

Choice crystal clear for two state offices

In both races for attorney general and secretary of state, attentive and informed voters will cast ballots in favor of experience.

We concur and encourage support for both incumbent candidates: Dave Frohnmayer in the race for attorney general and Barbara Roberts in the race for secretary of state.

Attorney General Frohnmayer, the Republican candidate, runs opposed by Fred Oerther, a Libertarian. No Democrat appears on the ballot because, in the 1988 primary election, Frohnmayer received the nod from both parties.

Frohnmayer has served as Oregon attorney general for the past eight years. Previously, he served six years as state representative. Before his time in public office, he worked for the U.S. Department of Justice in the civil rights division, and before that, he worked for the U.S. secretary of health, education and welfare.

His leadership has been a respected and valued commodity in the state during his time in office. Last year, he was elected president of the National Association of Attorneys General and received an award for outstanding service from that same organization.

In the celebrated case of the United States v. Exxon oil, Frohnmayer was selected to argue the appeal for the government and consequently won a \$2.1 billion judgment for repayment of oil overcharges. Frohnmayer also can be credited with the investigation and conviction of Rajneeshee leaders for criminal acts committed in Oregon.

As attorney general, Frohnmayer has initiated hard-line tactics against organized crime, particularly against the manufacture and sale of illegal narcotics. He has fought against rip-off artists and other white collar criminals, especially those who directly affect Oregon consumers: fraudulent charitable solicitors, false advertisers and mail frauds.

Frohnmayer taught law here at the University. He holds two degrees from Oxford (where he was a Rhodes Scholar) and a doctorate degree from the University of California.

We applaud Dave Frohnmayer's accomplishments. On Nov. 8, he deserves our support.

Likewise, we endorse secretary of state incumbent, Democrat Barbara Roberts.

Her experience also includes a long list of elected public service positions, a record which places her ahead of her opponents, who both boast long stints in the military as their experience in government.

Roberts served as a state representative for four years, two years of which she was the House majority leader. Before her time in state government, Roberts was Multnomah county commissioner and served on local school boards. She also served as a member of the State Advisory Council for Emotionally Handicapped Children, an indication of her record of compassion and support for human service issues.

Roberts' community service experience consists of active participation in programs in mental health, special education, child abuse prevention, alcoholism and drug addiction rehabilitation and the rights of seniors and the handicapped. She is a member of the League of Women Voters, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the Friends of the Columbia River Gorge.

Through her managerial and organizational successes, Roberts has demonstrated time and time again her ability to handle her current job. She has won the confidence of, among others, Gov. Neil Goldschmidt.

Roberts has proved she is responsible in her leadership and her management of state funds. Her efficiency also won the confidence of the Oregon Legislature, which transferred to her jurisdiction several additional offices: the Board of Accountancy, the Board of Tax Service Examiners, the Historical Properties Advisory Commission and the Corporations Division.

Both Secretary of State Roberts and Attorney General Frohnmayer deserve a pat on the back for jobs well done. On Nov. 8, we can all voice our approval for two worthy public servants.

REAGAN FURLOUGH PROGRAM



Letters

Oligarchy

Unfortunately the Constitution of the United States created a carefully balanced and responsive democratic government only at the national level, which left an opportunity for the ambitious to design governments as they saw fit for states, counties and municipalities.

Eugene is a victim of this oversight. At the moment the mayor and the City Council form an oligarchy supported by connections to large businesses and the town's major newspaper. This oligarchy apparently believes itself benevolent and wise enough to exclusively make policy for the citizenry rather than facilitate voter participation in matters of general concern.

It is no surprise, then, that the Council has announced its dislike of Ballot Measure 20-03. The measure allows citizens to effectively protest city planning decisions through massive petitioning (7,000 signatures). This protects the land under contention, perhaps only temporarily, through re-zoning. If the Council then chooses, the given issue may then be put to a city-wide vote, giving everyone a chance to overturn or support the petition. This measure empowers any who care to vote, and constitutes a major step toward participatory democracy.

This opportunity to make the city government more responsive to those who live here should not be missed. Measure 20-03 should be approved, and let's hope we see more measures like it in the future.

Greg Bryant
Eugene

Aficionados

Rather than vote "yes" on Ballot Measure 5 to establish a one-cent tax on beer and cigarettes to help fund university athletic programs, I recommend that the University instead consider designating an area near MacArthur Court to receive donations of empty beer cans and bottles.

By leaving beverage containers worth a five-cent deposit, sports enthusiasts could demonstrate the extent of their gaming spirit, and at the same time, University athletic officials could reap five times the per-empty revenue they seek in the proposed taxation.

Taxation suggests charity, a "free hand-out," and runs contrary to the spirit behind competitive college sports. A vote "no" on Ballot Measure 5 identifies the true aficionados, and challenges other University departments to likewise solicit funds from among their own ranks, through patronage of a favorite mascot consumer-item.

Peter Klein
English

Liberalism

The Random House Dictionary defines liberalism as: "A political or social philosophy advocating the freedom of the individual, parliamentary systems of government, non-violent modification or political, social, or economic institutions to assure unrestricted development in all spheres of human endeavor, and governmental guarantees of individual rights and civil liberties."

We who subscribe to this philosophy are liberals and we are the people President Reagan has been slandering for eight years, and we are the people Vice President Bush, Mr. Reagan's political son, is slandering in his present campaign.

The United States of America is definitely a middle-of-the-road country politically, and

we liberals are by no means as far to the left as Reagan-Bush are to the right.

Mr. Bush, in his campaigning, epitomizes a noisy, flag-waving, shallow patriotism of the cheapest, most tasteless sort. Furthermore, he and his cohorts are trying to assume the mantles of Roosevelt, Truman and Kennedy, who were truly great liberals.

The ends do not justify the means; and Mr. Bush, if elected, will be a small president.

Edmund R. Soule
Professor emeritus, library

Lighten up

Reading Mike Lee's comment in the Streetwise column (ODE, 10/17) was a wonderfully humorous way to start my day. I hate to think people are losing their senses of humor. I'm almost certain that Mike meant it as a joke. If that wasn't his intention, it was still funny. In my opinion, both candidates are pretty funny. Lighten up a little and stop "ripping" each other.

By the way, vote Ozzy for President!

Steve Evans
Eugene

Child care

According to the New York Times (Oct. 24), part of the increased Indiana cigarette tax helps pay for child care programs serving 4,200 school children, ages 5 to 14, whose parents are working or in training. These are families with income below the federal poverty level.

Only 1/2 cent of the overall 5 cents-a-pack tax increase went for the child care. Most of this tax was earmarked for education. The \$400,000 a year raised for child care is small, considering the waiting list of children. Now some Indiana legislators are thinking about a liquor tax to help fund child care for these indigent families.

H. Johnston
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