

Code may not apply to assault

□ Reach of student conduct code's jurisdiction in question

By Scott Andre
Emerald Reporter

The University is investigating whether to charge a freshman accused of assaulting a bisexual man with a violation of the student conduct code, but questions remain as to whether the code applies to

the situation.

Elaine Green, the University's associate dean of students who enforces student conduct, said she is investigating whether to file charges against freshman Todd Linwood Pendexter.

The Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Alliance called a news conference Feb. 10, asking University officials to expel Pendexter for his alleged crimes.

The Lane County District Attorney's office has charged Pendexter,

18, with one count of second-degree intimidation and one count of fourth-degree assault for allegedly attacking Steven Andrew Laliberty, 23. Eugene police said Pendexter attacked Laliberty and an unidentified male companion Jan. 29 near the corner of 13th Avenue and Mill Street because he thought they were gay.

Both counts are Class A misdemeanors and carry a maximum

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Man on campus isn't serial rapist, authorities say

□ Man asking women religious questions is mistaken for rapist

By Jake Berg
Emerald News Editor

Marj Bigelow was driving home with her daughter last week when they saw him again.

Riding his bicycle near the intersection of Agate Street and 15th Avenue was a man some people have mistakenly believed to be the alleged serial rapist from north Eugene because of possibly similar physical traits.

Bigelow, the lieutenant in charge of security at the University Office of Public Safety, said her daughter pointed out the man, who was seated on his silver or gray 10-speed bicycle.

"We were driving by, and she said, 'Oh, by the way, that's him,'" Bigelow said. "And he waved at her, of course."

The man approached Bigelow's daughter previously as he has other women in the University area, asking religiously oriented questions. Bigelow said the man surfaced in the campus area Monday, Feb. 8, and she has received five phone calls from women he has approached since then.

"He asks if you're saved and asks when you die if you're going to heaven or hell," Bigelow said. "That's the extent of the conversation."

Sgt. Dennis Baker, the Eugene police department's campus liaison, said rumors that the man was the serial rapist might have started after people began to match descriptions between the two.

"They read the article about long hair and bad teeth, and bingo, that's him," Baker said.

The alleged serial rapist is suspected of committing three rapes and one assault recently in the north Eugene area.

Baker also said reports had the man approaching women at their vehicles, which also rung a bell with the alleged serial rapist, who approached several women at their vehicles.

"That's where the similarities stop," he said.

Baker said the physical height and weight descriptions reported do not match those of the serial rapist. Reports also indicate the serial rapist is typically on foot and says nothing, he said.

Baker said neither EPD nor OPS has been able to contact the man and do not know who he is or whether he is a student.

"If he wants to preach, maybe he could find a little different way to do it," he said. "We think he's a little bit mental."

Bigelow said no extra security measures were being taken because of the man, but she said people who are approached by the man are encouraged to call OPS at 346-5444.

Bigelow said those women who have reported seeing the man have surprisingly not been scared of him.

"They didn't feel frightened," she said. "They were angry about his attitude."

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Street artist



Photo by Jeff Paslay

University graduate student Filip Van Kerckhoven spends Tuesday afternoon along Franklin Boulevard sketching buildings. Van Kerckhoven is from Belgium, where he did his undergraduate studies. He said he doesn't find the traffic bothersome to his sketching.

Bookstore system may stop thieves

□ New plan may help catch criminals trying to sell back stolen course books

By Sarah Clark
Emerald Reporter

Each day, the University Bookstore buys about 20 books back. Most of the transactions are legitimate — people selling back books they no longer need or want.

But in some cases, the sellers have stolen the books to get a little extra cash.

The bookstore is working to catch those criminals. It recently changed its buyback system so the store can

better identify which books have been stolen, said Chris Standish, course book manager.

When the store buys a used book, it requires the seller to present photo identification. Information from the identification goes into the store's computer, where it's assigned a number that is also written inside the book's cover.

Sometimes, students report book thefts before the thieves sell the books back. In those cases, the thieves can be caught as they sell the books.

During transactions such as these, when the bookstore employee enters the book's title into the computer, a warning appears on the screen that announces the

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WEATHER

The cold weather continues, as clouds begin to move into the Eugene area. Lows in the teens to the 20s, and highs may reach the 40s.

Today in History

In 1972, President Richard Nixon departed Washington, D.C., on his historic trip to China.

REPAIR CREW BUSTED

(AP) - The call to the police was chilling. A man outside the Lane County Courthouse was aiming a handgun at two buildings.

Eugene police, alerted by a passer-by, rushed to the scene Monday and started to climb the stairs leading to the courthouse's second-floor garden deck.

But instead of some crazed gunman, they found a construction worker, armed with a hand drill, fixing a handrail.

"We're not in trouble again, are we?" the worker asked Sgt. Frank Bone. "It turns out last week," Bone said, "someone mistook the poor guy's lunch sack for a bomb."

SPORTS

Oregon men's basketball coach Jerry Green was released from the hospital Tuesday afternoon, team physician Dr. D. Kendall Hills announced.

Initial test results indicated no infection in Green's right knee. Green underwent arthroscopic surgery Monday to treat an inflamed joint lining.

His knee became swollen for an unknown reason when he awoke Sunday morning in Los Angeles. Green was on crutches at the Oregon-UCLA game Sunday afternoon.

Green is expected to be at practice this afternoon and return to normal activities as his status improves.