

# Events will focus on assault issues

By Daralyn Trappe  
Oregon Daily Emerald

The state's first conference dealing solely with sexual assault issues will take place at the University this week. The events will focus on the safety of women not only in this area but around the world.

Erin Collier, program coordinator for Sexual Assault Support Services, which is sponsoring the conference, said it has been "a life-long dream" of many of the SASS staff members to have a conference just on sexual assault issues. With such a defined focus, those who attend will be able to get a great deal of information about very specific issues, she said.

The events for "Empowering Survivors of Sexual Assault: Services for Change," as the conference is called, begin Thursday at noon and conclude Saturday night. Participants can attend part or all of the conference.

Thursday's schedule includes several workshops and two forms of entertainment. The play *Parallel Lives* will be performed, and Irene Farrera will sing.

Friday's events begin at 8 a.m. and go on through 11 p.m. with two panel discussions on diversity and backlash, workshops and the annual "Take Back the Night" march.

Self-defense instructor Nadia Telsey will give the keynote address at 12:30 p.m. Telsey runs her own business, called Self Defense From the Inside Out.

The march, which will begin after a 7:30 p.m. rally on the steps of Prince Lucien Campbell Hall, has its roots in San Francisco, Collier said.

In 1978, 5,000 women marched through that city demanding respect and an end to violence. They managed to shut down the city's pornography strip for a night, Collier said. Locally, the march is also organized to give women a sense of empowerment.

"We do this to give women and children a taste of freedom," she said. "We want to be able to walk at night and not be afraid about

going to places that are traditionally dangerous to go to."

The conference closes Saturday with attention turned to Bosnia. Workshops begin at 9 a.m. and include a forum on the rapes and murders of women in Bosnia.

"For people who work in the movement of violence against women, we know we can't just look at the United States," Collier said.

**'For people who work in the movement of violence against women, we know we can't just look at the United States. It's part of a global movement to stop violence. What's happening in Bosnia is the same thing that happens every day in this country.'**

— Erin Collier,  
SASS program coordinator

"It's part of a global movement to stop violence. What's happening in Bosnia is the same thing that happens every day in this country. So working to help them is part of a global commitment."

The conference closes Saturday night with a dinner prepared by Betty Turulja, a native of Bosnia. Writer Susan Conley will share her recent experiences in Bosnia. The dinner will be in the EMU from 7 to 9 p.m.

The money raised at the dinner will be used to send an advocate to Bosnia to help the women who have been victimized and that person will train others to do the same sort of work, Collier said.

All events except the Saturday night dinner will be at the Casanova Center. SASS prefers that people register ahead of time, but tickets can be purchased at the door each day. The fee for the entire conference, excluding the Saturday night dinner, is \$105. For one day only, excluding the dinner, the cost is \$40. The dinner is \$25.

For more details or to register, call SASS at 484-9791.

## Nicaraguan leader to talk today at EMU

A member of the Nicaraguan National Assembly and leader of a grass-roots farming and ranching association will speak at 7 p.m. today in the EMU Gumwood Room.

Benigna Mendiola will address property issues, economic alternatives and the work of women cooperative farmers.

"Women play a great role in Nicaraguan politics, particularly on the issue of land ownership," said Eric Latham, spokesman for the Committee in Solidarity with the Central American People.

"Benigna Mendiola will offer insight on the political and economic situation in Nicaragua," Latham said.

Mendiola, a leader in the Sandinista party, was tortured by the Somoza National Guard and captured twice by Contra rebels. Mendiola was elected to the assembly in 1990.

A reception will follow Mendiola's presentation. The event is sponsored by CISCAP, the EMU Cultural Forum and the Nicaragua Network Education Fund as part of the annual Ben Linder Memorial Commemoration.

## POLICE BEAT

The following incidents were reported to the University Office of Public Safety and the Eugene police department May 1-7.

• A 46-year-old man was arrested for attempted theft of a bicycle on the 2000 block of Franklin Boulevard May 1.

An EPD officer observed a man lying under a bicycle that was locked to a bike rack. The officer noticed that the cable locking the bike to the rack had been cut and saw a pair of wire cutters lying between the suspect's legs.

The man admitted to trying to steal the bike and told the officer, "Look, I have three kids. Give me a break." The suspect told the officer he was trying to take the bike because he was out of work and needed money, according to police reports.

• A 22-year-old man was cited for theft of a University parking sticker May 5.

An OPS officer contacted the suspect when the sticker, which was reported stolen April 29, was seen on the suspect's vehicle. The suspect told police he received the sticker from a woman. He said he could not remember the woman's name and had no reason to believe the sticker was stolen.

Police said the suspect was not a student but was using the sticker to park in University lots.

• Two University students were arrested for theft on the 800 block of East 15th Avenue May 6.

Police contacted the two students in connection with a series of bike thefts that were reported May 5. When officers contacted the suspects, they found stolen property in the suspects' residence. Police found a \$695 bicycle, a \$20 motorcycle helmet and a compact disc, all of which had been reported as stolen property.

• A 41-year-old man was arrested for burglary and criminal mischief at the Outdoor Program, Room 37 EMU, May 6. The suspect entered the EMU about 1 a.m. through an unlocked door and discharged a fire extinguisher in the Outdoor Program's office. The suspect told police he sprayed the extinguisher to attract the attention of the police and said he "just gives up."

The chemical dust from the extinguisher caused \$500 damage to the office's computers.

• A 37-year-old man was cited for disorderly conduct on the 1200 block of Alder Street May 7.

An off-duty police officer and his wife were walking from their car on Alder Street when the suspect approached them and said, "Excuse me, can I guard your hubcaps?" The officer said the suspect was trying to get money for watching the hubcaps of cars parked on the street. The officer said he wasn't interested, and the couple tried to pass the suspect on the sidewalk.

The suspect blocked the sidewalk and repeatedly asked to guard the couple's hubcaps, according to police reports. As the officer ordered the man to move, three friends of the suspect approached the couple from behind. The officer said the men were transients and appeared to be intoxicated. The officer and his wife were allowed to pass after the men recognized the officer, who had cited them in the past.

The man was cited when the officer came to work the next day and discovered the suspect was in jail for another charge. The officer added the disorderly conduct charge while the suspect was being detained.

• A 22-year-old man was cited with furnishing alcohol to minors on the 300 block of East 13th Avenue May 7.

Police were responding to a loud party at the address. When officers arrived, they saw people outside of the house drinking. The officers said many of the people were less than 21 years of age.

The officers contacted the man who lives at the address and cited him after he said he knew underage drinkers were at the party, according to police reports.

• A University student reported a theft at Lawrence Hall, 1190 Franklin Blvd., May 8. The student's work area was broken into, and a CD player, some CDs and a book were taken. The missing items were valued at a total of \$529.

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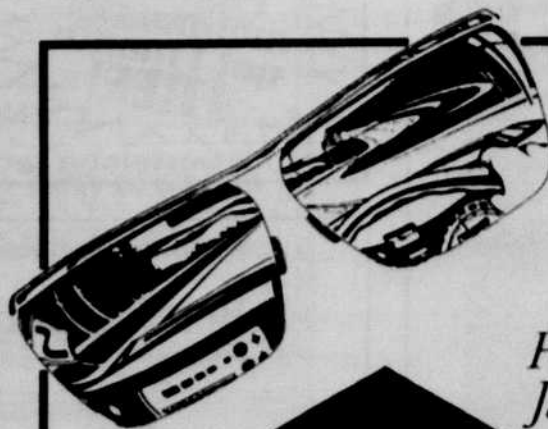
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