

# Computer insurance available

In response to the dramatic growth of computer use by students at home and at the University in recent years, and what some feel was the inevitable increase in hardware and software thefts, the ASUO Office of Student Advocacy is now offering a low-cost computer insurance package.

The policy covers both private and commercial computer equipment very reasonably while also providing good protection, says Bill Kirtledge, director of the Office of Student Advocacy. The insurance is available to students who live in the dorms or off-campus, and covers computers for personal as well as school-related use.

The special program is available through

SAFEWARE, The Insurance Agency Inc., and carries a \$99 premium for covering approximately \$4,000 worth of equipment. The policy insures computers located in on-campus labs and equipment at home.

SAFEWARE also covers accidental damage to computer hardware and software. The SAFEWARE agency is the only insurance firm established specifically for computer, electronic and high-tech equipment loss protection.

Students and student organizations interested in computer insurance plans can call SAFEWARE toll-free at 1-800-848-3469. Brochures and insurance policy applications are also available at the ASUO office in Suite 4, EMU.

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who wanted to practice in his dorm last year. Just arranged an hour each day that would be acceptable among other residents in the hall for the musicians to practice.

In addition to mediating, the resident assistant's job entails listening, counseling and directing.

"The R.A.'s receive a very

She adds that calls increase after September, when the excitement and the activities at the beginning of school die down, "and all of a sudden the newness runs off and they (freshmen) get a midterm exam back, and suddenly they're not getting A's anymore, and their roommate is not the greatest thing in the world anymore."

"Often times people don't know how to be direct and clear with their roommates when they are willing to listen," Snyder says. Instead, a bothered roommate will try talking to friends or leaving nasty notes which can sometimes escalate the conflict, she adds.

Common problems the Crisis Center deals with from freshmen relate to loneliness,

intercommunicational problems, academic pressures and financial matters.

The Crisis Center offers confidential telephone service 24 hours a day, seven days a week, at 686-4488.

The Office of Academic Advising and Student Services, 164 Oregon Hall, 686-3211, and the Dean of Students Office at 364 Oregon Hall, 686-3216, can also offer advice and information, says Acting Dean of Students Shirley Wilson.

"There's a real surge of activity in the Service Office the first three weeks of school," Wilson says.

But this year's freshmen are off to an enthusiastic and independent start, Buch says.

Each class enters the University with its own personality, he adds, and this year's freshmen class "has a certain self-confidence, and doesn't seem intimidated about being in new surroundings."

As an illustration of that, about 800 enthusiastic new students, approximately two-thirds of the freshman class, turned out for the NSHP Grand Inaugural on Sept. 17, which welcomed new students to the University during Orientation week, says Pyfer.

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Shirley Wilson

intensive week of training to give them counseling skills and make them aware of University resources," Spencer says.

The Crisis Center at the University also offers advice and information. "We help with anything from a simple question to an emotional emergency," says Director Sue Snyder. "The Crisis Center helps people define and work through their problem, and find the resources they need to reach."

"Number one is knowing there's people to talk to and not blowing up," she adds. "Quite a few freshmen give us a call because it's such a time of turmoil."

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