

Scientists receive booby-traps

By Alexis Chiu
The Associated Press

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — Scientists across the country who do research using primates have received letters, booby-trapped with razors, ordering them to release their monkeys or face violence.

Six Harvard University researchers are among those who got the missives, which authorities believe are the work of a radical group calling itself the "Justice Department." The FBI is on the case, and researchers from Alabama to Washington are being told to look out for plain white envelopes bearing Las Vegas postmarks.

The envelopes contain a type-written letter inside which says: "You have been targeted and you have until autumn of 2000 to release all your primate captives and get out of the vivisection industry. If you do not heed our warning, your violence will be turned back upon you."

The intended targets are listed in a communicate posted on an

animal rights Web site by the "Justice Department" group, which says it sent the letters to more than 80 scientists at schools including Tulane University and state universities in California, Minnesota and Oregon.

Over the weekend, an organization that monitors extremist animal rights groups found the communicate and forwarded it to the targeted schools, giving them time to warn the researchers.

"I got my razor blade in the mail yesterday," said a University of Washington pharmacy professor who did not want her name used. Having been warned in advance, she did not open the envelope.

It was unclear Wednesday how many researchers had received the letter. No injuries were reported.

"The razor blades were inside the top flap so that if you were to run your finger through the envelope the way most people do, you would have been cut," said Dr. Peter Gerone of the Delta Regional Primate Center in Covington, La., whose secretary used a letter

opener on a rigged envelope Monday.

The six Harvard researchers got their letters Tuesday, but had been told Monday of the plot. In all, there were 12 Harvard researchers on the list.

"It's immoral, it's uncivilized," said Kevin Smith, vice chancellor of research at the University of California-Davis, where at least three researchers have received the letters. "It's terrorism from people who say, 'We value life — but if you don't stop we'll kill you.'"

The "Justice Department" and the international Animal Liberation Front are among those in a databank of animal-rights extremists compiled by Scotland Yard.

A fact sheet on an animal rights Web site says the "Justice Department" has carried out attacks in Britain, Canada and British Columbia, including sending out envelopes with "rat poison covered razor blades" to hunting guides. The group, which is believed to be based in Britain, is made up of members who act anonymously.



Catharine Kendall Emerald

Unpaid parking tickets can lead to a car boot, such as the one on this vehicle.

Unpaid parking tickets lead to the car boot

■ Park smart and avoid becoming one of many unlucky students whose cars get booted

By Aaron Hilst
for the Emerald

Students who do not pay their parking tickets may be in for a surprise the next time they try to drive somewhere.

The University Office of Public Safety and the Eugene Police Department have resorted to booting cars to punish people with unpaid parking fines.

Eugene Police Officer Bev Mason said the amount of car booting on and around campus has increased. In Eugene, \$30 or more in unpaid parking fines facilitates a boot.

One parking ticket for \$20, left unpaid for thirty days, doubles in price and makes one eligible for a city boot, she said.

It costs \$40 to get a car-boot removed.

Mason said she sees upwards of \$1,000 in parking fines coming through her station per week. The vast majority of these tickets are from the west end of campus, where metered parking abounds, she said.

The public safety office, which began booting cars last year, boots independently

from the Eugene Police Department.

According to Public Safety Officer Rand Stamm, repeat traffic violations and parking that would threaten public safety would call for a boot, as outlined in the campus parking guide.

Public safety officers have an electronic list of unregistered vehicles with outstanding fines available to them at all times.

Stamm stated that the fact that OPS recently started booting cars may have made the problem more visible to the public.

A common complaint among students is the lack of ample parking in comparison with the cost of a yearly parking permit.

Freshman architecture major Paul Bryant, already has \$40 in parking fines under his belt.

"College students...should not be charged \$20 for a ticket when they have to already pay \$317 for parking," he said. Bryant also said that "No Parking" zones need to be better marked.

Stamm said there are more than 3,200 parking spaces on campus. Stamm also said students should "pay their parking fines and park legally" in order to avoid the boot.

What's Up At Mt. Bachelor

Warren Miller "Fifty" Movie— Sunday, October 24

South Eugene High School at 5:00 pm and 8:00 pm— Celebrate Warren Miller's 50th season with another great movie, and purchase your pre-season discounted Season Pass at the Mt. Bachelor booth.

Eugene Hooky Bus Breakfast— Wednesday, October 27

Meet at the Original Pancake House at 7:30 am— Hooky Bus regulars— bring your friends and get the latest information on the 1999/2000 Season Hooky Bus Program.

Bachelor Weekend at Berg's Ski Shop— Friday, October 29 and Saturday, October 30

Berg's Ski Shop, 367 West 13th in Eugene— Last chance to purchase your pre-season discounted Season Pass and get the latest information on the 1999/2000 Mountain Dew and Hooky Bus session.

Mt. Bachelor FREE Ski and Ride Day— Friday, December 10

Bring a non-perishable food item and receive a FREE lift ticket. All food is donated to COCAAN (the Central Oregon Community Action Agency Network).

Check out our website at www.mtbachelor.com to purchase your pre-season discounted Season Pass on-line!



For more information call 800-829-2442 or locally at 541-382-2442 www.mtbachelor.com

Calendar

Thursday, Oct. 28

ASUO Women's Center Workshop: "Open Discussion about Partner Violence" is among many community October events for Domestic Violence Awareness Month. 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Suite 3 of the Erb Memorial Union. For information, browse <http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~or> call 346-4095.

McCready/Haseltine Lecture: Pat Kirkham, a professor of Design History from Bard Graduate Center for Studies in the Decorative Arts, New York, will discuss "Introducing Charles and Ray Eames: Furniture, Architecture, Interiors, Exhibitions, Film and Multimedia" at 7:30 p.m. in Room 115 Lawrence Hall free of charge. For information, call 346-3697. Reception follows.