

UNIVERSITY

OSU faces racial tension conflicts

By Cathy Peterson Emerald Reporter

Two racial incidents have brought angry and concerned Oregon State University students, administrators and faculty together several times in the past few weeks to discuss racial tension on the Corvallis campus.

Jeff Revels, the coordinator of the OSU Black Cultural Center, said he has filed a racial harassment charge with the OSU provost against a group of men who allegedly yelled a racial slur from a van on October 20.

Revels said he is also filing charges with the Corvallis Police Department.

"That was the last straw, and I'm not alone," Revels said of the encounter with the men in a Corvallis restaurant parking lot. "My incident was not an isolated one." The other incident took place on an ASOSU student government retreat, where racial jokes were made after a formal meeting.

Revels said he would meet with OSU President John Byrne and other university administrators on Saturday and propose that a zero tolerance policy toward racism be adopted.

He will also ask for a required course in multicultural issues for all students, as well as a commitment from the administration to support the school's cultural centers for at least five years.

If the administrators suggest the formation of another committee to study the issue, Revels said more extreme action might be taken by concerned students.

"We don't need more committees, if that's the route they're going to take. This is not a matter of study any more," he said.

During a ASOSU meeting Tuesday night, Jamae Hilliard, director of Ethnic Minority and Disabled Student Affairs read a statement asking for the ASOSU's executive officers, senators and task force directors voluntary resignation because of the group's behavior at the retreat, according to a story in the OSU student newspaper.

Student Senate Vice President Jeff Grunwald said Thursday the senate will not address the issue formally until its next meeting in two weeks. He said the student government would not solve the problems on campus by resigning.

"My thinking is that if you get rid of all of us, what's the guarantee against a whole new set of people getting elected who won't do anything at all?" he said.

ASUO

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all the services that will have to be cut if Measure 5 passes, it will force people to pass a sales tax, but ... we have no guarantee of that.

"We lose the services in the meantime because the next time a sales tax can go to a ballot will be in another 2 years. There's going to be too much lost, even if we can recover the funding a few years down the road.

"There will be some things — like higher quality faculty — that we won't be able to get back when they leave," Manning said.

Along with a stand on Measure 5, the ASUO Executive has announced its position of the following measures -

Measure 8, which would prohibit all abortions except to save a woman's life or in cases of reported rape or incest — oppose. Measure 10, requiring parental notification before a minor could have an abortion — oppose.
 Measure 4, which would close the Trojan

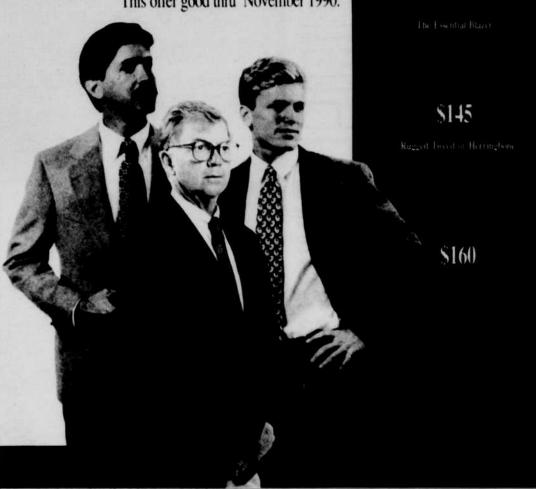
 Measure 4. which would close the Trojan nuclear power plant until permanent federal waste facilities are set and until the plant meets earthquake standards and is cost effective — support.

 Measure 6, requiring product packaging to be either reusable five times, made of 50 percent recycled material, be packaging that is being recycled at a rate of 15 percent or made of materials being recycled as a rate of 15 percent — support.

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