

# EPD enforces seatbelt campaign

A nationwide campaign to encourage seatbelt-wearing began Monday; fines for non-compliance start at \$89

**Caron Alarab**

Safety/Crime/Transportation Reporter

Motor vehicle crashes continue to be the primary cause of death and injury to Oregonians from ages one to 34 years, according to Lane County Sheriff's Office.

In the continuing effort to reduce traffic-related injuries and deaths, a nationwide safety blitz hit Lane County traffic enforcement Monday as the Eugene Police Department began issuing ticketed fines to those who still don't think it's cool to buckle-up.

The Click it or Ticket/Three Flags Safety Blitz campaign will be in effect through June 1, and until then, Oregon drivers should expect to receive \$89 fines if one or more of their passengers aren't strapped in safely.

"It's expensive," EPD Officer Bob McDermed said. "But it's the physical cost of not wearing a belt that drivers should be more aware of."

Lane County is participating in both the Three Flags Campaign — a cooperative international campaign that involves hundreds of law enforcement agencies throughout Oregon, Washington and British Columbia — and in the National Click it or Ticket campaign conducted during the same period. Both campaigns are fueling local traffic enforcement efforts.

McDermed, as part of the EPD Traffic Enforcement Unit, said students planning to travel during the

Memorial Day weekend — even those traveling between states — should not expect anything different in other counties.

"Wherever (students) are going, the state laws will be enforced vigorously as part of the national campaign," he said.

Since October 1993, the Three Flags Campaign — sponsored by the Oregon Department of Transportation — has sought to reduce the number of motor vehicle related deaths and injuries by increasing public awareness of traffic safety laws. The goals are pursued through active, high-visibility law enforcement "blitzes" focusing on safety belt and child restraint usage and other traffic violations including DUIs and speeding.

The campaign is the second of three scheduled throughout the calendar year, Lane County Sheriff's Department Sgt. Steve Weir said.

"It is well known that safety messages alone do not work," he said in a prepared statement. "Enforcement messages, backed up by strong enforcement activities, do work."

On top of having a family member who suffered injuries in a car accident, senior Molly Marsh said she never fails to remind her friends and passengers to buckle-up. After first hearing about the two-week blitz, Marsh said it should inspire more people to be aware of a valuable habit.

"I will encourage it more, even though most college students don't remember all the time because it can save your life," she said.

Contact the reporter at [caronalrab@dailyemerald.com](mailto:caronalrab@dailyemerald.com).



Photo illustration by Jessica Waters Emerald

The National Click it or Ticket campaign will last through June 1, and its goals include focusing on safety belt and child restraint usage.

## Diversity

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for someone who can work effectively with diverse groups."

Today's candidate is currently the director of the Diversity Policy Institute at Ball State University in Muncie, Ind. He completed all his undergraduate and graduate work at Purdue University, and received his doctorate in developmental psychology in 1984. Before leading the institute, he held other administrative positions, such as director of the women's and gender studies program at Ball State.

Senior Vice President and Provost John Moseley, who will hire the new vice provost after the committee gives its recommendation, said it's notable that the University is investing in a new position in such an economic slump.

"In this financial environment, it's a big deal to create any new position," he said, adding that there are currently only two other vice

provosts, one for undergraduate students and one for academic affairs.

"It's not the expectation that this person will solve all our diversity problems, but this person will be a leader helping all of us improve the diversity on campus for everyone," Moseley said.

2003-04 ASUO co-Multicultural advocate Mark Padoongpatt encouraged students to show up this morning.

"It's always good to know candidates a little better to make sure things happen on campus that need to be done," he said, adding that he'll be attending as well.

Today's student meeting is just one of 12 meetings and interviews that each candidate must cram into a two-day session at the University. On May 28, students can meet the second candidate, Joel Montemayor, at 9 a.m. in the Metolius Room, and June 2 there will be a student meeting with the final candidate, Brenda Greene, at 9 a.m. in the Umpqua Room.

Montemayor, the current program

coordinator supervisor and trainer at Arizona State University's Intergroup Relations Center, has worked in different diversity-building programs for more than 10 years. He was previously the program adviser at the Mesa Community College Office of Multicultural Services, and a graduate research associate at ASU's Hispanic Research Center from 1994 to 1996. Montemayor is a University alumnus who received a bachelor's degree in speech communications, before earning a master's in counseling at San Diego State University and a doctorate in education at Arizona State.

Greene is currently an education and diversity consultant. Most recently, she was special assistant to the chancellor for diversity and multicultural affairs at the University of North Carolina at Asheville from 2000 to 2002. Previously she worked in the Office of Multicultural Affairs at Ball State University from 1987 to 2000. Greene received a bachelor's degree from Spelman College in Atlanta and worked as a school teacher

### Meetings with vice provost candidates

**Today:** Michael Stevenson, 9 a.m., EMU Metolius Room

**May 28:** Joel Montemayor, 9 a.m., EMU Metolius Room

**June 2:** Brenda Greene, 9 a.m., EMU Umpqua Room

SOURCE: Johnson Hall

before receiving her master's degree in counseling and guidance from Xavier University of Louisiana, New Orleans, and a doctorate in higher education administration in 1987 from Iowa State University.

Students can also comment on the three applicants by e-mailing committee co-chairwoman Deborah Carver at [dcarver@oregon.uoregon.edu](mailto:dcarver@oregon.uoregon.edu).

Contact the news editor at [brookreinhard@dailyemerald.com](mailto:brookreinhard@dailyemerald.com).

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