

Fear of athletes reduces complaint, cases

Editor's Note: The following is the second of a two-part series detailing the findings of a five-month investigation into allegations of misconduct by football players. Today's article details the fear-factor associated with accusing an athlete of a violent act.

Retribution: Students, who feel afraid, drop charges or refuse to cooperate

Joe Harwood

Oregon Daily Emerald

Despite the thoroughness of any investigation, when a victim calls police and later decides not to press charges or sign a complaint,

there is little police can do. And the district attorney's office won't normally pursue cases in which a victim refuses to cooperate.

Over the last three years, four prosecutable cases involving Oregon football players were dismissed after victims dropped charges or failed to sign a complaint.

"I've had people come up to me on the street and say 'I just got

beat up by a football player, but I don't want to press charges because I have to live and go to school here,'" Eugene Police Officer Terry Fitzpatrick said.

One month prior to a November 1992 concert incident where Jeremy Shirley and others were assaulted, Tasi Malepeai was cited by police for fourth-degree assault, but charges were dropped after the victim declined

to sign a complaint.

When police officers responding to a loud party arrived at a residence on the 1800 block of University Street, a 23-year-old female student approached an officer holding her chest. She told police Malepeai hit her after she sprayed football player Juan Shedrick with mace to prevent

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FACE TO FACE

KANTROWITZ/SCOTT

■ The two want to re-open student government by increasing student participation in the ASUO. They want to maintain state funding of the University and said they will work to protect the incidental fee process and student group funding. They plan to make student government more visible by working closely with students and student groups.



WILLIAMSON/KELTON

■ The two want to improve the quality of education, increase student representation in higher education issues and make sure the ASUO is accessible and effective. Their campaign is summarized as "Quality, Access and Community."

NATALIE MONTGOMERY/Emerald

Compare the two tickets for the ASUO Executive and cast your vote at the polls Wednesday or Thursday



QUESTION: The ASUO makes budget recommendations for all ASUO programs to the Programs Finance Committee. Do you advocate making recommendations that will maintain the student incidental fee at the current level of \$119 a term?

KANTROWITZ/SCOTT: "Our biggest issue is that programs have not been allowed to expand in the past two years and it's affecting programming. One of the long term ways we're going to be able to see growth in programs without increasing the fee is by

looking to the EMU as a source of returning incidental fee money.

By finding alternative funding sources such as Taco Time, the EMU will be less reliant on incidental fees and we'll get money back, to add back to programming. We would like to maintain the incidental fee, but we would like to see a more efficient use of those fees."

WILLIAMSON/KELTON: "A lot of people don't realize that the incidental fee money is not all given to the ASUO for us to do with what we please. Some of that money goes to the student health center whose budget is deter-

mined by another organization, not the ASUO.

I believe we're dedicated to keeping the incidental fee reduced by making sure organizations have mechanisms available to fund raise and go to outside sources, to have the knowledge and ability to grant write effectively and to be able to supplement their budget from the PFC, which will keep the incidental fee down."

QUESTION: The Amazon controversy raises concerns about the affordability of low-income housing for students. How can the executive improve the situation?

KANTROWITZ/SCOTT: "Our goal is to make sure that students have access — we advocate for our students."

Whenever the issue comes up, if it's meetings or if the Planning Commission comes through and decide they want to rebuild, we're going to be there to make sure that students don't get screwed. That's what you should expect from the ASUO; our first priority is students. Something we can do that's concrete is the book exchange program, that's a way to save students money. It's a barter and trade system, which has worked at a lot of schools

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■ GOOD MORNING

► **LOON LAKE, Wash. (AP)** — What's life in a caboose like? Karolyn: "Romantic, like we're living in the Roaring '20s." Al: "Cramped." Spacious they are not, but there is something undeniably nostalgic about the caboose — and what the Burrells did with

two of them. On a strip of lakefront property, they plunked down the mothballed rail cars, painted them a shiny red and hitched them to a small house shaped like a train depot. The Burlington Northern caboose is now their kitchen and

sitting room. The Great Northern caboose is a master bedroom suite. It's easy to attribute this strangeness to Al Burrell. There's railroad blood in his family, flowing through his father and grandfather, an Italian immigrant farmer who found work in

the rail yards of Spokane. But this caboose-house idea really was Karolyn Burrell's. Crazy about antiques, the 46-year-old hair stylist figured it would be neat to live in a caboose with its perky cupola and built-in front and back porches.

"They're cute," she says. He bravely went along with the notion. "I'd live in a tent with her," he says. "It makes no difference." Three years ago, the Burrells found a dealer who was ready to unload 14 1970s-vintage cabooses.