

Crisis in the Middle East hits closer to home



Photo by Lane Scheideman

Nancy Whitman is concerned for her brother who was deployed to Saudi Arabia. With the United Nations ultimatum of Jan. 15, tensions in the Gulf are on the rise.

The men and women in Saudi Arabia need our support. They know little or nothing of the situation in the Gulf. **The Print** encourages members of the student body to bring letters to Student Activities so that they can be mailed in bulk to Saudi Arabia.

Heidi A. Hoffman
Staff Writer

The Persian Gulf Crisis is getting closer to home; Nancy Whitman, who works in the registrar's office at Clackamas, wept as she talked about her brother who's joined the several thousand other military personnel already in Saudi Arabia.

Whitman's brother Jeff Wilcox went into the army in June of 1989 for a two year enlistment to earn money for college.

"He was supposed to get out in June of 1991," said Whitman. "But now they've extended everyone's term."

The conditions in Saudi Arabia aren't good for the military personnel.

"There aren't good tent facilities and [after a long stay] he finally got to take a shower and

wash his clothes," said Whitman.

"The men over there are still eating MRE (Meals Ready to Eat)," said Whitman. "We send Jeff big boxes of dried fruits and other nonperishable items. We try to send a package a week so that he can share with all of the soldiers that don't get mail."

Since the United Nations ultimatum to use force after Jan. 15, Nancy's family is really concerned.

"In light of the United Nations decision, I would encourage everyone to write their congressman with their opinion. The United States doesn't need another war," said Whitman.

"He is our only brother. He's the youngest and it was a real shock not to know what was going to happen," said Whitman.

"I have to be proud that he's willing to go over there but I'm really scared that he's not coming back. Every day we're getting closer and closer to the point of war," commented Whitman.

Whitman knows of 24 other people from her church and Clackamas that have been sent over to Saudi Arabia.

"We have two Dogwood trees in our front lawn. I put 24 yellow ribbons in the tree... one for each person that I know in Saudi Arabia. It is in remembrance of them," stated Whitman.

"We have to get used to the situation. Our family is a close family. We basically put all of our faith in God," expressed Whitman. "We are just really praying that God's hand will bring everyone's relatives home safe."

Classical concert scores big

By Heatherle Himes
Staff Writer

Classical music not being one of my favorite creatures, I expected the Wind Ensemble Concert of Dec. 2 to be snooze inducing, an event to make my eyes heavy with dreams of blaring rock music. Instead, I found a pleasant surprise and an enjoyable way to spend an afternoon. The music department found a new supporter.

Upon entering the Community Center in the middle of the Woodwind Trio's "Divertimento Number 3 in Bb Major-K439c," I found the audience sunk into the overstuffed plaid couches and dozing politely, with the exception of a woman in maroon pumps swinging her foot to the beat of the music.

I, too, was captivated by that beat. It was such a different beat than I had been accustomed to in my years as a high school band student, a group that on most days hit the right notes, never mind the right tempo, only after an hour of the director prodding us while screaming at the top of his lungs.

Sitting in a triangle in the center of the makeshift performing area were Kerry Penny on flute, Paul Hettwer on trombone, and Alicia Charlton on clarinet.

For three people, they had amazing projection; for such an unusual combination of instruments, they were amazingly melodic. It seemed as if they were making the music move and jump, teasing the audience, pulling us along following the notes, entranced.

A brass trio of Hettwer, joined by Margret Van on trombone and John Bates on tuba played the same selection with one less movement. Brass groups have the possibility of sounding like so many elephants plodding along, but these three sounded as if they were quite aware of that possibility and were trying very hard to avoid it. The result was a good, solid, powerful sound, filling the room with the echo of the tones. Hettwer played the lead trombone part, keeping his tones very clear, simple, and clean.

The entire band crowded into their chairs for the final four numbers, starting with "Chorale: O Morning Star How Fair and Bright" by J.S. Bach. Conductor LeRoy Anderson, who was pinch hitting due to the regular conductor's absence, started his series of interesting anecdotes by saying that chorales were good warm ups for the band, while also being enjoyable to most listeners because they are familiar and easy to listen to.

The program wound up with the haunting "Baroque Suite From the Water Music" and "Suite from Peer Gynt". The final piece was "In the Hall of the Mountain King", which was composed to be a reminder of the famous fairy tales at the time in which it was written.

The beginning movement made me think of such fairies, yet the middle section with its pounding drums made me think that the mountain king must have been the Ben Johnson of elves to be able to do anything that required background music with that sort of gusto. It was a startling conclusion.

The Brass Ensemble will be back in action and joined by the CCC Chamber Singers, the College Cholarie, and the Community Choir at the "Christmas by Candlelight" performance Sunday at 8 p.m. at the United Methodist Church, 811 Center Street, Oregon City. Admission is free with a can of food for the needy.

On Dec. 13, the CCC Vocal Jazz Ensemble and Friends will rev up for a performance at the CCC Community Center. Admission is \$2 general, \$1 students, and free to alumni and senior citizens. The event will be directed by Lonnie Cline.

'Dances'... a powerful Native American drama

by Aaron Brown
Sports Editor

"The white man just takes everything that doesn't belong to him without asking," comments a confused Kicking Bird to Kevin Costner's character, Dances with Wolves, in his new movie by the same title, symbolizing the whole plight of the Native Americans.

This film chronicles the adventures of John Dunbar (or Dances with Wolves as he is later known), a lieutenant in a Union Army platoon during the Civil War. Dunbar, after performing an act of heroism (I refuse to spoil the movie by telling you what it was), wins favor with his commanding officer and receives a chance to have a post wherever he wishes. Dunbar decides on the frontier out west, since it hasn't been bloodied by war yet.

After arriving at the empty post, Dunbar decides to stay until reinforcements come along. He comes into contact with the local Sioux tribe, and develops relations with them, and eventually is adopted by the tribe.

Things turn bad, since no story stays rosy nowadays, yet the ending does not really resolve anything.

The performances all around are very solid, especially the Sioux tribe, which are portrayed descendants of the actual Sioux from that era. Kudos should go to Costner who is brilliant as Dances with Wolves, since he even learned some of the Sioux tongue for dialogue in the movie.

One performance that really impressed me was that of Charles Rocket, a notorious villain who has also done diverse roles, such as starring in a Tom Petty video,

and playing a homosexual on an episode of *Doctor, Doctor*. He further proved his diversity by playing a somewhat compassionate lieutenant who is bound by his duty, yet seems to understand somewhat how Dances with Wolves feels.

The cinematography was the best I've seen since *sex, lies, and videotape*, but in a different manner. The shots showed imagination, depth, and above all the breathtaking scenery. It should hopefully get some recognition come Oscar time.

Dances... brought up some different themes apart from the fighting, the love story and the basic man vs. nature conflict. One that continually hit you over the head was the perception of Native American people. Throughout U.S. history, those Native Americans who helped the cause of the U.S. received praise, despite the fact that they may have been perceived as evil by other tribes.

This is even seen here. The Sioux tribe is considered bad and hunted because of one incident where they saved their own, while their dreaded enemies, who killed harmless white folk, help out the U.S. forces.

This movie portrays the Native Americans as diverse as the white culture, with each tribe having varying values and principles, while the Americans stereotyped them into one mold. Costner received the honor of becoming an honorary Sioux tribe member, and so he should. Costner did a wonderful job.

This is one of the few movies that deserves ***** stars. This should be a part of everyone's holiday movie-going fare.

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