

## Legislators have failed to correct Measure 5

□ The measure's causes should not be forgotten

By Michael O'Leary  
For the Oregon Daily Emerald

Measure 5 has been such a serious problem for so long now that it's grown difficult to pay attention to it anymore.

Unfortunately, when it does come up in a conversation, it seems that a lot of people don't really know exactly what it does or why no one has fixed it yet.

The election of 1990 spawned Measure 5, and whether you see it as the only practical way to tighten government's belt, or as a cruel attack on essential social programs, it has created a fiscal nightmare for state government.

Measure 5 forces state government to replace most of the revenues generated by county property taxes.

The drain is currently creating a \$1.3 billion shortfall for the state's General Fund and will grow to a \$2.9 billion gap by the 1995 budget season. That's a huge portion of Oregon's entire state budget. With \$2.9 billion you could fully fund more than 13 Oregon Health Care Plans or 45 universities the size the University.

While the demand for state spending on health care, corrections and education is increasing well above the inflation rate, gridlock in Salem has prevented raising of new state taxes. Legislators are now forced to cut all kinds of state programs from mental health to higher education to make up for Measure 5's local tax cuts.

Measure 5 has turned out different than many voters expected. In fact, many homeowners pay more property taxes than before Measure 5.

Many voters feel tricked by Measure 5. They don't understand why there is a shortfall if they're still paying the same amount of property taxes.

Measure 5 only promised to lower or cap property tax rates, not to lower the total amount of taxes paid.

Some communities already had low property tax rates, so the first round of Measure 5 limitations may not have affected the property taxes in those areas.

Other localities were behind in their property assessments. As Measure 5 took

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Matt Laubach sits in the Channel 11 control room during a community cable TV open house.

Photo by Randy Theoben

## Community access TV open for public

□ Anyone can produce a show after taking classes

By Meg Dedolph  
Oregon Daily Emerald

Picture this. It's after dinner, you turn on that flickering blue box in the corner, and halfway through another insipid, network-produced sitcom, you sit up and say, "Hey, I could do this!"

Or maybe the local political commentators omit your favorite view-

point. Or maybe there just isn't anything you want to watch. Ever.

Eugene's community access cable television, Channel 11, could solve all your television problems.

"We are community TV open to the public for community people to produce video," said Elise Child, a 1989 University graduate and operations coordinator for the station.

Community access television provides political programming that high-

lights Libertarian and conservative viewpoints and series that focus on local people, bicycling and how to select a nursing home — all locally produced.

"You get everything," Child said. "Since it is cable access, there aren't as many rules and regulations."

Child, who helps aspiring producers and keeps track of production progress, has a degree in telecommunications and said her job is a good stepping stone.

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## Robert Kennedy slaying endures as tragedy

□ Changing world has not changed shock of Sirhan Sirhan's violent murder of candidate

WASHINGTON (AP) — Even after a quarter century, the entry in Sirhan Sirhan's notebook has lost none of its chill.

"My determination to eliminate RFK is becoming more the more (sic) of an unshakable obsession," he wrote in a manic torrent. "RFK must die. RFK must be killed. Robert F. Kennedy must be assassinated ... Robert F. Kennedy must be assassinated before 5 June 1968."

At 12:15 a.m. on that date, Sirhan, a Jordanian Arab, carried out his threat. It was exactly one year after the start of the Six-Day War in which Israel defeated its Arab enemies.

The years pass and the killing of Bobby Kennedy fades in the

national memory. A third of the nation, born since then, did not feel the shock as another Kennedy was cut down senselessly. But those who were alive remember.

Life goes on. Ted Kennedy, the Kennedy family baby brother, is still the senior senator from Massachusetts. Bobby's oldest son, Joe, is following the Kennedy political tradition, serving his fourth term in the House of Representatives. Ethel Kennedy, never remarried, remains a vital part of the Washington political scene. One of their 11 children, a son, died in the drug plague of the '80s.

Robert Kennedy would be 67 and a grandfather. Sirhan Sirhan is an inmate in the high-tech, high-security Corcoran State Prison in California, housed with the likes of Charles Manson. His dream of being traded as a political prisoner and

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### WEATHER



The storm responsible for the recent unsettled weather moved away Thursday, but another storm will develop along the coast today bringing more showers throughout the weekend.

Just a Reminder  
Final exams start Monday!  
Make sure you have the correct exam times and locations.

### FLUX MAKES ITS DEBUT



The premier issue of FLUX, the School of Journalism's new magazine is now on sale at the University bookstore. The annual magazine is staffed by journalism students and advised by professors Tom Wheeler and Bill Ryan.

### SPORTS

MIAMI (AP) — San Francisco Giants manager Dusty Baker was upset that his relief pitchers failed to help Barry Bonds when the left fielder tumbled into the bullpen while catching a foul ball.

Bonds hit a 3-foot-high wall as he caught the ball, then went tumbling head-over-heels into the Giants bullpen. He was unhurt, but Baker felt his pitchers should have gotten up from the bullpen bench to ease Bonds' fall.

The play occurred Wednesday night in the third inning of the Giants' 3-2 victory over the Florida Marlins.

"We'll fine everybody in the bullpen for not being there to help him when he flipped over," Baker said.