

Street safety — it's everyone's choice

By Susanne Steffens

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Fall term is here, meaning that thousands of students are returning with their bicycles, cars, motorcycles, mopeds, skates and skateboards.

With more than 16,000 students, plus faculty, the University community should start the new school year recognizing the number of vehicles and pedestrians mingling around the campus area.

Last year, several serious accidents took place on campus because of un-cautiousness and breaking of rules and regulations. This year the challenge should be to decrease this number to zero, by following common sense and University rules.

In order to increase the safety of people, the University Office of Public Safety is starting new bicycle enforcement this fall. Bicycles will only be allowed on marked bike routes on campus, which should prevent the everyday "almost-accidents" to occur.

A new brochure will also be issued from OPS with the rules and regulations for bicyclists, answering questions concerning equipment and registration.

The University requires bikes ridden on campus areas to be registered, so all faculty, staff and students who operate, store or park bicycles on campus shall have attached to them a valid, University-issued license-registration tag. OPS registers the bicycles free.

The primary reason for reg-

istering is to help with the problem of bike thefts. A thief will always look at the bike twice if it is registered because there will be a record on it, and if the bike is stolen, there is a way to fill out the police report. It will go into the national computer with its serial number.

Parking spaces for cars are always a big problem for students who believe in coming two minutes before class to begin looking for a parking place.

There are about 2,900 parking lots spaces on campus, which means that not everyone can find the dream spot just in front of the building their class is held in. OPS Director Carey Drayton advises both old and new students to leave the car at home, because the time to find parking spaces often takes more time than to walk.

For returning students, faculty and staff, the new information and parking kiosk on East 13th Avenue and Beech Street will cause a lot of questions, thoughts and opinions.

The main idea behind this kiosk is to provide a safer and more user-friendly environment for pedestrians and bicyclists while providing a more centralized and identifiable location for the parking and campus information.

The changes entailed are that the remaining parking on this street has moved to the north side of the street, and the bicycle lanes have been moved to either side of the street to flow in synchronization with the city of Eugene's bike routes.

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POLICE BEAT

The following incidents were reported to the University Office of Public Safety and the Eugene police department Aug. 19 to Sept. 2.

• A 31-year-old man from Indiana was arrested for criminal trespass on the 500 block of East 13th Avenue Aug. 20. According to police reports, the man was walking around in an area with "no trespassing" signs and had been warned several times before. When an officer came to the address, the man tried to escape, but the officer grabbed him and he was charged for resisting arrest. Once arrested, the man told the officer, "F--- you, s---."

• A 22-year-old man was arrested for unlawful possession of a controlled substance on East 14th Avenue and Kincaid Street Aug. 20. According to police reports, when police officers attempted to arrest him for drinking in the street, he started to run, but the officers caught up with him. According to police reports, he was carrying 81 perforated squares of colored paper. One square tested positive as LSD. According to police reports, he was also carrying marijuana.

• A University student was cited for criminal trespass on the 1300 block of Franklin Boulevard Aug. 21.

• Two men from Portland were arrested for robbery on the 1700 block of Hilyard Street Aug. 21. According to police reports, the suspects grabbed a man on the street, forced him into the darkness, and stole \$50 from his pocket. The victim was then allowed to go, and later, a witness saw the two suspects exchange the money outside of a building. Officers in the area arrested the two men inside of the same building after the victim had identified them to the police.

• A 19-year-old man was arrested in West University Park Aug. 22 for drinking a bottle of Wicked Ale. According to police reports, the man was a fugitive; apparently he was wanted in Oakland, Calif., for the sale of drugs.

• A 33-year-old man was cited for criminal trespass Aug. 22 at Autzen Stadium.

• A 31-year-old man was cited for unlawful possession of a controlled substance Aug. 22. According to police reports, the man was caught by the footbridge by Autzen Stadium with less than an ounce of marijuana on him.

• A burglary was reported at Lawrence Hall Aug. 26 at 8 p.m. According to police reports, more than \$5,000 in computer equipment was stolen, but apparently no damage was done to open the doors of the computer room.

• A Lane Community College student reported a burglary on the 1800 block of Harris Street Aug. 28. According to police reports, the student's doorknob had been twisted off, and a television and a video were taken. The missing items were valued at a total of \$204.

• A 36-year-old man was arrested for criminal trespass and resisting arrest on the 500 block of East 13th Avenue Aug. 28. According to police reports, he was sitting outside of a guest house when the officers approached him. The man tried to get away, and the officers had to take the suspect to the ground and spray him with pepper mace. Inside of the police car, the suspect spat on the window screen and knocked his legs and arms around in order to get out.

— Compiled by Susanne Steffens