

Austin

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"They showed reservations about me because I'm young. I didn't have a lot of experience. I didn't have a lot of [political] ties. It's not like I could raise \$50,000 in a week or something."

A month later, the Lane County Republicans notified Austin that no Republicans were running and offered him the spot. Austin received a "huge" box containing lists of all the addresses of registered voters in his district, he said.

"What I had to do was sort through and figure out which addresses were supposed to go where and which addresses were in which district," he said. "It must have taken me two or three nights of just constant sorting to get them compiled into precincts."

"After that was done, I had to go buy markers and highlight all the Republicans, because I've only got three months. I don't have time to call everyone."

It took Austin two or three more nights to mark the addresses. Once the sorting was completed, Austin introduced himself to voters and tried to gain their confidence.

People sometimes balk at his young age, but he has a solution, he said.

"I just need to convince them that I'm not some flaming liberal kid in a tie-dyed shirt — that I'm

"I just need to convince [voters] that I'm not some flaming liberal kid in a tie-dye shirt."

Scott Austin
Junior

a pretty down-to-earth guy," he said.

Going door-to-door worked better for him, he said, because he could wear a suit and tie. He said it enabled voters to see that he was serious about becoming a state senator.

Part of his commitment to his campaign is his respect for Castillo, his Democratic opponent.

"I want to emphasize what an honor it is to be running side by side [with] Susan Castillo in this election," he said in a written statement to the Emerald.

Austin said he recently called Castillo's campaign office and left a message to give her an idea: Austin and Castillo could tour local high schools to encourage high school students to get involved in government.

As for his ideas on government, Austin said he believes fewer taxes are better, although he recognized that collecting taxes was a necessary part of a

democracy — he just wants as few taxes as possible.

Austin is also a born-again Christian, which might be unpopular with many voters, he said.

"I am a born-again Christian, and that's part of my campaign," he said. "I am proud of the faith I have, and I am proud of Jesus Christ."

On University issues, Austin said he does not find Nike's corporate donations to the University a problem.

"If students had a legitimate concern where they could point to a class and say that Nike is donating money and our curriculum has changed in [some] way," he said. "[If] they brought it to somebody and they said, 'Look, this is a government class, and we're talking about Nike all the time,' then I could see having a concern."

"I could see bringing that forward and saying this doesn't need to happen, this is an institution of learning and not Nike or whatever the company may be. But that's not happening."

Austin said the University is isolated from the Eugene community. Aside from football games, there is no community-University interaction, he said.

"The fact that we're inside the city limits is almost random," Austin said.

DUNK TANK



Members of the self-proclaimed "most caring fraternity on campus," Pi Kappa Phi, got dunked Tuesday afternoon to raise money for Push America.

Some universities disregard test scores

By Robin Estrin
The Associated Press

BOSTON — More and more colleges are making SAT and ACT scores optional for admission, according to a report released today.

More than 280 campuses now admit some or all of their applicants without regard to the tests. And many of them say the system has improved the academic quality — and the diversity — of their students, said the Cambridge-based National Center for Fair & Open Testing, or FairTest.

The bulk of the nation's 1,600 schools still use the scores to determine which students will be accepted. But the report shows colleges can prosper without relying on the ubiquitous entrance exams, said Charles Rooney, the

lead author of the study.

Critics say the Scholastic Assessment Test or American College Testing exam does not adequately measure a student's intelligence or ability to perform in the classroom and is biased against minorities. Supporters say the tests encourage high standards and increase accountability.

FairTest wants the test to be optional and has been tracking SAT admission policies for several years. FairTest said that in a less scientific survey in 1994, 192 universities made the tests optional or emphasized other criteria, such as grade point average.

This is the also first time the organization has analyzed how individual schools have fared without the tests.

FairTest research into two schools in Pennsylvania, one in Maine and the public university systems in Texas and California showed that dropping tests resulted in a larger proportion of minorities, poor students and children of parents who had never attended college.

"There is a pretty sizable slice of our applicant pool and our enrolled student body for whom the tests are simply not accurate predictors," said William Hiss, vice president for administrative services at Bates College in Lewiston, Maine, which switched to an optional SAT policy in 1984.

Between one-quarter and one-third of Bates applicants — and at least half of all black and Hispanic applicants — do not submit any test scores, he said.

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Cultural Forum

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Noon - Time Concerts

Oct. 7th Eagle Park Slim

Oct. 14th Craig Einhorn

Oct. 21st Andy Lepisto

Oct. 28th Tim Burlingame/Kathrin Shorr

Every Wednesday 12:00 @

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THE BUZZ



University of Oregon

Women's Empowerment Dialogue:

"I VOTE, I SPEAK, I LEAD"

Friday October 9, 1998

Sponsored by: The YWCA of the University of Oregon and the ASUO Women's Center.

- 3:00 PM YWCA, College Democrats and College Republicans Information Table
 - 4:00 PM (Amphitheater) Sign the Banner: I Promise To Vote ASUO Officers, Student Organization Leaders
 - 5:00 PM Welcome: Mercedes Cruz, Program Director, YWCA
 - 6:10 PM Keynote Speaker: Senator Susan Castillo
 - 6:30 PM (Ben Linder Room) Reception
 - 6:00 PM Slide Presentation of Chicana Artists: Images of the Civil Rights and Feminist Movement, presented by Annalee Fuentes, adjunct faculty at Lane and Linn-Benton Community Colleges.
 - 7:00 PM Panel Presentation:
 - State Senator Susan Castillo
 - State Representative Kitty Percy
 - Morgan Cowling, ASUO Vice-president
 - 8:00 PM Questions and Answers
 - 8:30 PM Socialize with the panelists and participants
- ERB Memorial Union, University of Oregon
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20	Tues	5:00-9:00	First Aid
21	Wed	6:00-10:00	Child/Infant
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