Be Safe While on a Bicycle
Sgt. Jason Burt

With the warm summer weather upon us, people are dusting off their bicycles and using them more. UW-Whitewater Police Services wants to make sure everyone is safely and legally using their bicycles around campus, so below is a short true and false quiz. See how well you do.

1. When riding a bicycle on a street, you must ride against vehicle traffic.
   
   False. When riding a bicycle on a street you are a vehicle by WI State Laws and must ride the same direction as traffic. This still applies when riding in a bicycle lane.

2. When riding at night, there is no need to use a headlight since a bicycle does not have a motorized engine.
   
   False. By WI State Statutes you must have a headlight that can be seen at 500 feet. Although not required by law, a flashing or solid red light on the rear is a good idea because on dark and rainy spring nights a driver may not be able to see you. You do need a red reflector on the rear of your bicycle.

3. A bicycle must obey all traffic signals, just like a motorcycle and car.
   
   True. A bicycle must obey all traffic signals. This includes stop signs, red lights and speed limit signs.

4. You can ride a bicycle everywhere on the UW-Whitewater Campus.
   
   False. A bicycle cannot be used on stairs, in buildings and in parts of the Prairie Reserve Trail System marked by signs.

5. An officer can give you a speeding ticket for riding too fast on a bicycle.
   
   True. Since a bicycle is treated as a vehicle on the road you have all the privileges and restrictions that a vehicle does. In case you wonder, the fine is $135.60 for speeding on a bicycle.

Some other good safety tips are to wear bright colored, or even better, reflective clothing while riding at night. While riding on a sidewalk remember that pedestrians have the right of way and that some cities restrict bicycle riding in certain areas, such as the downtown area.
Detective Servi and Officer Hanekamp presented evidence information to the Upward Bound summer students.

Officer Hanekamp presenting Internet Safety to the CyberGirlz Camp.

Officer Rodriguez giving a silly face while working bike patrol during the MS Bikers event.

JWR donated a prescription drug collection box. We now have one located in our lower lobby and the University Center on Campus.

Officer Hanekamp presenting Internet Safety to the CyberGirlz Camp.