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## Painting by Numbers

University sign painter Mike Timshel labels a light pole by PLC Tuesday afternoon. The poles are labeled for maintenance purposes. After Timshel completes numbering the 600 poles around campus he will begin painting the room numbers for the new science buildings. Timshel, a silk screenist by trade, waits until the afternoon to paint due to weather conditions.

Photo by Mark Ylen

## Students speak out against EPD tickets

By Jolie Andrade  
Emerald Reporter

Students voiced their concerns about the increase of tickets and citations for small offenses and the inconsistency of investigations and arrests for various hate crimes at a police forum Tuesday afternoon.

The purpose of the forum, sponsored by the ASUO and Eugene Police Department, was to discuss what seems to be an uncomfortable relationship between University students and the EPD, said Kirk Bailey, ASUO Affairs Coordinator.

Students feel that there has been an increase in police presence. Police feel that students are to some extent breaking the law and have a great degree of disrespect, Bailey added.

"What results is a confrontational attitude," Bailey said, adding that he hopes the forum will help rid students of this attitude.

The forum was designed to formulate discussion between the ASUO, EPD and University students.

"In order to effectively work and coexist together we need help from University students," said John Rutledge, Deputy Chief of Police Service Division and main speaker of the forum.

The department wanted to conduct a forum to promote more communication between the police department and students, Rutledge said.

The issue of petty crimes and ticketing was brought up many times by irate students.

"Why are so many tickets being given out for stupid offenses?" asked Tim Hughes, a University student.

Lieutenant Ellwood Cushman gave three reasons for the increase in tickets.

In response to the partying issue, EPD has been issuing tickets because of community complaints, he said. Traffic tickets are given because they are potential hazards for both parties involved.

Cushman claimed that officers have given warnings before and they have been simply ignored. The officers are left with no other choice, he said.

Students complained about receiving high fines for jaywalking and not having lights on their bicycles at night. Many students said the officers didn't even give a warning before issuing a ticket.

"I thought the tradition was to give a warning first," Brian Hoop, a University student, said. "Now we're getting tickets for the maximum amount."

"Police have the discretion of whether they want to issue a warning or citation," Sergeant Greg Zahar, said, adding that the amount of the fines is determined by the court and not the ticketing officer.

Zahar suggested that students ask for a fine reduction by the judge when they appear in court.

Other students asked why the EPD is not increasing the arrest and prosecution for more important crimes that students are dealing with, such as harassment and hate crimes.

EPD claimed that they were pursuing these crimes also.

Laurel Sharp, co-director of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance, wanted to know what EPD was doing about the harassment of gays and lesbians.

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## Springfield forms commission to promote social justice

### Battles discrimination, backs activities

By Janis Joseph  
Emerald Reporter

In support of a long time need to promote social justice, Springfield is forming a human rights commission to battle discrimination and promote educational and multi-cultural activities, said Judy Harold, chair of the Human Rights Task Force.

Springfield is seeking applicants for the 15 open positions on the commission. So far, three people have applied but more are expected to apply by the deadline, Dec. 8, as many people apply at the last moment, said Mike Moskovitz, Springfield's communication director.

Appointments to the commission will be made in late December and the commission will meet soon after, Moskovitz

said.

The commission will focus not only on mediating discrimination problems, but will encourage education and multi-cultural events, Harold said.

The initial task force formed in early March to begin investigating the need for a Human Rights Commission. Twenty-one Springfield residents along with Mayor Bill Morrisette composed the group, according to a report by the task force.

"We had a true cross section of the community on the task force," Harold said.

Springfield has needed a human rights commission for a long time, but the idea was never realized because

there was no support behind it in past city government, Harold said.

However, Morrisette supported the idea of a human rights commission and it was partly through his support that the initial task force was formed, she said.

The task force acted as a study group making recommendations to the Springfield City Council "determining a need for such a commission and the type of commission which would best serve our community," according to the task force report.

The task force met twice a week for six months prior to the decision to seek applicants for the commission. The task force held public hearings and recorded a lot of testimonies of alleged human rights violations in Springfield, Harold said.

The task force met with the Eugene

Human Rights Commission and the Salem Human Rights Commission to study their programs' organization.

The Springfield commission will be structured completely differently than the Eugene commission, Harold said. The Springfield commission will be a single body in contrast to Eugene's commission which has five separate commissions.

However, the intent of the Springfield commission is similar. Both commissions aim to make progress toward social justice and end discrimination, according to the task force report.

The mayor and the city council will choose the commission members for one to three year terms. Applicants will be chosen based on their experience and commitment to the concerns of the commission and their ability to articulate these concerns, Harold said.