

# Organize now — prevent rape

With summer gone, the University is once again bustling with students. The dorms are packed and classes are full. Many of the new students who come to Eugene find themselves impressed with the scenic beauty of the University. It is a nice place to walk, to ride a bike or to sit down for an outdoor picnic between classes.

Along with the beauty of the University and the mellow atmosphere that permeates Eugene lies a hidden danger: rape. Few of the students who were here last year will forget the repeated sexual assaults and attempted rapes that occurred on campus during fall, winter and spring terms.

These violent attacks on women didn't all happen in the far-off corners of campus as might be expected. Many victims were women walking home at night. Some were simply on their way back from class or studying at the library; others were returning from social events. Women have even been attacked close to the dorms and some within the dorms themselves.

New students need to be aware of this problem. In the past it has only been after a series of sexual assaults that people got stirred up enough to start doing something to prevent it. This year it is time to take action before a rape occurs.

The Women's Referral and Resource Service (WRRS), located upstairs in the EMU, is currently in the process of creating an extensive on-campus rape prevention project. By educating women about rape and by trying to establish a more secure environment for women on campus, this group of people aims to cut down the number of sexual assaults that have occurred in the past.

The WRRS plans to take the idea for the project before University Pres. Olum in October. With Olum's cooperation and the support of students, the problem of rape on campus will get the important attention it deserves.

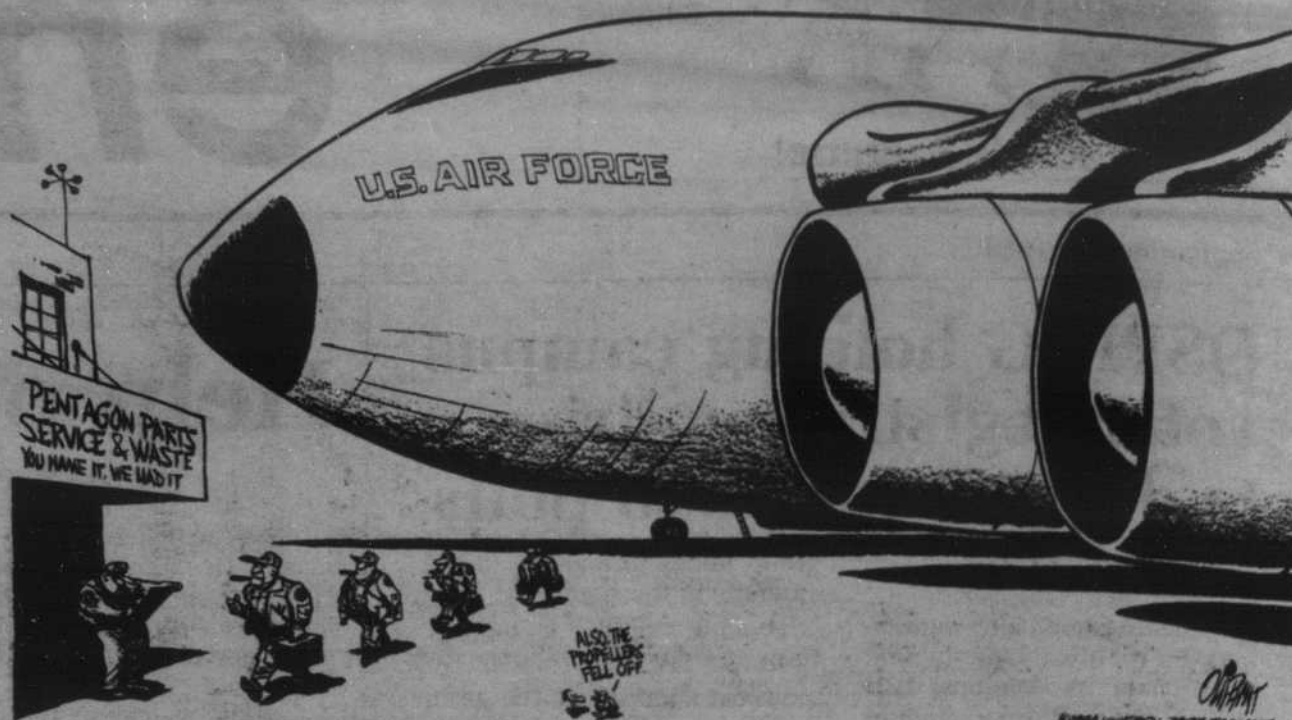
It is clear that the campus security service alone cannot deal effectively with creating a more secure environment for women at the University. According to a survey conducted by the WRRS, the student escort service organized through campus security last year after several attempted rapes proved to be ineffective.

Most of the women questioned for the survey said that they didn't like the idea of being escorted by men they didn't know. Also, the escort service was restricted to the immediate area around the University. Women who had to walk several blocks away from campus to get home were on their own.

The WRRS hopes to create an alternative, women-based escort service that will serve a wider community area. This is a welcome idea. In fact, it could be a life-saving one. Especially since the vast majority of students enrolled at the University live off-campus.

Other actions can be taken to bring down the number of sexual assaults and rapes on campus. Better lighting around the library and Deady, Villard, Lawrence and Gerlinger halls is imperative. Also, moving night classes to more central locations, such as Condon and Chapman halls, would make it safer for students to get around on campus. It would make a huge difference for women who now avoid enrolling in night classes.

It is time for students and the University administration to band together and decrease the advantage that rapists now have. Last spring, a member of the Eugene police force stated that potential rapists view the University as a kind of "candyland" where young women make easy prey. It's time to put an end to that. Women are nobody's "candy."



'SCRAP IT AND ORDER A NEW ONE — THE ASHTRAYS ARE FULL.'

## letters

### For Reagan

Criminal Justice is the number one women's issue in the upcoming election and President Reagan's record and views leave the women of America only one logical choice: re-election.

Criminal justice is definitely the most important women's issue today. Women are generally the victims of violent crimes, especially rape and murder. Women constantly have to worry about their safety, not only on public streets but at home also, because criminals will prey upon their victims anywhere.

We need a President who will place judges on the courts who will treat the victims of crime with more compassion than the criminal. President Reagan will do this — just look at the record of Sandra Day O'Connor. A Reagan re-election will insure more appointments of judges who care about upholding the original intent of the Constitution and who care about law enforcement and victim's rights.

On a recent episode of 20/20 a man was interviewed who claims to have killed 360 people (almost half the victims have been verified) and most were young, attractive women. He started this rampage the day he was paroled for the murder of his mother. How many more women must be killed or raped by "rehabilitated" convicts? Not as many, if Reagan wins re-election.

Karey Tanton  
Eugene

### Seriously?

Walter Mondale must be kidding when he claims he possesses as much leadership ability as the President. After all, it's Mondale who has to go running to Reagan with pleas that Reagan encourage students to stop picking on Mondale and Ferraro everywhere they go.

If Mondale can't handle college students getting on his case at various campuses, then how does he expect to lead America or be taken seriously by other nations?

President Reagan has stood up to opposition for years but now that youth are coming down on Mondale the "Great Fritz" can't take the heat. Well, if that's the case, then he should get out of the kitchen! Mondale should realize the First Amendment protects young people's right to protest as much as it protects the right of left-wing groups to protest at Reagan rallies — as they do quite frequently.

Edward White  
Springfield

### Watch the law

The Self-Help law movement has grown in size and popular support like Jack's magic beanstalk.

The shadow it now casts across the traditional legal establishment is apparently large enough to engender real alarm on the part of the Oregon State Bar.

People doing their own thing obviously threaten some of the Bar's favorite golden eggs — such as uncontested divorces, simple bankruptcies, and other "fill in the blanks" type legal services.

Ordinary citizens are turned off by the legal system, which is time-consuming and expensive, thereby turning to Self-Help agencies. The Bar's motive to

wipe out Self-Help agencies is explained as concern for the public's welfare.

Greed and anti-trust, of course, never enter the picture. Citizen's Legal Watch is collecting letters from Oregonians with personal stories concerning their attorneys and support of Self-Help law, manuals, clinics, etc.

Citizen's Legal Watch was formed to respond to and reform an ineffective, intimidating, and expensive legal system. If you are interested in fighting back call Citizen's Legal Watch at 239-9490.

Please help. The erosion of your rights is denying you access to the courts.

Robin Smith  
Portland

### A bit confused

I know only too well that it is sacrilegious of me to mention it, but why do none of our news people ever discuss the consequences of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's performance in office?

He joined up with England and Russia to defeat Germany. Russia was our declared enemy then, just as it is today, and Germany was not. Russia had four times the people and more than sixty times the land of Germany.

At the war's end, F.D.R. gave the victory and a big slice of Europe to the Soviets, thus laying the groundwork for the Giant Russian Empire of today, now our opponent.

For years we have been spending over a hundred billion a year to protect Europe from the enemy we created. And President Reagan is driving hundreds of millions of Moslems into Russia's arms with his Mid East policy.

Just try getting these facts in a daily paper.

O. Brannerman  
Sacramento, Ca.

### letters policy

The Emerald will attempt to print all letters containing fair comment on topics of interest to the University community.

Letters to the editor must be limited to 250 words, typed and signed, and the identification of the writer must be verified when the letter is turned in. The Emerald reserves the right to edit any letter for length, style or content.

Letters to the editor should be turned into the Emerald office, Suite 300, EMU.

## oregon daily emerald

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