

With this ring ...



Tuesday afternoon President Frohmayer presented class rings to juniors and seniors in Gerlinger Lounge. The average price for a class ring is between \$300 and \$400.

WENDY FULLER/Emerald

COMMUNITY

briety

Sexual assault victims can soon seek support in facilitated groups

Winter support groups for female victims of sexual abuse or assault who are 18 years old or older are beginning.

Women can choose from three support groups sponsored by Sexual Assault Support Services, including an open drop-in session on Monday nights, and two closed sessions.

The closed sessions are for women who are victims of rape and for adults who were molested as children.

The support groups discuss topics ranging from establishing trust and dealing with shame to the dynamics behind sexual abuse, said Jackie Farber, program coordinator.

"This is a time for people talk and share," Farber said. "It lets them know they are not alone."

The closed groups are limited to eight or nine people. Two facilitators lead each of the closed groups.

The facilitators are volunteers who have undergone extensive training and who have had experience in facilitating sexual assault support groups in the past. Some of the volunteers include therapists in the community.

The winter support groups will begin in mid-February and continue until the end of May or the beginning of June.

"We usually schedule things so we are finished by the end of the school year," Farber said. "That way it is easier for students who have finals to worry about."

SASS provides services in Lane County for survivors of sexual assault or childhood sexual abuse. All support groups are free and confidential. For more information, call 484-9791.

New lock style sought by Uhlhorn program to prevent bike thefts

A new lock made of a supposedly unbreakable compound may prevent further bike thefts at Lane County Shelter Care's Uhlhorn program.

The lock, which a Eugene man said he saw at a bike show, is durable but would also be accessible to brain-damaged people, according to a press release.

If a lock such as this can be found, locks might be purchased for all of the Uhlhorn residents who need one.

The search for a special lock resulted from the theft of a bike specially-designed for a young disabled man earlier in January.

The Uhlhorn program provides apartments to adults who have brain injuries caused by a variety of events.

—Compiled by Jennifer Schmitt

New club provides intellectual forum

■ **GROUP:** Members are hoping to stimulate ideas and theories outside of the classroom

By Amy Spindler
Freelance Reporter

There's a new place at the University to voice opinions, share theories and gain knowledge. But it's not in the classroom. It's at the Renaissance Club — a new organization with the sole purpose of fostering intellectual conversation.

The club was founded by a group of law students who realized they conversed primarily with students of their own discipline.

"The idea grew out of intellectual

boredom. Most of us come to the University, find a niche and stay there. The club is a place where people of all disciplines can come together, sit down and talk. We're interested in other people," said chairman Tom Konowalchuk, a first-year University law student with a background in medicine and physics.

Konowalchuk said he was surprised to find that no similar club existed on campus. He emphasized the goal of the organization is to draw a diverse membership of both students and staff, giving members the chance to experience other disciplines and teaching methods.

"People in the arts present their ideas, whereas scientists accumulate

ideas," he said. "As law students, we heard our ideas."

Jillian Sanders, a first-year law student with a background in sociology and psychology, believes the art of intellectual conversation has been lost, and that without it, students are cheated of their education.

"This is a novel idea — it'll fly. I feel great about being a part of it. We want to provide a resource for students to share what's on their minds. Everyone has a lot to offer," she said. "This is just a great way to get together and meet people."

The meetings will be held every Wednesday from 5 to 8 p.m. The first meeting is tonight in EMU Cedar Room B.

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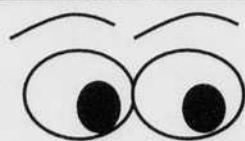
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