

THIS WEEK
MONDAY: Opinion
TUESDAY: Politics
WEDNESDAY: Opinion
THURSDAY: Politics
FRIDAY: Opinion

POLITICS

a voter's guide to the 1996 election and life on the campaign trail

SOUND OFF
 As a student voter in Oregon, what do you feel is your impact on the local, state and federal government?

ISSUE: ENERGY

ON THE ISSUES

Question: To what extent should the government encourage the use of non-fossil fuel energy sources and reduce greenhouse gas emissions?



"The administration favors continuation of selected tax incentives that spur greater private development and utilization of alternative energy and conservation technologies. ... The administration will continue to back research as well as on diverse ways to improve the efficiency of energy use."

—President Bill Clinton, Democratic candidate



"My proposed tax cut will do more to encourage marketplace-driven investment in our energy future than all of the government subsidies combined. ... Until more research is completed, it is not appropriate to commit to internationally binding mandates or other government intervention."

—Bob Dole, Republican candidate



"The United States needs national leadership that will develop a long-term energy policy to decrease our dependence on oil and increase our research into alternative energy sources. The government can — and must — help in accomplishing these goals. Our nation must take the lead in researching and developing new technologies that will allow us to enjoy nature and reap its benefits without causing destruction."

—Ross Perot, Reform Party candidate

SOURCE: Science magazine, AP.

Student voters mobilize for 1996 election

■ **ELECTIONS:** More than 9,000 University students are registered for the Nov. 5 election

By Doug Irving
 Community Reporter

There are rallies and marches and protests. There are discussions in classes and discussions in coffee shops. There are student interest groups and even a few interested students.

The University long has been considered a politically active campus, but the coming elections are testing formal student political participation.

About 5,300 University students have registered this fall, said Leslie Gray, the ASUO state affairs coordinator. About 4,000 students were registered last spring for the special election, she said.

"The drive for the fall isn't so much as it usually is," she said. "But we haven't ever done so much registration before."

Many students who were registered in the spring are still current in their registration, Gray said. Because of this, at least 9,000 students are registered for the Nov. 5 election, she said.

That number is more than half the University student population of about 17,000, she said.

However, student registration nationally has been down, Gray said. This is because laws, such as the Motor-Voter, are allowing students to register off campus, slowing down on-campus registration drives.

The Motor-Voter laws allow people to register when they apply for or renew their drivers' licenses.

However, all students must get involved in politics, said June Katel, a spokeswoman for the League of Women Voters. The Nov. 5 election will be especially important for students because several of the issues on the ballot could affect them, she said. Students can't afford to take a passive stance in politics, she said.

"I think students need to vote," she said. "You need to get involved and get the kind of government you want."



EMERALD
 About 4,000 students were registered to vote last spring. This year's numbers are up to about 5,300, said Leslie Gray, the ASUO state affairs coordinator.

The major ballot measure facing students this election is Measure 47, Katel said. The measure would cut property taxes and could seriously reduce higher education revenues, she said.

Katel also suggested students look at Measure 36, which would increase the minimum wage; Measure 32, which could expand rapid transit between Eugene and Washington; and some House bills.

"Study the ballot measures," she said. "Look who's writing the pros and cons. It's really something you need to start doing."

Not all students play such an active role in politics, said Michael Olson, a spokesman for OSPIRG, one of the larger interest groups on campus.

"Many people are apathetic to participating," he said. "Then there are students

who realize we do live in a democracy, and we can participate in the system."

Students who drop out of politics usually feel alienated and decide their vote won't matter, Olson said. They often see government as working for special interests, not for the good of the people, he said.

"It seems [to them] like corporate government is just taking over," he said. "They see that government is working for corporate America."

However, many students are returning to politics this year because of the elections, he said. Students involving themselves are fairly active this year, he said.

"There seems to be a resurgence of the civic-minded person," he said. "It does seem like there is a lot of student involvement in the political arena this year."



ON THE BALLOT

A look at some of the 23 ballot measures in the November 5 election

THE MEASURE

43

WHAT IT WOULD DO

Reinstate the collective bargaining law that was in effect before a 1995 change. The changes made in 1995 included limiting required issues, reducing the categories of public employees that could unionize, and changed the process for union arbitration. The measure would define classes of public safety employees and prohibit all from striking. It would also return collective bargaining rules to those before 1995.

ARGUMENTS FOR

Will reverse a law that puts public safety decisions in the hands of politicians and bureaucrats. The current law can impede public safety officials from correctly doing their jobs. Ensures quality policing, fire service, and emergency response.

ARGUMENTS AGAINST

Current law improved collective bargaining practices and limited power of big employee labor unions. Public safety officials must currently be accountable to the people for their actions; measure would limit this. Measure could affect tax dollar spending if unions are given the power to demand more money.

THE MEASURE

45

WHAT IT WOULD DO

Amends the state constitution to raise the minimum normal retirement age to 67. This would be the same retirement age as the federal Social Security retirement age. The measure would also bar medical benefits to non-disability retirees. Does not apply to benefits accrued before effective date.

ARGUMENTS FOR

Makes public employee retirement plans more equal to non-public retirement plans. Eliminates interim health care coverage between early retirements and when Medicare takes over. Protects working families from paying higher taxes if the pension fund goes bankrupt

ARGUMENTS AGAINST

The Oregon Supreme Court has already found that such a measure is unconstitutional because the state cannot overturn agreements made during collective bargaining. Unfairly singles out public employees even though they work hard, also. Attacks health care options for retirees.

SOURCES: The National Coalition for Public Lands and Natural Resources, Oregon State Public Interest Research Group, Americans for the Environment, Cascade Business News

Oregon Daily Emerald

P.O. BOX 3159, 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. A member of the Associated Press, the Emerald operates independently of the University with offices at Suite 300 of the Erb Memorial Union. The Emerald is private property. The unlawful removal or use of papers is prosecutable by law.

Editor-in-Chief: Steven Asbury

Managing Editor: Jennifer Carter Night Editor: Ryan Frank

Community: Jennifer Schmitt, editor. Jean Bond, Christian Hill

Entertainment: Nicole Kreuger, editor. Jesse Stephenson

Higher Education: Tamyra Howser, in-depth. Laura Cadiz, Benjamin Kwasney

Opinion: Ashley Bach, editor. Chris Hutchinson, illustrator.

Politics: Shana Cohn, editor. Doug Irving

Student Activities: Kristin Bailey, editor. Angie Suchy, Tom Potter

Sports: Mark McTyre, editor. Andrea DeYoung, assistant editor.

Chris Hansen, Ryan Frank, Ryan Halvorsen

Copy Desk: Thom Schoenborn, copy chief. Trevor Kearney, Sarah Kicker, Mike Schmierbach, Kendra Smith

Presentation: Dennis Bolt, editor. Matt Garton

Photography: Matthew Stiffler, editor. Andrew Brackensick, Joe Bunik, Amanda Erickson, Shannon Kilduff, Chad Patteson

Freelance: Lara Pittman, editor. On-Line: Nicholas Stiffler

General Manager: Judy Riedl

Advertising: Becky Merchant, director. Anne Amador, Lee Yen Beh, Marco Ching, Yujin Chi, Matt Johnson, Anne Miller, Trina Shanaman, Rose Soll, Matt Solomon, Greg Walsh

Classified: Tara Sloan, manager. Natasha Lumpkin, Debbie Levy, Heather Moya

Production: Michele Ross, manager. Ingrid White, coordinator. Shawna Abele, Laura Daniel, Tara Knight, Melissa LeBahn, Molly McCanta, Allison Stormo, Mike Young

Business: Kathy Carbone, supervisor. Judy Connolly

Distribution: John Long, Yancey De Young, Ferenc Rakoczi

Newsroom: (541) 346-5511

Display Advertising: (541) 346-3712

Business Office: (541) 346-5512