

One city council race more visible than others

By Rebecca Merritt
Oregon Daily Emerald

Four Eugene City Council seats are up for re-election, but unless an extraordinary write-in campaign tilts the ballots, only two races will be decided by Tuesday's vote.

Ward 6 councilor Bobby Green and Ward 5 resident Jim Torrey are running unopposed for their respective seats. Green served as council president in 1993 and has gained a diverse range of community support. Torrey put his name in for election after he was approached by Kaye Robinette, the current Ward 5 councilor.

But the other two races aren't as simple. In Ward 4, which includes neighborhoods east of Agate Street and Coburg Road, Peter Wotton and Laurie Swanson-Gribskov have vigorously campaigned for the vacant seat.

Both candidates have close ties to the University. Swanson-Gribskov, 40, completed her masters degree here and is now working on her doctorate, while Wotton, 73, shares his home with University students.

Wotton says he has a strong commitment to the environment. He advocates the ozone protection measure and

opposed the expansion of the Ferry Street Bridge to six lanes. Swanson-Gribskov emphasizes building coalitions between business and government, supporting the six-lane bridge and is opposed to the ozone protection measure because of expensive implementation costs.

Wotton, who produces the program *Elderberry Wine* on KLCC, said the council needs the experience and wisdom of a senior citizen.

"It's about time we had an elderly statesman," he said. His opponent says she would be an important voice on the council because she is a mother and a student "I'm a mom with a couple of kids. I believe in the value of education."

However, both candidates agree on several city issues including their support of community policing, the general obligation bond that would open a new library, the need for low-income housing and the importance of a four-minute emergency response time. Both candidates favor the amendment of the city's human rights code to extend rights to gays, lesbians and other minorities, and Wotton is a member of the Human Rights Commission.

The opponents in the race for the Ward 1 seat haven't been as visible as Wotton and Swanson-Gribskov. Ward 1 includes areas of Southwest Eugene between West 22nd and 40th avenue.

Tim Laue, a business consultant, and Kiki Metzler, an "alternative-minded" artist, are vying for the seat vacated by Randy MacDonald, who has endorsed Laue. Metzler said she is not a political person and relies on her intuition when making decisions. Laue says the city can reach its goals through long-range public policy.

Both candidates said they have a strong commitment to the environment and favor the ozone measure.

"Everyone acknowledges that depletion of the ozone is a problem," Laue said. "Some of the press the measure has gotten from the opposition has been unfavorable."

Metzler said she is the unofficial spokeswoman for the measure.

"We're near a no-return point in our lives because of the loss of the ozone," she said.

Both candidates also identified public safety and the homes as priorities.

District candidates for state representative share few similarities

By Meg Dedolph
Oregon Daily Emerald

All five of the candidates for the Oregon House of Representatives in District 40 agree on one thing, regardless of political party.

No matter what else is accomplished in the next legislative session, the state needs to allot more money for education.

The similarities between the candidates stop there. Although all of them agree some sort of tax is needed to adequately fund education, the type of tax favored differs from candidate to candidate.

George Boehnke, the sole Republican in the race, said the amount of property tax money collected isn't the issue; rather, the state should redistribute that money so more of it goes to public schools.

In the interim, he suggested a "bridge tax," preferably an income tax, to help schools.

Democrat John Albrecht's plan also includes adjusting the income tax to fund schools; however, he would also like to expand the property tax to cover pleasure boats and airplanes. He suggested increasing corporate income tax because he said the corporations benefited unduly from Measure 5.

Like Albrecht, Democratic candidates Mike Sherlock and Marty Henner are also concerned that, out of the total amount of property tax paid, businesses are paying a smaller percentage than homeowners.

Both of them, like Albrecht, would like to equalize the percentage of property tax paid by businesses with that paid by homeowners, but Henner and Sherlock suggest a split-roll property tax, which would tax the two groups at different rates.

Democrat Floyd Prozanski supports a gross receipts tax, which would tax business profits and which he hopes would equalize the tax burden between businesses and individuals.

Despite Springfield's successful recruitment of Sony, a large manufacturing plant that expected to bring more new jobs to the area, none of the candidates is advocating that the state devote all its effort to recruiting other

large companies to relocate to Oregon at the neglect of existing ones.

Boehnke said states should not resort to what he called "bribery" to recruit businesses, citing the property tax breaks Sony received as an example.

Albrecht and Prozanski would both like to see more state support for small businesses, including money for small businesses that are just starting up.

On the other hand, while Henner said supporting business is important, he would prefer the Legislature resolve the budgetary problems in the next session before addressing business concerns.

Most of the candidates also have strong environmental positions on topics including timber issues and air pollution.

Prozanski believes that cutting the old-growth forests must stop and that the state should look into using alternative fibers, such as hemp, for paper production.

Henner said he is concerned about transportation issues and said he strongly supports alternative transportation, particularly a high-speed rail corridor serving Eugene. He also supports a ban on exporting raw logs.

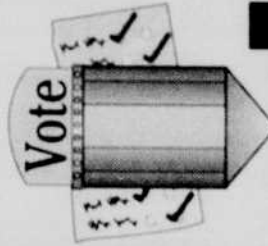
Albrecht, a former vice president of the regional chapter of the Sierra Club, said state forests should not be obligated to maximize timber harvests but should be managed for the best use not only by the timber industry but by recreational users and wildlife.

None of the candidates, Republican or Democrat, support stricter prison sentences or crime laws.

Sherlock and Albrecht both believe better schools and education for people are key to preventing crime and will be more helpful than building more prisons.






Albrecht also said programs that do not involve incarceration are better because society now has the knowledge to change behavior. He also supports more law enforcement personnel working on the streets.

Alternative programs like military-style boot camps received substantial support from other candidates as well, including Prozanski, who supports the



MAY PRIMARY

District 40

BACKGROUND	EDUCATION	ECONOMY	QUOTABLE
 <p>JOHN ALBRECHT Democrat OCCUPATION: Retired librarian EDUCATION: B.S. from Western Washington 1955, M.S. University of Oregon 1966 EXPERIENCE: Northwest Timber Compromise Advisory Board, Willamette National Forest, precinct person, 1984</p>	<p>Wants to compensate for revenues lost to Measure 5 by increasing taxes on large corporations and the wealthy.</p>	<p>Wants to continue diversification of jobs by helping establish and expand businesses.</p>	<p>"Our system of public higher education is becoming more and more like Ivy League schools. They're not there yet, but they're getting closer."</p>
 <p>MARTY HENNER Democrat OCCUPATION: Arbitrator, Oregon and Oregon State professor EDUCATION: Law degree and completed graduate-level social work training EXPERIENCE: Hearings officer for OLCC, DMV</p>	<p>Advocates permitting voters to let local school districts override Measure 5 tax limits.</p>	<p>Doesn't believe state should spend as much time on economic development as on the budget. Sees slow, steady development of region because of relocation of manufacturing industries.</p>	<p>"My commitment to civil liberties and social justice is part and parcel of growing up Jewish in a New York Jewish, socialist, progressive community."</p>
 <p>FLOYD PROZANSKI Democrat OCCUPATION: Lane County assistant district attorney EDUCATION: Texas A&M University, South Texas College of Law EXPERIENCE: Oregon student conduct hearings officer, precinct committee person, BLM timber sale advisory board</p>	<p>Wants to increase education spending by taxing business receipts. Says schools are in a crisis.</p>	<p>Advocates more support for small business and a state-subsidized youth apprenticeship program.</p>	<p>"We need to have more autonomy within the schools and the universities to allow them a little more choice in decision making based on what they have available to them."</p>
 <p>MIKE SHERLOCK Democrat OCCUPATION: Small business owner, former U.S. Air Force pilot EDUCATION: B.S. in Business Administration from Oregon, M.S. from Abilene Christian University EXPERIENCE: Springfield</p>	<p>Supports a split-roll tax to balance effects of Measure 5. Says University should receive all tuition money.</p>	<p>Says we need to maintain a balance between recruiting new businesses and recognizing existing businesses.</p>	<p>"It seems like funding that has been going to the UO is being sucked away, slowly but surely, up to Portland State."</p>
 <p>GEORGE BOEHNKE Republican OCCUPATION: Citizens' advocate, former owner of Boehnke Printing Co. EDUCATION: B.S. Oregon Business School, Army counter intelligence school EXPERIENCE: Vice president of Eugene Downtown Assoc.</p>	<p>Suggests redistributing property tax money collected so more goes to education. Says state could collect a bridge tax to clear up effects of Measure 5.</p>	<p>Says states should not resort to bribery to bring in large companies, such as the property tax breaks received by Sony.</p>	<p>"I don't like dedicating funds because it gets very touchy."</p>

COMPILED BY MEG DEDOLPH AND REBECCA MERRITT/GRAPHIC BY JEFF PASLAY/Emerald

camp but only in combination with educational programs, job training and drug and alcohol counseling.

Prozanski said the criminal justice system needs to be revamped because the state is spending a lot of money on corrections and not necessarily getting any

results.

Both he and Henner say the actual number of violent criminals who should be incarcerated is relatively small and that non-violent criminals should not necessarily be in prison.

Henner, who describes himself as a humanist, said he believes

people change as they age and what people do at a young age is not necessarily indicative of what they will be like when they are older.

Longer prison sentences, or more lifetime prison sentences, would result in a "warehousing of geriatric prisoners," he said.