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★ AMERICA VOTES 2004 ★

Forests' futures in voters' hands



DANIELLE HICKEY | PHOTO EDITOR

Measure 34 proposes that Tillamook and Clatsop forests abandon mixed-use management and instead reserve half for restoration.

BY AYISHA YAHYA
NEWS EDITOR

Oregon's forest management is in voters' hands with ballot Measure 34, which highlights ongoing debates and competing ideologies on the most effective ways to utilize natural resources and also conserve them at the same time.

The measure seeks to balance timber production with resource conservation and preservation in state forest management, particularly the Tillamook and Clatsop state forests. Proponents say the measure will "secure the greatest permanent value" through balancing the "protection of drinking water, conservation of wildlife and salmon habitat, expansion and protection of recreational opportunities, restoration of native forests and watershed preservation with sustainable timber harvests to provide the greatest economic, social, environmental and health benefits" to Oregonians.

The measure's proponents feel it is the most effective way to achieve healthy forests, stating that the current forest management plan for the area does not do enough.

"The essential issue here is that the state's plan is an intensive logging plan," said Chuck Willer, spokesman for the Coast Range Association, which is a founding member of the Tillamook Rainforest Coalition that is in support of the measure. More than 85 percent of the forests have been tagged for logging in the last 25 years, according to Oregonians for a Balanced Tillamook.

"The greatest permanent value economically and ecologically comes from our plan," Willer said.

The measure's proposal has been termed a 50/50 plan because it ensures that half the forest land is set aside for conservation and the other half is open for other uses such as logging, Willer said. He added that it is not feasible to pursue both goals on the same acre of land. While the state's priority has been harvesting, the measure would create equal balance between timber production and water, species and environmental conservation, he said.

Oregon Department of Forestry's spokesman Jeff Foreman said the current Northwest Oregon State Forests Management Plan was approved in 2001 after seven years of extensive planning.

"It's a unique plan in that it's based on structure instead of age (of trees)," Foreman said.

The plan's goal is to maintain certain percentages of different types of tree structures, with about half of the forests in "complex structure" which resemble old-growth forests, Foreman said. When a section reaches the complex structure stage, it is maintained at that stage until another area also reaches that stage before it can be opened up for other uses like harvesting. He said this was one main difference between this plan and measure 34's 50/50 plan.

"We want to maintain it at half, but it may not always be the same half," he said. He added that the plan not only provides revenue, but also healthy habitats.

But Willer says that plan is not enough.

"It doesn't provide for biological and ecological protections," Willer said.

Guido Rahr, the president of the Wild Salmon Center, said his organization is supporting the measure to protect healthy salmon habitats in the Tillamook forest.

"Our mission is to protect the last wild salmon rivers on the Pacific Rim," he said. The Tillamook forest has five healthy rivers, he said.

Rahr said there are enough trees to satisfy different purposes.

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EMU show sheds light on cancer awareness

The third annual "Best Dressed Breast" fashion show was held Monday in the EMU

BY KARA HANSEN
NEWS REPORTER

One in eight women will be diagnosed with breast cancer at some point in her lifetime. Men are susceptible to the disease, too.

About 350 University students and community members learned these sobering statistics as well as ways to decrease their chances of getting breast cancer at the third annual "Best Dressed Breast" fashion show Monday night.

The event wrapped up October's Breast Cancer Awareness Month. While people cannot control some of the potential risk factors of the disease, such as age, genetics and gender, University junior and peer health educator Erin Baldwin said the event was aimed at raising awareness of factors that can be changed.

"It's important for people to know the things they can change in their lives to substantially reduce their risk for breast cancer," Baldwin, the show's emcee, said. "A lot of college-age women don't know the risk factors."

These factors include smoking cigarettes, being exposed to certain pesticides and eating a diet high in saturated fat, she said. In addition, women who drink one alcoholic beverage per day face an increased risk of getting breast cancer, according to the American Cancer Society, while women who drink two to five drinks per day increase their risk substantially. Physical activity, however, can reduce a person's risk of getting breast cancer. Studies have shown that exercising one to two-and-a-half hours per week can reduce the risk of getting breast cancer by 18 percent, according to the American Cancer Society.

Breast cancer will cause an estimated 40,580 deaths in 2004, killing 40,110 women and 470 men, according to the American Cancer Society.

"It's important to adopt healthier habits now," Baldwin said.

Nearly all of the show's 11 models — University students and faculty, as well as community members and one baby — have known someone diagnosed with breast cancer or have had a personal experience with the disease.

They sashayed down the runway in fashions that ran the gamut. Nine local merchants lent an array of clothing that ranged from track jackets, workout gear and sweaters to glittering cocktail dresses and gowns.

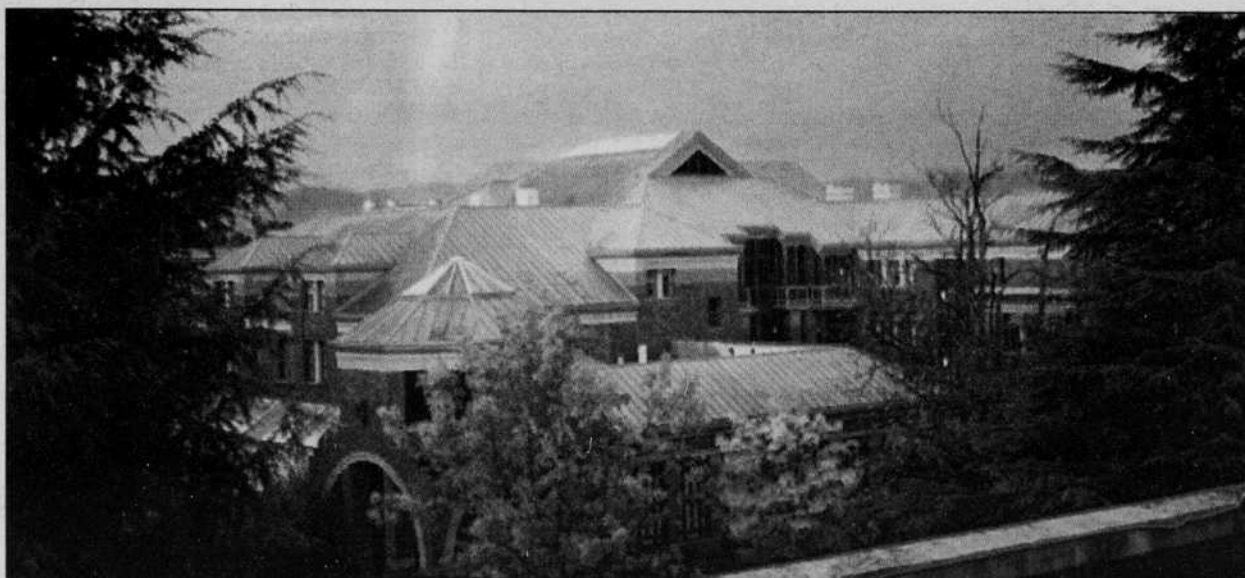
The show's emcee provided information about risk factors and detection methods as models showed off the clothing.

At the end of the night, the outfits went back to the donating stores, which included Deluxe, Lemon Juice, Sporthill, Buffalo Exchange, Folkways, West Moon Trading Company, Sweet Potato Pie, REI and Greater Goods.

The American Cancer Society, the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center and

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RAINBOW OVER CAMPUS



A rainbow, viewed here from the top floor of the EMU, appeared over Willamette hall Oct. 18.

ERIK R. BISHOFF
PHOTOGRAPHER