

O R E G O N

COMMENTATOR

NOVEMBER 30, 2000

VOLUME XVIII, ISSUE III & IV

A JOURNAL OF OPINION



BEHIND CLOSED



FOUNDED SEPT. 27, 1983 • MEMBER COLLEGIATE NETWORK

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The OREGON COMMENTATOR is an independent journal of opinion published at the University of Oregon for the campus community. Founded by a group of concerned student journalists Sept. 27 1983, the COMMENTATOR has had a major impact in the “war of ideas” on campus, providing students with an alternative to the left-wing orthodoxy promoted by other student publications, professors and student groups. During its eighteen-year existence, it has enabled University students to hear both sides of issues. Our paper combines reporting with opinion, humor and feature articles. We have won national recognition for our commitment to journalistic excellence.

The OREGON COMMENTATOR is operated as a program of the Associated Students of the University of Oregon (ASUO) and is staffed solely by volunteer editors and writers. The paper is funded through student incidental fees, advertising revenue and private donations. We print a wide variety of material, but our main purpose is to show students that a political philosophy of conservatism, free thought and individual liberty is an intelligent way of looking at the world — contrary to what they might hear in classrooms and on campus. In general, editors of the COMMENTATOR share beliefs in the following:

- We believe that the University should be a forum for rational and informed debate — instead of the current climate in which ideological dogma, political correctness, fashion and mob mentality interfere with academic pursuit.
- We emphatically oppose totalitarianism and its apologists.
- We believe that it is important for the University community to view the world realistically, intelligently and, above all, rationally.
- We believe that any attempt to establish utopia is bound to meet with failure and, more often than not, disaster.
- We believe that while it would be foolish to praise or agree mindlessly with everything our nation does, it is both ungrateful and dishonest not to acknowledge the tremendous blessings and benefits we receive as Americans.
- We believe that free enterprise and economic growth, especially at the local level, provide the basis for a sound society.
- We believe that the University is an important battleground in the “war of ideas” and that the outcome of political battles of the future are, to a large degree, being determined on campuses today.
- We believe that a code of honor, integrity, pride and rationality are the fundamental characteristics for individual success.
- Socialism guarantees the right to work. However, we believe that the right not to work is fundamental to individual liberty. Apathy is a human right.



A look at the University of Oregon's Department of Public Safety

UPDATE: DPS ALREADY HAS APPROVAL FROM OREGON STATE BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION TO COMMISSION UP TO THIRTEEN OFFICERS

Late-breaking information about the commissioning of UO Public Safety officers.

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EDITORIAL: A ROGUE DEPARTMENT

For a long time, the Department of Public Safety has suffered from corruption, harassment and mismanagement. The OREGON COMMENTATOR tells you why.

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WORKING FOR THE MAN

While the Department maintains that all is well at DPS, others have a much different story. Former officer Kim Maynard shares his experiences working for DPS.

By Amber Plaunty and David Bauffman

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TO PROTECT AND TO SERVE?

What is the extent of the Department's jurisdiction on this campus? The OREGON COMMENTATOR delves into its current authority and future plans.

By Aaron K. Breniman

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THE POWERS THAT MIGHT BE

Right now, DPS cannot stop, search or cite you for non-criminal offenses on the UO campus. When you return to classes next term, this could have changed.

By Brian Boone

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A QUESTIONABLE PROCEDURE

What's it like to be stopped by DPS, detained for the EPD to cite you, and never be informed of your rights by either department involved? One student tells his story.

By William Beutler

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AN UNWELCOME PRESENCE?

Is DPS adhering to their responsibility to protect the campus with their new substation in the Walton Complex — or is it a futile attempt to make friends with the dorms?

By Rebekah Hearn

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A KEY INCIDENT

In the fall of 1999, a full set of keys to the University Housing residence halls were stolen from DPS. How does this affect students currently living in the dorms?

By Ben Nahorney

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EDITORIAL: THE STATE OF AFFAIRS

Now that you're familiar with the troubled state of DPS, ask yourself this: should they be trusted with expanded powers and possible armament?

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COMMENTATOR

November 30, 2000
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 Commentator Publishing Co., Inc.

In memory of Zoe, 1988?-2000. She was a good dog. →



DEPARTMENTS

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THE **OC** ASKS:

What will you do now that football season is over?



Maurice Morris

Man, I've never seen so many crackers in one place. This goddamn valley is startin' to getting cold, too. I think I'll try to snuggle up with a pair of warm titties until next season.



Dave Frohnmayer

First I've got to iron Phil's polo shirts, then I have to pick up his slacks at the cleaners... then I "get" to be in some new Michael Moore documentary. Which is my better side, do you think?



Spalding Inflated Rubber Bladder and Pigskin

Am I embarrassed, or what? What do you think it did for my credibility to only make it through the goal post half the time? I'm lookin' for a trade here.



A.J. Feeley

I'm building a bench at home that should make a nice Christmas gift. It's a lot like the one that I kept warm all season. And man, oh man, do I have to get my ass back in shape.



Dennis Erickson

If all goes according to plan, I'll be kickin' back in the warm Cali sun. Or Arizona sun. Hell, anywhere with sun. Screw the Northwest.



Mike Bellotti

Hell, I don't know about you, but for me it's all about my personal table at the Olive Garden. See you chumps next year: you're stuck with me, my hair and my ridiculous RoboDuck alter ego.



A flask

Every Saturday with the sneaking around with that cheap whiskey you kept pouring into me... I was really starting to get sick. I'm glad the season is over. All I want is to go relax in a bottom drawer somewhere.

The OC would like to congratulate the Oregon Ducks on another winning season of NCAA football. Now if only you didn't have to constantly embarrass yourselves at the end of each season.

The Dead Week Fallacy

AS GEORGE CARLIN ONCE INQUIRED, WHAT HAPPENED TO ALL THE zombies? This is the same thing that comes to mind during this time of the year when everybody starts pronouncing the coming of the infamous "Dead Week."

Why is there, every term, a need to acknowledge this week at all? Hallmark hasn't decided to capitalize on the concept of Dead Week greeting cards and memorabilia yet, so can't we ignore this supposed week-long holiday as well? Where do you suppose this college tradition came from? Who's dead? Are you dead? We're not dead. Is it related to the Mexican Dia de los Muertos?

According to rumor, the term originates from the idea that classes were not held, or at least no assignments were due during this last week before finals. Obviously, our professors long ago decided to buck this trend, and now we work as hard during this time — if not harder — as any other. Perhaps it could be attributed to the idea that local businesses will be short on customers because we are all locked into "study mode" in our respected homes.

Well, look around: Dead Week is actually a very busy time, with groups of students publicly huddled together around their steaming cups of caffeine sharing last minute tips, tricks and potential exam patterns. We are all actually quite active during Dead Week, probably more so than the rest of the term, because it is now or never. Fight or flight. Kill or be killed. Perhaps there is some relevance.

Anyway, with no Hallmark potential it is a lost cause. And as our friend George Carlin is duly noted for saying, "The problem with zombies is that they are unreliable." Not unlike our expectations of Dead Week.



The above advertisement ran in the Register-Guard, November 22, and probably on other days as well.

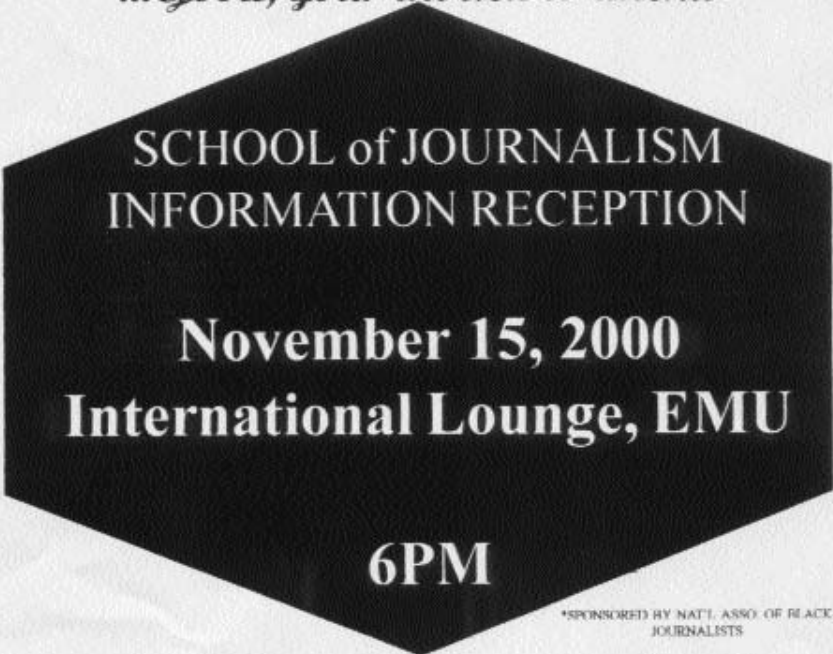
We have reprinted it for your reading pleasure.

Things to do:

- Head on over to <http://www.amihotornot.com> and rate the contestants. Be fair, but be honest. Or give everyone ones, just out of spite.
- Take a stand on an issue that doesn't matter to you. Sign Scott Austin's recall petition. Or refuse to sign it. It doesn't matter to us — oops, we forgot — it isn't actually Scott's petition. Well, like we said. It doesn't matter anyway. Take a stand.
- Tune in to KWVA on Tuesday nights from 6:30-7:00, and bask in the brilliant political and social commentary. Or something.
- Buy three packs of Yellowjackets from 7-11 and pop all the capsules at one time. Feel the sting! Feel your heart explode!

Are You a Journalism Student?
Want to be?

...Good, your invited to attend



Take advantage of a great oppurtunity to network and meet professesors and professional journalists in your projected field of study!!

GET TO KNOW YOUR RESOURCES THAT ARE AVAILABLE!!

OC Challenge!

Ever wonder why the journalism on this campus is so awful? Could it be because those in the School of Journalism are illiterate?

For several weeks, the poster to the left could be found on the bulletin boards outside of Allen Hall, inviting one and all to some kind of meeting or another. Like most, you probably glanced once and moved on, never giving it another thought. The OREGON COMMENTATOR offers you a second chance to self evaluate your competence.

How many grammatical and typographical errors can you find on this poster?

Turn the page upside down and squint for the answers...

resources that are available to you, but were squinting hard that you get to know... actually it should be "get to know the available" should be rearranged to read "available are those resources available", perhaps... "Get to know your resources that are available" maybe Eric W Allen is older than I thought. "professional" the able check function on a word processor. "professional" truly, as the journalism school obviously isn't learning how to to be, should have been "Wanted". 3. One of the great "opportunities" being as as though "your" should have been "your", maybe "Want

Exposing corruption, incompetence and sobriety on the UO campus since 1983.

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WE PUT THE "OC" IN "DOT-OCM."

DPS ALREADY HAS APPROVAL FROM OREGON STATE BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION TO COMMISSION UP TO THIRTEEN OFFICERS

At a quarter to 5:00 on the evening before this issue went to press, the OREGON COMMENTATOR learned of a factual error contained within the pages of this magazine. While conducting a final interview with Department of Public Safety Director Tom Fitzpatrick, the COMMENTATOR learned that in order to have commissioned officers, DPS needs only the approval of the President of the University, Dave Frohnmayer. The Oregon State Board of Higher Education already granted the university the authority to commission up to 13 officers in 1996.

The COMMENTATOR had previously understood that in order for DPS to gain the authority to commission its officers with “stop and frisk” and “probable cause arrest” authority, the department still needed to present its case to the State Board of Higher Education. The board would then either approve or deny the commissioning. This was not the case and where necessary, changes have been made to correct this inaccuracy.

However, the COMMENTATOR was not alone in this assumption. Hilary Berkman, Director of the Office of Student Advocacy, was also under the impression that DPS still needed to present its case to the State Board of Higher Education before commissioning could occur. Iona Koleszar, Director of ASUO Legal Services, was also unaware of the status of commissioned officers at the university.

According to Vice-President for Administration Dan Williams, former DPS Director Carey Drayton had secured the approval for commissioning in 1996. Williams also noted that the University of Oregon had helped lead the approval process, which also resulted in the presence of commissioned officers at Portland State University and Western Oregon University.

Given the deadline, the OREGON COMMENTATOR was unable to pursue this story further in the pages of this issue.

For updates on this story, go to <http://www.oregoncommentator.com/update> for the latest information as this story develops.



The University of Oregon's Department of Public Safety has trampled on your rights and those of its employees for years. The OREGON COMMENTATOR goes behind closed doors to bring you a view of DPS you've never seen.

A ROGUE DEPARTMENT

This issue marks the culmination of several months' research, countless interviews with sources on the record and off, sources open and closed, and sources outside the Department of Public Safety and within. Some people were willing to speak on the record, and their testimony provides much of the information contained in the following articles. Many others were willing to speak on the condition of anonymity, and others simply refused — possibly afraid of repercussions or simply tired of dealing with the department.

For every allegation the COMMENTATOR makes against the Department of Public Safety in these pages, there are many others which were unverifiable and unfortunately had to be left out. Indeed, these allegations could merely be the tip of the iceberg.

For some time, it has been known by many at the University that all has not run smoothly at DPS. In October, the *Oregon Daily Emerald* ran a series of articles highlighting a handful of problems within the department. Several officers had left in recent months, DPS had installed supposedly illegal lights on their new vehicles, and a harassment lawsuit is pending. For a newspaper not usually known for their investigative journalism, these stories were a welcome change. However, the *Emerald* failed to follow up on these charges and overlooked others. Unfortunately, a newspaper with so many resources available to it has been either unable or unwilling to assemble a coherent picture of the department's transgressions. Enter the OREGON COMMENTATOR.

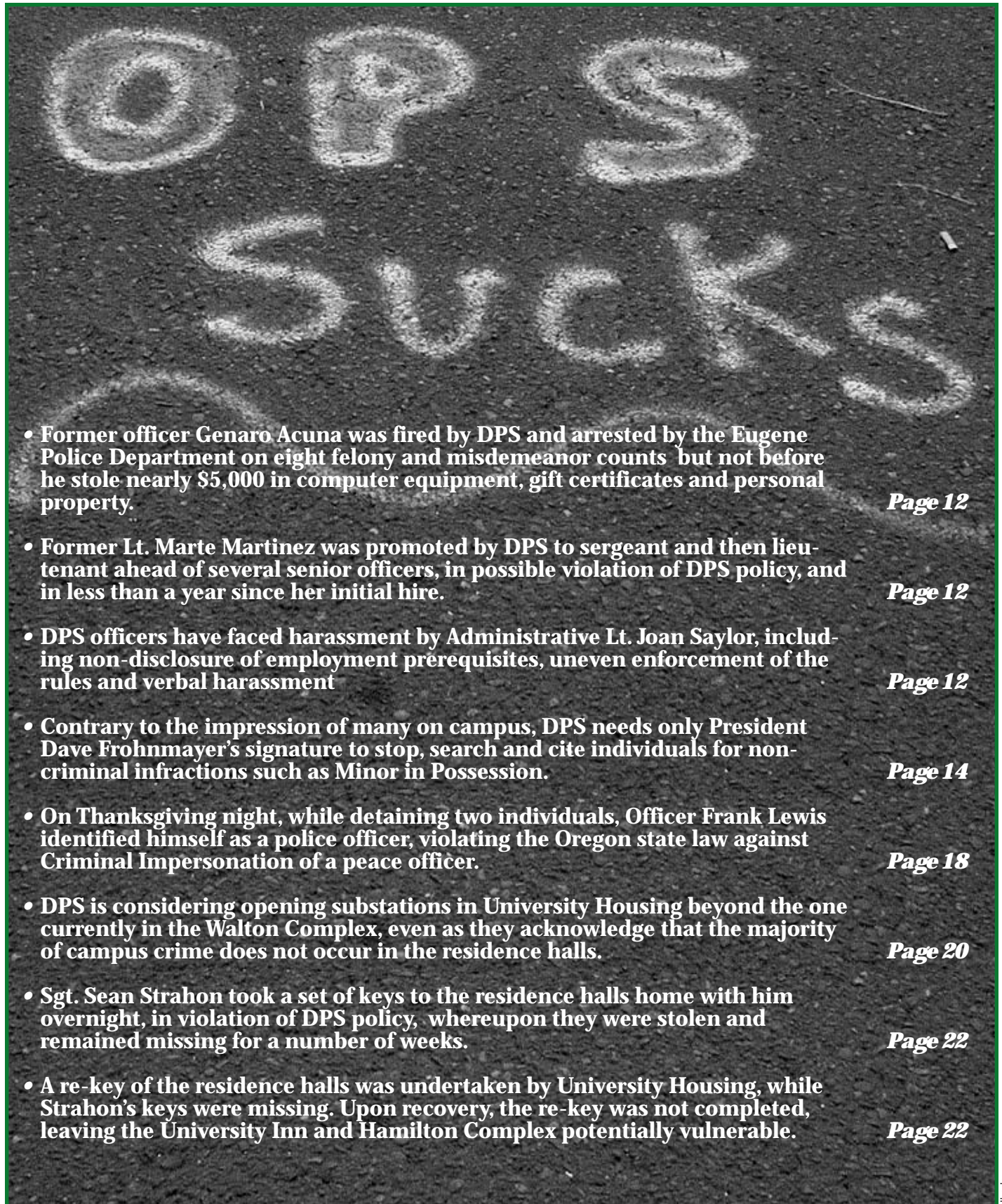
The Department of Public Safety (hereafter, DPS) operates out of a small office between Straub and Earl Halls. Until recently DPS went under the name of OPS, or the Office of Public Safety. In the past, the UO public safety office reported directly to the Vice President for Administration, Dan Williams. When former DPS Director Stan Reeves took over the DPS top spot in March of 1996, the department moved out from underneath the direct management of the vice president. Reeves instead reported to George Hecht, the Director of Campus Operations and head of Facilities Services and the department continues to do so today. However, Williams is now considering moving the management back to his office at the beginning of 2001. In the public's view, Fitzpatrick was promoted to the head of an independent University department not unlike that of

University Housing, Intercollegiate Athletics and the Erb Memorial Union. In reality, as Williams said, Public Safety "has always been its own department." The decision came about as a result of Williams' changing commitments to other programs under his jurisdiction. Until "about four years ago," Williams said, "it reported directly to me." The name change was made at the request of Fitzpatrick, who had been working to improve the image of Public Safety on campus.

This administrative decision would be otherwise unworthy of mention had not a number of other changes, initiated by Fitzpatrick, accompanied it. Prior to and following this transition, the department acquired new vehicles, new uniforms, adopted a new set of rules called the "21 Codes of Conduct," revised its "Uniform Regulations and Specifications," and opened a new substation in the Walton Complex. To the untrained observer it would seem that Fitzpatrick, who came to the University in November 1999 from a long career of law enforcement (he was last in charge of California State University at Monterey Bay's University Police Department), was merely improving the department's facilities.

In fact, Fitzpatrick aims to do much more than that. Plans are underway to "commission" some of the department's force, giving them the authority to stop and search people, write citations and — though DPS has officially taken no stance — to arm the UO's public safety officers. However, the circumstantial evidence strongly points to the likelihood of armed officers. Williams discounted the possibility, saying, "What we're trying to do [with DPS] is to upgrade the standards of what we require of our officers." Because current Oregon law does not allow for campus security officers to be armed, Williams added that "it's not our expectation that we're going to have armed police officers on campus." However, Officers at Risk, a special interest group representing Oregon public safety officers is currently lobbying the Oregon legislature for such changes. When pressed as to whether he would support such a bill, Williams skirted the issue, saying "I don't want to say never-never, but I don't want people to assume that a step in this direction is unnecessarily called for." Despite this assurance, he conceded that "the day may come when we would have our own police force, but that's a ways away." In fact, **CONTINUED ON PAGE 10**

The Complete List of Allegations:



- Former officer Genaro Acuna was fired by DPS and arrested by the Eugene Police Department on eight felony and misdemeanor counts but not before he stole nearly \$5,000 in computer equipment, gift certificates and personal property. **Page 12**
- Former Lt. Marte Martinez was promoted by DPS to sergeant and then lieutenant ahead of several senior officers, in possible violation of DPS policy, and in less than a year since her initial hire. **Page 12**
- DPS officers have faced harassment by Administrative Lt. Joan Saylor, including non-disclosure of employment prerequisites, uneven enforcement of the rules and verbal harassment **Page 12**
- Contrary to the impression of many on campus, DPS needs only President Dave Frohnmayer's signature to stop, search and cite individuals for non-criminal infractions such as Minor in Possession. **Page 14**
- On Thanksgiving night, while detaining two individuals, Officer Frank Lewis identified himself as a police officer, violating the Oregon state law against Criminal Impersonation of a peace officer. **Page 18**
- DPS is considering opening substations in University Housing beyond the one currently in the Walton Complex, even as they acknowledge that the majority of campus crime does not occur in the residence halls. **Page 20**
- Sgt. Sean Strahon took a set of keys to the residence halls home with him overnight, in violation of DPS policy, whereupon they were stolen and remained missing for a number of weeks. **Page 22**
- A re-key of the residence halls was undertaken by University Housing, while Strahon's keys were missing. Upon recovery, the re-key was not completed, leaving the University Inn and Hamilton Complex potentially vulnerable. **Page 22**

The above graffiti was found in the staff parking lot adjacent to the Hamilton Complex, next to Franklin Boulevard.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8 by his own admission, Williams initiated the legislation that made commissioning DPS a possibility in the first place.

Many are fearful that expanding the department's authority while DPS suffers from internal problems such as the *Emerald* and the COMMENTATOR have reported on, would lead to more problems than it would solve. Hilary Berkman of the Office of Student Advocacy has been following the moves of DPS, and is concerned about the consequences of commissioning DPS officers. By empowering officers to stop, search and cite students, officers will have a good argument that they need something more powerful than pepper spray to enforce city ordinances such as those against alcohol, marijuana and disorderly conduct. But should DPS be handling such matters, especially when the UO has a \$403,898 annual contract with the EPD to do exactly that? With a relatively young, inexperienced staff, and in light of the questions as to the department's ability to carry out its current duties, commissioning Public Safety officers would be a grave mistake.

For all of Fitzpatrick's endeavors, he has done nothing to correct the unethical actions of the department's management, which has damaged staff morale. Nor has he corrected the unethical behavior of his officers, which has damaged the department's relationship with the UO community. According to its critics, DPS management has been mediocre or worse for years. This is not the fault of Tom Fitzpatrick, but his failure to turn DPS around is. Furthermore, his unwavering push to make the department more police-like in spite of these problems is a serious issue. Perhaps he is unaware of these concerns. Perhaps he has considered them and dismissed them. If so, his decision is wanting for justification. Either way, DPS is at a crossroads, and the changes he has planned are not a step in the right direction.

Several issues raised by the *Emerald* are expanded upon in this issue, and others not even hinted at are explored in considerable detail. The department Fitzpatrick inherited from his predecessor, Stan Reeves, suffers from violations of ethics, common practice, University protocol, and even Oregon state law.

For example, many questions surround the recently opened substation in the Walton Complex. Associate Director Tom Hicks and others contend that the substation is about reaching out to the on-campus student population and forming a relationship, or "community policing," as he put it. But according to the

department's own numbers, most on-campus crime does not occur in the residence halls. What does this say about their priorities as a law-enforcement agency? Furthermore, the substation is located about 100 yards from the main DPS office. If a break-in were to be reported in Klamath Hall — the computer labs and chemical storage rooms are frequent targets — DPS would be in no better position to answer the call. Is this a wise tactical decision? [See "An Unwelcome Presence?," page 20, more information.]

The *Emerald* raised the specter of the red-and-blue lights on departmental vehicles and revealed that officers had been directed not to use them, as per state law, leaving it at that. However, the now-dismantled lights have allegedly been used on multiple occasions, though solid verification has proved difficult to lock down. The use of these lights constitute the Criminal Impersonation of a law enforcement officer (ORS 162.365), but the violations of this statute do not stop there. Some officers have identified themselves to students as "police officers," and the bicycles DPS rides around campus clearly display the word "Police."

The *Oregon Daily Emerald* briefly addressed the controversial promotion of Lt. Marte Martinez, and various complaints about harassment, but not in any degree of specificity. The hiring and swift promotion of Martinez, from Officer to Sergeant to Lieutenant in less than a year, is highly questionable. The rise of Lt. Martinez was the bellwether for a series of major personnel changes



Tom Fitzpatrick
Department of Public
Safety Director



Joan Saylor
DPS Administrative
Lieutenant

THE ADMINISTRATION, CHIEFLY JOAN SAYLOR AND TOM FITZPATRICK, HAVE BEEN SYSTEMATICALLY PUSHING OUT THE OLDER AND MORE MATURE OFFICERS IN FAVOR OF A YOUNGER, MORE MALLEABLE FORCE.

at DPS. Martinez was all but the protégé of Administrative Lieutenant Saylor, whom Fitzpatrick often defers to on personnel matters. Now officially on "personal leave," it is unlikely that she will return to DPS anytime soon — especially since her desk has recently been cleaned out. This is all for the better: Martinez's record of harassment and violation of state law (i.e. the use of the aforementioned red-and-blue lights) make her a poor example of leadership at a department already lacking in such areas.

According to more than one source, the administration,

UO Office of Communication /
Department of Public Safety

chiefly Saylor and Fitzpatrick, have been systematically pushing out the older and more mature officers in favor of a younger, more malleable force by raising standards unreasonably, arbitrarily enforcing the rules, and creating a hostile work environment. Saylor, a former caterer with no prior police experience, is in all likelihood the true head of the Department of Public Safety; the most egregious examples of harassment belong to her. [See "Working for The Man," page 12] Former officer Kim Maynard spoke extensively with the COMMENTATOR about the poor treatment not of just himself, but of his colleagues, by Fitzpatrick, Saylor and Martinez.

Sean Strahon, now a sergeant for DPS, took a set of keys to the University Housing residence halls home with him one night, in violation of departmental policy. Left in his vehicle overnight, Strahon's car was broken into, and the keys were stolen. The keys were recovered weeks later — after a re-key of the dorms had been undertaken.

Not only does DPS favor inexperienced officers who will go along with the program, but the department's hiring standards have been lackluster, failing to adequately investigate the backgrounds of some of its officers. One currently employed officer was hired with a restraining order against him, filed by his former wife in 1996 after physically threatening her and hitting her vehicle.

Are these the people you want protecting your person and property on this campus?

Given Fitzpatrick's desire to inch DPS closer and closer to full police status and Saylor's ability to quash dissension in the ranks, it would be fair to say that while DPS will upgrade the status of their officers, no improvements will be made to the quality of its operation.

The Office of Communications press release announcing his hiring last September describes Fitzpatrick as an "avid golfer, fisherman and outdoor enthusiast" and it has been said that Fitzpatrick's attentions lie in those pursuits, not improving the department. According to Maynard, Fitzpatrick's future with DPS, by his own statements, is tentative at best. "He was going to stay [with DPS] until he was 62, which is seven years, and then all of a sudden I heard it was five years, and now it sounds like maybe three years," says Maynard. "I bet he'll bail next year."

If Fitzpatrick is committed to building a professional operation out of the existing department, the issues surrounding the conduct of his employees must be addressed. Meanwhile, it would be in Public Safety's best interest to pull back from the

T. Tactical Uniform

Uniform shall be black in color with a cloth badge, nametag, and Departmental insignia sewn onto the appropriate places. The uniform will meet Departmental standards and is to be worn only for tactical/riot/training situations or upon approval by the Director of Public Safety and/or the Operations Commander.

U. Tactical Vest

Department issued "flack jacket" will be issued and worn only for tactical/riot/training situation with the approval by the Operations Commander.

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V. SECTION FIVE: DESIGNATED UNIFORMS

The following sections document and establish the designated uniform classes and occasions for their wear.

PATROL DIVISION:

A. Class A Uniform will be worn for formal occasions, special events, inspections, and as directed by the Division Commander. This uniform consists of the following Department issued or approved items:

1. Long sleeve, LAPD blue shirt with matching tie, Department approved tie tack, badge, nametag, and other required accessories such as commendation/ribbon bars.
2. Dress Jacket (Optional), LAPD blue with Department approved badge, nametag, service stripes and other required accessories such as commendation /ribbon bars.
3. LAPD blue trousers and black belt.

Top: According to the DPS Uniform Regulations and Specifications, flack jackets and other riot gear are listed among the approved uniforms for officers. Under what circumstances would a DPS officer be engaged in a riot situation? Above: Throughout the manual, the color of approved DPS uniforms are repeatedly referred to as "LAPD Blue" — hardly a reassuring image.

commissioning of what otherwise would be a simple and effective security force. Otherwise, he will leave a legacy of mismanagement and dangerous operations behind him — and we could all suffer the consequences.

Any effective safety department — be it the mall security, city police or campus patrol — must have the trust of the public it serves. This trust does not come automatically; this trust must be earned: by enforcing the rules fairly, evenly and ethically. The University of Oregon Department of Public Safety has not done this and does not do this. Based on their actions as described in this issue, DPS does not seem the least bit interested in behaving like a legitimate office vested with the responsibility of protecting the UO campus.

Surely the University of Oregon deserves better protection than this.

Working for The Man

Sho Ikeda

**BY AMBER PLAUNTY
AND DAVID BAUFMAN**

**They fire good officers.
They hire — and promote
— bad ones. One former
officer tells about life
inside DPS.**

During the research process for this issue, the OREGON COMMENTATOR interviewed Kim Maynard, a former employee of the Department of Public Safety.

An experienced safety officer — he once ran a security organization employing more than 150 people — Maynard aired numerous complaints and made serious allegations concerning the conduct of the DPS and its working environment. A DPS officer for more than five years, Maynard resigned just this September. Maynard contends that he was among the victims of an intentional, ongoing effort to weed out older employees as well as those that do not fit the narrow profile that he claims supervisors at DPS look for.

“Basically, they made working conditions so bad that I felt compelled to resign.” Maynard said. Among the management officers whom Maynard said contributed to the hostile environment was Lt. Marte Martinez.

Hired as a patrol officer, Martinez advanced to sergeant after a mere four months; six months later, she was promoted to lieutenant. This move was out of the ordinary, Maynard felt; it seemed to him and others that as senior officers, they were unfai-

ly excluded from the hiring process. “There were a couple of us who were going to apply for a lieutenant position... [Former officer] Terry Gaeta and myself felt that the direction of the place was going downhill, and that it had been poorly managed for a long time,” Maynard explained. “They needed some good management in there.” Gaeta could not be reached for comment by the time of publication.

The DPS administration divided a single lieutenant position into two, creating an Administrative and Operations Lieutenant. Maynard and Gaeta applied for the positions, but were discouraged by Director Tom Fitzpatrick. “The application process was basically him telling us how horrible we were and what problems we were causing.” While it made sense that the original lieutenant — Joan Saylor — should retain one of the positions, contract policy maintains that every eligible officer has a chance to apply. According to Maynard, Fitzpatrick said he wouldn’t even consider his or Gaeta’s application for Administrative Lieutenant. “They just gave the department a memo,” Maynard says. “The new lieutenants are Martinez and Saylor.”

Due to legal issues, the COMMENTATOR was unable to con-

firm the current status of Lieutenant Martinez; DPS maintains that she is on “personal leave,” but confidential sources say she will not be returning to the department. As to why Martinez is on leave, Maynard did not believe it was a voluntary decision on her part. “I’m 99.9 percent sure it was harassment,” Maynard said, “because harassment is what she does best.”

According to Maynard, Martinez played favorites, allowing Sgt. Sean Strahon “to go to his girlfriend’s track meet on duty without a radio and get paid for it,” while she sometimes called officers out to locations beyond their patrolling jurisdiction. “I was on the radio once when Lt. Martinez was out at Autzen Stadium and called to have one of us come out to check on some woman on Centennial [Boulevard] who was laying on the sidewalk. Centennial is not Autzen; it’s not on campus.” Incidents like these, coupled with her rapid advancement, contributed to resentment of Martinez within the department.

Martinez’s harassment was not limited to fellow employees, either. Maynard claims Martinez told officers that it was okay to use force to obtain entry to students’ rooms, even after the student has denied them entrance. “That’s breaking and entering... it’s like your home... they can’t come in unless they have a search warrant and [DPS] can’t get search warrants,” Maynard said.

A few months after Maynard and Gaeta were denied consideration for lieutenant, a steadily mounting series of incidents led Maynard to consider resigning his position.

After Maynard took four days sick leave due to a virus, Fitzpatrick told him that he would need a doctor’s release to return to work. Maynard pointed out that his contract stated he only needed a note from a doctor after seven days’ absence. According to Maynard, Fitzpatrick said, “Well, we’ll deal with this some other way.” At the end of the following week, Maynard came in to the office where he heard Parking and Transportation Manager Rand Stamm “talking to the secretary saying, ‘I don’t know what’s going to happen, but it should be interesting.’”

What followed was: Maynard was ordered to report to the Watch Commander’s office and was put on administrative leave until he could provide a doctor’s statement approving him for returning to work. This notice came after Maynard had already worked a full week following his four days sick leave.

Another incident that added to his frustration happened when Fitzpatrick brought in a trainer to set up four eight-hour training sessions, to familiarize officers with certain defensive tactics. Because of Maynard’s physical limitations as a disabled war veteran, his not being able to complete the second defensive tactics course — in which officers rode bicycles up and down the steps at Autzen Stadium — disqualified him from participating in the bike patrol, which he was assigned to at the time.

NOVEMBER 30, 2000



A staff photo of the Department of Public Safety, from the DPS website at <http://safetyweb.uoregon.edu>.

DPS maintains that Lt. Martinez is on “personal leave,” but confidential sources say she will not be returning to the department. As to why Martinez is on leave, Maynard did not believe it was a voluntary decision on her part. “I’m 99.9 percent sure it was harassment,” Maynard said, “because harassment is what she does best.”

“This was another thing to try to get rid of us older officers,” Maynard says. “I have all the same paperwork that everyone else has, but they took away my pepper spray and [baton],” sending Maynard out to patrol the campus without adequate means to defend himself.

Other incidents were more bizarre: Maynard was written up for “bringing in large meals” and sharing them with students. He claimed that the meals were never disruptive to the work atmosphere, and that he liked cooking for the hungry and cash-poor student workers. “I love to cook, so I used to bring in food and tell the students, ‘Hey, if you’re hungry, come back here.’ I didn’t cook it there; I cooked it at home and brought it in.”

Maynard claims that Terry Gaeta was mistreated in a similar manner, which he believes led to her resignation. “She was a bike patrol officer... and then all of a sudden they hire a new person, assign him as bike patrol officer.” Gaeta was reduced to driving around campus in “one of the beat-up pizza vans,” as Maynard called the DPS vans. Maynard also recalled an instance in which Stamm ordered an officer to ticket Gaeta’s truck, even though it was legally parked and sported the necessary parking permit. “[Stamm] just didn’t like the fact that it was a long truck [in a compact parking space], but the fact was that she wasn’t even driving that truck that day,” Maynard explained. Upon hearing of Stamm’s action, Gaeta

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DPS is not a police agency — not yet, anyway. Currently, their powers of enforcement are limited to the Student Conduct Code. Soon, the department’s powers could be greatly expanded to include those now reserved for full-fledged police agencies.



TO PROTECT AND TO SERVE?

BY AARON K. BRENIMAN



From impromptu stops to police-like cruisers and revenue-collecting parking vehicles and meters, DPS is an everyday presence to UO students.

Ask students at the University what authority the Department of Public Safety possesses and chances are the replies will cover everything from a likeness to mall security all the way up to a full-blown police agency. The fact remains that the majority of students on this campus do not know the parameters of the department’s authority. So the question arises: where exactly does DPS derive their authority?

Under ORS 131.615, peace officers, commonly referred to as police officers, are the only arm of the law that can legally stop, detain, frisk, search, transport and/or arrest individuals. DPS officers do not possess the same authority vested in peace officers.

“[DPS officers] have no greater authority than an average citizen,” said Hilary Berkman Director of the Office of Student Advocacy, an office that regularly deals with students whom have had contact with DPS.

DPS compensates for its lack of authority under Oregon law through enforcement of the University’s Student Conduct Code, specifically from section 14 of the offenses heading.

“Students get charged with this on a regular basis — failure to comply,” Berkman said addressing section 14 of the Student

Conduct Code.

Section 14 of the Student Conduct Code directs students to comply with the orders of University employees, including DPS officers, when the conduct of the individual constitutes a danger. However, the determination of danger is dependent upon the officer’s perception and is highly subjective.

DPS is seeking to increase its authority under a provision to ORS 352.385 that permits the Oregon State Board of Higher Education(OSBHE), at the request of any educational institution under its control, to authorize that specific institution to commission one or more of its employees as “special campus security officers.”

According to DPS Director Thomas Fitzpatrick and Vice President for Administration Dan Williams said the OSBHE authorized the University to employ “special campus security officers” in 1996. Fitzpatrick has said he hopes to obtain the designation of “special security officers” by Jan. 1, 2001, for as many as ten of his officers. The designation would give DPS officers “probable cause arrest” and “stop and frisk” authority.

“Where we are moving is to simply take advantage of that [provision of the law],” Fitzpatrick said.

The power to commission the DPS officers as “special security officers” is held by the University. Currently, only two schools in the Oregon University System — Portland State University and Western Oregon University — have commissioned officers after being granted the authority by the Board to employ “special campus security officers.”

Critics of DPS have made the argument that many of the department’s recent changes are an attempt to make the officers appear more police-like in preparation.

“When Fitzpatrick talks about professionalism, every single item that he lists as being professional is police-like,” Berkman said.

Fitzpatrick and the claim professionalism, community relations and a positive presence on campus as the basis for the changes. Their recent changes include: full uniforms, new patrol cruisers outfitted with red and blue emergency lights, the use of formal citations and officers riding bicycles with the word “POLICE” stenciled on the bike bag. *[See picture below. —Ed.]*

The DPS Uniform Regulation and Specifications manual identifies the exact specifications of uniformed officer attire, the clothing plainclothes officers must wear and the department’s tactical equipment. Officer uniform requirements have been modified from casual blue pants with white tops to full uniforms. This manual makes numerous references to the color “LAPD Blue” when speaking of the department’s required shirts, jackets, pants, hats, etc; coincidental? Officer uniform requirements have been modified from casual blue pants and white tops to full uniforms.

DPS has gone from writing informal incident reports to writing formal citations referring students to Student Judicial Affairs

and for dorm residents, University Housing.

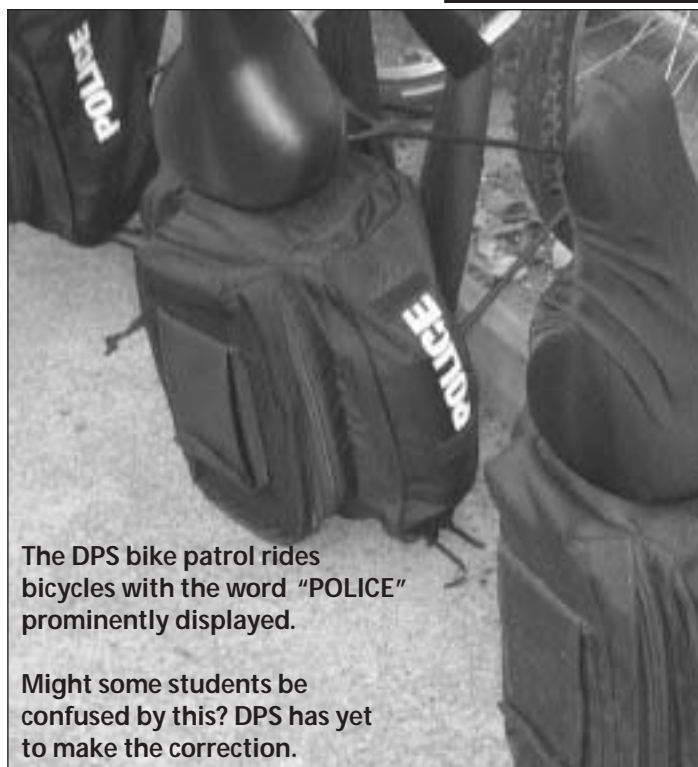
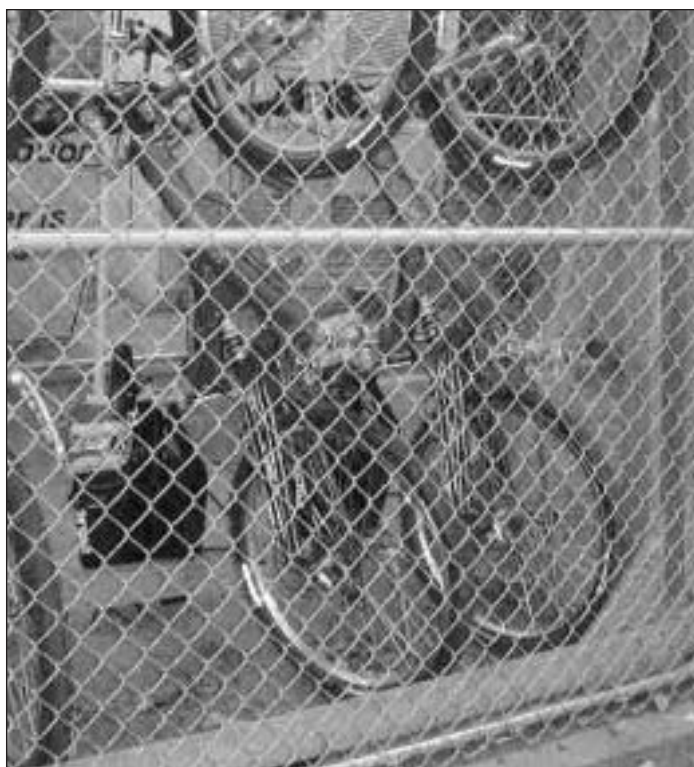
“The actual forms that they are using are now police forms,” Berkman said. “Because they are gearing up, they’re getting completely prepared to be commissioned officers.” The red and blue emergency lights the department has installed on many of their patrol cars are a violation of ODOT laws and illegal to use. Oregon law prohibits any vehicles except police vehicle from being equipped with blue emergency lights.

Fitzpatrick acknowledged that the lights had recently been used in responding to a call from a female screaming for help from a blue phone.

“It was a life threatening situation,” he said. “And that’s what we’re going to reserve the lights for.”

However, the University is not without a police presence. The University has a contract with the Eugene Police Department to staff EPD officers on campus. The contract provides for one sergeant and six officers to be assigned exclusively to the campus detail. Currently being renegotiated, it costs the University \$403,898 a year. This contract provides the University with priority access to armed EPD officers to be called upon in situations that exceed the scope of DPS authority on campus, even though ORS 352.385 specifically prohibits the arming of campus security officers. The OSBHE visited the issue of arming OUS public safety officers in 1987 when the original legislative concept was approved that gave the OSBHE the authority to appoint “special campus security officers,” while specifically forbidding the arming of officers. More recently, the 1995 Legislative Session expanded “special campus security officer’s” authority to “stop and frisk.” Again this provision is under consideration to be

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The DPS bike patrol rides bicycles with the word “POLICE” prominently displayed.

Might some students be confused by this? DPS has yet to make the correction.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15 amended by the OSBHE.

According to the OSBHE meeting minutes, representatives from the Portland State University Public Safety Department approached the Board and asked for reconsideration of the prohibition against firearms. PSU representatives told the OSBHE they seek enhanced police powers for job safety and campus security reasons arising from the changing nature of their work. These minutes state that the Oregon University System Public Safety Directors endorse the proposal.

Oregon University System Director of Legal Services Benjamin E. Rawlins said that the board's failure to move on the concept displayed their hesitation.

The PSU Public Safety Department has gone so far as to form an advocacy group to promote their cause. Officers At Risk was formed by PSU officers and lobbies the OSBHE and the legisla-

ture. If DPS commissions their officers, will it follow that they too will request the power to carry firearms?

"I fear incrementalism. Once you commission officers on this campus to 'stop and frisk' and to make 'probable cause arrests,'" Berkman said. "It's just the next step."

As was the case with PSU, when officers become vested with this increased authority the need to be armed logically follows in the name of job safety. The question then arises, does this campus need a second armed police agency?



Aaron K. Breniman, a senior majoring in Journalism, is News Editor for the OREGON COMMENTATOR

Now you know what DPS already has the right do.

Read on to see what they might soon be able to.

If DPS succeeds in commissioning its officers, critics fear that the next step would be to seek firearms to assist in the enforcement of its authority. Is the UO ready for an armed campus police force?



THE POWERS THAT MIGHT BE

BY BRIAN BOONE

It's a Friday night at about 1:30 in the morning. You've had a beer or two at a party off-campus and now you're walking down 13th, heading back to the dorms. All of a sudden, you notice a cop walking toward you. He puts his hand out to stop you. As you get closer, you get a look at his uniform and realize he's not a cop, just a public safety officer. Thinking he poses no threat, you ignore him and keep walking instead. The safety officer catches up to you and asks you to stop and to answer a couple of questions. He's not a real policeman, you think. Can he actually stop me? Does he really have the right to ask me questions?

In the absence of the Eugene Police Department, the Department of Public Safety is the de facto legal authority on campus. But despite their well-documented tendency to overextend the reach of their tenuous power, DPS has no real authority. For all intents and purposes, DPS officers are security guards and have no right to stop or detain you any more than anyone else does.

They can't stop or search you, but like anybody, they can make citizens' arrests. Because they are not fully commissioned officers, they cannot even arrest or cite you for violations of city ordinances. According to Director of Student Judicial Affairs Chris Loschiavo, the majority of campus offenses are indeed such violations, including Minor in Possession of alcohol (MIP), Minor in Possession by Consumption and allowing minors to consume alcohol on private property. But, due to the fact that these are merely violations — not crimes — and DPS are not real cops, there is nothing they could do to you, except when a municipal violation overlaps with a provision in the University's Student Conduct Code.

But this is all likely to change. DPS is pursuing a state statute (ORS 352.385) that allows it to petition the State Board of Higher Education for authorization to "commission one or more of its employees as special campus security officers." Officially com-

missioned officers would serve as police officers as far as ORS 131.605 to 131.625 is concerned, granting them the power to stop, frisk, search and arrest students. The department's recent changes, such as writing official incident reports, acquiring police cruisers, and wearing full police uniforms suggest that the agency is preparing themselves for the day when they become full officers. Ideally, DPS hopes to institute commissioned officers by January 2001, but that date is optimistic. While most of those who follow DPS imagined that the State Board of Higher Education, had yet to rule on whether or not DPS could be commissioned or not, in fact the Board has already approved the motion. All it needs now is President Dave Frohnmayer's signature.

Being fully commissioned would not give DPS officers all the same rights as actual police. Namely, DPS would still not be permitted to carry guns; instead, they would keep the same enforcement tools, such as batons and pepper spray. Critics of DPS argue that giving its officers firearms would be the next logical step, as officers required to enforce a wider array of laws with the same defenses as before might have a convincing argument. The differing degrees of armament would be the main issue separating DPS from the Eugene Police Department.

Commissioned special campus security officers would have the right to stop and question you, but these rights would be restricted. In order to stop someone, they would have to "reasonably suspect" a person has already committed or is about to commit a crime. Also, the officer would have to tell you that he or she is a public safety officer before they proceed with their reasonable inquiry" into your activities. Third, the momentary detention and subsequent questioning would only be allowed to last for a limited and sensible amount of time, meaning that the reason for stopping a person includes only the immediate circumstances that made the officer initially suspicious. Any frisks or weapon searches as well would have to proceed quickly and be directly related to the officer's stated purpose for stopping you. For example, a DPS officer could not search your backpack for a gun if he stopped you to ask if you had seen a drug transaction.

All of this means that the commissioned security officer must have a clearly defined and promptly stated reason for stopping you; such an officer would not be allowed to search, frisk, nor ask you any questions unrelated to their reasons for stopping you.

Relevant Oregon Revised Statutes

352.385 Special campus security officers; authority; training; expense. (1) The State Board of Higher Education may, at the request of any institution under its control, authorize that institution to commission one or more of its employees as special campus security officers. However, the total number of special campus security officers commissioned at the institutions in the State System of Higher Education shall not exceed 50. Special campus security officers shall have stop and frisk authority as set forth in ORS 131.605 to 131.625 and probable cause arrest authority and the accompanying immunities as set forth in ORS 133.310 and 133.315 when acting in the scope of their employment as defined by the State Board of Higher Education. Special campus security officers shall not be authorized to carry firearms as police officers and, except as provided in subsection (3) of this section, shall not be considered police officers for purposes of ORS 181.610, 238.005, 243.005 or 243.736. (2) The Department of Public Safety Standards and Training shall train special campus security officers at the expense of the State Board of Higher Education. (3) The State Board of Higher Education, acting by and through its special campus security officers, is a criminal justice agency for purposes of rules adopted pursuant to ORS 181.730 (3). [1987 c.745 ss.1,2; 1995 c.364 s.1; 1997 c.853 s.37]

133.225 Arrest by a private person. (1) A private person may arrest another person for any crime committed in the presence of the private person if the private person has probable cause to believe the arrested person committed the crime.

131.605 Definitions for ORS 131.605 to 131.625. As used in ORS 131.605 to 131.625, unless the context requires otherwise: (1) "Crime" has the meaning provided for that term in ORS 161.515. (2) "Dangerous weapon," "deadly weapon" and "person" have the meaning provided for those terms in ORS 161.015. (3) "Frisk" is an external patting of a person's outer clothing. (4) "Is about to commit" means unusual conduct that leads a peace officer reasonably to conclude in light of the officer's training and experience that criminal activity may be afoot. (5) "Reasonably suspects" means that a peace officer holds a belief that is reasonable under the totality of the circumstances existing at the time and place the peace officer acts as authorized in ORS 131.605 to 131.625. (6) A "stop" is a temporary restraint of a person's liberty by a peace officer lawfully present in any place. [1973 c.836 s.30; 1997 c.866 s.2]

131.625 Frisk of stopped persons. (1) A peace officer may frisk a stopped person for dangerous or deadly weapons if the officer reasonably suspects that the person is armed and dangerous to the officer or other persons present. (2) If, in the course of the frisk, the peace officer feels an object which the peace officer reasonably suspects is a dangerous or deadly weapon, the peace officer may take such action as is reasonably necessary to take possession of the weapon. [1973 c.836 s.32; 1997 c.866 s.3]

In spite of all the ways in which "fake cops" can act like "real cops," students do have many rights when dealing with officers, be they from public safety or the real thing. According to ASUO Legal Services, while there are certain procedures you must abide by, there are also some things you can outright refuse were you to be approached by a commissioned safety officer.

Specifically, you may not physically resist an officer or give the officer a fake name, as both offenses could lead to your arrest.

DPS should be here to ensure the safety of the University community and help out with day-to-day operations. When pursuing more authority and more weapons for its officers, their mission becomes all the more hazy and all the more questionable.



Brian Boone, a senior majoring in Journalism, is an Associate Editor for the OREGON COMMENTATOR

A Questionable Procedure

One Eugene resident alleges that the Department of Public Safety stopped him and a friend on campus, detained them against their will — and one identified himself as a Eugene police officer.

BY WILLIAM BEUTLER



Fenton Hall, the scene of the Thanksgiving night altercation.

For some students, recent changes at the UO's Department of Public Safety — and allegedly, the behavior of some of its employees — are blurring the line between officers at DPS and those at the Eugene Police Department.

However, because the outward physical appearance of DPS has become markedly more police-like, the possibility of confusing DPS with the EPD is greater than before. This ambiguity has already resulted in one incident involving a group of students who claim that not only was a DPS officer's identity unclear, but that one officer took advantage of this uncertainty.

Shortly after 1:30 in the morning on Thanksgiving night, November 24, Lane Community College sophomore Dan Smith was on the UO campus with five of his friends. Somewhat intoxicated, members of his group had been knocking over ashtrays and causing mischief. Near Fenton Hall on 13th, a UO stu-

dent and friend of Smith's (who asked not to be identified) knocked over a trash can and rolled it down the short flight of stairs nearby.

To their surprise, two DPS officers emerged from behind the bushes next to the west side of the building. According to Smith, they yelled: "Freeze! Get on the fucking ground!" Four of them fled, escaping further confrontation. One of the officers, later identified as Royce Myers, tackled Smith's friend on the stairs, taking him down to the ground. Thinking that he was being ignored, Smith began walking west toward Kincaid. "They didn't seem to be paying attention to me," he said. Although he wanted to assist his friend, "there was nothing I could do, personally."

Smith had walked about thirty-five feet up 13th when he heard the officers take note of him. The second officer, later iden-

tified as Frank Lewis, caught up with Smith moments later, asking, "Can you step over here, sir?" Smith complied, and Lewis requested that he present some identification. The officers themselves had yet to identify themselves or the source of their authority, and Smith was cautious.

"I asked him, 'are you a police officer, sir?' And he said yes." The officer did not present further identification, so Smith asked, "Can I have your badge number, and your name, sir?" The officer identified himself as "Officer Lewis" and gave his badge number. "At the time I was thinking it was his cop number... when I asked him if he was campus security, he said no." In the dim light of the street lamps, Smith did not get a good look at the patch on the officer's arm. "It looked like he was a member of the police squad... but I figured out later that [the officers' arm patches] said UO Public Safety on them."

Smith and Lewis returned to the sidewalk in front of Fenton, where Myers still had the UO student in an arm lock. "Are you going to struggle with me?" Myers asked the student, threatening to hit him over the head with his flashlight, Smith claimed. "I'll pepper spray you!" Smith recalled Myers threatening. His friend complied, and was allowed to sit on the bench nearby.

The officers informed the two students that they had to remain in their custody. Speaking with Myers while Lewis was a short distance away, Myers confirmed that the two were indeed UO public safety officers, not police officers. "He was a lot nicer than Lewis was," Smith said. "He told me the truth."

EPD Officer Baird arrived soon after. Smith had not knocked down any garbage cans or ashtrays, but is 20 years old, was cited for Minor in Possession by Consumption; his friend received the same citation, plus one for Criminal Mischief II, as well as two for violating the UO Student Conduct Code.

As of November 29, DPS Associate Director Tom Hicks had only a limited knowledge of the incident, and could not comment on the specifics of Smith's allegations, but advised that he file a complaint with DPS. "We receive complaints throughout the year and we investigate them in an informal or formal manner

depending on the person handling that." Hicks denied any knowledge of DPS employees identifying themselves as police officers at any time during his tenure, contending that he had "never experienced or heard about [an officer misrepresenting his or her authority.]"

In a prior interview, former DPS officer Kim Maynard told a different story. "I've heard several [DPS officers] say that we're police. Maynard told the COMMENTATOR that there have been instances he witnessed where students have asked if officers were security guards, and officers have responded, "No, we're police."

ORS 162.365 specifies: "A person commits the crime of criminal impersonation if with intent to obtain a benefit or to injure or defraud another the person falsely impersonates a public servant and does an act in such assumed character." This raises an important issue: by telling the students that they were officers of the law, their rights were violated.

Associate Director Tom Hicks denied any knowledge of DPS employees identifying themselves as police officers, saying he had "never experienced or heard about [an officer misrepresenting his or her authority.]" Former DPS officer Kim Maynard told a different story: "I've heard several [DPS officers] say that we're police."

Because the incident is still under investigation with the City of Eugene, Hicks was unable to release the DPS report or comment further on the case, though he did add: "They're more than welcome to talk to me. I'll be glad to take a report on it and investigate the matter."

By the time this issue went to press, Smith and his friend were strongly considering the possibility of filing a complaint against the officers through the Department of Public Safety.

While the use of force is a situational judgement call, the false declaration of oneself as a public servant is a more obvious problem. For many students, the vary

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DPS claims their new substation in Hawthorne Hall will improve their relationship with the residence hall community. Will this be the dawn of a kinder, gentler era for the dorm patrol, or will it just be...

AN UNWANTED PRESENCE?



Sho Ikeda

BY REBEKAH HEARN

Even those of us who are new to the UO are used to them by now: Public Safety officers. They roam the campus by night and by day, on bike, foot, or car, watching the campus area and especially the students wandering around it like hawks. Their job is to protect us, to make sure we're not doing anything wrong or disturbing others, and to enforce campus policies. Most of us can accept that, we believe, with minimal complaining, as long as we know they are just simply doing their job, in their offices. But what if their offices are in the dorms?

Beginning in the spring term of 2000, the UO Department of Public Safety (formerly Office of Public Safety) began brainstorming the idea of putting a substation in the residence halls. After DPS did research on the effects that similar substations had on other campuses, the idea was put into action. What exactly is a substation, you may ask? Well, a substation is just what it sounds like: DPS officers are constantly on duty in at least one of the residence halls, and in fact has a semi-permanent office there. Now, don't worry, students all over the campus are certainly scratching their heads now along with you, wondering just what kind of effect this sort of addition would have on the already tense relationship between officers and students. Apparently, the newly instituted substation has had a minor

effect on students thus far, but doubt still remains prevalent among many students. However, the DPS staff seems to have a positive outlook.

The DPS substation is located at C115 Hawthorne, a residence hall in the Walton complex, and it was put there just this fall. There are three officers on duty weekdays and during weekends, from 6:00 p.m. until 2:00 a.m.: Officers Robert Guse, Chris Rouse, and Chip Collier. According to DPS, these officers are not there to cite students and get them in trouble, as some might think. According to DPS Associate Director Tom Hicks, the purpose of these officers in Hawthorne is to "extend the concept of community policing." The main focus he wants people to understand regarding the substation is that DPS wanted to, first and foremost, make sure the students use the officers as a "resource", not look at them with fear, disrespect, or distrust. Also, Hicks mentioned that another main goal was to develop a good rapport between housing staff and Public Safety. Officer Guse agrees with both these goals. He says that the officers mainly want to provide a place for people to come in, talk, and ask questions of the officers, and to feel absolutely free in doing so. The officers' hope is that the substation provides a less threatening and more personable alternative to the main DPS office.

“My main goal is to give students an education,” says Guse. Officer Louse wants to encourage students to feel free to come by, assuring us that “we talk to people as if they are human beings, which they are!” This all sounds good, but do the students buy it?

Marc Thayer, a sophomore majoring in Computer Science and a student living in Hawthorne, doesn’t seem to think so. “I do not agree with putting an OPS [sic] substation in the dorms,” he says. “Having a substation in the dorms will allow the officers to more easily cite the students for minor infractions. . . I think it would be a big mistake.” Another student, who wished not to be named, said that “the students in Hawthorne were definitely leery at first” of the entire situation. A few other residents agreed that in general that particular hall, and indeed the whole complex, does not cause that many problems, in their opinion. Amy, a Walton complex resident and an undeclared freshman, said that she was almost insulted that the substation be put in

ronment any more than having the station a few minutes away already does.” A point often brought up by the students was, why wasn’t this substation put somewhere else on campus, where most of the crimes and violations are committed anyway? It’s a important point that the residence halls aren’t home to even the majority of problems around UO. In 1999, for example, the total number of reported drug and liquor violations campus-wide, not including residence halls, was 63; in just the residence halls, however, the combined number of the same type of violations was only 31. The substation was not a response to any recent rise in residence hall violations, either; in fact, the number of reported violations all over campus has decreased since 1997. Thefts were lower in general around the residence halls too: Last year, there were 136 reported thefts campus-wide (including car, building, and bicycle), and the residence halls reported 64 incidences of theft. To the naked eye, these statistics seem to completely contradict the actions DPS has taken.

One would immediately wonder why a substation was being put in one of the safer, calmer halls on campus; by looking at these statistics, it stands to reason that a better move on Public Safety’s part would have been to put the substation where it would have done more good in keeping crimes and violations at bay. Hicks counters this point by emphasizing that DPS really wanted to “focus on the housing students” with this particular project. “Some of the crimes on campus don’t even involve students,” he said, which although is a

true enough statement, does not cut down on the reality of the numbers at all. Guse says that although in numbers the crimes campuswide may occur more frequently, patrolling the whole campus all the time just isn’t possible. His thought is that putting the substation near the dorms where problems tend to be more concentrated makes more sense. Also, Public Safety’s main point with this project was to show that not only is DPS on duty in the halls to cut down on theft, drinking, and all kinds of mayhem, the officers, Hicks pointed out, truly want the students to feel “comfortable” approaching Public Safety with problems and troubles they can’t or don’t want to handle on their own, within the residence halls or not.

Now, let’s be realistic here. DPS certainly is backing up their reasoning for a residence hall substation with believably heartfelt, sincere claims of wanting to better the lives of students, but many students, especially the hall residents, don’t think they need their lives bettered by DPS. In fact, most residents here on campus are indeed very wary of all these goings-on. The students’ belief is, if DPS has already put one substation in Hawthorne, what’s to stop them from putting a substation in Hamilton, as was the plan originally, then putting one in Bean, and so on and so forth until, before we

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Hawthorne was not the department’s first choice for the substation’s location. However, limited space forced DPS to put the office in Hawthorne, which is already about a three-minute walk to the DPS headquarters on 15th Street.

Hawthorne, an honors hall, because “. . .we’re not nearly as bad as those kids in Bean!” Jon, a Journalism major and a freshman in Hamilton, takes the opposite tack: “I think a substation could be a great thing. . .most students think officers only come around when bad things are happening, and DPS should really try to get rid of that stereotype by making themselves more available.” However, Jon also said that he thought the substation would do better in a more “rowdy” complex. Marc also commented on the placement of the station: “Living in Hawthorne myself, and having been to other dorms during both the day and night, I can easily tell you that the substation would accomplish more in any number of other dorms, including Hamilton or Bean.” Apparently, DPS thinks the same way. Hicks said that Hawthorne was not their first choice for the substation and they had instead hoped to put it close to the crosswalk at Agate, on the Hamilton side. However, limited space in other halls forced DPS to put the office in Hawthorne, which is already about a three-minute walk to the DPS headquarters on 15th Street.

What about safety? Does this substation help foster a sense of security among the residents? “The kids here feel safe as it is,” says one unnamed source. Marc’s belief is that “[the substation] would not make the students feel more secure in their own envi-

BY BEN NAHORNEY

A KEY INCIDENT

Twice in the past year, keys belonging to DPS have been lost and recovered. One set of these keys open a number of doors around the UO residence halls — and the locks have yet to be changed.

Security is a feature that dorm residents expect during their time living in the residence halls. However, a little-known incident from the winter of last year may have compromised the safety of the residence halls.

In the fall of 1999, Department of Public Safety Officer Sean Strahon, in violation of DPS policy, took home with him a set of DPS-issued keys at the end of his shift. Such key sets open pathway locks, locks on residence hall entry doors, as well as master



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keys that gain access to all dorm rooms on campus.

That night, his car was broken into and the keys were taken. Strahon reported the keys stolen and a re-keying order was sent to the Housing Department and charged to DPS.

A number of weeks later, the keys were found when the Eugene Police Department discovered them in the possession of a suspect in another unrelated theft case. The keys were subsequently returned to the University.

According to Emily Smee, the locksmith for the Office of University Housing, the pathway locks to Bean, Carson, Earl, Riley and Watson re-keyed during the time the keys were missing. When the keys were found, the re-keying process was stopped.

Currently, the pathway locks to Hamilton and the University Inn remained unchanged, as do the doors to all dorm rooms on campus.

Would it have been possible for a person to make copies of the keys, if they had access to the proper equipment? “If it’s not a high security key, there’s not a 100 percent guarantee that it can’t be duplicated,” said Stephen Joers of Action Locksmithing, a Eugene based locksmith company. He explained that a high security key is generally issued to and patented by a particular manufacturer. Only this manufacturer has the resources to duplicate the key. University Housing maintains its own lock shop, but does not use such high security keys.

Furthermore, this is not the only time that keys have been either lost or misplaced.

Shortly after the above incident, Kim Maynard, who was an officer in the department at the time, was cleaning out a patrol car and discovered a newly issued set of keys to the dorms, with the officer’s name on the key ring, under a car seat.

“I struggled with what to do with them,” Maynard said. Since the keys had not been reported as missing, Maynard said he decided to hold on to them to see if the officer would report them. A number of days passed and the keys were not reported missing.

“I took and dropped the keys in the director’s mailbox, where they sat for a week or two, and then they finally disappeared.” When asked about the incident, DPS Director Thomas Fitzpatrick said that he does not recall finding the set of keys in his box.

Regardless of what happened to the keys after this second incident, DPS officers are no longer given key sets that give them full access to the dorms. Officers must now check out entry door keys from the DPS office. Before entering a residence hall, officers must open a lock-box in front of each dorm and use the keys in that box to gain entry to individual dorm rooms in that particular hall.

Any copies of the first set of keys that were lost would still allow access to the pathway locks in Hamilton and the University Inn, as well as all individual dorm rooms.



Ben Nahorney, a senior majoring in Journalism, is Managing Editor for the OREGON COMMENTATOR

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“walked out the door and said, ‘I can’t even go back in that office.’”

Maynard says she then went to Oregon Hall and turned in her keys without cleaning out her locker.

Director Tom Fitzpatrick had little to say about Maynard’s accusations. “We had some folks that were unhappy working here — they chose to leave,” he told the COMMENTATOR.

However, not all former officers left willingly, Maynard says.

One officer was released after his six-month probation period, even though, according to Maynard, “he made more money for the department on parking than any other parking officer ever.” Maynard explains his view of the officer’s discharge: “He talked back to Joan Saylor the first week because when he got hired he had a beard. They interviewed him with a beard, they re-interviewed him with a beard... never said a word about it and his first day on the job... they said ‘Oh, you can’t have a beard.’” Maynard recounts the officer’s reply: “‘What? I went through this whole process, several interviews, face-to-face and you never said a word about having a beard and now you hire me and I’ve got to shave it off?’” The officer did shave his beard, indicating to Maynard that the beard itself was not the real cause for termination; rather, the comment to Saylor afterwards. Maynard believes that is the true reason why they let him go. “Because he talked back.”

Another dispatcher worked as a reserve police officer and took time off for his reserve duties. Saylor, believing he was using sick leave for the reserve duty, “called up his commander at the reserves and demanded to have copy of his work records,” recalls Maynard. “When the dispatcher found out about it, he confronted Joan, he said ‘That’s my private thing, it doesn’t interfere with my job here.’ So she fired him.”

Tom Fitzpatrick, however, did not believe that Maynard could possess any credible information about the department’s personnel issues. “There are very few people who truly have access [to personnel information] because the personnel information in this department is confidential.” He similarly brushed off Maynard’s allegations, saying “Kim Maynard had very little access to what goes on in this department.” However, Fitzpatrick said that he and Maynard got along well, and was disappointed that Maynard had never come to him personally to discuss his reasons for leaving the department.

Aside from Maynard’s allegations of harassment by management, there are other issues relating to the hiring of the department’s personnel.

A former officer, Genaro Siliga Acuna, was fired in December of 1999 and arrested by the Eugene Police Department on four counts of Theft in the First Degree, four

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counts of Official Misconduct in the First Degree and Burglary in the Second Degree. In all, the State of Oregon estimated that Acuna stole \$4,750, including a G3 Macintosh laptop, a Dell computer, and more than a thousand dollars worth of Fred Meyer gift certificates.

“I don’t think Joan [Saylor] did a very good background check on the guy,” Maynard said. “He came from San Diego and had worked on a sort of Coast Guard group. I remember a story, him saying that when they had drug busts on these ships, the Narcs would come and take the dope and arrest the people. He said he and his crew would just go [aboard] and take everything that they wanted.”

More recently, the COMMENTATOR discovered that an officer currently employed at the department has a restraining order against him from 1996, before he was hired by DPS. Fitzpatrick was still in California at the time of the hire, and when asked by the COMMENTATOR, he had no knowledge of the restraining order. “I wasn’t aware of that,” he said. Associate Director Tom Hicks, however, was part of the DPS administration at the time, and when he was later asked about the restraining order, he too admitted to the oversight.

Fitzpatrick defended the officer, however, saying, “he’s shown a strong work ethic since he’s been here. He is a hard worker. I believe he’s honest.”

Despite the allegations against the department and despite the tumultuous personnel situation, Fitzpatrick believes the department is a good place to work, though there is room for improvement. “There are a number of people that were here when I got here that are still here, and who appear to be somewhat happy working here,” he said. “I hope the working environment will get better... and more people will come and stay here and work hard and we’ll have a better environment.”



Amber Plaunty, a sophomore majoring in Journalism, is a staff writer for the OREGON COMMENTATOR

THE STATE OF AFFAIRS

DPS is on the verge of being commissioned to enforce infractions just like the Eugene Police Department does now. Given the state of the department and its general reputation on campus, is this a good idea?

The Department of Public Safety's reputation has suffered over the years, primarily due to allegations of harassment, both in its treatment of students and its employees.

For example, in 1998, the department and the university settled a suit by former DPS employee James Williams, who alleged racial discrimination against the department. As of 2000, DPS withstood a harassment suit filed by a dispatcher, Pauline Conaway. Many other DPS employees have also either left the department or were fired in the last year. DPS now wants to raise the level of authority it possesses by commissioning its officers — during a time when crime is down on campus.

DPS needs to prove itself to be a fair and responsible public safety department. As detailed in this issue, officers have overstepped their bounds by intimidating students who do not know their rights and have sometimes gone so far as to search students, even though they do not have this authority. According to Hillary Berkman, the director of the Office of Student Advocacy, a numerous complaints are brought to the Office of Student

Advocacy each year by students who claim DPS overstepped their boundaries in dealing with them. Berkman also notes that many students never report other cases, either because they do not know their rights, or they just don't take the time to go through the legal process.

A few years ago, for example, Conner Salisbury was working late at night for a professor in Straub hall. A window had been broken downstairs and DPS was patrolling the building looking for the suspect. Salisbury encountered the officers in the hallway near his professor's office and was questioned by a couple of officers as to why he was in the building. Salisbury went so far as to show them his keys to the building. According to Salisbury, his explanation was not sufficient enough for the officers and they attempted to restrain him. Salisbury claims he tried to back away, which the officers took as a sign of aggression, grabbed him, knocked him to the ground, and tried to put him into a submission hold. Salisbury, who has severe nerve damage in his right elbow, tried to slide out of the hold, all the time asking the officers to stop. The scuffle continued until EPD arrived, by which point Salisbury had severe rug-burns on his face and arms and the nerve damage in his shoulder had been aggravated.

Considering the instances such as these [See "A Questionable Procedure," page 18], is it a good idea to grant DPS officers "stop and frisk" as well as "probable cause arrest" authority? If DPS is going to commission its officers, it needs to prove that it will not abuse these newfound powers. Critics of the department say that given the reputation officers have gained with the powers they already possess, the department is not ready to take on new responsibilities just yet.

Beyond the question of the department's qualifications, other



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issues exist as well. How will someone who is stopped by DPS be able to tell if the officer in question has the right to search their person? While commissioning will not be given to all officers, there is currently no way to tell a commissioned officer from a regular officer. However, Fitzpatrick told the COMMENTATOR that the department is looking into the situation and could eventually recommend changes.

Recently, the newly installed lights on top of DPS squad cars have become a point of contention on campus. Director Thomas Fitzpatrick has been quoted as saying that the lights would be removed from the cars following the *Emerald* report that they were illegal. As of publication, most of the blue lights have been removed due to legal issues, but still remain on some vehicles.

Are such lights even necessary at a university such as ours? The UO campus landscaping is suitable more for that of bicycle and foot traffic, rather than that of cars, rendering the lights largely unusable in deterring most campus crime. Overall, there seems to be no adequate function or use that would necessitate such lights, short of pulling cars over. Fitzpatrick says that he has no desire to have his officers making traffic stops, citing the danger involved in such situations.

So what use would the lights have? "There may be extreme situations where we use the lights: safety issues," Fitzpatrick said. "Someone driving extremely erratically, and holding up traffic. Pulling them over until we get the police there."

Fitzpatrick also told us that the lights have indeed been used before. "The other day when we used the lights it happened to be an officer responding to a blue phone, female voice screaming on it 'I need some help!'" Fitzpatrick said. "We could identify the blue phone, but were cut off. So the officer did turn on his lights going to that call."

This action is in violation of the department's current authority, but Fitzpatrick defends his department's actions. "It was a life threatening situation...and that's what we're going to reserve the lights for." While noble and perhaps justified, such choices give the departments' critics to condemn such actions as violations of the Oregon Vehicle Code [ORS 861.350], which only authorizes the use of blue emergency lights by police officers. Current use of the lights, before commissioning is in place, could ultimately cast a negative light on the department's good intentions.

This is not to say that Fitzpatrick himself is not a decent and hard working public safety director. He has granted multiple interviews with the OREGON COMMENTATOR and has willingly answered some very tough questions without getting angry that his department is under scrutiny. We do not doubt that he wish-

es to improve safety on campus, but the approach could be better.

Before DPS raises the authority of its officers, it should first work to repair its reputation with the people it serves. Unfortunately, this does not seem to be the direction in which DPS is heading. Besides officer's conduct mentioned in the articles in this issue, their general appearance is moving away from an approachable disposition. Their white-shirted outfits have given way to police-like uniforms (official color: "LAPD Blue") with badges identical to those of EPD, short of the fact that they instead read "Department of Public Safety." The patrol vans with yellow and green lights have given way to dark gray Ford Tauruses with red and blue lights, which require a double-take at

If DPS is going to commission its officers, it needs to prove that it will not abuse these newfound powers. Critics of the department say that given the reputation officers have gained with the powers they already possess, the department is not ready to take on new responsibilities just yet.

night to determine if they are in fact DPS vehicles and not police cruisers. Will decisions such as these improve the relations the department has with the people it serves, or will it leave a different impression in the minds of the people who require the services of the department?

The commissioning of DPS officers is, in all likelihood, inevitable. It has the support of the administration, as Dan Williams, the vice president of administration, has already received the approval of the State Board of Higher Education. All that remains is President Frohnmayer's approval and commissioned officers will be established.

We at the OREGON COMMENTATOR support the idea of having a public safety department on campus in order to protect the safety of university students. However, we do not believe that DPS, in its current form, fulfills this role to the best of its ability. Given this we do not think that this is the time to increase the department's authority. "Stop and frisk" authority and "probable cause" arrest should be reserved for municipal police. That is the purpose of the university's contract with EPD.

DPS must earn the trust of its students first. Only then should it consider raising its level of authority on campus.

ing degrees of authority bestowed upon DPS and EPD officers are steeped in ambiguity. The reasons for this confusion, however, are somewhat more apparent; the two positions may have many differences, but the acknowledged relationship between them is longstanding.

For one, many officers who work for the city police have been security officers at one place or another; the vice versa is true. Director Tom Fitzpatrick himself worked for municipal as well as university police departments at different points during his career, and many other current and former DPS officers have made the transition from one level to the other as well.

Secondly, the common stereotype at the University and in the surrounding neighborhood is that officers at the Department of Public Safety are “wannabe cops” overstepping their authority, overestimating their power, on an ego trip and compensating for the fact that they are not full-fledged police officers. This perception, whether fair or not, applies to virtually any position in which a security officer wears a badge and uniform, but does not possess arrest authority.

In many cases, the intimidation felt by students when they encounter police officers originates not only from the legitimate power the authorities wield, but also from the officer’s superior knowledge of the law. To mitigate the disparity, the ACLU Foundation of Oregon publishes “Your Rights,” a wallet-sized card that details what you should do if approached by the police, and what you do not have to.

Critics of the EPD can be found throughout the city, from anarchists to lawyers to homeowners with bad experiences to share. The External Review Advisory Committee, a joint project of the City Manager’s Office and the Human Rights Commission, was formed in 1997 to ensure that complaints against the EPD were handled fairly and investigated thoroughly.

DPS on the other hand is much less scrutinized, increasing

the likelihood for abuse to occur. Currently, there is no external, standing body whose purpose it is to monitor the conduct of DPS officers. Each year, the UO Office of Student Advocacy records numerous complaints against DPS for violations against individual rights, though their resources are divided among other responsibilities.

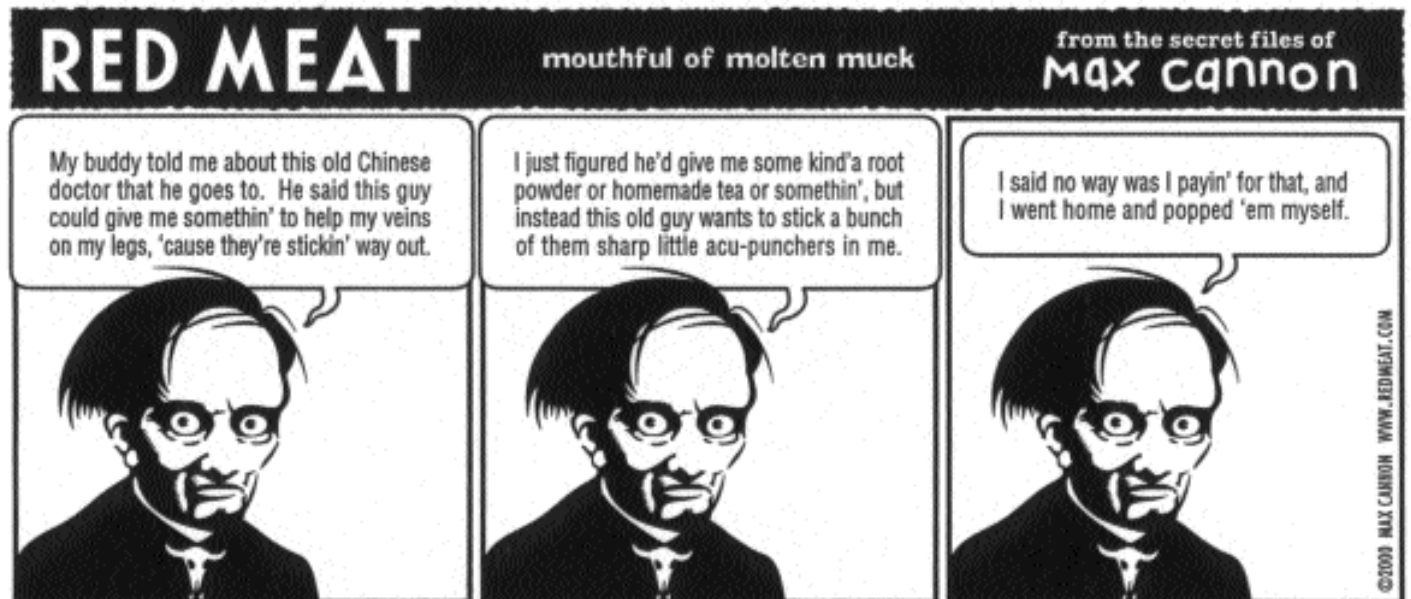
In an earlier interview with the COMMENTATOR, Fitzpatrick said that one of his plans is to form student advisory panel through the ASUO, not unlike that of the Associated Students Presidential Advisory Council (ASPAC) or Student Recreation and Fitness Advisory Board. For example, ASPAC comprises a group of students representing different interests at the UO who meet with University President Dave Frohnmayer twice per term to discuss issues pertinent to the student body. Fitzpatrick imagines a board of “nine to eleven” students representing the “interests on campus.”

Fitzpatrick’s primary difficulty organizing the committee, he says, is simply finding the time to do it. “It’s just having the time to sit down and get together with the administrators on campus, and others, and getting their input.” Fitzpatrick intends to meet with representatives of the ASUO, including President Jay Breslow, to discuss the model for such a panel.

For Smith, this type of bureaucratic committee work is little consolation. DPS regularly deals with non-UO students, though the committee is likely to be composed of representatives solely from University of Oregon.



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can believe our very eyes, there are DPS officers living in every complex, right below our sleepy little heads? Although naturally this scenario will not happen during this school year, the worry is somewhat valid. Hicks remarked that DPS is considering this first substation as a "pilot project", and that at the end of the school year DPS will "evaluate the effectiveness of the program and determine if it should be expanded," he says. Officer Guse supports expansion as well, although he notes that DPS really needs to get the Hawthorne substation on its feet first. Also, he recognizes that many officers put in the position of manning the substations could go on a power trip, which is, he says, not the idea behind this project. "Expand it with idea that the officers need to focus on education," Guse emphasizes. "We don't want to be the bad guys." Of course, the cost of such a program has to be taken into account, and considerations such as these will play a huge part in the planning of such a project. But if DPS wants substations in the dorms, no doubt, there will be substations eventually.

Even if DPS's goal is not necessarily to play the wicked witches of the UO campus, this setup may result in heightened strain and tension between the officers and the students, especially the cocky, oh-so-independent freshmen. Kids in college don't want to feel as if they are being babysat; they want to act like adults and take care of themselves. Efforts to heighten campus safety and increase security measures are always appreciated, especially by students who live on campus, but this while this substation idea could succeed greatly, it may not ever be seen as anything more than a way for officers to breathe down our necks. However, some students stay optimistic or at least indifferent.



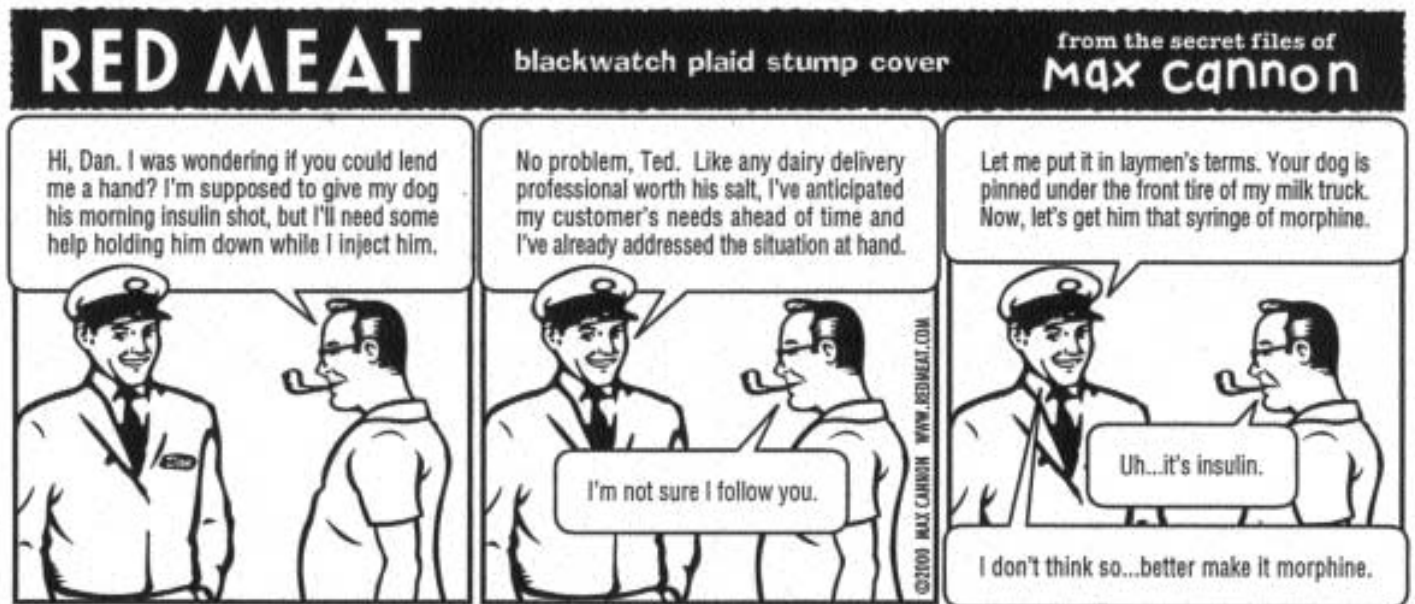
The DPS substation in the Walton Complex's Hawthorne Hall is a "pilot project" for potential future residence-hall based substations.

"For the most part, his [the officer's] presence doesn't really bother the kids," says one Hawthorne resident. Promising statement, but she quickly followed up with, "But some kids definitely resent the whole thing." Several students have supported the project just the way it is, and some support minor and major changes, such as location. Marc says that "increasing their area of coverage [by putting the substations elsewhere] would improve my feelings of security on campus, and isn't that what they said they were trying to do?"

Isn't it, indeed?



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Attack the Quack!

BY BRANDON HARTLEY



Brandon Hartley

Dark days are upon us. Any moment now the clouds will gather overhead and burst, drenching this region like the underpants of an elderly woman who has forgotten to pick up Depends on her weekly trip to Hiron's. As yet another moldy Oregon winter rolls in, a plague continues to hold this community in an iron grip. Far worse than four more years of another Bush in the Oval Office is what lies ahead. November 17th, 5:30 PM, only 19 hours left to go. Tomorrow, for better or worse, it will happen — an event that will decide the fate of the people of Eugene for the next month. This cancer, this madness, this hell is, of course, the Civil War game.

By the time this article is published it will all be over, becoming a distant memory or remaining an on-going curse. If Eugene's beloved Ducks win tomorrow, it will be impossible to ward-off the football fever that will turn everyone within a 300-hundred square mile radius of the Casanova Center into rabid automatons. Clogging every available facet of the media, it'll all be on the tips of everyone's tongues until 2001; the Rose Bowl, the spread, the Duck's chances--- there will be no escape. If the Ducks lose and fade off into the obscurity of the Sun Bowl then life will return to normal, well, at least until next September. Tomorrow is a gigantic groundhog with irritable bowels and a head full of hate; it's contempt for this land unparalleled. If it pops its enormous, bloated head out of its hole and sees a shadow then we're in for 6 more weeks of "Ducks! Ducks! Ducks!" If not, it'll be the end, the end of it all, for at least a little while.

There is no stopping what can't be stopped. Those of us who couldn't care less about the Ducks can always hope though. The following is a list of reasons why I and about three other people in Eugene wish Mike Bellotti would take a job with the Seahawks and turn his clipboard over to Gilbert Gottfried.

1. FOOTBALL SUCKS

While not as mind numbing as baseball, or those Magic card playoffs they show on ESPN 2 in the middle of the night, football is still an incredibly boring game. With its 15,000 rules and constant stoppage of play, the sport is about as interesting as a

Battleship match between a pair of comatose cancer patients. The average game of college football runs 4-hours but feels more like several decades. Is it really necessary to allow the teams a full 28-seconds between plays? And how about all that padding? What's up with that pansy crap?

So many have compared football to war so why isn't it more like Normandy? Get rid of the rules (all of them, especially that bullshit about "holding"), replace the shoulder pads with flak jackets, stick a few minefields here and there, mix in a dozen slow-witted hamsters and the occasional air strike and now you've got yourself a game. Think of how much more intense an afternoon at Autzen would be if everyone in the stadium, fans and those running the concession stands included, ran the risk of being horribly maimed at any given second.

2. FOOTBALL PROVES THAT COMMUNISM STILL HAS A SHOT IN THIS COUNTRY

Take a walk down 13th on any given weekday. In those few blocks you'll pass: steakheads, indie-rock poseurs, Frog-devotees, alumni, dormrats, exchange students, the homeless and lonely girls obsessed with "Family Ties." A pretty diverse crowd with differing morals, tastes and grooming habits. Now, take every one of these people, stick them in Autzen Stadium with 45,000 screaming morons and watch them quickly become absorbed in the spectacle. A few seconds in Duck Central can mutate the most uptight recluse in Earl Hall into a drooling fanatic. If something as simple as a 22 guys running around with a ball can turn thousands into a hive-collective devoid of any semblance of individualism then Marx's dream could still come to fruition in the US. Despite all this...

3. DUCK FANS ARE BORING AND AREN'T NEARLY AS INTERESTING AS SOCCER HOOLIGANS (OR BEAVER FANS)

Europeans really know how to enjoy a sporting event. If their team loses a big game, they wait outside the stadium and toss Molotov cocktails at the players. Riots, bombs, casualties, alcohol poisonings and bottles full of urine are all common elements

in “football” overseas. The fans in Eugene could learn a few things from those people. Something must be done. Attendees should be handed bottles of mescaline and copies of Bill Buford’s “Among the Thugs” at every Duck home game. The goal post didn’t even come down after the California win last week. The kids in Corvallis tore down theirs after a winning season in ‘98 and tried to use it as a battering ram on the front doors of OSU’s library. What’s the matter with you kids? Who cares about things like “good sportsmanship”? Some fans you are. Losers.

4. DUCK PLAYERS ARE BORING AND NOT NEARLY AS INTERESTING AS THEIR HOLLYWOOD COUNTERPARTS

Maybe I’ve seen “He’s Got Game” too many times, but the Duck’s starting line has failed, time and time again, to live up to the standards of their fictional dop-pelgangers. Considering that these pampered rubes are constantly being handed billboards, groupies, and petty cash, you would think they’d spend at least some of their free time flaunting their affluence. The university has given these guys so much and so many opportunities to shove their privileges in our faces, why all the humbleness? Why don’t they spend their free time tearing up the lawn at Hayward with all those nifty green Humvees? Joey Harrington’s so bland he looks like he belongs in a Tommy Hilfiger ad, not on the gridiron. Well, I guess if I had to choose between licking Dom Perignon off the breasts of sorority sluts in my university-provided penthouse and being a huge asshole to the rest of the student body without any fear of repercussion, I would... hmmm, that’s a tough one. Moving along...

5. “THE SCIENCE DEPARTMENT HAS FOUND A CURE FOR BOTH CANCER AND MALE-PATTERN BALDNESS? WHO CARES, HOW’D THE DUCKS DO ON SATURDAY?”

Some day these words will be overheard in Doc’s Pad, I guarantee it. The University of Oregon and the people of Eugene in recent years have made no attempts to hide where their true loyalties lie. So many places on campus are in dire need of improvements: the EMU, the Collier House, Gilbert Hall, etc. Instead of academic halls, what’s everyone hot and bothered to pump money into? New sky boxes in Autzen Stadium! This is a university that loaned \$170,000 meant for parking garage to fund the construction of the Moshofsky Center, a superfluous waste of concrete. 9 months a year, 5 days a week, 18,000 students struggle to commute to campus. 45,000 people easily get together at Autzen 6 days out of the year. On top of this, Belloti makes more money per year than Fronhmayr. Why doesn’t anyone else have a problem with all this?

6. DUCK GAMES TAKE UP VALUABLE AIRTIME THAT WOULD BE BETTER FILLED WITH COREY FELDMAN MARATHONS AND BLAZER HIGHLIGHTS

I guess this one’s pretty self-explanatory.

7. I ALMOST FLUNKED SPANISH 101 FRESHMAN YEAR AND IT’S ALL AKILI SMITH’S FAULT

Well, not really. Akili and I were in the same foreign language

So the
Ducks lost.

Like it really
matters.



Brandon Hartley

class a few years back. On several occasions, the two of us were stuck together in groups and forced to speak broken Spanish to one another. He was better at it than I was. I almost flunked the class and now he’s on the Bengals. Oh, and a guy I know named Adam once sold him 2 nickel-bags in a single day. I’ve also touched Pat Boone and Steve Buscemi. What does any of this have to do with the article? Nothing really. It’s filler. The title of this section is completely misleading. Don’t you feel used?

8. FINALLY, THE DUCKS HAVE FURTHER CONTRIBUTED TO THE DECAY OF KEN KESEY’S CAREER

“Also, ahem, two tickets which I foolishly ain’t got. Damn! If the game were in Eugene, I’d have a lot of connections. Must be that’s why I’m writing this little piece: Any kindhearted souls out there able to help a worn-out old Duck?”

—From a recent edition of ESPN Online’s “Page 2”

These are words from the laptop of Ken Kesey. Once, long ago he created Randle McMurphy, the greatest anti-hero in 20th century literature. Ken’s star faded a long time ago and now he has to grub for cash from ESPN. This tripe belongs on the cardboard signs of strange middle-aged men standing outside of sporting arenas, not attached to the name Kesey. If this isn’t proof enough that college football is inherently evil, I don’t what is.

The Ducks will probably win tomorrow. I hope that on the way to Pasadena their plane goes down and crashes into a Carl’s Jr. in Sacramento.

Wait, how could I write something like that? What’s the matter with me?

I’d much rather watch the Ducks lose the Rose Bowl an unprecedented -12 to 368; a loss so pathetic and career-destroying that the team’s star players will miss out on the NFL draft, forcing them to take jobs selling cellular phones out of plastic booths in the middle of Valley River Center. After all, isn’t that a fate worse than death?



Brandon Hartley, a senior majoring in English, is a featured columnist for the OREGON COMMENTATOR

ON UNCHALLENGED CERTIFICATIONS

Joan [Saylor] can't even write her own name without misspelling it... I've never seen anyone so horrible with grammar. She's never gotten a 'here' and 'hear' or 'there' and 'their' right. —Former DPS officer Kim Maynard, on linguistically-challenged Administrative Lieutenant Joan Saylor.

She's the worst speller. Run a grammar-check, she still screws up. But well, besides that I think she's certifiably insane. —Maynard, continued. Crazier than Hatoon? Well, Saylor's chosen place of employment is the Department of Public Safety, after all. After this issue, the front of the Knight Library looks pretty comfortable in comparison.

ON BEING DIGITAL

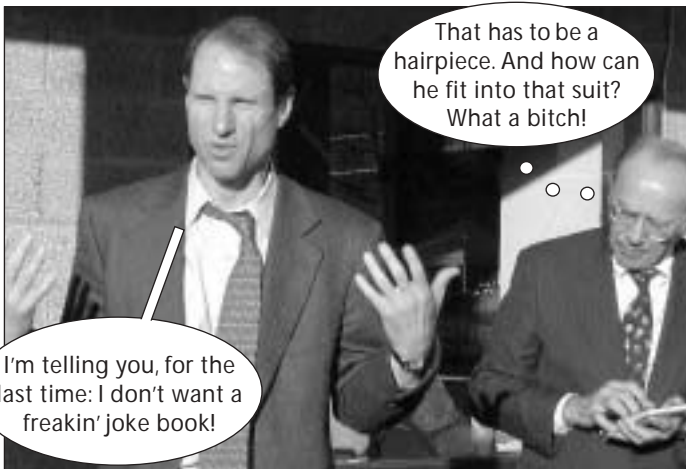
I hate technology! —ODE editorializer Pat Payne, AKA Capt. Sensible, storming out of the Allen Hall Brainerd computer lab. Just because you can't figure out a laser printer doesn't mean you should curse all of technological advancement, Pat. Some of Payne's political arguments are a little screwy, but we never took him for a Unabomber-style primitive anarchist.



ON LOWEST COMMON DENOMINATORS

Let me say that as a 43-year-old fan of the Backstreet Boys and a member of the Mature Fan Club for Backstreet Boys, there are many older fans out there who love the guys as much as the younger fans. —Becky Coyle of Zanesville, Ohio, in a November 24 letter to USA Today. Now here's a blatant example of a societal double-standard: NAMBLA gets hauled into court for \$200 million while the MFCBB gets to traipse about all over the editorial page of the nation's largest-circulated newspaper? For shame!

I have so much admiration, respect and love for them for all of the happiness they bring me and others and the way they treat their fans. —Coyle, attempting to justify her deviant ways in the minds of the American populace. Are you fooled? Neither are we.



ON RAISON D'ÊTRE

The purpose of crack cocaine is to bring down property values in communities. —A local hippie at the mini-market on 11th and Patterson "tellin' it like it is." What have you been smoking? The purpose of crack cocaine is get you really, really high. Obviously.

ON NATURAL CAUSES

More than 20,000 Russians died of alcohol poisoning in the first seven months of this year, a rise of more than 43 percent from the same period last year. —From the Reuter's article, "More Russians Drinking Themselves to Death." 43 percent isn't bad, but it's still a few percentage points shy of the COMMENTATOR alumni.

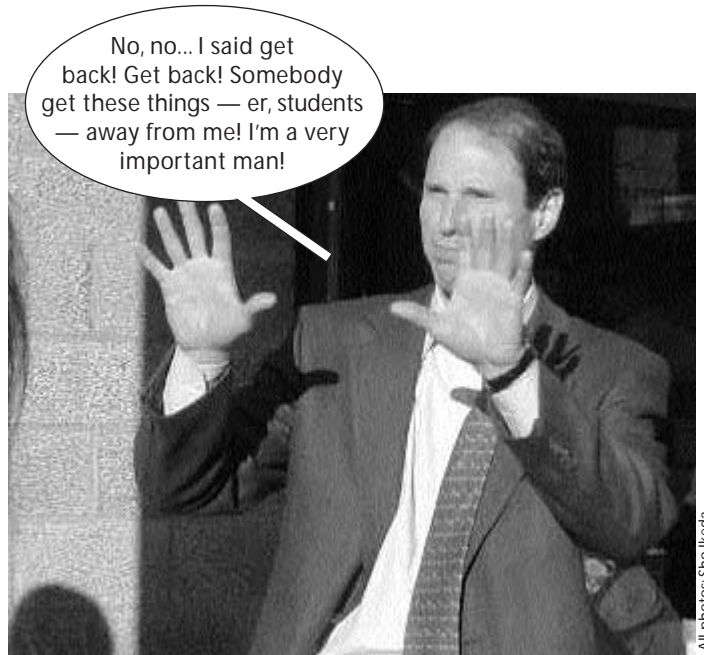
ON *KITSCH TURKS* —————

With this being the closest presidential vote ever, experts anticipate these irreverent “Indecision 2000” stamps could become the most sought after presidential collectible of all time.

—*Press release emailed from the International Collectors Society, peddling a series of Turkmenistanian postage stamps featuring George W. Bush and Al Gore. The experts agree: prepare to surrender your wallets.*

The only thing Republicans and Democrats can agree on is that these colorful postage stamps are a terrific way for everyone to remember the most extraordinary U.S. election ever!

—*International Collectors Society, continued. The experts agree: this is just as stupid as the email solicitations to make 40K a month stuffing envelopes.*



All photos: Sho Ikeda

ON *NOTHING TO LOSE BUT THEIR...* —————

U of O Campus Forest Action Group Begins Campaign Against Staples

—*From the October 2000 Insurgent. Finally, there's someone brave enough to stand up against the tyranny of the staple industrial-complex! ¡Viva la paper clips! Actually, what they meant was the office supply store Staples, but then our friends down in Suite One have never bothered much with clarity.*

Register-Guard, Register-Guard, Frontline Information Service, Frontline Information Service, CNN, CNN, CNN, CNN, CNN
 —*The sources of information for the LefTurNews section in the same Insurgent. So much for the corporate media covering up all the good stories, huh? Oh yeah, maybe you'd get something done — like put together a decent publication — if you got your ass up and out from in front of the TV.*



ON *WILDMANISMS* —————

You can kill a pit bull if you boil it long enough.
 —*Prof. Jim Blanchard in PEOL 285, Wilderness Survival.*

I really wish I had a button up here I could push that would release some ether in the hallway, then, just boom — silence.
 —*Blanchard again, in Wilderness Survival.*

ON *TICKLING THE ELMO* —

To relax, avoid dating; try ‘date for one’
 —*Headline from Pulse section of Nov. 30 Oregon Daily Emerald. No wonder the Emerald's layout is so awful — it's because they're all going blind. Remember: just because you bought yourself dinner doesn't mean you have the right to take advantage of yourself.*

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON BOOKSTORE



University of Oregon
DUCK SHOP
Post Civil War Blow-Out
SALE

Everything is >10% off
in honor of the Ducks
humiliating 10-point loss!!!



WHITE STEVE PREFONTAINE T-SHIRT \$18.95 \$17.95

Steve's ghostly face looks on in shame from beyond the grave as his alma mater falls from grace. HOT!!

ZEPHYR DUCK HAT OF DISHONOR \$14.95 \$12.95

Act now to buy this replica of the hat angry fans will ritualistically urinate in before throwing at the scorned Oregon running-back Maurice Morris. GOING FAST!



UO TRAILER HITCH \$59.95 \$49.95

Decorate your '76 Ford with this stylish trailer hitch as you and your family load up your meager possessions and join the rest of the belittled Oregon fans as they honor their treaty with Corvallis and join the mass exodus to Canada. LIMITED SUPPLY!!



OREGON STATE BEAVERS GEAR \$15.95 \$12.95

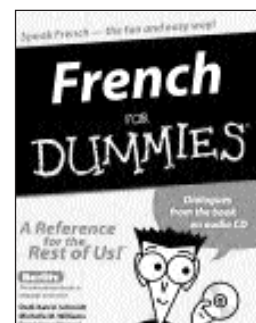
Orange and Black isn't just for inmates. Pull a "Maurer" and catch a ride on the Dennis Erickson bandwagon. If you can't beat em', just get an agriculture degree. RED HOT!!



JOEY HARRINGTON INTERCEPTION FOOTBALL

\$14.95 \$10.95

Comes specially printed with the letter "O" — just to remind Joey just what team he should be throwing to. GOING LIKE MAD!!



SENIOR FOOTBALL PLAYER TEXT BOOKS FREE

They won't be needing these in their entry level Real Estate jobs. Most of these books are still in the plastic. Mostly Sociology and Communication texts. PLEASE COME AND TAKE THEM OFF OUR HANDS!!