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Voter power urged to win anti-abortion fight

Briefly

Lane County Commissioner Jerry Rust is leading the fight to protect the Pacific Yew tree from developers and businesses eager to extract the anti-cancer drug taxol, found in the tree's bark.
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University officials revealed Thursday enrollment figures for the fall term will not be as high as anticipated. The expected balloon in attendance figures has not materialized as there will be less than 100 more students on campus than during last year's fall registration.
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Entertainment



Noted comedian and movie actor George Carlin will bring his show to Eugene tonight when he takes the stage at the Hult Center. Carlin is just one of the many entertainment items on tab for this weekend. For a complete list, turn to the Entertainment section.
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Sports

Oregon may be the only team standing in the way of a BYU national championship. The Ducks will try to avenge last year's heartbreaking 45-41 loss as they take on the Cougars this Saturday at Autzen Stadium.
See inside supplement

Regionally

A state report issued Thursday said a shutdown of the Trojan nuclear power plant could add as much as \$50 a year to Portland-area electric bills.
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Nationally

White House and Congress moved closer toward agreement on the budget, but several key disputes keep them separate and squabbling.
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Photo by Sean Poston

Shannon Oliver, interdisciplinary studies graduate student, and Mary Ager, sociology junior, cheer at a rally against Measures 8 and 10.

By Daralyn Trappe
Emerald Reporter

In an emotional speech before a large gathering at the University, Eleanor Smeal, president of The Fund For the Feminist Majority, urged students to vote against Oregon state Ballot Measures 8 and 10 and help register other young people to vote.

Measure 10 would make abortions illegal except in cases of reported rape or incest or to prevent the death of a pregnant woman. Measure 8 would require doctors to notify the parents of a young woman under 18 years of age before an abortion could be performed.

Oregon is the only state to have both parental notification and abortion prohibition measures on the November ballot.

"You are the state the whole nation will be looking at," Smeal said.

If passed, she said, Measure 8 would affect "those who need the most help."

"To force women under 18 to remain pregnant against their will... is force, servitude, slavery — it's a form of torture. And it will go forth unless you organize as you've never organized before."

Congress, the Supreme Court, and other lawmakers — groups of people "made up mostly of men over 50 — are dictating a war on the young people of this nation," Smeal said. "They won't police their own actions, but they harass young women. The hypocrisy of our political leaders is so disgusting that you

almost feel tainted in its presence."

Smeal said she is focusing attention on young Americans because only 20 percent of 18-24 year-olds vote.

"You are not voting at the level you have a right to," she said. "You can make a difference, not only for Oregon but for the whole nation."

Smeal addressed the issue of voter registration at the University by saying that financial aid would not be affected if a student registers to vote here.

"Many are told if they register to vote at the University with an address other than their parents, it will affect their financial aid."

"It's not true," Smeal said. "You have the right to vote where you live, to control the politics here."

Smeal urged students not only to vote, but to spend time working on voter registration. She told the crowd the effort would be rewarding and related her own college experience at Duke University, where she worked for desegregation.

"I remember more from the fight for integration than anything I learned in textbooks," she said. "And I hope this helps you."

"Urge people to register to vote. The universities alone in this state could dictate the outcome. You can make a difference, not only for Oregon but for the whole nation."

Souter, measures threaten abortion rights, says Smeal

By Catherine Hawley
Emerald Associate Editor

Abortion rights for women in Oregon are endangered not only by state Measures 8 and 10, but also by the Senate Judiciary Committee vote to confirm David Souter as a U.S. Supreme Court justice, Eleanor Smeal said Thursday.

"Oregon is in a very precarious position," said Smeal at a news conference before Thursday's pro-abortion rally on campus. "Women in this state could lose all abortion rights."

If Souter is confirmed by the entire Senate later this week,

he could cast a fifth vote overturning the Supreme Court's 1973 decision in Roe vs. Wade, which gave states the right to legalize abortion.

The judiciary committee's vote is "a total insult to all Americans concerned with civil rights and women's rights," said Smeal, who testified against Souter as part of a panel on women's rights.

Smeal, former president of the National Organization for Women, was in Eugene as part of a statewide campaign against measures 8 and 10.

Measure 8 would prohibit

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Photo by Sean Poston

Former NOW president Eleanor Smeal urged students to get involved in abortion issues at a rally Thursday.

Roberts, Frohnmayer sling accusations over ruling crisis

By Joe Kidd
Emerald Associate Editor

A circuit court ruling Monday that may void a majority of the measures on the Nov. 6 ballot has thrown Oregon's race for governor into a flurry of accusations — and anticipations.

As the two major gubernatorial candidates find themselves at the heart of what is now being called a ballot measure crisis, Republican hopes are flapping, Democratic dread is digging in, and the lesser-known independent and Libertarian campaigns are both looking for a boost.

Democratic candidate Barba-

ra Roberts took a defensive posture at a press conference Tuesday, one day after Circuit Court Judge Richard Barber's ruling exploded a bomb of political speculation.

"My job as secretary of state is to fight to get these measures counted in on the ballot," she said. "That's my first responsibility ... and if there is political fallout for what's happened, I will live with that political fallout."

Meanwhile, Republican candidate Dave Frohnmayer's supporters have taken the offensive.

Oregon Republican Party Chairman Craig Berkman

swung through western Oregon calling attention Wednesday to what he termed Roberts' "failed leadership."

"The ballot initiative in this state has been thrown into jeopardy by the negligence and mismanagement of the current Secretary of State and chief elections officer ... Barbara Roberts," he said at a press conference in Eugene, after making similar statements that morning in Medford.

"She and she alone ... caused a delay in filing which has precipitated in the legal action that's going on in the courts today," he said.

Circuit Court Judge Barber

ruled five measures ineligible for vote tallying because the state Elections Division failed to provide written certification of fiscal impact statements for those measures before the required deadline. Although the ruling directly affects only five measures, three others that require financial impact statements also may be in danger.

The state attorney general's office has appealed the decision and is working to restore the measures to voting status. And because the Elections Division is under Secretary of State Barbara Roberts' control, some

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