

Nathan to be on fall ballot

By RICK BELLA
Of the Emerald

• Fourth District congressional candidate Tonie Nathan, Independent-Eugene, says she now qualifies for the November ballot.

Supporters turned in petitions, which they claim contain 6,842 signatures, to the Secretary of State's office in Salem Wednesday. 6,801 signatures are needed to qualify.



Tonie Nathan

A spokesman in the Secretary of State's office said Thursday the number of signatures has not been determined, but preliminary counts indicated that Nathan has obtained more than enough.

If the signature validation count gives her the needed tally, Nathan still faces incumbent Congressman Jim Weaver, D-Eugene, Medford Republican Jerry Lausmann, and another independent, Jim Howard of Dexter.

From City Hall:

• The Eugene City Council authorized the city staff Wednesday to intervene as defendants in a lawsuit filed in May by the Oregon Ryegrass Growers' Association against the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

The suit seeks to have the 1975 field burning limit law declared unconstitutional, and challenges the authority of the DEQ to enforce the law. In addition to the suit, the growers are seeking an injunction blocking enforcement of burning limitations this year. A hearing on the injunction is scheduled for Tuesday in Marion County Circuit Court.

The city council action was taken at the urging of Eugene Mayor Les Anderson, a member of the state committee designed to develop field burning alternatives.

• The Eugene City Council decided Thursday to leave itself the option to gain control of the selection of Eugene Water and Electric Board (EWEB) members in the future.

Board members are currently selected by independent, city-wide election, and EWEB Chairman John Tiffany said the council action was the "first step toward political control of EWEB."

Eugene Mayor Les Anderson, also opposed to the action, called it a "disenfranchisement of voters' rights."

From Harris Hall:

• The Board of Lane County

Commissioners approved Wednesday \$2,000 salary increases for themselves for each of the next two calendar years.

The raises, about seven per cent annually, bring salaries to \$28,877 in 1977, and \$30,860 in 1978. Currently, commissioners' salaries are just under \$27,000, and will remain frozen until Jan. 1.

Critics attacked the commissioners for setting their own salaries, however the board agreed Wednesday they have no other choice as long as state law requires them to have final control over budgetary matters in the county.

• The Board of Lane County Commissioners will review a plan Wednesday for a new proposed \$8.9 million corrections center — a \$2.7 million cut from the package voters rejected in the May primary election.

Designed by Springfield architect Don Lutes, the plan was devised with the help of two citizens' committees.

From Mahlon Sweet Airport:

• The Eugene Airport Commission decided Wednesday that funds must be found to expand Mahlon Sweet, Eugene's only airport.

The commission is not sure where the money will come from, but commission member Dr. Glenn Gordon said the city is "approaching serious financial problems in making the airport larger. Somehow we're going to have to make more space available."

Free tickets raise comments

Spokesmen for the University Athletic Department (AD) said Thursday they distributed 80 season basketball tickets and 184 season football tickets to non-working media during 1975.

But three weeks ago University officials told the Associated Press (AP) they never distributed free tickets to editors, journalists or broadcasters not covering an event.

Last year the *Oregonian* received 12 season football tickets and 8 season basketball tickets from the University. An equal number were distributed to the *Oregon Journal*.

Tickets were also sent to the *Capital Journal* and *Oregon Statesmen* in Salem and the *Albany Democrat-Herald*. A number of radio and television stations also received complimentary tickets.

J. Richard Nokes, editor of the *Oregonian*, said it was his newspaper's policy not to accept free tickets for staff persons not covering the sports event in question and added that letters will be sent to the athletic departments of Oregon colleges and universities in case they are unaware of this policy.

The *Eugene Register-Guard* and the AP have not accepted complimentary passes for several years.

The Salem newspapers notified both the University and Oregon State University (OSU distributed 350 free passes in 1975) they no

longer are accepting free complimentary tickets.

During the last two years, both the University and OSU decreased the number of complimentary tickets they distributed because of financial reasons.

Lew Cryer, assistant AD director for the University, said no decision has been reached concerning the policy on complimentary tickets for 1976.

Cryer also said that 17 season basketball tickets were returned last year, but that details on who had returned them were unavailable.

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