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**UO weathers  
year of crime**

From misdemeanors to high crimes, Eugene has seen its share of crime in 2002-03

**Caron Alarab**  
Safety/Crime/Transportation Reporter

From fraud, fires and self-fondling library patrons to alleged police brutality, blemished businesses and swindled identities, a fair share of injustice and unexplained crime has appeared on the Emerald front page this year.

Although campus and local authorities have done their best to track down faceless culprits, their lack of evidence and time have left the majority of cases open without any promising leads.

In the past term, the Department of Public Safety has been investigating a report of eBay fraud after a student sold an item on the site and never received a verifiable payment. Additional information is being withheld as the case is still open, but Associate Director Tom Hicks said DPS is waiting to see if the out-of-area station located in the student's hometown will take it over. DPS officers currently do not have any suspect information, Hicks said.

The Eugene Police Department still has not apprehended a suspect in the series of arson attempts made in the West University neighborhood in mid-April. EPD spokeswoman Kerry Delf said the case has not been closed because investigators are still working on suspect leads.

In a case against EPD, University junior Josh Williams — who was allegedly a victim of police brutality in late February — has set a trial date for later this summer because the defendant did not offer a large enough settlement.

"I had decided I would settle only if it was an outrageously good amount," he said. "(The defendant's) offer was ridiculous."

Considering he will be fighting forest fires all summer, Williams will not be able to attend the trial, which he said will most likely be delayed until September.

"The hard part is that things will be postponed," he said. "Hopefully my witnesses will be around fall term."

Also in late February, the Knight Library was the scene of a rash of masturbation reports filed with DPS, but Hicks said there has not been a public indecency report filed on campus since winter term.

Three local businesses were victimized in early February in what EPD determined to be a series of similar vandalism incidents. Delf said the case has been suspended because of a lack of suspect information.

In late January, DPS received a report of possible identity theft after a female student received a suspicious call during which the caller requested and received a wealth of valuable personal information. Since the report, DPS has not been able to apprehend a suspect.

Contact the reporter at [caronalarab@dailyemerald.com](mailto:caronalarab@dailyemerald.com).

**News brief**

**EPD searches  
for assault suspect**

Police are seeking the public's assistance in identifying a suspect who attacked a jogger on a bike path Wednesday morning.

A female jogger was assaulted while running on a path near Skinner's Butte. The jogger fought off her assailant and escaped with minor injuries.

The attacker is described as a white male with short blonde hair

and blue eyes, 25 to 35 years old, about 6 feet tall and 200 pounds. At the time of the attack, he was wearing a blue cap, white T-shirt and dark baggy blue jeans.

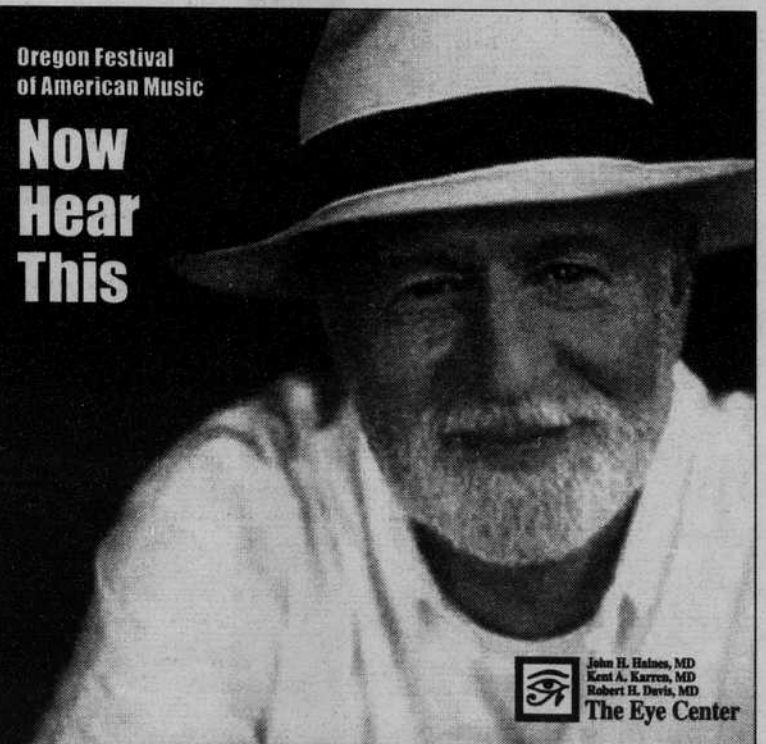
A spokeswoman for the Eugene Police Department said no suspects have been identified at this time, but detectives are following up on the incident.

Anyone who witnessed the incident or recognizes the person in the composite drawing is asked to call Detective Jeff Roth at 682-5569 or the EPD non-emergency line at 682-5111.

— Aimee Rudin

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