

Out with the old



Gerald Henry, with the UO Physical Plant, uses a bobcat to remove the sidewalk in front of Straub Hall. A new sidewalk will replace the old cracked and damaged one.

Morgan Smith for the Emerald

Ruling jeopardizes sales tax measure

□ November election may be canceled

By Edward Klopfenstein
Oregon Daily Emerald

Though facing possibly no elections in November, ASUO officials are still committed to registering 4,000 students by the Oct. 19 registration deadline.

Marion County Circuit Judge Albin Norblad ruled Wednesday that Ballot Measure 1 was unconstitutional because it contained more than one constitutional amendment.

The judge ruled the measure should be either voted on separately or pulled off of the ballot.

The ruling caught ASUO State Affairs Coordinator Philip Bentley by surprise, he said, though no changes are planned in the voter registration program. Bentley is in charge of the ASUO reg-

istration drive.

The judge's ruling was surprising because 1990's Ballot Measure 5, which passed, was similar to the current tax measure, a multifaceted reform package, Bentley said.

Bentley will be talking with state officials, committee members and members of the Legislature during the next few days to better understand the fate of the tax measure, he said.

"At this point, I am confident there will be elections in November," Bentley said. "My only concern is time."

Elections might be canceled if a higher court doesn't overturn the ruling because the state wouldn't meet the deadlines necessary to change ballots and inform out-of-state voters.

Bentley said he expects the ruling to be overturned and elec-

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Two new members increase ranks of IFC

□ Students bring diversity to committee

By Edward Klopfenstein
Oregon Daily Emerald

The Incidental Fee Committee boosted its ranks Wednesday night when two new members joined the finance body.

Committee members Preston Cannon and Shannon Wall were approved by the Student Senate at a meeting Tuesday night. The pair were appointed before the meeting by ASUO President Eric Bowen.

"I think I'm right for the job because I don't have a political agenda," Cannon said.

Wall said she was very excited about joining the IFC.

Both new members bring very diverse backgrounds to a committee that needs more non-political members to shake a very political past, Bowen said in a past interview.

Cannon, 30, labels himself as a non-traditional student coming back to college to finish his undergraduate degree. The sophomore is considering broadcast journalism as a major.

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CAHOOTS brings human response to emergency situations

□ Radio-dispatched van assists police by responding to crisis calls, suicides

Stephanie Sisson
Oregon Daily Emerald

Calling 911 may not get you any help from the Eugene police.

It may, instead, get you assistance from CAHOOTS.

CAHOOTS, or Crisis Assistance Helping Out On The Streets, is a mobile team with the White Bird Clinic that responds to alcohol and drug problems, mental illness and other human service problems. It is part of Eugene's Community Response Team.

"We do a lot of things that historically have been done by police, but that aren't law enforcement things," said David Zeiss, program coordinator for CAHOOTS.

CAHOOTS consists of a van that is radio-dispatched through the 911 system and a two-person team staffing the van at all times. One person is a crisis worker with experience in mental health problems. The other staff person is a medic, usually a trained Emergency Medical Technician or a nurse.

"When we're out there on the street, in the field, we'll often come across a situation that requires at least some kind of medical assessment," Zeiss said. "Our focus is not on physical medicine. It's just something we need to have, a back-up, just in case."

Zeiss said that several years ago, White Bird began thinking of ways to make Crisis Intervention more accessible to the community.

"To a limited extent, we've always had some capacity to get in a car and go someplace else in the community ... if somebody needed our help who couldn't make it into White Bird," he said.

In 1989, a grant from the City of Eugene made CAHOOTS possible. The program is still entirely funded through the city.

Tim Birr, Public Information Officer for the Department of Public Safety, says CAHOOTS can help some people in certain situations better than a police officer would be able to.

"CAHOOTS provides a more appropriate and a more humane response to certain types of calls," Birr said.

According to Birr, in 1981, Eugene had 161 sworn police officers and took 55,000 calls. He compared that to last year's 147 officers and 80,000 calls. "CAHOOTS frees up officers' time to do things they are more qualified to do and are set up to deal with," he said.

Although CAHOOTS typically deals with young to middle-aged adults, they try to be available to everyone, Zeiss said.

"For example, a kind of thing where we'd be typically dispatched is somebody who is wandering around, who seems

lost, who might be an elderly person who has Alzheimer's," he said. "That's not unusual for us."

The calls CAHOOTS handles are often ones involving substance abuse, mental illness, some kind of emotional crisis, and family disputes that pose a small risk of violence.

Another thing CAHOOTS usually deals with are welfare checks. Welfare checks are typically made by police when someone calls them out of concern for someone they know who they haven't been able to contact.

"We are often the ones who go out to the house to try to figure out what's going on," Zeiss said.

Zeiss said that he sees a need for more services like CAHOOTS in Eugene.

"It's clear that it would make more sense for CAHOOTS to be operating seven days a week, and the only reason we're not is Measure 5," he said. "There

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