Please note this message may contain information that some may find upsetting.

A female University of Oregon student reported to the SAFE hotline and UO police that she was attacked by a man who tried to steal her backpack, about 12:45 a.m. on July 17 to the east of Beall Concert Hall on the UO campus.

The woman reported that she was walking south on the road between Beall Hall and the Pioneer Cemetery, when an unknown man approached her from behind, grabbed her hair and pushed her to the ground, and tried to remove her backpack. The woman pepper-sprayed the man, who stopped and fled, and the woman escaped. She described the man as white, late 20s to late 30s, about 6-feet-1, short hair, clean-shaven, with close-set eyes, wearing jeans and a dark-colored hooded sweatshirt with the hood up, and a strong smell of body odor.

The incident remains under investigation by the University of Oregon Police Department and anyone with information about the incident is asked to call UOPD at 541-346-2919. Updates regarding this incident when and if available will be posted on the UOPD website at police.uoregon.edu.

SAFETY TIPS FROM UOPD

- No action or inaction by a crime survivor makes that person responsible for his or her victimization. Perpetrators are responsible for crimes and their effects. The following suggestions may help reduce the possibility of experiencing such a crime, or may improve opportunities to receive prompt assistance.
- It is a crime to intentionally touch someone against his or her will, regardless of the situation.

- Every person and situation is different; survivors must decide for themselves what actions or responses are safest in any situation. If someone attempts to grab you, you have the right to yell “NO” loudly, or do whatever is necessary to get the person to let go, and flee to a safe place and seek help. When safe, try to remember as much as possible about the person’s appearance and behavior.
- Students may use UO Safe Ride (541-346-RIDE ext. 2), call a taxicab, or contact UOPD for an on-campus escort (541-346-2919).
- For emergencies or if you see a crime being committed, call 9-1-1. To report suspicious, illegal or unusual activity on campus, call UOPD at 541-346-2919.

RESOURCES AVAILABLE FOR SURVIVORS

- Survivors have a right to report crimes to police and have crimes investigated and/or prosecuted to the fullest extent possible.
- Call 541-346-SAFE at any time or visit safe.uoregon.edu to learn about options and resources.
- For students, a range of support services are available through the Office of the Dean of Students, 541-346-3216; uodos@uoregon.edu.
- For students, personal counseling and other support services are available through the University Counseling and Testing Center, 541-346-3227 (available 24 hours); counseling.uoregon.edu/dnn.
- For students, medical and sexual assault examination services are available at University Health Center, 541-346-2770; healthcenter.uoregon.edu.
- For employees, the Office of Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity, 541-346-3123, and Office of Human Resources, 541-346-3159, can assist in connecting to resources.
- Other community resources available are Sexual Assault Support Services (SASS), 541-343-7277 (24 hour crisis line) or 541-484-9791, Womenspace, 541-485-8232 or 541-485-6513 (24 hour crisis line), and White Bird Clinic Counseling, 541-342-8255 541-687-4000 (24 hour crisis line).