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## Measure 36: Basic Rights optimistic for an appeal

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constrained Guimond in his decision. "He was bound by decisions that prevented him from ruling in our favor," Kassell said. "I think it provides sound framework for an appeal."

Tim Nashif, political director for the Defense of Marriage Coalition, the group responsible for the measure, said though Guimond reached the decision differently than the group would like, he still came to the right decision. "Regardless of what track you go on, you get to the same place," Nashif said.

Kassell said that despite Basic Rights' optimism for an appeal, the fact that the gay marriage ban stands is still troubling.

"Although this a necessary part of a long-term movement, it's tough when you realize discrimination will stay for some time to come," Kassell said.

The ruling was especially tough for the couples named as plaintiffs in the case, Kassell said.

"Those people are personally affected who put their personal life out in front to forward the discussion of same-sex marriage," Kassell said. "For those people this is a tough moment of frustration and disappointment."

Nashif said the real impact would have come if Guimond had ruled

against the measure.

"This is written so simply and applies just to marriage," Nashif said. "If they rule against this it makes it near impossible to amend the constitution."

Though the ruling went in their favor, Nashif said Defense of Marriage is not celebrating the decision.

"It's costing thousands of dollars to fight this," Nashif said. "I feel it's unfortunate we have to keep fighting this."

Nashif said that Basic Rights is trying to tell Oregonians what they can and can't do in their own state.

"They're saying Oregonians don't have the right to determine what is a civil right and what isn't," Nashif said. "They assume it's a civil right, but we would disagree."

Basic Rights contends the challenge is a necessary part of the initiative process.

"Ballot measure challenges are part of the checks and balances in the state of Oregon," Kassell said. "This ruling is part of that process. By no means is this the end of this case or the end of this issue."

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## Meetings: Swastikas found drawn on walls in Barnhart

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his family.

Thursday's meeting also addressed more recent incidents in Barnhart.

A couple of weeks ago, swastikas were found drawn on walls in hallways inside Barnhart, McNeely said.

University Housing Director of Resident Life Sandy Schoonover added that early last week, swastikas were also found in the Hamilton Complex carved into a table in the Common Grounds Cafe and drawn on a photo of a University Housing staff member.

Some students at the meeting said they wished they were more informed about racist events in the residence halls. Eyster said the University decides on a case-by-case basis whether to release details of incidents of harassment because discussing some incidents might reveal confidential information about a student.

E-mails have been sent to all students living in the residence halls describing the need to be respectful of other students, but these e-mails do not go into detail about specific incidents, Eyster said.

Schoonover said a poster describing resources such as the Bias Response Team for dealing with racist incidents

will soon be posted in all residence halls and dining venues.

Oregon Hillel Executive Director Hal Applebaum, who also attended the meeting, said the swastikas in the residence halls are especially offensive because they invade the homes of students.

"My reaction when I first heard was not just for the Jewish students, but for all minority students and non-minority students, too," Applebaum said, adding that today's hate groups use swastikas to intimidate people of many minority groups.

"That's not necessarily against Jewish students," Applebaum said. "It's against gosh knows who and gosh knows what."

Lou Vijayakar, assistant director of residence life for University Housing, said the next public discussion will be in the Hamilton Complex at 6:30 p.m. on Nov. 9. Discussions are also planned for the Walton and Bean complexes, although dates have not been decided yet. There will also be an information fair in the residence hall dining areas on Nov. 28, 29 and 30.

*Contact the business, science and technology reporter at [esylwester@dailyemerald.com](mailto:esylwester@dailyemerald.com)*

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