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is seeking nominations for
**UNIVERSITY ENVIRONMENTAL
CITIZEN OF THE YEAR**

*Open to students, faculty, staff, and administration.

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Please include: your name/phone; who you're nominating; their
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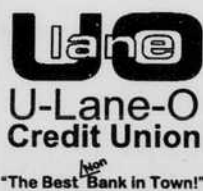
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Neighborhood: Businesses note improvements

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"Last summer we had horrific criminal activity that was occurring along 13th Avenue," Hanson said, "but the dog and skateboard ordinance made a tremendous difference on the problem."

"My customers and myself did not feel this was a safe place to be," said local business owner Jim Antonini. "The diversity of the neighborhood was something we all enjoyed up until it got dangerous."

"There's history here of about maybe four years of aggressive panhandling, [and] aggressive behavior that included physical threats," Antonini said. "The biggest improvement that occurred is the safety of the area, which is a direct result of community policing and the dog and skateboard ordinance."

However, there is still an element of skepticism among local business owners as to the extent of police involvement.

Elizabeth Whited of the Coffee Corner Ltd. on the corner of High Street and 13th Avenue said it's good the police are cracking down, but she said she wishes they would be more consistent.

"They are here for a few days and make a lot of arrests, and then they are gone," she said.

Siel commented that it is absurd to think the drug problem for the city will end completely as a result of police efforts, but "the alternative is to try to keep [dealers] inside their houses where they're not disturbing anybody else ... and



MICHAEL CRISP/Emerald

Eugene police held a news conference Wednesday afternoon at the corner of 13th Avenue and High Street.



MICHAEL CRISP/Emerald

Police officers on bikes patrol the area around 13th Avenue and High Streets.

try to keep it out of the hands of juveniles."

The Eugene police department said it will continue with the Rapid Deployment Unit's enforce-

ment as well as looking for more innovative ways, which are similar to the dog and skateboard ordinance, to further decrease the criminal activity.

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