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Lawyer helps others understand hate

Civil rights attorney speaks at Tolerance Week

BY ALYCIA VROSH
Contributing writer

A lawyer who won a \$12.5 million settlement for the family of an Ethiopian murdered by skinheads is the keynote speaker for the week-long program "First Steps: Moving Beyond Tolerance."

The speaker, Morris Dees, is director and co-founder of the non-profit Southern Poverty Law Center,

which maintains a pool of lawyers who specialize in lawsuits involving civil rights violations and racially motivated crimes.

"We believe the first steps to accept people with different religions, ethnic backgrounds and beliefs is to understand why people hate," said Oliver Bangera, president of the Graduate and Professional Student Association. "Morris Dees has a lot to say about how people hate and what to do to counteract it."

"First Steps" was conceived by the Inter-faith Dialogue of the Palouse in hopes of encouraging exploration and acceptance of the

diverse cultural traditions in the local community.

GPSA and ASWSU are co-sponsoring the event, which also included a panel discussion on Tuesday among religious leaders on preventing violence stemming from intolerance.

Dees will deliver his address in the CUB Auditorium on Thursday at 8 p.m.



Dees

"We believe that hating people who hate won't help. We must understand what makes people hate so we can interact with them."

OLIVER BANGERA
GPSA president

Dees has had his life threatened, his offices burned and survived several assassination attempts because he fights for civil rights, according to the California Bar Journal.

Several neo-Nazi groups also cite

him on the World Wide Web, and a page known as "Dees Watch" has been created to follow Dees' activities.

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Can you picture it?



STAFF PHOTO BY NICOLE WALLA

Scott Stepaniuk, junior and fine arts major, takes pictures for his beginning photography class. The theme of the assignment is an emotion study. The photos are supposed to convey emotion felt in a piece of music chosen by the photographer.

Senators support presidential team

Student group leaders also agree on selection

BY TERRA BROCK
The Daily Evergreen

Student leaders of WSU said they support the students' choice for ASWSU president and vice president.

Under the leadership of Neil Walker and Brent Nysoe, ASWSU senators, executives and leaders in the multicultural community, the GLBA, and the Interfraternity Council said they are hopeful next year will be successful.

Anne Novotney, ASWSU senator for District 10, said she knows Walker gives more than 110 percent on anything.

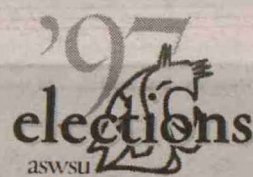
"I believe Brent and Neil's enthusiasm will really shine through," she said. "They both have the experience necessary to bring ASWSU to new heights."

Ben Riley, ASWSU senator for District 5, said he commends Walker on his work ethic and dedication to students.

"I'm really excited to work with him next year," Riley said. "I know he'll want to get a lot done."

ASWSU senator for District 8 Jaime Vines said, "I think they ran a dynamic campaign and I look forward to seeing their energy next year."

The aforementioned senators agreed Walker and Nysoe present a balanced ticket that will represent several student perspec-



Walker

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ANNE
NOVOTNEY

ASWSU

District 10 senator

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Pullman Police Department captures pay raise

Salaries increased 4.2 percent for 1996, 1997

BY ANNA RODZINSKI
The Daily Evergreen

Salary negotiations between the city of Pullman and the Pullman police force were finally settled by arbitration, awarding the Pullman Police salary increases for 1997 and 1998, and retroactive increases for 1996.

Negotiations have been going on for two

years, City Supervisor John Sherman said.

According to Washington state law, firefighters, police officers and transit employees are entitled to arbitration, a process between the city and employees used when negotiations cannot reach a compromise. It is set up to avoid strikes.

The final contract is binding to both the city and the police officers, Sherman said.

According to the Interest Arbitration Award, salaries of officers serving for five years or more will be increased by 4.2 percent for 1996.

For 1997, salaries will be increased another

"Many officers who were not able to afford to buy homes will now be able to do so."

MIKE GREGORY
Police dispatcher

4.24 percent. In January 1998, the salaries will be increased between 2.5 and 7.5 percent.

The salary negotiations were made based on

officers' salaries in comparable cities, said Mike Austin, a Pullman officer who is vice president of the Police Officers Guild.

Comparisons are made based on population and crime rates. Cities comparable to Pullman include Wenatchee and Moses Lake.

Although some city officials aren't happy with the arbitration process, they agree it is better than a strike, Sherman said.

"Many officers who were not able to afford to buy homes now will be able to," Mike Gregory, a Moscow Police Department dispatcher, said.