

Nisqually Valley News

STP leaves complaints in its wake

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The annual Seattle to Portland Bicycling Classic brought more complaints than actual accidents this year, according to Yelm police.

“If there’s something blatant in front of us we’ll address it,” Yelm Police Chief Todd Stancil said. “Otherwise we contact the organizers about complaints we receive.”

Stancil said this year’s STP required four extra officers, mostly for traffic control at intersections. STP reimburses the city for the additional officer time.

Rather than issue citations for traffic infractions, Stancil said his officers verbally address the issue with bicyclists.

“We get some bikers that are really respectful,” Stancil said. “But then you get some that aren’t.”

“When you got 10,000 coming through, you get a wide mix.”

While no traffic citations were issued, there were a few accidents.

Southeast Thurston Fire and EMS responded to three STP related calls, but there wasn’t anything major, Deputy Chief Mark King said.

Basic aid was needed after a rider crashed on State Highway 507 near the Seventh Day Adventist Church, and aid was required at Mill Pond Elementary.

A teen also required basic aid after he was struck by a bicyclist in Rainier.

There were also a few accidents in Roy along Highway 507.