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Generals: Delayed election begins today

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Two petitions were filed against the Elections Board last week, leading to the injunction. The petition filed by Judah Eckenberg more narrowly attacked the Miner and Unger campaign for violating postering rules. His petition also questioned the Elections Board's interpretation of rules.

During an informal hearing last Thursday night, the Elections Board countered Eckenberg's arguments by saying they asked the Constitution Court for a Hearings Officer, but one was never appointed. The Elections Board said they decided to err on the side of doing something about violations, rather than allowing violations to continue. The other petition was filed by Farrah

Bostic and Chris Kantrowitz. Kantrowitz said their petition proved a long line of misdeeds and wrong interpretations, rather than one specific misdeed.

"Since the elections must be held by May 1, they had to lift the injunction," Bostic said. "I think we'll see some explicit instructions to the Elections Board for dealing with violations. Hopefully, a Hearings Officer will be appointed, the petitions reviewed and, if necessary, punishments handed out. If that means holding a special election for the Executive later, than so be it."

The Constitution Court has ten days to file a decision on the petitions.

GENERAL ELECTIONS

WHAT: The General Election begins today and will end Wednesday.

WHERE: Booths are set up in front of Friendly and Condon Halls, in Knight Library, in the law school, in Carson Hall and in front of the ASUO Executive office.

ON THE BALLOT: Footnotes, Pocket Playhouse, Lane Transit District, Students for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, Club Sports, SafeRide and three ASUO Student Senate run-offs.

SO WHAT: Elections were delayed for a week because of complaints of wrong-doing

Report: University not key crime factor, officer says

Continued from Page 1

er, the presence of the University makes this claim less applicable to Eugene.

"I think if we did a survey of West University, most crimes are not committed by University students," said Sgt. Dave Poppe of the department of public safety.

A large number of University students report thefts, which raises the city-wide crime statistics in that subset, though the University doesn't significantly affect the overall crime level in Eugene, Poppe said.

The auto theft rate was extremely high toward the end of

the year and climbed 15 percent overall to total 766 reported offenses. A task force was established through the department of public safety on Jan. 13 in an attempt to curb this problem. The task force reduced the number of offenses by 50 percent and made 37 arrests, according to the public safety report.

The number of property crimes — burglary, theft, motor vehicle theft, arson, criminal mischief, forgery, fraud, embezzlement, stolen property — has also risen 3.8 percent since 1995 and person crimes — homicide, rape, aggravated assault, purse snatch, sim-

ple assault, sex offense, kidnapping, blackmail, extortion — are up 3.4 percent.

Forcible rapes increased by more than 27 percent since 1995, from 36 to 46 offenses. The number of arrests made in forcible rape offenses, however, is up 100 percent.

More people are reporting rapes than in the past because of community preventative measures, but the actual change in the number of incidents is unclear, Power said.

The large number of crimes, many of which have increased since last year, tend to draw city

"The horror of a violent crime is always real, but behavioral crimes affect us more directly,

— Jan Power
Public Information Assistant,
Department of Public Safety

officers away from community policing in order to directly react to the present crimes, Power said.

"We've been combatting it for three years but we just can't get ahead of it," Power said.

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