

Victims are embarrassed, scared

Women/Speak explores wife battering

By SUSAN SCHLANGEN
Of the Emerald

Some women might have received cuts and bruises instead of candy and flowers on Valentines Day, while a three-woman panel discussed "wife battering" in the EMU.

Shady Grove of Women Space, Diane DePaolis of Lane County Legal Aid and Eileen Simpson, deputy district attorney, were the panel members who explored why women stay with their abusers and what legal implications are involved in domestic violence. The panel addressed a small group of women at Tuesday's University YWCA "Women/Speak" brown bag lunch.

"Embarrassment, guilt and fear plague battered women," Grove said. Battered women put up with abuse because they feel they should "stick with the relationships" she added. And many are under the misconception they are solely responsible for peace and order in the home.

Money is a primary reason why these women stay with the men who abuse them, Grove said. Often the woman doesn't have access to the bank account or the man controls the family income, she said, and if she divorces him or has him put in jail, the woman has no money.

Furthermore, the police, the churches and the mental health counselors do not provide strong enough support systems for battered women, Grove insisted.

However, Oregon's new domestic violence law might give abused women the support they need.

The law makes it easier for abused women to have their aggressors arrested and to obtain

restraining orders against their aggressors, DePaolis said. The law protects battered women because it gets the man away from her and allows her time to decide what she wants to do, she said.

Whether a woman wants to take a man to civil or criminal court, it's possible that he may end up in jail, Simpson said.

"Many women say they don't want them to go to jail," she said. "I'm a prosecutor — so I'm jail oriented."

Simpson said she's very honest with the women who come into her office, because the women don't always realize their abusers can go to jail.

"Even women who have just had half their face smashed in by

their husband ask that he get counseling but not a jail sentence," she said. "The woman always believes he will stop beating her."

Simpson attributed some domestic violence to drugs and alcohol. Almost 90 percent of the domestic violence incidents occur on Friday and Saturday nights, she said. "There is a high level of violence tolerated in the home, but the trend toward incarceration may change that," Simpson added.

Two more Women/Speak sessions will be held this month. Mary Fauste and Patricia Tubb will discuss "How to Start a Bookstore" Feb. 21, and Rabbi Laura Geller will speak Feb. 27.

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Women's athletics

(Continued from Page 1A)

men's sports are already operating in the red?

"We probably have to taper back on some of the men's non-revenue sports and find new sources of income," says Hawk. "This is why John Caine (men's athletic director) has been sponsoring entertainment programs like Bob Hope and the Beach Boys."

Hawk says neither football or basketball's budget would be diminished. "Why would we cut into those very programs that are keeping us afloat?"

Non-revenue sports would probably either have their travel expenses, number of scholarships or coaching staff sizes cut, Hawk says.

How about marketing women's sporting events to gain revenue? Caine says the Athletic Department must be sure the women can draw enough spectator interest before a promotion program can be started. He adds it's not easy to

take a risk when the money is scarce already.

Hawk, who has been supervising the University's compliance progress, says a major problem in dealing with Title IX is interpreting exactly what the regulations demand.

The document states equal opportunity must be provided proportionately to the interest shown by women. But what exactly is interest and how far does it go?

To determine the answer, the University had a professional outside survey firm, Bardsley and Haslacher Inc., question women on their "level of interest."

"When the question asked, 'Are you interested in athletics?' many answer affirmatively," says Hawk. "However, when they asked, 'If available, would you participate?', a lot less responded positively. So how do you truly measure interest?"

Hawk also says since no University has been slapped for non-

compliance yet, there is no basis to determine if one is in violation of the regulations or not.

According to Myra Willard, director of Affirmative Action at the University, progress has been good.

"We're ahead of a lot of schools, but pretty far behind some," says Willard. "UCLA, for example, has been offering scholarships for years. But at this point all the written policies seem to be in compliance."

Last year was the first time women at the University were offered scholarships. According to Ralph Sunderland, director of

management and budget for the University, the women were appropriated almost \$25,000 for grants-in-aid or any greater priority.

An estimated \$12,885 from that was used for scholarships, with the balance aiding the coaching staffs. The men currently have \$473,567 for grants-in-aid for this fiscal year.

How will the University draw enough funds to come into full compliance of Title IX? Will relief come from students in the form of greater IFC funds, cutbacks in men's sports, willing donors?

No one knows yet.

GM to manufacture automatic seat belts

DETROIT (AP)—The first automatic seat belt to be offered on a U.S.-built car will be introduced

this spring by General Motors Corp. on its sub-compact Chevrolet Chevette, GM said Monday.

The passive restraint system — which closes automatically around the driver when the door closes — will be an option on Chevettes starting in about mid-May, GM said.

The only other car sold in this country with a passive belt system is the Volkswagen Rabbit, where the belt is standard equipment. VW first offered the system as an option in 1975.

No price has been set for the Chevette option, said Wilson. West, manager of the GM project center that studies ways to meet federal passive-restraint requirements of the 1980s.

GM's offering is a "two-point" shoulder harness similar to the Rabbit's. One end attaches to the door and the other to a point between the front bucket seats. The system is identical for the driver and front-seat passenger. The back seat has conventional lap belts.

The Chevette system can be disconnected at its conventional seat-belt hook-up at the top of the door frame.

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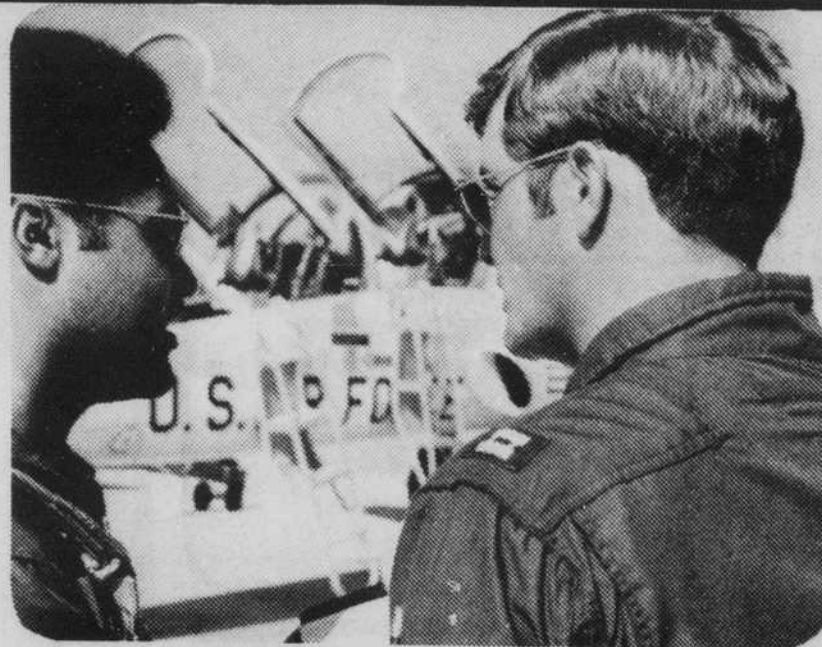
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