

UNIVERSITY

Marchers 'Take Back the Night'

By Carrie Dennett
Emerald Reporter

About 50 women walked through campus with flashlights and lit candles in the "Take Back the Night" march Thursday night, following a rally and a five kilometer walk/run.

"Take back the night! Take back the day! Take back our lives!" said Bobbye Sorrels of Womanspace, speaking to the crowd of participants and on-lookers at the rally in the EMU courtyard.

"We can take it back by taking action," she said, calling "take" a key word, standing for Taking Action is the Key to Empowerment.

Empowerment itself was an idea central to the event.

"I feel empowered, that's a given," said junior Ann Lyman. "It's amazing to me to see all these people who really want change. I really feel it can happen."

"The purpose of the event is to assert, affirm and celebrate a woman's right to be safe at night without the protection of a man," said Beth Long of the ASUO Women's Center, which sponsored the event with the Lifestyle Planning Program at the Student Health Center, and the Recreation and Intramural Office.

"Every woman knows what its like to go out and know they're not safe," said Shelley Reeher, director of Project Saferun.

Saferun put on a demonstration with five of its defensively



Photo by Sean Posten

Holding flashlights and candles, about 50 women marched on campus Thursday evening to "Take Back the Night."

trained dogs as part of the rally. Saferun rents dogs to women runners, walkers and joggers for a \$25 monthly fee.

Reeher said women are not truly safe anywhere, day or night, alone or on dates.

The event began at 6 p.m. with the run/walk, in which men and women could participate. The rally and march, which began shortly before 7, were meant for women only.

"We decided that in keeping

with the history of 'Take Back the Night,' men should stay on the sidelines, and I respect that," said Joanne Frank of the Lifestyle Planning Program. "But men need to be educated, and I don't think they should be included."

The run was a way for men to be involved, while preserving the march for women. "I think that women need to be empowered, they need to reclaim the night themselves," Frank said.

REALITY 101

The university experience involves much that is new, exciting and stressful. It involves being exposed to new ideas — ideas which challenge us to question and re-think our opinions and conclusions about life. For this experience to enrich our minds and lives, instead of confusing us and doing us harm, we need to be able to evaluate the truth and worth of what we are being taught and then to integrate it into our own understanding of reality.

We understand how threatening and disorienting this can feel, especially when such concepts as faith and religion (particularly the historic Christian faith) are often held in contempt by many in our modern academic world. At Cascade Presbyterian, we are seeking to understand what is true and valuable in life. We are not afraid of honest questions and doubts, because we are persuaded that the God who has created us has not left us without answers to the puzzles and needs of life.

We have found that a biblical understanding of life equips us not only to understand and cope with life's complexities and difficulties, but also to live with purpose, freshness and joy. We all know of religious groups where members are told not to think or question, but simply to believe. We believe that this is unfortunate, because there are good, rational reasons for believing. Honest questions deserve honest attempts at finding answers.

If you are not a convinced Christian, you will find a sincere welcome at Cascade Presbyterian. You can feel free to bring your doubts and questions. You will find people willing to listen and to discuss the issues of life intelligently and respectfully with you. You will not be put on display or made to feel pressure to "make a decision."

If you are a Christian, we hope that you will find here a Christian community committed to understanding and practicing a balanced and intelligent biblical faith in the modern world, in supportive fellowship with other believers. We believe that God's presence in our lives together will produce a kind of beauty that both satisfies our individual longings for significance and moral excellence, and attracts others to the kingdom of God.

We invite you to join with us in learning about and worshipping our Creator at Cascade Presbyterian.

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THE FAR SIDE

By GARY LARSON



The four basic personality types

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