

Women politicians offer advice

By Rene DeCair
Emerald Associate Editor

Men and women were meant to complement each other in all areas of life, including politics, a Eugene state representative said Tuesday.

Republican state Rep. Marie Bell addressed about a dozen people in the EMU Walnut Room as part of a College Republicans presentation titled, "Women in Politics." She said she believes women bring a unique perspective to politics that differs from the male perspective.

But she said she believes women should not polarize themselves in groups to initiate change; rather they should work with others on all issues to find political common ground that all people share.

"A total female legislature would not be better than an all-male one," she said. "Well

maybe a little better," she added.

Rep. Liz Van Leeuwen, R-Halsey, and Washington Republican County Commissioner, Bonnie Hays also offered advice to the audience on how they think politics can be improved and shared their own experiences.

Hays said when she was elected nearly 14 years ago, she had little political experience, but she believed in a government "for the people by the people."

Hays described a meeting when one commissioner accused her of not knowing anything about how the world really works.

Now Hays is the chairwoman of the Board of Commissioners. Looking back on her experience, she said she got elected and achieved success because she did not focus on her weaknesses.

"What I didn't know in 1980 was that you weren't supposed to get involved in stuff you didn't know about," she said. "It's amazing what you can get done when nobody tells you the rules."

Bell said her goal for 1990s politics is to get people to solve problems that everyone believes should be solved. Women can help achieve this goal, she said, because although they may disagree on many things, women almost always agree on what she called the "belly issues."

Most women feel strongly, for example, that children need adequate dental and health care, she said.

"They have this mother bear instinct," she said, adding she believes women, unlike many men, will try to find solutions to the "belly issues" even when money is in short supply.

Refunds disappoint renters

By Gerrit Koepping
Emerald Reporter

Renters' refund checks were quite a bit smaller than expected this year, due in part to the passage of Ballot Measure 5.

The state legislature slashed the budget of the agency that distributes the checks, the Homeowner and Renter Relief Program.

Although Gov. Barbara Roberts would have liked lawmakers to stop there, legislators also voted to eventually eliminate the program. At the same time, state lawmakers increased the elderly rental assistance program and created a fund for low income housing.

But not only are renters surprised by Measure 5, a property tax limiting measure which cut into state revenues, property owners are finding the expected results of lower property taxes to be less than impressive.

In Oregon, property is taxed by a percentage of the value of the property. Measure 5 put a

limit on how high that percentage could go, but it did not put a limit on how high the appraisal values could go. This year's property tax limit is at 1.5 percent for schools and one percent for local government.

At the end of the five-year period the property tax limit will be one-half percent for schools and one percent for local government.

Measure 5 dictated that for the 1990-1991 year, property values be appraised over an 18 month period instead of over the previous 12 month period. Because of property values rising recently and because the values had a longer period to rise, property owners found that savings from Measure 5 were less than expected.

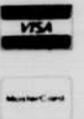
Generally, residential property values rose more than did commercial properties.

Kent Jennings, the owner of Jennings Co., a property management company that manages many homes in the area, said that he saw about a 19 percent increase in appraisal values.

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KAH

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Hey Greeks!!

The Fall 1991 Initiation of new Order of Omega members will be Nov. 7th at 6:30 p.m. All former members and initiates must attend. Dress formal. See EMU reader board for place.

Jessica

You are a wonderful person and I want everyone to know it! I do appreciate you. -YLS. P.S. Say the P word!

TKE

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BY GARRY TRUDEAU

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