

POLICE BEAT

The following incidents were reported to the University Office of Public Safety and the Eugene police department April 6-11.

•The University reported the theft of a VCR and remote control April 6. The items were taken from a locked storage cabinet located in the Knight Library between March 14 and March 25. The cabinet was locked, and police said there were no signs of forced entry. According to police reports, 15 to 20 people have keys to the cabinet. The missing items were valued at \$343.

•A 23-year-old man was cited for littering at U.S. Bank, 810 E. 13th Ave., April 7. A police officer observed the man drinking a bottle of beer behind the bank. The officer said he saw the man throw the bottle into a nearby bush. The officer said the man became agitated and verbally abusive when he was cited for littering. According to police reports, the man wadded up the citation and threw it on the ground. The man picked up the ticket when the officer told him he would get a second citation for littering if he didn't pick up the first citation.

•The University Computing Center, 1225 Kincaid St., reported the theft of a printer April 7. The printer was valued at \$200.

•The University psychology department, 1451 Onyx St., reported the theft of a drill April 7. The drill, valued at \$80, was taken sometime during spring break.

•A University student reported the theft of a bike on the 1200 block of East 19th Avenue April 8. The student left the bike, valued at \$60, near a dumpster, and the bike was taken sometime between April 3 and April 6. According to police reports, the student said she believed the bike may have been taken by the garbage service.

•Romania Chevrolet-Geo, 2020 Franklin Blvd., reported a theft and incident of criminal mischief April 9. Someone broke off the antenna and slashed the soft top of a 1993 convertible. The damage was estimated at \$4,600.

On the same night, a \$200 stereo was stolen

out of a different car on the Romania lot.

•A University student was arrested for minor in possession of alcohol April 9. Police officers observed the student staggering in an alley on the 400 block of East 12th Avenue. The student was carrying a full cup of beer and appeared to be intoxicated, according to police reports. The arresting officer said the student became upset and started yelling after he was cited. The student then lunged at the officer and had to be restrained. The student was arrested and handcuffed.

•Sy's Pizza, 1211 Alder St., reported a theft of \$95 in cash April 10. The money was taken from a desk drawer in a work area in the back of the building. An employee told police he saw a man in the work area and asked him what he was doing. The man said he was looking for the bathroom, and the employee gave him directions. After spending about 30 seconds in the bathroom, the suspect hastily left the building and headed north on Alder Street.

•Police officers responded to an attempted suicide on the 1200 block of Alder Street April 10. According to police reports, a woman doused herself with lighter fluid and was threatening to light herself on fire. She told police she was punishing herself for killing a cat. The woman was taken to the hospital for a mental evaluation.

•Police responded to another attempted suicide on the 500 block of East 19th Avenue April 11. A University student, who told police he was upset about his relationship with his girlfriend, had taken some antibiotic capsules and drank some vodka. After the student vomited, he was taken to the hospital, where he was treated and released.

•A University student was cited for possession of an open container at the Knight Library April 11. An OPS officer responded to a complaint of a man talking loudly to himself in a second-floor bathroom stall. When the officer arrived, he found the student in the restroom with a bottle of rum.

Panelists discuss myths, harassment

By Heather Himes
For the Oregon Daily Emerald

Representatives of the Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Alliance joined homosexual community members Tuesday for a panel discussion about stereotypes and harassment.

Jackie Balzer, coordinator of educational and support services for the Office of the Dean of Students, mediated the question-and-answer session, which was attended by more than 40 people.

"There are a great many myths and stereotypes (about homosexuals), and we want people to find out that there are real live human beings behind the stereotypes," Balzer said. "We want to move 'queer' from a concept to real people."

Panelists said they try to change stereotypes by being very conspicuous as homosexuals and talking openly about their sexuality.

"We won't go back in the closet for anybody," said panel member George Link, who is one of the first openly gay deacons at Eugene's Central Presbyterian Church.

Panel members also said public discussion of homosexuality is one of the first steps in battling stereotypes.

The panel approved of the syndicated comic strip "For Better or For Worse," whose current story line involves a gay teen-ager examining his sexuality. Panelists said the comic strip may inspire dialogue between readers who would not usually discuss homo-

sexuality with one another.

"This is the first time that this has happened in a nationally syndicated comic strip that I know of," said Mark Schwier, a community member. "I think it's great that people are seeing this in the paper as a normal process. I applaud (comic artist) Lynn Johnston and the papers that run the strip."

Panel members said they sometimes encounter harassment.

"I picked up the phone one night, and some guy yelled 'lesbian' at me, so I yelled 'breeder' back at him," said Jodi Mai, a co-organizer on the panel. "It's annoying to have to deal with."

It is important to report harassment to the Eugene police department and the Office of Public Safety, said Spencer de Mille, a University student.

"Harassment is such a problem because people don't report it, and then no one has the statistics to say that it is a problem," he said.

Many people use the Bible to justify harassing homosexuals, Link said.

"I'm not going to sit here and answer to every part of the Bible that has to do with sexuality," Link said. "It's a matter of interpretation. If you want to look through the Bible, you can justify just about anything."

The panel met as part of the LGBA's Pride Week, an annual event aimed at giving people a chance to learn about the homosexual community.

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