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Events surprised administration

By Chris Bouneff
Emerald Associate Editor

University administrators are at a loss to explain Saturday's events where the Eugene police tear-gassed two parties to disperse crowds of 300 to 400 people.

"I guess this could have happened to the most carefully planned party," said Gerard Moseley, vice provost for academic support and student services.

"I think there is an era of protest against authority that we're swinging into," Moseley said Tuesday. "People think as long as they can break the law and get away with it then it's OK."

Eugene police were called in Saturday night to quiet parties at East 14th Avenue and Mill Street and at 14th Avenue and Patterson Street.

The scene turned ugly when people began tossing bottles at officers and the police turned to tear gas to disperse the crowd. Two Ashland residents were arrested for rioting.

University President Myles Brand is expected to issue a statement this morning in response to the incidents, and to inform students who participated in the fracas that they could face prosecution under the Student Conduct Code.

Students who sponsored the events could also face prosecution under the conduct code.



Band member Pat Yonally listens to a police officer at one of the parties that was tear-gassed by Eugene police Saturday night.

Moseley said.

"If there are individuals behind this we can punish under the conduct code, then we'll do it," he said.

Meanwhile, the Eugene police have somewhat reversed their story about adequately warning people at one of the parties.

Capt. Dick Loveall of the Eugene police department said that at one of the parties police officers did not give adequate warning to the entire crowd but threw tear gas anyway because of the number of beer bottles being thrown.

"There was a barrage of bottles and we deployed the gas before someone got hurt," Loveall said.

Loveall said he wasn't sure what caused Saturday's incidents or the riot last May.

"I think it's the alcohol itself that causes all the problems," Loveall said. "I would hope people take another look at it and say 'I can drink responsibly.'"

Eugene police will beef up patrols this weekend to try and prevent any large parties from getting out of control so a similar problem doesn't recur, Loveall said.

Moseley said a preliminary investigation into the incidents did not indicate participation by any

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Tension heats up after weekend riot

By Hon Walker
Emerald Associate Editor

It could be a long spring.

The University student reaction to the use of tear gas by police officers on the first Saturday of the term is summed up in stark *Back off Cops* fliers, slapped around the campus area Tuesday.

Students involved in the incidents say that police provoked the crowd by arriving in gas masks and using the gas without audible warning.

The city police department maintains that officers gave adequate warning and acted appropriately to defuse a potentially dangerous situation.

Police Capt. Dick Loveall said, "We're not apologetic for what we did." He said he hoped that Saturday's clashes between police and about 400 partiers were isolated incidents that would not recur.

However, "If we come into another riotous situation, we will arrest as many as possible and hold them accountable," Loveall said.

He added that in light of last weekend, officers are "a little uneasy" about the possibility of future backlash against law enforcement. "We're going to be careful" if sent to similar situations, he said.

The Department of Public Safety is in the process of assessing whether the party hosts will be fined to compensate for the extra police work required. The cost has not been determined, but it could be in the thousands of dollars, Loveall said.

In the future, if extra police protection is needed at a potentially riotous situation, the hosts of the party will be held accountable for the costs, Loveall said.

Saturday's situation occurred less than a week after more than 7,300 letters were sent to University students in the West University Neighborhood, detailing how to hold a legal and safe party.

"Either they didn't read it or they didn't care," Loveall said.

"You can have a party and have it legal; you can

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U.S. invasion blocked possible self-solutions

By Dan Eisler
Emerald Reporter

The U.S. invasion of Panama was the worst event in the country's history, preventing Panamanians from achieving an internal solution to their affairs after a decade of crisis, Nicolasa Terreros said at Tuesday night's lecture. "Panama: Human Rights and Grassroots Organizations."

Terreros, who spoke through an interpreter, is the national coordinator of the Panamanian branch of the Peace and Justice Service (Servicio Paz y Justicia) of Latin America. The organization works throughout Latin America for the protection of human rights through non-violence and the promotion of grass-roots organizations with poor communities.

"I believe we would have been able to get rid of Noriega," Terreros said, citing the recent example of Chile's return to democracy after national opposition to the dictatorship of Gen. Augusto Pinochet.

"We would have been capable of doing this but we couldn't do it because the United

States jumped in the middle," she said.

In the last decade of military rule the two major political blocks became more defined, with a military government that violated human rights, and an opposition composed of the most powerful economic sector in the country, which looked to the United States for assistance in its search for power, Terreros said.

The change of the military government from high dependence on the United States to that of staunch nationalism created a confusing situation for grass-roots organizations.

"On one hand the government is violating human rights under the Noriega regime, but if we members of grass-roots organizations complained we were labeled as the opposition," Terreros said. "But if we supported the sovereignty of our nation, we were labeled pro-Noriega, so we found ourselves boxed in."

"Sadly, we must recognize that a great number of the Panamanian people did approve of the (Dec. 20) invasion," she

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Renovation

Joe Lunak concentrates as he applies yellow paint to a sculpture in front of the Art Museum.

Photo by Mark Ylen