.S. Attorney to complete anti-terrorism questioning

It is unclear how many University students may have been interviewed by the Justice Department

By John Liebhardt
Oregon Daily Emerald

The Justice Department anti-terrorism interviews of foreign visitors are 99 percent complete in the Eugene area, according to the U.S. Attorney's office.

However, it is uncertain how many University students, if any, participated in the interviews. Anne Leavitt, associate vice president for student affairs and dean of students, said she had heard only anecdotal evidence about the interviews of University students.

The investigation is part of the "war on terrorism" launched after the attacks of Sept. 11. Since the attacks, more than 1,000 people nationwide have been detained, many of them on minor immigration charges.

Chris Cardani, assistant U.S. attorney in Eugene, would not provide information on the number of interviews his office conducted, but he said no arrests have been made.

"An overwhelming majority of people were very helpful; they were almost eager to help out," he said. Presently, investigators are conducting "a few" follow-up interviews.

Leavitt said investigators contacted the Department of Public Safety in search of one student who was listed under an address in the residence halls. However, the student resided at that address last year and is no longer enrolled at the University.

"(The investigators) never called for any additional information," she said.

Secrecy has surrounded the anti-terror investigation, which began Nov. 9 when U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft enlisted the help of state and local law enforcement agencies to interview 5,000 people nationwide on their knowledge of terrorism.

Investigators never released the complete criteria of who will make up the interviewee lists but did admit the criteria could include men, age 18 to 33, who have been in the country since January 2000. Many civil liberties groups complained that men of Middle Eastern descent were being singled out in the investigation.

The U.S. Attorney's office in Portland estimated in November that 200 residents in Oregon, 40 from Lane County, could be on the lists to interview. Currently, there are more than 1,400 international students enrolled at the University.

The American Civil Liberties Union of Oregon offered free legal assistance for any person contacted by the investigators. However, ACLU of Oregon spokesman David Fidanque said his office received less than 10 calls for the service. Only one person actually used an ACLU lawyer during the interview, he said.

Civil liberties groups and some legal officials complained that the federal investigation resembled a witch hunt that would not provide any useful information. The Portland City Attorney would not allow the Portland Police Department to participate in the investigations because of some of the interview questions might break Oregon civil liberties law.

Also, the Eugene Police Department voiced concern over some of the criteria used to make up the interview lists. After speaking with University officials and members of the Arab and Muslim communities, EPD decided not to participate in the interviews but provided logistical support for the investigators.

Eugene City Council elects new president

City council presidents have mainly formal duties, and those will now be assumed by David Kelly

By Marty Toohey
Oregon Daily Emerald

The Eugene City Council elected David Kelly as city council president for 2002 on Monday night.

The change took effect immediately. Kelly, who represents Ward 3, which includes the University, said he will receive no more power, but will have a few more formal responsibilities, including conducting meetings. "The responsibility of the president

can vary a lot depending on circumstances," said Kelly, who served as council vice president last year.

"Sometimes the mayor is too busy to attend an event, and sometimes when he feels the city still needs a presence, he'll ask the city council president to be there."

The council also elected Gary Papé, Ward 5, vice president on Monday night.

Betty Taylor, Ward 2, served as city council president last year.

The filing deadline for city council elections is March 5, and Kelly has already declared his intention to run for re-election. Gary Rayor, Ward 4, will not run for election, because the city's redrawing of its ward boundaries put him in Ward 1 with Bonny Bettman, and Bettman's term will not expire for another two years. The terms of Papé and Pat Farr, Ward 6, will expire this spring, and neither has declared their candidacy.



KELLY

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