

## Using the Gender Gap

Women voters have the power to influence politics and elect officials sensitive to their issues in 1984. How to do just that is the topic of the Oregon Women's Political Caucus annual meeting called *Using the Gender Gap*, Saturday, June 30, at the Eugene Hilton.

Keynote speaker will be Alice Travis, Gender Gap authority and key officer of the National Political Women's Caucus. Travis will share her political expertise on the Gender Gap and offer suggestions on how women can best use it in this year's election. She'll also discuss capitalizing on women's political power at the upcoming Republican and Democratic National Conventions.

Following the noon luncheon address, Travis and an impressive slate of political women from Oregon will participate in workshops on election year strategies. Panelists include: Eastern Oregon Congressional Nominee Larry Ann Willis, State Reps. Mary Alice Ford and Mary McCauley Burrows, Western Oregon Congressional Nominee Margie Hendriksen and others.

To political organizers, using the Gender Gap means putting the power behind the numbers to work. Women have voted differently from men, on certain issues, at least since 1937 when a Gallup Poll showed more women than men thought entry into World War I had been a mistake. Today,



Keynote speaker Alice Travis.

the gap between women's and men's voting patterns is at its widest in history. Women are less likely to support issues supporting the military or violence, from defense spending to capital punishment. More women than men express support for less powerful groups in society. In both these critical Gender Gap areas, President Reagan has distanced himself from women.

As a result, the American Political Report says Reagan will get two million less votes from women this year than he did in 1980, while the Democrats can expect to get from three to five million more. In an election which promises to be close, clearly women voters are the key.

And the best way to attract women voters is with a woman vice-president, according to Travis. The Gallup Poll shows women more likely to support a Democratic ticket with a woman vice-president by a two-to-one margin.

Throughout her political career, Travis has organized around issues that reflect the Gender Gap. She is Democratic Task Force Chair of the National Women's Political Caucus and will organize the Caucus role at the Democratic National Convention in San Francisco.

The Women's Political Caucus is a nonprofit, multi-partisan organization which has as its primary goal the election of feminists to political office in the effort to right the inequalities facing women. The annual meeting offers the chance to participate in this process.

The conference will conclude with a reception honoring successful primary candidates endorsed by the Caucus. The no-host cocktail hour will feature feminist comedy, drama and music by well-known Eugene artists Cheney Ryan and Janet McIntyre from On the Edge and also Rebecca Proctor. All events are at the Eugene Hilton, which is handicap accessible. Caucus members and non-members are encouraged to attend. Pre-registration is \$25 for members, and \$30 for non-members which includes luncheon, workshops, and reception/entertainment. Admittance to individual events is available. For more information, call Cheryl Hunter at 747-9935.

—Margo Schaefer



Skinner Ferry River Races are fun for participants and spectators alike. This annual event celebrates both the history and recreational value of the Willamette River.

## Skinner's Ferry River Races

The Second Annual Skinner's Ferry River Races will be held Saturday, June 23, 11 am-4:30 pm. Novice to expert canoers, kayakers, rafters and driftboaters will be competing in 19 classes of sprints and slaloms down the 1 1/2 mile course on the Willamette River, from Alton Baker Park to the Valley River Inn. Heats will occur every 15 minutes.

In addition to the river races, a variety of events are scheduled to take place at the Valley River Inn Finish Line. Live music by "The Ragtime Millionaires," outdoor equipment displays, food booths and a beer garden are offered for spectators. A benefit Ralt-Ferry-

ing Tournament for the Muscular Dystrophy Association and a Fire Brigade Water Competition are scheduled to begin at 12:30 pm at the finish line.

Skinner's Ferry River Races derives its name from a ferry service run by city founder Eugene Skinner in the 1850's. Skinner's Ferry transported people, wagons and livestock across the Willamette River near the present site of the Ferry Street Bridge.

All racers will receive a T-shirt. Prizes and ribbons will be awarded to first, second, and third place finishers. Registration is \$6. Entry forms are available at all Eugene community centers and at area outdoor stores. For more information, call the Outdoor Program at 687-5329.

This event is sponsored by the Eugene Parks & Recreation Dept., Valley River Inn, KUGN, and the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

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1/4 cup honey      3/4 tsp. ginger root, minced  
1/4 cup soy sauce    1/2 tsp. dry mustard  
1/4 cup vinegar    1 clove garlic, minced  
(Marinate for at least 2 hours.)

Grill over medium heat until browned.  
Serve on a bun with all the trimmings.

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