

Democrats call for student walkout

Monday's walkout and rally will unite students, faculty and the community for Measure 28, noon in the EMU Amphitheater

Jennifer Bear
Campus/Federal Politics Reporter

Students looking for an excuse to play hooky have a golden opportunity

to dodge class while making a political stand for higher education funding.

The University College Democrats, the Democratic Party of Lane County and the Yes on 28 Committee are sponsoring a walkout and rally in support of Measure 28 from noon to 1 p.m. Monday in the EMU Amphitheater.

"If you don't have class, come; if you have class, come," College Democrats

co-Chairman Mike Linman said.

The walkout and rally takes place the day before election day and will be a major push to energize voters in support of higher education funding. Linman said the event is intended to bring students, faculty, staff and community members together to fight for the passage of Measure 28.

In addition, groups from Lane

Community College, local high schools and other Oregon University System colleges are expected to participate in pro-Measure 28 walkout rallies, Linman said.

"It's a form of protest on behalf of students to show the rest of the state how this will affect us," he said.

With \$26.9 million in budget cuts for OUS on one hand and a 0.5 per-

cent tax rate increase for Oregonians in the top income tax bracket on the other, Measure 28 is causing the political cauldron to boil.

Lane County Elections Supervisor Roxann Marshall said many people have been voting early for the special election because it's such a controversial issue. Marshall said 41

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Crime trends

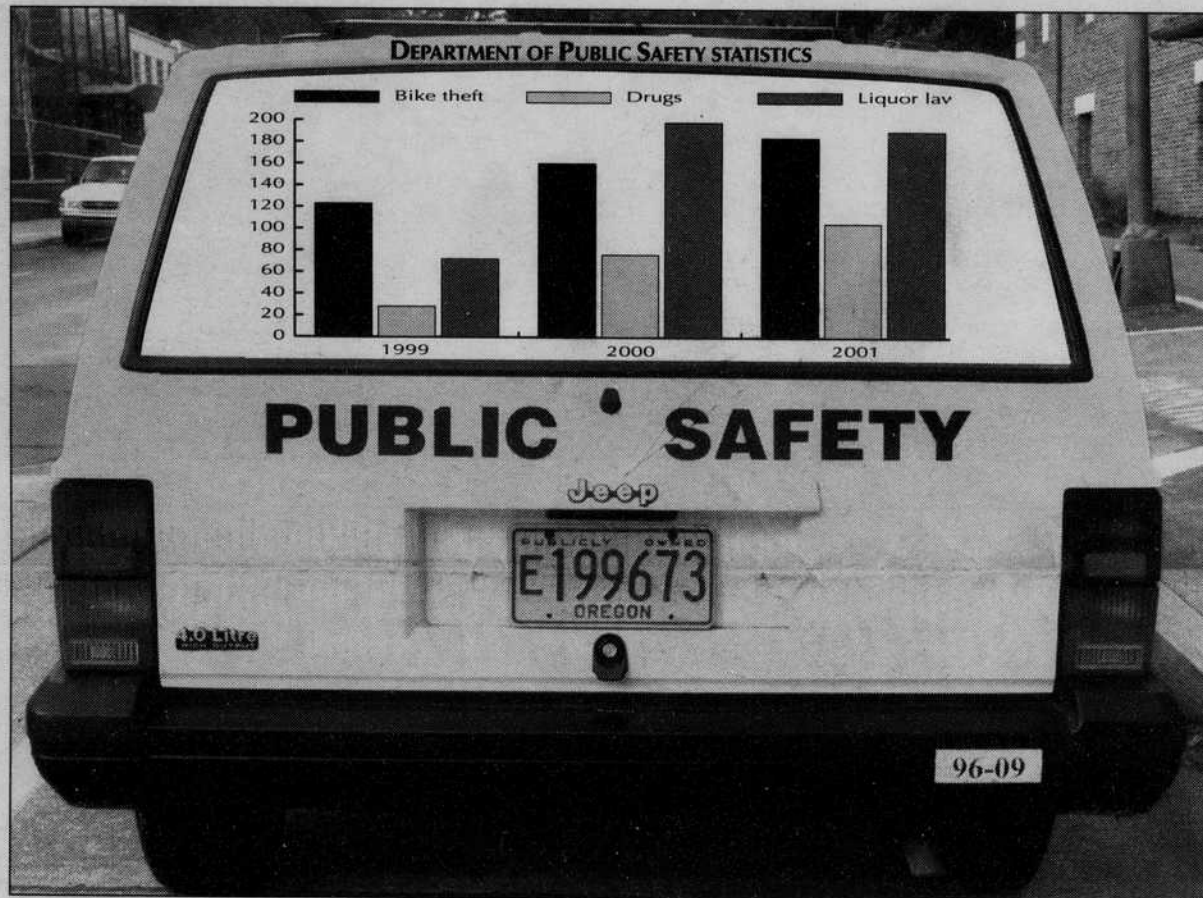


Photo illustration Emerald

Booze, bikes and blunts

Bike thefts and drug and alcohol violations have risen steadily on campus and around the community

Caron Alarab
Crime/Safety/Transportation Reporter

Thefts, drugs and alcohol — that's what campus crimes are made of.

According to the Department of Public Safety crime statistics for

1999 through 2001, the most prominent violations in the University community are bike theft and drug and liquor law offenses.

DPS reported a steady rise in bike thefts, from 123 in 1999 to 184 in 2001, with total thefts climbing from 419 in 1999 to 485 in 2001. The Eugene Police Department reported 727 bike thefts citywide in 2001, 12 percent of which were in the West University neighborhood. Due to the "cycli-

cal nature" of bike thefts, DPS Associate Director Tom Hicks said the present statistics demonstrate a peak in the crime rate and, with any luck, a decline soon to come.

"We saw a steep increase in bike thefts in the mid-'90s," he said, "and it's on the rise again."

The reported recovery rate for bikes through DPS has been between five and seven percent historically, and 2001 was no different. The total loss value in stolen

bikes reported citywide to EPD in 2001 was \$306,818, with a 12.8 percent recovery rate.

"Unfortunately, we have not been able to make a big enough impact on those statistics," Hicks said, adding that the Hamilton and Bean complexes are two of the biggest targets on campus.

But freshman Bean resident Kelly Brown said she doesn't

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UO heads to absorb shortfall if 28 fails

If Measure 28 fails on Tuesday, students would be facing tuition surcharges the rest of this year

Oregon votes 2003

Aimee Rudin
Family/Health/Education Reporter

University Administration will absorb \$2.1 million in funding cuts in a rare trickle-up effect, should Measure 28 fail on Tuesday.

If Measure 28 fails, the financial cost to the University will total \$6.1 million. Students will be slapped with a tuition surcharge of \$10

per credit hour in winter and spring terms to make up \$4 million of the state cuts. The remaining 34 percent will be covered by temporary reserve funds and by implementing one-time administrative cuts within the University, Senior Vice President and Provost John Moseley said.

The University reserve fund was created through individual departmental efforts to reduce spending last year and by collection of a tuition windfall caused by the record student enrollment in the fall. The reserve fund is limited to one-time use and won't sustain the University in the future, officials said.

"If Measure 28 fails, by using reserves

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Measure 28

A 10-part series examining the budget implications of the Jan. 28 special election.

WEATHER

Today: High 55, Low 43, occasional rain, slight breeze

Saturday: High 57, Low 45, occasional rain, slight breeze

LOOKING AHEAD

Monday
President Frohnmayer reveals a University fundraising plan

Tuesday
It's the last chance to turn in ballots for Ballot Measure 28

Sprint PCS requests to build cell tower

The cell phone company is requesting to build a tower near campus but is finding roadblocks along the way

Andrew Black
Environment/Science/Technology

Sprint PCS is seeking permission from the University to build a 120-foot cell phone tower near Hayward Field, and the Campus Planning Committee will decide whether to approve the proposal sometime next month.

However, Sprint has several hurdles to jump before it can build the cell tower.

The proposed tower would be erected by light poles near the west grandstand near the new all-weather activity field. Telecommunications manager David Barta said if Sprint designs an

ugly tower, the University won't build it.

"There aren't many places where somebody can put a cell tower on campus," Barta said. "This is probably the farthest possible distance from any houses."

Under guidelines governing telecommunication facilities on campus set last year by the Campus Planning Committee, the proposal will be reviewed for impact on campus utility infrastructures and health concerns associated with radio frequency transmission.

The cell tower would have to be constructed at least 100 feet from residential areas and in a way that protects views from open spaces, main entrances and historic buildings. The tower also would have to be designed to fit in with the surrounding landscape, such as camouflaging it as

a flag pole.

If the University approves the plan, Sprint would then have to convince Eugene city planners that no other site is appropriate for the transmission tower.

University Planning Director Chris Ramey said he is unaware of opposition to the Sprint proposal. But if the University and Sprint float the idea to the city, city planner Kent Kullby said he expects public outcry similar to neighborhood protests last year about Sprint's failed plan to build a cell tower near Williams' Bakery.

Kullby said most opponents of cell towers are worried about the possible health hazards of long-term exposure to radio frequencies. But according to FCC regulations, health concerns are

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