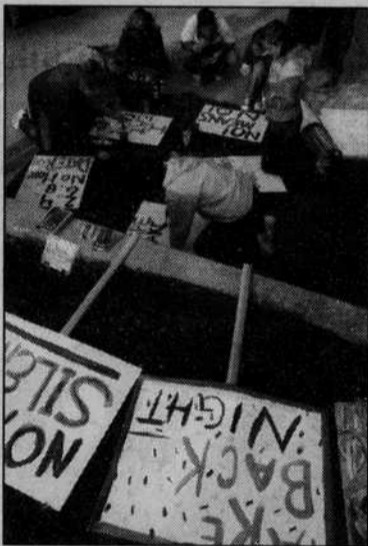


'Rape is a campus issue!'



"Why is it that violence against women is increasing?" international studies Professor Anita Weiss asked the more than 200 students, staff and community members who gathered Thursday in the EMU Amphitheater for the 25th annual Take Back the Night rally. Participants created signs (left), watched performers (right) and listened to the rousing chants of The Radical Cheerleaders (above). Adam Amato Emerald



Union Pacific set to spray Roundup on railroad

Locals are concerned that residents have not been notified that Roundup will be sprayed in the area

Ali Shaughnessy

Environment/Science/Technology Reporter

Union Pacific Railroad will soon be spraying a glyphosate-based herbicide, more commonly known as Roundup, along the railroad tracks running through Eugene.

The spraying, which will take place some time between May 19 and June 3, has frustrated many anti-toxics organization members around Eugene. Megan Kemple, the public education

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Government to re-authorize, possibly alter education act

Members of the House Committee on Education and Workforce held a hearing Tuesday to discuss the current uses of Higher Education Act money

Jennifer Bear

Campus/Federal Politics Reporter

The turning of the political windmill in Washington, D.C., doesn't usually create even a breeze in the average University student's life, but with the re-authorization of the Higher Education Act coming up, students should expect tornadoes.

The federal government uses the Higher Education Act to funnel millions of dollars into the nation's colleges and universities, in the

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Media fabrication receives criticism

Media professionals question ethical principles after The New York Times accused reporter Jayson Blair of fabricating articles

Lindsay Sauvé

Family/Health/Education Reporter

On Sunday, The New York Times ran an unusual news story. It read like a correction, but unlike most corrections run by newspapers, it made national headlines and has become the topic of discussion in newspapers, television news spots and media ethics journals, and it has attracted the interest of journalism scholars across the country as well as at the University.

The article accused Jayson Blair, a 27-year-old national news reporter, of fabricating information, plagiarizing and even making up sources in many of the articles he had written. The New York Times said it was heading an investigation of more than 600 articles written by Blair, in the hopes of setting the record straight.

Journalism Professor Tom Bivins is

familiar with what makes right and wrong in the field of journalism. Bivins teaches Mass Media Ethics, a class that applies the theories of ethical principles to conflicts media professionals

"The media has less credibility than it used to. The New York Times is still considered one of the last bastions of honest journalism."

Tom Bivins
ethics professor

face in the real world. A major factor in The New York Times' decision to expose Blair's deception was to retain its credibility as one of the nation's leading newspapers, Bivins said.

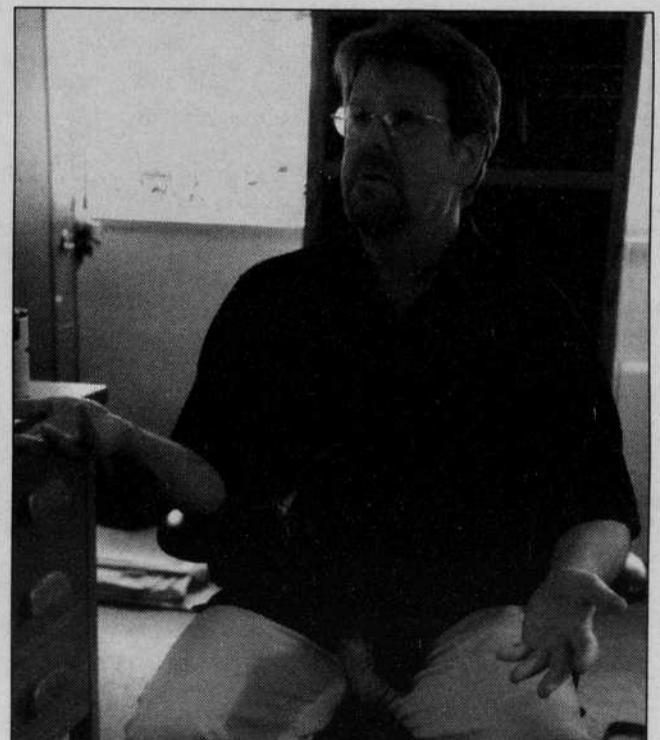
"The media has less credibility than it used to," Bivins explained. "The New York Times is still considered one of the last bastions of honest journalism."

Bivins said because soft news and infotainment have been put ahead of investigative news as the focal point of today's mainstream media, people are becoming less and less convinced that news outlets can deliver honest and worthwhile information. But it doesn't mean good news isn't out there, he added.

"There are a lot of ethical newspapers out there," Bivins said. "People just don't notice because they're acting ethical."

Journalism outlets are still hotly debating how Blair, who had a reporter's dream job as a national writer at The New York Times, became so wrapped up in a web of deceit and lies. The Poynter Institute, an educational organization dedicated to promoting integrity in journalism, suggested in an editorial this week that it may be difficult for many news organizations to develop and enforce a system of ethics for their reporters. The nature of many newsrooms — highly competitive, pressure-driven and chaotic — are environments that don't necessarily promote professional ethics.

Turn to **Media**, page 6



Danielle Hickey Emerald

Ethics professor Tom Bivins describes the importance and use of media ethics education, especially following the recent scandal with The New York Times reporter Jayson Blair.