

Slow recovery forecast by market expert Fred Dickson

(Continued from page 1) global positioning satellites leading the way.

“Technology has had an important driving role in the U.S. economy over the last 50 years, maybe longer,” he said.

There also has been an “enormous improvement” and “tremendous expansion” in health care and alternative energy technology, Dickson said. He added the prediction that those areas soon will become “trillion-dollar economic drivers.”

He feels that opportunities also will present themselves in the growing need for meeting water, food and security needs.

“These are things that

are going to create jobs eventually, once we get out of this hole,” Dickson said. “It’s going to be a worldwide phenomenon.”

A highly educated workforce will be a crucial component of those emerging industries, he added.

“I think the education investment will pan out over time,” he said, noting that recent graduates with technical degrees already are in demand by major tech firms.

Dickson has developed a psychological profile of economic cycles. He said that the U.S. economy reached a point of “euphoria” in October 2007, then “capitulation” in March 2009 as the reality of

the recession became apparent. Last January, Dickson said, the economy hit the “encouragement” stage.

“But it is a very slow path to recovery,” he said.

Debt repayment issues for the U.S. and foreign governments, as well as companies, remain a big concern, Dickson said, and could delay recovery efforts.

The strategist said that home foreclosures still are rising, but that the economy has created 1.5 million new jobs; corporate earnings are up; and the investment climate has improved.

“We’re seeing some upward job mobility, and that’s a sign of growing confidence,” Dickson said.

For the first four months of 2010, he observed, publicly traded companies beat market expectations, another encouraging sign.

“The bar was set low and companies came through, beating expectations fairly handily,” he said.

He continued that overall, the market is “positive but subdued,” and that investors can expect to see some continued volatility during the next few months.

“Normally, in the first full year of an economic recovery, the stock market usually bounces up about 20 to 30 percent,” Dickson said. “We’re expecting that rate of

growth to be only about 8 to 10 percent.”

A “bull market” began in March 2009, Dickson said, and he anticipates that the nation’s Gross Domestic Product (GDP) will increase by 3 percent this year. That is up from his initial prediction of a 2.5 percent growth rate, bolstered by an uptick in consumer spending and businesses restocking inventories.

The dollar has rallied against the Euro in recent weeks due to the Greek debt crisis, but Dickson said that there still are long-term concerns for U.S. currency. Short-term, he said, Americans will pay more for imports, but the export market

will be strengthened by those trends.

By the end of this decade, he feels, the Dow Jones Industrial Average could be nearly double what it is now, due to emerging technologies.

“We look at the 10,000 level as more of a baseline than a mountain peak,” he continued.

Although the market is in a period of correction right now, Dickson said that durable good orders are up, along with temporary hiring. He said that typically leads to job growth, but cautioned that businesses tend to expand and restore their hiring levels about two years after the beginning of a recovery.

Oregon Governor’s race heating up

(Continued from page 1) election. But the only one that matters is in November.”

Humphrey also said that there were “problems” with the SurveyUSA poll. One, he said, was the modeling it used to predict Democratic voter turnout and its inclusion of presumptive Progressive Party nominee Jerry Wilson. The poll showed Wilson receiving 6 percent of the vote.

Instead of airing advertisements, the Kitzhaber campaign has been focusing on its ground game, Humphrey

said, with a “big robust field program” in Portland, Salem, Eugene and Corvallis.

“We’re canvassing every weekend and phone banking every day,” he said.

Tom DiLorenzo, a lobbyist who works in Salem, had publicly announced that he was considering running as a nonaffiliated candidate, but has since dropped that bid. But Humphrey said that “wasn’t big news to us.”

“I don’t think it was a significant moment in the campaign,” he said.

Both major state parties have become increasingly involved in the governor’s race. The Democratic Party of Oregon has issued press releases blasting Dudley’s positions on key issues, and Oregon Republican Party (ORP) Chairman Bob Tiernan filed a complaint with the Secretary of State’s office regarding a \$5,000 contribution from a member of Kitzhaber’s finance committee chairman to the Independent Party.

ORP also has criticized Kitzhaber and members of

the state Senate Democratic leadership for a planned June 29 private fund-raiser with 15 participants. An invitation distributed by the Senate Democratic Leadership fund states that the event is to discuss “potential (legislative) session issues.”

Humphrey dismissed the complaints outright as “desperate” acts.

“They don’t have any dirt, so they have to make stuff up,” Humphrey said. “I don’t think anybody took it very seriously.”

Minor parties also are gearing up for the fall race. The Libertarian Party of Oregon nominated its vice chairman, 33-year old Aurora resident Wes Wagner, for governor during a convention in Salem earlier this month.

The Constitution Party is planning its statewide convention for Saturday, June 26 in Woodburn. Chairman Jack

Brown, a Grants Pass resident, said that Gresham resident Greg Kord likely will be that party’s nominee.

A nominating convention was held by the Pacific Green Party of Oregon in Eugene at the beginning of June. But a summary of the convention on the party’s Website lists no candidate for governor.

Hope Mountain Radio: Sounds of freedom

(Continued from page 1) Some of the DJs broadcast from their home studios. Goodman insists that they all do it out of love.

“The whole thing is a public service,” he said.

The programming schedule reflects the creative personalities who comprise the Hope Mountain Radio roster. Show titles include Melting Space Dreams, Flammable Substance, O’Brien Gal, Migraine Man, Y.B. Norm Ill, Sista Mona Lisa, Reefer Gladness, Crawl Space, Soul Washing Sounds, Radio Chaostrophy and others.

Goodman points out that many of the DJs have typical

lives, and that adopting on-air personae provides them somewhat of an escape.

“For a lot of people, it’s a chance to get away,” he said.

One of them, who uses the on-air moniker Blind Dan, is “probably one of our hardest-working DJs,” Goodman said. Dan has to get a ride from Grants Pass, and produces all the music for his air shift.

“That’s a lot of production time right there,” Goodman observed. “He does a great show.”

Another DJ serves as an engineer and “takes care of a lot of the equipment,” Goodman added. Some of the peo-

ple who work at the station aren’t even DJs, he said.

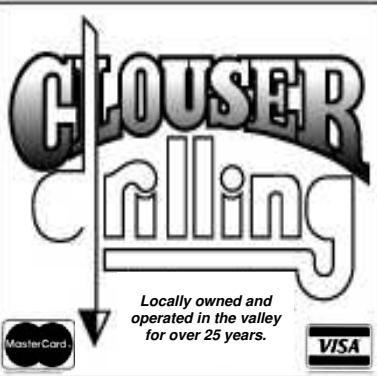
A fund-raiser for the station was held May 8 at Dome School, and featured a performance by the popular local band, *Takilma*. The event also was a CD release party for that group, and Goodman said that it was well-attended.

The station also is doing more live remote broadcast from locations like Dome School and the Out ‘N’ About Treehouse Resort. Takilmafm.com, which hosts the station, also features public service announcements, links to other community Websites and an announcement board.

Goodman said that it’s his way of giving back to the groups whose support makes it possible to carry out Hope Mountain Radio’s core mission — to provide a viable alternative to the increasingly corporate-owned public airwaves.

“It’s an art project, as far as I’m concerned,” Goodman said. “Whatever you play is on a palette. It’s painting a picture with sound, is really what it is.”

For more information, or to volunteer or become a DJ, phone 541-592-4799. Find a permanent link to Hope Mountain Radio at illinois-valley-news.com.



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FLAT RATES

Rep. Ron Maurer reflects on statewide race

(Continued from page 1) increase measures.

Maurer rented an apartment in Salem for the February session, and elected to keep it for the campaign. He hit the trail in earnest, having less than three months to meet and persuade as many voters as possible.

“I built my strategy around the time I had,” he explained. “If I had until November, the time between March 1 and the primary would have been spent much differently. I was never home. I was gone all the time.”

For most of spring, Maurer spent his days in Portland, Salem and Eugene, where most of the state’s population resides. During that time, Maurer said, he spoke to a “relatively significant” number of Democratic legislators, state government department heads and others who pledged support for him privately, but did not do so publicly for political reasons.

However, Maurer did manage to earn the endorsements of many prominent newspaper editorial boards throughout the state.

The majority of the \$74,000 Maurer raised for the campaign went toward purchasing signs and printed materials, and paying campaign staff, he said. That left no funds for radio or television advertisements, which typically are the largest expenses in statewide races.

Election night soon

came, and Maurer spent it at home surrounded by friends, family and supporters.

“Honestly, I did not have any expectations, necessarily, about how well we were going to do or how poorly we were going to do,” he said.

Initial reports showed Castillo with a 52 to 48 percent lead, with anywhere from 16,000 to 18,000 votes separating the two candidates. The *Oregonian* newspaper called the race in Castillo’s favor at about 10 that night.

“At that point, it just didn’t look very good,” Maurer recalled.

By the time Maurer awoke the next morning, the gap had narrowed to less than 11,000 votes. It soon whittled down to less than 4,000, leaving the results in limbo.

“I was cautiously optimistic. I was never shocked,” Maurer said. “From my perspective, it was more like a vindication that the campaign I ran was credible.”

Maurer said he spent the following weeks with his four children, ages 10 to 16, and doing basic household chores.

“I learned a lot about the process of county ballots,” he said. “I was learning as I was going along. I also went out to cut firewood, mowed the lawn, took my kids to school and did things I was going to be doing anyway.”

Ultimately, Maurer decided that pushing for a recount ultimately was cost-prohibitive, and conceded

defeat.

“The reality was, I couldn’t raise the money,” he said. “It just wasn’t feasible.”

Castillo ended up with 50.02 percent of the vote, winning by approximately 2,500 votes. But Maurer said he was encouraged by his showing, which included receiving nearly 40 percent of the Multnomah County vote. It was the best that any Republican in Oregon has done in a statewide campaign since 2002, when Gordon Smith spent millions of dollars to win a U.S. Senate race.

In the short-term, Maurer will continue serving as a state representative until January. Josephine County Deputy District Attorney Wally Hicks has received the nomination of the Republican and Democratic parties to assume in that position, and is working with Maurer’s legislative assistant to make the transition.

But much more importantly, Maurer and his wife, Sheila, are expecting a baby boy, with an Oct. 5 due-date.

Maurer said he has ruled out running for any local office, including Grants Pass city councilor or Josephine County commissioner.

“It’s not that those jobs aren’t important,” he said. “But at this point, I’m not particularly interested in that.” But that does not leave out the possibility of Maurer, 47, running for another statewide office some day.

“I absolutely would not discount that,” he stated. “The last two weeks have given me substantial statewide name recognition.”

Overall, Maurer said that he is confident that he will “find a niche someplace” as he moves forward into the future and puts the superintendent race behind him.

“I certainly have no regret,” he declared.

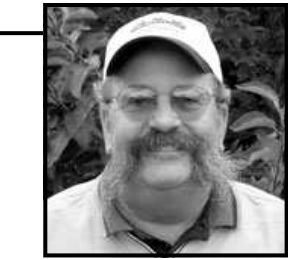


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