

Primary '76 Emerald Endorsements 'Yes' on all six

Four state measures and two county measures will appear on the May 25 ballot. The *Emerald* urges passage of all six measures.

Ballot Measure No. 5 is perhaps the most controversial measure on the ballot. It proposes that \$11.7 million in general obligation bonds be used to finance the construction of county-wide corrections facility. The controversy centers not so much on the need for such a facility but more on the cost and the site. Objections to the sites and architectural variations of the three basic plans have pretty much been worked out by the county commissioners through a series of compromises.

On the surface the \$11.7 price tag looks intimidating. Voters, however, should remember that this cost will be shared by all county property owners. On a yearly basis it works out to 48 cent per thousand dollars valuation. A homeowner with a \$30,000 house would pay about \$14.40 the first year the tax is applied. Viewed in these terms the tax is not nearly as staggering as it looks.

Voters should also consider the possibility that they might at some time have to spend a night or weekend in the present jail even though they are innocent of any crime and only awaiting judicial processing. The over-crowded and dehumanizing conditions that now exist have been well documented by the media and the prospects of being lodged there should be frightening.

The new facility would also incorporate space for a mental health emergency unit. At the present time no such facilities are available. Authorities at Sacred Heart's Johnson Unit will accept persons detained under "police hold" only in the most extreme emergencies.

It is this human cost that is the most compelling reason to vote yes on this ballot measure.

Ballot Measure No. 1 would extend the eligibility for Oregon veterans' farm and home loans to those veterans who served in the armed forces after Jan. 31, 1960, and lived in Oregon for two years prior to May 1, 1977. Currently these loans are limited to veterans who entered the service from Oregon. It is only fair to extend these benefits to those veterans for one reason or another entered the service from another state. In some cases these veterans were native Oregonians to begin with and merely entered the service in another state. Their parents and relatives continued to reside in Oregon and the veterans returned home only to find that they were not eligible for the same loan that non-native Oregonians were.

This measure will not impose any additional taxes. The program would be financed with self-liquidating bonds. The program would also stimulate our sagging construction industry by making more money available for home construction, purchase and improvements.

Ballot Measure No. 2 would amend the state constitution to expand the grounds for which a state judge could be disciplined or removed from office. Presently the Oregon Supreme Court can only remove a judge for a felony conviction, failure to perform duties, habitual drunkenness or illegal drug use. Under the measure, the court would be able to suspend or censure as well as remove. The grounds for discipline would also be expanded to include willful misconduct in office, general incompetence and willful violation of any rule of judicial conduct.

A yes vote on this measure will give the court greater flexibility in the type of discipline it can impose on offending judges. Because the only recourse now open to the court is removal from office, the court could be reluctant to impose such a stiff penalty for minor misconduct. This misconduct would, therefore, tend to go uncorrected.

Ballot Measure No. 3 would allow the state to sell \$180 million in bonds to finance rental housing for the elderly. These bonds would also be self-liquidating. The housing constructed with this money would be available to the elderly with below median income and at rental rates as much as 20 per cent less than prevailing market rates. Such housing units are desperately needed by the elderly. Inflation and escalating rents have been particularly hard on those elderly living on fixed income. The money would also provide a shot in the arm for the state housing construction industry. A legislative committee has estimated that the measure could provide as many as 15,000 jobs in the industry.

Ballot Measure No. 4 would amend the state constitution to allow mass transit districts to levy taxes on gasoline and ownership and motor vehicle operation permits to help finance mass transit districts. This measure does not give these districts access to state highway funds. Each district would only receive the authority to tax. The voters in these districts would still have to approve these taxes.

Ballot Measure No. 6 provides for a county-wide cooperative library service that would provide mobile libraries, shut-in, inter-libraries and other cooperative services for county residents. In addition, a "universal" library card would allow patrons access to city and special district libraries in the program. The program would be financed by an annual serial levy for four successive years, not to exceed \$347,973 annually.

Also to be considered in this measure is the provision that the taxes paid by residents of cities or districts already served by public libraries will be returned to these libraries. In the case of Eugene this would mean that these taxes would go for expansion and improvement of the Eugene Public Library program. Our share of the taxes would stay right here in Eugene.

All six measures on the May 25 ballot provide for beneficial changes to the status quo; a new county jail, extended eligibility for veterans loans, the increased accountability of judges, low-cost housing for the elderly, authority for mass transit districts to raise revenues and expanded county-wide library services. All six deserve a yes vote on May 25.

Letters Policy

The *Emerald* will accept and try to print all letters containing fair comment on ideas and topics of concern or interest to the University community. Because of space limitations, letters must be no more than 250 words, typed, triple-spaced, dated and signed with the person's major. No unsigned letters will be published. Longer opinion columns will be published whenever possible after being submitted to the editorial page editor. The limit on opinion columns is 800 words, using the same format as letters.

opinion

Butterflies—not mosquitoes

There is only one element within our existence which remains constant; that element is change. Change is as natural, as common, as necessary as the flow from winter to spring, as the metamorphosis of a caterpillar into a butterfly, as night becoming day. Without change, stagnation chokes all hopes of renewal; as a stagnant pond breeds disease, so does a political structure become constrictive and lifeless if it fails to permit the old to be removed and the new and the fresh to take its place.

Within our ASUO government there is a pressing need for change: change not merely for the sake of change through whim or fancy; rather a natural evolution from one mode of consciousness into another. That is, a transformation from the current student government into a new type of system; a system which will broaden the horizons of student awareness. Jan Oliver is the person who can bring into reality such a necessary innovation.

A few complaints have been brought against Ms. Oliver; yet, when viewed in a more clear light, these complaints actually tend to solidify her position as being the more qualified candidate for student body president.

Complaint number one is her inability to be pinned down on particular issues. I find this an extremely valuable asset, for a few simple reasons. For one, such an attitude proves that Ms. Oliver is willing and able to deal with each situation as it occurs at its given time, rather than pretending to have pre-set solutions to futuristic problems. One who is capable of handling decisions in an unbiased, existential manner is a far more valuable asset toward student goals and objectives than one who is pre-determined in judging the events of the moment. Situations, insights and circumstances tend to be as changeable as the seasons; unless dealt with at their own time in their own environment, nothing of value or worth can be gotten out of any decision so wrought.

In watching her activity on the Incidental Fee Committee, I have been impressed with her ability to be flexible enough to react wisely and spontaneously to new, and oftentimes bizarre situations: she knows how to bend without breaking.

The other point brought out as a detriment to her ability to fulfill the obligations of ASUO president is her children. Much need not be said regarding this reaction, except that it is extremely short-sighted to imagine that children are a detri-

ment to one's progressive nature. Children are a life-giving spark which actually give energy to the parent, ever allowing new heights to be realized. Children should never be considered in a negative light; do you feel your birth was a limiting factor towards the growth and responsibility of your parents? If so, maybe you ought to have a child-parent talk with them before you cast your ballot. You may gain a new and essential insight into your own family relationship.

Being involved in certain aspects of ASUO student government, I have been able to assess and evaluate the qualities and potentialities of both candidates; I have been most greatly impressed with Ms. Oliver's maturity, insight and ability to penetrate to the essence of the matter without undue distraction. In a phrase: she knows how to keep her cool.

Ms. Oliver has all the integrity that any student government could hope for; if we deny her the opportunity to work for us this upcoming school year, we would be doing ourselves great damage and disservice. We owe it to ourselves to progress, to change in a direction of positive, conscious, and creative co-operation. With the juice that Jan Oliver can get flowing through the veins of our political structure, we can be assured of getting the most out of our ASUO government without being surreptitiously ripped-off; by voting for Jan Oliver I am confident that our student government will show fresh directions with new and exciting achievements. I for one prefer a freely flowing fresh mountain spring to a motionless hole of stagnation. How about you; change or stagnation? Butterflies or mosquitoes?

In closing, let me share a little verse which hangs near Jan Oliver's desk in the IFC Suite:

*"Just do what needs to be done. Never take advantage of power.
Achieve results, but never glory in them.
Achieve results, but never be proud.
Achieve results, because this is the natural way.
Achieve results, but not through violence.
Force is followed by loss of strength. This is not the Way.
That which goes against the Way, comes to an early end."*

Michael Connelly
SEARCH
religious studies, sr.

Letters

Urged to work

I would like to urge the students of the University of Oregon to work in Sen. Frank Church's campaign for President of the U.S.

I especially urge them to work in Church's campaign for the May 25th Oregon Primary.

As President, Sen. Church will work to make America a fair place for all of our citizens to live.

He will especially work to provide enough jobs and economic opportunity for all of our people

and to curb the unlimited power of corporations.

Thank you very much for your help.

Robert Barber
3200 Franklin Blvd.
Cleveland, Ohio

Indicators prove

I heartily endorse the activities of the Amazon Cooperative Tenants (ACT). National indicators prove housing cooperatives are successful in providing self-

governing tenants management and an economic savings. This cooperative plan makes the rent hike unnecessary for top heavy administration and high priced maintenance costs would be eliminated.

I encourage all who are interested in cooperatives and preventing the spiraling costs of rent of University housing to come to the public hearing today at 7 p.m. in EMU room 101 (across from the post office).

Jim Davis
ASUO vice president
Tuesday, May 18, 1976