

SANE: Patients can choose to press sexual-assault charges

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exam, students do not have to report to police right away, Smith said. Also, students don't have to press charges to give a report.

The program is funded by the state's Sexual Assault Victims' Emergency Medical Response Fund, which will pay for the exam regardless of whether the patient wants to press criminal charges, Smith said.

Evidence can be collected for up to 84 hours after an assault, but certain

evidence, such as traces of drugs in urine, will diminish sooner, she said.

After an assault, Smith said, students should not urinate, eat, drink, smoke, bathe or brush their teeth. Smith recommends assault victims bring clothing worn during the assault and a friend for support.

Smith has been working to receive certification for two years. During her training, she watched court cases, rode with Eugene police officers and observed similar exams in the

emergency room.

Smith said her schedule will be cleared so she can see a sexual assault survivor as soon as possible, but she will only be able to perform the exams during the day.

"If it's the middle of the night and they need to be seen, they should go to the emergency room," she said.

One in six Oregon women has been raped, and more than 22,000 women in Lane County have experienced rape, according to a 2003

study by the National Violence Against Women Prevention Research Center.

The SANE program was created in response to Oregon Attorney General Hardy Myers' Sexual Assault Task Force, which includes law enforcement, sexual assault survivors, counselors and forensic nurses.

Contact the crime, health and safety reporter at kgagnon@dailyemerald.com

Carpool: Web site aids commuters

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will reduce pressure on a limited number of parking spaces, reduce emissions and contribute less to global warming.

This year, DPS will issue between 6,500 and 7,000 parking permits to faculty, students and staff. There are only 3,300 parking spaces on campus; 1,500 are available to students.

Mital will work with DPS to create a ride share program where two people who share a ride can receive a reduced parking fee as well.

Last spring, Mital and his students sponsored a contest between University departments and their staffs to use alternate means of transportation. Mital plans on conducting a similar contest later this year.

For more information visit www.alternetrides.com.

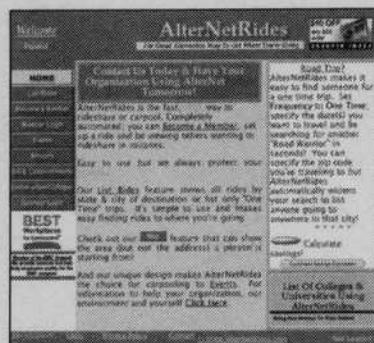
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KATE HORTON | PHOTOGRAPHER

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