ARĞÖNAÜT

Current Issue Date: FRI 6 FEB 2004



Search

Search ArgOnline



noosoniiseew

Enter city or US Zip
Zip Code Go!

- home
- news
- arts
- opinion
- sports
- archives
- subscriptions
- advertising info
- staff info
- · ui homepage

Wilkins: Christianity is most effective against slavery

By Sam Taylor Argonaut Staff

Louisiana minister Steve Wilkins spoke Wednesday night to a large civil group of people regarding the "Biblical Sin of Racism" in the Student Union Building, one night before the Credenda/Agenda Ninth Annual History Conference on Revolution and Modernity begins at UI.

"Christianity is the only effective weapon against racism and slavery," said Wilkins to a gathering of more than 200 people.

Wilkins has been the minister of Auburn Avenue Presbyterian Church in Monroe, La., since 1989 and is a guest speaker at the Christ Church history conference. He was invited to give the talk by the Christian Reform Fellowship, which is the campus ministry of Christ Church and a UI and Washington State University-recognized student organization.

There were no acts of violence or any safety issues at the presentation, and few questions were asked during the question-and-answer session. However, at the same time there were protesters posting fliers regarding the history conference.

During the presentation, Wilkins told the crowd that racism is a universal issue and no one group of people is responsible for the creation or practice of racism. Wilkins said "unbelievers," or those that do not practice biblical Christianity, are the ones

TODAY

Wellness Holiday Award party Student Recreation Center classroom noon

Tribal law panel discussion College of Law Courtroom 1 p.m.

Dance workshop with Peter Loggins PEB, Room 110 2:30 p.m.

Dance workshop with Peter Loggins PEB, Room 110 4 p.m.

Dance workshop with Frankie Manning PEB, Room 110 5:30 p.m.

Human rights presentation University Auditorium 7 p.m.

Jazz bands and choirs School of Music Recital Hall 7:30 p.m.

Student Theatre Organization presents "Ghosts" Shoup Hall Arena Theater 7:30 p.m.

ASUI senate meeting UITV-8 programming 8 p.m.

Exhibit R Page 1 of 4 who furthered savery throughout the ages.

"Racism is something that Christianity has stood against from the beginning," Wilkins said.

After the meeting, Christ Church pastor Doug Wilson, a friend and colleague of Wilkins, agreed in an interview that Christianity is the only religion that practices that racism is sinful.

"Some religions attempt it," Wilson said. He said certain religions, such as Hinduism, rely on racism as a fundamental basis for their religion, citing the practice of a caste system in their religion as being racist. Wilson and Wilkins co-authored the 40-page "Slavery: As it Was," which stated that the relationship between slaves and masters in the pre-Civil War South was not as bad as most people think.

As Wilkins wrapped up the presentation, he opened up the room to anyone with questions.

One person in the crowd asked Wilkins his opinion on interracial marriage. Wilkins said it is only wrong to marry "cross-covenantally," or to marry someone without Christian beliefs.

"Marriage between a believer and an unbeliever is forbidden," Wilkins said, adding that people of different colors are allowed to marry, but if one is not Christian it is sinful.

"If my daughter was going to marry a guy, and he's pink, that's OK, but if he's not a believer, then she's not allowed to do that," Wilkins said. "Grace is always the dividing line."

While the presentation went on, Selina Lloyd continued to post fliers around the SUB.

Lloyd, former co-chair and current member of the Gay/Straight Alliance as well as a member of the human rights group UNITY, fully concentrated on her task as she diligently scotch-taped fliers to any surface she could find. Meanwhile, Greg Tatham, director of the SUB and Idaho Commons, followed her and removed them one after the other.

Lloyd said Tatham confronted her and said she could not post fliers on the walls because it was against UI policy. Lloyd said Tatham was just doing his job and is not a bad guy, but that she made hundreds of fliers protesting the history conference and Doug Wilson and would continue to put them up — because she had to.

When asked about the presentation that evening, Lloyd said she was outraged that Wilkins was allowed to use student facilities for the presentation. Dance with live music from Frankie Manning PEB, Room 110 9:30 p.m.

American Red Cross instructor course Gladish Community Center, Room 313 Call (509) 332-2304 for times

SATURDAY

Palouse Chamber Music Workshop Lionel Hampton School of Music 8 a.m.

"Seekers and Learners" introduction to Presbyterianism The First Presbyterian Church of Moscow 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Dance workshop with Peter Loggins PEB, Room 110 10 a.m.

Dance workshop with Peter Loggins PEB, Room 110 11:30 a.m.

Jazz lecture Renfrew Auditorium 3:30 p.m.

Dance workshop with Frankie Manning PEB, Room 110 6:30 p.m.

Comedy Showcase University Auditorium 7 p.m.

Student Theatre
Organization presents

"[Steve Wilkins] should not be given free reign to spread his ideas, which are harmful and dangerous to students," Lloyd said.

Wilkins said he thought the presentation went well, despite the presence of protesters posting fliers. He said the accusations of racism against him, Wilson and Christ Church are entirely groundless because for the last 20 years he's always spoken against it. He also said the message of protesters was muddled.

"It's kind of like being opposed to bingo, then holding a bingo game in your den; that doesn't make sense," Wilkins said.

"Ghosts" Shoup Hall Arena Theater 7:30 p.m.

Lecture with Frankie Manning PEB, Room 110 8 p.m.

Dance with live music PEB, Room 110 9:30 p.m.

American Red Cross instructor course Gladish Community Center, Room 313 Call (509) 332-2304 for times

SUNDAY

Student Theatre Organization presents "Ghosts" Shoup Hall Arena Theater 2 p.m.

Snowfest 2004 Vehicles will leave from · CNR parking lot I p.m.

American Red Cross instructor course Room 313 Call (509) 332-2304 for times

Editor in Chief: Brian Passey News Editor: Abbey Lostrom Gladish Community Center, UI Argonaut, 301 Student Union, Moscow, ID 83844 Argonaut: 208.885.7845 Advertising: 208.885.5780

MARCH FOR TOLERANCE & DIVERSITY

Join us in Friendship Square, Moscow, Idaho 7:30 PM this FRIDAY

AUGUST 3, 2007

take a stand for traditional American values of tolerance and diversity as we gather to voice our collective community opposition to the

RACIST, SEXIST, HOMOPHOBIC

AGENDA of CHRIST CHURCH,
NEW ST. ANDREWS COLLEGE,
the CONFEDERATION OF REFORMED
EVANGELICAL CHURCHES and the
ASSOCIATION OF CLASSICAL AND
CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS