

ideas. Our community in general also needs to start addressing the actions of our police force. The badge should not be a symbol of intimidation and fear.

Eugene is a hub for social change. We should not let something as trivial as law enforcement smother our messages. I urge everyone who feels a need for social change to remain in an active voice. Let's no longer allow our police department to be a demoralizing presence.

Moriah J. Demers
Eugene

JUST WANT A HOODIE

How many of you teenagers have gone to a clothing store to try on clothes, and as you are browsing through the rack you notice a store employee about 20 to 30 feet away from you? As you continue on your way through the store, so does the employee. Coincidence? I think not. I am so sick of being followed based on just three things: I'm a teenager; I wear baggy clothes; and I have facial piercings.

People are always talking about how we shouldn't judge other people on outward appearances, but I guess that doesn't apply to teenagers, does it? I have many more adult friends who steal than teenage friends who steal. And you don't notice the preppy teenagers getting followed nearly as much; but since I have baggy clothes on, I *must* be there to steal.

The way that store employees look at me makes me feel like I did something horrible when all I wanted was a new hoodie.

Getting followed makes me feel like a two-year-old, so grow up, get over your stereotyping and quit following me.

Laci Stevens
Eugene

LIFELESS MEMORIAL

I understand the best I can the NAACP's desire to honor Martin Luther King Jr. Why, however, honor such a great figure with a road, a lifeless strip of asphalt?

What is the honor in remembering a man with the infrastructure for community and ecological destruction, the place that causes the most deaths for males between the ages of 16 and 34? Roads divide and destroy wildlife habit, kill people and animals, speed the destruction of streams and wetlands, release toxins into ground water, and provide the means for automobiles, the greatest single pollution source in the U.S.A.

The irrationality of honoring MLK Jr. with a road is more so, the deeper you study history. Road development caused the exodus of city centers by the middle class, leading to the economic death of downtown areas. Highway expansion through poor neighborhoods led to isolated ghettos; hence, "white highways through black neighborhoods." This type of development was a major factor in riots in the Watts neighborhood and Detroit. Has the NAACP forgotten already the most visible moment in civil rights history, the Rosa Parks refusal and the Montgomery bus boycotts? Road-related, both of them.

The NAACP should realize the naming

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The vacant position represents the downtown, Whiteaker, and incorporated areas of Bethel/Danebo and River Road/ Santa Clara, and will serve through December 31, 2004.

For an application packet contact:
Krista Hince
Secretary to the Board
484-2411.

Completed applications must be received by Monday, July 14, 2003, at EWEB Headquarters.



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