



Photo by Andre Ranieri

A worker uses pressurized hot water to remove paint and graffiti splattered on the Earle A. Chiles Business Center.

Vandals hit Chiles Center; group claims responsibility

By Paul Coughlin
Emerald Contributor

Vandals defaced the exterior of the Earle A. Chiles Business Center early last Thursday morning.

A group calling itself the Anarchist Revolutionary Strike Force took responsibility for the damage, according to anonymous telephone calls to a local television station and radio station.

At about 3:15 a.m., vandals hurled plastic bags containing fluorescent green and orange paint against the brick exterior and oak doorway of the year-old, \$3.2 million building.

The slogans "Jesus rapes," "fag power," "fun" and "systems collapse" were spray-painted on the brickwork, as well as "M (backwards N) F" and an "A" inside a circle — a traditional anarchist's symbol.

Part of a bus stop on Kincaid Street also was vandalized.

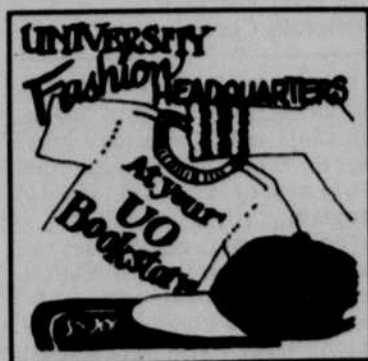
Harold Babcock, University Physical Plant director, estimated the damage costs exceed \$2,000. Pressurized hot water was used to remove the paint.

Eugene police, who were notified of the damage around 3:20 a.m. Thursday, said they have never heard of the group claiming responsibility. The vandalism appears to be unrelated to the recently settled state employees' strike, police added.

Sgt. Richard Hansen, supervisor of Eugene police on campus detail, said he isn't "too worried" about the incident as it poses no threat to public safety.

The vandals "probably want to do it again because this one was so fun," Hansen said. When anarchists find a structure like the business center that "people respect, they would just as soon throw paint on it," he added.

Three acetone-based, professional-style spray cans found near the scene are being tested for fingerprints and could lead to the arrest of suspects, according to Don Brooks, assistant director of Public Safety at the University.



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