



TRACTOR VS. BIKER

Thank you for the short article about me and that tractor in Germany ("Distance Biker Hurt in Europe," 7/31). An amazing summer vacation! Listening to the crunching sounds as the tractor drove over me, thinking it was my bike and discovering — it was my body. A good article.

Two mistakes I'd like to correct. I did not go to the Eugene Rehabilitation and Specialty Care after a few days of evaluation at Sacred Heart. My first choice all the way was and is the Oregon Rehabilitation Center at Sacred Heart. A marvelous healing place with very skilled personnel. And I was in that German hospital for five weeks, not four.

Thanks again for the article.
Neil Van Steenberg
Eugene

HELP IS COMING

Imagine deafening silence, devoid of everyday sounds we take for granted. Breaking through the thick stillness is the occasional flyover of a rescue chopper, shouting the command, "Remain calm, Eugeneans, help is on the way."

How alarmist of me, as if Eugene could ever find itself in such a dire situation. On the other hand, this city has thrived without being directly affected by Mother Nature's fury. Eugene's educated yet uniquely simple approach on life, coupled with scenic bike paths and admirable eco-friendliness, make me want to raise my family here.

If forced to relocate, I'd miss this city's humanitarian and proactive pulse. This fairness and compassion Eugene professes will be demanded during a catastrophe. Yet, as demonstrated in New Orleans, the need to survive at all costs is strong, especially when children's lives are at stake.

Although we are doing all the right things for our city, inevitably more can be done. We don't need a tragedy to prove our humanity.

Thousands of people may live in a community, but it is not one of real fellowship until they know each other and have sympathy for one another. A true community has faith and wisdom that illuminate it. It is

a place where the people know and trust one another and where there is social harmony. In fact, harmony is the life and real meaning of a true community or an organization.
—Nembutsu

The Eugene Mission needs new men's pajamas, sleepwear for the women and towels.
Elliot Dean
Eugene

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(OR WHO DO YOU WANT TO BLAME?)**

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