

emerald

Antelope still a city; ballot proposal fails

ANTELOPE (AP) — Efforts of long-time residents in this tiny Central Oregon town to disincorporate the town to avoid a feared takeover by disciples of an Indian guru failed on Thursday.

The vote was 55 against disincorporation and 42 in favor.

Ninety-seven ballots were cast, including two absentee ballots. The county clerk challenged 68 ballots.

Both sides said before the votes were counted that they would challenge the outcome in the courts.

Karen LeBreton, the Wasco County election supervisor, said the county automatically entered a challenge to any voter who had registered fewer than 30 days previous to today's election.

She said any ruling eventually would be made by a circuit judge when one side or the other challenged the election.

The latest step in the six-month legal battle brought between the red-garbed followers of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh and a town that doesn't want them brought almost 100 reporters and other onlookers — more than the population of the town itself.

"I think we would be better disincorporating," said Don Smith, a City Council member who was one of the leaders of the disincorporation movement and one of the first voters.

He denied charges by Rajneesh followers that the council was discriminating against the commune members because of their religion.

"I don't even know what their religion is. How can I discriminate against something that I don't even know what it is," he said.

"We plan to stay — no matter what," he said. But he admitted he and his wife, Donna, already had listed their home for sale.

"You'll have to ask my wife about that," he said. She was unavailable.

The event was not without its humor. Arthur Clark, an Antelope resident, wore a necklace of empty rifle-cartridge cases with a button proclaiming him a "Descendant of Oregon Pioneers." The necklace was a parody on the wooden-bead necklaces worn by the Rajneesh with a picture of their spiritual leader.

Sheela Silverman, president of Rajneesh Foundation International described the Bhagwan's message as one of living and loving in which all traditional religions have some value.

Antelope had a population of 40 in 1980 and 31 voters, but by Thursday morning, 98 people had registered, six of them that day.

The informal count had 53 Rajneesh members at the time.

Health center fights herpes 'epidemic'

Genital herpes, the "epidemic of the 80s," appears to be spreading most rapidly among educated men and women between 20 and 25 years old, according to current medical statistics.

National medical authorities estimate over 20 million Americans currently are afflicted with the virus. From 300,000 to 500,000 new cases of genital herpes appear each year, according to the Information Center on Herpes Disease.

Dr. Jim Jackson, director of the University Student Health Center, says the health center treats students afflicted with many kinds of sexually transmitted diseases, such as gonorrhea, urethritis, scabies, crabs, and genital herpes.

Students have a lot of "misconceptions and strange ideas" about genital herpes and other sexually transmitted diseases, Jackson says. One of the most important duties of the health center is to "help patients with sexually transmitted diseases learn more about the process and put their problems in perspective," he says.

Genital herpes is a lifelong infection with no known cure. It is marked by lesions in the gen-

ital area which may break out every two or three months in some patients, Jackson says.

The disease is highly infectious, which leads to serious disruptions of social and sexual relationships, he says.

The health center is working on ways to help patients deal with these disruptions, Jackson says. The center now has a 30-page booklet about genital herpes, including ways to handle the different personal aspects associated with the disease.

The health center and the counseling center will hold an information and discussion group meeting on genital herpes May 13 at 3:30 p.m. in the health center.

Students can visit the health center and receive a checkup for free, Jackson says, but students must pay for tests and lab work.

Students who believe they may need treatment for a sexually transmitted disease do not have to go to the University health center. The Lane County Health Department, Whitebird Clinic, and most private physicians all provide care for genital herpes and other sexually transmitted diseases.



Photo by Mark Pynes

C.J. Balfe edged Kevin Kouns by 26 votes in the ASUO Presidential elections, but both will be on the ballot in the Wednesday and Thursday general elections.

Balfe, Kouns face runoff

By Dane Claussen
Of the Emerald

C.J. Balfe, a junior majoring in psychology, won the ASUO presidential primary elections by a narrow one percentage point, beating Kevin Kouns, a junior in sociology and women's studies.

Balfe finished with 759 votes — 26 more than Kouns' 733 votes — and both primary winners will be on the general election ballot Wednesday and Thursday.

"It was a close one," said Balfe, ASUO Pres. Rich Wilkins' administrative assistant, after hearing the election results, announced just after midnight. "We're looking forward to next week, the next round."

Balfe, endorsed by the Interfraternity Council and the Oregon Daily Emerald, had no comment on the vote support received by Kouns.

"I think we have demonstrated that we are a credible alternative," Kouns said about the elections results, adding that other coalitions besides the "Greek block can run a credible campaign."

Kouns, co-director of SEARCH, is running on the Students for a Progressive Agenda platform. He was the only candidate to designate a vice presidential candidate — ASUO comptroller Ken Packman.

"We've won the battle — we've not won the war," Kouns said.

Balfe and Kouns were followed in the vote totals by Debbie Mellow with 480 votes and Tom Brannon with 146 votes. Candidates Jeffrey Houston and Ed Colligan, who had both withdrawn from the race, received 49 and 35 votes, respectively.

Mellow, a senior in management and telecommunications, said she was not surprised by the outcome of the election.

"In the beginning, I thought I'd do better," she said. Her expectations changed after

being "surprised at the politicking that went on with various offices and candidates."

She also said she will talk to Balfe and Kouns before deciding who to support in the general election, and that she was disappointed with the voter turnout — about 2,200, or about 200 less than last year.

Brannon, a political science senior, was unavailable for comment.

Other final totals were available only for EMU Board elections, which served as a general election. Unofficial results were available for the Incidental Fee Committee — a primary election — and OSPIRG Board positions — a general election — for five of six posts.

Winners of EMU Board posts, from a 10-member field, and their votes: Mary Hotchkiss, English junior, 1,036; Paula Jampsa, law, 841; Doug Bauer, finance and political science junior, 829; John Dulcich, business and accounting junior, 827; and Alan Scarce, business sophomore, 822.

Unofficial results of the race for the 14-candidate general election, which will select the seven-member Incidental Fee Committee: Jeff Nudelman, political science junior, 889; Betzy Fry, journalism junior, 749; Diane Ritterband-Mason, sociology junior, 746; Mary Alice Holmes, psychology sophomore, 737; Mary Catherine Shrauger, political science junior, 661; Barton Hill, biology sophomore, 635; Stephen Pacheco, junior in political science and biology, 634; Ted Marks, sophomore in political science and biology, 625; Devin Wate, business sophomore, 595; David Lesser, political science junior, 580; Rick Braun, law, 570; Gordon Mallon, law, 490; Bob Mead, computer and information science sophomore, 256; and Mike Cross, political science and international studies senior, 248.

All five candidates for the six-member OSPIRG Board were elected, with the two top write-in candidates to be announced today or Saturday.