

## Voters say Trojan OK, nix recycling measure

By Christopher Blair  
Emerald Managing Editor

Oregon voters held economic interests over the environment Tuesday, as measures to shut down the state's only nuclear plant and phase out non-recyclable packaging were soundly defeated.

With three-fourths of precincts reporting, Ballot Measure 4, which would have shut down Trojan nuclear plant, was going down to defeat by a score of 60 percent to 40 percent.

Measure 4 would have closed the plant until it was brought up to stronger earthquake-resistant standards and a federal site was found for the nation's nuclear waste. The measure also would have closed the plant until its cost-efficiency record improved.

Lloyd Marbet from the Don't Waste Oregon Committee, one of measure's leading backers, said the election was a matter of dollars. The initiative's opponents, among them plant owner Portland General Electric Co., spent \$2.1 million on the campaign.

Marbet said his group had a budget of \$52,000, most of which was from donations of \$100 or less.

"I wish I'd had \$1 million in the last week of the campaign, and \$3.5 million to spend throughout the campaign," he said. "We can't compete. No doubt about it: Money made the difference."

"I don't know what it will take for people to wake up and realize that democracy is being manipulated by money," he said.

Marbet said it will take an accident to persuade voters about

Trojan's alleged problems.

"Waste problems are not resolved," he said. "Safety problems are not resolved. The earthquake problem certainly is not resolved. I hope tragedy isn't what's needed to change people's minds."

Measure 6 would have required strict recycling standards for packaging sold in the state, with hardship waivers for business and individuals who could not comply for financial reasons. It was losing 58 percent to 42 percent late Tuesday night.

John Albrecht of the Sierra Club's Oregon Chapter also cited a disparity in campaign funds as the main reason Measure 6 was defeated.

Advertising campaigns and efforts by corporations such as the American Paper Institute, Philip Morris and Union Carbide cost a total of \$2.3 million. The opposition, mostly from environmental groups such as the Oregon State Public Interest Group and the Sierra Club, together spent \$295,000.

"The money the opposition put in was rather significant," Albrecht said. "They had full-page ads in *The Register-Guard* and so forth, the kinds of ads we couldn't afford to put together."

Albrecht praised campaign workers with the Oregon State Public Interest Group, but he said their work and the work of others for the measure was in vain.

"To get votes in a modern-day election takes money," he said.

Opponents to the measures could not be reached for comment.

## Students turned away at polls

By Denise Clifton  
Emerald Contributor

At least 75 University students were turned away from voting Tuesday at the EMU precinct because they had not re-registered to vote after moving for the summer, said the election board chairwoman of the on-campus precinct.

These students couldn't vote even though their current addresses are the same as the addresses they held - and voted with - during the last school year.

"We are told that every time you physically move, you must re-register, even if you're moving back into the same address," said Charlotte Thompson, EMU precinct election board chairwoman. "If your name is not in the official registration book, we cannot allow you to vote."

Annette Pomeroy, chief deputy county clerk for Lane County, said it is common for the state's elections divisions to purge registration records.

"After every election, the law provides that we can clear the records of people who the Post Office says have moved," she said, explaining that it is wasteful to mail election materials to people who don't live in a voting district.

Re-registration notices are sent to people who leave forwarding addresses, Pomeroy said.

But many students claim they never received letters informing them to re-register.

"I voted here last year and I came back to the same address," said University sophomore Richard Tunnell, who wasn't allowed to vote. "I



Photo by Sean Poston

Michelle Olsen, a University senior in biology, casts a ballot for the first time Tuesday night.

know nobody ever sent me a notice to re-register."

Pomeroy had no answer for students' claims that they weren't notified.

The ASUO also received similar complaints from students Tuesday, co-President Sheila Stickel said.

"We're pretty upset about it because we've been pushing

for students to vote," Stickel said, noting that election outcomes can be decided by the number of votes that were excluded.

"They say it's not the first time, but it is," Stickel said. "All we can suggest at this point is for people to complain to the elections division."

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