

News brief

APASU to portray college students in 'hereandnow'

The Asian-Pacific American Students Union will kick off its biggest event for Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month this weekend with music, games and a theatrical performance.

At 6 p.m. Saturday in the EMU Ballroom, APASU will be presenting "hereandnow," an Asian American theater group from Los

Angeles that has performed across the nation for the past 10 years. APASU Co-Director Jeanice Chieng said the theater group will be addressing various Asian American stereotypes and issues such as homosexuality in the Asian community.

"This group portrays Asian college students and experiences that they face in their lives," APASU member Kao Cha said.

Pocket Face and Thai will be the opening acts for the evening. Pocket Face, an alternative band from Eugene, will be performing to fundraise

for their upcoming tour in Japan this summer. In addition, Thai, a Vietnamese American hip-hop artist from Portland, will be singing his hit single "Portland Love."

On Sunday, APASU will host a Spring Mini Olympics. Students can meet for the event at 2 p.m. in the Multicultural Center. Participants will have the chance to play basketball, tennis and compete in a tug-of-war and sack races. All of APASU's events are free to students and the general public.

—Danielle Gillespie

Robbery

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Wednesday after an argument broke out and she noticed they had a gun. She then went to a relative's house and called police at 3:45 p.m.

Alejandre said five officers responded to the call. One of the officers heard a "ticking noise" and blocked eastbound traffic on 18th Avenue, she said.

University senior Andrea Niemiec, who lives in a nearby apartment, said police also closed the alley between 18th and 19th avenues and locked down the music building at about 4:30 p.m.

"All of a sudden I was like, 'Oh, look! There's a guy with a rifle,'" Niemiec said.

When asked if officers had drawn their weapons, Alejandre said that given the situation, "that would be something that could be expected."

University sophomore Andrew Richards said he looked out the kitchen window from his apartment across the alley and saw an officer sprawled on the ground talking on a radio. Richards described the situation as "upsetting."

"This was not typical. I've never seen this kind of thing before."

Antares Welch
Kampus Quad resident

"There's always a bunch of crap going on over there," said Richards. "It's not really that much of a surprise."

Larry Bramow, 49, who lives in another Kampus Quads unit, said three officers entered his residence about 4:30 p.m. with guns drawn, while one stood in the doorway. The officers were attempting to locate the suspects who were believed to be in an adjacent room.

Bramow, who has lived in the building for less than one week, said he was cooking dinner when officers told him to leave.

Once inside the property, officers told another Kampus Quads resident, Antares Welch, to vacate.

"I was pretty scared when they walked in," the 21-year-old said.

Welch said more than 10 officers were at the scene. One resident matching the description of the second suspect was detained and released after officers questioned him, Welch said.

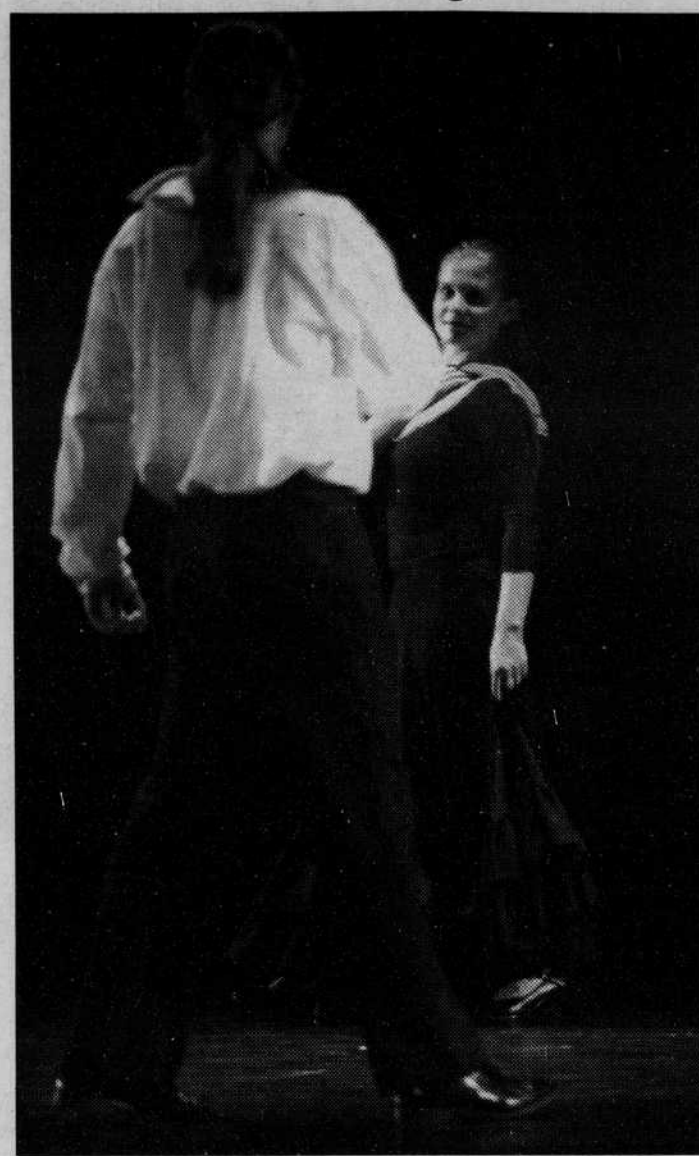
"If they're searching for a suspect, they are going to look at everybody," Alejandre said.

Welch said she was allowed to return to her apartment between 5:45 p.m. and 6 p.m.

"This was not typical," Welch said. "I've never seen this kind of stuff before."

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Two to tango



Jonathan House Emerald

The Dance 2002 Faculty Concert started Wednesday and will continue today and Saturday. The performances, which feature eight dance department faculty, begin at 8 p.m. both days in the Dougherty Dance Theatre at Gerlinger Annex.

Rally

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Women's Center Sexual Violence and Prevention Coordinator Tammy Wise said the group wanted to put this event on because they wanted to empower women and survivors, while educating and spreading the word about violence. She said the justice system oppresses women because it does not effectively prosecute rapists.

Women's Center Events Coordinator Heather Mitchell said she believes this event is pertinent right now because of the current attacks on campus, and she believes women should be empowered and not feel afraid to walk at night without a male escort.

Following the speeches and singing performances, the group marched from the amphitheater to downtown Eugene at the intersection of Eighth Avenue and Oak Street, carrying signs that read "No Woman Should Fear Night" and "Fight for Your Right." Marchers chanted about uniting to end sexism and racism. The march was separated into "three designated safe areas," with women in the front, followed by "gender queer" people, or those who do not identify with a specific gender, and a space for everyone — men and

women — in the back.

"We really wanted to create a safe space for women because they are the primary focus of this event," SASS Community Education Coordinator Michelle Edwards said. "A lot of women here are survivors of sexual assault and we wanted them to have a buffer zone as a form of support."

Performing at Eighth and Oak were fire dancers, acoustic folk musician Nicole Barrett, salsa drumming group Bloco Amazhina and the Young Women's Theater Collective. In addition, people attending the event had the chance to participate in a "speak out," where they could share their personal experiences with sexual assault or voice their concerns about the issue.

"This was a chance for people to be heard and share their own stories," Edwards said. "It provided the opportunity to let others know that they are not alone."

Edwards said the Women's Center and SASS have plans to keep doing this event every year.

"We will put on this event until violence against women stops," she said.

E-mail reporter Danielle Gillespie
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