



PHOTO BY MARTY DAVIS

Lon Mabon protégé Jeremy Bowen defends his imprisoned hero during a downtown rally March 29

State Bill Bradbury—a Democrat who will face Mabon, the Oregon Constitution Party nominee, in this fall's U.S. Senate race—of playing partisan politics.

"Oregon's secretary of state has decreed that no organization representing Christian principles will be allowed to operate unmolested," Bowen said. "We are being attacked because we stood side by side with a man of principle. The secretary of state's office has shown it is a partisan operation run by a man with political aspirations. Bill Bradbury is rolling over for his liberal constituency in hopes of locking up the left-wing vote for his Senate run. But we will not be intimidated. For too long, conservative Christians have been quiet in the face of bigoted attacks, but we answer to a higher power."

Not surprisingly, Bowen refuses to go away. He vowed to continue his fight against the "charlatans" who don't obey the constitution—with or without the tax credit.

"This complaint was brought by a longtime left-wing activist with ties to militant homosexuals," Bowen said. "We will not be silenced by a straw man for the pervert lobby. Our Savior died a horrible death on the cross. He gave his life with no complaints. He is our role model; do you really think 50 bucks makes a difference to us?"

COMMITTEE DISCONTINUED

The Committee for Constitutional Courts, which was formed to raise money for Lon Mabon's legal defense, has been discontinued by the Oregon Elections Division.

Coincidentally, the decision was handed down July 5—the same day signatures were due for the Student Protection Act II. The Oregon Citizens Alliance fell "considerably" short of its goal and decided against submitting petitions for the measure, which would have prohibited public school instruction that approves, promotes or endorses homosexual or bisexual behaviors.

The committee was created Feb. 21, the day after Mabon was jailed for refusing to participate in lesbian photographer Catherine Stauffer's lawsuit seeking money owed to her for a 1991 assault. He claims he can't get a fair trial

until judges take an oath that matches the state constitution word for word.

The committee's alleged purpose was to "to oppose corruption in the Oregon courts," but it soon was revealed to be nothing more than a front for collecting attorney fees at taxpayer expense. Director Jeremy Bowen



PHOTO BY JIM RABOCCA

Basic Rights Oregon board member Ellen Lowe congratulates supporters July 8

promised donors they would be eligible for a \$50 state tax credit—a statute that only applies to political action committees supporting or opposing a candidate, measure or party.

A formal complaint was filed June 21 by Basic Rights Oregon board member Ellen Lowe. Most of the research was conducted by M. Dennis Moore, whose Special Righteousness Committee uses satire to fight the OCA.

Bowen lashed out at the Elections Division in an irate statement July 9. He accused Secretary of

GAY BASH

Several dozen queers and allies attended a party July 8 at 3 Friends Coffeehouse to celebrate the Oregon Citizens Alliance's failure to qualify the Student Protection Act II for the fall ballot. Basic Rights Oregon, which was prepared to mount a campaign against the anti-gay measure, now will be able to focus on proactive efforts.

Executive director Roey Thorpe briefly discussed the organization's legislative agenda, which might include a measure to prohibit discrimination statewide on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity in employment, housing and public accommodations. She also said several attorneys have been looking at Oregon statutes to find discriminatory language that should be corrected.

SAVE THE DATE

Basic Rights Oregon already is planning its Annual Dinner, which will be held Sept. 13 at the Hilton Portland. Cocktail hour will begin at 6 p.m., with dinner at 7.

The fund-raiser gives donors a chance to dine alongside candidates, elected officials and fair-minded friends and allies. "Festive attire" is encouraged.

For more information call 503-222-6151.

EUGENE PUBLIC HEARING PLANNED

The Eugene Human Rights Commission is seeking review from the community on updates to the city code, including the extension of gender identity protections, the creation of a municipal domestic partnership registry and the clarification of confusing language. It will hold a hearing about the proposed changes 7 p.m. July 30 in the Council Chamber at City Hall, 777 Pearl St.

Written public comments will be accepted in person, by mail or by e-mail until 5 p.m. Aug. 6. The commission will decide on its council recommendation Aug. 29.

Questions should be directed to Greg Rikhoff and Holly LeMasurier at 541-682-5177 or hrc@ci.eugene.or.us. For more information visit the Internet site www.ci.eugene.or.us/hrc-erac/hrcsite/code.



PHOTO BY MARTY DAVIS

Jordana Sardo

COURT HANDS FREEDOM SOCIALISTS A VICTORY

The Oregon Court of Appeals unanimously struck down June 12 a state law that prevents political parties from appearing on the ballot if they share a single word in their names with an already recognized party. The suit was brought by Jordana Sardo, a lesbian who tried to run as a Freedom Socialist candidate for the state House in 2000.

This was the second victory for the party. In 2001, a Multnomah County Circuit Court judge

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