

Measure 8 offers little that is good

Ballot measure 8 has 23 separate sections, many of which are ill-defined and ill-conceived. The ballot title states that the measure "revises numerous criminal laws concerning police powers, trials, evidence, and sentencing." It goes on to state that all the changes proposed to criminal statutes are not identified within the ballot description. That alone should make a voter think twice about backing Measure 8.

Section 22, which deals with police rights to search people, is a good example of Measure 8's lack of detail. The measure would repeal seven statutes dealing with police search laws. There is no written description of what these statutes are. Thus, the average voter has no clear idea of the content of the search laws being repealed.

The issue of police search laws is serious because constitutional protection from unreasonable stop-and-frisk police conduct is one of the most important citizen rights of this state. If passed, Measure 8 would put an end to many of the limitations on police ability to stop and search people. It would also repeal statutes that put state limitations on the ability of police to obtain search warrants. For example, police would have much more freedom to enter peoples' homes with warrants based upon questionable information.

Proponents of Measure 8 argue that it will support victims' rights. Yet one part of the measure appears to go directly against victims' rights. In the area of civil compromise, Measure 8 could prevent the victim from obtaining a settlement, even when the victim and judge both agree that it would be best. Measure 8 gives the prosecutor the right to force a trial on the victim regardless of the victim's own feelings. This can hardly be called supporting victims' rights.

If Measure 8 passes it will also give prosecutors the right to decide whether there will be a trial by jury or judge. In cases such as rape, many victims don't want to testify before a jury and instead will testify only before a judge. If Measure 8 passes, they will no longer have that choice. Vote No on Measure 8.

Vote Hosticka, Eachus and Burrows on Nov. 6

In the race for state representative of district 40 the choice is clear: Democrat Carl Hosticka has the political experience and the commitment to deal successfully with important issues such as the state budget and educational funding. Hosticka supports a continued University tuition freeze and faculty pay increases. Although republican challenger Mitch Hammerstad also supports increased funding for higher education he has come out against a tuition freeze for students. We believe that a vote for Hosticka is the best choice.

In district 39 the choice is clear: vote for Democrat Ron Eachus for state representative. Eachus' commitment to a Citizens Utility Board (CUB) and his long time political experience as a district representative to Congressman Jim Weaver makes him the best choice. His republican opponent Carl DiPaolo does not support a CUB, lacks the political experience of Eachus and has ignored the students in his district who live in Westmoreland housing.

In district 41 Republican Mary Burrows is running uncontested for state representative. Because she continues to do good work for the University and has actively supported higher education funding we encourage students to vote for her. She has done a good job and deserves voter support.



letters

Dying earth

As usual, when I listened to Reagan speak at the debate, I was left feeling everything from anger through sorrow to hopelessness by his lies and distortions, particularly his calling abortion murder. I have been partner to two pregnancies thus terminated clinically. No one on earth loves the living and children of it more than I, or respect and cherish life more than I. It was a very hard choice, but better a child not be born than born unwanted by its parents, or to be sold off to some unknowns in an adoption; probably no one I would choose.

Better a child not be born than born into a world where blood thirsty maniacs can control nations and bring down the torture and death of war upon its innocent breed. Maniacs who steal the goodness of life and turn that bounty into nuclear power plants, bullets, bombs and other evil weapons. Maniacs who give aid to those who are greedy, who are sopping wet with the blood of the very earth they torture and rape in their drunken madness, rather than to those who would help heal our poor dying earth and its innocent, helpless inhabitants. Millions of people starve while billions of dollars are spent on billions of bullets. Work for peace and love for life.

Tommy Walen
Eugene

Etiquette

The Harry Jerome Weight Center has got to be one of the most well-equipped campus weight rooms anywhere. But there's one area in which it's

sorely lacking: gym etiquette.

Anyone who's worked out at a well-run gym will vouch for the fact that weight training facilities have their own particular code of etiquette. Once you learn it, you'll fit in. So, alongside the present sign above the door in Jerome, I'd suggest another, which outlines this code.

1. People exercising have the right-of-way. Don't interrupt their movements or concentration so you can move past them. Either wait until they're finished or walk around.
 2. If you're waiting for a piece of equipment and the current user lays it down or stops exercising, always ask if he or she is finished before you take it. Show them the courtesy of asking first, rather than just taking over their equipment.
 3. It's customary to ask if you can "work in" when you want alternate use of something as the current user rests between sets. Failure to ask is considered rude and offensive; it's as if you've "taken over" the equipment with no respect for the person already there.
 4. Finally, never attempt to speak to someone while they're in the middle of a set. This is annoying because it destroys concentration and momentum, so wait until the person is finished before speaking.
- If this simple, universal code of gym etiquette were followed by all, Jerome would be one of the best gyms anywhere.

Ed Lucas
Eugene

A good job

I would like to commend our police protection around the University campus. Just the other day I saw a heinous crime committed, and before the villain could escape, our man in blue apprehended the beast and issued a citation. I'll venture to say that that criminal won't dare run another stop sign on his bicycle.

Just as the clamor of the morning's heroics was dying down, I saw another of our policeman poised to strike. FLASH, on went the lights and the police car roared into action — ready to right a wrong and protect us. Thank God the person coasting his moped on the closed portion of thirteenth was stopped. Think of the repercussions if he had been allowed to park in a no-moped zone and go to class.

Each morning I read about theft, murder, rape, and assault in the newspaper. I'm distressed and frightened, but then I tell myself, "at least they have that horrible moped problem under control." Perhaps campus security could handle these traffic infractions and thereby free the city police to handle the more mundane problems in the real world — like murder.

Alex Gardner
Eugene

How long?

The Emerald's story on Dick Gregory (ODE Oct. 17) is an object lesson in censorship and the art of sidestepping controversy. Gregory did warn his mainly young audience against caffeine, tobacco, and alcohol as the Emerald states, but after telling us several times "take care of your bodies", he also appealed to us not to smoke marijuana or snort cocaine and hinted at the U.S. government's complicity in the South American drug trade.

If the audience were really listening, Gregory said something to each of us that should be the occasion for self-examination. To those on drugs: "Take care of your bodies." To Mondale supporters: voting for the lesser of two evils produces evil. To those who are conned into buying the latest gadgets and fashions: be aware of how you are being manipulated.

Gregory also spoke of the two governments we have in the U.S.: that made up of people we elect and that made up of people who run the elected; and after making a point of the hold the Mafia has on this country, asked us why pollsters have never polled Americans on what they think of that organization.

Gregory many times interjected the phrase, "how long?". This question appears frequently in the Psalms, usually addressed to the Lord asking him how long until he has compassion and manifests his justice. But in the context of Gregory's talk, he possibly had in mind the fourth Psalm in which the psalmist admonishes the unbelievers: "How long will you love what is worthless and go after what is false?"

Guido Palandri
Library

Oregon Daily

emerald

The Oregon Daily Emerald is published Monday through Friday except during exam week and vacations by the Oregon Daily Emerald Publishing Co., at the University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon, 97403.

The Emerald operates independently of the University with offices on the third floor of the Erb Memorial Union and is a member of the Associated Press.

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