



## Marines rescue seven American POWs

Juan O. Tamayo

Knight Ridder Newspapers (KRT)

ABOARD A C-130 OVER IRAQ — Sunday, on her 21st day as an Iraqi prisoner of war, Army Spc. Shoshana Johnson thought that she and six other American prisoners of war would be killed because their guards were afraid of the ever-approaching American attacks.

"We were a hot potato," said Johnson, 30, an Army cook from El Paso, Texas, with six-inch braids. The POWs were moved through six holding places in the last six days alone, she said. "It was getting to the point where I believed they were going to kill us."

Instead, a squad of Marines stormed into the room where they were being held, rescuing the last Americans known to have been captured by Iraq.

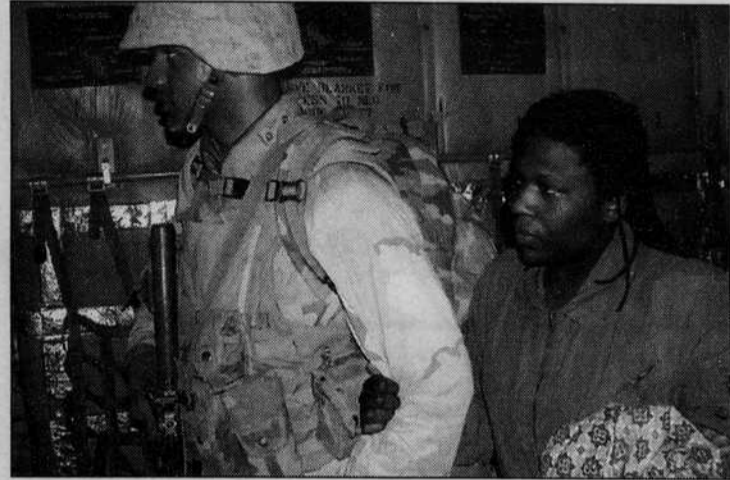
A few hours later, the POWs were telling of their ordeal: of being overwhelmed by Iraqis in a firefight where their weapons jammed from the sand. One of the POWs said villagers had held a knife to his throat and had beaten him and a fellow captive with sticks.

At one point, a U.S. bomb sent the bricks of their prison showering down, and one of the prisoners, Chief Warrant Officer Ron Young, 26, of Lithia Springs, Ga., reached through a crack that had been opened and unlatched his cell door. But guards thwarted the escape.

"I was asking them if they were going to kill me," said Pfc. Patrick Miller, 23, of Park City, Kansas.

His guards assured him they would not, Miller added, "but I still didn't believe them, so I

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Rescued POW Spc. Shoshana Johnson, right, is escorted to a C-130 transport in Numaniyah, Iraq, en route to Kuwait, on Sunday. **Juan Tamayo** Miami Herald

### Cultural expression



Performers Aum Duangdee (left) and Pimrux Prompalit (right) from the Thai Student Association danced a traditional Thai lullaby at International Night in the EMU Ballroom on Sunday night. **Danielle Hickey** Emerald

## A world of celebration

Annual International Night festivities drew a sold-out crowd of 700 Sunday night

**Roman Gokhman** Campus/City Culture Reporter

The EMU was overrun Sunday night as members of the University community came out in force to demolish cultural misconceptions at the 40th Annual International Night.

More than 700 students, staff and community members were lucky enough to buy their tickets early enough to find seats in the EMU Ballroom — the event sold out by 6 p.m.

"I spent all my efforts looking for our performers, which are from all over the world," International Night organizer Rihito Okonogi said. "It's big, big, big."

Romance Languages Graduate Teaching Fellow Tanya Flores, who

attended the performance, said that what American students saw Sunday night, international students see every day.

"Hearing two to three languages on a daily basis is a reality for a lot of us on campus," she said.

Several dancing groups took the stage to entertain the crowd with salsa dancing, Balinese, Thai and Nepalese dancing, and Thai and

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## Primary results appoint 10 to positions

Fifteen percent of University students logged on to vote in the ASUO primary elections last week

### ASUO elections

**Kira Park** Freelance Reporter

In an unbelievably close race for ASUO Executive, Maddy Melton and Eddy Morales edged out Christa Shively and Greg Bae by only 21 votes in the primary election Friday night. Several ASUO election insiders predict campaigning for the general election will be nothing short of intense.

The primary results identified, for the most part, the two tickets that will compete in the general election. In the few cases where one candidate won more than 50 percent of the vote, he or she was elected outright and will not appear on the general election ballot.

Now, students likely will be exposed to ASUO candidates' passionate efforts to earn votes, as campaigns for ASUO Executive and Student Senate positions become increasingly intense in the days leading up to next week's general election.

Melton and Morales said their campaign is reaching out to all students. Both candidates are first-generation college students, and they said access to education is their primary priority. They worked together in the ASUO this year as co-multicultural advocates and said their proven ability to communicate successfully makes them best suited for the job.

Shively and Bae also said they plan to win votes in the general student population. With campus involvement between Shively and Bae ranging from the EMU Board to Delta Sigma Phi and OSPIRG, the candidates said the diversity of their combined experiences is what makes them most qualified to fill the ASUO Executive position.

In the finance senator positions, Adrian Gilmore and

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## University Housing allows evicted student to return

Although freshman Richard Brooker fought for weeks to get the eviction reversed, the decision came too late

**Caron Alarab** Safety/Crime/Transportation Reporter

The pressures of finals week can be a real stress for any student. But finals turned out to be extremely difficult for freshman Richard Brooker when the University forced him to move out of his residence hall room during the last week of winter term.

The week prior, Brooker was issued a summary eviction — an immediate notice of ejection, without trial — based on drug-related charges that were quickly dropped in a Eugene court. After weeks of protesting the decision, Brooker has finally had the eviction removed — a resolution that, in his opinion, came too late in the game.

"I'm here to learn," he said. "And if they really had my best interest at heart, I don't think they would have forced me out the week of finals."

In late February, the Eugene Police Department charged Brooker with pos-

session of less than an ounce of marijuana as well as manufacturing and delivery of controlled substances after officers gained access to his Thornton Hall room in Bean Complex and confiscated various drug paraphernalia.

A few days later, Brooker pleaded guilty to possession at his arraignment, which resulted in a \$400 fine and a six-month suspension of his driver's license. However, the more severe charges, which were the basis of the immediate eviction, were dropped. The dropped charges prompted Brooker to question why certain officials were so

hasty to remove him, he said.

"It seemed like they were making the situation as difficult for me as possible," he said.

Although she was unable to comment on any student's case specifically, Residence Life Director Sandy Schoonover said summary evictions, though rare, are issued based on the safety of the community, not on good or bad timing.

"We're always very concerned with students' academic endeavors," she said.

Since his eviction, Brooker said he

has worked with the Office of Student Advocacy to determine his rights and arrange a meeting to plead his case.

Brooker said he had an informal meeting with Student Judicial Affairs Director Chris Loschiavo early Friday afternoon to reiterate his innocence, remove the eviction from his record and cancel a 50-foot ban from campus residence halls. At Brooker's request, Student Advocacy Director Hilary Berkman also attended the meeting, which lasted about an hour.

Because of federal and state law, Turn to **Eviction**, page 5