

Weinstein: not an impeachment, but a recall

We don't think Lane County Commissioner Archie Weinstein should be impeached. But we definitely believe he should be recalled.

Weinstein's supporters, however, have attempted to portray the issue of his ouster from office which confronts voters on Nov. 7, in terms of the judicial process of impeachment rather than the political action of recall.

Phrasing his defense in terms of the requirements for conviction after impeachment, i.e., criminal malfeasance in office, reflects the political caginess of Weinstein and his backers. Proof that would convince a court of criminal guilt would be much harder to secure than justification for a recall.

But the 16,000 persons who signed petitions and got the measure on the general-election ballot after only a

three-week campaign were not — and need not — have been thinking in these terms.

Nor should the voters be gulled by this ploy.

Supporting recall of a public official merely requires one to believe that the person in question has demonstrated his or her unsuitability for the post.

He has blunted the effectiveness of county government by politicizing many administrative tasks and by failing to assist in finding a permanent, skilled general administrator to oversee day-to-day operations.

He has damaged county employees' morale by gratuitous broadsides against them that lack substance or specificity.

He has supported allocation of federally funded CETA positions for

dead-end government posts that ease the county's budgetary problems, but is contrary to the intended purpose of training the unskilled for jobs that eventually can be absorbed by the private economy.

He has aided the cut-off of these same CETA funds for those he considers political enemies, whom he characterizes derogatorily as "hippies."

He has opposed innovative proposals for alternative energy, environmental conservation, ecological safeguards and economic development.

He has abetted the efforts of real-estate "developers" in speculative ventures that would contribute to urban sprawl and has opposed controlled, land-use planning.

He has insulted, with personal, de-

meaning attacks, other public officials, both inside and outside county government, and private groups seeking to bring their concerns to county government.

He has refused to listen to viewpoints from individuals and organizations who hold any but the narrow opinions of himself and his supporters.

He has failed to communicate many of the details and rationale for his opinions and actions to the general public, either through the news media or personal accessibility.

Weinstein has, in short, failed the residents of Lane County who elected him.

Electing Weinstein was a serious mistake that a recall legitimately corrects.

Vote "yes" to recall Archie Weinstein next Tuesday.

Bylund still best for assessor job

After much debate, we endorse Ken Bylund for county assessor. We feel he's made strides in equalizing Lane County's property tax burden.

We did not arrive at this choice without some misgivings. Bylund has made a mess of things from time to time at the assessor's office.

But we heed a recent Department of Revenue audit that upholds what Bylund has contended all along: that he simply did not receive a sufficient budget to run his office up to snuff.

Bylund has locked horns with more than a few county officials. In some cases we think it was unnecessary, but on the whole we approve of his willingness to speak his mind. Pondering to those in power although often helpful politically, does not outweigh fighting for what one believes is right.

We do hope Bylund will temper his outbursts and not overreact in the future.

As for his opponent, Republican Bill Bain, he talks a good line. However, the chief investor in Valley River Center and Delta Property Company was a major contributor to his campaign. We find unsettling such connections with those who stand to benefit from an official's policies.

We believe Bylund will learn from his mistakes, make good use of a larger budget and use his considerable knowledge to enforce his honest intentions.

theirs



yours

Measure 13? No

No, no, no, no, no. No on County Ballot Measure 13. Can we be more emphatic? We don't think the county assessor should be appointed.

The assessor carries a hefty burden on behalf of all property taxpayers and should be picked by them not by commissioners who could have their own personal reasons for appointing someone to the job.

Any post that holds such potential for monetary abuse should remain accessible to voters.

Assessor candidates should have to campaign among county residents. They need to hear what voters are saying, and realize just whom they will be serving.

County Measure 13? No way.

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Fagan supports Fagan

The University community deserves a strong Representative in the Oregon Legislature to protect the interest of higher education in the coming session. My background qualifies me to serve in this capacity.

Having been a student at Oregon, both as an undergraduate and in law school, I know the concerns and needs of the University. Since graduating I have kept in contact with the campus not only through cultural and athletic events but also through my wife's work with budgets and as a graduate teaching fellow. My involvement as Legal Counsel to the Democratic Party of Oregon has allowed me to develop personal associations with other political leaders that would make me an effective representative.

I would appreciate your consideration and your vote on November 7th.

Tom Fagan
Democratic Candidate
House District 41

Haws thanks supporters

I wish to take this opportunity to thank the many persons who have helped, supported and encouraged me and the campaign Committee to Re-Elect Eric Haws as the Bethel representative to the City Council.

In addition to the hours I spend with my family and business, I volunteer approximately 15 to 20 hours a week to my City Council office. This latter time is the only free time I have to campaign but I have decided that doing a good job while I am still in office is more important than political activities; therefore, I am able to devote only a few hours to the campaign.

Without the many individuals who have given time and energy there would not be that vigorous campaign that we are presently waging.

In closing, I wish to encourage the Bethel residents and residents of the rest of the city to vote on Nov. 7 as there are many important ballot measures that will have a direct effect on the Bethel Area and City of Eugene.

Eric Haws,
City Councilmember
Ward 6

Thursday, November 2, 1978