



# Hussein's statue falls on Arab nationalism

Joyce M. Davis

Knight Ridder Newspapers (KRT)

WASHINGTON — The toppling of Saddam Hussein's statue in Baghdad on Wednesday was a pivotal moment in the history of the Arab peoples, symbolizing not only the collapse of a brutal dictatorship, but also the last death rattle of the defiant Arab nationalism he embodied.

In Washington, the television pictures of Iraqi men dragging the head of a Hussein statue through Baghdad's streets may appear to be a vindication of President Bush's policy, and of the notion that the Arab world is yearning for Western-style democracy.

But to many Arab intellectuals and historians, and to many ordinary people throughout the Muslim world who still revel in their history as one of the world's most glorious and most powerful civilizations, this is another profoundly sad moment. It

may be even more humiliating than Israel's defeat of the Arabs in 1967, when the Israelis seized the West Bank and Gaza.

Although Hussein was not beloved in the Arab world, his regime's demise is being seen in the Middle East and beyond as another sign of Arab weakness, and as a powerful testament to the Western domination of the region since the defeat of the Ottoman Empire in World War I and the collapse of the last Caliphate, the spiritual leadership of Islam, in 1924.

The fallen statue and the footage of cheering Iraqis dancing through Baghdad are forcing the Arab world to reassess both its past and its future.

The rampaging Iraqi men did not rid themselves of Hussein's evil; they needed American Marines to do that for them. Other Arab leaders did not send armies to liberate the Iraqi people; President George Bush did. And even the feared Islamic

Turn to **War**, page 3



David Leeson Dallas Morning News

Iraqi civilians cheer as American soldiers rolled into central Baghdad on Wednesday, chanting, "Yes, yes, Bush."

## Between borders

Salem native Jake Johnston returns to Oregon after being detained at the U.S.-Mexico border

Caron Alarab

Safety/Crime/Transportation Reporter

After spending more than two weeks in San Diego Correctional Facility, 19-year-old Salem native Jake Johnston has been released and has returned to his Oregon family after being stopped and detained at the California-Mexico border. Although he had been living in the United States since the second day of his life, Johnston was arrested for having an American citizenship with "no status" due to improper paperwork and his parents' failure to request their son's green card.

In 1984, Robert Johnston and his pregnant wife, Margrethe, were living in northern Washington when they had to rush to the nearest hospital in British Columbia, Canada,

to deliver their baby. After two days, the couple returned to the United States with their newborn, Jake, but failed to file the correct paperwork when they crossed the border.

More than 19 years later, Jake Johnston paid the price.

On March 24, Johnston was heading back north after spending a few hours in Tijuana, Mexico, during his Southern California spring break. He was asked by border patrol to provide identification and state his place of birth. Johnston gave them his Social Security card and his driver's license and informed them he was born in Canada. When the officers checked the information, their database revealed Johnston's citizenship as "no status," and he was detained until he could be moved to SDCF.

"He wasn't committing any crime except trying to get home," said Johnston's friend, University freshman Jay Rowan.

Since they first heard of Johnston's detention, Rowan and University



Courtesy

University freshmen Jay Rowan (left) and Thomas Maffai (middle) worked to gain support for the release of friend Jake Johnston (right), who was detained upon re-entry into the U.S. from Mexico.

freshman Thomas Maffai have spearheaded local efforts to encourage officials to support his case and help get him released.

"I basically called or e-mailed every representative I could think of," Rowan said.

After his initial lobby-

ing, Rowan, who's known Johnston for four years, obtained more than 800 signatures from students on the University campus.

"(They came from) basically, just every person who stopped to hear me out," he added.

Luckily for the cause,

the Salem office of U.S. Representative Darlene Hooley, D-Ore., received one of Rowan's letters.

"What those students did was important," said Willy Smith, Hooley's district director. "Our office

Turn to **Johnston**, page 4

## Faculty Senate talks war, diversity

The Faculty Senate discussed minority representation among faculty and classified staff

Lindsay Sauv 

Family/Health/Education Reporter

Diversity was the hot topic on Wednesday at the University Faculty Senate meeting as a panel of five faculty members discussed how the University is fulfilling its diversity commitments among faculty and classified staff.

Provost John Moseley said programs such as minority recruitment and efforts by the Center for Diversity and Community have helped increase the percentage of minorities hired by the University.

In 1992, only 6.5 percent of faculty members identified themselves as one of four federally recognized ethnic groups; 10 years later, the number had jumped to 10 percent. The total, including faculty who identified as multiracial, is 14.2 percent, Moseley said.

Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity Director Penny Daugherty stressed the importance of involving faculty to search out potential candidates for hire.

Turn to **Faculty**, page 8

## University boasts Japanese connection

Japanese students, who make up a fifth of the University's international community, face an adjustment to U.S. culture

### Asian experience

Roman Gokhman

Campus/City Culture Reporter

One ocean and 4,400 miles separate Oregon from Japan. Their cultures are even farther apart and as different as apple pie and rice.

What would convince someone from Osaka, a city in the Saitama Prefecture, to move to Eugene and attend the University?

Twenty-year-old Rihito Okonogi,

### A 3-part series

Wednesday: Jia Jia

Today: Rihito Okonogi

Friday: Phong Chan

a sophomore pre-journalism major, chose Eugene and the University for several reasons.

"I was bored (in Japan)," he said. "Every day was the same. I want to see other countries and cultures."

Okonogi first visited the States when he traveled to Los Angeles with a student exchange group during his second year of high school in the summer of 1999.

"Everything is so huge there," he said. "Especially the roads."

During his stay, he visited American cultural icons such as Disneyland, which he thought was "pretty small," and Hollywood, where he said everything was too expensive.

However, something about the country appealed to Okonogi and enticed him back when he was choosing a school.

By the time Okonogi was in his third and final year of high school, he could not decide on a college major, as is customary in Japan. He also did not want to make a choice he might regret later.

"In Japan, it's very difficult to change majors while you are in college," he said.

Once he had decided to attend school in the United States, Okono-

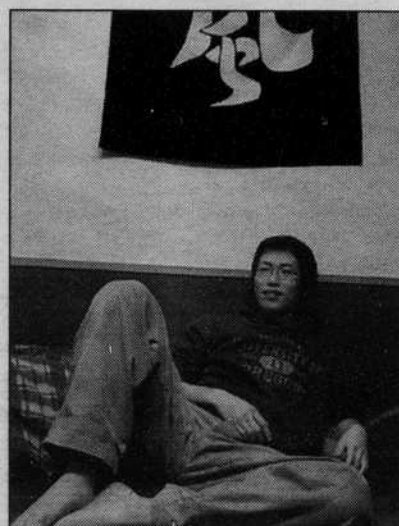
gi had to find the one that fit him best. He did not want to buy a car, which he said would be necessary if he lived in a big city.

"I might kill someone" driving, he said.

He settled on the University because of its strong journalism program, because he would not become distracted by the many attractions of a large city and because the University is "a lot easier to get into."

According to the registrar's Web site, 289 students at the University are from Japan. That represents nearly 21 percent of all international students on campus, and the relative ease of admission could be

Turn to **Asian**, page 3



Jeremy Forrest Emerald

Sophomore Rihito Okonogi, a native of Osaka, Japan, visited California on his first trip to the U.S.