

suffer from dysentery, diarrhea, cholera, and kidney stones. In many places, including Baghdad, electricity is often off 16 hours a day. Much of Iraq's crumbling electrical infrastructure was manufactured in France, Germany, and Russia, countries not invited to the reconstruction trough; this makes a problem in getting replacement parts (*Southern Exposure*, *Electronic Iraq*, *Asia Times*).

• U.S. troops in Iraq have been cutting down date palms and citrus trees and burning crops in efforts to increase security, find insurgents, and punish villagers for not producing information about local resistance. Palms are many farmers' livelihood; the date is Iraq's most beloved tree, with more than 300 varieties of fruit for eating fresh or dried, for syrup, liquor, and vinegar. Leaves are made into baskets, bags, and roofs. When asked the value of his lost orchard, Dhuluaya farmer Nusayef replied, "It is as if someone cut off my hands and you asked me how much my hands were worth" (www.counterpunch.org, Riverbend, www.islamonline.net).

• Marsh Arabs, an ancient tribe of 12,000 who lived with their water buffalo in broad marshes near the Euphrates, gave sanctuary to Shia rebels fighting against Saddam Hussein in 1991. In retaliation, Hussein built hundreds of dams and destroyed their marshes by diverting water sources. But as soon as the British reached Basra last spring, the Marsh Arabs returned, burrowing through Hussein's dams. The marshes are alive again with bird song and shimmering water. "We were living in the desert with nothing," said

Sabiha Fadel. "It's a gift from God" (*BBC News*, *Independent*).

• Combat deaths of occupation troops and Iraqi police have not decreased with Saddam's capture. And Iraqi civilians are dying and getting wounded in growing numbers, victims of suicide bombers, insurgents, and coalition soldiers who sometimes open fire at checkpoints, during demonstrations, when cars pass convoys, or when roadside bombs explode. "The attacks are getting worse, life is getting worse, and what this tells us is that we should take over our own affairs as soon as possible," said Baghdad teacher Salah Hasan (*Christian Science Monitor*, *Financial Times*, *Electronic Iraq*).

• Vehicles in Iraq now cling to the center lane of highways. Bombs may be hidden in concrete median strips and in hollowed-out carcasses of dogs and cats beside the road (*Independent*). Physicians expect post-traumatic stress among 20 percent of U.S. troops now in Iraq (*Guardian*). Nearly one-third of troops surveyed in Iraq say the war has little or no value, and 50 percent of National Guard and reservists report low morale (*Stars and Stripes*). Although many immigrant soldiers in Iraq are applying for citizenship, interviews and fingerprinting sessions are scheduled in the U.S. and soldiers can't get leave (*Newsday*). Last year, sick and wounded U.S. troops returning from Iraq stayed in sweltering concrete barracks with no running water while waiting weeks or months to see Army doctors. The Pentagon has pledged more money and more doctors (UPI). **ew**

Handmade Silver Bead Trunk Show
Feb 6 & 7
Buy direct from the wholesaler

• Bali silver & gold vermeil (18K over sterling)

• Beautiful Hill Tribe silver from Thailand

• Handmade silver charms & pendants from Bali & Thailand

Harlequin
Beads & Jewelry
1027 Willamette • www.harlequinbeads.com

smile

In spite of egomaniac politicians, environmental mayhem, and terror as prime time, lasagna is still soul satisfying, zinfandel is still a rare delight, bread is still the staff of life, and a tummy full of bliss is the heart of the matter.

Mazzj's
LIFE IS GOOD.
Amazon at Hilyard

KLCC Microbrew Festival

Friday & Saturday
February 6 & 7
Lane Events Center
5-11 p.m.

MEGA MUSIC SALE!
Records, CDs & books
at low low prices

\$10 ADMISSION
includes souvenir glass
and a drink ticket
21 & OVER

Cafe Ramblers
Toad in the Hole

Sponsored by **MARKET CHOICE**

klcc 89.7fm
www.klcc.org

COPPER PENNY'S
EUGENE
ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES SHOW & SALE
This Area's Premier Marketplace for Antiques & Collectibles

Fri: 10am-8pm Sat: 10am-7pm Sun: 10am-5pm

Old-time piano and bar Friday and Saturday evenings

Oak, Pine, Walnut & Mahogany Furniture • Fine & Collectible Glass • Books
Linens • Silver • Rugs • Quilts • Fine & Costume Jewelry • Postcards
Decoys • Radios • Paper • Pottery • Lighting • Kitchen Glassware, Much More!

February 6, 7, 8

ADMISSION \$300 (good all 3 days)
children under 12 free with adult

Information 683-5435

OUR 24TH YEAR!

Lane County Fairgrounds

A BENEFIT RACE FOR MENTORING AT-RISK YOUTH

THIS WEEKEND! TRUFFLE SHUFFLE 2004

ALTON BAKER PARK

EUGENE ♥ OREGON

Sunday, February 8 • 1:00 pm

JERRY'S KIDS FUN RUN ~ 2 MILE WALK/RUN ~ 4 MILE RUN

Register at:

- www.goodrace.com
- The Nike Store
296 E.5th Ave.
- Fenton & Lee Confections
35 East 8th Ave.
- Committed Partners For Youth
1591 Willamette St., Suite B
Phone: 344-0833

SPONSORED BY:

Nike • Fenton & Lee • Jerry's • KVAL • Innovative Print Group
Orthopedic HealthCare Northwest • Oregon Cardiology • KUGN

For Your Valentine!

When she deserves the moon and the stars, start with the moon!

Quality made for a lifetime

OPEN: MON-FRI 10-6, SAT 10-5, SUN 12-5 Free parking behind the store!

Blue Moon JEWELRY DESIGNS

115 West 6th Avenue • Eugene, OR 97401 • 541.687.7859