

Epstein explains Kosovo crisis

ROBERT SCHOENBERG
News Editor

NATO is saturating a country less than half the size of Oregon with hundreds of bombing runs a day.

Many Americans are dependent on the news media to provide us with the information about the war that is going on in Yugoslavia. How much of the information is dependable? Is it accurate?

On Tuesday, History Instructor Dr. Donald Epstein held a colloquium entitled "Kosovo: what's happening and why?" to help students understand what is going on with this war.

About 125 people attended the conversation with Epstein and it lasted over an hour.

Last Friday, Epstein discussed the war and how Americans are receiving their information, in an interview held in his office. The interview was edited for space.

RS: Many people are making decisions about Kosovo based on accounts reported through the news media. Are these accounts accurate? Are they fair and objective?

Epstein: They're accurate as far as it's reported. You've got to remember that [the reporters] can't go into Kosovo. This is off limits. There is no media in Kosovo to confirm what's happening. The media in Belgrade is very carefully controlled, so that you're only seeing what they want you to see; it's just propaganda. Except for the accidents that happen, then, of course, they will bring [the reporters] out to see the accidents. So you only get one side, but the other side is withholding information. What you have to confirm what



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Dr. Donald Epstein held an informative colloquium Tuesday in McLoughlin Theatre using maps and charts to help explain the situation in Kosovo.

is going on there is literally 800,000 refugees, and that is pretty good proof that something is going on. And they're all telling you the same story. That means that 800,000 people are all profligate liars or they're telling you the truth. You've got to weigh the evidence. You can't deny there are 800,000 refugees, you can't deny they're living under these conditions . . . and this gives you the confirmation.

RS: The current U.S. administration's position on this war is that the bombing by NATO is justified by the Serbian actions. Do you believe that it is justified?

Epstein: The Serbians have committed a form of genocide, and that's what it is; they call it "ethnic cleansing," they've removed from the future of the country an ethnic group that has been there for 500 years . . . these are the Kosovar Muslims and the Serbs have traditional hatred their guts. And they are removing them by terror; they've killed about three to four thousand of them and this has been confirmed in dug-up bodies. You've got 10,000 women who claim they were raped . . . this is an organized rape campaign, this also happened and [was] confirmed in

Bosnia, so this regime [Milosevic's] is pulling the same things. So this is really a form of genocide, perhaps not as bad as the holocaust because they are not going to gas chambers, but they are being made to leave their homes, they are being robbed, they are being raped, so this would be a justification.

RS: I've heard some remarks that the American news media is also filling a propaganda role by pleading for ground troops. Is that a possibility?

Epstein: [The bombing] is doing damage, but it is not doing enough to deter the aggression, so that if you want to achieve the goals of restoring the Kosovar Muslim population they're going to have to use ground troops. This maybe is an editorial position that coincides with the Clinton administration and NATO and that is something you're going to have to consider. If you do that [ground troops] then you're going to have to consider the ramifications of this and whether it's worth it or not. Right now it's not being considered as an option and this is probably hampering the efforts to bring this thing to an end.

Job Fair comes to the campus Friday

SANDY FRAZIER
Staff Writer

Plan to be hired Thursday, May 20, at the Job Fair in Gregory Forum.

"Wear your most professional attitude and come prepared with your resume and portfolio," said James Wise of the Career Planning and Employment Center, organizer of this event.

Job recruiters will conduct first-round interviews from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. They will be offering summer, part-time and full-time jobs. These local employers will recruit students from all programs of study:

The Oregon Department of Employment and two employment agencies, Guidance Services and Northwest Temporary Services, have jobs in every field, and especially seek employees in business administration, accounting, clerical, and nursing, including bilingual students.

Benchmade Knife Company is looking for CNC (computer numeric control) machine operators, technical lead persons and screw machine operators.

The Multnomah County

Sheriff's Office, the Oregon State Police and the Oregon Department of Corrections will interview students for positions as cadets, corrections officers, security personnel and nurses.

The *West Linn Tidings*, the *Clackamas Review* and the *Vancouver Business Journal* offer opportunities in journalism, possible summer internships.

PacificCare (medical insurance) seeks employees for reception, accounting and medical billing.

Wells Fargo is looking for bank tellers.

Finishing Touch Landscaping needs landscapers and crew leaders.

Safeway Corp. needs cashiers, managers and warehouse personnel.

Sears is looking to hire service technicians as well as employees for their billing, customer service, and shipping and receiving departments.

Instrument Sales and Services (medical equipment) seek personnel in customer service, sales and marketing.

The Oregon Trail Interpretive Center may have work for students of history, speech or public relations.

CCC coordinates carpools

According to a Research and Planning study conducted last spring, 84.7% of students drive to school alone. The largest single reason, cited by 15.1%, is that they have nobody to carpool with.

Carpooling can reduce pollution, save money—especially with gas prices out of control—and help build community. "It increases safety when people don't walk to their cars alone,"

said Student Access Senator Said Johnston.

Johnston has established a car-pooling information clearinghouse for people looking for rides or riders. It's on the Student Activities bulletin board outside the Help Center. She's interested in hearing the experiences and advice of people who've been involved in similar programs elsewhere. Call her at ext. 2247.

ASG supports childcare funding

SUSAN ABE
Staff Writer

Norm Berney, ASG Advisor, was counseling two students in 1992, single mothers, "both with high scores and \$5400 full maximum Clackamas Community College grants. They needed another \$500 per month for childcare." Berney hunted down every possible private or government source of help for these promising young women, to no avail.

"The day we had to withdraw them, that was about the worst day of my career," he said. "These people had to go back on welfare—didn't even qualify for unemployment."

Today, students like them can look to the ASG for help. The childcare grant program is an ASG priority; about 15 families per term are helped through funds raised on campus. Moreover, childcare is a focus of ASG's lobbying at the state legislature and in Washington, D.C.

Children in the childcare program at the Family Resource Center colored cards with the printed message: "Happy Mother's Day — Fund the

Childcare Block Grant program — HB 3526." The cards were made into magnets, which Danielle Nati, Childcare Officer, and Mariah Kreinheder, Childcare Senator, distributed to legislators in Salem on Friday, May 7.

"One legislator told us, 'This is the greatest lobby. If you hand me a stack of paper I'll never read it, but this is great,'" reported Kreinheder. "And the 100 magnets only cost about \$20 in materials."

Berney has requested that something similar be made for US Representative Darlene Hooley to carry back to Washington, DC, noting that a similar proposal in Congress was recently slashed from \$100 million to \$45 million, "which is crazy. It should be \$450 million," and even so needs help to pass.

On Monday, grant recipients and other parenting students were honored at a Parent Appreciation Dessert in Gregory Forum. Although ASG had hoped to raise enough at the dessert to fund next fall's childcare grants, scheduling problems cut the attendance. Childcare Senator Jennifer Rankin was

pleased that the event paid for itself, and that the speakers increased awareness of the program.

Theresa Clark, recipient of a \$257 mini-grant and a YMCA childcare grant, newly accepted nursing student, and mother of four, spoke about her situation. She feels fortunate that her two preschool daughters are receiving quality care at the YMCA, "but even after the grants, the childcare [cost] is twice my tuition."

No plans have been announced for another fundraising event; people wishing to support the program in the meantime can purchase popcorn in the ASG office, CC-140. Donations can also be made at the office. All the creative fundraising energy of the ASG will be needed to keep the grants flowing.

And Berney wants to expand the grant program. He's thinking about mothers and fathers sitting at home in Gladstone or Estacada, not even imagining the possibility of coming to school. "We can't even advertise to mothers out in the community now. We can only help the ones who walk in our door."

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