

# Petition seeks to put brake on traffic violation fines

Daniel West  
Oregon Daily Emerald

Citizens Against Highway Robbery is circulating a petition that aims to decrease the costs of the new bail/fine schedule developed by the Oregon Supreme Court last year. The group would like to have the initiative on the ballot in 1996.

"The new bail schedule isn't just unreasonable — it's plain crazy," said Drake Koefoed, the group's coordinator. "For example, you're going 66 mph in a 65 mph zone, and you're fined \$134. Parking more than 12 inches from the curb: \$89. Also, running a stop sign is going to cost \$233. "We are bringing justice back to traffic infractions and citations," Koefoed said of the group's efforts.

The Eugene initiative would limit the amount drivers could be fined for traffic violations and citations. It would reduce all traffic infractions to \$25 through \$100 and set the bail or fine at \$5 for each mile per hour over the speed limit. This limit would be the price cap for all traffic violations. It could not be raised.

Koefoed believes the increases are a "back door tax" for the government to make up for the loss in revenue caused by ballot Measure Five in 1990. He said that half of the money goes to the city and the other half goes to the justice system.

According to the Eugene Municipal Court, the money raised will go to state-funded programs.

"The new bail/fine was set by Oregon legislation and passed directly from the Oregon Supreme Court," said Mary Walston, assistant court administrator in Eugene. "Money collected from the bail will help fund state programs across the state."

Koefoed is targeting the campus area because students are hit hardest by the new bail/fine schedule, he said.

"This initiative is going to be big on campus," he said. "Students most often fall victim to these infractions, partially because students aren't aware of their rights and they don't know how to deal with police." Koefoed said he believes the high cost of traffic violations could be a major concern for some students because they don't have a lot of money.

Around campus, some students say that the new fines are too high and are unfair.

"I think that this (initiative) is a good idea," said sophomore Dan Miller. "The price of infractions is ludicrous. A price cap would be nice as long as it

doesn't become commonplace."

The money saved could be applied to other things, such as student seating in McArthur Court, he said.

Other students who aren't directly affected have a similar opinion on the increase in fines.

"I don't care about the fines because I don't have a vehicle," said sophomore Ryan Shojinaga. "But they (the fines) sound like a lot of money that students don't have."

Koefoed warns that police may use traffic infractions as a ploy to pull people over and conduct illegal search and seizures. "Usually being pulled over for a traffic violation isn't what it seems," he said. "It's bigger. It's a reason to search. Hide the roach in the ashtray."

He gave some tips on dealing with police officers when pulled over for speeding violations. "First, you don't have to consent to a search of your vehicle. They may be looking to set their quota for the week.

"Second, any information that you give can be used against you, so be careful of what you tell the officer, especially when questioned about speed," he said. "Also, be aware that police radar detectors can be incorrect. Finally, obviously don't argue or fight with the officer."

Koefoed said there are many police officers, including some in the Eugene police department, who don't support the increase in traffic fines.

"These fines are going to have a negative impact," said Frank Bone, a police services administrative sergeant and former traffic officer. "They're (the fines) out in orbit. We waited as long as possible hoping fines wouldn't increase. It's going to be hard to hand them out."

The police department has no control over the amount set for fines. The amount is determined by state and federal legislation.

"The Eugene police department isn't the bad guy," Bone said. "We have no say in what bail/fines should be. We have to put this (situation) in its proper place. We have to look at the Oregon State Supreme Court and other state legislation."

Members of CAHR believe this initiative will pass easily because it affects a lot of people.

"This doesn't need a lot of advertisement," Koefoed said. "A lot of people will go for this."

## UNICEF Month focuses on fund raising, education

Jamie Pope  
For the Oregon Daily Emerald

In an effort to raise funds and awareness among Americans about the plight of children in devastated countries such as Rwanda, Angola, Haiti and Bosnia-Herzegovina, UNICEF has designated October as National UNICEF Month.

Maya Angelou, the best-selling author, renowned historian and civil rights activist, is the chairwoman of the 1994 National UNICEF Month. Angelou has been promoting it with printed public service announcements that highlight the organization's accomplishments in Third World countries.

Trick or Treat for UNICEF, the featured activity, began in 1950. Children go to door to door collecting funds for UNICEF on Halloween.

Evelyn McConnaughey, a UNICEF volunteer and chairwoman of the Eugene Committee for UNICEF, said trick or treating is not as big an event as it used to be.

"Trick or treating has become unpopular because of fear of drugged or poisoned candy," she said.

McConnaughey, who has been a UNICEF volunteer since 1959, said the Eugene Committee for UNICEF has several educational videos and packets that will be available Oct. 28 and 31 from 2 to 5 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church. The materials

will let Eugene citizens know about UNICEF's work and encourage them to support it.

UNICEF was formed in 1946 to provide food, medicine and supplies to Europe and China after World War II.

In 1953, UNICEF was established as a permanent agency after which it dropped the words international and emergency from its name. UNICEF provides services such as food and medicine and promotes literacy throughout the Third World.

For these goals to be accomplished, UNICEF depends upon its many volunteers and workers both in the United States and abroad. UNICEF depends solely on voluntary financial support.

Tri Bui, a University student, encouraged other students to support UNICEF. Bui, who went to Vietnam on a fund-raising tour, said he saw UNICEF funds at work in his village, Long An.

"I saw a freshwater well in my home community," he said. "I was surprised when I found out that it was put there by UNICEF funds. I encourage other students to support UNICEF. Every penny helps."

Bui said the organization is not asking for a large donation. "That is not what they are about," he said.

For more information about National UNICEF Month and the educational materials, call Evelyn McConnaughey at 345-0227.

### ET ALS

#### MEETINGS

**Muslim Student Association** will meet tonight at 6 in the EMU Maple Room. For more information, call 346-0625.

**Student Health Advisory Committee** will meet today at 3 p.m. in the medical library of the Student Health Center. For more information, call 346-4447.

#### RELIGION

**Pacifica Symposium** will present Stan Thompson, a retired nuclear engineer, to discuss "Nuclear Peril Unlimited" on Saturday from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Wesley Center, 1236 Kincaid St. For more information, call 344-0483.

**Pacifica Forum** will present an interview with Cynthia Wooten, Democratic candidate for Oregon House of Representatives, today at noon in the Wesley Center, 1236 Kincaid St. For more information, call 346-4694 or 344-0483.

**Wesley Foundation Campus Ministry** will conduct the Fourth Annual Choral Extravaganza on Sunday at 7 p.m. at Wesley United Methodist Church. For more information, call 346-4694.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

**Russian Department** will show the film *Taxi Blues* tonight at 7 in Room 115 Pacific.

**Newman Center** will present a college overnighter with wave pool swimming starting tonight at 6 at 1850 Emerald St. For more information, call 346-4468.

**Survival Center** will present a Warner Creek day hike on Saturday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The hike will leave from the corner of University Street and East 13th Avenue, in front of the EMU. For more information, call 346-4356.

**Career Center** will allow successful bidders to sign up for interviews in Room 244 Hendricks for interviews with the following organizations: State Farm, Wallace Computer, Lady Footlocker, Dictaphone, Sherwin Williams and Yergen & Meyer. For more information, call 346-3235.

RECYCLE

## Halloween "Creepy Critter" Sale!

New shipment of snakes, scorpions, and spiders on sale.

Little Ocean Pet Store  
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## National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week

OCTOBER 16-22, 1994

How much do you know about alcohol use on campus?

The following statements reflect the answers to the Alcohol Quiz distributed at various Alcohol Awareness Week events this week.

This data was collected by the Office of the Dean of Students via a random survey of undergraduates on the U of O campus during January, 1993.

Jeffrey Brockway won a \$15 bookstore gift certificate for correctly answering the greatest number of questions. Congratulations!

- ✓ 25% of students would prefer not to have alcohol available at parties.
- ✓ 75% of students would prefer not to have other drugs available at parties.
- ✓ 275 students applied to live in substance-free residence halls.
- ✓ 13% of students reported that someone had taken advantage of them sexually while under the influence of alcohol.
- ✓ 7% of students reported that they had taken advantage of someone sexually while under the influence of alcohol.
- ✓ 43% of students reported that they had done something under the influence of alcohol that they later regretted.
- ✓ 41% reported that they had engaged in binge (five or more drinks at a sitting) behavior.
- ✓ 78% of students reported that they had used alcohol in the last 30 days.
- ✓ 22% reported that they use alcohol three times a week or more.
- ✓ 4.5 drinks is the average number of drinks per week consumed by students who choose to drink.
- ✓ 7% of men reported consuming alcohol five times a week or more in the past year.
- ✓ 34% reported missing at least one class due to alcohol or other drug consumption.

This week's activities sponsored by Dean of Students Office, Student Health Center and U of O Housing.  
Call Laura Blake Jones at 346-1133 for more information.

