

Taxi: Service is available in evenings

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It's not surprising Eugene enjoys a long-standing reputation for bike-friendliness," the article said.

Niles, who doesn't own a car, agrees Eugene is a bike-friendly city, but he thinks it could improve. "Bicycles need to be recognized more as a prime mode of transportation," he said.

Niles said the service will expand to Amtrak and Greyhound depots Sunday evenings to pick up students from weekend trips. The Tandem Taxi also offers a shuttle to Ducks' Village and Chase Village from 13th Avenue and University Street at 8:30 p.m.

The service is available every day from 8:30 p.m. to 11:15 p.m.

Bicyclists urged to follow rules of the road

Students who disregard bike laws could face fines or, worse, injuries

By Megan Turner
Higher Education Reporter

A bicyclist cruises through an intersection at top speed, without regard to pedestrians or motorists. Soon afterward, a police officer pulls him over, gives him a citation and fines him \$115 for failure to yield at a stop sign.

Another bicyclist slows down at the intersection, checking to make sure all cars have stopped, and passes through. She also receives a \$115 fine, the same citation fee as if a motorist had failed to yield at a stop sign.

Eugene police are cracking down, especially around the University. Many student riders are in an uproar over what is considered a broad gray area sur-

rounding rules and regulations for bicyclists.

Pat Flanigan, an anthropology major, recently received a \$115 ticket for failing to stop at the corner of 15th Avenue and University Street. Although he slowed down, he admits he probably should have yielded a little more to the only car at the intersection.

But Flanigan was still upset because he did not receive an explanation. Being from California, he is uneducated when it comes to Oregon's rules regarding bicyclists. In California, the fines for bicyclists are half that of motorists.

"There should be a line between an automobile and a bike," Flanigan said.

Bev Mason, community services officer for the Eugene police dept., said the same rules that apply to cars apply to bicycles. She also said people from

out-of-state should educate themselves about bike safety, especially the rules and regulations.

There are basically three rules that students should be sure to follow when riding a bike on campus, Mason said. First, bicyclists should follow bike lane arrows — on 13th Avenue and Alder Street, for example, where signs detour bicyclists down 11th Avenue. Second, bicyclists should follow traffic devices, including stop signs, traffic signals and bike detour signs. Finally, bicyclists must use reflectors when riding at night. Also, although wearing a helmet is not required by law, Mason encourages bicyclists to do so.

Mason receives around 15 complaints a week similar to Flanigan's. She said fines are high because students need to understand that biking is just as

dangerous as driving a car.

"We'd like not to have people die," Mason said. "As much as students don't like getting tickets, people die from running through stop signs."

But students are not treating bicycling as a big deal, said Eugene police officer Greg Cayley. He said his "biggest pet peeve" occurs when bicyclists "flagrantly" roll through intersections at high speeds.

Racing through intersections at top speed is not a rare occurrence, Cayley said. He has had to give out several hundred tickets — most of which have been in the past few weeks. And he said just last weekend he saw a man "cruising through the intersection at about 20 miles per hour," referring to the man as "a guy who needed a ticket really bad, but I didn't get a chance to stop him."

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