

Bascom, Burrows to face off

By Tim Neff
Emerald Associate Editor

A November runoff election between Ruth Bascom and Mary McCauley Burrows will decide the Eugene mayoral race.

Early results Tuesday night had Bascom taking 32 percent of the vote to Burrows' 29 percent. Greg Evans was in third place with 25 percent. James "Izzy" Whetstone rounded out the contenders with 13 percent.

Had one candidate received more than 50 percent of the vote, a runoff election would not have been necessary.

Both runoff candidates pointed to their prior local government experience as major factors for the November election.

"I think that my experience and focus on local government will be the deciding factor," Bascom said. "My experience on the city council is very helpful for the mayor's office."

Burrows said her experience on numerous city committees will also be an asset in the November runoff election.

"My experience has been broader based (than Bascom's) in terms of issues," Burrows

said. "Hers are definitely more city-oriented."

Burrows said a two-candidate race will allow deeper exploration of the issues.

"It was peculiar having four candidates," she said. "It was hard to focus."

Burrows said she will regroup and reassess her campaign before going head to head with Bascom. Bascom said she may also rework her platform before the November election.

"My platform may change as we work through the Eugene Decisions process," Bascom said. "But it will still be based on a love for this city."

Despite his last-place finish, Whetstone said his first mayoral campaign built him a "permanent constituency on a limited budget." Whetstone spent less than \$2,000 on his mayoral bid, considerably less than his opponents.

Whetstone said his campaign provided him with a valuable introduction to the political process.

"Though I do not consider politics to be a suitable venue in the search for truth and beauty, one cannot fully understand the workings of a swamp

while on high ground," Whetstone said. "I got into the process to find out how to dance the dance and to find out how so many inferior people rise to power."

"They do it through perseverance."

Evans said he doesn't have any regrets about his first run for the mayor's office.

"We ran a good race, but it doesn't look like we're going to win," Evans said. "Those are the breaks."

Evans, who moved to Eugene from Cleveland eight years ago, attributed Bascom and Burrows' success to voter familiarity.

"They had significant name recognition," he said. "People are more familiar with the other candidates."

Evans said he probably would not run for mayor again.

The candidates congratulated each other for running a friendly campaign.

"It was a very clean and cordial campaign," Evans said. "It's the kind of campaigning that Eugonians like and respect."



Photo by Jeff Paslay
Ruth Bascom, with the help of Penny Newton, pores over early election results.

Clinton and Bush win in Oregon; Perot gets write-in votes

By Tim Neff
Emerald Associate Editor

Oregon voters gave Arkansas Gov. Bill Clinton and President George Bush the Democratic and Republican nods in Tuesday's primary election.

Clinton led the Democratic primary with 52 percent of the state vote to Jerry Brown's 33 percent, with less than half of the Oregon precincts reporting. Paul Tsongas took a distant third with 11 percent of the vote.

Bush had an easy win with 76 percent of the state vote with 29 of the precinct results.

Preliminary Lane County results favored Clinton with 54 percent of the votes to Brown's 34 percent.

Bush grabbed 76 percent of the vote.

John McFadden, spokesman for the Brown campaign in Eugene, said those numbers do not reflect the real level of support for his candidate. He said many voters are "in-the-closet supporters" of Brown.

"They support Brown but vote for Clinton because they don't think Brown can win," McFadden said. "That's a self-fulfilling prophecy."

Clinton campaign personnel were not available for comment Tuesday night at election headquarters in the Lane County Convention Center.

McFadden said Clinton's support has been highly overrated and pointed to the fact that Clinton has locked up less than half of the Democratic delegates.

"The race should be wide open," he said, "but peo-

ple view it as being wrapped up."

McFadden held out hope of a strong Brown showing in the June 2 California primaries. Brown was the governor of California from 1975 to 1983.

Forty-seven Democratic and 23 Republican delegates are up for grabs in Oregon's primary.

Ross Perot supporters set up shop at election central even though their candidate was not on the primary ballot. A petition drive to place his name on the November ballot began nationwide six weeks ago.

The Associated Press reported that 11 percent of both Republican and Democratic primary voters were writing in the name of Ross Perot. They were not tabulated on election night, but are a signal of Perot's potential strength in the fall.

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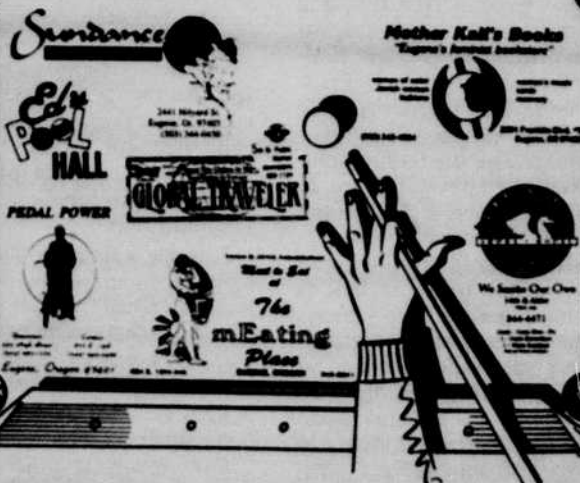
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