

CAMPUS COPS COULD BE EVERYWHERE

Accustomed to seeing a UO cop, thinking “rent-a-cop” and continuing your misbehavior? Better take a second glance in that rearview. The newly christened University of Oregon Police Department (UOPD) could hand you a ticket or lock you up off campus if UO decides — internally — to change its public safety policies.

Eugene Police Auditor Mark Gissiner says that the state of Oregon has statewide jurisdiction, which means that any sworn law enforcement officer has the power to act as a cop anywhere in Oregon. “If there’s a UO police officer, on or off duty, and they’re in Bend and they see you do something that makes it probable cause that some sort of law was broken whether it was a violation, misdemeanor or felony, they can take enforcement action there or later,” he says. UOPD has 11 sworn of-

icers among its approximately 90 employees, but public safety officers (who can cite and arrest) are its primary work force.

UOPD’s Kelly McIver says that right now a UO administrative policy means that its sworn officers aren’t supposed to enforce the law off-campus. “That’s something that’s coming from them [UO’s administration] rather than coming from some sort of state rule,” he says.

For UOPD to make the transition to a statewide authority, McIver says the first step would be to have them carry guns, which is a discussion the campus community will continue this term. Then the UO administration would have to make a change to its policy and create a memorandum of understanding with EPD and possibly the Lane County Sheriff Department.

Until June 2011, Oregon universities had two policing options: local police and campus departments of public safety. Then the Oregon Legislature passed a law that allowed universities to create full police departments.

California also has statewide jurisdiction; Washington, Idaho and Nevada do not. “Police officers have really

broad powers in the state of Oregon,” Gissiner says. “I find that interesting.”

Even if UO retains its current policies, it’s still smart to consider them police because UO properties in Eugene aren’t always obvious in their ownership. McIver says, “There are some very funky property lines over in [the EWEB] area that you wouldn’t think were UO campus but are actually university-owned properties.” — *Shannon Finnell*

COURT SAYS BP MUST RELEASE CHEMICAL INFO

The BP oil disaster that sent an estimated 4.9 million gallons of oil spilling into the Gulf of Mexico for three months after an April 2010 oil rig explosion is neither gone nor forgotten. BP is still paying settlements on the long-term effects of the Macondo well’s spill on the fragile ecosystem as well as paying millions in criminal fines. And the legal cases continue: On Jan. 9, the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that a lower court had wrongfully



TREVOR ROSS

PHOTO BY TRASK BEDORTHA

BREWS NEWS YOU CAN USE

Eugene might want to update its slogan: “A Great City for the Arts and Outdoors — *and Beer.*” Claim 52 Brewing, a west Eugene craft brewery that began first and third Friday dock sales in November, is adding a European-style flavor (among others) to the local offerings.

“We would like to present a beer style that is the equivalent to the pinot noir,” says Mercy McDonald, who began the brewery with Trevor Ross, a family friend and award-winning home brewer. “There’s a lot of variety in it, it pairs well with a lot of different kinds of foods.”

McDonald and Ross plan to have a variety of different brews, but they say their focus will be “sessionable” beers, those with lower alcohol content that can be enjoyed for longer drinking sessions. One of these beers is the German-style Claim 52 Kölsch, a fresh, light beer that is one of Ross’ favorites to brew. “While we’ll have a couple IPAs and a couple high-

gravity beers, I think our intent is to have beers that have a low gravity that you can enjoy over a longer period of time and that have the body and balance that pair well with food,” McDonald says.

McDonald and Ross aren’t only thinking of the brewery as a place to make great beer; they’re also picturing it as an educational brewery that could help people learn about home brewing from a system that’s fairly similar — the 3.5-barrel brew system is just a step up from the home brew system where Ross has been honing his skills for years. “I think what [Ross] would like to eventually do is incorporate some weekends where people can come in and it will be small enough groups that they have an ability to ask all the questions they want, get walked through the system and have a resource to problem-solve when they get home and walk through it themselves,” McDonald says.

Claim 52 is the name of the pioneer land claim where Ross’ house now sits, and both Ross and

McDonald thought a locally centered name was fitting on a number of levels. “That’s where he was honing his skills and sharing beers with his friends,” McDonald says. “We decided it would be good to pull back to that area since that’s where his craft started.”

While Claim 52 is the latest in a surge in local breweries, McDonald says she pictures local breweries as competing against larger, Coors-sized companies as the locavore movement generates more and more appreciation for local food. “It makes me feel like there’s a window of opportunity for these smaller localized breweries to chew away at that, rather than at each other,” she says.

Beers from Claim 52 are already available at South Eugene and Blair Laughing Planets, 16 Tons, The Bier Stein, Hot Mama’s Wings, Blairally Vintage Arcade, Pantry and Pub, Holy Cow, The Barn Light, Cornucopia on 17th. The next dock sale will be 4 to 6:30 pm Friday, Jan. 18, at 1030 Tyinn St. Suite 1. — *Shannon Finnell*