

# HATE

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"Society, in some ways, has become more permissive of blaming others for (its) problems," Rikhoff said.

"Economic fear probably has a lot to do with it. There's a lot of fear out there," he said.

Fear on the part of the victims also plays a role in the reporting of or failure to report hate crimes. People who experience a hate crime sometimes already feel marginalized and may fear embarrassment and retaliation.

For gays and lesbians, reporting hate crimes could mean the disclosure of their homosexuality, said Sue Dockstader, director of the Gay Lesbian and Bisexual Alliance.

"Since we don't have any protection under the law, (from employment discrimination) ... it's kind of frightening because you don't know who's going to get that information," she said.

Dockstader said she believes there has been a rise in hate crimes targeted at gays and lesbians. However, fear of reporting and the lack of a central place to report to makes such crimes difficult to track, she said.

Dockstader was highly critical of the performance of the Office of Public Safety in responding to gay and lesbian students, and for that reason she decided to

turn all hate crime information over to the Eugene Human Rights Commission.

Reporting hate crimes is one thing; combatting them is another.

"The only way to deal with hate crimes is for everyone to work together," said ASUO Affirmative Action coordinator Bobby Lee. "One group can't do it alone ... everyone has to be involved. There's no other way."

"I think the best way to combat hate crimes is through education because I think that a lot of people who perpetrate these things are very angry, misinformed individuals," Dockstader said.

Lisa Lawrence, Black Student Union co-director, blames "pure ignorance" for hate crimes.

"I would like to see the University follow through on its pledges (of cultural diversity) by promoting cultural awareness and sensitivity," she said.

"If one student experiences a hate crime, we all experience a hate crime, and we would all take it very personally," Lawrence said. "One hate crime is too many."

Students who experience or witness a hate crime are encouraged to report it immediately to the Office of Public Safety or the Eugene Police.

Going through reporting and grievance procedures that follow a hate crime can be a frustrating and discouraging experience, Tsuneyoshi said. (In her case,



Photo by Jeff Paslay

Announcing their plans to combat increased crime around campus at Thursday's press conference are (L to R) Carey Drayton, OPS director; Bobby Lee, ASUO Affirmative Action coordinator; JoSonja Watson, ASUO vice president; Therese DuBravac, ASUO Programs coordinator; Mona Gentry, Saferide co-director; and Gerry Moseley, vice provost for student support and academic services.

she never found out what happened to the men in the car.)

However, there is support out there and it should be taken advantage of, she said. Victims of hate crimes (and other forms of discrimination) may suffer from low self-esteem and depression, which can seriously undermine stu-

dents' academic and personal lives.

The following organizations offer support services and referrals:

- University Counseling Center — 346-3227
- Office of Student Advocacy — 346-3722
- Bobby Lee, ASUO — 346-3724

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## PLAN

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coordinator, announced the organization of a town meeting, to take place Nov. 6, and encouraged students and community members to attend.

"This will be a meeting ... to begin a comprehensive, pro-active awareness campaign against violence," she said.

Throughout the school year, DuBravac added, the ASUO will provide workshops, guest lectures and various other activities with the same goal in mind.

The discussion turned to the issue of sensitivity toward minorities and Lisa Lawrence, co-director of the Black Student Union, said the *Emerald* provided an example of insensitivity Wednesday by running an editorial cartoon that some con-

sidered racist.

"How can we be sure this won't happen again?" she asked.

Moseley commented that it is important to speak out and be heard.

*Emerald* Editor Christopher Blair said the cartoon was included inadvertently.

"When the cartoon came in, we did flag it as being racist, overtly so, it was obvious," he said. "However, a breakdown in communication occurred and it got into the paper. Again, I apologize for that.

"Being accused of racism is a very serious charge and very disturbing," he said. "What people have to understand is that from time to time, things happen that are bad. All I can do is assure people that it won't happen again."

IN THE NAME OF ALLAH, THE COMPASSIONATE, THE MERCIFUL

TO ALL

## MUSLIM STUDENTS

### A SPECIAL WELCOME INVITATION

THE MUSLIM STUDENT ASSOCIATION WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND A WARM WELCOME TO ALL NEW MUSLIM STUDENTS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF OREGON BY INVITING THEM, ALONG WITH CURRENT STUDENTS, TO A SPECIAL GET-TOGETHER. GET TO KNOW YOUR NEW COMMUNITY AND SCHOOL BY SHARING IN THE EXPERIENCES OF STUDENTS FROM MANY DIFFERENT MUSLIM COUNTRIES. JUST COME WITH YOUR QUESTIONS, IDEAS, SUGGESTIONS. TEA, COFFEE, COOKIES WILL BE SERVED.

DAY: MONDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1991

TIME: 5 PM

PLACE: CEDAR ROOM C/D, EMU

MSA