

Vote Mary Burrows mayor of Eugene

One of the most important ballots Eugene voters will cast on Nov. 3 will not be for any ballot measure or partisan candidate. It will be for either Ruth Bascom or Mary Burrows, candidates for mayor of Eugene.

The importance of this race has been overshadowed by the presidential and senatorial races, as well as the volatile campaigns being waged on both sides of Ballot Measure 9.



The next mayor of Eugene will assume the burdensome task of healing a community torn by the very existence of Measure 9 on the ballot. She will also inherit the continuing legacy of 1990's Measure 5, which will only continue to put the squeeze on the city's fiscal health.

Eugene's mayor needs strong leadership qualities and the ability to work at state and federal levels on behalf of the city. It is with these factors in mind that the Emerald is endorsing Burrows for mayor.

Both candidates have committed their lives to public service. Bascom has been active on behalf of Eugene since 1971 when she led efforts to build Eugene's bicycle pathways and create Alton Baker Park. She has served on the Eugene City Council for eight years, and her most recent achievement was creating low-income housing in Eugene.

Burrows represented Eugene in the Oregon Legislature from 1973-87. She left her post as the district's Republican representative when the state Republican Party began its radical shift to the ultra-conservative right.

There is no one issue that clearly divides the candidates — even their names are a source of confusion. Bascom attempted to avoid using her last name in the campaign, especially after people started calling her "Mary Bascom" and her opponent "Ruth Burrows."

Our endorsement of Burrows is based on her ability to represent and fight for Eugene at state and federal levels. Her experience in the Legislature makes Burrows more qualified to lead Eugene through its current and future fiscal crises.

Burrows has refused to pledge not to raise taxes and wants to completely evaluate every city department for waste and unnecessary spending before deciding on specific budget cuts.

Both candidates would serve Eugene well, but in these times of fiscal uncertainty, when economic growth will depend more than ever on a mayor capable of cutting through the state and federal bureaucracies, Burrows is the clear choice for mayor.

Vote Mary Burrows for mayor of Eugene.

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LETTERS

Dobson's for all

Now is the time to send a clear message on Ballot Measure 9. But the struggle will continue after Nov. 3.

I urge Ward 3 voters to send to the Eugene City Council a leader in the battle against discrimination, a leader whose experience and abilities will be convincingly apparent to everyone. Eben Dobson is that messenger. His candidacy is endorsed by Right to Privacy.

The battle for women's reproductive rights will continue as an issue at every level. I urge the election of Dobson, a long-time advocate of women's rights, as a spokesperson on the City Council. His candidacy is endorsed by the Oregon Women's Political Caucus.

Eugene needs to encourage small businesses while maintaining strong environmental protection. Dobson brings the right combination of successful business expertise and environmental advocacy sorely needed now. His candidacy is endorsed by the Lane County Labor Council, AFSCME Local #1724, and business, environmental and political leaders throughout the city.

I wish to voice my support for Dobson because of his credibility as an advocate for causes for which I have fought; my support for a real coalition builder in a time when Eugene needs leadership, not fragmentation; my support for someone who will listen to everyone and who is beholden to neither vested interests nor ideologies.

There is a progressive candidate in the race, the right person for right now. I urge you to vote for Eben Dobson for City Council Ward 3.

Gretchen Miller
Campus PPPM

Vote Wooten

The University is the single most important business in our community. But with the loss of thousands of students, hundreds of faculty and staff and the increase in tuition, it has been placed in jeopardy. Our current Republican state

representative from District 41 (Marie Bell) has done nothing to help students or the University. She has voted against every bill that could have helped students.

She said in the process of denying voters a voice on reconciling the impact of 1990's Measure 5, that she is "not sure I trust the idea of putting (the tax plan) on the ballot and letting the people decide." It seems clear that we certainly cannot leave it up to her to make these decisions for us.

Democrat Cynthia Wooten is a strong supporter of education and should be our choice for state representative in District 41. Wooten is a long-time resident of Eugene and knows the value of the University. She understands the plight of students. Wooten wants to help now, not wait around while our University gets dismantled piece by piece.

The voters can be trusted to make at least one correct decision on Nov. 3. Help save our University and our community. Elect Cynthia Wooten as our representative from District 41.

John Walsdorf
Eugene

Stay home

I've been a student at the University for more than four years. I'm a political science major, but up until recently, with the exception of voting, I have not been very active in the process.

When Ballot Measure 9 was first proposed, I knew it was time to get off my rear and do what I could.

I'm a heterosexual male and have never had a homosexual thought in my life. But it was plain to me that this measure went much deeper than homosexuality. It deals with a person's unalienable rights to live without the fear of retribution from fellow citizens who, for some reason or another, care what two people do within the confines of the bedroom.

The reason I write this is that I can say I truly understand the frustration and dejection the

gay community goes through every day of their lives. Passing out fliers last Thursday and Friday exposed me to some of the most piercing and hateful glances I have ever received.

Here were my fellow citizens literally telling me not to touch them as they passed by me. It has to be without a doubt the most troubling feeling I have ever had. It makes me sad to think I live in the same state with people such as these.

I surely hope these people are ignorant enough to stay home on Election Day.

Erik Hysong
Political Science

Ted's the one

As head of the Justice Department, the state attorney general will have a great deal of influence in Oregon. Some of the things the newly elected attorney general will do is give legal advice to state departments, represent the state in all court actions, give legal opinions to state agencies and legislatures, and head a department that has nearly 700 employees.

Of the three candidates on the ballot for the Nov. 3 election, only one is qualified to be perhaps the second most powerful person in state government. His name is Ted Kulongoski.

Kulongoski stands clearly above the other two candidates. He has the legal experience necessary. Just as important, he has experience in running a large agency. He is also an experienced administrator and a strong leader. Kulongoski has the judgment and vision to look out for the best interests of all the citizens of Oregon.

In the wake of all the divisiveness going on in this state and in this country, we need an attorney general that will treat all people equally and stand up for what is right. Kulongoski is far and away the best person for the job.

Vote Ted Kulongoski for attorney general on Nov. 3.

William Lund
Eugene

LETTERS POLICY

Letters to the editor must be limited to no more than 250 words, legible, signed and the identification of the writer must be verified when the letter is submitted.

Oregon Daily Emerald

P.O. BOX 3154 EUGENE, OREGON 97403

The Oregon Daily Emerald is published daily Monday through Friday during the school year and Tuesday and Thursday during the summer by the Oregon Daily Emerald Publishing Co. Inc., at the University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon.

The Emerald operates independently of the University with offices at Suite 300 of the Erb Memorial Union and is a member of the Associated Press.

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