Bookstore

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www.foolscapbooks.com. "Ninetynine point nine percent of the books are used," Bonaventure said.

Half of Bonaventure's business comes from online sales. She said she sells a lot of poetry, philosophy and occult books, but has "a little bit of everything." The bookstore also accepts trades, and features imports from the countries such as Bali, Nepal, India, Thailand, Morocco and Guatemala.

A wide selection of chapbooks inexpensive handmade items by local writers and poets - sit close to the entrance. In the past, Foolscap has hosted events featuring belly dancing, fire dancing and jazz. In recent months, poetry has become steeped into the place five poetry slam rounds have been held. There will be one more slam open to everyone, Feb. 15 at 8 p.m. All participants who sign up between 7:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. will be allowed to read.

The poetry readings, which began in September, are the first Eugene events affiliated with the National Poetry Slam.

A grant from the Lane Arts Council provided the shop with the necessary budget for national affiliation. A four-person team will be selected from playoff rounds featuring the top 25 poets. This team will compete at the August 2003 competition in Chicago.

A panel of five judges, selected at random from 10 volunteers each night, will rate the poets' work. Sam Rutledge, who has read at previous slams and is also co-host of The Buzz Coffeehouse's open mic poetry night, said that judging is an automatic process for humans.

'To a degree, people are judgmental about everything," Rutledge said.

However, he said the subjectivity of the judgments diminishes their seriousness.

Rutledge noted that the crowd gathering at Foolscap is mostly older or middle-aged folks and "people who aren't in college." Bonaventure, who has been an organizing force for the slams, said she views the events as "poetry for the masses.

"The scene is already here. I wouldn't have done it if there wasn't a niche for it," she said.

Rutledge matched these senti-

"This is one of the main venues that underground artists can use to show their stuff," he said.

Regarding poetry's potential for a fusion of "high-art" with "low-art," he quoted a line from the band KRS-One: "It's time for all the scholars to unite with all the players."

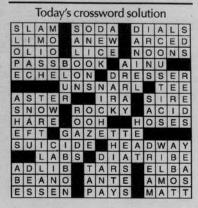
Despite some competitive aspects, both Rutledge and Bonaventure indicated the slam environment remains friendly on the whole.

"I've made great friends through

poetry," Bonaventure said.
"We're addicted," said Taylor Jane, a Foolscap regular and poet who frequently reads her work at The Buzz open mic night. However, she doesn't read at slams. "I don't know if I have enough competitive stick-to-it-ness," she said. All the slams have been recorded on video and audio thus far. Upon the conclusion of the events, they will be compiled and released through the bookstore. Foolscap's next big poetry event will be an open mic Valentine's Day erotic poetry night. Tango band Mood Area 52 will also perform.

Foolscap is open from 10:30 a.m. until 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday.

Contact the Pulse reporter at aaronshakra@dailyemerald.com.



The Jewish Student Union presents

COFFEE TALK

February 4th - 6th @ 7 pm EMU River Rooms Coffee and Food provided FREE

Tuesday and Wednesday Metolius and Owyhee River Rooms, EMU

Thursday Alsea and Coquille River Rooms, EMU



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UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

"Beyond the State and Market: Individualism, Social Pluralism and the Revitalization of Civil Society"

A presentation by Professor Kenneth L. Grasso



Friday, February 7th 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Metolius - River Room, Erb Memorial Union, University of Oregon

Kenneth L. Grasso is professor of political science and director of the Project on American Constitutionalism at Southwest Texas State University. The co-editor of several books including: John Courtney Murray and the American Civil Conversation and Catholicism, Liberalism and Communitarianism: The Catholic Intellectual Tradition and the Moral Foundations of Democracy. His articles and reviews have appeared in a variety of publications including the Review of Politics, Interpretation the American Political Science Review, Responsive Community, First Things, and the Catholic Social Science Review. He serves as Second Vice-President of the Society of Catholic Social Scientists.

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