SUNDBERG

continued from page 8

they're wrong. They just move further from the common ground toward the extremes of partisanship. And these days, the poles are shifting further and further to one side or the other. The tug of war is getting so strong the rope is going to snap. This is not good.

We need a common ground here where beliefs aren't held in front of ideas and emotions aren't imprisoning logic. I say, erase the parties. Of course, the followers who live in this world will torch me. They're going to call me crazy. And maybe I am, but I am tired of the violence. I am tired of the rage. And I am ready for change.

The anger has been mounting for some time now, but it wasn't until Sept. 11 that things really got out of control. The whole nation has been foaming at the mouth, fevered and ready to kill over what happened to us. And now we're shocked when we see pictures of our soldiers torturing the enemy. Get real folks, this is war. This is reality television. This is what happens behind closed doors. This is what it comes down to. This is what you get

when anger rules. This is what revenge

This year our choice for president is either a smirking jackal or a sneaky jackal. Neither have expressed any honest feelings about awareness. Neither are worthy of leading us. We're in a lose-lose situation. We aren't getting any enlightenment from these people. There'll be no consciousness expansion here. There'll be no peace here. There'll be no unity here.

We We've got to look someplace else. We have to find the enlightenment and higher ground elsewhere, before it's too late. And I'm not talking about looking for a leader. I'm talking about looking inside. That's the only place we're going to find it. If not, we're doomed.

The motto of Kesey's Pranksters is "Nothing lasts." I find hope in this idea, because without it, it would be hard to justify our violent existence. If nothing lasts, I like to think that violence won't either. But the question is, will we end along with it?

Contact the Pulse columnist at carlsundberg@dailyemerald.com. His opinions do not necessarily represent those of the Emerald.

FOLK

continued from page 7

\$45,000. The UO Cultural Forum has \$15,000 set aside each year for the festival, and this year the remaining half was covered by Zimmer's and Reischman's fund-raising, the Cultural Forum's heritage music program fund, money saved from in-kind donations and discounts and commissions and fees paid to the Cultural Forum by food and craft vendors. Cultural Forum office manager Mandy Chong said half of the food in the festival's hospitality tent is donated from local businesses.

"In past years coordinators have gone into deficit, but we now are much more careful with how we spend our money," Chong said.

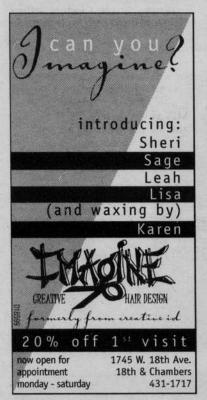
After a year of successful planning, Zimmer and Reischman are ready to see their hard work pay off.

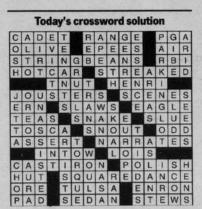
Zimmer said the show will go on, regardless of the weather.

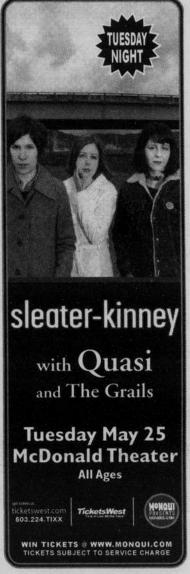
"Rain or shine, we're going to be there," she said. "I encourage festivalgoers to bring a blanket if it's gorgeous, or an umbrella if it's pouring."

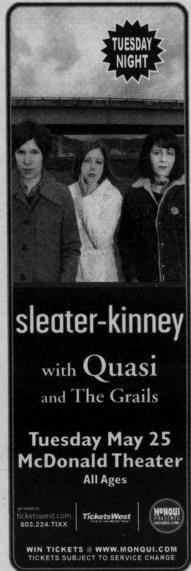
Contact the Pulse reporter at natashachilingerian@dailyemerald.com.

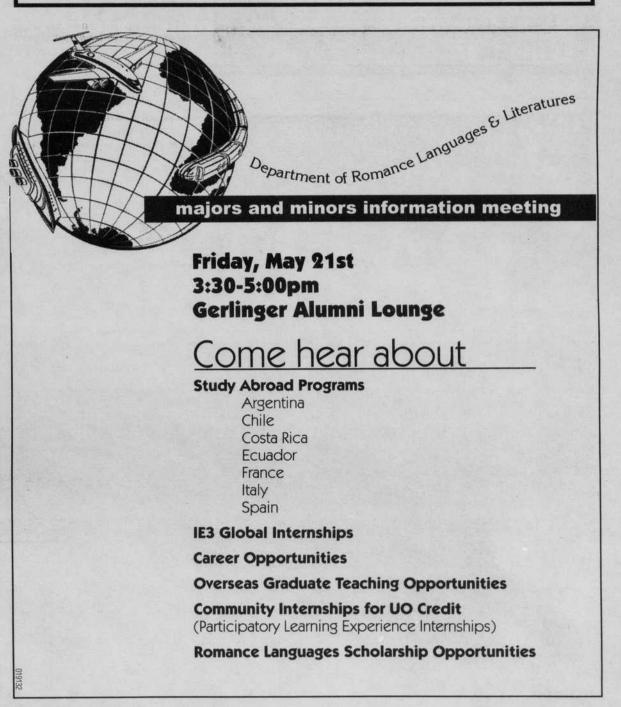












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