

LIBEL

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David Force, Card's lawyer, said Card had made every effort to avoid taking the matter to court.

"Mr. Pipes has no interest in resolving the issue," Force said.

According to the suit, "defendants' publication of the false and defamatory statements of and concerning the plaintiff ... caused injury to plaintiff's reputation and good name, and caused him to suffer extreme emotional distress."

"It still hurts every time when I go online and see those words," Card said, adding that the months following the article's publication were possibly the worst in his life.

Pipes said via e-mail that he had no comments about the case. Schanzer did not return three phone calls.

Card said he has received widespread support from other students and faculty, the campus and Jewish communities. He said many people approached him when the controversy began to say they did not believe he had made the statements. However, he said he still worries about the impressions the article may have left on new students and parents who do not know him and therefore may question his teaching methods. He also said he received many negative e-mails from people outside Eugene who felt he should be fired.

"For a teacher, a reputation is everything," Card said, adding that standing up for his reputation is what

inspired him to file the suit.

Card, who teaches the University's "Social Inequality" class, said he has always been an ardent advocate for equality and tolerance among all ethnic and economic groups.

"I have hated anti-Semitism all my life," he said. "I couldn't have been hit with a more hurtful charge."

Pipes and Schanzer have stood by their statements, saying Card had not fulfilled their requests to warrant a retraction despite many people, including prominent Eugene Jewish leaders, speaking in Card's favor. In a letter published in November 2002 in the Jewish Review, a Portland newsletter, Pipes and Schanzer said they asked Card to provide them with names of his students to interview and a copy of his final exam, which students had allegedly complained about, but Card refused. He also refused to publish an essay condemning "bias and political activism in the classroom," which they would have exchanged for a retraction, the columnists said.

However, the suit states the columnists asked Card to violate laws since releasing student names is against official school policy. It also claims that although Schanzer and Pipes knew the statements were false, they did not make any corrections to the article until Nov. 1, 2002. The new version of the article on www.campus-watch.org has the word "reportedly" added to it.

Contact the news editor at ayishayahya@dailyemerald.com.

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