

Voters say Ruth Bascom knows Eugene

By Meg Dedolph
Emerald Reporter

At press time, Ruth Bascom appeared to be the new mayor of Eugene, leading with 17,606 votes over Mary Burrows' 16,090 votes in the Tuesday's election.

Bascom said her background in Eugene government as a City Council member was a deciding factor in the race.

"I had Eugene experience," Bascom said. "That was the critical difference. Mary knows the state, but I know Eugene."

Bascom said both candidates had such similar views that their governmental experience was the only real difference.

Burrows said that her label as a "Republican" might have discouraged voters, despite her liberal voting record while a state representative.

"People loved my voting record," Burrows said, "but because I was branded as a Republican, they couldn't do it."

Another obstacle Burrows said she did not expect was that of John Bascom.

"John Bascom is a beloved surgeon in the community, and many people said that they just loved John Bascom," she said. "I couldn't get money or endorsements from them."

Furthermore, she said she encountered many people who



Ruth Bascom, who was elected mayor of Eugene Tuesday night, is congratulated by a supporter after she played keyboard on a local radio station.

Photo by Jeff Paslay

thought running for mayor after serving at the state level was a "step down," which Burrows did not agree with.

"I just love Eugene, and I felt I had a lot of experiences that could be utilized," Burrows

said, citing her experience in economic development and tax revenues as a representative.

Bascom's first priorities as mayor will include bringing the city out of debt and "melding the council into a working

body." Revitalization of downtown Eugene, including a new library, is also high on Bascom's agenda.

Bascom also emphasized the importance of the University to the city.

"The University is still the single most important characteristic of our city," Bascom said.

Burrows said she does not know what she will do after the election.

"I suppose I could lobby again, but I need to keep doing something that's fruitful," she said. "I'll find something."

Burrows said she believed the mayoral election reflected a nervousness in the general population.

"People are a little skittish," she said. "The economy's flat and people are nervous. We don't have anything for displaced workers, the downtown's lagging — there's a lot of hope for the downtown and the economy, but it will take tenacity."

Burrows also said there was a "sense of futility" she had never seen in Eugene before. "People want a change, but they're afraid of the unknown," she said.

Bascom said she disagreed. "I do believe deeply in the city," Bascom said.

Hornbuckle claims council seat over Dobson

By Colleen Pohlig
Emerald Associate Editor

Kevin Hornbuckle's personal door-to-door campaign for the Ward 3 City Council seat proved successful as he led Eben Dobson by more than 500 votes at press time.

"Hornbuckle came to my house and sat at my kitchen table for two hours and we talked politics," said University political science major Gary Malcolm. "This was five months ago, before I even gave him my vote."

As of midnight, 2,182 people had voted for Hornbuckle, and Dobson had 1,644 votes.

Hornbuckle, who spent less than \$2,000

on his campaign, said he believes his grassroots efforts were a "good use of the little money we had."

Hornbuckle, who promises to support family-wage jobs, progressive tax proposals and low-income housing initiatives, accused his opponent throughout the campaign for being a pro-business and special interests candidate.

"We relied on the ability of the people of Ward 3 to see through Dobson's pseudo-liberalism," Hornbuckle said.

Dobson said the only thing he regrets about his campaign is not being more vocal about his opponent's negative portrayal of him, which he said was not accurate.

Although disappointed with the results,

Dobson said the most important thing to him in this election was the defeat of Ballot Measure 9.

Hornbuckle said one thing he will immediately begin to work on is the community policing effort in the University area. He would also like to install more lighting around campus to give women a better sense of security, he said.

Hornbuckle, a University graduate, said one thing that won him the seat is that he knows Eugene well.

"I was a student at the University, and I still have a lot of connections with activists on campus who know I'm totally dedicated to justice," Hornbuckle said. "They respect me and the work I do."

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