



Blacks in film

• Page 7



The church and poverty

Page 4



Neighbor wars

Page 3

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Two Sections

Oregonians favor increased funds for higher education

EUGENE — A great majority of Oregonians believe the Legislature should provide additional funding for public higher education and that the brightest students do not have to leave the state to get an excellent education, a new public opinion survey conducted at the University of Oregon shows.

The survey, released at a news conference showed many positive attitudes toward the University of Oregon as well, but also what might be considered an "information gap" about its specific programs and services. On the question of support, 71 percent of the respondents said higher education should receive more funding, 15 percent disagreed prepared for careers and 55 percent say the university helps business and economic development in the state.

However, 62 percent of respondents said the average Oregonian is not well informed about the university.

This "information gap" showed up again when people were asked whether the University of Oregon is the best institution in the state to attend to study science, with 19 percent agreeing, 19 percent disagreeing and 62 percent having no opinion or no response. The university's science programs were virtually disbanded during the 1930s and 1940s, but today have consistently high national rankings. In

addition, six of the eight professors in Oregon who are members of the prestigious National Academy of Sciences are UO faculty members.

The survey was conducted by the Office of University Relations, using standard polling methods. Faculty in the College of Business Administration and the Department of Planning, Public Policy and Management served as consultants.

The survey of 387 randomly selected Oregonians was conducted by telephone from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. June 25-28. Analysis of the results was completed recently.

The sample was stratified so that the percentage of people in the sample from each region of the state matched the percentage of the population living in that region. The margin for error is plus or minus 5 percent.

"The university conducted this survey to see what Oregonians are thinking about the university today, and to check attitudes on several issues relating to higher education as a whole," said Wayne Kurlinski, vice president for university relations.

"The findings suggest we have a significant better image or reputation than many people assumed we had," Kurlinski said, adding that the university must do more of what survey respondents asked for, namely tell them more about the in-

stitution.

On another question, 42 percent said the university's image has improved over the last 10 years, 16 percent disagreed and 42 percent had no opinion or response. Comments included, "Not as liberal or radical, more practical" and "Hear more positive things about it from students."

On a question about campus life, 54 percent agreed the University of Oregon provides a wholesome environment for its students, 6 percent disagreed and 40 percent had no opinion.

Concerning costs, 39 percent said the cost of a UO education is within reach of the average Oregonian, 32 percent disagreed and 29 percent had no opinion. Those offering comments said, "It's getting close," and urged the university to offer more academic scholarships.

Asked if the university understands the average person in Oregon, 39 percent agreed, 12 percent disagreed and 49 percent had no opinion or response. One person commented, "Most universities don't understand the average person and aren't designed to. Universities should teach truth and develop new ideas."

"Overall, the survey shows positive attitudes towards the university," Kurlinski said.



Reymundo Marin, moderator of Tuesday's city council campaign debate, looks on as candidates Herb Cawthorne and Dick Bogle square off on Rogers Cablesystem's Spectrum Show. The candidates answered questions from a multi-ethnic

panel on issues ranging from prostitution to the South African cultural boycott. The live debate will be rebroadcast Tuesday, December 4, at 8 p.m.; Monday, December 10, at 8 p.m. and on Friday, December 14, at 5 p.m., all on Cable Channel 23. (Photo: Richard J. Brown)

Jamaican rights policies criticized

Amnesty International last week urged the Jamaican authorities to heed the opinion of two government-appointed expert committees and stop using the death penalty.

The evidence showed no effect on the crime rate, according to research by those committees cited in a new Amnesty International report, *Jamaica: The Death Penalty*. Those sent to the gallows were overwhelmingly those who could not afford private lawyers — the underprivileged, the uneducated, the poor — it said.

Amnesty International, a human rights movement of more than 500,000 members and supporters around the world, opposes the death penalty anywhere as cruel and inhuman punishment and violation of the right to life.

Hanging, the mandatory punishment for murder in Jamaica, was resumed in 1980 after a four-year pause although an expert committee was still examining the problem at the time.

The committee, headed by H. Aubrey Fraser, Former Judge of the Trinidad and Tobago Supreme Court, acknowledged that there was public support for hanging in reaction to violent crime. But the committee's research showed no correlation between the crime rate and hanging.

Although gun killings were the prime cause of public support for the death penalty, the committee's study showed that this type of murder was particularly unlikely to result in cap-

ture and trial. Many of the people hanged were found guilty of murder in quarrels or other emotional situations, the evidence showed.

The committee interviewed 40 men on death row and found most had never been convicted of any crime before the one for which they were condemned to die.

As Amnesty International has found in other parts of the world, most of the people put to death were those who did not plan to kill. The overwhelming majority came from the lowest socio-economic groups.

The Fraser Committee was the second officially appointed body to challenge the use of hanging. In 1975, a commission headed by Dr. Lloyd Barnett concluded that hanging "does not serve the purpose for which it

was devised."

the Barnett Commission found that the long period spent waiting to be hanged constituted cruel and inhuman punishment in itself. Some convicts have spent up to nine years awaiting execution in Jamaica in recent years.

The inhumanity of their long wait was cited by five men who appealed in 1979 to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in England, the final appeal court in Jamaican law, before executions resumed in Jamaica. Although the United Kingdom like many other countries no longer uses the death penalty, the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council held in 1982, by a 3-2 vote, that their execution would be lawful under Jamaica's constitution.

Nostalgia ain't what it used to be

by Stan Gilliam
Sacramento, Calif., Bee

The last hurrahs have ceased echoing, but still worth noting is a bit of campaign rhetoric reprinted in the Sacramento Valley Union Labor Bulletin:

"The profits of corporations have doubled while workers' wages have only increased by one-quarter. Prices have climbed. Labor has been handcuffed. Social Security benefits . . . snatched away from almost a million workers. Tax reduction bills benefit the higher income

brackets alone.

"In the false name of economy, millions of children have been deprived of milk once provided through the federal school lunch program. This was the payoff the Republicans promised — and this is why we must have new faces — Democratic faces!"

The year was 1948 and the speaker, in a nationwide radio address, was — are you ready for this? — Ronald Reagan. Suppose the presidential memory goes back that far?



Here's one presidential cabinet we can all be proud of! The recent student council elections at Humboldt Grade School yielded these results: (l-r) Kenya Browder, chairperson; Ricky Briggs, treasurer;

Sara Rosenberg, vice president; Thelma Brown, Humboldt principal; Nia Gray, student council president; Violet Gordan, secretary and Zena Walker, chairperson. (Photo: Richard J. Brown)

ENERGY FOCUS: Fireplace safety urged for the holidays

The scene is the living room in a typical home in Suburbia, U.S.A. Dad sits in his favorite chair, his eyes trained on the daily newspaper. Mom owns her favorite spot on the sofa, and she sneaks peeks at the television set in between stitches on her needlepoint. The kids are perched next to the T V, of course, while Rover rests quietly just a few feet away.

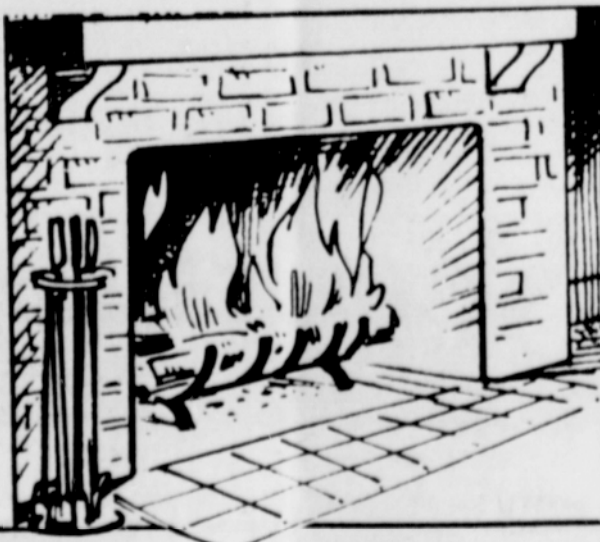
What has drawn this very stereotypical family together on this chilly November evening? The warmth of a roaring fireplace.

It's no accident that fireplaces are making a comeback on the nation's new housing scene. Everyone loves to sit by the fire . . . watching the flames,

listening to the crackling wood and oaking in the warm, comfortable glow.

There's a flip side to this story, though, according to the Dictograph Security Information Bureau. Every year, nearly 15,000 Americans require some type of hospital treatment for fireplace-related injuries. And in most cases, Dictograph officials stress, the injuries could have been prevented had the person in question followed certain guidelines.

Keep in mind, first of all, that a fireplace works as follows: When the logs are ignited, using crumpled newspaper, kindling and a match, the draft of the open flue draws fresh air



from the room to the hot logs, up into the flue and out the chimney. This process is called convection.

"But before you start a fire, there are several points to consider," explains Bill Mabey, a former police chief and currently the director of the Dictograph Security Information Bureau. Dictograph Security Systems of Florham Park, N.J., is widely regarded as the world's foremost residential security specialist, with nearly one million burglar and fire alarm systems installed nationwide and overseas.

"All fireplaces should be cleaned by trained personnel at least once a year, and more often if used frequent-

ly," Mabey adds. "Such cleanings will rid the flue of creosote buildup, which can catch fire. It is also advisable to check the construction of the entire fireplace completely to ensure that smoke will move up the flue and exit via the chimney."

It is important to take a good look at the vicinity of the fireplace. Mabey recommends that homeowners remove all rugs and newspapers from the area, not to mention flammable liquids that should never be stored in a home anyway.

"And, just to be safe," he adds, "purchase a Class A fire extinguisher and keep it near the fireplace."

(Please turn to Page 9, Column 1)