Voters down budget; next attempt in May

By Jim Rogers
Cougar Print Editor

Clackamas Community College's operating levy failed to pass in Tuesday's election by a margin of 135 votes, according to the Elections Office at the Clackamas County Court House.

The total vote count for the operating levy was 8,401 yes votes to 8,536 no votes. The Elections Office also said that 1,024 voters in the college district voted on other measures but failed to vote one way or the other on the college's operating levy.

The percentage breakdown of the vote was 46.7 per cent yes, 47.4 per cent no and 5.7 per cent under votes (votes that could have been but were not cast).

One reason for this discrepency in votes could be attributed to voters who support the college but who feel that the amount asked for was too much and decided to abstain on the matter.

Another possibility is voter ignorance as to what to vote on.

"There's nothing we can do to get voters to read everything carefully," said a deputy in the elections office at the county court house.

According to this source, if voters wanted to make sure that they voted on every measure affecting them they could vote on everything on the ballot. The ballots are computer coded to only record votes on specific issues in each area in the county.

County areas most receptive to the operating levy were the Milwaukie, West Linn and Oregon City areas. County areas that were not so receptive included the Estacada, Colton, Canby, Redland and Molalla areas.

According to Dr. Howard Fryett, CCC Assistant to the President and chairperson of the college's Elections Steering Committee, the results of the other levy elections may be a factor in the next election.

"I think that the fact that so many of the public school levies passed (Canby High School was the only levy to fail) will be a definite factor," said Fryett.

Fryett went on to explain that voter turnout could be reduced in many favorable areas where the public schools are all taken care of for next year.

The Election Steering Committee will probably meet tomorrow to decide on strategies to get the levy passed.

"I would guess that no attempt will be made to convert no votes into yes votes," said Fryett.

Fryett also stated that they would emphasize student participation in the election.

"The students are still a critical area," said Fryett. "They didn't turn out at the polls like we had hoped. I guess it's a matter of convincing them that they should vote."

May 24 has been set as the next try to pass the operating levy. The dollar amount asked for will not change on the second attempt.

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Students focus on public

First spring fair slated by ASG

Associated Student Government (ASG) has taken the task of planning the first Spring Fair ever held at Clackamas Community College.

"It started out as a small fair," said ASG vice-president, Marsha Marzano, "and it has steadily grown bigger."

The fair will be held Thursday, May 19 through Sunday, May 22 and will feature horse and buggy tours of the campus, belly dancing exhibitions, public football and tennis competition, a rodeo and possibly a greased pole contest.

The main focus point of the fair is to provide an open house to inform the public what CCC students are doing. Programs offered by the college, such as Focus On Women, will provide information booths or explain their programs.

Crafts booths, such as a Senior Citizens booth and a Public Arts booth, will be featured and a variety of entertainment including CCC student musicians will be provided.

High school tours are being offered to show high school students what the CCC campus is like and a general college information center will be available.

Not all plans have been confirmed, but contacts have been made and the tentative schedule is as follows:

Thursday, May 19 at 5 p.m. -- booths will open and the public will have the opportunity to obtain information about various organizations.

Information booths such as the Oregon City Junior Women's Club (toys for children), National Guard, Co-op Food Ventures, Historical Society, Lovejoy, Birthrite and Right to Life will be provided.

Seven to 10 p.m. -- closing time, The Gnu Crusty Knostrils will provide entertainment and music.

Friday, May 20 -- booths will open at noon and Ecology Pond tours will begin at 2 p.m.

CCC student wrestling matches will begin at 4 p.m. and CCC student Rod Ragsdale will provide music from 5 to 7 p.m.

At 7 p.m. music by William, Douglas & James will be provided and at 7:30 p.m. a CCC student basketball game will be featured.

Saturday, May 21 -- booths will open at noon and open house will begin.

During open house the public will have the opportunity to walk around campus and see areas such as the machine shop.

At 1 p.m. Mountain Railroad will provide music and at 2 p.m. Ecology Pond tours will begin.

William, Douglas and James will provide music from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. when Cassidy will perform. From 8 p.m. until closing time at 10 p.m., the group Raintree will play.

Ecology Pond tours will begin at 2 and 2:30 p.m.

At 2:30 p.m. the CCC theatre department will display their talents.

Cassidy will perform at 3 p.m. and at 4 p.m. William, Douglas and James will provide music along with CCC music instructor LeRoy Anderson.

At 4 p.m. at Horsemanship West the CCC Rodeo Club will present a rodeo. Public participants will be included and prizes will be awarded.

Cassidy and William, Douglas and James will perform from 5 to 6 p.m. and at 7 p.m. the group Raintree will once again be featured. A basketball game will also begin at 7 p.m. and at 9 p.m. the fair will close.

The fair has taken many hours of planning and support has been received from the community as well as the entire president's council.

For more information contact Marzano at ext. 257 or any member of ASG.

On Sunday, May 22 -- booths will once again open at noon. Public tennis competition for prizes will begin after noon

CLACKAMAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE ARCHIVES